Client X.509 Certificate Authentication and User Enrollment

This tutorial covers the following topics:

- Overview
- Prerequisites
- Understanding how user certificate authentication works
- X.509 certificate and certificate authorities (CAs)
 - o Create root CAs, signing CAs, and certificates
 - o Create a root CA
 - Create a signing CA
 - o Create a server certificate
 - Create a certificate chain for the server certificate
 - Export a PKCS12 file for the signing CA
 - Export a PKCS12 file for the server certificate
- Configuring IBM WebSphere Application Server Liberty profile (Liberty)
- Configuring the authenticationConfig.xml file
- · Configuring the application-descriptor.xml file
- Installing the root CA on iOS and Android
- Installing and testing the application
- Sample application

Overview

The X.509 User Certificate Authentication feature is a user realm that establishes user identity with an X.509 client certificate.

The user identity is established for a particular user on a specific device and application.

This feature provides SSL client-side certificate authentication and user enrollment capabilities.

SSL client-side certificate authentication consists of establishing a two-way SSL handshake the between MobileFirst client and server which, in turn, enables the client and server both to present their identities and therefore establish mutual trust through the SSL/TLS protocol.

You can enroll new users to the MobileFirst Platform Mobile Application Management system and your PKI of choice with the user enrollment capabilities.

A basic embedded PKI is provided with this feature which is meant to get you started quickly for educational and non-production environments only.

For production environments, this feature makes it easy to integrate with your existing PKI.

You can use either the PKI Bridge JavaTM interface or built-in MobileFirst adapters to delegate certificate management functions down to an external PKI system.

Prerequisites

You must have a general understanding of MobileFirst user realms and adapters.

It is assumed that you follow these instructions by using an application that currently supports form-based authentication.

- The form-based authentication module uses non-validating login modules. These login modules are not recommended for production environments
- Use other user authentication realms, like WASLTPA in production.

Understanding how user certificate authentication works

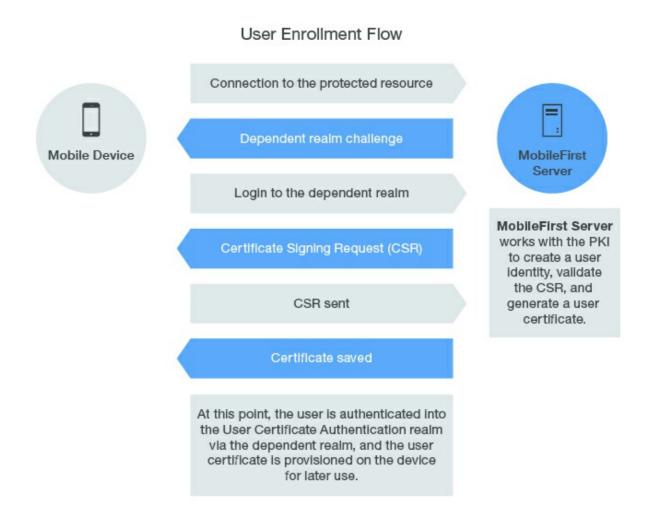
User certificate authentication is the process in which an X.509 certificate is issued by an existing PKI through te MobileFirst server to a specific user on a specific application and device.

The relevant user information is obtained during the user enrollment process with the specified dependent user realm.

The user enrollment process relies on a dependent user realm to help it establish the initial user identity to which the X.509 certificate is issued.

IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation then provisions the device with the X.509 client certificate for use in subsequent connections to the server.

The first time a user connects to the MobileFirst server, that user must authenticate through the dependent realm to initiate the enrollment process. After a user is enrolled into the User Certificate Authentication realm, subsequent connections to the server occur through the two way SSL/TLS handshake, where the client certificate is presented as the SSL client entity.



Client Certificate Authentication Flow



MobileFirst Platform connects to a protected resource by using an X.509 client certificate in an SSL handshake.

The user is successfully authenticated into the User Certificate Authentication realm.

At this point, the user is authenticated into the User Certificate Authentication realm with an X.509 client certificate and MobileFirst Platform is ready to handle the next set of security realm challenges.



MobileFirst Server works with the PKI to validate the client certificate and establish the user identity.

