

a.k.a. software: better than a spreadsheet



While it's tempting to use a spreadsheet to build information governance tools, there are real benefits to using database software.

Integrated for greater efficiency

A relational database enables links to be made between different data elements. The a.k.a. templates make extensive use of link fields, lookup sets and relationships to streamline data entry, eliminate redundancy, and ensure consistency.

With this functionality you can build an integrated information governance toolkit linking information assets to classification, retention policies, legislative requirements, and organisational roles.

Smarter reporting

The way in which information is represented makes a huge difference to its usability. Professionally formatted, targeted reports will be taken more seriously.

It's not enough to collate information – it's what you can do with it.

With a database, you can extract the data in many different ways, enabling the output of multiple reports from the same dataset. Our interactive reporting provides your audience the means to slice and dice the dataset to extract the very information they need.

Spreadsheets are boring and bland. You can make your information governance tools visible and engaging through a well-designed web interface.

Shared editing

With a database, multiple people can access and edit the database at the same time. Version control is ensured because there's no need to make copies.

Shared ownership

A well-crafted database design is extensible and can accommodate the needs of stakeholders across the organisation.

Greater capacity

Spreadsheets have scalability issues, but a database has the capacity to hold large numbers of records without degradation of performance.

Easier to control

a.k.a. keeps the design separate from the data. Design elements such as field length, format and syntax can be controlled by the administrator and can't be messed up by users.

Easier to maintain over time

Building information governance tools is a project, but maintaining them is a process.

Manage the process more easily by building smarts into the database to ensure regular reviews and updates.