



Improving checkout with SPC.

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Agenda and purpose

Improving eCommerce checkout

Background

- eCommerce checkout challenges
- Various technologies/standards aiming to improve checkout
- Industry requirements for a solution

Proposal

- A. Expanding on SPC to offer a lower friction challenge
- B. Removing friction; creating a silent browser identifier for Risk based Auth

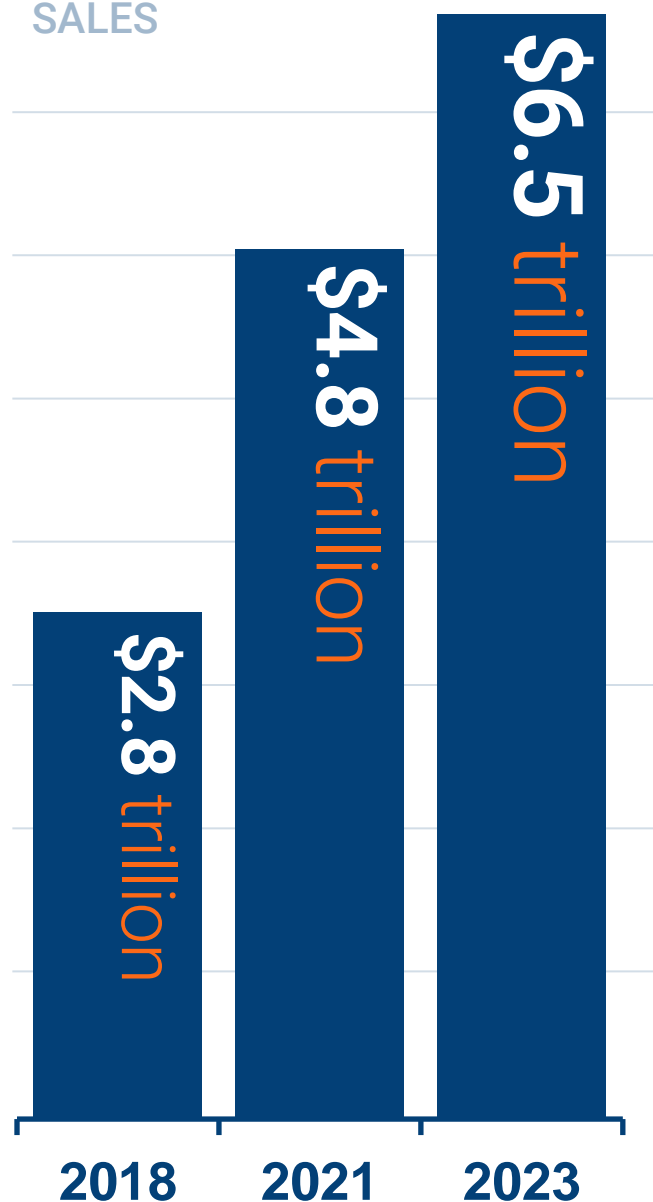


eCommerce **challenges!**

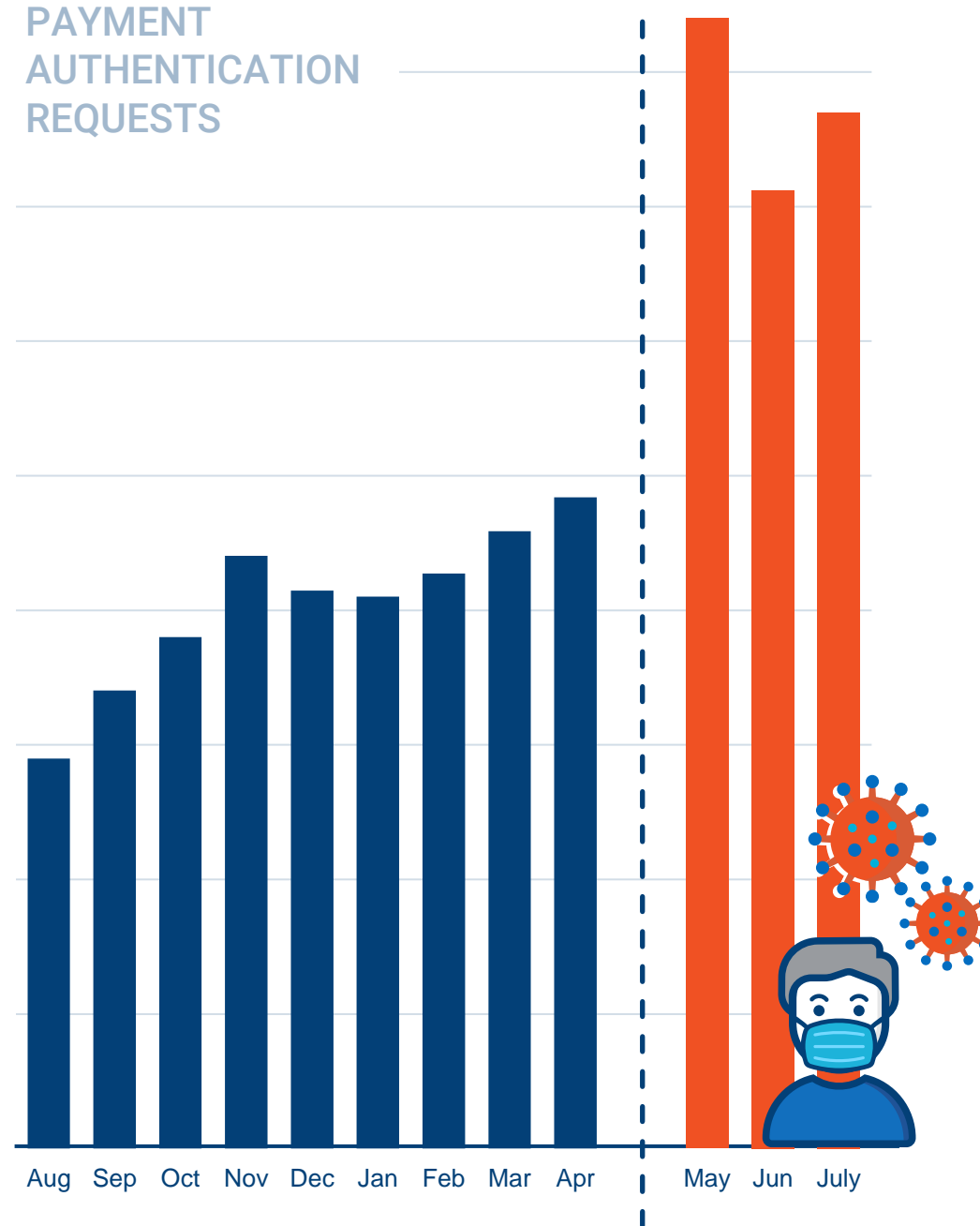
Abandonment and false declines

@ Trends we're seeing in the market.

GLOBAL
E-COMMERCE
SALES



PAYMENT
AUTHENTICATION
REQUESTS



**User experience is what
will make the difference.**

65% of customers
abandoned carts
due to friction

\$100s in sales foregone
due to friction at
checkout
OF BILLIONS

**AND THAT'S ALL WITHOUT
TAKING FRAUD INTO ACCOUNT**

SOURCE: <https://content.ekata.com/Consumers-Demand-Speed-and-Security-in-the-Digital-Experience.html>



The price is high for **poor checkout experiences.**

Bad checkout experiences result in abandonment

Detection and prevention tools can have a negative impact

\$146B

in card-not-present
purchases are
declined per year

52%

of orders declined
for fraud were good
orders to fulfill

62%

of cardholders
will abandon a
declined card

Sources: Ethoca Research, [Solving the CNP False Decline Puzzle](#), [Visa](#)



Notes from Microsoft (as a Merchant)

Bad checkout experiences continue to hurt customers and lose merchants revenue...

- Authentication success rates are still too low
 - Browser-based is 75%, app-based is 45%.
- Abandonment is too high
 - Browser-based is 13%, app-based is 18%.
- Challenge rates are much too high.
 - Browser-based is 81%, app-based is 75%.

“...The payments ecosystem must find ways to lower the challenge rate...”,
whether leveraging exemptions under EMV 3DS v2.2, refining risks models or
exploring delegated authentication use cases

Approval rates improve when a challenge succeeds

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/deanjordaan_sca-psd2-3ds-activity-6763544640764411904-nCuk



Improvements in the works.

Various technologies/standards aiming to improve checkout



What is 3-D Secure?

3-D Secure is a messaging protocol enabling issuers to authenticate consumers during online shopping

- 3D Secure 2.2 is the latest version of this protocol, currently being rolled out worldwide
- The Challenge flow (same as 3D Secure 1.0) executes inside an iFrame
 - For 3D Secure 2 this should be the exception (not more than 20% of transactions)
- Frictionless flow (using Risk based Authentication)
 - This utilizes a hidden iframe (called MethodURL) to capture browser context/information





The emergence of FIDO and WebAuthn.



- Original focus on Web Login
- WebAuthn offers PSD2 SCA compliant authentication from within a browser
- Supported by various parties, such as all the major OS and browser providers (Microsoft, Google, Apple, and of course Entersekt...



USER VALIDATION
(USER PRESENCE)

Is there a person there?



USER VERIFICATION
(MULTIFACTOR AUTH)

Is the right person there?



