Configure Certificate for FND to SSM Communication

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Introduction

This document describes how to correctly configure communication issues between Field Network Director (FND) and Software Security Module (SSM).

Problem

Since FND 4.4, communication between the FND application server and the SSM service requires mutual authentication.

In case this mutual authentication is not configured correctly or the certificates do not match, the connection from FND to the SSM is refused.

This can be seen in **server.log**, if the logging is set to debug, as follows:

```
7645: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.929 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=SSMClient][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Sending request to SSM Server. Request
:https://127.0.0.1:8445/api/v0/ssmws/loadKeyStore.json
7646: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.930 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=BasicClientConnectionManager][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Get connection for route
{s}->https://127.0.0.1:8445
7647: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.931 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=DefaultClientConnectionOperator][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Connecting to
127.0.0.1:8445
7648: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.938 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=DefaultClientConnection][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Connection
org.apache.http.impl.conn.DefaultClientConnection@370804ff closed
7649: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.938 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=DefaultClientConnection][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Connection
org.apache.http.impl.conn.DefaultClientConnection@370804ff shut down
7650: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.938 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=BasicClientConnectionManager][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Releasing connection
org.apache.http.impl.conn.ManagedClientConnectionImpl@7bc2e02f
7651: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.938 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=BasicClientConnectionManager][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5]: Connection can be kept
alive for 9223372036854775807 MILLISECONDS
7652: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.938 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=SSMClient][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5][part=7652.1/114]: Please verify SSM server
status. No response received.
7653: SLC-FND: Jun 20 2019 13:22:49.938 +0000: %IOTFND-7-UNSPECIFIED:
%[ch=SSMClient][sev=DEBUG][tid=http-/0.0.0.0:443-5][part=7652.2/114]:
javax.net.ssl.SSLPeerUnverifiedException: peer not authenticated
```

Solution

The certificate that is used by the FND server to do the client authentication on the SSM server is the FND web certificate from the **jbossas_keystore**.

In order for the SSM to trust this certificate, you need to go through these steps:

1. Export the web certificate with the use of the GUI. Navigate to Admin > System Management > Certificates > Certificate for Web and then click on Download (base64) as shown in the image.

cisco FIELD NETWORK DIRECTO	DASHBOARD DR	DEVICES 🗸	OPERATIONS 🗸	CONFIG 🗸	ADMIN 🗸	root root	@~
ADMIN > SYSTEM MANAGEMENT > C	ERTIFICATES						
Certificate for CSMP Certificate for Route	ers Certificate fo	or Web					
Alias: jboss Certificate[0]: Data: Version: 3 Serial Number: 287506093 Signature Algorithm: SHA256withRSA Issuer: CN=CG-NMS, OU=IoTSSG, O= Validity Not Before: Tue Mar 03 21:58:13 UT Not After : Sun Mar 01 21:58:13 UT Subject: CN=CG-NMS, OU=IoTSSG, C Fingerprints: MD5: 6D:63:B9:8B:3F:C5:E9:6B:2B SHA1: 5F:3B:84:92:06:22:CE:C4:FA Subject Public Key Info:	Cisco Systems, L=: TC 2015 C 2020 =Cisco Systems, L DD:77:30:55:9D:C6 :8B:F0:46:65:4B:C6	San Jose, ST=C =San Jose, ST= 5:E7 E:74:61:AA:3B:A	A, C=US CA, C=US E				•
	[BinaryBase64	Download				

2. Copy the text file or create a new file on the FND server with the certificate contents from Step 1. For this example, the file is saved in **/opt/cgms/server/cgms/conf/webcert.crt**:

```
[root@fndnms ~]# vi /opt/cqms/server/cqms/conf/webcert.crt
[root@fndnms ~]# cat /opt/cqms/server/cqms/conf/webcert.crt
----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
MIIDbTCCAlWgAwIBAgIEESL+rTANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQsFADBnMQswCQYDVQQGEwJV
UzELMAkGA1UECBMCQ0ExETAPBgNVBAcTCFNhbiBKb3N1MRYwFAYDVQQKEw1DaXNj
byBTeXN0ZW1zMQ8wDQYDVQQLEwZJb1RTU0cxDzANBqNVBAMTBkNHLU5NUzAeFw0x
VQQIEwJDQTERMA8GA1UEBxMIU2FuIEpvc2UxFjAUBgNVBAoTDUNpc2NvIFN5c3Rl
bXMxDzANBgNVBAsTBklvVFNTRzEPMA0GA1UEAxMGQ0ctTk1TMIIBIjANBgkqhkiG
9w0BAQEFAAOCAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEAlsgdELNUFi9eXHcb550y0UgbPMgucsKqT1+E
xmwEri517fo+BHdg6AuXpDP4KvLW1/cx8xqWbheKAfPht/HqiFX0ltZdoWaQcaJz
YJOiuL/W3BwQW6UMWPnC1p/Dgnz+qR3JQpR20hC4ymHIIVwKwVfiaJZAnSFNKaZ4
uhOuJDkEC0ZyBbp5Y2Mi9zVRTv/q98p0Iqp0jxV0JUtlRkWkjkvCma/Q6dZzSdle
YZzyAS/ud4KVxytKKoxBBDPrtPRbT6lu2VMyWe26cRjPCveZffBABoSvLjptnb7H
mxJMW7EbL+zjTAL/GmHh8J9P16MX7EoePCPCQdwPRdfQ3GkTKwIDAQABoyEwHzAd
BgNVHQ4EFgQUfyFoDj0hJLtUu6ZtKCHuisCQf14wDQYJKoZIhvcNAQELBQADggEB
AF9fVfEwqbP4BszGHfzTa8pf4zUPJ3Lcz1z6RxwtyGXq8oZK8YQWRpa2NQKLDnve
VjXSdOBvDKRYqPkZeAmTRS0BobeZr2NdHb/FNXMlR6eBm56UrefW+VdQE7syOmGq
Ynlwb/1KF/Fkyp2xVk7nHCtH1+19013DlyPmGbQ/TxgA6PXY6V6d5711ARNdohYm
qZ/3B+ZK/F4PLOcUwWDtxTBFnlElyq+YjhZiqsCmsxI1GWqleWltUVGMXNM1YLN5
N1KAbOeC004n2MqzTWTU9Ss51WfceWsBoSPO+4xyzcRDZmo7IWZiwp4ZAO3eYOz/
4aUEdBZxv29+QQ7dq6ZZOXQ=
```

