



# Security and the Digital Backbone

Implement robust measures to protect your digital assets and data, ensuring a resilient cyber security posture whilst embracing digital transformation.

# An end-to-end digital framework to power your success

In today's complex and competitive business landscape, it is common for organisations to embed digital technologies that enable their growth strategies. For many, this involves implementing IT throughout their organisation, but few develop a holistic business case or transformation roadmap covering everything they do, or have a comprehensive strategy that aligns their IT with broader strategic goals.

At CGI, we believe that true digitalisation isn't just about adopting new technologies; it's about embracing a holistic mindset. As a leader in IT and business consulting, we help organisations unlock their full potential, driving our clients' growth through the power of "digital".

But digital transformation isn't simple. That's why we developed our value-led, technology-enabled Digital Backbone framework, which delivers best practices and lessons learned to inspire your journey.

**The Digital Backbone offers the fundamental building blocks to drive your transformation success.** It helps you envision secure and sustainable solutions that combat your challenges and support your ambitions. Combined, your new capabilities will create a robust, IT-enabled structure – a digital backbone – that transforms everything you do, enabling your organisation to thrive in our ever-evolving world.



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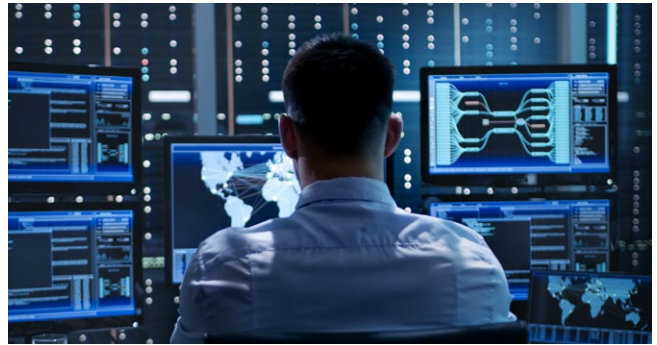
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# Cyber security is key

According to a report by Cybersecurity Ventures, cyber crime is predicted to inflict damages totalling \$10.5 trillion annually by 2025.<sup>1</sup>



In today's digital age, organisations are more reliant on technology than ever before. This dependency, combined with an ever-evolving threat landscape and interconnected systems, makes cyber security crucial.

Innovations such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), the proliferation of the internet of things (IoT), and the rapid adoption of cloud services offer exciting opportunities. However, these advancements also introduce significant challenges, exposing organisations to various threats and increasing risks to services, brand, and reputation.

Integrating cyber security and resilience is therefore essential for your organisation's digital journey success.

## The challenges

Organisations face a multitude of threats to their digital services, and these can have substantial impact. One study by IBM revealed that the average cost of a data breach in 2024 was \$4.88 million, emphasising the financial implications of inadequate cyber security measures.<sup>2</sup>

Attackers are continually devising new methods to exploit vulnerabilities, whether technical flaws, social engineering tactics, or third-party exposure through supply chains. Natural disasters can also pose risks.

In the context of digital transformation, it is therefore crucial to build in cyber security measures that not only protect and detect against these threats, but also ensure resilience to respond to and recover from major incidents effectively.

<sup>1</sup> Cybersecurity Ventures (2020), [Cybercrime To Cost The World \\$10.5 Trillion Annually By 2025](#).

<sup>2</sup> IBM Security (2024), [Cost of a Data Breach Report 2024](#).

# Security and the Digital Backbone

Unlocking your organisation's full potential – **transformation done right**

## What is a digital backbone?

A digital backbone goes beyond simply applying IT to areas of your organisation as a support mechanism. When designed effectively, a digital backbone becomes the cornerstone of a successful modern organisation.

It embeds technology throughout all operations, using the power of IT to create a robust structure that supports continuous innovation and transforms everything you do, enabling:



Increased **efficiency and productivity across** streamlined operations.



Increased **revenue** alongside more cost efficient processes.



Greater **agility and growth** with a faster time to market.



Better **regulatory compliance**, including empowering sustainability initiatives.



Improved **service and product quality** for customer, employee and stakeholder satisfaction.



