



# Introduction to IBM MQ Advanced Message Security (AMS)



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## Agenda

- What is MQ AMS?
- Key features
- Pre-requisites and runtime environment
- Logical architecture
- Components
- Installation & configuration
- Summary

## Message Level Security - Requirements

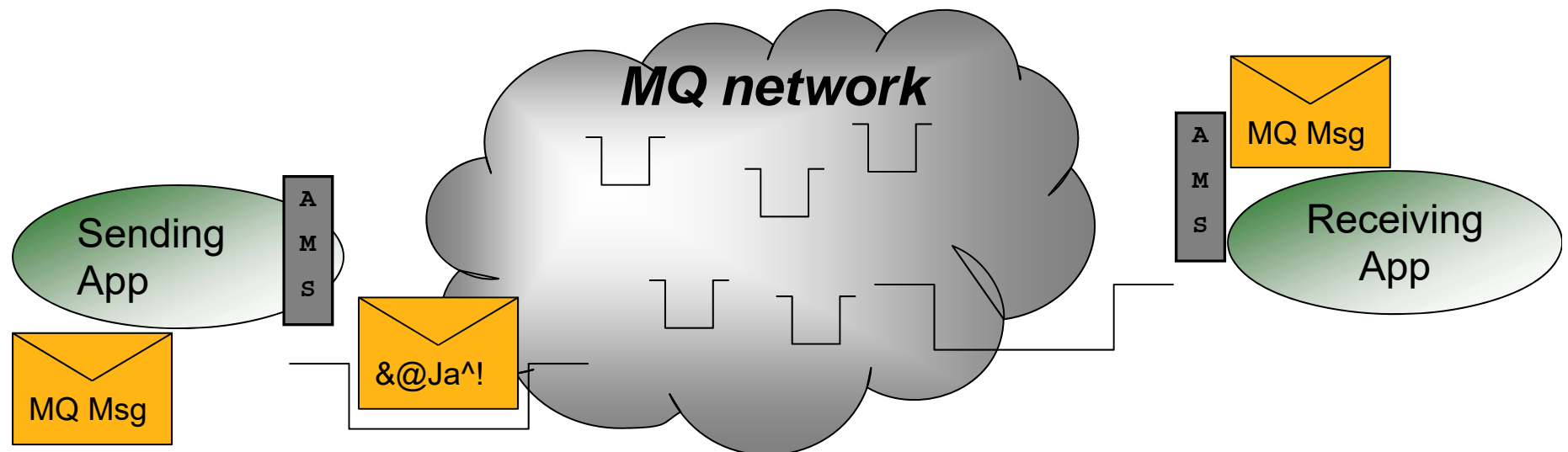
- Assurance that messages have not been altered in transit
  - When issuing payment information messages, ensure the payment amount does not change before reaching the receiver
- Assurance that messages originated from the expected source
  - When processing control messages, validate the sender
- Assurance that messages can only be viewed by intended recipient(s)
  - When sending confidential information

## Why use message-level security?

- MQ networks : difficult to prove security of messages
  - Against message injection / message modification / unauthorized viewing
  - Prevalence of sub-contractors
  - Increasing levels of partnerships
- More and more data subject to standards compliance
  - Credit card data protected by PCI
  - Confidential government data
  - Personal information e.g. healthcare related
  - Data at rest, administrative privileges, etc
- Remember that base WebSphere MQ only provides message encryption when the MQ messages *are in transit over channels*. Without AMS, ***MQ messages have never been encrypted while they are sitting at rest in the queues with standard MQ!***

## What is IBM MQ Advanced Message Security?

- Provides security for MQ messages, end-to-end with no application changes
- It is a simple “add-on” product that enhances WebSphere MQ or IBM MQ
  - Base MQ security is not superseded
- Security policies are used to define the security level required which leverage X.509 certificates



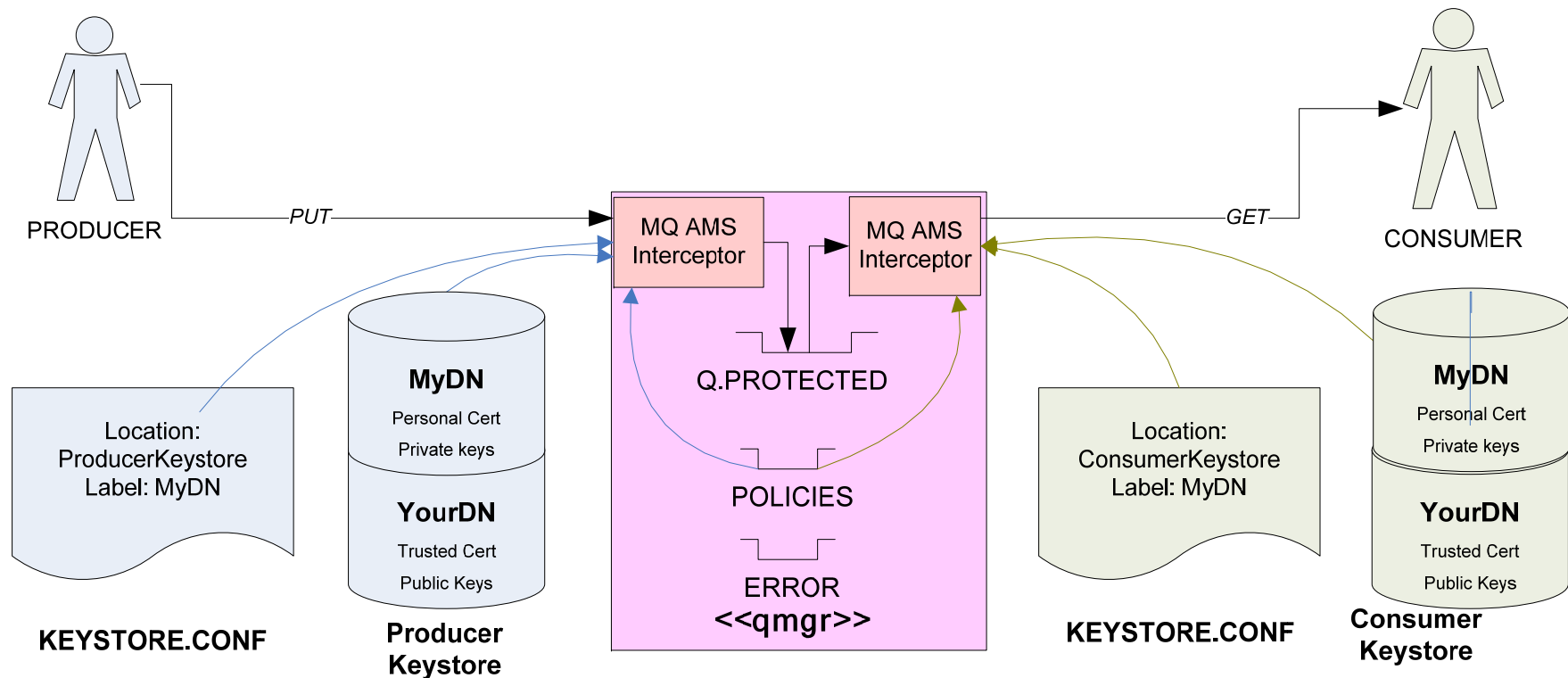
## AMS Key Features

- Provides additional security to the security over what is provided by base MQ
- End-to-end security, message level protection
  - A security policy defines what protection should be applied to messages
  - AMS intercepts messages at “endpoints” and applies the policy
  - Well suited to point to point, can also protect publish/subscribe but...
  - ... have to know the identity of the intended recipients ahead of operation
- Asymmetric cryptography used to protect each message
  - Integrity Policies prove message origin, content not changed
  - Privacy policies as per integrity plus each message encrypted with unique key
- Non-invasive
  - No code changes or re-linking of applications
- Administrative interfaces for policy management
  - Command line
  - MQ Explorer (Security Policies - now a default plugin)

