

# Compare and Configure Secrets Engines

# Objective 5 – Compare and Configure Secrets Engines

Objective 5a – Choose a secret method based on use case

Objective 5b – Contrast Dynamic Secrets vs. Static Secrets and their use cases

Objective 5c – Define transit secrets engine

Objective 5d – Define secrets engines



# Problems with Managing Static Secrets



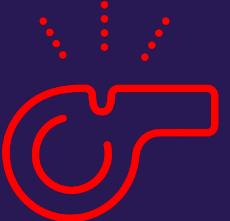
**Expiration**

- Secrets never expire
- Required by legacy apps



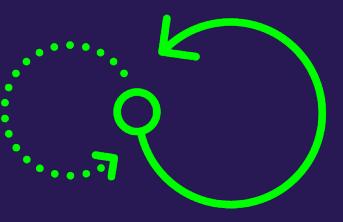
**Secrets Aren't Secret**

- Secrets are often shared among team members
- No accountability



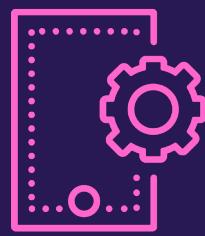
**Validity**

- Secrets are valid 24/7
- Frequently the target for penetrators



**Rotation**

- Secrets are rarely, if ever, rotated
- Manual process



**Long-Lived**

- Secrets tend to live perpetually
- Result of technical debt, employee turnover, etc



# Why You Should Use Dynamic Secrets

## Create Secrets On-Demand

Easily generate secrets when you need them



## Technical Debt – Solved!

Secret is revoked in both Vault and at the origin



## Associated Leases

Each secret has an associated lease



## Renewal

Control if a secret/token can be renewed with granularity



## Validity Period

Each lease determines when and how a secret expires

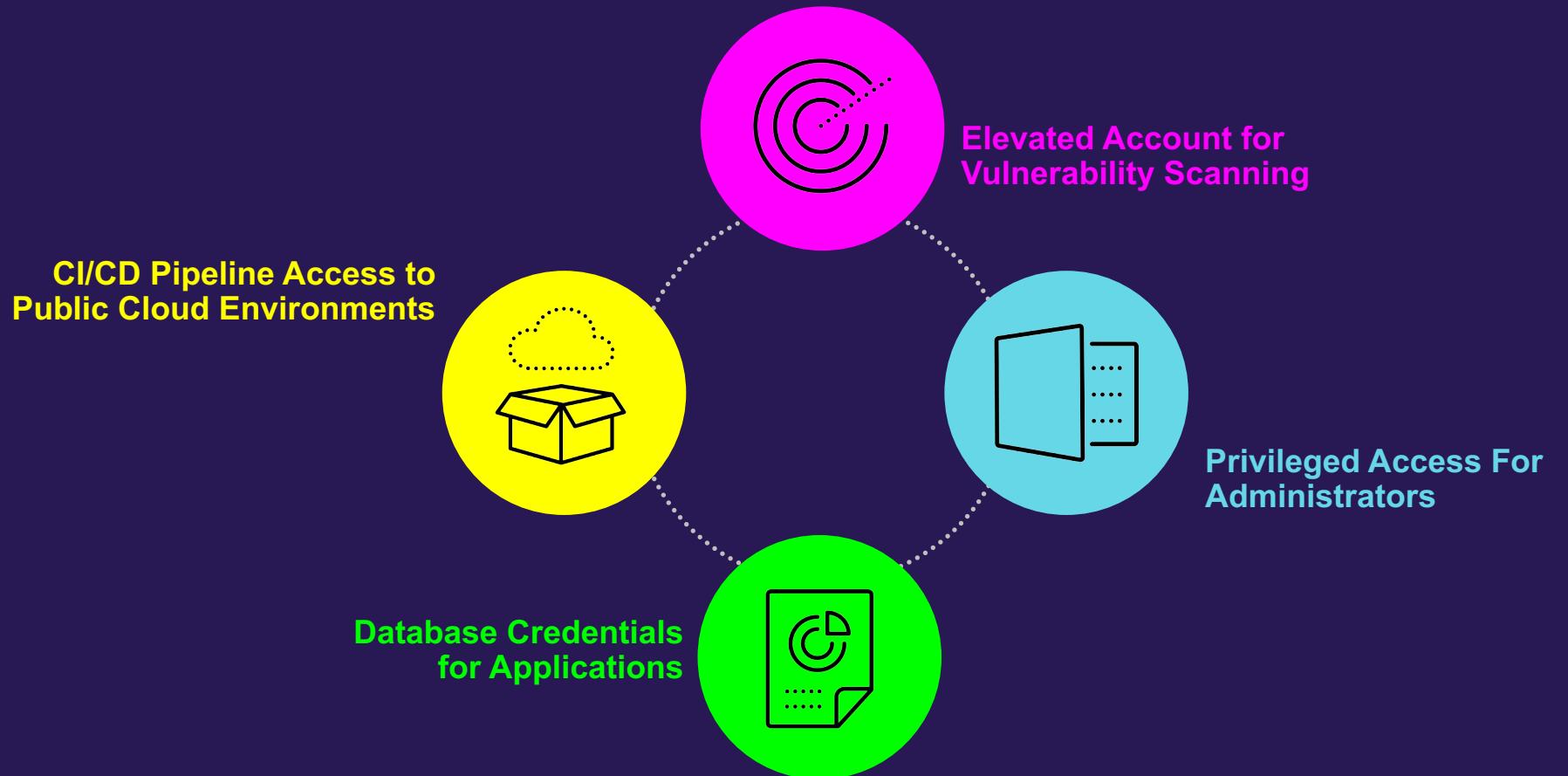


## Revocation

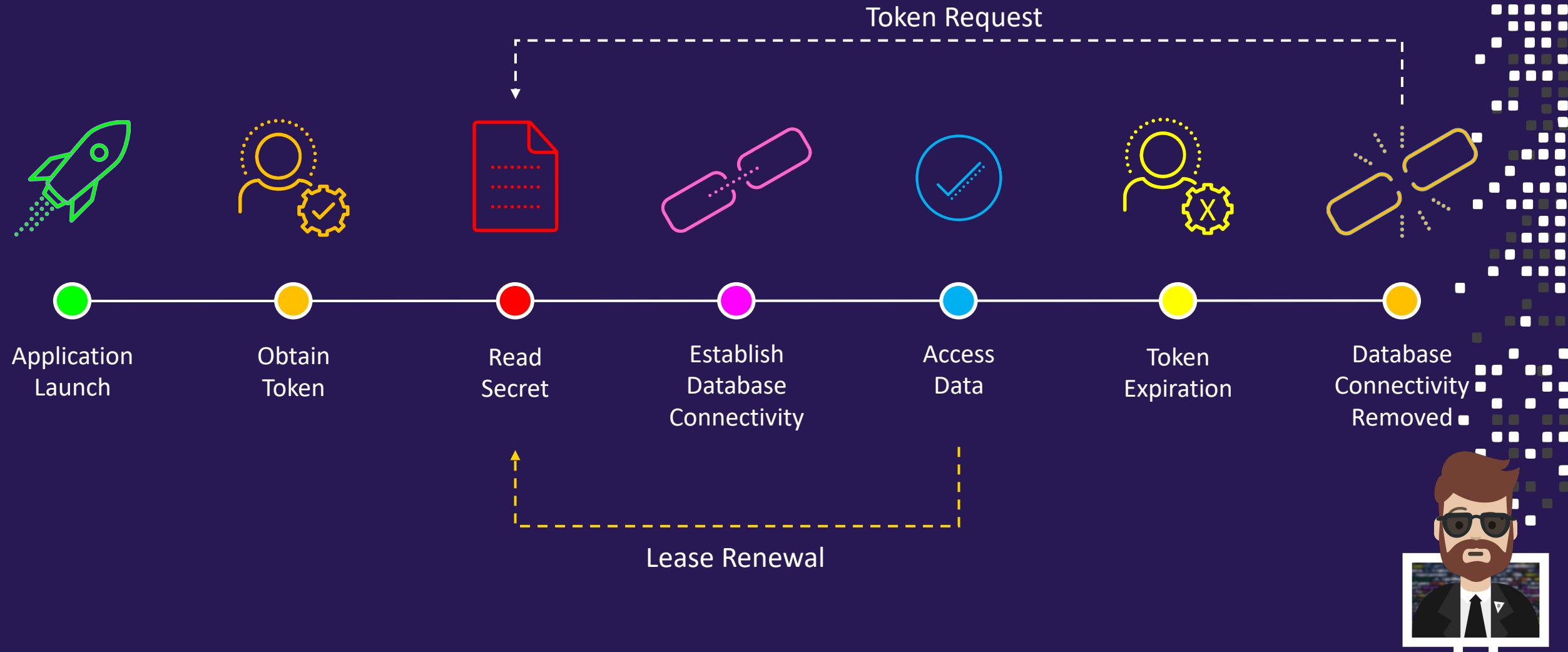
Allow secrets to expire automatically or manually revoke when required



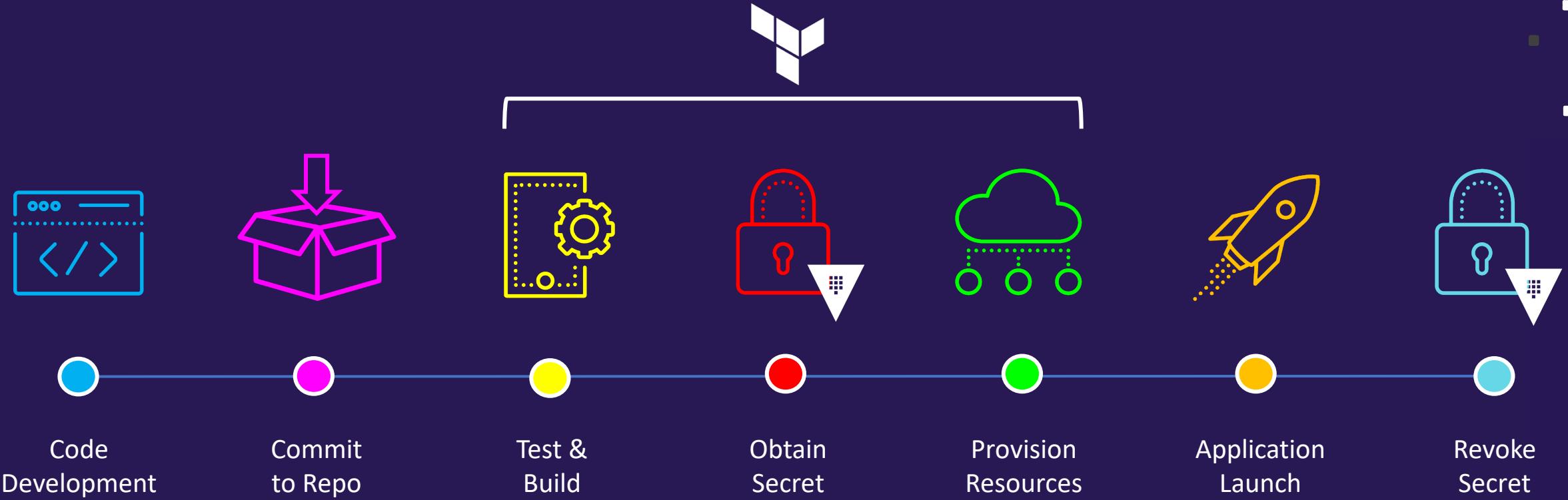
# Why You Should Use Dynamic Secrets



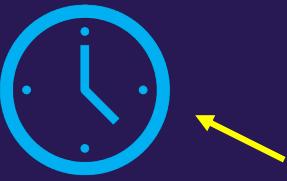
# Example – Application Using Vault



# Example – Pipeline Using Vault



# Vault Interfaces



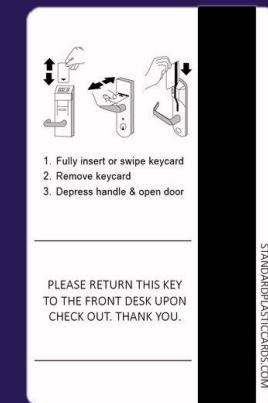
VALID FOR 3 DAYS



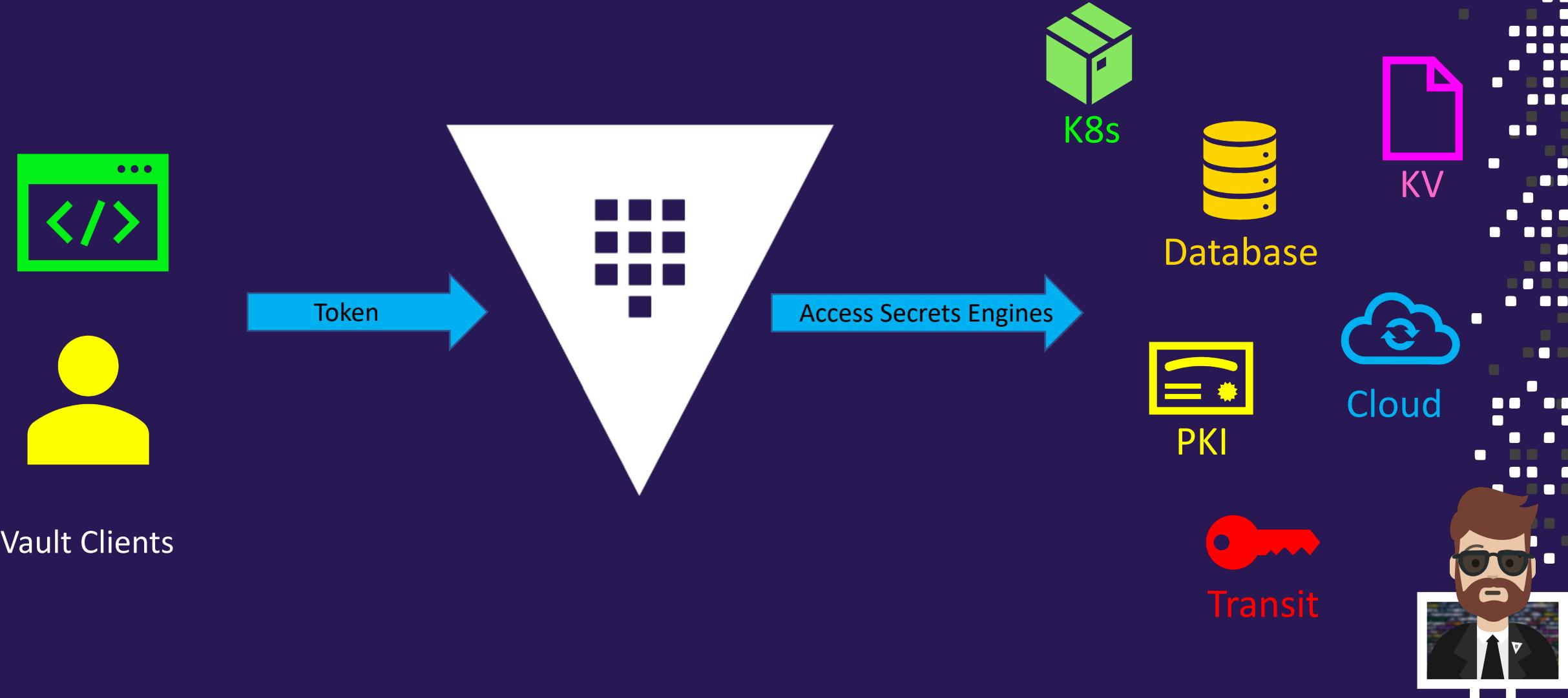
# Vault Interfaces

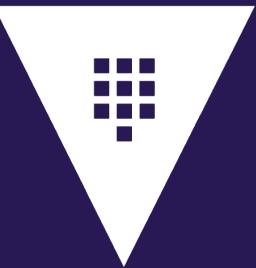


We present our key.  
We don't authenticate again



# Vault Secrets Engines





# Secrets Engines are THE Reason you Deploy Vault

# Secrets Engines

- Secrets engines are components that can **store**, **generate**, or **encrypt** data
  - Many secrets engines can be enabled in Vault
  - You can even enable multiple instances of the same secrets engine
  - Secrets engines are **plugins** that extend the functionality of Vault
- Secrets engines are **enabled and isolated at a path**
  - All interactions with the secrets engine are done using the path
  - Path must be unique



# Secrets Engines

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# What Is a Secret?

