

TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client

Configuration Guide

Strongswan

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Table of Contents

1	Introduction	3
1.1	Goal of this document.....	3
1.2	VPN Network topology	3
1.3	Strongswan Restrictions.....	3
1.4	Strongswan VPN Gateway	3
1.5	Strongswan VPN Gateway product info	3
2	Strongswan VPN configuration.....	4
2.1	Server Certificates	4
2.2	Client Certificates	4
2.3	Create VPN connections in Strongswan.....	4
2.4	ipsec.secrets.....	5
3	TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client configuration	6
3.1	VPN Client - IKE Auth Configuration	6
3.2	VPN Client Phase 2 (Child SA) Configuration	8
3.3	Open IPsec VPN tunnels.....	9
4	Tools in case of trouble.....	10
4.1	A good network analyser: Wireshark.....	10
5	VPN IPsec Troubleshooting.....	11
5.1	“NO PROPOSAL CHOSEN” error (wrong IKE Auth).....	11
5.2	“AUTHENTICATION FAILED” error.....	11
5.3	“no user certificate available for the connexion” error.....	11
5.4	“Remote ID rejected” error.....	11
5.5	“NO PROPOSAL CHOSEN” error (wrong CHILD SA).....	11
5.6	“FAILED CP REQUIRED” error	12
5.7	I clicked on “Open tunnel”, but nothing happens.	12
5.8	The VPN tunnel is up but I can’t ping !	12
6	Contacts	13

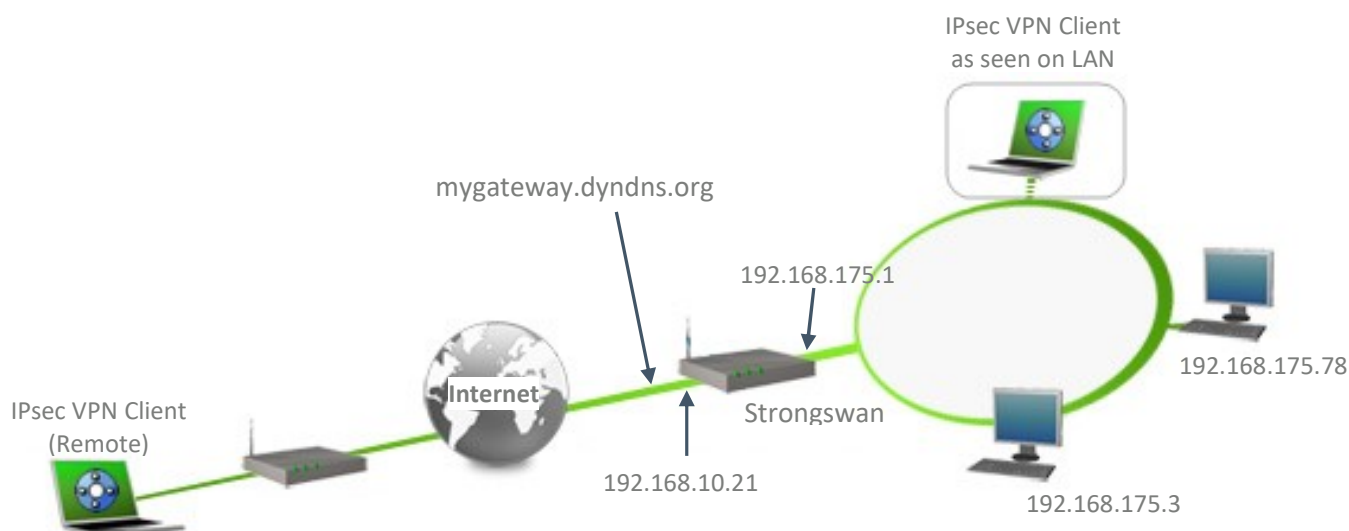
1 Introduction

1.1 Goal of this document

This configuration guide describes how to configure TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client software with a Strongswan VPN router to establish VPN connections for remote access to corporate network.

