

Microsoft

Crack the Hash and Other Credential Theft and Reuse: Mitigating the Risk of Lateral Movement and Privilege Escalation

Nick Jungles, Trustworthy Computing
K Simos, Microsoft Consulting Services



Agenda

Item

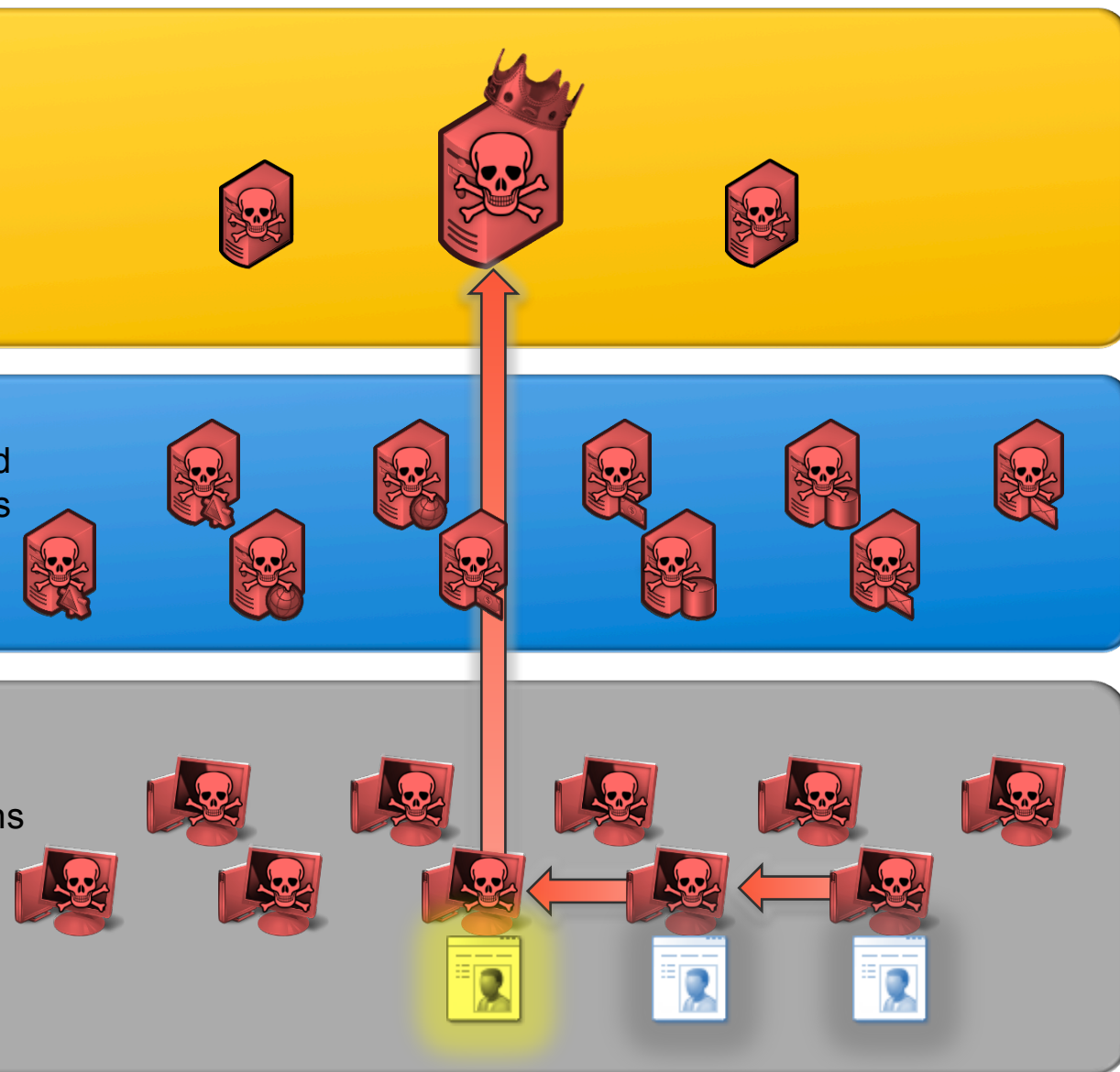
Review

Platform Updates and New Mitigations

Next Steps

The Problem

ss The Hash Attack



1. Attacker targets workstations en m
2. User running as local admin is com
attacker harvests credentials
3. Attacker uses credentials for latera
movement or privilege escalation
4. Attacker acquires domain admin cr
5. Attacker starts exercising this full o
data and systems in the environme



/ is this not a simple fix?

cts:

need to support single sign-on (SSO). Credentials must be stored or cached to allow the operating system to perform actions on behalf of the user.

credentials can still be harvested and reused if disclosed to an attacker or a compromised computer.