- A secret is **anything** an organization deems sensitive within their organization
  - Username & Password
  - TLS Certificate – private cert & cert
  - API Key
  - Database Credentials
  - Application Data
  - Anything else you don't want stored in plaintext



# Secrets as a Service

- Use Vault to **generate and manage the lifecycle** of credentials on-demand
- No more sharing credentials
  - Credentials get **revoked** automatically at the end of its lease
  - **Audit trail** can identify points of compromise
- Use policies to **control the access** based on the client's role



# Secrets Engines

Active  
Directory

Database

Identity

SSH

AliCloud

Google Cloud

MongoDB Atlas

Terraform  
Cloud

AWS

Google Cloud  
KMS

Nomad

TOTP

Azure

Key  
Management

OpenLDAP

Transform

Consul

KMIP

PKI

Transit

Cubbyhole

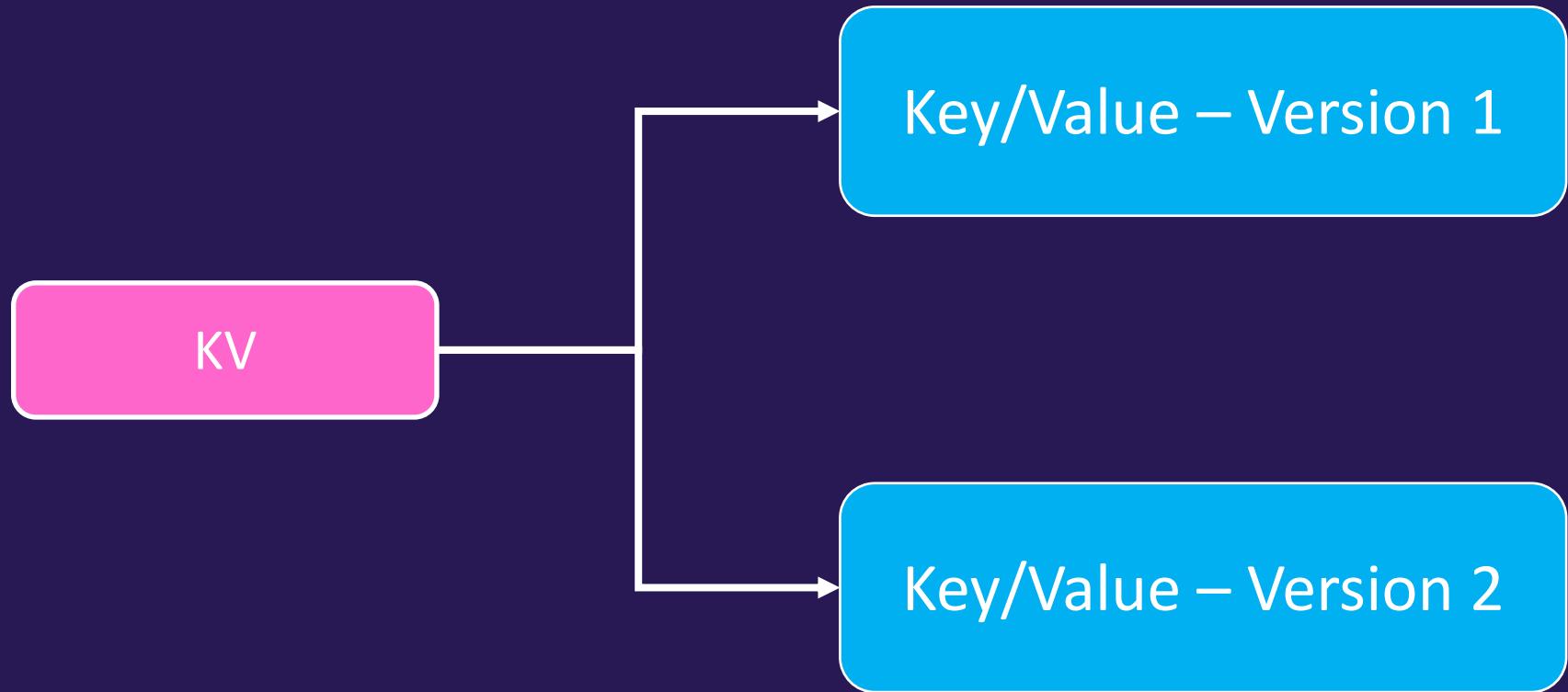
KV

RabbitMQ

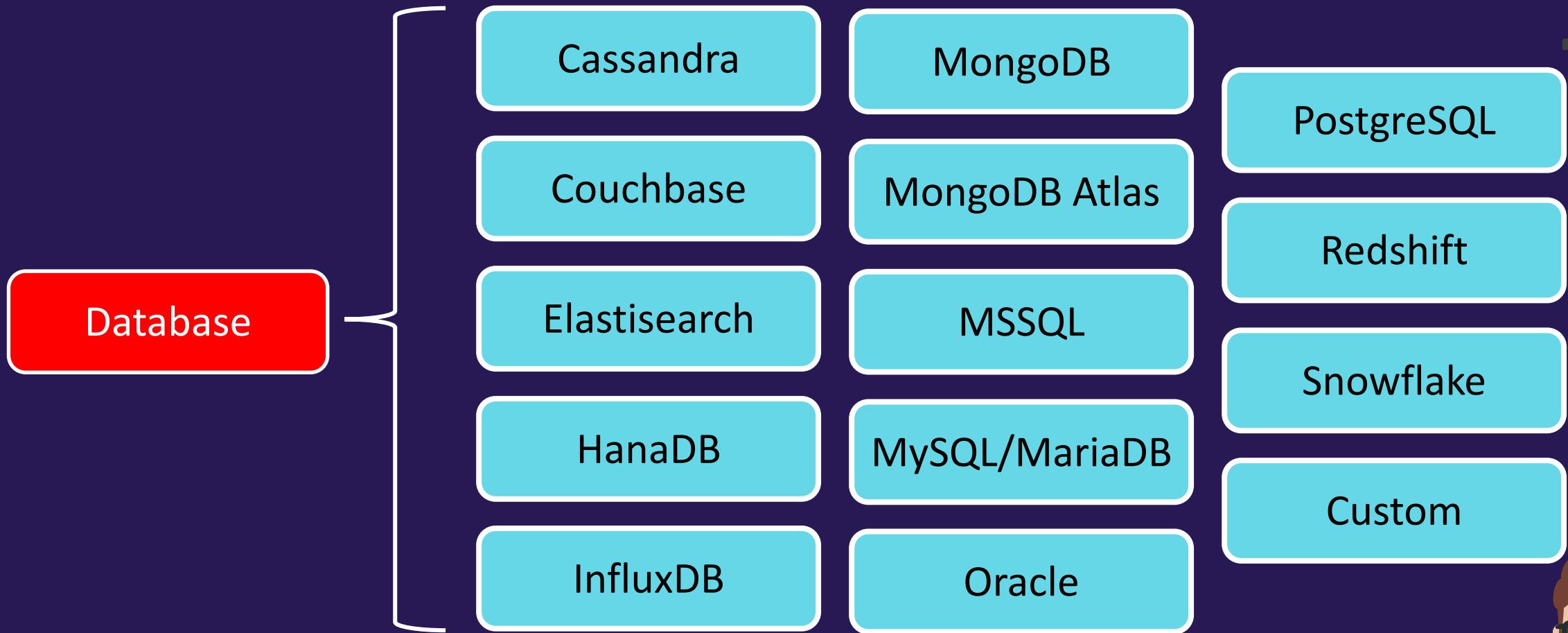
Venafi



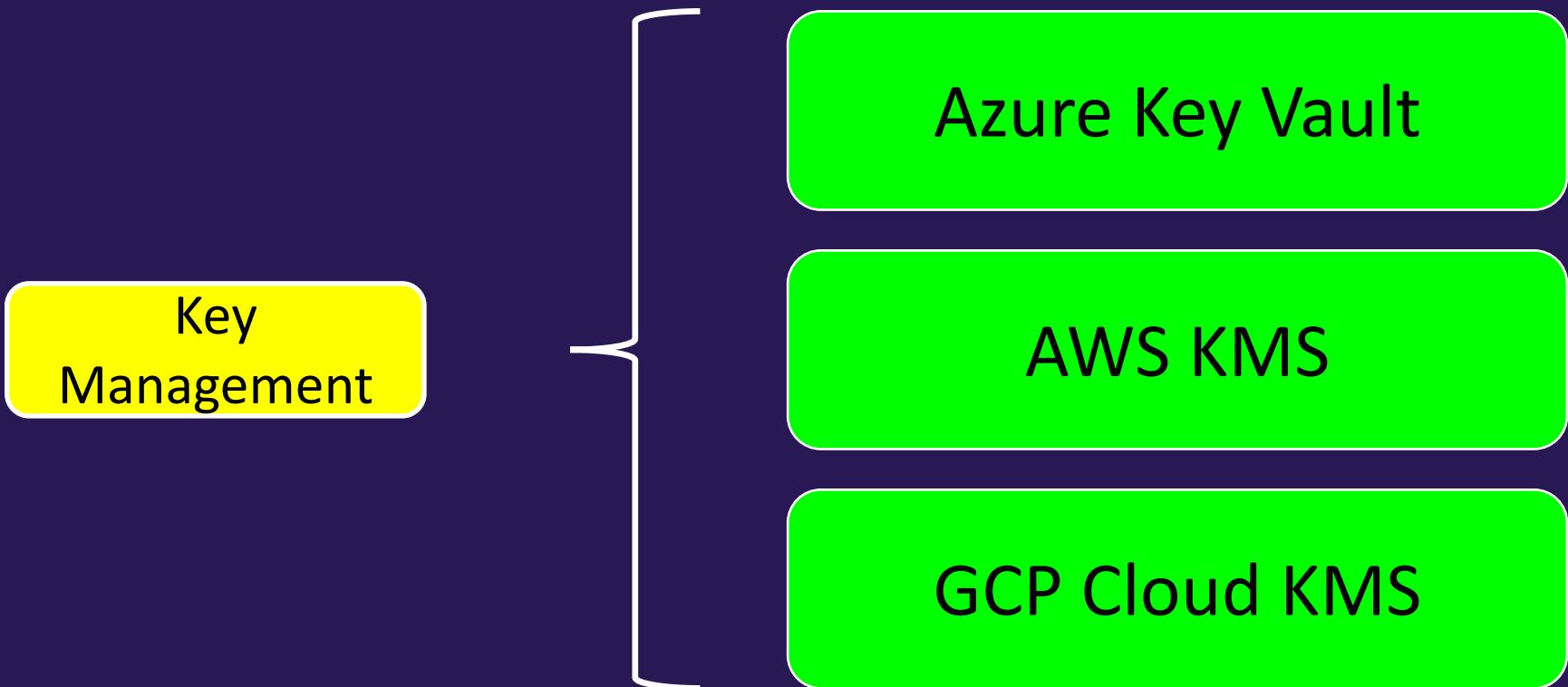
# Secrets Engines



# Secrets Engines



# Secrets Engines



# Secrets Engines

Grouped by Function



Amazon Web Services

Microsoft Azure

Google Cloud Platform

Google Cloud KMS

Alibaba Cloud



Apache Cassandra

InfluxDB

MongoDB

Microsoft SQL

MySQL/MariaDB

PostgreSQL

Oracle

SAP HANA

Snowflake



Active Directory

Consul

Cubbyhole

Key/Value

Key Management

Identity

RabbitMQ

Nomad

SSH

TOTP

Terraform Cloud



KMIP

PKI

Transform

Transit

Venafi



# Secrets Engines

What Does Each Secrets Engine Do?

Active  
Directory

Rotate credentials for an Active Directory account – the account must already exist in Active Directory and Vault uses the existing credentials to rotate the password based on the threshold

AliCloud

generates AliCloud access tokens based on RAM policies, or AliCloud STS credentials based on RAM roles.

AWS

generates AWS credentials based on an IAM user, STS credentials, or a federation token.

Azure

generates Azure service principals along with role and group assignments

Consul

generates Consul API tokens dynamically based on Consul ACL policies.



# Secrets Engines

What Does Each Secrets Engine Do?

Cubbyhole

KV store used to store sensitive data – tied directory to a token and all data expires when the token itself expires – no other token can read the data stored inside of another token's cubbyhole

Database

generates dynamic credentials on the targeted database server – the credentials provided are based on the statement sent to the database during credential generation

Google Cloud

generates Google Cloud service account keys and OAuth tokens based on IAM policies

Google Cloud KMS

provides encryption and key management via Google Cloud KMS

Key Management

Provides distribution and lifecycle management of cryptographic keys in various key management service (KMS) providers

ENTERPRISE ONLY



# Secrets Engines

What Does Each Secrets Engine Do?

KMIP

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allows Vault to act as a Key Management Interoperability Protocol (KMIP) server provider and handle the lifecycle of its KMIP managed objects.

KV

Enables Vault to store key/value objects in path – has a non-versioned (KV) and a versioned (KVv2) option

Identity

identity management solution for Vault- enabled by default – cannot enable again nor can you remove – essential for Vault

MongoDB Atlas

create a Programmatic API key for each lease that provide appropriate access to the defined MongoDB Atlas project or organization with appropriate role(s)

Nomad

generates Nomad ACL tokens dynamically based on pre-existing Nomad ACL policies



# Secrets Engines

What Does Each Secrets Engine Do?

OpenLDAP

allows management of LDAP entry passwords as well as dynamic creation of credentials

PKI

Generates dynamic x.509 certificates – turns Vault into a certificate authority – Vault can be a root CA or an intermediate CA

RabbitMQ

generates user credentials dynamically based on configured permissions and virtual hosts

SSH

provides secure authentication and authorization for access to machines via the SSH protocol

Terraform  
Cloud

generates Terraform Cloud API tokens dynamically for Organizations, Teams, and Users



# Secrets Engines

What Does Each Secrets Engine Do?

TOTP

generates time-based credentials according to the TOTP standard

Transform

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handles secure data transformation and tokenization against provided input value

Transit

handles cryptographic functions on data in-transit – provides encryption-as-a-service – centralize encryption functionality across the organization

Venafi

provides applications with the ability to dynamically generate SSL/TLS certificates that serve as machine identities using Venafi Trust Protection Platform or Venafi Cloud



# Enabling a Secrets Engine

- Cubbyhole and Identity are enabled by default (can't disable)
- Any other secrets engine **must be enabled**
  - Can enable using the **CLI**, **API**, or **UI** (most)
- Secrets engines are **enabled and isolated at a path**
  - All interactions with the secrets engine are done **using the path**
  - Path must be unique
  - Paths do not need to match the secrets engines name or type
    - Make them meaningful for you and your organization



# Secrets Engine - Responsibilities



Privileged User  
(Vault Admin, Security Team)

1. Enable the Secrets Engine
2. Configure the connection to the backend platform (AWS, Database, etc.)
3. Create roles that define permissions to the backend platform
4. Create policies that grant permission to read from the secrets engine



Vault Clients  
(users, apps, services, machines, etc.)

1. Read a set of credentials using token and associated policy
2. Renew the lease before its expiration if needed (or permitted)
3. Renew the token if needed (or permitted)



# Working with a Secrets Engine

Command Line Interface (CLI)

Use the `vault secrets` command

- disable
- enable
- list
- move
- tune



Terminal

```
$ vault secrets enable aws
Success! Enabled the aws secrets engine at: aws/
```



Terminal

```
$ vault secrets tune -default-lease-ttl=72h pki/
```



# Working with a Secrets Engine

Command Line Interface (CLI)

Helpful flags to use with the `vault secrets` command

- `vault secrets list -detailed`
- `vault secrets enable -path=developers kv`
- `vault secrets enable -description="my first kv" kv`

Terminal

```
$ vault secrets enable -description="Static Secrets" -path="cloud-kv" kv-v2
```



# Working with a Secrets Engine

Command Line Interface (CLI)

```
vault secrets enable path=bryan kv-v2
```

Type of Vault  
object you want  
to work with

Subcommand

Define a custom path to  
enable the secrets  
engine on

The type of  
secrets engine  
you want to  
enable



# Working with a Secrets Engine

Command Line Interface (CLI)

Use the `vault secrets list` command

Terminal

Path	Type	Accessor	Description
aws/	aws	aws_dafa7adc	n/a
azure/	aws	aws_1a214ff6	n/a
bryan/	kv	kv_28b1ceaa	n/a
cloud-team-kv/	kv	kv_fa270a3f	n/a
cubbyhole/	cubbyhole	cubbyhole_88c8e2e3	per-token private secret storage
dev-team-kv/	kv	kv_55c319c4	n/a
identity/	identity	identity_e60e93cb	identity store
kv-v2/	kv	kv_eea3206c	n/a
sys/	system	system_66b0d8ee	system endpoints used for
transit/	transit	transit_7b8038ca	n/a



# Working with a Secrets Engine

User Interface (UI)

The screenshot shows a user interface for managing secrets engines. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs for 'Secrets' (which is selected), 'Access', 'Policies', and 'Tools'. On the right side of the header are 'Status' (green circle), a refresh icon, and a user profile icon. Below the header, the main area is titled 'Secrets Engines'. It lists four engines:

- aws aws/** (orange icon) - aws\_dafa7adc
- aws azure/** (orange icon) - aws\_1a214ff6
- bryan/** (grey icon) - v2\_kv\_28b1ceaa
- cloud-team-kv/** (grey icon) - v2\_kv\_fa270a3f

A red arrow points from the text 'Enable Additional Secrets Engines' to a button labeled 'Enable new engine +'. A green bracket on the left groups the first two engines under the heading 'Secrets Engines that are already enabled'.

