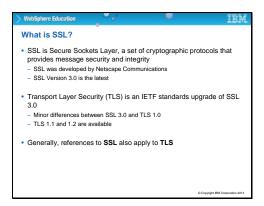


Solving security problems

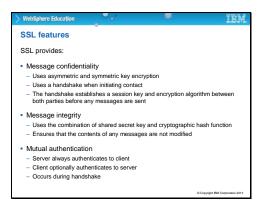
The previous unit covered the three security problems of confidentiality, integrity, and non-repudiation, and how the security problems can be addressed by using keys, encryption, digital signatures, and certificates. In this unit, you see how to combine all three to create secure communications by using a protocol that is called SSL, or secure sockets layer. This protocol goes back to the 1990s and developed by Netscape. More recently a new protocol is introduced called transport Layer Security, or TLS. SSL 3 is similar to TLS 1. This unit covers SSL.



What is SSL?

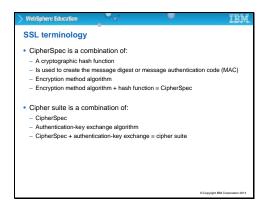
SSL is Secure Sockets Layer, a set of cryptographic protocols that provides message security and integrity. Netscape Communications developed SSL. SSL Version 3.0 is the latest

IETF is Internet Engineering Task Force: www.ietf.org.



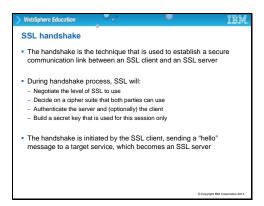
SSL features

SSL communication starts out as unsecured communication. The first step is what is called a handshake. The handshake is where the client calls the server and requests a secure session. The server always provides authentication information to the calling client, but it might also require the client to provide authentication as well. The process is known as mutual authentication.



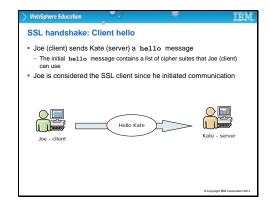
SSL terminology

Here are a couple of terms that appear several times during this unit. First, there is the CipherSpec. The two sides must agree on what hash function is used to create the message digest, and then which type of algorithm is used to encrypt the exchange. These two things together are called the CipherSpec. The next piece to know is how the keys are going to be exchanged. The key exchange, together with the CipherSpec, is called the cipher suite.



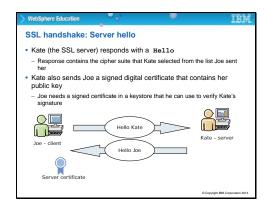
SSL handshake

As already mentioned, secure communication starts out as clear, or unsecured, communication. The handshake says openly, "I want to talk secretly with the server". The server indicates what level of SSL it can provide, and what cipher suite it is willing to use. At the same time, the server authenticates itself by sending a certificate, and might ask the client to reply with its own authentication. Finally, a secret key can be constructed, and the communication moves from openness to secrecy. The next few slides review these steps in some detail.



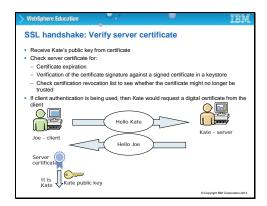
SSL handshake: client hello

In the next few slides, Joe is the client that calls the server Kate. Communication starts when Joe sends an open 'hello' message to the server. Joe sends a list of any cipher suites the client can work with; that is to say, hash function, encryption method algorithm, and authentication-key exchange algorithm. The client includes some random data with the hello. The process is covered in more detail later.



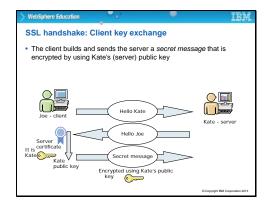
SSL handshake: server hello

The server receives the message and looks at the list of cipher suites. The message is compared to the cipher suites supported by the server. Whichever is the most secure suite that both sides can support is chosen. The hello response that is sent back to the client contains the cipher suite and a digital certificate. The authenticity of the certificate is verified by the client by comparing it to what the client already has on their machine.



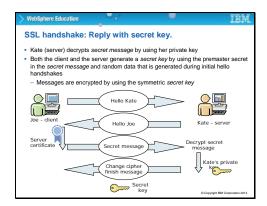
SSL handshake: verify server certificate

The client checks things such as the expiration date of the certificate, whether it is on a revocation list, and whether the signature matches the signature that the client has. The server might also ask the client to send a digital certificate for mutual authentication. So the client would respond with their own certificate and the server would follow the exact same steps that the client took: expiration verification, signature verification, and revocation verification.



