



PRESS RELEASE

18th November 2013

Voicekey has been awarded a Secure BYOD contract by the UK's Ministry of Defence (Centre for Defence Enterprise)

Voicekey: Securing Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

The military, in common with many commercial and civil organisations, could benefit from allowing its staff to utilise their own information and communications technology (ICT) devices in conjunction with MOD-owned communication and information processing assets. MOD's stringent security requirements and policy currently prevents this. Solutions for both strategic systems, and deployed and coalition systems, that enable MOD to reap the benefits of using BYOD while protecting its systems from attack, and its information from compromise, have been sought. Such secure BYOD systems will inevitably require user and device authentication.

Traditional identity management solutions, such as passwords, tokens etc., have many limitations that restrict their application in such a secure BYOD scenario. The Voicekey solution will deliver a full three factor identity management solution that will locally establish device and user identity prior to remotely accessing government/defence IT infrastructure over conventional telecomm, wireless or computer network connections. Under the MOD contract, Voicekey's solution will use innovative on-device voice verification software, as part of the three factor user authentication process, to allow the identity of an individual to be securely validated on their BYOD or commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) Mobile Enterprise devices, so as to provide the correct level of information access to the right person at the right time. Distributing the user authentication locally onto each BYOD/COTS device also reduces the security risk by presenting a distributed target for attackers rather than the single centralised database of identity credentials used by current voice biometric systems.

Voicekey's locally carried voice biometric and voice identity certificate technology offers a step change in the way individuals are identified in BYOD systems, as it uses something that is unique and personal to users, *something they are*, wherever and whenever they want to remotely connect to secure IT systems. Voice, is a biometric technology that is simply captured – ALL BYOD devices have in-built microphones – and a biometric that people are happy to share. It does have challenges such as the environment and noise, but these can be managed using suitable adaption algorithms.



About Voicekey Limited

Voicekey Limited is a developer and integrator of Voice Biometrics and associated technologies. We are working with major multinationals to create successful voice verified solutions.

Developed from research at Nottingham Trent University, *Voicekey* is British innovation with patents pending worldwide. The *Voicekey* software extracts key unique features from an individual's voice in order to create bespoke biometric classifiers (voicekeys) and voice identity certificates that, in a BYOD scenario, can be stored locally on a user's smartphone devices. These voice identity management resources can then subsequently be used to locally verify the identity of an individual prior to remote IT system access.

Voicekey has a whole range of applications and can be used in a number of different business solutions. It is an enabling technology and so can be integrated into a variety of applications from a company's corporate or transactional systems or integrated into mobile applications. In fact *Voicekey* can be deployed almost anywhere requiring a user to be uniquely recognised and very effectively replaces passwords, PINs and other controls for many applications. Other applications include:

- **mCommerce:** Mobile commerce (mCommerce) is a rapidly developing retail model that requires the development of simple, low-cost, secure & trusted mobile point of sale systems. Voicekey has developed the mTrust™ system that uses voice generated barcodes on consumer smart phones to facilitate mobile loyalty and mCommerce transactions using an innovative mobile point-of-sale device.
- **On-Device:** Conventional PIN/password based user authentication on mobile devices is problematic. In conjunction with a US multinational Voicekey is developing a novel on-device version of its Voicekey ID identity management solution. This will enable users to logon to devices using only their voice.
- **Password reset:** Market research suggests that it can cost an organisation around 10 Euros to reset an employee's passwords this can be 60% of the traffic to an IT helpdesk. In collaboration with a Japanese multinational, Voicekey has developed an automated password reset system which verifies the user's identity using the IVR variant of our product VoicekeyID.
- **Identifying users contacting call centres.** Users and call centre agents spend 22 seconds at the start of every call just verifying the identity of a caller. *Voicekey* automates this security challenge in order to increase user convenience and save call centre staff time.

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