



TF-CSIRT

TRANSITS I SCM – Secure Communication Module

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- **Discussions**

- There are four group discussions in this material.
- Group Discussion 1: how do we trust secure comms / do this as a group and have a matrix of technical, people, legal, other on a flipchart to note down ideas.
- Group Discussion 2: standards for secure communication. have the group do this in small groups and feedback to the main group.
- Group Discussion 3: What tools do we use and how do we secure? Group Discussion.
- Group Discussion 4: Is PGP still relevant? You might want to move this / not do based on the experience of the group with PGP. See right.

- **PGP**

- There are three sections on PGP. An advanced group would probably only need section 5a. A less advanced group would need section 5b as well to go into further detail.
- Section 5c is for a PGP keysigning party. Do not use if you are not going to do this with the group.



Gain an
overview of
elements to
communicate
securely

Discuss when
and how a
CSIRT needs to
communicate
securely

Know how to
get started

Understand key
reference
documents to
help you



How can communications be secured?

Tools and standards

PGP/GPG

Usage in the CSIRT communities

Wrap-up



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Why Secure Communication ?

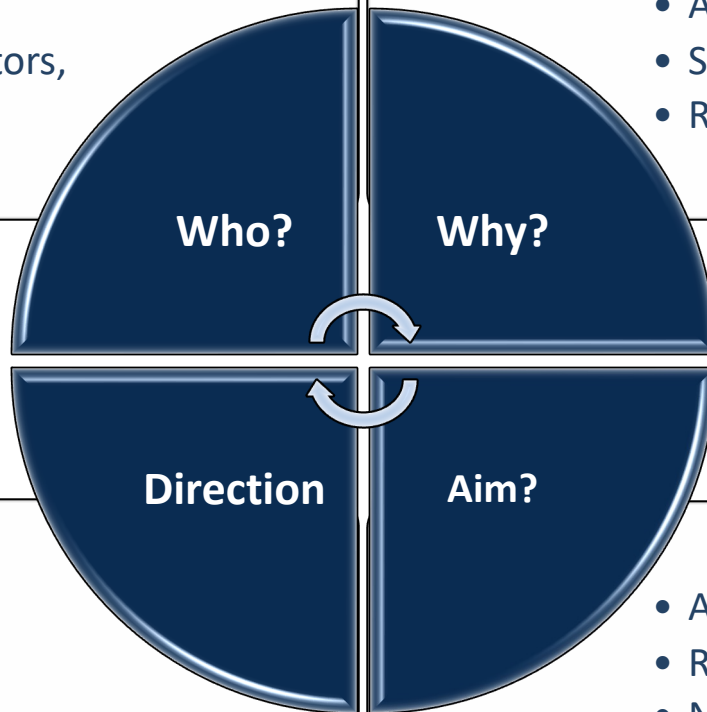
Introduction – Concepts, techniques and trust – What is “secure” ?

When it comes to communication... (1/2)



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- Stakeholders, Level of trust
- Constituents, Partners, Editors, Authorities ...



- Authoritative
- Supportive
- Rationale ...

- Incoming
- Outgoing
- Disseminating...

- Awareness, Information
- Request
- Notification, Alert...

When it comes to communication... (2/2)



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- Context,
- Sharing policy
- Content...

What?

- Processes
- Practices
- Tools...

How?

- Sample use cases
- Scenario
- Potential risks...

What if?

- Before
- During
- After...

When?



How do we trust / secure any communication?

(technical, human, policy / process, combined?)



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Communication Standards and Processes



- **TLP CLEAR**
Unlimited – no restrictions
- **TLP GREEN**
Community-wide, not public
- **TLP AMBER**
In-house (organization + clients), need-to-know distribution
- **TLP AMBER+STRICT**
In-house (organization ONLY), need-to-know distribution
- **TLP RED**
Personal, for named! recipients! only!



More information: <https://www.first.org/tlp>



NDA = Non
Disclosure
Agreement

Pre-agreed
process for
information
sharing

Legal contract
(must be able
to sign)

Does not
preclude use of
TLP



What problems might exist with using either of the standards for secure communication presented here (NDA / TLP)?