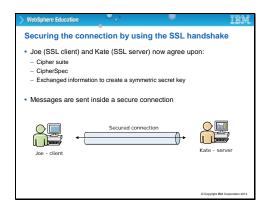
SSL handshake: client key exchange

The certificate the server sent to the client includes the public key, and so the client is now in a position to switch from clear communication to secret communication. Using the public key, Joe can send an encrypted message to the server. The server can decrypt this message with the private key. Now both sides have a message that is passed secretly and so cannot be read outside of this communication.



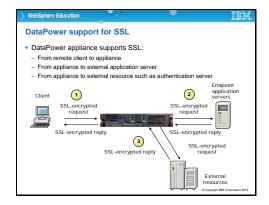
SSL handshake: reply with secret key

The secret message, together with the random data that was sent right back at the beginning of this exchange of messages, is now used to algorithmically set up a secret key. The server sends a message with this new key, and the client responds by using the new key. If both sides can understand the exchange, they know that a secure session is set up.



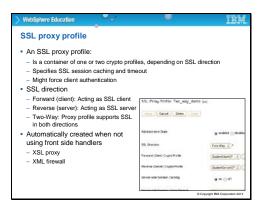
SSL handshake secured

Both sides now use the same secret key, and so they are using symmetric keys. The initial secure exchange was done by using asymmetric keys.



DataPower support for SSL

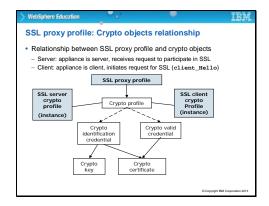
DataPower supports SSL both as a server and as a client. As server, it is DataPower that is called from some client, and DataPower sends its authentication certificate. As a client, DataPower requests a secure session from either a back-end application server or some other resource such as an LDAP server.



SSL proxy profile

An SSL proxy profile Is a container of one or two crypto profiles, depending on SSL direction. The profile specifies the SSL session caching and timeout, and might also force client authentication.

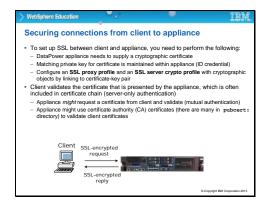
The SSL direction is one of three states; 1) Forward (client): Acting as SSL client, 2) Reverse (server): Acting as SSL server, and 3) Two-Way: Proxy profile supports SSL in both directions.



SSL Proxy profile: Crypto objects relationship

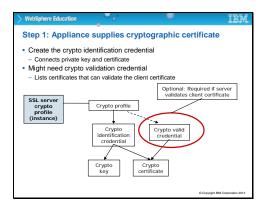
In the previous unit, you briefly considered the crypto profile and examined the objects that are associated with it. Here is the diagram that was built up in the previous unit. Review the different parts.

There is the crypto identification credential, which links the private key with its certificate – and therefore with the matching public key. There is also a crypto validation credential that lists all the certificates on the appliance that can be used to validate a received certificate. Both the crypto identification credential and the crypto validation credential are associated in a crypto profile. As seen in the previous unit, the crypto profile object points to one or more of these underlying objects, depending on the type of communication: is DataPower the server, or is DataPower the client, and is mutual authentication involved



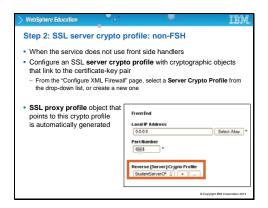
Securing connections from client to appliance

If DataPower is the server, it serves a digital certificate back to the calling client and tracks which private key is associated with that certificate. As you saw, if mutual authentication is required, DataPower simultaneously asks the client for a certificate, and then compare it with the certificates available on the appliance.



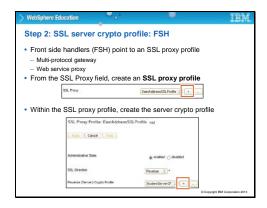
Step 1: Appliance supplies cryptographic certificate

This diagram sums up the objects that are required when the appliance acts as a server. The service has an SSL crypto profile instance that points to the crypto identification credential, which in turn points to the associated private key and certificate (which includes the public key). If mutual identification is the case, the service on the appliance also requires the crypto validation credential to validate the certificate that is sent by the client.



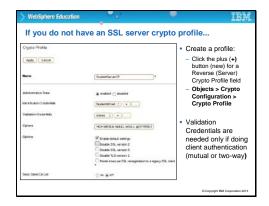
Step 2: SSL server crypto profile: non-FSH

When the service does not use front side handlers, one must configure an SSL server crypto profile with cryptographic objects that link to the certificate-key pair. The SSL proxy profile object that points to this crypto profile is automatically generated.



Step2 SSL server crypto profile front side handler

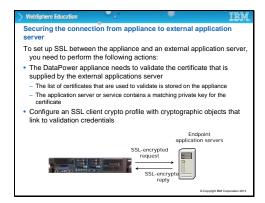
The Front side handlers (FSH) points to an SSL proxy profile.



