

**NIST SPECIAL PUBLICATION 1800-34B**

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# Validating the Integrity of Computing Devices

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**Volume B:**  
**Approach, Architecture, and Security Characteristics**

**Tyler Diamond**

**Nakia Grayson**

**William T. Polk**

**Andrew Regenscheid**

**Murugiah Souppaya**

National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Information Technology Laboratory

**Karen Scarfone**

Scarfone Cybersecurity  
Clifton, Virginia

**Christopher Brown**

The MITRE Corporation  
McLean, Virginia

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10 **FEEDBACK**

11 You can improve this guide by contributing feedback. As you review and adopt this solution for your  
12 own organization, we ask you and your colleagues to share your experience and advice with us.

13 Comments on this publication may be submitted to: [supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov](mailto:supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov).

14 Public comment period: August 31, 2021, through September 29, 2021

15 As a private-public partnership, we are always seeking feedback on our practice guides. We are  
16 particularly interested in seeing how businesses apply NCCoE reference designs in the real world. If you  
17 have implemented the reference design, or have questions about applying it in your environment,  
18 please email us at [supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov](mailto:supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov).

19 All comments are subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

20 National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence  
21 National Institute of Standards and Technology  
22 100 Bureau Drive  
23 Mailstop 2002  
24 Gaithersburg, MD 20899  
25 Email: [nccoe@nist.gov](mailto:nccoe@nist.gov)

## 26 **NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**

27 The National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE), a part of the National Institute of Standards  
28 and Technology (NIST), is a collaborative hub where industry organizations, government agencies, and  
29 academic institutions work together to address businesses' most pressing cybersecurity issues. This  
30 public-private partnership enables the creation of practical cybersecurity solutions for specific  
31 industries, as well as for broad, cross-sector technology challenges. Through consortia under  
32 Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), including technology partners—from  
33 Fortune 50 market leaders to smaller companies specializing in information technology security—the  
34 NCCoE applies standards and best practices to develop modular, adaptable example cybersecurity  
35 solutions using commercially available technology. The NCCoE documents these example solutions in  
36 the NIST Special Publication 1800 series, which maps capabilities to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework  
37 and details the steps needed for another entity to re-create the example solution. The NCCoE was  
38 established in 2012 by NIST in partnership with the State of Maryland and Montgomery County,  
39 Maryland.

40 To learn more about the NCCoE, visit <https://www.nccoe.nist.gov/>. To learn more about NIST, visit  
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## 42 **NIST CYBERSECURITY PRACTICE GUIDES**

43 NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guides (Special Publication 1800 series) target specific cybersecurity  
44 challenges in the public and private sectors. They are practical, user-friendly guides that facilitate the  
45 adoption of standards-based approaches to cybersecurity. They show members of the information  
46 security community how to implement example solutions that help them align with relevant standards  
47 and best practices, and provide users with the materials lists, configuration files, and other information  
48 they need to implement a similar approach.

49 The documents in this series describe example implementations of cybersecurity practices that  
50 businesses and other organizations may voluntarily adopt. These documents do not describe regulations  
51 or mandatory practices, nor do they carry statutory authority.

## 52 **ABSTRACT**

53 Organizations are increasingly at risk of cyber supply chain compromise, whether intentional or  
54 unintentional. Cyber supply chain risks include counterfeiting, unauthorized production, tampering,  
55 theft, and insertion of unexpected software and hardware. Managing these risks requires ensuring the  
56 integrity of the cyber supply chain and its products and services. This project will demonstrate how  
57 organizations can verify that the internal components of the computing devices they acquire, whether  
58 laptops or servers, are genuine and have not been tampered with. This solution relies on device vendors  
59 storing information within each device, and organizations using a combination of commercial off-the-  
60 shelf and open-source tools that work together to validate the stored information. This NIST

61 Cybersecurity Practice Guide provides a preliminary draft describing the work performed so far to build  
62 and test the full solution.

63 **KEYWORDS**

64 computing devices; cyber supply chain; cyber supply chain risk management (C-SCRM); hardware root of  
65 trust; integrity; provenance; supply chain; tampering.

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68 The Technology Partners/Collaborators who participated in this build submitted their capabilities in  
 69 response to a notice in the Federal Register. Respondents with relevant capabilities or product  
 70 components were invited to sign a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with  
 71 NIST, allowing them to participate in a consortium to build this example solution. We worked with:

Technology Partner/Collaborator	Build Involvement
<a href="#">Dell Technologies</a>	PowerEdge R650, Secured Component Verification tool; Precision 3530, CSG Secured Component Verification tool
<a href="#">Eclypsiium</a>	Eclypsiium Analytics Service, Eclypsiium Device Scanner
<a href="#">HP Inc.</a>	(2) Elitebook 840 G7, HP Sure Start, HP Sure Recover
<a href="#">Hewlett Packard Enterprise</a>	Proliant DL360
<a href="#">Intel</a>	HP, Inc Elitebook 360 830 G5, Lenovo ThinkPad T480, Transparent Supply Chain Tools, Key Generation Facility, Cloud Based Storage, TSCVerify and Autoverify software tools
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<a href="#">National Security Agency (NSA)</a>	Host Integrity at Runtime and Start-up (HIRS), Subject Matter Expertise

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 75 among several possibilities, one is recommended as particularly suitable without mentioning or  
 76 excluding others, or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required, or that (in  
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- 96 2. without compensation and under reasonable terms and conditions that are demonstrably free  
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101 the transferee will similarly include appropriate provisions in the event of future transfers with the goal  
102 of binding each successor-in-interest.

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105 Such statements should be addressed to: [supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov](mailto:supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov)

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## 185 1 Summary

186 Organizations are increasingly at risk of cyber supply chain compromise, whether intentional or  
187 unintentional. Cyber supply chain risks include counterfeiting, unauthorized production, tampering,  
188 theft, and insertion of unexpected software and hardware. Managing these risks requires ensuring  
189 the integrity of the cyber supply chain and its products and services. This prototype implementation  
190 will demonstrate how organizations can verify that the internal components of the computing devices  
191 they acquire are genuine and have not been unexpectedly altered during manufacturing or distribution  
192 processes.

193 This is a preliminary draft of the document, and while the content is considered to be stable, changes  
194 are expected to occur. There are gaps in the content and the overall document is still incomplete. This  
195 guide includes proof-of-concept software tools and services which have not been commercialized by  
196 our partner collaborators. NIST welcomes early informal feedback and comments, which will be  
197 adjudicated after the specified public comment period. Organizations may consider experimenting  
198 with guidelines, with the understanding that they will identify gaps and challenges.

199 This project will be conducted in two phases: laptop and server builds. This preliminary draft focuses  
200 on securing laptop hardware contributed by our technology partners. In a future version of this  
201 publication, we will incorporate hardware from our server manufacturing partners. The server builds  
202 will leverage much of the laptop build architecture that is documented in this practice guide. We hope  
203 that this approach will provide organizations a holistic methodology to managing supply chain risk.

204 For ease of use, the following provides a short description of each section in this volume.

205 Section 1, Summary, presents the challenge addressed by this NCCoE project, including our approach  
206 to addressing the challenge, the solution demonstrated, and the benefits of the solution.

207 Section 2, How to Use This Guide, explains how business decision makers, program managers, and  
208 information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) professionals might use each volume  
209 of the guide.

210 Section 3, Approach, offers a detailed treatment of the scope of the project, the risk assessment that  
211 informed the solution, and the technologies and components that industry collaborators supplied to  
212 build the example solution.

213 Section 4, Architecture, specifies the components of the prototype implementation and details how data  
214 and communications flow between validation systems.

215 Section 5, Security Characteristic Analysis, provides details about the tools and techniques used to test  
216 and understand the extent to which the project prototype implementation meets its objective:  
217 demonstrating how organizations can verify that the components of their acquired computing devices  
218 are genuine and have not been tampered with or otherwise modified throughout the devices' life cycles.

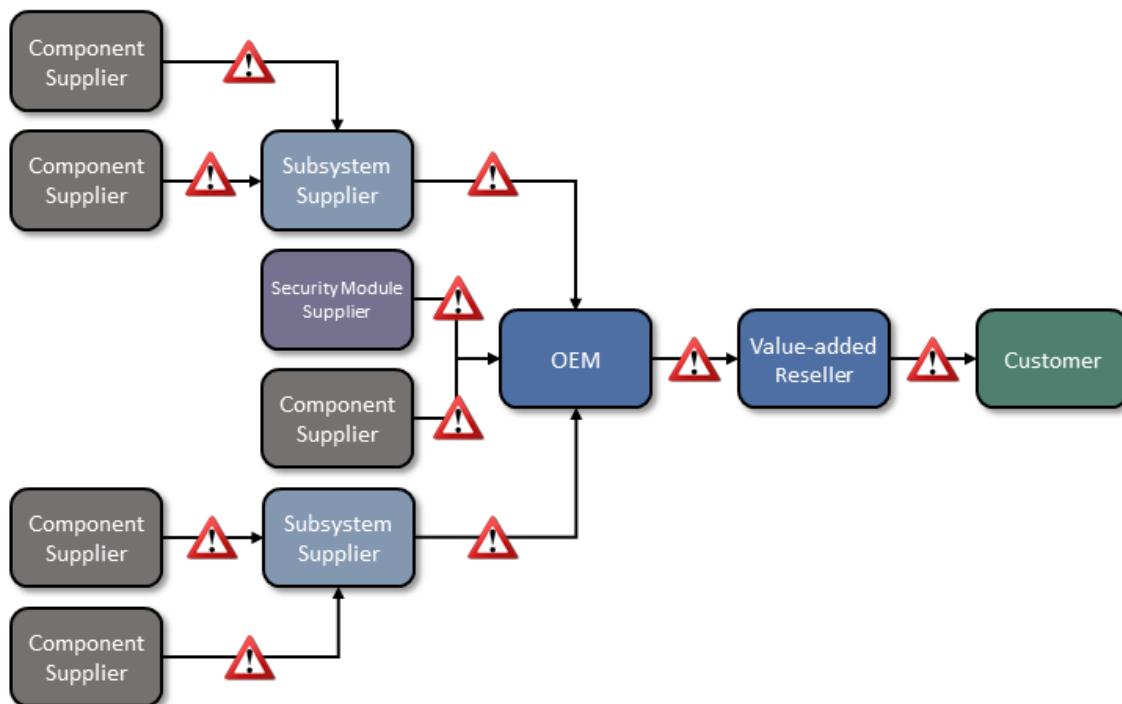
219 Section 6, Future Build Considerations, conveys the technical characteristics we plan to incorporate as  
 220 we continue to prototype with our collaborators.

221 Appendices A through C provide acronyms, a list of references cited in this volume, and project scenario  
 222 sequence diagrams, respectively.

### 223 1.1 Challenge

224 Technologies today rely on complex, globally distributed and interconnected supply chain ecosystems  
 225 to provide highly refined, cost-effective, and reusable solutions. Most organizations' security processes  
 226 consider only the visible state of computing devices. The provenance and integrity of a delivered device  
 227 and its components are typically accepted without validating through technology that there have been  
 228 no unexpected modifications. *Provenance* is the comprehensive history of a device throughout the  
 229 entire life cycle from creation to ownership, including changes made within the device or its  
 230 components. Assuming that all acquired computing devices are genuine and unmodified increases the  
 231 risk of a compromise affecting products in an organization's supply chain, which in turn increases risks to  
 232 customers and end users, as illustrated in Figure 1-1. Mitigating this risk is not addressed at all in many  
 233 cases.

234 **Figure 1-1 Supply Chain Risk**



235 Organizations currently lack the ability to readily distinguish trustworthy products from others. At best,  
236 government organizations could access an information source on counterfeit components such as the  
237 [Government-Industry Data Exchange Program \(GIDEP\)](#), which contains information on equipment, parts,  
238 and assemblies that are suspected to be counterfeit. Additionally, organizations with sufficient  
239 resources could have acquisition quality assurance programs that examine manufacturer supply chain  
240 practices, perform spot-checks of deliveries, and/or require certificates of conformity.

241 Having this ability is a critical foundation of cyber supply chain risk management (C-SCRM). *C-SCRM*  
242 is the process of identifying, assessing, and mitigating the risks associated with the distributed and  
243 interconnected nature of supply chains. C-SCRM presents challenges to many industries and sectors,  
244 requiring a coordinated set of technical and procedural controls to mitigate cyber supply chain risks  
245 throughout manufacturing, acquisition, provisioning, and operations.

## 246 1.2 Solution

247 To address these challenges, the NCCoE is collaborating with technology vendors to develop a prototype  
248 implementation. Once completed, this project [1] will demonstrate how organizations can verify that  
249 the internal components of the computing devices they acquire are genuine and have not been  
250 tampered with. This solution relies on device vendors storing information within each device, and  
251 organizations using a combination of commercial off-the-shelf and open-source tools that work together  
252 to validate the stored information. By doing this, organizations can reduce the risk of compromise to  
253 products within their supply chains.

254 In this approach, device vendors create one or more artifacts within each device that securely bind  
255 the device's attributes to the device's identity. An organization who acquires the device can validate  
256 |the artifacts' source and authenticity, then check the attributes stored in the artifacts against the  
257 device's actual attributes to ensure they match before fielding the device to the end user. A similar  
258 process can be used to verify the integrity of computing devices while they are in use.

259 Hardware roots of trust are a central technology in our approach to enable the use of authoritative  
260 information regarding the provenance and integrity of the components, which provide a strong basis  
261 for trust in a computing device. A hardware root of trust is comprised of highly reliable firmware and  
262 software components that perform specific, critical security functions. Hardware roots of trust are the  
263 foundation upon which the computing system's trust model is built, forming the basis in hardware for  
264 providing one or more security-specific functions for the system. By leveraging hardware roots of trust  
265 as a computing device traverses the supply chain, we can maintain trust in the computing device  
266 throughout its operational lifecycle.

267 This project will address several processes, including:

- 268     ▪ how to create verifiable descriptions of components and platforms, which may be done by  
269     original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), platform integrators, and even IT departments;

- 270       ▪ how to verify the integrity and provenance of computing devices and components within the  
271       single transaction between an OEM and a customer; and
- 272       ▪ how to continuously monitor the integrity of computing devices and components at subsequent  
273       stages in the system lifecycle in the operational environment.

### 274   1.3 Benefits

275   This practice guide can help organizations, including but not limited to OEMs and third-party component  
276   suppliers, to:

- 277       ▪ avoid using compromised technology components in your products
- 278       ▪ enable customers to readily verify that OEM products are genuine and trustworthy
- 279       ▪ prevent compromises of your organization’s information and systems caused by acquiring and  
280       using compromised technology products

## 281   2 How to Use This Guide

282   This is a preliminary draft of Volume B of a NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide. Implementation of the  
283   prototype implementation at the NCCoE is ongoing. The NCCoE is providing this preliminary draft to  
284   gather valuable feedback and inform stakeholders of the progress of the project. Organizations should  
285   not attempt to implement this preliminary draft.

286   When finalized, this NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide will demonstrate a standards-based reference  
287   design for verifying that the internal components of the computing devices organizations acquire are  
288   genuine and have not been tampered with, and provide readers with the information they need to  
289   replicate the reference design. It is modular and can be deployed in whole or in part.

290   This guide will contain three volumes:

- 291       ▪ NIST SP 1800-34A: *Executive Summary*
- 292       ▪ NIST SP 1800-34B: *Approach, Architecture, and Security Characteristics – what we built and why*  
293       **(you are here)**
- 294       ▪ NIST SP 1800-34C: *How-To Guides* – instructions for building the example solution

295   Depending on your role in your organization, you might use this guide in different ways:

296   **Business decision makers, including chief security and technology officers,** will be interested in the  
297   *Executive Summary, NIST SP 1800-34A*, which describes the following topics:

- 298       ▪ challenges that enterprises face in decreasing the risk of a compromise to products in their  
299       supply chain
- 300       ▪ example solution built at the NCCoE

- 301       ▪ benefits of adopting the example solution

302 **Technology or security program managers** who are concerned with how to identify, understand, assess,  
303 and mitigate risk will be interested in this part of the guide, *NIST SP 1800-34B*, which describes what we  
304 did and why. The following sections will be of particular interest:

- 305       ▪ Section 3.4, Risk, provides a description of the risk analysis we performed
- 306       ▪ Section 3.4.3.1, Security Control Map, maps the security characteristics of this example solution  
307       to cybersecurity standards and best practices

308 You might share the *Executive Summary*, *NIST SP 1800-34A*, with your leadership team members to help  
309 them understand the importance of adopting a standards-based method for verifying that the internal  
310 components of the computing devices they acquire are genuine and have not been tampered with.

