COALFIRE

WHITE PAPER

Migration from MARS-E to ARC-AMPE System and Information Integrity (SI) controls

CMS requirements for Administering Entities

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Purpose

This white paper provides a guide for Administering Entities (AEs) to upgrade their System Security and Privacy Plans (SSPPs) from the Minimum Acceptable Risk Standards for Exchanges (MARS-E) to the Acceptable Risk Controls for ACA, Medicaid, and Provider Entities (ARC-AMPE).

Due to the substantial number of controls, and to facilitate ease of use, this white paper is one of a series of 20 which divides the ARC-AMPE by control family. This white paper addresses the System and Information Integrity (SI) controls.

ARC-AMPE Control Families	
Control Family	**Number of Controls**
Access Control	51
Awareness and Training	9
Audit and Accountability	19
Assessment, Authorization, and Monitoring	12
Configuration Management	31
Contingency Planning	23
Identification and Authentication	24
Incident Response	16
Maintenance	16
Media Protection	9
Physical and Environmental Protection	19
Planning	6
Program Management	28
Personnel Security	9
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Risk Assessment	12
System and Services Acquisition	34
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Background

Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) revolutionized access to healthcare in the United States by establishing Health Insurance Marketplaces (HIMs). Enhanced Direct Enrollment (EDE) is an ACA innovation that allows third-party entities, such as insurers and web-brokers, to offer consumers a seamless application and enrollment experience directly through their platforms. This approach improves accessibility to the marketplace while maintaining compliance with federal regulations.

CMS oversight

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) exercises oversight of AEs, which are responsible for overseeing and managing marketplace operations to ensure compliance with federal regulations, safeguard consumer data, and maintain the integrity of the HIM. Key aspects of CMS's oversight include:

- Requiring AEs to undergo rigorous audit processes, including demonstrating compliance with security and privacy control requirements.
- Enforcing strict data protection measures in the AE environment to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of consumer data and requiring entities to implement cybersecurity controls, conduct regular risk assessments, and submit independent security audits.
- Requiring AEs to adhere to operational policies and procedures, such as providing accurate plan information, maintaining transparent consumer interactions, and facilitating HIM enrollment without bias.
- Requiring AEs to report any data breaches or system incidents promptly and to take corrective actions as directed by CMS and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR).
- Requiring AEs to renew their Authority to Connect (ATC) or Authority to Operate (ATO) annually, providing updated documentation and evidence of continued compliance with all requirements.

Through these oversight mechanisms, CMS ensures that AEs in the healthcare.gov environment deliver secure, compliant, and user-friendly services, aligning with the ACA's mission to expand access to quality health coverage.

ARC-AMPE

CMS published the ARC-AMPE Version 1.02 on April 9, 2025. This framework is slated to replace the Minimum Acceptable Risk Standards for Exchange (MARS-E) security and privacy guidelines:

- ARC-AMPE Volume 1 contains high-level guidance, and Volume 2 has the minimum-level security and privacy controls.
- ARC-AMPE Volume 2 is the new format for the SSPP for ACA AEs.
- AEs must have ARC-AMPE implemented by March 4, 2026.
- The implementation date for EDE entities has yet to be announced as of the date of this white paper.

The minimum control baseline for ARC-AMPE compliance consists of 402 controls which have been derived from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800-53 Revision 5, "Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations."

The number of controls required represents a significant increase from the MARS-E baseline, and AEs should be prepared for an increased level of effort for developing the SSPP and to submit more artifacts during audits.

Another major change is the format of the SSPP template. MARS-E uses a Microsoft Word format whereas ARC-AMPE is an Excel spreadsheet.

Control mapping

The mapping of the controls found in MARS-E Version 2.2 (based on NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4) to their new locations in ARC-AMPE (based on NIST SP 800-53 Revision 5) are included in the table below. The table lists the MARS-E control directly compared with the ARC-AMPE equivalent control name, as applicable. The table also documents any new ARC-AMPE controls that do not have MARS-E equivalents, as well as those controls that have been combined or withdrawn for ARC-AMPE.

Note also that all references to NIST SP 800-53 Revision 5 included below are based on version 5.1.1, which was issued on November 7, 2023.

System and Information Integrity (SI)

The set of controls in this family focus on how the Exchange shall: (1) identify, report, and correct information and IT system flaws in a timely manner; (2) provide protection from malicious code at appropriate locations within Exchange IT systems; and (3) monitor IT system security alerts and advisories and take appropriate actions in response.

