

**Fujitsu mPollux**

# **SMS Security Option**

## **White Paper**

Fujitsu mPollux Version 2.1

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

The mPollux™ Security Server is Fujitsu Finland's multifunction security solution, which can be easily adapted for the diverse needs and security level requirements of user organizations. This is made possible by the modular architecture of mPollux™ Security Server: the Server offers a number of Security Options and the user organization chooses the Option(s) that best suit(s) its needs.

This white paper describes the functionality of the **SMS Security Option**. It is based on a challenge – response authentication sequence using GSM short messages.

The mPollux™ Security Server with SMS Security Option consists of:<sup>1</sup>

- The mandatory **mPollux™ Base** component, which implements the application interfaces through which mPollux™ is used, and common services like logging and an interface to a user database or directory.
- The Security Option, which can be implemented using either SQL or LDAP user register.
- Connection to a GSM operator's SMS center for sending short messages to the users' mobile phone.

## 2 SPECIFICS OF CHALLENGE - RESPONSE BASED SECURITY

The SMS Security Option functionality is based on a challenge and response protocol between a mobile phone and mPollux™ Security Server. The challenge is a short message sent to the users' mobile phone. The challenge contains a random authentication code. The response is the same authentication code, which is entered to the system via a different channel.

### Implementation Assumptions

#### Short Message Service Center (SMSC)

A connection to an SMSC of one or more mobile operators is needed. The SMS Security Option messaging components have to be tailored for different kind of SMSC interfaces.

mPollux SMS™ Security Option supports SMSC http interface without tailoring.

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<sup>1</sup> See the chapter "Overview of the mPollux SMST™ Server Architecture" for a more detailed description of the server architecture.

### 3 WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE SMS SECURITY OPTION?

The mPollux SMS™ Security Option is an authentication solution for Web users and applications that do not have the technical possibility or need for PKI level strong security. In some cases this level of security is, however, enough, and the setting up of an mPollux SMS™ Security Option based authentication service is not too difficult and/or costly. It is then possible to have a centralized authentication service with different levels of security (other mPollux™ Security Options) and offer authentication services suitable for various applications and security needs.

SMS Security Option is especially convenient for mobile device users, when authentication and application communication both are performed on the same device. Normally, those devices are able to receive short messages when the data connection (GSM Data or GPRS) is open.

## 4 MPOLLUX SMS™ USE SCENARIOS

### 4.1 GENERAL

The fundamental operation principles of mPollux SMS™ are the use of mobile phone and the challenge – response type authentication. Application asks user id from the user and passes the id to mPollux SMS™. mPollux SMS™ then generates a random authentication code and sends it to the users' mobile phone using SMS communication. The user reads the contents of the message and enters that as the response to the challenge on the application channel (Internet, GPRS, GSM Data, etc). mPollux SMS™ compares the sent challenge and the received response and authenticates the user that way.

