BACKGROUND

Over the past several years, updates to the State Administration Manual (SAM) Chapter 5300 have been topic and section specific. As a result, state entities have found SAM Chapter 5300 to be confusing as they attempt to apply statewide security and privacy policy in their unique business and technological needs. In addition, a long standing state policy that resides in a separate Chapter of SAM, SAM section 5100, requires state entities to use the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) in their information management planning and operations. Due to the confusing nature of SAM Chapter 5300 and the understanding of SAM section 5100, state entities have not suitably linked the required use of ANSI and FIPS to their efforts in protecting the state’s critical informational assets.

PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this Technology Letter (TL) is to announce the rewrite of SAM Chapter 5300. The rewrite of SAM Chapter 5300:

- Aligns SAM Chapter 5300 with National Association of State Chief Information Officers’ (NASCIO) “Core Services Taxonomy for State IT Security Programs”.
- Provides a clear linkage from SAM to ANSI, FIPS, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standards so state entities can easily understand and navigate between higher level policy and the corresponding detailed standards and implementation control framework.
- Directs state entities as to what is required to secure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the state’s wide ranging information assets in a clear, unambiguous, comprehensive and contemporary manner.

PROCESS

The new SAM Chapter 5300 replaces current SAM Chapter 5300 in its entirety, contains no new requirements, and is effective with the release of this TL.

QUESTIONS

Questions should be directed to Michele Robinson at the California Information Security Office at (916) 445-5239 or Security@state.ca.gov.

SIGNATURE

/s/
Carlos Ramos, Director
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