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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, SC 27, *Security techniques*.

Introduction

The protection of sensitive information does not rely solely on the implementation of software mechanisms employing cryptographic techniques, but also relies significantly on appropriate hardware implemented security devices that employ tamper detection and protection of critical security parameters (e.g. cryptographic keys, authentication data, etc.).

This is especially relevant for devices that may be installed, deployed or operated in hostile, untrusted, or non-secure environments, or for devices that contain high-value data assets.

An attacker may not be motivated by the economic value or the successful access to sensitive information, but simply the challenge of compromising a design or system that has been advertised as “secure”. The challenge to break the design gives such an attacker instant fame and recognition amongst peer groups.

Currently, much of the information in this area originates from disparate sources, may not be presented consistently, and may not address appropriate evaluation and testing techniques.