

Cisco Secure Client SAML Authentication Navigation Timeout Errors During RAVPN Connection

Contents

Issue

Users experience intermittent Remote Access VPN (RAVPN) connection failures on Windows using Cisco Secure Client during SAML authentication. The failures occur immediately after installing Cisco Secure Client and manifest as specific error messages displayed in pop-up dialogs:

- "Authentication failed due to navigation timeout."
- "Authentication failed due to problem navigating to the single sign-on URL."

The failure occurs after Identity Provider (IdP) authentication when the embedded WebView2 browser attempts to redirect or post the SAML response to the Cisco SSE SAML ACS URL. This results in a timeout condition that prevents VPN access for affected users. The issue has been observed affecting multiple users in the same organization, with the authentication process timing out approximately 30 seconds after attempting to navigate to the SAML ACS endpoint.

Users report that when pressing the RAVPN connection button to establish the VPN connection, the timeout error pop-up is displayed and the RAVPN establishment fails. The problem persists even after restarting the operating system.

Environment

- Cisco Secure Client version 5.1.13.177 on Windows
- SAML authentication configured with Cisco SSE
- Remote Access VPN (RAVPN) deployment

Immediate Workaround

The following temporary workarounds have been confirmed to resolve the navigation timeout issue:

1: Network Connectivity Reset

Disconnect the Wi-Fi connection and reconnect, then attempt the RAVPN connection multiple times. Once successful, the problem typically does not recur even after OS restarts.

2: RAVPN Service Restart

Manually stop and restart the RAVPN service to allow subsequent successful connections.

3: System Reboot

Restart the affected system to reset the authentication state.

Diagnostic Information Collection

For comprehensive troubleshooting, the following diagnostic information should be collected during an active failure:

- DART bundles captured during authentication failure
- Network packet captures (capture traffic using Wireshark on all Active Adaptors (open Wireshark - click capture - options and use Shift to select multiple interfaces) during the authentication process
- Netsh ETL traces

