
**Cards and security devices for
personal identification — Building
blocks for identity management via
mobile devices —**

Part 1:

**Generic system architectures of
mobile eID systems**

*Cartes et dispositifs de sécurité pour l'identification des personnes —
Blocs fonctionnels pour la gestion des identités via les dispositifs
mobiles —*

*Partie 1: Architectures génériques des systèmes d'identification
électronique mobiles*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 17, *Cards and security devices for personal identification*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 23220 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

Introduction

Electronic ID-Applications (eID-Apps) are commonly used in badges and ID-Cards with integrated circuits and allow users to complete electronic identification, authentication or optionally to create digital signatures. Many different application areas have an essential need for these mechanisms and use different means to provide these features (e.g. health system with health assurance cards or health professional cards, financial sector with payment cards, government ID with national ID cards, electronic passports or driver's licenses, educational systems with student cards or library cards, in the company sector with employee cards and in the personal sector with member cards).

Mobile devices (e.g. mobile phones or smart phones, wearable devices) are a central part of the daily life for many individuals. They are not only used for communication, but also for emailing, access to social media, gaming, shopping, banking, and storing private content such as photos, videos and music. They are used today as a personal device for business and private applications. With the ubiquity of mobile devices in day-to-day activities there is a strong demand from users to have eID-Apps or services with identification/authentication mechanisms on their mobile equipment, i.e. an mdoc app.

An mdoc app can be deployed to provide a number of different digital ID-documents. Additionally, it can reside among other eID-Apps on a mobile device. Moreover, users can possess more than one mobile device holding an mdoc app, which leads to enhanced mechanisms for the management of credentials and attributes.

The technical preconditions for the deployment of mdoc apps exist and they are partly standardized to support security and privacy on a mobile device. Examples for containers of eID-App solutions are the software-based Trusted Execution Environment (TEE), hardware-based secure elements such as universal integrated circuit card (UICC), embedded or integrated UICC (eUICC or iUICC), embedded secure elements, secure memory cards with cryptographic module [17] or other dedicated internal security devices residing on the mobile device, as well as solutions with server-based security means.

As mdoc apps can be located on different forms of mobile devices featuring different security means, they must be as generic as possible to be adoptable to different variants of trusted eID-Management. This diversity leads also to different levels of security, trust and assurance. Trusted eID-Management thereby implies the (remote) administration and use of one or several security elements (e.g. in form of an intelligent network), credentials and user attributes with different levels of security suitable to their capability and power.

Access to the mdoc app by the external world must be performed by the available transmission channels. Typical local communication channels are Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), Near Field Communication (NFC), Wi-Fi aware, whereas remote communication is typically an internet connection over mobile networks and Wi-Fi networks. The way of identification and choice of the transmission interface and protocols is an essential part for a trusted eID-Management.

Those mdoc apps are used in different areas of daily life and are the focus of different standardization activities. This document aims at delivering mechanisms and protocols usable by other standards to provide interoperability and interchangeability. With these basics in mind, future mdoc apps can be derived and may extend the ISO/IEC 23220 series.

The ISO/IEC 23220 series builds upon existing standards comprising four main features:

- a) secure channel establishment;
- b) API call serialization method;
- c) data element naming convention;
- d) payload transport over communication channel protocols, which are constitutive of the interoperability pillars.

In addition, it adds means to establish Trust on First Use (TOFU).

NOTE The ISO/IEC 23220 series inherits and enhances the functionality that was adopted by mobile driving licence applications whereby ensuring backward compatibility with ISO/IEC 18013-5.

Other parts in the ISO/IEC 23220 series specify the following:

- generic data formats (see ISO/IEC TS 23220-2);¹⁾
- protocols and services for issuing phase (see ISO/IEC TS 23220-3);²⁾
- protocols and services for operational phase (see ISO/IEC TS 23220-4)³⁾;
- trust models and confidence levels (see ISO/IEC TS 23220-5)⁴⁾;
- mechanism for use of certification on trustworthiness of secure area (see ISO/IEC TS 23220-6).⁵⁾

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5) Under preparation. Stage at time of publication: ISO/IEC AWI TS 23220-6.

