
AUTHENTICATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE SYSTEMS

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The National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) addresses businesses' most pressing cybersecurity problems with practical, standards-based solutions using commercially available technologies. The NCCoE collaborates with industry, academic and government experts to build modular, open, end-to-end reference designs that are broadly applicable and repeatable. To learn more about the NCCoE, visit <http://nccoe.nist.gov>. To learn more about NIST, visit <http://www.nist.gov>.

This document describes a particular problem that is relevant across the Law Enforcement community. NCCoE cybersecurity experts will address this challenge through collaboration with members of the community and vendors of cybersecurity solutions. The resulting reference design will detail an approach that can be used by Law Enforcement organizations.

ABSTRACT

Law enforcement vehicles often serve as mobile offices. In-vehicle laptops or other computer systems are used to access a wide range of software applications and databases hosted and operated by federal, state, and local agencies, with each typically requiring a different username and password. This operational environment presents unique security challenges. Officers must frequently leave the vehicle unattended, perhaps on short notice, and must be able to gain access to systems quickly once they return or possibly while the vehicle is in motion. These needs discourage the use of screen locks and traditional single sign-on solutions. This project will demonstrate an integrated set of authentication mechanisms, improving system security, usability, and safety. This project will also explore additional capabilities, such as proximity authentication, derived Personal Identity Verification (PIV) credentials, integration with FirstNet, and integration with vehicle drive-away protection and Computer Assisted Dispatch systems to indicate whether the officer is in the vehicle. This project will result in a freely available NIST Cybersecurity Practice Guide that will enable members of the community to more easily and effectively incorporate proximity access and reduced-sign-on technologies.

KEYWORDS

law enforcement; proximity authentication; reduced sign on; automotive; vehicle upfit systems

DISCLAIMER

Certain commercial entities, equipment, products, or materials may be identified in this document in order to describe an experimental procedure or concept adequately. Such identification is not intended to imply recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology or the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence, nor is it intended to imply that the entities, equipment, products, or materials are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

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1 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2 Purpose

3 Traditional security practices for securing computers and applications in an office setting
4 are not necessarily as effective in a vehicle-based operational environment. The police
5 vehicle environment presents two unique challenges. First, as with other mobile
6 environments, it is more vulnerable to being physically compromised. Second, the
7 demands of security controls, such as multiple complex passwords, might interfere with
8 safe vehicle operation.

9 An officer's daily tasks require the use of a diverse suite of applications, each with a
10 separate set of login credentials. The absence of an integrated authentication
11 mechanism can negatively affect both security and the law enforcement mission. When
12 leaving their vehicles unattended, officers are forced to choose between logging out of
13 sensitive systems, potentially increasing response time, and remaining logged into those
14 systems, thereby decreasing security. For example, even the simple practice of locking
15 or unlocking a laptop screen can impede an officer's ability to confront an approaching
16 suspect.

17 Poor implementation of authentication security controls can also increase risks to the
18 computer systems and databases that these controls are intended to protect. With
19 many diverse logins, officers may resort to using password managers, spreadsheets, and
20 paper notes to record passwords. Alternatively, relying only on a screen lock to protect
21 multiple logged-in application sessions does not prevent these sessions from being
22 hijacked, possibly by a hacker compromising the vehicle laptop directly or via an in-
23 vehicle Wi-Fi system.

24 Integrated reduced-sign-on (RSO) enables multiple applications to share a single
25 authentication action taken by the user, eliminating the need for the user to log in more
26 than once. Standards-based approaches to RSO are easier to adopt as they may already
27 be supported by most commercial applications and can offer a wide variety of
28 development programming interfaces to ease integration with custom applications.
29 Modern standards-based approaches also support sharing of strong authentication with
30 applications in a secure manner without requiring a trusted relationship between
31 applications. These capabilities are useful when integrating RSO across jurisdictions,
32 such as federal law enforcement information providers and state or local providers.

33 The project described in this document aims to address these concerns by
34 demonstrating an integrated authentication architecture compatible with the law
35 enforcement vehicle operational environment. By integrating simplified identity and
36 authentication technologies, such as proximity, biometrics, tokens, or other similar
37 technologies, with readily available RSO tools, law enforcement organizations can
38 enhance mission effectiveness, improve officer safety, and reduce risk to sensitive back-
39 end databases and systems. This project will result in a publicly available NIST

40 Cybersecurity Practice Guide, a detailed guide of the practical steps needed to
41 implement our cybersecurity reference design that addresses this challenge.