Review

Mitigation 1 - Restrict and protect high privileged main accounts

Objective

This mitigation reduces the risk of administrators from inadvertently exposing privileged credentials to higher risk computers.

How

- Restrict DA/EA accounts from authenticating to lower trust computers
- Provide admins with accounts to perform administrative duties
- Assign dedicated workstations for administrative tasks.
- Mark privileged accounts as “sensitive and cannot be delegated”
- Do not configure services or schedule tasks to use privileged domain accounts on lower trust computers

Outcome

An attacker cannot steal credentials for an account if the credentials are never used on the compromised computer.

Mitigation 2 - Restrict and protect local accounts with administrative privileges

Objective

This mitigation restricts the ability of attackers to use local administrator accounts or their equivalents for lateral movement PTH attacks.

How

- Enforce the restrictions available in Windows Vista and later versions, preventing local accounts from being used for remote administration.
- Explicitly deny network and Remote Desktop logon rights for all administrative local accounts.
- Create unique passwords for local accounts with administrative privileges.

Outcome

An attacker who successfully obtains local account credentials from a compromised computer will not be able to use those credentials to perform lateral movement on the organization's network.

Mitigation 3 - Restrict inbound traffic using the Windows Firewall

Objective

This mitigation restricts the ability of attackers from initiating lateral movement from a compromised workstation by blocking inbound connections.

How

- Restrict all inbound connections to all workstations except for those with expected traffic originating from trusted sources, such as helpdesk workstations, security compliance scanners and servers.

Outcome

An attacker who successfully obtains any type of account credentials will not be able to connect to other workstations.

Mitigations that don't solve PtH...

Other mitigation	Effectiveness	Effort Required
Disable NTLM	Minimal	High
Smart cards and multifactor authentication	Minimal	High
Jump servers	Minimal	High
Rebooting workstations and servers	Minimal	Low

Platform Updates and New Mitigations

ore platform changes

Remove LM hashes from LSASS

Remove plaintext-equivalent passwords from LSA
for domain credentials

Enforce credential removal after logoff

Facilitate restriction of local admin accounts

- S-1-5-113 – Local account
- S-1-5-114 – Local account and member of Administrators group

Restricted Admin Mode Remote desktop

Remote desktop client can connect in
RestrictedAdmin mode which does not provide re-
usable credentials to the remote host.

POL: Restrict delegation of credentials to remote
server

Restricted Admin Mode Remote Desktop

Effect:

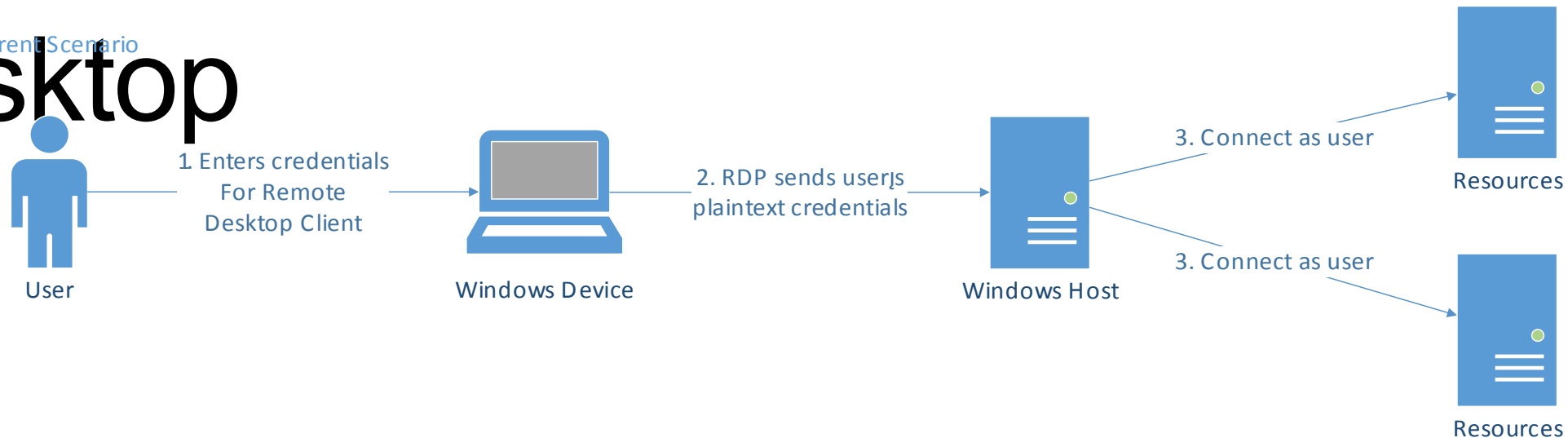
Enable interactive administration of machines without disclosing credentials.