## Environments supported

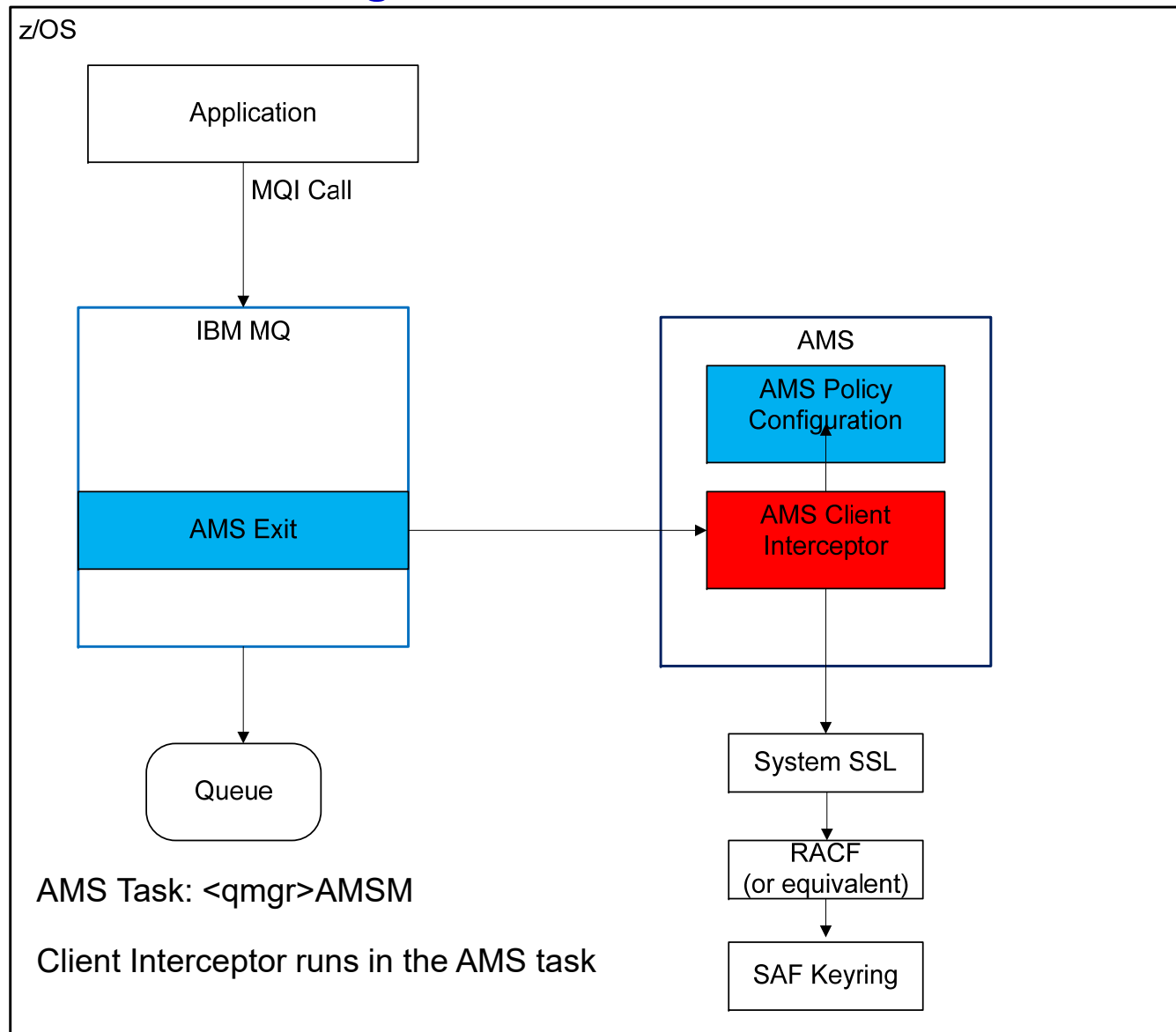
- MQ AMS functionality is implemented in “interceptors”
  - There are no long running processes or daemons (except in z/OS)
  - Existing MQ applications **do not require changes**
- Implemented as standard Queue Manager API exit on distributed, and “private” API exit on z/OS
- Three interceptors are provided:
  1. **MQ Server interceptor** for local (bindings mode) MQI API and Java applications.
  2. **MQ Client API interceptor** for remote (client mode) MQ API applications.
  3. **MQ Java client interceptor** for remote (client mode) MQ JMS and MQ classes for java applications (J2EE and J2SE).

# Logical Architecture Design – Distributed Platforms





## Logical Architecture Design – z/OS



## WebSphere MQ Advanced Message Security – Security Features

- AMS is an optional component of MQ, not a replacement to base MQ security
- WebSphere MQ base review
  - Authentication (Local OS user id, SSL peer and CHLAUTH for channels)
  - Authorization (OAM and CHLAUTH on distributed, RACF on z/OS)
  - Integrity (SSL for channels)
  - Privacy (SSL for channels)
- WebSphere MQ Advanced Message Security
  - Integrity (End-to-end digital signing of messages)
  - Privacy (End-to-end message content encryption)

## Message protection policies

- Created or updated or removed by
  - *setmqsp1* command (invoke using CSQ0UTIL utility on z/OS)
  - MQ AMS plug-in for MQ Explorer (GUI) (distributed only)
- Policies are stored in queue  
`'SYSTEM.PROTECTION.POLICY.QUEUE'`
- Each protected queue can have only one policy
- For distributed queuing, protect the queue locally (source QM) as well as the remotely (target QM)
- Three types of policies:
  - Message Integrity policy
  - Message Privacy policy
  - Confidentiality policy
- Display policies with command `'dspmqsp1'`
- Messages not meeting policy requirements are placed in queue  
`'SYSTEM.PROTECTION.ERROR.QUEUE'`

## Message integrity policy definition

- There are message signing algorithms: MD5, SHA1, SHA256, SHA384 and SHA512
- The list of authorized signers is optional
  - If no authorized signers are specified then any application can sign messages.
  - If authorized signers are specified then only messages signed by these applications can be retrieved and messages put in the queue by unauthorized signers will not be retrievable.
  - Messages from other signers are sent to the error queue.

### Syntax:

```
setmqspl
```

```
-m <queue_manager>
```

```
-p <protected_queue_name>
```

```
-s <MD5 | SHA1 | SHA256 |  
SHA384 | SHA512>
```

```
-a <Authorized signer DN>
```

```
-a <Authorized signer DN>
```

```
-r <Recipient signer DN>
```

### Example:

```
setmqspl -m QMZA
```

```
-p AMSDEMO.INTEGRITY.QUEUE
```

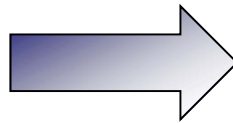
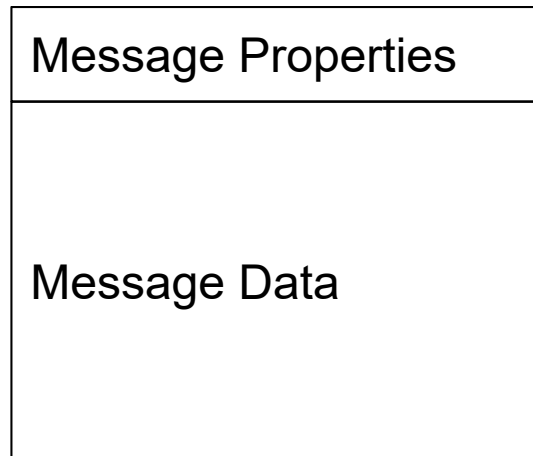
```
-s MD5
```

```
-a 'CN=user2,O=ibm,C=US'
```

