



IS Reviews
Capabilities Statement
June 2013

*'The power of our approach is
our independence,
the freedom to be objective,
the experience of our consultants,
their recognition as authorities,
our rigorous attention to
quality, time and cost controls
and the outcomes we deliver'*



INTRODUCTION

Azimuth has been undertaking Information Systems Reviews (IS Reviews) for Ministries, Agencies and many of New Zealand's largest corporations for more than 25 years. Examples include Transpower, the New Zealand Stock Exchange, Fonterra, ANZ Bank, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Coal Corporation, Broadcasting Corporation, to name a few.

The core essence of our approach - independence and experience - means we are ideally suited to providing these reviews and offering advice which is in the best interests of our clients.

Such reviews invariably investigate and make recommendations on a broad range of specialist areas including telecommunications, development environments, technology (current state and future roadmaps), software and its integration points, operational capabilities, disaster recovery, security, governance and more recently inter-company (B2B) and Whole of Government. Most importantly these reviews must be undertaken with full consideration of the business imperatives, current and future. It is this most important requirement that necessitates the involvement of highly experienced business professionals who can tailor the approach to the specific environment.

APPROACH

There is no "standard" approach applied to such reviews as the drivers for these vary widely e.g. a merger, deregulation, a significant event, an untimely death, a core system "end-of-life", new legislation or more commonly the Public Sector being required to do "more for less".

The underlying common "theme" to our approach is to bring **significant and appropriate experience** to ensure the recommendation and advice given is authoritative, practical, pragmatic and cost effective.

Invariably, the "event" necessitating the review occurs at the most inopportune time. There is rarely the luxury of time to develop multiple scenarios and to test them. The review must be undertaken quickly with decisive and clear recommendations.

EXAMPLES

New Zealand Dairy Board - Fonterra Co-operative Group

Legislation had developed to a point that would allow the merging of the New Zealand Dairy Board (New Zealand Milk and New Zealand Milk Products), Kiwi Dairy Limited the New Zealand Dairy Group into a new entity that was later to become Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited.

Azimuth undertook an independent review of all systems and infrastructure across the four entities to identify and scope how the four Information Systems and Technology Groups could be integrated into a single entity.

The resultant recommendations were accepted and implemented to become the Fonterra IST Group based out of Hamilton. The systems integration was a key component of Fonterra's formation and it met the business' time, cost and functionality requirements.

Transpower New Zealand Limited

Transpower embarked on a \$5b build programme and needed the IS Division to significantly increase and improve its contribution.

Azimuth were engaged to undertake an IS Review. In parallel, Transpower engaged a major international consulting firm specialising in Power Sector Systems to prepare a Strategic Systems Plan. Our remit was to (within 3 months) review the IST Group and identify quick wins that would not adversely effect the developing long term strategy. Our recommendations included a redesigned structure and roles, closer alignment with their client (the Business), redesigned governance structures and an improved delivery structure. We were then engaged to implement the recommendations which aligned with the evolving Systems Plan. The new structures and processes resulted in a significant improvement in Client Satisfaction scores and the reduction of the backlog of approved work from \$37m to \$13m in less than 12 months.

A Major NZ Bank

The bank had embarked on a significant merger programme. The programme was running years late and was significantly over budget.

Azimuth was asked to review the ICT component of this initiative to determine the cause of the delays and to recommend a go-forward strategy. We determined that the programme was constrained by significant technical challenges. Our first step was to return to first principles and clarify to enable us to recommend a revised go-forward plan. Our recommendations were adopted and the revised plan was delivered on-time and below the revised budget.



*Our mission is
to help improve
our clients' business
through the provision of
informed and impartial
advice and services
relating to business and
information management*

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