

## Information Statement

On behalf of the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement  
Management Committee



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**Subject:** Reuse of Evaluation Results and Evidence

### Purpose

This information statement provides clarification on the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA) approach for the reuse of previous evaluation results and evidence, and to outline the minimum requirements necessary to facilitate the approach documented below.

### Background

Previous evaluation results and evidence of a TOE can be used, to the extent they are available, to minimise duplication of evaluation costs and efforts. The sponsor of an information technology evaluation is responsible for providing all evidence for the evaluation, including any previous evaluation results and evidence that they want to be used in the current evaluation. For the current evaluation the evidence for the evaluation can include evaluation results and evidence produced by an evaluation facility as the result of previous evaluation(s).

Sponsors of evaluations need to understand there are a number of related items to any Target of Evaluation (TOE) evaluation conducted against Common Criteria functional and assurance requirements. The six primary related items to any evaluation include:

- 1) Product and supporting documentation (this includes the evaluation evidence)
- 2) Security Target
- 3) Evaluation Work Packages
- 4) Evaluation Technical Report
- 5) Certification/Validation Report
- 6) Common Criteria Certificate

Access to these related items varies depending on whether the related items are publicly available or have proprietary ownership. Of these related items the Security Target, Certification/Validation Report, and Common Criteria Certificate are all publicly available non-proprietary documents. The Evaluation Work Packages and the Evaluation Technical Report (ETR) are typically generated by the evaluation facility and in some cases are considered to be proprietary to that facility just the same as the product and support documentation (and evaluation evidence) is proprietary to the vendor of the product undergoing evaluation.

If the goal of an evaluation sponsor is to build upon successfully completed previous evaluation(s), reusing to the maximum extent possible the analysis from previous evaluation(s), they need to consider including ownership or rights to certain related items of the previous evaluation(s) in their contractual relationship with any evaluation facility. The ability of a sponsor to provide the necessary information upon which future evaluation activities can be built may be directly related to the contractual agreement for the previous evaluation(s).

The ability of the sponsor to provide the necessary information is important in a number of different scenarios, e.g. in the following cases, if a sponsor of:

- 1) a previously completed evaluation is considering utilising a different evaluation facility for a re-evaluation of the TOE;
- 2) an evaluation is considering utilising a previously completed evaluation in the evaluation of another compound TOE (i.e. a TOE in which the previously evaluated TOE is incorporated);
- 3) a previously completed evaluation is considering utilising a different evaluation facility (possibly even under a different CCRA Scheme) for the assurance maintenance of the TOE;
- 4) a TOE that was successfully evaluated for which they would like to have a re-evaluation of the TOE conducted under a different CCRA Scheme (e.g., re-evaluation of product with new features or assurances, increasing Evaluated Assurance Level (EAL) beyond what is covered by the CCRA, etc.).

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The sponsor needs to provide the necessary information upon which future evaluation activities can be built, and this is directly related to the contractual agreement for the previous evaluation(s). If an evaluation sponsor is to build upon successfully completed evaluation(s), reusing to the maximum extent possible the analysis from the evaluation(s), they need to include ownership or rights to related items of all evaluations in their contractual relationship with any evaluation facility.

The minimum related items necessary for building upon previously conducted evaluation(s), regardless of where it was conducted, re-utilising to the maximum extent previous analysis and evidence are:

- 1) Product and supporting documentation (this includes the evaluation evidence)
- 2) New Security Target
- 3) Original Security Target (s)
- 4) Original Evaluation Technical Report (s)
- 5) Original Certification/Validation Report (s)
- 6) Original Common Criteria Certificate (s)
- 7) Original Evaluation Work Packages (if available)

The evaluation facility would be required to perform a delta analysis between the new security target and the original security target(s) to determine the impact of changes on the analysis and evidence from the original evaluation(s). This delta analysis will determine the extent to which the results of previous evaluation(s) can be re-utilised in the current evaluation.

When undergoing the current evaluation, all of the requirements in the security target must be satisfied — including those that were unchanged from previous version(s). However, the evaluation facility conducting the current evaluation should not have to repeat analysis previously conducted where requirements have not changed nor been impacted by changes in other requirements (i.e., an increase in dependencies). Thus, many of the requirements already met during the previous evaluation(s) may still be satisfied and new work packages for these requirements will not be required.