

NOVEMBER 2022

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# Secured Data Communication in AVEVA™ System Platform

Powered by System Management Server

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**AVEVA**

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# Agenda

Platform Common Services

System Management Server

Secured Suitelink communication

Secured MX communication

Secured HCAL-HCAP communication

SMS Certificate Management

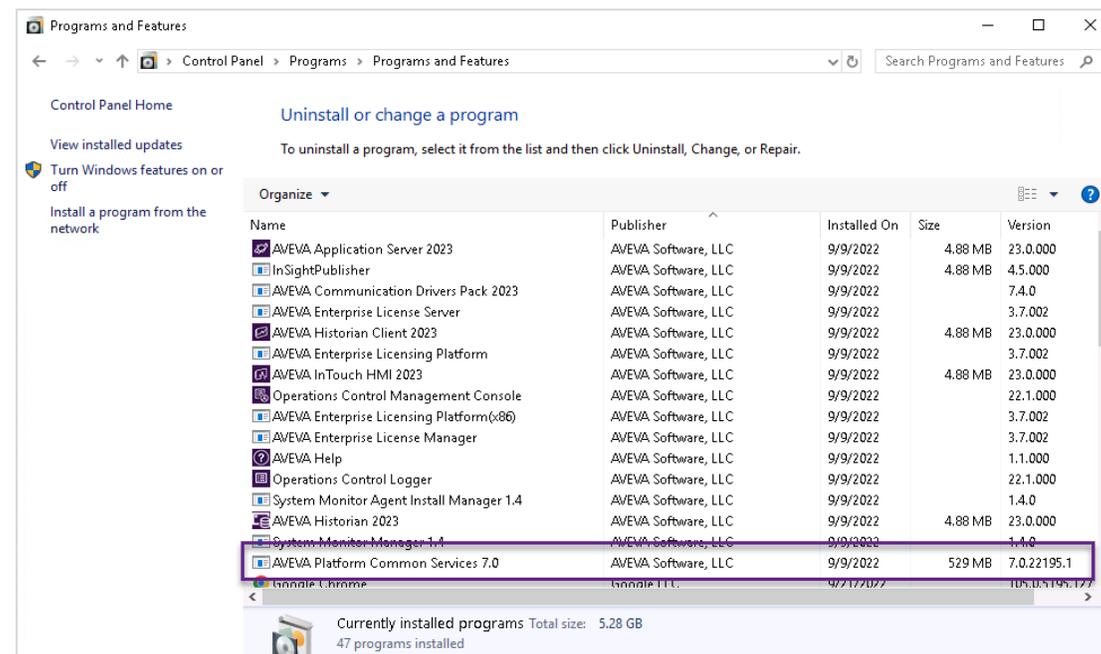
Microsoft DCOM Hardening

Troubleshooting

# Platform Common Services (PCS)

## Overview

- A common framework for data exchange between nodes running AVEVA products
- Formerly known as ArchestrA Service Bus (ASB)
- Based on the service-oriented architecture
- Allows different AVEVA products to be highly interoperable but still remains loosely coupled
- Backbone of the runtime data exchange, predominantly invisible to the users
- Independent of System Platform but gets automatically installed with System Platform
- Can be installed standalone as well (Ex: Recipe Manager Plus uses the standalone PCS)
- First shipped with System Platform 2012 R2



# Platform Common Services (PCS)

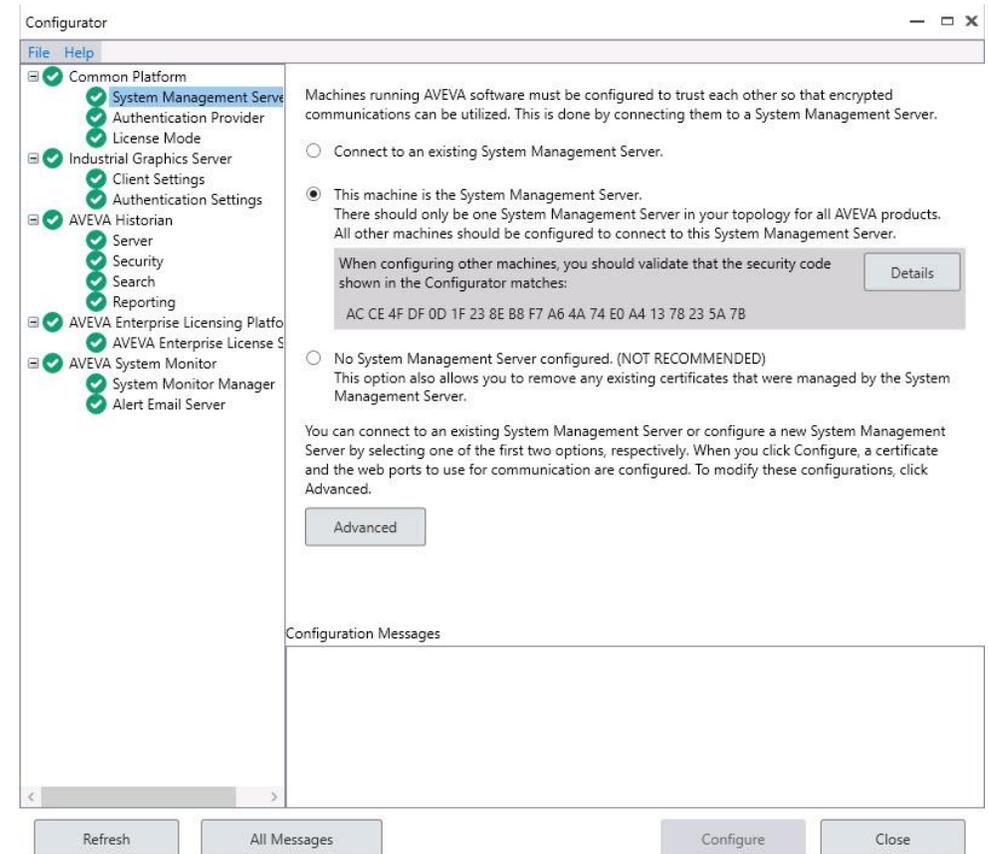
## History

ASB\PCS Version	System Platform Version
2.0	SP 2014 R2
3.0	SP 2014 R2 P01
4.0	SP 2014 R2 SP1
4.1	SP 2017
4.2	SP 2017 U1
4.2.2	SP 2017 U2
4.3	SP 2017 U3
4.4.1	SP 2020
4.5.1	SP 2020 R2
7.0	SP 2023

# System Management Server (SMS)

## Overview

- A component of the Platform Common Services
- Provides the support for TLS 1.2 protocol for secured communication between nodes
- Acts as a certificate authority and distributes the certificates to the client nodes (only for auto generated certificates)
- Responsible for registering the new devices
- Configured through a Plug-In in the Configurator application
- All the nodes must be connected to the same SMS
- SMS node in the network is automatically discovered, if not it can be entered manually in the configurator



# System Management Server (SMS)

## Advanced Configuration

Advanced Configuration

Certificates Ports Communications

In order to enable communications via encrypted channels (e.g. HTTPS), certificates are required to be configured.

Certificates can either be provided by your IT department or automatically generated.

Configuration

Please select the appropriate options below.

Certificate Source: Automatically Generated

Certificate: NODE1 ASB Details

Advanced Configuration

Certificates Ports Communications

The common platform, and certain other AVEVA software (using "web port sharing" technology), communicate over web ports.

Configuration

Please select the appropriate ports to use on this machine.

HTTP Port: 80

HTTPS Port: 443

Advanced Configuration

Certificates Ports Communications

Use this tab to configure the behavior of AVEVA communications protocols.

Many AVEVA and 3rd Party products that integrate with System Platform use these protocols. For example: InTouch HMI, Historian, OI Servers (CDP), Batch Management, Workflow, and others. Refer to your product's documentation or contact technical support for more information.

Suitelink

Suitelink is a TCP/IP based communications protocol.

Suitelink communications between processes on this node, and between processes on this node and other nodes can be encrypted. Please select the appropriate handling for non-encrypted Suitelink connection requests.

Accept non-encrypted Suitelink connections (mixed mode).

Mixed mode is recommended for use only during online (node-by-node) upgrades and/or migrations. setting require a reboot in order to take effect.

Network Message Exchange (NMX)

Network Message Exchange (NMX) is a DCOM-based communication protocol that uses a DCOM-based transport mechanism. Authorization to access NMX can be restricted to users well-known OS User Group. Please select the appropriate handling for NMX access authorization on this node.

Grant access to NMX for all users (NOT RECOMMENDED)

setting require a reboot in order to take effect.