Enable Additional Secrets Engines

Secrets Engines

aws aws/  
aws\_dafa7adc

aws azure/  
aws\_1a214ff6

bryan/  
v2\_kv\_28b1ceaa

cloud-team-kv/  
v2\_kv\_fa270a3f

Enable new engine +

Secrets Engines that are already enabled



# Working with a Secrets Engine

User Interface (UI)

Choose Your  
Weapon  
(I mean, Secrets Engine)

The screenshot shows a user interface titled "Enable a Secrets Engine". At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: "Secrets" (which is selected), "Access", "Policies", and "Tools". Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled "Enable a Secrets Engine". The content is organized into three sections: "Generic", "Cloud", and "Infra".

- Generic:** KV, PKI Certificates, SSH, Transit, TOTP.
- Cloud:** Active Directory, AliCloud, AWS, Azure, Google Cloud, Google Cloud KMS.
- Infra:** Consul, Databases, Nomad, RabbitMQ.

Each item in the grid has a small circular checkbox next to it. A large pink curly brace on the left side groups all the items in the "Cloud" and "Infra" sections under the heading "Choose Your Weapon (I mean, Secrets Engine)".

**Next**



# Working with a Secrets Engine

## User Interface (UI)

Enable Google Cloud Secrets Engine

Path

gcp ← Provide your path here

[^ Hide Method Options](#)

Description

Add a description here

List method when unauthenticated

Local  ⓘ  ← Customize the secrets engine here

Seal wrap  ⓘ

Default Lease TTL  
Vault will use the default lease duration.

Max Lease TTL  
Vault will use the default lease duration.



# Configuring a Secrets Engine

There are generally two steps when configuring a secrets engine that will generate dynamic credentials:

Step 1: Configure Vault with access to the platform

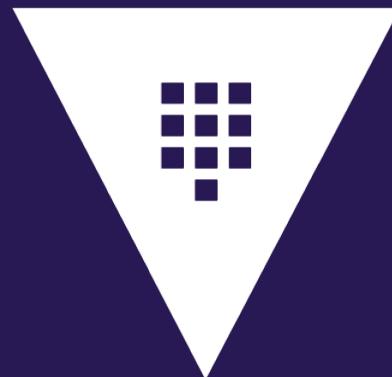
Step 2: Configure Roles based on permissions needed



# Configuring a Secrets Engine

AWS Example

Step 1: Configure Vault with access to the platform:



Vault needs credentials to interact with the platform



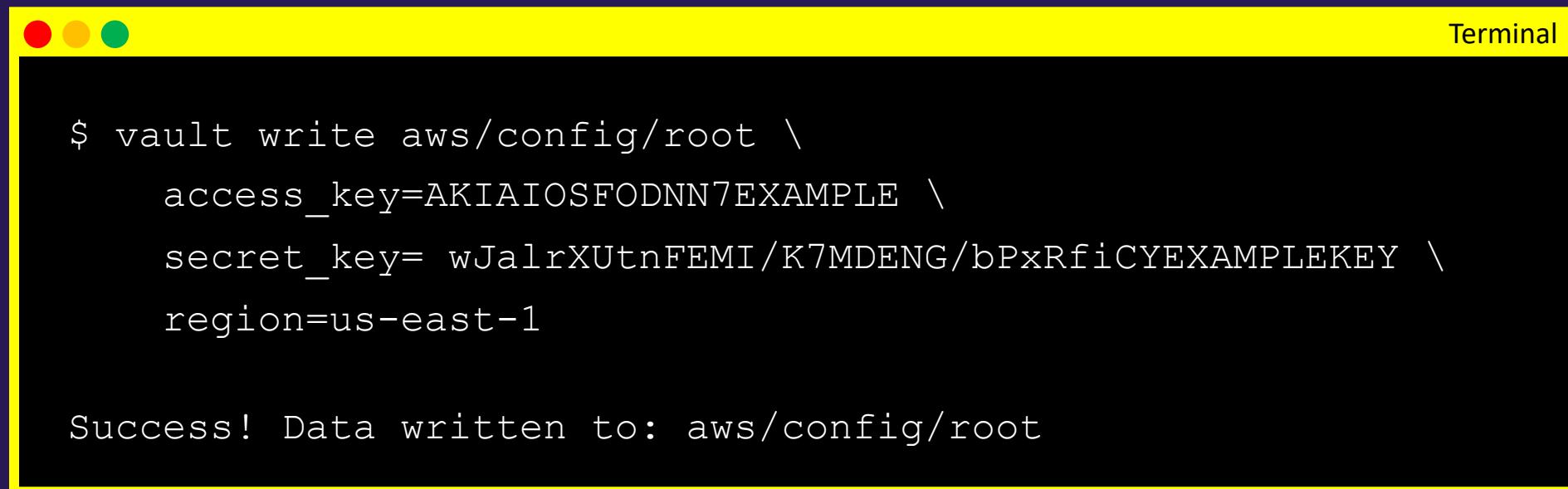
Credentials can be provided using IAM credentials, an EC2 instance role, or setting environment variables



# Configuring a Secrets Engine

AWS Example

Provide credentials to a secrets engine that gives Vault permission to create, list, and delete credentials on the platform:

A screenshot of a Mac OS X terminal window titled "Terminal". The window has three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) at the top left. The title bar on the right says "Terminal". The main pane contains a command-line session. The command entered is: \$ vault write aws/config/root \ access\_key=AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE \ secret\_key= wJalrXUtFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfCYEXAMPLEKEY \ region=us-east-1. After the command is run, the output is displayed: Success! Data written to: aws/config/root.

```
$ vault write aws/config/root \
  access_key=AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE \
  secret_key= wJalrXUtFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfCYEXAMPLEKEY \
region=us-east-1

Success! Data written to: aws/config/root
```



# Configuring a Secrets Engine

Database Example

Step 1: Configure Vault with access to the platform:



# Configuring a Secrets Engine

## Database Example

Provide credentials to a secrets engine that gives Vault permission to create, list, and delete credentials on the platform:

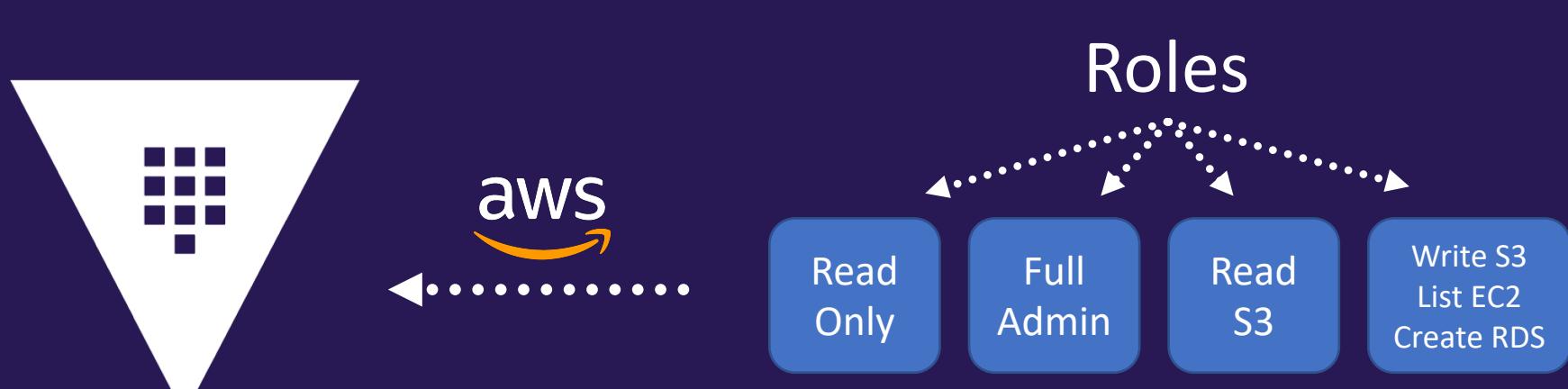
```
$ vault write database/config/prod-database \
  plugin_name=mysql-aurora-database-plugin \
  connection_url="{{username}}:{{password}}@tcp(prod.cluster.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com:3306) /" \
  allowed_roles="app-integration, app-lambda" \
  username="vault-admin" \
  password="vneJ4908fk3084Bmrk39fmslslf#e&349"
```



# Configuring a Secrets Engine - Roles

Vault does *not* know what permissions, groups, and policies you want to attach to generated credentials. Each *role* maps to a set of permissions on the targeted platform.

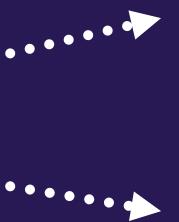
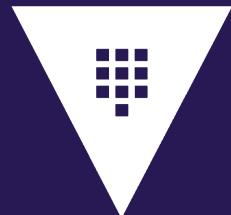
Step 2: Configure Roles based on permissions needed



# Configuring a Secrets Engine - Roles

AWS Example

Step 2: Configure Roles based on permissions needed



aws	Prod Account
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
admin	readonly

aws	Dev Account
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

aws	Shared Account
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
admin	audit

aws	Data Account
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
data	consultant

Organizations Usually have Multiple AWS accounts



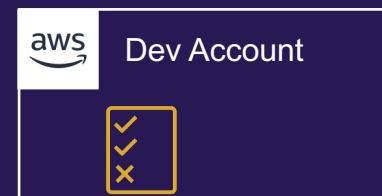
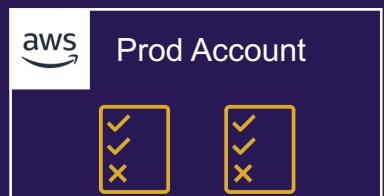
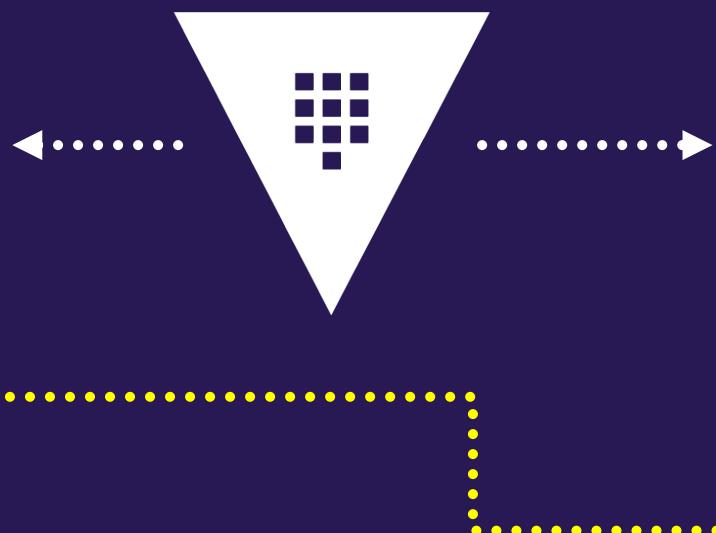
# Configuring a Secrets Engine - Roles

AWS Example

Step 2: Configure Roles based on permissions needed

## Roles

- prod-admin
- prod-readonly
- dev-developer
- shared-admin
- shared-audit
- data-datascientist
- data-consultant



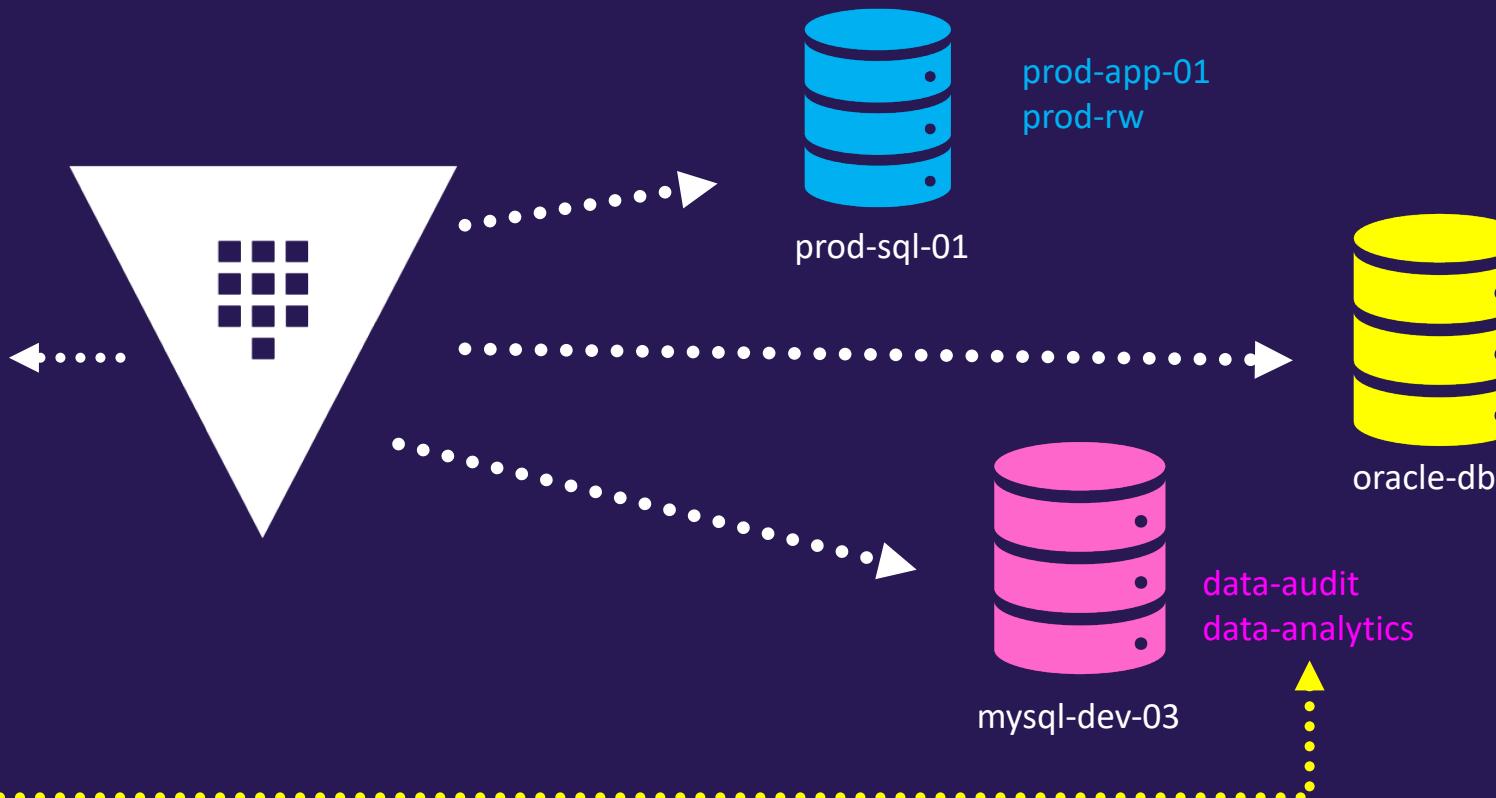
# Configuring a Secrets Engine - Roles

Database Example

Step 2: Configure Roles based on permissions needed

## Roles

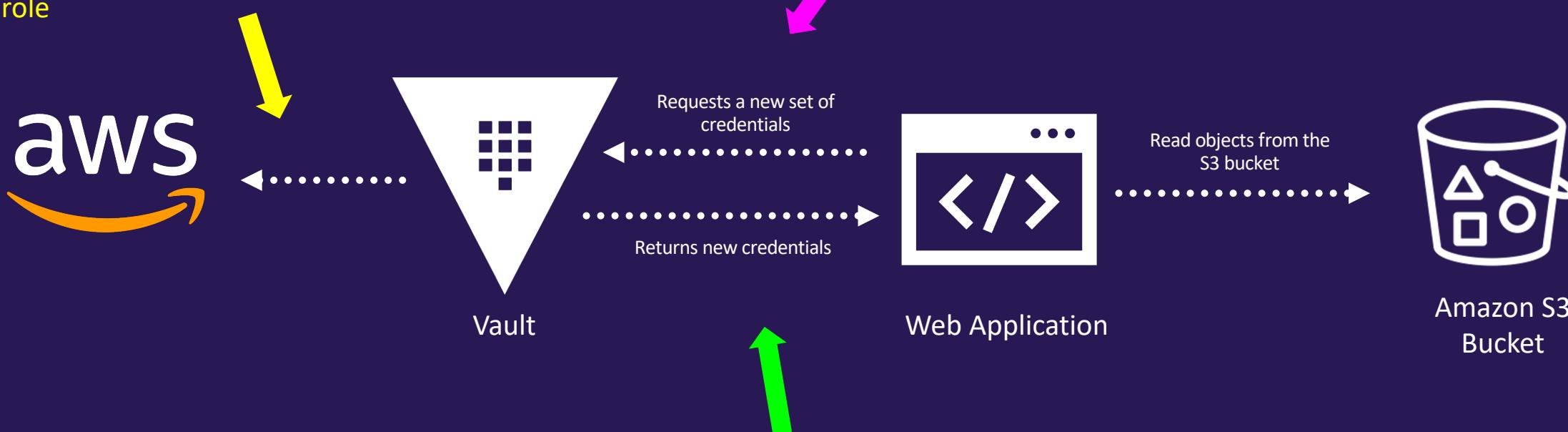
- prod-app-01
- prod-rw
- oracle-reporting
- data-audit
- data-analytics



