



## NCSC Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) Re-Evaluation of Egress Protect



The BSI Cyber Lab evaluated the Egress Protect email encryption security product, which achieved NCSC Certification and received a CPA Certificate.

### In brief

Egress Protect is an email encryption product that is widely used by corporate organizations and UK Government. The product was re-certified in November 2020 as a continuation of certification originally gained in February 2014. BSI were chosen by Egress to take over the evaluation, as the original lab was no longer offering CPA evaluations.

### The benefit

After the production of the evaluation plan, the formal reports produced by the CPA Evaluators were:

- Build Standard Validation Report (BSVR)
- Security Procedures (SP)
- Assurance Maintenance Plan (AMP)
- Evaluation Summary Report (ESR)

The evaluation included an assessment of the deployment guidelines and associated processes, as provided by the Security Procedures and user guides/manuals and thorough review of the security of the full product lifecycle covering product development, deployment environment, and assurance maintenance. One of the aims of a re-evaluation is to ensure the product is continuously improving throughout its lifecycle.

During the evaluation, BSI worked with Egress to implement some newer enhancements. The evaluation identified improvement opportunities and enhancements to processes and the Egress Protect product, such as updating their website to support public Flaw and Vulnerability reporting and to provide security information for specific versions of Egress Protect. Egress Protect is now re-certified as an NCSC CPA Certified Product. Egress appreciated the CPA Evaluation by BSI CSIR and is continuing to experience the commercial benefits of NCSC CPA Certification.

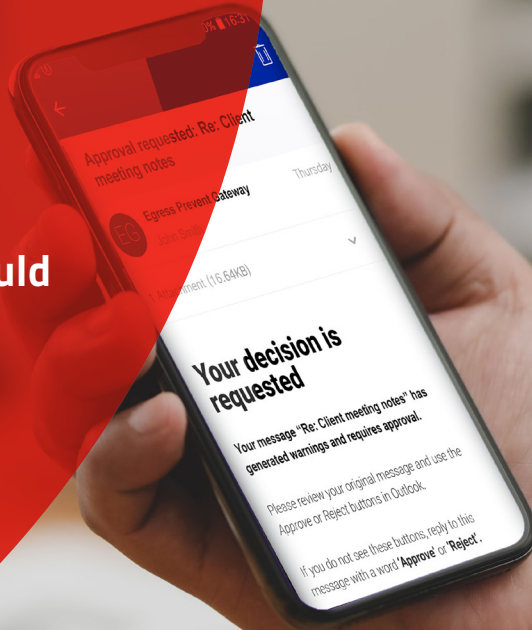


Find out more: [bsigroup.com/cyber-ie](https://bsigroup.com/cyber-ie)

[www.egress.com](https://www.egress.com)

**“I very much enjoyed working with BSI’s CPA Evaluation team and would like to do so again with future NCSC schemes”.**

**Richard Green,  
Director of Security and Compliance  
Egress**



## The challenge

Certification to the CPA scheme is a challenging process, as the standard needed to achieve certification is high. To complete the re-evaluation, Egress changed labs to BSI, which also added complexity as, in a typical re-evaluation with the same lab, testers are able to re-use their previous work to improve efficiency throughout the processes. BSI worked closely with Egress to ensure the right information was streamlined into lab so BSI could familiarise themselves with the product and technology as quickly as possible.

Following this, the BSI Cyber Lab produced a proposal to perform the CPA Re-Evaluation, with the aim of completing it before the expiry of the previous CPA Certificate.

## The solution

The Combined Business Questionnaire (CBQ) was the formal application to NCSC to perform a CPA Evaluation. The first evaluation activity was to produce a CPA Assurance Plan (AP) which used information that was provided in two

CPA Security Characteristic (SC) requirements standards, which were the SCs for Gateway Email Encryption and Desktop Email Encryption. The AP’s evaluation activities were associated with formal security requirements which are grouped into Development (DEV), Verification (VER), and Deployment (DEP) Mitigations in the SCs. The AP defined the CPA evaluation activities including document reviews, the build standard assessment, and the test scripts for the environment.

This approach covered the security assessments of the Development Lifecycle, Development Environment, Product Testing, Deployment Environment, and Assurance Maintenance. The Cyber Lab ensured that Egress reviewed the AP before it was sent to NCSC for their review and acceptance. Where there had not been any changes in Egress Protect, it was acceptable to NCSC that the Cyber Lab re-used the corresponding results from the previous evaluation, making the process more efficient. Using this approach, we were able to work collaboratively with Egress to achieve a successful recertification, supporting Egress with enhanced resilience, and assurance of their product.



## Why BSI

At BSI, we approach evaluations systematically to identify the technology in use, use cases, supporting policies and risk mitigations. This allows us to assign the right resources with the skills and experience to deliver evaluations as efficiently as possible.