X.509 certificate and certificate authorities (CAs)

For security reasons, during testing, it is not recommended to use an established CA that uses an embedded PKI in your infrastructure.

It is possible to create a self-signed CA that can sign both a server certificate and user certificates.

This module uses the OpenSSL command-line utility.

OpenSSL is included in most Linux distributions and in Mac OS X. Windows users can obtain an OpenSSL binary from the OpenSSL website.

The commands that are shown in this module work on Linux and Mac OS X. For Windows, use the equivalent MS-DOS commands.

Create root CAs, signing CAs, and certificates

- 1. Create an empty directory and navigate to that path in your system terminal.
- 2. Create a basic OpenSSL configuration file that is named openSSL.cnf.
- 3. Move this file to the directory that you created.

If you want different policy requirements, see the OpenSSL configuration documentation for instructions on how to configure the various options.

openSSL.cnf sample file:

```
[req]
  default bits
                 = 2048
                                    # size of keys
  default_keyfile
                                      # name of generated keys
                  = key.pem
  default md
                  = sha1
                                     # message digest algorithm
                   = nombstr
  string_mask
                                      # permitted characters
  distinguished_name = req_distringuished_name
[req_distinguished_name]
0.organizationName
organizationUnitName
emailAddress
emailAddress_max
localityName
stateOrProvinceName
countryName
countryName min
countryName_max
commonName
commonName_max
[ policy_match ]
countryName
                     = optional
stateOfProvinceName
                        = optional
localityName
             = optional
organizationName = optional
organizationalUnitName = supplied
commonName
                       = optional
emailAddress
                     = optional
```

Create a root CA

Append the following section to the openSSL.cnf configuration file to set up the root CA requirements.

```
[root authority]
basicConstraints
                    = CA:TRUE
subjectKeyIdentifier = hash
[root_authority_ca_config]
dir
       = ./rootca
           = $dir/certs
certs
new_certs_dir = $dir/newcerts
database = $dir/index.txt
certificate = $dir/root ca.crt
              = $dir/root_ca_key.pem
private_key
            = $dir/serial
serial
RANDFILE
                = $dir/.rand
         = $dir/policy_match
policy
```

- Using a terminal, create the folder structure and requirements for the root CA.
 - 1. Create a root CA certificate directory structure.

```
mkdir rootca
mkdir rootca/certs rootca/crl rootca/newcerts
touch rootca/serial
export HEXOUT=0123456789ABCDEF
```

2. Create a serial list of random numbers.

```
for y in {1..2048}
do
export output="";
for i in {1..16}
do
export randomnum=$RANDOM%16;
export output=$output${HEXOUT:$randomnum:1};
done
echo "$output" >> rootca/serial
done
touch rootca/index.txt
```

- For Windows, create the folder structure and requirements for the root CA.
 - 1. Create a root CA certificate directory structure.

MKDIR rootca
MKDIR rootca\certs
MKDIR rootca\crl
MKDIR rootca\newcerts

2. Create a serial list of random numbers for the root CA.

openssl rand -hex -out rootca\serial 8

3. Create an index for the root CA.

COPY NUL rootca\index.txt

Using a terminal, generate an RSA key pair and then self-sign a root CA certificate.

The password must remain secure, even for a test environment. For the following example, the password is passRoot.

export ROOT_CA_SUBJECT="Development Root CA"

1. Create the RSA key pair.

The parameter, 2048, represents the key length.

openssl genrsa -des3 -out rootca/root_ca_key.pem -passout pass:passRoot 2048

2. Sign a certificate with the key pair.

openssl req -new -x509 -nodes -sha1 -days 365 -key rootca/root_ca_key.pem -out rootca/root_ca.crt -config P ATH_TO_/openssl.conf -subj "/CN=\$ROOT_CA_SUBJECT" -extensions root_authority -passin pass:passRoot

• For Windows, generate an RSA key pair and then self-sign a root CA certificate.

The password must remain secure, even for a test environment. For the following example, the password is passRoot.

