Verify the identity of remote servers using certificates

ONTAP 9

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Verify the identity of remote servers using certificates overview

ONTAP supports security certificate features to verify the identity of remote servers.

ONTAP software enables secure connections using these digital certificate features and protocols:

- Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) validates the status of digital certificate requests from ONTAP services using SSL and Transport Layer Security (TLS) connections. This feature is disabled by default.
- A default set of trusted root certificates is included with ONTAP software.
- Key Management Interoperability Protocol (KMIP) certificates enable mutual authentication of a cluster and a KMIP server.

Verify digital certificates are valid using OCSP

Beginning with ONTAP 9.2, Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) enables ONTAP applications that use Transport Layer Security (TLS) communications to receive digital certificate status when OCSP is enabled. You can enable or disable OCSP certificate status checks for specific applications at any time. By default, OCSP certificate status checking is disabled.

What you'll need

These commands must be performed at the advanced privilege level.

About this task

OCSP supports the following applications:

- AutoSupport
- Event Management System (EMS)
- LDAP over TLS
- Key Management Interoperability Protocol (KMIP)
- Audit Logging
- FabricPool

Steps

1. Set the privilege level to advanced: `set -privilege advanced`.
2. To enable or disable OCSP certificate status checks for specific ONTAP applications, use the appropriate command.

If you want OCSP certificate status checks for some applications to be…	Use the command…
Enabled	`security config ocsp enable -app app name`
Disabled	`security config ocsp disable -app app name`

The following command enables OCSP support for AutoSupport and EMS.

```
cluster::*> security config ocsp enable -app asup,ems
```

When OCSP is enabled, the application receives one of the following responses:

- Good - the certificate is valid and communication proceeds.
- Revoked - the certificate is permanently deemed as not trustworthy by its issuing Certificate Authority and communication fails to proceed.
- Unknown - the server does not have any status information about the certificate and communication fails to proceed.
- OCSP server information is missing in the certificate - the server acts as if OCSP is disabled and continues with TLS communication, but no status check occurs.
- No response from OCSP server - the application fails to proceed.

3. To enable or disable OCSP certificate status checks for all applications using TLS communications, use the appropriate command.

If you want OCSP certificate status checks for all applications to be…	Use the command…
Enabled	`security config ocsp enable -app all`
Disabled	`security config ocsp disable -app all`

When enabled, all applications receive a signed response signifying that the specified certificate is good, revoked, or unknown. In the case of a revoked certificate, the application will fail to proceed. If the application fails to receive a response from the OCSP server or if the server is unreachable, the application will fail to proceed.

4. Use the `security config ocsp show` command to display all the applications that support OCSP and their support status.

```
cluster::*> security config ocsp show
         Application                         OCSP Enabled?
         --------------------                ---------------------
         autosupport                         false
         audit_log                           false
         fabricpool                          false
         ems                                 false
         kmip                                false
         ldap_ad                             true
         ldap_nis_namemap                    true

         7 entries were displayed.
```

View default certificates for TLS-based applications

Beginning with ONTAP 9.2, ONTAP provides a default set of trusted root certificates for ONTAP applications using Transport Layer Security (TLS).

What you'll need

The default certificates are installed only on the admin SVM during its creation, or during an upgrade to ONTAP 9.2.

About this task

The current applications that act as a client and require certificate validation are AutoSupport, EMS, LDAP, Audit Logging, FabricPool, and KMIP.

When certificates expire, an EMS message is invoked that requests the user to delete the certificates. The default certificates can only be deleted at the advanced privilege level.

Deleting the default certificates may result in some ONTAP applications not functioning as expected (for example, AutoSupport and Audit Logging).

Step

1. You can view the default certificates that are installed on the admin SVM by using the security certificate show command:

   `security certificate show -vserver –type server-ca`

```
fas2552-2n-abc-3::*> security certificate show -vserver fas2552-2n-abc-3
-type server-ca
Vserver    Serial Number   Common Name                              Type
---------- --------------- ---------------------------------------
------------
fas2552-2n-abc-3
           01              AAACertificateServices
server-ca
    Certificate Authority: AAA Certificate Services
          Expiration Date: Sun Dec 31 18:59:59 2028
```

Mutually authenticating the cluster and a KMIP server

Mutually authenticating the cluster and a KMIP server overview

Mutually authenticating the cluster and an external key manager such as a Key Management Interoperability Protocol (KMIP) server enables the key manager to communicate with the cluster by using KMIP over SSL. You do so when an application or certain functionality (for example, the Storage Encryption functionality) requires secure keys to provide secure data access.

Generate a certificate signing request for the cluster

You can use the security certificate `generate-csr` command to generate a certificate signing request (CSR). After processing your request, the certificate authority (CA) sends you the signed digital certificate.

What you'll need

You must be a cluster administrator or SVM administrator to perform this task.

Steps

1. Generate a CSR:

   security certificate generate-csr -common-name *FQDN_or_common_name* -size 512|1024|1536|2048 -country *country* -state *state* -locality *locality* -organization *organization* -unit *unit* -email-addr *email_of_contact* -hash -function SHA1|SHA256|MD5

   For complete command syntax, see the man pages.

