



U.S. General Services Administration

# Federal Acquisition Service

Myisha Frazier-McElveen  
Senior Relationship Manager  
E-Authentication Solution

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 FAS Office of Integrated Technology Services  
2007 Network Services Conference



# Transformation: A Different View

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## Agenda

- What is E-Authentication?
- Background of E-Authentication Solution program
- E-Authentication Federation
- E-Authentication Solution service offerings
- New Way of Doing Business



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## Authentication: Existed Before the “E”

### Paper Authentication



### Advent of the Internet

- PIN & Password
- Tokens and Certificates



### Online Identity Needs Develop

- Security
- Privacy



### GSA's E-Authentication Solution





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## What is E-Authentication?

A means for citizens, businesses, and other governments to securely identify themselves when accessing Federal Government applications online.



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## History of E-Authentication Program



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## E-Authentication Solution Mission

- Enable millions of safe, secure, trusted online transactions between Government and the citizens and businesses it serves.
- Reduce online identity management burden for Government agency application owners and system administrators.
- Provide citizens and businesses with a choice of credentials when accessing public-facing online Government applications.

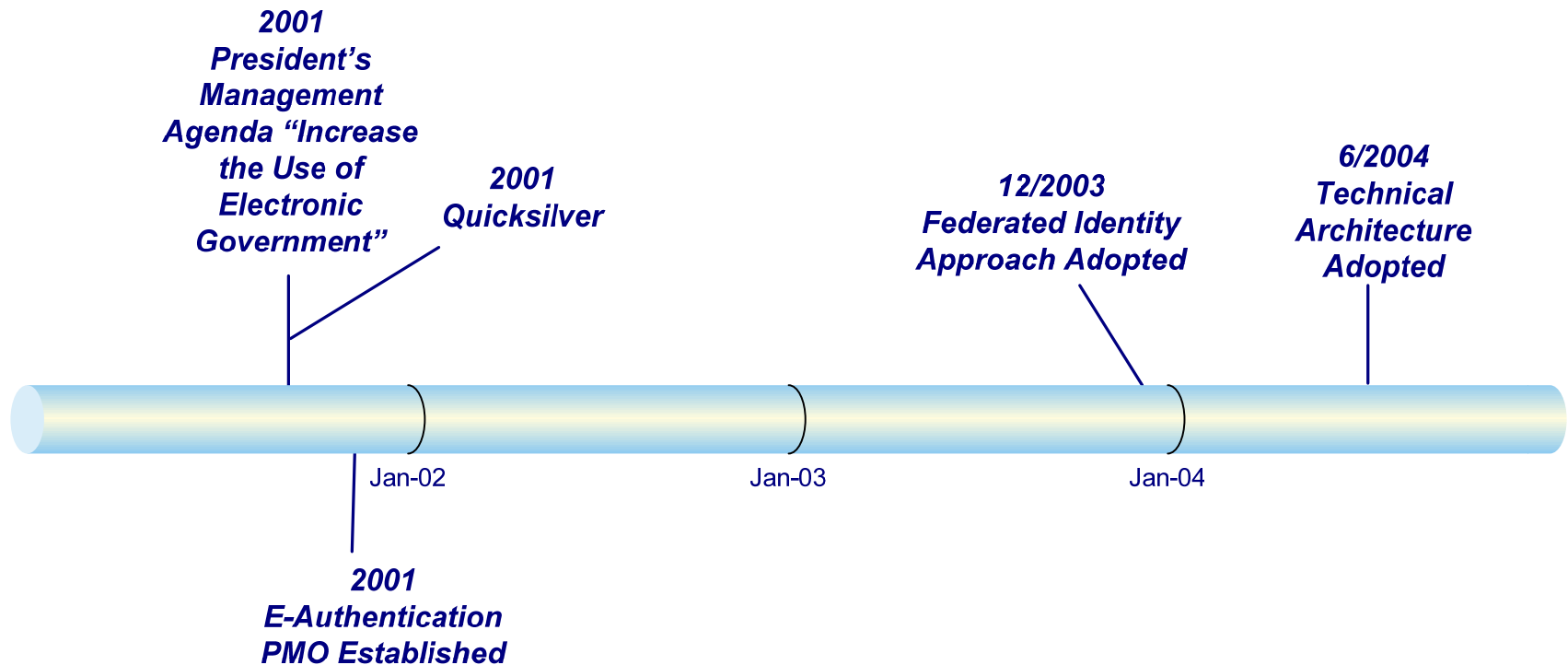


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## E-Authentication Solution Historical Landscape (2001-2004)





