THALES

KeyTalk packages DPoD HSM service with its Secure Email Solution

About KeyTalk

KeyTalk is an internationally operating Dutch IT security software company delivering a patented Certificate and Key Management system (CKMS) that offers fully automated management of complex PKI infrastructures. In the context of the GDPR legislation the KeyTalk CKMS is the cornerstone for complex IT infrastructures, secure online portals, encrypted email, digital signing solutions, secure apps and IoT devices, all protected against man-in-the-middle attacks.

KeyTalk and Data Protection on Demand

Customers using PKI typically need a hardware security module (HSM) to protect private keys and establish trust. KeyTalk has a well-established relationship with Thales, and successful integration with Luna HSMs. As more companies move to the cloud, KeyTalk has seen a growing demand for cloud service options. A proof of concept prompted KeyTalk to explore Thales Data Protection on Demand (DPoD). With the Luna HSM Universal Client enabling seamless ease of use across both on-premises and cloud-based Luna HSMs, it was simple to successfully test and prove the interoperability between DPoD and the KeyTalk solution. KeyTalk promptly added DPoD as part of their offering, and on their official price list.

KeyTalk considers DPoD Luna Cloud HSM services an ideal addition to its managed security service offerings, whether sold directly to customers or through partners and resellers.

DPoD as root of trust for KeyTalk CKMS Use Case

KeyTalk's core product is the KeyTalk CKMS, a secure automated Certificate & Key Management and enrollment solution. Fitting seamlessly with existing network infrastructures, KeyTalk CKMS automatically creates, distributes, short-lived or long-lived X.509 certificates with corresponding strong cryptographic key-pairs, securing server, user and device connections.

One customer, a large German manufacturing company needed valid authentication certificates issued every 5 days for 30,000 work stations across 1,000 locations around the world. Without an effective CKMS, this would be an IT security management nightmare. The company chose KeyTalk CKMS as their certificate and management solution and wanted it set up in their own private cloud. They were not interested in maintaining any physical hardware in their environment, and welcomed the concept of a trusted HSM managed service. Since KeyTalk already supported the Thales Luna 7 HSMs, they explored using Data Protection on Demand and setup a proof of concept. This led KeyTalk to officially offer its customers the Thales DPoD service to safeguard the encryption keys of the KeyTalk CKMS database.

keytalk

" The DPoD Luna Cloud HSM Service is an ideal service because it's flexible, you don't have any investment upfront, and it's scalable," said Bas von Barnau Sythoff, Sales Director at KeyTalk."

DPoD HSM for KeyTalk Secure Email Service Use Case

KeyTalk along with Certificate Authority, GlobalSign, jointly developed a Secure Email service based on the fully automated enrolment, installation and configuration of S/MIME certificates. KeyTalk Secure Email is a unique, patented solution that not only creates the certificates, but also manages the keys. GlobalSign is the Qualified Trust Service Provider (QTSP) and creates the certificates, and KeyTalk provides the Certificate and Key Management.

At the heart of the solution is the KeyTalk CKMS solution that securely manages the crypto key pairs used for the encryption and decryption of email messages and for the enrolment and management of the certificates at various endpoints (workstations, laptops, tablets and smartphones).

KeyTalk wanted to package its secure email hosting services into levels based on customer security needs. For customers with maximum security environments, and recognized the CKMS needed a native HSM integration.

Packaging the Solutions

Using the seamless integration with the Thales DPoD platform to their advantage, KeyTalk packaged the DPoD Luna Cloud HSM service as an integral part of their hosted KeyTalk offering. fThis gives customers peace of mind, knowing the DPoD Luna Cloud HSM service is securely storing all the keys used in the KeyTalk system—the private keys used for signing, as well as the database encryption keys.

"Secure remote connectivity is a must in our complex hybrid world, especially with COVID. With more of us working remotely, you need more secure lines, and the way to do that is with certificate technology. And with that comes an increased need for certificate management and automated deployment and installation of certificates and the ability to manage security remotely too," said von Barnau Sythoff.

"Our combined solution, where KeyTalk manages the certificates and Thales stores the signing keys and the master data base encryption keys, via the DPoD service, is becoming more and more relevant in the world going forward," he said.

End Customer Benefits

- Monthly billing
- Flexible managed security services
- Easy to setup
- Cost effective
- No upfront investment
- Ability to easily scale the number of services

Partnering for a Cloudy Tomorrow

Thales and KeyTalk both recognize the growing need for PKI based security in a world that's increasingly "cloudy". Organizations need to control access (securely authenticating users, devices, and applications), protect private keys, and establish trust to ensure their digital information is secure, especially in hybrid, multi-cloud environments.

"In the next two to three years, we expect to see a majority our customers move to more managed, hosted services from KeyTalk. We want our customers to have access to the very best security solutions on the market, and our partnership with Thales ensures that," said Bas von Barnau Sythoff.

About Thales

The people you rely on to protect your privacy rely on Thales to protect their data. When it comes to data security, organizations are faced with an increasing number of decisive moments. Whether the moment is building an encryption strategy, moving to the cloud, or meeting compliance mandates, you can rely on Thales to secure your digital transformation.

Decisive technology for decisive moments.