



National Information Assurance Partnership Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme

NIAP Policy Letter #28

04 December 2020

SUBJECT: Use of evaluated Dedicated Security Components (DSCs) in Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme (CCEVS) evaluations.

REFERENCES: collaborative Protection Profile (cPP) for Dedicated Security Component, version 1.0, September 10, 2020

PURPOSE: This policy addresses NIAP evaluations that incorporate an evaluated Dedicated Security Component (DSC) and defines the necessary requirements to use the results without re-assessing the DSC product capabilities.

BACKGROUND: Products evaluated against NIAP-approved PPs and PP-Configurations must address all requirements in the PP/PP-Configuration. With the release of the DSC cPP, DSCs may be evaluated that are used in many different technologies, and products within a technology. Re-evaluating the DSC functions every time a product containing the DSC is evaluated would duplicate effort and provide little benefit to the end user. Existing methods for “composing” products described in the Common Criteria (CC) version 3.1 release 5 are not suitable for use in CCEVS, but a methodology based on the model used for distributed Targets of Evaluation (TOEs) in existing NIAP-Approved PPs can be used to provide for the re-use of DSC evaluation evidence in NIAP evaluations of products *in specific technologies* that incorporate a DSC.

POLICY: This policy applies to evaluations conducted in the NIAP CCEVS for all TOEs that 1) use a DSC evaluated against a NIAP-approved DSC cPP and 2) are evaluated against a NIAP-approved PP that specifically accounts for the use of a DSC. These PPs are referred to as Approved Dependent Technology PPs. Approved Dependent Technology PPs are identified in separate guidance.

Approved Dependent Technology PPs are able to use the results of the evaluation of a DSC to satisfy evaluation activities described in the Approved Dependent Technology PPs for which the DSC TOE provides functionality. The scope of the reuse applies only to requirements explicitly specified in the Approved Dependent Technology PP as being able to be satisfied by the DSC that are included in the TOE for the product under evaluation. Requirements not explicitly identified as being able to be satisfied by the DSC must be evaluated as stated in the Approved Dependent Technology PP and supporting documents.

The DSC must be evaluated against a NIAP-approved DSC cPP, and must be evaluated either prior to, or concurrently with, the Approved Dependent Technology TOE. Evaluation evidence (the Security Target) of the DSC must include a non-proprietary Supported Services Catalog and the corresponding interfaces provided by the DSC, per evaluated/equivalent model, for use in performing evaluations of Approved Dependent Technology products.

EFFECT: This policy increases the assurance of DSCs used in a variety of technologies represented by NIAP-Approved PPs while reducing duplication of effort in the evaluation process.

EFFECTIVE DATE: All evaluations submitted to NIAP after 31 December 2020 may apply this policy as Approved Dependent Technology PPs become available.

Original Signed By

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