311 **IT professionals** who want to implement an approach like this will find the whole practice guide useful.  
312 Once the how-to portion of the guide, *NIST SP 1800-34C*, is complete, you will be able to use it to  
313 replicate all or parts of the build created in our lab. The how-to portion of the guide will provide specific  
314 product installation, configuration, and integration instructions for implementing the example solution.  
315 We will not re-create the product manufacturers' documentation, which is generally widely available.  
316 Rather, we will show how we incorporated the products together in our environment to create an  
317 example solution.

318 This guide assumes that IT professionals have experience implementing security products within the  
319 enterprise. While we have used a suite of commercial and open-source products to address this  
320 challenge, this guide does not endorse these particular products. Your organization can adopt this  
321 solution or one that adheres to these guidelines in whole, or you can use this guide as a starting point  
322 for tailoring and implementing parts of a prototype implementation for verifying that the internal  
323 components of the computing devices your organization acquires are genuine and have not been  
324 tampered with. Your organization's security experts should identify the products that will best integrate  
325 with your existing tools and IT system infrastructure. We hope that you will seek products that are  
326 congruent with applicable standards and best practices. Section 3.6, Technologies, lists the products we  
327 used and maps them to the cybersecurity controls provided by this reference solution.

328 A NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide does not describe "the" solution, but a possible solution. This is a  
329 preliminary draft guide. We seek feedback on its contents and welcome your input. Comments,  
330 suggestions, and success stories will improve subsequent versions of this guide. Please contribute your  
331 thoughts to [supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov](mailto:supplychain-nccoe@nist.gov).

## 332 **2.1 Typographic Conventions**

333 The following table presents typographic conventions used in this volume.

Typeface/Symbol	Meaning	Example
<i>Italics</i>	file names and path names; references to documents that are not hyperlinks; new terms; and placeholders	For language use and style guidance, see the <i>NCCoE Style Guide</i> .
<b>Bold</b>	names of menus, options, command buttons, and fields	Choose <b>File</b> > <b>Edit</b> .
Monospace	command-line input, onscreen computer output, sample code examples, and status codes	<code>mkdir</code>
<b>Monospace Bold</b>	command-line user input contrasted with computer output	<code>service sshd start</code>
<a href="#">blue text</a>	link to other parts of the document, a web URL, or an email address	All publications from NIST's NCCoE are available at <a href="https://www.nccoe.nist.gov">https://www.nccoe.nist.gov</a> .

### 334 3 Approach

335 Organizations currently lack the ability to readily distinguish trustworthy products from others. To  
 336 address this challenge, the NCCoE proposes an adaptable prototype implementation that organizations  
 337 can use to verify that the internal components of the computing devices they acquire are genuine and  
 338 have not been tampered with. The NCCoE leveraged the existing ongoing initiatives by the NIST C-SCRM  
 339 program, including workshop research findings and use case studies, that sought input from technology  
 340 and cybersecurity vendors, C-SCRM subject matter experts from academia, and government to define  
 341 the project scope and reference architecture.

342 This guide describes a proof-of-concept implementation of the approach—a prototype—that is intended  
 343 to be a blueprint or template for the general security community. It is important to note that the  
 344 prototype implementation presented in this publication is only one possible way to solve the security  
 345 challenges. It is not intended to preclude the use of other products, services, techniques, etc. that can  
 346 also solve the problem adequately, nor is it intended to preclude the use of any products or services not  
 347 specifically mentioned in this publication.

#### 348 3.1 Audience

349 This guide is intended for organizations and individuals who are responsible for the acquisition,  
 350 provisioning, and configuration control of computing devices. Examples include IT  
 351 administrators/system administrators, incident response team members, and Security Operations  
 352 Center staff. OEMs, value-added resellers (VARs), and component suppliers may also benefit from the  
 353 prototype and lessons-learned at the conclusion of this project.

## 354 3.2 Scope

355 The scope of the project is limited to manufacturing and OEM processes that protect against  
356 counterfeits, tampering, and undocumented changes to firmware and hardware, and the corresponding  
357 customer processes that verify that client and server computing devices and components have not been  
358 tampered with or otherwise modified. Protection against undocumented changes to the operating  
359 system is considered out of scope for this project. Manufacturing processes that cannot be verified by  
360 the customer are also explicitly out of scope.

361 Further, this project is not intended to cover the entire supply chain risk management process; it will  
362 focus on the acceptance testing portion of a more holistic defense-in-depth/defense-in breadth supply  
363 chain risk management strategy. The project will enable verification of the identity of computing devices  
364 (including replacement parts and updates or upgrades) once they have been acquired but before they  
365 are implemented or installed.

366 Finally, this preliminary draft only documents our experiences with laptop (end user) computing devices  
367 in a Windows 10 environment. In our project roadmap (see Section 6), we plan to add servers that use  
368 Linux and Windows Server to the scope of the prototype. From this perspective, we have defined the  
369 following three project scenarios which outline the prototype scope.

### 370 3.2.1 Scenario 1: Creation of Verifiable Platform Artifacts

371 An OEM, VAR, or other authoritative source creates a verifiable artifact that binds reference platform  
372 attributes to the identity of the computing device. The platform attributes in this artifact (e.g., serial  
373 number, embedded components, firmware and software information, platform configuration) are used  
374 by the purchasing organization during acceptance and provisioning of the computing device. Customers  
375 may also create their own platform artifacts to establish a baseline that could be used to validate  
376 devices in the field.

### 377 3.2.2 Scenario 2: Verification of Components During Acceptance Testing

378 In this scenario, an IT administrator receives a computing device through non-verifiable channels  
379 (e.g., off the shelf at a retailer) and wishes to confirm its provenance and authenticity as part of  
380 acceptance testing to establish an authoritative asset inventory as part of an asset management  
381 program.

### 382 3.2.3 Scenario 3: Verification of Components During Use

383 In this scenario, the computing device has been accepted by the organization (Scenario 2) and has been  
384 provisioned for the end user. The computing device components are verified against the attributes and  
385 measurements declared by the manufacturer or purchasing organization during operational usage.

### 386 3.3 Assumptions

387 This project is guided by the following assumptions:

- 388       ▪ The scenario activities above will augment, not replace, the capabilities of existing acceptance  
389       testing tools, asset management systems, and configuration management systems.
- 390       ▪ Hardware roots of trust represent one technique that can thwart the above types of attacks to  
391       the supply chain. However, OEMs may use different approaches to implement a hardware root  
392       of trust solution because of hardware constraints or other business reasons.
- 393       ▪ Organizational computing devices lifecycle phases for technology include the following activities  
394       defined in NIST SP 800-161, Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information  
395       Systems and Organizations [2]: integration (referred to as acceptance testing in this  
396       demonstration), operations, and disposal.

### 397 3.4 Risk Assessment

398 NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-30 Revision 1, Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments [2], states that  
399 risk is “a measure of the extent to which an entity is threatened by a potential circumstance or event,  
400 and typically a function of: (i) the adverse impacts that would arise if the circumstance or event occurs;  
401 and (ii) the likelihood of occurrence.” The guide further defines risk assessment as “the process of  
402 identifying, estimating, and prioritizing risks to organizational operations (including mission, functions,  
403 image, reputation), organizational assets, individuals, other organizations, and the Nation, resulting  
404 from the operation of an information system. Part of risk management incorporates threat and  
405 vulnerability analyses, and considers mitigations provided by security controls planned or in place.”

406 The NCCoE recommends that any discussion of supply chain risk management should begin with a  
407 comprehensive review of NIST SP 800-161, Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal  
408 Information Systems and Organizations [2]—publicly available material. While SP 800-161 is targeted to  
409 U.S. federal agencies, much of the guidance is beneficial to private organizations interested in reducing  
410 Information and Communications Technology (ICT) supply chain risk. NIST SP 800-161 defines an *ICT*  
411 *supply chain compromise* as an occurrence within the ICT supply chain whereby an adversary  
412 jeopardizes the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of a system or the information the system  
413 processes, stores, or transmits. An ICT supply chain compromise can occur anywhere within the system  
414 development life cycle of the product or service.

415 In addition, NIST SP 800-37 Revision 2, Risk Management Framework for Information Systems and  
416 Organizations [4] provides Risk Management Framework guidance that gives a baseline to assess risks to  
417 information system assets, including threats to the IT system supply chain.

418 **3.4.1 Threats**

419 NIST SP 800-161 provides a framework of ICT supply chain threats including insertion of counterfeits,  
 420 unauthorized production, tampering, theft, or insertion of malicious software and hardware, as well as  
 421 poor manufacturing and development practices in the ICT supply chain. These threats are associated  
 422 with an organization’s decreased visibility into, and understanding of, how the technology that it  
 423 acquires is developed, integrated, and deployed, as well as the processes, procedures, and practices  
 424 used to assure the integrity, security, resilience, and quality of the products and services. Exploits  
 425 created by malicious actors (individuals, organizations, or nation states) are often especially  
 426 sophisticated and difficult to detect, and thus are a significant risk to organizations. This prototype  
 427 implementation does not defend against all ICT threats, but Table 3-1 captures threats from NIST SP  
 428 800-161 that are relevant to this project.

429 **Table 3-1 NIST SP 800-161 Threat Events**

Threat Events	Description
<b>Craft attacks specifically based on deployed IT environment.</b>	Adversary develops attacks (e.g., crafts targeted malware) that take advantage of knowledge of the organizational IT environment.
<b>Create counterfeit/spoof website.</b>	Adversary creates duplicates of legitimate websites; when users visit a counterfeit site, the site can gather information or download malware.
<b>Craft counterfeit certificates.</b>	Adversary counterfeits or compromises a certificate authority so that malware or connections will appear legitimate.
<b>Create and operate false front organizations to inject malicious components into the supply chain.</b>	Adversary creates false front organizations with the appearance of legitimate suppliers in the critical life cycle path that then inject corrupted/malicious information system components into the organizational supply chain.
<b>Insert counterfeit or tampered hardware into the supply chain.</b>	Adversary intercepts hardware from legitimate suppliers. Adversary modifies the hardware or replaces it with faulty or otherwise modified hardware.
<b>Insert tampered critical components into organizational systems.</b>	Adversary replaces, through supply chain, subverted insider, or some combination thereof, critical information system components with modified or corrupted components.
<b>Compromise design, manufacture, and/or distribution of information system components (including hardware, software, and firmware).</b>	Adversary compromises the design, manufacture, and/or distribution of critical information system components at selected suppliers.

Threat Events	Description
<b>Conduct supply chain attacks targeting and exploiting critical hardware, software, or firmware.</b>	Adversary targets and compromises the operation of software (e.g., through malware injections), firmware, and hardware that perform critical functions for organizations. This is largely accomplished as supply chain attacks on both commercial off-the-shelf and custom information systems and components.
<b>Obtain unauthorized access.</b>	Adversary with authorized access to organizational information systems gains access to resources that exceeds authorization.
<b>Inadvertently introduce vulnerabilities into software products.</b>	Due to inherent weaknesses in programming languages and software development environments, errors and vulnerabilities are introduced into commonly used software products.

### 430 3.4.2 Vulnerabilities

431 This document is guided by NIST SP 800-161 [2], which describes an ICT supply chain vulnerability as the  
432 following:

433 “A vulnerability is a weakness in an information system, system security procedures, internal  
434 controls, or implementation that could be exploited or triggered by a threat source [FIPS 200],  
435 [NIST SP 800-34 Rev. 1], [NIST SP 800-53 Rev 4], [NIST SP 800-53A Rev. 4], [NIST SP 800-115].  
436 Within the ICT SCRM context, it is any weakness in the system/component design, development,  
437 manufacturing, production, shipping and receiving, delivery, operation, and component end-of  
438 life that can be exploited by a threat agent. This definition applies to both the  
439 systems/components being developed and integrated (i.e., within the SDLC) and to the ICT  
440 supply chain infrastructure, including any security mitigations and techniques, such as identity  
441 management or access control systems. ICT supply chain vulnerabilities may be found in:

- 442 • The systems/components within the SDLC (i.e., being developed and integrated);
- 443 • The development and operational environment directly impacting the SDLC; and
- 444 • The logistics/delivery environment that transports ICT systems and components  
445 (logically or physically).”

446 In the context of this project, ICT products (including libraries, frameworks, and toolkits) or services  
447 originating anywhere (domestically or abroad) might contain vulnerabilities that can present  
448 opportunities for ICT supply chain compromises. For example, an adversary may have the power to  
449 insert a malicious component into a product. While it is important to consider all ICT vulnerabilities, in  
450 practice it is impossible to completely eliminate all of them. Therefore, organizations should prioritize  
451 vulnerabilities that may have a greater impact on their environment if exploited by an adversary.

452 Additionally, a goal of this prototype implementation is to document a capability that enables  
453 organizations to detect the exploitation of vulnerabilities that may exist in firmware over-the-air  
454 processes that would allow an attacker to gain a privileged position on the computing device. In this

455 project, we introduce a continuous monitoring component within system firmware that organizations  
456 can incorporate into their continuous monitoring programs.

### 457 3.4.3 Risk

458 SP 800-161 provides an analysis framework for organizations to assess supply chain risk by creating a  
459 *threat scenario*—a summary of potential consequences of the successful exploitation of a specific  
460 vulnerability or vulnerabilities by a threat agent. By performing this exercise, organizations can identify  
461 areas requiring increased controls. Here, we walk through a truncated example scenario that may be  
462 similar to a threat scenario faced by organizations who implement some or all parts of this prototype  
463 demonstration. Readers are encouraged to develop their own threat scenario assessment for their  
464 organization as part of a larger risk management program.

#### 465 3.4.3.1 Threat Scenario

466 A company purchases life cycle replacement network hardware from a third-party VAR with whom it has  
467 done business in the past. The business side of the company is pressuring the IT Operations staff to  
468 rapidly replace the network infrastructure off-hours to avoid downtime during regular business hours.  
469 The IT department responds by accelerating its deployment schedule to nights and weekends, using  
470 existing staff augmented with VAR technicians.

471 Following deployment of the new hardware, the IT department observes that network performance is  
472 actually slower in the subnets where the equipment has been installed. Two weeks of network  
473 performance tests are conducted to validate the network issues, culminating with a report that the new  
474 hardware is actually 25% slower than the previous hardware.

475 At the same time, the company's Information Security department notices unusual traffic coming from  
476 computers in the upgraded subnets. Their investigation finds that some computers in the affected  
477 subnets are beaconing out to international IP addresses where the company has no business presence  
478 or need. The computers generating the suspicious traffic are taken offline for further investigation.

479 The VAR is called, and their technicians perform a separate network traffic analysis, confirming the  
480 reduction in traffic speed. The VAR launches an investigation into the source of the network hardware  
481 that they sold to the company and finds that the equipment in question, as well as a portion of their  
482 existing stock of hardware, is counterfeit. The VAR sends a counterfeit network device to a security  
483 company for analysis. The security company finds that in addition to counterfeit hardware and  
484 substandard components, embedded malware has been installed, enabling attackers to take control of  
485 the network devices and to deliver second-stage malware that enabled them to move laterally through  
486 the affected subnets and compromise computers of interest. This also gave the attackers a persistent  
487 foothold inside the company.

488 An internal audit finds multiple failures on the part of the purchasing department, the IT department,  
 489 and the Information Security group to have in place measures to ensure the provenance of the  
 490 equipment and the secure deployment of devices on the network.

491 As a result of the supply chain breach leading to the installation of compromised hardware, the  
 492 company suffered several adverse effects, including:

- 493     ▪ loss of intellectual property through data exfiltration
- 494     ▪ loss of employee productivity as a result of computers and network equipment being taken  
 495         offline
- 496     ▪ additional costs to the IT department for replacement computers and network equipment
- 497     ▪ loss of confidence with the company’s client base
- 498     ▪ potential loss of revenue due to clients severing their relationship with the company

499 Consequently, the organization develops three mitigation strategies to address the identified risks, in  
 500 which two are chosen as shown in Table 3-2. One of the chosen strategies, *Increase provenance and*  
 501 *information requirements*, can be at least partially addressed by the final implementation of this project.  
 502 Table 3-2 presents a summary of an example threat scenario analysis framework that an organization  
 503 may use to determine the controls to implement that would cause the estimated residual risk of  
 504 counterfeit hardware to drop to an acceptable level.

