

## Chapter 7b: Cloud Connectivity using MQTT + Amazon Web Services

### Objective

At this end of Chapter 7b you will understand:

- How Message Queue Telemetry Transport (MQTT) works:
  - How MQTT fits into the TCP/IP Networking Stack
  - The purpose of a **Topic**
  - The role of the **Message Broker**
  - The role of a **Publisher**
  - The role of a **Subscriber**
- How to use the JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) language.
- How the Amazon [AWS MQTT Cloud works](#) including:
  - How to provision “things” (which for semantic reasons, will be notated *thing*, a.k.a. your IoT device, in this chapter) in the Amazon AWS IoT Cloud by creating a *thing*, policies and certificates.
  - AWS MQTT and Security
  - Understand the *thing* shadow
  - How to use the AWS IoT test MQTT Client to subscribe and publish to topics
  - Understand the scope of systems that can be implemented in the AWS Cloud (SNS, Database etc.)
- Understand in **DETAIL** how to write WICED firmware to interact with the AWS IOT Cloud

**Time: 4 Hours**

## Fundamentals

### Amazon Web Services (AWS)

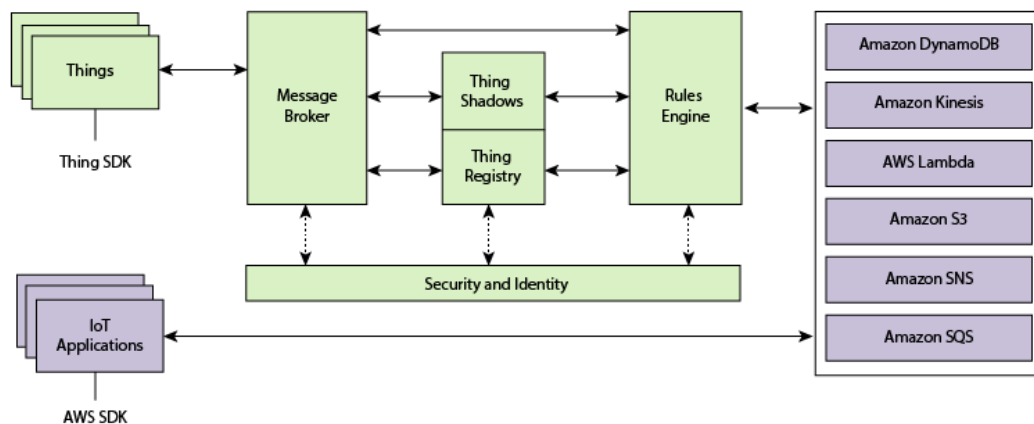
[AWS](#) is a secure cloud services platform, offering compute power, database storage, content delivery and other functionality (which makes more money for Amazon than their retail operations). AWS is built from a vast array of both virtual and actual servers and networks as well as a boatload of webserver software and administrative tools including (partial list):

- [AWS IoT](#): A cloud platform that provides Cloud services for IoT devices (the subject of this chapter).
- Amazon Elastic Cloud ([EC2](#)/[EC3](#)): A virtualized compute capability, basically Linux, Windows etc. servers that you can rent.
- [Amazon Lambda](#): A Cloud service that enables you to send event driven tasks to be executed.
- Storage: Large fast file systems called [Amazon S3](#) & [AWS Elastic File System](#).
- Databases: Large fast databases called [Dynamo DB](#), [Amazon Relational Database \(RDS\)](#), [Amazon Aurora](#).
- Networking: Fast, fault tolerant, load balanced networks with entry points all over the world.
- Developer tools: A unified programming API supporting the AWS platform supporting a bunch of different languages.
- [Amazon Simple Notification System \(SNS\)](#): A platform to send messages including SMS and Email.
- [Amazon Simple Queueing Services\(SQS\)](#): A platform to send messages between servers (NOT the same thing a MQTT messages).
- [Amazon Kinesis](#): A platform to stream and analyze “massive” amounts of data. This is the plumbing for AWS IoT.

## Amazon AWS IoT Introduction

The Amazon AWS IoT Cloud service is an MQTT Message Broker **plus** a bunch of server side functionality that provides:

- Message Broker: An MQTT Message Broker.
- Thing Registry: A web interface to manage the access to your *things*.
- Security and identity: A web interface to manage the certificates and rules about *things*. You can create encryption keys and manage access privileges.
- A “shadow”: An online cache of the most recent state of your *thing*.
- Rules Engine: An application that runs in the cloud that can subscribe to Topics and take programmatic actions based on messages – for example, you could configure it to subscribe to an “Alert” topic, and if a *thing* publishes a warning message to the alert topic, it uses Amazon SNS to send a SMS Text Message to your cell phone
- IoT Applications: An SDK to build Web pages and cell phone Apps.



## Amazon AWS IoT Resources

There are three types of resources in Amazon AWS: *Things*, *Certificates*, and *Policies*. The second exercise will take you step by step through the process to create each of them.

### Thing

A *thing* is a representation of a device or logical entity. It can be a physical device or sensor (for example, a light bulb or a switch on a wall). It can also be a logical entity like an instance of an application or a physical entity that does not connect to AWS IoT but can be related to other devices that do (for example, a car that has engine sensors or a control panel).

### Certificate

AWS IoT provides mutual authentication and encryption at all points of connection so that data is never exchanged between *things* and AWS IoT without a proven identity. AWS IoT supports X.509 certificate-based authentication. Connections using MQTT use certificate-based authentication. You can attach policies to a certificate to allow or deny access to AWS IoT resources. A root CA (certification authority) certificate is used by your device to ensure it is communicating with the actual Amazon Web Services site. You can only connect your *thing* to the AWS IoT Cloud via TLS.

### Policy

After creating a certificate for your internet-connected *thing*, you must create and attach an AWS IoT policy that will determine what AWS IoT operations the *thing* may perform. AWS IoT policies are JSON documents and they follow the same conventions as AWS Identity and Access Management policies.

You can also specify permissions for specific resources such as topics and shadows. Here is an example of a Policy created for a new *thing*.

```
{
  "Version": "2012-10-17",
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Action": [ "iot:*" ],
      "Resource": ["*"],
      "Effect": "Allow"
    }
  ]
}
```