1. Create the RSA key pair.

The parameter, 2048, represents the key length.

openssl genrsa -des3 -out rootca\root_ca_key.pem -passout pass:passRoot 2048

2. Sign a certificate with the key pair.

openssl req -new -x509 -nodes -sha1 -days 365 -key rootca\root_ca_key.pem -out rootca\root_ca.cert -config o penssl.cnf -subj "/CN=Development Root CA" -extensions root_authority -passin pass:passRoot

Create a signing CA

To set up the signing CA configuration options, edit the openssl.conf file that you created earlier and append the following configuration:

```
[ signing authority ]
basicConstraints
                      = CA:TRUE,pathlen:0
subjectKeyIdentifier
                      = hash
authorityKeyldentifier = keyid:always, issuer:always
[ signing_authority_ca_config ]
         = ./signingca
dir
      = $dir/certs
certs
new_certs_dir = $dir/newcerts
database
          = $dir/index.txt
certificate = $dir/signing_ca.crt
private_key = $dir/signing_ca_key.pem
serial
       = $dir/serial
RANDFILE = $dir/.rand
policy
         = policy match
email_in_dn = false
```

- Using the terminal, create the folder structure and requirements for the signing CA. Run these commands from the base directory.
 - Create a signing CA certificate directory structure.

```
mkdir signingca
mkdir signingca/certs signingca/crl signingca/newcerts
touch signingca/serial
export HEXOUT=0123456789ABCDEF
```

2. Create a serial list of random numbers.

```
for y in {1..2048}
do
export output="";
for i in {1..16}
do
export randomnum=$RANDOM%16;
export output=$output${HEXOUT:$randomnum:1};
done
echo "$output" >> signingca/serial
done
touch signingca/index.txt
```

- For Windows, create the folder structure and requirements for the signing CA. Run these commands from the base directory.
 - 1. Create a signing CA certificate directory structure.

```
MKDIR signingca
MKDIR signingca\certs
MKDIR signingca\crl
MKDIR signingca\newcerts
```

2. Create a serial list of random numbers for the signing CA.

```
openssl rand -hex -out signingca\serial 8
```

3. Create index for signing CA.

COPY NUL signingca\index.txt

Using the terminal, generate an RSA key pair, and then sign a signing CA CSR with the root CA.
 For this example, the password is passSigning. Run these commands from the base directory.

```
export SIGNING_CA_SUBJECT="Development Signing CA"
```

openssl genrsa -des3 -out signingca/signing ca key.pem -passout pass:passSigning 2048

openssl req -new -key signingca/signing_ca.csa -out signingca/signing_ca.crt -keyfile rootca/root_ca_key.pem -cert ro otca/root_ca.crt -config openssl.cnf -name root_authority_ca_config -extensions signing_authority -md sha512 -days 3 65 -passin pass:passRoot

For Windows, generate an RSA key pair, and then sign a signing CA CSR with the root CA.
 For this example, the password is passSigning. Run these commands from the base directory.

```
openssl genrsa -des3 -out signingca\signing_ca_key.pem -passout pass:passSigning 2048
```

openssl req -new -key signingca\signing_ca_key.pem -out signingca\signing_ca.csr -config openssl.cnf -subj "/CN=De velopment Signing CA" -passin pass:passSigning

openssl ca -in signing_ca.csr -out signingca\signing_ca.crt -keyfile rootca\root_ca_key.pem -cert rootca\root_ca.crt -c onfig openssl.cnf -name root_authority_ca_config -extensions signing_authority -md sha512 -days 365 -passin pass:p assRoot

Create a server certificate

Edit the openssl.cnf file that you create earlier and append the following configuration to set up the server certificate configuration options.

```
[ server_identity ]
basicConstraints = CA:TRUE
subjectKeyIdentifier = hash
authorityKeyIdentifier = keyid:always;issuer:always
```

- Working from the terminal, generate an RSA key pair and sign the new certificate with the signing CA.

 This certificate is your server identity certificate. The example uses passServer as the password. Run these commands from the base directory.
 - 1. Use the full host name of your MobileFirst Platform server. SSL will break if the full hostname is not provided, or if an IP address is used as the host name.

```
export SERVER_FULL_HOSTNAME=dev.yourcompany.com mkdir server
```

2. Create the RSA key pair and generate a CSR.

openssl genrsa -des3 -out server/server_key.pem -passout pass:passServer 2048 openssl req -new -key server/server_key.pem -out server/server.csr -config openssl.cnf -subj "/CN=\$SERVER_FULL_HOSTNAME" -passin pass:passServer

3. Sign the CSR with the signing CA.

openssl ca -in server/server.csr -out server/server.crt -keyfile signingca/signing_ca_key.pem -cert signignca/signing_ca.crt -config openssl.cnf -name signing_authority_ca_config -extensions sever_identity -md sha512 -day s 365 -passin pass:passSigning

For Windows, generate an RSA key pair and sign the new certificate with the signing CA.

