

Samba Authenticated Gateway HOWTO

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Samba Authenticated Gateway HOWTO

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This documents intends to show how to build a Firewall/Gateway with rules set on user basis having the users authenticated by a Samba Primary Domain Controller

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1. Introduction

As you can see by the poorness of my language, English is not my native language. I am writing this document in English for the sake of the Linux community. So, please, excuse me for my poor English. And, please, if you speak Portuguese, address me in this language.

This document intends to enlighten you (and myself) in the process of building a Linux Gateway or Firewall, which modify rules on demand when users log in or out from their Windows workstations.

I should be writing an application, but I am too lazy. Hopefully when the idea is out there, people will build a few intelligently integrated packages. Meanwhile...

In this document, I will try to show how to build a gateway to NAT or MASQUERADE Windows workstations. Use your imagination to modify it to get any level of network management. You may use it to grant or deny access to services, servers or entire subnetworks on your network.

Imagine that you have to build a gateway to let Windows workstation access the Internet and that you need to authenticate each user before letting them access the external networks. The first solution you think about is Squid. It's indeed a great solution, when http and ftp access is enough for your users. When it comes to let them access other services like pop, smtp, ssh, a database server or whatever else, you immediately think about NAT or MASQUERADE. But what happens to the user authentication?

Well, this is my solution. It gives you user authentication and fine grain control over their access to the external networks.

1.1 Overview

We know that SAMBA can act as a Domain Controller and so it can authenticate users on Windows boxes. As a PDC, SAMBA can push netlogon scripts to the Windows workstations. We can use this netlogon scripts to force the Windows workstations mounting a given share from our Linux PDC. This "forced" share shall have preexec and postexec scripts which shall be triggered when the user logs in or out. There is a program named smbstatus which lists the shares being used, giving us also the username and ip address of the workstation. We just need to grep this information from smbstatus output and update our firewall rules.

1.2 Disclaimer

No liability for the contents of this document can be accepted. Use the concepts, examples and other content at your own risk. As this is a new edition of this document, there may be errors and inaccuracies, that may of

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course be damaging to your system. Proceed with caution, and although this is highly unlikely, the author(s) do not take any responsibility for that.

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1.3 New versions

The newest release of this document can be found at <http://smbgate.sourceforge.net>

Related HOWTOs can be found at the Linux Documentation Project homepage.

1.4 Translations

A Portuguese version is available.

A French translation by Guillaume Lelarge is available at <http://www.traduc.org>

If you want to contribute with a translation, please do.

1.5 Feedback

Contributions and criticism are both welcome.

Corrections to my English are also very welcome!

If you find any bugs in the scripts included, please tell me.

You can find me at ricardo.mattar@bol.com.br

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1.7 Acknowledgments and Thanks

Thanks to Carlos Alberto Reis Ribeiro for introducing me to Linux.

Thanks to Cesar Bremer Pinheiro for motivating me to write this document.

Thanks to Guillaume Lelarge for the (continuous) help with the revision.

Thanks to Erik Esplund for further language corrections.

2. [Requirements](#)

2.1 Knowledge

This document is target at the seasoned systems administrator.

You must have a fair knowledge about (at least know what these are):

- TCP/IP;
- Linux netfilter;
- A scripting language (bash?);
- SAMBA and Windows networking and domain controllers;

Fortunately, there is plenty of documentation on these topics on the Internet.

2.2 Software

Installed on your server, you will need at least:

- Samba;
 - Iptables;
 - A scripting language;
-

3. [Linux box setup](#)

This Howto assumes you have a kernel from the 2.4 series as it uses iptables. Other than that, there are no known issues why this should not work on a 2.2 kernel box with the scripts adapted to ipchains.

Of course, you need to install the iptables userland tools, an apache http server if you want to run a CGI tool to change passwords and SAMBA. And you will need a kernel compiled with iptables modules.

You may wish to use DHCP. If so, it is easy to set up. Remember to configure the dhcp server to give the nameserver IP address and the gateway IP address as well. The Windows machines will make good use of this information.

