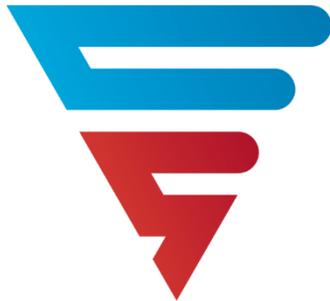




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National Security Agency/  
Central Security Service



# CYBERSECURITY SOLUTIONS

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## MULTI-SITE CONNECTIVITY CAPABILITY PACKAGE V1.1.8

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This Commercial Solutions for Classified (CSfC) Capability Package describes how to protect classified data in transit across an untrusted network using multiple encrypted tunnels implemented with Internet Protocol Security (IPsec), Media Access Control Security (MACsec), or both encryption protocols.

Version 1.1.8  
May 2021



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



## 24 CHANGE HISTORY

Title	Version	Date	Change Summary
Commercial Solutions for Classified (CSfC) Multi-Site Connectivity (MSC) Capability Package (CP)	0.8	4 May 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial release of CSfC Multi-Site Connectivity guidance.</li> </ul>
CSfC MSC Capability Package	1.0	23 February 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official release of CSfC MSC guidance.</li> </ul>
CSfC MSC Capability Package	1.1	26 June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocated Key Management Requirements from the CP to a separate "CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex".</li> <li>Updated requirements to use "must" instead of "shall."</li> <li>Minor administrative changes were made in formatting.</li> <li>Added bullet #6 to the "Security Administrator" definition.</li> </ul>
CSfC MSC Capability Package	1.1.8	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarified Logging</li> <li>Expanded Administrative Workstation Options</li> <li>Improved Community of Interest Separation Requirements</li> <li>Eliminated Transport Mode IPsec as an Alternate to Tunnel Mode IPsec</li> <li>Clarified Filtering Requirements</li> <li>Added Objective Requirements for Transport Flow Security (TRANSEC)</li> <li>IKEv2 for PSK</li> <li>Updated the CP to fully use the MKA feature set (Objective Requirements)</li> <li>Ensured clarification across the entire CP and supporting documents.</li> <li>Minor administrative changes made in editing and formatting</li> </ul>

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## 122 **1 INTRODUCTION**

123 The Commercial Solutions for Classified (CSfC) program within the National Security Agency (NSA)  
124 Cybersecurity Directorate (CSD) publishes Capability Packages (CPs) to provide configurations that allow  
125 customers to independently implement secure solutions using layered Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS)  
126 products. The CPs are vendor-agnostic and provide high-level security and configuration guidance for  
127 customers and/or Solution Integrators.

128 The NSA delivers the CSfC Multi-Site Connectivity (MSC) CP to meet the demand for data-in-transit  
129 solutions using approved cryptographic algorithms and National Information Assurance Partnership  
130 (NIAP) evaluated components. These algorithms, known as the Commercial National Security Algorithm  
131 (CNSA) Suite, are used to protect classified data using layers of COTS products.

132 While CSfC encourages industry innovation, trustworthiness of the components is paramount.  
133 Customers and their Integrators are advised that modifying a NIAP-validated component in a CSfC  
134 solution may invalidate its certification and require a revalidation process. To avoid delays, customers  
135 and Integrators who feel it is necessary to modify a component should engage the component vendor  
136 and consult NIAP through their Assurance Continuity Process ([https://www.niap-  
137 ccevs.org/Documents\\_and\\_Guidance/ccevs/scheme-pub-6.pdf](https://www.niap-ccevs.org/Documents_and_Guidance/ccevs/scheme-pub-6.pdf)) to determine whether such a  
138 modification will affect the component's certification.

139 In the case of a modification to a component, the NSA's CSfC Program Management Office (PMO)  
140 requires a statement from NIAP that the modification does not alter the certification, or the security of  
141 the component. Modifications that trigger the revalidation process include, but are not limited to;  
142 configuring the component in a manner different from its NIAP-validated configuration, and modifying  
143 the Original Equipment Manufacturer's code (to include digitally signing the code).

## 144 **2 PURPOSE AND USE**

145 This CP provides high-level reference designs and corresponding configuration information that allow  
146 customers to select COTS products from the CSfC Components List, available on the CSfC web page  
147 (<https://www.nsa.gov/resources/everyone/csfc>), for their MSC Solution and then to properly configure  
148 those products to achieve a level of assurance sufficient for protecting classified data while in transit. As  
149 described in Section 10, customers must ensure that the components selected from the CSfC  
150 Components List permit the necessary functionality for the selected capabilities. As described in Section  
151 9, to successfully implement a solution based on this CP, all Threshold (T) requirements, or the  
152 corresponding Objective (O) requirements applicable to the selected capabilities, must be implemented.

153 Customers who want to use this CP must register their solution with the NSA. Additional information  
154 about the CSfC process is available on the CSfC web page.



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



155 Please provide comments on usability, applicability, and/or shortcomings to your NSA External  
156 Engagement Representative and the MSC CP Maintenance Team at [msc\\_cp@nsa.gov](mailto:msc_cp@nsa.gov).

157 MSC Solutions must also comply with Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) policies and  
158 instructions. Any conflicts identified between this CP and CNSS or local policy should be provided to the  
159 MSC CP Maintenance Team.

### 160 **3 LEGAL DISCLAIMER**

161 This CP is provided "as is." Any express or implied warranties, including but not limited to, the implied  
162 warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose are disclaimed. In no event must the  
163 United States (U.S.) Government be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, exemplary or  
164 consequential damages (including, but not limited to, procurement of substitute goods or services, loss  
165 of use, data, or profits, or business interruption) however caused and on any theory of liability, whether  
166 in contract, strict liability, or tort (including negligence or otherwise) arising in any way out of the use of  
167 this CP, even if advised of the possibility of such damage.

168 The User of this CP agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the U.S. Government, its agents and  
169 employees from every claim or liability (whether in tort or in contract), including attorney's fees, court  
170 costs, and expenses, arising in direct consequence of Recipient's use of the item, including, but not  
171 limited to, claims or liabilities made for injury to or death of personnel of User or third parties, damage  
172 to or destruction of property of User or third parties, and infringement or other violations of intellectual  
173 property or technical data rights.

174 Nothing in this CP is intended to constitute an endorsement, explicit or implied, by the U.S. Government  
175 of any particular manufacturer's product or service.

### 176 **4 DESCRIPTION OF MSC SOLUTION**

177 This CP describes a general MSC Solution to protect classified information as it travels across either an  
178 untrusted Network, or a different security level network. The solution supports interconnecting two or  
179 more networks operating at the same security level via encryption tunnels, where the security level  
180 encompasses the classification level, list of compartments, dissemination controls, and other such  
181 controls over information. The solution provides sufficient flexibility to be applicable to many use cases  
182 of MSC implementations.

183 The MSC Solution uses two nested, independent encryption tunnels to protect the confidentiality and  
184 integrity of data as it transits the untrusted network. The two encryption tunnels protecting a data flow  
185 can use either Internet Protocol Security (IPsec) generated by a Virtual Private Network (VPN) Gateway  
186 or Media Access Control Security (MACsec) generated by a MACsec Device. VPN Gateways and MACsec  
187 Devices are implemented as part of the Network infrastructure.

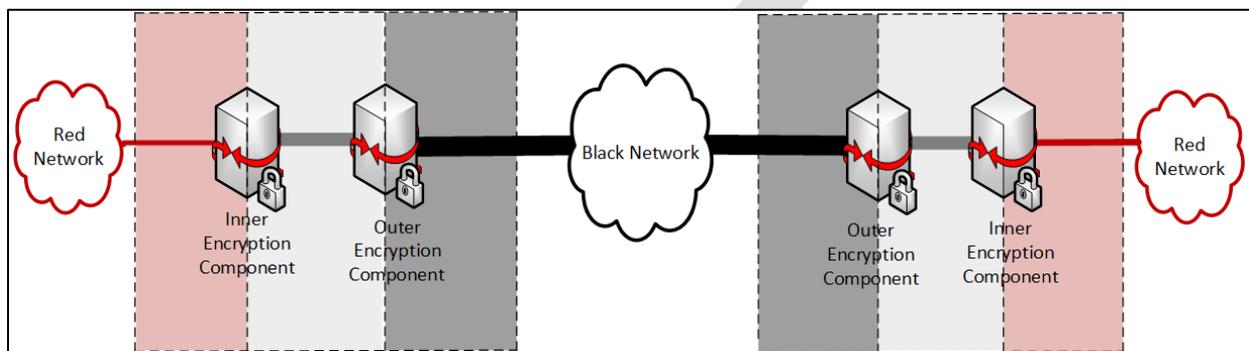


# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



188 Throughout this CP, the term “Encryption Component” refers generically to either a VPN Gateway or a  
189 MACsec Device. “Inner Encryption Component” refers to the component that terminates the Inner layer  
190 of encryption and “Outer Encryption Component” refers to the component that terminates the Outer  
191 layer of encryption.

192 As shown in Figure 1, before being sent across the untrusted network, each packet or frame of classified  
193 data is encrypted twice; first by an Inner Encryption Component, and then by an Outer Encryption  
194 Component. At the other end of the data flow, the received packet is correspondingly decrypted twice;  
195 first by an Outer Encryption Component, and then by an Inner Encryption Component.



196

**Figure 1. Two Encryption Tunnels Protect Data Across an Untrusted Network**

197

198 The MSC CP instantiations are built using products from the CSfC Components List (see Section 10).  
199 Customers who are concerned that their desired products are not yet on the CSfC Components List are  
200 encouraged to contact the appropriate vendors to encourage them to sign a Memorandum of  
201 Agreement with the NSA and commence evaluation against a NIAP-approved Protection Profile using  
202 the CSfC mandated selections that will enable them to be listed on the CSfC Components List. NIAP  
203 Certification alone does not guarantee inclusion on the CSfC Components List. Products listed on the  
204 CSfC Components List are not guaranteed to be interoperable with all other products on the CSfC  
205 Components List. Customers and Integrators should perform interoperability testing to ensure the  
206 components selected for their MSC Solution are interoperable. If you need assistance obtaining vendor  
207 Point of Contact (POC) information, please email [csfc\\_components@nsa.gov](mailto:csfc_components@nsa.gov).

## 208 4.1 NETWORKS

209 This CP uses the following terminology to describe the various networks in an MSC Solution and the  
210 types of traffic present on each. The terms Red, Gray, and Black refer to the level of protection applied  
211 to the data as described below.

### 212 4.1.1 RED NETWORK

213 Red data consists of unencrypted classified data. The Red Network is logically located behind an Inner  
214 Encryption Component. The networks connected to one another through the MSC Solution are Red  
215 Networks. Red Networks are under the control of the Solution Owner or a trusted third party. Red



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



216 Networks may only communicate with one another through the MSC Solution if the networks operate at  
217 the same security level.

## 218 **4.1.2 GRAY NETWORK**

219 Gray data is classified data that has been encrypted once. Gray Networks are composed of Gray data  
220 and Gray Management Services. Gray Networks are under the physical and logical control of the  
221 Solution Owner or a trusted third party.

222 The Gray Network is physically treated as a classified network even though all classified data is singly  
223 encrypted. If a Solution Owner's classification authority determines that the data on a Gray Network is  
224 classified, perhaps by determining the Internet Protocol (IP) addresses used on the Gray Network  
225 interfaces are classified at some level, then the MSC Solution described in this CP cannot be  
226 implemented, as it is not designed to ensure that such information will be afforded two layers of  
227 protection.

228 Gray Network components consist of the Outer Encryption Component, Gray Firewall, and Gray  
229 Management Services. All Gray Network components are physically protected at the same level as the  
230 Red Network components of the MSC Solution. Gray Management Services are physically connected to  
231 the Gray Firewall and include, at a minimum, an Management Workstation (MW) that can be a physical  
232 workstation or Virtual Machine (VM). The Gray Management Services may also include a Security  
233 Information and Event Management (SIEM) unless the SIEM is implemented in the Red Network in  
234 conjunction with a cross domain solution (CDS) (see Section 7). This CP requires the management of  
235 Gray Network components through a Gray MW. As a result, neither Red nor Black MWs are permitted  
236 to manage the Outer Encryption Component, Gray Firewall, or Gray Management Services. Additionally,  
237 the Gray MWs are prohibited from managing Inner Encryption Components. Inner Encryption  
238 Components must be managed from a Red MW.

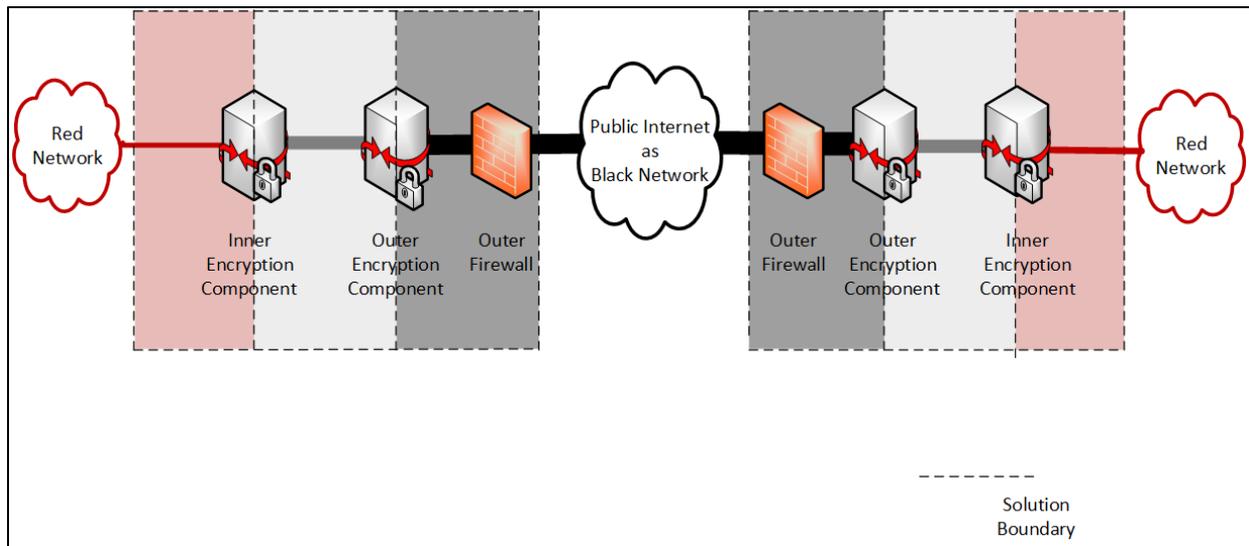
## 239 **4.1.3 BLACK NETWORK**

240 Black data is classified data that has been encrypted twice. The network connecting the Outer  
241 Encryption Components together is a Black Network. Black Networks may be referred to as Black  
242 transport networks. Black Networks are not necessarily (and often will not be) under the control of the  
243 Solution Owner, and may be operated by an untrusted third party. As shown in Figure 2, if the Black  
244 Network is the Public Internet, an Outer Firewall is required between the Black Network and the Outer  
245 Encryption Component.

246



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



247

248 **Figure 2. MSC Solution Using the Public Internet as the Black Transport Network**

#### 249 4.1.4 DATA, MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL PLANE TRAFFIC

250 Data plane traffic is classified information, encrypted or unencrypted, that is passed through the MSC  
251 Solution. The MSC Solution exists to encrypt and decrypt data plane traffic. All data plane traffic within  
252 the Gray and Black Networks is encapsulated within the IPsec's Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)  
253 and/or MACsec protocols.

