



# Authentication and Authorization in HOKIES/VT AD

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V1.0



# Four basic methods

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- Normal Windows functionality
- Auth\_ad tool
- Share connection
- Bind to LDAP



# Normal Windows functionality

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- From a computer which has a valid computer account in a child domain of w2k.vt.edu
  - Faculty and Staff ids in root domain HOKIES/w2k.vt.edu
  - Student and computer accounts in child domain X/x.w2k.vt.edu
- Secure resources, systems and services through groups
  - Add HOKIES users to local groups in your domain
  - Restrict based on that group, not by specific users!
  - See knowledge base articles Q231273 & Q318862



# Auth\_ad tool

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- Useful for cgi/php/web based auth
- Locally developed, free of charge
- Can verify username/password, group membership, and OU of user
- Some caveats involved
- Contact me ([marc.debonis@vt.edu](mailto:marc.debonis@vt.edu)) for a copy and instructions



# Share connection

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- From the command line
  - type [\\grok.w2k.vt.edu\auth\ok](#)
  - If you receive
    - “Congratulations. You have successfully authenticated to the HOKIES domain.”
  - Then the logged in user is a valid “authenticated” user of the VT AD
    - Any user account in any domain in the VT AD is considered an authenticated account!



# Bind to LDAP

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- Anonymous bind to the VT AD DCs gives you limited results
- Authenticated bind gives you much greater results
  - Bind as  
cn=your\_pid,ou=your\_ou,ou=vt,dc=w2k,dc=vt,dc=edu
- WARNING! LDAP is sent in cleartext
- LDAPS is in the future...



# Important tidbits

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- Three DCs for the VT AD
  - Grok.w2k.vt.edu (DNS,GC)
  - Dozer.w2k.vt.edu (DNS,GC)
  - Fud.w2k.vt.edu
- Which way is the most secure?
  - Depends on client <-> interaction
  - Auth\_ad makes secure local policy settings and forces client to use them
  - Cleartext should not be used unless no other alternative is available.



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