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# Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'tpm2\_createak.1' command

## \$ man tpm2\_createak.1

tpm2\_createak(1) General Commands Manual tpm2\_createak(1)

## NAME

tpm2\_createak(1) - Generate attestation key with given algorithm under

the endorsement hierarchy.

## SYNOPSIS

tpm2\_createak [OPTIONS]

## DESCRIPTION

tpm2\_createak(1) - Generate an attestation key (AK) with the given al?

gorithm under the endorsement hierarchy. The context of the attesta?

tion key is specified via -c.

The tool outputs to stdout a YAML representation of the loaded key?s

name, for example:

loaded-key:

name: 000bac149518baa05540a0678bd9b624f8a98d042e46c60f4d098ba394d36fc49268

## OPTIONS

? -P, --eh-auth=AUTH:

The authorization value for the endorsement hierarchy.

? -p, --ak-auth=AUTH

The authorization value for the attestation key object created.

# ? -C, --ek-context=OBJECT:

The endorsement key object.

? -c, --ak-context=FILE:

The file path to save the object context of the attestation key.

? -G, --key-algorithm=ALGORITHM:

Specifies the attestation key algorithm. Supports:

? ecc - An P256 key.

? rsa - An RSA2048 key.

? keyedhash - hmac key.

? -g, --hash-algorithm=ALGORITHM:

Specifies the digest algorithm used for signing.

? -s, --signing-algorithm=ALGORITHM:

The signing algorithm.

? -u, --public=FILE:

The file to save the public portion of the attestation key.

? -n, --ak-name=FILE:

The file to save the attestation key name, optional.

? -r, --private=FILE:

The output file which contains the sensitive portion of the object,

optional. # Protection Details

Objects that can move outside of TPM need to be protected (confiden? tiality and integrity). For instance, transient objects require that TPM protected data (key or seal material) be stored outside of the TPM. This is seen in tools like tpm2\_create(1), where the -r option outputs this protected data. This blob contains the sensitive portions of the object. The sensitive portions of the object are protected by the par? ent object, using the parent?s symmetric encryption details to encrypt the sensitive data and HMAC it. In-depth details can be found in sections 23 of: ? https://trustedcomputinggroup.org/wp-content/up? loads/TPM-Rev-2.0-Part-1-Architecture-01.38.pdf

Notably Figure 20, is relevant, even though it?s specifically referring

to duplication blobs, the process is identical.

If the output is from tpm2\_duplicate(1), the output will be slightly different, as described fully in section 23.

? -f, --format:

Format selection for the public key output file. `tss' (the default)

will output a binary blob according to the TPM 2.0 Specification.
`pem' will output an OpenSSL compatible PEM encoded public key.
`der' will output an OpenSSL compatible DER encoded public key.
`tpmt' will output a binary blob of the TPMT\_PUBLIC struct referenced by TPM 2.0 specs.

Format selection for the signature output file.

? -q, --ak-qualified-name=FILE:

The qualified name of the attestation key object. The qualified name

is the qualified name of the parent object (the EK in this instance)

and the name of the object itself. Thus, the qualified name of an

object serves to bind it to its parents.

#### References

Context Object Format

The type of a context object, whether it is a handle or file name, is

determined according to the following logic in-order:

? If the argument is a file path, then the file is loaded as a restored

TPM transient object.

? If the argument is a prefix match on one of:

? owner: the owner hierarchy

? platform: the platform hierarchy

? endorsement: the endorsement hierarchy

? lockout: the lockout control persistent object

? If the argument argument can be loaded as a number it will be treat

as a handle, e.g. 0x81010013 and used directly.\_OBJECT\_.

## Authorization Formatting

Authorization for use of an object in TPM2.0 can come in 3 different

forms: 1. Password 2. HMAC 3. Sessions

NOTE: ?Authorizations default to the EMPTY PASSWORD when not speci?

fied?.

#### Passwords

Passwords are interpreted in the following forms below using prefix

identifiers.

Note: By default passwords are assumed to be in the string form when

they do not have a prefix.

## String

A string password, specified by prefix ?str:? or it?s absence (raw string without prefix) is not interpreted, and is directly used for au? thorization.

#### Examples

foobar

str:foobar

## Hex-string

A hex-string password, specified by prefix ?hex:? is converted from a hexidecimal form into a byte array form, thus allowing passwords with non-printable and/or terminal un-friendly characters.

#### Example

hex:0x1122334455667788

#### File

A file based password, specified be prefix ?file:? should be the path

of a file containing the password to be read by the tool or a ?-? to

use stdin. Storing passwords in files prevents information leakage,

passwords passed as options can be read from the process list or common

shell history features.

## Examples

# to use stdin and be prompted

file:-

# to use a file from a path

file:path/to/password/file

# to echo a password via stdin:

echo foobar | tpm2\_tool -p file:-

# to use a bash here-string via stdin:

tpm2\_tool -p file:- <<< foobar

#### Sessions

When using a policy session to authorize the use of an object, prefix the option argument with the session keyword. Then indicate a path to

a session file that was created with tpm2\_startauthsession(1). Option?

ally, if the session requires an auth value to be sent with the session

handle (eg policy password), then append a + and a string as described

in the Passwords section.

