



NETWORK SECURITY FUNDAMENTALS V2

Lab 7: Decrypting SSL Inbound Traffic

Document Version: 2022-12-23

Copyright © 2022 Network Development Group, Inc. www.netdevgroup.com

NETLAB+ is a registered trademark of Network Development Group, Inc.

Palo Alto Networks and the Palo Alto Networks logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Palo Alto Networks, Inc.



Contents

Introdu	uction	3
Objecti	ive	3
•	pology	
-	tings	
	ecrypting SSL Inbound Traffic	
	Load Lab Configuration	
1.1	Download the SSL Certificate from DMZ Server	
1.2	Import SSL Certificate	13
1.3	Create a Decryption Profile	17
1.4	Create a Decryption Policy	19
1.5	Commit and Test Decryption Policy	
1.6	Disable Decryption Policy	27



Introduction

In this lab, you will decrypt SSL inbound traffic and inspect SSL traffic from the Client machine to the DMZ server. When the SSL server certificate is loaded on the Firewall, and an SSL decryption policy is configured for the inbound traffic, the device can then decrypt and read the traffic as it forwards it along. No changes are made to the packet data, and the secure channel is built from the client system to the internal server. The Firewall can then detect malicious content and control applications running over this secure channel.

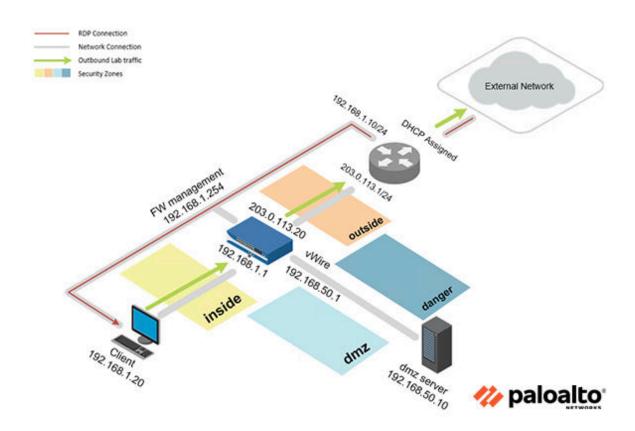
Objective

In this lab, you will perform the following tasks:

- Download the SSL Certificate from DMZ Server
- Import SSL Certificate
- Create a Decryption Profile
- Create a Decryption Policy
- Commit and Test Decryption Policy
- Disable Decryption Policy



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	Pal0Alt0!



1 Decrypting SSL Inbound Traffic

1.0 Load Lab Configuration

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

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



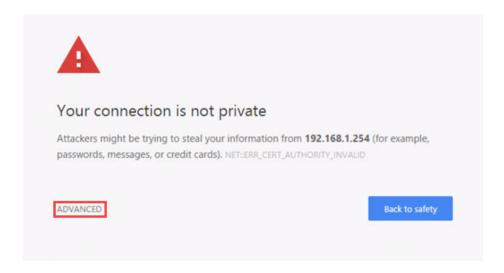
- 2. Log in to the Client PC as username lab-user, password PalOAlto!.
- 3. Double-click the **Chromium Web Browser** icon located on the desktop.



4. In the *Chromium 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.

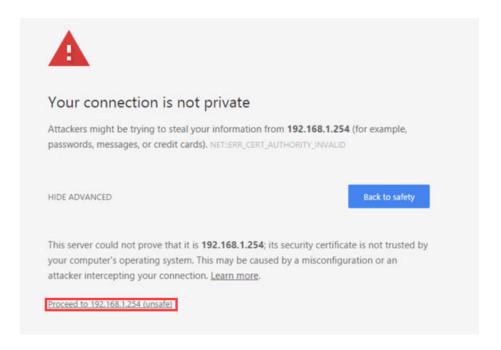




If you experience the "Unable to connect" or "502 Bad Gateway" message while attempting to connect to the specified IP above, please wait an additional 1-3 minutes for the Firewall to fully initialize. Refresh the page to continue.



