Secure Remote Management with Just Enough Administration (JEA)

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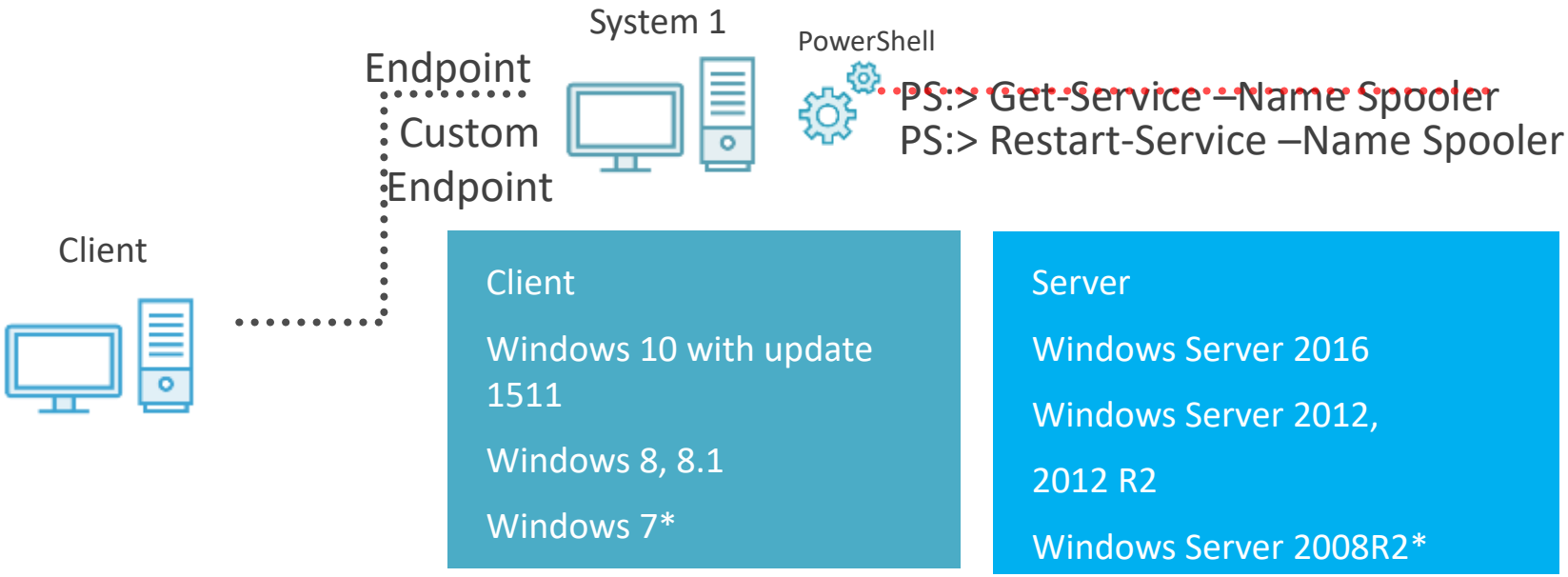
Level:
Intro/Intermediate

What Is this About?

- Remote PowerShelll management requires full administrator access
- You may need to provide more limited or constrained access
- We’ve been able to do this all along…
- JEA makes it easier

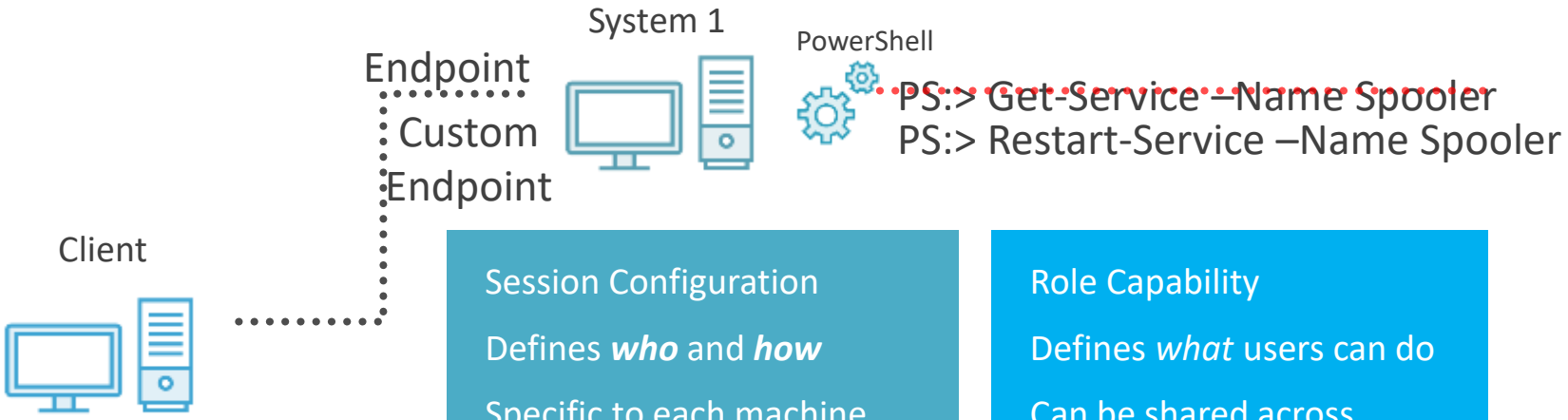
JEA in PowerShell Core/PowerShell 7 is a work in progress for non-Windows platforms

