

# Get started with Security for your Java Microservices Application

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As a developer you should ask  
yourself: "How can I make my  
application (more) secure?"!

# What is Application Security?

“Application security encompasses measures taken to improve the security of an application often by finding, fixing and preventing security vulnerabilities.”

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application\\_security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_security)

# Terms

## Asset

“Resource of value such as the data in a database, money in an account, file on the filesystem or any system resource.”

## Vulnerability

“A weakness or gap in security program that can be exploited by threats to gain unauthorized access to an asset.”

## Attack (or exploit)

An action taken to harm an asset.

## Threat

Anything that can exploit a vulnerability and obtain, damage, or destroy an asset.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application\\_security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_security)

# Categories

Category			
Input Validation	Buffer overflow; cross-site	Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Request for Comments: 6819 Category: Informational ISSN: 2070-1721	INFORMATIONAL Errata Exist T. Lodderstedt, Ed. Deutsche Telekom AG M. McGloin IBM P. Hunt Oracle Corporation January 2013
Software Tampering	Attacker modifies an existing code extension		exploited via binary patching, code substitution, or
Authentication	Network eavesdropping; B	Abstract	
Authorization	Elevation of p	Threat & Attacks are not in our scope	
Configuration management	Unauthorized individual ac		
Sensitive information	Access sensitive code or d	4.1.1. Threat: Obtaining Client Secrets .....16 4.1.2. Threat: Obtaining Refresh Tokens .....17 4.1.3. Threat: Obtaining Access Tokens .....19 4.1.4. Threat: End-User Credentials Phished Using Compromised or Embedded Browser .....19 4.1.5. Threat: Open Redirectors on Client .....20 4.2. Authorization Endpoint .....21 4.2.1. Threat: Password Phishing by Counterfeit Authorization Server .....21 4.2.2. Threat: User Unintentionally Grants Too Much Access Scope .....21	ack of
Session management	Session hijacking; session	© <a href="https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6819">https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6819</a>	
Cryptography	Poor key generation or key		

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application\\_security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_security)

# Developer point of view

Category	Threats & Attacks
<i>Input Validation</i>	<a href="#">Buffer overflow</a> ; <a href="#">cross-site scripting</a> ; <a href="#">SQL injection</a> ; <a href="#">canonicalization</a>
<i>Software Tampering</i>	Attacker modifies an existing application's runtime behavior to perform unauthorized actions; exploited via binary patching, code substitution, or code extension
<i>Authentication</i>	Network eavesdropping; <a href="#">Brute force attack</a> ; <a href="#">dictionary attacks</a> ; <a href="#">cookie replay</a> ; <a href="#">credential theft</a>
<i>Authorization</i>	Elevation of privilege
<i>Configuration management</i>	Unauthorized access to individual accounts
<i>Sensitive information</i>	Access sensitive data
<i>Session management</i>	<a href="#">Session hijacking</a>
<i>Cryptography</i>	Poor key generation or key management; weak or custom encryption

How to implement or configure these categories for a Microservices based Cloud Native application?

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application\\_security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_security)

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#IBMDeveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

