

# ENDL TEXAS

Date: 18 August 2006  
To: T10 Technical Committee  
From: Ralph O. Weber  
Subject: Security Association Model for SPC-4

## Overview

A critical element of data encryption and integrity checking algorithms is an entity called an SA (Security Association) that the participating pair of endpoints represent using a pair of indices.

- In most of the security world, a SA index is know as an SPI (Security Parameters Index).
- Because of the long-standing usage of the acronym SPI in SCSI, this proposal uses SAI (Security Association Index) as the SCSI equivalent of the security-traditional SPI.

SA information (i.e., the security parameters) are never transmitted in their entirety in any of the usual SPC-4 suspects (CDBs, parameter data, etc.). A SA is represented by two sets of parameters, one stored internally at each of the two participating endpoints. This situation produces an unusual SCSI model challenge that can only be covered by some carefully crafted model text, which is the goal of this proposal.

## Revision History

r0 Original revision

## Proposed SPC-4 Changes

Most of the text shown below is new SPC-4 material shown in black. If a subclause contains old and new material colors and strikeouts are used to identify changes.

### 2.4 NIST References

Copies of the following approved NIST standards may be obtained through the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) at <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/index.html>.

NIST SP (Special Publication) 800-38C, *Recommendation for Block Cipher Modes of Operation: The CCM Mode for Authentication and Confidentiality*

[NIST SP \(Special Publication\) 800-56A, \*Recommendation for Pair-Wise Key Establishment Schemes Using Discrete Logarithm Cryptography\*](#)

### 3.1 Definitions

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**3.1.f nonce:** A value that is used one and only one time and thus uniquely identifies a single instance of something (e.g., an SA) transacted between an application client and a device server.

**3.1.l SA parameters:** The parameters stored by both an application client and a device server that are associated with one SA (see 3.1.m) and identified by a pair of SAIs (see 3.1.p). See 5.13.1.2.

**3.1.m Security association (SA):** A relationship between an application client and device server that is used to apply security functions (e.g., data integrity checking, data encryption) to data that is transferred in either direction. See 5.13.

**3.1.p Security association index (SAI):** A number representing the parameters for a security association as stored internally by the application client or device server. In other security models, this value is called the security parameters index (SPI). See 5.13.

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**3.2 Symbols and acronyms**

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- SA Security association (see 3.1.m)
- SAI Security association index (see 3.1.p)

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**5.13 Security Features**

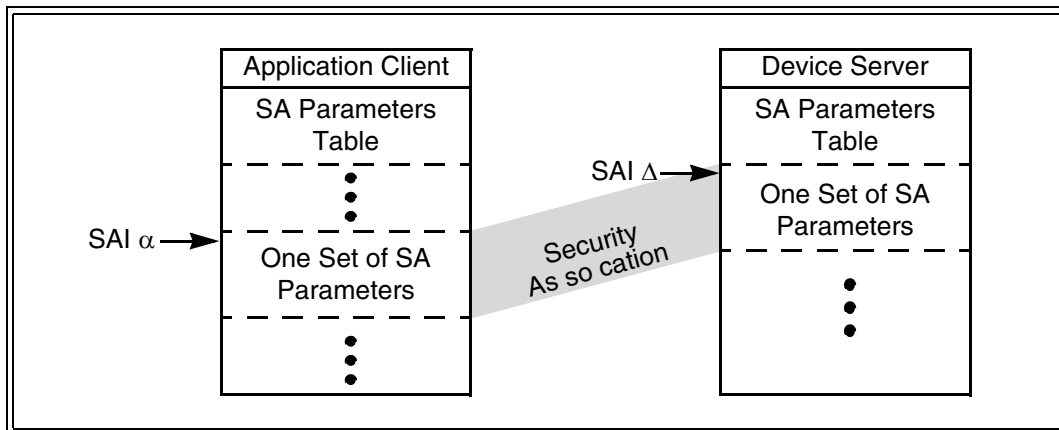
**5.13.1 Security associations**

5.13.1.1 Principals of security associations

Before an application client and device server begin applying security functions (e.g., data integrity checking, data encryption) to messages (i.e., data that is transferred in either direction between them), they perform a security protocol to create at least one SA (see 5.13.1.3). The output of the SA creation protocol is two sets of SA parameters (see 5.13.1.2), one that is stored by the application client and one that is stored by the device server.

In this model, SAs decouple the process of creating a security relationship from its usage in processing security functions. This decoupling allows either the creation or the usage of an SA to be upgraded in response to changing security threats without requiring both processes to be upgraded concurrently.

Figure x1 shows the relationship between application clients and device servers with respect to SAs.