6. Click on Proceed to 192.168.1.254 (unsafe).

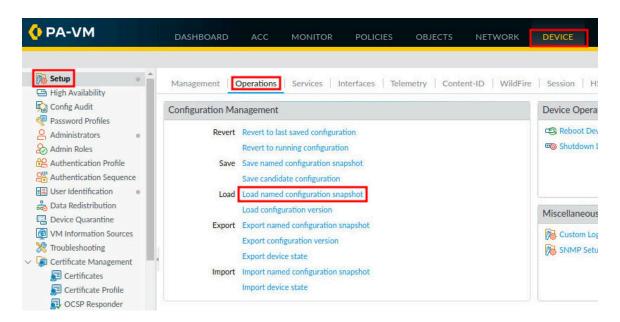


7. Log in to the Firewall web interface as username admin, password PalOAltO!.

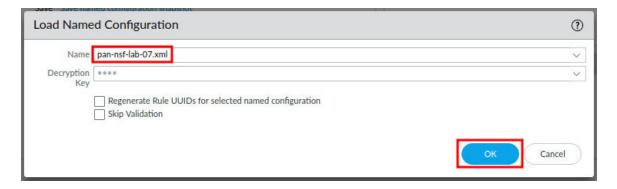




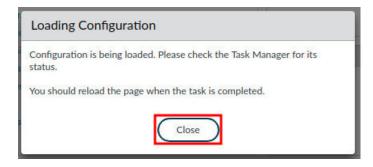
 In the web interface, navigate to Device > Setup > Operations and click on Load named configuration snapshot underneath the Configuration Management section.



9. In the *Load Named Configuration* window, select **pan-nsf-lab-07.xml** from the *Name* dropdown box and click **OK**.

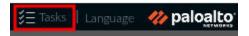


10. In the Loading Configuration window, a message will show *Configuration is being loaded*. *Please check the Task Manager for its status. You should reload the page when the task is completed*. Click **Close** to continue.

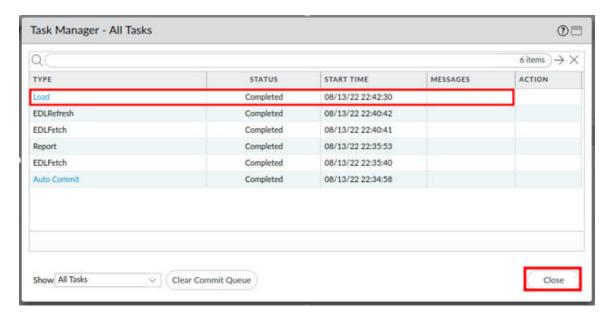




11. Click the **Tasks** icon located at the bottom-right of the web interface.



12. In the *Task Manager – All Tasks* window, verify the *Load* type has successfully completed. Click **Close.**

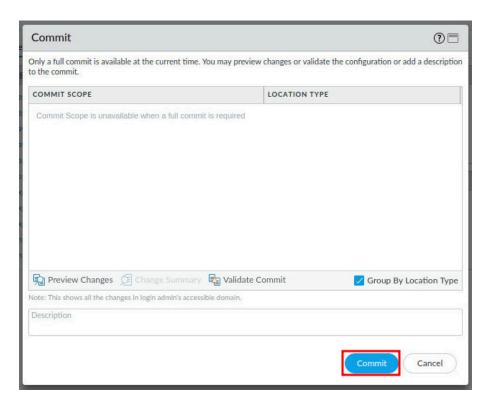


13. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.





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



15. 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.



1.1 Download the SSL Certificate from DMZ Server

In this section, you will use WinSCP to download the certificate and key that is being used on the DMZ server. WinSCP is a free, open-source tool used to transfer secure files between clients.

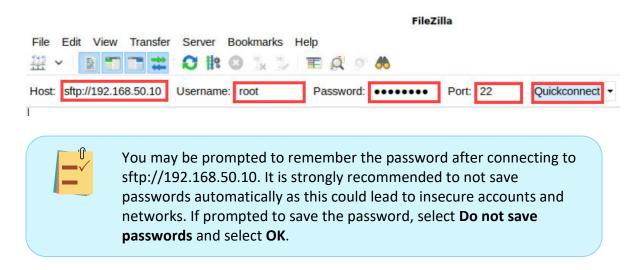
1. Minimize Chromium in the upper-right.



2. Double-click the **Filezilla** icon located on the desktop.



3. In the *FileZilla* window, type sftp://192.168.50.10 for the *Host*, type root for the *Username*, type Pal@Alt0! for the *Password*, lastly, type 22 for the *Port*. Then, click the **Quickconnect** button.