**ROAMING
AUTHENTICATORS**
Implemented off device



**PLATFORM
AUTHENTICATORS**
Built into a device platform

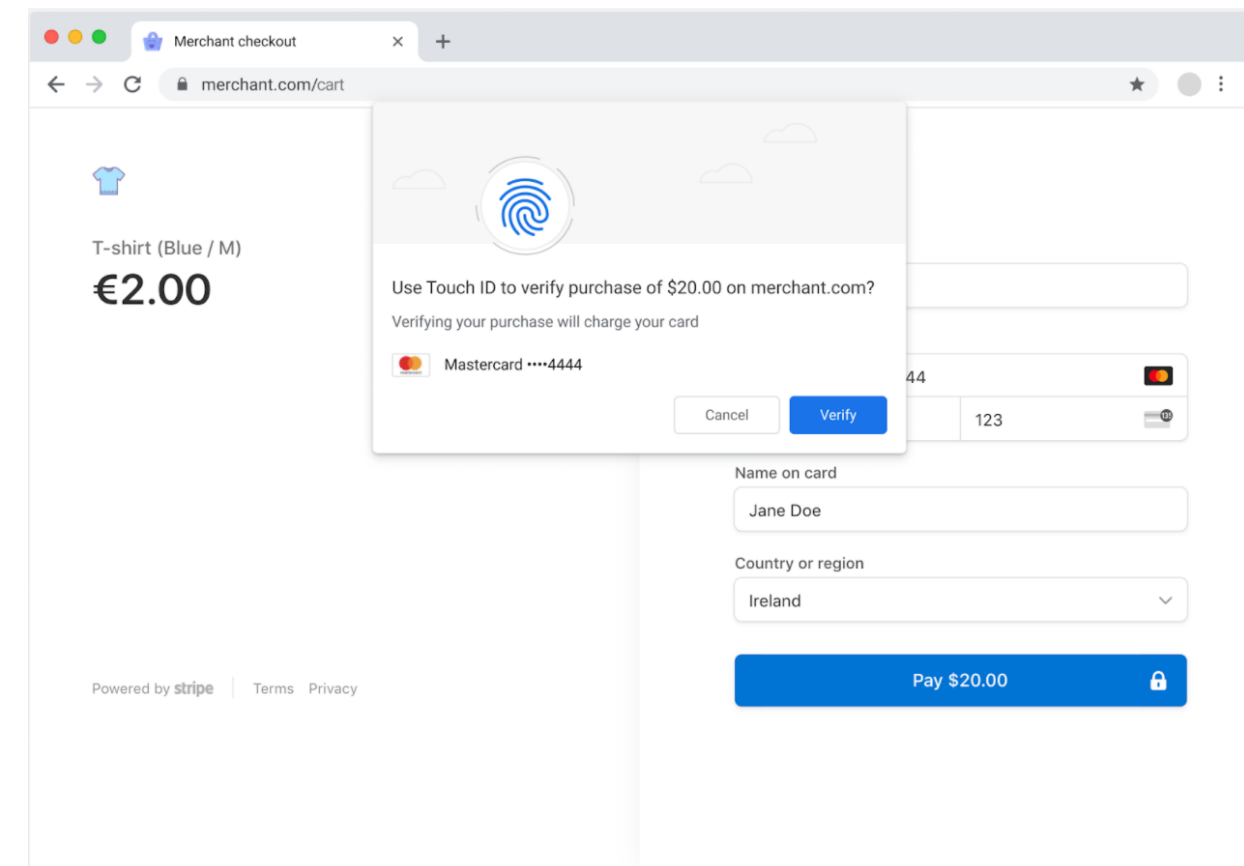




Secure Payment Confirmation

<https://rsolomakhin.github.io/pr/spc/>

- This is a great move forward for the web!
- Cross-domain **predictability**
 - Merchant controls the experience
 - Issuer (Bank) controls the identity
- **Payment focused display**
 - Better customer experience
 - Closer to regulatory intent (PSD2)
- SPC requires **both parties to support it**
 - 3D Secure gives issuers control of UI
 - If an issuer implements this, they will still use it in their challenge flows!





Can we create a bridge between these worlds?

No challenge
may lead to
higher false decline rates
*(eroding customer
confidence)*

False declines

Merchant Controls UX
Issuer controls ID

Secure payment
confirmation (SPC) with
WebAuthn

Increased friction
*(additional clicks/input and
unpredictable UX)*
may lead to
higher abandonment rates

Abandonment

Can we add to this?

Further reduce
the clicks/steps

SPC with one
click

Silent
challenge

Increased
approval rates



Industry Requirements.

Solutions must meet these needs

PSD2 and SCA background.



- PSD2 regulation introduced the need for Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) on all remote transactions, unless exempted.
- This delivers a dramatic improvement in security but may negatively affect the user experience.
- SCA only required in 20% of transactions
- Various other exceptions and rules come into play

PSD2 SCA requires the use of at least two of the following three factors:



Something you
HAVE

and
or



Something you
KNOW

and
or



Something you
ARE

=



IDENTITY
CONFIRMED



Authentication outside of Europe



**SOMETHING YOU
KNOW**



**SOMETHING YOU
HAVE**



**SOMETHING YOU
ARE**

- A single possession (“something you have”) factor is typically used for payment consent (3D Secure) outside of Europe
 - E.g. SMS OTP, App based OTP, Out of Band Push Authentication to Mobile
- Provable possession is a very strong signal for Risk Based Authentication
 - A core driver behind the browser fingerprinting used in EMV 3D Secure
 - Typically, an additional challenges is not needed if the browser is known



Requirements for a solution

- It would have to be **privacy** friendly...
 - Domain bound (so only visible to the party that issued it)
 - Accessible using an identifier only known by the issuer thereof (on the server)
 - Get user consent before it's issued to that user
 - Allow the user to clear their history and remove this possession factor.
- ... and **secure**
 - A secret generated in the browser, that can never be copied
 - Cryptographic proof for every interaction based on a server challenge



We can learn from current W3C standards

- WebAuthn has been designed with privacy & security in mind
 - *Big differences are hardware backed storage and physical user action*
- Secure Payment Confirmation enables control to merchants and a lower friction experience for consumers
- Credential Management enables the storage of secrets such as passwords and public key credentials
- Web Crypto can generate a public-private keypair with a protected private key, and enables signing a challenge

*With this foundation, we can create a possession factor
And use it to sign a payment transaction*



Why would the alternatives not work

- Using Server-side Cookies
 - No User Consent
 - Nothing is signed (no replay protection)
 - Always provided for full domain (not linked to specific credential ID)
- WebID
 - This is an OAuth2 based API preventing direct comms between RP & IDP
 - Payment use-cases not currently covered
 - The IDP still needs to complete a user-challenge; WebID does not solve for this
- Trust Tokens
 - Mechanism to enable anonymous user grouping. Not really what is needed to trust a user on a specific browser.
 - No consent required



Further **friction** reduction.

Utilizing the browser as a possession factor, with single-click user consent

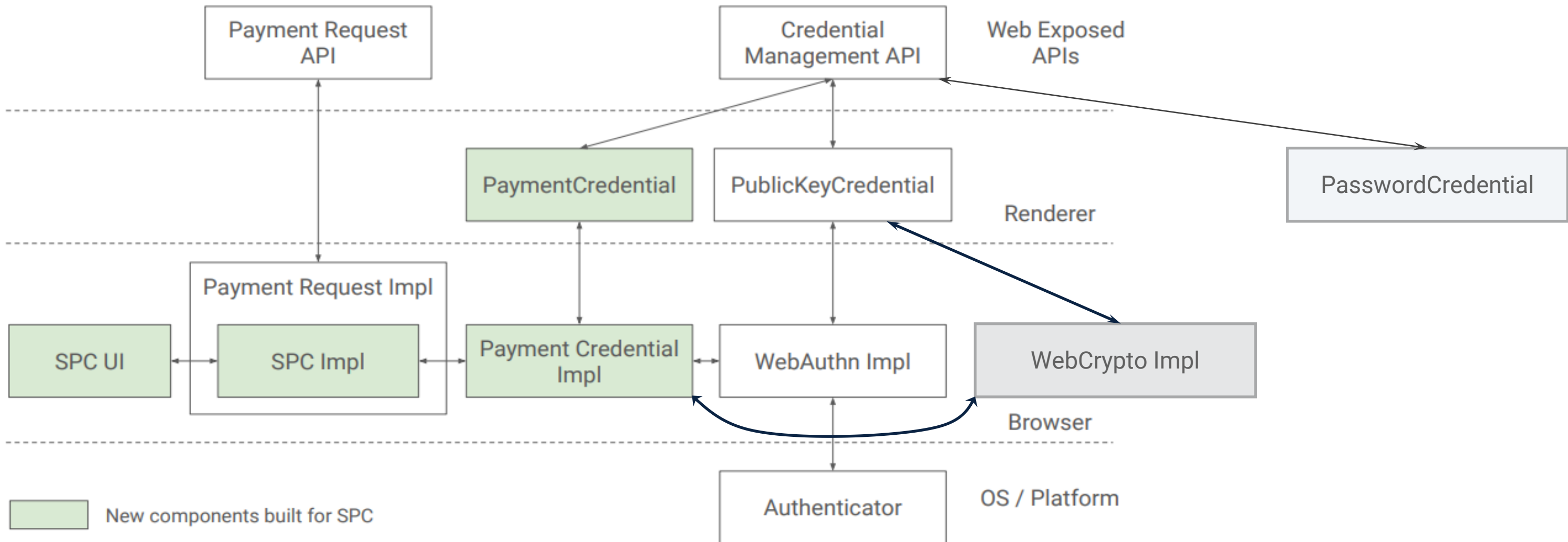


Proposal for a new possession-only factor

- Enable the browser agent to issue a possession factor
 - User specific (Credential ID) and bound to a specific domain...
 - Only generated after explicit consent
- Stored within Credential Management
- Link this possession credential to a payment credential, binding the browser and payment mechanism (e.g. Card)

Architectural reflections ...

