SUBJECT: Notification of the temporary change in frequency in administration of the CVP exam

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide notification to the laboratories of the temporary change in frequency in which the Cryptographic Validation Program (CVP) exam will be administered for the Cryptographic Module Testing program (Handbook 150-17, Annex B).

The period during which the CVP exam frequency will be adjusted is from July 1, 2022, to February 2023. If the change in frequency extends beyond the anticipated February 2023 date, additional notification will be provided.

During this period, there will be a one-time administration of the CVP exam on September 15, 2022, which will be conducted at the International Cryptographic Module Conference 2022 (ICMC). A laboratory with registered attendees to the ICMC are permitted to identify and register one attendee as a candidate for the CVP exam. Exam registration will open July 1, 2022, and close on July 18, 2022.

To register the candidate for the CVP exam, send a request to cmvp@nist.gov and cmvp@cyber.gc.ca, with the subject line “CVP Exam Candidate – Sept 15.”

If testing slots remain available after the registration closes on July 18, 2022, the CMVP staff will permit additional candidates. The laboratories will be notified in the order of the registrations received.

The CMVP staff will proctor a hardcopy exam in a dedicated meeting room at the ICMC. The proctoring rules will be provided to registered candidates prior to the exam. This exam will be the only exam administered to CVP candidates during this temporary change in exam frequency.

During this period of limited exam administration, laboratories will need to continue to comply with the requirements in Handbook 150-17, Annex B.6.2.2, “The laboratory shall continuously maintain a minimum of two CVP certified testers during the accreditation cycle for the laboratory in its entirety to be deemed proficient for the 17CM scope.

The laboratory is required to notify NVLAP and CMVP of any personnel changes within thirty (30) days.”

Questions concerning the administration of the CVP exam should be directed to the CMVP at cmvp@nist.gov and cmvp@cyber.gc.ca.

Questions concerning NVLAP accreditation should be directed to Brad Moore at 301-975-5740 or brad.moore@nist.gov.