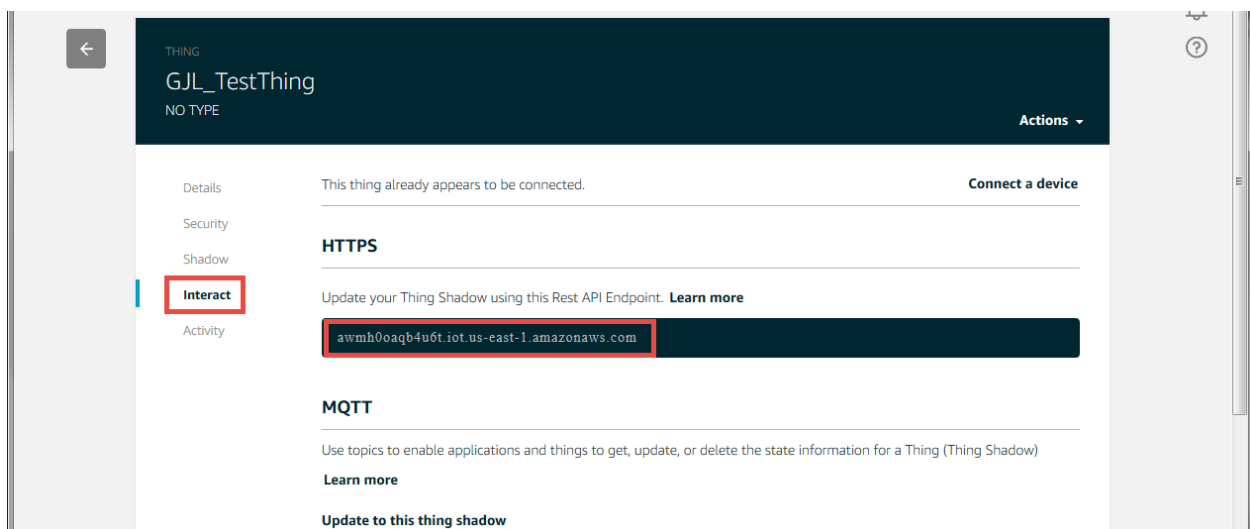
## Amazon AWS MQTT

### Internet Access

In order to create a new Amazon AWS account you need to provide a credit card number. The basic account is free for a year but if you don't cancel before that (or remove your credit card from the Amazon payment options) it will start charging your credit card after a year. For that reason, we have setup a class AWS account that you can use for the exercises. However, the password for that account will be changed after the class is over and any *things* you create there will be deleted. If you want to continue to use AWS after the class you will need to setup your own account.

When you create an AWS IoT account, Amazon will create a new (virtual) server for you in the Cloud and will turn on an MQTT Message Broker on that server. In order to connect your WICED device to that server you will need to know the IP Address of the Message Broker. This address will go into the firmware as the MQTT\_BROKER\_ADDRESS.

In order to find the address, select your *thing* from the console and then select Interact from the left panel. The address is listed as the REST API Endpoint.



## [Thing Shadow](#)

A *thing* shadow (sometimes referred to as a device shadow) is a JSON document that is used to store and retrieve current state information for a *thing* (device, app, and so on). The *Thing* Shadows service maintains a *thing* shadow for each *thing* you connect to AWS IoT. You can use *thing* shadows to get and set the state of a *thing* over MQTT or HTTP, regardless of whether the *thing* is currently connected to the Internet. Each *thing* shadow is uniquely identified by its name.

The JSON Shadow document representing the device has the following properties:

- state:
  - desired: The desired state of the *thing*. Applications can write to this portion of the document to update the state of a *thing* without having to directly connect to a *thing*.
  - reported: The reported state of the *thing*. *Things* write to this portion of the document to report their new state. Applications read this portion of the document to determine the state of a *thing*.
- metadata: Information about the data stored in the state section of the document. This includes timestamps, in Epoch time, for each attribute in the state section, which enables you to determine when they were updated.
- timestamp: Indicates when the message was transmitted by AWS IoT. By using the timestamp in the message and the timestamps for individual attributes in the desired or reported section, a *thing* can determine how old an updated item is, even if it doesn't feature an internal clock.
- clientToken: A string unique to the device that enables you to associate responses with requests in an MQTT environment.
- version: The document version. Every time the document is updated, this version number is incremented. Used to ensure the version of the document being updated is the most recent.

An example of the document looks like this:

```
{
  "state" : {
    "desired" : {
      "color" : "RED",
      "sequence" : [ "RED", "GREEN", "BLUE" ]
    },
    "reported" : {
      "color" : "GREEN"
    }
  },
  "metadata" : {
    "desired" : {
      "color" : {
        "timestamp" : 12345
      },
      "sequence" : {
        "timestamp" : 12345
      }
    },
    "reported" : {
      "color" : {
        "timestamp" : 12345
      }
    }
  },
  "version" : 10,
  "clientToken" : "UniqueClientToken",
  "timestamp": 123456789
}
```

If you want to update the Shadow, you can publish a JSON document with just the information you want to change to the correct topic. For example, you could do:

```
{
  "state" : {
    "reported" : {
      "color": "BLUE"
    }
  }
}
```

### *MQTT Topics*

The AWS Message Broker will allow you to create Topics with almost any name, with one exception: Topics named “\$aws/...” are reserved by AWS IoT for specific functions.

As the system designer you are responsible for defining what the topics mean and do in your system. Some [best practices](#) include:

1. Don't use a leading forward slash
2. Don't use spaces
3. Keep the topic short and concise
4. Use only ASCII characters
5. Embed a unique identifier e.g. the name of the *thing*

For example, a good topic name for a temperature sensing device might be: myDevice/temperature.

### [Device Shadow MQTT Topics](#)

Each *thing* that you have will have a group of topics of the form “\$aws/things/thingName/shadow/...” which allow you to publish and subscribe for topics relating to the shadow. The specific shadow topics that exist are:

MQTT Topic Suffix	Function
/update	The JSON message that you publish to this topic will become the new state of the shadow.
/update/accepted	AWS will publish a message to this topic in response to a message to /update indicating a successful update of the shadow.
/update/documents	When a document is updated via a publish to /update, the complete new document is published to this topic.
/update/rejected	AWS will publish a message to this topic in response to a message to /update indicating a rejected update of the shadow.
/update/delta	After a message is sent to /update, the AWS will send a JSON message if the desired state and the reported state are not equal. The message contains all attributes that don't match.
/get	If a <i>thing</i> publishes a message to this topic, AWS will respond with a message to either /get/accepted or /get/rejected with the current state of the shadow.
/get/accepted	
/get/rejected	
/delete	If a <i>thing</i> publishes a message to this topic, AWS will delete the shadow document.
/delete/accepted	AWS will publish to this topic when a successful /delete occurs.
/delete/reject	AWS will publish to this topic when a rejected /delete occurs.

You can use “#” as a wildcard to access multiple shadow topics. For example, you can use “\$aws/things/thingName/shadow/#” to subscribe to all shadow topics for the *thing* called “theThing”.