42 **Scope**

43 This project will meet the goals above by integrating commercially available, standards-
44 based security products into a representative architecture, which we will build in our
45 laboratory. This architecture will include a representative vehicle, one or more proximity
46 identification/authentication solutions, and an in-vehicle computer or laptop with
47 datalink. If technologies permit, the vehicle may also be modified to implement drive-
48 away deterrence. The architecture will also include all necessary back-end systems to
49 support authentication, a Computer Assisted Dispatch system or mock-up to support
50 presence indication, and real or representative applications an officer would typically
51 access during day-to-day operations.

52 To the extent practical, we may demonstrate integration with non-production
53 test/development instances of applications hosted by law enforcement partners.

54 **Assumptions/Challenges**

55 **Windows-based laptops**

56 This project assumes the use of commodity-based laptop or mobile computer systems
57 operating Microsoft Windows, which are the most common within the law enforcement
58 community. While the concepts within the project would still apply, integration with
59 systems based on other technologies, such as Google Android or Apple iOS tablets,
60 would require additional effort on the part of the integrator.

61 **Differing back-end applications**

62 Many law enforcement applications are hosted by different federal, state, and local
63 agencies, resulting in integration challenges that will be unique to each agency seeking
64 to adopt the results of this project. However, our focus on standards-based solutions
65 should facilitate this integration.

66 **Limited market space**

67 The market space for solutions optimized around an in-vehicle workforce or that
68 interface with vehicles and related systems is limited. However, we believe that a wide
69 variety of standards-based proximity authentication mechanisms used in other
70 environments can easily be adapted to meet the requirements of this project.

71 **Background**

72 The NCCoE, working with federal, state, and local law enforcement, identified the need
73 for an identity management solution for the in-vehicle operational environment.
74 Additional Law Enforcement Organizations (LEOs), including other state police agencies,
75 professional associations, and federal departments have provided input to this project
76 description. Through public comments, NIST is eager to receive input from a broad array
77 of stakeholders including LEOs, officers, technology vendors, and the public at large.

78 2. SCENARIOS

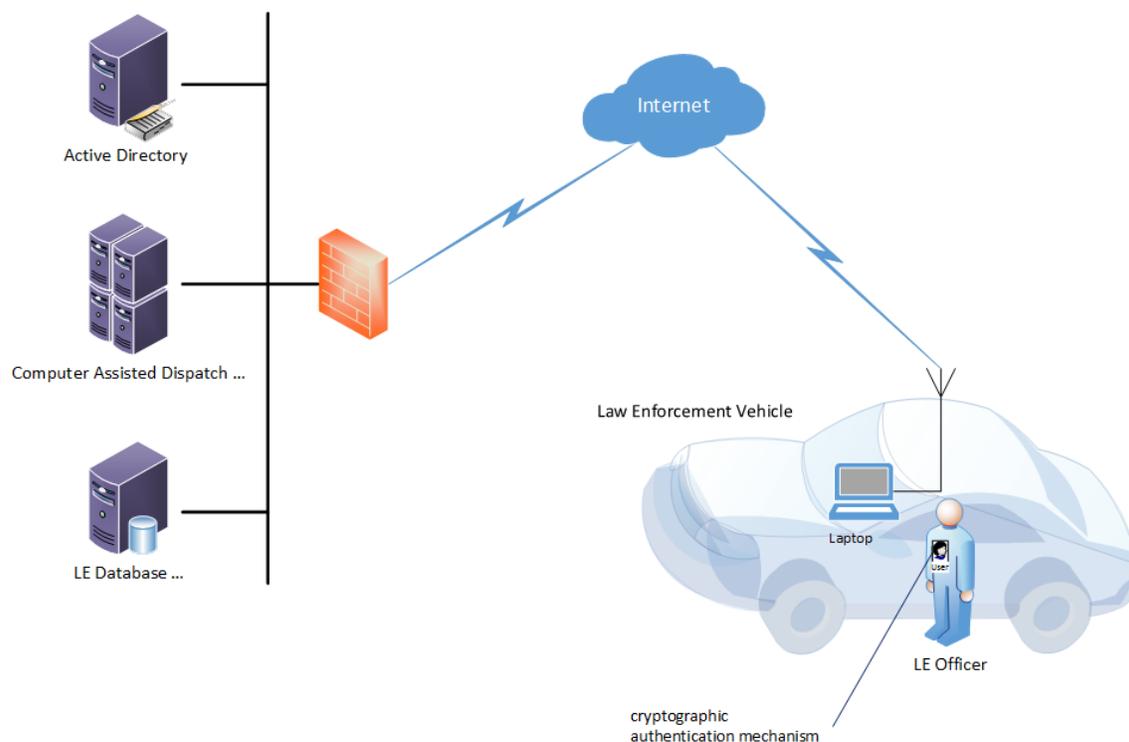
79 Scenario 1: Officer Start-of-Shift Sign-On

80 At the start of a shift, the officer initially authenticates to a laptop using a smart card
81 token, biometric, or other mechanism. An RSO solution acting as a trust store
82 authenticates the officer to additional remote applications as each is opened.

