Is Your Software Simple?

Assess How Well the PAM Software
You Choose Supports Your Goals

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THYCOTIC ULTIMATE PAM VENDOR CHECKLIST
Ask your vendor these questions:

	✓ Software That Passes The Simple Test	✕ Software That Fails The Simple Test
How quickly can my staff learn the tool?	Your team can easily learn the software in days and manage it without hiring staff.	You should account for an additional full-time employee simply to run the software.
What's the user experience like?	A single, integrated UI allows you to manage all functionality in one place.	You must switch between multiple UIs to perform common tasks, increasing risk of misconfiguration.
How can I view data and report the way my business is organized?	You can classify data and generate reports based on any criteria relevant to you, even sorting by info in the Notes field.	Only limited, canned reports and a pre-defined set of metadata for tagging are available.
How can I share reports with auditors and execs?	You can view reports and drill into data directly in your browser and share easily. There is an immutable audit trail that demonstrates compliance.	Reports must be exported into Excel or integrated with a SIEM tool to be manipulated and shared. You may have auditing gaps when information is moved.
How can I make updates on my own schedule?	Pro services are available, but not required. You can make patches, upgrades or changes when you need.	Pro services are required for installation, upgrades, custom scripts, custom reports, custom password changers, and more.
What if I want to define actions and conditions before and after a Secret is checked-out?	Commonly used tech (PowerShell, SQL, SSH) allows you direct control to create hooks, make script changes and account for dependencies.	Software is proprietary and doesn't allow you any direct control to make customizations that match your requirements.
Can I associate AD groups to PAM authority without manual control and oversight?	You can receive proactive notifications in real time when a new person is added to an AD Group.	The initial import of an AD Group is accomplished through a wizard, but the wizard cannot be run again and AD queries must be typed into a configuration page.
How will you support my cloud-first strategy?	A true SaaS PAM option means no on-premises components are installed, no professional services are required and no enterprise capabilities are lost. All updates are made automatically.	Even if you host PAM in the cloud, you still have to purchase and manage some on premise components – through a professional services engagement.
How do you mitigate risk of failure?	"Failover" capability is built into the architecture of the solution that powers discovery and password changing. Multiple engines can share the workload, so if one goes down work proceeds. There are no limitations on the number of distributed engines that can run on a network.	Automated failover is impossible because the module that powers discovery and password changing can only be installed once per remote network. This represents a single point of failure.

What Can You Do When PAM Software Is Simple?

Is Your Software Simple?

THE SIMPLE TEST

You Can: Match your system and workflow requirements

Software built using common languages and frameworks are easier to maintain and customize than proprietary technology. Architecture based on the Microsoft stack is commonly understood; existing staff can apply knowledge they have or you can easily hire expertise. Similarly, PowerShell is a popular scripting language, SQL is an industry-standard database and every UNIX pro knows SSH commands.

When your PAM software is simple, you'll have direct control to:

- Ensure environments are ready or validate that specific conditions are met before a user can access a Secret.
- Make sure applications that rely on a Secret can be updated or environmental changes can be made
  (e.g. updating Registry keys, changing SharePoint passwords).
- Keep domain admin accounts disabled in AD whenever they are not in use or they are undergoing penetration testing.
- Customize common SQL dependencies, such as rotating a SQL service account without restarting SQL
- Set SSH dependencies such as updating a user's Apache configuration file.

You Can: Customize and share reports to demonstrate success

Ever had to generate a report for your boss on the fly? This is not the time to be combing through audit logs. Simple software allows you to generate meaningful, actionable reports right away, without requiring you to purchase and integrate a SIEM system to interpret data. Database queries are enabled in a standard, transparent manner. At-a-glance dashboards prioritize information that is most important and let you drill down into reports and slice and dice data as you need.

When reporting is easy, you can:

- Demonstrate compliance to auditors and executives
- Tell your management team which malicious applications were successfully blocked from executing
- Prioritize areas of concern, such as top users attempting to run blacklisted applications, or endpoints that are targeted more than average
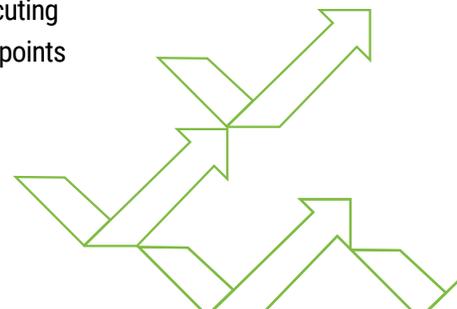
You Can: Organize and find information the way people really search

Simple software allows for metadata to be applied so that information can be retrieved across hundreds or thousands of Secrets. At the same time, it recognizes how users actually want to search and filter – according to business units, compliance regulations, or other internal criteria. Simple software doesn't lock you into using a small set of pre-defined metatags. Users often use natural language within text-based notes to create their own "folksonomy." Simple PAM software also captures natural language for the most accurate results.

You Can: Most importantly, reduce your risk

Discovery and password changing are mission-critical workloads. If they can't be performed because a remote application goes down your risk increases exponentially. This is unacceptable for a modern enterprise. Simple software is built on an architecture that never allows for a single point of failure.

Given the speed and sophistication of threats, it is mission-critical that admins have agile control over their PAM solution. If you can't upgrade and manage your PAM software on your own, you are dangerously exposed.

ABOUT THYCOTIC
Our goal is to make you a self-sufficient cyber security champion. That means meeting you where you are on your PAM journey and giving you simple, flexible tools to support your goals.

Thycotic Pro Services are there if you need them but if you don't, that's fine too. Thycotic software has the fastest adoption rate and time to value of any PAM solution.

thycotic

DC | LONDON | SYDNEY

e: sales@thycotic.com
t: @thycotic
www.thycotic.com