Configure Dynamic Group Policy Assignment with SAML on Secure Firewall for Secure Client

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Sales User Admin User Troubleshoot

Introduction

This document describes the process of dynamically assigning group policies using SAML authentication on the Cisco Secure Firewall.

Prerequisites

Requirements

Cisco recommends that you have knowledge of these topics:

- Basic Remote Access VPN, SSL, and Certificate Knowledge
- Basic SAML Knowledge
- Experience with Firepower Management Center

Components Used

The information in this document is based on these software and hardware versions:

- Cisco Secure Firewall v7.2.0
- Cisco Secure Firewall Management Center (FMC) v7.2.0
- Cisco Secure Client 5.0.04032

The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, ensure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

Background Information

In this document, Okta is used as the Identity Provider (IdP). However, it is essential to note that any IdP that allows for the customization of attributes sent in the SAML Assertion can be used.

The SAML IdP can be configured in order to send assertions attributes in addition to the authentication assertion. The SAML Service Provider component in ASA/FTD interprets the SAML assertions received from IdP and makes policy selections based on them.

Configure

Network Diagram



Lab Topology



Note: This setup only works when a user is part of one and only one group, it does not work when a user is a part of multiple groups.

Configurations

Okta - SAML Configuration Part #1

1. Navigate to Applications > Applications and click Browse App Catalog. Search forCisco in the catalog search bar and choose Cisco ASA VPN SAML, then click Add Integration.

Directory	~	Applications	
Customizations	~	Create App Integration	3 Browse App Catalog
Applications ¹	^		
Applications 2		Q. Search	

Applications > Catalog > All Integrations



Okta Application Add Button

2. Fill in the Application Label in the General Settings section and click Done.

🛱 Add Cisco ASA VPN (SAML)



General settings Required

Application label	1 Cisco Secure Firewall
	This label displays under the app on your home page
Application Visibility	Do not display application icon to users
Cancel	2 Done

Okta general settings

3. In the Sign On, find the Metadata URL, copy it, and open it in a new tab. The Metadata XML file looks like as shown in this image:

ahah	Cisco Secure Firewall						
CISCO	Active •		View Logs	Monitor Imports			
		\square					

General Sign On Import Assignments

Sign on methods	
The sign-on method determir application. Some sign-on me application.	nes how a user signs into and manages their credentials for ethods require additional configuration in the 3 rd party
Application username is deter	rmined by the user profile mapping. Configure profile mapp
SAML 2.0	
Default Relay State	
Disable Force Authentica	tion 🖾
Enable Single Logout	
Metadata details	
	https://trial



Metadata XML

4. Download the SAML SIgning Certificate, from the same Sign On section. This is needed for configuring SSO in FMC.

5. Next, configure the SSO server on FMC. The assumption is made that the SSL certificate is configured and enrolled for FTD (here the trustpoint name is RAVPN-SSL).

FMC - SAML Configuration

1. In FMC, navigate to Devices > Certificates and click Add.

Device Management	VPN	Troubleshoot	3 Add
Device Upgrade	Site To Site	File Download	
NAT	Remote Access	Threat Defense CLI	
QoS	Dynamic Access Policy	Packet Tracer	Δ
Platform Settings	Troubleshooting	Packet Capture	-
FlexConfig	Site to Site Monitoring		± PCT

FMC devices nav

2. Choose the appropriate device and click + , next to Cert Enrollment. Give a name for the Cert Enrollment. Under CA Information, choose the Enrollment Type to be Manual. Check the CA Only checkbox and in the CA Certificate section paste the contents of the certificate you received earlier from the Okta SAML page. Once done, click Save.

Add a new certificate to the device using cert enrollment object which is used to generate CA and identify certificate.

