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The Identity Security Company™

PAM Administration

Privileged Session Management

Part 1

Agenda

By the end of this session, you will be able to describe the main features, architecture, and flow, as well as enable and use, the following session management solutions:

1. **Privileged Session Manager (PSM)**
   - PSM Ad-Hoc Connections
   - PSM via HTML5 Gateway
   - PSM for Windows
2. **PSM for SSH**

Overview

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Privileged Session Management Provides 3 Main Benefits:

Isolation

Separate endpoints from critical target systems to prevent lateral movement

Monitoring

Detect and track suspicious activities in privileged sessions and events in real time

Recording

Support forensic analysis and audit with detailed records of privileged activity

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Privileged Session Manager

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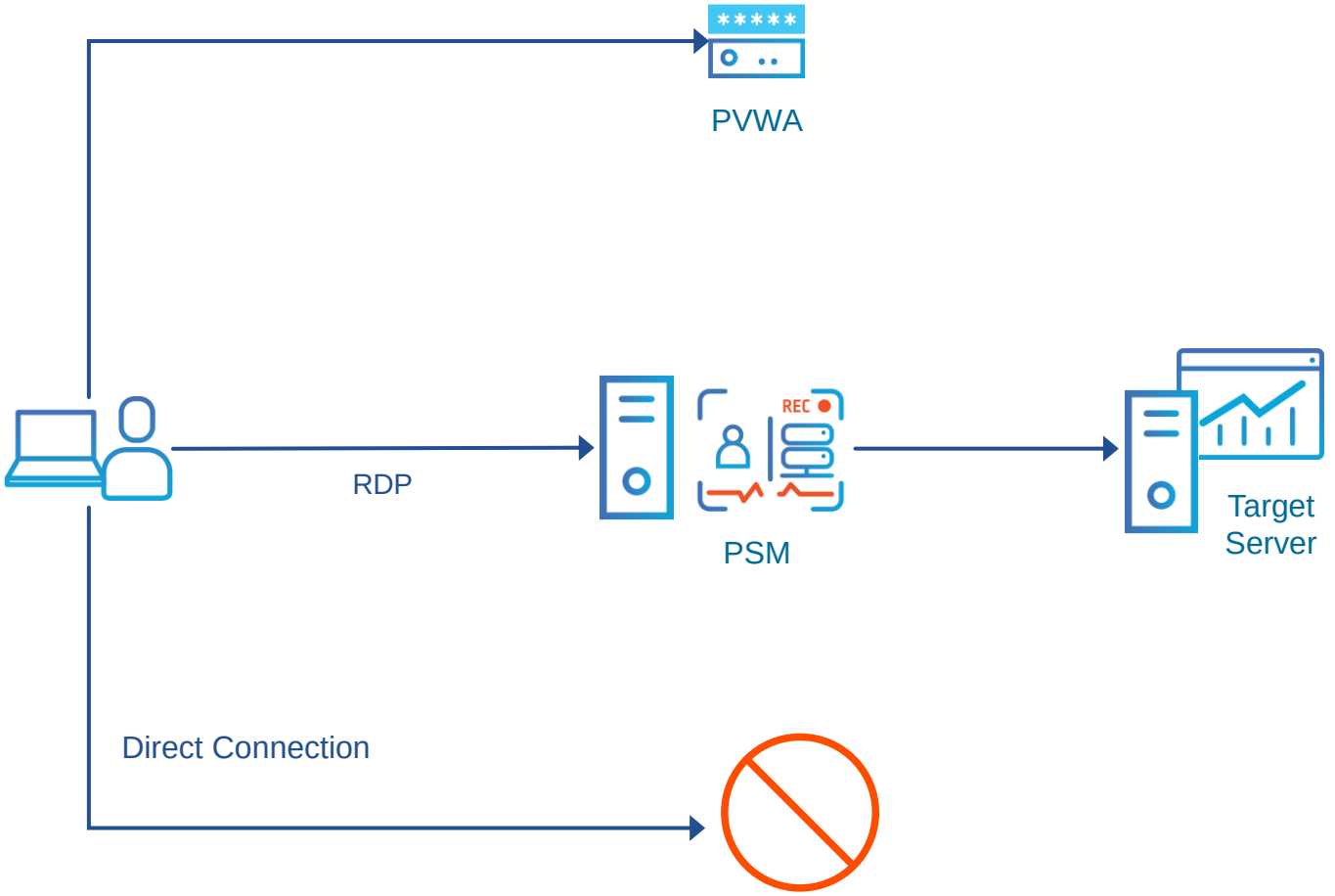
The Privileged Session Manager

When we talk about **PSM**, the **Privileged Session Manager**, we are usually referring to the **PSM** installed on a Windows server.

You can think of this as the “Universal PSM” because you can connect through it practically from any device to any device.



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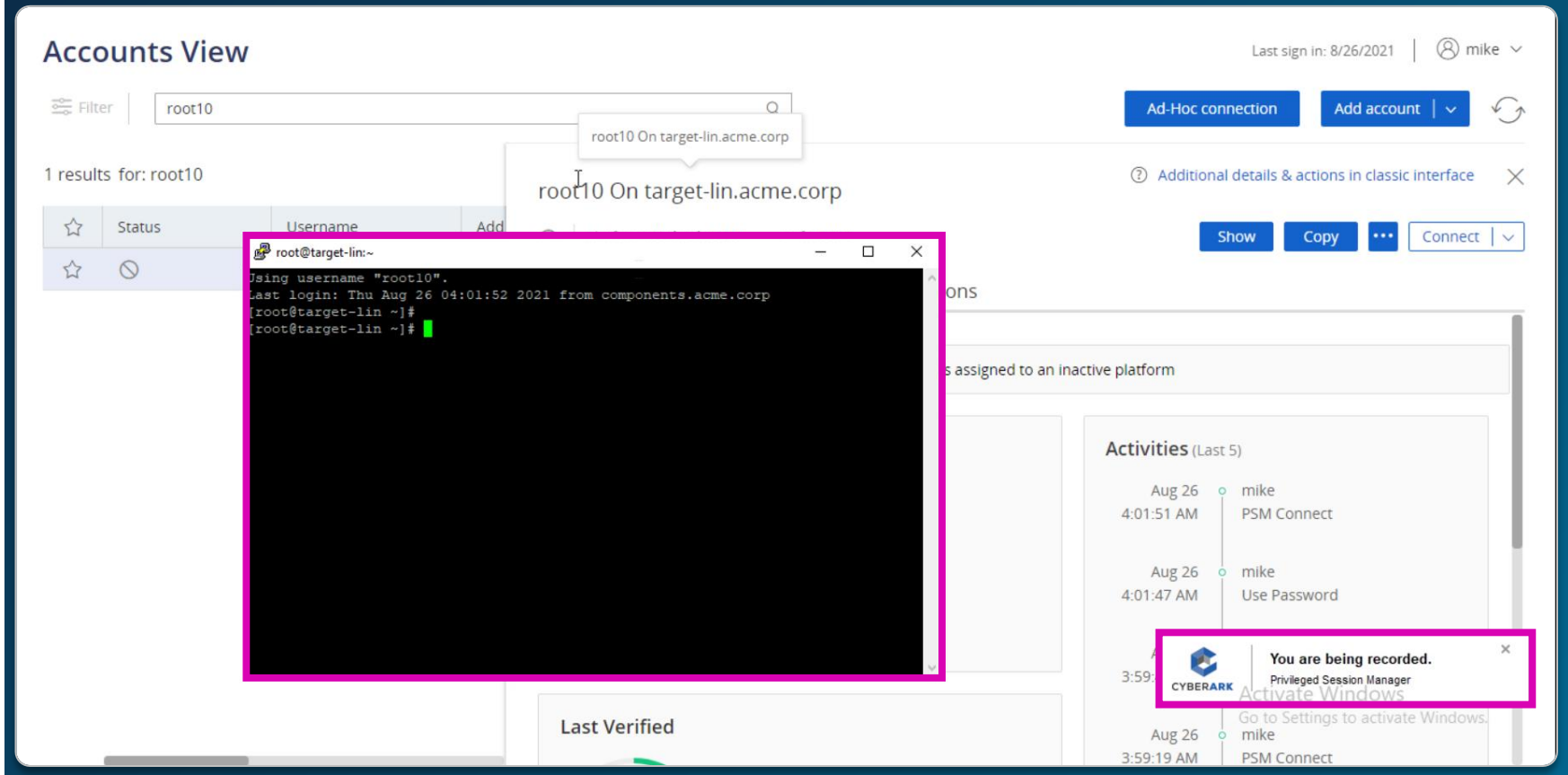
The Privileged Session Manager

- The **PSM** enables organizations to secure, control, and monitor privileged access to network devices
- It creates detailed session audits and video recordings of all IT administrator privileged sessions on remote machines
- Sessions on the target systems are fully isolated and the privileged account credentials are never exposed to the end-users or their client applications and devices



