

# Espion First Irish Company to Accomplish Council of Registered Ethical Security Testers (CREST) Membership

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Expert at managing and securing corporate information, Espion (<http://www.espiongroup.com>), continues to realise its ambition of attaining world-class standards adding the hallmark of security best practices - CREST Accreditation (<http://www.crest-approved.org/>) for Penetration Testing, to its credentials.

Following a rigorous assessment and certification process Espion becomes the first Irish firm to join CREST's elite group of 57 member companies, who have all demonstrated adherence to the highest possible levels of security testing standards. Attaining this symbol of international credibility will widen the scope of new client engagement. Consequently the firm plans to make 30 new appointments in the coming 12 months.

Penetration Testing, which comprises the use of a variety of manual and automated techniques to simulate an attack on an organisation's information security arrangements, is a cornerstone service within Espion's Information Governance division. The CREST standard further enhances Espion's existing knowledge-focus and adherence to internationally recognised industry leading standards (ISO 9001, ISO 27001) and best practices.

Ian Glover, president of CREST, says: "CREST membership represents complete assurances of processes and procedures and validates the competence of information security testers. Accreditation is extremely difficult to attain.

I congratulate Espion for passing our stringent assessment of business processes, data security and security testing methodologies. I am sincerely delighted to welcome them as the first Irish company to join our membership."

Colman Morrissey, managing director of Espion, says: "When it comes to effective information security, our determination to stay at the very top of our game – continues to be a strong differentiator for us.

Our strategy of investing in people with rigorous continuing professional development (CPD) and adhering to leading international standards is driving sustainable, meaningful growth. Achieving CREST is a tremendous endorsement of our capabilities and marks a significant milestone in our international expansion."

Espion works with large organisations across a wide range of industries spanning government; healthcare; education, banking and finance, legal and insurance. The firm, which recently opened a New York office, currently employs 85 specialist consultants and expects staff numbers to hit the 115 mark in the next 12 months to support expansion.

Espion ranked on the "Deloitte Technology Fast 50" for a ninth consecutive year, with 2014 revenue growing by more than 35 per cent over the previous year. In the past 12 months the firm has maintained the "Excellence Through People" standard and been shortlisted in: "Best Place to Work in IT" Tech

Excellence Awards 2015 and “Best Talent Management Strategy” in the HR and Leadership Awards 2015.  
[www.espiongroup.com](http://www.espiongroup.com)

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#### About CREST

The Council of Registered Ethical Security Testers (CREST) is a standards-based organisation for penetration testing suppliers incorporating a best practice technical certification programme for individual consultants. CREST provides its members with a framework of guidance including standards, methodologies and recommendations aimed at ensuring the very highest standards of leading-edge security testing.

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