1.2 VPN Network topology

In our VPN network example (diagram hereafter), we will connect TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client software to the LAN behind the Strongswan router. The VPN client is connected to the Internet with a DSL connection or through a LAN. All the addresses in this document are given for example purpose.



1.3 Strongswan Restrictions

No known restrictions

1.4 Strongswan VPN Gateway

Our tests and VPN configuration have been conducted with Strongswan version 5.5.

1.5 Strongswan VPN Gateway product info

It is critical that users find all necessary information about Strongswan VPN Gateway. All product info, User Guide and knowledge base for the Strongswan VPN Gateway can be found on the Strongswan website:

<https://www.strongswan.org/>

Strongswan Product page
Strongswan User Guide

<https://www.strongswan.org/>
<https://www.strongswan.org/documentation.html>

2 Strongswan VPN configuration

This section describes how to build an IPsec VPN configuration with your Strongswan VPN router.

2.1 Server Certificates

Once connected to your Strongswan VPN gateway, make sure you have Certificate authority configured and these certificates are ready and copied to concerned folders.

- "**server.crt**" - Certificate of the strongswan machine. This file needs to be copied to folder "/etc/ipsec.d/cert/"

- "**server.key**" - Certificate private key of the strongswan machine. This file needs to be copied to folder "/etc/ipsec.d/private/"

- "**ca.crt**" - Certificate authority certificate for all certificates. This file needs to be copied to folder "/etc/ipsec.d/ca/"

2.2 Client Certificates

- "**client1.crt**" - User certificate to be imported to VPN Client.

- "**client1.key**" - User certificate's private key to be imported to VPN Client.

- "**ca.crt**" - CA certificate of user certificate.

It is also possible to create single file "**client1.p12**" or "**client1.pfx**" using above 3 files and import to VPN Client.

2.3 Create VPN connections in Strongswan

Once done, go to terminal command prompt and edit following files. Set the contents as follows.

#----- Contents of file: /etc/ipsec.conf

```
conn %default
    ikelifetime=140m
    keylife=50m
    rekeymargin=3m
    rekeyfuzz=0%
    keyingtries=1
    ike= aes256-sha512-modp8192
    esp= aes256-sha512-modp8192

conn cert
    left=192.168.10.21
    leftsubnet=192.168.175.0/24
    leftcert=server.crt
```

```
leftfirewall=yes
right=%any
rightsourceip=10.80.80.0/24
#forceencaps=yes
keyexchange=ikev2
auto=add
```

```
#----- end of file
```

- IP "192.168.10.21" is WAN IP of Strongswan gateway, where the IPsec connection request comes in.
- "192.168.175.0/24" is the range of network to be reached by VPN Client tunnel.
- "**rightsourceip=10.80.80.1**" - Virtual IP address to be assigned for the VPN Client tunnel.

Optional : In case of ESP 50 is blocked in your firewall, it is possible to force NAT-Traversal (UDP 4500) in Strongswan using "**forceencaps=yes**", thus not using protocol ESP 50. Uncomment the line from ipsec.conf file.

2.4 ipsec.secrets

```
#----- Contents of file: /etc/ipsec.secrets
```

```
# /etc/ipsec.secrets - strongSwan IPsec secrets file
```

```
: RSA server.key
```

