

Term Project 1: Unix Mail Server

CMPT 380 Term Project 1

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REPORT C380 TERM PROJECT 1

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Introduction

In this term project we have been tasked with setting up and securing a linux/unix server machine. Our group chose to go with implementing a mail server on the openBSD operating system. We chose openBSD because the operating system is designed with proactive security as its number one design decision. OpenBSD is an operating system that is shipped “secure by default” and when we install the operating system we see that all non-essential services to the machine running are disabled. This forces the administrators of the system to carefully consider implications of enabling a new service or daemon as they will need to be configured to suit the system manually by an administrator.

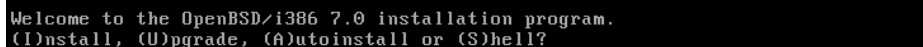
The following report will detail, step-by-step, our process of setting up the mail server with openBSD from the start and the steps we took along the way to secure the system.

System Setup and Installation

We aquired the iso file from the openBSD website.openBSD. Since it is a disk image we can not cryptographically verify it. We have to trust that the image we downloaded from openBSD.org is not in fact a rogue installation file. We are reasonably sure that this is not a rogue installation. The file was taken from install70.iso.

According to the specifications of the assignment we create the VM with the maximum amount of resources we are allowed (4 cpus, 4GB of RAM, and 60gb of disk space). We load the ISO image to the VM so it has the installation available on first boot.

The machine boots up and we are greeted with the openBSD installation page

A screenshot of a terminal window showing the OpenBSD/i386 7.0 installation program. The text is white on a black background. It says "Welcome to the OpenBSD/i386 7.0 installation program." followed by "(I)nstall, (U)pgrade, (A)utoinstall or (S)hell?".

```
Welcome to the OpenBSD/i386 7.0 installation program.  
(I)nstall, (U)pgrade, (A)utoinstall or (S)hell?
```

Figure 1: install1

Following the on screen instructions we install the system with the following options:

- Choose Install
- Choose US keyboard layout
- System hostname: tp1g4 (anagram for term project 1 group 4)
- Network interfaces: vi0
 - IPv4 204.209.21.244
 - Gateway: 204.209.21.1
 - DNS: 10.62.8.10
 - DNS Hostname: test4.cs.macewan.ca
- password for root account (Entered a password that was changed later)
- start sshd by default: yes
- X window system: no
- Setup a user: sabinek
- Allow root ssh login: yes (needs to change later)
- Set timezone: Canada/Mountain
- Set Root Disk hd0
- Use Whole disk for MBR
- Review layout of hd0:

```

The auto-allocated layout for wd0 is:
#      size      offset  fstype  [fsize bsize  cpg]
a:      1.0G           64  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /
b:      3.7G      2097216    swap
c:      50.8G           0  unused
d:      3.3G      9960512  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /tmp
e:      5.3G      16960608  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /var
f:      5.5G      28100256  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /usr
g:      1.0G      39615168  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /usr/X11R6
h:      7.0G      41712320  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /usr/local
i:      2.0G      56473856  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /usr/src
j:      6.0G      60668160  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /usr/obj
k:     15.9G      73251072  4.2BSD   2048 16384    1 # /home
Use (A)uto layout, (E)dit auto layout, or create (C)ustom layout? [a]

```

Figure 2: disklabel

- Use the Auto Layout
- Install all filesets

```

Select sets by entering a set name, a file name pattern or 'all'. De-select
sets by prepending a '-', e.g.: '-game*'. Selected sets are labelled '[X]'.
[X] bsd          [X] base70.tgz  [X] game70.tgz  [X] xfont70.tgz
[X] bsd.mp       [X] comp70.tgz  [X] xbase70.tgz [X] xserv70.tgz
[X] bsd.rd       [X] man70.tgz   [X] xshare70.tgz

```

Figure 3: filesets

- No SHA256 sig: I addressed this in the introduction, we used an ISO image for install, the

It is a necessary evil to allow root login temporarily by SSH in order to configure our machine with user accounts for the group and allow them to have access via ssh.

We reboot the machine and begin the System configuration. OpenBSD greets the new user with a banner message encouraging users of the operating system to report any bugs and also informs the root user that they have mail. This mail is important to read for a system administrator who wants to know more about the system they are installing.

