

CRYPTOCard's AuthEngine™ Embeds Two-Factor Authentication into Sensitive Web Application

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Julius Ang, Managing Director, Digician



Two-Factor... Built-In

Digician sells industry-specific web applications to companies throughout the UK. CRYPTOCard is working with Digician to help ensure its customers use those web apps securely by strengthening the logon process. Utilizing AuthEngine, CRYPTOCard's powerful developer tool, Digician has been able to embed and integrate CRYPTOCard's Two-Factor Authentication technology into its applications and into their business logic, taking complete control of the authentication process from workflow to user experience, admin experience and more.

Remotely hosted web applications, for their affordability, convenience and availability (any computer anywhere), have become very popular among businesses of all sizes. They eliminate the need to deal with licensing issues and allow for very efficient collaboration among disparate groups and companies.

Digician sells specialised web apps to companies in the insurance industry. The All Trades Network, for example (a company that carries out insurance quotes, repair work and payments services for insurance claims),

subscribes to the Digician service, which allows all parties concerned to have a bird's-eye view of logistics, documentation and the general progress of a job.

But Julius Ang, the CEO of Digician, said that in order to sell a high-quality service, he needed to offer a high level of security built into his unique applications.

With CRYPTOCard's AuthEngine and a little bit of development time on Digician's part, the strong two-factor authentication solution has been fused into Digician's Web Application to deliver a native, exclusive and completely customized experience.

Authentication: Where Security Begins

“With web applications you need to have more security – authentication become so much more critical...,” explains Mr Ang. “We’re talking about the access point to the application. We are dealing with sensitive, critical information, so I had to have a solution that would make the service more secure.”

Case in Point

The Digician Solution

- Web applications, particularly for the Insurance industry, require the highest levels of security
- ‘Developer-friendly’ CRYPTOCard Solution allowed Digician to embed Two-Factor Authentication system into its solutions
- Digician clients now use CRYPTOCard's KT-1 when authenticating to the application

Case Study

The new solution goes far beyond a typical two-factor implementation where an authentication framework is dropped in front of existing applications. With the CRYPTOCard development tools, AuthEngine is now literally fused to the applications it protects. And everything from token and user management to logging and reporting functions are within the control of the developers.

This 'built-in' or 'solution-DNA-level' approach has many benefits - the ability to customize is unmatched (nothing comes close) but it's also an revolution in terms of cost-effective implementation. Even taking into account the development time (typically just a few days) that would have to be invested, you have a solution that you never have to buy add-on's or upgrades or licenses - it's yours. You only have to purchase tokens as you implement/ deploy the solution.

The ultimate goal of any two-factor authentication solution is to eliminate the use of the weak, easily compromised username/password processes that are used by the majority of the computing world. With AuthEngine, your so-called 'static passwords' (passwords that don't, or rarely, change) are replaced with a one-time password protocol. In the case of the Digician solution, Mr Ang deployed CRYPTOCard's two-factor KT-1 authentication tokens.

The tokens work by generating a new one-time password for every login. As the name implies, each password can be used just once, so even if compromised, a password can't be re-used to gain network access. The token is also protected by an activation PIN, which means no one can use it should it ever be lost or stolen.

"For Digician, AuthEngine was the perfect solution," says Jason Hart, CEO of CRYPTOCard, Europe. "Using their existing systems and database, they simply had to add a self-

registration component and one new field to track token assignment within their existing database. It was pretty easy for them and immensely powerful."

Developer-friendly.

"It strengthens my authentication process and it's the most developer-friendly of all the products out there – I did quite a bit of research into it," says Mr Ang. "The most unique feature is that they give you the source code to embed into your programs. With all the others you have to buy extra services, so for me that's brilliant.

"And," concluded Ang, "beyond that, the ability to manage and isolate many customers centrally through AuthEngine, makes this application a real economic advantage for Digician."

Digician has deployed tokens in more than 20 offices for the All Trades Network, so staff throughout the UK can access Digician's applications securely.

AuthEngine's ability to fuse with existing applications and computing environments has allowed Digician to satisfy the most stringent security/authentication requirements.

About CRYPTOCard

CRYPTOCard is a leader and innovator in the Network Authentication Industry. Its multi-awarded, much-lauded Two-Factor Authentication options include both a server based or 'product' solution (CRYPTO-Server) and a Managed Authentication Service (CRYPTO-MAS). The combination allows organizations of any size and means to adopt a strong authentication policy. CRYPTOCard is unique in the industry in their commitment to ensuring their products/services work with any common network architecture including OS compatibility (Windows, Linux, Mac OS X), webserver flexibility (IIS, Apache) and database options (Active Directory, LDAP, Open Directory etc). Add to that the outstanding 'out of the box' interoperability with many top industry network solutions including Citrix, Checkpoint, Cisco and many more, and you begin to see how CRYPTOCard has grown since its origin in 1989 to become a thriving enterprise doing business in more than 70 countries.

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