

# HTTPS Inspection

Expected Time: 50 Minutes

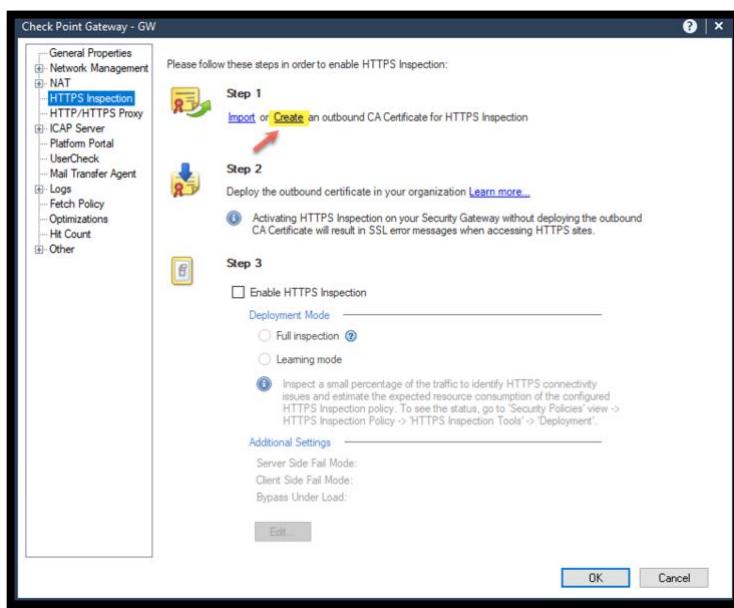
## Introduction

In this lab, we will enable the HTTPS Inspection blades. HTTPS Inspection adds the capabilities to decrypt and inspect encrypted HTTPS sites.

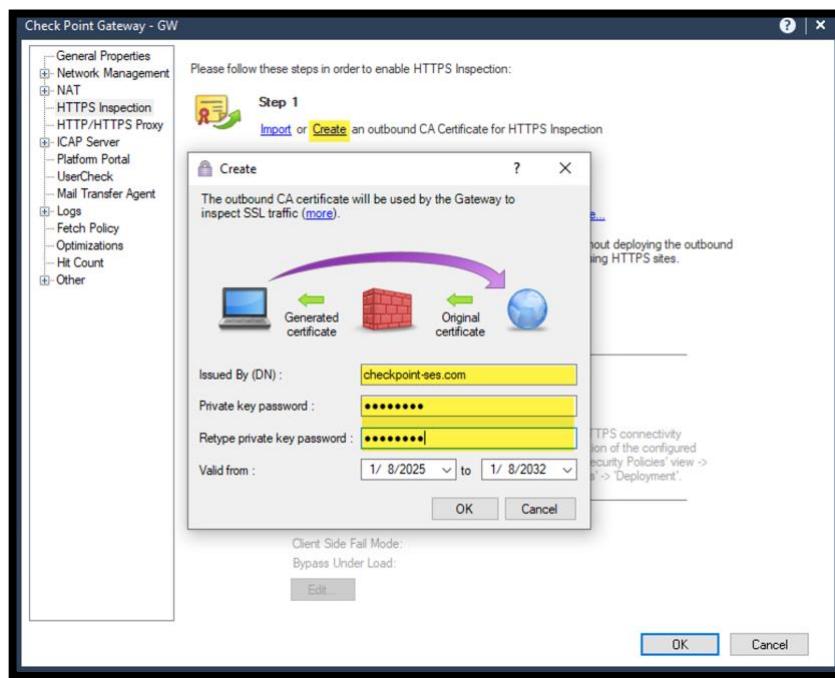
## Exercise 1: Onboarding

In this exercise, we will enable the HTTPS Inspection blades on the central gateway object **GW**.

1. While connecting to the jump server, use **SmartConsole** to login to the Management server **SMS**. Use the address **10.1.1.100** and the credentials **admin/Cpwins!1** and edit the gateway object **GW**. From the Global Properties menu, select **HTTPS Inspection**.

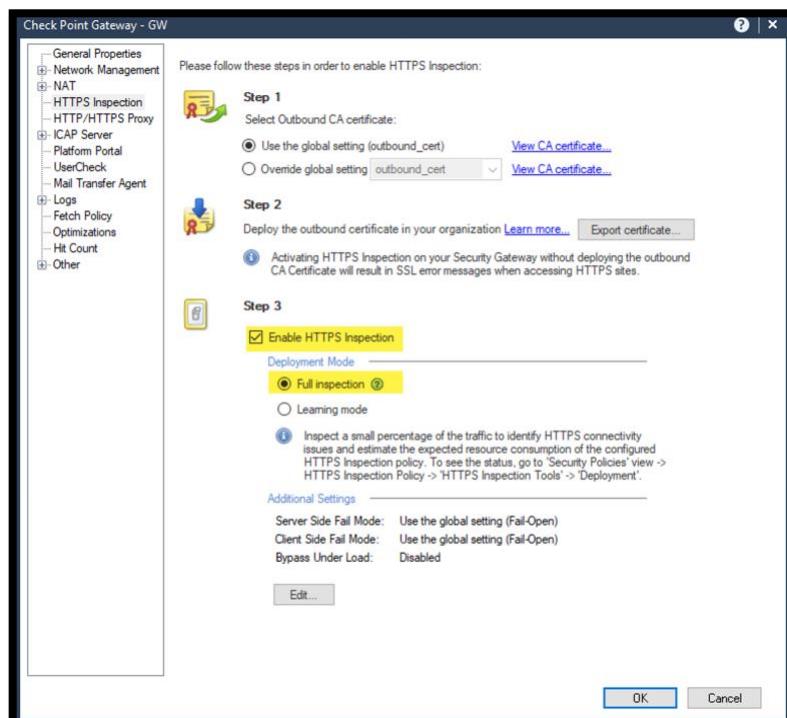


2. Under **Step 1**, click **Create** and fill in the details for the root certificate and click **OK** to create the certificate.
  - a. Note that this certificate is a self-signed CA. This certificate is untrusted publicly by default.
  - b. Generally, public vendors will not be able to provide their own trusted Certificate Authority certificate.
  - c. It is common to import a trusted CA from an internal CA. for example, in an AD environment, the trusted CA from the domain controller is imported to issue certificates. The issued certificate will be trusted by all hosts that are part of this AD domain.

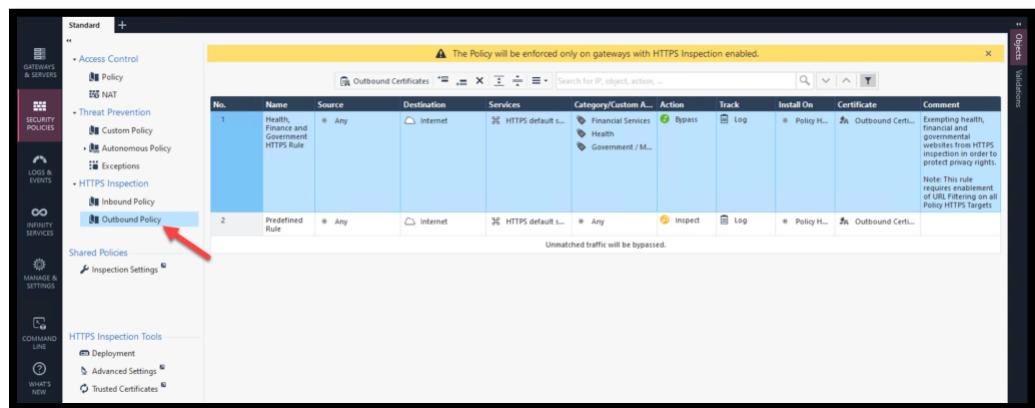


Note that this certificate will be used by the GW to issue certificate mimicking the server certificate while inspect HTTPS traffic.

