The Emerging Public Key Infrastructure: Standards and Trends

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Public-key cryptography is at the heart of nearly every security architecture being discussed. Organizations are betting a great deal of their future on this technology as the cornerstone of their security strategy. However, there is much work to be done before this technology becomes widely deployed.

This panel will focus on the infrastructure required to support public-key certificates. For the novice, this will provide an overview of the current PKI landscape, as well as the components of a complete public-key infrastructure. For the sophisticated listener, this panel will discuss real-world issues with deploying a number of the components of the infrastructure, including certificate directories, revocation issues, application integration, and key management.

Mr. Anish Bhimani will provide a general discussion of issues related to publickey deployment. Mr. David Solo will then follow and focus on issues related to revocation and validation of certificates as a method of authentication. Mr. Charles Blauner will then discuss a number of efforts to define architecture and APIs for the deployment of public-key infrastructures.

Topics for this session include:

- An overview of the PKI landscape: What are we getting ourselves into?
- Tackling the revocation issue
- Deploying widespread key management
- Integrating with existing applications
- Experiences in deploying root-level certificate authorities
- Future directions in the industry