

“ In line with Transformational Government Policy and to ensure trust and confidence, Government information systems must use appropriate security products and services which have a minimum assurance of the CCT Mark ”

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For more information about the CCT Mark Scheme go to [www.cctmark.gov.uk](http://www.cctmark.gov.uk)

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Government Quality Mark

## Helping deliver confidence in information security



Central Sponsor for Information Assurance

# CSIA Claims Tested (CCT) Mark

The Central Sponsor for Information Assurance (CSIA) is a unit within the UK Government's Cabinet Office providing a central focus for Information Assurance activity across the UK.

**Information Assurance (IA) is the confidence that information systems will protect the information they carry and will function as they need to, when they need to, under the control of legitimate users**

ICT systems and the information they hold must be secure and reliable to ensure public confidence in dealing with an e-enabled modern government. The Transformational Government – enabled by technology strategy states that “underpinning IT systems must be secure and convenient for those intended to use them.”

Government departments, in the main, have complex and interconnected ICT systems which require a good level of information assurance products and services as well as practices and procedures.

Many public sector organisations use commercial off the shelf information security products. How can you be sure that these will meet your requirements and do the products really do what they say?

Whichever sector you work in, you need to ensure that you take a pragmatic, appropriate and cost effective approach to risk management of information.



## Key Benefits of CCT Mark

- ✓ **Clear and trustworthy information**  
Details of the claims tested and a summary of the test results are published on a Government website. This information gives you the facts you should be aware of when making your decision to buy.
- ✓ **Independent testing making it reliable, trustworthy and authoritative**  
The Test Laboratories who test the products or services are accredited to an International Standard, ISO17025, ensuring that tests are carried out to an approved standard.
- ✓ **Proof of claims**  
The claims the Vendor is making about security functionality are checked. The validated claims published on the Government website will help you to assess whether they meet your business needs.
- ✓ **Rapid and Cost Effective for vendors**  
The whole process from registration to award takes 10-12 weeks to complete. The testing itself takes approximately one month. There is a maintenance scheme which allows the Vendors to keep the CCT Mark valid for newer versions of their products or services. All this means that the approved products and services are up to date with current market trends offering you the latest developments in infosec products.

## Why do we need the CCT Mark?

The CCT Mark scheme is the first of its kind in giving a basic level of assurance for information security products and services. The Scheme provides a quick and efficient check of the security functionality of information assurance products and services.

It will give you confidence that the products and services you purchase will meet your organisation's **information security requirements**. It will also help you to achieve delivery of efficient and secure public services through technology which has gone through an assurance process.

The CCT Mark satisfies the minimum assurance requirements for use in systems supporting the Transformation Government agenda.

CCT Mark products and services are already being used by local authorities, the NHS, criminal justice and police as well as central government.

## How are the products tested?

Each product or service that is awarded the CCT Mark must go through the following process:

- The CCT Mark accredited Test Laboratory tests the functionality of the product or service against the claims that are made in its marketing.
- The product or service documentation is checked for accuracy and to ensure that all the information you need to make an informed purchase is present.
- Existing customers of services are interviewed to confirm their experience of using the service matches the claims made by the Vendor.
- For services, the vendors procedures are verified that they operate as stated in the claims made.