Proposal for changing the OST VPN

Striving for a more open educational environment

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Outline

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Notice

This document is incomplete and a work in progress.

Context

The OST-VPN Solution currently relies on EntraID 9 (SAMLv2 6) authentication for Cisco SSL-VPN. Users can connect to the VPN 8 through the recommended cisco secure client [1] or any compatible client supporting the AnyConnect protocol, such as openconnect [2] .

Argumentation

This Proposal is based on the "Proposal for changing the OST Auth solution". Therefore, all of the talking points regarding open- and closed-source software apply to the arguments for an alternative VPN implementation as well.

Multiple instances of students or professors asking for an alternative, open-source solution have been documented .

Proposal

Supporters

Many thanks go out to all of the honorable supporters of this project, which include

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Table 1: Supporters

Glossary

OSS	Open Source Software
OER	Open Educational Resources
OTP	One Time Password
FOSS	Free and Open Source Software
SSO	Single Sign-On
SAMLv2	Security Assertion Markup Language 2.0
SSL	Secure Sockets Layer
VPN	Virtual Private Network
EntraID	Microsoft Entra ID (formerly known as Microsoft Azure Active Directory or EntraID)
IAM	Identity and Access Management
IT	Information Technology

Bibliography

[1] D. Tobler, "VPN OST." Accessed: Oct. 25, 2025. [Online]. Available: https://wiki.ost.ch/display/public/IOW/VPN+OST

[2] C. Lubomir, "Openconnect." Accessed: Oct. 25, 2025. [Online]. Available: https://github.com/openconnect

Illustrations

Tables