Practical Network Defense - Lab 6

LDAP on ACME co.

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1 Introduction

LDAP stands for Lightweight Directory Access Protocol, an open standard for accessing and maintaining directory information services.

In this laboratory, we will use LDAP to perform centralised authentication. Username and password of administrative users will be stored into a Zentyal domain controller and the firewalls will perform verification queries at each login attempt.

Zentyal is an open source groupware supporting Samba (among other protocols) based on Ubuntu LTS. The assignment was completed in a local environment with the latest major free release, Zentyal Server Development Edition 6.0.

2 Zentyal configuration

2.1 Network

Enable the Network module in $Module\ status$ and reboot the server. In $System \rhd General$, change the hostname to dc and the domain to pndeflab.edu. Then, enable Network in $Module\ status$ and reboot the server.

In Network > Interfaces configure the internal interface eth0 with static address 100.64.1.2. Then, in Network > Gateways, assign to the gateway on interface eth0 (modifying an existing gateway or creating a new one, if necessary) the IP address 100.64.1.2.memorise

2.2 Firewall and DNS

Enable *Firewall* and *DNS* modules in *Module status* and reboot the server. While the former module is already configured, it is necessary to set up the latter.

In *DNS*, section *Forwarders*, add a known DNS server. In section *Domains*, click on the cog wheel in row pndeflab.edu and column *Hostnames*. Then, add all relevant hosts in the network, inserting for each one all their local IP addresses.

Open a terminal (either using the virtual machine graphical interface or through an SSH connection) with root privileges and edit the file etc/zentyal/dns.conf, appending 100.64.0.0/16 to the line starting with intnets = . Then, reboot the server.

2.3 Remote logging

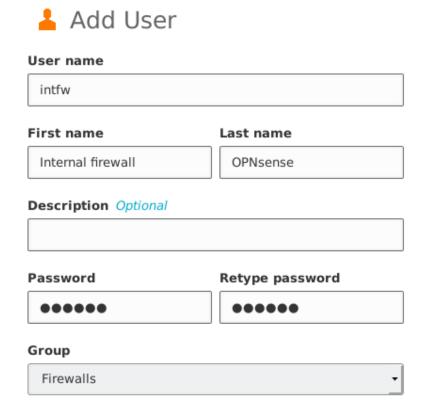
Open a terminal with root privileges and append the line *.* @100.64.1.3 to the file /etc/rsyslog.d/50-default.conf and reboot the server.

2.4 LDAP

Enable the *Domain Controller and File Sharing* module in *Module status* and reboot the server.

In *Users and Computers* > *Manage*, add a new group Firewalls clicking on the *Groups* folder, then on the green plus sign and completing the form. Similarly, add a new PND_Group group for the administrators.

Add a new computer account for the internal firewall clicking on the *Groups* folder, then on the green plus sign and filling the form as follows (taking care to choose a secure password):



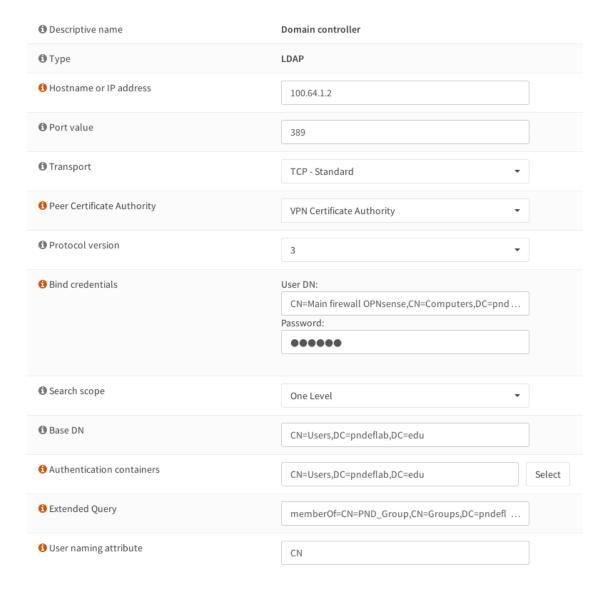
Then, add another account for the main firewall in the same fashion.

Finally, add a new User account for each admin, inserting them in the PND_Group group.

3 OPNsense internal firewall configuration

3.1 Server

Create a new authentication server in $System \triangleright Access \triangleright Server$ with the following settings:



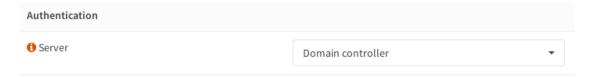
In field *Bind credentials*, insert the distinguished name and password for the *intfw* account created in the domain controller. In field *Extended query*, specify that the users must be member of the PND_Group group. After completing the form up to *Base DN*, press the *Select* button adjacent to field *Authentication containers* and choose the only option available.

3.2 Users

In $System \triangleright Access \triangleright Users$, import start importing new users clicking on the cloud icon. Select all showed users and insert them in the admin group.

3.3 Settings

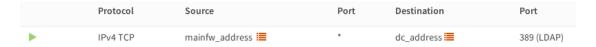
In $System \triangleright Settings \triangleright Administration$, change the authentication server to Domain controller. Since superuser access is disabled, it may be advisable to add admin to the list of sudoers.



If SSH is enabled, add admin to the SSH login groups and disable root login.

4 OPNsense main firewall configuration

Follow the configuration section for the internal firewall, changing the bind account to the one created for mainfw. In the internal firewall, create a rule for allowing LDAP traffic from the main firewall to the domain controller.



5 Test of the configuration

Testing was performed manually, trying to login in the two firewalls, both in the web GUI and the physical terminal. Using the built-in root user had a negative outcome, while using a LDAP account gave access to both the web GUI and the shell.

6 Final remarks

OPNsense has a lacklustre LDAP support.

The primary shortcoming is the manual user configuration: the usefulness of a central domain controller is greatly diminished if admins must import locally and configure new users in each firewall.

Another deficiency is the non-existent group support. A sensible approach would be inserting newly-imported users into local groups with the same names as their LDAP groups (optionally creating those which do not exist) in order to ease privilege assignment; instead, LDAP groups are completely ignored.

Lastly, the documentation is not up to date: some icons are different (e.g. the user import icon) and some settings are located in different sections (e.g. the active authentication servers).