



A little background information on cipher suites

>A cipher suite is of a collection of cryptographic algorithms:

- A key exchange algorithm
 - System SSL on z/OS uses RSA algorithms for key exchange also known as public private key or assymetric encryption
 - Authentication is based on digital x.509 certificates
 - SSL/TLS server always has a certificate; SSL/TLS client may optionally have a certificate also
- A bulk encryption algorithm
 - •Used to encrypt/decrypt the data that is exchanged between the connection endpoints
 - •Needs to be fast and efficient symmetric encryption algorithms are used for this purpose
- A message digest algorithm
 - •Used to ensure each message exchange has not been altered in transit, and that it came from the intended sender (also sometimes referred to as a digital signature)





System SSL cipher suites

System SSL uses a 2-digit number to identify the various cipher suites it supports.

- Sendmail configuration is based on those 2-digit numbers
- -TN3270 and FTP support a text string-based configuration that is then translated by TN3270 and FTP to the 2-digit numbers system SSL uses

>TN3270 supports the following cipher suites:

- -SSL_RC4_SHA
- -SSL_RC4_MD5
- -SSL_AES_256_SHA
- -SSL_AES_128_SHA
- -SSL_3DES_SHA
- -SSL_DES_SHA
- -SSL_RC4_MD5_EX
- -SSL_RC2_MD5_EX
- -SSL_NULL_SHA
- -SSL_NULL_MD5
- -SSL_NULL_Null

System SSL cipher suites (continued) FTP supports the following cipher suites: SSL_DES_SHA SSL_JDES_SHA SSL_NULL_MD5 SSL_NULL_SHA SSL_RC2_MD5_EX SSL_RC4_MD5 SSL_RC4_MD5 SSL_RC4_MD5 SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA SSL_RC5_SHA



AES - Advanced Encryption Standard

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- · AES is an official U.S. Government standard. The Secretary of Commerce approved the adoption of the AES as an official government standard, effective May 26, 2002
 - -Federal Information Processing Standard
 - •FIPS publication 197
- AES is stronger than the Data Encryption Standard (DES) and therefore should be a popular standard both inside and outside the United States.
- · AES is a bulk encryption algorithm
 - -Suitable for TLS
 - -More secure than DES (Data Encryption Standard)
- · For more information on AES, a fact sheet is available at the following Web site:
 - -http://csrc.nist.gov/CryptoToolkit/aes/aesfact.html

AES Support

- Supported by SSL element of z/OS since z/OS V1R4
- Support being added to TN3270, FTP, and Sendmail in z/OS V1R7
 - Mostly a question of adding new keywords to the configuration files.
- >System SSL must be installed with the Security Level 3 Feature to support AES:
 - FMID JCPT341
 - Not included in base element System SSL Cryptographic services





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