OK Cancel

### Network Message Exchange (NMX)

NMX is an AVEVA application communication protocol that uses a DCOM-based communication transport mechanism. Authorization to access NMX can be restricted to users that are members of a well-known OS User Group. Please select the appropriate handling for NMX access authorization on this node.

Grant access to NMX for all users (NOT RECOMMENDED)

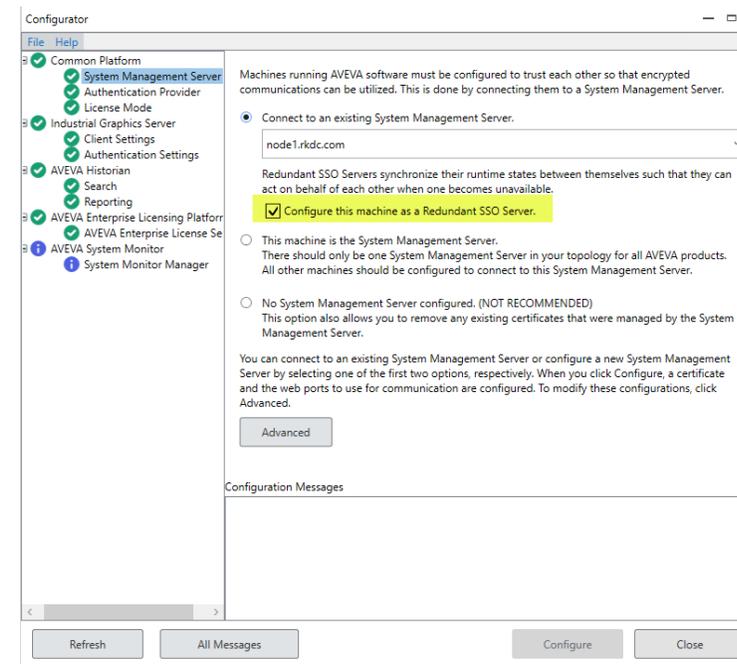
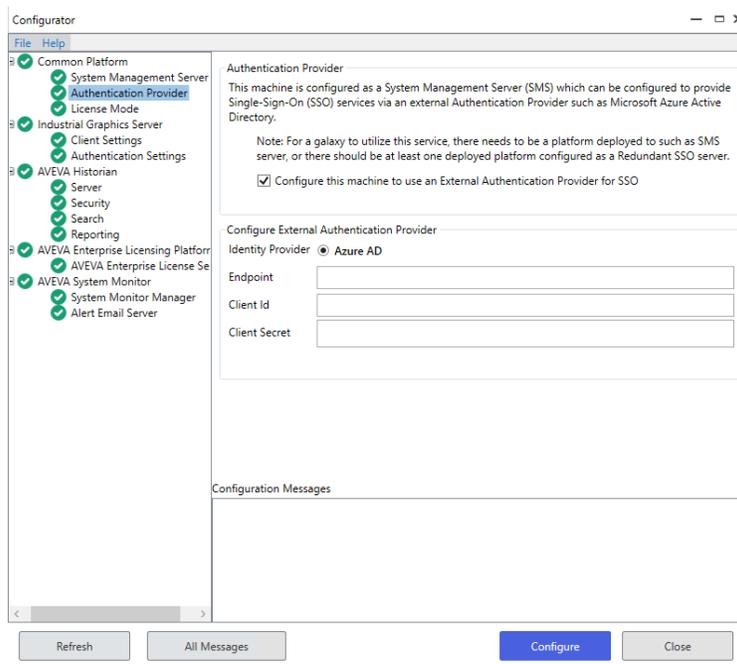
*NOTE: Changes to this setting require a reboot in order to take effect.*

New in SP 2023

# Platform Common Services (PCS)

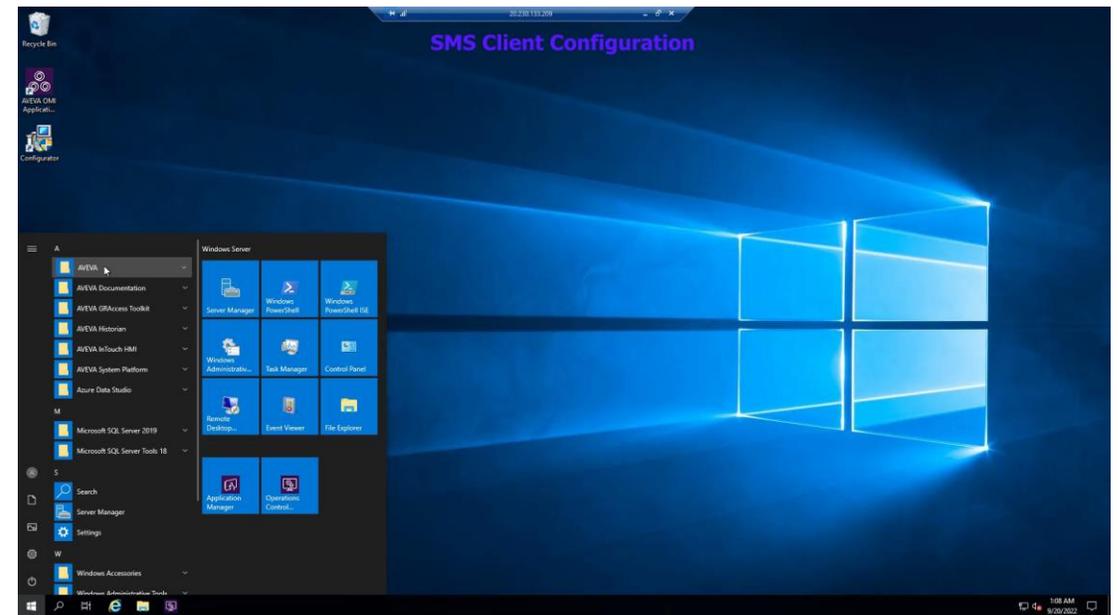
## System Management Server as an Authentication Provider

- An SMS Server Node can act as an Authentication Provider to provide Single-Sign-On services via an external authentication provider such as Microsoft Azure Active Directory
- One of the clients can be configured as a redundant Authentication Provider to provide Single-Sign-On services



