

Organization Integration and Best Practices



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Overview



Trusted Access

Monitoring an Organization

Landing Zone

Security Hub

AWS Organizations: Best Practices





*“I understand that AWS Organizations allows centralized account management and control accounts’ access through policies. Are there **any centralized services?**”*



Trusted Access



Trusted Access Overview

AWS Organizations integrates certain AWS services across its accounts

For this functionality, these services require permissions to perform tasks in the organization and its accounts

These permissions are allowed by enabling trusted access in AWS Organizations

Trusted access can be enabled or disabled



Trusted Access and Service-linked Roles

When trusted access is enabled for a service, an IAM service-linked role is automatically created in a member account

These roles are created asynchronously as needed

AWS manages all service-linked roles; therefore, it cannot be attached, detached, modified or deleted

Services use these roles to perform tasks in accounts



Enabling Trusted Access



Go to AWS Organizations in the master account



Click on Settings (right side of the window)



Scroll down and choose the service for which you want to enable trusted access



Trusted Access: Supported Services - Security

AWS Directory Service

AWS Single Sign-On (SSO)

AWS Firewall Manager

**AWS Resource Access
Manager (RAM)**



Trusted Access: Supported Services - Compliance

AWS Artifact

AWS Config

AWS CloudTrail

**AWS License
Manager**

**AWS Service
Catalog**



Trusted Access: AWS Directory Service



**AWS Directory
Service**

AWS Managed Microsoft AD is a service that hosts and manages Microsoft Active Directory (AD) in the AWS Cloud

An account can share its directory with other accounts and VPCs within a region



Trusted Access: AWS Single Sign-on



**AWS Single
Sign-On**

A service that centrally manages single sign-on (SSO) access to multiple AWS accounts and business applications

It can connect with AWS Managed Microsoft AD and allow existing Active Directory users to connect to the member accounts or use its own directory

Permissions to these users can be configured from the master account



Trusted Access: AWS Firewall Manager



**AWS Firewall
Manager**

A service that centrally configures and manages firewall rules for Application Load Balancers and Amazon CloudFront distributions across accounts and applications

These firewall rules are configured in the master account once and automatically applied in the member accounts



Trusted Access: AWS Resource Access Manager



**AWS Resource
Access Manager**

A service that allows you to share resources such as Transit Gateways, Subnets, Route 53 Resolver rules, and License Manager configurations

Can be shared with any account(s) or entire AWS Organizations

Create once and access like native resources in each shared account

Subject to the standard IAM permissions on the resources in each shared account



Trusted Access: AWS Artifact



AWS Artifact

Provides on-demand access to AWS' security and compliance reports and certain online agreements

Master account can accept all agreements on behalf of the member accounts

Members accounts can still view and download agreements



Trusted Access: AWS Config



AWS Config

A service that continuously monitors, assesses, and records AWS resource configurations

All this configuration data can be aggregated from all member accounts into the master account

An administrator deploys a multi-account aggregator to gather data across regions and accounts.

This allows centralized compliance monitoring of all accounts in an enterprise



Trusted Access: AWS CloudTrail



**AWS
CloudTrail**

A service that continuously monitors and records AWS API calls from the Management Console, CLI, SDKs, or direct API calls

Auditing data from all accounts in an organization is stored in a centralized S3 bucket

By default, member accounts can see the trails, but can't change or delete them or access the S3 bucket with the logged data

Allows centralized compliance, risk, and governance monitoring of all accounts in an enterprise



Trusted Access: AWS License Manager



**AWS License
Manager**

A tool to manage software licenses in AWS, on-premises, and even in other non-AWS clouds

Works with rules to define soft and hard limits for license utilization

Works with per vCPU, per physical core, or per machine licensing

This allows centralized license management throughout an enterprise



Trusted Access: AWS Service Catalog



**AWS Service
Catalog**

A list of approved IT services that end users can self-deploy

Administrators can define the services, constraints (such as region or instance type) when deploying, and the users allowed to access each service