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## E-Authentication Solution Timeline (2005-Present)

October, 2005: E-Authentication Federation Live

December, 2006:

- Federation Membership Documents Complete
- Validation Service Available (as part of Managed Validation & Translation)

March, 2007: Translation Service Available (as part of Managed Validation & Translation)

April, 2007: Technical Architecture Upgrade





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## E-Authentication Federation

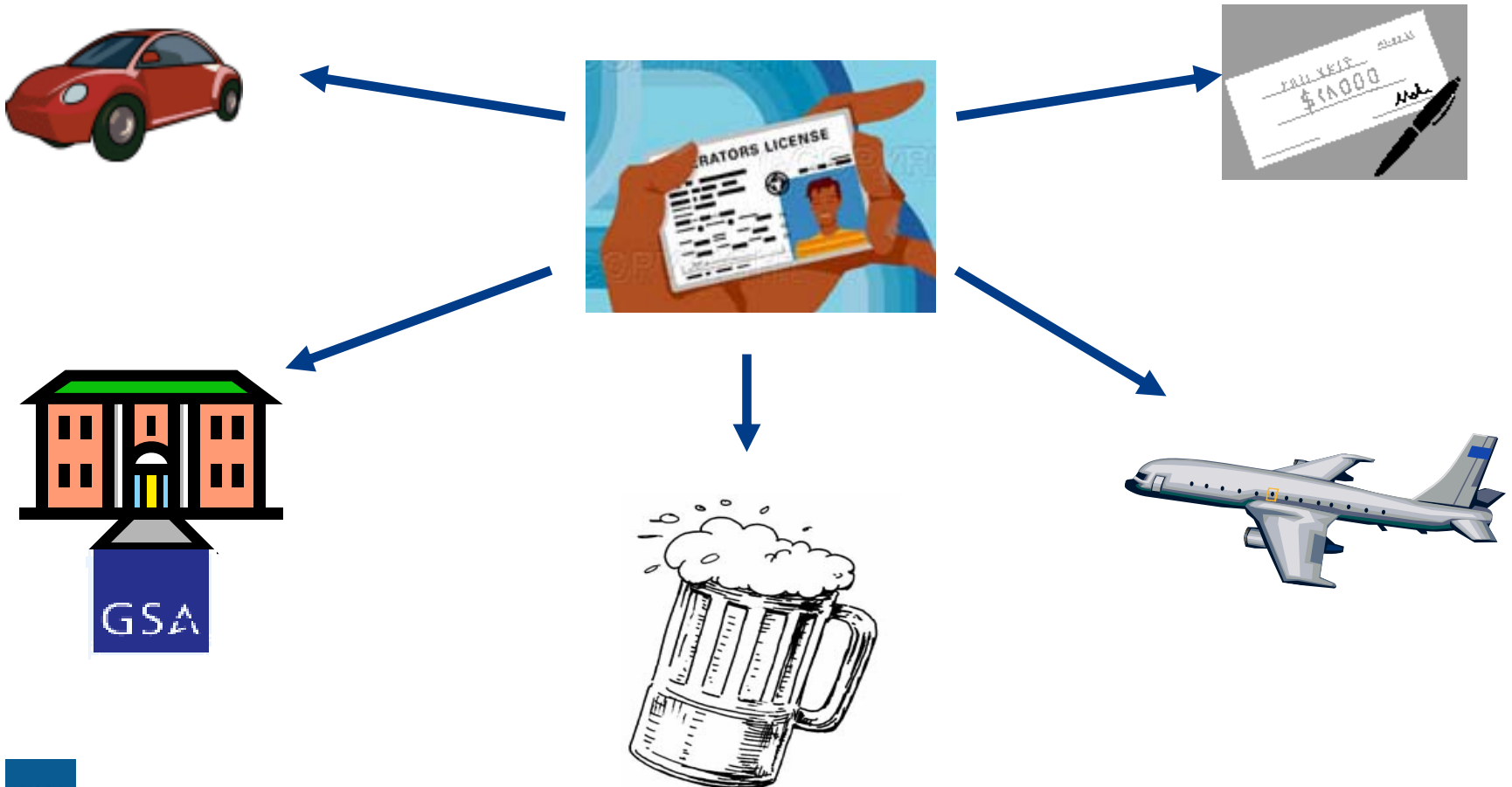


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## Federation in the Paper World





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## What is the U.S. E-Authentication Identity Federation?

