



Top Five Reasons to Streamline Authentication

In addition to the highly visible business impacts of breaches, “hidden” authentication costs are a very large part of the IT budget. And, as attack sophistication increases, today’s authentication lifecycle is increasingly falling behind. To get ahead of the cycle of new attack and new defense, here are the Top 5 reasons to streamline your authentication.

1 A programmatic approach can fill the gaps in today’s approaches

Having multiple authentication methods across systems results in gaps, inconsistencies, and reliance on pages of passwords by end users. Further, MFA based on one-time passwords or codes is deliberately “out of loop” to minimize compromise by hackers. A single programmatic approach that leverages local authentication along with asymmetric cryptography on the back end can eliminate authentication gaps AND reduce user friction.

2 Streamlined, programmatic authentication makes operations faster and more responsive

Today’s MFA literally slows down end users, machines, and interactions due to reliance on manual steps such as waiting for a text message with a code or generating an authenticator code. Having a streamlined, programmatic authentication approach makes overall operations more efficient across end users, IT, and security teams.

3 Authentication lifecycle (enrollment, issuance, renewal / revocation) is onerously manual

Today, authenticators such as USB keys and smart cards are enrolled by the help desk. When set up by the end user, help desk then issues credentials manually. Finally, credential operations such as resets are performed by the help desk typically while online with the end user. The net is that the authentication lifecycle consumes loads of manual work by both end users and admins.

4 A holistic authentication view gives execs the ability to understand and make tradeoffs

By approaching authentication holistically across end users, environments, and authentication methods, views such as which groups of end users are using each method of authentication are possible. And, with this visibility, executives can understand and evaluate the risks versus benefits of upgrading authentication for each user group.

5 Netting out, streamlined authentication helps you accelerate business results

Today’s authentication is a silent but potent productivity drain that impacts your knowledge workers at a higher degree than others. By streamlining their work while ensuring that they get access to what they need, organizations can accelerate their business while reducing overall costs including the downsides of breaches.

Learn more about authentication best practices in our [blog](#).