

# Definitions for NTIA Privacy Multistakeholder Facial Recognition

Draft – June -2 - 2014

## Algorithm [Submitted By John Dowden]

A limited sequence of instructions or steps that directs a computer system how to solve a particular problem or perform a function.

*Example of Algorithm:* A facial recognition system will have multiple algorithms for: image processing, template generation, matching, etc.

## Authentication [Edited by Walter Hamilton and John Dowden]

A task where the Facial Recognition System attempts to confirm an individual's claimed identity by comparing the template generated from a submitted face image with a specific known template generated from a previously enrolled face image. This process is also called one-to-one verification.

## Delete [Name Change From Susan Grant]

To make unusable or place content in a position to become unusable.<sup>1</sup>

## Encryption [Submitted by Walter Hamilton and Bill Long]

The act of transforming data into an unintelligible form so that it cannot be read by without the use of a key or a password.

## Enroll

The process of storing and maintaining Facial Recognition Data.

## Existing Privacy Laws:

Any state or federal law governing the collection or use of Facial Recognition Data collected from a Subject. This includes, but is not limited to Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Children's Online Privacy Protection, California Online Privacy Protection Act, and Electronic Communications Privacy Act.

## Facial Detection

A task where the Facial Recognition System distinguishes the presence of a face without creating or deriving a Facial Template.

## Facial Detection Software

Software used to detect the presence of a human face.

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<sup>1</sup> The "position to become unusable" is added to address a scenario where a file is "deleted" but has not yet been overwritten.

*Example of Facial Detection:* A store uses *facial detection* to more accurately count the number of people entering the store.

### Facial Identification

A task where the Facial Recognition System searches a database for a reference matching a submitted Facial Template and returns a corresponding identity.<sup>2</sup>

*Example of Facial Identification:* A casino uses *facial identification* to ascertain the identity of a Subject who has entered the premises based on a photo database of known card counters.

### Facial Recognition Data:

Data derived from the application of Facial Recognition Software, including Facial Template and associated metadata.

### Facial Recognition Software:

Software used to compare the visible physical structure of an individual's face with a stored Facial Template.<sup>3</sup>

### Facial Recognition System: [Edit by Walter Hamilton]

A system that uses Facial Recognition Software.

### Facial Template: [Submitted by Walter Hamilton and John Dowden]

A digital representation of distinct characteristics of a Subject's face, representing information extracted from a photograph using a facial recognition algorithm or Facial Template.<sup>4</sup>

### Gallery [Submitted by John Dowden]

The facial recognition system's database or set of known subjects. May include biometric image and template data as well as biographic, demographic and other data.

### Operation of Facial Detection Software

Facial Detection Software is considered "in operation" when the process of Facial Detection is occurring.

### Secure Storage of Information

Using commercially reasonable measures and security protections to secure information.

### Share Information

The disclosure of information to someone other than the User or Subject.

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<sup>2</sup> Based on NSTC definition of Identification

<sup>3</sup> Based on NSTC definition of Biometric System.

<sup>4</sup> Based on NSTC definition of Template.

### Subject: [Submitted by Steve DelBianco]

The individual represented in a Facial Recognition System and/or a facial recognition database.<sup>5</sup>

*Example of Subject:* When gaining access to the apartment building, John became the *subject* of the building's Facial Recognition System.

### Threshold [Submitted by John Dowden]

A user setting for Facial Recognition Systems for authentication, verification or identification. The acceptance or rejection of a Facial Template match is dependent on the match score falling above or below the threshold. The threshold is adjustable within the Facial Recognition System.

### User

An entity that uses Facial Recognition Systems to Collect and Use Facial Recognition Data about Subjects.

*Example of User:* The bank is the *user* of a Facial Recognition System for its ATMs.

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<sup>5</sup> Based on the NSTC definition of User, however, separated out to clarify the subject and the user are different.