



# Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What is Common Criteria?**

A: Common Criteria is an internationally recognized methodology for security evaluation and validation for providing assurance that the process of specification, implementation and evaluation of a computer security product has been conducted in a rigorous and standard manner. The evaluation process establishes a level of confidence that the security functionality and the assurance measures applied to the certified products meet the stringent methodology.

**Q: To which level of Common Criteria are SonicWALL products certified?**

A: SonicWALL appliances are certified to Evaluation Assurance Level (EAL) 4+, which is among the highest applicable in the networking industry.

**Q: What SonicWALL products are EAL 4+ certified?**

A: The following products have Common Criteria certification running a certified version of SonicOS firmware.

- NSA E7500
- NSA E6500
- NSA E5500
- NSA 5000
- NSA 4500
- NSA 3500

**Q: How can I obtain a copy of the latest certified firmware?**

A: A copy of the latest certified firmware can be obtained by emailing a request to [cc@sonicwall.com](mailto:cc@sonicwall.com)

**Q: What does the “+” mean in “EAL-4+”?**

A: The “+” refers to an additional Flaw Remediation requirement, assuring that SonicWALL has a detailed process for customer feedback and the distribution of flaw remediation information and status.

**Q: What is a Security Target (ST)?**

A: Security Target (ST) is a document that identifies the security properties of the target of evaluation, and the specific security features that have been certified in SonicOS.

**Q: Where can I find information regarding SonicWALL’s certification?**

A: You can refer to the following links for information and materials:

- Description of SonicWALL’s certification - <http://www.cse-cst.gc.ca/services/ccs/sonicwall-e.html>
- Copy of the certificate: <http://www.cse-cst.gc.ca/documents/services/ccs/sonicwall-eval-e.pdf>
- Copy of the Security Target (ST): <http://www.cse-cst.gc.ca/documents/services/ccs/sonicwall-sec-e.pdf>

**Q: Are these products also FIPS certified?**

A: Yes. The NSA Series of products, in conjunction with SonicOS, contain the necessary hardware security features and software cryptographic components and have been certified to FIPS 140-2 Level 2.

**Q: What is FIPS 140-2 Certification?**

A: The Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) Publication 140-2 is a U.S. government security standard for the protection of valuable and sensitive but unclassified information throughout the U.S. government, Department of Defense, and other Federal Agencies. FIPS has also been adopted by Financial Institutions and the Canadian & UK Governments.

