RSA RISK-BASED AUTHENTICATION

For RSA Authentication Manager 8.0

Today’s organizations are faced with the challenges of an evolving IT environment: users are diverse and mobile, IT budgets are more limited, and threats are advancing. As organizations move more information online and provide remote access to resources, strong authentication must address these challenges while balancing security, end user convenience, and return on investment.

MULTI-FACTOR, INTELLIGENCE DRIVEN AUTHENTICATION

RSA® Authentication Manager 8.0 offers Risk-Based Authentication (RBA), which is optionally licensable and designed to transparently increase security. It is a multi-factor authentication solution that strengthens traditional password-based systems by assigning a risk level to each attempted login request. The risk engine is a sophisticated system that evaluates each attempted login and activity in real-time by tracking hundreds of risk indicators and determining the risk associated with each access request including:

- Something the user knows, such as an existing user name and password
- Something the user has, such as a laptop, desktop pc, or mobile device
- Something the user does, such as recent account activity

In real time, the risk engine scores each authentication request using knowledge about the client device and by analyzing the end user’s behavior.

RISK ENGINE

As a leader in Risk-Based Authentication, RSA adapted the risk engine that is already protecting millions of online identities today with RSA Adaptive Authentication. The RSA Authentication Manager risk engine is not a static, rules-based system. Employing a combination of real-time device and behavioral analytics, the risk engine dynamically adapts its risk model as new information is collected. RBA offers end user convenience by preserving the familiar username/password logon experience.

DEVICE PROFILING

By collecting and evaluating dozens of unique device characteristics, the risk engine silently examines the end user’s pc, laptop or mobile device – dynamically and upon each authentication attempt. Based on this analysis, the RSA Risk Engine can determine if the device is a trusted machine used previously by the account holder. If the machine is trusted, the user can typically be authenticated with a valid username and password only. If the machine is unrecognized, however, the user is required to provide additional proof of identity. With device analysis, the end user’s machine becomes a trusted second factor of authentication without the need to provision static credentials or to deploy any additional software.
**BEHAVIOR PROFILING**

Behavioral analysis evaluates user patterns, authentication and account activity, and other factors to assess the overall risk associated with each authentication attempt. Behavioral risk is calculated by comparing the current authentication request with the user’s own authentication history, the known behavior of other users in the population and behavioral signatures typical of an unauthorized access attempt. If the risk is low, then the user’s behavior provides yet another authentication factor that silently confirms the account holder’s identity.

**IDENTITY CONFIRMATION**

Low-risk users are authenticated transparently while high-risk users may be prompted to provide an additional proof of identity.

- **On-Demand Authentication**: The user must correctly enter a one-time passcode that is sent out-of-band to a pre-defined mobile number via SMS (text) or email account.
- **Challenge questions**: The user must correctly answer one or more pre-enrolled security questions.

**STRONG, AFFORDABLE AUTHENTICATION**

RSA Risk-Based Authentication delivers strong, multi-factor authentication. As the image above shows, RBA incorporates something the user knows (username and password), something the user has (device identification) and something the user does (behavior profiling). RBA enables organizations to extend anytime, anywhere access confidently to remote employees, partners, contractors and clients. It delivers the flexibility to tailor strong authentication to an organization’s resource constraints, risk tolerance and user profile.

RBA can be used as a standalone multi-factor authentication solution, or it can be used with RSA SecurID®. In this use case, the RSA SecurID tokencode is an input to the risk engine which provides an additional layer of security. RSA SecurID cannot be used to provide additional proof of identity after the risk analysis.
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Available as a perpetual license with annual maintenance required (separate from RSA SecurCare maintenance)
- Risk-Based and On-Demand Authentication are supported in a single license
- Support for any number of users from 5 to 20,000
- Works with both the Base and Enterprise editions of RSA Authentication Manager 8.0
- Works with RSA SecurID and RADIUS

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