

# Information Security

**Activity helps Airwave Strengthen Security Governance, by achieving ISO 27001 certification.**

## The Client

Airwave is a leading provider of integrated solutions and services for secure and resilient mission critical communications. Its principle clients are public safety organisations such as the Emergency Services and in the future Airwave will play a key part in providing communication services to the London 2012 Olympics.

## The Requirement

Whilst the company is contractually required to adhere to stringent HM Government standards for information security, some customers that are increasingly using Airwave's specialist services, are more familiar with the International Information Security Standard ISO27001. Barry Lucas, Airwave Information Security Manager explained. "We had a very comprehensive set of management processes in place encompassing the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information. However, with an increasing number of tenders demanding ISO27001 there was an opportunity to really sharpen up our information management processes across all areas of the business."

## Our Solution

Airwave appointed Activity in January 2008. A team of two consultants from Activity worked alongside Airwave's security team over a period of six weeks to conduct a risk assessment to identify the main threats, risks, impacts and vulnerabilities for the ISMS.

This initial but vital stage of the process involved full collaboration between Airwave and Activity. Barry Lucas explained, "The risk assessment has to be right in the first place so that all the potential risks to the business are addressed. This is where the objective insight and experience that Activity brought, came into its own. It's like having a driving instructor to prepare you for your test – you have to understand the rules yourself, develop the skills and put the correct controls in place but the instructor is there throughout to guide you, give you confidence and show you where you are going wrong. It's down to you on the day and from there on."

Once the risk assessment was complete, Activity worked with Airwave to develop a plan to address all the risks identified and assign corresponding management responsibilities and timelines. In particular Activity was able to dovetail the plan to existing management processes and create closer links across the business as a whole.

Having put the controls in place, Airwave was then ready to undergo certification in Autumn 2008.

## What We Achieved

BSI auditors visited Airwave's offices and over a five day period conducted precise and exacting audits of the company's ISMS. A number of observations were made, notably the breadth and depth of the controls in place, and full ISO27001 Certification was awarded in January 2009.

## Security. Achieved.

Our security expertise enables you to make decisions based on hard facts.

"This is where the objective insight and experience that Activity brought, came into its own."

**Barry Lucas**  
Information Security Manager  
Airwave Solutions Ltd

