

From: [Yesha, Yaacov \(Fed\)](#)
To: [Peralta, Rene C. \(Fed\)](#); [Black, Paul E. \(Fed\)](#); [Bojanova, Irena V. \(Fed\)](#); [Yan Wu](#); [Kelsey, John M. \(Fed\)](#)
Subject: Re: BF crypto - resources
Date: Thursday, September 15, 2016 5:13:50 PM

This is a very good point. Using plain RSA may be considered using an adequate algorithm, namely, RSA, without a crucial additional step that is needed for making the whole process adequate. This may be considered a different type of weakness than using an encryption algorithm that is not adequate.

Regards,

Yaacov

From: Peralta, Rene (Fed)
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2016 9:05:56 AM
To: Black, Paul E. (Fed); Yesha, Yaacov (Fed); Bojanova, Irena V. (Fed); Yan Wu; Kelsey, John M. (Fed)
Subject: Re: BF crypto - resources

I wonder if "inadequate encryption algorithm" is different from "inadequate use of an (adequate) encryption algorithm". If so, I would use the latter to describe plain RSA. But I don't really know the extent of the term "algorithm" in computer security jargon.

Regards, Rene.

From: Black, Paul E. (Fed)
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2016 1:40 PM
To: Yesha, Yaacov (Fed); Bojanova, Irena V. (Fed); Yan Wu; Peralta, Rene (Fed); Kelsey, John M. (Fed)
Subject: Re: BF crypto - resources
That's CWE-327 Use of a Broken or Risky Cryptographic Algorithm (2.9)

One can Google CWE and key word, and one often gets a hit.

-paul-
Paul E. Black 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8970
paul.black@nist.gov Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-8970
voice: +1 301 975-4794 fax: +1 301 975-6097

<http://hiss.nist.gov/~black/> KC7PKT

Curriculum Vitae for Paul E. Black

hiss.nist.gov

Curriculum Vitae for Paul E. Black Personal Data. Name: Paul E. Black; Title: Computer Scientist; Mailing Address: National Institute of Standards and Technology

From: Yesha, Yaacov (Fed)
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2016 1:37 PM
To: Bojanova, Irena V. (Fed); Black, Paul E. (Fed); Yan Wu; Peralta, Rene (Fed); Kelsey, John M. (Fed)
Subject: RE: BF crypto - resources

Irena,

The following weakness may be already included within one of the items in the resources you provided, but I will mention it anyway:

Using an inadequate encryption algorithm (i.e. one that is vulnerable to a successful attack).

Example: plain RSA ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA_\(cryptosystem\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA_(cryptosystem)))

Yaacov

From: Bojanova, Irena V. (Fed)
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 11:58 AM
To: Black, Paul E. (Fed) <paul.black@nist.gov>; Yesha, Yaacov (Fed) <yaacov.yesha@nist.gov>; Yan Wu <yanwu@bgsu.edu>; Peralta, Rene (Fed) <rene.peralta@nist.gov>; Kelsey, John M. (Fed) <john.kelsey@nist.gov>
Subject: BF crypto - resources

Paul, Yaacov, and Yan, here are some resources that may help our discussion on crypto-related BF classes:

John and Rene, please let us know if some other sources would be useful.

* NIST SP 800-175B Guideline for Using Cryptographic Standards in the Federal Government: Cryptographic Mechanisms (<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-175B.pdf>):

SECTION 3: CRYPTOGRAPHIC ALGORITHMS

3.1 Cryptographic Hash Functions

3.2 Symmetric-Key Algorithms (Block Cipher Algorithms, Hash-based Symmetric-key Algorithms)

3.3 Asymmetric-Key Algorithms

3.4 Algorithm Security Strength

3.5 Algorithm Lifetime

SECTION 4: CRYPTOGRAPHIC SERVICES

- 4.1 Data Confidentiality
- 4.2 Data Integrity and Source Authentication (Hash Functions, Message Authentication Code Algorithms, Digital Signature Algorithms)
- 4.3 Combining Confidentiality and Authentication in a Block-Cipher Mode of Operation
- 4.4 Random Bit Generation
- 4.5 Symmetric vs. Asymmetric Cryptography

SECTION 5: KEY MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 General Key Management Guidance
- 5.2 Cryptographic Key Management Systems (Framework, System Profile, Public Key Infrastructure)
- 5.3 Key Establishment (Generation, Derivation, Agreement, Transport, Wrapping, Derivation from a Password)
- 5.4 Key Management Issues (Manual vs. Automated Key Establishment, Selecting and Operating a CKMS, Storing and Protecting Keys, Cryptoperiods, Use Validated Algorithms and Cryptographic Modules, Control of Keying Material, Compromises, Accountability and Auditing)

SECTION 6: OTHER ISSUES

- 6.1 Required Security Strength
- 6.2 Interoperability
- 6.3 When Algorithms are No Longer Approved
- 6.4 Registration Authorities (RAs)
- 6.5 Cross Certification

* NIST Cryptographic Toolkit (<http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/>):

Block Ciphers
Block Cipher Modes
Digital Signatures
Entity Authentication
Implementation Guideline
Key Management
Key Derivation Functions
Message Authentication
Random Number Generation
Secure Hashing
Algorithms

* NISTIR 7977 NIST Cryptographic Standards and Guidelines Development Process (<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/ir/2016/NIST.IR.7977.pdf>).

Irena