



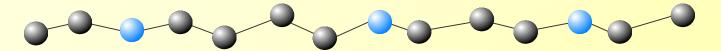
Lightweight Security Service for CORBA



Bob Burt



Why Build A Lightweight Security Service?



- Why developing implementation of the Resource Access Decision Facility is driving development of a lightweight security service.
- Overview, objectives, features, ...



Resource Access Decision Facility



- Specification developed by the OMG to address the problem of business logic access control.
 - Standard format for naming protected resources.
 - Removes security policy from business logic.
 - Standard administrative interfaces for assigning policy to a resource.
 - Supports multiple policy engines and does not dictate policy mechanisms.
 - Security policies support multiple operations (e.g "read", "write", "obliterate", ...)
 - Dynamic attribute service can modify security attributes that are used to make decisions.







- Fully compliant implementation of RAD with Patterns.
- Default Policy Evaluator supports:
 - Multiple rules per operation.
 - Each rule can be "AND ACL", "OR ACL", "DENY ACL", "Anybody", or "Nobody".
 - Supports time constraints by date, time, day of week.
- Collocation, Policy caching/notification, ...
- CORBA interfaces and CORBA convenience classes
- Java iLock Interface (JII) supports local policy evaluators and dynamic attribute service. CORBA transparent.
- Multiple platforms, multiple ORB's, location services, ...



How do I get the attributes?



- Heart of the RAD specification is the AccessDecision interface.
 - Main operation is:

boolean access_allowed (ResourceName name, string operation,

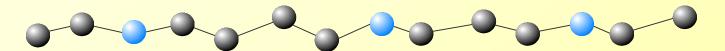
SecAttributeList attributes);

The SecAttributeList comes from:

SecurityLevel1.Current.get_attributes();

- Problem: Where does SecurityLevel1.Current come from?
- Solution: Build our own.





Goals

- Meet requirements of 80%, expend 20% effort.
- 100% transparent for application code.
- 100% portable. Do what we can with Portable Interceptors, leave work requiring message interception alone.
- Flexible support for different security mechanisms.
- Support for authentication, delegation, access decision, and auditing.
- Use iLock for access decision engine.
- Simple administration



Lightweight Security Service - cont.



- Goals cont
 - Supplement existing transport layer security services.
 - Provide minimal application control.
 - Object security domains
 - Unsecured objects
 - Control delegation
- Non goals
 - Provide transport layer protocols (e.g. SSL)
 - Support message cryptography
 - Support for C++ ORB's (this could change)
 - Compliance with any specifications



Common Secure Interoperability V2



Features

- Exchange protocol elements via service contexts
- Layers above transport layer security (SSL/TLS or SECIOP)
- Authentication layer for client authentication
- Attribute layer to push security attributes

Pushed SecAttributes

Supplemental client authentication

SAS Service Context Protocol

Message Protection, Authentication

SSI/TLS or SECIOP



Common Secure Interoperability V2



Problems

- Conformance (0, 1, and 2) requires support for SSL/TLS connections.
 - Violates our goal to not implement transport layer security.
- Only one TAG_CSI_SEC_MECH_LIST tagged component.
 - Violates our goal to interoperate with existing transport layer protocols.
- Namespace conflicts org.omg.SecurityLevel.Current
 - Violates our goal to interoperate with existing solutions





Features

- Supports authentication with X.509 digital certificates.
- Replaceable authentication to support other mechanisms including proprietary and standard transport layer security services.
- Attribute management with LDAP.
- Replaceable attribute management.
- Applications can secure objects/operations with no code changes.
- Supports delegation (SecNoDelegation, SecSimpleDelegation, ...)
- Support auditing.





Features continued

- Programming interfaces allow:
 - Get current security attributes
 - Set POA policy to turn off security.
 - Client control of delegated attributes.
- Use iLock for AccessDecision engine.
- Simple administration
 - IDL parser to create operation resources
 - Simple policies with "invoke" operation.
 - Create security domain resources.
 - Auditing, ...



