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Diffie-Helman USM Key  
Management Information Base and Textual Convention

Status of this Memo

This memo defines an Experimental Protocol for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Discussion and suggestions for improvement are requested. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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IESG Note

This document specifies an experimental MIB. Readers, implementers and users of this MIB should be aware that in the future the IETF may charter an IETF Working Group to develop a standards track MIB to address the same problem space that this MIB addresses. It is quite possible that an incompatible standards track MIB may result from that effort.

Abstract

This memo defines an experimental portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it defines a textual convention for doing Diffie-Helman key agreement key exchanges and a set of objects which extend the usmUserTable to permit the use of a DH key exchange in addition to the key change method described in [12]. In otherwords, this MIB adds the possibility of forward secrecy to the USM model. It also defines a set of objects that can be used to kick start security on an SNMPv3 agent when the out of band path is authenticated, but not necessarily private or confidential.

The KeyChange textual convention described in [12] permits secure key changes, but has the property that if a third-party has knowledge of the original key (e.g. if the agent was manufactured with a standard default key) and could capture all SNMP exchanges, the third-party would know the new key. The Diffie-Helman key change described here

limits knowledge of the new key to the agent and the manager making the change. In otherwords, this process adds forward secrecy to the key change process.

The recommendation in [12] is that the usmUserTable be populated out of band - e.g. not via SNMP. If the number of agents to be configured is small, this can be done via a console port and manually. If the number of agents is large, as is the case for a cable modem system, the manual approach doesn't scale well. The combination of the two mechanisms specified here - the DH key change mechanism, and the DH key ignition mechanism - allows managable use of SNMPv3 USM in a system of millions of devices.

This memo specifies a MIB module in a manner that is compliant to the SNMP SMIV2[5][6][7]. The set of objects is consistent with the SNMP framework and existing SNMP standards and is intended for use with the SNMPv3 User Security Model MIB and other security related MIBs.

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [16].

This memo is a private submission by the author, but is applicable to the SNMPv3 working group within the Internet Engineering Task Force. Comments are solicited and should be addressed to the the author.

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1. The SNMP Management Framework    The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:
  - o An overall architecture, described in RFC 2271 [1].
  - o Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIV1 and described in STD

16, RFC 1155 [2], STD 16, RFC 1212 [3] and RFC 1215 [4]. The second version, called SMIV2, is described in STD 58, RFC 2578 [5], STD 58, RFC 2579 [6] and STD 58, RFC 2580 [7].

- o Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and described in STD 15, RFC 1157 [8]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and described in RFC 1901 [9] and RFC 1906 [10]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and described in RFC 1906 [10], RFC 2272 [11] and RFC 2274 [12].
- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in STD 15, RFC 1157 [8]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1905 [13].
- o A set of fundamental applications described in RFC 2273 [14] and the view-based access control mechanism described in RFC 2275 [15].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo specifies a MIB module that is compliant to the SMIV2. A MIB conforming to the SMIV1 can be produced through the appropriate translations. The resulting translated MIB must be semantically equivalent, except where objects or events are omitted because no translation is possible (use of Counter64). Some machine readable information in SMIV2 will be converted into textual descriptions in SMIV1 during the translation process. However, this loss of machine readable information is not considered to change the semantics of the MIB.

### 1.1. Structure of the MIB

This MIB is structured into three groups and a single textual convention:

- o The DHKeyChange textual convention defines the process for changing a secret key value via a Diffie-Helman key exchange.
- o The usmDHPublicObjects group contains a single object which describes the public Diffie-Helman parameters required by any instance of a DHKeyChange typed object.

- o The usmDHUserKeyTable augments and extends the usmUserTable defined in the SNMPv3 User-based Security Model MIB [12] by providing objects which permit the updating of the Authentication and Privacy keys for a row in this table through the use of a Diffie-Helman key exchange.
- o The usmDHKickstartTable provides a mechanism for a management station to be able to agree upon a set of authentication and confidentiality keys and their associated row in the usmUserTable.

