

Security in Power System Automation

Application of ITU-T X.509



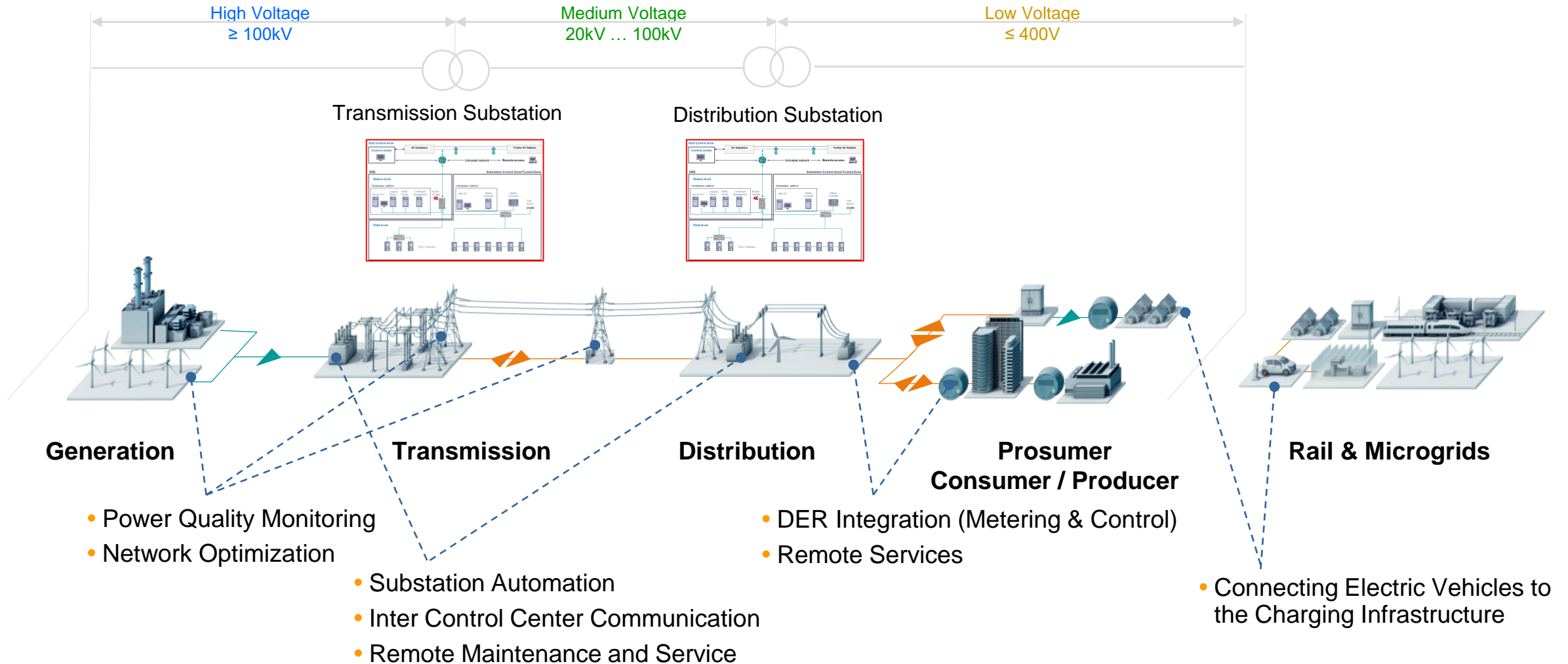
Second X.509 Day

Steffen Fries, Siemens, T CST

May 09, 2023

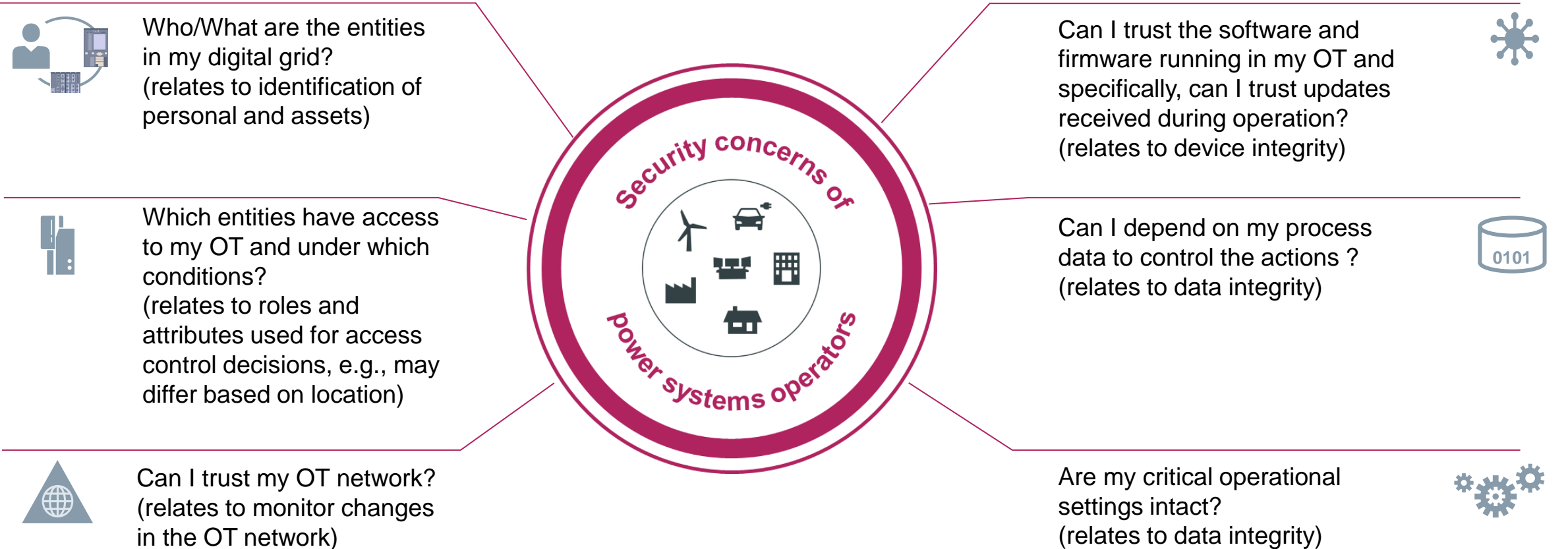
Digital Grid – a Critical Infrastructure in Need of Protection

