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3

1 Introduction

1.1 What is Secure Information Courier?



Encrypted Email Submissions - Straight from your web site!

Advantages at a Glance...

- Allows your web site visitors to send you secure encrypted messages with attachments
- Visitors to your site need no software to use the secure facilities
- Customers are able to send credit card details or private information with confidence
- Allows you to remove insecure form submissions from your web site
- Easy to configure the wizard guides you through

Secure Information Courier brings strong email encryption to your organization's web site. Visitors to your web site can send secure email to your organization and even convey digital documents securely using industry standard encryption. Secure Information Courier is easy to use and nothing is assumed about the skill level of visitors to your site or about software pre-installed on their computers.

To use Secure Information Courier, you simply deploy an **ActiveX** control in the "**contact us**" area of your web site. First time visitors accept the ActiveX control upon their first visit - it's signed with a trust certificate from <u>Thawte</u>, the leading internet trust authority. The ActiveX control contains **Secure Information Courier** and allows visitors to your web site to send secure email to your organization as well as securely relay documents to you. If you are an accountancy firm or law firm who for example might wish to receive financial statements or similar documents from clients and provide clients with a secure means of conveyance, then Secure Information Courier is for you.

Features :

- Secure Information Courier is completely controlled by the web site owner and requires no intermediary services.
- No end user configuration is required. Web site visitors simply fill in a form, enter their message text, then hit encrypt and send...
- The Secure Information Courier user interface is "skin able". This means web site owners can customize the product with their own corporate logo and message prompts.
- Size: At approximately 400KB, Secure Information Courier only takes a few seconds to load.
- Trust: Secure Information Courier uses industry standard encryption technology. The core algorithm

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employed by the SecExMail message format is "Twofish". The algorithm is unencumbered by patents and has been subject to extensive peer review.

- Customers send email and documents securely and directly to your mail server. Mail is never stored on the servers of the customer's ISP.
- Compatible with SecExMail and Crypto Anywhere encryption software.

1.2 Secure Information Courier on the web

Depicted below are examples of Secure Information Courier on the web.

😹 Secure Info	ormation Courier - Registered to "feegan's lounge"	×
File Edit Enci	ipher+Send Help	
fee	Feegan's Internet Lounge	2
<u> </u>	harry@feegan.com	-
From :	Your email address here	
Subject :	Enter subject here	
Please enter y	your email text here	
J Ready		





2 Customizing

2.1 Basic Configuration

Secure Information Courier can be customized with your own corporate logo and your own message prompts. You can define default message recipients and pre-load Secure Information Courier with your very own encryption keys, ensuring that only authorized recipients may decrypt and read email from your customers. Configuration is easy. Simply follow the steps outlined by the configuration wizard. To launch the configuration wizard, click Start, Programs, Secure Information Courier and select Configuration Wizard as shown in the illustration depicted below.

				👼 Secure Information Courier	►	3	Configuration Wizard
E	<u>.</u>	Programs	1	¥		5	Crypto Anywhere Decoder
19	\Leftrightarrow	Documents	•			•	License Agreement
ğ						80	SecExMail Help
Ы		Settings	۲			R	SecExMail Key Generator
١,		Saarch	•			8	SecExMail
8		Jearch	ſ				Uninstall
No.	2	Help					
Ľ	-	_					
18	<u>North</u>	Run					
E		Chut Davie					
≥		Shut Down					
1	Start						

This will invoke the configuration wizard welcome screen.



2.2 How Secure Information Courier works

Once Secure Information Courier (SIC) is deployed on your website, customers can download SIC and send email and documents securely and directly to your mail server. Mail is never stored on the servers of the customer's ISP. SIC is deployable as both a downloadable executable as well as an activex control which integrates with your website. Repeat visitors to your website who send secure email to

your organization on a regular basis, might wish to download the SIC executable while casual visitors to your website might find an integrated solution easier to use. The graphic depicted below illustrates the process.



2.3 Domain Configuration

Firstly, you will need to provide the name of your organization's internet domain. This information will be used to auto-detect your organization's mail server(s). You may enter the name of your web site, e.g. *www.bytefusion.com*, or your domain name only, e.g. *bytefusion.com*.

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2.4 Confirm Incoming Mail Server

If the Secure Information Courier Wizard was able to auto-detect your incoming SMTP mail transfer agent, you will be prompted to confirm this setting. It is safe to accept the default. If auto-detection failed, kindly ask your system administrator to provide you with the IP address or DNS name of your incoming SMTP mail transfer agent and enter it in the "*My Mail Server*" field as indicated below.



2.5 Graphical User Interface

You may customize the physical appearance of Secure Information Courier with your own welcome text or corporate logo. When providing your own corporate logo or banner ad, kindly note that the required file format is "*BMP*", *630x70 pixels*, using a maximum of *256 colors*.