# Generate Credentials

AWS Example

Vault uses the credentials we provided the secrets engine to generate the dynamic credentials for the requested role



Credentials returned are attached to a lease (TTL) and will expire after that TTL unless renewed by the application



# Generate Credentials

AWS Example

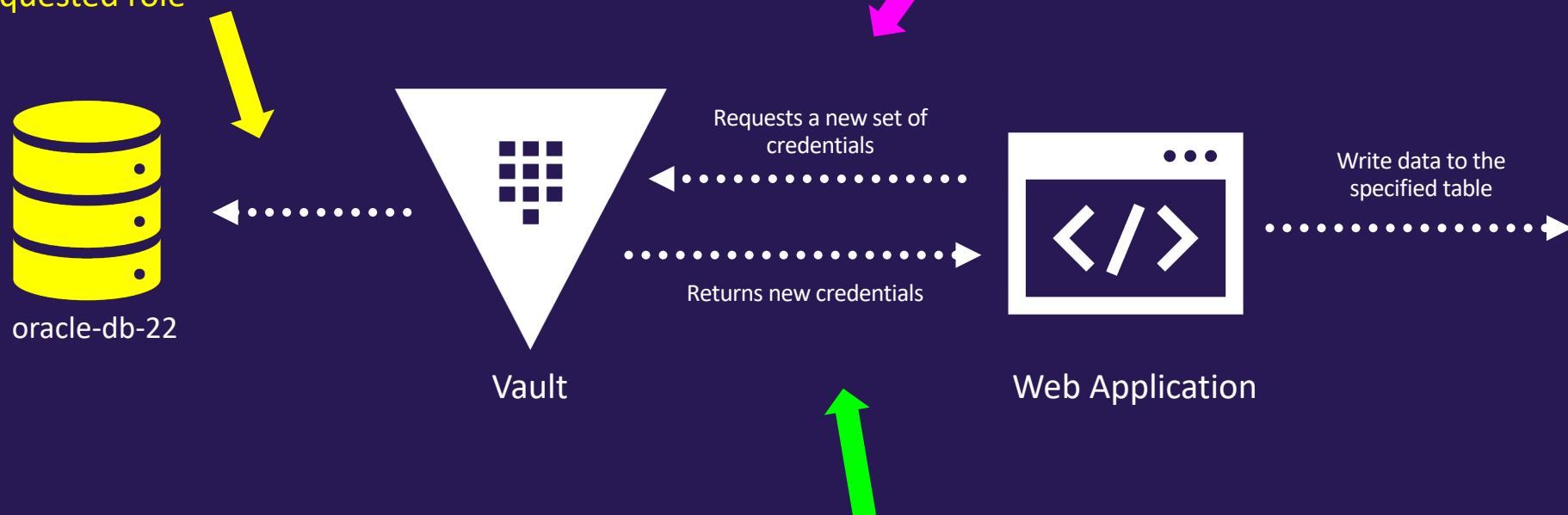
```
$ vault read aws/creds/data-consultant  
-----  
Key          Value  
---  
Lease        aws/creds/data-consultant/349dm20s4xp2  
lease_duration 24h  
lease_renewable true  
access_key   AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE  
secret_key    wJalrXUtFnEMI/K7MDENG/bPxRfiCYEXAMPLEKEY  
security_token <nil>
```



# Generate Credentials

## Database Example

Vault uses the credentials we provided the database secrets engine to generate the dynamic credentials for the requested role



Credentials returned are attached to a lease (TTL) and will expire after that TTL unless renewed by the application



# Generate Credentials

Database Example

```
$ vault read database/creds/oracle-reporting ◀..... role we created

Key Value
--- -----
lease_id           database/creds/my-role/2f14c-4aa224b9-ad944a8d4de6
lease_duration     1h
lease_renewable    true
password          yRUSyd-vPYDg5NkU9kDg
username          V_VAULTUSE_MY_ROLE_SJJUK3Q8W3BKAYAN8S62_1602543009
```



# Summary

There are generally two steps when configuring a secrets engine that will generate dynamic credentials:

Step 1: Configure Vault with access to the platform

Step 2: Configure Roles based on permissions needed



Don't forget that the Vault client must be authenticated before it can request dynamic credentials



# Key/Value Secrets Engine

- Key/Value secrets engine is used to **store static secrets**
  - There are two versions: **v2** (kv-v2) is **versioned** but v1 (v1) is **not**
  - Secrets are accessible via UI, CLI, and API – interactive or automated
  - Access to KV paths are enforced via **policies** (ACLs)
- Like everything else in Vault, secrets written to the KV secrets engine are **encrypted** using 256-bit AES

The most frequently used secrets engine in Vault



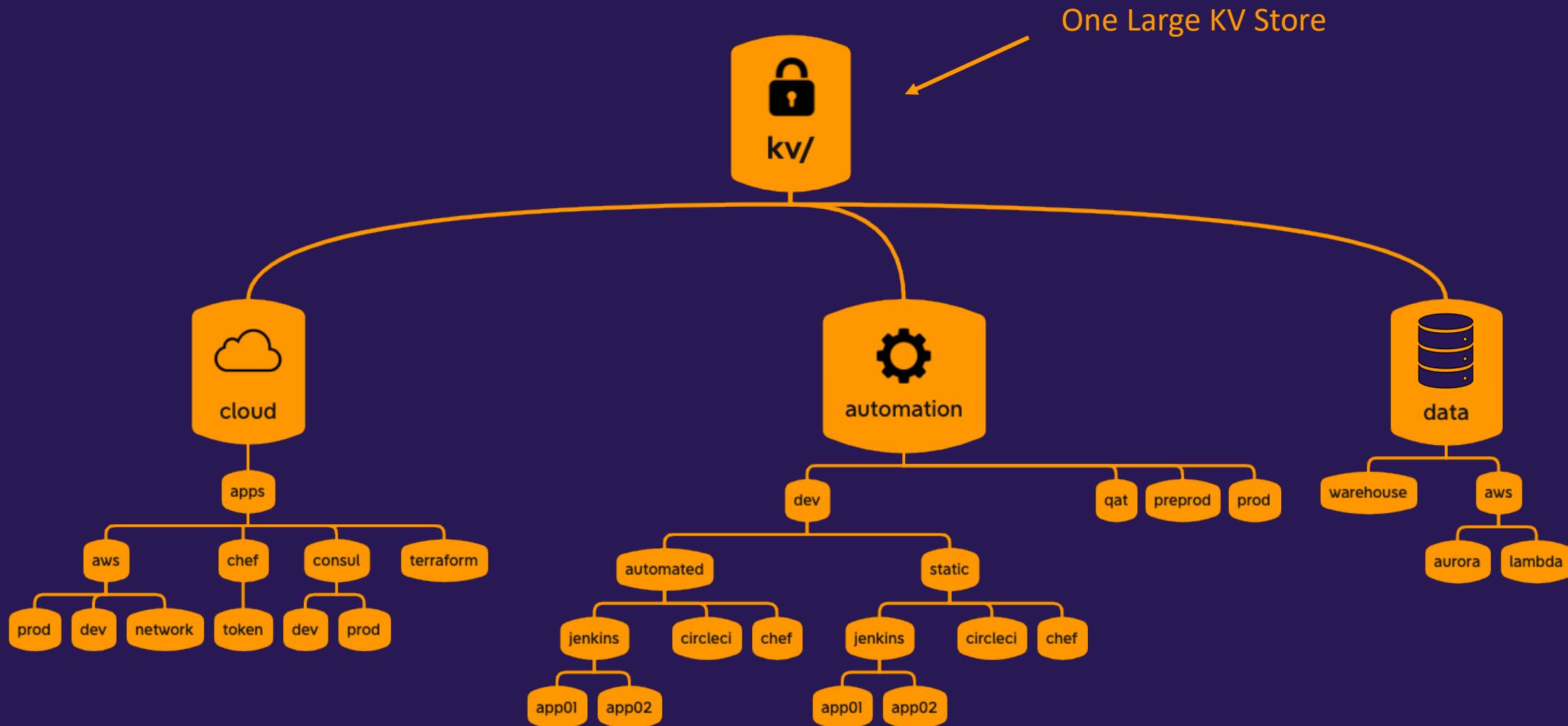
# Key/Value Secrets Engine

- Key/Value secrets engine can be **enabled at different paths**
  - Each key/value secrets engine is **isolated** and **unique**
- Secrets are stored as key-value pairs at a defined **path** – (e.g., secret/applications/web01)
  - Writing a new secret will ***replace the old value***
  - Writing a new secret requires the **create** capability
  - Updating/overwriting a secret to an existing path requires **update** capability
- When you run Vault in –dev server mode, Vault enables a KV v2 secrets engine at the **secret/** path, by default



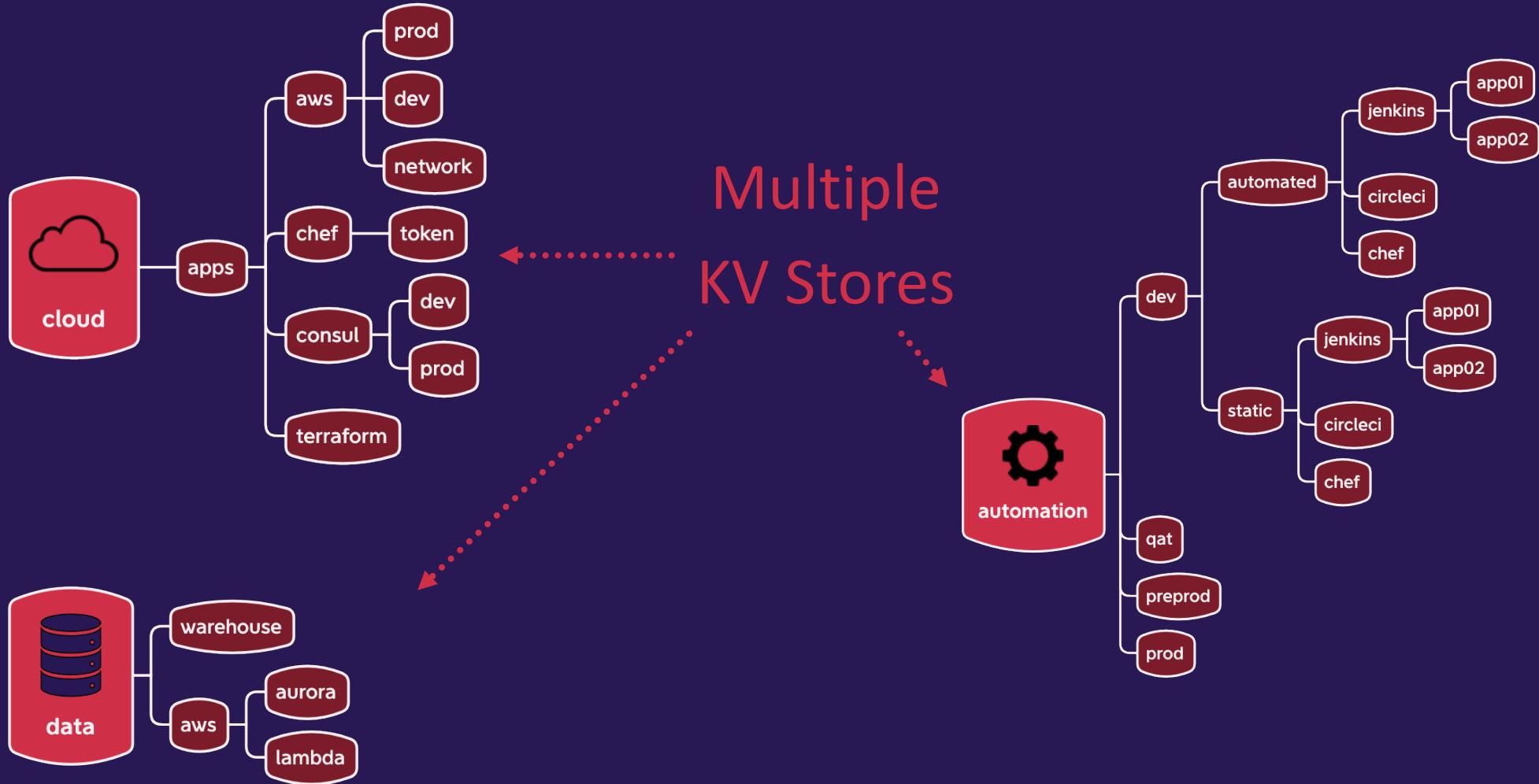
# Key/Value Secrets Engine

Organize Data However It Makes Sense to Your Organization



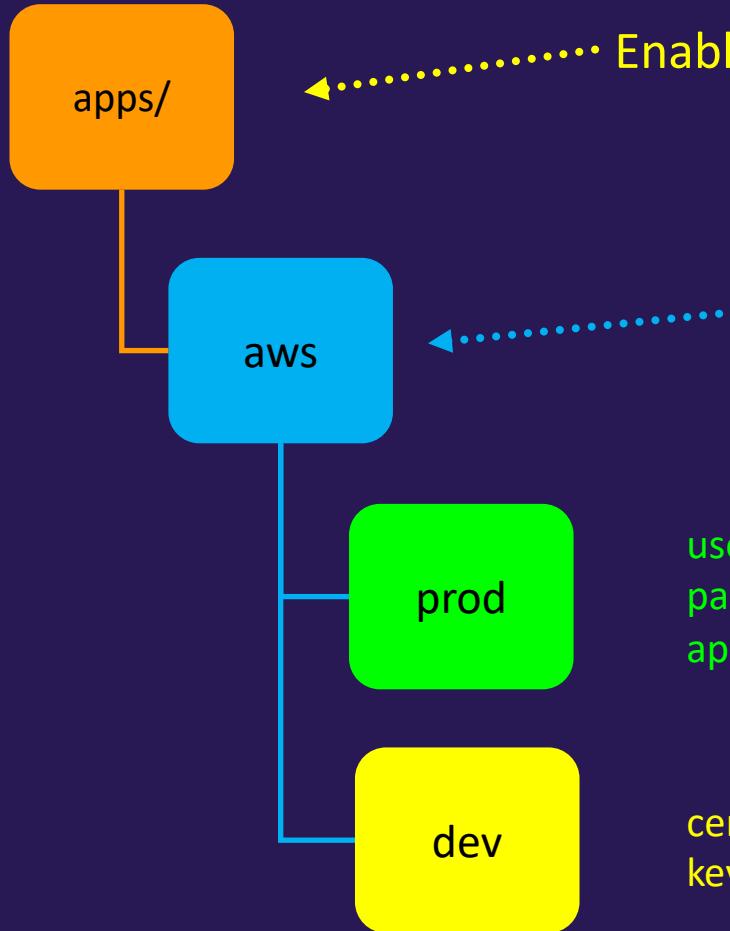
# Key/Value Secrets Engine

Organize Data However It Makes Sense to Your Organization



# Key/Value Secrets Engine

Let's Take a Look at Paths in the KV Store



user=dbadmin  
password=P@ssw0rd  
api=b93md83mdmapw

cert=---BEGIN CERTI...  
key=---BEGIN PRIVA...

