

Committee on National Security Systems

CNSSI No. 4009
April 6, 2015



Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) Glossary

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National Manager

FOREWORD

1. The Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) Glossary Working Group convened to review and update the Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) Glossary, Committee on National Security Systems Instruction (CNSSI) No. 4009, dated April 2010. This revision of CNSSI No. 4009 incorporates many new terms submitted by the CNSS Membership. Most of the terms from the 2010 version of the Glossary remain, but a number of terms have updated definitions in order to remove inconsistencies among the communities.

2. The Glossary Working Group set several overall objectives for itself in producing this version:

- Use authoritative sources for definitions of terms. It is preferred that definitions originate from current authoritative sources, as this demonstrates both that the term is in active use and that the definition has been vetted by subject matter experts. Listing sources for terms also provides context and a reference for additional information. The glossary still contains terms where sources are not specified. For these terms, definitions will be considered organic. The majority of unsourced terms are from the CNSSI No. 4009 (2010) version, although some are newly introduced. These new terms are primarily emerging terms judged to be valuable to include in the glossary, but for whatever reason have not yet been defined in a published authoritative source.
- Continue to resolve differences between the definitions of terms used by the Department of Defense (DoD), Intelligence Community (IC), and Civil Agencies (e.g. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)); enabling all three to use the same glossary. This will allow for use of consistent terminology in documentation, policy, and process across these communities.
- Ensure consistency among related and dependent terms. These terms are linked through a suggestion to see the related term.
- Ensure any acronyms used in the terms and definitions also appear in the Acronyms appendix, and remove any acronyms judged to be outside of the scope of the glossary or no longer relevant.
- Ensure all documents referenced as sources in the terms and definitions also appear in the References appendix. Because of this, the number of references has grown from 29 in the 2010 version to over 150 in the current version. References not used as the source of terms and definitions were removed.

3. Many cyber terms are emerging. The Glossary Working Group has tried to include significant terms and definitions that have a useful distinction when compared to existing Information Assurance terms. All terms currently defined in CNSS issuances were reviewed for either inclusion or to replace current definitions in the Glossary. Not all terms appearing in CNSS issuances are within the scope of the CNSS Glossary or are relevant to a broad audience.

4. Some terms and definitions recommended by the community for inclusion were not

added to this version of the glossary. The main reasons for not adding new terms or definitions were ones of scope or lack of an authoritative source, where an organic definition was not deemed appropriate.

5. Many terms that are outdated or no longer necessary were removed from the glossary. Some of these had been labeled as Candidates for Deletion (C.F.D.) for several versions of the glossary, but continue to remain in this version. A term labeled "C.F.D." may be obsolete; however without the term, rationale and possible linkage to a new term, users of the glossary would have no indication the term is outdated or has been replaced by a new term.

6. We recognize an effective glossary must be in a continuous state of coordination and improvement. We encourage further community review and comments as new terms become significant and old terms fall into disuse or change meaning. The goal of the Glossary Working Group is to keep the CNSS Glossary relevant and a tool for commonality across the IA community.

7. Representatives of the CNSS may obtain copies of this instruction on the CNSS Web Page at <http://www.cnss.gov>.

FOR THE NATIONAL MANAGER:

/s/

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Table of Contents

Terms and Definitions.....	1
Annex A: Acronyms	134
Annex B: References	150

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