



Transportation Security Administration

NOTE: This Technical Advisory describes an issue which may impact your product.

TWIC Technical Advisory TA-2009-TWIC002-V1.0

ADDITIONAL ERROR CODE DEFINITIONS FOR TWIC CARDS

Introduction

This Technical Advisory details additional error codes that may be returned when communicating with a TWIC card in a non-operational life cycle state.

Background and Definition

This Technical Advisory was precipitated by the need to inform TWIC reader manufacturers of abnormal error codes that may be returned based on the life cycle state of the TWIC card.

Problem Statement

TWIC cards may, on rare occasion, be transferred to a Transportation Worker prior to completing full personalization. In that case, the life cycle state of the TWIC card may not have transitioned to the operational state. The consequence is a TWIC card would return status words other than may be expected by a TWIC reader.

The audience for this Technical Advisory is TWIC reader manufacturers and other entities that are interfacing to a TWIC card.

Description of New or Unique Process

The TWIC solution employs a practice of locking TWIC cards when a TWIC card is transported between the card manufacturer and the card production center and again when transported from the production center to an activation center.

Three methods for determining whether a TWIC card is in the locked for transport life cycle state are:

- 1) A TWIC reader can attempt to select the TWIC card application or PIV card application. A locked TWIC card will return a status word of '6A 81' (Function not supported).
- 2) A TWIC reader can attempt to select the underlying GlobalPlatform Card Manager using AID 'A0 00 00 01 51 00 00'. A locked TWIC card will return a status word of '62 83' (Card life cycle state is CARD MANAGER LOCKED).
- 3) A TWIC reader can attempt to retrieve data using the GET DATA command. A locked TWIC card will return a status word of '6E 00' (Class byte not supported).

A TWIC reader should indicate to the operator that such a TWIC card is authentic but not in an operational state. Any messaging should indicate the TWIC Card is not activated for use.

Use of New or Unique Process

The unique process described in this Technical Advisory should either be implemented prior to any deployment of TWIC readers to the field OR implemented as a field upgrade to installed TWIC readers.

Design Features of New or Unique Process

What is unique about this process is the additional check(s) for a TWIC card not in an operational state will assist in verifying the authenticity of said TWIC card.

Comments

Questions on this Technical Advisory should be addressed to the TSA TWIC PMO TWIC Reader Hardware and Card Application Specification Project Editor, Gerald.Smith@associates.dhs.gov .

Subject References

TWIC Reader Hardware and Card Application Specification, Version 1.1 Amendment 1, 30 May 2008.

Keywords

TWIC
ISO/IEC 7816
STATUS WORD
CARD MANAGER
LIFE CYCLE
GLOBALPLATFORM

Standard Details

Refer to Section 2 *References* in the Subject Reference document.

Specifications or Special Provision

TWIC Reader Hardware and Card Application Specification, Version 1.1 Amendment 1, 30 May 2008.

Supersedes Dates

There is no previous Technical Advisory issued that addresses this unique process.

This Technical Advisory shall be active until further notice.

Obtain more Information

More technical information on TWIC can be obtained at:

http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/layers/twic/pilot_test.shtm

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