



## Guidelines for Use of “CERT”

Our licensing effort and usage guidelines are designed to help us protect and strengthen the “CERT” brand and thereby reinforce its value for organizations that we have licensed to use it.

Usage guidelines:

- Do not define CERT as an acronym.

Although CERT was once an acronym, “CERT” has been a registered mark owned by Carnegie Mellon University since 1997. Organizations that we have licensed to use the CERT<sup>®</sup> mark may use it in both their short and long names.

Example of acceptable use:

Short name: <company abbreviation> CERT

Long name: <full company name> CERT

Note that certain name configurations are reserved for authorized national CSIRTs.

- Do not use “CERT” as a generic term to refer to a category of organizations.

Use the term “computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs)” when referring to organizations that perform these kinds of activities. Many organizations incorporate this term in the description of their services.

Examples of acceptable use:

<name> is the computer security incident response team (CSIRT) for <organization, sector, or country>.

<name> works closely with other computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs) around the world.