# The example Cloud Native Starter – Web application

QUARKUS

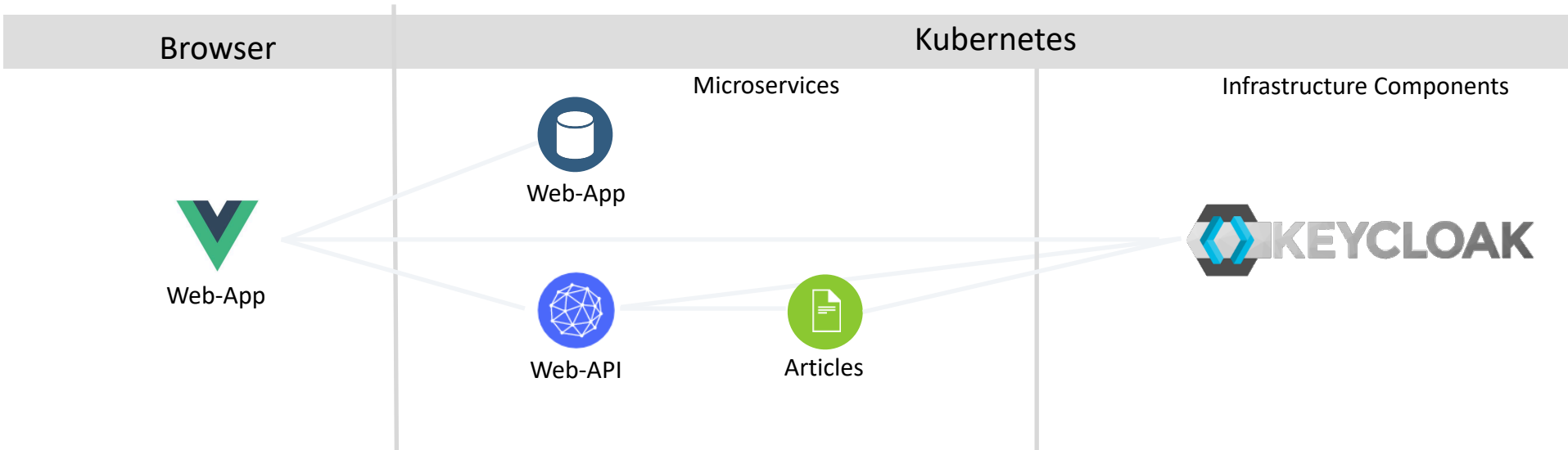
Log In

Username or email

Password

Log In

# Let's make it concrete

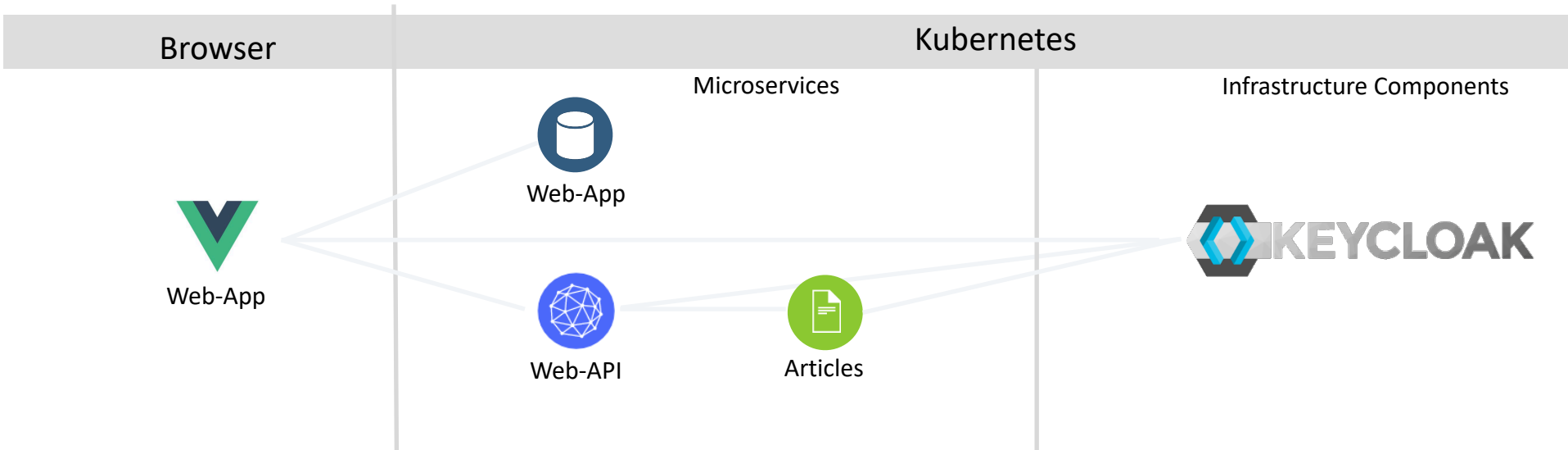


Cryptography

Authentication and  
Authorization



# Let's make it concrete



Cryptography

Authentication and  
Authorization

# Let's make it concrete

Browser

Kubernetes

Microservices

Infrastructure Components



Web-App



Web-App



Web-API



Articles



Realm

User: Alice

Role: User

ClientTypes:

- Frontend

- Backend

Redirect information

# Authentication with Keycloak

Browser



Web-App

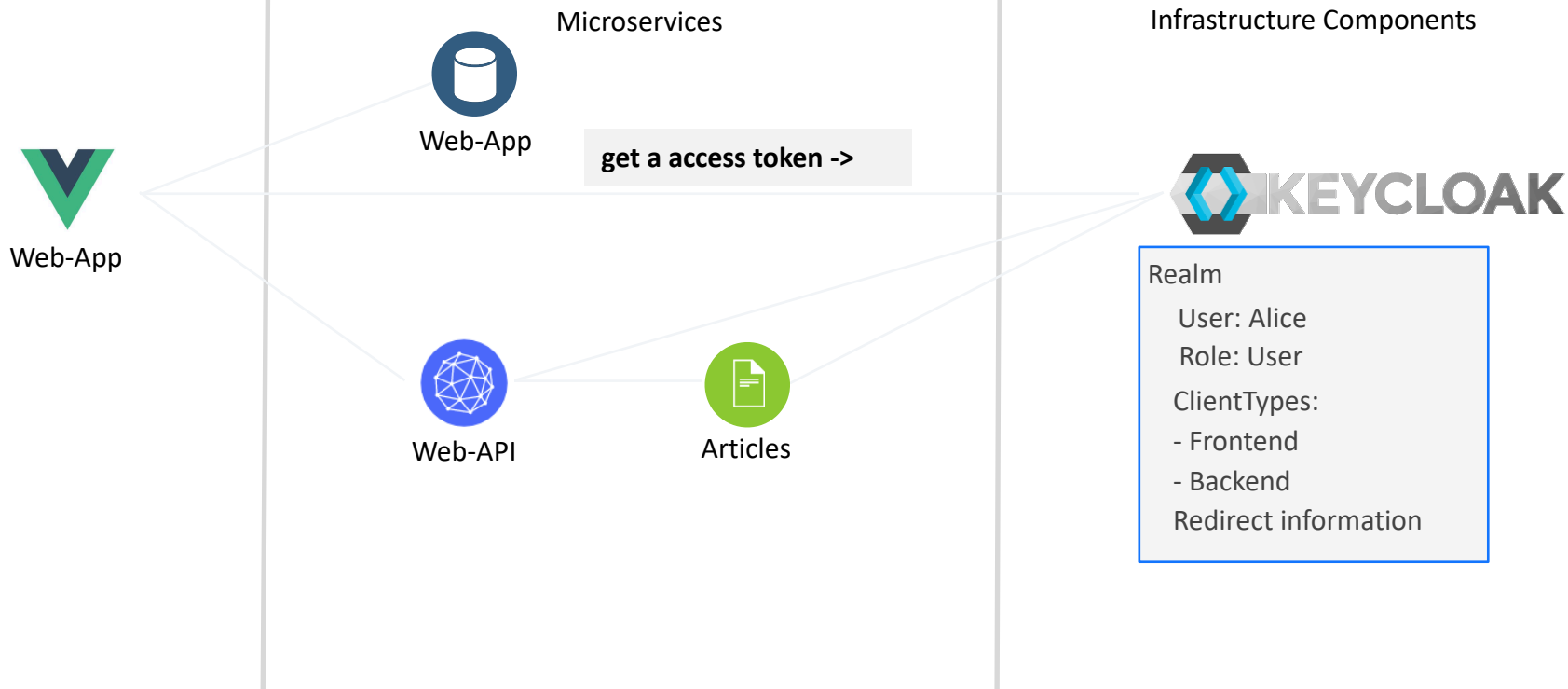
Code: "main.js"

```
1 import Keycloak from 'keycloak-js';
2
3 let initOptions = {
4   url: 'https://keycloak-url/auth',
5   realm: 'quarkus', clientId: 'frontend', onLoad: 'login-required'
6 }
7
8 Vue.config.productionTip = false
9 Vue.config.devtools = true
10 Vue.use(BootstrapVue);
11
12 let keycloak = Keycloak(initOptions);
13 keycloak.init({ onLoad: initOptions.onLoad }).then((auth) => {
14   if (!auth) {
15     window.location.reload();
16   }
17
18   new Vue({
19     store,
20     router,
21     render: h => h(App)
22   }).$mount('#app')
23
24   let payload = {
25     idToken: keycloak.idToken,
26     accessToken: keycloak.token
27   }
28   if (keycloak.token && keycloak.idToken && keycloak.token !== ' ' && keycloak.idToken !== ' ') {
29     payload = {
30       name: keycloak.tokenParsed.preferred_username
31     };
32     store.commit("setName", payload); }
33   else {
34     store.commit("logout");
```