4 – Secure Information Handling Process



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**Information must be received
securely**

Information must be shared securely

**Receiver must know the rules of
sharing**



Information must be stored securely



**Does your team have a process on
how to handle information securely?**





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Technical Tools

Context and technical aspects



Voice

- Phone/mobile with VoIP/Chat apps

Messaging

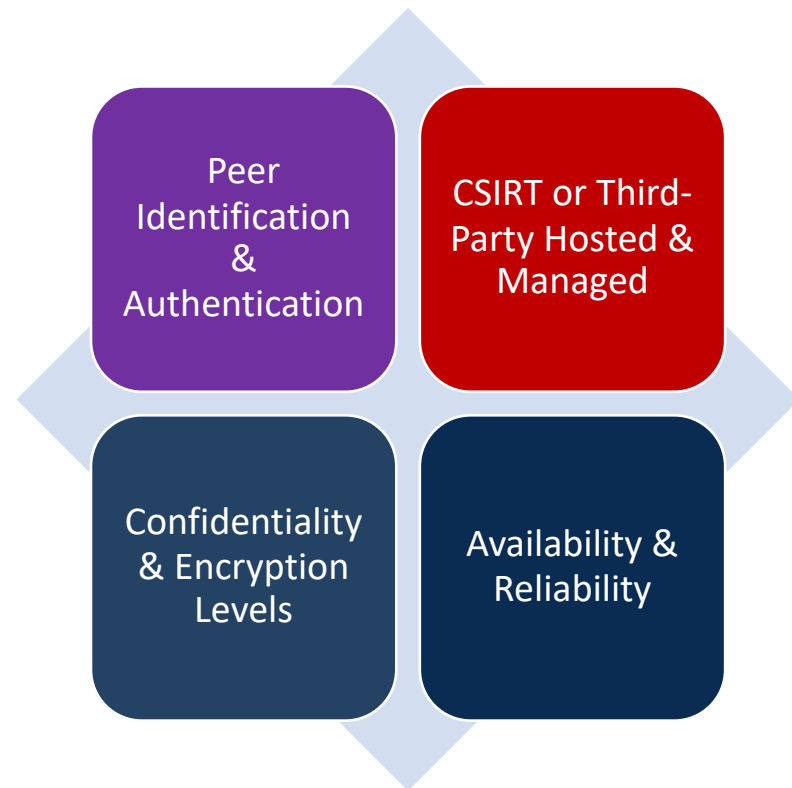
- Email, Instant Messaging

Web site or workspaces

- Web portal with form(s)

Sharing resources

- File repository, File shares





What tools do you use, and how secure are they?

"Secure" tools, really?



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Which ones are "secure"? What & who can you trust? Which criteria?

Can you ever trust a "free" product? Better with a "paid" product?

Can you trust XXX a very popular app/ecosystem?