The set of government agency applications and identity credential service providers that adopt E-Authentication's set of agreements, standards and technologies to make identity portable across domains.





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## What is a Credential?

- Something that verifies someone's identity
- Credentials include personal identification numbers (PINs), usernames and passwords, digital certificates or smartcards
- Credentials are created and managed by credential service providers (e.g., financial institutions, higher education institutions or government agencies)



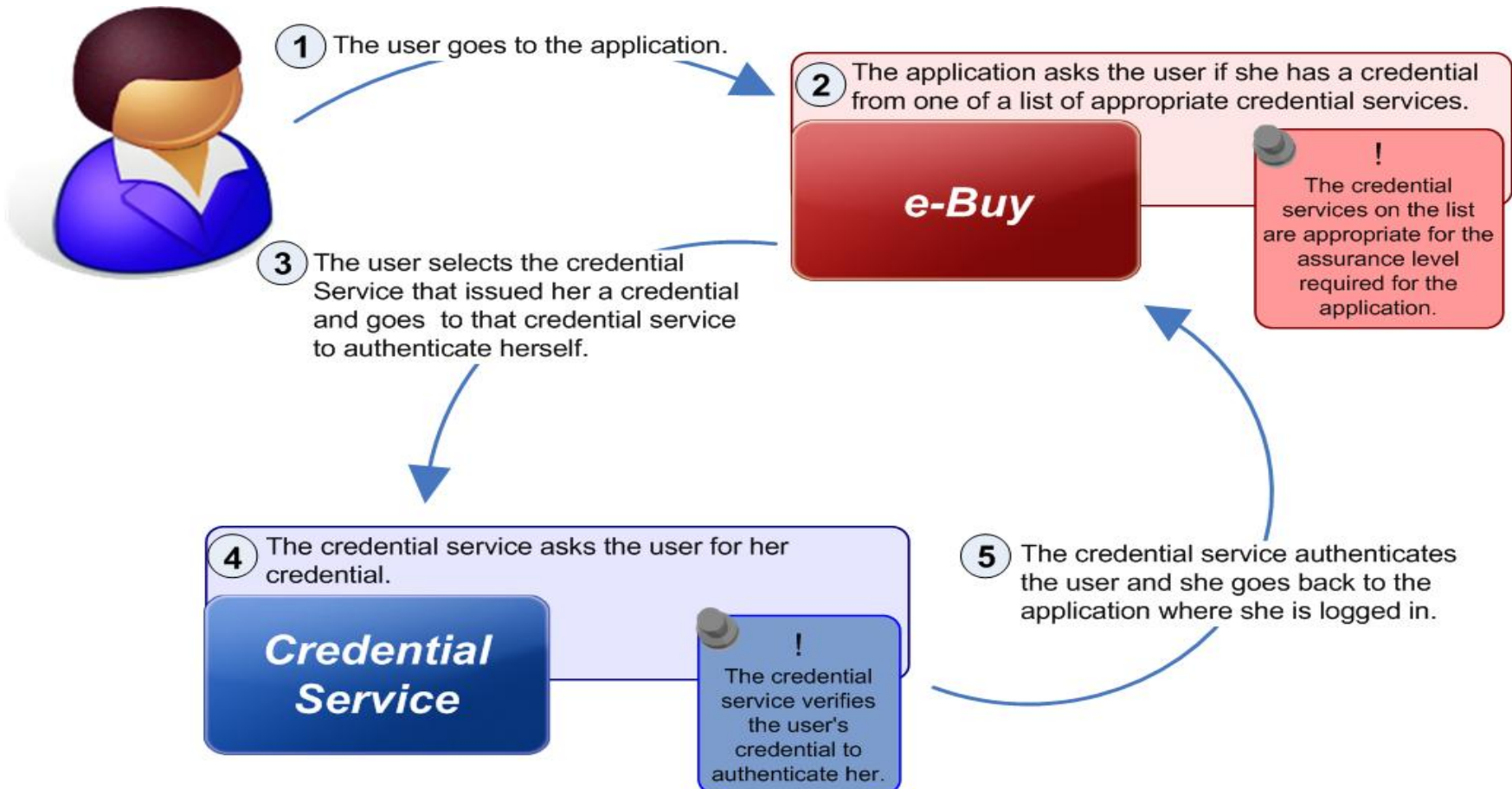


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## How E-Authentication Works



