Identity Management

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Contents

- Background federated identity management
- Certificates (hosts, in particular)
- Pathfinder
- RCauth
- Future





Fed. IdM

- SSO: single account, used everywhere
- Single login: only need to log in once
- Federated identity: identity comes from home IdP
 - E.g. UK Access Management Federation,
 - eduroam,
 - eduGAIN "superfederation",
 - Assent
- AARC project "blueprint architecture"
 - Login is typically via portal but there is (some) tech for CLI





Host Certificates

Brian: - you are all individuals!

Crowd (in unison) - we are all individuals!

Lone voice: - I'm not!

Certificates are issued to a private key
The private must not be shared
... but the





Multiple SANs

- A certificate contains:
 - A *subject name* (which names the subject)
 - The DN
 - For hosts, the CN is the hostname
 - Subject alternative name(s) hereinafter "SAN" which also name the subject
 - E.g. email address(es)
 - Host name(es)
 - IP address(es)





Host Naming

- Example: host.example.com. has alias foo.example.com.
- The client accesses foo.example.com.
- The certificate is (usually) issued to the alias
- RFC 2818, section 3.1 (server identity):
 - Client MUST check hostname (in URL) against server identity (in cert)
- Globus (till recently) didn't need this because it resolved the names through DNS
 - However, that is a security risk since DNS could be tampered with

foo.example.com
host.example.com

... so the certificate MUST be issued to the alias...





Naming Hosts

- One "server" spread across multiple hosts
- Client calls and sees only foo.example.com
- Each host has an individual CNAME
- The certificate is issued to the CNAMEs because they are all individuals
- (Instead of getting a cert for foo.example.com. and copying it to all)
- (or 3 certs for foo.example.com. which is slightly less bad but still bad)

foo.example.com

host1.example.com

foo.example.com

host2.example.com

foo.example.com

host3.example.com





Naming Hosts

- Multiple servers on a single host
- A single host fronts multiple hosts
- Certificate is typically issued to the CNAME

foo.example.com

bar.example.com

fred.example.com

host.example.com

Example: srm-gen.gridpp.rl.ac.uk.





Naming Hosts

- Multiple servers on a single host
- A single host fronts multiple hosts
- Certificate is issued with wildcard
- Matches {foo,bar,fred}.example.com.
- But also mail.example.com.
- Should be used with some caution (if at all)

*.example.com
host.example.com





Back to RFC 2818

- Client MAY perform its own non-std check
 - E.g. check the server's key
- If not, client extracts SANs
 - Checks if one matches the requested hostname
 - or IP address
- Iff there are no SANs, client checks CN
 - If no alternative names are present





Supporting Multiple SANs (in Host Certs)

• Currently:

- A 500 line Perl script (lots of error checking)
- Which "edits" the request
- Must be run by CA operator
- Before the certificate is signed, ideally

Status

- Error prone: both CA op and requester must coordinate
- RA op may not see alternative names





Supporting Multiple SANs (in Host Certs)

- Requester adds requested SANs to request
 - See GridPP Wiki for instructions
 - Must have the name in CN (typically CNAME) also in SAN (conventionally the first SAN)
 - Have to use PeCR to submit JK working on this
 - Must use PKCS#10
- RA op sees extra SANs and approves them
 - ...hopefully
- Signing system honours extra SANs?
 - You can put anything in a request
 - But by default almost everything is ignored!





Signing Multi-SAN Requests

- Introduces extra risk
 - Typically, someone sneaking in a dodgy name
 - Or applies for something bad in good(ish) faith
- Implementation
 - Extracted and checked, and added to cert
 - Instead of the 'copy' and 'copyall' semantics of openssl ca
- Help to introduce rules...?
 - Maybe restrict to "trusted" admins (by DN) would only work for new reqs.
 - No bulk...?
- Wildcards need checking (e.g. *.example.com)
 - Restricting domains (by admin)





Renewing Multi-SAN certs

- (Even) less mature
 - Not much time/effort to develop CA
 - Needs to copy stuff over from previous
 - Some exploratory work in this area but less mature
 - Some times changes are need (= CCRs)
 - (Certificate Change Request)
 - With PeCR it may be just as easy to apply for new?





Further Reading

- RFC 2818
 - http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2818.txt
- RFC 5280
 - http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc5280.txt
- GFD.225
 - http://www.ogf.org/documents/GFD.225.pdf



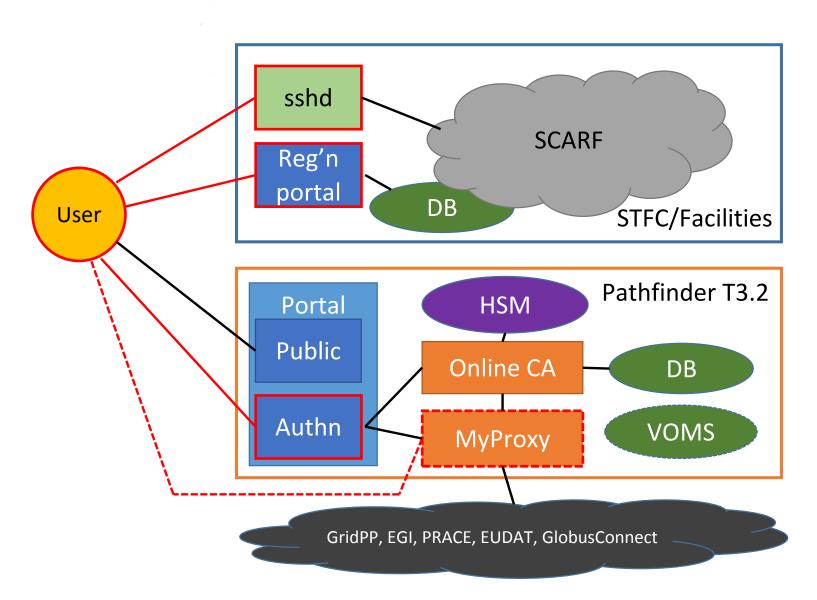


Federated access to certificates

PATHFINDER MICS RCAUTH IOTA











Front End(s)

Public Portal/server (no authentication required)

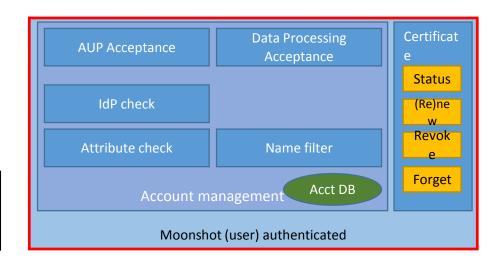
Information
(links to) CP and CPS

Links to helpdesk

(links to) JISC and service
AUP

Management Interface (X.509 authenticated)

Service API



Red outline = Moonshot authenticated
Black outline = certificate authenticated





RCauth

- CA set up by NIKHEF as an AARC pilot activity
- Allows selected IdPs to get certs à la SARoNGS
- Will be run by EGI and EUDAT in EINFRA-12
 - The EUDAT one run by STFC, EGI by GRNET
- IOTA profile: OK for WLCG...
 - Pathfinder will be MICS (hopefully)





THANKS