# DELEGATION IN ACTIVE DIRECTORY



### **Business Need**

The **University of Jordan (JU)** needed a secure and organized way for its employees to share files within their departments.

To address this, **a web portal** was developed, allowing employees to:

- Log in using their university credentials
- View and download files specific to their department
- Ensure that no other departments can view their resources



# **Portal Requirements**

What are the key security and access requirements for the portal?



#### **Access Control**

Enforce strict departmental isolation.
Employees should only access file shares
belonging to their own department, based
on predefined permissions.

#### Authentication

Ensure all users are securely authenticated through Active Directory, maintaining centralized identity management and domain trust.e identity verification via Active Directory

#### Auditing

Monitor and log all access events to file shares for accountability, security investigations, and compliance with internal policy.

# Departmental Access Control (ACL Configuration)

#### **SECURITY CONCERNS**

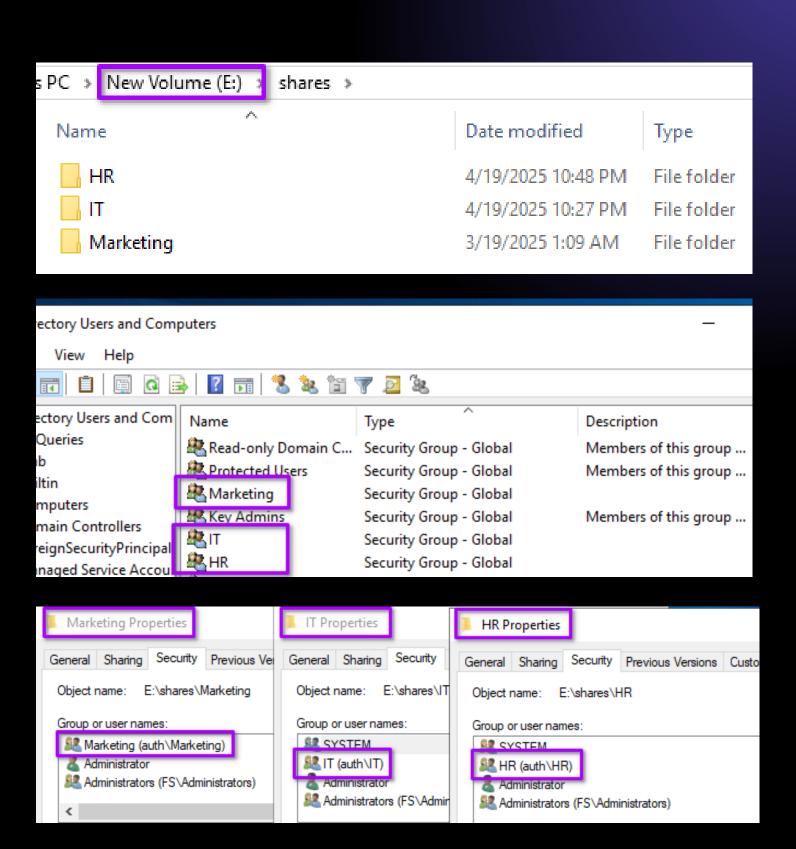
a dedicated partition was created on the File Server to store departmental data. This prevents unauthorized access across volumes and simplifies permission management.

#### **DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT**

Separate AD security groups were created for each department. Users were added based on their department, and these groups were used to enforce folder-level access through ACLs.

#### NTFS PERMISSIONS (ACLS)

These ACLs define which users or groups can read, write, or modify the contents of each folder. Only members of the corresponding Active Directory security group were granted access to their department's folder.



# **Technical Architecture**

WEB TIER: IIS SERVER

Front-End component.