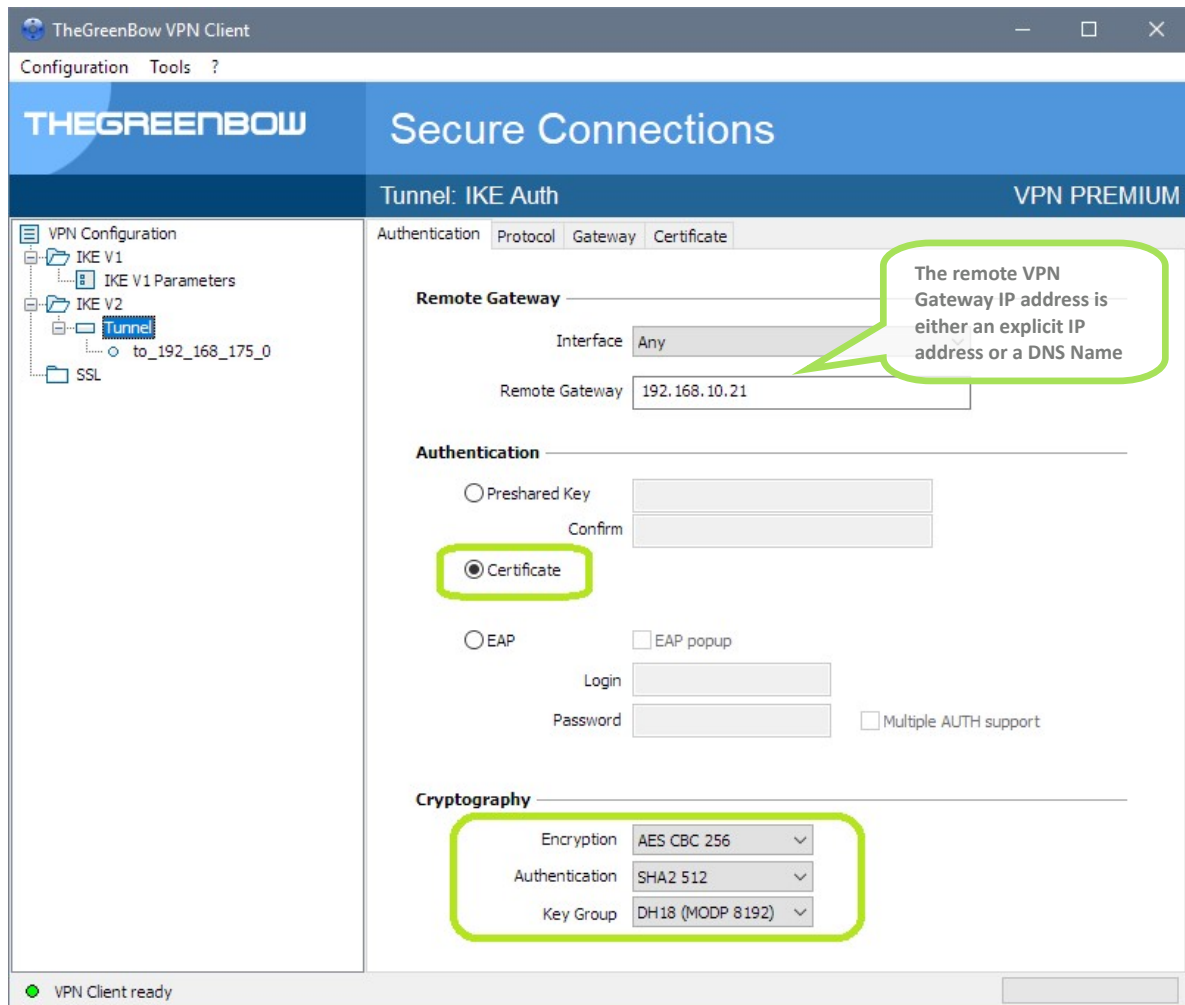
```
#----- end of file
```

Once both files are edited, restart IPsec server by executing command : "ipsec restart"

