

Certification and Accreditation Transformation Overview

Briefing to the Annual Computer Security Applications Conference
December 13, 2007



Sharon Ehlers
ICTG/Policy and Planning Division
C&ATransformation@dni.gov
<https://www.intelink.gov/mypage/c&a>

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Agenda

- **Challenge and Background**
- **Policy**
- **Implementation**
- **Training**
- **Transition**
- **Benefits and Results**



Challenge and Background



The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Challenge

- Find an *innovative* and *efficient* way to perform Certification and Accreditation (C&A) activities across the *National Security* Community.



Background

- **Joint kick-off meeting with over 600 attendees**
 - Associate Director of National Intelligence and Chief Information Officer (ADNI&CIO)
 - Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration)/Department of Defense Chief Information Officer (ASD(NII)/DoD CIO)
 - The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- **Nontraditional approach to solving this problem**
 - *Internet* collaboration forums
 - *Volunteer* tiger teams
 - *Multi-national* War Room Panel
 - Input from *across* the government, industry, and academia



Background (continued)

- **Participation of over 1,000 individuals**
 - **Federal Government**
 - **Industry**
 - **Commonwealth Partners**
- **Tiger teams and working groups**
 - **Led by the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) led**
 - **Leveraging Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) efforts**



Seven Transformational Goals

- Define a *common set of trust (impact) levels* and adopt and apply them across the Intelligence Community (IC) and DoD. Organizations will no longer use different levels with different names based on different criteria.
- Adopt *reciprocity* as the norm, enabling organizations to accept the approvals by others without retesting or reviewing.
- Define, document, and adopt *common security controls*, using NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-53 as a baseline.
- Adopt a *common lexicon*, using CNSS Instruction 4009 as a baseline, thereby providing DoD and IC a common language and common understanding.
- Institute a *senior risk executive function*, which bases decisions on an “*enterprise*” *view of risk considering all factors*, including mission, Information Technology (IT), budget, and security.
- *Incorporate information assurance (IA) into Enterprise Architectures* and deliver IA as common enterprise services across the IC and DoD.
- Enable a *common process* that incorporates security within the “life cycle” processes and eliminates security-specific processes. The common process will be adaptable to various development environments.



Key Accomplishments

- We are working to *bring together* parallel efforts across the Federal Government to resolve this issue
 - Ensuring our approach is integrated with current activities supported by:
 - Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS)
 - National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
 - Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Information Systems Security Line of Business (ISS LOB)
 - Program Manager Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE)
 - Unified Cross Domain Management Office (UCDMO)
- We are moving toward a *unified* Federal approach



Key Accomplishments (continued)

- **Now integrated and aligned with CNSS**
 - Addressing *all* National Security Systems (NSS) and all National Security Information equities
 - Includes IC, DoD, *and* civil agencies
 - Updating and creating CNSS publications to reflect C&A Transformational goals
 - Leveraging CNSS policies vice creating separate IC-specific ones
- **Continuing to work with NIST to “align and coordinate” respective efforts**
 - NIST providing “advisory” support and “sanity checks” to Transformation efforts
 - C&A Transformation Team providing recommendations and updates to NIST for improvements



Key Accomplishments (continued)

- **Integrating with OMB Information Systems Security Line of Business C&A Working Group effort**
 - **Findings and Recommendations Report to OMB**
 - Improve quality and costs
 - **Leveraging C&A Transformation efforts**
 - **Determining “best practices” across Federal Government**
 - **Establishing Shared Service Centers for C&A “services”**

HUD	EPA	CNSS
NIST	Dept of Treasury	Dept of Interior
Dept of Justice	NASA	Small Business Administration
SEC	Dept of Transportation	DNI
FDIC	Dept of Commerce	Bureau of Public Debt



Key Accomplishments (continued)

- **Leveraging the Global Security Consortium (GSC) Department of Defense – Intelligence Community – Financial Sector Forum**
 - **Sharing “best practices” with financial sector**
 - Rapid integration of technology
 - Risk management

