Two-Step adapter authentication

Overview

This tutorial demonstrates how to implement "Two-Step" adapter-based authentication.

Two-Step means that after the initial authentication that uses, for example, a username and a password, an additional authentication step is required, such as a login pin, a secret word, or similar identification. In this example, a secret word is implemented for the second authentication step. The code snippets and sample application in this tutorial are based on the existing adapter-based authentication sample (.../../authentication-security/adapter-based-authentication/). The changes extend the application from single-step to Two-Step.

Session-independent mode

By default, MobileFirst Platform Foundation 7.1 applications run in a session-independent mode, meaning that you can no longer use HTTP sessions or global variables to persist data across requests. Instead, MobileFirst apps must use a third-party database to store applicative states.

To learn more about the session-independent mode, see its topic in the user documentation.

To demonstrate how to store user data, the tutorial uses the WL.Server.getClientId API and a Cloudant database.

Agenda

- Prerequisite Creating an IBM Cloudant account
- Configuring the authenticationConfig.xml file
- Creating the server-side authentication components
- Creating the client-side authentication components
- Sample application

Prerequisite - Creating an IBM Cloudant account

This sample uses IBM Cloudant Database to save user data. To run the sample and understand how to work with Cloudant, first sign up for a free account (https://cloudant.com/sign-up/) and create a database. Then proceed as follows:

- Change the database permissions Follow the instructions in the Changing Database Permissions (https://cloudant.com/changing-database-permissions-tutorial/) tutorial.
- Basic authentication The basic authentication value is passed as part of every request to the
 database. Instead of using your username and password to identify, use base-64 encoding to
 generate a string that is created by concatenating the API key and password, separated by a
 column character in the following manner: key:password. You use it later to send requests to the
 database.

For more information, read the Cloudant Basic Authentication (https://docs.cloudant.com/authentication.html#basic-authentication) documentation.

Configuring the authenticationConfig.xml file

Realms

Add a realm or replace the existing AuthLoginModule realm in the realms section of the authenticationConfig.xml file:

Security tests

Add a security test or replace the existing AuthSecurityTest in the securityTests section of the authenticationConfig.xml file:

```
<customSecurityTest name="TwoStepAuthAdapter-securityTest">
     <test isInternalUserID="true" realm="TwoStepAuthRealm"/><
</customSecurityTest><br />
```

To review the remaining/existing sample components, see the Adapter-based authentication (../../authentication-security/adapter-based-authentication/) tutorial.

Creating the server-side authentication components

To put in place the Two-Step authentication process, several changes are necessary to the adapter file (whether XML or JavaScript) and to the database.

Adapter XML file

Edit the AuthAdapter.xml file:

1. Change the domain name to your Cloudant domain:

```
<domain>$USERNAME.cloudant.com</domain>
```

2. Add the following procedure:

Protect the getSecretData method with the new TwoStepAuthAdapter-securityTest

Adapter JavaScript file

Edit the AuthAdapter-impl.js file:

1. Create a variable to save the basic authentication encoded string you have generated before:

```
var auth = "Basic REPLASE_ME_WITH_THE_BASE-64_ENCODED_STRING";
```

2. Create a variable to save your database name:

```
var dbName = "REPLACE_ME_WITH_THE_DATABASE_NAME";
```

3. Update the onAuthRequired function to return that authentication step 1 is required:

```
function onAuthRequired(headers, errorMessage){
  errorMessage = errorMessage ? errorMessage : null;
  return {
    authRequired: true,
    authStep: 1,
    errorMessage: errorMessage
  };
}
```

- 4. Update the submitAuthenticationStep1 function:
 - Add the following line to get the client ID:

```
function submitAuthenticationStep1(username, password){
  if (username === "user" && password === "password"){
    WL.Logger.debug("Step 1 :: SUCCESS");
    var clientId = WL.Server.getClientId();
    var userIdentity = {
        userId: username,
        displayName: username,
        attributes: {}
};
```

• To save the userIdentity for the next authentication step, write it to the database. Use the clientId variable as the document id key:

```
//Validate that the DB doesn't already contains the ClientId
var response = deleteUserIdentityFromDB(dbName, null);
//Write ClientId to DB
var response = writeUserIdentityToDB(dbName, {_id:clientId, "userIdentity":userIdentity});
```

o If step 1 authentication was successful, return that step 2 is required:

```
if (response){
    return {
        authRequired: true,
        authStep: 2,
        question: "What is your pet's name?",
        errorMessage : ""
        };
    } else {
        return onAuthRequired(null, "Database ERROR");
    }
    else{
        WL.Logger.debug("Step 1 :: FAILURE");
        return onAuthRequired(null, "Invalid login credentials");
    }
}
```

5. Add submitAuthenticationStep2 function to handle the second authentication step:

Get the client ID and read it from the database:

```
function submitAuthenticationStep2(answer){
  var clientId = WL.Server.getClientId();
  var response = readUserIdentityFromDB(dbName, clientId);
```

If step 2 authentication was successful, delete the client document from database:

```
if (response){
  if (answer === "Lassie"){
  var doc = JSON.parse(response.text);
  var userIdentity = doc.userIdentity;
  WL.Logger.debug("Step 2 :: SUCCESS");
  WL.Server.setActiveUser("TwoStepAuthRealm", userIdentity);
  WL.Logger.debug("Authorized access granted");
      var response = deleteUserIdentityFromDB(dbName, doc);
  return {
   authRequired: false
  };
  } else{
  WL.Logger.debug("Step 2 :: FAILURE");
  return onAuthRequired(null, "Wrong security question answer");
  }
 } else {
 WL.Logger.debug("Step 1 :: FAILURE");
  return onAuthRequired(null, "Database ERROR");
}
}
```

Database actions

To handle the database actions, use the WL.Server.invokeHttp method and Cloudant REST API.

