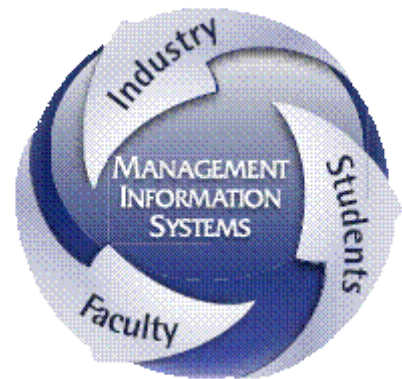Security Lab

Lab 2: Guide to Getting Past Invalid SSL Errors

Systems Security Management

Document Overview

This document provides instructions for Internet Explorer, Firefox, and Chrome on how to get past the invalid SSL certificate errors during Lab 2. These invalid SSL certificate messages are expected in this environment because it has not been configured with an SSL certificate that is signed by a commercial certificate authority. In the real world you will find a mix of organizations who will replace the certificates and those who choose not to. Either way, the connection is encrypted, it is just the web browser that reports the inconsistencies with the certificate.

NOTE: Apple Mac OS X computers can use Google Chrome to complete the lab assignments. The Safari web browser is <u>NOT</u> compatible with the VMware vCenter Server web application.
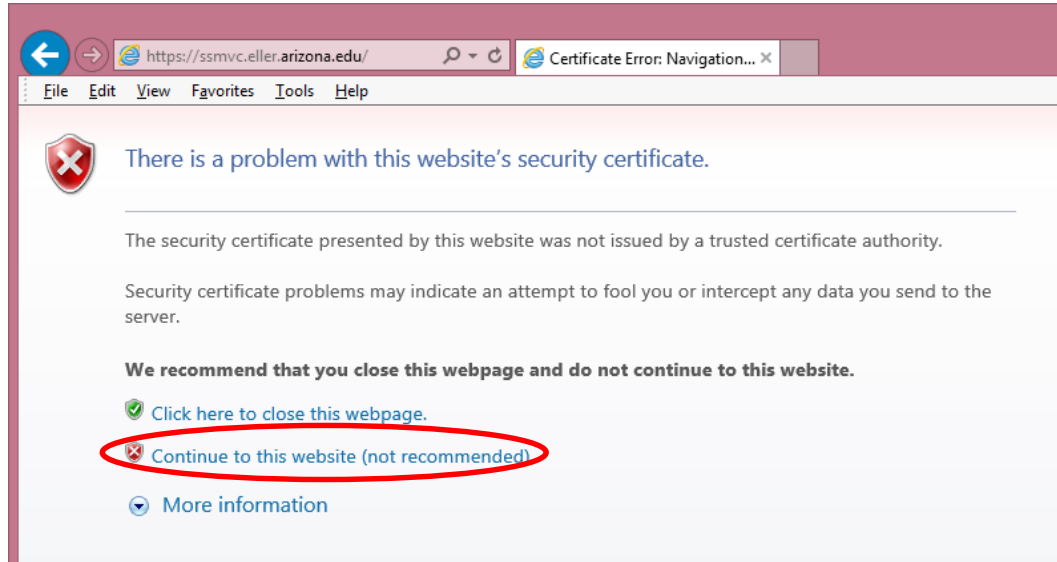
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Microsoft Internet Explorer

Instructions for bypassing the SSL certificate errors in Internet Explorer.

1. Navigate to https://ssmvc.eller.arizona.edu
2. You will see a warning about the SSL certificate on the server. In Internet Explorer it looks like this:


3. Click on **Continue to this website (not recommended)** (note you will receive this message periodically throughout the lab. This is how IE handles SSL certificates that are not generated by a known SSL certificate authority.
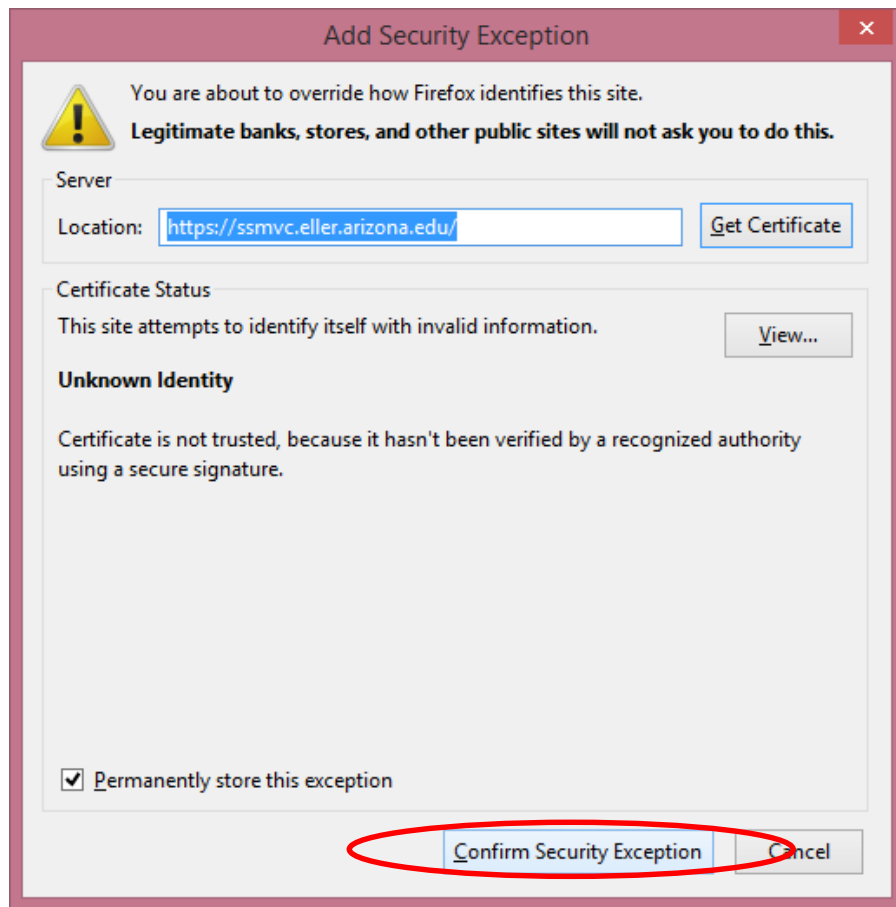
Mozilla Firefox

Instructions for bypassing the SSL certificate errors in Internet Explorer.

1. Navigate to https://ssmvc.eller.arizona.edu
2. You will see a warning about the SSL certificate on the server. In Mozilla Firefox it looks like this:
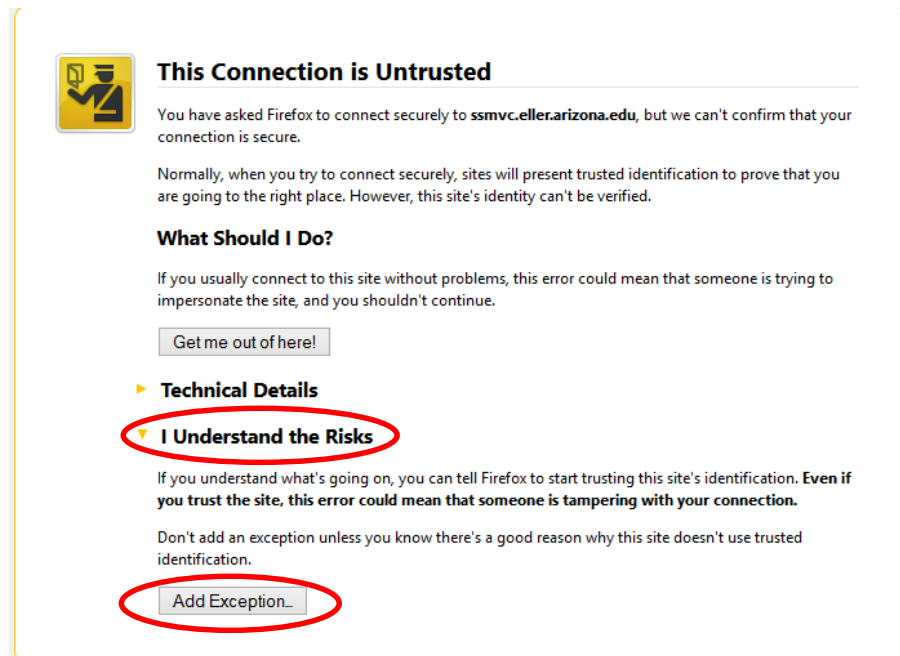
3. Click on **I Understand the Risks** then **Exceptions**

4. Click on **Confirm Security Exception** (note: ONLY IN FIREFOX, you will have to do this one more time in a future step, then you should no longer receive this error).

