



PAN8 CYBERSECURITY ESSENTIALS

Lab 5: Managing Certificates

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Introduction

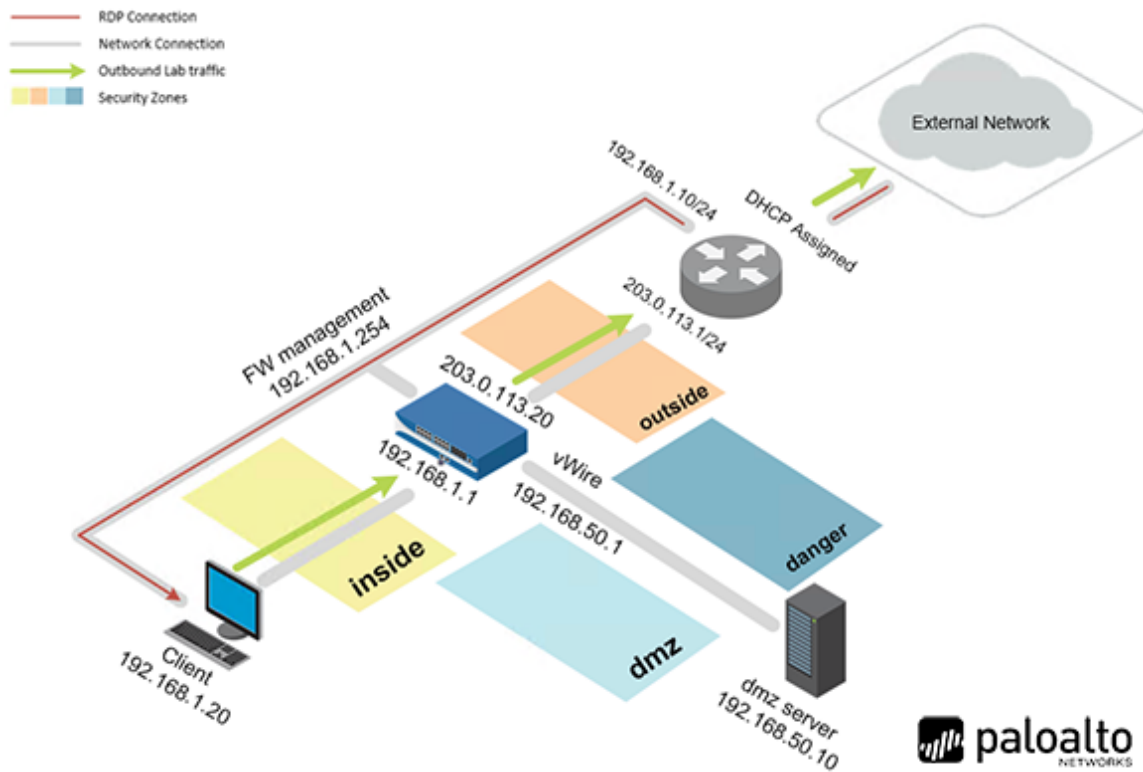
In this lab, you will generate a Self-Signed Root Certificate Authority (CA) certificate and replace the certificate for inbound management traffic. Then, you will import the root CA certificate on the Client machine.

Objective

In this lab, you will perform the following tasks:

- Generate Certificates
- Replace the Certificate for Inbound Management Traffic
- Export Certificate and Commit
- Test Connectivity and Import Certificate on the Client

Lab Topology



Lab Settings

The information in the table below will be needed in order to complete the lab. The task sections below provide details on the use of this information.

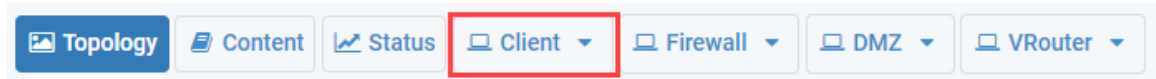
Virtual Machine	IP Address	Account (if needed)	Password (if needed)
Client	192.168.1.20	lab-user	Pal0Alt0
DMZ	192.168.50.10	root	Pal0Alt0
Firewall	192.168.1.254	admin	admin

5 Lab: Managing Certificates

5.0 Load Lab Configuration

In this section, you will load the Firewall configuration file.

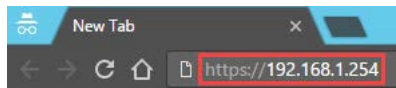
1. Click on the **Client** tab to access the Client machine.



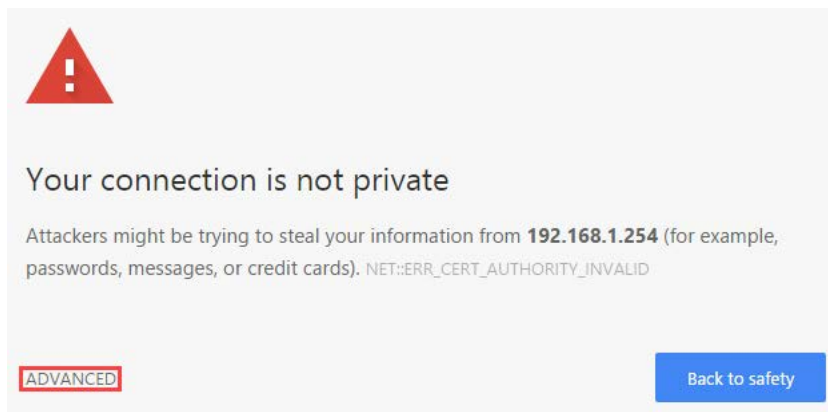
2. Login to the Client machine as username **lab-user**, password **Pa10A1t0**.
3. Double-click the **Google Chrome** icon located on the Desktop.



4. In the *Google Chrome* address field, type **https://192.168.1.254** and press **Enter**.

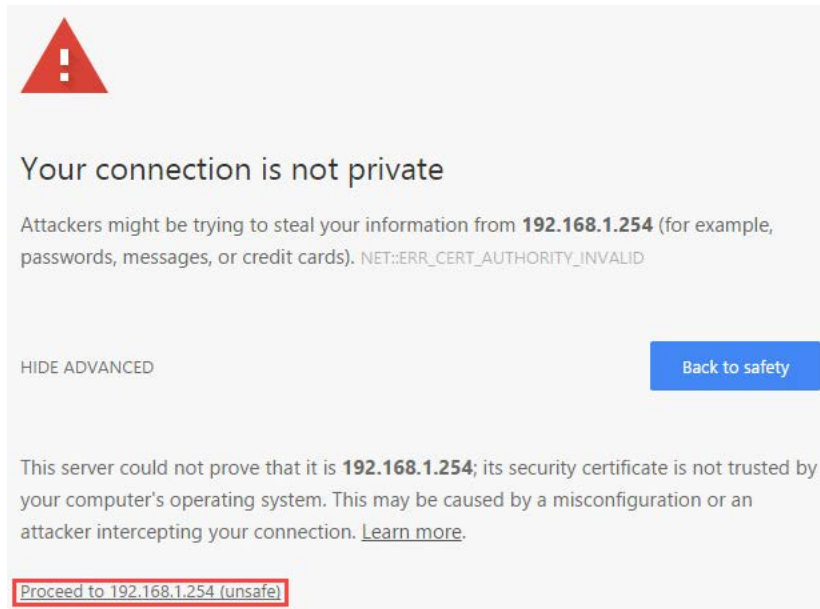


5. You will see a “Your connection is not private” message. Click on the **ADVANCED** link.



If you experience the “Unable to connect” or “502 Bad Gateway” message while attempting to connect to the specified IP above, please wait an additional 1-3 minutes for the Firewall to fully initialize. Refresh the page to continue.

