

Introduction

This document describes how to configure a Lightweight Access Point as a 802.1x supplicant to authenticate against a RADIUS Server such as ACS 5.2.

Prerequisites

Requirements

Ensure that you meet these requirements before you attempt this configuration:

- Have basic knowledge of the WLC and Lightweight Access Points (LAPs).
- Have functional knowledge of the AAA server.
- Have thorough knowledge of wireless networks and wireless security issues.

Components Used

The information in this document is based on these software and hardware versions:

- Cisco 5508 WLC that runs firmware release 7.0.220.0.
- Cisco 3502 Series LAP.
- Cisco Secure Access Control Server (ACS) that runs version 5.2.
- Cisco 3560 series switch.

The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, make sure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

Conventions

Refer to Cisco Technical Tips Conventions for more information on document conventions.

Background Information

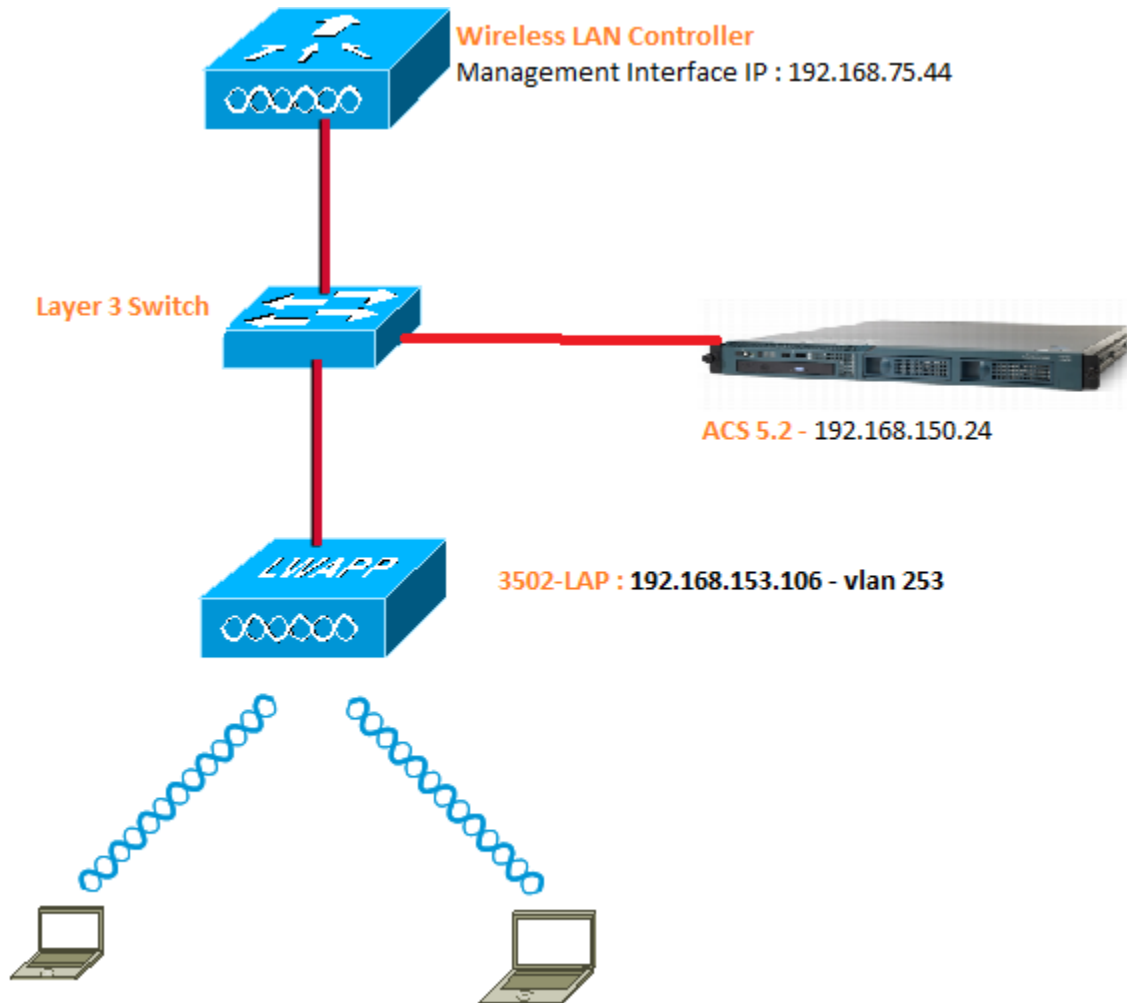
LAPs have factory installed X.509 certificates, signed by a private key, that are burned into the device at the time of manufacture. LAPs use this certificate to authenticate with the WLC at the join process. This method describes another way to authenticate LAPs. With WLC software, you can configure the 802.1x authentication between a Cisco Aironet access point and a Cisco switch. The access point acts as the 802.1x supplicant and is authenticated by the switch against a RADIUS Server (ACS) that uses EAP-FAST with anonymous PAC provisioning. Once it is configured for 802.1x authentication, the switch does not allow any traffic other than 802.1x traffic to pass through the port until the device connected to the port authenticates successfully. An access point can be authenticated either before it joins a WLC or after it has joined a WLC, in which case you configure 802.1x on the switch after the LAP joins the WLC.

Configure

In this section, you are presented with the information to configure the features described in this document.

Network Diagram

This document uses this network setup:



These are the configuration details of the components used in this diagram:

- The IP address of the ACS (RADIUS) server is 192.168.150.24.
- The Management and AP-manager Interface address of the WLC is 192.168.75.44.
- The DHCP servers address 192.168.150.25.
- LAP is placed in VLAN 253.

VLAN 253: 192.168.153.x/24. Gateway: 192.168.153.10
VLAN 75: 192.168.75.x/24. Gateway: 192.168.75.1

Assumptions:

Switches are configured for all Layer 3 vlans.
DHCP server is assigned a DHCP scope.
Layer 3 connectivity exists between all devices in the network.
Lightweight AP is already joined to the WLC.
Each vlan has /24 mask.
ACS 5.2 has a Self Signed Certificate installed.

Configuration Steps

This configuration is separated into three categories:

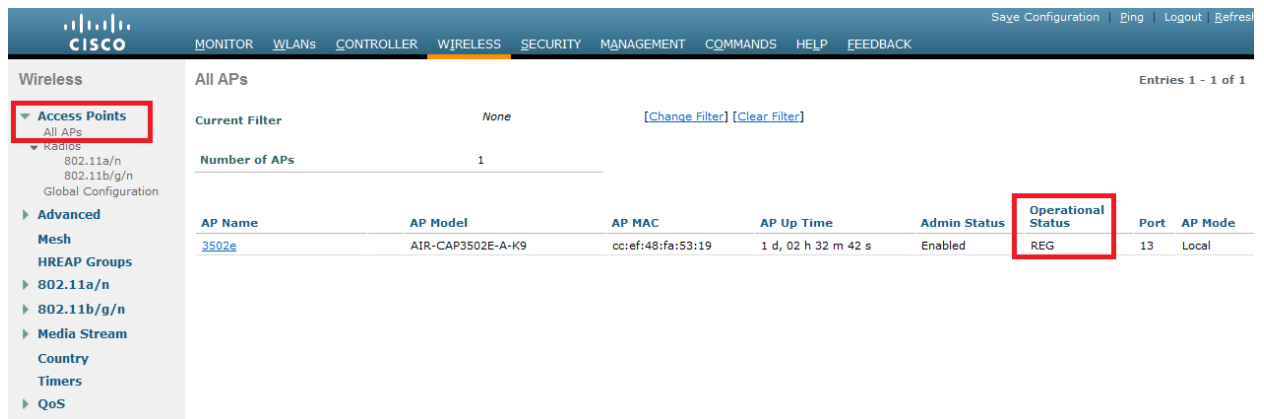
1. RADIUS Server Configuration
2. LAP configuration.
3. Switch configuration.

LAP configuration

Assumptions:

LAP is already registered to the WLC using either option 43, DNS or statically configured WLC management Interface IP.

