

A way to set up CAC login to your Mac computer for users of Thursby's PKard. 16 February 2013

Michael, et al.

I was able to get it to work with our PKard for Mac v1.2: <http://www.thursby.com/products/pkard.html>

First, I have to state that this is not yet supported functionality of the product. It does work for me, and it should work for you, but we can't provide technical support for it with the current version.

Second, my testing involved an in-house PIV-I, so I had to go through a few extra steps to make sure our signing DC was a trusted CA. This might be necessary for some CACs or PIVs.

- Log in to the Mac with a local administrator account (card NOT in the reader)
 - Launch Keychain Access from the Applications/Utilities folder
 - Insert the card into the card reader
 - In the Keychains panel of Keychain Access, select the card's keychain. The certificates on the card will appear (there are usually three)
 - In the right pane, click the first certificate
 - If 'This certificate was signed by an unknown authority' displays in red, double-click it the certificate. The Certificate Information window will open
 - Scroll down to the Extension section labeled 'Certificate Authority Information Access' and click the link just below it (Ex. <http://crl.xxx.mil/getsign?DOD%CA-99>). The CA certificate will download to the Mac
 - Close the Certificate Information window
 - Quit Keychain Access. This seems counter-intuitive given that we are about to reopen it by opening the cert, but it does need to be quit before continuing.
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- Locate the certificate in your downloads folder double click it. The Add Certificates window will appear asking if you want to add the certificate to the keychain
 - Set the Keychain field to System and click OK. Enter administrator credentials if prompted. If prompted, choose to "Always Trust". The new certificate should appear under System in the Keychain Access window
 - Do the same process for each of the remaining certificates

In the interest of full disclosure, this should work with any of the smart card solutions capable of reading CAC and PIV cards.

If you decide to try this with PKard, I'd be interested in knowing how things work out.

Regards,

Jim Thomas, CSCIP/G
Senior Support Specialist

Thursby Software Systems, Inc.