Deployers Meeting

2021-11-17

Agenda

- 3.x
 - What is New?
 - What is Gone?
 - Migrating to 3.x
- Beyond 3.x
- EOL of 2.x
- Help Wanted!

What is New?

- WireGuard Support
- Improved Security Defaults
- New APIv3
- Simplify Architecture
- Native HA/Redundancy
- Limit number of (active) VPN connections per user

WireGuard

- Both via Portal (QR code) and API(v3)
 - Much better performance
 - Exclusively UDP, so doesn't work everywhere...
- But... profiles can support OpenVPN, WireGuard or both
 - Example: expect bulk of users to use WireGuard, but allow for some OpenVPN connections over TCP

OpenVPN

- Key Type from RSA → Ed25519*
 - Much faster key generation
- TLSv1.3

^{*} Recently 2.x changed to ECDSA from RSA with introduction of APIv3 support

APIv3*

- OAuth $2.0 \rightarrow 2.1$
 - All OAuth 2.1 requirements already implemented in 2.x, except "refresh tokens" reuse.
- Much simpler API (3 calls instead of 5)
 - /info
 - /connect
 - /disconnect
- Supports both OpenVPN & WireGuard

^{*} APIv3 (without WireGuard support) also backported to 2.x in vpn-user-portal >= 2.4.0

Architecture

- Combine various server components
 - Simplification
- Support external databases (not only SQLite)
 - PostgreSQL, MySQL/MariaDB
- Support other session storage mechanism (next file files)
 - memcached
- Introduce support for "Native" HA/Redundancy

Deployment

- The server will support only modern Linux distributions:
 - Debian ≥ 11
 - Fedora >= 34
- We may consider Ubuntu at some point, but quality is a concern...
- CentOS/Rocky Linux will depend on the "EPEL situation". Also the kernel does **not** support WireGuard
 - For QA we want to avoid depending on too many external repositories...

What is Gone?

- Two Factor Support (TOTP)
 - Will depend on authentication source, e.g. SAML, LDAP, ...
 - May be introduced again for local user authentication
- **Deprecated**: RADIUS is not supported by PHP 8, so Debian 11 and Fedora 34 are the last OSes to support it... Avoid it!

TODO

- Fix VPN usage statistics
- Make sure all (sys)logging is done properly
- VPN clients need to support APIv3 (and WireGuard)
 - macOS/iOS has Let's Connect! branded app that almost works
 - Some work on Android
 - No work done yet on Windows, Linux
- Update the (Server) Deployment Documentation
 - Will be done in v3 branch of the documentation repository in the coming weeks... $_{10/16}$

When?

• Before the end of this year (2021)

Migrating to 3.x

- Recommended: deploy a new Debian 11 server with 3.x server
- Alternative:
 - Upgrade your 2.x server to Debian 11 first
 - Follow upgrade instructions to 3.x
- No upgrade scenario for CentOS / RHEL unfortunately :-(
- Fedora will also be supported, and would be preferred, but requires a more "active" administrator installing updates regularly...

Beyond 3.x

- Introduce bulk API for configuration downloads to easy configuration of managed devices
- WireGuard + TCP?
- Refactor VPN clients to use shared component for common (non-GUI) functionality

2.x EOL

- We plan to support 2.x at least until 2022-12-31
 - Possibly synchronize EOL date with CentOS 7 EOL (2024-06-30) if there is interest for this...

Help Wanted!

- Please help us test the 3.x server installation
 - "HA" (memcached, other SQL server)
 - Multi-Node Installation
 - Installation instructions available soon for Fedora 34, 35
- Anyone with Microsoft Active Directory / Group Policy experience? Please speak up!

Resources

- ROADMAP on https://github.com/eduvpn/documentation
- APIv3 on https://github.com/eduvpn/documentation/blob/v2/API_V3.md