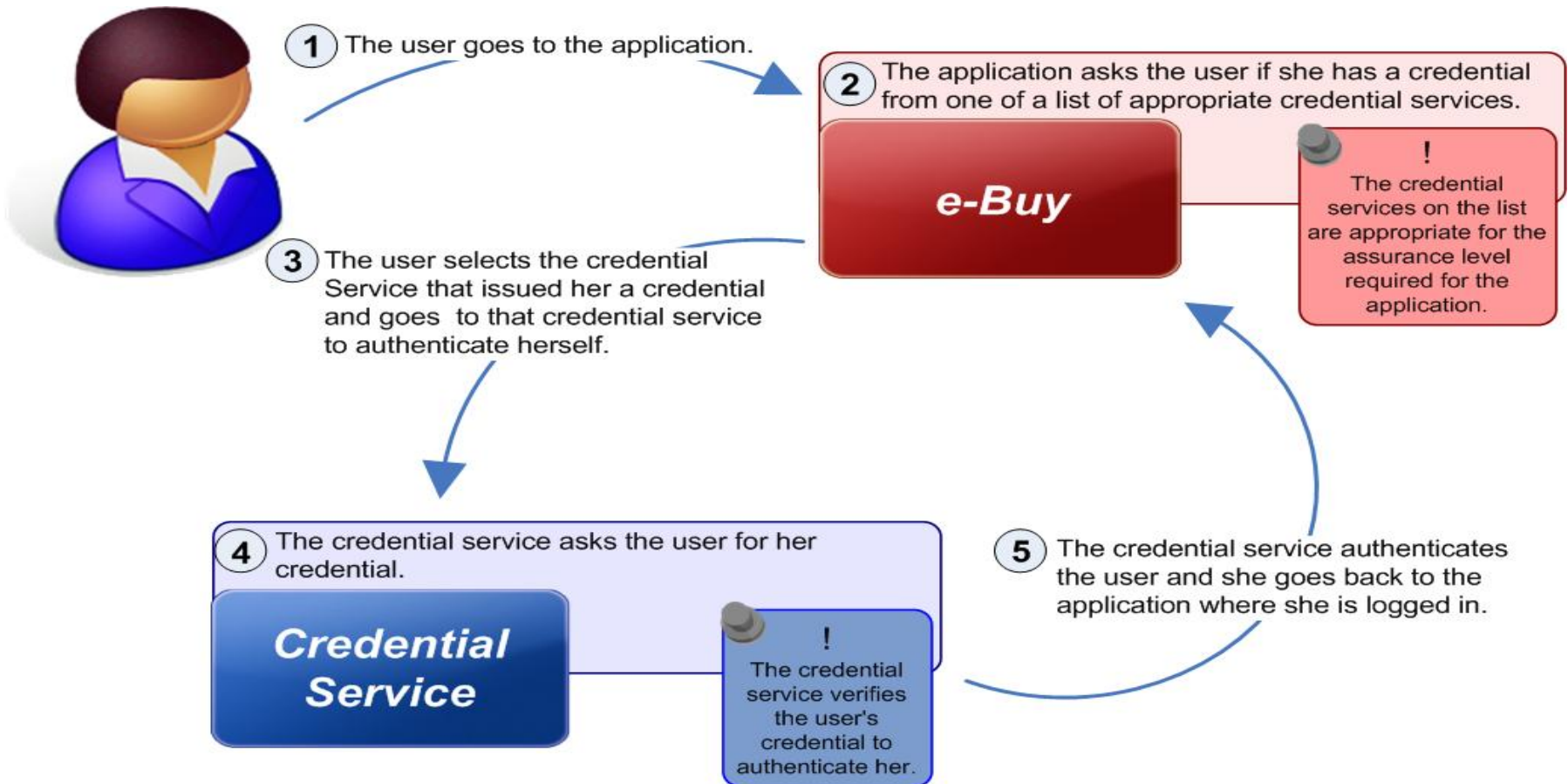


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## Assurance Level 1 or 2 Transactions



