

CSIA hands over ownership of CCT Mark Scheme to CESC

At the CIPCOG event at York on 27 February 2008, Phil Baker, Deputy Director for Relationship Management at CESC, made the following announcement:-

“Responsibility for, delivery of, and ongoing development of the CCT Mark Scheme will be transferred from CSIA to CESC with effect from 7 April 2008. CSIA have been responsible for the Scheme since its inception as a pilot in 2005. The Scheme will complement the other assurance services that CESC delivers within the IACS portfolio, and will allow CSIA to concentrate on their national IA strategic role”

Consequent with this transfer, a commercial organisation will be contracted to provide marketing capability to undertake targeted marketing activity. The commercial organisation will also undertake the day to day administrative functions of the Scheme. The Scheme will continue to operate as normal and there will be no functional change in the way the Scheme is managed. The Scheme documentation and points of contact will be updated to reflect the change of ownership and the introduction of the commercial organisation on the day of transfer.

The Cabinet Office set up the CCT Mark Scheme as a pilot in 2005. It is now appropriate for CESC as a delivery organisation for Information Assurance to own the Scheme in the longer term, allowing CSIA to concentrate on its strategic role for delivery of the National Information Assurance Strategy.

Will CSIA still be involved in the CCT Mark Scheme?

CSIA will continue to run the Scheme until handover to CESC on 7 April. From this date, CSIA will continue to support the CCT Mark Scheme as part of the National Information Assurance Strategy and participate in the ongoing Governance arrangements for the Scheme. CSIA is working closely with CESC to ensure a smooth handover of responsibility.

Revised Governance Arrangements for CCT Mark Scheme

CESG will be responsible for executive oversight, delivery and ongoing development of the CCT Mark Scheme. Within the Information Assurance and Consultancy Services (IACS), CESC operates a number of assurance schemes and processes, which together cover IA customer requirements across the whole range of Impact Levels. CCT Mark offers a cost effective and timely assurance scheme that will complement the other assurance services that CESC delivers within the IACS portfolio.

Marketing and Administration of the CCT Mark Scheme

A commercial organisation is being contracted through a Government framework agreement. They will engage with vendors and the stakeholder communities in the wider public sector and central government, and work under the direction of CESC. The commercial organisation will be required to perform three aspects of work in support of the Scheme:

- To undertake targeted marketing and promotion activities.
- To conduct market research which will be used by CESC to focus the future direction of the Scheme.
- To undertake day-to-day administration and management activities.

Continuation of Pilot

The Scheme is not expected to move from pilot to a fully operational state within the next 12 months. CESG will regularly assess the status and maturity of the Scheme and transition the Scheme at an appropriate time.

For more information:

CCT Mark Scheme: www.cctmark.gov.uk

CESG: www.cesg.gov.uk

Information Assurance Consultancy Services: www.cesg.gov.uk/site/iacs/index.cfm