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# Policy on holding private keys protected on a secure hardware token

## Abstract

This Certificate Policy defines a policy where the private key of a key pair on which a certificate is based is generated, stored, and protected exclusively on a secure hardware token.

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Overview

This Certificate Policy defines a policy on how the private key of a key pair on which a certificate is based is protected.

This is a one-statement certificate policy. The numbering follows RFC 3647, but sections that do not contain any stipulation are omitted.

### 1.2 Document name and identification

Document Name: Policy on holding private keys protected on a secure hardware token

Document Identifier: { igtf (1.2.840.113612.5) policies (2) one-statement-certificate-policies (3) private-key-protection (1) hardware-token (1) version-1 (1) }

### 1.5 Policy Administration

#### 1.5.1 Organisation administering the document

This Policy is administered by the European Policy Management Authority for Grid Authentication in e-Science (hereafter called EUGridPMA) for the International Grid Trust Federation (IGTF).

#### 1.5.2 Contact Person

The Chair of the EUGridPMA is the point of contact for all communications. The chair can be contacted by email at [chair@eugridpma.org](mailto:chair@eugridpma.org).

#### 1.5.3 Person determining CPS suitability for the policy

The IGTF determines if a CPS complies with this policy.

#### 1.5.4 CPS approval procedures

When approving CPS suitability for this policy the IGTF follows procedures defined in its accreditation procedures documents.

## 6 Technical Security Controls

### 6.1 Key pair generation and installation

#### 6.1.1 Key pair generation

The key pair must be generated inside the secure hardware token.

### 6.2 Private key protection and cryptographic module engineering controls

#### 6.2.1 Cryptographic module standards and controls

The cryptographic module should be a hardware token complying with the requirements of FIPS 140-1 level 2 or higher or FIPS 140-2 level 2 or higher.

If not FIPS certified, implementation of an equivalent security level and appropriate mechanisms on the token must be demonstrated: the vendor must have built the device with the intention of obtaining FIPS 140-2 certification at level 2 or higher, and must either intend to submit the device for certification, or have it in process of certification. The token must not have failed an attempt for FIPS certification.

#### **6.2.6 Private key transfer into or from a cryptographic module**

The private key may only be transferred into or from a secure hardware token in an encrypted form that must use a 128 bit symmetric key encryption or equivalent or stronger.

#### **6.2.7 Private key storage on cryptographic module**

The private key can be in plaintext form exclusively inside the secure hardware token.