



National Information Assurance Partnership

Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme

NIAP Policy Letter #12

10 February 2025

SUBJECT: Acceptance Requirements of a Product for NIAP Evaluation

REFERENCES:

Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme Publication #4,
“Guidance to CCEVS Approved Common Criteria Testing Laboratories.”

Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme Publication, “Check-In/Check-Out Guidance.”

Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme Publication “Guidelines for When No PP Exists.”

PURPOSE: A Protection Profile (PP) describes the security requirements for a product within a technology area. Technical Communities will develop one PP or a base PP with associated PP Modules. Because of the effort and coordination required, Technical Communities and their associated PP is being developed over time.

POLICY: NIAP will only accept products for evaluation claiming exact compliance with one or more published NIAP-approved PPs. To ensure evaluations cover a meaningful set of security requirements, the PP must include Core Functionality of the TOE. Core functionality is defined as the primary purpose for which a product is marketed. Customers or vendors who require evaluation of a product in a technology area for which a NIAP-approved PP does not exist should follow the referenced Guidelines listed above. When an updated PP is developed, the existing PP will sunset and a transition period will be publicly posted. During the transition period, applicable products will be allowed to comply with either the old or the updated version of the PP. Any products that wish to be certified against a sunset PP must have their complete Check-In Package submitted to NIAP no later than 3 weeks prior to the sunset date. VIDs with packages not submitted in that timeframe will be closed and any evaluation will need to claim compliance to the latest PP version. In addition, certificates are valid for only up to two years, not to exceed the date 2 years and 6 months from the sunset date of the PP. Evaluations against sunset PPs are not eligible for extension of Assurance maintenance date.

PROTECTION OF INFORMATION: All information provided to NIAP to meet this policy will be handled as proprietary and protected accordingly.

EFFECT: This policy ensures NIAP evaluated products comply with PPs that define all applicable technology-specific requirements and associated assurance activities.

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

Original Signed By

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