## Exercise(s)

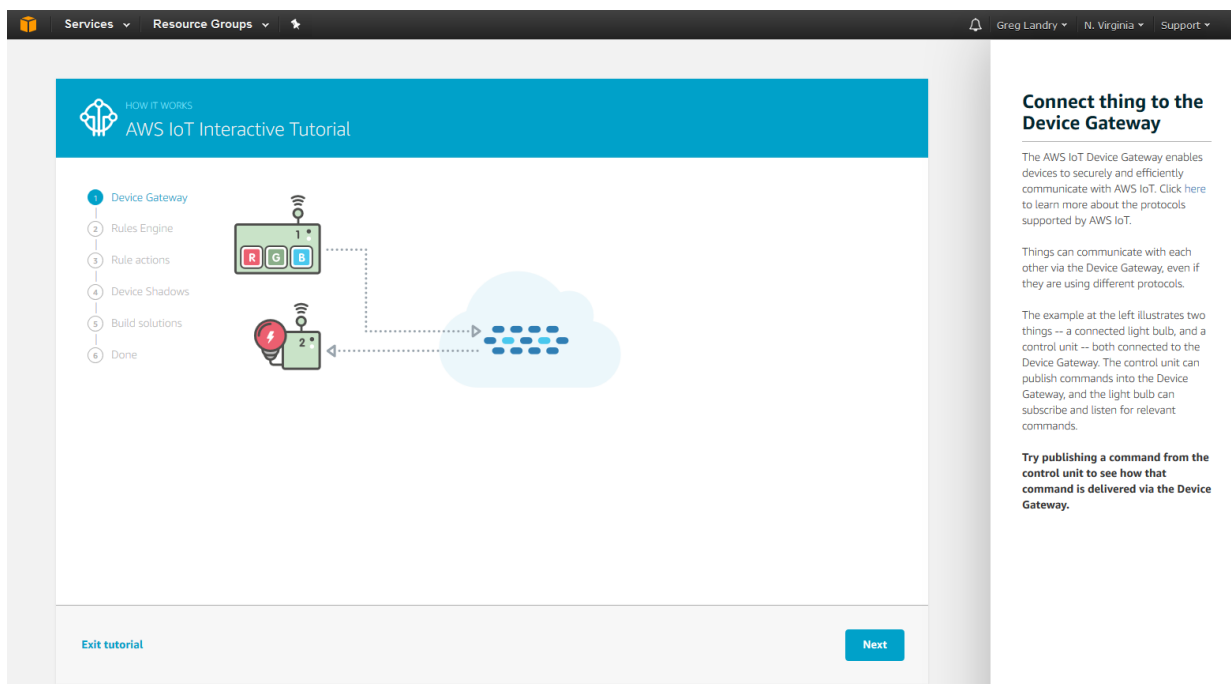
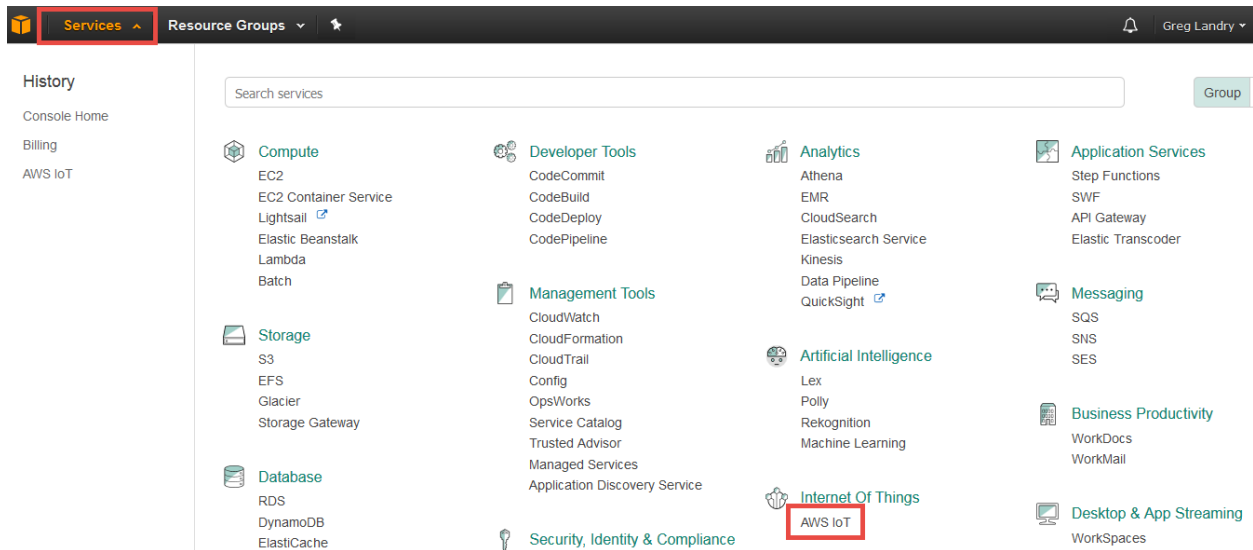
### 00 Run the MQTT tutorial on the Amazon IoT Console (console.aws.amazon.com)

Sign up for an Amazon AWS account or use the class server. The login for the class server is:

ID: [arh@cypress.com](mailto:arh@cypress.com)

Password: wiced101

From the Services menu, select “AWS IoT”. In the lower-left corner of the screen click on “Learn” and then click “Start the tutorial”.



## 01 Provision a new *thing* in the AWS IOT Cloud, establish its policy and credentials, and test using the AWS test MQTT Client

To Provision follow the “Procedure to Provision an AWS IoT Thing” section at the end of this chapter.

Note the message broker address. You can find this in the Interact page when you click on the *thing* that you create. It will be listed as “REST API endpoint”.

To test your Message Broker, follow the “Procedure to use the AWS Test MQTT Client” at the end of this chapter.

## 02 Build and test the demo.aws\_iot.pub\_sub.publisher App

1. Copy the WICED apps/demo/aws\_iot/pub\_sub/publisher project to your own directory (i.e. ww101/07b/02\_publisher) and update all of the files.
  - a. Hint: Make sure you add your platform to the valid platforms in the makefile and remove all other platforms.
2. Modify the DCT for your network.
3. Change WICED\_BUTTON1 to WICED\_SH\_MB1 to work with the shield button.
4. Copy the certificates that you generated in (01) into the resources/apps/aws\_iot directory. Replace two of the existing files in that directory as follows:

Name of Downloaded File	New Name	Description
<name>-certificate.pem.crt	client.cer	The certificate for your thing. This is how AWS knows that it is a valid <i>thing</i> that is trying to talk to it.
<name>-private.pem.key	privkey.cer	The private key that your application will use to decrypt data that it gets back from AWS. Since Amazon created the key, it already has the public key.

The rootca.cer file in that folder is the certificate for Amazon. This allows your thing to know that it is really talking to the AWS cloud. This is a known-good key for AWS that is built into the SDK. It does not need to be modified since it never changes.

The other file that you downloaded called “<name>-public.pem.key” is a public key for your thing. In this case, Amazon already has the public key so you don’t need to provide it.

5. Run a “Clean” before rebuilding or else your project may not see the new keys. You will find that at the top of the list of Make Targets. Just double-click on it to run it.
6. Create a Make Target for your project.
7. Modify the #define for MQTT\_BROKER\_ADDRESS. Use the broker address from (01).
8. Modify the #define for WICED\_TOPIC. Use the topic from (01) with your initials in the name.
9. Build and program your project.
10. Open the serial port and watch your terminal session.
11. Subscribe to the topic using the AWS test MQTT client. When you press the button you should see updates to the topic.

**03 Explain in detail the firmware flow for the publisher app by answering the following questions:**

1. How do the MQTT library functions (e.g. *wiced\_mqtt\_publish()*) get into your project?
2. What function is called when the button is pressed?
3. How does the button callback unlock the main thread?
4. What WICED SDK RTOS mechanism does the “wait\_for\_response” function use to “wait”?
5. Why did the firmware author create a function called “wait\_for\_response”?
6. Are all messages sent to the AWS IOT MQTT Message Broker required to be in JSON format?

