# www.portcullis-security.com

**UK**
**Portcullis Computer Security Ltd**
Portcullis House
2 Century Court
Tolpits Lane
Watford
WD18 9RS

T.   +44 (0)20 8868 0098
E.   enquiries@portcullis-security.com
www.portcullis-security.com

**USA**
**Portcullis Inc.**
505 Montgomery Street
10th and 11th Floor
San Francisco
California
94111

T.   +1 415 874 3101
E.   enquiries@portcullis-security.us
www.portcullis-security.us

# PORTCULLIS

# Security Testing Services

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# About Portcullis

**Test. Respond. Consult. Research. These are our four areas of expertise.**

Portcullis is not new to the security market place, with the foundations of our company dating back to the mid-80s. It is fair to say that a lot has changed over the past three decades, but the fundamental principles of why organisations perform information security have remained constant. Private information needs to remain confidential. There is a need to trust the integrity of information. That information needs to be available when it is required. Our areas of expertise deliver this.

Security testing tells our clients exactly where they stand with regards to system security. What and how we test continues to change, but the motivations remain the same; our clients have questions, we deliver the answers.

Incidents can and do happen. When there is an issue, Portcullis can be relied upon to have the expertise to respond, manage and restore our client's faith in their own systems. The more that can jointly be done to refine this process ahead of time, the better.

Information security is not just about the tech, so much of the overall security posture is embedded in company culture, policy, process and standards. Working in business terms, our consultants can advise on how to overcome the challenges of today and tomorrow.

In order to keep our clients up to date, and to ensure we remain industry leaders Portcullis has, and always have had, a very strong commitment to research. Research benefits the community, our company and our clients. It costs, but it is worth it.

Across all service areas, our aim is to take the best consultants, understand what the client needs, wrap this skill and knowledge up in efficient processes and then deliver on our promises. Technical expertise alone is not enough; it has to be delivered effectively and for the right reasons.

One of the challenges of information security is the constant change. Threats continue to evolve, the use of technology changes and business constantly wants better access to more information. Security cannot stand in the way of this. Portcullis enables our clients to take advantage of new concepts by helping them understand the risks and how to manage them.

You are in safe hands with Portcullis; we know what our clients want both today and tomorrow. The capability to deliver has been proven time and again for decades. We are tried, tested and proven.

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# Portcullis
## Security Testing Services

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Without exception, if our consultants can interact with a system, then its security can be assessed. This could be over a network, direct access with a keyboard, mouse or touch screen, over wireless or Bluetooth, through USB, FireWire or proprietary port, whatever is required. Options are available for black box testing, white box testing, red-teaming or a more holistic audit. Many clients ask us if we can test the unusual, bespoke or new; the answer is yes.

Whilst the systems under test and approach taken vary, it is possible to group up services into disciplines, some of which are outlined below. The consistent theme throughout

these services is consultative. By taking time to fully understand our clients' requirements, it is possible to deliver an engagement that meets these. This ensures our clients never pay for anything that they do not want, but get everything that they need.

### Infrastructure testing

Infrastructure testing used to mean just servers, switches and firewalls. However, networks have developed and modern infrastructure encompasses wireless networks, remote access and VPN solutions, embedded systems (the Internet of Things) SCADA, and more. Portcullis has the capability to test a wide range of infrastructure related systems, efficiently reviewing common solutions and also reviewing the unusual through highly skilled security practitioners.

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### Application testing

Portcullis' application testing services cover the full range of applications; browser-based applications, locally installed binary applications, mobile applications, web services, etc. Testing covers both the local and server enforced controls to ensure that only authorised users are granted access and that all users are tightly controlled, such that they can only access intended resources and functions. This is the essence of any application test and Portcullis has expert consultants that intelligently apply an 8-stage methodology to really understand whether these two key facets have been properly applied.

### IT health checks

Portcullis is able to offer full CESG IT health checks at both an application and infrastructure level. Rather than just tweak our process to suit the CHECK T&Cs, Portcullis is keen to have our CHECK Team Leaders interact with our clients and accreditors throughout the project scoping phase to build a scope that fully meets the accreditor's expectations. Our experience across 15 years of working under the CHECK scheme, complemented by the former HMG accreditors in our consultancy team, allows us to positively manage test scope to meet time and cost requirements, whilst still facilitating an easy sign-off.

### Social engineering and intelligence led testing

Social engineering and intelligence led testing open up the traditional boundaries of an assurance project. Social engineering introduces a human element and intelligence led testing, pro-actively seeks out hitherto unknown security weaknesses by expanding test scopes and uses different techniques to overcome the limitations of traditional assurance exercises. The aim is always to consider how the security of systems may be undermined in the real world, where behaviour can be different to that of a more lab-orientated security test.

### Red Teaming

There can always be the argument that any kind of test doesn't represent a real-world attack; there will always be an element of preparation or scoping that introduces conditions that would not be present in the event of a genuine incident. Red teaming addresses this by inviting Portcullis to conduct a series of real-world attacks, often with the only proviso being the need to maintain business operation. Portcullis' consultants will actively seek out hitherto unconsidered or underestimated attack vectors and throughout the engagement exercise a wide range of human and

technical security controls. Should this approach prove too aggressive, it is also possible to conduct red-teaming as a more paper-based exercise as part of risk analysis.

## CBEST

CBEST is a scheme endorsed by the Bank of England and the Government as the top tier of penetration testing services. This is designed primarily for the financial services sector, but is of value to all organisations seeking the highest levels of security. This scheme takes regular assurance projects to the next level, using an intelligence-led approach and the most skilled consultants to review systems demanding the highest level of assurance.

## Mobility solutions

Mobility solutions encompass laptops, tablets, smartphones, BlackBerrys and a range of other devices. During testing, the intention is to ensure that the supporting infrastructure is secure, that users are tightly controlled and that the device remains secure in the event of loss or theft. This testing can incorporate mobile application testing to ensure that an entire solution is secure, regardless of the integrity of the host device.

## SCADA systems and smart grids

The security of SCADA systems and smart grids are currently in the media spotlight, but they have been with us in various forms for some time and Portcullis has been testing these for many years. In order to complete such a test, there is the need to understand the system architecture, identify the attack vectors and then to execute appropriate penetration testing techniques to evaluate security against each vector. Regardless of the sector and solution, Portcullis has the capability to complete this type of testing.

## Cyber essentials

Cyber essentials is a new scheme introduced by CESG, CREST, BIS and other agencies interested in promoting the UK as a secure place to do business. Primarily focused on the SME market place, this scheme intends to provide an industry standard benchmark, which not only protects the business but also their clients. Portcullis is able to complete just the certification process or to include a range of value adding consultancy exercises to help organisations better understand and meet their own security requirements.

# Why Portcullis?

## Pedigree

Now in our third decade of delivering information security  consultancy and widely recognised amongst the best, we know what it takes to excel. Portcullis' teams are unsurpassed and our R&D department ensures that we continue to set the standards others strive to follow.

## Delivery

A successful engagement is judged end-to-end. Portcullis' account management, pre-sales operational and editorial teams combine to launch a project certain to  succeed. Our consultants have the expertise to deliver and are supported by rigorous quality assurance to ensure a high level of client satisfaction.

## Approach

To our clients, we are more than just a supplier; we are their trusted advisor, confidant and problem-solvers. Portcullis takes the time to support our clients, provide sound advice and form long lasting partnerships.

It takes all this and more to be tried, tested and proven.

## Get in touch

We are keen to talk to you and discuss your security issues and find practicable solutions. Allow us to demonstrate why we are trusted by so many.

T: +44 (0) 20 8868 0098

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