



CSAP

COMMON SECURITY ARCHITECTURE
for PRODUCTION

PART 3:
SECURITY LEVELS

VERSION 1.1



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1 Introduction

This document is Part 3 of the security architecture documents. Familiarity with “Part 1: Architecture Description” is necessary to understand this document; however, it is not necessary to have reviewed “Part 2: Interfaces” before reading this document.

This document looks at how security can be scaled in an orderly manner. The primary driver for scalable security is that higher levels of security tend to cost more. If that were not the case, the maximum level of security likely would be employed universally.

This security architecture enables the security to be scaled to accommodate a production’s risk tolerance, and this document is an illustration of how that scaling might occur in practice.

1.1 Risk

Risk assessment is a combination of the likelihood of an event happening and the consequences of it doing so. When combined with the cost of mitigation, we get an expression of risk tolerance. Understanding risk tolerance allows decisions to be made about which risks to mitigate and to what extent. However well the security is designed and implemented, greater security is typically more expensive in terms of operating expense (OpEx), as well as capital expenditure (CapEx) if the implementation is not entirely in the cloud. Whether formal or informal, the outcome of a risk management¹ process is a guide to how robust the security needs to be – the scaling of security.

The required level of security may vary for one production. For example:

- A motion picture may have different security requirements for editors creating sequences with synchronized sound than for an in-house effects group working on an air-gapped network.
- A TV series may have tighter security requirements for the season opener and the season finale than for the episodes in between.

1.2 Security Levels

In order to illustrate scalability, we need some sort of measure, and this document uses the construct of security levels to present a quantitative rather than qualitative view of scalability.

¹ There are many accepted methods of assessing risk, such as ISO 31000:2018,¹ Risk Management Guidelines <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui#iso:std:iso:31000:ed-2:v1:en>.

We will use three levels:

Security Level	Description	Example application
100	The minimum level of functionality and capability	An unscripted production with a high level of risk tolerance
200	The robust level of functionality and capability	A scripted TV series with a medium level of risk tolerance
300	The highest level of security	A major motion picture with near-zero risk tolerance

The use of 100, 200 and 300 is arbitrary. We could equally have used low, medium and high.

The presence of a component is shown for each level using the classifications *beneficial* and *necessary*.

A particular security system meets, for example, level 200, if every component meets the criteria for level 200 or better.

A component that interacts with another component may function when the second component is not available, although perhaps at a reduced level of security. Best practices say that if two components are available in an implementation and are defined in the full architecture with one making use of the other, the one should make use of the other.

Capability may be expressed as localized and system-wide capability.

Capability Category	Explanation
Localized	The capability is present in one or more parts of the system
System-wide	The capability is present throughout the system in an integrated manner.

Note that a requirement to support a feature is not a requirement to use the feature.

1.3 Use case

There are two observations about CSAP security levels that are important:

- Not every service or technology needs to be capable of level 200 or 300 – the security level is determined by production security requirements
- Workflows within a single production may use different CSAP levels

CSAP security levels can be chosen for a variety of reasons. The decision as to which security level to use for any part of a production is based on an assessment of the risk and the cost.

Risk assessment, whether formal or informal, looks at the likelihood of a security event occurring and any detrimental outcome. Cost means the cost, in the broadest sense, of mitigating risk.

1.4 Categorization of authorization policies

Authorization policies can be created during the initialization phase of a workflow or when a task is scheduled. They may be valid for a period that is, for example, the duration of the production, the duration of a workflow (e.g., an authorization policy is valid while dailies are being produced) or the duration of a task.

This affects the implementation of CSAP authorization policies. For that reason, and for the purposes of this document, we introduce the following imprecise² categorization of authorization policies.

