Accel-ppp Support in RADIUSdesk

Introduction

- As of November 2023, RADIUSdesk can centrally manage Accel-ppp on Ubuntu and Raspberry Pi based devices.
- This is done by a lightweight agent that interacts with RADIUSdesk.
- Each device now has the ability to be configured though a web applet on RADIUSdesk.
- The agent also reports back to RADIUSdesk on the status of the service and any active sessions.
- The following graphic shows how everything fits together.



Accel-ppp Servers Applet

- The Accel-ppp Server applet can be found under the **Other** grouping.
- It has three sub tabs
 - The **Servers** tab displays all of the Accel-ppp servers which are managed centrally.
 - The **Profiles** tab is used to define various profiles which are associated with one of more servers.
 - The **New Arrivals** lists Accel-ppp servers which reported to RADIUSdesk but which require on-boarding.

Profiles

- We will cover Profiles first although it is the second sub-tab since it is required to have a profile ready in order to define a server.
- Profiles are used to manage the major part of the settings which will be applied to a server.
- Settings are dynamically formulated in the reply when the RADISUdesk Accel-ppp agent contacts RADIUSdesk.
- The settings for each Accel-ppp server can be divided into three categories.
 - Common settings which hardly differ between servers. (This is the bulk of them)
 - **Unique** settings which you might want to tweak should the need arise.
 - **Specific** settings which are required to differentiate one Accel-ppp server from another.

Common Settings (Base Configs)

- Common settings are stored inside a CakePHP config file. (/var/www/rdcore/cake4/rd_cake/config/AccelPresets.php)
- One can define various sets of these common settings, giving each a **unique name**.

<?php //Default settings for accel-ppp \$config['AccelPresets']['Default'] = ['modules' => ['log file', 'pppoe', 'auth pap', 'radius', 'ippool', 'shaper',], 'core' => ['log-error' => '/var/log/accel-ppp/core.log', 'thread-count' => 4,],

- We refer to them as **Base Configs**.
- There is one already called **Default**.
- The keys of these configs maps to sections of the /etc/accel-ppp.conf file.
- Should you wish to add or modify these configs; it can be done by editing /var/www/rdcore/cake4/rd cake/config/AccelPresets.php.

- The various configs will then appear as a select-able Base Config list when managing profiles.
- When one select a Base Config from the list; the values in the GUI are populated from the selected Base Config.
- You can then edit those populated values so they are **unique** to the profile you are managing.
- See screenshot below.

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	Servers Profiles New Arriv	als 🕂 Add Profile ×							
	General Settings								
	Name	ZA-5							
	Base Config	Default							
	PPPoE								
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0	🗹 Verbose								
	PPP								
	LCP Echo Interval	20							
	LCP Echo Timeout	120							
	MRU	1400							
	МТО	1400							
	Min MTU	1280							
	🕑 Verbose								

Unique Settings (Profiles)

- Profiles allow you to override certain values which were specified in the Base Config so that they become unique to that profile.
- These include items which might need tweaking for certain environments.
- Each of the sections inside the GUI maps to a section in the /etc/accel-ppp.conf file.

Specific Settings (Server)

- This is the final category and one that is specific to an Accel-ppp server in the applet.
- An Accel-ppp server needs a mandatory Profile (Unique settings) and then two items which are specific.
 - **Interface** This is the interface name on the server where we want to run the PPPoE servie on.
 - **NAS Identifier** This is the specific identifier used to identify the Accel-ppp server on RADIUS.

Edit Accel-ppp Server				
Name	VM-1			
MAC Address	64-64-4A-D1-2D-67			
Server Profile	ZA-1	-		
Interface	enp0s8			
NAS Identifier	accel-ppp			
		SAVE		

Servers

- Although the Servers tab is first we started with the Profiles tab since we need to have a Profile available which we can associate with a server.
- Each server has the following mandatory fields.
 - **Name** A unique name to identify the server with.
 - **MAC Address** This has to match the MAC Address of the interface on the device running Accel-ppp and is used as a identity field.

- Server Profile This was covered earlier in this document.
- **Interface** The name of the interface on which you plan to run the PPPoE service on (using Accel-ppp)
- **NAS Identifier** Used to identify the server when interacting with the RADIUS server.

Servers GUI

≡	RADIUSdesk 🗱 OTHER						South Africa 👻
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	Servers Profiles New Arrivals % ZA-2 ×						
	COUNT 1 SESSIONS 1						
	1	Name	✿ Config Fetched	🏶 Heartbeat Received		Uptime	
		ZA-2	17 hours ago	34 seconds ago	1		0.17:44:10

- The screenshot above is from the Accel-ppp server applet.
- Let's look at some key points
 - The Refresh button has an option to automatically refresh at fixed intervals. This is handy if you want to see when an Accel-ppp server comes online without having to hit the refresh button the whole time.
 - $\,\circ\,$ Next to it is a toggle button which allows you to see either all defined server or only those servers which are currently online.
 - $\circ\,$ The Add, Delete and Edit buttons should be self explanatory.
 - The **Restart Service** button is used to set the restart service flag on a selected server.
 - If it is set (indicated visually with a gears icon prepended to the name) and the next heartbeat arrives from the RADIUSdesk Accel-ppp agent. the agent will detect the flag and restart the Accel-ppp service.
 - $\circ\,$ The visual indication will also be cleared.
 - \circ The final button is used to launch a new tab which will list all the active sessions.

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	Servers Profiles Ne	w Arrivals 💊 ZA-2 ×							
	2 - 0	1 OUT 64 TOTAL	Kb 4.7 Kb COUNT 1 159.3 Kb						
	Username	IP Address	🏶 Last Seen	Uptime	Rate Limit (kbps)	Rx-Bytes	Tx-Bytes	Actions	
	🔀 dirk	192.168.0.2	37 seconds ago	01:21:39	No Limit	94.6 Kb	64.7 Kb	<u>iii X</u>	
:: •									

- The final button on the active sessions tab in turn will allow you to terminate selected sessions.
- It works is a similar way to the **Restart Service** button for the server itself where a flag is set and there is a visual indication that a session is marked for disconnect until the next heartbeat where it will be cleared and the RADIUSdesk Accel-ppp agent will terminate the user's session.

New Arrivals

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	Settings Clouds Q Admins	🔒 Hardware 🎽 Schee	dules 👌 Èir	ewall 99 OpenVPN Ser	vers 99 Accel-	opp Servers
	Servers Profiles New Arrivals					
	2 - 🗞 🛍					
	MAC Address	Last Contact		From IP		Actions
	64-64-4A-D1-2D-00	1 minute ago Sou		41.117.175.32 South Africa (ZA)		ā 🖉

- Any of the Accel-ppp servers that still needs on-boarding will be listed under **New Arrivals**.
- Simply select the one you want to on-board and provide the required information to allow it to become part of the managed servers.
- Reboot the device after on-boarding and the configuration will be applied through the RADIUSdesk Accel-ppp agent.

Next Steps

• Be sure to check out the steps to follow on the Ubuntu or Raspberry Pi to install the RADIUSdesk Accel-ppp agent so it can be managed by RADIUSdesk.

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