## 2. Theory of Operation

### 2.1. Diffie-Helman Key Changes

Upon row creation (in the usmUserTable), or object change (either of the object in the usmDHUserKeyTable or its associated value in the usmUserTable), the agent generates a random number. From this random number, the agent uses the DH parameters and transforms to derive a DH public value which is then published to the associated MIB object. The management station reads one or more of the objects in the usmDHUserKeyTable to get the agent's DH public values.

The management station generates a random number, derives a DH public value from that random number (as described in the DHKeyChange Textual Convention), and does an SNMP SET against the object in the usmDHUserKeyTable. The set consists of the concatenation of the agent's derived DH public value and the manager's derived DH public value (to ensure the DHKeyChange object hasn't otherwise changed in the meantime).

Upon successful completion of the set, the underlying key (authentication or confidentiality) for the associated object in the usmUserTable is changed to a key derived from the DH shared secret. Both the agent and the management station are able to calculate this value based on their knowledge of their own random number and the other's DH public number.

### 2.2. Diffie-Helman Key Ignition

[12] recommends that the usmUserTable be populated out of band, for example - manually. This works reasonably well if there are a small number of agents, or if all the agents are using the same key material, and if the device is physically accessible for that action. It does not scale very well to the case of possibly millions of devices located in thousands of locations in hundreds of markets in

multiple countries. In other words, it doesn't work well with a cable modem system, and may not work all that well with other large-scale consumer broadband IP offerings.

The methods described in the objects under the `usmDHKickstartGroup` can be used to populate the `usmUserTable` in the circumstances where you may be able to provide at least limited integrity for the provisioning process, but you can't guarantee confidentiality. In addition, as a side effect of using the DH exchange, the operational USM keys for each agent will differ from the operational USM keys for every other device in the system, ensuring that compromise of one device does not compromise the system as a whole.

The vendor who implements these objects is expected to provide one or more `usmSecurityNames` which map to a set of accesses defined in the VACM [15] tables. For example, the vendor may provide a 'root' user who has access to the entire device for read-write, and 'operator' user who has access to the network specific monitoring objects and can also reset the device, and a 'customer' user who has access to a subset of the monitoring objects which can be used to help the customer debug the device in conjunction with customer service questions.

To use, the system manager (the organization or individual who own the group of devices) generates one or more random numbers - R. The manager derives the DH Public Numbers R' from these random numbers, associates the public numbers with a security name, and configures the agent with this association. The configuration would be done either manually (in the case of a small number of devices), or via some sort of distributed configuration file. The actual mechanism is outside the scope of this document. The agent in turn generates a random number for each name/number pair, and publishes the DH Public Number derived from its random number in the `usmDHKickstartTable` along with the manager's public number and provided security name.

Once the agent is initialized, an SNMP Manager can read the contents of the `usmDHKickstartTable` using the security name of 'dhKickstart' with no authentication. The manager looks for one or more entries in this table where it knows the random number used to derive the `usmDHKickstartMgrPublic` number. Given the manager's knowledge of the private random number, and the `usmDHKickstartMyPublic` number, the manager can calculate the DH shared secret. From that shared secret, it can derive the operational authentication and confidentiality keys for the `usmUserTable` row which has the matching security name. Given the keys and the security name, the manager can then use normal USM mechanisms to access the remainder of the agent's MIB space.

### 3. Definitions

SNMP-USM-DH-OBJECTS-MIB DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN

#### IMPORTS

```
MODULE-IDENTITY, OBJECT-TYPE,
-- OBJECT-IDENTITY,
experimental, Integer32
    FROM SNMPv2-SMI
TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
    FROM SNMPv2-TC
MODULE-COMPLIANCE, OBJECT-GROUP
    FROM SNMPv2-CONF
usmUserEntry
    FROM SNMP-USER-BASED-SM-MIB
SnmAdminString
    FROM SNMP-FRAMEWORK-MIB;
```

#### snmpUsmDHObjectsMIB MODULE-IDENTITY

```
LAST-UPDATED "200003060000Z" -- 6 March 2000, Midnight
ORGANIZATION "Excite@Home"
CONTACT-INFO "Author: Mike StJohns
              Postal: Excite@Home
                  450 Broadway
                  Redwood City, CA 94063
              Email: stjohs@corp.home.net
              Phone: +1-650-556-5368"
```

#### DESCRIPTION

"The management information definitions for providing forward secrecy for key changes for the usmUserTable, and for providing a method for 'kickstarting' access to the agent via a Diffie-Helman key agreement."

