

Real-World Scenario 10-3: Understanding 802.1X

Scenario: You are in charge of implementing an 802.1X solution. Your job is to first define the three main elements of an 802.1X authentication scheme. Next, you must specify the exact technologies you will use for each of those three main elements.

In the following table, describe the three main elements of 802.1X. Then, use the Internet to research actual types of 802.1X-compliant network adapters and components that you can use to create an actual working 802.1X authentication scheme.

802.1X Element	Description	Actual Component

Real-World Scenario 10-3 Solution

The three main elements of an 802.1X authentication scheme include the supplicant, the authenticator, and the authentication server. Several companies offer products that comply with 802.1X secure authentication. See the following table for descriptions and examples of companies that offer solutions.

802.1X Element	Description	Actual Component
Supplicant	A software client running on a workstation. This is also known as an authentication agent.	Many network adapters (wired and wireless) from Intel and Cisco are 802.1X-compliant.
Authenticator	A wireless access point or switch.	Cisco and D-Link have options for 802.1X-compliant WAPs and switches.
Authentication server	An authentication database.	Microsoft Windows RADIUS Server.

Video Solution: Watch the video solution "10-3: Understanding 802.1X."

Simulation: Complete the simulation "10-3: Understanding 802.1X."