

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**Access Control (AC)** — the process of granting or denying specific requests to obtain and use information and related information processing services; and/or entry to specific physical facilities ( e.g., Federal buildings, military establishments, or border crossing entrances), as defined in FIPS PUB 201-3 Jan2002 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Accreditation** — a status pursuant to which a CMMC Assessment and Certification Ecosystem member (person or organization), having met all criteria for the specific role they perform including required ISO/IEC accreditations, may act in that role as set forth in § 170.8 for the Accreditation Body and § 170.9 for C3PAOs. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Accreditation Body** — is defined in § 170.8 and means the one organization DoD contracts with to be responsible for authorizing and accrediting members of the CMMC Assessment and Certification Ecosystem, as required. The Accreditation Body must be approved by DoD. At any given point in time, there will be only one Accreditation Body for the DoD CMMC Program. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Adequate Security** — protective measures that are commensurate with the consequences and probability of loss, misuse, or unauthorized access to, or modification of information.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Advanced Persistent Threat (APT)** — an adversary that possesses sophisticated levels of expertise and significant resources that allow it to create opportunities to achieve its objectives by using multiple attack vectors ( e.g., cyber, physical, and deception). These objectives typically include establishing and extending footholds within the information technology infrastructure of the targeted organizations for purposes of exfiltrating information, undermining or impeding critical aspects of a mission, program, or organization; or positioning itself to carry out these objectives in the future. The advanced persistent threat pursues its objectives repeatedly over an extended period-of-time, adapts to defenders' efforts to resist it, and is determined to maintain the level of interaction needed to execute its objectives, as is defined in NIST SP 800-39 Mar2011 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Affirming Official** — the senior level representative from within each Organization Seeking Assessment (OSA) who is responsible for ensuring the OSA's compliance with the CMMC Program requirements and has the authority to affirm the OSA's continuing compliance with the specified security requirements for their respective organizations. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Assessment** — the testing or evaluation of security controls to determine the extent to which the controls are implemented correctly, operating as intended, and producing the desired outcome with respect to meeting the security requirements for an information system or organization, as defined in §§ 170.15 through 170.18. (CMMC-custom term)

**Level 1 self-assessment** — the term for the activity performed by an OSA to evaluate its own information system when seeking a CMMC Status of Level 1 (Self).

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

**Level 2 self-assessment** — the term for the activity performed by an OSA to evaluate its own information system when seeking a CMMC Status of Level 2 (Self).

**Level 2 certification assessment** — the term for the activity performed by a C3PAO to evaluate the information system of an OSC when seeking a CMMC Status of Level 2 (C3PAO).

**Level 3 certification assessment** — the term for the activity performed by the DCMA DIBCAC to evaluate the information system of an OSC when seeking a CMMC Status of Level 3 (DIBCAC).

**POA&M closeout self-assessment** — the term for the activity performed by an OSA to evaluate only the NOT MET requirements that were identified with POA&M during the initial assessment, when seeking a CMMC Status of Final Level 2 (Self).

**POA&M closeout certification assessment** — the term for the activity performed by a C3PAO or DCMA DIBCAC to evaluate only the NOT MET requirements that were identified with POA&M during the initial assessment, when seeking a CMMC Status of Final Level 2 (C3PAO) or Final Level 3 (DIBCAC) respectively.

*32 CFR 170.4*

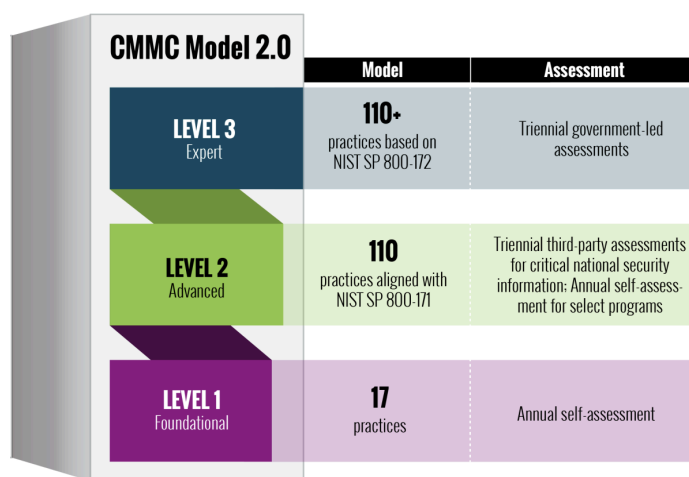


Figure 1. CMMC 2.0 Level Overview

**Assessment Findings Report** — the final written assessment results by the third-party or government assessment team. The Assessment Findings Report is submitted to the OSC and to the DoD via CMMC eMASS. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Assessment Objective** — a set of determination statements that, taken together, expresses the desired outcome for the assessment of a security requirement. Successful implementation of the corresponding CMMC security requirement requires meeting all applicable assessment objectives defined in NIST SP 800-171A Jun2018 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2) or NIST SP 800-172A Mar2022 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2). (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

