

# YOU SECRETS SAFE IN AZURE KEY VAULT?

Protecting a multi-tenant application



Microsoft®  
Most Valuable  
Professional



STEPHAN VAN ROOIJ

Microsoft MVP Security  
Software architect  
Open-source developer  
The Netherlands



## OBJECTIVE

**Protect our multi-tenant  
application and limit the  
exposure time in case of a  
breach**

# CAN EVERYBODY CREATE APPLICATIONS IN YOUR TENANT?

Microsoft Entra admin center

Search resources, services, and docs (G+ /)

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## App registrations


+ New registration | Endpoints | Troubleshooting | Refre

All applications | Owned applications | Deleted applications

Super

5 applications found

Display name ↑↓

ss	Super secret API
ss	Super Secret API App
ss	Super Secret API Console
ss	Super Secret API Insomnia
	Super Secret API Swagger

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Diagnose & solve problems

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Identity

Overview

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App registrations

Protection

You do not have access



Access denied

You do not have access

You don't have permission to register applications in the \ directory. To request access, contact your administrator.

### Summary

Session ID  
de5e47e8bc8f43e3a90f57b9f37ff14f

Extension  
Microsoft\_AAD\_RegisteredApps

Error code  
403

Resource ID  
Not available

Content  
CreateApplicationBlade

# CREATE MULTI-TENANT APP

## Register an application ...

### \* Name

The user-facing display name for this application (this can be changed later).

Graph reader multi-tenant ✓

### Supported account types

Who can use this application or access this API?

- ☐ Accounts in this organizational directory only (Coding Stephan only - Single tenant)
- ☒ Accounts in any organizational directory (Any Microsoft Entra ID tenant - Multitenant)
- ☐ Accounts in any organizational directory (Any Microsoft Entra ID tenant - Multitenant) and personal Microsoft accounts (e.g. Skype, Xbox)
- ☐ Personal Microsoft accounts only

[Help me choose...](#)

### Redirect URI (optional)

We'll return the authentication response to this URI after successfully authenticating the user. Providing this now is optional and it can be changed later, but a value is required for most authentication scenarios.

Select a platform



e.g. https://example.com/auth



## Request API permissions



[← All APIs](#)



Microsoft Graph

<https://graph.microsoft.com/> [Docs](#)

What type of permissions does your application require?

### Delegated permissions

Your application needs to access the API as the signed-in user.

### Application permissions

Your application runs as a background service or daemon without a signed-in user.

Select permissions

[expand all](#)



Permission

Admin consent required

▼ User (1)



User.ReadBasic.All ⓘ

Read all users' basic profiles

Yes

Add permissions

Discard

APPLICATION  
PERMISSIONS ->  
**User.ReadBasic.All**

# ADMIN CONSENT NOT GRANTED, (YET)!

## Configured permissions

Applications are authorized to call APIs when they are granted permissions by users/admins as part of the consent process. The list of configured permissions should include all the permissions the application needs. [Learn more about permissions and consent](#)

[+ Add a permission](#) ☒ Grant admin consent for Coding Stephan

API / Permissions name	Type	Description	Admin consent req...	Status
Microsoft Graph (2)				...
User.Read	Delegated	Sign in and read user profile	No	...
User.ReadBasic.All	Application	Read all users' basic profiles	Yes	⚠ Not granted for Coding ...

To view and manage consented permissions for individual apps, as well as your tenant's consent settings, try [Enterprise applications](#).

CLIENT SECRET?



## Graph reader multi-tenant | Certificates & secrets

Search << Got feedback?

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  - Certificates & secrets**
  - Token configuration
  - API permissions
  - Expose an API
  - App roles

Credentials enable confidential applications to identify the scheme). For a higher level of assurance, we recommend u

Certificates (0) Client secrets (0) Federated cr

A secret string that the application uses to prove its iden

+ New client secret

Description	Expires
No client secrets have been created for this application.	