254 Management plane traffic is used to configure and monitor Solution Components. It includes the  
255 communications between a system administrator and a component, as well as the logs and other status  
256 information forwarded from a Solution Component to a SIEM, or similar repository. Management plane  
257 traffic on Red and Gray Networks is encapsulated within the Secure Shell version 2 (SSHv2), IPsec,  
258 MACsec, or Transport Layer Security (TLS) 1.2 or later protocols.

259 Control plane traffic consists of standard protocols necessary for the network to function. Unlike data  
260 or management plane traffic, control plane traffic is typically not initiated directly on behalf of a user or  
261 a system administrator. Examples of control plane traffic include, but are not limited to the following:

- 262 • Network address configuration (e.g., Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP), Neighbor  
263 Discovery Protocol (NDP))
- 264 • Address resolution (e.g., Address Resolution Protocol (ARP), NDP)
- 265 • Name resolution (e.g., Domain Name System (DNS))
- 266 • Time synchronization (e.g., Network Time Protocol (NTP), Precision Time Protocol)
- 267



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



- 268       • Route advertisement (e.g., Routing Information Protocol, Open Shortest Path First (OSPF),  
269       Intermediate System to Intermediate System, Border Gateway Protocol (BGP))
- 270       • Certificate status distribution (e.g., Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP), Hypertext Transfer  
271       Protocol (HTTP) download of Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs))

272       In general, this CP does not impose detailed requirements on control plane traffic, although control  
273       plane protocols may be used to implement certain requirements. For example, requirements MSC-SR-3  
274       and MSC-SR-4 (see Section 11.1) require that time synchronization be performed, but do not require the  
275       use of any particular time synchronization protocol or technique. Notable exceptions are for IPsec  
276       session establishment and for certain certificate status distribution scenarios where, given their impact  
277       on the security of the solution, this CP does provide detailed requirements. Restrictions are also placed  
278       on control plane traffic for the Outer Encryption Component. The Outer Encryption Component is  
279       prohibited from implementing routing protocols on external and internal interfaces. The Outer  
280       Encryption Component may not perform routing functionality. If an Outer Firewall is present, the Outer  
281       Firewall can perform routing functions.

282       Except as otherwise specified in this CP, the use of specific control plane protocols is left to the Solution  
283       Owner to approve. The Solution Owner must disable or block any unapproved control plane protocols.

284       Data plane and management plane traffic are required to be separated from one another by using  
285       physical or cryptographic separation. Use of a Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) alone is not sufficient  
286       to separate data plane and management plane traffic. As a result, a solution may, for example, have a  
287       Gray Data Network and a Gray Management Network that are separate from one another, where the  
288       components on the Gray Management Network are used to manage the components on the Gray Data  
289       Network. Unless otherwise specified given that some control plane traffic is necessary for a network to  
290       function, there is no general requirement that control plane traffic be similarly separated.

## 291       4.2     HIGH LEVEL DESIGN

292       Depending on the needs of the customer implementing the solution, the MSC Solution is adaptable to  
293       support capabilities for multiple sites and/or multiple security levels. If a customer does not have a  
294       need to support multiple sites or multiple security levels, then those elements need not be included as  
295       part of the implementation. As explained in Section 9, any implementation of the MSC Solution must  
296       satisfy all of the applicable requirements specified in this CP.

### 297       4.2.1   MULTIPLE SITES

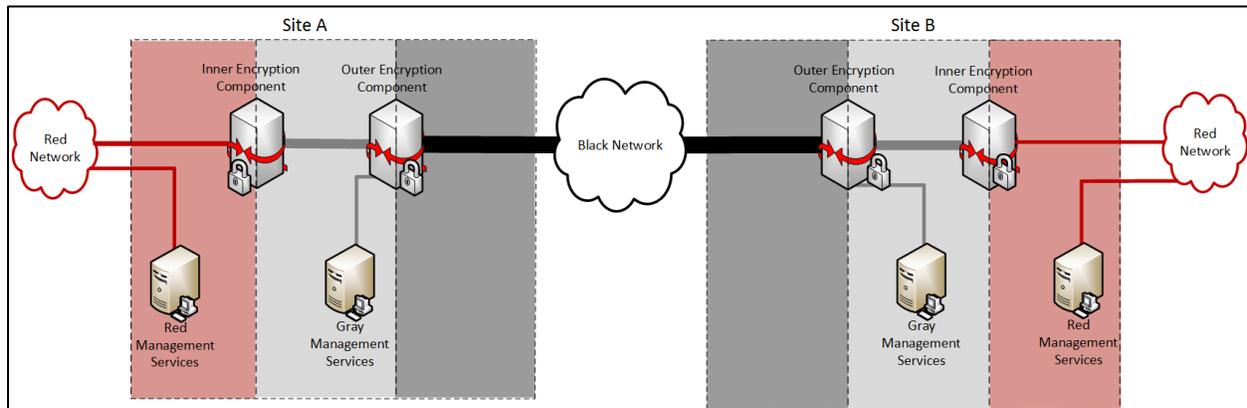
298       Figure 3 shows two Red Networks at different sites that operate at the same security level and  
299       connected to one another through the MSC Solution. Here, each Red Network has two Encryption  
300       Components associated with it; an Inner Encryption Component connected to the Red Network, and an  
301       Outer Encryption Component between the Inner Encryption Component and the Black Network.



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



302 There are two layers of encryption tunnels between any pair of sites communicating directly with one  
 303 another; one encryption tunnel between their Outer Encryption Components, and a second encryption  
 304 tunnel between their Inner Encryption Components. Each set of Inner or Outer Encryption Components  
 305 can provide encryption using either IPsec or MACsec.



306

**Figure 3. MSC Solution Connecting Two Independently Managed Sites**

307

308 There is no limit to the number of sites that may be incorporated into a single MSC Solution.

#### 309 4.2.1.1 Independently Managed Sites

310 Sites in the solution may be managed independently of one another, or may be remotely managed from  
 311 a central site.

312 For independently managed sites, each site performs the administration of its own Encryption  
 313 Components. If Certification Authorities (CAs) are part of the MSC Solution, each site has the option to  
 314 use either locally-run CAs that they manage and control or, where available, enterprise CAs that are not  
 315 necessarily managed by the Solution Owner. Each site needs to ensure that the Encryption Components  
 316 selected interoperate with those at the other sites.

317 Since there is no remote management, management traffic will not cross the Black Network, encrypted  
 318 or unencrypted. Any VPN Gateways at each site using public key certificates need to have the signing  
 319 certificates and revocation information for the corresponding CAs used by the other sites in the MSC  
 320 Solution. This high-level design requires cooperation between the various sites in the solution to ensure  
 321 that all CAs used by each site are trusted at all the other sites. Similarly, MACsec Devices using a  
 322 Connectivity Association Key (CAK) need to have the same CAK used by the other site in the MSC  
 323 Solution.

324 This model has the advantage of allowing communication between larger organizations that have a need  
 325 to share information while maintaining independence.



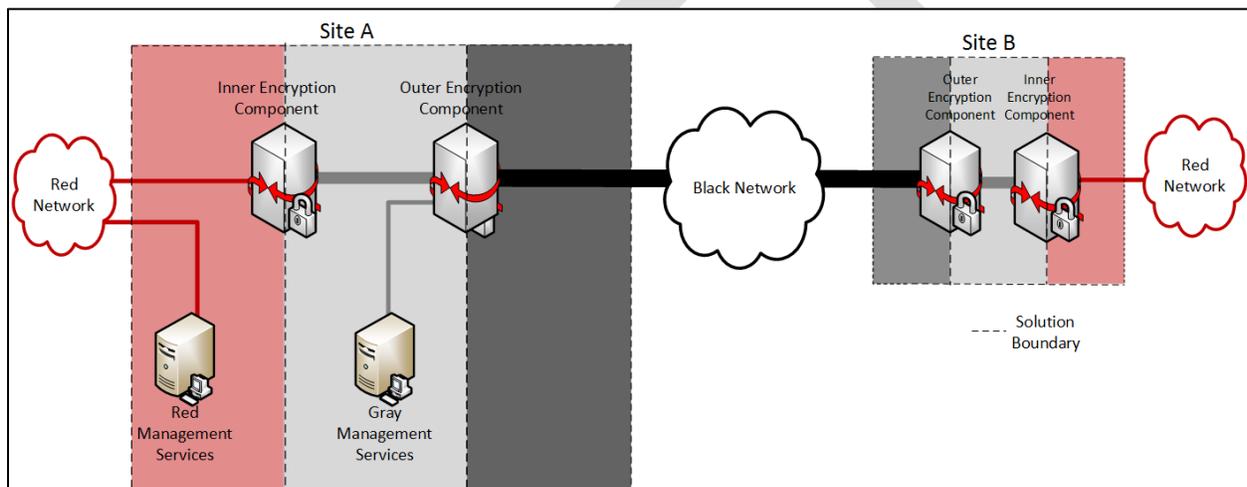
# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



326 Note that while Figure 3 shows only two sites, this solution can scale to include numerous sites, with  
327 each additional site having the same design as those in the Figure 3.

## 328 4.2.1.2 Centrally Managed Sites

329 As shown in Figure 4, if remote management is used, personnel at a single geographic site administer  
330 and perform keying for all the sites included in the solution. In this case, because the administration is  
331 done by one group of Security Administrators, CA Administrators, and Key Generation Solution  
332 Administrators (see Section 13), they can ensure the interoperability of each site as new sites are added.  
333 A maximum of two CAs are needed; one on the Red Network for all the Inner VPN Gateways and one on  
334 the Gray Management Network for all the Outer VPN Gateways. If available, enterprise CAs should be  
335 used. If MACsec Devices are used on either or both layers and EAP-TLS is used for authentication then  
336 CAs are required. Otherwise, if PSK is used for authentication, CAs are not required.



337

338 **Figure 4. MSC Solution Connecting a Central Management Site and a Remote Site**

339 Because the central management site manages the Encryption Components at the other sites over the  
340 network, encryption is used to logically separate data and management traffic as it passes between  
341 sites. Gray management traffic is encrypted using SSHv2, TLS 1.2 or later, IPsec, or MACsec before being  
342 routed through the Outer Encryption Component to the remote site. The SSHv2, TLS 1.2 or later, IPsec  
343 or MACsec serves as the inner layer of encryption for Gray management traffic, and the encryption  
344 tunnel provided by the Outer Encryption Component serves as the outer layer of encryption. Red  
345 management traffic is similarly encrypted before being routed through the Inner and Outer Encryption  
346 Components to another site. As a result, all management traffic between sites is encrypted at least  
347 twice before traversing the Black Network.

348 While Figure 4 shows only two sites, this solution can scale to include numerous sites, with each  
349 additional site having the same high-level design as the remotely managed site.



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



## 350 4.2.2 MULTIPLE SECURITY LEVELS

351 A single implementation of the MSC Solution may support Red Networks of different security levels. The  
352 MSC Solution provides secure connectivity between the Red Networks within each security level while  
353 preventing Red Networks of different security levels from communicating with one another. This  
354 enables a customer to use the same physical infrastructure to carry traffic from multiple networks.  
355 Although each Red Network requires its own Inner Encryption Component, a site may use a single Outer  
356 Encryption Component to encrypt and transport traffic that has been encrypted by Inner Encryption  
357 Components of varying security levels.

358 There is no limit to the number of different security levels that an MSC Solution may support. An  
359 unclassified network can also be included behind the Outer Encryption Component, but must be behind  
360 its own Inner Encryption Component and meet the requirements in this CP as if it was a Red Network.

361 MSC Solutions supporting multiple security levels may include independently managed sites (see Section  
362 4.2.1.1) or centrally managed sites (see Section 4.2.1.2). Given both cases, separate CAs, CAKeys, and  
363 management devices are needed to manage the Inner Encryption Components at each security level.  
364 For example, Figure 5 shows a Central Management Site and a Remote Site, but network 1 and network  
365 2 each has its own Red Management Services, which prevents the Inner Encryption Components of the  
366 two networks from being able to authenticate with one another.

### 367 4.2.2.1 Networks Operating at the Same Security Level

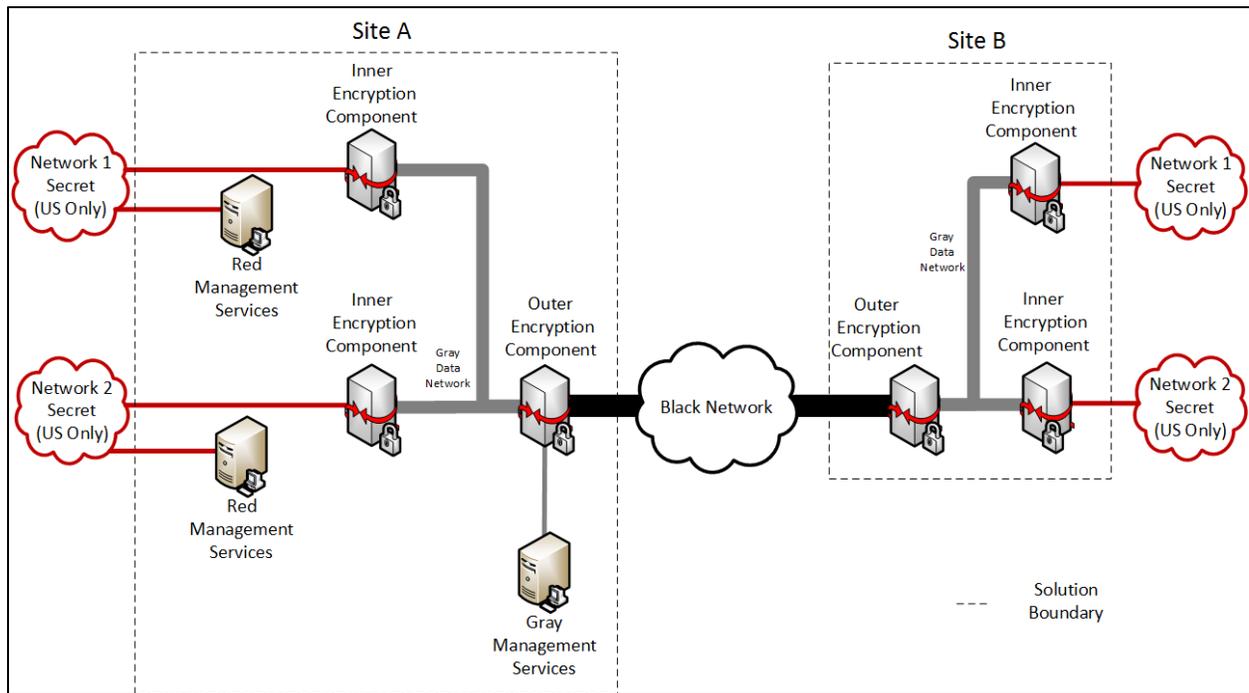
368 When Red Networks that operate at the same security level are implemented, the cryptographic  
369 separation provided by the Inner Encryption Components is sufficient to protect against unintended  
370 data flows between the two networks. Two Inner Encryption Components for networks of different  
371 security levels will be unable to mutually authenticate with each other because they trust different CAs  
372 that do not have a trust relationship with one another or they use different CAKeys that will not provide  
373 authentication. This difference prevents the establishment of an encryption tunnel between the two  
374 components.

375 Figure 5 shows an MSC Solution between two sites that carries traffic between two Red Networks; a  
376 Secret U.S.-only Network (Network 1), and a Secret U.S.-only Network (Network 2). Because Network 1  
377 and Network 2 both operate at the same security level, their singly-encrypted traffic can be carried over  
378 the Gray Network without any additional security controls in place.

379 Although not required by this CP, a Solution Owner may choose to implement the additional security  
380 described in Section 4.2.2.2 to provide additional protection against unintended data flows between Red  
381 Networks at the same security level.