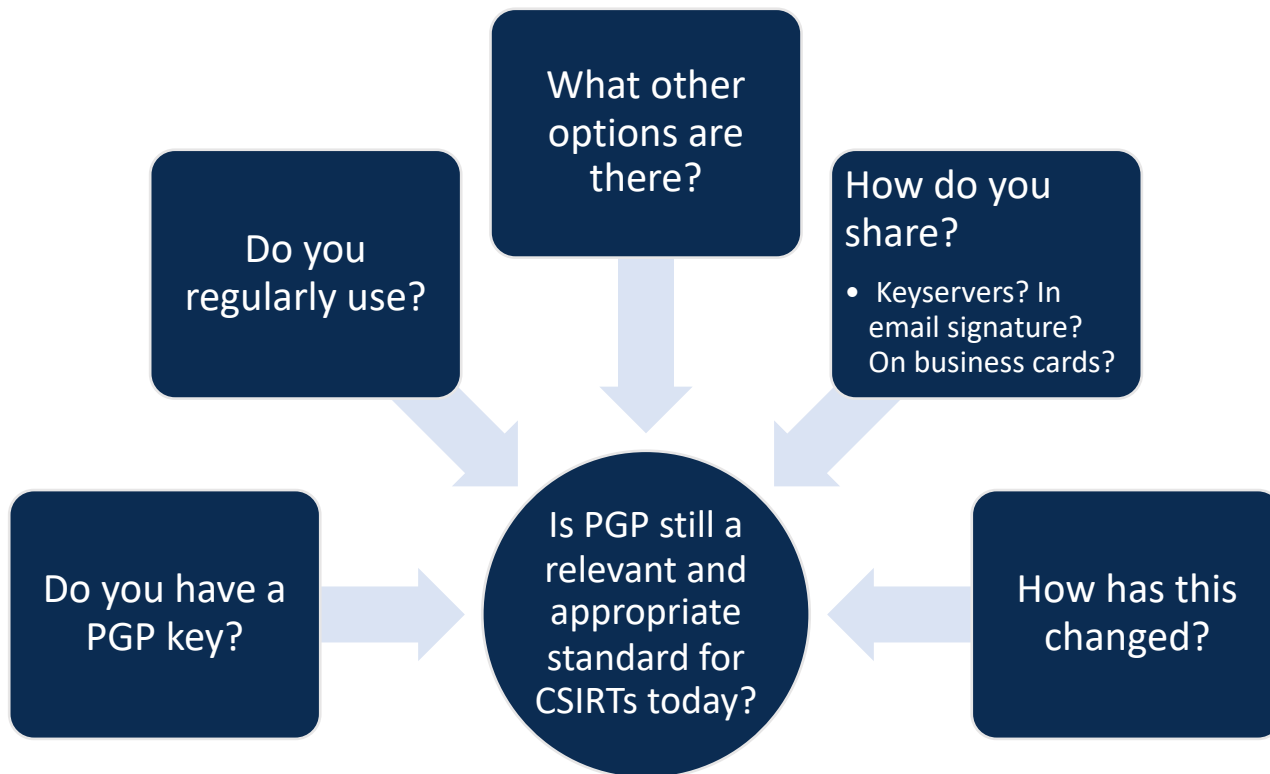
What about reliability and sustainability?

What are the underlying infrastructure dependencies?



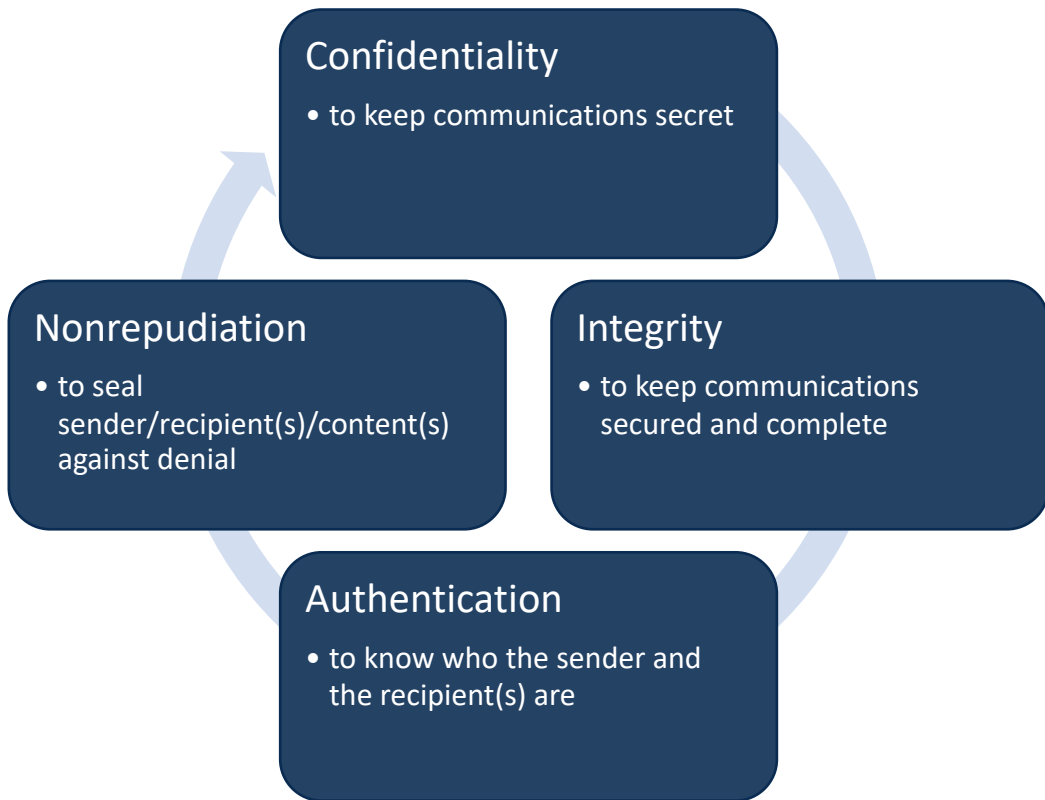
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Secure e-mail and Cryptography



