

NOVEMBER 2022

Secured Data Communication in AVEVA™ System Platform

Powered by System Management Server

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AVEVA

Agenda

Platform Common Services

System Management Server

Secured Suitelink communication

Secured MX communication

Secured HCAL-HCAP communication

SMS Certificate Management

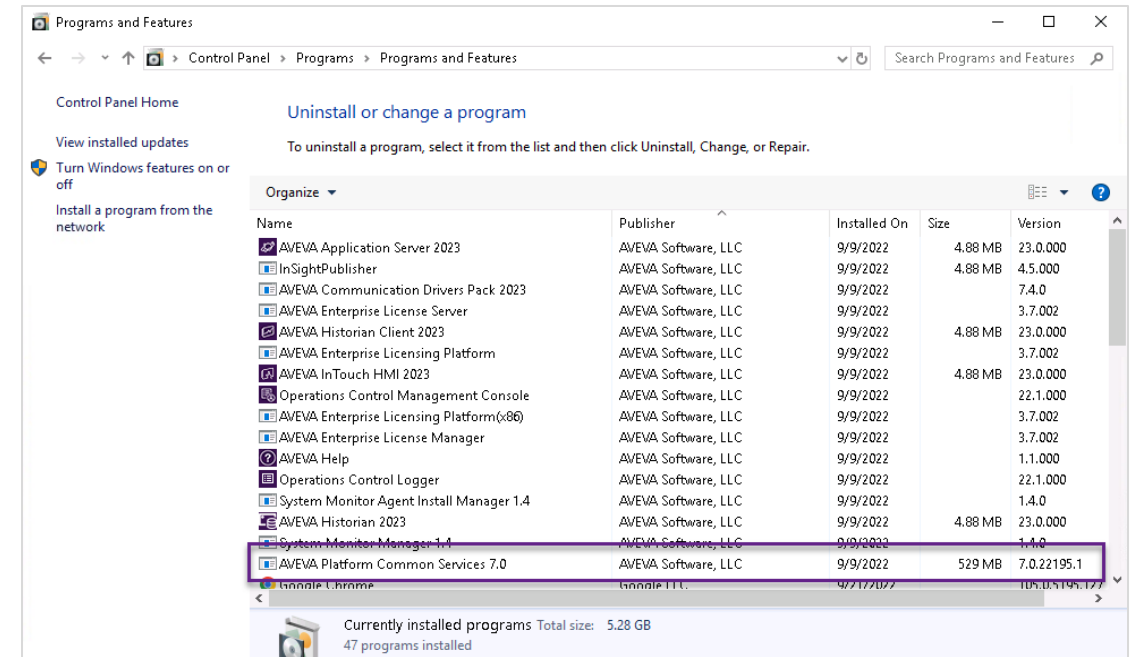
Microsoft DCOM Hardening

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)

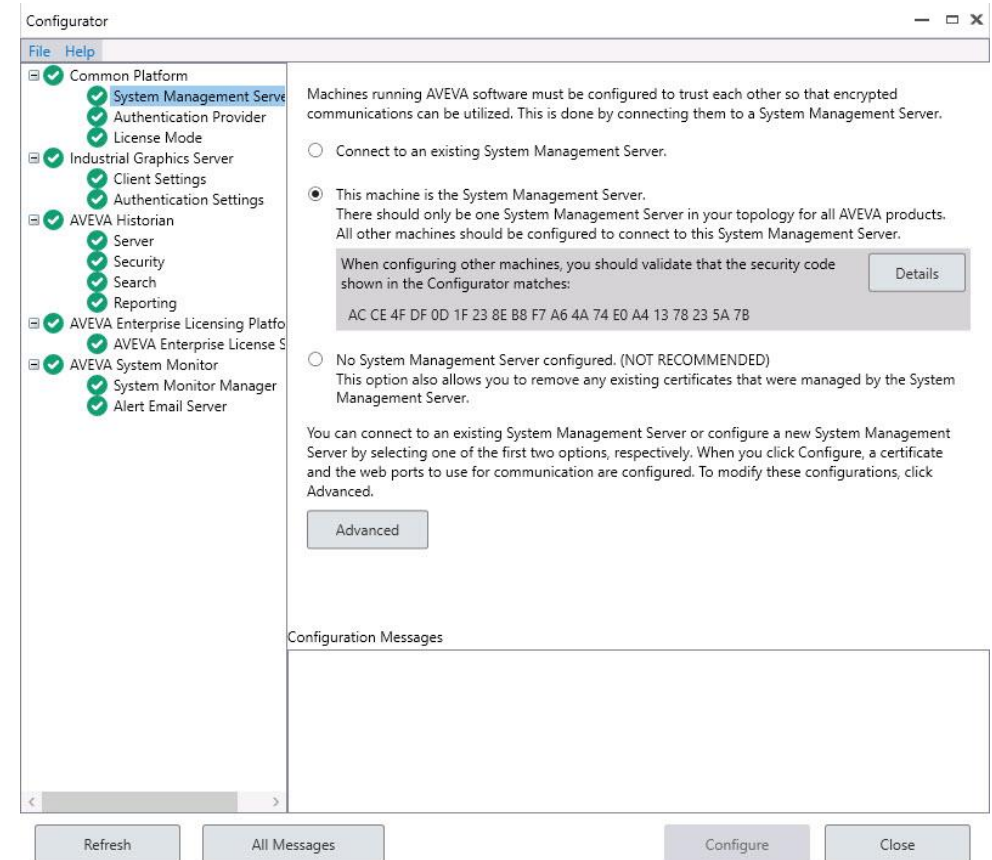
History

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.

