

# MULTILEVEL SECURITY (MLS) WITH RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX 6 AND SELINUX

David Egts, RHCA, RHCSS  
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# Overview

- *Part 1: Background on MLS*
- Part 2: MLS with RHEL 6
- Part 3: Basic setup of MLS with RHEL 6
- Part 4: Separating system and security admin roles
- Part 5: Mapping sensitivities and categories to mission specific names
- Part 6: Optionally relaxing security
- Part 7: Adding an MLS user
- Part 8: Using ssh
- Part 9: MLS with RHEL 6 in action!



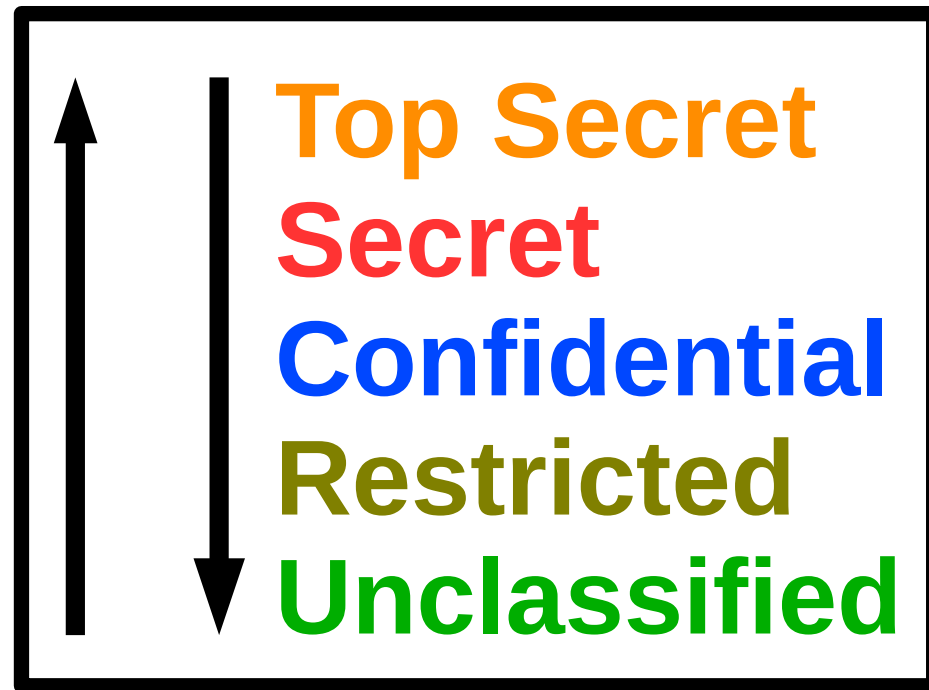
# Background

- What is multilevel security (MLS)?
- MLS implementation examples from the past and present
- The Bell–LaPadula model
- Comparing MLS with MCS



# What is multilevel security (MLS)?

- The application of a computer system to process **information with different sensitivities** (i.e., at different security levels), permit **simultaneous access** by users with **different security clearances** and **needs-to-know**, and **prevent users** from obtaining access to information for which they lack authorization
  - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multilevel\\_security](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multilevel_security)



# MLS implementation examples from the past and present

- Specialized operating systems
- Forked variants mainstream operating systems
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux



# The Bell–LaPadula model

- Focuses on data confidentiality and controlled access to classified information
  - “No read up, no write down”
  - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell%E2%80%93LaPadula\\_model](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell%E2%80%93LaPadula_model)



# The Bell–LaPadula model

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# The Bell–LaPadula model

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# The Bell–LaPadula model with write equality

- No write up
- Adds integrity, prevents noise
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 MLS implements this



# MLS is not MCS

- Multilevel security (MLS)
  - Read up/write down features (“security levels”)
  - Mostly military and intelligence community applications
- Multicategory security (MCS)
  - No concept of read up/write down (“categories”)
  - Military and intelligence community applications
  - Useful in other industries (healthcare, financial services)
    - Separate billing access from medical record access
  - Often easier to implement and maintain
    - When you want category separation and you don't have levels
    - Default RHEL SELinux targeted policy does MCS



