

How to add AD Authentication in vCenter Server Appliance 7.0

The vCenter Server has an internal user database that allows you to add and manage users with the vSphere Web Client. Users management and Single Sign-On is provided by the Platform Service Controller which is available since vSphere 6.0. In a large environment, you might want to connect your virtualization infrastructure to a centrally manage Active Directory.

This article explains how to add AD authentication in vSphere 7.0 and how to get the "Use Windows session authentication" checkbox to work with the enhanced authentication plugin.

A) Active Directory (Integrated Windows Authentication

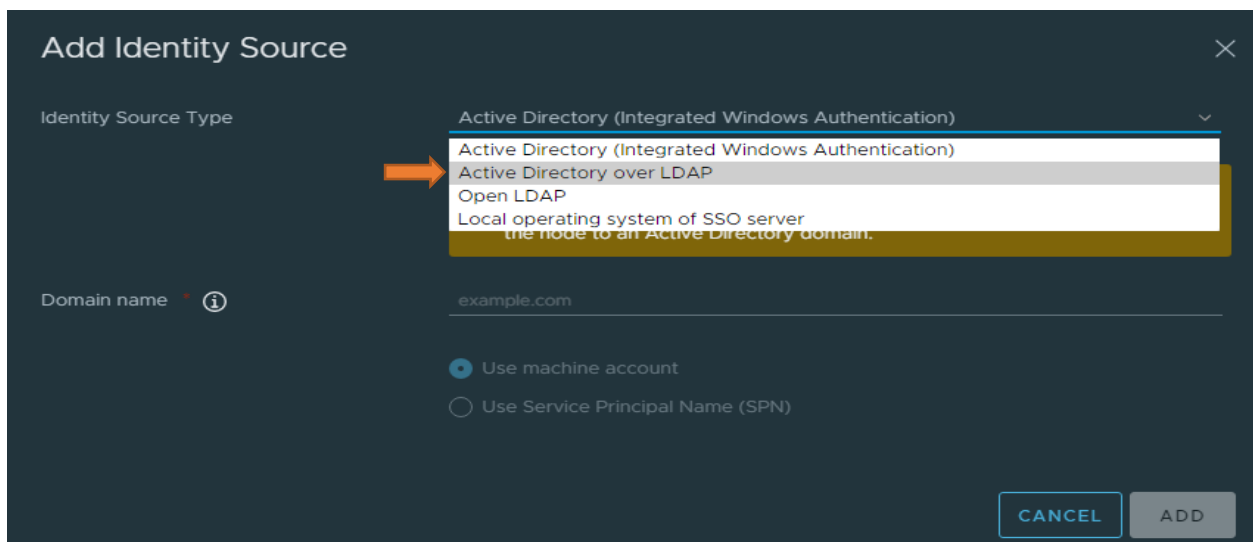
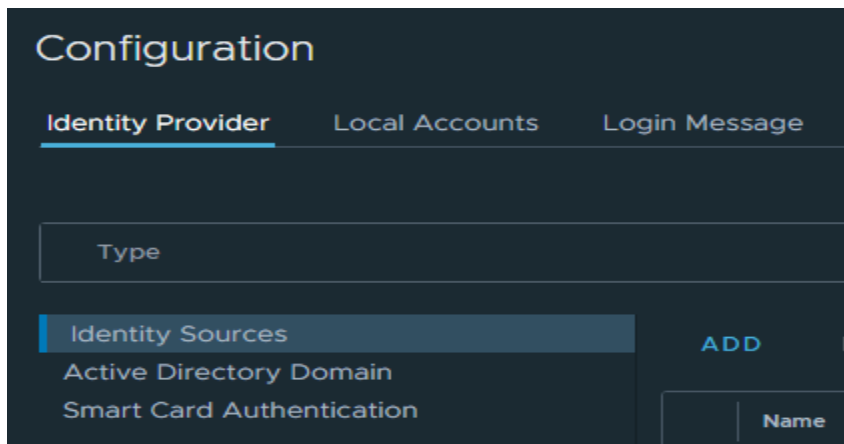
This option works with vCenter Server Appliance. The underlying system has to be a member of the Active Directory domain.

B) Active Directory as a LDAP Server

If the underlying system is not part of the Active Directory domain. This is what we are going to use for this configuration.