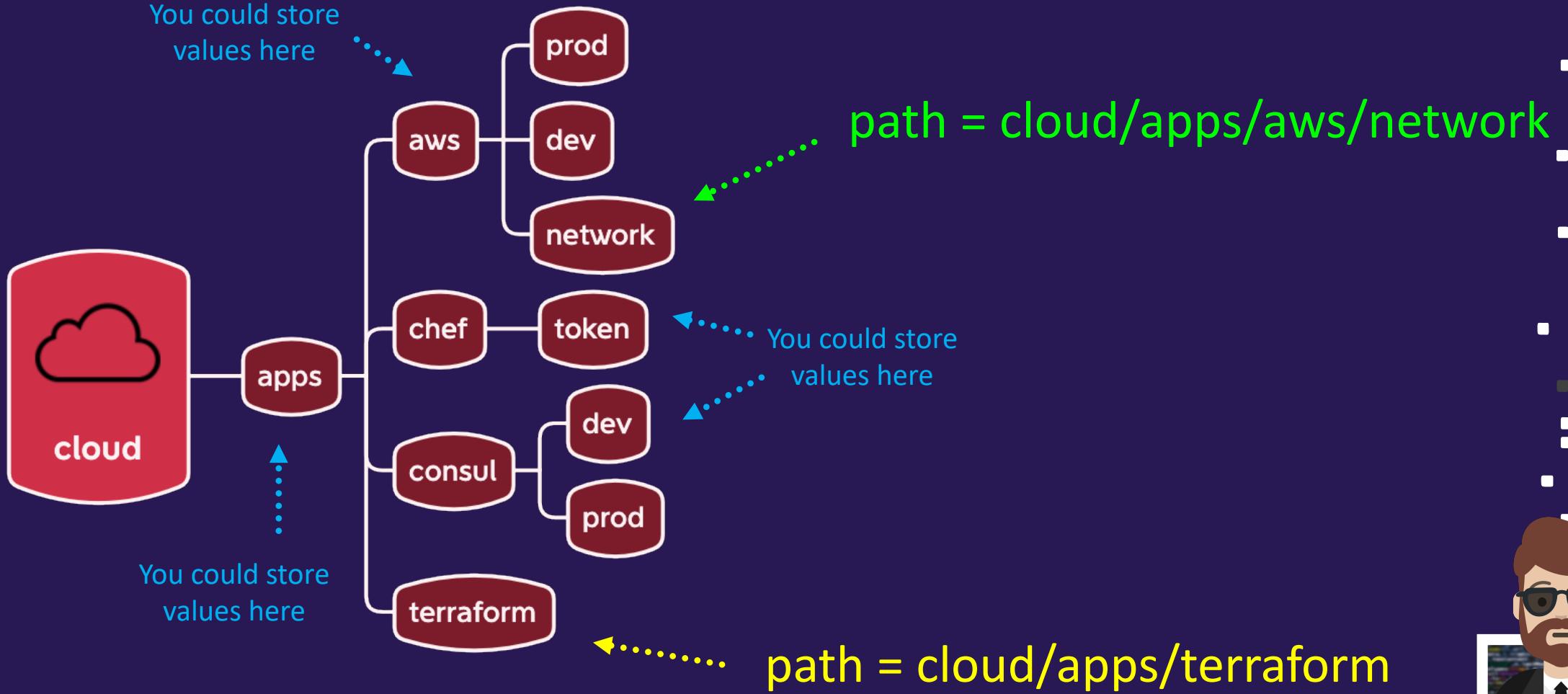
path = apps/aws/prod

path = apps/aws/dev



# Key/Value Secrets Engine

Store Data Wherever It Makes Sense to You



# Enable Key/Value Secrets Engine

The screenshot shows the HashiCorp Vault UI interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: Secrets (which is selected), Access, Policies, and Tools. On the far right of the header are Status, Filter, and User icons.

The main content area is titled "Enable a Secrets Engine". It's organized into three sections: Generic, Cloud, and Infra, each containing several engine icons with radio buttons below them. In the Generic section, the "KV" icon is selected. In the Cloud section, the "AWS" icon is selected. In the Infra section, the "Consul" icon is selected.

At the bottom left is a blue "Next" button. A modal window is open in the center-right, titled "Enable KV Secrets Engine". Inside the modal:

- Path:** A text input field containing "kv". A callout arrow points to it with the text "Provide the path name".
- Maximum number of versions:** A text input field containing "0".
- Require Check and Set:** An unchecked checkbox. A callout arrow points to it with the text "If checked, all keys will require the cas parameter to be set on all write requests. A key's metadata settings can overwrite this value."
- Automate secret deletion:** A checked toggle switch. A callout arrow points to it with the text "A secret's version must be manually deleted."
- Version:** A dropdown menu currently set to "2". A callout arrow points to it with the text "Select whether you want v1 or v2".
- Description:** An empty text input field.



# Enable Key/Value Secrets Engine

## Enabling KV v1 Secrets Engine

```
$ vault secrets enable kv      ◀..... Enable at default path  
Success! Enabled the kv secrets engine at: kv/
```

```
$ vault secrets enable -path=training kv    ◀..... Enable at custom path  
Success! Enabled the kv secrets engine at: training/
```

```
$ vault secrets list -detailed  
Path          Plugin          Accessor          ... Options  
----          -----          -----          -----  
cubbyhole/    cubbyhole      cubbyhole_ee5ae49  map []      Empty map means  
kv/          kv             kv_e8b99a3       map []      ◀..... it's a KV v1 secrets  
training/     kv             kv_1d5e9cc1      map []      engine
```



# Enable Key/Value Secrets Engine

## Enabling KV v2 Secrets Engine

```
$ vault secrets enable kv-v2           ◀..... Enable at default path
Success! Enabled the kv-v2 secrets engine at: kv-v2/

$ vault secrets enable -path=training -version=2 kv      ◀..... Another way to
Success! Enabled the kv-v2 secrets engine at: training/               enable KV v2

$ vault secrets list -detailed
Path          Plugin        Accessor          ... Options
----          -----        -----          -----
cubbyhole/    cubbyhole    cubbyhole_ee5ae49   map []
kv-v2/        kv           kv_e8b99a3       map [version:2]
training/     kv           kv_1d5e9cc1       map [version:2]
```

Notice the `version:2` in map, indicating a KV v2



# Upgrade KV v1 to KV v2

- You can upgrade a KV v1 secrets engine to a KV v2
- You can't undo this upgrade
- ...and no....you can't go from KV v2 to KV v2

```
$ vault kv enable-versioning training/  
Success! Tuned the secrets engine at: training/
```

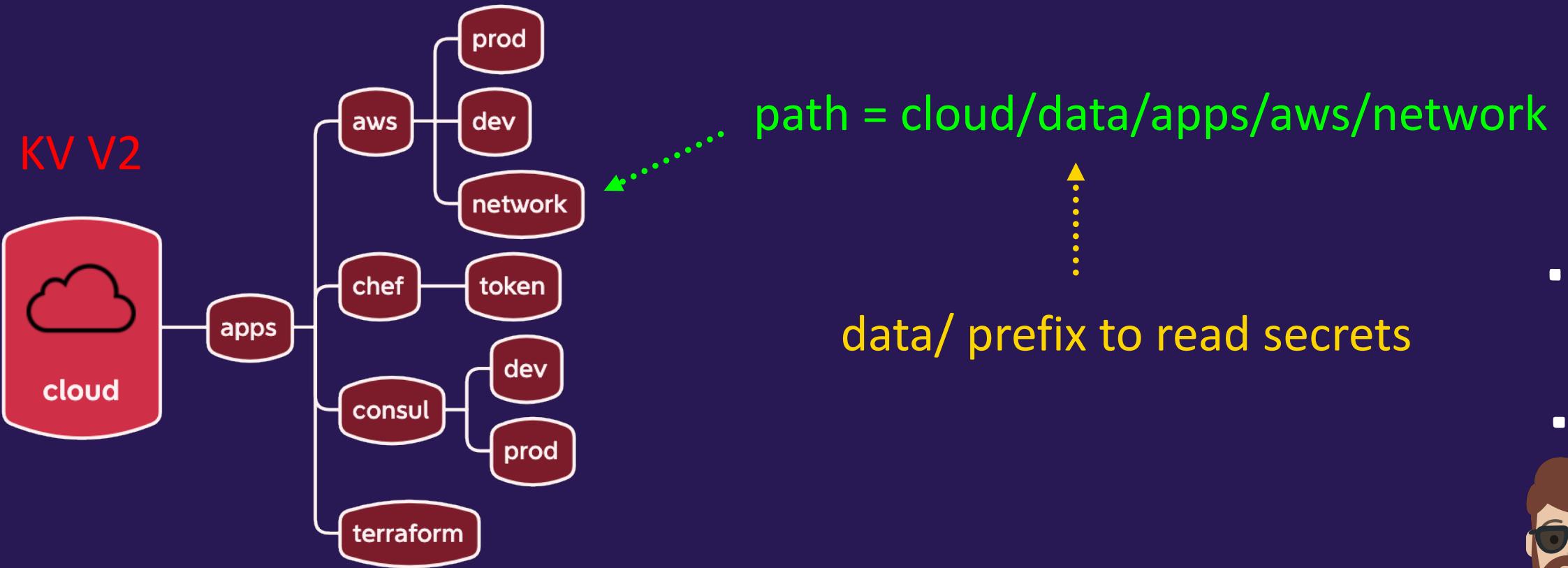


# How is KV V2 Different?

- To support versioning, KV V2 adds **metadata** to our Key Value entries
- Used to determine creation date, the version of the secret, etc.
- Introduces **two prefixes** that must be accounted for when referencing secrets and/or metadata
  - **cloud/data** – data is where the actual K/V data is stored
  - **cloud/metadata** – the metadata prefix stores our metadata about a secret



# How is KV V2 Different?



# How is KV V2 Different?

Important Operational Concept about KV V2!

- The `data/` and `metadata/` prefix is required for API and when writing Vault policies
- It does **NOT** change the way you interact with the KV store when using the CLI

Don't worry! Examples in the next section!



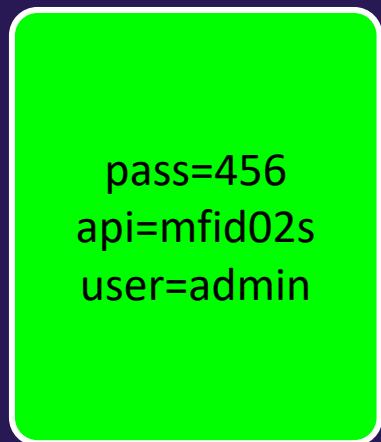
# How is KV V2 Different?

Versioning

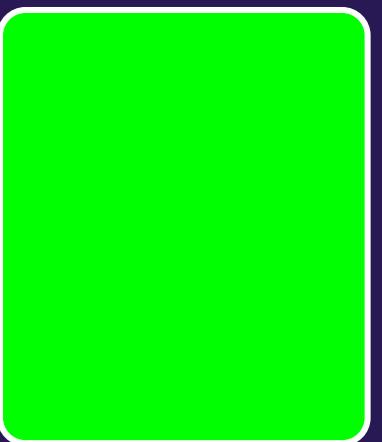
Write Secret



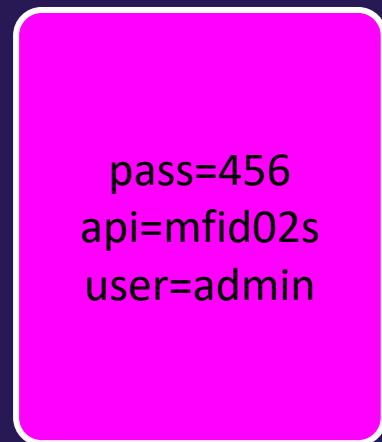
Update Secret



Delete Secret



Rollback Secret



v1

v2

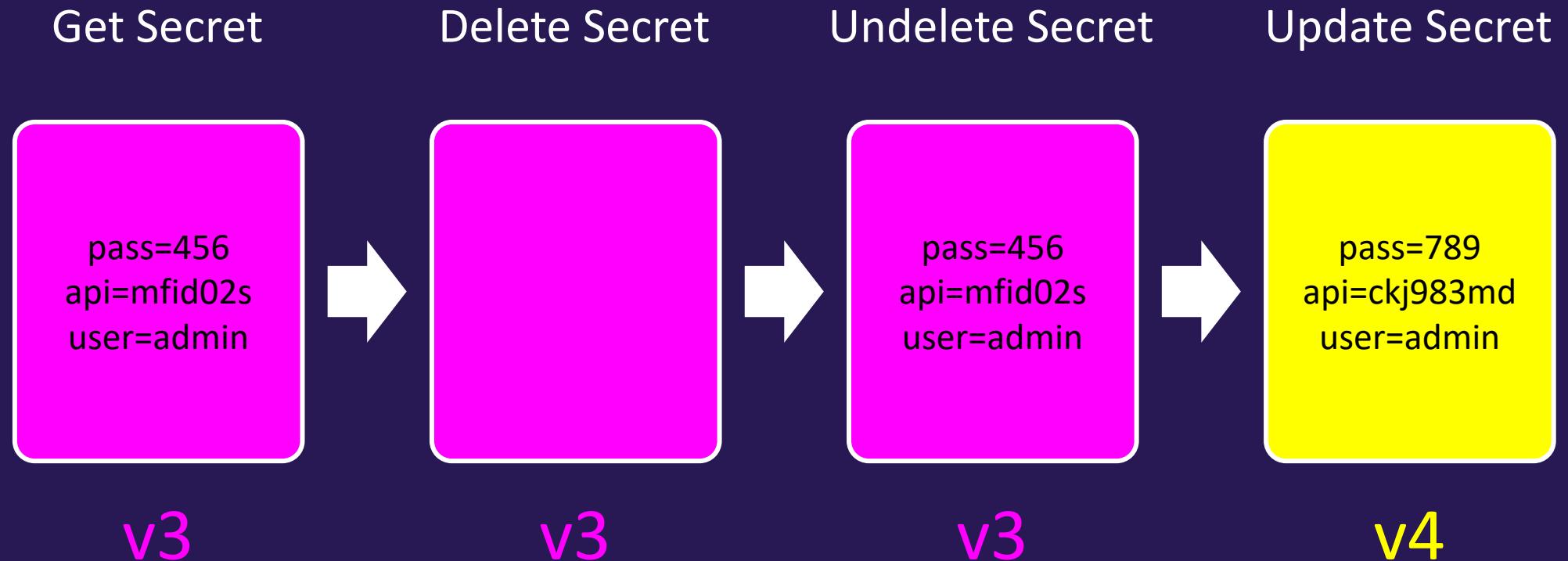
v2

v3



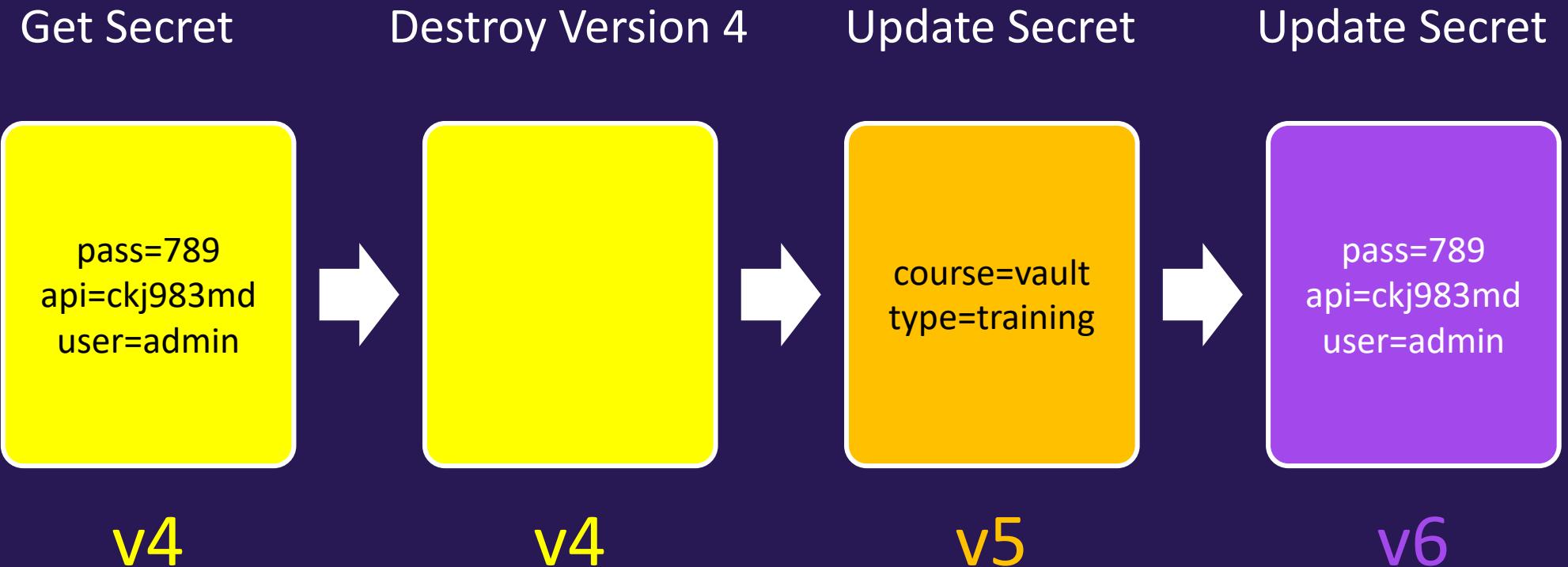
# How is KV V2 Different?