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**Assessment Team** — participants in the Level 2 certification assessment (CMMC Certified Assessors and CMMC Certified Professionals) or the Level 3 certification assessment (DCMA DIBCAC assessors). This does not include the OSC participants preparing for or participating in the assessment. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Asset** — an item of value to stakeholders. An asset may be tangible ( e.g., a physical item such as hardware, firmware, computing platform, network device, or other technology component) or intangible ( e.g., humans, data, information, software, capability, function, service, trademark, copyright, patent, intellectual property, image, or reputation). The value of an asset is determined by stakeholders in consideration of loss concerns across the entire system life cycle. Such concerns include but are not limited to business or mission concerns, as defined in NIST SP 800-160 V2R1 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Asset Categories** — A grouping of assets that process, store or transmit information of similar designation, or provide security protection to those assets. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Authentication** — Verifying the identity of a user, process, or device, often as a prerequisite to allowing access to resources in an information system.

*FIPS PUB 200 Mar2006*

**Authorization** — The right or a permission that is granted to a system entity to access a system resource.

*NIST Glossary*

**Authorized** — an interim status during which a CMMC Ecosystem member (person or organization), having met all criteria for the specific role they perform other than the required ISO/IEC accreditations, may act in that role for a specified time as set forth in § 170.8 for the Accreditation Body and § 170.9 for C3PAOs. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Basic Assessment** — a contractor’s self-assessment of the contractor’s implementation of NIST SP 800-171 that—

- (1) Is based on the Contractor’s review of their system security plan(s) associated with covered contractor information system(s);
- (2) Is conducted in accordance with the NIST SP 800-171 DoD Assessment Methodology; and
- (3) Results in a confidence level of “Low” in the resulting score, because it is a self-generated score.

*DFARS 252.204-7020*

**Capability** — a combination of mutually reinforcing controls implemented by technical means, physical means, and procedural means. Such controls are typically selected to achieve a common information security or privacy purpose, as defined in NIST SP 800-37 R2 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**Cloud Service Provider** — an external company that provides cloud services based on cloud computing. Cloud computing is a model for enabling ubiquitous, convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources ( e.g., networks, servers, storage, applications, and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction. This definition is based on the definition for cloud computing in NIST SP 800-145 Sept2011. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**CMMC Assessment and Certification Ecosystem** — means the people and organizations described in subpart C of this part. This term is sometimes shortened to CMMC Ecosystem. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**CMMC Assessment Scope** — the set of all assets in the OSA's environment that will be assessed against CMMC security requirements. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**CMMC Assessor and Instructor Certification Organization (CAICO)** — the organization responsible for training, testing, authorizing, certifying, and recertifying CMMC certified assessors, certified instructors, and certified professionals. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**CMMC Instantiation of eMASS** — a CMMC instance of the Enterprise Mission Assurance Support Service (eMASS), a government owned and operated system. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**CMMC Security Requirements** — the 15 Level 1 requirements listed in the [48 CFR 52.204-21\(b\)\(1\)](#), the 110 Level 2 requirements from NIST SP 800-171 R2 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2), and the 24 Level 3 requirements selected from NIST SP 800-172 Feb2021 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

**CMMC Status** — the result of meeting or exceeding the minimum required score for the corresponding assessment. The CMMC Status of an OSA information system is officially stored in SPRS and additionally presented on a Certificate of CMMC Status, if the assessment was conducted by a C3PAO or DCMA DIBCAC. The potential CMMC Statuses are outlined in the paragraphs that follow. (CMMC-custom term)

*Final Level 1 (Self)* is defined in § 170.15(a)(1) and (c)(1). (CMMC-custom term)

*Conditional Level 2 (Self)* is defined in § 170.16(a)(1)(ii). (CMMC-custom term)

