

Alternative usage of PKI devices

HACKTIVITY

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Backgrounds

We are working with **smart cards**, **cryptography tools** since 1993. Why are these hot topics in Hungary **nowadays**?

- **new** (simplified) regulation for **digital signatures** in Hungarian e-government

using software tokens with qualified certificates (**PKCS#12: .p12/.pfx files**) for creating advanced electronic signatures

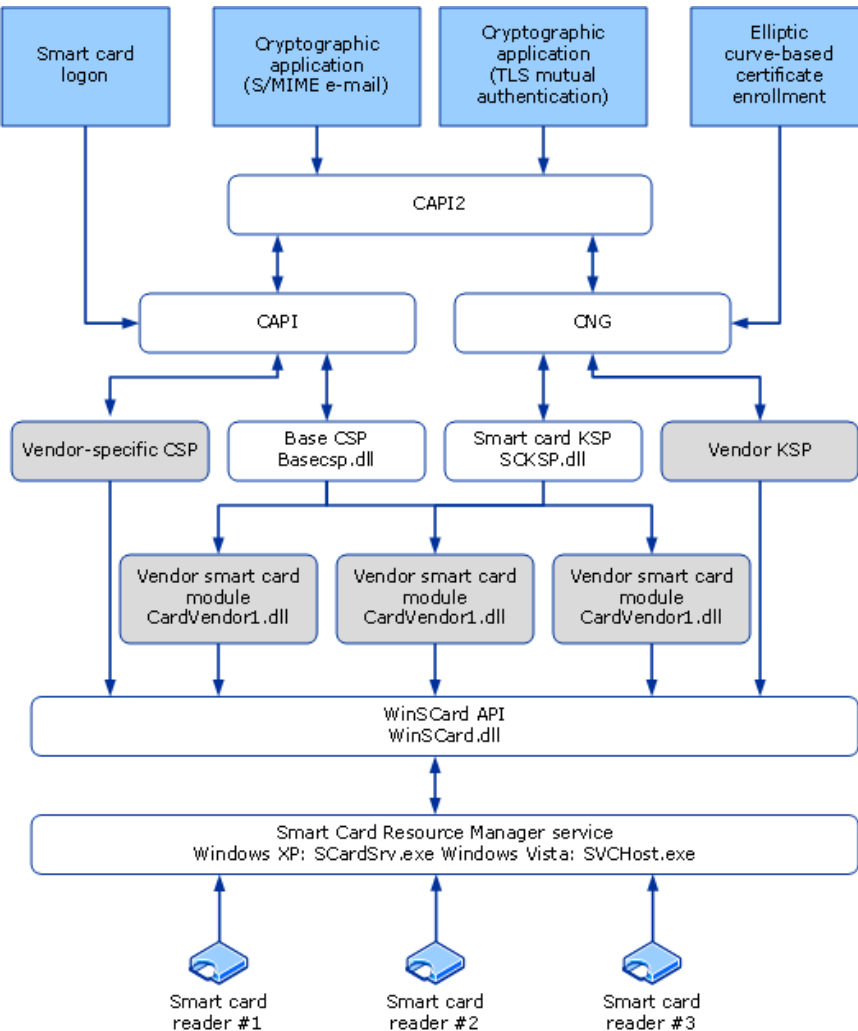
(see: Governmental Decree No. **78/2010**. (III. 25.) Section 5. (2))

- **new contactless cards** for students, mass transit and e-government

some of them contains **PKI** (e.g.: **SmartMX**)



Backgrounds



API (Application Programming Interface):
high-level interface for developers
e.g. CryptSignHash(), CryptSignMessage()
(MS CryptoAPI, CNG, PKCS#11)

**CSP (Cryptographic Service Provider),
KSP (Key Storage Provider):**
HW and SW token driver from vendor
e.g. addressing private keys and key slots
(Gemalto, Oberthur, G&D)

APDU (Application Programming Data Unit):
general rules for data structures
e.g. 00 B0 00 00 FF
(ISO/IEC 7816-4 APDUs or pseudo-APDUs)

HW token reader:
WinSCard.dll: selects remote or local service
SCardSrv.exe: selects device and its interface
e.g. native interface of registered devices
(PC/SC interface is common)

source: [microsoft.com](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb905527.aspx)
(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb905527.aspx>)