1. Verify LAP registration on the WLC.
Wireless → Access points → All APs.



The screenshot shows the Cisco WLC interface for the 'Wireless' section. The 'Access Points' menu item is highlighted in red. The 'All APs' view shows a table with one AP. The 'Operational Status' column is highlighted in red.

AP Name	AP Model	AP MAC	AP Up Time	Admin Status	Operational Status	Port	AP Mode
3502e	AIR-CAP3502E-A-K9	cc:ref:48:fa:53:19	1 d, 02 h 32 m 42 s	Enabled	REG	13	Local

2. Configure 802.1x credentials for the LAP. You can configure the username/password in two ways :
 - Globally for all LAPs

- Individually for all LAPs.
- a) For an already joined LAP, you can set the credentials globally so every LAP which joins the WLC will inherit those credentials.

The screenshot displays the Cisco WLC Global Configuration page. The left sidebar shows the navigation menu with 'Global Configuration' selected. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- CDP:** A table showing CDP State for Ethernet Interfaces 0-3 and Radio Slots 0-3, all with the state checked.
- High Availability:** Configuration for AP Heartbeat Timeout (30), Local Mode AP Fast Heartbeat Timer State (Disable), H-REAP Mode AP Fast Heartbeat Timer State (Disable), AP Primary Discovery Timeout (120), and Back-up Controller IP addresses.
- TCP MSS:** Global TCP Adjust MSS checkbox.
- AP Retransmit Config Parameters:** AP Retransmit Count (5) and AP Retransmit Interval (3).
- Login Credentials:** Username, Password, and Enable Password fields.
- 802.1x Supplicant Credentials:** 802.1x Authentication (checked), Username, Password, and Confirm Password fields. This section is highlighted with a red box.
- AP Failover Priority:** Global AP Failover Priority set to Disable.
- AP Image Pre-download:** Download Primary, Download Backup, and Interchange Image buttons.

An 'Apply' button is located in the top right corner of the configuration area.

- b) Configure 802.1 x profiles per AP. In our example, we are going to configure credentials per AP.

Click on Wireless → All APs → Select the concerned AP. Add the username and password under 802.1x Supplicant Credentials.

Wireless

All APs > Details for 3502e

General **Credentials** Interfaces High Availability Inventory Advanced

Login Credentials

Over-ride Global credentials

Username

Password

Enable Password

802.1x Supplicant Credentials

Over-ride Global credentials

Username

Password

Confirm Password

Note: Login-Credentials are used to Telnet,SSH or console to the AP.

3. Make sure you have configured the High Availability section. Hit Apply.

Wireless

All APs > Details for 3502e

General Credentials Interfaces **High Availability** Inventory Advanced

	Name	Management IP Address
Primary Controller	<input type="text" value="5508-3"/>	<input type="text" value="192.168.75.44"/>
Secondary Controller	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Tertiary Controller	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

AP Failover Priority

Note: Once saved, these credentials are retained across WLC and AP reboots. They change only when the LAP joins a new WLC. The LAP assumes the username and password that were configured on the new WLC.

If the access point has not joined a WLC yet, you must console into the LAP to set the credentials and use this CLI command in the enable mode:

LAP#lwapp ap dot1x username <username> password <password>

OR

LAP#capwap ap dot1x username <username> password <password>

Note: This command is available only for access points that run the recovery image.

Default username and password for LAP: cisco/Cisco

Switch Configuration

The switch acts as an authenticator for the LAP and authenticates the LAP against a RADIUS server. If the switch does not have the compliant software, upgrade the switch. On the switch CLI, enter these commands to enable the 802.1x authentication on a switch port:

```
switch#configure terminal
switch(config)#dot1x system-auth-control
switch(config)#aaa new-model
```

!-- Enables 802.1x on the Switch.

```
switch(config)#aaa authentication dot1x default group radius
switch(config)#radius server host 192.168.150.24 key cisco
```

!-- configures the radius server with shared secret and enables switch to send 802.1x information to Radius server for authentication.

```
switch(config)#ip radius source-interface vlan 253
```

!-- We are sourcing radius packets from vlan 253 with NAS IP: 192.168.153.10

```
switch(config)interface gigabitEthernet 0/11
switch(config-if)switchport mode access
switch(config-if)switchport access vlan 253
switch(config-if)mpls qos trust dscp
switch(config-if)spanning-tree portfast
```

!-- gig0/11 is the port number on which the access point is connected.

```
switch(config-if)dot1x pae authenticator
```

!-- configures dot1x authentication

```
switch(config-if)dot1x port-control auto
```

!-- With this command switch initiates the 802.1x authentication.

Note: If you have other APs on the same switch and you do not want them to use 802.1x you can either leave the port un-configured for 802.1x or issue the following command.

```
switch(config-if)authentication port-control force-authorized
```

RADIUS Server Configuration

LAP is authenticated with EAP-FAST. Make sure that the RADIUS server you use supports this EAP method if you are not using Cisco ACS 5.2.

Configuration on Radius server is divided into 4 steps.

- a) Configuring Network Resources.
- b) Configuring Users.
- c) Defining Policy Elements.
- d) Applying Access Policies.

ACS 5.x is a policy-based access control system. i.e ACS 5.x uses a rule-based policy model instead of the group-based model used in the 4.x versions.

The ACS 5.x rule-based policy model provides more powerful and flexible access control compared to the older group-based approach.

In the older group-based model, a group defines policy because it contains and ties together three types of information:

- Identity information—This information can be based on membership in AD or LDAP groups or a static assignment for internal ACS users.
- Other restrictions or conditions—Time restrictions, device restrictions, and so on.
- Permissions—VLANs or Cisco IOS privilege levels.

The ACS 5.x policy model is based on rules of the form:

If condition then result

For example, we use the information described for the group-based model:

If identity-condition, restriction-condition then authorization-profile.

So this gives us flexibility to limit under what conditions the user is allowed to access the network and at the same time what authorization level is allowed when specific conditions are met.

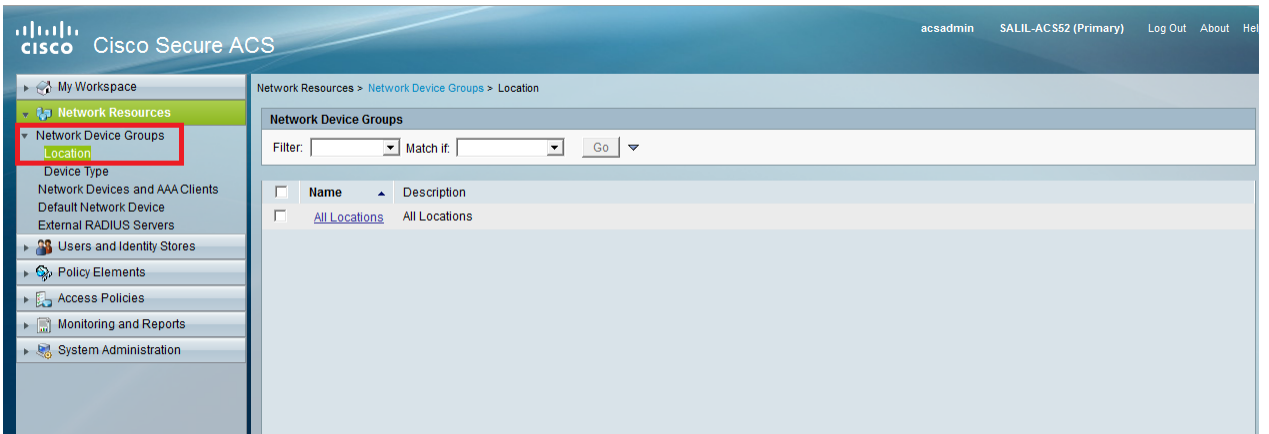
a) Configuring Network Resources.

In this section, we configure the AAA Client for the Switch on the RADIUS Server.