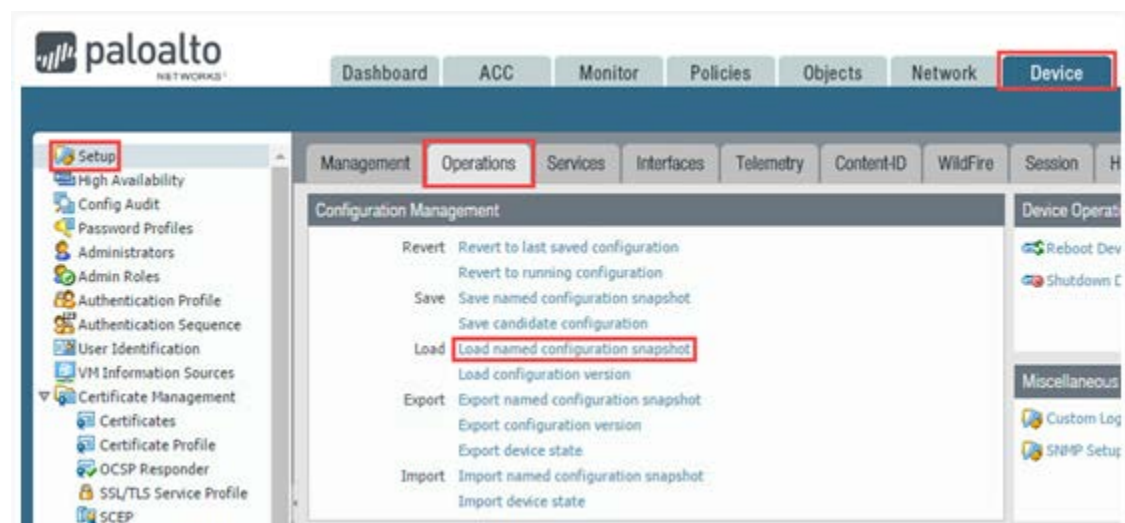
- Click on **Proceed to 192.168.1.254 (unsafe)**.



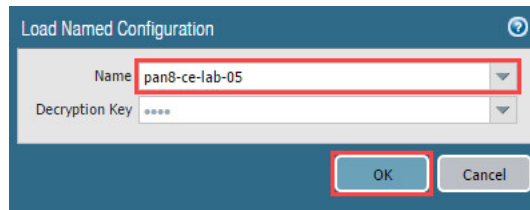
- Login to the Firewall web interface as username **admin**, password **admin**.



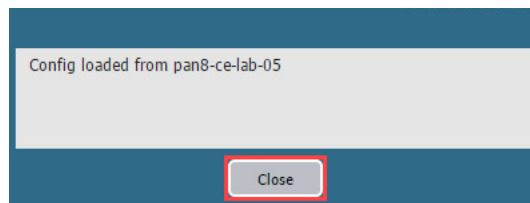
- Navigate to **Device > Setup > Operations > Load named configuration snapshot**.



9. In the *Load Named Configuration* window, select **pan8-ce-lab-05** from the **Name** dropdown box and click **OK**.



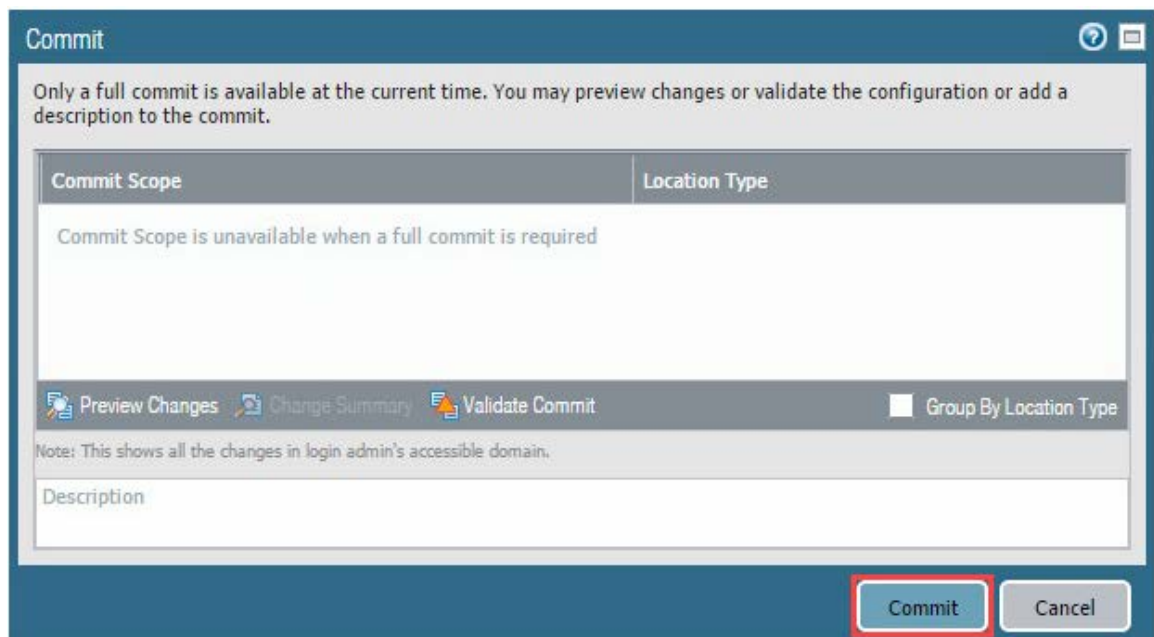
10. A message will confirm the configuration has loaded. Click **Close** to continue.



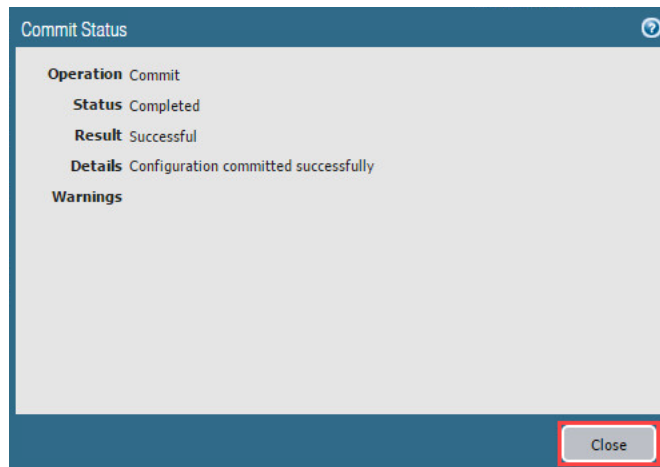
11. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.



12. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit** to proceed with committing the changes.



13. When the commit operation successfully completes, click **Close** to continue.

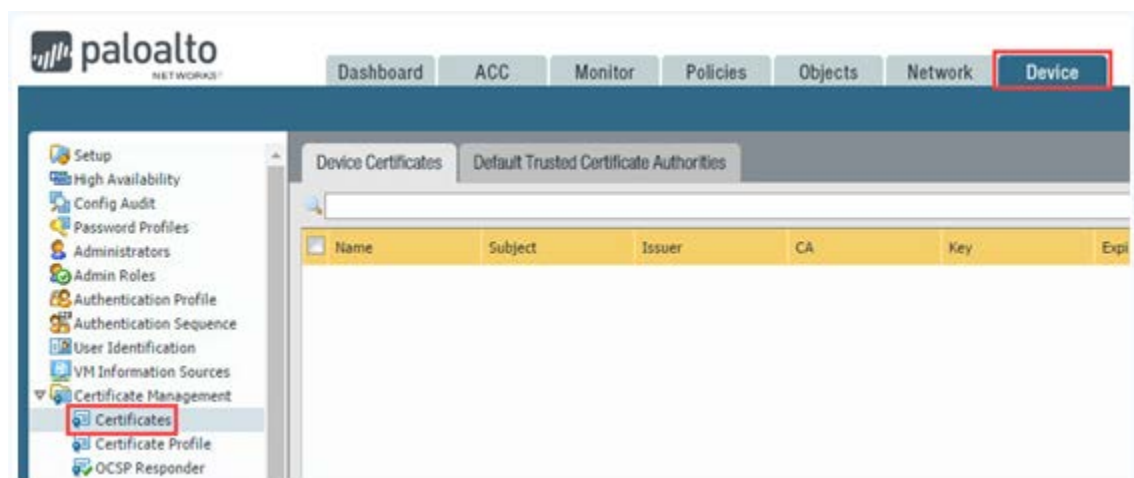


The commit process takes changes made to the Firewall and copies them to the running configuration, which will activate all configuration changes since the last commit.

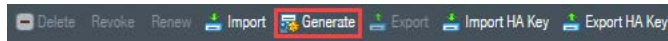
5.1 Generate Certificates

In this section, you will generate two certificates. The first is a self-signed Root Certificate Authority (CA) certificate, which is the top-most certificate in the certificate chain. The Firewall can use this certificate to automatically issue certificates for other uses. In this lab, you will use the Root CA certificate to generate a new certificate for the Firewall to use for Inbound Management Traffic, replacing the default certificate issued specifically for this lab environment.