Extended from the Chrome team's proposal





Creation consent

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `edtbank.com/home/preferences`. The page has a dark blue header with the EDT BANK logo. A modal dialog is open in the center, asking for consent to trust the browser for an improved checkout experience. The dialog contains the following information:

- Question: Trust this browser to enable an improved checkout experience?
- RP: edtbank.com
- Payment: Mastercard ****4444
- Buttons: Cancel, Confirm

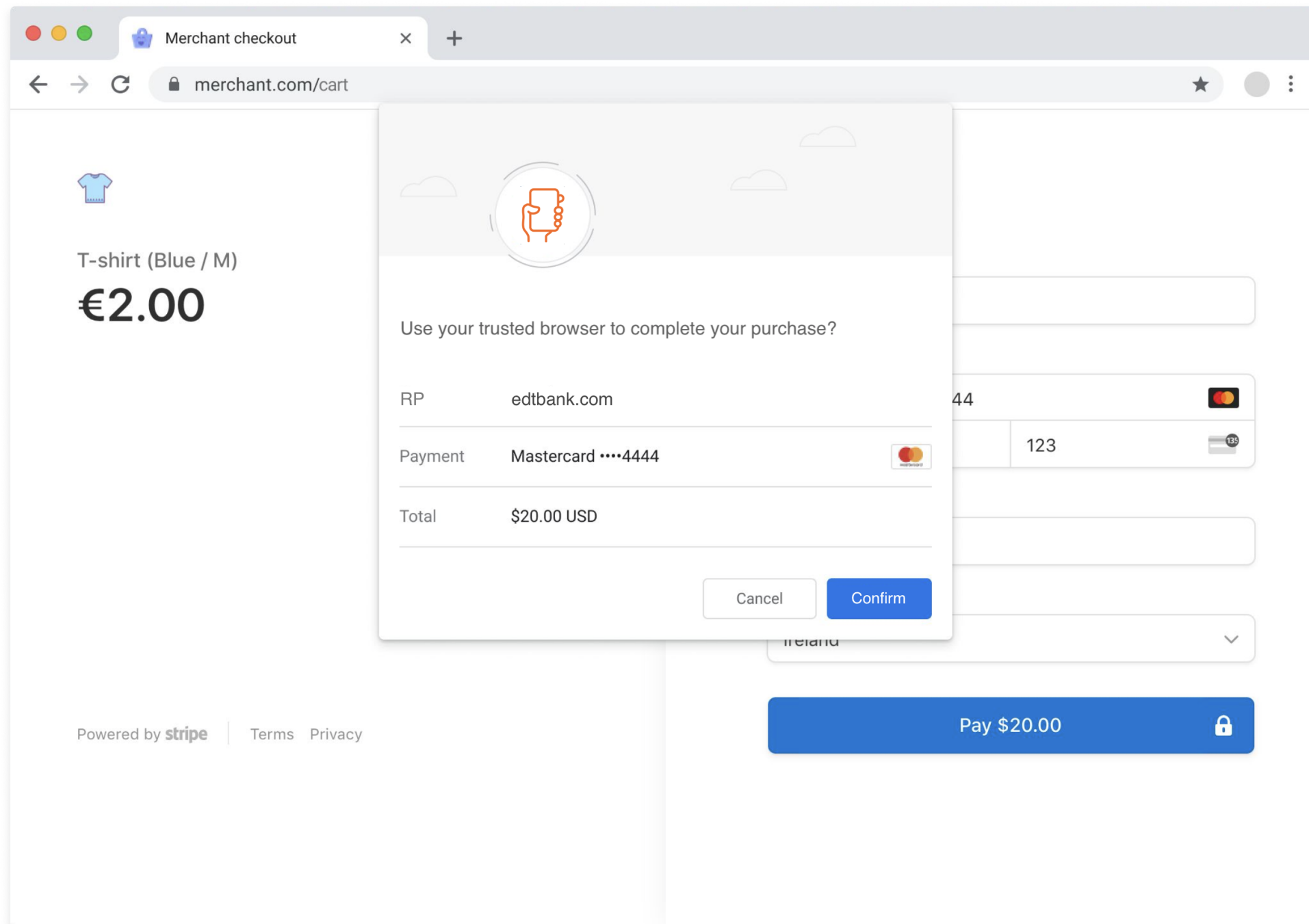
In the background, the preferences page is visible, showing a 'My Account' section with a 'Preferences' sub-section. The 'Preferences' section has a heading 'Register your browser as a' and two buttons: 'Register' and 'Clear Credentials'.

The credential will **only** be **issued** **after** explicit **user consent**.

Enable the consumer to **manage** (including delete) **the credential** at any stage (similar to passwords), from their browser agent.



Authentication consent with only 1 click



For authentication, a **challenge** will only be **signed after a user action**.

Allowing the Relying party (bank/issuer) to choose the required level of trust

- Full SCA (WebAuthn)
- Possession only



Consent for a frictionless flow

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'merchant.com/cart'. The page content includes a product listing for a 'T-shirt (Blue / M)' priced at '€2.00'. A modal dialog is centered on the screen, titled 'Use your trusted browser to complete your purchase?'. The modal contains the following information: 'RP edtbank.com', 'Payment Mastercard ****4444', and 'Total \$20.00 USD'. At the bottom of the modal, there is a checkbox labeled 'Do not ask me to confirm on this browser for the next 30 days' which is checked, and two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Confirm'. In the background, a 'Pay \$20.00' button is visible. The footer of the page indicates 'Powered by stripe' and includes links for 'Terms' and 'Privacy'.

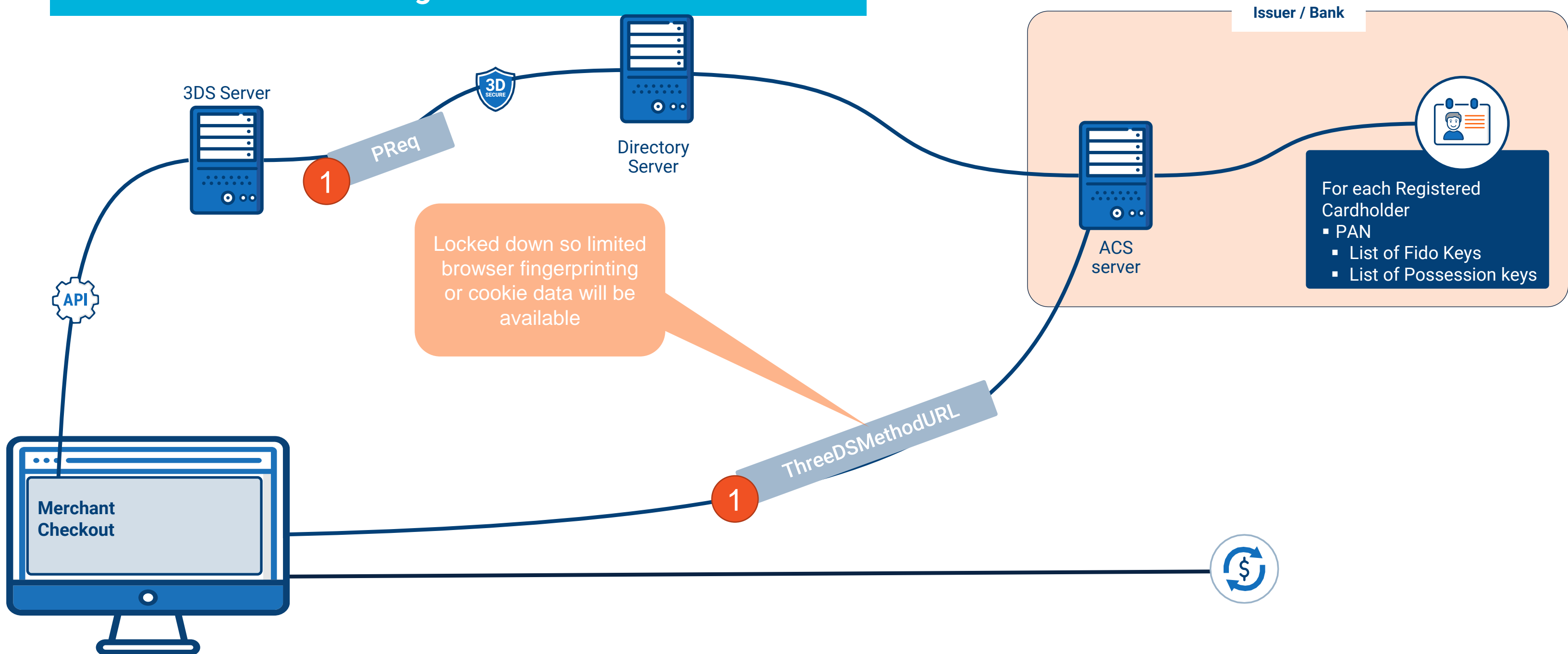
Potential enhancements

- Enable customer to skip the confirmation for a certain period.
- Perhaps consent for a frictionless challenge should only be granted based on a SCA / Full WebAuthn consent
- Should the **issuer** be able to also indicate if a user challenge is not needed (enabling a frictionless flow) without customer consent?



