YubiKey for Mobile in the Public Sector
Securing mobile, tablet and notebook users with high-assurance multi-factor authentication

Growing mobile usage exposes security risks
Mobile device usage across government agencies is on the rise, yet PIV and CAC cards are cumbersome to use with mobile devices. SMS and OTP device-based software authenticators aren’t secure alternatives, and in the case of BYOD/BYOAD, put government and other public sector entities on point to reimburse employees and contractors for mobile costs. Public sector entities need to provide enhanced authentication that is secure, doesn’t create high recurring expenses and can enable personnel to securely work in any location, on any device, and across any network.

The YubiKey works across Microsoft Windows, iOS, macOS, Android, Linux, and leading browsers
The YubiKey offers secure authentication for mobile phones, tablets, notebooks and leading operating systems, comes in a FIPS 140-2 validated model, and supports derived PIV/CAC requirements. The YubiKey is designed to provide authentication and a portable root of trust for both mobile devices and computers and provides a faster, more secure alternative to authentication using passwords, SMS codes and mobile apps. The YubiKey makes it easy to deploy strong, scalable authentication that eliminates account takeovers from phishing and other attacks. By providing a secure and easy way for users to enroll to their mobile app, and use step-up authentication, the YubiKey significantly enhances security and reduces IT support costs.

The YubiKey is a hardware-based solution that offers the following capabilities:

- The YubiKey FIPS series is FIPS 140-2 validated and offers a choice of USB-A and USB-C connectors. It enables government agencies and regulated industries to meet the highest authenticator assurance level 3 (AAL3) requirements from the new NIST SP800-63B guidance.

- The YubiKey 5 NFC and YubiKey 5C NFC support multiple authentication and cryptographic protocols including WebAuthn/FIDO2, U2F, PIV-compatible smart card, and Yubico OTP, and is available with USB-A or USB-C and NFC to protect employee access to computers, networks, and online services with just one touch or secure tap-and-go.

- The Security Key NFC by Yubico supports the U2F and FIDO2 authentication protocols, and is available with USB-A and NFC to secure hundreds of U2F and FIDO2 compatible services with just one touch for secure tap-and-go.

- The YubiKey 5Ci offers multi-protocol support and is available with both USB-C and Lightning connectors to secure apps and services across all major platforms, including Apple devices.
YubiKey: Proven, easy-to-use security for mobile apps that makes being secure effortless

Secure enrollment for in-house and consumer-facing mobile apps
- The YubiKey stores the authentication secret on a secure element hardware chip. This secret is never transmitted and therefore cannot be copied or stolen, providing superior defense against phishing.

Flexible step-up authentication for high assurance transactions
- Once a user has verified their identity to the mobile app during enrollment, the YubiKey can be used for step-up authentication for high-value sensitive transactions, such as transferring funds above a threshold amount.

Reduces IT costs
- The YubiKey dramatically reduces the primary IT support cost—password resets—which cost Microsoft over $12M per month.
- By switching from mobile one time passwords (OTPs) to the YubiKey, Google reduced password support incidents by 92% because the YubiKey is more reliable, faster, and easier to use.
- In the event of an organization using mobile devices as a second factor, replacement costs are high if a user loses their device or it is stolen. In contrast, replacing a YubiKey is far more cost efficient and fast.

Easy to use, fast, and reliable
- Users don’t need to install anything—customers or employees simply register their YubiKey, enter their username and password as usual, and plug in and tap the YubiKey when prompted.
- YubiKeys are crush-resistant, water-resistant and tamperproof.

Easy to deploy
- IT can deploy the YubiKey in days, not months. A single key can access multiple modern and legacy systems.

Trusted authentication leader
- Yubico is the principal inventor of the U2F and WebAuthn/FIDO2 authentication standards adopted by the FIDO alliance and was the first company to produce the Security Key Series by Yubico that incorporates both U2F and FIDO2/WebAuthn support.
- The YubiKey is used by leading companies and government agencies around the globe. Nine of the top ten global technology companies, four of the top ten US banks, and two of the top three global retailers use YubiKeys.
- YubiKeys are produced in our offices in the USA, maintaining security and quality control over the entire manufacturing process.

Yubico SDK for iOS and Android:
- Enable rapid integration of the YubiKey with mobile apps on iOS and Android
- Effectively secure enrollment to in-house and consumer apps
- Enable step-up authentication for sensitive transactions
- Deliver a seamless user experience

For more information on the Yubico SDK for iOS and Android, please visit: https://www.yubico.com/why-yubico/for-developers/