



**Trusted Computing Group Storage Work Group**  
**TCG Storage Opal SSC: Test Cases Specification FAQ**  
**March 2016**

**Q. What is the Storage Work Group?**

A. The Storage Work Group is an entity within the Trusted Computing Group. It consists of TCG member companies with interests in the implementation of the Trusted Computing Group's specifications for storage devices. For more information on the Storage Work Group, please refer to [www.trustedcomputinggroup.org](http://www.trustedcomputinggroup.org).

**Q. What is the purpose of the Storage Work Group?**

A. The Storage Work Group builds upon existing TCG philosophy in the development of specifications that provide a comprehensive architecture for storage devices. The Storage Work Group's objective is to define specifications and accompanying documents for building and managing storage devices that enforce policy controls as set by hosts across a wide range of storage transport command protocols.

**Q. How is the Storage Work Group organized?**

A. The Storage Work Group operates under the auspices of the TCG. Membership in the Storage Work Group is determined by TCG bylaws and is open to all TCG members.

**Q. Who is participating in the Storage Work Group?**

A. Participation in the Storage Work Group includes storage device manufacturers, storage subsystem manufacturers, software vendors, and designers of custom, highly integrated components. Storage and security management and storage integration vendors also participate. A complete list of current TCG members is available at [www.trustedcomputinggroup.org](http://www.trustedcomputinggroup.org).

**Q. What is the output of this Work Group?**

A. The Storage Work Group deliverables include specifications that define security functionality requirements for storage devices and managing hosts; test cases and certification process documents; and informative supporting documents.

**Q. What is the Core Specification?**

A. The Core Specification, officially known as TCG Storage Architecture Core Specification, developed by the Storage Work Group provides a comprehensive definition of TCG-related functions for a TCG storage device.

**Q. What is a Security Subsystem Class (SSC)?**

A. The Core Specification can be further broken down in multiple subsets of functionality called Security Subsystem Classes (SSCs). SSCs explicitly define the minimum acceptable Core Specification capabilities of a storage device in a specific “class” and potentially expand functionality beyond what is defined in the Core Specification.

**Q. What is the Opal SSC?**

A. The Opal SSC specification is predicated on ease of implementation and integration. This SSC defines the functionality for implementing the Core Specification on storage devices.

**Q. What is a Feature Set?**

A. A Feature Set defines additional functionality that extends an SSC.

**Q. What is the TCG Storage Opal SSC: Test Cases Specification?**

A. The Opal Test Cases Specification contains a set of tests that are intended to verify the correct behavior of a storage device implementing the Opal SSC Specification. These test cases are intended to be used as a basis for the compliance component of the Storage certification program, which will seek to ensure a high level of interoperability of storage devices from multiple vendors.

**Q. To which versions of Opal SSC does this specification apply?**

A. TCG Storage Opal SSC: Test Cases Specification v2.00 applies to Opal SSC versions 1.00, 2.00, and 2.01.

**Q. What is the audience for this specification?**

A. The target audience for the Opal Test Cases Specification includes system integrators for trusted storage solutions including security software vendors, manufacturers of Opal SSC storage devices, and compliance test suite vendors.

**Q. How does Opal Test Cases Specification version 2.00 differ from Opal Test Cases Specification version 1.00?**

A. Version 2.00 includes significant changes to formatting of the test cases, as well as reduces the overall number of individual test cases.

**Q. What is the Opal SSC Certification Test Cases Specification Errata?**

A. The Errata is an informative document that identifies errata and clarifications for the Opal SSC Certification Test Cases as published. The information in this document is likely to be incorporated into a future version of the Opal Test Cases specification. Suggested fixes proposed in this document may be modified before being published in a later TCG specification.

**Q. When will the changes in the Errata specification be rolled into a new revision of the Opal Test Cases Specification?**

A. There is no official timeline for publication of an updated Opal Test Cases Specification. The TCG Storage Work Group is constantly evaluating the need to update specifications. TCG does not typically comment on work in progress.

**Q. When will the Storage certification program be available?**

A. The TCG Storage Work Group is actively defining a certification program, and publishing this set of test cases is one of the first steps.

**Q. How will the Test Cases Specification Errata impact the certification program?**

A. The details of the certification program are under development. The Errata provides information to test suite vendors, security software vendors, and manufacturers of Opal SSC storage devices as to changes that may be forthcoming in an updated Test Cases Specification. These changes may influence product design and implementation decisions for those companies.

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