

RSA[®] MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows

Release Notes

April 2021

This document describes the RSA[®] MFA Agent 2.1 for Microsoft Windows release. It also includes workarounds for known issues. Read this document before installing the software. This document contains the following sections:

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These *Release Notes* may be updated. The most current version can be found on RSA Link on the [RSA MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows Documentation page](#).

Product Overview

RSA MFA Agent 2.1 for Microsoft Windows works with the RSA SecurID Access to help secure sign-in to users' Windows computers. The MFA Agent is installed on Windows computers. You can configure the MFA Agent to challenge users either with or without passwords.

Passwordless Authentication

Users can sign in to their computers without using a password. The MFA Agent uses Active Directory certificates to secure passwordless authentication. Users need a registered FIDO2 security key and an Active Directory password for the first authentication. Subsequent authentications require only a registered FIDO2 security key. The MFA Agent creates a Microsoft Virtual Smart Card and enrolls it with a sign-in certificate to achieve passwordless authentication. Users can also perform additional authentication when accessing Windows computers and User Account Control.

Note: Users can also use RSA MFA Agent 2.1 Test Authentication tool to enable passwordless authentication.

Password Authentication

Users can sign in to their computers with Windows password and additional authentication. A user enters the username and password and then can be prompted for additional authentication, for example, by approving a request in the RSA SecurID Authenticate app.

MFA Agent-Server Communication

When users try to sign into or unlock their Windows computers, the MFA Agent communicates with either Cloud

Authentication Service or RSA Authentication Manager 8.5 to manage authentication.

The MFA Agent can connect directly to the Cloud Authentication Service or RSA Authentication Manager 8.5. Authentication Manager can act as a secure proxy server that sends authentication requests to the Cloud Authentication Service.

Note: The MFA Agent does not support passwordless authentication when it connects to Authentication Manager or when Authentication Manager acts as a proxy server to the Cloud Authentication Service.

RSA MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows is different from the RSA Authentication Agent for Microsoft Windows. For more information on the differences, see the *Installation and Administration Guide*.

Installing This Product

You can install RSA MFA Agent 2.1 on a new machine or upgrade directly to RSA MFA Agent 2.1 from any of the following versions:

- RSA MFA Agent 1.2
- RSA MFA Agent 1.2.1
- RSA MFA Agent 2.0.1
- RSA MFA Agent 2.0.2

You can also install the RSA Authentication Agent 7.4.4 for Microsoft Windows and RSA MFA Agent 2.1 for Microsoft Windows on the same computer.

You can migrate GPO policy settings from RSA Authentication Agent 7.4.0 to 7.4.4 for Microsoft Windows to MFA Agent 2.1.

For installation and upgrade instructions, see Chapter 3, "Installing RSA MFA Agent" in the *Installation and Administration Guide*.

Package Contents

RSA MFA Agent 2.1 is available on the [RSA MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows Downloads page](#).

The RSA MFA Agent 2.1 package contains the following:

- **RSA_MFA_Agent_2.1_PolicyTemplates.zip**
- **RSA_MFA_Agent_2.1.zip**
- **RSA_MFA_Agent_Reserve_Password_Hash_Generator_1.2.zip**

The following table describes each file.

File	Description
RSA_MFA_Agent_2.1_PolicyTemplates.zip	<p>Contains the Group Policy Object (GPO) administrative templates for managing authentication settings.</p> <p>The template files are automatically installed as part of local installation. Only use the zip file if you delete the files and need to re-install them on a computer.</p>

File	Description
	Contains the Migration Tool utility to automate the process of migrating your GPO settings from RSA Authentication Agent 7.4.0 to 7.4.4 for Microsoft Windows to MFA Agent 2.1.
RSA_MFA_Agent_2.1.zip	Contains the following folders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • x86 and x64: The Windows Installer Packages for local installation of RSA MFA Agent on 32-bit and 64-bit computers. • Licenses: Contains the RSA License Agreement.
RSA_MFA_Agent_Reserve_Password_Hash_Generator_1.2.zip	x86 and x64: The Windows Installer Packages for local installation of the RSA MFA Agent Reserve Password Hash Generator utility on 32-bit and 64-bit computers.

Documentation and Application Help

The following product documentation is available on RSA Link on the [RSA MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows Documentation page](#).

Documentation

Title	Filename
<i>RSA MFA Agent 2.1 for Microsoft Windows Installation and Administration Guide</i>	rsa_mfa_agent_windows_2.1_installation_administration_guide.pdf
<i>RSA MFA Agent 2.1 for Microsoft Windows Group Policy Object Template Guide</i>	rsa_mfa_agent_windows_2.1_gpo_template_guide.pdf
<i>Test Authentication with MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows</i>	Test_Authentication_with_MFA_Agent_for_Windows.pdf
RSA SecurID Access User Help	Available from within the RSA SecurID Authenticate app

Fixed Issues

This release includes fixes for the following issues:

- AAWIN-5678.** Resolved offline authentication issues on the German version of Microsoft Windows.
- AAWIN-5525.** Resolved issues with the RSA Notification icon on Windows 10 systems.
- AAWIN-5360.** Trace logging partially captured credentials before they were submitted for authentication.
- AAWIN-5215.** Resolved an issue sending a username in UPN format to RSA Authentication Manager.
- AAWIN-5184.** The MFA Agent no longer installs the PowerShell script MFAAuthProviderACLSettings.ps1.
- AAWIN-4612.** In some customer environments, after the laptop on which the MFA Agent was installed woke from sleep, the MFA Agent authenticated offline.

Known Issues

This section describes known issues and workarounds.

Windows shows an empty Login screen when RSA Authentication Agent 7.4.x for Microsoft Windows is installed and the Exclude all third-party Credential Providers policy setting is enabled

Tracking Number: AAWIN-5323

Problem: When MFA Agent for Microsoft Windows and RSA Authentication Agent 7.4.x for Microsoft Windows are installed on the same machine, if the version 7.4.x Third-Party Credential Providers filter policy is enabled, the Windows Login screen does not show login tiles. Users cannot authenticate.

Workaround: Do one of the following:

- Use the **RSACredProviderFilter_ThirdParty** GPO template to turn off the GPO setting **Exclude all third-party Credential Providers**.
- Remotely change the Windows registry entry **HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\RSA\RSA Desktop\Credential Provider Filtering\Third Party Credential Providers\ExcludeProvider** from 1 to 0.

MFA Agent slow to process authentication requests on Windows 8.1 when Windows location service is disabled but Agent is collecting system attributes

Tracking Number: NGX-31029

Problem: If you disable Windows location service on a Windows 8.1 computer and you have enabled or not configured the GPO setting **Collect system attributes for Cloud Authentication Service access policy**, the MFA Agent is slow to process authentication requests during sign-in.

Workaround: If you disable Windows location service on a Windows 8.1 computer, disable the GPO setting **Collect system attributes for Cloud Authentication Service access policy**.

Support and Service

You can access community and support information on RSA Link at <https://community.rsa.com>. RSA Link contains a knowledgebase that answers common questions and provides solutions to known problems, product documentation, community discussions, and case management.

The RSA Ready Partner Program website at www.rsaready.com provides information about third-party hardware and software products that have been certified to work with RSA products. The website includes Implementation Guides with step-by-step instructions and other information on how RSA products work with third-party products.

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