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



382

383

**Figure 5. MSC Solution for Two Networks at the Same Security Level**

#### 384 4.2.2.2 Networks Operating at Different Security Levels

385 A single implementation of the MSC Solution may support Red Networks of different security levels, to  
 386 include unclassified networks. The MSC Solution provides secure connectivity between the Red  
 387 Networks within each security level while preventing Red Networks of different security levels from  
 388 communicating with one another. This enables a customer to use the same infrastructure to carry  
 389 traffic from multiple networks.

390 For Red Networks of different security levels, the cryptographic separation of their traffic on a Gray  
 391 Network, as described in Section 4.2.2.1, is still present. However, because the consequences of an  
 392 unintended data flow between different security levels are more severe than of one with a single  
 393 security level, an additional mechanism is necessary to prevent such a flow from occurring.

394 This CP uses packet filtering within Gray Networks as an additional mechanism to prevent data flows  
 395 between networks of different security levels. Any physical path through a Gray Network between  
 396 multiple Inner Encryption Components supporting Red Networks of different security levels must  
 397 include at least one filtering component. This filtering component restricts the traffic flow based  
 398 primarily on the Gray Network source and destination addresses, and only allows a packet through if the  
 399 source and destination components intend to communicate with one another and drops the packet if  
 400 they are not.

401



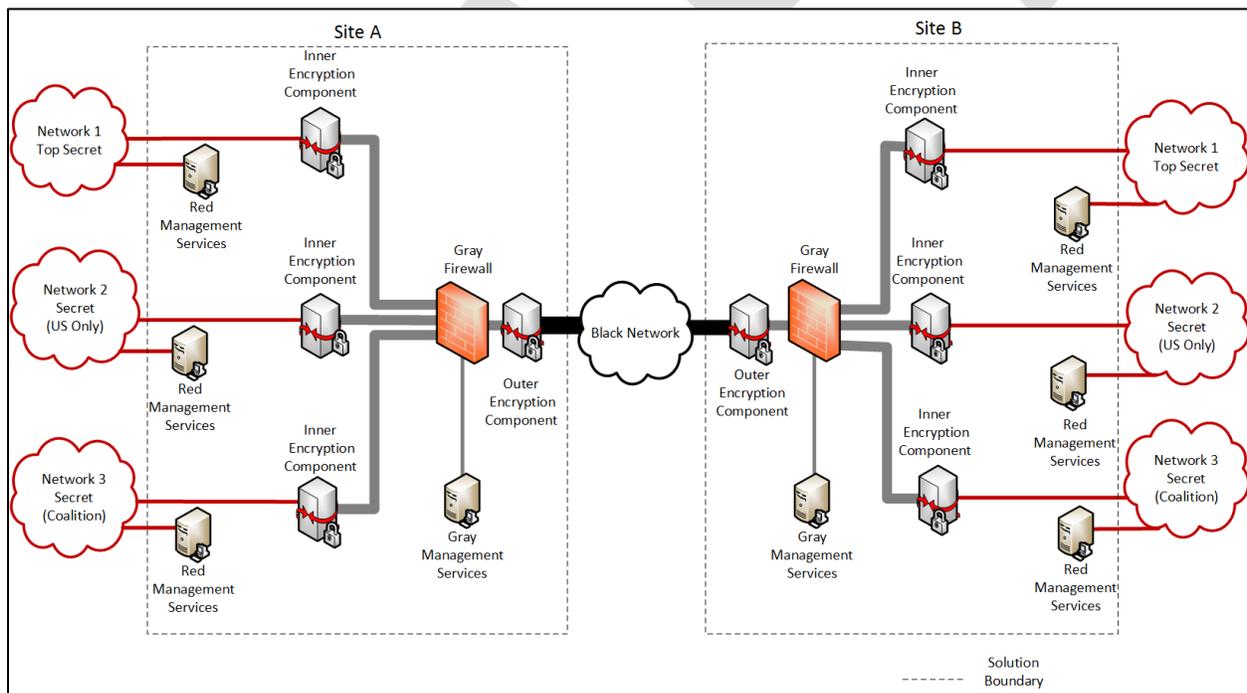
# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



402 When multiple security levels are used, it is critical to enforce proper IP address assignment and firewall  
 403 rule sets. The IP address assigned must be unique to that security level such that each network's Inner  
 404 Encryption Component is only able to send and receive traffic to its respective Inner Encryption  
 405 Component at the other site.

406 Additionally, filtering components are included between the components used for management of the  
 407 Gray Networks themselves (namely, Administration Management Workstation (MWs) and locally-run  
 408 CAs) and Inner Encryption Components that support Red Networks of a lower security level than the Red  
 409 Network with the highest security level supported by the solution. In other words, MWs and locally-run  
 410 CAs on Gray Networks are treated as, and grouped with, the Inner Encryption Component for the Red  
 411 Network with the highest security level.

412 As shown in Figure 6, one or more Gray Firewalls must be included in the Gray Network to perform  
 413 filtering. Standalone Gray Firewalls have been placed at each site between the Inner Encryption  
 414 Components and the Outer Encryption Component; these Gray Firewalls are responsible for dropping  
 415 packets between Inner Encryption Components of different security levels.



416

**Figure 6. MSC Solution for Networks at Different Security Levels**

417

418 Figure 6 also shows there is flexibility in the specific placement of Gray Firewalls, as long as any path  
 419 between Inner Encryption Components for networks of different security levels includes a Gray Firewall.

420

421 Including one or more standalone Gray Firewalls in a solution does not remove the requirement to  
 perform the filtering on the Outer Encryption Component as well. Outer Encryption Components are



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



422 uniquely positioned to block traffic between Inner Encryption Components supporting Red Networks of  
423 different security levels when one of those Inner Encryption Components is located at a different site.

### 424 4.2.3 LAYERING OPTIONS

425 Each layer of the MSC Solution can use either an IPsec tunnel or MACsec tunnel. An IPsec tunnel is  
426 established between VPN Gateways. A MACsec tunnel is established between MACsec Devices. Table 1  
427 identifies four different layering options provided by this CP. For configurations 2 and 4 which utilize an  
428 outer MACsec tunnel these solutions would only be point to point solutions instead of a multi-site  
429 solution.

430 **Table 1. Layering Options**

Configuration	Inner Tunnel	Outer Tunnel
1	IPsec	IPsec
2	IPsec	MACsec
3	MACsec	IPsec
4	MACsec	MACsec

431  
432 MACsec was designed to provide hop-to-hop security within a Local Area Network (LAN). As MACsec-  
433 encrypted traffic arrives at an interface, it is typically decrypted, examined, and re-encrypted after  
434 determining its destination.

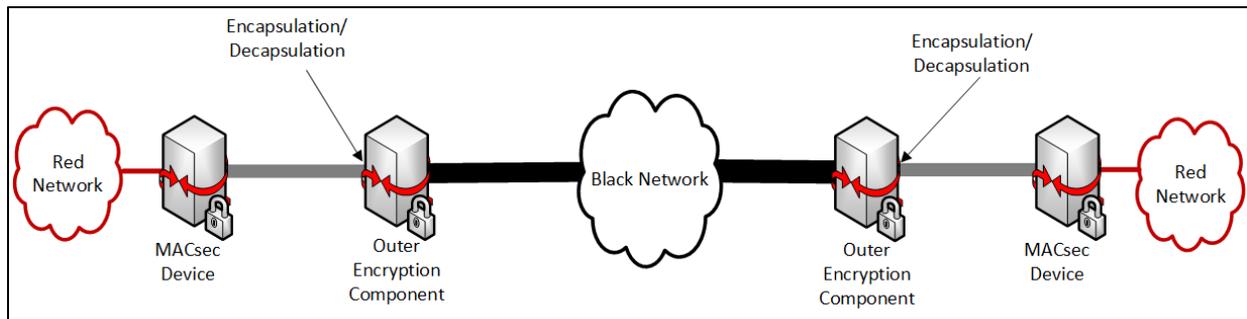
435 The MACsec-encrypted traffic needs to be encapsulated if the MACsec Device is the first layer of  
436 encryption in the MSC Solution or if the MACsec-encrypted traffic needs to traverse an IP-based  
437 network. Encapsulation creates a new packet by adding a new header, and sometimes trailer, to the  
438 MACsec-encrypted traffic. Encapsulation ensures the MACsec-encrypted traffic is not decrypted prior to  
439 reaching its destination and ensures the second layer of encryption can be applied.

440 In some commercial MACsec Devices, encapsulation can be applied on the internal interface by creating  
441 a pseudowire (see Figure 7), which emulates a point-to-point connection. If this feature is not  
442 supported, a standalone device is needed to encapsulate the MACsec-encrypted data (see Figure 8). If  
443 using a standalone device, the internal interface will be connected to the Inner MACsec Device and the  
444 external interface will be connected to the Outer Encryption Component. Since this device resides in  
445 the Gray Network, all requirements for Solution Components must be implemented.

446 This CP does not mandate the use of a specific protocol for encapsulation. Options include, but are not  
447 limited to, Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol version 3, and Ethernet over Multiprotocol Label Switching.



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package

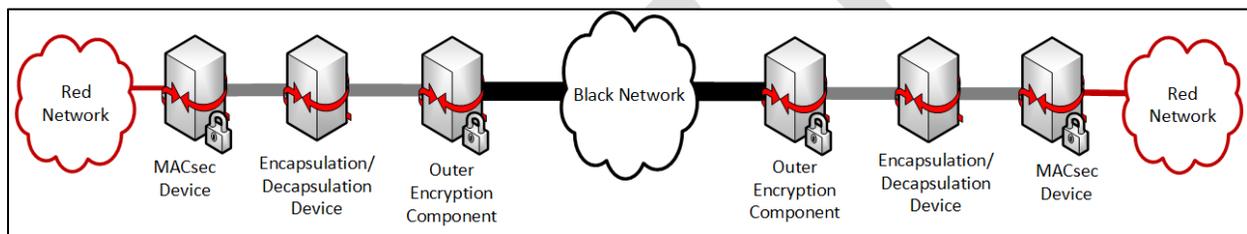


448

**Figure 7. Encapsulating MACsec on an Internal Interface**

449

450



451

**Figure 8. Encapsulating MACsec with a Separate Device**

452

453 There are some scenarios where the MACsec-encrypted traffic needs additional encapsulation before it  
 454 is passed through the Outer Encryption Component to the Black Network. In these scenarios, this  
 455 additional step falls outside the boundary of the MSC Solution. However, it is highly recommended to  
 456 apply the general device management (DM) and port filtering requirements for Solution Components.

457 In the current MACsec standard, the entire frame is encrypted with the exception of the source and  
 458 destination addresses. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 802.1Aecg-2017 provides  
 459 the option of moving the Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) identification (ID) tag out of the encrypted  
 460 payload and into the clear in the header. The benefits of moving the VLAN ID tag into the clear include  
 461 service multiplexing (i.e., multiple point-to-point or multipoint services existing on a single physical  
 462 interface) and providing quality of service across a Service Provider’s network. If supported in the  
 463 MACsec Device, this CP allows VLAN ID tags to be used in the clear.

464 At high speeds, some MACsec Devices may be configured to use an eXtended Packet Number (XPN), as  
 465 described in IEEE 802.1Aebw-2013. Without XPN, the unique packet numbers may be exhausted quickly  
 466 at high speeds and re-keying at high speeds may interrupt traffic flow. If supported in the MACsec  
 467 Device, this CP allows the XPN feature to be used.



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## 468 4.2.4 AUTHENTICATION

469 The MSC Solution provides mutual device authentication between Outer Encryption Components and  
470 between Inner Encryption Components. The method of authentication is different for VPN Gateways  
471 and MACsec Devices.

472 VPN Gateways authenticate via public key certificates. This CP requires all authentication certificates  
473 issued to VPN Gateways to be Non-Person Entity certificates. This CP also requires an Inner CA when  
474 the Inner Encryption Component is a VPN Gateway and an Outer CA when the Outer Encryption  
475 Component is a VPN Gateway.

476 MACsec Devices authenticate using a Pre-Shared Key (PSK) called a CAK. This CP requires all CAKs and  
477 their associated Connectivity Key Names (CKNs) to be generated using an NSA-approved Key Generation  
478 Solution (KGS). For each MACsec tunnel, a Key Server is identified. The Key Server authenticates the  
479 other MACsec Device and issues a Secure Association Key to provide confidentiality and integrity for the  
480 MACsec tunnel.

## 481 4.3 OTHER PROTOCOLS

482 Throughout this CP, when IP traffic is discussed, it can refer to either Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4)  
483 or Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) traffic, unless otherwise specified, as the MSC Solution is agnostic to  
484 most named data handling protocols. In addition, Red, Gray and Black Networks can run either IPv4 or  
485 IPv6, and each network can independently make that decision. In the remainder of the CP, if no  
486 protocols or standards are specified then any appropriate protocols may be used to achieve the  
487 objective.

488 Public standards conformant Layer 2 control protocols, such as ARP, are allowed as necessary to ensure  
489 the operational usability of the network. Public standards conformant Layer 3 control protocols, such as  
490 Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP), may be allowed based on local Authorizing Official (AO)  
491 policy, but the default configuration of this solution is for all Layer 3 control protocols to be disabled.  
492 Red and Gray Network multicast messages and Internet Group Management Protocol or Multicast  
493 Listener Discovery may also be allowed depending on local AO policy. Multicast messages received on  
494 external interfaces of the Outer Encryption Component must be dropped.

495 The MSC Solution can be implemented to take advantage of standards-based routing protocols that are  
496 already used in the Black and/or Red Network. For example, networks that currently use Generic  
497 Routing Encapsulation (GRE), Multiprotocol Label Switching or OSPF protocols can continue to use these  
498 in conjunction with this solution to provide routing as long as the AO approves their use.

## 499 4.4 AVAILABILITY

500 The high-level designs described in Section 4.2 are not designed with the intent of automatically  
501 providing high availability. Supporting solution implementations where high availability is important is  
502 not a goal of this version of the CP. However, this CP does not prohibit adding redundant components in

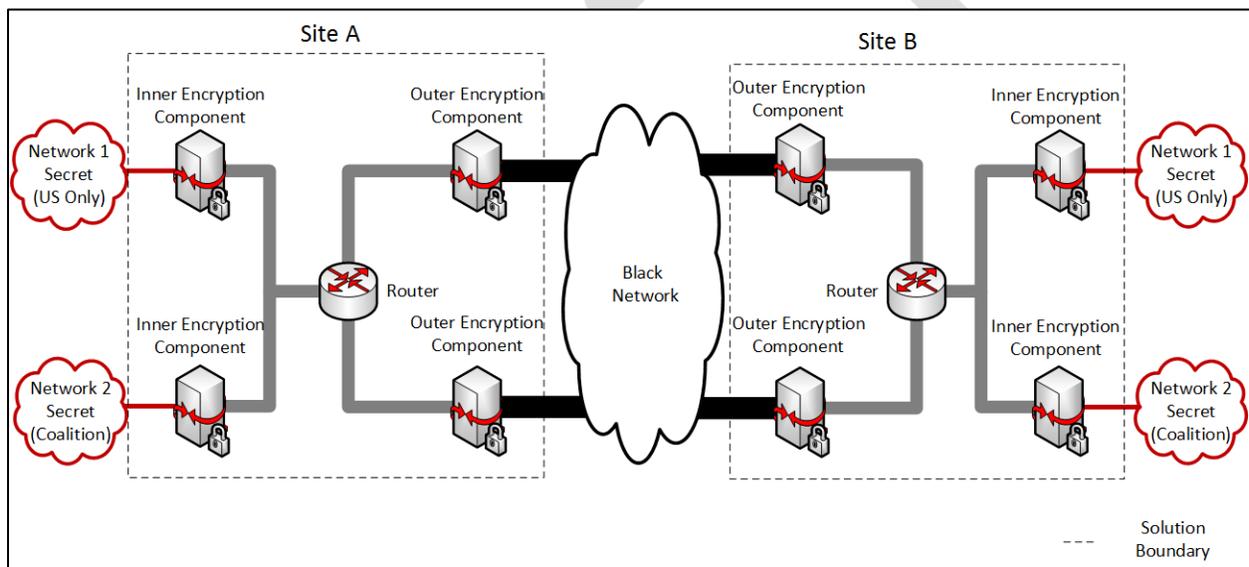


# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



503 parallel to allow for component failover or to increase the throughput of the MSC Solution, as long as  
504 each redundant component adheres to the requirements of this CP.