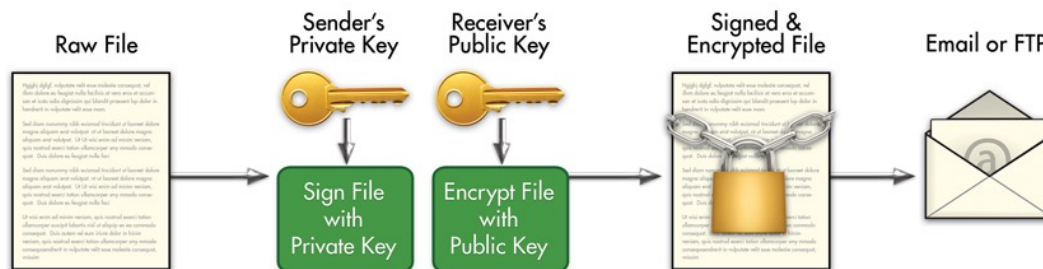


- **Cryptography**
 - Using algorithms to encrypt and decrypt data
- **Symmetric cryptography (Signal, file encryption, bitlocker)**
 - Symmetric encryption uses a shared secret
 - Same key/password/code used to encrypt and decrypt data
 - Faster
- **Asymmetric cryptography (PGP, Adobe Sign, TLS)**
 - Asymmetric encryption is based on secrets that are kept private and corresponding public keys
 - Different key used to encrypt and decrypt data
 - Easier to share

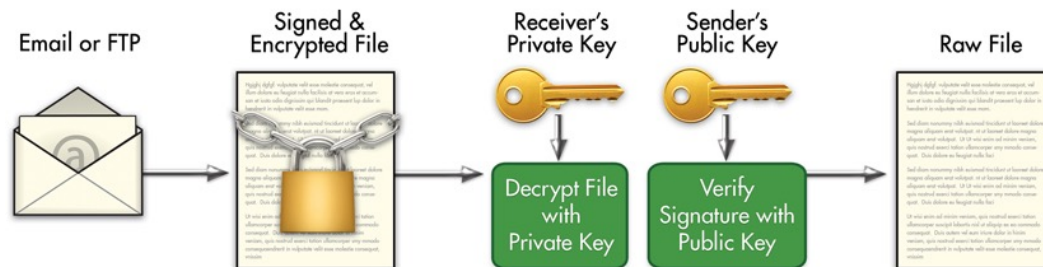




Sender | Signing & Encryption Process



Receiver | Decryption & Verification Process



Relationship between identity(ies) and key(s)



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- **Identity = email address \neq a real person**
- A direct association between an identity and a keypair
- It's not a one-to-one relationship
 - A keypair can be related to multiple email addresses

Example

pub 4096R/[40009346](#) 2018-01-12 [Olivier Caleff <security@caleff.com>](#)

Olivier Caleff (OPS-T) <opst@caleff.com>

Olivier Caleff (CSIRT) <csirt@caleff.com>

Olivier Caleff (FIRST) <first@caleff.com>

Olivier Caleff (TF-CSIRT) <tfcsirt@caleff.com>

Olivier Caleff (TRANSITS) <transits@caleff.com>

Olivier Caleff (OpenCSIRT) <opencsirt@caleff.com>

Fingerprint=3D75 29D8 0593 8153 5FC6 55C9 6BFC B595 4000 9346

- An email address can be related to multiple keypairs... but is it wise?