REVISION "200003060000Z"

#### DESCRIPTION

"Initial version published as RFC 2786."

::= { experimental 101 } -- IANA DHKEY-CHANGE 101

-- Administrative assignments

```
usmDHKeyObjects OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { snmpUsmDHObjectsMIB 1 }
usmDHKeyConformance OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { snmpUsmDHObjectsMIB 2 }
```

-- Textual conventions

DHKeyChange ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION  
 STATUS current  
 DESCRIPTION

"Upon initialization, or upon creation of a row containing an object of this type, and after any successful SET of this value, a GET of this value returns 'y' where  $y = g^{xa} \text{ MOD } p$ , and where g is the base from usmDHParameters, p is the prime from usmDHParameters, and xa is a new random integer selected by the agent in the interval  $2^{(l-1)} \leq xa < 2^l < p-1$ . 'l' is the optional privateValueLength from usmDHParameters in bits. If 'l' is omitted, then xa (and xr below) is selected in the interval  $0 \leq xa < p-1$ . y is expressed as an OCTET STRING 'PV' of length 'k' which satisfies

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^k 2^{(8(k-i))} PV_i$$

where PV1,...,PVk are the octets of PV from first to last, and where PV1  $\neq$  0.

A successful SET consists of the value 'y' expressed as an OCTET STRING as above concatenated with the value 'z' (expressed as an OCTET STRING in the same manner as y) where  $z = g^{xr} \text{ MOD } p$ , where g, p and l are as above, and where xr is a new random integer selected by the manager in the interval  $2^{(l-1)} \leq xr < 2^l < p-1$ . A SET to an object of this type will fail with the error wrongValue if the current 'y' does not match the 'y' portion of the value of the varbind for the object. (E.g. GET yout, SET concat(yin, z), yout  $\neq$  yin).

Note that the private values xa and xr are never transmitted from manager to device or vice versa, only the values y and z. Obviously, these values must be retained until a successful SET on the associated object.

The shared secret 'sk' is calculated at the agent as  $sk = z^{xa} \text{ MOD } p$ , and at the manager as  $sk = y^{xr} \text{ MOD } p$ .

Each object definition of this type MUST describe how to map from the shared secret 'sk' to the operational key value used by the protocols and operations related to the object. In general, if n bits of key are required, the author suggests using the n right-most bits of the shared secret as the operational key value."

#### REFERENCE

"-- Diffie-Hellman Key-Agreement Standard, PKCS #3;  
 RSA Laboratories, November 1993"

SYNTAX OCTET STRING

-- Diffie Hellman public values

usmDHPublicObjects        OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { usmDHKeyObjects 1 }

usmDHParameters OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX OCTET STRING

MAX-ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The public Diffie-Hellman parameters for doing a Diffie-Hellman key agreement for this device. This is encoded as an ASN.1

DHParameter per PKCS #3, section 9. E.g.

```
DHParameter ::= SEQUENCE {
    prime     INTEGER,  -- p
    base      INTEGER,  -- g
    privateValueLength  INTEGER OPTIONAL }
```

Implementors are encouraged to use either the values from Oakley Group 1 or the values of from Oakley Group 2 as specified in RFC-2409, The Internet Key Exchange, Section 6.1, 6.2 as the default for this object. Other values may be used, but the security properties of those values MUST be well understood and MUST meet the requirements of PKCS #3 for the selection of Diffie-Hellman primes.