# CREATE CERTIFICATE IN KEY VAULT

## Create a certificate ...

Method of Certificate Creation

Generate

Certificate Name \* ⓘ

test-client-credentials ✓

Type of Certificate Authority (CA) ⓘ

Self-signed certificate

Subject \* ⓘ

CN=graph-reader.invalid ✓

DNS Names

0 DNS names

Validity Period (in months) \*

12

Content Type

☒ PKCS #12 ☐ PEM

Lifetime Action Type

E-mail all contacts at a given percentage lifeti... ✓

Percentage Lifetime \*

80

Advanced Policy Configuration

Not configured

Tags

0 tags

Create

Cancel



## Graph Sample Client | Certificates & secrets



Got feedback?



Overview



Quickstart



Integration assistant

### Manage



Branding & properties



Authentication



Certificates & secrets



Token configuration



API permissions



Expose an API



App roles



Owners



Roles and administrators



Manifest

### Support + Troubleshooting



Troubleshooting



New support request

Credentials enable confidential applications to identify themselves (using the OAuth 2.0 Client Credentials grant type and the HTTPS scheme). For a higher level of assurance, we recommend using certificates.



Application registration certificates, secrets and federated credentials

**Certificates (0)**

Client secrets (0)

Federated credentials (0)

Certificates can be used as secrets to prove the application's identity to the service it is authenticating with.



Upload certificate

Thumbprint

Description

No certificates have been added for this application.

## Upload certificate

Upload a certificate (public key)

"test-client-credentials\_64b"

Description

Enter a description for this certificate

Add

Cancel

CLIENT CERTIFICATE!



# DEMO

```

[Function(nameof(LoadCertificateAndAuthenticateToEntra))]
1 reference
public async Task<HttpresponseData> Run(
    [HttpTrigger(AuthorizationLevel.Function, "get", Route = "demo1/call-graph")] HttpRequestData req,
    string? tenantId, // This will be loaded from the url if passed
    FunctionContext executionContext
)
{
    // Create a certificate client, passing in the key vault uri (from configuration) and the token credential
    var certificateClient = new CertificateClient(_strongConfiguration.KeyVaultUri, _tokenCredential);
    // Download the certificate, passing in the name of the certificate
    var certificate = await certificateClient.DownloadCertificateAsync(new DownloadCertificateOptions(_strongConfiguration.ClientCertificateName), cancellationToken: executionContext.CancellationToken);

    // At this point, the certificate is loaded and can be used to authenticate to Entra

    // Option 1: Use Azure.Identity to authenticate to Entra
    var token = await GetTokenUsingClientCertificateCredentialAsync(tenantId ?? _strongConfiguration.TenantId!, _strongConfiguration.ClientId!, certificate.Value, [_strongConfiguration.GraphScope!]);

    _logger.LogInformation("Getting users from Graph API with token {token}", TokenModifier.RemoveSignature(token));

    // Use the token to call the Microsoft Graph API
    var httpRequest = new HttpRequestMessage(HttpMethod.Get, "https://graph.microsoft.com/v1.0/users?$select=id,displayName&$top=3");
    httpRequest.Headers.Authorization = new AuthenticationHeaderValue("Bearer", token);
    var response = await _httpClient.SendAsync(httpRequest, executionContext.CancellationToken);
    var responseData = await response.Content.ReadAsByteArrayAsync(executionContext.CancellationToken);

    // Return the graph response
    var result = req.CreateResponse(response.StatusCode);
    await result.WriteBytesAsync(responseData, executionContext.CancellationToken);
    return result;
}

/// <summary>
/// Get a token using Azure.Identity
/// </summary>
/// <param name="tenantId"></param>
/// <param name="clientId"></param>
/// <param name="certificate"></param>
/// <param name="scopes"></param>
/// <param name="cancellationToken"></param>
/// <returns>Access token</returns>
1 reference
private async Task<string> GetTokenUsingClientCertificateCredentialAsync(string tenantId, string clientId, X509Certificate2 certificate, string[] scopes, CancellationToken cancellationToken)
{
    var clientCredential = new ClientCertificateCredential(tenantId, clientId, certificate);
    var result = await clientCredential.GetTokenAsync(new TokenRequestContext(scopes), cancellationToken);

    return result.Token;
}

```



# CERTIFICATE “SECURELY” STORED IN KEY VAULT

1

Load certificate

2

Create unsigned  
JWT

3

Sign JWT with  
certificate

4

Request token from  
Entra ID with JWT

ALL GOOD?

