

## ARCHIVED PUBLICATION

The attached publication,

FIPS Publication 180-2  
(dated August 1, 2002),

was superseded on February 25, 2004 and is provided here only for historical purposes.

For the most current revision of this publication, see:

<http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/PubsFIPS.html#fips180-4>.

**Federal Information  
Processing Standards Publication 180-2**

**2002 August 1**

**Announcing the**

**SECURE HASH STANDARD**

Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-106), and the Computer Security Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-235).

- 1. Name of Standard:** Secure Hash Signature Standard (SHS) (FIPS PUB 180-2).
- 2. Category of Standard:** Computer Security Standard, Cryptography.
- 3. Explanation:** This Standard specifies four secure hash algorithms - SHA-1, SHA-256, SHA-384, and SHA-512 - for computing a condensed representation of electronic data (message). When a message of any length  $< 2^{64}$  bits (for SHA-1 and SHA-256) or  $< 2^{128}$  bits (for SHA-384 and SHA-512) is input to an algorithm, the result is an output called a message digest. The message digests range in length from 160 to 512 bits, depending on the algorithm. Secure hash algorithms are typically used with other cryptographic algorithms, such as digital signature algorithms and keyed-hash message authentication codes, or in the generation of random numbers (bits).

The four hash algorithms specified in this standard are called secure because, for a given algorithm, it is computationally infeasible 1) to find a message that corresponds to a given message digest, or 2) to find two different messages that produce the same message digest. Any change to a message will, with a very high probability, result in a different message digest. This will result in a verification failure when the secure hash algorithm is used with a digital signature algorithm or a keyed-hash message authentication algorithm.

This standard supersedes FIPS 180-1, adding three algorithms that are capable of producing larger message digests. The SHA-1 algorithm specified herein is the same algorithm that was specified previously in FIPS 180-1, although some of the notation has been modified to be consistent with the notation used in the SHA-256, SHA-384, and SHA-512 algorithms.

- 4. Approving Authority:** Secretary of Commerce.
- 5. Maintenance Agency:** U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Information Technology Laboratory (ITL).

**6. Applicability:** This standard is applicable to all Federal departments and agencies for the protection of sensitive unclassified information that is not subject to section 2315 of Title 10, United States Code, or section 3502(2) of Title 44, United States Code. This standard shall be implemented whenever a secure hash algorithm is required for Federal applications, including use by other cryptographic algorithms and protocols. The adoption and use of this standard is available to private and commercial organizations.

**7. Specifications:** Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 180-2, Secure Hash Standard (SHS) (affixed).

**8. Implementations:** The secure hash algorithms specified herein may be implemented in software, firmware, hardware or any combination thereof. Only algorithm implementations that are validated by NIST will be considered as complying with this standard. Information about the planned validation program can be obtained at <http://csrc.nist.gov/cryptval/> or from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Information Technology Laboratory, Attn: SHS Validation, 100 Bureau Drive Stop 8930, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930.

**9. Implementation Schedule:** This standard becomes effective on February 1, 2003.

**10. Patents:** Implementations of the secure hash algorithms in this standard may be covered by U.S. or foreign patents.

**11. Export Control:** Certain cryptographic devices and technical data regarding them are subject to Federal export controls. Exports of cryptographic modules implementing this standard and technical data regarding them must comply with these Federal regulations and be licensed by the Bureau of Export Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Applicable Federal government export controls are specified in Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 740.17; Title 15, CFR Part 742; and Title 15, CFR Part 774, Category 5, Part 2.

**12. Qualifications:** While it is the intent of this standard to specify general security requirements for generating a message digest, conformance to this standard does not assure that a particular implementation is secure. The responsible authority in each agency or department shall assure that an overall implementation provides an acceptable level of security. This standard will be reviewed every five years in order to assess its adequacy.

**13. Waiver Procedure.** Under certain exceptional circumstances, the heads of Federal agencies, or their delegates, may approve waivers to Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS). The heads of such agencies may redelegate such authority only to a senior official designated pursuant to Section 3506(b) of Title 44, U.S. Code. Waivers shall be granted only when compliance with this standard would

- a. adversely affect the accomplishment of the mission of an operator of a Federal computer system or
- b. cause a major adverse financial impact on the operator that is not offset by government-wide savings.

Agency heads may act upon a written waiver request containing the information detailed above. Agency heads may also act without a written waiver request when they determine that conditions for meeting the standard cannot be met. Agency heads may approve waivers only by a written decision that explains the basis on which the agency head made the required finding(s). A copy of each such decision, with procurement sensitive or classified portions clearly identified, shall be sent to: National Institute of Standards and Technology; ATTN: FIPS Waiver Decision, Information Technology Laboratory, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8900, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8900.

In addition, a notice of each waiver granted and each delegation of authority to approve waivers shall be sent promptly to the Committee on Government Operations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Government Affairs of the Senate and shall be published promptly in the Federal Register.

When the determination on a waiver applies to the procurement of equipment and/or services, a notice of the waiver determination must be published in the Commerce Business Daily as a part of the notice of solicitation for offers of an acquisition or, if the waiver determination is made after that notice is published, by amendment to such notice.

A copy of the waiver, any supporting documents, the document approving the waiver and any supporting and accompanying documents, with such deletions as the agency is authorized and decides to make under Section 552(b) of Title 5, U.S. Code, shall be part of the procurement documentation and retained by the agency.

**14. Where to Obtain Copies of the Standard:** This publication is available electronically by accessing <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/>. A list of other available computer security publications, including ordering information, can be obtained from NIST Publications List 91, which is available at the same web site. Alternatively, copies of NIST computer security publications are available from: National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.



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