505 Figure 9 shows an MSC Solution between two sites where each site has a redundant Outer Encryption  
506 Component (Management components are omitted from the figure for clarity). There are two outer  
507 encryption tunnels that transit the Black Network; one between the upper pair of Outer Encryption  
508 Components, and one between the lower pair of Outer Encryption Components. Each site's Gray  
509 Network contains an ordinary router between the Inner and Outer Encryption Components that selects  
510 which Outer Encryption Component to route outbound packets. This router is part of the solution only  
511 in the sense that it is part of the network infrastructure of the Gray Network; this CP does not levy any  
512 security requirements on the router/switch. The MSC Solution can maintain connectivity between the  
513 two sites even if one of the Outer Encryption Components fails because traffic will be routed through  
514 the tunnel that has not failed.



515

**Figure 9. MSC Solution with Redundant Outer Encryption Components**

516

517 Figure 9 shows a simple example of how redundancy could be added, if needed, for an MSC Solution.  
518 Implementing standby or failover Encryption Components, performing load balancing between  
519 Encryption Components, or other techniques to improve the availability or throughput of the solution  
520 are outside the scope of this CP and are not discussed further.

## 521 5 SOLUTION COMPONENTS

522 In the high-level designs discussed in section 4.2, all communications flowing across a Black Network are  
523 protected by at least two layers of encryption, implemented using IPsec tunnels generated by VPN  
524 Gateways or MACsec tunnels generated by MACsec Devices. Mandatory aspects of the solution also



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525 include MWS, CAs for key management using Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), a KGS for generating CAKeys,  
526 and Gray Firewalls when networks of different security levels share the same Outer Encryption  
527 Component.

528 Each Solution Component is described in more detail below. The descriptions include information about  
529 the security provided by the components as evidence for why they are deemed necessary for the  
530 solution. Components are selected from the CSfC Components List in accordance with the Product  
531 Selection requirements of this CP (see Section 10).

532 All the individual components within the solution must be physically protected to the level of the  
533 connected network with the highest classification/protection level. The only exception to this  
534 requirement would be the Outer Firewall if one is present in the solution.

535 Additional components, discussed in the *CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex*, can be added to  
536 the solution to help reduce the overall risk. However, these are not considered mandatory components  
537 for the security of the solution; therefore, this CP does not place configuration or security requirements  
538 on those components.

## 539 5.1 OUTER FIREWALL

540 An MSC Solution that uses the Public Internet as its Black Network must include an Outer Firewall (see  
541 Section 4.1.3). The Outer Firewall is located at the edge of the MSC Solution and is connected to the  
542 Black Network.

543 The external interface of the Outer Firewall only permits IPsec or MACsec traffic with a destination  
544 address of the Outer Encryption Component.

545 The internal interface of the Outer Firewall only permits IPsec or MACsec traffic with a source address of  
546 the Outer Encryption Component and any necessary control plane traffic. The minimum requirements  
547 for port filtering on the Outer Firewall can be found in Section 11.6.

548 As shown in Figure 2, the Outer Firewall, selected from the CSfC Components List, must be physically  
549 separate from the Outer Encryption Component.

## 550 5.2 OUTER ENCRYPTION COMPONENT

551 The Outer Encryption Component can be either a VPN Gateway or a MACsec Device. The Outer  
552 Encryption Component establishes an encrypted tunnel using IPsec or MACsec with peer Outer  
553 Encryption Components, which provides device authentication, confidentiality, and integrity of  
554 information traversing Black Networks.

555 If the Black Network is the Public Internet, the external interface of the Outer Encryption Component is  
556 connected to the internal interface of the Outer Firewall. Otherwise, the external interface of the Outer



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557 Encryption Component is connected to the Black Network. The internal interface of the Outer  
558 Encryption Component is connected to Gray Firewalls, if required, or Inner Encryption Components.

559 The Outer Encryption Component may be a perimeter device (if the Outer Firewall is not present) and  
560 more exposed to external attacks. The Outer Encryption Component may use internal filtering to help  
561 protect the network from unauthenticated traffic. This allows specification of rules that prohibit  
562 unauthorized data flows, which helps mitigate Denial of Service attacks and resource exhaustion. This  
563 CP does not require that the Outer Encryption Component terminate all tunnels on a single physical  
564 interface; however, all such external interfaces must conform to the port filtering requirements in  
565 Section 11.6. The Outer Encryption Component is implemented identically for all the high-level designs  
566 covered in this CP.

567 Outer Encryption Components are also responsible for filtering traffic on its Gray Network interfaces to  
568 prevent Inner Encryption Components for networks of the same security level from being able to send  
569 packets to one another. Since this filtering is primarily based on the source and destination addresses in  
570 the packet on a Gray Network, the Gray Network itself must use an addressing scheme that supports the  
571 necessary filtering (such as using separate address ranges for the Gray interfaces of Inner Encryption  
572 Components supporting each Red Network).

573 The Outer Encryption Component is prohibited from implementing routing protocols on external and  
574 internal interfaces and must rely on an Outer Firewall or Gray Firewall to provide dynamic routing  
575 functionality. The Outer Encryption Component, selected from the CSfC Components List, must be  
576 physically separate from the Outer Firewall and Gray Firewall.

577 The Outer Encryption Component cannot route packets between Gray and Black Networks; any packets  
578 received on a Gray Network interface and sent out on a Black Network interface must be transmitted  
579 within an IPsec or MACsec tunnel configured according to this CP. Management traffic on a Gray  
580 Network, which originates from the Administration Workstation, must include two layers of encryption  
581 as described in this CP.

582 For load balancing or other performance reasons, multiple Outer Encryption Components that comply  
583 with the requirements of this CP are acceptable.

## 584 5.3 GRAY FIREWALL

585 The Gray Firewall is located between the Outer Encryption Component and Inner Encryption  
586 Component(s). As described in Section 4.2.2.2, an MSC Solution that supports multiple Red Networks of  
587 different security levels must include one or more Gray Firewalls. The Gray Firewall blocks any packets  
588 sent between Inner Encryption Components for Red Networks of different security levels. A Gray  
589 Firewall also blocks any packets sent between management components on the Gray Network and Inner  
590 Encryption Components for Red Networks that operate at a security level other than the highest security  
591 level of data protected by the solution. Gray Firewalls are physically protected as classified devices.



# Multi-Site Connectivity Capability Package



592 As shown in Figure 6, a standalone Gray Firewall, selected from the CSfC Components List, must be  
593 physically separate from the Outer Encryption Component and Inner Encryption Component. A Gray  
594 Firewall would typically only be used in solutions where the physical design of the Gray Network  
595 includes paths between Inner Encryption Components for Red Networks of different security levels that  
596 do not pass through the Outer Encryption Components. Effectively, each Gray Firewall is another  
597 instance of the Gray Network filtering performed by the Outer Encryption Component. For load  
598 balancing or other performance reasons, multiple Gray Firewalls that comply with the requirements of  
599 this CP are acceptable.

## 600 5.4 GRAY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

601 Secure administration of components in the Gray Network and continuous monitoring of the Gray  
602 Network are essential roles provided by the Gray Management Services. Gray Management Services are  
603 composed of multiple components that provide distinct security to the solution. This CP allows  
604 flexibility in the placement of some Gray Management Services as described below. The Gray  
605 Management Services are physically protected as classified devices.

### 606 5.4.1 GRAY MANAGEMENT WORKSTATION (MW)

607 The Gray MW maintains, monitors, and controls all security functionality for the Outer Encryption  
608 Component, Gray Firewall, and all Gray Management Service components. The Gray MW is not  
609 permitted to maintain, monitor, or control Inner Encryption Components or Red Management Services.  
610 All MSC Solutions must have at least one Gray MW.

### 611 5.4.2 GRAY SECURITY INFORMATION AND EVENT MANAGEMENT (SIEM)

612 The Gray SIEM collects and analyzes log data from the Outer Encryption Component, Gray Firewall, and  
613 other Gray Management Service components. Log data should be encrypted between the originating  
614 component and the Gray SIEM with SSHv2, TLS 1.2 or later, IPsec, or MACsec to maintain confidentiality  
615 and integrity of the log data. At a minimum, an auditor reviews the Gray SIEM on a daily basis. The  
616 SIEM is configured to provide alerts for specific events including if the Outer Encryption Component or  
617 Gray Firewall receives and drops any unexpected traffic that could indicate a compromise. These  
618 functions can also be performed on a Red SIEM using an approved CDS, as described in the *CSfC*  
619 *Continuous Monitoring Annex*.

620 A Gray SIEM is not a mandatory component of the MSC Solution.

## 621 5.5 INNER ENCRYPTION COMPONENTS

622 Inner Encryption Components can either be VPN Gateways or MACsec Devices. For load balance or  
623 other performance reasons, multiple Inner Encryption Components that comply with the requirements  
624 of this CP are acceptable.



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625 Similar to an Outer Encryption Component, an Inner Encryption Component provides authentication of  
626 peer VPN Gateways or MACsec Devices, cryptographic protection of data in transit, and configuration  
627 and enforcement of network packet handling rules.

628 Similar to the Outer Encryption Component, the external interface of the Inner Encryption Component  
629 only permits egress of IPsec/MACsec traffic and AO-approved control plane traffic. The internal  
630 interface of the Inner Encryption Component is configured to only permit traffic with an IP address and  
631 port associated with Red Network services.

632 The Inner Encryption Component must not route packets between Red and Gray Networks; any packets  
633 received on a Red Network interface and sent to a Gray Network interface must be transmitted within  
634 an IPsec or MACsec tunnel configured according to this CP. The Inner Encryption Component, selected  
635 from the CSfC Components List, must be physically separate from the Gray Firewall and Inner Firewall, if  
636 either are required by this CP.

637 When an Inner MACsec Device is used, the MACsec traffic needs to be encapsulated prior to being  
638 processed by the Outer Encryption Component, regardless of whether it is a VPN Gateway or a MACsec  
639 Device. Some VPN Gateways and MACsec Devices allow this encapsulation to occur on the incoming  
640 interface, prior to encrypting traffic for the outer tunnel. If the selected VPN Gateway or MACsec Device  
641 does not have this feature, a separate standalone router or switch is necessary to provide encapsulation  
642 and all requirements for Solution Components in this CP must apply to it. Any AO-approved  
643 encapsulation protocol may be used.

## 644 5.6 INNER FIREWALL

645 An Inner Firewall is located between the Inner Encryption Component and the Red Network. In this CP,  
646 an Inner Firewall is not required. If the MSC Solution is deployed with solutions from other CSfC CPs  
647 then those CPs will specify the Inner Firewall requirements.

## 648 5.7 RED MANAGEMENT SERVICES

649 Secure administration of Inner Encryption Components and continuous monitoring of the Red Network  
650 are essential roles provided by the Red Management Services. Red Management Services are composed  
651 of a number of components that provide distinct security to the solution. As described below, this CP  
652 allows flexibility in the placement of some Red Management Services.

### 653 5.7.1 RED ADMINISTRATION MANAGEMENT COMPONENTS

654 The Red MWs maintain, monitor, and control all security functions for the Inner Encryption  
655 Components, Inner Firewall, and all Red Management Service components. The Red MWs are not  
656 permitted to maintain, monitor, or control Outer Encryption Components or Gray Management  
657 Services. All MSC Solutions will have at least one Red MW.



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## 5.7.2 RED SECURITY INFORMATION AND EVENT MANAGEMENT (SIEM)

658 Red SIEMs collect and analyze log data and flow data from the Inner Encryption Components, the Inner  
659 Firewall and other Red Management Service components. Log data should be encrypted between the  
660 originating component and the Red SIEM with SSHv2, TLS 1.2 or later, IPsec, or MACsec to ensure  
661 confidentiality and integrity. At a minimum, an auditor reviews the Red SIEM on a daily basis. The SIEM  
662 is configured to provide alerts for specific events.  
663

664 While Red SIEMs are not mandatory components of the MSC Solution, customers are encouraged to  
665 leverage existing Enterprise SIEM capabilities to monitor log data from Inner Encryption Components  
666 and Red Management Services. Although a Red SIEM is not required, logs from all Inner Encryption  
667 Components are still required to be analyzed on at least a daily basis. As described in the *CSfC*  
668 *Continuous Monitoring Annex*, a Red SIEM may also be used to analyze log data from Gray Network  
669 components when used in conjunction with an approved CDS.

## 5.8 KEY AND CERTIFICATE MANAGEMENT COMPONENTS

670 Key Management Requirements have been relocated to a separate *CSfC Key Management Requirements*  
671 *Annex*.  
672

## 6 CONFIGURATION AND MANAGEMENT

673 This CP includes design details for the provisioning and management of Solution Components that  
674 require the use of Security Administrators to initiate certificate requests and Registration Authorities  
675 (RAs) to approve certificate requests. The MSC Solution Owner must identify authorized Security  
676 Administrators and RAs to initiate and approve certificate requests. The following sections describe the  
677 design in detail and Section 11.8 states specific configuration requirements that must be met to comply  
678 with this CP.  
679

### 6.1 COMPONENT PROVISIONING

680 Provisioning is an out-of-band process performed in a physically secured area (e.g., the Red Network  
681 location) where MSC Solution Components are configured and initialized before their first use. During  
682 the provisioning process, the Security Administrator configures the Outer Firewall, Outer Encryption  
683 Component, Gray Firewall, Gray Management Services, Inner Encryption Component, Red Management  
684 Services and Inner Firewall in accordance with the requirements of this CP.  
685

686 During provisioning, Outer VPN Gateways and Inner VPN Gateways generate a public/private key pair  
687 and output the public key in a Certificate Signing Request (CSR). The Security Administrator delivers the  
688 Outer VPN Gateway's CSR to the Outer CA and the Inner VPN Gateway's CSR to the Inner CA. The  
689 appropriate CA processes the CSR for each encryption component and returns a signed X.509 certificate.  
690 The Security Administrator then installs the unique signed certificate and the certificate chain, which  
691 consists of the signing CA's certificate and the Trust Anchor certificate (e.g., Root CA certificate). The  
692 Security Administrator may also install an initial CRL.



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## 693 6.2 ADMINISTRATION OF COMPONENTS

694 Each component in the solution has one or more MWs that maintain, monitor, and control all security  
695 functions for that component. It should be noted that all of the required administrative functionality  
696 does not need to be present in each individual management component, but the entire set of MWs  
697 must collectively meet administrative functionality requirements. Implementations may employ a SIEM  
698 in the Gray Management Services for log management of Gray infrastructure components except where  
699 AOs use a CDS to move Gray Network log data to a Red SIEM.

700 MWs may be virtual machines (VMs) on a physical host/server that is dedicated to hosting MWs VMs. A  
701 physical host/server that hosts MWs VMs must not host VMs that are used for enrollment or  
702 provisioning servers, certificate registrations, or SIEMs. A physical host/server that hosts MWs VMs may  
703 not host VMs used for non-CSfC purposes. If an MW is a physical workstation, then that workstation  
704 cannot also be used for provisioning, enrollment, certificate registrations, SIEM services, or for any non-  
705 CSfC functions. MWs (physical or virtual) must be configured, patched, and operated in accordance to  
706 the organizational or local policy. MWs must also be powered off when not in use.