   The following command creates a CSR with a 2,048-bit private key generated by the SHA256 hashing function for use by the Software group in the IT department of a company whose custom common name is server1.companyname.com, located in Sunnyvale, California, USA. The email address of the SVM contact administrator is web@example.com. The system displays the CSR and the private key in the output.

```
cluster1::>security certificate generate-csr -common-name
server1.companyname.com -size 2048 -country US -state California -
locality Sunnyvale -organization IT -unit Software -email-addr
web@example.com -hash-function SHA256
Certificate Signing Request :
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
MIIBGjCBxQIBADBgMRQwEgYDVQQDEwtleGFtcGxlLmNvbTELMAkGA1UEBhMCVVMx
CTAHBgNVBAgTADEJMAcGA1UEBxMAMQkwBwYDVQQKEwAxCTAHBgNVBAsTADEPMA0G
CSqGSIb3DQEJARYAMFwwDQYJKoZIhvcNAQEBBQADSwAwSAJBAPXFanNoJApT1nzS
xOcxixqImRRGZCR7tVmTYyqPSuTvfhVtwDJbmXuj6U3a1woUsb13wfEvQnHVFNci
2ninsJ8CAwEAAaAAMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBCwUAA0EA6EagLfso5+4g+ejiRKKTUPQO
UqOUEoKuvxhOvPC2w7b//fNSFsFHvXloqEOhYECn/NX9h8mbphCoM5YZ4OfnKw==
-----END CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
Private Key :
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-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
MIIBOwIBAAJBAPXFanNoJApT1nzSxOcxixqImRRGZCR7tVmTYyqPSuTvfhVtwDJb
mXuj6U3a1woUsb13wfEvQnHVFNci2ninsJ8CAwEAAQJAWt2AO+bW3FKezEuIrQlu
KoMyRYK455wtMk8BrOyJfhYsB20B28eifjJvRWdTOBEav99M7cEzgPv+p5kaZTTM
gQIhAPsp+j1hrUXSRj979LIJJY0sNez397i7ViFXWQScx/ehAiEA+oDbOooWlVvu
xj4aitxVBu6ByVckYU8LbsfeRNsZwD8CIQCbZ1/ENvmlJ/P7N9Exj2NCtEYxd0Q5
cwBZ5NfZeMBpwQIhAPk0KWQSLadGfsKO077itF+h9FGFNHbtuNTrVq4vPW3nAiAA
peMBQgEv28y2r8D4dkYzxcXmjzJluUSZSZ9c/wS6fA==
-----END RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
Note: Please keep a copy of your certificate request and private key
for future reference.
```

2. Copy the certificate request from the CSR output, and then send it in electronic form (such as email) to a trusted third-party CA for signing.

   After processing your request, the CA sends you the signed digital certificate. You should keep a copy of the private key and the CA-signed digital certificate.

Install a CA-signed server certificate for the cluster

To enable an SSL server to authenticate the cluster or storage virtual machine (SVM) as an SSL client, you install a digital certificate with the client type on the cluster or SVM. Then you provide the client-ca certificate to the SSL server administrator for installation on the server.

What you'll need

You must have already installed the root certificate of the SSL server on the cluster or SVM with the `server-ca` certificate type.

Steps

1. To use a self-signed digital certificate for client authentication, use the `security certificate create`

command with the `type client` parameter.

2. To use a CA-signed digital certificate for client authentication, complete the following steps:
   a. Generate a digital certificate signing request (CSR) by using the security certificate `generate-csr` command.

      ONTAP displays the CSR output, which includes a certificate request and private key, and reminds you to copy the output to a file for future reference.

   b. Send the certificate request from the CSR output in an electronic form (such as email) to a trusted CA for signing.

      You should keep a copy of the private key and the CA-signed certificate for future reference.

      After processing your request, the CA sends you the signed digital certificate.

   c. Install the CA-signed certificate by using the `security certificate install` command with the `-type client` parameter.
   d. Enter the certificate and the private key when you are prompted, and then press **Enter**.
   e. Enter any additional root or intermediate certificates when you are prompted, and then press **Enter**.

      You install an intermediate certificate on the cluster or SVM if a certificate chain that begins at the trusted root CA, and ends with the SSL certificate issued to you, is missing the intermediate certificates. An intermediate certificate is a subordinate certificate issued by the trusted root specifically to issue end-entity server certificates. The result is a certificate chain that begins at the trusted root CA, goes through the intermediate certificate, and ends with the SSL certificate issued to you.

3. Provide the `client-ca` certificate of the cluster or SVM to the administrator of the SSL server for installation on the server.

   The security certificate show command with the `-instance` and `-type client-ca` parameters displays the `client-ca` certificate information.

Install a CA-signed client certificate for the KMIP server

The certificate subtype of Key Management Interoperability Protocol (KMIP) (the -subtype kmip-cert parameter), along with the client and server-ca types, specifies that the certificate is used for mutually authenticating the cluster and an external key manager, such as a KMIP server.

About this task

Install a KMIP certificate to authenticate a KMIP server as an SSL server to the cluster.

Steps

1. Use the `security certificate install` command with the `-type server-ca` and `-subtype kmip-cert` parameters to install a KMIP certificate for the KMIP server.
2. When you are prompted, enter the certificate, and then press Enter.

   ONTAP reminds you to keep a copy of the certificate for future reference.

```
cluster1::> security certificate install -type server-ca -subtype kmip-
cert
-vserver cluster1

Please enter Certificate: Press <Enter> when done
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
MIICPDCCAaUCEDyRMcsf9tAbDpq40ES/Er4wDQYJKoZIhvcNAQEFBQAwXzELMAkG
2JhucwNhkcV8sEVAbkSdjbCxlnRhLQ2pRdKkkirWmnWXbj9T/UWZYB2oK0z5XqcJ
2HUw19JlYD1n1khVdWk/kfVIC0dpImmClr7JyDiGSnoscxlIaU5rfGW/D/xwzoiQ
...
-----END CERTIFICATE-----


You should keep a copy of the CA-signed digital certificate for future
reference.

cluster1::>
```