



National Information Assurance Partnership

Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme

NIAP Policy Letter #1

29 August 2014

SUBJECT: Appropriateness of Language in Security Targets (ST), Assurance Activity Reports (AARs), Product Compliant List (PCL) Entries, Validation Reports (VR), and any other publicly available evaluation documentation.

PURPOSE: This policy provides guidance on language to ensure accurate representation of the evaluated configuration within publicly available evaluation documentation.

POLICY: All information included in STs, AARs, PCL Entries, VRs, or any public evaluation documentation must be verified during the evaluation and cannot express opinions or subjective claims.

BACKGROUND: The National Information Assurance Partnership Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme (NIAP CCEVS) views it the responsibility of all participants (developers, sponsors, evaluators, and validators) to validate product compliance with Common Criteria and NIAP-approved Protection Profile (PP) requirements. To ensure evaluated products are clearly represented to consumers, the content of publicly available evaluation documentation must accurately reflect the evaluated configuration.

While all public evaluation documentation must be accurate, taken as a whole, the ST is considered a specification, of which all claims must be supported. In fact, it is the determination of whether a product meets the claims made in the ST that is the principle aim of an evaluation. All STs must claim **exact compliance** to one or more of the applicable NIAP-approved Protection Profiles (PPs)/Extended Packages (EPs). Therefore, the ST must only include functionality that is within the scope of the claimed PP/EP. The only exception is to clearly state what is outside the TOE boundary; in which case the ST will clarify the functionality that is precluded from use in the evaluated product.

Sponsors are encouraged to present their product claims, particularly in the TOE Description section of the ST. However, all claims and information must be supported by the rest of the ST and verified in the product by the evaluation team in order for a certificate to be issued for the product.

EFFECTIVE DATE: All evaluations must comply with this policy immediately.

Original Signed By

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