



# Avoiding an Identity Crisis

AUTHENTICATION WITH  
WINDOWS SERVER  
CONTAINERS



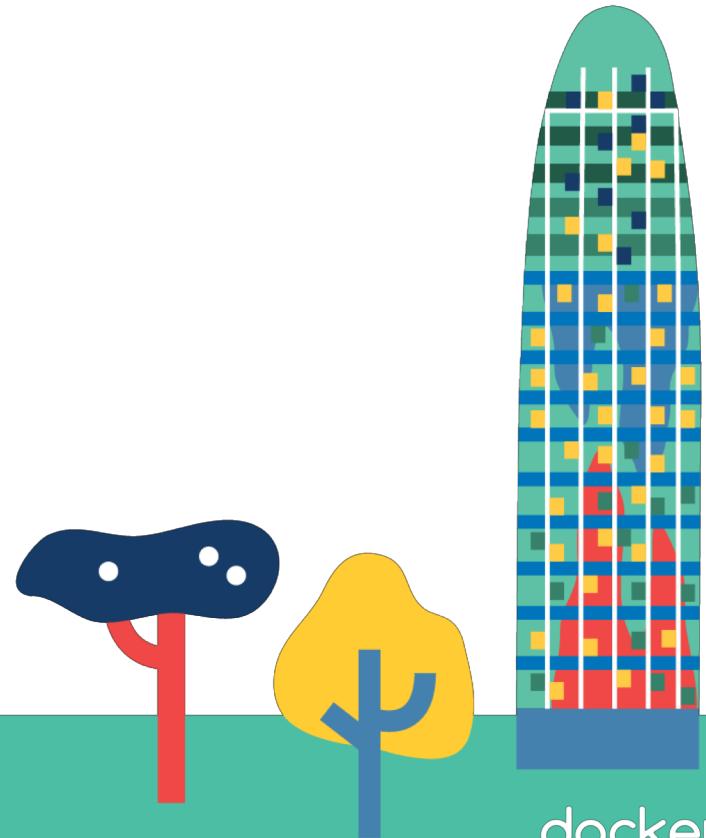
# Steven Follis

Solutions Engineer  
Docker Inc.



