



NATIONAL
CYBER
RESILIENCE
CENTRE
GROUP

NCRCG

Quarterly UPDATE

Q1 2025

NATIONAL AMBASSADORS



Microsoft



NatWest Group



mastercard



Chainalysis



SANS



GIAC
CERTIFICATIONS



CGI



AVIVA



sas resilience



Sir Robert
McALPINE



ISC2



Trustify
Find. Fix. Secure. Repeat.



hp



GTIA
Global Technology Industry Association



nationwide

LOGISTICS UK



Contents



Page 3	latest impact report
Page 4	Latest threat intel and research reports from law enforcement and National Ambassadors
Page 5	Introduction to new National Ambassadors
Page 6	National campaign review – Sir Robert McAlpine
Page 7	National campaign review - Nationwide
Page 8 & 9	Chainalysis provides valuable training for Cyber PATH students
Page 10	CyberVersed Podcast news
Page 10	LinkedIn Group details and links
Page 11	New collateral for you to share National Cyber Insider Newspaper The SME Guardian Newspaper
Page 12	General News Press coverage NCSC: 'My Cyber Toolkit' update Police campaigns Press Pack
Page 13	Key contacts at National CRC Group

Latest Impact Report

SME SUPPLY CHAIN MITIGATION



23%



of National Ambassador supply chain campaign respondents that sign up with a CRC

SKILLS CRISIS MITIGATION



559

Total number of days of **Cyber PATH** paid work experience days

SMEs IN ACTIVE LEARNING



Around **21.5k SMEs**

registered across the CRC Network.



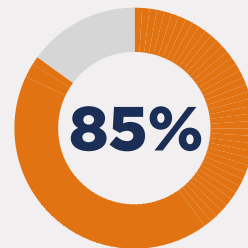
500+ SMEs

signing up to the CRC network/month.



National Ambassadors now running scaled campaigns to **supply chain** and **customer bases**, escalating this rate of registration.

SMES TAKING MEASURED ACTION



of registered SMEs who request a **Cyber PATH** proposal that engage with the service

HARD TO REACH BEING REACHED



And **91%**



of CRC engagement is with organisations with **less than 50 employees** - the hardest to reach as identified by UK Home Office

RECOGNISED BY ACADEMIA



The network is working with over

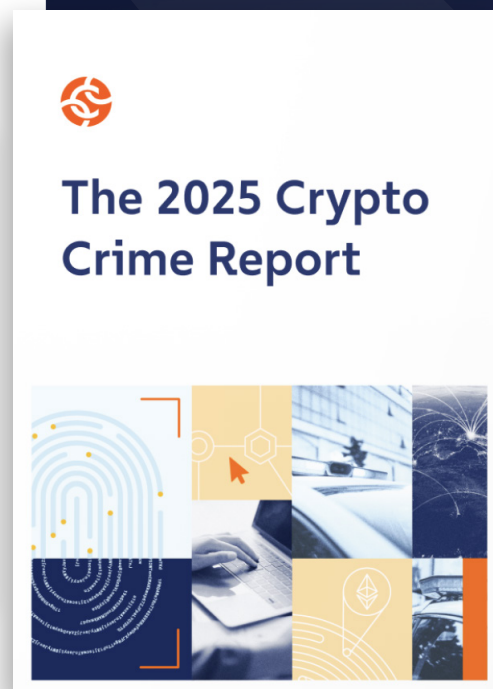
22 university partners

as part of our talent pipeline programme **Cyber PATH**, and benefiting over 100 students now set to scale and nearing **30 enterprise** organisations and their supply chains.

Latest Intel Reports and Research reports



Read or download
Akamai Report



Read or download
Chainalysis Report



Read or download
NCA Report



Read or download
Trustify Report

A warm welcome to our new National Ambassadors

While we publicly announced one new National Ambassador, Akamai in Q1, we are delighted to share that we have welcomed a further 2 that will be publicised very soon, but they must remain private until we make the formal announcement which is made in agreement with each organisations timescales.

