

CRYPTOCard Secures Health Check Data for Worcestershire Health Association

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Simon Honeyborne,
Voice/Data Communication Manager,
Worcestershire Health Authority



Local Authority Looks to Authenticate

With a growing number of regulations and a rapidly changing technology environment in the UK's National Health Service, Worcestershire Health Authority (WHA) has to ensure all its patient data is secure.

CRYPTOCard is helping the organisation to keep that information safe with its CRYPTO-MAS Managed Authentication Service.

The number of people affected by diabetes is growing in the UK as the level of obesity rises. To combat this, the WHA has selected a number of high street opticians to carry out retinopathy eye scans to diagnose diabetes among their patients.

The opticians then send the results of the test to the WHA IT system. But this also means the health authority must guarantee the integrity of the patient data, ensuring that only authorised personnel can access it.

“It's part of a government drive,” explains Simon Honeyborne, Voice/Data Communications Manager for Worcestershire Health Authority,

“The results go to an NHS system for follow up, so we have to make sure they're completely secure and only NHS staff have access to NHS resources.”

With the government's push to take advantage of more technology – dubbed the NHS Connecting for Health project - the WHA was challenged with making a success of the project while keeping the results secure. UK laws, such as the Data Protection Act, mean that organisations can be held accountable if data is lost or stolen.

“That means we can get into real trouble if patient data gets into the wrong hands,” adds Mr Honeyborne. “We had to find a way of ensuring the data could get to the NHS without risk of compromise.”

The WHA required a stronger form of network authentication than just standard user names and passwords, so Mr Honeyborne's team selected CRYPTOCard's Managed Authentication Service (CRYPTO-MAS) –

Case in Point

The Worcestershire Solution

- Opticians connecting to the NHS network needed secure access
- CRYPTOCard's Managed Authentication Service was picked for its convenience and low cost.
- The service meets all the NHS standards
- Opticians can now securely transmit sensitive patient data to doctors for follow up

Case Study

a cost-effective, outsourced option that meant the health authority could implement the solution quickly, while leaving any technical issues to CRYPTOCARD.

“We looked at various options but we didn’t want any of the costs that can come with these things. We’d worked with CRYPTOCARD in the past and decided to go with them again as they met all the NHS standards.”



The CRYPTO-Mas solution is a strong two-factor authentication service. In the WHA case, each user was issued a KT-1 key chain token. A token is simply a one-time password generating device. Each token generates a new password for every login, and each password will work just once eliminating any danger of a password being stolen or misused.

“The CRYPTO-MAS meets some of the most stringent security standards in the world, so we knew it would be suitable for the NHS,” says Jason Hart, CEO of CRYPTOCARD, Europe. “We’ve achieved a high status of recognition in the public sector – because of the combination of high quality service and low prices that we offer.”

Strong Medicine... Headache Free!

“It took the headache away,” says Mr Honeyborne. “It took no time at all to install. The technician was here for just half a day. It meets all of the NHS IT standards requirements and we don’t have to manage it either, which is a real bonus.”

The health authority is now planning to roll out the service to 20 opticians around the county. After completing eye tests, the opticians log into the network using CRYPTOCARD’s KT-1 two-factor authentication tokens and send the data to the NHS, safe in the knowledge it has been transmitted securely.

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.

CRYPTOCARD North America

340 March Road
Suite 600
Ottawa, Ontario
K2K 2E4 Canada

Toll Free: 800-307-7042
Tel: +1-613-599-2441
Fax: +1-613-599-2442
E-mail: info@cryptocard.com
www.cryptocard.com

CRYPTOCARD Europe

Eden Park, Ham Green
Bristol BS20 0EB,
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 870 7077 700
Fax: +44 870 7077 711
E-mail: info@cryptocard.com
www.cryptocard.co.uk

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