# Israel Vega

Principal PM Manager  
Commercial Software Engineering (CSE)  
Microsoft



# Today



**Authentication  
Options**

**Container  
Authentication**

**Clustered  
Environments**



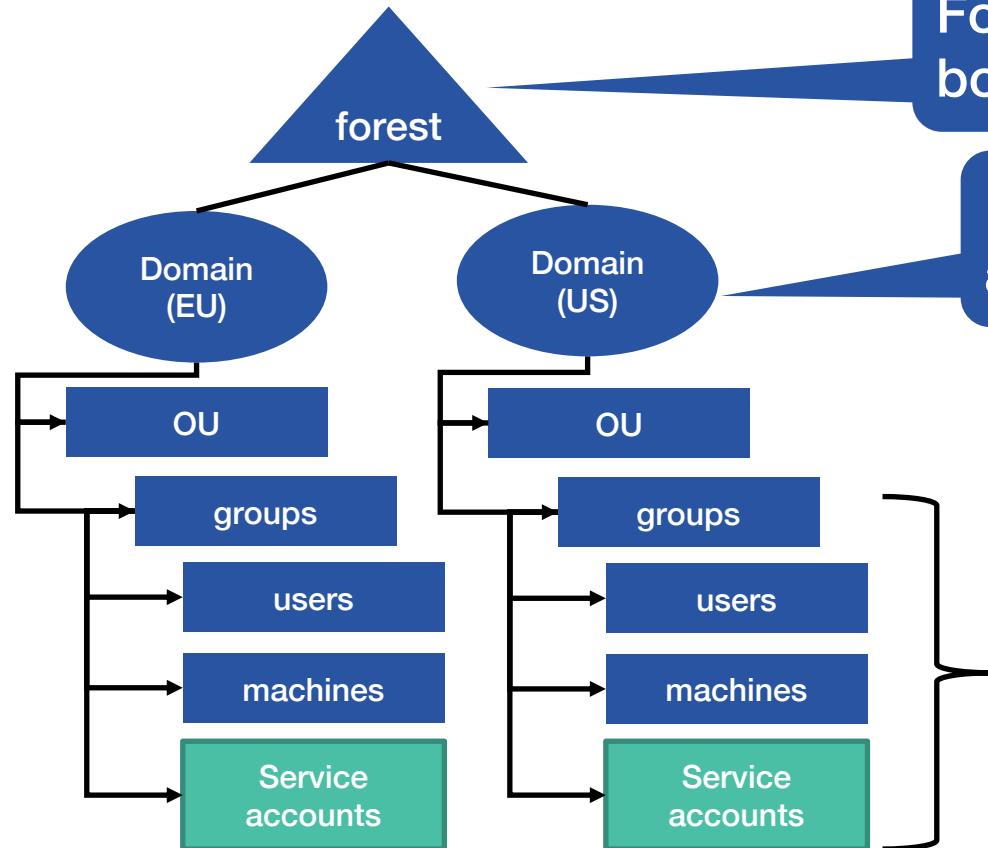
# Active Directory



docker  
con18  
EUROPE

# AD Basics – Logical Concepts

FQDN: corp.winid.net

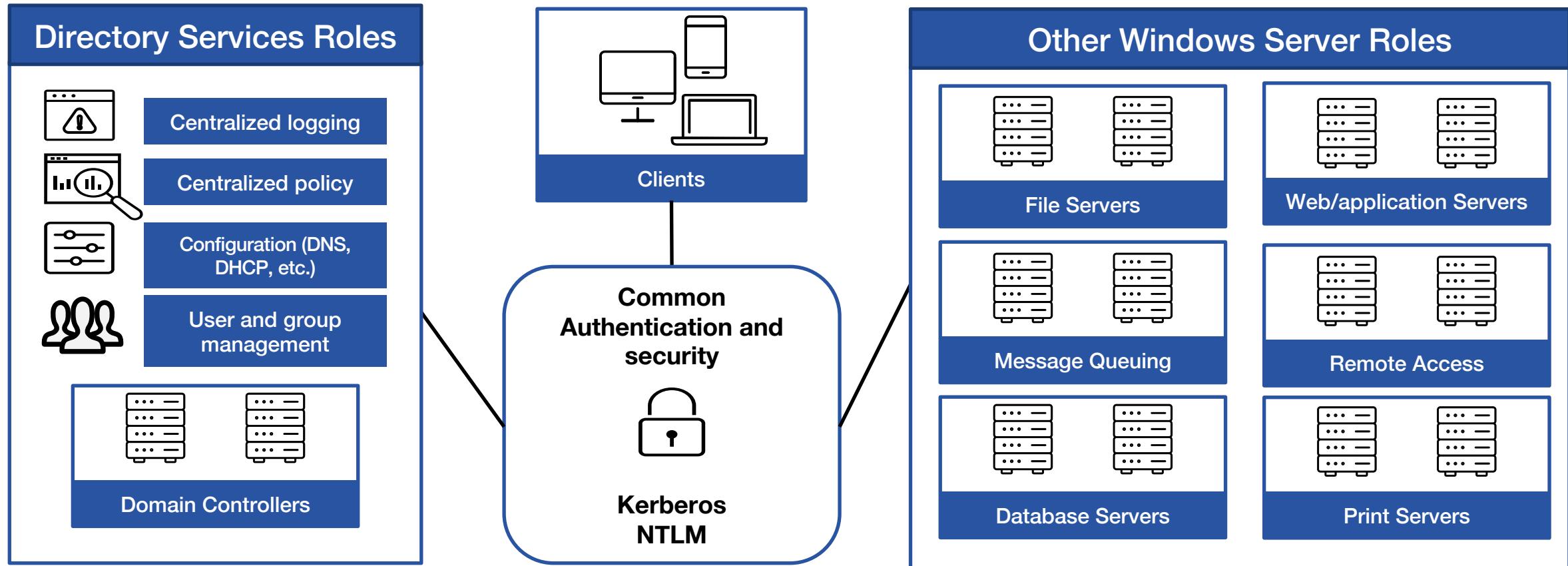


Forest=Top most security boundary

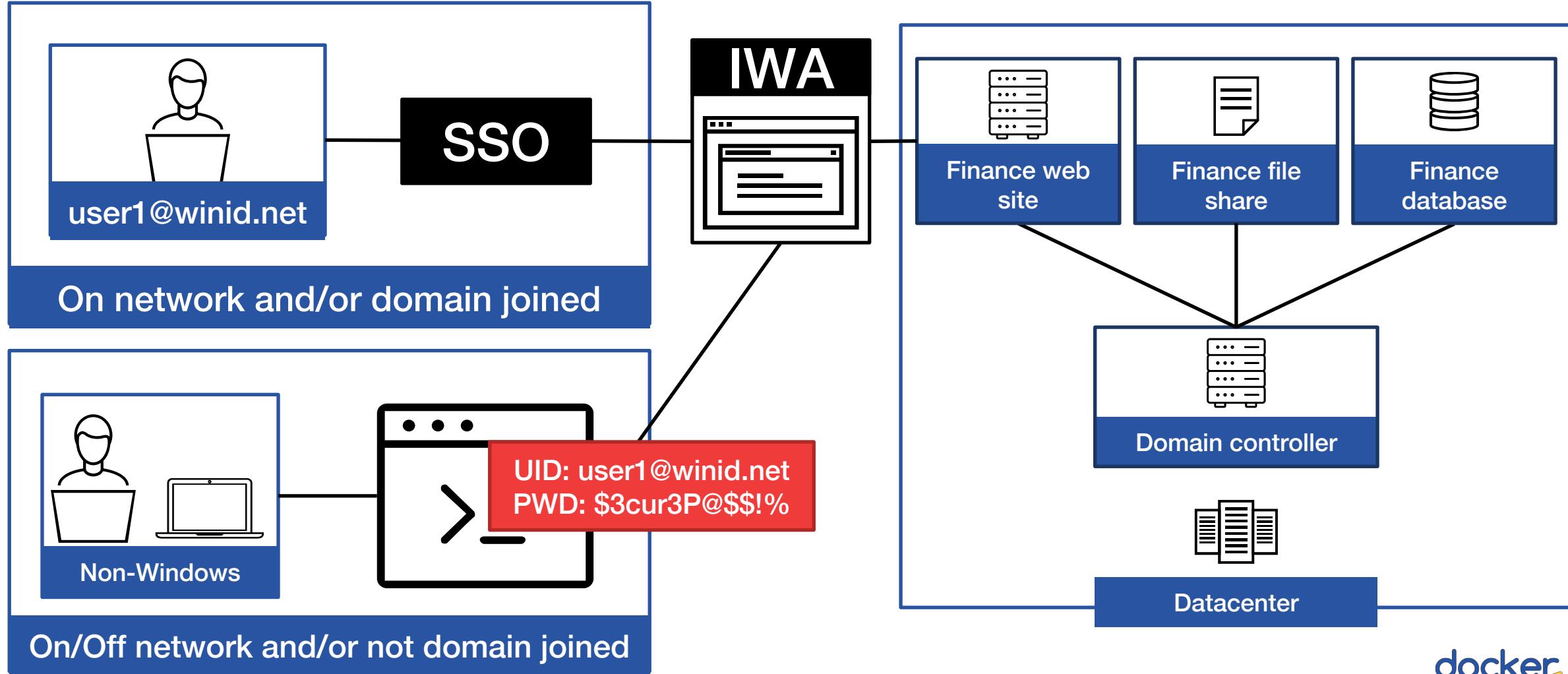
Domains=Replication and security boundary

