



TO: Policy Authority Cross-Certified Partners

FROM: Dr. Peter Alterman, Chair

SUBJECT: Reformatting Entity CP's into RFC 3647 Format

DATE: November 14, 2006

Issue:

The membership of the Federal PKI Policy Authority is requested to update and reformat the Enterprise PKI Certificate Policies of the cross-certified Certification Authorities to RFC 3647 format.

Background

In November 2003, the Internet Society released RFC 3647, Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate Policy and Certification Practices Framework, which updates and supersedes RFC 2527. The Federal Bridge Certificate Policy was reformatted to comply with RFC3647 and accepted by the Policy Authority on September 13, 2005. In addition to reformatting the Certificate Policy, several specific changes were included to better align the policy with other government-wide initiatives, most notably E-Authentication and HSPD12.

Recommendation

It is recommended that all entities cross certified with the FBCA reformat current policies to RFC 3647 format within one year of this memorandum and review text to ensure continued comparability with the FBCA Certificate Policy. Each agency is asked to complete the appropriate mapping matrices for the level(s) of assurance for which they are/wish to be cross certified with the Federal Bridge. Reformatting should be accomplished to coincide with the annual audit of the Certification Authority. The annual audit will take into account the reformatted policy and ensure the Certificate Practices Statement and operations are in compliance. Upon receipt of reformatted Certificate Policies, audit letter, and completed mapping matrices, the Certificate Policy Working Group will review the documentation and provide feedback to the agency on any discrepancies. This activity will be completed by October 31, 2007.

Action:

All entities cross certified with the FBCA should respond to the Chair, Federal PKI Policy Authority concerning plans to reformat their Certificate Policies to RFC 3647 format and timeframes for completion. Agency responses are requested January 13, 2007.