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**System and Information Integrity Policy and Procedures**	**Control**	**Policy and Procedures**
SI-1: System and Information Integrity Policy and Procedures The organization: **a.** Develops, documents, and disseminates to applicable personnel: **1.** A system and information integrity policy that addresses purpose, scope, roles, responsibilities, management commitment, coordination among organizational entities, and compliance; and **2.** Procedures to facilitate the implementation of the system and information integrity policy and associated system and information integrity controls; and **b.** Reviews and updates (as necessary) the current: **1.** System and information integrity policy at least every three hundred sixty-five (365) days; and **2.** System and information integrity procedures at least every three hundred sixty-five (365) days.		**SI-01: Policy and Procedures** **a.** Develop, document, and disseminate to organization-defined personnel or roles: **1.** Organization-level, system, and information integrity policy that: **(a)** Addresses purpose, scope, roles, responsibilities, management commitment, coordination among organizational entities, and compliance; and **(b)** Is consistent with applicable laws, Executive Orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines; and **2.** Procedures to facilitate the implementation of the system and information integrity policy and the associated system and information integrity controls; **b.** Designate an organization-defined official to manage the development, documentation, and dissemination of the system and information integrity policy and procedures; and **c.** Review and update the current system and information integrity: **1.** Policy at least every one (1) year and following organization-defined events; and **2.** Procedures at least every one (1) year and following organization-defined events.	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**Flaw Remediation**	**Control**	**Flaw Remediation**
SI-2: Flaw Remediation The organization: **a.** Identifies, reports, and corrects information system flaws; **b.** Tests software and firmware updates related to flaw remediation in a test environment for effectiveness and potential side effects before installation; **c.** Installs security-relevant software and firmware updates on production equipment within a timeframe based on the National Vulnerability Database (NVD) Vulnerability Severity Rating of the flaw as follows: flaws rated as High severity within seven (7) calendar days; Moderate severity within fifteen (15) calendar days; and all others within thirty (30) calendar days; and **d.** Incorporates flaw remediation into the organizational configuration management process with risk-based decisions if a security patch is not applied to a security-based system or network authorized by the organization. **e.** Remediates all other findings (e.g., improper configurations, security controls not implemented, etc.) as follows; vulnerabilities rated as Critical severity within fifteen (15) calendar days, High severity within thirty (30) calendar days, Moderate severity within ninety (90) calendar days and Low severity within three hundred sixty-five (365) calendar days.		**SI-02: Flaw Remediation** **a.** Identify, report, and correct system flaws. **b.** Test software and firmware updates related to flaw remediation for effectiveness and potential side effects before installation; **c.** Install security-relevant software and firmware updates within thirty (30) days of the release of the updates; and **d.** Incorporate flaw remediation into the organizational configuration management process.	
Control	**Automated Flaw Remediation Status**	**Control**	**Automated Flaw Remediation Status**
SI-2 (2): Automated Flaw Remediation Status The organization employs automated mechanisms monthly to determine the state of information system components regarding flaw remediation.		**SI-02(02): Automated Flaw Remediation Status** Determine if system components have applicable security-relevant software and firmware updates installed using automated mechanisms at least monthly.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Automated Patch Management Tools**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-02(04): Automated Patch Management Tools** Employ automated patch management tools to facilitate flaw remediation to the following system components: organization-defined system components.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Removal of Previous Versions of Software and Firmware**
Existing NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 control which was not selected for MARS-E 2.2 and is applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-02(06): Removal of Previous Versions of Software and Firmware** Remove previous versions of all upgraded/replaced software and firmware components that are no longer required for operation after updated versions have been installed.	
Control	**Malicious Code Protection**	**Control**	**Malicious Code Protection**
SI-3: Malicious Code Protection The organization: **a.** Employs malicious code protection mechanisms at information system entry and exit points to detect and eradicate malicious code;		**SI-03: Malicious Code Protection** **a.** Implement signature-based and non-signature based malicious code protection mechanisms at system entry and exit points to detect and eradicate malicious code; **b.** Automatically update malicious code protection mechanisms as new releases are available in	

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">MARS-E</th><th colspan="2">ARC-AMPE</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">
b. Updates malicious code protection mechanisms whenever new releases are available in accordance with the organization's configuration management policy and procedures;
c. Configures malicious code protection mechanisms to:
1. Perform periodic scans of the information system using the frequency specified in Implementation Standard 1 and Implementation Standard 2, and real-time scans of files from external sources at endpoint, and/or network entry/exit points, as the files are downloaded, opened, or executed in accordance with organizational security policy; and
2. Block and quarantine malicious code and send alerts to the administrator in response to malicious code detection; and
d. Addresses the receipt of false positives during malicious code detection and eradication and the resulting potential impact on the availability of the information system.