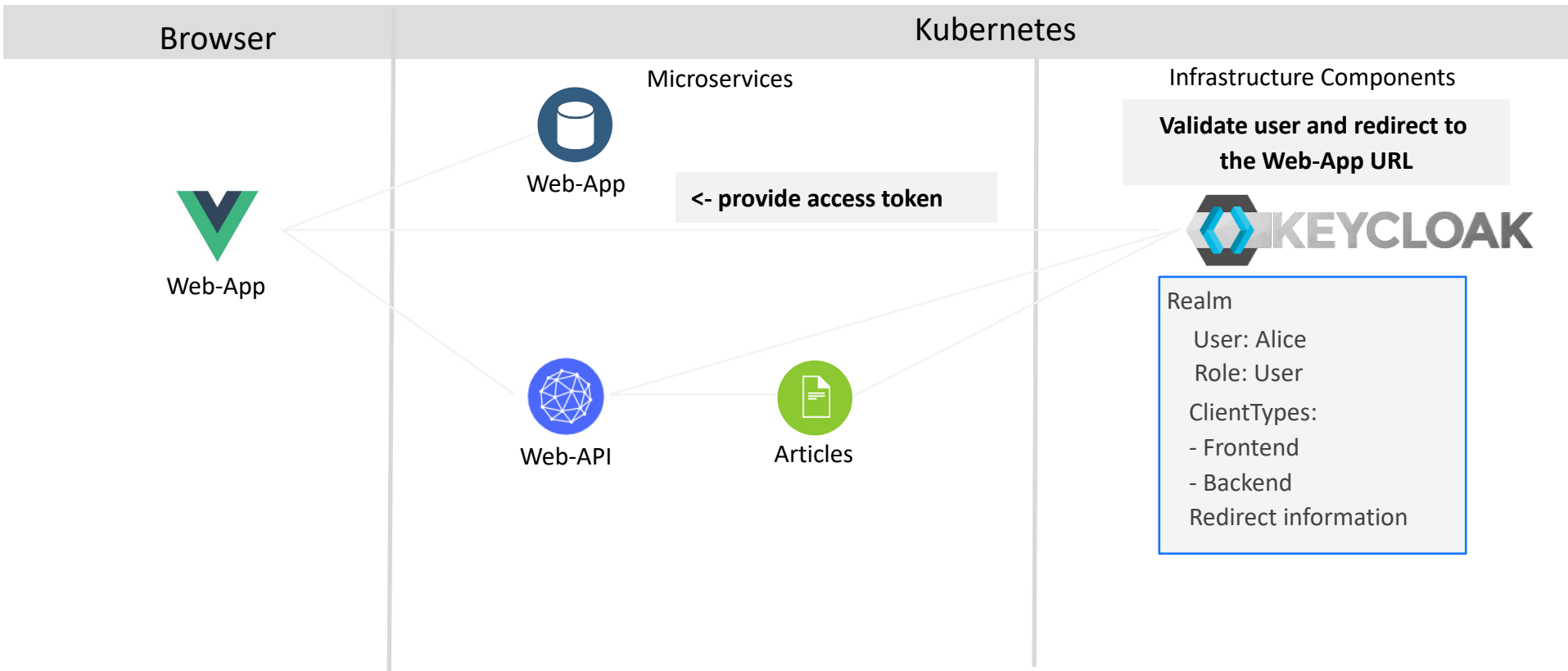
# Authentication with Keycloak

Browser

Kubernetes



# Redirect



# Access Token

## HEADER: ALGORITHM & TOKEN TYPE

```
{  
  "alg": "RS256",  
  "typ": "JWT",  
  "kid": "cfIADN_xxCJmVkWyN-PNXEEvMUWs2r68CxtmhEDNzXU"  
}
```

Source: [jwt.io](https://jwt.io)