----END CERTIFICATE-----

3. Run this command in order to import the certificate as trusted in the ssm_web_keystore:

[root@fndnms ~]# keytool -import -trustcacerts -alias fnd -keystore /opt/cgmsssm/conf/ssm_web_keystore -file /opt/cgms/server/cgms/conf/webcert.crt Enter keystore password: Owner: CN=CG-NMS, OU=IoTSSG, O=Cisco Systems, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US Issuer: CN=CG-NMS, OU=IoTSSG, O=Cisco Systems, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US Serial number: 1122fead Valid from: Tue Mar 03 22:58:13 CET 2015 until: Sun Mar 01 22:58:13 CET 2020 Certificate fingerprints: MD5: 6D:63:B9:8B:3F:C5:E9:6B:2B:DD:77:30:55:9D:C6:E7 SHA1: 5F:3B:84:92:06:22:CE:C4:FA:8B:F0:46:65:4B:CE:74:61:AA:3B:AE SHA256: 1C:59:50:40:92:09:66:D3:67:E9:AE:CA:6D:C8:25:88:FF:A8:26:F7:62:8A:13:EB:0E:EC:57:32:DB:03:94:31 Signature algorithm name: SHA256withRSA Version: 3 Extensions: #1: ObjectId: 2.5.29.14 Criticality=false SubjectKeyIdentifier [KeyIdentifier [0000: 7F 21 68 0E 3D 21 24 BB 54 BB A6 6D 28 21 EE 8A .!h.=!\$.T..m(!.. 0010: CO 90 7E 5E ...^ 1] Trust this certificate? [no]: yes Certificate was added to keystore 4. Once the certificate has been imported, restart the SSM service: [root@fndnms ~]# systemctl restart ssm [root@fndnms ~]# systemctl status ssm ssm.service - (null) Loaded: loaded (/etc/rc.d/init.d/ssm; bad; vendor preset: disabled) Active: active (running) since Thu 2019-06-20 17:44:11 CEST; 5s ago Docs: man:systemd-sysv-generator(8) Process: 11463 ExecStop=/etc/rc.d/init.d/ssm stop (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS) Process: 11477 ExecStart=/etc/rc.d/init.d/ssm start (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS) CGroup: /system.slice/ssm.service 11485 java -server -Xms128m -Xmx1g -XX:MaxPermSize=256m -server -XX:+HeapDumpOnOutOfMemoryError -XX:HeapDumpPath=/opt/cgms-ssm/log -XX:-OmitStackTraceInFastThrow -Dbase.dir=/opt/cgms-ssm -Dlog4j... Jun 20 17:44:10 fndnms systemd[1]: Starting (null)... Jun 20 17:44:11 fndnms ssm[11477]: Starting Software Security Module Server: [OK] Jun 20 17:44:11 fndnms systemd[1]: Started (null).

You can verify if FND is able to communicate to SSM. Navigate to Admin > Certificates > Certificate for CSMP in the FND GUI.

If all goes well, you should be able to see the CSMP certificate in SSM as shown in the image.

DASHBOARD DEVICES V OPERATIONS V CONFIG V ADMIN V

ADMIN > SYSTEM MANAGEMENT > CERTIFICATES

Certificate for CSMP Certificate for Routers Certificate for Web

Certificate:	
Data:	
Version: 3	
Serial Number: 1911174027	
Signature Algorithm: SHA256withECDSA	
Issuer: CN=SSM_CSMP, OU=CENBU, O=Cisco, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US	
Validity	
Not Before: Tue Jul 22 23:32:52 UTC 2014	
Not After : Thu Jul 21 23:32:52 UTC 2044	
Subject: CN=SSM_CSMP, OU=CENBU, O=Cisco, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US	
Fingerprints:	
MD5: 2E:AC:06:1F:3E:AB:A6:BE:33:1F:1E:EF:33:D9:80:29	
SHA1: 48:A2:EC:63:2F:6F:54:25:23:5D:E7:6F:4E:E9:8E:2D:93:50:A0:FF	
Subject Public Key Info:	
Public Key Algorithm: EC	
30:59:30:13:06:07:2A:86:48:CE:3D:02:01:06:08:	
2A:86:48:CE:3D:03:01:07:03:42:00:04:23:D2:83:	
45:E8:D5:DF:86:9D:6E:E7:58:0D:C1:8F:35:9D:57:	
B1:3D:50:4A:16:01:15:C4:81:19:B0:E6:60:B8:64:	
14:01:5D:56:83:BE:E1:85:98:CB:90:E1:F7:9B:F4:	
33:5A:4B:29:AD:35:69:9B:4F:DC:42:7F:EB:C2:99:	
A5	
X509v3 extensions:	

Binary	Download
Base64	Dowinioad

root