Cards and security devices for personal identification — Building blocks for identity management via mobile devices —

Part 1: Generic system architectures of mobile eID systems

1 Scope

This document specifies generic system architectures and generic life-cycle phases of mobile eID systems in terms of building blocks for mobile eID system infrastructures. It standardizes interfaces and services for mdoc apps and mobile verification applications.

It is applicable to entities involved in specifying, architecting, designing, testing, maintaining, administering and operating a mobile eID system in parts or entirely.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

attribute

user attribute

characteristic or property of an *entity* (3.6)

EXAMPLE An entity type, address information, telephone number, a privilege, a MAC address, a domain name are possible attributes

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 3.1.3]

3.2

attribute statement

attribute describing a statement or assertion about *user attributes* (3.1) comprising predicates over attributes

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 19286:2018, 3.6, modified — Added "attribute describing a" at the beginning of the definition and removed EXAMPLE.]

3.3

authentication

provision of assurance in the *identity* (3.10) of an *entity* (3.6)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 29115:2013, 3.2]

3.4 authentication protocol

defined sequence of messages between an *entity* (3.6) and a *verifier* (3.40) that enables the verifier to perform *authentication* (3.3) of an entity

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 29115:2013, 3.4]

3.5 credential

set of data presented as evidence of a claimed or asserted *identity* (3.10) and/or entitlements

Note 1 to entry: According to ISO/IEC 29115 an assertion is considered a stronger statement than a claim.

EXAMPLE A user attribute signed by the issuer as proof of authenticity is a credential that can be verified by the verifier by validating the electronic signature.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 29115:20133.8, modified — Replaced Note 1 to entry with new Note 1 to entry. EXAMPLE was added.]

3.6 entity

item relevant for the purpose of operation of a domain that has recognizably distinct existence

Note 1 to entry: An entity can have a physical or a logical embodiment.

EXAMPLE A person, an organization, a device, a group of such items, a human subscriber to a telecom service, a SIM card, a passport, a network interface card, a software application, a service or a website.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 3.1.1]

3.7 holder

entity (3.6), i.e. natural person, who holds the *mdoc app* (3.19) and uses it to perform *user identification* (3.8) towards a *verification application* (3.39)

3.8 identification user identification

process of distinguishing an *entity* (3.6) within a given context by the unique association of a set of descriptive parameters

EXAMPLE User attributes are descriptive parameters of the entity 'holder'.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 19286:2018, 3.15, modified — Added "of the entity 'holder'" to the EXAMPLE.]

3.9 identifier

data which identifies an *entity* (3.6) in a given context towards another entity

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 19286:2018, 3.16]

3.10 identity

set of *attributes* (3.1) related to an *entity* (3.6)

Note 1 to entry: An entity can have more than one identity.

Note 2 to entry: Several entities can have the same identity.

Note 3 to entry: ITU-T X1252 specifies the distinguishing use of an identity. In this document, the term identifier implies this aspect.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 24760-1:2019, 3.1.2]

3.11**identity or attribute provider service**

service that receives *attributes* (3.1) authorized by the *issuer* (3.14) and makes these attributes available to *verification applications* (3.39) in the *operational phase* (3.26)

Note 1 to entry: An identity or attribute provider can be deployed as central service or as decentral service by using a distributed ledger technology managed by the holder.

Note 2 to entry: An attribute provider services provides any kind of *attributes* (3.1).

Note 3 to entry: An identity provider services makes attributes available that convey identity information.

3.12**ID-provisioning entity**

entity that operates all or parts of services of *installation phase*, (3.13), *issuing phase* (3.15) and *operational phase* (3.26) on behalf of the *issuer* (3.14)

3.13**installation phase**

phase of *mobile document system* (3.23) that includes the loading of the *m doc app* (3.19) and related software onto the *mobile device* (3.17)

EXAMPLE Loading an app onto a smartphone or loading an SA-Application (e.g. a Java Card applet) into the secure area, e.g. an embedded secure element,^[19] is part of the installation phase.