We learn here that openBSD has centralized its system configurations in the `/etc` directory. Also to read the manual for afterboot.

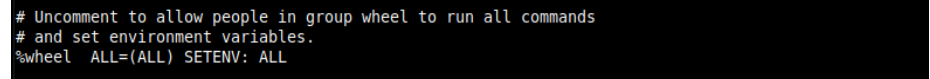
The afterboot manpage contains lots of information for the administrator to consider. The first of which is to run `syspatch`, since the packages included in the ISO file may be out of date by the time we have downloaded the file, we run this to patch the system with the latest security updates. Once the security updates are installed I can log out from the `vnet` virtual machine and begin to configure the system over SSH. Source

The first thing to do with the new system is to add my group members as users. To do this I run the command `useradd -g <lastnamefirstinitial>` the `-g` option creates a home directory for each user. We also need to set passwords for our users with the `passwd <username>` command. I set temporary passwords for my team so that they can change them to a password I will not know.

By default openBSD uses the `doas` command to allow users to execute root commands, we have opted to install the `sudo` package instead because it is more familiar to our users. So we add the Sudo package with:

```
pkg_add sudo
```

Once the package is installed we can edit the sudoers file by running the command `visudo`. By uncommenting the line below:



```
# Uncomment to allow people in group wheel to run all commands
# and set environment variables.
%wheel ALL=(ALL) SETENV: ALL
```

Figure 4: visudo

we ensure that users of the Wheel group can use sudo. The command `visudo` ensures that your sudo file is not configured with any syntax errors when you write it. So it is obvious if any errors are made at this step.

Now we add our created users to the Wheel group to allow them to administer the system from their own accounts. The following command was used to append our users to the wheel group.

```
usermod -G wheel <lastnamefirstinitial>
```

And we can verify it by `grep`-ing the group file

Security Feature

```
tp1g4$ getent group | grep wheel
wheel:*:0:root,sabinek,hochom,patelr
```

Figure 5: getentgroup

Now that we have our administrative user accounts set up it is important to disable the root login completely. It is no longer needed and we do not want to risk root actions being without any accountability. The sudo command allows for any command to be logged under /var/log/secure when executed with sudo so we can track what commands have been executed with elevated privileges.

Before we disable the account completely though we configure the ssh daemon and lock it down against any brute force attacks, since this machine will be facing the internet a first point of attack could be the ssh credentials. So what we will do is edit the sshd_conf located in /etc/ssh directory.

```
# Authentication:
#LoginGraceTime 2m
PermitRootLogin no
#StrictModes yes
MaxAuthTries 20
#MaxSessions 10

PubkeyAuthentication yes

# The default is to check both .ssh/authorized keys and .ssh/authorized keys2
# but this is overridden so installations will only check .ssh/authorized_keys
AuthorizedKeysFile      .ssh/authorized_keys

#AuthorizedPrincipalsFile none

#AuthorizedKeysCommand none
#AuthorizedKeysCommandUser nobody

# For this to work you will also need host keys in /etc/ssh/ssh_known_hosts
#HostbasedAuthentication no
# Change to yes if you don't trust ~/.ssh/known_hosts for
# HostbasedAuthentication
#IgnoreUserKnownHosts no
# Don't read the user's ~/.rhosts and ~/.shosts files
#IgnoreRhosts yes

# To disable tunneled clear text passwords, change to no here!
PasswordAuthentication no
#PermitEmptyPasswords no
```

Figure 6: sshlogin

This is a partial screenshot of the SSHD configuration file. The lines we have changed from the initial set up are: -PermitRootLogin no - PasswordAuthentication no We have changed these settings such that we will only allow users to connect via ssh using ssh PKI. I have added public ssh keys to our user accounts on the system under their /home//.ssh/authorized_keys files. This means that connections to the machine will only be allowed if the user has the private key on their machine that matches the public key stored on

our server machine.

We now have SSHD configured as we want it we can restart the service with `rcctl restart sshd` and our changes should be applied immediately.

Continuing with afterboot:

We have configured the logins for the machine so we can continue going through the afterboot checklist. The next item after login is the Root password, we have already changed this. Next we confirm that the time is correct. The time has been set correctly so we can move on.