In the meantime, we are delighted to welcome Akamai into the portfolio of National Ambassador companies who are committed to working with National Cyber Resilience Centre Group, the CRC Network and Cyber PATH to help achieve their goals.

About Akamai

Founded out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the late 1990s, Akamai's market-leading security solutions and threat intelligence power and protect businesses online, globally. Akamai is trusted by a range of high-profile organisations across the public and private sectors, including the world's top ten banks and all six US military branches, as well as large, medium and small enterprise customers.

In its new role as a National Ambassador, Akamai will be working with NCRCG and the wider Cyber Resilience Centre (CRC) network to bolster the cyber defences of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across all industries in the UK.technology industry, the private sector."

Akamai will also be working with NCRCG to explore a joint, national campaign to raise awareness of cyber resilience amongst its own customers to point them towards the regional centre support .

Richard Meeus, Director of Security Technology and Security Strategy EMEA at Akamai.

"Small and medium-sized enterprises are increasingly in the crosshairs of cybercriminals, facing sophisticated threats that can disrupt operations and compromise sensitive data. At Akamai, we understand the critical need for robust cyber defences to safeguard these businesses. By partnering with NCRCG, we aim to help SMEs better navigate the ever-evolving threat landscape and build resilience against attacks that could jeopardize their growth and success."

Matthew Payne, Regional Director EMEA at Akamai.

"UK SMEs are the backbone of the economy, yet many lack the resources to address complex cybersecurity challenges. Akamai's deep expertise in cyber defence and insight into emerging threats positions us to empower these businesses with knowledge and actionable solutions. Partnering with NCRCG allows us to extend critical support, ensuring SMEs can confidently strengthen their cyber resilience and thrive in today's digital-first world."



National Ambassador



A caring, sharing approach from Sir Robert McAlpine



We have been collaborating with the marketing team at Sir Robert McAlpine to develop and launch a campaign to encourage companies in their supply chain to register with their regional CRC.

Sir Robert McAlpine rightly identified the risks in the construction sector because of the sheer volume of SME businesses in their supply chain. Some contracts are particularly sensitive, such as the work they are doing at Sellafield and other key infrastructure projects throughout the country.

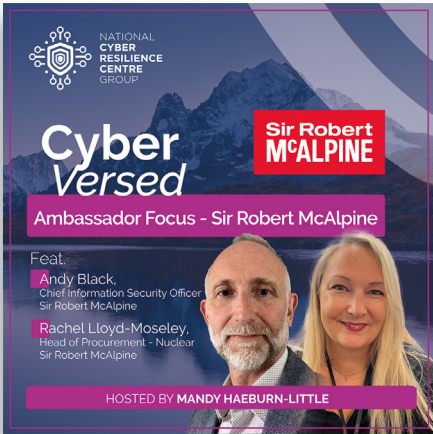
They are also aware that they are not alone in this; because of the way the sector works, all large construction companies rely on extensive supply chains, many of which are SME companies.

The campaign details are being sent repeatedly via their internal supply chain payment system, Meduis. The messages direct businesses in the supply chain to a dedicated landing page on HubSpot. From there, the businesses are redirected to their relevant participating CRC when they enter their postcode.

Not content to simply work towards making their supply chain more cyber resilient, Sir Robert McAlpine has taken a very altruistic approach and is offering the campaign to other construction companies and organisations in and around construction, demonstrating that they care and are committed to better cyber resilience for everyone.

We are very grateful to Sir Robert McAlpine for their commitment to the entire industry; they have indeed become our voice in the construction sector.

Sir Robert McAlpine has also recorded an episode of the CyberVersed podcast. Mandy Haeburn-Little was joined by Andy Black, Chief Security Information Officer, and Rachel Lloyd-Moseley, Head of Procurement, Nuclear. The podcast has been released and is available on the NCRCG website and all major podcast channels.



Sir Robert McAlpine is committed to supporting a culture of proactive cyber security within the construction sector. We work with trusted organisations to help make our supply chain more resilient to cyber threats, ensuring they can thrive in an increasingly digital world.

