



## CREDIT UNION SECURES MACHINE IDENTITIES WITH FUTURE-PROOF AXIAD PKI

As demand for digital interactions increases, data protection is essential for the finance industry. These new digital requirements lead to an increased risk of losing company and customer data, which can be costly. Data breaches in finance and banking companies are the most expensive across industries, averaging \$16.5 million. Businesses need to invest in comprehensive authentication solutions to stay ahead of these threats.

One large credit union needed a simpler way to authenticate and secure the numerous machines and users on their network. Employees – both privileged and non-privileged – were spread across locations and were bringing personal devices onto the network which required authentication. However, their multiple on-premises PKI deployments couldn't keep up with their growing business and were challenging to maintain.

Axiad's PKI solution enables them to issue certificates for all of their machines – such as devices, servers, printers, etc. – without the hassle of multiple deployments. This machine identity management is the first phase in a broader, identity-first strategic plan: the credit union will then implement user identity and authentication with the Axiad Cloud platform as the next phase. The platform is deployed in a virtual private cloud that serves as an extension of the data center. The VPC stores all the credit union's sensitive information in a FIPS-certified hardware security module, without the hassle of an on-prem solution.

This solution offers them complete trust in the identities on their network – whether they're employees, machines, or interactions – without burdening their IT team or end-users. Now that their devices, servers, applications, etc. have been issued certificates, they can also offer the same strong authentication to their privileged and non-privileged users through the same platform. With Axiad PKI they will also have the capability to secure interactions such as email signing to protect against phishing threats, and document digital signature and encryption to ensure trust in their business processes.

As the credit union continues deploying the Axiad solution, the automated Axiad Cloud platform will allow them to reallocate IT resources from maintaining their legacy systems so they can focus on strategic projects instead. The credit union can now face digital business transformation with trust and can continue to scale their operations with future-proof credential management.

HIGHLIGHTS



Streamlined their IAM infrastructure from multiple PKI systems to **one cohesive solution**

Secured machine identities to eliminate **machine-based threats**



Implemented a scalable solution for users and other digital interactions **in the future**



“Axiad PKI addresses our use cases without increasing cost and complexity. We know that as we continue to update our cybersecurity infrastructure, we can count on Axiad to secure our users, machines, and more with their platform.”

— CIO at Canadian credit union

## THE CHALLENGE

Digital business transformation requires assurance that every user, device, and digital interaction is verified and secured. For this Canadian credit union, their multiple PKI systems were becoming challenging to maintain and were not providing strong enough authentication for their users and machines. They needed the benefits of a dedicated certificate authority without the complexity of their on-premises infrastructure.

## THE SOLUTION

The credit union selected Axiad Cloud PKI to provide standards-based certificates for the company's various machines and devices on their network. As their workforce had spread into multiple locations, this solution offered security for their disparate employees and their BYOD devices.

**With Axiad PKI, the credit union was able to streamline the issuance, management, and updates of their machine certificates. The Axiad solution scales to empower their cybersecurity with:**

- Multi-factor authentication with smart cards, tokens, TPM, mobile-based authentication
- Virtual private cloud to remove the risk of a shared cloud infrastructure
- Email digital signature and encryption to enable secure digital interactions



## THE RESULTS

The credit union achieved end-to-end trust for all the machines and devices on their network with Axiad Cloud. They no longer needed to waste valuable time and resources on day-to-day maintenance of their legacy solutions. As the credit union looks ahead to further digitization in the finance industry, they can rest assured that they have a future-proof security infrastructure.

- Reduced the risk of network breaches, compliance problems, and financial liabilities with PKI technology
- Saved time and total costs of deploying and maintaining various legacy systems so the IT team could focus on other projects
- Assured that all the machines on their network – from IoT devices, servers, mobile devices, etc. – were authenticated and secured