3.1 Basic system setup

Generally any basic system setup from the common Linux distributions will fit in this gateway example. Just check if you have Samba and IPTABLES.

3.2 Additional directory hierarchy

The additional directory hierarchy will be required to accomplish the example of this howto:

This is used to keep track of the users and IP addresses:

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/var/run/smbgate/

This is where I place user specific scripts:

/etc/smbgate/users/

And group specific scripts:

/etc/smbgate/groups/

Directory for the netlogon share:

/home/samba/netlogon/

Directory for the tracking share:

/home/samba/samba/

These hierarchies are required by some of the scripts and daemons of the example.

3.3 Firewall setup

Its very unlikely that your distribution's kernel won't be compiled with Iptables and the userland tools won't be installed either. Anyway, if you don't have it, refer to <http://www.netfilter.org> or <http://www.iptables.org> to get the software and the documentation.

You will need a basic firewall setup in order to get the gateway working. Take a look at the iptables tutorial at [IPTABLES TUTORIAL](#). It's an interesting reading. Anyway, if you have no time to spend, the following code is somewhat (very) loose but it may fit your needs:

```
#!/bin/sh
IPTABLES=/usr/sbin/iptables
/sbin/depmod -a
/sbin/insmod ip_tables
/sbin/insmod ip_contrack
/sbin/insmod ip_contrack_ftp
/sbin/insmod ip_contrack_irc
/sbin/insmod iptable_nat
/sbin/insmod ip_nat_ftp
echo "1" > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward
echo "1" > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_dynaddr
$IPTABLES -P INPUT ACCEPT
$IPTABLES -F INPUT
$IPTABLES -P OUTPUT ACCEPT
$IPTABLES -F OUTPUT
$IPTABLES -P FORWARD ACCEPT
$IPTABLES -F FORWARD
$IPTABLES -t nat -F
```

You will notice that this code actually does nothing, but load the kernel modules related to nat and firewalling and turns the packet routing on. You can (and should) place any rules there to give your gateway a standard behavior, but the big magic will be done by scripts called by the SAMBA daemon.

Please, remember that this code doesn't have the least bit of security! Don't use these examples in production

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environments. This example intends only to be educational. You have to add a firewall configuration that suits your systems.

You have been warned!

3.4 SAMBA setup

Check if you have Samba installed. If your distribution doesn't come with Samba pre-packaged then refer to <http://www.samba.org> to get the packages and for documentation on how to install Samba. Browse around their web site and learn about it. The site has plenty of documentation and maybe your LINUX distribution also has plenty of SAMBA documentation.

We will need to setup SAMBA as a Primary Domain Controller. I will give an example configuration file here, but you should read the [Samba HOWTO Collection](#) and learn all you can about a PDC.

Basic SAMBA setup.

Since I do not intend to rewrite the SAMBA documentation, here goes a sample smb.conf file:

```
# Global parameters
[global]
workgroup = DOMAIN
netbios name = LINUX
server string = Linux PDC
encrypt passwords = Yes
map to guest = Bad Password
passwd program = /usr/bin/passwd
unix password sync = Yes
max log size = 50
time server = Yes
socket options = TCP_NODELAY SO_RCVBUF=8192 SO_SNDBUF=8192
logon script = netlogon.bat
domain logons = Yes
os level = 64
lm announce = True
preferred master = True
domain master = True
dns proxy = No
printing = lprng
[homes]
comment = Home Directories
path = /home/%u
read only = No
[printers]
comment = All Printers
path = /var/spool/samba
printable = Yes
browseable = No
available = No
[netlogon]
comment = NetLogon Share
path = /home/samba/netlogon
guest account =
[samba]
comment = login tracking share
path = /home/samba/samba
browseable = No
```

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```
root preexec = /usr/local/bin/netlogon.sh %u
root postexec = /usr/local/bin/netlogoff.sh %u
```

You will have to do with it or read the SAMBA documentation if you really want to control your server and network.

The netlogon and the tracking shares

The netlogon share is where the Windows workstations download the logon script from. We need this share in order to place there a logon script, which will tell the workstation to mount a share that will be used to track the users ip addresses.

As you can see, there must be a line like the following in your smb.conf

```
logon script = netlogon.bat
```

This line will tell your Windows client to download and execute the script named netlogon.bat. This script must be placed at the netlogon share. So, we will also need a netlogon.bat script to your Windows workstations. You can use the following example and place it at the netlogon share, in this case: /home/samba/netlogon/NETLOGON.BAT.