- Skip **Step 2** for now, we will export the certificate in a later step. Under **Step 3** check the option **Enable HTTPS Inspection** and select **Full Inspection**. click **OK** to close the object.

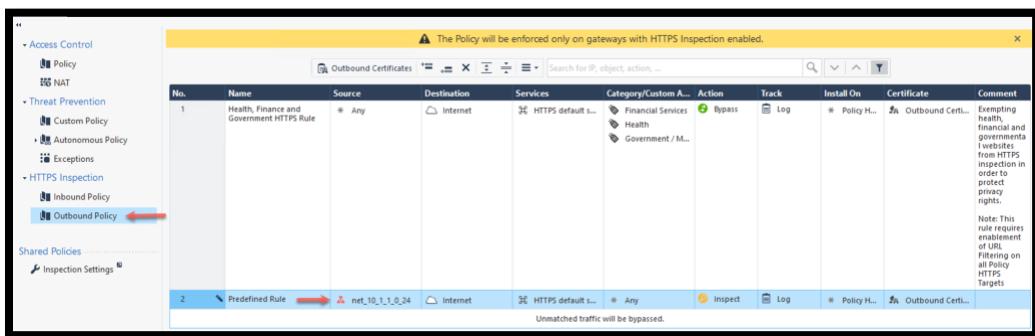


4. Under **HTTPS Inspection**, review the default **Outbound Policy**. Notice the categories bypassed by the first rule. The second rule **inspect** all outbound web traffic by default.



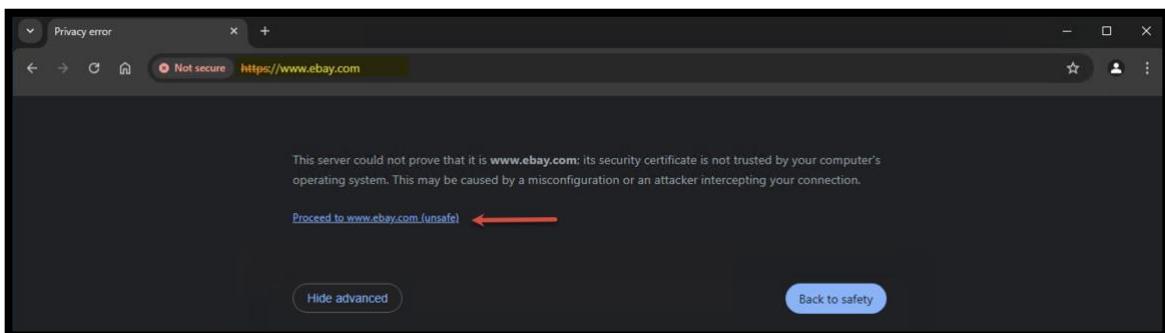
No.	Name	Source	Destination	Services	Category/Custom A...	Action	Track	Install On	Certificate	Comment
1	Health, Finance and Government HTTPS Rule	* Any	Internet	HTTPS default ...	Financial Services Health Government / M...	Bypass	Log	* Policy H...	Outbound Certi...	Exempting health, financial and government websites from HTTPS inspection in order to protect privacy rights.
2	Predefined Rule	* Any	Internet	HTTPS default ...	* Any	Inspect	Log	* Policy H...	Outbound Certi...	Note: This rule requires enablement of URL Filtering on all Policy HTTPS targets

5. We will enable HTTPS inspection for the internal subnet **10.1.1.0/24** only. Modify the second rule and add **net\_10\_1\_1\_0\_24** as the source of the rule.

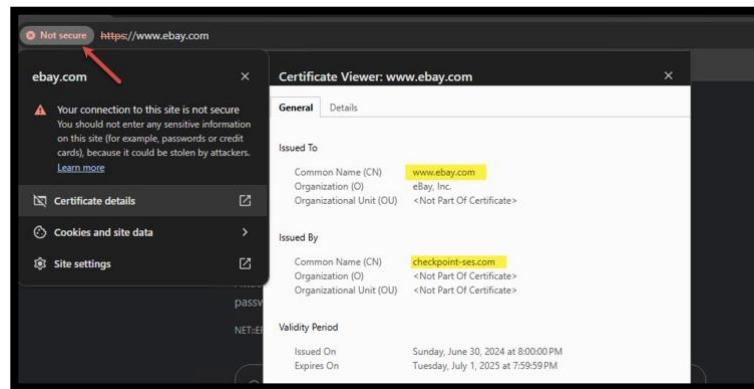


No.	Name	Source	Destination	Services	Category/Custom A...	Action	Track	Install On	Certificate	Comment
1	Health, Finance and Government HTTPS Rule	* Any	Internet	HTTPS default ...	Financial Services Health Government / M...	Bypass	Log	* Policy H...	Outbound Certi...	Exempting health, financial and government websites from HTTPS inspection in order to protect privacy rights.
2	Predefined Rule	net_10_1_1_0_24	Internet	HTTPS default ...	* Any	Inspect	Log	* Policy H...	Outbound Certi...	Note: This rule requires enablement of URL Filtering on all Policy HTTPS targets

6. Install the Access Control Policy.  
7. From **win\_client**, open a web browser and try to access any allowed website. E.g. <http://www.ebay.com>. Notice that we are presented with a certificate trust warning.  
8. Bypass the security warning by clicking **Proceed to www.ebay.com (unsafe)** (if missing type **thisisunsafe** to bypass the warning).



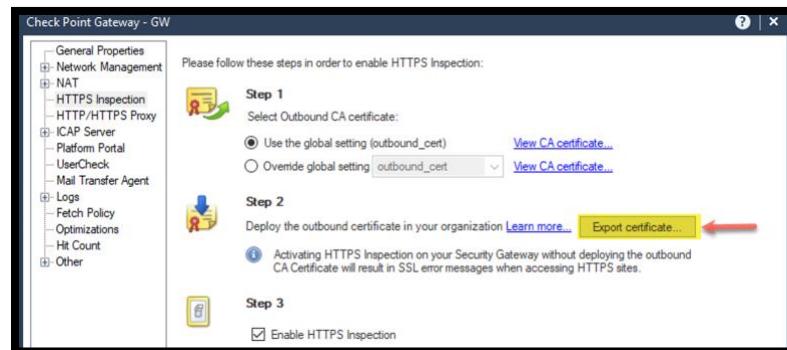
9. Open the certificate and notice that the certificate presented is a certificate issued by the GW using the certificate we created in the steps above.



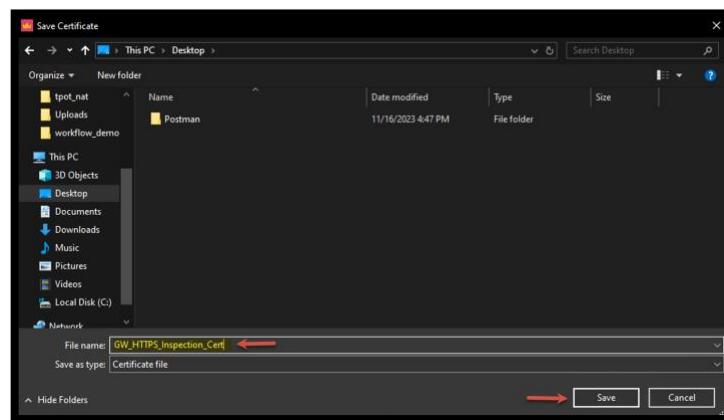
10. From **SmartConsole**, filter the logs to show logs related to HTTPS Inspection **blade: "HTTPS Inspection"**. Or simply search for [www.ebay.com](https://www.ebay.com) in the log view.