MX (NMX)

MX is a DCOM-based communication protocol that uses a DCOM-based port mechanism. Authorization to access NMX can be restricted to users well-known OS User Group. Please select the appropriate handling for MX 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

AVEVA

Platform Common Services (PCS)

System Management Server as an Authentication Provider

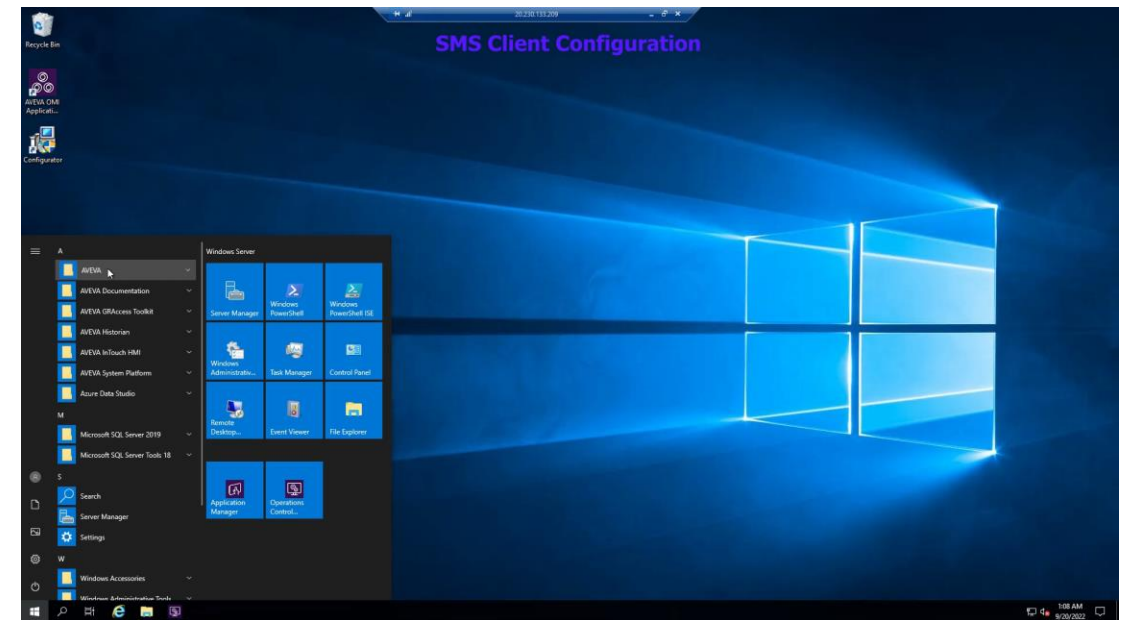
- An SMS Server Node can act as an Authentication Provider to provide Single-Sign-On services via an external authentication provider such as Microsoft Azure Active Directory
- One of the clients can be configured as a redundant Authentication Provider to provide Single-Sign-On services

The screenshot shows the 'Configurator' application window. On the left, a tree view lists various services, with 'Authentication Provider' selected. The main pane displays the configuration for the 'Authentication Provider'. It includes a note about the need for an external authentication provider like Microsoft Azure Active Directory. A checkbox labeled 'Configure this machine to use an External Authentication Provider for SSO' is checked. Below this, the 'Configure External Authentication Provider' section shows 'Identity Provider' set to 'Azure AD'. There are input fields for 'Endpoint', 'Client Id', and 'Client Secret'. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Refresh', 'All Messages', 'Configure', and 'Close'.

The screenshot shows the 'Configurator' application window. On the left, a tree view lists various services, with 'System Management Server' selected. The main pane displays the configuration options for the 'System Management Server'. It includes a note about the need for a System Management Server. There are two radio button options: 'Connect to an existing System Management Server' (selected) and 'This machine is the System Management Server'. The 'Connect to an existing System Management Server' option has a dropdown menu showing 'node1.rdc.com'. Below this, there is a checkbox labeled 'Configure this machine as a Redundant SSO Server' which is checked. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Refresh', 'All Messages', 'Configure', and 'Close'.