### 4.2 SMS FOR WEB USERS

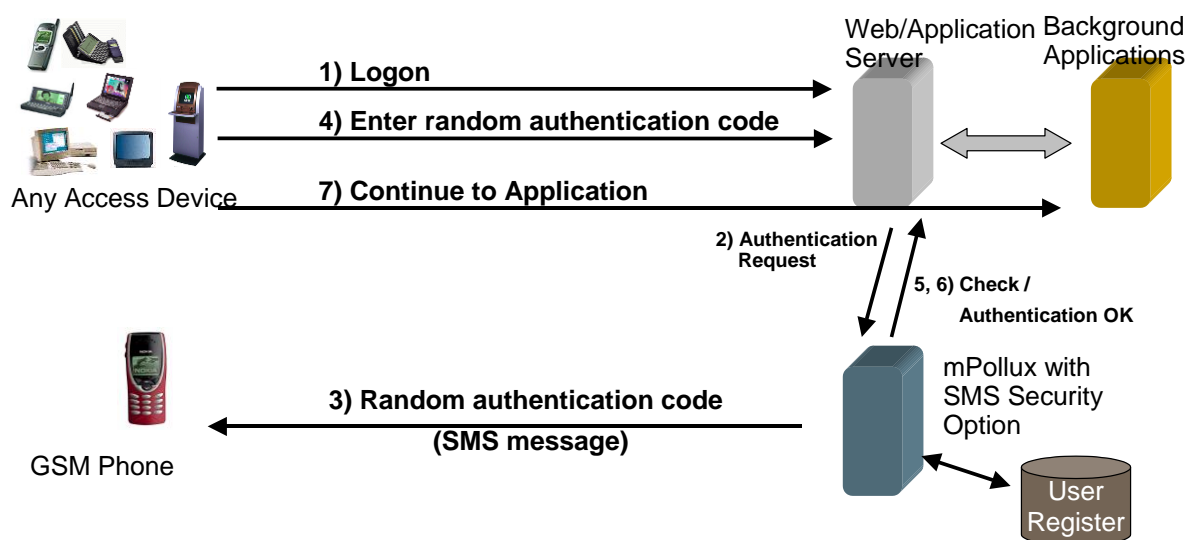


Figure 1 Authentication with mPollux SMS™

Figure 1 presents the scenario where mPollux SMS™ is used with Web services. The only special requirement for the application is the ability to use the mPollux™ API to invoke the SMS Security Option. Figure 1 also shows the steps for mPollux SMS™ authentication.

### 4.3 SMS FOR VPN USERS

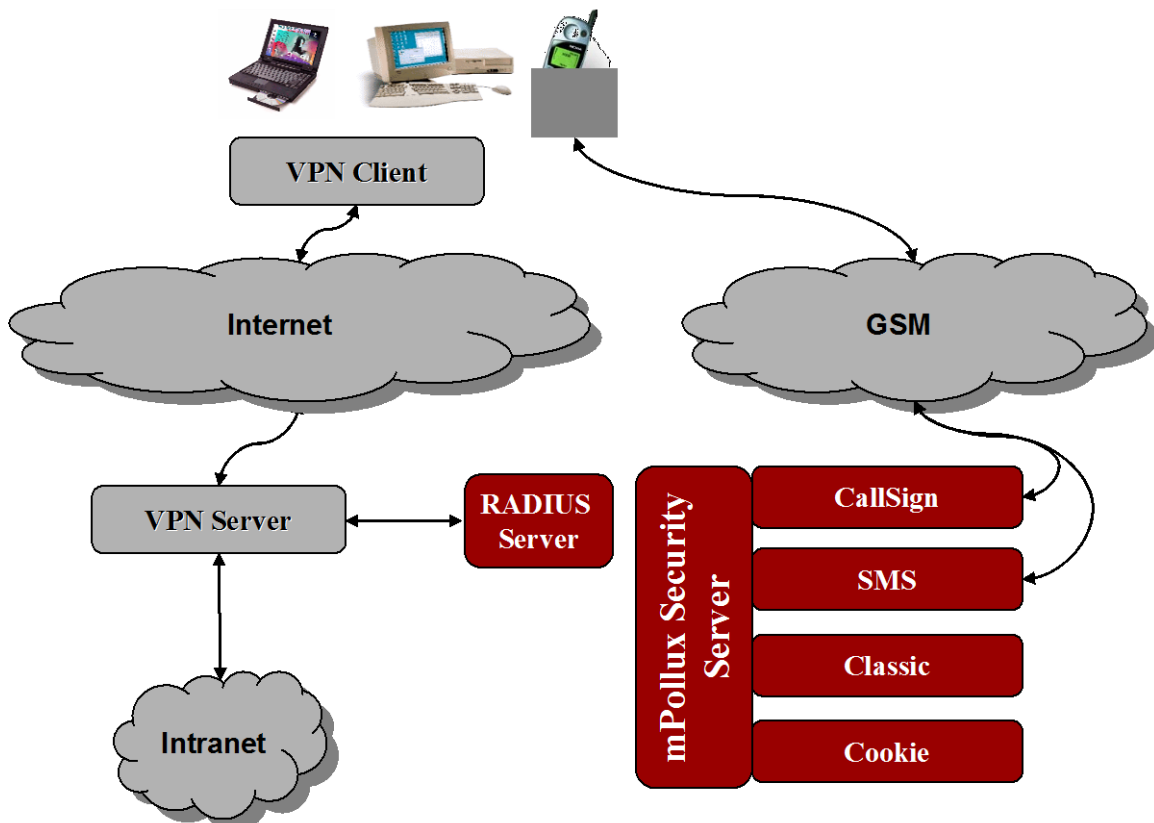


Figure 2 VPN Authentication with mPollux SMS™

Figure 2 presents the scenario where mPollux SMS™ is used with VPN services. The only special requirement for the VPN is the ability to use Radius challenge – response authentication protocol. Also mPollux Radius Server is needed to establish this use case scenario.





## 5.2 COMPONENTS OF THE MPOLLUX SMS™ SECURITY OPTION

### mPollux SMS™ Server

The mPollux SMS™ Server is the component that handles the SMS Security Option authentication requests, and takes care of the responses to the requesting application. It uses the common base components for connection to user register (SQL or LDAP), logging etc. It also use tailored messaging component for sending and receiving the short messages.