
ActivCard®

ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution Brief

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Introduction

Streamlined, Secure Access to Privileged Information, Services and Applications

The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution provides everything you need to identify users with certainty and confirm network privileges, enabling you to:

- **Increase productivity** by allowing your remote employees to access information from anywhere, anytime
- **Save time and money** by securely moving business processes to the web, eliminating time-consuming and costly manual intervention
- **Improve efficiency** by allowing partners, customers, and suppliers to securely access the critical information that they need to do business
- **Increase security** by requiring two-factor authentication for remote access to critical corporate resources

The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution delivers standards-based, scalable, integrated strong authentication and credential management for authenticating remote enterprise users and securing RAS, VPN's, and e-business applications dial-up, VPN, web access, and wireless LAN access.

Based on two-factor authentication technology, this comprehensive solution uses tokens, USB keys, and smart card devices to protect your network perimeter. User identities can be positively confirmed via the use of PIN-protected authentication devices that generate dynamic passwords, synchronous, or challenge/response authentication. The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution delivers faster authentication speeds and superior simultaneous authentication performance, ensuring virtually unlimited scalability as your remote user base expands. In addition, the ActivCard solution lowers your total cost of ownership and provides a significantly higher ROI than competitive offerings.

ActivCard provides strong Authentication, Authorization and Accounting services to secure:

- **Dial-up**
Most organizations still provide dial-up access to their traveling employees, as broadband connections are expensive and not yet ubiquitous. ActivCard provides an easy to use interface by integrating with Microsoft® Dialer.
- **VPN**
VPN's are quickly becoming the most popular form of remote access service for employees

Remote Access Challenges

To reap the many benefits of moving your business processes online, you need a way to balance ubiquitous network access with the security required to create a trusted online environment.

Creating a high level of trust hinges on authenticating identity with methods that go beyond static passwords. However, reliance on reusable passwords to authenticate users remains the weakest link and underscores the need for two-factor authentication in securing a digital corporate environment.

Further, the multiple systems and networks remote users have to traverse in order to access enterprise applications and services is onerous, pointing to the value of consolidating remote access identity credentials on one simple secure platform with delegated authentication and central administration.

That's why a Secure Remote Access solution is the crucial first step for companies that are serious about securing the foundation of their network and internet-based services and applications

in the field or from home. ActivCard has a seamless integration with Check Point™ and supports all market leading VPN vendors.

- **Web Access**

Many organizations are improving efficiencies by moving applications to the web. Providing not only employees, but partners, customers and vendors access to privileged information on-line. ActivCard provides strong one time password authentication for any website running on IIS, Sun™ ONE, or Apache™ web servers as well as Microsoft's Outlook® Web Access.

- **Wireless LAN**

The fastest growing remote network access service is 802.11-based wireless LAN access. The deficiencies of 802.11-based security have been well documented. ActivCard helps secure wireless LAN access by adding strong authentication to 802.1x solution providers such as Microsoft, Cisco®, and Funk® Software or VPN providers such as Check Point, Cisco, and Vernier™ Networks.

- **Secure Virtual Desktop**

Take advantage of the growing server-based computing trend and secure login to Citrix® MetaFrame® (ICA® or NFuse®) or Microsoft Terminal Services (RDP) with 2-factor authentication.

Ensuring secure remote access to enterprise information is essential as companies continue to move their business processes online and extend the enterprise boundary beyond the corporate firewalls. Unfortunately, many organizations today still rely on static, reusable passwords, thereby exposing enterprise information through remote access by unauthorized users.

The ActivCard Advantage

Compelling ROI

For companies currently using two-factor authentication, the ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution can be deployed without increasing your existing security budget. The result is a compelling total cost of ownership and return-on-investment advantage that is achieved by:

- **Offering a perpetual license of tokens.**
ActivCard tokens have a replaceable battery and do not expire – avoiding both the cost of replacing token hardware and the re-deployment cost of new tokens
- **Eliminating dual administration.**
The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution leverages your existing corporate directory and does not require its own user database – saving time for a system administrator.
- **Substantially reducing help desk costs.**
Deploying an ActivCard smart card or USB key solution enables you to eliminate all re-synchronization calls by deploying challenge/response and allowing the smart card to handle the complexity. In addition, you can reduce password reset calls by securely storing static passwords on your smart card, so users will only have to remember their self-managed PINs.

- **Consolidating credentials.**
ActivCard smart card solutions enable the secure storage and management of all your static passwords, SKI credentials as well as PKI private keys and associated certificates. The ActivCard device becomes what amounts to a key ring for all your corporate digital identity credentials – with the benefit of convenience for the user and cost-effective management consolidation for the organization.

Familiar and Easy to Use

By consolidating multiple authentication credentials on a single smart card device, the ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution enables a user experience that is as simple and familiar as using an ATM card. This ATM-like experience applies to VPN access as well. Users simply enter their PIN onto the keyboard of their terminal to access the credentials on their card. The ActivCard software then authenticates the user, configures the VPN session and makes a connection—all transparent to the user saving time and reducing complexity.