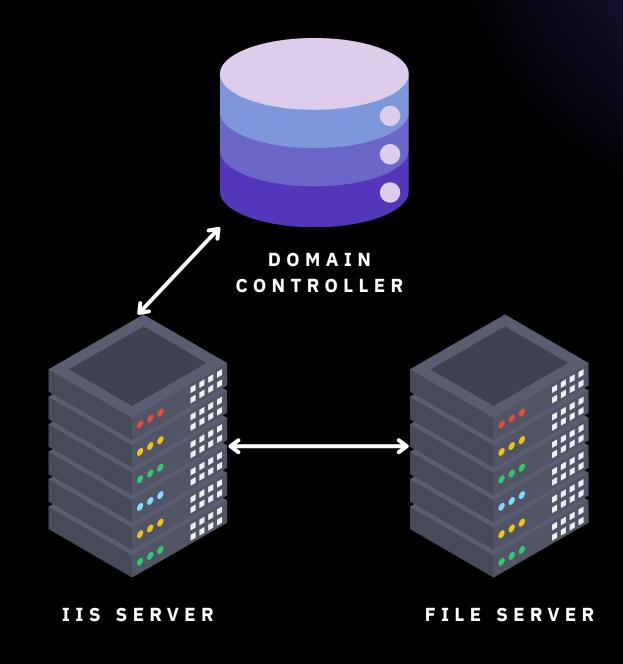
STORAGE TIER: FILE SERVER

Back-end component

**AUTHENTICATION TIER: DOMAIN CONTROLLER** 

Heart of active directory.

The environment simulates a classic multi-tier enterprise setup. The IIS server acts as the frontend, but cannot directly access file resources secured by ACLs without proper delegation. Kerberos handles authentication, but faces limitations in multi-hop scenarios — which we'll explore in the next slide



## **Kerberos Authentication Flow**

#### **USER LOGS IN TO THE DOMAIN**

The user obtains a Ticket Granting Ticket (TGT) from the Domain Controller (DC) using their username and password (Kerberos AS-REQ / AS-REP).

```
17 1.131314 192.168.122.158 192.168.122.192 KRB5 355 AS-REQ 18 1.134148 192.168.122.192 192.168.122.158 KRB5 1731 AS-REP
```

```
✓ Kerberos

  > Record Mark: 256 bytes

✓ as-req

       pvno: 5
       msg-type: krb-as-req (10)
     > padata: 2 items

✓ req-body

          Padding: 0
       > kdc-options: 50800000
             name-type: kRB5-NT-PRINCIPAL (1)
          v cname-string: 1 item
               CNameString: administrator username
          realm: AUTH.LAB

✓ sname

             name-type: kRB5-NT-PRINCIPAL (1)
          sname-string: 2 items
               SNameString: krbtgt authentication service
               SNameString: AUTH.LAB
          till: Apr 20, 2025 20:22:24.000000000 Pacific Daylight Time
          rtime: Apr 20, 2025 20:22:24.000000000 Pacific Daylight Time
          nonce: 26313077
        > etype: 1 item
```

```
    Kerberos
    Record Mark: 1620 bytes
    as-rep
    pvno: 5
    msg-type: krb-as-rep (11)
    padata: 1 item
    crealm: AUTH.LAB
    cname
        name-type: kRB5-NT-PRINCIPAL (1)
        cname-string: 1 item
        CNameString: administrator
        ticket
        encrypted TGT
        record
        enc-part
```

TGT REQUEST TGT REPLY

# **Kerberos Authentication Flow**

#### **USER ACCESSES THE SERVER (IIS SERVER)**

The browser sends the user TGT to the DC and requests a Service Ticket (TGS) for the IIS web application. (Kerberos TGS-REQ / TGS-REP).

```
27 1.143889 192.168.122.158 192.168.122.192 KRB5 290 TGS-REQ
29 1.146318 192.168.122.192 192.168.122.158 KRB5 1757 TGS-REP
```

```
> Record Mark: 1503 bytes
msg-type: krb-tgs-req (12)
  padata: 1 item

▼ PA-DATA pA-TGS-REQ

        padata-type: pA-TGS-REQ (1)
           padata-value [truncated]: 6e82054b30820547a003020105a10302010ea2070305000
                  pvno: 5
                   msg-type: krb-ap-req (14)
                   Padding: 0
                > ap-options: 00000000
                                TGT ticket of the user
                > ticket
                > authenticator
  req-body
        Padding: 0
     > kdc-options: 40810010
        realm: AUTH.LAB
          name-type: kRB5-NT-SRV-INST (2)
        sname-string: 2 items
             SNameString: http
                                        requested service name
             SNameString: iis.auth.lab
        till: Apr 20, 2025 20:38:36.000000000 Pacific Daylight Time
        nonce: 1101816710
     > etype: 4 items
```