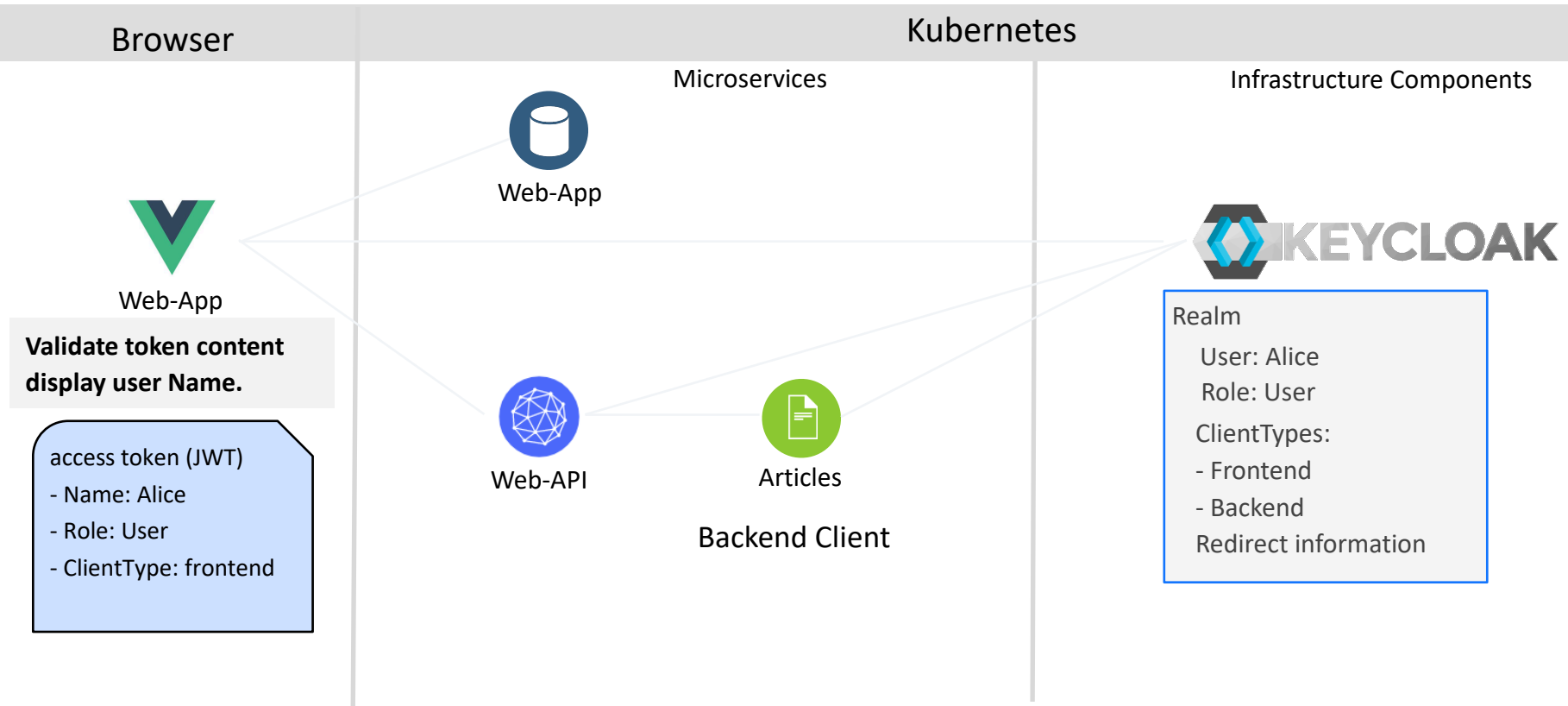
## VERIFY SIGNATURE

```
RSASHA256(  
  base64UrlEncode(header) + "." +  
  base64UrlEncode(payload),  
  -----BEGIN PUBLIC KEY-----  
  MIIBIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAAOCAQ  
  8AMIIBCgKCAQEA5T13suF8m1S+pJX  
  p0U1
```

## PAYLOAD: DATA

```
{  
  "exp": 1597924559,  
  "iat": 1597924259,  
  "auth_time": 1597916415,  
  "jti": "bd2af8be-c4f1-42fc-bcb1-6f2c127e36a0",  
  "iss": "https://tsuedbro-security-works-  
162e406f043e20da9b0ef0731954a894-0001.us-  
south.containers.appdomain.cloud/auth/realms/quarkus",  
  "sub": "eb4123a3-b722-4798-9af5-8957f023657a",  
  "typ": "Bearer",  
  "azp": "frontend",  
  "nonce": "8a6136d6-bdf5-4794-8ba1-e8a985159d30",  
  "session_state": "bff67131-3b62-437a-ae2b-  
8b999059e61f",  
  "acr": "0",  
  "allowed-origins": [  
    "'*'",  
    "http://localhost:8080",  
    "*" ]  
  },  
  "realm_access": {  
    "roles": [  
      "user"  
    ]  
  },  
  "scope": "openid email profile",  
  "email_verified": false,  
  "preferred_username": "alice"  
}
```

# Validate Token Content



# Validate Token Content

Browser



Web-App

Code: "main.js"

```
let keycloak = Keycloak(initOptions);
keycloak.init({ onLoad: initOptions.onLoad }).then((auth) => {
  if (!auth) {
    window.location.reload();
  }

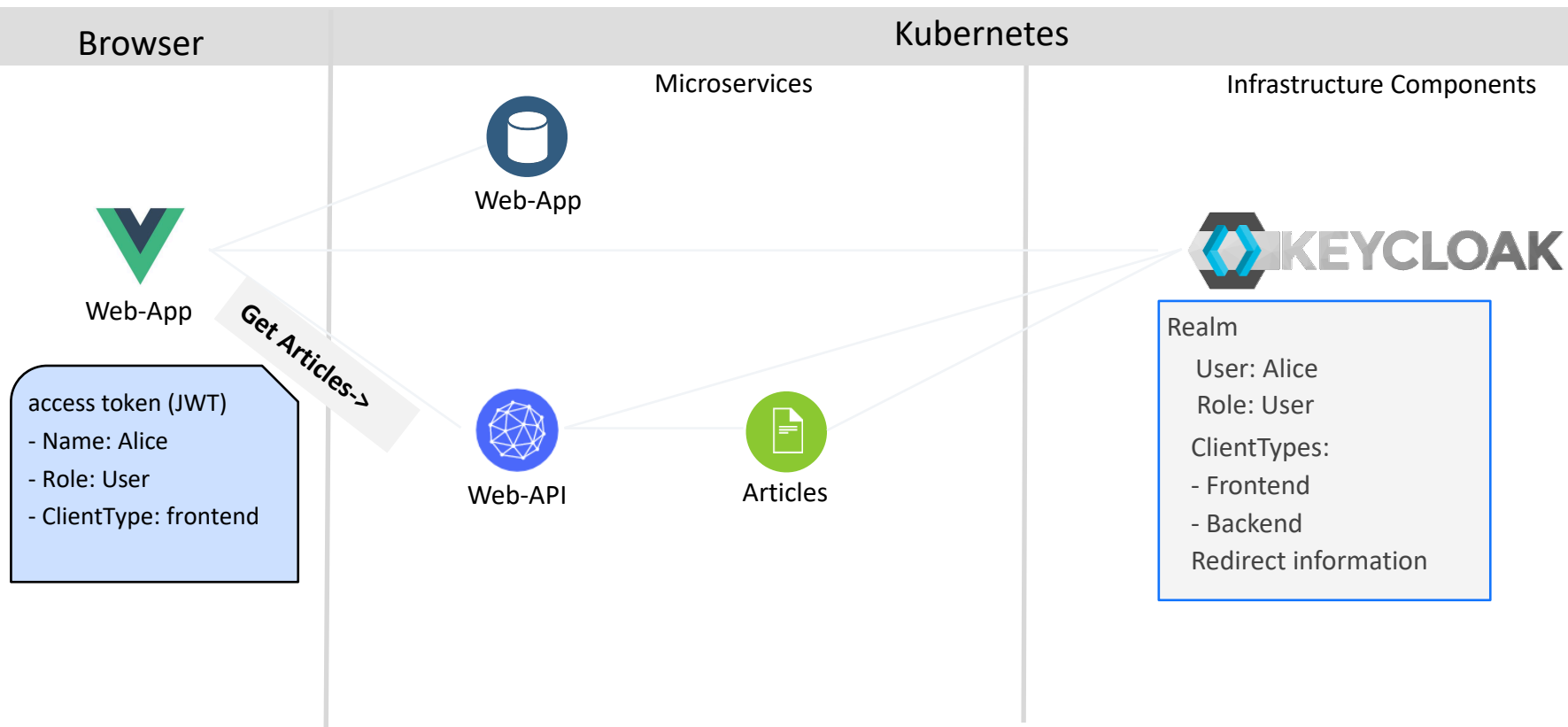
  new Vue({
    store,
    router,
    render: h => h(App)
  }).$mount('#app')

  let payload = {
    idToken: keycloak.idToken,
    accessToken: keycloak.token
  }

  if (keycloak.token && keycloak.idToken && keycloak.token !== ' ' && keycloak.idToken !== ' ') {
    payload = {
      name: keycloak.tokenParsed.preferred_username
    };
    store.commit("setName", payload); }
  else {
    store.commit("logout");
```



