

Common Criteria Certification for HP MFP devices

White paper

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The purpose of this white paper is to outline the current HP plan surrounding Common Criteria Certification as it relates to HP multifunction printers.

CCC background

In June 1993, the organizations sponsoring the existing United States, Canadian and European criteria for computer product security started the CC Project to align their separate criteria into a single set of IT security criteria. Version 1.0 of the CC was completed in January 1996. Based on a number of trial evaluations and an extensive public review, Version 1.0 was extensively revised and CC Version 2.0 was produced in April of 1998. This became ISO International Standard 15408 in 1999. The CC Project subsequently incorporated the minor changes that had resulted from the ISO process, producing CC version 2.1 in August 1999.

Today, the international community has embraced the CC through the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA) whereby signers have agreed to accept the results of CC evaluations performed by other CCRA members.

The Common Criteria Project is represented on the web at www.CommonCriteriaPortal.org

One point that is vital for us to understand: Common Criteria Certification (CCC) does not certify that the entire device or solution is secure; it only says that the specific features being certified have been tested to assure security, based on CCC guidelines, and behave as the manufacturer has stated that they will.

General CCC overview

Hewlett-Packard is currently “in evaluation” for Common Criteria Certification on the HP LaserJet 4345 MFP, 4730, 9040, 9050 and 9500 MFPs. The following National Information Assurance Partnership (NIAP) link confirms our “in evaluation” status. We are listed on NIAP’s Common Criteria Evaluation Schema (CCEVS) website at: http://www.niap.nist.gov/cc-scheme/in_evaluation.html

If you click on the “H” hotlink, you’ll find:

- Product name: HP LaserJet 4345 MFP, HP LaserJet 9040 MFP, HP LaserJet 9050 MFP, HP LaserJet 9500 MFP and HP Color LaserJet 4730 MFP
- Validation ID: VID10148
- Technology type: Miscellaneous
- Entered into Evaluation: 6 January 2006
- Conformance Claim: EAL 3
- Sponsor: Hewlett Packard
- Point of Contact: Jon T. Huber
- Phone: 208-396-6551
- Fax: 208-396-7400
- CC Testing Lab: COACT Inc.

The three security features that are currently being certified as part of our Target of Evaluation (TOE) are Secure File Erase, Secure Storage Erase (disk wipe) and Separation of Analog Fax from the Network. We chose these features based on the needs and requirements of our customers.

It is important to know what there is currently no printer/MFP industry standard to certify against. Instead, each printer/MFP manufacturer chooses which security features it considers to be important and certifies only those features. Given this situation, printer/MFP manufacturers can tell customers that the features they have certified are the most important ones. They can advertise that their products are certified, when that means only that they are certified according to the manufacturer's concept of the most important features.

It is also important to note that just because one feature is certified, it's no guarantee that the entire solution is secure. It is important to look at the Security Target document, one of the only documents a company is required to make public as part of the Common Criteria Certification process. In this document, look at the Target of Evaluation (TOE) to determine what exactly has been certified.

HP is involved in developing a “protection profile” for Common Criteria Certification. This is an industry standard which is being developed by many printer/MFP manufacturers, and represents an entire security solution against which security can be checked to qualify for certification. This effort is called P2600 and the link is <http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/2600/>

Once this protection profile is approved, all HP Common Criteria Certification efforts will be based on it.

HP encourages customers to look beyond the basic Common Criteria Certification and to examine how they can secure their entire imaging and printing environments. HP has been working with the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to approve a security checklist using our security checklist program. The 4345 checklist, which is applicable to all current MFP products, can be downloaded from

<http://checklists.nist.gov/repository/1087.html>

This checklist takes network administrators through a step-by-step tutorial on how to make their printing and imaging environments as secure as possible based on input from HP security experts. To make certification more secure, HP's current Common Criteria Certification efforts require that the NIST Security Checklist be implemented in order to achieve Evaluation Assurance Level (EAL) 3 Certification. Although Common Criteria certification can occur on levels as high as EAL 1 and as low as EAL 7, no printer/MFP manufacturer has certified above EAL 4. HP is currently aiming for EAL 3 for its printer/MFT products, based on conversations with COACT, the HP Common Criteria evaluator.

Future CCC plans

HP recognizes the importance that CCC carries with its customers and with the marketplace in general. HP is currently considering including additional products in the Common Criteria Certification program, when there is marketplace need for them to carry CC certification.

To learn more, visit www.hp.com

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