

A T O M W I D E

USO-DIGISAFE

DigiSafe represents a departure from many of the more traditional service offerings, in that it recognises the need of many users to be able to access or carry potentially sensitive data away from their usual connected locations.

In the past, there has been a considerable hurdle for users to overcome when needing to carry data electronically, whilst being isolated from the various secure online services provided to them by their LA networks.

What is USO-DigiSafe?

- DigiSafe is a service designed to promote the secure storage of computer data whilst in physical transit
- DigiSafe devices employ hardware-based AES 256-bit CBC encryption between the data store and the data interface
- DigiSafe devices are FIPS 140-2 level 2 security validated
- DigiSafe integrates with USO and provides a centrally-managed data portability strategy for LA and school staff
- USO-OTP software 'tag' option available for integration with USO second factor authenticated services



In September 2008, the importance of this issue was highlighted in guidance documents from Becta and the DCSF, which identified a variety of solutions and best practice that could promote the secure and legitimate handling of data, so that appropriately authorised users could avoid the public sector data loss pitfalls that had been widely publicised earlier in the year.

Amongst the recommendations were the use of authentication systems such as Shibboleth, Second Factor Authentication, and Secure Data Transfer mechanisms, all of which are in place and available to users in the form of USO (Unified Sign On), OTP (One Time Password) tags, and USO-FX (Secure File eXchange) services, respectively.

The remaining recommendation related to the use of encrypted portable data storage devices, such as hard discs and USB 'flash' drives. The Service Portfolio now includes the USO-DigiSafe range to meet that final recommendation.

What does DigiSafe look like?

- The DigiSafe service offers a choice of USB 'flash' drives, or ruggedized portable hard drives
- DigiSafe flash drives (also referred to as 'memory sticks') are supplied with PIN protection and optional biometric authentication (fingerprint reader versions only)
- DigiSafe hard drives include both PIN and biometric authentication as standard
- DigiSafe uses the US-manufactured MXI Security family of portable security devices

USO-DigiSafe - Common Features

DigiSafe devices are pre-formatted with multiple storage partitions. The first is a read only area that stores the USO-DigiSafe management interface. By default, the second is a shared public read-write area. The remainder (one partition by default, but comprising a maximum of four partitions that can be specified at point of order) may be shared or individually-allocated to one or more users. Device configuration may be varied by agreement with the purchasing authority, with each allocated user assigned their own log in credentials based on their USO username and a unique alpha-numeric PIN. Users are required to secure their device by changing their default PIN, and also enabling fingerprint security where available, immediately on receipt of their device, which is supplied with a 1 year warranty.

DigiSafe devices can be 'unlocked' via the centrally-managed DigiSafe Access Management service. In the event of any device being lost/returned, or otherwise needing to be identified/reset, or its contents revealed for legal reasons, this process can be initiated by contacting the Help Desk to arrange for the device's return.

DigiSafe Flash & DigiSafe FlashBio - 'memory sticks'

Flash memory sticks are USB devices with a range of different capacities as denoted by the name (i.e. **Flash4 - 4GB**, **Flash8 - 8GB** and so on). FlashBio devices are similar, but incorporate a fingerprint reader and are metal cased. Flash and FlashBio devices can incorporate 'soft' OTP tag software for use with USO second factor authentication.

DigiSafe HDxxBio - ruggedized portable hard drives

HDxxBio portable hard drives are ruggedized, USB or mains powered, USB hard discs. They have a storage capacity denoted by the figure inserted in the name (i.e. **HD250Bio**), with the following storage sizes available: **250GB**, **320GB**, and **500GB**. All HDxxBio drives include fingerprint security in addition to PIN protection.

Specifications are subject to change. E&OE. Revision 3

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