707 Given the architecture of the solution, each layer has its own distinct administration LAN or VLAN; the  
708 Inner Encryption Component and supporting components are managed from the Red Management  
709 Services, and the Outer Encryption Component and supporting components are managed from the Gray  
710 Management Services.

711 The Gray MWs along with all Gray Management Services, are physically connected to the Gray Firewall,  
712 if required, or the Outer Encryption Component. The Gray Firewall maintains separate Access Control  
713 Lists (ACLs) to permit management traffic to/from the Gray Management Services, but prohibits such  
714 traffic from all other components. These ACLs ensure that approved management traffic is only capable  
715 of flowing in the intended direction. This architecture provides the separation necessary for two  
716 independent layers of protection.

717 Management traffic for all MSC Solution Components is always encrypted to protect confidentiality and  
718 integrity, except in the case where components are locally managed through a direct physical  
719 connection (e.g., serial cable from a Gray MW to the Outer Encryption Component). Management  
720 traffic must be encrypted with SSHv2, TLS 1.2 or later, IPsec or MACsec. When components are  
721 managed over the Black Network, a CSfC Solution must be implemented to provide two layers of  
722 approved encryption. This requirement is not applicable if the MSC Solution Components are managed  
723 from the same LAN or VLAN. For example, a Gray Administration Workstation residing within the Gray  
724 Management Services at the same site as the Outer Encryption Component need not use CNSA Suite  
725 algorithms since this traffic does not traverse an untrusted network.



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## 726 7 CONTINUOUS MONITORING

727 Continuous monitoring (CM) allows customers to detect, react to, and report any attacks against their  
728 solution. CM also enables the detection of configuration errors within Solution Components.

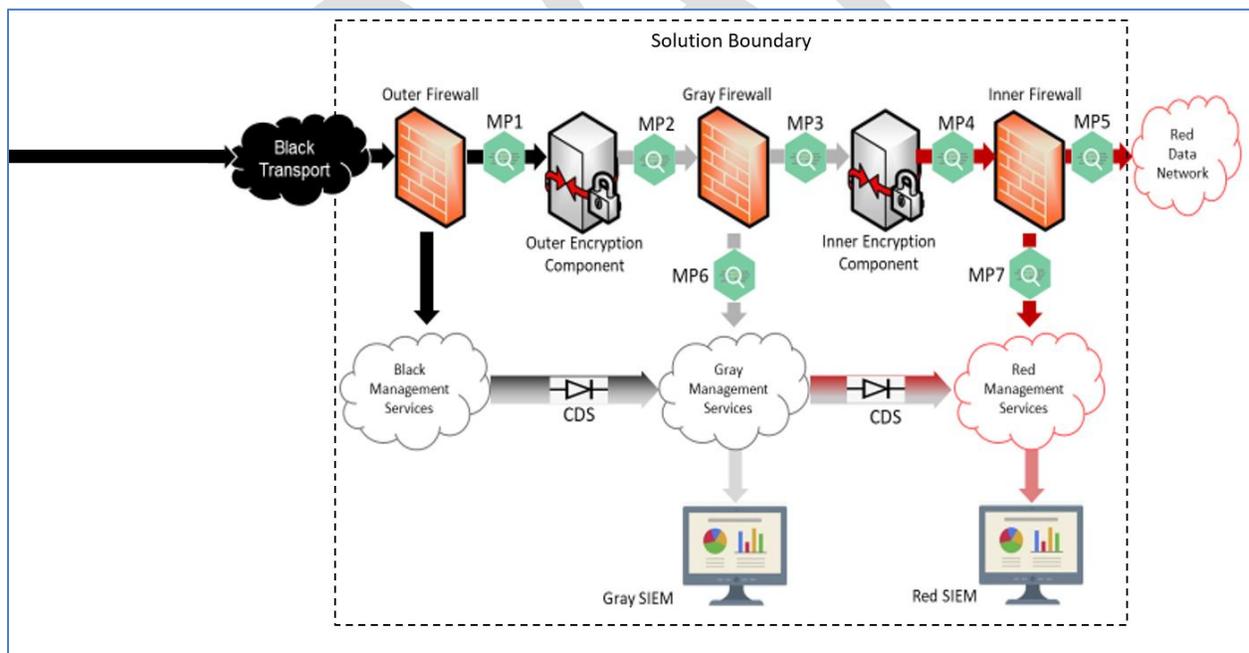
729 At a minimum, this CP requires an Auditor to review alerts, events, and logs on a daily basis. This  
730 minimum review period allows customers in tactical environments to implement solutions where it may  
731 not be feasible to perform real-time monitoring. Operational and strategic implementations of the MSC  
732 Solution, should have an Auditor review alerts, events, and logs on a much more frequent basis and in  
733 many cases may leverage Operations Centers to perform CM of the solution.

### 734 7.1 MONITORING POINTS

735 The MSC CP requires CM of all network traffic and system log data from the components within the  
736 solution infrastructure. This monitoring allows customers to detect, react to, and report any attacks  
737 against their solution. CM also enables the detection of any configuration errors within solution  
738 infrastructure components.

739 Figure 10 shows the monitoring points in the *CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex*. CM requirements  
740 have been relocated to the *CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex*.

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**Figure 10. MSC Solution Continuous Monitoring**



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## 744 **8 KEY MANAGEMENT**

745 Key Management (KM) Requirements have been relocated to a separate *CSfC Key Management*  
746 *Requirements Annex*.

## 747 **9 REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW**

748 Sections 10 through Section 14, and the *CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex*, specify  
749 requirements for implementations of MSC Solutions compliant with this CP. KM Requirements have  
750 been relocated to a separate *CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex*.

### 751 **9.1 THRESHOLD AND OBJECTIVE REQUIREMENTS**

752 Multiple versions of a requirement may exist in this CP, with alternative versions designated as being  
753 either a Threshold requirement or an Objective requirement.

- 754 • A Threshold (T) requirement specifies a feature or function that provides the minimal acceptable  
755 capability for the security of the solution.
- 756 • An Objective (O) requirement specifies a feature or function that provides the preferred  
757 capability for the security of the solution.

758 In general, when separate Threshold and Objective versions of a requirement exist, the Objective  
759 requirement provides a higher degree of security for the solution than the corresponding Threshold  
760 requirement. However, in these cases meeting the Objective requirement may not be feasible in some  
761 environments or may require components to implement features that are not yet widely available.  
762 Solution Owners are encouraged to implement the Objective version of a requirement, but in cases  
763 where this is not feasible Solution Owners may implement the Threshold version of the requirement  
764 instead. These Threshold and Objective versions are mapped to each other in the “Alternatives”  
765 column. Objective requirements that have no related Threshold requirement are marked as “None” in  
766 the “Alternatives” column.

767 In most cases there is no distinction between the Threshold and Objective versions of a requirement. In  
768 these cases, the “Threshold/Objective” column indicates that the Threshold equals the Objective (T=O).

769 Requirements that are listed as Objective in this CP may become Threshold requirements in a future  
770 version of this CP. Solution Owners are encouraged to implement Objective requirements where  
771 possible to facilitate compliance with future versions of this CP.

### 772 **9.2 REQUIREMENTS DESIGNATORS**

773 Each requirement defined in this CP has a unique identifier consisting of the prefix “MSC,” a digraph that  
774 groups related requirements together (e.g., “PS”), and a sequence number (e.g., 11). Table 2 lists the



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775 digraphs used to group together related requirements and identifies the sections where those  
776 requirement groups can be found.

777 **Table 2. Requirement Digraphs**

Digraph	Description	Section	Table
PS	Product Selection Requirements	Section 10	Table 3
SR	Overall Solution Requirements	Section 11.1	Table 4
VG	VPN Gateway Requirements	Section 11.2	Tables 5 & 6
MD	MACsec Device Requirements	Section 11.3	Table 7 & 8
IR	Additional Requirements for Inner Encryption Components	Section 11.4	Table 9
OR	Additional Requirements for Outer Encryption Components	Section 11.5	Table 10
PF	Port Filtering Requirements for Solution Components	Section 11.6	Table 11
CM	Configuration Change Detection Requirements (see <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> )		
DM	Device Management Requirements	Section 11.8	Table 12 <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b>
MR	Continuous Monitoring Requirements (see <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> )		
AU	Auditing Requirements (see <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> )		
GD	Requirements for the Use and Handling of Solutions	Section 12.1	Table 13
RP	Incident Reporting Requirements	Section 12.2	Table 14
RB	Role-Based Personnel Requirements	Section 13	Table 15
TR	Testing Requirements	Section 14.1	Table 16
KM	Key Management Requirements (See <i>CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex</i> )		

778 **10 REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTING COMPONENTS**

779 CPs provide architecture and configuration information that allows customers to select COTS products  
780 from the CSfC Components List for their solution and then to properly configure those products to  
781 achieve a level of assurance sufficient for protecting classified data. The CSfC Components List consists  
782 of eligible COTS products identified by model/version numbers that have met appropriate Protection  
783 Profile requirements.

784 The CSfC Components List, contains the approved products for use in this solution. No single  
785 commercial product must be used to protect classified information. The only approved method for  
786 using COTS products to protect classified information in transit is through an approved CP.



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787 Once the products for the solution are selected, each product must go through a Product Supply Chain  
788 Threat Assessment to determine the appropriate mitigations for the intended application of the  
789 component per the organization’s AO-approved Product Supply Chain Threat Assessment process (see  
790 CNSSD 505 Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) for additional guidance).

791 In this section, a series of requirements are given to maximize the independence between the  
792 components within the solution. The requirements in Table 3 will increase the level of effort required to  
793 compromise this solution.

794 **Table 3. Product Selection (PS) Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-PS-1	The products used for any VPN Gateway must be chosen from the list of IPsec VPN Gateways on the CSfC Components List.	T=O	
MSC-PS-2	The products used for any MACsec Device must be chosen from the list of MACsec Ethernet Encryptors on the CSfC Components List.	T=O	
MSC-PS-3	The products used for any Firewalls must be chosen from the list of Traffic Filtering Firewalls on the CSfC Components List.	T=O	
MSC-PS-4	The products used for any CA must either be chosen from the list of CAs on the CSfC Components List or the CAs must be pre-existing Enterprise CAs of the applicable network.	T=O	
MSC-PS-5	Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPSS) must be chosen from the list of IPS on the CSfC Components List.	O	None
MSC-PS-6	The Inner Encryption Component and the Outer Encryption Component must either; come from different manufacturers, where neither manufacturer is a subsidiary of the other; or be different products from the same manufacturer, where NSA has determined that the products meet the CSfC criteria for implementation independence.	T=O	
MSC-PS-7	The Inner Encryption Component and the Outer Encryption Component must not use the same Operating System. Differences between Service Packs and version numbers for a particular vendor's OS do not provide adequate diversity.	T=O	
MSC-PS-8	The cryptographic libraries used by the Inner Encryption Component and Outer Encryption Component must either; come from different manufacturers, where neither manufacturer is a subsidiary of the other; or be different libraries from	O	None



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
	the same manufacturer, where NSA has determined that the libraries meet the CSfC criteria for implementation independence.		
MSC-PS-9	If the solution contains an Inner CA and an Outer CA, the cryptographic libraries must either; come from different manufacturers, where neither manufacturer is a subsidiary of the other; or be different libraries from the same manufacturer, where NSA has determined that the libraries meet the CSfC criteria for implementation independence.	O	None
MSC-PS-10	If Gray Firewalls are used, the Gray Firewalls and Inner Encryption Components must either; come from different manufacturers, where neither manufacturer is a subsidiary of the other; or be two different products from the same manufacturer, where NSA has determined that the two products meet the CSfC criteria for implementation independence.	T=O	
MSC-PS-11	The Inner Encryption Component and Outer Encryption Component must use physically separate components, such that no component is used for more than one function.	T=O	
MSC-PS-12	If an Outer Firewall and/or Gray Firewall is required, the Outer Firewall, Outer Encryption Component, Gray Firewall and Inner Encryption Component must use physically separate components, such that no component is used for more than one function.	T=O	
MSC-PS-13	Black Network Enterprise PKI is prohibited from being used as the Outer or Inner tunnel CA.	T=O	
MSC-PS-14	If the solution contains an Inner CA and an Outer CA, the CAs must follow one of the following guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CAs come from different manufacturers, where neither manufacturer is a subsidiary of the other.</li> <li>The CAs are different products from the same manufacturer, where the NSA has determined that the products meet the CSfC criteria for implementation independence.</li> <li>The CAs use an Enterprise PKI approved by the AO.</li> </ul>	O	None
MSC-PS-15	Each component selected from the CSfC Components List must go through a Product Supply Chain Threat Assessment to determine the	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
	appropriate mitigations for the intended application of the component per the organization's AO-approved Product Supply Chain Threat Assessment process (see CNSSD 505 SCRM for additional guidance).		
MSC-PS-16	MSC Solution Components must be configured to use the NIAP-certified evaluated configuration.	T=O	

## 795 11 CONFIGURATION REQUIREMENTS

796 This section consists of generic guidance on how to configure the components of the MSC Solution.  
797 Once the products for the solution are selected, the next step is to set up the components and configure  
798 them in a secure manner.

### 799 11.1 OVERALL SOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

800 Table 4 defines the overall solution requirements for this CP.

801 **Table 4. Overall Solution Requirements (SR)**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-SR-1	Network services provided by control plane protocols (such as DNS and NTP) must be located on the inside network (i.e., Gray Network for Outer Encryption Component and Red Network for Inner Encryption Component).	T=O	
MSC-SR-2	Sites that need to communicate must ensure that Encryption Components selected by each site for each tunnel are interoperable.	T=O	
MSC-SR-3	The time of day on the Inner Encryption Component and Red Management Services must be synchronized to a time source located in the Red Network.	T=O	
MSC-SR-4	The time of day on the Outer Encryption Component, Gray Management Services and Gray Firewall (if present) must be synchronized to a time source located in the Gray Management Network.	T=O	
MSC-SR-5	Default accounts, passwords, community strings, and other default access control mechanisms for all Solution Components must be changed or removed.	T=O	
MSC-SR-6	All components must be properly configured in accordance with local policy and applicable U.S. Government guidance. In the event of conflict	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
	between the requirements in this CP and local policy, this CP takes precedence.		
MSC-SR-7	All physical paths within a Gray Network between Inner Encryption Components for Red Networks of different security levels must include a Gray Firewall.	T=O	
MSC-SR-8	All physical paths within a Gray Network between a CA, an Administration Workstation, or a CRL Distribution Point (CDP)/OCSP Responder and an Inner Encryption Component for Red Networks of different security levels must include a Gray Firewall.	T=O	
MSC-SR-9	Gray Network components must be physically protected to the level of the highest classified network.	T=O	
MSC-SR-10	The Outer Encryption Component must use a unique physical internal interface for each Red Network in the MSC Solution (i.e., VLAN trunking of multiple enclaves is not permitted).	T=O	
MSC-SR-11	A Gray Firewall is required if the MSC Solution is combined with another CSfC solution that requires a Gray Firewall.	T=O	
MSC-SR-12	If the MSC Solution uses the Public Internet for its Black transport network, an Outer Firewall must be located between the Black transport network and the Outer Encryption Component.	T=O	
MSC-SR-13	If the MSC Solution is combined with other CSfC data-in-transit solutions that include end user devices, the Inner Firewall requirements from that CP must be followed.	T=O	
MSC-SR-14	The only approved physical paths leaving the Red Network must be through a MSC Solution in accordance with this CP or via an AO-approved solution for protecting data in transit <sup>1</sup> .	T=O	
MSC-SR-15	Solution Components must receive virus signature updates as required by the local agency policy and the AO.	T=O	

<sup>1</sup> In some cases, the customer will need to communicate with other sites that have NSA-certified Government-off-the-Shelf products. In particular, it is acceptable for a given site to have both an egress path via an NSA-certified product and an egress path via a CSfC Solution conforming to a CP.



