

Consumer
Technology
Association™



Introduction to The U.S. National Cybersecurity Label Project

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Member Companies

30+

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Groups

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CTA at a Glance

Our mission: To help innovators of all sizes grow their business.

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The U.S. effort to define a single national cybersecurity label for consumer connected devices was officially launched by the White House at a public-private “summit” on October 19 2022.

Deputy National Security Advisor Anne Neuberger convened a group of high-ranking government and private sector leaders. Summit attendees were agency chairs, famous brands’ chief technology officers, test laboratory executives, trade association leadership, consumer advocates, academic researchers, a representative of the European Parliament and a U.S. Senator.

At the end of the day, Ms. Neuberger announced that the effort would go forward, under an architecture originally proposed by CTA and endorsed by the White House meeting participants. She further announced a Spring 2023 launch for the effort.

This introduction is based on slides originally presented by CTA at the White House summit meeting and is current as of Q1 2023.



The U.S. National Label Effort – the plan:

1. Create a single common U.S. label (mark).
2. Set criteria for use of the mark.
3. License existing industry label programs (3rd party and self-attestation) to issue the mark.
4. Promote & advertise domestically / Negotiate international for recognition

This is a voluntary program—not a regulatory requirement.

Stripped to its most basic elements, the program is a common mark endorsed by the U.S. government because it meets criteria set by NIST. In execution, we use the current ecosystem, because industry already knows how to certify product for food and product safety, manufacturing quality and more.

Once the program is established, it needs to be promoted domestically to consumers, to make them aware of the mark. And industry and the government need to work internationally to achieve mutual recognition of the U.S. mark so that manufacturers can use it in lieu of national requirements in allied nations.

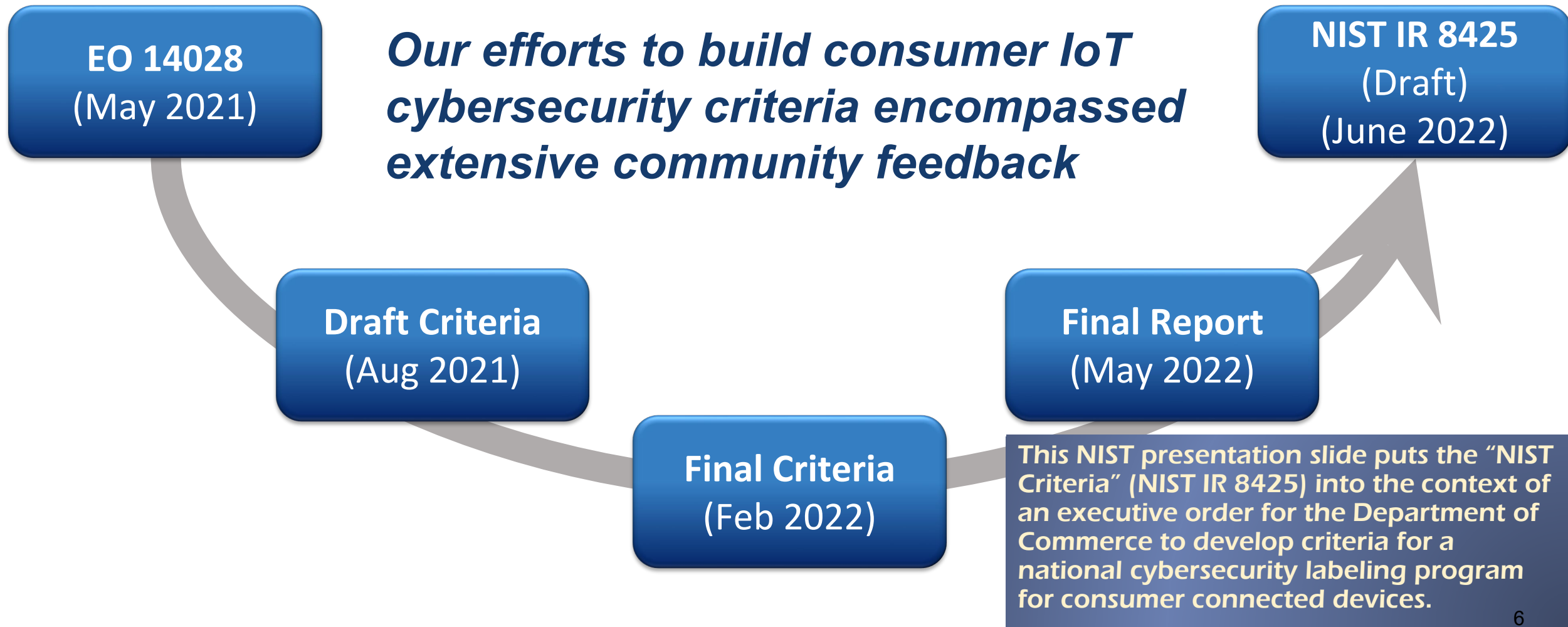


Some Background

(starting with two slides borrowed from NIST)

