

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
PGP Encryption and Decryption Setup in Altova FlowForce Server

Table of Contents

1. Purpose	3
2. Scope	3
3. Prerequisites	3
4. Directory Structure	3
5. GPG Installation & Verification	4
6. Key Management	4
6.1 Generate New Key Pair	4
6.2 Export Public Key.....	4
6.3 Import Partner Key.....	4
7. Passphrase Handling	4
8. Automation Scripts	5
8.1 Decryption Script (decrypt_all.bat).....	5
8.2 Encryption Script (encrypt_all.bat)	5
9. FlowForce Job Configuration	6
10. Task Scheduler Alternative	6
Steps to Configure:.....	6
11. Testing.....	7
12. Error Handling & Alerts	7
13. Security Guidelines	7
14. Vendor Onboarding Checklist	7

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1. Purpose

This SOP provides detailed steps to set up and configure PGP encryption and decryption in **Altova FlowForce Server** on a Windows environment. It ensures secure file exchanges with partners by automating inbound file decryption and outbound file encryption.

2. Scope

This document applies to: - FlowForce administrators managing automated EDI/file workflows. - Operations teams handling partner onboarding and file exchange. - Security teams managing encryption keys.

3. Prerequisites

- **Altova FlowForce Server** installed and running on Windows.
- **Administrative access** to the FlowForce Server.
- **GnuPG (Gpg4win)** installed and available in PATH.
- **Service account** for FlowForce execution (example: FLOWFORCE_USER).
- Partner's **public PGP key** and your own **private PGP key**.

4. Directory Structure

Recommended folder layout:

C:\FlowForce\PGP\	
incoming\Encrypted-Incoming\	(incoming .pgp files)
incoming\Decrypted-Out\	(decrypted files)
incoming\Processed\	(successfully processed)
incoming\Failed\	(failed decryption)
outgoing\Plain\	(plain files to encrypt)
outgoing\Encrypted\	(encrypted .pgp files)
keys\	(keys & passphrases, restricted access)
scripts\	(batch/powershell scripts)
logs\	(execution logs)

Apply strict **ACL permissions** to keys directory to ensure only FLOWFORCE_USER can access it.

5. GPG Installation & Verification

1. Download and install **Gpg4win**.
2. Verify installation:

```
gpg --version
```
3. Confirm `gpg.exe` is accessible from the FlowForce environment.

6. Key Management

6.1 Generate New Key Pair

```
gpg --full-generate-key
```

- Key Type: RSA and RSA
- Key Size: 4096 bits
- Expiration: per policy (e.g., 1 year)
- Identity: FlowForce-Prod

6.2 Export Public Key

```
gpg --armor --export "FlowForce-Prod" > C:\FlowForce\PGP\keys\FlowForce-Prod-public.asc
```

Share this public key securely with the partner.

6.3 Import Partner Key

```
gpg --import C:\FlowForce\PGP\keys\partner-public.asc
```

Verify fingerprint and trust level:

```
gpg --fingerprint "Partner Name"  
gpg --edit-key "Partner Name" trust quit
```

7. Passphrase Handling

- **Preferred:** Configure `gpg-agent` to cache the passphrase.
- **Alternative:** Use a passphrase file with restricted permissions:

```
echo MySecurePassphrase > C:\FlowForce\PGP\keys\gpg-pass.txt  
icacls C:\FlowForce\PGP\keys\gpg-pass.txt /inheritance:r  
icacls C:\FlowForce\PGP\keys\gpg-pass.txt /grant:r "FLOWFORCE_USER:R"
```

8. Automation Scripts

8.1 Decryption Script (decrypt_all.bat)

```
@echo off
setlocal enabledelayedexpansion
SET INDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\incoming\Encrypted-Incoming
SET OUTDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\incoming\Decrypted-Out
SET PROCDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\incoming\Processed
SET FAILDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\incoming\Failed
SET PASSFILE=C:\FlowForce\PGP\keys\gpg-pass.txt

for %%F in ("%INDIR%\*.pgp") do (
    echo Processing %%~nxF
    gpg --batch --yes --passphrase-file "%PASSFILE%" --output "%OUTDIR%\%%~nF"
    --decrypt "%F"
    if errorlevel 1 (
        echo FAILED: %%~nxF >> C:\FlowForce\PGP\logs\decrypt_errors.log
        move "%F" "%FAILDIR%"
    ) else (
        echo SUCCESS: %%~nxF >> C:\FlowForce\PGP\logs\decrypt_success.log
        move "%F" "%PROCDIR%"
    )
)
endlocal
```