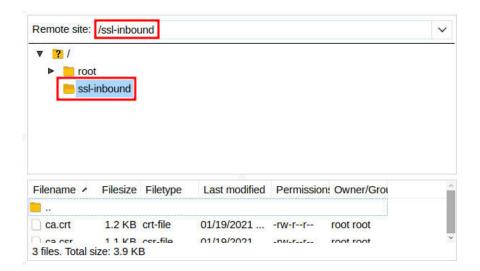


4. On the Local site, type /home/lab-user/Downloads in the text field. Press Enter.

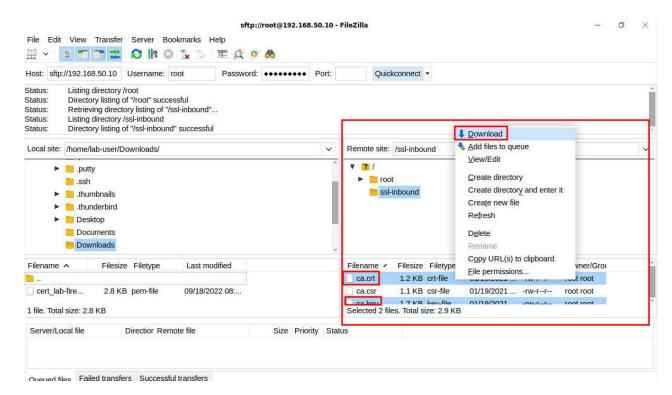




5. On the Remote site, type /ssl-inbound in the text field. Press Enter.

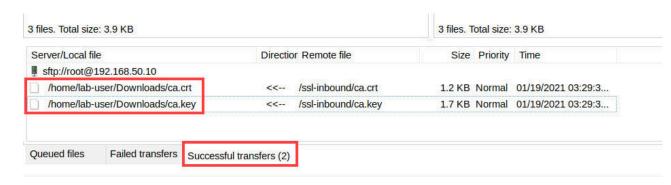


6. Press **CTRL** and **click** to highlight the filenames **ca.key** and **ca.crt**. Right-click the files and click **Download**.





7. Click on the **Successful transfers** tab and verify the transfers were successfully downloaded.



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



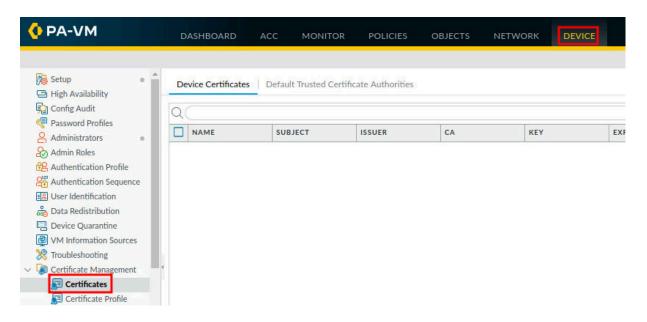
1.2 Import SSL Certificate

In this section, you will import the SSL Certificate you downloaded from the DMZ server to the Firewall. This will later be used to create a decryption profile.

 Click on the **Chromium** icon from the taskbar to maximize the Firewall management interface.



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

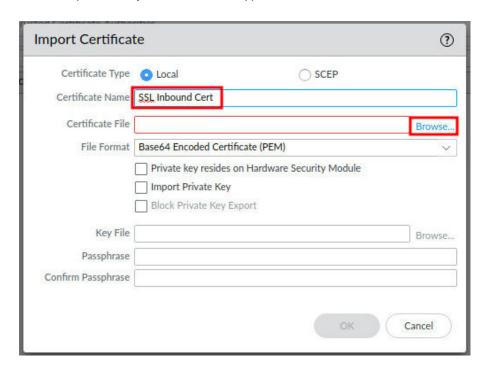




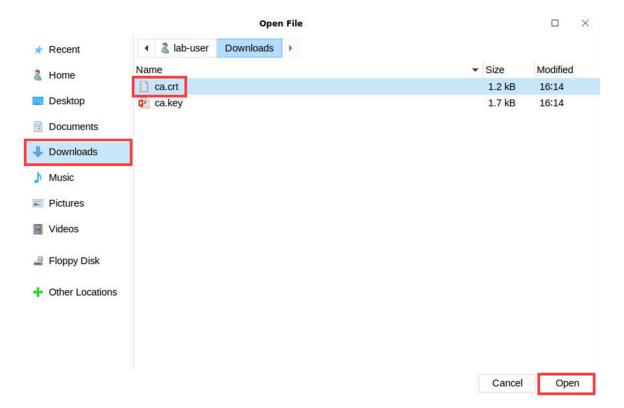
3. Click on the **Import** button at the bottom-center of the center section.



4. In the Import Certificate window, type SSL Inbound Cert. Then, click Browse...

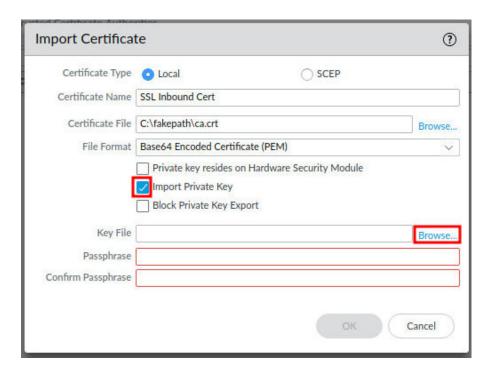


5. In the *Open File* window, select **Downloads** on the left. Then, select **ca.crt**. Finally, click the **Open** button.

