PCI Security Standards Council on minor corrections to PCI DSS and PA-DSS standards documentation

Monday August 10th

Dear Participating Organization,

You may have noticed some changes to PCI DSS and PA-DSS documentation on our website. PCI DSS, PA-DSS, and the PA-DSS Program Guide version 1.2, launched last October, are now all updated to version 1.2.1.

This new version number reflects some minor corrections to documentation, and does not impact the intent or language of the 12 PCI DSS requirements or any of the sub requirements. Similarly, the PA-DSS has not undergone substantive changes.

Below is a Q&A that will answer any questions you may have on these minor changes. If you have additional questions, please contact us on 781-876-8855

Sincerely

Troy Leach,
Technical Director
PCI SSC

FAQ

What are these changes?
The move from version 1.2 to version 1.2.1 of the PCI Security Standards Council's Data Security Standard (DSS) and Payment Application Data Security Standard (PA-DSS) signifies minor corrections designed to create more clarity and consistency among the standards and supporting documents. The changes are minor, for example; correcting spelling, eliminating redundant lines and updating language to synch with supporting documents. There are no additions to the requirements or to the intention of the standards. This change, and the creation of DSS, PA-DSS, and the PA-DSS Program Guide 1.2.1 is administrative in nature.

Each document has been updated with a table of changes on the front page illustrating precisely where the administrative updates have been made within the document.

Why now for these changes?
During periodic review of documentation the Council identified areas for administrative changes. These changes have been compiled and PCI DSS and PA-DSS versions 1.2.1 only contain corrections to minor errors. The PA-DSS Program Guide 1.2.1 contains clarifications to aid program transition to the Council.

Should I revisit my compliance plans or implementation timelines?
As there are no changes to the intention or requirements of the DSS, your compliance programs will be unaffected by the change from DSS 1.2 to DSS 1.2.1

Do I need to do anything differently?
You should continue to work with your assessor on your current compliance program. There are no changes from v1.2 to DSS 1.2.1

Does this change your plans to roll out the next version of the PCI DSS?
This will not affect the planned, public lifecycle of the DSS. We are currently in the feedback period of the lifecycle and encourage organizations to share feedback with us through the online feedback form, FAQ tool and direct email contact. The first feedback period runs until November 1st and incorporates both the US and European Community Meetings.

Which standards and documents are affected?
- PCI DSS
- PA-DSS
- PA-DSS Program Guide

Is this part of the Council's planned lifecycle process?
The Council's minor modification process supports the planned lifecycle process for allowing for any necessary changes to the standards outside of the published lifecycle. This new version number reflects some minor corrections to documentation, and does not impact the intent or language of the 12 PCI DSS requirements or any of the sub requirements. Similarly, the PA-DSS has not undergone substantive changes.