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# MLS with Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6

- selinux-policy-mls RPM
- Implements the Bell–LaPadula model with write equality
- Provides role based access control (RBAC)
  - Can separate system admin from security admin from auditor, etc.
- Provides extra protection of type enforcement (TE)
  - httpd, etc., are confined by **both** MLS and TE



id -Z

root:sysadm\_r:sysadm\_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh

The diagram illustrates the components of the SELinux context 'root:sysadm\_r:sysadm\_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh'. It features a horizontal line with five red square markers. Below each marker is a label: 'user' under the first marker, 'role' under the second, 'type' under the third, 'effective' under the fourth, and 'cleared' under the fifth. The labels are in red text.



# SELinux sensitivity and category

- **SystemLow-SystemHigh** = **s0-s15:c0.c1023**
- s = sensitivity (“classification level”)
  - 16 levels by default
  - Can only effectively be in one at a time
- c = category (“program you're read into”)
  - 1024 categories by default
  - Can have multiple categories
    - Can be read into multiple programs
- $16 * 2^{1024}$  possible labels!





# SELinux sensitivity and category example

- $s0 < s5$ 
  - s5 has a higher sensitivity (“classification level”) than s0
  - s5 can read s0 to s5 content
  - s0 can't read s5 content
  - s5 will write exactly s5 content
  - s0 will write exactly s0 content (no higher)
  - Neither have categories
    - “Clearances but not read into any compartmentalized programs”



# SELinux sensitivity and category example

- s6:c133 <> s9:c296
  - Neither can read the other
  - s9 is a higher sensitivity (“classification level”) but isn't read into category c133
  - c296 does not dominate c133
    - Unlike sensitivities, categories have no concept of domination
    - c296 and c133 are just different
  - s6:c133 will write exactly s6:c133 content
    - Role change needed to write s6 with no category



# SELinux sensitivity and category example

- `s1:c2,c4,c5 < s9:c2.c6,c10`
  - Multiple categories
  - Dot notation defines a contiguous range of categories (“c2 through c6”)
  - `s9:c2.c6,c10` can read the `s1:c2,c4,c5` content
    - `s9:c2.c6,c10` has a higher classification level and is read into c2, c4, and c5 (as well as c3, c6, and c10)
  - `s1:c2,c4,c5` can't read the `s9:c2.c6,c10` content
    - `s1:c2,c4,c5` is a lower sensitivity
    - `s1:c2,c4,c5` isn't read into c3, c6, and c10
  - `s9:c2.c6,c10` will write exactly `s9:c2.c6,c10` content



# SELinux MLS and type enforcement example

- `ps -ZC httpd`
  - `system_u:system_r:httpd_t:s15:c0.c1023`
- `ls -Z /etc/shadow`
  - `system_u:object_r:shadow_t:s0`
- `httpd` can't read `/etc/shadow`
  - But isn't `httpd` at the highest security level and is read into all categories?
  - `httpd`'s SELinux type enforcement policy doesn't allow access to `shadow_t`!
  - Most other MLS implementations don't provide this additional layer of security



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# Setup

- Install a RHEL 6 system (virtual guest totally fine)
  - Select “Basic Server” install
- Register system with RHN
- Update system and reboot
  - `yum -y update && reboot`
- Install the SELinux MLS policy and additional tools
  - `yum install selinux-policy-mls policycoreutils-python`





# Targeted policy: one sensitivity

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
unconfined_u:unconfined_r:unconfined_t:s0-s0:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Translation table

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
unconfined_u:unconfined_r:unconfined_t:s0-s0:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# cat /etc/selinux/targeted/setrans.conf
#
# Multi-Category Security translation table for SELinux
#
# Uncomment the following to disable translation library
# disable=1
#
# Objects can be categorized with 0-1023 categories defined by the admin.
# Objects can be in more than one category at a time.
# Categories are stored in the system as c0-c1023. Users can use this
# table to translate the categories into a more meaningful output.
# Examples:
# s0:c0=CompanyConfidential
# s0:c1=PatientRecord
# s0:c2=Unclassified
# s0:c3=TopSecret
# s0:c1,c3=CompanyConfidentialRedHat
s0=SystemLow
s0-s0:c0.c1023=SystemLow-SystemHigh
s0:c0.c1023=SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```





