

Authentication Paragraph

Revised Authentication Paragraph

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Three common types of authentication are remembered information, biometric devices, and possessed objects. With remembered information, the user enters a word or series of characters that match an entry in the computer's security file. Examples of remembered information are passwords, user IDs, and logon codes. A password is confidential, usually known only by the user and possibly the system administrator. A user ID typically identifies the user, and a logon code identifies an application program. A possessed object is any item the user must carry to access the computer facility. Some examples are keys, badges, and cards. Possessed objects often are used together with a personal identification number (PIN), which is a numeric password. For more information about passwords, visit www.scsite.com/dc2003/apply.htm and click Apply It #1 below chapter 11.