IntaForensics
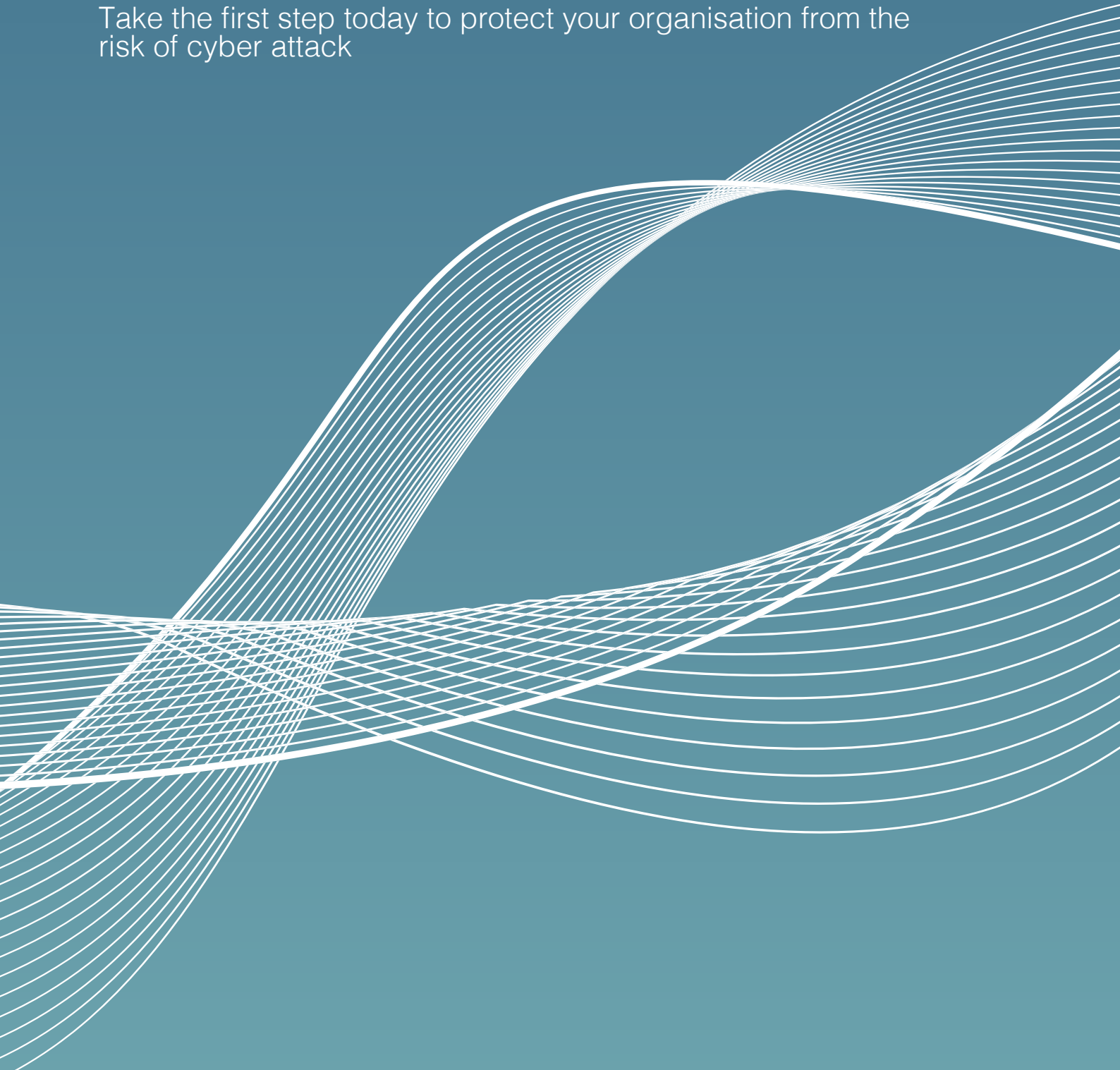
Cybersecurity

Cyber Essentials

Take the first step today to protect your organisation from the risk of cyber attack

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What is the Cyber Essentials Scheme?

Cyber Essentials is a Government-backed, industry supported foundation for basic cyber security hygiene. The Scheme has been carefully designed to guide organisations of any size in protecting themselves against cyber threats. The scheme offers two levels of certification, Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus with a robust Assurance Framework providing an independent validation. Cyber Essentials Plus provides a greater level of assurance following successful completion of external vulnerability testing.

Why do I need Cyber Essentials?

Two thirds of large businesses experienced a cyber breach or attack in the past year (HM Govt. Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2016*). With the average cost of a breach to a large business equating to £36,500, can you afford not to be safe?

Cyber-attacks on businesses large and small are a regular occurrence of daily life. It is virtually impossible these days to read a news story or visit a news website and not read a report of another data hack, phishing attack, successful ransomware incident or the 'accidental' loss of valuable customer information. A substantial amount of these costly incidents can easily be prevented by taking some simple steps and implementing a few basic controls.

