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PORTCULLIS

**Security Testing
Services**





About Portcullis

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

Portcullis is not new to the Information Security marketplace, 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 embrace 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 enables our clients to see exactly where they stand in terms of the confidentiality, integrity and availability of their systems. What and how we test continues to change, but the motivations remain the same: our clients have questions, and we deliver the answers.

Incidents can and do happen, and when there is an issue Portcullis are always there with the expertise to respond, manage and restore our clients' 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, and much of an organisation's overall security posture is embedded in its culture, policies, processes and standards. Working in business terms, our consultants are able to advise our clients on how to overcome the challenges of today, and also of tomorrow.

In order to keep our clients up-to-date and to ensure that we remain industry leaders, Portcullis has – and always has 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 utilise the best consultants, understand what the client needs, then wrap this skill and knowledge up in efficient processes and deliver on our promises. Technical expertise alone is not enough; it has to be delivered effectively and for the right reasons.

One of the main challenges within the Information Security arena is the constant change. Threats continue to evolve, the use of technology changes and businesses constantly require better access to more information. Security cannot stand in the way of this, and we enable our clients to take advantage of new concepts by helping them understand the risks and how to manage them.

With Portcullis you are in safe hands. We know what our clients need both today and tomorrow, and our capability to deliver has been proven time and again for decades. We are tried, tested and proven.





Portcullis Security Testing Services

Our clients never pay for anything that they do not want, but get everything that they need.

Penetration testing, assurance projects, ethical hacking – it all means broadly the same thing and Portcullis are experts in this field and have been since the mid-90s.

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 ports, 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.

Despite the large variation in the tested systems and methodologies used, it is possible to group services into broad disciplines, some of which are outlined below. The consistent theme throughout these services is consultative. By taking time to fully understand our clients' requirements we are able to conduct a thorough assessment and ensure that our clients' are satisfied. This means that

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 both common solutions and the unusual through our highly skilled security practitioners.

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 access is tightly controlled and that user's can only access the resources and functions to which they are intended to have authorisation. 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 simply tweaking our processes 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.



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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 them for many years. In order to complete such a test, it is necessary 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 possesses the capability to successfully 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 simply the certification process or can include a range of added value consultancy exercises to help organisations to 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.

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