

Simplifying Provisioning and Single Sign-On to Several Internal Applications Using OIM and OAM

Kiran Samvedi
Innowave Technology

Introduction

The company in the case study is an international, non-asset-based supply chain services and solutions company with reported gross revenues of \$3.6 billion for fiscal year ending January 31, 2007. It includes air and ocean freight forwarding, contract logistics, customs brokerage, distribution, inbound logistics, truckload brokerage and other supply chain management and optimization solutions and services, including consulting, the coordination of purchase orders and customized management services.

The company operates a global network of freight forwarding offices and more than 200 contract logistics and distribution centers that are strategically located in 65 countries and staffed by a team of more than 19,000 experienced and skilled people. They serve clients in 78 additional countries through independent, agent-owned offices.

The company's current corporate directory is SunOne LDAP. Also Active Directory (AD) is used for Exchange and network authentication. Applications are used by both internal users and external customers, per the current process internal users are created in AD, while internal and external customers are created in LDAP.

For phase 1 the company plans to achieve four objectives:

1. Implement SSO for accounts on global systems
2. Build connectors to global systems for authentication only
3. Transfer existing regional processes for global systems to the provisioning tool
4. List and prioritise systems/applications/functionality to be implemented in Phase 2

Possible Solutions

Custom Built

The conventional approach to this could be building a custom application to implement enterprise wide single sign on and authentication to global system from scratch. This would be a daunting effort due to the following limitations:

- The development process will be very expensive, requiring a lot of time and resources.
- Solution architects would need to know every application's details in depth as regards provisioning and authentication.
- The processes will be difficult to change. A lot of coding changes will be required in case of a business process change.
- Auditing of the solution (SOX guidelines) would further complicate the process ..

Enterprise Single Sign On Products

An alternative and cost effective approach is to use eSSO solution consisting of provisioning, authorizing, authentication and federated identity that also is compliant to SOX guidelines. Using oracle products this could be achieved with some customizations for the in-house built applications.

- Oracle Access Manager for Single Sign On (SSO)
- Oracle Identity Manager (provisioning)
- Oracle Management Pack (centralized/regional management)
- *Connectors*

Analysis of the systems and the products on hand provided the matrix as below

	Applications : a. Oracle database relational. B. Multi value non oracle databases. C. Web based applications. D. custom applications		
Access Controls->	Access Management		
	SSO	eSSO	Federation
	Identity Provisioning & Administration		
	Directory Services		
	LDAP	Virtual Directory	Meta Directory

Solution selected

The solution selected was as follows

1. Use the sun one ldap corporate LDAP as the main central LDAP authentication directories.
2. Install OVD so as to be able to integrate the AD, Database and webbased authentication.

The Implementation process was as below

1. Sync the existing Users with the corporate LDAP
2. Create the OVD view
3. Install the web gates and create s few custom web gates.
4. Install OIM and custom connectors for the multi value databases
5. Install and implement eSSO and integrate web interface and applications.