



Jennifer J. Edwards

Collier County Supervisor of Elections
"Ensure the integrity of the electoral process"



"BIO-key provided us with an easy way to implement two factor authentication while maintaining roaming profiles for our users. Setup was smooth and BIO-Key worked with us to answer any questions or issues."

**— Network Security Specialist,
Collier County SOE**



CHALLENGE: WHAT INSPIRED CHANGE?

Our democratic process is what sets us apart as a nation. During several recent elections, security and fraud emerged as issues that need to be confronted head on in order to maintain the integrity of our election process. Due to Federal initiatives, such as the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grant, several election boards are raising the bar on security and pioneering cybersecurity solutions that will soon become commonplace.

To increase online security and to add a second layer of authentication, the Collier County SOE began investigating options for a multifactor solution. Upon evaluating the security and cost of several options the organization focused on biometric authentication options including fingerprint, facial and iris.

PATH TO BIO-KEY

When researching the potential options for a multifactor authentication solution that would increase security, but not inhibit workflow or provide any unnecessary friction, the IT team relied upon several trusted online sources. It's not uncommon for IT leaders to visit forums where they can see product reviews and ask for input from fellow IT professionals. These forums provide the opportunity to gain expert or hands on advice from peers that are using or familiar with specific products / solutions. In this case, after reviewing the comments and reviews on IT forums such as the Stack Exchange and Spice Works, BIO-key was confirmed to be the preferred option.

SOLUTION

The initial objective was to identify a biometric authentication solution that operated with Windows Hello and offered level one sign-in to the device. After demoing BIO-key software, including ID Director for Windows, the Collier County SOE discovered that BIO-key could add a layer of biometric authentication to Active Directory, providing a broader utilization of biometric security across the entire organization. Ultimately the customer selected EcoID and PRO-PIV (FIPS compliant) fingerprint scanners along with ID Director for Windows to address their requirement for a strong multifactor authentication solution.

HURDLES

Like most new technology deployments, BIO-key had to work together with the customer to overcome minor hiccups. They encountered a few employees whose fingerprints were not discernible and therefore one of the scanners had challenges picking up their image. The BIO-key tech support team immediately identified a scanner that could recognize the fingerprints of the few that struggled and was able to enroll them into the system and enable one-touch authentication.

OUTCOME & ROI

The Collier County SOE met its objective of installing a multifactor authentication technology that reduced risk and increased security. The staff found fingerprint authentication to be easy and static-free and the solution was embraced across the

entire organization. The password resets which were initially common, especially on Monday mornings, were greatly reduced.

A surprise outcome was the organization's ability to authenticate remote and roving workers using ID Director, so now they had addressed a concern that wasn't even on their initial wish list.

When asked if BIO-key met the customers expectations the response was a resounding "YES!"

Lastly and certainly noteworthy, when the customer was asked "Did this project cost more than you anticipated, about what you anticipated, or was it actually less than you anticipated spending?" The customers response was "less."



Key Benefits

- Solution for Roving Users
- Greatly reduced amount of Password Resets
- Easy to Use and Implement
- Biometrics are the Strongest Form of Authentication
- Affordable

Featured Products

EcoID

EcoID is an **affordable**, high-quality, compact, USB fingerprint scanner **tested and qualified by Microsoft**.



PIV-Pro

PIV-Pro is BIO-key's highly accurate **FIPS 201 compliant** scanner, providing best in class biometric fingerprint authentication for our government and healthcare customers.



ID Director for Windows

ID Director for Windows Features secure and convenient fingerprint biometric authentication that operates at the **Active Directory** tier, independent of any end point device, as required to support shared workstations and roving users. IDDFW delivers a simple, secure biometric authentication experience without the need to enroll on each device, or having to provide a token to each user, while also supporting traditional multi-factor authentication option.

With IDDFW, enterprise customers will meet the most stringent compliance requirements, while delivering a **trusted biometric authentication solution** and a superior user experience.



To learn more about this project or other SOE customer deployments, contact **Mike Lowe** at 732.359.1100 or email **Michael.lowe@bio-key.com**