File 20090423.0806: Historical Note [1, detailed design chapter]: the CC came out of ITSEC and something called the US Federal Criteria. The Federal Criteria introduced the idea of Protection Profiles. ITSEC completely disconnected functionality from assurance levels, in a response to the orange book, which had completely linked them.

References

[1] Susan Hansche. The Official (ISC)² Study Guide for the Information System Security Engineering Professional (ISSEP) Exam. Taylor & Francis Ltd, 2005.