PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT FOR MOBILE DEVICES

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Contents of the Presentation

- Introduction
- Public Key Infrastructure
- VPN deployment in current networks
- Authentication in 3G
- Solution proposal
- Use cases
- Conclusions



Introduction

- 3G enables many new services
- 3G services and solutions need a secure and scalable authentication technology
- Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) meets these requirements
- PKI has to be deployed to 3G devices
- The standardization work is ongoing in 3GPP

PKI – Public Key Infrastructure

- Strong and scalable authentication technology offering many security services
- Based on public-key cryptography
 - public/private key pair
- Comprehensive infrastructure
 - Designed to scale even globally
 - Should be available everywhere like the Internet
- Existed for years but still not widely adopted
 - Problems are more political than technological
 - Trust issues are difficult to understand and solve
 - Pronounced dead by many "experts"
- Deployment of infrastructure is a slow process
- No feasible choice available

Public key cryptography

- Offers two keys, which can be used for different services
 - Confidentiality: encryption with the public key:



• Integrity: signature with private key





PKI Technology

- Certificates are a central part of PKI
 - Bind identity and public key
 - Public documents
- Certification Authority (CA) issues and signs the certificates
- CA is a trusted third party, which everyone should trust
 - Anyone can verify the certificate using a proper CA
 - CAs can form a hierarchy
- Trust models define a set of trust relationships
 - Strict hierarchy of CAs
 - Distributed trust model



Virtual Private Networks

- VPN is used to establish a secure connection in public networks
 - between different sites
 - between a user and remote site
- VPN can be implemented with several technologies
 - Here the focus on IPSec
- VPN end entities must authenticate themselves before the connection can be established
- PKI is only solution, which can offer feasible choice for authentication



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VPN and PKI Deployment

- Secure Service Deployment Platform (SSDP) is an existing concept for offering scalable VPN management
- SSDP acts as a proxy for clients delivering VPN policies and certificate for them
 - Management point for mobile terminals
 - Connection point between fixed and mobile world
 - Service point for authentication services (PKI CA/RA)
- Offers initial deployment of VPN
- Offers a two-way authentication
- Supports PKI-based authentication
- Enables certificate enrollment for clients
- May act as an internal CA or an enrollment gateway for any external CA





3GPP Subscriber Certificates

- Will be defined in Release 6 of 3GPP standards
 - Available Q1/04?
 - The standard is subject to change
- Basic idea: mobile operators issue the certificates for end users
- Operators use their existing authentication infrastructure
- Provides migration path for global PKI
- Operators can adopt PKI
 - Possibility for many new services



Authentication Broker

- One possible implementation of the subscriber certificate standard based on
 - "new gateway" element proposal (from SA2)
 - Generic SSDP model
- Offers automatically certificates for clients subscribing to the network
- Initial authentication based on USIM card
- May act as a internal CA or Registration Authority (RA) for external CA



Analysis of AB

- Meets the 3GPP generic security requirements and is standards compliant
- Significant role for mobile operators
- Benefits:
 - Supports multiple identities
 - Dynamic certificates: eases revocation process
 - Offers strong authentication through PKI for all parties
 - Possible source of revenues for operators and service providers
 - Access independence: works over GPRS, WLAN, UMTS, xDSL..
- Problems:
 - Initial solution works only in the domain of one operator
 - Roaming might be phased out from the Release 6
 - Does service provider or customer trust the USIM authentication?

Use case 1: Cellular VPN authentication





Use case 2: Non-cellular VPN authentication





Use case 3: Single sign-on





Use case 4: Mobile payment





Conclusions

- PKI is the only truly scalable authentication method
- 3GPP Subscriber certificate provides a migration path to global PKI
- Authentication Broker is one possible implementation
 - Standard compliant
 - Based on Secure Service Deployment Platform concept
- Release 6 might not contain inter-operator functionality
 The standard is subject to change
- USIM authentication might be restrictive issue



Thank you!

Questions?