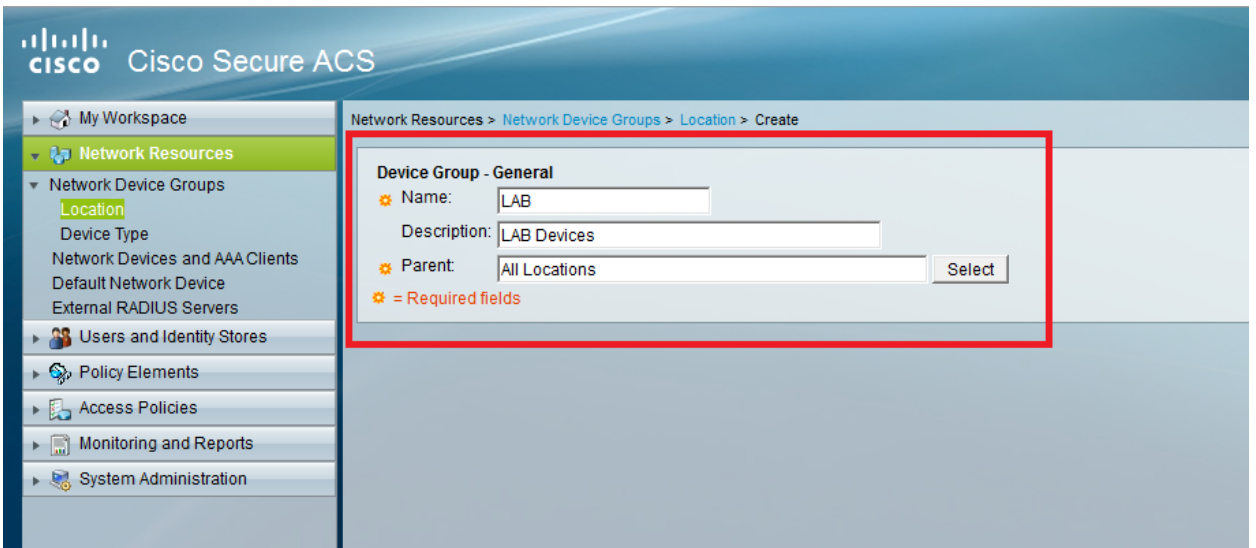
This procedure explains how to add the Switch as a AAA client on the RADIUS server so that the Switch can pass the user credentials of the LAP to the RADIUS server.

Complete these steps:

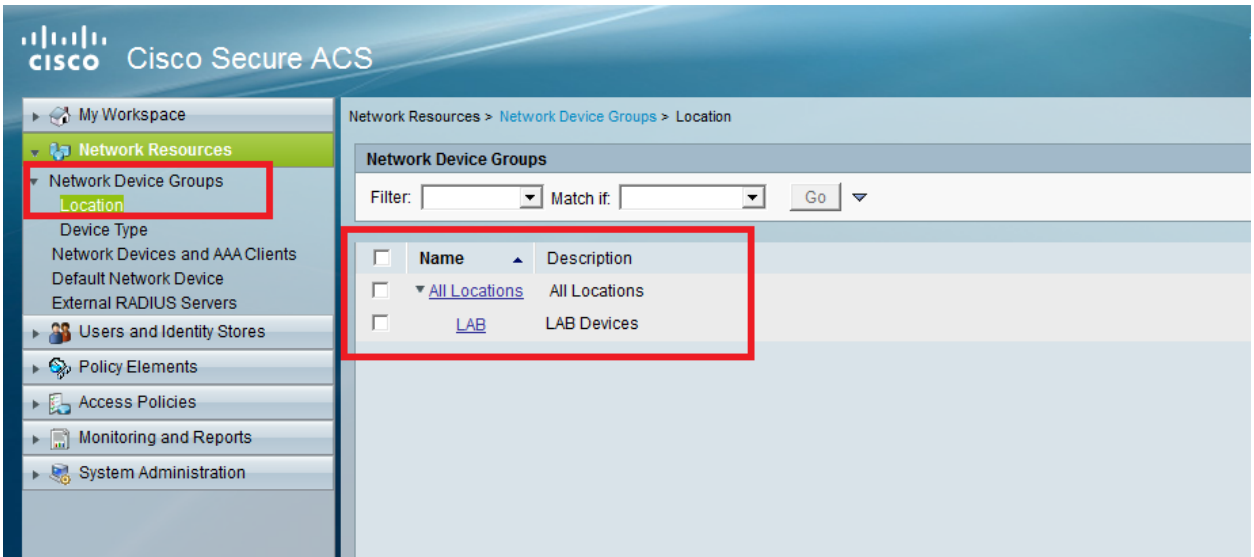
1. From the ACS GUI, click Network Resources.
2. Then Click Network Device Groups.
3. Click Location → Create (at the bottom)



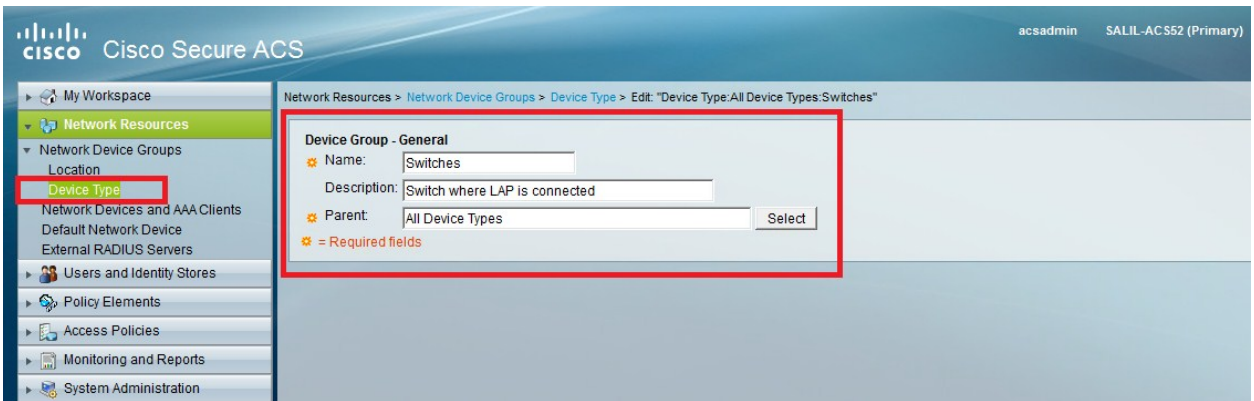
4. Add the required fields and Click submit.



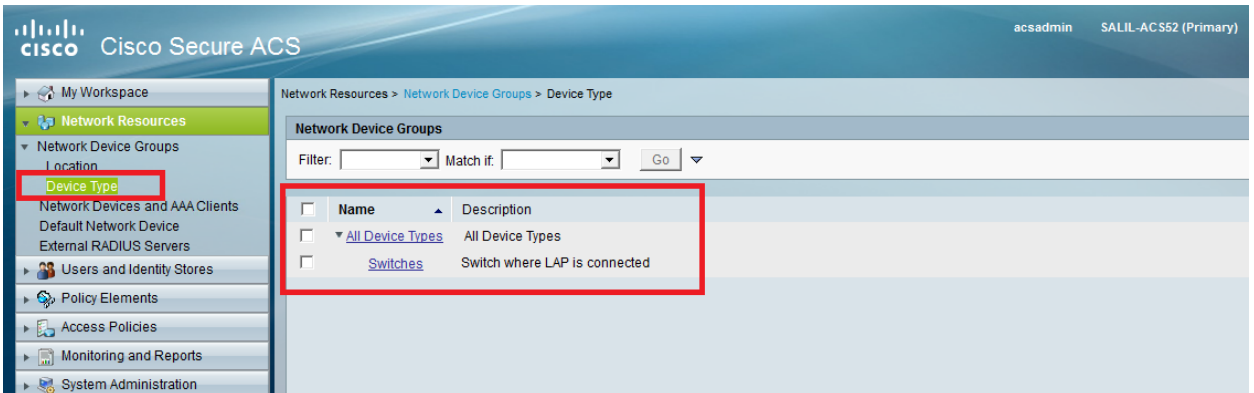
5. It should look like :



