presented by



UEFI Key Management Service (KMS) With **TPM**

UEFI Fall 2023 Developers Conference & Plugfest October 9-12, 2023

Presented by Felix Polyudov and Frederick Otumfuor



Agenda



- Introduction
- TPM-based KMS Design
- KMS Improvements
- Questions



What and Why?

- What's this presentation about?
 - UEFI Key Management Service (KMS)
 - Theory of operation
 - Implementation Options
 - Introduce a TPM-based solution
- Why KMS?
 - Educational value: one of the less known UEFI protocols
 - Practical value: helps solving real-life use cases
 - Provides Standardized Key Management API
 - Abstracts KMS details from the protocol consumer
 - Popularization: it takes two to tango
 - Key management tasks are often solved with in-house solutions that do not scale well
 - Increased awareness is a precondition of increased availability



What's KMS?

- Protocol for managing keys that supports:
 - Key generation, retrieval, and persistent storage
 - Multiple key types (AES, RSA, SHA) and formats (ASCII, UTF-8)
 - Client-based key handling
 - Import of external keys
 - Attaching attributes and client data to a key
 - Init on-demand (start only if needed to optimize boot performance)

typedef struct _EFI_KMS_SERVICE_PROTOCOL

EFI_KMS_GET_SERVICE_STATUS EFI KMS REGISTER CLIENT EFI KMS CREATE KEY EFI_KMS_GET_KEY GetKey; EFI_KMS_ADD_KEY AddKey; EFI_KMS_DELETE_KEY EFI_KMS_GET_KEY_ATTRIBUTES EFI_KMS_ADD_KEY_ATTRIBUTES EFI_KMS_DELETE_KEY_ATTRIBUTES EFI KMS GET KEY BY ATTRIBUTES UINT32 EFI GUID CHAR16 UINT32 BOOLEAN BOOLEAN BOOLEAN UINT16 UINT8 BOOLEAN UINT16 BOOLEAN UINTN BOOLEAN UINTN UINTN EFI GUID BOOLEAN UINT8 UINT16 UINTN EFI_KMS_KEY_ATTRIBUTE } EFI_KMS_PROTOCOL;

GetServiceStatus: RegisterClient; CreateKey; DeleteKey; GetKeyAttributes; AddKeyAttributes; DeleteKeyAttributes; GetKeyByAttributes; ProtocolVersion; ServiceId: *ServiceName: ServiceVersion; ServiceAvailable; ClientIdSupported; ClientIdRequired; ClientIdMaxSize; ClientNameStringTypes; ClientNameRequired; ClientNameMaxCount; ClientDataSupported; ClientDataMaxSize; KeyIdVariableLenSupported; KeyIdMaxSize; KeyFormatsCount; *KeyFormats; KeyAttributesSupported; KeyAttributeIdStringTypes; KeyAttributeIdMaxCount; *KeyAttributesCount;* *KeyAttributes;



What Do You Do With KMS?

- Storage unlocking/decryption (Opal drives, password protected drives, secure RAID controllers)
- Management of machine-maintained passwords
- Management of user passwords
 - Secure Storage (KMS can be used to securely store user passwords)
 - Encryption facilitation (Passwords can be encrypted using KMS provided keys and then stored in the NVRAM or other unsecure storage)
- Device coupling (Couple device or system with a local KMS. For example, couple blade server with a specific server rack)
- Device attestation (secure handling of the device fingerprints)
- Firmware code or data encryption (encryption of the configuration data or critical portions of code)
- RPMC-based storage (manage keys and counters with KMS)



Is It Safe To Use KMS?

- Make it secure
 - The main challenge: KMS should be readily available to the good guys and protected from the bad guys
 - Ways to secure KMS
 - Temporal protection
 - Disable some or all KMS facilities at certain boot stage (typically on transitioning between ____ trust boundaries)
 - Client verification
 - RegisterClient interface allows for limited authentication of the caller
- Make it reliable
 - KMS deployment strategy should encompass provisioning and recovery scenarios
 - What happens when KMS provider is not available (temporary or permanently)?
 - What's the process of repurposing, replacement or ownership transfer for a KMS protected platform or device?



How Do You Make a KMS?