#### Examples

To use a session context file called session.ctx.

session:session.ctx

To use a session context file called session.ctx AND send the authvalue

mypassword.

session:session.ctx+mypassword

To use a session context file called session.ctx AND send the HEX auth?

value 0x11223344.

session:session.ctx+hex:11223344

#### PCR Authorizations

You can satisfy a PCR policy using the ?pcr:? prefix and the PCR mini?

language. The PCR minilanguage is as follows:

<pcr-spec>=<raw-pcr-file>

The PCR spec is documented in in the section ?PCR bank specifiers?.

The raw-pcr-file is an optional argument that contains the output of

the raw PCR contents as returned by tpm2\_pcrread(1).

PCR bank specifiers (pcr.md)

#### Examples

To satisfy a PCR policy of sha256 on banks 0, 1, 2 and 3 use a specifi?

#### er of:

pcr:sha256:0,1,2,3

specifying AUTH.

#### **Algorithm Specifiers**

Options that take algorithms support ?nice-names?.

There are two major algorithm specification string classes, simple and

complex. Only certain algorithms will be accepted by the TPM, based on

usage and conditions.

Simple specifiers

These are strings with no additional specification data. When creating

objects, non-specified portions of an object are assumed to defaults.

You can find the list of known ?Simple Specifiers Below?.

## Asymmetric

? rsa

? ecc

Symmetric

? aes

? camellia

# Hashing Algorithms

? sha1

? sha256

? sha384

? sha512

? sm3\_256

? sha3\_256

? sha3\_384

? sha3\_512

# Keyed Hash

? hmac

? xor

# Signing Schemes

? rsassa

? rsapss

? ecdsa

? ecdaa

? ecschnorr

Asymmetric Encryption Schemes

? oaep

? rsaes

? ecdh

Modes

? ctr

? ofb

? cbc

? cfb

? ecb

#### Misc

? null

## **Complex Specifiers**

Objects, when specified for creation by the TPM, have numerous algo? rithms to populate in the public data. Things like type, scheme and asymmetric details, key size, etc. Below is the general format for specifying this data: <type>:<scheme>:<symmetric-details>

**Type Specifiers** 

This portion of the complex algorithm specifier is required. The re? maining scheme and symmetric details will default based on the type specified and the type of the object being created.

? aes - Default AES: aes128

? aes128<mode> - 128 bit AES with optional mode (ctr|ofb|cbc|cfb|ecb).

If mode is not specified, defaults to null.

? aes192<mode> - Same as aes128<mode>, except for a 192 bit key size.

? aes256<mode> - Same as aes128<mode>, except for a 256 bit key size.

? ecc - Elliptical Curve, defaults to ecc256.

? ecc192 - 192 bit ECC

? ecc224 - 224 bit ECC

? ecc256 - 256 bit ECC

? ecc384 - 384 bit ECC

? ecc521 - 521 bit ECC

? rsa - Default RSA: rsa2048

? rsa1024 - RSA with 1024 bit keysize.

? rsa2048 - RSA with 2048 bit keysize.

? rsa4096 - RSA with 4096 bit keysize.

Scheme Specifiers

Next, is an optional field, it can be skipped.

Schemes are usually Signing Schemes or Asymmetric Encryption Schemes.

Most signing schemes take a hash algorithm directly following the sign?

ing scheme. If the hash algorithm is missing, it defaults to sha256.

Some take no arguments, and some take multiple arguments.

Hash Optional Scheme Specifiers

These scheme specifiers are followed by a dash and a valid hash algo?

rithm, For example: oaep-sha256.

? oaep

? ecdh

? rsassa

? rsapss

? ecdsa

? ecschnorr

Multiple Option Scheme Specifiers

This scheme specifier is followed by a count (max size UINT16) then

followed by a dash(-) and a valid hash algorithm. \* ecdaa For example,

ecdaa4-sha256. If no count is specified, it defaults to 4.

## No Option Scheme Specifiers

This scheme specifier takes NO arguments. \* rsaes

Symmetric Details Specifiers

This field is optional, and defaults based on the type of object being created and it?s attributes. Generally, any valid Symmetric specifier from the Type Specifiers list should work. If not specified, an asym?

metric objects symmetric details defaults to aes128cfb.

Examples

Create an rsa2048 key with an rsaes asymmetric encryption scheme

tpm2\_create -C parent.ctx -G rsa2048:rsaes -u key.pub -r key.priv

Create an ecc256 key with an ecdaa signing scheme with a count of 4 and sha384 hash

/tpm2\_create -C parent.ctx -G ecc256:ecdaa4-sha384 -u key.pub -r key.priv cryptographic algorithms ALGORITHM.

Signature Format Specifiers

Format selection for the signature output file. tss (the default) will output a binary blob according to the TPM 2.0 specification and any po? tential compiler padding. The option plain will output the plain sig? nature data as defined by the used cryptographic algorithm. signature

## COMMON OPTIONS

This collection of options are common to many programs and provide in? formation that many users may expect.