6. Now, Click Device Type -> Create

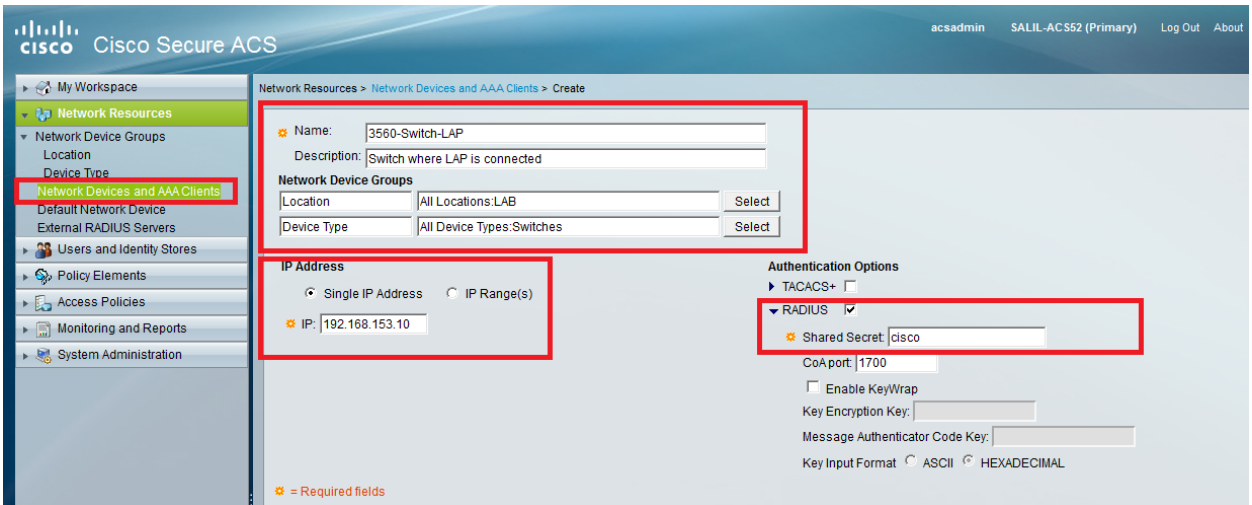


7. Click Submit. Once completed it should look like :

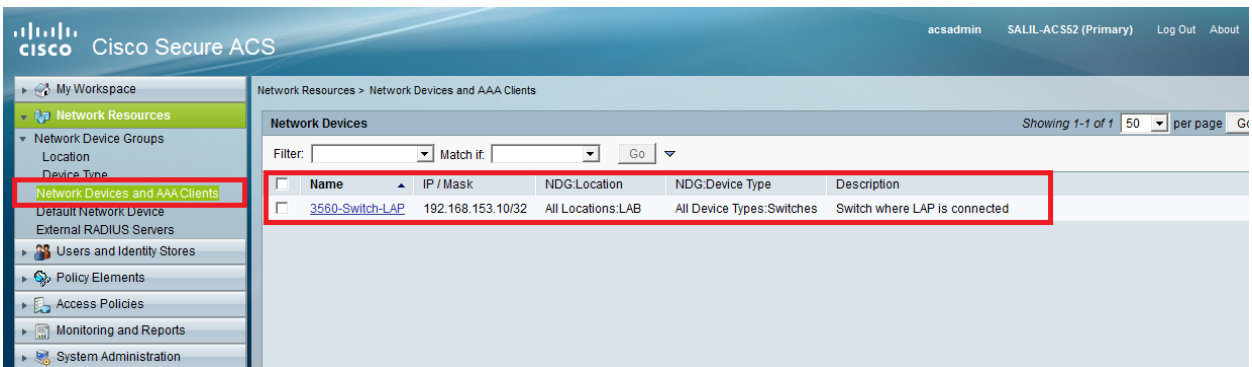


8. Next, Network Resources > Network Devices and AAA Clients.

9. Click Create and fill in the details as below.



10. Click Submit. Page should look like below.



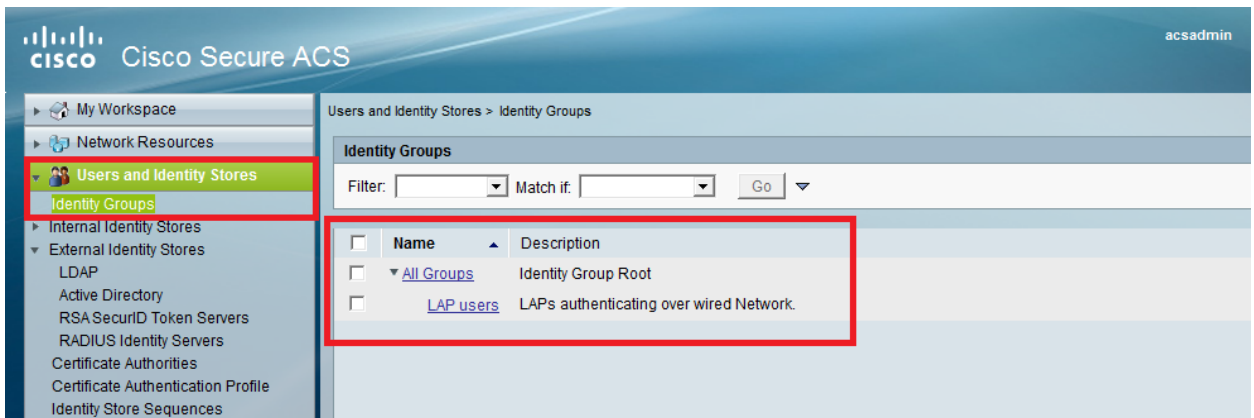
b) Configuring Users.

In this section, we will create user on ACS as what we configured previously. We will assign user to a group called “LAP users”.

