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Information technology - Privacy capability features of current RFID technologies

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English Version

Information technology - Privacy capability features of current RFID technologies

Technologies de l'information - Fonctions de protection de la vie privée dans les technologies RFID actuelles

Informationstechnik - Leistungsmerkmale für den Schutz der Privatsphäre in gegenwärtigen RFID-Technologien

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 20 January 2014. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 225.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
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Foreword

This document (CEN/TR 16672:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 225 “AIDC Technologies”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This Technical Report is one of a series of related deliverables, which comprise mandate 436 Phase 2. The other deliverables are:

— EN 16570, *Information technology — Notification of RFID — The information sign and additional information to be provided by operators of RFID application systems*

— EN 16571, *Information technology — RFID privacy impact assessment process*

— EN 16656, *Information technology - Radio frequency identification for item management - RFID Emblem (*ISO/IEC 29160:2012*, modified)*

— CEN/TR 16684, *Information technology — Notification of RFID — Additional information to be provided by operators*

— CEN/TS 16685, *Information technology — Notification of RFID — The information sign to be displayed in areas where RFID interrogators are deployed*

— CEN/TR 16669, *Information technology — Device interface to support* ISO/IEC 18000-3

— CEN/TR 16670, *Information technology — RFID threat and vulnerability analysis*

— CEN/TR 16671, *Information technology — Authorisation of mobile phones when used as RFID interrogators*

— CEN/TR 16673, *Information technology — RFID privacy impact assessment analysis for specific sectors*

— CEN/TR 16674, *Information technology — Analysis of privacy impact assessment methodologies relevant to RFID*

Introduction

In response to the growing deployment of RFID systems in Europe, the European Commission published in 2007 the Communication COM (2007) 96 ‘RFID in Europe: steps towards a policy framework’. This Communication proposed steps which needed to be taken to reduce barriers to adoption of RFID whilst respecting the basic legal framework safeguarding fundamental values such as health, environment, data protection, privacy and security.

In December 2008, the European Commission addressed Mandate M/436 to CEN, CENELEC and ETSI in the field of ICT as applied to RFID systems. The Mandate M/436 was accepted by the ESOs in the first months of 2009. The Mandate addresses the data protection, privacy and information aspects of RFID, and is being executed in two phases. Phase 1, completed in May 2011, identified the work needed to produce a complete framework of future RFID standards. The Phase 1 results are contained in the ETSI Technical Report TR 187 020, which was published in May 2011.

Phase 2 is concerned with the execution of the standardisation work programme identified in the first phase.

This Technical Report provides privacy and security characteristics that apply to the relevant standards. Furthermore it provides an overview of these standards and their respective support of the described features.

1 Scope

The scope of the Technical Report is to identify technical characteristics of particular RFID air interface protocols that need to be taken into consideration by operators of RFID systems in undertaking their privacy impact assessment. It also provides information for those operators who provide RFID-tagged items that are likely to be read by customers or other organizations.

This Technical Report provides detailed privacy and security characteristics that apply to products that are compliant with specific air interface protocols, and also to variant models that comply with such standards.

The Technical Report also identifies proprietary privacy and security features which have been added to tags, which are problematic of being implemented in open systems which depend on interoperability between different devices. Such proprietary solutions, whilst being technically sound, in fact impede interoperability. The gap analysis thus identified can be used to encourage greater standardization.