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**Information Technology — Open  
Trusted Technology Provider™  
Standard (O-TTPS) — Mitigating  
maliciously tainted and counterfeit  
products**

*Technologies de l'information — Norme de fournisseur de technologie  
de confiance ouverte (O-TTPS) — Atténuation des produits contrefaits  
et malicieusement contaminés*

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## Preface

### The Open Group

The Open Group is a global consortium that enables the achievement of business objectives through IT standards. With more than 400 member organizations, The Open Group has a diverse membership that spans all sectors of the IT community – customers, systems and solutions suppliers, tool vendors, integrators, and consultants, as well as academics and researchers – to:

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### This Document

The Open Group Trusted Technology Forum (OTTF or Forum) is a global initiative that invites industry, government, and other interested participants to work together to evolve this Standard and other OTTF deliverables.

This Standard is the Open Trusted Technology Provider Standard (O-TTPS). The Standard has been developed by the OTTF and approved by The Open Group, through The Open Group Company Review process. There are two distinct elements that should be understood with respect to this Standard: the O-TTPF (Framework) and the O-TTPS (Standard).

**The O-TTPF (Framework):** The Framework is an evolving compendium of organizational guidelines and best practices relating to the integrity of Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) products and the security of the supply chain throughout the entire product life cycle. An early version of the Framework was published as a White Paper in February 2011 (see [Referenced Documents](#)). The Framework serves as the basis for this Standard, future updates, and additional standards. The content of the Framework is the result of industry collaboration and research as to those commonly used commercially

reasonable practices that increase product integrity and supply chain security. The members of the OTTF will continue to collaborate with industry and governments and update the Framework as the threat landscape changes and industry practices evolve.

**The O-TTPS (Standard):** The O-TTPS is an open standard containing a set of guidelines that when properly adhered to have been shown to enhance the security of the global supply chain and the integrity of COTS ICT products. It provides a set of guidelines, requirements, and recommendations that help assure against maliciously tainted and counterfeit products throughout the COTS ICT product life cycle encompassing the following phases: design, sourcing, build, fulfillment, distribution, sustainment, and disposal.

Using the guidelines documented in the Framework as a basis, the OTTF is taking a phased approach and staging O-TTPS releases over time. This staging will consist of standards that focus on mitigating specific COTS ICT risks from emerging threats. As threats change or market needs evolve, the OTTF intends to update the O-TTPS (Standard) by releasing addenda to address specific threats or market needs.

The Standard is aimed at enhancing the integrity of COTS ICT products and helping customers to manage sourcing risk. The authors of this Standard recognize the value that it can bring to governments and commercial customers worldwide, particularly those who adopt procurement and sourcing strategies that reward those vendors who follow the O-TTPS best practice requirements and recommendations.

Note: Any reference to “providers” is intended to refer to COTS ICT providers. The use of the word “component” is intended to refer to either hardware or software components.

#### Intended Audience

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This Standard is intended for organizations interested in helping the industry evolve to meet the threats in the delivery of trustworthy COTS ICT products. It is intended to provide enough context and information on business drivers to enable its audience to understand the value in adopting the guidelines, requirements, and recommendations specified within. It also allows providers, suppliers, and integrators to begin planning how to implement the Standard in their organizations. Additionally, acquirers and customers can begin recommending the adoption of the Standard to their providers and integrators.

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## Referenced Documents

The following documents are referenced in this Standard:

- 2007 Defense Science Board Task Force on Mission Impact of Foreign Influence on DoD Software, September 2007; findings and recommendations located at: [www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/reports/ADA486949.pdf](http://www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/reports/ADA486949.pdf).
- Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC) Code of Conduct; refer to: [www.eicc.info](http://www.eicc.info).
- ISO/IEC 15408: Information Technology – Security Techniques – Evaluation Criteria for IT Security (Common Criteria).
- ISO/IEC 27000:2009: Information Technology – Security Techniques – Information Security Management Systems – Overview and Vocabulary.
- ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2: Rules for the Structure and Drafting of International Standards.
- NIST 800-12: An Introduction to Computer Security: The NIST Handbook.
- White Paper: Open Trusted Technology Provider Framework (O-TTPF), W113, published by The Open Group, February 2011; refer to: [www.opengroup.org/bookstore/catalog/w113.htm](http://www.opengroup.org/bookstore/catalog/w113.htm).  
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# 1 Introduction

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This chapter introduces this Standard – the Open Trusted Technology Provider Standard (O-TTPS) – and the normative terminology that should be understood in relation to specific requirements and recommendations found in Chapter 4 of this document.

## 1.1 Objectives

The Open Trusted Technology Provider Standard (O-TTPS) is a set of guidelines, requirements, and recommendations that, when practically applied, create a business benefit in terms of reduced risk of acquiring maliciously tainted or counterfeit products for the technology acquirer. Documenting best practices that have been taken from the experience of mature industry providers, rigorously reviewed through a consensus process, and established as requirements and recommendations in this Standard, can provide significant advantage in establishing a basis to reduce risk. A commitment by technology providers, large and small, suppliers of hardware and software components, and integrators to adopt this Standard is a commitment to using specific methodologies to assure the integrity of their hardware or software Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) products. This Standard is detailed and prescriptive enough to be useful in raising the bar for all providers and lends itself to an accreditation process to provide assurance that it is being followed in a meaningful and repeatable manner.

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## 1.2 Overview

This Standard (O-TTPS) is a set of guidelines, requirements, and recommendations that address specific threats to the integrity of hardware and software COTS ICT products throughout the product life cycle. This initial release of the Standard addresses threats related to maliciously tainted and counterfeit products.

The provider's product life cycle includes the work it does designing and developing products, as well as the supply chain aspects of that life cycle, collectively extending through the following phases: design, sourcing, build, fulfillment, distribution, sustainment, and disposal. While this Standard cannot fully address threats that originate wholly outside any span of control of the provider – for example, a counterfeiter producing a fake printed circuit board assembly that has no original linkage to the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) – the practices detailed in the Standard will provide some level of mitigation. An example of such a practice would be the use of security labeling techniques in legitimate products.

The two major threats that acquirers face today in their COTS ICT procurements, as addressed in this Standard, are defined as:

1. Maliciously tainted product – the product is produced by the provider and is acquired through a provider's authorized channel, but has been tampered with maliciously.