In addition, any time usmDHParameters changes, all values of type DHKeyChange will change and new random numbers MUST be generated by the agent for each DHKeyChange object."

REFERENCE

-- Diffie-Hellman Key-Agreement Standard, PKCS #3,  
RSA Laboratories, November 1993

-- The Internet Key Exchange, RFC 2409, November 1998,  
Sec 6.1, 6.2"

::= { usmDHPublicObjects 1 }

usmDHUserKeyTable OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF UsmDHUserKeyEntry

MAX-ACCESS not-accessible

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"This table augments and extends the usmUserTable and provides 4 objects which exactly mirror the objects in that table with the textual convention of 'KeyChange'. This extension allows key changes to be done in a manner where the knowledge of the current secret plus knowledge of the key change data exchanges (e.g. via wiretapping) will not reveal the new key."

```
::= { usmDHPublicObjects 2 }
```

#### usmDHUserKeyEntry OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX UsmDHUserKeyEntry

MAX-ACCESS not-accessible

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"A row of DHKeyChange objects which augment or replace the functionality of the KeyChange objects in the base table row."

AUGMENTS { usmUserEntry }

```
::= { usmDHUserKeyTable 1 }
```

#### UsmDHUserKeyEntry ::= SEQUENCE {

usmDHUserAuthKeyChange DHKeyChange,

usmDHUserOwnAuthKeyChange DHKeyChange,

usmDHUserPrivKeyChange DHKeyChange,

usmDHUserOwnPrivKeyChange DHKeyChange

}

#### usmDHUserAuthKeyChange OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DHKeyChange

MAX-ACCESS read-create

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The object used to change any given user's Authentication Key using a Diffie-Hellman key exchange.

The right-most n bits of the shared secret 'sk', where 'n' is the number of bits required for the protocol defined by usmUserAuthProtocol, are installed as the operational authentication key for this row after a successful SET."

```
::= { usmDHUserKeyEntry 1 }
```

#### usmDHUserOwnAuthKeyChange OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DHKeyChange

MAX-ACCESS read-create

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The object used to change the agents own Authentication Key using a Diffie-Hellman key exchange.

The right-most n bits of the shared secret 'sk', where 'n' is the number of bits required for the protocol defined by usmUserAuthProtocol, are installed as the operational authentication key for this row after a successful SET."

```
::= { usmDHUserKeyEntry 2 }
```

#### usmDHUserPrivKeyChange OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DHKeyChange  
MAX-ACCESS read-create  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION

"The object used to change any given user's Privacy Key using a Diffie-Hellman key exchange.

The right-most n bits of the shared secret 'sk', where 'n' is the number of bits required for the protocol defined by usmUserPrivProtocol, are installed as the operational privacy key for this row after a successful SET."

::= { usmDHUserKeyEntry 3 }

usmDHUserOwnPrivKeyChange OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DHKeyChange  
MAX-ACCESS read-create  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION

"The object used to change the agent's own Privacy Key using a Diffie-Hellman key exchange.

The right-most n bits of the shared secret 'sk', where 'n' is the number of bits required for the protocol defined by usmUserPrivProtocol, are installed as the operational privacy key for this row after a successful SET."

::= { usmDHUserKeyEntry 4 }

usmDHKickstartGroup OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { usmDHKeyObjects 2 }

usmDHKickstartTable OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF UsmDHKickstartEntry  
MAX-ACCESS not-accessible  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION

"A table of mappings between zero or more Diffie-Hellman key agreement values and entries in the usmUserTable. Entries in this table are created by providing the associated device with a Diffie-Hellman public value and a usmUserName/usmUserSecurityName pair during initialization. How these values are provided is outside the scope of this MIB, but could be provided manually, or through a configuration file. Valid public value/name pairs result in the creation of a row in this table as well as the creation of an associated row (with keys derived as indicated) in the usmUserTable. The actual access the related usmSecurityName has is dependent on the entries in the VACM tables. In general, an implementor will specify one or more standard security names and will provide entries in the VACM tables granting various levels of access to those names. The actual content of the VACM

table is beyond the scope of this MIB.

