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**Information technology — Security
techniques — Security requirements
for cryptographic modules**

*Technologies de l'information — Techniques de sécurité — Exigences
de sécurité pour les modules cryptographiques*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](http://www.iso.org/foreword)

Technical corrigendum 1 to ISO/IEC 19790:2012 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *Security techniques*.

This corrected version of Technical corrigendum 1 to ISO/IEC 19790:2012 cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 19790:2012/Cor 1:2015), incorporating the same technical revisions and miscellaneous editorial corrections showing in **red** text instead of black underlining:

- 3.21: The term "cryptographic boundary" is corrected;
- 3.80: The term "non-security relevant" is corrected;
- 3.108: The term "self-test" is corrected;
- 7.2.2: The requirements **[02.04]**, **[02.05]** and **[02.06]** are corrected;
- 7.2.4.3: The requirement **[02.31]** is corrected;
- 7.3.3: The requirement **[03.14]** is corrected;
- 7.5: The requirements **[05.06]** and **[05.07]** are added. The requirements **[05.08]**, **[05.13]** and **[05.17]** through **[05.23]** are corrected;
- 7.6.3: The requirement **[06.06]** is corrected;

- 7.8: The requirement [08.04] is corrected;
- 7.9.1: The requirement [09.04] is corrected;
- 7.9.7: The requirement [09.37] is corrected;
- 7.10.2.2: The requirement [10.17] is corrected;
- 7.11.5: The requirement [11.26] is corrected;
- 7.11.7: The requirement [11.35] is corrected;
- 7.11.9: The requirement [11.38] is corrected;
- A.2.5: The requirements of the 1st and 2nd bullets are corrected;
- A.2.7: The requirement of the 3rd bullet is corrected;
- A.2.10: The requirement of the 4th bullet is corrected;
- B.2.4: The requirement of the 9th bullet is corrected;
- B.2.5: The requirement of the 1st bullet is corrected;
- B.2.7: The requirement of the 2nd level 6th bullet is corrected;
- D.1: Duplicate text is removed;
- D.1.2: The reference to ISO/IEC 15946-3 is removed;
- E.1: Duplicate text is removed; and
- F.1: Duplicate text is removed.

Introduction

In Information Technology there is an ever-increasing need to use cryptographic mechanisms such as the protection of data against unauthorised disclosure or manipulation, for entity authentication and for non-repudiation. The security and reliability of such mechanisms are directly dependent on the cryptographic modules in which they are implemented.

This International Standard provides for four increasing, qualitative levels of security requirements intended to cover a wide range of potential applications and environments. The cryptographic techniques are identical over the four security levels. The security requirements cover areas relative to the design and implementation of a cryptographic module. These areas include cryptographic module specification; cryptographic module interfaces; roles, services, and authentication; software/firmware security; operational environment; physical security; non-invasive security; sensitive security parameter management; self-tests; life-cycle assurance; and mitigation of other attacks.

The overall security rating of a cryptographic module must be chosen to provide a level of security appropriate for the security requirements of the application and environment in which the module is to be utilised and for the security services that the module is to provide. The responsible authority in each organization should ensure that their computer and telecommunication systems that utilise cryptographic modules provide an acceptable level of security for the given application and environment. Since each authority is responsible for selecting which approved security functions are appropriate for a given application, compliance with this International Standard does not imply either full interoperability or mutual acceptance of compliant products. The importance of security awareness and of making information security a management priority should be communicated to all concerned.

Information security requirements vary for different applications; organizations should identify their information resources and determine the sensitivity to and the potential impact of a loss by implementing appropriate controls. Controls include, but are not limited to:

- physical and environmental controls;
- access controls;
- software development;
- backup and contingency plans; and
- information and data controls.

These controls are only as effective as the administration of appropriate security policies and procedures within the operational environment.

Information technology — Security techniques — Security requirements for cryptographic modules

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the security requirements for a cryptographic module utilised within a security system protecting sensitive information in computer and telecommunication systems. This International Standard defines four security levels for cryptographic modules to provide for a wide spectrum of data sensitivity (e.g. low value administrative data, million dollar funds transfers, life protecting data, personal identity information, and sensitive information used by government) and a diversity of application environments (e.g. a guarded facility, an office, removable media, and a completely unprotected location). This International Standard specifies four security levels for each of 11 requirement areas with each security level increasing security over the preceding level.

