How STIR/SHAKEN Contributes to an Identity Assurance Framework Kevin Riley, CTO & EVP of Advanced R&D ribbon

## Agenda



- Motivation
- Definitions and Foundational Concepts
- Solution Components and Requirements
- Building and Identity Assurance Framework
- Call to Action



# Motivation and Scoping the Solution

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### **RoboCalling Statistics**

**Q1 2019** saw 15.3 billion robocalls, the **highest volume ever** 

Making this about **15.5 robocalls** per person per month

In 2018, the FCC demanded CSPs to implement a Call Authentication solution and their message was *"Resistance is Futile"* 





# Fraud By the Numbers

#### \$29.2 billion in Toll Fraud Loss in 2017



#### 2017 Top 5 Fraud Types

- 1. International Revenue Share Fraud \$6.10B
- 2. Interconnect Bypass (e.g. SIM Box) \$4.27B
- 3. Arbitrage \$3.26B
- 4. Theft / Stolen Goods \$3.02B
- 5. Premium Rate Service \$2.29B

Source: 2017 CFCA Global Fraud Loss Survey



# **Defining Identity Assurance**

#### To assure identity and one must validate legitimate use of service

- Consider multiple inputs, no one piece of data can assure identity
- Policy must be invoked in real-time and adapted constantly, bad actors are moving targets

#### What constitutes compromised identity?

- Spoofed credentials
  - · Masking identity with alternate, legitimate ID
- Stolen services
  - · Bad actor takes over legitimate endpoint and uses in place

#### Challenges

- Mobility and multiple access modalities per user
- Legitimate actors can have common traits with Bad actors
- There is no single method to assure identity

#### Primary Use Cases

- Fraud
- Robocalling



### **Three Key Inputs**

Identity

Who is the originator?

Reputation

Is this someone I want to talk to? Trust Context

Where did the call originate and where will it terminate?



# **Determining Identity**

#### **Known Subscribers**

#### Do Not Originate List (DNO)

Numbers that never originate calls (e.g. IRS call center +1-267-941-1000)

#### **Un-Assigned Numbers**

- Unassigned NPA/NXXs (LERG 6 has most assignments)
- Unassigned extensions (per carrier lists)

#### Invalid E.164 Calling Numbers

- Screening functions in call processing

#### **STIR/SHAKEN** Attestation

- Signing of phone calls to attest identity of call originator
- Initially only phone companies will sign but eventually enterprises may participate
- Bad actors will eventually figure out how to sign calls



## **Determining Reputation**

#### **Reputation is the Internet's FICO score**

- Multiple companies will be inventing their proprietary algorithms that they do not disclose

#### Reputation is fundamentally tied to your identity

- Get the identity of the caller wrong and reputation score is worthless

#### Assessing Reputation pulls from multiple Data Sources

- Proprietary algorithms
- Analytics/ML/AI
  - High volume calling parties
  - Unique signaling aspects
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Proprietary Reputation Data
  - · Carrier and/or crowd sourced generated lists
  - Possibly distributed ledger technology

#### **Context matters**

- Location where call enters a network and where it is destined to terminate
- A known subscriber number on an internal interface is always verifiable
- A known subscriber number entering from a wholesale interface might be spoofed
- "Trust Context"



# Architecting a Framework for Identity Assurance

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### What Does STIR/SHAKEN Provide?

#### The Goal

Mitigate unwanted robocalls and bad actors who use caller ID spoofing to increase the chances of speaking to a subscriber.

#### **The Method**

Service providers attest to the authenticity of a call originating in their network; this attestation is passed in-band with the call such that the terminating Service provider receives the attestation



Call Spoofing Robocallers





**Residential & Enterprises** 



### **ATIS/SIP Forum STIR-SHAKEN Reference Architecture**

- 1. STI-PA: STI Policy Administrator
- 2. STI-CA: STI Certificate Authority
- 3. SKS: Secure Key Store
- 4. SP-KMS: Service Provider-Key Management Server
- 5. STI-CR: STI-Certificate Repository
- 6. STI-AS: STI-Authentication Service
- 7. STI-VS: STI-Verification Service
- STI = Secure Telephone Identity





# Where STIR/SHAKEN Come Up Short?

#### **Intent and Reputation**

A calling number is effectively "vouched for" as owned by the service provider but the user behind the number is not verified





### Analytics is Compulsory To Mitigate Identity Abuse



#### **Telephony Denial of Service**



 Detect calling anomalies metrics such as Call Rate Exceeded, Long/short durations, etc.

 Automatically alert and blocks rogue calling patterns

Siphon out unwanted, disruptive calls from your RTC network





# Digital Fingerprinting UC with Machine Learning





Model & Classify



Device, User & Session Characteristics

**Machine Learning** 

**Digital Fingerprint** 

### The Foundational Pillars of an Identity Assurance Architecture





### The Taxonomy of Identity Assurance Components

### Producer & Consumers

Any network component that:

1. Sources data contributing to identity assertion

2. Needs to assert or verify identity

#### Call Adaptation Service

Call signalling aids used to influence calls without opening the internals of existing network components

#### **Policy Service**

Overall responsibility for "what to do with the call", determines if the call should be routed, dropped etc

#### Assertion Service

Tasked with [asserting, verifying, scoring] if a call is using a valid and legitimate identify

#### **3rd Party Services**

Any 3<sup>rd</sup> Party component we may interact with to resolve the fate of a call

**Identity Service** 



### Services loosely coupled via APIs

Producer & Consumers

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JAP

**Identity Service** 

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### Flexible Cloud, Hybrid and Premise Deployment Options

Boundary between premise and cloud is flexible

Producer & Consumers

Any network component that:

1. Sources data contributing to identity assertion

2. Needs to assert or verify identity

#### **On Premise**







# Delivering Increasing Levels of Identity Assurance in Phases



#### **Beyond SIP**

SS7/Diameter REST-based



Behavioral Analytics Inferred Policy



STIR/SHAKEN White/Black-List static policy



Post call setup modification Third party, out of network interrogation and modify ML/AI-based modelling



### **Componentry of a Comprehensive Identity Assurance Solution**





# **Call to Action**

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## **Call To Action**

#### Federal agencies and consumers have spoken

- CSPs must mitigate identity abuse

#### There is no single technology or standard to assure identity in your network

#### **STIR/SHAKEN** implementations need to continue and expand

#### Analytics must be woven into your identity assurance strategy

- Static policy cannot keep pace with evolving threat vectors
- Behavioral analytics and ML to baseline your network to then identify out bad actors

#### Think beyond your network

- Architect to onboard third-party databases and services
- Embracing SaaS services and federated data accelerates deployment velocity and capabilities



# **Thank You**

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