BlackBerry Certicom V2X Security Credential Management System (SCMS) Platform Services
Vehicle to Anything (V2X) Communication

V2X technology enables vehicles to communicate with one another and with roadside infrastructure such as traffic signals, road signs and pedestrian walkways. Already piloted in the US and Europe, V2X technology is now ready for deployment.

V2X was developed primarily as a vehicle safety technology to reduce accident-related injuries and deaths. The transportation industry is now recognizing that V2X technology offers so much more — it is a path for connected vehicles and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to transform traffic management and the way we live. The potential of V2X to help alleviate congestion and improve traffic flow offers significant economic benefits that will attract consumers and transportation stakeholders alike.

V2X technology works by enabling real-time messages between a vehicle and its environment, providing information such as vehicle location and trajectory, road conditions, traffic signal timing and road safety hazards. It is critical that these messages are authentic and unaltered and come from trusted actors in the network. For DSRC-based V2X communications in North America, privacy is another important consideration — the system design must mitigate the risk of vehicles being tracked by monitoring their messages.

Realizing these design goals requires building a new type of trust infrastructure for V2X communication — one that addresses privacy and integrity concerns, with a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) deployment at an unprecedented scale.

Vehicles with certificates (V2X modules) are enrolled in the PKI to receive batches of pseudonym certificates with one-week expiry periods and not easily traceable attributes which they use to sign broadcasted V2X basic safety messages (BSMs). Other cars receiving these messages can trust their information.

Road signs and other infrastructure receive certificates which are likewise used to convey trusted traffic and road condition updates. Specialty vehicles and applications such as police cars and emergency services have their own unique identifiers which can be used for trusted safety applications.

Security Credential Management System (SCMS)

Designed by US-DOT sponsored Crash Avoidance Metrics Partners LLC (CAMP), with certificate management protocols standardized in IEEE 1609.2, SCMS is a complex distributed PKI utilizing top level offline roots and intermediate CAs in conjunction with subordinate Enrolment CAs (ECAs) and Pseudonym CAs (PCAs) which issue end-entity certificates. A centralized SCMS Manager governs collective CA certificate management policies, coordinates misbehavior detection, ballots trusted roots and disseminates trusted root and certificate revocation lists.
BlackBerry’s SCMS platform offers all the required PKI features, from top-level management, policy and revocation functions to low-level end-entity enrolment, linkage value creation and certificate issuance. Platform services are monitored by BlackBerry's Network Operations Center (NOC), ensuring a highly secure and resilient operation. BlackBerry’s SCMS platform is designed to be standards-based and interoperable with other SCMS platforms. It supports all CAMP-specified V2X certificate management requirements using a component-based architecture which can be deployed in a distributed cloud-based environment or in targeted sub-system.

This includes the capability to act as the SCMS Manager in a V2X deployment or to act as a component service in a distributed V2X PKI model.

Any vehicle receiving a V2X message signed by a certificate chained to a trusted root can validate the message using the sender’s security credentials. Messages without a valid signature or with a revoked or invalid credential can simply be ignored.

Several features of the PKI were specially meant to preserve the anonymity of drivers and optimize certificate size for the low-bandwidth V2X operational environment. Those features serve as interlocks to protect end user privacy.
The service offering includes:

1. SCMS components hosted in BlackBerry secure infrastructure:
   - Offline Root and Intermediate CA
   - Enrolment CA (ECA)
   - Registration Authority support with policy compliance modules
   - Cloud-based Pseudonym CA (PCA) with support for:
     - Pseudonym certificates
     - Identity certificates
     - Application certificates
     - Dual Linkage Authorities

2. SCMS Manager functionality:
   - Policy Generator
   - Revocation
   - CRL Generation

3. Customizable packages for isolated Connected Vehicle (CV) Pilots

4. Optional integration services for OEMs, module manufacturers or road operators

5. Commitment to support Elector functions and trust list management as IEEE 1609.2 standards are ratified

Why BlackBerry

- Specialist in connected vehicle security technology
  - Globally deployed PKI and secure provisioning systems

- Core ECQV technology invented by BlackBerry Certicom
  - Used in over 120M ZigBee Smart Energy devices as of 2018

- Demonstrated CA interoperability via successful OmniAir Consortium PlugFests
  - Works with certified OBUs and RSUs
  - Policy Manager chain files can support BlackBerry and other trust anchors

- Deployment in resilient, secure BlackBerry infrastructure
  - 24X365 operation with 99.99% availability to support global automotive manufacturing requirements
  - Monitored by trusted BlackBerry Network Operations Center (NOC)

- Robust operations & governance model
  - Operated and audited to WebTrust™ Principles and Criteria for Certification Authorities

- Flexible, low-risk engagement model
  - Able to support national level or smaller-scope Connected Vehicle pilots and trial deployments

- Future Proof
  - Tracking evolution of V2X through membership and sponsorship of OmniAir Consortium, IEEE 1609.2, SAE, and 5GAA communities
  - Able to support new V2X technology proof of concepts