# Relabel the file system with the MLS policy

- Tell SELinux to relabel the file system with the current (MLS) SELinux policy on next boot and reboot
  - `touch /.autorelabel && reboot`
- Reboot will take longer than usual



# File system relabeling

```
                Welcome to Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server
Starting udev:                                     [ OK ]
Setting hostname rhel6.example.com:               [ OK ]
Setting up Logical Volume Management:  2 logical volume(s) in volume group "vg_
rhel6" now active                                     [ OK ]

Checking filesystems
/dev/mapper/vg_rhel6-lv_root: clean, 53367/238080 files, 475870/952320 blocks
/dev/vda1: clean, 46/128016 files, 79255/512000 blocks
                                                    [ OK ]
Remounting root filesystem in read-write mode:    [ OK ]
Mounting local filesystems:                       [ OK ]
Enabling local filesystem quotas:                 [ OK ]

*** Warning -- SELinux mls policy relabel is required.
*** Relabeling could take a very long time, depending on file
*** system size and speed of hard drives.
*****_
```



# MLS policy: 16 sensitivities

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z  
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Different translation table

```
s2:c1=B

# ranges for Unclassified
s0-s1=SystemLow-Unclassified
s1-s2=Unclassified-Secret
s1-s15:c0.c1023=Unclassified-SystemHigh

# ranges for Secret with compartments
s0-s2=SystemLow-Secret
s0-s2:c0=SystemLow-Secret:A
s0-s2:c1=SystemLow-Secret:B
s0-s2:c0,c1=SystemLow-Secret:AB
s1-s2:c0=Unclassified-Secret:A
s1-s2:c1=Unclassified-Secret:B
s1-s2:c0,c1=Unclassified-Secret:AB
s2-s2:c0=Secret-Secret:A
s2-s2:c1=Secret-Secret:B
s2-s2:c0,c1=Secret-Secret:AB
s2-s15:c0.c1023=Secret-SystemHigh
s2:c0-s2:c0,c1=Secret:A-Secret:AB
s2:c0-s15:c0.c1023=Secret:A-SystemHigh
s2:c1-s2:c0,c1=Secret:B-Secret:AB
s2:c1-s15:c0.c1023=Secret:B-SystemHigh
s2:c0,c1-s15:c0.c1023=Secret:AB-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



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# Change to secadm\_r

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# newrole -r secadm_r
Password:
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Separate sysadm\_r from secadm\_r

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# newrole -r secadm_r
Password:
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# semodule -d sysadm_secadm
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Leave secadm\_r

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# newrole -r secadm_r
Password:
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# semodule -d sysadm_secadm
[root@rhel6 ~]# exit
logout
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



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# Customizing the translation table

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# cd /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# ls
README  secolor.conf  setrans.conf  urcsts.color  urcsts.test
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cat README
Simple handling of
UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED
CONFIDENTIAL
SECRET
TOP SECRET

To use:
cp setrans.conf /etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf
cp secolor.conf /etc/selinux/mls/
run_init /etc/init.d/mcstrans restart

To test:
/usr/share/mcstrans/util/mlstrans-test urcsts.test
/usr/share/mcstrans/util/mlscolor-test urcsts.color
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# _
```



# Sample translation table

```
# UNCLASSIFIED

s0=SystemLow
s15:c0.c1023=SystemHigh

s1=UNCLASSIFIED
s1=UNCLAS
s1=U

s3=RESTRICTED
s3=R E S T R I C T E D
s3=R

s5=CONFIDENTIAL
s5=C O N F I D E N T I A L
s5=C

s7=SECRET
s7=S E C R E T
s7=S

s9=TOP SECRET
s9=T O P S E C R E T
s9=T O P S E C R E T
setrans.conf _
```