3 TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client configuration

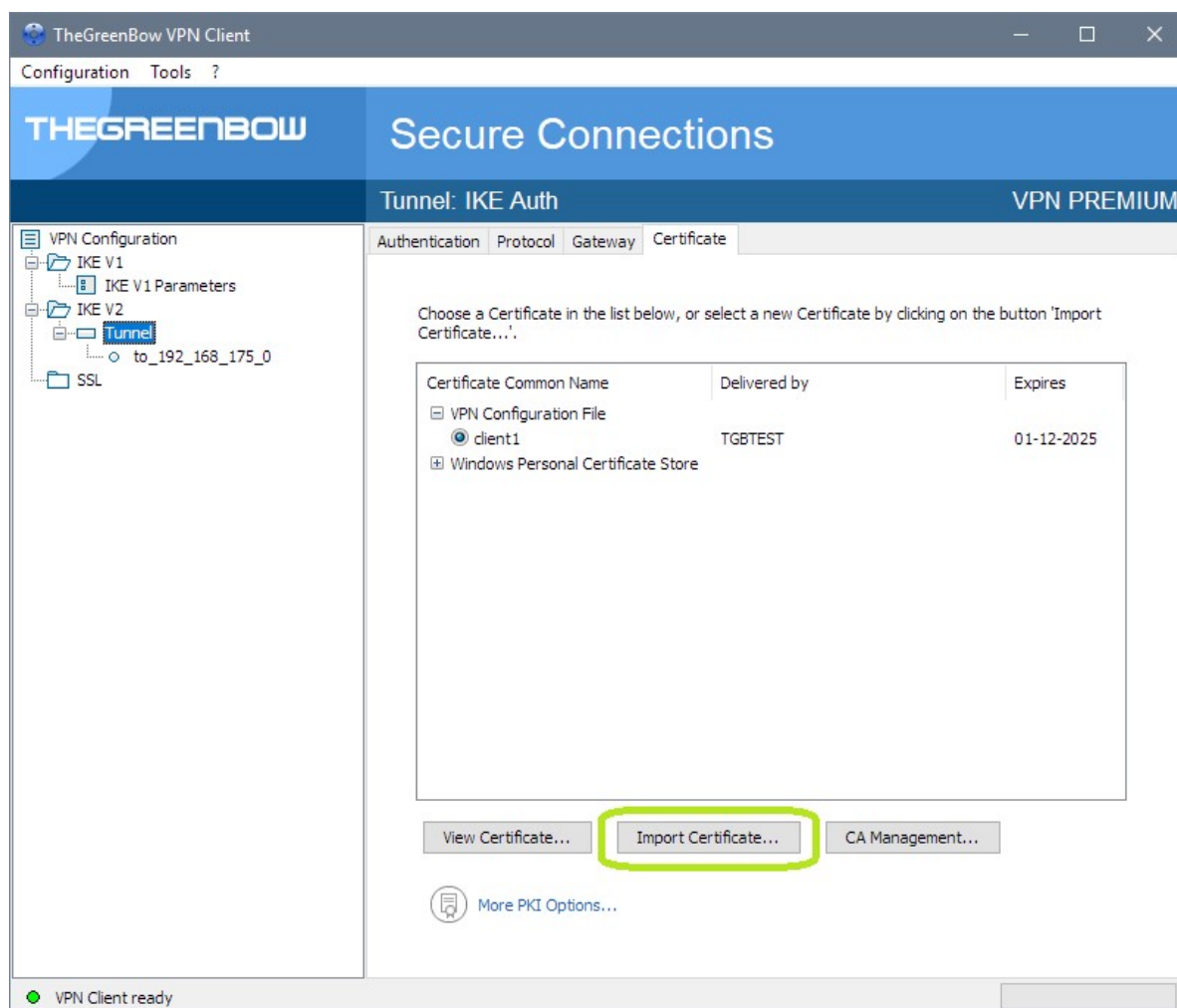
This section describes the required configuration to connect to a Strongswan VPN router via VPN connections. To download the latest release of TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client software, please go to www.thegreenbow.com/vpn_down.html.