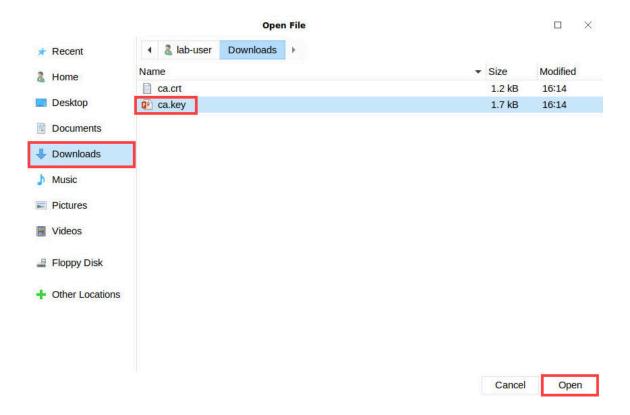




6. Click the checkbox for Import private key. Then, click Browse...

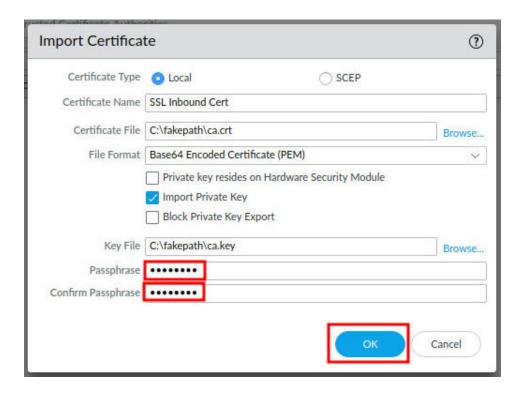


7. In the *Open* File window, select **Downloads** on the left. Then, select **ca.key**. Finally, click the **Open** button.

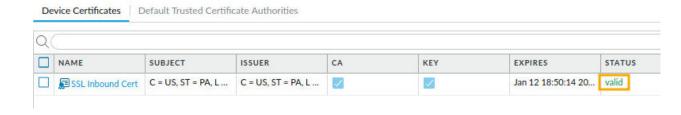




8. In the *Import Certificate* window, type paloalto for the *Passphrase* and *Confirm Passphrase* fields. Then, click the **OK** button.



9. Verify the SSL Inbound Cert is showing a status of valid.

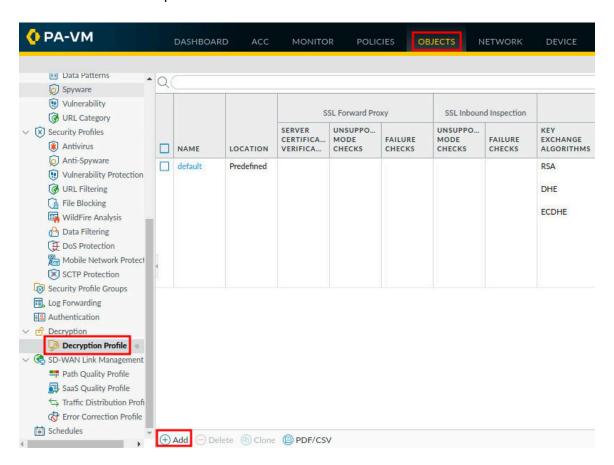




1.3 Create a Decryption Profile

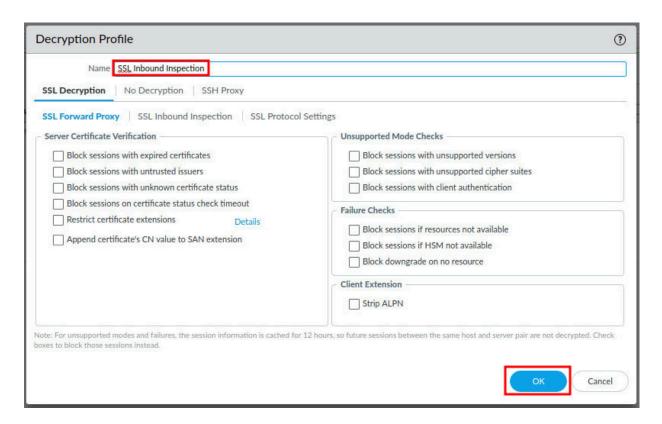
In this section, you will create a decryption profile. Decryption profiles allow administrators to perform checks on both decrypted traffic and traffic that would have been excluded from decryption. After a decryption profile is created, it can then be attached to a decryption policy rule that will enforce the profile settings.