# System Management Server Configuration

## Server and Client Demo



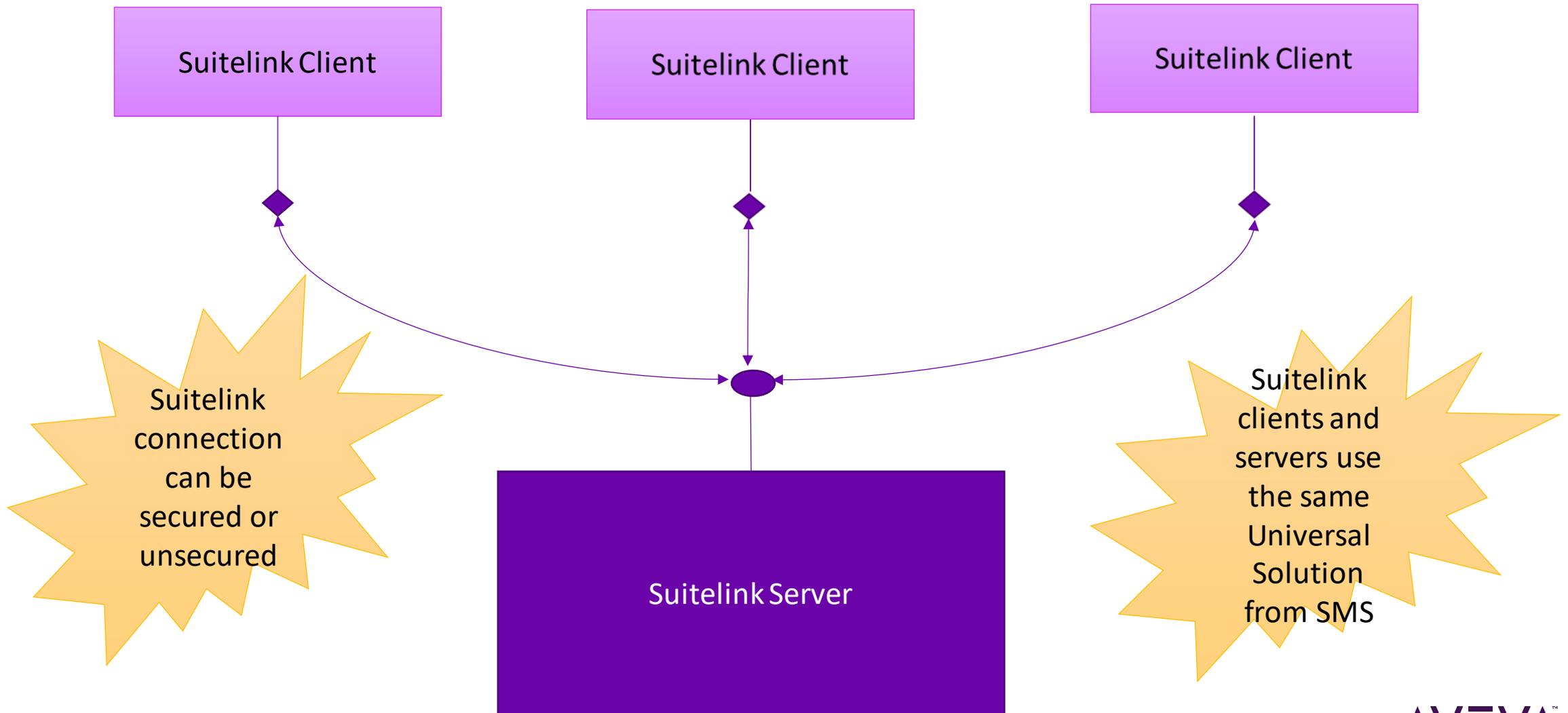


# Secured Suitelink Communication

## Overview

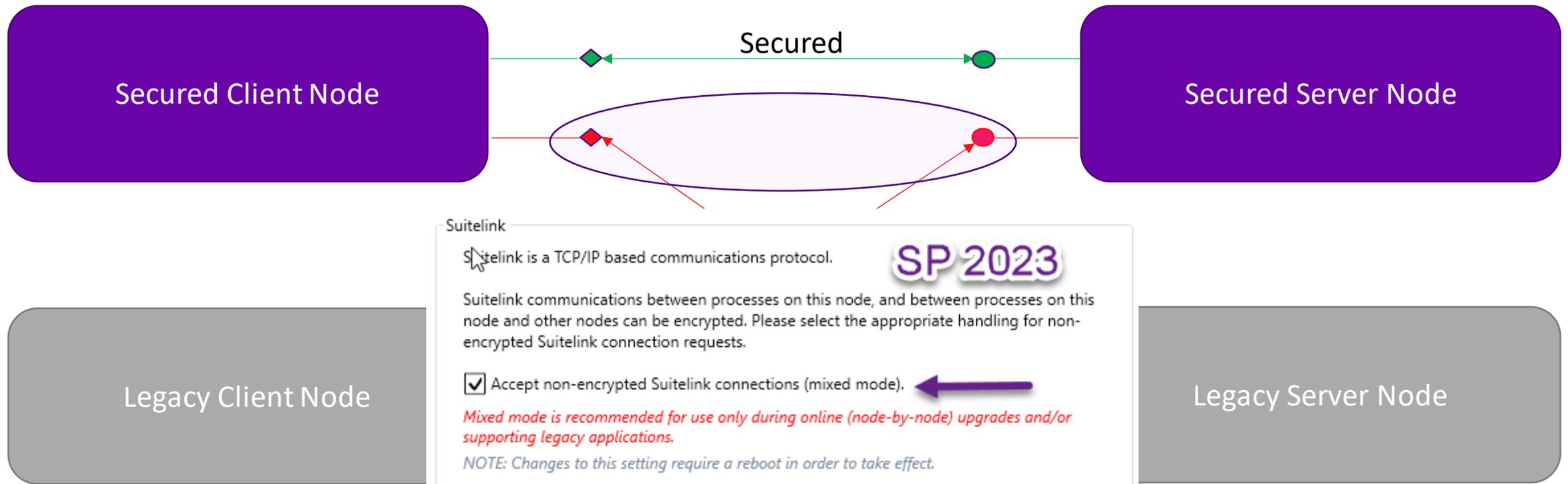
- A lightweight protocol used for high performance data transport for data items (VTQ)
- Implemented with TCP on port 5413
- Based on client-server technology for application connectivity on the network
- Drop-in replacement or upgrade without requiring the client\server applications to recompile
- Secured Suitelink encrypts the communication channel between client and server
- Encryption is achieved through the certificates provided by SMS
- Suitelink clients and servers download the Universal Solution from SMS to enable secure communication

# Suitelink Architecture

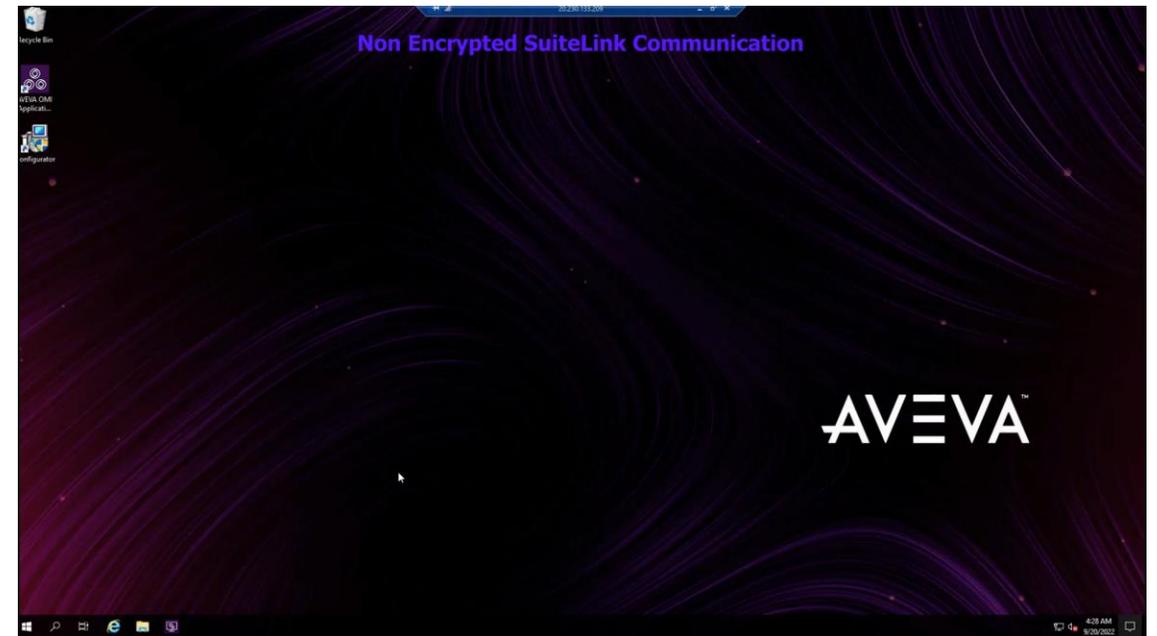
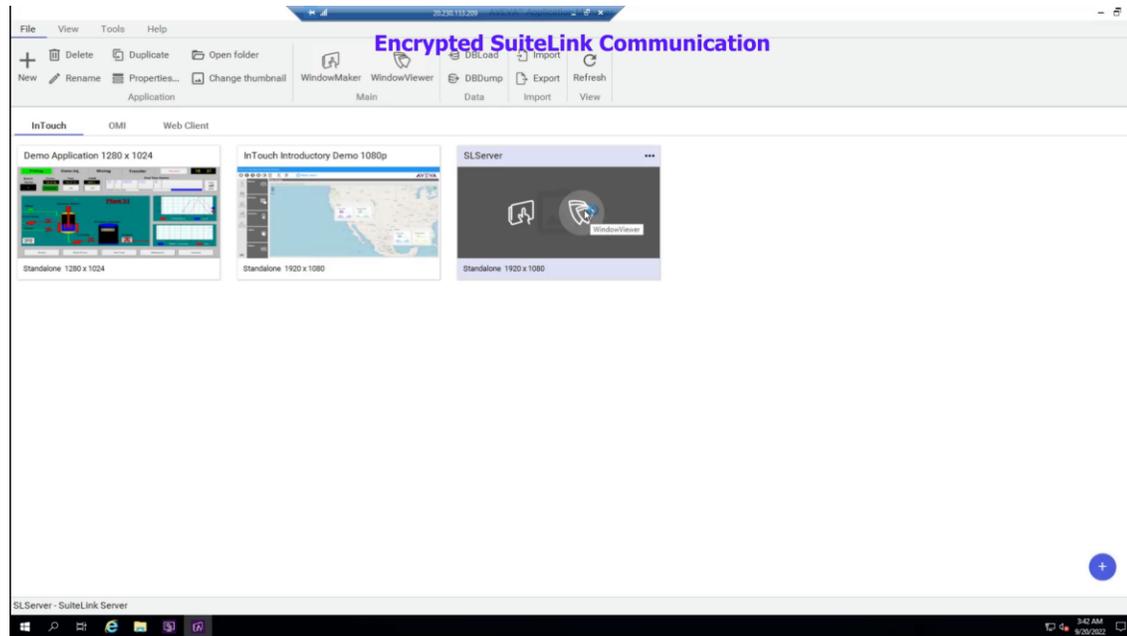


