

IEEE Standard for Authenticated Encryption with Length Expansion for Storage Devices

IEEE Computer Society

Sponsored by the
Cybersecurity and Privacy Standards Committee

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Abstract: Cryptographic and data authentication procedures for storage devices that support length expansion, such as tape drives, are specified. Such procedures include the following cryptographic modes of operation for the AES block cipher: CCM, GCM, CBC-HMAC, and XTS-HMAC.

Keywords: authentication, CBC, CCM, cryptography, data storage, encryption, GCM, HMAC, IEEE 1619.1™, security, tape drive, variable-length block, XTS

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1619.1-2018, IEEE Standard for Authenticated Encryption with Length Expansion for Storage Devices.

The problem of data storage protection has become increasingly important due to legislation that requires the protection of sensitive information. To address this issue, the Security in Storage Working Group (SISWG) is developing standards for the protection of information on storage media. This standard provides strong data protection by specifying encryption with authentication and length expansion.

This standard provides methods suitable for ensuring the privacy and integrity of stored data within applications requiring a high level of assurance. To this end, this standard specifies the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) cipher as used in authenticated-encryption modes.

There are many modes of non-cryptographic attacks that are outside the scope of this standard. See [B.1](#) for a discussion.

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IEEE Standard for Authenticated Encryption with Length Expansion for Storage Devices

1. Overview

1.1 Scope

This standard specifies requirements for cryptographic units that provide encryption and authentication for data contained within storage media. Full interchange requires additional format specifications (such as compression algorithms and physical data format) that are beyond the scope of this standard.

1.2 Purpose

This standard is suitable for encryption of data stored on tape because tape easily accommodates length-expanding ciphertext. In addition, this standard applies to other storage devices if these support storing extra metadata with each encrypted record. The algorithms of this standard are designed to help ensure the confidentiality and integrity of stored data within systems requiring a high level of assurance.

1.3 Description of clauses and annexes

- [Clause 1](#) provides an overview of this standard, including scope and purpose.
- [Clause 2](#) lists the normative references that are essential for implementing this standard.
- [Clause 3](#) gives definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations used in this standard.
- [Clause 4](#) provides a description of the components that play roles in this standard.
- [Clause 5](#) describes the cryptographic modes used by the cryptographic unit.
- [Clause 6](#) describes cryptographic key management and initialization vector requirements.
- [Annex A](#) (informative) lists bibliographic references that are useful when implementing this standard.
- [Annex B](#) (informative) discusses several security issues that an implementer and user should understand.
- [Annex C](#) (informative) provides a summary of documentation requirements.
- [Annex D](#) (informative) provides several test vectors useful in verifying a cryptographic unit.