Secure Information Courier Deployment Wizard						
Secure Information Courier File Edit Edit Encipher+Send	You can customize the appearance of your Secure Information Courier by providing a welcome message. Alternatively you can provide a graphical banner ad.					
Welcome to Bytefusion Ltd.,	Use this welcome text :					
Subject :	O Use this graphical ad banner :					
	Banner ads must be in BMP bitmap format, be 630x70 pixels in size, and have 256 colors.					
Back	Next Cancel Finish					

2.6 Message Prompts

You can provide your own instructions for each of the fields the user needs to fill in before sending a message to your organization. It is safe to keep the defaults.

😹 Secure Information Courier Deployment Wizard						
Secure Information Courier File Edit Edit Encipher+Send Image: Secure Information Courier Image: Secure Information Courier	You can provide your own instructions for each of the fields the user needs to fill in before sending a message to your organization. It is safe to keep the defaults.					
Bytefusion	"From" field instructions : Your email address here					
To sales@bytefusion.com From : Your email address here	"Subject" field instructions : Enter subject here					
Subject : Enter subject here Please enter your email text here	Message text field instructions : Please enter your email text here					
Back	Next Cancel Finish					

2.7 Encryption Key Selection

Secure Information Courier employs public key infrastructure (PKI) encryption keys. See also <u>Secure Information Courier / SecExMail Keys</u>. This technology ensures that only authorized recipients will be able to decrypt messages sent to your organization. If you have existing SecExMail keys, these will be auto-detected by the configuration wizard. If you have existing SecExMail or Crypto Anywhere keys on floppy or other removable medium, you may import these using the "*Add from file*" button. If you are new to <u>SecExMail based encryption technology</u> and require new encryption keys, please click "*Generate new key*" now and follow the steps outlined in the key generation wizard. Keys you generate here will be automatically available for decryption of messages in both <u>Crypto Anywhere Decoder</u> as well as <u>SecExMail SOHO</u>.

Secure Information Courier Deployment Wizard					
	Please select the encryption keys to bundle with Secure Information Courier - these represent the recipients your users will be able to send secure email to.				
	Email				
	♥				
	Generate new key Add from from file				
	Back Next Cancel Finish				

2.8 Default Message Recipient

Please select the default recipient of secure emails. This email address will be shown in the "**To:**" field when Secure Information Courier starts. Users will be able to override this selection with any one or multiple authorized recipients whom you have specified on the <u>encryption key selection</u> page.



2.9 Destination Folder

Please select the destination folder. Your custom edition of Secure Information Courier will be written to this directory as the file "sic.exe". Optionally, you may preview your custom edition of Secure Information Courier using the "*Preview*" button.

🕈 Secure Information Courier Deployment Wizard					
	Please select the destination folder. Your custom edition of Secure Information Courier will be written to this directory as "sic.exe".				
	Save Secure Information Courier to this folder : C:\Documents and Settings\administrator\Desktop				
	Preview				
	Back Next To generate Secure Information Courier	h			

2.10 ActiveX HTML Page

This wizard will have created a customized edition of Secure Information Courier for you.

In order for internet users to be able to send email and documents to your organization securely, you should now upload the file "*sic.exe*" to your web site, preferably in a conspicuous place, such the "*contact us*" area.

Visitors to your web site may then download Secure Information Courier to their computer and send encrypted email to you. To fully integrate Secure Information Courier with your web site you might also whish to generate an accompanying HTML page and associated ActiveX control. To do this click the button labeled "*Click here to generate active html web page*".

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2.11 Putting it all together

SIC uses the SecExMail message format. This means only you can unlock your messages. Two easy modes of decryption are supported: server based and workstation based.



2.12 Security Advice

Secure Information Courier is hosted on your website. If you have stringent security requirements, you might want to consider the use of a secure website using the HTTPS protocol also. The certificate mechanism used in HTTPS authenticates your website to visitors and gives visitors to your website the confidence that your web pages are not being misrepresented by a third party.

3 Decryption

3.1 Decryption Methods

Secure Information Courier ships with two workstation based decryption tools :

1) <u>Crypto Anywhere Decoder</u>. Decrypt messages in two easy steps by first copying them from your email client to the Windows clipboard and then pasting them into Crypto Anywhere Decoder.

2) <u>SecExMail SOHO</u>: Decrypt messages invisibly in the background. SecExMail will inter-operate with all SMTP/POP3 email client software.

Alternatively you may wish to consider centralized, server based decryption using the <u>SecExMail Gate Server</u>. Kindly visit our website at <u>www.bytefusion.com</u> for more information.

