



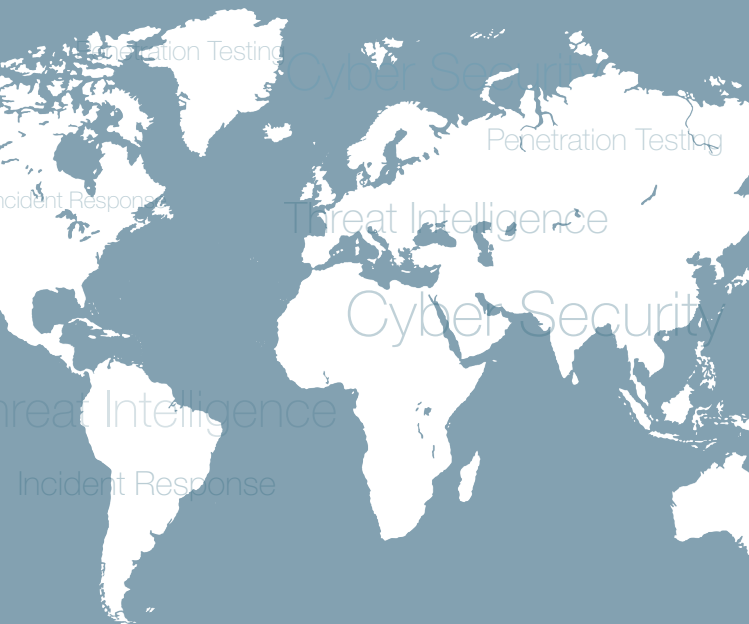
# What is CREST?

[www.crest-approved.org](http://www.crest-approved.org)

# What is CREST?

CREST is the not-for-profit accreditation and certification body representing the technical information security industry.

CREST provides internationally recognised accreditation for organisations and individuals providing penetration testing, cyber incident response and threat intelligence services. All CREST Member Companies undergo regular and stringent assessment; while CREST qualified individuals have to pass rigorous examinations to demonstrate knowledge, skill and competence. CREST is governed by an elected Executive of experienced security professionals who also promote and develop awareness, ethics and standards within the cyber security market.



# CREST Company Accreditations:



## Penetration Testing

Working with industry, CREST has developed and implemented a rigorous accreditation process for organisations providing penetration testing. It has been designed to define good practice within the industry and to provide buyers with an indication of high quality. CREST membership is seen as an aspiration for service suppliers and the de-facto requirement in many sectors.



## STAR



(Simulated Targeted Attack and Response)

Working alongside the Bank of England (BoE), Government and industry, CREST developed a framework to deliver controlled, bespoke, intelligence-led cyber security tests. STAR incorporates **Penetration Testing** and **Threat Intelligence** services to accurately replicate threats to critical assets. The STAR scheme is a prerequisite for membership of the BoE CBEST scheme, used to provide assurance to the most critical parts of the UK's financial services.



CREST



CSIR (Cyber Security Incident Response)

The CREST Cyber Security Incident Response (CSIR) scheme is endorsed by GCHQ and CPNI and focuses on appropriate standards for incident response to ensure recovery and prevent reoccurrence.



## Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus

CREST helped to develop the technical assessment and certification framework for the UK Government's entry level cyber security standards, Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus. CREST is one of the largest Cyber Essentials accreditation bodies and all CREST Certifying Bodies are also members of CREST.

*All CREST Member Companies must sign up to a strict and enforceable Code of Conduct that defines requirements around ethics, integrity, disclosure and confidentiality.*

# CREST Individual Accreditations:

CREST exams are recognised by the professional services industry and buyers as being the best indication of knowledge, skill and competence. They are an aspiration for those taking them and a requirement for those hiring or buying services.

CREST exams have three levels:

**Practitioner** - Entry into the profession

**Registered** - Competent to work independently without supervision

**Certified** - Technically competent to run major projects and teams

CREST provides examinations in:



## Penetration Testing<sup>1</sup>

- Infrastructure testing
- Applications testing
- Simulated attack management and technical implementation (red teaming)



## Threat intelligence



## Incident Response<sup>2</sup>

- Host intrusion analysis
- Network intrusion analysis
- Reverse engineering and malware analysis
- Incident management



## Security Architecture

The CREST Registered Technical Security Architect examination is formally recognised under the UK C ESG Certified Professional Scheme (CCP).

*CREST individual accreditation involves a rigorous set of technical assessments and signing up to an individual Code of Conduct.*

<sup>1</sup>CREST penetration testing examinations and processes have been reviewed and approved by C ESG

<sup>2</sup>The CREST incident response exams have all been approved by GCHQ and CPNI

## What does CREST do for the Buying Community?

CREST provides the confidence that penetration testing, threat intelligence and cyber incident response services will be carried out by qualified individuals with up to date knowledge, skills and competence, supported by a professional services company with appropriate policies, processes and procedures. It also provides an independent complaints process, tied to the company and individual Codes of Conduct. The CREST website helps buyers distinguish organisations from one another based on skills and competencies.

## What does CREST do for Government and Intelligence Agencies?

CREST develops, runs and administers the qualifications required by government to operate within the Government CHECK scheme and provides support to the CESG Certified Professional (CCP) scheme. It also provides the access to cyber incident response services that do not fall into the mandate of the CESG Cyber Incident Response (CIR) scheme.

## What does CREST do for Regulators?

CREST provides a community of trusted and recognised organisations and individuals to deliver consistently focused cyber assurance services, tailored to the challenges faced by specific sectors.

## What does CREST do for Training and Academia?

- CREST assesses the content of IA and cyber security courses against the framework for the CREST qualifications
- Working with Tech Partnership and other organisations, CREST helps to develop occupational standards and learning pathways to encourage talent into the industry
- CREST works with Government to deliver 'Day in the life' films that provide personal views on life in the industry, along with career advice and career pathway options
- The CREST Academic Partner Programme supports relevant universities to encourage the best people into the industry and provide real employment opportunities for graduates
- CREST Student Membership provides early inclusion in the CREST community and access to information and support

# Why become a CREST Member Company?

Membership provides a demonstrable level of quality for cyber security services. This is used as a major differentiator in responses to tenders and also helps with recruitment. Participation in our working groups provides real development opportunities for experienced staff and allows them to shape the services being offered in line with emerging industry standards. Members also benefit from more effective engagement with procurement processes and support with customer complaints and issues. The CREST website also allows Members to showcase their capabilities and services to raise awareness and help generate interest, leads and opportunities. CREST brings together a diverse ecosystem of buyers, suppliers, government departments, agencies and industry regulators, giving Members the unique opportunity to interact with key stakeholders and help shape the future of the industry.

# Why Become CREST Qualified?

CREST qualifications are seen as being a mark of excellence and individuals holding CREST qualifications are very much in demand. CREST provides a structured entry point from academia and for those who wish to cross train into the industry. CREST qualifications also provide a structured career path for progression within the industry. The examinations provide demonstrable knowledge, skill and competence; the codes of conduct provide evidence that you are willing to work within the confines of a regulated industry in an ethical and professional manner. Access to the CREST run conferences, specialist working groups and approved training allow for real professional development and the opportunity to work with other professionals to help shape and influence the industry.