Login to vCenter Server Appliance

Menu – Administration – Single Sign On – Configuration – Identity Sources



Add Identity Source

Identity Source Type: Active Directory over LDAP

Identity source name: RAMLAN.CA

Base distinguished name for users: DC=RAMLAN,DC=CA

Base distinguished name for groups: DC=RAMLAN,DC=CA

Domain name: RAMLAN.CA

Domain alias: RAMLAN

Username: ramlan\administrator

Password:

Connect to:

- Any domain controller in the domain
- Specific domain controllers

Primary server url: _____

Secondary server url: _____

SSL certificates: BROWSE

No certificates added.

CANCEL ADD

Configuration


Identity Provider | Local Accounts | Login Message

Type: Embedded

Identity Sources: ADD EDIT **SET AS DEFAULT** REMOVE

Name	Server URL	Type	Domain
--	--	System Domain	vsphere.local
--	--	Local OS	localos
<input checked="" type="radio"/> RAMLAN.CA	--	ActiveDirectory	RAMLAN.CA

Set Default Identity Source

 This will alter your current default domain. Do you want to proceed?

CANCEL OK

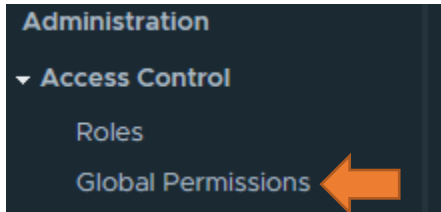
Configuration

Identity Provider | Local Accounts | Login Message

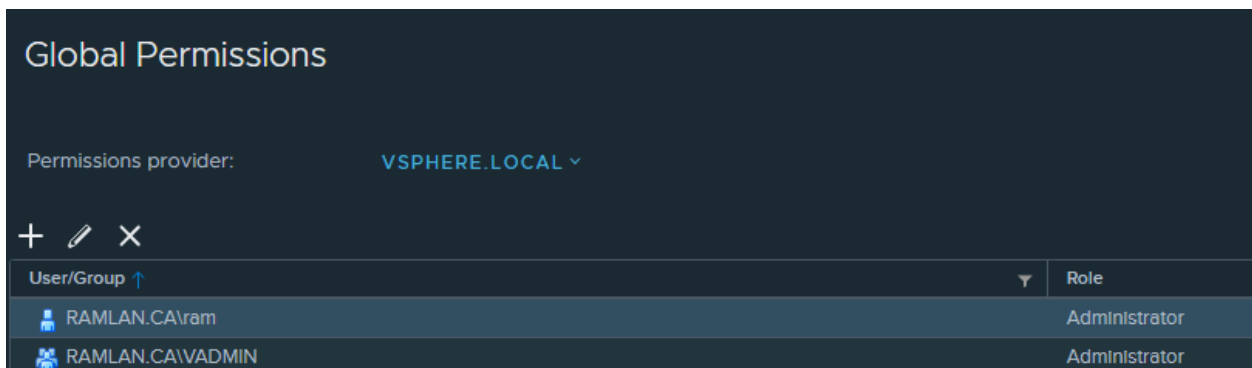
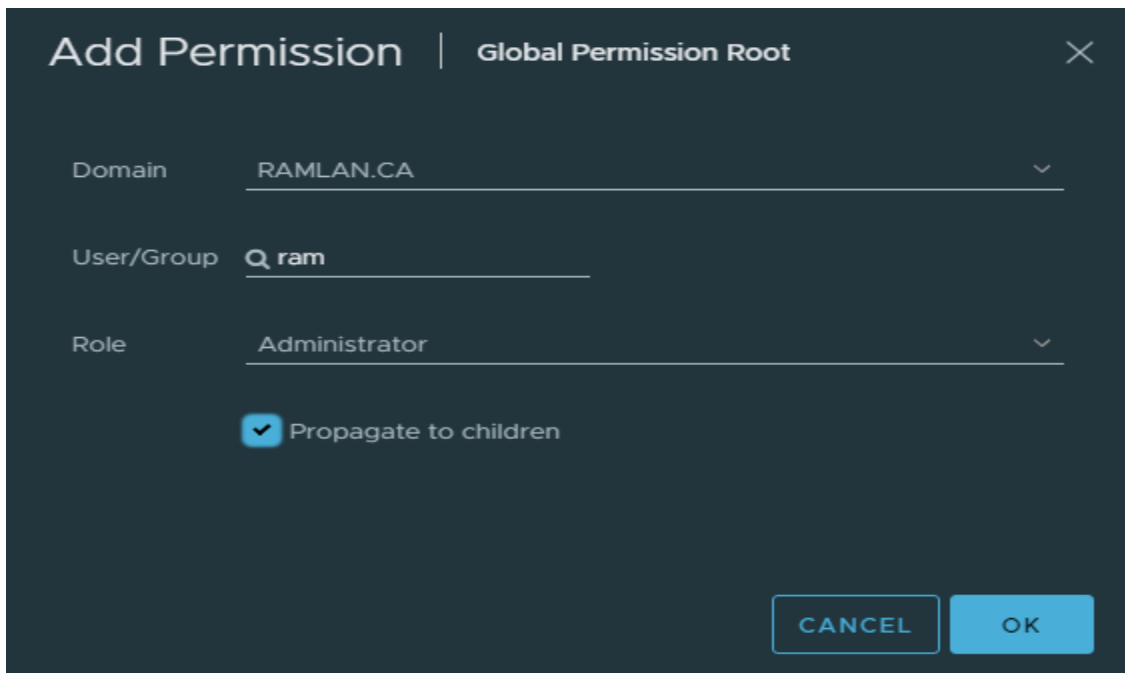
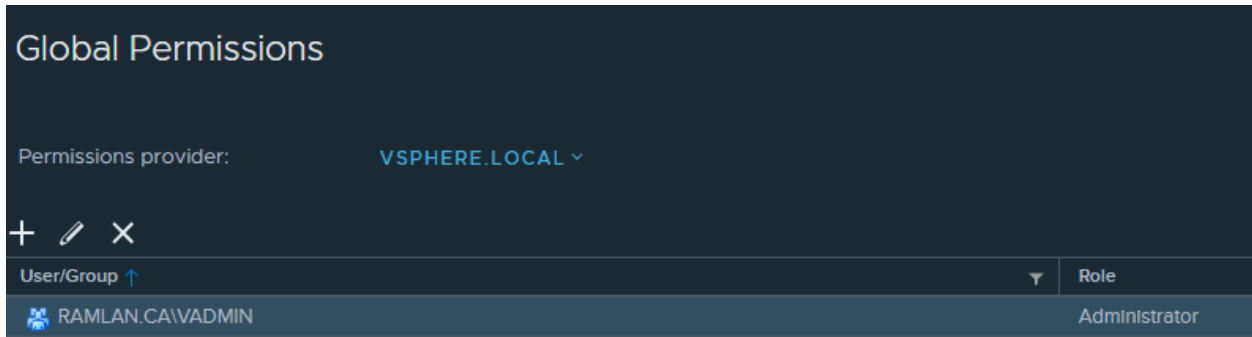
Type: Embedded

Identity Sources: ADD EDIT SET AS DEFAULT REMOVE

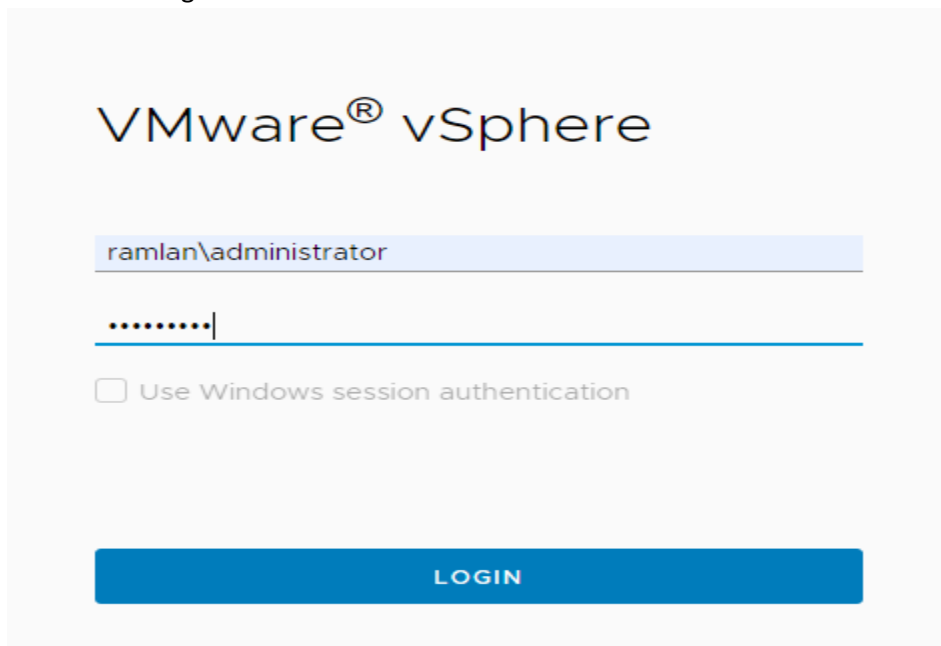
Name	Server URL	Type	Domain
--	--	System Domain	vsphere.local
--	--	Local OS	localos
<input type="radio"/> RAMLAN.CA	--	ActiveDirectory (Default)	RAMLAN.CA