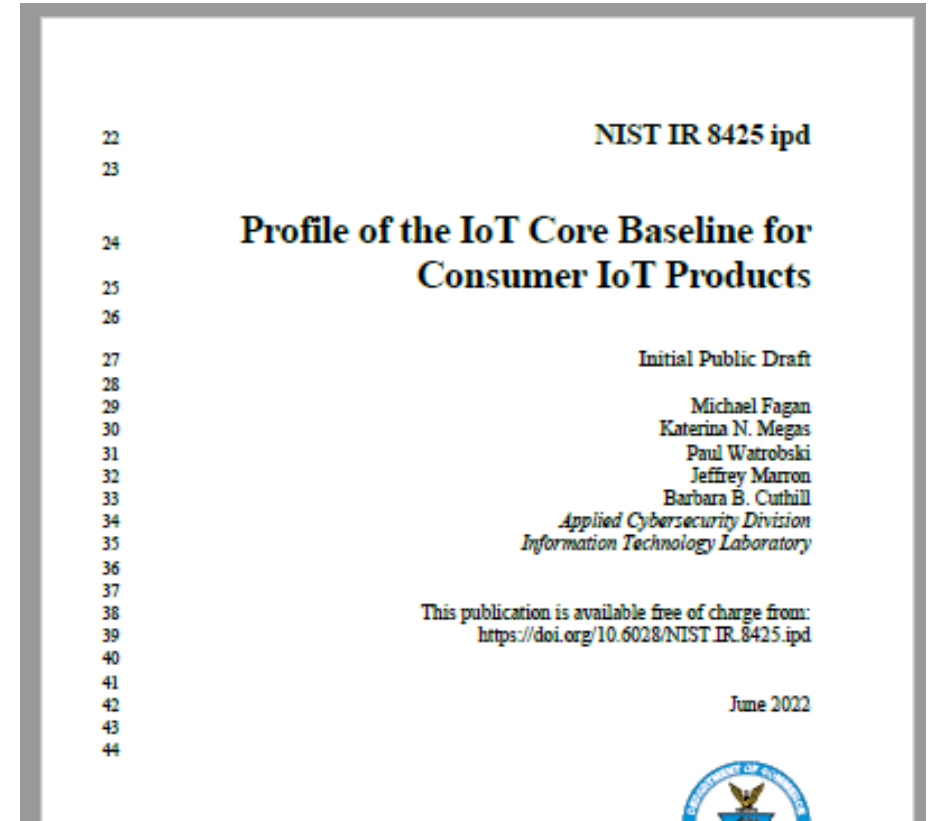


From the EO to NIST IR 8245 . . .



The Consumer IoT Criteria Have Now Been Formalized in NIST IR 8425 (draft)

- Criteria are consistent with February 2022 cybersecurity white paper
 - Product-oriented
 - Outcome-focused
- Supporting information added
 - Criteria mapped to common vulnerabilities and known cybersecurity incidents
 - Supporting rationale from landscape review and stakeholder interactions
- Comments requested by July 31st
- Anticipate proceeding to final version due to level of community support



NIST IR 8425 (“NIST Criteria”) is fundamental to the program. The program doesn’t define a single scheme of labeling and requirements. Instead, it assesses labeling programs against these Criteria and authorizes the label scheme owner to issue the U.S. national mark. A label scheme can use an existing technical spec or define a new one, as long as the requirements meet the bar set by the NIST Criteria.

White House IoT Cybersecurity Strategic Workshop Oct. 19 2022



• Industry

- Amazon
- AT&T
- Cisco
- Google
- LG Electronics
- Intel
- Samsung
- Sony
- UL

• Associations

- ANSI
- Consumer Technology Association (CTA)
- CSA/Matter/ZigBee
- CTIA
- IoXT
- National Retail Federation

• Other Private Sector

- Carnegie-Mellon Univ.
- Consumer Reports
- R Street

• Government

- CPSC
- DHS CISA
- FCC
- FTC
- NIST
- NSC
- ONCD
- OSTP
- Sen. Angus King
- European Commission

This summit meeting established the “plan of record”. The White House provided a Strawman summary. This Strawman is an excellent two-page overview and is available on the CTA National Label website.