Note: This table is expected to be readable without authentication using the usmUserSecurityName 'dhKickstart'. See the conformance statements for details."

```
::= { usmDHKickstartGroup 1 }
```

#### usmDHKickstartEntry OBJECT-TYPE

```
SYNTAX      UsmDHKickstartEntry
MAX-ACCESS  not-accessible
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
```

"An entry in the usmDHKickstartTable. The agent SHOULD either delete this entry or mark it as inactive upon a successful SET of any of the KeyChange-typed objects in the usmUserEntry or upon a successful SET of any of the DHKeyChange-typed objects in the usmDhKeyChangeEntry where the related usmSecurityName (e.g. row of usmUserTable or row of usmDhKeyChangeTable) equals this entry's usmDhKickstartSecurityName. In otherwords, once you've changed one or more of the keys for a row in usmUserTable with a particular security name, the row in this table with that same security name is no longer useful or meaningful."

```
INDEX      { usmDHKickstartIndex }
::= { usmDHKickstartTable 1 }
```

```
UsmDHKickstartEntry ::= SEQUENCE {
    usmDHKickstartIndex      Integer32,
    usmDHKickstartMyPublic   OCTET STRING,
    usmDHKickstartMgrPublic  OCTET STRING,
    usmDHKickstartSecurityName SnmpAdminString
}
```

#### usmDHKickstartIndex OBJECT-TYPE

```
SYNTAX      Integer32 (1..2147483647)
MAX-ACCESS  not-accessible
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
```

"Index value for this row."

```
::= { usmDHKickstartEntry 1 }
```

#### usmDHKickstartMyPublic OBJECT-TYPE

```
SYNTAX      OCTET STRING
MAX-ACCESS  read-only
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
```

"The agent's Diffie-Hellman public value for this row. At

initialization, the agent generates a random number and derives its public value from that number. This public value is published here. This public value 'y' equals  $g^r \text{ MOD } p$  where g is the from the set of Diffie-Hellman parameters, p is the prime from those parameters, and r is a random integer selected by the agent in the interval  $2^{(l-1)} \leq r < p-1 < 2^l$ . If l is unspecified, then r is a random integer selected in the interval  $0 \leq r < p-1$

The public value is expressed as an OCTET STRING 'PV' of length 'k' which satisfies

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^k 2^{8(k-i)} PV^i$$

where PV1,...,PVk are the octets of PV from first to last, and where PV1 != 0.

The following DH parameters (Oakley group #2, RFC 2409, sec 6.1, 6.2) are used for this object:

```
g = 2
p = FFFFFFFF FFFFFFFF C90FDAA2 2168C234 C4C6628B 80DC1CD1
    29024E08 8A67CC74 020BBEA6 3B139B22 514A0879 8E3404DD
    EF9519B3 CD3A431B 302B0A6D F25F1437 4FE1356D 6D51C245
    E485B576 625E7EC6 F44C42E9 A637ED6B 0BFF5CB6 F406B7ED
    EE386BFB 5A899FA5 AE9F2411 7C4B1FE6 49286651 ECE65381
    FFFFFFFF FFFFFFFF
```

l=1024

"

#### REFERENCE

```
-- Diffie-Hellman Key-Agreement Standard, PKCS#3v1.4;
    RSA Laboratories, November 1993
-- The Internet Key Exchange, RFC2409;
    Harkins, D., Carrel, D.; November 1998"
```

```
::= { usmDHKickstartEntry 2 }
```

usmDHKickstartMgrPublic OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX OCTET STRING

MAX-ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The manager's Diffie-Hellman public value for this row. Note that this value is not set via the SNMP agent, but may be set via some out of band method, such as the device's configuration file.

The manager calculates this value in the same manner and using the same parameter set as the agent does. E.g. it selects a random number 'r', calculates  $y = g^r \text{ mod } p$  and provides 'y' as the public number expressed as an OCTET STRING. See usmDHKickstartMyPublic for details.