Schema Objects= Identified by schema type, SIDs, sAMAccount Names, FQDNs, etc.

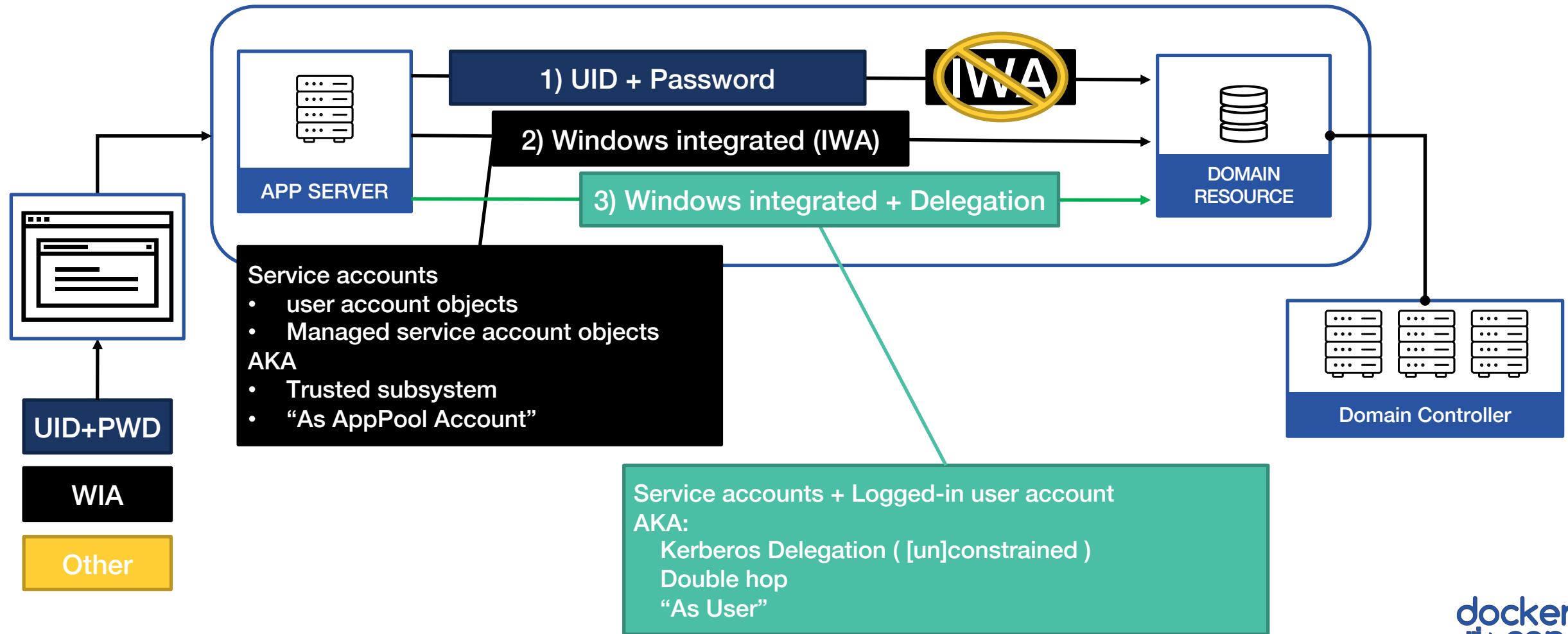
# AD Basics – Physical Concepts



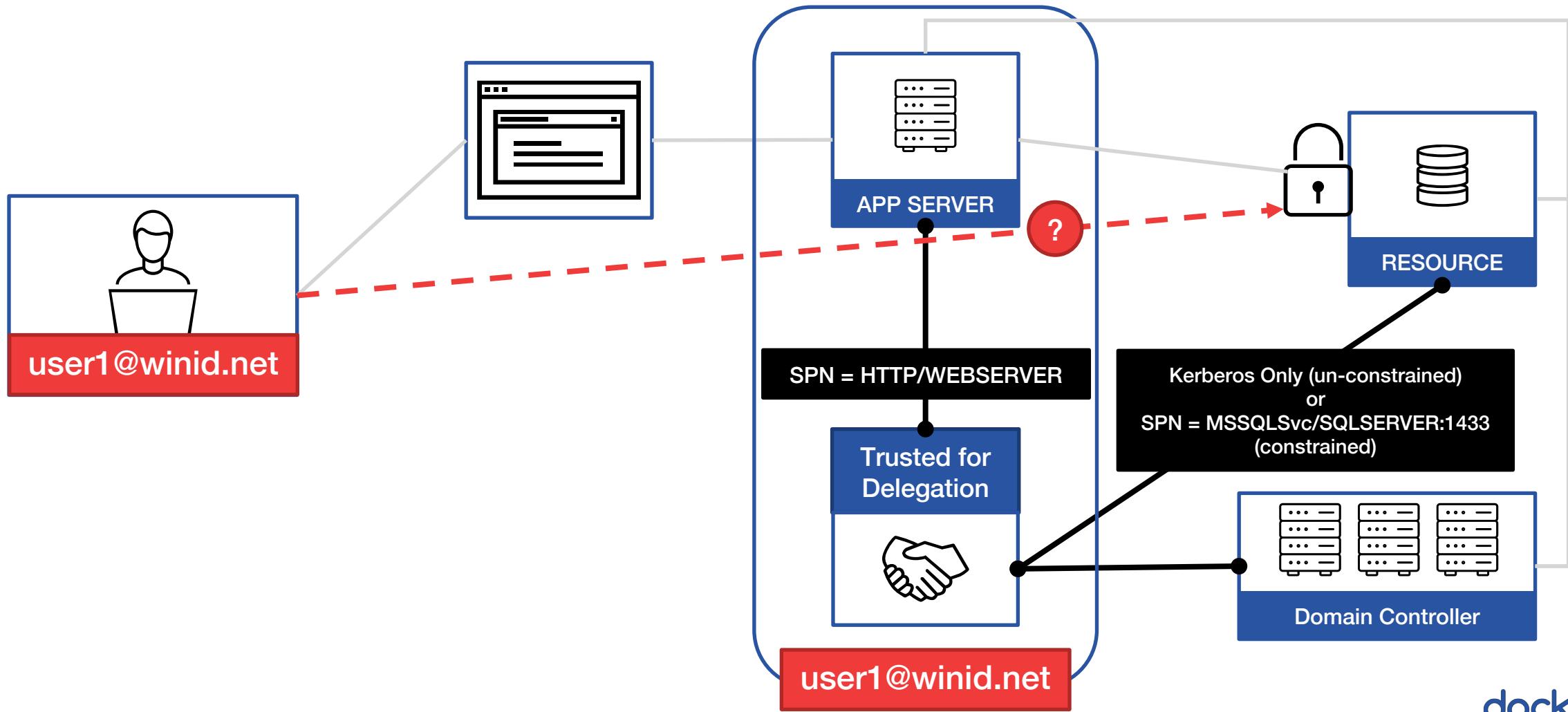
# Integrated Windows Authentication (clients)



# Integrated Windows Authentication (machines/apps)



# Kerberos [Un]Constrained