3.1 VPN Client - IKE Auth Configuration



IKE Auth configuration

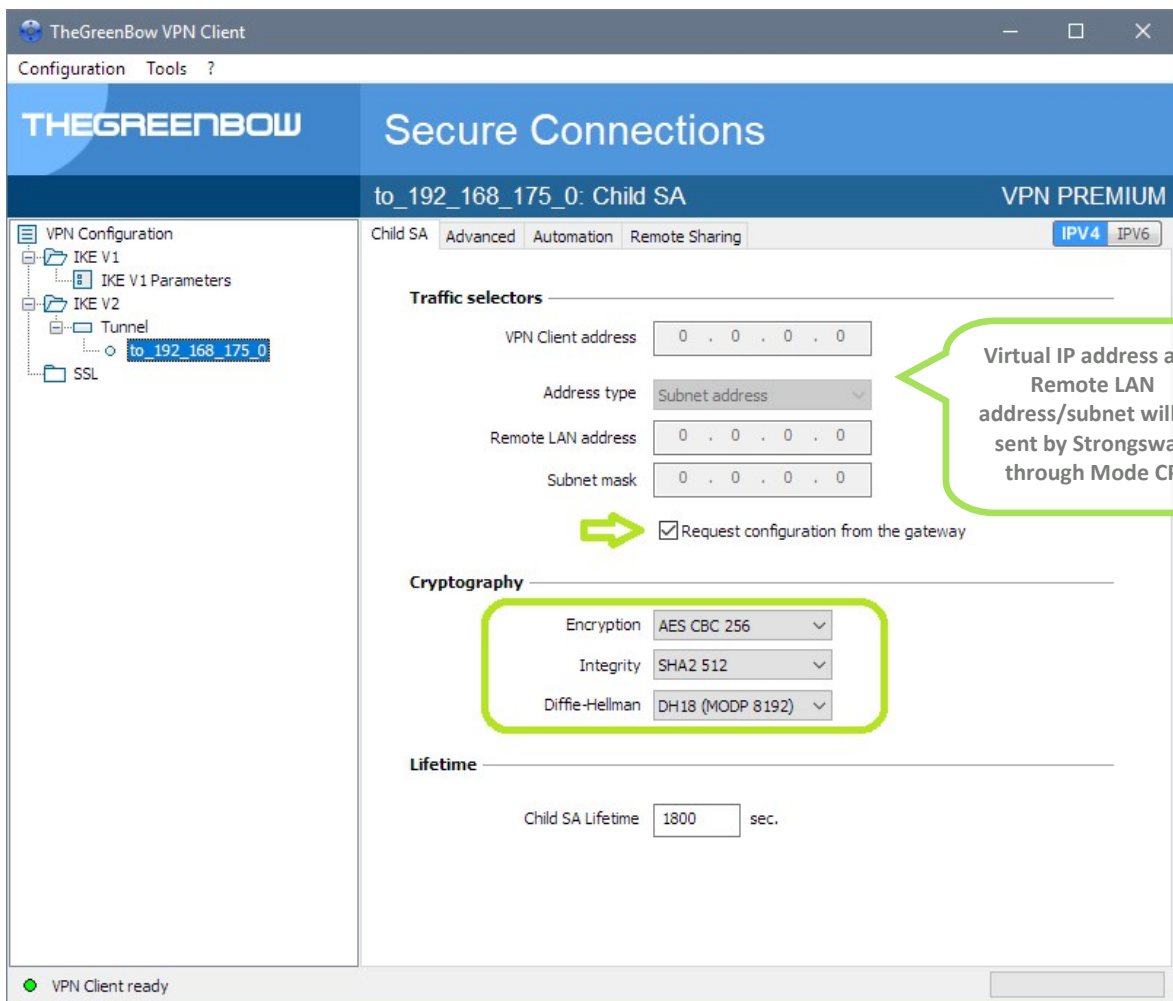
Cryptography can be set to AUTO. This will automatically negotiate with the VPN Router.



IKE Auth Certificate configuration

This configuration is one example of what can be accomplished in term of User Authentication. You may want to refer to either the Strongswan router user guide or TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client software User Guide for more details on User Authentication options.

3.2 VPN Client Phase 2 (Child SA) Configuration



Child SA Configuration

Cryptography can be set to AUTO. This will automatically negotiate with the VPN Router.

3.3 Open IPsec VPN tunnels

Once both Strongswan router and TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client software have been configured accordingly, you are ready to open VPN tunnels. First make sure you enable your firewall with IPsec traffic.