3.2 Crypto Anyhwhere Decoder

Crypto Anywhere Decoder allows you to easily decrypt messages in two easy steps by first copying them from your email client to the Windows clipboard and then pasting them into Crypto Anywhere Decoder. Visit <u>Crypto Anywhere</u> on our website at <u>www.bytefusion.com</u> for more information.



3.3 SecExMail SOHO

SecExMail SOHO allows you to decrypt messages invisibly in the background. SecExMail is compatible with all SMTP/POP3 compliant email client software. Please visit <u>SecExMail</u> on our website <u>www.bytefusion.com</u> for more information about <u>SecExMail</u>.



4 Technical

4.1 RSA Public Key Encryption

"c = me mod n" is the algorithm that turns the world of ecommerce. Introduced in 1978 by Rivest, Shamir and Adleman after whom the cipher is named, RSA is the worlds foremost public key encryption system. Contrary to the design of classic encryption algorithms where the same key is used to lock and unlock the information, public key encryption relies on "two key" algorithms. The sender encrypts the message with the recipients public key who, upon receipt of the message, is able to decipher the same with the private key counterpart. This development was revolutionary in the field of cryptography because parties wishing to establish secure communications no longer had to meet in "secret" to exchange confidential keying information.

The <u>SecExMail public key</u> infrastructure uses industry standard RSA encryption as developed by the OpenSSL project. See <u>Acknowledgements</u>.



4.2 Secure Information Courier / SecExMail Encryption

SecExMail encryption uses the Twofish block cipher in conjunction with the ISAAC random number generator and is optimized to operate on real-time email streams. It uses cryptographic primitives which are available to the general public and have been subject to extensive peer review. SecExMail encryption incorporates RSA public key encryption. Message encryption is performed via the Twofish block cipher and the ISAAC random number generator. SecExMail is warranted to be free from spy-ware, key escrow or key recovery features of any kind. The email encryption process is described in detail below. See diagram.



SecExMail Encryption



• Stage 1

Email data is received in variable length data blocks. SecExMail parses SMTP header info, mail and data bodies.

Stage 2

Because email messages frequently contain known plain text, such as salutation and or tag lines, which gives rise to known plain text attacks on the encrypted message and in order to minimize overall message expansion, the plain text is first compressed using the ZLIB compression algorithm. The net effect of deflating large amounts of data, containing both tidbits of known plain text such as greeting or tag lines as well as unknown message text into a compressed data stream is that any known plain text is effectively obscured.

• Stage 3

The ZLIB stream has a fixed header format which in itself might be exploited as known plain text by a savvy cryptanalyst. For this reason, the first 64 bits of the steam are encoded by way of a

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<u>One Time Pad</u>, using standard XOR masking. This approach acknowledges that email messages will contain portions of known plain text and proactively manages this problem.

• Stage 4

At this point the compressed data is XOR'ed using the 64 bit ISAAC random number stream.

Stage 5

The next step in the encryption process is to encrypt the random number encoded text using the 256 bit Twofish block cipher. Twofish is used in chained block mode. Instead of XOR'ing the previous block's cipher text into the plain text of the current block, the output from the ISAAC layer is "chained in". This chaining process is illustrated below.



Twofish Block Chaining

• Stage 6

The final step is to assemble the output in base64 transfer encoded format for transmission via mail transfer agents (MTA).

4.3 ISAAC Random Number Generator

ISAAC (Indirection, Shift, Accumulate, Add, and Count) is a cryptographically secure pseudo random number generator. With an average cycle length of 2 to the 8295th power its output is uniformly distributed and unpredictable. ISAAC has been developed by Bob Jenkins and placed into the public domain in 1996. See <u>Acknowledgements</u> for legal information on ISAAC.

ISAAC is at the heart of SecExMail's entropy collection system.



4.4 SecExMail Message Format

SecExMail messages are transferred in base64 encoded format. Messages may be encrypted to multiple recipients. The internal message layout is defined as follows :

[<rsa bytes>:<recipient>]key[<rsa bytes>:<recipient>]key...cipher text



RSA Bytes

This is the size of the recipient's RSA key in bytes. Therefore a 2048 bit RSA key would be listed as having a size of 256 bytes. RSA This parameter is defined for RSA key sizes of 2048, 4096, and 8192 bits.

• Recipient

This is the email address of the recipient to whom the message is encoded.

• Key

This is the SecExMail session key material, encrypted with the <u>RSA public key</u> of the recipient. The SecExMail session key is used to encrypt the message body of the email message and is comprised

of a 64 bit <u>One Time Pad key</u>, a 64 bit <u>ISAAC random number generator</u> key, and a 256 bit Twofish key.

• Cipher Text

This is the message body encrypted using <u>SecExMail Encryption</u>.

