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Information technology — Security techniques — Encryption algorithms —

Part 5: Identity-based ciphers

Technologies de l'information — Techniques de sécurité — Algorithmes de chiffrement —

Partie 5: Chiffrements identitaires

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: Foreword — Supplementary information.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, SC 27, *IT Security techniques*.

ISO/IEC 18033 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Security techniques — Encryption algorithms*:

— *Part 1: General*

— *Part 2: Asymmetric ciphers*

— *Part 3: Block ciphers*

— *Part 4: Stream ciphers*

— *Part 5: Identity-based ciphers*

Further parts may follow.

Annex A forms a normative part of this part of ISO/IEC 18033. Annex B, Annex C and Annex D are informative only.

Introduction

Use of a public key encryption mechanism requires reliable identification of the correct public key to be used for encryption. A public key infrastructure (PKI) provides functions to give a trusted link between an entity and to enable the current status of the public key to be determined. In a PKI, a certification authority (CA) issues a certificate binding a public key to the owner's identifier together with other key specific information, e.g. the validity period. If a public key is deemed to be invalid before its expiry date, then potential users of the public key need to be notified, e.g. by the issue of a CA-signed Certificate Revocation List (CRL). The generation and distribution of certificates and CRLs poses a major management problem, which the mechanisms in this part of ISO/IEC 18033 are designed to address. On encrypting, an encryptor first obtains the CRL and checks the current status of the certificate. Then the encryptor verifies the certificate, and finally encrypts a message. Therefore, the encryptor has to be provided with some means of accessing the current CRL, and additionally it should not require excessive time and computational resources for checking the validity of a certificate whenever it encrypts a message.

Identity-based encryption (IBE) is a type of asymmetric encryption that allows a decryptor to set its public key to an arbitrary string. By setting the public key to an easily identifiable string (e.g. an e-mail address), an encryptor can gain assurance in its correctness without using a certificate. Moreover, if a short validity period can be arranged, significantly shorter than the updating period of a CRL in a conventional PKI, an encryptor can generate a ciphertext without checking the current status of the public key because revocation is unlikely to occur during such a short period. As a result IBE is expected to reduce the certificate management workload.

The use of IBE requires a Private Key Generator (PKG), which generates private keys for all decryptors using its master secret key; this contrasts with 'traditional' asymmetric encryption mechanisms, such as those specified in ISO/IEC 18033-2, in which entities generate their own public/private key pairs. As a result, use of IBE is only appropriate when it is acceptable for a third party to have decryption access to all encrypted data.

The identity-based encryption mechanisms are specified in Clauses 8 and 9. The specified mechanisms are the BF identity-based encryption mechanism, the SK identity-based key encapsulation mechanism, and the BB1 identity-based key encapsulation mechanism.

The specifications in this part of ISO/IEC 18033 do not prescribe protocols for reliably obtaining public values, for proof of possession of a private key, or for validation of either public values or private keys.

Certain sections of Clause 5, Clause 8 and Clause 9 of this part of ISO/IEC 18033 have been reprinted with permission from [7] IEEE Std 1363.3-2013 - IEEE Standard for Identity-Based Cryptographic Techniques using Pairings. Reprinted with permission from IEEE. Copyright 2013. All rights reserved.

Annex A gives the assignment of object identifiers to the algorithms specified in this part of ISO/IEC 18033. Annex B describes security considerations for each specified mechanism and Annex C provides numerical examples. Annex D introduces techniques which can be used to remove the decryption capability of the PKG, and thereby reduce the level of trust required in this entity.

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The holders of these patent rights have assured the ISO and IEC that they are willing to negotiate licences under reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions with applicants throughout

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Information technology — Security techniques — Encryption algorithms —

Part 5: Identity-based ciphers

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 18033 specifies identity-based encryption mechanisms. For each mechanism the functional interface, the precise operation of the mechanism, and the ciphertext format are specified. However, conforming systems may use alternative formats for storing and transmitting ciphertexts.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 18033-1, *Information technology — Security techniques — Encryption algorithms — Part 1: General*

ISO/IEC 18033-2, *Information technology — Security techniques — Encryption algorithms — Part 2: Asymmetric ciphers*

ISO/IEC 18033-3, *Information technology — Security techniques — Encryption algorithms — Part 3: Block ciphers*