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# Lessons from the Orange Book

— David Frier —  
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# Agenda

Who is this guy?

What is he on about?

What are the lessons?

# Who is this guy?

David C Frier, CISSP, CISM, CRISC, CCSK, AWS-CCP

Cybersecurity Dir. / Principal Consultant for Wipro at Xerox ...*but I speak only for myself, not for Wipro!*

I've been doing Information Security for fourteen years\* and IT of one sort or another for two score

Avid player of poker and Ingress, enthusiastic-if-slow rider of a Trek.

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# What is he on about

The Orange Book - History & Origins

Genealogy - ancestors & descendants

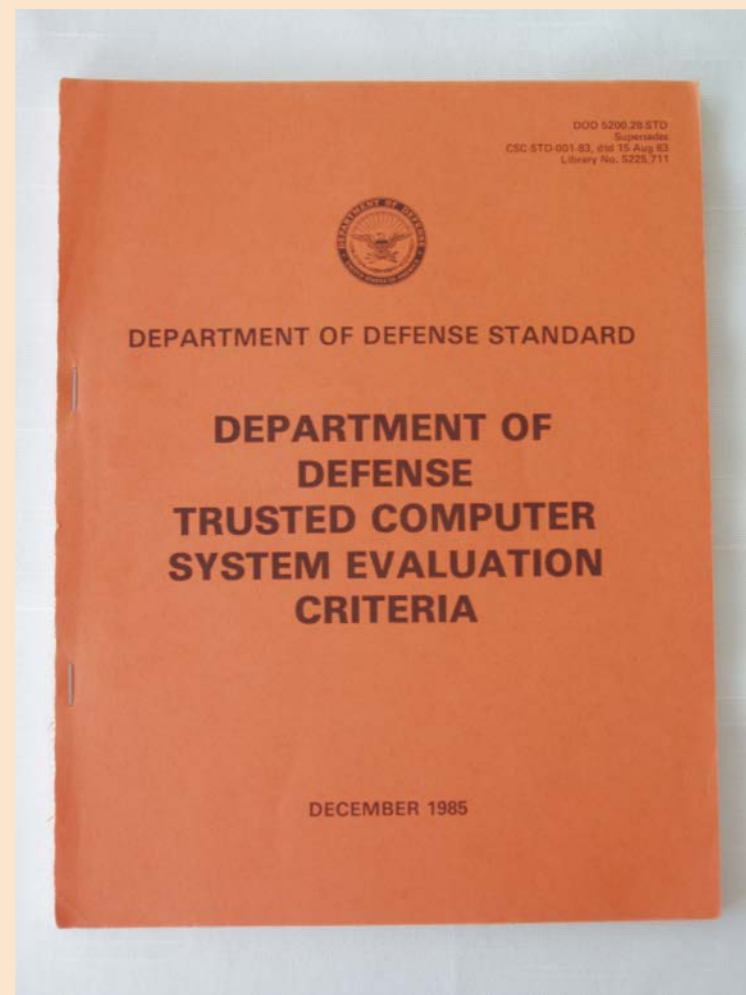
What it covers

# What is the Orange Book?

Developed by the NSA

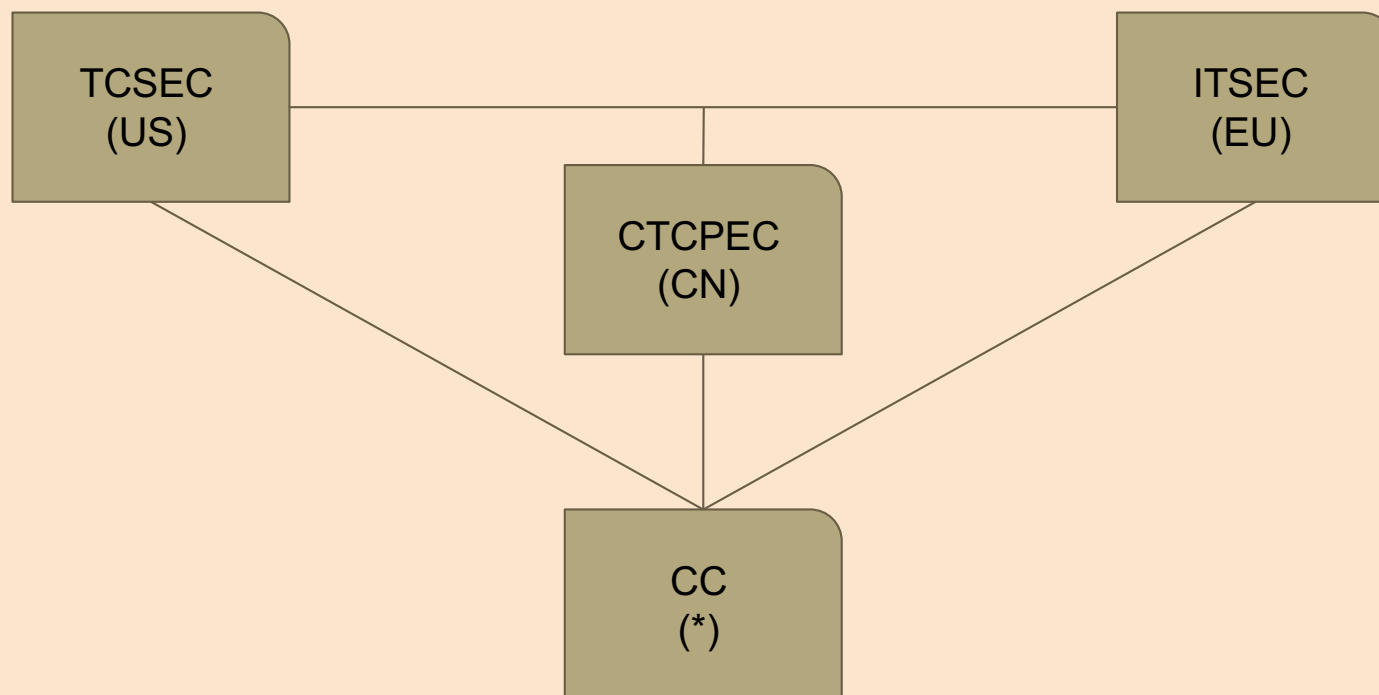
Intended to help DoD and others who needed it to purchase “ADP Systems” that would treat sensitive information properly

