

👸 Nitrogen

CASE STUDY

Nitrogen Helps Turn Prospects into Clients in Minutes

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How one investment advisor representative diagnosed a prospect's longtime, underlying anxieties in minutes by uncovering their risk tolerance had been "off" by 55.

#### **Meet Tim**

For the last 40 years, Tim Beeman has been a staunch advocate of putting risk tolerance front and center of his clients' financial plans. So when Tim recently revealed to an anxious prospect that they'd been invested as an 82, rather than their actual Risk Number® of 27, it underscored just how powerful risk assessment can be—and how quickly an advisor can go from just providing a financial plan to becoming a trusted counselor, with the right data in hand.

### The Challenge

Tim Beeman knows what it means to leave a lasting legacy. For the last 40 years, he's been carrying the torch that was handed down through more than 280 years of Beeman pioneers and entrepreneurs establishing businesses across the U.S. Today, as the owner of TJ Beeman Advisory Group and a trusted fiduciary for individuals looking to retire, Tim believes that one of the most critical parts of continuing any legacy is to understand each individual's tolerance for risk.

"The market will always go up and down, and so will clients' expectations," said Tim. "So, as an investment advisor representative, the only way we can show that we're heading in the right direction is to prove that our clients are in the right investments."

Tim's approach to assessing client risk tolerance has evolved many times over the last four decades. In the

past, he's expanded upon existing questionnaires to better capture client behavior, and asked clients to sign agreements stating they agreed with their risk assessments.

## **Enter Nitrogen**

In 2017, Tim was introduced to Nitrogen and immediately noticed how simple the Risk Number made having complex conversations with clients. "It immediately gave me a fallback to tell my clients, 'Here is the systematic approach we took to assess your tolerance for risk," said Tim.

Specifically, it was one engagement with an old friend – turned prospect, and eventually client – that really put the Risk Number to the test.

#### A Close Call

Tim received a worried email shortly after Christmas from an old friend, deeply concerned that her finances were in jeopardy. The woman, age 62, had recently retired, along with her husband, age 67, who together had a total of roughly \$2 million in assets.

"I was happy to run her and her husband through the Nitrogen questionnaire to figure out why she was so anxious," said Tim. In just a couple of hours, he input the couple's investments into Nitrogen, compared the

"It was about 1995 when I had a client come into my office telling me she was unhappy. After I asked why, she replied, 'You only made me 24 percent of return this year, and my sister was up 32 percent.' That was a perfect example of how little many of our clients really understand about why we look at risk tolerance."

outcome with their Risk Number, and was astounded at what he found.

The couple had been invested as an 82, but their actual Risk Number was a 27 – it was no wonder they were terrified.

"This moment of clarity led to an immediate sense of urgency - there was no arguing that we needed to move, fast, to get them invested within a risk tolerance they were comfortable with."

Within a few months, the couple had transferred most of their higher-risk assets to Tim. He moved some of their investments to annuities and bonds and gave them a much brighter outlook for their retirement so they could continue to grow their wealth without unwanted risk.

Eventually, Tim says, they will likely transfer all of their assets over to him.

#### More Than Just Financial Advice

Tim reflected that one of the biggest value-adds of Nitrogen is its objectivity – especially when advising couples.

"Sometimes I find that people, especially when they're with their spouses, will have a hard time coming to terms with their risk tolerance. Often, they don't believe they are as risk averse as they really are."

Tim uses the risk assessment questionnaire to gather multiple opinions per household, which is a key part of having objective, data-driven conversations with couples who otherwise may get emotional during these types of interactions. In this way, Tim says, his job as an investment advisor representative can sometimes seem like that of a counselor.

"It's never just about the Risk Number - it's about the conversation they have around it. And while it may not be their 'Sleep Number,' it definitely helps them

# sleep at night."

# **Fiduciary Responsibility**

As a registered investment advisor representative, Tim says, you're choosing to put yourself in the role of fiduciary rather than salesman. "Nitrogen removes the biases you may have about prospects and clients and gives you the data needed to make sure you're putting them in the investments that are right for them."

Tim J Beeman is an investment advisor representative with First Advisors National (FAN), so when it comes to compliance, Nitrogen also plays an important role in fulfilling necessary requirements.

"It's no longer good enough to just assume someone is a 'moderately conservative investor' – that definition can mean anything to anyone. Nitrogen helps bridge the gap between what we think, and what we know."

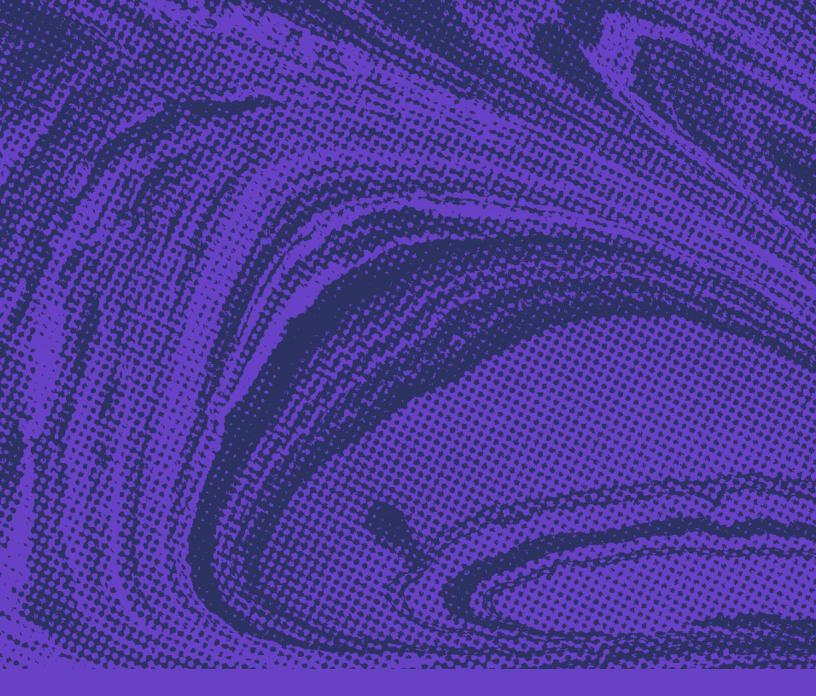
Nitrogen has had a positive impact on 3 areas for Tim's firm:











#### READY TO JOIN THE FEARLESS INVESTING MOVEMENT?

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Sign up

Special thanks to Tim Beeman for his candor and commitment to empowering the world to invest fearlessly.

Nitrogen is the company that invented the Risk Number®, which powers the world's first Risk Alignment Platform and was built on top of a Nobel Prize-winning academic framework. Advisors, broker-dealers, RIAs and asset managers use the Nitrogen platform to create alignment between clients and portfolios, leverage sophisticated analytics to increase the quality of their advice, automate trading and client account management, and access world-class models and research in the Nitrogen Partner Store — all with the mission of empowering the world to invest fearlessly. To learn more, visit Nitrogenwealth.com.



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