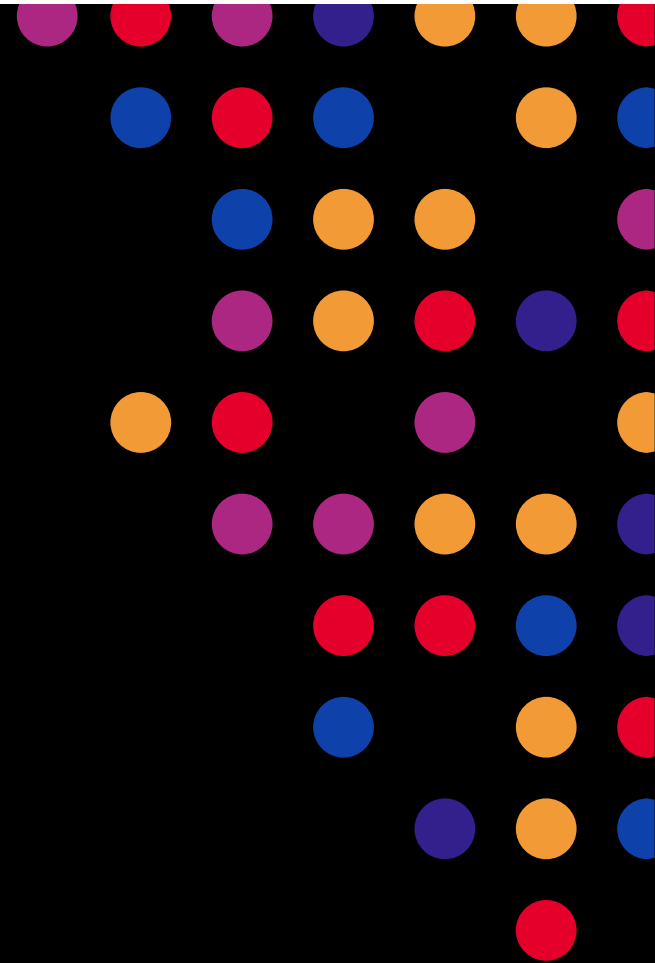




BIG-IP APM Best Practices

Anthony Graber – Solutions Engineer, DISA



Agenda

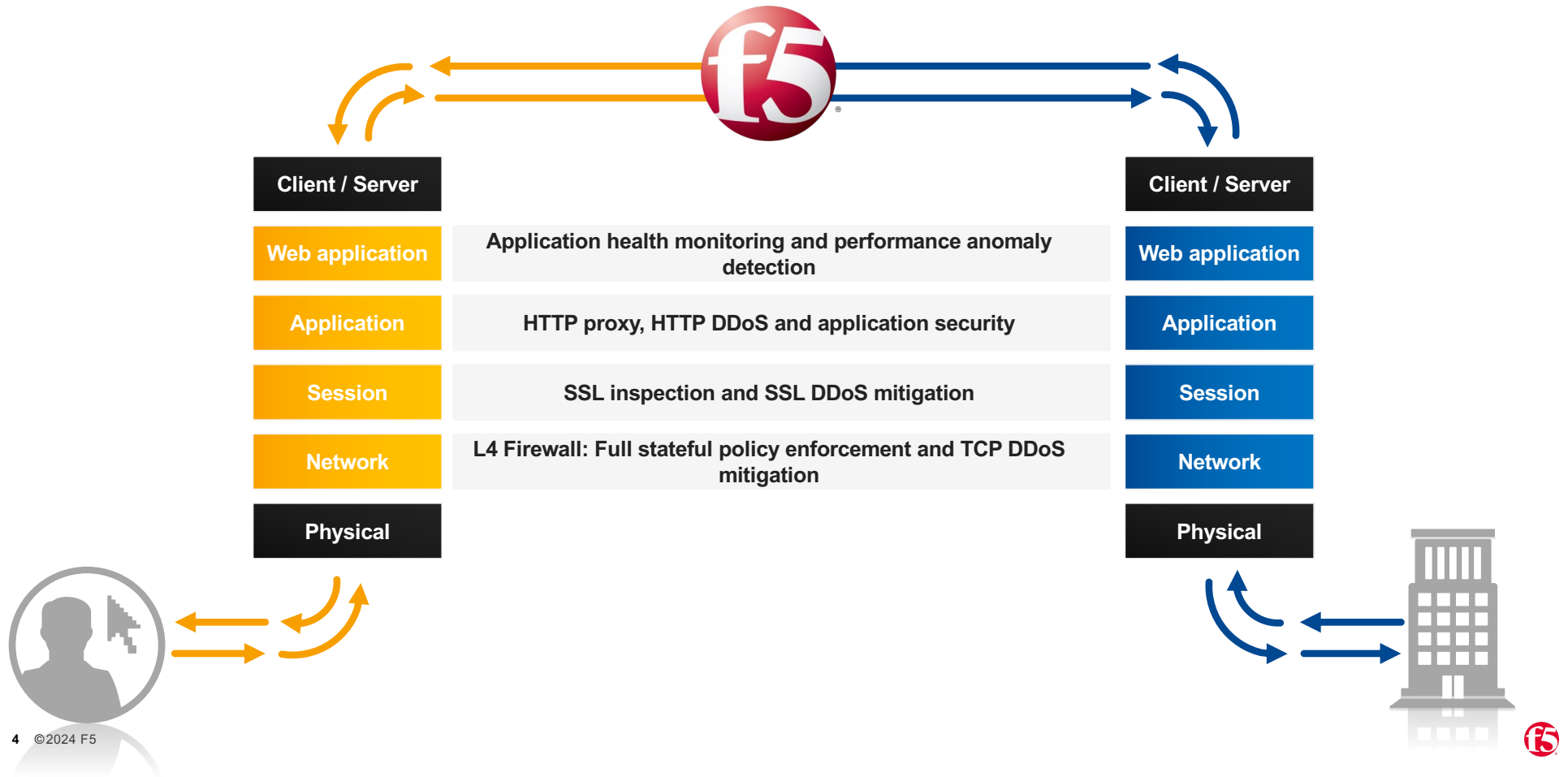
BIG-IP APM Overview

Smart Cards and APM

Configuration Walkthrough and Recommended Practices

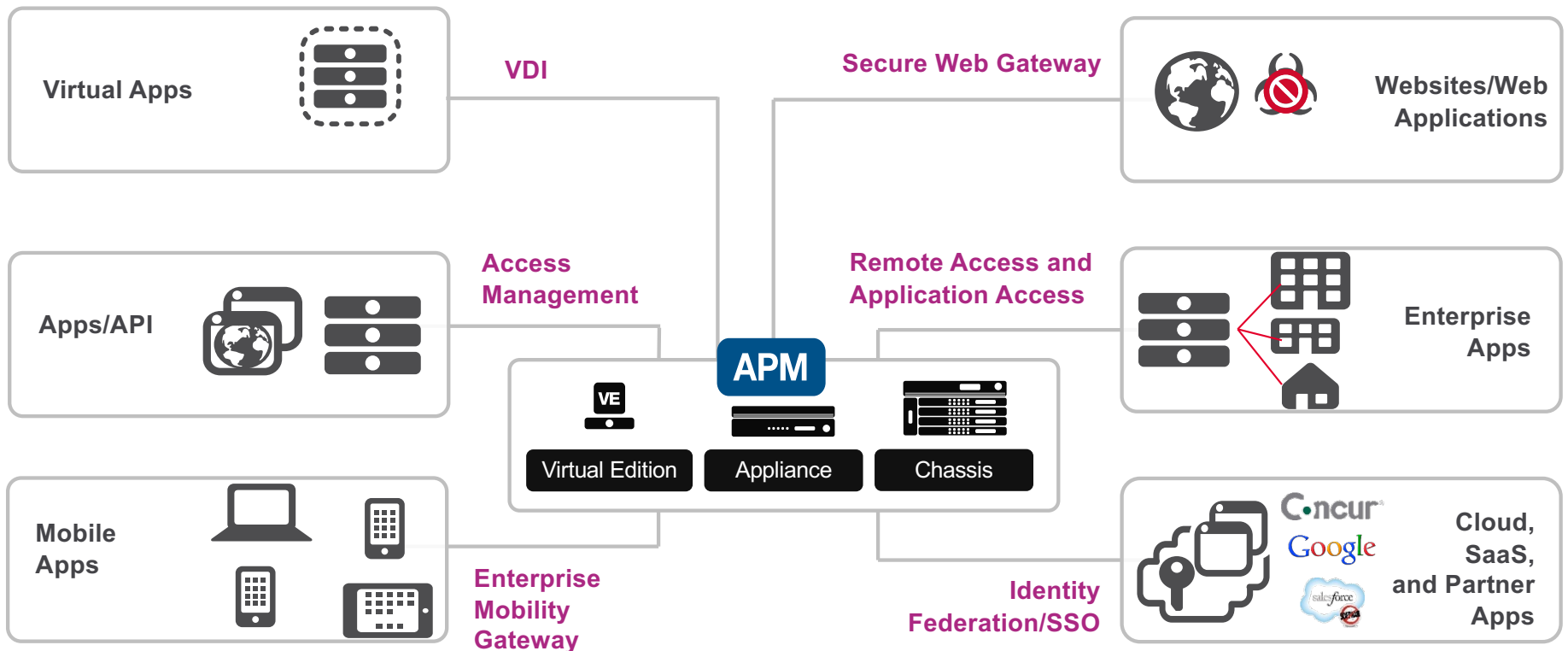
BIG-IP APM Overview

Full Proxy Architecture

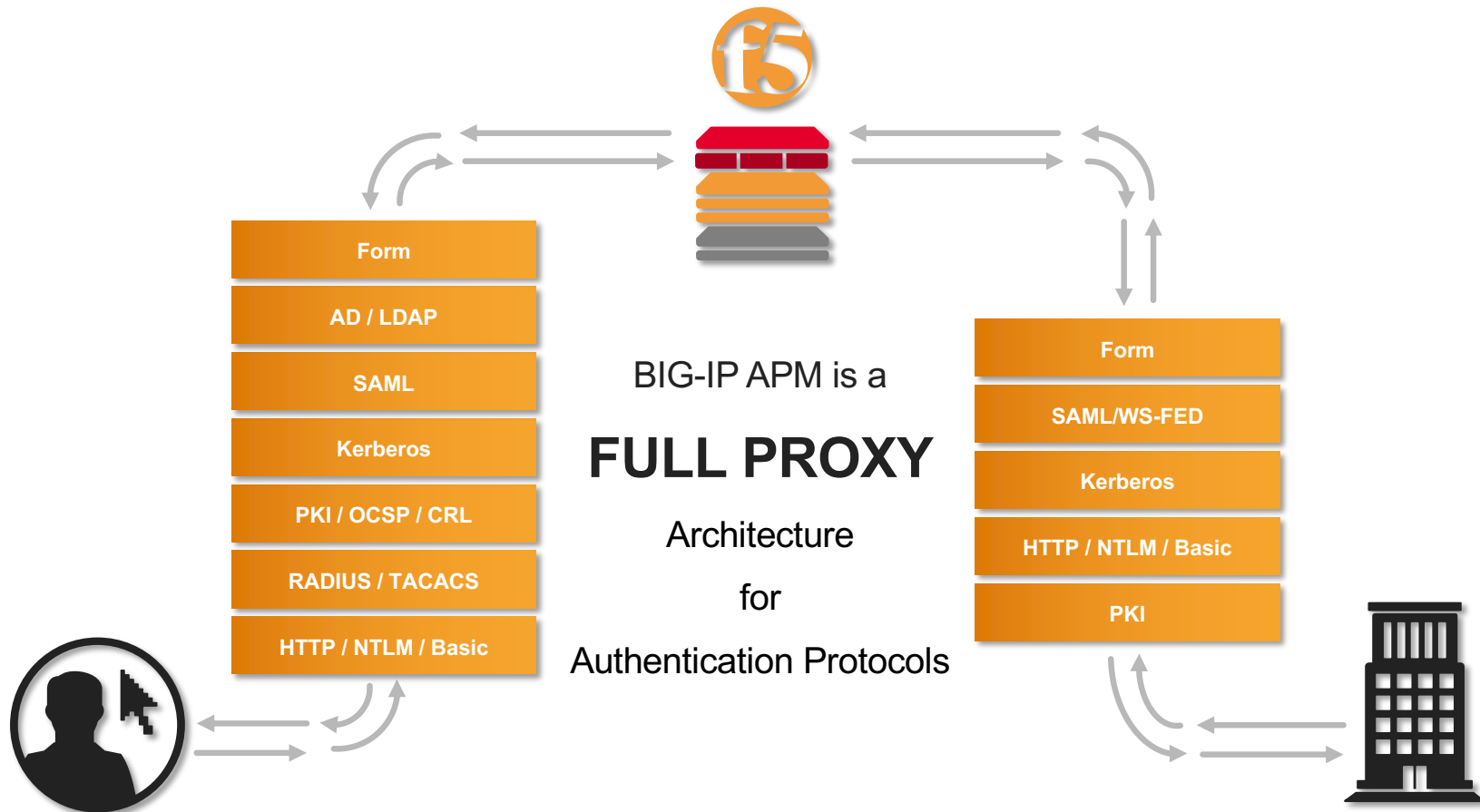


F5's Remote/Application Access Solutions

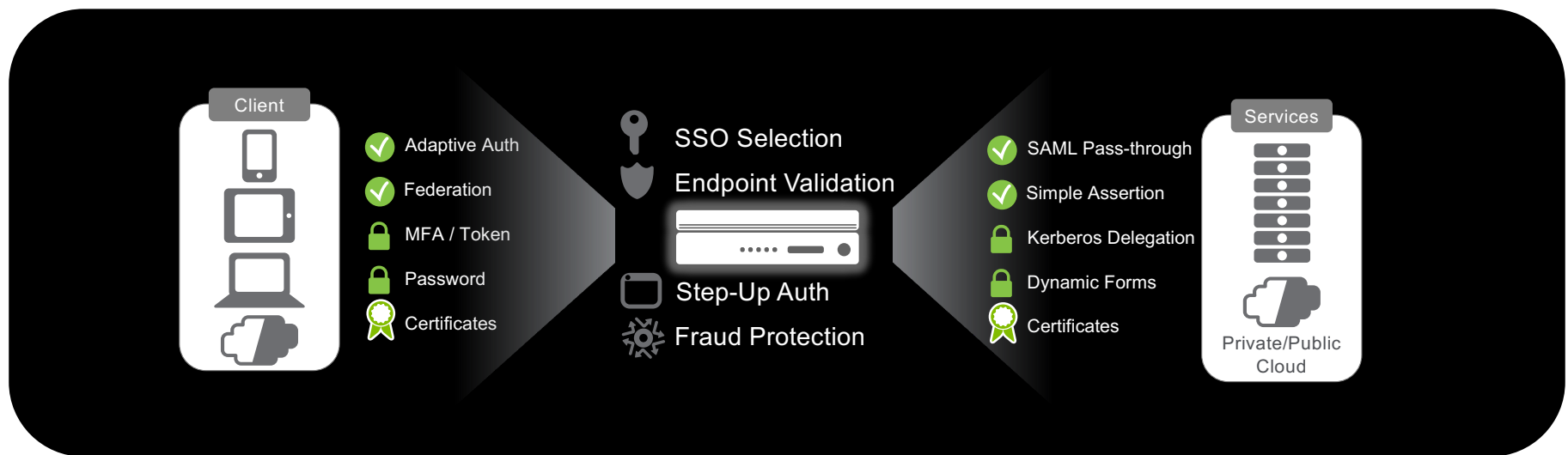
AUTHENTICATION, AUTHORIZATION, REMOTE ACCESS AND SSO TO ALL APPLICATIONS WITH CENTRALIZED ACCESS POLICY ENFORCEMENT USING ACCESS POLICY MANAGER (APM)



Full Proxy Architecture for Authentication

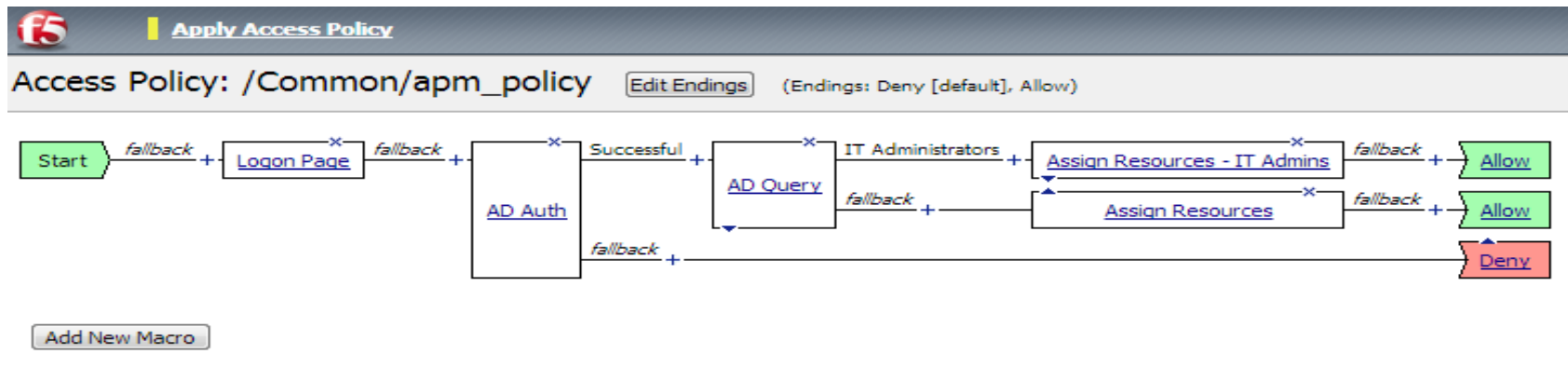


F5 Access Policy Manager (APM)




- Transform one type of authentication into another so an app may understand and use it without installing additional agents
- Allow flexible selection of SSO technique appropriate to the application
- Allow for centralized session control of all applications

Access Policy Design



An access policy consists of a start point, actions, and one or more endings. To insert a new action, click on the + sign. To configure an action or ending, click on You can get started with [Device Wizards](#). On the main navigation pane, expand **Templates and Wizards**, and click **Device Wizards**, then start an APM Conf Please see the [Online Help](#) for more Visual Policy Editor basics.

Access Policy Design

**Apply Access Policy**
Access Policy: /Context

Start *fallback* + Logon

Add New Macro

An access policy consists of...

You can get started with...

Please see the [Online Help](#)

Begin typing to search

Logon Authentication Assignment Endpoint Security (Server-Side) Endpoint Security (Client-Side) General Purpose

<input type="radio"/>	AD Auth	Active Directory authentication of end user credentials
<input type="radio"/>	AD Query	Active Directory query to pull user attributes for use with resource assignment or other functions, such as AD group mapping
<input type="radio"/>	Client Cert Inspection	Check the result of client certificate authentication by the Local Traffic Client SSL profile
<input type="radio"/>	CRLDP Auth	Certificate Revocation List Distribution Point (CRLDP) client certificate authentication
<input type="radio"/>	HTTP Auth	HTTP authentication of end user credentials
<input type="radio"/>	Kerberos Auth	Kerberos authentication, typically following an HTTP 401 Response action
<input type="radio"/>	LDAP Auth	LDAP authentication of end user credentials
<input type="radio"/>	LDAP Query	LDAP query to pull user attributes for use with resource assignment or other functions, such as LDAP group mapping
<input type="radio"/>	LocalDB Auth	Local Database Authentication
<input type="radio"/>	MADM Query	MADM Query agent