Relationship between identity(ies) and humans



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- A human can have multiple employers over his career, and different roles at any given time
- A human can have multiple valid and obsolete email addresses

Example

```
Type bits/keyID      Date      User ID
-----
pub  4096R/033BB337  2018-09-17  Olivier Caleff (Evalueateur Technique COFRAC) <cofrac@caleff.com>
      Fingerprint=23CD E651 AA5F 43F2 B478 CFEF 4C28 2F2A 033B B337
-----
pub  4096R/72BEEF98  2018-03-17  Olivier Caleff <olivier.caleff@sanofi.com>
      Fingerprint=FA78 22EE 35CE D3E2 6CCC 7137 946C BE3D 72BE EF98
-----
pub  4096R/40009346  2018-01-12  Olivier Caleff <security@caleff.com>
      Olivier Caleff (OPS-T) <opst@caleff.com>
      Olivier Caleff (CSIRT) <csirt@caleff.com>
      Olivier Caleff (FIRST) <first@caleff.com>
      Olivier Caleff (TF-CSIRT) <tfcirt@caleff.com>
      Olivier Caleff (TRANSITS) <transits@caleff.com>
      Olivier Caleff (OpenCSIRT) <opencsirt@caleff.com>
      Fingerprint=3D75 29D8 0593 8153 5FC6 55C9 6BFC B595 4000 9346
-----
pub  2048R/17A98D8B  2013-04-29  *** KEY REVOKED *** [not verified]
      Olivier Caleff <olivier.caleff@ssi.gouv.fr>
      Fingerprint=B00B C262 1538 CA29 648B 6C54 A0B5 56A0 17A9 8D8B
-----
pub  1024D/D6BA77CC  2010-09-07  *** KEY REVOKED *** [not verified]
      Olivier Caleff (CERT-DEVOTEAM) <olivier.caleff@cert-devoteam.com>
      Fingerprint=B41F 22CB C111 9FBE B2C0 OFE3 853D 56DB D6BA 77CC
```




Single Key, Single Person

- Pros: easier to manage to easier find you
- Cons: anyone can see your identities, your life can tracked via roles, might not meet company policy

Multiple Keys, Single Person

- Pros: easier to split identities
- Cons: people may use the wrong key

Shared Team Key

- Pros: simple approach
- Cons: against authentication principle, issues when people leave

Main Key with Subkeys for Team

- Pros: Easier to manage people joining and leaving
- Cons: Needs active management, might not fit with other personal communication