*Final Level 2 (Self)* is defined in § 170.16(a)(1)(iii). (CMMC-custom term)

*Conditional Level 2 (C3PAO)* is defined in § 170.17(a)(1)(ii). (CMMC-custom term)

*Final Level 2 (C3PAO)* is defined in § 170.17(a)(1)(iii). (CMMC-custom term)

*Conditional Level 3 (DIBCAC)* is defined in § 170.18(a)(1)(ii). (CMMC-custom term)

*Final Level 3 (DIBCAC)* is defined in § 170.18(a)(1)(iii). (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**CMMC Status Date** — the date that the CMMC Status results are submitted to SPRS or the CMMC instantiation of eMASS, as appropriate. The date of the Conditional CMMC Status will remain as the CMMC Status Date after a successful POA&M closeout. A new date is not set for a Final that follows a Conditional. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

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**CMMC Third-Party Assessment Organization (C3PAO)** — an organization that has been authorized or accredited by the Accreditation Body to conduct Level 2 certification assessments and has the roles and responsibilities identified in § 170.9. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Compromise** — disclosure of information to unauthorized persons, or a violation of the security policy of a system, in which unauthorized intentional or unintentional disclosure, modification, destruction, or loss of an object, or the copying of information to unauthorized media may have occurred.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Contractor** — any individual or other legal entity that is awarded a Federal Government contract or subcontract under a Federal Government contract. The term *contractor* refers to both a prime contractor and all of its subcontractors of any tier on a contract with the Federal Government. The term *contractor* includes lessors and lessees, as well as employers of workers performing on covered Federal contracts whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under [29 U.S.C. 214\(c\)](#). The term *employer* is used interchangeably with the terms *contractor* and *subcontractor* in various sections of this part. The U.S. Government, its agencies, and instrumentalities are not contractors, subcontractors, employers, or joint employers for purposes of compliance with the provisions of the Executive Order.

*29 CFR 10.2*

**Contractor Attributional/Proprietary Information** — technical information with military or space application that is subject to controls on the access, use, reproduction, modification, performance, display, release, disclosure, or dissemination. Controlled technical information would meet the criteria, if disseminated, for distribution statements B through F using the criteria set forth in DoD Instruction 5230.24, Distribution Statements on Technical Documents. The term does not include information that is lawfully publicly available without restrictions.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Contractor Risk Managed Assets** — Assets that can, but are not intended to, process, store, or transmit CUI because of security policy, procedures, and practices in place • Assets are not required to be physically or logically separated from CUI assets.

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)** — is information the Government creates or possesses, or that an entity creates or possesses for or on behalf of the Government, that a law, regulation, or Government-wide policy requires or permits an agency to handle using safeguarding or dissemination controls. However, CUI does not include classified information (see [paragraph \(e\)](#) of this section) or information a non-executive branch entity possesses and maintains in its own systems that did not come from, or was not created or possessed by or for, an executive branch agency or an entity acting for an agency. Law, regulation, or Government-wide policy may require or permit safeguarding or dissemination controls in three ways: Requiring or permitting agencies to control or protect the information but providing no specific controls, which makes the information CUI Basic; requiring or permitting agencies to control or protect the information and providing specific controls for doing so, which makes the information CUI Specified; or requiring or permitting agencies to control the information and specifying only some of those controls, which makes the information CUI Specified, but with CUI Basic controls where the authority does not specify.

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

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*32 CFR 2002.4(h)*

**Controlled Unclassified Information Assets** — assets that can process, store, or transmit CUI. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Covered Contractor Information System** — an unclassified information system that is owned, or operated by or for, a contractor and that processes, stores, or transmits covered defense information.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Covered Defense Information** — unclassified controlled technical information or other information, as described in the Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) Registry at <http://www.archives.gov/cui/registry/category-list.html>, that requires safeguarding or dissemination controls pursuant to and consistent with law, regulations, and Governmentwide policies, and is—

- (1) Marked or otherwise identified in the contract, task order, or delivery order and provided to the contractor by or on behalf of DoD in support of the performance of the contract; or
- (2) Collected, developed, received, transmitted, used, or stored by or on behalf of the contractor in support of the performance of the contract.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Cyber Incident** — actions taken through the use of computer networks that result in a compromise or an actual or potentially adverse effect on an information system and/or the information residing therein.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**DCMA DIBCAC High Assessment** — an assessment that is conducted by Government personnel in accordance with NIST SP 800-171A Jun2018 and leveraging specific guidance in the DoD Assessment Methodology that:

(i) Consists of:

- (A) A review of a contractor's Basic Assessment;
- (B) A thorough document review;
- (C) Verification, examination, and demonstration of a contractor's system security plan to validate that NIST SP 800-171 R2 security requirements have been implemented as described in the contractor's system security plan; and
- (D) Discussions with the contractor to obtain additional information or clarification, as needed; and

(ii) Results in a confidence level of “High” in the resulting score. (Source: [48 CFR 252.204-7020](#)).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Defense Industrial Base (DIB)** — the Department of Defense, Government, and private sector worldwide industrial complex with capabilities to perform research and development, design, produce, and maintain military weapon systems, subsystems, components, or parts to satisfy military requirements.

*32 CFR 236.2*

**Digital Media** — A form of electronic media where data is stored in digital (as opposed to analog) form.

*NIST Glossary*



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Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**DoD Assessment Methodology (DoDAM)** — documents a standard methodology that enables a strategic assessment of a contractor's implementation of NIST SP 800-171 R2, a requirement for compliance with [48 CFR 252.204-7012](#). (Source: DoDAM Version 1.2.1)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Enduring Exception** — a special circumstance or system where remediation and full compliance with CMMC security requirements is not feasible. Examples include systems required to replicate the configuration of 'fielded' systems, medical devices, test equipment, OT, and IoT. No operational plan of action is required but the circumstance must be documented within a system security plan. Specialized Assets and GFE may be enduring exceptions. (CMMC-custom term)

(CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Enterprise** — an organization with a defined mission/goal and a defined boundary, using information systems to execute that mission, and with responsibility for managing its own risks and performance. An enterprise may consist of all or some of the following business aspects: acquisition, program management, financial management ( e.g., budgets), human resources, security, and information systems, information and mission management, as defined in NIST SP 800-53 R5 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**External Service Provider** — external people, technology, or facilities that an organization utilizes for provision and management of IT and/or cybersecurity services on behalf of the organization. In the CMMC Program, CUI or Security Protection Data ( e.g., log data, configuration data), must be processed, stored, or transmitted on the ESP assets to be considered an ESP. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Federal Contract Information (FCI)** — information, not intended for public release, that is provided by or generated for the Government under a contract to develop or deliver a product or service to the Government, but not including information provided by the Government to the public (such as that on public Web sites) or simple transactional information, such as that necessary to process payments.

*48 CFR 4.1901*

**Forensic Analysis** — the practice of gathering, retaining, and analyzing computer-related data for investigative purposes in a manner that maintains the integrity of the data.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Government Furnished Equipment (GFE)** — property in the possession of, or directly acquired by, the Government and subsequently furnished to the contractor for performance of a contract. Government-furnished property includes, but is not limited to, spares and property furnished for repair, maintenance, overhaul, or modification. Government-furnished property also includes contractor-acquired property if the contractor-acquired property is a deliverable under a cost contract when accepted by the Government for continued use under the contract.

*48 CFR 45.101*

**High Assessment** — an assessment that is conducted by Government personnel using NIST SP 800-171A, Assessing Security Requirements for Controlled Unclassified Information that—

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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(1) Consists of—

- (i) A review of a contractor’s Basic Assessment;
  - (ii) A thorough document review;
  - (iii) Verification, examination, and demonstration of a Contractor’s system security plan to validate that NIST SP 800-171 security requirements have been implemented as described in the contractor’s system security plan; and
  - (iv) Discussions with the contractor to obtain additional information or clarification, as needed;
- and

(2) Results in a confidence level of “High” in the resulting score.

*DFARS 252.204-7020*

**Identifier** — unique data used to represent a person’s identity and associated attributes. A name or a card number are examples of identifiers.

*NIST Glossary*

**Industrial Control Systems (ICS)** — means a general term that encompasses several types of control systems, including supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems, distributed control systems (DCS), and other control system configurations that are often found in the industrial sectors and critical infrastructures, such as Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC). An ICS consists of combinations of control components ( e.g., electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic) that act together to achieve an industrial objective ( e.g., manufacturing, transportation of matter or energy), as defined in NIST SP 800-82r3 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Information System (IS)** — A discrete set of information resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information.

