

Keeping a sharp, customized lookout on your SSL VPN user sessions

HOW WOULD YOU like to better control SSL VPN pre-logon sessions? Or have more choice and more customization power? If you own F5's FirePass SSL VPN, you already can.

F5's FirePass SSL VPN line provides secure access to applications using a standard web browser. What you may not have known is that FirePass offers a wide range of customization capabilities that enable you to better integrate it with your existing applications and business processes.

For example, when controlling access to a network, one thing that an SSL VPN device normally does is inspect user sessions as they're connecting

to the device.

If you own FirePass SSL VPN system v6, however, you can go one step further by adding custom-crafted logic to your logon checks, which allows more control and more security. At the same time, you can granularly modify both the user experience and the endpoint security of the device itself.

All you need to do is implement some simple logic (*if then, else, etc.*) around the session variables already available on FirePass by assigning actions after rules in the product's Visual Policy Editor feature. These actions, such as placing a user in a specific authentication group or assigning them a particular customized webtop, will only be performed if the rule returns successfully. There are several variables available for use in these rules, such as:

- `session.win_info.computer_name.dns_domain`
- `session.win_info.computer_`

- `name.dns_hostname`
- `session.process_check.<CHECK_ID>.result`
- `session.av.<AV_NAME>.database_signature`
- `session.av.<AV_NAME>.database_time`
- `session.av_scan.infected`
- `session.fw.<FW_NAME>.enabled`
- `session.process_check.last_check.result`

To put these variables to use, you need to construct a rule using the information returned by these variables. By making use of multiple layers of logic like this, you can build extremely robust logon sequences and maintain very granular control of not only the user's authentication and allowed resources, but the overall user experience as well.



This new FirePass SSL VPN Tech Tip is free, and

available now for all F5 FirePass SSL VPN v6 customers. To learn more about Tech Tips in general, or to view this particular Tech Tip in its entirety, please visit the F5 DevCentral developer community web site at <http://devcentral.f5.com>.

More FirePass SSL VPN customization

FirePass offers a better way to secure remote access than existing IPSec VPN technology. Along with industry-leading

out-of-the-box features, FirePass offers a wide range of customization options. We're excited to be expanding DevCentral to include them—from customizing GUIs to advanced scripting for granular endpoint security policies. To learn

more about the specific areas covered by DevCentral, check out the Wiki. If you have questions, post them in the new Forum area dedicated to FirePass customization. If you have some great samples, post them as well.

VISIT DEVCENTRAL

F5's online developer community

DEVCENTRAL IS A GREAT WAY to get more out of your F5 products, with free iRules, Tech Tips, and tutorials. Join DevCentral for free tools, techniques, and collaboration to help you build solutions with F5's iControl and iRules, which enable the network to truly serve as an extension of the applications you're delivering.

It's easy to get started. Check out the iControl Quickstart Guides for Java, Perl, or .NET, and review the **Docs and Tips** section.

Codeshare is a great place to download and post application samples. Be sure to visit the **Downloads** section for SDKs from F5. If you have questions about iControl or iRules, **Forums** are your source for answers and ideas.

Visit <http://devcentral.f5.com> for more information (requires free registration).

About F5's iRules and iControl API

F5's iRules represent a revolutionary approach to intercepting, parsing, modifying, and routing application traffic based upon extremely customizable logical policies. iRules, exclusive to F5 Networks BIG-IP v9, utilizes a standard scripting language—Tool Command Language (TCL)—to construct these policies that you can apply to any

IP application. You can use many of the standard TCL commands—plus a robust set of extensions that BIG-IP provides to help administrators and application developers further optimize and secure application traffic—to meet specific requirements, expand upon an application's functionality, or even offload some of the work to the network layer. For more information, visit F5's online developer community, DevCentral, at <http://devcentral.f5.com>.



DCTV and iTunes

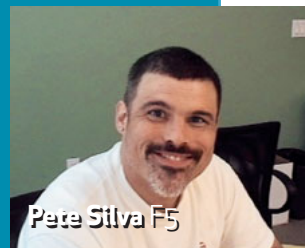
WHEN WE ROLLED OUT DevCentral Television (DCTV) last September, we honestly had no idea how popular it would be. More than eight months and tens of thousands of views later, we're expanding the topics we cover with DCTV. We're also expanding the ways we reach viewers. Because so many people have the ever-popular iPod, we've decided to syndicate our DCTV videos—which now include security experts and topics as well as the usual suspects—through iTunes. Now, you can download the newest DCTV to your video iPod and get the latest dose of technical TV wherever your travels take you. You'll laugh, you'll cry ... and maybe even learn a new iRule command or two.

NEW ONLINE VIDEO:

FirePass SSL VPN pre-logout inspection, step-by-step

Want to see the FirePass pre-logout inspection Tech Tip in action? F5 has created a new video that shows you, step-by-step, how to implement the pre-logout inspection rule with your FirePass SSL VPN appliance. Visit the following to learn more: <http://devcentral.f5.com/weblogs>.

And be sure to keep checking back often for the newest tips and tricks for all of your F5 products.



See the FirePass SSL VPN pre-logout inspection Tech Tip in a short video from F5.