Implementation Standards:
1. Desktop malicious code scanning software is configured to perform critical system file scans no less often than once every twelve (12) hours and full system scans no less often than once every seventy-two (72) hours.
2. Server (to include databases and applications) malicious code scanning software is configured to perform critical system file scans no less often than once every twelve (12) hours and full system scans no less often than once every seventy-two (72) hours.
3. Malicious code scanning results are reported to organization's personnel responsible for Audit Review, Analysis, and Reporting in compliance with AU-06.
</td><td colspan="2">
accordance with organizational configuration management policy and procedures;
c. Configure malicious code protection mechanisms to:
1. Perform periodic scans of the system at least every one (1) week and real-time scans of files from external sources at endpoints and network entry and exit points as the files are downloaded, opened, or executed in accordance with organizational policy; and
2. Block and quarantine malicious code and send alert to administrator or organization-defined security personnel near real-time in response to malicious code detection; and
d. Address the receipt of false positives during malicious code detection and eradication and the resulting potential impact on the availability of the system.
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<tr><td>Control</td><td>Central Management</td><td>Control</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">SI-3 (1): Central Management
The organization centrally manages malicious code protection mechanisms.</td><td colspan="2">Incorporated into PL-9.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Control</td><td>Automatic Updates</td><td>Control</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">SI-3 (2): Automatic Updates
The information system automatically updates malicious code protection mechanisms.</td><td colspan="2">Incorporated into SI-3.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Control</td><td>Nonsignature-Based Detection</td><td>Control</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">SI-3 (7): Nonsignature-Based Detection
REQUIRED FOR CLOUD ENVIRONMENT; RECOMMENDED FOR NON-CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS
The information system implements nonsignature-based malicious code detection mechanisms.</td><td colspan="2">Incorporated into SI-3.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Control</td><td>Information System Monitoring</td><td>Control</td><td>System Monitoring</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">SI-4: Information System Monitoring
The organization:
a. Monitors the information system to detect:</td><td colspan="2">SI-04: System Monitoring
a. Monitor the system to detect:</td></tr>
</table>

MARS-E	ARC-AMPE
1. Attacks and indicators of potential attacks in accordance with the current organizational incident handling policy and procedures; and 2. Unauthorized local, network, and remote connections twice weekly; **b.** Identifies unauthorized use of the information system through defined techniques and methods (defined in the applicable System Security Plan); **c.** Deploys monitoring devices: 1. Strategically within the information system to collect organization-determined essential information; and 2. At ad hoc locations within the system to track specific types of transactions of interest to the organization. **d.** Protects information obtained from intrusion-monitoring tools from unauthorized access, modification, and deletion; **e.** Heightens the level of information system monitoring activity whenever there is an indication of increased risk to organizational operations and assets, individuals, other organizations, or the Nation based on law enforcement information, intelligence information, or other credible sources of information; **f.** Obtains legal opinion about information system monitoring activities in accordance with applicable federal laws, Executive Orders, directives, policies, or regulations; and **g.** Provides defined information system monitoring information (defined in the applicable System Security Plan) to defined personnel or roles (defined in the applicable System Security Plan) as needed, and at defined frequency (defined in the applicable System Security Plan). **Implementation Standards** 1. Implement a centrally managed Intrusion detection system/intrusion protection system (IDS/IPS) capability to monitor network communications on all networks and subnets of any environment. **a.** Permitted IDS/IPS mechanisms: i. Centrally managed IDS/IPS devices at network perimeter points, to include between zones; and ii. Centrally managed host-based IDS/IPS sensor agents in information technology components for which such agents are available. 2. Environments where communications within the zone are encrypted must use mechanisms capable of either decrypting content for analysis or analyzing content before transmission/after receipt; and 3. Information technology components that do not support host-based IDS/IPS sensors capability must be documented in the applicable risk assessment and security plan. 4. Monitoring functionality supports the sharing of threat awareness information in a format that meets organizational requirements. 5. The organization monitors for unauthorized remote connections to the information system continuously, in real time and takes appropriate action if an unauthorized connection is discovered.	1. Attacks and indicators of potential attacks in accordance with the following monitoring objectives: organization's incident response policy and procedures (refer to IR-1); and 2. Unauthorized local, network, and remote connections; **b.** Identify unauthorized use of the system through the following techniques and methods: organization-defined techniques and methods documented in the applicable System Security and Privacy Plan (SSPP); **c.** Invoke internal monitoring capabilities or deploy monitoring devices: 1. Strategically within the system to collect organization-determined essential information; and 2. At ad hoc locations within the system to track specific types of transactions of interest to the organization; **d.** Analyze detected events and anomalies; **e.** Adjust the level of system monitoring activity when there is a change in risk to organizational operations and assets, individuals, other organizations, or the Nation; **f.** Obtain legal opinion regarding system monitoring activities; and **g.** Provide organization-defined system monitoring information to organization-defined personnel or roles as needed and consistent with the organization-defined frequency documented in the applicable System Security and Privacy Plan (SSPP).