Key elements in the Strawman are:

(1) A mark/label; (2) Conformity requirements; (3) Determination & attestation criteria; (4) A registry of certified products; (5) Encouragement & enforcement of adoption

The U.S. National Label Program



Examples of Existing Schemes: IoT Cybersecurity Label Programs

- *Consumer-facing:* IoXT, UL, & others
- *B2B:* CTIA, Google, & others
- *As program requirement:* Apple, Comcast, Samsung, & others
- *Emerging/various:* CSA, GSMA, & others

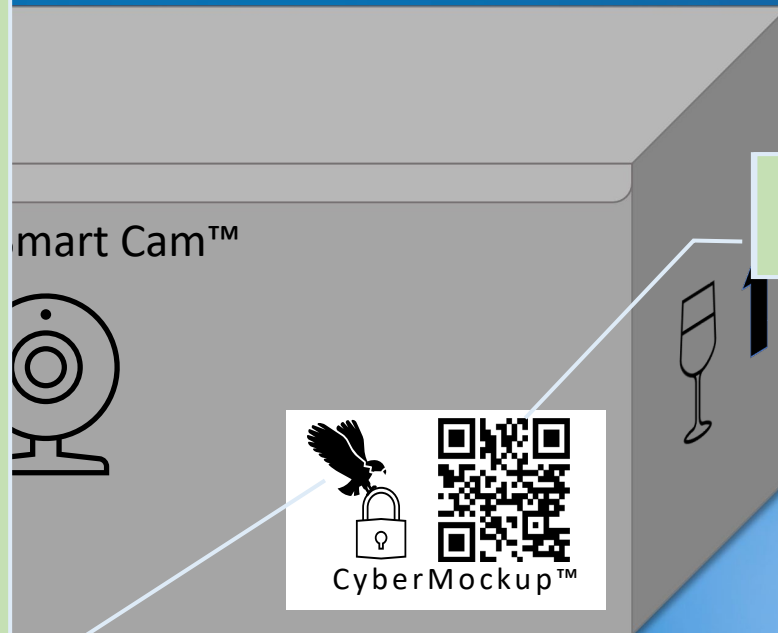
The global ecosystem has been testing, certifying and accrediting products and organizations for decades. Food, health, safety, manufacturing, systems engineering, and more have such experience. In consumer technology safety and emissions certifications are common on products.

The entities that support the global certification and accreditation of consumer technology and companies are already providing the same kind of programs for cybersecurity.



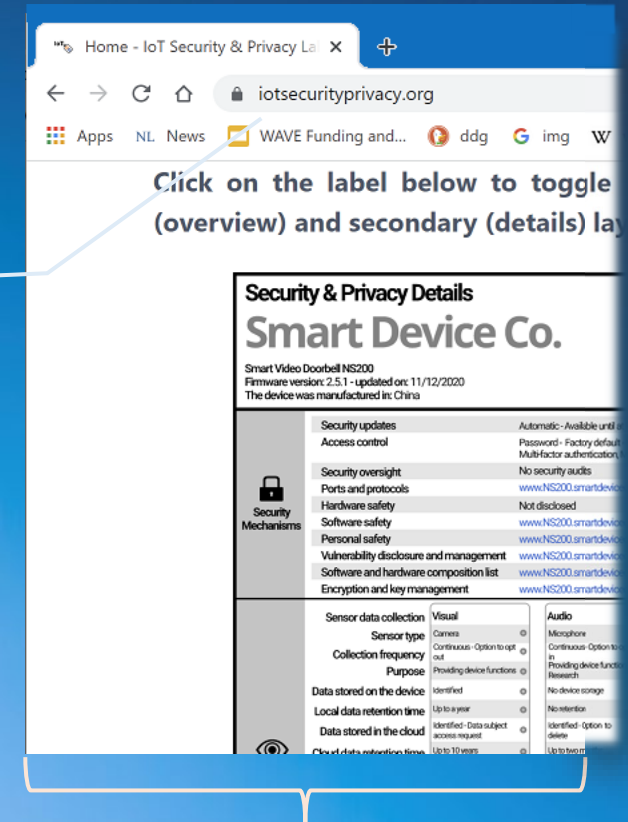
Label, Binary & Layered

- Limited on-package “footprint” to allow for small products
- Comprehensive online info available from link
- Trademarked element enables legal protections
- Follows industry practice for safety or compliance “certification” marks



