PALO ALTO NETWORKS EDU 210

Lab 9: Maintaining Application-Based Policies

Document Version: 2022-07-18

Contents

Introduction

Your organization runs several common application servers on non-standard ports. For example, there are several web servers in your network that use TCP port 8080 instead of the default TCP port 80. You need to make certain that you configure the firewall to allow web-browsing traffic even when that traffic is using TCP port 8080. To accomplish this task, you will configure a new service object and incorporate it into a security policy rule for web-browsing.

You will also use the Policy Optimizer utility on the firewall to migrate the port-based FTP rule to an application-based rule.

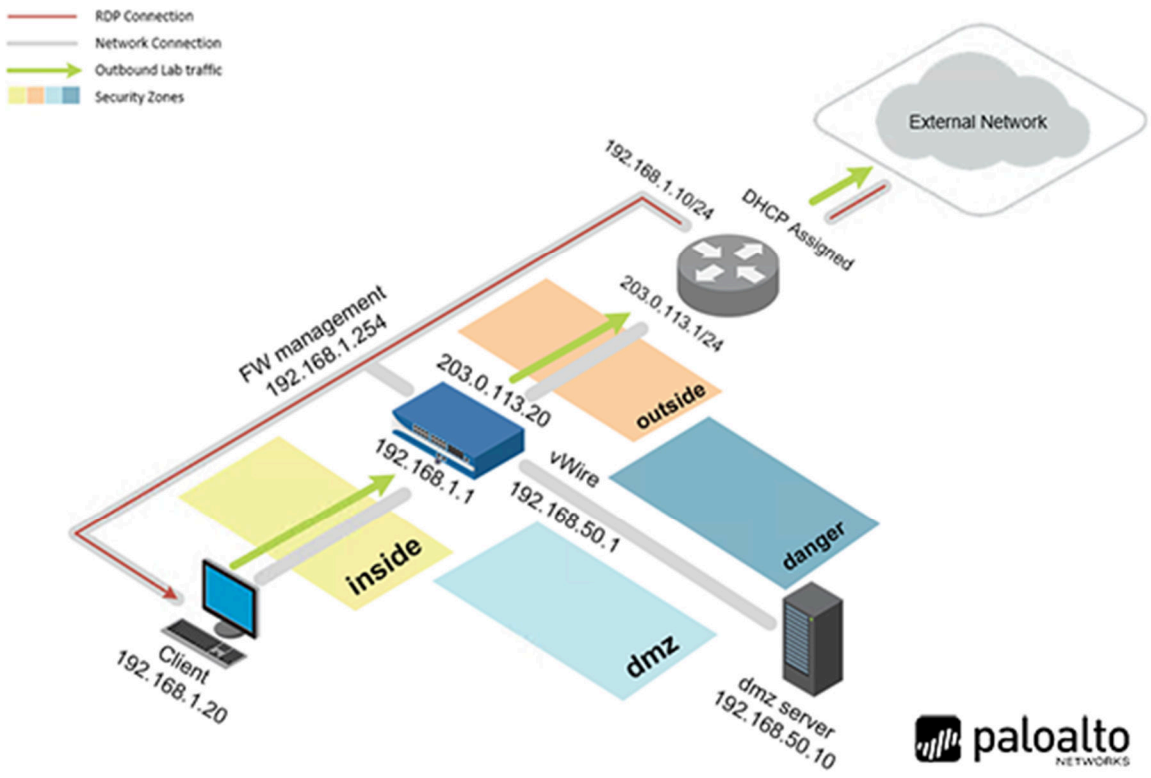
In the last section, you will make certain that your firewall is consistently up to date with the latest signatures and information from Palo Alto Networks. You need to make sure that the firewall downloads and incorporates these updates automatically, so you will schedule the process.

Objective

In this lab, you will perform the following tasks:

- Load a baseline configuration
- Create a custom Service object for HTTP
- Add the new service to the security policy
- Test Access to the web server on port 8080
- Revert the web server to port 80
- Create an FTP application-based security policy rule
- Test the application-based security policy
- Remove the FTP rules
- Scheduling App-ID updates

Lab Topology



Lab Settings

The information in the table below will be needed to complete the lab. The task sections below provide details on the use of this information.

Virtual Machine	IP Address	Account (if needed)	Password (if needed)
Client	192.168.1.20	lab-user	**Pal0Alt0!**
DMZ	192.168.50.10	root	**Pal0Alt0!**
Firewall	192.168.1.254	admin	**Pal0Alt0!**
VRouter	192.168.1.10	root	**Pal0Alt0!**

1 Maintaining Application-Based Policies

1.1 Apply a Baseline Configuration to the Firewall

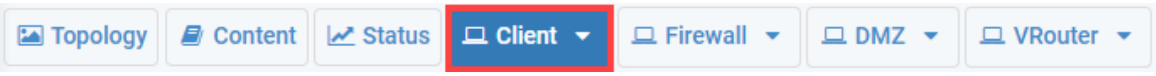
In this section, you will load the Firewall configuration file.

In this lab, *Task 1.6* is optional. This task includes a step that only updates the Policy Optimizer statistics on the firewall every hour, on the hour. To complete Task 9.6, you will want to be closer to the top of the hour. If you start at the bottom of the hour, please note that the lab will possibly take about two hours to complete due to waiting for the top of the hour.

If you plan on completing *Task 1.6*, it is recommended that you start this lab 30 minutes before the top of the hour to minimize your wait time to complete this lab.

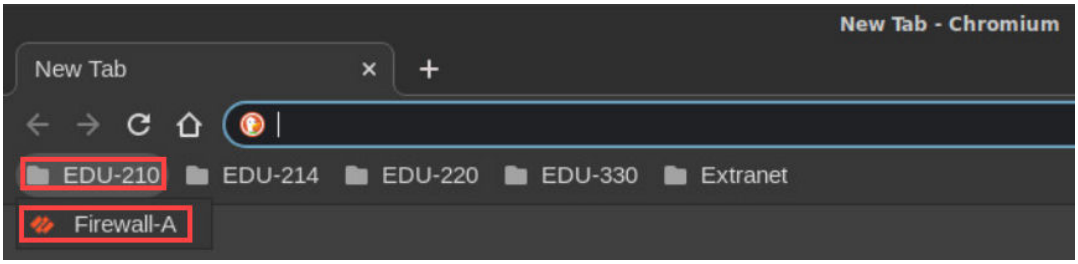
If you choose to skip *Task 1.6*, without using the Policy Optimizer, and manually adding the FTP Application based policy, please continue to start this lab at *Task 1.1*, skip *Task 1.6* and continue on with *Task 1.7* and onwards.

1. Click on the **Client** tab to access the Client PC.

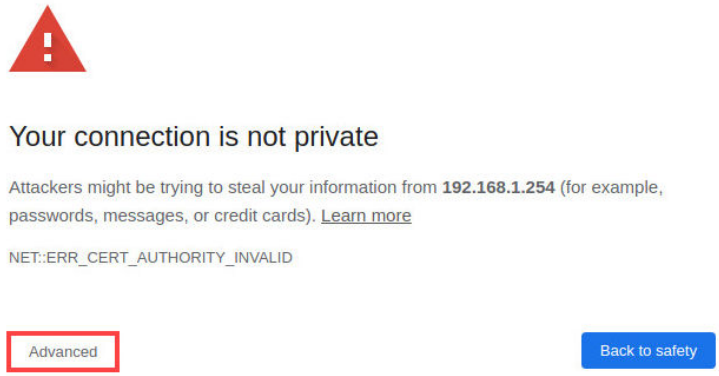


2. Double-click the **Chromium Web Browser** icon located on the desktop.

3. In the *Chromium* web browser, click on the **EDU-210** bookmark folder in the bookmarks bar and then click on **Firewall-A**.

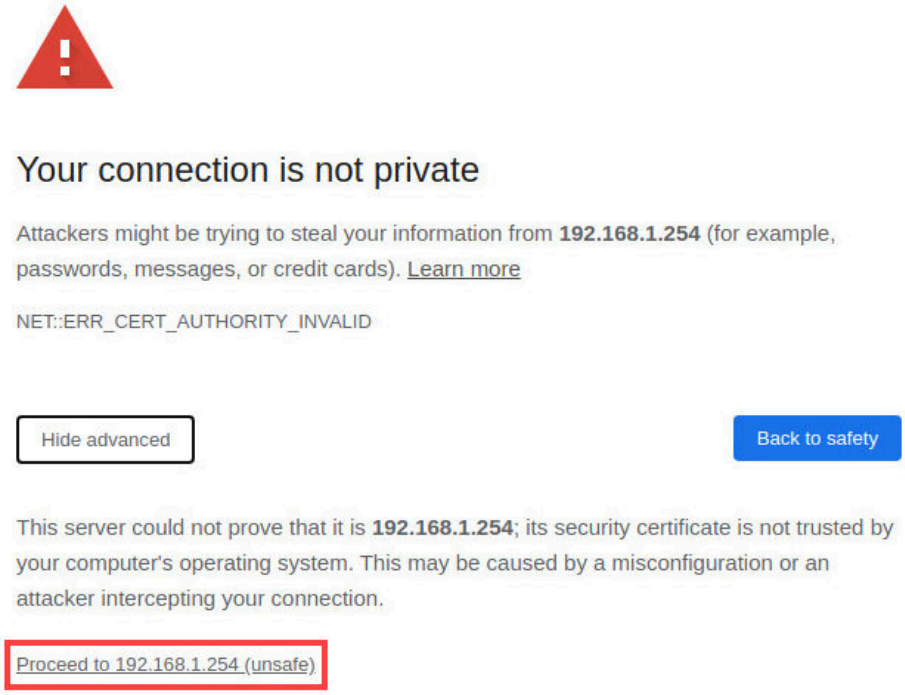


4. You will see a "*Your connection is not private*" message. Next, click on the **ADVANCED** link.



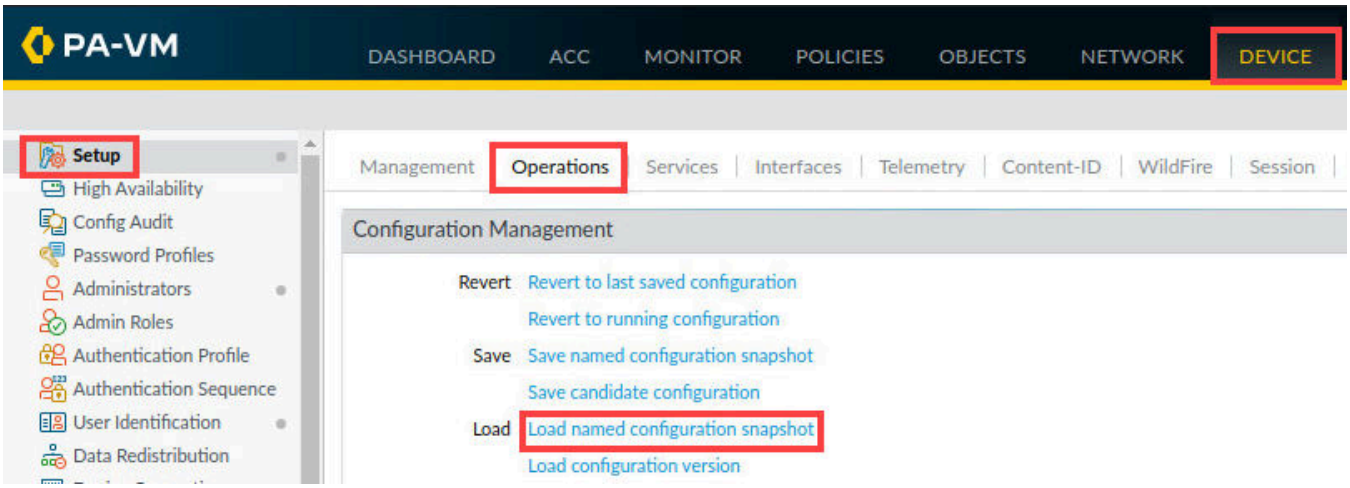
If you experience the “Unable to connect” or “502 Bad Gateway” message while attempting to connect to the specified IP above, please wait an additional 1-3 minutes for the Firewall to fully initialize. Refresh the page to continue.

5. Click on **Proceed to 192.168.1.254 (unsafe)**.



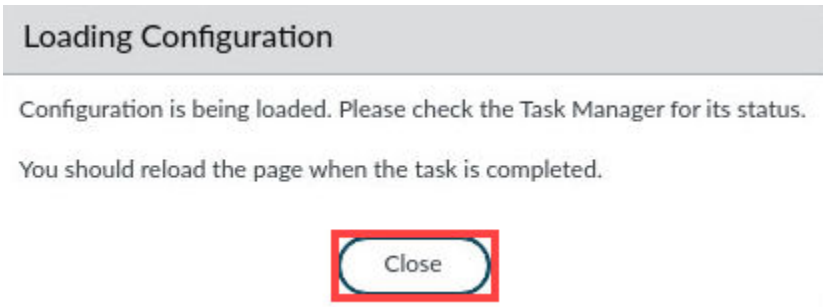
6. Log in to the firewall web interface as username **admin**, password **Pal0Alt0!.**

7. In the web interface, navigate to **Device > Setup > Operations** and click on **Load named configuration snapshot** underneath the *Configuration Management* section.

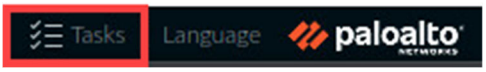


8. In the *Load Named Configuration* window, select **edu-210-lab-09.xml** from the *Name* dropdown box and click **OK**.

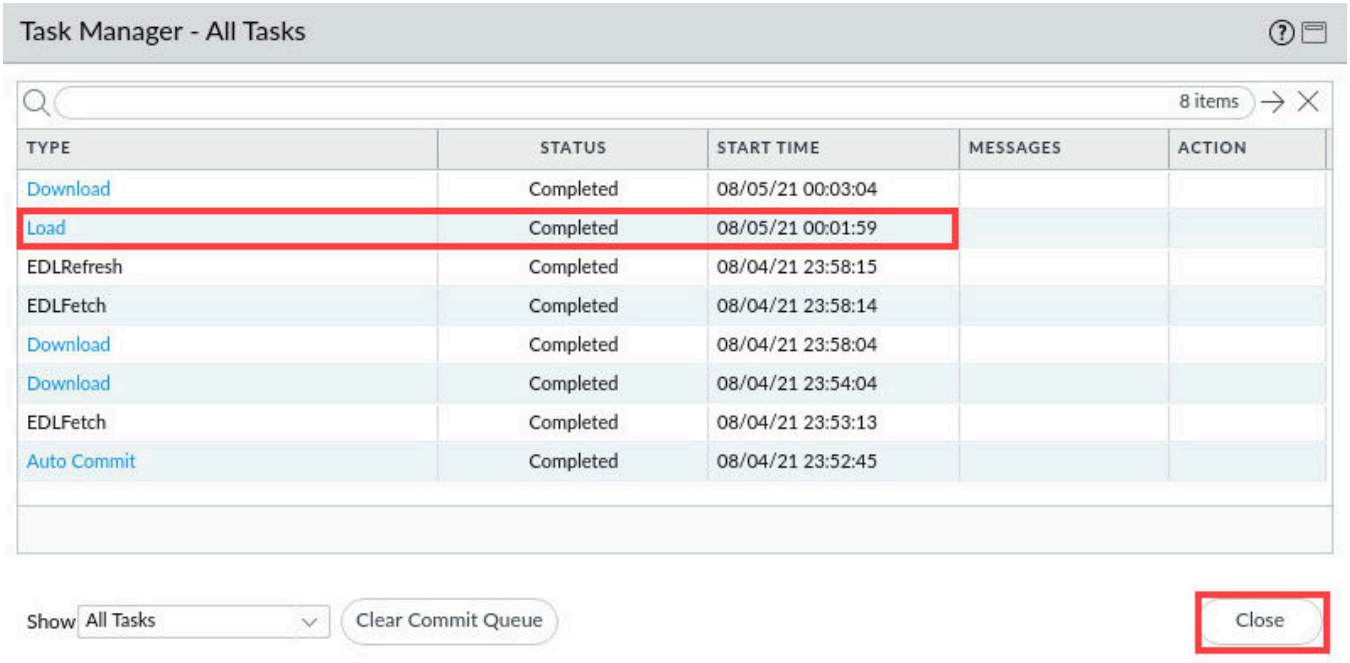
9. In the *Loading Configuration* window, a message will show *Configuration is being loaded. Please check the Task Manager for its status. You should reload the page when the task is completed.* Click **Close** to continue.



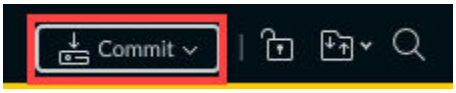
10. Click the **Tasks** icon located at the bottom-right of the web interface.



