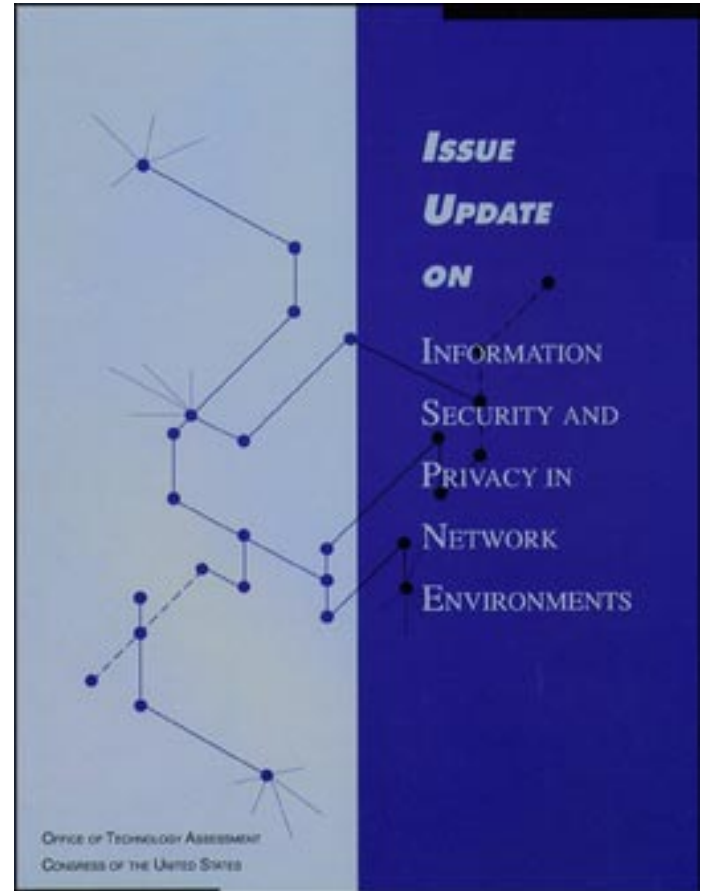


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# Foreword

This background paper was prepared as part of the Office of Technology Assessment's follow-on assistance to the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, subsequent to release of the September 1994 OTA report *Information Security and Privacy in Network Environments*. The Committee requested additional informational and analytical assistance from OTA in order to prepare for hearings and legislation in the 104th Congress.

This background paper updates and develops some key issues that OTA had identified in its earlier report, in light of recent developments in the private sector and in government. During the course of this work, OTA found that the need for timely attention to the security of unclassified information has intensified in the months since the 1994 report was issued.

OTA appreciates the participation of many individuals without whose help this background paper would not have been possible. OTA received valuable assistance from workshop participants and many other reviewers and contributors from government, academia, and industry. The background paper itself, however, is the sole responsibility of OTA.



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**Note 1:** OTA appreciates and is grateful for the valuable assistance and thoughtful critiques provided by the workshop participants and other reviewers and contributors. These individuals do not, however, necessarily approve, disapprove, or endorse this background paper. OTA assumes full responsibility for the background paper and the accuracy of its contents.

**Note 2:** Affiliations listed above were in effect at the time of the Workshop. Since that time, some have changed.

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