505 **Table 3-2 C-SCRM Example Threat Scenario**

<b>Threat Scenario</b>	Threat Source:	Industrial espionage/cyber criminals
	Vulnerability:	Internal: Loss of intellectual property following system compromise
	Threat Event Description:	Counterfeit hardware with embedded malware introduced into company’s network
	Existing Practices:	Hardware system test prior to deployment; network scanning
	Outcome:	Data exfiltration, system degradation, loss of productivity, loss of revenue
<b>Risk</b>	Impact:	30% chance of successful targeting and infiltration
	Likelihood:	40% chance of undetected compromise
	Risk Score (Impact x Likelihood):	High
	Acceptable Level of Risk:	Low (under 25%)

<b>Mitigation</b>	Potential Mitigating Strategies/ SCRM Controls:	1) Improve traceability capabilities 2) Increase provenance and information requirements 3) Choose another supplier
	Estimated Cost of Mitigating Strategies:	1) Cost 20% increase, impact 10% decrease 2) Cost 20% increase, impact 20% decrease 3) Cost 40% increase, impact 80% decrease
	New Risk Score:	Low
	Selected Strategies:	2) Increase provenance and information requirements 3) Choose another supplier
	Estimated Residual Risk:	10%

506 **3.5 Security Control Map**

The following tables map the security characteristics defined in our project description (Table 3-3) to the applicable NIST Cybersecurity Framework [5] Functions, Categories, and Subcategories (Table 3-4) to assist organizations better manage and reduce C-SCRM risk. We have also included a mapping to specific SP 800-53 r4 security controls [6] and indicated (in bold) if the control is part of the SP 800-161 baseline security controls to assist organizations interested in alignment with NIST C-SCRM best practices.

507 **Table 3-3 Security Characteristics**

Identifier	Security Characteristic
1	Establish a strong device identity to support binding artifacts to a specific device.
2	Cryptographically bind platform attributes and other manufacturing information to a given computer system.
3	Establish assurance for multi-supplier production in which components are embedded at various stages.
4	Provide an acceptance test capability that validates source and integrity of assembled components for the recipient organization of the computer system.
5	Detect unexpected component (firmware) swaps or tampering during the life cycle of the computing device in an operational environment.

508 Table 3-4 Security Characteristics and Controls Mapping

Cybersecurity Framework v1.1			SP 800-53 R4	Security Characteristics Addressed
Function	Category	Subcategory		
Identify (ID)	Supply Chain Risk Management (ID.SC)	ID.SC-4: Suppliers and third-party partners are routinely assessed using audits, test results, or other forms of evaluations to confirm they are meeting their contractual obligations.	AU-2	5
			AU-6	5
			SA-19	1,3
	Asset Management (ID.AM)	ID.AM-1: Physical devices and systems within the organization are inventoried.	CM-8	4
			AU-10	4
Protect (PR)	Identity Management, Authentication and Access Control (PR.AC)	PR.AC-6: Identities are proofed and bound to credentials and asserted in interactions.	IA-4	1
	Data Security (PR.DS)	PR.DS-6: Integrity checking mechanisms are used to verify software, firmware, and information integrity.	SI-7	4,5
		PR.DS-8: Integrity checking mechanisms are used to verify hardware integrity.	SA-10	4,5
			SA-18	1
Detect (DE)	Security Continuous Monitoring (DE.CM)	DE.CM-7: Monitoring for unauthorized personnel, connections, devices, and software is performed.	PE-20	5

509 **3.6 Technologies**

510 Table 3-5 lists all of the technologies used in this project, and provides a mapping among the generic  
 511 component term, the specific product or technology used, the function or capability it provides, and the  
 512 Cybersecurity Framework Subcategories that the product helps support. Refer to Table 3-4 for an  
 513 explanation of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory codes.

514 Table 3-5 Products and Technologies

Component	Product/Technology	Function/Capability	Cybersecurity Framework Subcategories
Component or Subsystem Manufacturer	Intel Transparent Supply Chain	Tools and processes to ensure supply chain security from the manufacturer to the purchasing organization	ID.SC-4, PR.DS-6
	Seagate EXOS X18 18 Terabyte Hard Drive	Secure device authentication, firmware attestation	ID.SC-4, PR.AC-6, PR.DS-6, PR.DS-8
OEM or VAR	Dell Technologies	Manufactures computing devices and binds them to verifiable artifacts	ID.SC-4
	Hewlett Packard Enterprise		
	HP Inc.		
	Lenovo		
Computing Device	Dell PowerEdge R640 Server	A client device (laptop) or server purchased by an organization to execute tasks by end users	ID.SC-4, PR.AC-6
	Dell Precision 3530		
	HPE ProLiant DL360		
	HP Inc. Elitebook 360 830 G5		
	HP Inc. 840 G7		
	Intel Server Board S2600WTT		
	Lenovo ThinkPad T480		
Asset Discovery and Management System	RSA Archer	Ensures computing devices and associated components are tracked and uniquely identified	ID.AM-1
Configuration Management System	Microsoft Configuration Manager	Enforces corporate governance and policies through actions such as applying software patches and updates, removing denylisted software, and automatically updating configurations	DE.CM-7
Security Information and Event Management Tool	RSA Archer	Real-time analysis of alerts and notifications generated by organizational information systems	DE.CM-7

Component	Product/Technology	Function/Capability	Cybersecurity Framework Subcategories
Certificate Authority	HIRS ACA	Issues an Attestation Identity Credential in accordance with TCG specifications	PR.AC-6, PR.DS-8
Platform Integrity Validation System	Eclipsium Analytic Platform	Validates the integrity of firmware installed on computing devices	PR.DS-6
	HIRS ACA	Validates platform components in accordance with TCG specifications	PR.DS-8
	Platform Manifest Correlation System	Ingests platform manifest data from participating manufacturers	ID.AM-1

### 515 3.6.1 Trusted Computing Group

516 The technology providers for this prototype implement standards from the TCG, a not-for-profit  
517 organization formed to develop, define, and promote open, vendor-neutral, global industry standards  
518 supportive of hardware-based roots of trust for interoperable trusted computing platforms. TCG  
519 developed and maintains the Trusted Platform Module (TPM) 2.0 specification [8], which defines a  
520 cryptographic microprocessor designed to secure hardware by integrating cryptographic keys and  
521 services [3]. A TPM functions as a root of trust for storage, measurement, and reporting. TPMs are  
522 currently included in many computing devices.

523 This project applies this foundational technology to address the challenge of operational security by  
524 verifying the provenance of a delivered system from the time it leaves the manufacturer until it is  
525 introduced in the organization's operational environment. The TPM can be leveraged to measure and  
526 validate the state of the system, including:

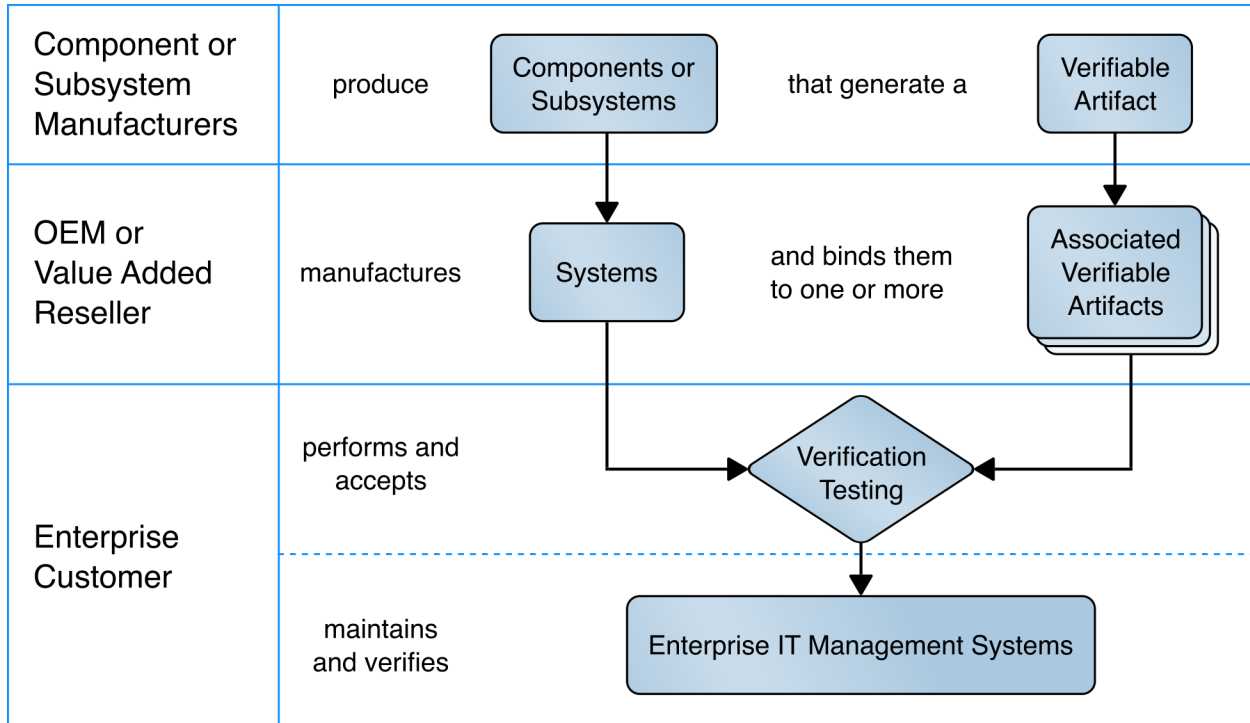
- 527     ▪ binding attributes about the computing device to a strong cryptographic device identity held by  
528         the TPM, and
- 529     ▪ supporting measurement and attestation capabilities that allow an organization to inspect and  
530         verify device components and compare them to those found in the platform attribute credential  
531         and OEM-provided reference measurements.

## 532 4 Architecture

533 This project is based on the notional high-level architecture depicted in Figure 4-1 for an organization  
534 incorporating C-SCRM technologies into its existing infrastructure. The architecture depicts a

535 manufacturer that creates a hardware-root-of-trust-backed verifiable artifact associated with a  
 536 computing device. The verifiable artifact is then associated with existing enterprise IT management  
 537 systems, such as asset and configuration management systems, during the provisioning process. Finally,  
 538 an inspection component measures and reports on hardware attributes and firmware measurements  
 539 during acceptance testing and operational use.

540 **Figure 4-1 Notional Architecture**



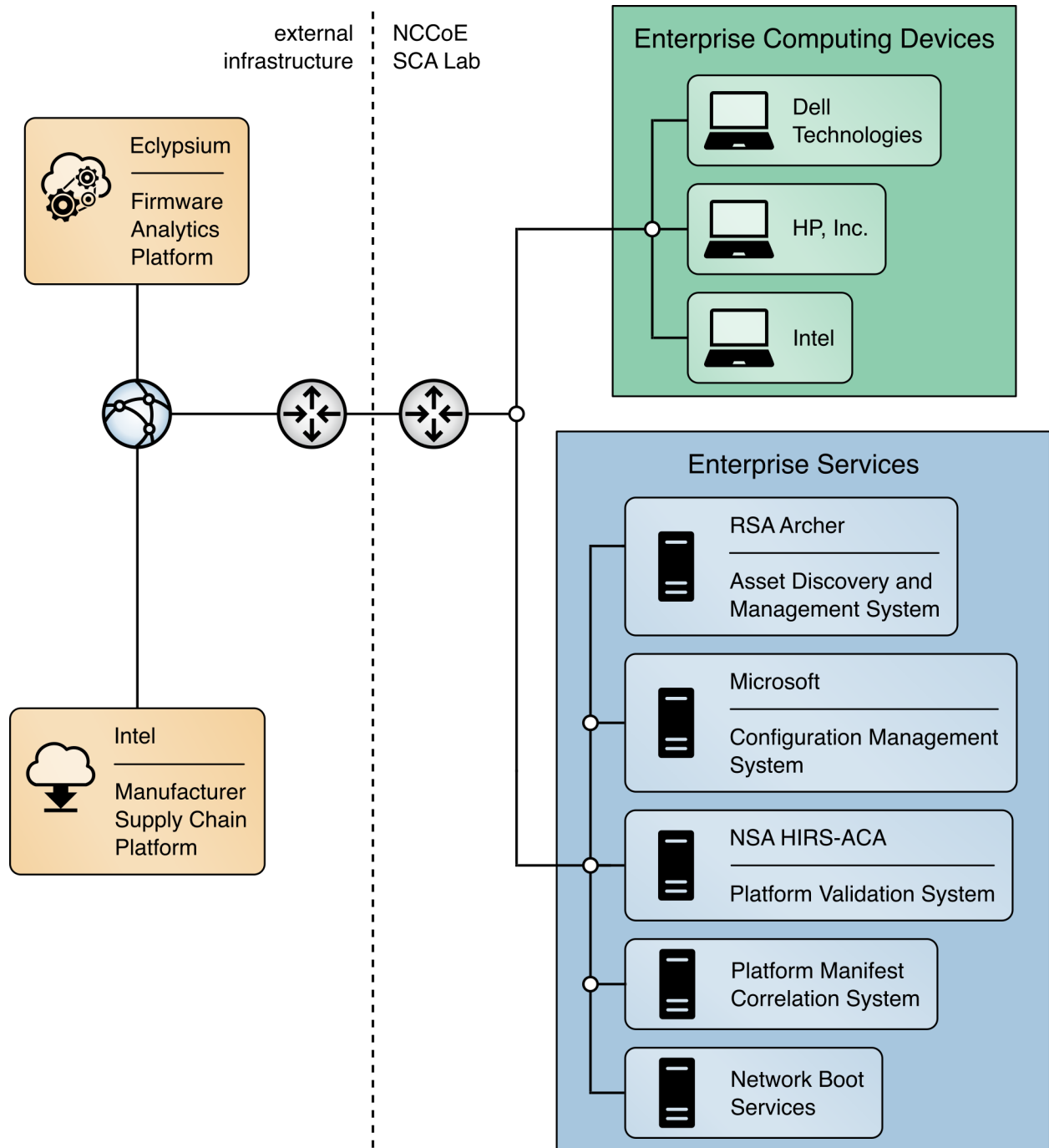
541 **4.1 Architecture Description**

542 The prototype architecture consists of two focus areas: 1) an implementation of a manufacturer that  
 543 creates a hardware-root-of-trust-backed verifiable artifact associated with a computing device, and 2)  
 544 the representational architecture of an organization where end users are issued computing devices that  
 545 require access to enterprise services for initial acceptance testing of the device and operational  
 546 validation of the platform.

547 This prototype implementation combines on-premises software, cloud platforms, and end user  
 548 hardware to demonstrate the security characteristics defined in the project description (Table 3-3).  
 549 Figure 4-2 presents a component-level view of the current prototype. The remaining sections discuss the  
 550 existing IT components an organization may have deployed before the prototype has been implemented

551 and how they can be augmented to support a hardware integrity validation capability. They also discuss  
552 additional services and platforms that are integrated into the enterprise architecture.

553 **Figure 4-2 Component-Level Architecture**



## 554 4.2 Existing Enterprise IT Management Systems

555 This prototype solution aims to augment, not replace, the capabilities of existing acceptance testing  
556 tools, asset management systems, and configuration management systems. In this iteration of the  
557 solution, this example enterprise uses an asset and configuration management system in the normal  
558 course of computing device acceptance. This section describes the functions of each system before and  
559 after the integration of the security characteristics defined in Section 3.4.3.1.

### 560 4.2.1 Asset Discovery and Management System

561 SP 800-128 [7] states that a *system component* is a discrete identifiable IT asset that represents a  
562 building block of a system. An accurate component inventory is essential to record the components that  
563 compose the system. The component inventory helps to improve the security of the system by providing  
564 a comprehensive view of the components that need to be managed and secured. The organization can  
565 determine the granularity of the components, and in the context of this prototype, the *system* is the  
566 computing device platform, and the *components* represent the internal hardware such as motherboard,  
567 hard drive, and memory.