Windows certificate stores



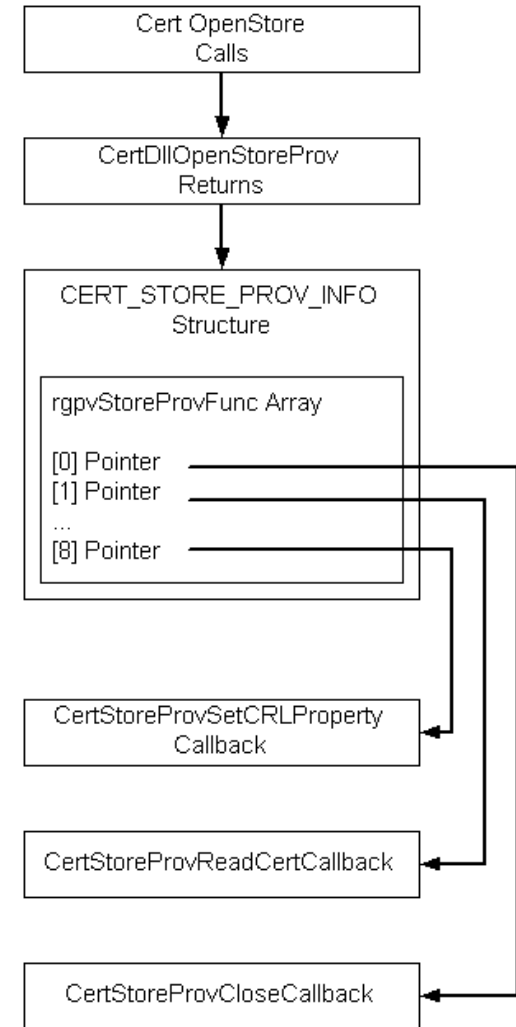
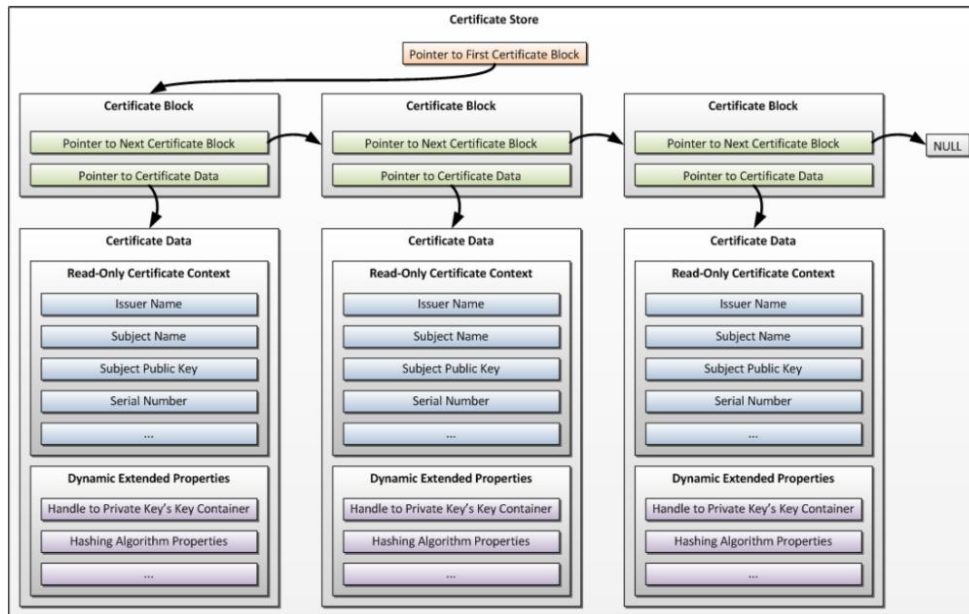
„Let’s **dump** the protected **imported private keys** from a **Windows Server!**”

Windows certificate stores

What does **Microsoft** tell us about **CertOpenStore**?

„The store provider function **copies its certificates [...]** to the in-memory store [...]. The new store provider function can use any of the **CryptoAPI [...]** functions, [...], to add its Certificates and CRLs to the in-memory store.”

... but **also copies CRYPT_EXPORTABLE flag** of private keys!!!
 ... and these flags **can be modified!!!**



source: [microsoft.com](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa382403.aspx)
 (http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa382403.aspx)

Windows certificate stores

Jason Geffner (March 18, 2011) at Black Hat Europe 2011 also talked about this issue, but his Proof-of-Concept code covered just newer operating systems:

- `ncrypt.dll` is needed

Windows Vista/7

Windows Server 2008/2008 R2



Our solution also works on other (older) operating systems as well!