If you do not have an SSL server crypto profile

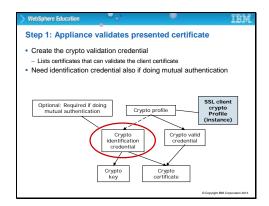
So what does the dialog look like if you type the plus button as shown on the previous slide? There are many fields to complete! You need to give the server credentials, in other words, you state which certificate you are using. You indicate the trusted certificates that the client might present in the case of mutual identification. You choose which level of SSL of TLS you want to disable, if any. There is also an advanced tab for if you are using an intermediate certificate, or if you want to use a CRL, a certificate revocation list.

There is a second way that you can create the crypto profile, by going to the navigation bar and drilling down through objects, then crypto configuration, then crypto profile. Here you can specify the id credential and if you need it, the validation credential. Next, you can find your crypto profile in the drop-down list of the service wizard.



Securing the connection from appliance to external application server

The other possibility is that DataPower is itself the client and is making a request to another server. In this case, DataPower validates the certificate that is presented by the server it is calling to. DataPower requires a client crypto profile object to do this communication. The client crypto profile object is a part of the SSL proxy profile object.



Step 1: Appliance validates presented certificate

Here schematically is what is involved, and you see immediately that it is the same scenario as for mutual identification when DataPower is the server. The external machine presents a certificate, and DataPower validates it against its validation credential that holds the list of available certificates.



Step 2: Configuring an SSL client crypto profile

You can configure the SSL client crypto profile on the main page of the service wizard. You find it under the back-end setup. As for the server crypto profile, you can either make your choice from the drop-down list (and then modify the choice if necessary), or ask for the server crypto profile. Click the plus button and define a new client crypto profile.



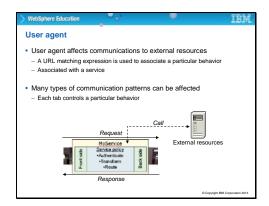
Step 3: Verify SSL client proxy profile settings

Remember that you saw the profile for the server crypto profile. You can examine the SSL proxy profile that was automatically generated by opening the crypto object from the left navigation bar. The SSL direction is forward; DataPower is the client that is sending the request to a back-end server. When DataPower was the server, the direction here was reverse. The direction can also be two-way if two-way is for DataPower to act both as client and as server.



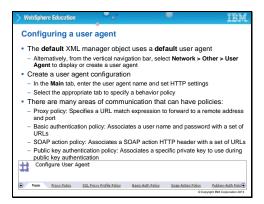
SSL Proxy Profile list

The screen capture is what the SSL proxy profile list can look like. Here there are three SSL proxy profiles that are already defined, each one with a different direction. For the first two, the domain configuration is saved already. The third one is created, but not yet saved to the domain configuration. All three are operational. The direction is indicated, and the crypto profile that is being used. Notice that all three SSL proxy profiles use the same crypto profile. Remember that the crypto profile is the top-level object that references the crypto identification credential. The profile is used when DataPower is acting as a server, and also the crypto validation credentials, used when DataPower is acting as a client.



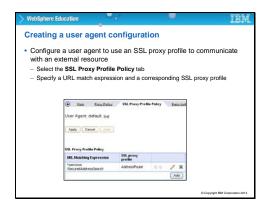
User agent

The user agent is a helper object that looks at the URLs that are being called and if it finds a match to some expression it knows, it does something on behalf of the service. It is on the back-end of the appliance, the server side. In the example on this slide, you are looking at the user agent that is configured to instigate an SSL session.



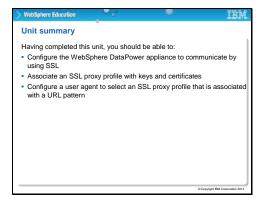
Configuring a user agent

The XML manager has a default user agent that is associated with it, and you can create your own user agent for specific requirements. You can set the HTTP request headers and a few other things on the main tab. Then, associate a number of different policies with the user agent. The policies are set up so that if this address is a particular URL, the service runs a specific type of invocation. Policies include proxy policy, basic authentication policy, SOAP action policy, or public key authentication policy. There are 10 different tabs for the different policies.



Create a user agent configuration

Here is a typical example. This one is the SSL proxy profile tab of the user agent configuration wizard. It shows that any URL ending with "/resource" is associated with the SSL proxy profile called AddressRouter.



Checkpoint questions 1. During handshake process, does SSL select process A or B? A. Process A • Negotiate the level of SSL to use • Decide on a cipher suite that both parties can use • Authenticate the server and (optionally) the client • Build a secret key that is used for this session only B. Process B • Negotiate the network communication protocol to use • Agree on which types of key to use • Create a random route that is untraceable 2. True or False: An SSL crypto profile identifies the crypto objects to use in SSL communication (identification credential or validation credential). 3. True or False: An SSL proxy profile references an SSL crypto profile for the client only.