83 Scenario 2: Screen Lock

84 When the officer exits the vehicle, a proximity token with a reader, door switch, or
85 similar system automatically locks the laptop screen and possibly suspends access to
86 remote applications. When the officer returns, a simplified authentication, such as a
87 biometric or proximity token with a reader, could automatically unlock the laptop and
88 restore access to remote applications. If the officer has been gone for a longer period of
89 time, a stronger form of authentication could be required.

90 3. HIGH-LEVEL ARCHITECTURE



91

92 Component List

93 An integrated RSO solution for the law enforcement vehicle operational environment
94 includes but is not limited to the following components:

- 95 • Law Enforcement Vehicle, consisting of:
 - 96 ○ a console-mounted laptop

- 97 ○ proximity, biometric, token, or other simplified authentication solution(s)
- 98 ○ cellular or other wireless data connectivity
- 99 ● representative back-end systems consisting of:
 - 100 ○ a connection to the internet or other network that enables access from
 - 101 the in-vehicle laptop
 - 102 ○ a perimeter router and firewall representative of a common security
 - 103 perimeter
 - 104 ○ an authentication and directory service (e.g. Active Directory)
 - 105 ○ multiple representative applications, such as:
 - 106 ■ an e-mail service
 - 107 ■ a Computer Assisted Dispatch application
 - 108 ■ a case management system
 - 109 ■ a state or national criminal information system (e.g. National
 - 110 Crime Information Center)
 - 111 ● integrating software/components, including:
 - 112 ○ reduced sign-on software components
 - 113 ○ standards-based tools to support cryptographic credentials
 - 114 ○ tools to integrate with selected simplified authentication solutions

115 **Desired Requirements**

116 To address the scenarios noted above, this project will use a collection of commercially
 117 available technologies to demonstrate the following security and functional
 118 characteristics:

- 119 ● provide for automatic screen locking and possible application locking of an in-
 120 vehicle system when the officer exits the vehicle
- 121 ● restore sessions rapidly with minimal interaction when the officer returns to the
 122 vehicle
- 123 ● allow integration with readily available single sign-on tools to enable the officer
 124 to log in to multiple applications with a single set of credentials
- 125 ● demonstrate the use of a FIPS 201 PIV-compliant token
 - 126 ○ provides strong, standards-based identity verification and authentication
 - 127 ○ enables secured access to modern applications
 - 128 ○ more securely enables backwards-compatible RSO solutions for legacy
 129 systems
- 130 ● authenticate quickly and safely while the vehicle is in motion

131 In addition, if technologies identified for the project permit, the project will also:

- 132 • integrate with Computer Assisted Dispatch or fleet management tools to enable
- 133 dispatch to know if the officer is in the vehicle, informing the best means to
- 134 contact the officer and improving officer safety
- 135 • enable drive-away protection to deter unauthorized operation of the vehicle