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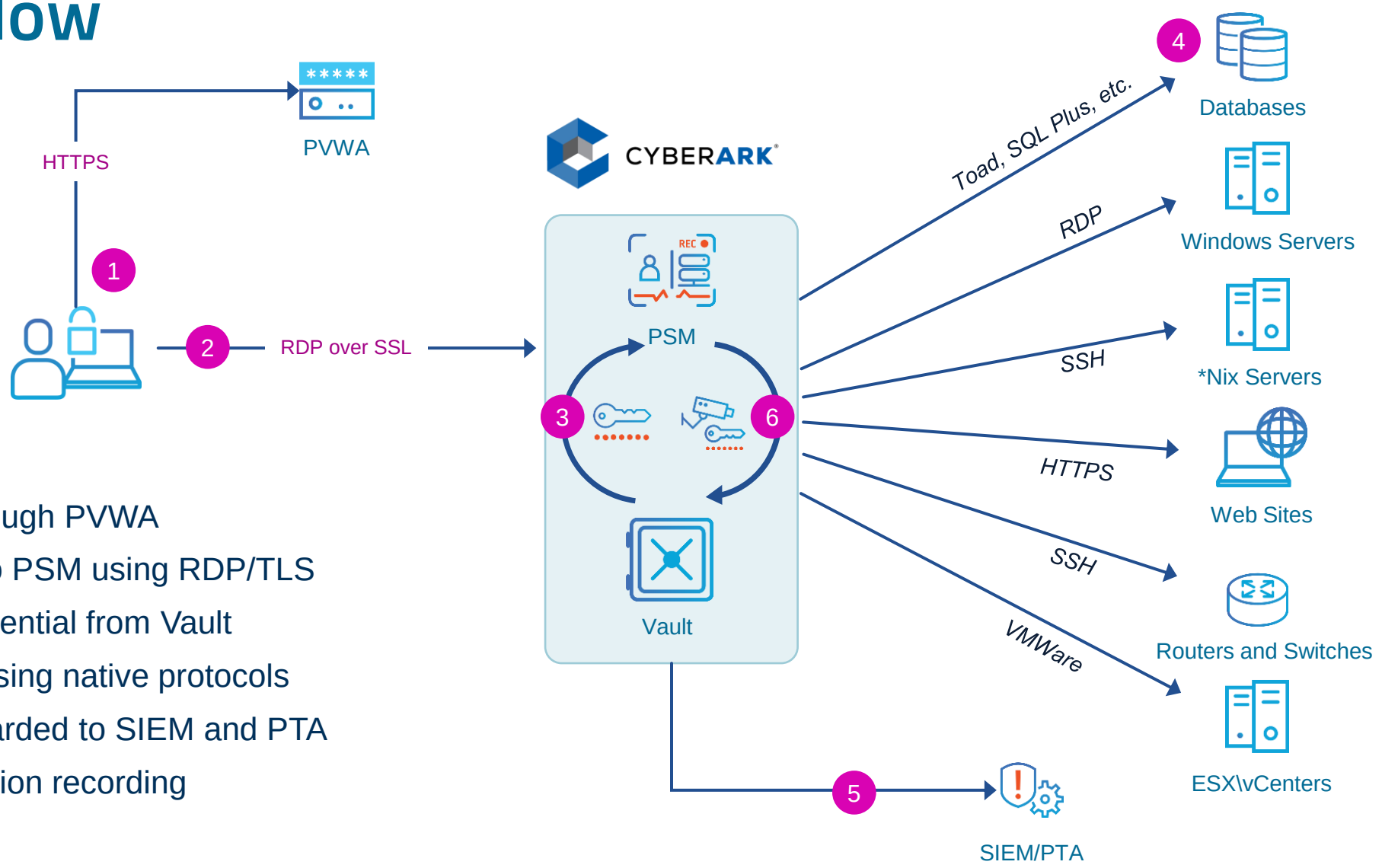
PSM Flow



1. Logon through PVWA
2. Connect to PSM using RDP/TLS
3. Fetch credential from Vault
4. Connect using native protocols
5. Logs forwarded to SIEM and PTA
6. Store session recording

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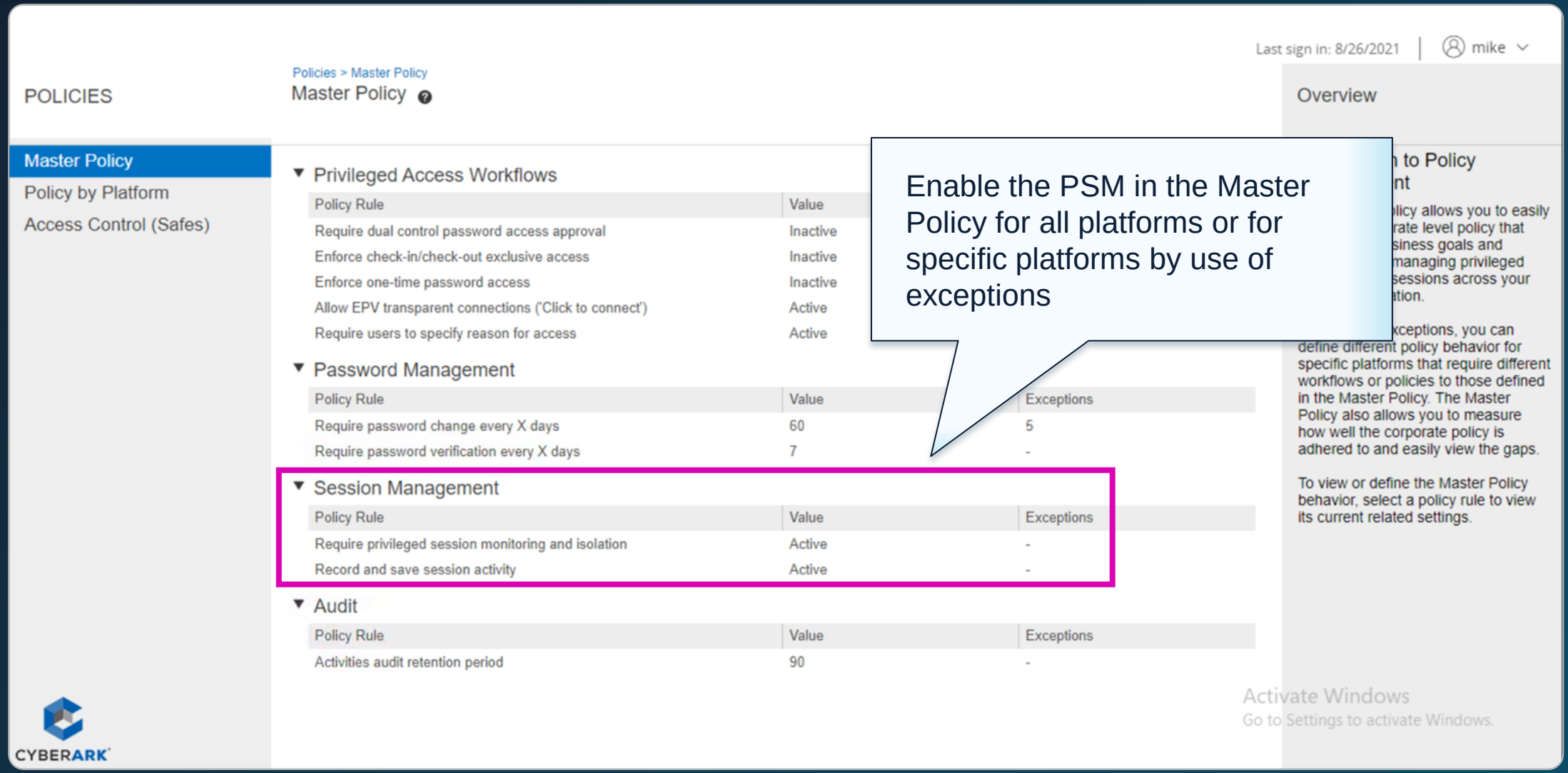
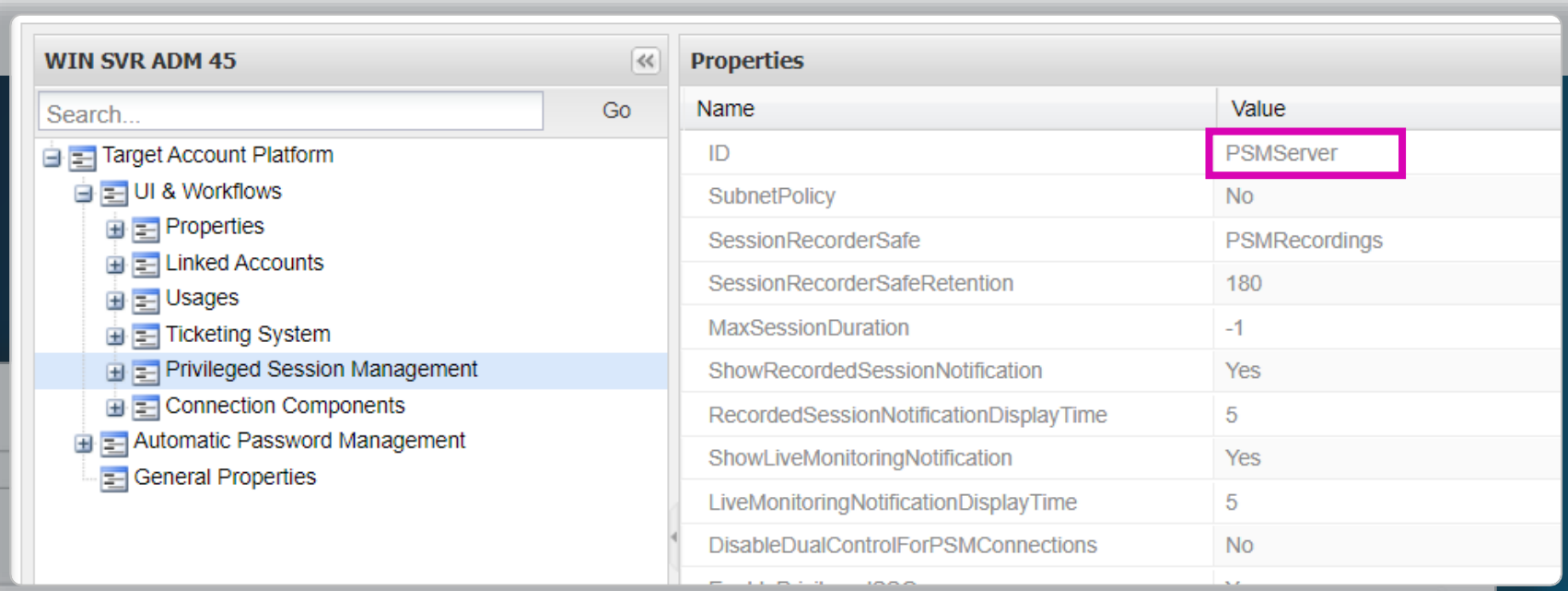
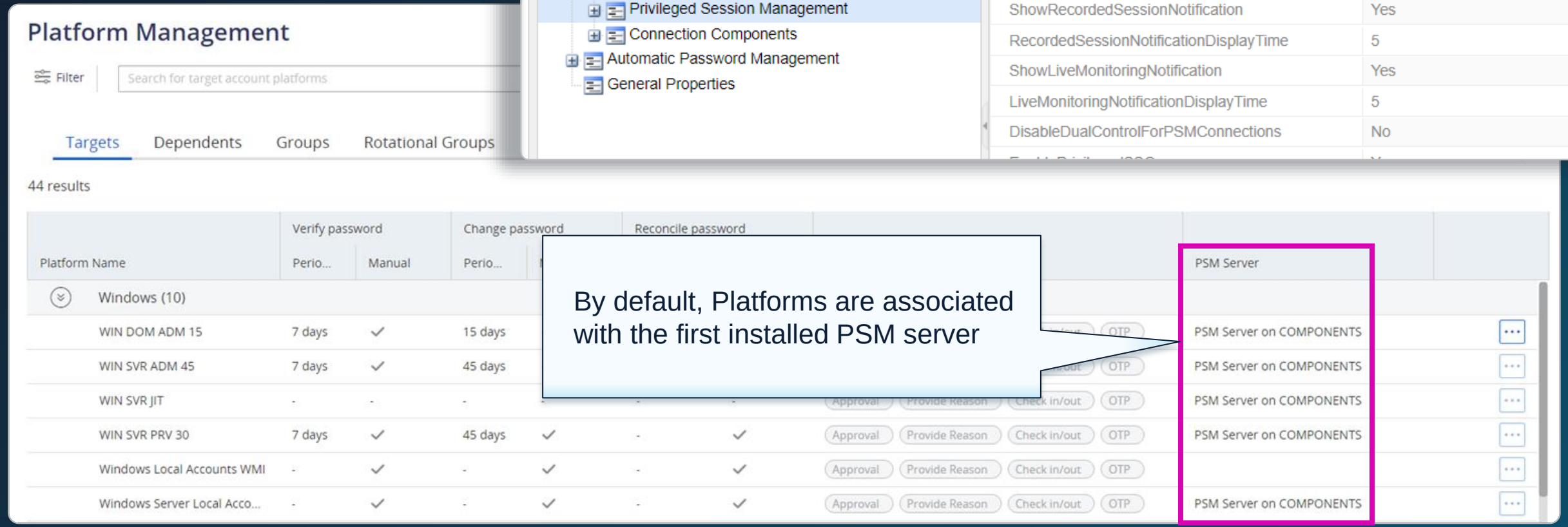
Enable PSM: Master Policy