20.00			
•			
oject 🔻	+ 2		
	oject 🔻	oject v + 2	oject v + 2

FMC cert enrollment

Add Cert Enrollment

Name*	3
OktaSSO	
Description	
CA Information C	Certificate Parameters Key Revocation
Enrollment Type:	Manual v
	CA Only
	Check this option if you do not require an identity certificate to be created from this CA
CA Certificate:	CFS6x4Ff9AVd7Ys8Tpi9vezE Wcu0fXieuqZbEo+KAigx5n8y G2tmM oNAMLsfaLIG7P7SpiSxKNRqD tGMCiSkAxXB8/4KG6SfKPluh 1GQwILT6k74jVg8neJ6gxWA 9fpl9 PUCZIrjjO3kZ6LEYHg8bB7AAr 1N4tVwnG4LMFZMh END CERTIFICATE
Validation Usage:	 IPsec Client SSL Client SSL Server Skip Check for CA flag in basic constraints of the CA Certificate
	7 Cancel Save

0

fmc cert enrollment details



Note: Check the option Skip Check for CA flag in basic constraints of the CA certificate, since the certificate provided by the IdP is usually self-signed.

3. Click Add in order to enroll in the certificate.

Add a new certificate to the device using cert enrollment object which is used to generate CA and identify certificate.

Device*:					
FTD		•			
Cert Enrollment*: OktaSSO		•	+		
Cert Enrollment Detai	ils:				
Name: Enrollment Type: Enrollment URL:	OktaSSO Manual (CA Only) N/A				
				Cancel	Add

fmc add cert enrollment

4. Navigate to Objects > Object Management > AAA Server > Single Sign-on Server and click Add Single Sign-on Server. Fill in the necessary information, from the Metadata XML (Entity ID and SSO URL), the base URL is the common name (CN) that you have for the FTD SSL Certificate. The IdP Certificate is OktaSSO which was enrolled earlier, and the Service Provider Certificate is the SSL certificate for FTD, which is RAVPN-SSL in this case. Leave everything else as default. Once you are done, click Save.

Secure Firewall Manager Objects / Object Management	ment Center Overview	Analysis	Policies	Devices	1 Objects	Integration	Deploy	۹ 🔺
V AAA Server 3 RADIUS Server Group	ingle Sign-on Server				Object M Intrusion	anagement ² Rules	5 Add Single Sign-on Se	rver
4 Single Sign-on Server	ngle Sign-on Server contains paramet	ers for SAML b	ased authent	ication. These			ed to authenticate users logging in through Remote Access VPN connections.	

FMC object nav

New Single Sign-on Server

OktaSSO

Identity Provider Entity ID*

http://

SSO URL*

https://

Logout URL

Base URL

https://ftd.ciscolabs.com

Identity Provider Certificate*

OktaSSO

• +

Service Provider Certificate

RAVPN-SSL

•

Request Signature

--No Signature--

Request Timeout

Use the timeout set by the provide

seconds (1-7200)

Enable IdP only accessible on Internal Network

 \checkmark

Request IdP re-authentication on Login

Allow Overrides



and edit the Connection Profile of Concern. Under the AAA Section, use the SSO server created earlier as the Authentication Method. Once done, click save. Remember to save the changes by clicking save on the top right corner.



FMC Devices RA nav

Edit Connection Profile		0
Connection Profile:*	RAVPN	
Group Policy:*	DfltGrpPolicy +	
Client Address Assignment	4 AAA Aliases	
Authentication		
Authentication Method:	SAML 5 🔻	
Authentication Server:	OktaSSO (SSO) 6 🔻	
SAML Login Experience:	 Override Identity Provider Certificate VPN client embedded browser Default OS Browser 	
Authorization		
Authorization Server:	•	
	Allow connection only if user exists in authorization database	
Accounting		
Accounting Server:	.	- 1
 Advanced Settings 		
	Cancel Zav	e

6. Next, create the three Group Policies named, Admins, Finance, and Sales.

7. The Group Policy DfltGrpPolicy has the Simultaneous Login Per User. value set to 0 so that it is not used by any user.

Edit Group Policy		0
Name:* DfltGrpPolicy		
General AnyConr	nect Advanced	
Traffic Filter Session Settings	Access Hours: Unrestricted	

FMC DfltGrpPolicy Settings

8. Navigate to Advanced Section > Group Policies and click +. Click + again in order to create a new group policy.

Save

Cancel

9. The image shows an example of the group Admins. Enter the name as Admins and this group has Welcome

Admins! as their banner value. This group also has Split Tunneling configured to Tunnel networks specified below which has access to both Finance and Sales team servers. Leave the rest of the options as defaults. Once you are done, click Save.