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-SR-16	When multiple Inner Encryption Components share an Outer Encryption Component, they must be placed in parallel.	T=O	
MSC-SR-17	Inner Encryption Components must not perform switching or routing for other Encryption Components.	T=O	
MSC-SR-18	Solution Components must only be configured over an interface dedicated for management.	T=O	
MSC-SR-19	DNS lookup services on network devices must be disabled.	O	None
MSC-SR-20	DNS server addresses on Solution Components must be specified or DNS services must be disabled.	T=O	
MSC-SR-21	Automatic remote boot-time configuration services must be disabled (e.g., automatic configuration via Trivial File Transfer Protocol on boot).	T=O	

## 802 11.2 VPN GATEWAY REQUIREMENTS

803 This section addresses requirements for VPN Gateways. Table 5 identifies the algorithms approved for  
804 IPsec encryption. Table 6 defines requirements for VPN Gateways.

805 **Table 5. IPsec Encryption (Approved Algorithms for Classified)**

Security Service	Algorithm Suite	Specifications
Confidentiality (Encryption)	Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)-256	FIPS PUB 197 IETF RFC 6379 IETF RFC 6380
Authentication (Digital Signature)	Rivest Shamir Adelman (RSA) 3072 or Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm over the curve P-384 with SHA-384	FIPS PUB 186-4 IETF RFC 4754 IETF RFC 6380 IETF RFC 7427
Key Exchange/ Establishment	Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman over the curve P-384 (Diffie-Hellman (DH) Group 20) or DH 3072	NIST SP 800-56A IETF RFC 3526 IETF RFC 5903 IETF RFC 6379 IETF RFC 6380 IETF RFC 7296
Integrity (Hashing)	SHA-384	FIPS PUB 180-4 IETF RFC 6379 IETF RFC 6380

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**Table 6. VPN Gateway (VG) Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-VG-1	The proposals offered by VPN Gateways in the course of establishing the Internet Key Exchange (IKE) Security Association and the Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP) SA for inner and outer tunnels must be configured to offer algorithm suite(s) containing only CNSA Suite algorithms (see Table 5).	T=O	
MSC-VG-2	Default, self-signed or proprietary device certificates, which are frequently preinstalled by the vendor, for any VPN Gateway must not be used for establishing SAs.	T	MSC-VG-3
MSC-VG-3	Default, self-signed or proprietary device certificates, which are frequently preinstalled by the vendor, for any VPN Gateway must be removed.	O	MSC-VG-2
MSC-VG-4	A unique device certificate must be loaded onto each VPN Gateway along with the corresponding CA certificate chain, to include the Trust Anchor CA certificate.	T=O	
MSC-VG-5	The private key stored on VPN Gateways must not be accessible through an interface.	T=O	
MSC-VG-6	A device certificate must be used for VPN Gateway authentication during IKE.	T=O	
MSC-VG-7	VPN Gateway authentication must include a check that the certificate is not revoked, which can include a CRL, OCSP Responder, Whitelist, or other similar revocation reporting mechanism.	T=O	
MSC-VG-8	The VPN Gateway authentication must include a check that certificates are not expired.	T=O	
MSC-VG-9	All VPN Gateways must use IKEv2 (IETF RFC 7296) key exchange.	T=O	
MSC-VG-10	All VPN Gateways must use Cipher Block Chaining for IKE encryption.	T=O	
MSC-VG-11	All VPN Gateways must use Cipher Block Chaining for ESP encryption with a Host-based Message Authentication Code for integrity.	T	MSC-VG-12
MSC-VG-12	All VPN Gateways must use Galois Counter Mode for ESP encryption.	O	MSC-VG-11
MSC-VG-13	All VPN Gateways must set the IKE SA lifetime to at most 24 hours.	T=O	
MSC-VG-14	All VPN Gateways must set the ESP SA lifetime to no more than 8 hours.	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-VG-15	Inner VPN Gateways must only authenticate and establish an IPsec tunnel with one another if their Red Networks operate at the same security level as defined in this CP.	T=O	
MSC-VG-16	All VPN Gateways must re-authenticate the identity of the VPN Gateway at the other end of the established tunnel before rekeying the IKE SA.	T=O	
MSC-VG-17	The Mandatory Access Control policy must only allow the VPN Gateway to access the private key of the VPN Gateway.	O	None
MSC-VS-18	All VPN Gateways must use IKEv2 (IETF RFC 7296) key exchange with Pre-Shared Keys (PSK)	O	

## 809 11.3 MACSEC DEVICE REQUIREMENTS

810 This section addresses requirements for MACsec Devices. Table 7 identifies the approved algorithms for  
811 MACsec encryption. Table 8 defines MACsec Device requirements.

812 **Table 7. MACsec Encryption (Approved Algorithms for Classified)**

Security Service	Algorithm Suite	Specifications
Confidentiality (Encryption)	Galois Counter Mode (GCM)- AES-256 GCM-AES-XPB-256	FIPS PUB 197 IEEE 802.1AEbn-2011 IEEE 802.1AEbw-2013
Key Wrap	AES Key Wrap	IETF RFC 3394

813 **Table 8. MACsec Device (MD) Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-MD-1	MACsec Devices must use AES Key Wrap for key distribution with a cryptographic key sizes of 256 bits.	T=O	
MSC-MD-2	MACsec Devices must use AES GCM for MACsec with a cryptographic key size of 256 bits.	T=O	
MSC-MD-3	MACsec Devices must authenticate using Pre-Shared Keys (PSKs), known as Connectivity Association Keys (CAKs).	T	MSC-MD-14
MSC-MD-4	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex</i> .	T=O	
MSC-MD-5	MACsec Devices must have the length of the CKN set to a minimum of 16 bytes (128 bits) and generate the CKN using an NSA-approved KGS.	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-MD-6	For each pair of MACsec Devices establishing an encryption tunnel, one of the two must be configured to be the Key Server by setting its Key Server value to 0 (zero). The other MACsec Device must have its Key Server value set to 1. If a Central Management Site is part of the MSC Solution, it must be the Key Server.	T=0	
MSC-MD-7	MACsec Devices must enable data delay protection for MACsec Key Agreement (MKA).	T=0	
MSC-MD-8	MACsec Devices must have an MKA Lifetime Timeout limit set to 6.0 seconds and Hello Timeout limit set to 2.0 seconds.	T=0	
MSC-MD-9	MACsec Devices must have the replay window set to 2 or as low as possible given the nature of the Black Network being traversed.	T=0	
MSC-MD-10	MACsec Devices must require all data traffic on an external facing port to be encrypted (e.g., must-secure).	T=0	
MSC-MD-11	MACsec Device configuration files, whether printed or electronically copied, must be physically protected to the highest classification of the MACsec Device's CAK.	T=0	
MSC-MD-12	MACsec Devices must have the Confidentiality Offset set to 0 (zero).	T=0	
MSC-MD-13	If a standalone device is required to provide encapsulation of MACsec traffic between an Inner MACsec Device and an Outer Encryption Component, the standalone device must be considered a Solution Component when satisfying requirements in Section 11.1.	T=0	
MSC-MD-14	MACsec Devices must authenticate using EAP-TLS (certificate based).	0	MSC-MD-3

## 814 11.4 ADDITIONAL INNER ENCRYPTION COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS

815 Table 9 defines additional Inner Encryption Component Requirements.

816 **Table 9. Additional Inner Encryption Component (IR) Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-IR-1	The Inner VPN Gateway must use ESP Tunnel mode IPsec, with an associated IP tunneling protocol.	T=0	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-IR-2	Packet sizes, or frames leaving the external interface of the Inner Encryption Component must be configured to reduce fragmentation and lessen the impact on performance. This requires proper configuration of the Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU) (for IPv4 or MACsec) or Path MTU (PMTU) (for IPv6) and should consider Black Network and Outer Encryption Component MTU/PMTU values to achieve this.	O	None
MSC-IR-3	The Inner Encryption Component must not allow packets received on an interface connected to a Red Network to bypass encryption and be forwarded out through an interface connected to a Gray Network.	T	MSC-IR-4
MSC-IR-4	The Inner Encryption Component must use a Mandatory Access Control policy to not allow packets received on an interface connected to a Red Network to bypass encryption and be forwarded out through an interface connected to a Gray Network.	O	MSC-IR-3
MSC-IR-5	The Inner Encryption Component must not allow packets received on an interface connected to a Gray Network to bypass decryption and be forwarded out through an interface connected to a Red Network.	T	MSC-IR-6
MSC-IR-6	The Inner Encryption Component must use Mandatory Access Control policy to not allow packets received on an interface connected to a Gray Network to bypass decryption and be forwarded out through an interface connected to a Red Network.	O	MSC-IR-5
MSC-IR-7	The Inner Encryption Component must not permit split-tunneling.	T=O	

## 817 11.5 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OUTER ENCRYPTION COMPONENTS

818 Table 10 defines additional Outer Encryption Components Requirements.

819 **Table 10. Additional Outer Encryption Components (OR) Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-OR-1	Outer VPN Gateways must use ESP Tunnel mode IPsec.	T=O	
MSC-OR-2	Outer Encryption Components must not allow packets received on an interface connected to a	T	MSC-OR-3



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
	Gray Network to bypass encryption and be forwarded out through an interface connected to a Black Network.		
MSC-OR-3	Outer Encryption Components must use Mandatory Access Control policy to not allow packets received on an interface connected to a Gray Network to bypass encryption and be forwarded out through an interface connected to a Black Network.	O	MSC-OR-2
MSC-OR-4	All traffic received by Outer Encryption Components on an interface connected to a Gray Network, with the exception of control plane traffic, must have already been encrypted once.	T=O	
MSC-OR-5	Outer Encryption Components must not allow any packets received on an interface connected to a Black Network to bypass decryption.	T	MSC-OR-6
MSC-OR-6	Outer Encryption Components must use Mandatory Access Control policy to not allow any packets received on an interface connected to a Black Network to bypass decryption.	O	MSC-OR-5
MSC-OR-7	The Outer Encryption Components must not permit split-tunneling.	T=O	
MSC-OR-8	Outer Encryption Components must not use routing protocols (e.g., OSPF, BGP).	T=O	

## 820 11.6 PORT FILTERING SOLUTION COMPONENTS REQUIREMENTS

821 Table 11 defines Port Filtering Solution Components Requirements.

822 **Table 11. Port Filtering (PF) Solution Components Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-PF-1	All Solution Components must have all network interfaces restricted to the smallest address ranges, ports, and protocols possible.	T=O	
MSC-PF-2	All Solution Components must have all unused network interfaces disabled.	T=O	
MSC-PF-3	For all Outer VPN Gateway interfaces connected to a Black Network, traffic filtering rules must be applied to both inbound and outbound traffic, such that only IKE, ESP, and control plane protocols (as defined in this CP) approved by organization-defined policy are allowed.	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-PF-4	For all Outer MACsec Device interfaces connected to a Black Network, traffic filtering rules must be applied to both inbound and outbound traffic, such that only MACsec Protocol Data Units and control plane protocols (as defined in this CP) approved by organization-defined policy are allowed.	T=O	
MSC-PF-5	For all Inner Encryption Component interfaces connected to a Gray Network, traffic filtering rules must be applied to both inbound and outbound traffic, such that only IKE, IPsec, MKA, MACsec, and control plane protocols (as defined in this CP) approved by organization-defined policy are allowed.	T=O	
MSC-PF-6	Any service or feature that allows an Outer Encryption Component to contact a third party server (such as one maintained by the manufacturer) must be blocked.	T	MSC-PF-7
MSC-PF-7	Any service or feature that allows an Outer Encryption Component to contact a third party server (such as one maintained by the manufacturer) must be disabled.	O	MSC-PF-6
MSC-PF-8	Management plane traffic must only be initiated from a Gray MW with the exception of logging or authentication traffic that may be initiated from Outer Encryption Components.	T=O	
MSC-PF-9	Multicast messages received on external interfaces of Outer Encryption Components must be dropped.	T=O	
MSC-PF-10	For solutions using IPv4, Outer VPN Gateways using IPsec must drop all packets that use IP options.	O	
MSC-PF-11	For solutions using IPv4, each VPN Gateway must only accept packets with Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), User Datagram Protocol (UDP), ESP, or ICMP in the IPv4 Protocol field and drop all other packets.	T=O	
MSC-PF-12	For solutions using IPv6, each VPN Gateway must only accept packets with ESP, TCP, UDP, or ICMPv6 in the IPv6 Next Header field and drop all other packets.	T=O	
MSC-PF-13	The Gray Network interfaces of Outer Encryption Components must allow IKE and IPsec, or MKA and MACsec traffic, as appropriate, between two Inner Encryption Components protecting networks of the	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
	same security level or that is being used for management of the Gray Network.		
MSC-PF-14	<i>Withdrawn</i>		
MSC-PF-15	The Gray Network interfaces of Outer VPN Gateways must allow HTTP traffic that is necessary to perform CRL checking for the Inner encryption layer (i.e., requests/replies between the Inner VPN Gateways and the CDPs/OCSP Responders) and block all other HTTP traffic. Refer to IETF RFC 5280 and IETF RFC 6960 for further details on this type of traffic.	T=0	
MSC-PF-16	<i>Withdrawn</i>		
MSC-PF-17	The Gray Network interfaces of Outer Encryption Components must only permit packets whose source and destination IP addresses match the external interfaces of Inner Encryption Components that support Red Networks of the same security level.	T=0	
MSC-PF-18	The Gray Network interfaces of Outer Encryption Components must block all packets whose source address does not match a list of addresses or address ranges known to be reachable from the interface where the packet was received.	T=0	
MSC-PF-19	The Gray Network interfaces of Outer Encryption Components must allow management and control plane protocols (as defined in this CP) that have been approved by policy.	T=0	
MSC-PF-20	The Gray Network interfaces of Outer Encryption Components must deny all traffic that is not explicitly allowed by requirements MSC-PF-8, MSC-PF-13, MSC-PF-14, MSC-PF-15, or MSC-PF-19.	T=0	
MSC-PF-21	CDPs/OCSP Responders must only allow inbound and outbound HTTP traffic per requirements MSC-PF-14, MSC-PF-15.	T=0	
MSC-PF-22	If an Outer Firewall is required, for all Outer Firewall interfaces, traffic filtering rules must be applied to both inbound and outbound traffic, such that only IKE, ESP, MKA, MACsec and control plane protocols (as defined in this CP) approved by organization-defined policy are allowed.	T=0	
MSC-PF-23	If a Gray Firewall is required (i.e., networks of multiple protection levels are included in the solution) the Gray Firewall must allow appropriate	T=0	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
	traffic (IKE, IPsec, MKA and MACsec) between Red Networks operating at the same security level.		
MSC-PF-24	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must allow HTTP traffic between Inner VPN Gateways and Inner CDP/OCSP Responder.	T	MSC-PF-25
MSC-PF-25	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must allow HTTP traffic that is necessary to perform CRL checking for the Inner encryption layer (i.e., requests/replies between the Inner VPN Gateways and CDPs/OCSP Responders) and block all other HTTP traffic. Refer to IETF RFC 5280 and IETF RFD 6960 for further details on this type of traffic.	O	MSC-PF-24
MSC-PF-26	<i>Withdrawn</i>		
MSC-PF-27	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must only accept management traffic on the physical ports connected to the Gray Management Network.	T=O	
MSC-PF-28	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must only permit packets whose source and destination IP addresses match the external interfaces of Inner Encryption Components that support Red Networks of the same security level.	T=O	
MSC-PF-29	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must block all packets whose source address does not match a list of addresses or address ranges known to be reachable from the interface where the packet was received.	T=O	
MSC-PF-30	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must allow control plane traffic (e.g., NTP, DHCP, and DNS).	T=O	
MSC-PF-31	If a Gray Firewall is required, the Gray Firewall must deny all traffic that is not explicitly allowed by requirements MSC-PF-23, MSC-PF- 24, MSC-PF-25, MSC-PF-27 or MSC-PF-30.	T=O	