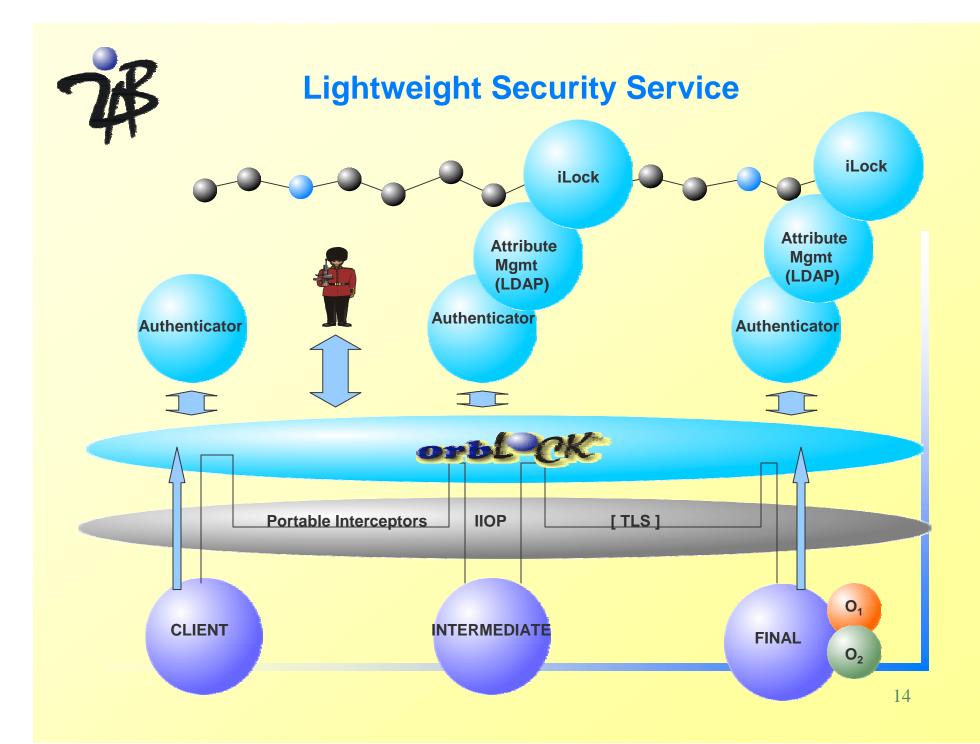


- Using iLock for AccessDecision
 - IDL Operations map to RAD Resource Name Mapping
 - IDL:omg.org/DfResourceAccessDecision/AccessDecision:1.0
 - Op = access_allowed
 - iLock Security Policies define "invoke" operation.



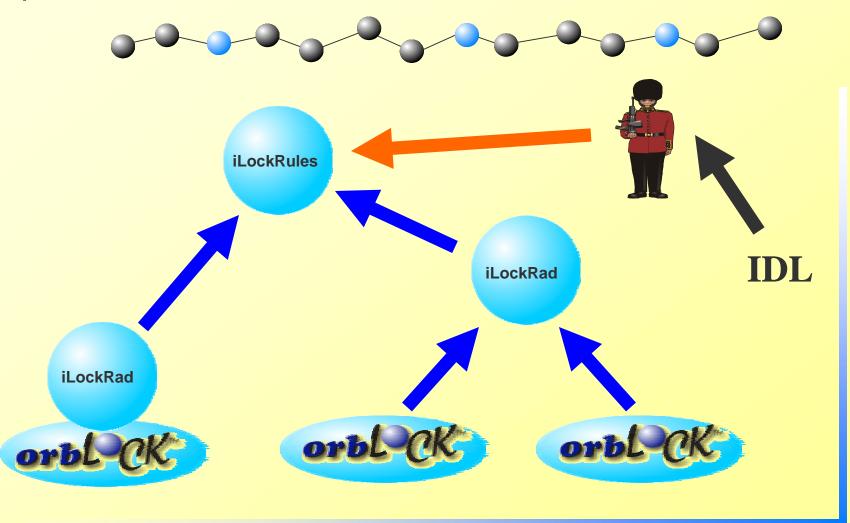


- Replaceable Components
 - Authenticator
 - byte [] getToken()
 - SecAttribute [] authenticateToken(byte [] token)
 - throws AuthenticatorError
 - Attribute Manager
 - SecAttribute [] lookup(String name)
 - SecAttribute [] lookup(byte [] token)





Lightweight Security Service - Deployment







Bob Burt

bburt@2ab.com

www.2ab.com