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[800-171 Comments] Comments on CUI Series Publications

Date: Thursday, September 15, 2022 5:58:11 PM

- 1. The scoring methodology in 800-171A can derive a score from multiple variables. For example, a score of 40 seems low, but with 110 controls and multiple assessment criteria there are hundreds of ways to arrive at the score of 40. Is there a plan to derive a score that is more objective than subjective?
- 2. Stabilization question- in recent months we have seen CMMC suggest changes to 800-171, we have seen 800-171A in contracts requiring attestation to SPRS, and we have seen 800-172. The origins are all to 800-53, will we see unification in these standards and guidance where each will apply and how 800-53 may be separate from contractor information systems? Many contracts imply 800-53 is required for contractor information systems as the standard is referenced, but the standard does not typically apply.
- 3. Will NIST simplify 'how' compliance is measured? All information systems are different, but most have similar characteristics.
- 4. Will 800-171 require organizations to keep a log of CUI located within the information system?
- 5. How will the requirements related to NIST 800-171 (800-171, 800-53, DFARS, ect...) be simplified for contractors?
- 6. How will FAR (52.204-21) and DFARS (252.204-7012) requirements for safeguarding information be rationalized? Some contracts reference both, some reference one or the other.
- 7. Will NIST recommend agencies adopt a common standard rather than each agency developing a standalone CUI program?

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