



Document Number: CCDB-016-v1.0

Date: 2024-July-19

Subject: Technical Communities Policy Guidance

Introduction

The goal of this procedure is to create guidelines for managing a Technical Community (TC) which provides significant support via a Supporting Document (SD) but does not create a collaborative Protection Profile (cPP), and therefore does not meet the criteria for an international Technical Community (iTC) outlined in the CCRA [1].

The CC Portal’s “Publications” page [2] already hosts both “CCRA Supporting Documents” and “Supporting Documents related to Smart Cards and similar devices”. Additionally, the “Technical Communities” page [3] has a link to a separate page for “International Technical Communities and Collaborative Protection Profiles” [4] which explains iTCs and lists those endorsed by the CCMC. Both [3] and [4] list recognized TCs and iTCs.

The CCDB approved the recognition of the CC in the Cloud Working Group as a TC with a dedicated space on the CC Portal. This document formalizes the rules on how to manage the output of this TC and recognize other such TCs in the future.

Terms

For the purposes of this document, a TC is a group of technical experts including CCRA Participants, Certification/Validation Bodies, ITSEFs, developers, and users which are: working in manners that promote fair competition; working in some specific technical area in order to produce one or more SDs; and recognized by the CCDB as providing significant support to the CCRA.

Criteria for Recognition

A working group or other similar body wishing to be recognized by the CCDB as a TC must meet the following criteria:

1. The potential TC must allow open participation to qualified members of the CC community and embrace a spirit of cooperation and promote fair competition.

2. The potential TC must have produced or be working to produce one or more SD (either Guidance Document or Mandatory Technical Document in conjunction with an iTC producing a cPP) as outlined in [5].
3. The potential TC must have at least one CCRA member serving as a sponsoring nation which can provide a rationale to the CCDB as to the significance of the support to the CCRA and the specific need fulfilled by the SD.
4. The potential TC must draft Terms of Reference (ToR) describing the task and operating procedures of the TC, and submit the ToR to the CCDB for approval.

Once a potential TC has met these requirements, the sponsoring nation will present the rationale to the CCDB and submit the ToR to the CCDB for approval. The CCDB will review the rationale and ToR and provide any comments to the sponsoring nation, which will work with the potential TC to respond to any comments. After which the CCDB will then vote whether to recognize the potential TC as a TC. At any time before or after receiving recognition as a TC, CCRA members may post Position Statements in support of the TC/potential TC. After receiving approval as a TC, the CCDB will provide dedicated space for the TC on [3] on the CC Portal.

Management

Upon recognition as a TC, the sponsoring nation will serve as a liaison between the TC and the CCDB, presenting regular status updates to the CCDB.

Upon completion of any draft SDs, the TC will release it for public comment. The liaison will facilitate the CCDB's review of the SD and resolution of any ensuing comments. The TC should respond to all authors of comments received, acknowledging receipt, and indicating the results of processing the comments.

When the SD has been finalized and published, it is available for use and the TC will ask for Endorsement Statements for the SD.

The SD undergoes a formal CCDB review and approval, but does not have to wait for CCDB approval to be available for first use. The CCDB review of the SD will be concerned with establishing that the content of the document supports the objective of [1] and that it is consistent with other SDs.

The TC is not expected to and should not produce a cPP. Should a TC decide to produce a cPP after receiving recognition from the CCDB as a TC, then it will instead seek to transition its status to that of an iTC by following the procedures outlined in [6].

References

- [1] [Arrangement on the Recognition of Common Criteria Certificates in the Field of IT Security](#), July 2nd, 2014.
- [2] CC Portal [Publications](#).
- [3] CC Portal [Technical Communities](#).
- [4] CC Portal [International Technical Communities and Collaborative Protection Profiles](#).
- [5] [CCDB Procedure for Supporting Documents](#), DB 2017-06-001, June 27th, 2017.
- [6] [Establishing iTCs and cPP Development](#), CCMC-015, October 30th, 2023.