



# National Information Assurance Partnership Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme

## NIAP Policy Letter #5

4 November 2014

**SUBJECT:** Applicability and Relationship of NIST Cryptographic Algorithm Validation Program (CAVP) and Cryptographic Module Validation Program (CMVP) to NIAP's Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme (CCEVS).

**REFERENCES:** Committee on National Security Systems Policy #11

National Institute of Standards and Technology Federal Information Processing Standard 140-2

**PURPOSE:** This policy defines the applicability and relationship of NIST CAVP and CMVP testing to assurance activities associated with cryptography requirements in NIAP Protection Profiles (PPs).

**BACKGROUND:** NIAP- approved PPs may specify cryptographic assurance activities that are intended to verify that the cryptography specified in the Target of Evaluation (TOE) satisfies the corresponding PP security functional requirement. Since NIST has programs (CAVP and CMVP) to verify NIST approved security functions, NIAP is issuing this policy to minimize redundancies between the activities of the NIST test facilities and the Common Criteria Test Laboratories (CCTLs).

**POLICY:** This policy applies to evaluations conducted in NIAP, for all Targets of Evaluation (TOEs) that include cryptography to satisfy requirements contained in NIAP-approved PPs. All cryptography in the TOE which is a NIST approved security function (as specified in FIPS 140-2 Annex A) must be NIST CAVP and/or CMVP validated. At minimum an appropriate NIST CAVP certificate is required before a NIAP CC Certificate will be awarded. The CCTL will verify that the claimed NIST validation satisfies the NIAP-approved PP requirements the TOE claims to satisfy. The CCTL verification of the NIST validation will constitute performance of the associated assurance activity.

**EFFECT:** This policy documents current NIAP evaluation practices and ensures products with cryptography claiming compliance with NIAP-approved PPs are properly evaluated without duplication of effort.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** All evaluations submitted to NIAP must conform to this policy immediately.

Original Signed By

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