

# Withdrawn Draft

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**Withdrawal Date** November 20, 2020

**Original Release Date** August 4, 2020

## Superseding Document

**Status** Final

**Series/Number** NIST Interagency or Internal Report 8278A

**Title** National Cybersecurity Online Informative References (OLIR)  
Program: Submission Guidance for OLIR Developers

**Publication Date** November 2020

**DOI** <https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.IR.8278A>

**CSRC URL** <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/nistir/8278a/final>

**Additional Information** OLIR homepage: <https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/olir>

1 **Draft NISTIR 8278A**

2 **National Cybersecurity Online**  
3 **Informative References (OLIR)**  
4 **Program:**

5 *Submission Guidance for OLIR Developers*

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14 This publication is available free of charge from:  
15 <https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.IR.8278A-draft>  
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**Draft NISTIR 8278A**

# **National Cybersecurity Online Informative References (OLIR) Program**

*Submission Guidance for OLIR Developers*

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This publication is available free of charge from:  
<https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.IR.8278A-draft>

August 2020



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*Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., Secretary*

National Institute of Standards and Technology  
*Walter Copan, NIST Director and Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology*

42 National Institute of Standards and Technology Interagency or Internal Report 8278A  
43 40 pages (August 2020)

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53 publication is completed, current requirements, guidelines, and procedures, where they exist, remain operative. For  
54 planning and transition purposes, federal agencies may wish to closely follow the development of these new  
55 publications by NIST.

56 Organizations are encouraged to review all draft publications during public comment periods and provide feedback to  
57 NIST. Many NIST cybersecurity publications, other than the ones noted above, are available at  
58 <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications>.

59 **Public comment period: August 4, 2020 through September 4, 2020**

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64 All comments are subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

65

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67 Technology (NIST) promotes the U.S. economy and public welfare by providing technical  
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71 development of management, administrative, technical, and physical standards and guidelines for  
72 the cost-effective security and privacy of other than national security-related information in  
73 federal information systems.

74

### Abstract

75 The National Cybersecurity Online Informative References (OLIR) Program is a NIST effort to  
76 facilitate subject matter experts in defining standardized Online Informative References (OLIRs),  
77 which are relationships between elements of their documents and elements of other documents  
78 like the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. This document assists Informative Reference  
79 Developers in understanding the processes and requirements for participating in the Program.  
80 The primary focus of the document is to instruct Developers on how to complete the OLIR  
81 Template spreadsheet when submitting an Informative Reference to NIST for inclusion in the  
82 OLIR Catalog. This document replaces IR 8204, *Cybersecurity Framework Online Informative*  
83 *References (OLIR) Submissions: Specification for Completing the OLIR Template*.

84

### Keywords

85 crosswalk; Informative References; mapping; Online Informative References (OLIR).

86

### Acknowledgments

87 The authors would like to thank all of those who commented on and contributed to this  
88 document.

89

### Audience

90 The primary audience for this publication is individuals interested in developing Informative  
91 References for the National Cybersecurity OLIR Program.

92

### Trademark Information

93 All registered trademarks and trademarks belong to their respective organizations.

94

95

**Document Conventions**

96 The key words “MUST”, “MUST NOT”, “REQUIRED”, “SHALL”, “SHALL NOT”,  
97 “SHOULD”, “SHOULD NOT”, “RECOMMENDED”, “MAY”, and “OPTIONAL” in this  
98 document are to be interpreted as described in Request for Comment (RFC) 2119 [1]. When  
99 these words appear in regular case, such as “should” or “may”, they are not intended to be  
100 interpreted as RFC 2119 key words.

101

**Note to Reviewers**

102 Section 3.2.11 of this draft is on “strength of relationship.” This section was added due to  
103 feedback from early adopters as well as discussion at the OLIR workshop. The feedback  
104 received was that the options for “relationship” lacked detail in describing the relative magnitude  
105 of the two elements. Based on suggestions from early adopters and discussions with subject  
106 matter experts, the current “strength of relationship” section attempts to bring additional clarity  
107 to element relationships.

108 NIST is interested in perspectives relating to the proposed approach to “strength of relationship.”  
109 Of particular interest are answers to the following questions:

- 110 • Does the phrase “strength of relationship” accurately capture the concept?
- 111 • Does the approach provide value to users?
- 112 • Are there more effective approaches which capture the concept or provide value to users?  
113 In particular, what methodologies might be beneficial?

114

115

## Call for Patent Claims

116 This public review includes a call for information on essential patent claims (claims whose use  
117 would be required for compliance with the guidance or requirements in this Information  
118 Technology Laboratory (ITL) draft publication). Such guidance and/or requirements may be  
119 directly stated in this ITL Publication or by reference to another publication. This call also  
120 includes disclosure, where known, of the existence of pending U.S. or foreign patent applications  
121 relating to this ITL draft publication and of any relevant unexpired U.S. or foreign patents.

122

123 ITL may require from the patent holder, or a party authorized to make assurances on its behalf,  
124 in written or electronic form, either:

125

126 a) assurance in the form of a general disclaimer to the effect that such party does not hold  
127 and does not currently intend holding any essential patent claim(s); or

128

129 b) assurance that a license to such essential patent claim(s) will be made available to  
130 applicants desiring to utilize the license for the purpose of complying with the guidance  
131 or requirements in this ITL draft publication either:

132

133 i. under reasonable terms and conditions that are demonstrably free of any unfair  
134 discrimination; or

135 ii. without compensation and under reasonable terms and conditions that are  
136 demonstrably free of any unfair discrimination.

137

138 Such assurance shall indicate that the patent holder (or third party authorized to make assurances  
139 on its behalf) will include in any documents transferring ownership of patents subject to the  
140 assurance, provisions sufficient to ensure that the commitments in the assurance are binding on  
141 the transferee, and that the transferee will similarly include appropriate provisions in the event of  
142 future transfers with the goal of binding each successor-in-interest.

143

144 The assurance shall also indicate that it is intended to be binding on successors-in-interest  
145 regardless of whether such provisions are included in the relevant transfer documents.

146

147 Such statements should be addressed to: [olir@nist.gov](mailto:olir@nist.gov)

148

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## 220 **1 Introduction**

### 221 **1.1 Purpose and Scope**

222 The purpose of this document is to assist Informative Reference Developers (“Developers”) in  
223 understanding the processes and requirements for participating in the National Cybersecurity  
224 Online Informative References (OLIR) Program.

225 This document replaces IR 8204, *Cybersecurity Framework Online Informative References*  
226 *(OLIR) Submissions: Specification for Completing the OLIR Template*.

227 Before reading this document, Developers should first read National Institute of Standards and  
228 Technology (NIST) Interagency or Internal Report (IR) 8278, *National Cybersecurity Online*  
229 *Informative References (OLIR) Program: Program Overview and OLIR Uses* (“NISTIR 8278”)  
230 [2]. NISTIR 8278 describes the OLIR Program and explains the uses and benefits of the OLIR  
231 Catalog.

### 232 **1.2 Document Structure**

233 The remainder of this document is organized into the following sections:

- 234 • Section 2 describes the general process for developing Informative References and  
235 submitting them to NIST for inclusion in the OLIR Catalog, as well as the processes for  
236 updating and archiving Informative References.
- 237 • Section 3 provides guidance for completing the OLIR Template when submitting an  
238 Informative Reference.
- 239 • The References section lists the references for the publication.
- 240 • Appendix A contains simplistic examples of the notional logic for determining the  
241 relationship between two document element concepts.
- 242 • Appendix B contains acronyms used throughout the document.
- 243 • Appendix C provides a glossary of terminology used throughout the document.
- 244 • Appendix D displays a notional example of values for the OLIR Template.
- 245 • Appendix E defines the Participation Agreement for the OLIR Program for Developers.

246

## 247 **2 Informative Reference Development**

248 This section describes the general process for developing Informative References (“References”) and  
249 submitting them to NIST for inclusion in the National Cybersecurity OLIR Program’s OLIR  
250 Catalog. It includes an overview of the process that NIST will follow to screen the Informative  
251 Reference submissions and publish them in the OLIR Catalog. This section also describes the  
252 process that NIST and Informative Reference Developers (“Developers”) will follow to update and  
253 archive Informative References. Developers—who may be individuals, teams, or organizations—  
254 that are considering submitting Informative References to NIST should review the Participation  
255 Agreement in Appendix E. The agreement contains the administrative requirements for participating  
256 in the OLIR Program.

