

Cyber Essentials User Engagement



CASE STUDY

ID Cyber Solutions Ltd are a Glasgow-based company providing training, auditing and implementation of cyber security solutions. Through education, they provide the necessary knowledge to protect companies exposed to the daily threat arena of data compromises. The company excels in digital forensic investigations and consultations, which help clients assess the true scale of their threats.

The aim of the consultancy project was to identify the key reasons for the seemingly low adoption of a cyber security certification 'Cyber Essentials'. This government initiative was intended to make companies more cyber aware and allow them to attain a certain level of cyber hygiene.

During the project, students explored potential barriers to participation in this initiative through a series of surveys and interviews with leading professionals.



EMPLOYER EXPERIENCE

Ian Kerr, Managing Director, ID Cyber Solutions

"The presentation that we received from the students was of a very high standard. The students grasped, very quickly, what we were asking of them, for example: What was the tipping point? What would make companies engage to realise the value of this certification within their organisation.

What we as a company want to do is give something back to the universities and to the communities. It doesn't necessarily have to produce an actual result for us, but on this occasion we have gained enough intelligence to progress this project, and I fully intend to do so."



ACADEMIC VIEWPOINT

Dr Kepa Mendibil, Director of Business Engagement, University of Stirling Management School

"This initiative provides Management School students with the opportunity to work on a practical work-based project alongside an external client organisation to tackle an issue that this client has set for them. At the end of the project, students have to produce a report which highlights the key findings. They are also required to deliver a presentation to the client.

The rationale behind the consultancy projects is to enhance the employment opportunities of our students. It prepares them for the next step in their career by helping them make the connection between theory and practice."

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Valentino Koester, MSc Business & Management

"It gave us a great opportunity to learn something practical that matters in the business landscape. I benefitted a lot from this experience.

My educational background in Germany is very academic and I really appreciated the educational approach of Stirling which makes it very practical and easy for us to get some practical insights."

Kavish Mohan, MBA

"My background is completely different to what I am studying at Stirling. Participating in the project helped me develop my presentation skills and have the confidence to voice my opinion to the client organisation.

These were areas that I was lacking in before, but hopefully this will be helpful for me in the future."

