

Health Care PKI Working Group

March 26, 2002

The meeting opened with review and approval of the minutes of the February 26 meeting. These minutes are posted on the Federal PKI Steering Committee web site (<http://www.cio.gov/fpkisc>) under the Working Group: Health Care.

The DynCorp Team, which consisted of representatives from DynCorp, Healthlink and Sparta, gave a presentation on HIPAA & PKI in the Federal Government. This presentation included corporate capabilities and experiences in a variety of project areas focused on HIPAA and PKI. Discussions included the relationships between these projects and other project areas and trends. This presentation is posted on the Federal PKI Steering Committee web site (<http://www.cio.gov/fpkisc>) under the Working Group: Health Care.

The status of the Health Care PKI Pilots is as follows:

- ◆ SSA & VA – Secure Exchange of Medical Evidence – After successful completion of Phase I (the report was e-mailed to the Health Care PKI Working Group e-mail list in January), Phase II is in progress. Initial activities have involved a restructuring of the architecture of the SSA PKI to allow a more scalable workflow. The sites in Mississippi are now operational using the new workflow. Additional sites are being identified to expand beyond Mississippi. Planning for added functions has begun.
- ◆ Western Governor's Association - Health Passport – Our primary contact on this project was unable to attend the meeting; we will get a status at the next meeting.
- ◆ NIH – Educause – Higher Education Electronic Grant Application Process Utilizing the Federal Bridge Certification Authority and the Higher Education Bridge Certification Authority – The project has been successful with transmitting and processing grant applications from the University of Alabama (Birmingham), the University of Wisconsin (Madison), Dartmouth College, the University of Texas (Houston), and the University of California (Berkeley) to NIH. The State of Illinois is in the preparation stage for cross certifying with the Federal Bridge Certificate Authority (FBCA). Once this is completed, Illinois State University will be the next university to submit electronic grant application to NIH through the prototype FBCA and the prototype Higher Education Bridge CA.

Next, George Fortwengler provided a summary of a meeting held on March 22 at Justice/Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The meeting primarily concerning the proposed Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances (EPCS) system with an architectural review and the impact and characteristics of this nationwide system. Also attending the meeting were representatives from HHS/CMS, FPKISC and VA. This meeting was suggested at the January 22 Health Care PKI Working Group meeting.

Among the topics discussed at this March 22 meeting were:

- ◆ DEA's reasons for a DEA Root Certificate Authority (CA) vs. cross certification of peer CAs through the FBCA,
- ◆ Certificate data content, the reasons and characteristics of certain data,
- ◆ DEA's plans to cross certify with the FBCA and the DEA certificates may be used for other applications by the holders,
- ◆ Pros and cons of a centralized registration and the reasons why a distributed registration by subordinate CAs is preferable, and
- ◆ The need for a partner to help pilot the system, Veterans Health Administration (VHA) will participate and it would be good if others were identified too.

The meeting resulted in the participants having a better understanding of the functional environment in which the system will operate and why certain design alternatives were chosen. It was agreed the meeting was beneficial and there will probably be additional meetings when appropriate in the future.

The next regular Health Care PKI Working Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2002 from 10:00 am to Noon at the HHH Building in Washington, DC. Due to conflicts, there will not be a May meeting. *[Subsequently, the April and June meetings were also cancelled due to conflicts. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 23, 2002 from 10:00am to Noon, in Room 305A, at the HHH Building in Washington, DC.]*

Attendees:

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Remote Attendees:

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Mark Silverman	HHS/NIH	mls@nih.gov