

# CASE STUDY

## HS2 | ENSURING SECURE GROWTH FOR MULTI-BILLION GOVERNMENT PROJECT



SAVED ON IN-HOUSE SECURITY RESOURCE + PREVENTED DATA LOSS



PERMANENT STAFF EQUIPPED TO PREVENT AVOIDABLE BREACHES



RESOURCE + RECRUITMENT DAYS SAVED SINCE 2014

**Working with a complex web of suppliers, it was essential for the multi-billion-pound High Speed Rail programme to embed cyber security from the outset.**

With a budget measured in billions and a vision to be a catalyst for growth across Britain, the HS2 railway project is critical to Britain's national rail infrastructure and predicted to carry up to 85 million passengers a year.

With so many moving parts including staff training, in-house technology, and dealing with a huge number of suppliers, adopting a secure by design approach from the start was critical – but no dedicated cyber security resource existed in the beginning.

Since 2014, Stratia Cyber has provided the IT Security Officer and Information Security function as a managed service for the whole HS2 project. This includes operational security, security architecture and risk management for all HS2 projects, as well as enterprise cyber maturity and complex supply chain assessments.



## Key learnings + benefits

- From the beginning, Stratia Cyber has had oversight of cyber security for the entire HS2 project, delivering **significant savings versus using in-house teams**. We set standards, increased awareness of security, and created secure ways of working with suppliers including large construction companies with deeply ingrained cultures and attitudes.
- Stratia Cyber helped to ensure that all new parts of the project worked seamlessly with the whole, and that information was shared effectively. This ensured new projects were quickly up and running and resulted in further significant cost savings.
- Using standards recognised at an international and national level such as ISO27001 and NCSC guidelines made it **easier to for different parts of the project to work together** efficiently.
- Providing security as a managed service has enabled HS2 to take an overview of security risks over the whole programme portfolio, making it **easier to plan, synchronise and develop new projects**.

## Why Cyber Maturity?

Cyber maturity is a measurement of an organisation's ability to deal with threats to its data. A cyber maturity assessment takes an overall view of technology and company culture, all assessed against a set of standard controls and industry best practice.

With a complex, evolving project like HS2, Stratia Cyber ensured that cyber maturity grew at the same rate the project did, analysing business processes, technology and employee knowledge.

Do employees understand threats, and do they understand what the company's information assets are?

Stratia Cyber shared knowledge and educated people within the HS2 project and its suppliers, ensuring that good cyber practices were ingrained throughout every part of the mammoth programme.

"Flexible and able to fill roles within days, Stratia Cyber delivers exceptionally talented, pragmatic and business focused cyber security professionals every time. Together we have successfully uplifted cybersecurity posture for the whole programme."

JAS PHAM, SENIOR INFORMATION AND CYBER SECURITY MANAGER, HS2

- A cyber maturity assessment will not only establish your current level of cyber maturity, but offer tips on what could be achieved in future as your company grows
- Stratia Cyber's analysts will offer plain-talking tips, taking a standards-based approach which will put your company in a good position to meet industry compliance standards in future

Ready for anything? Define your ability to prevent and handle cyber vulnerabilities and threats. Get started today.

## Technologies and frameworks used

Cyber Essentials Scheme, CREST Accredited Penetration Testing



## About HS2

HS2 is a new high speed railway that will form the backbone of Britain's transport network. Phase One of HS2 will see a new high speed railway line constructed from London to the West Midlands, where it will re-join the existing West Coast Mainline. Services will travel onwards to places like Manchester, Glasgow, Liverpool, Preston and Wigan. Phase One will open between 2029 and 2033.

