

Physical Security Interoperability Alliance



August 29, 2023

PSIA Demonstrates PKOC for Cards and Mobile rf IDEAS® Connects with Five Access Devices at Interoperability Event

ON WEDNESDAY, August 16, 2023, the Physical Security Interoperability Alliance (PSIA) hosted a special interoperability event with seven companies involved in the access control market, demonstrating the emerging Public Key Open Credential (PKOC) specification. The validation testing was hosted at the Convergent facility in Centennial, Colorado and featured products from Elatec, JCI, Kastle Systems, Last Lock, rf IDEAS, SAFR Scan (RealNetworks), and Sentry.

David Bunzel, PSIA Executive Director, noted, "The value of having in-person testing sessions is to prove that a specification, like PKOC, is actually interoperable. It was an impressive demonstration, with each device successfully connecting and functioning in a matter of minutes!"

PKOC is a very exciting initiative, providing a free, interoperable credential, which is likely to usher in a new era in the security market. PKOC has specifications supporting both NFC cards and BLE for mobile credentials.

"Interoperability has been a challenge when it comes to mobile credentials," noted Gourgen Oganessyan, Global Lead, Strategic Alliances at rf IDEAS. "The promise of the PKOC initiative was evident at the Validation Interoperability Event, with our WAVE ID Mobile reader working seamlessly with mobile credentials from several vendors who have implemented this new specification."

PKOC will be demonstrated at GSX in a couple of venues. JCI will be hosting a PKOC demonstration at its stand which will include devices from the above companies as well as IDEMIA.

"PKOC solves a 30-year industry challenge which has plagued our industry with complexity, cost, and security issues," says Jason M. Ouellette, Head of Technology and Business Innovation at Johnson Controls Inc., (JCI) Security Products, and Chairman of the PSIA. "Interest in PKOC has accelerated and showed the real value of PLAI and we are excited as PSIA members to demonstrate this in the context of interoperability across multiple physical access control systems, readers and biometric devices."

With PKOC, interoperability is simple, the credential is secure with PKI level authentication and there is no cost for a PKOC compatible credential. PKOC is now offered as BLE Mobile and NFC plastic card, proving asymmetric PKI level authentication can be truly portable to all transport modalities.

Security industry professionals attending GSX are able to set an appointment to see PKOC in demonstrated up until September 5, 2023. Please email [Debbie Maguire](mailto:Debbie.Maguire@psia.org) if you are interested!

For more information on PKOC and its open card and mobile credentials please look at the [PKOC White Paper](#).

The PSIA has been active in developing and promoting open specifications that support interoperability in the physical and logical security industries. Industry publication, Security Technology Executive, declares interoperability "The Next Great Phase of Physical Access Control." SecurityInfoWatch.com expounds on the predicted demand for PACS interoperability by saying, "Open protocols, standards and industry-accepted conformant products that focus on unbridled interoperability between manufacturers and vendors will be critical as advanced technology, such as analytics and ancillary devices, enter the realm of physical security and access control."

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Notes:

- PSIA is a 501(c)6 organization created to define, recommend and promote standards for IP-enabled security devices and systems.
- PSIA was founded in February of 2008 and incorporated in March of 2009.
- The Physical Logical Access Interoperability (PLAI) specification was introduced in 2013.
- The PKOC specification was introduced in 2021
- The industry partners participating in the PSIA Event at GSX 2023 include:
 - Elatec
 - IDEMIA
 - JCI
 - Kastle Systems
 - Last Lock
 - rf IDEAS
 - SAFR by Realnetworks
 - Sentry

- Global Security Exchange (GSX) is sponsored by ASIS International, a global community of security practitioners, each of whom has a role in the protection of assets - people, property, and/or information.

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