

End-To-End Secured Credentialing over the Internet

This presentation describes an Open Source/Open Hardware project that aims establishing a standard for distributing digital credentials such as PKI certificates, OTP seeds, and Information Cards.

A user may have a cryptographic container that is “strong”, be it in the form of a smart card or embedded in a mobile device.

If the user needs to receive an authentication key *over the Internet*, relevant issuer questions include:

- Is the key container FIPS 140-2 certified or similar?
- Are keys actually created in or stored in the container?

The use-case for this may not be entirely obvious but the fact is that the majority of keys used in mobile phones will be deployed OTA (Over The Air). *Currently the primary method are statically configured passwords which neither banks nor government agencies consider satisfactory.*

To accomplish E2ES (End To End Security), the described scheme (which consists of a cryptographic module SKS, and a matching provisioning protocol KeyGen2), *defines a security architecture with a device certificate at its core.* The device certificate is necessary for vouching for the container's identity, type, certification etc.

However, E2ES provisioning requires multiple steps which is why the *device certificate* together with two other keys performing an SP800-56A ECC CDH primitive is used to create an *authenticated secret session key.*

With the session key the issuer “orders” the key container creating key-pairs, accepting PIN and PUK definitions etc. all *signed* by MACs. Secret data transferred between the container and the issuer is *encrypted* using a *derived key.* Generated keys are *attested* by another *derived key.*

Robustness is assured by performing the entire provisioning session as a *transaction.*

Successful operation returns a signed “receipt” to the issuer.

Device certificates *eliminate enrollment passwords.*

Key containers are provisioned using a [future] standard Internet browser.

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