1. Navigate to **Objects > Decryption > Decryption Profile > Add**. You may need to scroll down in the left pane.

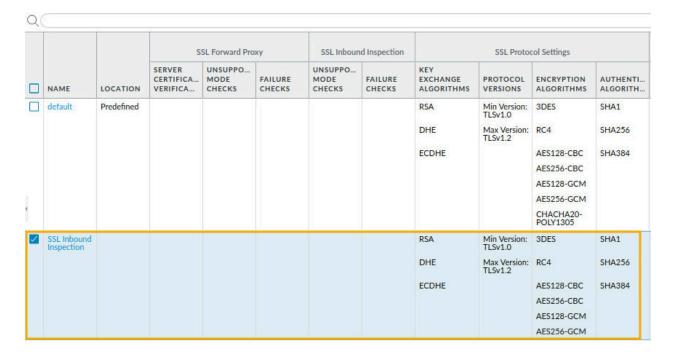




2. In the *Decryption Profile* window, type SSL Inbound Inspection. Then, click the **OK** button.



3. Verify the **SSL Inbound Inspection** Decryption Profile was created.

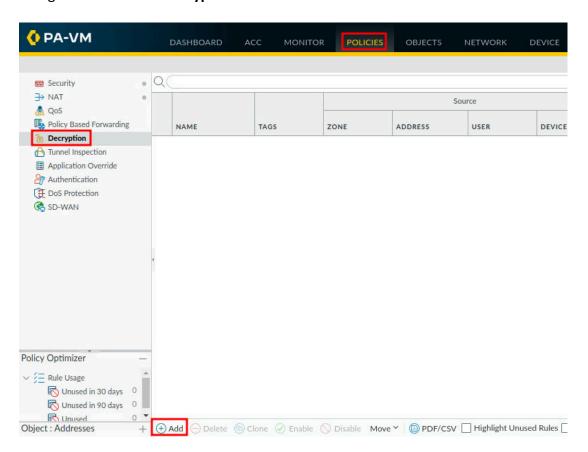




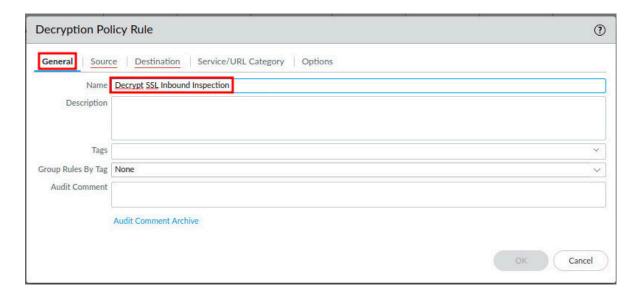
1.4 Create a Decryption Policy

In this section, you will create a decryption policy. Decryption Policies allow administrators to stop threats that would otherwise remain hidden in encrypted traffic and help prevent sensitive content from leaving an organization.

1. Navigate to Policies > Decryption > Add.

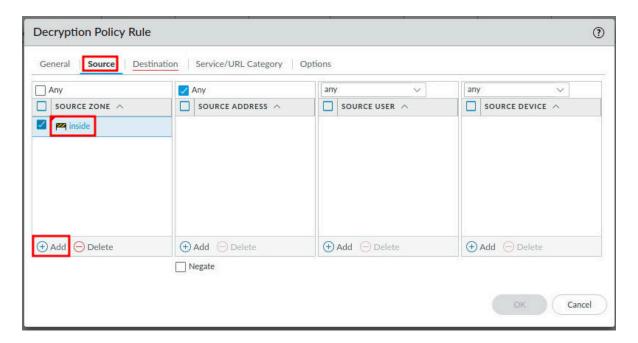


2. In the **General** tab of the *Decryption Policy Rule* window, type Decrypt SSL Inbound Inspection in the *Name* field.

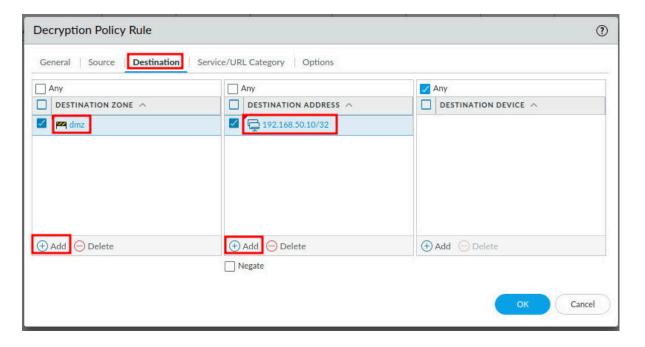




3. In the *Decryption Policy Rule* window, click on the **Source** tab. Then, click **Add** in the *Source Zone* section. Next, select **inside**.

