



**INTEGRATING SAMBA-AD IN REAL NETWORKS  
FROM A TECHNICAL POV  
DENIS CARDON – TRANQUIL IT**

**21/04/2026**

# Active Directory is here to serve

- ▶ Active Directory does not live by itself
- ▶ It is the corner stone of on-premise IT systems
- ▶ The standard is Microsoft-AD
- ▶ Samba-AD is a re-implementation
  - ▶ But not a 100 % copycat
  - ▶ Most of the time life is easy
  - ▶ Sometimes life needs hard work

# SOME AREA WE'LL COVER



- ▶ Integrating with other Identity management tools
- ▶ Integrating with security audit tools
- ▶ Hardening with smartcard and ADCS Certificate Services
- ▶ Fighting hostile endpoints
- ▶ AD and Linux clients

# Integrating with other IdM



# Samba-AD and Google workspace

- ▶ GApps is very common in French Junior high and High schools
  - ▶ The dealers technique, the first sniff is free
- ▶ Google provides a DLL for synching MS-AD to Gapps
  - ▶ Nah...
- ▶ Samba provides extra hashes support
  - ▶ Password hash userPassword schemes = CryptSHA256 CryptSHA512
- ▶ A little python scripting and you get Samba-AD to Gapps sync !
  - ▶ Only one DC needs the scripted configuration
- ▶ This one was easy ...
- ▶ <https://github.com/tranquilit/samba4-gaps>

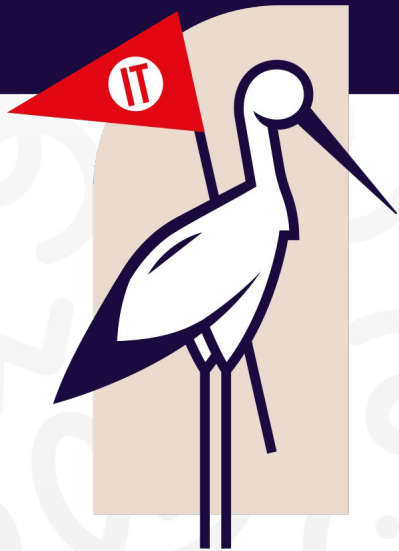
# Samba-AD and EntraID

- ▶ O365 is common in France (unfortunately)
  - ▶ People are addicted to Word and Outlook
- ▶ Now AzureADConnect works fine with Samba-AD
  - ▶ Needs a Windows server
  - ▶ And an account with DCSync rights
- ▶ Before that, we developed and still have AzureADConnect\_Samba4
  - ▶ EntraID hash derived from NT Hash
- ▶ A little python scripting and you get Samba-AD to EntraID sync !
  - ▶ Have fun with Microsoft Binary XML format python-wfcbin
- ▶ [https://github.com/tranquilit/AzureADConnect\\_Samba4](https://github.com/tranquilit/AzureADConnect_Samba4)
- ▶ No password writeback
  - ▶ Is it a bug or a feature ?

# Samba-AD and OpenLDAP

- ▶ Many large entities have 2 sets of users
  - ▶ Internal users → in AD
  - ▶ External users → somewhere else
- ▶ For instance : universities, ministries
- ▶ Samba and python scripting is king
- ▶ Sync password Samba-AD → OpenLDAP
  - ▶ password hash userPassword schemes = CryptSHA256 CryptSHA512
  - ▶ Playing with supplementalCredentials
- ▶ Sync password OpenLDAP → Samba-AD
  - ▶ Sam-R ? Used to be ok, but not anymore

# Integrating with security audit tools



# AD audit tools

- ▶ Now it's very common
  - ▶ Samba-AD needs to get good grades !
  - ▶ Common real issues with Samba-AD setups
    - ▶ Missing some default groups in FL2016
    - ▶ Wrong default ACLs in schema (some hardcoded SID)
    - ▶ Etc.
  - ▶ Most issues can be dealt with
    - ▶ By fixing The Samba-AD setup, or communicating with tool vendors
  - ▶ But Samba-AD user base may not be large enough for them to care
    - ▶ eg. Tools flag a big security flaw because WMI RPC server is not there
      - If the tool can't get the info, then Samba-AD must be poorly configured !