PGP = Pretty Good Privacy

- 1991 - Phil Zimmerman
- Now commercial
- RFC1991

OpenPGP

- 1997, IETF WG
- Non-proprietary
- RFC2440 / 4880

GPG = GnuPG

- 1999, Werner Koch
- Implementation of RFC4880

S/MIME

- 1995, RSA Data Security
- RFC2045 (MIME)
- RFC3850/1



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External Communication





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Build your Network

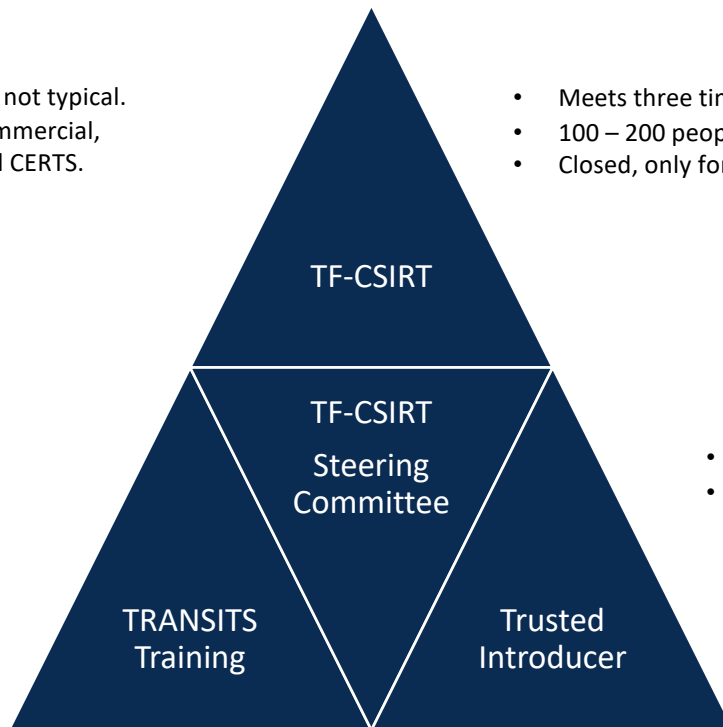


- GÉANT Task Force but not typical.
- Even mix of NREN, commercial, government / national CERTS.

- Meets three times a year.
- 100 – 200 people per meeting.
- Closed, only for teams in TI.

- Provides both taught courses and licenses materials for general use.

- Procured service.
- Supports listing, accreditation and certification of teams.



What is Trusted Introducer?



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A process for CSIRT teams to get to know each other and build trust.

A registry of CSIRT teams.

A set of tools that can be used by the teams for incident response.

An accreditation and certification process to help teams express their trustworthiness.

Traditionally Europe + surrounding regions but now accepts all teams.



Listing

- Free service
- Simple team listing in registry
- Must be supported by 2 existing teams
- Can attend TF-CSIRT general sessions

Accreditation

- Cost of 1,200 euros per year, plus one time fee (800 euros)
- Supported self-assessment against a set of criteria
- Can attend closed meetings, be on closed lists, access closed area of website

Certification

- Cost of 2,400 euros (in Europe, more outside)
- Full audited certification



- APCERT,
- AfricaCERT,
- AMPARO,
- FIRST,
- ENISA,
- RIPE.

We align with the Regional Internet Regions



The mission of TF-CSIRT is to facilitate and improve the collaboration within the European CSIRT community to make cyber space a better place

Why Us?



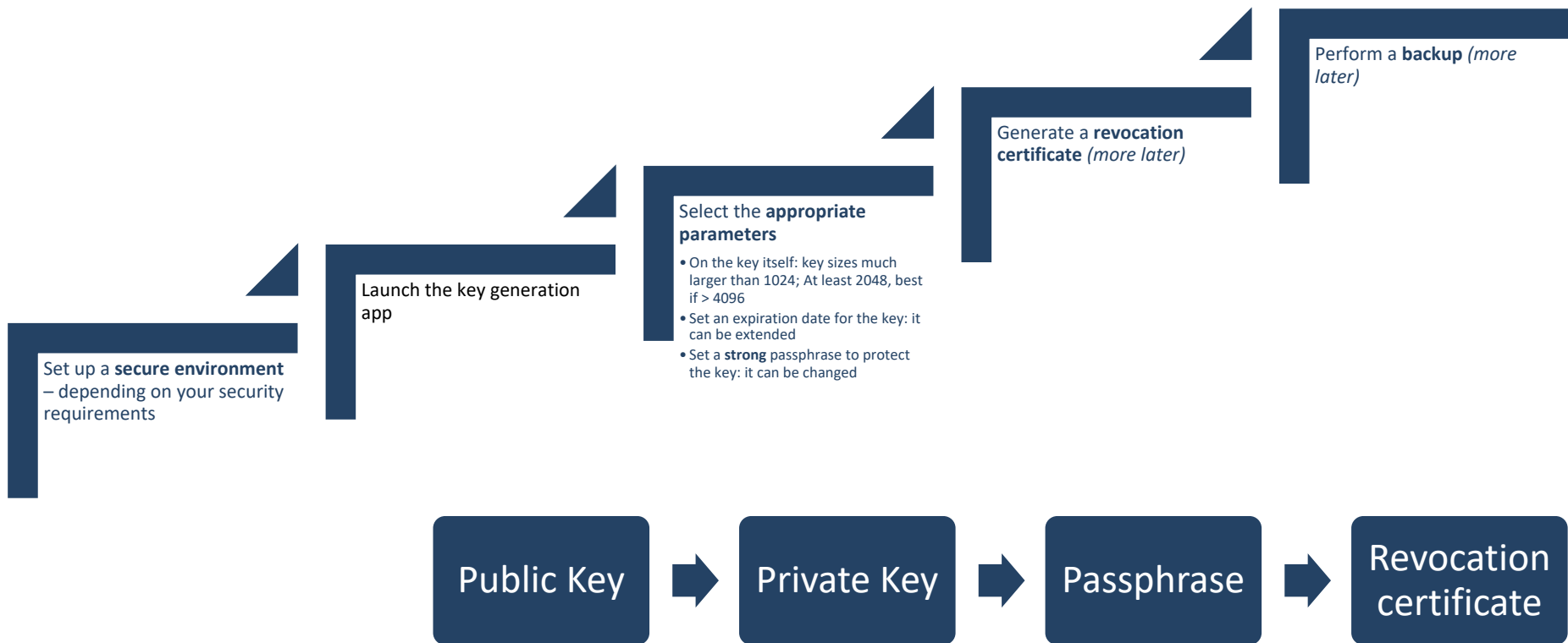
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“TF-CSIRT operates with a European mindset, and strives to make its services and meetings inclusive, accessible, easy-to-reach, and affordable for all CSIRTs in Europe – regardless of sector. Through the Trusted Introducer service, TF-CSIRT can offer well-maintained and up-to-date information and provide teams with recognition status via its differentiated listing, accreditation and certification processes.”



