Privileged Identity Management

Research Guide

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Introduction

Our Purpose

Organizations want to limit the number of individuals who have access to secure information or resources because it reduces the possibility of a malicious actor gaining access to an authorized user and inadvertently compromising a sensitive resource. As the number of work-from-home employees and interns grows, we want to address this by properly configuring **Privileged Identity Management** (PIM) **to provide time-based** and **approval-based role activation** to mitigate the risks of **excessive, unnecessary,** or **misused access permissions** on resources that you value.

Literature Survey

A user requires elevated access, he needs to perform an action that requires a role he doesn't typically have. Let's say the "Password Administrator" role, which grants him the ability to reset user passwords for other staff in his organization.

- You may think to assign him this role and note down in the calendar or to-do list to revoke that role from him at a later date (that is, after his work is done and he no longer requires this role).

- Alternatively, you may think to create a new account and grant it the "Password Administrator" role.

Here the issue is, **the admin has to revoke the access manually or delete the service account later** and that **might result in casualties like forgetting to revoke the assignment** which ultimately makes **way for vulnerabilities**.

Using the key features of PIM, this can be avoided.

Problem Statement

In today's world, Security has become an extreme necessity for almost every organization. On the other hand, **the usage of Azure AD in many companies has enabled them to manage user identities and roles, configure security settings** for the same. However, it is possible to **lose sight of the number of Global Admin accounts** which results in a **lack of permissions** to some of the administrators to perform their daily tasks. In addition to that, there is a higher chance of a serious breach or **privileged users inadvertently impacting a sensitive resource** if any privileged user is not rightly administered.

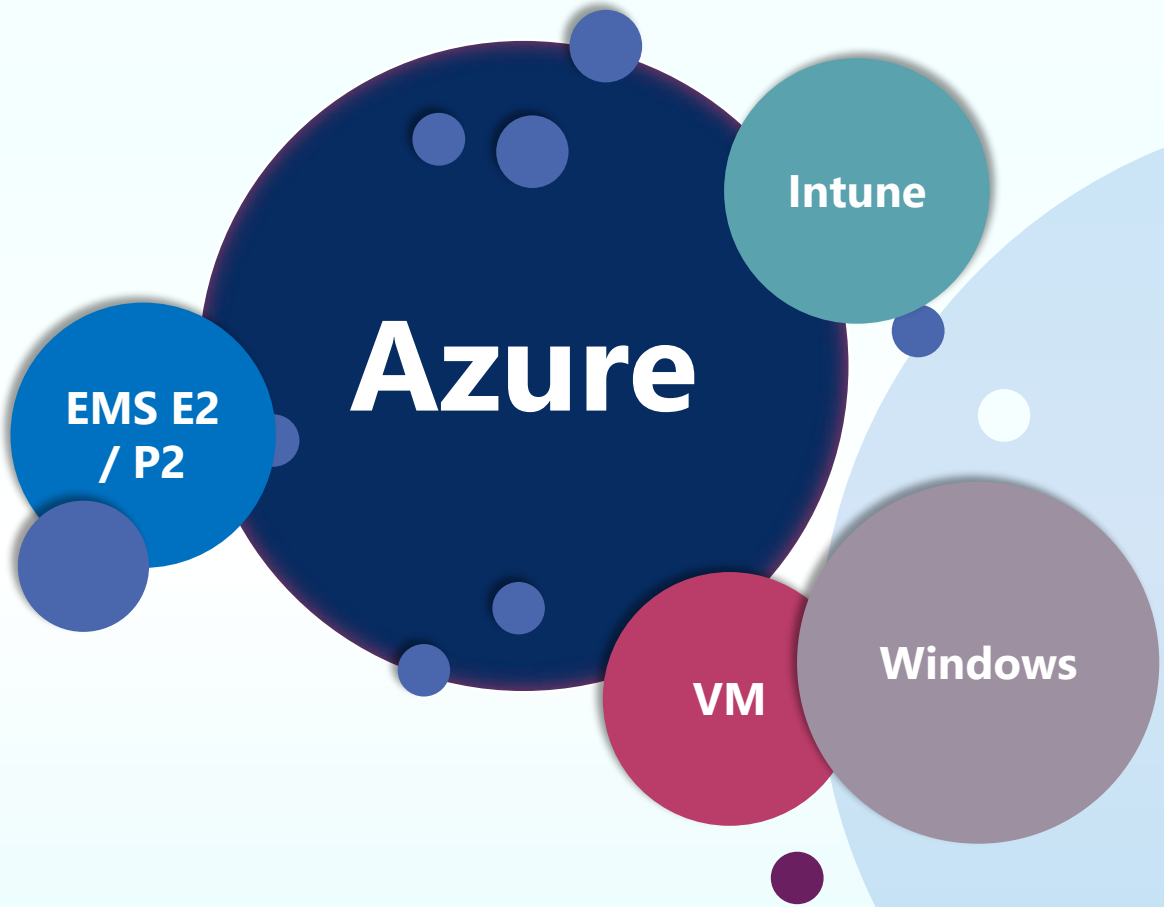
PIM (Privileged Identity Management), an Azure AD security component designed to administer access to privileged account provides the right solution to such issues.

The Solution

PIM (Privileged Identity Management), an Azure AD security component designed to administer access to privileged accounts, provides the right solution to such issues with key features such as:

- **Provide Just-In-Time (JIT) access** to resources
- **Assign time-bound access** to resources between firm dates
- **Require approval** to activate privileged roles
- **Enforce Multi-Factor Authentication** to activate any role
- Use justifications to **understand why users need access**
- **Get notified** when privileged roles are activated

Requirements



Conclusion

We can successfully organize, access, and control how the organization's data is structured, by whom it's getting accessible, and who is in control of it with the deployment of privileged identity management. With this, we can lessen the infrastructure needed to carry out all of this work the old-fashioned way. This makes it simple for numerous firms to handle their data across various devices irrespective of their build or operating system.

References

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