Delegation



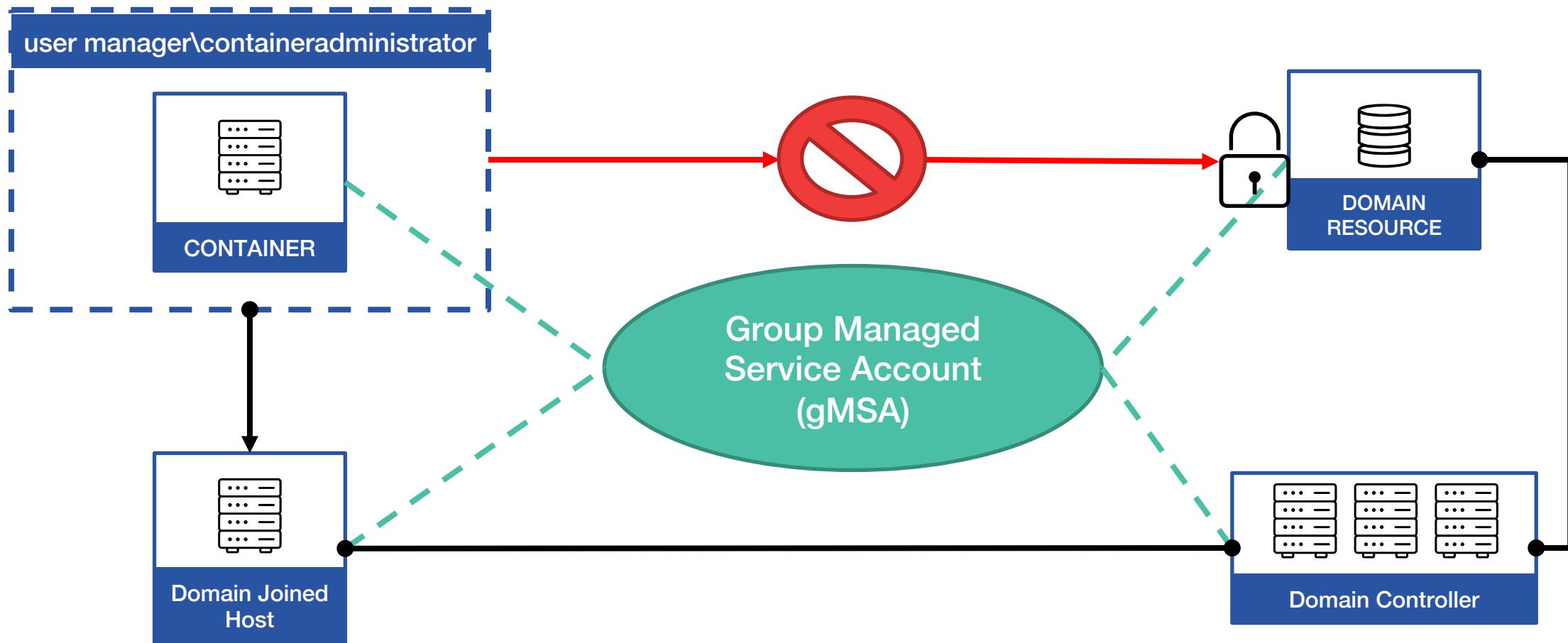
A photograph of a man sitting on a concrete ledge, working on a laptop. He is silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky. In the background, a city skyline is visible across a body of water. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and focused.