PSM by Platform





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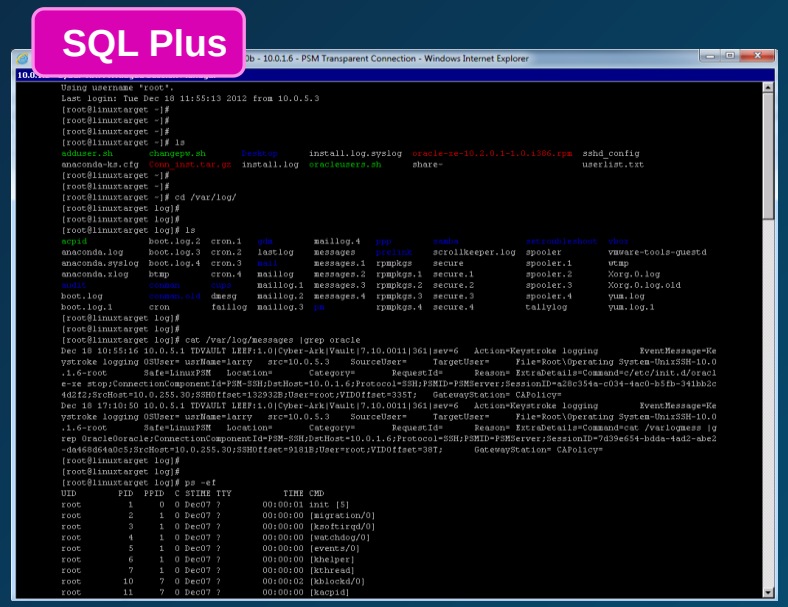
PSM Connection Components

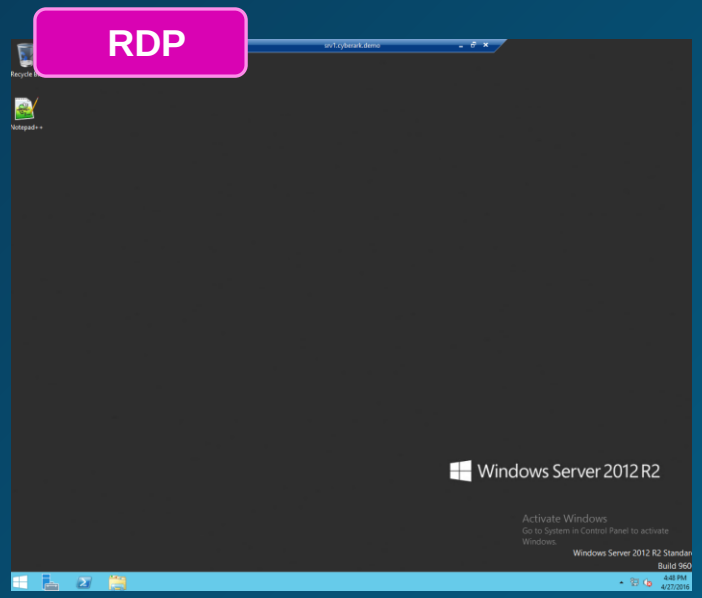
Connection Components/ Connectors

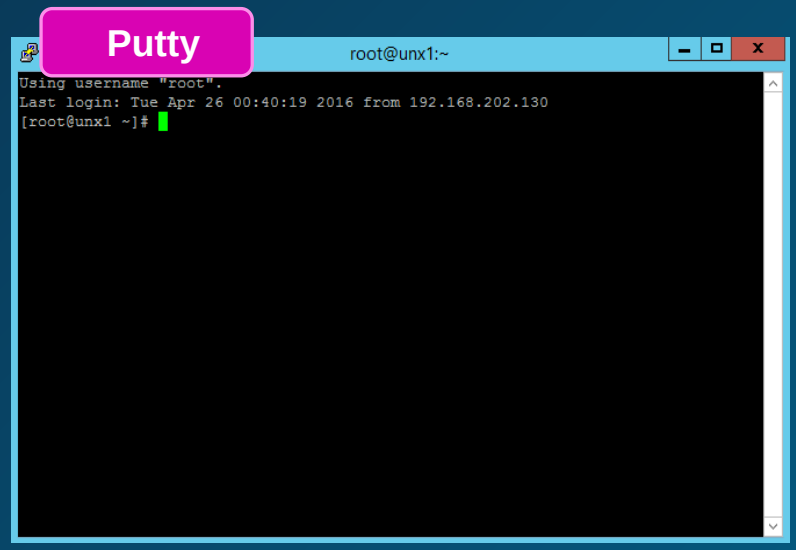
Connection Components (aka Connectors) define the configuration settings for using a given third-party client to connect to a target platform.

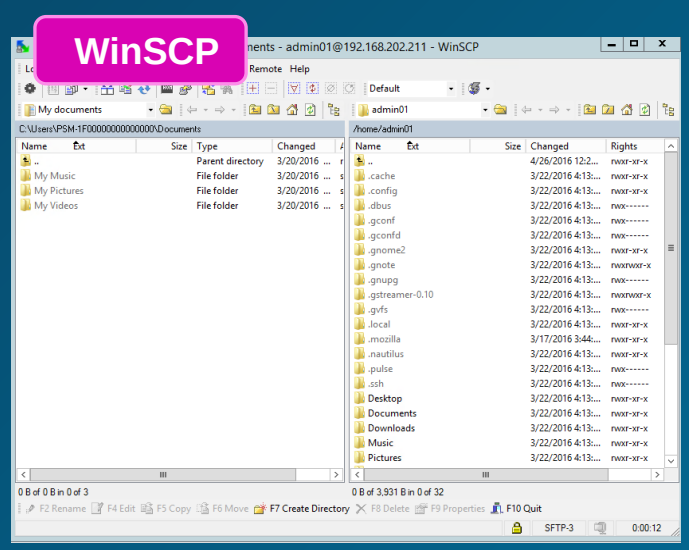
A few common ones are:

- SQLPlus
- RDP
- Putty
- WinSCP









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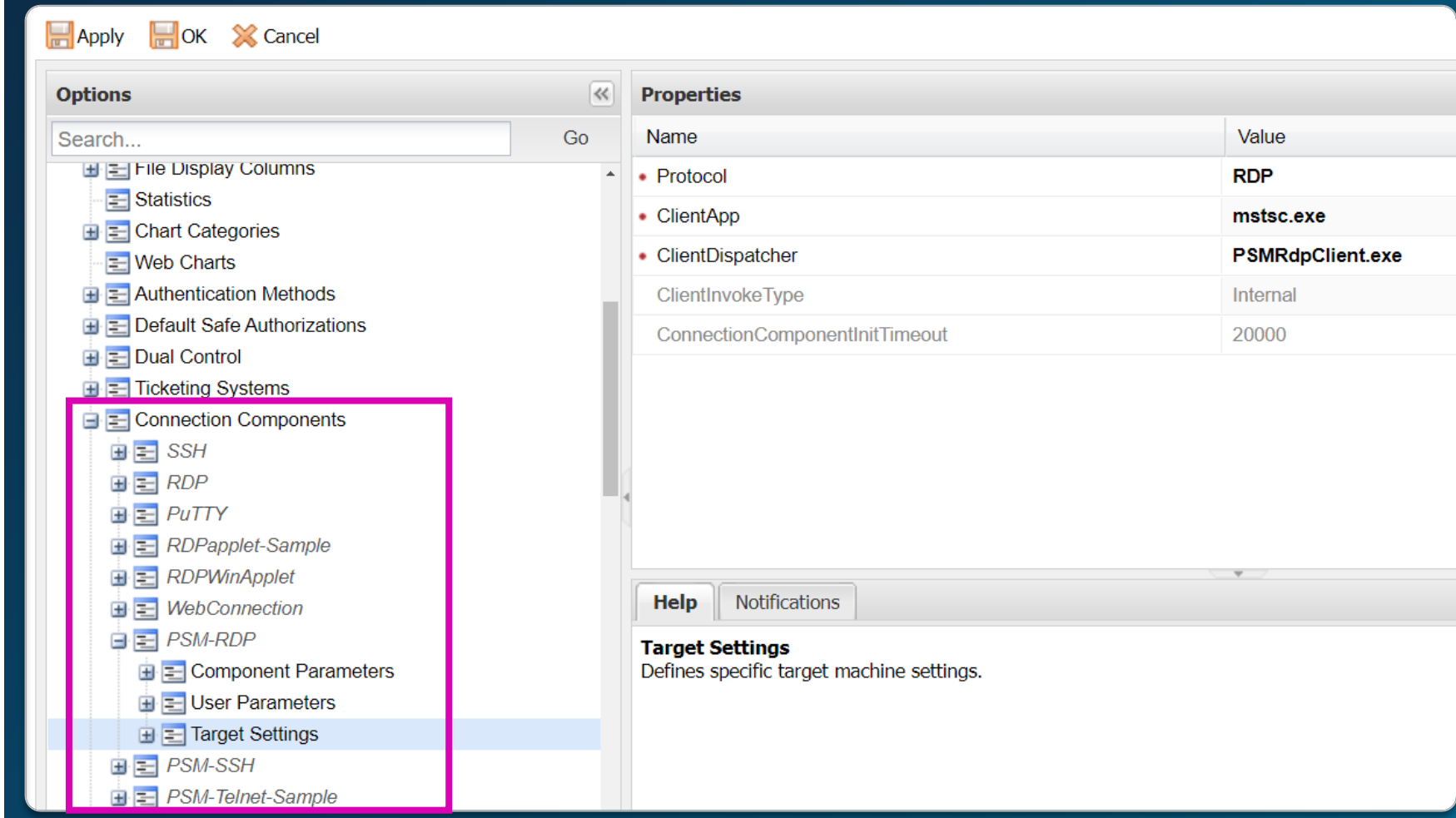
Connection Components/ Connectors

