



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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ENHANCED SECURITY FEATURES IN CORES

Effective May 20, 2008, the Federal Communications Commission implemented several enhanced security features into the Commission Registration System (CORES). These enhancements were incorporated to further protect your privacy and personally identifiable information. Current passwords are not affected by this change. However if you opt to request a new password or reset a current password you must comply with the below security enhancements.

The new enhancements include:

Stronger Passwords

- All new CORES passwords must contain at least six characters and at least three of the following four character types:
 - Numeric
 - Upper case letters
 - Lower case letters
 - Special characters (i.e., !, #, \$, *, etc).
- New passwords cannot be identical to any of the user's previous four (4) passwords.
- Registrants using the CORES Update module cannot save any changes unless their password fulfills the strong password requirement; if their existing password is not strong, then they will have to update their password.
- The CORES auto-password assignment method provides for strong temporary and assigned passwords. Auto-assigned passwords were previously a string of ten random numbers. New auto-assigned passwords contain eight randomly generated alpha-numeric characters, including both upper and lower case letters.

Invalid Login Attempt Lockout

- After five unsuccessful login attempts, the user's account is locked for 15 minutes.
- The user is warned of the number of allowed login attempts before a lockout occurs.

- **To unlock an account, the user may:**
 - Wait 15 minutes for the lock to expire with no intervention
 - Reset the password at <http://esupport.fcc.gov/password.htm>
 - Call the FCC Help Center Line to reset the password: 877-480-3201, option 1 (Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. ET)

Social Security Number (SSN) Masking

- Public users viewing the Registration Update or New Registration confirmation screens can view only the last four digits of their SSN.

Questions regarding this change may be directed to the FCC FO Help Desk at 877-480-3201, option 4.