Common Cyber Attacks:
Reducing The Impact

Most cyber attacks are composed of four stages: Survey, Delivery, Breach and Affect. The following security controls, applied at each stage of an attack, can reduce your organisation's exposure to a successful cyber attack.

81%
OF LARGE COMPANIES REPORTING BREACH

£600K - £1.15m
AVERAGE COST OF SECURITY BREACH

Source: 2014 Information Security Breaches Survey sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

Who might be attacking you?

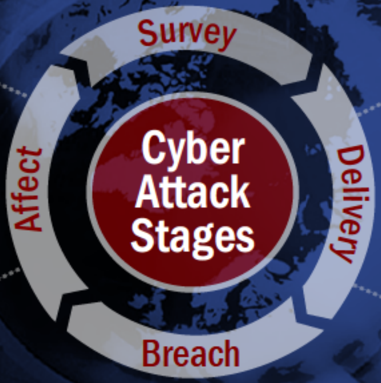
Cyber Criminals interested in making money through fraud or from the sale of valuable information.

Industrial competitors and foreign intelligence services interested in gaining an economic advantage for their companies or countries.

Hackers who find interfering with computer systems an enjoyable challenge.

Hacktivists who wish to attack companies for political or ideological motives.

Employees, or those who have legitimate access, either by accidental or deliberate misuse.



User Education

Train all users to consider what they include in publicly available documents and web content. Users should also be aware of the risks from discussing work-related topics on social media, and the potential of being targeted by phishing attacks.

Network Perimeter Defences

Can block insecure or unnecessary services, or only allow permitted websites to be accessed.

Malware Protection

Can block malicious emails and prevent malware being downloaded from websites

Password Policy

Can prevent users from selecting easily guessed passwords and locks accounts after a low number of failed attempts.

Secure Configuration

Restrict system functionality to the minimum needed for business operation, systematically apply to every device that is used to conduct business.

Controls For The Affect Stage

Once an attacker has achieved full access, it's much harder to detect their actions and eradicate their presence. This is where a more in-depth, holistic approach to cyber security can help. 10 Steps To Cyber Security outlines many of the features of a complete cyber risk management regime.

Patch Management

Apply patches at the earliest possibility to limit exposure to known software vulnerabilities.

Monitoring

Monitor and analyse all network activity to identify any malicious or unusual activity.

Malware Protection

Malware protection within the internet gateway can detect malicious code in an imported item.

Secure Configuration

Remove unnecessary software and default user accounts. Ensure default passwords are changed, and that automatic features that could activate malware are turned off.

User Access

Well maintained user access controls can restrict the applications, privileges and data that users can access.

User Training

User training is extremely valuable in reducing the likelihood of successful social engineering attacks.

Device Controls

Devices within the internal gateway should be used to prevent unauthorised access to critical services or inherently insecure services that may still be required internally.

CESG

CERT-UK