



## How a FinTech SaaS Startup Achieved ISO 42001 on Its First Attempt

### Company Overview:

Industry Type:

**Financial Services**

Company Size:

**100+ Employees**

## Introduction:

A venture-backed B2B SaaS startup in the financial services sector sought to implement advanced, responsible AI solutions to streamline operations and enhance decision-making across its platform. With increasing demand for responsible AI and stringent regulatory oversight, the company made a strategic decision to align its AI development and deployment processes with the new global standard, ISO 42001, the international standard for AI management systems.

The organization already maintained a mature control environment, including ISO 27001, ISO 9001, SOC 2 Type 2, and an internal AI governance framework. While this positioned the company favorably, the novelty and complexity of ISO 42001 required an independent readiness evaluation to identify gaps, validate alignment, and reduce certification risk before engaging an accredited certification body.

Ampcus Cyber was engaged to perform an ISO 42001 Certification Readiness Audit and provide structured remediation guidance.



## The Challenges:

Preparing for ISO 42001 certification presented several key challenges for the Organization. Listed as follows:

- 01 Navigating uncertainty around ISO 42001 requirements due to the standard's recent introduction and limited industry precedent.
- 02 Identifying and engaging an accredited certification body with readiness to conduct ISO 42001 audits.
- 03 Maximizing reuse of existing management systems and controls to align efficiently with the new standard.
- 04 Adapting the secure software development lifecycle to incorporate AI-specific governance and lifecycle requirements.
- 05 Establishing centralized oversight across multiple AI initiatives spanning different teams and departments.
- 06 Refining existing risk assessment methodologies to address AI-specific risks and considerations.
- 07 Aligning AI impact assessment processes with ISO 42001 guidance and Expectations.
- 08 Updating policies, procedures, and supporting documentation to ensure end-to-end traceability and audit readiness.

With growing customer and regulatory expectations around responsible AI practices, the organization required a partner capable of delivering both structures enablement tools and deep compliance expertise to support an efficient and effective certification readiness process.

## The Solution:

Ampcus Cyber partnered with the fintech startup to deliver a structured, service-led ISO 42001 readiness and implementation program, starting from gap assessment to risk assessment, mitigation, and audit readiness. This was further enhanced through in-house AI governance expertise, compliance advisory, and practical enablement to support certification.



## How Ampcus Cyber Assisted?

**01**

### ISO 42001 Requirements Interpretation & Mapping:

Ampcus Cyber provided expert guidance to interpret the new and evolving ISO 42001 requirements, translating them into clear, actionable controls tailored to a regulated B2B SaaS environment in financial services.

A clause-by-clause mapping exercise was conducted for the following:

- ▶ Identify overlaps with existing certifications and controls.
- ▶ Highlight AI-specific gaps.
- ▶ Maximize reuse of established governance, risk, and lifecycle processes.

**02**

### AI Risk & Impact Assessment Enablement

Ampcus Cyber facilitated AI-specific risk and impact assessment processes, aligned with ISO 42001 guidance, enabling the organization to:

- ▶ Understand business impacts through risk assessment methodologies.
- ▶ Document mitigation strategies and periodic review mechanisms.

Structured assessment templates and workflows were introduced to ensure consistency, traceability, and repeatability across AI initiatives.

**03**

### Governance & Organizational Alignment

Ampcus Cyber supported the establishment of formal AI Management System (AIMS) by defining organizational context and objectives for responsible AI and aligning AI governance with existing management and system structures. This ensured centralized oversight while allowing individual product teams to maintain agility.



04

## AI System Lifecycle Integration

To meet ISO 42001 lifecycle requirements, Ampcus Cyber worked with engineering, product, and compliance teams to provide industry with best recommendations to integrate AI governance into the secure software development lifecycle and establish controls for design, deployment, monitoring, and change management of AI systems.

05

## Audit Readiness & Certification

Ampcus Cyber conducted internal readiness reviews and supported documentation updates to ensure the following:

- ▶ Traceability between requirements, controls, and evidence.
- ▶ Audit-ready documentation aligned with ISO 42001 expectations.

Ampcus Cyber also assisted during external audits, helping the company engage with the final certification stage.



## How Ampcus Cyber Assisted?



**Certification achieved in first attempt:** The organization successfully achieved ISO 42001 certification through an independent certification audit.



**Complete visibility:** Improved visibility into AI systems, risks, and governance practices.



**Reduced Effort:** Approximately 75% reduced manual effort through standardized documentation and structured workflows.



**Improved trust & transparency:** The certification strengthened trust & transparency with enterprise customers and stakeholders.



### India

601-609A, 6th Floor, Beta Block, Sigma Soft Tech Park, Varthur Kodi, Whitefield, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560066.



### USA

14900 Conference Center Dr, Suite # 500, Chantilly, VA 20151.



### UAE

Office 306, Building A6, Dubai Digital Park, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Dubai.



### Philippines

19th floor Exxa Tower, Bridgetowne, E.Rodriguez Jr. Ave cor C5 Road, Ugong Norte, Quezon City.