System Management Server Configuration

Server and Client Demo



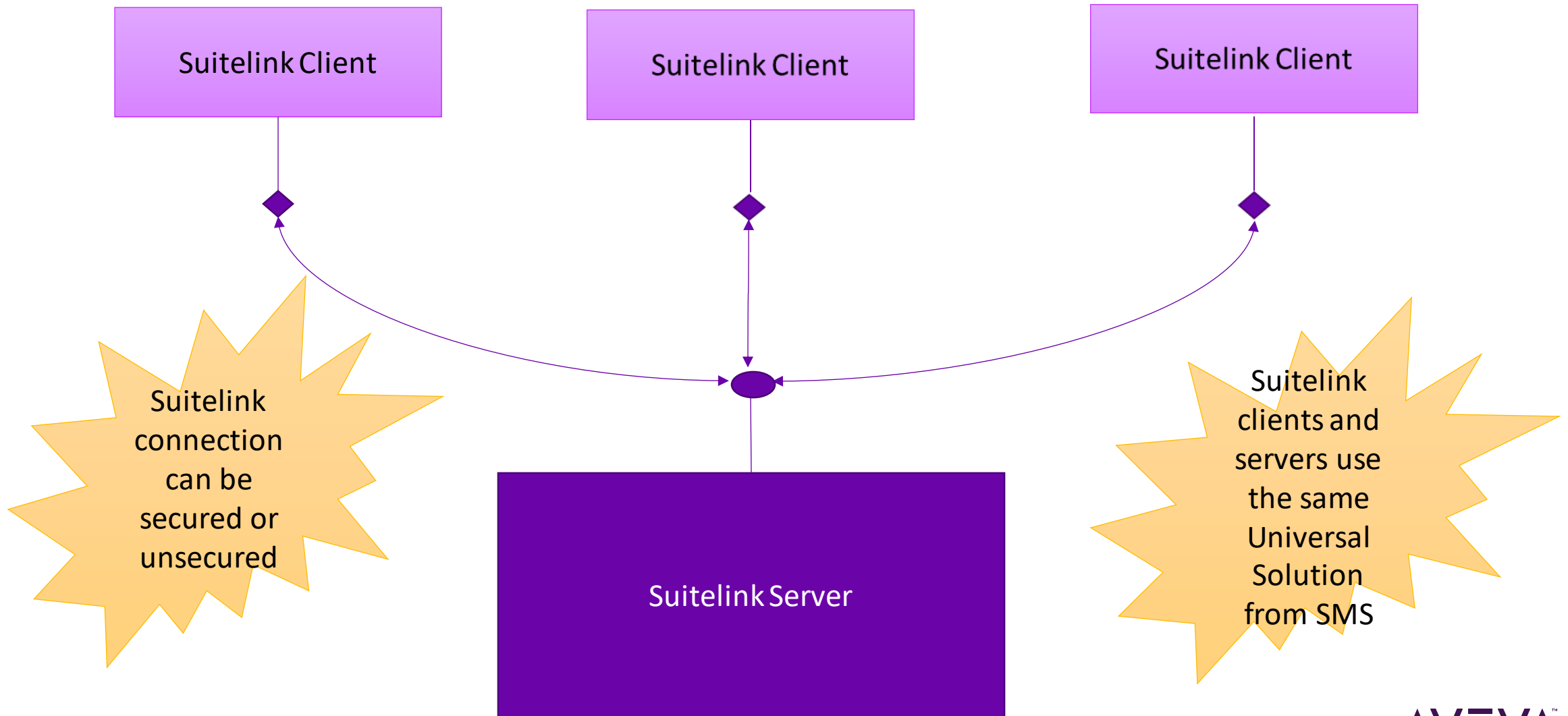


Secured Suitelink Communication

Overview

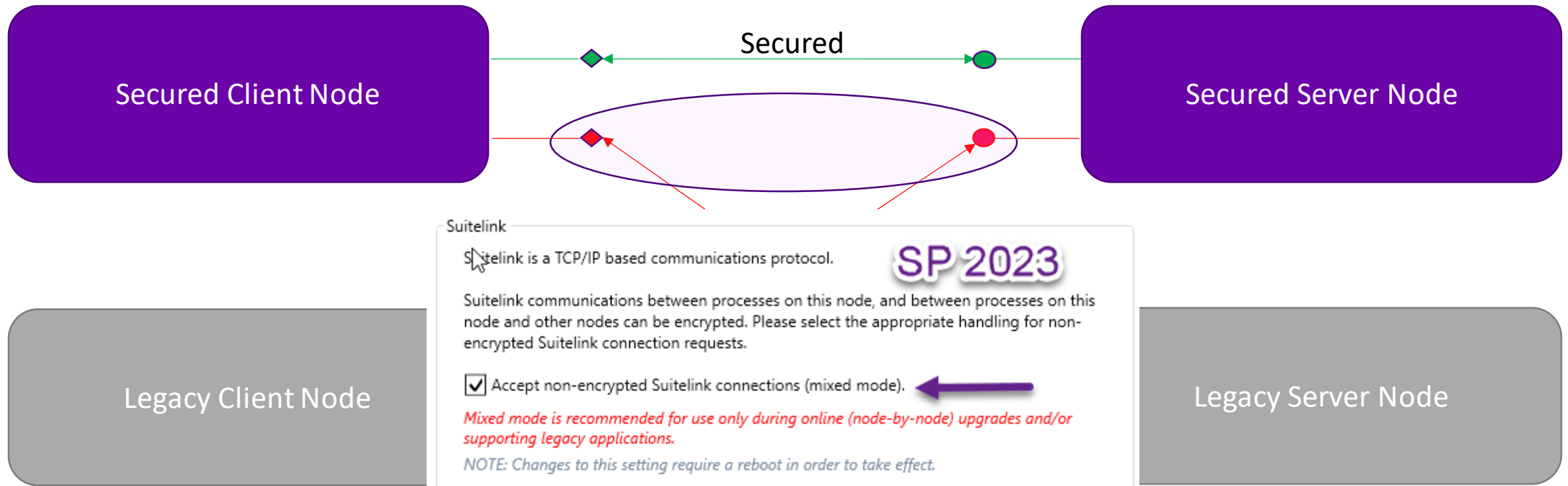
- A lightweight protocol used for high performance data transport for data items (VTQ)
- Implemented with TCP on port 5413
- Based on client-server technology for application connectivity on the network
- Drop-in replacement or upgrade without requiring the client\server applications to recompile
- Secured 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