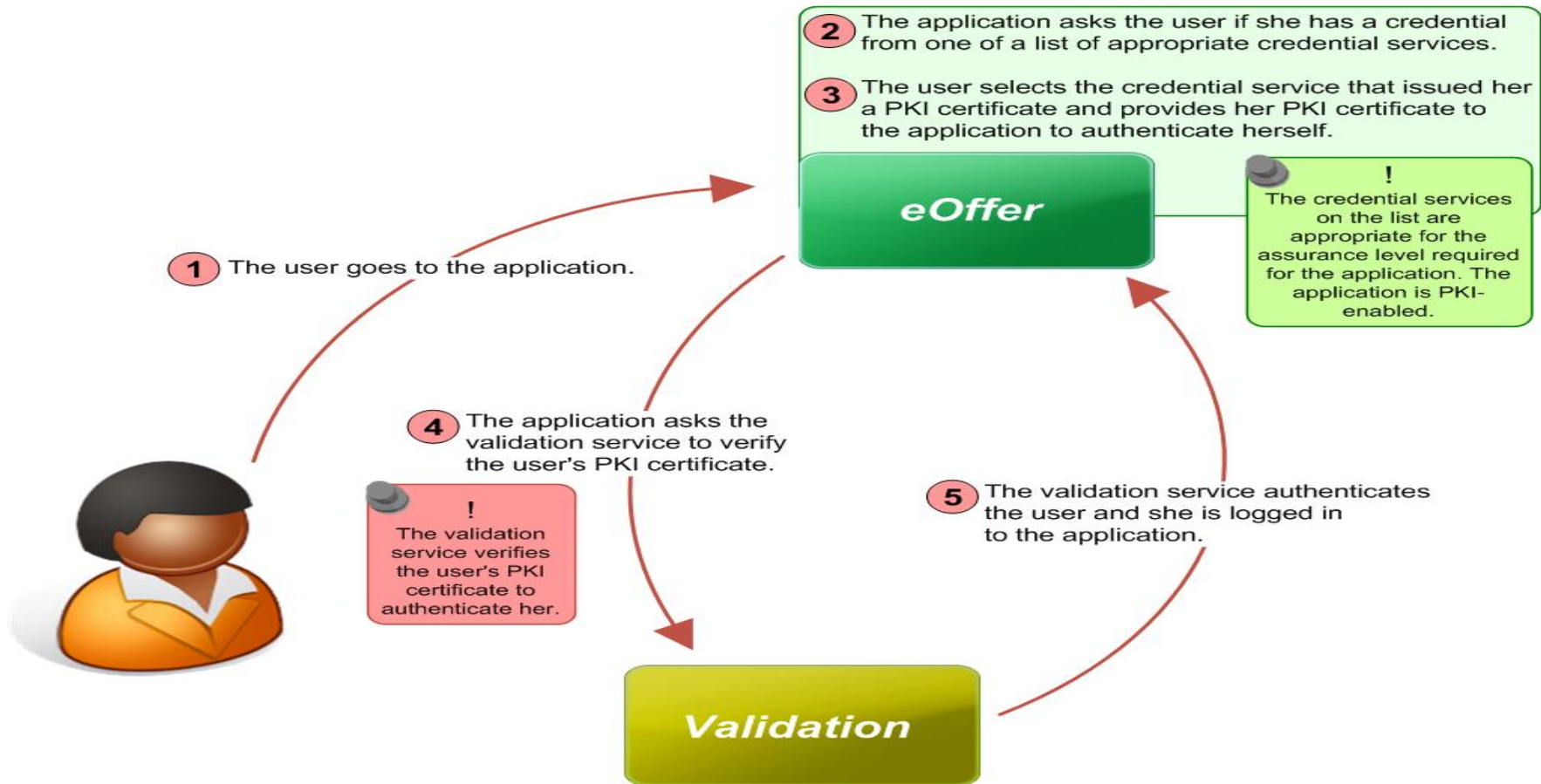


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## Assurance Level 3 or 4 Transactions



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## Government-wide E-Authentication in Action