- `crypt32.dll` is needed

Windows XP/Vista/7

Windows Server 2003/2003 R2/2008/2008 R2

source: [blackhat.com](https://media.blackhat.com/bh-eu-11/Jason_Geffner/BlackHat_EU_2011_Geffner_Exporting_RSA_Keys-WP.pdf)
 (https://media.blackhat.com/bh-eu-11/Jason_Geffner/BlackHat_EU_2011_Geffner_Exporting_RSA_Keys-WP.pdf)

Windows certificate stores

How can our tool **export protected keys**?

- `CertOpenStore()`, `CertEnumCertificatesInStore()`

creates a **copy of certificate store** (without private keys)
makes a **list** of stored **certificates** and their properties

- `CryptAcquireContext()`, `CryptAcquireCertificatePrivateKey()`

sets **CRYPT_SILENT** or **CRYPT_ACQUIRE_SILENT_FLAG** flags

- `CryptGetUserKey()`

gets handle that manages **private key** (in a CSP) for each listed certificate


- **CRYPT_EXPORTABLE**, `CryptExportKey()`

sets **CRYPT_EXPORTABLE** flag in copy of certificate store (memory)
gets **PRIVATEKEYBLOB** from a separate store (**PKCS#12** - **.pfx/.p12** files)

Windows certificate stores

What can be the **countermeasures**?

- use HW tokens for storing private keys (if it is possible)
- do not copy CRYPT_EXPORTABLE flags (Microsoft should fix it)
- „Enable strong private key protection” of SW tokens is not enough (SILENT) use PKCS#12 (.p12/.pfx) SW tokens that really store encrypted private keys



RSA Laboratories. A Division of RSA Data Security

PKCS 12 v1.0: PERSONAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE SYNTAX

```
PFX ::= SEQUENCE {
    version      INTEGER {v3(3)}(v3,...),
    authSafe     ContentInfo,
    macData      MacData OPTIONAL
}

MacData ::= SEQUENCE {
    mac          DigestInfo,
    macSalt      OCTET STRING,
    iterations   INTEGER DEFAULT 1
    -- Note: The default is for historical reasons and its use is deprecated. A higher
    -- value, like 1024, is recommended.
}
```

Windows certificate stores



PIN/password-management



„Let’s **play with PIN/passwords** of **HW tokens!**”

PIN/password-management

What does **Microsoft** tell us about **PIN/password cache**?

„The **Base CSP** internally maintains a per-process cache of the PIN to **enable caching**. The **PIN** is stored encrypted in memory.”

source: [microsoft.com](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb905527.aspx)
(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb905527.aspx>)



CWA 14169
March 2004
Secure signature-creation devices “EAL 4+”

5.1.3.3 Timing of authentication (FIA_UAU.1)

FIA_UAU.1.1 The TSF shall [

1. Identification of the user by means of TSF required by FIA_UID.1.
2. Establishing a trusted channel between the TOE and a SSCD of type [] by means of TSF required by FTP_ITC.1/SCD import.
3. Establishing a trusted path between local user and the TOE by means of TSF required by FTP_ITP.1/TOE.
4. Establishing a trusted channel between the SCA and the TOE by means of TSF required by FTP_ITC.1/DTBS import.]

on behalf of the user to be performed before the user is authenticated.

FIA_UAU.1.2 The TSF shall require each user to be successfully authenticated before allowing any other TSF-mediated actions on behalf of that user.



... which means, that in one session the PIN/password can be cached.

... but Common Criteria EAL 4+ evaluated HW tokens have to enforce successful authentication (and user interaction) before each function call!

PIN/password cache capability depends on **CSP!**

source: [cenorm.be](ftp://ftp.cenorm.be/Public/Cwas/e-europe/esign/cwa14169-00-2004-Mar.pdf)
(<ftp://ftp.cenorm.be/Public/Cwas/e-europe/esign/cwa14169-00-2004-Mar.pdf>)

PIN/password-management



We assume that **CSPs** does not keep PIN/password in cache. Can we still **automate PIN/password** setting for each **signature** creation? What **function** shall we use?

- **CryptSetProvParam()**

The **application** can **cache** the PIN/password **and use** it in the background!

```
BOOL WINAPI CryptSetProvParam(  
    __in HCRYPTPROV hProv,  
    __in DWORD dwParam,  
    __in const BYTE *pbData,  
    __in DWORD dwFlags  
);
```

PP_KEYEXCHANGE_PIN

32 (0x20)

Specifies that the key exchange PIN is contained in *pbData*. The PIN is represented as a null-terminated ASCII string.