# AD audit tools

- ▶ ORADAD
  - ▶ ANSSI tool to do broad checks on AD security practices
    - For French administrations and Critical Infrastructure Operators
  - ▶ Used to have a few false positives on Samba, but now Samba-AD behaves well
  - ▶ Samba-AD user base is large enough in France for ANSSI to care :-)
- ▶ PingCastle / Netwrix
  - ▶ Used to be a one person army based in France
  - ▶ When there were false positives with Samba-AD
    - Used to be easy to have it fixed = a phone call to Vincent Le TOUX
  - ▶ Now it's more complicated

# SIEM integration

- ▶ (Security Information & Event Management)
- ▶ They are used to collect Eventlogs from AD servers
  - ▶ But it is not implemented in Samba-AD
- ▶ SIEM match EventIDs from AD server
  - ▶ But almost none of the events are mapped to an EventID
  - ▶ And they are not categorized (it is just a dsdb modify entry...)
- ▶ Logging could be improved in Samba-AD
  - ▶ Quiz : What is the highest logging level in Samba ?
- ▶ For now we can work with json logs (when they are available)
  - ▶ We can mostly provide what is asked
  - ▶ Then you send logs to rsyslog

# Security Hardening with Smartcards and ADCS\_python



# Smartcards are getting trendy !

- ▶ More and more requests coming to Tranquil IT since last year
- ▶ Great timing : PKINIT has been much improved in latest Samba
  - ▶ Thanks to the French gov for financing
  - ▶ Thanks to Douglas BAGNALL and the Catalyst team for the implementation
- ▶ Now it works very well
- ▶ You just need a properly working PKI
  - ▶ And the proper OID configured

# Distributing the certificates the Windows way

- ▶ ADCS (AD Certificate Services) provide the PKI and distribution server
  - ▶ PKI can be externalized
- ▶ Windows computers use CEP/CES protocol
  - ▶ Automatic discovery and delivery
  - ▶ Can store on disk or on TPM or on smartcard
- ▶ ADCS licencing not clear if CAL is necessary or not
  - ▶ So let's do our own ADCS\_python !
- ▶ ADCS\_python :
  - ▶ Certificate templates are coded in python (rather than xml stored in AD)
  - ▶ ADCS-python makes the process more versatile
- ▶ Still missing : TPM attestation (we need help with the specs ! :-)
- ▶ [https://github.com/tranquilit/adcs\\_python](https://github.com/tranquilit/adcs_python)





# Ticking the « smartcard only » tickbox

- ▶ Getting rid of passwords is not an easy task
- ▶ Keycloak Kerberos auth on AD is easy to set up
- ▶ Fixing all applications to support Kerberos, Oauth or SAML
  - ▶ Applying configurations to compatible systems
  - ▶ Fixing some legacy code
  - ▶ Getting rid of or replacing what cannot be fixed
- ▶ « Smartcard only » is achievable with Samba-AD

# Fighting hostile endpoints and applications



# Life is not always kind

- ▶ When a printer wrecks the remote site bandwidth
  - ▶ Downloading the whole AD db in a loop...
    - (objectclass=\*) scope=SUB base=DC=.,DC=...
  - ▶ Applications asking for computed attributes
    - ▶ A little bit too often
    - ▶ By a little bit too many endpoints
      - TokengroupName, recursive group membership, etc.
  - ▶ Applications asking « who am I ? »
    - ▶ In a loop, every few seconds
    - ▶ On the PDC
    - ▶ With 8000 endpoints doing that, it gets ugly...
  - ▶ Webapps querying group memberships...
    - ▶ at every http request

# Making Linux first class citizen in AD network



# Preparing tomorrow

- ▶ sssd is very mature and works very well with Samba-AD
- ▶ We need to apply to Linux all the security practices
- ▶ Not only end users need to be convinced
  - ▶ Sysadmins are the first user group to convince
- ▶ Recycle current habits to lower barrier of adoption to Linux administration

# Preparing tomorrow

- ▶ Bitlocker → LUKS
  - ▶ Send the master key in Bitlocker recovery key attribute in AD
  - ▶ A WAPT package is available for Linux hosts
- ▶ LAPS support
  - ▶ Rotate root password and send in LAPS attribute in AD
  - ▶ A WAPT package is available for Linux hosts
- ▶ Avoid secrets in Debian pre-seed files
  - ▶ Create djoin blob in WAPT Deployment Server during Linux desktop provisioning
- ▶ 802.1x EAP/TLS for wired and wireless networks
  - ▶ Distributing certificate with cepces / certmonger client

# Preparing tomorrow

- ▶ France wants Linux desktops, Tranquil IT is ready ! :-)
- ▶ Cohabitation of Linux / Windows / macOS will last
- ▶ Samba-AD to make every client happy



**THANKS !  
QUESTIONS ?**