<input type="radio"/>	NTLM Auth Result	NTLM authentication of end user credentials
<input type="radio"/>	OAM	Oracle Access Manager (OAM) authentication of end user credentials
<input type="radio"/>	OCSP Auth	Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) client certificate authentication
<input type="radio"/>	On-Demand Cert Auth	Dynamically initiate an SSL re-handshake and validate the received client certificate
<input type="radio"/>	OTP Generate	Generate One Time Passcode (OTP)
<input type="radio"/>	OTP Verify	Verify One Time Passcode (OTP)
<input type="radio"/>	RADIUS Acct	Send accounting messages to a RADIUS server when users log on and off
<input type="radio"/>	RADIUS Auth	RADIUS authentication of end user credentials
<input type="radio"/>	RSA SecurID	RSA SecurID two-factor authentication of end user credentials

Cancel Add Item Help

Admins

fallback

+

Allow

is

fallback


+

Allow

Deny

figure an action or ending, click on
 Wizards, then start an APM Conf

Access Policy Design

**Apply Access Policy**

Access Policy: /C...

Start

fallback

+

Login

Add New Macro

An access policy consists of...

You can get started with D...

Please see the [Online Help](#)

Begin typing to search

Logon

Authentication

Assignment

Endpoint Security (Server-Side)

Endpoint Security (Client-Side)

General Purpose

<input type="radio"/>	Client for MS Exchange	Check for client for MS Exchange Server, such as MS Outlook, etc. This action requires an Exchange profile
<input type="radio"/>	Client OS	Create branch rules for different operating systems
<input type="radio"/>	Client Type	Determine whether the user is connecting via a full or mobile browser, F5 MAM Client, Edge Client, Edge Portal, Citrix Receiver or VMware View client
<input type="radio"/>	Client-Side Capability	Determine if the client is capable of running ActiveX controls or other plug-ins
<input type="radio"/>	Date Time	Create branch rules based on day or time
<input type="radio"/>	IP Geolocation Match	Determine user's geographic location
<input type="radio"/>	IP Reputation	Check Client's IP Reputation
<input type="radio"/>	IP Subnet Match	Create policy branch rules based on user's subnet
<input type="radio"/>	Jailbroken or Rooted Device Detection	Detect jailbroken or rooted mobile devices
<input type="radio"/>	Landing URI	Create branch rules based on URI entered in the browser when connecting
<input type="radio"/>	License	Create branch rules based on concurrent user license usage

Cancel

Add Item

Help

ins

fallback

+

Allow

x

fallback

+


Allow

Deny

an action or ending, click on...

rds, then start an APM Conf

Access Policy Design

**Apply Access Policy**
Access Policy: /Conf

Start $\xrightarrow{\text{fallback}}$ + Logon

Add New Macro

An access policy consists of...

You can get started with...