568 In our project description [1], we described an Asset Discovery and Management System as a capability  
569 that helps organizations ensure that critical assets (systems) are uniquely identified using known  
570 identifiers and device attributes. This capability could include discovery tools that identify endpoints and  
571 interrogate the platform for device attributes. However, this prototype demonstration uses alternative  
572 platforms for these functions.

#### 573 4.2.1.1 RSA Archer Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) Platform

574 The RSA Archer GRC Platform supports business-level management of governance, risk, and compliance  
575 programs. The GRC Platform serves as the foundation for all RSA Archer solutions and allows an  
576 organization to adapt the solutions to business requirements, build their own applications, and integrate  
577 with other external data sources. This prototype demonstration incorporates an Archer use case  
578 centered on asset management and continuous monitoring.

579 RSA Archer is a web-based platform that operates on a Microsoft stack consisting of Windows Server,  
580 Internet Information Services, and SQL Server. This prototype demonstration leverages the RSA Archer  
581 Data Feed Manager capability that allows consumption of external data via delimited text files,  
582 Extensible Markup Language (XML) or JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) data on network locations, File  
583 Transfer Protocol (FTP), or Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) or HTTP Secure (HTTPS) sites. As of this  
584 publication, the demonstration imports JSON enterprise asset data and platform integrity data via the  
585 HTTPS Data Feed Manager.

586 Additionally, the RSA Archer Platform solution has a number of built-in applications which assist  
587 organizations with risk management by way of business processes and workflows. In this prototype

588 demonstration, we leverage a customized version of the Devices application which serves as a central  
589 repository for knowledge, such as platform attributes and other manufacturing information, about  
590 computing devices within an organization.

591 The default Devices application enables an organization to manage IT assets, such as computing devices,  
592 to ensure that they are protected according to management expectations. Within the scope of this  
593 demonstration, the Devices application provides a holistic continuous monitoring platform that allows IT  
594 administrators to ensure computing devices within their organization have not been tampered with or  
595 otherwise modified. To augment the Devices application, this demonstration has created an additional  
596 custom application named Components that stores component information associated with each  
597 computing device.

598 Finally, we modeled the structure of the Components application and made customizations to the  
599 Devices application via data fields to mimic the structure of the [TCG Platform Certificate Profile](#) as a  
600 vendor-agnostic method of storing data such as manufacturer, model, and version information. For  
601 organizations using the broader Archer GRC platform capabilities, such as third-party risk management,  
602 records (computing devices) stored in the Devices application can also be associated with other aspects  
603 of the enterprise infrastructure [9].

604 The computing device data described above are consolidated and made available to an IT administrator  
605 via an information management console or “dashboard” which also incorporates operational continuous  
606 monitoring aspects described from Scenario 3. A *dashboard* in the context of this prototype is a tool that  
607 consolidates and communicates information relevant to the organizational security posture in near real-  
608 time to security management stakeholders [7].

#### 609 4.2.2 Configuration Management System

610 The focus of this document is on implementing the information system security aspects of configuration  
611 management, and as such the term security-focused configuration management (SecCM) is used to  
612 emphasize the concentration on information security. The goal of SecCM activities is to manage and  
613 monitor the configurations of information systems to achieve adequate security and minimize  
614 organizational risk while supporting the desired business functionality and services [7].

615 As defined in the project description [1], a configuration management system is a component that  
616 enforces corporate governance and policies through actions such as applying software patches and  
617 updates, removing denylisted software, and automatically updating configurations. These components  
618 may also assist in management and remediation of firmware vulnerabilities.

619 SP 800-128 [7] further defines two fundamental concepts that this prototype demonstration references:  
620 baseline configuration and configuration monitoring.

621 A *baseline configuration* is a set of specifications for a system, or configuration items within a system,  
622 that has been formally reviewed and agreed on at a given point in time, and which can be changed only

623 through change control procedures. The baseline configuration is used as a basis for future builds,  
624 releases, and/or changes. In the context of this prototype demonstration, the baseline configuration  
625 represents the platform attributes (e.g., serial number, embedded components, firmware and software  
626 information, platform configuration) asserted in the OEM’s verifiable artifact. The baseline configuration  
627 may be updated if a configuration change (e.g., adding hardware components, updating firmware) is  
628 approved by an organization’s change management process.

629 Configuration monitoring is the process for assessing or testing the level of compliance with the  
630 established baseline configuration and mechanisms for reporting on the configuration status of items  
631 placed under configuration management. This prototype demonstration uses a combination of  
632 monitoring capabilities provided by the configuration management system and OEM platform validation  
633 tooling to assess whether the computing device has deviated from the defined baseline configuration.

#### 634 *4.2.2.1 Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager*

635 Many organizations may already use Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager capabilities such as  
636 application management, organizational resource access, and operating system (OS) deployment. This  
637 prototype demonstration leverages the existing configuration management activities and extends them  
638 to include compliance settings (a set of tools and resources that can help you to assess, track, and  
639 remediate the configuration compliance of client devices in the enterprise) and reporting (a set of tools  
640 and resources that help you use the advanced reporting capabilities of SQL Server Reporting Services  
641 from the Configuration Manager console [10]). These capabilities align to the SP 800-128 best practice of  
642 using automation, where possible, to enable interoperability of tools and uniformity of baseline  
643 configurations across the computing device.

644 The computing device baseline configuration (defined above) was evaluated using the compliance  
645 settings capability. In the Intel laptop use case, we defined a configuration item which deployed a  
646 custom PowerShell script to each Intel computing device. The script executed the TSCVerifyUtil tool  
647 that is part of the Intel Transparent Supply Chain platform to perform two tests:

- 648     ▪ a comparison of scanned components to the OEM-generated platform manifest, and
- 649     ▪ validation of the platform certificate bound to the computing device.

650 If either of the tests fail, an error code is returned to Configuration Manager, where an IT administrator  
651 could take remediation action.

652 Similarly, we use a set of PowerShell commands provided by HP Inc., called the Client Management  
653 Script Library (CMSL), in a custom script to detect unexpected hardware or component changes. The  
654 CMSL incorporates several modules, including two directly related to this demonstration—the BIOS and  
655 Device module, and the Firmware module.

656 Finally, this demonstration leverages an existing Configuration Manager platform by extending its  
657 capabilities by way of a console plug-in provided by an OEM, HP Inc.. The plug-in, HP Manageability

658 Integration Kit (HP MIK), enables an administrator to manage security features that are specific to HP  
659 Inc. computing devices.

## 660 **4.3 Supporting Platform Integrity Validation Systems**

661 This section describes supplemental services and systems that support the security characteristics  
662 defined in Section 3.4.3.1. These systems integrate with existing services that an enterprise may already  
663 have fielded, as described in Section 4.2.

### 664 **4.3.1 Host Integrity at Runtime and Start-up Attestation Certificate Authority (HIRS 665 ACA)**

666 The HIRS ACA [11] is described by the project owners, the National Security Agency, as a proof of  
667 concept/prototype intended to spur interest and adoption of Trusted Computing Group standards that  
668 leverage the TPM. It is intended for testing and development purposes only, such as this prototype  
669 demonstration, and is not intended for production environments. The ACA's functionality supports the  
670 provisioning of both the TPM 1.2 and TPM 2.0 with an Attestation Identity Credential (AIC); however, in  
671 this prototype we have only exercised TPM 2.0 capabilities.

672 The HIRS ACA includes a flexible validation policy configuration capability, and in this demonstration's  
673 defined scenarios, is configured to enforce the Validation of Endorsement and Platform Credentials to  
674 illustrate a supply chain validation capability.

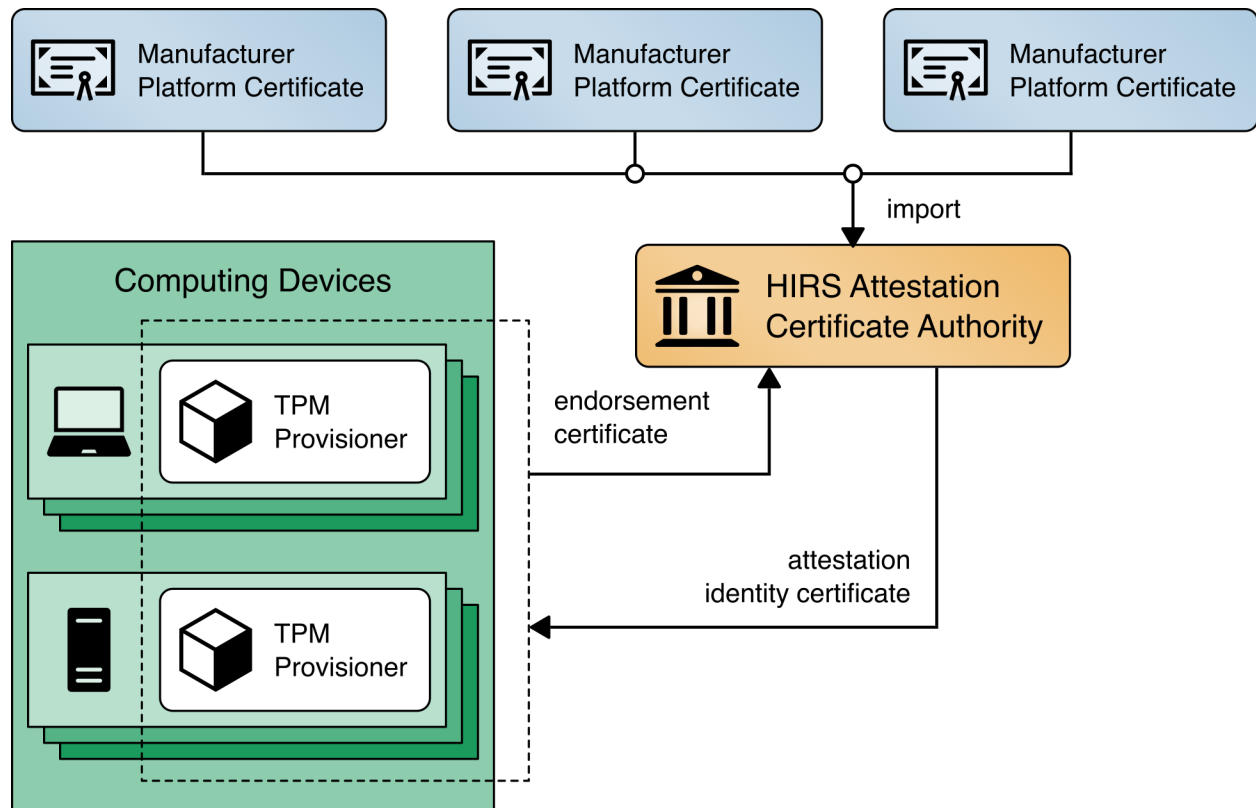
675 The HIRS ACA project is comprised of multiple components and services that are utilized in this  
676 prototype demonstration. The first component, named the TPM Provisioner, is a software utility  
677 executed on the target computing device. It takes control of the TPM if it is not already owned and  
678 requests an AIC for the TPM from the Attestation Certificate Authority (ACA, described below). The  
679 Provisioner communicates with the ACA through a representational state transfer (REST) API interface  
680 to complete the transaction. As part of the transaction, the TPM Provisioner reads the Endorsement Key  
681 credentials from the TPM's non-volatile random access memory (NVRAM) and interrogates the  
682 computing device's hardware, network, firmware, and OS info for platform validation.

683 The Attestation Certificate Authority (ACA) the server component that issues AICs to validated devices  
684 holding a TPM. It performs TCG-based Supply Chain Validation of connecting clients by Validating  
685 endorsement and Platform Credentials. The (ACA) is in alignment with the [TCG EK Credential Profile For  
686 TPM Family 2.0](#) specification to ensure the endorsement key used by the TPM was placed there by the  
687 manufacturer. It also aligns with [TCG Platform Attribute Credential Profile Specification Version 1.1  
688 Revision 15](#) while processing platform credentials to verify the provenance of the system's hardware  
689 components, such as the motherboard and chassis, by comparing measured component information  
690 against the manufacturers, models, and serial numbers listed in the Platform Credential.

691 Finally, the ACA Dashboard is the Endorsement and Platform Credential policy configuration front end  
 692 enables the IT Administrator to view all validation reports, credentials, and trust chains. IT  
 693 Administrators also use this interface to upload, and if necessary, remove, certificate trust chains,  
 694 Endorsement and Platform credentials.

695 Figure 4-3 HIRS ACA Platform presents a high-level view of how the HIRS system integrates with our  
 696 prototype demonstration.

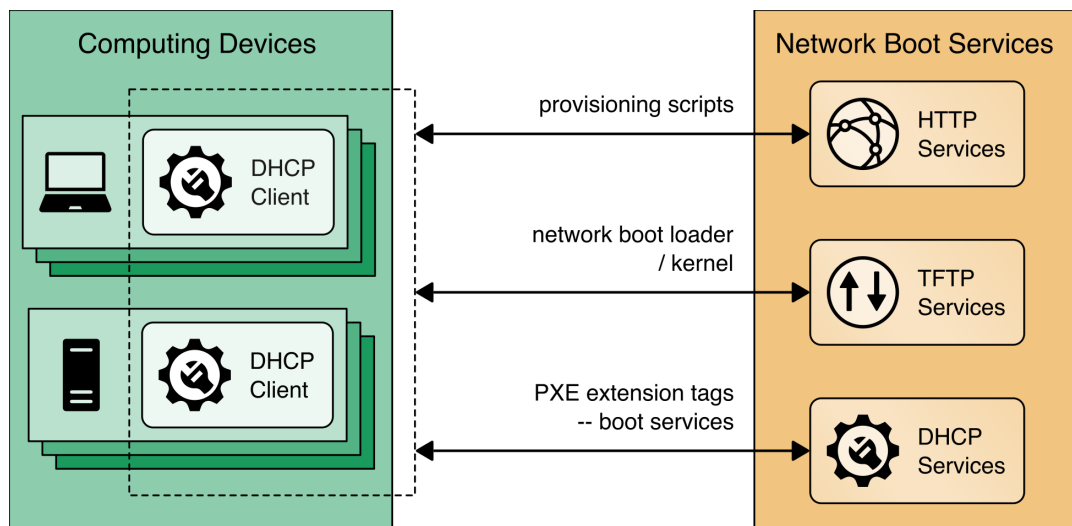
697 **Figure 4-3 HIRS ACA Platform**



698 **4.3.2 Network Boot Services**

699 The computing devices in this prototype demonstration support a Dynamic Host Client Protocol (DHCP)  
 700 based Preboot Execution Environment (PXE), which enables an IT administrator to boot the device over  
 701 the network. In our environment, the IT administrator can boot into either a customized CentOS7 or a  
 702 WinPE OS, depending on the platform validation tools that are needed. The CentOS7 environment  
 703 supports the TPM Provisioner component of the HIRS ACA Platform, the Eclipsium Portable Scanner,  
 704 and automation scripts. Figure 4-4 details the flow of the boot environment:

- 705 1. Computing devices are configured to boot over the network via a network interface card (NIC).  
 706 The DHCP server presents the boot options to the IT administrator. Once the OS is chosen, the  
 707 DHCP server directs the DHCP client to the Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP) server.
- 708 2. The DHCP client downloads and executes boot loaders and kernels associated with the target  
 709 OS.
- 710 3. (CentOS7 Only) The IT administrator downloads the latest provisioning script from a centralized  
 711 repository.