3.14**issuer**

entity (3.6) that makes available *user attributes* (3.1) and *credentials* (3.5) in the *issuing phase* (3.15) and authorizes the instantiation of the *m doc app* (3.19)

Note 1 to entry: An issuing authority acts as an issuer.

3.15**issuing phase**

phase of *mobile document system* (3.23) that includes the initial issuing of either *user attributes* (3.1) or *credentials* (3.5) or both into the *m doc app* (3.19) and can include the re-issuing of credentials

Note 1 to entry: In literature, issuing of user attributes and credentials is also referred to as provisioning of user attributes and credentials.

3.16**issuing service**

service operated in *issuing phase* (3.15) that provides all data of a *mobile document* (3.22) stored either locally in the *m doc app* (3.19) or remotely at an *identity or attribute provider service* (3.11)

3.17**mobile device**

portable computing device that at least: a) has a small form factor such that it can easily be carried by a single individual; b) is designed to operate, transmit and receive information without a wired connection; c) possesses local, non-removable or removable data storage; d) includes a self-contained power source and e) includes means for the *holder* (3.7) of the portable computing device and the device to interact with each other

Note 1 to entry: Mobile devices may also include voice communication capabilities, on-board sensors that allow the devices to capture information, and/or extended computer functionality and connectivity.

Note 2 to entry: Adapted from ISO/IEC 18013-5.

EXAMPLE Smartphones, tablets, and e-readers are mobile devices.

3.18 discovery service

service operated in *issuing phase* (3.15) that verifies *mdoc app* (3.19) characteristics by means of mdoc app capability descriptor

3.19 mdoc app

application on a *mobile device* (3.17) that manages *user attributes* (3.1) and *credentials* (3.5) for electronic identification purposes and controls access to the user attributes and credentials whether the user attributes and credentials are stored on the mobile device, on a server or on an external device

Note 1 to entry: In ISO/IEC 18013-5, mdoc represents mdoc app or *mobile document* (3.22).

3.20 MCD attestation service

service signing the mdoc capability descriptor

Note 1 to entry: The *mdoc app* (3.19) capability descriptor is specified in ISO/IEC TS 23220-3[6].

3.21 mdoc app provider service

webservice operated by the *mdoc app* (3.19) provider in *issuing phase* (3.15) that controls the issuing of *mobile documents* (3.22) into the mdoc app

3.22 mobile document

set of *attributes* (3.1) and *credentials* (3.5) issued by one or more issuers into an *mdoc app* (3.19) and managed by an mdoc app

Note 1 to entry: A mobile document is considered a digital document. An mdoc app managing more than one mobile document is also considered an eID-Wallet.

Note 2 to entry: In ISO/IEC 18013-5, mdoc represents mdoc app or mobile document.

EXAMPLE Mobile documents include eID documents and licenses or certificates that give the holder permissions.

3.23 mobile document system mobile eID-System

set of components interacting to manage *mobile documents* (3.22)

EXAMPLE Components of a mobile document system are *mdoc app* (3.19), mobile verification application, issuing service or validation service.

3.24 monitoring service

service operated in *issuing phase* (3.15) that controls all or parts of a *user identification service* (3.37), *discovery service* (3.18), *issuing service* (3.16) or *MCD attestation service* (3.20)

3.25 on-site identification

use case of *mobile document system* (3.23) that requires a local device-to-device communication for *user identification* (3.8) between a *mobile device* (3.17) providing the *mdoc app* (3.19) and *verifier device* (3.41)

Note 1 to entry: Device-to-device authentication includes the mobile device with mdoc app and the verifier device with verification application.

