§ 547.13 What are the minimum technical standards for program storage media?

This section provides minimum standards for removable, (re-)writable, and nonwritable storage media in Class II gaming systems.

(a) Removable program storage media. All removable program storage media shall maintain an internal checksum or signature of its contents. Verification of this checksum or signature is to be performed after every restart. If the verification fails, the affected Class II gaming system component(s) shall lock up and enter a fault state.

(b) Nonwritable program storage media. (1) All EPROMs and Program-mable Logic Devices (PLDs) that have erasure windows shall be fitted with covers over their erasure windows.

(2) All unused areas of EPROMs shall be written with the inverse of the erased state (e.g., zero bits (00 hex) for most EPROMs), random data, or repeats of the program data.

(3) Flash memory storage components intended to have the same logical function as ROM, i.e., not to be dynamically written, shall be write-protected or otherwise protected from unauthorized modification.

(4) The write cycle shall be closed or finished for all CD–ROMs such that it is not possible to write any further data to the CD.

(5) Write protected hard disks are permitted if the hardware means of enabling the write protect is easily viewable and can be sealed in place. Write protected hard disks are permitted using software write protection verifiable by a testing laboratory.

(c) Writable and rewritable program storage media. (1) Writable and rewritable program storage, such as hard disk drives, Flash memory, writable CD–ROMs, and writable DVDs, may be used provided that the software stored thereon may be verified using the mechanism provided pursuant to §547.8(f).

(2) Program storage shall be structured so there is a verifiable separation of fixed data (e.g., program, fixed parameters, DLLs) and variable data.

(d) Identification of program storage media. All program storage media that is not writable in circuit, (e.g. EPROM, CD–ROM) shall be uniquely identified, displaying:

(1) Manufacturer;

(2) Program identifier;

(3) Program version number(s); and

(4) Location information, if critical (e.g. socket position 3 on the printed circuit board).

§ 547.14 What are the minimum technical standards for electronic random number generation?

This section provides minimum standards for electronic RNGs in Class II gaming systems.

(a) Properties. All RNGs shall produce output having the following properties:

(1) Statistical randomness;

(2) Unpredictability; and

(3) Non-repeatability.

(b) Statistical Randomness. (1) Numbers produced by an RNG shall be statistically random individually and in the permutations and combinations used in the application under the rules of the game. For example, if a bingo game with 75 objects with numbers or other designations has a progressive winning pattern of the five numbers or other designations are matched in the first five objects drawn, the likelihood of each of the 75C5 combinations are to be verified to be statistically equal.

(2) Numbers produced by an RNG shall pass the statistical tests for randomness to a 99% confidence level, which may include:

(i) Chi-square test;

(ii) Equi-distribution (frequency) test;

(iii) Gap test;

(iv) Poker test;

(v) Coupon collector’s test;

(vi) Permutation test;
(vii) Run test (patterns of occurrences shall not be recurrent);
(viii) Spectral test;
(ix) Serial correlation test potency and degree of serial correlation (outcomes shall be independent from the previous game); and
(x) Test on subsequences.

(c) Unpredictability. (1) It shall not be feasible to predict future outputs of an RNG, even if the algorithm and the past sequence of outputs are known.
(2) Unpredictability shall be ensured by reseeding or by continuously cycling the RNG, and by providing a sufficient number of RNG states for the applications supported.
(3) Re-seeding may be used where the re-seeding input is at least as statistically random as, and independent of, the output of the RNG being re-seeded.
(d) Non-repeatability. The RNG shall not be initialized to reproduce the same output stream that it has produced before, nor shall any two instances of an RNG produce the same stream as each other. This property shall be ensured by initial seeding that comes from:
(1) A source of “true” randomness, such as a hardware random noise generator; or
(2) A combination of timestamps, parameters unique to a Class II gaming system, previous RNG outputs, or other, similar method.
(e) General requirements. (1) Software that calls an RNG to derive game outcome events shall immediately use the output returned in accordance with the game rules.
(2) The use of multiple RNGs is permitted as long as they operate in accordance with this section.
(3) RNG outputs shall not be arbitrarily discarded or selected.
(4) Where a sequence of outputs is required, the whole of the sequence in the order generated shall be used in accordance with the game rules.
(5) The Class II gaming system shall neither adjust the RNG process or game outcomes based on the history of prizes obtained in previous games nor make any reflexive or secondary decision that affects the results shown to the player or game outcome. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the use of entertaining displays.

(f) Scaling algorithms and scaled numbers. An RNG that provides output scaled to given ranges shall:
(1) Be independent and uniform over the range;
(2) Provide numbers scaled to the ranges required by game rules, and notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (e)(3) of this section, may discard numbers that do not map uniformly onto the required range but shall use the first number in sequence that does map correctly to the range;
(3) Be capable of producing every possible outcome of a game according to its rules; and
(4) Use an unbiased algorithm. A scaling algorithm is considered to be unbiased if the measured bias is no greater than 1 in 100 million.

§ 547.15 What are the minimum technical standards for electronic data communications between system components?

This section provides minimum standards for electronic data communications with gaming equipment or components used with Class II gaming systems.

(a) Sensitive data. Communication of sensitive data shall be secure from eavesdropping, access, tampering, intrusion or alteration unauthorized by the tribal gaming regulatory authority. Sensitive data shall include, but not be limited to:
(1) RNG seeds and outcomes;
(2) Encryption keys, where the implementation chosen requires transmission of keys;
(3) PINs;
(4) Passwords;
(5) Financial instrument transactions;
(6) Transfers of funds;
(7) Player tracking information;
(8) Download Packages; and
(9) Any information that affects game outcome.

(b) Wireless communications. (1) Wireless access points shall not be accessible to the general public.
(2) Open or unsecured wireless communications are prohibited.
(3) Wireless communications shall be secured using a methodology that makes eavesdropping, access, tampering, intrusion or alteration impractical. By way of illustration, such