- 1/ Select menu "**Configuration**" and "**Save**" to take into account all modifications we've made on your VPN Client configuration.
- 2/ Double Click on your Child SA tunnel name or Click "**Open**" button in Connection panel to open tunnel.
- 3/ Select menu "**Tools**" and "**Console**" if you want to access to the IPsec VPN logs. The following example shows a successful connection between TheGreenBow IPsec VPN Client and a Strongswan VPN router.

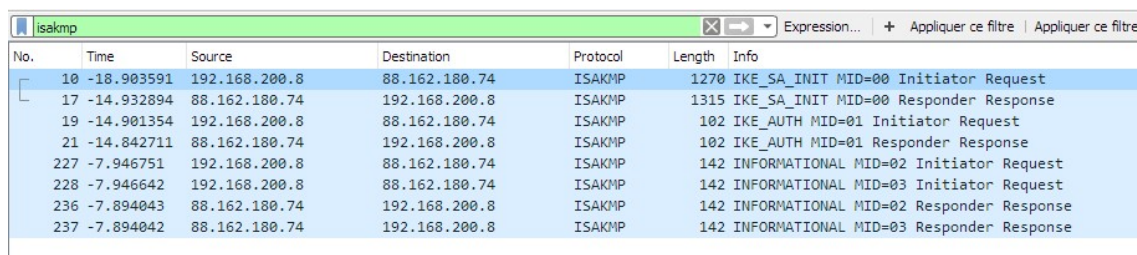
```
20180913 15:57:06:650 Default IKE daemon is removing SAs...
20180913 15:57:06:650 Default reinitializing daemon
20180913 15:57:06:650 No SSL configuration
20180913 15:57:06:650 TIKEV2_Tunnel configuration OK
20180913 15:57:10:933 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND IKE_SA_INIT [HDR][SA][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][KE][VID][N(FRAGMENTATION_SUPPORTED)]
20180913 15:57:15:450 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_SA_INIT [HDR][SA][KE][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][CERTREQ][N(MULTIPLE_AUTH_SUPPORTED)]
20180913 15:57:15:466 TIKEV2_Tunnel IKE SA I-SPI FD628330DF582EA2 R-SPI 380B2FB4EE7E1AD7
20180913 15:57:15:482 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND IKE_AUTH [HDR][ID][CERT][CERTREQ][AUTH][CP][SA][TSi][Tsr][N(INITIAL_CONTACT)][N(ESP_TFC_PADDING_NOT_SUPPORTED)]
20180913 15:57:15:537 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_AUTH [HDR][ID][CERT][AUTH][CP][SA][TSi][Tsr][N(AUTH_LIFETIME)]
20180913 15:57:15:537 TIKEV2_Tunnel Outbound SPI C76C2529 10.80.80.1/255.255.255.255 => 192.168.175.0/255.255.255.0
20180913 15:57:15:537 TIKEV2_Tunnel Inbound SPI 144495ED 192.168.175.0/255.255.255.0 => 10.80.80.1/255.255.255.255
20180913 15:57:15:537 TIKEV2_Tunnel IKE CHILD renewal in 1625 seconds (16:24:20)
20180913 15:57:15:537 TIKEV2_Tunnel IKE AUTH renewal in 1576 seconds (16:23:31)
20180913 15:57:15:568 TIKEV2_Tunnel [VirtualItf] Virtual Interface properly configured for instance 1 and ItfIndex 4.
```

4 Tools in case of trouble

Configuring an IPsec VPN tunnel can be a hard task. One missing parameter can prevent a VPN connection from being established. Some tools are available to find source of troubles during a VPN establishment.

4.1 A good network analyser: Wireshark

Wireshark is a free software that can be used for packet and traffic analysis. It shows IP or TCP packets received on a network card. This tool is available on website www.wireshark.org. It can be used to follow protocol exchange between two devices. For installation and use details, read its specific documentation (www.wireshark.org/docs/).



