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Mobile Authentication – It's more than just a mobile token!

Thales and Salt Group expand SafeSign's mobile authentication offerings.

The expansion of the SafeSign's Salt Mobile authentication offering is further recognition of Salt Group and Thales collaborating to support secure mobile applications, particularly targeted for secure mobile banking applications.

Mobile phones are undergoing a significant evolution moving them from simple communications devices into multi-purpose devices.

Increasingly mobile phones are also the portal to banking and other valuable, sensitive services. There are several vendors offering mobile authentication and banking products but many are simply trying to reinvent the token business model or obscure the needs for improved security.

Thales and Salt Group have approached the challenge of using mobile devices for valuable and sensitive transactions from a dynamically different and more security conscious position.

SafeSign's integration of Salt Mobile authentication offers mobile applications with strong authentication solutions, covering a wide range of risk profiles, user experiences and phone platforms.

The solution is independent of mobile handset type, network technology and network provider. It addresses both the identity authentication and transaction integrity of online banking and government applications.

We have implemented contemporary algorithms and key management practices, focusing on high assurance provisioning and management models. In addition we have developed innovative and patented models that leverage mobile platform and network capabilities. All of our efforts have been actively reviewed and tested by independent 3rd parties.

One time passwords (OTP) can be delivered to the user through the handset that, when entered into online applications, authenticate both the user and the particular banking or payment transaction.

There are three mobile authentication solutions to choose from:

- **SafeSign SMS** - a text message based authentication mechanism introducing a "second channel" to single factor authentication. SafeSign SMS provides an entry level single factor solution for transactions requiring moderate assurance levels.

Since all mobile phones can receive SMS text messages, any mobile phone can be turned into an authentication token by sending a one time password via text message to that mobile phone.

- **SafeSign & Salt mCode OTP / Challenge/Response (CR)** - a handset based authentication solution that supports both one time password (OTP) and challenge / response (CR) modes of operation. In both mCode OTP and mCode CR, the handset replaces the single purpose hardware token by delivering the same functionality through a native application residing on the mobile handset.
 mCode One Time Password (OTP) - implementing the equivalent functionality of existing security tokens onto a mobile handset through the generation of a One Time Password
 mCode Challenge / Response (CR) - implementing the equivalent functionality of existing security tokens onto a mobile handset through the generation of a "response" derived from a submitted "challenge".
- **SafeSign & Salt mSign** - This provides similar capabilities to Salt mCode but supports advanced authentication flows and achieves higher assurance levels through the concurrent use of the Internet and mobile network channels as core elements of the authentication process.
 There is no user requirement to enter any critical fields into the token and a user simply reviews the transaction information on the handset. Thereafter users can type the displayed context relevant OTP back into the browser.

Here are just a few ways that the SafeSign & Salt Mobile Authentication solution is different and more robust than many of our competitors:



What makes Safesign & Salt Mobile Authentication different?

- Both time and event based authentication codes
- Full Flexible authentication field and transaction summaries defined by the host application. Other vendors frequently impose restrictions on the number and length of fields that the application can use.

- Transaction context sensitive Signature generation and verification.
- Crypto keys are generated and stored on the client's HSM. This makes our tokens far less vulnerable to the kind of fraud that happened with RSA recently.
- Crypto keys are downloaded to users at registration time.
- PIN request is available on our tokens.
- Tokens can use a variable PIN length.
- Available on iPhone, Android, Blackberry and Java platforms.
- Available in PUSH formats.
- Available through app stores or from client hosted sites.
- Branded applications.

About Salt Group – Authentication on the move

Salt Group is an Australian IT Security company helping businesses and organisations with their electronic service delivery needs. We pay particular attention to securing internet and mobile delivery channels across a range of business sectors and application areas.

We work with financial services, large corporates and government to develop strategies and design solutions to enable businesses to better manage their risks and obligations in delivering services electronically.

For more information please visit www.saltgroup.com.au

About Thales

Thales is a global technology leader for the Defence & Security and the Aerospace & Transport markets. In 2009 the company generated revenues of €12.9 billion, with 68,000 employees in 50 countries. With its 22,500 engineers and researchers Thales has a unique capability to design, develop and deploy equipment, systems and services that meet the most complex security requirements.

Thales has an exceptional international footprint, with operations around the world working with customers as local partners.

For more information about Thales please visit www.thalesgroup.com

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