Hi Pearce,

Thank you for the post; it was fascinating to read your comments, and although authentication does protect a user or application from a malicious actor. It alone is insufficient for a secure architecture.

This is where access control plays a critical role in accordance with authorisation. An authorization process establishes the degree of access that should be provided to a specific user.

Several well-known access control strategies include the following:

* Mandatory access control (MAC): Mandatory access control imposes stringent security standards on end users and the assets, systems, and data to which they have access. Individual users are not given the capacity to create, amend, or cancel permissions in a manner inconsistent with current rules. A relevant example would be an organization's Active Directory configuration.
* Role-based access control (RBAC): Role-based access control establishes permissions based on their groups such as remote desktop users, administrators, guest, etc. and/or their roles. A prime example would be the various administrators found in an active directory environment such as local administrator, domain administrator, enterprise administrator, etc.
* Discretionary access control (DAC): Once a user has been granted access to an object (often by a system admin or through a pre-existing access control mechanism), they may provide access to other users as required. This, however, may present potential risks, since users are able to configure security controls and share rights without the system administrator's stringent scrutiny. For instance, if a person shares a network drive and grants another person editor / owner level of access, the individual now has the ability to add a third at their judgment.

Thus. with a combination of authentication (proving an object’s identity) and access control (allowing sufficient access based on a constraint), security architecture can be further enhanced.

**References**

* Cloudflare. (n.d.). What Is Access control? | Authorization Vs Authentication. Available from: https://www.cloudflare.com/en-in/learning/access-management/what-is-access-control/ [Accessed 28 Apr. 2022].
* Citrix.com. (n.d.). What is Access Control? - Citrix India. Available from: https://www.citrix.com/en-in/solutions/secure-access/what-is-access-control.html [Accessed 28 Apr. 2022].
* Fortinet. (n.d.). What Is Access Control? - Network Cybersecurity Systems. Available from: https://www.fortinet.com/resources/cyberglossary/access-control [Accessed 28 Apr. 2022].