### 257 **2.1 OLIR Vocabulary**

258 For the purposes of this publication, certain terms that will be discussed in greater detail later in the  
259 document are forward declared in this section to improve readability. A *Reference Document* is the  
260 source document being compared to a Focal Document. A *Focal Document* is a source document  
261 that is used as the basis for comparing an element with an element from another document. An  
262 *Informative Reference* shows the relationship(s) between the Reference Document elements and a  
263 Focal Document element. More exactly, Informative References show relationships between any  
264 number and combination of organizational concepts (e.g., Functions, Categories, Subcategories,  
265 Controls, Control Enhancements) of the Focal Document and specific sections, sentences, or phrases  
266 of Reference Documents. The discrete concepts of the Focal Document shall be called *Focal*  
267 *Document elements*, and the specific sections, sentences, or phrases of the Reference Document shall  
268 be called *Reference Document elements*. The term ‘Reference’ (or ‘References’) used in this  
269 document is an abbreviation for the term ‘Informative Reference’ (or ‘Informative References’).

### 270 **2.2 Background**

271 The *Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity* (“Cybersecurity Framework,”  
272 “Framework”) lists several related cybersecurity documents as Informative References [4].  
273 Informative References show relationships between Functions, Categories, and Subcategories of the  
274 Cybersecurity Framework and specific sections of standards, guidelines, and best practices.  
275 Informative References are often more detailed than the Functions, Categories, and Subcategories  
276 and illustrate ways to achieve those outcomes. Informative References suggest how to use a given  
277 cybersecurity document in coordination with the Cybersecurity Framework for the purposes of  
278 cybersecurity risk management.

279 Historically, Informative References have only appeared in the Cybersecurity Framework document;  
280 only a smaller subset of Informative References is published in that document to maintain its  
281 readability. The National Cybersecurity OLIR Program scales to accommodate a greater number of  
282 Informative References and provides a more agile support model to account for the varying update  
283 cycles of all Reference Documents. This OLIR specification also provides a more robust method for  
284 clearly defining relationships between Reference Document elements and Focal Document elements.

## 285 **2.3 Informative Reference Life Cycle**

286 The Informative Reference life cycle comprises the following steps:

- 287 1. **Initial Informative Reference Development:** The Developer becomes familiar with the  
288 procedures and requirements of the OLIR Program, performs the initial development of the  
289 Informative Reference, and refines the Informative Reference using the OLIR Validation  
290 (OLIRVal) Tool.
- 291 2. **Informative Reference Posting:** The Developer posts the Informative Reference on a  
292 publicly available site for linking.
- 293 3. **Informative Reference Submitted to NIST:** The Developer submits a package, consisting  
294 of the Informative Reference and documentation, to NIST for screening and public review.
- 295 4. **NIST Screening:** NIST screens the submission package's information, confirms that the  
296 Informative Reference conforms to this specification, and addresses any issues with the  
297 Developer prior to public review.
- 298 5. **Public Review and Feedback:** NIST holds a 30-day public review of the draft candidate  
299 Informative Reference. The Developer then addresses comments, as necessary.
- 300 6. **Final Listing in the OLIR Catalog:** NIST updates the Informative Reference listing status  
301 in the OLIR Catalog from 'draft' to 'final' and announces the Informative Reference's  
302 availability.
- 303 7. **Informative Reference Maintenance and Archival:** Anyone can provide feedback on the  
304 Informative Reference throughout its life cycle. The Developer periodically updates the  
305 Informative Reference, as necessary. The Informative Reference is archived when it is no  
306 longer maintained or needed (e.g., if the Reference Document is withdrawn or deprecated).

307 Each step should be carried out to ensure that the Informative Reference is accurate, well-formed,  
308 and documented during its development and subsequent publication, update, or archival. The  
309 following sections describe considerations for each step.

## 310 **2.4 Developer Steps for Creating, Posting, and Submitting Informative References**

311 The first three steps in the development methodology listed above involve the developer creating,  
312 posting, and submitting Informative References. Sections 2.4.1 through 2.4.3 describe each of these  
313 steps in greater detail.

### 314 **2.4.1 Initial Informative Reference Development**

315 During initial Informative Reference development, a developer becomes familiar with the  
316 requirements of the OLIR Program and all procedures involved during the Informative Reference  
317 life cycle (as described throughout Section 2). At this point, a Developer would presumably agree to  
318 the requirements for participation in the OLIR Program before continuing to develop the Informative  
319 Reference. Appendix E of this publication provides the latest version of the Participation Agreement  
320 that SHALL be signed by the Developer.

321 The quality of Informative Reference documentation can significantly impact the Informative  
322 Reference’s effectiveness. To promote consistency and facilitate the review of Informative  
323 References by NIST and the public, NIST has created a spreadsheet template (“OLIR Template”).  
324 Section 3 of this publication provides instructions and definitions for completing the OLIR  
325 Template.

#### 326 **2.4.2 Informative Reference Posting**

327 Once the Informative Reference is implemented in the OLIR Template, the Developer SHALL post  
328 the Informative Reference to a public website. This posting enables NIST to link to the Informative  
329 Reference during both the comment period and the listing phase. The public website should be the  
330 same website that is listed in the *General Information* tab of the Informative Reference. The website  
331 listed in the OLIR Catalog can be updated if the Informative Reference’s location changes. Section 3  
332 also indicates that the Developer SHALL use the NIST-provided OLIRVal tool to ensure that the  
333 populated OLIR Template conforms to the specifications in this publication.

#### 334 **2.4.3 Informative Reference Submitted to NIST**

335 At this point, the Developer has completed and posted the Informative Reference. The Developer  
336 now sends a submission package to NIST. It SHALL consist of the following:

- 337 • Completed Informative Reference using the OLIR Template,
- 338 • Supporting documentation, and
- 339 • Signed Participation Agreement (see Appendix E).

340 Submission packages are sent to the OLIR Program email alias, [olir@nist.gov](mailto:olir@nist.gov).

### 341 **2.5 NIST Steps for Reviewing and Finalizing Informative References for Publication**

342 The NIST process for screening and publishing an Informative Reference, which corresponds to  
343 steps 4 through 7 in the Informative Reference life cycle, is described in the following sections.

#### 344 **2.5.1 NIST Screening of the Submission Package**

345 NIST reviews the submission and determines if the Informative Reference and other submitted  
346 materials are ready for public review. NIST screens the submission package for completeness and  
347 accuracy and ensures that the content is well-formed. NIST may contact the Developer with  
348 questions about the submitted materials during the screening period.

#### 349 **2.5.2 Public Review and Feedback for the Candidate Informative Reference**

350 After the submission package has been screened and the Developer has addressed any issues, NIST  
351 will post a link to the Informative Reference in the OLIR Catalog as a candidate in a ‘draft’ status

352 for a 30-day public review period. NIST will invite the public to review and comment on the  
353 candidate Informative Reference and provide feedback to the Developer.<sup>1</sup>

354 An Informative Reference reviewer emails [olir@nist.gov](mailto:olir@nist.gov) to provide comments as well as other  
355 information about the reviewer's implementation environment, procedures, and other relevant  
356 information. Depending on the review, the Developer may need to respond to comments. NIST may  
357 also consult independent expert reviewers, as appropriate. Typical reasons for using independent  
358 reviewers include the following:

- 359 • NIST may decide that it does not have the expertise to determine whether the comments have  
360 been addressed satisfactorily.
- 361 • NIST may disagree with the proposed issue resolutions and seek additional perspectives from  
362 third-party reviewers.

363 At the end of the public review period, NIST will give the Developer 30 days to respond to  
364 comments.

### 365 **2.5.3 Final Listing in the OLIR Catalog**

366 After any outstanding issues have been addressed, NIST will change the Informative Reference  
367 status to 'final' in the OLIR Catalog and announce its availability. The listing will provide data  
368 about the Informative Reference, downloadable formats, and links to Informative Reference  
369 materials.

### 370 **2.5.4 Informative Reference Maintenance and Archival**

371 Throughout an Informative Reference's life cycle, any reviewer can submit comments or questions  
372 to [olir@nist.gov](mailto:olir@nist.gov). NIST will forward feedback to the Developer. Users who subscribe to the mailing  
373 list can receive announcements of updates or other issues related to an Informative Reference. The  
374 selected Informative Reference's description (in the OLIR Catalog) will contain instructions for  
375 subscribing to the mailing address list.