This International Standard specifies security requirements specified intended to maintain the security provided by a cryptographic module and compliance to this International Standard is not sufficient to ensure that a particular module is secure or that the security provided by the module is sufficient and acceptable to the owner of the information that is being protected.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

The documents listed in ISO/IEC 19790 Annexes C, D, E and F *Information technology – Security techniques – Security requirements for cryptographic modules*.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

access control list

ACL

list of permissions to grant access to an object

3.2

administrator guidance

written material that is used by the Crypto Officer and/or other administrative roles for the correct configuration, maintenance, and administration of the cryptographic module

3.3

automated

without manual intervention or input (e.g. electronic means such as through a computer network)

3.4

approval authority

any national or international organisation/authority mandated to approve and/or evaluate security functions

NOTE An approval authority in the context of this definition evaluates and approves security functions based on their cryptographic or mathematical merits but is not the testing entity which would test for conformance to this International Standard.

3.5

approved data authentication technique

approved method that may include the use of a digital signature, message authentication code or keyed hash (e.g. HMAC)

3.6

approved integrity technique

approved hash, message authentication code or a digital signature algorithm

3.7

approved mode of operation

set of services which includes at least one service that utilises an approved security function or process and can include non-security relevant services

NOTE 1 Not to be confused with a specific mode of an approved security function, e.g. Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode

NOTE 2 Non-approved security functions or processes are excluded.

3.8

approved security function

security function (e.g. cryptographic algorithm) that is referenced in Annex C

3.9

asymmetric cryptographic technique

cryptographic technique that uses two related transformations; a public transformation (defined by the public key) and a private transformation (defined by the private key).

NOTE The two transformations have the property that, given the public transformation, it is computationally infeasible to derive the private transformation in a given limited time and with given computational resources.

3.10

biometric

measurable, physical characteristic or personal behavioral trait used to recognise the identity, or verify the claimed identity, of an operator

3.11

bypass capability

ability of a service to partially or wholly circumvent a cryptographic function

3.12

certificate

entity's data rendered unforgeable with the private or secret key of a certification authority

NOTE Not to be confused with a modules validation certificate issued by a validation authority

3.13

compromise

unauthorised disclosure, modification, substitution, or use of critical security parameters or the unauthorised modification or substitution of public security parameters

3.14**conditional self-test**

test performed by a cryptographic module when the conditions specified for the test occur

3.15**confidentiality**

property that information is not made available or disclosed to unauthorised entities

3.16**configuration management system****CMS**

management of security features and assurances through control of changes made to hardware, software and documentation of a cryptographic module

3.17**control information**

information that is entered into a cryptographic module for the purposes of directing the operation of the module

3.18**critical security parameter****CSP**

security related information whose disclosure or modification can compromise the security of a cryptographic module

EXAMPLE

Secret and private cryptographic keys, authentication data such as passwords, PINs, certificates or other trust anchors

NOTE

A CSP can be plaintext or encrypted.

3.19**crypto officer**

role taken by an individual or a process (i.e. subject) acting on behalf of an individual that accesses a cryptographic module in order to perform cryptographic initialisation or management functions of a cryptographic module

3.20**cryptographic algorithm**

well-defined computational procedure that takes variable inputs, which may include cryptographic keys, and produces an output

3.21**cryptographic boundary**

explicitly defined perimeter that establishes the boundary of all components (i.e. set of hardware, software or firmware components) of the cryptographic module

3.22**cryptographic hash function**

computationally efficient function mapping binary strings of arbitrary length to binary strings of fixed length, such that it is computationally infeasible to find two distinct values that hash into a common value

3.23**cryptographic key****key**

sequence of symbols that controls the operation of a cryptographic transformation

EXAMPLE

A cryptographic transformation can include but not limited to encipherment, decipherment, cryptographic check function computation, signature generation, or signature verification.

