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Bluetooth Security Architecture

Version 1.0



This White Paper describes a flexible security architecture for Bluetooth that allows different security levels for applications. While Bluetooth provides link-level authentication and encryption, enforcing at only this level prevents user-friendly access to more public-oriented usage models such as discovering services and exchanging business cards. This architecture uses the link-level security mechanisms of Bluetooth to enforce the service level security policy (security mode 2) of the Generic Access Profile.

Special Interest Group (SIG)

The following companies are represented in the Bluetooth Special Interest Group:

Ericsson Mobile Communications AB

IBM Corp.

Intel Corp.

Nokia Mobile Phones

Toshiba Corp.

Revision History

| Revision | Date | Comments |
|----------|------------|--|
| 0.0 | 1999-03-29 | first draft, based on discussion at the SW face-to-face meeting in chandler, AZ |
| 0.0.1 | 1999-03-30 | Requirement on limited user intervention added 2 requirements in question added Start work on procedures (general behavior, Handling of RFCOMM) |
| 0.0.2 | 1999-04-01 | Incorporated feedback from Paul and Chatschik |
| 0.0.3 | 1999-04-07 | Feedback from Brian Redding |
| 0.1 | 1999-04-09 | Integrate decisions from the meeting 1999-04-08 Add interfaces of the security manager |
| 0.2 | 1999-04-16 | Modifications to the interfaces of the security manager: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Queries from L2CAP and other protocols harmonised– Only BD_ADDR used in query– Entity taking care of registration is implementation dependent. Registration moved to a separate section; interface to applications removed.– UI: set-up of trusted relationship included Security Policy for changed connection (section 2.1): wording changed to reflect that this includes client and server role. Section 3.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Pairing removed– registration can also be done by general management entity. |

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| 0.3 | 1999-04-27 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove parts for L2CAP connection hold after BB loss, because not supported by L2CAP any more: mainly changes in 3.5.2 and 3.5.3. - Flow chart changed according to phone meeting April 21st and included in document - Requirements for service security levels (requirement 3) corrected. <p>Changes to distinguish between outgoing and incoming connections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Default security level (in section 3.2.3) - Interface for registration: levels for both incoming and outgoing connections separately defined - Query to security manager: attribute for incoming/outgoing connection added <p>Changes to make authentication mandatory in case authorisation is required: Statements in 3.2.1 and 3.2.3</p> |
| 0.5 | 1999-05-16 | <p>Security levels for registering multiplexing protocols added in section 3.6.5.</p> <p>Incorporate the changes agreed upon at the interoperability face-to-face meeting in Tampere:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trust levels of devices might be set individually for services or groups of services. - Key management functions outside of Bluetooth mentioned - Trust flag replaced by more generic wording. |
| 0.51 | 1999-05-26 | Added statement on encryption in 2.1 |
| 0.8 | 1999-06-25 | <p>Introduction completely rewritten</p> <p>Requirements/Design objectives => what does the architecture provide</p> <p>Major editorial changes</p> <p>Removed chapter on consequences for Bluetooth specs</p> <p>Added section 4.6 Interface to HCI / Link Manager</p> <p>Added parameter ConnectionHandle in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4.2 Interface to L2CAP - 4.3 Interface to other multiplexing protocols <p>because it is needed in section 4.6 for HCI commands</p> |

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| 0.86 | 1999-07-02 | <p>Incorporated changes from Chatschik and Jon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstraction: user ⇒ ESCE • Statement on application level security in Section 2.4 • Unknown device is also untrusted (Section 3.2.2) • Requirements for transition from security mode 2 to 3 added • Explanation for outgoing connections • Section 3.3.5.1 removed • Section 4.4: UI ⇒ ESCE and statements on calling directions |
| 1.0 | 1999-07-13 | <p>Include PIN request to ESCE</p> <p>Terminology reference to GAP</p> <p>Replace initialization with bonding</p> <p>Editorial changes</p> |

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