IBM® PowerSC™ MFA

Raising the assurance level of systems with multi-factor authentication

Highlights

- Increases the security level of Power Systems
- Supports many authentication factors
- Supports in-band and out-of-band authentication
- Provides a centralized web UI
- Supports AIX, IBM i and Linux on Power Systems

Securing access to systems is no longer a nice-to-have option to protect IT environments. With today's IT security threats and the high stakes impact of a security breach, passwords are no longer adequate to protect against unwanted intruders. Furthermore, industries and governments are now requiring increased IT security through standards including PCI for the financial industry and GDPR for Europe. IBM® PowerSC™ MFA provides a solution to meet these challenges by raising the assurance level of systems with multi-factor authentication.

IBM® PowerSC™ MFA leverages two or more things that identify you. The first factor is something you know, like a password or PIN. The second factor is something you have, like an ID badge, an email, or a phone. The third most advanced factor is something you are—which is a fingerprint, a retinal scan, or facial recognition.

The underlying principle of the IBM® PowerSC™ MFA protocol is that it leverages these factors in a policy-based solution. IBM® PowerSC™ MFA manages policies and factors in an easy to use web-based UI.

Multi-Authentication Concept

IBM® PowerSC™ MFA relies on multiple authentication factors including something you know (password), something you have (PIV/CAC card), and something you are (fingerprint).

Supported Factors

IBM® PowerSC™ MFA supports many types of factors:

- RSA SecurID Tokens (hard- & software-based)
- Personal Identity Verification (PIV) and Common Access Card (CAC),
- IBM TOTP (time based one-time password)
- RADIUS protocol support (Generic, Gemalto SafeNet, and RSA SecurID)
- Yubikey

In-Band Authentication

The in-band PIV/CAC authentication type is a special use case in which the AIX and Linux on Power operating systems have a smart card directly attached to the USB port.

Out-of-Band Authentication

The IBM® PowerSC™ MFA out-of-band authentication type requires the user to authenticate to the out-of-band web page with one or more factors to retrieve an authentication code called a cache token credential (CTC).

Cache Token Credential (CTC)

IBM® PowerSC™ MFA utilizes cache token credentials that can be managed at the policy level. The token supports a fast path for subsequent logins.

Why IBM?

IBM has over 105 years of aligning continuous innovation with our customers' business needs. With IBM's focus on delivering high performance secure systems and software, PowerSC MFA fits right in to raise the assurance level of systems by requiring extra authentication factors. PowerSC MFA is a policy-based solution that provides administrators with the flexibility to create their own multi-factor authentication combination. It leverages a centralized UI, making PowerSC MFA easy to set up and easy to use.

For More Information

Tolearn more about IBM PowerSC MFA, please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit the following website:
https://www.ibm.com/products/powersc

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Produced in the United States of America
September 2020