



Confidential

**CLOSED DOOR SECURITY**  
Cyber Security Experts

Closed Door Security LTD

Unit 4,

Habost Workshops,

Habost,

HS29QB

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to provide this reference for Daniel Thurston, who has worked with us at Closed Door Security while pursuing a career in cybersecurity.

During his time with us, Daniel demonstrated strong technical capability and professionalism across both infrastructure and offensive security work. He was responsible for performing secure infrastructure builds from the ground up, including the installation, configuration, and hardening of servers and virtualisation platforms such as VMware and Proxmox. He also configured and deployed network security infrastructure, including PfSense firewalls, ensuring systems were built securely and correctly from inception. His work in this area reflects a strong understanding of defensive security principles and secure system design.

In addition to his defensive and infrastructure work, Daniel conducted black box external penetration tests against customer environments. He successfully identified security issues, validated findings, and produced clear, structured reports that passed our internal quality assurance process and were released directly to customers. His work met the professional standard required for commercial penetration testing engagements and demonstrated his growing capability on the offensive side of cybersecurity.

Daniel has shown a clear and genuine interest in both the defensive and offensive disciplines of cybersecurity. He understands not only how to identify vulnerabilities, but also how systems should be securely designed, built, and maintained to prevent compromise. This balanced perspective is extremely valuable and reflects the mindset of a well rounded security professional.

He has also attended industry conferences and participated in customer engagements alongside our team. In these environments, he demonstrated excellent professionalism, communication skills, and confidence when interacting with clients. His ability to engage directly with customers and represent the company professionally is particularly notable, as this level of interpersonal capability is uncommon in aspiring security professionals at this stage of their career.

Beyond his direct responsibilities, Daniel consistently demonstrated a strong desire to learn and improve. He proactively shadowed experienced penetration testers over several weeks, learning testing methodology, tooling, and reporting standards. He showed initiative, asked thoughtful questions, and applied what he learned effectively in his own work.

Daniel is reliable, trustworthy, and takes pride in his work. He approaches cybersecurity with the correct mindset, combining technical curiosity with professionalism and discipline. He works well both independently and as part of a team and conducts himself to a standard that reflects well on any organisation he represents.

I have no hesitation in recommending Daniel Thurston for roles in cybersecurity, whether focused on penetration testing, security engineering, or broader security operations. He has built a strong technical foundation, possesses excellent interpersonal skills, and has the attitude and capability required to develop into an outstanding security professional.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,  
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