Integration **view: Authentication.**

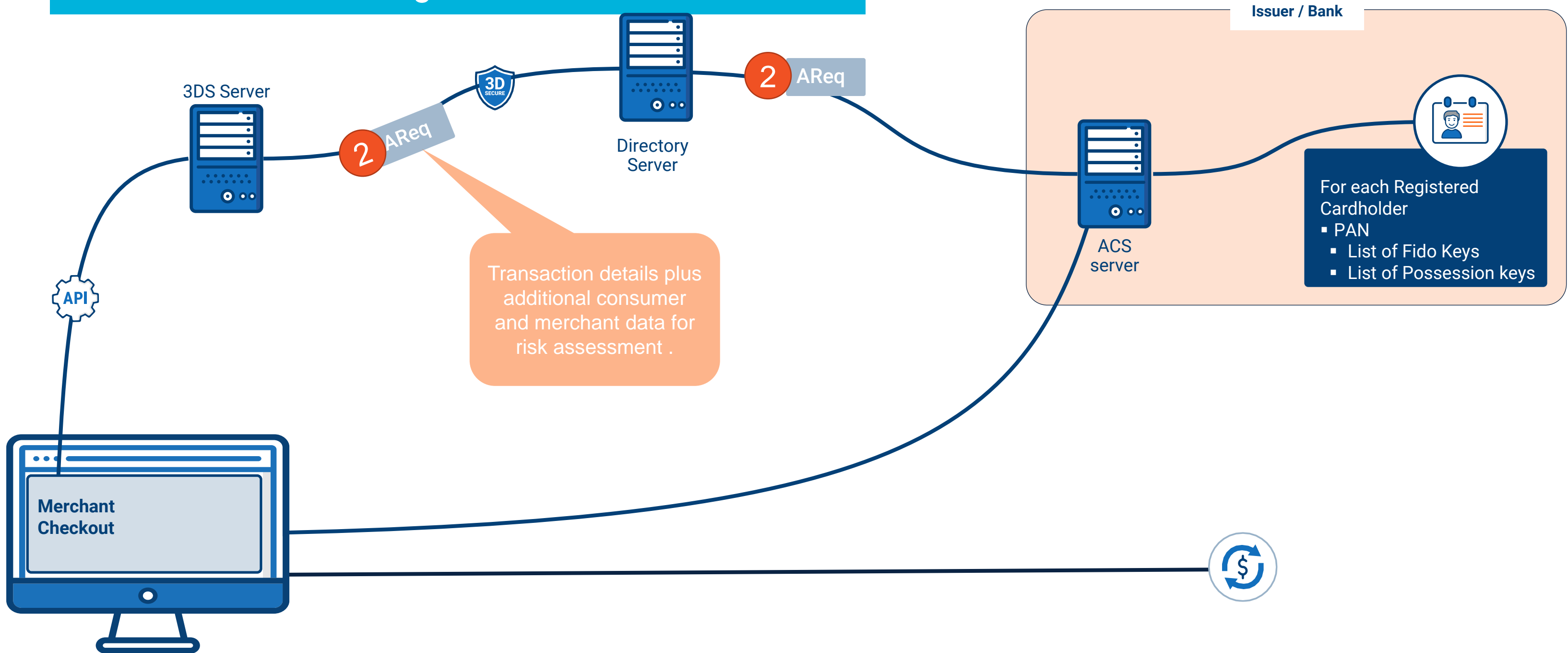
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

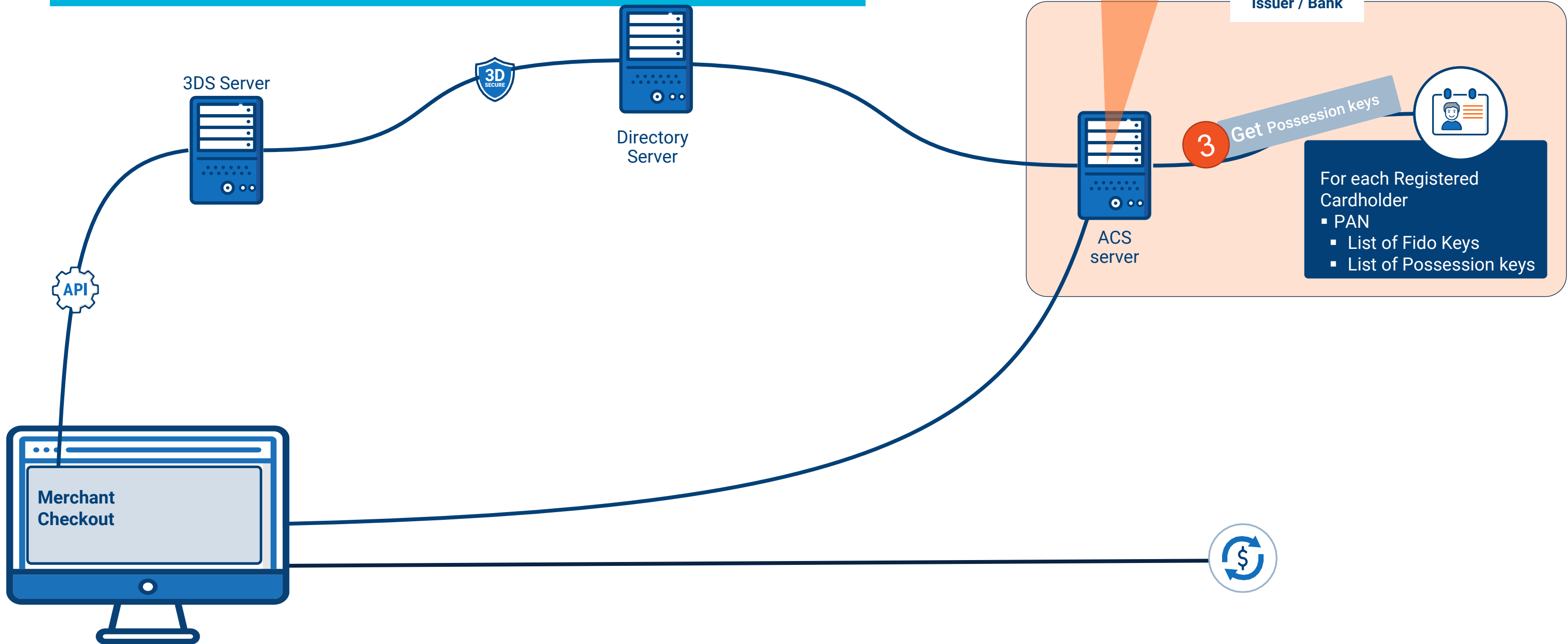
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

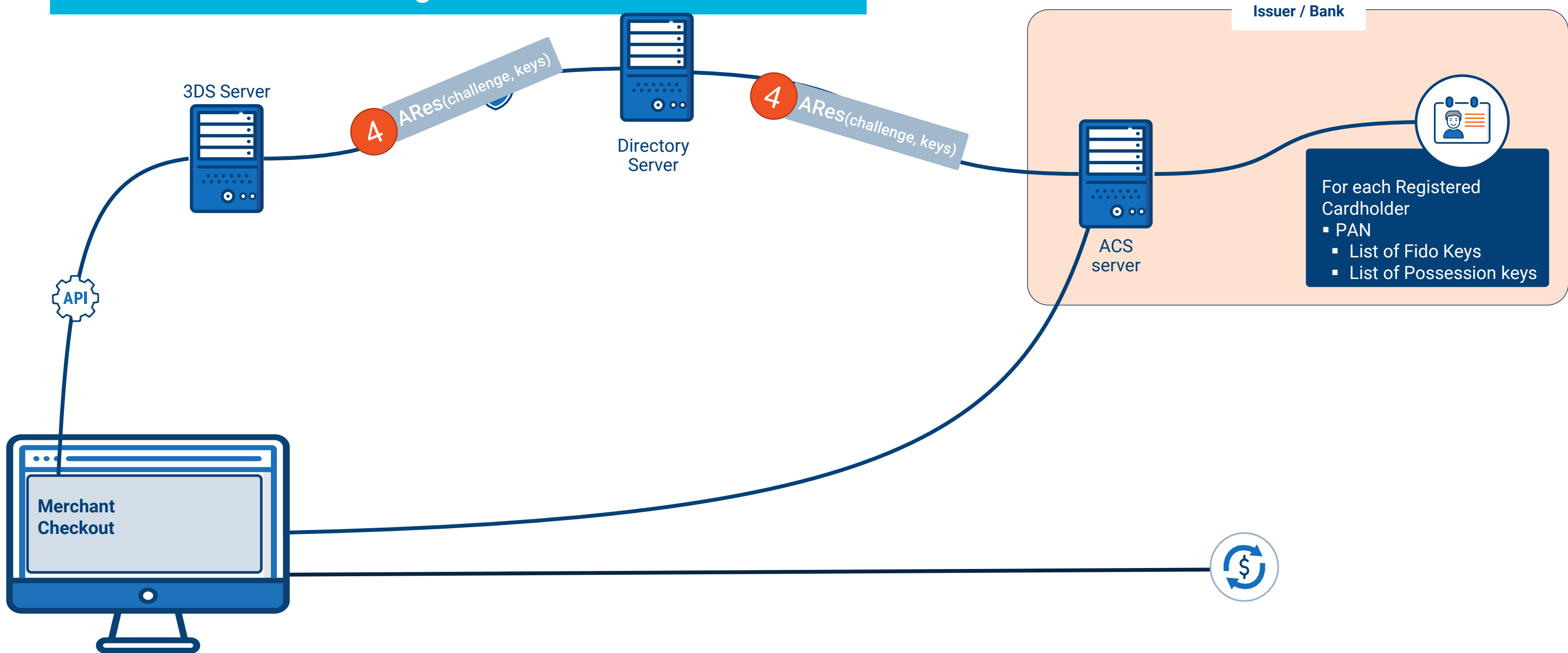
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