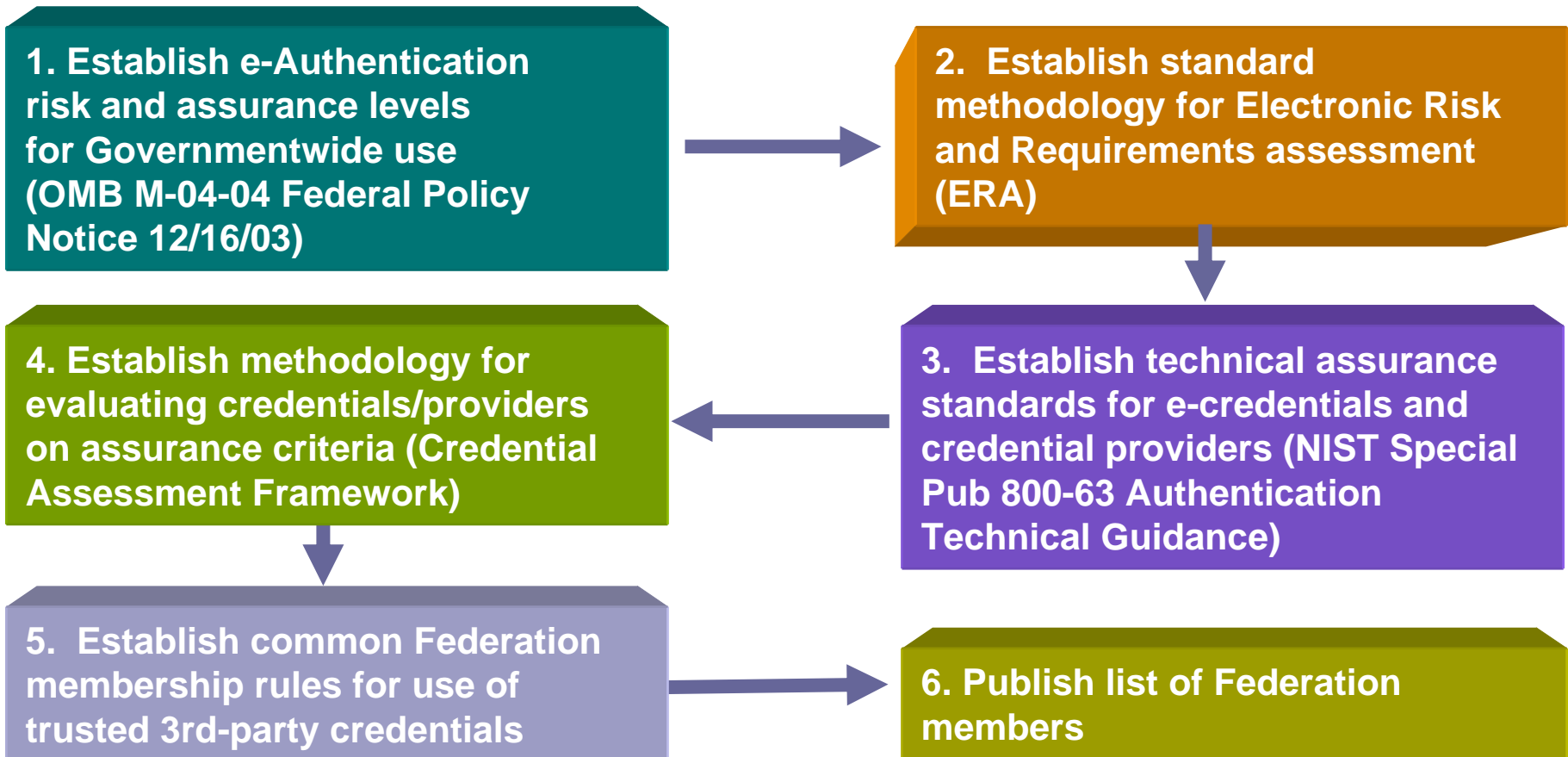


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## The Trust Model for Federated Identity





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## Policy Foundation: OMB Memorandum M-04-04

Potential Impact Categories for Authentication Errors (Risk)	Assurance Level Impact Profiles			
	1	2	3	4
Inconvenience, distress or damage to standing or reputation	Low	Mod	Mod	High
Financial loss or agency liability	Low	Mod	Mod	High
Harm to agency programs or public interests	N/A	Low	Mod	High
Unauthorized release of sensitive information	N/A	Low	Mod	High
Personal Safety	N/A	N/A	Low	Mod High
Civil or criminal violations	N/A	Low	Mod	High



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## Policy Foundation: NIST Special Publication 800-63

Allowed Token Types	Assurance Level Impact Profiles			
	1	2	3	4
Hard crypto token	√	√	√	√
Soft crypto token	√	√	√	
Zero knowledge password	√	√	√	
One-time password device	√	√	√	
Passwords and PIN	√	√		