712 **Figure 4-4 Network Boot Services Environment**713 

### 4.3.3 Platform Manifest Correlation System

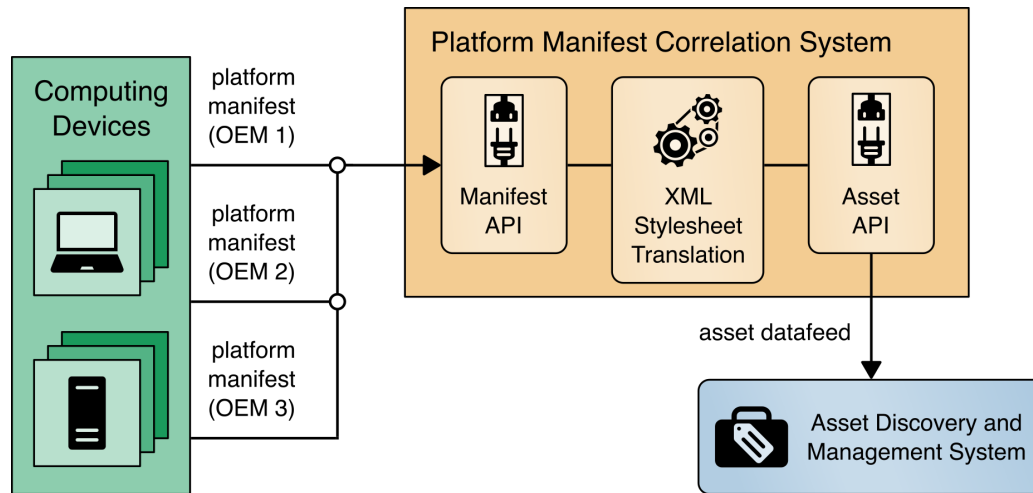
714 This system assists in providing computing device manifest attributes to the asset management system.  
 715 The system was built specifically for this demonstration and was built on open-source projects to include  
 716 the node.js server platform. The requirements of this system were defined as:

- 717 1. Provide a web interface for the IT administrator to upload platform manifests.
- 718 2. Provide a REST application programming interface (API) for scripts to upload platform manifests.
- 719 3. Provide a REST API for the asset management system to periodically poll for new computing de-  
 720 vices to import in the repository.

721 Once the platform manifest is uploaded, it is converted to a common XML format that has been defined  
 722 within the RSA Archer administration console via an XML Stylesheet Translation (XSLT). During this initial  
 723 phase of the prototype demonstration, two XSLTs have been defined that support manifests from the  
 724 HIRS ACA Provisioner and Intel's TSC applications.

725 Figure 4-5 presents how it is integrated into the larger architecture.

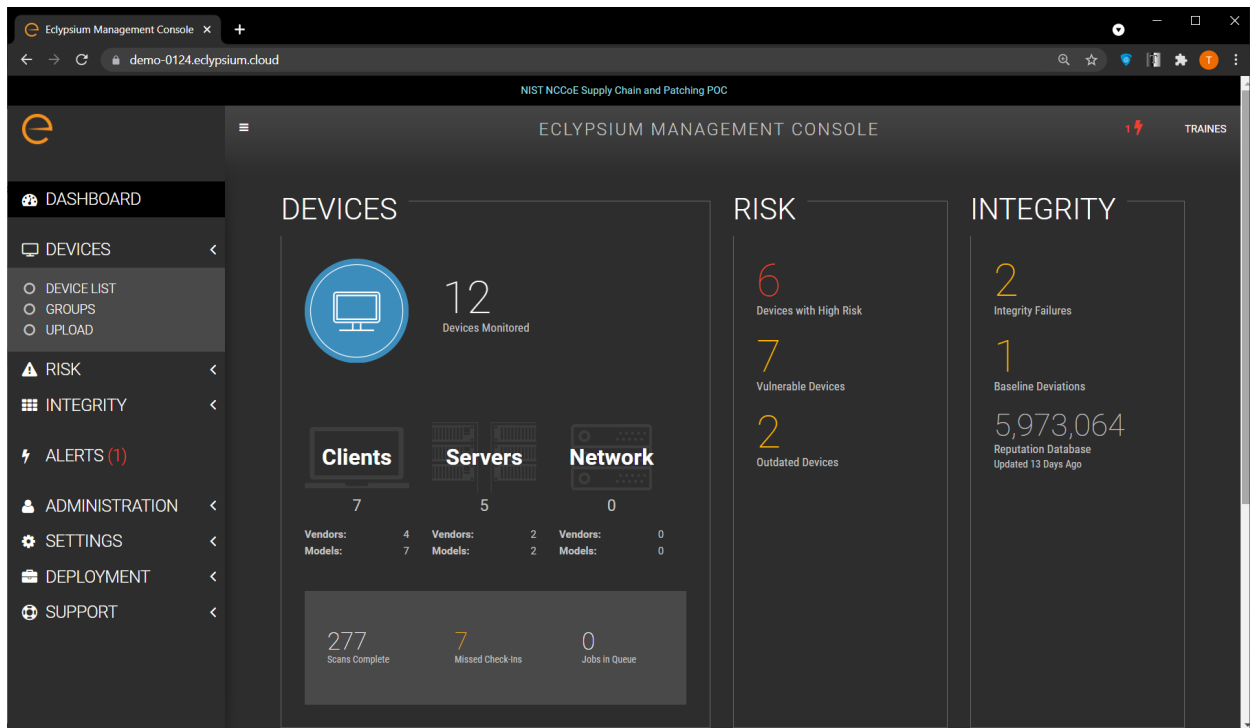
726 **Figure 4-5 Platform Manifest Correlation System**



#### 727 4.3.4 Eclipsium Analytic Platform

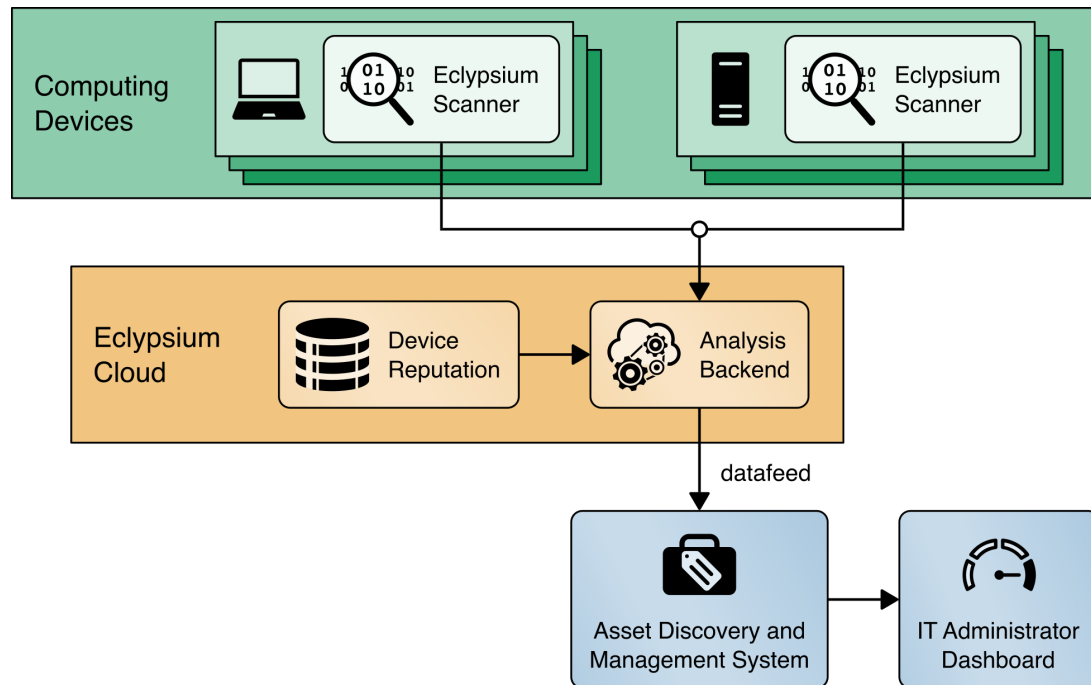
728 The Eclipsium platform is a security solution that focuses on vulnerabilities and threats below the OS  
 729 layer, to include firmware and component hardware. The platform consists of an endpoint agent, which  
 730 can be deployed from an enterprise systems configuration manager on each computing device, the  
 731 analysis backend (either cloud or on-premises), and the device reputation cloud service. The platform  
 732 continuously updates a profile for each device and collects telemetry about each computing device into  
 733 the analysis backend. The device reputation cloud provides a database of collected vulnerabilities that  
 734 could potentially affect computing device components within an organization.

735 The initial endpoint agent scan of the computing device forms a baseline profile, which is used for later  
 736 comparisons against the original profile stored in the Analysis Backend. Any deviations from the profile  
 737 are detected and can be communicated to an organization's IT Security department as an integrity issue  
 738 in multiple ways according to organization policy. For example, the IT Security department can be  
 739 alerted when the system firmware version has changed from the baseline, which could indicate an  
 740 unexpected firmware swap or tampering of the computing device in the operational environment. This  
 741 prototype demonstration leverages a combination of Eclipsium's REST API (Scenario 3 – operational  
 742 monitoring) and web-based dashboard captured in Figure 4-6 (Scenario 2 – provisioning of the  
 743 computing device).

744 **Figure 4-6 Eclypsiium Management Console**

745 In Scenario 2, this demonstration uses a portable version of the Eclypsiium agent, as opposed to the  
 746 installer-based version used in Scenario 3. This is to support an ephemeral environment for the IT  
 747 administrator where computing device acceptance testing is performed. We have integrated this  
 748 portable version of the agent into the CentOS7 discussed in Section 4.3.2.

749 Figure 4-7 presents how this project integrates Eclypsiium’s cloud services into the architecture.

750 **Figure 4-7 Eclysium Analytics Platform**751 **4.4 Computing Devices**

752 In this prototype demonstration we define a computing device as client and server devices associated  
 753 with verifiable artifacts. These devices may contain several integrated platform components or  
 754 subsystems from multiple manufacturers. Our manufacturing partners, HP Inc., Dell Technologies,  
 755 Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Seagate, and Intel have contributed hardware to the project.

756 **4.4.1 HP Inc.**

757 HP Inc. functions as an OEM within this prototype demonstration and contributed two HP Inc. Elitebook  
 758 360 830 G5 laptops. Each laptop has a TCG-Certified TPM v2.0 with embedded EK Certificate.

759 In support of Scenario 1, the NCCoE lab is utilizing the HIRS Platform Attribute Certificate Creator  
 760 (PACCOR) project to generate a representative Platform Certificate bound to the device identity. The  
 761 Platform Certificate was signed by HP Inc.'s internal test certificate authority.

762 In support of Scenario 2, acceptance testing of the HP Inc. laptops is performed via the HIRS ACA TPM  
 763 Provisioner described in Section 4.3.1.

764 In support of Scenario 3, the demonstration will utilize a combination of Microsoft Endpoint  
 765 Configuration Manager integrated with the HP MIK and HP Client Management Script Library (CMSL)

766 PowerShell scripting library for enterprise manageability of platform hardware and firmware security  
767 capabilities (e.g., firmware integrity breach detection and physical tampering detection). As described in  
768 Section 4.2.2.1, this demonstration makes use of HP Inc’s CMSL PowerShell modules. Specifically, the  
769 BIOS and Device module provides basic querying of device attributes and secure manipulation of HP  
770 BIOS settings and managing the HP BIOS, while the Firmware module provides functionality for  
771 interfacing with the HP BIOS firmware, such as gathering security-related events from the HP Endpoint  
772 Security Controller hardware.

773 Finally, this demonstration utilizes HP Inc. capabilities that augment tooling used to verify the integrity  
774 of computing device components during use. These capabilities are intended to be provisioned during  
775 the computing device acceptance testing process before issuance to the end user for operational use,  
776 and can optionally be provisioned in manufacturing and included in the device acceptance testing  
777 process.

- 778     ▪ **HP Secure Platform Management** enforces a certificate-based authorization model that enables  
779     firmware setting security management by an IT administrator. The model is composed of two  
780     keys, an Endorsement Key and a Signing Key (note: the Endorsement Key in this context is not  
781     related to the TPM Endorsement Key). The Endorsement Key’s primary purpose is to protect  
782     against unauthorized changes to the Signing Key. The Signing Key is used by the platform to  
783     authorize commands sent to the firmware (BIOS) [12] [13].
- 784     ▪ **HP Sure Start** is a built-in hardware security system that protects platform firmware code and  
785     data (including HP BIOS, HP Endpoint Security Controller firmware, and Intel Management  
786     Engine firmware) from accidental or malicious corruption by (1) detecting corruption and then  
787     (2) automatically restoring the firmware to its last installed HP-certified version and the data  
788     (settings) to the last authorized state. The capability also stores events related to firmware  
789     integrity that can provide visibility into attempted firmware integrity breaches [14].
- 790     ▪ **HP Sure Recover** is an OS recovery mechanism that is completely self-contained within the  
791     hardware and firmware to allow secure OS recovery from the network or from a local OS  
792     recovery copy stored in dedicated flash on the system board. It includes settings that control  
793     when, how, and from where BIOS installs the OS recovery image, and which public keys are used  
794     by BIOS to validate the integrity of the recovery image. It can also record events due to OS  
795     recovery image integrity failures [14].
- 796     ▪ **HP TamperLock** provides a general protection mechanism against all classes of physical attacks  
797     that involve removal of the system cover to obtain access to the system board. This is achieved  
798     by providing a cover removal sensor to detect and lock down a system that is disassembled,  
799     along with fully manageable policy controls to configure what action to take in the event a cover  
800     removal is detected. Cover removal events and history are stored in platform hardware and can  
801     be queried by a remote administrator [15].
- 802     ▪ The **HP Endpoint Security Controller** is HP’s hardware root of trust that enables all the features  
803     above and provides isolated/dedicated non-volatile storage on the system board that (1)

804 enables recovery of firmware code and data, policies, and OS images, as well as (2) secure  
805 hardware-based storage for tampering-related events associated with each of the capabilities  
806 described above.

#### 807 4.4.2 Dell Technologies

808 Dell contributed hardware and supporting software as part of a pilot program that are aligned with the  
809 defined security characteristics of this prototype demonstration.

810 The demonstration uses two Dell Precision 3530 laptops as the client computing devices that are  
811 evaluated through an enterprise acceptance testing process. These computing devices are equipped  
812 with a TPM that is compatible with the TCG's 2.0 specification as discussed in Section 3.6.1. In alignment  
813 with the TCG specifications, the TPM endorsement keys were generated by Nuvoton, a supplier of TPMs  
814 to OEMs.

815 In support of Scenario 1, Dell supplied the NCCoE with the infrastructure and tooling to support TCG  
816 Platform Certificate generation during Dell computing device manufacturing. Once executed, the tooling  
817 collected the computing devices component data and created a Platform Certificate. The Platform  
818 Certificate was bound to the device identity (TPM) and digitally signed by a Dell factory Hardware  
819 Security Module. The Platform Certificate was stored within the Extensible Firmware Interface (EFI)  
820 system partition, where it was later extracted for use in supporting platform integrity validation  
821 systems.

822 In support of Scenario 2, the validation of component authenticity during acceptance testing of the Dell  
823 laptops was performed via the HIRS ACA TPM Provisioner described in Section 4.3.1.

#### 824 4.4.3 Intel

825 Intel contributed hardware, supporting software, and cloud services that are aligned with the defined  
826 security characteristics of this prototype demonstration through its Transparent Supply Chain platform,  
827 or TSC [15] *HP TamperLock: Protecting Devices from Physical Attacks*, HP Inc, 2021, 6 pp. Available:  
828 <https://www8.hp.com/h20195/v2/GetPDF.aspx/4AA7-8167ENW.pdf>.

829 [16]. TSC enables organizations to verify the authenticity and firmware version of systems and their  
830 components. The remainder of this section summarizes the TSC components used within this prototype  
831 demonstration; however, it is not an exhaustive description of the complete platform. Refer to Intel's  
832 TSC [website](#) for complete documentation.

833 The process starts at the OEM, where an Intel-provided tool called `TSCMFGUtil` enables the creation of  
834 a platform certificate data file that is compliant with the TCG Platform Certificate Profile Specification  
835 Version 1.1. The `TSCMFGUtil` also generates the Direct Platform Data (DPD) file capturing the Platform  
836 Snapshot before shipping the platform out to the customer. The platform certificate data file contains  
837 TPM information such as the Platform Configuration Registers (PCRs), the TPM Serial Number, and the

838 TPM Endorsement Key. The DPD file contains information about the components within the computing  
839 device such as component manufacturer part number, batch number, and serial and lot number, as well  
840 as sourcing information. The OEM then uploads these files to Intel's Secure File Transport Protocol  
841 (SFTP) site where they are processed and digitally signed.