PP_PIN_PROMPT_STRING

44 (0x2C)

Sets an alternate prompt string to display to the user when the user's PIN is requested. The *pbData* parameter is a pointer to a null-terminated Unicode string that contains the string.

PP_SIGNATURE_PIN

33 (0x21)

Specifies that the signature PIN is contained in *pbData*. The PIN is represented as a null-terminated ASCII string.

PP_SECURE_KEYEXCHANGE_PIN

47 (0x2F)

Specifies that an encrypted key exchange PIN is contained in *pbData*. The *pbData* parameter contains a **DATA_BLOB**.

PP_SECURE_SIGNATURE_PIN

48 (0x30)

Specifies that an encrypted signature PIN is contained in *pbData*. The *pbData* parameter contains a **DATA_BLOB**.

source: [microsoft.com](http://msdn.microsoft.com)
(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa380276.aspx>)

PIN/password-management



How can our tool use PIN/password of HW tokens automatically in the background?

- `CryptAcquireContext()`

retrieves handle of CSP that contains private key of chosen certificate

- `CryptSetProvParam()`

sets given PIN/password - since `NTDDI_WINXPSP2` - (using handle of CSP) for `PP_SECURE_KEYEXCHANGE_PIN` or `PP_SECURE_SIGNATURE_PIN`

- `CryptCreateHash()`

initializes and returns handle of hash value

- `CryptHashData()`

sets data to be hashed (using handle of hash value)

- `CryptSignHash()`

creates signature




PIN/password-management

What can be the **countermeasures**?

- we **can not clearly decide** whether PIN/password cache is „**good**” or „**bad**” (e.g. imagine that someone has to sign digitally hundreds of documents a day - after visual verification of contents - using a smart card with PIN/password)

... but if you need this functionality, be sure that **either signature-creation application or CSP** manages PIN/password values in a secure way



Common Criteria

Common Methodology for Information Technology Security Evaluation Evaluation methodology July 2009

CERTIFIED

15.2.3.6 Action AVA_VAN.3-4

AVA_VAN.3-4 The evaluator ~~shall~~ *conduct* a focused search of ST, guidance documentation, functional specification, TOE design, security architecture description and implementation representation to identify possible potential vulnerabilities in the TOE.

(e.g. **source code analysis** at Common Criteria **EAL4** level or above)

source: [commoncriteriaportal.org](http://www.commoncriteriaportal.org/ccfiles/CEMV3.1R3.pdf)
(<http://www.commoncriteriaportal.org/files/ccfiles/CEMV3.1R3.pdf>)

Communication channels

„Let’s **check** the **digital signatures** of the **CSP layer!**”

Communication channels

What do we know about **secure HW tokens**?