## 823 11.7 CONFIGURATION CHANGE DETECTION REQUIREMENTS

824 Configuration Change Detection Requirements have been moved to the *CSfC Continuous*  
825 *Monitoring Annex*.

## 826 11.8 DEVICE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

827 Table 12 defines Device Management Requirements.

## 828 **Table 12. Device Management (DM) Requirements**



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-DM-1	If using physical Administration Workstations, they must be dedicated for the purposes given in this CP and must be physically separated from workstations used to manage non-CSfC solutions.	T=O	
MSC-DM-2	Administration Workstations (or hosts/servers hosting VMs serving as MWs) must physically reside within a protected facility where CSfC solution(s) are managed.	T=O	
MSC-DM-3	MWs must connect from an internal port. Specifically, the Inner Encryption Component must be managed from the Red Network, and the Outer Encryption Component and Gray Firewall, if present, must be managed from the Gray Network.	T=O	
MSC-DM-4	A separate LAN or VLAN on the Red Network must be used exclusively for all management of Inner Encryption Components and Solution Components within the Red Network.	T=O	
MSC-DM-5	A separate LAN or VLAN on the Gray Network must be used exclusively for all management of the Outer Encryption Component, Gray Firewall, if present, and Solution Components within the Gray Network.	T=O	
MSC-DM-6	The Gray Management Network must not be directly connected to the Non-secure Internet Protocol Router Network (NIPRNet) or any other Unclassified network not dedicated to the administration of CSfC solutions.	T=O	
MSC-DM-7	All components must be configured to restrict the IP address range for the network administration device to the smallest range possible. Note that locally managing Solution Components is also acceptable.	T=O	
MSC-DM-8	All administration of Solution Components must be performed from an MW remotely using an NSA-approved solution (e.g., CP or Type 1 encryptor), or by managing the Solution Components locally.	T=O	
MSC-DM-9	Security Administrators must authenticate to Solution Components before performing administrative functions.	T	MSC-DM-10
MSC-DM-10	Security Administrators must authenticate to Solution Components with CNSA Suite compliant certificates before performing administrative functions.	O	MSC-DM-9



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-DM-11	The MSC Solution Owner must identify the authorized Security Administrators to initiate certificate requests.	T=O	
MSC-DM-12	Authorized Security Administrators must initiate certificate signing requests for Solution Components as part of their initial keying within the solution.	T=O	
MSC-DM-13	Authentication of Security Administrators must be enforced by either procedural or technical means.	O	None
MSC-DM-14	MWs that interact with the Certificate Authority for the Outer VPN Gateways must be located on the Gray Network.	T=O	
MSC-DM-15	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex</i> .		
MSC-DM-16	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex</i> .		
MSC-DM-17	The same MW must not be used to manage Inner Encryption Components and Outer Encryption Components.	T=O	
MSC-DM-18	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> .		
MSC-DM-19	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> .		
MSC-DM-20	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> .		None
MSC-DM-21	Requirement has been relocated to the <i>CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex</i> .		None
MSC-DM-22	Outer Encryption Components must only be managed by Security Administrators cleared to at least the highest level of classification of each Red Network supported by the Outer Encryption Component at the physical site the Outer Encryption Component is located.	T=O	
MSC-DM-23	Hosts/servers for management VMs may not host VMs that perform non-CSfC functions	T=O	
MSC-DM-24	VMs that perform management services may not also perform other functions within the solution (i.e., provisioning, enrollment, CA registration, SIEM, etc. must be performed by separate workstations or VMs).	T=O	
MSC-DM-25	Management workstations (physical or virtual) must be configured, patched, and operated in accordance	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
	with applicable Operating System vendor hardening guide and the organizational or local policy.		
MSC-DM-26	Management workstations must be powered off when not in use.	T=O	
MSC-DM-27	The Management workstation must not also be used for provisioning, certificate registrations, and SIEM services.	T=O	
MSC-DM-28	Each MW admin must have a unique login credential. Group accounts are prohibited.	T=O	

## 829 11.9 CONTINUOUS MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

830 Continuous Monitoring Requirements have been moved to the *CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex*

## 831 11.10 AUDITING REQUIREMENTS

832 Auditing Requirements have been moved to the *CSfC Continuous Monitoring Annex*

## 833 11.11 KEY MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

834 Key Management Requirements are found in the *CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex*.

## 835 12 SOLUTION OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, AND HANDLING 836 REQUIREMENTS

### 837 12.1 USE AND HANDLING OF SOLUTIONS REQUIREMENTS

838 Table 13 defines the Use and Handling of the Solution Requirements.

839 **Table 13. Use and Handling of Solutions Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-GD-1	All Solution Components, with the exception of the Outer Firewall (if present), must be physically protected as classified devices, classified at the level of the network with the highest classification in the solution or in any other MSC Solutions with which it is interconnected.	T=O	
MSC-GD-2	Only authorized and appropriately cleared (or escorted) administrators and security personnel must have physical access to the Solution Components.	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-GD-3	All components of the solution must be disposed of as classified devices, unless declassified using AO-approved procedures.	T=0	
MSC-GD-4	Acquisition and procurement documentation must not include information concerning the purpose of the equipment, to include that it will be used to protect classified information.	T=0	
MSC-GD-5	The Solution Owner must allow, and fully cooperate with, the NSA or its authorized agent to perform an Information Assurance (IA) compliance audit (including, but not limited to, inspection, testing, observation, and interviewing) of the solution implementation to ensure it meets the latest version of this CP.	T=0	
MSC-GD-6	The AO will ensure that a compliance audit must be conducted every year against the latest version of this CP as part of the annual solution re-registration process.	T=0	
MSC-GD-7	Results of the compliance audit must be provided to, and reviewed by, the AO.	T=0	
MSC-GD-8	Customers interested in registering their solution against this CP must register with the NSA and receive approval prior to operating the solution.	T=0	
MSC-GD-9	The implementing organization must complete and submit an MSC CP requirements compliance matrix to their respective AO.	T=0	
MSC-GD-10	Registration and re-registration against this CP must include submission of CP registration forms and compliance matrix to the NSA.	T=0	
MSC-GD-11	When the NSA publishes a new approved MSC CP, the AO has six months to ensure their organization is in compliance with the new CP.	T=0	
MSC-GD-12	Solution implementation information that was provided to the NSA during solution registration must be updated annually (in accordance with Section 14.3) as part of the annual re-registration process.	T=0	
MSC-GD-13	Audit log data must be maintained for a minimum of 1 year.	T=0	
MSC-GD-14	The amount of storage remaining for audit events must be assessed by the Security Administrator quarterly to ensure that adequate memory space is available to continue recording new audit events.	T=0	
MSC-GD-15	Audit data must be off-loaded to a backup storage medium at least once a week.	T=0	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-GD-16	The implementing organization must develop a set of procedures to provide guidance for identifying and reporting security incidents associated with the audit events to the proper authorities and to the data owners.	T=O	
MSC-GD-17	The implementing organization must develop a continuity of operations plan for auditing capability that includes a mechanism or method for determining when the audit log is reaching its maximum storage capacity.	T=O	
MSC-GD-18	The implementing organization must develop a continuity of operations plan for auditing capability that includes a mechanism or method for off-loading audit log data for long-term storage.	T=O	
MSC-GD-19	The implementing organization must develop a continuity of operations plan for auditing capability that includes a mechanism or method for responding to an overflow of audit log data within a product.	T=O	
MSC-GD-20	The implementing organization must develop a continuity of operations plan for auditing capability that includes a mechanism or method for ensuring the audit log can be maintained during power events.	T=O	
MSC-GD-21	Strong passwords must be used that comply with the requirements of the AO.	T=O	
MSC-GD-22	The implementing organization must test and subsequently apply security critical patches to all components in the solution in accordance with local policy and this CP.	T=O	
MSC-GD-23	Local policy must dictate how the Security Administrator installs patches to Solution Components.	T=O	
MSC-GD-24	Solution Components must comply with local TEMPEST policy.	T=O	
MSC-GD-25	All hardware components must be tracked through an AO-approved inventory management process that identifies each component as part of a CSfC solution.	T=O	
MSC-GD-26	A baseline configuration for all components must be maintained by the Security Administrator and be available to the Auditor.	T=O	

## 840 12.2 INCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

841 Table 14 lists incident reporting requirements for reporting security incidents to the NSA. These  
 842 requirements will be followed in the event that a Solution Owner identifies a security incident that  
 843 affects the solution. These reporting requirements are intended to augment, not replace incident  
 844 reporting procedures already in use within the Solution Owner's organization. It is critical that Security



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845 Administrators, Certification Authority Administrators (CAAs), Key Generation Solution Administrator  
846 (KGSAs), and Auditors are familiar with maintaining the solution in accordance with this CP. Familiarity  
847 with the known-good configuration of the solution will better equip personnel responsible for the  
848 operations and maintenance of the solution to identify reportable incidents.

849 For the purposes of incident reporting, “malicious” activity includes not only events that have been  
850 attributed to activity by an adversary, but also events that are unexplained. In other words, an activity is  
851 assumed to be malicious unless it has been determined to be the result of known non-malicious activity.

852 Table 14 only provides requirements directly related to the incident reporting process. See Section 11.9  
853 for requirements supporting the detection of events that may reveal that a reportable incident has  
854 occurred.

855 **Table 14. Incident Reporting Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-RP-1	Solution Owners must report confirmed incidents meeting the criteria in MSC-RP-3 through MSC-RP-14 within 24-hours of detection via the Joint Incident Management System or contacting the NSA as specified in the CSfC Registration Letter issued for the solution.	T=O	
MSC-RP-2	At a minimum, the organization must provide the following information when reporting security incidents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSfC Registration Number</li> <li>• Primary POC name, phone, email</li> <li>• Alternate POC name, phone, email</li> <li>• Security level of affected solution</li> <li>• Name of affected network(s)</li> <li>• Affected component(s) manufacturer/ vendor</li> <li>• Affected component(s) model number</li> <li>• Affected component(s) version number</li> <li>• Date and time of incident</li> <li>• Description of incident</li> <li>• Description of remediation activities</li> <li>• Is Technical Support from the NSA requested? (Yes/No)</li> </ul>	T=O	
MSC-RP-3	Solution Owners must report a security failure in any of the CSfC Solution Components.	T=O	
MSC-RP-4	Solution Owners must report any evidence of a compromise or spillage of classified data caused by a failure of the CSfC solution.	T=O	
MSC-RP-5	For Gray Network interfaces, Solution Owners must report any malicious inbound and outbound traffic.	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-RP-6	Solution Owners must report any evidence of an unauthorized device/user gaining access to the classified network via the solution.	T=0	
MSC-RP-7	Solution Owners must report if a Solution Component sends traffic with an unauthorized destination address.	T=0	
MSC-RP-8	Solution Owners must report any malicious configuration changes to the components.	T=0	
MSC-RP-9	Solution Owners must report any unauthorized escalation of privileges to any of the CSFC Solution Components.	T=0	
MSC-RP-10	Solution Owners must report if two or more simultaneous VPN connections from different IP addresses are established using the same device certificate.	T=0	
MSC-RP-11	Solution Owners must report any evidence of malicious physical tampering with Solution Components.	T=0	
MSC-RP-12	Solution Owners must report any evidence that one or both layers of the solution failed to protect the data.	T=0	
MSC-RP-13	Solution Owners must report any significant degradation of services provided by the solution excluding connectivity issues associated with the Black Network.	T=0	
MSC-RP-14	Solution Owners must report malicious discrepancies in the number of connections established by the Outer Encryption Component.	T=0	
MSC-RP-15	Solution Owners must report malicious discrepancies in the number of connections established by the Inner Encryption Component.	T=0	

## 856 13 ROLE-BASED PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

857 The roles required to administer and maintain the solution are defined below, along with doctrinal  
858 requirements for these roles.

859 **Security Administrator** – The Security Administrator must maintain, monitor, and control all security  
860 functions for the entire suite of products composing the MSC Solution. In some organizations, the  
861 Security Administrator may be known as the Information System Security Officer. Security  
862 Administrator duties include, but are not limited to:

863 1) Ensure the latest security-critical software patches and updates (such as Information Assurance  
864 Vulnerability Alerts) are applied to each product.

865 2) Document and report security-related incidents to the appropriate authorities.



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866 3) Coordinate and support product logistic support activities including integration and maintenance.  
867 Some logistic support activities may require that the Security Administrator escort uncleared  
868 personnel.

869 4) Employ adequate defenses of auxiliary network devices to enable proper and secure functionality of  
870 the MSC Solution.

871 5) Ensure that the implemented MSC Solution remains compliant with the latest version of this CP, as  
872 specified by MSC-GD-11.

873 **Certification Authority Administrator (CAA)** – The CAA must maintain, monitor, and control all security  
874 functions for the CA products. CAA duties include, but are not limited to:

875 1) Administer the CA, including authentication of all components requesting certificates.

876 2) Maintain and update the CRL.

877 3) Provision and maintain certificates in accordance with this CP for implementations that use them.

878 **Key Generation Solution Administrator (KGSA)** – The KGSA must maintain, monitor, and control all  
879 security functions for the KGS products. KGSA duties include, but are not limited to:

880 1) Administer the KGS, including authentication of all components requesting CAKs and CAK Encryption  
881 Key (CEKs).

882 2) Maintain and update the CAK and CEK revocation lists.

883 3) Provision and maintain CAKs and CEKs in accordance with this CP for implementations that use them.

884 **Auditor** – The Auditor must review the actions performed by the Security Administrator, CAA or KGSA,  
885 and events recorded in the audit logs to ensure that no action or event represents a compromise to the  
886 security of the MSC Solution. The Auditor will only be authorized access to Outer and Inner  
887 administration components. Auditor duties include, but are not limited to:

888 1) Review, manage, control, and maintain security audit log data.

889 2) Document and report security-related incidents to the appropriate authorities.

890 3) Develop, maintain and report a System Audit Capability Survey.

891 **Integrator** – In certain cases, an external Integrator may be hired to implement a MSC Solution based on  
892 this CP. Solution Integrator duties may include, but are not limited to:

893 1) Acquire the products that compose the solution.



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894 2) Configure the MSC Solution in accordance with this CP.

895 3) Document, test, and maintain the solution.

896 4) Respond to incidents affecting the solution.

897 Additional policies related to the personnel that perform these roles in a MSC Solution are identified in  
898 Table 15.

