Corsec Common Criteria

Common Criteria is an internationally recognized set of guidelines for information technology security products. It provides assurance to buyers that the process of specification, implementation, and evaluation for any certified computer security product was conducted in a thorough and standard manner. Twenty-seven countries have signed the Common Criteria Recognition Agreement (CCRA), making the certification a standard that translates globally and provides an unparalleled measure of security for the international commerce of IT products.

Why Pursue Common Criteria Certification?

Achieving third-party certifications and security validations enables product vendors to:

- Access previously untapped markets, such as the Intelligence Community, Financial Services, Health Care, Critical Infrastructure, and US and Foreign governments
- Demonstrate their corporate commitment to product security
- Elevate their company's brand to potential customers that their products have been independently evaluated against transparent and auditable standards for security
- Gain competitive edge in the marketplace

The Big Questions

How much does a Common Criteria certification cost?

Certification costs vary greatly, depending upon the complexity of the product, the level of certification being sought, and the amount of planning done prior to starting the process. Costs for Common Criteria certification typically fall into six major areas: product design consulting, product design changes and implementation, test case development, documentation production, laboratory testing, and Scheme fees.

How long does a Common Criteria certification take?

There are three major phases to a Common Criteria certification: Design and Documentation, Laboratory Testing, and Scheme Review. A typical validation effort will take anywhere from twelve to sixteen months from start to finish.

Who are the key players in the Common Criteria certification process?

There are three key players in Common Criteria certification process: **1.** International governments/Schemes set information security mandates, and are ultimately responsible for issuing certificates; **2.** Third-party laboratories (which are accredited by the government in the country in which they operate) test products to ensure they adhere to Common Criteria standards; and, **3.** IT product vendors must ensure their products conform to the Standard, and submit documentation to a third-party lab for testing.

To what types of products does Common Criteria apply?

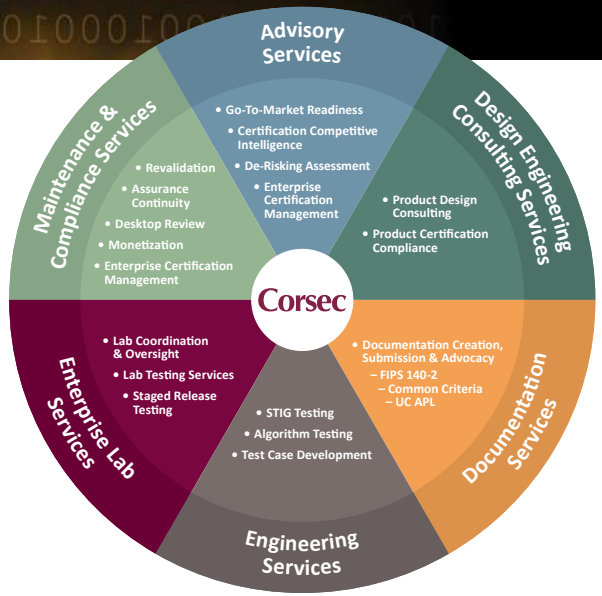
Common Criteria certification applies to information technology security products that are sold to the twenty-seven countries who have signed the Common Criteria Recognition Agreement (CCRA).

Do all product vendors have to comply with Common Criteria?

This certification is required for access to U.S. and international government markets, but can also serve as a competitive differentiator when marketing to non-government clients in other industries, such as financial services/banking, healthcare or critical infrastructure.

Corsec's Solutions

Corsec's guidance through the maze of certification processes can be the difference between generating revenue when it was budgeted and having to delay and reforecast, perhaps for months or even years. **Our capabilities enable product vendors in the following areas:**



"**Corsec was excellent to work with in getting our Nutanix product line Common Criteria-certified**. We look forward to working with them again on future projects, and highly recommend them to other organizations wanting to get their products certified."

— **John Jensen,**
Director of Engineering Program Management, Nutanix

Companies have different needs, different capabilities and different timelines.
To support their unique needs, **Corsec has created several solutions bundles including:**

Core Solution

For those companies who are seeking guidance with a limited scope of services, our **Core Solution** pulls from our Advisory, Design Engineering Consulting and Documentation Service areas, and covers certification fundamentals, including a De-Risking Assessment, Product Design Consulting and Documentation Creation.

Enhanced Solution

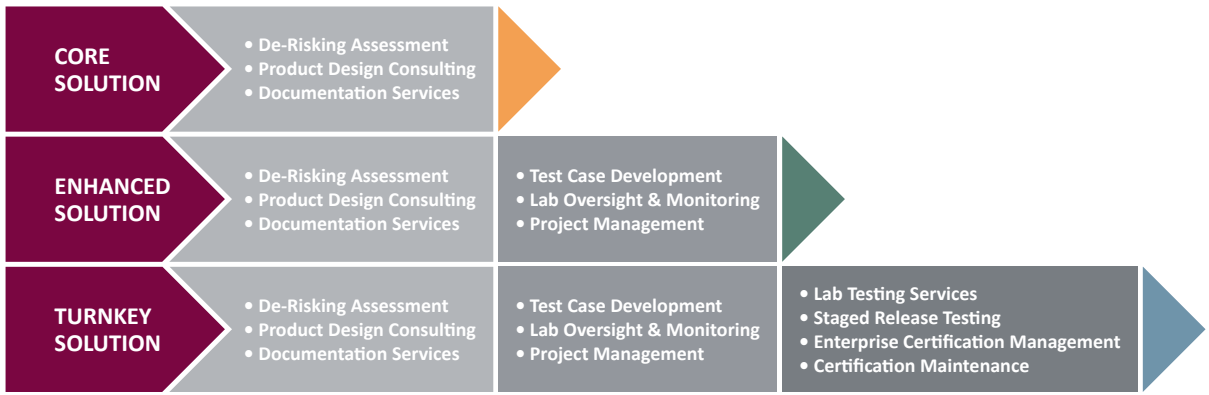
In addition to the documentation set, all key certifications require additional engineering efforts. With Common Criteria, the requirement is Test Case Development. Corsec's **Enhanced Solution** augments vendors' engineering capabilities by completing this requirement.

Turnkey Solution

For companies seeking the least risky path to certificate issuance, or companies with critical go-to-market timelines, the **Turnkey Solution** is designed to cover every possible need. It includes the Enhanced Solution, plus all phases of lab testing, all government fees, and program management and oversight. It is a solution for companies requiring end-to-end management of the certification process.

Common Criteria

Satisfies Information Assurance and Supply Chain Requirements for U.S. / International Government and Commercial Markets



Why Corsec?

Corsec is the global leader in providing access to new markets via IT security validations. With the largest staff of experts in the industry and a comprehensive solution that spans consulting, documentation, testing, enterprise lab services, and strategic product roadmap planning, Corsec has secured more than 350 FIPS 140-2, Common Criteria and UC APL certifications for hundreds of organizations on five continents over the last 15 years.

For more information, visit **corsec.com**.

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