842 Next, after the computing device is purchased by an organization's IT department, an administrator  
843 downloads the DPD file and Platform Certificate from the Transparent Supply Chain Web Portal as part  
844 of the computing device acceptance testing process. The aforementioned files are processed by Intel  
845 software intended for the end customer, the AutoVerifyTool. In this prototype demonstration, the  
846 AutoVerifyTool enables the following capabilities for the IT administrator:

- 847 1. The ScanSystem function initiates the scanning of the system components and the TPM infor-  
848 mation. The scanning operation will perform the following operations:
  - 849 a. Read the following platform components: BIOS, system, motherboard, chassis, proces-  
850 sor, dual in-line memory modules (DIMMs), batteries, Intel Active Management Tech-  
851 nology firmware version, power supplies
  - 852 b. Read the TPM PCRs, public Endorsement Key, and the Endorsement Key serial number
  - 853 c. Read the internal drive information
  - 854 d. Read the Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) Information for internal key-  
855 board, pointer, and network devices
- 856 2. After the system has been scanned, the IT administrator executes the Read Direct Plat-  
857 form Data File function which opens and displays the DPD associated with the platform.
- 858 3. The IT administrator executes the Compare function, which compares the current system com-  
859 ponent value information that was captured by ScanSystem operation to the component value  
860 information that was read in from the DPD file.
- 861 4. The IT administrator executes the Platform Certificate Verify function, which validates  
862 the Platform Certificate issued for the platform using the TPM as the hardware root of trust. The  
863 Platform Certificate Verify will check that the TPM Endorsement Key serial number  
864 matches the Endorsement Key serial number in the Platform Certificate. The function will also  
865 check that the manufacturer, version, and serial number match the values in the Platform Certif-  
866 icate.

867 To demonstrate the TSC platform, Intel contributed laptop computing devices from OEMs Lenovo and  
868 HP Inc. (T490 Thinkpad and HP EliteBook x360 830 G5, respectively). Intel also provisioned accounts for  
869 the NCCoE project team to use the TSC Web Portal for demonstrating computing device acceptance  
870 testing described in Scenario 2.

## 871 **5 Security Characteristic Analysis**

872 The purpose of the security characteristic analysis is to understand the extent to which the project  
873 meets its objective of creating a prototype that demonstrates how organizations can verify that the  
874 components of their acquired computing devices are genuine and have not been tampered with or  
875 otherwise modified throughout the devices' life cycles. In addition, it seeks to understand the security  
876 benefits and drawbacks of the prototype solution.

### 877 **5.1 Assumptions and Limitations**

878 The security characteristic analysis has the following limitations:

- 879     ▪ It is neither a comprehensive test of all security components nor a red-team exercise.
- 880     ▪ It cannot identify all weaknesses.
- 881     ▪ It does not include the lab infrastructure. It is assumed that devices are hardened. Testing these  
882 devices would reveal only weaknesses in implementation that would not be relevant to those  
883 adopting this reference architecture.
- 884     ▪ It will evolve and expand as the project as collaborators are integrated into the final architecture  
885 in the next publication of this document.
- 886     ▪ Because this is a preliminary draft, testing the prototype implementation is not complete. The  
887 content provided in this section is preliminary and incomplete.

### 888 **5.2 Build Testing**

889 This section addresses how this prototype demonstration addresses each scenario and identifies gaps  
890 that will be addressed as the project progresses.

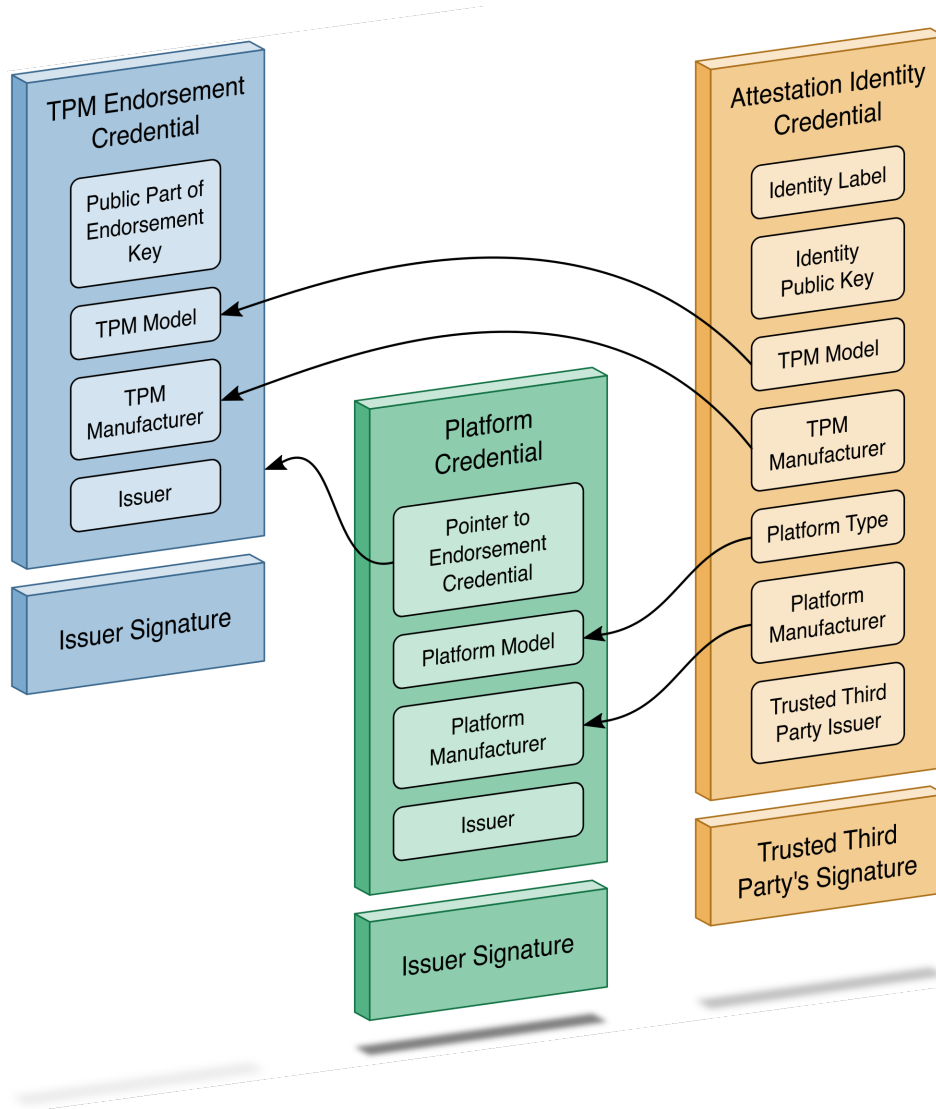
#### 891 **5.2.1 Scenario 1**

892 The desired outcome of Scenario 1 is the creation of verifiable platform artifacts, either by the  
893 manufacturer or the customer in the field. This demonstration uses a manufacturer-created platform  
894 artifact by way of Intel's Transparent Supply Chain platform. We also emulated a customer-created  
895 platform artifact using the HIRS ACA project's Platform Attribute Certificate Creator (PACCOR) software  
896 for Dell and HP Inc. laptops. In each case, the platform artifact is signed by a cryptographic key  
897 designated only for test/lab purposes. Additionally, the IT administrator uploads the verifiable artifact to  
898 the HIRS ACA validation system for use in Scenarios 2 and 3.

899 In all cases, the platform artifact is instantiated as a Platform Attribute Certificate defined in the [TCG](#)  
900 [Platform Attribute Credential Profile Specification version 1.0](#). The profile defines structures that extend  
901 the X.509 certificate definitions to achieve interoperability between platform validation systems that

902 ingest artifacts. Figure 5-1 shows the relationship between the platform certificate and the TPM  
 903 Endorsement Credential, based on a graphic from the *TCG Credential Profiles for TPM* [17].

904 **Figure 5-1 Platform Certificate Binding to Endorsement Credential**



905 We use an open-source tool (openssl) to parse one of our demonstration platform artifacts to validate  
 906 alignment with the TCG specification. Note that the current profile allows the manufacturer to choose  
 907 between Attribute Certificate or Public Key Certificate format. The example in Table 5-1 uses the  
 908 Attribute Certificate format and is not an exhaustive comparison of all requirements within the profile. It  
 909 is intended to highlight the binding of authoritative attributes (Attribute Extension) to the hardware  
 910 itself (Holder).

911 Table 5-1 Prototype Platform Artifact

Platform Certificate Assertion	Field Name	Field Description
SEQUENCE SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :countryName PRINTABLESTRING :US SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :stateOrProvinceName UTF8STRING :California SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :localityName UTF8STRING :Palo Alto SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :organizationName UTF8STRING :HP Inc. SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :organizationalUnitName UTF8STRING :HP Labs Pilot SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :commonName UTF8STRING :HP Inc. CIV-NCCOE-Test	Issuer	Distinguished name of the platform certificate issuer
SEQUENCE SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :countryName PRINTABLESTRING :DE SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :organizationName UTF8STRING :Infineon Technologies AG SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :organizationalUnitName UTF8STRING :OPTIGA(TM) SET SEQUENCE OBJECT :commonName	Holder	Identity of the associated TPM EK Certificate

Platform Certificate Assertion		Field Name	Field Description
UTF8STRING 2.0 RSA CA 042	:Infineon OPTIGA(TM) TPM		
SEQUENCE		Attribute Extension	Example Component Class of type Chassis
OBJECT	:2.23.133.18.3.1		
OCTET STRING	00020001		
UTF8STRING	:HP		
UTF8STRING	:10		

## 912 5.2.2 Scenario 2

913 The desired outcome of Scenario 2 is to verify the provenance and authenticity of a computing device  
 914 that has been received through non-verifiable channels. The project description defined four notional  
 915 steps that an IT administrator might perform to augment, not replace, an existing asset management  
 916 acceptance testing process. The remainder of this section discusses the status of each step, with  
 917 supplemental sequence diagrams available in [Appendix C](#).

918 **Step 1:** As part of the acceptance testing process, the IT administrator uses tools to extract or obtain the  
 919 verifiable platform artifact associated with the computing device.

920 Using the Intel Transparent Supply Chain platform, an IT administrator obtains the verifiable artifact  
 921 from the download portal in two ways—manually via the web interface, and programmatically through  
 922 the download portal API, depending on the organizational use case. Currently, we demonstrate the  
 923 manual process where an IT administrator uses a web browser to access the Intel download portal,  
 924 input the computing device serial number, and download the associated verifiable artifacts. The  
 925 download portal API may be useful for organizations that have an automated computing device  
 926 acceptance testing process. The download portal screenshot in Figure 5-2 provides a visual of the  
 927 interface viewed from the IT administrator’s perspective.

928 Figure 5-2 Intel Transparent Supply Chain Download Portal

intel TSC Client Demo

Home Auto Verify Tool Demo Information Support

Increased Security And Accountability

Intel® Transparent Supply Chain helps assure resellers and end-customers that their products come with a level of accountability and traceability unprecedented in the industry. The end result is a more secure supply chain for the industry.

## Intel® Transparent Supply Chain

### Intel® Transparent Supply Chain Download Portal

To download the Intel® Transparent Supply Chain files you will need to enter the system serial number. The system serial number is located on the on the bottom of your system as show below.

User: cjbrown

How many devices?

One  Multiple

Device Info

Serial Number

Search

**Resources:**

[TSC Web Portal User's Guide v1.45 »](#)

[Auto Verify Tool v1.70 »](#)

[Example Serials »](#)

929 In this prototype demonstration for the Dell and HP Inc platforms, the IT administrator obtains the  
 930 platform verifiable artifact from the EFI system partition storage (ESP). The ESP provides a convenient  
 931 storage mechanism because it is available by all manufacturers that support Unified Extensible Firmware  
 932 Interface (UEFI) and is OS-independent. Therefore, it is accessible either through our Linux network boot  
 933 environment or through the native OS (Windows 10). Alternatively, the verifiable artifact can be  
 934 delivered to the IT administrator through an out-of-band process or stored directly on the TPM, if  
 935 available on the computing device.

936 **Step 2:** The IT administrator verifies the provenance of the device's hardware components by validating  
 937 the source and authenticity of the artifact.

938 **Step 3:** The IT administrator validates the verifiable artifact by interrogating the device to obtain  
 939 platform attributes that can be compared against those listed in the artifact.

940 For simplicity, we have combined discussion of steps 2 and 3 because they are performed in tandem  
 941 using platform validation tools.

942 In the Intel TSC platform, we execute the `AutoVerifyTool` described in Section 4.4.2 to verify the  
 943 provenance of the device's hardware components in the native Windows 10 environment using the

944 verifiable artifact retrieved from Step 1. The tool is pre-configured with trusted manufacturer signing  
 945 certificates that are used in the validation process. Second, the IT administrator scans the machine using  
 946 the AutoVerifyTool, where the results are compared against those listed in the artifact. The tool  
 947 subsequently gives the IT administrator a visual indicator of whether or not the validation process was  
 948 successful. The tool can be accessible to the IT administrator in a number of ways, depending on the  
 949 existing acceptance testing process. For this prototype, the tool is available to the IT administrator via a  
 950 network share accessible to IT staff with sufficient privileges.

951 In this prototype demonstration for the Dell and HP Inc platforms, prior to the acceptance testing  
 952 process, the IT administrator supplies the verifiable artifact's (platform certificate's) root (and  
 953 potentially intermediate) Certificate Authority (CA) certificates to the HIRS ACA portal to form a chain  
 954 used later in the validation process. This process is repeated for the endorsement credential issuing  
 955 certificates. We recommend that readers of this guide contact their specific manufacturer to retrieve  
 956 the correct certificate chain to reduce the risk of validation failures.

957 Next, the IT administrator boots the target computing device into the ephemeral Linux CentOS7  
 958 environment described in Section 4.3.2 where the HIRS ACA Provisioner component is installed. Here,  
 959 the IT administrator runs a script where the Provisioner is invoked, and the provenance of the device's  
 960 hardware components is verified by the HIRS ACA backend component. The IT administrator confirms  
 961 validation of the verifiable artifact by observing the output of the script and optionally accessing the  
 962 HIRS ACA portal web interface, as shown in Figure 5-3. The checkmark in the Result column indicates the  
 963 verifiable artifact has been validated and the assertions made by the artifact have been validated  
 964 against the interrogation process.

965 **Figure 5-3 HIRS ACA Validation Dashboard**

The screenshot shows the HIRS ACA Validation Dashboard. The header includes the HIRS ACA logo and the text 'Attestation Certificate Authority'. The main content area is titled 'Validation Reports' and features a 'Download Validation Reports' button and a 'Show 10 entries' dropdown. Below this is a table with columns for 'Result', 'Timestamp', 'Device', 'Endorsement', and 'Platform'. A single row is visible, showing a green checkmark in the 'Result' column, a timestamp of '2021-07-26 12:43:56', a device name of 'hirs-provisioner-pxe', and green checkmarks in the 'Endorsement' and 'Platform' columns.

Result	Timestamp	Device	Endorsement	Platform
✓	2021-07-26 12:43:56	hirs-provisioner-pxe	✓	✓

966 Finally, in addition to the platform validation steps described above, this prototype demonstration  
 967 interrogates and analyzes the target computing device across all participating manufacturers using the  
 968 Eclipsium platform described in Section 4.3.4. This analysis gives the IT administrator immediate  
 969 feedback to any firmware integrity issues, such as an unexpected or outdated firmware version, and can  
 970 be corrected before being fielded to the end user.

971 **Step 4:** The computing device is provisioned into the Asset Discovery and Management System and is  
 972 associated with a unique enterprise identifier. If the administrator updates the configuration of the

973 platform (e.g., adding hardware components, updating firmware), then the administrator might create  
974 new platform artifacts to establish a new baseline.

975 Following the successful platform validation of the target computing device, it is provisioned into the  
976 Asset Discovery and Management System described in Section 4.2.1. This demonstration associates the  
977 system's Universally Unique Identifier (UUID), available via the System Management BIOS (SMBIOS),  
978 with the computing device in the asset management system. The SMBIOS is a standard for delivering  
979 management information via system firmware developed by the [DMTF](#) (formerly known as the  
980 Distributed Management Task Force). The standard presentation format of the SMBIOS provides a  
981 benefit to this prototype in that it is available in an OS-independent manner, and therefore available  
982 whether using the native Windows 10 environment or our CentOS7 network boot environment. We also  
983 associate the system UUID with each computing device that has been provisioned into the Eclipsium  
984 platform. This enables the Asset Discovery and Management System to correlate device data from the  
985 Eclipsium cloud to existing assets. Organizations that adopt the UUID model described here can extend  
986 it to other data sources that store device platform data, provided that the Asset Discovery and  
987 Management System is configured to update existing records based on the UUID, and the platform data  
988 is mapped to the appropriate data fields in the Asset Discovery and Management System.

