



# ANSI X9.F.1 Cryptographic Standards

Don B. Johnson  
Director of Standards, Certicom

October 1997



# What is ANSI X9.F.1?

- ▲ **ANSI - American National Standards Institute**
- ▲ **X9 - American Bankers Association**
- ▲ **F - Financial Institution Security**
- ▲ **1 - Tools**
- ▲ **Open meetings 4 times a year**
- ▲ **ANSI X9.F goes to ISO TC68 twice a year**

# ANSI X9.F.1 Requirements

- ▲ Bankers have perhaps the highest security requirements
- ▲ Billions of dollars are transferred electronically daily
- ▲ Single transactions can easily total millions of dollars
- ▲ Others: “If it’s good enough for bankers, it’s good enough for me.”

# Why X9 standards?

- ▲ **Mitigate risk of doing business**
- ▲ **Increase assurance of high level of security via open discussion**
- ▲ **Aid interoperability by encouraging vendor convergence**
- ▲ **Help determine prudent practice**
- ▲ **Aid assurance of correct implementation via conformance testing**

# ANSI X9.F.1 Members

- ▲ **Bankers - Citibank, Chase, First Union, FRB, Zions Bank, etc.**
- ▲ **Auditors - Accounting firms (KPMG, C&L)**
- ▲ **Vendors - IBM, DEC, Certicom, SDTI, Entrust, Verisign, Motorola, GTE, Spyryus, Polaroid, Pitney Bowes, IRE, etc.**
- ▲ **Government - NSA, NIST, CSE**

# ANSI X9 Process

- ▲ **Submission of proposal with 5 supporters (adopt/adapt ISO, IEEE, IETF, FIPS, etc.)**
- ▲ **New work item ballot**
- ▲ **Draft submission**
- ▲ **Line by line review**
- ▲ **Ballot final draft**
- ▲ **Standard**

# Symmetric Key

- ▲ X9.9 Message Authentication Code - Wholesale
- ▲ X9.19 Message Authentication Code - Retail
- ▲ X9.23 Message Encryption
- ▲ X9.52 Triple DES (ballot)

# Digital Signatures

- ▲ **X9.30 DSA - Digital Signature Algorithm (based on FIPS 186)**
- ▲ **X9.31 rDSA - reversible Digital Signature Algorithm (RSA and Rabin-Williams) (ballot)**
- ▲ **X9.62 ECDSA - Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ballot)**



# X9.31 rDSA

- ▲ Adapted from ISO 9796-2, encodes hash method inside signature
- ▲ Input to IEEE P1363 & ISO 14888-3.
- ▲ Key size:  $1024 + 256s$  bits,  $s = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
- ▲ Mandates strong prime criteria generated via a seeded canonical hash-based method
- ▲ Seed can be used as evidence of correct key pair generation

# X9.62 ECDSA

- ▲ **Elliptic Curve analog of DSA**
- ▲ **Adapted from IEEE P1363**
- ▲ **Key size:  $\geq 161$  bits, Vaudenay's attack on DSA is not possible (160-bit ECC is roughly equivalent to 1024-bit RSA in terms of MIPS years to break using best attacks)**
- ▲ **Optional seeded hash method of generating arbitrary system parameters**

# X9.62 Subroutines

- 1. System Parameter Generation**
  - 2. (Optional) System Parameter Validation**
  - 3. Key Pair Generation**
  - 4. (Optional) Public-Key Validation**
  - 5. Signature Generation**
  - 6. Signature Verification**
- These aid in system conformance testing & user confidence.**

# Key Establishment

- ▲ **X9.17 - Symmetric Key Encryption**
- ▲ **X9.42 - Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement (Unified Model and MQV) (ballot, ideas input to IEEE)**
- ▲ **X9.44 - RSA Key Transport (in process)**
- ▲ **X9.63 - Elliptic Curve Key Establishment (in process)**

# Certificates

- ▲ **X9.57 Certificate Management**
- ▲ **X9.55 Certificate Extensions**
- ▲ **X9.45 Attribute Certificates (ballot)**

# Conformance Testing

- ▲ **X9.66 - Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules (draft based on FIPS 140-1)**
- ▲ **X9 TG - Guidelines for Validating Implementations (proposal) - SHA-1, DSA, rDSA, ECDSA, DH, T-DES, etc.**

# ANSI X9.F.1 Summary

- ▲ X9.F.1 is evolving a comprehensive suite of high security cryptographic standards for use by the financial industry
- ▲ Can be used by others with high security requirements
- ▲ We try to coordinate with ISO, IEEE, IETF and others

# X9.F.1 Contacts

- ▲ **Chairman - Blake Greenlee, 203-762-8580  
(blake.greenlee@greenlee.com)**
- ▲ **ABA Web Site - <http://www.x9.org>**
- ▲ **No mailing list: to obtain drafts, one can attend  
an open meeting**
- ▲ **To order an X9 standard - 800-338-0626 or 202-  
663-5087**