



ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Cyber Essentials Plus and IASME Gold



The Cyber Essentials scheme has been developed by the UK Government and industry to fulfil two functions. It provides a clear statement of the basic controls all organisations should implement to mitigate the risk from common internet based threats, within the context of the 10 Steps to Cyber Security. Through the Assurance Framework it also offers a mechanism for organisations to demonstrate to customers, investors, insurers and others that they have taken these essential precautions.

The IASME standard was developed over several years to create an attainable cyber security standard for smaller companies. The international standard, ISO27001, is comprehensive but extremely challenging for a small company to accomplish and maintain. The IASME standard is written along the same lines as ISO27001 but specifically for smaller companies. The gold standard of IASME, demonstrates baseline compliance with the international standard.

Alternative Solutions has recently gained gold certification to the IASME Governance Standard. This follows an independent auditing assessment performed across the whole of the company. In May Alternative Solutions also achieved audited assessment to the Cyber Essentials Plus scheme. Alternative Solutions is the first company in the Channel Islands to accomplish independent certification to both standards.

As well as demonstrating compliance with the standards, Alternative Solutions are now in a position to advise businesses in the Islands about how they can achieve compliance. For Cyber Essentials a relatively simple gap analysis can show where systems are compliant and create a plan to attain full compliance. Alternative Solutions can also provide external certification services for companies wanting to gain Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation.



With so much opinion and advice available on what should be put in place for cyber and information security, an agreed and measurable standard is a welcome addition.

About the Author

Tim Roussel has worked in the information management industry for over 20 years. He has experience of working with public bodies and commercial organisations across the UK and EMEA. He has been working for Alternative Solutions Limited for the past six years advising and assisting a variety of organisations on improving business processes, with a specific interest in managing information. Tim can be contacted on 01481 701234, 07781 140353 or by email tim@asl.gg.

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