Originally part of the “Rainbow Series” put out by the National Computer Security Center





# Family Tree



# What is covered?

Four Divisions:

D - Minimal Protection

C - Discretionary Protection  
Classes: C1, C2

B - Mandatory Protection  
Classes: B1, B2, B3

A - Verified Protection  
Classes: A1, "Beyond A1"



# What's in it for us?

- Discretionary Controls
  - Owner or anyone with permission to change permissions...
  - Assigns permissions to others...
  - Who can then change permissions...
  - *Ad breachium*
- Mandatory Controls
  - Every user has a "label" consisting of:
    - A classification level (hierarchical controls)
    - A set of categories (non-hierarchical controls)
  - Every file, channel or data item has the same type of label

# What shall we do with the label?

- For reading:
  - A subject (*user or process*)'s label must “**dominate**” the label of the object they seek to read.
    - The classification level of the user must be  $\geq$  the level of the object
    - Every category in the object's list must appear in the subject's
- For writing
  - A subject's label must **be dominated by** the label of the object they seek to write.
    - The classification level of the user must be  $\leq$  the level of the object
    - Every category in the subject's list must appear in the object's

*Every CISSP in here just groaned a little*

# Mandatory means Mandatory

- Labels are immutable
  - The subject cannot change their own label, nor the label of any object
  - Objects are created with the label of the subject creating them
- Labels are checked at every use
  - Subjects may reduce their level or drop categories during execution
  - ...but lose access immediately to anything their new label does not allow

# Progression - B1 Labeled Security

- Discretionary
  - Enforced by the TCB
  - No re-use of resources from system
- Mandatory
  - Labels maintained, enforced by TCB
  - Multiple Levels supported by one TCB
- Audit/Accountability
  - TCB to require Identification and to keep audit trail untampered
  -
- Assurance
  - TCB runs in separate execution domain
- Life Cycle
  - Testing results and
  - Informal statement of design principles
- Documentation
  - User and facility guides

# Progression - B2 Structured Protection

- Discretionary:
  - Enforced by the TCB
  - No re-use of resources from system
- Mandatory
  - Labels maintained, enforced by TCB
  - Multiple Levels supported by one TCB
- Audit/Accountability
  - TCB to require Identification and to keep audit trail untampered
  - Audit to enable covert channel detection
  - Trusted communications path for login
- Assurance
  - TCB runs in separate execution domain
  - UI to TCB must be completely defined
- Life Cycle
  - Testing results
  - **F**ormal statement of design principles
- Documentation
  - User and facility guides
  - Full design documentation

# Progression - B3 Security Domains

- Discretionary:
  - Enforced by the TCB
  - No re-use of resources from system
  - Ability to build “deny” list
- Mandatory
  - Labels maintained, enforced by TCB
  - Multiple Levels supported by one TCB
  - Immediate notification of level change
- Audit/Accountability
  - TCB to require Identification and to keep audit trail untampered
  - Audit to enable covert channel detection
  - Isolated, trusted communications path for login
- Assurance
  - TCB runs in separate execution domain
  - UI to TCB must be completely defined
  - Covert channel analysis
- Life Cycle
  - Testing results
  - **F**ormal statement of design principles
  - TCB tested against DoS and pen-tested
- Documentation
  - User and facility guides
  - Formal design specification
  - Bandwidth of residual covert channels

# Lessons from the Orange Book

Control Objectives as Product Requirements

Formal Models as Design Principles

Security Policy as a Purchasing Criterion

Covert Channel Analysis as a Reporting Requirement

Mandatory Access Controls: where have they gone?

Testing as a Requirement

## \* Epilogue

