

# ENSURING GDPR COMPLIANCE & MANAGEMENT WITH PROACTIVE DATA PROTECTION SERVICES

## PRECISION BIOTICS GROUP CASE STUDY



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The PrecisionBiotics® Group is a world leader in harnessing the power of the microbiome, discovering and developing probiotics that are recognized as best in class. They have an unparalleled portfolio of strains, some now available commercially in the brands Alflorex® and Zenflore®, and they partner with leading experts in the microbiome and scientific fields. or more information on the company see [www.precisionbiotics.com](http://www.precisionbiotics.com)



The PrecisionBiotics® Group is the foundation industry partner of the APC Microbiome Institute based at University College Cork, Ireland. Following the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation in May 2018, PBG struggled to find the resources and expertise to assist them on their journey to compliance. PBG reached out to Smarttech247 to serve as their trusted advisor, assist with the new regulation and the implementation of data protection policies, procedures and practices within the organisation.

# THE CHALLENGES

**Client trust and loyalty is at the heart of the core values at PBG driving business decisions, operational performance and efficiencies. PBG needed to work together with data protection experts in order to ensure that their entire data protection practices are compliant, and that their sensitive corporate and client data is secure at all times.**

When GDPR became effective, PBG faced common issues many organisations are familiar with when it comes to ensuring that all department and business processes are aligned with the requirements of the regulation. Their challenges were threefold:

- PBG needed an implementation plan and strategy to ensure that the organisation was prepared before May 2018.
- They required an overview of the data currently being collected by them, why it was being collected, who had access and how long it was being retained for.
- The company needed subject-matter experts to provide on-going data protection & information security consultancy.

# THE SOLUTION

**Smarttech247 took a step-by-step approach to assist PBG with their data protection compliance needs.**

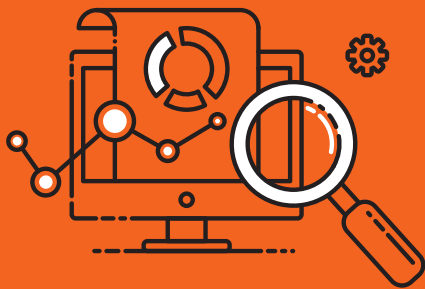
- The Smarttech247 experts conducted an EU GDPR gap analysis in order to review the company's compliance status, identify gaps, and develop an action plan to manage ongoing compliance.
- Once the analysis was completed and the gaps in the organisation were clear, Smarttech247 assigned a data protection specialist as a dedicated consultant who would offer advice and assist in any tasks required on the compliance journey. The consultant worked directly with PBG's Director of Compliance to plan the route to success.
- Smarttech247 assisted with the creation of a comprehensive personal data inventory to give the data protection team an accurate and clear view on what personal data was being collected and held within PBG. This allowed the Data Protection Specialist to create a plan going forward to ensure any measures implemented were sufficient.
- The policies and procedures in place within the PrecisionBiotics® Group were updated to include new procedures, terms and measures.
- Smarttech247 assisted PBG in conducting due diligence and auditing their third-party vendors' processes.
- Data Protection training took place with all PBG staff members to ensure everyone fully understood the requirements on the organisation under the new data protection legislation and how PBG were complying. The data protection specialist worked with all areas of PBG to ensure the new processes were understood. This approach not only protected the company, but benefitted the way its employees worked.
- The Smarttech247 team ensured that PBG's data processing activities were aligned to information security best practice to satisfy the requirements of Article 39 (Security of Processing).

# WHAT THE CLIENT SAID

**“When we engaged Smarttech247 to assist us with our data protection needs, we immediately got a clear picture where we stood in terms of compliance to the new regulation, and what actions were necessary to address the gaps. Their expertise and practical approach of data protection issues came across from the very first meeting and were second to none. With the help of Smarttech247, we are confident that our data protection practices are compliant and we truly feel that we now have a trusted advisor.”**

Carmel Wycherley,  
PrecisionBiotics® Group  
Director of Compliance

# ABOUT SMARTTECH247



## Discover

Identify what personal data you have, and here it resides.

Smarttech247 is an award-winning company specialised in cybersecurity and privacy solutions to help protect your organisation against internal and external threats. We are ISO27001 and ISO9001 certified, and as part of our suite of information security services, we offer cyber risk management, data protection services, ISMS consultancy, security testing, and information security training services.



## Control

Manage how personal data is used and accessed.



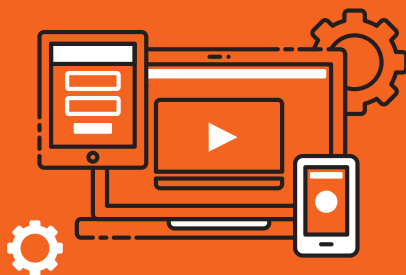
## Protect

Establish security controls to prevent, detect, and respond to vulnerabilities and data breaches.



## Report

Action data subject requests and keep required documentation.



## Review

Analyse your data and systems, stay compliant and reduce risk.

Discover how **Smarttech247** can help you take control over your data protection processes.

Find out more on [smarttech247.com](https://smarttech247.com) or call us on 0818 27 27 27