376 NIST will periodically review the catalog of Informative References to determine if individual  
377 Informative References are still relevant or if changes need to be made. If the Developer decides to  
378 update the Informative Reference at any time, NIST will announce that the Informative Reference is  
379 in the process of being updated and will reflect that in the OLIR Catalog listing. If the revised  
380 Informative Reference contains major changes (see Section 3.1.2 for version definitions), it will be  
381 considered as if it were a new submission and will be required to undergo the same review process  
382 as a new submission. If the Informative Reference contains minor changes, it will undergo a 30-day  
383 public comment period. If the Informative Reference contains administrative changes, no comment  
384 period is required, and the updated Informative Reference will be listed in the OLIR Catalog with an  
385 appropriate version number to annotate the update.

386 At the discretion of NIST or the Developer, the Informative Reference can either be archived or  
387 removed from the OLIR Catalog altogether. Typical reasons for such actions might be that the

---

<sup>1</sup> The OLIR Catalog is located at <https://csrc.nist.gov/Projects/Cybersecurity-Framework/Informative-Reference-Catalog>.

388 Reference Document is no longer supported or is obsolete, or the Developer no longer wishes to  
389 provide support for the Informative Reference. Unless otherwise requested by the Developer,  
390 withdrawn Informative References will be deleted from the OLIR Catalog, and an entry will remain  
391 to indicate that an Informative Reference was previously available.



**3 OLIR Template Instructions**

This section provides instructions and guidance to Developers for completing the OLIR Template for an Informative Reference.<sup>2</sup> The Developer SHALL complete the *General Information* and *Relationships* tabs of the OLIR Template. The Developer SHALL use the OLIRVal tool to ensure syntactic compliance with the specifications in this publication and the OLIR Template.<sup>3</sup>

**3.1 Completing the General Information Tab**

Developers SHALL complete an Informative Reference description on the *General Information* tab; this metadata will be used by NIST to update the OLIR Catalog entry for the Informative Reference. Table 1 shows the fields in the *General Information* tab that Developers are to complete. Appendix D contains an example.

**Table 1: General Information Tab Field Description**

Field Name	Description
Informative Reference Name	The name by which the Informative Reference listing will be known. The format is a human-readable string of characters.
Informative Reference Version	The version of the Informative Reference itself. The format is a string following the pattern: [major].[minor].[administrative]. The initial submission shall have an Informative Reference Version of 1.0.0.
Web Address	The URL where the Informative Reference can be found
Focal Document Version	The Focal Document version used in creating the Informative Reference. NIST recommends that Developers begin with the latest Focal Document version. <sup>4</sup>
Summary	The purpose of the Informative Reference
Target Audience (Community)	The intended audience for the Informative Reference
Comprehensive	Whether the Informative Reference maps <i>all</i> Reference Document elements to the Focal Document ("Yes") or not ("No")
Reference Document Author	The organization(s) and/or person(s) that published the Reference Document
Reference Document	The full Reference Document name and version that is being compared to the Focal Document
Reference Document Date	The date that the Reference Document was published and, if applicable, amended
Reference Document URL	The URL where the Reference Document can be viewed, downloaded, or purchased
Reference Developer	The organization(s) that created the Informative Reference
Comments	Notes to NIST or implementers
Point of Contact	At least one person's name, email address, and phone number within the Informative Reference Developer organization
Dependencies/Requirements	Whether the Informative Reference is used in conjunction with other Informative Reference(s) or as a stand-alone Informative Reference
Citations	A listing of source material (beyond the Reference Document) that supported development of the Informative Reference

<sup>2</sup> The OLIR Template spreadsheets are available at <https://www.nist.gov/cyberframework/informative-references/validation-tool>.

<sup>3</sup> The OLIRVal tool is a .jar file that can be downloaded from <https://www.nist.gov/cyberframework/informative-references/validation-tool>.

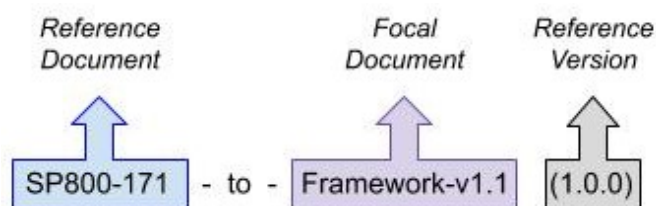
<sup>4</sup> This field will be modified as additional Focal Documents are added to the OLIR Program.

### 403 3.1.1 Informative Reference Name

404 This field refers to the name of the spreadsheet mapping elements of a Reference Document to a  
405 Focal Document. The name SHALL be human readable. The Informative Reference Name will  
406 remain static over time.

407 For naming a Reference, each of the three distinct elements MUST be included in the following  
408 order (see also Figure 1):

- 409 1. Reference Document (see Section 3.1.9)
- 410 2. Focal Document (see Section 3.1.4)
- 411 3. Reference Version (see Section 3.1.2)



412  
413 **Figure 1: Informative Reference Name Elements**

414 Spaces are replaced with hyphens except following the Focal Document; a space is used to separate  
415 the Focal Document from the Reference Version. Please note that the preposition “to” separates the  
416 Reference Document from the Focal Document. Lastly, the Reference Version is contained in  
417 parentheses.

418 *Examples:*

419 “NIST-Privacy-Framework-v1.0-to-Framework-v1.1 (1.0.0)”

420 “NIST-SP800-171-to-Framework-v1.1 (1.0.0)”

421 To improve user readability of Informative Reference names, Developers of References SHALL use  
422 industry-recognized abbreviations for both the Reference Document and Focal Document when  
423 naming their Reference. Developers of References MUST limit the short-form Reference Name to  
424 35 characters. The following are examples of industry-recognized abbreviations:

- 425 • “NIST-Special-Publication-800-171” becomes “SP800-171”
- 426 • “NIST-Privacy Framework:-A-Tool-for-Improving-Privacy-Through-Enterprise-Risk-  
427 Management,-Version-1.0” becomes “Privacy-Framework-v1.0”

### 428 3.1.2 Reference Version

429 The Reference Version SHALL indicate a *major*, *minor*, or *administrative* designation of the  
430 Informative Reference material. Generally, the version format follows a typical software release  
431 pattern:

- 432 • *Major* version – Changes to the Informative Reference require current implementations to be  
433 modified.
- 434 • *Minor* version – Changes include one or more new mappings, without the removal or  
435 modification of existing mappings.
- 436 • *Administrative* version – Changes are typographical or stylistic for usability.

437 The field format is **[major version].[minor version].[administrative version]**, and the initial  
438 submission SHALL use “1.0.0”.

439 *Examples:* “1.0.0”; “1.1.3”; “2.0.1”.

### 440 **3.1.3 Web Address**

441 The Web Address denotes the publicly available online location of the Informative Reference. It  
442 SHALL respond to standard HTTP(S) requests.

### 443 **3.1.4 Focal Document Version**

444 The Focal Document Version is the version of the Focal Document used for the mapping.  
445 Developers SHALL use the most current version of the Focal Document when performing the  
446 mapping.

447 *Examples:* “Cybersecurity Framework v1.1; Privacy Framework v1.0; SP 800-53 Rev. 4”.

### 448 **3.1.5 Summary**

449 The Summary SHOULD be a short description of the mapping exercise.

450 *Example:* “A mapping of Cybersecurity Framework version 1.1 Core to NIST Special Publication  
451 800-53 Revision 4 controls.”

### 452 **3.1.6 Target Audience (Community)**

453 The Target Audience is the intended consuming audience of the Informative Reference. The  
454 audience SHOULD be a critical infrastructure sector or community of interest. Multiple audiences  
455 are denoted by populating this field with a value of “General.”

456 *Examples:* “Energy Sector”; “Legal Community”; “Restaurants”.

### 457 **3.1.7 Comprehensive**

458 The Comprehensive value indicates the completeness of the Informative Reference with respect to  
459 the Focal Document. This field SHALL be marked as follows:

- 460 • “Yes” – *All* Reference Document elements in the Reference Document are mapped to the  
461 Focal Document; otherwise,

- 462       • “No” – One or more Reference Document elements in the Reference Document are *not*  
463 mapped to the Focal Document.

### 464 **3.1.8 Reference Document Author**

465 The Reference Document Author(s) refers to the organization(s) and/or person(s) who authored the  
466 Reference Document. For example, NIST would be listed as the Reference Document Author for  
467 NIST SP 800-171, even if a non-NIST Developer were to create an Informative Reference for it [5].  
468 Multiple authors SHALL be separated by commas.