# Secure Suitelink Communication

## Interoperability of legacy and secured Suitelink



# Secured Suitelink vs. Unsecured Suitelink Demo



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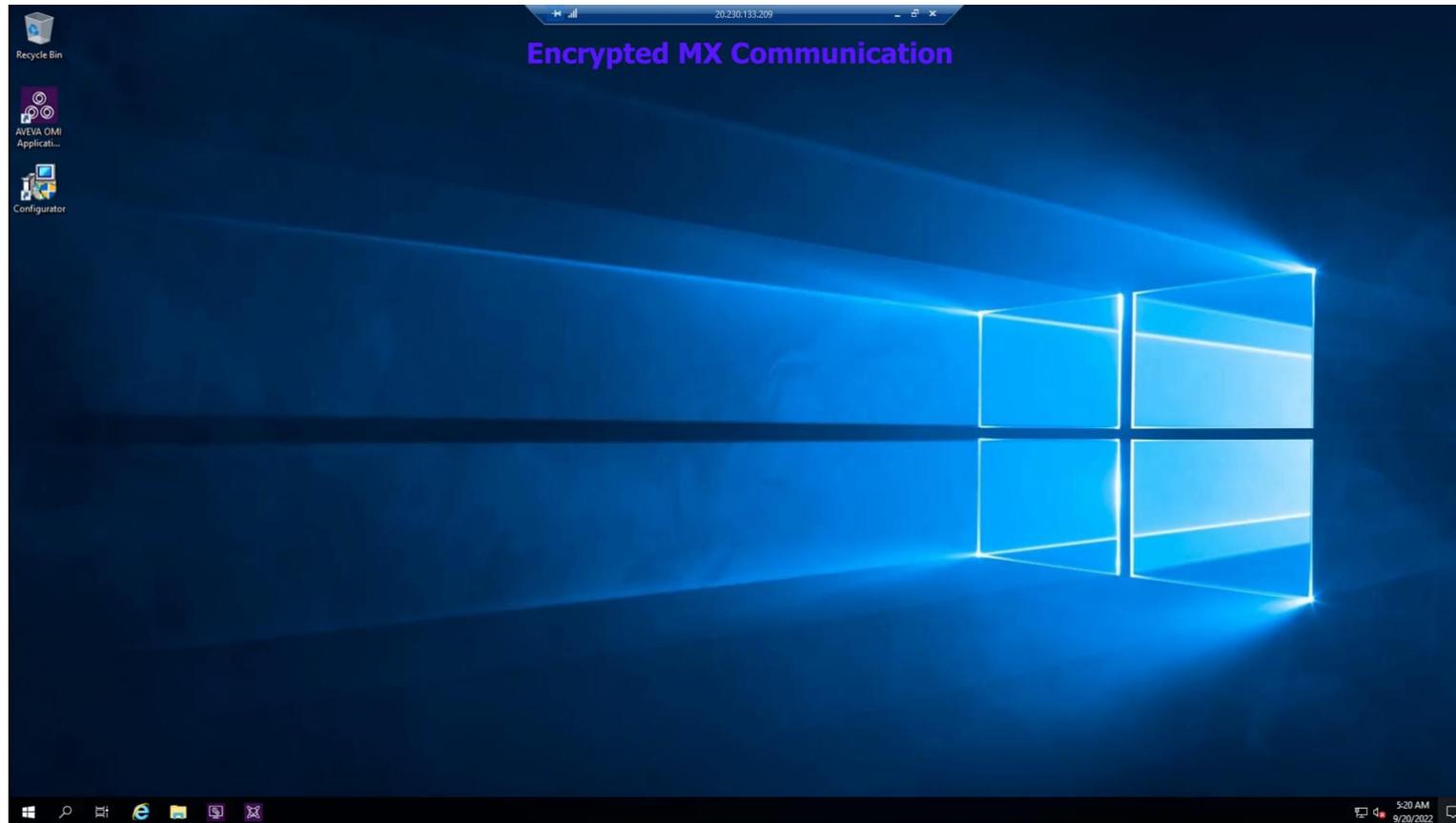
# Secured MX Communication

## Overview

- Message Exchange (LMX\NMX) is a protocol for Data Exchange between Application Server Runtime Nodes
- LMX is for Local Message Exchange and NMX is for Network Message Exchange
- MessageChannel is the component that connects 2 different Application Server Nodes for NMX
- MX messages are exchanged over MessageChannel for get\set of Runtime attribute data
- MessageChannel is secured with the certificate provided by SMS for secured communication

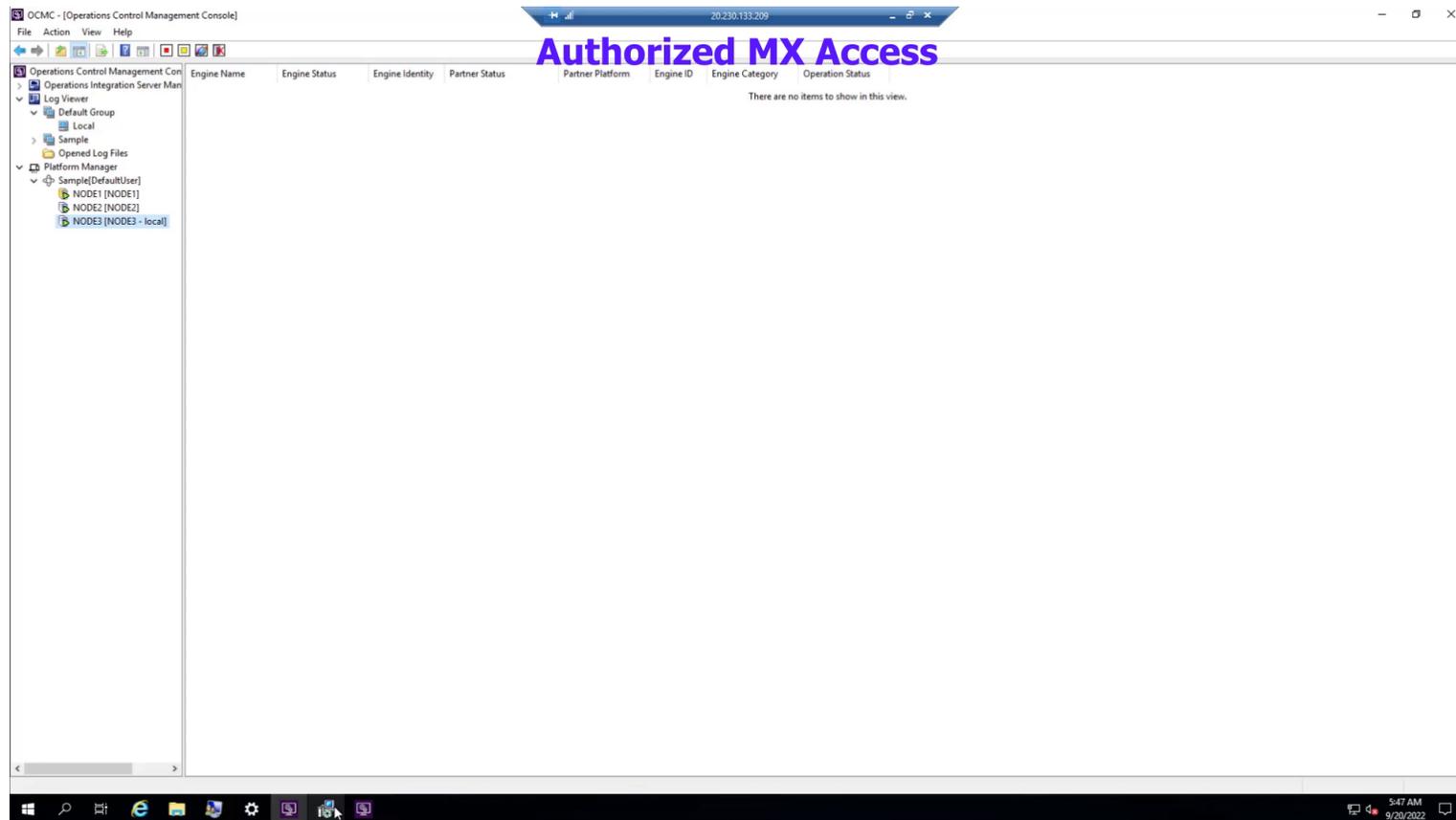
# Secured MX Communication

## Demo



# Authorized MX Access

## Demo



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# Secured HCAP-HCAL Communication