Click Users and Identity Stores → Identity Groups → Create

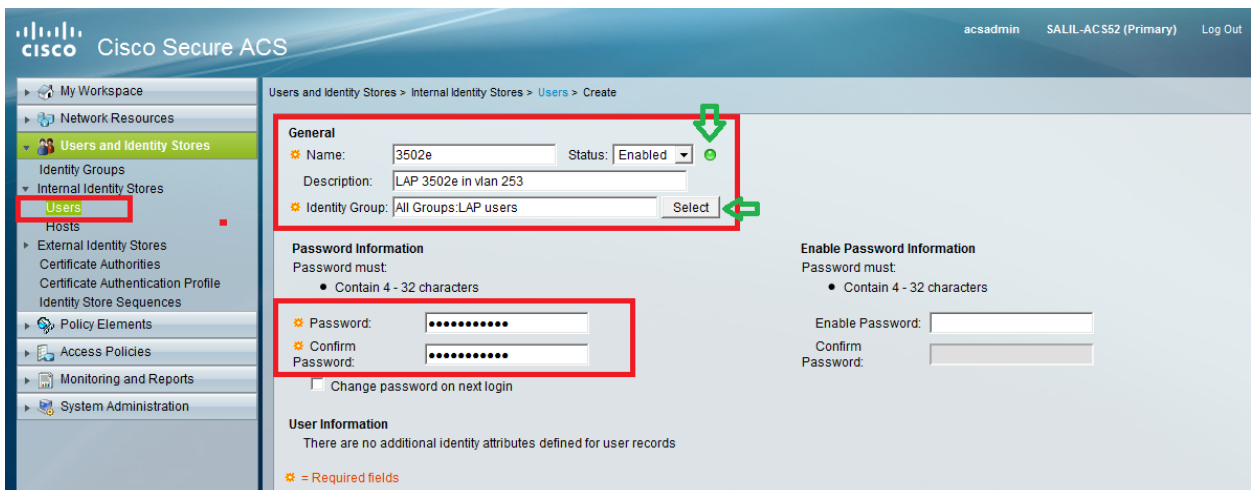


1. Once you click submit the page should look like as :

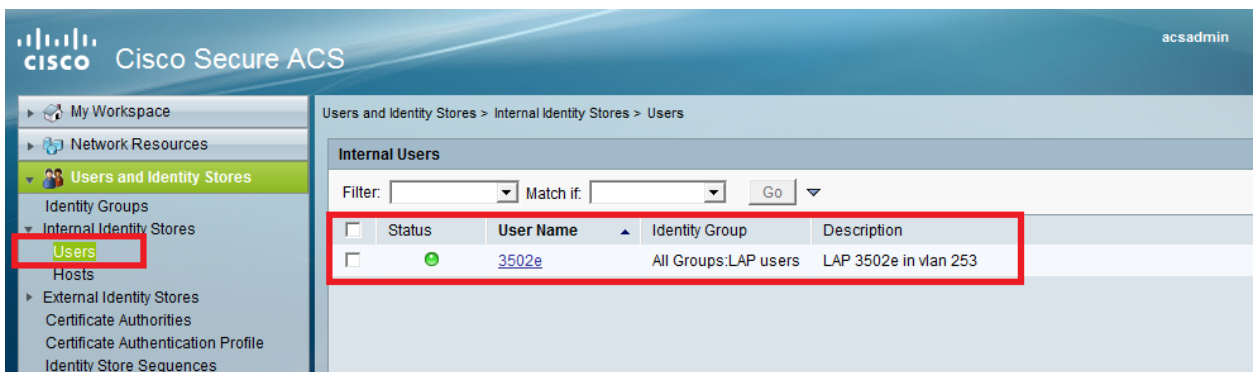


2. Next step is to create 3502e and assign it to group “LAP users”.

3. Click Users and Identity Stores → Identity Groups → Users → Create

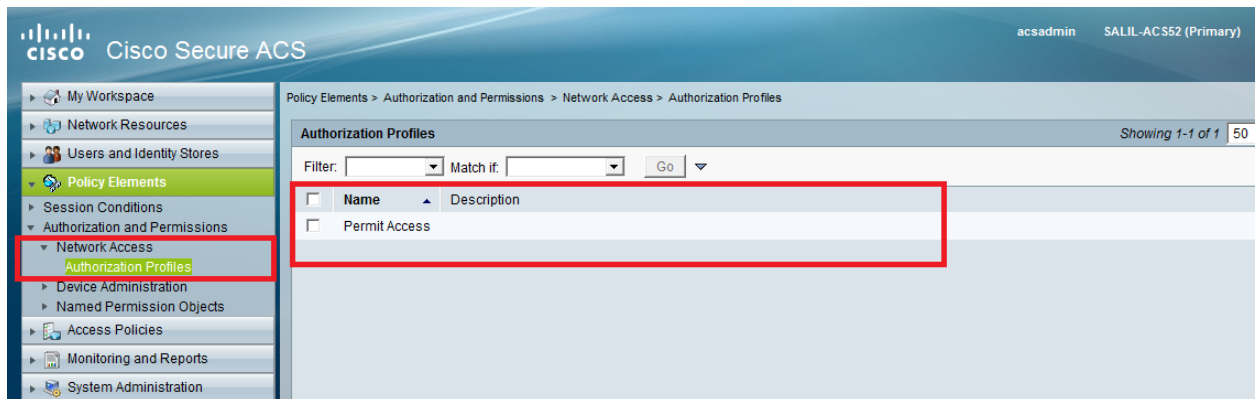


4. Finally, the page should look like :



c) Defining Policy Elements.

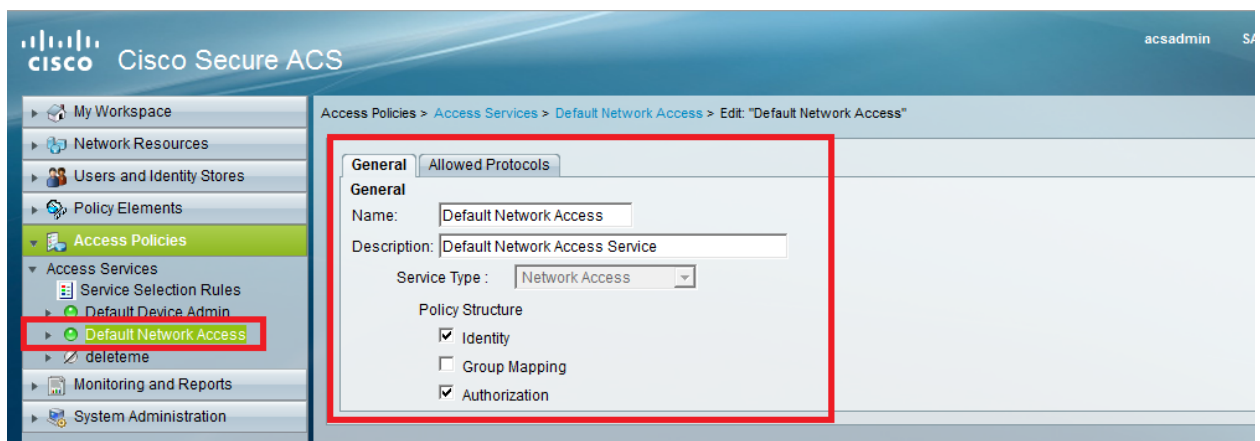
Verify Permit Access is set.



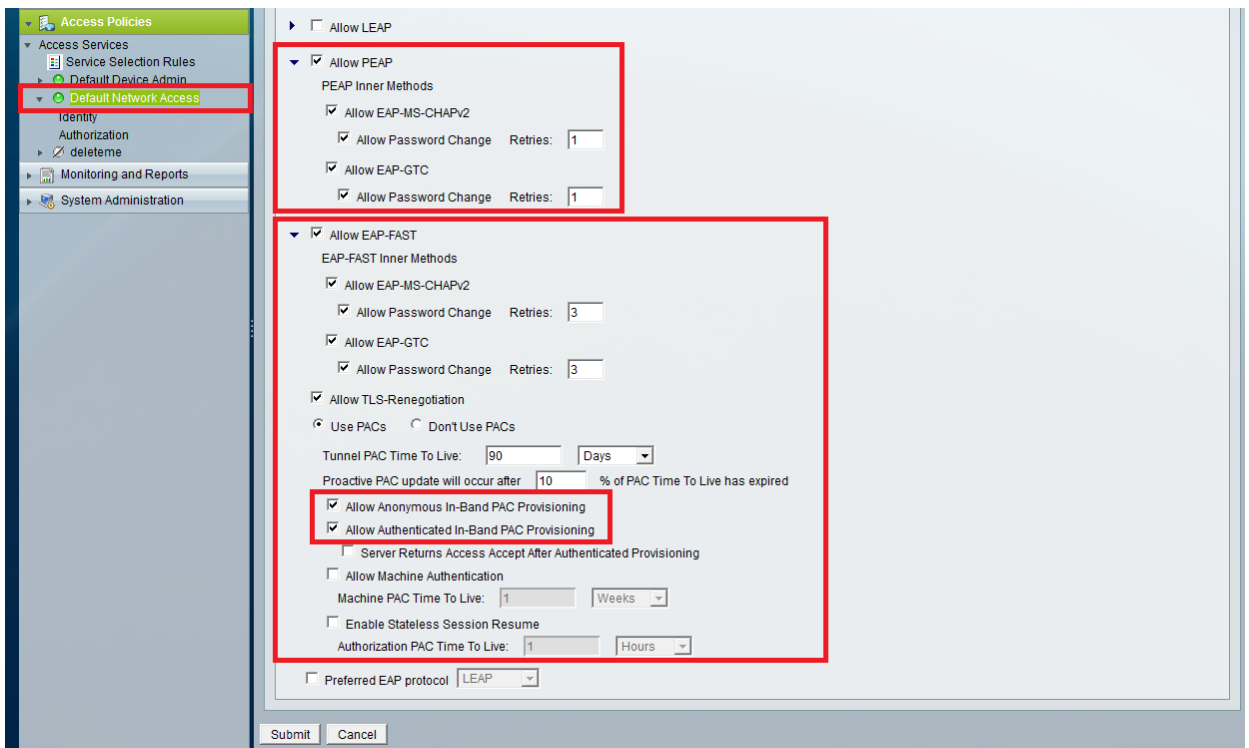
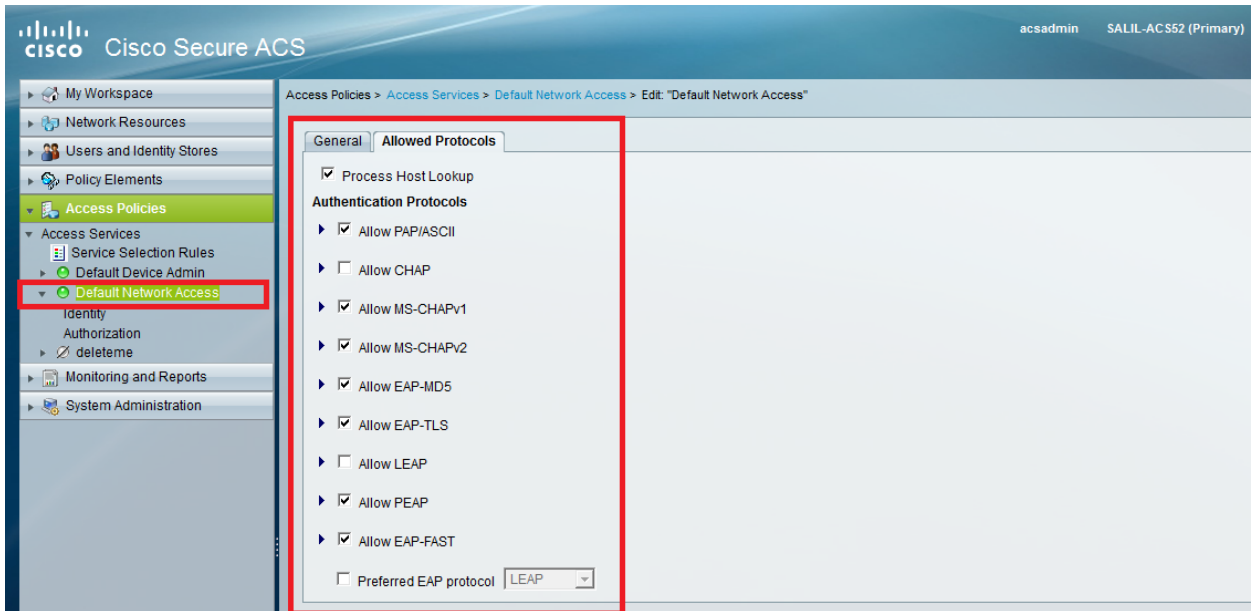
d) Applying Access Policies