Checking our hostname:

Our hostname is `tplg4.test4.cs.macewan.ca`: This is correct

Checking our network interface config and routing tables:

```
tplg4$ ifconfig -a
lo0: flags=8049<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 32768
    index 3 priority 0 llprio 3
    groups: lo
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128
    inet6 fe80::1%lo0 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x3
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 0xff000000
vio0: flags=8843<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    lladdr 52:54:00:01:23:04
    index 1 priority 0 llprio 3
    groups: egress
    media: Ethernet autoselect
    status: active
    inet 204.209.21.244 netmask 0xfffff00 broadcast 204.209.21.255
enc0: flags=0<>
    index 2 priority 0 llprio 3
    groups: enc
    status: active
pflog0: flags=141<UP,RUNNING,PROMISC> mtu 33172
    index 4 priority 0 llprio 3
    groups: pflog
```

Figure 7: ifconfiga

```
tplg4$ netstat -rn
Routing tables

Internet:
Destination      Gateway          Flags    Refs      Use    Mtu  Prio Iface
default          204.209.21.1    UGS      32        323     -    8  vio0
224/4            127.0.0.1       URS       0           0  32768    8  lo0
127/8            127.0.0.1       URS       0           0  32768    8  lo0
127.0.0.1        127.0.0.1       UHhL     16       16288  32768    1  lo0
204.209.21/24    204.209.21.244 Ucn       1           0     -    4  vio0
204.209.21.1     00:00:0c:9f:f6:f7 UHlch     1          15     -    3  vio0
204.209.21.244   52:54:00:01:23:04 UHLL      0        3161     -    1  vio0
204.209.21.255   204.209.21.244 UHb       0           0     -    1  vio0
```

Figure 8: netstatrn

Everything seems correct here.

Mail:

This is the system mailer, not to be confused with the mail server to be set up later on in the report. It handles mailing out system information using smtpd. We will need to modify the smtpd.conf later.

Daily, weekly, monthly scripts:

These are run daily on the openBSD system to check integrity and modification of files. It is not an absolute IDS but it will mail the admin under the /etc/mail/aliases file with its contents. The scripts are being run by default as a cron job and can be viewed with `crontab -l` as root.

```
tp1g4# crontab -l
#
SHELL=/bin/sh
PATH=/bin:/sbin:/usr/bin:/usr/sbin
HOME=/var/log
#
#minute hour    mday    month    wday      [flags] command
#
# rotate log files every hour, if necessary
0 * * * * /usr/bin/newsyslog
# send log file notifications, if necessary
#1-59 * * * * /usr/bin/newsyslog -m
#
# do daily/weekly/monthly maintenance
30 1 * * * /bin/sh /etc/daily
30 3 * * 6 /bin/sh /etc/weekly
30 5 1 * * /bin/sh /etc/monthly
#~ * * * * /usr/libexec/spamd-setup
#~ * * * * -ns rpki-client -v && bgpctl reload
```

Figure 9: crontab

These daily/monthly reports are mailed to the root@hostname, which is defined in the /etc/mail/aliases file

As you can see I have directed all mail to the sabinek account so I can be notified of system file changes.

Checking Disk mounts:

OpenBSD, by default, mounts each main directory off root to its own partition, this is for security purposes. We can change which are writable/readable easily without affecting the other systems on the machine. We can also easily allocate space allowed to be used for each partition. Since we are creating a mail server we will implement them in such a way that if the mail server stores so much data it will not bring the system down due to full disk usage.

```
# Well-known aliases -- these should be filled in!
root: sabinek
manager: sabinek
# dumper:

# RFC 2142: NETWORK OPERATIONS MAILBOX NAMES
abuse:      root
# noc:      root
security:   root

# RFC 2142: SUPPORT MAILBOX NAMES FOR SPECIFIC INTERNET SERVICES
# hostmaster: root
# usenet:    root
# news:     usenet
# webmaster: root
# ftp:      root
```

Figure 10: mailaliases

```
tp1g4# df -h
Filesystem      Size  Used Avail Capacity  Mounted on
/dev/sd0a       986M  77.7M   859M    8%      /
/dev/sd0k       21.1G   864K  20.1G    0%     /home
/dev/sd0d        3.9G   18.0K   3.7G    0%     /tmp
/dev/sd0f        5.8G   723M   4.8G   13%     /usr
/dev/sd0g        986M   241M   696M   26%  /usr/X11R6
/dev/sd0h        8.2G   333M   7.4G    4%  /usr/local
/dev/sd0j        5.8G    2.0K   5.5G    0%  /usr/obj
/dev/sd0i        1.9G    2.0K   1.8G    0%  /usr/src
/dev/sd0e        6.3G  86.8M   5.9G    1%     /var
tp1g4#
```

