SecurID

Passwordless Authentication: The Time Is Now, and Help Is Here

Hard to remember and easy to breach, passwords have always posed a security problem for organizations. And as the number of password-protected applications and other resources has grown, it has become increasingly challenging to guard sensitive data using only passwords. As a result, passwordless methods of authentication such as biometrics and FIDO-based devices have been growing in popularity. As part of an identity strategy that includes multi-factor authentication, passwordless authentication adds another layer of security while also reducing the burden on users. But how do you go from a passwords-for-everything approach to incorporating passwordless authentication? By taking it one step at a time, on a path paved by these best practices:

Take a gradual approach that's easy on users

Passwords may be a pain to deal with, but people have become comfortable with them over time. Moving toward passwordless authentication gradually will make it easier for users to transition successfully to new ways of authenticating. It's a less disruptive approach that helps ensure users stay productive as they adapt to the change.

Make authenticating both secure and convenient

Keep in mind that the point of moving beyond passwords is improving both security posture *and* user experience. A key part of maintaining this balance is implementing risk intelligence to determine how and when stepping up to an additional factor of authentication is needed. This can be a gradual process that moves from static policies to conditional access to dynamic, real-time risk-scoring.

Apply strong authentication at weak points

The risk of compromised credentials is highest at the weakest points in the credential lifecycle, including enrollment, password reset and emergency access. In the transition to passwordless authentication, make these the first points protected by biometrics, FIDO devices and other strong authentication methods that don't rely on traditional passwords.

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SecurID: A smooth path to your passwordless future

The world's most widely deployed multi-factor authentication solution, SecurID is the identity management platform security-sensitive organizations trust on-premises and in the cloud, with:

A broad range of authenticator choices for passwordless authentication, including FIDO, push-to-approve, biometrics (fingerprint and facial), "bring your own authenticator" and hardware tokens that represent the gold standard for authentication

RSA Ready partner relationships with FIDO authentication leaders to ensure **out-of-the-box interoperability** with FIDO-based passwordless solutions

Risk scoring informed by advanced machine learning and AI capabilities that calculate access risk based on business context, device attributes and behavioral characteristics, and step up authentication accordingly

Protected self-service credential management options that eliminate password-dependent workflows to shore up security at weak points in onboarding, credential recovery and emergency access

Always-on strong authentication, with 99.99% availability and a unique "no-fail" capability for Windows and macOS that ensures secure, convenient access even when network connectivity is interrupted

Learn more about the SecurID capabilities that can help you map your organization's journey away from password-centric data security and toward a passwordless future.

About SecurID

SecurID, an RSA business, is the trusted identity platform for 13,000 organizations around the world, managing 50 million identities and providing secure, convenient access to 30 million users. SecurID empowers organizations to thrive in a digital world, with complete capabilities for modern authentication, lifecycle management and identity governance. Whether in the cloud or on-premises, SecurID connects people with the digital resources they depend on everywhere they live, work and play. For more information, go to **securid.com**.

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