We are a National Ambassador of The National Cyber Resilience Centre Group (NCRCG) a collaboration between the police, government, academic institutions and private-sector organisations to help strengthen cyber resilience across the UK's small and medium-sized businesses.

A not-for-profit organisation, the NCRCG arms business owners with the skills and resources to better defend their organisations.



Joining your nearest participating Cyber Resilience Centre will better arm you against cyber threats.

Every organisation in this country is a potential target for cybercriminals – whatever its size, location or sector. However, it's often smaller organisations without dedicated IT security personnel that bear the brunt of cybercrime.

To combat this, the NCRCG has established regional Cyber Resilience Centres (CRCs) located across England and Wales, offering on-the-ground regional support to help businesses like yours strengthen their cyber resilience and better protect themselves and their supply chain against cybercrime.



Core membership is FREE and includes:

- A free 30-minute resilience review on your current cyber setup
- Access to free resources, tools and guidance designed to help your business start its cyber resilience journey
- A Board Toolkit designed to encourage essential cyber security discussions between your board and technical experts
- 10 Steps to Cyber Security – an exploration of the key components to help you break down the task of protecting your business
- Exercise in a box – a suite of preparedness exercises based on real-world scenarios to test your organisational responses
- Invites to a programme of webinars, roadshows and conferences in your region
- A monthly newsletter to help you tackle online risks relevant to smaller organisations.

The Cyber Resilience Centres are trusted resources and offer you a gateway to meeting the government's IASME Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus Certification.

JOIN NOW, it's FREE!

First Name*:	<input type="text"/>	Last Name*:	<input type="text"/>
Email*:	<input type="text"/>	Postcode*:	<input type="text"/>
Company Name*:	<input type="text"/>	Phone Number:	<input type="text"/>
Business sector	<input type="text"/>	Business Size	<input type="text"/>
Please Select		Please Select	

☐ I agree to receive other communications from the National and Regional CRC Group.
☐ By clicking "Sign up now, you confirm that you have read, understood and agree to the National Cyber Resilience Centre Group's Privacy Policy and Terms and Conditions.

Sir Robert McAlpine is proud to be a National Ambassador for the National Cyber Resilience Centre Group

154
Form submissions
so far

Investing in the supply chain



Nationwide believes in acting proactively to protect its customer services and data. They are committed to enhancing their supply chain security and actively incentivising companies to join the Cyber Essentials scheme. They genuinely want to support their SME suppliers in placing Cyber Essentials at the heart of their security and resilience activities.

They are working with the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) and other banks to play their part in increasing cyber resilience across UK financial services.

The NCRCG campaign is delivering a programme of communications to an identified group of around two hundred of their SME suppliers. They want to grow their Cyber Essentials relationship with these businesses by sharing routes to access valuable information and support for their business, as well as inviting them to future events and opportunities to access specific support from Nationwide.

The campaign launched with an initial call to action email, which was sent to around 200 hand-picked companies in their supply chain to encourage them to join their regional CRC. Soon after, a second email was sent outlining the opportunity to apply for funding to assist in gaining Cyber Essentials or Cyber Essentials Plus. Follow-up emails reiterating the scheme are being sent periodically. Still, early indications are that all of the funds allocated for the scheme will be distributed to SMEs seeking to improve their cyber resilience.

Nationwide worked closely with NCRCG and IASME on this campaign to ensure that participating companies could easily find their nearest CRC via a specially created landing page that directed them to the relevant centre, depending on the postcode they submitted.

IASME enabled a voucher system; they issued a batch of vouchers to Nationwide for distribution to their suppliers, who could then redeem them when applying for Cyber Essentials or Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation.



Join us in enhancing your cyber resilience

At Nationwide we believe in acting proactively to protect our customer services and data. We are committed to enhancing supply chain security by promoting the Cyber Essentials scheme. We want to support our SME suppliers in placing Cyber Essentials at the heart of their security and resilience activities.

We are working with the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) and other banks to play our part in increasing cyber resilience across UK financial services.

We are delivering a programme of communications to you as part of an identified group of around two hundred of our SME suppliers. We want to grow our Cyber Essentials relationship with you by sharing routes to access valuable information and support for your business, as well as inviting you to future events and opportunities to access specific support from Nationwide.