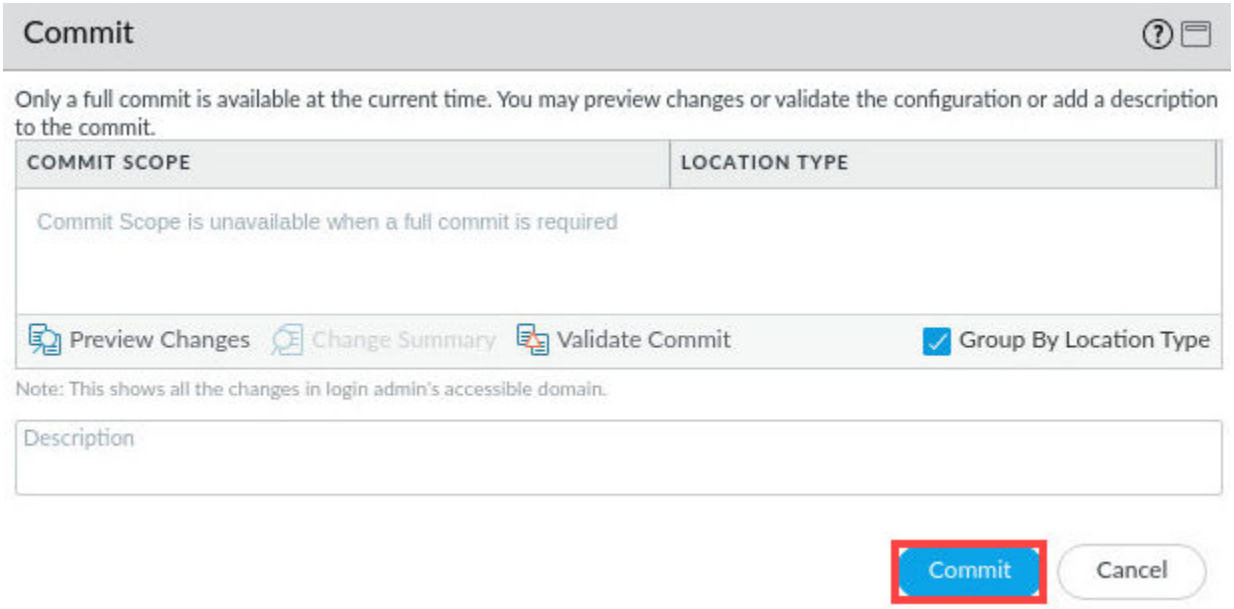
11. In the *Task Manager – All Tasks* window, verify the *Load* type has successfully completed. Click **Close**.



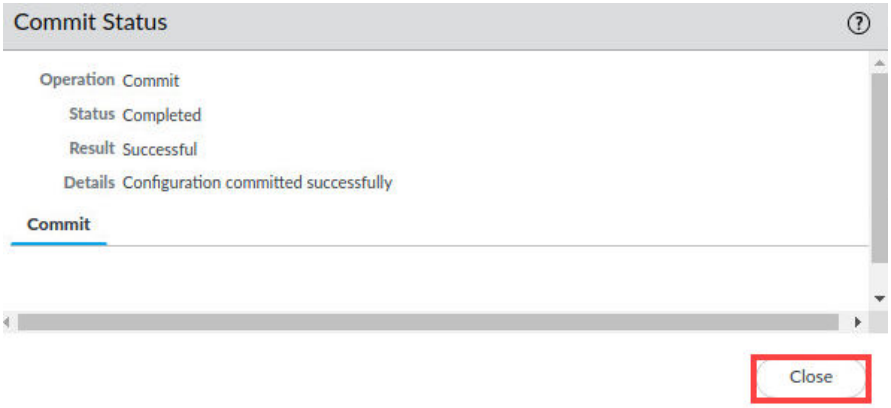
12. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.



13. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit** to proceed with committing the changes.



14. When the *Commit* operation successfully completes, click **Close** to continue.



The commit process takes changes made to the Firewall and copies them to the running configuration, which will activate all configuration changes since the last commit.

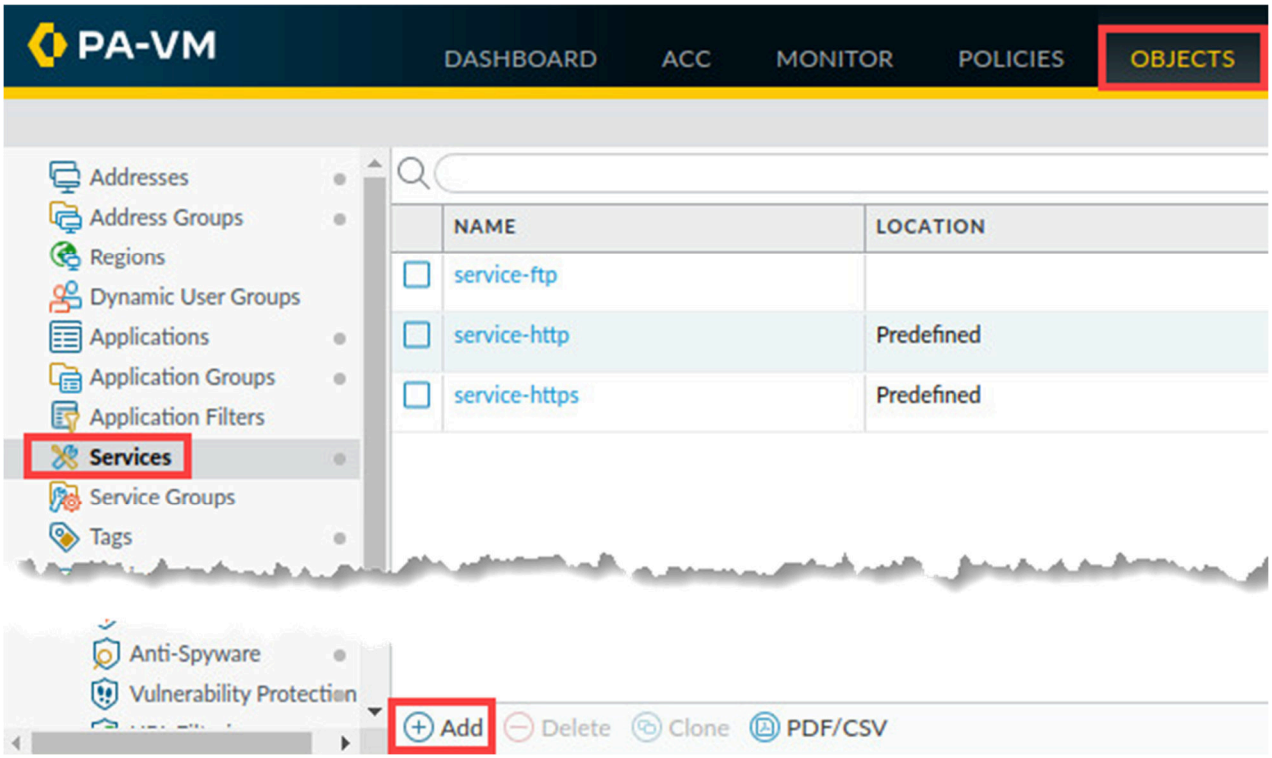
16. Leave the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* open and continue to the next task.

1.2 Create a Custom Service Object for HTTP

In some networks, servers run common applications on non-standard ports: for example, running a web server on TCP port 8080 instead of TCP port 80. Palo Alto firewalls expect to see HTTP traffic running on the standard TCP port 80 and will block HTTP traffic that is not running on the application default port. To allow this type of non-standard port traffic, you can create a service object and use it as part of your Security policy rule definition.

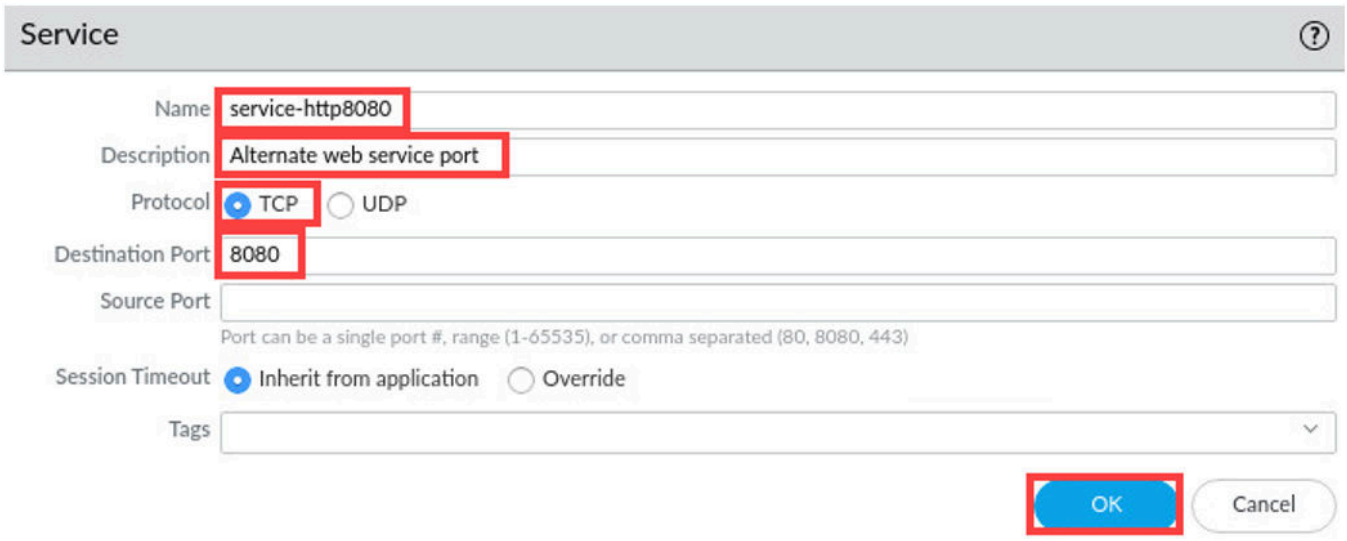
In this section, you will create a custom service for TCP port 8080. You will add this custom service to the Security policy later in this lab exercise.

1. Navigate to **Objects > Services**. Click **Add** at the bottom of the *Services* window.



2. In the *Service* window, configure the following. Click **OK**.

Parameter	Value
Name	`service-http8080`
Description	`Alternate web service port.`
Protocol	**TCP**
Destination Port	**8080**

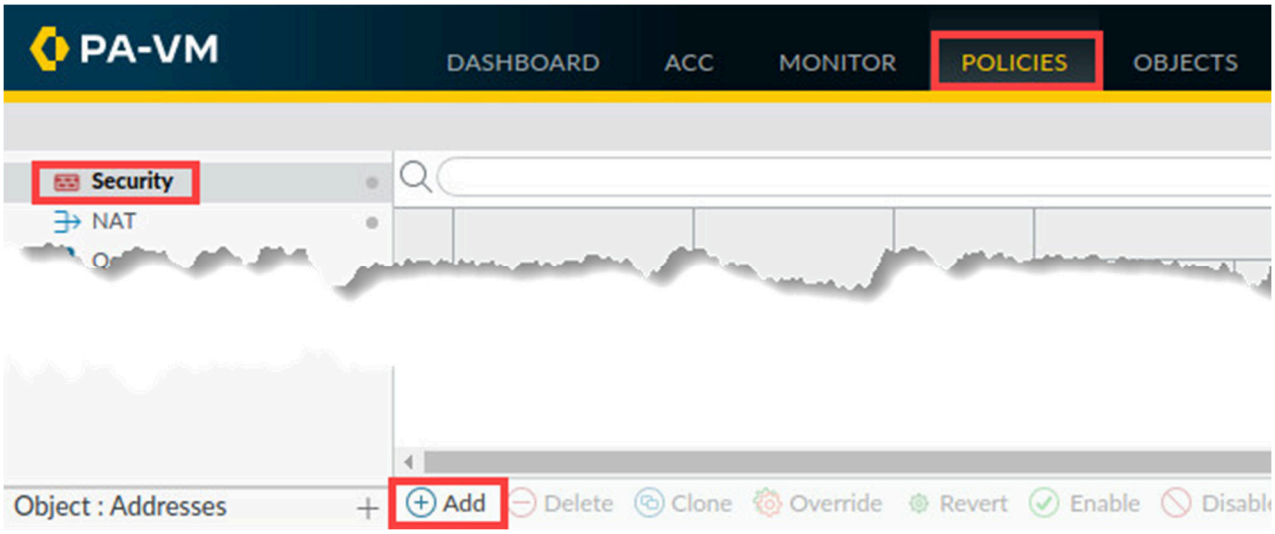


3. Leave the firewall open and continue to the next task.

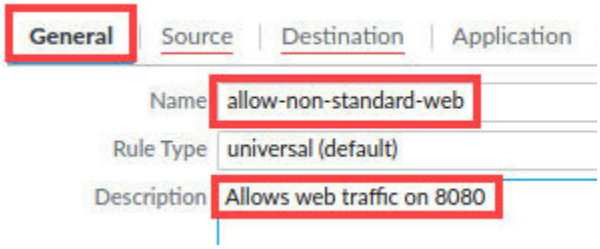
1.3 Add the New Service to the Security Policy

In this section, you will add a security policy rule to enable the firewall to match and pass web-browsing traffic using the non-standard TCP port 8080.

1. In the web interface, select **Policies > Security**. Click **Add** at the bottom of the security policy window.

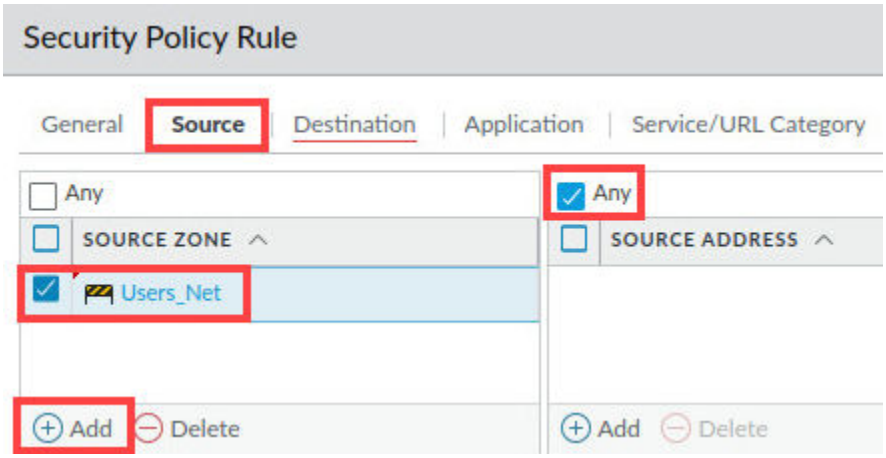


2. On the *General* tab, type **`allow-non-standard-web`** as the *Name*. For *Description*, enter **`Allows web traffic on 8080.`**



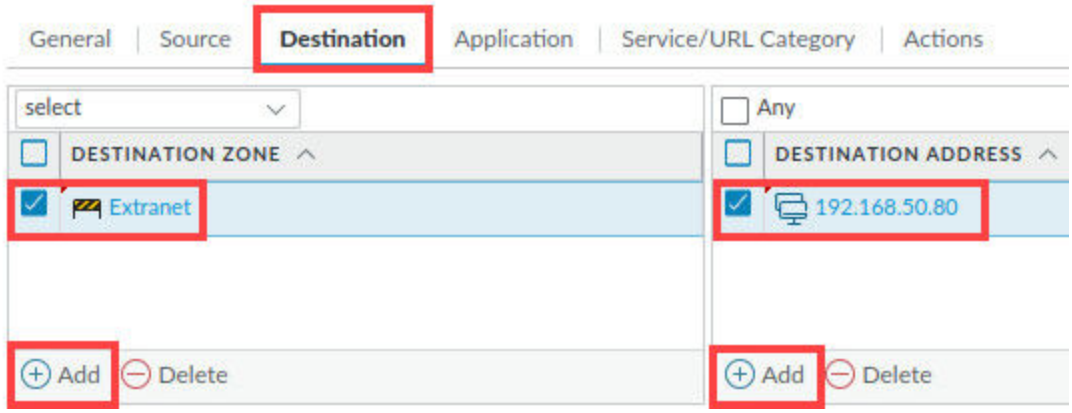
3. Click the **Source** tab and configure the following:

Parameter	Value
Source Zone	**Users_Net**
Source Address	**Any**



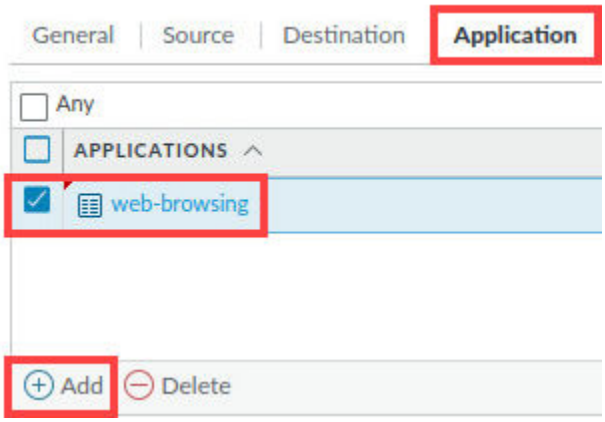
4. Click the **Destination** tab and configure the following:

Parameter	Value
Destination Zone	**Extranet**
Destination Address	**`192.168.50.80`**



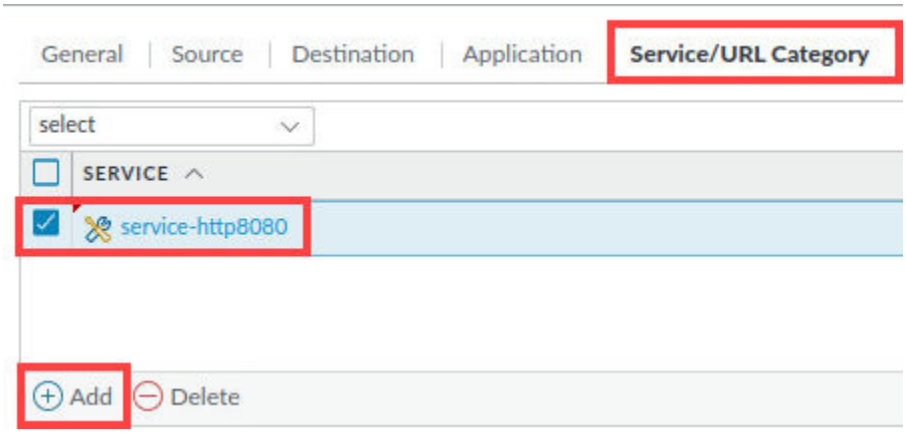
5. Click the **Application** tab and verify the following:

Parameter	Value
Applications	**Web-Browsing**



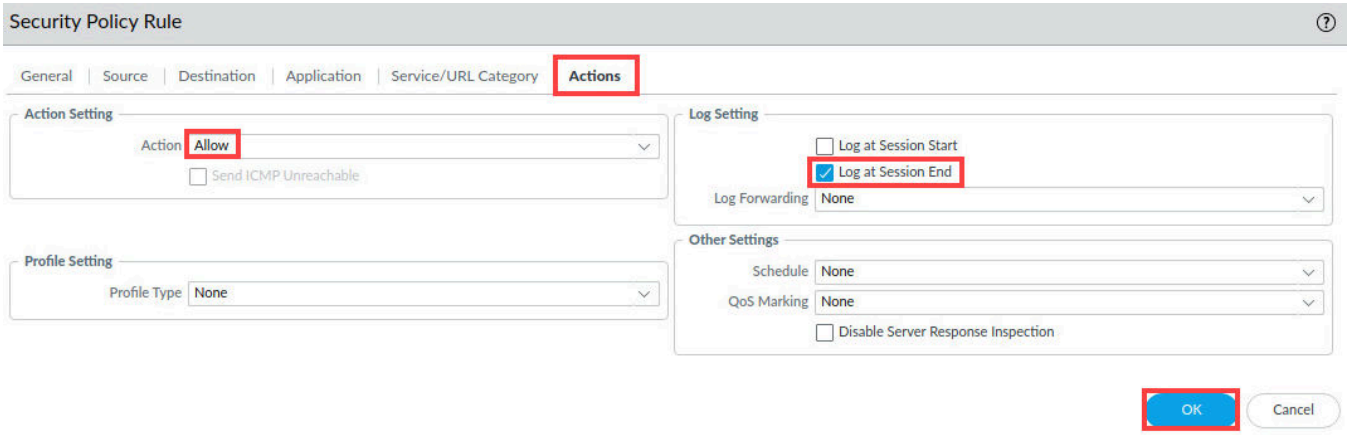
6. Click the **Service/URL Category** tab and configure the following:

Parameter	Value
Service	**service-http8080**

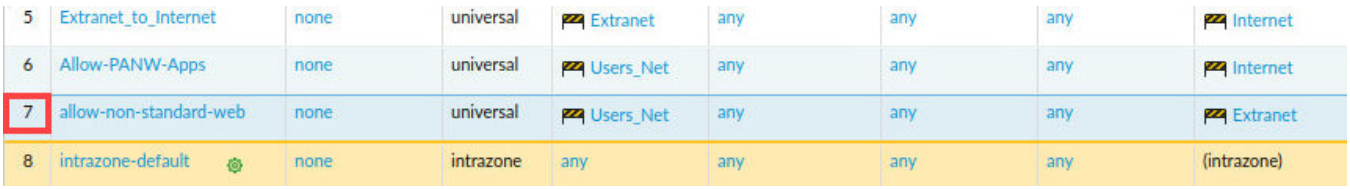


7. Click the **Actions** tab and verify the following. Click **OK**.

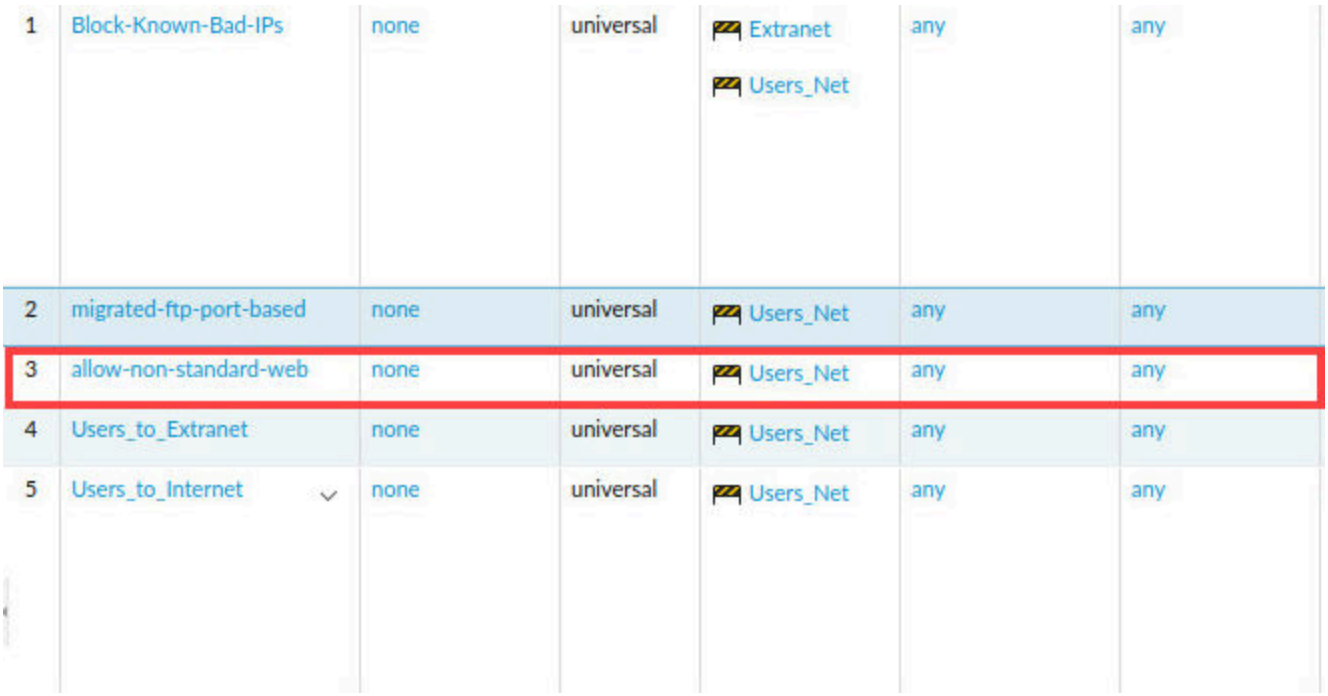
Parameter	Value
Action	**Allow**
Log Setting	**Log at Session End**



8. Select, but do not open, the **allow-non-standard-web** rule in the security policy.

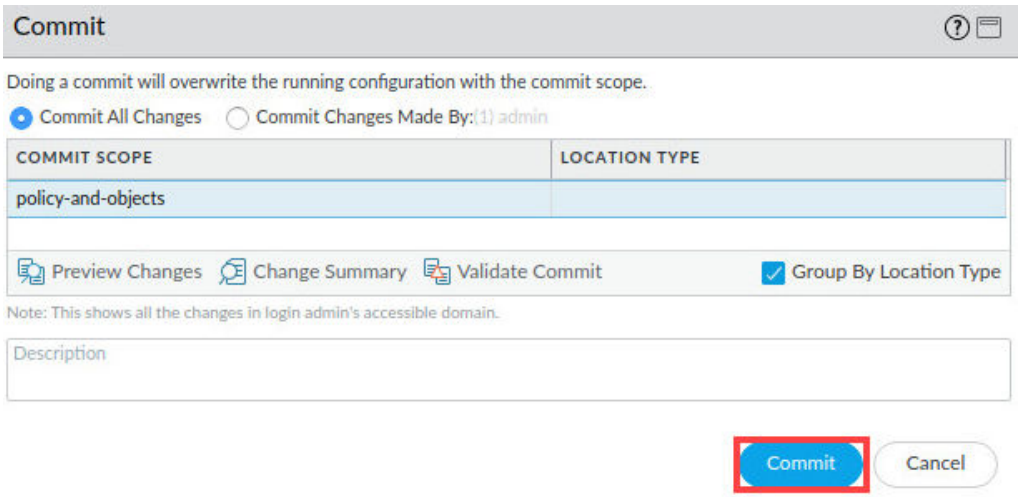


9. Use your mouse pointer to drag-and-drop the **allow-non-standard-web** rule to just above the **Users_to_Extranet** rule.

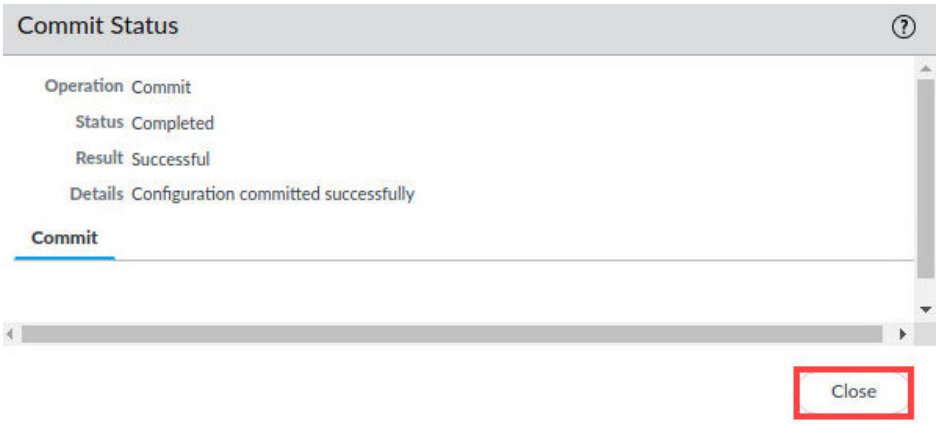


10. Click the **Commit** button at the upper-right of the web interface.

11. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit**.



12. Wait until the *Commit* process is complete. Click **Close**.



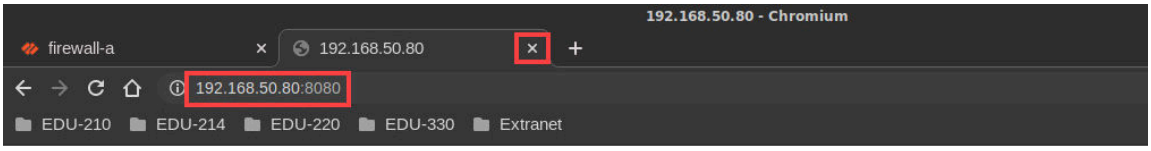
13. Leave the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* open and continue to the next task.

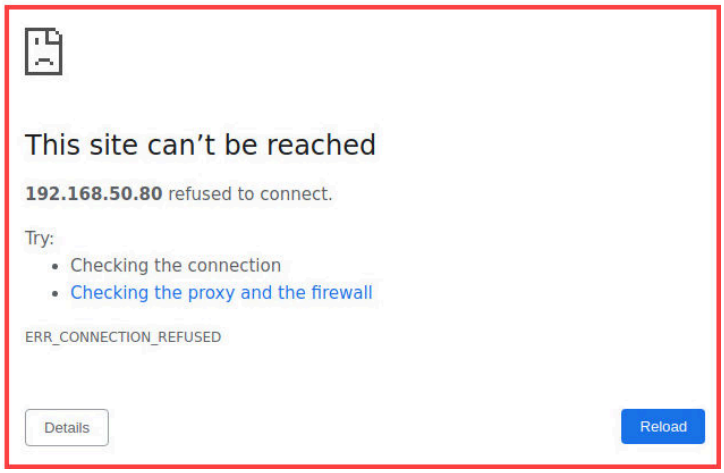
1.4 Test Access to the Web Server on Port 8080

In this section, you will test whether the security policy allows access to the web server running on the non-standard TCP port 8080.

1. Open a new tab in **Chromium**.

2. Type **`http://192.168.50.80:8080`** and press **Enter**. The connection will fail because the web server is not using port **8080**. Close the *Chromium* tab after the connection fails.

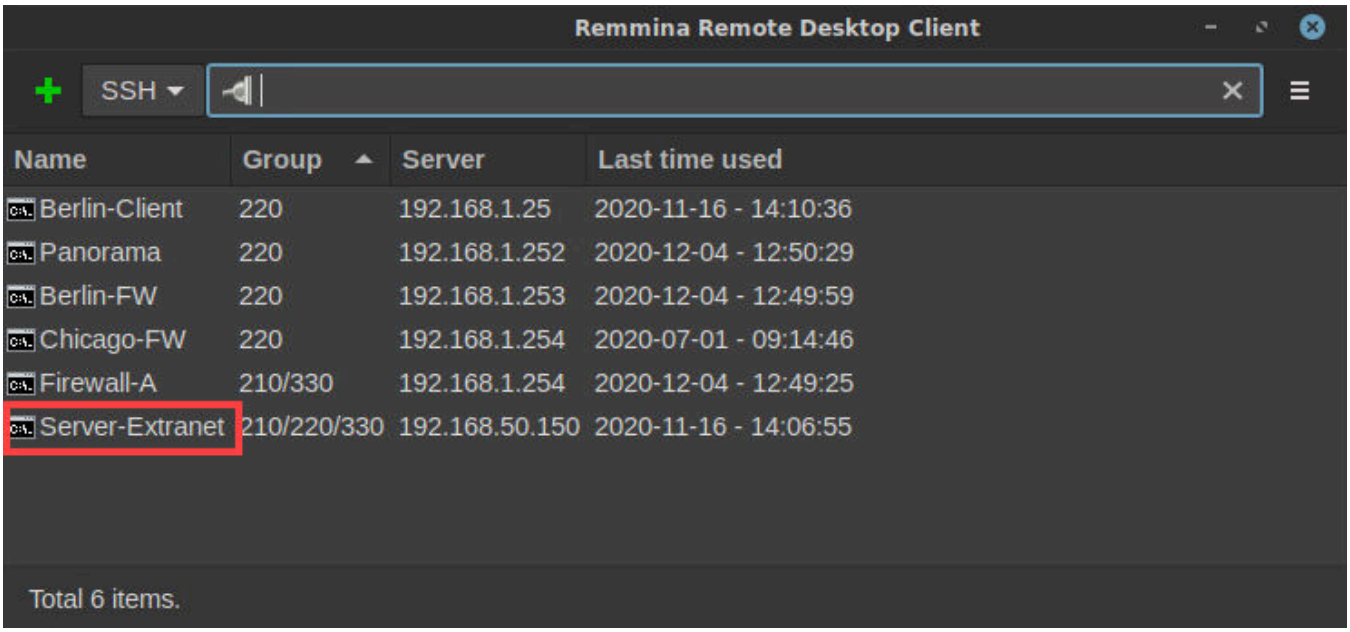




3. Minimize the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall*.

4. On the *client desktop*, open the **Remmina** application.

5. Double-click the entry for **Server-Extranet**.

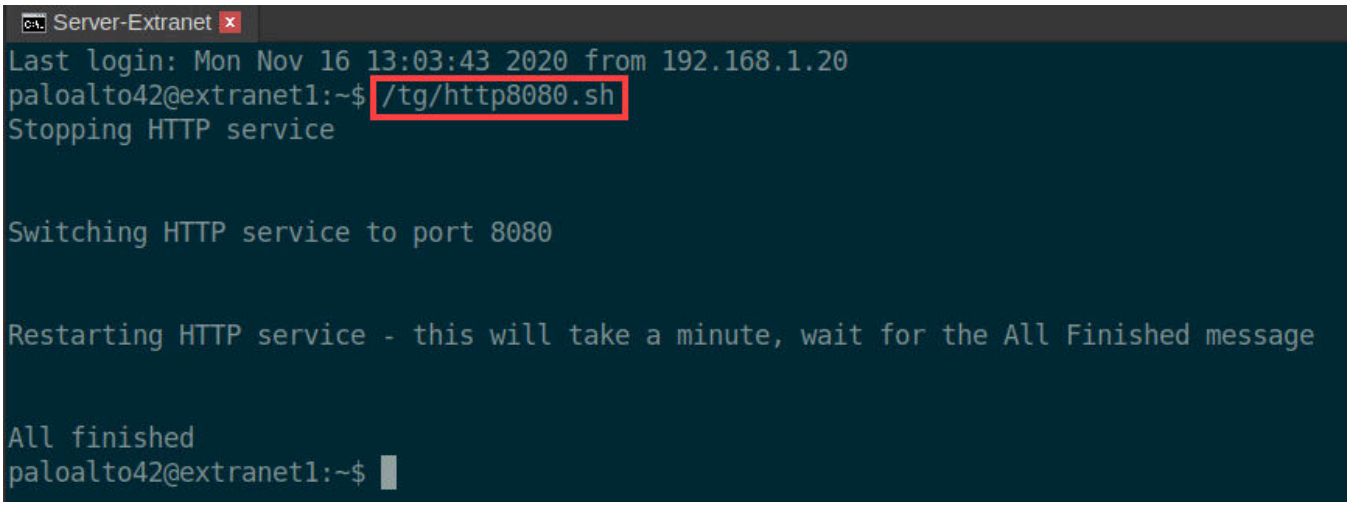


Please Note

This script will connect you to the Extranet lab server using SSH.

