

Supplier Cyber Security

Cyber-attacks are a threat to any organisation whose livelihood depends on information. Governments, Defence Primes and the Supply Base must join forces to combat the threat, safeguard our country's national security and, protect the vital interests of our businesses and economies. Cyber attackers are highly motivated and capable and the consequences of being compromised are severe, resulting in financial loss, reputational damage and, a reduction in company value and shareholder confidence. The consensus across Governments and industry globally is that attacks on the Aerospace and Defence sector will continue to increase in frequency and sophistication, and that the nations and groups that employ these tactics will increase in number. Each of our organisations has a role to play in protecting information; BAE Systems wants to partner with our supply base using the three part strategy set out below to manage the risk of cyber-attacks.



Understand Risk

As BAE Systems and other Defence Primes have enhanced their cyber security defences, attackers have expanded their targets to include these organisations' supply bases, searching for weaknesses that they can exploit. BAE Systems needs to understand our supplier's ability to manage cyber risks and protect sensitive information shared with them in the course of business. The BAE Systems Supplier Cyber Security process is our way of assessing and improving the cyber maturity of our supply base.



Raise Awareness

In an increasingly interconnected world, cyber threats can only be combatted through a coordinated approach across Governments and industry. Understanding who the attackers are and the methods they employ are essential first steps towards putting in place an effective cyber protection capability. Sharing intelligence and information about proven technologies and processes will also help to improve resilience across the Aerospace and Defence supply chain.



Develop Defences

The attackers are constantly evolving their approaches and organisations need to continually enhance and invest in capability to counter the threat. Each supplier will have a different risk profile that is dependent on the information they process, the services and products they supply, and other business and technical factors. BAE Systems wants to work with our suppliers to put in place cost effective, high performing cyber defences that are commensurate with the assessed risks and that protect our information.