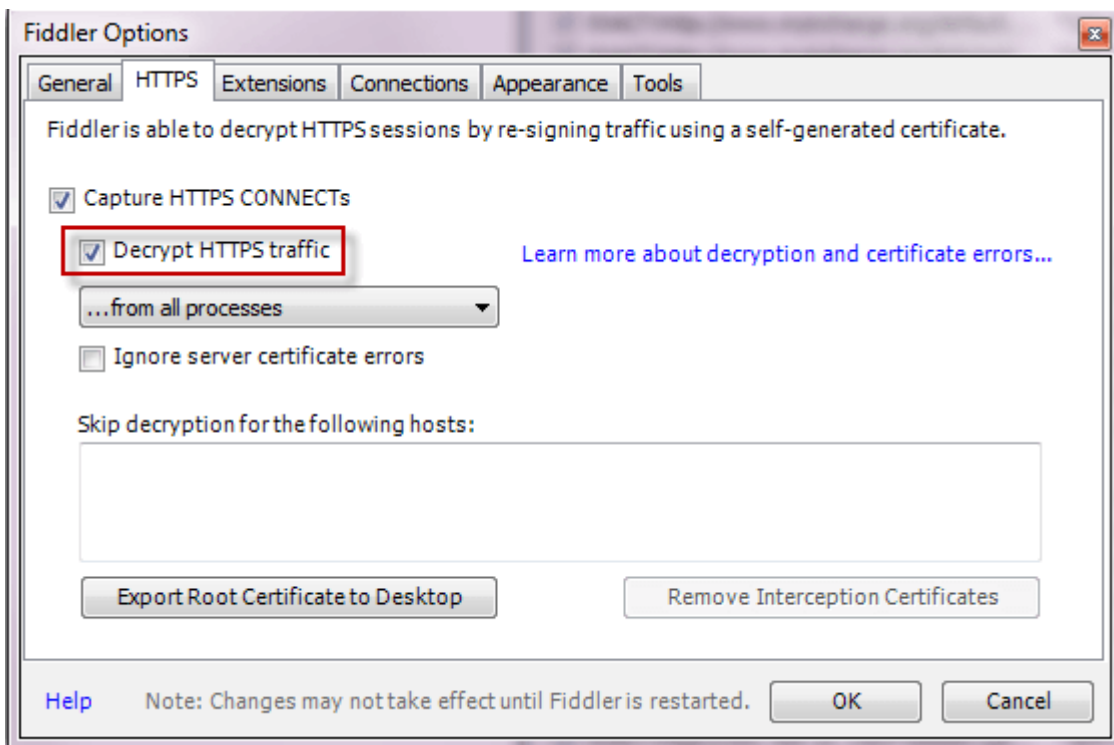
Procedure to collect Netsh trace

- Open an elevated (Run as Administrator) command prompt window on the test PC.
- Run the command: *“netsh trace start scenario=InternetClient traceFile=C:\file_NetTrace.etl maxSize=1000 provider=Microsoft-Windows-TCPIP provider=Microsoft-Windows-WinHttp capture=yes level=5 overwrite=yes”*
- Reproduce the issue
- Once issue is reproduced, stop logging using command: *“netsh trace stop”*

Collect the logs C:\file_NetTrace.etl

Fiddler traces of web traffic

1. Download Fiddler capture from this link <https://www.telerik.com/download/fiddler-everywhere> (use the Intel Chip (x86-64))
2. Install it on a machine where the issue is reproducible.
3. Open the application and enable HTTPS decryption
 - a. Click *Tools* à *Options* à *HTTPS*.
 - b. Click the *Decrypt HTTPS Traffic* box.



inline_image_0.png

4. If you get the cert to trust, pls trust the CA from fiddler and delete it later once the issue is reproduced and

Secondly if you encounter any issues with SSL connectivity while launching, then [bypass VPN gateway traffic](#) (connect.ilemgroup.com) or initiate IPsec based SAML connectivity (most preferable) so that no need of bypassing any gateway traffic.

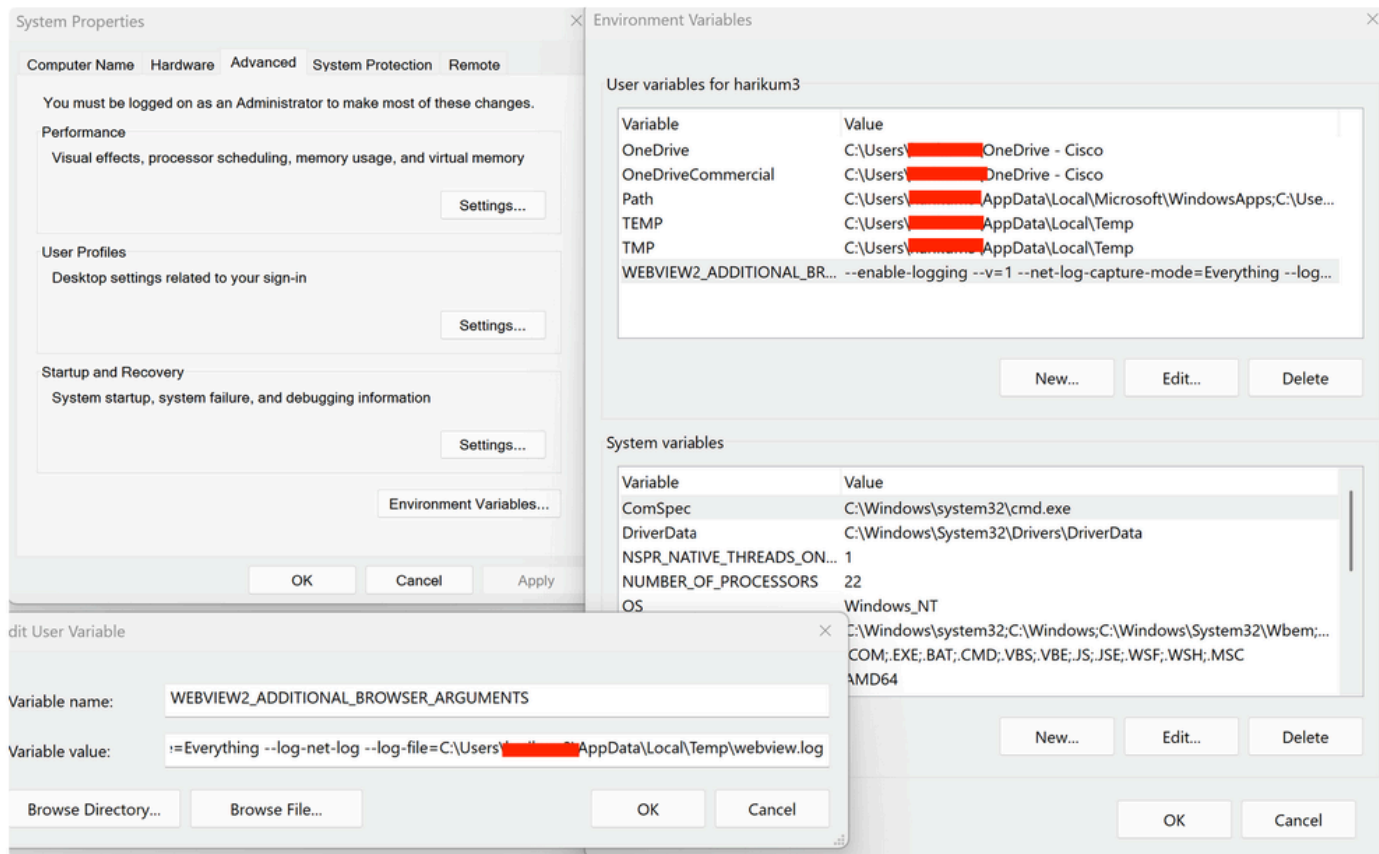
- Close all unnecessary applications and background processes.
- Close and reopen the tool, data collection starts automatically, and you will see new records adding into the main form.
- Reproduce the issue.
- Press F12 to stop tracing.