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Getting started with PGP / GPG





- **Fingerprint** - a recognisable 128-bit hash value, in hexadecimals like
 - 3D75 29D8 0593 8153 5FC6 55C9 6BFC B595 4000 9346
- **KeyID** is identical to last 8 or 16 hexadecimal positions → '0x40009346' or '0x6BFCB59540009346'
- Check fingerprint **and** name/e-mail
 - The fingerprint is not guaranteed unique



- **Key storage**

- Export the private key and keep it in a secured and controlled location
- Export the revocation certificate
- Keep the passphrase in a safe location

- **Key sharing**

- Public announcement
- Upload on major publicly available servers
 - <https://pgp.mit.edu/> – <http://pgp.circl.lu/> – <https://pgp.surfnet.nl/>
 - <http://pool.sks-keyservers.net/>
 - Others: <https://keys.openpgp.org/> – <https://keyserver.pgp.com/>
- Sharing with a CSIRT community
- Next step: Ensuring of authenticity of the shared key



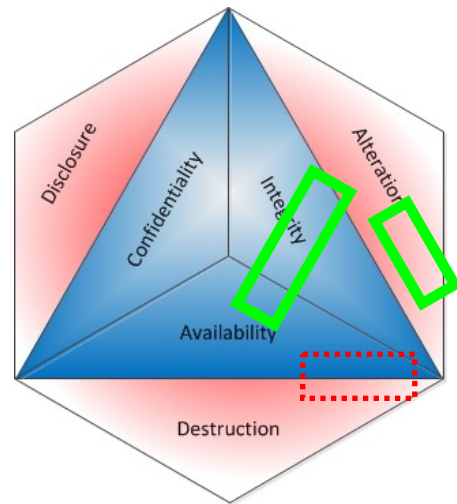
- **Key update**
 - Adding an email address
 - Extending the duration of the validity
- **Key revocation**
 - When the key becomes useless
 - When there are some risks that it has been compromised
- Do not think about modifying or deleting
- **Revocation is the only way**
 - What do you need to revoke a key?



- Gathering to cross-sign the keys of participants
- Participants print their key-data (email, fingerprint) and bring their ID ready
- For each **individual** key presented, verify individual's identity (against passport or national ID with photo)
- Do this effectively by rotating like the track of a tank
- Sign all the keys that you verified (this is best practice – but you decide based on your policy)
- Need electronic copy of public key from keyservers
- Add signed keys to keyservers in order to have your signature visible to the world