469 Pseudonyms and group names not registered as organization names with the Internal Revenue  
470 Service or like organizations (e.g., Doing Business As names, working group names, committee  
471 names) SHALL be listed in addition to the organizations and/or person(s) using the preface  
472 “prepared by the.” Multiple pseudonyms and/or group names SHALL be separated by commas.  
473 Author(s) SHALL be separated from pseudonyms and group names using a semicolon.

474 *Examples:* “National Institute of Standards and Technology; prepared by the Joint Task Force”;  
475 “ACME, Inc.”; “Jane Doe, John Smith”; “International Organization for Standardization,  
476 International Electrotechnical Commission; prepared by the Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC  
477 JTC 1, Information technology, Subcommittee SC 27, IT Security techniques”.

### 478 **3.1.9 Reference Document**

479 A Reference Document is any document being compared to a Focal Document. Examples include  
480 traditional documents, products, services, educational materials, and training.

481 The Reference Document field SHALL include the full name of the Reference Document with all  
482 acronyms spelled out. The title of the publication SHALL be annotated in italics. It SHALL also  
483 include unique identifiers associated with the version, revision, and/or edition.

484 *Examples:* “Special Publication 800-53 Revision 4, *Security and Privacy Controls for Federal*  
485 *Information Systems and Organizations*”; “Technical Report 27103:2018, *Information technology –*  
486 *Security techniques – Cybersecurity and ISO and IEC Standards*”.

### 487 **3.1.10 Reference Document Date**

488 The Reference Document Date refers to the calendar date of the Reference Document version,  
489 revision, and/or edition, including any applicable amendment dates to account for any updates. The  
490 Reference Document publication and amendment dates SHALL appear in MM/DD/YYYY format.  
491 When publication and/or amendment dates list only the month and year, the day field SHALL be  
492 recorded with a “00.” Publication and amendment dates SHALL be separated by a comma, and  
493 amendment dates SHALL be prepended with “updated on.”

494 *Examples:* “04/00/2013, updated on 01/22/2015”; “12/00/2016”.

**495 3.1.11 Reference Document URL**

496 This field denotes the publicly available online location of the Reference Document. It SHALL  
497 respond to standard HTTP(S) requests.

**498 3.1.12 Reference Developer**

499 The Reference Developer is the author of the Informative Reference and may be a person, team, or  
500 organization. For example, a federal agency, product vendor, or research academic may use a  
501 Reference Document (e.g., NIST SP 800-171 [8]) and create an Informative Reference to the  
502 Cybersecurity Framework.

503 *Example:* “National Institute of Standards and Technology”; “John Doe”.

**504 3.1.13 Comments**

505 The Developer MAY use the Comments field to provide supplemental information to NIST and  
506 other Informative Reference users. Such information may include general background information,  
507 developer’s notes, or customizations made to the OLIR Template.

**508 3.1.14 Point of Contact**

509 The Point of Contact is a person associated with the Developer. The person named within this field  
510 SHOULD have subject matter expertise with the Informative Reference and be able to answer  
511 questions related to the Informative Reference. The format for this field is: **[First Name] [Last**  
512 **Name]\n+[country code] [area code]-[xxx]-[xxx]\n[email address]**.

513 *Example:*

514 Jane Doe  
515 +1 555-555-5555  
516 example@nist.gov

**517 3.1.15 Dependency/Requirement**

519 If the Informative Reference being submitted is used in conjunction with other Informative  
520 Reference(s), indicate the other Informative Reference Name(s) (as they appear in their respective  
521 OLIR Catalog listings) in this field separated by a comma. Otherwise, leave the field blank.

**522 3.1.16 Citations**

523 The Citations field refers to documents that are supplementary to the Informative Reference. These  
524 documents may be standards or other supporting material that would prove useful to NIST or third  
525 parties. If no citations exist, leave this field blank.

526 *Examples:* “NIST Special Publication 800-53 Revision 4”; “ACME, Inc. Security Policy”.

527 **3.2 Completing the Relationships Tab**

528 The Developer SHALL indicate the relationships between the Reference Document and the Focal  
529 Document. This information is located on the *Relationships* tab of the OLIR Template. Table 2  
530 describes column headers for that tab.

531 **Table 2: Relationships Tab Field Description**

Field Name	Description
Focal Document Element	The identifier of the Focal Document element being mapped
Focal Document Element Description	The text description of the Focal Document element
Security Control Baseline	The identifier of the first applicable designation for a security control defined on a baseline for a low-impact, moderate-impact, or high-impact information system. This field is only applicable when utilizing the SP 800-53 Focal Document template.
Rationale	The explanation for why a Reference Document element and a Focal Document element are related. This will be one of the following: Syntactic, Semantic, or Functional.
Relationship	The type of logical comparison that the Reference Document Developer asserts compared to the Focal Document. The Developer conducting the assertion should focus on the perceived intent of each of the Reference and Focal Document elements. This will be one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subset of – The Focal Document element is a subset of the Reference Document element. In other words, the Reference Document element contains everything that the Focal Document element does and more.</li> <li>• Intersects with – The two elements have some overlap, but each includes things that the other does not.</li> <li>• Equal to – The two elements are very similar (not necessarily identical).</li> <li>• Superset of – The Focal Document element is a superset of the Reference Document element. In other words, the Focal Document element contains everything that the Reference Document element does and more.</li> <li>• Not related to – The two elements do not have anything in common.</li> </ul>
Reference Document Element	The identifier of the Reference Document element being mapped
Reference Document Element Description	The description of the Reference Document element
Fulfilled By	A Boolean value indicating whether a Reference Document element fulfills the entirety of the Focal Document element
Group Identifier (optional)	The designation given to a Reference Document element when it is part of a group of Reference Document elements that correlates to a Focal Document element
Comments (optional)	Notes to NIST or implementers
Strength of Relationship (optional)	The extent to which a Reference Document element and a Focal Document element are similar

532 The *Relationships* tab of the OLIR Focal Document template contains a row for each Focal  
533 Document element. The Developer SHALL complete the mappings for each Focal Document  
534 element at an appropriate level to the Reference Document.

535 A Reference Document element may map to any Focal Document element. If multiple Reference  
536 Document elements map to the same Focal Document element, the Developer SHALL insert a row

537 into the spreadsheet and label the Focal Document element. Table 3 demonstrates how to correctly  
538 complete the OLIR Template in this case.

539 Some Focal Document elements may not map to any Reference Document elements. In this case,  
540 leave these rows blank. This may occur due to a different scope or level of abstraction in the  
541 Reference Document.

542 Some Reference Document elements may not map to any Focal Document elements (gaps in the  
543 Focal Document). The Developer MAY add these Reference Document elements—a single row for  
544 each Reference Document element—to the bottom of the OLIR Template with a relationship of “no  
545 relationship” and set the Fulfilled by field as “N.” In this scenario, the Developer SHALL mark the  
546 Comprehensive field as “No” on the *General Information* tab.

### 547 **3.2.1 Focal Document Element**

548 The *Focal Document Element* refers to the Focal Document element that is the target of the  
549 Reference Document mapping. In the OLIR Template, the *Relationships* tab includes a row for every  
550 Focal Document element. These rows are provided for convenience only. If a Reference Document  
551 has multiple mappings to the same Focal Document element, the Developer SHALL include  
552 additional rows. Rows that are deemed unnecessary by the Developer SHALL remain blank. The  
553 format of these fields corresponds to the Focal Document element identifiers. For example, the first  
554 three columns of Table 2 of the Cybersecurity Framework source document include unique  
555 identifiers used as the format within the Cybersecurity Framework Focal Document element field.

556 *Examples:*

557 “ID”; “PR”; “RC.CO”; “DE.AE-1” for the Cybersecurity Framework v1.1 Focal Document template

558 “ID-P”; “GV-P”; “CT.PO-P”; “CM.PO-P1” for the Privacy Framework v1.0 Focal Document  
559 template

560 “AC-1”; “RA-1”; “SC-4 (1)” for the SP 800-53 Rev. 4 Focal Document template

### 561 **3.2.2 Focal Document Element Description**

562 The *Focal Document Element Description* field contains the text description of the Focal Document  
563 element. This description is a fixed value that is included here for convenience and readability. The  
564 Developer SHALL copy this text if additional rows are necessary.

565 *Examples:* Data at rest is protected; impact of events is determined; privacy values, policies, and  
566 training are reviewed, and any updates are communicated; the organization reviews and updates the  
567 audited events [Assignment: organization-defined frequency].

