

HMG to promote Cyber Security standards

As part of the national push for better cyber security, BIS are calling for organisations and groups to submit evidence in support of their preferred organisational security standard. They will use this evidence to select the Government's preferred organisational standard for cyber security. In the first instance, they are inviting industry stakeholders to express their interest in submitting evidence in support of their preferred standard by 8 April. Shortly afterwards they will publish guidance to help them prepare their evidence for submission. As this will materially affect the smaller businesses in the supply chain in both cost and achievability, we need express our preferences.

Government will also be exploring what can be done to help stimulate the uptake of organisational standards for cyber security, for example Government is considering the relevance of this work to Government procurement. More details on the requirements and the background can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/cyber-security-organisational-standards-call-for-evidence>.

There are two main alternatives:

- a. ISO/IEC BS 27001 international Security Management Standard
- b. Information Assurance Standard for SMEs (IASME)

Certification to the full ISO/IEC BS 27001 Information Security Management Standard has proved difficult and expensive to achieve for SMEs and is generally suited to large businesses with sufficient resources.

[IASME](#) is a cyber security standard developed especially for SMEs. Originally funded by the Technology Strategy Board, it is derived from internationally recognised cyber standards, distilled into common-sense language applicable to even the smallest business.