Project Spotlight:
Adaptive SSH Connector

The adaptive SSH connector is a creative tool for the better and easier management of systems that are only available via SSH. It not only revolutionizes the management of MS Exchange, but any system available through SSH. How far the boundaries can be pushed only depends on your creativity.

The crazy idea of the adaptive SSH connector came up when Inalogy first faced a customer who needed to manage Exchange with quite robust logic. The original SSH connector that is maintained by Evolveum has its shortcomings, mainly the fact that it is not able to store or create a shadow. It is only able to connect to a system and execute scripts. For many installations this was sufficient. But not this one. At Inalogy, they were having a hard time finding why the operation was not executing and where the issue was.

The biggest flaw was that if any operation ended in failure (and most of the time not on the midPoint side), Inalogy had to execute the operation manually. To avoid this, Inalogy created a script where all available data from midPoint were sent, and then the PS script had to execute the required actions based on all available data provided by IdM. Inalogy provided the script with the target state from IdM and the current state (calculation of attributes from AD). This script was always called during any operation on shadow to avoid data inconsistency. This resolved the issue, but Inalogy wanted to find a better way.

That laid the foundation for the adaptive SSH connector, which Inalogy would like to present. So, why is it adaptive? Because the connector has no schema or any direct logic. You just need to create a schema, which is a simple JSON file, and then you simply edit your PS script (not only, of course) according to the guidelines in README, and you are good to go. You don't need to edit any Java code, and you have shadows now! You can track changes, reconcile, and do all the other things the same as with standard resources.

Inalogy assumes many users struggle with SSH connectors as they did. That's why Inalogy will contribute this connector to the community later this year. Hopefully you will find it helpful. Any comments or feedback are more than welcome.

Inalogy would like to offer their special thanks to Evolveum, as this connector was built upon their original SSH connector.

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