6. Run the following command to change the HTTP service port from 80 to 8080.

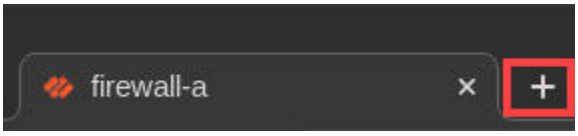
```
paloalto42@extranet1:~$ /tg/http8080.sh <Enter>
```



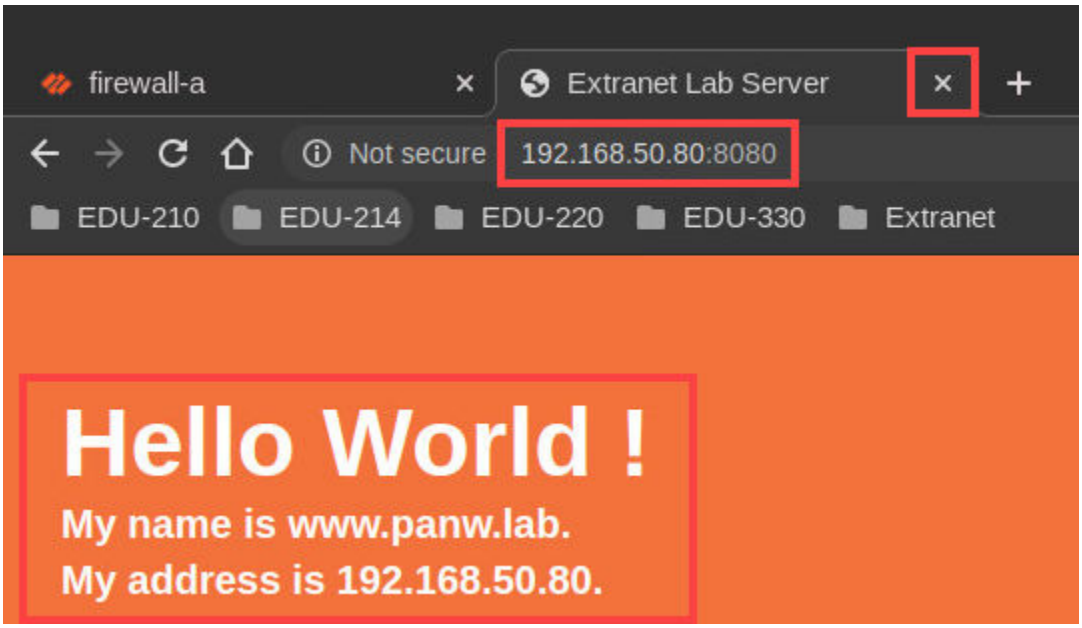
7. Leave the **Remmina** connection to the *Extranet* server open.

8. Reopen the *PA-VM firewall* web interface by clicking on the **Chromium** icon in the taskbar.

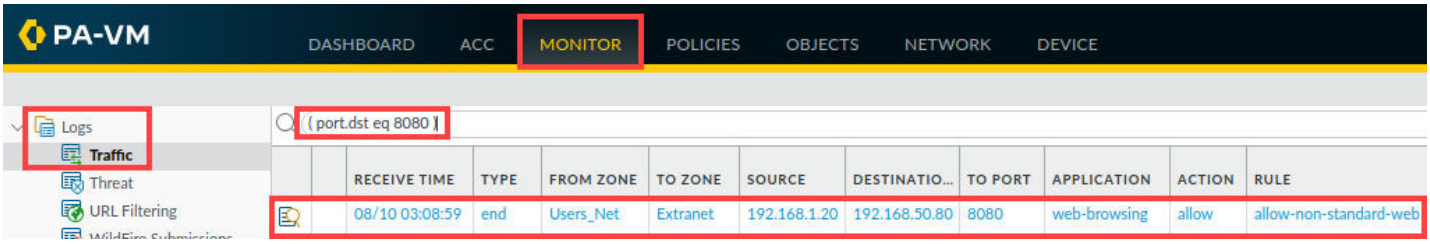
9. Open a new tab in **Chromium**.



10. Type **`http://192.168.50.80:8080`** and press **Enter**. You should be connected to the server now that the service port has been changed to *8080*. Close the **Chromium** tab.



11. In the firewall web interface, select **Monitor > Logs > Traffic.** Clear any filters you have in place. Find the log entries for the web traffic to port *8080*. You can use the filter **`( port.dst eq 8080 )`** to find the log entry.



12. Minimize the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* and continue to the next task.

1.5 Revert the Web Server to Port 80

In this section, you will run a script on the Extranet host to configure the web server to listen on its standard TCP port 80. You also will remove the Security policy rule that enabled web server access on the non-standard port.

1. Reopen *Remmina* by clicking on the **Remmina** icon in the taskbar.

2. Run the following command to change the *HTTP service port* from **8080** to **80**.

```
paloalto42@extranet1:~$ /tg/http80.sh <Enter>
```

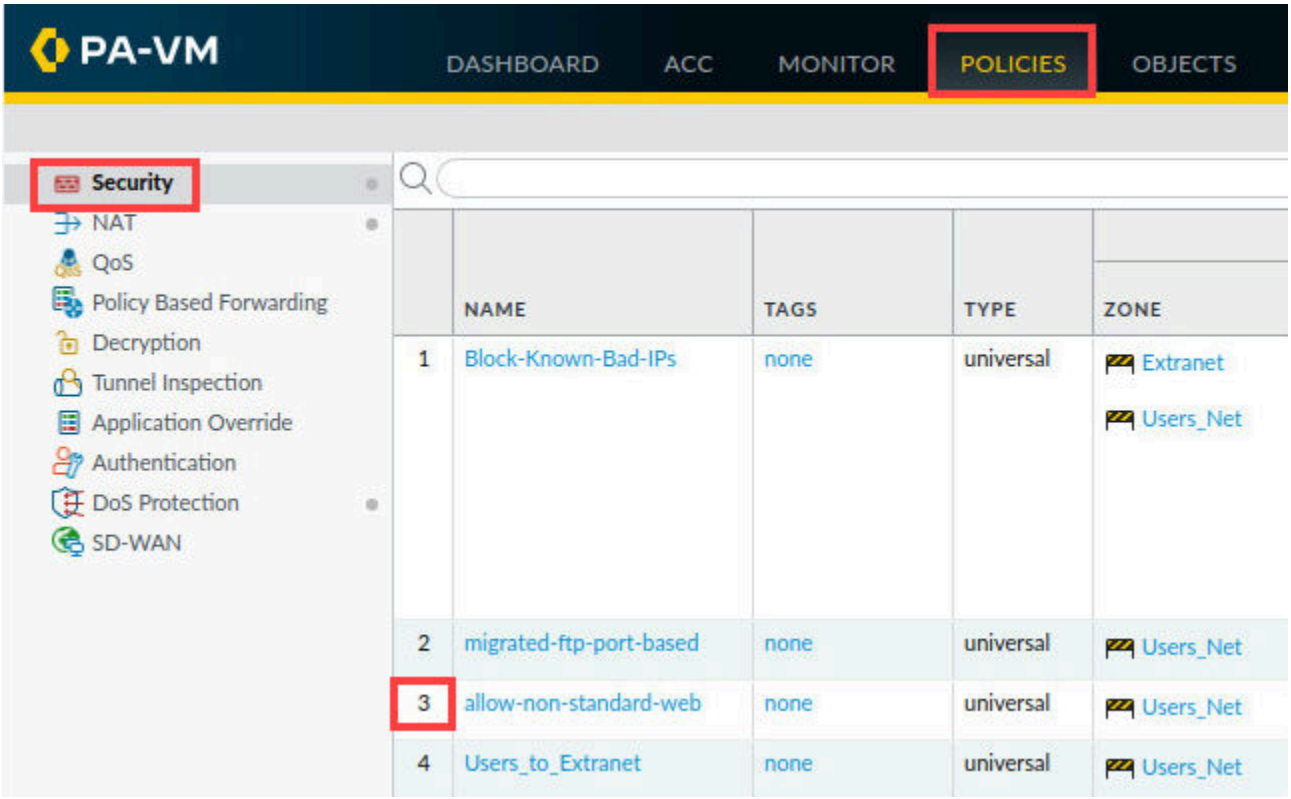
```
paloalto42@extranet1:~$ /tg/http80.sh
Stopping HTTP service


Switching HTTP service to port 80


Restarting HTTP service - this will take a minute, wait for the All finished message


All finished
paloalto42@extranet1:~$
```

3. Close your *Remmina* connection to the **Extranet server** by entering the command below.

```
paloalto42@extranet1:~$ exit <Enter>
```

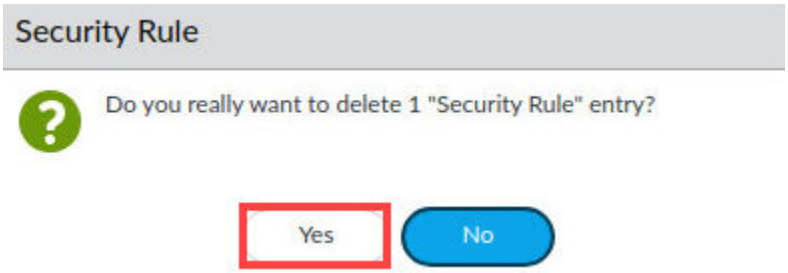
```
paloalto42@extranet1:~$ exit
```

4. In firewall web interface, select **Policies > Security**. Select, but do not open, the **allow-non-standard-web** rule in the security policy.



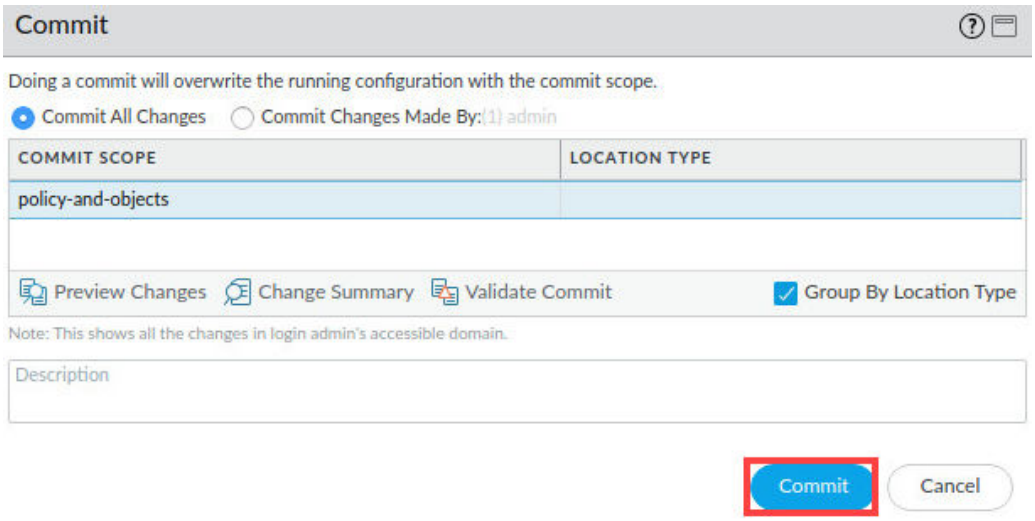
5. At the bottom of the window, click **Delete** to remove the rule.

6. In the *Security Rule* window, click **Yes** to delete the allow-non-standard-web security policy.

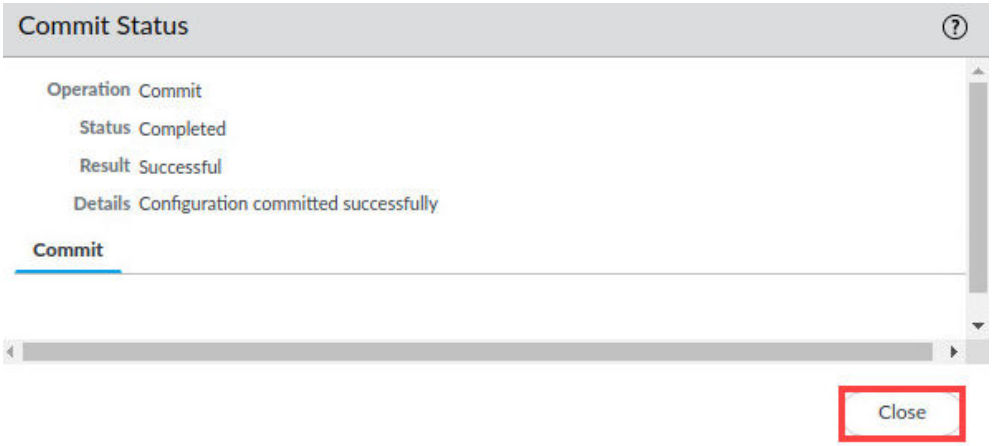


7. Click the **Commit** button at the upper-right of the web interface.

8. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit**.



9. Wait until the *Commit* process is complete, click **Close**.



10. Minimize the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* and continue to the next task.

1.6 Create an FTP Application-Based Security Policy Rule with Policy Optimizer

The goal of this exercise is to simulate the process of migrating from a port-based rule to an application-based rule. In the previous lab, you created a port-based rule that allowed FTP traffic from the Users_Net zone to the Extranet zone and then opened a session to the FTP server.

By now, the beginning of the hour should have passed, so the Policy Optimizer tool should have recorded the FTP traffic through the port-based FTP rule, which will enable you to use the Policy Optimizer tool to migrate from the port-based rule to an application-based rule.

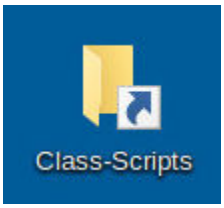
In this section, you will use the Policy Optimizer tool's cloning method to create an application-based rule to match and allow FTP traffic from the Users_Net zone to the Extranet zone.

To complete this task, you will want to be closer to the top of the hour. If you start at the bottom of the hour, please note that the lab will possibly take about two hours to complete due to waiting for the top of the hour.

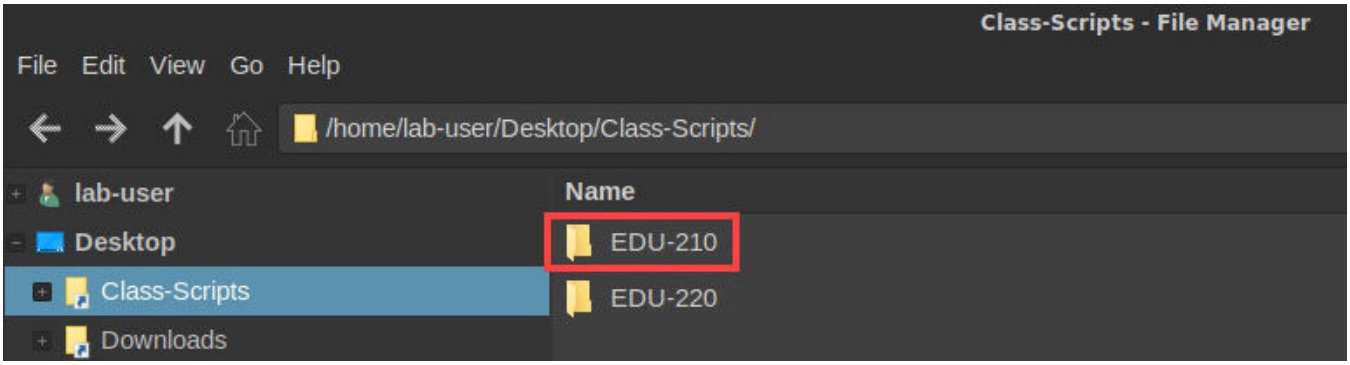
It is recommended that you start this lab 30 minutes before the top of the hour to minimize your wait time to complete this lab.

If you would like to skip this task without using the Policy Optimizer, and manually add the FTP Application based policy, please skip to task 9.7.

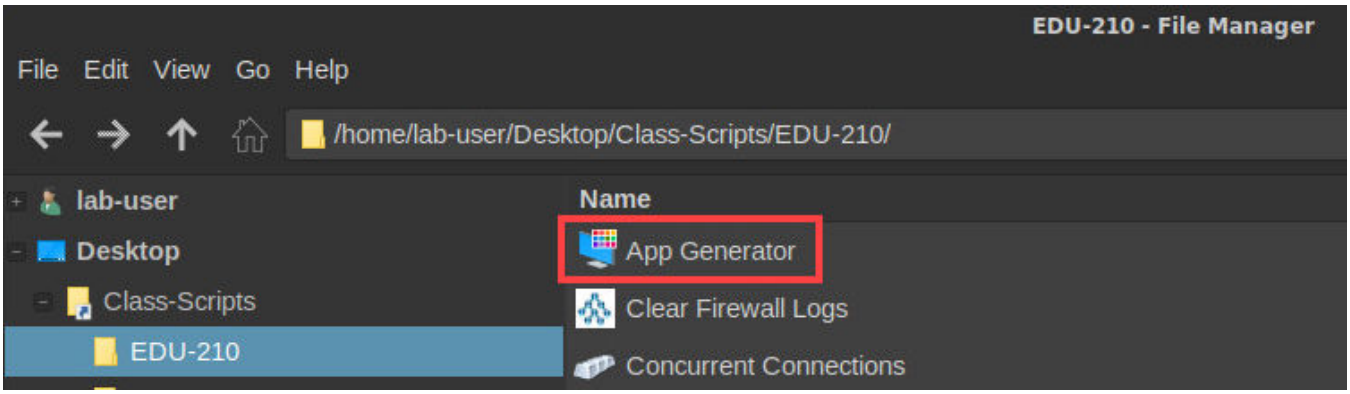
1. On the *client desktop*, double-click the folder for **Class-Scripts**.



