

Re: CA Role in 802.1x

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- *From:* "James McIllece [MS]" <jamesmci@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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=?Utf-8?B?QW5keQ==?= <Andy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
<news:96A19608-2550-476A-871E-9281EF495C4B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>:

Hi James,

Let's say I have EAP-TLS setup correctly and I have only one CA on the network. What will happen if CA goes down or is taken offline. Are users able to authentication and login to the network?

Yes. The CA is not contacted by IAS while it authenticates and authorizes connection requests.

IAS does make sure that it trusts the issuer of the certificate, though -- it does this by looking in the Trusted Root Certification Authorities certificate store for the Local Computer. If there is a CA cert there from the CA that issued the connecting user or client cert, IAS trusts the cert. (It also checks other properties of the cert to verify that it is valid and meets the minimum client certificate requirements).

IAS also periodically queries either the CA or AD (can't recall right now) for the most recent certificate revocation list (CRL). Info on CRLs is in Certificate Services Help on the box.

James McIllece, Microsoft

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