Introducing

CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS SERVICES

ArmstrongWatson®

Accountants, Business & Financial Advisers

www.armstrongwatson.co.uk

> ❝ We need all organisations, public and private, to see cyber security as both an essential foundation for their operations and a driver for growth. To view cyber security not just as a 'necessary evil' or compliance function, but as a business investment, a catalyst for innovation and an integral part of achieving their purpose.

Richard Horne –
CEO National Cyber Security Centre and GCHQ board member

CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS SERVICES

Every organisation, regardless of location, size, or sector, is a potential target for cyber threats that evolve daily. Selecting the right cyber security solutions to meet your operational needs can often feel confusing, complex, and time-consuming. With a wide range of options available, finding the right approach requires careful consideration and expert guidance.

Our mission is to simplify this process for you. By understanding your business's specific challenges and goals, we deliver a tailored, comprehensive cyber security roadmap that not only safeguards your organisation, your data, and your reputation, but also empowers you to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

Working alongside our trusted cyber security partners, Armstrong Watson specialises in a proactive approach, designed to detect, mitigate, and respond to threats before they disrupt your operations. By leveraging the latest technologies and best practices, we help you stay one step ahead of cybercriminals whilst fostering a culture of resilience and awareness within your team.

The rapid growth of AI has created new opportunities for efficiency and innovation, but it has also introduced sophisticated new risks. We help you address these challenges directly, ensuring your cyber security strategy is agile enough to meet emerging challenges.

Beyond protection, we ensure your organisation aligns with essential regulations, including GDPR, PCI DSS, and sector-specific compliance requirements. By addressing both security and compliance, we help you reduce risk, avoid legal pitfalls, and strengthen your governance framework.

Cyber security is more than technology — it is about trust. Partner with us to build secure defences for your business and provide peace of mind for your team and your customers. In conjunction with our cyber security partners, we deliver cost-effective solutions tailored to your specific needs.

When it comes to the complexities of cyber security, we're with you every step of the way.

Rebecca Wilson
Cyber Security Solutions Manager

WHY IS CYBER SECURITY NEEDED?

While antivirus software was once considered sufficient, the threat landscape has evolved dramatically. Cyber criminals now use sophisticated tactics like phishing, ransomware, and social engineering to target vulnerabilities, often bypassing basic defences.

Modern businesses rely heavily on digital systems and data, making them attractive targets for attacks. A single breach can result in stolen sensitive information, operational downtime, financial loss, and reputational damage that's hard to recover from.

Comprehensive cyber security goes beyond antivirus software, incorporating advanced technologies, employee training, and strategic planning to create a robust defence. Investing in cyber security is about more than just protection—it's about ensuring your business remains resilient in an increasingly unpredictable online world.

Nearly 43% of cyber attacks specifically target SME businesses

Phishing remains the most common type of cyber attack, affecting 85% of businesses and 86% of charities

43% of UK businesses and 30% of charities reported having experienced some form of cyber security breach or attack in the last 12 months

Approximately 82% of data breaches are caused by human error
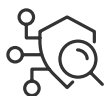
An estimated 19,000 businesses experienced a ransomware crime in the last 12 months

It is estimated that UK businesses have experienced approximately 8.58 million cyber crimes of all types

Source: The UK Government Cyber Security Breaches Survey

HOW CAN WE HELP?

COMPREHENSIVE RISK ASSESSMENTS

Detailed evaluations of your current systems to uncover vulnerabilities and improve defences.

TAILORED CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS

Customised strategies designed to meet your business's unique needs, ensuring maximum protection without unnecessary complexity.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE SUPPORT

Expert guidance to ensure your organisation adheres to key regulations like GDPR, PCI DSS, and industry-specific standards.

CYBER SECURITY TRAINING AND AWARENESS

Educational sessions for employees to recognise and respond to phishing, malware, and other cyber threats.

REAL-TIME MONITORING AND ALERTS

24/7 monitoring services to detect suspicious activity and notify your team immediately.

PROACTIVE THREAT DETECTION AND MITIGATION

Advanced tools to identify and address vulnerabilities before they can be exploited.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH TRUSTED EXPERTS

As your trusted business adviser, benefit from our expertise and collaboration with cyber security professionals.

PEACE OF MIND FOR YOU AND YOUR CUSTOMERS

Building trust by demonstrating robust measures to protect sensitive customer data and your company's reputation.