Authorization Policy Category	Explanation
Short lifetime	Authorization policies are created for each task and the lifetime is approximately the duration of the task
Medium lifetime	Authorization policies are created for each workflow and the lifetime is approximately the duration of the workflow
Long lifetime	Authorization policies are created for each workflow and the lifetime is the duration of the production or a phase (e.g., post-production) of the production

Please note that CSAP Part 1 version 1.1 removed the distinction between static and dynamic security policies since they behave the same and the difference was in implementation. The name of this policies was changed to “*authorization policies*.”

There are no functional differences between the authorization policies in each category, the difference is in the lifetime. This is important to this document because it describes what level of capability for authorization policies is necessary.

1.5 Functions vs components

CSAP security levels are defined by functionality and components. The functions necessary in a level determine the components that are necessary.

² There isn't a hard boundary between each category.

2 Security Levels for Core Security Components

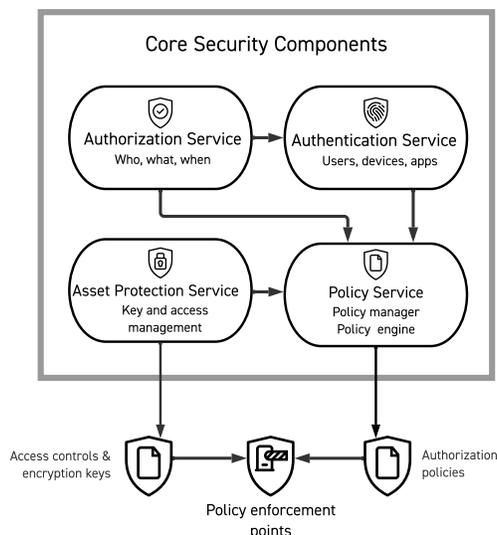


Figure 2-1 Core security components

The rest of this section details the requirements for the presence of the components.

2.1 Authentication Service³

Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authentication service necessary
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authentication service necessary
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authentication service necessary

2.2 Authorization Service⁴

Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorization service necessary
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorization service necessary
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorization service necessary

³ Each level is required to support the entity authentications required for that level, as described below

⁴ Each level is required to support the Authorization Policies required for that level, as described below.

2.3 Asset Protection Service

Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection by access controls necessary• Asset encryption capability beneficial
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection by access permissions necessary• Local asset encryption capability necessary• End-to-end asset encryption capability beneficial
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• End-to-end asset encryption capability necessary

In CSAP Part 1, we categorize encryption of stored assets we define two classes:

- **Implicit encryption.** We define implicit encryption to mean that whatever is holding the asset (a storage “container,”⁵ such as a disk, or a filesystem volume) is encrypted. Typically, the encryption is a property of the infrastructure; the container is encrypted as a property of the storage mechanism.
- **Explicit encryption.** We define explicit encryption to mean assets are encrypted individually or as a group such that the encryption is independent of how the assets are held. We refer to this as “asset encryption.” It is also referred to as “file encryption.”

Since implicit encryption is widely used and supported by most storage systems, we regard it as a property of the infrastructure and do not call it out in the CSAP levels. The use of implicit encryption is a matter for security assessments.

The capability for explicit asset encryption requires additional capabilities in the infrastructure.

End-to-end asset encryption means that an asset is encrypted at or close to the point of creation and is decrypted at, or close to, the point of consumption. Local asset encryption means that it is encrypted throughout its lifecycle but may be decrypted and re-encrypted along the way (with appropriate key rotation).

Explicit asset encryption can be extremely discriminatory, and key management and decryption are outside of the storage system.

⁵ Including object storage, file storage, block storage, volume storage, hard drives...