Power system value chain and use case examples



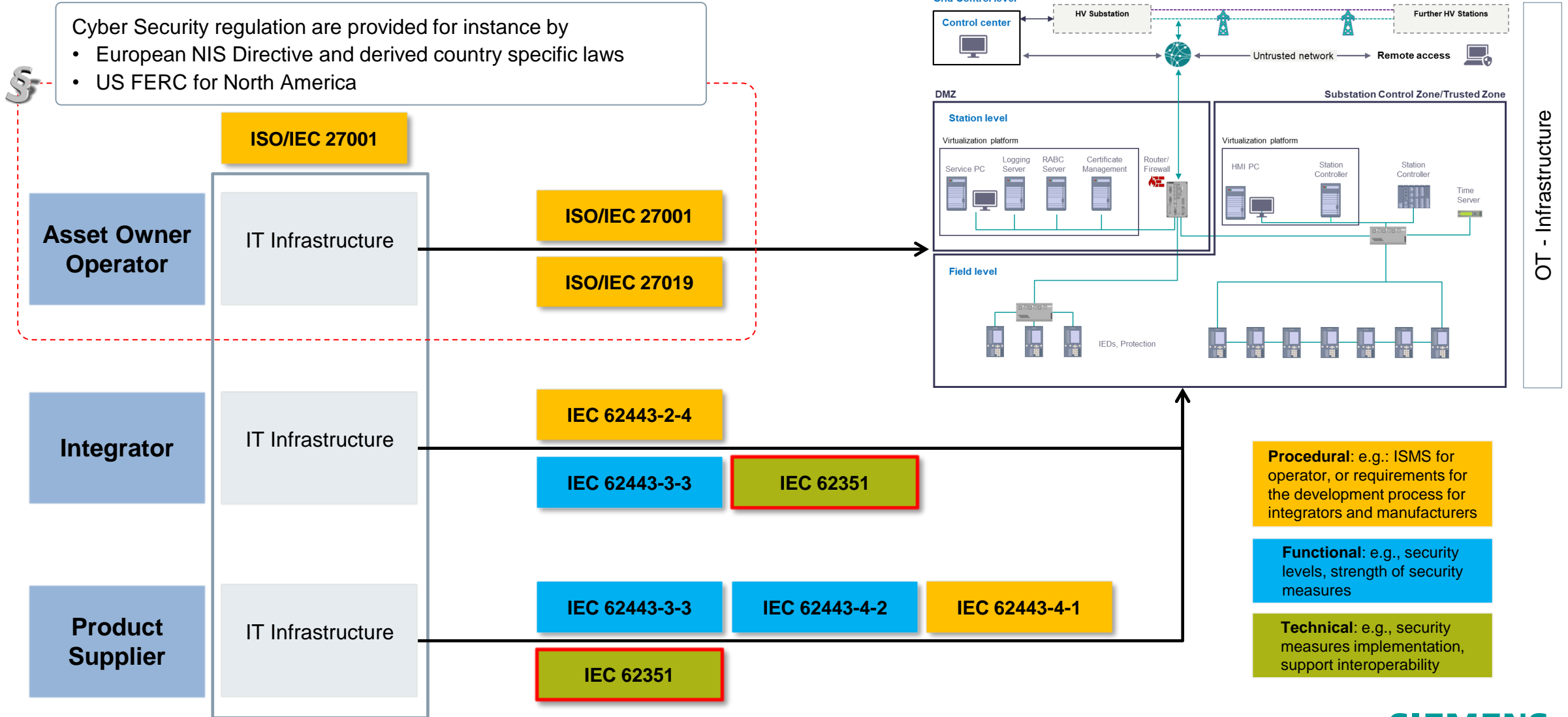
Cybersecurity supported by IEC 62351

A security kit to address security requirements in Power System Automation



Cybersecurity for Power System Automation

Interplay of ISO/IEC 27001 / IEC 62443 / IEC 62351



Cybersecurity supported by IEC 62351 (defined in IEC TC57 WG15)

A security kit to address security requirements in Power System Automation

Identity and Access Management

Identification, Authentication, Authorization (RBAC) of Users/Devices

Focus: Usage of X.509 certificates

Secure Communication

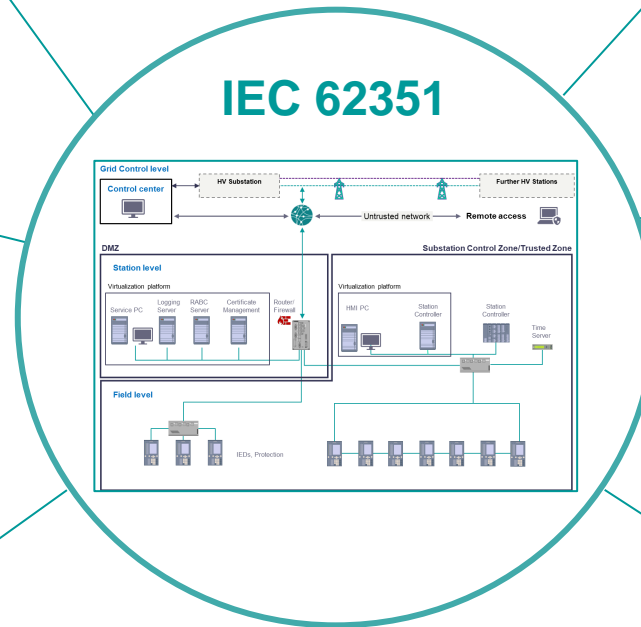
Between different actors on different layers (Ethernet, IP, serial)

Focus: Profiling of existing standards (e.g., TLS) and definition of security enhancements if necessary

Monitoring and Audit

Logging and processing of security relevant events

Focus: Application of established standards like syslog and SNMP



Key Management

Management of long term and session keys
Focus: Application of established certificate management (EST, SCEP) and key management (GDOI) protocols

Conformity Tests

Test case description for specified security measures in the different parts of IEC 62351 based on PICS statements
Focus: Specification of conformity test cases