7. What are the 7 WICED MQTT events? What file are they defined in?
8. Do you have to name the client certificate client.cer? How would you change the name?
9. What is the naming convention used to differentiate WICED MQTT library functions versus wrappers around those functions in the publisher app?
10. What steps are required to get an MQTT connection established?
11. What prevents a hung connection from deadlocking the publisher app?
12. What is the name of the flag that prevents the firmware from sending multiple button presses before the publish is finished?

#### 04 Build and test the demo.aws\_iot.pub\_sub.subscriber App

1. Copy the WICED application from apps/demo/aws\_iot/pub\_sub/subscriber to your directory (i.e. wa101/07b/05\_subscriber) and modify the DCT and makefile.
2. Update the topic and broker #defines to the same one you chose for (03).
3. Change WICED\_LED1 to WICED\_SH\_LED1 to work with the shield.
4. We will use the same *thing*, certificate, and keys that we did for (02).
5. Publish messages using the AWS test MQTT Client.
  - a. Determine what string needs to be sent to turn the light on or off.
    - i. Hint: Look in the source code to find the string that is being looked for when a message is received.
    - ii. Hint: If you are successful, the Green LED on the baseboard should turn on/off.

#### 05 (Advanced) Implement the subscriber and publisher in two different kits and test

1. In a real world application you would typically have one or more devices publishing data to a broker and one or more devices reading data from that same broker. So, let's try that out with two different kits. You should team up with another student for this lab.
  - a. Make a new *thing* in the AWS console for the subscriber and create a new certificate for it. You can attach the same policy that you created previously.
    - i. Note: You could actually use the same *thing*, certificate, and policy for both the subscriber and publisher if you wanted, but in many cases you will want each type of *thing* to have different permissions or settings. For example, you might want the subscriber to be able to read values but not modify them. In that case, the certificate and the attached policy for the subscriber *thing* would be different.
  - b. Save the new subscriber certificate files but use different names for *client.cer* and *privkey.cer* so that the subscriber and publisher can use different files.
  - c. Update the makefile so that the subscriber points to the new certificates.
    - i. Hint: The rootca.cer will not need to change since it is the Amazon AWS public key which is always the same.
  - d. Update the lines in "subscriber.c" that point to the new credential and key files.
    - i. Hint: the credentials are listed as *resources\_apps\_DIR\_aws\_iot\_DIR\_client\_cer* and *resources\_apps\_DIR\_aws\_iot\_DIR\_privkey\_cer*. These names are the path in the resources folder where folder names are separated by the keyword "\_DIR\_" and the period before cer is replaced with "\_". You could move the credentials to another location in the resources folder by following the naming convention or just change the names of the files and put them in the same folder.
  - e. Program the updated subscriber firmware.
  - f. Power up both kits.
  - g. Subscribe to the topic that you chose using the AWS test MQTT Client.
  - h. Press the button on the provider and watch it change the state of the LED on the subscriber. Also watch the messages in the test MQTT Client window.

## 06 (Advanced) Build and test the Shadow App

1. This example uses a configuration Access Point serving a web browser so that the *thing* name, credentials, keys, and settings for the network to connect to can be configured from a web browser on a device attached to the configuration AP.
2. Copy the WICED application from *apps/demo/aws\_iot/shadow* to your directory and update the makefile.
3. Update the DCT to have a Config AP for configuration with an SSID name that is unique (so as not to collide with others in your class).
4. Change the following in *aws\_common.c*:
  - a. WICED\_BUTTON1 -> WICED\_SH\_MB1
  - b. WICED\_LED1 -> WICED\_SH\_LED1
  - c. WICED\_LED2 -> WICED\_SH\_LED0
5. Update the message broker address to match what you created in the previous exercises.
  - a. Hint: The message broker address goes in "*aws\_common.h*" in the #define for AWS\_IOT\_HOST\_NAME.
6. Program the kit.
7. Attach to the Config AP on your board from your computer's Wi-Fi.
  - a. Connect to the SSID that you programmed into the board.
  - b. Go to the webserver (The IP address is printed on the terminal when the device boots and starts the AP).
    - i. Hint: Don't use Firefox for this step – it sometimes gives strange results.
  - c. Update the *thing* name to match what you created in previous exercises.
    - i. Hint: The default name that shows up is in "*aws\_config.h*" so you could also change it there before programming the board.
  - d. Follow the instructions to upload the client certificate and private key.
  - e. Click on "Wi-Fi Setup >", click on the class Wi-Fi network, enter the password, and click connect.
  - f. The board will reboot. Once it has done that, it will connect as a station to the Wi-Fi network that you configured in the previous step.
8. Attach to a Wi-Fi access point from your computer.
9. Go to [console.aws.amazon.com](https://console.aws.amazon.com) and go to the test MQTT Client.
10. Subscribe to the device's shadow topics.
  - a. Hint: *\$aws/things/<YourThingName>/shadow/#* will subscribe to all shadow topics for your *thing*. The # is a wildcard.
11. Press the button on the board and see the messages.
12. Answer the question: What is the sequence of events that changes the LED from On to Off?