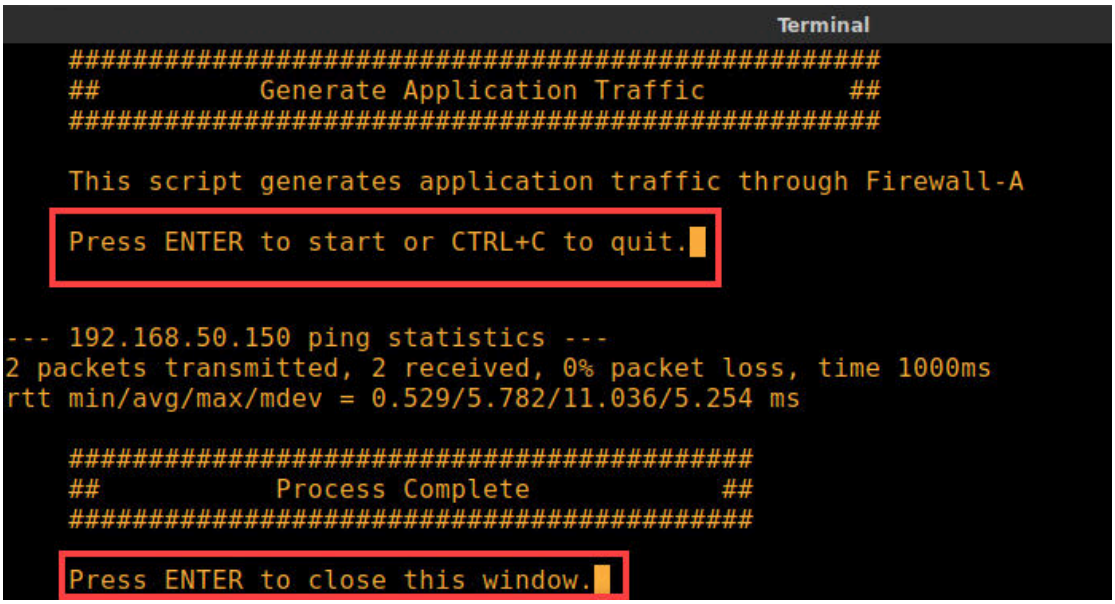
2. Open the **EDU-210** folder.



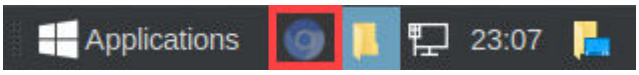
3. Double-click the icon for **App Generator**.



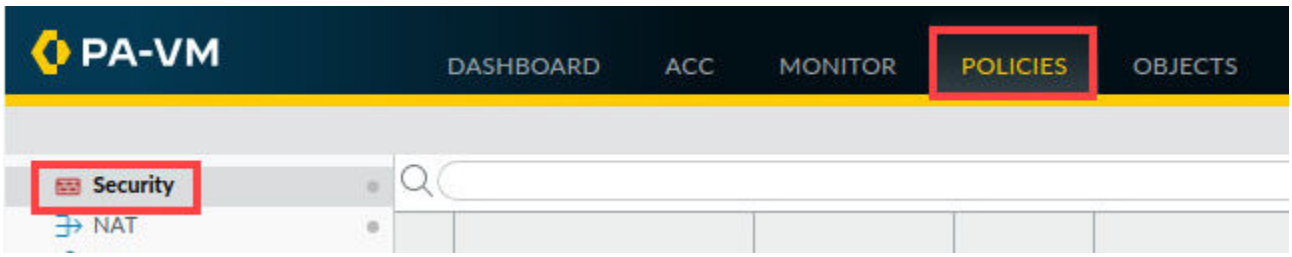
4. Press **Enter** to start the *App Generator* script. Allow the script to complete. Once the *App Generator* script completes, press **Enter**.



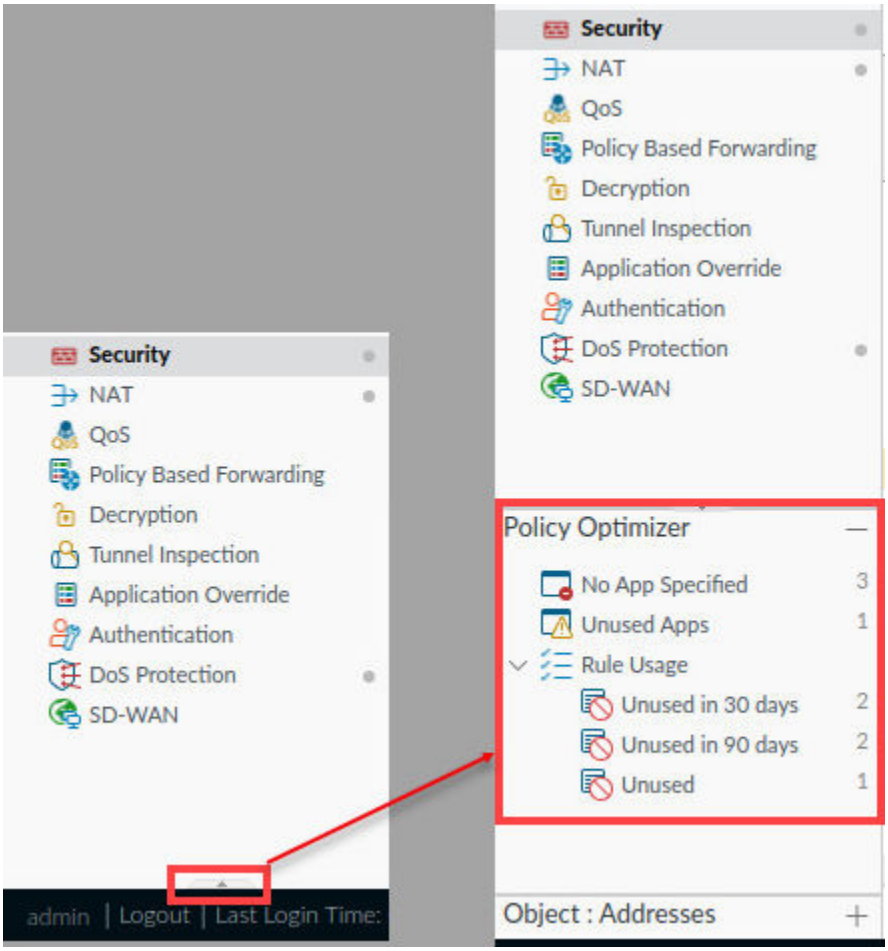
5. Reopen the *Firewall* interface by clicking on the **Chromium** tab in the taskbar.



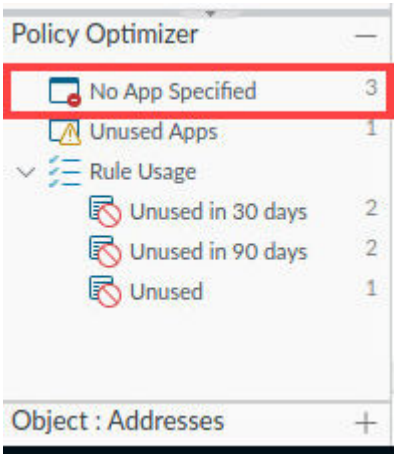
6. In the *firewall* interface, select **Policies > Security**.



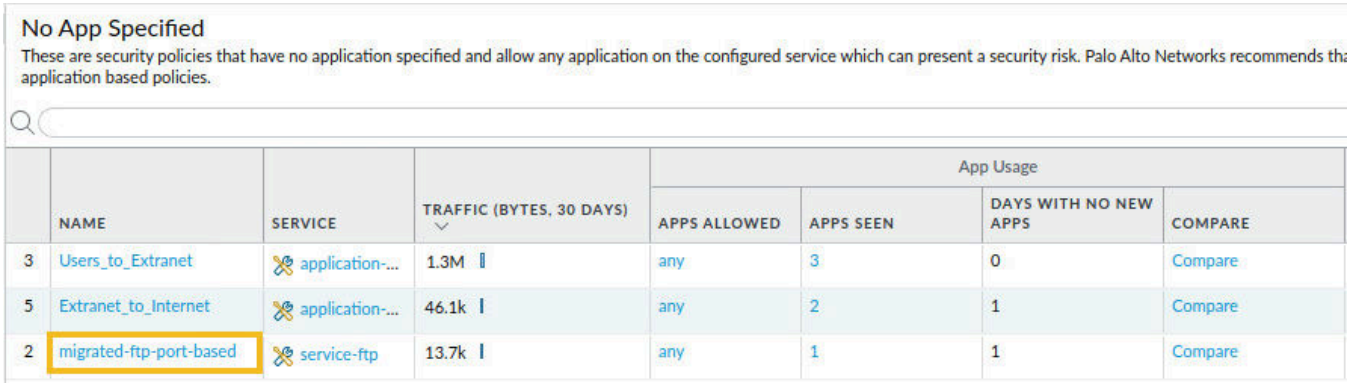
7. If necessary, open the **Policy Optimizer** panel by clicking the **Up arrow** beneath the list of policies on the left side of the web interface.



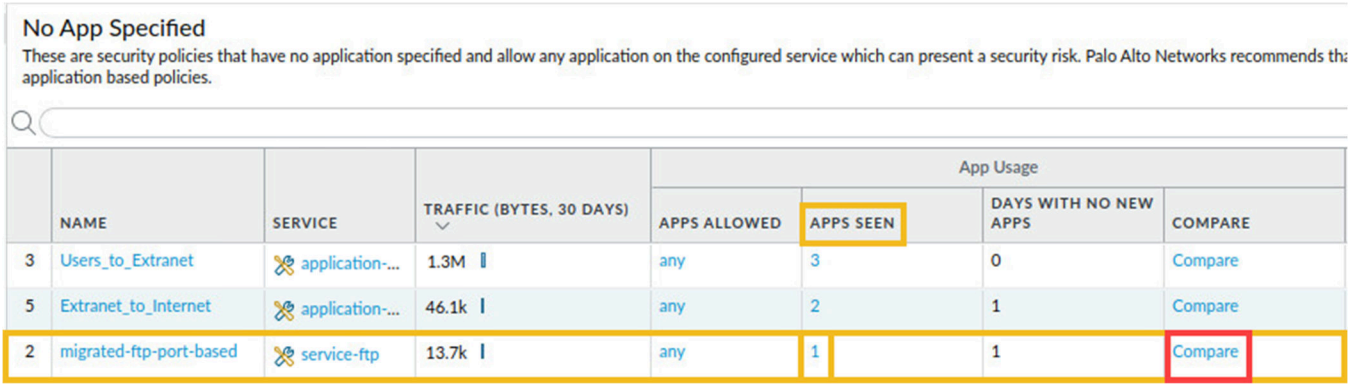
8. Select **Policy Optimizer > No App Specified**.



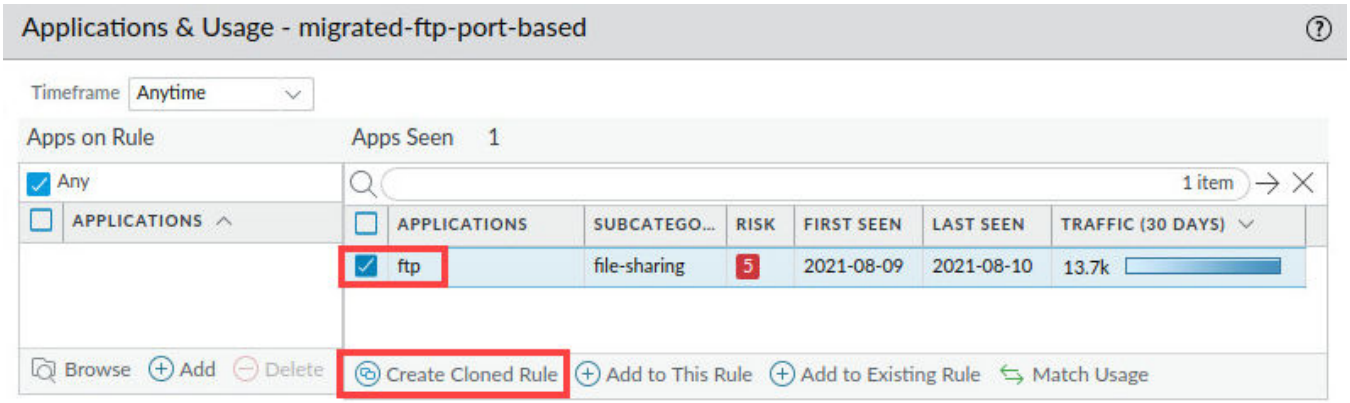
9. View the *No App Specified* window. If you do not see an entry for **migrated-ftp-port-based** in the list, wait until the top of the hour has passed. The firewall updates these statistics every hour, on the hour.



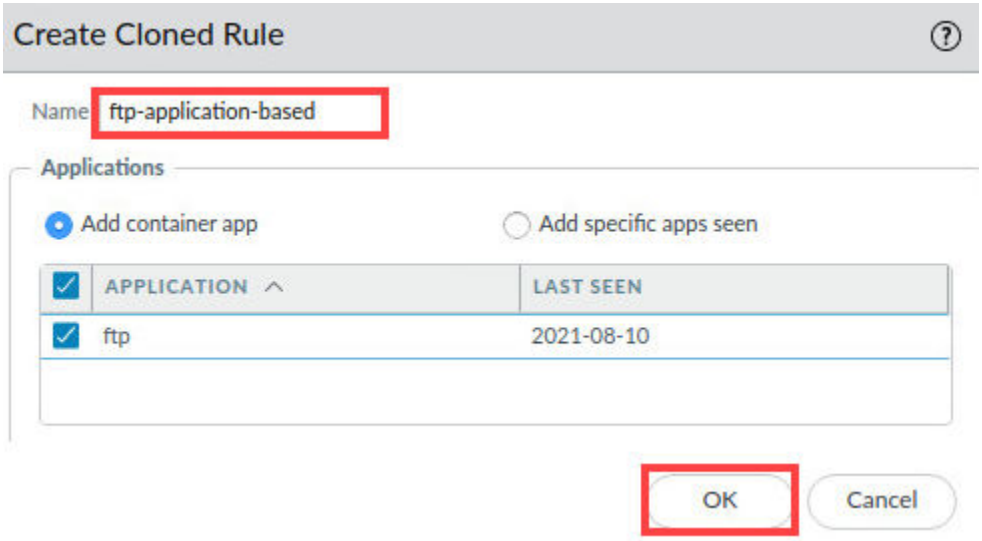
10. In the *migrated-ftp-port-based* rule, notice the number **1** in the Apps Seen column indicates that only a single application has been seen by this port-based rule. However, this window does not tell you which application. Click **Compare**.



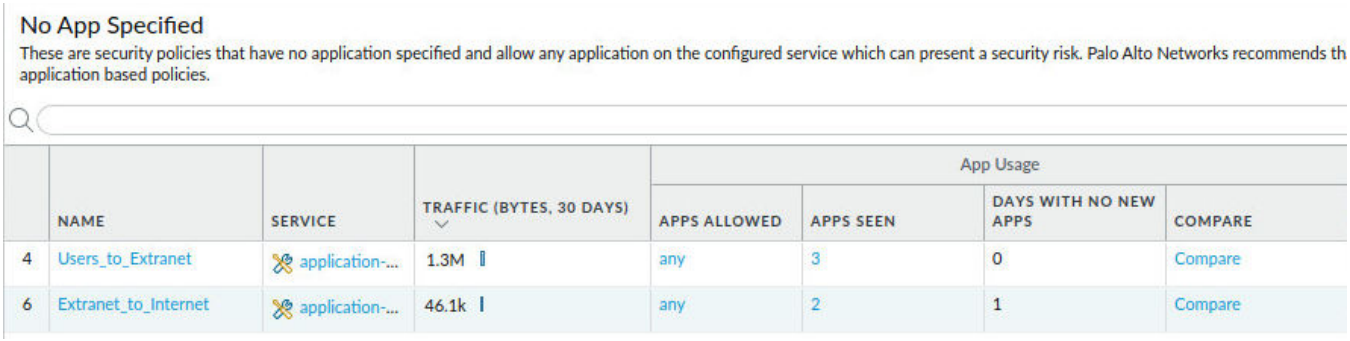
11. In the *Applications & Usage – migrated-ftp-port-based* window, notice the application **ftp** has been seen. Select the **ftp** checkbox to select the application and click **Create Cloned Rule** to create an application-based FTP rule.



12. In the *Clone* window, type **`ftp-application-based`** as the *Name* of the new rule. Click **OK**.

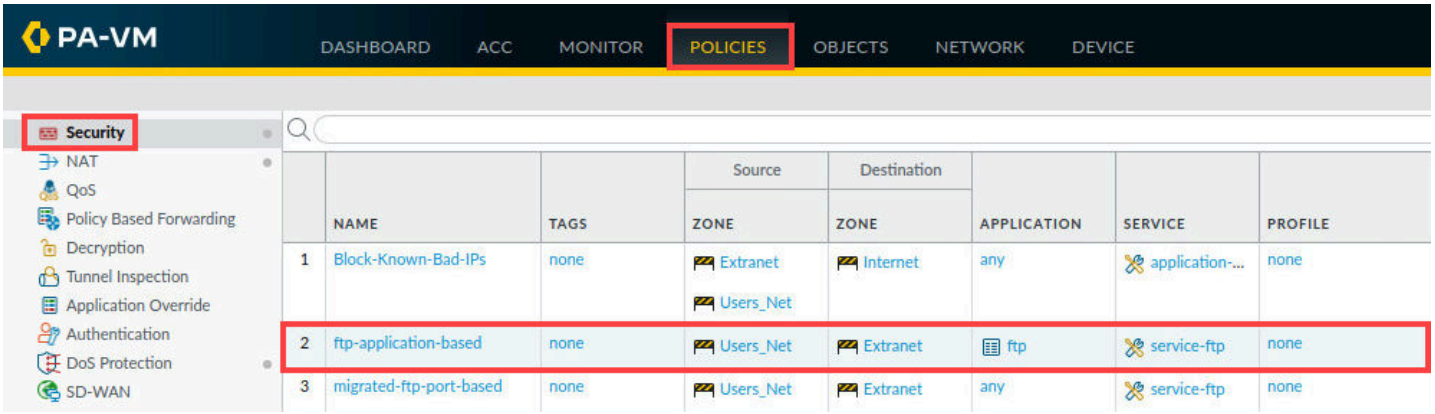


13. In the **No App Specified** window, the **`migrated-ftp-port-based`** rule is removed.



Please Note The firewall has moved the ftp application from the "migrated-ftp-port-based" rule to the new "ftp-application-based" rule.

