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Contents

Page

Foreword	v
Introduction.....	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Terms and definitions	1
3 Symbols and notation.....	2
4 General	3
5 Specifying cryptographic protocols	5
5.1 Objectives	5
5.2 The abstraction levels.....	5
5.3 The specification of security protocols	5
5.3.1 General	5
5.3.2 The symbolic messages	5
5.3.3 Observing messages	6
5.3.4 Algebraic properties.....	7
5.3.5 Protocol roles	7
5.4 The specification of adversarial model	8
5.4.1 Network specification	8
5.4.2 The attacker	8
5.4.3 The scenario	9
5.5 The specification of security properties	10
5.5.1 General	10
5.5.2 Trace properties	11
6 Cryptographic protocol assurance levels	12
6.1 General	12
6.2 Protocol Assurance Level 1	13
6.3 Protocol Assurance Level 2	13
6.4 Protocol Assurance Level 3	14
6.5 Protocol Assurance Level 4	14
6.6 Difference among Protocol Assurance Levels.....	14
6.7 Corresponding assurance levels in ISO/IEC 15408	15
7 Security Assessment and Verification	16
7.1 Protocol specification	16
7.1.1 PPS_SEMIFORMAL	16
7.1.2 PPS_FORMAL	17
7.1.3 PPS_MECHANIZED	17
7.2 Adversarial model	18
7.2.1 PAM INFORMAL.....	18
7.2.2 PAM_FORMAL	18
7.2.3 PAM_MECHANIZED.....	19
7.3 Security properties.....	20
7.3.1 General	20
7.3.2 PSP_INFORMAL	21
7.3.3 PSP_FORMAL	21
7.3.4 PSP_MECHANIZED	22
7.4 Self-assessment evidence for verification.....	23
7.4.1 General	23
7.4.2 PEV_ARGUMENT.....	23
7.4.3 PEV_HANDPROVEN.....	23
7.4.4 PEV_BOUNDED	24
7.4.5 PEV_UNBOUNDED	24

This is a preview of "ISO/IEC 29128:2011". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

8	Common Methodology for Cryptographic Protocols Security Evaluation	25
8.1	Introduction	25
8.2	Protocol specification evaluation	26
8.2.1	Evaluation of sub-activity (PPS_SEMIFORMAL)	26
8.2.2	Evaluation of sub-activity (PPS_FORMAL)	26
8.2.3	Evaluation of sub-activity (PPS_MECHANIZED)	26
8.3	Adversarial model evaluation	27
8.3.1	Evaluation of sub-activity (PAM_INFORMAL)	27
8.3.2	Evaluation of sub-activity (PAM_FORMAL)	27
8.3.3	Evaluation of sub-activity (PAM_MECHANIZED)	28
8.4	Security properties evaluation	28
8.4.1	Evaluation of sub-activity (PSP_INFORMAL)	28
8.4.2	Evaluation of sub-activity (PSP_FORMAL)	28
8.4.3	Evaluation of sub-activity (PSP_MECHANIZED)	29
8.5	Self-assessment evidence evaluation	29
8.5.1	Evaluation of sub-activity (PEV_ARGUMENT)	29
8.5.2	Evaluation of sub-activity (PEV_HANDPROVEN)	30
8.5.3	Evaluation of sub-activity (PEV_BOUNDED)	30
8.5.4	Evaluation of sub-activity (PEV_UNBOUNDED)	30
Annex A (informative)	Guidelines for Cryptographic Protocol Design	32
Annex B (informative)	Example of formal specification	34
B.1	Symbolic specification of security protocols	34
B.1.1	Abstraction level	34
B.1.2	Protocol specifications	35
B.2	State transitions	37
B.2.1	Attacker model	37
B.2.2	Configuration state	37
B.2.3	Traces	38
B.3	Trace properties	38
B.3.1	Secrecy	38
B.3.2	Authentication	39
Annex C (informative)	Verification examples	41
C.1	Sample protocol	41
C.2	Design artifacts	41
C.2.1	Input to protocol verification tool	42
C.2.2	Protocol Specification	43
C.2.3	Operating Environment	44
C.2.4	Security Properties	44
C.2.5	Evidence	44
C.3	Additional inputs for verification	47
Bibliography	49	

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Foreword

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International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

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Introduction

The security of digital communications is dependent on a number of aspects, where cryptographic mechanisms play an increasingly important role. When such mechanisms are being used, there are a number of security concerns such as the strength of the cryptographic algorithms, the accuracy and correctness of the implementation, the correct operation and use of cryptographic systems, and the security of the deployed cryptographic protocols.

Standards already exist for the specification of cryptographic algorithms, and for the implementation and test of cryptographic devices and modules. However, there are no standards or generally accepted processes for the assessment of the specification of protocols used in such communication. The goal of this International Standard is to establish means for verification of cryptographic protocol specifications to provide defined levels of confidence concerning the security of the specification of cryptographic protocols.