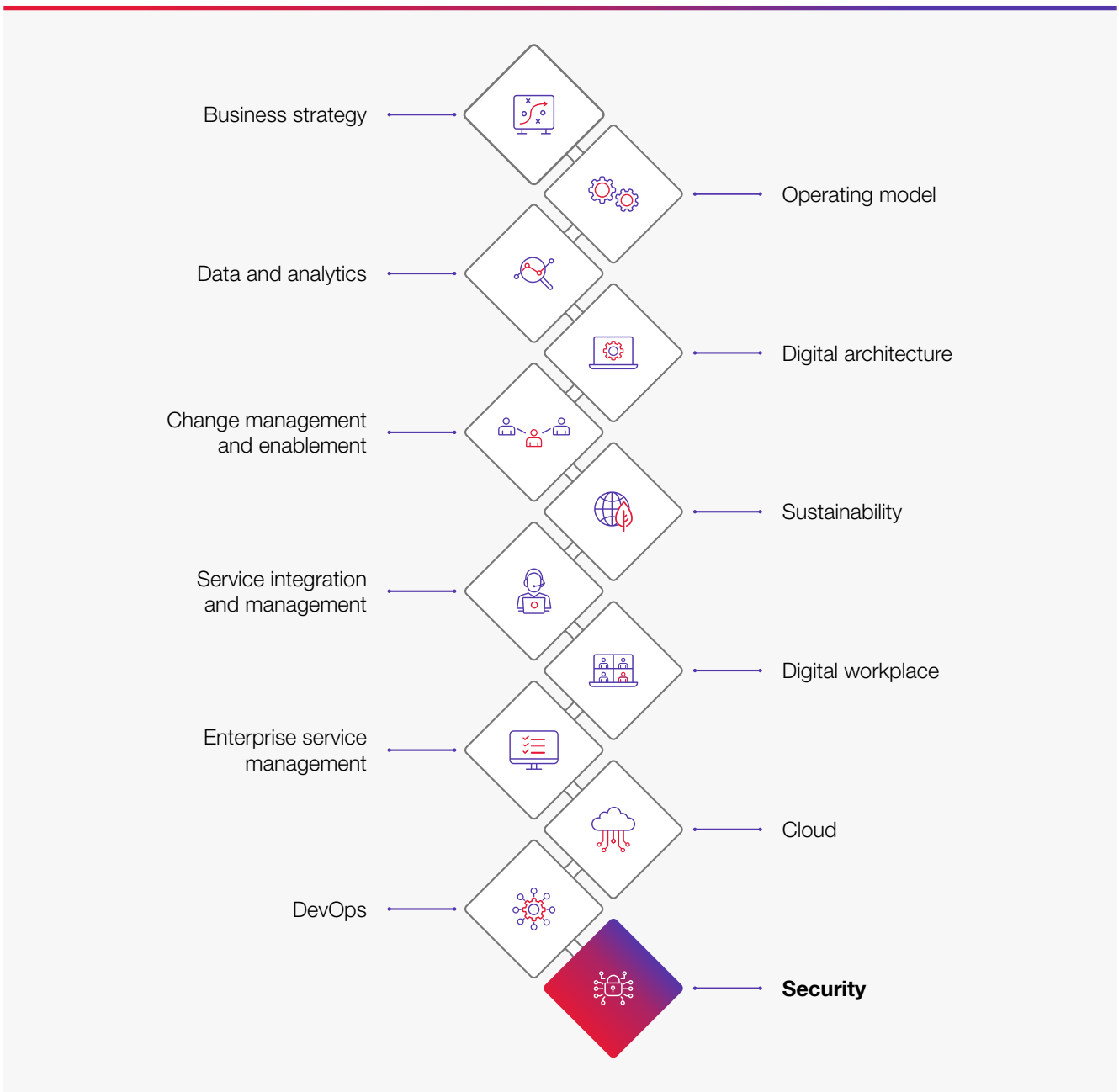
Strategic **decision making** through data-driven insights.

# The Digital Backbone

Our end-to-end framework that will make IT the enabler of your success

The Digital Backbone delivers twelve fundamental building blocks to inspire digital transformation and unlock your organisation's full potential. These can be implemented either individually or as a whole programme, so no matter where you are on your journey, the Digital Backbone provides a comprehensive vision for your transformation strategy.

**That's why we made security a key component of the Digital Backbone**, empowering you to build resilience and protect your digital assets as your organisation continually innovates. By incorporating our security best practices and strategic insights, you can safeguard your organisation against emerging threats while driving your digital transformation forward.



# A vision for secure transformation



Implement robust measures to protect your digital assets and data, ensuring a resilient cyber security posture whilst embracing digital transformation.

A wide array of cyber security threats can impact your organisation. Ensuring that your risk posture remains robust during periods of change and transformation is therefore critical.

Vital to the digital transformation process is implementing proportional controls to protect all digital services, and establishing resilience to recover from cyber security incidents.

