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TRUSTED COMPUTING GROUP TRUSTED PLATFORM MODULE SPECIFICATION GETS ISO STANDARDIZATION

Security Chip Widely Used in PCs and Other Devices Is Officially An International Standard

PORTLAND, Ore. Aug. 5, 2009 – JTC1, a joint committee of the International Organization for Standardization, or ISO, and IEC, the International Electrotechnical Commission, has accepted and published the Trusted Computing Group Trusted Platform Module specification v1.2 as ISO/IEC standard 11889. The Trusted Platform Module (TPM), implemented as a stand-alone or integrated component, enables trust in computing platforms.

“The acceptance of the TPM specification by ISO/IEC confirms the position of the Trusted Computing Group as the premier industry group for trusted computing and attests to the growing usage of the specification to secure data, systems and networks,” noted Scott Rotondo, president, Trusted Computing Group. “For governments, developers and users working in security and trusted computing, the ratification of the TPM specification by JTC1 assures adherence to a recognized international standard, protects development investments, and helps grow the market.”

The international standardization of the TPM is anticipated to expand the development of applications for the TPM and the usage of the technology. Recognition of the TPM by ISO and IEC also is anticipated to provide clear direction to developers and users about Trusted Computing and the TPM.

The Trusted Platform Module, a widely available, inexpensive and easily used component on most PCs, is used to check PCs at start-up for any changes to the software used to run the computer and helps detect botnets, rootkits and other suspicious code before the PC is booted and connected to the network. The TPM stores keys, certificates and passwords securely and enables authentication and attestation, critical to trusted computing.

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Documents from ISO include ISO/IEC 11889-1:2009, an overview of the TPM, which describes the TPM and how it fits into the trusted platform. ISO/IEC 11889-1:2009 describes trusted platform concepts such as the trust boundary, transitive trust, integrity measurement, and integrity reporting. Additional ISO documents provide TPM design principles, structures and commands.

ISO documents are located at http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=50970. The TPM specification and related documents are online on TCG's website at http://www.trustedcomputinggroup.org/resources/tpm_main_specification.

Trusted Computing Group, an industry organization that enables computing security, has created a portfolio of specifications to enable more secure computing across the enterprise in PCs, servers, networking gear, applications, other software, storage and embedded devices. More information and the organization's specifications and work groups are available at the Trusted Computing Group's website, www.trustedcomputinggroup.org.