- Multiple implementation options
 - Local (build KMS on top of device that is part of the system)
 - TPM based
 - BMC based
 - DC-SCM based
 - Special hardware based (peripheral device connected via standard interface, such as PCI or USB, or a custom interface)
 - Remote (build KMS on top of transport layer talking to a remote service provider)
 - Over the network (for example, based on KMIP protocol)



TPM-Based KMS Implementation

www.uefi.org



Why TPM and Not Any Other HSM Device?

- TPM is an obvious choice because of industry support and its ubiquity
- No extra BOM cost to add another Crypto Device
- TPM can create and securely store keys
- TPM has a flexible policy infrastructure that can be used to control access to TPM KMS objects
- Can be used independently or be used for redundancy Support to KMIP Server





Considerations on Using TPM as a KMS HSM

- Directed by the platform need and trust policies for the platform
- Should be informed by current industry specifications from TCG
 - TCG PFP Specifications
 - TCG Platform Certificate Profile
 - TPM 2.0 Keys for Device Identity and Attestation
 - DICE Protection Environment
 - SP 800-133 Recommendation for Cryptographic Key Generation



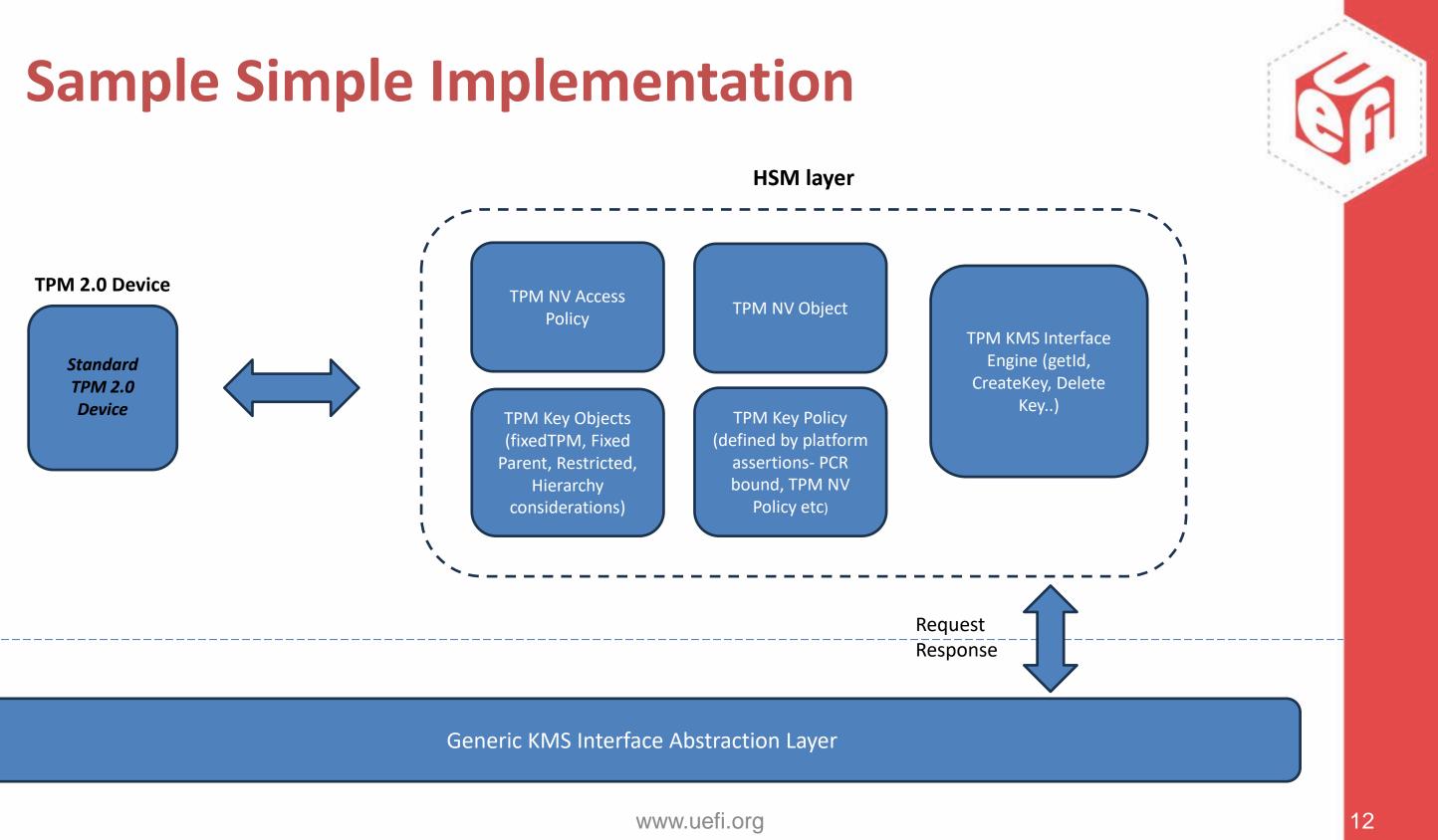


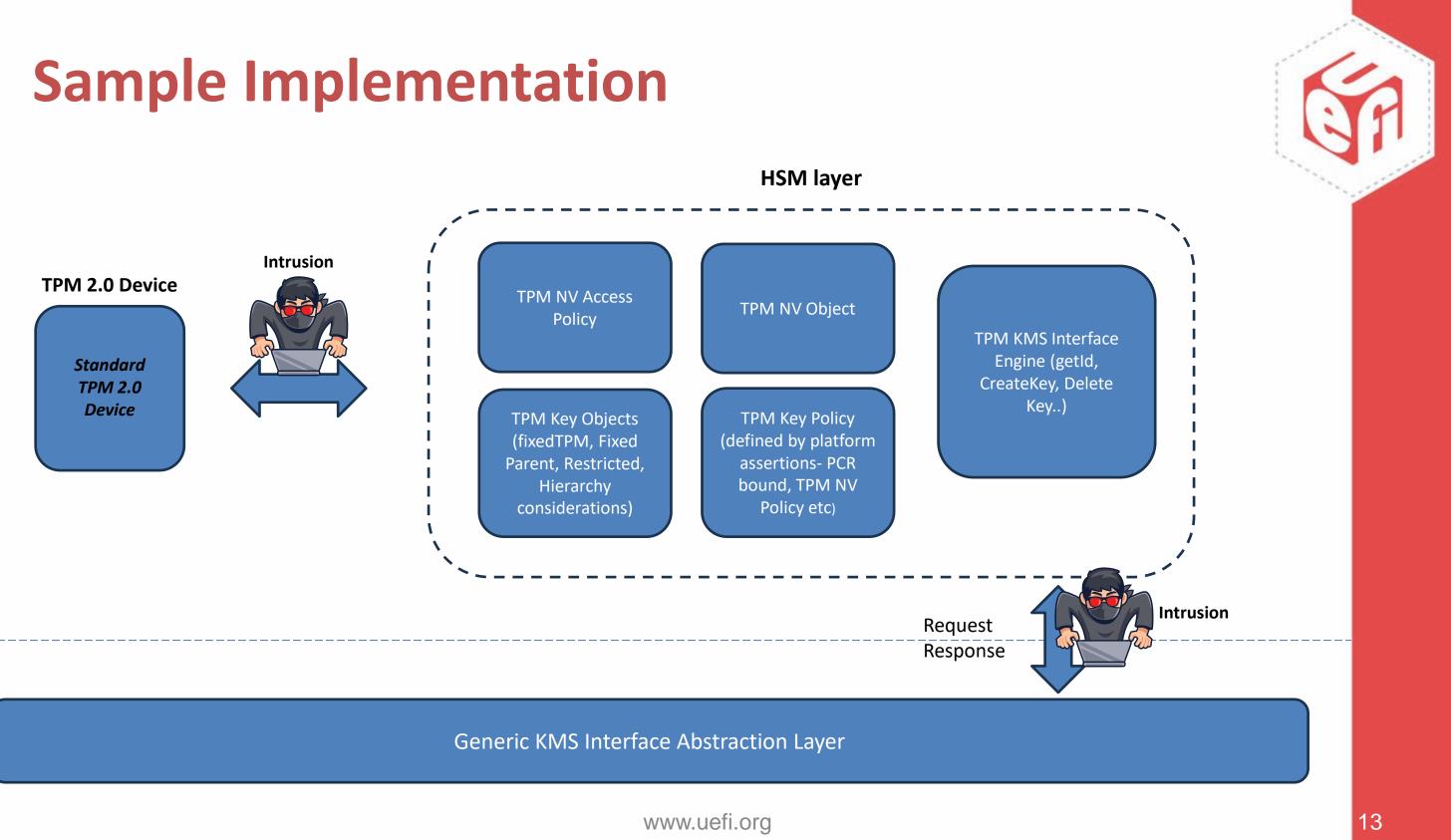
10

Common Components That All Design Solutions Will Need

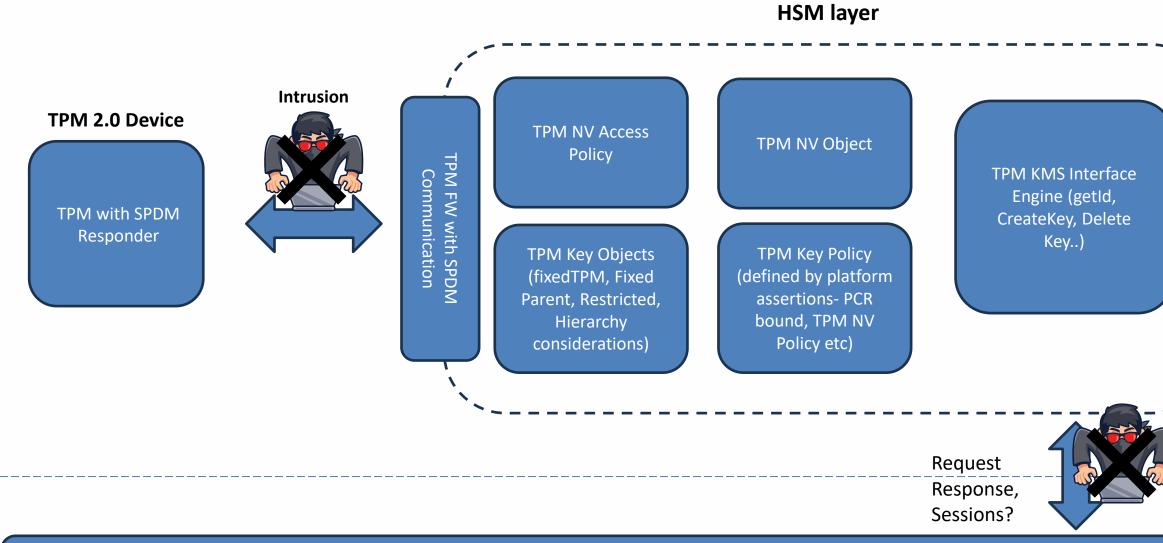
- TPM Policies
 - When should TPM objects for KMS be available?
 - Who should be able to use those objects and when should they be locked?
- Keys created in the TPM (Restrictions)
 - Primary key (Fixed, Restrictions, Policy)
- Hierarchy Consideration (Storage Hierarchy, Platform Hierarchy)







Making It Better



www.uefi.org

Generic KMS Interface Abstraction Layer







Challenges

- Not one size fits all
 - Policies should be directed by platform security assertions and use case requirements
 - Considerations
 - Using PCR based policies can be brittle
 - TPM NV, TPM Authorize policies remove brittleness headache but also have their own Policy management headaches
 - (TPM Authorize, PolicySigned, allows an easier path to recovery for a broken TPM but that implies using another Key management infrastructure. Probably, KMIP)



How To Make It Better?

- Improve availability
 - Today IHV's can't universally rely on KMS being part of the UEFI firmware
- Improve protocol description
 - Better document data persistence (what is persevered across boot boundaries), usage of client data and key attributes
 - Provide usage examples
- Build a threat model
- Consider potential interface improvements •
 - Add support for longer keys and additional key types
 - Client-based locking (explicit interface to lock keys and/or services)
 - Programmatic mechanism to get more information about KMS provider (local/remove, underlying device, etc.)
 - One way to do it is by defining standard *ServiceId* GUIDs for a mainstream KMS types
 - Interface to get amount of a key storage available to a client
- Introduce MM version of the protocol in PI spec •



16

Thanks for attending the UEFI Fall 2023 Developers Conference & Plugfest

For more information on UEFI Forum and UEFI Specifications, visit <u>http://www.uefi.org</u>

presented by



www.uefi.org