Please see the [Online Help](#)

Begin typing to search

Logon | Authentication | Assignment | **Endpoint Security (Server-Side)** | Endpoint Security (Client-Side) | General Purpose

<input type="radio"/>	Anti-Spyware	Anti-spyware Software Check for Windows and Mac
<input type="radio"/>	Antivirus	Antivirus Software Check for Windows, Mac and Linux
<input type="radio"/>	Firewall	Firewall Software Check for Windows, Mac and Linux
<input type="radio"/>	Hard Disk Encryption	Hard Disk Encryption Software Check for Windows and Mac
<input type="radio"/>	Linux File	Determine if particular Linux file exists
<input type="radio"/>	Linux Process	Determine if particular Linux process exists
<input type="radio"/>	Mac File	Determine if particular Macintosh file exists
<input type="radio"/>	Mac Process	Determine if particular Macintosh process exists
<input type="radio"/>	Machine Cert Auth	Determine if a machine certificate is installed and is valid
<input type="radio"/>	Machine Info	Collects machine information from the client system, such as CPU, BIOS, network adapter, and hard disk details
<input type="radio"/>	Patch Management	Patch Management Software Check for Windows, Mac and Linux
<input type="radio"/>	Peer-to-peer	Peer-to-peer Software Check for Windows, Mac and Linux
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Cache and Session Control	Enable Windows browser cache and session controls
<input type="radio"/>	Windows File	Determine if particular Windows file exists
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Group Policy	Enable built-in Windows Group Policy for the user's session
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Health Agent	Windows Health Agent Software Check
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Info	Determine details of Windows OS version and service packs installed
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Process	Determine if particular Windows process exists
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Protected Workspace	Enable Windows secure virtual workspace and controls for the user's session
<input type="radio"/>	Windows Registry	Determine if a particular Windows Registry value exists

Cancel Add Item Help

Logins

$\xrightarrow{\text{fallback}}$ +

Allow

-X

$\xrightarrow{\text{fallback}}$ +

Allow

Deny

...an action or ending, click on...