### 568 **3.2.3 Security Control Baseline**

569 This field is only applicable for a Developer utilizing the SP 800-53 Focal Document template. The  
570 Security Control Baseline field contains the identifier of the first applicable designation for a  
571 security control defined on a baseline for a low-impact, moderate-impact, or high-impact

572 information system. The identifiers are fixed values that are included here for convenience,  
573 readability, and additional sorting capabilities for the Developer. The Developer SHALL copy this  
574 text if additional rows are necessary. The identifiers are: *Low, Moderate, High, Not Selected,*  
575 *Withdrawn, and Not Associated.*

### 576 3.2.4 Rationale

577 The explanation of why a given Reference Document element and Focal Document element are  
578 related is attributed to one of three basic reasons. In Section 3.2.5 and Appendix E, these are referred  
579 to as the “logical comparison approaches.” The Developer SHALL populate the corresponding  
580 Rationale field with one of these three explanations: syntactic, semantic, or functional.

- 581 • *Syntactic* – Analyzes the linguistic meaning of the Reference Document element and the  
582 Focal Document element to develop the conceptual comparison sets. Syntactic analysis uses  
583 literal analysis of (i.e., translates) the Reference Document or Focal Document elements. For  
584 example, the following statements have identical syntax:

585           printf (“bar”);                   [... C programming language]

586           printf (“bar”);                   [... C programming language]

- 587 • *Semantic* – Analyzes the contextual meaning of the Reference Document element and Focal  
588 Document element to develop the conceptual comparison sets. Semantic analysis interprets  
589 (i.e., transliterates) the language within the Reference Document or Focal Document  
590 elements. For example, the following statements convey the same semantic meaning:

591           “Organization employs a firewall at the network perimeter”

592           “The enterprise uses a device that has a network protection application installed to  
593 safeguard the network from intentional or unintentional intrusion.”

- 594 • *Functional* – Analyzes (i.e., transposes) the functions of the Reference Document element  
595 and Focal Document element to develop the conceptual comparison sets. For example, the  
596 following statements result in the same functional result of the word ‘foo’ printing to the  
597 screen:

598           printf (“foo\n”);                   [... C programming language]

599           print “foo”                       [... BASIC programming language]

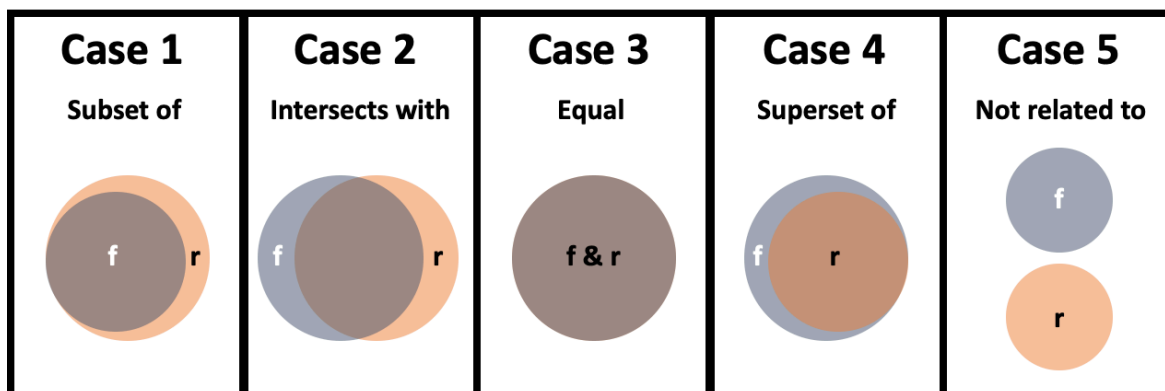
600 When choosing a rationale, in general, the Developer SHOULD select the strictest applicable  
601 selection according to its provability. A syntactic rationale is the strictest; it implies a word-for-word  
602 analysis of the relationship and no interpretation of the language (this is often the case where a  
603 document quotes from a source document). A semantic rationale implies some interpretation of the  
604 language. A functional rationale implies that the outcomes of the language have been analyzed rather  
605 than the words in the relationship. Therefore, the order of most strict to least strict rationale  
606 assertions is syntactic, semantic, then functional. The order also implies less reliance on the intention



607 of the author and interpreter in syntactic and the most in functional assertions. See Section 3.2.5 for  
608 additional information on the interrelatedness of rationales and relationships.

### 609 3.2.5 Relationship

610 The *Relationship* field refers to the logical comparison between a Reference Document element and  
611 a Focal Document element. Relationships can be described using one of five cases derived from a  
612 branch of mathematics known as set theory. The relationship between the Reference Document and  
613 Focal Document elements can be: *subset of*, *intersects with*, *equal*, *superset of*, or *not related to*.  
614 Figure 2 depicts these conceptual relationships.



615

616

617

Figure 2: Informative Reference Relationship Types  
(*f* = Focal Document element concept(s); *r* = Reference Document element concept(s))

618 A relationship SHALL be determined using one or more rationales defined in Section 3.2.4. The  
619 result of these comparative approaches is a set of concepts for the Focal Document element and the  
620 Reference Document element. These two sets of concepts are compared to determine the value of the  
621 *Relationship* field.

622 Appendix A contains Reference Document examples for each of the five aforementioned cases.

623 Relationship assertions have a natural order: equal, subset and superset, intersects with, and not  
624 related. *Equal* assertions indicate the most in common and *not related* assertions indicate nothing in  
625 common. The pairing of rationale and relationship provides the basis for a strength of relationship  
626 score, as discussed in Section 3.2.11. When selecting both rationale and relationship assertions, the  
627 developer SHOULD seek to maximize the strength of relationship score.

### 628 3.2.6 Reference Document Element

629 The *Reference Document Element* refers to the statement being mapped from the Reference  
630 Document. This field represents the core text or sections of text from the Reference Document. This  
631 field SHALL be populated with values relative to the structure of the Reference Document that  
632 capture the content being mapped. The Developer SHOULD populate this field with identifiers to  
633 signify sections of text relative to the Reference Document, or the Developer MAY choose to create  
634 identifiers for the Informative Reference. In other words,

635 [Reference Document Element] where { Reference Document Element 1, Reference  
636 Document Element 2, Reference Document Element 3... Reference Document Element  $n$ },  
637 comprise the relevant Reference Document elements.

638 Where Reference Document identifiers include a colon, the Developer SHALL create identifiers in  
639 the Informative Reference that do not use the colon.

640 In the instance of creating identifiers, Developers SHALL clearly identify which sections of text are  
641 being related to the Focal Document element, as described in Section 3.2.7. In other words, the  
642 Reference Document Element Description becomes a mandatory field.

643 Examples:

644 Pertaining to ISO 27001 [6]:

645 [A.6.3] - Designates A.6.3 as the Reference Document element being mapped

646 Pertaining to NIST SP 800-53 [5]:

647 [AC-13] - Designates AC-13 as the Reference Document element being mapped

648 The Informative Reference SHALL focus on the main intuitive topic of the Reference Document and  
649 Focal Document elements being compared. If a Reference Document element contains more than  
650 one main topic, the Developer SHALL decompose it into multiple, discrete Reference Document  
651 elements. In this instance, the Developer SHALL use additional sequential identifiers to clearly  
652 identify which sections of text are being related to the Focal Document element, as described in  
653 Section 3.2.9. The Reference Document Element Description also becomes a mandatory field. The  
654 Developer SHALL use the following format when creating identifiers:

655 [Reference Document Element:Sequential Identifier] where {Reference Document Element  
656 1, Reference Document Element 2, Reference Document Element 3... Reference Document  
657 Element  $n$ }, comprise the elements of the Reference Document, and {1, 2, 3...  $n$ } describes  
658 the set of Group Sequential Identifiers.

659 Examples:

660 Pertaining to ISO 27001 [6]:

661 [A.6.3:1] - Designates the 1<sup>st</sup> portion of A.6.3 being mapped

662 [A.6.3:2] - Designates the 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of A.6.3 being mapped

663 Pertaining to NIST SP 800-53 [5]:

664 [AC-13:3] - Designates the 3<sup>rd</sup> portion of AC-13 being mapped

665 Note that only one colon (“:”) may be used in the identifier, specifically to separate the Reference  
666 Document element from the sequential identifier.

**667 3.2.7 Reference Document Element Description**

668 The *Reference Document Element Description* field SHALL be populated with the text description  
669 of a given Reference Document element. This text is used when comparing the Reference Document  
670 element to the Focal Document element.

671 This field is required except when the descriptive text in the Reference Document element is  
672 protected by copyright and/or license restrictions.