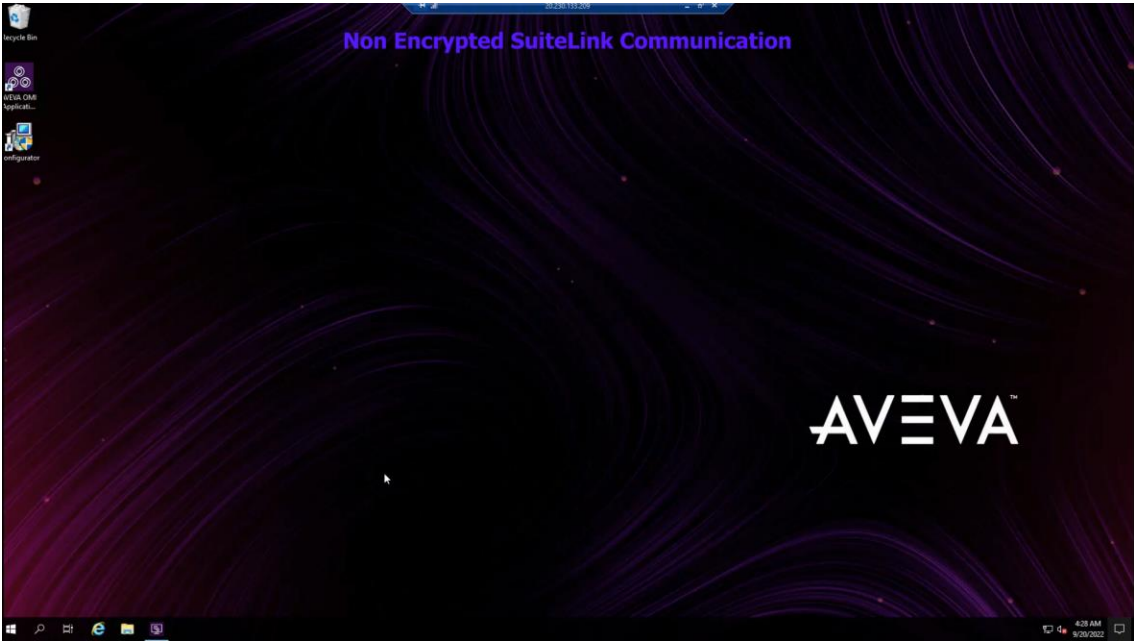
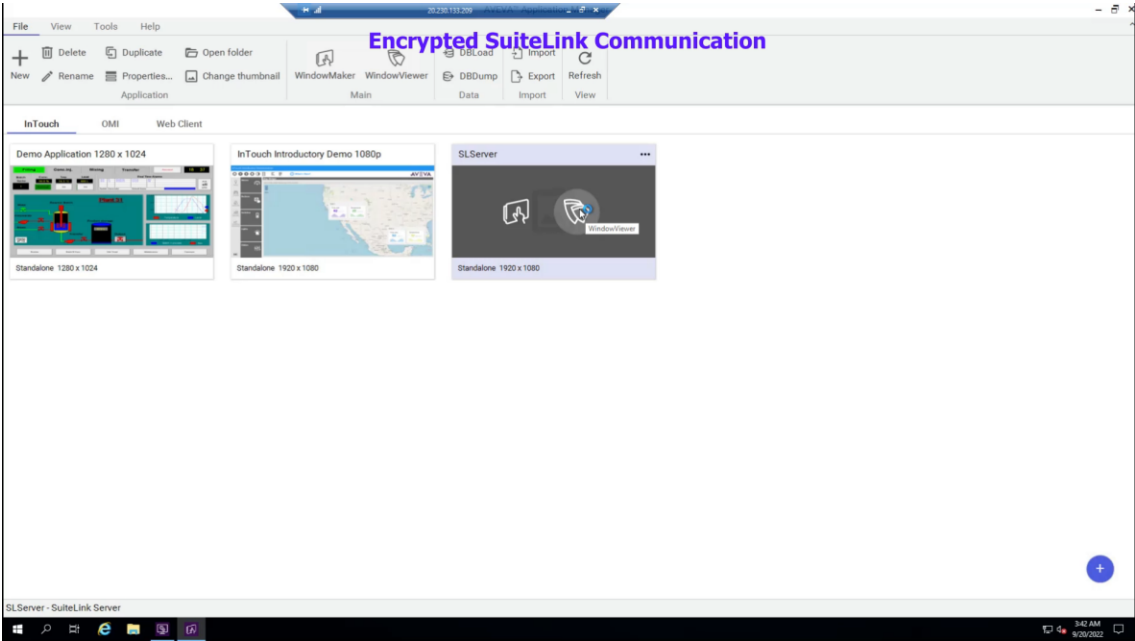