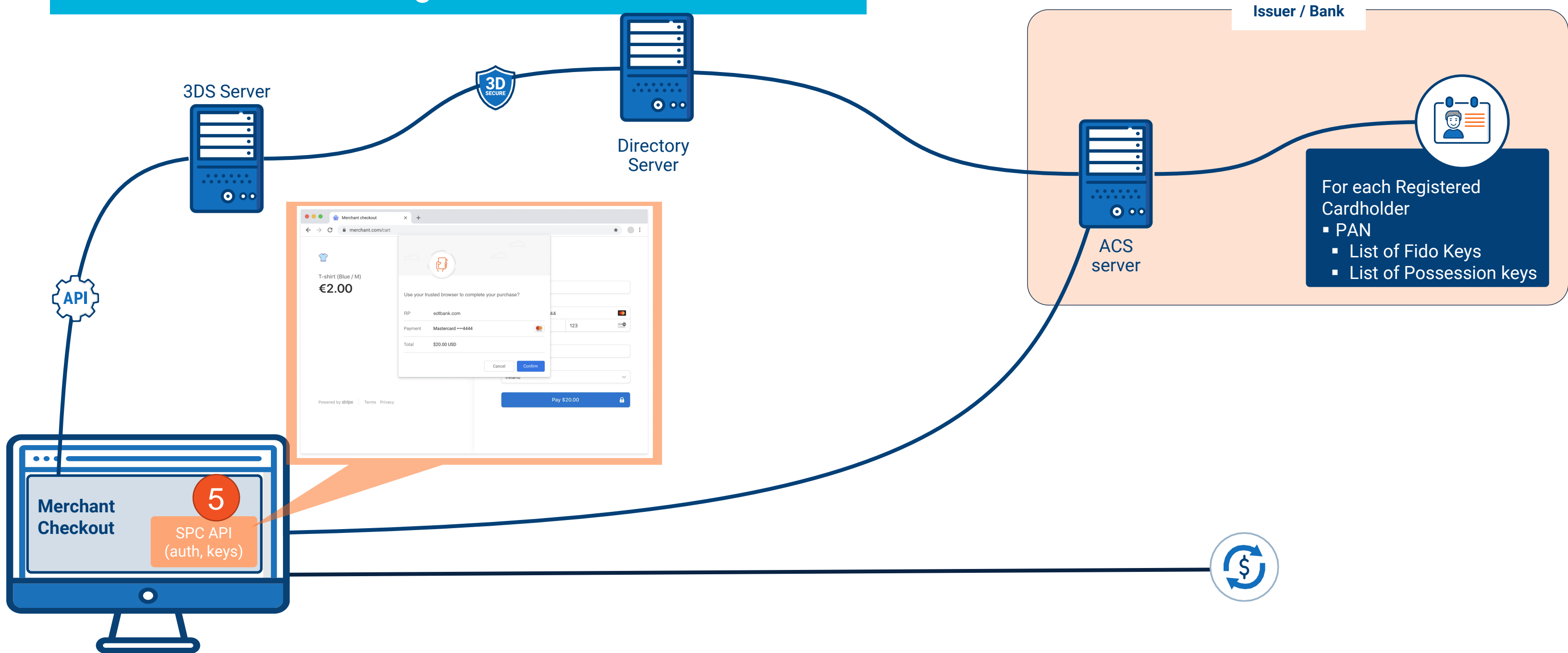
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

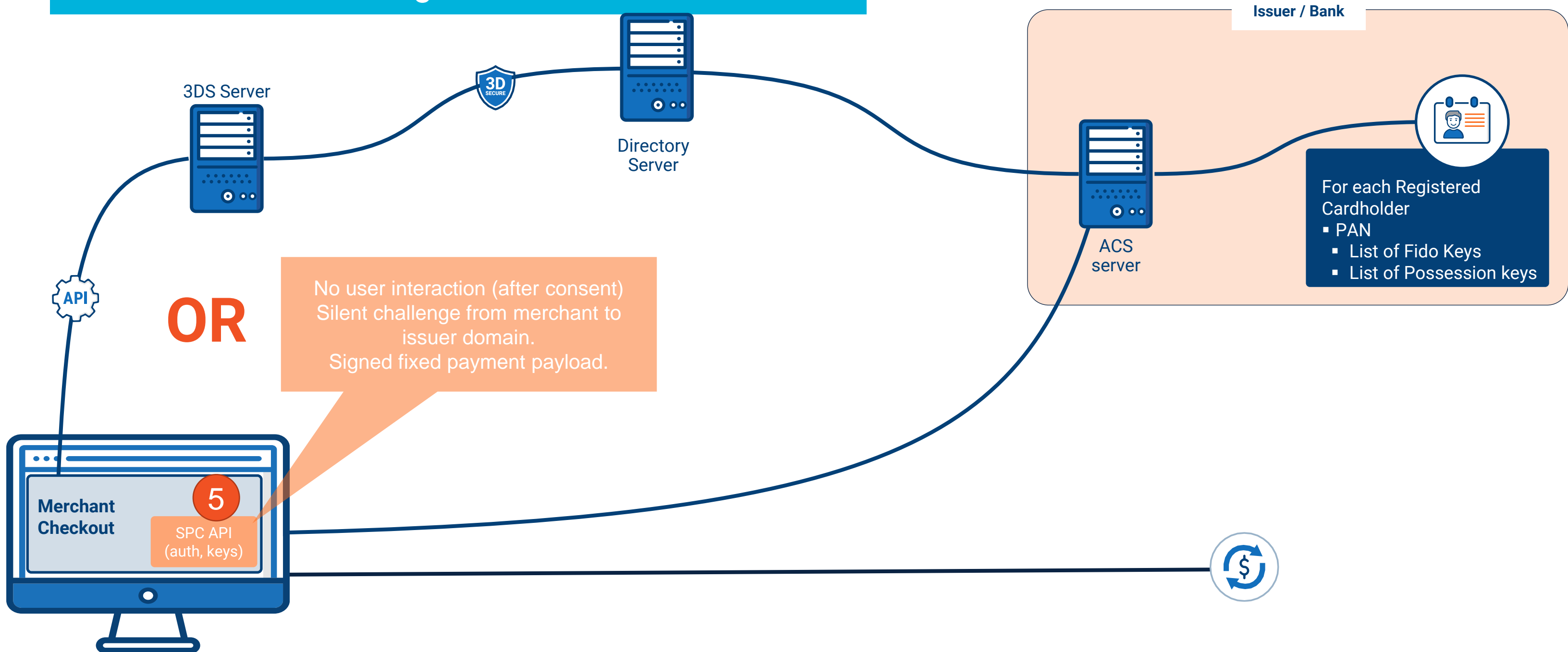
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