```
REM NETLOGON.BAT
net use z: \\linux\samba /yes
```

This script will tell the Windows workstation to mount the specified share, and so we will be able to keep track of the user and workstation through the output of the smbstatus program.

Quite simple! But not enough...

As you could see, we will need also a tracking share which, in this example, I named samba. You can see the tracking share configuration in smb.conf:

```
[samba]
comment = login tracking share
path = /home/samba/samba
browseable = No
root preexec = /usr/local/bin/netlogon.sh %u
root postexec = /usr/local/bin/netlogoff.sh %u
```

As you can guess or know if you read the SAMBA documentation, the root preexec and the root postexec lines tell SAMBA to run the indicated scripts when a user mounts or unmounts the share. In this case, we are passing the username to the script as a parameter. Note the %u at the end of the lines. These scripts are the beasts which will call a script or program to modify our gateway's packet filtering rules.

Note that the netlogon.sh script must check if the refered workstation has already mounted the tracking share.

Take a look at the netlogon.sh and netlogoff.sh scripts:

```
#!/bin/sh
#
# netlogon.sh
#
# usage:
# netlogon.sh <username>
```

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```
#
if [ -f /var/run/smbgate/$1 ] ; then
    exit 0
fi
smbstatus | grep $1 | grep samba | gawk '// { print substr($6,2,length($6)-2)}' > /var/run/smbgat
IPTABLES='/usr/sbin/iptables'
EXTIF='eth0'
COMMAND='-A'
ADDRESS=`cat /var/run/smbgate/$1`
GROUP=`groups $1 | gawk '// { print $3 }'`
if [ -f /etc/smbgate/users/$1 ] ; then
    /etc/smbgate/users/$1 $COMMAND $ADDRESS $EXTIF
else
    if [ -f /etc/smbgate/groups/$GROUP ] ; then
        /etc/smbgate/groups/$GROUP $COMMAND $ADDRESS $EXTIF
    else
        /etc/smbgate/users/default.sh $COMMAND $ADDRESS $EXTIF
    fi
fi
fi
```

This script (netlogon.sh) is intended to run when the user logs in and will filter the output of smbstatus extracting the user's ip address which will be written to a file at /var/run/smbgate. The file will take the user's name and will be later used when the user log off. The address extracted will be passed as an argument to a script with the users' name which will finally update the firewall.

Notice that this netlogon.sh script tries a user script, then if it can't find the user script it tries a group script, and finally if it can't find the group script it tries the default.sh script. You can modify this logic and behavior as you wish and need, just remember to modify the others accordingly.

Chances are if the user belong to more than one that these scripts will fail. I did not have time to write a better code.

```
#!/bin/sh
#
# netlogoff.sh
#
# usage:
# netlogoff.sh <username>
#
IPTABLES='/usr/sbin/iptables'
EXTIF='ppp0'
COMMAND='-D'
ADDRESS=`cat /var/run/smbgate/$1`
GROUP=`groups $1 | gawk '// { print $3 }'`
if [ -f /etc/smbgate/users/$1 ] ; then
    /etc/smbgate/users/$1 $COMMAND $ADDRESS $EXTIF
else
    if [ -f /etc/smbgate/groups/$GROUP ] ; then
        /etc/smbgate/groups/$GROUP $COMMAND $ADDRESS $EXTIF
    else
        /etc/smbgate/users/default.sh $COMMAND $ADDRESS $EXTIF
    fi
fi
rm -f /var/run/smbgate/$1
```

This script (netlogoff.sh) is intended to run when the user logs off and will get the address from the /var/run/smbgate/user file which will be passed as an argument to the /etc/smbgate/users/user script which will update the firewall to the state desired when the user is not logged in.