The Bank of New York	UBS	Citigroup
Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation	Deutsche Bank	Goldman Sachs
JPMorgan Chase	Lehman Brothers	Merrill Lynch
Morgan Stanley	The NASDAQ Stock Market	Wachovia Corporation



Governance and Policy



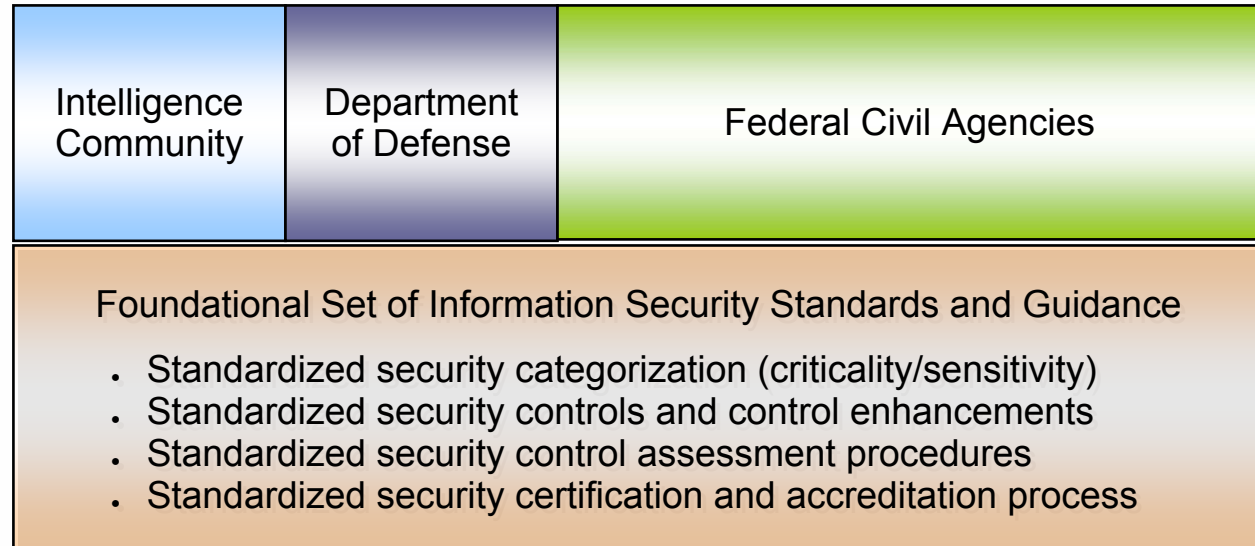
The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



A Unified Framework

**Unique
Information
Security
Requirements**

The “Delta”