Versioning...Continued



# How is KV V2 Different?

Versioning...Continued



# Working with KV using the CLI

Use the `vault kv` command

- `put` - write data to the KV
- `get` - read data from the KV
- `delete` - delete data from the KV
- `list` - list data within the KV (paths)
- `undelete` - undelete version of secret
- `destroy` - permanently destroy data
- `patch` - add specific key in the KV
- `rollback` - recover old data in the KV

Only available  
for KV V2



# Writing Data to the KV Store

Compare KV Version 1 and Version 2



KV Version 1

```
$ vault kv put kv/app/db pass=123  
Success! Data written to: kv/app/db
```



KV Version 2

```
$ vault kv put kv/app/db pass=123  
  
Key          Value  
---          ---  
creation_time 2022-12-15T04:35:56.395821Z  
deletion_time n/a  
destroyed     false  
version       1
```

The CLI command is the same, but we get different output behavior



# Writing Data to the KV Store

Command Line Interface (CLI)

```
vault kv put kv/app/db pass=123
```

Command  
when  
working  
with the  
KV Store

Sub-  
command

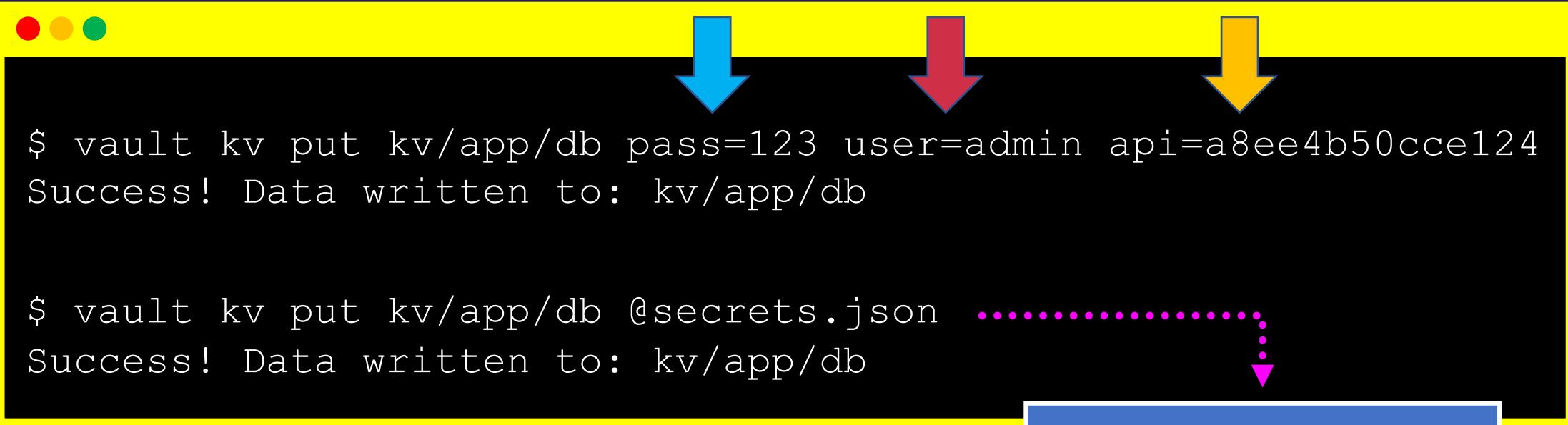
Path where you want to  
store the KV pair

Data to store –  
entered as KV pairs



# Writing Data to the KV Store

What if I have a bunch of key/value pairs?



```
$ vault kv put kv/app/db pass=123 user=admin api=a8ee4b50cce124
Success! Data written to: kv/app/db

$ vault kv put kv/app/db @secrets.json
Success! Data written to: kv/app/db
```

```
{
  "pass": "123",
  "user": "admin",
  "api": "a8ee4b50cce124"
}
```



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Important Things to Remember

- Writing a new secret will **replace the old value**

Terminal

```
$ vault kv get kv/app/db
=====
Metadata =====
Key          Value
---          ---
created_time 2022-02-21T14:03:02.062236Z
version      3
<output abbreviated>

=====
Data =====
Key          Value
---          ---
pass         123
user         admin
api          a8ee4b50cce124
```

Maybe I want to update the  
value of api key but nothing else



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Important Things to Remember

What will happen if I run the following command?



Terminal

```
$ vault kv put kv/app/db api=39cms1204mfi2m
```



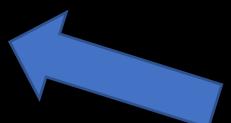
# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Important Things to Remember

Terminal

```
$ vault kv put kv/app/db api=39cms1204mfi2m
```

Key	Value
---	-----
created_time	2022-12-21T14:40:26.886255Z
custom_metadata	<nil>
deletion_time	n/a
destroyed	false
version	2



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Important Things to Remember

```
$ vault kv get kv/app/db

===== Metadata =====
Key          Value
---          ---
created_time    2022-12-21T14:40:26.886255Z
custom_metadata <nil>
deletion_time   n/a
destroyed       false
version         2

== Data ==
Key      Value
---      ---
api      39cms1204mfi2m
```

A write is NOT a merge



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

All you wanted to do was update the api  
but now you've lost your data?

What can we do?



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Recover Your Data using Rollback



```
$ vault kv rollback -version=1 kv/app/db
```

Key	Value
---	----
created_time	2022-12-21T14:49:23.746331Z
custom_metadata	<nil>
deletion_time	n/a
destroyed	false
version	3



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Recover Your Data using Rollback

Terminal

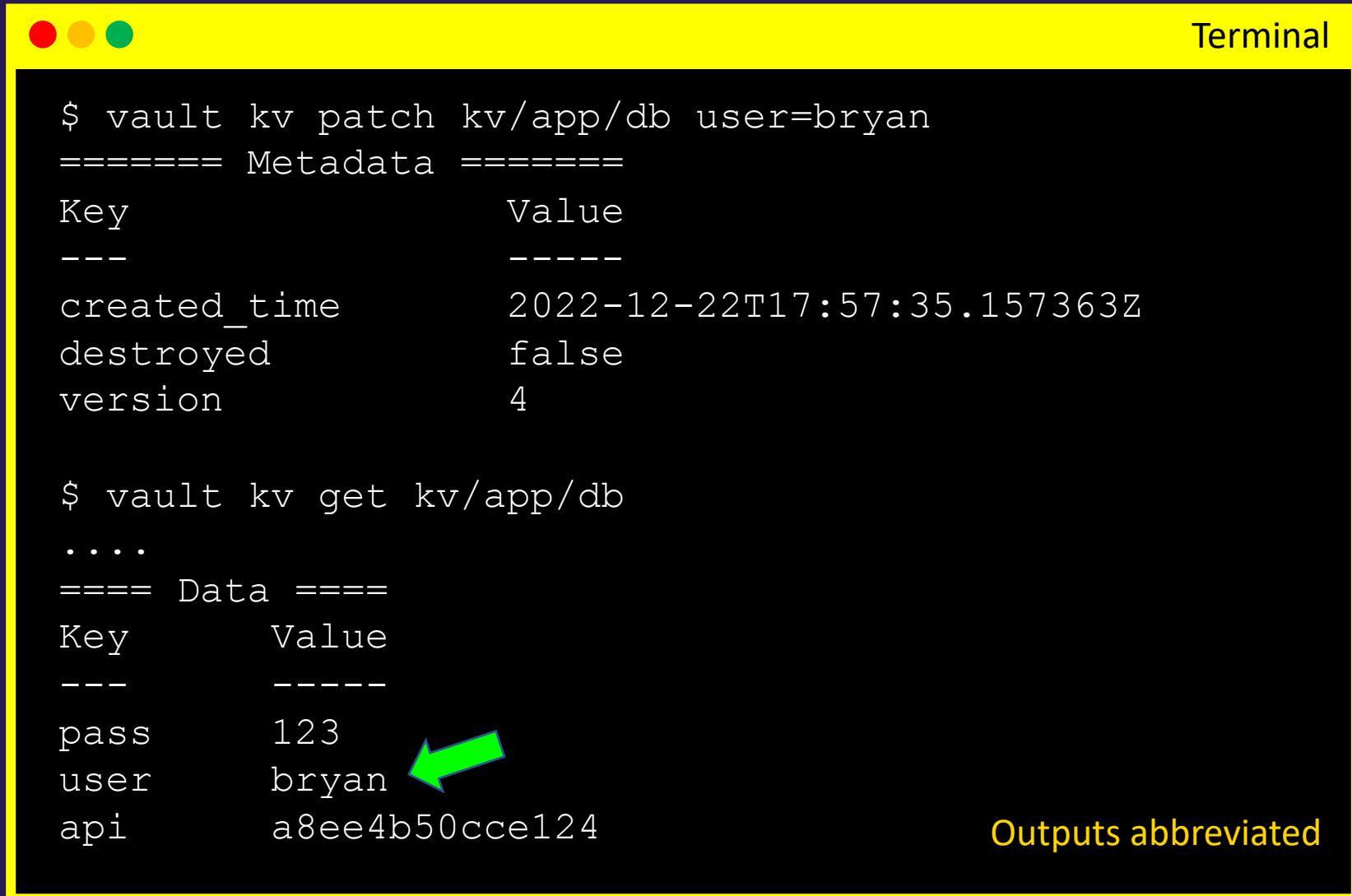
```
$ vault kv get kv/app/db
===== Metadata =====
Key          Value
---          ---
created_time    2022-02-21T14:03:02.062236Z
<output abbreviated>

===== Data =====
Key          Value
---          ---
pass        123
user        admin
api         a8ee4b50cce124
```



# Writing Secrets to the KV Store

## Patch Your Data



Terminal

```
$ vault kv patch kv/app/db user=bryan
=====
Metadata
Key          Value
---          ---
created_time 2022-12-22T17:57:35.157363Z
destroyed    false
version      4

$ vault kv get kv/app/db
...
=====
Data
Key          Value
---          ---
pass         123
user         bryan
api          a8ee4b50cce124
```

Outputs abbreviated



# Reading Secrets from the KV Store

## Compare KV Version 1 and Version 2



KV Version 1

```
$ vault kv get kv/app/db  
=====Data=====  
Key          Value  
---          ----  
pass         123  
user         admin  
api          a8ee4b50cce124
```



KV Version 2

```
$ vault kv get kv/app/db  
=====Metadata=====  
Key          Value  
---          ----  
creation_time 2022-12-15T04:35:56.395821Z  
deletion_time n/a  
destroyed     false  
version       1  
  
=====Data=====  
Key          Value  
---          ----  
pass         123  
user         admin  
api          a8ee4b50cce124
```

The CLI command is the same, but we get different output behavior



# Reading Secrets from the KV Store

## Output

```
KV Version 2  
$ vault kv get kv/app/db  
=====Metadata=====  
Key          Value  
---          ----  
creation_time 2022-12-15T04:35:56.395821Z  
deletion_time n/a  
destroyed     false  
version       1  
  
=====Data=====  
Key          Value  
---          ----  
pass         123  
user         admin  
api          a8ee4b50cce124
```

Default output type is table



# Reading Secrets from the KV Store

## Output

```
KV Version 2  
$ vault kv get -format=json kv/app/db  
{  
  "request_id": "249fca06-a8ce-5617-d598-1c12384d4ac8",  
  "lease_id": "",  
  "lease_duration": 0,  
  "renewable": false,  
  "data": {  
    "data": {  
      "pass": "123",  
      "user": "admin",  
      "api": "a8ee4b50cce124",  
    },  
    "metadata": {  
      "created_time": "2022-12-21T13:59:29.917893Z",  
      "custom_metadata": null,  
      "deletion_time": "",  
      "destroyed": false,  
      "version": 1  
    }  
  }  
}  
Output abbreviated
```

Change output format to json

Useful for creating machine-readable outputs



# Reading Secrets from the KV Store

## Important Things to Remember

- A regular `read` request will return the latest version of the secret
- If the latest version of the secret has been deleted (KV V2), it will return the related metadata but no data (`secrets`)
- You can read a previous version of a secret (if one exists) by adding the `-version=x` flag to the request .....



Terminal

```
$ vault kv get -version=3 kv/app/db
```



# Deleting Secrets from the KV Store

- A `delete` on KV V1 is a delete – **the data is destroyed**
  - You'd have to restore Vault/Consul to retrieve the old data
- A `delete` on KV V2 is a soft delete – **data is not destroyed**
  - Data can be restored with a `undelete/rollback` action
- A `destroy` (only KV V2) is a permanent action – **destroyed on disk**
  - Cannot be restored except for a Vault/Consul restore action



# Deleting Secrets from the KV Store

KV V1 - Read Output after Deleting the Latest Version

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "Terminal". The window has a yellow header bar with three colored dots (red, orange, green) on the left. The main area is black with white text. It shows two commands being run:  
\$ vault kv delete secret/app/database  
Success! Data deleted (if it existed) at: secret/app/database  
  
\$ vault kv get secret/app/database  
No value found at secret/app/database  
A large red arrow points from the text "No value found at secret/app/database" back towards the top-left of the slide, indicating a connection to the title.

```
$ vault kv delete secret/app/database
Success! Data deleted (if it existed) at: secret/app/database

$ vault kv get secret/app/database
No value found at secret/app/database
```

No values exist if you delete a secret at a path for KV V1



# Deleting Secrets from the KV Store

KV V2 - Read Output after Deleting the Latest Version



```
Terminal

$ vault kv delete secret/app/web
Success! Data deleted (if it existed) at: secret/app/web

$ vault kv get secret/app/web
=====
Metadata =====
Key          Value
---          ---
created_time 2022-12-15T17:41:41.13052Z
custom_metadata <nil>
deletion_time 2022-12-15T17:42:03.369955Z
destroyed    false
version      3
```

Only returned metadata but no data (since it was deleted)

# Destroy Secrets from the KV Store

KV V2 - Read Output after Destroying the Latest Version

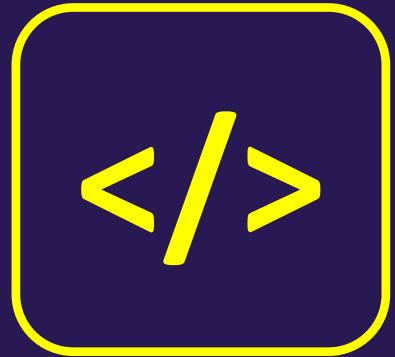
```
Terminal

$ vault kv destroy -versions=3 secret/app/web
Success! Success! Data written to: secret/app/web

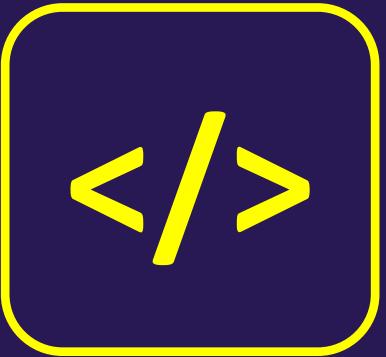
$ vault kv get secret/app/web
===== Metadata =====
Key          Value
---          -----
created_time    2022-12-21T14:49:23.746331Z
custom_metadata <nil>
deletion_time   n/a
destroyed       true
version         3
```



