

Press Release

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Information Security Corporation Debuts Low-Cost Certificate Authority Software

Information Security Corporation, a cryptographic solutions provider, introduces CertAgent, a low-cost, compact Certificate Authority (CA) application. CertAgent provides the foundation upon which an integrated public key infrastructure (PKI) can be built. It provides complete life-cycle management for an organization's public keys: from certificate request, to issued certificate, to expiration or revocation (or on hold status). Supporting an unlimited number of root and intermediate CAs, CertAgent enables an organization to create as complex a certificate hierarchy as the size of the enterprise warrants.

"Our experience told us that the expensive and complicated CA products offered by some of the better-known PKI providers were holding back many organizations from installing a PKI and the certificate-based applications that solve real problems," said Tom Venn, ISC President. "That drove us to develop a low-cost, easy-to-use software CA with the ability to generate and maintain an unlimited number of certificates. From the early indications we are getting, CertAgent is exactly what the marketplace has been waiting for from PKI solution providers," Venn added.

CertAgent can generate 1024- or 2048-bit self-signed RSA or DSA certificates for root CAs and PKCS#10 requests for intermediate CAs. It accepts PKCS#10 certificate requests from end-users and generates X.509 Version 3 RSA or DSA certificates using pre-configured subject RDNs, validity periods, and extension settings (which may be overridden on a per certificate basis, if desired). CertAgent can produce ANSI X9.57 Version 2 Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs) and maintains an audit trail of all operator actions. It also provides optional LDIF output to facilitate the import of certificates into an existing LDAP directory.

The first release of CertAgent is a standalone Java application with a native cryptographic engine. Release 1 will run under Windows 95/98/ME/2000/XP or Solaris 2.x and requires Java 2 Runtime Environment 1.3 or higher and 100 MB of free disk space. Release 2, a server-side application offering a web-based interface and support for more automated enrollment processes, will be available later this year. For a nominal fee Release 1 users may upgrade to Release 2 when it becomes available.

The initial licensing fee for one copy of CertAgent Release 1 along with the right to generate an unlimited number of certificates on a single workstation or server is \$25,000. This fee includes one year of maintenance and support. Maintenance contracts are available for subsequent years at \$5,000/year. ISC's experienced technical staff also offers consulting and integration services. Let us integrate CertAgent with your existing LDAP directory, develop automated enrollment processes, or provide guidance on other infrastructure issues.

About ISC:

Founded in 1989, ISC specializes in the design and development of cryptographic products that conform to all Federal and industry standards. ISC's popular products include SecretAgent, CertAgent, SecurePhone (encrypted voice over IP), SpyProof! (encrypted virtual disk partitions), several cryptographic development toolkits, and the CDSA 1.2 CSP distributed by Hewlett-Packard under the Praesidium brand name. AT&T has marketed ISC's products since 1993.

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