**Asset Registry**

An Asset Registry is a inventory or list of all information assets within an organization. In the context of ISO 27001 (the international standard for Information Security Management); Asset registry help an organization to identify, classify, and manage all its assets to ensure that they are well protected.

Asset Registry, normally includes detailed information such as,

* Asset ID : A unique identifier number for the asset
* Asset Name: Name of the asset
* Description: The usage or purpose of the asset
* Asset Owner: Who is the owner of the asset
* Asset Classification: The sensitivity of the asset
* Risk Level: The potential risk for the asset
* Location: The physical or digital location of the asset
* Last Update: The date the asset information was last reviewed or updated

Importance of an Asset Registry in ISO 27001

The Asset Registry is crucial in the context of ISO 27001 for several reasons:

1. Identification of Assets

The first line of defense when it comes to protecting information is understanding what it is that needs protection. Therefore an asset registry contain the comprehensive repository of all assess that can be data, hardware, software, networks or personnel that is necessary for business operation.

2. Asset Classification

Classification of assets (for instance, public, internal, or confidential) assist an organization earmark which ones require more security. Critical or sensitive assets, for instance, the customer’s financial information will require better security controls than a less sensitive asset.

3. Risk Management

In asset registry format, the organization has the opportunity to define the risks and possible threats along with the asset. This makes it easier to evaluate possible risks and to apply correct security measures to counter them.

4. Accountability

Taking ownership of each asset guarantees that somebody is contactable for the protection and management of this asset. Asset owners are responsible to check whether or not there are securities and also to check for risks that could be associated with the asset periodically.

5. Compliance

ISO 27001 simply demands that an organization proves that it has in place an adequate mechanism to handle its information resources. It is also an advantage during the audit or certification when the organization presents documented evidence of an asset registry that indicates that the organization appreciates and addresses its information security risks appropriately.