## You'll need to consider:

1

**Effective risk management and mitigation strategy** - A comprehensive risk management strategy addresses threats throughout the lifecycle, implementing layered, in-depth controls across all functions to mitigate risk and provide assurance.

This reduces the likelihood of costly breaches and downtime, protecting your organisation's financial health and ensuring continuous, reliable service delivery, which enhances customer trust and satisfaction.

2

**Embedding security throughout the digital transformation lifecycle** - Security must be a continuous consideration, embedded at every stage of the digital transformation lifecycle, with ongoing assessment of emerging threats, risks, and compliance objectives.

This approach minimises disruption during transformation, ensuring smooth transitions and sustained operations. It also enhances stakeholder confidence and regulatory compliance, reducing your legal and financial risks.

3

**Securing the data, not just the perimeter** - A zero-trust approach ensures that data security is paramount. This approach is underpinned by effective identification and authentication, limiting access based on the principle of least privilege, where only essential users, applications, services, and devices have access to data and applications.

This protects your sensitive information, reducing the risk of data breaches and associated penalties, and strengthens customer trust by ensuring the privacy and security of their data.

4

**Proactive security, detection, and response** - Focus on preventing incidents before they occur by taking pre-emptive actions to address vulnerabilities, and preventing malware from accessing server resources.

This reduces incident response times and limits the impact of potential breaches, maintaining your business continuity and protecting organisational reputation.

5

**Resilience and recovery** - Having measures in place to mitigate the impact of cyber security incidents and ensure the swift recovery of services minimises downtime and financial losses during cyber incidents.

This ensures a quick return to normal operations, maintaining customer and stakeholder confidence.

With this business- and outcomes-focused approach to security, you'll successfully achieve:

**Continuous review and management of threats and risks**



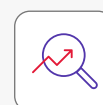
Regularly assessing existing, new, and emerging threats ensures your organisation remains vigilant and prepared. By maintaining a strong security posture, you can adapt to new threats quickly, provide peace of mind to customers and stakeholders, and reinforce their trust in your organisation.

**Proportional technical and organisational measures**



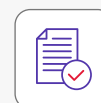
Implementing measures that match the identified threats and risks maintains a robust security posture. This balances security with operational efficiency, and avoids overburdening your organisation with unnecessary controls, enhancing productivity and operational effectiveness while maintaining high security standards.

**Dynamic use cases**



Continually reviewing and aligning use cases with current and emerging threats as part of a proactive detection and response strategy ensures your security measures are always up-to-date and relevant, providing optimal protection. This reduces the risk of breaches and enhances your organisation's resilience against evolving threats.

**Comprehensive recovery plans**



Ensuring that cyber security recovery plans are well-documented, regularly tested, and aligned with a broader business continuity plan and strategy prepares your organisation for cyber incidents, reducing both recovery time and associated costs. This enhances the ability to maintain service levels during disruptions, supporting customer satisfaction and business stability.



# CGI Business Consulting and Advisory

Built over +47 years, CGI is one of the world's largest providers of high-end IT and business consulting services. We are trusted to transform organisations with innovative solutions, so developed our Business Consulting and Advisory (BC&A) team to share our knowledge and experience with you.

