

Interconnecting Smart Objects with Internet Workshop 2011-03-25

IKEv2 and Smart Objects
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AuthenTec

draft-kivinen-ipsecme-ikev2-minimal-00.txt

Example Use Case

- Garage door opener
 - Two buttons:
 - one to unlock and open door
 - another to close and lock the door
 - One led for feedback
 - Uses two-way radio communications
 - Obviously needs some kind of security
 - Battery powered



Example protocol

- Protocol can be very simple:
 - Send packet to server to start open/close door
 - Get packet back to acknowledge the command
 - Get status messages every second while door is moving
 - Get final message when operation is done
- Simple way would be to use WLAN / IP / UDP for communications
- Requires security
 - DTLS, Ipsec/IKEv2, proprietary

Protocol effects

- Device only wakes up when button is pressed
 - It always initiates the communication, it does not need to listen radio when it is sleeping, and it cannot reply to any messages while sleeping
- Device stays awake for some time after the button is pressed and if receives status packet blinks led and waits for more status packets.
- After certain timeout device goes back to sleep

What this means for IKEv2

- Device only needs work as IKEv2 Initiator
 - No need to work as IKEv2 Responder
- Only creates one IKEv2 SA and one IPsec SA
 - No need to support SA management operations like creating new IPsec SAs, rekeying, deleting SAs, etc.
- No need to do NAT-T, Configuration payloads, EAP authentication, Cookies, Multiple child SAs etc
- The server end would most likely be some kind of Home area network server (PC or similar).
- Pre-shared keys or RAW RSA keys authentication
 - No X.509 certificates

Authentication

- Pre-shared keys
 - Shared key printed on paper or in electronic form
 - Typed in to the home area gateway
- Raw RSA keys
 - Fingerprint of device is distributed as Pre-shared keys
 - Device imprints to first home area gateway it connects to
 - Some form of reset can be implemented to allow reimprinting

Implementation

- I created a prototype implementation of the minimal IKEv2 protocol usable for such scenarios and it took me less than a day to write the code and less than 1000 lines of perl source code.
 - I implemented sending ICMP Ping packet as didn't want to start writing server end to answer my requests...
- Implementing minimal IKEv2 is very simple compared to full implementation.
- There are some optimizations which can be done when only supporting minimal set of features.

Conclusions

- IKEv2 is very small protocol when only minimal features are implemented
 - Not sure whether TLS / DTLS can be made that small
 - Our full IKEv2 implementation is 44k lines
- Certificate support would multiply the code size
 - Our certificate library is 56k lines or 81k lines if enrollment and CRL retrieval protocols are included.
- Pre-shared keys or RAW RSA keys are feasible options for authentication in this kind of use scenarios
- My draft describes those optimizations needed:
 - `draft-kivinen-ipsecme-ikev2-minimal-00.txt`