**Figure x1 — SA relationships**

In both the application client and the device server, the SA parameters are modelled as being stored in an indexed array and the SAI identifies one set of SA parameters within that array. The application client and device server are not required to store the parameters for any given SA in the same array locations. In order to support this implementation flexibility, a single SA is modelled as having two different SAI values (i.e., one for the application client and one for the device server).

SAs shall not be preserved across a power cycle, hard reset, logical unit reset, or I\_T nexus loss.

#### 5.13.1.2 SA parameters

Each SAI shall identify at least the SA parameters defined in table x1. Individual security protocols define how the SA parameters are generated and/or used by that security protocol.

**Table x1 — Minimum SA parameters (Sheet 1 of 2)**

Name	Description	Size (bytes) <sup>a</sup>		Scope <sup>b</sup>
		Min.	Max.	
SA parameters that identify the SA.				
AC_SAI	The SAI used by the application client to identify the SA. <sup>c</sup>	4	4	Public
DS_SAI	The SAI used by the device server to identify the SA. <sup>c</sup>	4	4	Public
SA parameters that are incorporated in messages to prevent message replay attacks.				
AC_SQN	A sequence number that is incremented for each application client message on which a security function is performed.	4	4	Public
DS_SQN	A sequence number that is incremented for each device server message on which a security function is performed.	4	4	Public
SA parameters that are used by security functions to derive the secret keys that are applied to messages (e.g., for encryption).				
AC_NONCE	A nonce (see 3.1.f) value that is one application client input to the key derivation security algorithm specified by the KEY_DF SA parameter during the derivation of an encryption key.	16	16	Public
DS_NONCE	A nonce (see 3.1.f) value that is one device server input to the key derivation security algorithm specified by the KEY_DF SA parameter during the derivation of an encryption key.	16	16	Public
KEY_SEED	A value that is known only to the application client and device server that are participating in this SA that in combination with the applicable nonce is used to derive one KEY(n) value using the algorithm specified by the KEY_DF SA parameter.	32	64	Secret
KEY_DSA	A coded value that identifies a key derivation security algorithm (see 5.13.2) used by the application client and device server.	4	4	Public
<sup>a</sup> These size values are guidelines. Specific security protocols may place more exacting size requirements on SA parameters. <sup>b</sup> Public SA parameters may be transferred outside a SCSI device unencrypted. Secret SA parameters shall be encrypted whenever they are transferred outside a SCSI device. <sup>c</sup> SAI values between 0 and 256, inclusive, are reserved.				

**Table x1 — Minimum SA parameters (Sheet 2 of 2)**

Name	Description	Size (bytes) <sup>a</sup>		Scope <sup>b</sup>
		Min.	Max.	
SA parameters that are used by security functions to secure messages between the application client and device server.				
KEY(n)	One or more values that are known only to the application client and device server that are participating in this SA that are used in security functions that secure messages.	32	64	Secret
<sup>a</sup> These size values are guidelines. Specific security protocols may place more exacting size requirements on SA parameters. <sup>b</sup> Public SA parameters may be transferred outside a SCSI device unencrypted. Secret SA parameters shall be encrypted whenever they are transferred outside a SCSI device. <sup>c</sup> SAI values between 0 and 256, inclusive, are reserved.				

5.13.1.3 Creating a security association

The SECURITY PROTOCOL IN command (see 6.27) and SECURITY PROTOCOL OUT command (see 6.28) security protocols shown in table x2 are used to create SAs. The process of creating an SA establishes the SA parameter values as follows:

- a) permanent values for both (i.e., application client and device server) SAs, both nonces, the KEY\_SEED, and the KEY\_DSA SA; and
- b) the initial values for both sequence numbers and the initial KEY(n) values.

**Table x2 — Security protocols that create SAs**

Security Protocol Code	Description	Reference
TBD	TBD	TBD

### 5.13.4.2 Security algorithm codes

Table 44 lists the security algorithm codes used in security protocol parameter data.

**Table 44 — Security algorithm codes**

Code	Description	Reference
<b>Encryption Algorithms</b>		
0001 0010h <sup>a</sup>	AES-CCM with a 16 byte MAC	NIST SP 800-38C
0001 0014h <sup>a</sup>	AES-GCM with a 16 byte MAC	NIST SP 800-38D
<b>Key Derivation Algorithms</b>		
FFFF 0001h	Concatenation Key Derivation Function (Approved Alternative 1)	NIST SP 800-56A
<b>Other Algorithms</b>		
0000 0400h - 0000 FFFFh	Vendor specific	
All other values	Reserved	
<sup>a</sup> The lower order 16 bits of this code value are assigned to match an IANA assigned value for an equivalent IKEv2 encryption algorithm (see 3.1.52) and the high order 16 bits match the IANA assigned IKEv2 transform type (i.e., 1, Encryption Algorithms).		