

# CBEST Threat Intelligence Reporting



Security Alliance is one of the leading providers of threat intelligence assessments. Having performed numerous engagements within CBEST and other equivalent schemes, we are one of the most experienced and qualified providers of CBEST threat intelligence in the market.

Our unique, structured approach to performing this service provides the customer with a clear picture of the most likely and dangerous threats they face.

## What is CBEST?

CBEST is the pioneering framework driving intelligence-led resilience assessments. Driven by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA), the Bank of England and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), it applies to systemically critical organisations in the UK's financial services sector.

The core principle is that Firms are tested against realistic threat scenarios that are generated by qualified Threat Intelligence providers. Ultimately, this means that testers engage in scenarios mimicking the most credible attackers, using relevant and up-to-date tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).

*"The Threat Intelligence reports provided by Security Alliance provide us with detailed and highly realistic attack scenarios to conduct, enabling the customer to get real value from every engagement."*

**CBEST Red Team Leader,  
Global Pen Testing Company**

## The Threat Intelligence Product

In line with CBEST requirements, Security Alliance provides the two CTI reports; the Threat Intelligence Assessment and the Targeting Assessment:

### Threat Intelligence Assessment

This contains detailed analysis of a customer's threat landscape. It is an external assessment leveraging structured analytical techniques to identify the most relevant threat actors based on the organisation and its critical business functions. This leads to the creation of realistic threat scenarios, which are simulated by a red team during the testing phase.

Scenarios are underpinned by threat level scoring, relevant use cases, and threat actor profiling. Scenarios also fuse in relevant findings from the Targeting Assessment and include all associated MITRE ATT&CK® tactics, techniques, and sub-techniques.

### Targeting Assessment

This provides an in-depth review of an organisation's attack surface from the perspective of a threat actor. The purpose is to perform attacker-like reconnaissance against the organisation, its assets and its people and to explain how this information, gathered through technical and manual collection techniques, can be leveraged by the threat actor to mount an attack.

These findings along with the TTPs of the threat actor feed into the final attack scenarios which are then used by the red teams to mimic a real world attack.

## During the exercise we ensure that

- Our delivery fully aligns with the requirements of the CBEST framework.
- Our reports are of consistently high quality and depth. The intelligence on threat actors and their TTPs is taken from our Threat Intelligence Portal, ThreatMatch, which is constantly enriched with the latest information and analysed by our fusion team.
- We work closely with all stakeholders in the CBEST programme including the Firm, PRA, NCSC, and the red team provider.

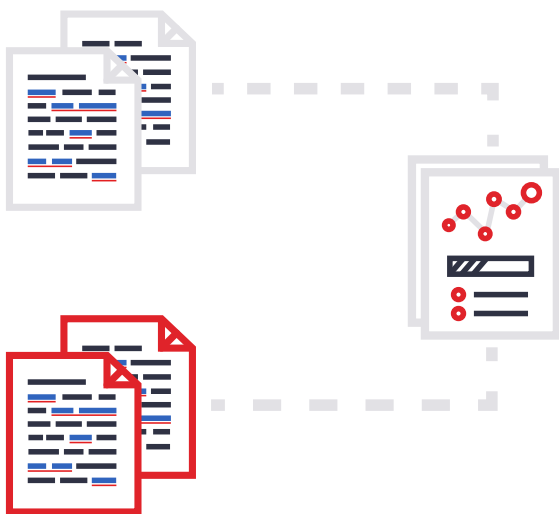
The customer's needs are fully met, and they get as much value as possible. This means fully understanding your requirements and business functions so that our analysis and recommendations are as comprehensive and relevant as possible.

## Why Security Alliance is different

As a CREST-registered company and a CREST-approved supplier of Threat Intelligence services, Security Alliance delivers against recognised frameworks with our team of seasoned cyber intelligence professionals. With a global understanding of the complex threat landscape, Security Alliance is working with some of the world's leading intelligence and risk-based security providers.

We combine the field experience of our highly trained intelligence staff with the deep specialisations of penetration testers, to bring you the highest quality services, designed and delivered by experts.

Every client engagement at Security Alliance is unique, and our threat intelligence is generated based on each client's individual profile.



## Why Security Alliance is best suited to perform CBEST engagements

- We are a specialist cyber threat intelligence company with a strong focus on threat assessments within the CBEST framework and equivalent schemes such as TIBER, iCAST and STAR.
- We understand the value offered by intelligence-led red teaming, particularly when supported by fully qualified and experienced intelligence professionals.
- We are fully aware of the wider purpose of CBEST, namely, to bolster the resilience of the UK's critical national infrastructure.
- We continue to act in an advisory capacity to central banks and regulators in Europe and beyond, allowing them to maintain an accurate picture of the threat landscape. This means that we are constantly tracking and analysing the most relevant threats to the industry.
- Our Directors provide support and context to our clients, helping them to better understand the CBEST processes and dynamics.

## Other Similar Services

- CREST STAR/STAR FS adopts a very similar approach to CBEST engagements but is performed voluntarily and does not require regulatory involvement. CREST STAR can also be applied to a wide range of sectors – not just financial services.
- See our website for more information and get in touch if you are interested in performing an engagement such as this.
- Security Alliance has close connections with fully qualified red teams that can perform the testing phase of the engagement. Let us know if you would like to find out more about this.

