



National Information Assurance Partnership

Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme

CCEVS Policy Letter #12

01 October 2009

SUBJECT: Letter of Intent (LOI) Requirement for CCEVS

PURPOSE: Beginning 1 October 2009, for products submitted for evaluation by a NIAP Common Criteria testing lab, either at a higher Evaluation Assurance Level (EAL) than a U.S. approved Protection Profile (PP) or when no U.S. approved PP exists, vendors will need to submit documentation that explicitly states the requirement from a government agency (U.S. government, NATO or foreign government covered by the Common Criteria Mutual Recognition Arrangement).

POLICY: The Evaluation Acceptance Package (EAP) submitted by the CCTL must contain the Letter of Intent (LOI) as defined in this policy. Once CCEVS confirms the validity of the LOI, the initial Validation Oversight Review (VOR) will be scheduled.

Note: Vendors are encouraged to submit the LOI to CCEVS for an acceptance decision prior to engaging in pre-evaluation activities that expend time and resources (e.g. evidence development).

The LOI must be submitted on official government agency letterhead and include the following information:

1. Full product name and version number.
2. Description of the expected usage scenario and operational environment in which the product will be implemented. And,
 - a. If a U.S. approved Protection Profile exists and the EAL requested exceeds the EAL of the PP, a detailed justification for the higher EAL is required. This must include the government agency's rationale specifying why the U.S. approved PP alone is not sufficient to meet their requirements.
 - b. If no U.S. approved PP exists, the government agency must also identify the security related features for which the product is intended to be used. This will allow CCEVS to verify that no U.S. approved PP

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exists and help us determine whether a new PP should be developed for that particular technology type.

3. Name of the government policy, regulation, or directive that stipulates the requirement for the product to undergo a CC evaluation.
4. Government agency technical point of contact to include organization/office designator, phone number and email address.
5. Government agency acquisition authority point of contact to include organization/office designator, phone number and email address.

Protection of Information:

All information provided to CCEVS to meet this policy will be handled as proprietary and protected accordingly.

Effect:

The primary intent of this policy is to ensure CCEVS resources are used effectively to evaluate products that meet U.S. approved PP's at an appropriate EAL.

Effective Date:

All new evaluations submitted to CCEVS on or after 1 October 2009 must conform to this policy.

Original Signed By

CAROL SAULSBURY HOUCK
Director