11. Review other security log related to the site we tested. <https://www.ebay.com> in the example above. Notice that the traffic was inspected successfully.

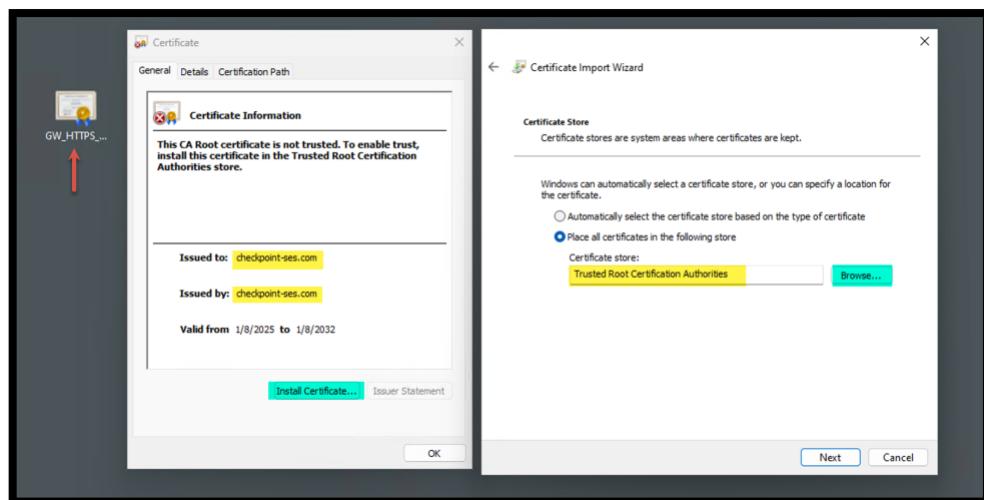
12. To avoid getting the certificate warning, open the GW object and export the HTTPS inspection certificate.



13. Give the certificate a proper name and save it to the Desktop of the Jump Server.

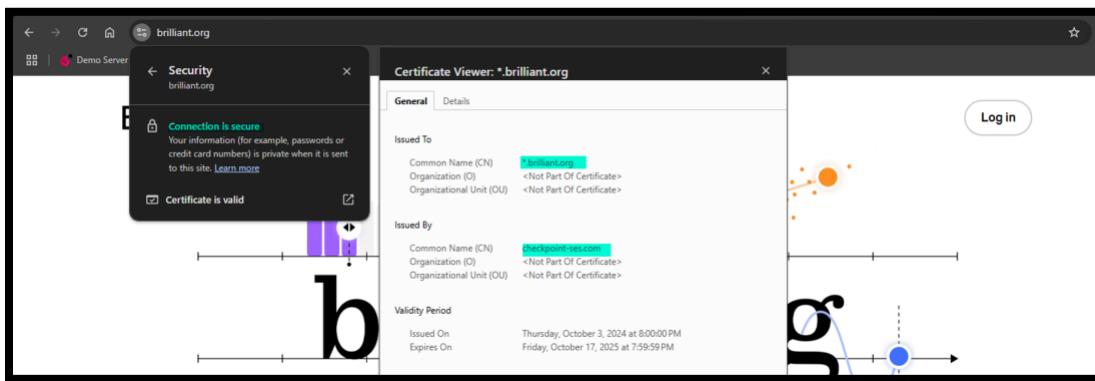


14. Copy the certificate file to the **win\_client** host (over RDP) and install it as a Trusted Root Certification Authority. Make sure the certificate is installed successfully.



- Note that Chrome uses the Windows Certificate Trust Store while **Firefox** has its own certificate authority store that the CA key must be imported into.

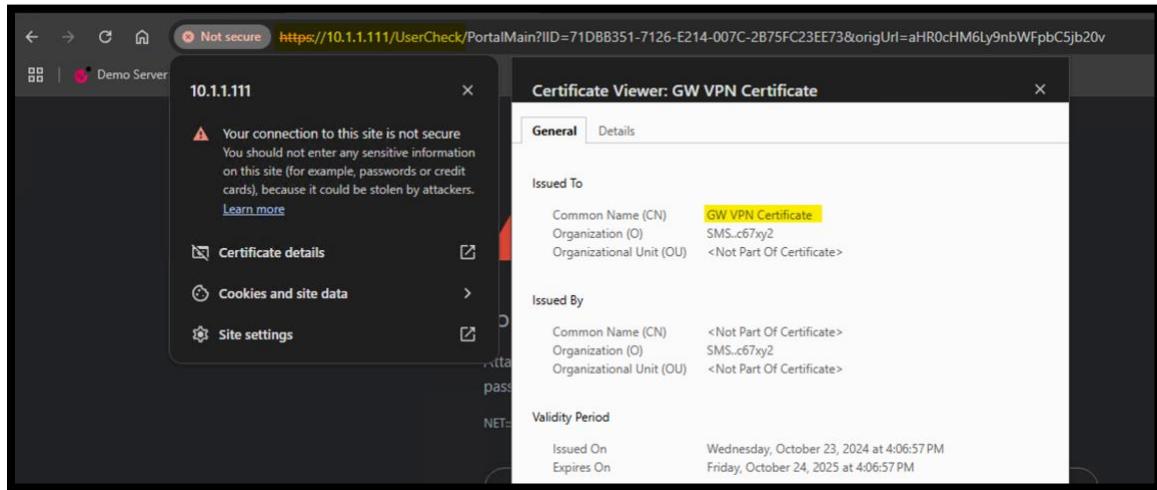
15. Use any web browser like chrome and try reaching any allowed website again, e.g. <https://briliant.org>. Notice that the certificate warning is no longer present and the Connection is considered secure by the browser.



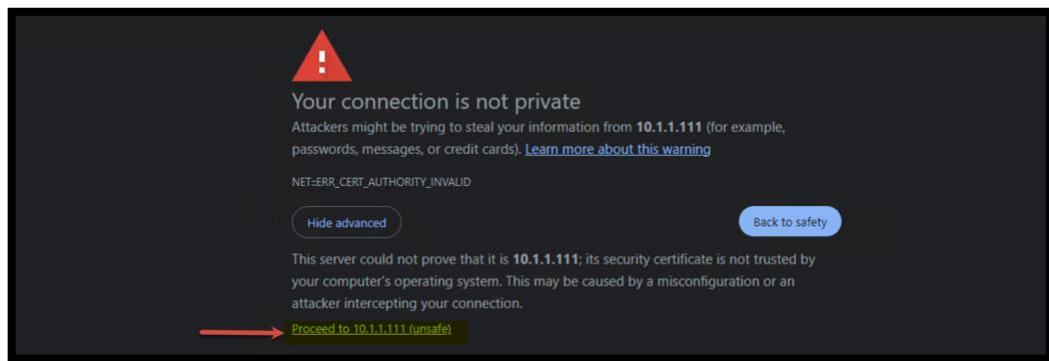
16. Review the HTTPS Inspection log. Notice that we can see details related to the TLS version and the cipher used on the client and the GW side.