Smooth Bridge and Migration

The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution allows you to migrate smoothly from legacy single factor token devices to more advanced smart card and PKI-based technologies without having to replace your existing infrastructure.

Are you frustrated with your existing token solution that requires re-purchase of tokens every three years? The ActivCard SRA solution can smoothly migrate you from these high cost deployments to a lower Total Cost of Ownership solution without disrupting your user population.

Enhanced Security

For security minded customers who want to guarantee personal control of their secret keys, the ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution allows local initialization of devices and PIN management by the user. When deploying smart card devices, all private keys are generated and stored on the smart card providing strong storage and protection from hackers.

In addition, the ActivCard solution does not require a separate user store. ActivCard integrates with your corporate directory. This prevents an increasingly common security risk that occurs when employees are removed an employee from the corporate directory and mistakenly leave their record open in a separate remote access database.

Easy Implementation and Administration

The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution is designed from the ground up to be standards-based and to work with your existing network infrastructure:

- **Management with your existing infrastructure** -- LDAP and SQL support. ActivPack™ supports LDAP directories and SQL compatible databases. Thus, enabling users and their access rights to be managed centrally without the need to modify the existing corporate directory infrastructure. It natively supports both RADIUS and TACACS+ and does not require deployment of proprietary agents.
- **Centralized administration and distributed authentication** -- ActivPack allows for central administration of users, roles, and policies while authentication occurs in the field, where you need it. The solution eliminates the need to deploy one-off, disparate authentication solutions for the various entry points into your network.

- **Deployability** -- The ActivCard client software, ActivCard Gold™, is fully MSI compatible, supports custom setups, blind installs, and works with most market leading software push technologies. ActivCard Gold gives the IT Administrator the ability to "push" the software to the user's desktop without interruption. It can be installed via a blind set-up – custom set-ups can be built to remove any undesired options for the user. In addition, ActivCard provides an auto-update solution so that patches, drivers, etc. can be loaded on a server. ActivCard Gold automatically requests these updates with minimal user intervention, just as you are used to with Microsoft AutoUpdate or Adobe® Acrobat® Reader.

Why Two Factor Authentication?

In our everyday lives, one factor of authentication is typically enough: a driver's license to write a check or a fingerprint to notarize a document. However, in the online world, relying on a single factor—such as static passwords—as a way to protect critical corporate systems, services and applications is fraught with risk. At a minimum, private access to privileged information should be protected with two factors of authentication: something you know such as a password or PIN, as well as something you have like a smart card or token. An example is a bank ATM card. It protects your account by requiring the physical ATM card (something you have) and your PIN (something you know). So just as financial institutions are concerned about private access to privileged information, the same safeguards need to be taken for secure remote access to your enterprise network.

Why would I need strong authentication to remotely access my network?

Static passwords open up many security holes (simple dictionary attacks, man-in-the-middle hacks, etc.) making corporate networks vulnerable to access by unauthorized users. Stronger authentication is clearly a need that exists in today's remote access environment.

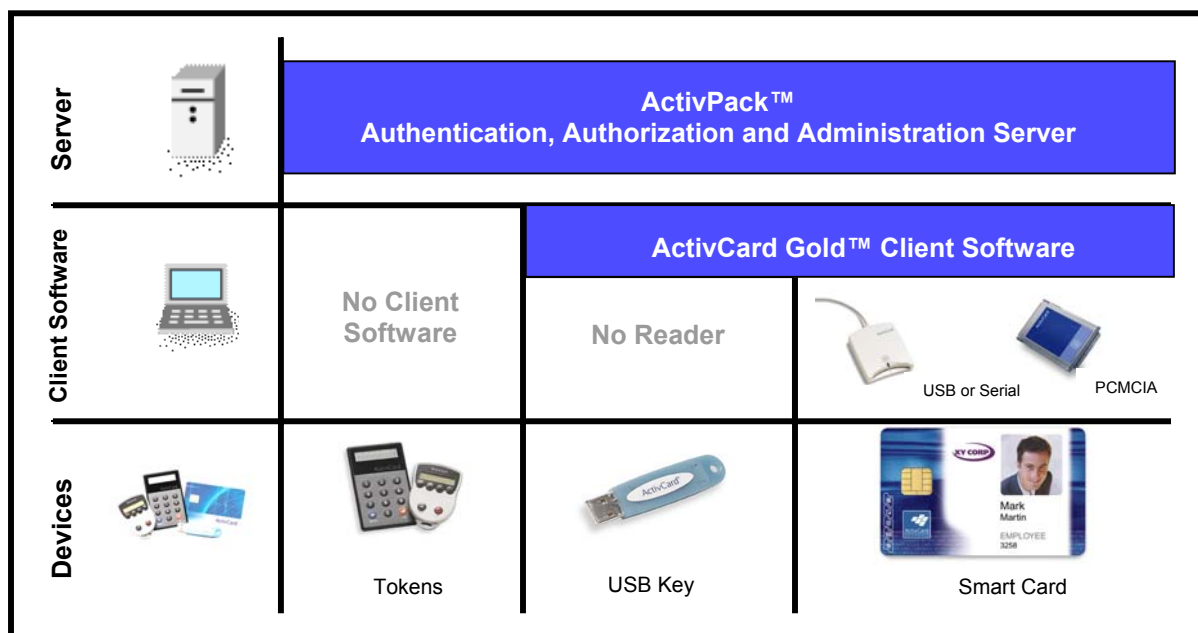
What are the added benefits of using smart cards for remote access in place of traditional tokens?

