FORTIGATE BASIC CONFIGURATION

Configure a basic FortiGate firewall from factory settings and set up

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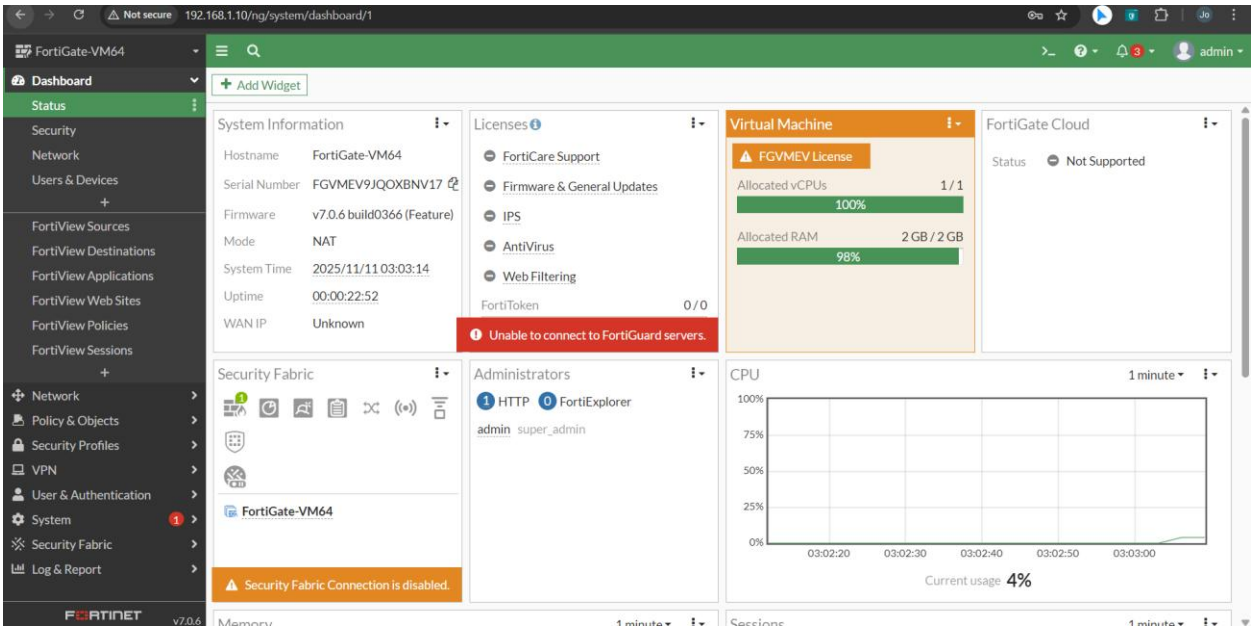
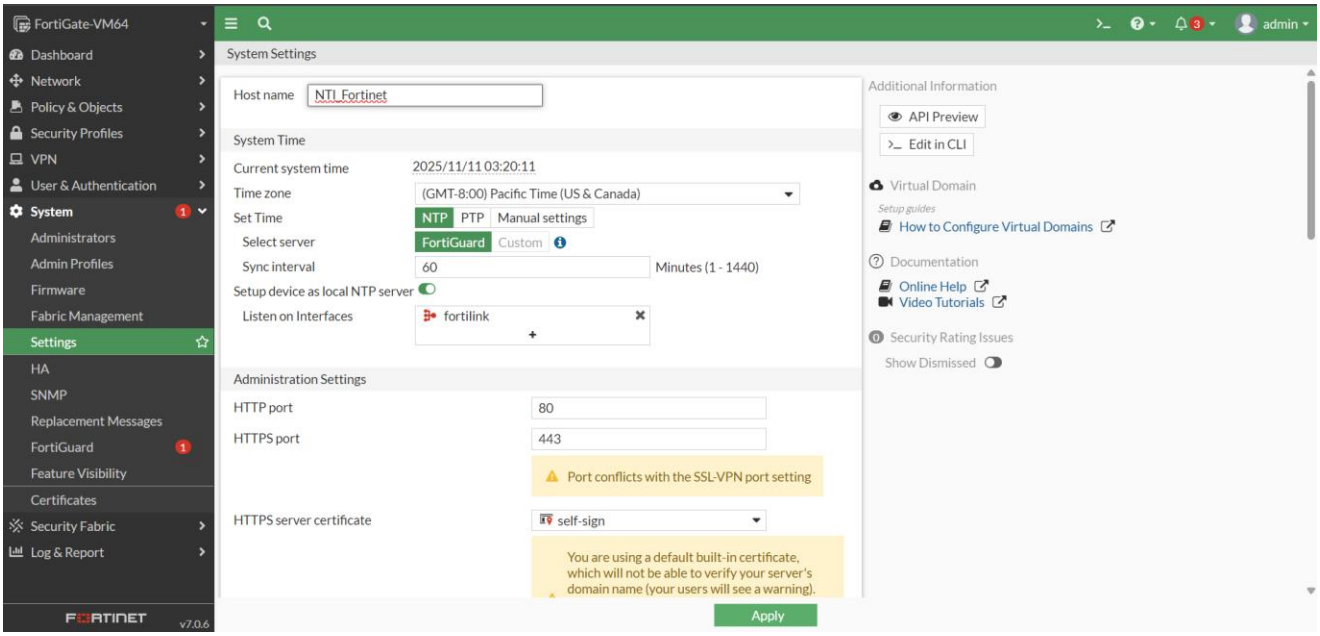
Initial Access and Password Security