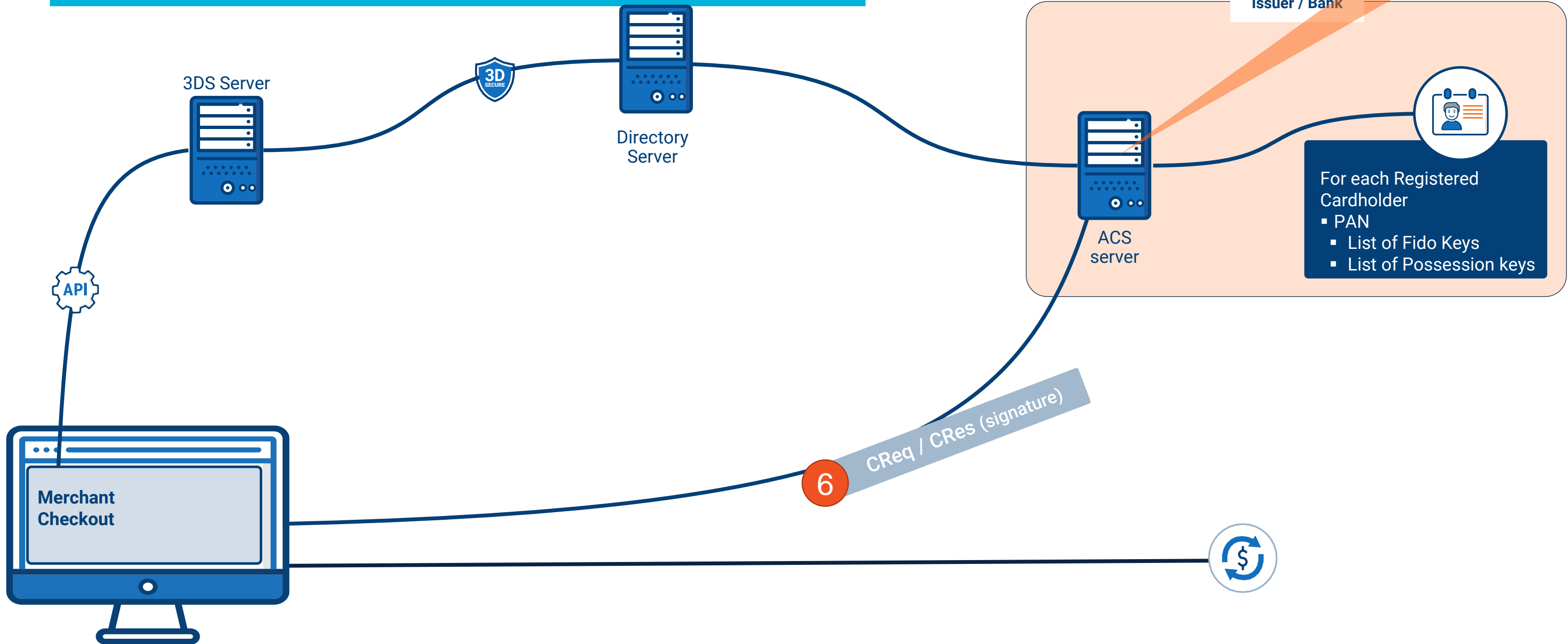
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

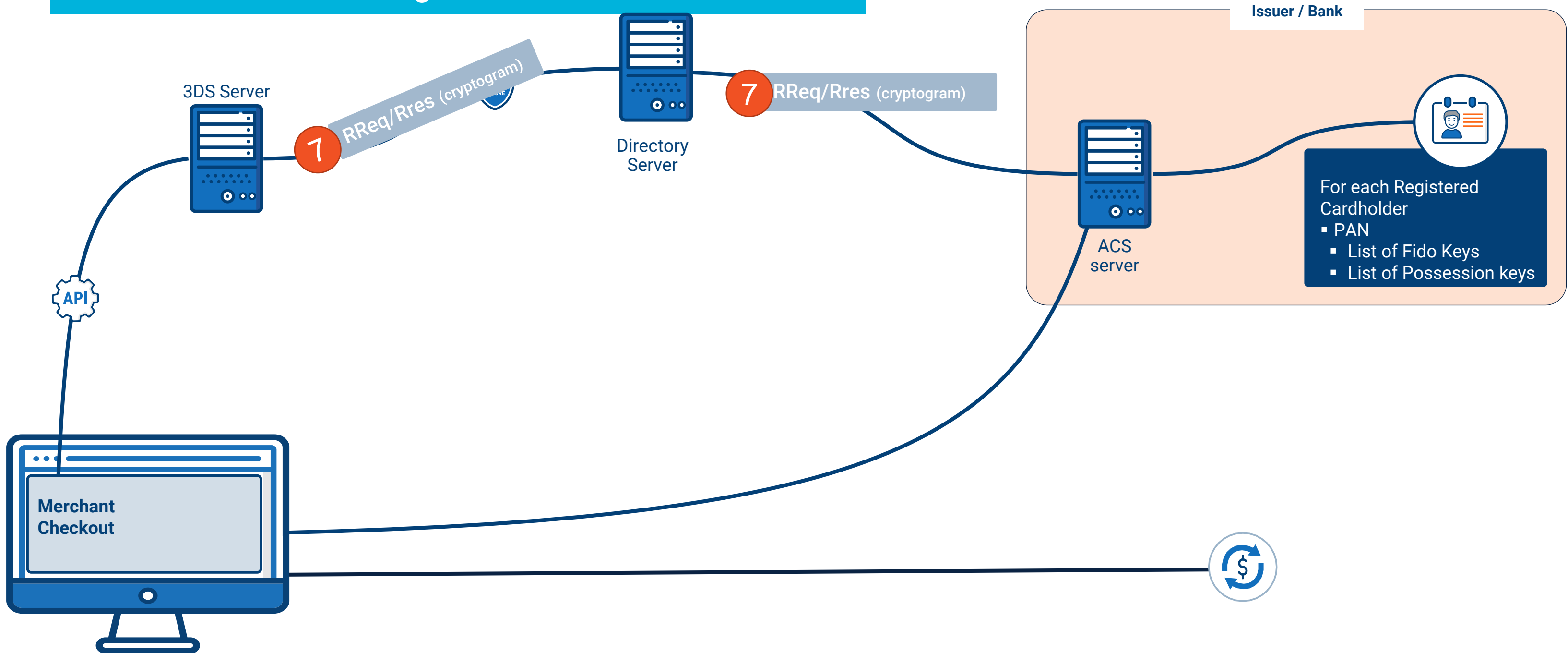
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

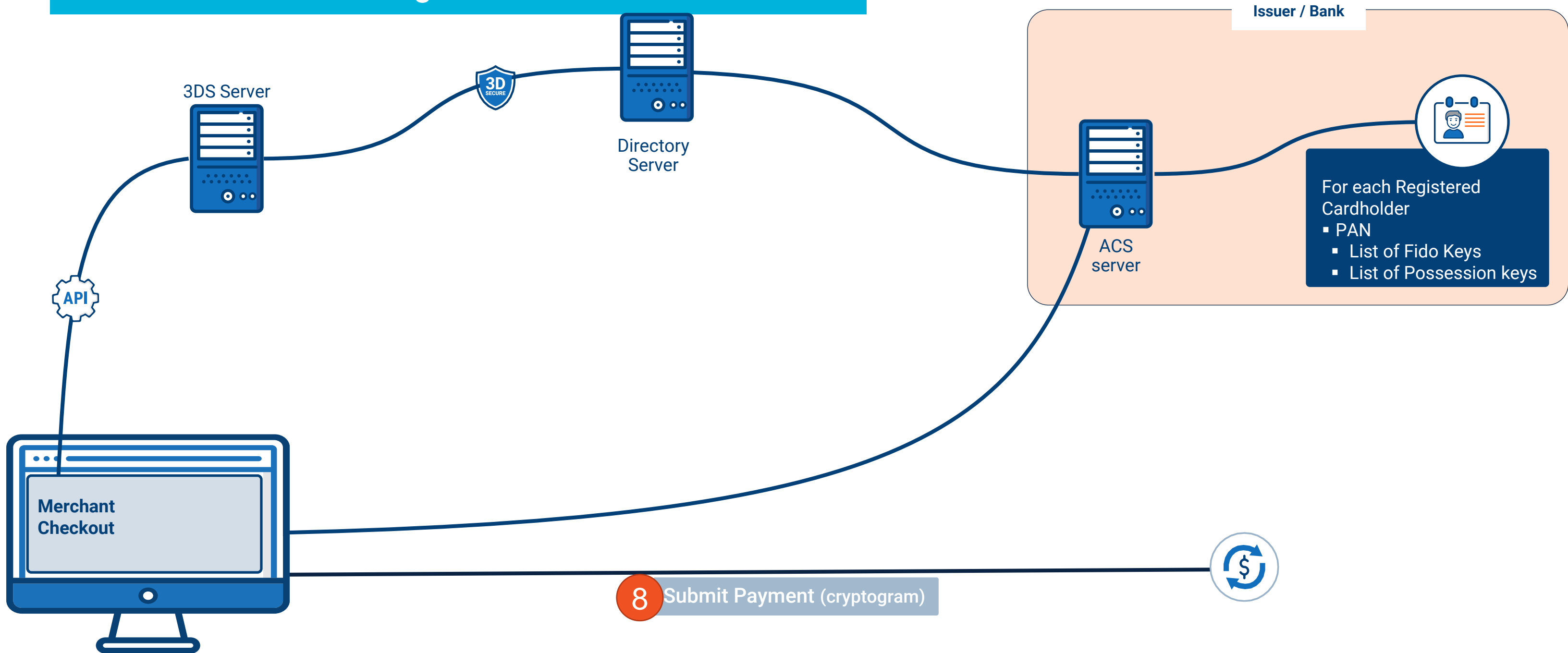
Frictionless challenge...





Integration **view: Authentication.**

Frictionless challenge...



Impact on 3D Secure flow

- The technique aligns fully with the current SPC proposal
 - It can work with 3D Secure 2.1 and later
 - The merchant would not have to be aware of the difference between the two pairs of keys, but practically this could add value
- The proposed SPC solution does require merchant integration
 - Although as stated, most issuers will also implement this from their domain as part of their challenge flow (inside their challenge windows)

*As with SPC, this proposal is not specific to 3D Secure.
It is generic to supports other payment instruments and rails.*



Removing **friction**.