Services can be versioned

This allows centralized control and self-service of IT resources





*“At Globomantics, we currently use Active Directory. We can certainly implement AD on AWS and manage all existing users centrally via the AWS Single Sign-On service. This will **achieve one of our compliance requirements.**”*



Monitoring an Organization



Monitoring the Master Account

AWS Config

AWS CloudTrail

**AWS CloudWatch
Events**



AWS CloudWatch



**Amazon
CloudWatch**

A monitoring and management service that:

- Monitors AWS resources and applications
- Collects monitoring data through metrics, logs and events
- Uses alarms to notify or automate actions



AWS CloudWatch Events



A stream of system events describing changes in AWS Resources

Events recorded by AWS CloudTrail can be monitored by AWS CloudWatch Events

Rules can be created to match certain events in CloudTrail

These rules can trigger actions on other AWS resources



AWS CloudWatch Events: Event Flow Example



```
[...]  
"eventTime": "2018-08-30T21:42:18Z",  
"eventSource":  
"organizations.amazonaws.com",  
"eventName": "CreateAccountResult",  
[...]
```





*“At Globomantics, using multiple accounts will be necessary. AWS Organizations will help, but **how do we get started?** There seems to be so much to do before we do anything, and **doing it according to best practices sounds very challenging.**”*



Landing Zone



Saving Time with Landing Zone

**Multi-account
structure**

**Account Vending
Machine**

User access

Security baseline

Notifications



Multiple Account Structure



**AWS Service
Catalog**

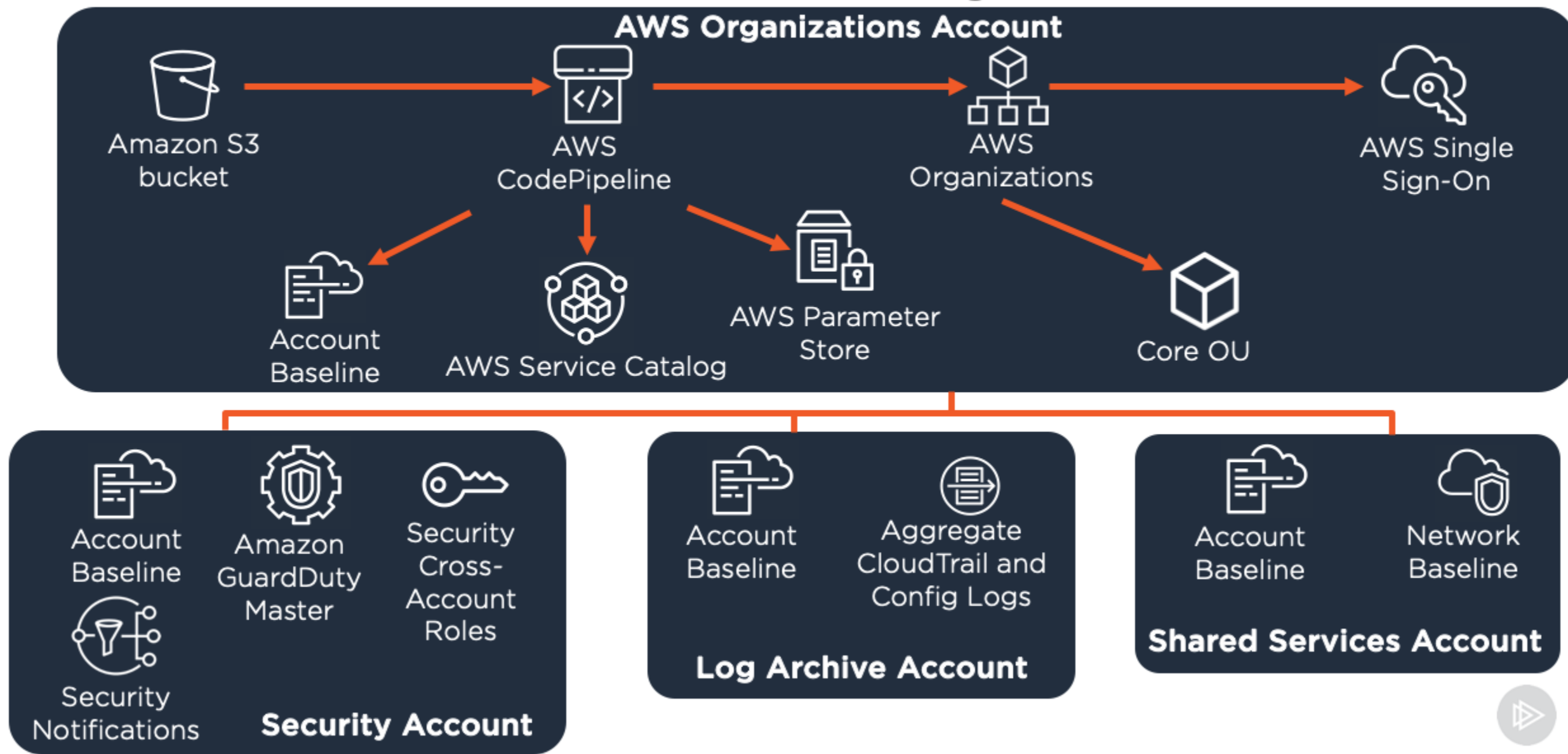
Includes four accounts:

- AWS Organizations account
- Shared services account
- Log archive account
- Security account

Deployed using AWS Service Catalog



Multi-account Diagram



Account Vending Machine (AVM)



Permissions



**AWS Service
Catalog**

**Allows users to create new accounts in
Organizational Units**

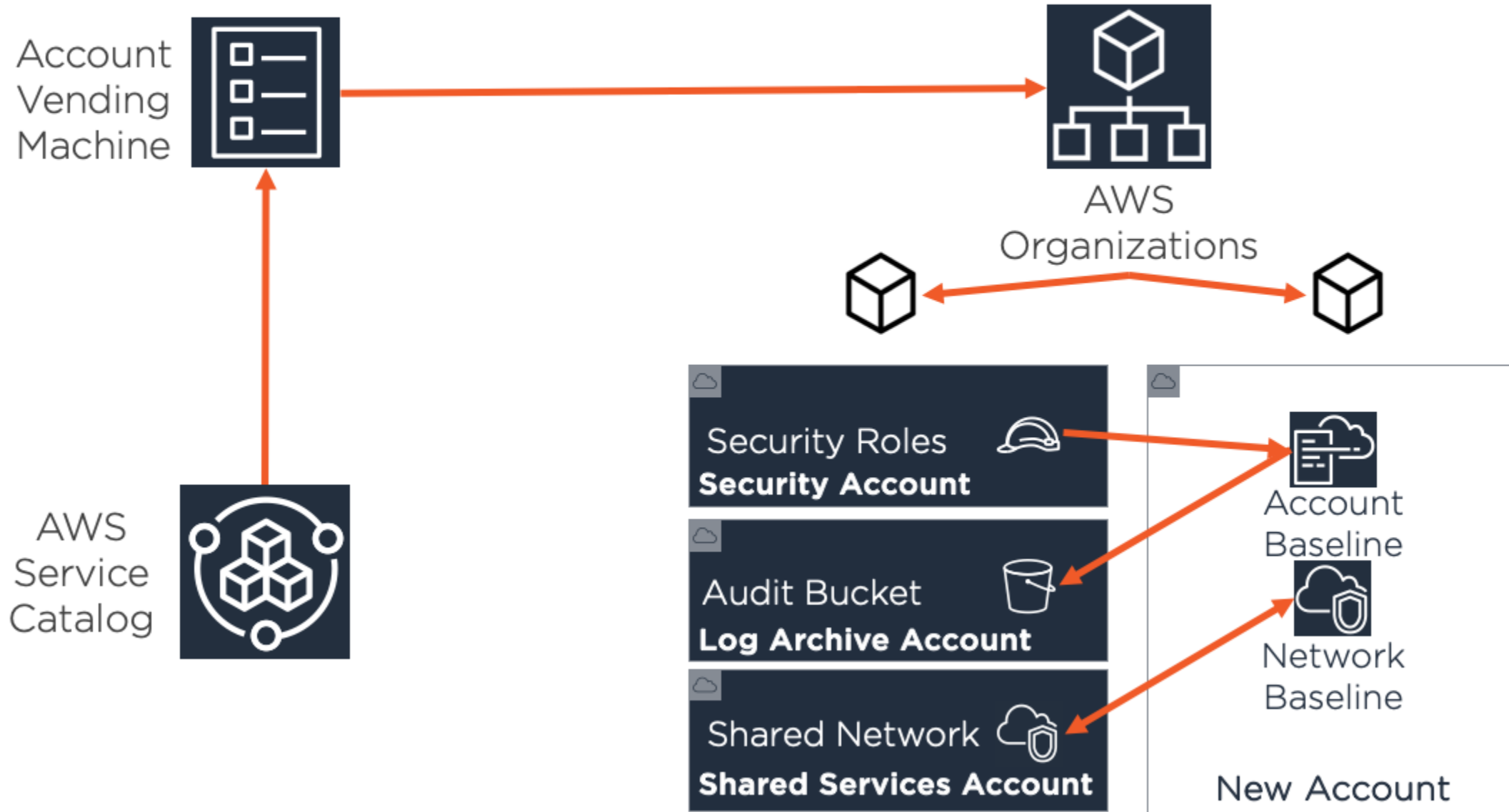
**Uses AWS Service catalog to give
administrators permissions in Landing Zone**

