Remote Desktop Manager
+
Devolutions Server
+
Devolutions Gateway

USE CASE 9

Replacing RD Gateway
with Devolutions Gateway
for RDP Remote Access

How to enhance security and
efficiency by reducing RDP exposure
for remote access without using the
Microsoft RD Gateway.

Devolutions

Who Is This Use Case For?

This use case is for organizations currently using the Microsoft Remote Desktop Gateway (RD Gateway) for RDP connections, but would like a replacement solution that doesn't suffer from the same limitations.

The Problem

The Microsoft Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) should never be exposed directly on the Internet, which is why Microsoft recommends deploying an RD Gateway for secure remote access. However, since the RD Gateway protocol uses Windows authentication (NTLM/Kerberos) over HTTP, external malicious actors can leverage it in brute force and password spraying attacks against Active Directory. Moreover, the RD Gateway degrades performance by tunneling RDP TLS over HTTPS (TLS in TLS) when faster, secure approaches are possible. Last but not least, enforcing MFA on RD Gateway connections is known to be particularly difficult.

The Solution

Devolutions Gateway, combined with **Devolutions Server** and **Remote Desktop Manager**, makes secure, Just-in-Time (JIT) RDP access possible without using RD Gateway. **Devolutions Gateway** acts as the secure bridge to the internal network, and only accepts connection requests previously authorized by **Devolutions Server**. The process is transparent for **Remote Desktop Manager** users, but all sessions are authorized and logged in **Devolutions Server** for increased visibility.

How It Works

Step 1: Download and install **Devolutions Server.**

Step 2: Deploy and configure **Devolutions Gateway** to be used with **Devolutions Server**.

Step 3: Create or update RDP connection entries in **Remote Desktop Manager** to use **Devolutions Gateway**.

Summary of Benefits

- **Enhance security:** Enforce MFA through Devolutions Server authentication on Devolutions Gateway RDP connections.

- **Reduce complexity:** Replace heavyweight VPN deployments with simple, lightweight Devolutions Gateway instances.

- **Network performance:** Tunneling is restricted to RDP connections and doesn't affect unrelated network traffic, unlike VPN clients.

- **Improve visibility:** Just-in-Time (JIT) RDP connections make detailed session tracking and auditing possible, unlike VPNs.

Next Steps

Learn more about how Devolutions can help your organization secure remote desktop access:

- **Request a free trial of Devolutions Server –** click here
- **Request a live guided demo of Devolutions Server –** click here
- **Request a free trial of Remote Desktop Manager –** click here
- **Contact us for more information –** click here