In this section we will select EAP-FAST as the Authentication method used for LAPs to authenticate. We will then create rules based of above steps.

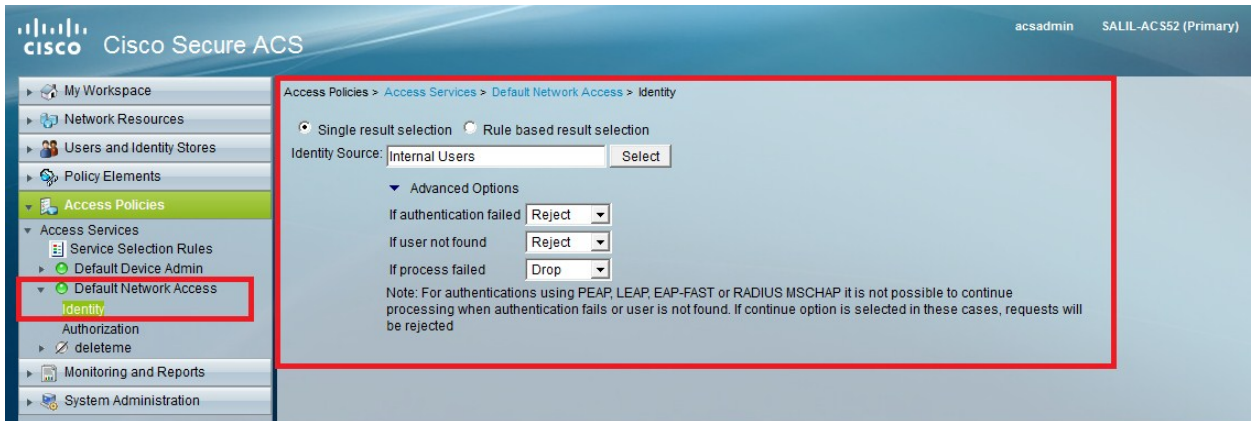
1. Access Policies→Access Services→Default Network Access→Edit: "Default Network Access"



2. Make sure you have enabled EAP-FAST and anonymous in-Band PAC provisioning.



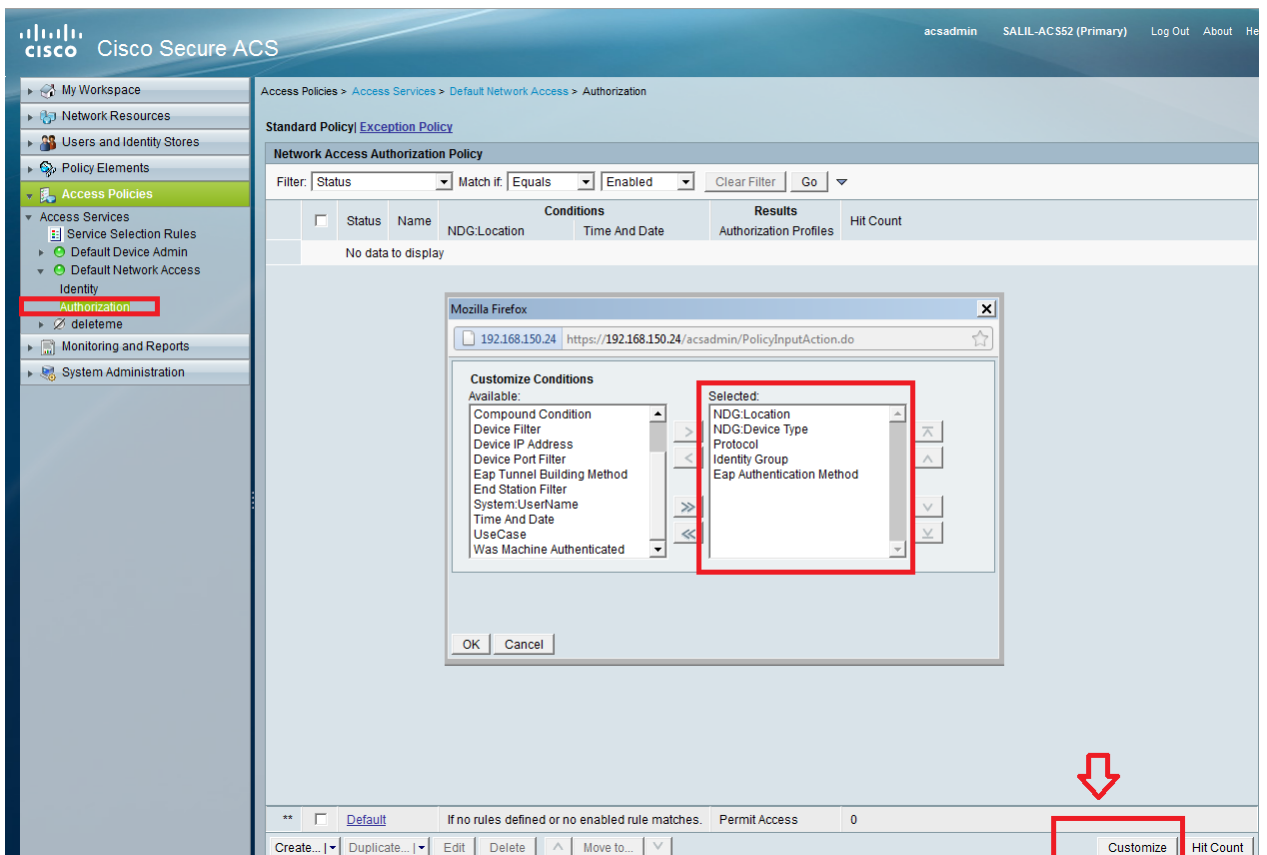
3. Click Submit.
4. Verify Identity group that you have selected. In our case we will use Internal Users which we created on ACS and then save changes.



