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Hardening Linux

**1.Keep Your System Updated**:

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**2.Enable a Firewall**:

Configure a firewall to restrict incoming and outgoing network traffic.

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**Firewall status of safer machine:**

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**Turn off (remove) all unneeded services (e.g., ssh, http, ftp, etc.**

let’s us selectively delete rules we want removed

safer@safer:~$ sudo ufw delete 4

**After deleting.**

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* try to ssh in from client as your test user "testuser" many w/o giving a password and see what happens.

I have created testuser in safer machine and tried logging in from client1 without entering password.

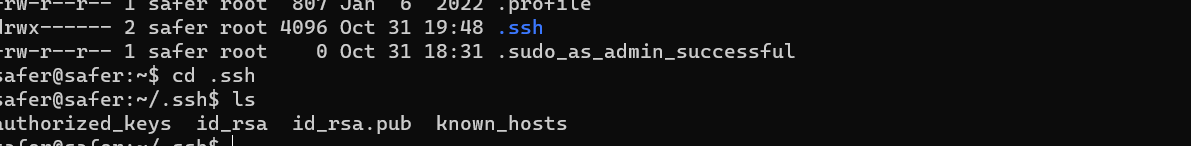
A computer screen with white text

Description automatically generated

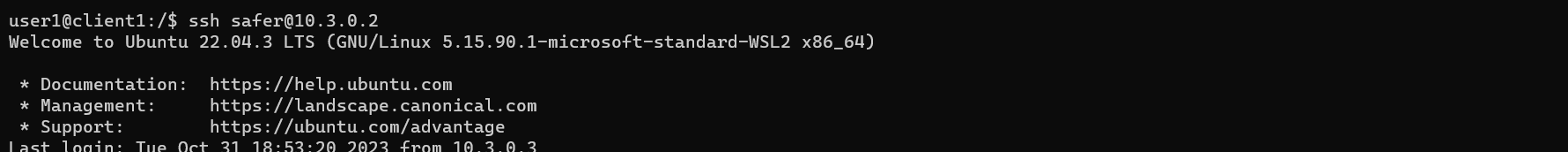
**3. Secure SSH Access**

SSH keys are a powerful and secure authentication method that offers numerous advantages over traditional password-based authentication. They provide a strong, automated, and scalable solution for securing remote access and data transfers while simplifying user management and improving overall system security.

***I have created ssh keys in client1 machine and copied to safer machine and safer machine contains the authorized keys.***



Now I tried to do ssh from client1 to safer machine, it didn’t prompt for password.



4.Enabling a whitelist

Enabling a whitelist for a host typically refers to a security practice where you specify a list of approved or trusted IP addresses or domains that are allowed to access a particular service, server, or network

After changing allow and deny config in safer machine, ssh is working from leap machine but not working from client1 machine.

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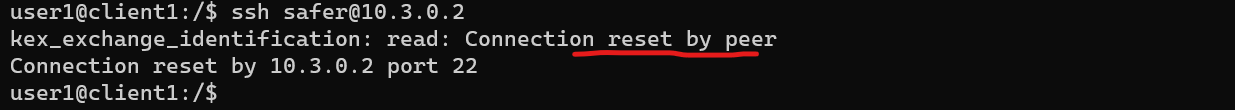
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Output from client1 machine



Output from leap machine

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