ArmstrongWatson®
Accountants, Business & Financial Advisers

cymplify

Citation Cyber
FORMERLY mitigate

CREST

National Cyber Security Centre

CYBER ESSENTIALS PLUS

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Cyber Security Health Check

Compliance and Regulation

Vulnerability Scanning

Dark Web Monitoring

STRENGTHEN
YOUR
SECURITY.

PROTECT
YOUR
BUSINESS.

Phishing Simulation

Penetration Testing

Security Awareness Training

Table Top Exercise and Response Plan

Cyber Essentials Certification and Support

Document and Policy Management

YOUR CYBER SECURITY JOURNEY

Staying ahead of cyber threats is critical to safeguarding your organisation. We provide tailored cyber security services designed to protect your business, employees, and customers while enhancing your overall security posture.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE

- **Complimentary Initial Meeting**
  We'll meet with you to understand your organisation's unique challenges, goals, and existing cyber security measures. This no-obligation meeting allows us to align our expertise with your needs.

- **Exposure and Vulnerability Scan**
  A combined service that includes a dark web risk report and a comprehensive vulnerability scan. We identify compromised credentials, sensitive data exposure, and technical weaknesses that could be exploited by cybercriminals.

- **Cyber Health Check**
  A practical assessment for organisations seeking a clearer picture of their current security posture. This includes a review of your existing policies, processes, and controls, penetration test and Microsoft 365 security review — highlighting areas for improvement and helping you prioritise next steps.

WHAT YOU'LL RECEIVE

- An Exposure and Vulnerability Scan report detailing threats and weaknesses relevant to your organisation.

- A Cyber Health Check summary highlighting current gaps with practical, risk-based recommendations.

- Tailored guidance to enhance your overall security posture.

WHY CHOOSE US?

Expert Team: Years of experience in delivering cutting-edge cyber security solutions.

Customised Approach: Solutions tailored to your unique business needs.

Proactive Defence: Identify risks before they become threats.

> 66 Thanks to Rebecca's guidance, I now have a clear action plan and feel far more organised and confident about my business's digital security. It's reassuring to know there's someone knowledgeable and approachable to turn to for support. I'd definitely recommend Armstrong Watson to other local businesses who want to feel more in control of their cyber security. It's been a really positive experience and one I think many businesses could benefit from.
>
> *Jenny Woolgar –*
> Jenny Woolgar Photography

CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS FAQ

MY BUSINESS HAS IT SUPPORT IN PLACE – WHY DO WE NEED CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS?

While IT support is essential for managing and maintaining your technology infrastructure, it does not typically provide the specialised expertise or tools required to defend against sophisticated and evolving cyber threats. That's why investing in dedicated cyber security solutions is critical, even if you have IT support in place. While IT support ensures your systems run smoothly, cyber security solutions protect your business from the increasing risks. By combining IT support with dedicated cyber security measures, you build a comprehensive defence that safeguards both your operations and your reputation.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY BUSINESS IS VULNERABLE TO CYBER THREATS?

Every business, regardless of size or industry, is at some level of risk. Key indicators include handling sensitive customer or financial data, reliance on digital systems, or operating cloud-based systems. If your infrastructure lacks updated security measures, employees aren't regularly trained in recognising phishing or cyber scams, or you don't have a clear response plan for cyber incidents, your business could be at greater risk. Conducting a cyber security assessment can help identify vulnerabilities and ensure your business is prepared to protect itself against potential threats.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ME WITH SECTOR-SPECIFIC COMPLIANCE?

We can assist with sector-specific regulatory compliance by offering tailored solutions and expert guidance aligned with the standards and regulations governing your industry. We understand the unique compliance requirements of all industries and can ensure your business not only meets legal standards, but also builds trust with clients, customers, and stakeholders.

HOW CAN YOU HELP MY EMPLOYEES RECOGNISE AND AVOID CYBER THREATS?

We offer tailored training programs to raise awareness and teach best practices, including identifying phishing attempts and securing personal devices. Security awareness training is a vital tool for equipping employees with the knowledge and skills to identify and respond to potential cyber threats. It fosters a culture of vigilance, reducing the risk of human error, which is a leading cause of data breaches. By teaching staff how to recognise phishing scams, use strong passwords, and follow secure practices, organisations can significantly enhance their defences.

ARE CYBER SECURITY SOLUTIONS EXPENSIVE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES?