**673 3.2.8 Fulfilled By**

674 The *Fulfilled By* field refers to the completeness of a Reference Document element in relation to a  
675 Focal Document element. Focal Document elements that are subsets of or equal to Reference  
676 Document elements SHALL be marked “Yes.” Focal Document elements which are supersets of,  
677 intersect with, or are not related to Reference Document elements SHALL be marked “No.”

678 When populated in conjunction with groups (see Section 3.2.9), the appropriate Yes/No value is  
679 selected relative to the entire group instead of the individual Reference Document element. In these  
680 cases, the *Fulfilled By* value for each Reference Document element SHALL be the same as the  
681 collective Group value.

**682 3.2.9 Group Identifier (Optional)**

683 The *Group Identifier* is a value defined by the Developer. This value indicates that individual  
684 Reference Document elements are part of a group when mapped to a Focal Document element. The  
685 Developer SHOULD create a Group Identifier to indicate that a group of Reference Document  
686 elements fulfill a Focal Document element. Group Identifiers SHALL use the following Group  
687 Identifier format:

688 [Focal Document Element: Group Sequential Identifier] where {ID, PR, DE, RS, RC}  
689 comprise the elements of Cybersecurity Framework Focal Document Element, and {G1, G2,  
690 G3... Gn} describes the set of Group Sequential Elements where  $\mathbb{N}$  represents all the natural  
691 numbers.

692 The Cybersecurity Framework Focal Document element is a member of the Cybersecurity  
693 Framework Core and can correspond to any Function, Category, or Subcategory. The Group  
694 Sequential Identifier is the literal “G” followed by the sequential number, which designates the  
695 position of the group. Examples:

696 ID.BE-1:G1 – Designates the 1<sup>st</sup> Group in the ID.BE-1 Group Identifier

697 ID.BE-3:G1 – Designates the 1<sup>st</sup> Group in the decomposed Cybersecurity Framework  
698 element ID.BE-3 Group Identifier

699 ID.BE-3:G2 – Designates the 2<sup>nd</sup> Group in the decomposed Cybersecurity Framework  
700 element ID.BE-3 Group Identifier

701 RC.MI-1:G1 – Designates the 1<sup>st</sup> (and only Group) in the RC.MI-1 Group Identifier

702 Note that only one colon (“:”) may be used in the identifier, specifically to separate the Reference  
703 Document Element from the Group Sequential Identifier. See Table 3 in Section 3.2.12 for an  
704 example of a Group Identifier.

### 705 **3.2.10 Comments (Optional)**

706 The *Comments* field refers to any explanatory or background text that may help Informative  
707 Reference consumers understand the developer’s logic. The Developer may wish to provide  
708 additional information to Informative Reference users to explain decisions made or implementation  
709 considerations. Although this field is optional, NIST strongly encourages Developers to populate this  
710 field with supporting information that informed the Reference Developer’s assertions.

711 *Examples:* “Assets under consideration for this relationship are business systems.”, “Developers  
712 used the DHS Critical Infrastructure definition.”

### 713 **3.2.11 Strength of Relationship (Optional)**

714 The *Strength of Relationship* field refers to the extent to which a Reference Document element and a  
715 Focal Document element are similar. The Strength of Relationship field builds upon the Relationship  
716 field. As Figure 3 depicts, in a relationship such as Subset of, two elements can have a relatively  
717 strong relationship (see Case 1) or a relatively weak relationship (see Case 2). See Section 3.2.5 for  
718 additional information on how the Relationship and Rationale fields relate to the Strength of  
719 Relationship field.

720 The Strength of Relationship field is optional, but Developers are encouraged to use it because it can  
721 help Reference users better understand the Developer’s intent. Note that the field is intended for  
722 lateral comparisons, such as the Cybersecurity Framework and the Privacy Framework, rather than  
723 comparisons of documents at different levels, such as the Cybersecurity Framework and a research  
724 paper on a topic in quantum cryptography. To designate that two documents are not lateral, a  
725 Developer SHOULD set the Strength of Relationship field to “N/A.”

726 When specified for lateral documents, the Strength of Relationship field SHALL be an integer from  
727 0 to 10, where 10 is the strongest and 0 is the weakest. There is no prescribed methodology for  
728 estimating a strength of relationship score. In general, a Developer using the Strength of  
729 Relationship field SHOULD use their expert judgment to assign a value based on the following  
730 criteria:

- 731 • If the two elements have an “equal” relationship, assign a score of 10.
- 732 • If the two elements have a “subset of,” “superset of,” or “intersects with” relationship, and
  - 733 ○ they are much more similar than they are dissimilar, assign a score of 7, 8, or 9.
  - 734 ○ they are roughly as similar as they are dissimilar, assign a score of 4, 5, or 6.
  - 735 ○ they are much more dissimilar than they are similar, assign a score of 1, 2, or 3.
- 736 • If the two elements have a “not related to” relationship, assign a score of 0.

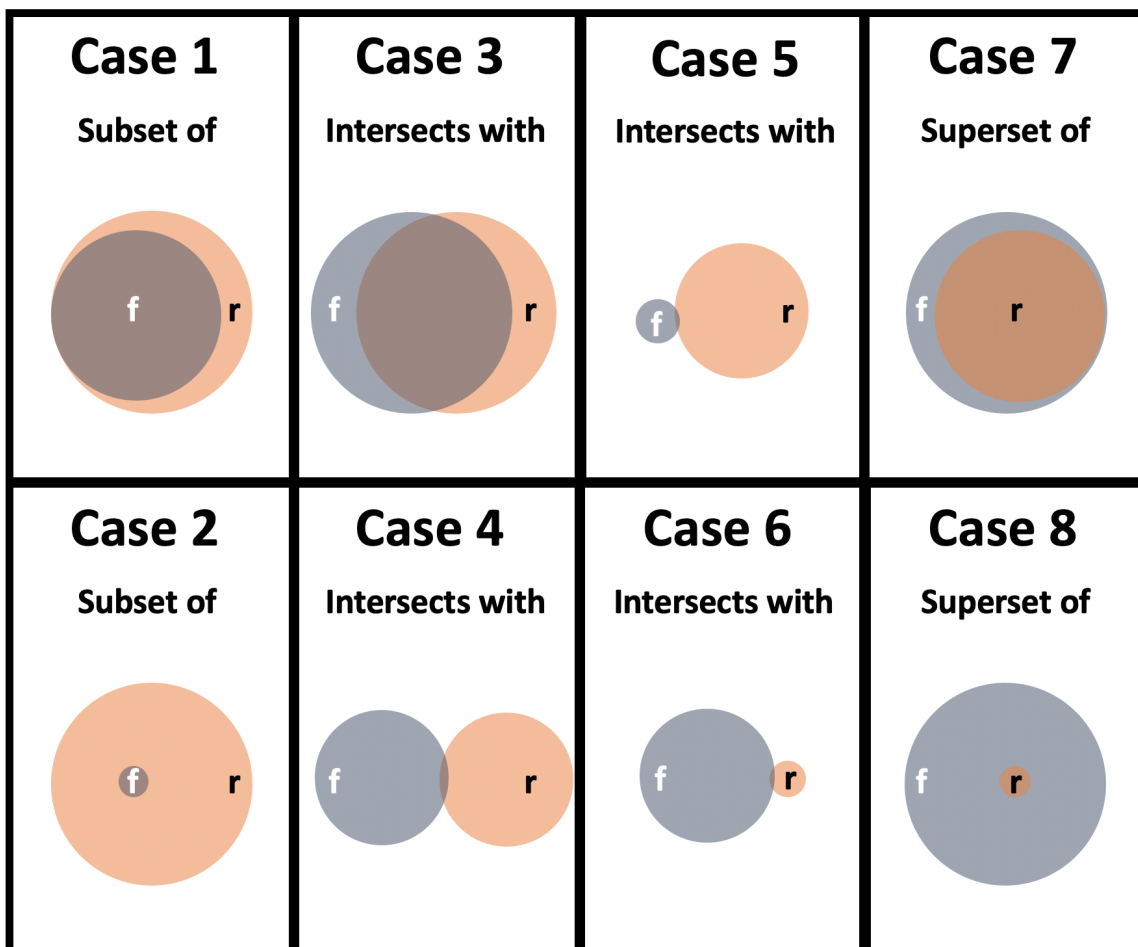


Figure 3: Relative Strength of Relationships

737

738

739 **3.2.12 Examples of Common Scenarios**

740 The examples in this section represent common scenarios for the Developer. They illustrate well-  
741 formed relationship rows corresponding to a fictional Reference Document.