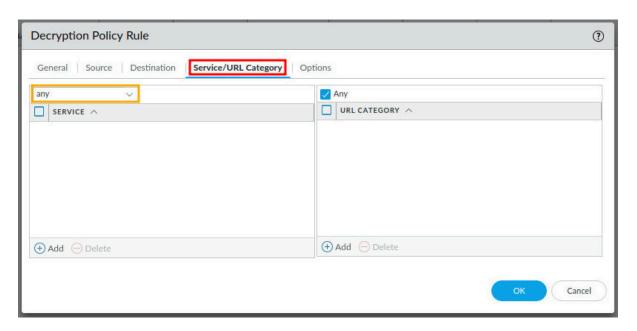


4. In the *Decryption Policy Rule* window, click on the **Destination** tab. Then, click **Add** in the *Destination Zone* pane. Next, select **dmz** and press **Enter**. In the *Destination Address* pane, click **Add**. Type 192.168.50.10/32 and press **Enter**.





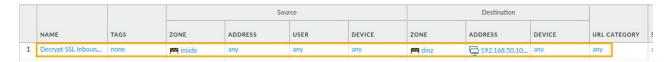
5. In the *Decryption Policy Rule* window, click on the **Service/URL Category** tab. In the *Service* pane, select and verify **any** is selected in the dropdown menu.



6. In the *Decryption Policy Rule* window, click on the **Options** tab. Then, select **Decrypt** for the *Action*. Next, select **SSL Inbound Inspection** in the *Type* dropdown. Then, select **SSL Inbound Cert** in the *Certificate* dropdown. Next, select **SSL Inbound Inspection** in the *Decryption Profile* field. Finally, click the **OK** button.



7. Verify the **Decrypt SSL Inbound Policy** is showing and correct.

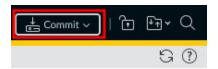




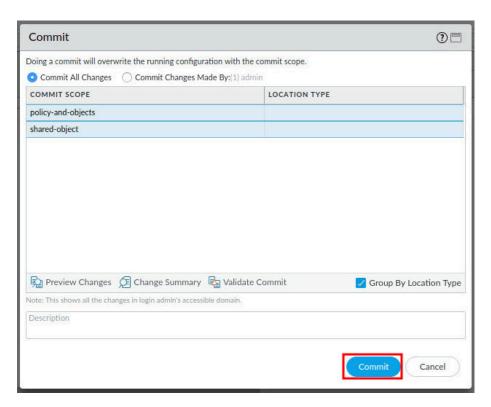
1.5 Commit and Test Decryption Policy

In this section, you will commit your changes to the Firewall. Then, you will test the decryption policy you created earlier.

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



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

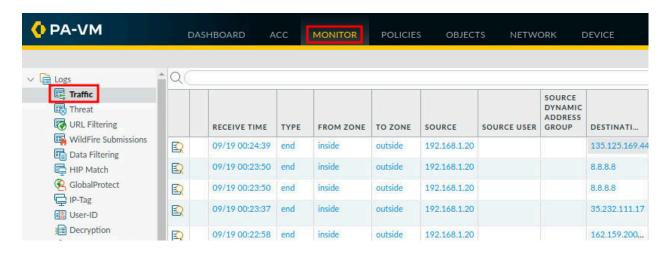


3. When the commit operation successfully completes, click **Close** to continue.

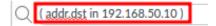




4. Navigate to **Monitor > Logs > Traffic.**



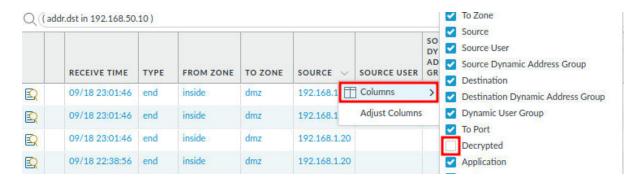
5. In the search box, type (addr.dst in 192.168.50.10) and press Enter.