Figure 11: partitions

Security feature IDS Script Implemented by Rudra Patel

A feature that was created for server security is the IDS (Intrusion Detection System). Although OpenBSD natively has a feature to check for any changes for files and permissions, we have created an IDS that checks specific directories relating to the server files, client, and logs. The script made for the IDS was adapted from Calomel in the mtree section, Calomel is an open-source research and reference site. Now I will go into how the script works. In the bash script I created a new directory `/etc/ids` which contains all files relating to the IDS, this will include the bash script and all the hash files for each directory the IDS will monitor.

Located in `/etc/ids` here is the script:

```
#!/usr/local/bin/bash

if [ $# -eq 0 ]
then
    echo "Usage:"
    echo "./ids.sh $arg"
    echo "-----"
    echo "$arg:"
    echo "gen = generate the IDS signatures"
    echo "verify = verify files with generated signatures"
exit
fi

MTREE=mtree

## IDS signature key
KEY=49650315872068453716825

## IDS signature directory
DIR=/etc/ids

if [ $1 = "gen" ]
then
    rm -rf $DIR/mtree_*
    cd $DIR
    $MTREE -c -K cksum,md5digest,shaldigest,sha256digest -s $KEY -p /bin > mtree_bin
    $MTREE -c -K cksum,md5digest,shaldigest,sha256digest -s $KEY -p /etc > mtree_etc
    $MTREE -c -K cksum,md5digest,shaldigest,sha256digest -s $KEY -p /var/vmail/test4.cs.ma > mtree_vmail
    $MTREE -c -K cksum,md5digest,shaldigest,sha256digest -s $KEY -p /sbin > mtree_sbin
    $MTREE -c -K cksum,md5digest,shaldigest,sha256digest -s $KEY -p /var/www > mtree_www
    logger generate IDS signatures
    chmod 600 $DIR/mtree_*
exit
```

```

fi

if [ $1 = "verify" ]
then
    cd $DIR
    $MTREE -s $KEY -p /bin < mtree_bin >> temp 2>&1
    $MTREE -s $KEY -p /etc < mtree_etc >> temp 2>&1
    $MTREE -s $KEY -p /var/vmail/test4.cs.macewan.ca < mtree_vmail >> temp 2>&1
    $MTREE -s $KEY -p /sbin < mtree_sbin >> temp 2>&1
    $MTREE -s $KEY -p /var/www < mtree_www >> temp 2>&1
    cat temp | mail -s "`hostname` file integrity check" sabinek patelr hochom
    rm temp
    logger verify file integrity against IDS signatures
exit
fi

```

Following the instructions from Calomel's site, the IDS uses the mtree utility to check for file changes. To help the user with using the script, I've added usage instructions like how you would see in the terminal for other commands. So, if the user doesn't specify which operation to perform and just enter `./ids.sh`, the script would display the usage information. To generate the hashes, enter `./ids.sh gen`, and to verify the files, `./ids.sh verify`.

When the user performs the hash generation operation, the script, will remove all old hash generated files if any then it will generate the checksums and hash digests of the specified directories with the seed key that was set before, and output the hashes to a file.

The reason we have so many hashing digests, is in case the checksum and/or and other digest was compromised, then the system could still check the hashes of the other few digests included, providing layers of multiple hashes and stronger security. The operation would then be logged in the system log. And change permissions of the hash files to root, because the hash checks in verification operation will be checked against these files. If the user instead wishes to verify the integrity of the files, the script would take input from the generated digests and recompute the hashes and append the output to "temp" and also redirect the stderr to temp, which would include any modification details since last hash generation so the user would know if the files have been changed or not.

Finally, the script will send the verification report in "temp" to all root accounts. When the mail is sent to the root accounts, if the directories that we are monitoring where to have changes, the report will display the path of the directory that changed, modification time and the changed checksum value, however if there are no changes, the report will only include the checksum values and the directory paths. Before exiting, the script will remove the "temp" file and log the operation in system log.