**Note:** Shaded tokens are not currently in use by the Federation.



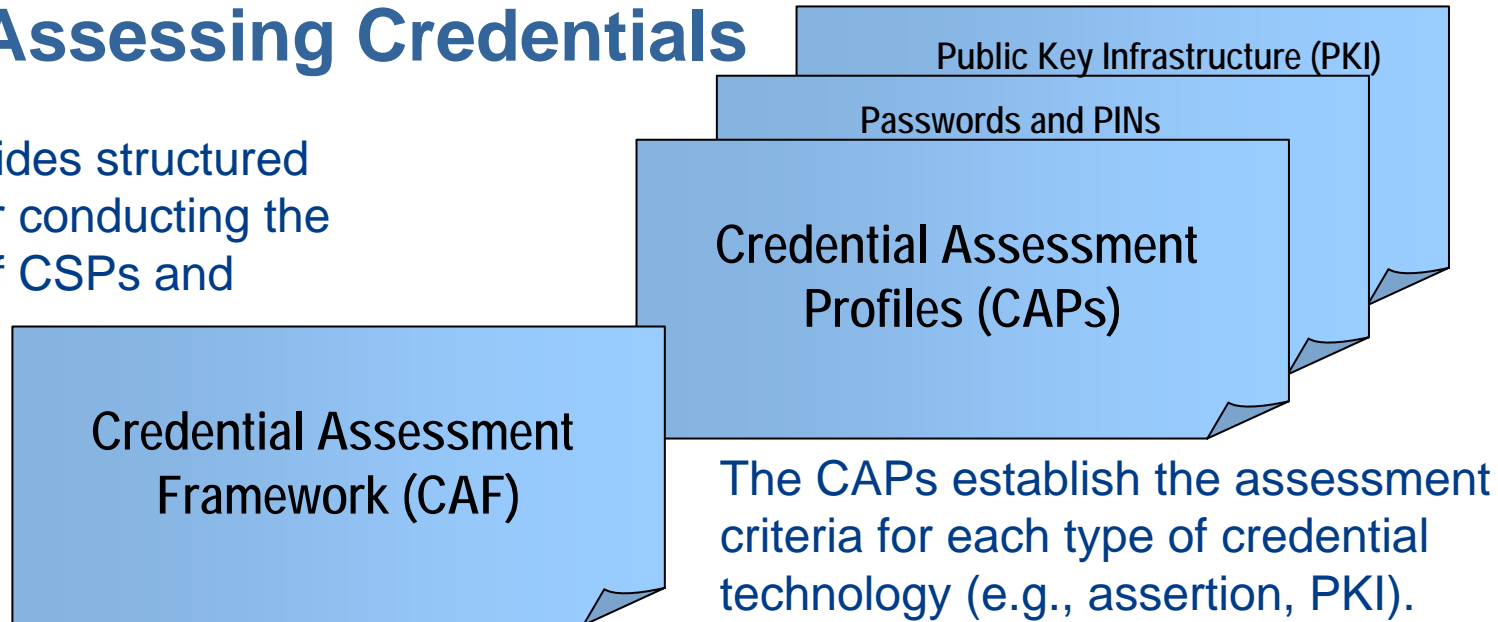
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## The Credential Assessment Framework (CAF) Suite for Assessing Credentials

The CAF provides structured procedures for conducting the assessment of CSPs and credentials.



Based on OMB policy and NIST technical guidance, the CAF establishes the structured means for providing assurances to Federal agencies regarding the veracity and dependability of identity credentials.

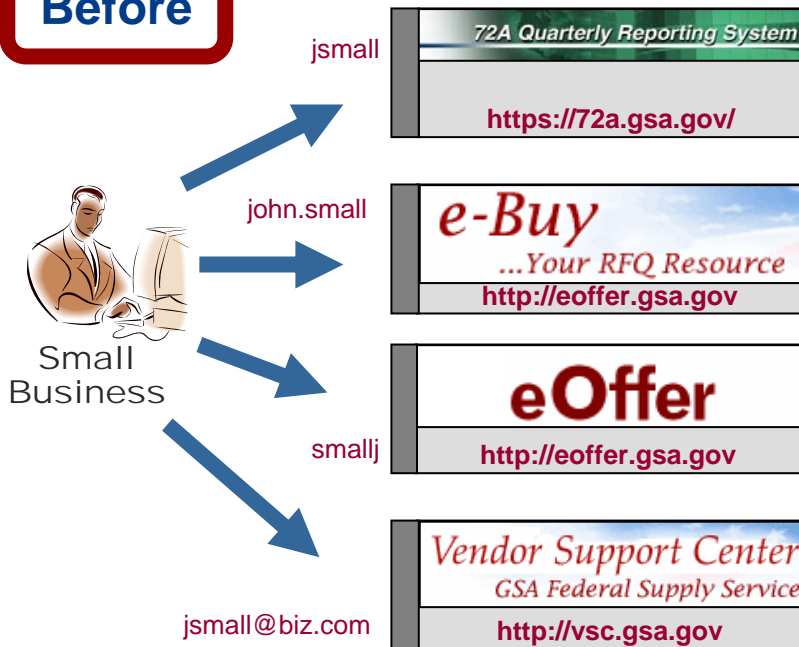
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## E-Authentication in Action