The screenshot shows the Wireshark interface with a capture of ISAKMP traffic. The packet list pane displays the following data:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
10	-18.903591	192.168.200.8	88.162.180.74	ISAKMP	1270	IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
17	-14.932894	88.162.180.74	192.168.200.8	ISAKMP	1315	IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
19	-14.901354	192.168.200.8	88.162.180.74	ISAKMP	102	IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
21	-14.842711	88.162.180.74	192.168.200.8	ISAKMP	102	IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
227	-7.946751	192.168.200.8	88.162.180.74	ISAKMP	142	INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Initiator Request
228	-7.946642	192.168.200.8	88.162.180.74	ISAKMP	142	INFORMATIONAL MID=03 Initiator Request
236	-7.894043	88.162.180.74	192.168.200.8	ISAKMP	142	INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Responder Response
237	-7.894042	88.162.180.74	192.168.200.8	ISAKMP	142	INFORMATIONAL MID=03 Responder Response

5 VPN IPsec Troubleshooting

5.1 “NO PROPOSAL CHOSEN” error (wrong IKE Auth)

```
20XX0913 16:08:53:387 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND IKE_SA_INIT  
[HDR][SA][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][KE][VID][N(FRAGMENTATION_SUPPORTED)]  
20XX0913 16:08:53:419 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_SA_INIT [HDR][N(NO_PROPOSAL_CHOSEN)]
```

If you have an “PAYLOAD MALFORMED” error you might have a wrong Phase 1 [IKE Auth], check if the encryption algorithms are the same on each side of the VPN tunnel.

5.2 “AUTHENTICATION FAILED” error

```
20XX0913 16:15:22:032 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_AUTH [HDR][N(AUTHENTICATION_FAILED)]  
20XX0913 16:15:22:032 TIKEV2_Tunnel Remote endpoint sends error AUTHENTICATION_FAILED
```

If you have an “Authentication Failed” error, it means that the certificate or Preshared key is not matching. Check the Gateway if the User certificate or preshare key is valid.

5.3 “no user certificate available for the connexion” error

```
20XX0913 16:18:07:491 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_SA_INIT  
[HDR][SA][KE][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][CERTREQ][N(FRAGMENTATION_SUPPORTED)][N(MULTIPLE_AUTH_SUPPORTED)]  
20XX0913 16:18:07:491 TIKEV2_Tunnel IKE SA I-SPI 8D4467C52C91C316 R-SPI 9DF0F0E4A91F8867  
20XX0913 16:18:07:491 TIKEV2_Tunnel No user certificate available for the connexion  
20XX0913 16:18:07:491 TIKEV2_Tunnel Connection aborted.
```

Check if the certificate is selected or the Token (smartcard) is available on the computer.

5.4 “Remote ID rejected” error

```
20180913 16:24:32:087 TIKEV2_Tunnel ID types do not match. Expecting ID_RFC822_ADDR.  
Receiving ID_DER_ASN1_DN  
20180913 16:24:32:087 TIKEV2_Tunnel Remote IDr rejected
```

The “Remote ID” value (see “Protocol” tab) does not match what the remote endpoint is expected.

5.5 “NO PROPOSAL CHOSEN” error (wrong CHILD SA)

```
20XX0913 16:25:14:933 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND IKE_SA_INIT  
[HDR][SA][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][KE][N(FRAGMENTATION_SUPPORTED)]  
20XX0913 16:25:15:118 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_SA_INIT  
[HDR][SA][KE][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][CERTREQ][N(MULTIPLE_AUTH_SUPPORTED)]  
20XX0913 16:25:15:118 TIKEV2_Tunnel IKE SA I-SPI E389FC49EE7078F1 R-SPI 00F37D557ED307FC  
20XX0913 16:25:15:118 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND IKE_AUTH  
[HDR][IDi][CERT][CERTREQ][AUTH][CP][SA][TSi][TSr][N(INITIAL_CONTACT)][N(ESP_TFC_PADDING_NOT_SUPPORTED)]  
20XX0913 16:25:15:165 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_AUTH  
[HDR][IDr][CERT][AUTH][CP][N(AUTH_LIFETIME)][N(NO_PROPOSAL_CHOSEN)]  
20XX0913 16:25:15:165 TIKEV2_Tunnel IKE AUTH renewal in 1654 seconds (16:52:49)  
20XX0913 16:25:15:165 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND CHILD_SA  
[HDR][SA][NONCE][KE][TSi][TSr][N(ESP_TFC_PADDING_NOT_SUPPORTED)]  
20XX0913 16:25:15:202 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV CHILD_SA [HDR][N(NO_PROPOSAL_CHOSEN)]  
20XX0913 16:25:15:202 TIKEV2_Tunnel Remote endpoint sends error NO_PROPOSAL_CHOSEN  
20XX0913 16:25:15:202 TIKEV2_Tunnel SEND INFORMATIONAL [HDR][DELETE]
```

