



# Industry Security Notice

Number 2026/02 dated 30/03/2026

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Subject: **Use of Defence Cyber Certification (DCC) as assurance of control requirements under DEFCON 658**

## Introduction

1. This Industry Security Notice (ISN) supports assurance of supplier cyber resilience measures required under DEFCON 658.
2. It confirms that a supplier holding and maintaining valid certification at the appropriate level which has been issued under the Defence Cyber Certification (DCC) scheme may submit details of such certification as evidence that they have satisfied the requirement to apply the relevant controls of DEFSTAN 05-138.

## Applicability

3. This ISN applies to all suppliers engaged on contracts for which the UK MOD is a contracting party, or subcontracts thereof, where the contractor and/or their supply chain is required to comply with DEFSTAN 05-138.

## Issue

4. DEFSTAN 05-138 (Issue 4)<sup>1</sup>, published May 2024, sets out the controls required applicable to the Cyber Security Model (CSMv4). Compliance with that standard is further

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<sup>1</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/669923b249b9c0597fdaff90/Defence\\_Standard\\_05-138\\_Issue\\_4\\_-\\_cyber\\_security\\_for\\_defence\\_suppliers.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/669923b249b9c0597fdaff90/Defence_Standard_05-138_Issue_4_-_cyber_security_for_defence_suppliers.pdf)

assured via certification to the corresponding levels under the Defence Cyber Certification (DCC) scheme, which launched a year later in May 2025.

5. Suppliers who hold and maintain current, valid, certification issued via the DCC scheme may submit this as assured evidence of compliance with the commensurate control level set out in DEFSTAN 05-138 (Issue 4, onwards), where the level of certification is equal to, or greater than, the control level specified for the requirement. This evidence should be accepted in satisfaction of the supplier’s requirement to evidence compliance with that standard as specified under DEFCON 658.

6. Buyers are therefore instructed that a supplier holding and maintaining current, valid, DCC certification at a level equal to, or greater than, the commensurate level to the requirement, is to be considered in satisfaction of the control requirement to DEFSTAN 05-138 (Issue 4, onwards), as specified under DEFCON 658.

7. Commensurate levels are as follows:

Defence Cyber Certification (DCC) level	CRP / compliance level required under UK Defence contract (DEFSTAN 05-138 Issue 4 onwards)			
	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<b>DCC Level 0</b>	Fully Compliant	Not compliant	Not compliant	Not compliant
<b>DCC Level 1</b>	Fully Compliant	Fully Compliant	Not compliant	Not compliant
<b>DCC Level 2</b>	Fully Compliant	Fully Compliant	Fully Compliant	Not compliant
<b>DCC Level 3</b>	Fully Compliant	Fully Compliant	Fully Compliant	Fully Compliant

*Example: A DCC certification held at Level 3 is to be accepted as full satisfaction of all lower levels (0, 1 and 2).*

## Action by Industry

8. Suppliers are instructed to note the above.

## Additional Information

9. It is expected that MOD project teams and SROs take additional notice of the implications of the enhanced organisational resilience requirements for supplier organisations as set out in DEFSTAN 05-138 (Issue 4) during its first year of operation [FY2025/26], ensuring that such are taken into account when determining appropriate timescales for remediation.

10. If the content of this ISN conflicts with a contract-specific Security Aspects Letter (SAL), or for further information/clarification, please refer to your Delivery Team.

## Validity / Expiry Date

11. This ISN will expire when superseded or withdrawn.

## MOD Point of Contact Details

12. The point of contact in respect of this ISN is:

Directorate of Cyber Defence & Risk (CyDR)

Ministry of Defence

email: [ukstratcomdd-cydr-csm@mod.gov.uk](mailto:ukstratcomdd-cydr-csm@mod.gov.uk) (Multiuser).