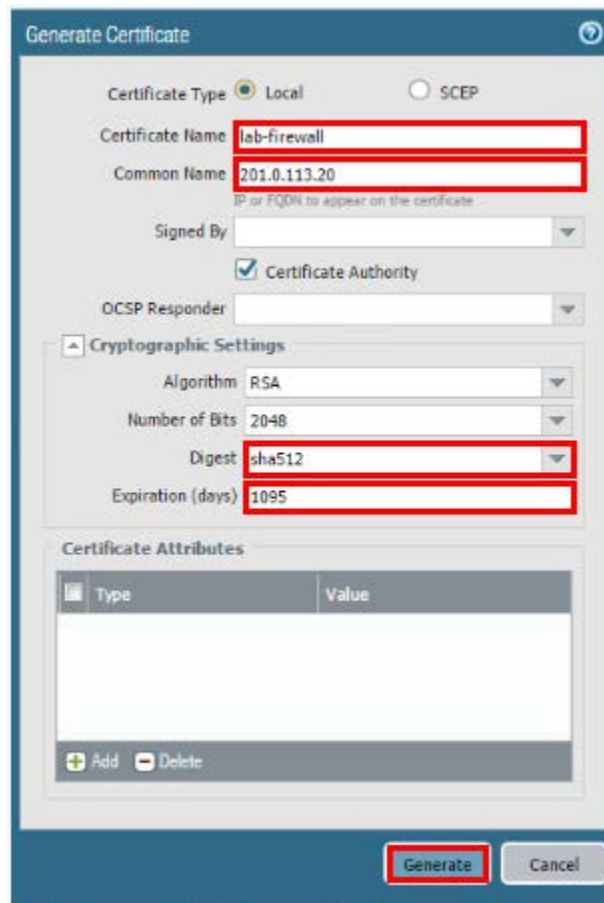
1. Navigate to **Device > Certificate Management > Certificates**.



- Click on the **Generate** button at the bottom-center of the center section.



- In the *Generate Certificate* window, type **lab-firewall** in the Certificate Name field. Then, type **203.0.113.20** in the Common Name field. Next, click the **Certificate Authority** checkbox. Then, select **sha512** in the Digest dropdown. Next, type **1095** in the Expiration (days) field. Finally, click the **Generate** button.



Generate Certificate

Certificate Type ☒ Local ☐ SCEP

Certificate Name

Common Name

IP or FQDN to appear on the certificate

Signed By

☒ Certificate Authority

OCSP Responder

Cryptographic Settings

Algorithm

Number of Bits

Digest

Expiration (days)

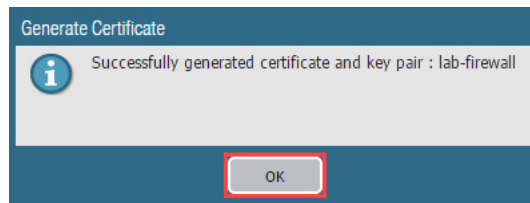
Certificate Attributes

Type	Value
------	-------

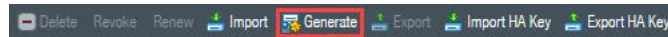


This will generate a certificate for the Firewall to act as a root Certificate Authority (CA). The IP address, **203.0.113.20**, used in the Common Name field is the Firewall's outside IP address. It is best practice that a digest algorithm of sha256 or higher is used for enhanced security. By increasing the default digest to **sha512**, you have created a much stronger certificate. The Expiration (days) field is equivalent to 3 years (365 days x 3 years = 1,095 days).

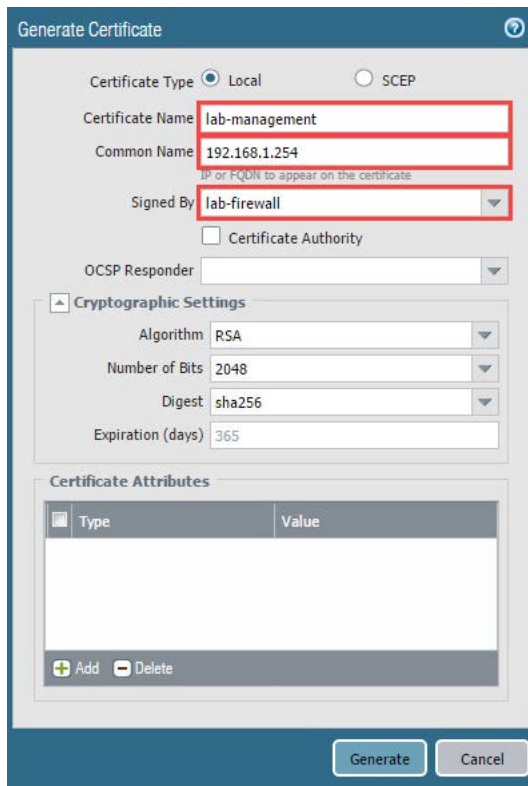
4. In the *Generate Certificate* window, click **OK** to continue.



5. Click on the **Generate** button at the bottom-center of the center section.



6. In the *Generate Certificate* window, type **lab-management** in the Certificate Name field. Then, type **192.168.1.254** in the Common Name field. Next, select **lab-firewall** in the Signed By dropdown.



Generate Certificate

Certificate Type: ☒ Local ☐ SCEP

Certificate Name: lab-management

Common Name: 192.168.1.254
IP or FQDN to appear on the certificate

Signed By: lab-firewall

☐ Certificate Authority

OCSP Responder: [Empty]

Cryptographic Settings

Algorithm: RSA

Number of Bits: 2048

Digest: sha256

Expiration (days): 365

Certificate Attributes

Type	Value
------	-------

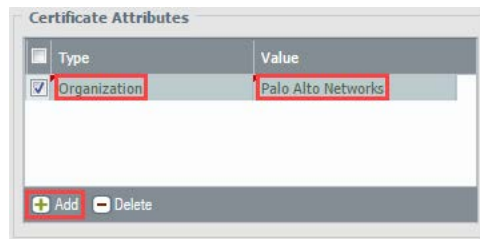
+ Add - Delete

Generate Cancel

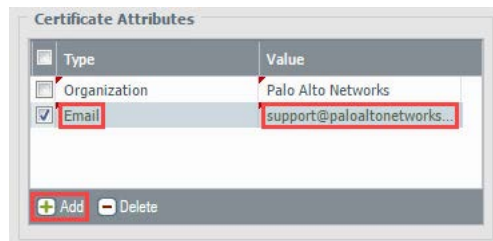


The IP address, **192.168.1.254**, used in the Common Name field is the Firewall's inside IP address. Notice you selected the previously created root CA certificate, **lab-firewall**, to sign this certificate. Client certificates that are used when requesting firewall services that rely on TLSv1.2 (such as administrator access to the web interface) cannot have sha512 as a digest algorithm, therefore you will leave the default **sha256**.

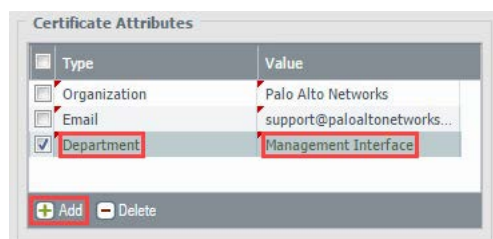
7. In the *Generate Certificate* window, click the **Add** button in the Certificate Attributes section. Then, select **Organization** in the Type column. Next, double-click the empty box in the Value column, type **Palo Alto Networks** and press **Enter**.



8. In the *Generate Certificate* window, click the **Add** button in the Certificate Attributes section. Then, select **Email** in the Type column. Next, double-click the empty box in the Value column, type **support@paloaltonetworks.com** and press **Enter**.

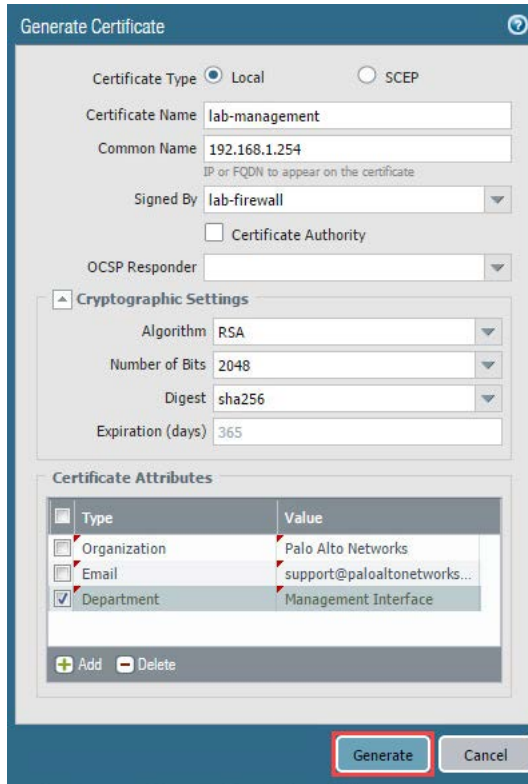


9. In the *Generate Certificate* window, click the **Add** button in the Certificate Attributes section. Then, select **Department** in the Type column. Next, double-click the empty box in the Value column, type **Management Interface** and press **Enter**.