Leverages launch constraints

**Deploys account and network baselines in
each new account**



AVM Diagram



User Accounts



**AWS Single
Sign-On**

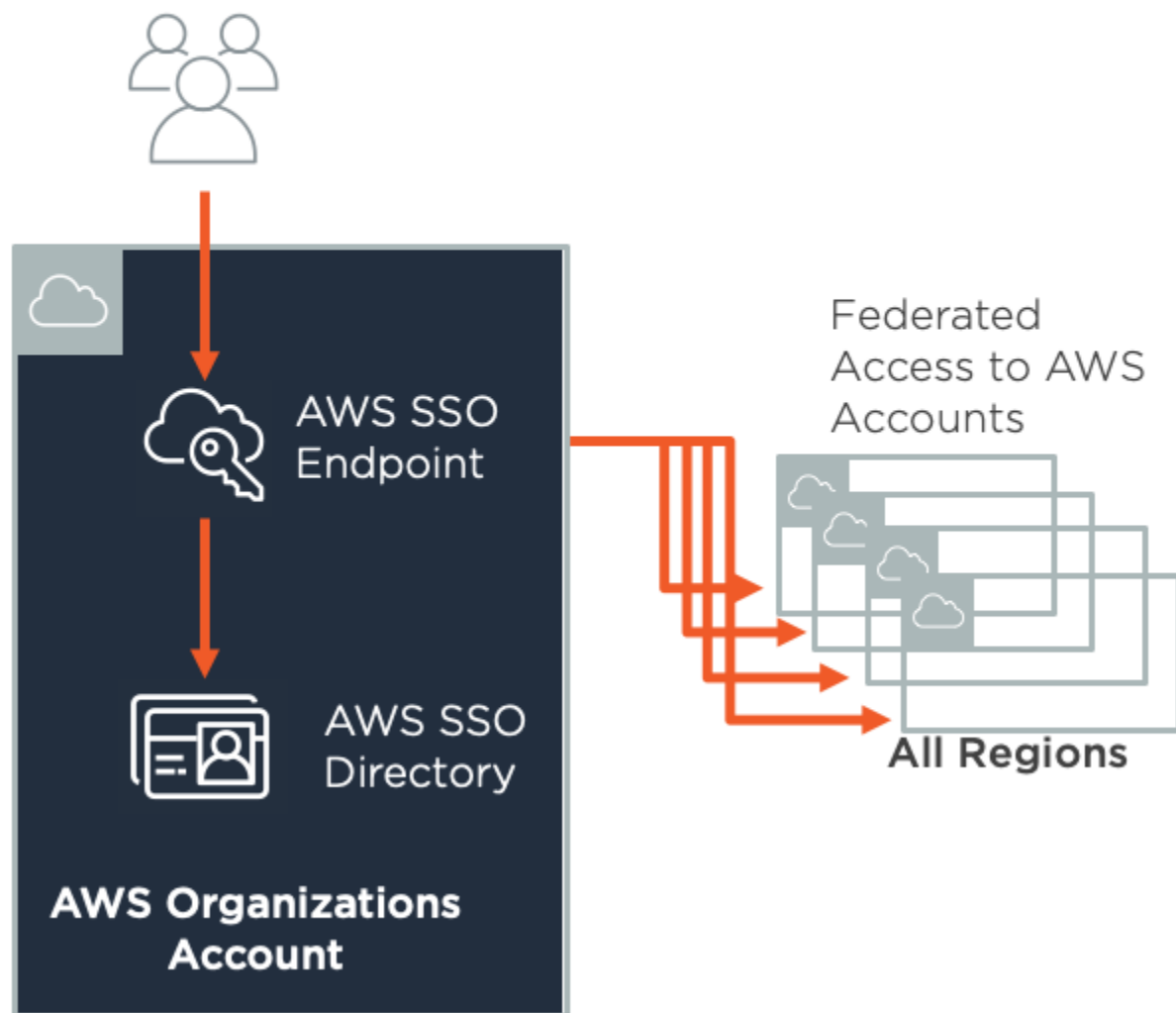
Two options to store users and groups

- SSO with AWS SSO Directory