This certificate is your server identity certificate. The example uses passServer as the password. Run these commands from the base directory.

1. Use the full host name of your MobileFirst Platform server. SSL will break if the full host name is not provided or if an IP address is used as the host name.

REM mkdir server

2. Create the RSA key pair and generate a CSR.

REM openssl genrsa -des3 -out server\server_key.pem -passout pass:passServer 2048 openssl req -new -key server\server_key.pem -out server\server.csr -config openssl.cnf -subj "/CN=%HOSTNA ME%" -passin pass:passServer

3. Sign the CSR with the signing CA.

REM openssl ca -in server\server.csr -out server\server.crt -keyfile signingca\signing_ca_key.pem -cert signing ca\signing_ca.crt -config openssl.cnf -name signign_authority_ca_config -extensions server_identity -md sha51 2 -days 365 -passin pass:passSigning

Create a certificate chain for the server certificate

- Using the terminal, send a full certificate chain all the way up to the trust anchor (root CA) for iOS and Android environments. You can concatenate the certificate files to the trust anchor (root CA).
 - 1. Create a chain for the signing CA.

cat signingca/signing_ca.crt rootca/root_ca.crt > signing_ca_chain.crt

2. Create a chain for the server certificate.

cat server/server.crt signingca/signing_ca.crt rootca/root_ca.crt > server_chain.crt

- For Windows, send a full certificate chain all the way up to the trust anchor (root CA) for Windows environments. You can concatenate the certificate files to the trust anchor (root CA).
 - 1. Create a chain for the signing CA.

copy rootca\root_ca.crt+signingca\signing_ca.crt signing_ca_chain.crt

2. Create a chain for the server certificate

copy rootca\root_ca.crt+signingca\signing_ca.crt+server\server.crt server_chain.crt

Export a PKCS12 file for the signing CA

Export the private key and certificate for the signing CA into a .p12 keystore file so that the embedded PKI can sign the user certificates with the signing CA.

openssI pkcs12 -export -in signingca/signing_ca.crt -inkey signingca/signing_ca_key.pem -out signingca/signing_ca.p12 -pas sin pass:passSigning -passout pass:passSigningP12

Export a PKCS12 file for the server certificate

Export the private key and certificate for the server into a .p12 keystore file so that the server can send the client a valid server certificate.

openssle pkcs12 -export -in server_chain.crt -inkey server/server_key.pem -out server/server.p12 -passout pass:passServer P12 -passin pass:passServer

Configuring IBM WebSphere Application Server Liberty profile (Liberty)

Enable the ssl-1.0 and appSecurity-2.0 features in the server.xml file:

```
<featureManager>
<feature>ssl-1.0</feature>
<feature>appSecurity-2.0</feature>
</featureManager>
```

Liberty requires setting up the keystore and truststore to establish trust for the generated client certificates. For more information, see the WebSphere Application Server Network Deployment documentation (http://pic.dhe.ibm.com/infocenter/wasinfo/v8r5/index.jsp?topic=/com.i bm.websphere.wlp.nd.doc/ae/rwlp_ssl.html).

- 1. Set up your server keystore to use the server.p12 file that was generated earlier.
- 2. Set up your truststore to use the signing_ca.p12 file that was generated earlier.
- 3. Configure your server HTTP endpoint and allow (but do not require) client-side certificates. To make this configuration available, set the clientAuthenticationSupported="true" property in the Liberty SSL element.

