Swedish Certification Body for IT Security

003 Assurance Continuity

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1   Preface

1   This document is one of the governing documents for the Swedish Certification Body for IT Security (CSEC).

2   In this document, "the Scheme" refers to any or all of the Certification Schemes under which CSEC performs certifications and issues certificates.

3   This document is part of a series of documents that provide a description of aspects of the Scheme and procedures applied under it. This document is of value to all participants under the Scheme, i.e., to anyone concerned with the development, procurement, or accreditation of IT systems for which security is a consideration, as well as those already involved in the Scheme, i.e., Scheme employees, evaluators, current customers, contractors, and security consultants.

4   The Scheme documents and further information can be obtained from the Swedish Certification Body for IT Security. Complete contact information is provided in the following box.

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1.1   Purpose

5   The purpose of this document is to define the concept of Assurance Continuity within the Scheme and point to detailed process descriptions in other documents.

6   General information about the Scheme is published in External publications EP-001 *Certification and Evaluation - Overview*, and EP-301 *Certification and Evaluation – EUCC – Overview*.

1.2   Terminology

7   Abbreviations commonly used by CSEC are described in EP-001 *Certification and Evaluation - Overview.*

8   The following terms are used to specify requirements:

SHALL   Within normative text, "SHALL" indicates "requirements strictly to be followed in order to conform to the document and from which no deviation is permitted." (ISO/IEC).

SHOULD   Within normative text, "SHOULD" indicates "that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others, or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required." (ISO/IEC)
The CC interprets 'not necessarily required' to mean that the choice of another possibility requires a justification of why the preferred option was not chosen.

MAY   Within normative text, "MAY" indicates "a course of action permissible within the limits of the document." (ISO/IEC).

CAN   Within normative text, "CAN" indicates "statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical or causal." (ISO/IEC).

2   Assurance Continuity

9   Assurance continuity provides the means to extend the validity of a Common Criteria certificate to an updated version of the certified product (more specifically the certified target of evaluation or TOE) without having to perform a fully new certification.

10   Assurance continuity can be performed as a re-evaluation or as certificate maintenance.

11   The requirements and procedures for assurance continuity in the Swedish Scheme are based on the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA) document *Assurance Continuity: CCRA Requirements*, version 2.1, June 2012 and described in EP-002 *Evaluation and Certification*.

12   Scheme-specific criteria may be issued as Scheme Notes (SN) and may be changed at any time.

13   Charges associated with assurance continuity are published in EP-008 *Charges and Fees*.