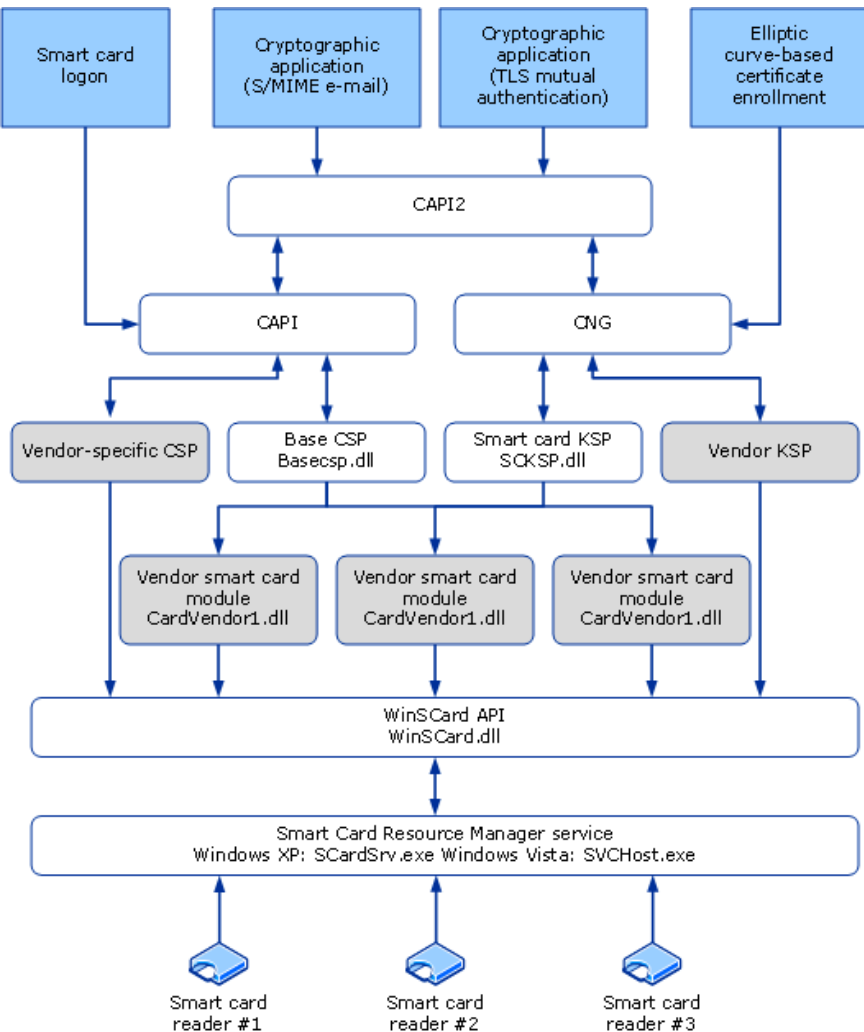
- most of them are **certified** based on FIPS or Common Criteria
 e.g. G&D SmartCafe Expert 3.2 **FIPS 140-2 level 3**, **Common Criteria EAL 5+**
 e.g. such **certification costs** about **\$250.000**
- ... but these certifications **cover just the HW tokens** themselves!
 ... in most cases they **do not tell us** anything about **running environment!**

The **CSPs are protected**: they are signed by Microsoft!

... **but** is it enough?



Communication channels



The **CSPs are protected**: they are signed by Microsoft!

„*Vendors can develop hardware or software CSPs that support a wide range of cryptographic operations and technologies. However, Microsoft must certify and digitally sign all CSPs.*”

source: microsoft.com

(<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc776447.aspx>)

CSP signature is an extra security layer on .dll files which is created by `cspSign.exe` (separately stored .sig file or embedded into resource file).

source: microsoft.com

(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb905527.aspx>)

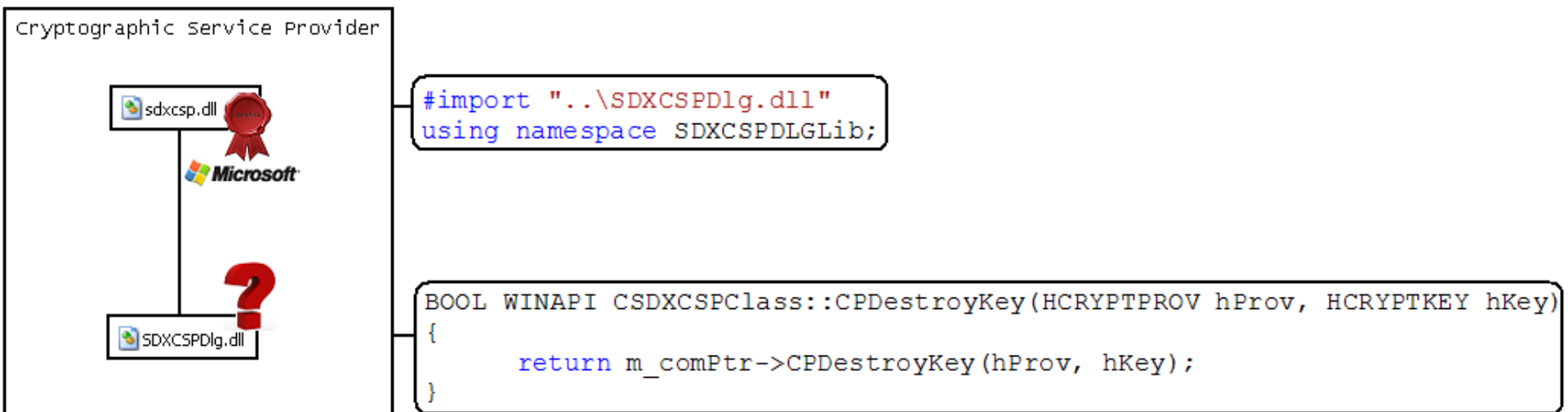
Communication channels

How can we **change** parts of a **signed CSP** in the background?