14. Select **Policies > Security**. The new **ftp-application-based** rule has been added to your security policy.

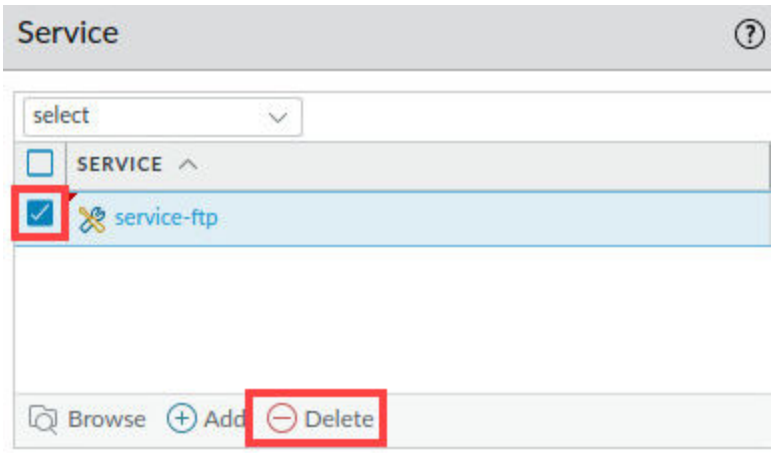


Please Note

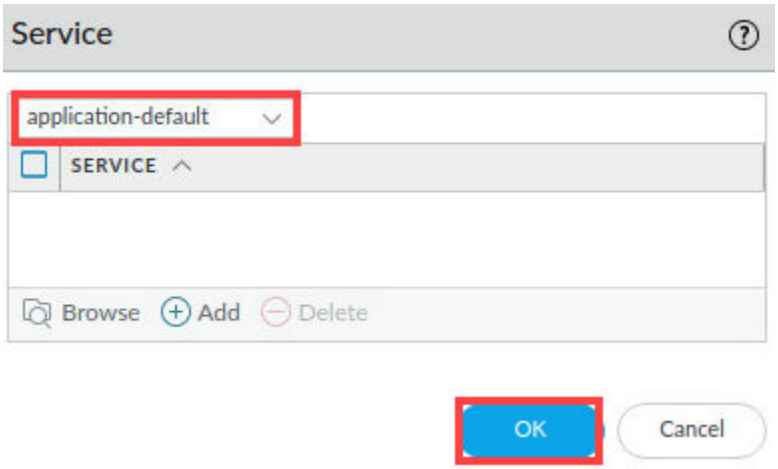
Notice the *Policy Optimizer* moved the new **ftp-application-based** rule to precede the **migrated-ftp-port-based** security rule and match *FTP traffic* before the **migrated-ftp-port-based** rule. Take note of the service listed in the service column. It is **service-ftp**.

15. On the *ftp-application-based* rule, click **service-ftp** in the *Service* column.

16. In the *Service* window, select the **service-ftp** checkbox and then click **Delete** to delete the service.

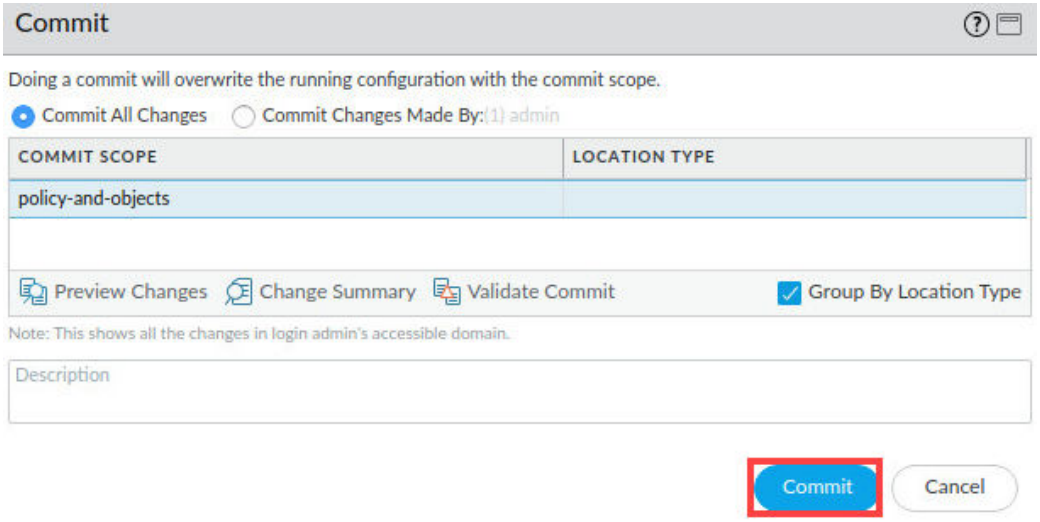


17. After deleting *service-ftp*, notice the service changed to **application-default**. Click **OK**.

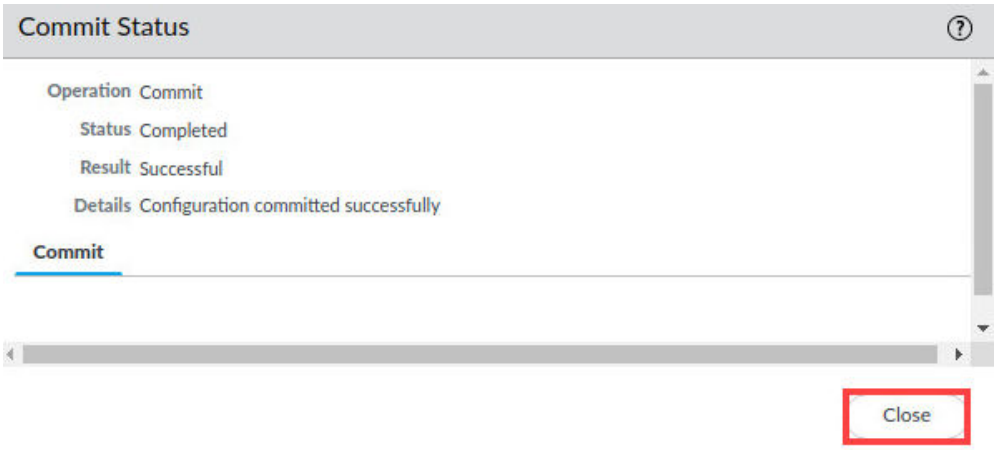


18. Click the **Commit** button at the upper-right of the web interface.

19. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit**.



20. Wait until the *Commit* process is complete, click **Close**.



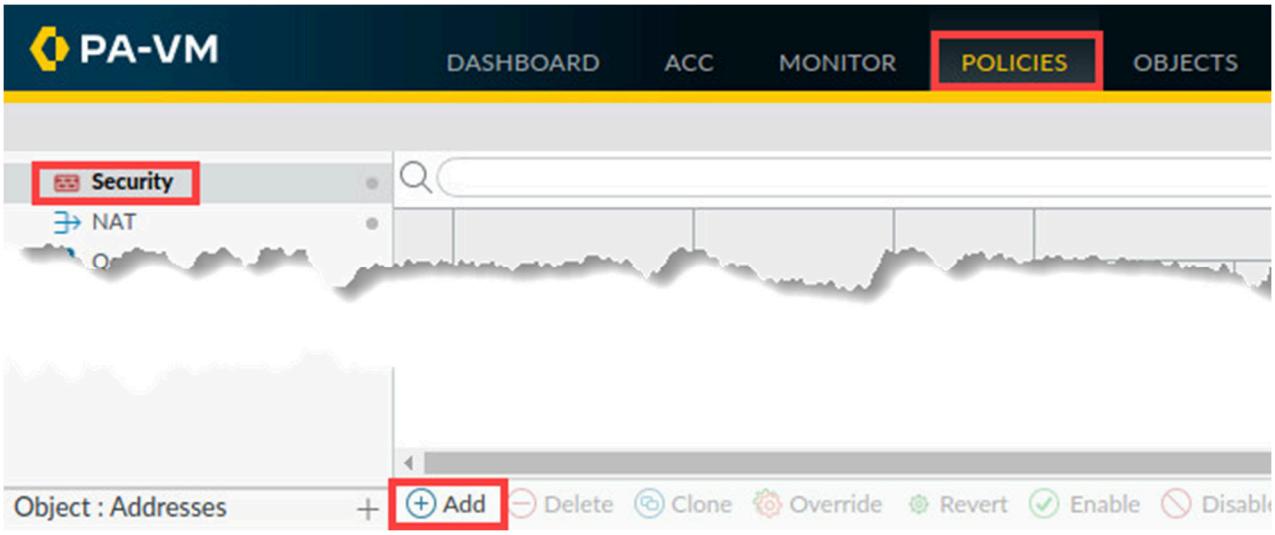
21. Leave the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* open and continue to the next task.

1.7 Manually Create FTP Application-Based Security Policy

If you completed task 9.6 using the Policy Optimizer, skip this task and continue to task 9.8.

In this section, you will manually create an FTP Application-Based Security Policy.

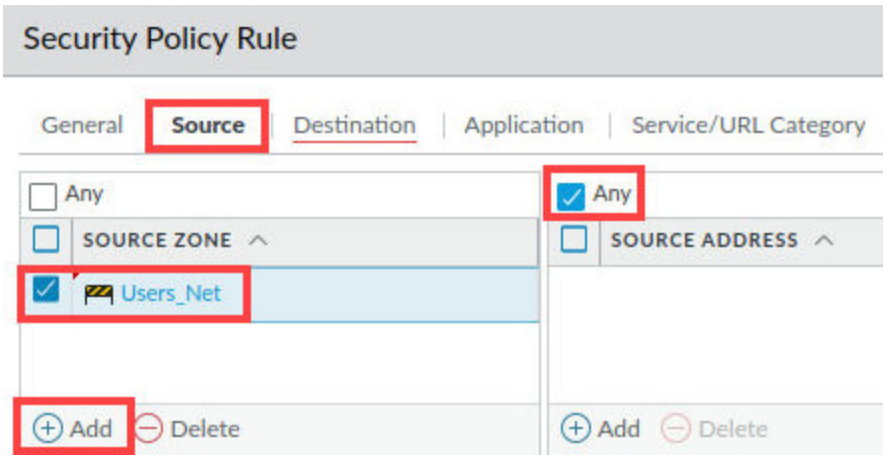
1. In the web interface, select **Policies > Security**. Click **Add** at the bottom of the security policy window.



2. On the *General* tab, type **`ftp-application-based`** as the *Name*. For *Description*, enter **`FTP traffic`**.

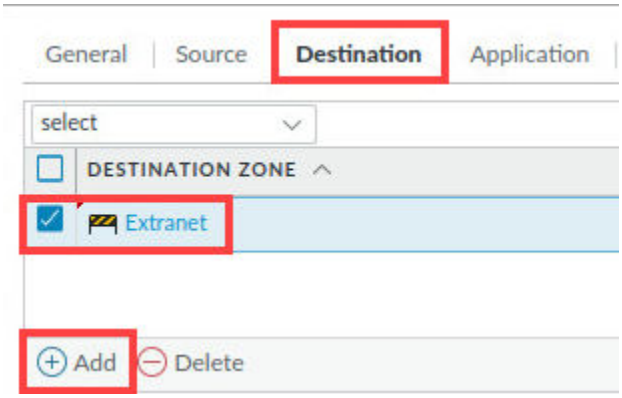
3. Click the **Source** tab and configure the following:

Parameter	Value
Source Zone	**Users_Net**
Source Address	**Any**



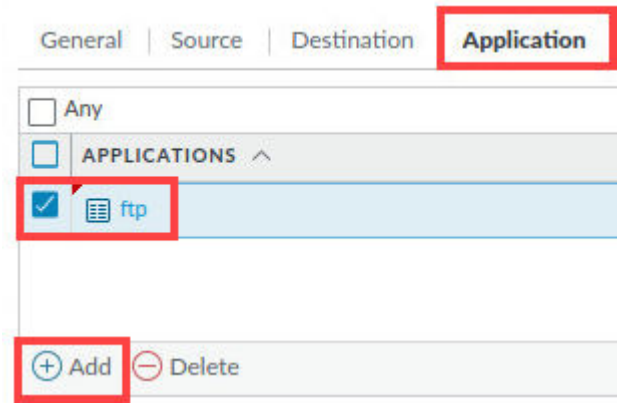
4. Click the **Destination** tab and configure the following:

Parameter	Value
Destination Zone	**Extranet**



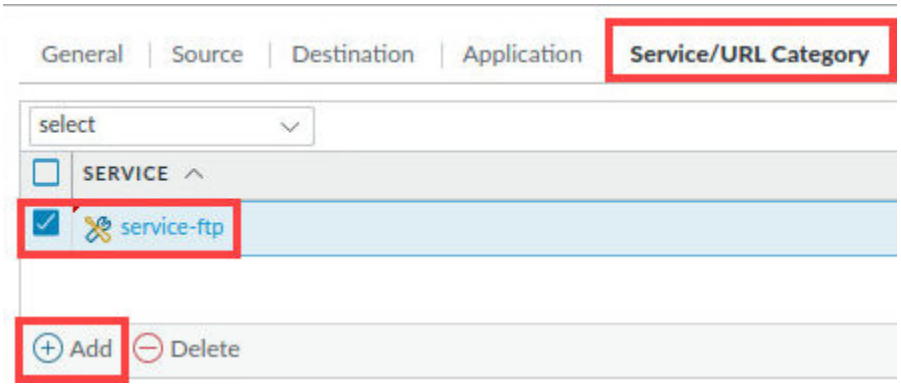
5. Click the **Application** tab and add the following:

Parameter	Value
Applications	**ftp**



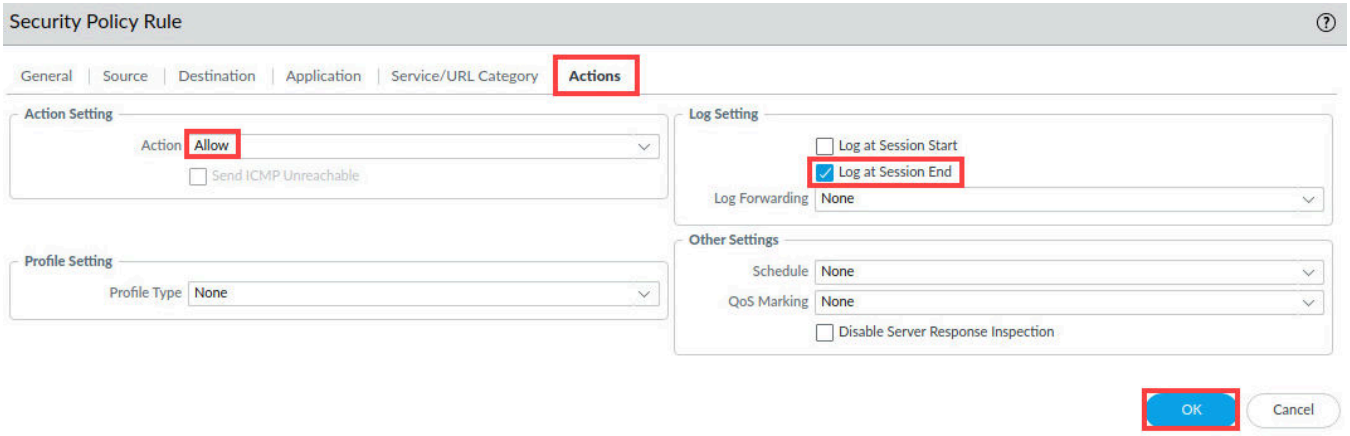
6. Click the **Service/URL Category** tab and configure the following:

Parameter	Value
Service	**service-ftp**



7. Click the **Actions** tab and verify the following. Click **OK**.

Parameter	Value
Action	**Allow**
Log Setting	**Log at Session End**

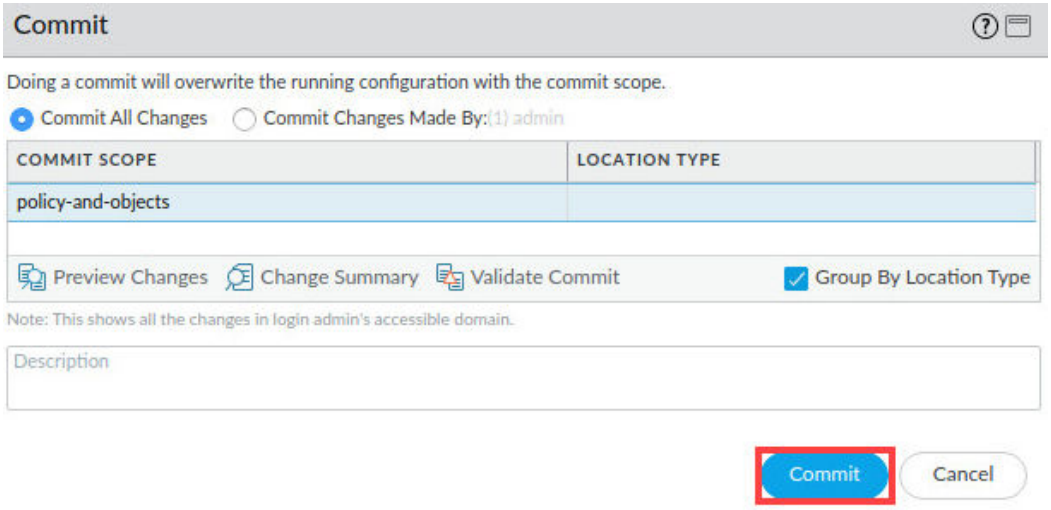


8. Use your mouse pointer to drag-and-drop the **ftp-application-based** security policy above the **migrated-ftp-port-based** rule.