Log Info	Policy
Primary Category: Education Additional Categories: Education, Low Risk, URL Filtering	Action: HTTPS Inspect Policy Management: SMS Policy Name: Standard Policy Date: Today, 12:04:02 PM Matched Category: Education
HTTPS Inspection	Actions
HTTPS Inspection Action: Inspect HTTPS Inspection Rule ID: 7A7C9150-9DE2-4459-A23D-C1109F7ACCFA	Report Log: Report Log to Check Point
TLS Handshake - Client to Gateway	More
TLS Version: 1.3 Cipher Suite: TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256	Id: 7e01e485-1391-d825-0b42-b0434527f086 Marker: @A@@B@1736398800@C@144992 Id Generated By Indexer: false First: false Sequencenum: 55 Hil Key: 2179229770166585482 Last Hit Time: 2025-01-09T17:34:54Z Db Tag: {6AD78152-4667-5248-A561-9BE887BF58C3} Logid: 15 Resource: in.briliant.org Description: in.briliant.org HTTPS Inspected
TLS Handshake - Gateway to Server	
TLS Version: 1.3 Cipher Suite: TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256	
Traffic	
Source: windows_client (10.1.1.222) Source Port: 51825 Service: https (TCP/443) IP Protocol: TCP (6) Destination Port: 443	

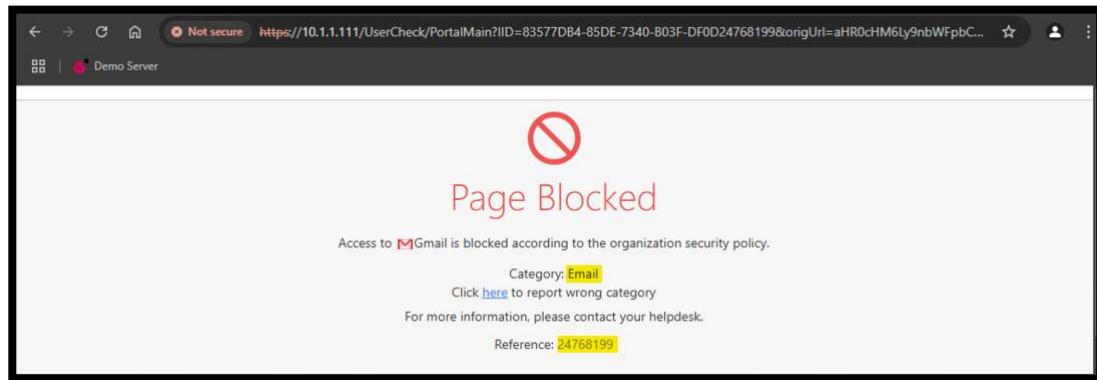
- In the previous lab, we blocked access to public Email server, however, we were not getting a block message because of the inability to redirect HTTPS inspection traffic. This issue should be resolved with HTTPS Inspection enabled.
17. From the **win\_client** host, try to reach **Gmail.com** or any public Email server. Note that the UserCheck blade is using the default GW VPN Certificate. This is a self-signed internal cert that is not trusted by default. This is separate from the HTTPS Inspection, and it is presented to the user because we are accessing the **UserCheck** portal.



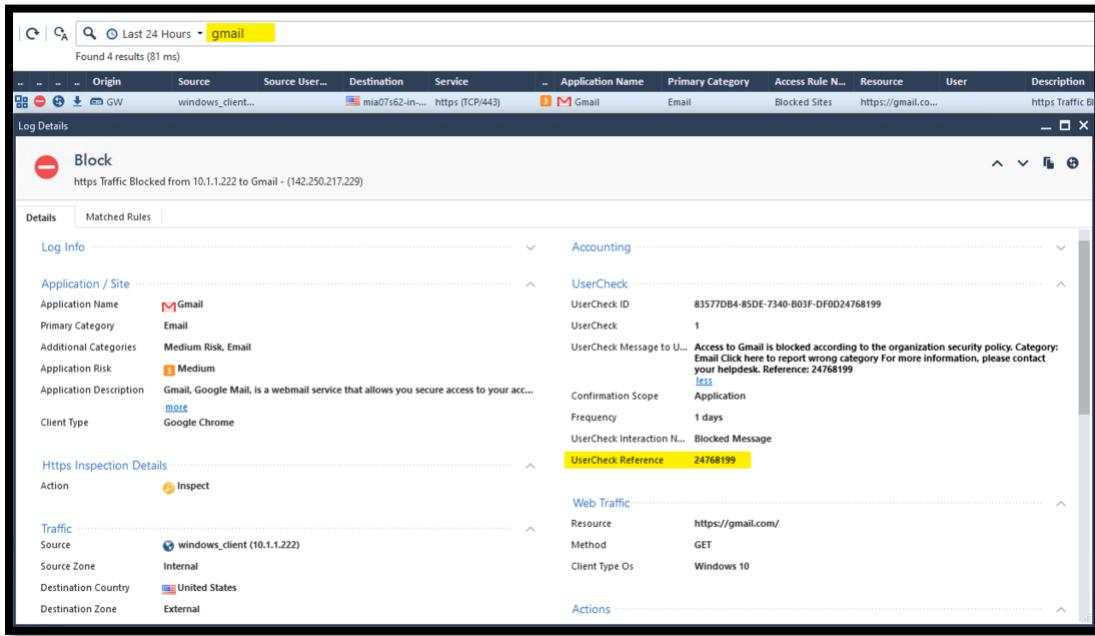
18. Bypass the security warning related to the UserCheck certificate.



19. notice that block message is now returned successfully.



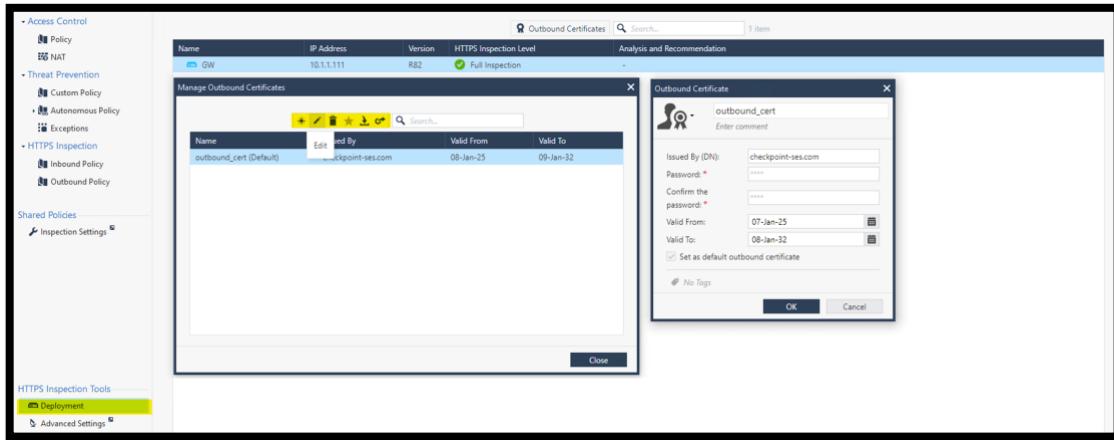
20. Review the related log, you can filter logs related to Gmail or you can use the UserCheck Reference.



The screenshot shows a log entry for a blocked Gmail connection. The log details are as follows:

- Action:** Block
- Message:** https Traffic Blocked from 10.1.1.222 to Gmail - (142.250.217.229)
- Details:**
  - Application / Site:** Application Name: Gmail, Primary Category: Email, Additional Categories: Medium Risk, Email, Application Risk: Medium, Application Description: Gmail, Google Mail, is a webmail service that allows you secure access to your acc..., Client Type: Google Chrome.
  - Https Inspection Details:** Action: Inspect
  - Traffic:** Source: windows\_client (10.1.1.222), Source Zone: Internal, Destination Country: United States, Destination Zone: External.
- UserCheck:** UserCheck ID: 83577DB4-85DE-7340-B03F-DFF0D24768199, UserCheck Message to User: Access to Gmail is blocked according to the organization security policy. Category: Email Click here to report wrong category For more information, please contact your helpdesk. Reference: 24768199, Confirmation Scope: Application, Frequency: 1 days, UserCheck Interaction N... Blocked Message, UserCheck Reference: 24768199.
- Web Traffic:** Resource: https://gmail.com/, Method: GET, Client Type Os: Windows 10.