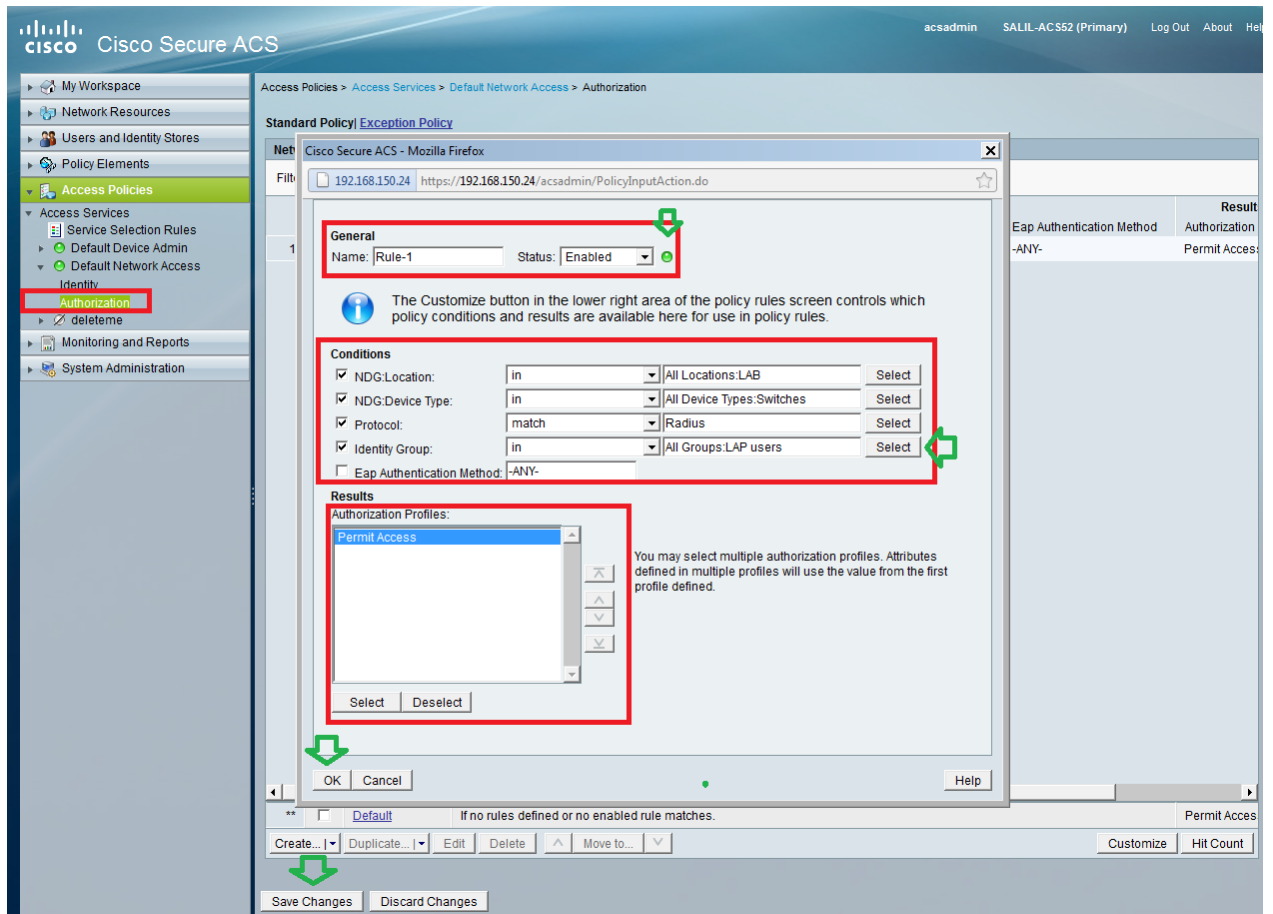
5. Next verify the Authorization Profile under :

Access Policies → Access Services → Default Network Access → Authorization.

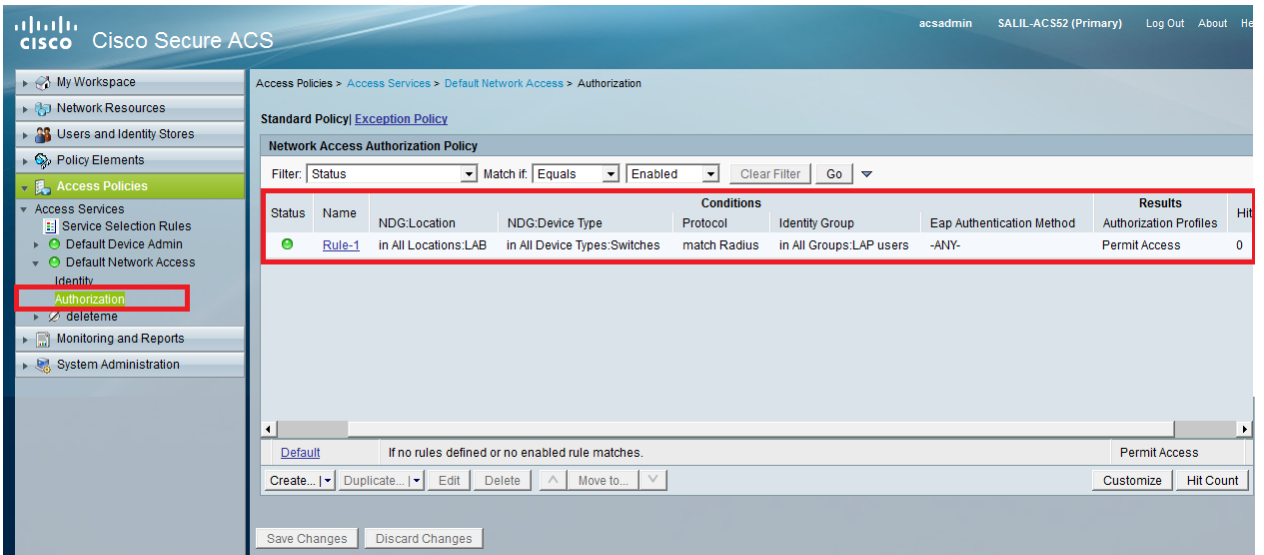
You can customize under what conditions you will allow user access to network and what authorization profile (attributes) you will pass once authenticated. This granularity is only available in ACS5.x . In our example we have selected Location, Device Type, protocol, identity Group, EAP Authentication Method.



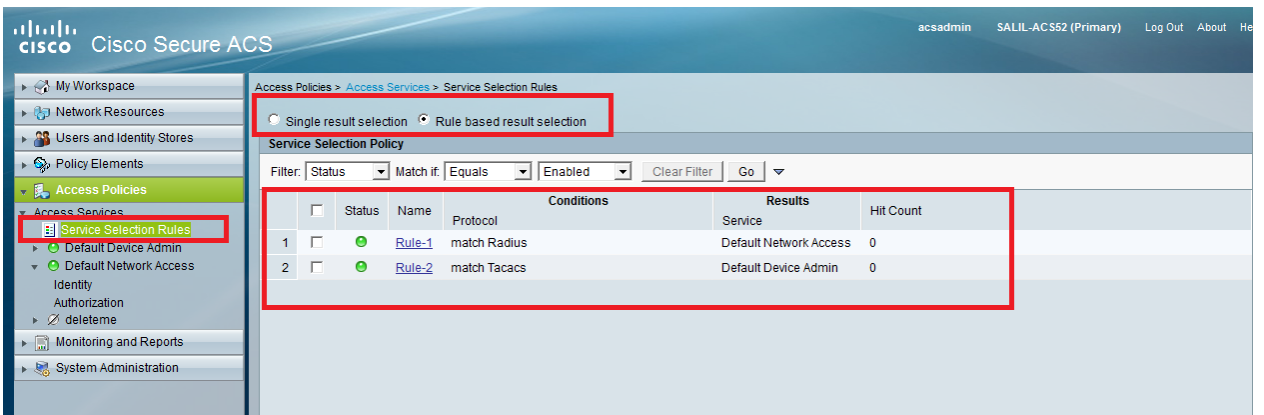
6. Click OK in the window. Save Changes.
7. Next step is to create Rule. If no Rules are defined LAP is allowed access without any conditions.
8. Click Create → Rule -1. This Rule is for users in group “LAP users”



9. Save changes. The page should look like as below. If you want users not matching the conditions to be denied then edit the default rule to say “deny access”.