Secure Suitelink Communication

Interoperability of legacy and secured Suitelink



Secured Suitelink vs. Unsecured Suitelink Demo





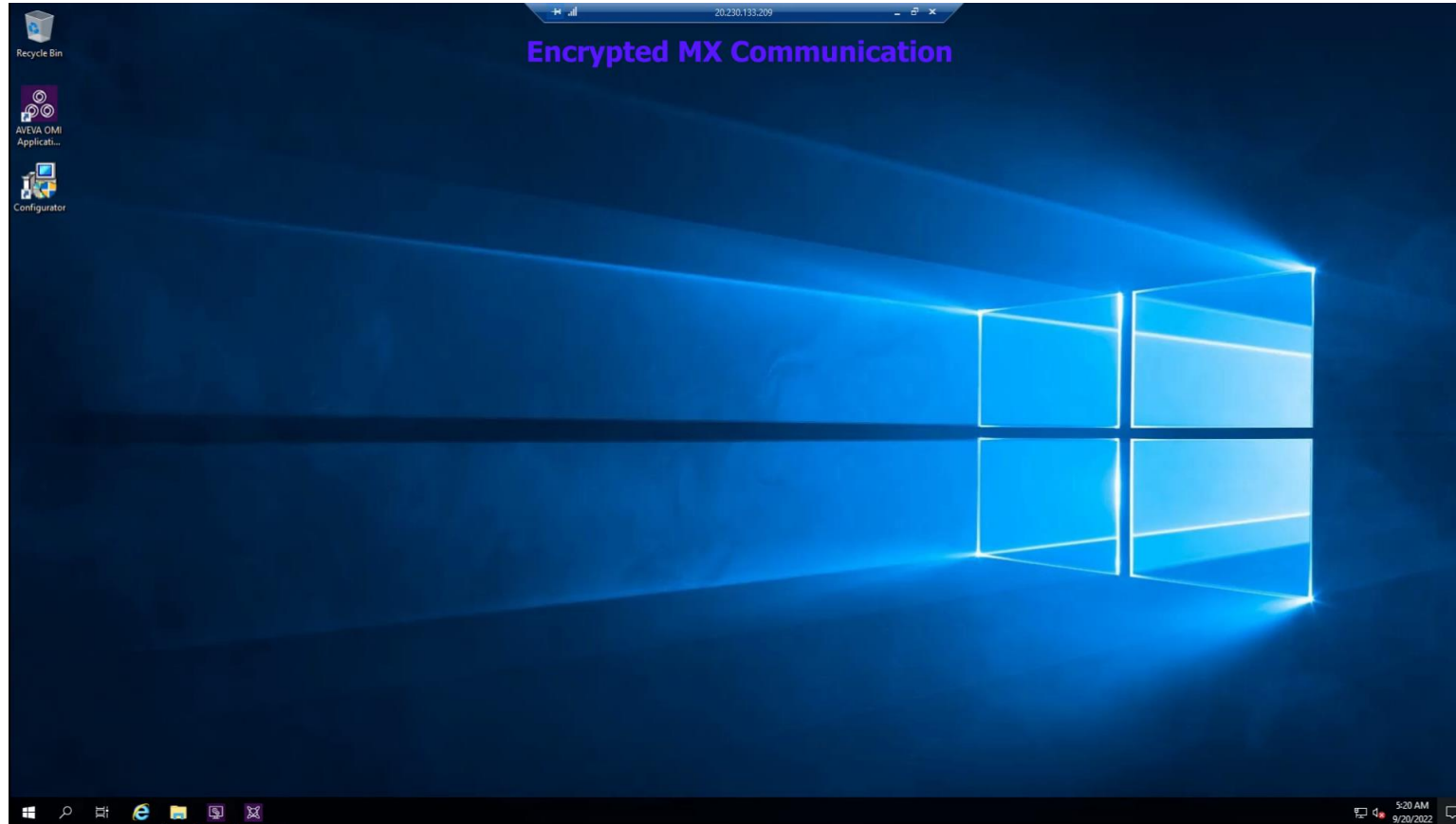
Secured MX Communication

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

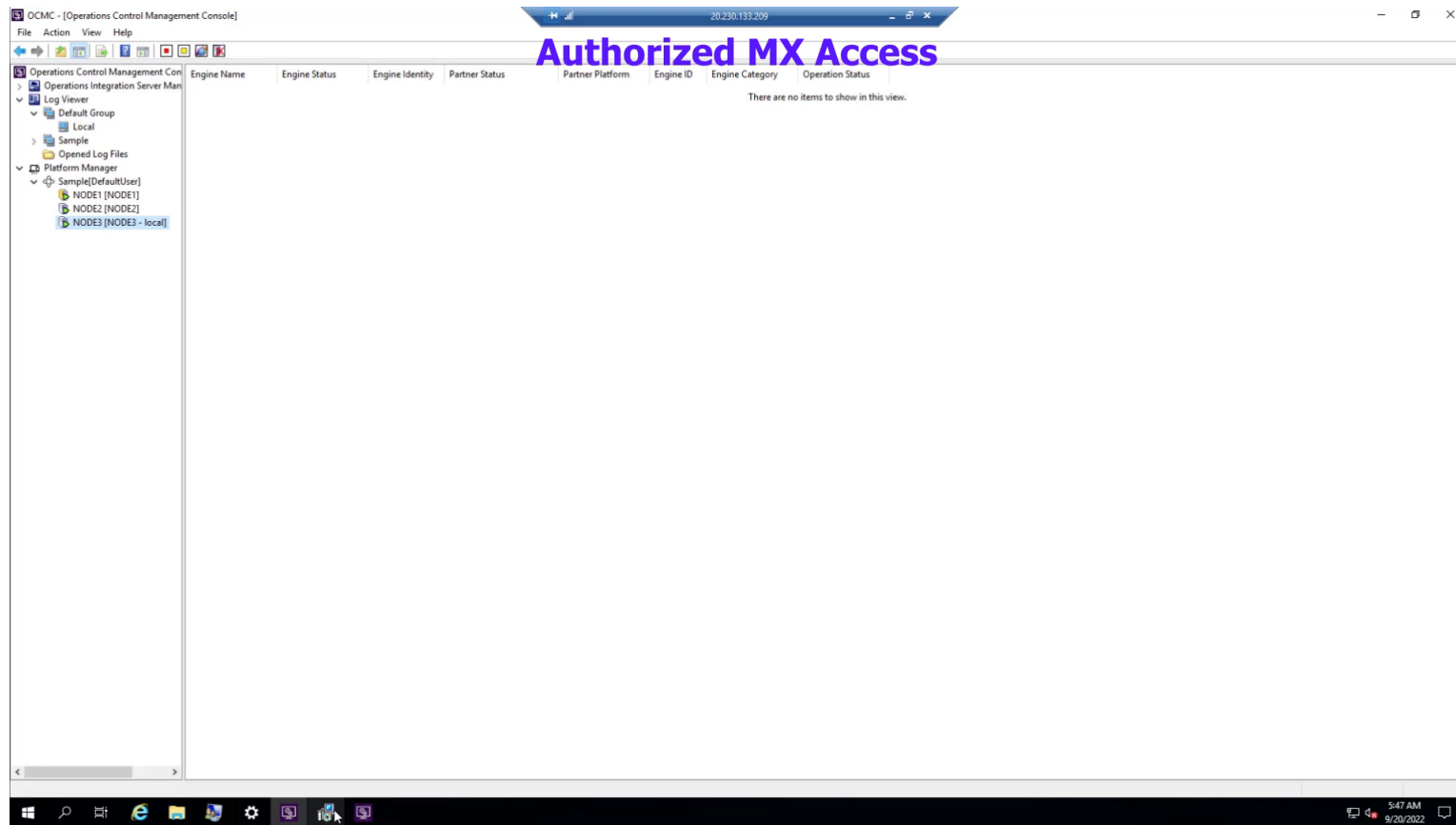
Secured MX Communication

Demo



Authorized MX Access

Demo





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



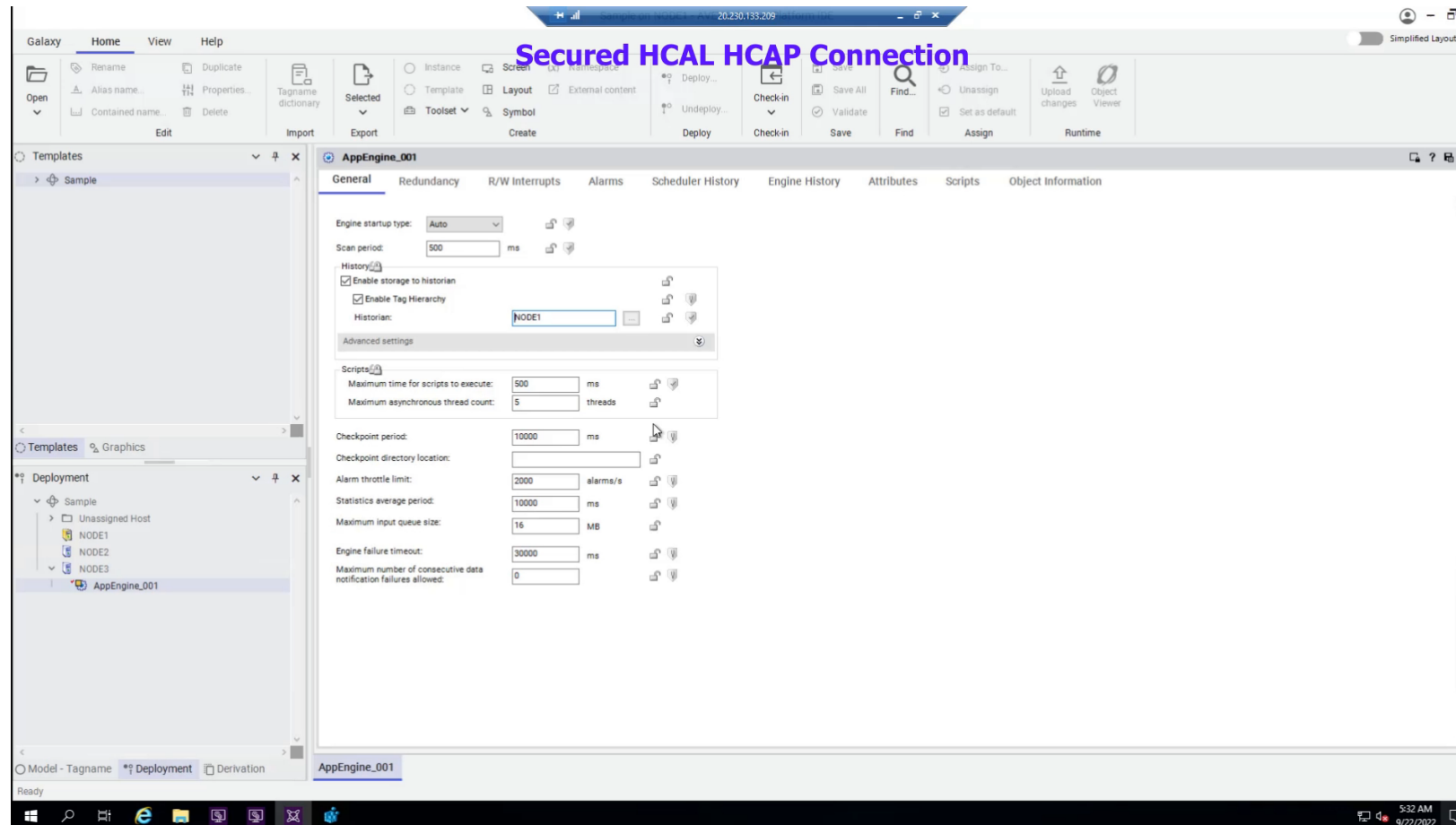