Guidelines

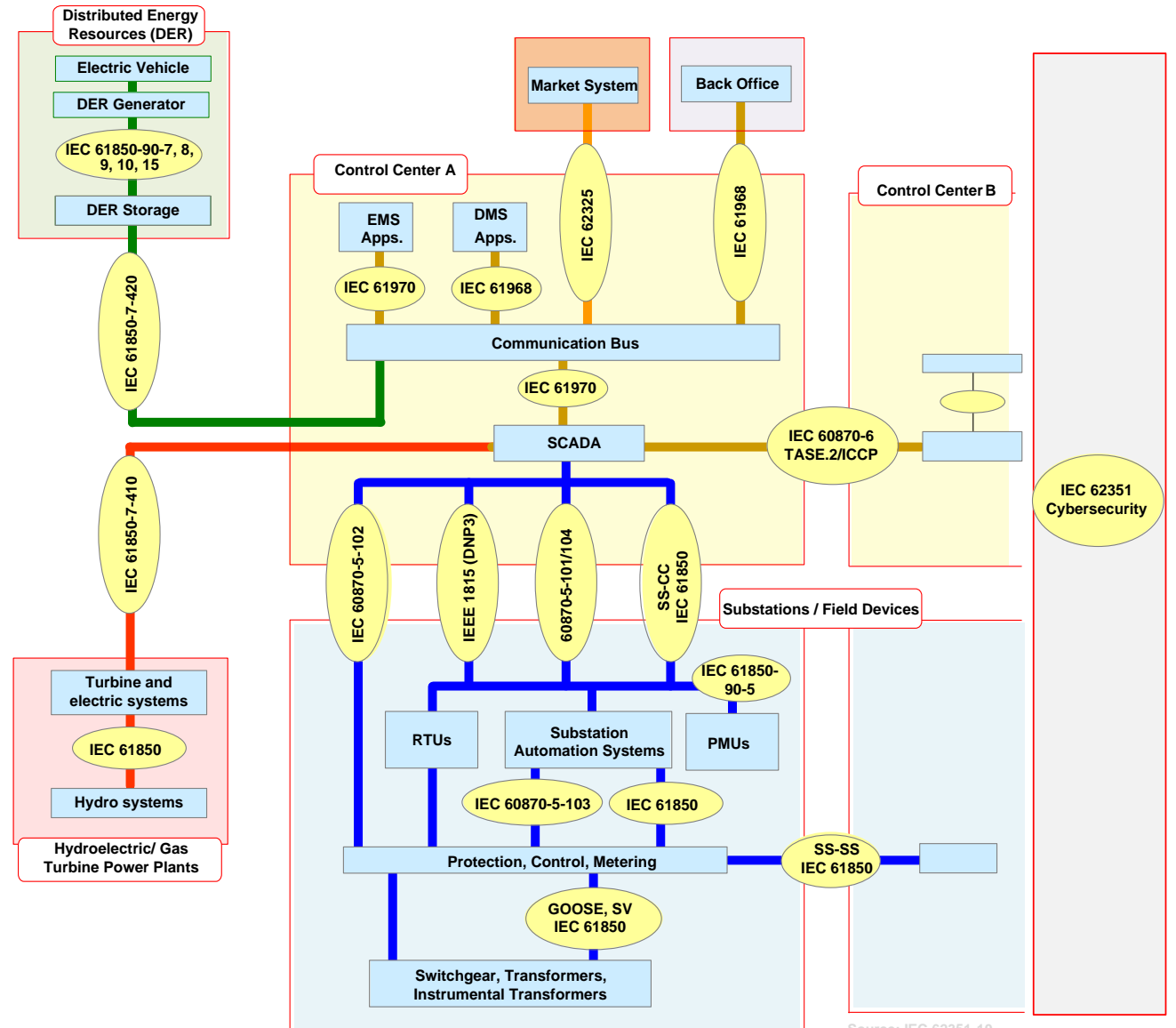
Guidance and support for securing power system
Focus: Examples for architectures, RBAC, monitoring, ...

Core Communication Standards for Digital Grids

IEC TC57 defines the reference architecture with domain-specific cybersecurity

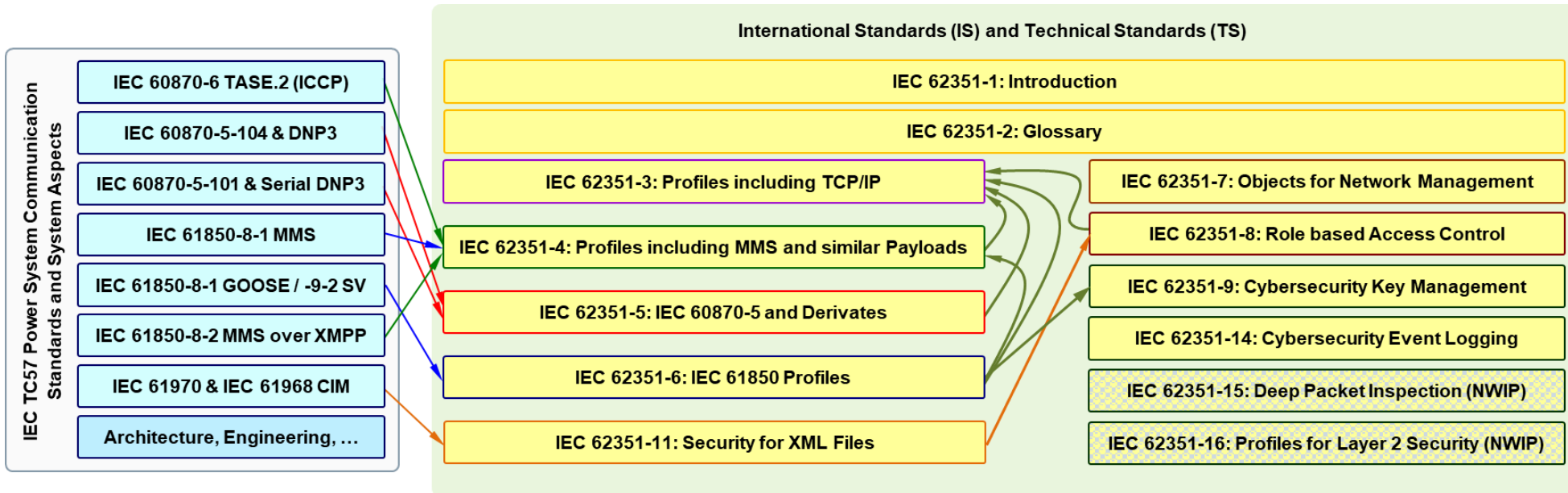
IEC TC57 WG15 Scope

- Development of IEC 62351 to secure communication protocols defined by IEC TC 57, specifically
 - IEC 60870-5 and IEC 60870-6 series,
 - IEC 61850 series,
 - IEC 61968 & IEC 61970 series.
- Focus on end-to-end security to ensure that data exchanged between a source (sender) and a sink (receiver) is protected from unauthorized access and/or modifications.
- Further parts address architecture and system aspects and support engineering and operation.
- Addressed in currently 18+ parts of IEC 62351 of different status



