

# **BROADLEAF CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL PTY LTD**

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## *Specialists in Strategic and Project Risk Management*

### **ACTIVITIES IN THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR**

IT projects and businesses are notoriously risky. Customers often want to work at or near the leading edge of technology and seem to be more willing to experiment with novel commercial arrangements than less volatile industries.

Broadleaf has extensive experience of the IT sector. One of our senior personnel, Dr Stephen Grey, first entered the risk management field in an IT business, ICL UK. His book on quantitative risk modelling is based on IT projects, although it is equally applicable to other sectors.

Broadleaf has played a central roll in the development of risk management capabilities in the IT Division of one of Australia's largest companies, BHP, supporting the development of procedures and providing training as well as facilitating risk assessments on key projects.

In a major risk assessment and quantitative risk modelling exercise for the New Zealand Department of Land Information, we supported the preparation of a successful submission for funding for a project valued in excess of NZD 100 million. This entailed workshops to review the project plans and management proposals with Land Information staff, representatives of Treasury and the State Services Commission and independent consultants, followed by detailed modelling of cost and schedule uncertainty.

Risk management can make a strong contribution to any complex project. The complexity and volatility of IT projects means that they face a greater need than general projects and businesses and so offer particularly good opportunities for improvement through the exploitation of formal risk management techniques. It can bring improved information, more realistic plans and better communication of an uncertain future. It is also a very effective means of bringing potentially adversarial groups, such as project sponsors and funding gatekeepers, to a common and mutually acceptable view of the best way forward.

We also engage in a range of activities involving high-technology systems engineering and systems integration, particularly in the defence sector, including risk assessments and the development of risk management strategies for large, complex acquisition projects.

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