Secured HCAL-HCAP Communication

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

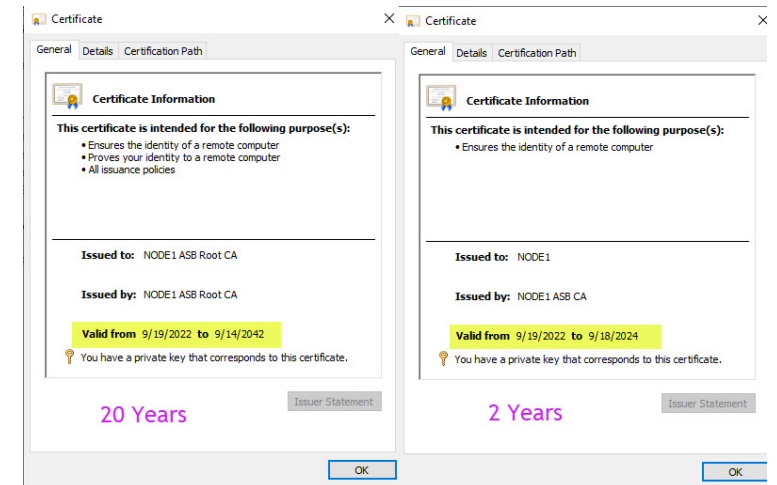
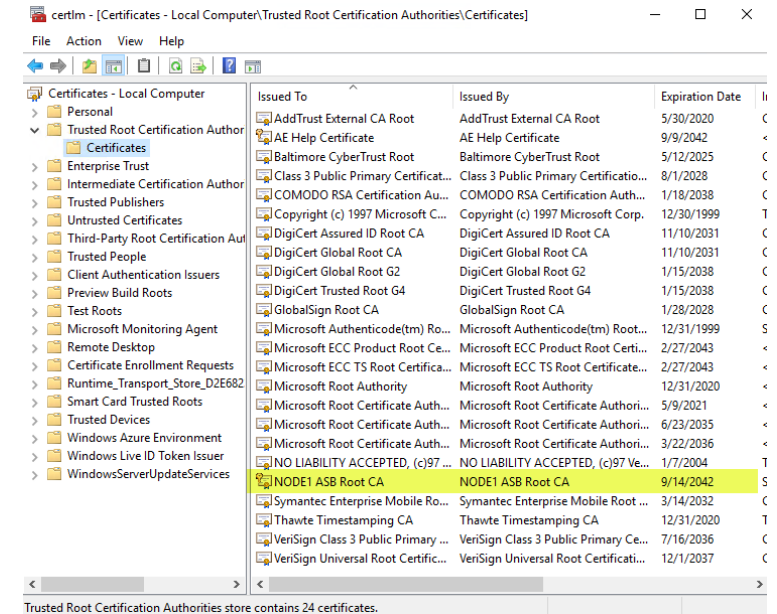
Application Server Engine and Historian Tiered Replication



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



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

Deploying Objects

Deploy complete. Please review the details below.

Details

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...