899 **Table 15. Role-Based Personnel Requirements**

Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-RB-1	The Security Administrators, CAAs, KGSA, Auditors, and Integrators must be cleared to the highest level of data protected by the MSC Solution. When an Enterprise CA/KGS is used in the solution, the CAA/KGSA already in place may also support this solution, provided they meet this requirement. Black Network Administrators may be cleared at the Black Network security level.	T=O	
MSC-RB-2	The Security Administrator, CAA, KGSA, and Auditor roles must be performed by different people.	T=O	
MSC-RB-3	All Security Administrators, CAAs, KGSA, and Auditors must meet local IA training requirements.	T=O	
MSC-RB-4	The CAA(s) for the inner tunnel must be different individuals from the CAA(s) for the outer tunnel.	T=O	
MSC-RB-5	The Security Administrator(s) for the Inner Encryption Components and supporting components on the Red Network must be different individuals from the Security Administrator(s) for the Outer Encryption Components and supporting components on the Gray Network.	T=O	
MSC-RB-6	Administrators must periodically inspect the physical attributes of infrastructure hardware for signs of tampering or other unauthorized changes.	T=O	
MSC-RB-7	The Auditor must review all logs specified in this CP at least once a day.	T=O	
MSC-RB-8	Security Administrators must initiate the certificate revocation/CAK destruction process prior to disposal of any Solution Component.	T=O	
MSC-RB-9	Auditing of the Outer and Inner CA operations must be performed by individuals who were not involved in the development of the Certificate Policy and Certification Practice Statement (CPS), or integration of the MSC Solution.	T=O	



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold/ Objective	Alternative
MSC-RB-10	Auditing of the KGS operations must be performed by individuals who were not involved in the development of the Key Management Plan, or integration of the MSC Solution.	T=0	
MSC-RB-11	Mandatory Access Control policy must specify roles for Security Administrator, CAA, KGSA, and Auditor using role-based access controls.	O	None

## 900 14 INFORMATION TO SUPPORT AO

901 This section details items that likely will be necessary for the customer to obtain approval from the  
902 system AO. The customer and AO have obligations to perform the following:

- 903 • The customer, possibly with support from an Integrator, instantiates a solution implementation  
904 that follows the NSA-approved CP.
- 905 • The customer's testing team develops a test plan and performs testing of the MSC Solution (see  
906 Section 14.1).
- 907 • The customer has the security control assessment and system authorization performed using  
908 the risk assessment information referenced in Section 14.2.
- 909 • The customer provides the results from the security control assessment and system  
910 authorization to the AO for use in making an approval decision. The AO is ultimately responsible  
911 ensure all requirements from this CP have been properly implemented in accordance with this  
912 CP.
- 913 • The customer registers the solution with the NSA and re-registers yearly to validate its  
914 continued use as detailed in Section 14.3.
- 915 • Customers who want to use a variant of the solution detailed in this CP will contact their NSA  
916 External Engagement Representative to determine ways to obtain NSA approval.
- 917 • The AO must ensure that a compliance audit must be conducted every year against the latest  
918 version of the MSC CP, and the results must be provided to the AO.
- 919 • The AO ensures that certificate and CAK revocation information is updated on all the Solution  
920 Components in the MSC Solution in the case of a compromise.
- 921 • The AO ensures that any Layer 2 or Layer 3 control plane protocols that are used in the solution  
922 are necessary for the operation of the network and that local policy supports their use.



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- 923       • The AO reports incidents affecting the solution in accordance with Section 12.2.

924 The system AO maintains configuration control of the approved solution implementation over the  
925 lifecycle of the solution. Additionally, the AO must ensure that the solution remains properly configured  
926 with all required security updates implemented.

## 927 14.1 SOLUTION TESTING

928 This section provides a framework for a Test and Evaluation (T&E) plan and procedures to validate the  
929 implementation of a MSC Solution. This T&E will be a critical part of the approval process for the AO,  
930 providing a robust body of evidence that shows compliance with this CP.

931 The security features and operational capabilities associated with the use of the solution must be tested.  
932 The following is a general high-level methodology for developing the T&E plan and procedures and for  
933 the execution of those procedures to validate the implementation and functionality of the MSC Solution.  
934 The entire solution, to include each component described in Section 5, is addressed by this test plan,  
935 including the following:

- 936 1) Set up the baseline network and configure all components.
- 937 2) Document the baseline network configuration. Include product model and serial numbers, software  
938 version numbers, and software configuration settings, at a minimum.
- 939 3) Develop a test plan for the specific implementation using the test requirements from the MSC CP  
940 Testing Annex. Any additional requirements imposed by the local AO should also be tested, and the  
941 test plan must include tests to ensure that these requirements do not interfere with the security of  
942 this solution as described in this CP.
- 943 4) Perform testing using the test plan derived in Step 3. Network testing will consist of both Black Box  
944 testing and Gray Box testing. A two-person testing approach should be used to administer the tests.  
945 During test execution, security and non-security related discrepancies with the solution must be  
946 documented.
- 947 5) Compile findings, to include comments and vulnerability details as well as possible countermeasure  
948 information, into a Final Test Report to be delivered to the AO for approval of the solution.

949 The test requirement in table 16 was developed to ensure that the MSC Solution functions properly and  
950 meets the configuration requirements in Section 11. Testing of these requirements should be used as a  
951 minimum framework for the development of the detailed T&E plan and procedures.

## 952 **Table 16. Test (TR) Requirements**



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Req. #	Requirement Description	Threshold / Objective	Alternative
MSC-TR-1	The organization implementing the CP must perform all tests listed in the <i>CSfC MSC CP Testing Annex</i> .	T=0	

953 **14.2 RISK ASSESSMENT**

954 The Risk Assessment of the MSC Solution presented in this CP focuses on the types of attacks that are  
 955 feasible against this solution and the mitigations that can be employed. Customers should contact their  
 956 NSA External Engagement Representative to request this document, or visit the CSfC Secret Internet  
 957 Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet) site for information. The process to obtain the Risk Assessment is  
 958 available on the SIPRNet CSfC website. The AO must be provided a copy of the NSA Risk Assessment for  
 959 their consideration in approving the use of the solution.

960 **14.3 REGISTRATION OF SOLUTIONS**

961 All customers using CSfC solutions to protect information on National Security Systems must register  
 962 their solution with the NSA prior to operational use. This registration allows the NSA to track where  
 963 MSC Solutions are instantiated and to provide the AOs at those sites with appropriate information,  
 964 including any significant vulnerabilities that may be discovered in components or high-level designs  
 965 approved for these solutions. The CSfC solution registration process is available on the CSfC web page  
 966 under the "Solution Registration" tab (<https://www.nsa.gov/resources/everyone/csfc>).

967 Solution registrations are valid for one year from the date the solution registration is approved, at which  
 968 time customers are required to re-register their solution. Approved CPs will be reviewed twice a year,  
 969 or as events warrant. Registered users of this CP will be notified when a new version is published.  
 970 When a new version of this NSA-approved CP is published, customers have six months from the date  
 971 they are notified, to bring their solutions into compliance with the new version of this CP and re-register  
 972 their solution (see requirement MSC-GD-11). Customers are also required to update their registrations  
 973 whenever the information provided on the registration form changes.

974



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## 975 APPENDIX A. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

976 **Assurance** – Measure of confidence that the security features, practices, procedures, and architecture of  
977 an information system accurately mediates and enforces the security policy. (CNSSI 4009)

978 **Audit** – The activity of monitoring the operation of a product from within the product. It includes  
979 monitoring of a product for a set of pre-determined events. Each audit event may indicate rogue  
980 behavior, or a condition that is detrimental to security, or provide necessary forensics to identify the  
981 source of rogue behavior.

982 **Audit Log** – A chronological record of the audit events that have been deemed critical to security. The  
983 audit log can be used to identify potentially malicious activity that may further identify the source of an  
984 attack, as well as potential vulnerabilities where additional countermeasures or corrective actions are  
985 required.

986 **Authorizing Official** – A senior (Federal) official or executive with the authority to formally assume  
987 responsibility for operating an information system at an acceptable level of risk to organizational  
988 operations (including mission, functions, image, or reputation), organizational assets, individuals, other  
989 organizations, and the Nation. (NIST SP 800-37)

990 **Availability** – Ensuring timely and reliable access to and use of information. (NIST SP 800-37)

991 **Black Box Testing** – Testing the functionality of a component of the solution, such that testing is limited  
992 to the subset of functionality that is available from the external interfaces of the box during its normal  
993 operational configuration without any additional privileges (such as given to the Security Administrator  
994 or Auditor).

995 **Black Network** – A network that contains classified data that has been encrypted twice.

996 **Capability Package** – The set of guidance provided by the NSA that describes recommended approaches  
997 to composing COTS solutions to protect classified information for a particular class of security problem.  
998 CP instantiations are built using products selected from the CSfC Components List.

999 **Central Management Site** – A site within a MSC Solution that is responsible for remotely managing the  
1000 Solution Components located at other sites.

1001 **Certification Authority (CA)** – An authority trusted by one or more users to create and assign  
1002 certificates. [ISO9594-8]

1003 **Certificate Policy** – A named set of rules that indicate the applicability of a certificate to a particular  
1004 community and/or class of application with common security requirements. For example, a particular  
1005 Certificate Policy might indicate applicability of a type of certificate to the authentication of parties  
1006 engaging in business-to-business transactions for the trading of goods or services within a given price  
1007 range. [IETF RFC 3647]



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- 1008 **Confidentiality** – Assurance that the data stored in, processed by, or transmitted by the system are  
1009 protected against unauthorized disclosure, and confidence that only the appropriate set of individuals or  
1010 organizations would be provided the information.
- 1011 **CRL Distribution Point (CDP)** – A web server that hosts a copy of a CRL issued by a CA for VPN Gateways  
1012 to download (see *CSfC Key Management Requirements Annex*).
- 1013 **Cross Domain Solution (CDS)** – A form of controlled interface that provides the ability to manually  
1014 and/or automatically access and/or transfer information between different security domains. [CNSSI  
1015 4009]
- 1016 **Encapsulation** – Packaging a packet/frame into a new packet/frame by adding a header and sometimes  
1017 a trailer.
- 1018 **Encryption Component** – Either a VPN Gateway or a MACsec Device.
- 1019 **External Interface** – The interface on an Encryption Component that connects to the outer network (i.e.,  
1020 the Gray Network on the Inner Encryption Component or the Black Network on the Outer Encryption  
1021 Component).
- 1022 **Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS)** – A set of standards that describe the handling and  
1023 processing of information within governmental agencies.
- 1024 **Gray Box Testing** – The ability to test functionality within a component of the solution, such that full  
1025 management privileges are granted (i.e., knowing passwords for Security Administrator and Auditor and  
1026 access to the capabilities associated with those privileges). In addition, the use of any and all testing  
1027 equipment and/or testing software used inside and outside the developed solution is available.
- 1028 **Gray Network** – A network that contains classified data that has been encrypted once.
- 1029 **Gray Firewall** – A traffic filtering firewall placed on the Gray Network to provide additional separation  
1030 between flows of singly-encrypted data of different security levels.
- 1031 **Independently Managed Site** – A site within a MSC Solution where Solution Components are locally  
1032 managed and that does not remotely manage other sites' Solution Components.
- 1033 **Integrity** – Guarding against improper information modification or destruction, and includes ensuring  
1034 information non-repudiation and authenticity. (NIST SP 800-37)
- 1035 **Internal Interface** – The interface on an Encryption Component that connects to the inner network (i.e.,  
1036 the Gray Network on the Outer Encryption Component or the Red Network on the Inner Encryption  
1037 Component).



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- 1038 **Key Server** – The MACsec Device designated as the one responsible for distribution Secure Association  
1039 Keys to the other MACsec Device.
- 1040 **Locally Managed Device** – A device that is being managed by the direct connection of the  
1041 Administration Workstation to the device in a hardwired fashion (such as a console cable).
- 1042 **Malicious** – Any unauthorized events that are either unexplained or in any way indicate adversary  
1043 activity.
- 1044 **Protection Profile** – A document used as part of the certification process according to the Common  
1045 Criteria. As the generic form of a security target, it is typically created by a user or user community and  
1046 provides an implementation independent specification of information assurance security requirements.
- 1047 **Pseudowire** – Emulation of a point-to-point connection.
- 1048 **Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)** – Framework established to issue, maintain, and revoke public key  
1049 certificates.
- 1050 **Red Network** – A network that contains unencrypted classified data.
- 1051 **Registration Authority (RA)** – An entity authorized by the CA to collect, verify, and submit information  
1052 that is to be entered into public key certificates. The term RA refers to hardware, software, and  
1053 individuals that collectively perform this function.
- 1054 **Remotely Managed Device** – A device that is being managed by any other method besides that given in  
1055 the definition of a Locally Managed Device.
- 1056 **Remote Site** – A site within a MSC Solution where Solution Components are remotely managed by a  
1057 Central Management Site.
- 1058 **Security Control Assessment** – The testing and/or evaluation of the management, operational, and  
1059 technical security controls in an information system to determine the extent to which the controls are  
1060 implemented correctly, operating as intended, and producing the desired outcome with respect to  
1061 meeting the security requirements for the system. (NIST SP 800-37)
- 1062 **Security Level** – The combination of classification level, list of compartments, dissemination controls,  
1063 and other controls applied to the information within a network.
- 1064 **Split-tunneling** – Allows network traffic to egress through a path other than the established encryption  
1065 tunnel (either on the same interface or another network interface. Split-tunneling is explicitly prohibited  
1066 in MSC CP compliant configurations.
- 1067



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## 1068 APPENDIX B. ACRONYMS

Acronym	Meaning
ACL	Access Control List
AES	Advanced Encryption Standard
AO	Authorizing Official
ARP	Address Resolution Protocol
BGP	Border Gateway Protocol
CA	Certification Authority
CAA	Certification Authority Administrator
CAK	Connectivity Association Key
CEK	CAK Encryption Key
CDP	CRL Distribution Point
CDS	Cross Domain Solution
CKN	Connectivity Association Key Name
CNSA	Commercial National Security Algorithm [Suite]
CNSS	Committee on National Security Systems
CNSSI	Committee on National Security Systems Instruction
CNSSP	Committee on National Security Systems Policy
COTS	Commercial Off-the-Shelf
CP	Capability Package
CPS	Certification Practice Statement
CRL	Certificate Revocation List
CSD	Cybersecurity Directorate
CSfC	Commercial Solutions for Classified
DH	Diffie-Hellman
DHCP	Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
DM	Device Management
DNS	Domain Name System
ECDSA	Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm
ESP	Encapsulating Security Payload
FIPS	Federal Information Processing Standards
GCM	Galois Counter Mode
GRE	Generic Routing Encapsulation
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
HTTPS	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
IA	Information Assurance
IAD	Information Assurance Directorate
ICMP	Internet Control Message Protocol
ID	Identification
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force
IKE	Internet Key Exchange
IP	Internet Protocol



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Acronym	Meaning
IPS	Intrusion Prevention System
IPsec	Internet Protocol Security
IPv4	Internet Protocol version 4
IPv6	Internet Protocol version 6
KGS	Key Generation Solution
KGSA	Key Generation Solution Administrator
KM	Key Management
MACsec	Media Access Control Security
MKA	MACsec Key Agreement
MSC	Multi-Site Connectivity
MTU	Maximum Transmission Unit
NDP	Neighbor Discovery Protocol
NIAP	National Information Assurance Partnership
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NSA	National Security Agency
NSS	National Security Systems
NTP	Network Time Protocol
(O)	Objective
OCSP	Online Certificate Status Protocol
OSPF	Open Shortest Path First
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure
PMTU	Path Maximum Transmission Unit
PSK	Pre-Shared Key
RA	Registration Authority
RFC	Request for Comments
RSA	Rivest Shamir Adelman
SCRM	Supply Chain Risk Management
SHA	Secure Hash Algorithm
SIEM	Security Information and Event Management
SIPRNet	Secret Internet Protocol Router Network
SP	Special Publication
SSH	Secure Shell
SSHv2	Secure Shell Version 2
(T)	Threshold
T&E	Test and Evaluation
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
TLS	Transport Layer Security
UDP	User Datagram Protocol
VLAN	Virtual Local Area Network
VPN	Virtual Private Network
XPN	eXtended Packet Number



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## 1070 APPENDIX C. REFERENCES

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