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Peter Bassill.

Non-Executive Director — cyber security, information security, IT and AI. A practising operator at board level: the CEO who still writes the code, the advisor who has actually carried the pager. In this industry since October 1996 — console to committee room — and available to one or two UK boards for the final seats of a deliberate career.

CURRENT ROLES

CEO · UK Cyber Defence

2025– · Hedgehog Security, renamed
– same people, same mission

CREST · European Council

2022– · elected by peers

CREST · IR Pan Europe

2023– · incident response, Europe-wide remit

SECTOR EXPOSURE

financial services

defence

healthcare

critical national infrastructure

professional services & SME

AVAILABILITY & TERMS

Seats · one or two, done properly

Committees · audit & risk welcome

Base · United Kingdom

Referees · on request

Reply · within 2 working days

CONFLICTS, STATED UP FRONT

I run a UK cyber defence firm. I will not take a seat where that conflicts, and will say so in the first conversation. UK Cyber Defence does not pitch for work where I hold a board position.

WHAT A BOARD GETS

- **Operator-grade oversight.** Security narratives tested by someone who has written them — and run the incidents that broke them. The difference between "backups tested" and "backups restored", asked out loud.
- **Committee work carried properly.** Audit and risk membership with full preparation: risk items traced from register to reality, assurance separated from faith, findings in writing to the chair.
- **AI governance without the theatre.** Where AI genuinely helps, where it quietly leaks data, and what the board must be able to evidence — UK GDPR, the EU AI Act where it reaches, and the questions insurers now ask. Author of the free AI Security Starter Kit for SMEs.
- **Incident-tested judgement.** Three decades of majors: containment, regulators, insurers, disclosure decisions — calm in the room, even when the room isn't.
- **Succession as an outcome.** An executive that briefs better and a CISO grown into the room. The best technology NED leaves a board needing one less.

CAREER LINE

2025– CEO, UK Cyber Defence – Hedgehog Security renamed; strategy, delivery, still writing the interesting code

2022– CREST European Council · 2023– IR Pan Europe – policy & standards for the industry's accrediting body

2009–25 Founder / CEO, Hedgehog Security – sixteen years building and running a UK security firm

1996 First job in the industry, 4 October – incidents, estates and boards ever since

JUDGE THE CRAFT DIRECTLY

Sample board paper · peterbassill.com/downloads/sample-board-briefing.pdf

Board-facing writing · peterbassill.com/writing – start with "Things I wish boards would ask"

Full background · peterbassill.com/work/non-executive-director