ards, then start an APM Conf

General protocol flow

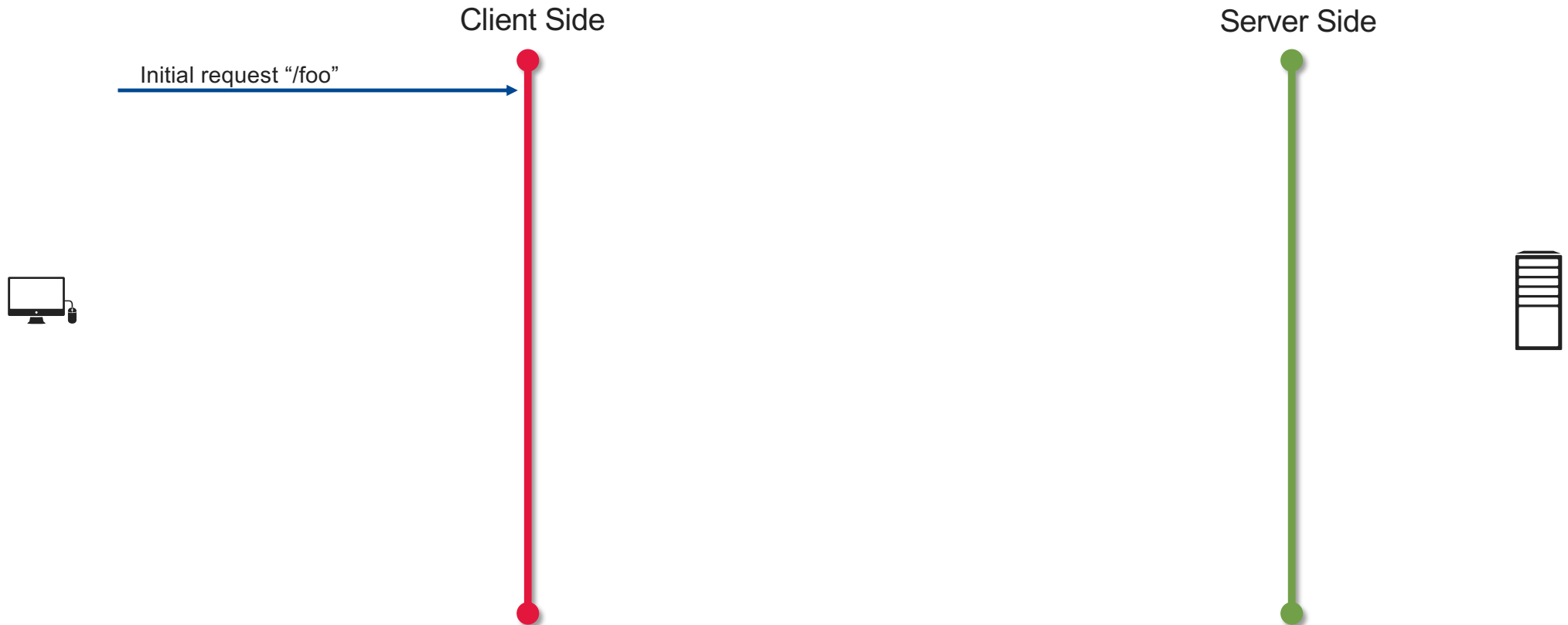
Client Side



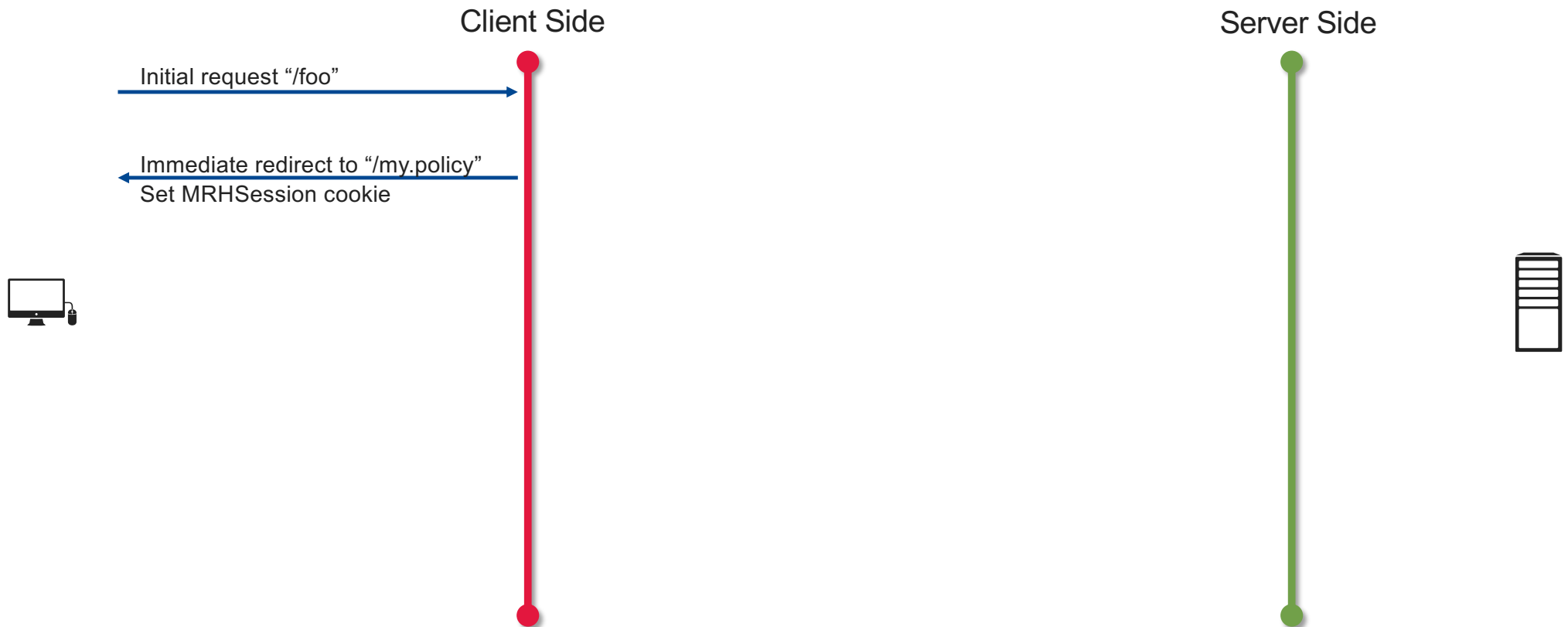
Server Side



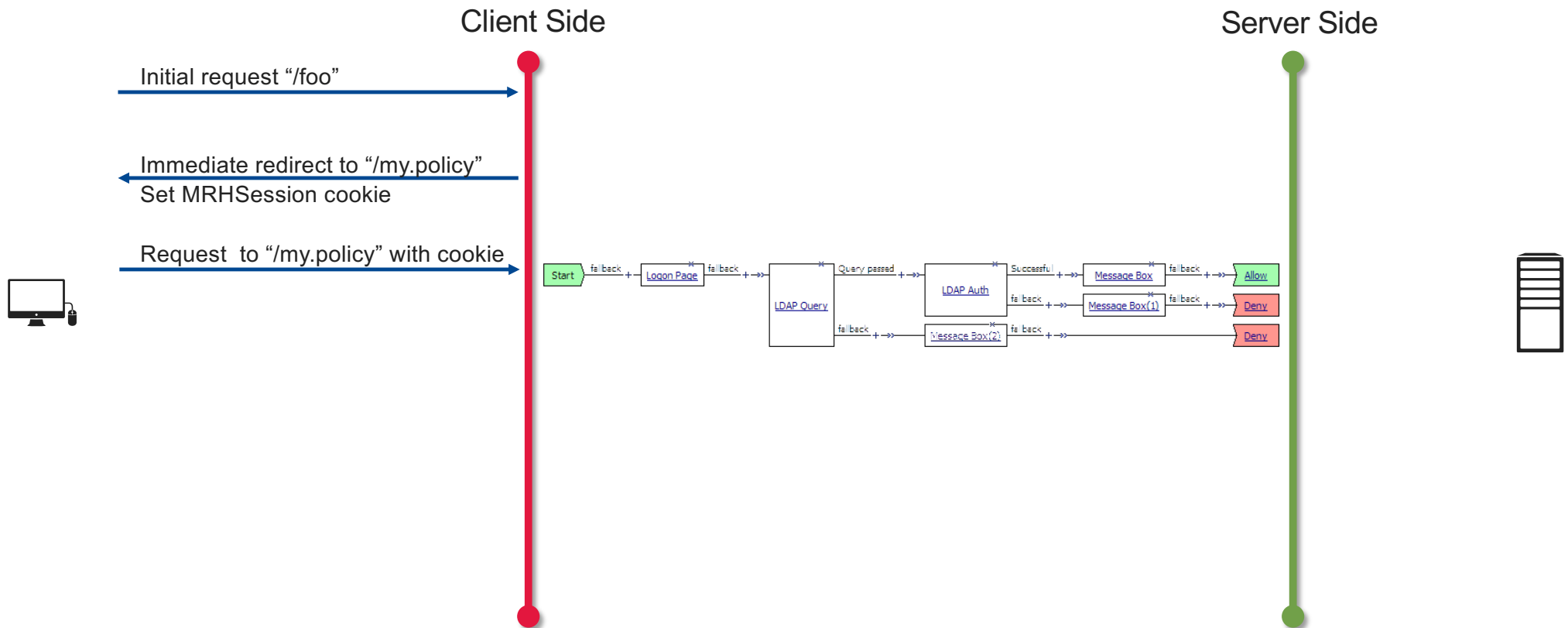
General protocol flow



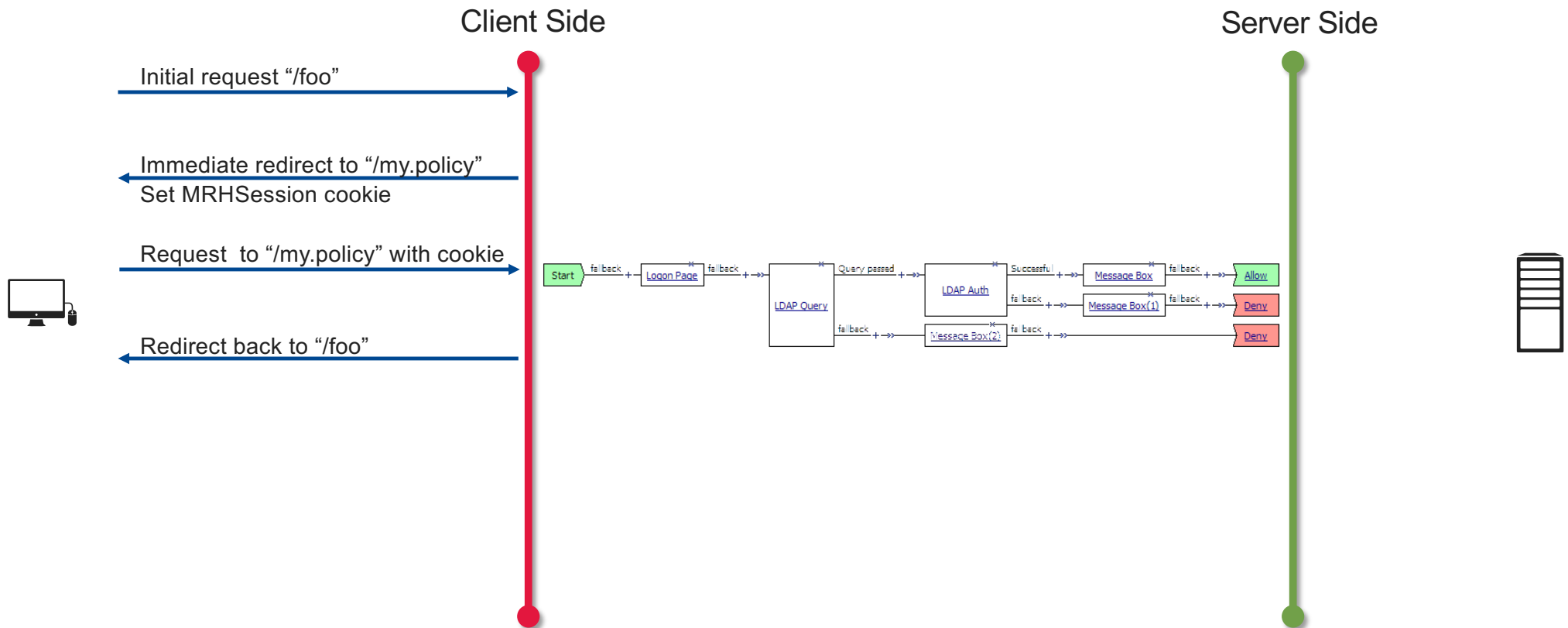
General protocol flow



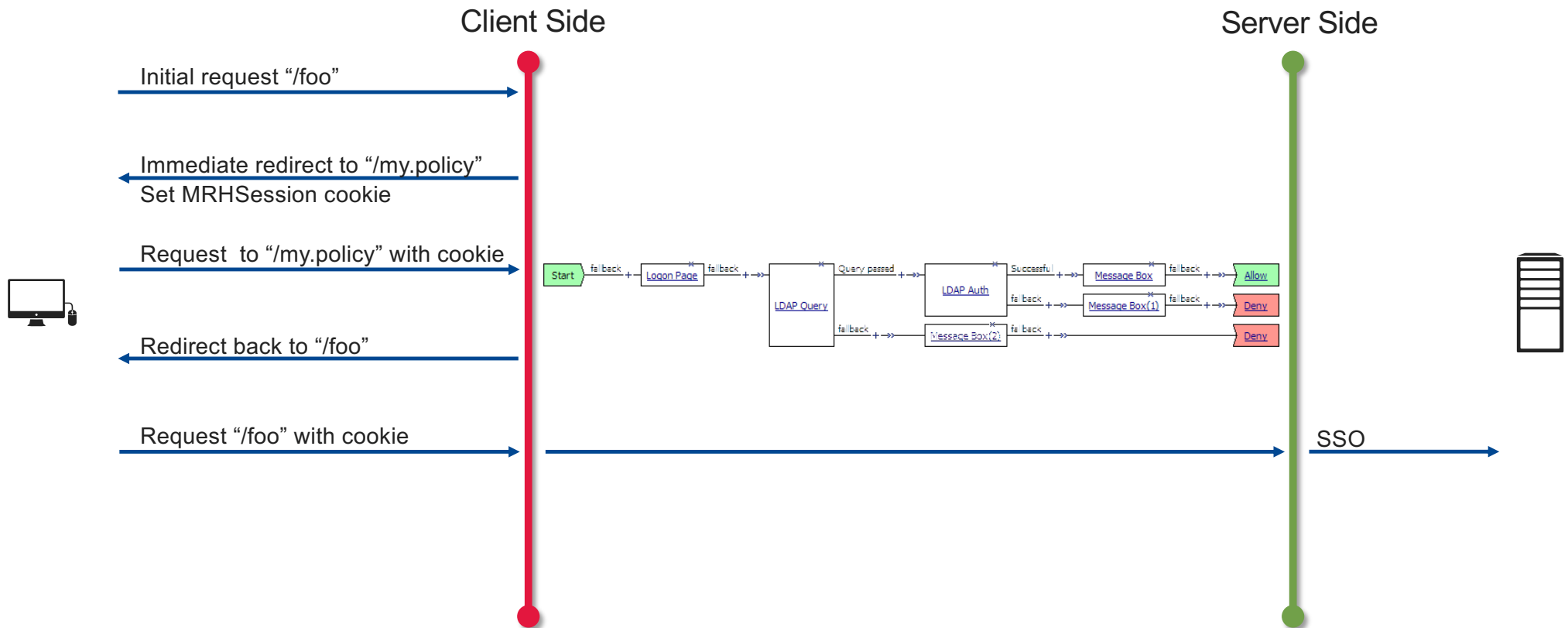
General protocol flow



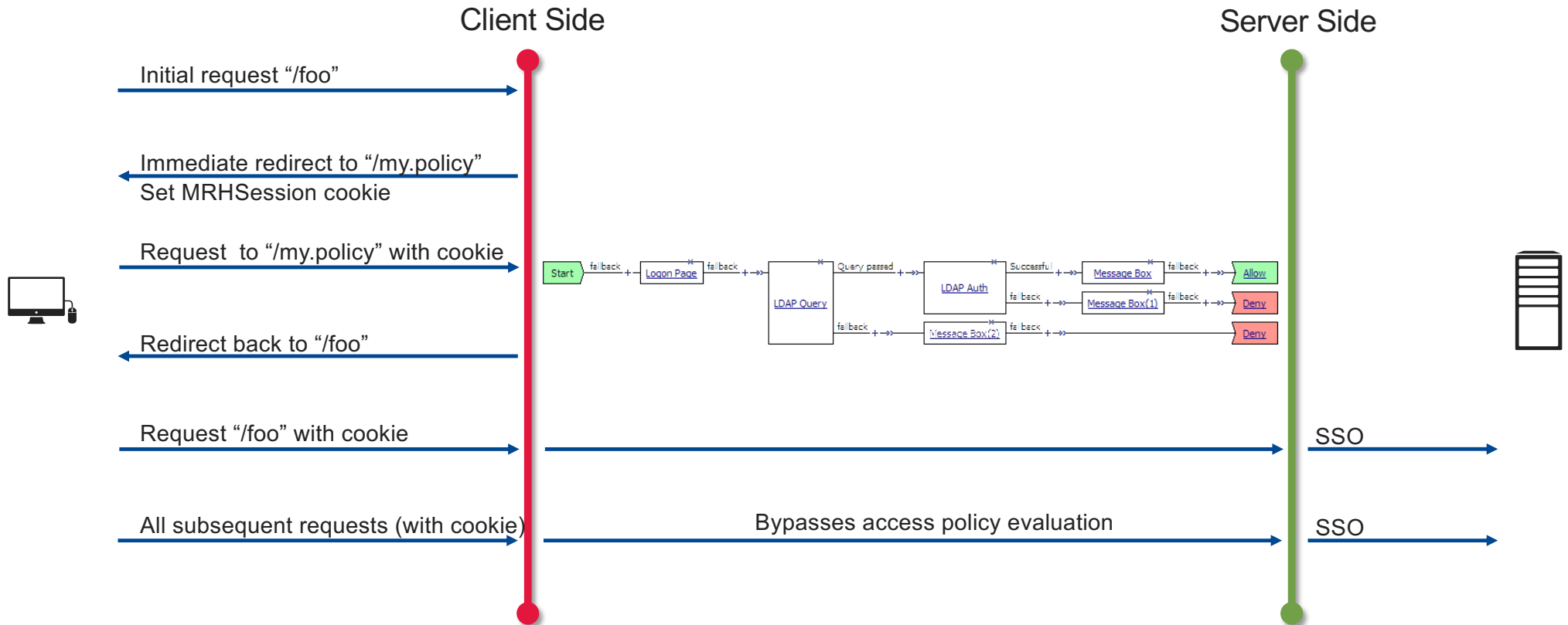
General protocol flow



General protocol flow



General protocol flow



Smart Cards and APM



What is a Common Access Card (CAC)/Personal Identity Verification (PIV)?

- A CAC or PIV is a collection of public and private keys stored on a Smart Card issued by a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI).
- The certificates can be used to establish a mutual trust between the user and the server.
- A client, such as a browser, can be used to provide this credential to a server or website.
- When a smart card is inserted into a machine the public certs are copied to the system's certificate store.

What is a Common Access Card (CAC)/Personal Identity Verification (PIV)?