Utilizing the browser as a silent possession factor



EMV 3D Secure (v2) browser requirements

- 3D Secure 2 design caters for frictionless authentication
 - Added largely due to address merchant frustrations with 3DS 1 and low success rates
 - To protect the user, this requires Risk Based Authentication (RBA)
 - The mechanism (3DSMethodURL) was intended to perform browser fingerprinting, which is not desirable anymore (<https://www.w3.org/TR/fingerprinting-guidance/>)
- The Risk Based Auth (RBA) logic aims to leverage 3 data sources
 - Browser/Device Data: To identify a familiar or trusted device
 - User Data: To link the user with a history of using this device
 - Transaction Data: To correlate if this user/device engages in this type of transaction
- *A potential solution should cater for all these data points*



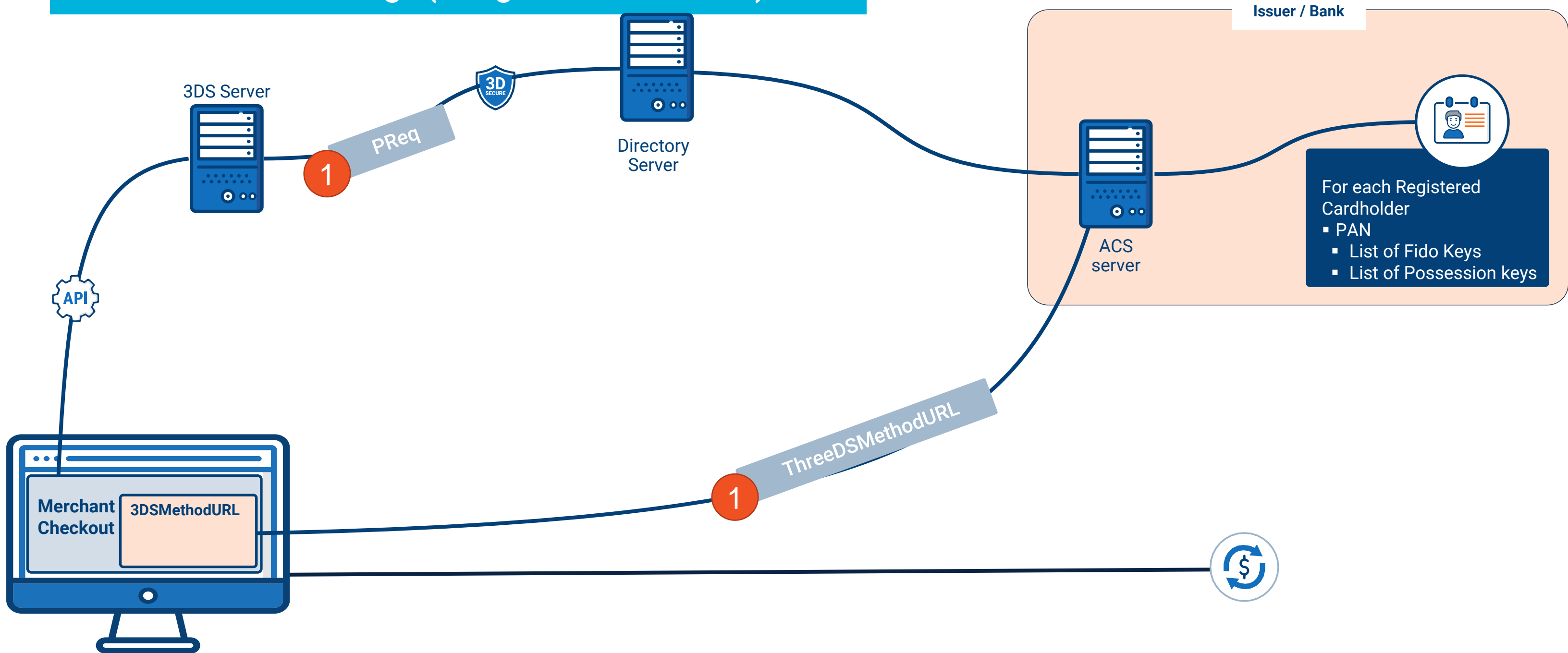
A unique browser id will also help here!

- EMVCo indicated a need for a better browser identifier
 - The current 'risk' method is based on customer data being captured and analyzed
 - They want to protect privacy, so are open to an alternative
 - <https://www.w3.org/2021/02/emvco-wpsig.pdf> from WPSIG call (4 Feb 2021)
- We could use the same possession factor concept
 - Enable its use silently inside iFrames
 - Issuing of credential would still require user consent
- The challenge could bind **browser + user + transaction** details
 - Enabling Risk based authentication without the need for browser fingerprinting



Integration **view: Authentication.**

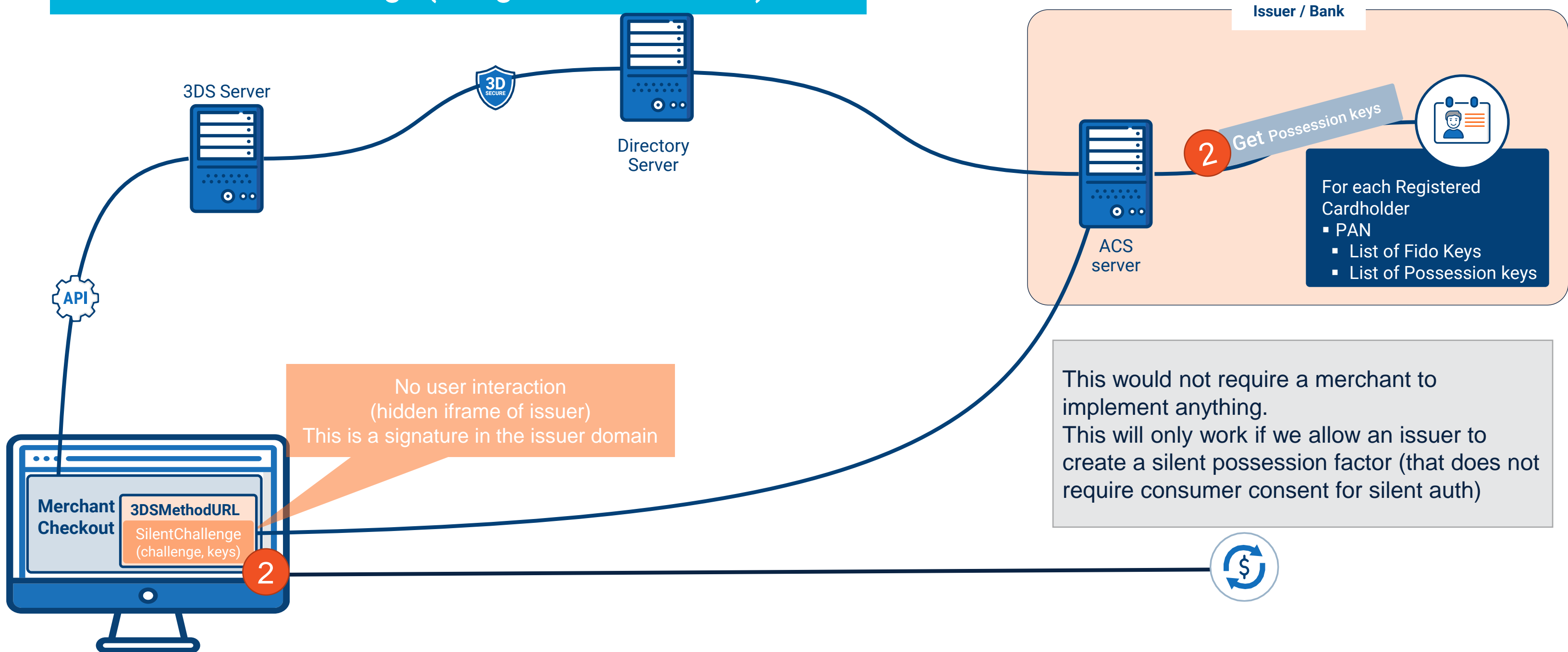
Without a challenge (using 3DS Method URL)