989 The provisioning process for laptops in this prototype demonstration that are included in the Intel TSC  
990 platform uses `TSCVerifyUtil` (Section 4.4.3) to export a platform manifest that is uploaded to the  
991 Platform Manifest Correlation System's web-based interface (Section 4.3.3) by the IT administrator. For  
992 laptops that use the HIRS ACA platform, we opted to use a script-based approach to automatically  
993 upload the platform manifest to the Platform Manifest Correlation System's REST API. This  
994 demonstrates flexibility in the architecture that can assist organizations with a heterogeneous  
995 manufacturer environment or use cases where automation is not feasible. Figure 5-4 presents an  
996 example for an individual computing device that has been provisioned using the Intel TSC platform.

997 **Figure 5-4 Asset Inventory and Discovery Example 1**

Enterprise Computing Devices : 511ead18-758c-4c91-9eac-c0fe0a5c08c4

This application is in a Development status. It is not licensed for Production.

First Published: 5/13/2021 2:21 PM Last Updated: 5/13/2021 2:21 PM

**ASSET INFORMATION**

Unique Enterprise Identifier: 511ead18-758c-4c91-9eac-c0fe0a5c08c4      Make: LENOVOYOGA  
 Serial Number: 58484398B      Manufacturer: LENOVO  
 Operational Use Validation Status: No Data

**ASSOCIATED COMPONENTS** View All

Tracking ID	Class	Manufacturer	Model	Serial	Platform Certificate	Platform Certificate URI
275256	Baseboard	LENOVO	85B9	PjCQH51VDH8C		
275257	CPU	Intel(R)Corporation		ToBeFilledByO.E.M.		
275258	Memory	Samsung	LPDDR3	00000000		
275259	Battery	333-2C-15-A	MR02047XL			
275260	BIOS	LENOVO				

**ECLYPSIUM FIRMWARE ANALYTICS**

Last System Scan Date:      System Firmware Date:  
 Eclypsiium Integrity Scan Status: No data      System Firmware Version:

**INTEL ATTRIBUTES**

Original Equipment Manufacturer: LENOVO      Product Name:  
 Original Design Manufacturer: LENOVO      SKU: FJF83383#ABA  
 Model:      Family:

998 Once the RSA Archer’s JavaScript DataFeed that retrieves data from the Eclypsiium cloud runs, the asset  
 999 record is updated accordingly with system firmware data, as Figure 5-5 shows.

1000 **Figure 5-5 Asset Inventory and Discovery Example 2**

This application is in a Development status. It is not licensed for Production.

First Published: 5/13/2021 2:21 PM Last Updated: 5/15/2021 9:04 PM

**ASSET INFORMATION**

Unique Enterprise Identifier: CDAD4F22-9F9C-11E8-B5F5-8C1645ED181E      Make: 80Y7  
 Serial Number: PF1614WK      Manufacturer: LENOVO  
 Operational Use Validation Status: No Data

**ECLYPSIUM FIRMWARE ANALYTICS**

Last System Scan Date: 5/15/2021      System Firmware Date: 9/12/2018  
 Eclypsiium Integrity Scan Status: OK - No action necessary      System Firmware Version: 5NCN41WW

**INTEL ATTRIBUTES**

1001 As noted in Section 4.2.1.1, we leverage RSA Archer’s JavaScript DataFeed capability to import device,  
 1002 firmware, and associated component data into the asset repository. The DataFeed can be thought of as  
 1003 a scheduled job which continuously polls the Platform Manifest Correlation System for new assets. It  
 1004 also supports updating existing assets in the following ways:

- 1005       ▪ Two DataFeeds are configured that make REST API transactions with the Eclipsium Analytic  
1006       Platform. One polls the service for any platform integrity issues that are present on computing  
1007       devices and the other gathers basic information about installed system firmware, such as the  
1008       version and date it was published.
- 1009       ▪ A third DataFeed is configured to make a Structured Query Language (SQL) transaction with the  
1010       database that supports the Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager. Computing devices with  
1011       unapproved component swaps are reported and consumed by the DataFeed.

1012       **Step 4b:** A common use case is when the IT administrator replaces a component in a fielded computing  
1013       device. In this prototype demonstration for systems that use the HIRS ACA platform, the verifiable  
1014       artifact (platform certificate) is re-generated and uploaded to the HIRS ACA backend, and the device is  
1015       re-provisioned by the IT administrator. However, for systems that use Intel's TSC platform, the IT  
1016       administrator uploads the new computing device configuration to the TSC Web Portal using Intel's  
1017       software tools. The Intel TSC platform subsequently regenerates the verifiable artifacts, and the IT  
1018       administrator makes them available for download when the provisioning process is restarted. We were  
1019       able to exercise this process successfully using Intel-contributed laptops.

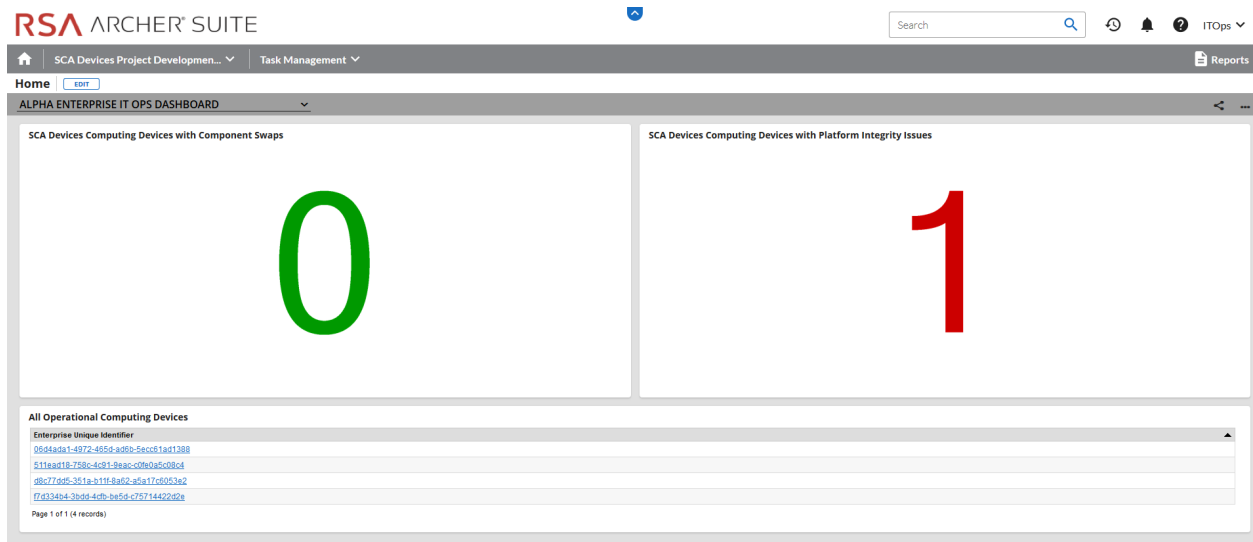
### 1020       5.2.3 Scenario 3

1021       The desired outcome of Scenario 3 is to ensure computing device components are verified against the  
1022       attributes and measurements declared by the manufacturer or purchasing organization during  
1023       operational usage. This scenario is primarily enabled by the Configuration Management System (Section  
1024       4.2.2). Supplemental sequence diagrams are available in [Appendix C](#).

1025       To support build testing of Intel TSC platforms in this scenario, we used the DPD intended for another  
1026       system in place of the correct DPD to ensure the Intel platform validation would fail. We repeated this  
1027       test with an incorrect platform certificate, which also failed validation as expected. Future iterations of  
1028       this prototype demonstration build testing may expand to include actual hardware component swaps to  
1029       emulate an operational usage scenario.

1030       A second use case we examined is when system firmware is updated on the fielded laptop. This may be  
1031       initiated by the end user who is guided by a helpdesk or by the IT administrator. In either case, the  
1032       Eclipsium scanner that is installed during Scenario 2 detects this change and reflects it in the Eclipsium  
1033       cloud. The RSA Archer JavaScript DataFeed subsequently ingests the change, and it is reflected in the  
1034       asset repository.

1035       With the platform and monitoring data collected from scenarios 2 and 3, we created a dashboard  
1036       pictured in Figure 5-6 that enables the IT Administrator to achieve better visibility into supply chain  
1037       attacks and detect advanced persistent threats and other advanced attacks.

1038 **Figure 5-6 Scenario 3 Dashboard**1039 **5.3 Scenarios and Findings**

1040 One aspect of our security evaluation involved assessing how well the reference design addresses the  
 1041 security characteristics that it was intended to support. The Cybersecurity Framework Subcategories  
 1042 were used to provide structure to the security assessment by consulting the specific sections of each  
 1043 standard that are cited in reference to a Subcategory. The cited sections provide validation points that  
 1044 the example solution would be expected to exhibit. Using the Cybersecurity Framework Subcategories  
 1045 as a basis for organizing our analysis allowed us to systematically consider how well the reference design  
 1046 supports the intended security characteristics.

1047 **5.3.1 Supply Chain Risk Management (ID.SC)**

1048 *5.3.1.1 ID.SC-4: Suppliers and third-party partners are routinely assessed using audits,*  
 1049 *test results, or other forms of evaluations, to confirm they are meeting their*  
 1050 *contractual obligations.*

1051 This Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory is supported in the prototype implementation by the Intel  
 1052 TSC and the HIRS ACA platforms. Specifically, Scenario 2 acceptance testing acts as an initial evaluation  
 1053 of the manufacturer (supplier) to validate the source and integrity of assembled components for the  
 1054 recipient organization of the computing device.

## 1055 5.3.2 Asset Management (ID.AM)

### 1056 5.3.2.1 ID.AM-1: Physical devices and systems within the organization are inventoried

1057 This Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory is supported in the prototype implementation by RSA Archer  
1058 and the Platform Manifest Correlation System. When used in conjunction, they form the basis of an  
1059 Asset Discovery and Management System that accurately reflects computing devices within an  
1060 organization, including all components therein.

## 1061 5.3.3 Identity Management, Authentication and Access Control (PR.AC)

### 1062 5.3.3.1 PR.AC-6: Identities are proofed and bound to credentials and asserted in 1063 interactions

1064 This Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory is supported in the prototype implementation by RSA  
1065 Archer, Intel, HP Inc, and Dell. The manufacturers in this prototype support device-unique identifiers  
1066 which are associated with organizational computing devices. Identifiers are prevented from being re-  
1067 used through RSA Archer policy constraints.

## 1068 5.3.4 Data Security (PR.DS)

### 1069 5.3.4.1 PR.DS-6: Integrity-checking mechanisms are used to verify software, firmware, 1070 and information integrity

1071 This Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory is supported in the prototype implementation by the Intel  
1072 TSC platform, Eclysium, and the HIRS ACA platform. Together, they provide the capability to detect  
1073 unauthorized changes to firmware. Manufacturers HP Inc and Dell provide capabilities to report  
1074 firmware version information.

### 1075 5.3.4.2 PR.DS-8: Integrity-checking mechanisms are used to verify hardware integrity

1076 This Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory is supported in the prototype implementation by RSA Archer  
1077 and Microsoft Configuration Manager. Together, these products provide the capability to document,  
1078 manage, and control the integrity of changes to organizational computing devices.

## 1079 5.3.5 Security Continuous Monitoring (DE.CM)

### 1080 5.3.5.1 DE.CM-7: Monitoring for unauthorized personnel, connections, devices, and 1081 software is performed

1082 This Cybersecurity Framework Subcategory is supported in the prototype implementation by RSA  
1083 Archer, Microsoft Configuration Manager, and Eclysium. Together, these products form part of an  
1084 organizational continuous monitoring program. Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager and the

1085 Eclipsium platform enable automated monitoring of computing devices for hardware and firmware  
1086 integrity issues at an organization-defined frequency. This security information is made available to  
1087 organizational officials through the RSA Archer dashboard, where a risk management decision can be  
1088 made when a computing device is deemed out of compliance.

## 1089 **6 Future Build Considerations**

1090 In this Preliminary Draft, we have described an architecture that decreases the risk of a compromise to  
1091 products in an organization's supply chain, which in turn may reduce risks to customers and end users  
1092 that use laptops operationally. The NCCoE recognizes the challenge that organizations face validating  
1093 the integrity of other computing devices, such as servers. In future iterations of this project, we will  
1094 incorporate servers into the architecture, to include hardware contributed by Hewlett Packard  
1095 Enterprise, Intel, Dell, and Seagate. Additional Supporting Platform Integrity Validation Systems may also  
1096 be added to support the integration of server computing devices.

1097 We also plan to add technical capabilities to the architecture that will further support automation and  
1098 enhance dashboard visibility for the IT administrator, to include the following:

- 1099       ▪ Extend the Platform Manifest Correlation System to accept push notifications (via webhooks)  
1100       from the Eclipsium platform. Additionally, leverage Archer's RESTful APIs to push alerts from  
1101       the Eclipsium platform and immediately update the compliance dashboard.
- 1102       ▪ Incorporate manufacturer-specific remediation actions into the dashboard when computing  
1103       devices are deemed out of compliance.
- 1104       ▪ Automatically deploy the Eclipsium scanner to computing devices via the Microsoft  
1105       Configuration Manager while maintaining association with the enterprise unique identifier.
- 1106       ▪ Expand the dashboard application to include third-party risk management of manufacturers to  
1107       better understand the risk profile of assets.
- 1108       ▪ Create a reference implementation that supports the secure creation of cryptographic key pairs  
1109       that are used in the provisioning and management of HP Inc. hardware. This version of the build  
1110       will use test key material provided by HP Inc.
- 1111       ▪ Integrate the configuration baseline status of computing devices with the IT administrator  
1112       dashboard to detect policy violations as a basis for remediation actions.

## Appendix A List of Acronyms

<b>ACA</b>	Attestation Certificate Authority
<b>AIC</b>	Attestation Identity Credential
<b>API</b>	Application Programming Interface
<b>BIOS</b>	Basic Input/Output System
<b>C-SCRM</b>	Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management
<b>CA</b>	Certificate Authority
<b>CMSL</b>	(HP) Client Management Script Library
<b>DHCP</b>	Dynamic Host Client Protocol
<b>DIMM</b>	Dual In-Line Memory Module
<b>DPD</b>	Direct Platform Data
<b>EFI</b>	Extensible Firmware Interface
<b>EK</b>	Endorsement Key
<b>ESP</b>	EFI System Partition Storage
<b>FIPS</b>	Federal Information Processing Standards
<b>FTP</b>	File Transfer Protocol
<b>GIDEP</b>	Government-Industry Data Exchange Program
<b>GRC</b>	Governance, Risk, and Compliance
<b>HIRS</b>	Host Integrity at Runtime and Start-Up
<b>HP MIK</b>	HP Manageability Integration Kit
<b>HTTP</b>	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
<b>HTTPS</b>	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>JSON</b>	JavaScript Object Notation
<b>NCCoE</b>	National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence
<b>NIC</b>	Network Interface Card
<b>NIST</b>	National Institute of Standards and Technology
<b>NvRAM</b>	Non-Volatile Random-Access Memory
<b>OEM</b>	Original Equipment Manufacturer
<b>OS</b>	Operating System
<b>OT</b>	Operational Technology

<b>PACCOR</b>	Platform Attribute Certificate Creator
<b>PCR</b>	Platform Configuration Register
<b>PXE</b>	Preboot Execution Environment
<b>REST</b>	Representational State Transfer
<b>SCRM</b>	Supply Chain Risk Management
<b>SDLC</b>	System Development Life Cycle
<b>SecCM</b>	Security-Focused Configuration Management
<b>SFTP</b>	Secure File Transfer Protocol
<b>SMBIOS</b>	System Management BIOS
<b>SP</b>	Special Publication
<b>TCG</b>	Trusted Computing Group
<b>TFTP</b>	Trivial File Transfer Protocol
<b>TPM</b>	Trusted Platform Module
<b>TSC</b>	(Intel) Transparent Supply Chain
<b>UEFI</b>	Unified Extensible Firmware Interface
<b>UUID</b>	Universally Unique Identifier
<b>VAR</b>	Value-Added Reseller
<b>WMI</b>	Windows Management Instrumentation
<b>XML</b>	Extensible Markup Language
<b>XSLT</b>	XML Stylesheet Translation

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## Appendix C Project Scenario Sequence Diagrams

Figure 6-1 and Figure 6-2 illustrate the flow of interactions between Dell laptops and supporting software that achieves the security characteristics of Scenario 2. Similarly, Figure 6-3 and Figure 6-4 illustrate the interactions between the Intel TSC software tooling and the laptops contributed by Intel for Scenario 2, while Figure 6-5 details Scenario 3. We have represented the client components that are installed on the computing device and the server components as boxes across the top.