- A CAC or PIV is a collection of public and private keys stored on a smart card

- The card is used to verify the identity of the user
- A cardholder's name, service/agency, pay grade, rank, and color indicator are stored on the card
- When the card is used, the system verifies the cardholder's identity and grants access to the system



CAC EXAMPLE

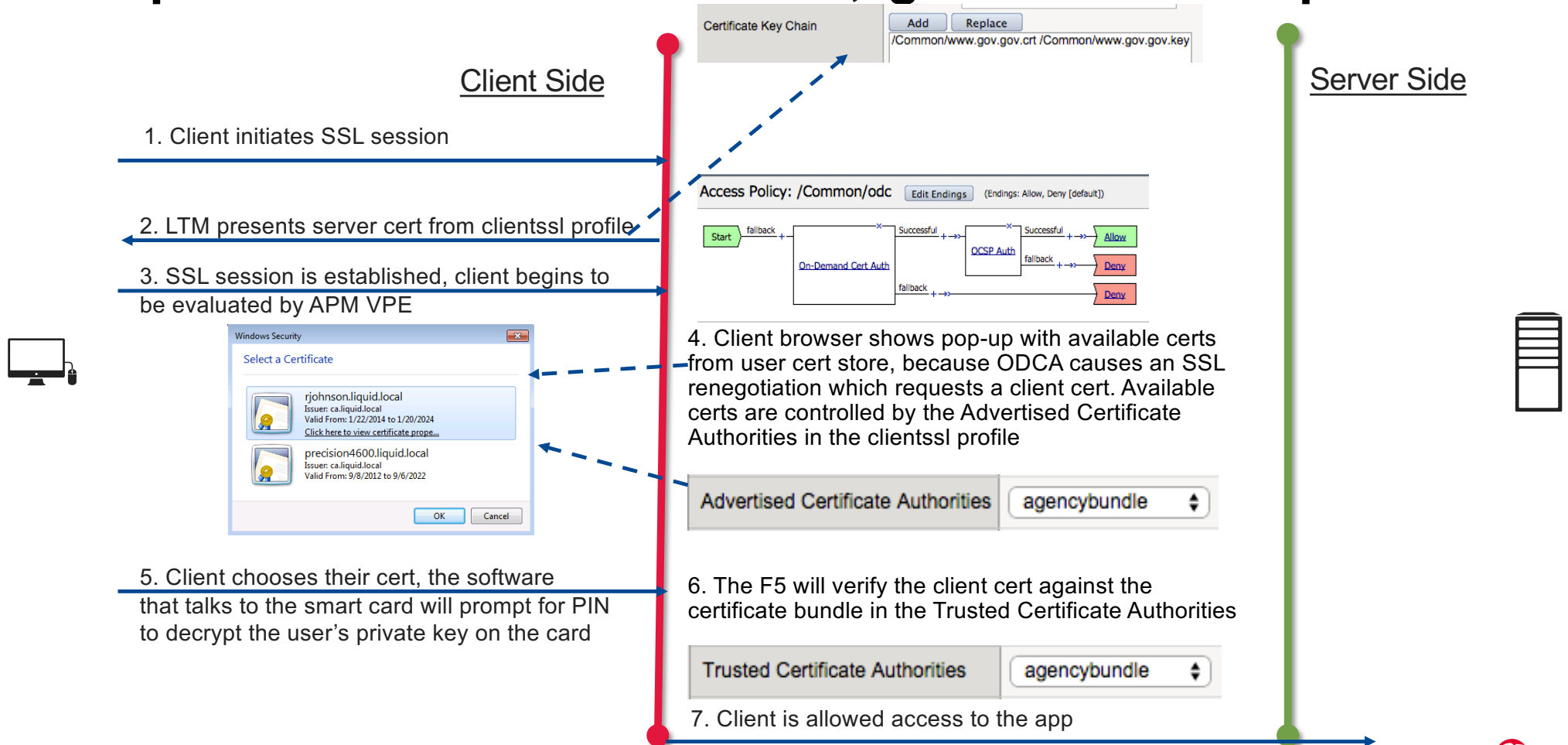




Configuration Requirements

- Certificate bundle to authenticate the certificate from the CAC/PIV.
- Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) server, Certificate Revocation List (CRL), or CRL Distribution Point (CRLDP) for revocation checking of the certificate.
- Active Directory, LDAP, or another directory service to query the identity of the authenticated user.

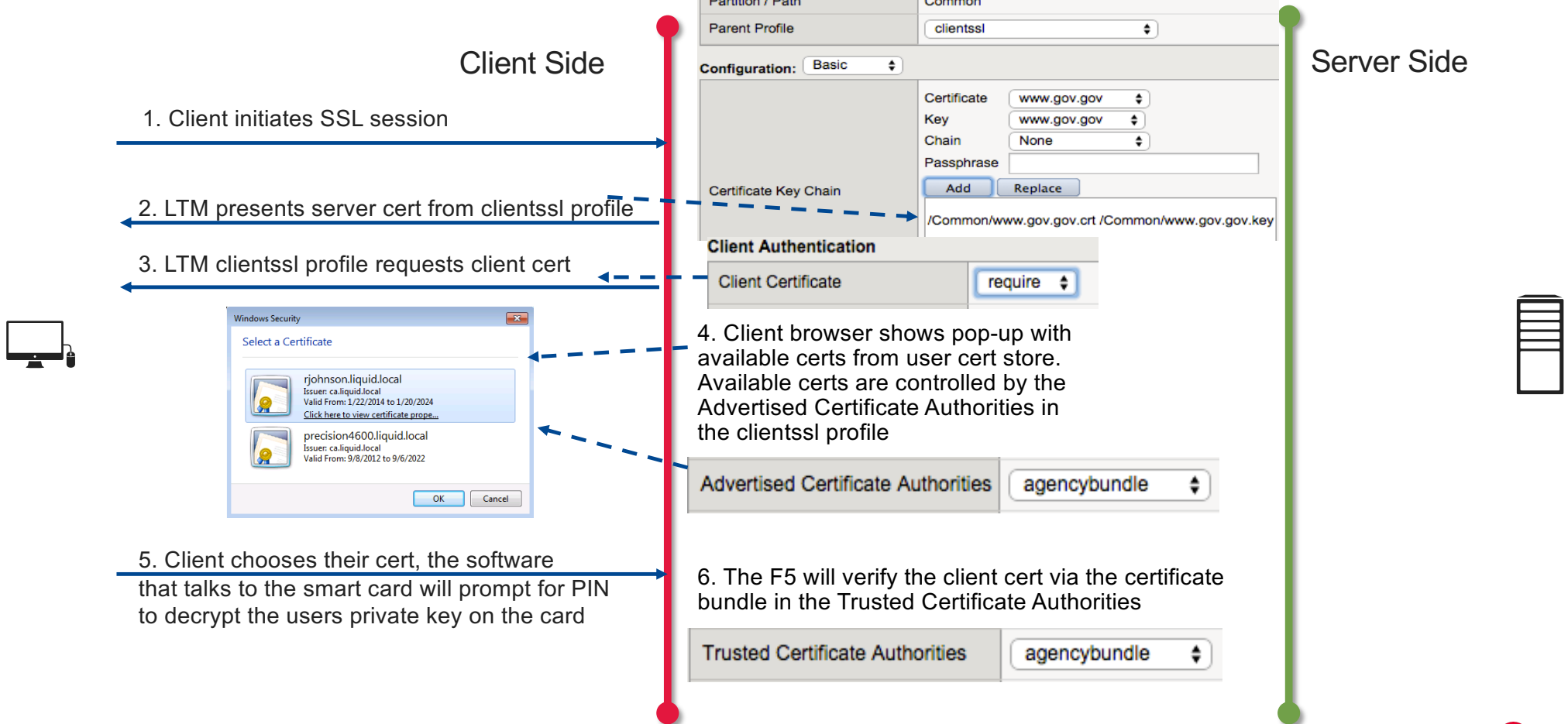
SSL protocol flow with APM ODCA, ignore in clientssl profile



BIG-IP APM On Demand Certificate Authentication (ODCA)

- ODCA has been the preferred method of requesting the client certificate from a CAC/PIV for many years. It's flexible.
- Users can browse the website until they try to access restricted resources and perform “step up” authentication which would request or require the user certificate.
- ODCA allows fallback authentication options like username/password.
- Vulnerable to session hijacking if a Man in the Browser (MITB) is present.
 - MITB steals the cookie and sends it to the attacker
 - Stolen cookies could be used to resume sessions

SSL protocol flow with APM, require in clientssl profile



Continued...

Client Side

7. Client begins to be evaluated by APM VPE
8. APM prompts user with a consent banner
9. UPN/EDIPI is verified from certificate.
10. Cert OID is verified from certificate.
11. OCSRP request to check certificate revocation status.
12. LDAP/AD Query to verify user exists and account is enabled.



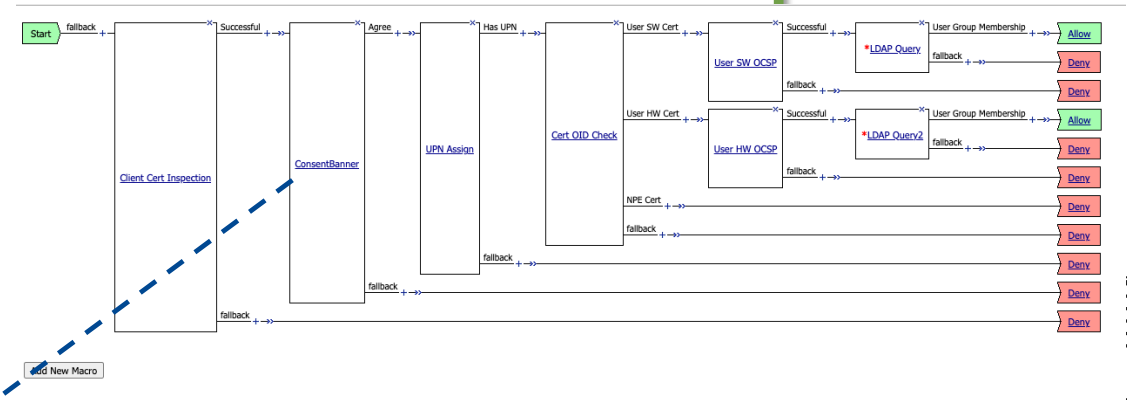
**Department of Defense
Consent Banner**

You are accessing a U.S. Government (USG) Information System (IS) that is provided for USG-authorized use only. By using this IS (which includes any device attached to this IS), you consent to the following conditions:

- The USG routinely intercepts and monitors communications on this IS for purposes including, but not limited to, penetration testing, COMSEC monitoring, network operations and defense, personnel misconduct (PM), law enforcement (LE), and counterintelligence (CI) investigations.
- At any time, the USG may inspect and seize data stored on this IS.
- Communications using, or data stored on, this IS are not private, are subject to routine monitoring, interception, and search, and may be disclosed or used for any USG authorized purpose.
- This IS includes security measures (e.g., authentication and access controls) to protect USG interests—not for your personal benefit or privacy.
- Notwithstanding the above, using this IS does not constitute consent to PM, LE or CI investigative searching or monitoring of the content of privileged communications, or work product, related to personal representation or services by attorneys, psychotherapists, or clergy, and their assistants. Such communications and work product are private and confidential. See User Agreement for details.

☒ Agree
☐ Disagree

Server Side



13. Client is allowed access to the app



BIG-IP APM with ClientSSL set to required

- This is the most secure option. It's rigid.
- This method will also work with clients/agents that are unable to handle redirects from APM. This is known as clientless mode.
- If the user does not present a certificate the browser will fail to an SSL error page – no comfort pages.

Configuration Walkthrough and Recommended Practices



Disclaimer

- The settings and recommended practices discussed have not been tested with every possible configuration and may negatively impact your environments.
- Please test before making these changes in production.
- Understand the settings and how they may affect your environment.



K000138221: Mitigate potential attacks using features included with BIG-IP APM

- Maximum Session Timeout
- Max Sessions Per User
- Max In Progress Sessions Per Client IP
- Restrict to Single Client IP
- HTTP Only Cookies
- "Persistent" Cookies
- Samesite Cookies
- Revocation Checks
- ...and more

K000138221: Mitigate potential attacks using features included with BIG-IP APM

- The **Maximum Session Timeout** setting is an important attribute for a BIG-IP APM access profile because it defines the **maximum length of time a session can be active before it is automatically terminated**. By limiting the duration of each session, you can mitigate the risk of session hijacking where an attacker could steal or use the session cookie to gain unauthorized access to confidential resources.
- The **Max Sessions Per User** setting can be used to **limit the number of times an individual user can create sessions into your application**. It may not be unusual for a user to create multiple sessions into your application but this can be limited to reduce the possibility of session hijacking.