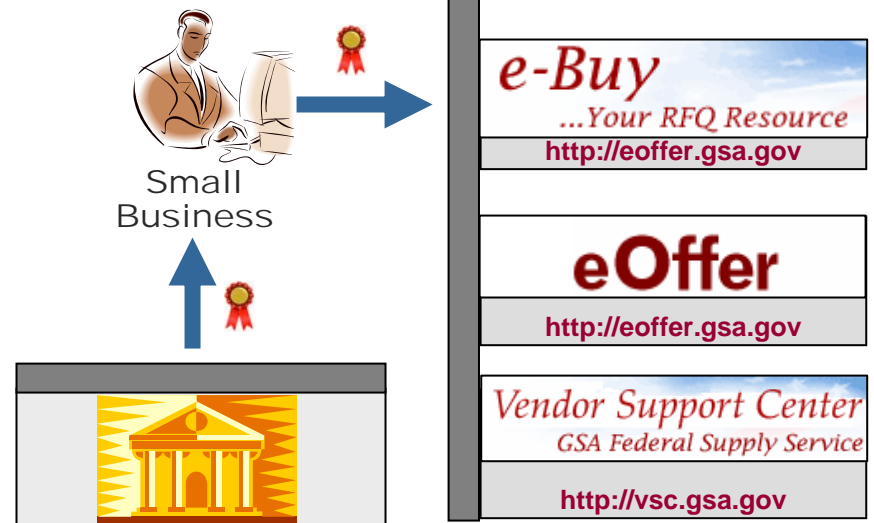
### Before



#### Before E-Authentication:

- A different credential is required for access to each application

### One Managed Identity



#### After E-Authentication:

- Users can choose to use a single credential



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## E-Authentication: A Strategic Solution

- **HSPD-12 program** - implements common identity standard to enhance security and efficiency
  - Managed Services Office established in Sep 2006
  - Initial capability implemented in Oct 2006
  - New infrastructure acquisition in Feb 2007
- **SmartBUY program** - consolidates commercial software requirements for optimal pricing, terms and conditions
  - Eight agreements currently in place
  - Generated \$100M savings to Federal agencies in FY06 on sales of about \$500M
- **E-Authentication program** - supports secure online identity verification for agencies' public-facing Web services
  - Critical foundational e-Gov initiative
  - Supports authentication infrastructure, credential issuance and verification services, and interoperability testing



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## E-Authentication Solution Service Offerings



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## E-Authentication: Helping Agencies Meet Their Needs

1. Responsive to the demands of the constituents with whom they interact
  - Move to the Internet
  - Achieve compliance and meet mandates
2. Protect privacy and ensure security
  - Minimizes amount of personal information each member needs to maintain about a single user
  - Policy mandates privacy and security
3. Do so cost-effectively
  - Internet approach saves money (compared with using paper & people)
  - Enterprise approaches reduce cost of user administration across agencies
4. Focus on their mission
  - Reallocate resources to support mission critical needs
  - Enable new business opportunities, (SSA & Fidelity, Wells Fargo & SBA)
  - Public/private partnerships





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## Credential Services

- Identity proofing
- Credential issuance
- Credential life-cycle management services
- Value-added authentication services agencies need to authenticate users of their applications
  - Managed Validation and Translation Service (MVTs)
    - enables PKI certificates to be validated
    - enables PKI certificates to be validated and translated to use for access to assertion-based (SAML) applications



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## Integration and Technical Support Services

1. **Basic** - technical baseline planning, support for product selection, setup of test environment, acceptance testing, node connection testing, on-boarding services, and deploy E-Authentication
2. **Preferred** - technical baseline planning, support for product selection, setup of test environment, vendor testing MVTs, on-boarding services and deploy E-Authentication
3. **Premium Services** - all of the above plus services such as support to develop a detailed project plan; assess risks; select a technical approach; select approved products, integration services, and credential service providers; and deploy E-Authentication



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## For More Information:

**Myisha Frazier-McElveen**

Senior Relationship Manager

(703) 872-8626

myisha.frazier-mcelveen@gsa.gov

**Website** <http://www.cio.gov/eauthentication>

**Email** [eauthenticationpmo@gsa.gov](mailto:eauthenticationpmo@gsa.gov)