Configuring Endpoint Admission Control

This module describes the Endpoint Admission Control (EAC) access methods for authentication and authorization in TrustSec networks.

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Information About Endpoint Admission Control

In TrustSec networks, packets are filtered at the egress, not the ingress to the network. In TrustSec endpoint authentication, a host accessing the TrustSec domain (endpoint IP address) is associated with a Security Group Tag (SGT) at the access device through DHCP snooping and IP device tracking. The access device transmits that association (binding) through SXP-to-TrustSec hardware-capable egress devices, which maintain a continually updated table of Source IP to SGT bindings. Packets are filtered on egress by the TrustSec hardware-capable devices by applying security group ACLS (SGACLs).

Endpoint Admission Control (EAC) access methods for authentication and authorization can include the following:

- 802.1X port-based Authentication
- MAC Authentication Bypass (MAB)
- Web Authentication (WebAuth)

All port-based authentication can be enabled with the authentication command. Each access method must be configured individually per port. The flexible authentication sequence and failover features permit the administrator to specify the failover and fallback sequence when multiple authentication modes are configured and the active method fails. The 802.1X host mode determines how many endpoint hosts can be attached per 802.1X port.

Example: 802.1X Authentication Configuration

The following example shows the basic 802.1x configuration on a Gigabit Ethernet port:

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Device(config)# dot1x system-auth-control
Device(config)# interface GigabitEthernet2/1
Device(config-if)# authentication port-control auto
Device(config-if)# dot1x pae authenticator
```

Example: MAC Authentication Bypass Configuration

MAC Authentication Bypass (MAB) enables hosts or clients that are not 802.1X capable to join 802.1X-enabled networks. It is not required to enable 802.1X authentication prior to enabling MAB.

The following example is of a basic MAB configuration:

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Device(config)# interface GigabitEthernet2/1
Device(config-if)# authentication port-control auto
Device(config-if)# mab
```

For additional information on configuring MAB authentication, see the configuration guide for your access device.

Example: Web Authentication Proxy Configuration

Web Authentication Proxy (WebAuth) allows the user to use a web browser to transmit their login credentials to the Cisco Secure ACS though a Cisco IOS web server on the access device. WebAuth can be enabled independently. It does not require 802.1X or MAB to be configured.

The following example shows a basic WebAuth configuration on a Gigabit Ethernet port:

```
Device(config)# ip http server
Device(config)# ip access-list extended POLICY
Device(config-ext-nacl)# permit udp any any eq bootps
Device(config-ext-nacl)# permit udp any any eq domain
Device(config)# ip admission name HTTP proxy http
Device(config)# fallback profile FALLBACK_PROFILE
Device(config-fallback-profile)# ip access-group POLICY in
Device(config-fallback-profile)# ip admission HTTP
Device(config)# interface GigabitEthernet2/1
Device(config-if)# authentication port-control auto
Device(config-if)# authentication fallback FALLBACK_PROFILE6500(config-if)#ip access-group
POLICY in
```

Example: Flexible Authentication Sequence and Failover Configuration

Flexible Authentication Sequence (FAS) allows the access port to be configured for 802.1X, MAB, and WebAuth authentication methods, specifying the fallback sequence if one or more of the authentication methods are not available. The default failover sequence is as follows:

- 802.1X port-based Authentication
- MAC Authentication Bypass
- Web Authentication

Layer 2 authentications always occur before Layer 3 authentications. That is, 802.1X and MAB must occur before WebAuth.

The following example specifies the authentication sequence as MAB, dot1X, and then WebAuth:

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Device(config)# interface gigabitEthernet 2/1
Device(config-if)# authentication order mab dot1x webauth
Device(config-if)# ^Z
```

For additional information on FAS, see Flexible Authentication Order, Priority, and Failed Authentication.

802.1X Host Modes

Four host classification modes can be configured per port:

- Single Host —Interface-based session with one MAC address
- Multi Host—Interface-based session with multiple MAC addresses per port
- Multi Domain—MAC + Domain (VLAN) session
- Multi Auth—MAC-based session with multiple MAC address per port

Pre-Authentication Open Access

The Pre-Authentication Open Access feature allows clients and devices to gain network access before port authentication is performed. This process is primarily required for the PXE boot scenario, where a device needs to access the network before PXE times out and download a bootable image that may contain a supplicant.

Example: DHCP Snooping and SGT Assignment

After the authentication process, authorization of the device occurs (for example, dynamic VLAN assignment, ACL programming, etc.). For TrustSec networks, a Security Group Tag (SGT) is assigned per the user

configuration in the Cisco ACS. The SGT is bound to traffic sent from that endpoint through DHCP snooping and the IP device tracking infrastructure.

The following example enables DHCP snooping and IP device tracking on an access device:

```
Device> enable
Device# configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Device(config)# ip dhcp snooping
Device(config)# ip dhcp snooping vlan 10
Device(config)# no ip dhcp snooping information option
Device(config)# ip device tracking
```

Feature History for Endpoint Admission Control

This table provides release and related information for the features explained in this module.

These features are available in all the releases subsequent to the one they were introduced in, unless noted otherwise.

Release	Feature	Feature Information
Cisco IOS XE Everest 16.5.1a	Endpoint Admission Control	In Cisco TrustSec networks, packets are filtered at the egress, not the ingress to the network. In Cisco TrustSec endpoint authentication, a host accessing the Cisco TrustSec domain (endpoint IP address) is associated with a SGT at the access device through DHCP snooping and IP device tracking. Support for this feature was introduced only on the C9500-12Q, C9500-16X, C9500-24Q, C9500-40X models of the Cisco Catalyst 9500 Series Switches.
Cisco IOS XE Fuji 16.8.1a	Endpoint Admission Control	Support for this feature was introduced on the C9500-32C, C9500-32QC, C9500-48Y4C, and C9500-24Y4C models of the Cisco Catalyst 9500 Series Switches.
Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.7.1	Endpoint Admission Control	This feature was implemented on the C9500X-28C8D model.
Cisco IOS XE Dublin 17.10.1b	Endpoint Admission Control	This feature was implemented on the C9500X-60L4D model.

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