



360 degree Cyber Security Review

PD Ports is one of the United Kingdom's largest and most successful port management groups. Operating across 13 locations nationwide, the group plays an integral role in the country's national infrastructure, acting as a gateway to both import and export markets in Europe and the rest of the world. Safety is at the heart of all activities and operations at PD Ports, and this is demonstrated by the port operator's number one value: safety first, foremost and always.

Industry:
Ports, Marine
and Logistics

Location:
Middlesbrough,
Cleveland

Web:
pdports.co.uk



In PD Ports' case, the security of its assets directly impacts safety, with several critical systems such as Industrial Control Systems (ICS), Port and Container Management Systems, and the growing reliance on information systems in the shipping and maritime industry. Naturally, PD Ports has a vested interest in ensuring that it remains resilient to a cyber attack through continued investment in people, process and technology.

The Assignment

Assessing Cyber Security Maturity

PD Ports and owners Brookfield Asset Management wanted to gain an expert and independent third-party assessment of PD Ports' cyber security operations. Both PD Ports and Brookfield Asset Management recognised the importance of maintaining a level of cyber maturity that remained proportionate to their evolving risk register. In order to do so, it was important that a baseline of cyber security operations be created, and a maturity improvement plan be defined.

The aim of the assignment was to assess cyber security maturity, define an appropriate level to aim for, and advise on the short, medium, and long-term steps needed to reach this desired maturity score. The overarching objective was to help reduce the likelihood and impact of a cyber attack, and the inevitable financial and reputational damage this would cause. Ultimately, PD Ports was looking for an expert cyber security partner to help drive continuous security improvement over the longer term.

The Service

360° Review Cyber Risk Assessment

Cyberfort's 360° approach to cyber security focused on the strategic alignment of PD Ports' people, process and technology in everyday operations. Conducted by Cyberfort's Governance, Risk and Compliance team, the 360° Review was an in depth, external validation exercise that analysed cross departmental and overall business maturity of cyber security operations across three domains: people, process and technology.

This analysis and methodology drove greater efficiencies, as well as providing management greater visibility and understanding of their overall security posture, cyber resilience and ability to react and respond to incidents. This included assessments, workshops and stakeholder reviews of current controls against a nominated cyber security framework. Recommendations from Cyberfort's highly experienced consultants were then used to remediate against risks and promote continuous improvement.



Cyberfort

Strategic Partnership

Driving Continuous Improvement

Working strategically with PD Ports has enabled Cyberfort to gain a much deeper understanding of the business's objectives, its evolving risk profile and its appetite for risk. By doing so, Cyberfort were able to provide an actionable roadmap that would strengthen overall security posture, and prioritise remediation that reduced business wide cyber risk at the fastest possible rate, enabling continuous security improvement.

This long-term strategic relationship has spanned over several years, delivering key projects such as Risk and Strategy reviews, Ethical Hacking, Education & Training, Incident Response and Runbook Training, and Executive Threat Assessments.

PD Ports has been working with Cyberfort on a number of projects since 2015. In that time they have provided us with a full 360° review of our internal processes which has enabled us to develop our cyber security strategy. Their in-depth assessment and review has enabled us to implement long-term solutions to ensure that our desired level of cyber maturity is reached and can be maintained.

We are already planning our next project with Cyberfort, where they will further assess our cyber security strategy to ensure we are protecting the most vulnerable areas of our business. I would highly recommend their services and look forward to continuing our partnership in the future.

Richard Ellison
IT Manager – Governance,
Risk & Compliance - PD Ports

