CASE STUDY

Creating A Custom Inbound And Outbound Email Decryption Solution For A Federal SSP

Empowering efficient, OMB M-19-17-compliant email decryption in support of eDiscovery and FOIA requests
The Challenge

In May of 2019, the Executive Office of the President: Office of Management and Budget released its OMB M-19-17 memo, which requires federal agencies to use PIV credentials to encrypt information shared between federal employees or contractors. In order for affected agencies and departments to comply with this mandate, they needed software capable of providing automated data decrypting that maintained compliance with stringent security policies.

What’s more, the agency wanted to secure sensitive electronic communications by leveraging their existing PIV PKI to support email encryption. However, at the time this agency was looking for a solution, there were few options available due to the requirement for compliance with Federal PKI program policies as well as FIPS 140-2 Level 3 for secure handling of cryptographic keys.
The barrier to complying with OMB M-19-17 was having a data decryption solution in place that met federally mandated security measures. Looking to the existing marketplace, the agency quickly learned that its options were limited. Despite an intensive search, only one commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) software solution could be identified: DecryptNaBox.

DecryptNaBox is the only COTS software that can perform the decryption of data using automated methods of processing PKI keys that meet the requirements of the Federal PKI program policies, as well as FIPS 140-2 Level 3 for secure key handling.

While DecryptNaBox served as the platform, Zeva provided a comprehensive decryption solution which employs a multi-party control workflow engine allowing departments to build procedures around securing and facilitating third party data recovery. Users interface with the solution through a custom application called DataDecrypt on their desktop. All appropriate agency users are grouped according to role and matched to a departmentally approved workflow. It is then managed & monitored by Trusted Role administrators.

The agency was able to utilize its existing infrastructure and resolve the issues inherent with email encryption. This resulted in a higher return on investment for the licensing fees and costs associated with using PIV PKI.

Sam Andoni - CEO of Zeva Holdings

As the only COTS decryption product available that met the high security requirements required for federal agencies, DecryptNaBox was the clear choice for the platform.
As a result of the hosted DecryptNaBox solution being implemented and hosted by Zeva Inc., the agency gained a strong disaster recovery capability that included four points of redundancy.

Furthermore, the previously paper-based process of requesting access to encrypted keys is now a fully automated digital workflow—a truly scalable enterprise-grade bulk decryption email solution that’s also mobile friendly. “The ability to securely access email using multiple devices while remaining compliant with federal policy was a critical factor that led to the agency choosing the DecryptNaBox platform,” concludes Andoni.

WITH THE HOSTED DECRYPTNABOX SOLUTION, THE AGENCY IS NOW FULLY PREPARED TO ENABLE PIV CARD ENCRYPTION AND MOVE INTO COMPLIANCE WITH OMB M-19-17.
About Zeva, Inc.

15 years of Public Key Enablement (PKE), Identity, Credentialing and Access Management (ICAM) excellence. Throughout the years Zeva has been solving the most complex identity and encryption challenges for federal government and corporations around the globe.

Zeva Incorporated, a Zeva Holdings company, helps clients around the globe strengthen their security posture with tailored services. Founded in 2005, in Virginia, USA; Zeva Inc. is a CMMI Level 3, Woman-Owned Small Business. Zeva develops and licenses commercial off the shelf (COTS) products that address the PKI enablement needs of highly regulated agencies. Demonstrating its market dominance, Zeva holds multiple patents for encryption and decryption technologies.

LEARN MORE

Delivering custom email decryption solutions to meet the needs of highly regulated federal agencies is Zeva Inc.’s forte. To learn how we can support your agency to achieve compliance with NIST recommendations, the OMB M-19-17 mandate, or to discover how Zeva can enable encryption between agencies, contact us for a free consultation.