

Quest® Change Auditor 7.0

# Deployment in FIPS Environments



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**Legend**

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION icon indicates potential damage to hardware or loss of data if instructions are not followed.

 **IMPORTANT NOTE, NOTE, TIP, MOBILE, or VIDEO:** An information icon indicates supporting information.

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# Deployment Overview and Requirements

## Overview

Change Auditor 7.0.2 or later can be deployed in a FIPS environment by following the procedure in this document.

## Audience

This document is intended for technical implementation consultants responsible for deploying Change Auditor.

## Background

To run a Windows environment in FIPS compliant mode, the Microsoft Policy “System cryptography: Use FIPS compliant algorithms for encryption, hashing, and signing” must be enabled.

Microsoft states that “This policy is only advisory to applications. Therefore, if you enable the policy, it does not make sure that all applications will comply”.

As of version 7.0.2, Change Auditor leverages Microsoft’s CryptoAPI (CAPI) and CryptoAPI Next Generation (CNG) for its cryptographic needs.

Microsoft Product Relationship with CNG and CAPI libraries is documented here:  
<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc750357.aspx>.

“Rather than validate individual components and products, Microsoft chooses to validate only the underlying cryptographic modules. Subsequently, many Windows components and Microsoft products are built to rely on the Cryptographic API: Next Generation (CNG) and legacy Cryptographic API (CAPI) FIPS 140 validated cryptographic modules. Windows components and Microsoft products use the documented application programming interfaces (APIs) for each of the modules to access various cryptographic services.

## Prerequisites

The following prerequisites are necessary to set up an environment for FIPS Mode.

- Windows Server 2008 R2 or later
- Enable the following group policies on all Change Auditor components (agent, coordinator, windows client, web client, and workstation agent):
  - System Cryptography: Use FIPS compliance algorithms for encryption, hashing and signing. Ensure the “AES128\_HMAC\_SHA1” and “AES256\_HMAC\_SHA1” values are selected.
  - Network Security: Configure encryption types allowed for Kerberos.

# Installation and Operation

To ensure FIPS compliance for your Change Auditor deployment, all Change Auditor components must be v7.0.2 or later.

- Environments with existing Change Auditor deployments:  
All components (clients, coordinators, and agents) must be upgraded to v7.0.2 or later. Begin by upgrading all coordinators and clients. Once this is complete, upgrade all agents either remotely using the client or manually using the agent x64 installer.
- New environments:  
Installing Change Auditor v7.0.2 or later automatically enforces all FIPS Mode requirements. No updates are required.

## Supported subsystems

FIPS compliant practices are implemented in Change Auditor wherever possible. The following subsystems guarantee FIPS compliant communications:

- Active Directory
- AD Queries
- AD LDS
- Windows File Server
- SharePoint
- SQL
- Exchange
- Logon Activity

All other subsystems are not considered completely FIPS compliant due to limitations related to handling and passing of data through communications with external products.

## Webhooks and FIPS compliance

With the introduction of webhooks and event subscriptions in Change Auditor 7.0, you can configure Change Auditor to send event data to external sources. As the receiver of the data is customized and defined by each individual customer, you are responsible to verify the FIPS Compliance of the event data receiver. This includes generic webhook subscriptions created with Change Auditor PowerShell commands and subscriptions created in the Windows client for supported SIEM tools such as Splunk, ArcSight and QRadar.

In addition, when configuring subscriptions, you must use TLS enabled communication between Change Auditor and the event receivers to ensure FIPS compliance.

- For Splunk and generic webhook subscriptions, the URL specified for the receiver of events must begin with HTTPS.
- For ArcSight and QRadar subscriptions, the TLSEnabled flag must be set to True.

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