Whereas tokens offer appropriate strong two-factor user authentication security services, most corporations that already have a budget for these tokens are looking at smart cards to do "more with less." Smart cards offer a smooth migration from an SKI-based, single application approach to PKI-based, multiple application consolidated digital identity credentials on a single device. Smart cards and USB Keys are also more convenient to carry, and offer security and compelling ROI.

Why should CIO's and network users choose ActivCard remote access solutions?

ActivCard has proven itself as a leader in the Identity Management (IDM) software market with standards-based, scalable, convenient, cost-efficient and secure solutions for remote access applications. These IDM solutions are more and more becoming a market standard for a large number of governmental agencies, international banking and financial institutions as well as Fortune 500 corporations.

Secure Remote Access At-A-Glance



The ActivCard Secure Remote Access Solution consists of three packages: Tokens, USB Keys, or Smart Cards, which can be deployed concurrently to match your company's specific requirements. All solutions are anchored with an ActivPack™ AAA Server that validates one time passwords and a device that generates them. More functional USB Key and Smart Card Packages require ActivCard Gold™ software on the client desktop to enhance communication with the smart card.

Tokens are a well established concept and simple to deploy solution for secure remote access since no client software is required. ActivPack AAA Server software and ActivCard tokens are all you need for the most basic solution.

USB Keys are a cost effective way of getting the benefits of a multi-function smart card without the cost of purchasing and deploying smart card readers. ActivKey™ USB Key is actually a smart card in a USB key package. Simply plug it into your PC and you're ready to go. ActivPack AAA Server software, ActivCard Gold client software, and an ActivKey USB key is what it takes for this economical smart card solution.

Smart Cards can get you the most functionality for your investment. Do you already carry an employee ID card? Do you have a physical access badge? And maybe a remote access token? Combine these uses onto a single smart card solution in the form of a Corporate Access Card™ (CAC). A CAC solution requires ActivPack AAA Server Software, ActivCard Gold client software, your choice of serial, USB, or PCMCIA smart card reader, and a smart card. Deploying this remote access solution not only saves you money by consolidating your physical and logical security budget, it also allows you to secure the local and mobile desktop with functionalities like files encryption and screen lock upon card removal. In addition, it prepares your company to take advantage of comprehensive secure identity management solutions like the ActivCard's Corporate Access Card™ Solutions.

Other ActivCard IDentity Management (IDm) Solutions

Secure Remote Access is only one piece of digital identity in today's extended enterprise environment. As you investigate how to enroll, provision, monitor, update and revoke a network user's logical and physical credentials, you will want to take advantage of the other components of the ActivCard IDentity Management System™ including:

Corporate Access Card™ Solutions

ActivCard Corporate Access Card™ (CAC) Enterprise ID and Card Management Solutions enable organizations to dramatically improve IT security while reducing costs and increasing employee productivity. Our CAC solutions consolidate identity credentials onto a single, secure smart card. The CAC solution can serve as a photo ID as well as a security device that enables secure Microsoft Windows® and network login, PC 'locking', card-based secure VPN, card-based secure email with digital signatures, and a variety of other desktop and network applications. Employees can also access buildings and other facilities with the same smart cards for a truly consolidated security solution. The solutions leverage existing IT infrastructures via integration with enterprise directories, physical access systems and PKI services to streamline the issuance and administration of digital IDs.

Secure Sign-On Solutions

ActivCard Secure Sign-On (S-SSO) solution is designed for large-scale distributed enterprises needing to simplify sign-on and password management for end users, reduce helpdesk support cost for password resets, and improve security through multi-factor authentication.

ActivCard S-SSO reduces the need for end users to manage multiple username and password combinations and login tasks. Unlike other secure sign-on solutions, ActivCard S-SSO allows enterprises to protect sign-on with multi-factor authentication, including biometrics, out-of-the-box - without having to deploy additional third-party products. With a single authentication, ActivCard S-SSO authorizes access to workstations, networks, applications, and web sites.

About ActivCard

ActivCard is the leader in IDentity Management (IDM) software for remote access, secure sign-on and digital ID card solutions. Our scalable IDM and strong authentication solutions are trusted by organizations – from enterprise to governments around the world. ActivCard IDM systems deliver maximum Return On Identity™ (ROI) through increased security, reduced cost, and user convenience. The modular product design allows our customers to add capabilities as required, preserving their investment.

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www.activcard.com

ActivCard, Inc.

TEL: +1 (510) 574 0100

FAX: +1 (510) 574 0101

info@activcard.com

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