## References

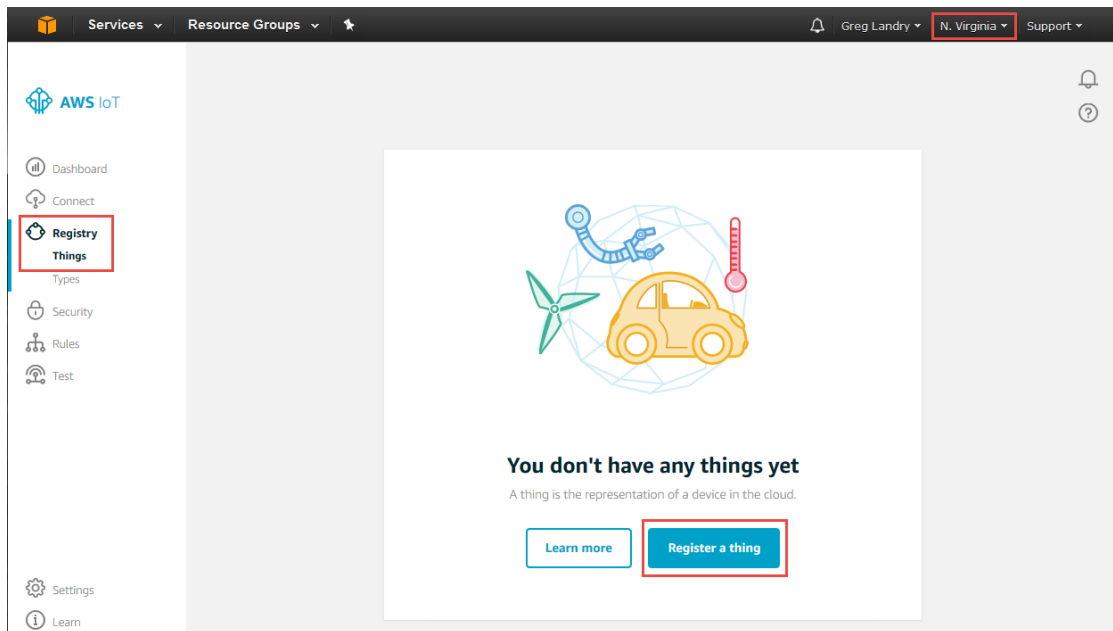
Resources	Link
<a href="http://docs.aws.amazon.com/iot/latest/developerguide/what-is-aws-iot.html">AWS Developers Guide</a>	<a href="http://docs.aws.amazon.com/iot/latest/developerguide/what-is-aws-iot.html">http://docs.aws.amazon.com/iot/latest/developerguide/what-is-aws-iot.html</a>
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<a href="http://www.slideshare.net/PeterREgli/mq-telemetry-transport">A nice powerpoint about MQTT</a>	<a href="http://www.slideshare.net/PeterREgli/mq-telemetry-transport">http://www.slideshare.net/PeterREgli/mq-telemetry-transport</a>
<a href="http://www.hivemq.com/blog/mqtt-essentials-part-5-mqtt-topics-best-practices">MQTT Topic Naming Best Practices</a>	<a href="http://www.hivemq.com/blog/mqtt-essentials-part-5-mqtt-topics-best-practices">http://www.hivemq.com/blog/mqtt-essentials-part-5-mqtt-topics-best-practices</a>
<a href="http://cloudconnectkits.org/system/files/GSG-BCM4343W%20IoT%20Starter%20Kit%20-%20Getting%20Started%20%28v1.1%29.pdf">Avnet Getting Started</a>	<a href="http://cloudconnectkits.org/system/files/GSG-BCM4343W%20IoT%20Starter%20Kit%20-%20Getting%20Started%20%28v1.1%29.pdf">http://cloudconnectkits.org/system/files/GSG-BCM4343W%20IoT%20Starter%20Kit%20-%20Getting%20Started%20%28v1.1%29.pdf</a>
Avnet User Guide <a href="#">Part1</a> and <a href="#">Part2</a>	
<a href="https://forums.aws.amazon.com/forum.jspa?forumID=210">AWS Forum</a>	<a href="https://forums.aws.amazon.com/forum.jspa?forumID=210">https://forums.aws.amazon.com/forum.jspa?forumID=210</a>

## Related Example “Apps”

App Name	Function
demo.aws_iot_pub_sub/publisher	Demonstrates publishing information to the AWS cloud.
demo.aws_iot_pub_sub/subscriber	Demonstrates subscribing to a topic in the AWS cloud.
demo.aws_iot_shadow	Demonstrates using a shadow device with AWS.

## Procedure to Provision an AWS IoT Thing

1. Once you have watched the tutorial from console.aws.amazon.com, you should be on the “Things” page. Click on “Register a Thing”.
  - a. Hint: The example projects use US East time zone works so it is easiest to pick a location in that time zone before setting up a new thing. In the example shown below, the selection is N. Virginia. If you choose a different zone, you will need to search for “us-east” in the source code for each project and update as necessary.

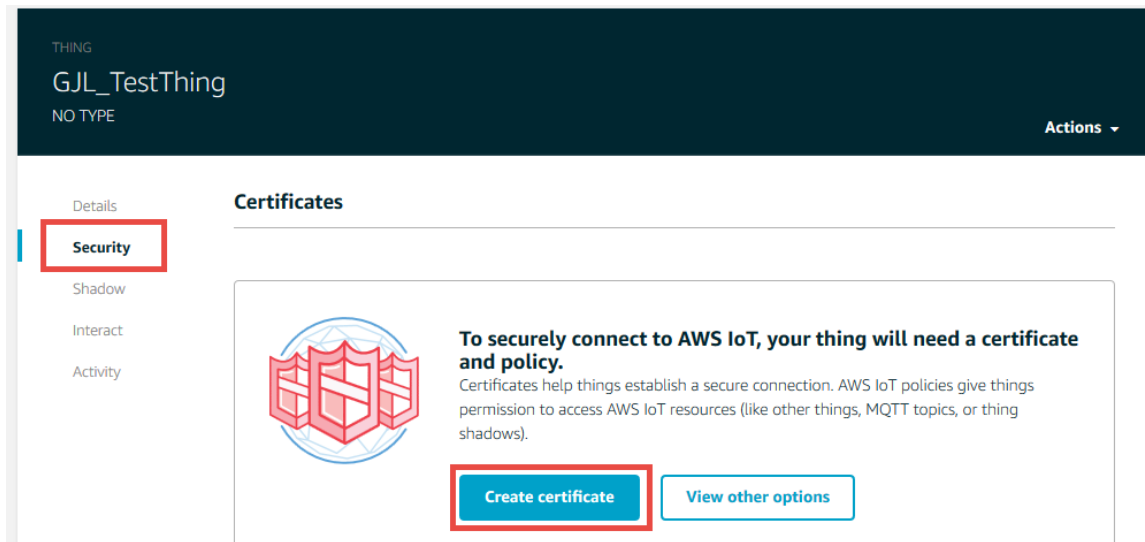


2. Name it “<YourInitials>TestThing” (or whatever) and press “Create”.

A screenshot of the 'Register a thing' form in the AWS IoT console. The form has a blue header with the title 'Register a thing'. Below the header, it says 'This step creates an entry in the thing registry and a thing shadow for your device.' There is a 'Name' label followed by a text input field containing 'GJL\_TestThing' (highlighted with a red box). Below the input field is a 'Show options' dropdown menu. At the bottom right of the form is a blue button labeled 'Create thing' (highlighted with a red box).

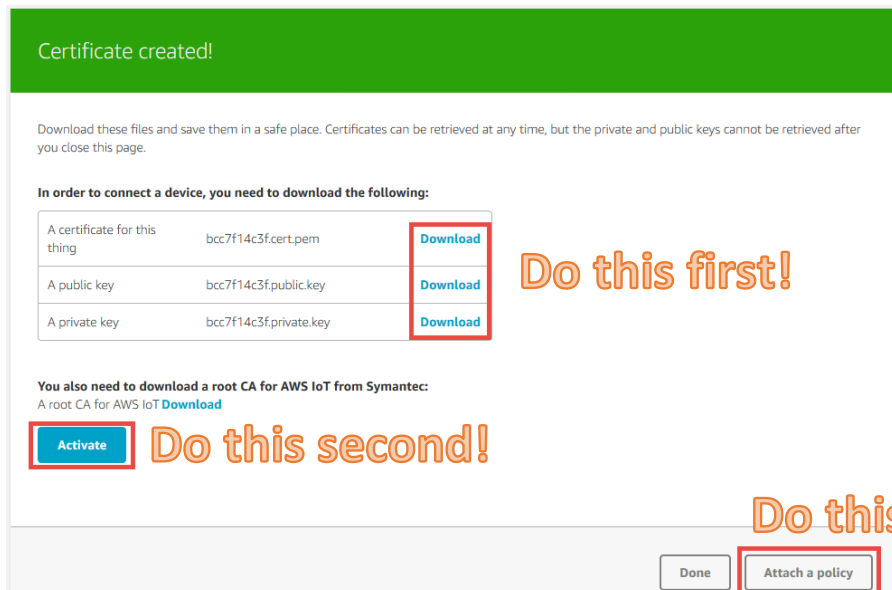


- Before you can do anything with the *thing* you need to create the encryption keys that enable you to identify yourself as that *thing*. To do this, click on “Security” and then on “Create Certificate”.