- **Public key cryptography with a keypair**
 - **PUBLIC** key to be **shared** over key servers
 - **PRIVATE** key to be protected and **kept PRIVATE**
- **Encryption/DEcryption**
 - ENcrypted with the recipient's public key
 - DEcrypted with the recipient's private key
 - Encryption enforces Confidentiality and Integrity,
 - Availability is not covered
 - Encrypted information can be sent over insecure communication links
- **Signing with a PRIVATE key**
 - Makes recipients know you are the author of a message



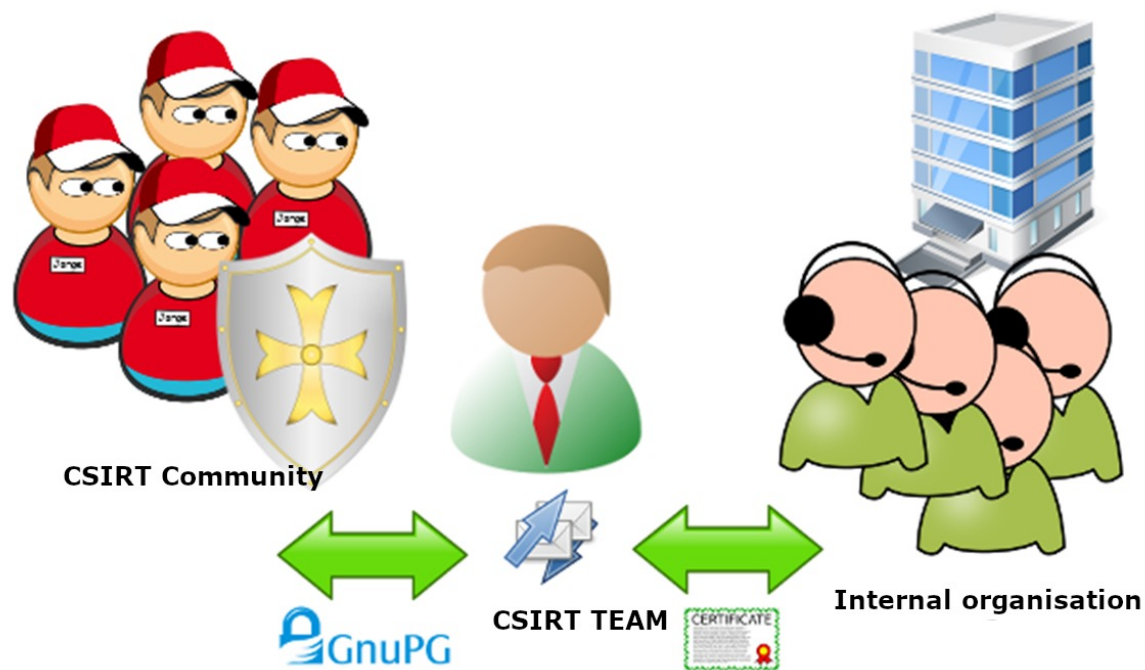


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PGP Usage in CSIRT communities



- A team GPG key is a **MUST-HAVE**
- The team managers (main + alternate) **MUST HAVE** their own GPG keypairs
- The communication basis for tools such as MISP
- Key Sharing parties are organized at most CSIRT conferences and at all on-site TRANSITS trainings





Symmetric encryption uses a shared secret

- A password/code to encrypt/decrypt on both sides
- Does not scale for bigger groups or communities

S/MIME and PGP/MIME both based on:

Asymmetric encryption is based on secrets that are kept private and corresponding public keys

- Keypair: **private/secret** and **public** keys
- **Secret key** unlocked by passphrase - remember that the chain is as strong as its weakest link
- Items encrypted with your **PUBLIC key** can only be decrypted using your **SECRET key**
- Items signed with your **SECRET key** can be recognized using your **PUBLIC key**
- Additionally, the signing process is used to ensure integrity



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PGP Keysigning Party



- Gathering to cross-sign the keys of participants
- We've printed participant key-data (email, fingerprint)
- Bring your ID ready
- For each **individual** key presented, verify individual's identity (against passport or national ID with photo)
- Do this effectively by rotating like the track of a tank
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SCM – Secure Communication Module

Authors: Olivier Caleff, Jeffeny Hoogervorst & Don Stikvoort

Version: experimental

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