Secure Firewall Man Devices / VPN / Edit Advance	agement Center c	Overview Analysis	Policies Devices	Objects Integration		Deploy Q	🖍 🔅 🕲 admin 🕶 🐨 SECURE
RAVPN							Save Cancel
Enter Description							
Connection Profile Access Inte	erfaces Advanced 1					Local Realm: None	Policy Assignments.(1) Dynamic Access Policy: None
AnyConnect Client Images	Group Policies						
Address Assignment Policy	Group policy can be assigned to	VPN user through connection	profile or by RADIUS server	during authentication.			
Certificate Maps	Following are the group policies t	that are associated with this R	temote Access VPN configur	ation. Add a group policy if it is requi	red to be assigned by RADIUS server during authentication		
Group Policies 2							+
LDAP Attribute Mapping	Name		Protocol		DNS Servers	VPN Filter	
Load Balancing	DritGroPolicy		SSL IKEV2				1
√ IPsec							
Crypto Maps							

FMC RAVPN Adv GP

Group Policy





Cancel	ОК

GP Add dialog

Edit Group Policy

Name:*	
Admins	
Description:	
General AnyCon	nect Advanced
VPN Protocols IP Address Pools	Banner: Maximum total size: 3999, Maximum characters in a line : 497. In case of a line spanning more than 497 characters, split the line into multiple lines.
Banner	** Only plain text is supported (symbols '<' and '>' are not allowed)
DNS/WINS	Welcome Admins!
Split Tunneling	

0

Cancel	Save

Admin GP dialog

Name			
Admins-ACL			
▼ Entries (1)			
			Add
Sequence No	Action	Network	
1	Allow	FinanceServer SalesServer	/1

0

\square	Allow	Overrides

Cancel	Save	

Admin GP ACL

Name:*	
Admins	
Admins Description: General AnyCom VPN Protocols IP Address Pools Banner DNS/WINS Split Tunneling	IPv4 Split Tunneling: Tunnel networks specified below ▼ IPv6 Split Tunneling: Allow all traffic over tunnel ▼ Split Tunnel Network List Type: ③ Standard Access List ○ Extended Access List Standard Access List: Admins-ACL ▼ + DNS Request Split Tunneling
	DNS Requests:
	Send DNS requests as per split t •
	Domain List:
	Cancel

Admin GP ACL dialog

9. Similarly, create the remaining two groups Finance and Sales. In this lab, they are configured with banner values Welcome Finance Team! and Welcome Sales Team! respectively. They are also configured with split tunneling like the Admins group with them accessing only their servers, that is, the Finance group can access only FinanceServer and the Sales group can only access SalesServer.

10. Once created, add all of them and click OK.

Group Policy



Cancel	ОК

Add All GP

11. Ensure to click Save on the top right corner and deploy the changes.

12. The required configurations on FTD/FMC are completed. The remaining SAML configuration on Okta is configured in the next section.

Okta - SAML Configuration Part #2

1. Navigate to Applications > Applications and click Application > Sign on Section > Edit.

2. The custom group attribute configured in Okta - SAML Config Part #1 which is cisco_group_policy, must be sent in the SAML assertion. Click the dropdown arrow to the left of Attributes (Optional) and in the Group Attributes Statements (Optional), use the group as Name and cisco_group_policy as Filter which matches the regex ^((?!Everyone).*) as shown.

0

從 okta		Q Search for people, apps and groups	
Dashboard	~	- Back to Applications	
Directory	~	Cisco Secure Firewall	
Customizations	~	CISCO Active View Logs Monitor Imports	
Applications 1	^	General Sign On Import Assignments	
Applications 2			
Self Service		Settings	3 Edit
API Service Integrations		Sign on methods	
Security	~	sign on methods	
Okta Sign on Settings			

Attributes (Optional) Lea	arn More
Attribute Statement	ts (optional)
Name	Value
Group Attribute Sta	tements (optional)
Name	Filter
cisco_group_policy	Matches regex ^((?!Everyone).*)

Okta App attribute



Note: The Regex filter ^((?!Everyone).*), gives the groups assigned to the user (which is only one per user in this lab) except Everyone, and send it as a value of cisco_group_policy in the SAML assertion.

4. Click Preview SAML in order to see what the assertion looks like.

5. Under Advanced Settings fill the values in the field, in order to complete the SAML configuration on Okta. Once done, click Save.