*NIST SP 800-171 R2*

**Information System** — discrete set of information resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Internet of Things (IoT)** — the network of devices that contain the hardware, software, firmware, and actuators which allow the devices to connect, interact, and freely exchange data and information, as defined in NIST SP 800-172A Mar2022 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Malicious Software** — computer software or firmware intended to perform an unauthorized process that will have adverse impact on the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of an information system. This definition includes a virus, worm, Trojan horse, or other code-based entity that infects a host, as well as spyware and some forms of adware.

**Media** — physical devices or writing surfaces including, but is not limited to, magnetic tapes, optical disks, magnetic disks, large-scale integration memory chips, and printouts onto which covered defense information is recorded, stored, or printed within a covered contractor information system.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*



## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**Media** — physical devices or writing surfaces including, but not limited to, magnetic tapes, optical disks, magnetic disks, Large-Scale Integration (LSI) memory chips, and printouts (but not including display media) onto which information is recorded, stored, or printed within a system.

*NIST Glossary*

**Medium Assessment** — an assessment conducted by the Government that—

(1) Consists of—

- (i) A review of a contractor’s Basic Assessment;
  - (ii) A thorough document review; and
  - (iii) Discussions with the contractor to obtain additional information or clarification, as needed;
- and

(2) Results in a confidence level of “Medium” in the resulting score.

*DFARS 252.204-7020*

**Operationally Critical Support** — supplies or services designated by the Government as critical for airlift, sealift, intermodal transportation services, or logistical support that is essential to the mobilization, deployment, or sustainment of the Armed Forces in a contingency operation.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Operational Plan of Action** — as used in security requirement CA.L2-3.12.2, means the formal artifact which identifies temporary vulnerabilities and temporary deficiencies ( e.g., necessary information system updates, patches, or reconfiguration as threats evolve) in implementation of requirements and documents how they will be mitigated, corrected, or eliminated. The OSA defines the format ( e.g., document, spreadsheet, database) and specific content of its operational plan of action. An operational plan of action does not identify a timeline for remediation and is not the same as a POA&M, which is associated with an assessment for remediation of deficiencies that must be completed within 180 days. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Operational Technology (OT)** — means programmable systems or devices that interact with the physical environment (or manage devices that interact with the physical environment). These systems or devices detect or cause a direct change through the monitoring or control of devices, processes, and events. Examples include industrial control systems, building management systems, fire control systems, and physical access control mechanisms, as defined in NIST SP 800-160 V2R1 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Organization-defined** — as determined by the OSA except as defined in the case of Organization-Defined Parameter (ODP). (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Organization Defined Parameters (ODPs)** — selected enhanced security requirements contain selection and assignment operations to give organizations flexibility in defining variable parts of those requirements, as defined in NIST SP 800-172A Mar2022 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2). *Note 1 to ODPs:* The organization defining the parameters is the DoD.

**Organization Seeking Assessment (OSA)** — the entity seeking to undergo a self-assessment or certification assessment for a given information system for the purposes of achieving and maintaining any CMMC Status. The term OSA includes all Organizations Seeking Certification (OSCs). (CMMC-custom term)

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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32 CFR 170.4

**Organization Seeking Certification (OSC)** — the entity seeking to undergo a certification assessment for a given information system for the purposes of achieving and maintaining the CMMC Status of Level 2 (C3PAO) or Level 3 (DIBCAC). An OSC is also an OSA.

(CMMC-custom term)

32 CFR 170.4

**Out Of Scope Assets** — assets that cannot process, store, or transmit CUI because they are physically or logically separated from information systems that do process, store, or transmit CUI, or are inherently unable to do so; except for assets that provide security protection for a CUI asset (see the definition for *Security Protection Assets*). (CMMC-custom term)

32 CFR 170.4

**Periodically** — occurring at a regular interval as determined by the OSA that may not exceed one year. (CMMC-custom term)

32 CFR 170.4

**Personally Identifiable** — information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, either alone or when combined with other information that is linked or linkable to a specific individual, as defined in NIST SP 800-53 R5 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

32 CFR 170.4

**Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M)** — a document that identifies tasks needing to be accomplished. It details resources required to accomplish the elements of the plan, any milestones in meeting the tasks, and scheduled completion dates for the milestones, as defined in NIST SP 800-115 Sept2008 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

