

Cybersecurity

What it means for your business

Cybersecurity is the application of technologies, processes and controls to protect systems, networks, programs, devices and data from cyber threats.

Cyber threats can cause three categories of impact:



Compromised confidentiality



Compromised availability



Compromised **integrity**

Cybersecurity is a strategic business risk, not an IT issue

Almost everything an organisation does relies on a digital system or platform and the exchange of data with other entities. This creates vulnerabilities that can be exploited by cyber criminals. The impacts can range from the theft of funds through to full-blown crises.

Cybercrime is rapidly becoming the most prevalent crime impacting organisations and individuals. It is a question of when and how, not if, it will impact an organisation.

Cyber threats are increasing in scale and complexity and it is difficult for organisations to keep pace. There is a shortage of people with the right skills, which makes it difficult for organisations to maintain the necessary expertise in-house.

Regulators in all sectors are placing increased importance on cybersecurity, requiring greater adherence to cybersecurity regulations and guidance.

Protecting information assets is critically important to organisational sustainability and competitiveness. Organisations are legally responsible for the data they hold and security breaches can result in significant damage for clients, customers, employees and investors. Senior Management are ultimately responsible for ensuring cybersecurity is fit-for-purpose and the right safeguards are in place. The organisation's leadership needs to understand and assess the cyber risks they face, including those introduced by the technology supply chain.





► How do we ensure key information assets are protected?

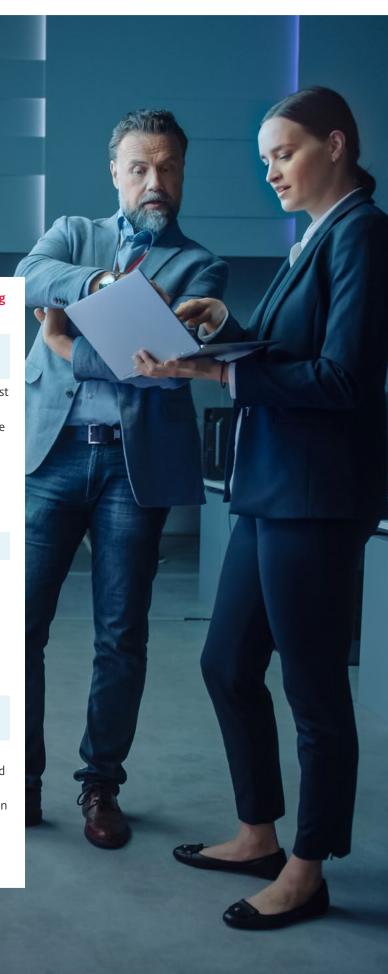
Management should understand how the organisation's most important information is being managed and kept safe from cyber threats. This includes having a full and accurate picture of the impact on the organisation's reputation, share price and ability to operate should sensitive internal or customer information held by the organisation be lost or stolen. They must also have a detailed understanding of the impact on the organisation if its online services were to be disrupted.

▶ Who might compromise our information and why?

Every organisation is a target. Management should receive regular intelligence on who may be targeting the organisation, their methods and their motivations. An organisation should participate in information-sharing exchanges with others in the same sector and/or across the economy to benchmark, learn from others, and help identify emerging threats.

What can our organisation do to pro-actively manage our cyber risk?

Management should ensure that their organisation has identified its key information assets and thoroughly assessed their vulnerability to attack. Responsibility for cyber risk should be allocated appropriately, with a written information security policy in place that extends to the risks posed by the organisation's supply chain. The entire workforce should understand their role in protecting their organisation.



BDO Cybersecurity Services



Prepare

TRAINING PEN-TESTING

THIRD PARTY ASSESSMENT

DATA FLOW RISK ASSESSMENT

CYBERSECURITY
GOVERNANCE REVIEW

INCIDENT RESPONSE PLANNING AND TESTING

IT CONFIGURATION REVIEW



Protect

SECURITY OPERATIONS
CENTRE

MANAGED DETECTION AND RESPONSE

MANAGED THREAT INTELLIGENCE



Respond

FORENSICS
INCIDENT RESPONSE

BDO Approach

BDO's deep business insights and technical expertise will help ensure your organisation is cyber secure.

Our suite of diagnostic and monitoring methodologies and tools have proven to be effective across all industries. We work with our clients to build an appropriate cybersecurity capability for their business, maintain its efficacy, and develop its maturity over time.

Our team combines technical and commercial skills, enabling us to determine and articulate the business case for cybersecurity measures. We can turn technical jargon into plain English and ensure that cybersecurity is integrated into organisational processes and working practices.

Our team has worked in some of the most sensitive sectors around the world where cybersecurity is fundamental, such as defence and government. We leverage this experience to provide other sectors with access to the best and most effective cybersecurity solutions.

BDO: Committed to the future

Knowledge and experience

Though our work we have gained a deep understanding of the cybersecurity challenges facing businesses in Ireland and around the world. To ensure our offering is state-of-the-art, we continually invest in the research and development of our solutions.