1.2. Initial IP Discovery and WAN Configuration



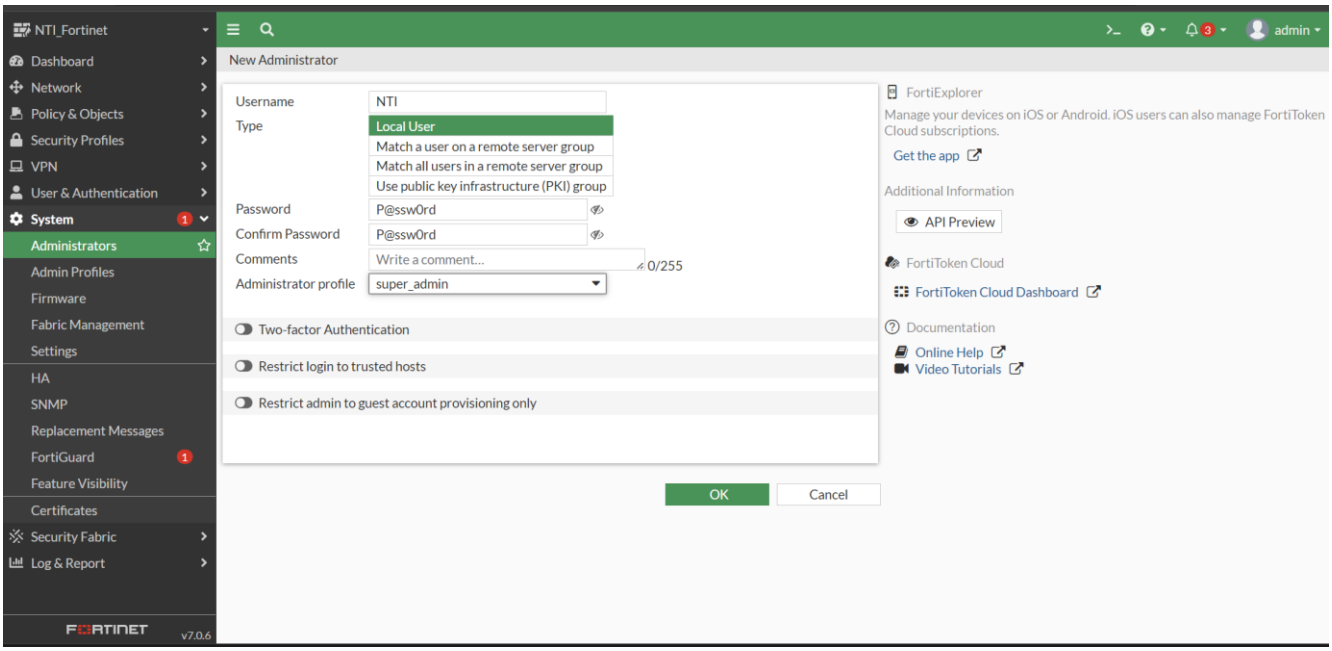
Port 1 (WAN) was assigned the address 192.168.1.10 in DHCP mode. This address was used to log in to the web interface (GUI), as shown in the main dashboard. This confirms that the device has a successful initial connection to the external network.

