

Windows PKI

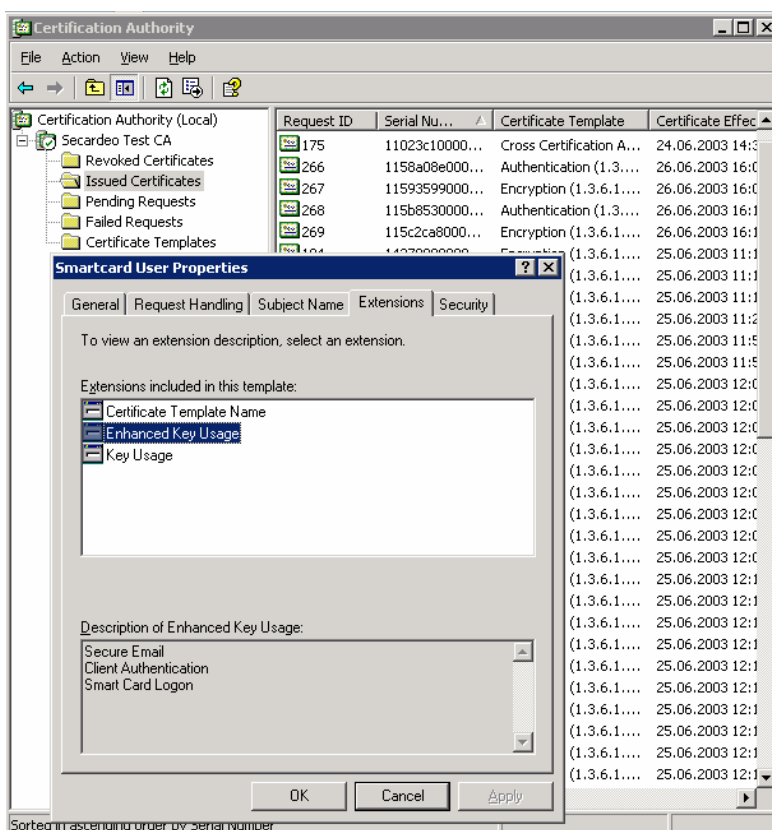
What is PKI?

A Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) provides keys, certificates and other services, which make efficient and reliable security management possible. Nowadays, with digital identities (certificates) it is possible for a lot of applications to be secured on a very high level. The digital certificates of a PKI can be used for secure e-mail, web-security, windows smartcard-Logon, VPN, encryption of file systems or documents as well as digital signatures.

Where is the benefit?

PKI makes the application of cryptographic security measures in large companies feasible. Through this the security level can be increased significantly. Problems with forgotten or cracked passwords and expenses for helpdesks as well as for identity management can be minimized by using a PKI. Access to confidential information can be controlled, even if sensitive parts of a company are outsourced. Only a PKI allows you to fully utilize digital signatures and the related wide range of possibilities for automation. PKI offers

- High security
- common basis for security applications
- efficient identity management
- increased user comfort and
- cost reduction for administration and helpdesk.

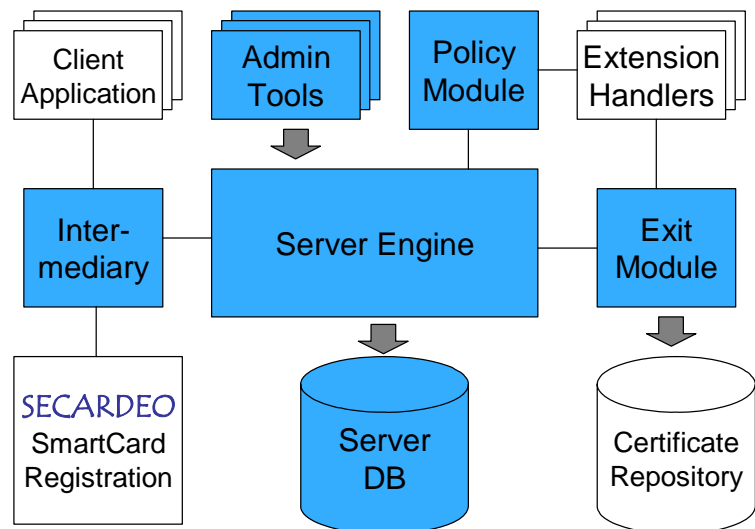


Why Windows PKI?

The basis for a Windows PKI is already present in Windows Server 2003 and its Certificate Services. In terms of functionality, security and compatibility to open standards, this product is equal to much more expensive products by notable security-companies. According to the META Group, Microsoft is going to play a dominant role in PKIs, especially within companies. In pure Windows infrastructures, the Certificate Services are able to fully utilize their advantages as Enterprise CA; but also in heterogeneous environments the support for products from other manufacturers like Netscape, Adobe or Cisco is very good. Microsoft already implemented several interfaces for extensions and company specific modifications. For customers who don't trust the Windows-internal key generator, it is possible to use hardware like smartcards or hardware security modules instead.

What does the Windows PKI offer?

The Windows PKI supports important PKI-standards like X.509 and PKCS. The Windows PKI is capable of mapping different trust models. By using certificate-templates it is possible to flexibly develop certificate profiles for different requirements. Revocation lists and delta-revocation-lists allow verification of the validity of a certificate. There are two preconfigured Policy-Modules for operating as stand alone or Enterprise CA. The later is able to use Auto-Enrollment to almost automatically supply a Windows infrastructure with certificates. Smartcards are also supported, but only for authentication purposes. For high requirements concerning user registration and linking of external certificate directories as well as extended smartcard support it's possible to integrate user specific policy- and exit-modules or intermediaries. For this Secardeo offers standard add-ons like the smartcard registration for encryption and authentication keys.



How can we support you?

The introduction of a PKI is done in several project stages. Technical, organizational and sometimes also legal issues have to be resolved. With a Windows 2003 Certificate Server and our support you'll have a usable PKI within a few weeks. SECARDEO helps you by

- Information transfer by means of in-house seminars and workshops,
- Developing a technical and organizational PKI-concept,
- Installing, configuring and deploying a Windows CA,
- Generating reliable CA keys using add-on hardware,
- Integrating Secardeo add-ons to enhance smartcard support,
- Developing specific Policy/Exit Modules for directory linking,
- Realizing intermediaries for optimization of registration processes,
- Linking of existing applications and systems,
- Piloting and supporting you during rollout.

Do you need further information?

If you wish further information, please contact

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