A Panel on…

GETTING STARTED WITH DIGITAL CERTIFICATES: IS PKI-LITE REAL?
CNI Spring Task Force Meeting
April 15, 2002

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Knowing when and how to get started with digital certificates can be really
confusing.   This panel clarifies what PKI-Lite is and how these campuses are
using digital certificates on campus today and what they are planning for the
future.   PKI-Lite leverages existing campus practices to make the technology
more accessible to campuses.   CREN supports campuses in learning about PKI
and getting started with digital certificates on campus.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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MIT began using client X509 certificates for authentication in the fall of 1996.
Beginning then and since, all students use certificates to register for classes.
MIT people get their certificate by authenticating with their Kerberos userid and
password. Shortly after the registration application was deployed, we used
certificates for some web financial transactions as well as some purchasing
applications.   Now we have many enterprise applications deployed using
certificates.   These include student access to grades and financial aid
information as well as the employee benefits renewal process and many
purchasing applications.   MIT people can also leverage certificates to publish on
the web to MIT only or to a subset of people at MIT. This summer we will issue
certificates to students before they come to campus. They will use certificates
to enter the housing lottery, purchase computer equipment, and access the
student system to check such information as SAT scores, AP credit
awards/scores, and advanced standing.   In addition this summer we will migrate
our certificate infrastructure to a MIT CA issuing certificates with a CREN root.
Then we will use our production system to participate in the JSTOR pilot
sponsored by CREN.

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
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Dartmouth College, together with its Institute for Security Technology Studies (http://www.ists.dartmouth.edu/), one of the two I2 "PKILabs" (http://www.dartmouth.edu/-pkilab/), and in particular through support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is conducting research and deploying various developments in cyber-security. This work includes participation in the NIH-HEBCA pilot, participating in the CREN JSTOR project as well as conducting relevant deployments (web resource access, Digital Rights Management), co-leading the Internet2 S/MIME PILOT, workflow analysis via attribute certificates, setting up a "Trusted Third Party" test infrastructure, and conducting end-user studies. Currently at Dartmouth an Entrust based small-scale (about 100 users) PKI is used for payroll authorizations. Dartmouth will create at least one local CA using the CREN CA as a root. For this panel, Larry Levine will offer a very fast review of work to enable web-based enrollment in a local CA and possible use of such certificates with JSTOR.

THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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The Georgia Institute of Technology is on the near edge of having active certificate authority services. The GT-PKI lead, John Douglass (john.douglass@oit.gatech.edu) is developing an open source based Certificate Authority dubbed "Papyrus." We have our signed Institutional certificates based on the CREN Root and will be issuing authentication certificates and server certificates based upon this chain initially. Applications that GT is looking at utilizing certificates for include wireless and internal/external web services (JSTOR, library resources) that require authentication based upon IP address in order to access currently.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

JSTOR: And their work with and acceptance of digital certificates, please see Spencer Thomas of JSTOR. He is present in the audience and at Spencer W. Thomas <spencer@umich.edu> .

CREN and PKI-Lite and Digital Certificates   :   Start at the following sites and contact Judith Boettcher at jboettch@cren.net.
www.cren.net
www.cren.net/crenca