Cybersecurity in Digital Grids as defined in IEC TC57 WG15

IEC 62351 provides technical security measures and guidelines

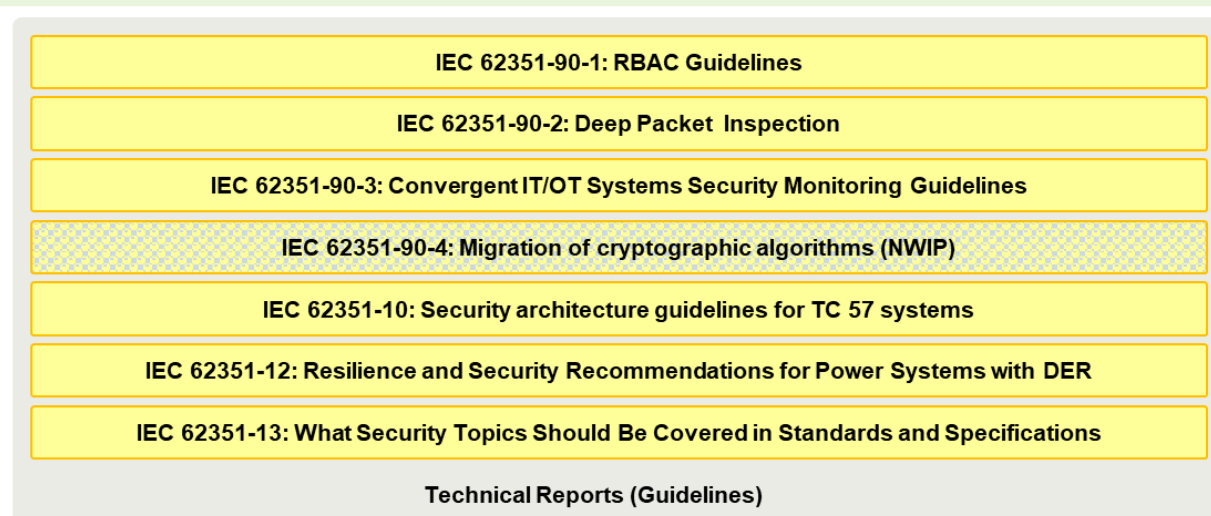
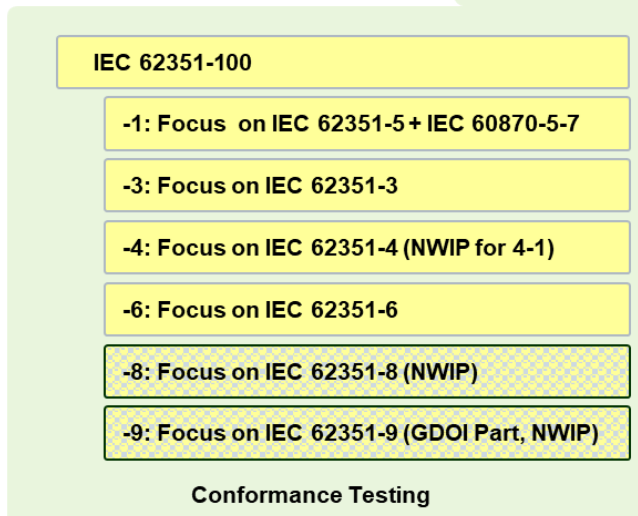


