StarSign® Management Suite Client

ISO 24727 based Middleware

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Washington D.C. 12/3/09
Why is G&D developing this new Middleware?

 Middleware has become one of the **key differentiating elements in the e-Identity business** - in PKI projects as well as in national ID projects and Company ID. More and more, it is becoming an essential part of our product portfolio. Therefore, G&D has decided to develop a smartcard middleware that meets the current requirements of smartcard usage and has already implemented the new standard ISO/IEC 24727.

What are the main advantages for the customer?

- Highly competitive product in terms of functionality and flexibility
- Support of a broad range of applications due to the modular architecture
- Prepared for future requirements
- Time to market will be faster
- More flexibility to fulfil the customer needs
- More reliability
Why ISO 24727?

1. ISO 24727 is becoming increasingly relevant especially in public sector smartcard projects
   - The German government issued the eCard API Framework as basis for all national smartcard projects. ISO 24727 is the core of the smartcard access layer.

2. Need for a clean and modern architecture
   - ISO offers a versatile abstraction of the card applications that is not limited to cryptographic use cases
   - PKCS#11 is limited and fulfills many new requirements insufficiently (e.g. multiple PINs)
StarSign® Management Suite Client key differentiators

**Multi-platform support**
32 bit Windows platforms in Version 1, Version 2: Windows 64 bit + Linux, Solaris, Mac

**Multi-application support**
for all conventional PKI application, more than 32 applications are tested in the 1st release

**Multi-reader support**
for all smart cards readers compliant to PC/SC interface

**Multi-language support**

**Multi-year experience in support and development of Middleware**
Developers from G&D and Secunet have 7+ years experience and developing, maintaining and supporting PKI Middleware

**ISO/IEC 24727 Interface** is the core element of our architecture that provides a comprehensive functionality and guaranteed interoperability with future smartcard applications including PKI and Government

**No admin – no install** through our patented GSI interface enables StarSign Mobility Token usage on PC with no administration rights or software installation required

**3rd Party Card/Token support:** G&D has developed a card module provider scheme that allows the integration of 3rd party smart cards/token into the StarSign Management Suite Client.

**Simple configuration through our Token Administration Centre (TAC)** that allows users to administer and configure tokens by themselves

**Strong Authentication** Total security based on e.g. secure channel protocol that enables secure communication between the token and the middleware

Giesecke & Devrient
The StarSign® Management Suite Client – a unique, modern architecture for multi-application cards and tokens

- **No admin – no install** through GSI layer (in combination with StarSign Mobility Token)

- **Multi-on-Token-Application & PIP support**
  supports multi-application cards & tokens including post issuance (e.g. applet loading, certificate and key renewal etc.)

- Based on **ISO 24727-3** Standard

- **Distributed architecture**: different layers can communicate through web server interfaces

- Integration of **3rd Party Card Provider** Modules possible

- Simple configuration through **TAC**
The StarSign middleware contains the following components

- PKCS#11 Library
- CSP Library
- ISO24727-3 Library
- Administration Tool (Token Admin Center)
- Smart card applications (PKCS#15 compatible) and PKI Applet
StarSign Management Suite Client – PKCS#11 Interface

PKCS#11 V2.20

- RSA Asymmetric Client Profile
- support of token (re-)initialization
- support of RSA keys, data objects and X.509 certificates
StarSign Management Suite Client – CSP Interface

Microsoft CSP

- Windows Logon
- Certificate Enrollment
- SSL Client Authentication
- Email Signing/Decryption
StarSign Management Suite Client – ISO24727-3 Interface

ISO24727-3

- Client/Server Architecture
- C/ASN.1 Interface
- file-based configuration, no Registry settings
- supports access to smart card applications (connections)
- maintains authentication states of multiple client processes using PIN-caching (per connection)
- Supports DIDs, DSIs and Datasets

proprietary extensions:

- Handling of PKCS#11 certificate and data object attributes
- Storage of CSP key container names
- Handling of terminal and card information
StarSign Management Suite Client – Token Admin Center

The Token Admin Center provides a GUI to

- Administrate PKI Token functionality such as
  - Visualize Token content and configuration
  - Import Keys and Certificates (PKCS#12, CER, …)
  - Manage PINs and Passwords (Change, Unblock)
  - Manage Token element Attributes (labels, …)
  - Dump token content for support purposes

- Administrate encrypted memory volume on Mobility Token
  - Manage Encryption Key and Password
  - Manage Partitions

- Configure the Management Suite
  - Configure Smart Card Reader visibility
  - Enable/Disable Logging (e.g. for support purposes)
StarSign Management Suite Client – Token Admin Center

Card Overview View:

Display of general card information:

- OS Name and Version
- ISO 24727 Alpha Card-application ID
- Supported Algorithms
- Other administrative information
Certificate View:

Display of certificate elements

- Issuer
- Subject
- Other certificate attributes
Implementation of the ISO 24727-3 Specification

Development started in 2007 based on the 0.8 version of the standard

- Standard was not finalized
- Important elements required for an implementation were missing

Introduction of own extensions to the standard

- Functions to return card / terminal configuration information
- Functions to de-authenticate single objects
- Functions to perform special operations on the card
- "Typed" datasets
Implementation of the ISO 24727-3 Specification

4 Pre-defined Card Applications
- Alpha card app: not implemented on card, card management functions only
- PKCS#15 application: Management of keys and certificates
- Flash encryption key card app: Key management for USB Token encryption
- Security Domain card application: Manages SM between middleware and card

8 Pre-defined Data Sets

Sessions not yet implemented
The reasons for extensions the ISO standard

10 Different concepts of ISO and PKCS#11/CSP

- PKCS#11/CSP communicate atomic commands between card and application. The client applications are responsible for maintaining consistency and logic of the operations performed on the card.
- ISO establishes a connection to the card that performs a defined service consisting of multiple single operations.
- In order to provide a PKCS#11/CSP layer on top of the ISO layer additional functions have to be available to procure this layer with information which is not provided by the ISO functions (e.g. card status information).
Implementation decisions

1. ISO defines ASN.1 data structures but gives no guideline for an implementation in a specific programming language.

2. Implementation of the middleware as C API.

3. Parameters handed over to the C functions have to be ASN.1 formatted.

4. In most cases implementation follows the eCard API Specification.
eCard API – Framework (source: German BSI)
Functionality of the ISO interface is provided as Web services

Definition of a Dataset as a file on the card

Defines also several other components required in the context of different Public Sector smartcard projects in Germany (ePA, eGK/HBA, …)