Google Chrome

Instructions for bypassing the SSL certificate errors in Google Chrome.

1. Navigate to https://ssmvc.eller.arizona.edu
2. You will see a warning about the SSL certificate on the server. In Google Chrome it looks like this:
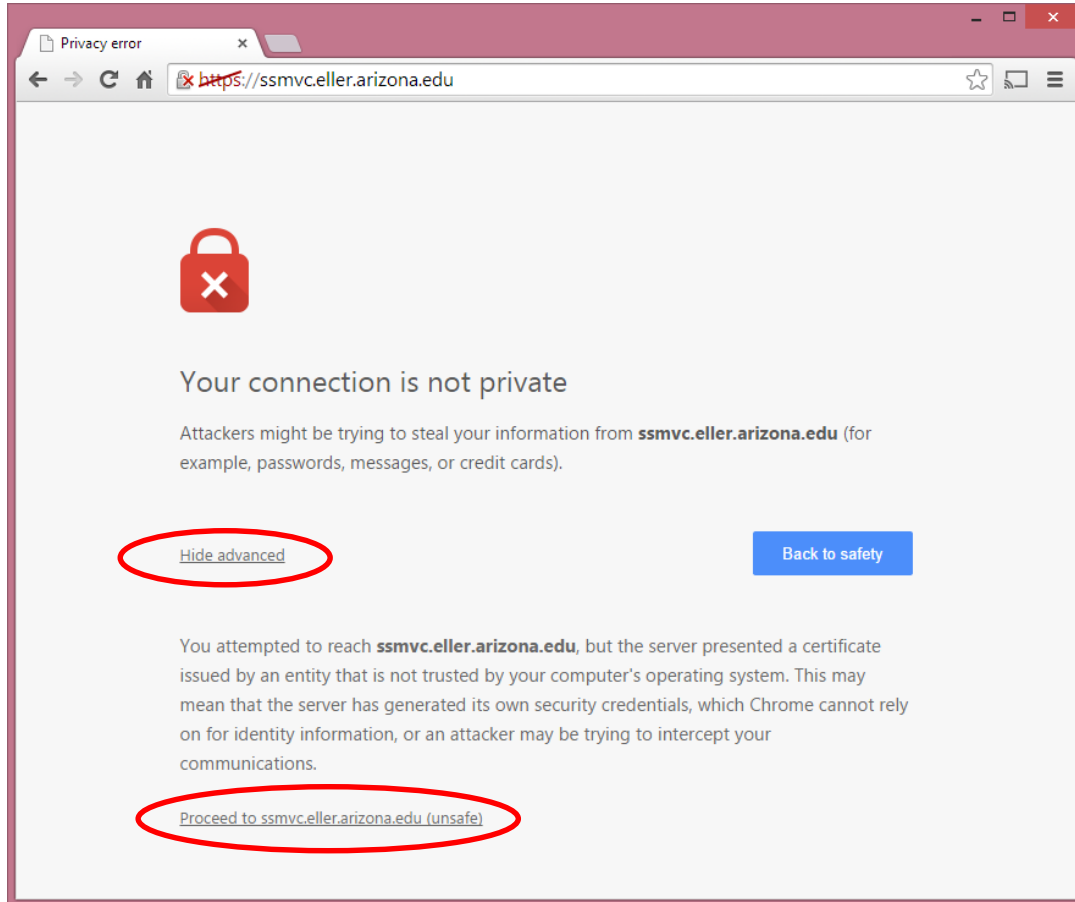
3. Click on **Advanced** then **Proceed to ssmvc.eller.arizona.edu (unsafe)**. Chrome will always ask you about this when you visit the first time.