

Product Review

The GoldKey Vault

You own two kinds of files: files you want to share, and the files you want to keep private. The GoldKey Vault has a unique method of handling both.

FILE SECURITY

Considering all the recent hacks of so-called secure file storage, it is difficult to find a storage option that is secure enough to withstand any hack or workaround.

One thing is becoming increasingly clear every day: password-based authentication is outdated and insecure. Lists of passwords on stolen laptops are endangering entire companies. Brute force cracking of simple passwords are now a common story. This is one of the places where GoldKey Vaults shines. Two-factor authentication is the minimum security level for a GoldKey Vault. With GoldKey, you could publish your password in a newspaper, and the readers would be no closer to retrieving your personal data.

The GoldKey USB token is required to open a GoldKey Vault on a computer. Access to the Vault online involves a brutal gauntlet of hardware asymmetric encryption keys and a lockstep that prevents either the GoldKey web service or the local GoldKey USB token from ever betraying each other's encryption key yet makes certain that each party is verified. And that is just to sign in. After that, each file upload is encrypted on the fly at the client and transmitted through a secure pipe (also encrypted) to the GoldKey Vault server. At the end of the transaction, the GoldKey Vault server holds an encrypted file that cannot be read by anyone, except the USB Token that transmitted it.

You may have seen that the GoldKey USB Token is military-grade and fully certified by the NIST testing laboratory, but really, the certification was more of an afterthought. The GoldKey USB Token does not merely meet the certification, the security involved with this technology far outpaces the standard FIPS 140-2 Military

spec. Remember, the contents of a GoldKey Vault are vastly more important than the Political and Military secrets of our great nation. These are your pictures.

On the mobile GoldKey App, a Soft-Token is created and locked to your smart phone. This Soft-Token is registered to the GoldKey Servers, along with digital markers to identify your phone. Every time the Soft-Token is used to open a vault or examine the contents of a file, the secure transaction must first be registered with the central process before it can complete successfully.

Here comes the final touch in the Soft-Token security: if your phone is ever stolen, the GoldKey Soft-Token installed on it can be remotely revoked. You could *Twitter* your GoldKey PIN and still remain completely secure.

FILE SHARING

Now that we have covered how ridiculously intense the file security is on a GoldKey Vault, we also need to explain how GoldKey encrypted files can be shared. The Vault is not necessarily a deep hole in which you throw your files, never to see them again. The files encrypted there can be opened up to certain users, or to groups of users.

Your GoldKey Profile online manages each of the Soft-Tokens on your mobile devices, each of your GoldKey USB Tokens, and the Security Privileges of each of the GoldKey Vaults you own or have access to. If any point of entry is ever compromised, it can be easily blocked.

Another thing you can do in your GoldKey Profile is create and use GoldKey Groups.

The GoldKey Group is a great way to administer large scale file rights and Vault access to a collection of users. Let's say you have a group of people you call your "family." Simply create a GoldKey Group called "Family" and add each of your family members to the group. There you can store your photos and allow each

member of the group to access them. You can give the group read-only access, while perhaps giving your significant other full authorship privileges so that both of you can add to the Family Vault.

The same GoldKey Group concept applies to any organization, such as an Accounting department in a company. You can give employees access to company data, and they will be able to have everything they need – via mobile device in the field or the desktop computer at the office – while also keeping your company data completely secure.

The Groups are easily scaled and can administer large numbers of users and Vaults. You can have the Vaults be any size, from Gigabytes to Terra-bytes. Simply put, what you need protected now has a safe zone.

And at any given time, any privileges you have given to another Group or user can be revoked remotely from the online GoldKey Vault service. With GoldKey Vaults, you gain complete control over the security and sharing privileges of your files.