# Windows Container Authentication

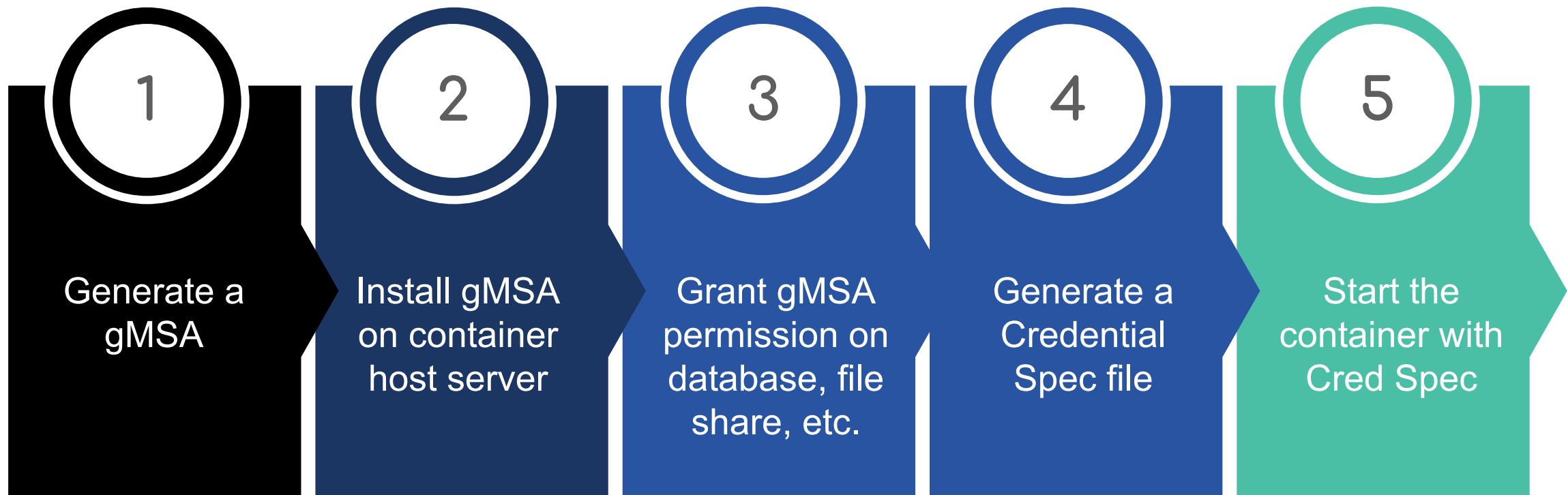


docker  
con 18  
EUROPE

# Windows Containers and IWA



# Setting up a gMSA



# Walkthrough: Setting Up a gMSA

# Set Up Key Distribution & Hosts

```
#Run this as a Domain Admin
```

```
#Run this once in the forest - CAUTION-Do not force replication in large environments
```

```
Import-Module ActiveDirectory  
Add-KdsRootKey -EffectiveTime ((get-date).addhours(-10));
```

Create a key to generate  
passwords

```
#Create a group to hold the container hosts
```

```
$containerHostName = "YOUR CONTAINER-HOST MACHINE NAME"  
$containerHostGroupName = "YOUR GROUP NAME FOR HOSTS i.e ContainerHosts"  
$containerHostGroupDisplayName = "DISPLAY NAME FOR YOUR GROUP i.e Windows Container Hosts"  
New-ADGroup -GroupCategory Security -Name $containerHostGroupName -DisplayName  
$containerHostGroupDisplayName -GroupScope Universal
```

```
#Add the container host machines to the group
```

```
Add-ADGroupMember -Members (Get-ADComputer -Identity $containerHostName) -Identity $containerHostGroupName
```

```
#validate that they were created-You will need to reboot the servers to update the membership
```

```
Get-ADGroup -Identity $containerHostGroupName
```