**Common
Information
Security
Requirements**

National security and non-national security information systems

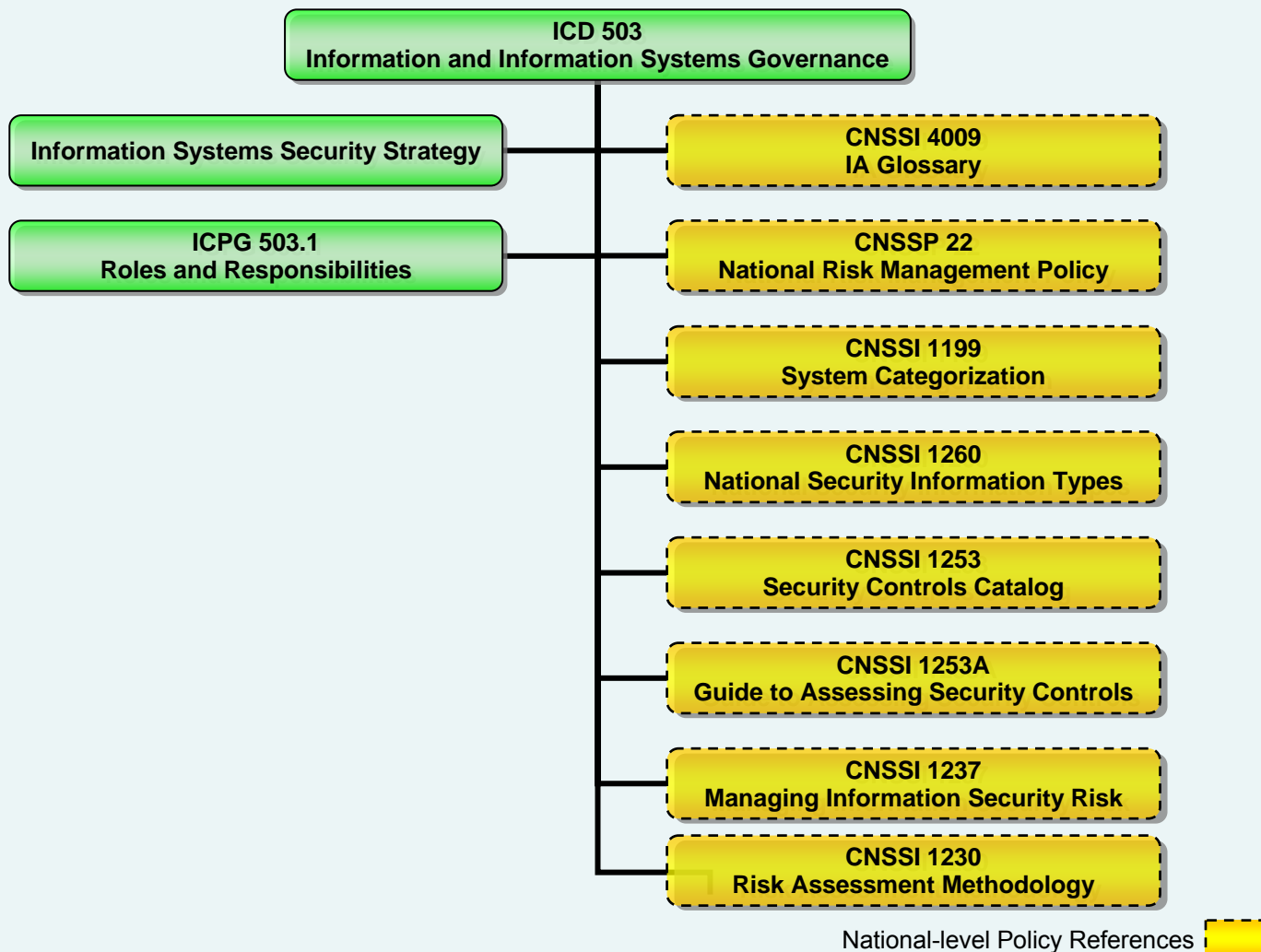


Approach to C&A Directives

- **Multifaceted approach to documentation**
 - **Drafting Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) and Intelligence Community Procedural Guides (ICPG)**
 - Outlines IC Information Security Program
 - **Leveraging existing NIST Special Publications as written**
 - Brings the IC closer to FISMA requirements
 - Assists with Inspector General (IG) audits, which are based on NIST standards
 - Aligns with rest of Federal Government to support reciprocity
 - **Where necessary, drafting CNSS supplements to Federal Information Processing Standards and NIST Special Publications**
 - Reflects “differences” for national security systems
 - System Categorization
 - Security Controls Catalog
 - Risk Management/Assessment



Proposed Policy Structure



Policy architecture now leverages national-level documentation



Implementation Approach



The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Addressing Risk from an Enterprise Perspective

- **Key activities in managing enterprise-level risk***
 - ***Categorize*** the information and systems (impact/criticality/sensitivity)
 - ***Select*** and tailor the security controls
 - ***Supplement*** the security controls based on risk assessment
 - ***Document*** the security controls as required essential information
 - ***Implement*** the security controls in the information system
 - ***Assess*** the security controls for effectiveness
 - ***Decide*** the enterprise/agency-level risk and risk acceptability and authorize information system operation
 - ***Monitor*** security controls on a continuous basis