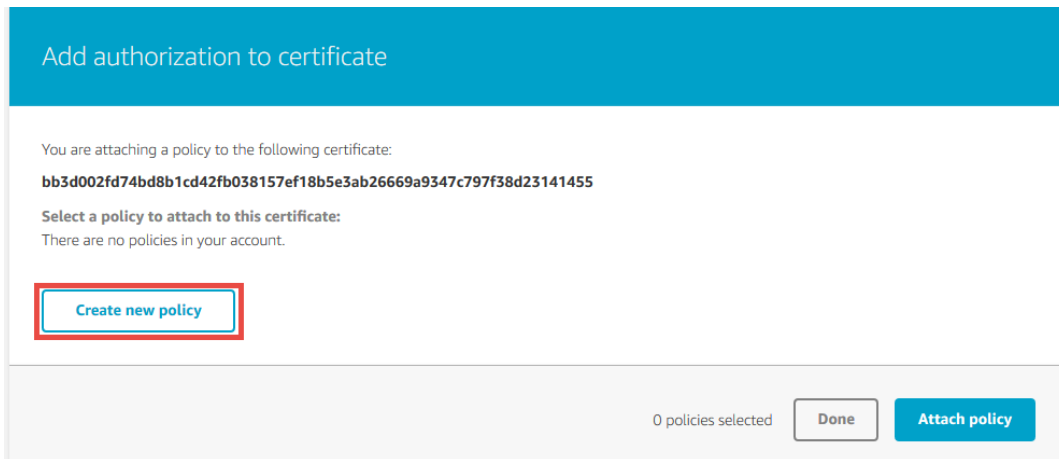


- Now you need to download the “certificate”, “public key” and “private key”. If you forget this step you cannot come back...so really you must download those files now to make the TLS work! You must also “Activate” the certificate. Once you have downloaded the keys and activated the certificate, then click on “Attach a policy”.

Note: The window also has an option to download a root CA for AWS IoT from Symantec (a trusted certification authority). However, you don’t need to do this since the root CA for AWS IoT is already included in the WICED SDK.



- Click on “Create new policy”.



Add authorization to certificate

You are attaching a policy to the following certificate:

**bb3d002fd74bd8b1cd42fb038157ef18b5e3ab26669a9347c797f38d23141455**

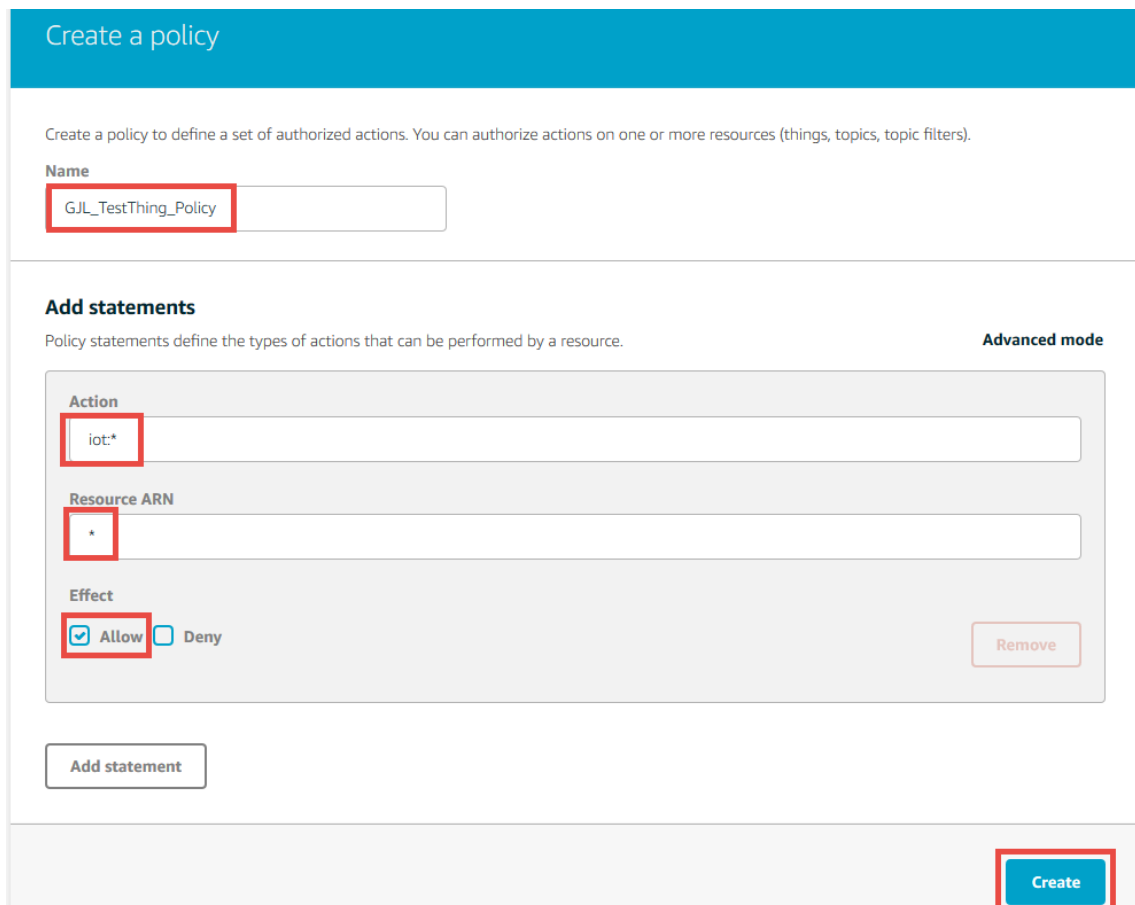
Select a policy to attach to this certificate:

There are no policies in your account.

**Create new policy**

0 policies selected Done Attach policy

- Give the new policy a name such as “<YourInitials>\_TestThing\_Policy”. Add the action as “*iot:\**”, enter “\*” for the Resource ARN, and select “Allow”. Then click the “Create” button.



Create a policy

Create a policy to define a set of authorized actions. You can authorize actions on one or more resources (things, topics, topic filters).

