

AuthAccess

Market Situation

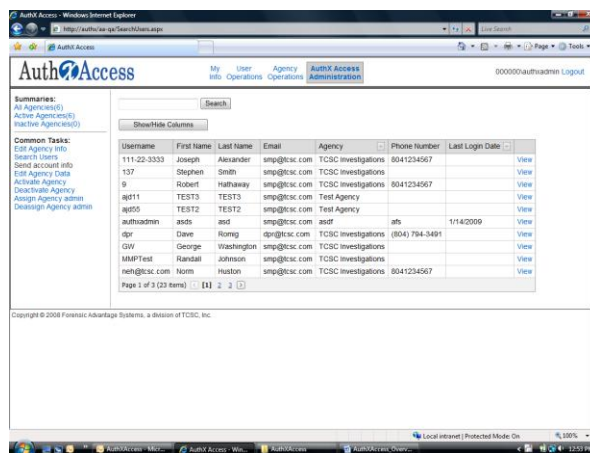
Laboratory directors have a critical need to provide agency wide access to their extranet applications. As these applications are served up to geographically dispersed users, the burden of managing multiple usernames and passwords becomes an ever-increasing operational expense. Additionally, the breach of just one password can expose critical information and compromise organizational security. The shortage of IT personnel to manage the growing number of access credentials combined with the high cost of legacy identity management solutions also compounds the problem.

Solution

AuthXAccess was architected to make identity management deployment easy. The solution delivers secure extranet access by equipping customers with the ability to manage credentials for their own users. The module provides a centralized system for secure account management and eliminates the need for custom software for each external customer connection. A single AuthXAccess module can support enterprise wide connections so external users are provided with the powerful capabilities to access a laboratory's resources, securely, over the Internet. Key features include:

- Administrative console that correctly configures external partner connections without requiring IT staff to have extensive knowledge of identity federation standards (ie: SAML 1.0, SAML 1.1, SAML 2.0, WS-Federation)
- Out-of-the-box integration provides easy integration, tying into existing identity infrastructure, as well as linking into target application environments
- Automatically creates trusted connections when users from external agencies request site access, eliminating the need to manually configure each partner connection

AuthXAccess Administration User Interface



Implementation

The implementation of legacy identity management systems typically requires six to nine months or more. AuthXAccess provides access, security, and control, rapidly, in just weeks. Through standards-based identity management, AuthXAccess distributes user account creation and password management tasks to those who are the best source of that information – the users.

AuthXAccess and Forensic Advantage™

Forensic laboratories process evidence examination requests from a number of external agencies. When one of these agencies requires lab services, they record the specifics of the case, a description of evidence submitted, and enter requests for forensic examination services. This data is entered into a multi-part, paper form presented to the lab with the evidence at the time of submission. Clerical operations at the laboratory transcribe this information from the paper forms into their LIMS. Additional activities such as clerical operations that respond to requests for examination status and disseminate the resulting laboratory reports throughout the organization also occur. Forensic Advantage™ combined with browser-based module, AuthXAccess permits the external agency to easily manage users, enter evidence descriptions, request laboratory examinations, obtain examination status and access laboratory reports, all electronically, in one seamless solution.

AuthXAccess functionality for authorized administrators at a laboratory

- Create, read, update, deactivate an agency and agency-related information
- Import agencies and agency-related information from a Microsoft® Excel spreadsheet
- Create, read, update, deactivate a credential
- Import identities associated with an agency from a Microsoft® Excel spreadsheet
- Delegate identity administration to an authorized administrator at an agency
- Search for an identity within an agency or across all agencies

AuthXAccess functionality for authorized agency issuers (delegated administrators) at a requesting agency

- Read and update agency information (name, address, email, phone, fax)
- List information for identities associated with the agency
- Create, read, update, deactivate an identity's credentials
- Reset an identity's password
- Suspend / Reinstate an identity
- Unblock an identity's credentials (after failed login attempts, restore access without password reset)