* Risk resulting from the operation of an information system

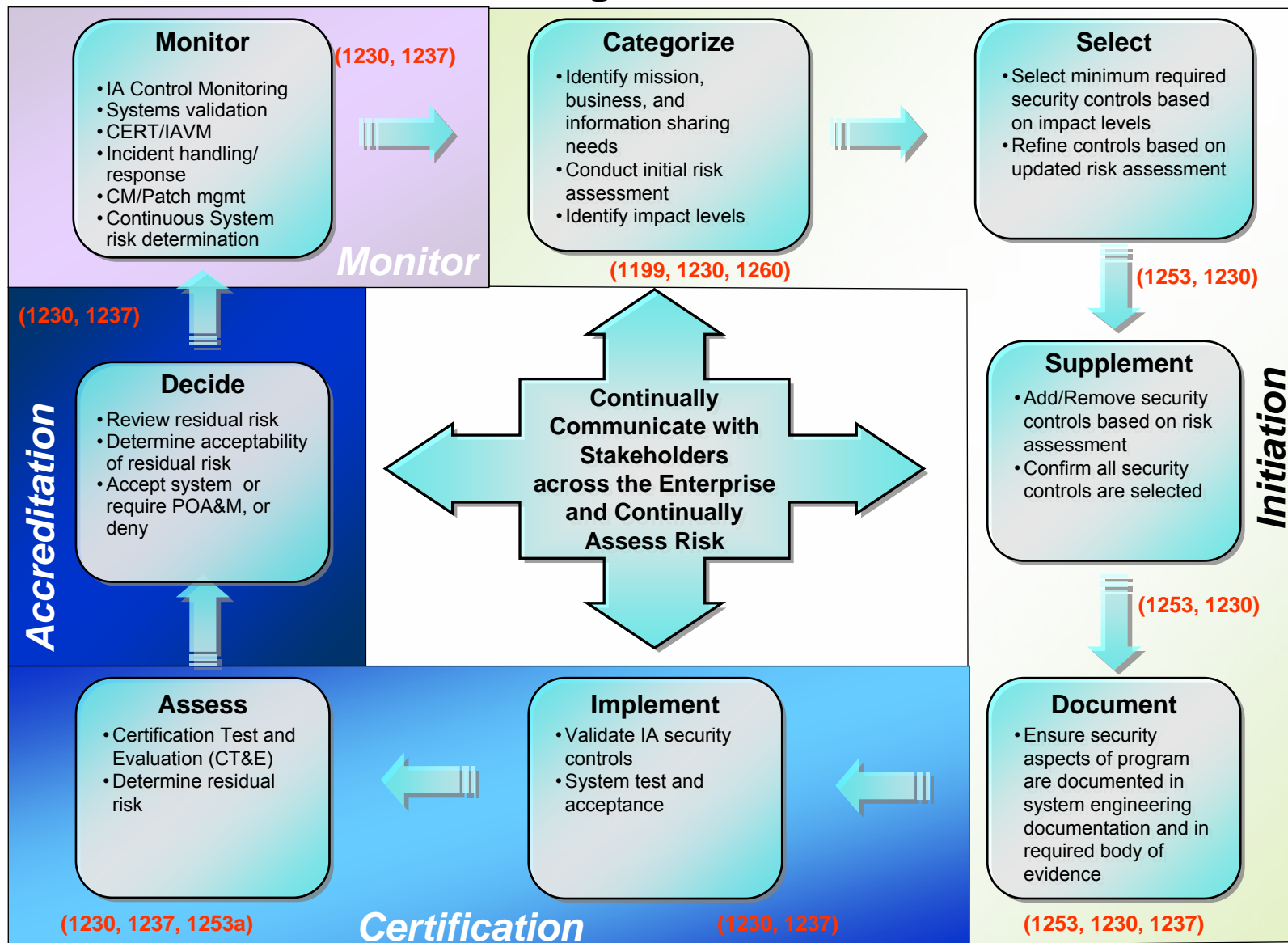


Roles

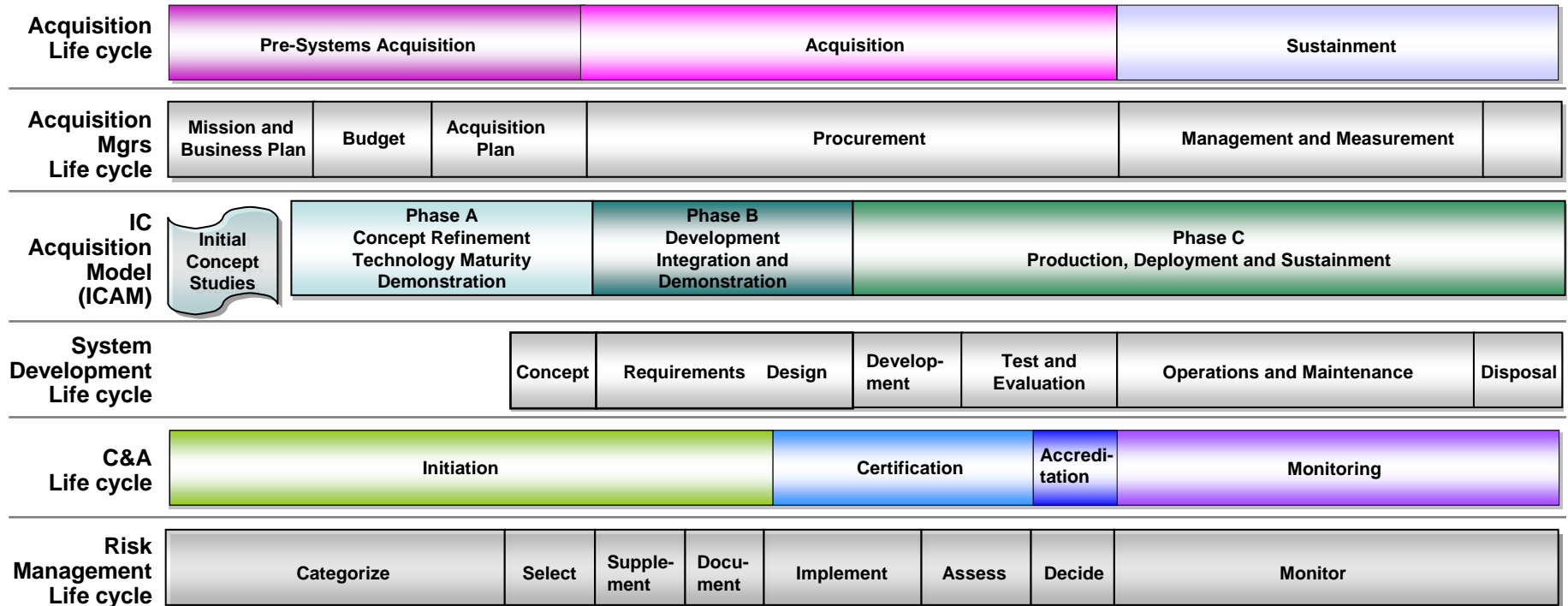
Authorizing Official	Makes ultimate risk decision to allow system to operate
Senior Risk Management Executive (function)	Provides enterprise-level risk assessment and maintains oversight to ensure holistic risk to the organization is considered at all phases of the life cycle.
Senior Agency Information Security Officer	Ensures agency compliance with information system security requirements and oversees agency Information Security Management Program
Certification Agent	Determines extent to which security controls are implemented correctly, operating as intended, and producing desired outcome
Program Manager/Mission Manager	Responsible for system meeting/maintaining its stated security requirements
Information Systems Security Engineer	Responsible for ensuring security requirements are properly handled and addressed throughout the development life cycle
Independent Validation Authority	Responsible for independent validation testing of security requirements and systems compliance
User Representative	Represents operational interests of the user community