Limitations:

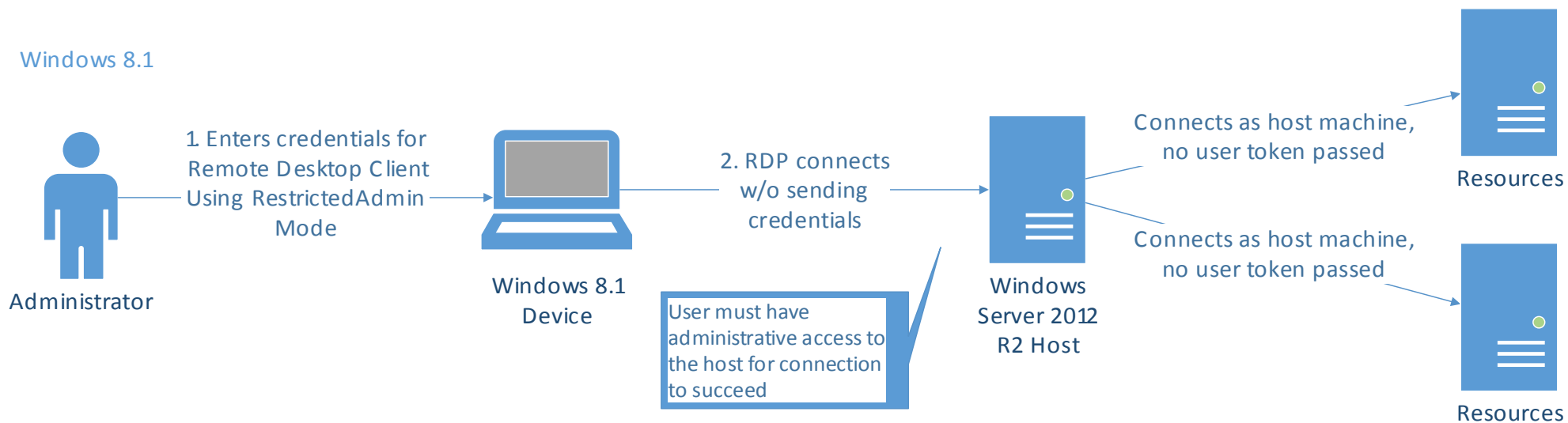
RDP connections must be initiated from a non-compromised host.

Restricted Admin Mode Remote Desktop

Current Scenario



Windows 8.1



Protected Users

Administrators and other privileged accounts can now have added protection

- ❖ Add user to Protected Users group to enable:
 - Non-configurable protections
 - Only Kerberos authentication (pre-configured security settings)
 - 4 Hour TGT Lifetime
 - Delegation forbidden
 - Requires
 - Windows 8.1 (or Server 2012 R2) Hosts
 - Windows Server 2012 R2 Domain & DCs