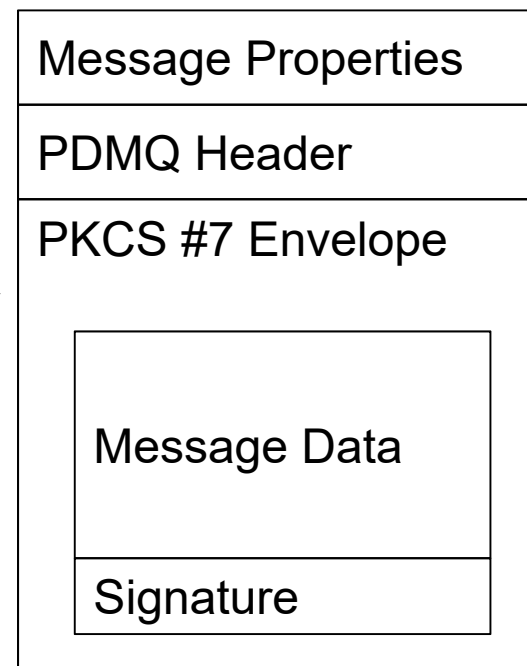
```
-r 'CN=user2,O=ibm,C=US'
```

## MQ AMS : Integrity Message Format

### Original MQ Message

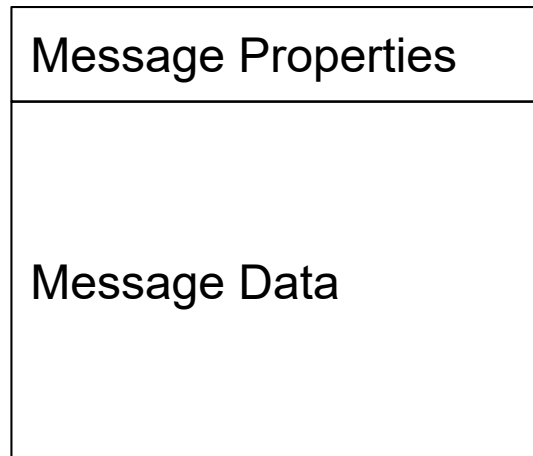


### AMS Signed Message

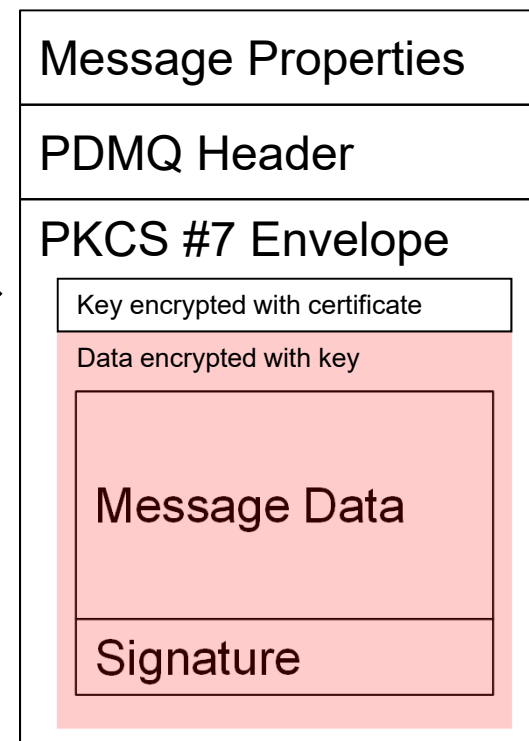
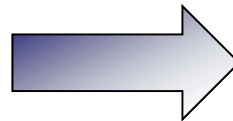


## WebSphere MQ AMS : Privacy Message Format

### Original MQ Message



### AMS Encrypted Message



# Encrypted message examples (access using queue aliases)

## Message Integrity

Message 3 - Properties

General  
Report  
Context  
Identifiers  
Segmentation  
**Data**

Data

Total length: 1354  
Data length: 1000  
Format:  
Coded character set identifier: 500  
Encoding: 273  
Message data: &à(é

PDMQ Header  
PKCS Envelope

Message

```

68 | &à(é.....Ç...Ç|
00 | .....4.....Ë...|
48 | .....AMSDemo..|
40 | INTEGRITY.QUEUE|
40 | .....b.ú...f||
86 | cf7...µb.ö.b.ö.|
02 | .....f...fcf7..|
05 | .....f...fcf7..|
07 | .....f...fcf7..|
97 | µb...b..Thu Sep|
E3 | 04 11:07:42 EDT|
82 | 2014-- Life's b|
81 | ut a walking sha|
A8 | dow, a poor play|
84 | er That struts a|
A4 | nd frets his hou|
85 | r upon the stage|
85 | , And then is he|
40 | ard no more; it |
82 | is a tale Told b|
  
```

Close

## Message Privacy

Message 1 - Properties

General  
Report  
Context  
Identifiers  
Segmentation  
**Data**

Data

Total length: 1470  
Data length: 1000  
Format:  
Coded character set identifier: 500  
Encoding: 273  
Message data: &à(é

PDMQ Header?  
PKCS Envelope?  
Message?

```

00 68 | &à(é.....Ç...Ç|
00 00 | .....4.....Ë...|
00 00 | .....AMSDemo..|
D6 4B | .....AMSDemo..|
40 40 | PRIVACY.QUEUE|
40 40 | .....b.ê...f||
3F 02 | cf7...µb.ä.b..|
2B 31 | ...a..aG.....|
30 0A | 8...i...ië.þ..|
06 03 | .i...ñâ(...þ..|
0D 06 | i... (ëä...|
80 66 | ..fcf7... ..a0Ä|
BD 28 | Ä..ä..;..äB.$ð..|
9A 64 | x1B.Ä¿5P..`ÿät#Ä|
C9 9D | l..°...=kú. B>0èI.|
1B 76 | 6E+.gðlÿiXI.Ä.Î|
8A 9F | ..G..üÜ¿-9[v..«H|
E0 5D | 11}.%Lä°.+.Ä~\)|
70 8B | èV¿jg:Îµ=0HÄ.Îø»|
FE 30 | 0Nöie8büY.¿S..Ü.|
  
```

Close

## Message privacy/**confidentiality** policy definition

- Encryption algorithms: RC2, DES, 3DES, AES128 and AES256.
- Signature algorithms: MD5, SHA1, SHA256, SHA384, SHA512, and **NONE** was added in V9 for a new policy of **confidentiality**..
- Message privacy requires that encrypted messages are also signed.
- The list of authorized signers is optional.
- It is mandatory to specify at least one message recipient
- Messages retrieved by un-authorized recipients cause messages to be sent to the SYSTEM.PROTECTION.ERROR.QUEUE when dequeue attempted (destructive get not browse).

### Syntax:

setmqsp1

-m <queue\_manager>

-p <protected\_queue\_name>

-s <signature algorithm | **NONE** >

-e <encryption algorithm>

-c < 0 | # | \* > **key reuse count**

-a <Authorized signer DN1>

-a <Authorized signer DN2>

-r <Message recipient DN1>

-r <Message recipient DN2>

### Example:

setmqsp1 -m QMZA

-p AMSDEMO.PRIVACY.QUEUE

-s MD5

-e RC2

-a 'CN=user1,O=ibm,C=US'

-r 'CN=user2,O=ats,C=US'



## Keystores, KeyStores and X.509 certificates

- **Each MQ application** producing or consuming protected messages **requires access to a keystore/keyring** that contains a personal X.509 (v2/v3) certificate and the associated private key.
- The keystore/keyring and certificate is accessed by the MQ AMS interceptors.
- The keystore/keyring must contain trusted certificates to validate message signers or to obtain the public keys of encrypted message recipients
- Keystore/keyring can be the same as that used for MQ SSL
- Several types of keystore are supported (Distributed): CMS, JKS and JCEKS.
- On Distributed MQ, the IBM Key Management (iKeyman, part of GSKit) is provided to create and do simple management of local keystores
- On z/OS, standard SAF product (eg. RACF) used to create certificates which are SAF-managed and must be on a keyring named “drq.ams.keyring”
- 3rd party software is available from IBM (or others) to provide more robust, industrialisation of keystore maintenance.

## MQ AMS configuration file - Distributed

- MQ AMS interceptors require a configuration file, eg. `KEYSTORE.CONF`, which contains:
  - Type of keystore: CMS, JKS, JCEKS
  - Location of the keystore.
  - Label of the personal certificate.
  - Passwords to access keystore and private keys (or `.sth` stash for CMS format)
- Interceptors locate the configuration file using one of the following methods:
  - Environment variable `MQS_KEYSTORE_CONF=<path to conf file>`.
  - Checking default locations and file names.
    - Platform dependent. For example in UNIX: `"$HOME/.mqs/keystore.conf"`

## AMS z/OS installation

- Customization tasks for SYS1.PARMLIB
  - Update the Authorized Program Facility (APF) member (PROGxx) to add SDRQAUTH
  - Update the Program Properties Table (PPT) member (SCHEDxx) to add CSQ0DDRV
  - Review the common storage tracking member(DIAGxx) to ensure it allows for the allocation of common storage in user key
- Create a AMS task JCL procedure for the AMS started task
  - Based on sample member SCSQPROC(CSQ4AMSM)
- Define SAF profiles for started task, key rings and digital certificates
  - Set up the userid for the started AMS task and give SAF permissions,
  - Add SCSQAUTH and SCSQANLE to RACF program controlled list
- Note: userids that will be putting & getting protected messages will require:
  - An OMVS segment associated with their userid (or set default with FACILITY class, BPX.DEFAULT.USER)
  - SAF UPDATE permission for the FACILITY class, IRR.DIGTCERT.LISTRING