TGS REQUEST TGS REPLY

## **Kerberos Authentication Flow**

#### **USER ACCESSES THE SERVER (IIS SERVER)**

The user presents the obtained Service Ticket (TGS) to the IIS server to authenticate and use the service. (Kerberos AP-REQ / AP-REP)

```
Hypertext Transfer Protocol
✓ GET /upload.aspx/ HTTP/1.1\r\n
                                       HTTP header
      Request URI: /upload.aspx/
      Request Version: HTTP/1.1
   Accept: text/html, application/xhtml+xml, image/jxr, */*\r\n
   Accept-Language: en-US\r\n
   User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; rv:11.0) like Gecko\r\n
   Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate\r\n
   Host: iis.auth.lab:8080\r\n
   Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n
   DNT: 1\r\n
   [...]Authorization: Negotiate YIIG4gYGKwYBBQUCoIIG1jCCBtKgMDAuBgkqhkiC9xIBAgIGCSqGSIb3EgECAgYKKwYB

▼ GSS-API Generic Security Service Application Program Interface

        OID: 1.3.6.1.5.5.2 (SPNEGO - Simple Protected Negotiation)

▼ Simple Protected Negotiation

▼ negTokenInit

            > mechTypes: 4 items
              mechToken [...]: 6082069406092a864886f71201020201006e8206833082067fa003020105a10302010ea
             ′krb5_blob [...]: 6082069406092a864886f71201020201006e8206833082067fa003020105a10302010ea
                 KRB5 OID: 1.2.840.113554.1.2.2 (KRB5 - Kerberos 5)
                 krb5_tok_id: KRB5_AP_REQ (0x0001)
              Kerberos

✓ ap-req

                                      Kerberos authentication
                       msg-type: krb-ap-req (14)
                       Padding: 0
                     ap-options: 20000000
                    > ticket
                                    TGS
                      authenticator
```

```
73 21.495095 192.168.122.158 192.168.122.18 HTTP 1352 GET /upload.aspx HTTP/1.1 99 21.511991 192.168.122.18 192.168.122.158 HTTP 2277 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
```

```
mertext Transter Protocol
                          HTTP header
  HTTP/1.1 200 OK\r\n
     Response Version: HTTP/1.1
     Status Code: 200
     [Status Code Description: OK]
     Response Phrase: OK
  Cache-Control: private\r\n
  Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8\r\n
  Content-Encoding: gzip\r\n
  Vary: Accept-Encoding\r\n
  Server: Microsoft-IIS/10.0\r\n
  X-AspNet-Version: 4.0.30319\r\n
  Persistent-Auth: true\r\n
  X-Powered-By: ASP.NET\r\n
[...]WWW-Authenticate: Negotiate oYG2MIGzoAMKAQChCwYJKoZIgvcSAQICooGeBIGbYIGYBgkqhkiG9xIBA
  Simple Protected Negotiation

✓ negTokenTarg

             negResult: accept-completed (0)
             supportedMech: 1.2.840.48018.1.2.2 (MS KRB5 - Microsoft Kerberos 5)
             responseToken [...]: 60819806092a864886f71201020202006f8188308185a003020105a103
          krb5 blob [...]: 60819806092a864886f71201020202006f8188308185a003020105a1030201
               KRB5 OID: 1.2.840.113554.1.2.2 (KRB5 - Kerberos 5)
               krb5_tok_id: KRB5_AP_REP (0x0002)
             Kerberos
                               Kerberos authenetication
                     pvno: 5
                    msg-type: krb-ap-rep (15)
                  > enc-part
```

AP REQUEST AP REPLY

# Authentication from IIS to File Server

#### **IIS TRIES TO FETCH THE FILES**

When the user accesses the portal, IIS tries to fetch their files from the File Server, it says:

"I am the IIS server, and I want User X's files."