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
6. The organization monitors events on the information system to ensure the proper functioning of internal processes and controls in furtherance of regulatory and compliance requirements; examines system records to confirm that the system is functioning in an optimal, resilient, and secure state; identifies irregularities or anomalies that are indicators of a system malfunction or compromise; and detects information system attacks.			
Control	**System-Wide Intrusion Detection System**	**Control**	**System-Wide Intrusion Detection System**
SI-4 (1): System-Wide Intrusion Detection System The organization connects and configures individual intrusion detection tools into an information system-wide intrusion detection system. **Implementation Standards:** **1.** Aggregated intrusion detection information must be searchable: **a.** Information is provided in a format compliant with the organizational (e.g., Continuous Monitoring) requirements; and **b.** Information sources include all network and host-based IDS/IPS capabilities monitoring network communications on all networks and subnets. **c.** Organization directed aggregated intrusion detection information collection rules/requests (e.g., sources, queries, data calls) must be implemented/provided within the timeframe specified in the request. **2.** Raw intrusion detection information must be available in an unaltered format.		**SI-04(01): System-Wide Intrusion Detection System** Connect and configure individual intrusion detection tools into a system-wide intrusion detection system.	
Control	**Automated Tools for Real-Time Analysis**	**Control**	**Automated Tools and Mechanisms for Real-Time Analysis**
SI-4 (2): Automated Tools for Real-Time Analysis The organization employs automated tools to support near real-time analysis of events. **Implementation Standards:** **1.** Aggregated intrusion detection information must be searchable: **a.** Information is provided in a format compliant with the organizational (e.g., Continuous Monitoring) requirements; and **b.** Information sources include all network and host-based IDS/IPS capabilities monitoring network communications on all networks and subnets. **c.** Organization-directed, aggregated intrusion detection information collection rules/requests (e.g., sources, queries, data calls) must be implemented/provided within the timeframe specified in the request. **2.** Raw intrusion detection information must be available in an unaltered format.		**SI-04(02): Automated Tools and Mechanisms for Real-Time Analysis** Employ automated tools and mechanisms to support near real-time analysis of events.	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**Inbound and Outbound Communications Traffic**	**Control**	**Inbound and Outbound Communications Traffic**
SI-4 (4): Inbound and Outbound Communications Traffic The information system monitors inbound and outbound communications traffic at a defined frequency (defined in the applicable security plan) for unusual or unauthorized activities or conditions. **Implementation Standards** **1.** Aggregated intrusion detection information must be searchable: **a.** Information is provided in a format compliant with the organizational (e.g., Continuous Monitoring) requirements; and **b.** Information sources include all network and host-based IDS/IPS capabilities monitoring network communications on all networks and subnets. **c.** Organization directed aggregated intrusion detection information collection rules/requests (e.g., sources, queries, data calls) must be implemented/provided within the timeframe specified in the request. **2.** Raw intrusion detection information must be available in an unaltered format.		**SI-04(04): Inbound and Outbound Communications Traffic** **a.** Determine criteria for unusual or unauthorized activities or conditions for inbound and outbound communications traffic; **b.** Monitor inbound and outbound communications traffic continuously for organization-defined unusual or unauthorized activities or conditions.	
Control	**System-Generated Alerts**	**Control**	**System-Generated Alerts**
SI-4 (5): System-Generated Alerts The information system sends alerts to defined personnel or roles (defined in the applicable security plan) when the following indications of compromise or potential compromise occur: **a.** Presence of malicious code; **b.** Unauthorized export of information; **c.** Signaling to an external information system; or **d.** Potential intrusions. **Implementation Standards:** **1.** Aggregated intrusion detection information must be searchable: **a.** Information is provided in a format compliant with the organizational (e.g., Continuous Monitoring) requirements; and **b.** Information sources include all network and host-based IDS/IPS capabilities monitoring network communications on all networks and subnets. **c.** Organization directed aggregated intrusion detection information collection rules/requests (e.g., sources, queries, data calls) must be implemented/provided within the timeframe specified in the request. **2.** Raw intrusion detection information must be available in an unaltered format.		**SI-04(05): System-Generated Alerts** Alert organization-defined personnel or roles when the following system-generated indications of compromise or potential compromise occur: presence of malicious code, unauthorized export of information, signaling to an external information system, or potential intrusions.	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Analyze Communications Traffic Anomalies**
Existing NIST SP 800-53 Rev.4 control which was not selected for MARS-E 2.2 and is applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-04(11): Analyze Communications Traffic Anomalies** Analyze outbound communications traffic at the external interfaces to the system and selected organization-defined interior points within the system to discover anomalies.	
Control	**Wireless Intrusion Detection**	**Control**	**Wireless Intrusion Detection**
SI-4 (14): Wireless Intrusion Detection The organization employs a wireless intrusion detection system to identify rogue wireless devices and to detect attack attempts and potential compromises/breaches to the information system.		**SI-04(14) Wireless Intrusion Detection** Employ a wireless intrusion detection system to identify rogue wireless devices and to detect attack attempts and potential compromises or breaches to the system.	