- There are many connection components available out of the box
- Additional connection components can be found in the **CyberArk Marketplace**
- Organizations can also build and add custom connection components to the **PAM** solution



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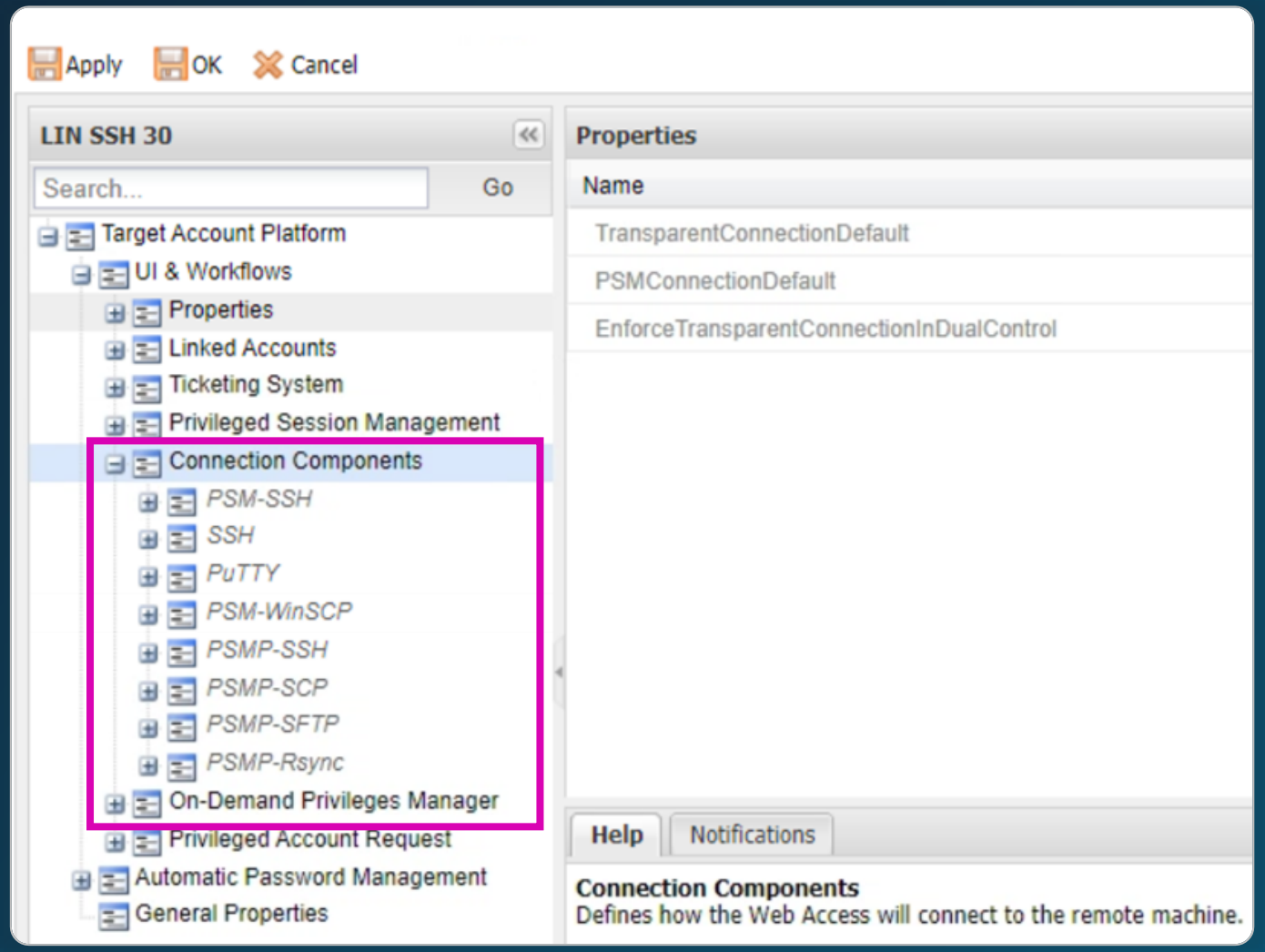
Platform Settings

To enable the use of a particular third-party client to connect to a given account, the appropriate ***Connection Component*** needs to be assigned to the ***Platform*** that manages that account



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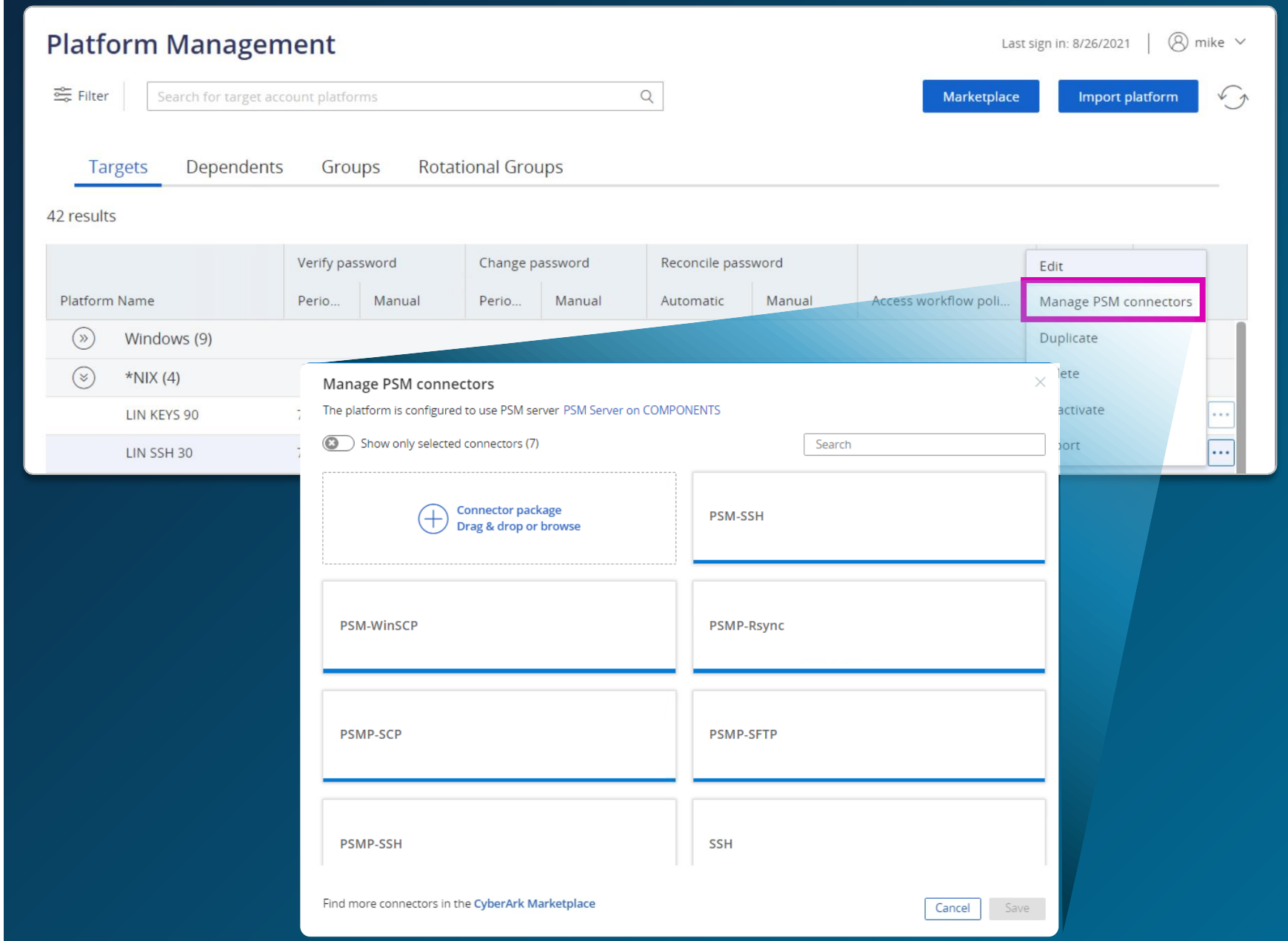
Importing and Managing Connectors

The new interface accelerates and simplifies **Vault** administration by allowing admins to import **PSM** connectors and link them to ***Platforms***, all from one location



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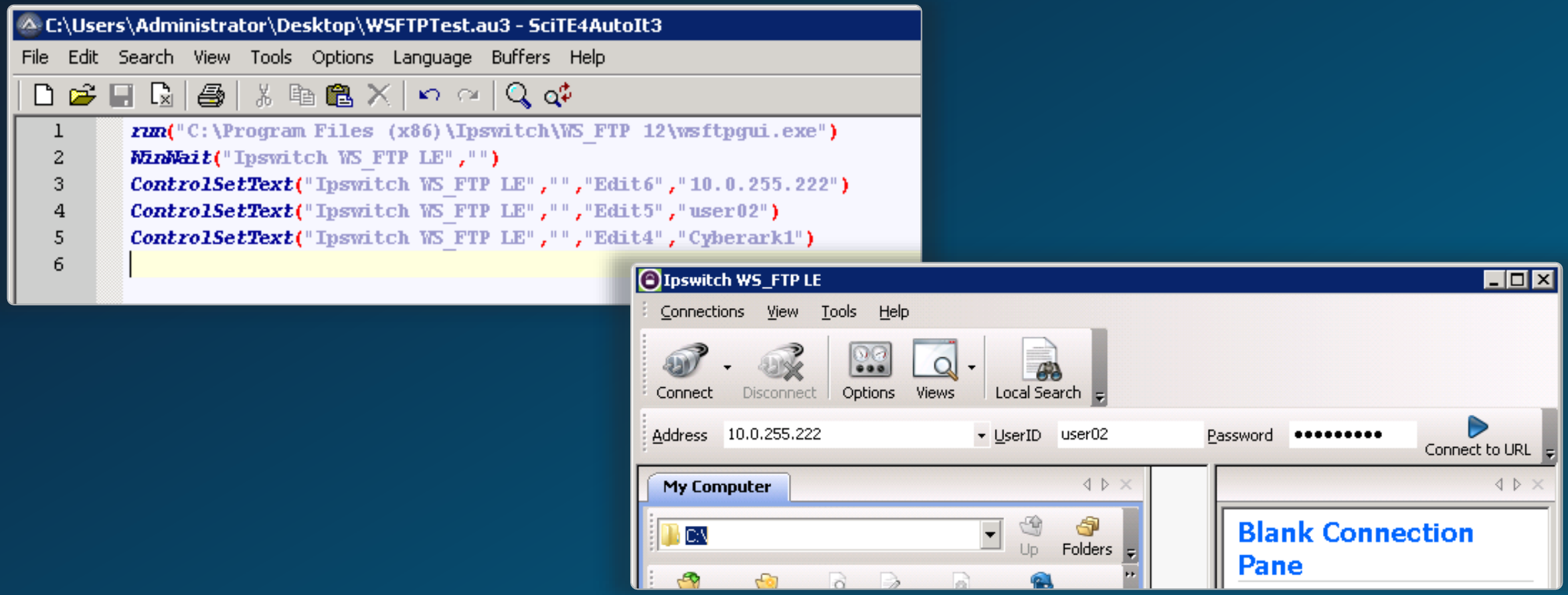
Universal Connector

The Universal Connector framework facilitates the creation of custom connection components using a (relatively) simple, freeware programming language called AutoIT.