Protected Users

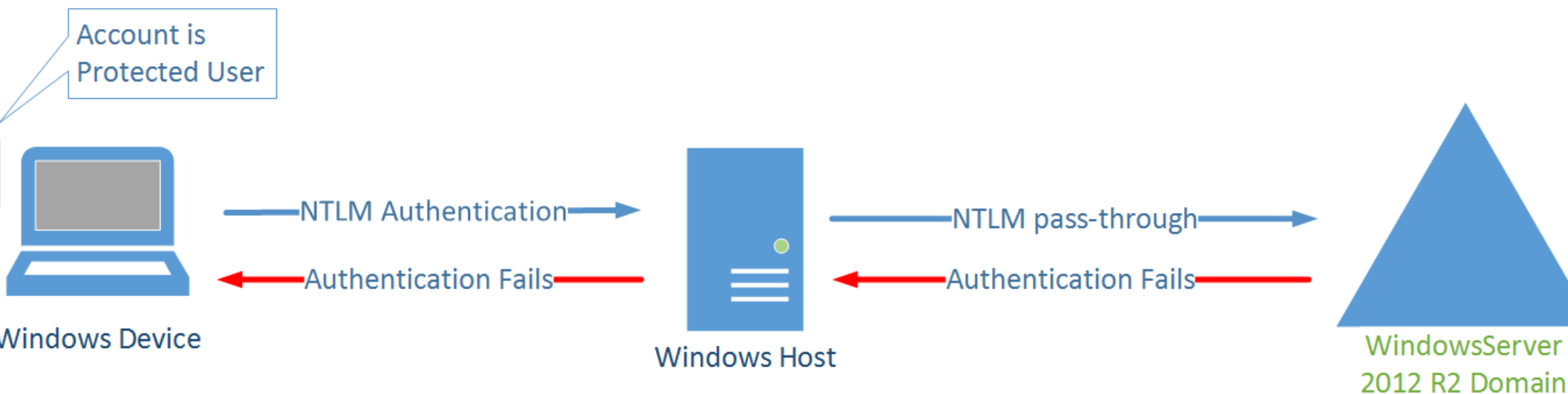
Effect:

- Restricts accounts to only using Kerberos (Required for effectiveness of Authentication Policies & Silos)

Limitations:

- Will not protect an administrator from interactively signing on to a compromised host.
- Protected Users cannot sign on if Kerberos (or dependencies) are broken

Protected Users



Accounts Cannot:

- Authenticate with NTLM authentication
- Use DES or RC4 cipher suites in Kerberos pre-authentication
- Be delegated with unconstrained or constrained delegation
- Renew user tickets (TGTs) beyond the initial 4 hour lifetime

Demos

1. Default Behavior

2. Protected User

3. RDP RestrictedAdmin

Credential Storage in LSASS

	Hashes		Tspkg	Wdigest	Kerberos	LiveSSP	3rd Party SSP
	LM	NT					
	Windows 8.0						
Microsoft Account							
Local Account							
Domain Account							
	Windows 8.1						
Microsoft Account			*	*			
Local Account			*	*			
Domain Account			*	*			
Protected Users							
RestrictedAdmin RDP							

* Off by default



No password data in memory

Password data in memory

Authentication Policies & Silos

Authentication Policies – Forest-based Active Directory policies

- Apply only to accounts in Windows Server 2012 R2 domains
- Allow
 - Control of which hosts an account can sign-in to
 - Configuration of access control conditions for authentication

Authentication Policy Silos - Allows isolation of related accounts that have constrained network scope.

Authentication Policies

Effect:

- Granularity on control of how accounts can be used

Limitations:

- A comprehensive network security plan must still be implemented to ensure the attack surface is reduced.
- Enforcement requires Kerberos

Authentication Policies

New object class called Authentication Policy can be used to apply authentication configuration to account classes in Windows Server 2012 R2 domains.

Active Directory account classes are:

- User
- Computer
- Managed Service Account and Group Managed Service Account which are referred to as Services in the UI.

Authentication Policy & Silos

Active Directory Administrative Center ▸ Authentication ▸ A

Active Directory... <

Authentication Policy Silos (2)

Filter 🔍

Name	Type	Description
Finance Silo (Restricted Access)	Authenticat...	Resources in the restricted...
Server Administration Silo	Authenticat...	Silo for Server Administrat...

Overview

Domain2 (local) ▸

- ...\\Server Administrators
- IT Services\\HelpDesk
- IT Services\\Servers

Dynamic Access Control ▸

Authentication ▸

- Authentication Policy Silos
- Authentication Policies

Global Search

Account Properties

Server Admin

TASKS ▼

SECTIONS ▼

Account

Organization

Member Of

Password Settings

File

Policy

Authentication Policy



☐ Assign an authentication policy to this account.

Authentication Policy (if not member of a Silo):

Authentication Policy Silo



☒ Assign Authentication Policy Silo



Authentication Policy Silo:

Server Administration Silo



- Account may be assigned to silo or directly to policy**
- Silo configuration takes precedence**

Authentication Silo Example

Finance Silo (Restricted Access)

TASKS ▼

SECTIONS ▼

General

Accounts

Policy

General

?

✕

⬆

An authentication policy silo controls which accounts are to be protected by the silo and defines the authentication policies to be applied to members of the silo.

Display name: * Finance Silo (Restricted Access)

Description: Resources in the restricted Finance Silo

☒ Protect from accidental deletion

☒ Only audit silo policies

☐ Enforce silo policies

Permitted Accounts

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Name	Account Type	Assigned
Finance User1	User	
Finance User2	User	
FinanceServer1	Computer	
FinanceServer2	Computer	
FinAppSvc	msDS-GroupM...	