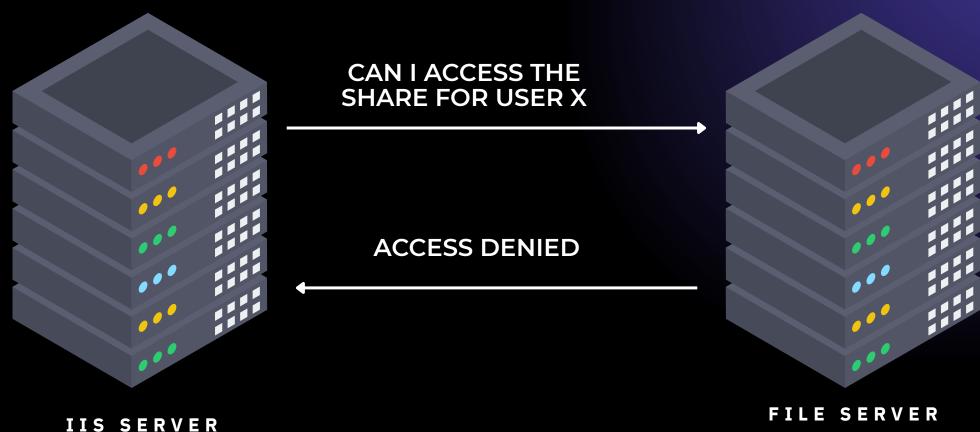
#### **FILE SERVER REPLY**

The File Server responds:

"Access Denied — you're not User X."

#### THIS HAPPENS BECAUSE

- The shares are protected by departmental ACLs.
- Only users from the correct department are allowed access.





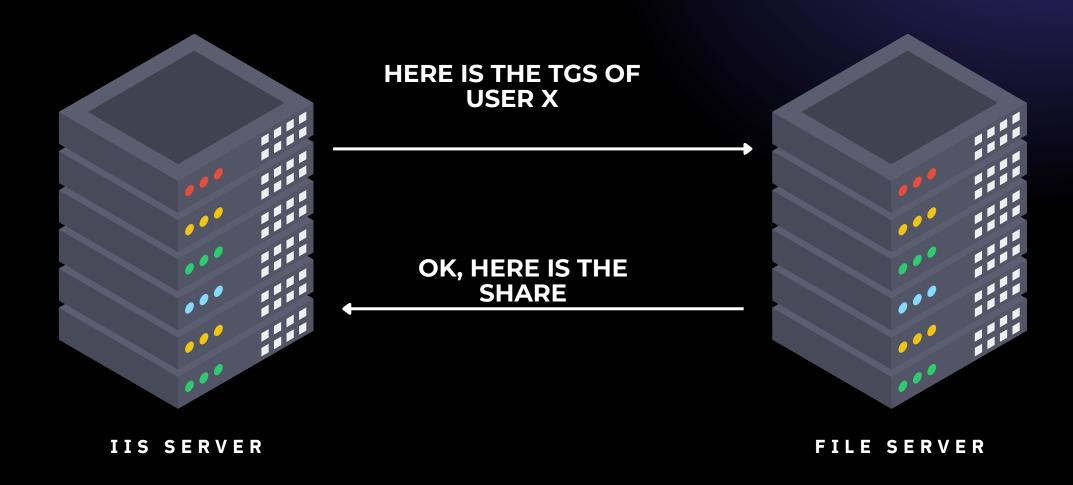
# This is known as the Kerberos Double Hop Problem –

#### WHERE IS THE PROBLEM EXACTLY

A front-end service (IIS) tries to access a back-end service (File Server) on behalf of a user, but can't forward the user's identity.

#### THE SOLUTION

A Windows feature called delegation where it allows the IIS server to impersonate the user, enabling it to securely access backend resources as if it were the user.



# Delegation: under the hood

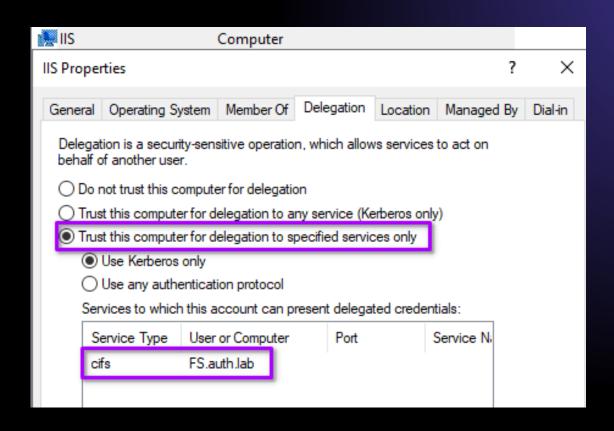
#### **HOW ITS CONFIGURED**

Delegation is configured by enabling it on the IIS server's computer account in Active Directory.

we specify the File Server's CIFS service in the Delegation tab, allowing the IIS server to request service tickets on behalf of users and access file shares using their identity.

