

SWIVEL SECURE LTD

PINsafe and Office 365

Authentication for Office 365

Chris Russell

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This document describes how to use PINsafe to authenticate access to Office 365

Introduction

Office 365 is Microsoft cloud based Office solution.

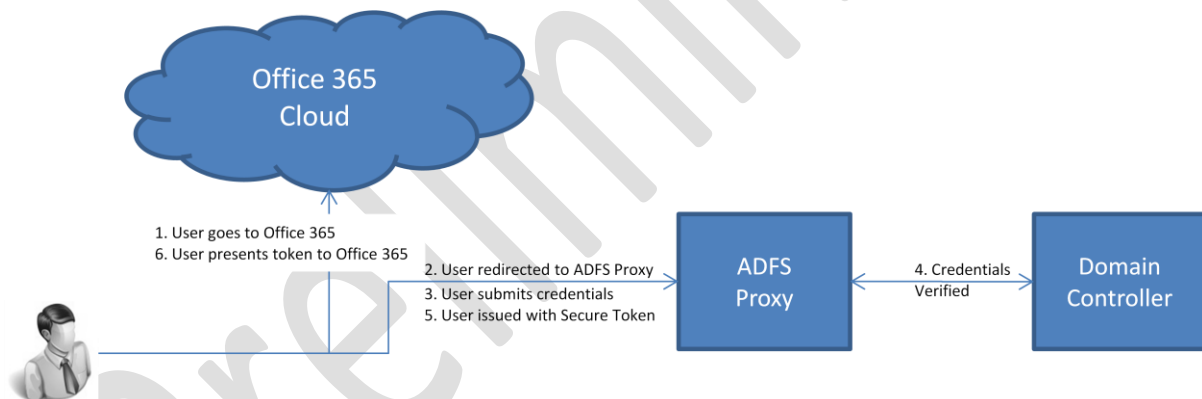
<http://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/office365/what-is-office365.aspx>

This article describes briefly how PINsafe can be used to protect access to Office 365.

This is a high-level, preliminary specification; more detail will be added to the Swivel Secure Knowledge Base (kb.swivelsecure.com) in the near future.

Authentication for Office 365

Office 365 uses by default ADFS for authentication. ADFS is Active Directory Federation Services. Specifically, an ADFS Proxy would normally be used for this. In effect this allows users to perform an Active Directory type of authentication over the internet.



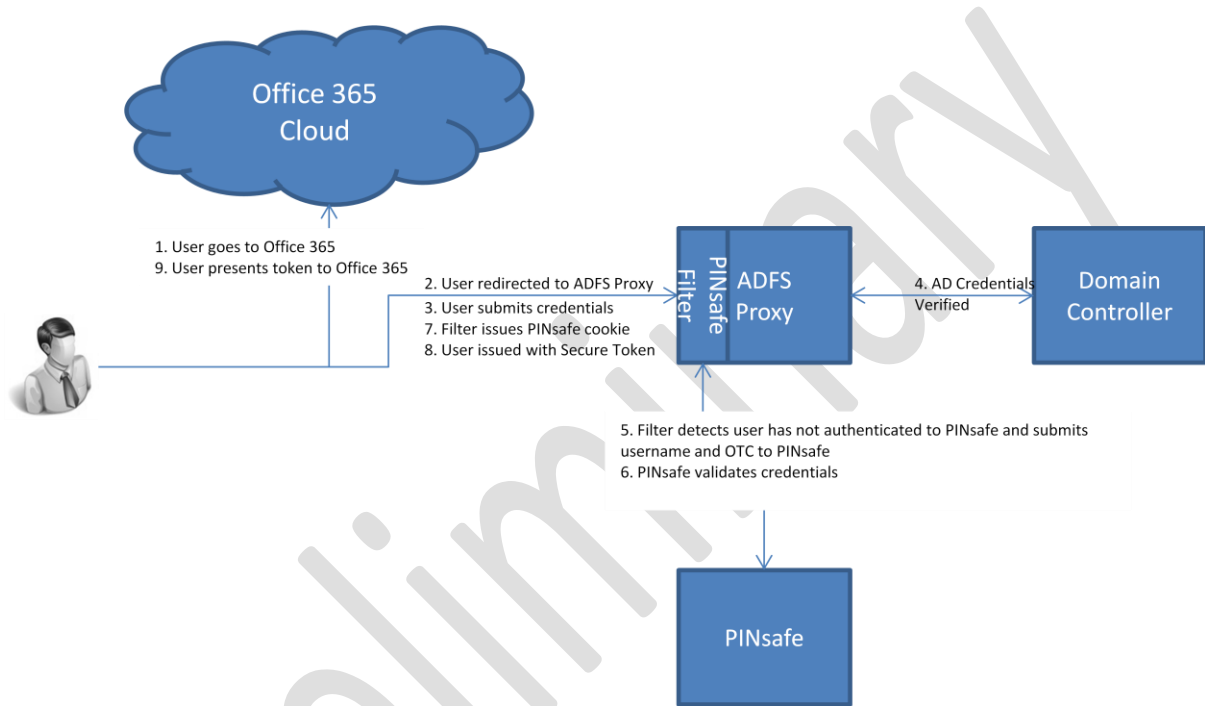
The user goes to their domain within Office 365 cloud. They are redirected to the ADFS proxy on their own premises to authenticate. The ADFS proxy is basically an ASP.NET application running on IIS that presents the user with a login page. The ADFS Proxy collects the credentials and submits them to the Domain Controller for verification.

If they are correct, the ADFS proxy issues the users with a “secure token” and they are redirected back to Office 365. Office 365 validates this token and issues the user with a Session Cookie to allow them access to the web application.

Using PINsafe with Office 365

As Office 365 is a cloud application PINsafe cannot be deployed directly to protect access. However, what can be achieved is to introduce the requirement to complete a PINsafe authentication before the user is issued with a secure token.

To do this a PINsafe filter is installed on the ADFS proxy (actually an http-module).



This time when a user reaches the ADFS proxy the, the ADFS proxy requests three credentials: username, password and PINsafe one-time code.

The AD credentials are submitted to the ADFS proxy.

The PINsafe filter is activated after this step. The filter submits the username and one-time code for verification. If these credentials are valid the issuing of the secure token and the redirect to Office 365 continue as normal.

If the PINsafe credentials are incorrect the user is redirected back to the login page to re-attempt authentication.