

**Federal PKI Legal & Policy Working Group Meeting**  
**November 25, 2002**

Judith Spencer informed the group of the following. (1) OMB is encouraging the federal government to expand use of its existing PKIs rather than to start new ones. Bill Burr (NIST) will write a paper on how the Bridge can in effect act both as a root and as a bridge. (Canada's bridge/root acts in both capacities.) This will be our response to the Federal CIO Council. Several agencies (e.g., NFC) are willing to issue credentials for other agencies. (2) USPS is coming back as offering a CA service (provided by Microsoft and Oracle) with (some) post offices serving as the RA (as for passport applications). They will now do back-end vetting of an applicant's information. As of three weeks ago they hadn't put this idea in front of their Board of Directors. They're doing a survey to show public support for this proposal. (3) Work is still going on with the e-Authentication group on how its Gateway will interface with the Bridge. In the short term that Gateway might implement a service that would allow a Citizen & Commerce Class Certificate (C4) to be used without the Bridge. Tim Polk (NIST) is writing a strawman for this. As a stopgap for launch of the Gateway service this fiscal year, the e-Authentication group could apply for a six-month provisional cross-certification with the Bridge, during which time the Federal PKI Policy Authority's CPWG would do the mapping. (4) Work began Nov 22 with Canada. We have exchanged policies and have put together a plan and milestones for cross-certification by June 15. John Cornell thinks the US and Canadian laws are very similar. The legal arrangement between the two countries is expected to be an MOA under existing technical cooperation arrangements. Paula Barton will help in bringing in appropriate State Dept contacts, and assuring that the right process and wording are used. (5) We're mapping the VeriSign Class 2 policy, under which they offer a managed service. A client can add policy elements to that, to meet a level of assurance for the Bridge. (6) NIST is writing five model CP's, including one for the C4. (7) We don't have an ACES CP for mapping, yet. Steve Duncan reported that the language that had been taken from the CP and put in the ACES contract has now been re-incorporated into the CP to make it complete, along with security enhancements required by GSA. They are shooting for the middle of December to have the CP ready for mapping. Technical testing has been done. There are still issues about the business model.

Art Purcell reported that the final draft of the PKI Records Management Guidance received no comments from the Federal CIO Council (including from OMB) as of the due date, Nov 22. The draft also went to DOJ for comment, but no reply has been received. Some records managers have given private comments, all favorable. The document is now ready for joint publication by the Federal CIO Council and NARA.

Paula Barton reported that the team to draft liability language for federal agency CPs has begun its work, and has collected some existing agency CP liability language. The team includes Art Purcell and Jan McNutt.

Gene McDowell reported that the team to draft an MOA template for federal agencies has

completed its work except to type the changes into the draft they were working from. (The team includes Peter Alterman and Shauna Russell.) When the changes are typed in, the new draft will be sent to the LPWG for discussion and possible acceptance at its December meeting. Following LPWG approval, it will go to the Federal PKI Steering Committee for its approval, and then to the Federal PKI Policy Authority, which is the party with whom an agency enters into an MOA.

Gene had prepared a presentation on three different meanings of “authentication”, and where they fit into PKI, but we were near the end of our meeting time so he handed out a copy of the slides and will send the narrative to the people who have the handout.

The next LPWG meeting is scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1:00 p.m., in the GSA, NCR Building, Room # 5700.

**Attendees:**

Gene McDowell, NOAA  
Art Purcell, USPTO  
Jan McNutt, DOD  
Paula Barton, DOS  
Judith Spencer, FPKISC  
Bob House, DOS  
Steve Duncan, GSA  
Jennie Plante, DOJ  
Peter Alterman, FPKISC  
Shauna Russell, DOD GC