Create a group of computers that can  
access the gMSA password

# Set Up the gMSA Account

#For each gMSA

```
$gmsaAccount = "YOUR GMSA SAMACCOUNT NAME"  
$gmsaAccountFQDN = "YOUR GMSA FQDN"  
$containerHostGroupLdapCN = "YOUR CONTAINER HOSTS GROUP LDAP PATH i.e  
CN=ContainerHosts,CN=Users,DC=corp,DC=winid,DC=net"
```

Create a new gMSA

```
New-ADServiceAccount -Name $gmsaAccount -DNSHostName $gmsaAccountFQDN  
-PrincipalsAllowedToRetrieveManagedPassword "Domain Controllers", "Domain Admins", $containerHostGroupLdapCN  
-KerberosEncryptionType RC4, AES128, AES256  
-ServicePrincipalNames HTTP/$gmsaAccount, HTTP/$gmsaAccountFQDN
```

Additional configuration may be needed for delegation

# Install GMSA & Generate Cred Spec

#On the Container Host

```
Install-ADServiceAccount -Identity $gmsaAccount  
Test-ADServiceAccount -Identity $gmsaAccount
```

Install the gMSA on the container host

Invoke-WebRequest

```
"https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Microsoft/virtualization-Documentation/live/windows-server-container-tools/ServiceAccounts/CredentialSpec.psm1" -UseBasicParsing -OutFile $env:TEMP\cred.psm1
```

```
Import-Module $env:temp\cred.psm1
```

```
New-CredentialSpec -Name "$gmsaAccount-gmsa" -AccountName $gmsaAccount  
-Domain $(Get-ADDomain -Current LocalComputer)
```

```
Get-CredentialSpec
```

Create a new Credential Spec based on the gMSA

# Credential Spec File

```
1 {
2   "CmsPlugins": [
3     "ActiveDirectory"
4   ],
5   "DomainJoinConfig": {
6     "Sid": "S-1-5-21-1377523796-2563064692-4151516951",
7     "MachineAccountName": "gmsa-follis",
8     "Guid": "7cbc5c6a-7b74-4ed6-b6d4-bd7fc63ea43f",
9     "DnsTreeName": "corp.winid.net",
10    "DnsName": "corp.winid.net",
11    "NetBiosName": "WNIDNET"
12  },
13  "ActiveDirectoryConfig": {
14    "GroupManagedServiceAccounts": [
15      {
16        "Name": "gmsa-follis",
17        "Scope": "corp.winid.net"
18      },
19      {
20        "Name": "gmsa-follis",
21        "Scope": "WNIDNET"
22      }
23  }
```