Trademarked element

On-package label



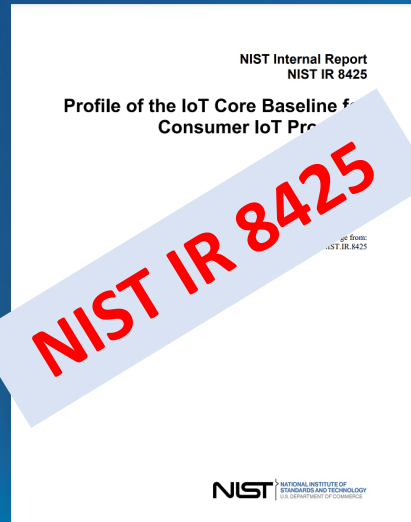
Online details:

- 1) Landing page is consumer-friendly
- 2) Secondary page is more technical

On a product box, the label will have a trademark portion and a digital link portion. The trademark shown here is a mock-up.

Components

Criteria

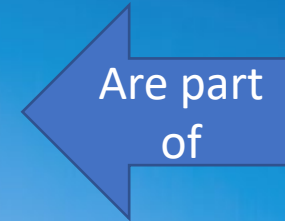


Schemes

- Apple
 - Comcast
 - CSA*
 - Eurofins
 - Google
 - GSMA*
 - IoXT
 - Samsung
 - UL
 - Wi-Fi Alliance
 - ..others
- * In process*

The definition of a label program

Standards

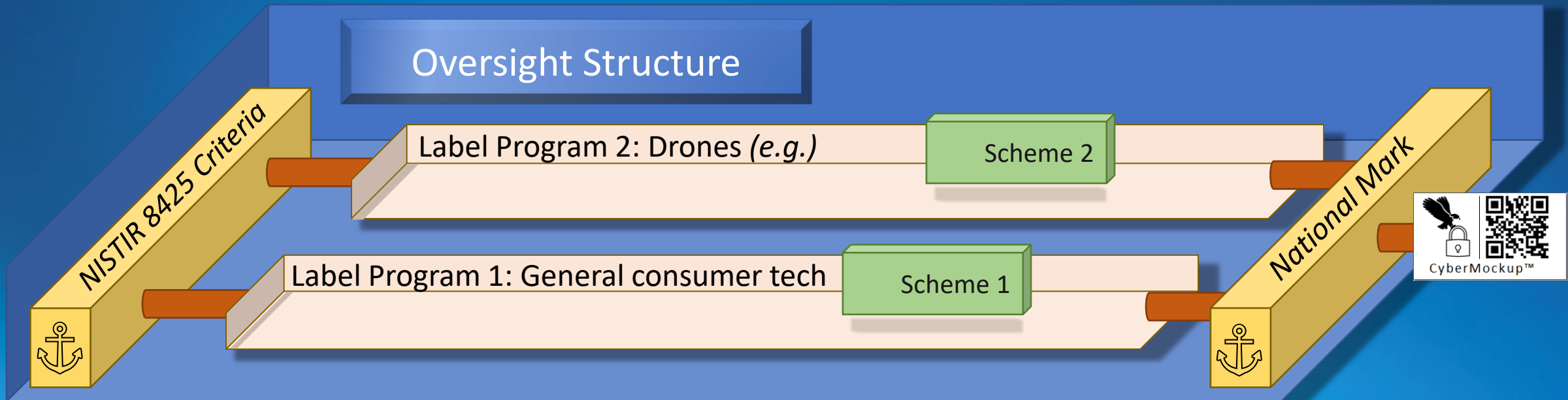


The requirements referenced by a scheme

A label “scheme” is the requirements, technical and non-technical, how the organization performs test and conformity assessment, and other aspects of the program. Existing scheme owners are shown here, along with some of the specs they use.



Cybersecurity Labels At Scale



“Scale” is critical because the IoT is huge. We anchor the program with the NIST Criteria and with a common national mark. Multiple schemes for different purposes can be authorized. This slide shows one scheme for general consumer tech and one for drones.