Security means defined for

- Authentication and authorization (RBAC)
- Secure IP-based and serial communication
- Secure application level exchanges
- Security monitoring and event logging
- Test case definition
- Guidelines for applying specific security measures in power system architectures

by utilizing or profiling

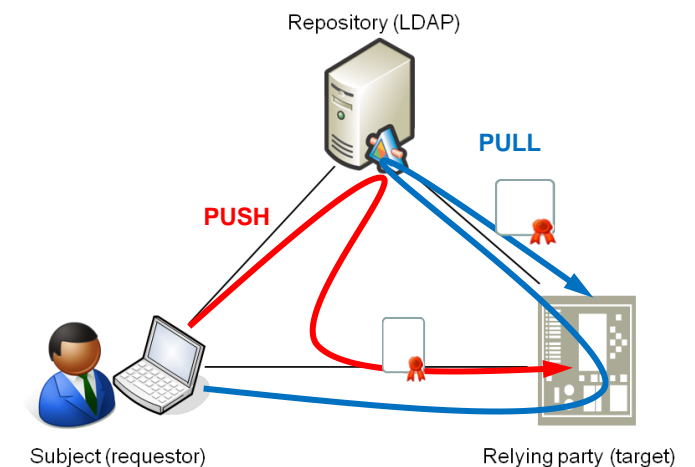
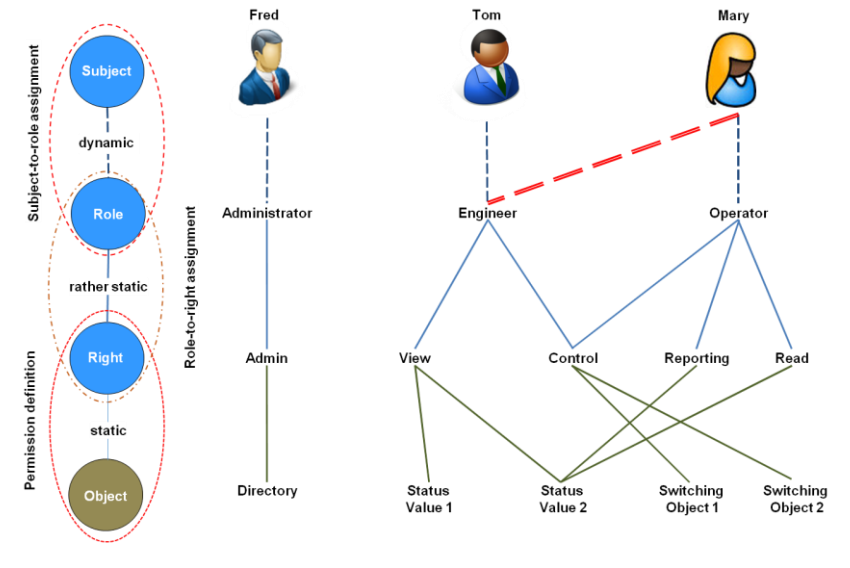
- existing standards and recommendations



IEC 62351-8 Role-based Access Control

Support of fine-grained authorization supported by X.509 certificates

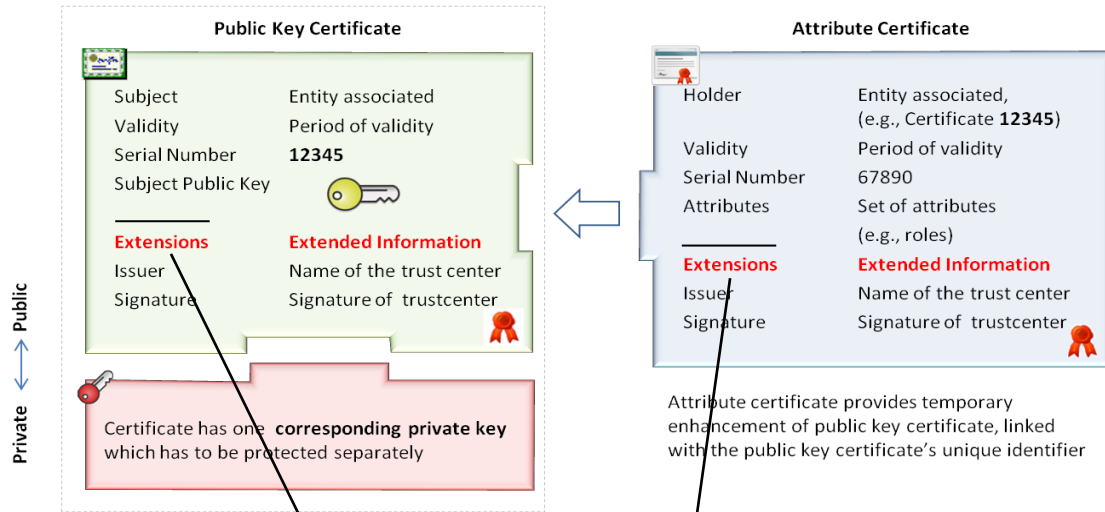
- Roles are intended to ease access control configuration and decisions
- Base RBAC model shall support distinction of
 - subjects and roles; subjects = {humans; devices; SW processes}
 - roles and associated permissions; permission = right on data object
- IEC 62351-8 defines
 - 4 profiles for distributing RBAC information as an access token (X.509 public key certificate, X.509 attribute certificate, JSON Web Token, RADIUS)
 - 7 standardized roles (IEC 61850 scope)
 - role-to-permission assignment for custom defined roles using XACML
 - PULL or PUSH approach for provisioning of access tokens
- Gap regarding missing LDAP scheme for X.509 attribute certificates is addressed in a liaison of ITU-T SG 17 and IEC TC57 WG15 resulting in an update of X.509



