

SYTECH

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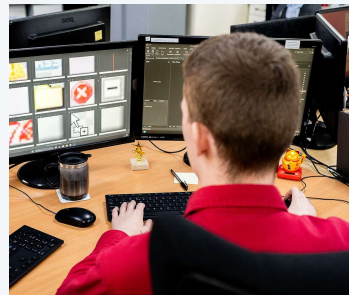
Founded by Professor Frank Taylor

2015



Achieved ISO-17025 Accreditation

2025



10 years of ISO 17025 Accreditation



Digital Forensics

Providing Expert Digital Forensic Services



Cyber Security

Protecting the Efforts and Investments of Your Business in the Digital Age



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Training

Training Solutions by Subject Matter Experts

Ensuring Standards Across Investigations in Digital Forensics

Whether accredited or not, Validation and Non-Conformance Findings are the two habits that make digital forensics trusted, repeatable and court-ready.



Why this matters now

The pressure on policing and criminal justice is structural, not temporary.

Digital evidence now touches almost every offence type — while the expectations around quality, speed and defensibility keep rising.

Evidence volume

More devices, more cloud data, more encrypted content, and AI.

Public scrutiny

Greater expectation that evidence handling is transparent, accurate and explainable.

Defence challenge

Challenges are more technically sophisticated and more willing to test method and integrity.

Operational pressure

Forces and providers need processes that are efficient, consistent and defensible.

National variation

Capability and methodology still vary between forces, tools and teams.

Standardisation is not a luxury — it's a necessity

ISO-17025 - Not Just a Certificate

In digital forensics, the most valuable parts of the standard are behaviours.

A way of working

ISO 17025 in digital forensics is about competence, impartiality and consistent operation

The two modules that matter most in practice

Validation

Proves that your tools and methods genuinely do what you claim they do.

Non-Conformance Findings

Captures issues, near-misses so they are learned from and not repeated.

Even organisations that are not accredited can adopt these two modules.

Validation - The Backbone Of Digital Forensics

Confidence in tools and methods is what turns extraction into evidence.

Trusted capability

Your method has been tested against known outcomes and realistic conditions.

Consistent interpretation

Different teams can reach the same conclusion from the same data.

Defensible evidence

Limitations are understood, documented and ready to be explained in court.

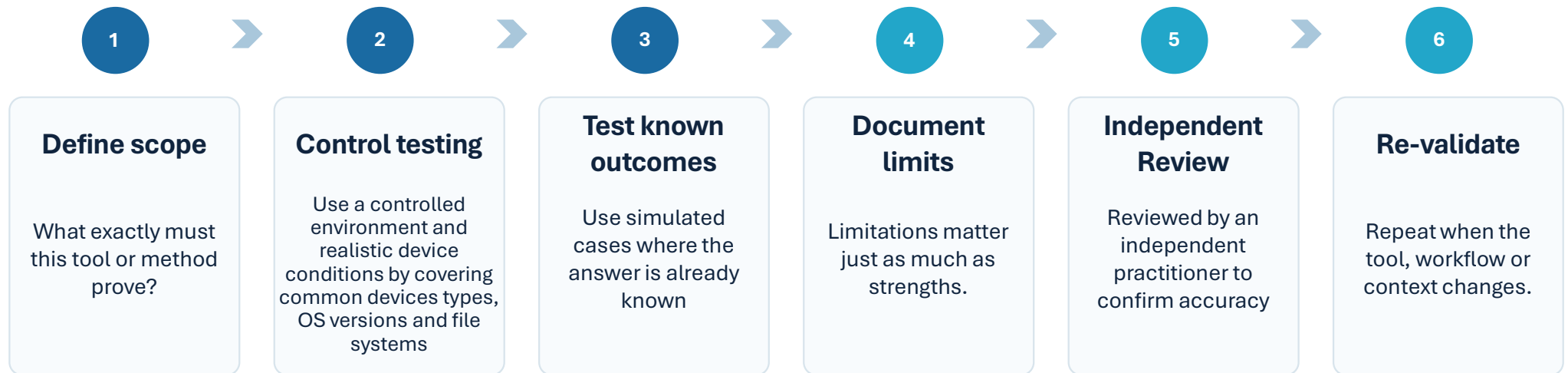
Example

A data extraction tool fails to recover certain artefacts on a specific OS version, which negatively affects the evidential outcome. Effective validation identifies this discrepancy early, documents it, and helps in defining the mitigation.

Validation provides confidence. Confidence drives consistency. Consistency drives justice.

What Good Validation Looks Like

Good validation is structured, documented and regularly revisited.



Common shortfalls we still see:

- “If it extracts, it must be right.”
- Blind reliance on vendor claims.
- No record of tool limitations.
- Inconsistent validation across forces.

Non-Conformance Findings: The Discipline Of Learning

NCF is not a failing to hide. It is a control that protects integrity.

Not a failure

Not a criticism.
Not something to hide.

What it is for

To capture mistakes, near-misses,
tool failures and process gaps

What it achieves

Transparency
Continual improvement
Consistency

Examples that should trigger an NCF:

Wrong workflow used

Tool crashes mid-extraction

Device powered on unexpectedly

Chain of custody interrupted

Evidence processed out of sequence

Unknown tool limitation discovered

The goal is not zero NCFs. It is zero repeat NCFs.

Culture change: From Hidden Problems To Shared Learning

A healthy NCF process is a loop that improves practice, training and assurance.

An organisation with no NCFs is not perfect — it is dangerous.

“No NCFs” usually means underreporting, fear culture, hidden exposure to challenge and unnecessary risk to case integrity.



When that learning feeds back into validation, the whole ecosystem becomes more consistent, more transparent and more resilient to challenge.

Validation and NCFs are stronger together

One prevents avoidable error. The other makes sure real issues improve the system.

Validation

Prevents avoidable errors before they happen



Non-Conformance Findings

Captures issues when they do happen



Together they:

- ✓ Strengthen confidence in digital evidence
- ✓ Support policing and justice outcomes
- ✓ Reduce challenges in court
- ✓ Enable sustainable national standards
- ✓ Promote fairness, transparency, and integrity

Together, these two modules strengthen confidence in digital evidence and make consistent, defensible policing more achievable across the national ecosystem.

Closing Message

If we get these two disciplines right, the rest becomes easier to trust and defend.

Four takeaways

- Digital evidence is now central to modern policing.
- Standards matter more than ever.
- Validation and Non-Conformance Findings are universally valuable, even outside formal accreditation.
- Adopting them elevates quality, trust and defensibility across the policing landscape.

Questions?

Thank You!