- all **.dll files** of CSP **are signed** by Microsoft, but **just registered .dll file** of CSP **is verified** by Windows!

dependency tree of **.dll files** of CSP is not checked

In our real-life experience we sent all parts (**sdxcsp.dll** and **SDXCSPDlg.dll**) of our CSP to Microsoft **to be signed**. The **sdxcsp.dll** file was set in the registry, but this file **imported also the SDXCSPDlg.dll** (in which content could be modified)!



Communication channels

What can be the **countermeasures**?

- **explicitly verify all** .dll files of CSP loaded into memory
e.g. **tools** can be used that verify **hashes** of files based on „**white lists**”
- **enforce verification** of all CSP files **by Windows** (Microsoft should fix it)

Signing CSPs

CSP Signing Process

When you have tested your CSP and it is ready to be signed by Microsoft, provide the information requested below and submit it with your CSP to cpsign@microsoft.com. Although the use of multiple DLLs is not recommended (see the section [Writing CSPs](#)), all of the DLLs associated with a CSP must be signed by Microsoft to enable the CSP to be used with the released versions of Windows XP, Windows 2000, Microsoft Windows NT™, or Microsoft Windows 95 and later.

CSPs are generally signed within one to three business days. Please note that technical questions should be sent to the [CryptoAPI discussion group](#) and not to cpsign@microsoft.com.

To comply with U.S. export regulations, Microsoft is required to report the following information to the U.S. Government biannually for each CSP it signs:

- Company name
- Complete address, including country
- Contact name
- Final name of CSP (example: Acme32.dll)
- Algorithms and key lengths
- Brief description of CSP, including any general programming interfaces and standards or protocols to which your CSP adheres

source: microsoft.com

(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms953432.aspx>)

... but at **CNG** (Cryptography API: Next Generation) where **KSPs** (Key Storage Provider) can be created, it seems, that these **rules will change!**

Communication channels

„Let’s **dump** the **communication** of **HW** tokens!”

Communication channels

The **communication channels** between HW tokens and their CSPs **should be protected...**

„*PC/SC functionality is exposed to applications via the Windows Smart Card (WinSCard) client API, implemented in **winscard.dll** and, to a lesser degree, **scarddlg.dll**. [...] Each command is sent to the card via the **WinSCard** function **SCardTransmit**.*”

source: [microsoft.com](http://msdn.microsoft.com)

(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/magazine/cc163521.aspx>)

... but **winscard.dll** can be replaced without any error!

... **communication** between CSP and smart card can be monitored!

... and in most cases these **communication channels** are not encrypted!



Communication channels

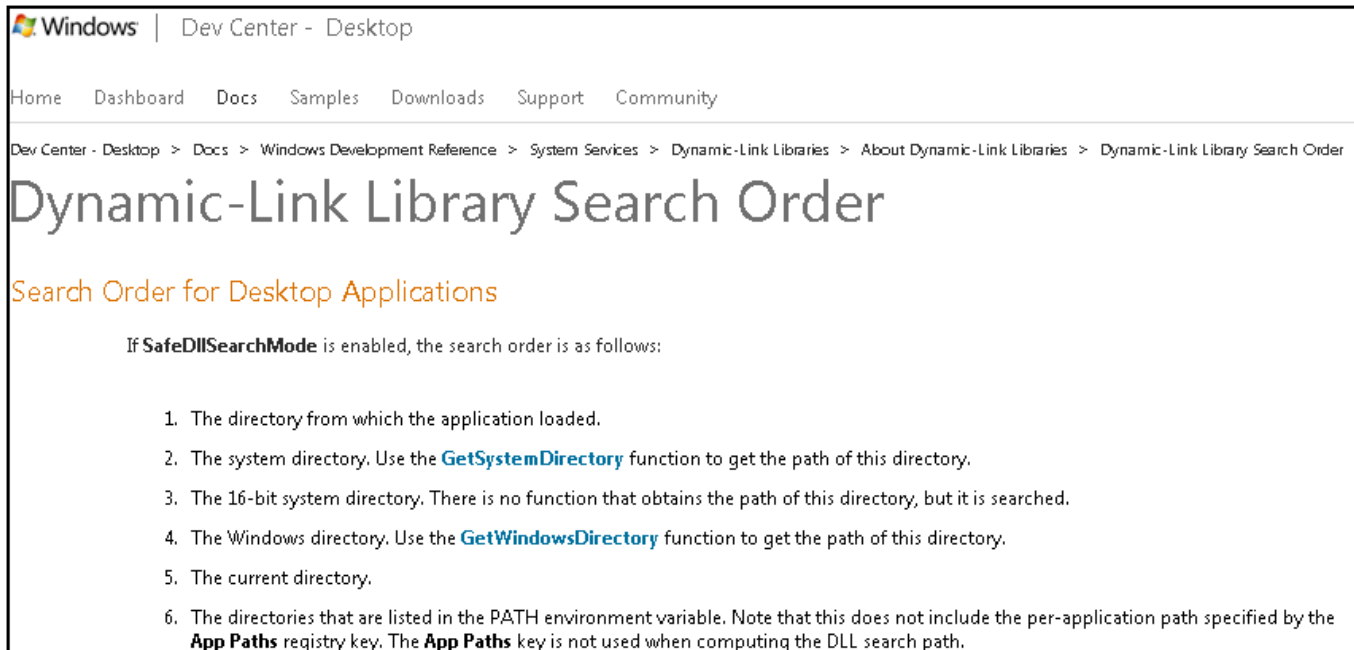
How can we **monitor communication channels** between HW tokens and their CSPs?