Cert stored in **Key Vault** ✓

We get a **token** ✓

# ATTACKER DEPLOYS NEW VERSION OF AZURE FUNCTIONS APP

1

**Download**  
certificate

2

Post full certificate to  
external server

3

Return  
internal server error

# DEMO



```
[Function(nameof(LoadCertificateAndPostToExternalServer))]
```

1 reference

```
public async Task<HttpresponseData> Run(  
    [HttpTrigger(AuthorizationLevel.Function, "get", Route = "demo1/steal-certificate")] HttpRequestData req,  
    FunctionContext executionContext  
)  
{  
    // Create a certificate client, passing in the key vault uri (from configuration) and the token credential  
    var certificateClient = new CertificateClient(_strongConfiguration.KeyVaultUri, _tokenCredential);  
    // Download the certificate, passing in the name of the certificate  
    var certificate = await certificateClient.DownloadCertificateAsync(new DownloadCertificateOptions(_strongConfiguration.ClientId));  
    // At this point, the certificate is loaded ... and we can do whatever we want with it  
  
    _logger.LogWarning("We are stealing the certificate by posting it to an external server");  
    // By calling ExportCertificatePem and ExportRSAPrivateKeyPem and putting it underneath each other the certContent will look like  
    // -----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----  
    // MIIDBzCCAe+gAwIBAgIQJQ6+J5Zz1z5zq2Z  
    // -----END CERTIFICATE-----  
    // -----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----  
    // MIIEpAIBAAKCAQEAz0Zz1z5zq2Z  
    // -----END RSA PRIVATE  
    var certContent = certificate.Value.ExportCertificatePem() + "\r\n" + certificate.Value.GetRSAPrivateKey().ExportRSAPrivateKeyPem();  
  
    // An external server might not be reachable, but it just a string at this point.  
    // You could also write it to the blob storage (every Azure Function has a storage account)  
    // or send it to a queue, or maybe even just return it in the response.  
  
    var result = req.CreateResponse(System.Net.HttpStatusCode.OK);  
    // I don't want to show the full (working) certificate, so I'm cutting it off but you get the idea  
    await result.WriteStringAsync(certContent.Substring(0, certContent.Length - 400) + " ... ", executionContext.CancellationToken);  
    return result;  
}
```

← ↻ ⓘ localhost:33640/api/demo1/steal-certificate

-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----

```
MIIDRDCCAiygAwIBAgIQYDm6X1wxQ82DQAzF5J0UMjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQsFADAfMR0wGwYDVQQDEXRncmFwaC1yZWZkZXIuaW52YWxpZDAeFw0yNDA0MjUxMTA5MjNaFw0yNDA0MjUxMTA5MjNaMB8xHTAbBgNVBAMTFGdyYXB0LXJ1YWRlci5pbnZhbGlkMIIBIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAAOCAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEA2Sq70WYqvUX2U52eV49A6z4yMfahUdj6q+r095mWtzoikLVjpW/DDjUwUNBm+GpV/qrOhtSxt10Bjb+KyExGjwEPx1h0aLrnNW1uoYikXQD/eipAqIfo3AY8NfGmxwjV2L1ld+YVJuAUNRKmhbatF26ArHkGEqWhHQuTRq1oDSa/SjP+xE7+vB1s8FHJfE0Mo5uNoY/DKFW7/Nc3dXrUf3BR7MpedsXYdJQNIKOocWNdIsNT8KXuVS4biw0fE8heXqZHaVwRz0vD4+K8wPCKdjHjiVM3Pwxn5PhNR5EB/HUa2k3ySoEp1ZGrQyIw4dd9WjYMxQ5Lg4PRAVC8xTaQIDAQABo3wweja0BgNVHQ8BAf8EBAMCBaAwCQYDVR0TBAlwADAdBgNVHSUEfjAUBggrBgEFBQcDAQYIKwYBBQUHAWIwHwYDVR0jBBgwFoAUsadMCSrsqCxZnBHEFjI+7hpX7TowHQYDVR00BBYEFLGnTAKq7KgsWZwRxBYyPu4aV+06MA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBCwUAA4IBAQBMMntg4fRdPshY8rviP3M5ZaXWkt0Q+mg+SMO4RQUM1nnzv7Tqh1BvBsUuJfvI4so/2y2CjklSftzgKUw02Aysfjfv3Ecif+W95DaEcIcELwmDNPfYhCS3c0PZ0dadCXXD+yaUDyUMFmbOmb1+kWy+3SZN2KufRkUyYPR90NwG+Dv26stlu+nYpV7SD5gDD8uk0SMk8fmE35WdytJYcDZu6uLVwQym8EsY3IhG4lWkVvCy6AsasIMFRk9LkYBRWisD1vxEMYsRGrin80539FDrOz2Rl4hsOvYmaRgS8c+cw0zxj+4wiwveTEX7iIi1Y/A6rkSeVuZzANZa/TcFWQlVT
```