Go *File* à *Save* à *All Sessions*, then save the trace into a .saz file.

Process Monitor logs - <https://download.sysinternals.com/files/ProcessMonitor.zip>

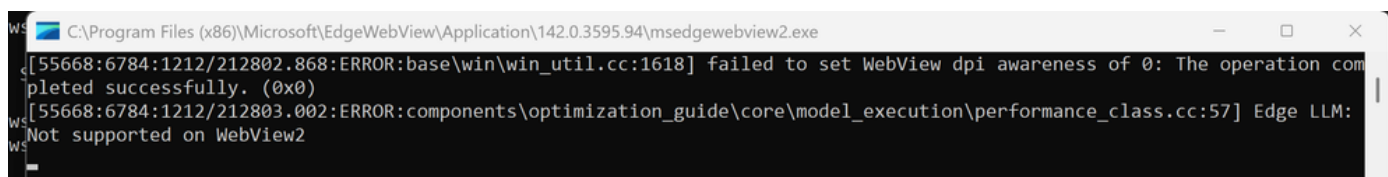
WebView2 specific logs

Setting variable/Value on user and system environment as snapped below



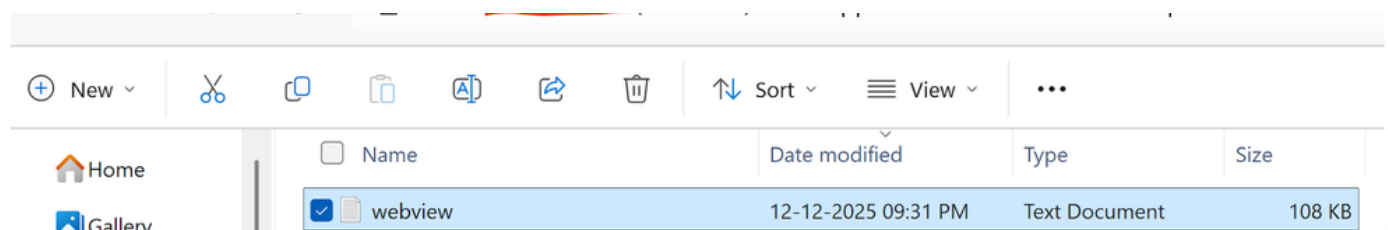
Screenshot_2026-05-12_at_9.43.19_AM.png

While initiating VPN, below terminal would trigger



inline_image_1.png

C > Users > userid > Appdata > Local > Temp



SAML debug logs from the identity provider

Resolution

Cause

The root cause is a navigation timeout occurring in the embedded WebView2 browser component during the SAML authentication flow. Specifically, the timeout occurs when the WebView2 browser attempts to post the SAML response from the Identity Provider to the Cisco SSE SAML ACS (Assertion Consumer Service) endpoint. The timeout condition is triggered after approximately 30 seconds of attempting to complete this navigation step.

The issue appears to be related to timing or network latency conditions that delay the SAML response processing, causing the WebView2 component to exceed its internal timeout threshold. The problem manifests immediately after Cisco Secure Client installation and affects the SAML authentication workflow specifically, while other VPN functionality remains intact once authentication is successfully completed through the workaround methods.

Related Content

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