

Mainframe Password Rules

As of April 30th 2014, the following rules apply when selecting a new mainframe (CICS) password:

- 1) Changed every 30 days
- 2) Cannot reuse last 7 passwords
- 3) All letters in password folded to upper case.
- 4) Password length must be 8 characters
- 5) Password can have A-Z,0-9 and special characters \$@
- 6) Password must have at least one character from three of the following four character types
 - a. Numbers – 0123456789
 - b. Consonants – BCDFGHJKLMNPQRSTUVWXYZ
 - c. Vowels – AEIOU
 - d. Special Characters - \$@
- 7) Password cannot contain portion of person's name of 4 characters or more. For example my password could not contain MIKE. If a person's name was KIP, for instance, that would be shorter than 4 and he could use it in his password.
- 8) At least 4 character positions must change values from old password to new password. For example, it is not valid to change just a single numeric digit or to change a three letter month abbreviation to create a new password.
- 9) Password must not be one of restricted words. Example below
 - a. PASSWORD
 - b. *A few bad words *

A simple web page that produces valid password examples has been setup at http://cics.latech.edu/password_ideas.