Close

Message Details

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

Message:
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

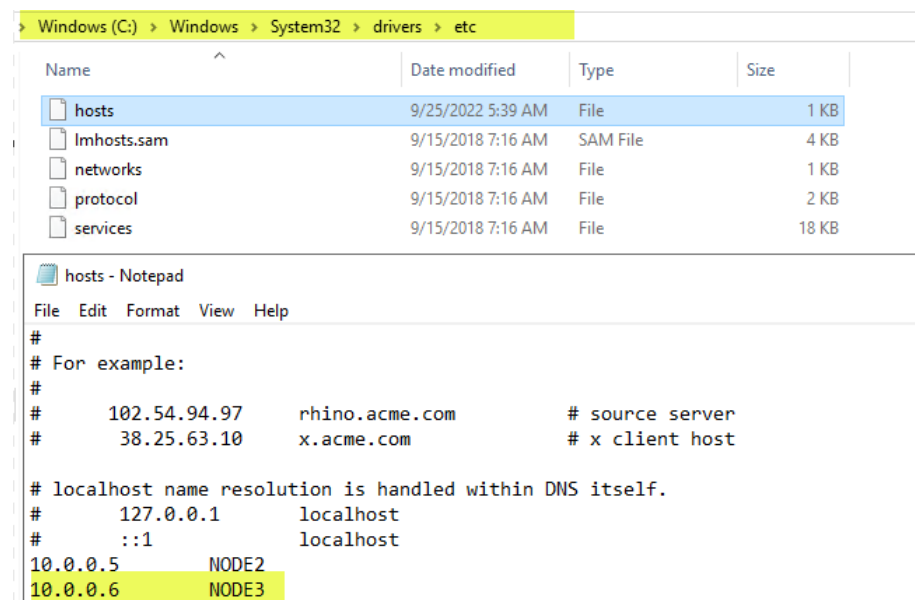
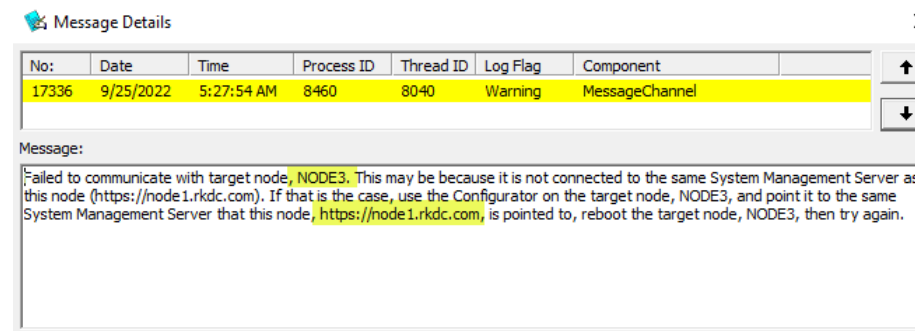
Node to Node Communication Issues

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.



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

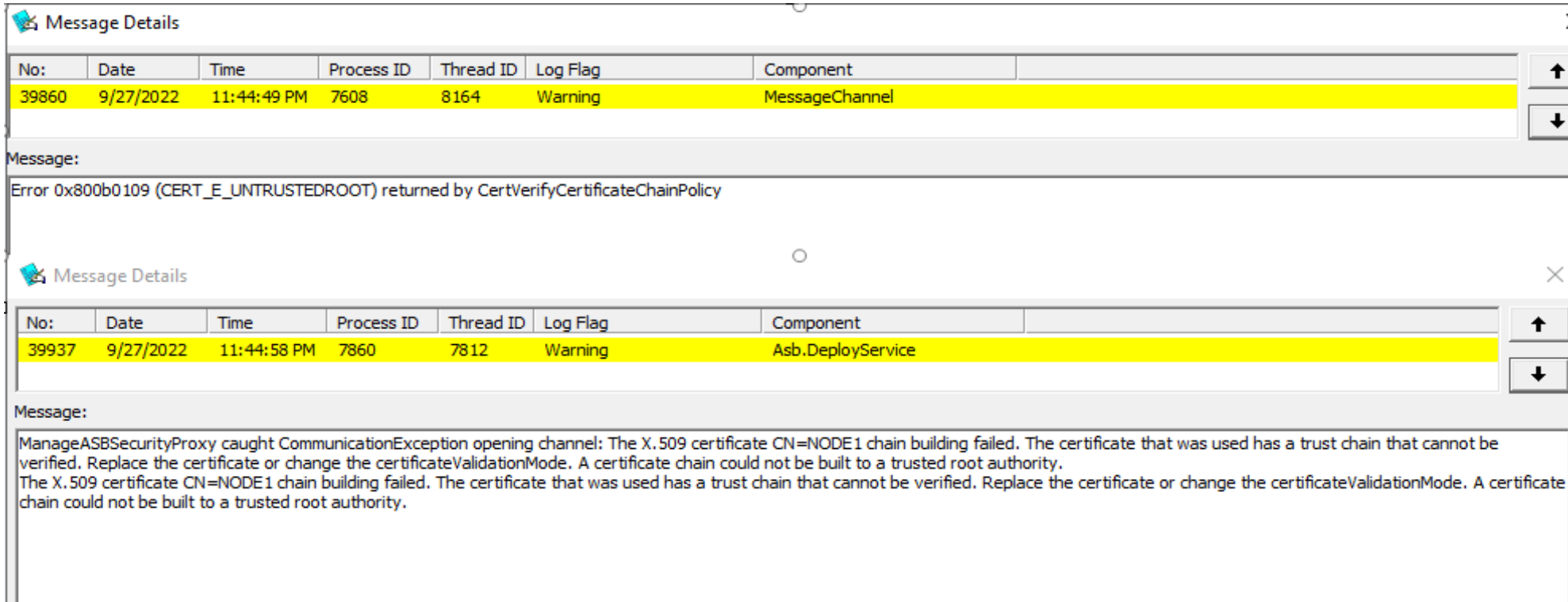
Solution:

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.