-----END CERTIFICATE-----

-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----

```
MIIEFwIBAAKCAQEA2Sq70WYqvUX2U52eV49A6z4yMfahUdj6q+r095mWtzoikLVjAqIfo3AY8NfGmxwjV2L1ld+YVJuAUNRKmhbatF26ArHkGEqWhHQuTRq1oDSa/SjP+xE7+vB1s8FHJfE0Mo5uNoY/DKFW7/Nc3dXrUf3BR7MpedsXYdJQNIKOocWNdIsNT8KXuVS4biw0fE8heXqZHaVwRz0vD4+K8wPCKdjHjiVM3Pwxn5PhNR5EB/HUa2k3ySoEp1ZGrQyIw4dd9WjYMxQ5Lg4PRAVC8xTaQIDAQABo3wweja0BgNVHQ8BAf8EBAMCBaAwCQYDVR0TBAlwADAdBgNVHSUEfjAUBggrBgEFBQcDAQYIKwYBBQUHAWIwHwYDVR0jBBgwFoAUsadMCSrsqCxZnBHEFjI+7hpX7TowHQYDVR00BBYEFLGnTAKq7KgsWZwRxBYyPu4aV+06MA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBCwUAA4IBAQBMMntg4fRdPshY8rviP3M5ZaXWkt0Q+mg+SMO4RQUM1nnzv7Tqh1BvBsUuJfvI4so/2y2CjklSftzgKUw02Aysfjfv3Ecif+W95DaEcIcELwmDNPfYhCS3c0PZ0dadCXXD+yaUDyUMFmbOmb1+kWy+3SZN2KufRkUyYPR90NwG+Dv26stlu+nYpV7SD5gDD8uk0SMk8fmE35WdytJYcDZu6uLVwQym8EsY3IhG4lWkVvCy6AsasIMFRk9LkYBRWisD1vxEMYsRGrin80539FDrOz2Rl4hsOvYmaRgS8c+cw0zxj+4wiwveTEX7iIi1Y/A6rkSeVuZzANZa/TcFWQlVT
```

CERTIFICATE STOLEN  
EXPOSURE TIME  
**360 days**



ATTACKER GAINS  
ACCESS  
TO ACCOUNT WITH  
KEY VAULT ACCESS

64b9a3cd13414  
Certificate Version

Save Discard changes Download in CER format Download in PFX/PEM format

#### Properties

Created 25-4-2024 13:19:24

Updated 25-4-2024 13:19:24

Certificate Identifier <https://vault.azure.net/certificates/test-client-credentials...>

#### Settings

Set activation date



Activation date

25/04/2024

13:09:23

(UTC+01:00) Amsterdam, Berlin, Bern, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna

Set expiration date



Expiration date

25/04/2025

13:19:23

(UTC+01:00) Amsterdam, Berlin, Bern, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna

Enabled

Yes

No

Tags

0 tags

CERTIFICATE STOLEN  
EXPOSURE TIME

**360 days**





A close-up photograph of a silver and gold pen tip resting on a document. The document has several fields with labels: 'Name', 'Signature', and 'Date'. A white speech bubble with a black border is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text. The background is blurred, showing more of the document and the pen's body.

WE NEED THE CERTIFICATE TO LOGIN?

Or just a signature?