Figure 6-1 Dell Laptop Scenario 2 Part 1

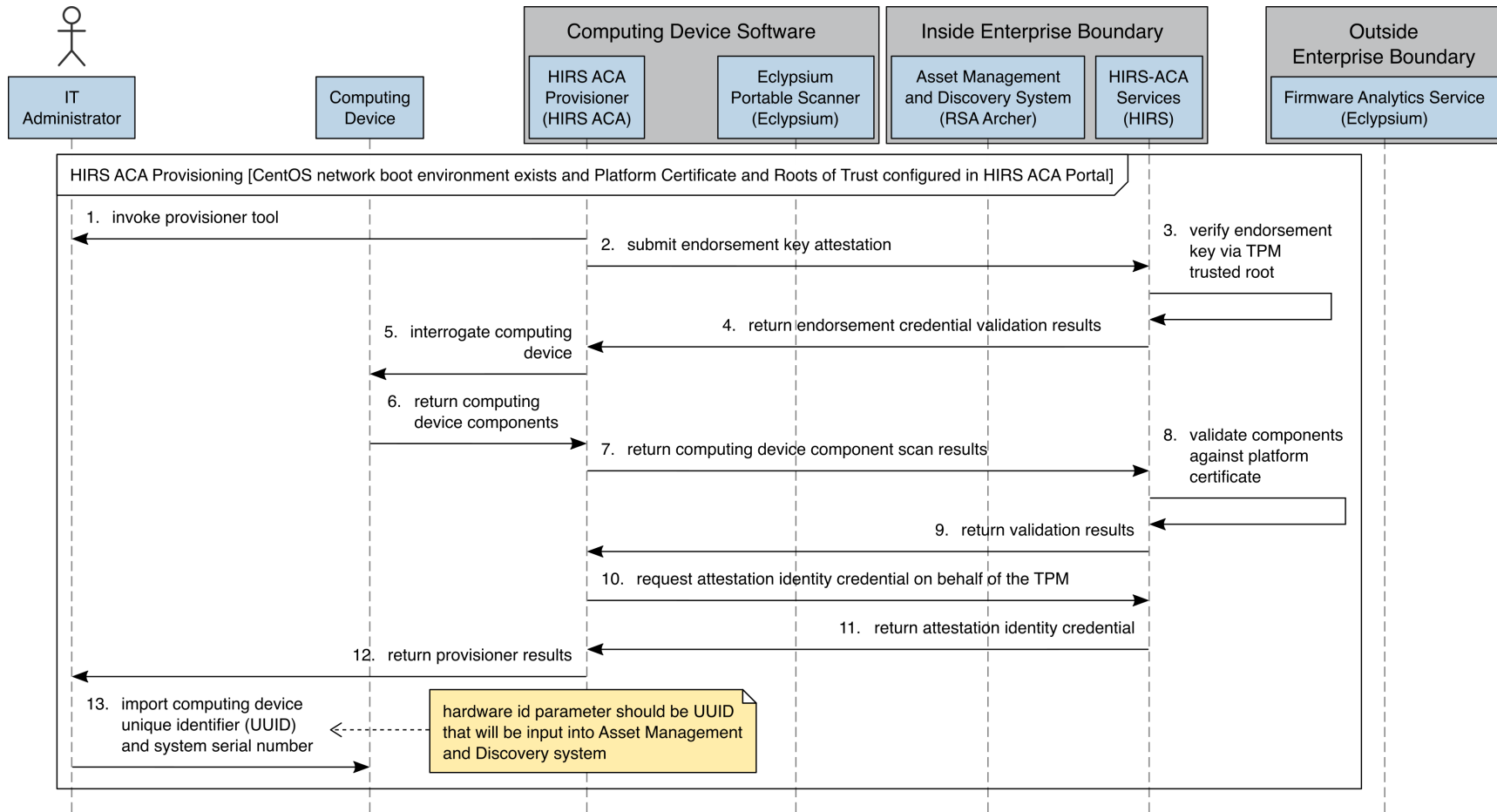


Figure 6-2 Dell Laptop Scenario 2 Part 2

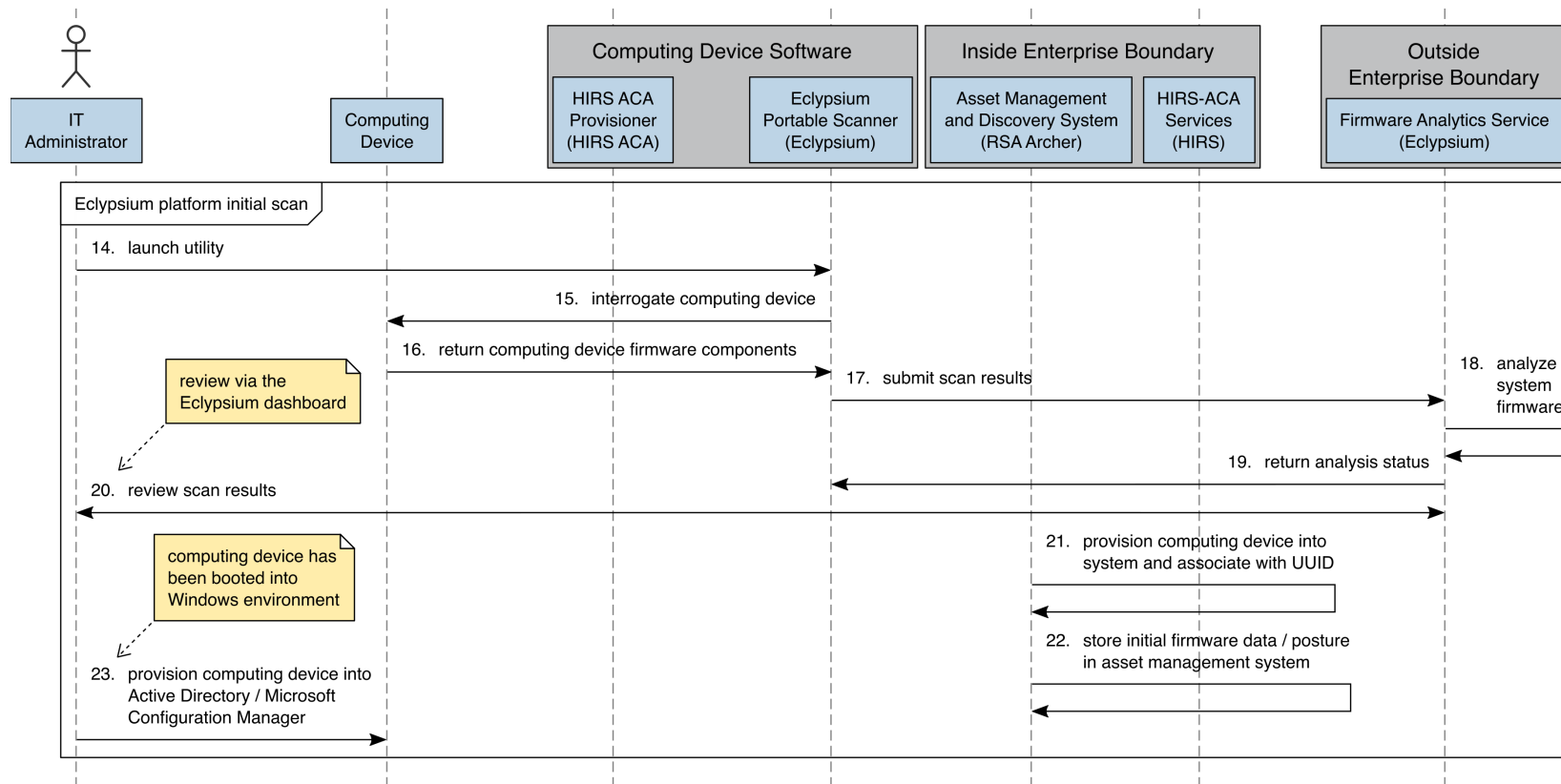


Figure 6-3 Intel Laptop Scenario 2 Part 1

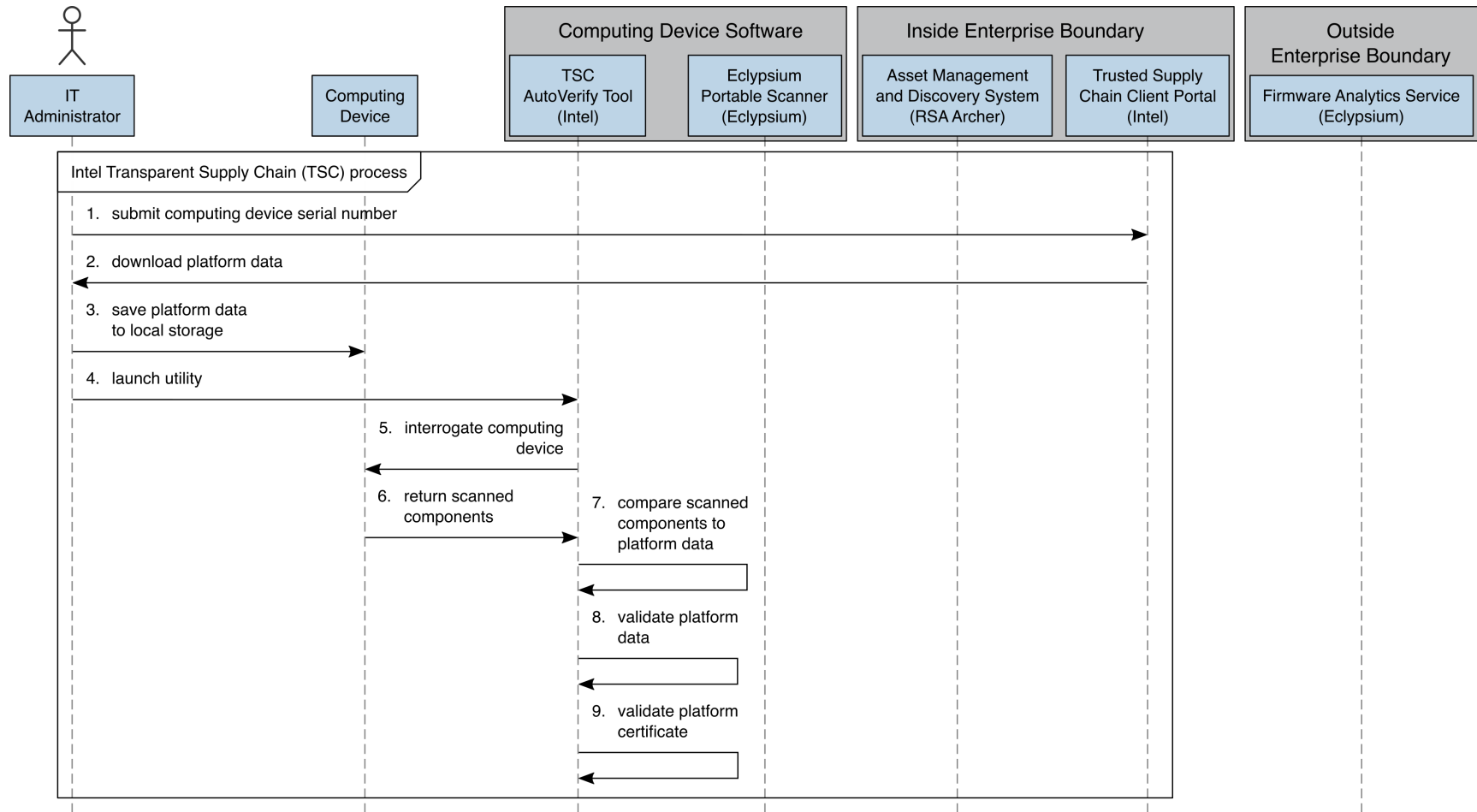


Figure 6-4 Intel Laptop Scenario 2 Part 2

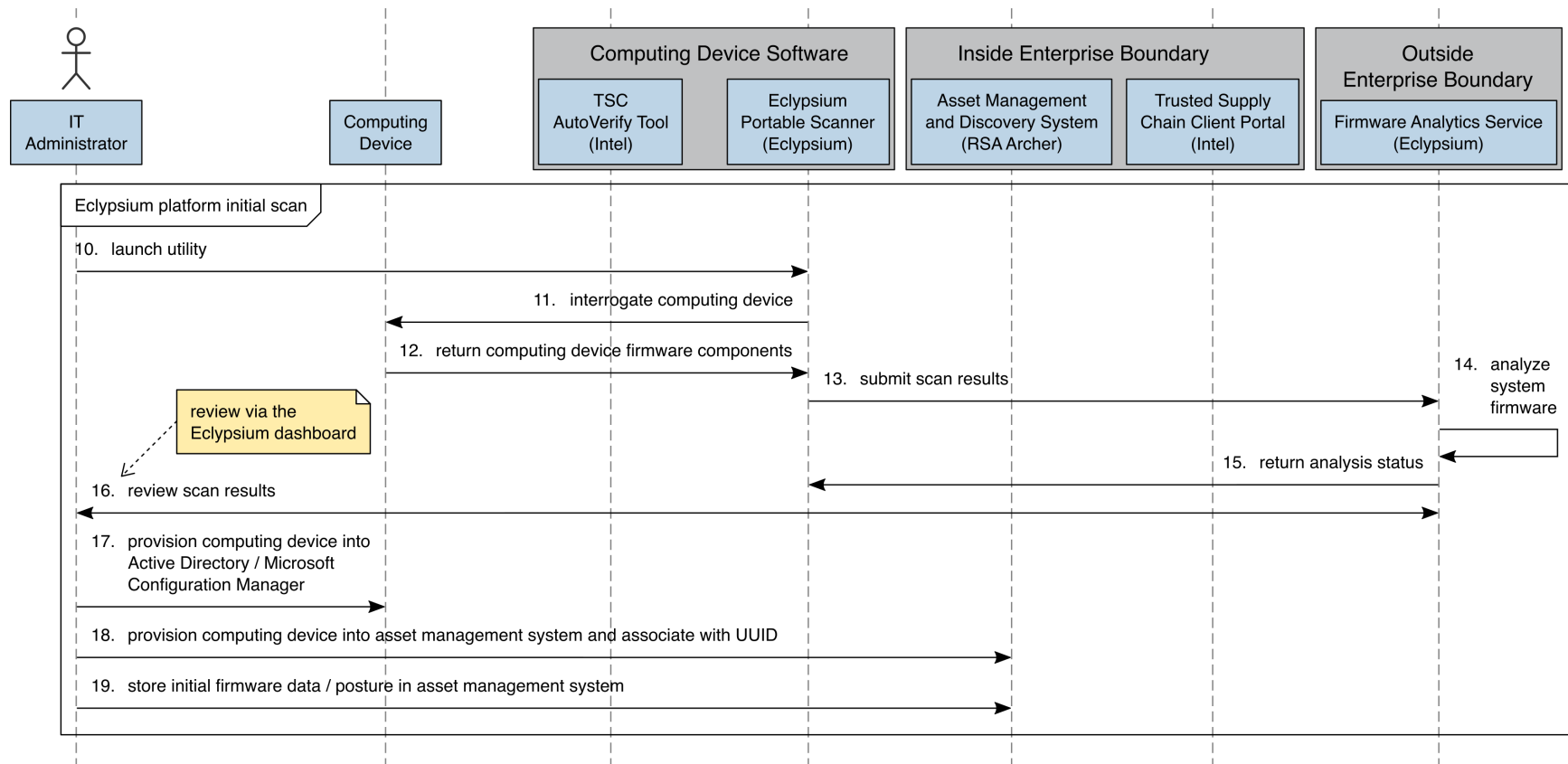


Figure 6-5 Intel Laptop Scenario 3