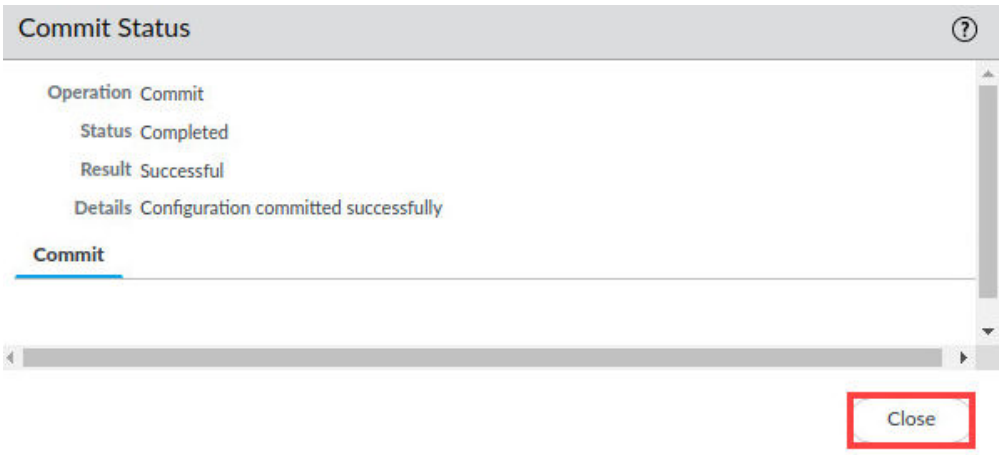
	NAME	TAGS	TYPE	Source ZONE	Source ADDRESS	Source USER	Source DEVICE	Destination ZONE
1	Block-Known-Bad-IPs	none	universal	Extranet, Users_Net	any	any	any	Internet
2	ftp-application-based	none	universal	Users_Net	any	any	any	Extranet
3	migrated-ftp-port-based	none	universal	Users_Net	any	any	any	Extranet
4	Users_to_Extranet	none	universal	Users_Net	any	any	any	Extranet

9. Click the **Commit** button at the upper-right of the web interface.

10. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit**.



11. Wait until the *Commit* process is complete. Click **Close**.

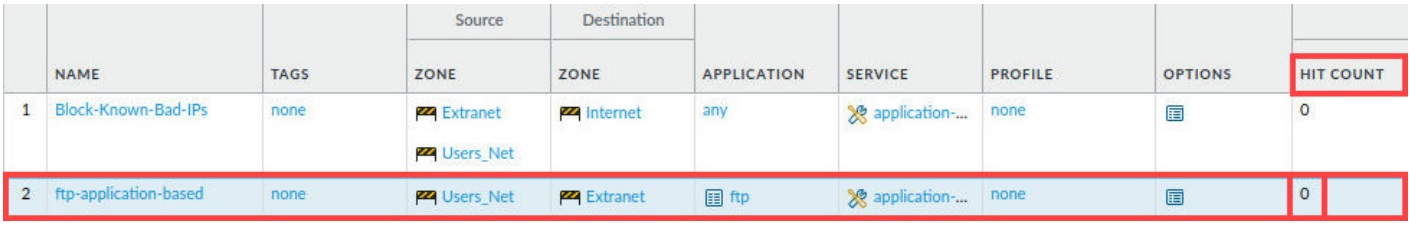


12. Leave the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* open and continue to the next task.

1.8 Test the Application-Based Security Policy

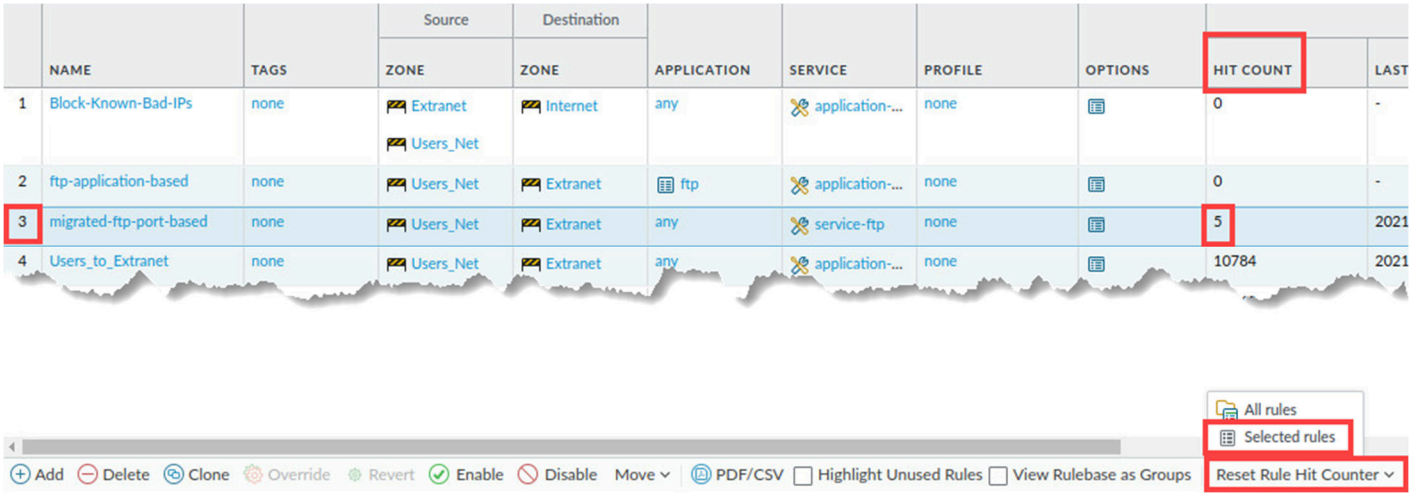
In this section, you will generate FTP traffic from your client host to the FTP server in the Extranet zone. Then you will examine the Traffic log to view how the firewall processed the FTP traffic. The FTP traffic should match the application-based rule and not the port-based rule.

1. Ensure you are still viewing the *Security policies*. In the **ftp-application-based** rule, note that the *Hit Count* is **0**.



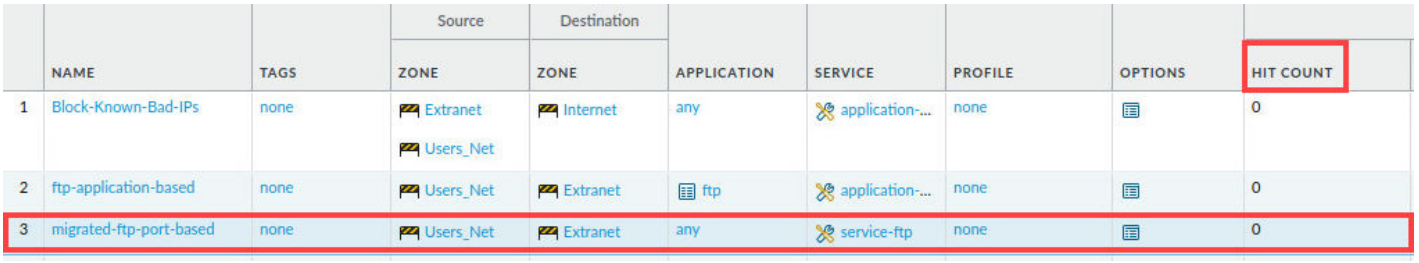
	NAME	TAGS	Source ZONE	Destination ZONE	APPLICATION	SERVICE	PROFILE	OPTIONS	HIT COUNT
1	Block-Known-Bad-IPs	none	Extranet, Users_Net	Internet	any	application-...	none		0
2	ftp-application-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	ftp	application-...	none		0

2. Highlight the entry for the **migrated-ftp-port-based** rule. At the bottom of the window, click **Reset Rule Hit Counter > Selected rules** if it shows a hit count. This number may vary and will not hinder the completion of this task.



	NAME	TAGS	Source ZONE	Destination ZONE	APPLICATION	SERVICE	PROFILE	OPTIONS	HIT COUNT	LAST
1	Block-Known-Bad-IPs	none	Extranet, Users_Net	Internet	any	application-...	none		0	-
2	ftp-application-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	ftp	application-...	none		0	-
3	migrated-ftp-port-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	any	service-ftp	none		5	2021
4	Users_to_Extranet	none	Users_Net	Extranet	any	application-...	none		10784	2021

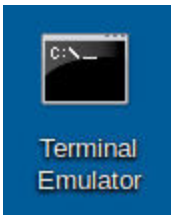
3. The *counter* has been reset to **zero** for the *migrated-ftp-port-based* rule. This will allow you to determine whether traffic is hitting the migrated-ftp-port-based rule during a test.



	NAME	TAGS	Source ZONE	Destination ZONE	APPLICATION	SERVICE	PROFILE	OPTIONS	HIT COUNT
1	Block-Known-Bad-IPs	none	Extranet, Users_Net	Internet	any	application-...	none		0
2	ftp-application-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	ftp	application-...	none		0
3	migrated-ftp-port-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	any	service-ftp	none		0

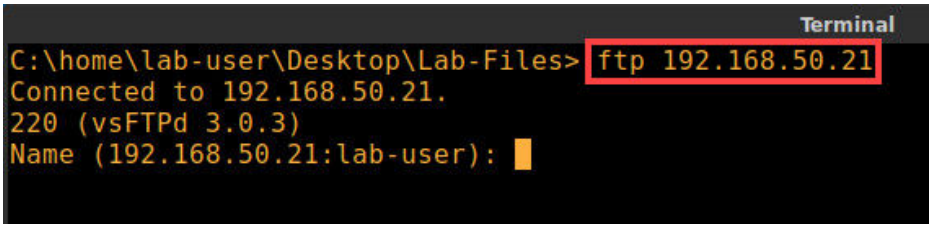
4. Minimize the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall*.

5. Open the **Terminal Emulator** on the *client desktop*.

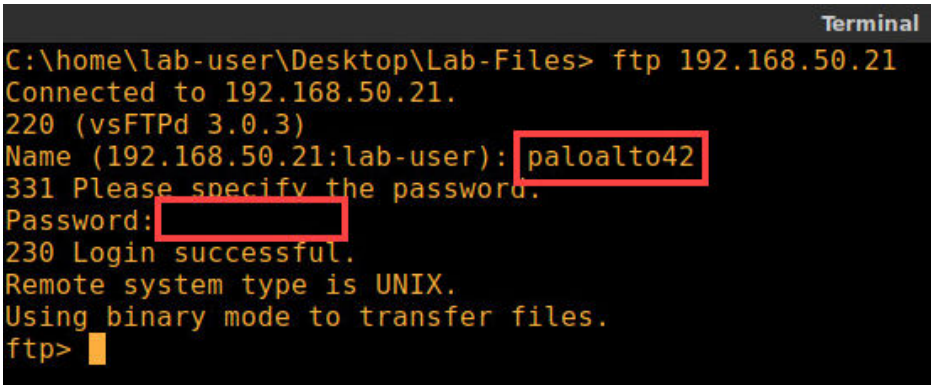


6. Issue the following command below.

```
C:\home\lab-user\Desktop\Lab-Files> ftp 192.168.50.21 <Enter>
```



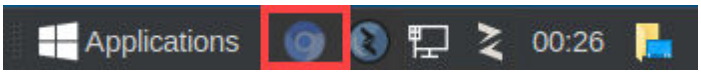
7. Log in with the username **paloalto42** and the password **Pal0Alt0!**.



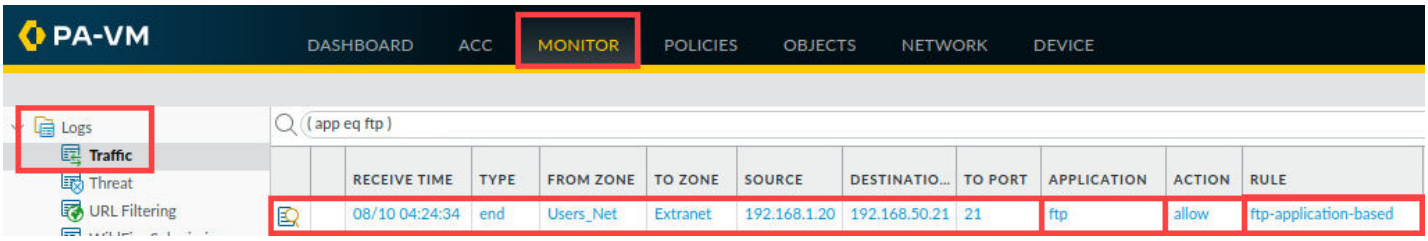
8. Type **bye** <Enter> at the FTP command prompt. Click the **X** to close the *terminal.*

```
C:\home\lab-user\Desktop\Lab-Files> bye <Enter>
```

9. Reopen the *Pa-VM firewall* by clicking on the **Chromium** icon in the taskbar.



10. In the web interface, select **Monitor > Logs > Traffic.** Clear any filters you have in place. Apply the filter **`(app eq ftp)`** to help you locate the log entry for the FTP session.



11. Select **Policies > Security**. Examine the **Hit Count** values for the *ftp-application-based* rule and the *migrated-ftp-port-based* rule. The hit count is now reversed because the order of the security rule was to hit the *ftp-application-based* security rule first.

	NAME	TAGS	Source ZONE	Destination ZONE	APPLICATION	SERVICE	PROFILE	OPTIONS	HIT COUNT
1	Block-Known-Bad-IPs	none	Extranet Users_Net	Internet	any	application-...	none		0
2	ftp-application-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	ftp	application-...	none		4
3	migrated-ftp-port-based	none	Users_Net	Extranet	any	service-ftp	none		0

Please Note

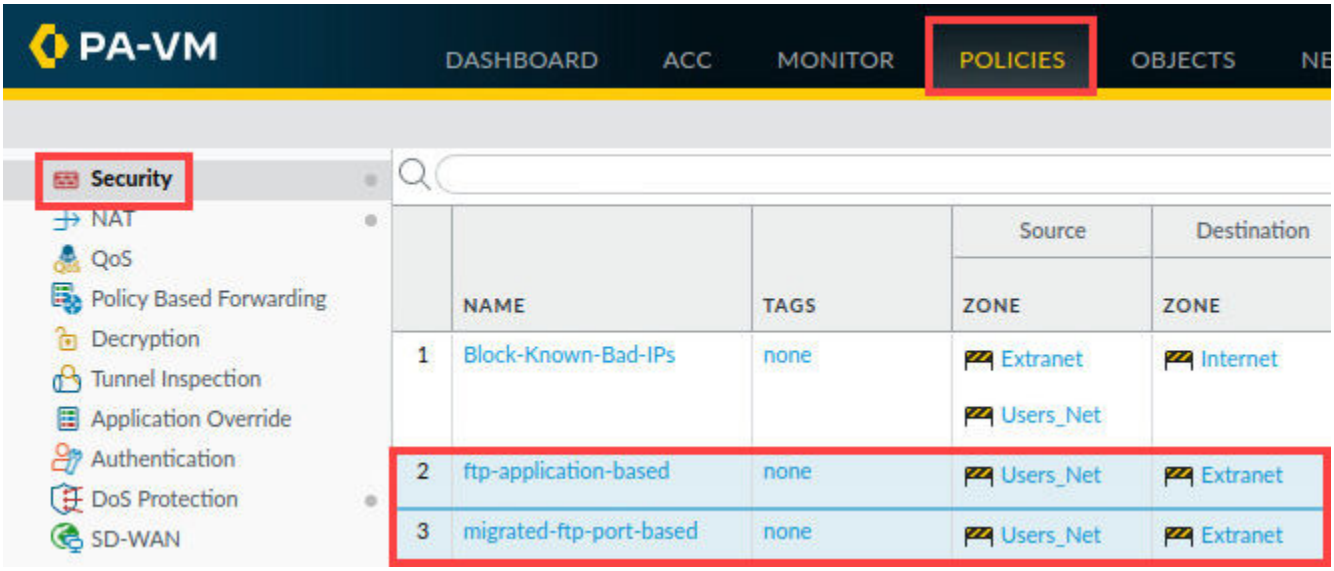
In a real migration, you would disable the port-based rule for a while and wait to see if any FTP sessions are affected. After you are confident that the new application-based rule is matching all required FTP traffic, you would delete the port-based rule.

12. Leave the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* open and continue to the next task.

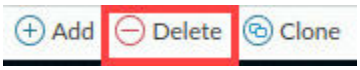
1.9 Remove the FTP Rules

In this section, you will remove the application-based and port-based FTP rules from the Security policy.