6. Move the mouse cursor to the right of *Source* and click the **down arrow** to bring up the **Columns** menu.



7. Highlight **Columns** and click to check the **Decrypted** checkbox.





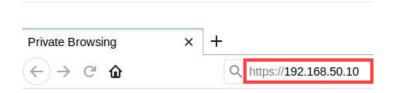
The **Decrypted** checkbox might be listed alphabetically among the unchecked boxes in the lower part of the menu



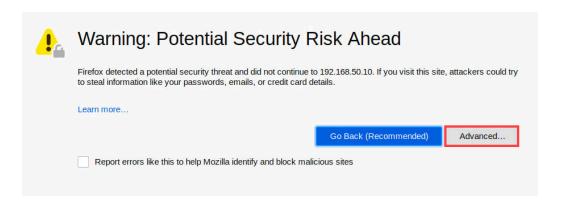
8. Open the *Firefox Web Browser* by clicking on the **Firefox** icon located in the task bar.



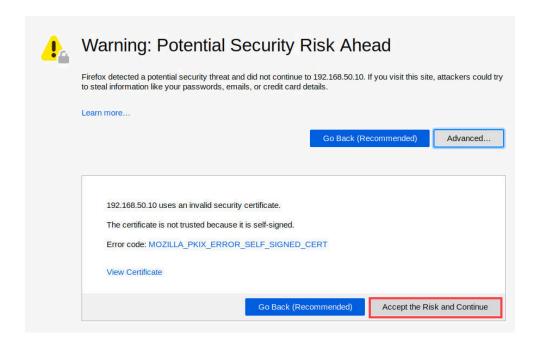
9. In the address bar, type https://192.168.50.10 and click Enter.



10. You will see a "Warning: Potential Security Risk Ahead message. Click on the **Advanced** button.



11. Click on Accept the Risk and Continue.

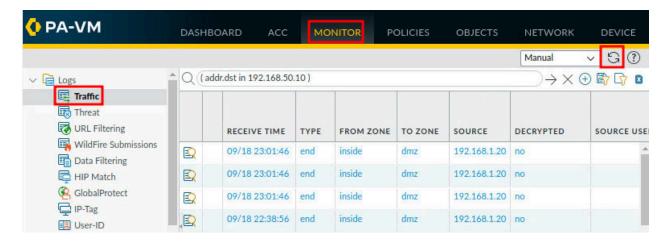




12. Notice that the *Apache HTTP Server Test page* is working properly. Click on the **X** of the tab to close it.



13. Navigate to **Monitor > Logs > Traffic**. Then, click the **refresh** icon.

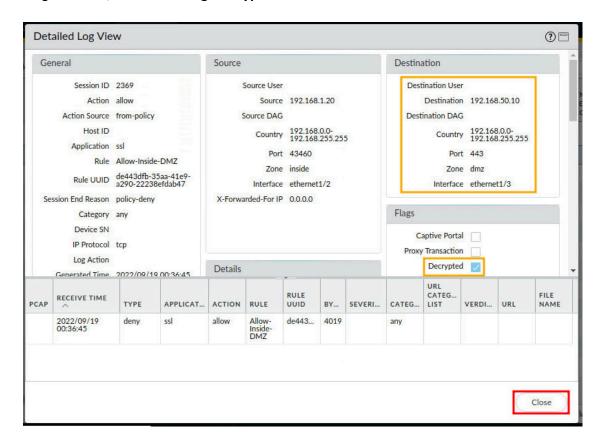


14. Look for traffic associated with the application of **ssl** and the *Decrypted* column set to **yes**. Click the magnifying glass on the left to open the **Detailed Log View** of the traffic to analyze the traffic from the Client machine of **192.168.1.20** to the DMZ server of **192.168.50.10**.





15. In the *Detailed Log View* window, notice in the *Destination* section, an *Address* of **192.168.50.10** and *Port* **443** to the **dmz** zone of the DMZ server. Then, in the *Flags* section, notice the flag **Decrypted** is set and click the **Close** button.

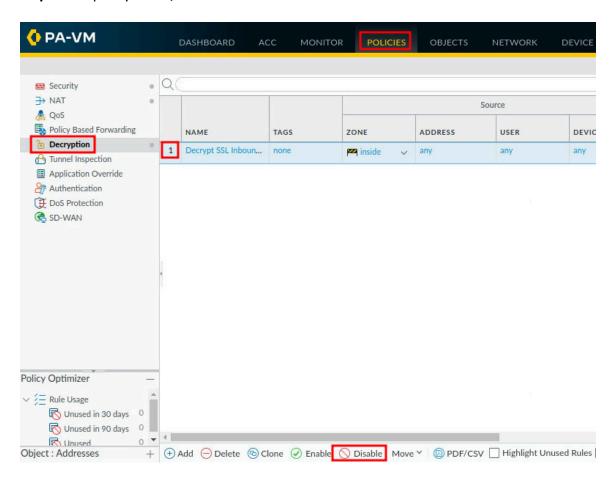




1.6 Disable Decryption Policy

In this section, you will disable the decryption policy you created earlier. Then, after committing the changes to the Firewall, you will monitor traffic logs to determine if traffic is still being decrypted.