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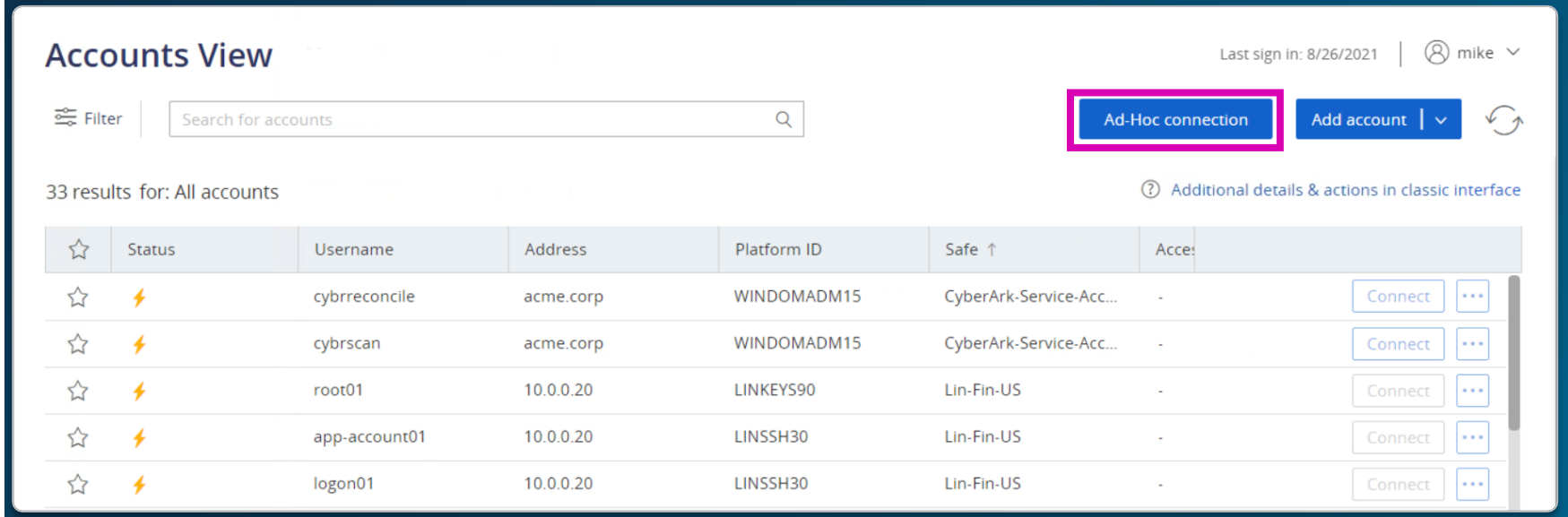
PSM Ad-hoc Sessions

PSM Ad-hoc Connection: Overview

With an **Ad-Hoc Connection**, users can connect securely to any machine supported by the **PSM** if they know the password

- Main use cases:
  - Connecting with accounts that are not stored in the **CyberArk Vault**
  - Connecting with personal accounts
- Provides all the benefits of **PSM**: isolation, monitoring, and recording



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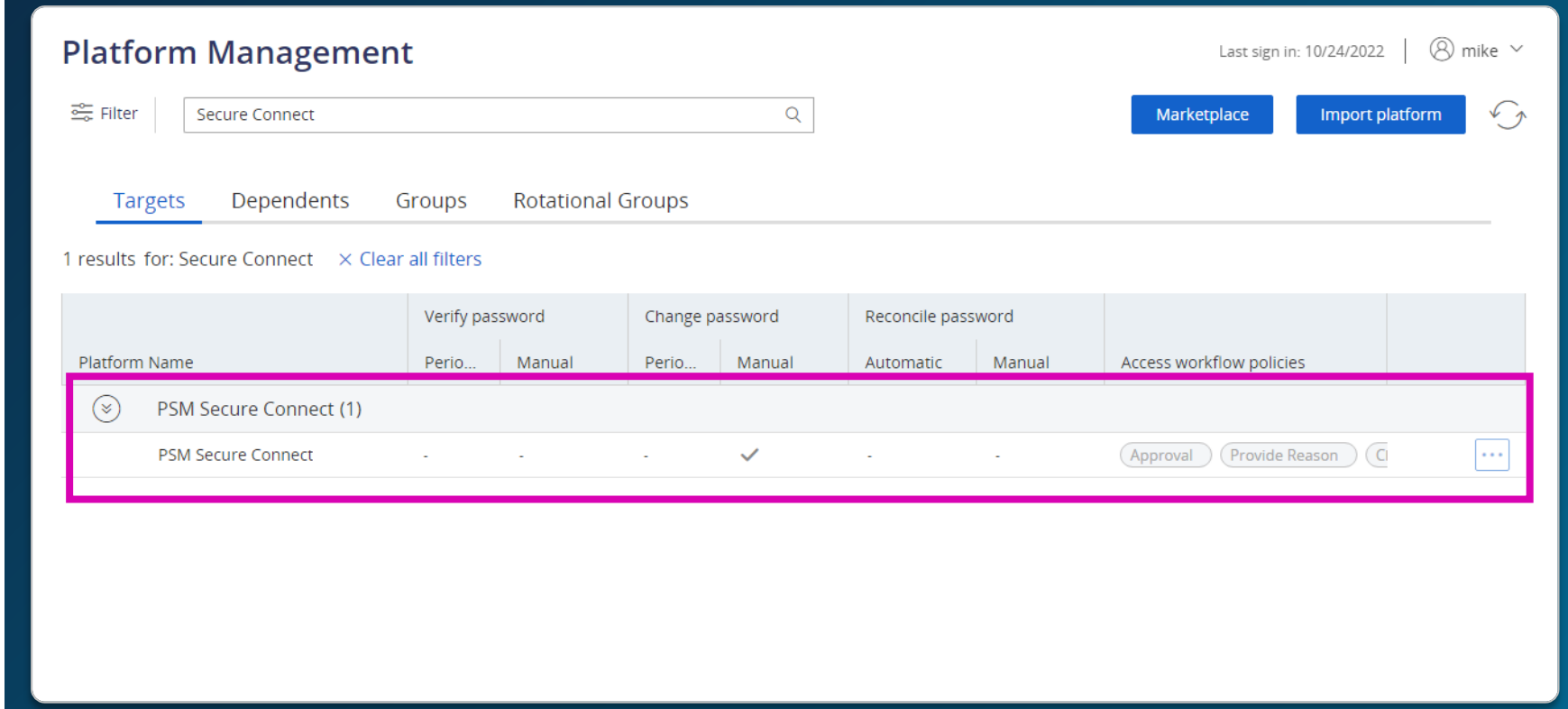
Enable Ad-hoc Connections

- The **PSM Secure Connect** Platform must be activated
- Privileged session monitoring and isolation must be enabled for the **PSM Secure Connect** platform. This can be done either globally or via an exception to the Master policy.



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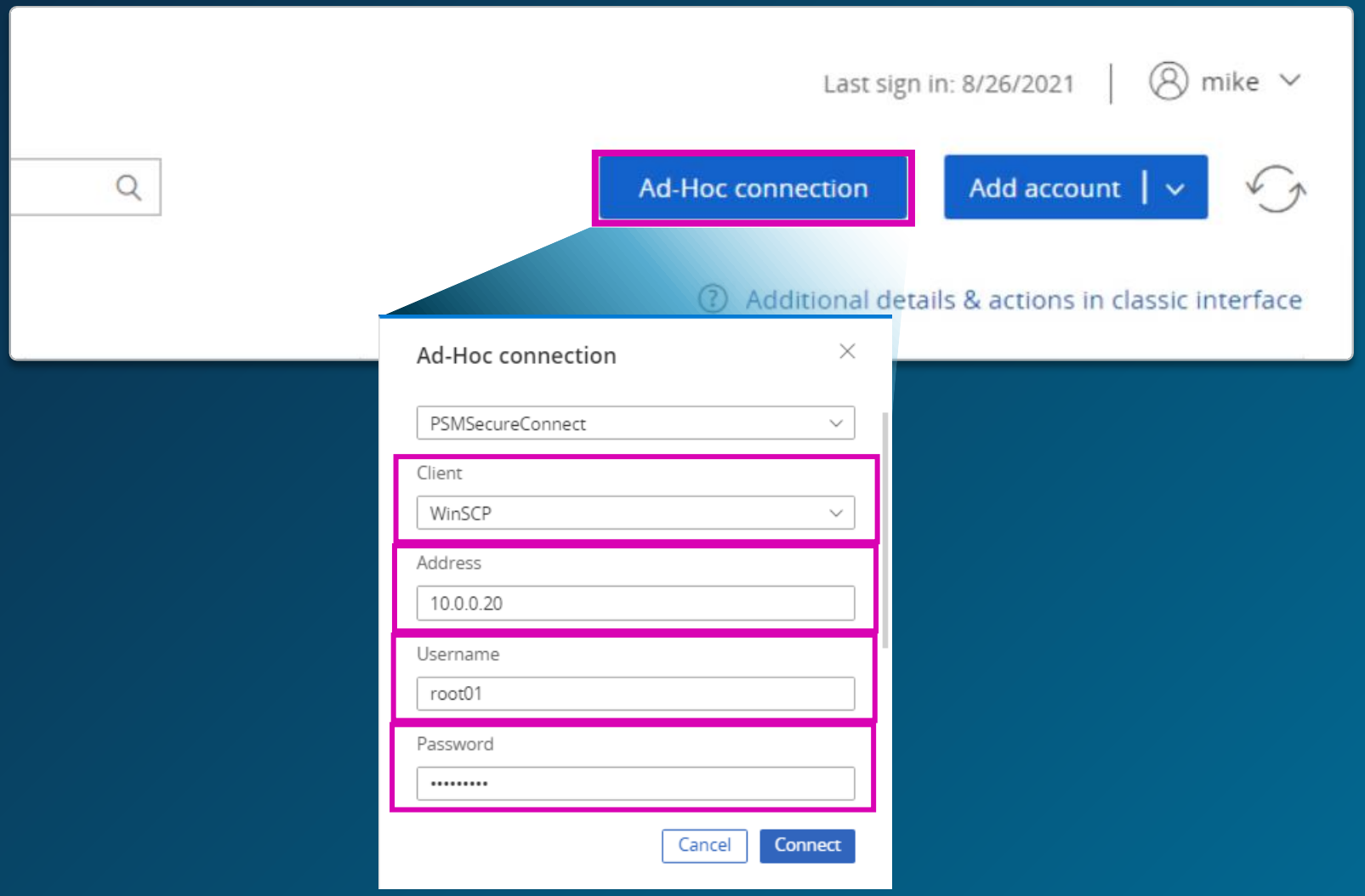
Launch Ad-hoc Connection

Users will need to specify all the account details when they connect:

- The **Client** they want to use on the PSM
- Target system **Address**
- Username
- Password, etc.