Add...

Remove

Authentication Policy

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✕

⬆

☒ Use a single policy for all principals that belong to this authentication policy silo.

* The authentication policy that applies to all accounts in this silo: Finance Isolation Policy ▼

Authentication Policy (1)

Restricted Finance Servers and Services

TASKS ▼

General

Accounts

Silos

User

Service

Computer

An authentication policy defines the Kerberos Ticket Granting Ticket properties and authentication access control conditions for an account type.

Display name: * Restricted Finance Servers and Services

Description: Restricts Access to Finance Servers, including Service Accounts running services

☒ Only audit policy restrictions

☐ Enforce policy restrictions

Note: Audit policy applied through a silo will override the

☒ Protect from accidental deletion

Accounts

Name	Account Type
------	--------------

Assigned Silos

Name	User Account Policy	Service Account Policy	Computer Account Policy
Finance Silo (Restricted Ac...	✓	✓	✓

Accounts or
Assigned
Policy

Authentication Policy (2)

Where TGT
is issued
for these
accounts

User

☒ Specify a Ticket Granting Ticket lifetime for user accounts.

Ticket-Granting-Ticket Lifetime (minutes): * 600

Specify access control conditions that restrict devices that can request a Ticket Granting Ticket for the user accounts assigned to this policy.

Note: NTLM authentication cannot be restricted by access control conditions. Users should be members of the Protected Users group, which does not allow NTLM.

Click Edit to define the conditions.

(User.AuthenticationSilo Equals "Finance Silo (Restricted Access)")

Accounts that can
request a service ticket
on behalf of this account
(running service)

Services running as user accounts assigned to this policy will restrict connections to only users and devices that meet the conditions listed below.

Click Edit to define the conditions.

All Resources

Authentication Policy (3)

re TGT can be
ed for these
accounts

ounts that can
et a service
cket for this
count (when
ning service)

Service

☐ Specify a Ticket Granting Ticket lifetime for service accounts.

Ticket-Granting-Ticket Lifetime (minutes):

Specify access control conditions that restrict devices that can request a Ticket Granting Ticket for the service accounts assigned to this policy.

Note: NTLM authentication cannot be restricted by access control conditions. Users should be members of the Protected Users group, which does not allow NTLM.

Click Edit to define the conditions.

(User.AuthenticationSilo Equals "Finance Silo (Restricted Access)")

Services running as service accounts assigned to this policy will restrict connections to only users and devices that meet the conditions below.

Click Edit to define the conditions.

(User.AuthenticationSilo Equals "Finance Silo (Restricted Access)")

Authentication Policy (4)

Computer

☐ Specify a Ticket Granting Ticket lifetime for computer accounts.

Ticket-Granting-Ticket Lifetime (minutes):

Services running as computer accounts assigned to this policy will restrict connections to only users and devices that meet the conditions below.

Click Edit to define the conditions.

(User.AuthenticationSilo Equals "Finance Silo (Restricted Access)")

Edit

**accounts that can get a service ticket for this computer
(and services running as system account)**

LSA Protection

LSA can be run as a protected process which protects the process from code injection from non-protected processes.

Effect:

- Block current tools from reading LSA

Limitations:

- Not currently a security boundary
- Without Secure Boot/UEFI, it can be disabled

lore information

Windows 8.1 and Windows 8

<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/hh832030.aspx>

Windows Server 2012 R2 and Windows Server 20

<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/hh801901.aspx>

Where are we on PtH?

Pass The Hash Workgroup formed

Initial steps and best practices discussed.

PtH Whitepaper released in December, 2012

Initial Steps: Practical, effective and simple mitigations published.

Product updates proposed internally at BlueH

Proposed modifications reviewed by product groups.

Platform updates added to Windows 8.1, July 2013

Updates available to customers.

Backport updates available to customers, TBD

Updates to supported versions of Windows. Advisory will be released.

Next Steps

- ❖ **Read the Whitepaper**

Mitigating Pass-the-Hash Attacks and other Credential Theft Techniques

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=36036>

- ❖ **Questions?**

Patrick.Jungles [at] Microsoft.com

Mark.Simos [at] Microsoft.com

The PtH workgroup will continue to investigate mitigations for credential theft and reuse.

Want to help improve the security of our products?
We're hiring...

Microsoft

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