Forest, domain and  
gMSA account  
information

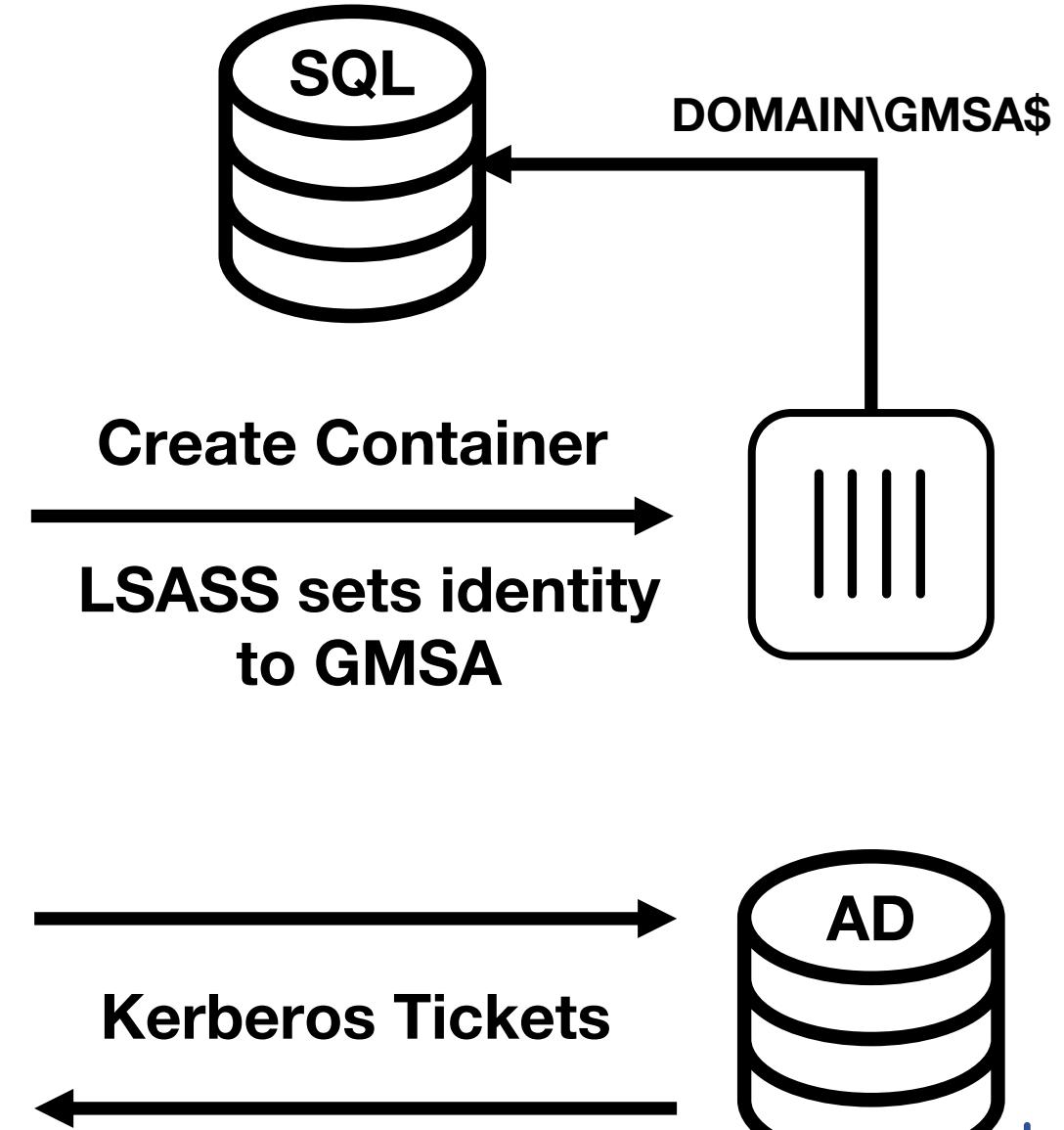
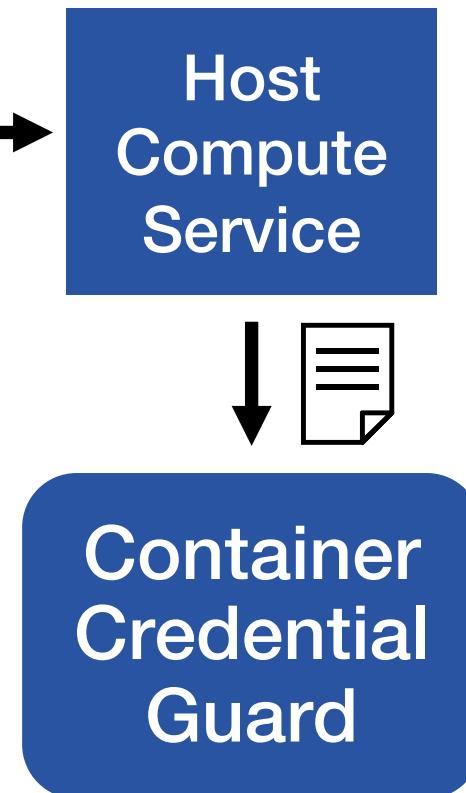
gMSA(s) for container  
[runtime]

```
New-CredentialSpec -Name gmsa-follis -AccountName gmsa-follis -Domain $(Get-ADDomain -Current LocalComputer)
```

# Under the Hood

`docker run`  
`docker compose up` →  
`docker stack deploy`  
`kubectl apply`

+  
Credential Spec





Recycle Bin

The screenshot shows the 'System' properties window in Control Panel. The title bar reads 'System'. The left sidebar lists 'Control Panel Home', 'Device Manager', 'Remote settings', and 'Advanced system settings'. The main content area is titled 'View basic information about your computer'. It shows the Windows edition as 'Windows Server 2008 R2 Datacenter', copyright information from 2009, and Service Pack 1. A large monitor icon is on the right. Below this, the 'System' section details processor (Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2673 v3 @ 2.40GHz), 2.40 GHz, installed memory (3.50 GB), system type (64-bit Operating System), and pen/touch input (No Pen or Touch Input is available for this Display). The 'Computer name, domain, and workgroup settings' section shows the computer name as 'DCEU-IIS08-01', full computer name as 'DCEU-IIS08-01.corp.winid.net', computer description as 'corp.winid.net', and domain as 'corp.winid.net'. There is a 'Change settings' link next to the computer name. The 'Windows activation' section indicates 'Windows is activated' with a Product ID of '00496-001-0001283-84201' and a 'Change product key' link. A 'See also' sidebar includes links to 'Action Center' and 'Windows Update'. A 'genuine Microsoft software' watermark is in the bottom right.



# IWA + Kerberos with Containers Quick Reference

Front End Login	Access to Backend Resource	Will Succeed	Requires gMSA	Notes
Anonymous, Basic, Other non-Windows	Trusted Subsystem with UID and PWD	Yes	No	Use UID and PWDs to connect to back end resources
Anonymous, Basic, Other non-Windows	IWA “As User”	No *	No *	No Windows User account to logon with
IWA	Trusted Subsystem	Yes	Yes	Configure GMSA to access back end resources or use UID and PWDs
IWA	IWA “As User”	Yes	Yes	Requires Kerberos delegation