IEC 62351 Role-based Access Control

RBAC extension defined for application in X.509 public key and attribute certificate

IEC 62351-8 access token (here: Profile A and Profile B)



```

id-IEC62351 OBJECT_IDENTIFIER ::= { 1 2 840 10070 }
id-IECUserRoles OBJECT_IDENTIFIER ::= id-IEC62351 { 8 1 }
IECUserRoles ::= SEQUENCE OF UserRoleInfo

UserRoleInfo ::= SEQUENCE { -- contains the role information blob
  -- IEC62351 specific parameter
  userRole          SEQUENCE SIZE (1..MAX) OF RoleID
  aor                UTF8String (SIZE(1..64)),
  revision           INTEGER (0..255),
  roleDefinition     UTF8String (0..23) OPTIONAL,
  -- optional fields to be used within IEEE 1815 and IEC60870-5
  operation          Operation OPTIONAL,
  statusChangeSequenceNumber INTEGER (0..4294967295) OPTIONAL,
}

RoleId ::= INTEGER (-32768..32767)

Operation ::= ENUMERATED { Add (1), Delete (2), Change (3) }
    
```

IEC 62351-8 pre-defined roles

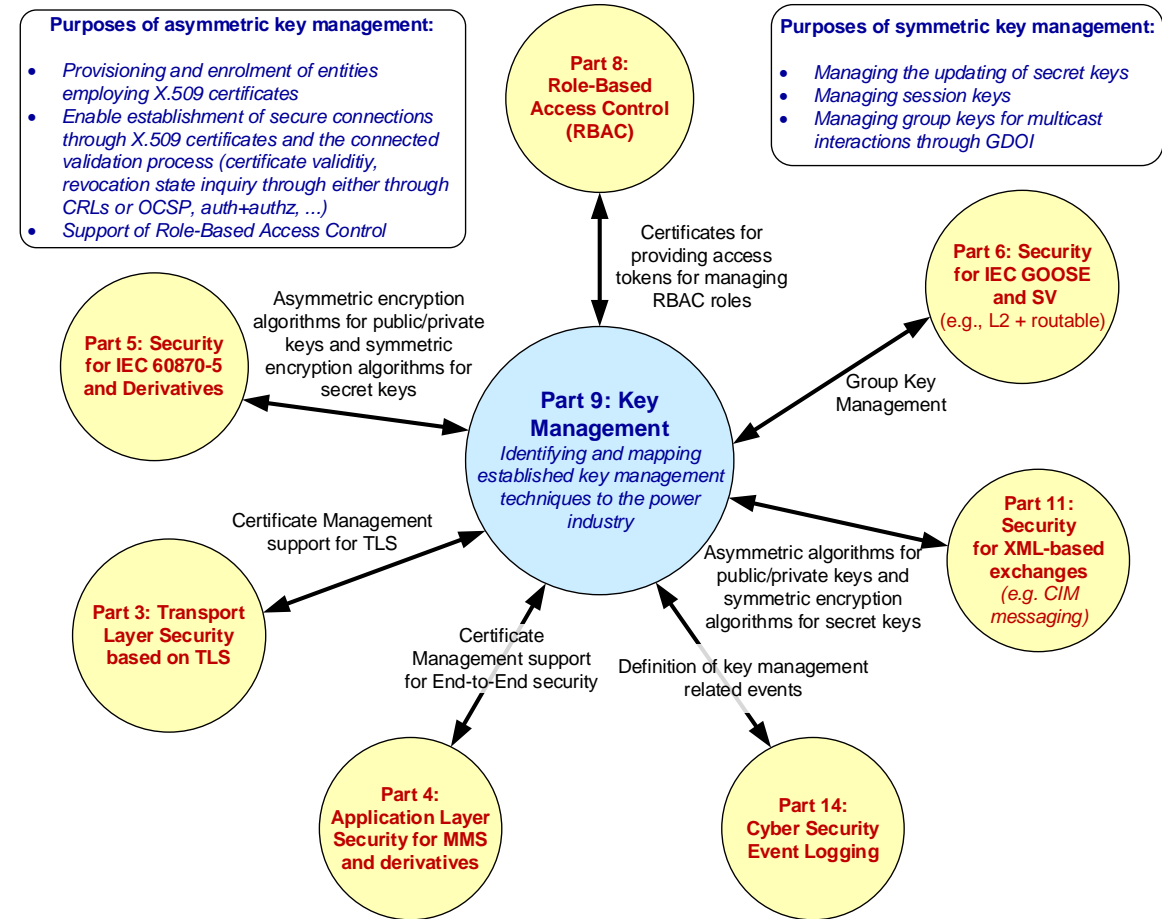
Value	Role name (revision = 1)	Permission										
		LISTOBJECTS	READVALUES	DATASET	REPORTING	FILEREAD	FILEWRITE	FILEMNGT	CONTROL	CONFIG	SETTINGGROUP	SECURITY
<0>	VIEWER	X	C		X	C ₁						
<1>	OPERATOR	X	X		X	C ₁			X		X	
<2>	ENGINEER	X	X	x	X	X ₁	X ₁	X ₁		X	X	
<3>	INSTALLER	X	X		X	X ₂	X ₂			X	X	
<4>	SECADM	X	X	X		X ₄	X ₄	X ₄		X		X
<5>	SECAUD	X	X		X	X ₃						
<6>	RBACMNT	X	X					X ₄		X		
<7...32767>	Reserved	For future use of IEC defined roles.										
<-32768 .. -1>	Private	Defined by external agreement. Not guaranteed to be interoperable.										