C&A Phases and the Risk Management Framework



Mapping C&A through Acquisition, SDLC, and the Risk Management Framework



Managing risk starts from the very beginning and continues throughout the life cycle. The Risk Management Framework can be applied at any level or function within the organization. C&A activities are tightly coupled to the Acquisition and System Development Life cycles



Minimizing but Improving C&A Documentation

- **Future documentation requirements can be minimized if:**
 - **Engineering documentation also captures security functionality**
 - **Automated tools are utilized**
 - **Standardized templates are used across the Community**
- **Required Essential Information (REI) concept**
 - **Use what you need, when you need it, wherever it is located**
- **Baseline security documentation will include at least:**
 - **Security Assessment Report (SAR)**
 - **Plan of Actions and Milestones (POA&M)**



Minimizing but Improving C&A Documentation (continued)

- **Every document has a corresponding control and/or control enhancement**
 - **Amount or level of documentation for any given system is a key decision point early in the process and agreed to by all parties (no surprises!)**
- **Authorizing official will be required to “sign off” documentation throughout process to ensure management attention, document decisions, and provide accountability**
- **Revising statements of work (SOW) to ensure standardized deliverables**



Maximizing Test Activities

- **Integration of security personnel into program milestones ensures security activities are not “added on” but “built in”**
 - Testing can be accomplished in years/months to weeks/days
- **Use of automated tools will:**
 - Streamline the evaluation of security controls, vulnerability scans, and penetration testing
 - Provide standardized test and evaluation templates
 - Build test case libraries to ensure reuse
- **We are teaming with NIST, Department of Justice, Department of Energy, and Department of Treasury to build “assessment cases” for every security control**
 - Developers will now have the ability to understand the requirement, know how to implement it, and know how it will be assessed



Use of Automation

- **Automated tool enhances FISMA compliance, provides centralized reporting, automates work flow, and minimizes documentation**
- **Effort to establish tool “standards”**
 - **Would provide flexibility for agencies to use any automated tool that meets “standard” – GOTS or COTS**
- **Development of “tool kit” for Community use**



Training



The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Training Is Critical to Success

- **Multipronged approach to training**
 - **Leveraging existing NIST training with modifications for national security systems specifics**
 - FISMA Phase 2 implementation
 - “Credentialing” of *assessors and assessment programs*
SP 800-115 DRAFT Technical Guide to Information Security Testing
 - **Participating in OMB Tier II Training Working Group**
 - Addressing *individual* “certification” requirements
 - Findings and Recommendation Report to OMB
 - Create a specific IT security job series, facilitating tracking of required training, metrics, and reporting
 - Develop a Federal policy regarding certification for specific roles to advance the profession and provide baseline knowledge of key terms and concepts



Training Is Critical to Success (continued)

- **C&A Transformation Community Training Forum**
 - Five tracks
 - Acquisition/Contracting
 - IG/Legal
 - Executives/Senior Leadership
 - Security/Technical
 - Program Managers/Developers
- **Train the Trainer!**
 - Train organizations to further train their own staff/components



Transition



The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Transition Planning Activities

Transition Activity	Proposed Due Date
Identify Agency Transition Manager	December 6, 2007
Identify a Transition Guidance Group Representative	December 6, 2007
Create an internal agency/ department C&A transition group	December 6, 2007
Begin attending Transition Guidance Group meetings	December 13, 2007
Draft Plan of Action and Milestones	First draft: January 7, 2008 Revised draft: February 7, 2008 Final: March 7, 2008