Control	**Correlate Monitoring Information**	**Control**	**N/A**
SI-4 (16): Correlate Monitoring Information The organization correlates information from monitoring tools employed throughout the information system.		**Withdrawn control:** No longer required for the minimum baseline but should still be considered a best practice.	
Control	**Host-Based Devices**	**Control**	**Host-Based Devices**
SI-4 (23): Host-Based Devices The organization implements organizational-required host-based monitoring mechanisms on all systems, appliances, devices, services, and applications. Devices and appliances that do not support a host-based intrusion detection system/intrusion prevention system sensor capability must be documented in the applicable Information System Risk Assessment and System Security Plan.		**SI-04(23): Host-Based Devices** Implement the following host-based monitoring mechanisms at organization system components: intrusion detection system / intrusion prevention system (IDS/IPS).	
Control	**Security Alerts, Advisories, and Directives**	**Control**	**Security Alerts, Advisories, and Directives**
SI-5: Security Alerts, Advisories, and Directives The organization: **a.** Receives information system security alerts, advisories, and directives from defined external organizations (including US-CERT and organizations as defined in the applicable System Security Plan) on an ongoing basis; **b.** Generates internal security alerts, advisories, and directives as deemed necessary; **c.** Disseminates security alerts, advisories, and directives to: defined personnel or roles (defined in the applicable System Security Plan); and **d.** Implements security directives in accordance with established time frames or notifies the Authorizing Official of the degree of noncompliance. **Implementation Standards** **1.** The organization's security operations center is responsible for responding to advisories, requests, or directives issued by the organization's authorized officials and/or CMS. **2.** The organization disseminates security alerts, advisories, and directives to all staff with system administration, monitoring, and/or security responsibilities.		**SI-05: Security Alerts, Advisories, and Directives** **a.** Receive system security alerts, advisories, and directives from organization-defined external organizations on an ongoing basis; **b.** Generate internal security alerts, advisories, and directives as deemed necessary; **c.** Disseminate security alerts, advisories, and directives to, at a minimum, system security personnel and administrators with configuration / patch-management responsibilities; and **d.** Implement security directives in accordance with established timeframes, or notify the issuing organization of the degree of noncompliance.	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
3. The organization defines a list of personnel (identified by name and/or by role) with system administration, monitoring, and/or security responsibilities who are to receive security alerts, advisories, and directives.			
Control	**Security Function Verification**	**Control**	**Security and Privacy Function Verification**
SI-6: Security Function Verification The information system: **a.** Verifies the correct operation of defined security functions (defined in the applicable System Security Plan); **b.** Performs this verification upon system startup, restart, and upon command by a user with appropriate privileges no less often than once per month; **c.** Notifies the system administrators of failed security verification tests or anomalies are discovered; and **d.** Shuts the information system down, or restarts the information system, or performs some other defined alternative action(s) (defined in the applicable System Security Plan) when anomalies are discovered.		**SI-06: Security and Privacy Function Verification** **a.** Verify the correct operation of organization-defined security and privacy functions; **b.** Perform the verification of the functions specified in SI-6a upon system startup and/or restart, upon command by a user with appropriate privileges, or at least monthly; **c.** Alert, at a minimum, the system / security administrator to failed security and privacy verification tests; and **d.** Shut the system down, restart the system, or perform another defined alternative action(s) documented in the applicable System Security and Privacy Plan (SSPP) when anomalies are discovered.	
Control	**Software, Firmware, and Information Integrity**	**Control**	**Software, Firmware, and Information Integrity**
SI-7: Software, Firmware, and Information Integrity The organization employs integrity verification tools to detect unauthorized changes to software, firmware, and information.		**SI-07: Software, Firmware, and Information Integrity** **a.** Employ integrity verification tools to detect unauthorized changes to the following software, firmware, and information: organization-defined software, firmware, and information; and **b.** Take the following actions when unauthorized changes to the software, firmware, and information are detected: include such organization-defined actions as parity checks, cyclical redundancy checks, and cryptographic hashes.	
Control	**Integrity Checks**	**Control**	**Integrity Checks**
SI-7 (1): Integrity Checks Perform an integrity check of software, hardware, and firmware of the information system to identify security relevant events during at least one transitional state or no less than weekly.		**SI-07(01): Integrity Checks** Perform an integrity check of organization software, firmware, and information at startup, at transitional states or security-relevant events, and at least monthly.	
Control	**Integration of Detection and Response**	**Control**	**Integration of Detection and Response**
SI-7 (7): Integration of Detection and Response The organization incorporates the detection of defined unauthorized security-relevant changes to the information system (defined in the applicable System Security Plan) into the organizational incident response capability.		**SI-07(07): Integration of Detection and Response** Incorporate the detection of the following unauthorized changes into the organizational incident response capability: organization-defined security-relevant changes to the system to include unauthorized changes to established organizational configuration settings and the unauthorized elevation of system privileges.	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**Spam Protection**	**Control**	**Spam Protection**