End of OpenBSD Installation and System Configuration

These were the steps we took to secure our operating system and implement some features of our own. The openBSD operating system comes with many security features enabled, some of which have been detailed here.

Application installation, configuration, and hardening

In order to implement the mailserver we will use openSMTP, dovecot, and rspamd. To make use of the mailserver we will also install the web application Rainloop. Following is a step by step report on how we installed and configured each package.

Errata concerning Mail

In order to implement a Mail Server that WORKS with a web mail client we need to ensure that the DNS records are correct for our server. Without a proper DNS configuration pointing to our server we will not be able to send or receive mail. Also a DNS configuration pointing to our mail server is needed to implement DKIM, DMARC, and SPF.

Side note: this portion of the project seems like it would work well in a network security course. Since we spent a week+ talking about Mail.

It is completely possible for us to set up these mechanisms, but we would need to be able to access the domain records and edit the TXT records in order to enable these mechanisms which will allow us to have a functioning mail server that will be able to send and receive emails.

If we are not able to implement DKIM we will not be able to verify that our Mail Server is sending messages, which means our mail server could be impersonated by a malicious machine and send mail on our behalf. Not to mention most other mail servers will reject any messages being sent from a domain with no DKIM, depending on their DMARC policy. [SOURCE](#)

The same is true for our Server, we need to be able to verify any Domain that is sending mail to our server and we need to apply a DMARC policy to incoming mail. As an ongoing investigation into the security of our server we need to be able to review feedback of DMARC reports in order to ensure our server is sending mail correctly.

We also need to have a TLS certificate in place to ensure our mail cannot be modified in transit, I cannot generate a free certificate of our domain if there is no record for our domain existing.

For a proof of concept mail server we have generated a TLS certificate that is self signed, this is to make sure we can use HTTPS on the web application, and sign our mail traffic.

What we would need in order to make this a functioning mail server are the following records in DNS:

```
# Ideal entries for DNS test4.cs.macewan.ca
MX record

# SPF
test4.cs.macewan.ca.    IN TXT  "v=spf1 mx -all"

# DKIM
20220209._domainkey.test4.cs.macewan.ca.    IN TXT  "v=DKIM1;k=rsa;p=MIGfMAOGCSqGSib3DQEBAQ

# DMARC
_dmarc.test4.cs.macewan.ca. IN TXT  "v=DMARC1;p=none;pct=100;rua=mailto:postmaster@test4.cs.
```

OpenSMTP

The following file is located in `/etc/mail/smtpd.conf` and is responsible for configuring the smtp daemon.

```
# $OpenBSD: smtpd.conf,v 1.14 2019/11/26 20:14:38 gilles Exp $

# This is the smtpd server system-wide configuration file.
# See smtpd.conf(5) for more information.

pki test4.cs.macewan.ca cert "/etc/ssl/test4mail.crt"
pki test4.cs.macewan.ca key "/etc/ssl/private/test4mail.key"

filter rspamd proc-exec "filter-rspamd"

table aliases file:/etc/mail/aliases
table credentials passwd:/etc/mail/credentials
table virtuals file:/etc/mail/virtuals

listen on all tls pki test4.cs.macewan.ca\
    filter { rspamd }

listen on all port submission tls-require pki test4.cs.macewan.ca auth <credentials> filter

action "local_mail" mbox alias <aliases>
action "domain_mail" maildir "/var/vmail/test4.cs.macewan.ca/{dest.user:lowercase}" virtual
action "outbound" relay helo test4.cs.macewan.ca

# Uncomment the following to accept external mail for domain "example.org"
#
```

```
match from any for domain "test4.cs.macewan.ca" action "domain_mail"
match from local for local action "local_mail"
```

```
match from any auth for any action "outbound"
match for any action "outbound"
```

The first two lines regarding **pki** point to where our ssl certificates are being stored on the system. These certificates are self-signed, as we had no control over our domain and the DNS records this was required to get mail functioning, at least locally.

The filter line points to the rspamd application and how we are going to filter our mail. This will be elaborated on later, but for now just understand that it is responsible for filtering incoming mail.

The table points to 3 different files on the machine, aliases, credentials, and virtuals. Aliases are responsible for local system mail and will deliver system reports to the users on the system, this is not outgoing or incoming mail. The **credentials** file is the passwd database of which our virtual users are stored. The **virtuals** table is a list of virtual users on our mail system.