#### **HOW ITS CODED**

The application retrieves the authenticated user's identity from the IIS context and uses impersonation to temporarily execute actions under that user's security context.



```
// Get the authenticated user's identity
WindowsIdentity userIdentity = (WindowsIdentity)HttpContext.Current.User.Identity;

// Determine the department based on the user's group membership
string department = GetUserDepartment(userIdentity);

if (string.IsNullOrEmpty(department))
{
    StatusLabel.Text = "You do not have permission to upload files.";
    return;
}

// Impersonate the user
using (userIdentity.Impersonate())
{
    // Specify the network path based on the department
    networkPath = string.Format(@"\\FS\shares\{0}\", department);
```

# Delegation Traffic

we can see the IIS server is requesting a TGS for the user administrator for the fileserver service.

```
39 1.173334 192.168.122.18 192.168.122.192 KRB5 60 TGS-REQ 41 1.183259 192.168.122.192 192.168.122.18 KRB5 1923 TGS-REP
```

```
> Record Mark: 2918 bytes
     pvno: 5
     msg-type: krb-tgs-req (12)
    padata: 2 items
  req-body
        Padding: 0
     > kdc-options: 40830000
        realm: AUTH.LAB
          name-type: kRB5-NT-SRV-INST (2)

✓ sname-string: 2 items

             SNameString: cifs
                                   requested service
             SNameString: FS
        till: Apr 19, 2025 22:42:27.000000000 Pacific Daylight Time
        nonce: 1720245916
     > etvpe: 5 items
        one authorization data
        additional-tickets: 1 item

✓ Ticket

             tkt-vno: 5
             realm: AUTH.LAB
                                                    previous TGS

✓ sname
                name-type: kRB5-NT-SRV-INST (2)

✓ sname-string: 2 items
                   SNameString: HTTP
                   SNameString: iis.auth.lab
           > enc-part
```

```
Kerberos
  Record Mark: 1865 bytes

▼ tgs-rep

     pvno: 5
     msg-type: krb-tgs-rep (13)
     crealm: AUTH.LAB

✓ cname

        name-type: kRB5-NT-PRINCIPAL (1)

∨ cpame-string: 1 item

           CNameString: Administrator Username
  v ticket
        tkt-vno: 5
        realm: AUTH.LAB

✓ sname

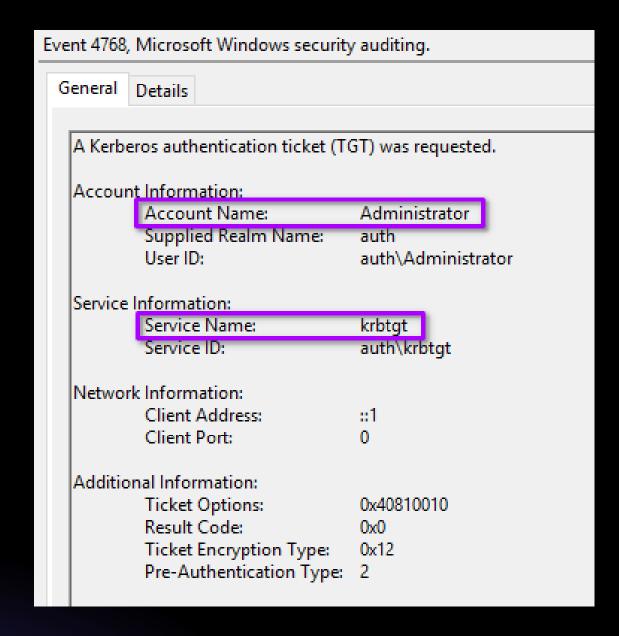
           name-type: kRB5-NT-SRV-INST (2)
          sname-string: 2 items
              SNameString: cifs
                                  requested service
              SNameString: FS
     > enc-part
   > enc-part
```