# Sample colors

```
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# less secolor.conf

color black = #000000
color green = #008000
color yellow = #ffff00
color blue = #0000ff
color white = #ffffff
color red = #ff0000
color orange = #ffa500
color tan = #D2B48C

user * = black black
role * = black black
type * = black black
range s0-s0:c0.c1023 = black green
range s1-s1:c0.c1023 = black green
range s3-s3:c0.c1023 = black tan
range s5-s5:c0.c1023 = white blue
range s7-s7:c0.c1023 = black red
range s9-s9:c0.c1023 = black orange
range s15:c0.c1023 = black yellow

secolor.conf (END) _
```



# Using the sample translation table

```
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? _
```



# Using the sample translation table

```
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? y  
cp: cannot create regular file '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf': Permission denie  
d  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# _
```



# Need to be secadm\_r!

```
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? y  
cp: cannot create regular file '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf': Permission denie  
d  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# id -Z  
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# _
```



## Works after newrole to secadm\_r

```
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? y  
cp: cannot create regular file '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf': Permission denie  
d  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# id -Z  
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# newrole -r secadm_r  
Password:  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? y  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# id -Z  
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# _
```



## Copy the sample colors and leave secadm\_r

```
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? y  
cp: cannot create regular file '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf': Permission denie  
d  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# id -Z  
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# newrole -r secadm_r  
Password:  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/setrans.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
cp: overwrite '/etc/selinux/mls/setrans.conf'? y  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# id -Z  
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# cp /usr/share/mcstrans/examples/urcsts/secolor.conf /etc/se  
linux/mls  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# exit  
logout  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# id -Z  
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023  
[root@rhel6 urcsts]# _
```





# Load the new mapping using mcstrans

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:s0-s15:c0.c1023
[root@rhel6 ~]# run_init service mcstrans restart
Authenticating root.
Password:
Stopping mcstransd: [FAILED]
Starting mcstransd: [ OK ]
[root@rhel6 ~]# run_init chkconfig mcstrans on
Authenticating root.
Password:
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



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## Optionally relaxing security

- newrole without a root password each time
- run\_init without a root password each time





# newrole works without root password each time

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# newrole -r secadm_r
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# exit
logout
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```







# run\_init works without root password each time

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# run_init service mcstrans restart
Authenticating root.
Stopping mcstransd: [ OK ]
Starting mcstransd: [ OK ]
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



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# Add a user

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# useradd mlsuser
[root@rhel6 ~]# echo redhat | passwd --stdin mlsuser
Changing password for user mlsuser.
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.
[root@rhel6 ~]# newrole -r secadm_r
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# SELinux user types

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# semanage user -l
```

SELinux User	Labeling Prefix	MLS/MCS Level	MLS/MCS Range	SELinux Roles
git_shell_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow	git_shell_r
guest_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow	guest_r
root	user	SystemLow	SystemLow-SystemHigh	auditadm_r
staff_r	secadm_r sysadm_r	system_r		
staff_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow-SystemHigh	auditadm_r
staff_r	secadm_r sysadm_r	system_r		
sysadm_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow-SystemHigh	sysadm_r sy
stem_r				
system_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow-SystemHigh	system_r
user_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow	user_r
xguest_u	user	SystemLow	SystemLow	xguest_r

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Linux login names mapped to SELinux user types

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# semanage login -l
```

Login Name	SELinux User	MLS/MCS Range
__default__	user_u	SystemLow
root	root	SystemLow-SystemHigh
system_u	system_u	SystemLow-SystemHigh

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Add login and assign user type and range

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# semanage login -l
```

Login Name	SELinux User	MLS/MCS Range
__default__	user_u	SystemLow
root	root	SystemLow-SystemHigh
system_u	system_u	SystemLow-SystemHigh

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# semanage login -a -s staff_u -r U-TS mlsuser
```

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# semanage login -l
```

Login Name	SELinux User	MLS/MCS Range
__default__	user_u	SystemLow
mlsuser	staff_u	UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
root	root	SystemLow-SystemHigh
system_u	system_u	SystemLow-SystemHigh

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```





# Log in as new user

```
Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server release 6.3 (Santiago)
Kernel 2.6.32-279.19.1.el6.x86_64 on an x86_64

rhel6 login: mlsuser
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Create a file

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ pwd
/home/mlsuser
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ touch test
touch: cannot touch `test': Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Can't write down!

