

**Federal Public Key Infrastructure (FPKI)
Path Discovery & Validation (PD-VAL) Working Group
Minutes of the 14 March 2005 Meeting
NIST North, Gaithersburg, MD; Room 618**

A. AGENDA

- 1) Opening Remarks / Introductions
- 2) Discussion on Meeting Minutes
- 3) Discussion on Action Items
- 4) Interim Validation Solution Update
- 5) FIPS 199 and New Direction for VSAF
- 6) New VSAF
- 7) Other Topics
- 8) Next Meeting Plans/Meeting Adjourned

B. ATTENDANCE LIST

Organization	Name	Email	Telephone
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Enspier	Blanchard, Debb	dblanchard@enspier.com	Teleconference
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PD-VAL Secretary (IATAC)	Clemons, Darryl	clemons_darryl@bah.com	410.684.7732

C. MEETING ACTIVITY

Agenda Item 1

Welcome & Opening Remarks:

The meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m. with attendee introductions.

Ms. Cheryl Jenkins, GSA, began the meeting session by providing an update on the overall new direction of the SCVP effort and the Validation Services Assessment Framework (VSAF) captured from the March 3rd meeting with a sub-group of PD-VAL members comprised only of federal employees. The consensus of this group was that SCVP was not available and the use of some versions of this protocol is not widely adopted. Based on this, the decision was made for the interim to remove the tiers as a standard of capability and test each product functionality in

the lab to determine the state of industry, and subsequently work with vendors whose products most closely meet the functional path discovery and validation requirements. The test cases will be consistent with the tier 1 and tier 2 levels but vendors will not be qualified by tiers. The long term goal to find a SCVP solution and to ultimately test at tier 4 remains.

The following milestones were present during the meeting:

1. The RFI will be distributed on 4 April,
2. Testing of vendor products will begin on 25 April and,
3. Qualified vendor products will be selected and posted on a list for agencies no later than June 30, 2005.

There was concern expressed by Kathy Sharp, that the direction in the near term was unclear for the National Financial Center (NFC) and she needed further explanation of the working group's efforts. Ms. Jenkins explained that the RFI will be posted on GSA FEDBIZOPPs and based on a vendor's response to the RFI, they would or would not be selected to participate in testing their product in the E-Authentication lab against the test cases prepared by NIST. She further explained that qualified products would be added to a posted list where NFC could select a validation service or product to use for their service.

Other members expressed an interest in knowing if the validation service will be handled from a higher, centralized level, such as a single agency, like a GSA, servicing all other agencies.

Ms. Jenkins alluded to a white paper that was prepared by DoD which detailed a cost/benefit analysis comparison of centralized validation services as opposed to each agency performing its own validations. Mr. Joe Mettle, DoD, stated that there were no formal white papers but he was willing to explain what DoD has done. He said that DoD is performing several different pricing models to ascertain which would be more cost effective. DoD has set up both a hosted validation service through CoreStreet and Akamia and a self-run, centralized DoD validation service. When evaluating the two solutions it was found that it was far more cost effective to perform validations centrally. Mr. Mettle will provide better numbers on the cost savings at a later date.

Agenda Item 2¹

Discussion on Meeting Minutes

The minutes were reviewed, ratified, and approved for posting to the PD-VAL website by Ms. Cheryl Jenkins (GSA), Mr. David Cooper (NIST), Mr. David Simonetti (Enspier) and Mr. Darryl E. Clemons (Booz Allen Hamilton).

¹ This agenda item was performed after the meeting was adjourned, after agenda item 8. The members mentioned are the only participants performing this activity

Agenda Item 3²

Discussion on Action Items

The actions items were reviewed, ratified, and approved for posting to the PD-VAL website by Ms. Cheryl Jenkins, Mr. David Cooper and Mr. Darryl E. Clemons. Each open action item was reviewed and evaluated for a status change.

Agenda Item 4

Federal PKI Interim Validation Solution Update

The problems with the FPKI and the State of Illinois directories while stress testing CAM are still ongoing. Currently, searching the directories using some clients does not work. Logging on both directories has been enabled and engineers from both ISODE and Siemens are reviewing the logs to determine what is creating the problem. Network sniffers have also been deployed to capture traffic between the directories and the results are also being reviewed by the engineers.

There are still two additional unresolved issues with the CAM that will be reported on 15 March. This report will explain the cause of these issues and will also include a recommended solution to be applied by 31 March.

Action Item 24: Prepare a report explaining the issues with the CAM and the resolution of these issues.

Agenda Item 5

FIPS 199 and New Direction for VSAF

If a Federal agency wants to host a validation service, it must undergo certification and accreditation and the information used by the systems must be categorized according to the stipulations of FIPS 199. The baseline requirements that a vendor must meet for the Hosted Validation Services will be based directly on the FIPS 199 and other requirements from NIST. Ms Jenkins stated that she has taken the action to categorize the system and the results will be included in the VSAF RFI. A template will also be developed to clearly present all the baseline security requirements for vendors demonstrating hosted validation service capability. It is anticipated that the system categorization and the template will be prepared by 29 March.

Action Item 25: Prepare the test cases for tiers 1 and 2.

Action Item 26: Categorize the RFI validation system according to FIPS 199.

² This agenda item was performed after the meeting was adjourned, after agenda item 8. The members mentioned are the only participants performing this activity

Agenda Item 6

New VSAF

Mr. David Simonetti, Enspier, explained the changes made to the E-Authentication Validation Services Assessment Framework (VSAF) to form the VSAF Request for Information (RFI) draft. The group reviewed the document and the security requirements and agreed that the document was ready to be distributed to sub-group for review and comments. Due date for comments was set for the closed of business on Tuesday, 15 March.

Agenda Item 7

Other Topics

No other additional topics were discussed.

Agenda Item 8

Next Meeting Plans / Meeting Adjourned:

The next PD-VAL Meeting is scheduled for 14 April 2005 from 09:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the NIST North facility, Room 618, Gaithersburg, MD. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

D. PD-VAL CURRENT ACTION ITEMS

No.	Action Statement	POC	Start Date	Target Date	Status
FY05-20	Complete the Basic and Rudimentary definitions for the Path Discovery Test Suite	David Cooper, NIST	25 February PD-VAL meeting	21 March 2005	Closed
FY05-21	Complete the SCVP Templates (This action pertains to long term goals of implementing SCVP throughout the government). The SCVP standard has not been completed. This action item will be addressed once the standard has been completed.	David Cooper, NIST	25 February PD-VAL meeting	TBD	Pending
FY05-23	Complete the Request for Information (RFI) document and deliver to the Vendors	Cheryl Jenkins, FPKI OA & Sub-group	25 February PD-VAL meeting	4 April 2005	Closed
FY05-24	Prepare a report explaining the issues with the CAM and the resolution of these issues	Andrew Lins, Mitretek	14 March PD-VAL meeting	31 March 2005	Closed
FY05-25	Prepare the test cases for tiers 1 and 2	David Cooper, NIST	14 March PD-VAL meeting	29 March 2005	Closed
FY05-26	Categorize the RFI validation system according to FIPS 199	Cheryl Jenkins, FPKI OA & Sub-group	24 March 2005	4 April 2005	Closed