



Insight Secures A303 Stonehenge with Innovative ISO Certification

Story Snapshot

National Highways' £1.7bn A303 Stonehenge Tunnel scheme was a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project with global cultural and heritage interest. It was vital to protect sensitive information and data processes. Insight and MindCraft collaborated to deliver the first ever ISO 27001 certification on a specific road project.

- First-ever ISO 27001 certification for a UK roads project.
- Innovative cybersecurity partnership for A303 Stonehenge.



Background

The culturally significant infrastructure project attracted interest from around the world due to its location, running through a UNESCO World Heritage Site. To maximise information security for the plans for a two-mile-long tunnel, Insight ensured that National Highways' sensitive data and systems for this specific scheme were protected against cyber attacks under ISO 27001.

Challenge

National Highways needed to maintain operational integrity and public trust in a globally significant infrastructure project.

The project's complexity, involving numerous stakeholders and long history, as well as its location in a highly sensitive and culturally important World Heritage Site, demanded a robust security framework.

However, securing the widely recognised gold standard for information security, ISO 27001, presented a major obstacle. The A303 Project itself was unable to obtain ISO 27001 certification because it was not a registered organisation. Since it was not listed in the Company Register in the UK as a legal business entity with the necessary documentation, it did not meet the criteria for ISO certification.

"Securing the A303 Stonehenge project presented a unique challenge, as it couldn't be certified under the standard ISO 27001 framework. Our shared innovative approach, certifying MindCraft as the responsible party, was key to overcoming this. This not only protected this nationally significant project but also set a precedent for securing similar infrastructure developments."

Angus Walker, Managing Director, MindCraft

“This certification was critical to our project and helping us make sure we put data security at the heart of our approach. We were delighted that Insight and MindCraft managed to navigate all the hurdles and ensure we became the first roads project to achieve the certification in this way.”

David Bullock, Project Director, National Highways



Solution

Recognising the critical importance of information security for the A303 Stonehenge project, National Highways sought to achieve ISO 27001 certification.

Using its extensive cybersecurity expertise and knowledge of ISO accreditations, Insight explored how ISO 27001 could be delivered, despite the auditing body only issuing the certification to legal entities as opposed to individual projects.

As a result, Insight focused on enabling MindCraft to be the certified body, as the consultancy providing all the digital services to the A303 Stonehenge project. This approach, accepted by the auditing body, enabled the project to indirectly prove its commitment to robust cybersecurity.

This collaborative effort resulted in MindCraft achieving ISO 27001 certification, on behalf of National Highways, effectively securing all data and systems used by the parties involved in the infrastructure project. This not only minimised cybersecurity risks for this important project but also set a precedent for other projects facing similar challenges.

The implementation was rigorous and included a gap analysis to identify areas for improvement, developing and updating essential security policies, and implementing a range of technological, organisational, and physical security controls. Rigorous testing and internal audits were also conducted to ensure everything met the required standards.

Why Insight?

National Highways chose Insight for this critical project due to its proven expertise in cybersecurity, strong track record in the public sector, and being able to demonstrate a deep understanding of the unique needs and challenges of government agencies. Insight’s ability to deliver through the HTE ComIT (HealthTrust Europe ICT Solutions 3) framework ensured a streamlined and compliant procurement process.

Insight’s knowledge ISO 27001, coupled with their ability to navigate complex certification processes, was essential to the project’s success. The result was a bespoke solution tailored to the unique needs of the A303 Stonehenge project, mitigating risks and ensuring robust cybersecurity for this nationally significant infrastructure.

RESULTS IN NUMBERS

3 years

of partnership between MindCraft and Insight.

£1.7 billion

Total value of the A303 Stonehenge project, which was of national significance.

6 months

MindCraft achieved ISO 27001 certification within 6-months.

Unique

The first time ISO 27001 had been delivered for a major road infrastructure project.