

WELCOME TO THE ADISA NEWSLETTER

We are relaunching our quarterly newsletter for 2021 which is designed to be a summary of all announcements made in the previous quarter to ensure everyone is kept up to speed on all things happening in ADISA.

UK INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AND UKAS APPROVAL

We're delighted to announce that the unpublished ADISA Asset Recovery Standard 8.0 has been accepted for final evaluation by the Certification Assessment Group within the Information Commissioner's Office. We have been working with the ICO since July 2019 and thank the work of the steering group put together to help evolve the published 7.0 into a standard which will be approved under Article 42 of the GDPR and recognised as a certification scheme. This final part of the process should be concluded within the next 4-8 weeks.

The next challenge for ADISA is to gain approval of our auditing process by UKAS under Article 43 of the GDPR. This process has already been underway as part of the work with the ICO but formal application can now be made as the restructure process has been completed. The timeline is unknown at this stage, but we hope to achieve this within a 6 month window and start auditing against 8.0 in Q3 of this year.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Our mission when we launched was to "Improve the performance of all participants in the business process of IT Asset Disposal" and with the help of those companies who have become certified, we feel that we have helped introduce a standard into the industry which helps companies evidence the quality of their service.

The greatest challenge has been how to help and influence the behaviour of those companies releasing assets so that they understand the high risk which exists within this business process and see value in the work which certified companies do to manage that risk. We believe that our work with the ICO and the structure of 8.0 will be a significant step towards that realisation as the requirement to use a company which holds certification will now be recommended by the data regulator itself. This is a major change for ADISA, and we are busy working with our certified members and those in the onboarding programme to prepare them for 8.0 which we feel is a game changer in this sector.



ADISA REBRANDING

When we launched in 2010 our full name, Asset Disposal and Information Security Alliance, reflected the industry which we wanted to focus on. Over the past 10 years our business has evolved into different areas including the broader data protection sector. To better reflect this, and as a result of a need to trademark our brand for UKAS, we have undertaken rebranding and at the same time a restructure to reflect the need to separate auditing duties from all other activities.



This rebranding is not only to reflect how we operate but also to provide clarity for our UKAS application. There is a clear requirement to ensure all auditing activities are undertaken with no conflict of interest

and with impartiality being paramount at all times. In this regard the auditing function now operates as a standalone activity separate from any other services or functions of the Group.

COVID AND ADISA

COVID has been the dominant factor in all our personal and professional lives and we hope that 2021 will see a return to somewhere near normality for us all. Despite COVID and with careful consideration to restrictions, we were still out auditing both existing members and new.

- 13 Surveillance Audits carried out in Q4 2020.
- 282 devices forensically tested.
- 2 full audits carried out for new members.

Many companies took the enforced downtime during 2020 lockdowns to start their projects to become certified and we continue to get plenty of interest in achieving certification.

- 219 downloads of the Standard.
- 46 formal enquiries.
- 12 progressed to applications.

Our lab in Cardiff under the control of Dr Andrew Blyth remained open and productive with 2020 being a busy year and the expansion of the testing offering including the new Product Assurance test.

- 14 Product Claims Test approvals.
- 3 Product Assurance approvals.

In 2020, we worked with companies from 10 different countries spanning from the US through Europe and into APAC showing that this part of ADISA has true global recognition.

As we enter 2021, I'm sure we all hope to return to normal sooner rather than later but far from waiting for that to happen ADISA has started 2021 at quite a pace with 9 products already scheduled for testing in the lab and 8 companies in our onboarding program to gain certification so it's busy times at ADISA.



COMPUTING SECURITY AWARDS 2020

Early in January we were delighted with the news that we won 'The One To Watch Security Company of the Year', in the 2020 Computer Security Magazine awards which took place in December. We send thanks to everyone who voted for us and we hope that the conclusion of some of the work we have been doing with the Information Commissioner's Office and MoD will surprise many outside of our circle proving that we are indeed "One to Watch".



DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL

ADISA was introduced to the CEO of the Learning Foundation Paul Finnis in July 2020 by a group of members who were working with a range of initiatives to help try to provide technology to those children who have none, or limited access to, in the home place. With home-schooling being upon us once more currently over 1 million children have no access to technology at home, meaning this gap in society has become even more obvious and ADISA has worked closely with the Learning Foundation to try to make a difference.

The ADISA DAFA program is designed for businesses to donate their old infrastructure have it processed by the ADISA members in the program (for a service charge) and have the assets sold and funds distributed to the member, the asset owner and of course the charity. This percentage split is agreed deal by deal by the ADISA member and the business to reflect the variables within each deal.

This program was soft launched in January 2021 and we have already got nearly 100,000 assets lined up for donation. As with everything, we will celebrate when these assets start to be released and processed by the DAFA program but it is certainly a very strong start.

In addition, we are delighted that the program is quickly gaining traction and is being supported by Intel, Microsoft, Business in the Community and most recently the Department for Education.

[For more information watch Steve and Paul on a video podcast](#)



ADISA.GLOBAL

ADISA'S 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY: SEPTEMBER 2020

2020 marked 10 years since ADISA started and to mark the occasion, Steve invited key individuals who helped ADISA and him personally in those very first few months back in 2010 to participate in a review of where the last decade has gone. This was originally intended to be a panel discussion but due to COVID restrictions, became a series of individual video podcasts; to reflect on the past 10 years.

These podcasts, we hope, will provide some interesting content and a narrative of ADISA since 2010.

[ADISA 10 Year Anniversary Podcasts](#)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LAST QUARTER

ASCDI CONFERENCE

Last October Steve joined an expert panel discussion to review the details of ITAD certification and the underlying accreditations required to an American audience at the ASCDI conference DispositTion.



NATIONAL POLICE INFORMATION ASSURANCE FORUM



Last November as part of their work keeping up to date with the latest technological changes the Police ICT Company invited Steve Mellings to speak at their virtual conference. Steve presented on Standards to look for when retiring assets and also, what not to build into a retirement programme.

BIOLEACHING

Last year in November we met (virtually) with Sebastien Farnaud from the University of Coventry who explained the innovative work he is involved in with N2S on using biotechnology to extract precious metals from electronic waste. Find out more about this cutting-edge research.

[Watch our podcast with Sebastien Farnaud, Bioleaching Precious Metals.](#)

PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs)

At the November 2019 members meeting the EA came to present on the matter of persistent organic pollutants and ADISA has maintained channels of communication with the EA throughout 2020. We are were told in November 2020 that further clarification on the impact of PoPs on the ITAD sector would be coming out soon in 2021 so we remain optimistic that sense on this matter will prevail in the end. We will update members as soon as we have clarification from the EA on this.



COMING UP...

2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

ADISA will be hosting our Certified ITAD conference in Q2 2021 on the platform Hopin.

Confirmation of the date and the programme will be released in February, but content is expected to focus on the approved new Standard 8.0.

NEW OFFICE NUMBER

After the technology disaster of November 2020, we finally have a new phone system in place.

We can now be reached on our new number:
01582 361 743. Please update your records..

NEW STANDARD 8.0 PREPARATION PLAN

For all certified members and those on the onboarding program we have already started the 10-stage process for helping them build their Statement of Compliance. This is the key document which any company wishing to be certified will need to create and maintain.

We look forward to working with these companies over the next 6 months to ensure they are well placed for the full audit and achieve certification against 8.0 as soon as possible after our own UKAS accreditation.

NEW TEAM

As soon as COVID workplace restrictions are over ADISA will announce our new audit team which will be managed by Lisa Mellings. This team will operate standalone from the ADISA Group and will be the focus of UKAS controls. This will leave Steve available to work from ADISA Group and continue the open relationship which provides vital support to our members in areas outside of the audit process such as broader data protection issues and general business support.

ADISA MARKETPLACE

The pilot for the marketplace took place in December and many lessons were learned. At time of this newsletter the marketplace is back in mothballs pending the ability for ADISA to return to site auditing against the draft repair and reuse standard. We will be helping those signed up to the marketplace create their own micro sites this quarter for a Q2 relaunch.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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