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JOIN NOW, it's FREE!

First Name*: Last Name*:

Email*: Postcode*:

Company Name*: Phone Number:

Business sector Please Select Business Size Please Select

☐ I agree to receive other communications from the National and Regional CRC Group.

☐ By clicking 'Sign up now', you confirm that you have read, understood and agree to the National Cyber Resilience Centre Group's Privacy Policy and Terms and Conditions.

25% Uptake so far

Cyber PATH students learn from the industry leaders



We are delighted to report on an exciting collaboration with Chainalysis, who allowed Cyber PATH students to gain an exceptional understanding of blockchain. The exclusive 5-week virtual session enabled students to dive into cryptocurrency and blockchain fundamentals, network with their professionals, and learn about careers at Chainalysis. At the end of the session, students had the opportunity to sit the Chainalysis Cryptocurrency Fundamentals Certification (CCFC) exam and add a credential to their list of accomplishments.

Not only did the students gain invaluable knowledge, but they were also be able to network with Chainalysis professionals and had the chance to win a £1000 scholarship.

Speaking about the Crypto Capstone initiative, **Alex Cable**, Vice President North EMEA at Chainalysis, said:

"We were excited to work with the Cyber PATH students. We are committed to developing a strong talent pipeline and encouraging young people to pursue careers in cyber ,blockchain and investigations. Through this course, we aimed to help the students recognise the value and context of cryptocurrency relative to the traditional financial system and understand the underlying blockchain technology enabling cryptocurrencies.

"The students are now able to describe key concepts and technology, recognise the value proposition of cryptocurrencies and understand how to begin constructing risk assessments drawing on blockchain analysis.

"For Chainalysis, it was an opportunity to work closely with students who are already pursuing a technical career in related topics such as Engineering, Computer Science, Cyber Security or Information Technology. These are the people we want to encourage and attract."

Lucy Taylor is one of the 37 students enrolled on the course, here's what they said about the experience so far

"The Chainalysis course was a great opportunity to get an industry-recognised certification that will really help when it comes to getting a graduate job. The instructors were passionate and knowledgeable about crypto, and I always felt comfortable asking questions about things I was unsure of."

Continued overleaf...



CYBER PATH™
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TALENT HORIZONS



37
Students
trained

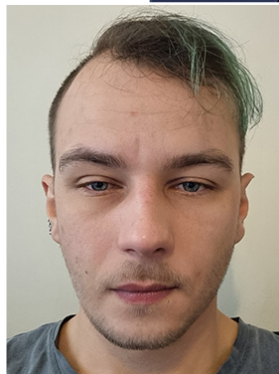
Cyber PATH students learn from the industry leaders



Cont....

Also on the course is student **Bartłomiej Kajak** who said:

"The course provides fresh, up-to-date information on blockchain technology and explains its fundamentals. The tasks were engaging and helped reinforce the concepts. I enjoyed the deep dive into how blockchain works and the cryptocurrency economy. Additionally, the course provided insight into cybersecurity and forensics around the main topic, which was particularly interesting for me. Despite having previous knowledge, I have learned many new things and I'm looking forward to putting my knowledge of the subject to good use in the future."



Fiona Bail, Head of Cyber PATH added:

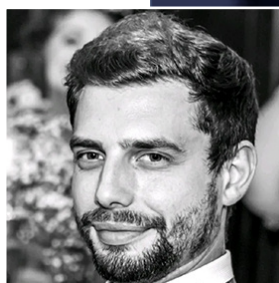
"We'd like to thank Chainalysis for the opportunity they have provided for our Cyber PATH students; **this is precisely the kind of initiative that will help to develop the talent pipeline**. The information and knowledge they share are invaluable to the students, who gained valuable insights from a global leader in blockchain technology."



"The students on the course were enthused and engaged; the opportunity to network with and learn from industry experts was exceptional and greatly appreciated".