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Some versions of Windows, such as Windows 2000, mount the tracking share more than once per login. This may cause problems with the netlogon.sh and netlogoff.sh, triggering the scripts more the once. This can make a real mess. So, you may prefer to use a logout checking script at cron instead of a netlogoff.sh script triggered by SAMBA. Here is an example:

```
#!/bin/sh
# checklogout.sh
#
# usage:
# intended to run at cron (maybe each 10 minutes)

TRACKDIR="/var/run/smbgate"
DIRLENGTH=${#TRACKDIR}
TRACKSHARE="samba"
EXTIF='eth0'
COMMAND='-D'
if [ -d $TRACKDIR ]; then
  for n in $TRACKDIR/*; do
    [ -d $n ] && continue;
    if [ -f $n ]; then
      IPADDRESS=`cat $n`
      USERNAME=${n:$DIRLENGTH+1}
      NMS=`smbstatus -u $USERNAME | grep $TRACKSHARE | grep $IPADDRESS | grep -v grep | wc -l`
      if [ $NMS == 0 ]; then
        rm -f $n
        GROUP=`groups $USERNAME | gawk '// { print $3 }'`
        if [ -f /etc/smbgate/users/$USERNAME ]; then
          /etc/smbgate/users/$USERNAME $COMMAND $IPADDRESS $EXTIF
        else
          if [ -f /etc/smbgate/groups/$GROUP ]; then
            /etc/smbgate/groups/$GROUP $COMMAND $IPADDRESS $EXTIF
          else
            /etc/smbgate/users/default.sh $COMMAND $IPADDRESS $EXTIF
          fi
        fi
      fi
    fi
  fi
else
  exit 0
fi
done
fi
```

In that case you should remove the root postexec clause from the tracking share on smb.conf:

```
root postexec = /usr/local/bin/netlogoff.sh %u
```

The following is a standard /etc/smbgate/users/user script. This is the one which will actually modify the firewall rules.

```
#!/bin/sh
#
COMMAND=$1
ADDRESS=$2
EXTIF=$3
IPTABLES='/usr/sbin/iptables'
$IPTABLES $COMMAND POSTROUTING -t nat -s $ADDRESS -o $EXTIF -j MASQUERADE
```

We should also have a default.sh script at /etc/smbgate/users/ to give the gateway a default behavior to the gateway.

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```
#!/bin/sh
#
# default.sh
COMMAND=$1
ADDRESS=$2
EXTIF=$3
IPTABLES='/usr/sbin/iptables'
#$IPTABLES $COMMAND POSTROUTING -t nat -s $ADDRESS -o $EXTIF -j MASQUERADE
exit 0
```

4. [Windows workstation setup](#)

4.1 Introduction

We will stick to setting up the network, user management and policies on the Windows workstations.

I will not go through all those steps, naming each dialog box. I will presume that if you can read and understand this document you can find your way through that mess.

4.2 Network protocols

First, unless you really need, remove all network protocols but TCP/IP. Even without their own protocol, Windows machines like to broadcast a lot, and this doesn't please anyone. Anyway, with TCP/IP who needs anything else?

4.3 DHCP setup

If you setup a DHCP server on your Linux box, remember that Windows workstations can get the nameservers and gateway's address besides its own IP address from it. So, you don't need to set all these items on each workstation.

4.4 Join your Linux server domain

Configure the Windows workstation to log in a Domain, and give the domain name of your Linux server. This is essential to the gateway work.

You must know that in order to join some versions of Windows to a SAMBA domain controller, you must create machine accounts in your Linux PDC. Check the SAMBA documentation on how to setup your PDC to the specific version of Windows which you have.

Windows 95/98

These versions seems to need no special configuration to join the Linux PDC domain.

Windows NT and 2000

These versions require machine accounts at the Linux box. Again, check the SAMBA documentation.

Windows XP

This version needs a machine account at the Linux box and a tweak at the registry, as follows.

Locate the key

"HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Netlogon\Parameters\RequireSignOrSeal".
The default value is 1. Set it to 0 and it will no more complain about joining the domain.

If you have many workstation to configure create a file named anything.reg with the following content and use it to modify the "faulty" registry.