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ pwd
/home/mlsuser
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ touch test
touch: cannot touch `test': Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -Zd .
drwx-----. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_dir_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
.
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Can read down

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ pwd
/home/mlsuser
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ touch test
touch: cannot touch `test': Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -Zd .
drwx-----. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_dir_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
.
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cat .bashrc
# .bashrc

# Source global definitions
if [ -f /etc/bashrc ]; then
    . /etc/bashrc
fi

# User specific aliases and functions
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -Z .bashrc
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:SystemLow .bashrc
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



## One fix: recursively relabel the home directory

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:secadm_r:secadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# chcon -v -R -l U /home/mlsuser/
changing security context of '/home/mlsuser/.bash_logout'
changing security context of '/home/mlsuser/.bashrc'
changing security context of '/home/mlsuser/.bash_profile'
changing security context of '/home/mlsuser/'
[root@rhel6 ~]# ls -aZ /home/mlsuser/
drwx-----. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_dir_t:UNCLASSIFIED .
drwxr-xr-x. root root system_u:object_r:home_root_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh .
.
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED .bash_logout
t
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED .bash_profile
le
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED .bashrc
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# Now writing works!

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ pwd
/home/mlsuser
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ touch test
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -aZ
drwx-----. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_dir_t:UNCLASSIFIED .
drwxr-xr-x. root root system_u:object_r:home_root_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh .
.
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED .bash_logou
t
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED .bash_prof i
le
-rw-r--r--. mlsuser mlsuser user_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED .bashrc
-rw-rw-r--. mlsuser mlsuser staff_u:object_r:user_home_t:UNCLASSIFIED test
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



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David Egts, RHCA, RHCSS  
Principal Architect  
[@davidegts](#)



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# ssh as a non-root user

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:02:09 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Escalating sensitivity within ssh

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:02:09 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l S
Error: you are not allowed to change levels on a non secure terminal
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Figure out ssh's tty and the tty's SELinux type

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:02:09 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l S
Error: you are not allowed to change levels on a non secure terminal
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ tty
/dev/pts/0
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -Z /dev/pts/0
crw--w----. mlsuser tty staff_u:object_r:user_devpts_t:UNCLASSIFIED /dev/pts/0
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```





## Now newrole within ssh works

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:02:09 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l S
Error: you are not allowed to change levels on a non secure terminal
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ tty
/dev/pts/0
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -Z /dev/pts/0
crw--w----. mlsuser tty staff_u:object_r:user_devpts_t:UNCLASSIFIED /dev/pts/0
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l S
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls -Z /dev/pts/0
crw--w----. mlsuser tty staff_u:object_r:user_devpts_t:SECRET /dev/pts/0
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# ssh as a non-root user with a sensitivity

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:23:46 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Can change levels down within sensitivity range

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:23:46 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l U
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```





# Can't change levels outside sensitivity range

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:23:46 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l U
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l TS
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TS-SECRET is not a valid context
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Can change levels up within sensitivity range

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:23:46 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l U
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l TS
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TS-SECRET is not a valid context
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l S
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# ssh as a non-root user with a sensitivity range

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/C-TS@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/C-TS@localhost's password:
Last login: Sun Feb 24 15:22:48 2013 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:CONFIDENTIAL-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



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# Set up secret and top\_secret directories

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# id -Z
root:sysadm_r:sysadm_t:SystemLow-SystemHigh
[root@rhel6 ~]# mkdir -p /data/secret /data/top_secret
[root@rhel6 ~]# chmod 777 /data/secret /data/top_secret
[root@rhel6 ~]# newrole -r secadm_r
[root@rhel6 ~]# chcon -R -t user_home_t /data
[root@rhel6 ~]# chcon -l S /data/secret
[root@rhel6 ~]# chcon -l "TOP SECRET" /data/top_secret
[root@rhel6 ~]# ls -Z /data
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:TOP SECRET top_secret
[root@rhel6 ~]# exit
logout
[root@rhel6 ~]# _
```



# ssh as mlsuser at the Secret level

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost's password:
Last login: Thu Dec 27 15:48:19 2012 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```





# ssh as mlsuser at the Secret level

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost's password:
Last login: Thu Dec 27 15:48:19 2012 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
ls: cannot access top_secret: Permission denied
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
?----- ? ? top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ _
```