- Note that starting R82, it is possible to **add, edit, delete** and perform other operations related to the outbound certificates under the **Deployment** settings.



The screenshot shows the Outbound Certificates management screen. A new certificate is being created with the following details:

Name	IP Address	Version	HTTPS Inspection Level
GW	10.1.1.111	R82	Full Inspection

**Outbound Certificate Dialog:**

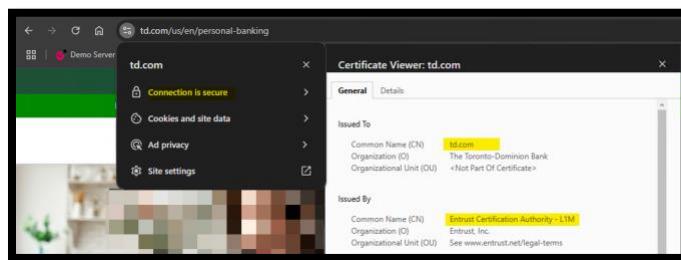
- Issued By (DN):** checkpoint-ses.com
- Password:**  (shown as masked text)
- Confirm the password:**  (shown as masked text)
- Valid From:** 07-Jan-25
- Valid To:** 08-Jan-32
- Set as default outbound certificate
- No Tags

## Exercise 2: Bypass Behaviors

There are cases when some websites are not inspected by HTTPS inspection. For example, some servers will not allow the GW to reach the server on behalf of the client (certificate pinning to prevent **MITM** attacks), or servers that do not follow the protocol standards.

There are other scenarios where we bypass due to **regulation** such as in financial and health web sites.

- From **win\_client**, use chrome to browse to a financial institution website. For example, <https://www.td.com>. Review the issuer of the certificate.

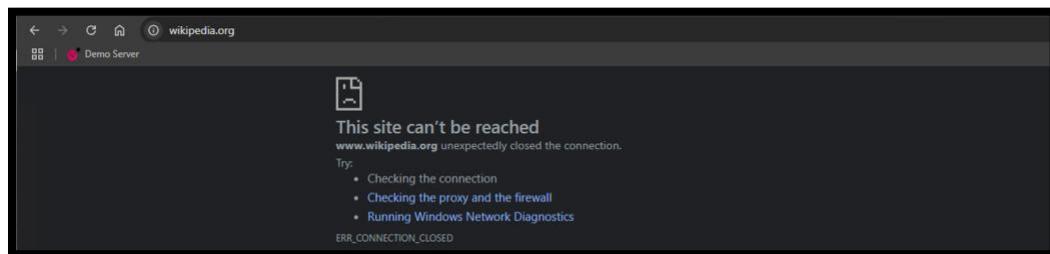


- Review the HTTPS Inspection bypass log. Notice that this was bypassed as configured in the first rule of the outbound policy.

- In the previous lab, we created the override categorization object to recategorize <https://www.wikipedia.org>. Create a new rule below the existing bypass rule, use the **Custom Application** object to bypass inspecting traffic to Wikipedia.org from the **win\_client** host.

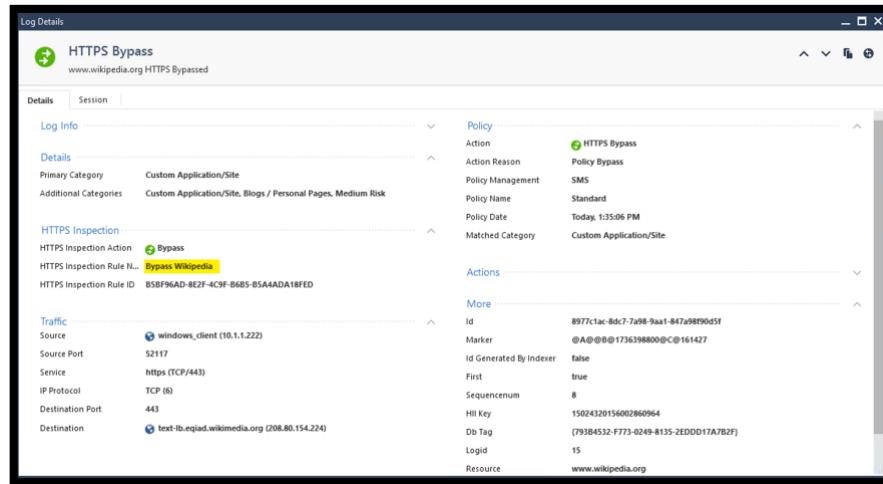
- Name the Rule "Bypass Wikipedia" and set the Source to **win\_client**
- Set the destination is set to "Internet"
- Category/Custom Application column to **Custom\_application\_site**
- Action should be **Bypass**

4. From **win\_client** try to reach <https://www.wikipedia.org>.

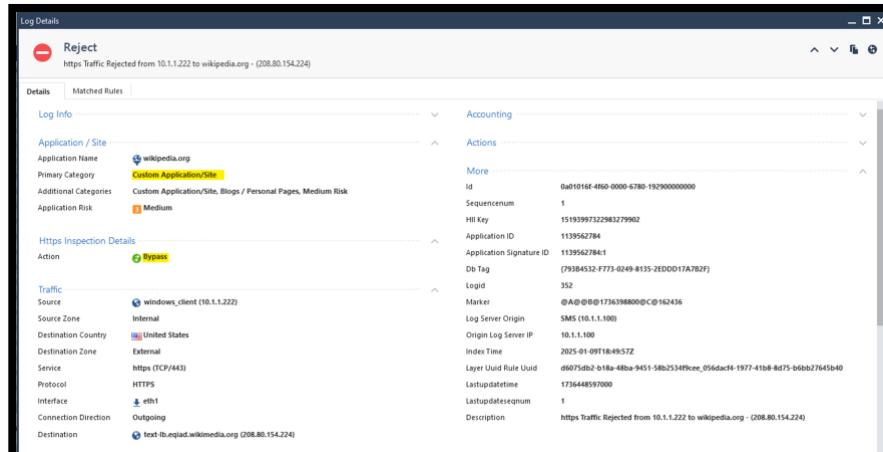


- Notice that once the site is bypassed, the HTTPS inspection blade will not handle the traffic. Hence, the block message will not be presented to the user since redirecting HTTPS sites requires the HTTPS inspection blade to be active for the connection as demonstrated in the previous steps.

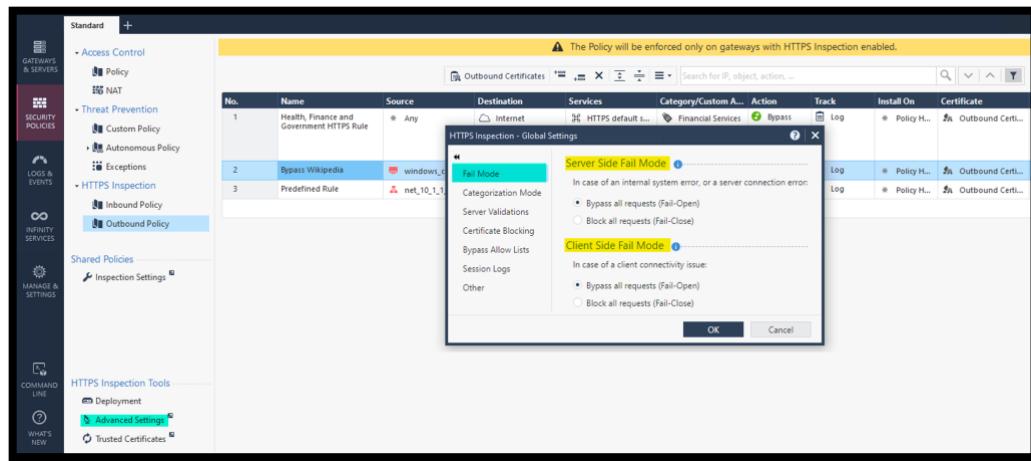
5. Review the HTTPS inspection log and notice the details related to the user related settings.