- create fake `winscard.dll`

works as a **proxy**, and creates **logs** (e.g. about **PIN code**)

kind of **DLL preloading attack** (see **Dynamic-Link Library Security** topic)

... even if „**SafeDllSearchMode**” **registry** is present and is set to value „**1**”!




The screenshot shows a Windows Dev Center page titled "Dynamic-Link Library Search Order". The breadcrumb trail is: Dev Center - Desktop > Docs > Windows Development Reference > System Services > Dynamic-Link Libraries > About Dynamic-Link Libraries > Dynamic-Link Library Search Order. The main heading is "Dynamic-Link Library Search Order". Below it, a sub-heading reads "Search Order for Desktop Applications". The text states: "If **SafeDllSearchMode** is enabled, the search order is as follows:" followed by a numbered list of six search paths.

1. The directory from which the application loaded.
2. The system directory. Use the `GetSystemDirectory` function to get the path of this directory.
3. The 16-bit system directory. There is no function that obtains the path of this directory, but it is searched.
4. The Windows directory. Use the `GetWindowsDirectory` function to get the path of this directory.
5. The current directory.
6. The directories that are listed in the PATH environment variable. Note that this does not include the per-application path specified by the **App Paths** registry key. The **App Paths** key is not used when computing the DLL search path.

Communication channels

What can be the countermeasures?

- be sure that encrypted APDUs (e.g. PIN codes) are sent to HW tokens



CWA 14890-1

March 2004

Application Interface for smart cards
used as Secure Signature Creation Devices
Part 1: Basic requirements

8.2.2 SCA in untrusted environment

A device authentication shall be used if the operating environment of the card cannot be entirely trusted. This can be the case in public signature terminals or other devices, that cannot provide a trusted channel.




Figure 8-4 Communication in untrusted environment

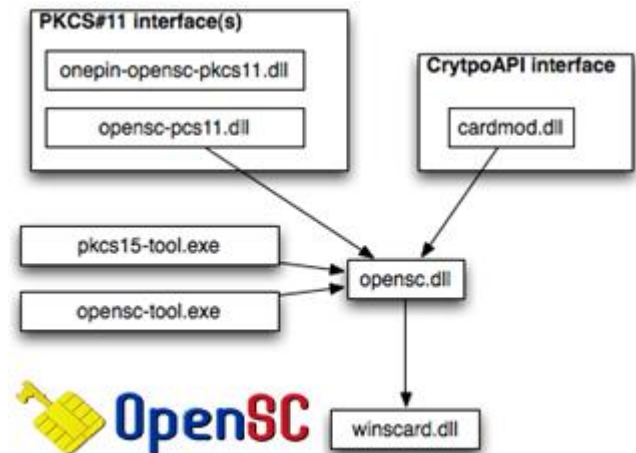
device authentication is mutual. The ICC shall authenticate the IFD and vice versa. The order of authentication, however, may differ, depending on the implemented scheme.

After successful device authentication, session keys are available on both sides to be used in subsequent transmissions. The appropriate secure messaging is in compliance with ISO/IEC 7816-4 [11] and described in 9 "Secure Messaging" on page 9-67.

