



Physical Security Interoperability Alliance

Newsletter

May 2016



PLAI Enables Integration with Quantum Secure for Department of Justice

The PSIA's Physical-Logical Access Interoperability (PLAI) specification's purpose is to provide a mechanism for disparate PACS to exchange identity and credentials so larger enterprises can manage multiple PACS systems more easily.

No longer just a concept, PLAI is now being implemented commercially to solve real life problems. Kastle Systems has deployed the PLAI platform at numerous major enterprise customers including The Washington Post and Corporate Executive Board (CEB) and the significant benefits for an organization's business and security are being realized. CEB purchased a commercial PLAI-based system, not only for its inherent multi-PACS support capability, but to support other services including printing. CEB will rely on PLAI to easily tie printers to mobile credentials in real time.

Recently, Kastle integrated with Quantum Secure using PLAI for the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice utilizes PIV (Personal Identity Verification) Cards - the United States Federal smart card which contains the necessary data for the cardholder to be granted access to Federal government facilities and information systems and assure appropriate levels of security for all applicable Federal applications. Since each person can only have one PIV card, the system needs to be able to communicate credential access across multiple facilities and locations. Historically, agencies would request permission from one another's PACs systems through custom interfaces via a complicated duplication process. Integration with PLAI is the first time a standards-based interface is being used to accomplish the same task, providing a more simple and secure process..

Vik Ghai, CTO, Quantum Secure agrees that having industry standards supported by leading PACS vendors has made this implementation for the Department of Justice much easier.

We continue to communicate the benefits of the PLAI standard to the industry, including a recent demonstration and briefing during the ISC West Conference in Las Vegas in April. I was joined by Darren Bain, CTO of RightCrowd, David Bunzel, Executive Director of PSIA, Mike Faddis, Director

of Microsoft Global Security and Diane Kehlenbeck of Allegion discussing the merits of a standards-based solution to dynamic identity management. We explained that traditional access control systems which only offer proprietary API's will soon find themselves at a competitive disadvantage with enterprise customers increasingly demanding high levels of integration between their systems. Emerging applications, such as: energy management, hoteling, visitor management, and presence-based logical access will benefit from PLAI..

Best Regards,
Mohammad Soleimani
Chairman, PSIA

ISC West 2016 Review

The PSIA builds momentum on PLAI Implementations

The PSIA had a very successful briefing and demonstration at ISC West, showcasing six commercial implementations of its PLAI specification. It featured a presentation by **Mike Faddis**, Director of Microsoft Global Security, who has been a strong proponent for standards-based security solutions.



Microsoft is one of the largest corporate employers in the world and Mike's group manages identity and access for more than 250,000 employees and contractors. The company has been dynamic, with nearly 100 acquisitions in the last 10 years. One of the more significant recent acquisitions, Nokia's mobile device and services operation, presented a challenge for Microsoft and an opportunity for the PSIA. With this acquisition came 25,000 new employees, numerous additional offices and facilities around the world, and a physical access control system (PACS) that was different than the one managing the rest of Microsoft's access control operations.

The challenge was to integrate the two disparate PACS systems in a way that was cost-effective and allowed for a robust security operation that did not compromise business operations for Microsoft. PLAI became an obvious part of this process, providing a standards-based solution to support integration of the logical security system, which relied on Active Directory, and the physical security system, supported by the PSIA specification. RightCrowd, another PSIA Board member, was very involved in Microsoft's PLAI implementation. **Darren Bain**, RightCrowd's CTO, provided a detailed demonstration of how PLAI addressed this issue and solved a critical issue for Microsoft. In addition, Darren discussed how PLAI could be an important component of corporate acquisitions, allowing for easy transition of employees to a new organization.

Another technology featured was Allegion's aptiQmobile, which is the first mobile credential system compatible with PLAI. **Diane Kehlenbeck**, the Director of Technology Alliances at Allegion, discussed how combining the power of PLAI with a mobile credential system will simplify an organizations ability to create access privileges and enhance the reliability of systems. In addition to PLAI's ability to synchronize with disparate PACS systems, combining mobile credentialing allows a quick and accurate way to grant or revoke access to corporate facilities.

Mohammad Soleimani, the CTO of Kastle Systems and the chairman of the PSIA, was the final speaker. Kastle has been developing new business opportunities with PLAI and has already had five commercial implementations leveraging this specification. While some of the value Kastle's customers have found relate to synchronizing different PACS systems, there are emerging applications for role based services. For example, Corporate Executive Board (CEB), a multinational consulting firm with over 4,000 employees at more than 50 locations around the globe, relies on PLAI to manage printing

services based on employee privileges. Similar applications, tying into a company network, have been supported by PLAI at the Washington Post and RealPage. Kastle has also been involved in two government implementations of PLAI at the Department of Transportation and the Department of Justice.

The ISC West briefing was attended by more than 100 industry professionals, showing that PSIA efforts in developing open standards like PLAI are resonating with the industry. Emerging opportunities and momentum for PLAI suggest a tipping point that will make this specification an important component for bridging logical and physical security systems.

David Bunzel
PSIA Executive Director

Be Social with Us!



Help us spread the word about the PSIA by re-tweeting our tweets, following our blog and forwarding this copy of our newsletter to peers you think would be interested in learning more about how the PSIA specifications are building true plug-and-play interoperability throughout the physical security industry and beyond.

About PSIA

The Physical Security Interoperability Alliance is a global consortium of physical security manufacturers and integrators focused on promoting the interoperability of IP-enabled security devices across every segment of the industry. PSIA supports license-free standards and specifications, which are vetted in an open and collaborative manner to the industry as a whole. Specifications are developed through member and industry participation in five active working groups: IP Video, Video Analytics, Recording and Content Management, Area Control and Systems. To date, more than 2100 industry professionals have downloaded PSIA's specifications.

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