# sign - sign

Reference

[Feedback](#)



Service: Key Vault

API Version: 7.4

Creates a signature from a digest using the specified key.

The SIGN operation is applicable to asymmetric and symmetric keys stored in Azure Key Vault since this operation uses the private portion of the key. This operation requires the keys/sign permission.

HTTP

[Copy](#)

```
POST {vaultBaseUrl}/keys/{key-name}/{key-version}/sign?api-version=7.4
```

KEY VAULT -> KEYS -> SIGN

# CERTIFICATE **SECURELY** STORED IN KEY VAULT

1

Create unsigned JWT

2

Sign JWT with Key in  
Azure Key Vault

3

Request token from  
Entra ID with JWT



INTRODUCING

**Smartersoft.Identity.Client.Assertion**

You don't have to mess with unsigned tokens



# DEMO

1 reference

```
private async Task<string> GetTokenUsingMsalAsync(TokenCredential tokenCredential, Uri keyVaultUri, string tenantId, string clientId, string certificateName,
{
    // The code for the 'WithKeyVaultCertificate' extension can be found here https://github.com/Smartersoft/identity-client-assertion/blob/b12318fe7b0d054a65334d61686dc96a9a29024d/src/Smartersoft.IdentityClientAssertion/Extensions/WithKeyVaultCertificate.cs
    // which eventually calls this code: https://github.com/Smartersoft/identity-client-assertion/blob/b12318fe7b0d054a65334d61686dc96a9a29024d/src/Smartersoft.IdentityClientAssertion/Extensions/WithKeyVaultCertificate.cs
    var app = ConfidentialClientApplicationBuilder.Create(clientId)
        // .WithCertificate(certificateName) // this is replaced with the following line
        .WithKeyVaultCertificate(keyVaultUri, certificateName, tokenCredential) // this is the new line
        .WithTenantId(tenantId)
        .Build();
    var result = await app.AcquireTokenForClient(scopes)
        .ExecuteAsync(cancellationToken);

    return result.AccessToken;
}
```

[Home](#) >[Certificates](#) >

## Create a certificate

Method of Certificate Creation

Generate

Certificate Name \* ⓘ

test-client-credentials-no-export

Type of Certificate Authority (CA) ⓘ

Self-signed certificate

Subject \* ⓘ

CN=client-cert-protected.invalid

DNS Names

[0 DNS names](#)

Validity Period (in months) \*

12

Content Type

☒ PKCS #12 ☐ PEM

Lifetime Action Type

E-mail all contacts at a given percentage lifetime

Percentage Lifetime \*



Advanced Policy Configuration

[Not configured](#)

Tags

[0 tags](#)

## Advanced Policy Configuration

Create a certificate

Extended Key Usages (EKUs) ⓘ

1.3.6.1.5.5.7.3.1, 1.3.6.1.5.5.7.3.2 ✓

X.509 Key Usage Flags

Digital Signature ▾

Reuse Key on Renewal?

☐ Yes☒ No

Exportable Private Key?

☐ Yes☒ No

Key Type

☒ RSA☐ EC

Key Size

☒ 2048☐ 3072☐ 4096

Enable Certificate Transparency? ⓘ

☐ Yes☒ No

Certificate Type

For example: "OV-SSL".

OK



Create

Cancel

# ATTACKER DEPLOYS NEW VERSION OF AZURE FUNCTIONS APP

1

Sign JWT with Key in  
Azure Key Vault

2

Request token from  
Entra ID

3

Return token

~~CERTIFICATE~~  
TOKEN STOLEN  
EXPOSURE TIME  
**3600**  
**seconds**



# GENERAL KEY VAULT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Use Managed identity to access Key Vault
2. Periodically review role assignments
3. Limit network traffic
4. Monitor access
5. Disable Vault Access Policies





# MORE INVESTIGATION NEEDED

Nuget RSAKeyVaultProvider?

Key Vault backed X509Certificate2?

- Client Certificate in HttpClient
- RSA async support?



# SECURE MULTI-TENANT APP BY STEPHAN VAN ROOIJ

Source:

<https://github.com/svrooij/SecureMultiTenantApp>

Blog: [svrooij.io](https://svrooij.io)

Twitter: @svrooij

Github: @svrooij