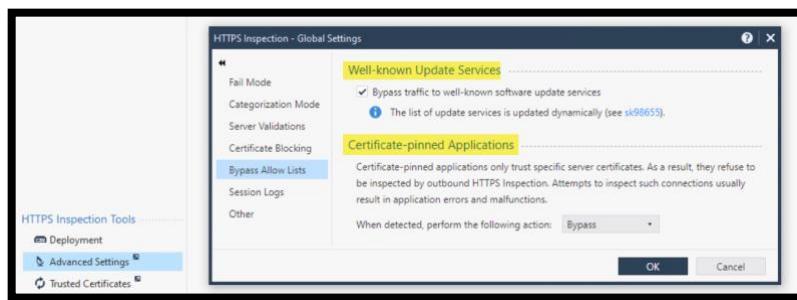
6. Review the URLF log and review the related HTTPS inspection field indicating a bypass.



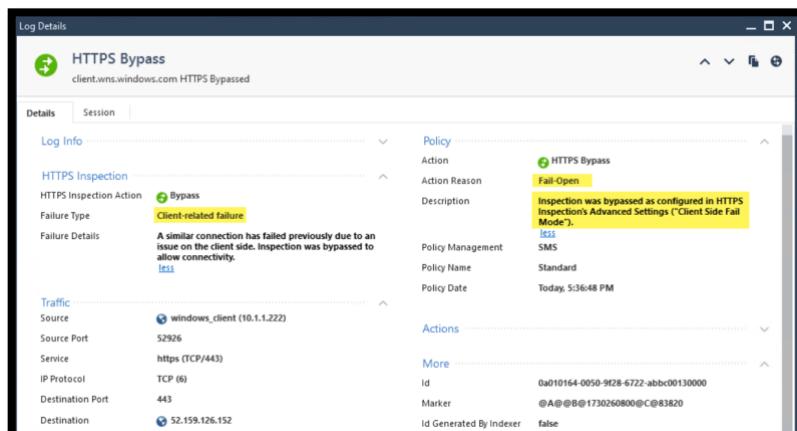
7. From **SmartConsole**, click on HTTPS inspection Outbound policy and then you will see the HTTPS Inspection tools below and to the left of the screen, Open **Advanced Settings** and review the default Fail Modes.
- The **Client Side Fail Mode** controls issues on the client side
  - The **Server Side Fail Mode** controls:
    - Engine failures
    - Server issues.



8. Review the Bypass Allow Lists. Review the list in [SK98655](#).



- Note that the log below shows a bypass action related to the fail-mode.

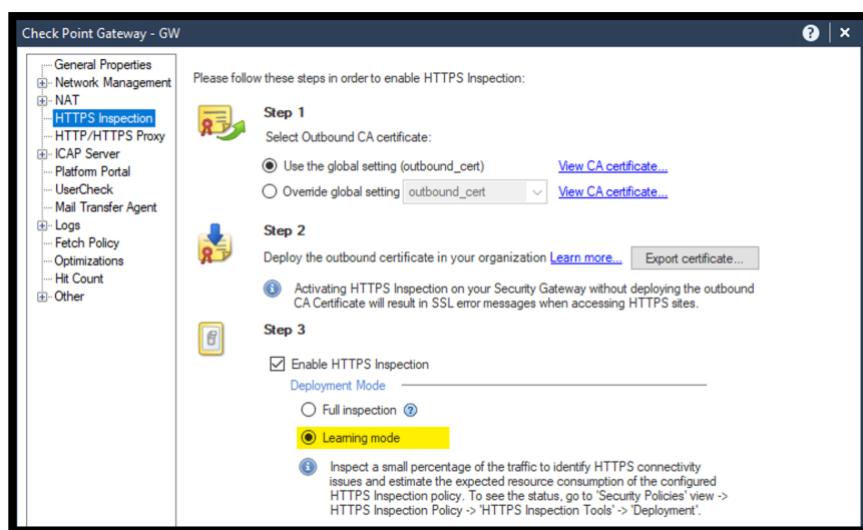


## Exercise 3: Deployment Assessment

In the previous exercises, we configured the HTTPS Inspection outbound policy to inspect traffic from one network **10.1.1.0/24** while all HTTPS traffic from other network will be bypassed by default. This can be a good deployment strategy to deploy HTTPS inspection gradually.

R82 brings a new deployment assessment feature to monitor the traffic and provide recommendations.

1. Edit the GW object and change the HTTPS Inspection **Deployment mode** to **Learning Mode**.

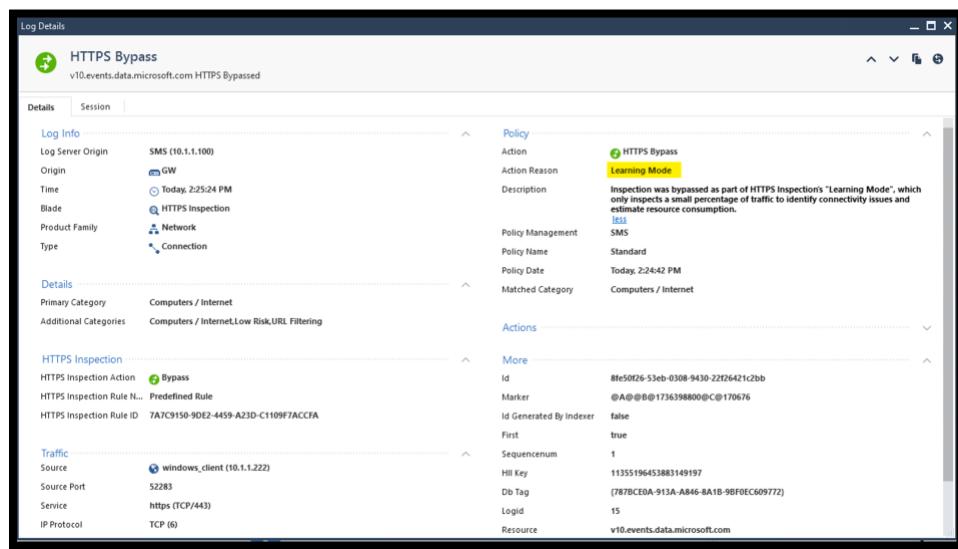


2. Install the Access Policy.
3. Review the **GW** status under Deployment.

Name	IP Address	Version	HTTPS Inspection Level	Analysis and Recommendation
GW	10.1.1.111	R82	Learning mode	In progress (deployment expected to complete in 13d, 21h).

Predicted connection success rate at full deployment is valid (100%).  
Predicted total CPU load at full deployment is valid (0%).  
Learning Mode has been running for 0 consecutive days.

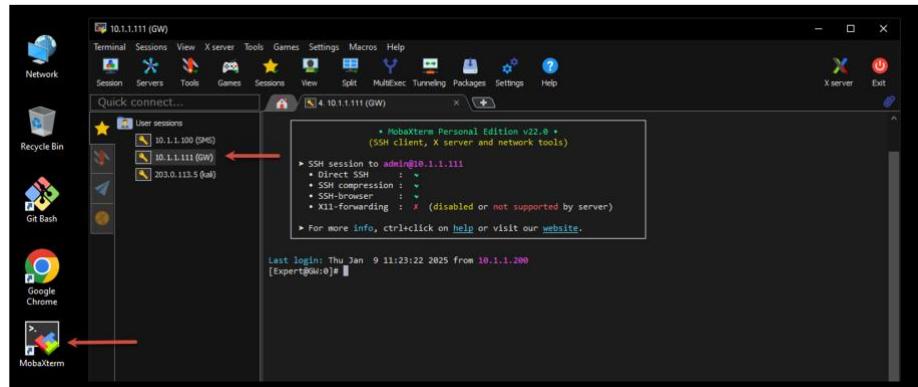
4. Review the HTTPS inspection logs and notice that the traffic is bypassed.