SI-8: Spam Protection The organization: **a.** Employs spam protection mechanisms at information system entry and exit points to detect and take action on unsolicited messages; and **b.** Updates spam protection mechanisms when new releases are available in accordance with organizational configuration management policy and procedures.		**SI-08: Spam Protection** **a.** Employ spam protection mechanisms at system entry and exit points to detect and act on unsolicited messages; and **b.** Update spam protection mechanisms when new releases are available in accordance with organizational configuration management policy and procedures.	
Control	**Central Management**	**Control**	**N/A**
SI-8 (1): Central Management The organization centrally manages spam protection mechanisms.		**Withdrawn control**.	
Control	**Automatic Updates**	**Control**	**Automatic Updates**
SI-8 (2): Automatic Updates The information system automatically updates spam protection mechanisms.		**SI-08(02): Automatic Updates** Automatically update spam protection mechanisms at least every one (1) week.	
Control	**Information Input Validation**	**Control**	**Information Input Validation**
SI-10: Information Input Validation The information system checks the validity of defined information inputs (defined in the applicable security plan) for accuracy, completeness, validity, and authenticity as close to the point of origin as possible. The information system checks the validity of PII.		**SI-10: Information Input Validation** Check the validity of the following information inputs: all inputs to web / application servers, database servers, and any system or application input that might receive a crafted exploit toward executing some code or buffer overflow.	
Control	**Error Handling**	**Control**	**Error Handling**
SI-11: Error Handling The information system: **a.** Generates error messages that provide information necessary for corrective actions without revealing information that could be exploited by adversaries; and **b.** Reveals error messages only to authorized individuals (defined in the applicable security plan) with a need for the information in the performance of their duties. **Implementation Standards** The information system generates error messages that provide information necessary for corrective actions without revealing username and password combinations; attributes used to validate a password reset request (e.g., security questions); personally identifiable information (excluding unique username identifiers provided as a normal part of a transactional record); biometric data or personal characteristics used to authenticate identity; sensitive financial records (e.g. account numbers, access codes); content related to internal security functions (i.e., private encryption keys, white list or blacklist rules, object permission attributes and settings in error logs and administrative messages that could be exploited by adversaries.		**SI-11: Error Handling** **a.** Generate error messages that provide information necessary for corrective actions without revealing information that could be exploited; and **b.** Reveal error messages only to organization-defined personnel or roles documented in the applicable System Security and Privacy Plan (SSPP).	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**Information Handling and Retention**	**Control**	**Information Management and Retention**
SI-12: Information Handling and Retention The organization handles and retains information within the information system and information output from the system in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, Executive Orders, directives, policies, regulations, standards, and operational requirements. **Implementation Standards** **1.** Retain output, including, but not limited to audit records, system reports, business and financial reports, and business records, from the information system for ten (10) years or in accordance with organizational requirements, whichever is more restrictive.		**SI-12: Information Management and Retention** Manage and retain information within the system and information output from the system in accordance with applicable laws, Executive Orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, guidelines and operational requirements.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Limit Personally Identifiable Information Elements**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-12(01): Limit Personally Identifiable Information Elements** Limit Personally Identifiable Information (PII) processed in the information life cycle to the minimum PII elements that are necessary to accomplish the legally authorized purpose of collection.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Minimize Personally Identifiable Information in Testing, Training, and Research**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-12(02): Minimize Personally Identifiable Information in Testing, Training, and Research** Use techniques in accordance with organizational standards and applicable federal and state laws and regulations to minimize the use of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) for research, testing, or training.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Information Disposal**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-12(03): Information Disposal** Use the following techniques to dispose of, destroy, or erase information following the retention period: organization-defined techniques and in a manner that prevents loss, theft, misuse, or unauthorized access.	
Control	**Memory Protection**	**Control**	**Memory Protection**
SI-16: Memory Protection The information system implements security safeguards (e.g., data execution prevention and address space layout randomization) to protect its memory from unauthorized code execution. Implemented safeguards must be specified in the applicable system security plan.		**SI-16: Memory Protection** Implement the following controls to protect the system memory from unauthorized code execution: at a minimum, the related control controls within this control set.	