Our services are scalable and designed to be cost-effective, ensuring businesses of all sizes can access the protection they need without breaking the budget. In fact, investing in the right cyber security measures can save your business significant costs associated with potential data breaches or downtime. We offer a complimentary initial cyber security discussion to help identify your business's unique needs and direct you to free resources and tailored advice. This way, you can make informed decisions about the level of protection that suits your budget while safeguarding your business from potential threats.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO IMPLEMENT A CYBER SECURITY PLAN?

The timeline varies based on the size of your organisation, the complexity of your systems, and the specific cyber security measures required. However, we ensure the process is as efficient and seamless as possible. After assessing your needs, we provide a clear roadmap with realistic timelines and milestones.

CLIENT CASE STUDY

At Armstrong Watson, we understand that choosing the right partner for your cyber security needs is crucial. Our team will work closely with you to understand your unique challenges, offering solutions that are as effective as they are practical. But don't just take our word for it—here is an example that demonstrates that we deliver what we promise...

SPECIALIST ENGINEERING CONSULTANCY IDENTEC BOOSTS CYBER RESILIENCE

BACKGROUND

Identec is based in North East England, providing bespoke control and automation solutions to clients across the manufacturing and industrial sectors. As the company continues to grow and adopt increasingly connected technologies, its leadership team recognised the importance of understanding and improving their cyber resilience.

WHAT WE DID

Cyber Health Check
Using the National Cyber Security Centre's Small Business Guide framework, we carried out a structured and comprehensive cyber health check. This included a detailed review of governance, access controls, technical safeguards, staff awareness, and third-party dependencies.

Identity and Access Management
Identec demonstrated several well-established security practices. However, the assessment highlighted key areas requiring attention—particularly around administrative-level user access, where excessive permissions could introduce unnecessary risk.

Risk Mitigation
The review also identified the ongoing use of unsupported software, which poses potential vulnerabilities. Addressing this was prioritised to reduce the risk of exploitation and ensure systems remain secure and compliant.

Debrief
Cyber Security Manager Rebecca Wilson met with the Identec team to present the findings and walk through a clear, practical set of prioritised recommendations. The session provided clarity on next steps and helped ensure the actions were aligned with the business's operational needs.

RESULTS

Following the health check, Identec is implementing several key changes, including revised user access controls, updating operating systems, improved update procedures, and the introduction of regular staff security awareness activities. These improvements are helping to reinforce the company's security posture and safeguard its client and project data.

"The health check process was incredibly helpful and surprisingly eye-opening," said Gary Vasey, Managing Director of Identec. "Rebecca and the team made the whole process accessible and straightforward. It was worth every penny for the reassurance and clarity it's given us—we now have a much better understanding of our cyber risks and how to manage them."

> " With their tailored tools and strategies, Armstrong Watson and their cyber security partner have provided us with the means to secure our critical data and maintain compliance with industry best practices. These measures have greatly improved the resilience of our operations, ensuring we remain protected in the face of evolving cyber risks.
>
> Ben Nicholls –
> IT Manager, Facepunch Studio

GAME DEVELOPER **FACEPUNCH** STRENGTHENS CYBER DEFENCES

facepunch

BACKGROUND

Facepunch is a fast-growing independent game development studio based in Birmingham with almost 100 staff, many of whom work remotely. The company, which created popular Steam games Garry's Mod and Rust, wanted to strengthen its cyber security measures.

WHAT WE DID

Working with Facepunch, Armstrong Watson and their cyber security partner have undertaken a thorough review of the business's cyber security policies to address the ever-changing threats that pose significant risks to its UK and global operations and have implemented the following measures:

✓ **Continuous attack surface monitoring:** Provides real-time visibility into potential vulnerabilities by assessing external-facing assets, helping the business understand its exposure to cyber threats.

✓ **Staff training:** Facepunch conducts ongoing, regular staff awareness training to mitigate risk and exposure. This includes regular phishing simulations to test and improve employees' responses and tailored training programmes, enhancing their ability to recognise and respond to cyber threats.

✓ **Policy and process management:** To help create, distribute and manage cyber security policies and procedures, ensuring compliance and promoting best practices across the business.

✓ **Dark web monitoring:** Monitors the dark web for any compromised company data, providing alerts to potential breaches and enabling proactive measures to protect sensitive information.

RESULTS

Cyber security has become a key part of Facepunch's operational due diligence, ensuring its systems are strong and compliant with industry standards. The tailored solutions have enabled the business to identify and mitigate potential risks effectively, safeguarding its global digital assets.

The team at Facepunch can now focus on their core work of game development, knowing their cyber security is in expert hands.

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