Integration **view: Authentication.**

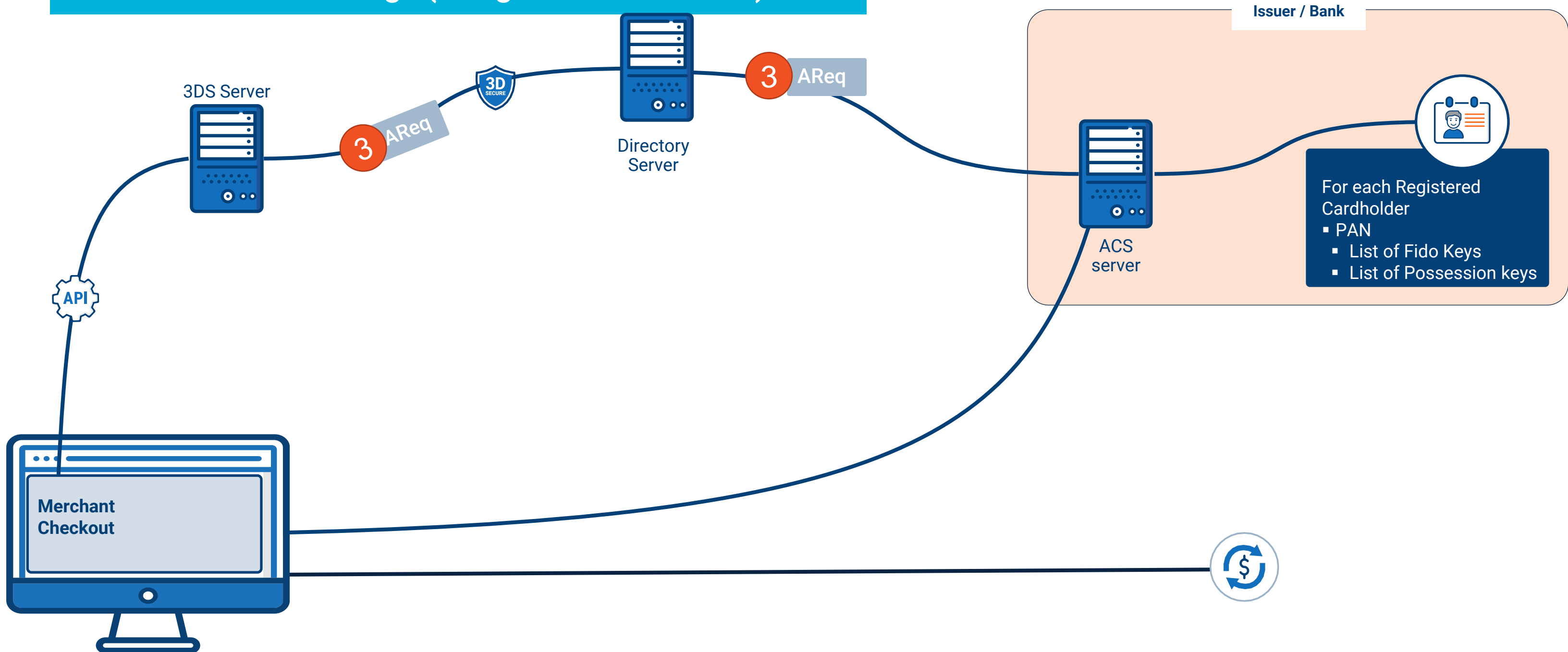
Without a challenge (using 3DS Method URL)





Integration **view: Authentication.**

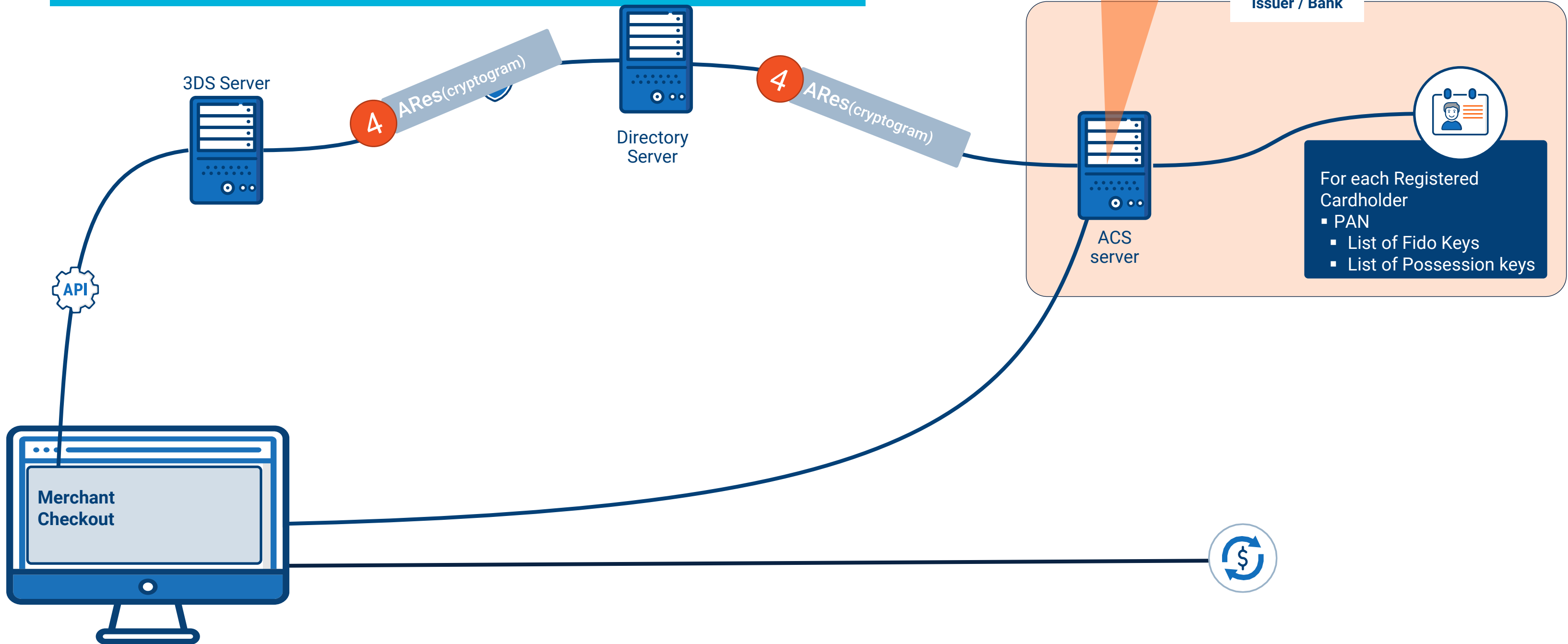
Without a challenge (using 3DS Method URL)





Integration **view: Authentication.**

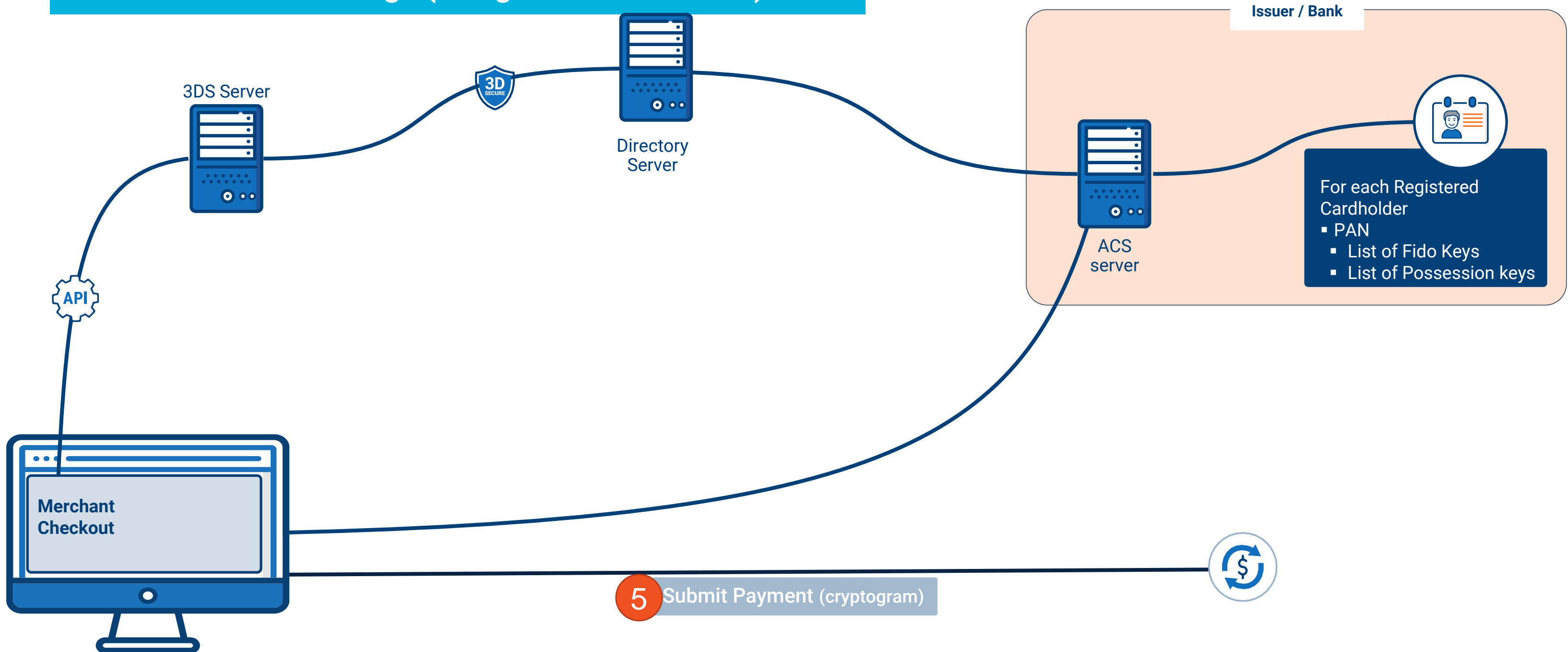
Without a challenge (using 3DS Method URL)





Integration **view: Authentication.**

Without a challenge (using 3DS Method URL)



Impact on 3D Secure flow

- The technique aligns fully with standard 3DSMethodURL flow
 - It can work with 3D Secure 2.1 and later
- No merchant integration/modification required
 - iFrame permissions would need to support this
- If a possession credential is not available, then merchants could still revert to the SPC flow to improve challenge experience
- *Seems to align most closely to EMVCo's Browser ID requirements*
- *Might not be right to call it SPC anymore... since no sheet.*



Thank you

Discussion Q&A

Explainer at

<https://github.com/entersekt/possession-credential>

Please provide comments & input

Acknowledgement

A big thank you to all those that provided input to this proposal:

- Adrian Hope-Bailie (Coil)
- Chris Dee (FIS Worldpay)
- Danyao Wang (Google)
- Ian Jacobs (w3c)
- Rouslan Solomakhin (Google)



Entersekt

The power of **trust**.