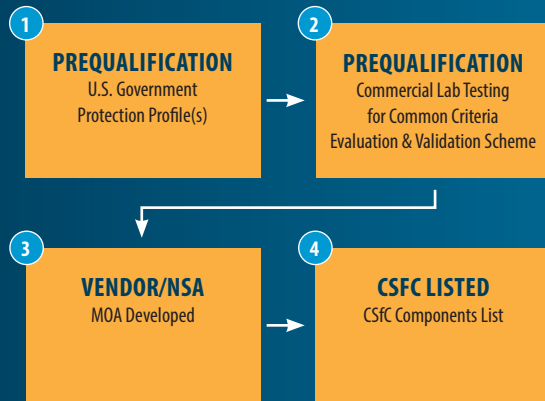# How Can Vendors Get Involved?

Vendors who wish to have their products eligible as CSfC components of a composed, layered IA solution, must build their products in accordance with the applicable USG Protection Profiles and submit their products using the Common Criteria process. NSA then enters into an agreement with the vendor which may stipulate other requirements for that particular technology.

THE CSFC COMPONENT INTAKE PROCESS:

1 PREQUALIFICATION
U.S. Government
Protection Profile(s)

→

2 PREQUALIFICATION
Commercial Lab Testing
for Common Criteria
Evaluation & Validation Scheme

3 VENDOR/NSA
MOA Developed

→

4 CSFC LISTED
CSfC Components List

Once products have met these requirements, NSA will add them to the CSfC-eligible commercial products list.

Contact Information

Industry Inquiries
410-854-6091
bao@nsa.gov

DoD/US Gov't Customer Inquiries
Customer Inquiries
410-854-4200

General Inquiries
CSfC PMO
csfc@nsa.gov

CFS U/OO/803159-16

Commercial Solutions for Classified (CSfC)

What is CSfC?

U.S. Government (USG) customers increasingly require immediate use of the market's most modern commercial hardware and software technologies within National Security Systems (NSS), in order to achieve mission objectives. Consequently, the National Security Agency/Central Security Service's (NSA/CSS) is developing new ways to leverage emerging technologies to deliver more timely Information Assurance (IA) solutions for rapidly evolving customer requirements. The NSA/CSS's Commercial Solutions for Classified (CSfC) process enables commercial products to be used in layered solutions to protect classified NSS information. This provides the ability to securely communicate, based on commercial standards, with a solution that can be fielded in months, versus years.

By leveraging commercially-based and traditional Government-Off-The-Shelf (GOTS) IA solutions, NSA's comprehensive IA strategy uses the right tool for the right job. Additionally, NSA's IA mission continues to support customers with existing GOTS IA solutions or needs that can only be met via GOTS.

What is a Capability Package?

NSA has developed, approved, and published solution-level specifications called Capability Packages (CP) and works with technical communities from across industry, governments, and academia to develop product-level requirements called USG Protection Profiles. Customers can register their solution with NSA by leveraging the CSfC process to build and test in accordance with the approved CP and selecting components from the CSfC Components List.

Following the specifications and using the information in a CP, customers/integrators make product selections to create an architecture with specific commercial products configured in a particular manner.
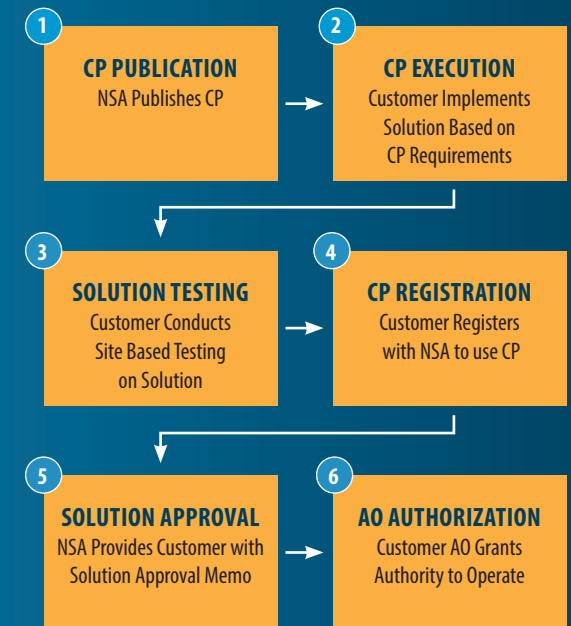
Capability Packages include:

- Capability's general description and security architecture
- Pointer to listing of eligible products
- Security roles of the products
- Overall System Security
- Requirements/Guidance for:
  - Customers/Integrators
  - Administrators
  - Testers
  - Certifiers/Accreditors
  - Interoperability
  - Key Management
  - Lifecycle Maintenance
- Classified Residual Risk Assessment (provided separately)

How Can You Get Involved?

For information or assistance in determining whether an approved CP satisfies your needs, USG customers (e.g., Department of Defense, the Intelligence Community, and Federal Agencies) can engage NSA through their designated External Engagement Representative. Integrators should coordinate through their USG contact.

THE CSFC PROCESS:

1 CP PUBLICATION
NSA Publishes CP

2 CP EXECUTION
Customer Implements Solution Based on CP Requirements

3 SOLUTION TESTING
Customer Conducts Site Based Testing on Solution

4 CP REGISTRATION
Customer Registers with NSA to use CP

5 SOLUTION APPROVAL
NSA Provides Customer with Solution Approval Memo

6 AO AUTHORIZATION
Customer AO Grants Authority to Operate

To learn more, go to
http://www.nsa.gov/resources/everyone/csfc