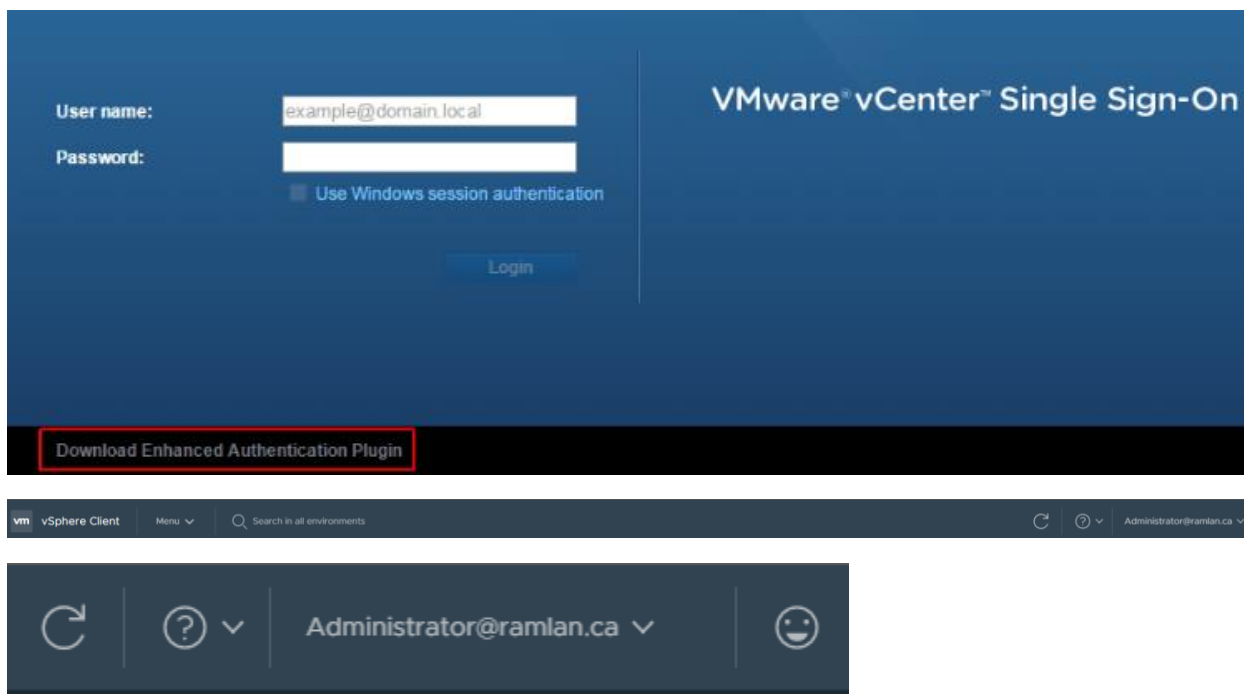
Press + to add user or groups. I have added VADMIN group. I will add another user as well.



Now we will login with AD credentials.



The "Use Windows session authentication" checkbox is disabled unless the Enhanced Authentication Plugin is installed. You can find the download link at the bottom of the login screen.



This concludes AD configuration for vCenter Server Appliance 7.0

Thanks

Ram Lan
5th Aug 2020