When this object is set with a valid value during initialization, a row is created in the usmUserTable with the following values:

usmUserEngineID	localEngineID
usmUserName	[value of usmDHKickstartSecurityName]
usmUserSecurityName	[value of usmDHKickstartSecurityName]
usmUserCloneFrom	ZeroDotZero
usmUserAuthProtocol	usmHMACMD5AuthProtocol
usmUserAuthKeyChange	-- derived from set value
usmUserOwnAuthKeyChange	-- derived from set value
usmUserPrivProtocol	usmDESPrivProtocol
usmUserPrivKeyChange	-- derived from set value
usmUserOwnPrivKeyChange	-- derived from set value
usmUserPublic	' '
usmUserStorageType	permanent
usmUserStatus	active

A shared secret 'sk' is calculated at the agent as  $sk = mgrPublic^r \text{ mod } p$  where r is the agents random number and p is the DH prime from the common parameters. The underlying privacy key for this row is derived from sk by applying the key derivation function PBKDF2 defined in PKCS#5v2.0 with a salt of 0xd1310ba6, and iterationCount of 500, a keyLength of 16 (for usmDESPrivProtocol), and a prf (pseudo random function) of 'id-hmacWithSHA1'. The underlying authentication key for this row is derived from sk by applying the key derivation function PBKDF2 with a salt of 0x98dfb5ac, an iteration count of 500, a keyLength of 16 (for usmHMAC5AuthProtocol), and a prf of 'id-hmacWithSHA1'. Note: The salts are the first two words in the ks0 [key schedule 0] of the BLOWFISH cipher from 'Applied Cryptography' by Bruce Schneier - they could be any relatively random string of bits.

The manager can use its knowledge of its own random number and the agent's public value to kickstart its access to the agent in a secure manner. Note that the security of this approach is directly related to the strength of the authorization security of the out of band provisioning of the managers public value (e.g. the configuration file), but is not dependent at all on the strength of the confidentiality of the out of band provisioning data."

#### REFERENCE

```

    "-- Password-Based Cryptography Standard, PKCS#5v2.0;
        RSA Laboratories, March 1999
    -- Applied Cryptography, 2nd Ed.; B. Schneier,
        Counterpane Systems; John Wiley & Sons, 1996"
 ::= { usmDHKickstartEntry 3 }

usmDHKickstartSecurityName OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      SnmpAdminString
    MAX-ACCESS   read-only
    STATUS       current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The usmUserName and usmUserSecurityName in the usmUserTable
        associated with this row. This is provided in the same manner and
        at the same time as the usmDHKickstartMgrPublic value -
        e.g. possibly manually, or via the device's configuration file."
 ::= { usmDHKickstartEntry 4 }

-- Conformance Information

usmDHKeyMIBCompliances OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { usmDHKeyConformance 1 }
usmDHKeyMIBGroups      OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { usmDHKeyConformance 2 }

-- Compliance statements

usmDHKeyMIBCompliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS       current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The compliance statement for this module."
    MODULE
        GROUP usmDHKeyMIBBasicGroup
        DESCRIPTION
            "This group MAY be implemented by any agent which
            implements the usmUserTable and which wishes to provide the
            ability to change user and agent authentication and privacy
            keys via Diffie-Hellman key exchanges."

        GROUP usmDHKeyParamGroup
        DESCRIPTION
            "This group MUST be implemented by any agent which
            implements a MIB containing the DHKeyChange Textual
            Convention defined in this module."

        GROUP usmDHKeyKickstartGroup
        DESCRIPTION
            "This group MAY be implemented by any agent which
            implements the usmUserTable and which wishes the ability to
            populate the USM table based on out-of-band provided DH
            ignition values.
```

Any agent implementing this group is expected to provide preinstalled entries in the vacm tables as follows:

In the usmUserTable: This entry allows access to the system and dhKickstart groups

usmUserEngineID	localEngineID
usmUserName	'dhKickstart'
usmUserSecurityName	'dhKickstart'
usmUserCloneFrom	ZeroDotZero
usmUserAuthProtocol	none
usmUserAuthKeyChange	''
usmUserOwnAuthKeyChange	''
usmUserPrivProtocol	none
usmUserPrivKeyChange	''
usmUserOwnPrivKeyChange	''
usmUserPublic	''
usmUserStorageType	permanent
usmUserStatus	active

In the vacmSecurityToGroupTable: This maps the initial user into the accessible objects.

vacmSecurityModel	3 (USM)
vacmSecurityName	'dhKickstart'
vacmGroupName	'dhKickstart'
vacmSecurityToGroupStorageType	permanent
vacmSecurityToGroupStatus	active

In the vacmAccessTable: Group name to view name translation.

vacmGroupName	'dhKickstart'
vacmAccessContextPrefix	''
vacmAccessSecurityModel	3 (USM)
vacmAccessSecurityLevel	noAuthNoPriv
vacmAccessContextMatch	exact
vacmAccessReadViewName	'dhKickRestricted'
vacmAccessWriteViewName	''
vacmAccessNotifyViewName	'dhKickRestricted'
vacmAccessStorageType	permanent
vacmAccessStatus	active

In the vacmViewTreeFamilyTable: Two entries to allow the initial entry to access the system and kickstart groups.

vacmViewTreeFamilyViewName	'dhKickRestricted'
vacmViewTreeFamilySubtree	1.3.6.1.2.1.1 (system)
vacmViewTreeFamilyMask	''

```

    vacmViewTreeFamilyType          1
    vacmViewTreeFamilyStorageType    permanent
    vacmViewTreeFamilyStatus         active

    vacmViewTreeFamilyViewName       'dhKickRestricted'
    vacmViewTreeFamilySubtree        (usmDHKickstartTable OID)
    vacmViewTreeFamilyMask           ''
    vacmViewTreeFamilyType           1
    vacmViewTreeFamilyStorageType     permanent
    vacmViewTreeFamilyStatus         active
    "

    OBJECT usmDHParameters
    MIN-ACCESS      read-only
    DESCRIPTION
        "It is compliant to implement this object as read-only for
        any device."

    ::= { usmDHKeyMIBCompliances 1 }

-- Units of Compliance

usmDHKeyMIBBasicGroup OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS      {
        usmDHUserAuthKeyChange,
        usmDHUserOwnAuthKeyChange,
        usmDHUserPrivKeyChange,
        usmDHUserOwnPrivKeyChange
    }
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        ""
    ::= { usmDHKeyMIBGroups 1 }

usmDHKeyParamGroup OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS      {
        usmDHParameters
    }
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The mandatory object for all MIBs which use the DHKeyChange
        textual convention."
    ::= { usmDHKeyMIBGroups 2 }

usmDHKeyKickstartGroup OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS      {
        usmDHKickstartMyPublic,
        usmDHKickstartMgrPublic,

```

```
        usmDHKickstartSecurityName
    }
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
    "The objects used for kickstarting one or more SNMPv3 USM
    associations via a configuration file or other out of band,
    non-confidential access."
 ::= { usmDHKeyMIBGroups 3 }
```

END

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## 5. Security Considerations

Objects in the `usmDHUserKeyTable` should be considered to have the same security sensitivity as the objects of the `KeyChange` type in `usmUserTable` and should be afforded the same level of protection. Specifically, the VACM should not grant more or less access to these objects than it grants to the `usmUserTable KeyChange` object.

The improper selection of parameters for use with Diffie-Hellman key changes may adversely affect the security of the agent. Please see the body of the MIB for specific recommendations or requirements on the selection of the DH parameters.

An unauthenticated DH exchange is subject to "man-in-the-middle" attacks. The use of the DH exchange in any specific environment should balance risk versus threat.

Good security from a DH exchange requires a good source of random numbers. If your application cannot provide a reasonable source of randomness, do not use a DH exchange. For more information, see "Randomness Recommendations for Security" [19].

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