1.3. Assigning the hostname



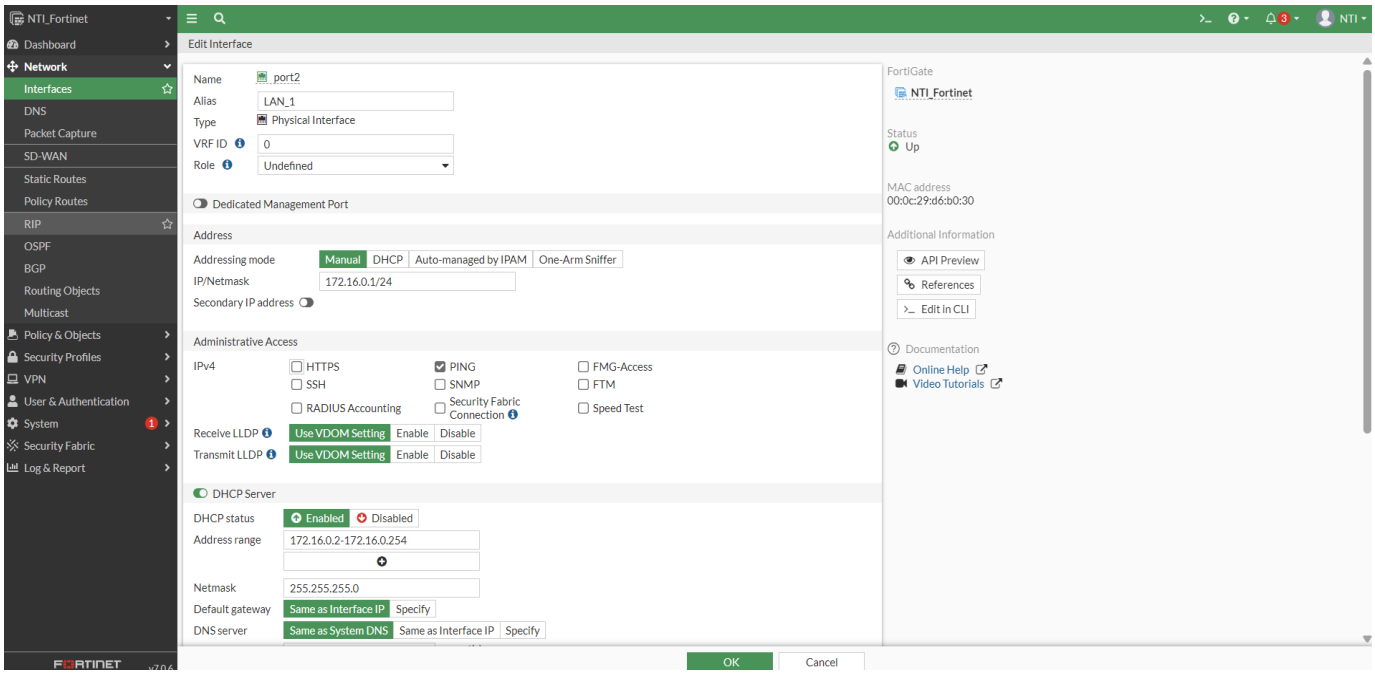
Within the *System > Settings* menu, the device's default hostname has been changed to **NTL_Fortinet** . This security measure aims to improve device identifiability in the operating environment and during log audits, and is a key component of system hardening.

1.4. Securing administrative access: Creating a new administrator account



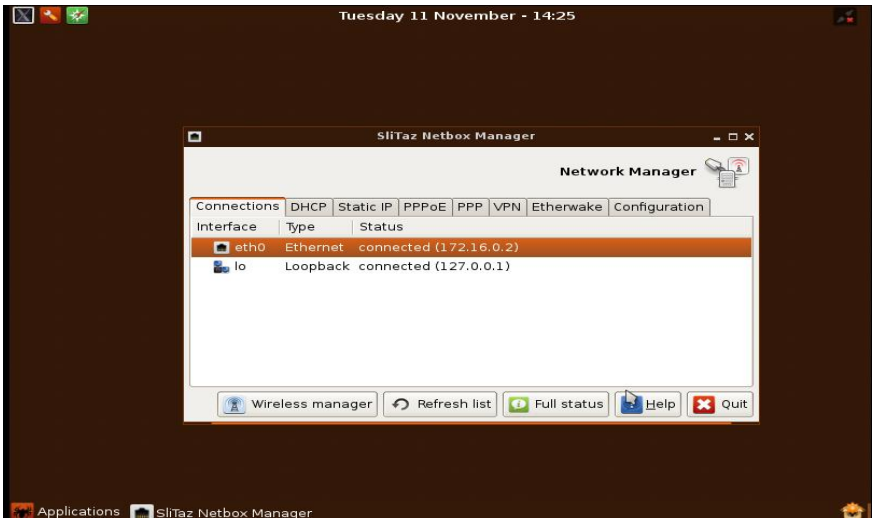
In the *System > Administrators* menu, a crucial security measure was taken by creating a new administrator account **named NTI**, assigning a strong password, and granting it super_admin privileges. This action is necessary to implement the principle of security hardening by avoiding the use of the default username (admin), which significantly reduces the likelihood of successful guessing attacks targeting common usernames.

1. Configuring the Local Area Interface (LAN) and enabling administrative access



Configuring the Local Area Network (LAN) and Enabling Administrative Access: In the **Network > Interfaces** menu, the LAN interface (Port 2) was configured. It was assigned the alias LAN_1, and its address was manually set to *172.16.0.1/24*, making it the gateway for the local network. To ensure the device can be managed from the internal network, HTTPS and PING administrative access options were enabled. A DHCP server was also enabled on the same interface to automatically distribute IP addresses to internal devices within the range 172.16.0.2 to 172.16.0.254, thus completing the basic internal network configuration.

2.1Testing the effectiveness of the DHCP server for the internal network



As shown in the screenshot, the client device was automatically assigned the IP address 172.16.0.2. This confirms the successful operation of the DHCP Server on FortiGate , demonstrating that the internal network is ready for communication.