3.26**operational phase**

phase of *mobile document system* (3.23) that includes the usage of the *mdoc app* (3.19) for the purpose of *user identification* (3.8) and *authentication* (3.3)

3.27**remote identification**

use case of *mobile document system* (3.23) that requires a remote device-to-service communication over the internet for *user identification* (3.8) between a *mobile device* (3.17) and *verification application* (3.39)

Note 1 to entry: Device-to-service authentication includes the mobile device with *mdoc app* (3.19) and the verification application without verifier device.

3.28**remote user storage service**

service that manages data storage and that controls access to it

Note 1 to entry: Authorization by the holder is required.

3.29**removal phase**

phase of *mobile document system* (3.23) that includes the removal of the *mdoc app* (3.19) and related software as well as *user attributes* (3.1) and *credentials* (3.5) from the *mobile device* (3.17)

3.30**SA-Application**

application of the *secure area* (3.33) that manages *credentials* (3.5) and that may manage *user attributes* (3.1) for *user identification* (3.8) purposes and can control access to the user attributes

3.31**SA-Application provider service**

service that installs *SA-Applications* (3.30) into secure areas by means of an SA-Client

3.32**secure memory card**

non-volatile memory card format, i.e. a Secure Digital (SD) Card, for use in portable devices with physical sizes “original”, “mini” or “micro” together with a cryptographic module

[SOURCE: NIST SP 800-157 [17]]

3.33**secure area**

isolated internal or attached area of a *mobile device* (3.17) that ensures secure processing and storing of data even when the primary operating system (OS) is compromised

Note 1 to entry: The primary OS is also referred to as rich OS or high-level OS.

EXAMPLE A secure element [19] or a Trusted Execution Environment (TEE) [19] serve as an internal secure area. A universal integrated circuit card (UICC) is considered as an attached secure area of a mobile device.

3.34**server retrieval token**

token identifying the *holder* (3.7) and the *mobile document* (3.22) to the *identity or attribute provider service* (3.11)

3.35**Trusted Execution Environment****TEE**

secure area (3.33) of the main processor of a mobile device

3.36

TSM-Service

SA-Application provisioning service that allows for loading and installing of *SA-Applications* (3.30) according to GlobalPlatform

EXAMPLE JavaCard Applets and Trustlets are SA-Applications.

3.37

user identification service

service operated in *issuing phase* (3.15) that identifies the *holder* (3.7) by electronic or non-electronic means with or without a *mobile document* (3.22)

3.38

validation service

service or mechanism in *operational phase* (3.26) that allows for determination of validity of *mobile documents* (3.22)

Note 1 to entry: Determination of validity can include revocation status of mobile documents.

EXAMPLE Certificate revocation lists or public key directories can be part of validation services.

3.39

verification application

mdoc reader

application on a *verifier device* (3.41) or on a remote server validating *user attributes* (3.1) and *credentials* (3.5) retrieved from an *mdoc app* (3.19) or an *identity or attribute provider service* (3.11)

Note 1 to entry: mdoc app and a verification application are typically part of a mobile document system.

Note 2 to entry: In ISO/IEC 18013-5 an mdoc reader is defined as a device that can retrieve mdoc data for verification purposes.

3.40

verifier

entity (3.6) that controls the *verification application* (3.39) and uses it to perform *user identification* (3.8)

3.41

verifier device

device that connects locally with the *mobile device* (3.17) providing the *mdoc app* (3.19) and that optionally provides the *verification application* (3.39)

EXAMPLE An ISO/IEC 14443 terminal that connects with a mobile device is a verifier device without a verification application. A mobile device providing a verification application that connects via ISO/IEC 14443 with the mobile device is a verifier device.

4 Abbreviated terms

For the purposes of this document, the following abbreviated terms apply.