742 *Example 1 – Multiple Reference Document elements relate to one Cybersecurity Framework*  
743 *Subcategory:* To designate that multiple Reference Document elements **do not** entirely fulfill the  
744 Subcategory, multiple rows SHALL *be* added as shown in Table 3. The grouping of Reference  
745 Document elements indicates a high degree of coupling. The GroupID is provided by the Developer,  
746 and in this example, the GroupID is “RS.CO-4:G1”. Since the total concepts in the sets of the  
747 Reference Document elements are not greater than or equal to the total concepts in RS.CO-4, the  
748 *Fulfilled By* column is marked “No” for all rows. The high degree of coupling creates a high level of  
749 comparison for the group’s strength score pertaining to RS.CO-4.

750

**Table 3: Template Examples for Multiple Reference Document Elements**

Focal Document Element	Focal Document Element Description	Rationale	Relationship	Reference Document Element	Reference Document Element Description	Fulfilled By (Y/N)	Group ID (optional)	Strength of Relationship
RS.CO-4	Coordination with stakeholders occurs consistent with response plans.	Syntactic	superset of	1.2.3	text	N	RS.CO-4:G1	9
RS.CO-4	Coordination with stakeholders occurs consistent with response plans.	Semantic	intersects with	4.5.6	text	N	RS.CO-4:G1	9
RS.CO-4	Coordination with stakeholders occurs consistent with response plans.	Functional	superset of	7.8.9	text	N	RS.CO-4:G1	9

751 *Example 2 – Single Reference Document element fulfills a Privacy Framework Focal Document*  
 752 *element:* This example illustrates how to document the use case when a single Reference Document  
 753 element fulfills a Privacy Framework Focal Document element. Although this specific example uses  
 754 a Privacy Framework Category, any Privacy Framework element can be used. Table 4 also depicts a  
 755 *one-to-one* mapping in which a single Privacy Framework element is equal to a Reference Document  
 756 element. This Relationship designation indicates that the Reference Document element entirely  
 757 fulfills the Category.

758

**Table 4: OLIR Template Example for a Single Reference Document Element**

Focal Document Element	Focal Document Element Description	Rationale	Relationship	Reference Document Element	Reference Document Element Description	Fulfilled By (Y/N)	Group ID (optional)	Strength of Relationship
ID.IM-P	Data processing by systems, products, or services is understood and informs the management of privacy risk.	Semantic	equal	10.11.12	text	Y		10

759

760 *Example 3 – Single Reference Document element does not fulfill an SP 800-53 Focal Document*  
 761 *element:* This example illustrates how to document the use case when a single Reference Document  
 762 element does not fulfill an SP 800-53 Focal Document element. Although Table 5 depicts this  
 763 specific example of a single SP 800-53 Security Control element, any SP 800-53 Security/Privacy  
 764 Control or control enhancement can be used. This Relationship designation indicates that the single  
 765 Reference Document element does not fulfill the Focal Document element, and the strength of the  
 766 relationship is weak.

767 **Table 5: Second OLIR Template Example for a Single Reference Document Element**

Focal Document Element	Focal Document Element Description	Rationale	Relationship	Reference Document Element	Reference Document Element Description	Fulfilled By (Y/N)	Group ID (optional)	Strength of Relationship
IA-2	The information system uniquely identifies and authenticates organizational users (or processes acting on behalf of organizational users).	Functional	Intersects with	13.14.15	text	N		2

768  
769

770

**References**

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772



## 773 **Appendix A—Relationship Examples**

774 The notional logic for determining the relationships depicted in Figure 2 is presented in this  
775 appendix. An element concept can be an entire document, chapter or section of a document, bullet,  
776 meaning of a paragraph, description of an educational or course offering, description of a product or  
777 service feature, etc. While the Cybersecurity Framework is the Focal Document used to demonstrate  
778 the notional logic, any focal document could serve to demonstrate the relationship examples.

779 The examples below are extended explanations of the Relationships described in Section 3.2.5. The  
780 examples were taken from NIST SP 800-171, and all Reference Document elements are referenced  
781 as described in that publication [8]. All Cybersecurity Framework element examples are taken from  
782 version 1.1 of the Cybersecurity Framework [4].

### 783 **Case 1 – Subset of**

784 In Figure 2, the Venn Diagram in Case 1 refers to the scenario in which the Reference Document  
785 element contains unique concepts and shares concepts with the Cybersecurity Framework element.

#### 786 *Example*

787 Cybersecurity Framework element: PR.AT-4, “Senior executives understand their roles and  
788 responsibilities.”

789 Reference Document element: [8] requirement 3.2.2, “Ensure that organizational personnel are  
790 adequately trained to carry out their assigned information security-related duties and  
791 responsibilities.”

792 This example assumes that the Developer is using a *functional* mapping technique as described in  
793 Section 3.2.4. PR.AT-4 states that a specific group of users (senior executives) should be trained on  
794 their roles and responsibilities. Requirement 3.2.2 in [8] states that “all users” should be trained on  
795 their roles and responsibilities. The Developer may assert that the concept “all users” contains the  
796 concept “senior executives and others.”

797 Given that

- 798 a) the Reference Document element and Cybersecurity Framework element share
- 799 concepts,
- 800 b) the Reference Document element contains unique concepts, and
- 801 c) the Cybersecurity Framework element does not contain unique concepts,

802 their designated relationship is “subset of.” In other words,

803 “[4] element PR.AT-4 is a subset of [8] requirement 3.2.2.”

### 804 **Case 2 – Intersects with**

805 In Figure 2, the Venn Diagram for Case 2 refers to the scenario in which the Cybersecurity  
806 Framework element contains unique concepts, the Reference Document element contains unique

807 concepts, and the Reference Document element and Cybersecurity Framework element share  
808 concepts.

809 ***Example***

810 Cybersecurity Framework element: RS.CO-2, “Incidents are reported consistent with established  
811 criteria.”

812 Reference Document element: [8] requirement 3.6.2, “Track, document, and report incidents to  
813 appropriate organizational officials and/or authorities.”

814 If the Developer uses a *semantic* mapping technique as described in Section 3.2.4, the action denoted  
815 by the same concept of *documenting and reporting incidents* is accomplished. However, RS.CO-2  
816 contains the concept of “established criteria,” and [8] requirement 3.6.2 contains the concept of  
817 “appropriate organizational officials and authorities.”

818 Given that the compared Reference Document element and Cybersecurity Framework element

- 819 a) share concepts and  
820 b) both contain unique concepts,

821 their designated relationship is “intersects with.” In other words,

822 “[4] element RS.CO-2 intersects with [8] requirement 3.6.2.”

823 **Case 3 – Equal**

824 In Figure 2, the Venn Diagram for Case 3 refers to the scenario in which the Cybersecurity  
825 Framework element and the Reference Document element only share concepts, and neither the  
826 Reference Document nor the Cybersecurity Framework element has any unique concepts.

827 ***Example***

828 Cybersecurity Framework element: PR.PT-3, “The principle of least functionality is incorporated by  
829 configuring systems to provide only essential capabilities.”

830 Reference Document element: [8] requirement 3.4.6, “Employ the principle of least functionality by  
831 configuring organizational systems to provide only essential capabilities.”

832 If the Developer uses either a *functional* or *semantic* mapping technique as described in Section  
833 3.2.4, the shared concept of “employing/incorporating the principle of least functionality by  
834 configuring systems to provide only essential capabilities” is considered equal. Neither the  
835 Reference Document element nor the Cybersecurity Framework element contains any unique  
836 concepts.

837 Given that the Reference Document element and Cybersecurity Framework element

- 838 a) share all concepts and  
839 b) contain no unique concepts,

840 their designated relationship is “equal.” In other words,

841 “[4] element PR.PT-3 is equal to [8] requirement 3.4.6.”

#### 842 **Case 4 – Superset of**

843 In Figure 2, the Venn Diagram for Case 4 refers to the scenario in which the Cybersecurity  
844 Framework element contains unique concepts and shares concepts with the Reference Document  
845 element.

#### 846 *Example*

847 Cybersecurity Framework element: PR.AC-1, “Identities and credentials are issued, managed,  
848 verified, revoked, and audited for authorized devices, users, and processes.”

849 Reference Document element: [8] requirement 3.5.1, “Identify system users, processes acting on  
850 behalf of users, and devices.”

851 If the Developer uses a *functional* mapping technique to issue a credential as described in Section  
852 3.2.4, a process or user would have to be identified. While [8] requirement 3.5.1 contains this  
853 identification, the management, verification, revocation, and audit of the credential are also  
854 contained in the Cybersecurity Framework element.

