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Cybersecurity — Security recommendations for establishing trusted connections between devices and services

Cybersécurité — Recommandations de sécurité pour l'établissement de connexions de confiance entre dispositifs et services

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *Information Security, cybersecurity and privacy protection*.

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Introduction

With the development of the internet of things (IoT), mobile services, cloud computing, big data and artificial intelligence (AI), it is essential to establish trusted connections between devices and services in a growing number of scenarios.

Security channels [e.g. secure sockets layer (SSL) or transport layer security (TLS) protocols] are used between devices and services to protect confidentiality and integrity of data, but it is not enough. It is essential for the service to distinguish data collected by sensors of the authorized device from those of other devices or data forged by adversaries. Thus, the service should be able to ensure that the data comes from the authorized device.

In addition, it is crucial for the device to distinguish the genuine service from unintended services or malicious services. In this way, it should be able to reliably identify the genuine and intended service, in particular for cloud services, which may have thousands of such services running.

Identity without a reliable root of trust can be forged, so controls are critical to ensure the utilization of reliable roots of trust. The requirements for establishing reliable virtualized roots of trust are described in ISO/IEC 27070.

Mutual authentication between a device and a service is essential for preventing impersonation attacks. While insufficient in itself, remote attestation between a device and a service is also critical for protecting the data handling processes and establishing a security channel to prevent interception by an adversary on the communication network.

Data captured from sensors integrated in the device, input by users, or generated (or processed) by algorithms in the device should have a label and be digitally signed (or by other crypto mechanisms) using the device's particular key designed for this purpose, to protect the integrity and authenticity of the data. It is possible that services know the parameters of the sensor device which can help it to process the data. Trusted connections have a strong relationship with hardware security modules (HSM), trusted computing (TC), public key infrastructure (PKI) and certification authority (CA) technology. Trusted connection issues can be broken down into several sub-categories such as:

— hardware security modules to establish the reliable root of trust;

— identity of devices and services issued by trusted parties;

— mutual authentication and key establishment between devices and services to establish a security channel;

— mutual remote attestation (or environment assurance) between devices and services;

— data identity to keep the data integrity and authenticity long term.

This document proposes security recommendations for establishing trusted connections between devices and services, which would help the related organisations to set up HSM in devices (including mobile devices, PCs, or IoT devices) and in the infrastructure of cloud services. This document can help to build a trusted environment. This document can also help trusted third parties (i.e. CA) to issue certificates to devices and services, and help applications to mitigate against attacks and identify forged data from the sensors.

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Cybersecurity — Security recommendations for establishing trusted connections between devices and services

1 Scope

This document provides a framework and recommendations for establishing trusted connections between devices and services based on hardware security modules. It includes recommendations for components such as: hardware security module, roots of trust, identity, authentication and key establishment, remote attestation, data integrity and authenticity.

This document is applicable to scenarios that establish trusted connections between devices and services based on hardware security modules.

This document does not address privacy concerns.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 27070, *Information technology — Security techniques — Requirements for establishing virtualized roots of trust*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 27070 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1 Terms relating to cloud computing

3.1.1
cloud computing
paradigm for enabling network access to a scalable and elastic pool of shareable physical or virtual resources with self-service provisioning and administration on-demand

Note 1 to entry: Examples of resources include servers, operating systems, networks, software, applications, and storage equipment.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 22123-1:2023, 3.1.1, modified — note 2 to entry has been deleted.]

3.1.2
cloud service
capabilities offered via *cloud computing* (3.1.1) invoked using a defined interface

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 22123-1:2023, 3.1.2]

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