Adrian Morris, Technology Enabled Money Laundering Threat Lead at HMRC:

"The links between cryptoassets, money laundering, and illicit finance are becoming increasingly evident. Through the Crypto Capstone initiative supported by HMRC, students can gain critical insights into these areas and the opportunities within the public sector. **This kind of partnership helps cultivate a future workforce adept in technology and finance, prepared to face the evolving challenges of cyber threats, fraud, and tax crime.**"



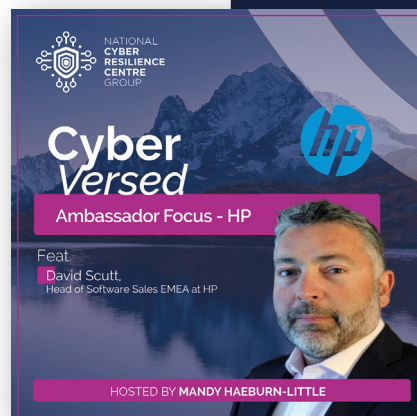
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TALENT HORIZONS

CyberVersed Podcast

Our CyberVersed podcast continues to grow in popularity, reaching new listeners across the globe. We have now released 39 episodes and it has been downloaded in 58 countries!

Thank you to all who have taken part in the recordings, and thanks to Mandy Haeburn-Little who has very ably hosted every episode.

In Q1 of 2025 we have released five episodes:



Podcasts already planned for Q2:

- Mastercard: Resilience plans for the company
- Health Roundtable: CGI and Akamai
- Deep Fake Focus: Microsoft
- Finance Roundtable: Financial provision and security and innovation for SMEs- Nationwide and Natwest

You can listen to and download the podcast from all major podcasts channels, or you can go to the CyberVersed podcast website page: nationalcrcgroup.co.uk/cyberversed-podcas/



Media interest and news from the CRC Network

Recent media coverage

CFotech UK
ChannelLife UK x3
eCommerceNews UK
IT Brief UK x4
SecurityBrief UK x4
Security Matters Magazine
Professional Security Magazine Online
Van Fleet World
Materials Handling World
Freight Week
Multimodal
Fuel Oil News

- 39 episodes of CyberVersed Podcast are now live and have been downloaded in **58 countries** across every continent.

- We have been working closely with NCSC to support the private beta launch of their '**My Cyber Toolkit**' interactive platform. Phase 1 was launched in October 2024 and we are delighted that our CRC network assisted by finding relevant of participating companies for the initial testing phase.. Phase 2 launched in December and we were delighted to once again support the test by encouraging additional users to sign up.

NCSC has since thanked us for our support and acknowledged that the CRC Network were the biggest contributors to the beta test.

- Now that we have a consistent CX journey for core CRC members, and the capability to deliver national campaigns, we are exploring additional ways to reach the SME community. Within policing, we are working on pilot campaigns with Thames Valley Police and West Mercia Police to encourage their supply chain companies to join a regional CRC.

- We are also working with Vehicle Security Systems Today (VSST) Ltd. VSST Ltd. In 2018, the Home Office and Law Enforcement tasked VSST Ltd with establishing a programme that would give reassurance and credibility to customers having aftermarket vehicle systems fitted. Thus TASSA (Tracking and Aftermarket Security System Association) was born.

- VSST Ltd is launching a campaign with NCRCG to announce a mandatory change to TASSA membership whereby registered companies will be required to join their regional CRC. NCRCG has amended the CX journey to include unique membership numbers to be issued which will allow VSST to track and member sign ups.



National Cyber
Security Centre

a part of GCHQ



WEST MERCIA
POLICE



TASSA

VEHICLE SECURITY
SOLUTIONS TODAY

National Cyber Resilience Centre Group Key Contacts

We are keen to work with all of our National Ambassador organisations, not only on the delivery of our goals to improve cyber resilience among SMEs but also to assist you with your aims and aspirations.

Whether it is a supply chain or customer campaign, collaboration on white papers, participation of senior law enforcement at your events, or assisting in the development of a robust cyber talent pipeline, we are happy to work with you. Please feel free to reach out, and we will facilitate the necessary meetings and provide the resources to achieve the desired outcome.



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