

PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION LABORATORY



A Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

COACT, Inc. CAFE Lab

The COACT, Inc. CAFE Lab is a government licensed evaluation and test facility accredited by the National Volunteer Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) under lab code 200416-0. The COACT, Inc. CAFE Lab is accredited for Information Technology Security Testing; Personal Identity Verification Testing.

Personal Identity Verification Overview

Personal Identity Verification (PIV) smart cards are physical access cards that may also be used for access to IT systems. These are dual interface smart cards conforming to ISO 7816 for contact interfaces and ISO 14443 for contactless interfaces. PIV certificates are issued for both smartcards and middleware applications.

PIV smartcard applications must also undergo a FIPS 140-2 validation. PIV certificates are issued prior to the completion of the associated FIPS 140-2 validation. All FIPS 140-2 validations that use PIV applications must reference the applicable FIPS 201 (PIV) certificate. PIV certificates will have a separate listing on the NIST website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/npivp>.

A FIPS 140-2 validation of the smart card (including the PIV application) must be done at overall level 2 with level 3 physical security. The PIV application is tested using the methodology in FIPS SP 800-85, which is derived from FIPS SP 800-73 and is performed using a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Personal Identity Verification Program (NPIVP) provided test tool.

If a vendor wishes to have client-side middleware only tested, a FIPS 140-2 validation is not required. A PIV certificate for this middleware will be issued upon successful validation of the tests found in FIPS SP 800-85.

Personal Identity Verification Laboratory

Since the introduction of the NIST Personal Identity Verification Program to validate PIV applications, the COACT, Inc. CAFE Lab has been an independent NPIVP test facility. The CAFE Lab NPIVP Test Laboratory is overseen by NIST's Computer Security Division (CSD).

COACT, Inc. Business Philosophy

COACT, Inc. believes that teaming with NPIVP clients is the best approach to achieving a successful validation. COACT, Inc. cannot be successful unless the client has a full understanding of the processes involved in a NPIVP Test.

COACT, Inc. firmly believes in keeping the communications channel open with NPIVP clients. We offer weekly phone conferences at a day and time of the client's convenience where any and all issues can be discussed.

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