

Tactical Validation Authority

The Tactical Validation Authority enables full featured certificate validation for low bandwidth, in-theater deployments.

Overview

Ensuring continuity of operations at the frontlines has often proven to be a difficult, if not impossible, task due to data transmission requirements. As PKI-based certificate validation becomes a critical component of nearly every large-scale government IT deployment, it becomes clear that this functionality must include bandwidth constrained environments. With the CoreStreet Tactical Validation Authority (TVA), any location can attain the benefits of certificate validation without sacrificing security or availability.

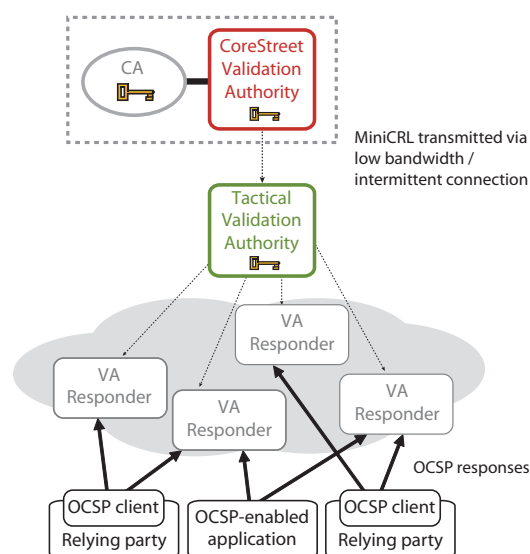
When deployed as part of the CoreStreet Validation Infrastructure, the Tactical VA enables full-featured Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) validation for any OCSP-compliant application anywhere.

Key benefits

- **Available** The Tactical VA is designed specifically for availability. It requires minimal bandwidth to receive certificate data and can be maintained locally. The data is suitable for broadcast transmissions across satellite hops without degradation or lost packets.
- **Comprehensive** Unlike other approaches for bandwidth constrained validation, the CoreStreet Validation Authority transmits all certificate data, compressing it by more than 95%, thereby ensuring data completeness at the Tactical VA. Doing so also guarantees consistent file sizes.
- **Secure** All information sent from a Tactical VA is digitally signed, ensuring that it cannot be altered in any way.
- **Scalable** As a result of significant compression, the Tactical VA can easily support deployments that grow well beyond 100 million issued certificates.
- **Standards compliant** The responses delivered by the Tactical VA are compliant with X.509, OCSP, and LDAP.

How it works

Certificate revocation information is sent from a CoreStreet Validation Authority to the Tactical Validation Authority in the highly compressed, secure MiniCRL format. Once received, the Tactical VA converts the MiniCRL into standard OCSP responses, which are sent to relying parties upon request.



Compatibility

OCSP-enabled applications

- Adobe® Acrobat®
 - Netscape® Browser
 - Silanis® ApproveIt®
- and other applications that use Microsoft® CAPI

OCSP relying party applications

- CoreStreet® Desktop Validation Client™
 - Tumbleweed® Desktop Validator™
- and other standards-based OCSP relying party applications

Licensing

CoreStreet's Tactical Validation Authority is currently available for purchase and deployment. Contact CoreStreet to receive more information or to discuss professional services to assist in the deployment of a secure and scalable validation infrastructure.