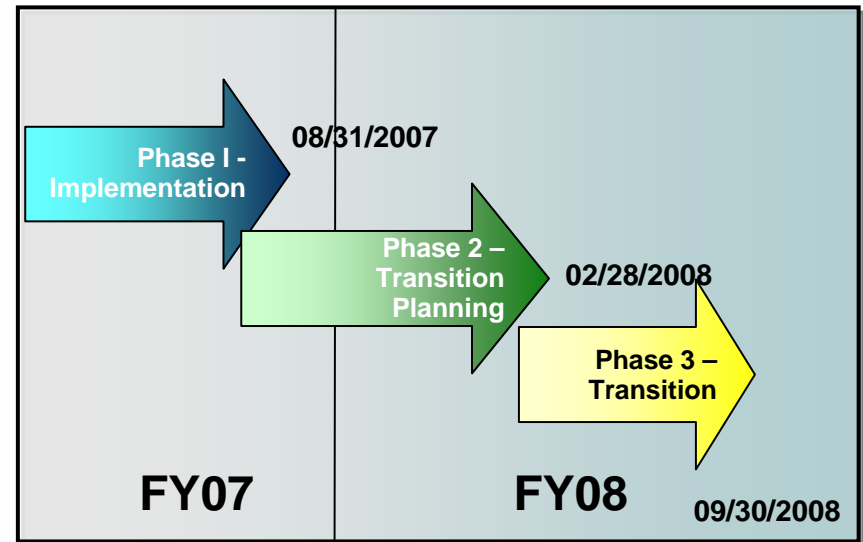
Transition Phased Approach

■ Phase 2 – Transition Planning

- Duration: 6 months beginning September 2007
 - Develop Transition Plan
 - Conduct impact and cost analyses
 - Coordinate agency, department, bureau transition
 - Assess and refine policies, guidance, and implementation

■ Phase 3 – Transition and Convergence

- Duration: 7 months beginning March 2008
 - Implement policies and guidance within organizations
 - Transition NSS community to providing common IA services
 - Converge and align NSS and non-NSS activities



Benefits and Results



The Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Efficiencies Achieved

■ General

- A common approach and understanding
- Full integration of security risk management with acquisition and business processes
- Reliance on continuous monitoring
 - Going beyond “a snapshot in time” to obtain “real-world” security posture

■ Local/Federated Enterprise Risk Views

- A structured risk decision hierarchy
- Ongoing risk evaluation and monitoring
- Common framework and assessment methodology
- Decisions include mission, budget, and security
- Common definitions and terms



Building a New Security Culture

- **Automated Standards-Based Tools**
 - Ongoing and consistent security monitoring
 - Repeatable processes
 - Standard metrics
 - Remediation methods
 - Results that are useful to technicians and management
- **Improved Management Insight**
 - Ongoing, consistent, and understandable security communications
 - Greater understanding of risk
 - Management decisions based on REAL data
 - Ability to provide technical direction
- **Professionalization of Security Workforce**
 - Move from administrative to engineering functions



Providing Value-Added Results

- **Certified connections within and between agencies and departments can be made in less time and with less effort**
 - No longer need case-by-case evaluations and judgments
 - Maximize reuse of components and test data
- **FISMA reports for department heads and OMB can be generated in half the time**
- **Security staff resources can be shifted from 80% administrative to 80% operational**
- **Technology can be deployed in days and weeks versus months and years**



Contact Information

■ ODNI CIO C&A Transformation Team:

- Chief, ICTG/Planning and Policy Division: Sharon Ehlers, sharose@dni.gov, (703) 874-8125
- Govt PM (C&A/CAT): Frank Sinkular, francijs@dni.gov, (703) 983-3340
- Govt Rep (Tools): Dorian Pappas, dorianrp@dni.gov, (703) 983-1943
- C&A Transformation Lead: Dan Klemm, danielrk@dni.gov, (703) 983-5470
- C&A Transition Lead: Shelley Bard, sbard@mitre.org, (703) 983-4984
- CAT Lead: Timothy Watt, twatt@tenacitysolutions.net, (703) 983-1765

■ Email address:

- Internet: C&ATransformation@dni.gov

■ Websites:

- Internet: <http://www.dni.gov/dniwww/C&A.html>
- Intelink website: <https://www.intelink.gov/mypage/c&a>

