A Method for Remote Initial Vetting of Identity with PKI Credential

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Outline

• Introduction
• Objects and Issues
• Proposal
• Discussions
• Related Works
• Summary
Introduction

• Background
  – With the growth of large-scale distributed computing infrastructures, a system that enables researchers to use high performance computing resources in such infrastructures has been established.
  – It is tough to carry out initial vetting of identity based on a face-to-face meeting at a window for the system if the researcher whose proposal is accepted lives in a foreign country.
    • Anyone can apply a research project proposal to HPCI in Japan.
    • HPCI needs to vet the identity of foreign user based on a face-to-face meeting if their proposal is accepted.
Introduction (cont’d)

• Guiding question
  – How does the system vet the identity of user who cannot come to a window for the system?
  – It is an important issue to establish a remote initial identification procedure.

• Importance of the research
  – We propose a method for remote initial vetting of identity with PKI credential.
Initial F2F Identity Vetting

• The aim of identity vetting is to check identity data against photo-ID and/or valid official documents.

- Identifier: HPCI543210
- Surname: SAKANE
- Given name: Eisaku
- Affiliation: National Institute of Informatics
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Basic Idea

• A trust federation is composed of IdPs and SPs.
  – Each IdP in the trust federation ensures the same level of identity vetting.

• Abandoning an attempt for the system itself to vet the identity of an applicant.

• Instead, using a credential generated by the identity data already confirmed based on a equal identity vetting.
Basic Idea (cont’d)

IdM (B)

an equal identity vetting

an applicant

IdM (A)

the identity vetting

cannot directly vet the identity of applicant
Proposed Process with PKI Credential

1. Challenge response with PKI credential

2. Inquiry about the applicant
1.1. IdM relies on CA that ensures the same level of identity assurance. Also CA consents to reply to an inquiry from IdM.

1.2. IdM does a challenge response to an applicant.

1.3. IdM obtains the subject DN of the applicant.
Inquiry about the Applicant

2.1. IdM makes inquiry about the applicant information such as full name, affiliation.
2.2. CA notifies the applicant of the inquiry from the IdM.
2.3. CA replies to the inquiry.
2.4. IdM can check the identity data against the information provided by CA.
Discussion

• Why is the inquiry about the applicant needed?
  – Necessary information cannot always be read from the subject DN.
  – Even if necessary information used in checking can be read from the subject DN, CA should notify the inquiry from the IdM and confirm that the inquiry is valid in the identity vetting by the IdM because the applicant is not in the presence of the personnel of the IdM.

• Can existing credentials be used for authentication in accessing services such as HPC resources?
  – The proposed method is for initial vetting of identity.
  – Whether the credential used in the initial vetting of identity can be used for authentication in services is different problem.
Generalization

1. Presenting *some* credential

2. Inquiry about the applicant

Trusted Third Party (CA, IdP, ...)

IdM

identity vetting based on an LoA

an applicant
Related Works

• Video-supported identity vetting guidelines
  – http://wiki.eugridpma.org/Main/VettingModelGuidelines
  – implement a remote identity vetting process with a video conference between an applicant and a verifier.

• Policy harmonisation by AARC
  – https://aarc-project.eu/workpackages/policy-harmonisation/
Video-supported Identity Vetting

an applicant

video-supported identity vetting

IdM
Summary

• We considered a method for remote initial vetting of identity.
• We proposed a process for remote initial vetting of identity with a PKI credential among an applicant, an IdM, and a CA that issued the certificate to the applicant:
  – Challenge response between the applicant and the IdM with the PKI credential
  – Process between the IdM and the CA

• We will evaluate the proposed method and discuss application to the identity vetting process in HPCI.