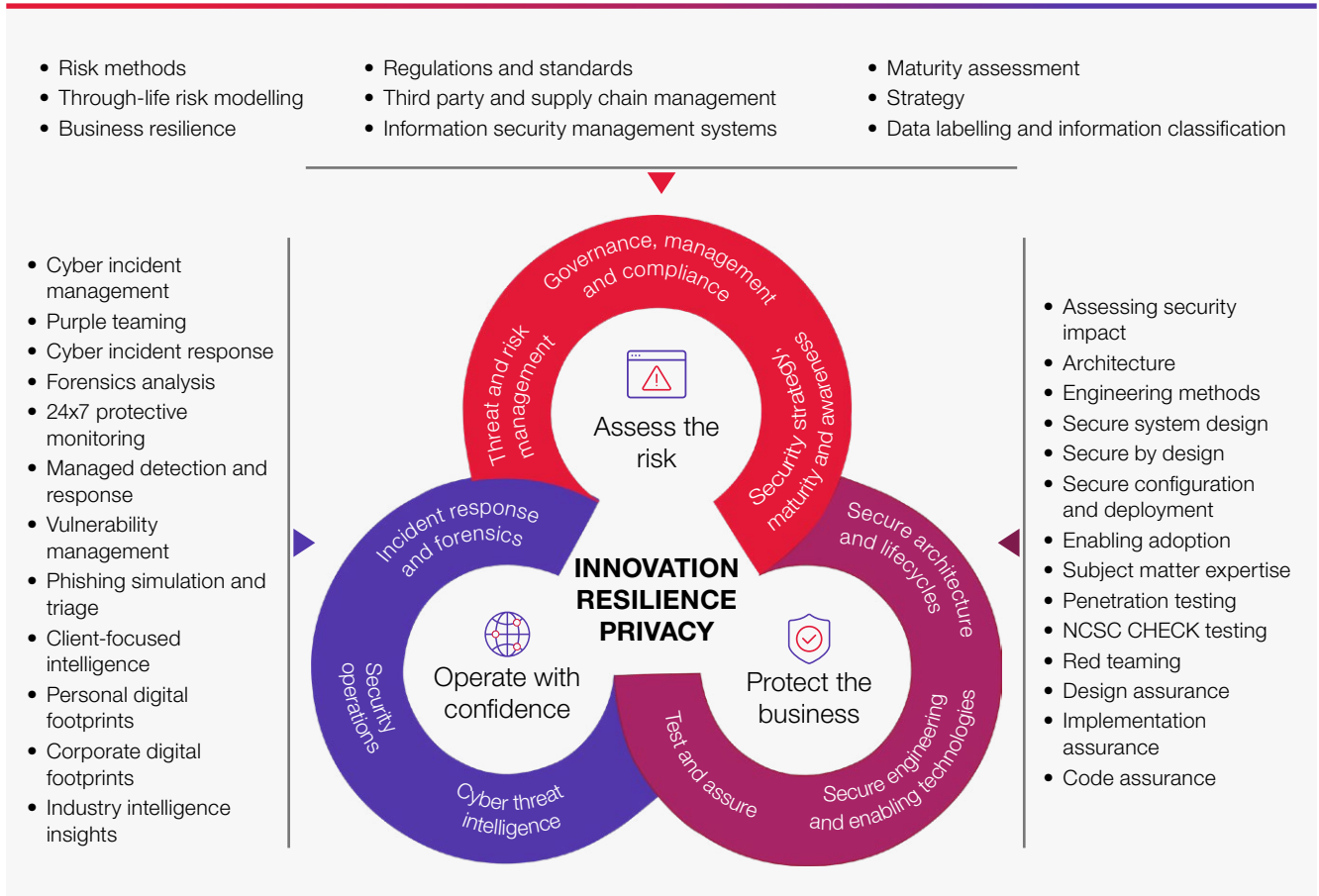
## Offerings to support your organisation

Wherever you are on your transformation journey – whether you're looking to develop a forward-thinking business strategy, improve the effectiveness of specific processes, or implement an innovative solution – we're here to help.

We understand that transformation isn't simple, so **our experts developed all our BC&A offerings around The Digital Backbone's twelve key propositions,**

to support you with the right solutions to address your challenges, achieve your ambitions, and build your own digital backbone capability.

Whether you'd like to build a complete digital backbone that will become the cornerstone of your growth, or if there's one specific area standing in the way – perhaps that's security - we have the offerings and solutions to ensure your transformation project succeeds.



**BC&A places you at the heart of our offerings.** We work to understand your unique challenges and opportunities – whether you require strategy development, or solutions design and implementation – and we'll guide you every step of the way.

Our teams cover a range of sectors such as higher education and healthcare, as well as specialist areas including business consulting, technical advisory, service management, and sustainability.

We remain supplier agnostic, but also have teams designated to [our strategic partnerships](#) with the likes of Microsoft, ServiceNow, Google, Dell, NetApp (and more), enabling us to design you the right solutions, working with the right partners to deliver the best outcomes.

So whatever your specific requirements, challenges or industry, with BC&A's breadth of knowledge and experience, we'll empower you with a team that is hand-picked to enable your success.



**To find out more:**

Explore the Digital Backbone and its twelve key propositions in more depth on [our webpage](#). Fill in [this short form](#) and we'll be in touch to discuss how our security offerings or our overarching Digital Backbone framework can support your specific needs.



## About CGI

### **Insights you can act on**

Founded in 1976, CGI is among the largest IT and business consulting services firms in the world.

We are insights-driven and outcomes-based to help accelerate returns on your investments. Across hundreds of locations worldwide, we provide comprehensive, scalable and sustainable IT and business consulting services that are informed globally and delivered locally.

[cgi.com/uk](https://cgi.com/uk)

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