Certificate Attributes are used to uniquely identify the firewall and the service that will use the certificate.

10. In the *Generate Certificate* window, review the settings. Then, click the **Generate** button.



The **Generate Certificate** dialog box is shown with the following settings:

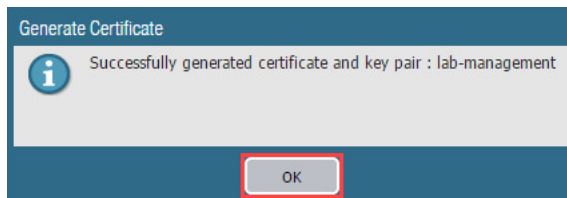
- Certificate Type:** Local (selected), SCEP
- Certificate Name:** lab-management
- Common Name:** 192.168.1.254 (with a note: IP or FQDN to appear on the certificate)
- Signed By:** lab-firewall (dropdown menu)
- ☐ **Certificate Authority**
- OCSP Responder:** (empty dropdown menu)
- Cryptographic Settings:**
 - Algorithm:** RSA
 - Number of Bits:** 2048
 - Digest:** sha256
 - Expiration (days):** 365
- Certificate Attributes:**

Type	Value
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization	Palo Alto Networks
<input type="checkbox"/> Email	support@paloaltonetworks...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department	Management Interface

+ Add - Delete

The **Generate** button is highlighted with a red box.

11. In the *Generate Certificate* window, click **OK** to continue.



The **Generate Certificate** dialog box shows a success message:

Successfully generated certificate and key pair : lab-management

The **OK** button is highlighted with a red box.



Palo Alto Networks Firewalls use certificates in the following applications:

- User authentication for Captive Portal, GlobalProtect™, Mobile Security Manager, and web interface access to a firewall or Panorama.
- Device authentication for GlobalProtect VPN (remote user-to-site or large scale).
- Device authentication for IPSec site-to-site VPN with Internet Key Exchange (IKE).
- Decrypting inbound and outbound SSL traffic.

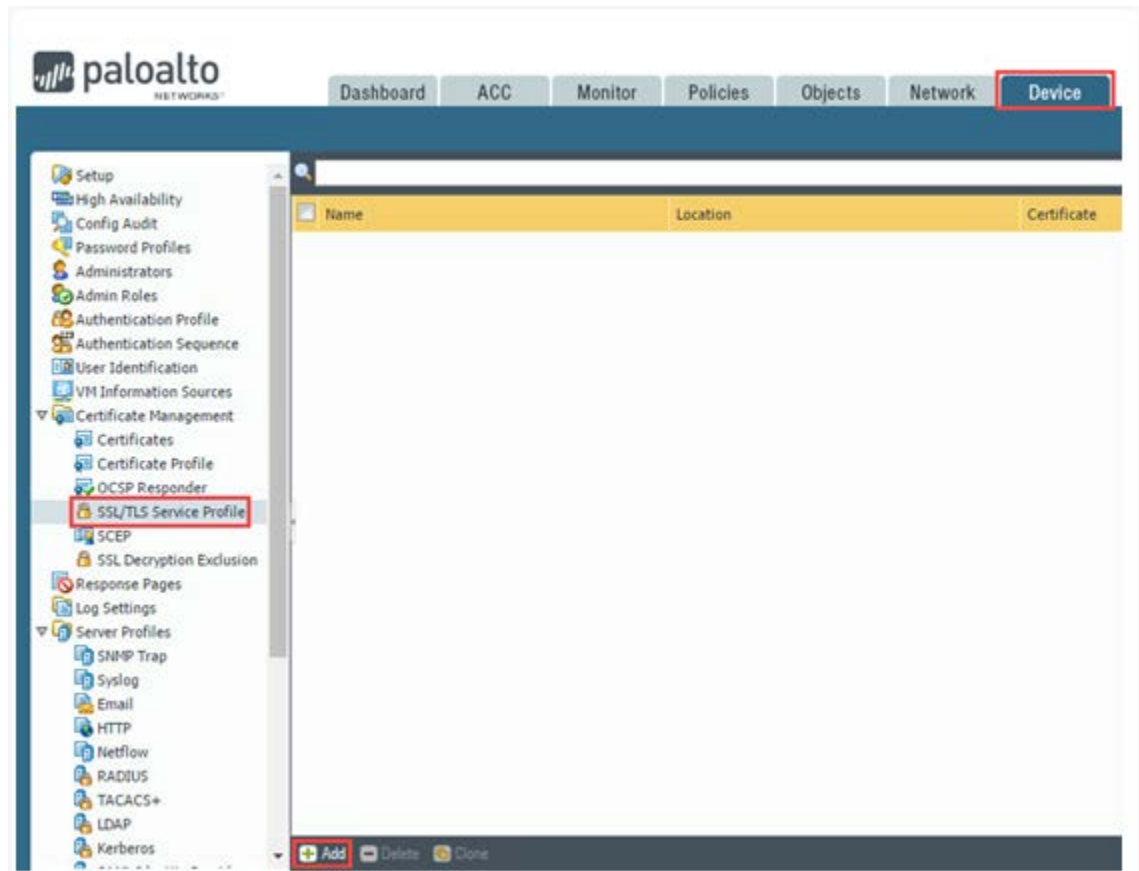
As a best practice, it is recommended you use different certificates for each usage.

In a real-world scenario, you can simplify your certificate deployment by using a certificate that the client systems already trust. It is recommended that you import a certificate and private key from your enterprise certificate authority (CA) or obtain a certificate from an external CA. The trusted root certificate store of the client systems is likely to already have the associated root CA certificate that ensures trust. This prevents you from having to create a root CA certificate and install it on every client system to prevent a certificate error.

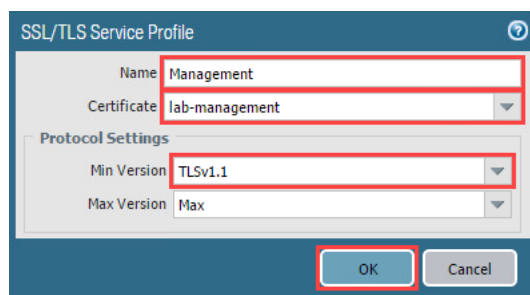
5.2 Replace the Certificate for Inbound Management Traffic

In this section, you will replace the certificate for inbound management traffic. When you boot the Firewall for the first time, it automatically generates a default certificate that enables HTTPS access to the web interface over the management (MGT) interface. To improve the security of inbound management traffic, you will configure a SSL/TLS Service Profile to replace the default certificate with the **lab-management** certificate you specifically created for this purpose. Then, you will apply the SSL/TLS Service Profile to inbound management traffic.

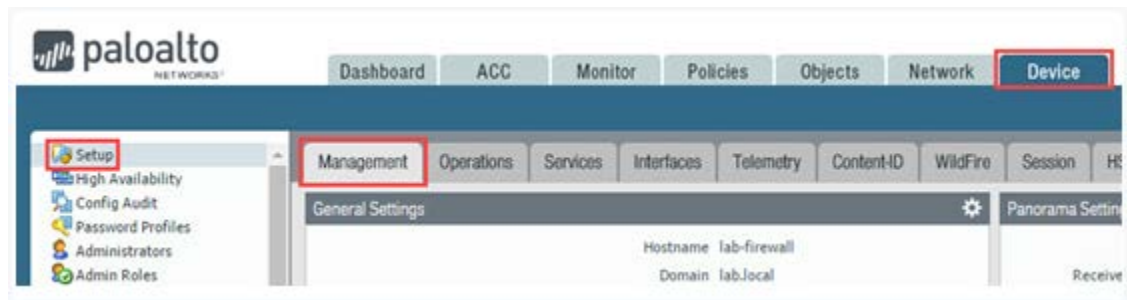
1. Navigate to **Device > Certificate Management > SSL/TLS Service Profile > Add**.



2. In the *SSL/TLS Service Profile* window, type **Management** in the Name field. Then, select **lab-management** from the Certificate dropdown. Next, select **TLSv1.1** from the Min Version dropdown. Finally, click the **OK** button.