```
Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00
```

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Netlogon\Parameters]  
"requiresignorseal"=dword:00000000
```

This version also needs an adjust at the NETLOGON.BAT script. Sometimes it insists on making the mounting persistent.

```
REM NETLOGON.BAT  
net use z: \\linux\samba /yes /persistent:no
```

4.5 Policy editor

There is a utility named policy editor bundled on the Windows CD. The file name is poedit.exe. This tool, as the name suggest, allows to create a user and system policy file.

Unfortunately, this tool does not generate a plain text configuration file, so I can't place an example here.

Use the policy editor to create a policy to your workstations and users. You should disable the local password cache and domain cache in order to get some security. Save the policy file as config.pol and place it at the netlogon share of your Linux server. In this way, your Windows workstations will download and use the config.pol file to set their policy. Of course this task must be done on a Windows machine.

If you don't use a config.pol file, your Windows workstations will annoy you asking for a Windows password and you will become nuts trying to synchronize and manage your Domain and Windows passwords. It seems that the OS doesn't know that it joined a domain. You must tell it and then you have to slap it in the face so it will believe you.

5. [User management](#)

5.1 Adding users

Adding a Linux user by usual means and setting a samba password using smbpasswd will work. If you have any doubt, just refer to the SAMBA documentation. This is not a difficult issue.

5.2 Password management

I am issuing this a major topic because I couldn't learn yet how to manage users and users' passwords from a

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Windows workstation without using a web interface. I couldn't find and didn't know how to build integrated tools to solve this problem. So, I am using a CGI program to get it done.

Try the package at <http://changepassword.sourceforge.net>, it seems to be a good choice.

5.3 Granting or denying access to users

As you could see in a previous section of this howto, the SAMBA daemon will call a netlogon.sh script every time the tracking share is mounted. This netlogon.sh script will call a script with the user's name giving this script the ip address of the referred workstation as a parameter. This user script will apply the desired rules.

For example if you want to give the user full access to internet:

```
#!/bin/sh
#
COMMAND=$1
ADDRESS=$2
EXTIF=$3
IPTABLES='/usr/sbin/iptables'
$IPTABLES $COMMAND POSTROUTING -t nat -s $ADDRESS -o $EXTIF -j MASQUERADE
```

If you don't want to change anything to a particular user, just give him an empty script:

```
#!/bin/sh
#
exit 0
```

Or just don't create any script for the less privileged users, letting them have the default.sh script, which would be empty as the previous or just give limited access as follows:

```
#!/bin/sh
#
COMMAND=$1
ADDRESS=$2
EXTIF=$3
EXTIFADDRESS=$4
IPTABLES='/usr/sbin/iptables'
$IPTABLES $COMMAND POSTROUTING -t nat -s $ADDRESS -o $EXTIF --dport 25 -j SNAT --to-source $EXTIFADDRESS
$IPTABLES $COMMAND POSTROUTING -t nat -s $ADDRESS -o $EXTIF --dport 110 -j SNAT --to-source $EXTIFADDRESS
```

Remember that this script requires you to modify all the previous scripts to include the extra parameter or just modify the script script. And remember that you will go nowhere whis this howto if you don't understand iptables.

6. Group management

6.1 Creating groups

Just create your user groups in the Linux PDC and add the users to the groups. This is it.

Remember that the example scripts in this howto will probably fail if you have users belonging to more than one group. If you need this, remember to adjust the scripts.

6.2 Group policy

You will need to define group specific scripts and place them in the directory `"/etc/smbgate/groups/"`. Remember that the script must be named as the group, at least if you want to follow the examples in this howto.

The default scheme of this howto is to check for a user script, then for a group script and finally for the default script. If you want to modify this behavior remember to adapt the `netlogon.sh`, `netlogoff.sh` (or the `checklogout.sh`) scripts. The whole logic is in these scripts.

7. [Bibliography](#)

[IPTABLES TUTORIAL](#) by Oskar Andreasson

[Samba HOWTO Collection](#) by the SAMBA Team

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