

## A modern governance success story

***Specialist Risk Group transitioned from static and manual governance into a dynamic, modern, and future-proof approach.***

Specialist Risk Group's cloud journey started like many others before: adopting Exchange online, deploying a company intranet based in SharePoint Online, and rolling out Teams and OneDrive. At the initial stages of this engagement, there was a focus on strategy and governance planning for deploying all the various services in Microsoft 365. This approach assured consistency in using multiple tools and services and effective administration to ensure compliance at all levels of the business.

Rencore's best-in-class governance software was utilized to deliver a dynamic governance approach for Specialist Risk Group. It enabled their admins to identify, assess, and act on information swiftly. Consequently, this fostered a flexible environment for business users to operate in to reach their individual needs.

### The challenges faced

Although Specialist Risk Group had been using Teams for messaging and meetings for some time,

there was a recent strategic move to use Teams for file management and collaboration as well. Therefore, they needed to also incorporate OneDrive for business for personal file storage, which resulted in increased usage of Microsoft 365 and an increase in the level of corporate data stored in Microsoft 365.

Certain employees had access to Power Automate and Power Apps to manage core business processes. It was important that the processes stayed active and that IT also had insight into what those employees were creating.

As Specialist Risk Group adopted various Microsoft 365 services, it was crucial to ensure correct usage as agreed strategically and defined by a governance plan to avoid cloud sprawl and promote good lifecycle management.

There were also a relatively large number of disabled accounts linked to the onboarding process for new acquisitions. Furthermore, there were disabled accounts linked to leavers. It was imperative to differentiate between those human resource processes and make sure they were being managed through their lifecycle effectively, for example, allocating and deallocating licenses and managing access and group membership.



### A little background history

Specialist Risk Group is a specialist insurance broker based in the UK and Ireland. Their specialties range from jewelers' insurance to trade credit and acquisition insurance. The company has been actively engaging in mergers and acquisitions (M&A) trials over the last two years acquiring specialist businesses to help them offer a wider variety of products to clients. Consequently, they have grown from 119 staff members in April 2019 to 450 members of staff.

Learn more:

[www.specialistrisk.com](http://www.specialistrisk.com)

### About Rencore

Rencore is a B2B software company providing award-winning solutions essential for staying in control of the Microsoft 365 stack, including SharePoint, Teams, Azure, and the Power Platform. Our customers rely on our tools to simplify, automate and speed up their everyday governance, risk, and compliance challenges. Our diverse, global customer base ranging from mid-sized businesses to enterprises uses our tools both as SaaS or self-hosted. Consultancies and Managed Service Providers build their cloud governance and operations services around our powerful solutions.

## Solution

Specialist Risk Group, together with Rencore partner Yoko:10, defined their governance plan for Microsoft 365. They then used Rencore Governance to proactively monitor governance decisions and support the ongoing administration of Specialist Risk Group's Microsoft 365 environment.

**Greg Bowles, Infrastructure Team Leader at Specialist Risk Group, briefly outlines one of the main reasons Rencore Governance was their governance automation tool of choice.**

*“As with all organizations, we at Specialist Risk Group want to use every option available to ensure secure data in Microsoft 365 and minimize the risk of unauthorized access where possible. Most, if not all information, is available in the Microsoft 365 admin centers of the respective services, but there is no way to view it in one place in a simple contextual way. This is one area where Rencore's governance software excelled.”*

Rencore Governance was reviewed for its capabilities and potential use cases with Specialist Risk Group and their stakeholders. The deployment was broken down into a three-staged process, identifying quick wins, the general governance of the tenant identities, for example, licenses and security, and creating dashboards.

Deploying Rencore Governance within Specialist Risk Group was completed within 5 working days. Firstly, key stakeholders received a demo of Rencore governance showcasing the initial data collection

and query process using pre-built Checks - a set of rules that are set up to pick up different instances or varying types of activity.

It was then clear how to build dashboards around specific services in Microsoft 365 and align the governance decisions to the added checks. Some simple automation made the plan actionable with a view to be extended in the future as Specialist Risk Group's governance approach matured.

## In Closing

To summarize Specialist Risk Group's Microsoft 365 governance journey, it started with governance planning relating to the overall planning and strategy rollout of Microsoft 365 services.

Specialist Risk Group incorporated Rencore technology at the early stage of Microsoft 365 service deployment to implement a cloud-first governance approach that scaled and aligned with the modern needs of the business user.

By having all information in one portal, Specialist Risk Group could quickly and easily review any problematic or potentially problematic activity. Specialist Risk Group also learned where they could improve on general housekeeping and internal processes.

Rencore technology helped Specialist Risk Group transition from a static governance approach to acting in real-time, nurturing business collaboration, and helping IT stay in control of the ever-growing cloud. Overall, Rencore Governance helped create a modern and future-proof governance approach for Specialist Risk Group to maximize their collaboration efforts across the business.

## Are you also interested in stream-lining your governance processes?

Reach out! No matter if you're an ISV, Consultancy, Managed Service Provider, or in-house SharePoint dev team – visit [www.rencore.com](http://www.rencore.com) today or drop us a line on [sales@rencore.com](mailto:sales@rencore.com) to see how we can help you.