**Prime Contractor** — a person who has entered into a prime contract with the United States.

48 CFR 3.502-1

**Process, store, or transmit** — data can be used by an asset ( e.g., accessed, entered, edited, generated, manipulated, or printed); data is inactive or at rest on an asset ( e.g., located on electronic media, in system component memory, or in physical format such as paper documents); or data is being transferred from one asset to another asset ( e.g., data in transit using physical or digital transport methods). (CMMC-custom term)

32 CFR 170.4

**Protocol** — a set of rules (i.e., formats and procedures) for communications that computers use when sending signals between themselves

NIST Glossary

**Rapidly Report** — within 72 hours of discovery of any cyber incident.

DFARS 252.204-7012

**Restricted Information Systems** — systems (and associated IT components comprising the system) that are configured based on government requirements ( e.g., connected to something that was required to support a functional requirement) and are used to support a contract ( e.g., fielded systems, obsolete systems, and product deliverable replicas). (CMMC-custom term)

32 CFR 170.4

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**Risk** — a measure of the extent to which an entity is threatened by a potential circumstance or event, and is typically a function of:

- (i) The adverse impacts that would arise if the circumstance or event occurs; and
- (ii) The likelihood of occurrence, as defined in NIST SP 800-53 R5 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Risk Assessment** — the process of identifying risks to organizational operations (including mission, functions, image, reputation), organizational assets, individuals, other organizations, and the Nation, resulting from the operation of a system. Risk Assessment is part of risk management, incorporates threat and vulnerability analyses, and considers mitigations provided by security controls planned or in place. Synonymous with risk analysis, as defined in NIST SP 800-39 Mar2011 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Security Protection Assets** — assets providing security functions or capabilities for the OSA's CMMC Assessment Scope. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Security Protection Data (SPD)** — data stored or processed by Security Protection Assets (SPA) that are used to protect an OSC's assessed environment. SPD is security relevant information and includes but is not limited to: configuration data required to operate an SPA, log files generated by or ingested by an SPA, data related to the configuration or vulnerability status of in-scope assets, and passwords that grant access to the in-scope environment.

(CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Services** — a software component participating in a service-oriented architecture that provides functionality or participates in realizing one or more capabilities.

*NIST Glossary*

**Specialized Assets** — types of assets considered specialized assets for CMMC: Government Furnished Equipment, Internet of Things (IoT) or Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), Operational Technology (OT), Restricted Information Systems, and Test Equipment. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Subcontractor** — any person, other than the prime contractor, who offers to furnish or furnishes any supplies, materials, equipment, or services of any kind under a prime contract or a subcontract entered into in connection with such prime contract; and includes any person who offers to furnish or furnishes general supplies to the prime contractor or a higher tier subcontractor.

*48 CFR 3.502-1*

**Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)** — a generic name for a computerized system that is capable of gathering and processing data and applying operational controls over long distances. Typical uses include power transmission and distribution and pipeline systems. SCADA was designed for the unique communication challenges ( e.g., delays, data integrity) posed by the various media that must be used, such as phone lines, microwave, and satellite.

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Usually shared rather than dedicated, as defined in NIST SP 800-82r3 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**System Security Plan (SSP)** — the formal document that provides an overview of the security requirements for an information system or an information security program and describes the security controls in place or planned for meeting those requirements. The system security plan describes the system components that are included within the system, the environment in which the system operates, how the security requirements are implemented, and the relationships with or connections to other systems, as defined in NIST SP 800-53 R5 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Technical Information** — technical data or computer software, as those terms are defined in the clause at DFARS [252.227-7013](#) , Rights in Technical Data—Other Than Commercial Products and Commercial Services, regardless of whether or not the clause is incorporated in this solicitation or contract. Examples of technical information include research and engineering data, engineering drawings, and associated lists, specifications, standards, process sheets, manuals, technical reports, technical orders, catalog-item identifications, data sets, studies and analyses and related information, and computer software executable code and source code.

*DFARS 252.204-7012*

**Temporary Deficiency** — a condition where remediation of a discovered deficiency is feasible, and a known fix is available or is in process. The deficiency must be documented in an operational plan of action. A temporary deficiency is not based on an 'in progress' initial implementation of a CMMC security requirement but arises after implementation. A temporary deficiency may apply during the initial implementation of a security requirement if, during roll-out, specific issues with a very limited subset of equipment is discovered that must be separately addressed. There is no standard duration for which a temporary deficiency may be active. For example, FIPS-validated cryptography that requires a patch and the patched version is no longer the validated version may be a temporary deficiency. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**Test Equipment** — hardware and/or associated IT components used in the testing of products, system components, and contract deliverables. (CMMC-custom term)

*32 CFR 170.4*

**User** — an individual, or (system) process acting on behalf of an individual, authorized to access a system, as defined in NIST SP 800-53 R5 (incorporated by reference, see § 170.2).