Pragmatic and proportionate solutions

BDO assesses information and cybersecurity risks and controls using a comprehensive security framework. Our goal is to ensure that our clients anticipate threats, develop the best response, and the resilience for every eventuality that an organisation may face.

With our suite of Advisory and Managed Services we support our clients' capability to implement effective preventive security and proactive incident response.

BDO Cybersecurity Services

We provide a suite of services to support clients in strengthening their cybersecurity and resilience. Our services are designed for organisations of all sizes.

Training



Covering the nature and extent of cyber threats and what you should do to strengthen your resilience and reduce vulnerabilities.

Incident response testing



Scenario exercise to test incident response plan which will be tailored to your organisation and its cyber vulnerabilities.

Pen-testing



Internal and external vulnerability assessment, including WIFI and application build review.

Third party supplier review



Prioritisation and assessment of your organisation's third parties, to identify potential cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

Cyber security governance review



Assess your organisation against an established framework to identify gaps in your governance framework, with recommendations on how to address them.

Incident response planning



Preparation of an incident response plan that takes account your organisation's structure and relationship with key suppliers, customers and other stakeholders.

Data flow risk assessment



Identification and categorisation of data flows from your business to third parties, and from third parties to other organisations.

SIEM/SOC



Security Information and Event Management/Security Operations Centre services, including 24/7 Managed Detection and Response.

Configuration review



Review of your IT environment and how it can be improved for operational effectiveness and enhanced cybersecurity.

Cybersecurity for small businesses



Service for small businesses, including an external scan of vulnerabilities visible from the web as well as a scan of your internal network.

About us

Global reach, global expertise

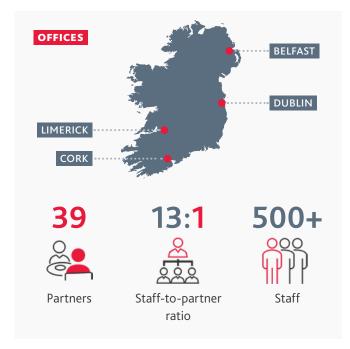
BDO Ireland

At BDO Ireland, we operate a partner-led approach in all our client dealings which ensures our partners and directors are highly accessible to clients. Each client is appointed a client liaison partner to oversee operations and communicate with you directly. Through our own professional expertise and by working directly with businesses, we've developed an unique insight into what makes a business successful.

It's this insight that makes us true business advisors, rather than mere financial consultants.

BDO Ireland: Quick stats

- ▶ Practice founded in 1982
- Offices in Dublin, Limerick Cork and an affiliate office in Belfast.
- ▶ 39 partners
- ▶ 500+ staff nationally
- Staff-to-partner ratio of 13:1



The BDO International Network

BDO is a professional services firm that combines entrepreneurial spirit with full-service capability. We are highly responsive and deliver exceptional value to our clients from our offices in Ireland and across our global network.

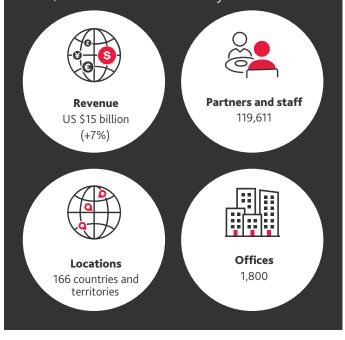
BDO's global network extends across 166 countries and territories, with 119,611 people working out of 1,800 offices towards one goal: to provide our clients with exceptional service.

Our firms across the network co-operate closely and comply with consistent operating principles and quality standards.

That means local resources who understand your business, your local and international markets and the specifics of your industry: all backed by a truly global network.

Our global commitment to exceptional client service means that we deliver what we promise, when you need it. We are big enough to be able to access the best group of experts for your needs from our national and international network, and we are small enough to be responsive and innovative in how we tackle our clients' challenges.

Our excellent global average staff to partner ratio means that our clients receive the right focus from the right people: people who are empowered and whose approach is hands-on. We can provide the perfect contact for your needs, no matter where in the world you are.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

BRÍAN GARTLAN

Partner, Risk and Advisory Services +353 (0) 1 470 0202 bgartlan@bdo.ie

EOGHAN DALY

Partner and Head of Cybersecurity +353 (0) 1 470 0138 eoghan.daly@bdo.ie This publication has been carefully prepared, but it has been written in general terms and should be seen as containing broad statements only. This publication should not be used or relied upon to cover specific situations and you should not act, or refrain from acting, upon the information contained in this publication without obtaining specific professional advice. Please contact [member firm name] to discuss these matters in the context of your particular circumstances. [member firm name], its partners, employees and agents do not accept or assume any responsibility or duty of care in respect of any use of or reliance on this publication, and will deny any liability for any loss arising from any action taken or not taken or decision made by anyone in reliance on this publication or any part of it. Any use of this publication or reliance on it for any purpose or in any context is therefore at your own risk, without any right of recourse against [member firm name] or any of its partners, employees or agents.

BDO is authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland to carry on investment business. BDO, a partnership established under Irish Law, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms.

BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.

Copyright © April 2025 BDO Ireland. All rights reserved. Published in Ireland.

www.bdo.ie