855 Given that

- 856 a) the Reference Document element and Cybersecurity Framework element share
- 857 concepts,
- 858 b) the Cybersecurity Framework element contains unique concepts, and
- 859 c) the Reference Document element does not contain unique concepts,

860 their designated relationship is “superset of.” In other words,

861 “[4] element PR.AC-1 is a superset of [8] requirement 3.5.1.”

#### 862 **Case 5 – Not related to**

863 In Figure 2, the Venn Diagram for Case 5 refers to the scenario in which the Cybersecurity  
864 Framework element and the Reference Document element do not share any concepts. Some  
865 Reference Document elements may not relate to any Cybersecurity Framework elements, so the  
866 former may be omitted or marked “Not related to,” along with a blank Cybersecurity Framework  
867 Element field. If a Reference Document element is omitted entirely from the OLIR Template, it will  
868 be assumed to be “not related to” any Cybersecurity Framework element.

869

870 **Appendix B—Acronyms**

871 Selected acronyms and abbreviations used in this paper are defined below.

BCP	Best Current Practice
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
HTTPS	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
IR	Interagency or Internal Report
ITL	Information Technology Laboratory
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
OLIR	Online Informative References
OLIRVal	Online Informative References Validation (Tool)
RFC	Request for Comment
SP	Special Publication
URL	Uniform Resource Locator

872

**Appendix C—Glossary**

Developer	See <i>Informative Reference Developer</i> .
Focal Document	A source document that is used as the basis for comparing an element with an element from another document. As of this writing, the OLIR Program has three Focal Documents: the Cybersecurity Framework version 1.1, the Privacy Framework version 1.0, and SP 800-53 Rev. 4.
Focal Document Element	Any number and combination of organizational concepts (e.g., Functions, Categories, Subcategories, Controls, Control Enhancements) of a Focal Document.
Informative Reference	A relationship between a Focal Document Element and a Reference Document Element.
Informative Reference Developer	A person, team, or organization that creates an Informative Reference and submits it to the OLIR Program.
OLIR Catalog	The OLIR Program's online site for sharing OLIRs.
OLIR Template	A spreadsheet that contains the fields necessary for creating a well-formed Informative Reference for submission to the OLIR Program. It serves as the starting point for the Developer.
Online Informative Reference (OLIR)	An Informative Reference expressed in NISTIR 8278A-compliant format and shared by the OLIR Catalog.
Rationale	The explanation of why a Reference Document element and a Focal Document element are related. This will be one of the following: Syntactic, Semantic, or Functional.
Reference	See <i>Informative Reference</i> .
Reference Document	A source document being compared to a Focal Document. Examples include traditional documents, products, services, education materials, and training.
Reference Document Element	A specific section, sentence, or phrase of a Reference Document.
Reference Version	The version of the Informative Reference.

Relationship	The type of logical comparison that the Reference Document Developer asserts compared to the Focal Document. This will be one of the following: subset of, intersects with, equal to, superset of, or not related to.
Strength of Relationship	The extent to which a Reference Document element and a Focal Document element are similar.
User	A person, team, or organization that accesses or otherwise uses an Online Informative Reference.

874

875 **Appendix D—General Information Example**

876 The table below displays field values that adhere to the specification within Section 3.1.

Field Name	Field Value
Informative Reference Name	NIST-SP800-171-to-Framework-v1.1 (1.0.0)
Reference Version	1.0.0
Web Address	<a href="http://www.nist.gov/files/xxxxxx">http://www.nist.gov/files/xxxxxx</a>
Focal Document Version	Cybersecurity Framework v1.1
Summary	The purpose of this Informative Reference is to provide a relationship between the NIST SP 800-171 document and the Cybersecurity Framework.
Target Audience (Community)	The intended audience for this Informative Reference is those seeking to protect controlled unclassified information using the Cybersecurity Framework.
Comprehensive	Yes
Reference Document Author	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Reference Document	Special Publication 800-171 Revision 1: <i>Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Systems and Organizations</i>
Reference Document Date	12/00/2016, updated on 06/07/2018
Reference Document URL	<a href="https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-171/rev-1/final">https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-171/rev-1/final</a>
Reference Developer	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Comments	None
Point of Contact	Jane Doe +1 555-555-5555 <a href="mailto:example@nist.gov">example@nist.gov</a>
Dependency/Requirement	This Informative Reference is a standalone Reference and does not have any dependencies.
Citations	Mapping of Cybersecurity Framework v.1.0 to SP 800 171 Rev. 1, <a href="https://csrc.nist.gov/CSRC/media//Publications/sp/800-171/rev-1/final/documents/csf-v1-0-to-sp800-171rev1-mapping.xlsx">https://csrc.nist.gov/CSRC/media//Publications/sp/800-171/rev-1/final/documents/csf-v1-0-to-sp800-171rev1-mapping.xlsx</a>

877

**Appendix E—Participation Agreement for the NIST OLIR Program**

879 In order to submit a candidate Informative Reference to NIST, an Informative Reference submitter  
880 must first review, sign, and submit a Participation Agreement. That form establishes the terms of  
881 agreement for participating in the NIST National Cybersecurity Online Informative References  
882 (OLIR) Program.



883  
884 **Participation Agreement**  
885 **The NIST National Cybersecurity Online Informative References Program**

886 **Version 1.2**  
887 **June 11, 2020**

888 The phrase “NIST National Cybersecurity Online Informative References Program” is intended for  
889 use in association with specific documents for which a candidate Informative Reference (Reference)  
890 has been created and has met the requirements of the Program for final listing on the submission on  
891 the Informative Reference catalog. You may participate in the Program if you agree in writing to the  
892 following terms and conditions:

- 893 1. Informative References are made reasonably available.
- 894 2. You will follow the expectations of the Program as detailed in NIST Interagency Report  
895 8278A, Section 2.
- 896 3. You will respond to comments and issues raised by a public review of your Informative  
897 Reference submission within 30 days of the end of the public review period. Any comments  
898 from reviewers and your responses may be made publicly available.
- 899 4. You agree to maintain the Informative Reference and provide a timely response (within 10  
900 business days) to requests from NIST for information or assistance regarding the contents or  
901 structure of the Informative Reference.
- 902 5. You represent that, to the best of your knowledge, the use of your Informative Reference  
903 submission will not infringe on any intellectual property or proprietary rights of third parties.  
904 You will hold NIST harmless in any subsequent litigation involving the Informative  
905 Reference submission.
- 906 6. You may terminate your participation in the Program at any time. You will provide two  
907 business weeks’ notice to NIST of your intention to terminate participation. NIST may



908 terminate its consideration of an Informative Reference submission or your participation in  
909 the Program at any time. NIST will contact you two business weeks prior to its intention to  
910 terminate your participation. You may, within one business week, appeal the termination and  
911 provide convincing supporting evidence to rebut that termination.

912 7. You may not use the name or logo of NIST or the Department of Commerce on any  
913 advertisement, product, or service that is directly or indirectly related to this participation  
914 agreement.

915 8. NIST does not directly or indirectly endorse any product or service provided or to be  
916 provided by you, your successors, assignees, or licensees. You may not in any way imply  
917 that participation in this Program is an endorsement of any such product or service.

918 9. Your permission for advertising participation in the Program is conditioned on and limited to  
919 those Informative References and the specific Informative Reference versions for which an  
920 Informative Reference is made currently available by NIST through the Program on its Final  
921 Informative References List.

922 10. Your permission for advertising participation in the Program is conditioned on and limited to  
923 those Informative Reference submitters who provide assistance and help to users of the  
924 Informative Reference with regard to the proper use of the Informative Reference and that  
925 the warranty for the Informative Reference and the specific Informative Reference versions  
926 is not changed by use of the Informative Reference.

927 11. NIST reserves the right to charge a participation fee in the future. No fee is required at  
928 present. No fees will be made retroactive.

929 12. NIST may terminate the Program at its discretion. NIST may terminate your participation in  
930 the Program for any violation of the terms and conditions of the program or for statutory,  
931 policy, or regulatory reasons. This Participation Agreement does not create legally  
932 enforceable rights or obligations on behalf of NIST.

933 By signing below, the developer agrees to the terms and conditions contained herein.

934 \_\_\_\_\_

935 Organization or company name

936 \_\_\_\_\_

937 Name and title of organization authorized person

938 \_\_\_\_\_

939 Signature

940 \_\_\_\_\_

941 Date

942