The following example shows the updated SSL configuration:

```
<!-- default SSL configuration is defaultSSLSettings -->
<sslDefault sslRef="defaultSSLSettings"/>
<ssl clientAuthenticationSupported="true" id="defaultSSLSettings" keyStoreRef="defaultKeyStore" trustStoreRef="defaultTrustStore"/>
<keyStore id="defaultKeyStore" location="server.p12" password="passServerP12" type="PKCS12" />
<keyStore id="defaultTrustStore" location="signing_ca.p12" password="passSigningP12" type="PKCS12"/>
```

Configuring the authenticationConfig.xml file

1. Uncomment the UserCertificate Login Module section of the authenticationConfig.xml file, as shown below.

```
<!-- Login Module for User Certificate Authentication -->
<loginModule name="WLUSERCertificateLoginModule">
        <className>com.worklight.core.auth.ext.UserCertificateLoginModule</className>
```

2. Uncomment the wl_userCertificateAuthRealm section, as shown below.

```
<!-- Login Module for User Certificate Authentication -->
<realm name="wl_userCertificateAuthRealm" loginModule="WLUserCertificateLoginModule">
        <className>com.worklight.core.auth.ext.UserCertificateAuthenticator</className>
        <parameter name="dependent-user-auth-realm" value="SampleAppRealm"/>
        <parameter name="pki-bridge-class" value="com.worklight.core.auth.ext.UserCertificateEmbeddedPKI"/
>
</realm>
```

3. Update the value of the embedded-pki-bridge-ca-p12-file-path element to the full path of your signing CA

```
.p12 file.
```

- 4. Update the value of the embedded-pki-bridge-ca-p12-password element to the passSigningP12 password that was used to create the .p12 file.
- 5. Update the value of the dependent-user-auth-realm realm to the dependent realm that you want to use (SampleAppRealm).

You cannot change the realm name (wl_userCertificateAuthRealm).

The following examples shows the updates made above.

6. Define a security test that uses wl userCertificateAuthRealm.

```
<!--For User Certificate Authentication -->
<customSecurityTest name="customx509Tests">
        <test realm="wl_antiXSRFRealm" step="1"/>
        <test realm="wl_authenticityRealm" step="1"/>
        <test realm="wl_directUpdateRealm" mode="perSession" step="1"/>
        <test realm="wl_userCertificateAuthRealm" isInternalUserID="true" step="1"/>
        <test realm="wl_deviceNoProvisioningRealm" isInternalUserID="true" step="2"/
>        </customSecurityTest>
```

Configuring the application-descriptor.xml file

- 1. Ensure that you added the iOS or Android environment to your MobileFirst application.
- Protect your application or environment with your custom security test.

```
<!--For User Certificate Authentication -->
<android securityTest="customx509Tests" version="1.0">
<iPhone bundleId="com.SampleApp" securityTest="customx509Tests" version="1.0">
```

3. Build and deploy your application and adapters to MobileFirst Server.

Installing a root CA on iOS and Android

You must install the root CA that you generated in the previous steps onto your client devices for your devices to trust MobileFirst Server over SSL. Email or host the root_ca.crt file, and then open the file on your device. The iOS and Android devices ask for approval when you manually attempt to install certificates.



Installing and testing the application

- 1. Deploy your application to MobileFirst Server by selecting Run as > Run on server_name.
- 2. Update the deploy target for HTTPS.
 - 1. Select Run as > Build Settings and Deploy Target.
 - 2. Select Build the application to work with a different MobileFirst Server.
 - 3. Enter the server HTTPS address: https://host:https port#
 - 4. Enter the context path: /path.
- 3. Build the application with the updated deploy target by selecting **Run as > Build All Environments**.
- 4. Run the application on the specified environments.

Sample application

Click to download

(http://public.dhe.ibm.com/software/products/en/MobileFirstPlatform/docs/v700/UserCertificateAuthenticationProject.zip) the Studio project.

To confirm a successful configuration, ensure that you see a log-in form the first time that you try to access a protected resource. If WL.Client.connect() is uncommented in the main.js file, the log-in form is displayed when the application starts. Otherwise, WL.Client.connect() must be invoked before you call an adapter procedure to see a log-in form after the adapter is called.

After you log in through the dependent realm, a successful response from the adapter invocation indicates that the user was successfully enrolled.

On subsequent connections to the server, you are no longer asked to log in and the adapter calls continue to return successfully.

For more information, see User certificate authentication (http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSHS8R_7.0.0/com.ibm.worklight.monitor.doc/monitor/c_user_CA.html? lang=en) topic in the user documentation.