8.2 Encryption Script (encrypt_all.bat)

```
@echo off
setlocal enabledelayedexpansion
SET INDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\outgoing\Plain
SET OUTDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\outgoing\Encrypted
SET PROCDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\outgoing\Processed
SET FAILDIR=C:\FlowForce\PGP\outgoing\Failed
SET RECIPIENT="partner@example.com"

for %%F in ("%INDIR%\*.*) do (
    echo Encrypting %%~nxF
    gpg --batch --yes --trust-model always --recipient %RECIPIENT% --output
    "%OUTDIR%\%%~nxF.pgp" --encrypt "%F"
    if errorlevel 1 (
        echo FAILED: %%~nxF >> C:\FlowForce\PGP\logs\encrypt_errors.log
        move "%F" "%FAILDIR%"
    ) else (
        echo SUCCESS: %%~nxF >> C:\FlowForce\PGP\logs\encrypt_success.log
        move "%F" "%PROCDIR%"
    )
)
```

```
)  
endlocal
```

9. FlowForce Job Configuration

1. Open FlowForce Web UI.
 2. Create job → **Execute Program**.
 3. Program: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
 4. Arguments: /c "C:\FlowForce\PGP\scripts\decrypt_all.bat"
 5. Working directory: C:\FlowForce\PGP\scripts
 6. Run as: FLOWFORCE_USER
 7. Schedule or trigger per requirements.
 8. Configure email/SNMP alerts on job failure.
 9. Repeat for encrypt_all.bat.
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10. Task Scheduler Alternative

If FlowForce scheduling is not used, you can run encryption/decryption scripts with **Windows Task Scheduler**:

Steps to Configure:

1. Open **Task Scheduler** → Create Task.
2. **General Tab**:
 - Name: PGP_Decryption_Task (example).
 - Select Run whether user is logged on or not.
 - Use FLOWFORCE_USER or a dedicated service account.
3. **Triggers Tab**:
 - Click New → choose schedule (daily, hourly, every 5 min, etc.).
 - Optionally, set trigger on file arrival using external tools/scripts.
4. **Actions Tab**:
 - Action: Start a program.
 - Program/script: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe.
 - Arguments: /c "C:\FlowForce\PGP\scripts\decrypt_all.bat".
 - Start in: C:\FlowForce\PGP\scripts.
5. **Conditions Tab**:
 - Uncheck Start the task only if the computer is on AC power (for servers).
6. **Settings Tab**:
 - Enable Allow task to be run on demand.

- Enable Restart on failure (set retries).
7. Save and enter credentials.

Repeat the same steps for an **encryption task** calling encrypt_all.bat.

11. Testing

- **Positive Test:** Encrypt a sample file with partner's key and ensure FlowForce decrypts it correctly.
 - **Negative Test:** Corrupt a .pgp file and confirm FlowForce moves it to Failed folder.
 - **End-to-End:** Exchange test files with partner until validation succeeds.
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12. Error Handling & Alerts

- Log all failures in C:\FlowForce\PGP\logs.
 - Send email alerts using FlowForce notifications or PowerShell Send-MailMessage.
 - Escalate repeated failures to security and vendor teams.
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13. Security Guidelines

- Restrict access to private keys and passphrase files.
 - Rotate keys annually (or per policy).
 - Maintain offline backup of private keys.
 - Use separate keys for Dev/Test and Production.
 - Generate and store a revocation certificate securely.
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14. Vendor Onboarding Checklist

- Partner's public key and verified fingerprint.
 - Filename conventions and encryption format.
 - Test file exchange completed.
 - Operational contacts established.
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End of SOP