A typical SecExMail message is depicted below :

```
--Begin SecEx 1.1--
WzI1NjpjaHJpc0BvZmZzaG9yZW1haWxyb29tLmNvbV0dJyyJnwwCm0659zpBY/asERA3FRG99
OYRhm5f+rwohYORt8Wp3rmw12Nguhk38KvH5pg8ZRTXXWiEHYMakQPPXpJepJFZeXTcNMTi/d
p0Rc5HCTui5okW/00Gv8Sp328Ldh3DlgQcGW7oYt9qxG/cJ/PaVxxDM3I4cnsCyLjfX+I0JY6
h+emWt4U/N6u+K0tPL4ua2OfGhGoBXo+6KK042bXGpk/Pj6WEOQMc+VrsOx6ZcTgpqS3WCcUc
2/JDy9zHqlkPLohXcT4G2Hiwp/1JhviaQtoKA2NYYimuY5ZjNUGPMs0h6AKS3/qZsHhK1LtcA
WpLnuoFbQleekuJngBCC1RIIIII41fFgMkxoUkZrtXg6E217Q6GMMhNJ4EU3D2c1BgauDYAQG
Rpz0p8efm/WAZoXai6KVE1MEiK7tv98s8wu9LpUxN44QYj2eNRVI+GPfkBoKvr6eK5/TU4cHN
Dg9VxCGj4n8KDvfYsPRpBSNzLL+Ta4iz7toQ/MGdPCQa
--End SecEx Mail--
```

4.5 One-Time Pads

A one-time pad is a block of random data used to encrypt a block of equal length plain text data. Encryption is usually by way of XOR'ing the one-time pad with the message text. This process may be thought of as a 100% noise source used to mask the message. The one-time pad is secure if it is comprised of random data and is <u>never</u> reused. Because of this, one-time pads have limited application in modern ciphers, but are commonly acknowledged as the holy grail of cryptography.

SecExMail uses one-time pads to encrypt the ZLIB compression header in <u>SecExMail messages</u>.

4.6 Secure Information Courier / SecExMail Keys

SecExMail employs public key encryption. Messages are encrypted to one or more recipients using their **public keys**. Only the intended recipient can, upon receipt of the message, recover the plain text using his/her **private key**. Public key encryption differs from classical encryption because the recipient of a message does not use the same key for decryption as the sender used for encryption.

In cryptography the fictional characters "Alice" and "Bob" are often used for illustration purposes. Consider the following scenario : Alice lives in New York and Bob lives in Los Angeles. Alice wants Bob to be able to send her confidential mail. She goes to her local hardware store and purchases a dozen or so combination padlocks, sets the unlocking code on each padlock, confuses the dials again, and sends the open padlocks to Bob in Los Angeles.

Bob is now in possession of Alice's padlocks, but not the unlocking codes. When Bob wants to send Alice a confidential letter, he places the letter inside a steel box and locks it with one of Alice's padlocks. Once the padlock is snapped shut, even he himself cannot re-open the box since he is not in possession of the combination which will release the lock. Only Alice will be able to open the box and therefore read the letter once she has received Bob's parcel in the mail.

Public key encryption works much in the same manner. The **public key** may be thought of as an open, electronic padlock. You can send this electronic padlock to all your friends. Your friends may then use that padlock to secure their emails to you in an electronic box. This electronic box is the encrypted email. Upon receipt of the encrypted email, you dial the secret combination which is your **private key**





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and retrieve the original message.

SecExMail does all this for you.

5 About

5.1 About Secure Information Courier



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5.2 About Bytefusion Ltd.



Bytefusion Ltd. 22 Duke Street Douglas, IOM IM1 2AY British Isles Inquiries: sales@bytefusion.com

5.3 System Requirements

- System Administrator Workstation Disk Space: 7.5 MB of free disk space.
- Operating System Compatibility:

<u>Administrator Workstation - Configuration Wizard:</u> Windows NT, 2000, XP <u>Secure Information Courier Web Executable :</u> Windows 95/98/Me + Windows NT/2000/XP <u>Secure Information Courier ActiveX Control :</u> Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 +

- Web Site Hosting: Any HTTP compliant web server, such as Apache or Microsoft IIS
- Web Site Space : 441KB (activex control). 888K (sic.exe).

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My random number generator, ISAAC.

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• Twofish Block Cipher

The Twofish block cipher by Counterpane Labs was developed and analyzed by Bruce Schneier, John Kelsey, Doug Whiting, David Wagner, Chris Hall and Niels Ferguson. Twofish was one of the five Advanced Encryption Standard finalists. At the time of writing the Twofish homepage can be found at <u>http://www.counterpane.com/twofish.html</u>. The cipher has been made available to the general public by the following statement on <u>http://www.counterpane.com/about-twofish.html</u>:

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