## Overview

- HCAP (aahClientCommon) is a client-side component used by clients (like Application Engine, Historian, SDK etc...) to establish connection with the Historian
- HCAP (aahClientAccessPoint) is a server-side component of Historian which accepts the connections from the clients
- HCAP-HCAL communication is secured when both the server node (Historian) and client node (typically Application Server Runtime Node) are configured with the same SMS
- HCAP maintains both secure and unsecure endpoints
- HCAP with fallback to unsecured connection if server side certificate cannot be validated or secured endpoint cannot be reached



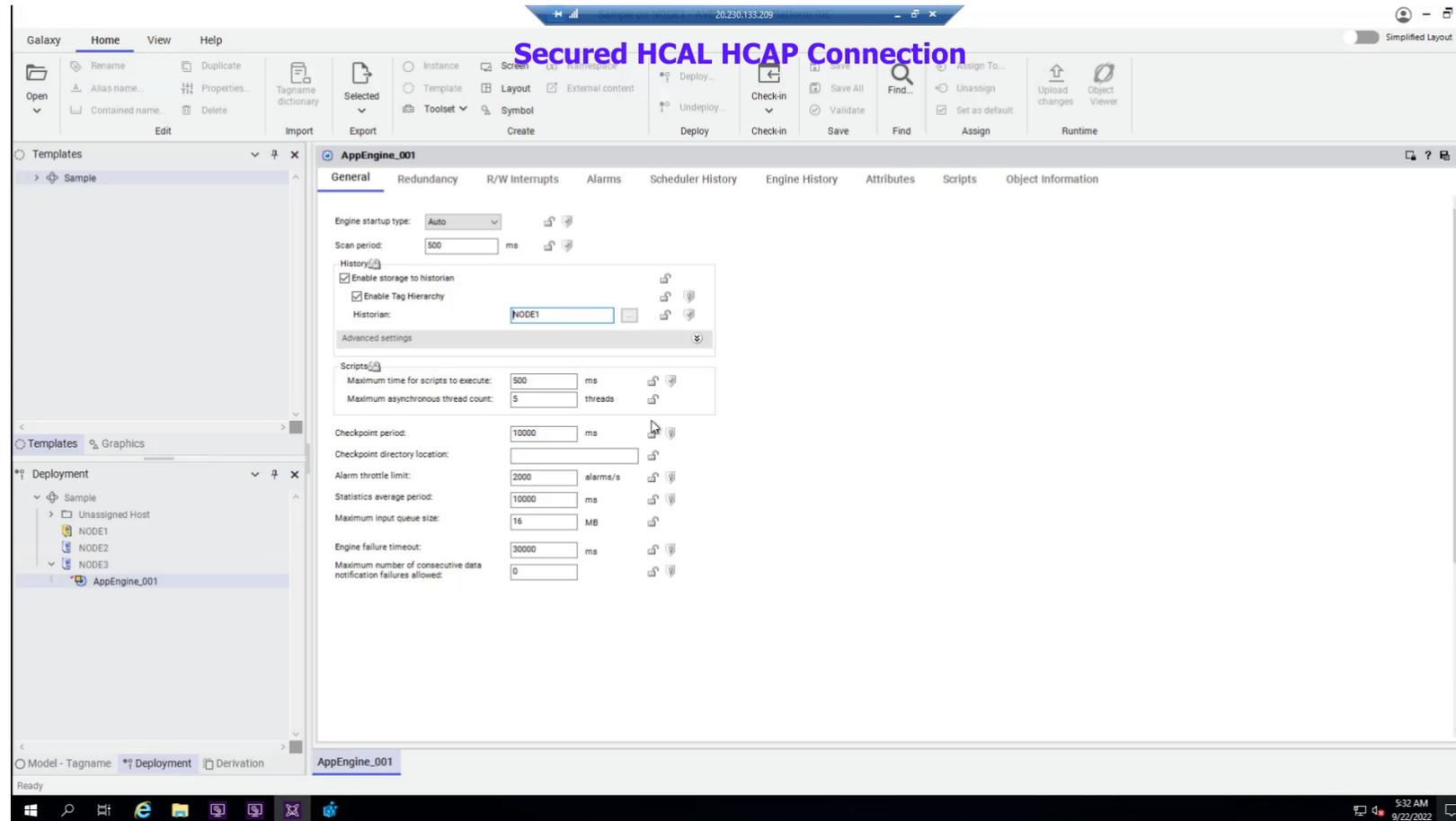
# Secured HCAL-HCAP Communication

## Secured HCAL-HCAP connections

- Tier-1 to Tier-2 replication
- Historian Configuration Service to remote IDAS node
- Remote IDAS to Historian
- Historian SDK application to remote Historian
- Application Engine to remote Historian
- Application Engine StoreForward to Stand-By Application Engine StoreForward storage
- Local HCAL to local HCAP is NOT secured as it is on the same node

# Secured HCAL-HCAP Demo

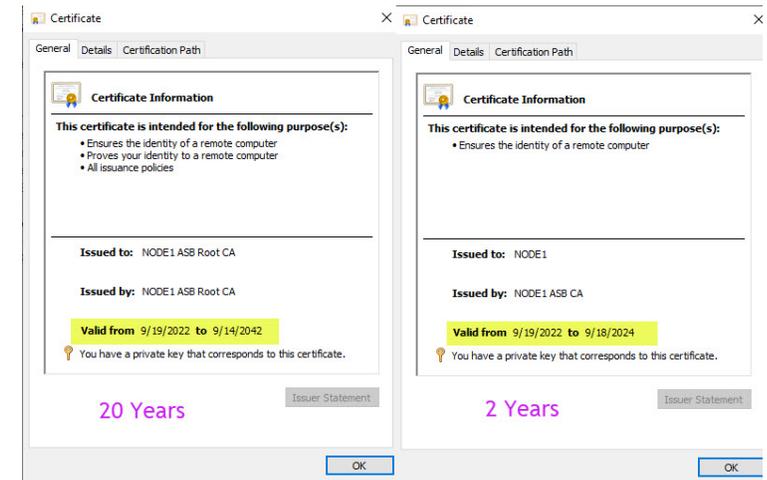
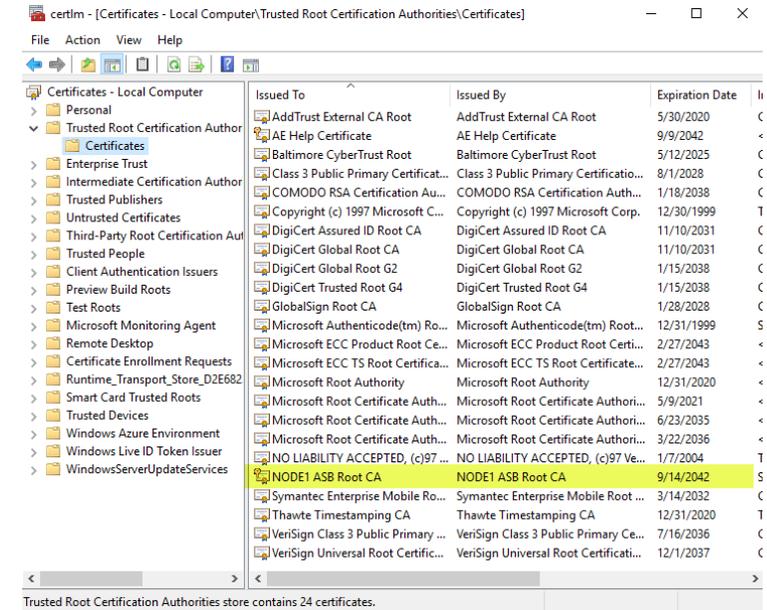
## Application Server Engine and Historian Tiered Replication



# System Management Server

## Certificate management details

- Certificates can be managed through Certificate Manager (Certmgr.msc) Application
- Certificates can be auto generated by SMS or managed by IT
- IT managed certificates need to be manually installed on each node
- Auto generated intermediate and root certificates have a validity of 20 years
- Auto generated binding certificate has a validity of 2 years
- Watchdog Service monitors the validity of auto generated certificates and instructs the ArchestrA Certificate Renewal Service to renew automatically



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# System Management Server

## What happens if System Management Server goes down?

- No impact on runtime data exchange between the nodes
- Nodes will continue to use already established secured communication channels
- Nodes can also create new secured communication channels until the certificate expires
- Configuring a new node with “Connect to an existing SMS” option will fail
- No impact to Single-Sign-On (SSO) functionality if the Redundant Single-Sign-On (SSO) Server is configured
- Refer to Tech Note 10251 for more details



# Microsoft DCOM Hardening

## AVEVA's response

- More details can be found in Microsoft KB 5004442 article :
  - [KB 5004442 Link](#)
- AVEVA's response can be found in Tech Alert TA000032813 :
  - [TA000032813 Link](#)
- As of now, the Tech Alert is still work in progress, please subscribe to the Tech Alert in AVEVA Support Web Site to get notified of latest updates

## Timeline

Update release	Behavior change
June 8, 2021	Hardening changes disabled by default but with the ability to enable them using a registry key.
June 14, 2022	Hardening changes enabled by default but with the ability to disable them using a registry key.
March 14, 2023	Hardening changes enabled by default with no ability to disable them. By this point, you must resolve any compatibility issues with the hardening changes and applications in your environment.

