

Service Definition

Specialist Cloud Services

Introduction

Cloud Services and other HMG systems which process, store or transmit UK Government data must be assured against HMG Information Assurance standards.

ICS Ltd has demonstrably strong credentials for provision of a broad range of Specialist Security services, from scoping, risk assessment, design, build and assurance of UK Government systems.

ICS Ltd is able to provide Specialist Security Services as set out below.

Risk Management and Assurance Support

ICS Ltd can provide experienced and articulate consultants to liaise with business and security stakeholders on your behalf, in support of the effective risk management and assurance of G Cloud Services and HMG systems. Our risk management and assurance support services include:

- liaison with the Information Risk Owner and other key security stakeholders to understand the threat environment;
- development and maintenance of risk management documentation to ensure board-level visibility of risks and progress with risk mitigation;
- review of system design and network architecture, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of solution architectures with recommendations and options for change to mitigate identified system vulnerabilities;
- review of extant security policies and procedures, and development of new policies and procedures where required;
- coding standards review, and advice on how to ensure that applications development meets the rigorous standards demanded for UK Government and other sensitive systems;
- other, ad-hoc risk management support to meet specialist system requirements as necessary.

Compliance Support

G Cloud Services and HMG Systems often have specific compliance support requirements. In addition to the standard requirement for ISO27001 compliance, some HMG services need to comply with PCI DSS requirements, or connected to shared services which have baseline security requirements

for all connecting parties. ICS Ltd can assist you with this compliance. Our compliance support services include:

- conduct of physical site audits, to ensure the Physical, Procedural & Personnel (P3) measures that are in place to protect government assets that are stored and handled at a physical site are appropriate for the value of the information; including using the Classified Material Assessment Tool (CMAT – formerly SAPMA) to determine and record compliance, as well as taking a broader view of security;
- preparation of ISO27001 and other compliance documentation, compliance of gap analysis and advice on remedial measures to achieve compliance, assessment of personal data handling in HMG and commercial contexts, and provision of guidance on how to meet HMG/DPA/ICO requirements;
- where systems are to be connected to the PSN or other shared services, we will conduct reviews of compliance with Codes of Connection (CoCos), Community Security Policies (CSPs) and other shared services agreements, providing gap analyses and recommendations for change to meet the requisite standards for connection to shared services.

Security Architecture

At ICS Ltd, we understand the importance of underpinning system and service design with a robust security architecture from the outset of service design. Our skilled consultants will work with your technical architects to deliver robust, cost effective and flexible technical solutions for secure design.

We can provide support for everything from the initial outline technical solution design, through to the finer details of the low-level design and build processes, and remedial action to address issues during test and in-service. This through-life approach ensures that security is designed in rather than bolted on, reducing the need for costly and time-consuming redesign at late stages of system delivery.

Our services include:

- providing security experts to act as Security Design Authority and/or Technical Design Authority on your projects;
- top-down (or bottom-up) IA review of technical solution designs, working with your technical engineers to identify problems and implement suitable mitigations;
- focussed, technology-specific advice on elements of the design where required (e.g. gateway design, virtualisation, containerisation, cryptographic tools, etc...)

Strategy Review & Business Change

Periodic review of organisational strategy is essential to ensure that live capabilities and in-flight business change programmes are providing best

value for money, and to apply corrective action where needed. ICS Ltd is able to support strategic and business process review in the following ways:

- helping organisations to capture and articulate the high-level aims of the business, liaising with stakeholders from across an organisation to capture the detailed requirements to be met through improved working practices and new capabilities;
- identifying and evaluating the different options for addressing an identified capability-gap or changing business needs, considering the trade-offs between competing organisational priorities against delivery time and cost for each solution option.
- providing strategic advice on how to develop an enterprise-wide approach to the selection, procurement and through-life management of IS/IT capabilities, to support the business need of the organisation;
- technology road-mapping, conducting feasibility studies and technical analysis to enable informed organisational decision-making on medium-to-long-term research investment in novel and emerging technologies.

Training

Information Assurance isn't just about IT Systems & Services. It's also about people. At ICS Ltd, we pride ourselves on being able to deliver a broad range of standard and bespoke training for organisations. Specific topics covered include:

- Security Education & Awareness Training (SEAT);
- core Information Assurance requirements under the SPF and Information Assurance Standards;
- conduct of meaningful risk assessments, including both theory and practice, and covering modelling techniques and tools, risk treatment, and how to write useful RMADS and other information risk management documents;
- how to conduct physical site assessments in line with UK Government requirements;
- the principles and practice of Security Architecture in system design and management;
- cryptographic principles and controls;
- bespoke, specialist training on request.