

**Federal PKI Steering Committee Meeting
January 28, 2003**

FPKISC Status:

Sharon Shank discussed the handout “Department of Energy, Adobe Plug-in For Entrust”. The DOE acquired a plug-in for use by the entire U.S. Federal government. An Entrust X.509 version 3 certificate as well as the full version of Adobe is required for the signing plug-in. Only the full version of Adobe is required for the verification plug-in. Subscribers can digitally sign a PDF document as well as verify the signature. The plug-in downloads to the browser, not to the desktop. However, only Federal employees have the capability to “sign” PDF documents. Citizens can only verify the “signature”. Benefits are: complying with the Paperwork Elimination Act and the E-Sign Bill, quick ROI, ease of use, ease of deployment, and scalability. The version that is available for Federal agency use will not have the DOE logo in the plug-in. Federal agencies will have to contact Entrust/Cygnacom to have their logo added and also to have the signing OID added to the subscriber credentials. These services will be billed as professional services to each Federal agency requesting the support. Roaming users will also be able to use the plug-in. The DOE website is: <http://www.energy.gov>.

The original date for submission of “The 2003 Application for Federal PKI Steering Committee Funding” was January 31st. This date has been moved back to February 15th. We’re expecting submittals from the NIH, the DON and the USDA/NFC.

Judith Spencer discussed the handout “PKI and Authentication Principles for CIO Council Discussion, January 15, 2003”. The outcome is to improve and streamline policy for the Federal government. By putting an OMB mandate on the use of existing PKI policies. The product will be a common policy framework. Federal agencies will have to prove they’re unique or justify an exception in a business case if not using or adhering to the common policy framework. The FBCA CP is going to be part of the common policy framework. It is envisioned that cross certifying with the FBCA brings your agency under the common policy framework umbrella, but the detailed migration strategy has not yet been developed. So far, there are two managed PKI services Federal agencies can use: ACES and the USDA/NFC. The PKI framework needs to include encryption certificates, digital signature certificates, smart cards and VPNs. Currently, the USDA/NFC PKI can provide all of these capabilities for Federal agencies. The USDA/NFC PKI is government owned and government run. The ACES is government owned and industry run.

USDA/NFC Status:

The USDA/NFC CA has passed the Certification and Accreditation process. NFC is in the process of marketing their PKI services to Federal agencies. Their POC is Theresa Trentacoste at 504-255-5324 or via their website at <http://www.nfc.usda.gov>. NFC is a subscription model, you buy the license once and maintenance costs recur. Government owned and government run. NFC uses encryption key certificates.

Access Certificates for Electronic Services (ACES) Status:

There will be a meeting on February 12th to discuss the ACES certificate policy. More options will be included in the revised certificate policy, such as opening up to non-federal relying parties (businesses, state and local governments) and issuing credentials to Federal employees. They already have buy-in from GSA/FTS management. Still want to cross certify with the FBCA. Once revised, the ACES certificate policy will be submitted to the Certificate Policy Working Group (CPWG) for review against the FBCA CP.

Next FPKISC Meeting:

The next FPKISC meeting is scheduled for March 4th at 9:30 a.m. in the GSA, Central Office conference room # 5141A.

Federal agencies are welcome to send a federal government employee to participate in these meetings. However, government contractors are not permitted to attend.

Attendees:

Judith Spencer, FPKISC
Brant G. Petrick, FPKISC
Steve Duncan, GSA
Kathy Sharp, USDA/NFC
Mike Wendling, DON
Amy Bunk, NARA
Marty Burkhouse, DOJ
Gene McDowell, NOAA
Dan Maloney, VA/VHA
Lewis Baskerville, SBA
Jeanette Thornton, OMB
Art Purcell, USPTO
Tin Cao, DOS
Donna F. Dodson, SSA
Cheryl Jenkins, GSA
Michael Ball, DOJ
Nancy DeFrancesco, DOC
John Clink, DOE
Peter Alterman, NIH
Sharon Shank, DOE