? -h, --help=[man|no-man]: Display the tools manpage. By default, it attempts to invoke the manpager for the tool, however, on failure will output a short tool summary. This is the same behavior if the ?man? option argument is specified, however if explicit ?man? is re? quested, the tool will provide errors from man on stderr. If the ?no-man? option if specified, or the manpager fails, the short op? tions will be output to stdout.

To successfully use the manpages feature requires the manpages to be installed or on MANPATH, See man(1) for more details.

? -v, --version: Display version information for this tool, supported tctis and exit.

? -V, --verbose: Increase the information that the tool prints to the console during its execution. When using this option the file and line number are printed.

? -Q, --quiet: Silence normal tool output to stdout.

? -Z, --enable-errata: Enable the application of errata fixups. Useful

if an errata fixup needs to be applied to commands sent to the TPM.

Defining the environment TPM2TOOLS\_ENABLE\_ERRATA is equivalent. in?

formation many users may expect.

## TCTI Configuration

The TCTI or ?Transmission Interface? is the communication mechanism with the TPM. TCTIs can be changed for communication with TPMs across different mediums.

To control the TCTI, the tools respect:

1. The command line option -T or --tcti

2. The environment variable: TPM2TOOLS\_TCTI.

Note: The command line option always overrides the environment vari? able.

The current known TCTIs are:

? tabrmd - The resource manager, called tabrmd (https://github.com/tpm2-software/tpm2-abrmd). Note that tabrmd and abrmd as a tcti name are synonymous.

? mssim - Typically used for communicating to the TPM software simula? tor.

? device - Used when talking directly to a TPM device file.

? none - Do not initalize a connection with the TPM. Some tools allow for off-tpm options and thus support not using a TCTI. Tools that do not support it will error when attempted to be used without a TCTI connection. Does not support ANY options and MUST BE presented as the exact text of ?none?.

The arguments to either the command line option or the environment variable are in the form:

<tcti-name>:<tcti-option-config>

Specifying an empty string for either the <tcti-name> or <tcti-op? tion-config> results in the default being used for that portion respec? tively.

#### **TCTI** Defaults

When a TCTI is not specified, the default TCTI is searched for using dlopen(3) semantics. The tools will search for tabrmd, device and mssim TCTIs IN THAT ORDER and USE THE FIRST ONE FOUND. You can query what TCTI will be chosen as the default by using the -v option to print the version information. The ?default-tcti? key-value pair will indi? cate which of the aforementioned TCTIs is the default.

#### Custom TCTIs

Any TCTI that implements the dynamic TCTI interface can be loaded. The

tools internally use dlopen(3), and the raw tcti-name value is used for

the lookup. Thus, this could be a path to the shared library, or a li?

brary name as understood by dlopen(3) semantics.

#### TCTI OPTIONS

This collection of options are used to configure the various known TCTI modules available:

? device: For the device TCTI, the TPM character device file for use by

the device TCTI can be specified. The default is /dev/tpm0.

Example: -T device:/dev/tpm0 or export TPM2TOOLS\_TCTI=?de? vice:/dev/tpm0?

? mssim: For the mssim TCTI, the domain name or IP address and port number used by the simulator can be specified. The default are 127.0.0.1 and 2321.

Example: -T mssim:host=localhost,port=2321 or export TPM2TOOLS\_TC?

TI=?mssim:host=localhost,port=2321?

? abrmd: For the abrmd TCTI, the configuration string format is a se?

ries of simple key value pairs separated by a `,' character. Each

key and value string are separated by a `=' character.

? TCTI abrmd supports two keys:

`bus\_name': The name of the tabrmd service on the bus (a string).

2. `bus\_type' : The type of the dbus instance (a string) limited to

`session' and `system'.

Specify the tabrmd tcti name and a config string of bus\_name=com.ex?

ample.FooBar:

\--tcti=tabrmd:bus\_name=com.example.FooBar

Specify the default (abrmd) tcti and a config string of bus\_type=ses?

sion:

\--tcti:bus\_type=session

NOTE: abrmd and tabrmd are synonymous. the various known TCTI mod?

ules.

## EXAMPLES

Create an Attestation Key and make it persistent

tpm2\_createek -c ek.handle -G rsa -u ek.pub

tpm2\_createak -C ek.handle -c ak.ctx -u ak.pub -n ak.name

tpm2\_evictcontrol -C o -c ak.ctx 0x81010002

# Returns

Tools can return any of the following codes:

? 0 - Success.

? 1 - General non-specific error.

? 2 - Options handling error.

? 3 - Authentication error.

? 4 - TCTI related error.

? 5 - Non supported scheme. Applicable to tpm2\_testparams.

## BUGS

Github Issues (https://github.com/tpm2-software/tpm2-tools/issues)

## HELP

See the Mailing List (https://lists.01.org/mailman/listinfo/tpm2)

tpm2-tools

tpm2\_createak(1)