

Encrypting PIN Pads Must Be Industry-Approved

Acquirers, Issuers, Processors, Agents

Recent reports from ATM manufacturers indicate that some encrypting PIN pads (EPPs) used with ATMs sold globally are not Payment Card Industry (PCI)-approved. Visa reminds clients that they are required to purchase and deploy only PCI-approved EPPs, which undergo rigorous testing to ensure the highest level of security for cardholder PINs.

Sponsoring acquirers that are found to be noncompliant with PCI PIN Transaction Security (PTS) requirements and Visa Operating Regulations may be subject to penalties and fines.

How to Ensure EPPs Are PCI-Approved

Clients should compare their EPP inventory with the PCI Security Standards Council (SSC) list of approved PTS devices (Figure 1) to ensure the highest level of security for their organization and the payment community. Clients that purchase and deploy EPPs that do not match **all** of the identifying criteria on the list are at significant risk for device compromise, which may lead to monetary losses and diminished cardholder confidence.

Product information that **must** match the data on the PCI SSC list of approved PTS devices includes:

- Hardware number
- Firmware number (some EPPs are shipped with multiple firmware versions, so clients must ensure that the firmware activated during installation matches the list)
- Application number
- Version
- PCI approval number
- Product type
- Expiry date

These details should be reflected in all purchase orders and contracts, and clients should ensure that vendors are required to provide them with PCI-approved EPPs. Additionally, clients must take a screen shot of the PCI SSC website at the time of purchase (Figure 2) to begin an audit trail of their EPP information and show that they purchased the EPP in compliance with Visa usage mandates. Refer to the *PCI PIN Security Requirements, Version 1*, for more information on how to validate compliance.

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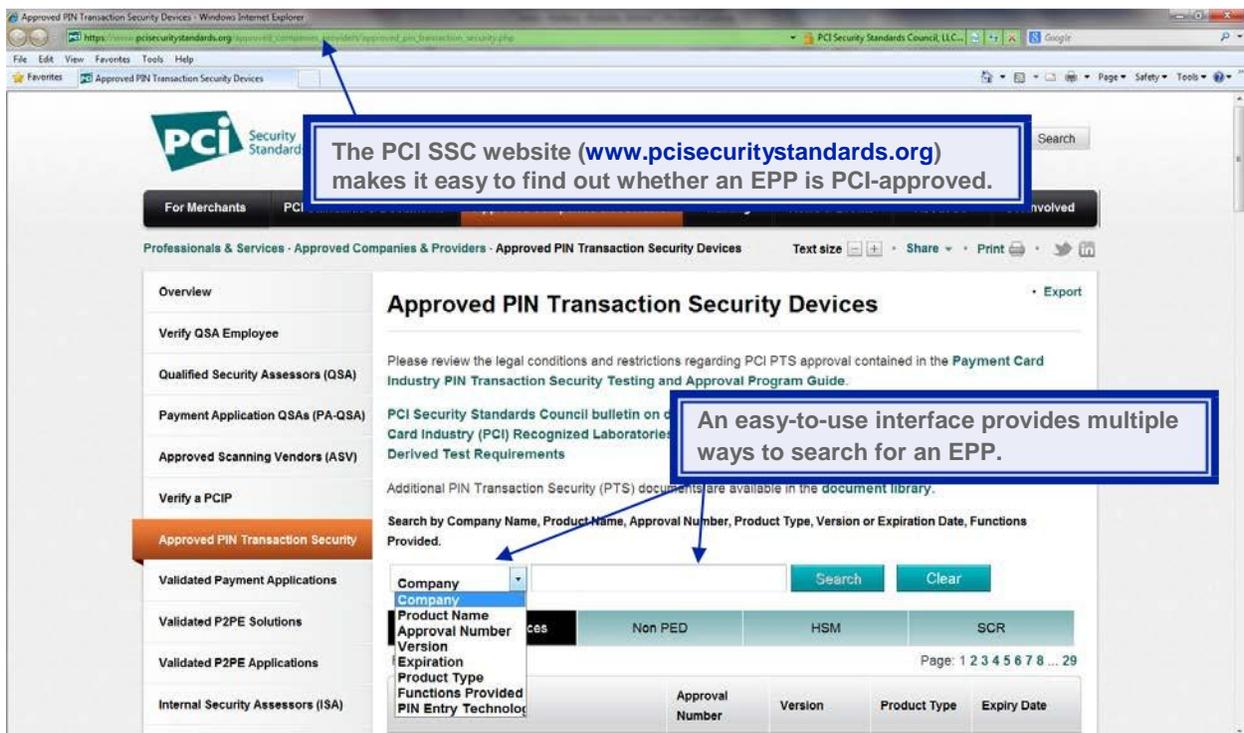
Best Practices for EPPs

Visa has not set mandatory sunset dates for any EPPs. However, vendor-attested and pre-PCI-approved EPPs should be retired first as ATMs are upgraded and replaced.

Clients also should develop ATM equipment policies that require the purchase of the latest versions of PCI- approved EPPs, as the most recent devices offer the most protection and are tested under the most rigorous standards.

PIN-processing equipment such as EPPs may be deployed only with the assurance that it has not been substituted, tampered with or modified without authorization before cryptographic keys are loaded. When the equipment is in service, precautions must be taken to minimize the threat of compromise. Refer to *General PED Frequently Asked Questions* for complete details regarding Visa rules for EPP acquisitions.

Figure 1:



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Figure 2

The screenshot shows the PCI Security Standards Council website's search interface. The left sidebar contains navigation links such as 'Qualified Security Assessors (QSA)', 'Payment Application QSAs (PA-QSA)', and 'Approved PIN Transaction Security'. The main content area displays search results for 'EPP' products, listing details for 'Diebold, Inc.' including hardware and firmware numbers. Three callout boxes provide guidance: one on the left explains how to use the site for compliance verification, one on the right explains the significance of the expiry date, and one at the bottom explains how to identify the latest version of a product.

Callout 1 (Left): Use the PCI website to verify the hardware, firmware and application numbers. Take a screen shot of this information to validate compliance.

Callout 2 (Right): The expiry date indicates when the EPP is no longer PCI-approved and per Visa rules cannot be purchased or newly deployed.

Callout 3 (Bottom): Look for the latest version, which is the most secure and will have the longest life.

Related Documents

- [Approved PIN Transaction Security Devices](#)
- [General PED Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [PCI PIN Security Requirements, Version 1.0](#)
- [Visa PIN Security and Key Management website](#)

For More Information

Contact your regional Visa risk representative or e-mail pinusa@visa.com