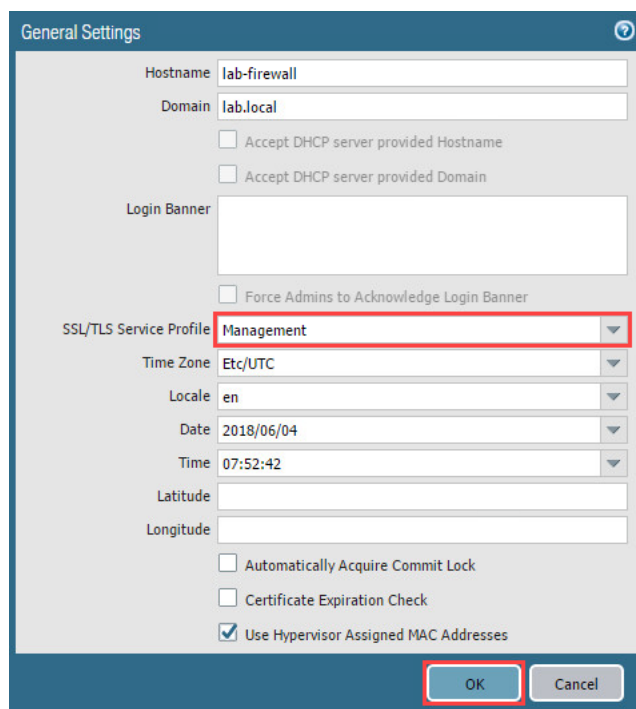
3. Navigate to **Device > Setup > Management**.



4. Click the **gear** icon on the General Settings section, located in the center.



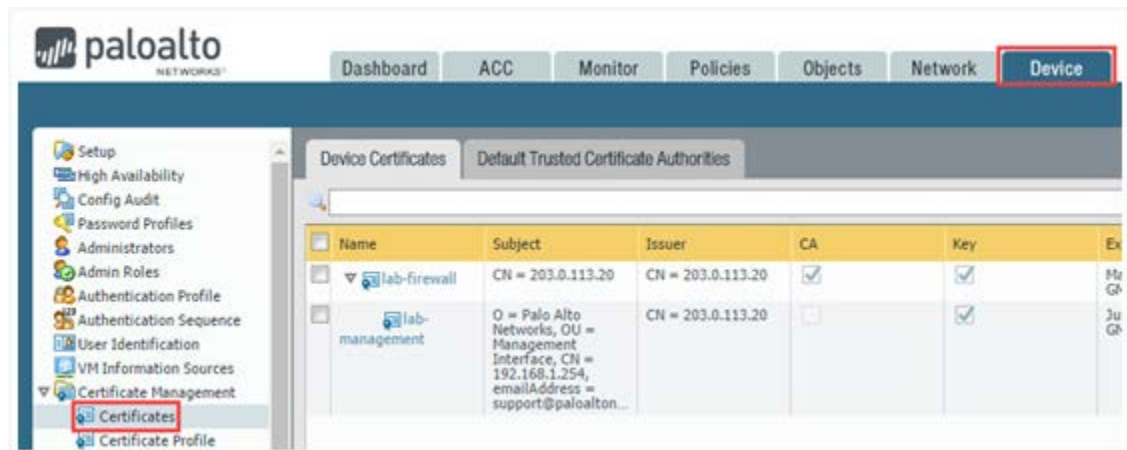
5. In the *General Settings* window, select **Management** from the SSL/TLS Service Profile dropdown. Then, click the **OK** button.



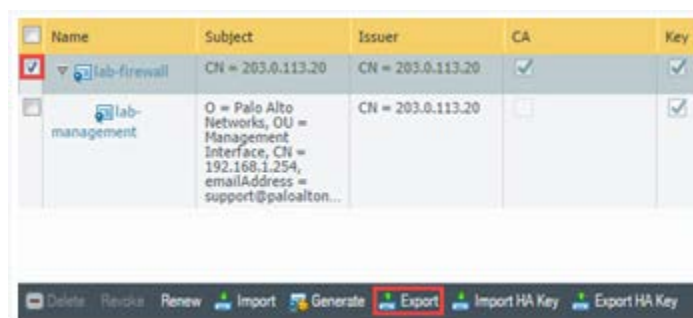
5.3 Export Certificate and Commit

In this section, you will export the root CA certificate, **lab-firewall**. Then, you will commit your changes to the Firewall.

1. Navigate to **Device > Certificate Management > Certificates**.



2. Click the checkbox for **lab-firewall**. Then, click on the **Export** button at the bottom.



3. In the *Export Certificate - lab-firewall* window, select *Encrypted Private Key and Certificate (PKCS12)* in the File Format dropdown. Then, type **paloalto** for the Passphrase and Confirm Passphrase fields, and then click on the **OK** button.



By using an **Encrypted Private Key and Certificate**, this creates an additional security measure, as the passphrase is required to install the certificate on a client machine.

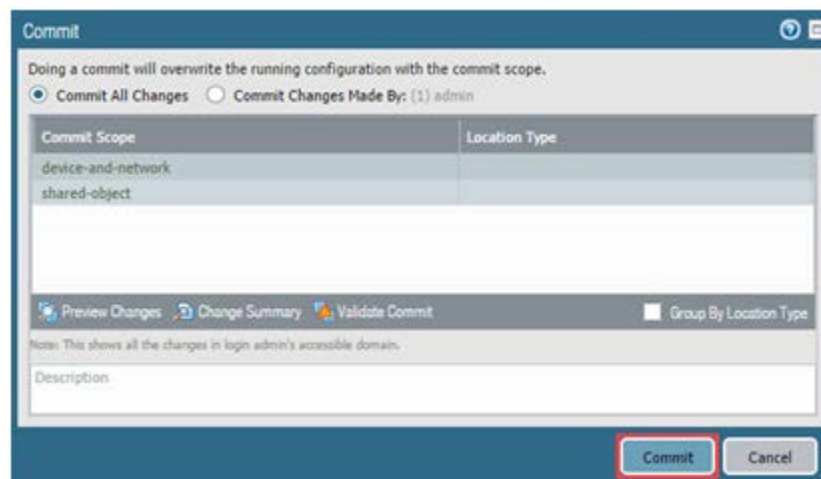
- The **cert_lab-firewall.p12** file will download to the Client machine's Downloads folder.



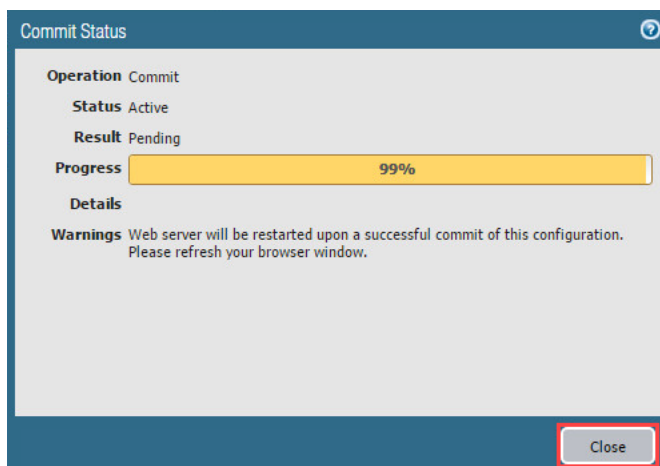
- Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.



- In the *Commit* window, click **Commit** to proceed with committing the changes.



- When the commit operation reaches 99%, click **Close** to continue.





Notice the warning about the Web server being restarted, this is because of the authentication changes you made. You will need to click the Close button when it gets to 99%, since the web server is restarting, you will not see it get to 100%.

8. Click the **X** in the upper-right to close Google Chrome.



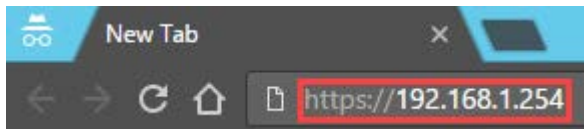
5.4 Test Connectivity and Import Certificate on the Client

In this section, you will test connectivity to the Firewall. When establishing a secure connection with the Firewall, the client must trust the root CA that issued the certificate. Otherwise, the client browser will display a warning that the certificate is invalid and might (depending on security settings) block the connection. To prevent this, you will import the root CA certificate on the Client, creating a trust relationship between the Firewall and the Client machine. Then, you will test connectivity again.