# Invoke the Web-API



# Invoke Web-API

Browser



Web-App

Code: "Home.vue"

```
readArticles() {  
  this.loading = true;  
  const axiosService = axios.create({  
    timeout: 5000,  
    headers: {  
      "Content-Type": "application/json",  
      Authorization: "Bearer " + this.$store.state.user.accessToken  
    }  
  });  
  let that = this;  
  axiosService  
    .get(this.webApiUrl)  
    .then(function(response) {  
      that.articles = response.data;  
      that.loading = false;  
      that.error = "";  
    })  
    .catch(function(error) {  
      console.log(error);  
      that.loading = false;  
      that.error = error;  
    });  
}
```

# Defintion of REST Endpoint for the Web-API

Kubernetes

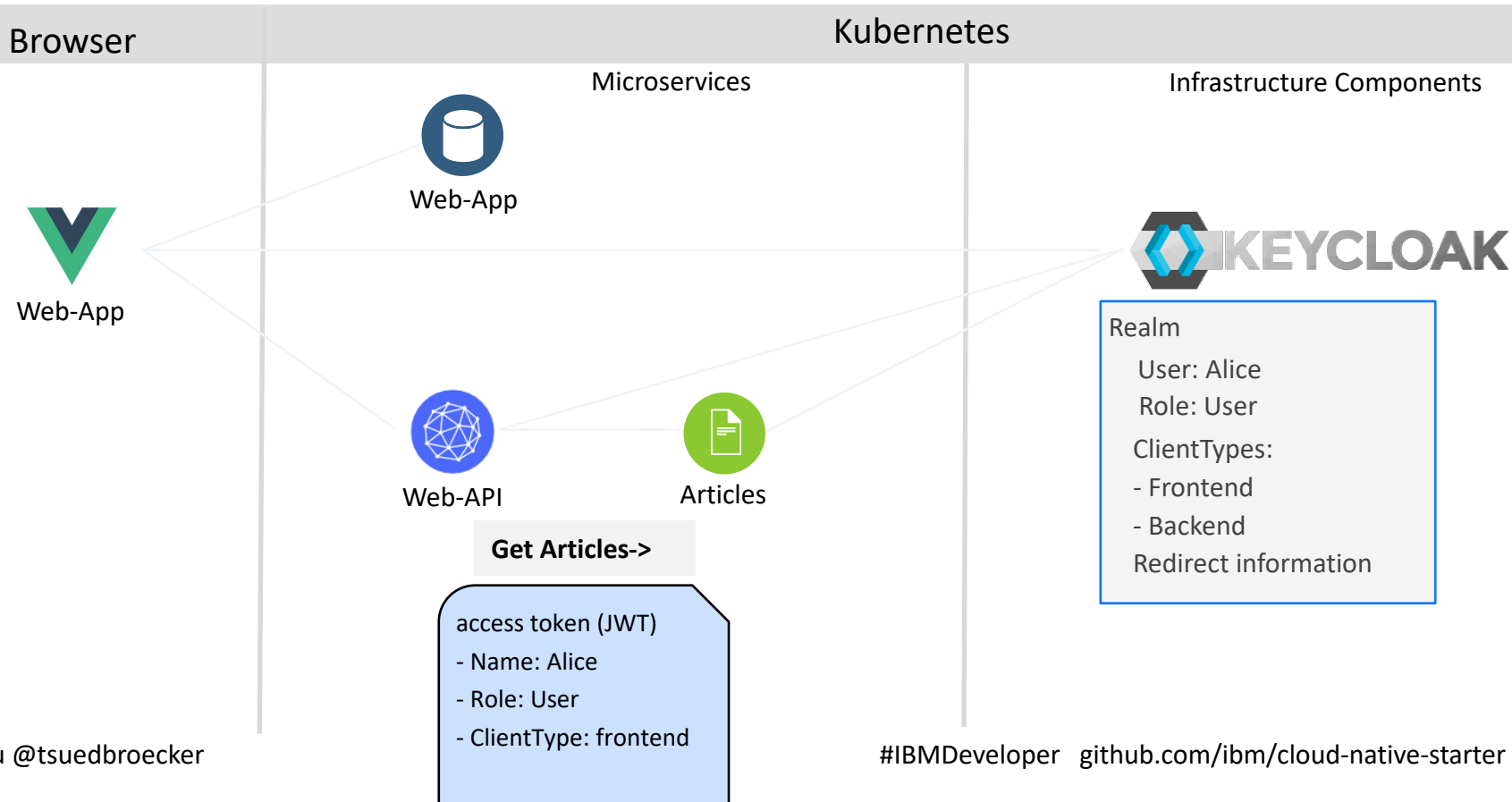


Web-API

Code: ArticlResource.java and application.properties

```
@GET
@Path("/articles")
@Produces(MediaType.APPLICATION_JSON)
//@Authenticated
@RolesAllowed("user")
@NoCache
public List<Article> getArticles() {
    try {
        List<CoreArticle> coreArticles = articlesDataAccess.getArticles(5);
        System.out.println("-->log: ArticleResource.getArticles");
2  quarkus.oidc.auth-server-url=YOUR-URL/auth/realms/quarkus
3
4  quarkus.oidc.client-id=backend-service
5  quarkus.oidc.credentials.secret=secret
6
7  quarkus.http.port=8081
8  quarkus.http.cors=true
9
0  org.eclipse.microprofile.rest.client.propagateHeaders=Authorization
```

# Invoke Articles Service REST Endpoint



# Invoke Articles Service REST Endpoint

Kubernetes

Code: **WebAPI**: ArticlesDataAccess.java and **Articles**: application.properties



Web-API



Articles

```
21     @PostConstruct
22     void initialize() {
23         URI apiV1 = UriBuilder.fromUri("http://{host}:{port}/articles").build(a
24
25         articlesService = RestClientBuilder.newBuilder()
26             .baseUri(apiV1)
27             .register(ExceptionMapperArticles.class)
28             .build(ArticlesService.class);
29
30         quarkus.oidc.auth-server-url=https://YOUR_URL/auth/realms/quarkus
31
32         quarkus.oidc.client-id=backend-service
33         quarkus.oidc.credentials.secret=secret
34
35         quarkus.http.port=8082
36         quarkus.http.cors=true
37
38         resteasy.role.based.security=true
```

# Platform Security

## IBM Cloud

Compliance: GDPR, HIPAA, PCI, SOC2, ISO 9001, etc.

( )

Identity and Access Management (IAM) for the platform

Key Management System aaS

## IBM Cloud Kubernetes Service (IKS)

Protecting sensitive information

## Istio Security

Encryption

Access control

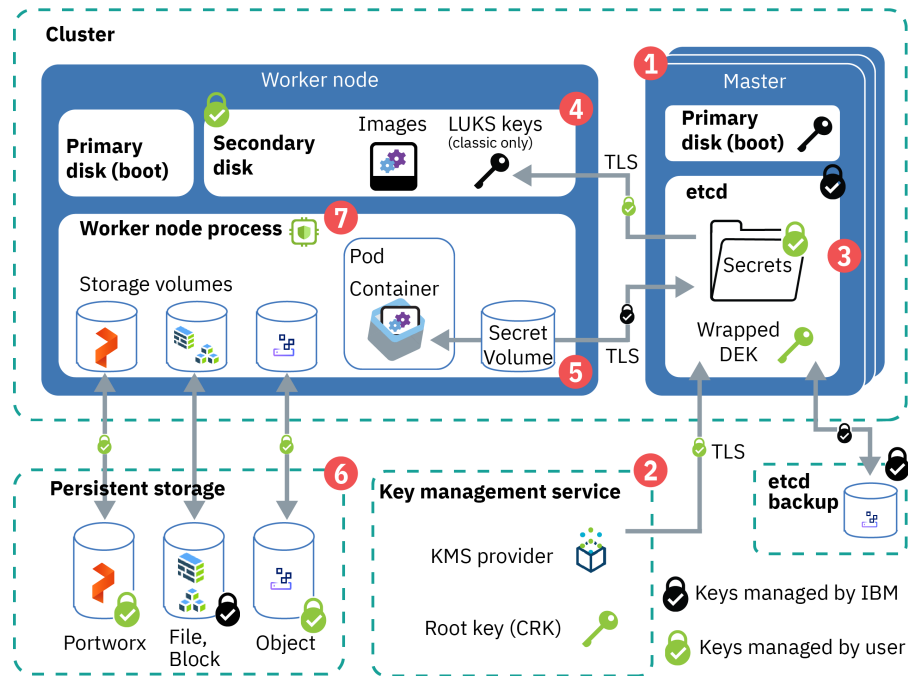
Security by default: no changes needed to application code and infrastructure