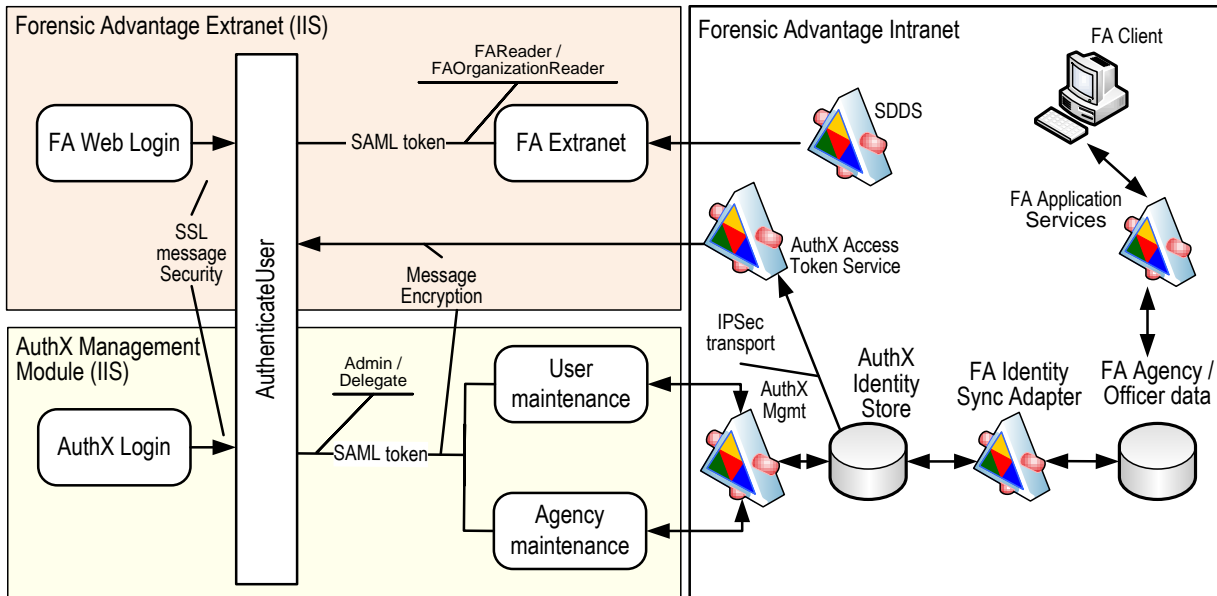
Security Benefits

Security is an imperative to protect the enterprise, its users and service providers. AuthXAccess assists organizations extend their security policy to incorporate inbound and outbound single sign on while the risk of password sharing and impersonation of usernames by:

- Utilizing mature peer-reviewed standards such as SAML
- Proactively going beyond the standards to address common loopholes associated with underlying technologies

- Decentralizing management and monitoring of security credentials and identity traffic

AuthXAccess Interrelationship with the Forensic Advantage Platform



ASP.NET Membership Services

AuthXAccess implements an ASP.NET Membership Services provider to permit easy integration with ASP.NET Forms Authentication. ASP.NET provides a built-in method to validate and access user credentials. AuthXAccess leverages and extends ASP.NET membership capabilities to help manage user authentication within web sites. AuthXAccess membership capabilities can be used with ASP.NET Forms authentication or with the ASP.NET login controls to create a complete system for authenticating users. The module also provides the following capabilities:

- Creates new credentials and passwords
- Implements a custom provider that delivers a robust system whereby a limited scope of credential management functions may be delegated
- Stores membership information (identity names, passwords and authorization data) in Microsoft® SQL Server, Microsoft® Active Directory, or an alternative data store
- Authenticates users programmatically, or use ASP.NET login controls to create a complete authentication system that requires minimal custom coding
- Manage passwords (ie: creating, changing, and resetting). Application extensions provide an automated password-reset system that accepts a user-supplied question and response
- Usage policies provide for activation and suspension of credentials based on a time span from initial credential issuance and latest use
- Provides a unique identification for authenticated user identities for use within applications and integrates with ASP.NET's personalization and role-management (authorization) systems
- Credential and membership data may be maintained in a custom data store, accessed using a documented provider model

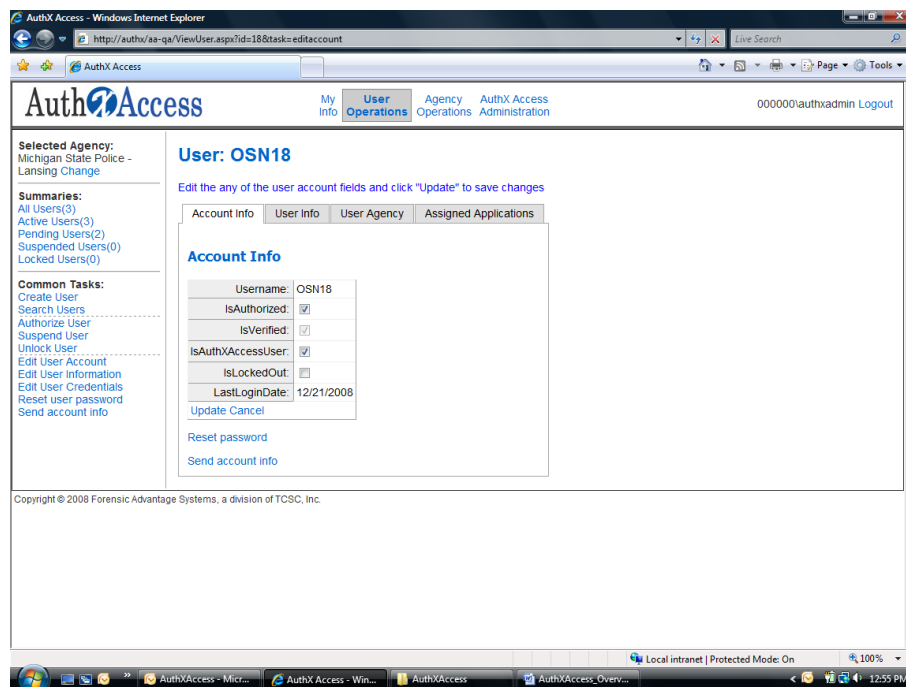
- Documented web service interface provides bi-directional identity and organization synchronization with one or more external systems

Services

Services and support for each step of the AuthXAccess identity management deployment process is packaged to enable enterprise level organizations achieve operational status within thirty days or less and turn around subsequent connections in less than a week. Laboratories that take advantage of AuthXAccess combined with these turnkey services can achieve lower operational costs, increased enterprise security and efficient operations, quickly and easily. Key solution and service benefits include:

- Decreased configuration time of agency connections
- Simplified management for all inbound and internal access
- Improved security of resources accessed over the Internet

AuthXAccess User Operation Screen



About Forensic Advantage™ Systems

Forensic Advantage™ Systems, a division of The Computer Solution Company, is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner and leader in Forensic Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS). Delivering technology solutions to the criminal justice marketplace since 2002, Forensic Advantage™ Systems enjoys a growing install-base among forensic and medical examiner laboratories. The Forensic Advantage™ technology platform addresses the unique requirements of laboratories that recognize the benefits of conducting their case management and analysis activities electronically. The Forensic Advantage™ Suite includes Breath Alcohol, DNA/CODIS and LIMS solutions that leverage the Microsoft Office platform. The application suite improves individual productivity by enabling examiners to focus on delivering timely, accurate results.

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