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Government Smart Card Smart Card Standards and the Government Smart Card Interoperability Specification (GSC-IS)

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GSC-IS Goals

- Government Smart Card Interoperability Specification (GSC-IS)
 - Provides a standard, high level smart card services interface for applications
 - Card vendor neutral
 - Works with any reader driver layer

GSC-IS Components

- Card Edge Interface (CEI)
 - Card Capabilities Container (CCC)
 - Data Models
 - Mandatory Data Elements
- Basic Services Interface (BSI)
- Extended Services Interface (XSI)

Card Edge Interface (CEI)

- Default set of interoperable commands at card level layer (APDUs)
 - Abstracts differences between heterogeneous card-level command sets
- Card Capabilities Container(CCC)
 - Maps differences from GSC-IS CEI
 - Grammar' that maps card native APDU set to CEI
- Data Models (GSC-IS Appendix C)
 - GSC-IS Model
 - DoD Common Access Card

Card Edge Interface (CEI) con't.

Mandatory data elements

- General information: FN, MI, LN, Suffix, Gov't Agency, Error Detection Code (EDC)
- Access control: PIN, EDC
- Card information: Issue Date, Expiration Date, EDC
- Bottom Line: "Any card, Any reader"
 - Card A and Card B using GSC-IS CEI can work on same or different SPMs

Basic Service Interface (BSI)

- Provides services needed by client applications
 Accomplished with 21 BSI functions
 - 3 categories
 - Utility: establishes physical environment
 - General Container: provides for data manipulation
 - Cryptographic: key discovery mechanisms, authentication
 - Must implement all 21 functions to be GSC-IS conformant
- BSI provides interoperability at the client layer and across clients ... not trivial

Extended Services Interface (XSI)

- Augments BSI: BSI is not 'operational' interface
- XSI supports application specification requirements
- GSC-IS architecture accommodates XSI but goes no further...to do so breaks the GSC-IS architectural model and interoperability

What doesn't the GSC-IS provide???

- Interoperability not addressed for:
 - Smart card initialization
 - Cryptographic Key Management
 - Communication between card and CADs
- Other
 - Proximity and contactless cards
 - Biometrics: mechanism provided for storing template
- It isn't perfect ... but it's a start ...

Who's using the GSC-IS?

Federal Agencies

- DoT, DoD*, Treasury Dept
- FAA, GSA, VA
- Interest from:
 - Air Line Pilots Association
 - American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA)

Where to next?

- Implementation guidelines
- Security testing and certification
- ISO standard, international collaboration
- SDKs and workshops
- Next version....

Smart Card Alliance Abstract (Feb 2002)

"The release of the Government Smart Card Interoperability Specification is a significant event in the smart card world as it is the first comprehensive effort to address the interoperability requirements of the enterprise market.

It will become as important as Europay/Mastercard/Visa (EMV) specification is to the Payment market and Global System Mobile (GSM) specification is to the mobile telephony market. "

http://www.smartcardalliance.org/alliance_activities/dsi_resources.htm

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NST National Institute of Standards and Technology • Technology Administration • U.S. Department of Commerce

Additional Information

GSC-IS Architectural Overview

Client Applications

Basic Services Interface Extended Services Interface

Service Provider Software

Reader Driver Layer*

Smart Card	Data Model 🗆	Card Capabilities Container

* GSC-IS does not specify a particular reader driver layer, can use PC/SC, OCF, proprietary, etc.

Background

- GSA awarded smart card contract May 2000
 - Five Primes (EDS, KPMG, Litton-PRC, Logicon, Maximus)
 - Base yr + 9 option years
- Post award requirement: Development of Government Smart Card Interoperability Specification (GSC-IS):
 - Collaborative effort with Federal agencies and Industry, led by GSA and NIST
 - DoD major contributor