Entity ID: https://<VPN Base URL>/saml/sp/metadata/<Connection Profile Name>

Assertion Consumer URL: https://<VPN Base URL>/+CSCOE+/saml/sp/acs?tgname=<Connection Profile Name>

Single Logout Service URL: https://<VPN Base URL>/+CSCOE+/saml/sp/logout

Advanced Sign-on Settings

These fields may be required for a Cisco ASA VPN (SAML) proprietary sign-on option or general setting.

Assertion Consumer Service URL	https://ftd.ciscolabs.com/+CSCOE+/saml/sp/acs?tgname=
	Please enter your Assertion Consumer Service URL.
	Refer to the Setup Instructions above to obtain this
	value.
SP Entity ID	https://ftd.ciscolabs.com/saml/sp/metadata/RAVPN
	Please enter your SP Entity ID. Refer to the Setup
	Instructions above to obtain this value.
Single Logout Service URL	https://ftd.ciscolabs.com/+CSCOE+/saml/sp/logout
	Please enter your Single Logout Service URL
	(optional). Refer to the Setup Instructions above to
	obtain this value.
Credentials Details	
Application username format	Okta username 🗸
Update application username on	Create and update
Password reveal	 Allow users to securely see their password (Recommended)
	Password reveal is disabled, since this
	app is using SAML with no password.

Save

Okta SSO Setting

Okta - Users and Groups

1. Start by configuring the groups, create three groups based on the Network Diagram, Admins, Finance, and Sales.

2. Log in to Okta Admin Dashboard. Navigate to Directory > Groups.



and fill in the value with the name of the Group Policy you want that group to be assigned. Configure the value Sales in order to keep it simple. Once done, click Save.

○ Sales		Actions •
Sales Team		
© Created: 9/3/2023 © Last modified: 9/3/2023 Vie	ew logs	
People Applications Profile Directories Profile	Admin roles	
Attributes		Cancel
Name	Sales	
Description description	Sales Team	
Cisco AnyConnect Group Policy cisco_group_policy	2 Sales	3
	Save	Cancel

Okta Sales Group

11. Repeat the same steps for the groups Admins and Finance. Configure the value for cisco_group_policy to Admins and Finance respectively.



Note: The value of cisco_group_policy must be exactly the same as the group policy name configured earlier.

12. Next, create some users and assign them to the groups created in the previous steps. Navigate to Directory > People and click Add Person.

13. Create three users to test the lab, FinanceUser, SalesUser, and AdminUser that belong to Finance, Sales, and Admins groups respectively. The image shows an example for FinanceUser groups.

Directory		1	^
	People	2	



Okta add person

Add Person

User type 🔞	User 🔹
First name	Finance
Last name	User
Username	FinanceUser@example.com
Primary email	FinanceUser@example.com
Secondary email (optional)	
Groups (optional)	Finance ×
Activation	Activate now 🔹
	✓ I will set password
	••••••
	To create new users with password, enrollment policy
	must set password as required
	 User must change password on first login

Do not send unsolicited or unauthorized activation emails. Read more



Okta finance user

- 14. Repeat the same steps for the remaining two users; AdminUser and SalesUser.
- 15. The final step is to add the groups created to the SAML application. Navigate to Applications > Applications >

Edit > Assignments. Click Assign > Assign to Groups. Assign to the three groups created earlier and click Done.

Directory	~	Cisco Secure Firewall
Customizations	~	CISCO Active View Logs Monitor Imports
Applications 1	^	General Sign On Import Assignments ³
Applications 2		4
Self Service		Assign Convert assignments Q Search People
API Service Integrations		Fi Assign to People Type
Security	~	Pe Assign to Groups 5

Okta assign user to group

Assign Cisco Secure Firewall to Groups

Q	Search	
	Admins Admin Team	Assigned
	Everyone All users in your organization	Assign
	Finance Finance Team	Assigned
	Sales Sales Team	Assigned

×

Verify

Finance User

Banner

Cisco Secure Client		
Welcome Finance Team!		^
		~
	Accept	Disconnect

Finance team banner

Secured Routes

V	Virtual Private Network (VPN)						
Pr	eferences	Statistics	Route Details	Firewall	Message History		
	N		(15.4)				
	Non-Se	cured Rout	es (IPv4) —				
	Secured	Routes (IP	v4) —				
	192.168.1	100.25/32					

