

NIST Seeks Input for Planned 2011 Update of Security Control Catalog For Federal Information Systems and Organizations

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is seeking input from federal, state, local, and tribal governments, industry, and academe, for the 2011 update of Special Publication 800-53, *Recommended Security Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations*. Suggestions should be sent to sec-cert@nist.gov by **April 29, 2011**. The target date for final publication of NIST Special Publication 800-53, Revision 4, is **December 13, 2011**. The point of contact for this initiative is Dr. Ron Ross, Project Leader, FISMA Implementation Project and Joint Task Force Transformation Initiative. Email: ron.ross@nist.gov.

As part of the ongoing cyber security partnership among the United States Department of Defense, the Intelligence Community, and the Federal Civil Agencies, NIST will be launching its biennial update to Special Publication 800-53. NIST Special Publication 800-53 is one of the five foundational publications being developed by the partnership's Joint Task Force to create a unified information security framework for the federal government and its contractors. The initial Joint Task Force release of NIST Special Publication 800-53, Revision 3, in August 2009, provided the first combined catalog of management, operational, and technical security controls for both national security systems and nonnational security systems. In an effort to keep pace with a growing threat space characterized by an ever increasing number of cyber attacks against federal information systems, NIST is committed to producing a comprehensive catalog of cutting edge safeguards and countermeasures that are necessary to help protect the core missions and business functions of the federal government and the United States critical infrastructure.

The 2011 initiative will include an update of current security controls, control enhancements, and supplemental guidance as well as an update on tailoring and supplementation guidance that form key elements of the control selection process. Key focus areas include but are not limited to:

- Insider threats;
- Software application security (including web applications);
- Social networking, mobiles devices, and cloud computing;
- Cross domain solutions;
- Advanced persistent threats;
- Supply chain security;
- Industrial/process control systems; and
- Privacy.

NIST SP 800-53, Revision 3, can be obtained at: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/PubsSPs.html>. NIST is also taking steps to update its delivery capability for the content in the Joint Task Force Publications by providing web-based access to the security controls for federal information systems and organizations, and an announcement will be made when this capability is available.