# IBM Cloud Kubernetes Service (IKS)

## Protecting sensitive information

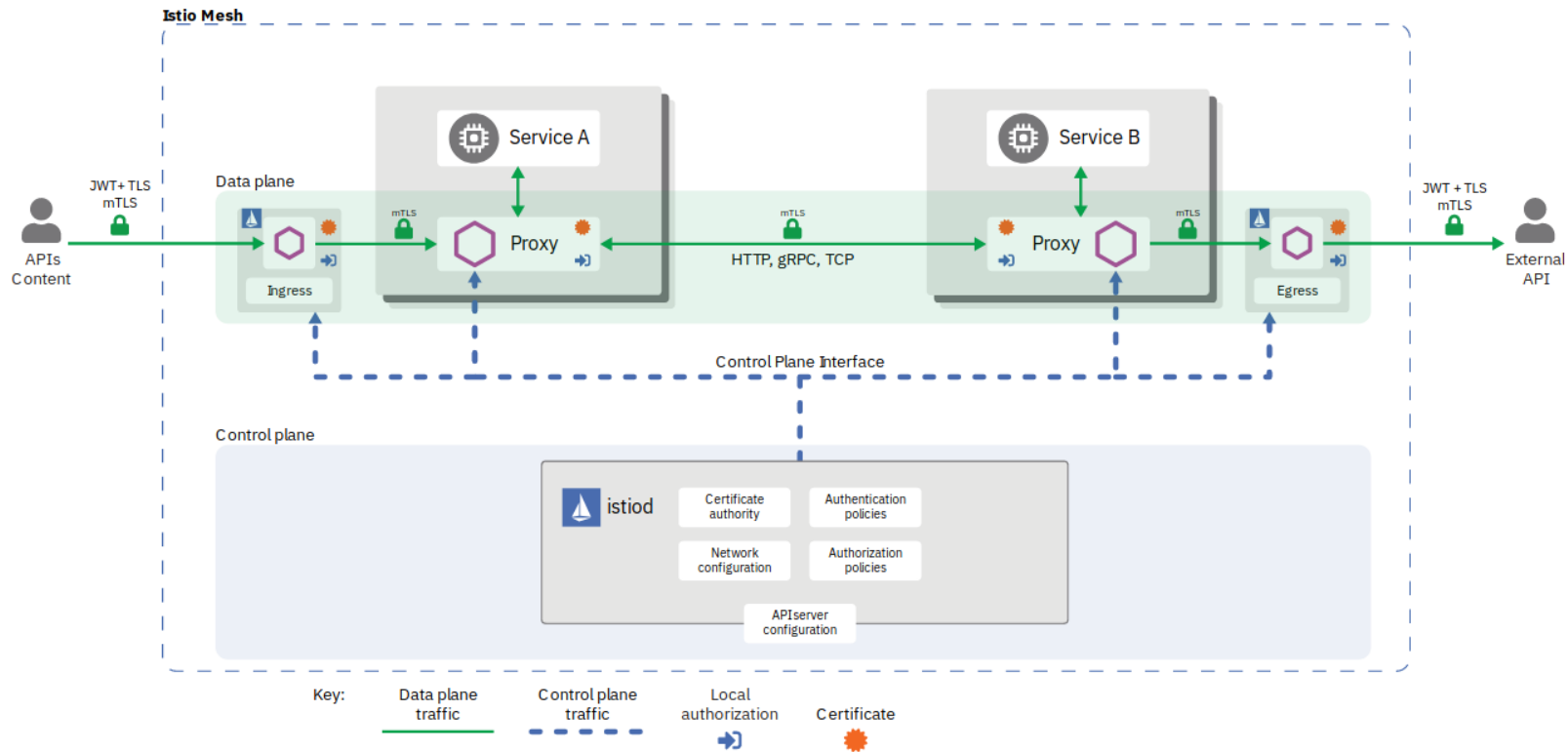
<https://cloud.ibm.com/docs/containers?topic=containers-encryption>

- Encrypted disks
- Optional Key Management System (KMS) to encrypt etcd and Kubernetes secrets
  - IBM Key Protect
  - IBM Cloud Hyper Protect Crypto Service
- Encrypted persistent storage
- Automatically generate TLS certificates for Kubernetes services type LoadBalancer
- IBM Cloud Container Registry
  - Signed Images (Integrity)
  - Vulnerability Advisor (Image security status)



# Istio Security Architecture

<https://istio.io/latest/docs/concepts/security>





# Istio Security

## Identity and Access Management

- Certificate Authority
- Manages X.509 certificates
- Key and certificate rotation

## Mutual TLS (mTLS) authentication

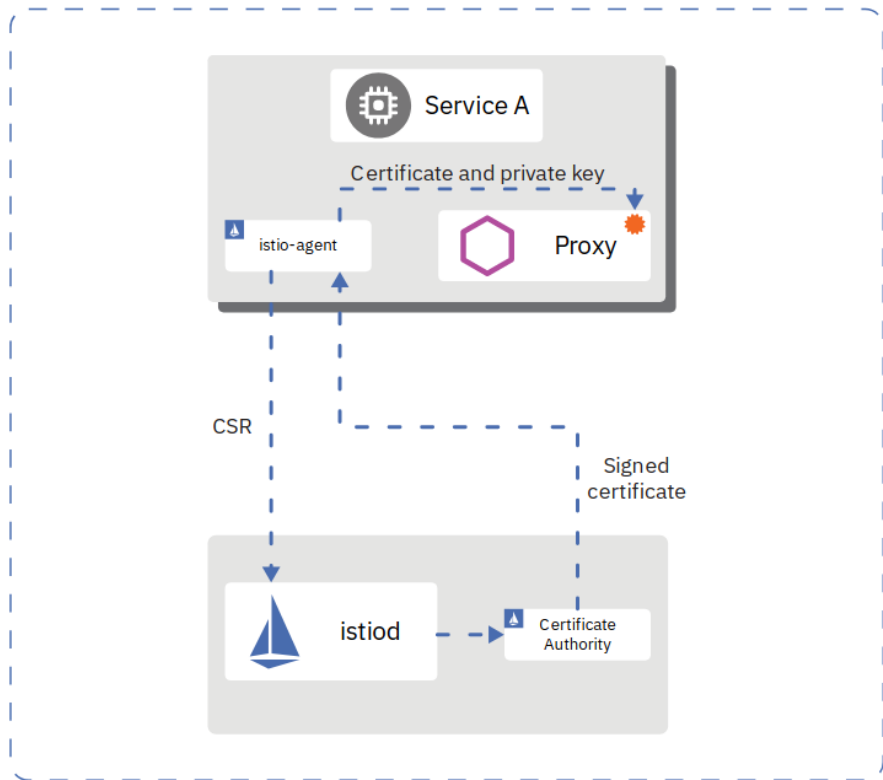
- Traffic between services is routed through Envoy proxies
- Envoys establish mTLS connection
- Connection is encrypted and identity of service verified
- mTLS is enabled by default

## Authorization policies based on

- mTLS certificates (internal)
- JWT (external, e.g. from Keycloak)