- SSO with AWS Managed Microsoft Active Directory

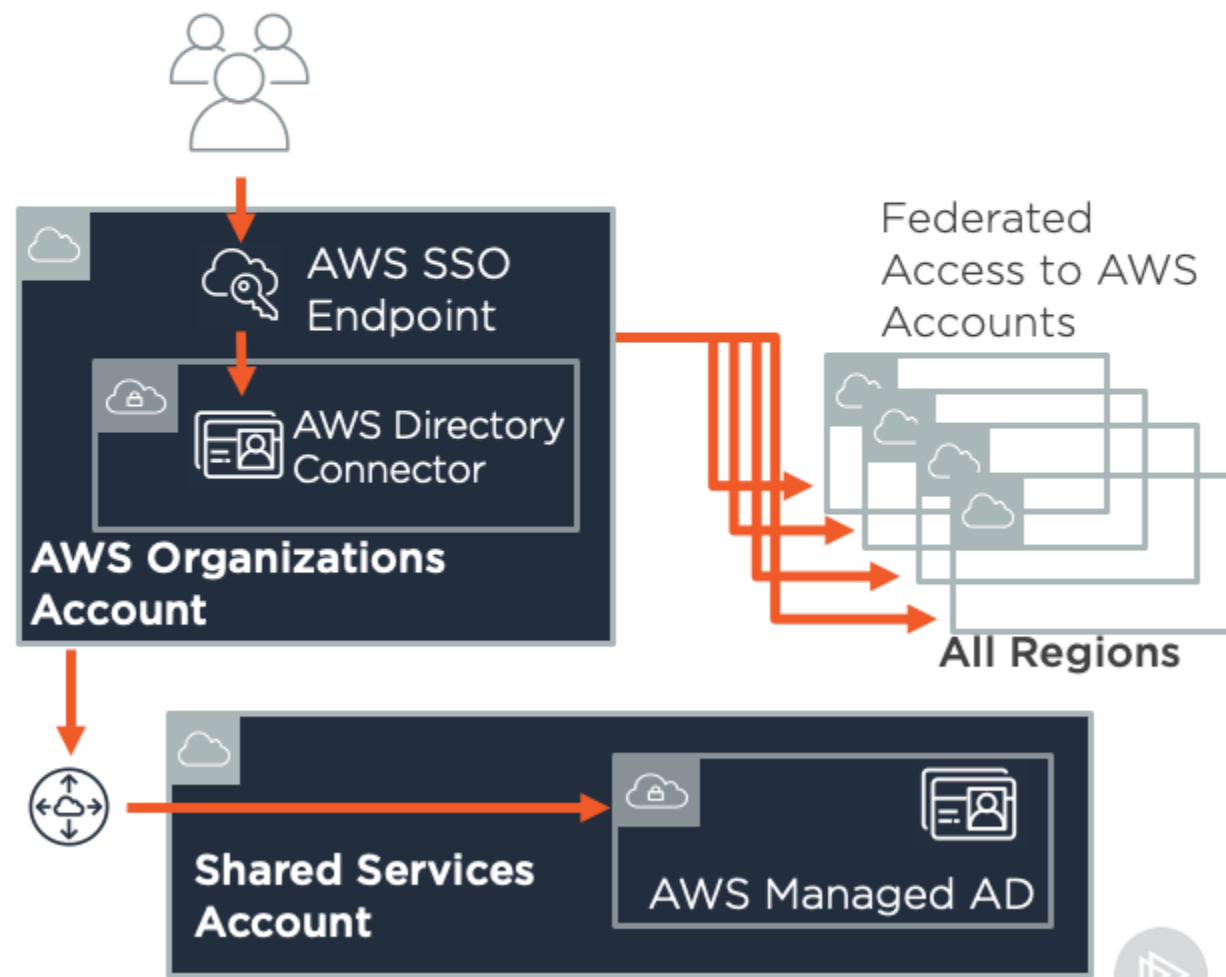


User Access Diagram

AWS SSO Directory



SSO with AWS Managed AD



Security Baseline



Initial baseline comes with Landing Zone and can be customized