The **listen on** lines tells the smtp daemon to listen for all tls traffic and points it to our rspamd filter. The second line requires that any mail submitted to the SMTP daemon for sending is signed by our tls certificate and backed up by an authorized virtual user of our mail server.

The **action** lines define actions that the smtp daemon will take. **local_mail** follows addresses from the **aliases** file, **domain_mail** defines the directory in which virtual user's mail is delivered to with some string formatting to determine each user's directory, if the directory does not exist the smtp daemon will create it based on the **virtuals** table of virtual users. The outbound action determines what the smtp daemon will do with outgoing mail.

The **match from/for** lines do exactly what you might expect, it tells the smtp daemon how to match specific traffic with a specific action as defined above.

Security Feature: Set credentials to read-only for __smtpd and __dovecot system users.

We don't want any system user to be able to read our virtual mail credentials as they are private. So we set them to only be readable by the packages that require them. Namely OpenSMTP and Dovecot.

Dovecot

In order for users to be able to interact with their mail in a human readable way we need to configure a IMAP and POP3 server, and Dovecot can achieve this for us. Following is our local.conf for dovecot. located in `/etc/dovecot/local.conf`

```
auth_mechanisms = plain
```

```

first_valid_uid = 2000
first_valid_gid = 2000
mail_location = maildir:/var/vmail/%d/%n
mail_plugin_dir = /usr/local/lib/dovecot
managesieve_notify_capability = mailto
managesieve_sieve_capability = fileinto reject envelope encoded-character vacation subaddress
mbox_write_locks = fcntl
mmap_disable = yes
namespace inbox {
    inbox = yes
    location =
    mailbox Archive {
        auto = subscribe
        special_use = \Archive
    }
    mailbox Drafts {
        auto = subscribe
        special_use = \Drafts
    }
    mailbox Junk {
        auto = subscribe
        special_use = \Junk
    }
    mailbox Sent {
        auto = subscribe
        special_use = \Sent
    }
    mailbox Trash {
        auto = subscribe
        special_use = \Trash
    }
    prefix =
}
passdb {
    args = scheme=CRYPT username_format=%u /etc/mail/credentials
    driver = passwd-file
    name =
}
plugin {
    imapsieve_mailbox1_before = file:/usr/local/lib/dovecot/sieve/report-spam.sieve
    imapsieve_mailbox1_causes = COPY
    imapsieve_mailbox1_name = Junk
    imapsieve_mailbox2_before = file:/usr/local/lib/dovecot/sieve/report-ham.sieve
    imapsieve_mailbox2_causes = COPY
    imapsieve_mailbox2_from = Junk
    imapsieve_mailbox2_name = *
}

```

```

    sieve = file:~/sieve;active=~/.dovecot.sieve
    sieve_global_extensions = +vnd.dovecot.pipe +vnd.dovecot.environment
    sieve_pipe_bin_dir = /usr/local/lib/dovecot/sieve
    sieve_plugins = sieve_imapsieve sieve_extprograms
}

protocols = imap sieve
service imap-login {
    inet_listener imap {
        port = 0
    }
}
service managesieve-login {
    inet_listener sieve {
        port = 4190
    }
    inet_listener sieve_deprecated {
        port = 2000
    }
}
ssl_cert = </etc/ssl/test4mail.crt
ssl_key = </etc/ssl/private/test4mail.key
userdb {
    args = username_format=%u /etc/mail/credentials
    driver = passwd-file
    name =
}

protocol imap {
    mail_plugins = " imap_sieve"
}

```

In this configuration file we set up the configuration for our IMAP and POP3 server. The first line: **auth mechanisms** defines which authentication mechanisms we wish to use: here we supply it with plain because we have the login credentials set up per-user.

first_valid_uid/gid = 2000 – This defines the system user we have assigned to handle the virtual users our mail client will handle.

mail_location defines the directory in which users' mail will be stored on the system.

mail_plugin_dir defines where the various plugins we will use with dovecot are installed on the system.

managesieve_notify_capability and **managesieve_sieve_capability** defines where any sieve notifications are sent to and what information the sieve

service receives before any authentication is performed. This is part of the pigeonhole plugin.

mbox_write_locks this line specifies we will use `fcntl` to control locking files when writing to them.