C = Conditional read access, clarification of specific data objects may be necessary (e.g., VIEWER may not access security settings, but process values)
 C₁ = Conditional read access to files of filetype data
 X₁ = Access to files of type data and config
 X₂ = Access to files of type config and firmware (updates)
 X₃ = Access to files of type audit log
 X₄ = Access to files of type security (config)

IEC 62351-9 – Cyber security key management for power system equipment

Handling the prerequisite: symmetric and asymmetric keys

- X.509 certificates are a pre-requisite for most IEC 62351 security means
- IEC 62351-9 defines the management of certificates and corresponding private keys as well as group keys and security policies, specifically:
 - Management of Certificates (PKI)
 - Enrollment support : SCEP, EST (both mandatory for infrastructure, only one mandatory for the client)
 - Detail certificate verification rules for public-key certificates and attribute certificates, including revocation status checking using CRLs and/or optional OCSP
 - Optional trust anchor management support using TAMP
 - Management of group keys based on GDOI
 - Group key distribution is bound to peer authentication based on X.509 certificates
 - Defines enhancements for group key and group security policy for GOOSE and SV and PTP (in Edition2)
- IEC 62351-3 Edition 9 targeted for 06/2023 (FDIS passed)



Summary & Outlook

There are still Security Challenges in Power System Automation

- IEC 62351 supporting the security in power system automation bases on the application of X.509 certificates.
- Liaison with ITU-T SG17 enhancements to allow for a better application of attribute certificates are targeted.
- Support of **Crypto Agility** to enable migration to stronger cryptographic algorithms.
 - Specific options in X.509 allow using alternative cryptographic algorithms (hybrid approaches).
 - In addition X.510 allows to wrap existing protocols, which may not support crypto algorithm agility in the future. This will be addressed in a new part IEC 62351-90-4
- **Bootstrapping of security credentials** typically increases the effort for service technicians during installation. Automated bootstrapping targets to make this step transparent to the technician.
 - Zero-touch onboarding approaches currently defined in the IETF leverages the existence of device certificates and utilizes a *provisional* accept of X.509 certificates to establish trust.
 - Zero-touch onboarding approaches are already referred to in IEC 62351 but not normatively required.

| Contact

Steffen Fries

Principal Key Expert

T CST

Otto-Hahn-Ring 6

81739 Munich

Germany

E-mail steffen.fries@siemens.com

Siemens [Grid Security](#)

Siemens [Cyber Security](#)

Information

Disclaimer

© Siemens 2022 - 2023

Subject to changes and errors. The information given in this document only contains general descriptions and/or performance features which may not always specifically reflect those described, or which may undergo modification in the course of further development of the products. The requested performance features are binding only when they are expressly agreed upon in the concluded contract.

All product designations may be trademarks or other rights of Siemens AG, its affiliated companies or other companies whose use by third parties for their own purposes could violate the rights of the respective owner.

Security note

Siemens provides products and solutions with Industrial Security functions that support the secure operation of plants, solutions, machines, equipment and/or networks. They are important components in a holistic Industrial Security concept. With this in mind, Siemens' products and solutions undergo continuous development. Siemens recommends that you regularly check for product updates.

For the secure operation of Siemens products and solutions, it is necessary to take suitable preventive action (e.g. cell protection concept) and integrate each component into a holistic, state-of-the-art Industrial Security concept. Third-party products that may be in use should also be considered. For more information on Industrial Security, visit:

[siemens.com/industrial-security](https://www.siemens.com/industrial-security)

To stay informed about product updates as they occur, sign up for a product-specific newsletter. For more information, visit

support.automation.siemens.com