3.24

**cryptographic key component
key component**

parameter used in conjunction with other key components in an approved security function to form a plaintext CSP or perform a cryptographic function

3.25

**cryptographic module
module**

set of hardware, software, and/or firmware that implements security functions and are contained within the cryptographic boundary

3.26

**cryptographic module security policy
security policy**

precise specification of the security rules under which a cryptographic module shall operate, including the rules derived from the requirements of this International Standard and additional rules imposed by the module or validation authority

NOTE See Annex B

3.27

data path

physical or logical route over which data passes

NOTE A physical data path can be shared by multiple logical data paths.

3.28

degraded operation

operation where a subset of the entire set of algorithms, security functions, services or processes are available and/or configurable as a result of reconfiguration from an error state

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3.29

differential power analysis

DPA

analysis of the variations of the electrical power consumption of a cryptographic module, for the purpose of extracting information correlated to cryptographic operation

3.30

digital signature

data appended to, or a cryptographic transformation of a data unit that allows the recipient of the data unit to prove the origin and integrity of the data unit and protect against forgery (e.g. by the recipient)

3.31

direct entry

entry of a SSP or key component into a cryptographic module, using a device such as a keyboard

3.32

disjoint signature

one or more signatures which together represent an entire set of code

3.33

electromagnetic emanations

EME

intelligence-bearing signal, which, if intercepted and analyzed, potentially discloses the information that is transmitted, received, handled, or otherwise processed by any information-processing equipment

3.34**electronic entry**

entry of SSPs or key components into a cryptographic module using electronic methods

NOTE The operator of the key can have no knowledge of the value of the key being entered.

3.35**encompassing signature**

single signature for an entire set of code

3.36**encrypted key**

cryptographic key that has been encrypted using an approved security function with a key encryption key. Considered protected

3.37**entity**

person, group, device or process

3.38**entropy**

measure of the disorder, randomness or variability in a closed system

NOTE The entropy of a random variable X is a mathematical measure of the amount of information provided by an observation of X .

3.39**environmental failure protection****EFP**

use of features to protect against a compromise of the security of a cryptographic module due to environmental conditions outside of the module's normal operating range

3.40**environmental failure testing****EFT**

use of specific methods to provide reasonable assurance that the security of a cryptographic module will not be compromised by environmental conditions outside of the module's normal operating range

3.41**error detection code****EDC**

value computed from data and comprised of redundant bits of information designed to detect, but not correct, unintentional changes in the data

3.42**executable form**

form of the code in which the software or firmware is managed and controlled completely by the operational environment of the module and does not require compilation (e.g. no source code, object code or just-in-time compiled code)

3.43**fault induction**

technique to induce operating behaviour changes in hardware by the application of transient voltages, radiation, laser or clock skewing techniques

3.44

finite state model

FSM

mathematical model of a sequential machine that is comprised of a finite set of input events, a finite set of output events, a finite set of states, a function that maps states and input to output, a function that maps states and inputs to states (a state transition function), and a specification that describes the initial state

3.45

firmware

executable code of a cryptographic module that is stored in hardware within the cryptographic boundary and cannot be dynamically written or modified during execution while operating in a non-modifiable or limited operational environment

EXAMPLE Storage hardware can include but not limited to PROM, EEPROM, FLASH, solid state memory, hard drives, etc

3.46

firmware module

module that is composed solely of firmware

3.47

functional specification

high-level description of the ports and interfaces visible to the operator and high-level description of the behaviour of the cryptographic module

3.48

functional testing

testing of the cryptographic module functionality as defined by the functional specification

3.49

hard / hardness

relative resistance of a metal or other material to denting, scratching, or bending; physically toughened; rugged, and durable

NOTE The relative resistances of the material to be penetrated by another object.

3.50

hardware

physical equipment/components within the cryptographic boundary used to process programs and data

3.51

hardware module

module composed primarily of hardware, which may also contain firmware

3.52

hardware module interface

HMI

total set of commands used to request the services of the hardware module, including parameters that enter or leave the module's cryptographic boundary as part of the requested service

3.53

hash value

output of a cryptographic hash function