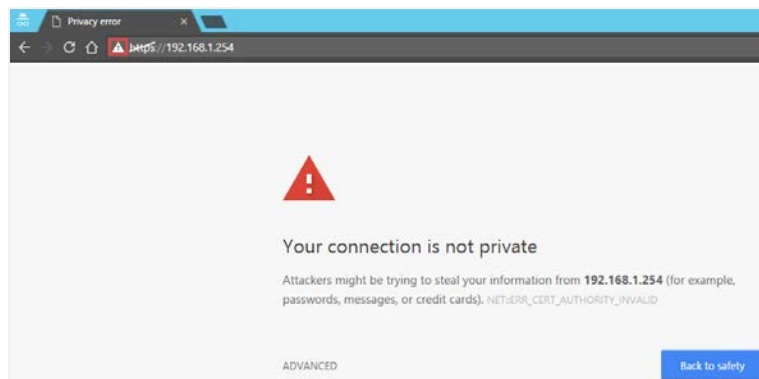
1. Double-click the **Google Chrome** icon located on the Desktop.



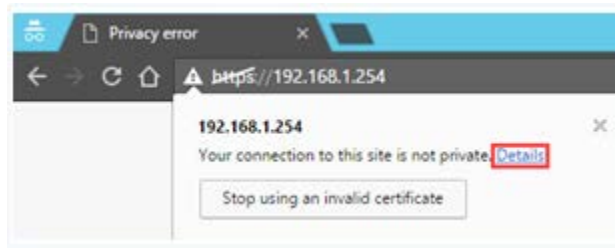
2. In the *Google Chrome* address bar, type **https://192.168.1.254** and press **Enter**.



3. You will see a “*Your connection is not private*” message. This is because the Client cannot verify the certificate from the Firewall. To view the certificate, click the ! icon (triangle exclamation) in the address bar.



4. In the popup, click the **Details** link.

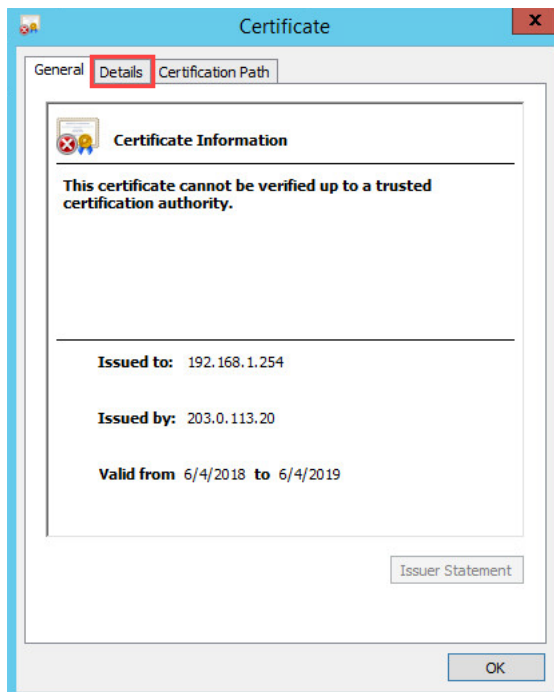


5. In the *Developer Tools* pane on the right, click on **View certificate** under the Certificate Error section.

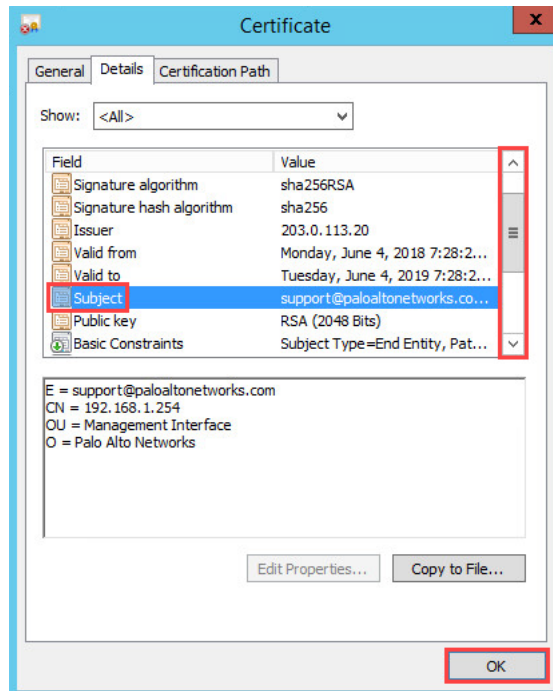


Note the issue listed: **net::ERR_CERT_AUTHORITY_INVALID**.

6. In the *Certificate* window, click the **Details** tab.



7. Scroll down using the scroll bar on the right. Then, review then information. Next, click the **Subject** field. Finally, click the **OK** button.

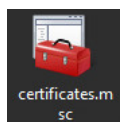


Notice the details match the **lab-management** certificate you created earlier in section 5.1. The sha256 algorithm is being used. The certificate was issued by **203.0.113.20**, which is the common-name of the root CA certificate, **lab-firewall**, you created. The Valid from and Valid to fields indicate the certificate is valid for 365 days. In the center, you will see the certificate attributes you set when you generated the certificate. The Public key is using RSA (2048 Bits).

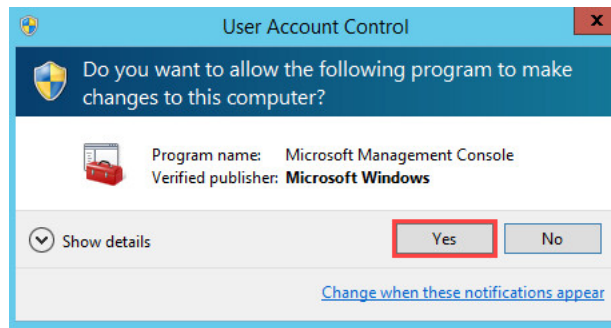
8. Click the **X** in the upper-right to close Google Chrome.



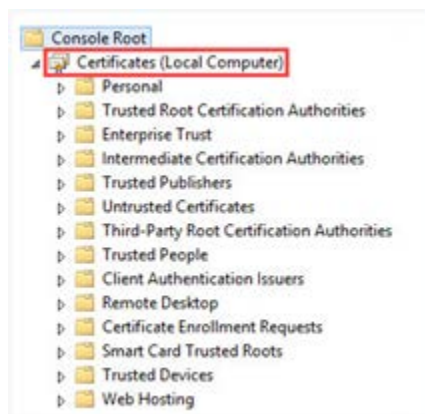
9. To install the **lab-firewall** certificate, double-click **certificates.msc** on the Desktop. This launches the Client's Certificate Manager snap-in for the Management Console.



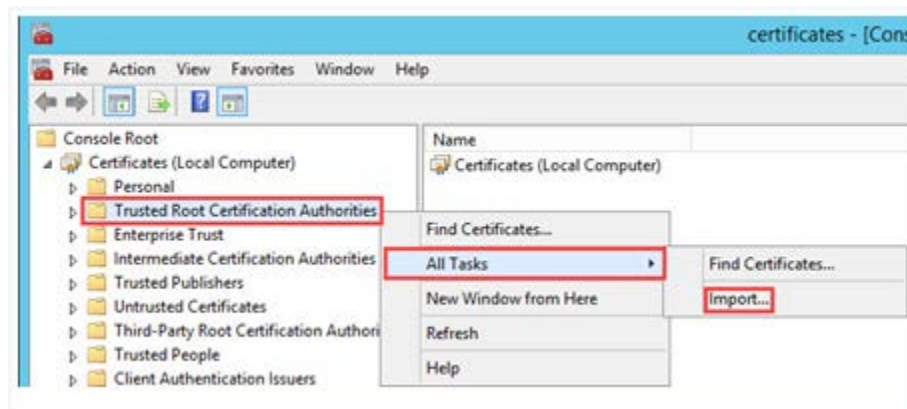
10. In the *User Account Control* window, click the **Yes** button.



