

SOLUTION BRIEF

Portnox CLEAR and Okta SSO

Protecting and Controlling Access
for SaaS Applications



The Challenge

The proliferation of devices in the enterprise has positive impacts on efficiency, abbreviating production times and enabling enterprise mobility. Yet with new devices come new sources of digital business risk. At the end of the day, no matter the strength of an organization's authentication credentials – be it through multi-factor authentication or biometric methods – unmanaged and unpatched devices threaten enterprise data and cybersecurity due to their vulnerable and unsecure state. In addition, more devices with access to business-critical applications mean greater chances that organizational data is at risk for loss or theft – even if accessed on sanctioned devices. Of course, there is always human error to consider; more devices mean more chances for those devices to be lost, forgotten or stolen, creating more opportunities for hackers and malicious actors to make their way into organizational applications.

Tied to the upsurge in devices, employees now need to remember more access credentials to endpoints, software, applications, and websites. According to [estimates](#), some employees manage nearly 200 different passwords, on average. Aside from creating massive headache for the employees themselves, managing such a large number of passwords inherently puts organizational data at risk, especially if the organization doesn't have a single sign on (SSO) solution in place.

A solution is needed to safely and effectively address digital business risks associated with the increase in both the number of devices accessing the enterprise network, and the number of authentication credentials needed to access business-critical applications.

The Solution – Portnox CLEAR and Okta Single Sign On

Together, Portnox CLEAR and Okta SSO offer a solution to help gain control over all enterprise endpoints and authentication credentials for access to cloud and on-premise applications. The solution combines the power of risk-based access for managed and unmanaged devices with the ease and efficiency of SSO, enabling a smart and secure connection between a user's identity and their device.

Portnox CLEAR and Okta's joint solution is the first to combine contextual risk-based information on devices with strong credentials of Single Sign On (SSO) to create multiple layers of authentication when accessing both cloud and on-premise applications in the enterprise. By taking both device and user risk into consideration when granting access, enterprises can be confident that their business-critical applications are protected and secure.

The Benefits

- **Risk-Based Access to Applications:** Create risk-scores for each device accessing enterprise applications based on organizational security policies. Use parameters like geolocation, known vulnerabilities and threats, open ports, active applications and security posture to determine access together with SSO credentials.
- **Control Unmanaged/Guest Device Access:** Grant access for managed devices and restrict access based on endpoint risk policies for unmanaged and guest devices.
- **Enrich Security Intelligence:** Portnox CLEAR-Okta SSO ensures that network security admins gain necessary contextual information on authorized devices, beyond just the entry of approved SSO credentials. With the contextual device information, it's possible to understand underlying digital risks to data stored on those applications and take action using the appropriate security tools.

Enabling Secure Integration of SaaS Applications

Portnox CLEAR and Okta SSO's joint solution has one goal in mind – to enable secure integration of cloud, software-as-a-service (SaaS) and on-premise applications in the enterprise – a critical part of the cloud computing shift. A major concern among CISOs/CSOs is that embracing the world of SaaS applications will expose their business to digital risks, but the Portnox CLEAR-Okta SSO joint solution comes to answer and ease this concern. By combining contextual device data, converted into a risk score, with advanced SSO credentials, enterprise security professionals gain added assurance that data is secure and safely out of hackers' reach.

Portnox CLEAR and Okta SSO – Better Together.

About Portnox CLEAR

Portnox CLEAR is a Cloud and Network Access Control solution that enables IT security personnel to monitor, discover and visualize endpoints' security postures, threats and vulnerabilities, making real-time access decisions for the network and the cloud based on the determined endpoint risk. For more information on Portnox CLEAR visit:

<https://www.portnox.com/portnox-clear/>

Portnox secures connected organizations' corporate networks utilizing its next-generation network access control and management solutions. Portnox's solutions manage every user, every device – including: Internet of Things (IoT), BYOD, mobile and managed devices - accessing the network, everywhere.

www.portnox.com

About Okta SSO

With Okta Single Sign On (SSO), free employees from password chains. A single set of credentials gives them access to enterprise apps in the cloud, on-prem, and on mobile devices. Features include: automatic authentication, Okta integration network, flexible authentication options, user activation, browser, desktop and mobile SSO, and self-service admin, among others.

Okta is the foundation for secure connections between people and technology. Our IT products uniquely use identity information to grant people access to applications on any device at any time, while still enforcing strong security protections. Our platform securely connects companies to their customers and partners. Today, thousands of organizations trust Okta to help them fulfill their missions as quickly as possible.

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