Settings include:

- CloudTrail
- AWS Config and Config rules
- AWS IAM password policies
- VPC setup and peering
- GuardDuty



Notifications



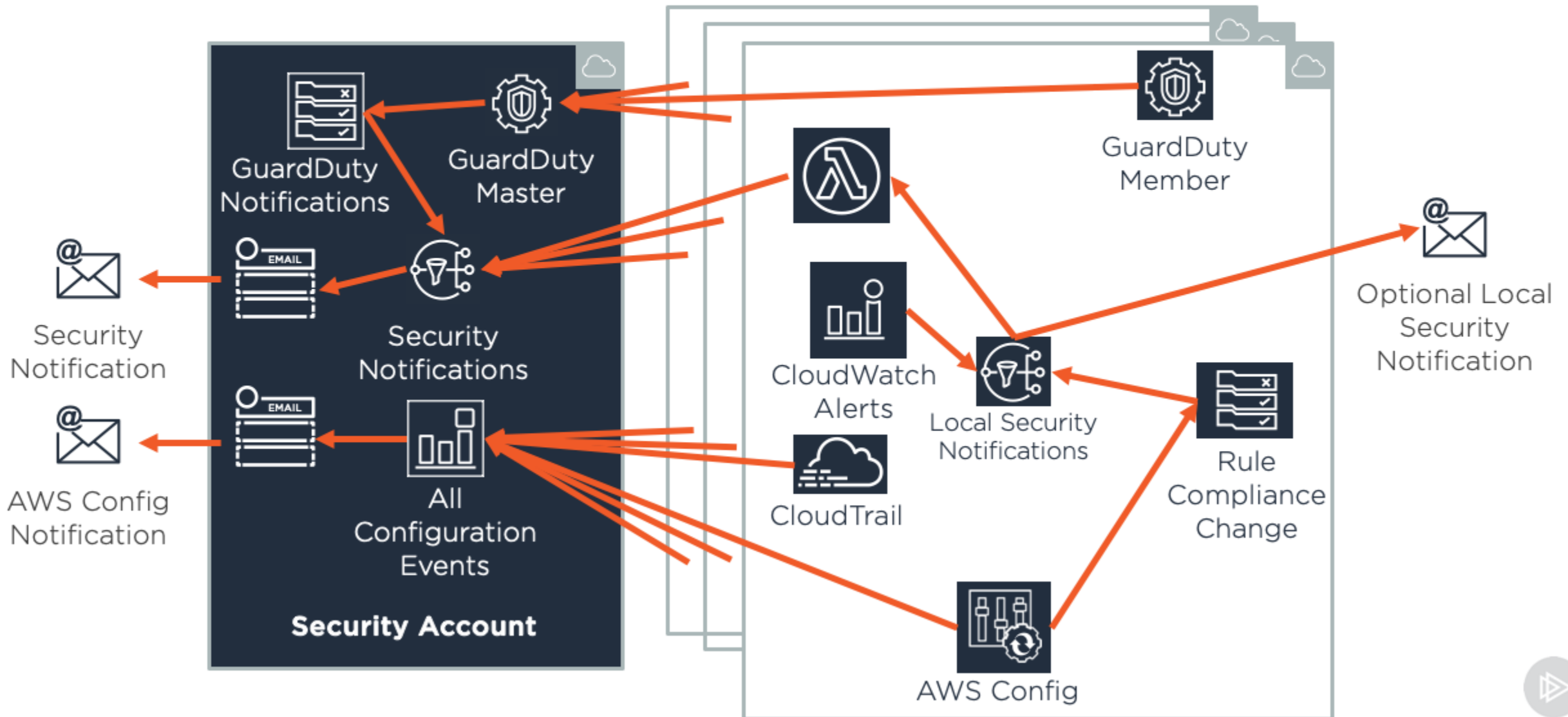
Notifications to operations and security personnel are automated

