

Andrew Forster CISA

Qualifications

Bachelor of Business, (University of Technology - Sydney)
Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)
Member of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association

Director / Principal Consultant

Andrew leads the provision of IT Risk Management and Assurance related services for Hawk Information Technology Services. He has over twenty five years IT audit and IT risk management experience, providing services and advice in support of external auditors, internal auditors and as an independent consultant to executive management, IT management and business unit managers. Andrew has operated his own company for the past 17 years since returning from 5 years working in Abu Dhabi. His company has provided a range of IT audit and IT risk management services to a number of clients in a variety of industry groups in both the public and private. Andrew spent 6 years as firstly a Finance Officer then as a System Review Officer with the University of NSW performing management reviews, IT audit review and data analysis, Andrew served 3 years with the State Rail Authority of NSW Internal Audit Branch as a Senior IT Auditor, followed by 5 years working in Abu Dhabi for the Emirates Telecommunications Corporation as their Computer Audit Manager then Abu Dhabi Investment Authority as their Data Security Officer.

Principal Area of Practice

Andrew specialises in providing IT auditing, risk management, data analysis and security services advice to the public sector. His principle areas of practice are:

- assessment of risk associated with an organisation's IT infrastructure, facilities, resources, systems and data.
- independent review and improvement of business requirements/solutions specifications (completeness, detail)
- Implementation of organisation wide specific IT control frameworks such as COBIT (the international Information Systems Association of Certified Auditors product), ITIL and Val-IT.
- Risk assessment of the IT function and infrastructure with respect to the business.
- Critical evaluation of IT governance and guidance with respect to the implementation of effective governance.
- assessment of IT application access security controls (various including Mincom Ellipse, Technology One's Student One and Finance One);
- assessment of IT applications controls (various including Mincom Ellipse, Technology One's Student One and Finance One); pre-implementation and post implementation; accuracy/completeness of entry and processing, recoverability, audit/management trail, data/processing integrity for specific applications
- assessment of controls operating in an organisation's IT environment (various operating systems, network managers and RDBMS) such as access security, IT operations, systems backup and recoverability, IT management and strategic planning, data and software integrity, data and software change control.
- independent assessment of commercial contracts from a technical (not legal) perspective focusing on services, service levels, performance metrics, performance measurement, controls, quality assurance, governance and risk management.
- assisting in the establishment and Implementation of organisation-wide specific IT control frameworks such as COBIT (the international Information Systems Association of Certified Auditors product), ITIL

- developing and implementing Data Analytics (also called CAAT - computer assisted audit techniques) and data analysis routines. These are independent extract and analysis programs that can be utilised by management and audit to assess the integrity of their systems, to augment the reporting facilities from their current computer systems and to support investigations.
- development of Fraud Detection methodologies and frameworks as well as eDiscovery investigation tools.
- benefits realisation reviews (assessing the extent to which an organisation has achieved the benefits previously agreed to as the basis for a system development/implementation project).
- specialist access security reviews (hardware, operating systems, applications and networks).
- business impact assessments and development/implementation of business continuity plans.
- IT project quality assurance (for large scale developments/implementations); independent assessment of major IT projects (eg systems development/implementation, IT outsourcing) with respect to approach, methodology, compliance, controls, development of service level agreements.
- analysis of business processes and systems for the purpose of rationalising processes and improving systems solutions. Analysis and improvement of information management.

In his consulting capacity, Andrew has provided IT audit, data analysis, fraud detection, governance and risk management services to a number of public sector clients, including the various NSW rail entities and Universities.

- NSW Transport Shared Services
 - HR Group (and the former SRA / RailCorp HR Group – 16 years – Data Analysis, HR Data & system configuration, IT Reporting Projects, requirements development and project quality control).
 - Accounts Payable and Procurement Services – (Data Analytics, compliance reporting and duplicate payments detection).
- Westfund – Private Health Insurance Fund – (IT internal audit including data analytics for compliance reporting and business management).
- City of Sydney
 - Internal Audit (IT internal audit including data analytics);
 - Procurement Services (Data Analytics for compliance and controls reporting);
 - Better Building Partnership Program (Data Analytics and Data Modelling for Power and water usage).
- Bankstown City Council – (IT Internal Audit)
- Department of Primary Industry (Later DTIRIS) (IT internal audit 2009 – 2012)
- Macquarie University (IT internal audit and IT risk management – 6 years)
- FreightCorp (IT internal audit – 3 years)
- Rail Services Australia (IT internal audit including project governance and QA – 2 years)
- Rail Infrastructure Corporation (IT internal audit, IT project governance and QA – 2 years)
- RailCorp (IT internal audit including fraud detection and data analysis – 7 years)
- State Rail Authority Internal Audit (IT Audit and data analysis – 6 years)
- Panthers Entertainment Group (IT internal audit & data analysis– 3 year)
- University of New South Wales (IT internal audit & data analysis– 1 year).
- Sydney University (Financial Operations and Systems– Data Analysis / Fraud Detection)
- NSW State Lotteries (IT Security policies)
- NSW Police Integrity Commission (IT Security consulting services)

Employment History

Hawk Information Technology Services

1998 – current Director providing IT internal audit, security, data analysis and risk management services (Sydney)

Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (United Arab Emirates)

1994 – 1997 Data Security Officer – Computer Department

ETISALAT - Emirates Telecommunications Corporation (United Arab Emirates)

1993 – 1994 Computer Audit Manager, Internal Audit Division

State Rail Authority of NSW

1990 – 1993 Senior IT Auditor Internal Audit Branch

State Rail Authority of NSW

1990 – 1993 Senior IT Auditor Internal Audit Branch

University of NSW

1987 – 1990 Systems Review Officer. Management Systems Review Office (Internal Audit)

1985 – 1987 Finance Officer, Sport and Recreation Section

Erica Vale Australia Pty Ltd

1979 – 1985 Executive Assistant