136 4. RELEVANT STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE

- 137 • Fast IDentity Online (FIDO) Alliance Universal 2nd Factor (U2F)
- 138 • FIDO Universal Authentication Framework (UAF)
- 139 • Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS)
- 140 Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) v2.0 Standard: [http://docs.oasis-](http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/sstc-saml-tech-overview-2.0.html)
- 141 [open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/sstc-saml-tech-overview-2.0.html](http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/sstc-saml-tech-overview-2.0.html)
- 142 • Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS)
- 143 eXtensible Access Control Markup Language (XACML) v2.0: [https://docs.oasis-](https://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-core-spec-os.pdf)
- 144 [open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-core-spec-os.pdf](https://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-core-spec-os.pdf)
- 145 • RFC 6749 - The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework:
- 146 <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6749>
- 147 • User-Managed Access (UMA) Profile of OAuth 2.0:
- 148 <https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-hardjono-oauth-umacore-13>
- 149 • OpenID Connect Core v1.0: [http://openid.net/specs/openid-connect-core-](http://openid.net/specs/openid-connect-core-1_0.html)
- 150 [1_0.html](http://openid.net/specs/openid-connect-core-1_0.html)
- 151 • X.509 Certificate Policy for the U.S. Federal PKI Common Policy Framework,
- 152 Version 1.24, May 2015
- 153 (<https://www.idmanagement.gov/IDM/servlet/fileField?entityId=ka0t0000000T>
- 154 [N9iAAG&field=File_Body_s](https://www.idmanagement.gov/IDM/servlet/fileField?entityId=ka0t0000000TN9iAAG&field=File_Body_s))
- 155 • Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publication 201-2, Personal
- 156 Identity Verification (PIV) of Federal Employees and Contractors, NIST, August
- 157 2013 (<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/FIPS/NIST.FIPS.201-2.pdf>)
- 158 • NIST Special Publication 800-63-2, Electronic Authentication Guideline, NIST,
- 159 August 2013 ([http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-](http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-63-2.pdf)
- 160 [63-2.pdf](http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-63-2.pdf))
- 161 • NIST Special Publication 800-73-4, Interfaces for Personal Identity Verification,
- 162 NIST, May 2015
- 163 (<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-73-4.pdf>)
- 164 • NIST Special Publication 800-78-4, Cryptographic Algorithms and Key Sizes for
- 165 Personal Identity Verification, NIST, May 2014
- 166 (<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-63-2.pdf>)
- 167 • NIST Special Publication 800-157, Guidelines for Derived Personal Identity
- 168 Verification (PIV) Credentials, NIST, December 2014
- 169 (<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-157.pdf>)

- 170 • ISO/IEC 15693 B Identification cards -- Contactless integrated circuit cards --
- 171 Vicinity cards
- 172 • ISO/IEC 14443 A,B Identification cards -- Contactless integrated circuit cards --
- 173 Proximity cards

174 **5. SECURITY CONTROL MAP**

175 This table maps the characteristics of the commercial products that the NCCoE will apply
 176 to this cybersecurity challenge to the applicable standards and best practices described
 177 in the Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity (CSF) and other
 178 NIST activities. This exercise is meant to demonstrate the real-world applicability of
 179 standards and best practices but does not imply that products with these characteristics
 180 will meet your industry's requirements for regulatory approval or accreditation.

181 **Table 1: Security Control Map**

Requirement	NIST CSF Category	Informative References
Automatic screen and application locking of an in-vehicle system when officer exits vehicle	PR.AC-2 PR.PT-4 RS.RP-1 RC.RP-1 DE.CM-3	<p>COBIT 5 APO13.01, BAI01.10, DSS01.04, DSS02.05, DSS03.04, DSS05.05, DSS05.02</p> <p>ISA 62443-2-1:2009 4.3.3.3.2, 4.3.3.3.8, 4.3.4.5.1, SR 3.1, SR 3.5, SR 3.8, SR 4.1, SR 4.3, SR 5.1, SR 5.2, SR 5.3, SR 6.2, SR 7.1, SR 7.6,</p> <p>ISA 62443-3-3:2013 A.1, A.11.1.1, A.11.1.2, A.11.1.4, A.11.1.6, A.12.4.1, A.13.1.1, A.13.2.1 1.2.3, A.16.1.5</p> <p>NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 AC-2, AC-4, AC-17, AC-18, AU-12, AU-13, CA-7, CM-10, CM-11, CP-2, CP-8, CP-10, IR-4, IR-8, PE-2, PE-3, PE-4, PE-5, PE-6, PE-9, SC-7</p> <p>CCS CSC 7, 8, 18</p>
Minimal interaction for rapid session restoration	PR.AC-1 PR.AC-2 PR.AC-3 PR.PT-4 RS.RP-1 RC.RP-1	<p>COBIT 5 APO13.01, DSS01.04, DSS05.03, DSS05.04, DSS05.05, DSS06.03</p> <p>ISA 62443-2-1:2009 4.3.3.3.2, 4.3.3.3.8, 4.3.3.5.1, 4.3.3.6.6</p> <p>ISO/IEC 27001:2013 A.6.2.2, A.9.2.1, A.9.2.2, A.9.2.4, A.9.3.1, A.9.4.2, A.9.4.3, A.11.1.1, A.11.1.2, A.11.1.4, A.11.1.6, A.11.2.3, A.13.1.1, A.13.2.1</p>

		NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 CCS CSC ISA 62443-3-3:2013	AC-2, AC-17, AC-19, AC-20, PE-2, PE-3, PE-4, PE-5, PE-6, PE-9 16 SR 1.13, SR 2.6
RSO tools integration to provide a single set of credentials for multiple applications	ID.GV-1 PR.AC-1 PR.AC-3	COBIT 5 ISA 62443-2-1:2009 ISA 62443-3-3:2013 ISO/IEC 27001:2013 NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 CCS CSC ISA 62443-3-3:2013	APO01.03, APO13.01, DSS01.04, DSS05.03, EDM01.01, EDM01.02, 4.3.2.6, 4.3.3.5.1, 4.3.3.6.6 SR 1.1, SR 1.2, SR 1.3, SR 1.4, SR 1.5, SR 1.7, SR 1.8, SR 1.9, SR 1.13, SR 2.6 A.5.1.1, SR 1.1, SR 1.2, SR 1.3, SR 1.4, SR 1.5, SR 1.7, SR 1.8, SR 1.9, A.6.2.2, A.13.1.1, A.13.2.1 controls from all families 16 SR 1.1, SR 1.2, SR 1.3, SR 1.4, SR 1.5, SR 1.7, SR 1.8, SR 1.9
FIPS 201 Personal Identity Verification compliant token to provide strong, standards-based identity verification and authentication to enable secured access to applications	PR.AC-1 PR.AC-2 PR.AC-4 PR.DS-6	COBIT 5 ISA 62443-2-1:2009 ISO/IEC 27001:2013 NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 CCS CSC ISA 62443-3-3:2013	DSS01.04, DSS05.04, DSS05.05, DSS06.03 4.3.3.3.2, 4.3.3.3.8, 4.3.3.7.3, 4.3.3.5.1, A.6.1.2, A.9.1.2, A.9.2.1, A.9.2.2, A.9.2.3, A.9.2.4, A.9.3.1, A.9.4.1, A.9.4.2, A.9.4.3, A.9.4.4, A.11.1.1, A.11.1.2, A.11.1.4, A.11.1.6, A.11.2.3, A.12.2.1, A.12.5.1, A.14.1.2, A.14.1.3, SR 2.1, SR 3.1, SR 3.3, SR 3.4, SR 3.8 AC-2, AC-3, AC-5, AC-6, AC-16, IA Family, PE-2, PE-3, PE-4, PE-5, PE-6, PE-9, SI-7 12, 15, 16 SR 1.1, SR 1.2, SR 1.3, SR 1.4, SR 1.5, SR 1.7, SR 1.8, SR 1.9, SR 2.1, SR 3.1, SR 3.3, SR 3.4, SR 3.8

Authenticate quickly and safely while the vehicle is in motion	PR.AC-1 PR.AC-2 PR.AC-4	COBIT 5 ISA 62443-2-1:2009 ISO/IEC 27001:2013 NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 CCS CSC ISA 62443-3-3:2013	DSS01.04, DSS05.04, DSS05.05, DSS06.03 4.3.3.3.2, 4.3.3.3.8, 4.3.3.5.1 A.9.2.1, A.9.2.2, A.9.2.4, A.9.3.1, A.9.4.2, A.9.4.3, A.11.1.1, A.11.1.2, A.11.1.4, A.11.1.6, A.11.2.3 AC-2, IA Family, PE-2, PE-3, PE-4, PE-5, PE-6, PE-9 16 SR 1.1, SR 1.2, SR 1.3, SR 1.4, SR 1.5, SR 1.7, SR 1.8, SR 1.9
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183 **APPENDIX A - ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

FIDO	Fast IDentity Online
FIPS	Federal Information Processing Standards
LEO	Law Enforcement Organizations
LEV	Law Enforcement Vehicle
NCCoE	National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
OASIS	Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards
PIV	Personal Identity Verification
RSO	Reduced Sign-on
SAML	Security Assertion Markup Language
U2F	Universal Second Factor
UAF	Universal Authentication Framework
UMA	User Managed Access
XACML	eXtensible Access Control Markup Language

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185 **APPENDIX B - GLOSSARY**

Backwards-compatible	able to be used with an older piece of hardware or software without special adaptation or modification
Datalink	an electronic connection for the exchange of information
Derived PIV Credential	an X.509 derived PIV authentication certificate, which is issued in accordance with the requirements specified in this document where the PIV authentication certificate on the applicant's PIV card serves as the original credential. The derived PIV credential is an additional common identity credential under HSPD-12 and FIPS 201 that is issued by a federal department or agency and used with mobile devices
Legacy System	an old method, technology, computer system, or application program

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