RSA® ADAPTIVE AUTHENTICATION
A Comprehensive Authentication & Fraud Detection Platform

AT A GLANCE
- Measures risk of login and post login activities by evaluating over 100 indicators in real-time
- Determines authentication requirements based on risk and policy
- Supports wide range of authentication options
- Provides cross channel protection of web-based & mobile applications, and ATM
- On-premise installation & hosted service options available

In order to meet end-user demand for convenience, organizations continue to extend product & service offerings and account access into online and mobile channels. At the same time, hackers continue to proliferate and evolve, leveraging Phishing, Man in the Middle (MITM), Man in the Browser (MITB), and other sophisticated tactics to gain unauthorized access to funds, corporate data, and accounts.

Achieving the right balance of security – without compromising the user experience – is a challenge for organizations. RSA® Adaptive Authentication solves this challenge by providing risk-based, multifactor authentication for organizations that want to protect users accessing web sites and online portals, mobile applications and browsers, Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) virtual private network (VPN) applications, web access management (WAM) applications, and application delivery solutions.

ADAPTIVE AUTHENTICATION OVERVIEW
Adaptive Authentication is a comprehensive authentication and fraud detection platform. Powered by RSA’s Risk-Based Authentication technology, Adaptive Authentication is designed to measure the risk associated with a user’s login and post-login activities by evaluating a variety of risk indicators. Using a risk and rules based approach, the system then requires additional identity assurance, such as out-of-band authentication, for scenarios that are high risk and violate a policy. This methodology provides transparent authentication for the majority of the users.

TECHNOLOGY & COMPONENTS
Adaptive Authentication leverages a series of technologies and components to provide cross-channel protection, including the RSA Risk Engine, RSA Policy Management, Device & Behavior Profiling, RSA eFraudNetwork™, “Step-up” Authentication, and RSA Case Management.

Figure 1: RSA Adaptive Authentication Technology & Components
**RSA Risk Engine**

The RSA Risk Engine is a self-learning statistical machine learning technology that utilizes over 100 indicators to evaluate the risk of an activity in real-time. Adaptive Authentication leverages the Risk Engine to generate a unique score for each activity that ranges from 0 to 1,000, where 1,000 indicates the greatest level of risk. The score is reflective of device profiling, behavioral profiling, and eFraudNetwork data. The Risk Engine combines rich data input, machine learning methods and authentication feedback to provide intelligent, real-time risk evaluations to mitigate fraud. Unlike most solutions, RSA takes both a risk and rules based approach. Customers can utilize the Policy Management application to set policy rules and that can be layered on top of the Risk Engine to create a hybrid approach.

**RSA Policy Manager**

The RSA Policy Management application translates risk policies into decisions and actions through the use of a comprehensive rules framework. For example, the Policy Management application can be used to set the risk score that will require later review in the Case Management application, prompt additional assurance or “Step-up” Authentication, and/or deny transactions in which the likelihood of fraud is very high. In addition, the Policy Management application can create rules independently of the risk assessment, such as blocking authentication from a specific IP address.

**Device Profiling**

Device profiling analyzes the device from which the user is accessing an organization’s website or mobile application. Adaptive Authentication determines whether a device used for a given activity is a device that is typically used by the user, or if the device has been connected to previous fraudulent activities. Parameters analyzed include characteristics such as operating system version, browser type and version, and cookies and/or flash objects.

**Behavior Profiling**

Behavior profiling is a record of the typical activity for the user. Adaptive Authentication compares the profile for the activity with the user’s usual behavior to assess risk. The user profile is used to determine if the various activities are typical for that user, or if the behavior is indicative of known fraudulent patterns. Parameters examined include frequency, time of day and type of attempted activity.

