

Secure Cisco IP Phone under CUCM Mixed Mode Cluster

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Introduction

This document describes the step-by-step procedure to move one IP phone in secure mode from a source Cisco Unified Communication Manager (CUCM) cluster to a destination CUCM cluster without any manually manipulation of the Certified Trust List (CTL) file installed on such an IP phone.

Note: This procedure is independent of:

1. Signaling protocol used by the phone. It is assumed that signaling protocol in source and destination cluster remain the same for an specific IP phone.
2. Phone model that excludes Cisco 7940/7960 models because the 7940/7960 phones require the end user intervention to input an authentication string since they do not have a built-in MIC.

Prerequisites

Requirements

There are no specific requirements for this document.

Components Used

The information in this document is based on the Cisco Unified Communications Manager 7.x.

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, make sure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

Conventions

Refer to Cisco Technical Tips Conventions for more information on document conventions.

Certificate Trust List

All servers in the CUCM cluster generates self–signed certificates. The phones get their own certificates, which is of two types.

1. Manufacturing installed certificate given by Cisco when you buy a new phone.
2. Locally significant certificate handed by Cisco Authority Proxy Function.

The CTL is a list of self–signed certificates from all the servers in the CUCM cluster which the phone can trust. The CTL is stored on the TFTP server and sent to the IP phones.

The device, file, and signaling authentication rely on the creation of the CTL file, which is created when you install and configure the Cisco CTL Client on a single Windows workstation or server that has a USB port.

The CTL file contains a server certificate, public key, serial number, signature, issuer name, subject name, server function, DNS name, and IP address for each server. When you configure a firewall in the CTL file, you can secure a Cisco ASA Firewall as part of a secure Cisco Unified Communications Manager system. The Cisco CTL Client displays the firewall certificate as a *CCM* certificate. Cisco Unified Communications Manager Administration uses an eToken to authenticate the TLS connection between the Cisco CTL Client and Cisco CTL Provider.

On CUCM version 8.X and later, the IP phones request a CTL file by default even if this has not been created. The CTL files are not considered essential; they are just part of the new security features that come with the CUCM 8.x. Refer to Configuring the Cisco CTL Client for more information.

How to Secure the IP Phone

In order for the phone to accept the CTL file from any cluster without the need to delete the existing one requires that each cluster's CTL file has to be signed by the same shared set of eTokens. In other words, we need to create a CTL File for every cluster and sign them all with the same eToken. Additionally, in order to phones trust in the Centralized TFTP servers, you also have to add the Centralized TFTP servers in each CTL File.

Complete these steps in order to configure the security properties for an IP phone.

1. Configure the Device Security Profile. If a proper device Security Profile does not exist in the drop–down list from the IP phone configuration page, leave it as default, **Standard Non–Secure Profile**.
2. Configure Certification Authority Proxy Function (CAPF) Information, for the IP phone to get a new LSC, signed by the destination CUCM cluster.

This is done on the phone configuration page of CUCM. Choose the values from dropdown menu as shown and then click **Save**.

The screenshot shows the 'Certification Authority Proxy Function (CAPF) Information' configuration page. It includes the following fields and values:

- Certificate Operation*: Install/Upgrade
- Authentication Mode*: By Existing Certificate (precedence to MIC)
- Authentication String: 3820664670
- Generate String: (button)
- Key Size (Bits)*: 2048
- Operation Completes By: 2011 12 4 12 (YYYY:MM:DD:HH)
- Certificate Operation Status: None
- Note: Security Profile Contains Addition CAPF Settings.

Configure the new created Device Security Profile:

- a. Choose **System > Security Profile > Phone Security Profile**.
- b. Click **Find**.
- c. Choose the phone type and enter the details:

The screenshot displays the Cisco Unified CM Administration web interface. At the top, the Cisco logo and the text "Cisco Unified CM Administration For Cisco Unified Communications Solutions" are visible. Below this is a navigation menu with items: System, Call Routing, Media Resources, Voice Mail, Device, Application, and User Management. The main heading is "Phone Security Profile Configuration". Below the heading are three buttons: "Copy", "Reset", and "Add New".

The configuration is organized into three sections:

- Status:** Shows an information icon and the text "Status: Ready".
- Phone Security Profile Information:** Contains the following fields:
 - Product Type:** Cisco 7961
 - Device Protocol:** SCCP
 - Name*:** Cisco 7961 - Standard SCCP Non-Secure Profile
 - Description:** Cisco 7961 - Standard SCCP Non-Secure Profile
 - Device Security Mode:** Authenticated (dropdown menu)
 - TFTP Encrypted Config
- Phone Security Profile CAPF Information:** Contains the following fields:
 - Authentication Mode*:** By Null String (dropdown menu)
 - Key Size (Bits)*:** 1024 (dropdown menu)

Below the CAPF information, there is a note: "Note: These fields are related to the CAPF Information settings on the Phone Configuration page." At the bottom of the configuration area are three buttons: "Copy", "Reset", and "Add New".

At the very bottom, there is an information icon followed by the text: "*- indicates required item."

- d. Click **Copy**.
- e. Now **Save** the configuration as shown here:

3.

Cisco Unified CM Administration
For Cisco Unified Communications Solutions

System ▾ Call Routing ▾ Media Resources ▾ Voice Mail ▾ Device ▾ Application ▾ User Management ▾

Phone Security Profile Configuration

Save

Status

Status: Ready

Phone Security Profile Information

Product Type: Cisco 7961
Device Protocol: SCCP
Name* Cisco 7961 - Standard SCCP Secure Profile
Description Cisco 7961 - Standard SCCP Secure Profile
Device Security Mode Authenticated ▾
 TFTP Encrypted Config

Phone Security Profile CAPF Information

Authentication Mode* By Null String ▾
Key Size (Bits)* 1024 ▾
Note: These fields are related to the CAPF Information settings on the Phone Configuration page.

Save

*- indicates required item.

4. On the IP Phone configuration page, double-check that the proper *Device Security Mode* is configured.

Protocol Specific Information

Packet Capture Mode* None ▾
Packet Capture Duration 0
Presence Group* Standard Presence group ▾
Device Security Profile* Cisco 7961 - Standard SCCP Non-Secure Profile ▾
SUBSCRIBE Calling Search Space Cisco 7961 - Standard SCCP Non-Secure Profile
 Unattended Port
 Require DTMF Reception
 RFC2833 Disabled

5. Restart the IP Phone.

6. The phone should now download a new CTL file from the destination cluster and should get a LSC signed from the destination cluster.

7. The phone runs with the Security Mode configured in the Device Security Profile.

Related Information

- **Cisco Security Advisory: Cisco Unified Communications Manager CTL Provider Heap Overflow**
- **IP Phone Security and CTL (Certificate Trust List)**

- **Voice Technology Support**
 - **Voice and Unified Communications Product Support**
 - **Troubleshooting Cisco IP Telephony** [↗](#)
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