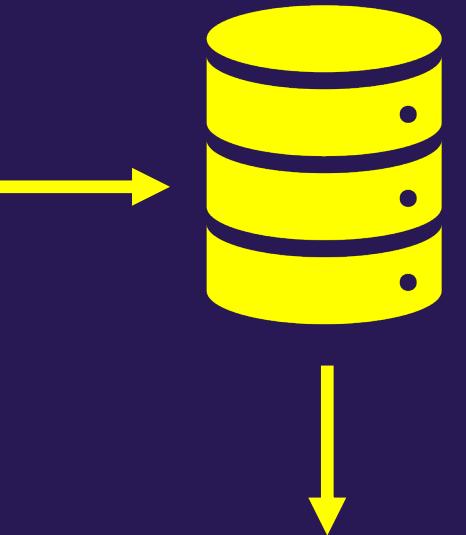
# Problems with Encryption in the Enterprise



Web Tier



App Tier



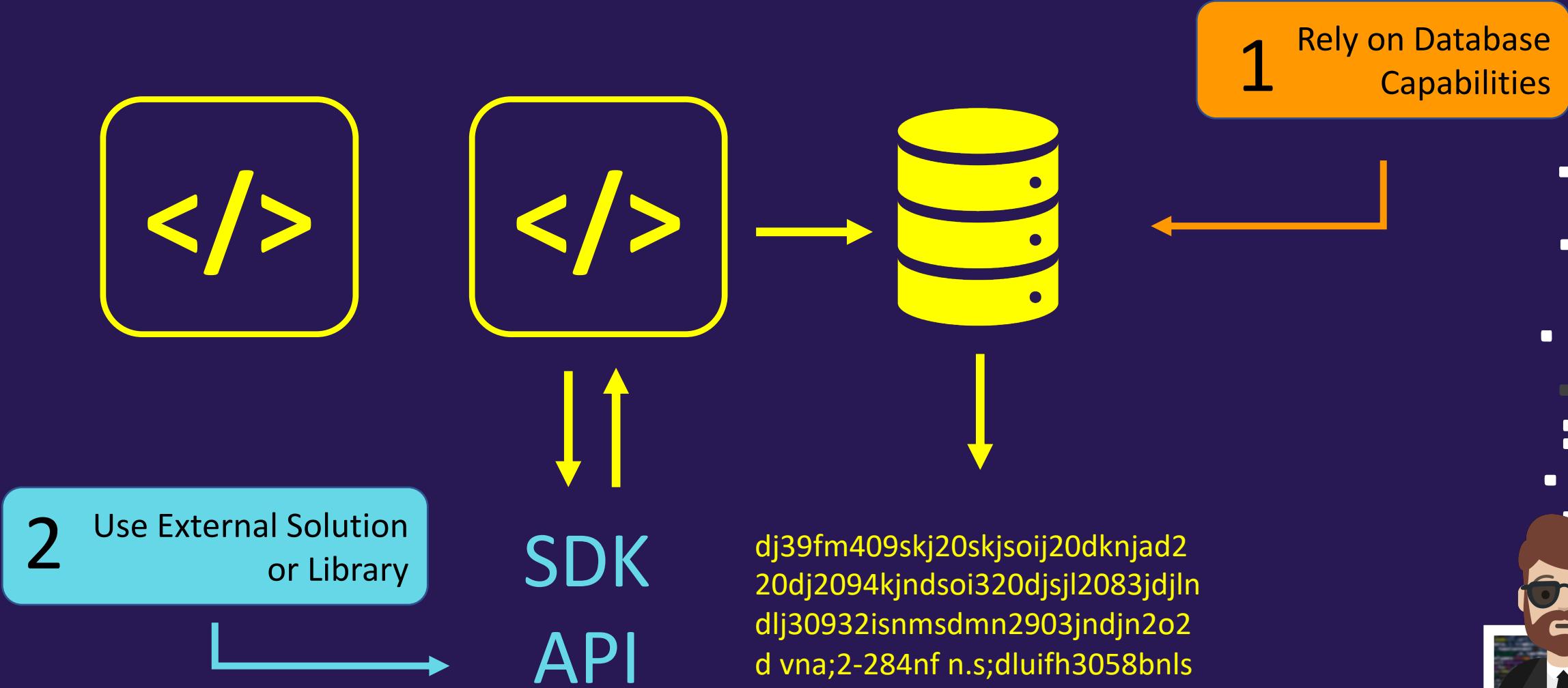
```
dj39fM4M02kY20sKRAijSDknjad2  
20dQ2094kj2345628f10208B3djl  
dljB0932i08/3d30n2903jndjn2o2  
d vDaB-284n25-2010ifh3058bnls
```

Yes!  
Encrypted in  
Much Better!



# Problems with Encryption in the Enterprise

Options to Encrypt our Data



# Problems with Encryption in the Enterprise

## Choosing a Database Platform for Our App



dj39fm409skj20skjslij20dknjad2  
20dj2094kjndsoi320djsjl2083jdjln  
dlj30932isnmsdmn2903jndjn2o2  
d vna;2-284nf n.s;dluifh3058bnls

### Ideal Database: Cassandra

but.....maybe it doesn't support the type/level of encryption we need

### Required Database: MSSQL

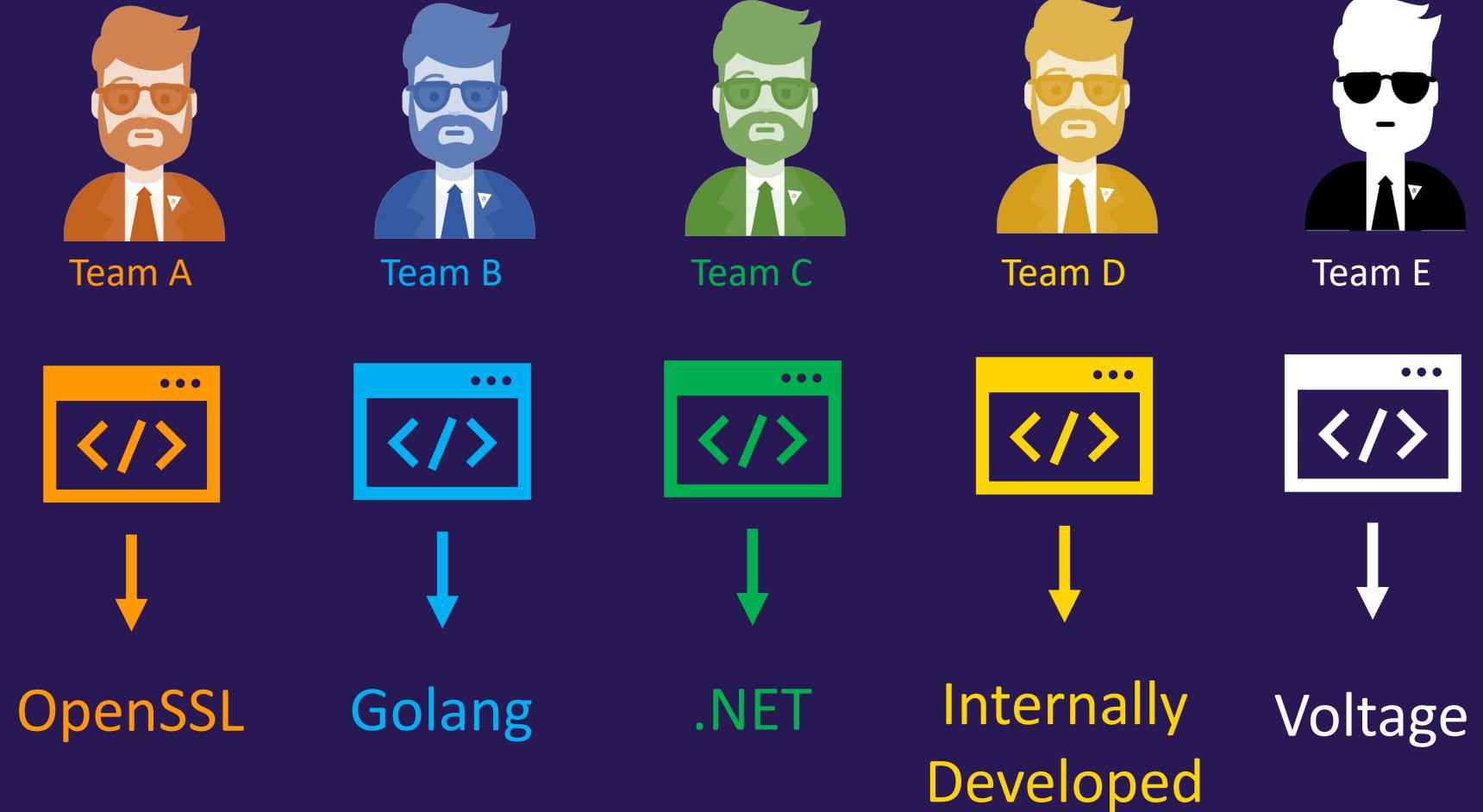
Only MSSQL features meet the requirements to encrypt our data

NOT IDEAL



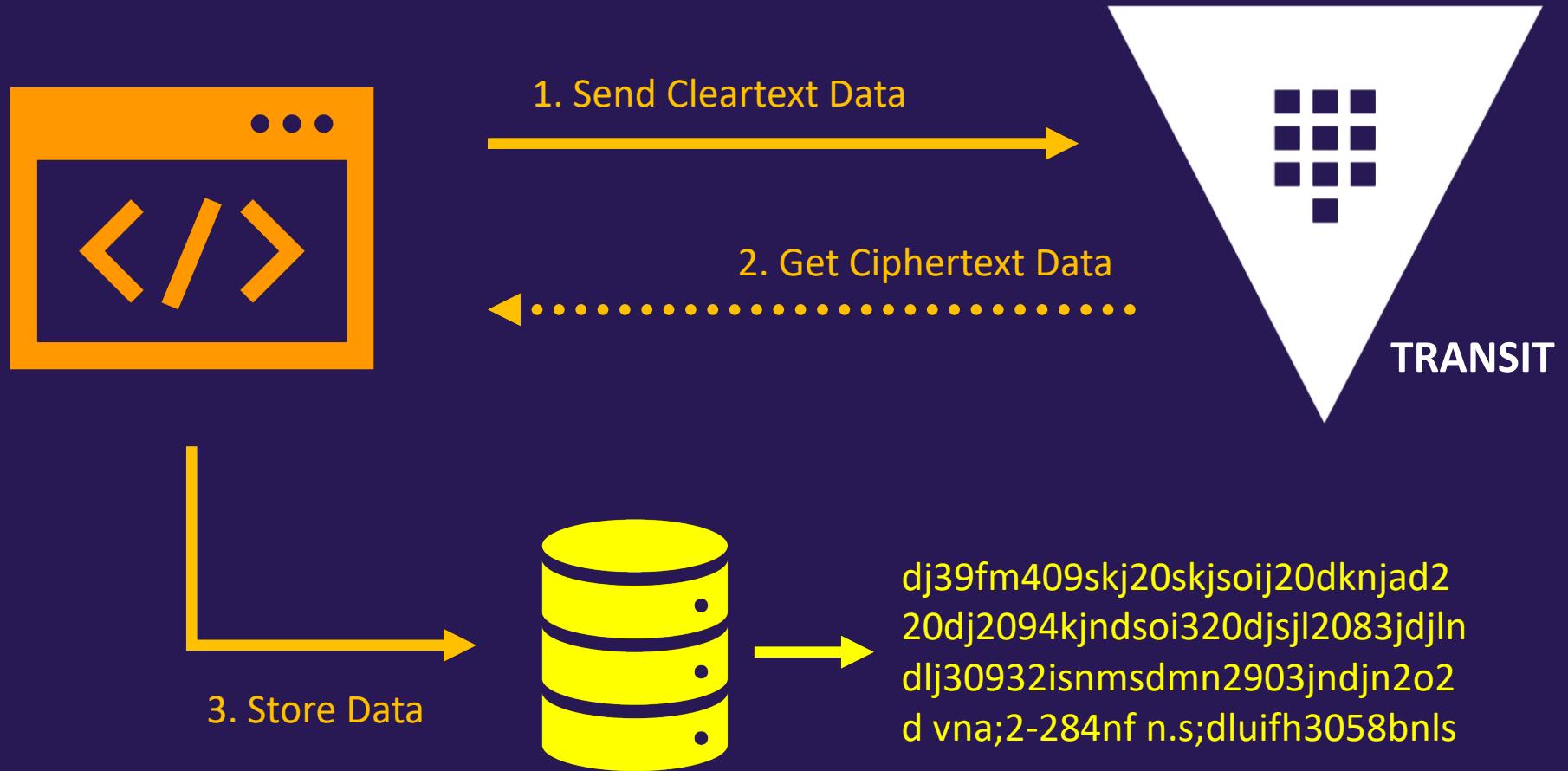
# Problems with Encryption in the Enterprise

Putting the Responsibility on the Developer



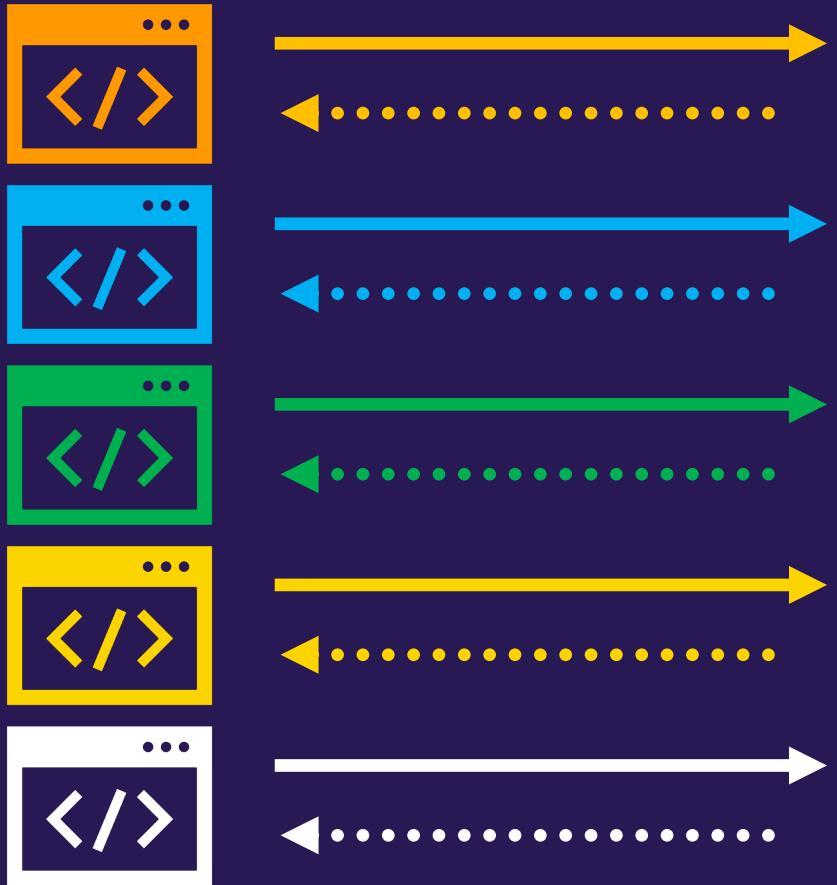
# Solution?

