

Expected Documentation for a SaaS Use-Case

The following is the documentation and evidence I would expect a SaaS organisation preparing for ISO/IEC 27001:2022 certification to be able to share for the pre-audit. Items marked with clause or control references map to ISO/IEC 27001:2022. Not every item is mandatory in every case. Annex A controls apply only if marked “applicable” in the Statement of Applicability, but gaps against this list are a useful readiness indicator.

A. Core ISMS documents (Clauses 4–10)

- ☐ ISMS scope statement (Clause 4.3)
- ☐ Information security policy (Clause 5.2)
- ☐ Roles, responsibilities and authorities for information security (Clause 5.3)
- ☐ Risk assessment methodology, incl. risk acceptance criteria (Clause 6.1.2)
- ☐ Risk assessment results / risk register (Clauses 6.1.2, 8.2)
- ☐ Risk treatment plan, approved by risk owners (Clauses 6.1.3, 8.3)
- ☐ Statement of Applicability (SoA) (Clause 6.1.3 d))
- ☐ Information security objectives and plans to achieve them (Clause 6.2)
- ☐ Competence and training records; awareness evidence (Clauses 7.2, 7.3)
- ☐ Document control approach for ISMS documented information (Clause 7.5)
- ☐ Monitoring and measurement results for the ISMS (Clause 9.1)
- ☐ Internal audit program and most recent internal audit report (Clause 9.2)
- ☐ Management review minutes (Clause 9.3)
- ☐ Nonconformity and corrective action log (Clause 10.2)

B. Policies & organisational controls

- ☐ Topic-specific policies (acceptable use, access control, cryptography, backup, etc.) (A.5.1)
- ☐ Asset inventory with designated owners, incl. information assets and cloud services (A.5.9)
- ☐ Information classification and labelling scheme (A.5.12, A.5.13)
- ☐ Access control policy and user access provisioning / deprovisioning process (A.5.15–A.5.18)
- ☐ Supplier security policy and register of suppliers / sub-processors (A.5.19–A.5.22)
- ☐ Cloud services acquisition and exit requirements (A.5.23)
- ☐ Incident management procedure and incident log (A.5.24–A.5.27)
- ☐ Business continuity / ICT readiness plans and test evidence (A.5.29, A.5.30)
- ☐ Register of legal, statutory, regulatory and contractual requirements (A.5.31)
- ☐ Records of processing / privacy documentation (GDPR / FADP) (A.5.34)

C. People & physical controls

- ☐ Screening / background check practice for new hires (A.6.1)
- ☐ Employment contracts or annexes covering security responsibilities and confidentiality (A.6.2, A.6.6)
- ☐ Security awareness training program and completion records (A.6.3)
- ☐ Remote working rules (A.6.7)
- ☐ Physical security arrangements for offices (if any) — often lightweight for cloud-native SaaS (A.7.1–A.7.4)

D. Technology & SaaS-specific evidence

- ☐ Endpoint / device management standard (laptops, MDM, disk encryption) (A.8.1)
- ☐ Privileged access management approach (admin accounts, cloud root accounts) (A.8.2)
- ☐ MFA / secure authentication configuration evidence (A.8.5)
- ☐ Malware protection and vulnerability management process, incl. patching and scanning (A.8.7, A.8.8)
- ☐ Configuration management / infrastructure-as-code baseline (A.8.9)
- ☐ Data deletion and retention rules, incl. customer data on contract exit (A.8.10)
- ☐ Backup policy and restore test evidence (A.8.13)
- ☐ Redundancy / availability architecture description (multi-AZ, failover) (A.8.14)
- ☐ Logging and monitoring setup; log protection and alerting (A.8.15, A.8.16)
- ☐ Network security architecture diagram, segregation of environments (A.8.20–A.8.22, A.8.31)
- ☐ Cryptography / encryption standard (data at rest, in transit, key management) (A.8.24)
- ☐ Secure development lifecycle policy, incl. code review and secure coding rules (A.8.25–A.8.28)
- ☐ Security testing evidence (penetration test report, vulnerability scan results) (A.8.29)
- ☐ Change management process for production releases (A.8.32)
- ☐ Test data handling rules (A.8.33)

E. Cloud & third-party assurance

- ☐ Cloud provider agreements and shared-responsibility documentation (e.g. AWS/Azure/GCP) (A.5.21, A.5.23)
- ☐ Sub-processor list and data processing agreements (DPAs) (A.5.20, A.5.34)
- ☐ Third-party assurance reports collected from providers (SOC 2, ISO 27001 certificates) (A.5.22)
- ☐ Customer-facing security documentation (trust page, security whitepaper) — if it exists

Note: if several items in Sections A and B do not yet exist, in particular the risk assessment, Statement of Applicability, internal audit and management review, the recommended next step is a gap analysis and implementation phase rather than a pre-audit.

The ISO/IEC 27001:2022 international standard is published by, and copyright of, ISO and IEC. This checklist is not approved by the ISO or IEC, and does not reproduce the text of the standard. Neither is it a substitute for the standard itself, which should be purchased from ISO <https://iso.org> or your national standards body. Clause and control references are provided for orientation only.