## Sample RACF Commands required for AMS initial setup

Give AMS task's userid access to protected resources

```
PERMIT IRR.DIGTCERT.LISTRING CLASS(FACILITY) ID(QMZAUSR) ACCESS(UPDATE)
PERMIT IRR.DIGTCERT.LISTRING CLASS(FACILITY) ID(USER1) ACCESS(UPDATE)
PERMIT BPX.SERVER CLASS(FACILITY) ID(QMZAUSR) ACCESS(READ)
PERMIT BPX.DAEMON CLASS(FACILITY) ID(QMZAUSR) ACCESS(READ)

SETROPTS RACLIST(FACILITY) REFRESH

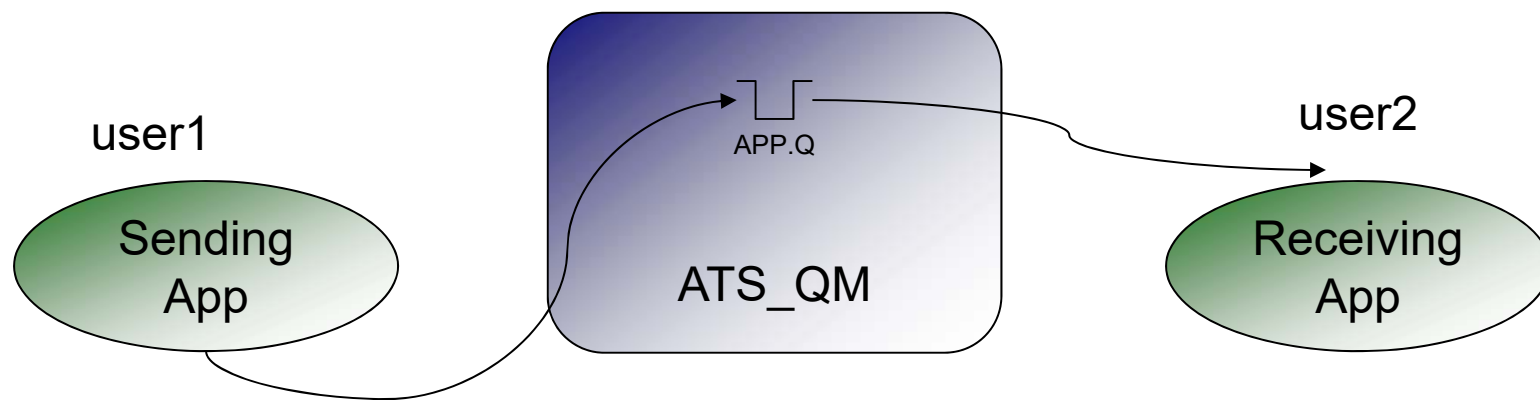
RDEFINE SURROGAT BPX.SRV.* UACC(NONE)
PERMIT BPX.SRV.* CLASS(SURROGAT) ID(QMZAUSR) ACCESS(READ)

SETROPTS RACLIST(SURROGAT) REFRESH

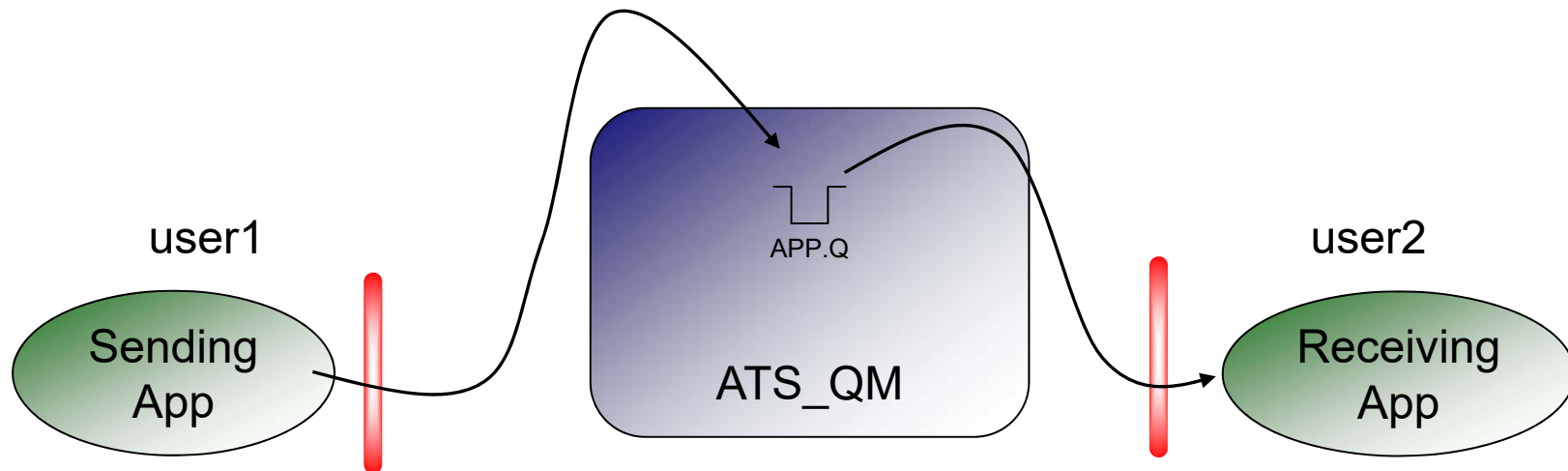
RALTER PROGRAM * ADDMEM('MQ800.SCSQAUTH'//NOPADCHK)
RALTER PROGRAM * ADDMEM('MQ800.SCSQSANLE'//NOPADCHK)
SETROPTS WHEN(PROGRAM) REFRESH
```