10. Last step is to do define Service Selection Rules. Use this page to configure a simple or rule-based policy to determine which service to apply to incoming requests. We will have the following rule based in our example.



Verification

Once 802.1x is enabled on the switch port, all the traffic except the 802.1x traffic is blocked through the port. The LAP, which is already registered to the WLC, gets disassociated. Only after a successful 802.1x authentication is other traffic allowed to pass through. Successful registration of the LAP to the WLC after the 802.1x is enabled on the switch indicates that the LAP authentication is successful.

AP console:

*Jan 29 09:10:24.048: %DTLS-5-SEND_ALERT: Send FATAL : Close notify Alert to 192.168.75.44:5246

*Jan 29 09:10:27.049: %DTLS-5-SEND_ALERT: Send FATAL : Close notify Alert to 192.168.75.44:5247

!--- AP disconnects upon adding dot1x information in the gig0/11

*Jan 29 09:10:30.104: %WIDS-5-DISABLED: IDS Signature is removed and disabled.

*Jan 29 09:10:30.107: %CAPWAP-5-CHANGED: CAPWAP changed state to DISCOVERY

*Jan 29 09:10:30.107: %CAPWAP-5-CHANGED: CAPWAP changed state to DISCOVERY

*Jan 29 09:10:30.176: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to administratively down

*Jan 29 09:10:30.176: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio1, changed state to administratively down

*Jan 29 09:10:30.186: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to reset

*Jan 29 09:10:30.201: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio1, changed state to up

*Jan 29 09:10:30.211: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to up

*Jan 29 09:10:30.220: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio1, changed state to reset

Translating "CISCO-CAPWAP-CONTROLLER"...domain server (192.168.150.25)

*Jan 29 09:10:36.203: status of voice_diag_test from WLC is false

***Jan 29 09:11:05.927: %DOT1X_SHIM-6-AUTH_OK: Interface GigabitEthernet0 authenticated [EAP-FAST]**

***Jan 29 09:11:08.947: %DHCP-6-ADDRESS_ASSIGN: Interface GigabitEthernet0 assigned DHCP address 192.168.153.106, mask 255.255.255.0, hostname 3502e**

!---Authentication is successful and AP gets an IP.

Translating "CISCO-CAPWAP-CONTROLLER.Wlab"...domain server (192.168.150.25)

*Jan 29 09:11:37.000: %CAPWAP-5-DTLSREQSEND: DTLS connection request sent peer_ip: 192.168.75.44 peer_port: 5246

*Jan 29 09:11:37.000: %CAPWAP-5-CHANGED: CAPWAP changed state to

*Jan 29 09:11:37.575: %CAPWAP-5-DTLSREQSUCC: DTLS connection created successfully peer_ip: 192.168.75.44 peer_port: 5246

*Jan 29 09:11:37.578: %CAPWAP-5-SENDJOIN: sending Join Request to 192.168.75.44

***Jan 29 09:11:37.578: %CAPWAP-5-CHANGED: CAPWAP changed state to JOIN**

*Jan 29 09:11:37.748: %CAPWAP-5-CHANGED: CAPWAP chan
wmmAC status is FALSEged state to CFG

*Jan 29 09:11:38.890: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to down

*Jan 29 09:11:38.900: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to reset

*Jan 29 09:11:38.900: %CAPWAP-5-CHANGED: CAPWAP changed state to UP

*Jan 29 09:11:38.956: %CAPWAP-5-JOINEDCONTROLLER: AP has joined controller 5508-3

*Jan 29 09:11:39.013: %CAPWAP-5-DATA_DTLS_START: Starting Data DTLS handshake. Wireless client traffic will be blocked until DTLS tunnel is established.

*Jan 29 09:11:39.013: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to up

*Jan 29 09:11:39.016: %LWAPP-3-CLIENTEVENTLOG: SSID goa added to the slot[0]

*Jan 29 09:11:39.028: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio1, changed state to down

*Jan 29 09:11:39.038: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio1, changed state to reset

*Jan 29 09:11:39.054: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio1, changed state to up

*Jan 29 09:11:39.060: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to down

*Jan 29 09:11:39.069: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to reset

*Jan 29 09:11:39.085: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface Dot11Radio0, changed state to up

*Jan 29 09:11:39.135: %LWAPP-3-CLIENTEVENTLOG: SSID goa added to the slot[1]DTLS keys are plumbed successfully.

*Jan 29 09:11:39.151: %CAPWAP-5-DATA_DTLS_ESTABLISHED: Data DTLS tunnel established.

*Jan 29 09:11:39.161: %WIDS-5-ENABLED: IDS Signature is loaded and enabled

!---AP joins the 5508-3 WLC .

ACS Logs:

1) View the Hit counts:

If you are checking logs within 15 minutes of authentication, make sure you refresh the HIT count. On the same page, at the bottom you have a tab for "Hit Count".

The screenshot shows the Cisco Secure ACS web interface. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with 'Access Policies' expanded to 'Service Selection Rules'. The main content area displays a table of Service Selection Rules. The table has columns for Status, Name, Protocol, Conditions, Results, and Hit Count. Two rules are listed: Rule-1 (match Radius) with a Hit Count of 1, and Rule-2 (match Tacacs) with a Hit Count of 0. The Hit Count column is highlighted with a red box.

	Status	Name	Protocol	Conditions	Results	Hit Count
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rule-1	match Radius		Default Network Access	1
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rule-2	match Tacacs		Default Device Admin	0

Cisco Secure ACS

acsadmin SALIL-ACS52 (Primary) Log Out About

Access Policies > Access Services > Default Network Access > Authorization

Standard Policy | Exception Policy

Network Access Authorization Policy

Filter: Status Match if: Equals Enabled Clear Filter Go

Name	NDG:Location	NDG:Device Type	Conditions	Protocol	Identity Group	Eap Authentication Method	Results	Authorization Profiles	Hit Count
Rule-1	in All Locations:LAB	in All Device Types:Switches	match Radius		in All Groups:LAP users	-ANY-	Permit Access		1

If no rules defined or no enabled rule matches. Permit Access 0

Create... Duplicate... Edit Delete Move to... Customize Hit Count

Save Changes Discard Changes

2) Monitoring and Reports → New pop up window appears → Authentications –Radius – Today. You can also Click details to verify which Service selection rule was applied.

Showing Page 1 of 1 | First Prev Next Last | Goto Page: Go

AAA Protocol > RADIUS Authentication

Authentication Status : Pass or Fail

Date : January 29, 2012 (Last 30 Minutes | Last Hour | Last 12 Hours | Today | Yesterday | Last 7 Days | Last 30 Days)

Generated on January 29, 2012 9:15:01 PM EST

Reload

✓=Pass ✗=Fail 🔍=Click for details 🖱=Mouse over item for additional information

Logged At	RADIUS Status	NAS Failure	Details	Username	MAC/IP Address	Access Service	Authentication Method	Network Device	NAS IP Address	NAS Port ID	CTS Security Gr
Jan 29, 12 9:11:12.966 PM	✓			3502e	CC-EF-48-FA-53-19	Default Network Access	EAP-FAST (EAP-MSCHAPv2)	3560-Switch-LAP	192.168.153.10	GigabitEthernet0/11	