Message Details

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

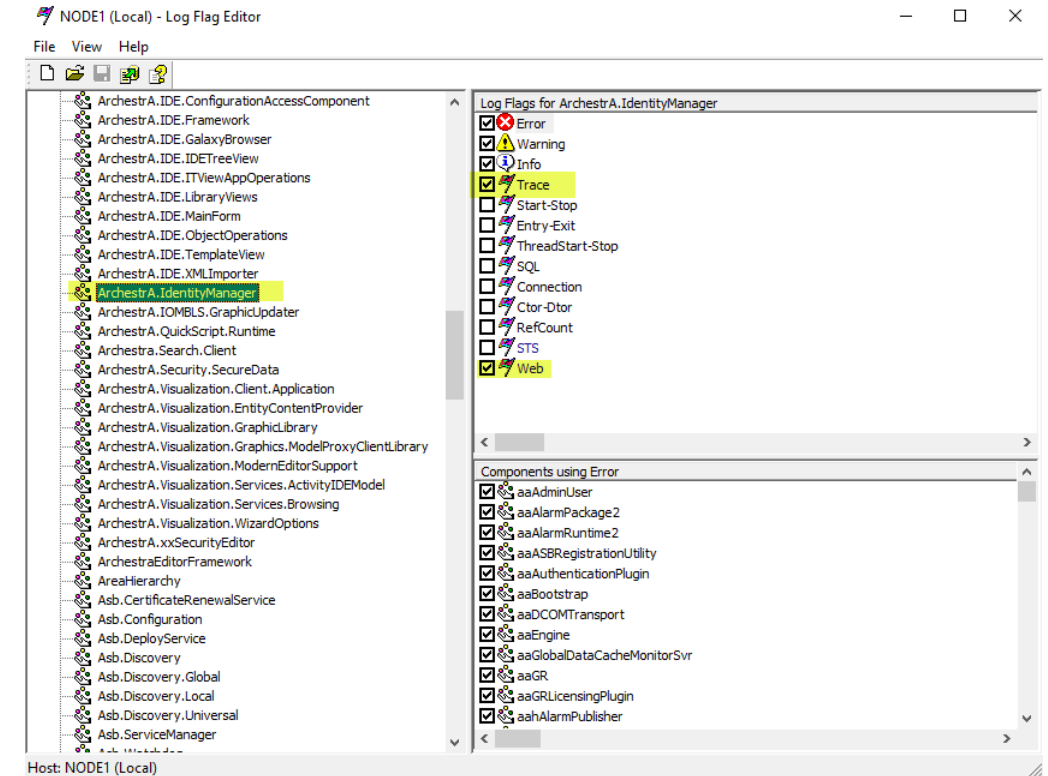
No:	Date	Time	Process ID	Thread ID	Log Flag	Component
39937	9/27/2022	11:44:58 PM	7860	7812	Warning	Asb.DeployService

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
 - ArchestrA.IdentityManager
 - ArchestrA.CertificateManager
 - Configurator



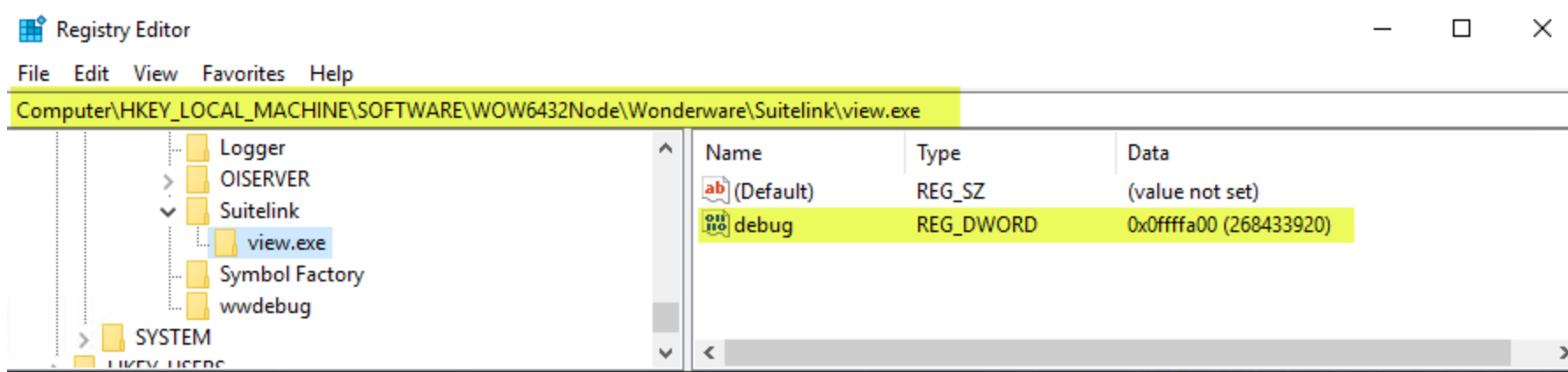
Troubleshooting

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 “**FMCErr**or” and “**MC_Con**nection” for the “**MessageChannel**” component in the OCMC
- Analyze the log messages in the OCMC Logger

The screenshot displays two software windows. The top window, titled "NODE2 (Local) - Log Flag Editor", shows a tree view on the left with components like LMWeb.Repository, Lmx, LoginDialogServer, MDASWrapper, MessageChannel (highlighted), mmc, NativeWrapper, and NmxAptr. On the right, the "Log Flags for MessageChannel" list has checkboxes for FMC_IO, FMCErr (checked), FMCTrace, MC_Con (checked), MessageChannel_Dump, and UDPTTrace. The bottom window, titled "OCMC - [Operations Control Management Console]", shows a table of log messages. The table has columns for No., Date, Time, Pro..., Thread ID, Log Flag, Component, and Message. The messages are filtered for the "MC_Con" log flag and show a sequence of events related to a TLS handshake between NODE1 and NODE2.

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

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

Items per page: 5 1 - 5 of 14

Contract	Version
----------	---------

Items per page: 5 0 of 0

This page will be automatically refreshed every 5 seconds.

Rarely, services will need to be manually restarted due to certificates expiring. PCS managed certificates expire after 18 months. For more information, refer to the documentation.

The screenshot shows the 'Troubleshooting' page of the AVEVA Common Services Portal. It features a table with columns for Indicator, Description, and Status. The table lists various indicators such as 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. The page includes a sidebar with navigation icons and a footer with a refresh notice.

Diagnosis problems with the PCS framework

Solution: Archestra_NODE1

Scan Export

Success Warning Alert

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	✓

Items per page: 20 1 - 13 of 13

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

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	ArchestraA.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!

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