*32 CFR 170.4*

### **From the Federal Register — Acronyms**

**AC** — Access Control

*32 CFR 170.4*

**APT** — Advanced Persistent Threat

*32 CFR 170.4*

**AT** — Awareness and Training

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**C3PAO** — CMMC Third-Party Assessment Organization  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CFR** — Code of Federal Regulations  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CA** — Security Assessment  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CAICO** — CMMC Assessors and Instructors Certification Organization  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CAGE** — Commercial and Government Entity  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CCA** — CMMC-Certified Assessor  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CCI** — CMMC-Certified Assessor  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CCP** — CMMC-Certified Assessor  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CFR** — Code of Federal Regulations  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CIO** — Chief Information Officer  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CM** — Configuration Management  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CMMC** — Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CMMC PMO** — CMMC Program Management Office  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CNC** — Computerized Numerical Control  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CoPC** — Code of Professional Conduct  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CSP** — Cloud Service Provider  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

**CUI** — Controlled Unclassified Information  
[32 CFR 170.4](#)

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**DCMA** — Defense Contract Management Agency  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**DD** — Represents any two-character CMMC Domain acronym  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**DFARS** — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**DIB** — Defense Industrial Base  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**DIBCAC** — DCMA's Defense Industrial Base Cybersecurity Assessment Center  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**DoD** — Department of Defense  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**DoDI** — Department of Defense Instruction  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**eMASS** —Enterprise Mission Assurance Support Service  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**ESP** — External Service Provider  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**FAR** — Federal Acquisition Regulation  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**FCI** — Federal Contract Information  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**FedRAMP** — Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**GFE** — Government Furnished Equipment  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**IA** — Identification and Authentication  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**ICS** —Industrial Control System  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**IIoT** — Industrial Internet of Things  
*32 CFR 170.4*

**IoT** — Internet of Things  
*32 CFR 170.4*



## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**IR** — Incident Response  
32 CFR 170.4

**IS** — Information System  
32 CFR 170.4

**IEC** — International Electrotechnical Commission  
32 CFR 170.4

**ISO/IEC** — International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission  
32 CFR 170.4

**IT** — Information Technology  
32 CFR 170.4

**L#** — CMMC Level Number  
32 CFR 170.4

**MA** — Maintenance  
32 CFR 170.4

**MP** — Media Protection  
32 CFR 170.4

**MSSP** —Managed Security Service Provider  
32 CFR 170.4

**NARA** — National Archives and Records Administration  
32 CFR 170.4

**NAICS** — North American Industry Classification System  
32 CFR 170.4

**NIST** — National Institute of Standards and Technology  
32 CFR 170.4

**N/A** —Not Applicable  
32 CFR 170.4

**ODP** — Organization-Defined Parameter  
32 CFR 170.4

**OSA** — Organization Seeking Assessment  
32 CFR 170.4

**OSC** — Organization Seeking Certification  
32 CFR 170.4

**OT** — Operational Technology  
32 CFR 170.4

## Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Glossary

Definitions from 32CFR170, DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020

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**PI** — Provisional Instructor

32 CFR 170.4

**PIEE** — Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment

32 CFR 170.4

**PII** — Personally Identifiable Information

32 CFR 170.4

**PLC** — Programmable Logic Controller

32 CFR 170.4

**POA&M** — Plans of Action and Milestones

32 CFR 170.4

**PRA** —Paperwork Reduction Act

32 CFR 170.4

**RM** — Risk Management

32 CFR 170.4

**SAM** —System of Award Management

32 CFR 170.4

**SC** —System and Communications Protection

32 CFR 170.4

**SCADA** — Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

32 CFR 170.4

**SI** — System and Information Integrity

32 CFR 170.4

**SIEM** — Security Information and Event Management

32 CFR 170.4

**SP** — Special Publication

32 CFR 170.4

**SPD** — Security Protection Data

32 CFR 170.4

**SPRS** —Supplier Performance Risk System

32 CFR 170.4

**SSP** — System Security Plan

32 CFR 170.4

**VDI** — Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (for discussion of VDI requirements see 32 CFR 170)

32 CFR 170.4