 Navigate to Policies > Decryption. Then, click the 1 for the Decrypt SSL Inbound Inspection policy. Next, click the Disable button.

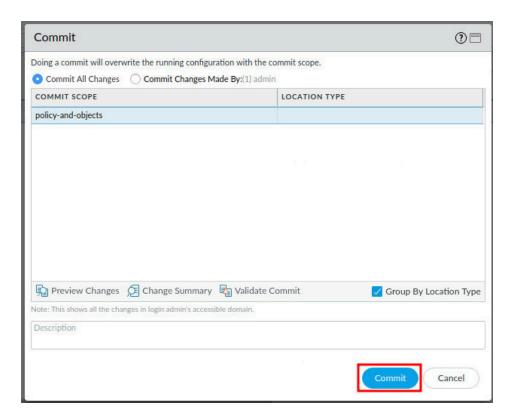


2. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.





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



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



5. Click the **New tab** button in *Chromium*.

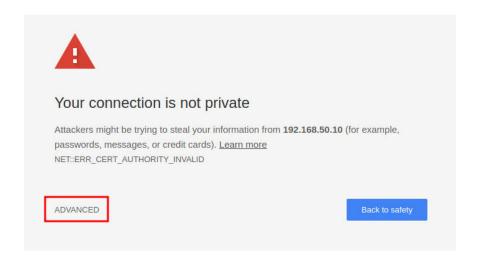


6. In the address bar, type https://192.168.50.10 and click Enter.

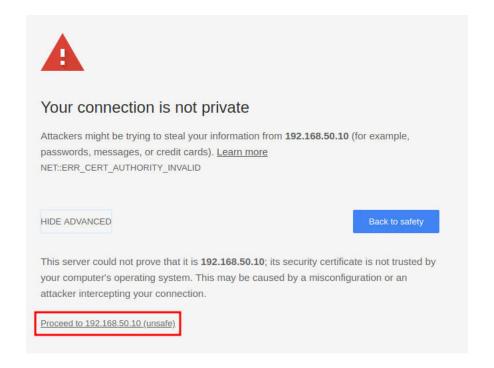




7. You will see a *Your connection is not private* message. Click on the **ADVANCED** link



8. Click on Proceed to 192.168.50.10 (unsafe).

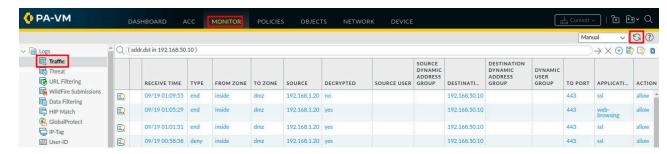




9. Notice that the *Apache HTTP Server Test page* is working. Click on the **X** of the tab to close it.



10. Navigate to **Monitor > Logs > Traffic**. Then, click the **refresh** icon.

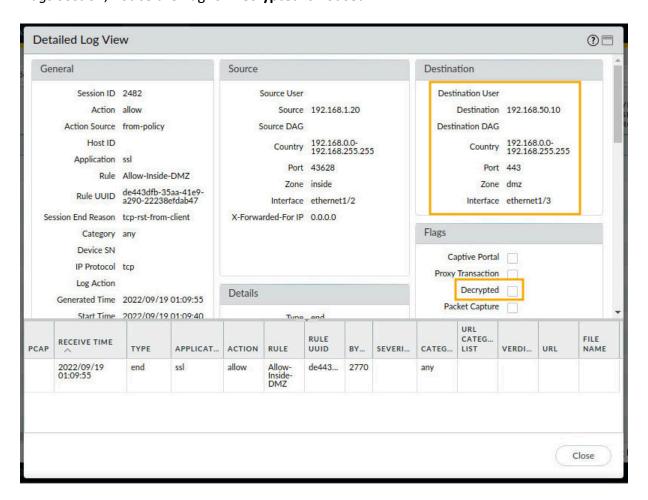


11. Look for traffic associated with the application of **ssl** and the *Decrypted* column set to **no**. Click on the magnifying glass icon on the left to open the **Detailed Log View** of the traffic to analyze the traffic from the Client machine of **192.168.1.20** to the DMZ server of **192.168.50.10**.





12. In the *Detailed Log View* window, notice in the *Destination* section, an *Address* of **192.168.50.10** and *Port* **443** to the **dmz** zone of the DMZ server. Then, in the *Flags* section, notice the flag for **Decrypted** is not set.



13. The lab is now complete; you may end the reservation.