"Authorize" AMS modules for OMVS processes

## An existing MQ application – With No AMS protection

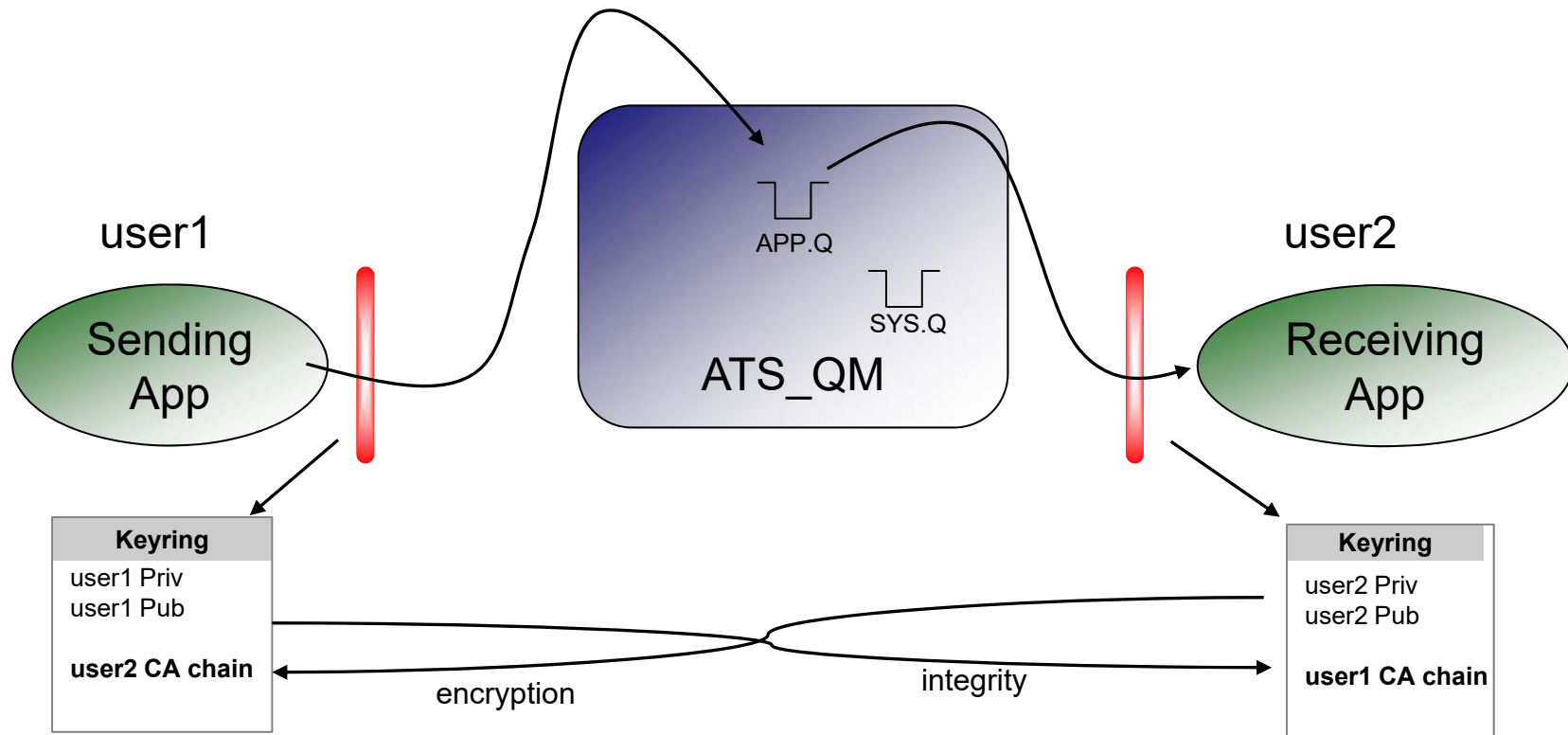


## How to secure an existing MQ application - SPLCAP(ENABLED)



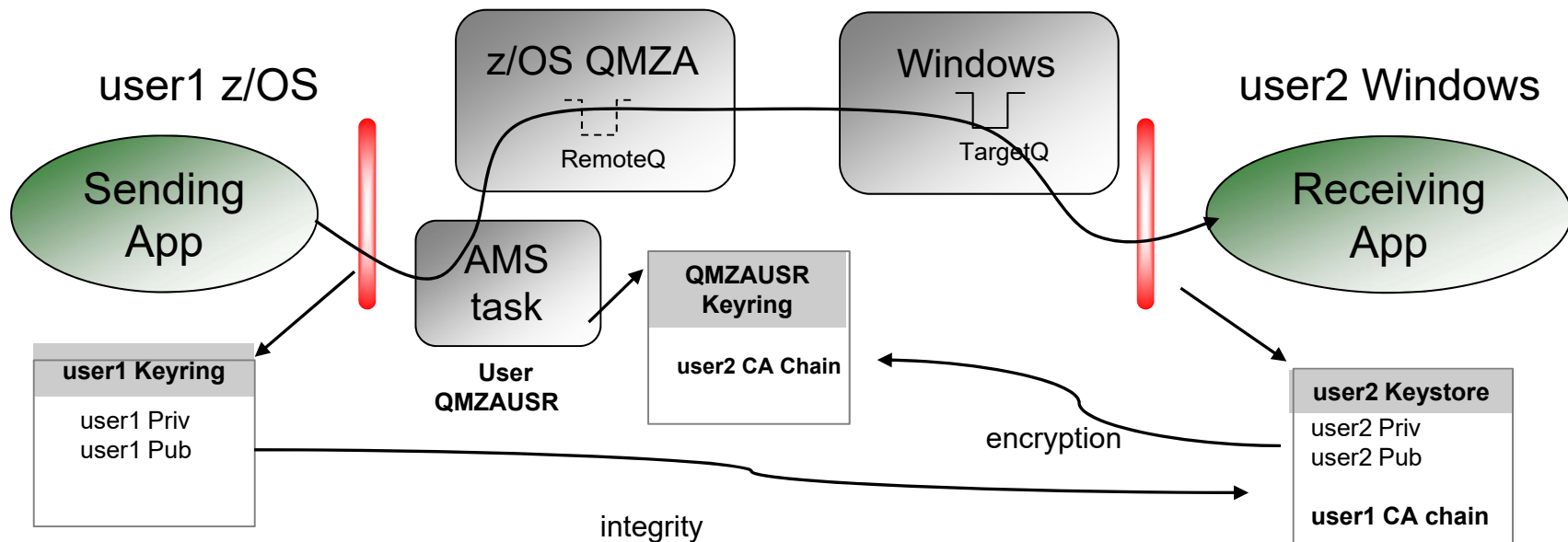
- Enable AMS on server

## How to secure an existing MQ application – Create Digital Certificates



- Enable AMS component on server
- Create keyring with public / private key pairs
  - a) connect sender's CA key chain to receiver's key ring for integrity
  - b) connect receiver's CA key chain to sender's key ring for encryption

## How to secure an existing MQ application – z/OS to Windows



- Enable AMS component on servers
- Create keystores/keyrings with public / private key pairs
  - a) Export and copy sender's CA key chain to receiver's keystore for integrity
  - b) Export and copy receiver's CA key chain to key ring for encryption

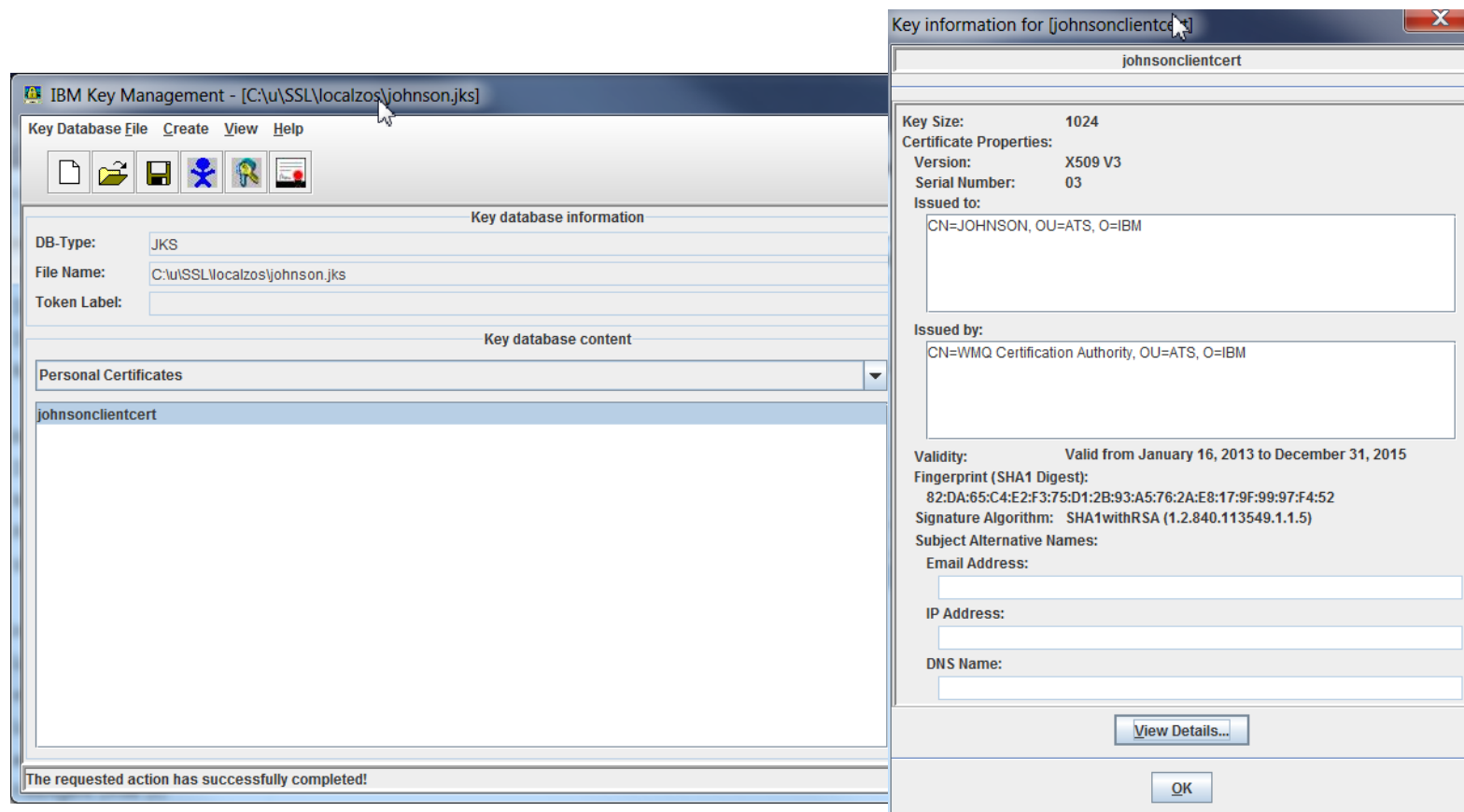


## AMS configuration on z/OS

- Define AMS system queues using the contents of CSQ4INSM in SCSQPROC
  - e.g.. by adding a new DD JCL statement to the CSQINP2 DD concatenation list
- Regenerate the queue manager's zPARM module after adding or changing the SPLCAP parameter in zPARM CSQ6SYSP macro to YES
- Add a new JCL procedure for the AMS main task, e.g. QMZAAMSM
  - Review and update as necessary the environment variables accessed by DD name ENVARS
  - Review and update as necessary the contents of the revoked certificate list accessed by DD name CRLFILE
- Create the required SAF (RACF) resources, keyrings, certificates, etc.
- Restart the queue manager and look for messages like:
  - CSQY025I QMZA IBM WebSphere MQ AMS for z/OS is installed
  - CSQY027I QMZA CSQ0ERST AMS STARTING
  - CSQY028I QMZA CSQ0AMST AMS HAS STARTED
- Ensure the AMS started task is active, e.g. QMZAAMSM

## Certificate management - Distributed

- IBM MQ supplies IBM Key Management Gui (strmqikm)
- Line-mode commands also available (eg. keytool,gsk7capicmd)
- On z/OS, RACF commands perform certificate management



## RACF Command Example for z/OS

CA to  
validate  
certificates

```
/* Create a CA certificate good thru my retirement + 1 year */
RACDCERT CERTAUTH +
    GENCERT SUBJECTSDN(CN('AMSCA') O('ibm') C('us')) +
    WITHLABEL('AMSCA') KEYUSAGE(CERTSIGN) NOTAFTER(DATE(2031/12/31))

/* Connect the CA certificate to the AMSD task's key ring */
RACDCERT ID(QMZAUSR) ADDRING(drq.ams.keyring)
RACDCERT ID(QMZAUSR) CONNECT(CERTAUTH LABEL('AMSCA') RING(drq.ams.keyring))

RACDCERT EXPORT( LABEL('AMSCA') ) CERTAUTH FORMAT(CERTB64) DSN('QMZA.AMSCA.CERT')

/* Make a key ring for each user that will be putting or getting messages */
RACDCERT ID(USER1) ADDRING(drq.ams.keyring)
/* Create personal certificates userids */
RACDCERT ID(USER1) GENCERT SUBJECTSDN(CN('user1') O('ibm') C('us')) -
    WITHLABEL('USER1') SIGNWITH(CERTAUTH LABEL('AMSCA')) -
    KEYUSAGE(HANDSHAKE DATAENCRYPT DOCSIGN) NOTAFTER(DATE(2020/12/31))
RACDCERT ID(USER1) ALTER (LABEL('USER1')) TRUST

/* Connect each users personal certificates to their key ring */
RACDCERT ID(USER1) CONNECT(RING(drq.ams.keyring) -
    LABEL('USER1') DEFAULT USAGE(PERSONAL))

/* Connect the CA certificate to each user's key ring */
RACDCERT ID(USER1) CONNECT(RING(drq.ams.keyring) -
    LABEL('AMSCA') CERTAUTH USAGE(CERTAUTH))
/* Connect user's public key to AMS task's key ring */
RACDCERT ID(QMZAUSR) CONNECT(RING(drq.ams.keyring) -
    ID(USER1) LABEL('USER1') USAGE(SITE))
/*
```

