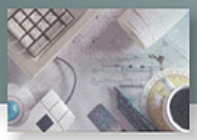

Technology Area

DEFINITION	
Name	Identification and Authentication
Description	Identification and Authentication is a technical measure that prevents unauthorized people (or unauthorized processes) from entering an IT system. Identification is a unique way of identifying each individual (e.g., a unique user name or ID). Authentication is the mechanism that verifies that an individual is who they claim to be. Verification is based on one or more of the following: • Something known (e.g., a password or pin); • Something carried (e.g., a smart card or a token); • Something the individual is (e.g., biometrics – like a fingerprint).
Rationale	Hardware platforms, operating systems, application-specific constraints, and overall financial or confidentiality risk are factors that influence the need for identification and authentication controls. System and application developers are responsible for designing strong authentication into the systems they build, and individual users are responsible for assisting in the protection of the systems they use. Identification and Authentication are the first lines of defense to protect enterprise system assets from unauthorized access, destruction or theft.
Benefits	• If identification and authentication are not handled correctly, they are the weakest link in the protection of enterprise systems and data. • Identification and authentication provides user accountability and auditable trails of user access. • Identification and authentication helps prevent unauthorized persons from entering enterprise IT systems.

ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTURE LEVELS	
List the Domain Name	Security
List the Discipline Name	Technical Controls
Associated Compliance Components	
List the Compliance Component Names	• Password Controls
Associated Product Components	
List the Product Component Names	

TECHNOLOGY AREA DETAIL			
Supporting Documentation	NIST SP 800-18, Guide for Developing Security Plans for Information Technology Systems		
Document Source Reference #	www.csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs		
Standard Organization / Government Body			
Name	National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Computer Security Resource Center (CSRC)	*Website*	http://csrc.nist.gov/
Contact Information	inquiries@nist.gov		
Name	National Security Agency (NSA), Security Recommendation Guides	*Website*	http://nsa2.www.conxion.com/index.html
Contact Information	W2KGuides@nsa.gov		
KEYWORDS			
List Keywords	Passwords, password controls, digital signatures, access cards, smart cards, tokens, biometrics, user name, user ID, PIN, logon ID		
CURRENT STATUS			
Provide the Current Status	☐ *In Development* ☐ *Under Review* ☒ *Approved* ☐ *Rejected*		
AUDIT TRAIL			
Creation Date	02/13/2003	*Date Accepted / Rejected*	03/24/2003
Reason for Rejection			
Last Date Reviewed		*Last Date Updated*	
Reason for Update			