K000138221: Mitigate potential attacks using features included with BIG-IP APM

- The **Max In Progress Sessions Per Client IP** setting in a BIG-IP APM access profile is a security configuration that **limits the number of simultaneous sessions that a client can initiate from a single IP address**. This setting can be helpful to prevent either accidental or intentional session flooding on the BIG-IP, however if your clients are behind a proxy this setting may cause issues.
- The **Restrict to Single Client IP** setting is an essential security measure within a BIG-IP APM access profile. When enabled, this setting **ensures that a session can be accessed only from the same IP address from which it was initially created**. This is a potent safeguard against attacks such as session hijacking or cookie theft, as even if an attacker manages to steal a session cookie, they cannot use it from a different IP address. This setting effectively ties the user session to a specific IP address, further enhancing the security of the BIG-IP APM access profiles.

K000138221: Mitigate potential attacks using features included with BIG-IP APM – Cookie options

- F5 recommends enabling the **HTTP Only** option. This measure is designed to mitigate the risk of client-side scripts gaining access to the BIG-IP APM session cookies, thus enhancing the security of your sessions.
- The **Persistent** cookie option in APM can present a security risk and is disabled by default. This option is primarily used when the session needs to be resumed by another application, such as Office Suite for Sharepoint. The cookies are set to expire after 60 seconds. Persistent cookies can be accessed by other processes.
- **Samesite** cookie protection was added as an option beginning in BIG-IP APM 16.0. You can enable this setting to add the samesite attribute to the APM session cookie. This attribute enforces same-site usage and prevents the cookie from being included with cross-site requests.

K000138221: Mitigate potential attacks using features included with BIG-IP APM

The screenshot shows the configuration page for 'Access Profiles (Per-Session Policies)' in the BIG-IP APM interface. The 'SSO / Auth Domains' tab is selected. Under the 'SSO Across Authentication Domains' section, the 'Domain Mode' is set to 'Single Domain'. The 'Domain Cookie' field is empty. The 'Cookie Options' section has the following settings: 'Secure' is checked, 'Persistent' is unchecked, 'HTTP Only' is checked, 'Samesite' is checked, and the 'Strict' dropdown menu is open, showing 'Strict' as the selected option.

SSO Across Authentication Domains	
Domain Mode	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Single Domain <input type="radio"/> Multiple Domains
Domain Cookie	<input type="text"/>
Cookie Options	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secure
	<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HTTP Only
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samesite
	Strict <input type="text" value="Strict"/>

Strict: Only include the cookie with requests originating from the same site as the cookie.

Lax: Include the cookie with same-site requests and with top-level cross-site navigations that use a safe HTTP method.

K000138221: Mitigate potential attacks using features included with BIG-IP APM

- Revocation checks
 - The best revocation check option is **Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP)**. OCSP can be configured within the BIG-IP APM to either use a configured responder or reference the responders within the Authority Information Access (AIA) extension of the certificate.
 - **Certificate Revocation Lists (CRL)** can be manually or automatically updated on the BIG-IP to verify revocation status of client certificates. The max file size for a CRL is now 192MB (15.x+).
 - **Certificate Revocation List Distribution Points (CRLDP)** is the final option for revocation status checking. This is the least desirable option due to the time it takes to pull a large CRL file. The CRLDP, like OCSP, can be statically defined or pulled from the AIA extension.



...and more

- **UPN Checks** – verify the cert contains a properly formatted User Principal Name (UPN) in the cert extensions
- **Cert OID Checks** – verify appropriate user OIDs are present in the cert extensions - deny Non-Person Entity (NPE) certs
- **ClientSSL profile frequency always** – enforce mTLS continuously
- **Limit the scope of advertised CAs and trusted CAs** – bundle manager
- **Serial Number Check** – verify serial number of cert matches initial APM session variables

ClientSSL and Bundles

Client Authentication	
Client Certificate	require ▾
Frequency	always ▾
Retain Certificate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enabled
Certificate Chain Traversal Depth	9
Trusted Certificate Authorities	DoD_Root_and_ID_CA.crt ▾
Advertised Certificate Authorities	DoD_ID_CA.crt ▾
CRL	+ None ▾
CRL File	None ▾
Allow Expired CRL File	<input type="checkbox"/>

Client Certificate is required and will fail negotiation if no certificate is present.

Always will force the browser to continuously send the certificate on session resumption.

This bundle contains the full trust chain to validate the client certificate.

This bundle contains only the certificate authorities that sign the client certificate. This limits the advertised scope in the SSL negotiation within the browser.

Policy Properties

Settings	
Inactivity Timeout	<input type="text" value="900"/> seconds
Access Policy Timeout	<input type="text" value="300"/> seconds
Maximum Session Timeout	<input type="text" value="28800"/> seconds
Minimum Authentication Failure Delay	<input type="text" value="2"/> seconds
Maximum Authentication Failure Delay	<input type="text" value="5"/> seconds
Max Concurrent Users	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Max Sessions Per User	<input type="text" value="2"/>
Max In Progress Sessions Per Client IP	<input type="text" value="20"/>
Restrict to Single Client IP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enabled

Default 15 minutes

Default 5 minutes

Default 7 days!

Default unlimited!

Default 128!

Certificate Bundles

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x01_DoD_Root_CA_3	RSA Certificate	DoD Root CA 3	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0303_DOD_SW_CA-60	RSA Certificate	DOD SW CA-60	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0304_DOD_EMAIL_CA-59	RSA Certificate	DOD EMAIL CA-59	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0305_DOD_ID_CA-59	RSA Certificate	DOD ID CA-59	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x04C2_DOD_DERILITY_CA-1	RSA Certificate	DOD DERILITY CA-1	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x050F_DOD_ID_CA-63	RSA Certificate	DOD ID CA-63	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0548_DOD_EMAIL_CA-63	RSA Certificate	DOD EMAIL CA-63	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0549_DOD_EMAIL_CA-64	RSA Certificate	DOD EMAIL CA-64	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x054A_DOD_ID_CA-62	RSA Certificate	DOD ID CA-62	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x054B_DOD_ID_CA-64	RSA Certificate	DOD ID CA-64	U.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x054C_DOD_ID_CA-65			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x055D_DOD_EMAIL_CA-62			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x055E_DOD_EMAIL_CA-65			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x055F_DOD_SW_CA-66			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0560_DOD_SW_CA-67			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x070B_DOD_EMAIL_CA-71			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x070C_DOD_ID_CA-71			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_3_0x070D_DOD_SW_CA-75			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_4_0x01_DoD_Root_CA_4			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_5_0x00C2_DOD_SW_CA-61			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_5_0x0333_DOD_SW_CA-68			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_5_0x0334_DOD_SW_CA-69			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_5_0x0537_DOD_SW_CA-76			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_5_0x0538_DOD_SW_CA-77			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_5_0x0F_DoD_Root_CA_5			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DoD_Root_CA_6_0x0093_DOD_DERILITY_CA-3			

General Properties

Name	DoD_ID_CA
Partition / Path	Common
Description	

Configuration

Include Bundles

Selected

/Common
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0305_DOD_ID_CA-59.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x050F_DOD_ID_CA-63.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x054A_DOD_ID_CA-62.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x054B_DOD_ID_CA-64.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x054C_DOD_ID_CA-65.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x070C_DOD_ID_CA-71.crt
DoD_Root_CA_6_0x47_DOD_ID_CA-70.crt
DoD_Root_CA_6_0x48_DOD_ID_CA-72.crt
DoD_Root_CA_6_0x49_DOD_ID_CA-73.crt

<<>>

Available

/Common
DoD_All_CA.crt
DoD_DERILITY_CA.crt
DoD_EMAIL_CA.crt
DoD_ID_CA.crt
DoD_Root_CA.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x01_DoD_Root_CA_3.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0303_DOD_SW_CA-60.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0304_DOD_EMAIL_CA-59.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x04C2_DOD_DERILITY_CA-1.crt

General Properties

Name	DoD_Root_and_ID_CA
Partition / Path	Common
Description	

Configuration

Include Bundles

Selected

/Common
DoD_ID_CA.crt
DoD_Root_CA.crt

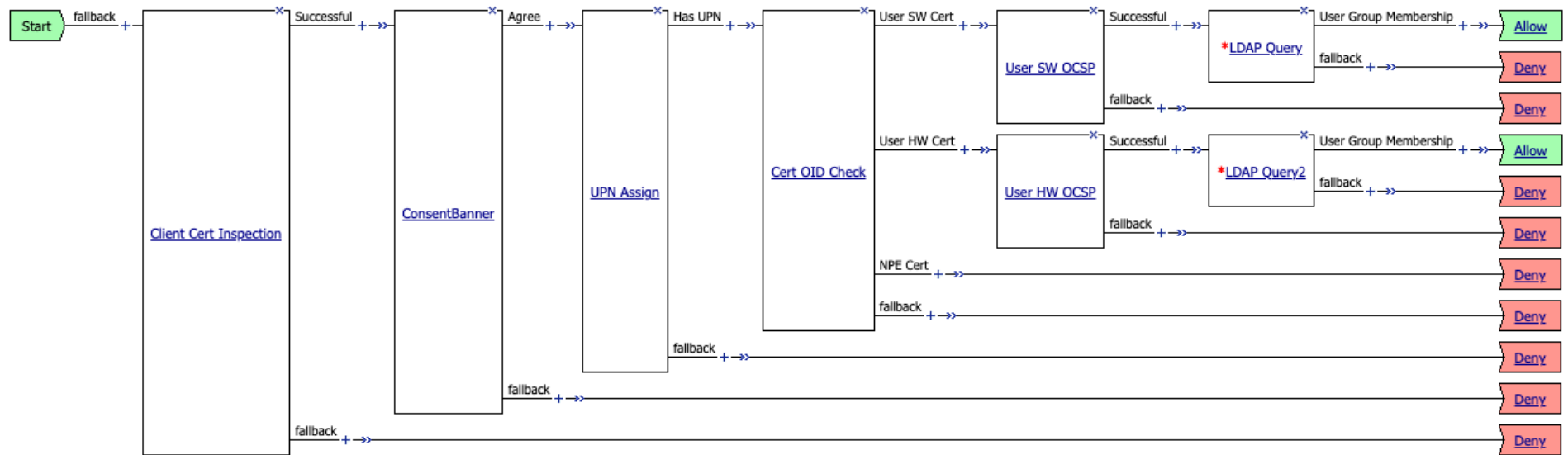
<<>>

Available

/Common
DoD_All_CA.crt
DoD_DERILITY_CA.crt
DoD_EMAIL_CA.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x01_DoD_Root_CA_3.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0303_DOD_SW_CA-60.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0304_DOD_EMAIL_CA-59.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x0305_DOD_ID_CA-59.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x04C2_DOD_DERILITY_CA-1.crt
DoD_Root_CA_3_0x050F_DOD_ID_CA-63.crt



Example Visual Policy Editor (VPE)



Add New Macro

Example View

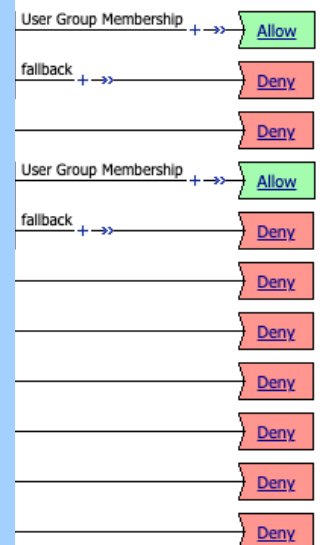
Department of Defense Consent Banner

You are accessing a U.S. Government (USG) Information System (IS) that is provided for USG-authorized use only. By using this IS (which includes any device attached to this IS), you consent to the following conditions:

- The USG routinely intercepts and monitors communications on this IS for purposes including, but not limited to, penetration testing, COMSEC monitoring, network operations and defense, personnel misconduct (PM), law enforcement (LE), and counterintelligence (CI) investigations.
- At any time, the USG may inspect and seize data stored on this IS.
- Communications using, or data stored on, this IS are not private, are subject to routine monitoring, interception, and search, and may be disclosed or used for any USG authorized purpose.
- This IS includes security measures (e.g., authentication and access controls) to protect USG interests--not for your personal benefit or privacy.
- Notwithstanding the above, using this IS does not constitute consent to PM, LE or CI investigative searching or monitoring of the content of privileged communications, or work product, related to personal representation or services by attorneys, psychotherapists, or clergy, and their assistants. Such communications and work product are private and confidential. See User Agreement for details.