Write to the database:

```
function writeUserIdentityToDB(db, document){
   var input = {
        method : 'post',
        returnedContentType : 'plain',
        path : db,
        headers: {
            "Authorization":auth
        },
        body:{
            contentType:'application/json; charset=UTF-8',
            content:JSON.stringify(document)
        }
   };
   var response = WL.Server.invokeHttp(input);
   var responseString = "" + response.statusCode;
   //Checking if the invocation was successful - status code = 2xx
   if (responseString.indexOf('2') === 0){
        return response;
   }
   return null;
}
```

• Read from database:

```
function readUserIdentityFromDB(db, key){
   var input = {
       method : 'get',
        returnedContentType : 'plain',
        path : db + "/" + key,
       headers: {
            "Authorization":auth
        }
   };
   var response = WL.Server.invokeHttp(input);
   var responseString = "" + response.statusCode;
   //Checking if the invocation was successful - status code = 2xx
   if (responseString.indexOf('2') === 0){
        return response;
   return null;
}
```

Delete from the database:

```
function deleteUserIdentityFromDB(db, document){
   var doc = document;
   if (!doc){
        var clientId = WL.Server.getClientId();
        var response = readUserIdentityFromDB(dbName, clientId);
        if(!response){
            return;
        } else {
            doc = JSON.parse(response.text);
        }
   }
   var id = doc. id; // The id of the doc to remove
   var rev = doc. rev; // The rev of the doc to remove
   var input = {
        method : 'delete',
        returnedContentType : 'plain',
        path : db + "/" + id + "?rev=" + rev,
        headers: {
            "Authorization":auth
        }
   };
   return WL.Server.invokeHttp(input);
}
```

To learn more about IBM Cloudant REST API, see the Cloudant documentation.

Creating the client-side authentication components

1. In index.html, use the TwoStepAuthRealm instead of the existing realm:

2. Add a second authentication screen:

Finally, update the challenge handler accordingly.
 In this example, a new challenge handler (a new .js file), called
 TwoStepAuthRealmChallengeProcessor.js, is created for this purpose.

• The response is checked as in the original sample application:

Add another case for the second authentication step:

```
TwoStepAuthRealmChallengeHandler.handleChallenge = function(response
) {
var authRequired = response.responseJSON.authRequired;
if (authRequired == true){
    $("#AppDiv").hide();
    $("#AuthDiv").show();
    $("#AuthInfo").empty();
    $("#AuthStep1Div").hide();
    $("#AuthStep2Div").hide();
    switch (response.responseJSON.authStep) {
        case 1:
            $("#AuthStep1Div").show();
            $("#AuthPassword").val('');
            break:
        case 2:
            $("#AuthStep2Div").show();
            $("#AuthAnswer").val('');
            $("#AuthQuestion").html(response.responseJSON.question);
            break;
    }
   if (response.responseJSON.errorMessage)
        $("#AuthInfo").html(response.responseJSON.errorMessage);
    } else if (authRequired == false){
        $("#AppDiv").show();
        $("#AuthDiv").hide();
        TwoStepAuthRealmChallengeHandler.submitSuccess();
   }
};
```

Perform the second authentication step:

```
$("#AuthStep1Submit").bind('click', function () {
                        var username = $("#AuthUsername").val();
                        var password = $("#AuthPassword").val();
                        var invocationData = {
                                                  adapter : "AuthAdapter",
                                                  procedure : "submitAuthenticationStep1",
                                                  parameters : [ username, password ]
                        };
                        Two Step Auth Realm Challenge Handler.submit Adapter Authentication (invocation and the context of the contex
tionData, {});
});
$("#AuthStep2Submit").bind('click', function () {
                        var answer = $("#AuthAnswer").val();
                        var invocationData = {
                                                  adapter : "AuthAdapter",
                                                  procedure : "submitAuthenticationStep2",
                                                  parameters : [ answer ]
                        };
                        Two Step Auth Realm Challenge Handler.submit Adapter Authentication (invocation and the context of the contex
tionData, {});
});
$(".AuthCancelButton").bind('click', function () {
                         $("#AppDiv").show();
                         $("#AuthDiv").hide();
                        TwoStepAuthRealmChallengeHandler.submitFailure();
});
```

To review the remaining/existing sample client-side implementation, see the Adapter-based authentication in hybrid applications (../../authentication-security/adapter-based-authentication/adapter-based-authentication-hybrid-applications/) tutorial.

Sample application

Click to download (https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/TwoStepAuth/tree/release71) the sample application.

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