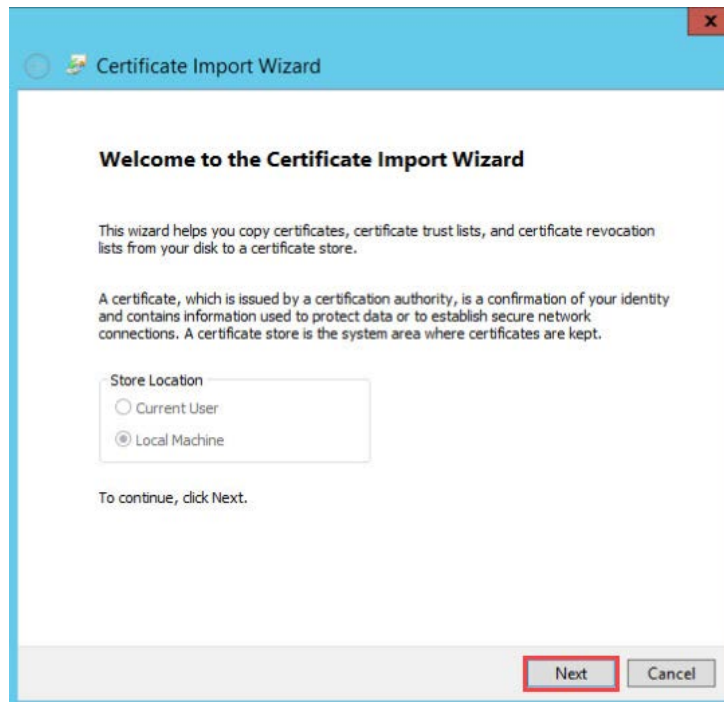
11. In the *certificates – [Console Root]* window, click **Certificates (Local Computer)** in the left side pane, to expand the section.



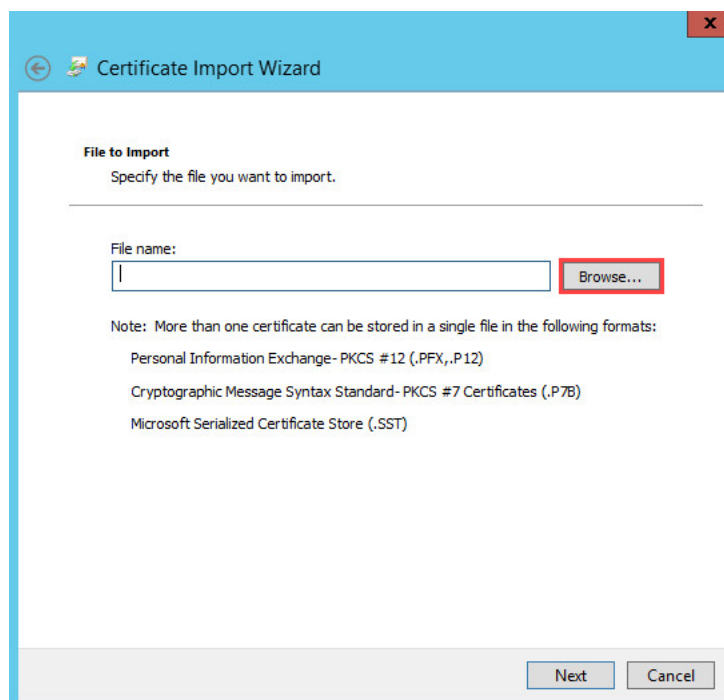
12. In the *certificates – [Console Root]* window, right-click the **Trusted Root Certification Authorities** folder. Then, click on **All Tasks > Import...**



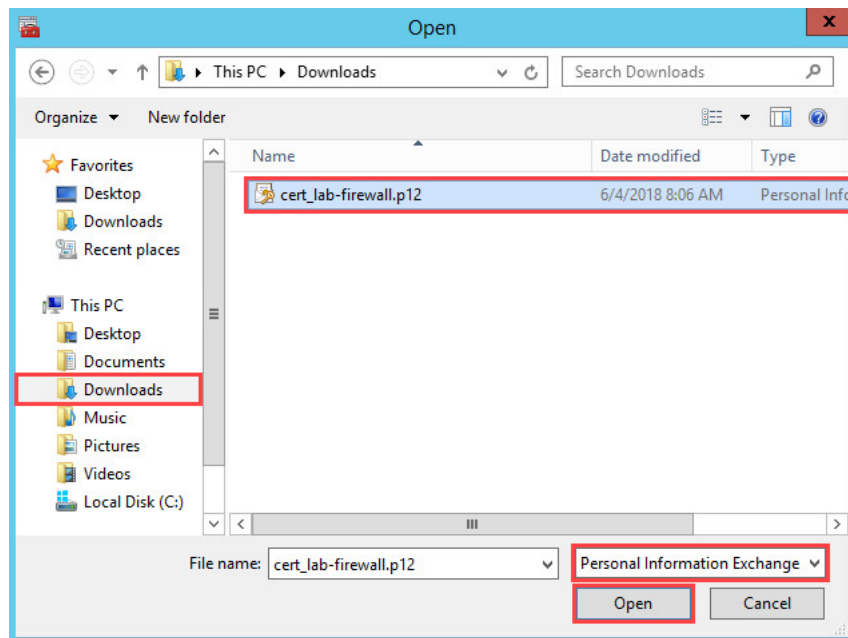
13. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, click the **Next** button.



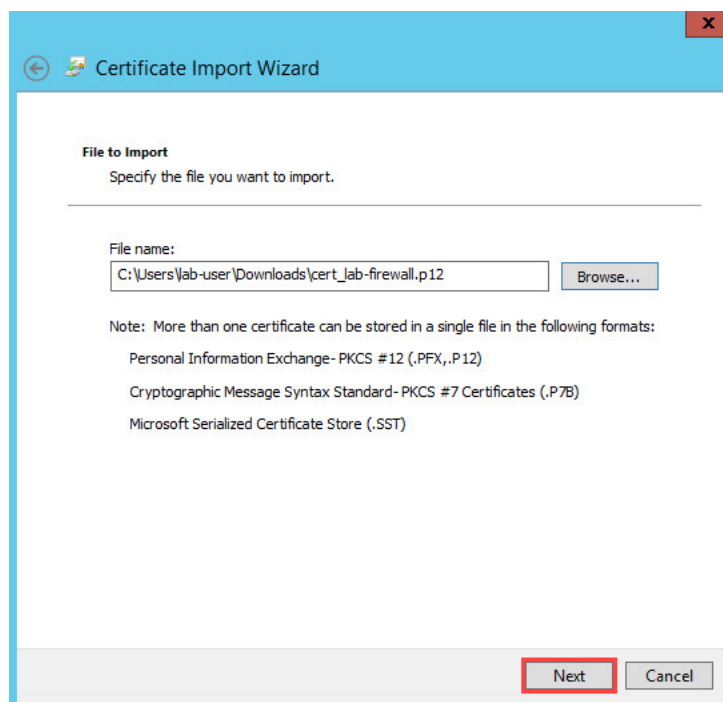
14. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, click the **Browse...** button.



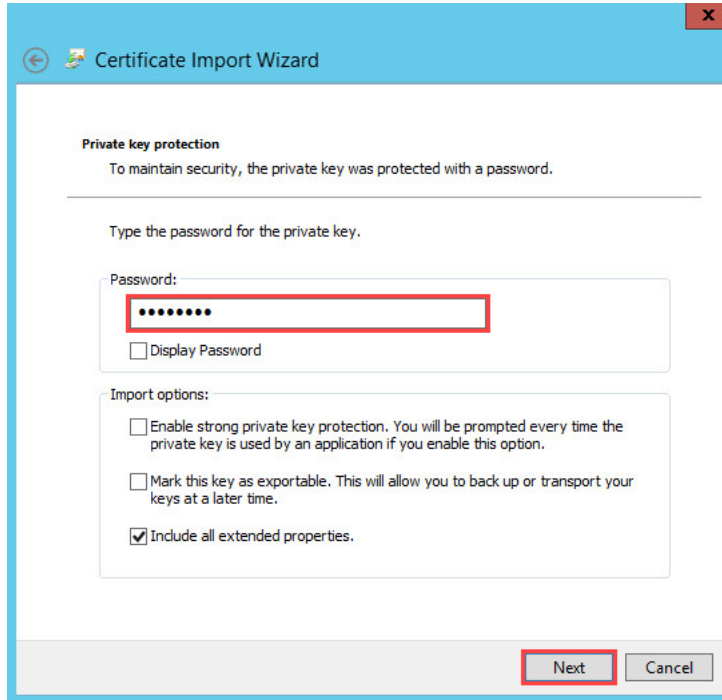
15. In the *Open* window, click on **Downloads** folder on the left. Then, select **Personal Information Exchange (*.pfx;*.p12)** from the File Type dropdown in the lower-right. Next, select the **cert_lab-firewall.p12** file. Finally, click the **Open** button.



16. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, click the **Next** button.

