

Title: Lightweight Directory Access Protocol(LDAP)

Type: White Paper

Author: ProductDossier Solutions



Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)

Introduction

LDAP, Lightweight Directory Access Protocol, is an Internet protocol that email and other programs use to look up information from a server. LDAP is an application protocol for querying directory services running over TCP/IP.

Software companies such as Microsoft, IBM, Lotus, and Netscape supported a standard called LDAP. "LDAP-aware" client programs can ask LDAP servers to look up entries in a wide variety of ways. LDAP servers index all the data in their entries, and "filters" may be used to select just the person or group you want and return just the information you want. For example, here's an LDAP search translated into plain English: "Search for all people located in Pune whose name contains "Pankaj" that have an email address. Please return their full name, email, title, and description."

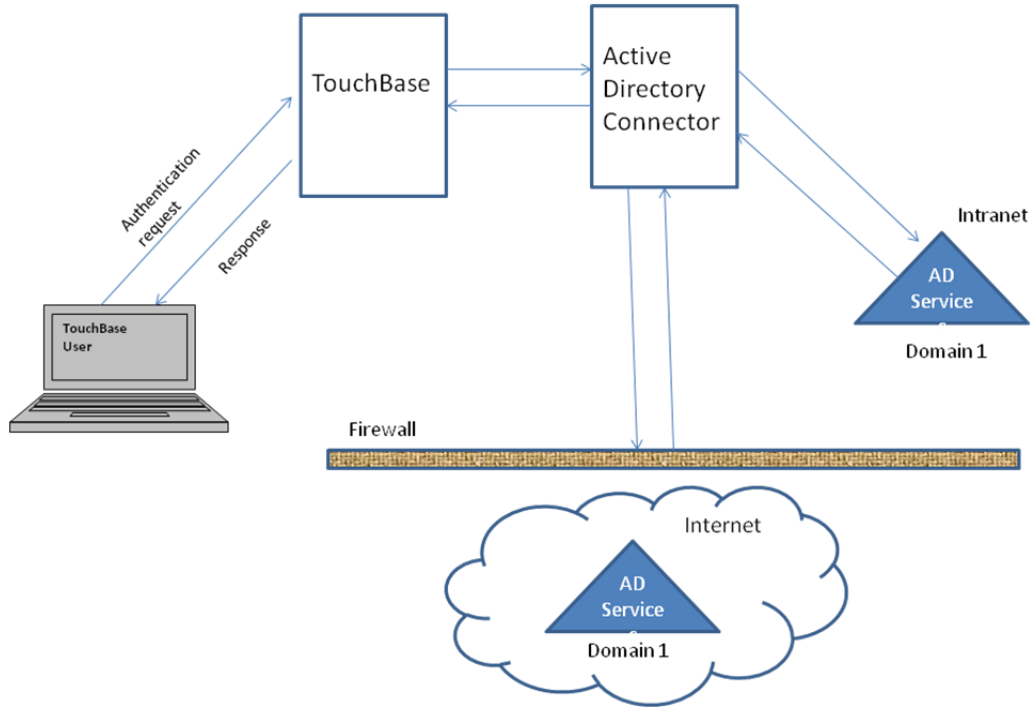
LDAP is not limited to contact information, or even information about people. LDAP is used to look up encryption certificates, pointers to printers and other services on a network, and provide "single signon" where one password for a user is shared between many services. LDAP is appropriate for any kind of directory-like information, where fast lookups and less-frequent updates are the norm.

Windows Server provide Active Directory Services using which we can authenticate the user for password. AD is compliant to LDAP V3.0

TouchBase solution for LDAP

TouchBase can be integrated to any LDAP V3.0 server for authentication. This means that the user will have to use their windows login and password to authenticate in TouchBase. The product has the ability to integrate with any LDAP V3.0 complaint server for authentication (eg. Active Directory on Windows, OpenLDAP in Linux etc.). The product also has the ability to configure multiple domains or LDAP Servers, import single/multiple users directly from LDAP, synchronize user from LDAP (eg. Name, email, phone, mobile etc.). For selective users, admin can allow login using TouchBase user name and password.

A diagram showing the implementation is given below.



The process for implementation is as follows:-

- a) Initial set up is done with the LDAP server

TouchBase™ - Program
PDServer Admin

Domains

Sr	Domain Name	Display Name	Host	Port	Ldap Version	Status
1	productdossier.local	productdossier	192.168.0.101	389	3	ACTIVE



LDAP Domain Mapping

Domain Name: productdossier

Touch Base Attribute Name	LDAP Attribute Name	Applicable
LoginName*	userPrincipalName	<input type="checkbox"/>
FirstName*	givenName	<input type="checkbox"/>
LastName*	sn	<input type="checkbox"/>
EMail*	-Select-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Idap_Guid*	objectGuid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initials*	Initials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Submit Cancel Add Remove

* Mandatory

b) Data for the people authorized to use TouchBase is imported into the system

Import Users

Domain: productdossier

Search By: Name

Search Criteria: Contains

Show Not Imported Users:

Search Text: s

Page No. 1

User Name	User login
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrator	Administrator
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest	Guest
<input type="checkbox"/> IUSR_KAILASH	IUSR_KAILASH
<input type="checkbox"/> IWAM_KAILASH	IWAM_KAILASH
<input type="checkbox"/> SUPPORT_388945a0	SUPPORT_388945a0
<input type="checkbox"/> KAILASH	KAILASH\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile User Template	Mobile User Tmpl
<input type="checkbox"/> User Template	User Tmpl
<input type="checkbox"/> Power User Template	Power User Tmpl
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrator Template	Administrator Tmpl

Message from webpage

User(s) imported successfully.

c) The authorized users are required to do an authentication process when they connect to TouchBase. The user can also opt for auto login which will validate the user by Windows/ Linux user name and password.

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Conclusion

Benefits of the LDAP module implemented in TouchBase are:-

- Single sign on using windows user name and password. There is no requirement to remember a separate user name and password
- Security can be controlled from AD (User password management, allowed login time, enabling/disabling can be directly controlled through AD)
- For organizations who have implemented ISO 27001, all the security requirements required by the standard can be controlled through the active directory