**RSA eFraudNetwork™**

The RSA eFraudNetwork™ is a cross-functional repository of fraud patterns gleaned from RSA’s extensive network of customers, internal research lab, ISPs, and third party contributors across the globe. When fraudulent elements such as IP Address, Device Fingerprint, and/or Payee (Mule) Account are identified, they are shared with the eFraudNetwork. The eFraudNetwork provides direct feeds to the Risk Engine so when an activity is attempted from a device or IP that appears in the repository, it will be deemed high-risk.
Case Management
A highly effective fraud management tool that enables the tracking of activities that trigger Policy Engine rules and determines if flagged activities are genuine or fraudulent. Organizations use this information to take appropriate measures in a timely manner and minimize the damage caused by fraudulent activities. The Case Management application is also used to research cases and analyze fraud patterns, which are essential when revising or developing new policy decision rules. Further, this tool also enables an organization to provide feedback into the risk engine upon case resolution.

The Case Management API is an interface of Adaptive Authentication Case Management capabilities that allow an organization to share information with an external case management system. Consolidating cases into one system provides an organization with the ability to more efficiently confirm and resolve fraudulent activities.

Step-up Authentication
A step-up authentication is an additional factor or procedure that validates a user’s identity, usually prompted by high risk transactions or according to policy rules. The following are examples of out-of-the-box step-up authentication methods supported in Adaptive Authentication:

- Challenge Questions: Secret questions that have been selected & answered by end user during enrollment.
- Out-of-Band Authentication: One-time passcode sent to the end user via phone call, SMS text message or email. Transaction details can be included in the communication to help prevent fraudulent activities.
- Dynamic Knowledge-Based Authentication (KBA): Dynamic questions that are unique to the end user, and generated from publically & commercially available data in real-time.
- Other third party authentication methods via the RSA Multi Credential Framework.

CROSS CHANNEL PROTECTION: WEB & MOBILE

Mobile Protection
The Proliferation of mobile devices brings opportunity as well as risk; however, mobile applications that directly integrate Adaptive Authentication protect against unauthorized access with minimal impact to the end user. Adaptive Authentication offers a dedicated mobile risk model that includes capabilities such as location awareness and mobile device identification. Location awareness detects the location of the device using a series of time and geography based algorithms and can access location data gathered through Wi-Fi, cell-tower triangulation, and GPS. Device identification captures characteristics such as device model, language, and screen size. Anomalies such as locations or devices which are new to the user, are deemed high risk. Additionally, devices that are Jailbroken/Rooted or emulated can be identified.
Adaptive Authentication offers integration through a web services call, or a Software Development Kit (SDK) that allows developers to build controls directly into their mobile applications. Supported platforms include Apple iOS, Android OS and Blackberry OS. Developers of mobile applications for business, banking, e-commerce and data access can now help increase security and confidence by integrating strong risk-based authentication in their mobile offerings.

**FLEXIBLE DEPLOYMENT & CONFIGURATION**

RSA recognizes that no two organizations share the exact same user authentication needs, and as a result, Adaptive Authentication offers a wide array of deployment, configuration, and language options to meet the varied needs of organizations. For instance, organizations currently deploy Adaptive Authentication in two ways – as an on-premise installation that uses existing IT infrastructure or as a hosted Software-as-a-Service (SaaS). Further, Adaptive Authentication can be configured in a number of ways to balance security and risk without compromising the user experience. Many organizations currently provide risk-based authentication for their entire user base and use the Policy Management application to determine action to take based on risk. Lastly, the user interface and input & output fields are localized and internationalized to support over 8 languages. This flexibility enables Adaptive Authentication be used to protect a variety of remote access points such as web portals, SSL VPNs, and ATMs.

**A PROVEN SOLUTION**

Adaptive Authentication is a comprehensive, risk-based authentication and fraud detection platform that balances security, usability, and cost. Further, Adaptive Authentication helps to increases user confidence and willingness to transact with online portals and mobile devices. Adaptive Authentication is a proven solution that is currently deployed at over 8,000 organizations worldwide and across multiple industries including financial services, healthcare, and government. It is currently being used to protect over 200 million online users and has processed and protected over 20 billion transactions.

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