# Troubleshooting

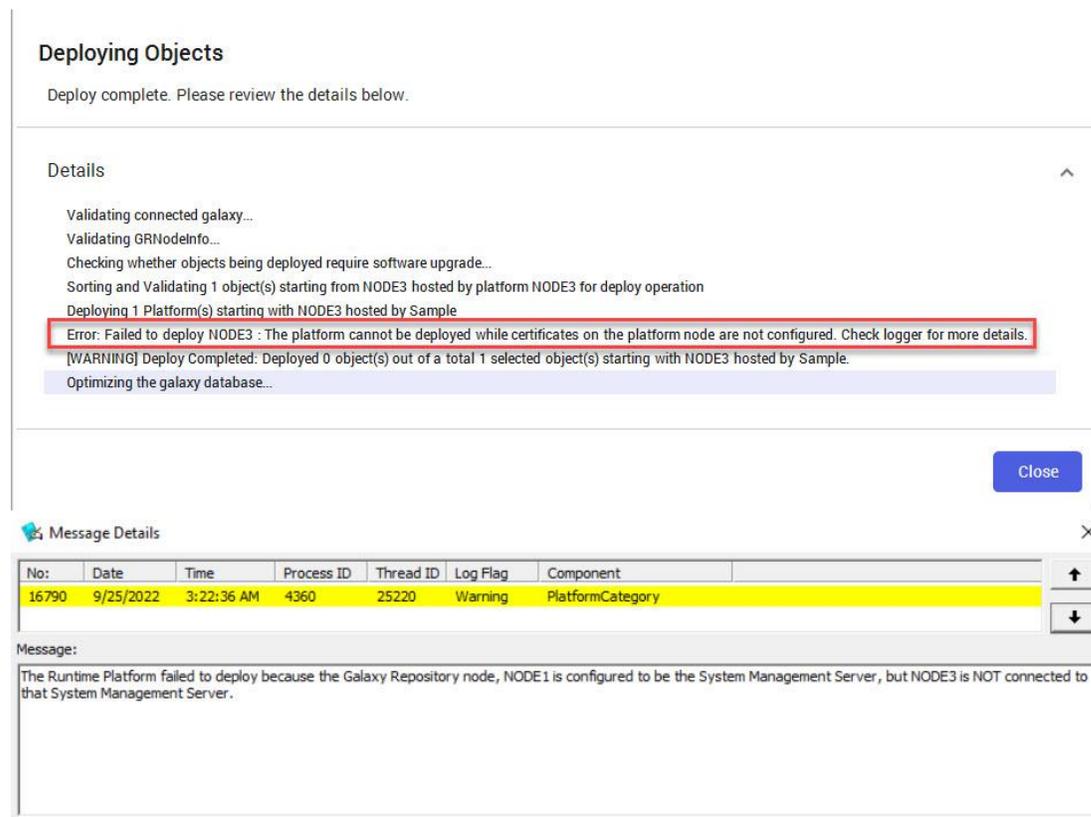
## Platform Deploy Failure

### Problem:

If the runtime node is not configured for System Management Server (SMS) or if it is not configured to point to the same SMS as GR Node, a platform cannot be deployed to the Runtime Node

### Solution:

To avoid the problem, ensure that runtime node is configured for SMS and ensure that it is configured to point to the same SMS server as that of the GR Node



The screenshot shows a deployment console window titled "Deploying Objects". The status is "Deploy complete. Please review the details below." The "Details" section lists the following steps:

- Validating connected galaxy...
- Validating GRNodeInfo...
- Checking whether objects being deployed require software upgrade...
- Sorting and Validating 1 object(s) starting from NODE3 hosted by platform NODE3 for deploy operation
- Deploying 1 Platform(s) starting with NODE3 hosted by Sample
- Error: Failed to deploy NODE3 : The platform cannot be deployed while certificates on the platform node are not configured. Check logger for more details.**
- [WARNING] Deploy Completed: Deployed 0 object(s) out of a total 1 selected object(s) starting with NODE3 hosted by Sample.
- Optimizing the galaxy database...

A "Close" button is visible in the bottom right corner of the console window.

Below the console window, a "Message Details" dialog box is open, displaying a table with the following data:

No:	Date	Time	Process ID	Thread ID	Log Flag	Component
16790	9/25/2022	3:22:36 AM	4360	25220	Warning	PlatformCategory

The message text below the table reads: "The Runtime Platform failed to deploy because the Galaxy Repository node, NODE1 is configured to be the System Management Server, but NODE3 is NOT connected to that System Management Server."

# Troubleshooting

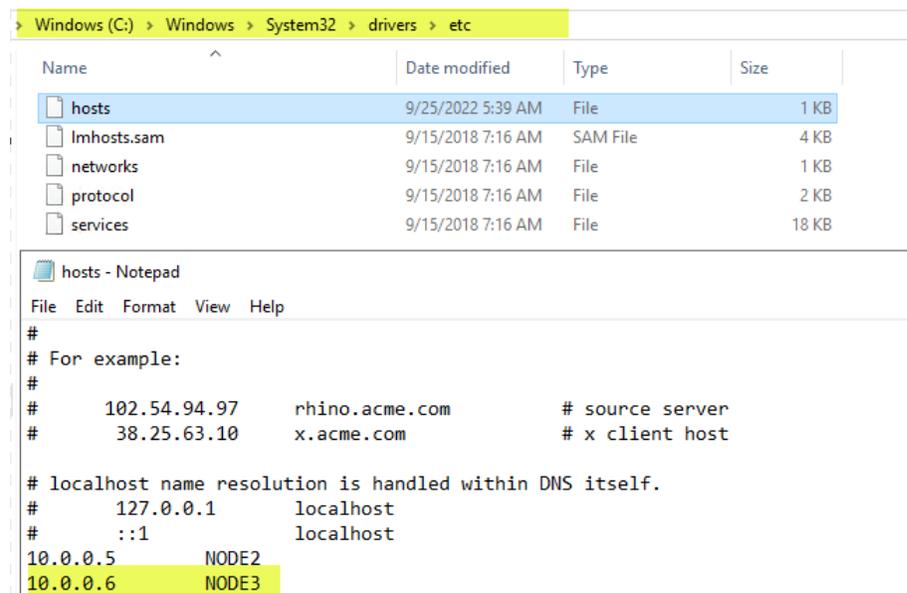
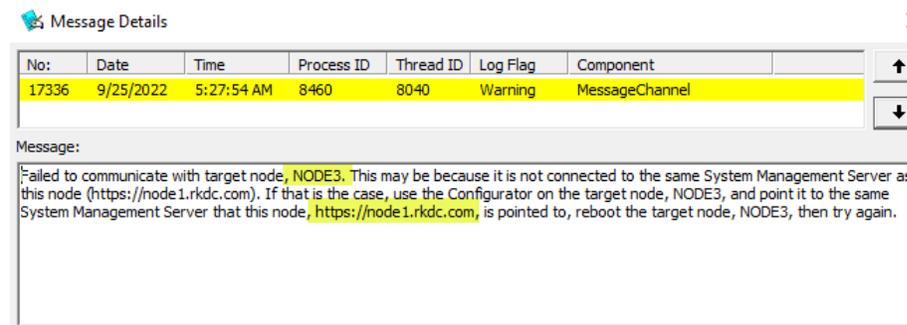
## Node to Node Communication Issues

### Problem:

Even after both the platform nodes pointing to the same System Management Server, the SMC Logger may report a warning that the node failed to communicate with remote node.

