Challenge & Response within E-Authentication Framework

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The BCG Matrix: An Example of The Elegance of Simplicity



E-Authentication Document Framework

OMB E-Authentication Guidance 12/16/03 NIST SP 800-60 Vol 1 & 2

FIPS 199

Sets framework for authentication levels 1 through 4 Provides guidance for setting security and authentication level requirements for agency systems & applications Provides guidance for technical implementation of e-authentication guidance

NIST SP 800-63















Issues Surrounding Information Used in Identity Proofing

- Types of Information
- Characteristics of Information
- Availability/Visibility of Information
- Sources of Information
- Percent Coverage
- Cost of Information

Types of Information

- Family
- Physical
- Education Background
- Financial
- Employment
- Health
- Psycho-graphic

Characteristics of Information

- Static Information
 - Place of Birth
 - Date of Birth
 - Education
 - Blood Type
 - Military Service
 - Mother's Maiden
 Name

- Dynamic Information
 - Marital Status
 - Employer
 - Job Title
 - Address
 - Telephone Number

Availability of Information

- General Availability
- Degree of Aggregation
- Discoverability
- Privacy Constraints
- Accuracy

Cost of Information

- Aggregators Supply Raw Material to Most Authentication Schemes
- Aggregators will be Low Cost Producers and Set Pricing Models for Industry

Challenge Response Issues

- Types of Questions
- How Many Questions
- Range of Tolerances
- Benefits of Time Limits
- Need for Archiving

Types of Questions

- Mix of Static and Dynamic Facts
- Claimant May Not Have to Know the Answers
- At the End of the Day, All Answers Probably Discoverable
- Security Comes from Randomness

How Many Questions

- Ying and Yang of Security vs. Usability
- 3 to 5 Questions Probably Max if User to be Willing Participate

Range of Tolerances

- Wrong May not be All Bad
- Ill Prepared Claimant May be Reasonably within the Ballpark
- Case Can be Made for Well Prepared Attacker Getting All Right

Benefits of Archiving Results

- Avoids Duplication and/or Learning
- Cost/Benefit Analysis Needed
- May be Security Requirement

Scoring Issues

- Probalistic Models
- Often Geared to Organizations "Unique" Customer Base
- Require Large Number of Historical Transactions
- Base Upon Acceptance of: "You Can't Get it All Right, All the Time."

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For Additional Information, Arguments, or Debates

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