BLE	Bluetooth Low Energy
eID	Electronic identity
eSE	embedded secure element
eMRTD	electronic Machine-Readable Travel Document
eUICC	embedded universal integrated circuit card
IDS	Image Delivery Server

MCD	mdoc app capability descriptor
mdoc	mobile document
OFL	Open Firmware Loader
SA	Secure Area
SAAO	Secure Area Attestation Object
TEE	Trusted Execution Environment

5 Design and privacy principles of mobile document systems

5.1 Design principles

This document specifies building blocks in terms of services. Protocols and interfaces implementing the data exchange for these services are specified in ISO/IEC TS 23220-2, ISO/IEC TS 23220-3, ISO/IEC TS 23220-4. Services can be operated by various entities such as an issuer or an entity acting on behalf of the issuer. The document distinguishes services directly communicating with the mdoc app and services communicating with other (backend)-services. For example, an issuer can operate all or some of those services. Deployment examples are given in [Annex A](#).

A mobile document system in conformance to this document implements one or more of the specified system architectures involving an mdoc app running on a mobile device and used for identification and authentication purposes of a holder. The verifier is an entity providing a verification application either through a verifier device placed at a certain distance to the mobile device or through an online service. The verifier uses issuer information and a related confidence level to determine the quality of the identification or authentication process.

The user attributes and credentials are managed by the mdoc app or the SA-Application or by a remote identity and attribute provider or a combination of these options. The management of these data includes storage and access control. The use of an SA-Application with hardware backed secure area (see [6.2](#)), e.g. a secure element,^[19] provides higher confidence in the user identification and authentication process due to the involvement of tamper-resistant hardware components.

A mobile document system is an identity management system in accordance with ISO/IEC 24760 and manages identities in a certain domain. Different domains which have agreements about identity federation according to ISO/IEC 24760 are allowed for establishing trust in the cross-domain identification process and in the derivation of user attributes from a primary domain into a secondary domain. Hence, re-issuing or renewal as well as revoking and deleting processes of user attributes and credentials are part of a mobile document system together with the required infrastructures.

The specification of generic architectures of mobile document systems including services and interfaces use the following key in the figures if not stated otherwise.

Key

-  Interface of local or remote communication in scope of ISO/IEC 23220 series
(e.g. internet connection, NFC, BLE, 2D-Bar code)
-  Interface of local or remote communication in scope of ISO/IEC 23220 series with label and notation:
 IN-x installation phase with number x
 IS-y issuing phase with number y
 OP-z operational phase with number z
-  Interface of local or remote communication out of scope of ISO/IEC 23220 series
-  Local interaction with mobile device or mdoc app
(e.g. press button by holder, capturing biometric characteristic)
-  Label of interface of local or remote communication out of scope of ISO/IEC 23220 series
with alphabetical enumeration

Figure 1 — General notation of system architecture specifications

5.2 Privacy and security principles

5.2.1 General

In the specification of the mobile document system, the following privacy and security principles according to ISO/IEC 29100 and ISO/IEC 19286 are considered:

5.2.2 Data minimization

- a) Partial attribute release: Partial release of user attributes and attribute statements contributes to realizing data minimization. This requires the use of technology, which does not inherently lead to the release of all or large parts of the PII in each transaction.
- b) Unlinkability: Unlinkability of transactions at the cryptographic or protocol level contributes to data minimization. Only identifiers that are required to establish necessary linkability with other transactions are disclosed. Establishing linkability of a transaction with other transactions by default through an improperly designed cryptographic protocol layer counters the ideas of data minimization.
- c) Domain-specific identifier (Pseudonym): Domain-specific identifiers, or pseudonyms, are another concept towards data minimization. They are a form of identifiers, which avoid the use of the same unique identifier for a holder in all its interactions. Particularly, when a mobile document system is used for both governmental applications and private-sector applications, some countries mandate different identifiers to be used for public- and private-sector. This is to prevent the exposure of substantial personal information from one entity's data to other entities.

5.2.3 Consent and choice:

- a) User-centric system: In a user-centric system the holders have control over the use of their attributes and can exert informed consent, whether the user attributes are managed by a SA-Application and/or by a remote identity or attribute provider.

5.2.4 Accuracy and quality

- a) User binding: The user attributes and credentials are be bound to the holder, i.e. the legitimate holder to whom it is issued. This is crucial for the basic function of any government-issued document of associating attributes with people to whom they should apply.