Use Vault's Transit Secrets Engine



# Solution?

Centralize the Organization's Encryption Needs



# Intro to Transit Secrets Engine

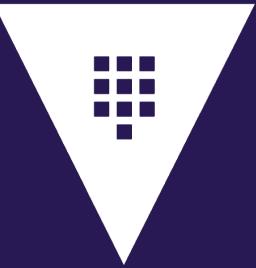
Transit secrets engine provides functions for encrypting/decrypting data

- Enables organizations to outsource/centralize encryption to Vault

Applications can send cleartext data to Vault for encryption

- Vault encrypts using the specified key and returns ciphertext to the app
- The application NEVER has access to the encryption key (stored in Vault)
- Decouples storage from encryption and access control





Transit secrets engine  
**DOES NOT STORE** the  
encrypted data

# Intro to Transit Secrets Engine

Encryption keys are **created and stored in Vault** to process data

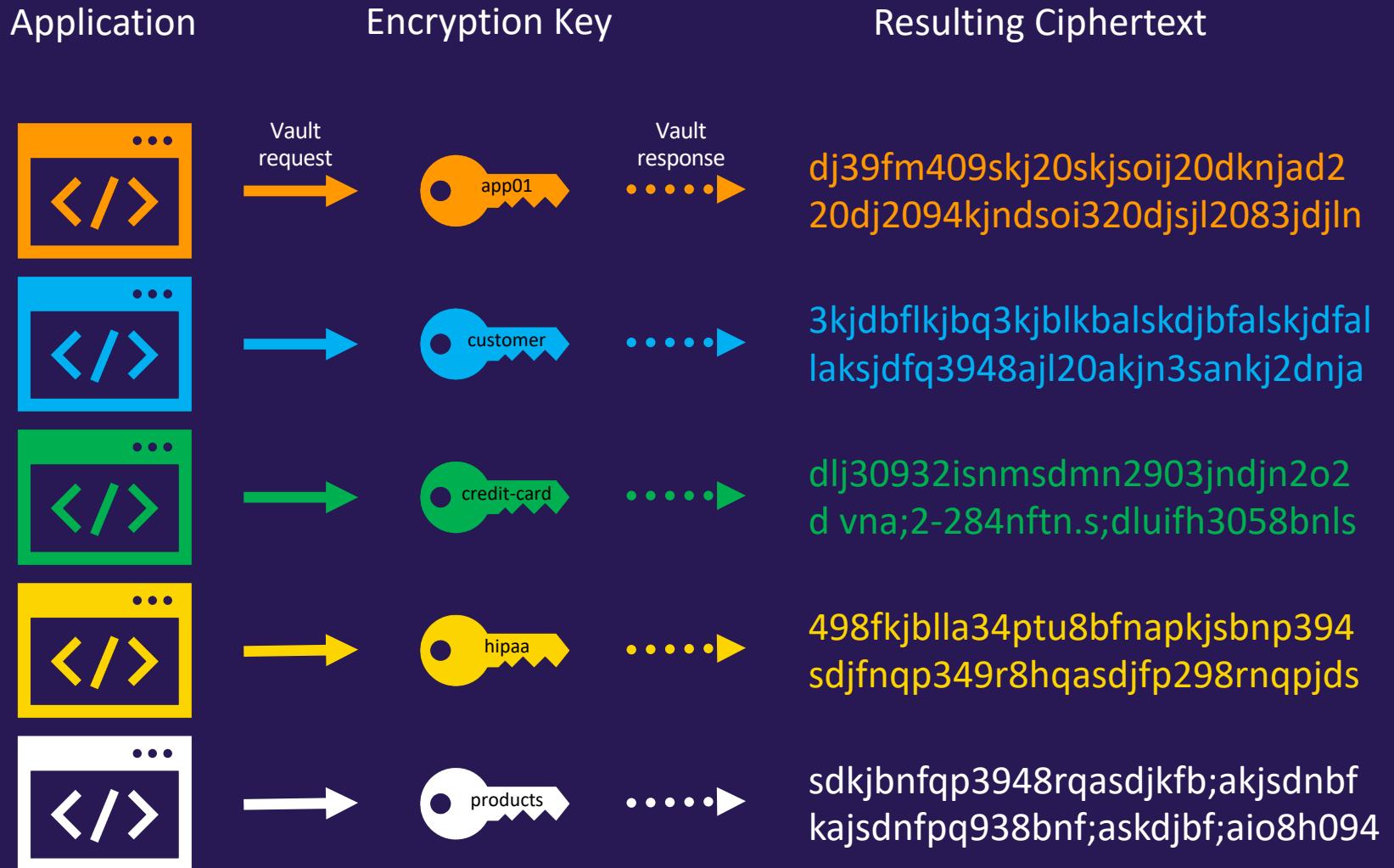
- Each application can have its own encryption key (or more!)
- Apps must have permission to use the key for encryption/decryption operations, which is bound by the policy attached to its token

Keys can be **easily rotated** as often as needed

- Keys are stored on keyring 
- Can limit what version(s) of keys can be used for decryption
- You can **create**, **rotate**, **delete**, and **export** a key (need permissions)
- Easily rewrap ciphertext with a newer version of a key



# Intro to Transit Secrets Engine



# Encryption Key Types

Key Type	Description
aes128-gcm96	AES-GCM with a 128-bit AES key and a 96-bit nonce; supports encryption, decryption, key derivation, and convergent encryption
aes256-gcm96	AES-GCM with a 256-bit AES key and a 96-bit nonce; supports encryption, decryption, key derivation, and convergent encryption (default)
chacha20-poly1305	ChaCha20-Poly1305 with a 256-bit key; supports encryption, decryption, key derivation, and convergent encryption
ed25519	Ed25519; supports signing, signature verification, and key derivation
ecdsa-p256	ECDSA using curve P-256; supports signing and signature verification
ecdsa-p384	ECDSA using curve P-384; supports signing and signature verification
ecdsa-p521	ECDSA using curve P-521; supports signing and signature verification
rsa-2048	2048-bit RSA key; supports encryption, decryption, signing, and signature verification
rsa-3072	3072-bit RSA key; supports encryption, decryption, signing, and signature verification
rsa-4096	4096-bit RSA key; supports encryption, decryption, signing, and signature verification



# Intro to Transit Secrets Engine

Vault also supports convergent encryption mode

- Means that every time you encrypt the **same data**, you'll get the **same ciphertext** back
- This enables you to have searchable ciphertext

## Encrypting Data

- All plaintext data **must be base64-encoded**
- This is because Vault doesn't require that the plaintext is "text" only. It could be a file such as a PDF or image
- But...**please understand that base64-encoding is NOT encryption**



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

## Enable the Secrets Engine

Before you can use the Transit secrets engine to encrypt data, it must first be enabled

- Can use the default path of `transit` or enable on another path

```
$ vault secrets enable transit
Success! Enabled the transit secrets engine at: transit/
```



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

## Create an Encryption Key

The next step is to create one or many **encryption keys** used to encrypt/decrypt data

```
$ vault write -f transit/keys/vault_training  
Success! Data written to: transit/keys/vault_training
```

Note: `-f` is shorthand for "force" and is needed on some Vault commands



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

## Encrypt Data

```
$ vault write -f transit/keys/training  
Success! Data written to: transit/keys/training
```

```
$ vault write -f transit/keys/training_rsa type="rsa-4096"  
Success! Data written to: transit/keys/training_rsa
```

Custom Key Type



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

## Encrypt Data

Pass the **cleartext data** to Vault – specifying the **action** and desired **encryption key** to use

```
$ vault write transit/encrypt/training \
  plaintext=$(base64 <<< "Getting Started with HashiCorp Vault")

Key          Value
---          -----
ciphertext   vault:v1:Fpyph6C7r5MUILiEiFhCoJBxelQbsGeEahal5LhDPSoN6HkTOhwn79DCwt0mct1ttLokqikAr0PAopzm2jQAKJg=
key_version  1
```



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

## Encrypt Data

Pass the **cleartext data** to Vault – specifying the **action** and desired **encryption key** to use

```
$ vault write transit/encrypt/training \
  plaintext=$(base64 <<< "Getting Started with HashiCorp Vault")

Key          Value
---          -----
ciphertext   vault:v1:Fpyph6C7r5MUILiEiFhCoJBxelQbsGeEahal5LhDPSoN6HkTOhwn79DCwt0mct1ttLokqikAr0PAopzm2jQAKJg=
key_version  1
```



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

Break Down The Command Used For Encryption

```
vault write transit/encrypt/training
```

Sub-command      Path where the  
                  Transit secrets  
                  engine was mounted  
                  (enabled)

The desired  
action

The encryption key  
you want to use



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

Break Down The Parameter Used For Encryption

```
plaintext=$(base64 <<< "Getting Started with HashiCorp Vault")
```

Required  
Parameter for  
Encryption  
operation  
(what are we  
going to encrypt?)

Base64 encode the string "Getting Started with  
HashiCorp Vault"

If your data is already base64 encoded, you  
can just pass it as is....you don't need to  
encode it again



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

Let's Look at the Output After Encrypting Data

Key	Value
---	-----
ciphertext	vault:v1:Fpyph6C7r5MUILiEiFhCoJBxelQ.....
key_version	1

This is the data that you would store in a database, file store, or anywhere so your application or organization can read later

The Key Version is built right into the ciphertext

Output abbreviated



# Working with the Transit Secrets Engine

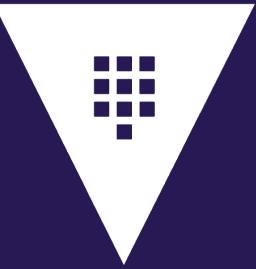
## Decrypt Data

Pass the **ciphertext** data to Vault – specifying the **action** and desired encryption key to use

```
$ vault write transit/decrypt/training \
  ciphertext="vault:v1:Fpyph6C7r5MUILiEiFhCoJBxelQbsGeEaha15LhDPSoN6HkTO....."

Key          Value
---          -----
plaintext    R2V0dGluZyBTdGFydGVkIHdpdGggSGFzaGlDb3JwIFZhhdWx0Cg==
```





# Rotating Encryption Keys

# Key Rotation

Transit allows for a simplified key rotation process

- keys can be rotated manually or by an <external> automated process

Vault maintains a versioned keyring

- All versions of the encryption key are stored
- Vault admins can limit the minimum key version allowed to be used for decryption operations (older keys won't work)
- You can rewrap encrypted data (ciphertext) to use a newer version of the encryption key



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Rotate an Encryption Key

Pass the **ciphertext data** to Vault – specifying the **action** and desired **encryption key** to use

```
$ vault write -f transit/keys/training/rotate  
Success! Data written to: transit/keys/training/rotate
```



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Rotate an Encryption Key

```
$ vault read transit/keys/training
Key          Value
---          -----
allow_plaintext_backup    false
deletion_allowed         false
derived                  false
exportable                false
keys                      map[1:1647960245 2:1647960257 3:1647961177]
latest_version            3
min_available_version     0
min_decryption_version   1
min_encryption_version   0
name                     training
supports_decryption      true
supports_derivation       true
supports_encryption       true
supports_signing         false
type                     aes256-gcm96
```

A green arrow points to the value '3' under the 'latest\_version' key. A pink bracket labeled 'keyring' spans the three entries in the 'keys' map.



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Key Configuration

- We can limit what version of the key can be used to decrypt data
  - Maybe we have old data that we have converted and don't want anybody to be able to decrypt it
  - This is configured using the minimum key version configuration
  - It can be configured for each encryption key (not key version)



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Key Configuration

# Minimum

# Key Version = 1

- vault:v1:jnaclvjabenpri  
ugbdkjbpiaeurbnlkcjab  
nlirufba;ksjdbnfpqi3u4  
bpq39bcjkpq349bnfda  
kjh4b9dbnajksbr3948f  
dja;siurn4398ebjkbalks  
jdbnfp3948fbhdjkbalij4  
8rh4938ebaskjbq9384  
hbfjdblaw948rhfjasdu



- vault:v2:bn348naksjnd  
fp3948fnasjdfnp92348  
rh=qe9fnv;kjndfpq34r  
89qjfdvjmNdf230r89qj  
vnmndf148fnadjkvn23  
8rhqeojdfnvq3948rhq  
39ruincsajkvnpq9384h  
qpjisnv;aksjdnf9q384h  
fjdsnlaisjnfq9384hr938



- vault:v3:498fknb49ub  
nalkxcnbvpq394ufbap  
kxjnfpq93u4fbalskjdnb  
vpq93u4fbalskndff3sss  
vp3084fhqeubvaksjdhf  
pq938rfhpqekjfdbvlaks  
jdnvq3948fhgfdjabnlsk  
rjbnre3pq9uesdkjnrfi  
unaklns394njksalskern



- vault:v4:zowkdjcbvlqei  
k4uth4b39ubdjifbow4  
8rubg048rbjfkdobfsiug  
b0w8rubglkjdfbg028y4  
r5bgoadhjfbg0q8purbl  
akjbpaieurhq83urbgla  
kjbpvpqieurbgpqijfbvlaif  
uhpq0w9eurbfpakjdbf  
vlakdjfbngqiasdf34dsfa



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Key Configuration



vault:v1:jnaclvjabenpri  
ugbdkjbpiaeurbnlkcjab  
nlirufba;ksjdbnfpqi3u4  
bpq39bcjkpq349bnfda  
kjh4b9dbnajksbr3948f  
dja;siurn4398ebjkbalks  
jdbnfp3948fbhdjkbal4  
8rh4938ebaskjbq9384  
hbfjdblaw948rhfjasdu



vault:v2:bn348naksjnd  
fp3948fnasjdfnp92348  
rh=qe9fnv;kjndfpq34r  
89qjfdvjmNdf230r89qj  
vnmndf148fnadjkvn23  
8rhqeojdfnvq3948rhq  
39ruincsajkvnpq9384h  
qpjisnv;aksjdnf9q384h  
fjdsnlaisjnfq9384hr938



vault:v3:498fknb49ub  
nalkxcnbvpq394ufbap  
kxjnpq93u4fbalskjdnb  
vpq93u4fbalskndff3sss  
vp3084fhqeubvaksjdhf  
pq938rfhpqekjfdbvlaks  
jdnvq3948fhgfdjabnlsk  
rjbnre3pq9uesdkjnrfi  
unaklns394njksalskern



Minimum  
Key Version = 4



vault:v4:zowkdjcbvlqei  
k4uth4b39ubdjifbow4  
8rubg048rbjfkdoobsfiug  
b0w8rubglkjdfbg028y4  
r5bgoadhjfbg0q8purbl  
akjbpaieurhq83urbgla  
kjbvpqieurbgpqijfbvlaif  
uhpq0w9eurbfpakjdbf  
vlakdjfbngqiasdf34dsfa



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Setting the Minimum Decryption Version

```
$ vault write transit/keys/training/config \
min_decryption_version=4
```

```
Success! Data written to: transit/keys/training/config
```



# Working with Encryption Keys

## Rotate an Encryption Key

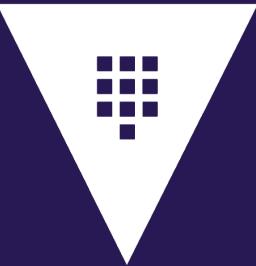
```
$ vault read transit/keys/training
Key          Value
---          -----
allow_plaintext_backup    false
deletion_allowed         false
derived                 false
exportable               false
keys                     map[4:1647962305]
latest_version           4
min_available_version    0
min_decryption_version  4
min_encryption_version  0
name                     training
supports_decryption     true
supports_derivation     true
supports_encryption     true
supports_signing        false
type                     aes256-gcm96
```

Only the key(s) equal or greater than  
the minimum key version are available



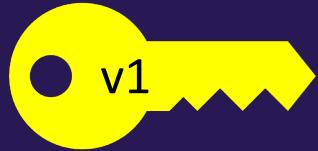


# Rewrapping Ciphertext



# Rewrapping Ciphertext

## Rewrapping Data



vault:v1:jnaclvjabenpri  
ugbdkjbpiaeurbnlkcjab  
nlirufba;ksjdbnfpqi3u4  
bpq39bcjkpq349bnfda  
kjw4b9dbnajksbr3948f

vault:v1:bn348naksjnd  
fp3948fnasjdfnp92348  
rh=qe9fnv;kjndfpq34r  
89qjfdvjjmNdf230r89qj  
vnmdf148fnadjkvn23

Data Encrypted in 2019

....but our key has been rotated 3 times since....

Rotated 2020



Rotated 2021



Rotated 2022



How can we upgrade our encrypted data to be  
encrypted by the latest version of the key?



# Rewrapping Ciphertext

## Rewrapping Data

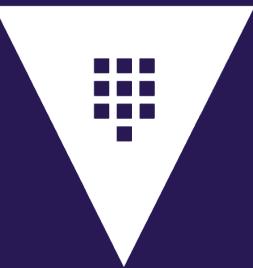
```
$ vault write transit/rewrap/training \
  ciphertext="vault:v1:Fpyph6C7r5MUILiEiFhCoJBxelQbsGeEaha15LhDPSoN6
  HkTOhwn79DCwt0mct1ttLokqikAr0PAopzm2jQAKJg=2/QGPTMnzKPlw4cCPGTbkzE
  PlX5OyPkLIgX+erFWdUXkkUIEb6D2Gm5ZjTaola314LsVkbLF5G1RkBTAactskk="
```

Key	Value
---	----
ciphertext	vault:v4:RFzp1kMpjtUIiS+6qxrnjIJEdPqCepFUa2ivr70.....
key_version	4



The data was never available in plaintext when  
rewrapping the data with the latest version of the key





# END OF SECTION