If you have an “NO PROPOSAL CHOSEN” error, check that the “Child SA” encryption algorithms are the same on each side of the VPN Tunnel.

5.6 “FAILED CP REQUIRED” error

```
20XX0913 16:29:46:780 TIKEV2_Tunnel RECV IKE_AUTH
[HDR][IDr][CERT][AUTH][N(AUTH_LIFETIME)][N(FAILED_CP_REQUIRED)][N(TS_UNACCEPTABLE)]
20180913 16:29:46:780 TIKEV2_Tunnel Remote endpoint sends error FAILED_CP_REQUIRED
20XX0913 16:29:46:780 TIKEV2_Tunnel Remote endpoint is expecting a configuration request
from the client
```

If you have an “FAILED CP REQUIRED” error, then the Gateway is configured to use Mode CP. Go to Traffic selectors and enable "Request configuration from the gateway".

5.7 I clicked on “Open tunnel”, but nothing happens.

```
20XX1003 11:08:34:031 [VPNCONF] TGBIKE_STARTED received
20XX1003 11:21:34:379 TIKEV2_vRHEL75 SEND IKE_SA_INIT
[HDR][SA][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][KE]
20XX1003 11:21:39:397 TIKEV2_vRHEL75 SEND IKE_SA_INIT
[HDR][SA][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][KE]
20XX1003 11:21:44:409 TIKEV2_vRHEL75 SEND IKE_SA_INIT
[HDR][SA][NONCE][N(NAT_DETECTION_SOURCE_IP)][N(NAT_DETECTION_DESTINATION_IP)][KE]
20XX1003 11:21:49:423 TIKEV2_vRHEL75 3 attempts with no response. Aborting connection.
```

Read logs of each VPN tunnel endpoint. IKE requests can be dropped by firewalls. An IPsec Client uses UDP port 500.

Check if the remote server is online.

5.8 The VPN tunnel is up but I can't ping !

If the VPN tunnel is up, but you still cannot ping the remote LAN, here are a few guidelines:

- Check Child SA settings: VPN Client address and Remote LAN address. Usually, VPN Client IP address should not belong to the remote LAN subnet
- Once VPN tunnel is up, packets are sent with ESP protocol. This protocol can be blocked by firewall. Check that every device between the client and the VPN server does accept ESP
- Check your VPN server logs. Packets can be dropped by one of its firewall rules.
- Check your ISP support ESP and if the protocol 50 is allowed to pass traffic in your firewalls.
- If you still cannot ping, follow ICMP traffic on VPN server LAN interface and on LAN computer interface (with Wireshark for example). You will have an indication that encryption works.
- Check the “default gateway” value in VPN Server LAN. A target on your remote LAN can receive pings but does not answer because there is a no “Default gateway” setting.
- You cannot access to the computers in the LAN by their name. You must specify their IP address inside the LAN.
- We recommend you to install Wireshark (www.wireshark.org) on one of your target computer. You can check that your pings arrive inside the LAN.

6 Contacts

News and updates on TheGreenBow web site: www.thegreenbow.com

Technical support by email at: support@thegreenbow.com

Sales contacts by email at: sales@thegreenbow.com

Secure, Strong, Simple

TheGreenBow Security Software