Examples for an untrusted environment are

- SCA and SSCD are not at the same location, i.e. the card is remote

e.g. use eID framework or other CSPs that implement also optional parts of CEN CWA 14890 requirements (see „Secure Messaging”)



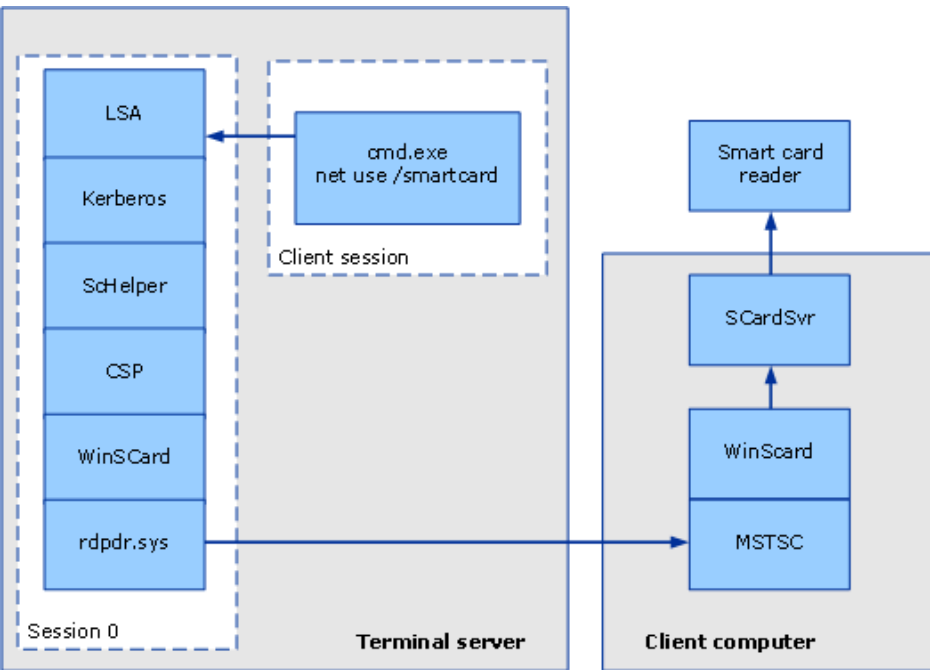
source: [opensc-project.org](http://www.opensc-project.org)
(<http://www.opensc-project.org/opensc/wiki/MiniDriver>)

source: [cenorm.be](http://ftp.cenorm.be)
(<ftp://ftp.cenorm.be/Public/Cwas/e-europe/esign/cwa14890-01-2004-Mar.pdf>)

Communication channels

„Let’s **use HW tokens remotely** without any user interaction in the **background!**”

Communication channels



The **communication channels** between HW tokens and their CSPs **should be protected...**

The **winscard.dll** is also important at forwarding communication either to **local devices** or to **remote devices** (connected in **Terminal Session**).

... but we can also **replace** original **winscard.dll** on a remote machine, and **inject APDUs** remotely!

source: microsoft.com
(<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb905527.aspx>)

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
C:\>query session /COUNTER
SESSIONNAME      USERNAME          ID  STATE  TYPE      DEVICE
>console         aron.szabo       0   Active wdcon
rdp-tcp          65536            Listen rdpwd
rdp-tcp#4        aron.szabo       1   Active rdpwd
Total sessions created: 4
Total sessions disconnected: 1
Total sessions reconnected: 2
C:\>_
```

Communication channels

How can we **execute** HW token commands **remotely**?

- locate a server which can be accessed

replace **winscard.dll** with fake one in order to log all APDU communications

- **sleep()**

wait for e.g. system administrator to **log in** to this attacked server **via RDP**

- **monitor and replay APDUs**

if the „**Smart cards**” local device **was connected** via RDP by remote user ...

if the **HW token** of remote user was **in the reader**...

if the **HW token** was **used** during this RDP session by remote user ...

then we **get APDUs** (including **PIN/password**)!

then we **can replay** these **APDUs** whenever this RDP session exists!

then we **can create digital signatures remotely in the background!**

Communication channels

What can be the **countermeasures**?

- if you need to administer another computer remotely, **do not use RDP**
- if you use RDP, **do not connect** „Smart cards” local devices
- if you connect „Smart cards” local devices, **do not leave** your **HW token** in the reader or in the USB port



Communication channels



Thank you!

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