The screenshot shows the 'Log Details' window for an 'HTTPS Bypass' event. The event details are as follows:

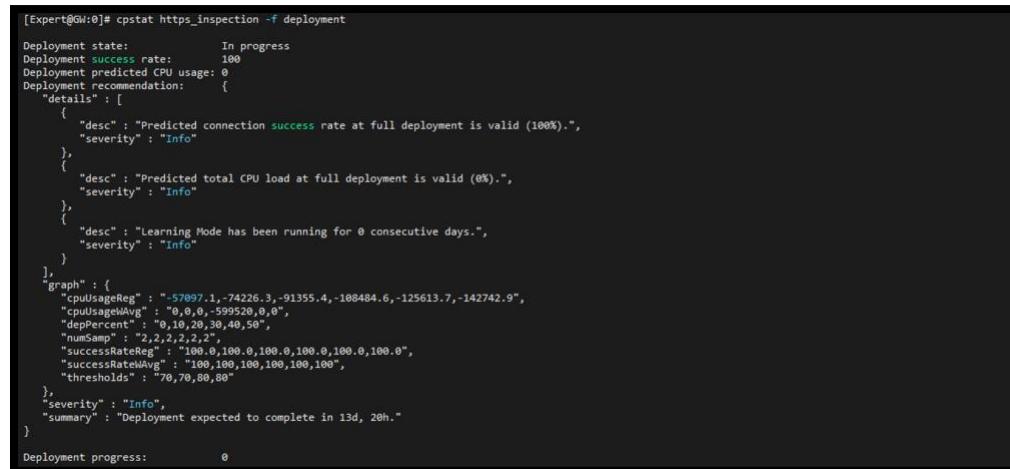
- Log Info:**
  - Log Server Origin: SMS (10.1.1.100)
  - Origin: GW
  - Time: Today, 2:25:24 PM
  - Blade: HTTPS Inspection
  - Product Family: Network
  - Type: Connection
- Details:**
  - Primary Category: Computers / Internet
  - Additional Categories: Computers / Internet, Low Risk, URL Filtering
- Policy:**
  - Action: HTTPS Bypass
  - Action Reason: Learning Mode
  - Description: Inspection was bypassed as part of HTTPS inspection's "Learning Mode", which only inspects a small percentage of traffic to identify connectivity issues and estimate resource consumption.
  - Policy Management: Standard
  - Policy Name: Standard
  - Policy Date: Today, 2:24:42 PM
  - Matched Category: Computers / Internet
- Actions:**
  - Id: 8fe50f26-53eb-0308-9430-2226421c2bb
  - Marker: @A@@B@1736398800@C@170676
  - Id Generated By Indexer: false
  - First: true
  - Sequencenum: 1
  - Hll Key: 11355196453883149197
  - Db Tag: {787BCE0A-913A-A846-8A1B-9BF0EC609772}
  - Logid: 15
  - Resource: v10.events.data.microsoft.com

5. To get more details, use the SSH client **MobaXterm**, and open the **GW** saved session.



6. Run the command below to see get the status of the deployment assessment.

```
cpstat https_inspection -f deployment
```

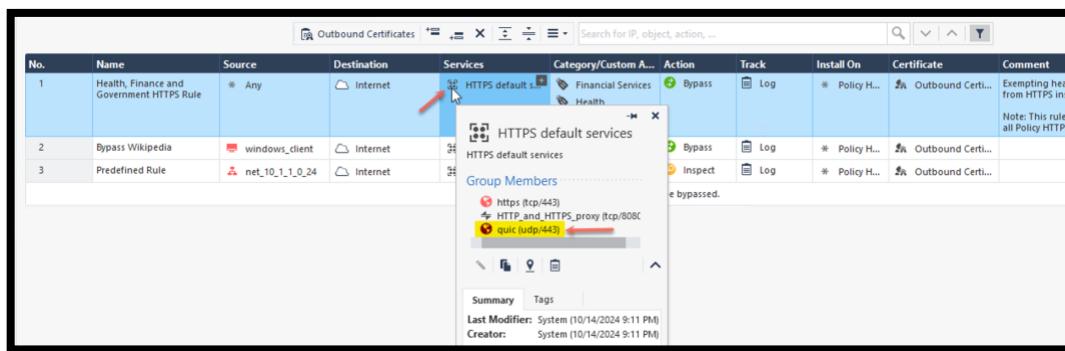


```
[Expert@GW:0]# cpstat https_inspection -f deployment
Deployment state: In progress
Deployment success rate: 100
Deployment predicted CPU usage: 0
Deployment recommendation: {
  "details": [
    {
      "desc": "Predicted connection success rate at full deployment is valid (100%).",
      "severity": "Info"
    },
    {
      "desc": "Predicted total CPU load at full deployment is valid (0%).",
      "severity": "Info"
    },
    {
      "desc": "Learning Mode has been running for 0 consecutive days.",
      "severity": "Info"
    }
  ],
  "graph": {
    "cpuUsageReg": "-57097.1,-74226.3,-91355.4,-108484.6,-125613.7,-142742.9",
    "cpuUsageAvg": "0,0,0,-599520,0,0",
    "depPercent": "0,10,20,30,40,50",
    "numSamp": "2,2,2,2,2",
    "successRateReg": "100.0,100.0,100.0,100.0,100.0,100.0",
    "successRateAvg": "100,100,100,100,100,100",
    "thresholds": "0,70,80,80"
  },
  "severity": "Info",
  "summary": "Deployment expected to complete in 13d, 20h."
}
Deployment progress: 0
```

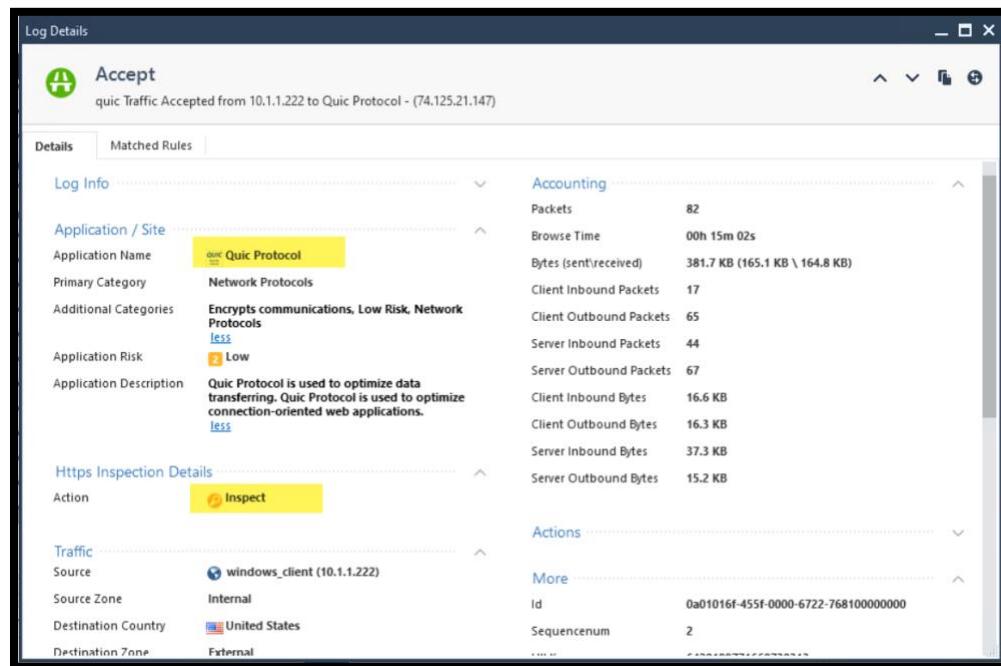
## Exercise 4: HTTP3 Protocol over QUIC

Starting **R82**, the Check Point **GW** is capable of inspecting **HTTP3/QUIC** traffic. In this exercise, we will review the logs and changes related to this feature.

