CASE STUDY (EDUCATION)

SYDNEY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Sydney Catholic Schools (SCS) is the governing body for 153 primary and secondary schools in the inner-west, south and eastern regions of Sydney. Their schools educate more than 70,000 students. Each school must meet numerous compliance obligations across areas like NESA, CRICOS, VET, WHS and Teacher Accreditation.

THE PROBLEM / GOAL

Of critical importance to SCS is ensuring that each of their 153 primary, secondary and combined schools meet stringent obligations across compliance areas such as:

- **NESA** (NSW Education Standards Authority)
- **VET** (Vocational Education and Training)
- **WHS** (Workplace Health and Safety)
- **TA** (Teacher Accreditation)
- **CRICOS** (Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students)

SCS were strategically seeking a flexible SaaS solution to incorporate all SCS compliance areas and meet current requirements to replace an ageing, bespoke on-premise system. The solution also needed to be easy to use and provide diocese-wide visibility over each school's compliance progress.

THE SOLUTION

After conducting a review of the various products on the market, SmarterSoft's Compliance Management Tool was chosen for its fit, flexibility and competitive total cost of ownership. The tool was deployed as a SaaS solution to all 153 schools. The solution enables SCS to specify requirements "checklists" and evidence items across each area of compliance and have each individual school participate in their parts of the workflow. Independent reviewers and consultants can also login and check the compliance of their assigned schools, adding follow-up actions where necessary. Detailed reports keep diocese admins up-to-date with compliance progress.

THE OUTCOMES

- Reduced the risk of non-compliance
- Total visibility & diocese-wide progress tracking
- Support for NESA, CRICOS, VET, WHS, TA and custom compliance areas (new compliance areas can also be added)
- Consistency across compliance area workflows
- Streamlined work practices reduced compliance costs/efforts
- Desktop auditing enabled
- Identified areas of continuous improvement
- Cost-effective cloud-based IT system

> *SmarterSoft's Compliance Management Tool was chosen for its ability to meet our requirements with regards to workflow, ease of use, reliability, flexibility and cost. This was after a long investigation on what was available in the marketplace, as well as what developers could offer as a bespoke or off-the shelf product.*
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> *SmarterSoft listened to our needs and were up-front and honest with what they could offer. The result is a very sophisticated tool that can adapt to future needs and be customised to various workflows. SmarterSoft support continues after deployment and are quick to answer any queries.*
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> *The Compliance Management Tool has streamlined processes and assisted in reducing risk. It is exceptionally reliable and stable and cost efficient.*
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> *We would highly recommend SmarterSoft's Compliance Management Tool as means to monitor compliance requirements in schools.*
>
> *Teaching and Learning, Sydney Catholic Schools*