HTTPS-terminating load balancers

In Cleura's load balancing service, OpenStack Octavia, you can configure load balancers so that they manage HTTPS termination. That is to say that the load balancer encrypts and decrypts HTTPS traffic, and forwards HTTP to and from a backend web server.

To do so, the load balancer must have access to encryption credentials (such as certificates and private keys), which it stores in Barbican.

PKCS #12 Certificate Bundles

The PKCS #12 archive format includes SSL certificates, certificate chains, and private keys all in one bundle. Most certificate providers give you the option of downloading certificate credentials using the PKCS #12 format.

In case your certificate provider has made your certificate chain and key available seperately, using the PEM format, you can easily convert it to PKCS #12 using the following `openssl` command:

```
openssl pkcs12 -export -inkey key.pem -in fullchain.pem -out bundle.p12
```

When prompted for an export password, use a blank one.

Creating Barbican secrets from PKCS #12 bundles

To create a secret from a stored PKCS #12 bundle, you need pass in the contents of the bundle, *pre-encoded with Base64*, as the secret's payload.

```
openstack secret store \
  --name='tls_secret1' \
  -t 'application/octet-stream' \
  -e 'base64' \
  --payload="$(base64 < server.p12)"
```

```
+---------------+------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Field         | Value                                                                  |
+---------------+------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Secret href   | https://kna1.citycloud.com:9311/v1/secrets/
69bd82f5-60c9-4764-99ec-7a3dff05d2aa |
| Name          | tls_secret1                                                              |
| Created       | None                                                                   |
| Status        | None                                                                   |
```

```
| Content types | {'default': 'application/octet-stream'}                                  |
| Algorithm     | aes                                                                      |
| Bit length    | 256                                                                      |
| Secret type   | opaque                                                                   |
| Mode          | cbc                                                                      |
| Expiration    | None                                                                     |
+---------------+--------------------------------------------------------------------------+
```

Creating HTTPS-enabled load balancer listeners

Once you have created your secret containing your certificate data, you can create a load balancer *listener* with the following properties:

- It uses the `TERMINATED_HTTPS` protocol,
- It sets its “default TLS container” to the Barbican secret containing the PKCS #12 bundle,
- It listens on the standard HTTPS port, 443.

You create such a listener with the following command:

```
openstack loadbalancer listener create \
  --protocol-port 443 \
  --protocol TERMINATED_HTTPS \
  --name listener1 \
  --default-tls-container=https://kna1.citycloud.com:9311/v1/secrets/dacfbec1-fbed-403f-a4dc-303e28942dae  \
  <loadbalancer-name-or-id>
```

```
+----------------------------
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| Field                      |
Value
|
+----------------------------
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
| admin_state_up             |
True
|
| connection_limit           |
-1
|
| created_at                 |
2021-01-20T11:51:46
|
| default_pool_id            |
None
|
| default_tls_container_ref  | https://kna1.citycloud.com:9311/v1/secrets/dacfbec1-fbed-403f-a4dc-303e28942dae
```

|
| description
|
|
| id | 4ec6b23d-
d08a-4de0-9e12-54ac690ee1ec
|
| insert_headers |
None
|
| l7policies
|
|
| loadbalancers | 2c2a0760-c3a8-48d2-
bdd0-288c3d33a43f
|
| name |
listener1
|
| operating_status |
OFFLINE
|
| project_id |
4a9484063d4c40d29301ad745c0e2c69
|
| protocol |
TERMINATED_HTTPS
|
| protocol_port |
443
|
| provisioning_status |
PENDING_CREATE
|
| sni_container_refs |
[]
|
| timeout_client_data |
50000
|
| timeout_member_connect |
5000
|
| timeout_member_data |
50000
|
| timeout_tcp_inspect |
0
|
| updated_at |
None
|
| client_ca_tls_container_ref |
None
|
| client_authentication |
NONE

```
|
| client_crl_container_ref    |
None
|
| allowed_cidrs               |
None
|
| tls_ciphers                 |
TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384:TLS_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256:TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA25
RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384:DHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256:ECDHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-
SHA384:ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256:DHE-RSA-AES256-SHA256:DHE-RSA-AES128-
SHA256:ECDHE-RSA-AES256-SHA384:ECDHE-RSA-AES128-SHA256 |
| tls_versions
|
|
+----------------------------
+-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+
```

Last update: 2022-04-19

Created: 2022-04-19

Authors: Florian Haas