Health Care PKI Working Group
April 24, 2001

The meeting opened with review and approval of the minutes of the March 28 meeting. These meeting minutes are posted on the Federal PKI Steering Committee web site (http://www.cio.gov/fpkisc) under the Working Group: Health Care.

Ann Geyer of the Tunitas Group is Chair of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E31.20 PKI Task Group. She gave a presentation concerning ASTM's Standard Healthcare Certificate Policy. ASTM has been developing this policy to establish requirements, remove barriers, facilitate certificate usage across multiple organizations, assist evaluations and educate. Although there are many similarities between the ASTM Standard Healthcare Certificate Policy and both the Health Care Certificate Policy and the Federal Bridge Certificate Policy, there are also some significant differences. One of the purposes of this presentation was to begin to discuss the areas of difference and come to either a reconciliation or understanding of the differences. The end goal being interoperability. To that end, it was agreed that the ASTM Standard Healthcare Certificate Policy would be provided to the Federal PKI Steering Committee for review concerning the above goals. At the end of this process, joint documentation may be developed and a positive press release would be developed.

Another area raised by Ann Geyer was that the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) is proceeding with plans for the creation of a Root Certificate Authority (CA) for the PKI to support digital signature on electronic prescription of scheduled drugs. Prescribing physicians would be required to obtain a certificate issued under the DEA hierarchy. This would require healthcare CAs to either give control of their hierarchy to DEA, or develop a separate, parallel CA for all other purposes. From the discussions, attempts were made last year to get DEA involved in the Health Care PKI Working Group, but they were unsuccessful. It was agreed that renewed efforts would be made. Additionally, the June 26 meeting will be expanded to include ASTM, DEA and other healthcare organizations with the goal of learning about our various efforts and interoperability. The primary focus of the May 22 meeting will be planning the June 26 meeting.

Brice Zimmerman of Tec Sec gave a presentation on Constructive Key Management (CKM) technology as used by the Postal Service's NetPost.Certified. TecSec's product that uses this technology is PrivityPlus. HHS/HCFA has a pilot project in progress involving this technology for secure communication with external Medical organizations. Other government agencies using it are DOD and SSA. CKM is a technology and methodology used to securely transfer, store and access information. Access privileges to information are based on an individual's role and are assigned at the object level. Information security access adjudication is moved away from a central, on-line server to a user's Smart Token. CKM can be wrapped around any certificate and can also operate without a certificate.

The Postal Service's role is registration and to accept liability. HCFA's End Stage Renal Disease pilot has been operating since November 2000. Other HCFA pilot projects are planned.

Also, concerning the Postal Service's NetPost.Certified, the Postal Service is engaging the State of North Dakota to pilot this model for all citizens. This proposed effort is in the early stages.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 22 from 10:00am to Noon at the HHH Building, Room 325A.

Attendees:

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Remote Attendees:

Name	Org
Brenda Agular	OMB
Bill Curtis	OMB
Kate Massy	OMB
Suzanne White	OMB