Cyber Essentials is now mandatory for all central government contracts advertised after 1 October 2014 which involve handling personal information and providing certain ICT products and services. Even if you are not a government supplier, you should still seriously consider embarking on the Cyber Essentials pathway to ensure that your business has implemented basic cyber security controls and by doing so, you have mitigated against common types of cyber attack such as phishing and hacking.

What are the benefits?

By achieving Cyber Essentials certification you will:

- Have demonstrated to your staff and customers that you take the business of cyber security seriously
- Mitigate the likelihood of suffering a serious cyber attack resulting in data loss
- Meet eligibility requirements for certain government and MOD supply chain contracts

The Cyber Essentials Journey
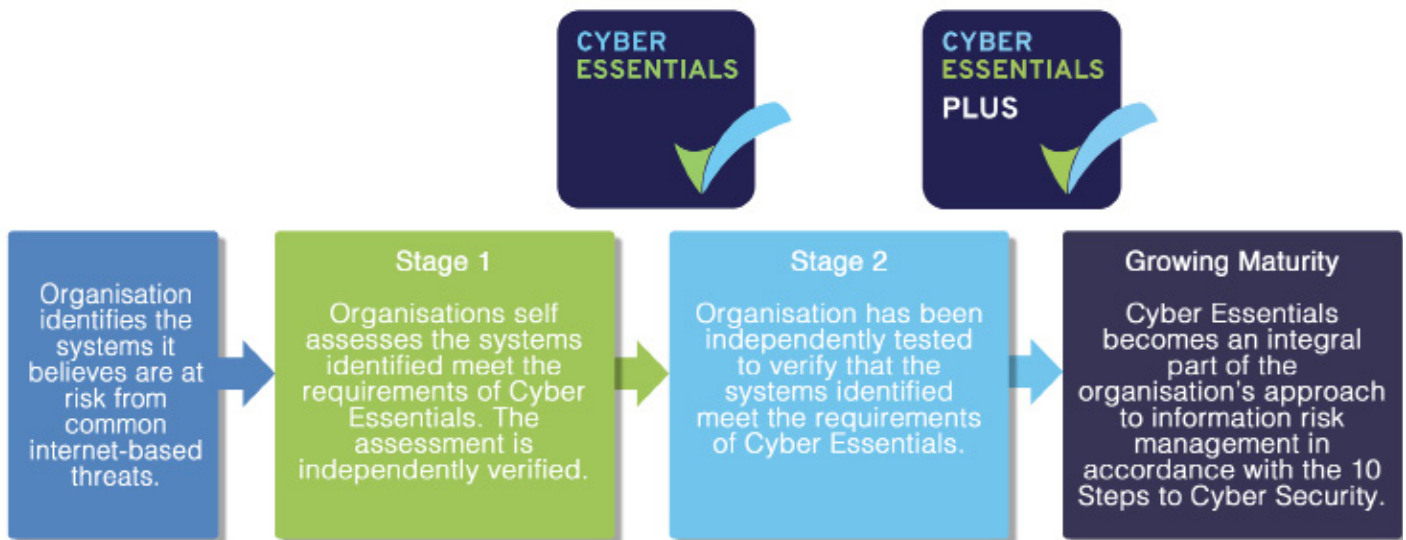
What will the process look like? Take the first step today.

IntaForensics are a Cyber Essentials Certification Body. We would be delighted to assist and support your achievement of Cyber Essentials Certification. Cyber Essentials is an independently verified self-assessment. You complete an online assessment questionnaire, approved by a senior executive whereby you will assess yourself against five basic security controls. Upon submission, IntaForensics will independent review and verify your responses and if successful, we will award you the requisite certificate(s) and badge(s) that you can display on your company website.

Cyber Essentials Plus

This is the next stage of your security journey and involves both independent internal and external tests of your network and computers. It necessitates a visit to your site and provides a higher level of assurance that you are complying with the Cyber Essentials Scheme than the basic self-assessment level. To achieve the Cyber Essentials Plus certification you will also need to complete the self-assessment stage. IntaForensics can advise on these next steps.

IASME

Information Assurance for Small & Medium Enterprises are one of four HMG-appointed Cyber Essentials Accrediting Bodies. The IASME Governance Standard, based on international best practice, is risk-based and includes aspects such as physical security, staff awareness, and data backup. The IASME standard was recently recognised as the best cyber security standard for small companies by the UK Government when in consultation with trade associations and industry groups. The audited IASME certification is also seen as showing compliance to ISO27001 by an increasing number of companies. If you take your cyber security seriously, you can also achieve certification against the IASME standard which, in addition to the Cyber Essentials requirements seeks additional evidence to cover your security management, staff, physical security and business continuity.

You can self-assess against both the Cyber Essentials and IASME requirements at the same time and, if successful, achieve both certifications. As an additional bonus, successful certification will entitle you to Cyber Liability Insurance with a £25,000 indemnity limit (terms apply)

More detailed information about the Cyber Essentials Scheme and IASME Standard can be found at:

https://www.cyberstreetwise.com/cyberessentials/
https://www.iasme.co.uk/index.php/about

*HM Govt. Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2016
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/521465/Cyber_Security_Breaches_Survey_2016_main_report_FINAL.pdf