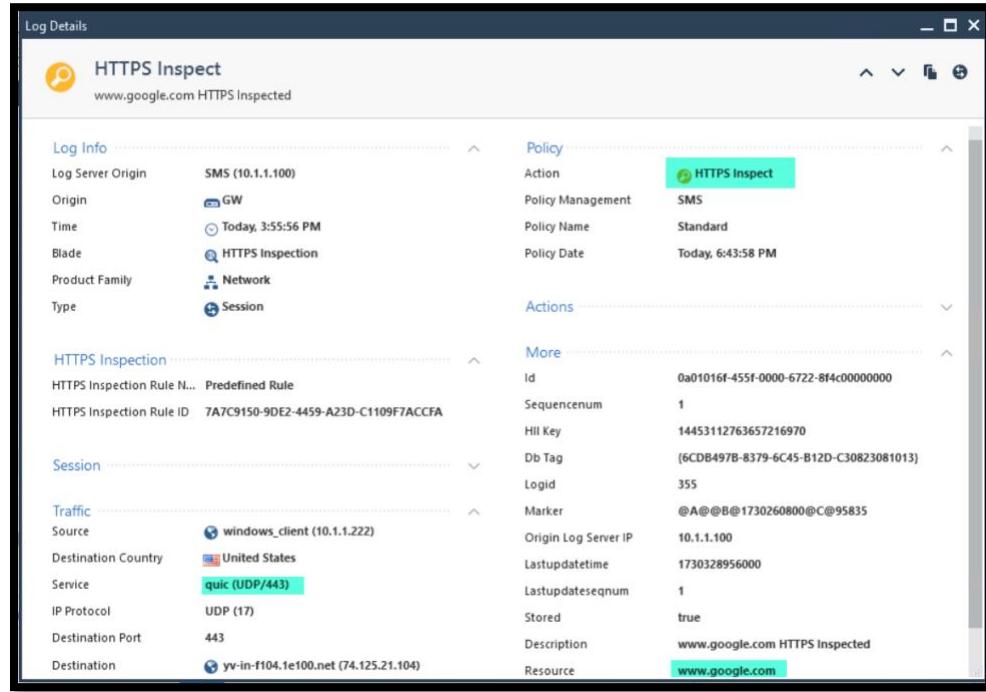
1. Open the service group used in the HTTPS Inspection Policy **HTTPS Default services**. Notice that **QUIC** is now inspected by default.



2. Filter the logs to find **QUIC** related logs. Notice that we can see logs from the Application control inspecting **QUIC**.



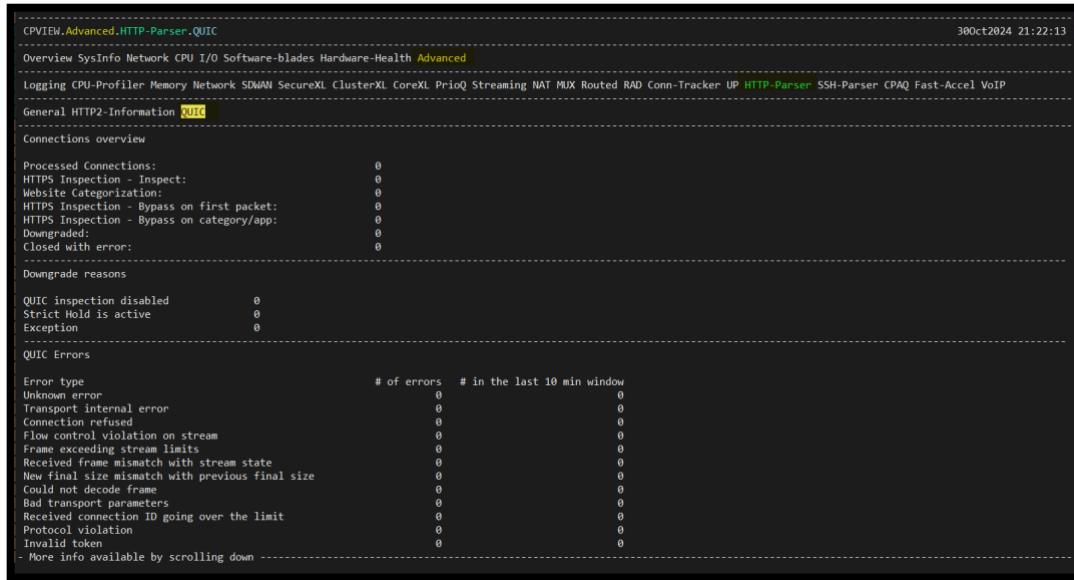
3. Review the HTTPS inspection logs, notice that the **QUIC** traffic is being inspected like how HTTPS traffic is logged.



The screenshot shows the 'Log Details' window for an 'HTTPS Inspect' event. The event details are as follows:

- Log Info:**
  - Log Server Origin: SMS (10.1.1.100)
  - Origin: GW
  - Time: Today, 3:55:56 PM
  - Blade: HTTPS Inspection
  - Product Family: Network
  - Type: Session
- Policy:**
  - Action: HTTPS Inspect
  - Policy Management: SMS
  - Policy Name: Standard
  - Policy Date: Today, 6:43:58 PM
- Actions:**
  - More
  - Id: 0a01016f-455f-0000-6722-8f4c00000000
  - Sequencenum: 1
  - HII Key: 14453112763657216970
  - Db Tag: {6CDB497B-8379-6C45-B12D-C30823081013}
  - Logid: 355
  - Marker: @A@@B@1730260800@C@95835
  - Origin Log Server IP: 10.1.1.100
  - Lastupdatetime: 1730328956000
  - Lastupdateeqnum: 1
  - Stored: true
  - Description: www.google.com HTTPS Inspected
  - Resource: www.google.com

4. Login to the GW over SSH and use CPVIEW to see more details regarding **QUIC** protocol inspection.



The screenshot shows the 'CPVIEW Advanced HTTP Parser QUIC' interface. It displays the following information:

- General HTTP2 Information:** QUIC
- Connections overview:**
  - Processed Connections: 0
  - HTTPS Inspection - Inspect: 0
  - Website Categorization: 0
  - HTTPS Inspection - Bypass on first packet: 0
  - HTTPS Inspection - Bypass on category/app: 0
  - Downgraded: 0
  - Closed with error: 0
- Downgrade reasons:**
  - QUIC inspection disabled: 0
  - Strict Hold is active: 0
  - Exception: 0
- QUIC Errors:**

Error type	# of errors	# in the last 10 min window
Unknown error	0	0
Transport internal error	0	0
Connection refused	0	0
Flow control violation on stream	0	0
Frame exceeding stream limits	0	0
Received frame mismatch with stream state	0	0
New final size mismatch with previous final size	0	0
Could not decode frame	0	0
Bad transport parameters	0	0
Received connection ID going over the limit	0	0
Protocol violation	0	0
Invalid token	0	0

5. Edit the GW object and change the deployment mode for HTTPS Inspection to **Full Inspection**.
6. Install the Access Policy.

**End of Lab 2**