because the IIS doesn't have the user's TGT. it sends the users TGS

here the DC replies with the users TGS

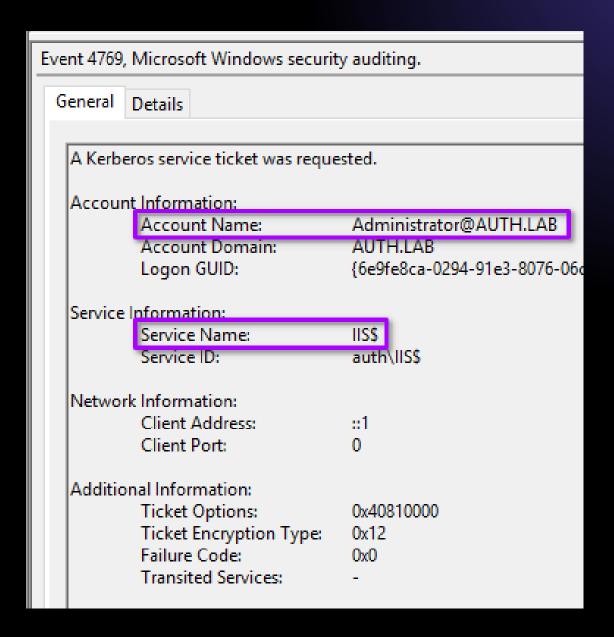
# Logging

All the ticket events can be found in the DC security channel.



#### **TGT ISSUE EVENT**

Event Code 4768, which is a security event found on the DC.

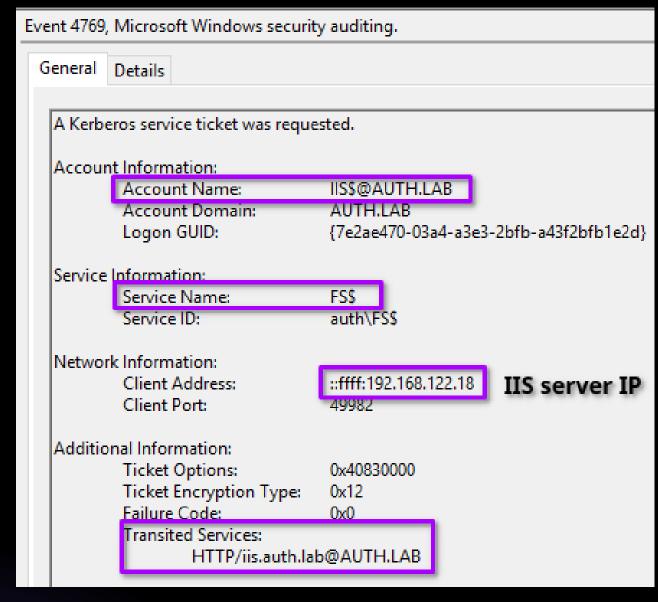


#### **TGS ISSUE EVENT**

Event Code 4769, which is a security event found on the DC.

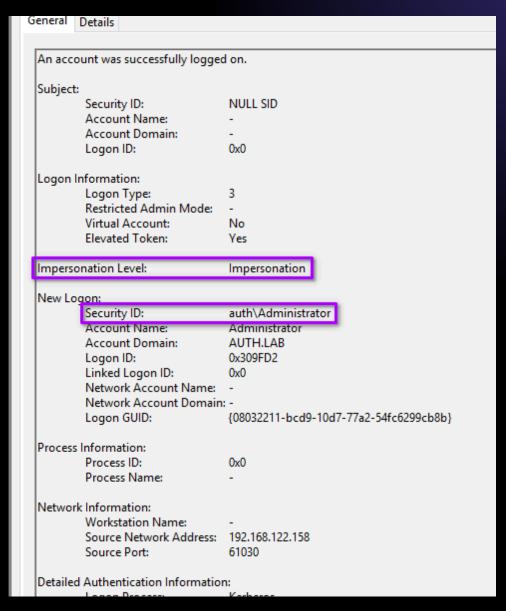
# Logging

All the ticket events can be found in the DC security channel.



#### **DELEGATION TGS**

Event Code 4769, which is a security event found on the DC that shows Transited services.



#### **LOGON EVENT**

Event Code 4624, which is found on the IIS and FS indicating that a user has accessed them.

# اسمع وانت ساکت