Name

GJL\_TestThing\_Policy

**Add statements**

Policy statements define the types of actions that can be performed by a resource. Advanced mode

Action

iot:\*

Resource ARN

\*

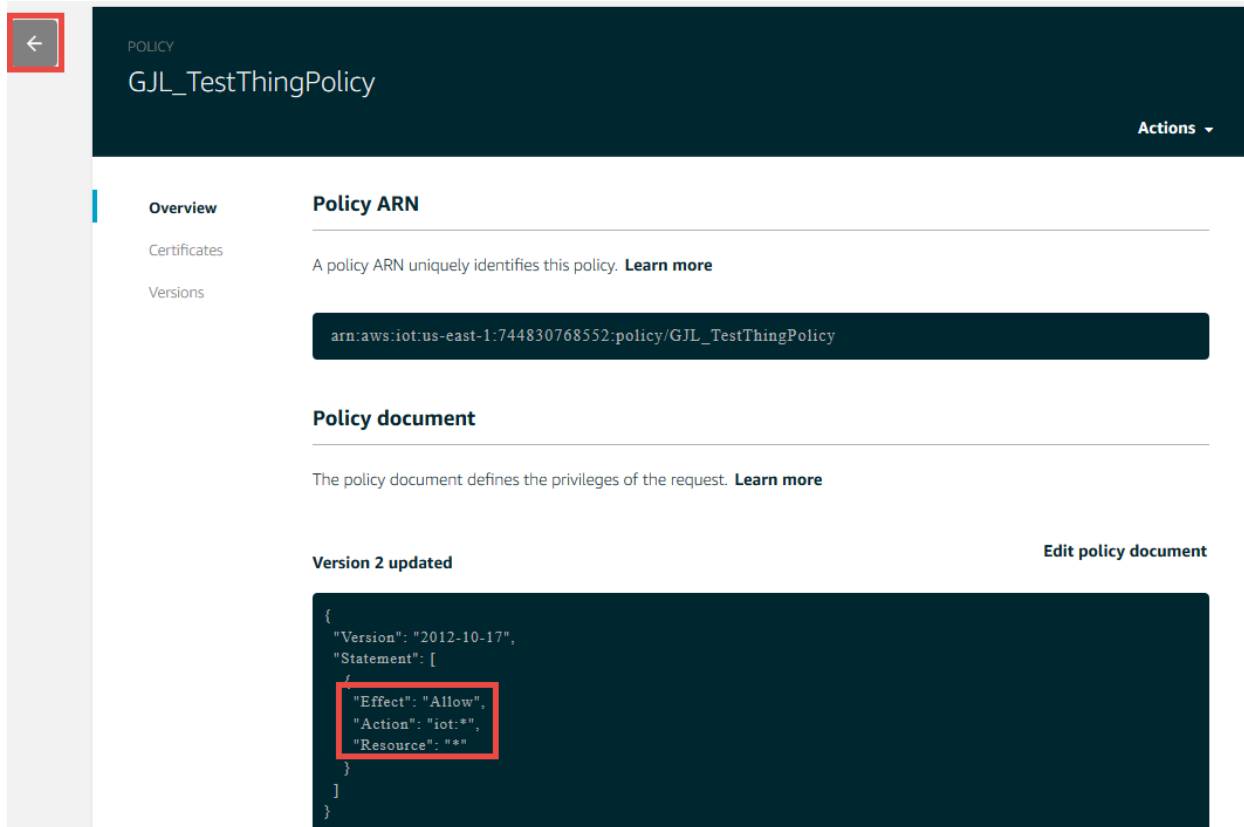
Effect

☒ Allow ☐ Deny Remove

Add statement

**Create**

7. You will now see the policy document details. In this case, any iot operation (iot:\*) is allowed.

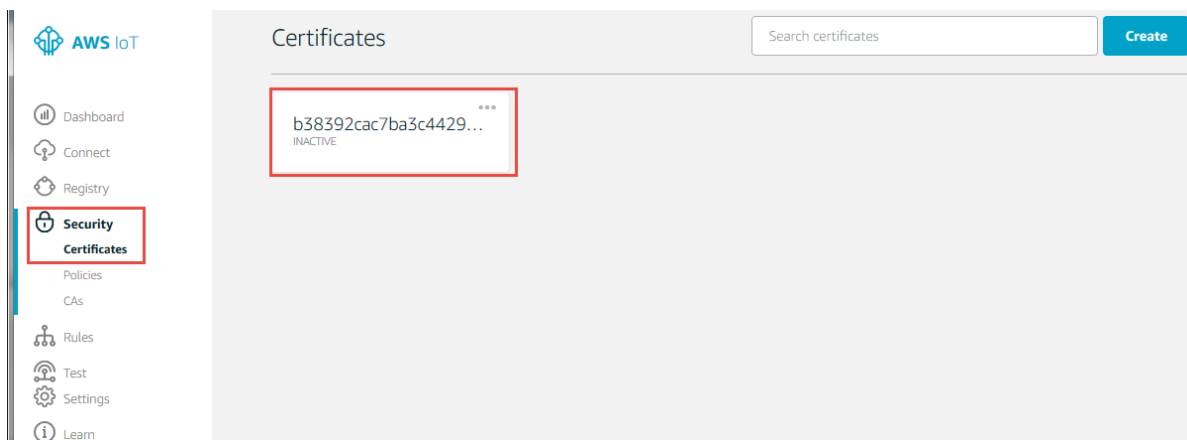


The screenshot shows the AWS IoT Policy console. On the left, a navigation pane has a red box around a back arrow icon. The main content area is titled "POLICY GJL\_TestThingPolicy" with an "Actions" dropdown. Under the "Overview" tab, the "Policy ARN" is displayed as "arn:aws:iot:us-east-1:744830768552:policy/GJL\_TestThingPolicy". Below this, the "Policy document" section shows a JSON policy document. A red box highlights the permissions section: 

```
{
  "Version": "2012-10-17",
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Effect": "Allow",
      "Action": "iot:*",
      "Resource": "*"
    }
  ]
}
```

 An "Edit policy document" link is visible in the top right of this section.

8. You now need to attach the policy to the certificate. First click the left arrow on the left side of the screen show above. Then select Security -> Certificates from the left panel, and click on your certificate.



The screenshot shows the AWS IoT Certificates console. On the left, the navigation pane has "Security" and "Certificates" highlighted with a red box. The main content area is titled "Certificates" and contains a table with one entry: a certificate ID "b38392cac7ba3c4429..." followed by "INACTIVE". A red box highlights this entry. At the top right of the main area, there is a "Search certificates" input field and a "Create" button.

9. Once you see your certificate, select “Actions -> Attach Policy”. Select your policy and click “Attach”. Click on the left arrow when you are done.

The screenshot shows the AWS IAM console interface for a specific certificate. At the top, the certificate ID is displayed: `b38392cac7ba3c4429feb51aafc843804272fb0d78baf65d34d324951013b01`. Below this, the status is marked as **INACTIVE**. On the right side, an **Actions** dropdown menu is open, showing options like **Activate**, **Deactivate**, **Revoke**, **Accept transfer**, **Reject transfer**, **Revoke transfer**, **Start transfer**, **Attach policy** (highlighted with a red box), **Attach thing**, and **Delete**.

The main content area is divided into sections. The **Certificate ARN** section shows the ARN: `arn:aws:iot:us-east-1:744830768552:cert/b38392cac7ba3c4429feb51aafc843804272fb0d78baf65d34d324951013b01`. The **Details** section shows the issuer as `OU=Amazon Web Services O\=Amazon.com Inc. L\=Seattle ST\=Washington C\=US` and the subject as `CN=AWS IoT Certificate`.