2.4 Policy Service

Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy service necessary• System-wide capability for long lifetime authorization policies necessary• Localized capability for medium and short lifetime authorization policy beneficial
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy service necessary• System wide capability for long lifetime authorization policies necessary• Localized capability for medium lifetime authorization policies necessary• Localized capability for short lifetime authorization policy beneficial
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy service necessary• System wide capability for medium lifetime authorization policies necessary• Localized capability for short lifetime authorization policies necessary

3 Security Levels for Supporting Security Components

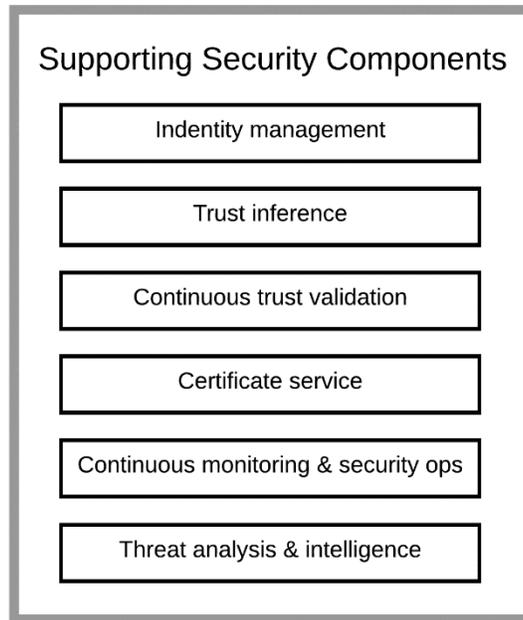


Figure 3-1 Supporting security components

3.1 Identity Management

Security Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identity management necessary
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identity management necessary
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identity management necessary

3.2 Trust Inference

Security Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust inference beneficial
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust inference beneficial
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust inference necessary

3.3 Continuous Trust Validation

Security Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous trust evaluation beneficial
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous trust evaluation beneficial
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous trust evaluation necessary

3.4 Certificate Service

Security Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate service necessary
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate service necessary
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certificate service necessary

The certificate service might be implemented as a public or private certificate authority.

3.5 Continuous Monitoring and Security Operations

Security Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMSO beneficial
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMSO beneficial
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMSO necessary

Continuous monitoring and security operations (CMSO) is a set of functions conducting real-time analysis of multiple data sources to provide situational awareness to other security components and to the information security operations center (ISOC).

3.6 Threat Analysis and Intelligence

Security Level	Presence
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat analysis and intelligence beneficial
200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat analysis and intelligence beneficial
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat analysis and intelligence necessary

4 Aggregated Security Levels

This section shows the beneficial and necessary components by security level.

4.1 Level 100

Necessary Core Components	Beneficial Core Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentication service • Authorization service • Asset protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access controls • Policy service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ System wide capability for long lifetime authorization policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local asset encryption capability ○ End-to-end asset encryption capability • Policy service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Localized capability for medium and short lifetime authorization policies

Necessary Supporting Components	Beneficial Supporting Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity management • Certificate service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trust inference • Continuous trust evaluation • Continuous monitoring and security operations (CMSO) • Threat analysis and intelligence

4.2 Level 200

Necessary Core Components	Beneficial Core Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentication service • Authorization service • Asset protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access controls ○ Local asset encryption capability • Policy service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ System wide capability for long lifetime authorization policies ○ Localized capability for medium lifetime authorization policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ End-to-end asset encryption capability • Policy service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Localized capability for short lifetime authorization policies

Necessary Supporting Components	Beneficial Supporting Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity management • Certificate service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trust inference • Continuous trust evaluation • Continuous monitoring and security operations (CMSO) CMSO • Threat analysis and intelligence

4.3 Level 300

Necessary Core Security Components	Beneficial Core Security Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentication service • Authorization service • Asset protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access controls ○ Local asset encryption capability ○ End-to-end asset encryption capability • Policy service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ System wide capability for long lifetime authorization policies ○ System wide capability for medium lifetime authorization policies ○ Localized capability for short lifetime authorization policies 	

Necessary Supporting Security Components	Beneficial Supporting Security Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity management • Trust inference • Continuous trust evaluation • Certificate service • Continuous monitoring and security operations (CMSO) • Threat analysis and intelligence 	