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HTML5 Gateway

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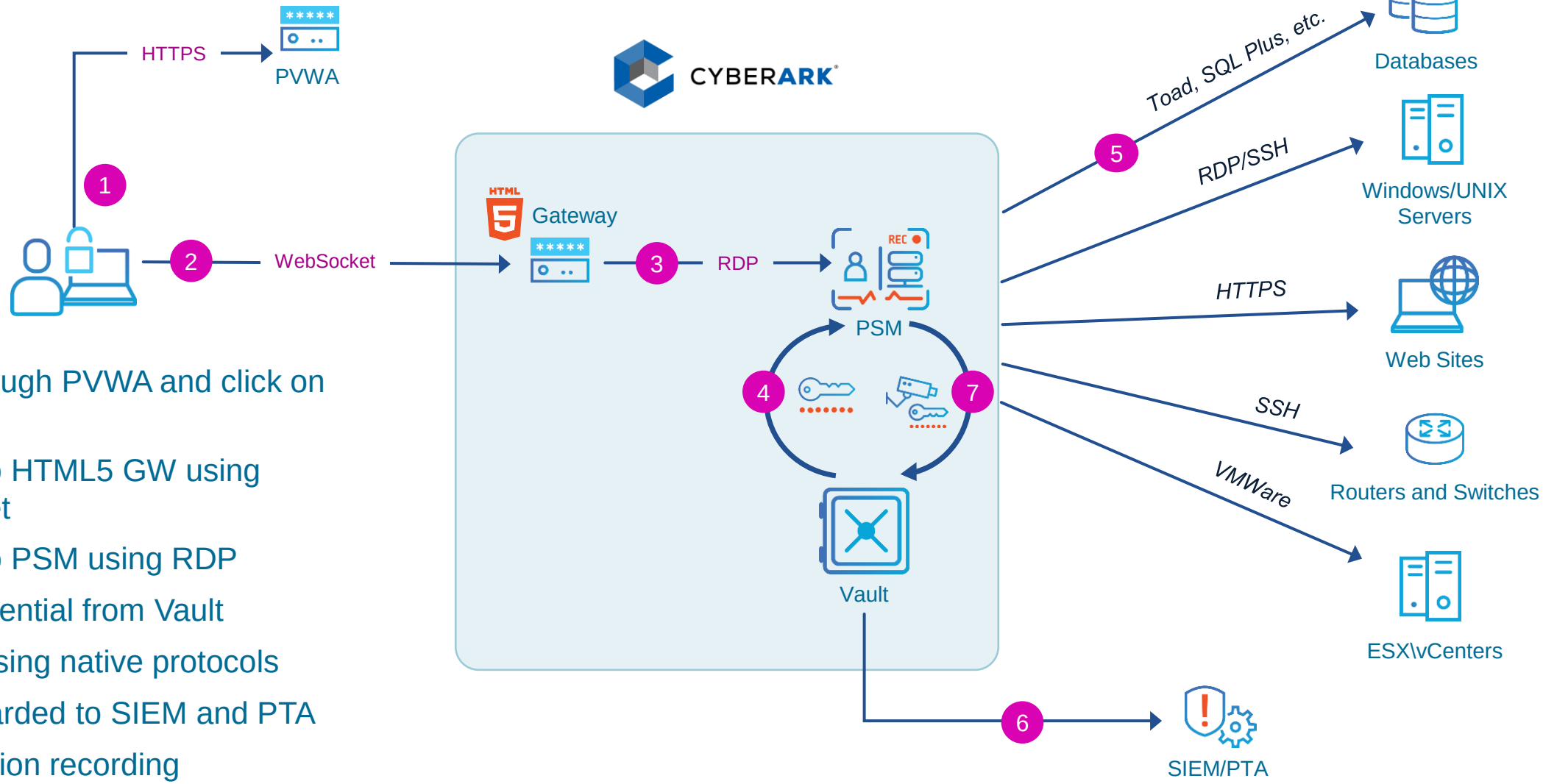
HTML5 Gateway: Overview

- Many organizations block RDP client connections from end-users' machines for security reasons or regulatory requirements.
- RDP is a Microsoft protocol, so in order to use it in Linux, Unix, or MAC environments, users must install a 3rd-party client in order to connect to the PSM.
- The HTML5 Gateway tunnels the session between the end user and the PSM proxy machine using a secure WebSocket protocol (port 443). This solution eliminates the need to open an RDP connection from the end user's machine. Instead, the end user only requires a web browser to establish a connection to a remote machine through PSM.
- Secure access through HTML5 requires integrating an HTML5 gateway on a Linux server (can be co-hosted with PSM for SSH). The Gateway is based on Apache Guacamole.

HTML5 Gateway: Flow



1. Logon through PVWA and click on Connect
2. Connect to HTML5 GW using WebSocket
3. Connect to PSM using RDP
4. Fetch credential from Vault
5. Connect using native protocols
6. Logs forwarded to SIEM and PTA
7. Store session recording

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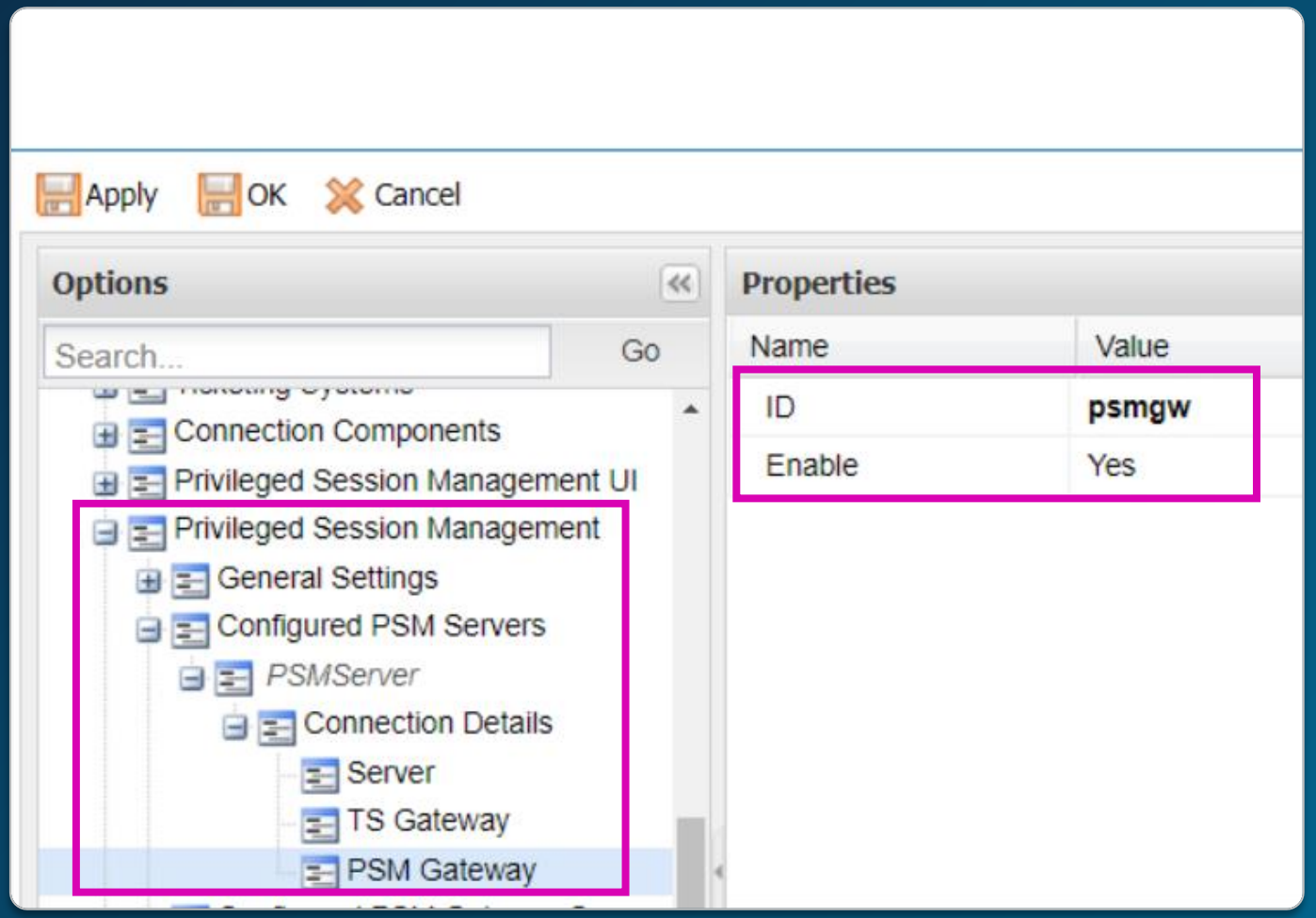
Enable HTML5 Gateway