\* Will work with identity/protocol transition or manual impersonation

# Demo: Authentication Scenarios in Windows Containers

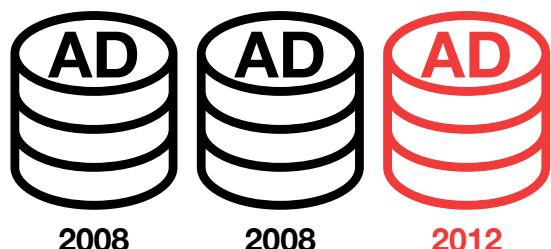
# Cluster Operations



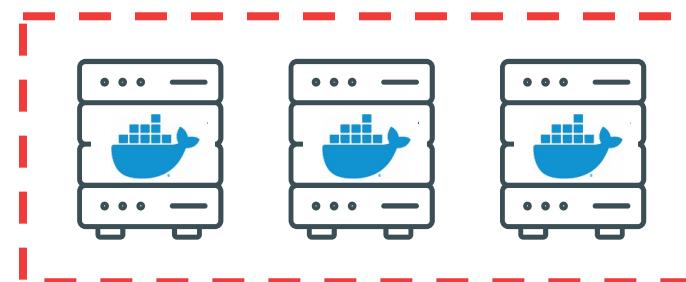
docker  
con 18  
EUROPE

# Working with your AD team

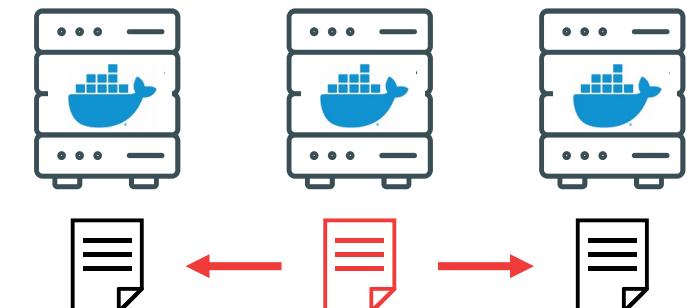
## 1. Deploy a 2012 DC



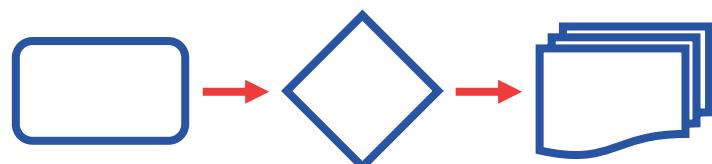
## 2. Group the nodes



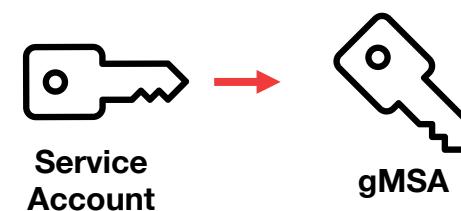
## 3. Distribute Cred Specs



## 4. Business Process



## 5. Map permissions



# Kubernetes

Support for Windows Server worker nodes expected to move from Beta to GA in Kubernetes v1.14



Initial Windows support will ship **without** the ability to use gMSAs

Alpha expected in 2019

Coming Soon

# Gotchas

- Windows Server 2016 Caveats (addressed in Windows Server 2019 )
  - The AD Service Principal Name (SPN) used when creating the gMSA must match the container hostname specified at creation time

```
docker run -d --hostname $gmsaAccount -p 80 `  
    --security-opt "credentialspec=file:///web1.json" `  
    dtr.moby.io/finance/webapp:103
```

- GMSAs must be unique ( 1:1 GMSA:Container )
- Instability when running gMSA containers with Hyper-V isolation

# Resources

Presentation GitHub

<https://github.com/stevenfollis/dceu18-windows-identity>

Microsoft Docs: Active Directory Service Accounts for Windows Containers

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/virtualization/windowscontainers/manage-containers/manage-serviceaccounts>

Deployment Walkthrough

<https://github.com/MicrosoftDocs/Virtualization-Documentation/tree/live/windows-server-container-tools/ServiceAccounts>

GitHub: Credential Spec Creation PowerShell Module

<https://github.com/MicrosoftDocs/Virtualization-Documentation/blob/live/windows-server-container-tools/ServiceAccounts/CredentialSpec.psm1>

# Migrate Legacy Windows Before End of Support

For more information visit:

<https://dockr.ly/WindowsServerUpgrade>



# Gracias!



# Common Questions with Windows Containers

## Can I use Azure AD, AWS IAM or other IDP?

- Not directly. You can use it to authenticate to your app using OAuth/Claims for the front end, but you can't use it for back end services (accept some cloud services).

## Can I use Azure Active Directory Domain Services (ADDS)?

- No since you need to be able to manage the GMSA which requires domain admin permissions

## Can I use an Azure Managed Service Identity?

- No. The identity type is an Azure AD Service Principal, not a valid Windows credential

## Can I use a certificate?

- It depends, some applications support cert based auth, but you may still need a valid Windows identity

## What about ADFS/PING/SiteMinder or other federation IDPs?

- May be used to authenticate users for front-ends, but back-end services may still need a GMSA

# Identifying Patterns in Existing Applications

- Try and login and view the auth flow
  - Are you prompted for credentials? If so, which credentials?
  - Do you need access to all resources or just the application?
- For web apps, check the web.config
  - IdentityImpersonate=true, AuthenticationMode=Integrated
  - Connection strings with embedded user ids, or trusted connection
- Get an account for the application and/or ask how someone gets access
  - Do they need to add you to a group?
  - Does the group have access to the app and the backend?
- For SQL Databases, ask the DBA for access
- Look for impersonation code, file system writes, database connections, LDAP calls, MSMQ