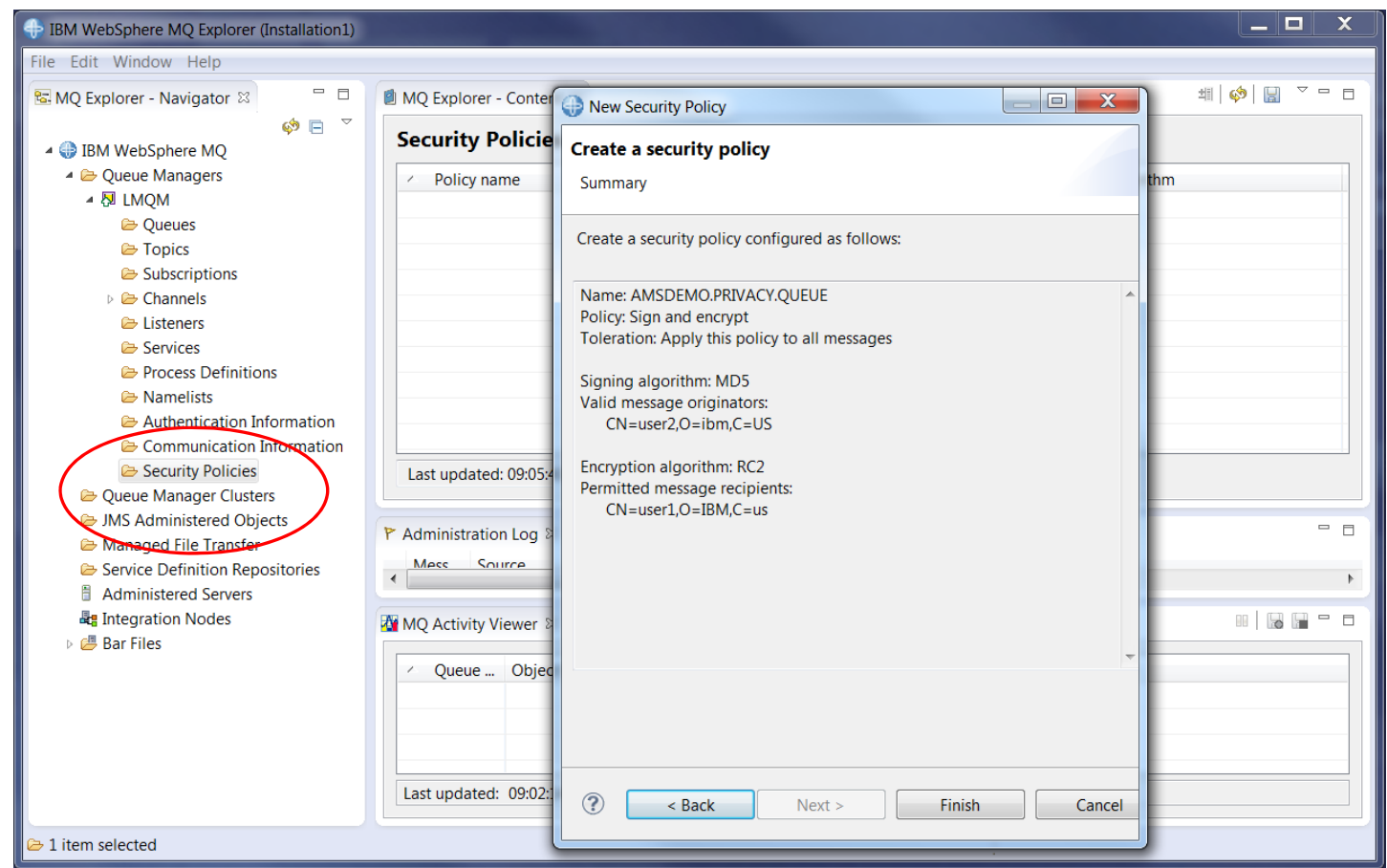
Export this CA so  
it can be  
imported into  
other keyrings  
or keystores

These commands  
would have to be  
repeated for  
each user

## Queue policy definitions

- Use either MQ Explorer (distributed queue managers only) or command line

```
setmqspl -m LMQM -p AMSDEMO.PRIVACY.QUEUE -s MD5 -a  
"CN=user2,O=ibm,C=us" -e RC2 -r "CN=user1,O=ibm,C=us"
```



## AMS CSQ0UTIL commands on z/OS

Execute AMS  
setmqspl  
command

```

/******
/*  Administer MQ Advanced Message Service (AMS) (CSQ0UTIL)      *
/******
/*
//CSQ40CFG EXEC PGM=CSQ0UTIL,
//          PARM='ENVAR("_CEE_ENVFILE_S=DD:ENVARS") /'
//STEPLIB  DD DSN=MQ800.SDRQLOAD,DISP=SHR
//          DD DSN=MQ800.SCSQANLE,DISP=SHR
//          DD DSN=MQ800.SCSQAUTH,DISP=SHR
//ENVARS   DD DSN=MQ800.SCSQPROC(CSQ40ENV),DISP=SHR
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*
//SYSIN    DD *
setmqspl -m EFT1 -p AMSDEMO.PRIVACY.QUEUE -s MD5 -e RC2
-s "CN=sender,O=ibm,C=us"
-r "CN=receiver,O=ibm,C=us"
setmqspl -m EFT1 -p AMSDEMO.INTEGRITY.QUEUE -s MD5
-s "CN=sender,O=ibm,C=us"
-r "CN=receiver,O=ibm,C=us"
setmqspl -m EFT1 -p AMSDEMO.CONFIDENTIAL.QUEUE -s MD5 -e NONE
-s "CN=sender,O=ibm,C=us"
-r "CN=receiver,O=ibm,C=us"
/*

```

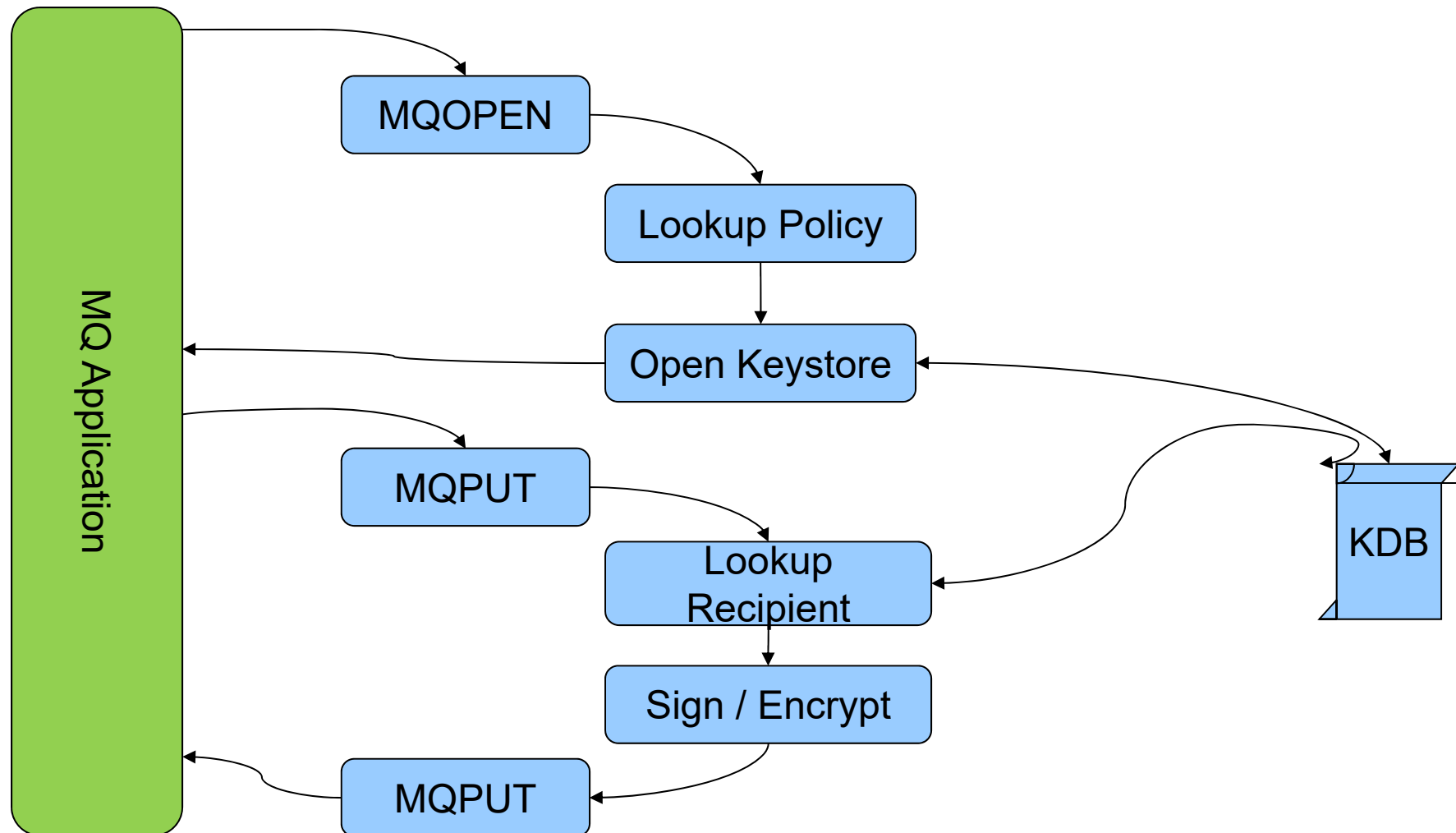
### Other useful AMS commands

```

dspmqspl -m QMZA -p AMSDEMO.PRIVACY.QUEUE /* Displays policy
setmqspl -m QMZA -p AMSDEMO.PRIVACY.QUEUE -remove /* Removes policy