Below the main content, a modal window titled **Attach policies to certificate(s)** is displayed. It prompts the user to attach one or more policies to the following certificate(s): `b38392cac7ba3c4429feb51aafc843804272fb0d78baf65d34d324951013b01`. Inside the modal, there is a search bar for policies. Below the search bar, a list of policies is shown, with `GJL_TestThingPolicy` selected (indicated by a checked checkbox and a red box around it). A **View** link is next to the selected policy. At the bottom of the modal, there is a **Cancel** button, a status indicator **1 policy selected**, and an **Attach** button (highlighted with a red box).

## Procedure to use the AWS Test MQTT Client

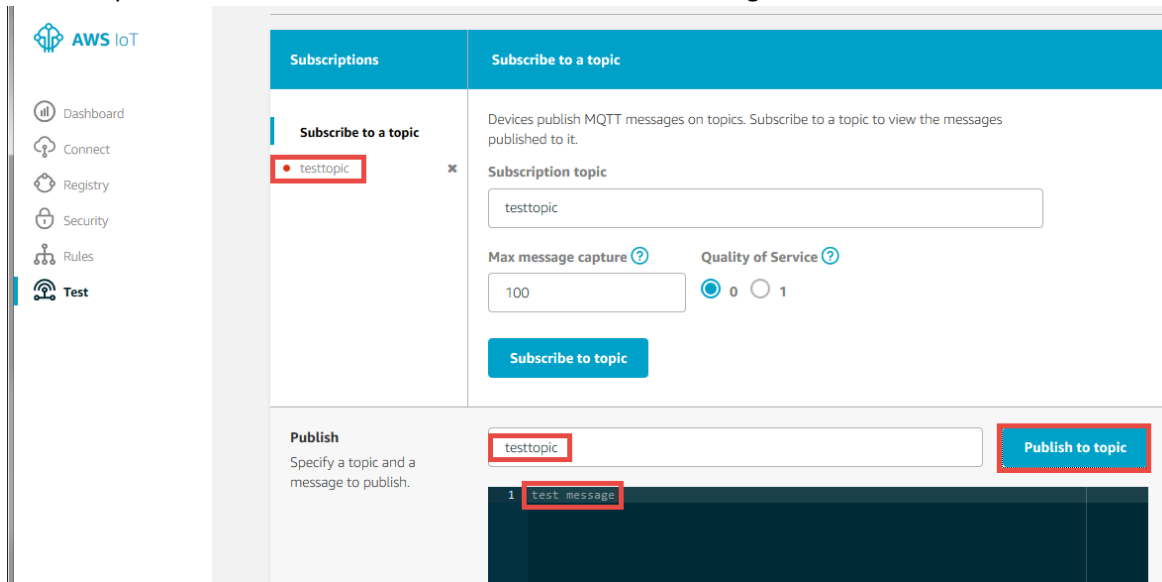
The AWS Test MQTT Client is a Web Browser based test client that you can connect to “your” message broker. Then, you can publish and subscribe to topics. You can think of it as an IoT *thing* that can publish and subscribe. To use it to test you:

1. Select “Test” from the panel on the left of the screen. Enter a topic that you want to subscribe to such as “<your\_initials>\_testtopic” and click on “Subscribe to topic”. You will see the new topic show up under Subscriptions. Make sure to put your initials or some other unique string in the topic if you are using the class AWS account. If not, you may see messages from someone else publishing to the same topic.

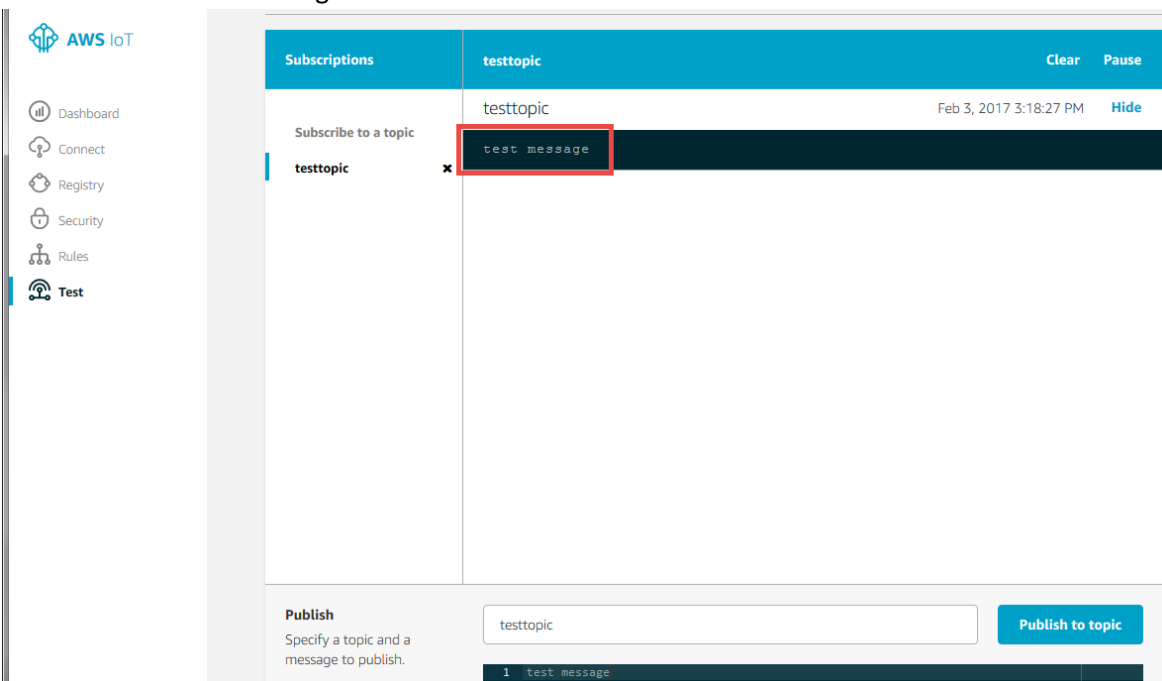
The screenshot displays the AWS IoT MQTT client interface. On the left sidebar, the 'Test' tab is selected. The main content area is titled 'MQTT client' and shows a connection status 'Connected as iotconsole-1486152695840-4'. The interface is divided into two main sections: 'Subscriptions' and 'Publish'. In the 'Subscriptions' section, there is a 'Subscribe to a topic' form with a text input field containing 'testtopic' and a 'Subscribe to topic' button. Below this, there are settings for 'Max message capture' (set to 100) and 'Quality of Service' (set to 0). The 'Publish' section has a text input for a topic and a 'Publish to topic' button. At the bottom, a code editor shows a JSON message: 

```
1 {
2   "message": "Hello from AWS IoT console"
3 }
```

- Now that I am subscribed to a topic I can publish messages to that topic. To do this fill in the name of the topic as "<your\_initials>\_testtopic". Then type in your message and press "Publish to topic". You can see in the box below I sent "test message".



- Once the message is sent, you will see a red dot next to the topic in the Subscriptions area. This indicates that you have a new message on that subscription. Click on <your\_initials>\_testtopic to see the new message.



- This test client will be useful once you have your IoT device connected and want to test subscription and publish actions as we will see in the exercises.