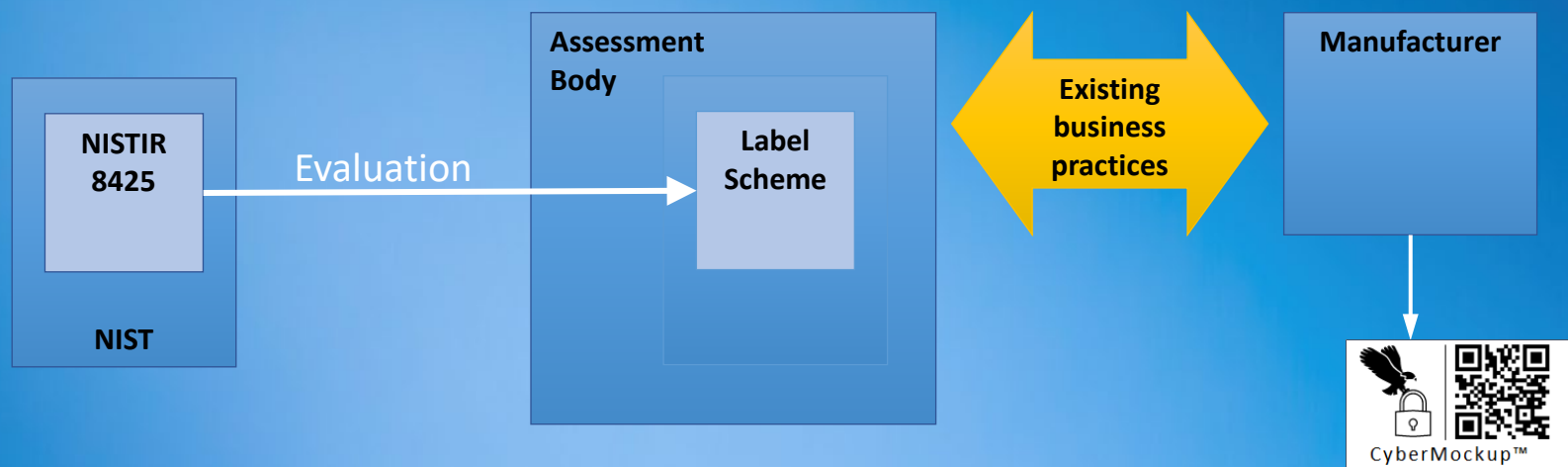
The NIST Criteria are for consumer product. A different Criteria—for e.g. enterprise—can be added to extend the program.



Ensuring Trust At Scale: Common Structure

- Use NIST Criteria to evaluate Schemes before licensing them to offer the mark
- License assessment bodies & authorize Schemes
- License manufacturers for Self-Attestation
- Enforce appropriate label usage via trademark law

Trust mechanisms are critical to a successful program, because the public sector sponsors—the government—must be able to trust the program. Use of existing accreditation and assessment programs provides effective solutions.



Status: U.S. Phase 1

Key:

- In progress
- In progress
- Completed

	Criteria	Evaluation	Schemes (3 rd -Party)	Schemes (SA)
Technical Requirements	NIST: NISTIR 8425	CTA: (Draft) CTA-2119 "Framework" via CTA R14 WG6*	<i>(open, would be e.g. UL / CSA / IoXT / Intertek / Eurofins)</i>	<i>(open, potentially move to Phase 2)</i>
Non-Technical Requirements	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"><i>Maintain</i></div>			
Conformity Assessment Requirements	<i>(open, current under study in CTA ad-hoc)</i>	<i>(open, current under study in CTA ad-hoc)</i>	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"><i>Address gaps</i></div>	
Label Requirements	NIST: White paper 2/22; stakeholder consensus	CTA: (Draft) CTA-2120 "Label Specification" vis CTA R14-WG7*	<i>(requires Scheme owner to adopt label)</i>	<i>(requires Scheme owner to adopt label)</i>
National Product Registry	Developing requirements specification	<i>(open, early discussion)</i>	<i>(open, early discussion)</i>	<i>(open, early discussion)</i>



* How to participate: Email standards@CTA.tech

NIST “Gestalt” product concept

The NIST Criteria asserts that the entire IoT product must be compliant, including anything required for full capability, including hardware but also smartphone apps, cloud services, hubs, etc.

- Possible paths

A. Each product component *independently* meets 8425

Example: Smart Phone app must meet 8425

This is not recommended.

B. The product components *in combination* meet 8425 as a whole

Example: Smart phone app gets Device ID from hardware

C. We substitute another category certification for 8425 (e.g. for cloud services)

Example: Cloud Security Alliance trust mark



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