mmap_disable this disables the `mmap` functionality in which files are mapped into memory Source

namespace inbox this defines the inbox view users will have when accessing their mail, included here are Inbox, Archive, Drafts, Junk, Sent, and Trash

passdb here we have specified the credentials file we defined in the `smtpd.conf`, it is where the credentials for our virtual users are found.

plugin this defines the plugin we are using, namely the pigeonhole plugin. This configuration uses a reporting script written which determines if incoming mail is junk or not

protocols this determines the protocols we will be using with dovecot: `imap` for user login and `sieve`.

ssl_* this defines for dovecot where our self signed certificate is stored.

userdb we define the user database for our system, also assign to it a driver. We are using the `passwd` file configuration for our virtual mail users.

Some additional configuration steps were also taken for dovecot in the `/etc/login.conf` file in order to facilitate it being able to open and read many files at once.

```
#
# Package specific classes
#
dovecot:\
    :openfiles-cur=1024:\
    :openfiles-max=2048:\
    :tc=daemon:
```

In order to make use of `rspamd` we create scripts to handle spam and ham, for our mail server simply moving mail into and out of the junk folder will trigger an event in which `rspamd` responds to:

in `report-ham.sieve`:

```
require ["vnd.dovecot.pipe", "copy", "imapsieve", "environment", "variables"];

if environment :matches "imap.mailbox" "*" {
    set "mailbox" "${1}";
}

if string "${mailbox}" "Trash" {
```



```

    stop;
}

if environment :matches "imap.user" "*" {
    set "username" "${1}";
}

pipe :copy "sa-learn-ham.sh" [ "${username}" ];
and report-spam.sieve

require ["vnd.dovecot.pipe", "copy", "imapsieve", "environment", "variables"];

if environment :matches "imap.user" "*" {
    set "username" "${1}";
}

pipe :copy "sa-learn-spam.sh" [ "${username}" ];

```

These scripts are compiled with sievec and moved to `/usr/local/lib/dovecot/sieve`

and in order to implement the scripts we need to write two shell scripts: `sa-learn-ham.sh` and `sa-learn-spam.sh` which simply call `exec` on `rspamc` with an argument and the sieve script name:

```

#!/bin/sh
exec /usr/local/bin/rspamc -d "${1}" learn_ham

#!/bin/sh
exec /usr/local/bin/rspamc -d "${1}" learn_spam

```

rspamd

The final package we need to configure to get mail working properly is `rspamd` which is a open source spam filtering system for mail, but it also has many other features It provides dkim signing, antivirus integration, and a lot of different modules you can use to fine tune a mail server setup. We have `rspamd` configured to handle DKIM-signing and spam filtering features as defined in this article. [SOURCE](#)

The only configuration we need to look at is how to sign our mail for DKIM. Unfortunately this feature will not work unless we have control of DNS records, so for now `rspamd` is just handled when `dovecot` calls its filtering sieves.

Rainloop webmail client

In order to configure a web client we use the HTTP daemon `httpd` to handle https requests coming to our server. Here is our configuration file located at `/etc/httpd.conf`

```

server "test4.cs.macewan.ca" {
    listen on * tls port 443
    tls {
        certificate "/etc/ssl/test4mail.crt"
        key "/etc/ssl/private/test4mail.key"
    }
    log {
        access "test4.cs.macewan.ca-access.log"
        error "test4.cs.macewan.ca-error.log"
    }

    root "/rainloop"
    directory index index.php

    # security
    location "*/.git*" { block }
    ## app specific
    location "/data/*" { block }
    # robots.txt
    location "/robots.txt" { pass }

    location "/*.php" {
        fastcgi socket "/run/php-fpm.sock"
    }
}

```

As we can see it is accessing the rainloop application directory when test4.cs.macewan.ca is requested. It will return the request using our self-signed certificate. Once the rainloop package is running and we restart the httpd daemon we can navigate to the portal and access webmail of the users we have created.

Ongoing Security Considerations

Managing a mail server will require administrators to regularly review the important logs, apply security updates to packages being used, and configuring the spam filter as needed for its users. There are other considerations to make as well, you need to verify that mail is being sent consistently, depending on where you are hosting the mail server you may be given a Senderscore that is lower than what most filtering systems will allow, causing your mail to never reach its destination.