MARS-E		ARC-AMPE	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Personally Identifiable Information Quality Operations**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-18: Personally Identifiable Information Quality Operations** **a.** Check the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and completeness of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) across the information life cycle at least every one (1) year; and **b.** Correct or delete inaccurate or outdated PII.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Individual Requests**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-18(04): Individual Requests** Correct or delete Personally Identifiable Information (PII) upon request by individuals or their designated representatives.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Notice of Collection or Deletion**
New NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 5 control and applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-18(05): Notice of Collection or Deletion** Notify organization-defined authorized recipients of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and individuals whose PII has been corrected or deleted.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**De-Identification**
Existing NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 control which was not selected for MARS-E 2.2 and is applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-19: De-Identification** **a.** Remove the following elements of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from datasets: organization-defined elements of PII as required by laws, policies, or regulations, as needed for relevant functions; and **b.** Evaluate every one (1) year for effectiveness of de-identification.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Release**
Existing NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 control which was not selected for MARS-E 2.2 and is applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-19(03): Release** Remove personally identifiable information elements from a dataset prior to its release if those elements in the dataset do not need to be part of the data release.	
Control	**N/A**	**Control**	**Removal, Masking, Encryption, Hashing, or Replacement of Direct Identifiers**
Existing NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 control which was not selected for MARS-E 2.2 and is applicable to ARC-AMPE.		**SI-19(04): Removal, Masking, Encryption, Hashing, or Replacement of Direct Identifiers** Remove, mask, encrypt, hash, or replace direct identifiers in a dataset.	

References

NIST SP 800-53 Revision 5.1.1

NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4

CMS Standards

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Ian is a seasoned cybersecurity professional with a wealth of experience across a spectrum of frameworks and standards, including NIST SP 800-53, HIPAA, ISO 27001, ISO 20000, and ISO 9001.

With a meticulous eye for detail and a strategic mindset, Ian excels in developing tailored solutions to ensure compliance and mitigate risks within complex organizational environments. His expertise extends to leading audits and risk assessments, as well as providing advisory for driving continuous improvement initiatives to enhance cybersecurity posture and operational resilience.

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