Landing Zone uses CloudWatch and GuardDuty notifications via SNS to send notifications like:

- Sign-in failures
- API authentication failures
- Changes to account
- Changes to resources



Notification Diagram





*“Landing Zone appears to get us going quickly and according to best practices. Our concern, though, is **drowning in notifications and monitoring our compliance status.**”*



Security Hub



Security Simplified

**Simple dashboard view of
security alerts and compliance
status**

**Aggregates, organizes and
prioritizes security alerts and
findings across AWS services**



Benefits of Security Hub



Save time

Improved compliance

Quick action





AWS
Security
Hub

How Security Hub Works

Integrated Partner Solutions



Amazon
GuardDuty



Amazon
Inspector



Amazon Macie

**Automated compliance
checks using industry
standards**



Take Action with CloudWatch Events or Lambda

- Ticketing
- Chat
- Email
- Auto-remediation



Partners Include



AWS Organizations: Best Practices



Create a Strategy for Multiple Accounts

Define Multi-account Strategy

Match account grouping to corporate structure

Understand the purpose of the account

Use organizational units (OUs)

Plan out nested hierarchies in advance



Secure the Master Account

Secure Master Account

Apply MFA on root of the master account

Apply strict least privilege principal

Apply MFA for all users on the master account

Turn on AWS CloudTrail

Don't use the master account to create or manage resources



Manage SCP Rollouts

Manage Rollouts

Create a testing OU with an account

Test changes on this testing OU and account before applying changes to the other accounts

Do a gradual rollout starting from lowest level of the hierarchy



Consider the Lifecycle of Accounts

Think about Account Lifecycle

Create a 'Deny-All' OU

Move an account with security issues to this OU

To remove an account

- Log in from master account using IAM role
- Delete all resources
- Close the account



Minimize Human Interaction

Automate

Recognize automatable tasks

Develop scripts to automate processes such as account creation and movement of accounts to the appropriate OU



Monitoring and Auditing

Monitor and Audit

Create a separate dedicated account (instead of using master account)

Write and secure all audit logs to a dedicated logging account

Use AWS Config, AWS CloudTrail, Amazon CloudWatch Events, and more

Separate security and audit roles in all accounts



Utilize SCPs

Leverage SCPs

Use either whitelist or blacklist (stick with one approach for the organization)

Test and review policy results using IAM policy simulator

Attach SCPs to OUs instead of individual accounts whenever possible



Federate

Leverage Federation

Configure federated access to all accounts

Utilize trusted access for AWS Directory Service and AWS Single Sign-On



Summary



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