```

## MQ AMS Process



## Error handling

- AMS returns a RC=2063 if the application tries to access (MQGET) a message for which it is not authorized
  - CSQ0209E (user1) Message for AMSDEMO.INTEGRITY.QUEUE sent to error queue SYSTEM.PROTECTION.ERROR.QUEUE, reason 2063
- For destructive MQGET requests, the message is also transferred to the SYSTEM.PROTECTION.ERROR.QUEUE. The original message remains there with a DLQ header for administrative handling.

## SSL errors on z/OS generate additional information

- CSQ0216E (USER1) Data unprotection failed processing object "pkcs7 enveloped data message", return code 12, reason 03353033.
- Additional information: function gsk\_read\_enveloped\_data\_content failed with x3353033, 00000008.
- CSQ0209I (USER1) Message for AMSDEMO.PRIVACY.QUEUE sent to error queue SYSTEM.PROTECTION.ERROR.QUEUE, reason 2063.
- The following is from *Cryptographic Services System Secure Sockets Layer Programming, SC24-5901* and provides an explanation of the gsk (Global Security Toolkit) return code.

**03353033      Recipient certificate not found.**

**Explanation:** A recipient certificate is not found while creating or processing an enveloped message.

**User response:** Provide at least one recipient certificate.



## AMS encryption performance on z/OS

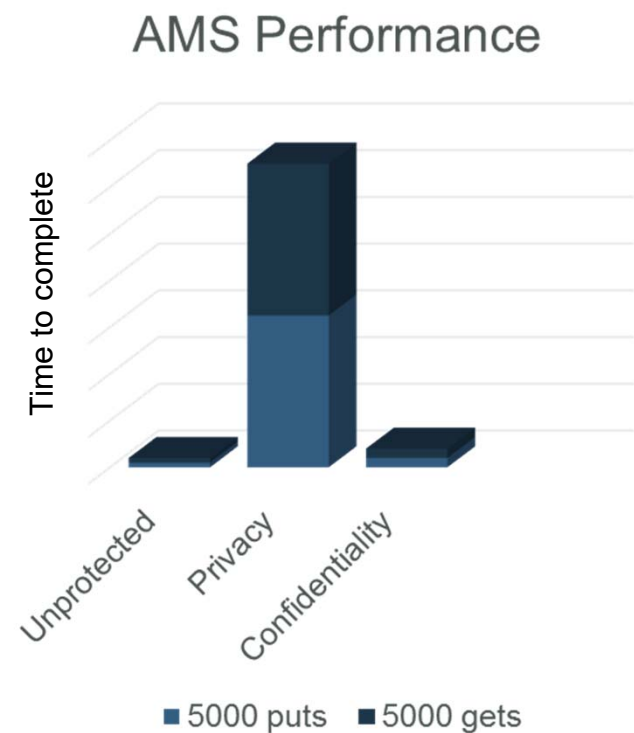
- Protection isn't cheap; you either need it or you don't!
- Cost is in CPU as well as management
- Cryptographic CoProcessors are used for z/OS
- Relative costs for AMS V7.0.1:

	Cost MQOPEN+MQCLOSE	Cost MQPUT+MQGET
No AMS	111	60
AMS configured, unprotected queue	320	160
AMS configured, MD5 signature & RC2 encryption, 1 recipient	5000	2200

For additional details, see “Performance of AMS V7.0.1 on z/OS”,  
<http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27019944>

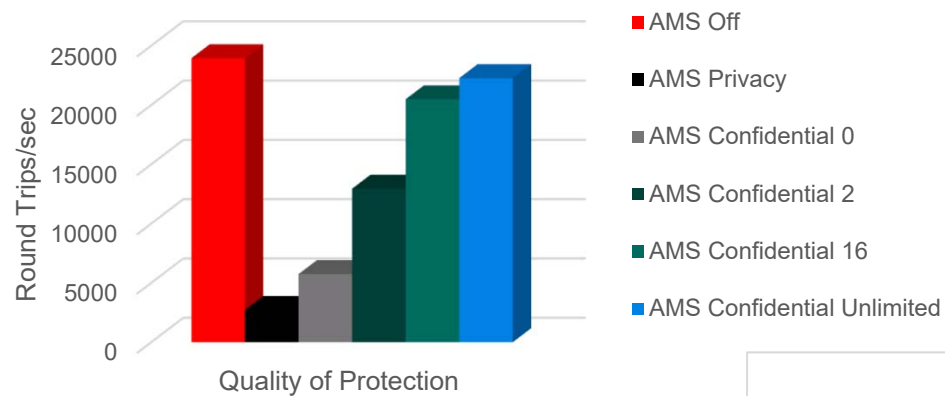
## AMS – high performance updates in CD V9.0.1

- New quality of service for AMS
  - We have **Integrity**
    - This proves authenticity through digital signing
  - And **privacy**
    - This adds encryption to the digital signing
- Added **Confidentiality** to provide encryption *without the digital signing*
  - Significant performance gains over Integrity and Privacy
    - Especially with key reuse
  - Only receiver's certs require distribution
- Available for Distributed and z/OS



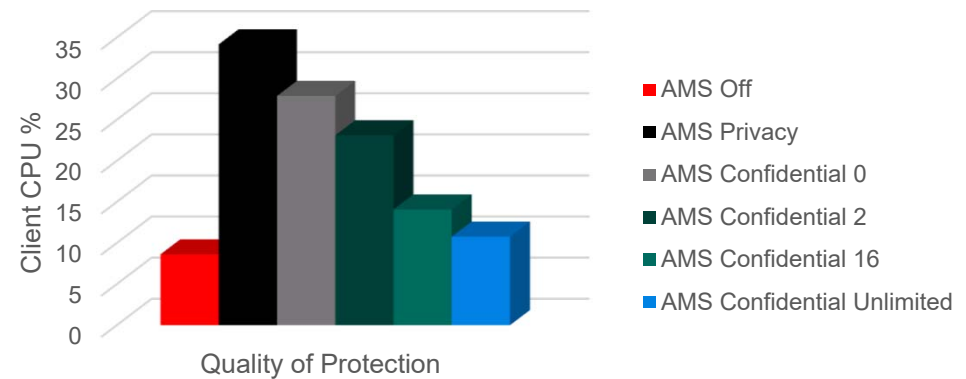
# AMS Confidentiality performance

## AMS Throughput Comparison



2K Persistent Message  
20 Requesters

## AMS CPU Comparison



## Known limitations today

- The following WebSphere MQ options are not supported
  - Publish/subscribe.
  - Channel data conversion.
  - Distribution lists.
  - Application message segmentation
  - The use of non-threaded applications using API exit on HP-UX platforms.
  - WebSphere MQ classes for .NET in a managed mode (client or bindings connections).
  - Message Service client for .NET (XMS) applications.
  - Message Service client for C/C++ (XMS supportPac IA94) applications.
  - WebSphere MQ queues processed by the IMS Bridge. Note: WebSphere MQ AMS is supported on CICS Bridge queues. You should use the same user ID to MQPUT (encrypt) and MQGET (decrypt) on CICS Bridge queues.
- All Java™ applications are dependant on IBM® Java Runtime. WebSphere MQ AMS does not support any JRE provided by other vendors.
- Users should avoid putting two or more certificates with the same Distinguished Names in a single keystore file because the WebSphere MQ Advanced Message Security interceptor's functioning with such certificates is undefined.
- Note that
  - message length will increase
  - AMS usage will increase CPU requirements