 [Agree](#)

 [Disagree](#)



Example Visual Policy Editor (VPE)

The screenshot displays the Visual Policy Editor (VPE) interface. The main window is titled 'UPN Assign' and has tabs for 'Properties' and 'Branch Rules'. The 'Branch Rules' tab is active, showing a 'Variable Assign' section with an 'Add new entry' button and an 'Insert Before' dropdown set to '1'. Below this, there are two assignment rules:

- 1** `session.logon.last.upn = set x509e_fields [split [mcget {session.ssl.cert.x509extension}] "\n"]; # For each element in the list: foreach field $x509e_fields { # If the element contains UPN: if { $field contains "othername:UPN" } { ## set start of UPN variable set start [expr {[string first "othername:UPN<" $field] +14}] # UPN format is <user@domain> # Return the UPN, by finding the index of opening and closing brackets, then use string range to get everything between. return [string range $field $start [expr { [string first ">" $field $start] - 1 }]]; } } # Otherwise return UPN Not Found: return "UPN-NOT-FOUND"; change`
- 2** `session.logon.last.username = set upn [mcget {session.logon.last.upn}]; if {[string first "@" $upn] >= 0} { return [string range $upn 0 [expr { [string first "@" $upn] - 1 }]]; } else { return $upn; } change`

On the left, a 'Start' button is connected to a 'fallback' label, which points to the 'Client Cert Inspect' rule. At the bottom left, there is an 'Add New Macro' button.

On the right, a list of policy instances is shown, each with a 'Group Membership' label and a 'Deny' or 'Allow' button. The instances are:

- Group Membership + → Allow
- ck + → Deny
- Group Membership + → Deny
- Group Membership + → Allow
- ck + → Deny
- Deny
- Deny
- Deny
- Deny
- Deny
- Deny

At the bottom, a table shows the policy instances and their corresponding values:

79a40abf.session.logon.last.upn	1042156821157004@mil
79a40abf.session.logon.last.username	1042156821157004

Example Visual Policy Editor (VPE)

```
when ACCESS_POLICY_AGENT_EVENT {  
  if { [ACCESS::policy agent_id] eq "OIDCHECK" } {  
    ## find and store CERT OID  
    if { [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.x509extension] contains "Policy: " } {  
      ACCESS::session data set session.custom.oid "[string trim [findstr [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.x509extension] "Policy: " 8 " "]]"  
    }  
  }  
  
  when ACCESS_ACL_ALLOWED {  
    HTTP::header insert CERTOID [ACCESS::session data get session.custom.oid]  
    HTTP::header insert CERTSUBJECT [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.subject]  
    HTTP::header insert CERTSERIAL [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.serial]  
    HTTP::header insert USERNAME [ACCESS::session data get session.logon.last.username]  
  }  
}
```

→ Allow
→ Deny
→ Deny
→ Allow
→ Deny
→ Deny

Add New Macro

NPE Cert

Name: User SW Cert

Expression: `expr { [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.39" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.40" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.41" }` [change](#)

Name: User HW Cert

Expression: `expr { [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.42" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.43" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.44" }` [change](#)

Name: NPE Cert

Expression: `expr { [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.36" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.37" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.38" }` [change](#)

Name: fallback

Example Visual Policy Editor (VPE)

The screenshot displays the Visual Policy Editor (VPE) interface. On the left, a flowchart shows a 'Start' node leading to a 'fallback' node, which then connects to a 'Client Cert Inspect' node. Below this, there is an 'Add New Macro' button. The main panel is titled 'Access » Authentication » DOD_OCSP' and has a 'Properties' tab selected. It contains two sections: 'General Properties' and 'Configuration: Basic'. The 'General Properties' section includes a table with the following data:

Property	Value
Name	DOD_OCSP
Partition / Path	Common
Type	OCSP Responder

The 'Configuration: Basic' section includes a table with the following data:

Property	Value
URL	http://ocsp.disa.mil
Certificate Authority File	DoD_Root_and_ID_CA.crt
Certificate Authority Path	

At the bottom of the configuration section are 'Update' and 'Delete' buttons. On the right side of the interface, there is a list of policy rules. The first rule is 'Group Membership' with an 'Allow' action. The subsequent rules are 'Group Membership' with 'Deny' actions, and 'Group Membership' with 'Allow' actions, followed by several 'Deny' actions.

Example Visual Policy Editor (VPE)

Properties Branch Rules*

Name: LDAP Query

LDAP

Type	Query
Server	/Common/UserDomain_LDAP_AAA
SearchDN	CN=Users,DC=siterequest,DC=com
SearchFilter	userPrincipalName=%{session.logon.last.upn}
Show Extended Error	Disabled
Fetch groups to which the user or group belong	None
Fetch users that belong to the group	None

Add new entry

	Required Attributes (optional)
1	userAccountControl
2	lockoutTime
3	sAMAccountName

Properties Branch Rules*

Add Branch Rule

Insert Before: 1: CheckForAccountandcheckLockandDisable

Name: CheckForAccountandcheckLockandDisable

Expression: expr {[mcget {session.ldap.last.queryresult}] == 1 && [mcget {session.ldap.last.attr.userAccountControl}] != 66050 && [mcget {session.ldap.last.attr.lockoutTime}] == 0 } change

Name: fallback

ful + -> *LDAP Query User Group Membership + -> Allow

fallback + -> Deny

+ -> Deny

ful + -> *LDAP Query2 User Group Membership + -> Allow

fallback + -> Deny

+ -> Deny

+ -> Deny

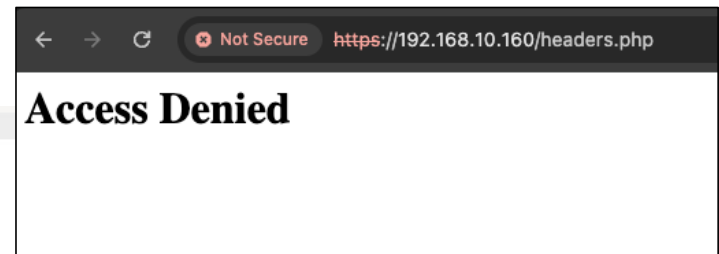
+ -> Deny

More iRules!

```
# APM_X509_SN_Binding
# Copyright 2024 F5
# Binds an APM session to a X509 serial number from an mTLS connection
# invalidates SSL session and removes APM session on mismatch
# requires "client-certificate required" to be present in the clientssl profile
# compatible with TLS 1.2/1.3
when ACCESS_ACL_ALLOWED priority 100 {
    set tuple [IP::local_addr]:[TCP::local_port]->[IP::remote_addr]:[TCP::remote_port]
    # ensure client certificate is present
    if {[SSL::cert count] eq 0} {
        ACCESS::log accesscontrol.warn "APM_X509_SN_Binding - No Client Certificate present $tuple "
        ACCESS::respond 403 content {<html><h1>Access Denied</h1></html>}
        ACCESS::session remove
        SSL::session invalidate
        return
    }

    set sn [X509::serial_number [SSL::cert 0]]

    # does client-certificate serial match serial stored with APM session
    if {[ACCESS::session data get "session.ssl.cert.serial"] eq $sn} {
        ACCESS::log accesscontrol.info "APM_X509_SN_Binding - Client Certificate SN match: $sn"
        return
    }
    ACCESS::log accesscontrol.warn "APM_X509_SN_Binding - Attempted session hijack from $tuple with mismatched Client Certificate SN: $sn"
    ACCESS::respond 403 content {<html><h1>Access Denied</h1></html>}
    ACCESS::session remove
    SSL::session invalidate
}
```



More iRules!

<https://community.f5.com/kb/technicalarticles/fingerprinting-tls-clients-with-ja4-on-f5-big-ip/326298>

```
proc getCipherList { payload rlen outer inner clientip serverip } {
    upvar cipher_cnt cipher_cnt

    ## Define GREASE values so these can be excluded from cipher list
    set greaseList "0a0a 1a1a 2a2a 3a3a 4a4a 5a5a 6a6a 7a7a 8a8a 9a9a aaaa baba caca dada eaea fafa"

    ## Skip over first 43 bytes (contains tls_type hello_len tls_ver, which we don't need)
    set field_offset 43

    ## Grab the session ID length value and increment field_offset.
    binary scan ${payload} @${field_offset}c sessID_len

    set field_offset [expr ${field_offset} + 1 + ${sessID_len}]

    ## Grab ciphersuite list length (binary and hex values).
    binary scan ${payload} @${field_offset}S cipherList_len

    binary scan ${payload} @${field_offset}H4 cipherList_len_hex

    set cipherList_len_hex_text ${cipherList_len_hex}

    ## increment field_offset and get the ciphersuite list.

    set field_offset [expr ${field_offset} + 2]

    set cipherList_len_hex [expr ${cipherList_len} * 2]

    binary scan ${payload} @${field_offset}H${cipherList_len_hex} cipherlist

    ## Parse through cipherlist, add each non-GREASE cipher to cipherSuite list.

    set cipher_cnt 0

    set parsed_cl $cipherlist

    set cipherSuite {}

    set cl_offset 0

    while {[scan $parsed_cl %4s%n cipherhex length] == 2} {
        if { [lsearch -sorted -inline $greaseList $cipherhex] eq "" } {
            append cipherSuite $cipherhex

            incr cipher_cnt
        }
    }
}
```

This iRule is 214 lines of code to generate a fingerprint for the browser/client

← → ↻

Not Secure https://192.168.10.160/headers.php

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R

APM Header Echo

[Logout](#)

CERTOID: 2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.42
CERTHEXOID: 0609608648016502010b2a
CERTSUBJECT: C=US, O=U.S. Government, OU=DoD, OU=PKI, OU=USAF, CN=GRABER.ANTHONY.JOHN.III.1042156821
CERTSERIAL: 0f:c4:ff
USERNAME: 1042156821157004
JA4 TLS Fingerprint: t13i1515h2_8daaf6152771_2e1f596fab39

