



Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) is increasing its resilience with ISO 27001 Certification.

'ISO 27001 has strategically positioned NSITF in a transparent light, which gives confidence to all its stakeholders and all Nigerians as a whole to do business with the fund. In an environment where the average citizen is suspicious in dealing with government organisations, ISO 27001 shows NSITF management's commitment to take seriously the confidentiality, availability and integrity of its information assets'.

- Umar Munir Abubakar - Managing Director/CE for NISTF

Customer Objectives

- Maintain and protect the integrity of confidential data
- Comply with regulatory and legal requirements
- Improve reputational risk
- Embrace a global standard
- Protect the Funds information assets

Customer Benefits

- Improved employee awareness on information security
- Created a risk detecting mechanism
- Improved existing business processes
- Increased security controls
- Better ability to document records more efficiently
- Enhanced reputation and customer confidence
- Embedded a culture of continuous improvement





Customer Background

Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) is one of the foremost social insurance organizations in Africa with a long history of service dating back to 1961. They offer social protection and safety nets for all Nigerians against deprivation and income insecurity in accordance with national and international laws, conventions and world best practices.



NSITF is backed by the Employees Compensation Act (ECA) 2011, this is a Defined Benefit Scheme for workers in Nigeria. NSITF is mandated to implement the Employee Compensation Scheme (ECS), a no fault employee injury insurance scheme that covers workers in both the public and private sectors of the Nigerian economy.

With about 67 offices nationwide, NSITF has a presence in all 36 States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

Why Certification?

The motivation to implement the ISO 27001, Information Security Management Standard, emerged from a strong desire to embrace a globally recognised standard in order to protect the information assets in its custody. NSITF wanted to leverage on the opportunity for continuous operational excellence in line with its vision and mission. NSITF also needed to comply with regulatory and legal requirements, which in turn would minimise any risk towards their reputation.

One of the key challenges identified was the absence of an electronic incident management system. This would enable a more efficient and effective tracking of incidents. Implementing ISO 27001 would provide them with a greater control of management processes throughout their organization.

Implementation Process

The process was initiated by engaging a consultant, Global InfoSwift, who are known to have a reputable track record in the industry. The project was implemented using the Plan-Do-Check-Act model. An Information Security Forum was established by senior management and ISO champions were appointed across all departments.

Together they addressed the processes of the organisation and worked with the consultants to conduct a thorough risk assessment of NSITF's information assets. Following on from this a statement of applicability was then developed.

The management provided policy direction by defining information security objectives. The Information Security Forum and ISO champions were adequately imbued with the necessary knowledge and skills via ISO 27001:2013 Lead Implementer and Lead Auditor training courses and onsite awareness programs facilitated by Global InfoSwift consultants.

The preparation of ISMS document, procedures and processes was driven by Global InfoSwift and the ISO champions. A series of internal mock audits were organised by their internal auditors and consultant before the BSI stage 1 and stage 2 audits. The process took approximately 10 months to be finalized.

Benefits

'Certification to ISO 27001 has been pivotal to NSITF transformation and a key driver in the Funds bid to demonstrate to its customers its significant investment in people, processes and technology to enhance the Funds critical impression points.

- Catherine N Ugbe – General Manager, ICT/
Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)



The ISMS has created a platform to protect the Fund’s assets through comprehensive and reliable processes and security controls; this in turn has created more transparency for the Fund. ‘We can confidently say that we have achieved our immediate objectives of establishing the Information Security Management System. However we do recognise that we have to ensure a continuous process improvement to maintain and sustain the certification’

- Martin Luther Kuku - Deputy General Manager, ICT

The overall perception and confidence in the Fund’s ability to keep secure their clients confidential information has increased. It has afforded the

organisation the opportunity to develop an effective contingency plan that could suffice in case of an emergency.

‘NSITF is proud to be among a very elite group of public institutions who’s security practices and standards meet the rigorous requirements of ISO/IEC 27001 and ISO 22301. Achieving this milestone bolsters NSITF bid to be a leading social security institution in Africa. Stakeholders will see the fund as embracing global best practices that ensure an efficient, transparent and effective social security appendage of the Federal Republic of Nigeria’

- Afolabi Oke – Executive Director of GIS

NSITF understands the importance of certification as a differentiator in a very competitive market and the information security management system is particularly pertinent to its business.

BSI’s Role

BSI is considered best in class of auditing excellence and certification training to international standards. NSITF was keen to work with a reputable firm with a strong track record of delivery. Through a very rigorous selection, Global InfoSwift Ltd was selected as a consultancy firm and BSI was chosen as the certification body due to its respected reputation as a market leader for information security.



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