## Summary

### **MQ Advanced Message Security**

- Protects message integrity and/or privacy
- Supports WMQ V7 and IBM MQ V8 and V9
- Supports MQ Server, MQ Client and JMS
- “Light weight” product - No pre-requisites, easy installation, easy configuration
- Existing MQ applications do not require changes

## Additional Information

- MQ AMS Knowledge Center at:  
[https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSFKSJ\\_9.0.0/com.ibm.mq.sec.doc/q014580\\_.html](https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSFKSJ_9.0.0/com.ibm.mq.sec.doc/q014580_.html)
  
- MP1K: WebSphere MQ V9.0 for z/OS Performance Report
  - <http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=171&uid=swg24042470>
    - Protection isn't cheap; you either need it or you don't!
    - Cost is in CPU as well as management
    - Message size increase

## Cryptography Choices

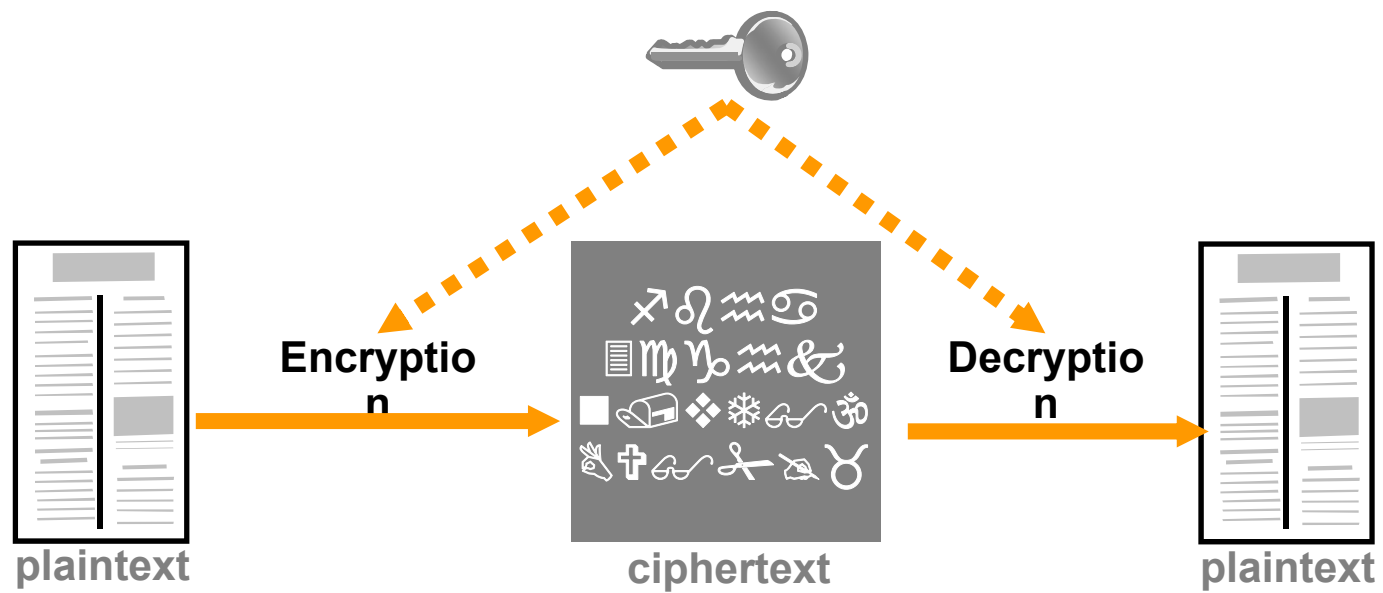
### ■ Symmetric Key

- Single secret key
- Relatively fast
- Poses key distribution challenges when faced with large numbers of senders/receivers
- The key has to be known by the sender and receiver

### ■ Asymmetric Keys

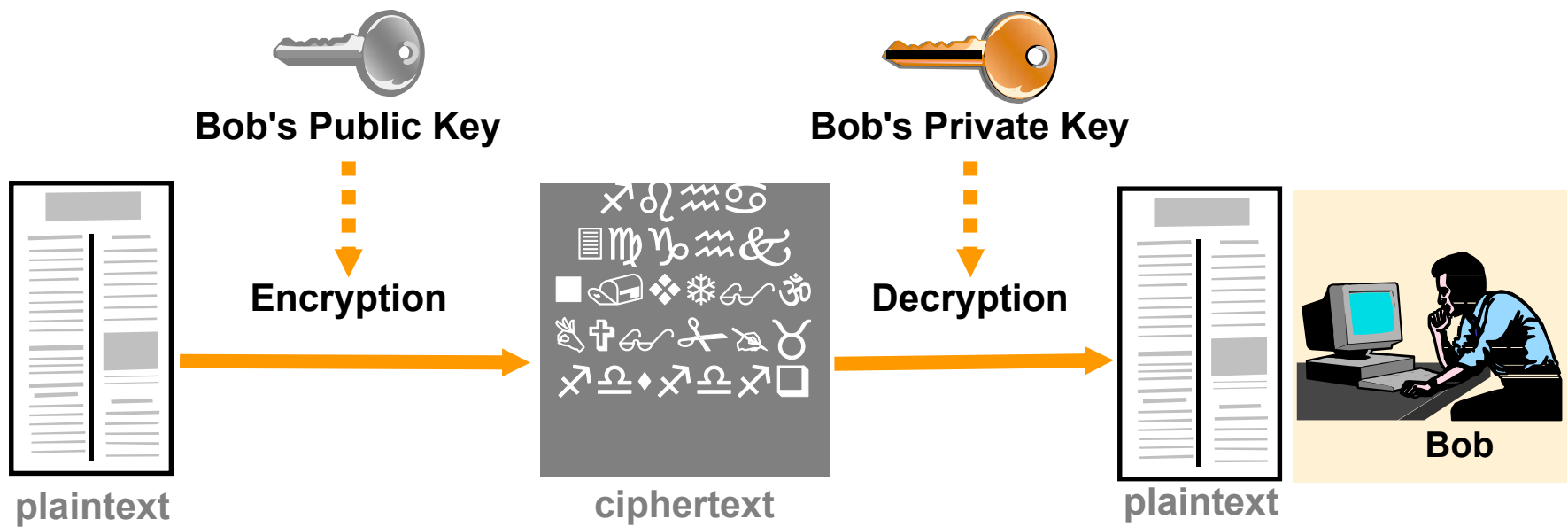
- Private & Public key pairing
- Message encrypted with one key can only be decrypted by the other one
- Slower than symmetric key cryptography
- Asymmetric Keys can be used to solve the key distribution challenges associated with symmetric keys

# Symmetric Key Cryptography

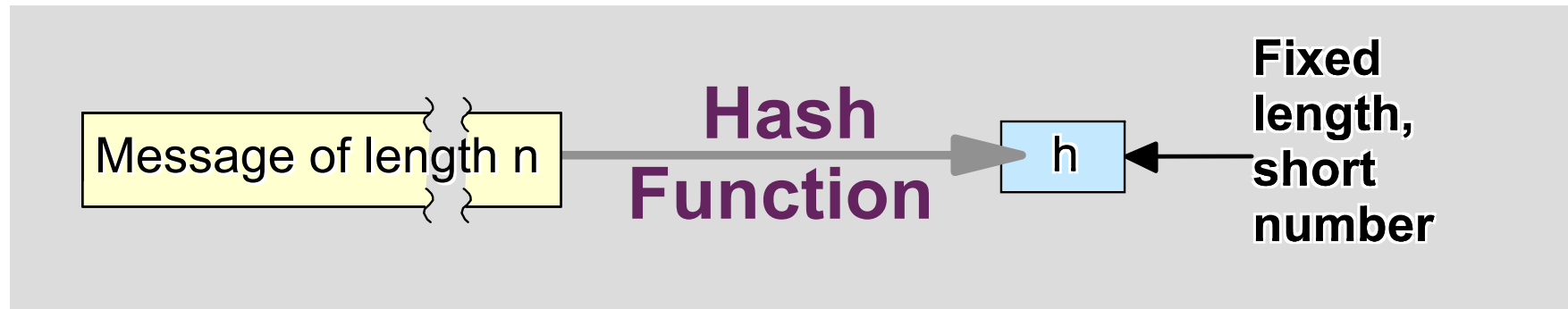




# Asymmetric Key Cryptography



## Hash Functions



### ▪ Hash Function

- Computes the message MAC (Message Authentication Code)
  - Easy to compute
  - Very difficult to reverse
- Computationally infeasible to find two messages that hash to the same value

# Digital Signatures