Xja4: t13i1515h2_8daaf6152771_2e1f596fab39
Username: 1042156821157004
Certserial: 0f:c4:ff
Certsubject: C=US, O=U.S. Government, OU=DoD, OU=PKI, OU=USAF, CN=GRABER.ANTHONY.JOHN.III.1042156821
Certhexoid: 0609608648016502010b2a
Certoid: 2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.42
Cookie: redirect=1; testing=1; adminer_sid=en8qao4e55t7f9k97jn40tbag; adminer_key=7b9b74bc59fa1c7674ffa05c914f646e; sid=f6a534c504d97b6b1f7fbb1c2a8b0064; LastMRH_Session=79a40abf; TIN=295000;
F5_ST=1z1z1z1709140666z28800
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br, zstd
Referer: https://192.168.10.160/my.policy
Sec-Ch-Ua-Platform: "macOS"
Sec-Ch-Ua-Mobile: ?0
Sec-Ch-Ua: "Not A(Brand";v="99", "Google Chrome";v="121", "Chromium";v="121"
Sec-Fetch-Dest: document
Sec-Fetch-User: ?1
Sec-Fetch-Mode: navigate
Sec-Fetch-Site: same-origin
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3;q=0.7
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_15_7) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/121.0.0.0 Safari/537.36
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Cache-Control: max-age=0
Connection: keep-alive
Host: 192.168.10.160
Content-Length:
Content-Type:



App World

2024



Appendix

Decision pages – confirm_box.inc

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/strict.dtd">

<html><head><title>Department of Defense</title>

<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" HREF="/public/include/css/apm.css<? if ($GLOBALS["ap_version"]=="v2") { print("?v=v2"); } ?>">

<script language="JavaScript" src="/public/include/js/session_check.js?v=13"></script>

<script language="JavaScript" src="/public/include/js/agent_common.js"></script>

<script language="javascript"><!--//

if(self != top) { top.location = self.location; }

window.onerror=function(){ return function(){ return; } }

<? include_customized_page("logout", "session_expired.js"); ?>

function sessionTimedOut()

{

    window.sessionTimeout.showSplashLayer("MessageDIV", SessionExpired_CustomizedScreenGet());

}

function OnLoad()

{

    setFormAttributeByQueryParams("hidden_form", "action", "/confirm.php3");

    try{

        if ( "undefined" != typeof(window.external) && "unknown" != typeof(window.external)

            && "undefined" != typeof(window.external.WebLogonNotifyUser) && "unknown" != typeof(window.external.WebLogonNotifyUser) ){

51  © 2011 W. external.WebLogonNotifyUser();

        }

    }
```

Decision pages – decision_box.inc

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/strict.dtd">
<html><head><title>Department of Defense</title>
```

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" HREF="/public/include/css/apm.css<? if ($GLOBALS["ap_version"]=="v2") { print("?v=v2"); } ?>">
<script language="JavaScript" src="/public/include/js/session_check.js?v=13"></script>
<script language="JavaScript" src="/public/include/js/web_host.js"></script>
<script language="javascript"><!--//
```

```
if(self != top) { top.location = self.location; }
window.onerror=function(){ return function(){ return; } }
```

```
<? include_customized_page("logout", "session_expired.js"); ?>
```

```
function sessionTimedOut()
```

```
{
    try{
        if ( externalWebHost.hasWebLogonClearSession() ){
            externalWebHost.webLogonClearSession();
        }
    }catch(e){};
}
```

```
    window.sessionTimeout.showSplashLayer("MessageDIV", SessionExpired_CustomizedScreenGet());
}
```

```
function OnLoad()
```

```
52 ©2024 F5
```

```
    try{
```



UPN and username variable assign

```
session.logon.last.upn
```

```
set x509e_fields [split [mcget {session.ssl.cert.x509extension}] "\n"];
# For each element in the list:
foreach field $x509e_fields {
# If the element contains UPN:
if { $field contains "othername:UPN" } {
## set start of UPN variable
set start [expr {[string first "othername:UPN<" $field] + 14}]
# UPN format is <user@domain>
# Return the UPN, by finding the index of opening and closing brackets, then use string range to get everything between.
return [string range $field $start [expr { [string first ">" $field $start] - 1 }]]; }
# Otherwise return UPN Not Found:
return "UPN-NOT-FOUND";
```

```
session.logon.last.username
```

```
set upn [mcget {session.logon.last.upn}]; if {[string first "@" $upn] >= 0} {
return [string range $upn 0 [expr { [string first "@" $upn] - 1 }]]; } else { return $upn; }
```

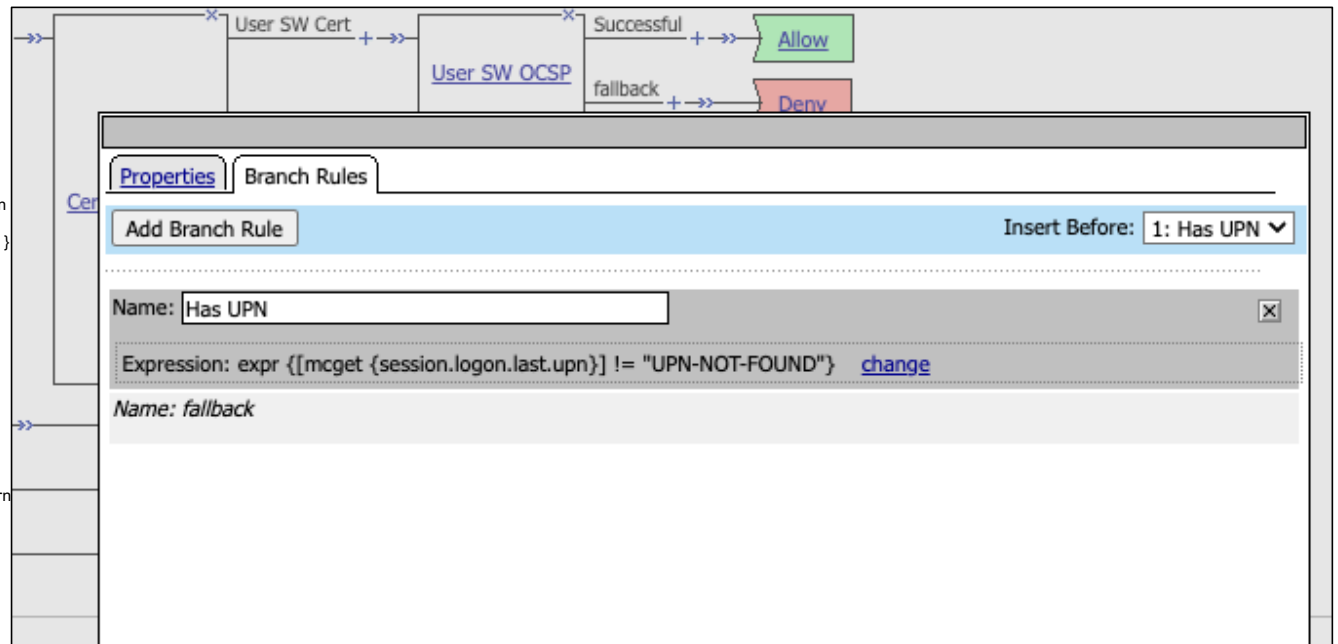
UPN and username variable assign

```
session.logon.last.upn
```

```
set x509e_fields [split [mcget {session.ssl.cert.x509extension}] "\n"];
# For each element in the list:
foreach field $x509e_fields {
# If the element contains UPN:
if { $field contains "othername:UPN" } {
## set start of UPN variable
set start [expr {[string first "othername:UPN<" $field] + 14}]
# UPN format is <user@domain>
# Return the UPN, by finding the index of opening and closing brackets, then
return [string range $field $start [expr { [string first ">" $field $start] - 1 }]]; }
# Otherwise return UPN Not Found:
return "UPN-NOT-FOUND";
}
```

```
session.logon.last.username
```

```
set upn [mcget {session.logon.last.upn}]; if {[string first "@" $upn] >= 0} {
return [string range $upn 0 [expr { [string first "@" $upn] - 1 }]]; } else { return
```



CERTOID Check

```
when ACCESS_POLICY_AGENT_EVENT {  
  if { [ACCESS::policy agent_id] eq "OIDCHECK" } {  
    ## find and store CERT OID  
    if { [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.x509extension] contains "Policy: " } {  
      ACCESS::session data set session.custom.oid "[string trim [findstr [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.x509extension] "Policy: " 8 " "]]"  
    }  
  }  
}
```

```
when ACCESS_ACL_ALLOWED {  
  ##### OPTIONAL HEADER INSERTS  
  HTTP::header insert CERTOID [ACCESS::session data get session.custom.oid]  
  HTTP::header insert CERTSUBJECT [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.subject]  
  HTTP::header insert CERTSERIAL [ACCESS::session data get session.ssl.cert.serial]  
  HTTP::header insert USERNAME [ACCESS::session data get session.logon.last.username]  
}
```

Cert OLD Check Branch Rules

User SW Cert

```
expr { [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.39" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}]  
== "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.40" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.41" }
```

User HW Cert

```
expr { [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.42" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}]  
== "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.43" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.44" }
```

NPE Cert

```
expr { [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.36" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}]  
== "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.37" || [mcget {session.custom.oid}] == "2.16.840.1.101.2.1.11.38" }
```


LDAP Query Branch Rule

```
expr {[mcget {session.ldap.last.queryresult}] == 1 && [mcget  
{session.ldap.last.attr.userAccountControl}] != 66050 && [mcget  
{session.ldap.last.attr.lockoutTime}] == 0 }
```

Properties

Branch Rules*

Name: LDAP Query

LDAP

Type	Query
Server	/Common/UserDomain_LDAP_AAA
SearchDN	CN=Users,DC=siterequest,DC=com
SearchFilter	userPrincipalName=%{session.logon.last.upn}
Show Extended Error	Disabled
Fetch groups to which the user or group belong	None
Fetch users that belong to the group	None

Add new entry

Insert Before: 1

Required Attributes (optional)	
1	userAccountControl
2	lockoutTime
3	sAMAccountName

Serial Number Binding

```
# APM_X509_SN_Binding
# Copyright 2024 F5

# Binds an APM session to a X509 serial number from an mTLS connection
# invalidates SSL session and removes APM session on mismatch
# requires "client-certificate required" to be present in the clientssl profile
# compatible with TLS 1.2/1.3

when ACCESS_ACL_ALLOWED priority 100 {
    set tuple [IP::local_addr]:[TCP::local_port]->[IP::remote_addr]:[TCP::remote_port]

    # ensure client certificate is present
    if {[SSL::cert count] eq 0} {
        ACCESS::log accesscontrol.warn "APM_X509_SN_Binding - No Client Certificate present $tuple "
        ACCESS::respond 403 content {<html><h1>Access Denied</h1></html>}
        ACCESS::session remove
        SSL::session invalidate

        return
    }

    set sn [X509::serial_number [SSL::cert 0]]

    # does client-certificate serial match serial stored with APM session
    if {[ACCESS::session data get "session.ssl.cert.serial"] eq $sn} {
        ACCESS::log accesscontrol.info "APM_X509_SN_Binding - Client Certificate SN match: $sn"

        return
    }

    ACCESS::log accesscontrol.warn "APM_X509_SN_Binding - Attempted session hijack from $tuple with mismatched Client Certificate SN: $sn"
    ACCESS::respond 403 content {<html><h1>Access Denied</h1></html>}
}
```