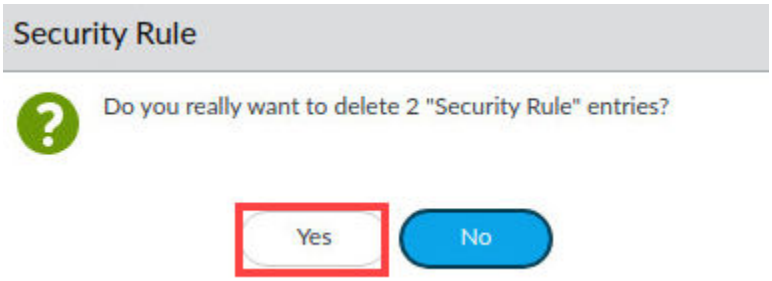
1. Ensure you are at **Policies > Security**. Use your **Shift-key** and mouse pointer to select both the **ftp-application-based** and **migrated-ftp-port-based** rules.



2. Click **Delete** to remove the rules.

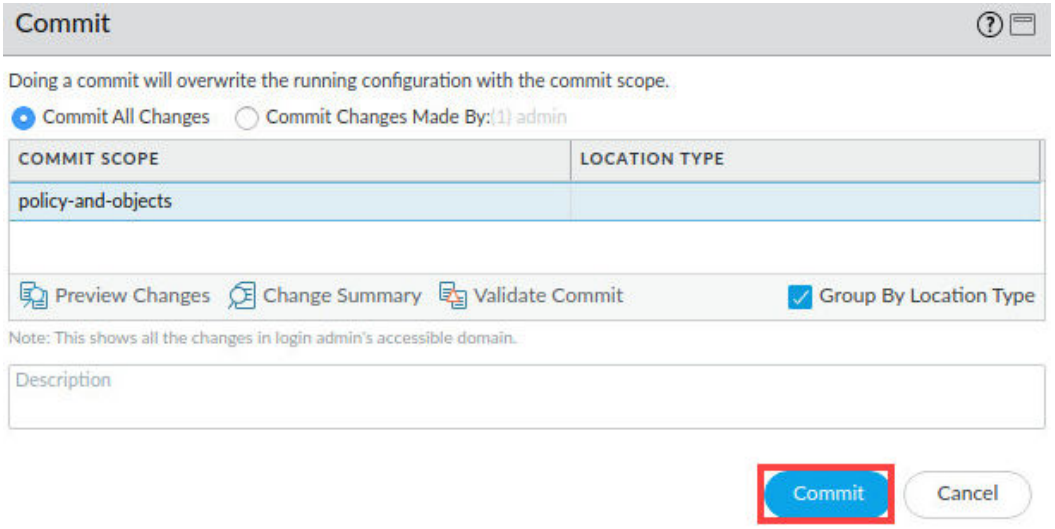


3. In the *Security Rule* window, click **Yes** to confirm the removal.

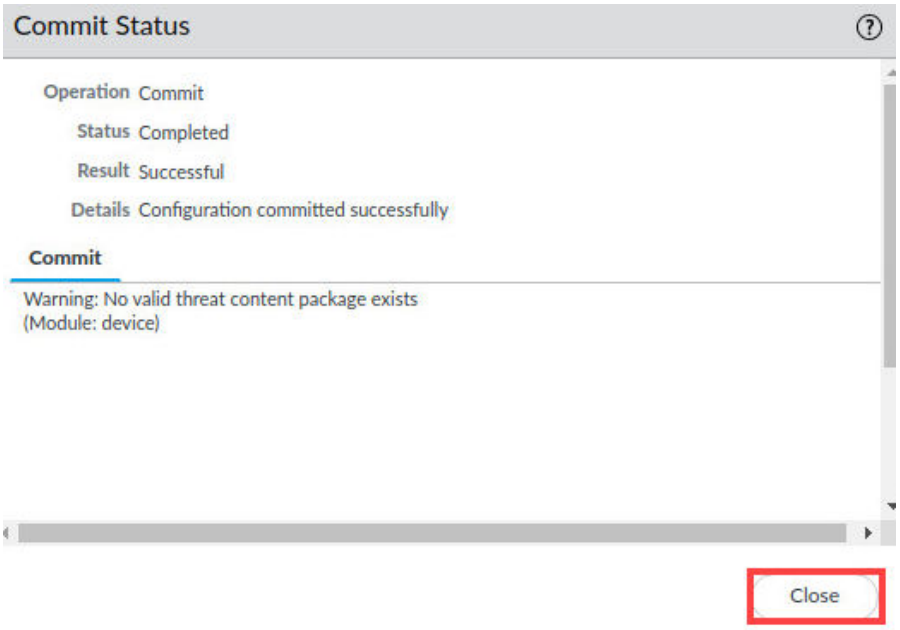


4. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.

5. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit**.



6. Wait until the *Commit* process is complete**.** Click **Close**.



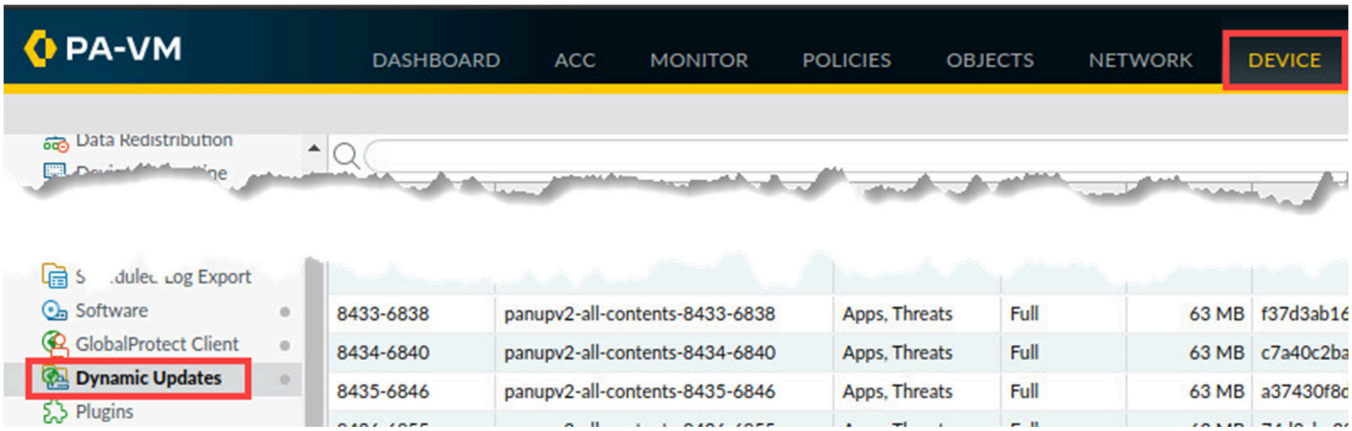
7. Leave the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* open and continue to the next task.

1.10 Scheduling App-ID Updates

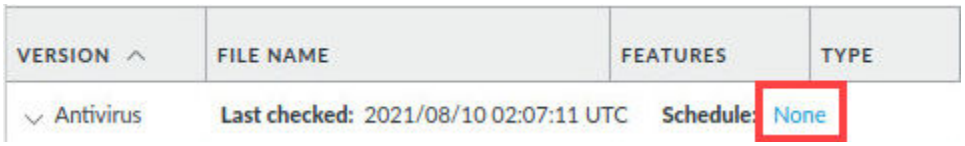
Keeping the firewall updated with new signatures for threats, viruses, and applications is critical. You can perform the update tasks manually, but a far more efficient method is to schedule the process.

In this section, you will configure the firewall to check for and retrieve any new content updates for Anti-Virus, Vulnerabilities, Threats, and Applications.

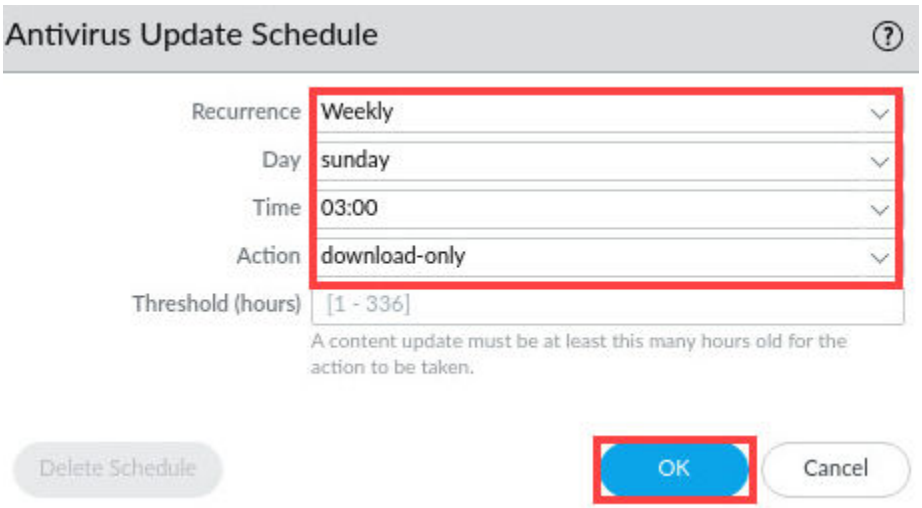
1. In the *firewall* interface, select **Device > Dynamic Updates**. Click **Check Now**.



2. In the row for **Antivirus**, click the link for **None** beside **Schedule**.



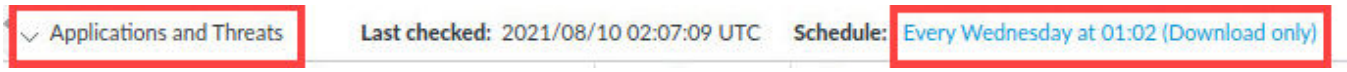
3. In the *Antivirus Update Schedule* window, set the *Recurrence* to **Weekly**, select **Sunday** for the *Day*, set the *time* to **03:00,** and set the *Action* to **download-only**. Click **OK**.



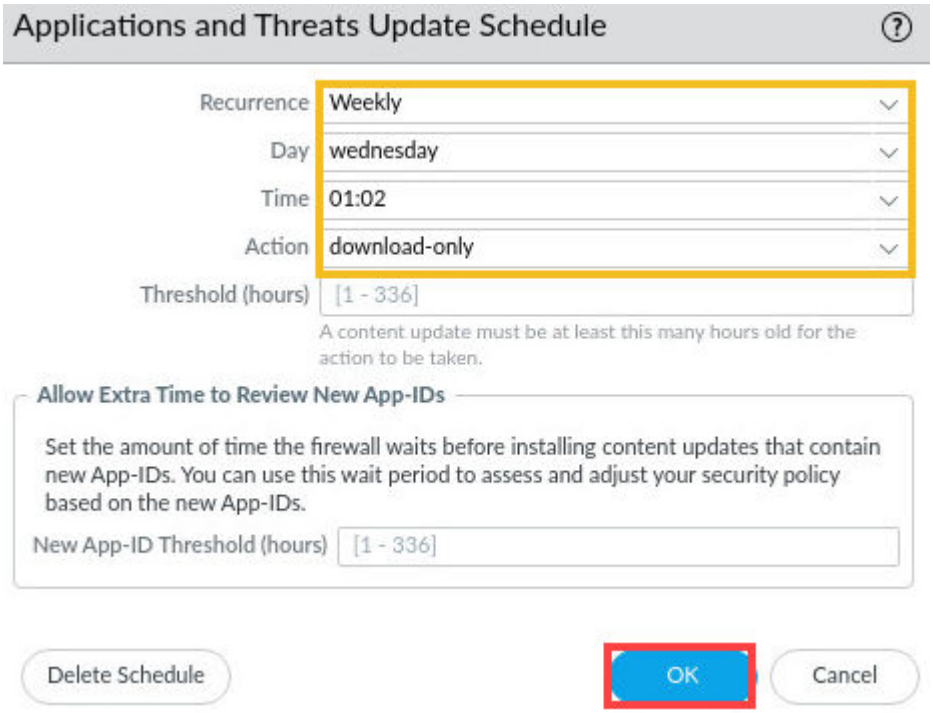
Please Note

For this lab, you are setting the Action to download-only. This action means that the firewall will check for new signatures and download them but will not install them. In a production environment, you should use download-and-install for the Action.

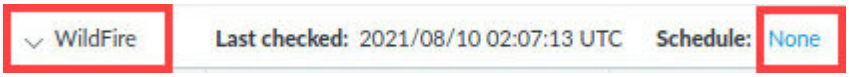
4. Locate the section for **Applications and Threats**. Click the link for the *existing schedule*.



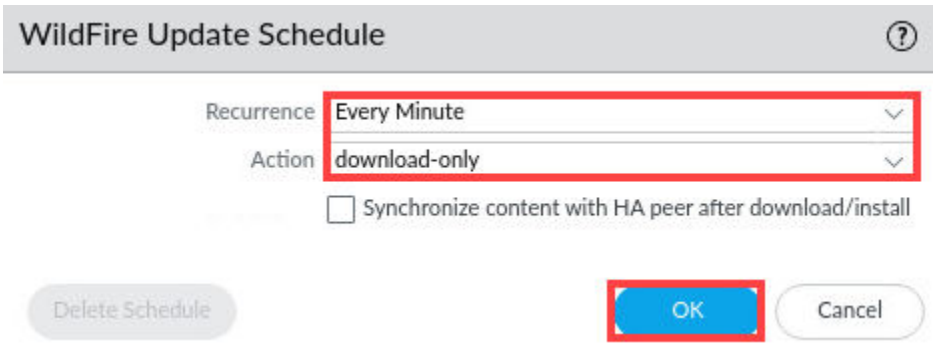
5. In the *Applications and Threats Update Schedule* window, preview the settings. Click **OK**.



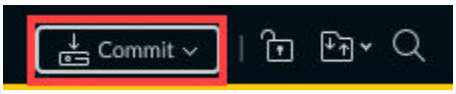
6. Scroll down and locate the section for **WildFire**. Click **None** next to *Schedule***.**



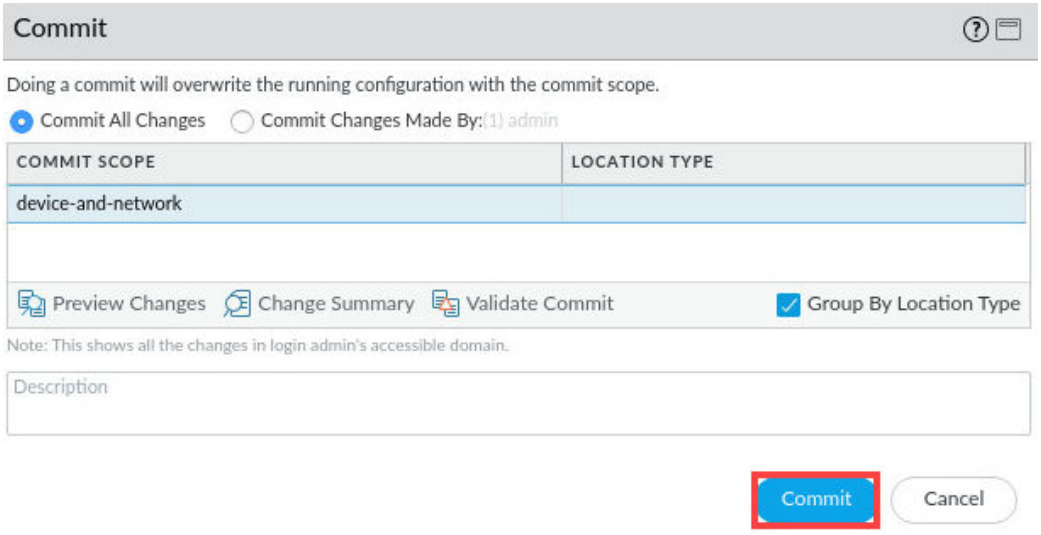
7. In the *Wildfire Update Schedule* window, set the *recurrence* to **Every Minute** and set the A*ction* to **download-only**. Click **OK**.



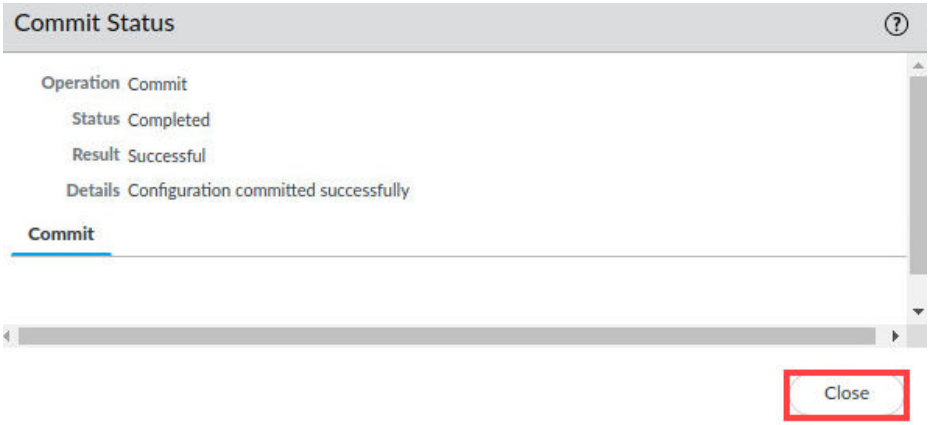
8. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.



9. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit** to proceed with committing the changes.



10. When the *Commit* operation successfully completes, click **Close** to continue.



11. The lab is now complete; you may end your reservation.