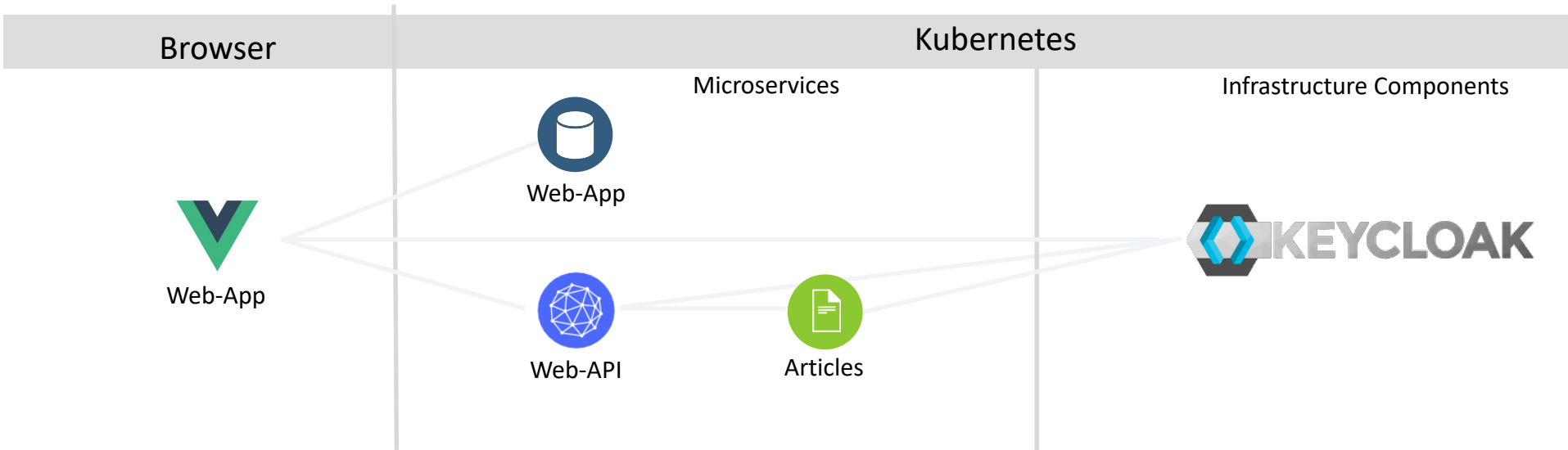
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### Istio Mesh



#IBMDveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

# Let's make it concrete



Cryptography

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Authentication and  
Authorization

#IBMDveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

“SUPERSONIC SUBATOMIC  
JAVA.”

“A **Kubernetes Native** Java stack  
tailored for **OpenJDK HotSpot**  
and **GraalVM**, crafted from the  
best of breed **Java libraries and**  
**standards.**”

quarkus.io

@harald\_u @tsuedbroecker



kubernetes



#IBMDveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

“Optimizing Enterprise Java for a  
Microservices Architecture.”

“[...] by innovating [...] with a  
goal of standardization [...]  
microservices security are based  
on [OAuth2](#), [OpenID  
Connect\(OIDC\)](#) and [JSON Web  
Tokens\(JWT\)](#) standards.”

**microprofile.io**

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#IBMDeveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

“Open Source Identity and  
Access Management  
For Modern Applications and  
Services”

“... Add authentication to  
applications and secure services  
with minimum fuss. No need to  
deal with storing users or  
authenticating users ... ”

<https://www.keycloak.org/>

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Supported protocols:  
Open ID Connect and SAML

#IBMDDeveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

“ a simple identity layer on top of the OAuth 2.0 protocol”

“It allows Clients to verify the identity of the End-User based on the authentication OpenID Connect specifies”

<https://openid.net/connect/>

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#IBMDeveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

“JSON Web Tokens are an open, industry standard [RFC 7519](#) method for representing claims securely between two parties.”

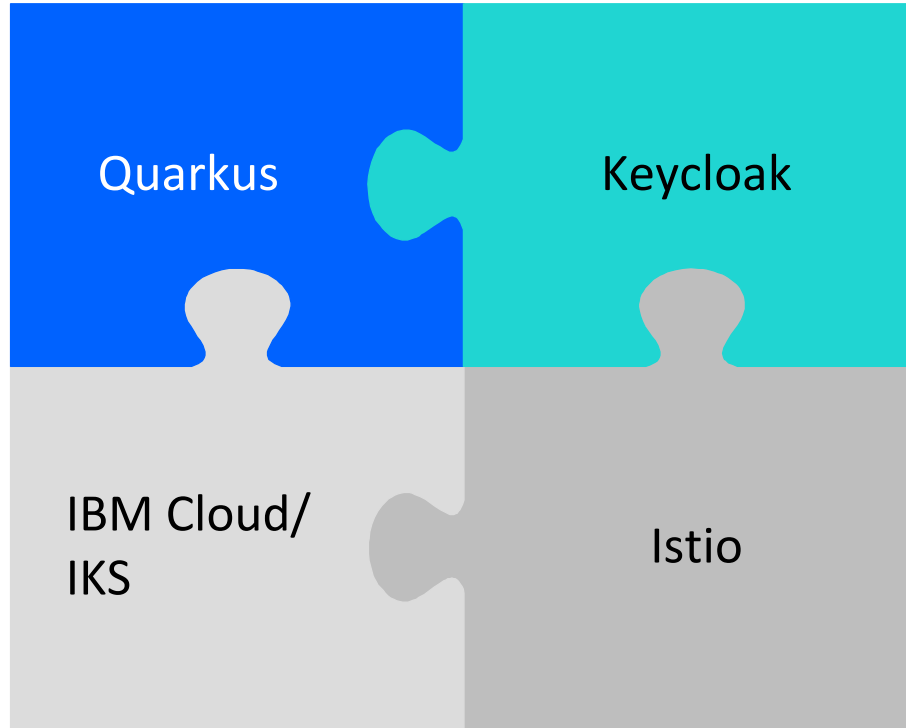
<https://jwt.io/>

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#IBMDeveloper [github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter](https://github.com/ibm/cloud-native-starter)

# Technologies to secure the Microservice Application





Try out the end-to-end security  
example for a Microservices  
application on the open source  
Cloud Native Starter project!

# Summary

## Authentication and Authorization with

- Qurakus
- MircoProfile
- Keycloak
- OpenID Connect
- JWT

## Cryptography

- IBM Cloud
- IKS
- Istio

## IBM Developer

[developer.ibm.com](https://developer.ibm.com)

## IBM Cloud Lite account

[ibm.biz/tbd](https://ibm.biz/tbd)

**IBM**