Server Reachability

```
C:\Users\user>ping 192.168.100.25
Pinging 192.168.100.25 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=255
Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=10ms TTL=255
Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=255
Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=7ms TTL=255
Ping statistics for 192.168.100.25:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 2ms, Maximum = 10ms, Average = 5ms
C:\Users\user>ping 192.168.200.25
Pinging 192.168.200.25 with 32 bytes of data:
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Ping statistics for 192.168.200.25:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 0, Lost = 4 (100% loss),
```

ICMP to destination

Session on FTD

<#root>

```
firepower# sh vpn-sessiondb anyconnect filter name FinanceUser@xxxxxx
Username : FinanceUser@xxxxxx Index : 14
Assigned IP : 10.72.1.1 Public IP : 10.106.68.246
------ OUTPUT OMMITTED ------
Group Policy : Finance Tunnel Group : RAVPN
```

Duration : 0h:03m:26s

Sales User

Banner

Cisco Secure Client

Welcome Sales Team!		~
		×
	Accept	Disconnect

Sales Team banner

Secured Routes

Virtual Private Network (VPN)						
Preferences	Statistics	Route Details	Firewall	Message History		
			-			
Non-See	Non-Secured Routes (IPv4)					
0.0.0.0/0						
Secured	Routes (IP	v4) ———				
192.168.200.25/32						

Server Reachability

```
C:\Users\user>ping 192.168.100.25
Pinging 192.168.100.25 with 32 bytes of data:
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Ping statistics for 192.168.100.25:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 0, Lost = 4 (100% loss),
C:\Users\user>ping 192.168.200.25
Pinging 192.168.200.25 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.200.25: bytes=32 time=4ms TTL=255
Reply from 192.168.200.25: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=255
Reply from 192.168.200.25: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=255
Reply from 192.168.200.25: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=255
Ping statistics for 192.168.200.25:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 2ms, Maximum = 4ms, Average = 3ms
```

ICMP to destination

Session on FTD

<#root>

firepower# sh vpn-sessiondb anyconnect filter name <u>SalesUser@xxxxxxx</u>
Username : <u>SalesUser@xxxxxxx</u> Index : 15

Assigned IP : 10.72.1.1 Public IP : 10.106.68.246

----- OUTPUT OMMITTED -----

Group Policy : Sales

Tunnel Group : RAVPN

Admin User

Banner

Cisco Secure Client

Welcome Admins!		^
	Accept	Disconnect

Admin team banner

Secured Routes



Server Reachability

C:\Users\user>ping 192.168.100.25 Pinging 192.168.100.25 with 32 bytes of data: Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=255 Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=255 Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=255 Reply from 192.168.100.25: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=255 Ping statistics for 192.168.100.25: Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss), Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds: Minimum = 2ms, Maximum = 3ms, Average = 2ms C:\Users\user>ping 192.168.200.25 Pinging 192.168.200.25 with 32 bytes of data: Reply from 192.168.200.25: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=255 Ping statistics for 192.168.200.25: Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss), Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds: Minimum = 2ms, Maximum = 2ms, Average = 2ms

ICMP to destination

Session on FTD

<#root>

firepower# sh vpn-sessiondb anyconnect filter name AdminUser@xxxxxxx
Username : AdminUser@xxxxxxx Index : 16

Assigned IP : 10.72.1.1 Public IP : 10.106.68.246

----- OUTPUT OMMITTED -----

Group Policy : Admins

Duration : 0h:03m:05s

Troubleshoot

1. Ensure the time is synchronized on FTD and Okta. Check the same using show clock on the FTD CLI.

firepower# sh clock
05:14:52.494 UTC Mon Sep 4 2023

2. Apply SAML debugs in order to confirm if the SAML assertion is a Success.

<#root>

firepower# debug webvpn saml 255 ------ OUTPUT OMMITTED ------

Sep 04 05:20:42
[SAML] consume_assertion:
http://www[.]okta[.]com/XXXXXXXXXXXX FinanceUser@xxxxxxx

[saml] webvpn_login_primary_username: SAML assertion validation succeeded

----- OUTPUT OMMITTED -----

3. Refer to this document in order to troubleshoot common issues found on the client side.