The **HTML5 GW** is enabled at the system level for each **PSM** server



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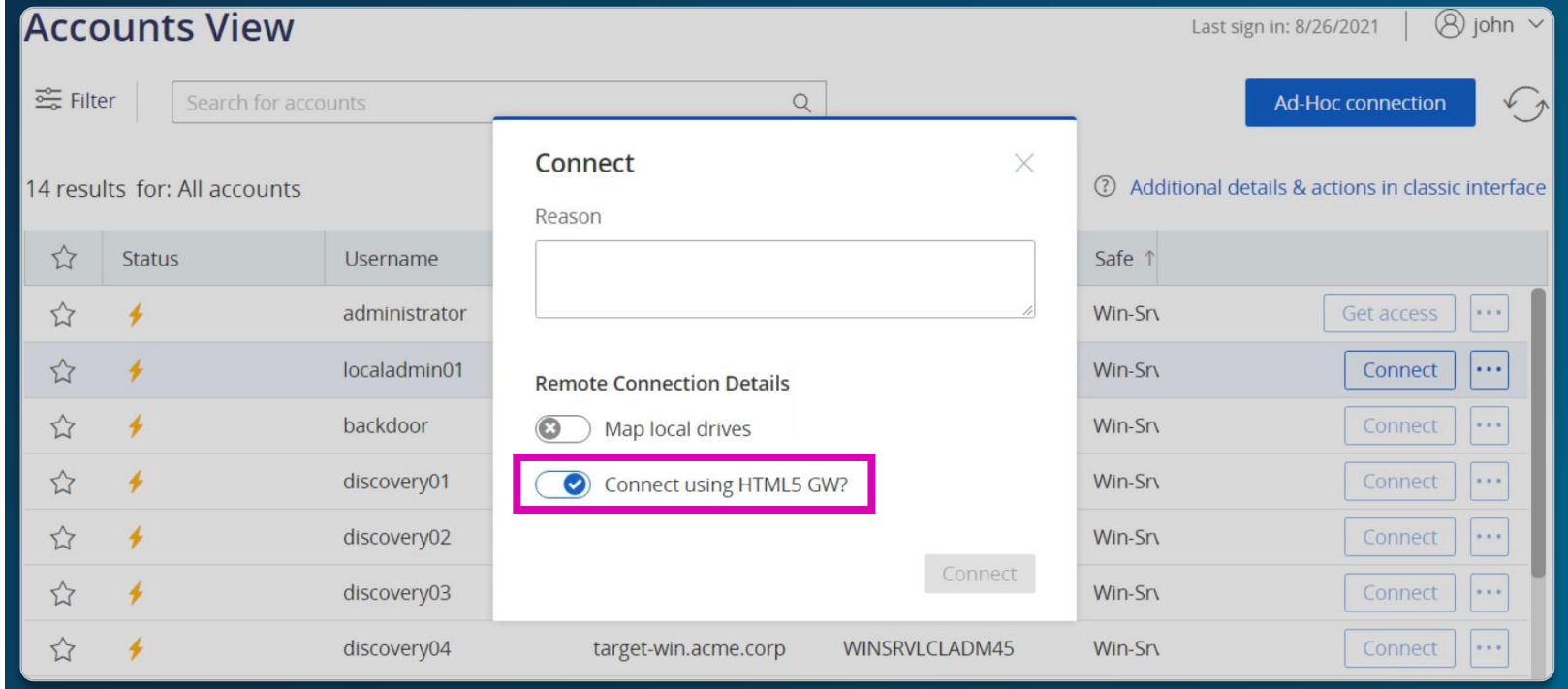
Use HDML5-based or RDP-file Connection Method

- Users can be given the option to connect either an HTML5-based or RDP-file connection method when connecting to the remote server
- This setting is applied at the **Connection Component** level



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PSM for Windows

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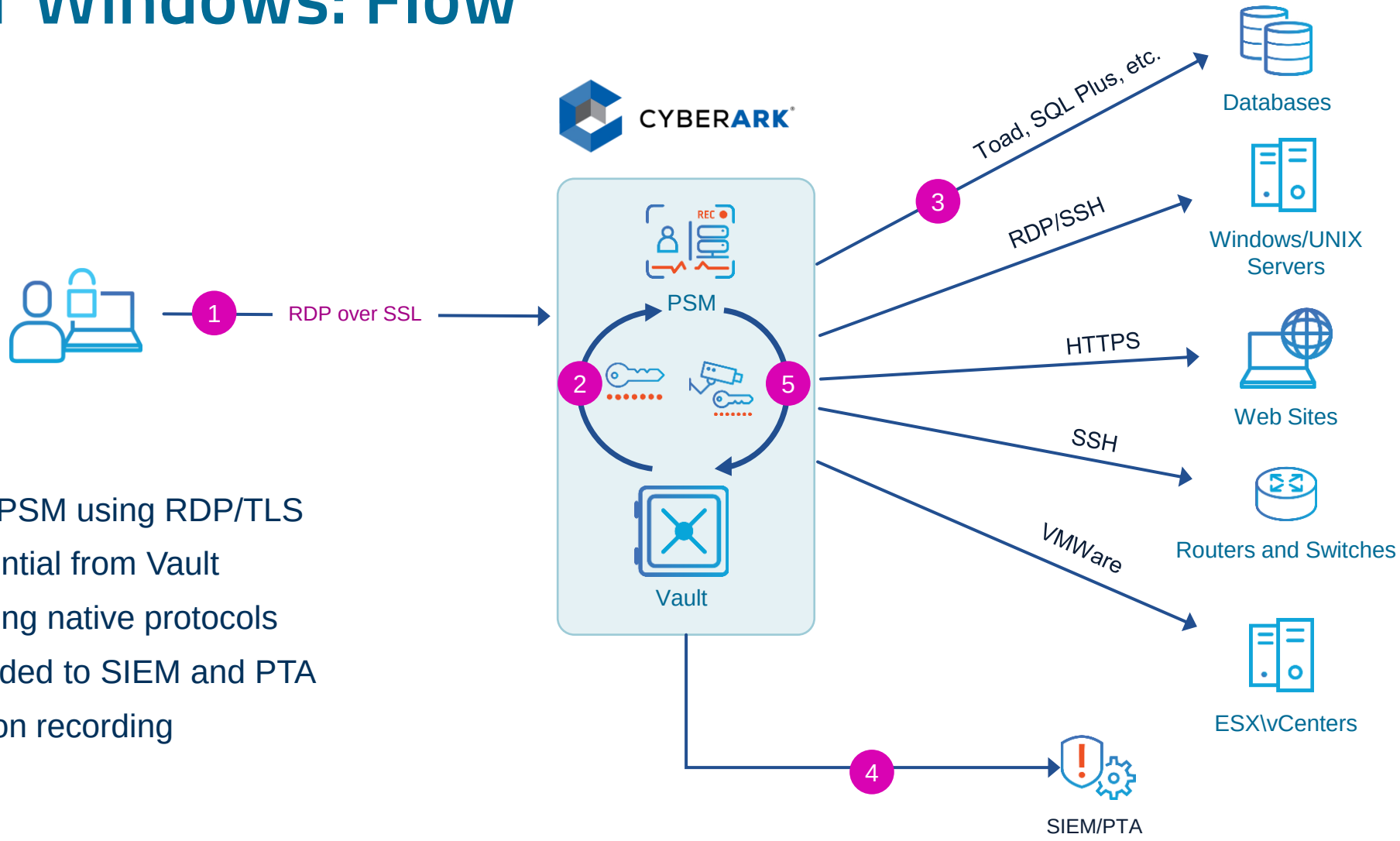
PSM for Windows: Overview

- Users connect directly from their desktops with an RDP-compliant client to the PSM, which then connects to the target host using the protocol appropriate to that host: SSH, RDP, etc.
- There is no need to go through the PVWA.
- Users can launch the RDP client and sign in into CyberArk using single- or multi-factor authentication (for example, LDAP with RADIUS).
  - The RDP client application must include the ability to configure run “Start Program” for the RDP connections.
  - Connections can be made from Unix / Linux / Mac / Windows end user machines.
- PSM continues to provide complete isolation of the target systems, ensuring that privileged credentials never reach users or their devices.

PSM for Windows: Flow



1. Connect to PSM using RDP/TLS
2. Fetch credential from Vault
3. Connect using native protocols
4. Logs forwarded to SIEM and PTA
5. Store session recording

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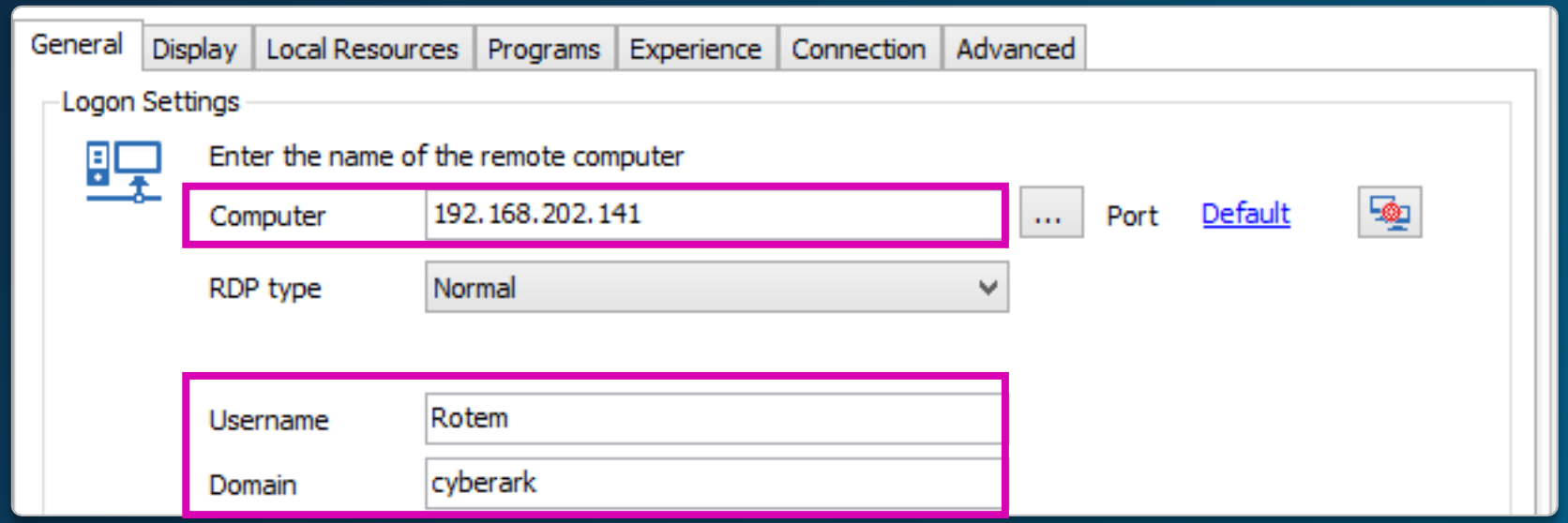
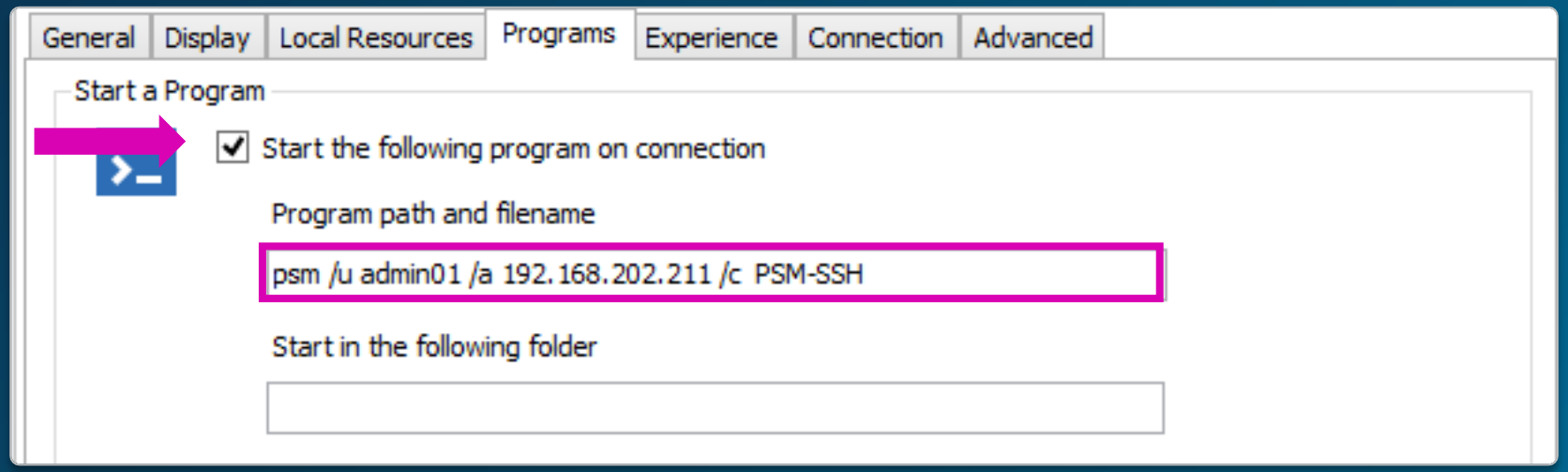
RDP Client Settings

