

2020 FAA Cybersecurity Awareness Symposium

Securing the Aviation Ecosystem | “Cyber Hygiene”

NAS Edge Device Evaluation Process

Date: October 20, 2020



Federal Aviation
Administration



Background

- **ATO Orders do not currently provide guidance for certain types of devices that cross the NAS/Non-NAS boundary**
 - Peripheral Sharing Systems (aka KVM switches)
 - Network Test Access Points (aka TAPs)
 - Data Diodes
- **June 2019 – Memo issued by ACG provides guidance to ISOs to coordinate with ACG for a technical assessment, evaluation and approval of NAS Edge Devices**



Discovery

- **Information System Owner (ISO)**
 - Identify proposed devices and location/use within system architecture and notifies ISSO
 - Coordinate with vendor to obtain information about the device
 - Brief proposed architecture, device locations and use to ACG



Discovery

- **Information System Security Officer (ISSO)**
 - Verifies if device is on the ACG approved device list. If device is on approved device list, advise ISO to proceed
 - If the device is new, request ISO to coordinate with vendor to provide vendor device guides or any other information about the device and provide a test unit if available
 - The ACG Approved Device List is on the ACG KSN



Technical Analysis

- **Cyber Engineering Team**

- Analyze device guides and other information about the device
- Meet with ISO and ISSO, if needed, to get additional information
- Evaluate device architecture and configuration to determine if there are any security concerns



Technical Analysis

- **Cyber Engineering Team**

- Develop requirements for the configuration, management, testing and hardening of each new device and recommend specific test cases be run against the device
- Provide new device requirements to the Cyber Testing Team



Pre-Testing

- **Pre-Testing - Cyber Engineering (CE)**
- **and Cyber Testing (CT) teams**
- **“Collaborative effort”**
 - CE team develops ATO ACG requirements and hands off to the CT team to test against the device



Pre-Testing

- **NAS System specific requirements to CT such as:**
 - “The device shall have a packet loss ratio of less than 0.001”
- **CT team performs an analysis and determines if physical device testing shall be performed**
 - The new device shall be provided to the CT team by the vendor and/or ISO, with coordination through ISSO



Analysis Evaluation

- **Analysis Evaluation (CT team)**
 - Develops evaluation methodology: test plan and procedures
 - Acquire device capability Matrix from the vendor
 - Obtain third party, independent testing results, if available:
 - National Information Assurance Partnership (NIAP)
 - Common Criteria (CC) Evaluation Assurance Level (EAL)



Analysis Evaluation

- **Analysis Evaluation (CT team)**

- Conduct evaluation in accordance to analysis plan, includes NIAP, CC EAL, etc. testing results, reports and certifications
- Capture evaluation results
- Provide analysis evaluation results to Cyber Engineering for review



Device Testing

- **NCEF Testing (CT)**

- Develops test plan and test procedures
- Obtain devices for testing
- Obtain commitment from the vendor to provide support during the testing, if applicable



Device Testing

- **NCEF Testing (CT)**

- Conducts test in accordance to test plan/procedures in the NCEF and/or NAS system lab environment
- Captures test results in test report
- Provide the device test results to Cyber Engineering for review



Post-Testing Process

- **Post-Testing (CE Team, CT Team, ACG Managers)**
 - Cyber Engineering team reviews the test or evaluation results
 - Cyber Testing team briefs test results
 - Cyber Engineering develops an equipment recommendation
 - Cyber Engineering Team briefs recommendation to ACG Team Managers



Post-Testing Process

- **Post-Testing (CE Team, CT Team, ACG Managers)**
 - ACG Team Managers make decision on equipment and brief ACG Group Manager
 - Approved equipment added to pre-approved list
 - Cyber Testing Team provides notification to ISSO
 - List of approved equipment is published on KSN site