# Secret can write to Secret area

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost's password:
Last login: Thu Dec 27 15:48:19 2012 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
ls: cannot access top_secret: Permission denied
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
?----- ? ? top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cd secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ echo secrets > secret.txt
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ cat secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ _
```



# Can't read up

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost's password:
Last login: Thu Dec 27 15:48:19 2012 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
ls: cannot access top_secret: Permission denied
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
?----- ? ? top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cd secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ echo secrets > secret.txt
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ cat secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ cd ../top_secret
-bash: cd: ../top_secret: Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ _
```



# Can't write up (write equality only!)

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/S@localhost's password:
Last login: Thu Dec 27 15:48:19 2012 from localhost
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
ls: cannot access top_secret: Permission denied
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
?----- ? ? top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cd secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ echo secrets > secret.txt
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ cat secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ cd ../top_secret
-bash: cd: ../top_secret: Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ echo secrets > ../top_secret/secret.txt
-bash: ../top_secret/secret.txt: Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 secret]$ _
```



# ssh as mlsuser at the Top Secret level

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh "mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET"@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Mon Dec 31 15:01:00 2012
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# ssh as mlsuser at the Top Secret level

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh "mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET"@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Mon Dec 31 15:01:00 2012
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:TOP SECRET top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ _
```



# Top Secret can write to Top Secret area

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh "mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET"@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Mon Dec 31 15:01:00 2012
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:TOP SECRET top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ echo secrets > top_secret/top_secret.txt
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cat top_secret/top_secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ _
```



# Can't write down

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh "mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET"@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Mon Dec 31 15:01:00 2012
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:TOP SECRET top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ echo secrets > top_secret/top_secret.txt
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cat top_secret/top_secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ echo secrets > secret/top_secret.txt
-bash: secret/top_secret.txt: Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ _
```





# Can read down

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh "mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET"@localhost
mlsuser/staff_r/TOP SECRET@localhost's password:
Last login: Mon Dec 31 15:01:00 2012
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cd /data
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ ls -Z
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:SECRET secret
drwxrwxrwx. root root root:object_r:user_home_t:TOP SECRET top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ echo secrets > top_secret/top_secret.txt
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cat top_secret/top_secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ echo secrets > secret/top_secret.txt
-bash: secret/top_secret.txt: Permission denied
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ cat secret/secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 data]$ _
```



# ssh as mlsuser without a sensitivity

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Tue Jan  8 12:22:21 2013
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Can't read up

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Tue Jan  8 12:22:21 2013
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls /data
ls: cannot access /data/top_secret: Permission denied
ls: cannot access /data/secret: Permission denied
secret top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



# Escalate sensitivity to TS

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Tue Jan  8 12:22:21 2013
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls /data
ls: cannot access /data/top_secret: Permission denied
ls: cannot access /data/secret: Permission denied
secret  top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l TS
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



## And read down works

```
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ssh mlsuser@localhost
mlsuser@localhost's password:
Last login: Tue Jan  8 12:22:21 2013
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:UNCLASSIFIED-TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ ls /data
ls: cannot access /data/top_secret: Permission denied
ls: cannot access /data/secret: Permission denied
secret top_secret
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ newrole -l TS
Password:
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ id -Z
staff_u:staff_r:staff_t:TOP SECRET
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cat /data/top_secret/top_secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ cat /data/secret/secret.txt
secrets
[mlsuser@rhel6 ~]$ _
```



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- *Part 9: MLS with RHEL 6 in action!*



# References

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- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Security-Enhanced Linux User Guide
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- Confining Users with SELinux
  - <https://access.redhat.com/knowledge/videos/214723>



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