SecureTranz

The Secure File Transfer Application

Platform independent: Tiny processing utilisation: Secure protocols for authentication and encryption: Visibility of complete process: Easy installation

Background

SecureTranz was developed as a secure mechanism to automate the transfer of files from one company to another across either a secure or insecure connection.

Tranzsoft Gateway and software enables the exchange of electronic documents and data over the Internet and other delivery networks and protocols. It includes the ability to translate or 'map' between different data and document formats to provide seamless integration between disparate applications and messaging services.

Transporting files through the software or Gateway can be via e-mail attachment, FTP, SMTP, http, https, VPN, Frame Relay or any other recognized delivery mechanism.

However, protocols such as e-mail and FTP often require manual intervention. As transfer volumes increase this can become difficult to manage. Lack of security and logging details can also be a problem with these more basic forms of transport.

… SecureTranz provides the solution.

Features

The following features have already made SecureTranz a successful product:

- SecureTranz is platform independent, meaning it can run on any operating system that has the Java Runtime environment installed.

This is an increasingly wide range of systems including most Microsoft Windows versions, Linux and most Unix varieties.

- Multiple security options for authentication allowing you to select the security you require based on the information being transferred. Options are:
    - Username / Password
    - Public / Private key
    - Digital Certificate
- From a firewall and security perspective Secure Shell (SSH) is a well-understood standard. SecureTranz utilises SSH for authentication and encrypting the file transfer. The standard encryption level is SSH2 CIPHER.
- The logging and simple movement of files (from OUT to DONE) allows you to have complete visibility of the processes performed.
- Should a communication failure occur the exception reporting describes which step of the process stopped.
- Using standard platforms and components (Java and SSH) SecureTranz remains extremely small and therefore requires very little processing power.
- Although the most complex part of using SecureTranz, the installation can typically performed by selecting the default settings. If the defaults are selected installation can be performed within 10 minutes.

How it Works

SecureTranz is based on a very simple and well-understood process. That is, copying a file from one location to another. Within an organisation this is relatively simple to implement but the complexity increases exponentially when attempting to do this intra-company. Security, authentication, encryption, resilience, scalability and dependability all become an issue.
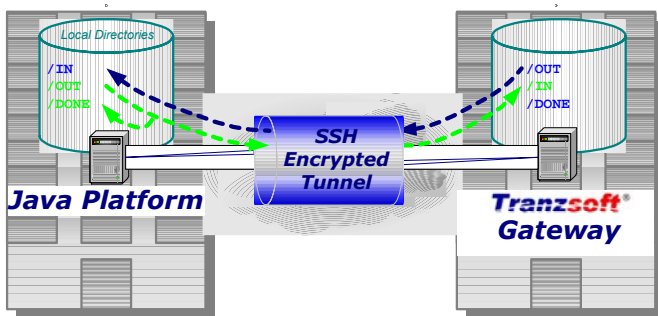

Figure 1 - As a transport for the Tranzsoft Gateway

SecureTranz still uses this simple directory structure but takes care of all the other complexity within a small footprint application running in the background on a Java enabled machine. SecureTranz is configured, during installation; to periodically check for files in a directory (/OUT), securely transfer them to the destination directory (/IN) at the remote site and report on this processing. It's that simple.
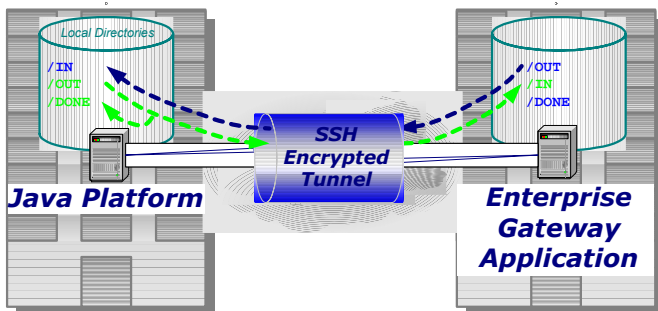

Figure 2 - As the transport for any e-commerce application

SecureTranz is one of the transport mechanisms for the Tranzsoft Gateway and the Pacific Health Exchange, as illustrated in figure 1. However it can be used for transporting any files for any Enterprise or Transactional Application, as shown in Figure 2.

Customer Benefits

The following benefits have already been realised by SecureTranz customers:

- Complexity is vastly reduced, as SecureTranz is a single product performing all of the necessary functions, including directory polling, authentication, transfer and logging. Other methods involving email or FTP become complex and cumbersome very quickly and normally involve a number of experts to implement and maintain.
- SecureTranz can enhance the functionality of almost any ERP or bespoke application requiring the movement of information. This is because all of these applications can create a file in a directory which SecureTranz then picks up and does its business.
- Multiple authentication options allow for a further reduction in complexity should the files being transferred only require username / password authentication.

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