- PSM IP
- Vault user
- Activate Start Program
- Program path:
  - Privileged Account name
  - Target address
  - Connection Component





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Preconfigured RDP Files

You can also configure individual RDP files to connect through the **PSM**

- It is possible to configure connections with or without providing the target system details

```
full address:s:components.acme.corp
enablecredsspsupport:i:0
####
audiomode:i:0
redirectpriinters:i:1
redirectcomports:i:0
redirectsmartcards:i:1
redirectclipboard:i:1
redirectposdevices:i:0
autoconnection enabled:i:1
authentication level:i:2
prompt for credentials:i:0
negotiate security layer:i:1
remoteapplicationmode:i:0
alternate shell:s:
Shell working directory:s:
gatewayhostname:s:
gatewayusagemethod:i:4
gatewaycredentialssource:i:4
gatewayprofileusagemethod:i:0
promptcredentialonce:i:0
gatewaybrokeringtype:i:0
use redirection server name:i:0
rdgiskdcproxy:i:0
kdcproxyname:s:
alternate shell:s:psm /u localadmin01 /a target-win.acme.corp /c PSM-RDP
# alternate shell:s:psm
```

PSM Address

Target system details

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PSM for SSH

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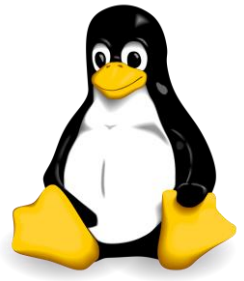
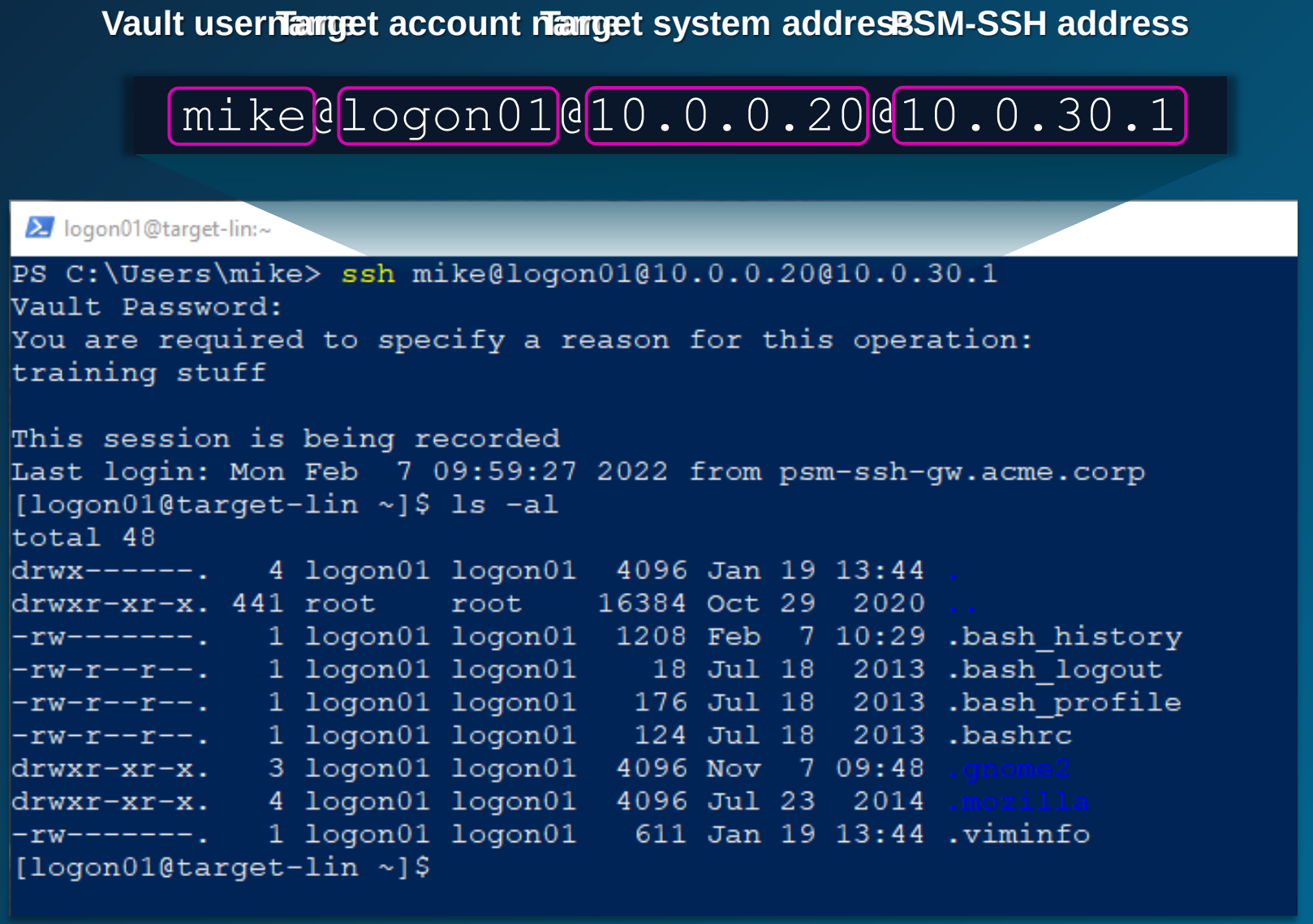
PSM for SSH: Overview

- The average enterprise manages hundreds of Unix servers and network devices
- Systems are usually critical, but access to them is uncontrolled
- Network and Unix teams are reluctant to change their existing workflows and tool sets
- PSM for SSH (previously PSM SSH Proxy or PSMP) is designed to provide a native Unix/Linux user experience when connecting to any SSH target system



PSM for SSH Client Settings

- The connection settings for **PSM for SSH** resemble those of **PSM for Windows**.
- Connections are not launched via the **PVWA**, but through a special connection string.



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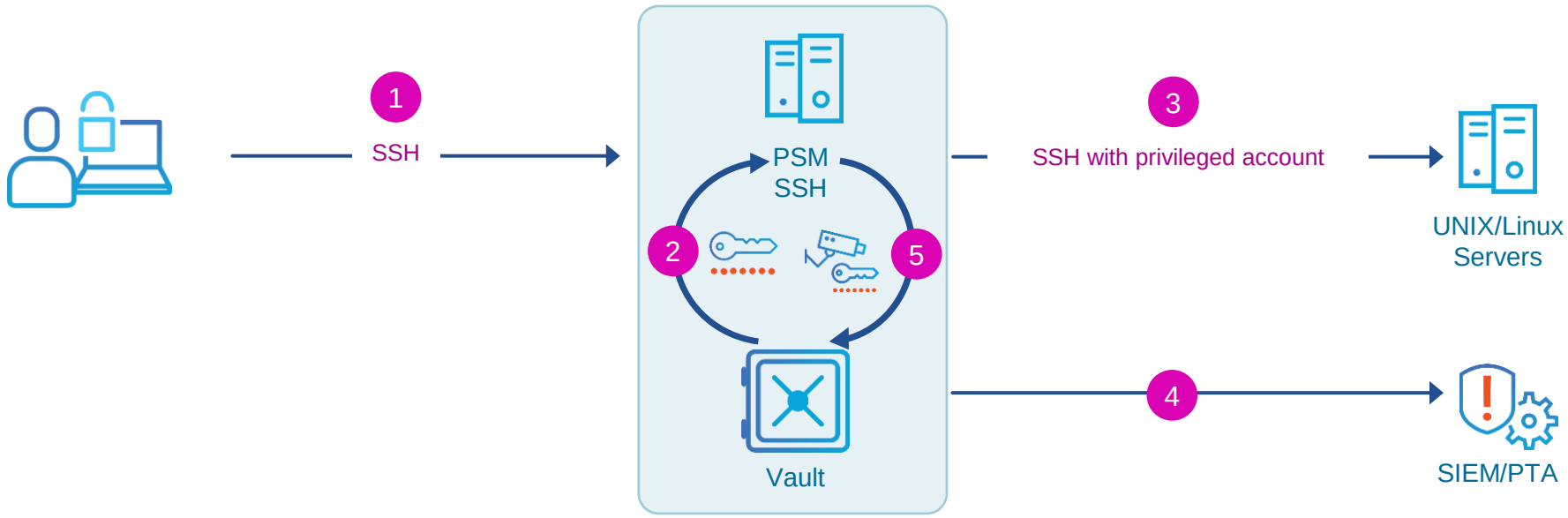
PSM for SSH: Flow



1. User opens SSH session to the PSM server
2. PSM retrieves privileged account password from the vault
3. Open SSH session to the target using the privileged account
4. Logs forwarded to SIEM and PTA
5. Store SSH session audit

Summary

Summary

In this session we covered the main PSM features, as well as how to enable and use:

- Privileged Session Manager (PSM)
  - PSM Connection Components
  - PSM Ad-Hoc Connections
  - PSM via HTML5 Gateway
  - PSM for Windows
- PSM for SSH

Additional Resources

HTML5 Based Remote Access

https://training.cyberark.com/elearning/html5-based-remote-access

Note: You must be logged into the CyberArk training portal to access this material

You may now complete the following exercises:

Privileged Session Management – Part 1

- Remove Privileged Access Workflows Exceptions
- Disabling the PSM Globally

- Privileged Session Manager
  - Adding Exceptions
  - Connect with a Linux Account
  - Connect with an Oracle Account
  - Connect via HTML5 Gateway
  - Connect using PSM Ad-Hoc Connection
- Privileged Session Manager for Windows
  - Connect using RDP file without providing the target system details
  - Connect using RDP file with the target system details
- Privileged Session Manager for SSH