### Solution:

Ensure that the DNS Server is able to resolve the host name to IP address mapping. Alternatively, enter the host name to IP Address mapping in the Windows HOSTS file as a workaround.



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# Troubleshooting

## SMS connectivity issue after Hardware Replacement or VM Restoration

### Problem:

Following message may be logged in the logger after Hardware Replacement or VM Restoration of a node that was previously connected to SMS.

*ArchestrA.CertificateManager: Please un-register the device <device name> from management server. Use the (Remove-AsbDevice) script to remove the device registration*

### Solution:

Contact AVEVA Global Customer Support (GCS) for the PowerShell script “**Remove-AsbDevice**” and the procedure that needs to be followed to execute the script.

# Troubleshooting

## Missing certificate on a node configured for SMS

- **Problem:** Below mentioned warnings getting logged in the logger.
- **Solution:** It is most likely due to certificate being missed on a node configured for SMS. Check the certificate in the Certificate Manager (CertMgr.msc). Reconfigure the SMS to install the missing certificate.

The image shows two screenshots of the Windows Event Viewer 'Message Details' window. The top window shows a warning message from the 'MessageChannel' component. The bottom window shows a warning message from the 'Asb.DeployService' component.

**Message Details (Top Window)**

No:	Date	Time	Process ID	Thread ID	Log Flag	Component
39860	9/27/2022	11:44:49 PM	7608	8164	Warning	MessageChannel

Message:  
Error 0x800b0109 (CERT\_E\_UNTRUSTEDROOT) returned by CertVerifyCertificateChainPolicy

**Message Details (Bottom Window)**

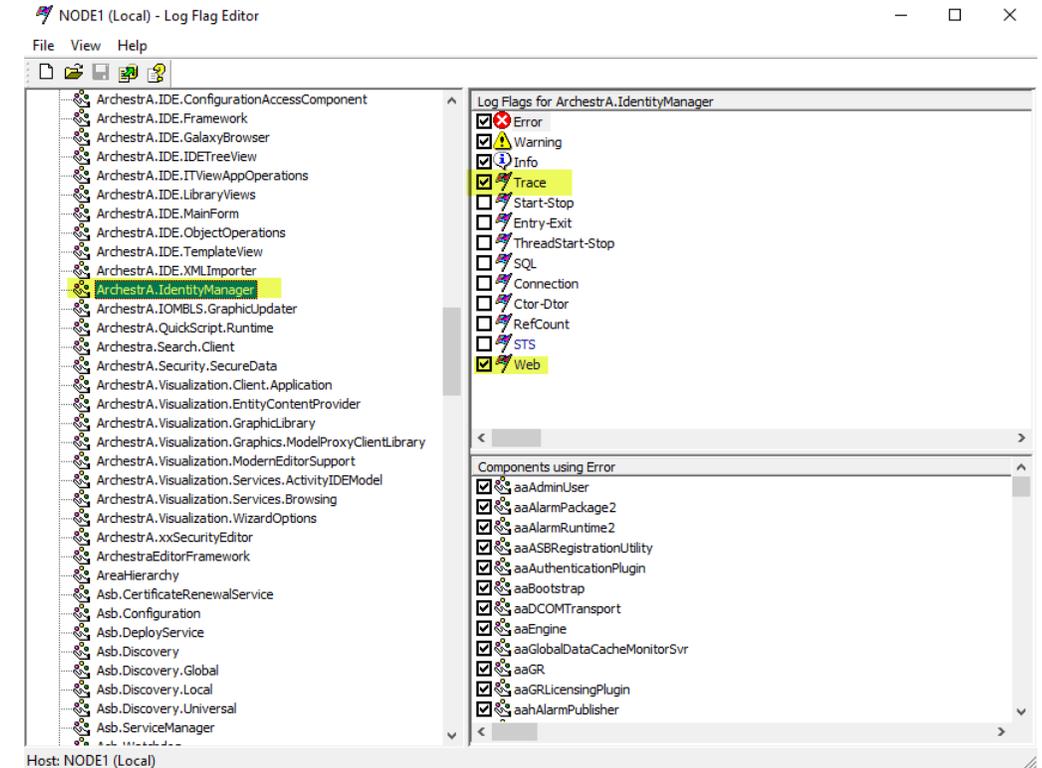
No:	Date	Time	Process ID	Thread ID	Log Flag	Component
39937	9/27/2022	11:44:58 PM	7860	7812	Warning	Asb.DeployService

Message:  
ManageASBSecurityProxy caught CommunicationException opening channel: The X.509 certificate CN=NODE1 chain building failed. The certificate that was used has a trust chain that cannot be verified. Replace the certificate or change the certificateValidationMode. A certificate chain could not be built to a trusted root authority.  
The X.509 certificate CN=NODE1 chain building failed. The certificate that was used has a trust chain that cannot be verified. Replace the certificate or change the certificateValidationMode. A certificate chain could not be built to a trusted root authority.

# Troubleshooting

## System Management Server configuration

- Capture the Domain or Workgroup details
- Ensure that the logged in user is a member of “Administrators” or “aaAdministrators” groups
- Run the Configurator as “Run As Administrator” option
- Check the drive space in install directory
- Check and export the Root, Intermediate and Personal store certificates for Auto Generated and IT Managed certificates
- Ensure that there is only one ASB generated certificate in each store which has “ASB” tag
- Enable “Trace” and “Web” log flags for these components
  - ArcestrA.IdentityManager
  - ArcestrA.CertificateManager
  - Configurator



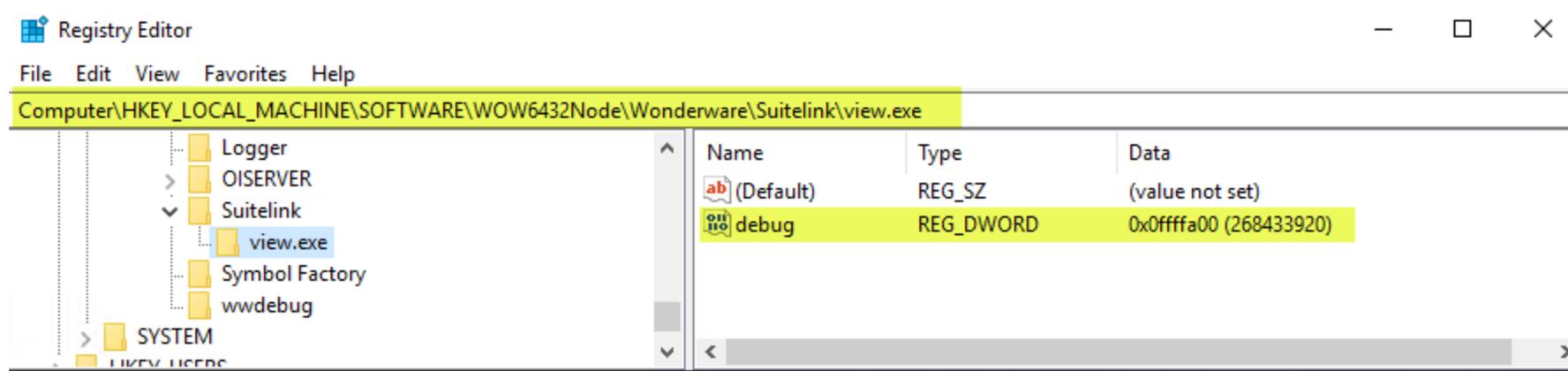
# Troubleshooting

## Secured Communication

- Secured Suitelink Communication

Enter a DWORD value named “debug” with the Hexadecimal value 0X0FFFA00 under the registry key **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\Wonderware\Suitelink\<ProcessName>**

- Analyze the log messages in the SMC Logger from WWSLS component



# Troubleshooting

## Secured Communication ...cont'd

- Secured MX Communication
  - Enable log flags **“FMCErrror”** and **“MC\_Connection”** for the **“MessageChannel”** component in the OCMC
- Analyze the log messages in the OCMC Logger

The image shows two screenshots from the OCMC (Operations Control Management Console) interface.

The top screenshot is the **Log Flag Editor** for **NODE2 (Local)**. It shows a tree view on the left with **MessageChannel** selected. The right pane, titled **Log Flags for MessageChannel**, has checkboxes for **FMCErrror** and **MC\_Connection** checked, while others like **FMC\_IO**, **FMCTrace**, **MessageChannel\_Dump**, and **UDPTrace** are unchecked.

The bottom screenshot is the **OCMC - [Operations Control Management Console]** logger. It shows a table of log messages for the **MC\_Connection** component. The messages include connection setup details, certificate verification, and TLS handshake initiation.