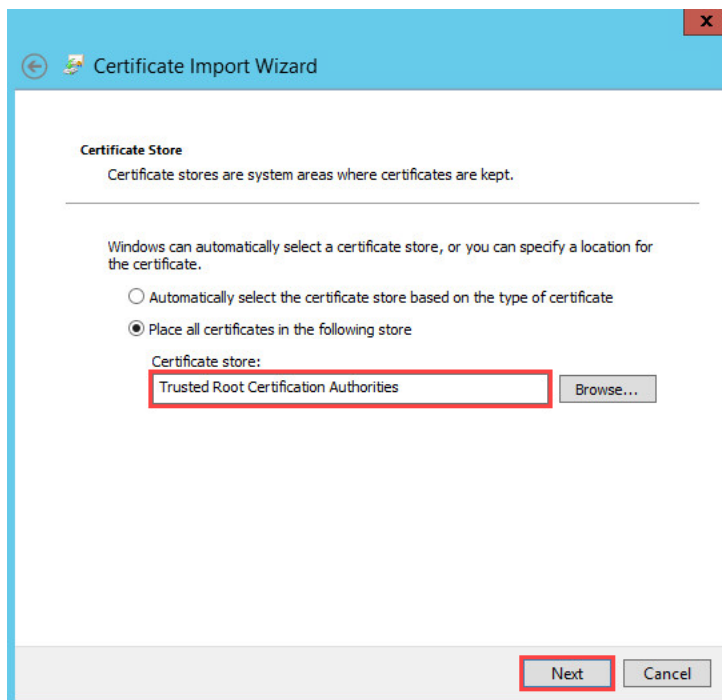


17. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, type **paloalto**. This is the passphrase you entered when you exported the certificate from the Firewall. Then, click the **Next** button.



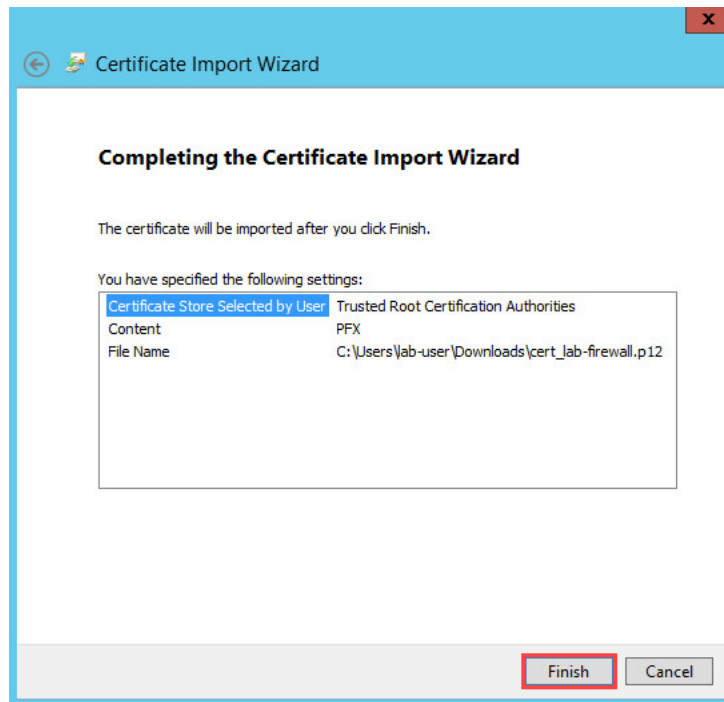
The screenshot shows the 'Certificate Import Wizard' window with the 'Private key protection' section. The text reads: 'Private key protection. To maintain security, the private key was protected with a password.' Below this, it says 'Type the password for the private key.' There is a 'Password:' label followed by a text box containing eight dots. A red rectangle highlights this text box. Below the text box is a checkbox labeled 'Display Password'. Underneath is the 'Import options:' section with three checkboxes: 'Enable strong private key protection. You will be prompted every time the private key is used by an application if you enable this option.' (unchecked), 'Mark this key as exportable. This will allow you to back up or transport your keys at a later time.' (unchecked), and 'Include all extended properties.' (checked). At the bottom right, there are 'Next' and 'Cancel' buttons. A red rectangle highlights the 'Next' button.

18. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, leave the default **Trusted Root Certification Authorities**, in the Certificate Store field. Then, click the **Next** button.

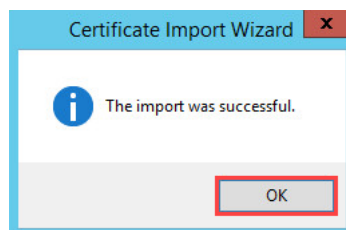


The screenshot shows the 'Certificate Import Wizard' window with the 'Certificate Store' section. The text reads: 'Certificate Store. Certificate stores are system areas where certificates are kept.' Below this, it says 'Windows can automatically select a certificate store, or you can specify a location for the certificate.' There are two radio buttons: 'Automatically select the certificate store based on the type of certificate' (unchecked) and 'Place all certificates in the following store' (checked). Below the radio buttons is a 'Certificate store:' label followed by a text box containing 'Trusted Root Certification Authorities'. A red rectangle highlights this text box. To the right of the text box is a 'Browse...' button. At the bottom right, there are 'Next' and 'Cancel' buttons. A red rectangle highlights the 'Next' button.

19. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, click the **Finish** Button.



20. In the *Certificate Import Wizard* window, click the **OK** button.



21. Click the **X** in the upper-right to close the Certificate Manager.



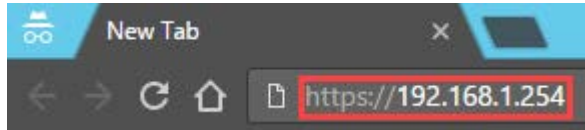
22. In the *Microsoft Management Console* window, click the **Yes** button to save console settings.



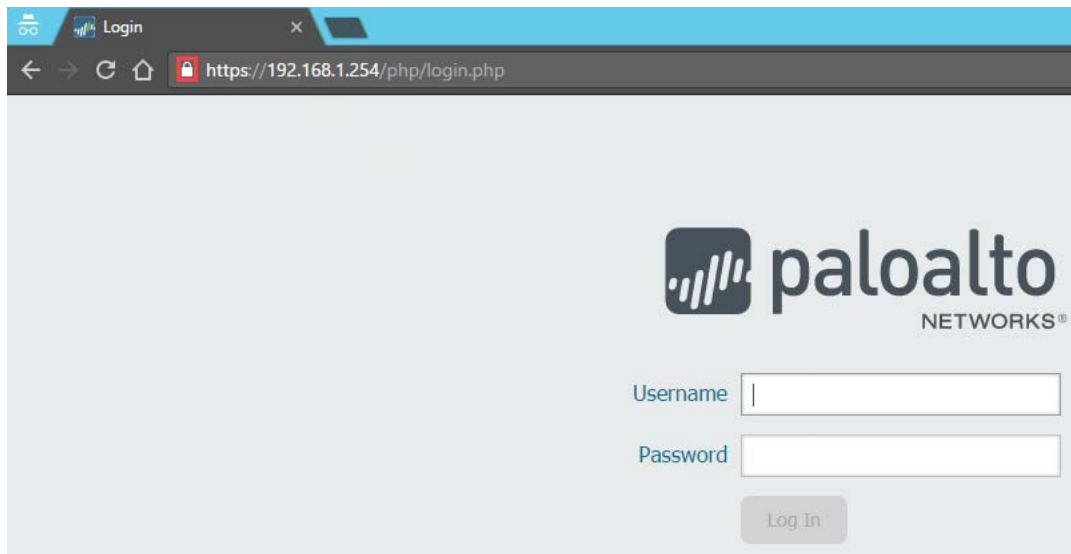
23. Double-click the **Google Chrome** icon located on the Desktop.



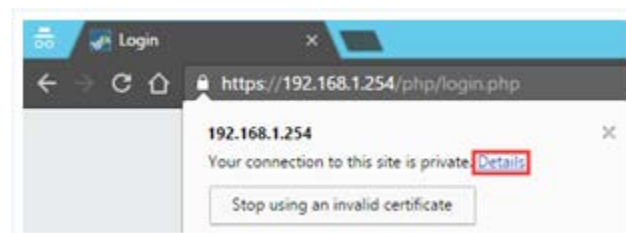
24. In the *Google Chrome* address bar, type **https://192.168.1.254** and press **Enter**.



25. Now you will see the login prompt from the Firewall. Notice the ! icon in the address bar from before is now showing a secured padlock icon. Click on the padlock icon.



26. In the popup, click the **Details** link.



27. In the *Developer Tools* pane on the right, notice the message “*This page is secure (valid HTTPS)*”. Below, under the Valid Certificate section, you will see the message “*The connection to this site is using a valid, trusted server certificate.*”