Requirements for JEA



Windows Management Framework 5 or above
* Support for virtual account not currently available

PS Remoting with JEA



Session Configuration

Defines ***who*** and ***how***

Specific to each machine

(.pssc) file

Role Capability

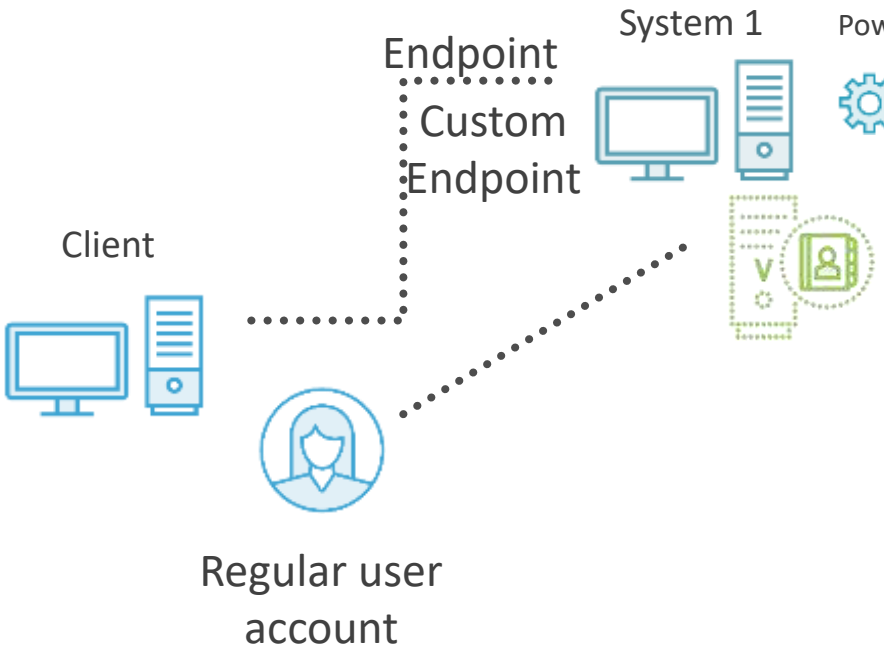
Defines *what* users can do

Can be shared across environment

(.psrc) file

JEA and Virtual Accounts

Currently does not work for Windows 7 or Windows Server 2008R2

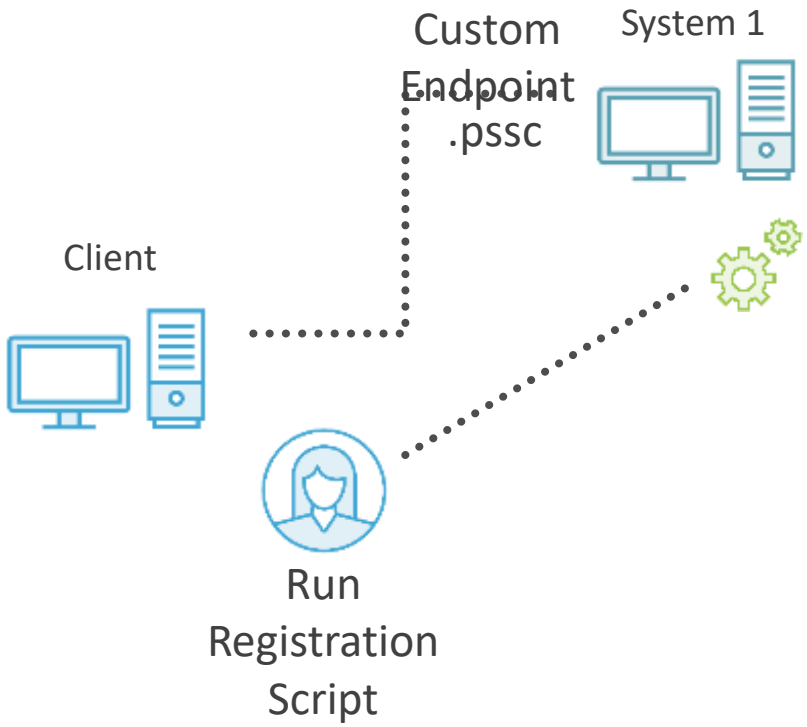


PowerShell

```
PS:> Get-Service –Name Spooler
PS:> Restart-Service –Name Spooler
```

- Virtual Accounts
- One time privileged account
- Runs under local Administrator
- Can be configured for other accounts

Automated Deployment



Module with Role capability file

PS:> Get-Service –Name Spooler
PS:> Restart-Service –Name Spooler

Deployment

Copy module to target

Copy session config to target

Register Endpoint

Benefits

- Reduce the number of excessive privileged accounts
- Easy to create and manage endpoints
- Decide exactly what an administrator can do
- See what administrators are doing

Challenges

- Many administrators still use older GUI based applications
- PowerShell proficiency is mandatory
- Understanding the exact needs of an administrative role
- Handling emergencies (“Break the glass”)
- Rolling out with educated administrators

Process

1. Identify the Role and the tasks that need to be enabled
2. Restrict those tasks as needed
3. Put them in a Role Capability file
4. Register the Session Configuration through automation or DSC
5. Test and correct as needed

Pilot to Production

Work with administrators that have the required PowerShell skills

Define and create roles

Create a “BreakTheGlass” endpoint for emergencies

Test and correct on a few ”Pilot” servers

Begin roll-out to other servers

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Stay in Touch

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