No.	Date	Time	Pro...	Thread ID	Log Flag	Component	Message
20179	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	11188	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	New pending connection added - <platform 1>, IP NODE1
20181	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	10280	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	Connect issued for <platform 1> - NODE1. Timeout value is 4000
20182	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	10280	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	CFMCObj::OnEstablishConnection entered for node NODE1. this 08c0b
20183	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	10280	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	Certificate matches thumbprint
20184	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	10280	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	Success: selecting certificate which has a private key
20185	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	10280	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	OnEstablishConnection retrived certificate from store.
20186	9/27/2022	9:56:04 PM	5016	10280	MC_Connection	MessageChannel	Starting TLS handshake with server NODE1 (2839)

# Troubleshooting

## Secured Communication ...cont'd

- Secured HCAL-HCAP Communication

Enable log flags “**aahClientAccessPoint**” component on server and “**aahClientCommon**” component on the client

- Analyze the log messages in the SMC Logger

Message Details

No:	Date	Time	Process ID	Thread ID	Log Flag	Component
143904	9/27/2022	10:15:34 PM	4496	9492	Info	aahClientAccessPoint

Historian Server

Message:  
Certificate thumbprint(6497283969E7DB78370DFF9A29E3A3970F8C6B40) found, expiration date (9/18/2024) [ServiceDispatcher.cpp, 225]

Message Details

No:	Date	Time	Pr...	Threa...	Log Flag	Component
20596	9/27/2022	10:28:51 PM	14...	14648	Info	aahClientCommon

Galaxy Platform Node

Message:  
Event.NODE1: aaEngine(23.0.000)(14464) connected to NODE1 with secure connection, user(RKDC0\SPAdminUser), authentication(Credential) [HistoryConnection\WCF.cpp, 2032]

# Troubleshooting

## Platform Common Services

- Launch the “Common Services Portal” from the Windows Start Menu
- Open the Service Status page and check the status of services
- Open the Troubleshooting page and press the SCAN button to run the diagnostics

The screenshot shows the 'Service Status' page of the AVEVA Common Services Portal. It features a table with columns for Instance, Application, Status, and Start Time. The table lists several services, including Default\_Gal1\_GRBrowse, Default\_Sample\_MxDataProvider, WcfProxyService, Default\_Sample\_GRBrowse, and Default\_Sample\_IOMBLSService. Below the table is an 'Endpoints' section with a table for Contract and Version. The page also includes a refresh indicator and a note about certificate expiration.

Instance	Application	Status	Start Time	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Default_Gal1_GRBrowse	Archestra	Starting	1 minute ago
<input type="checkbox"/>	Default_Sample_MxDataProvider	Archestra	Starting	1 minute ago
<input type="checkbox"/>	WcfProxyService	PCS Framework	Running	15 minutes ago
<input type="checkbox"/>	Default_Sample_GRBrowse	Archestra	Starting	1 minute ago
<input type="checkbox"/>	Default_Sample_IOMBLSService	Archestra	Starting	1 minute ago

Contract	Version

The screenshot shows the 'Troubleshooting' page of the AVEVA Common Services Portal. It includes a 'Diagnosis problems with the PCS framework' section with 'Scan' and 'Export' buttons. A table below lists various indicators and their statuses, all of which are green, indicating success. The indicators include Version, Machine Role, Machine Name, Registry Key, Solution, Transport Permissions, Registry Permissions, File System Permissions, Port Sharing, Windows Services, Core Services, Discovery, and Management Server.

Indicator	Description	Status
Version	7.0.0	✓
Machine Role	Service Repository node	✓
Machine Name	NODE1	✓
Registry Key		✓
Solution	Archestra_NODE1	✓
Transport Permissions		✓
Registry Permissions		✓
File System Permissions		✓
Port Sharing		✓
Windows Services		✓
Core Services	5 Process(es)	✓
Discovery		✓
Management Server	https://node1.rkdc.com	✓

# Troubleshooting

## Platform Common Services Issue – An Example

AVEVA Common Services Portal

### AVEVA™ Common Services Portal

## Troubleshooting

Diagnosis problems with the PCS framework

Scan Export

Success Warning Alert

Indicator	Description	Status
Version	7.0.0	✓
Machine Role	Service Repository node	✓
Machine Name	NODE3	✓
Registry Key		✓
Solution	Unable to determine the Default PCS Solution from the configuration. For more information, see the "Repairing or Re-installing Platform Common Services" section of the AVEVA™ Common Services Portal User Guide.	!
Transport Permissions		✓
Registry Permissions		✓
File System Permissions		✓
Port Sharing		✓
Windows		✓

AVEVA Common Services Portal

### AVEVA™ Common Services Portal

## About

Platform Common Services Version: 7.0 (7.0.22195.1)  
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Launch Help

Common Servi... 1 / 13 | 100%

# AVEVA

## AVEVA™ Common Services Portal

### User Guide

# Troubleshooting

## Platform Common Services...cont'd

- Ensure that Net.TCP Port Sharing service is running
- Ensure that PCS services and associated processes are running

Asb.Configuration.exe	PCS Framework Configuration Service
Asb.Discovery.exe	PCS Framework Discovery Service
Asb.ServiceManager.exe	PCS Framework Service Launcher Service
Asb.Watchdog.exe	PCS Framework Watchdog Service
PCS.IdentityManager.Host.exe	PCS Framework System Management Service
SecureDataService.exe	ArchestrA.Security.SecureData.WindowsServiceHost

Processes on SR Node	Processes on Runtime node
SecureDataService.exe	SecureDataService.exe
Asb.Discovery.exe	Asb.Discovery.exe
Asb.ServiceManager.exe	Asb.ServiceManager.exe
Asb.Watchdog.exe	Asb.Watchdog.exe
Asb.Configuration.exe	
PCS.IdentityManager.Host.exe(On System Management Server Node)	

# Troubleshooting

## Platform Common Services...cont'd

- Ensure that the following virtual accounts are present and belong to the corresponding Windows Groups

	PCS User Groups	Virtual accounts	Account Permissions
1	ASBCoreServices	NT SERVICE\Watchdog_Service NT SERVICE\AIMTokenHost	Full Control permissions on most files and registry keys
2	ASBSolution	NT SERVICE\Watchdog_Service NT SERVICE\AsbServiceManager	Read & Execute permissions on all files and registry keys
3	ArchestrAWebHosting	NT SERVICE\Watchdog_Service NT SERVICE\AsbServiceManager NT SERVICE\AIMTokenHost	Permission to reserve HTTP URLs, Private key of binding certificates.

# Troubleshooting

## Platform Common Services...cont'd

- Ensure that the following ports are opened in the Firewall

Port	Function
808	Primary port, used for most PCS operations
7084	System authentication – node registration
7085	System authentication – node pairing
80	Default HTTP Port for web port sharing
443	Default HTTPS Port for web port sharing
1900	SSDP port for announcing the System Management Server



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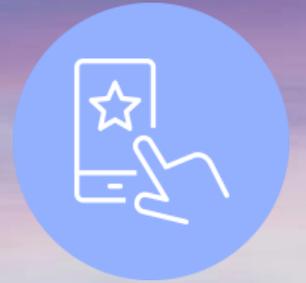
# Questions?

Please wait for the microphone.  
State your name and company.



# Please remember to...

Navigate to this session in the mobile app to complete the survey.



# Thank you!

This presentation may include predictions, estimates, intentions, beliefs and other statements that are or may be construed as being forward-looking. While these forward-looking statements represent our current judgment on what the future holds, they are subject to risks and uncertainties that could result in actual outcomes differing materially from those projected in these statements. No statement contained herein constitutes a commitment by AVEVA to perform any particular action or to deliver any particular product or product features. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect our opinions only as of the date of this presentation.

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AVEVA is a global leader in industrial software, sparking ingenuity to drive responsible use of the world's resources. The company's secure industrial cloud platform and applications enable businesses to harness the power of their information and improve collaboration with customers, suppliers and partners.

Over 20,000 enterprises in over 100 countries rely on AVEVA to help them deliver life's essentials: safe and reliable energy, food, medicines, infrastructure and more. By connecting people with trusted information and AI-enriched insights, AVEVA enables teams to engineer efficiently and optimize operations, driving growth and sustainability.

Named as one of the world's most innovative companies, AVEVA supports customers with open solutions and the expertise of more than 6,400 employees, 5,000 partners and 5,700 certified developers. With operations around the globe, we are headquartered in Cambridge, UK and listed on the London Stock Exchange's FTSE 100.

Learn more at [www.aveva.com](https://www.aveva.com)