SSL Identifier

Keeping Your Lines of Communication Open and Secure

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HOB Inc

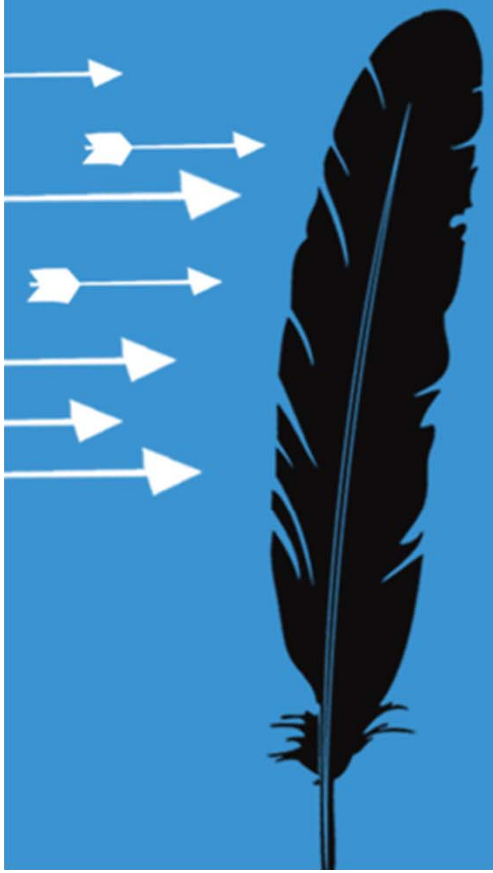
Session ID: SPO1-302

Session Classification: General Interest

SSL Identifier

- Introduction – What is SSL?
  - Characteristics and drawbacks
- What is the SSL Identifier?
  - How it works
  - Generating Headers
  - The SSL Identifier with MS Windows
  - Users with multiple IP addresses
- Conclusion – How the SSL Identifier can be used

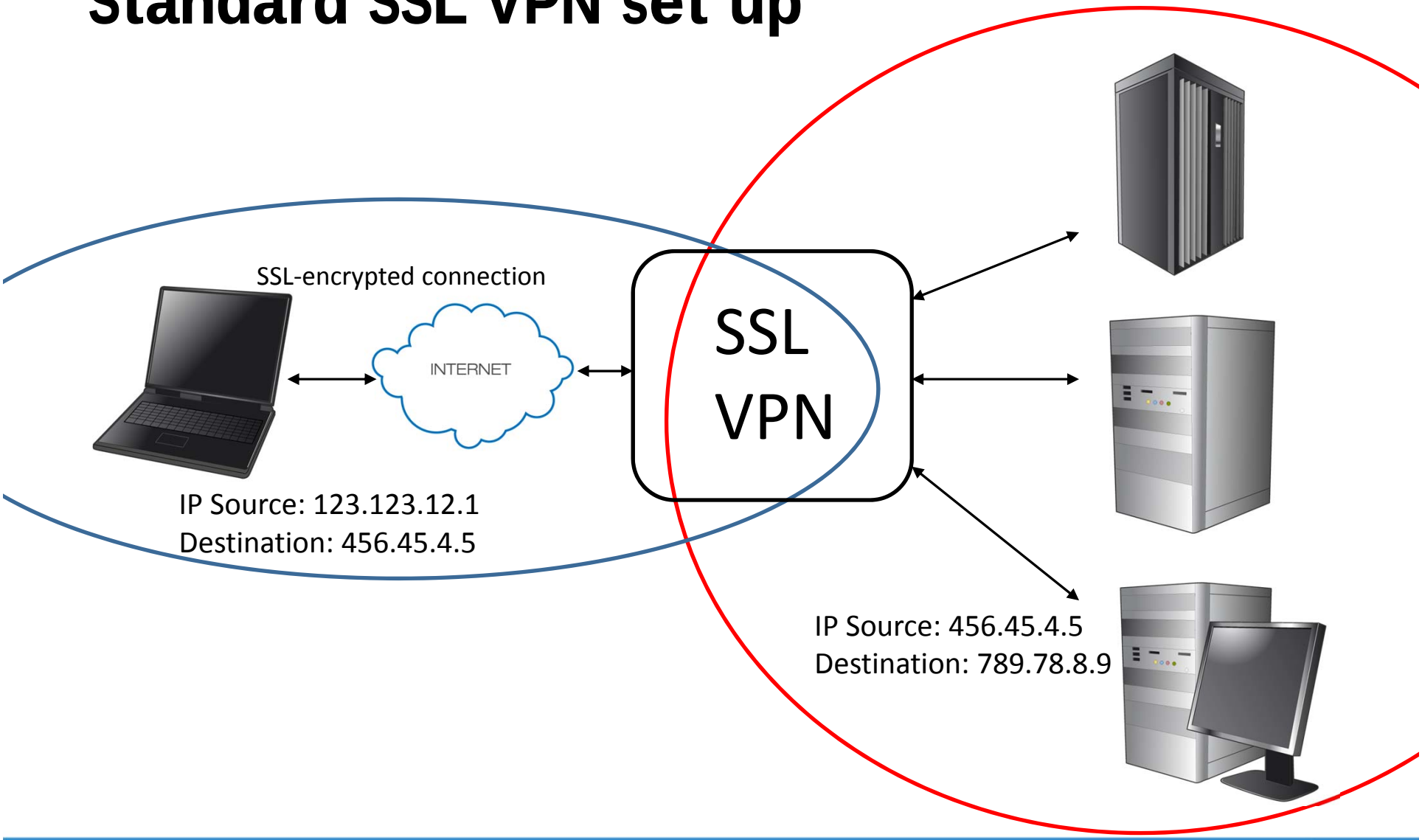
Introduction - What is SSL?



What is SSL?

- Industry standard security protocol for message transmission
- Application layer protocol
- Based on exchange of certificates with known source and destination machines

Standard SSL VPN set up



Who talks to whom?

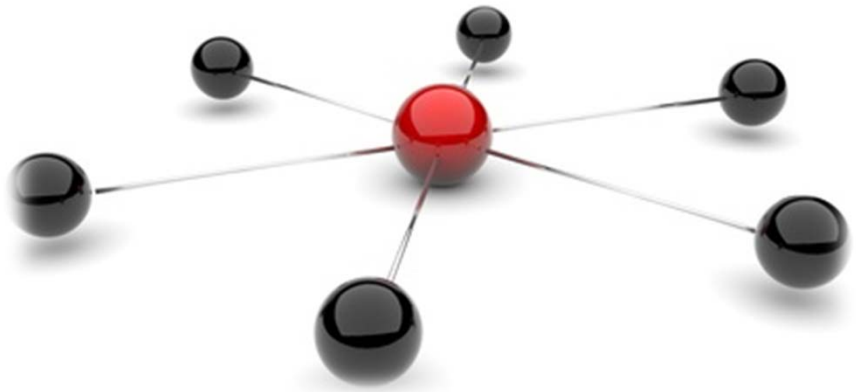
- Client IP Address (Source): 123.123.12.1
- SSL VPN IP (Destination): 456.456.4.5



- SSL VPN IP (Source): 456.456.4.5
- Internal LAN IP (Destination): 789.78.8.9

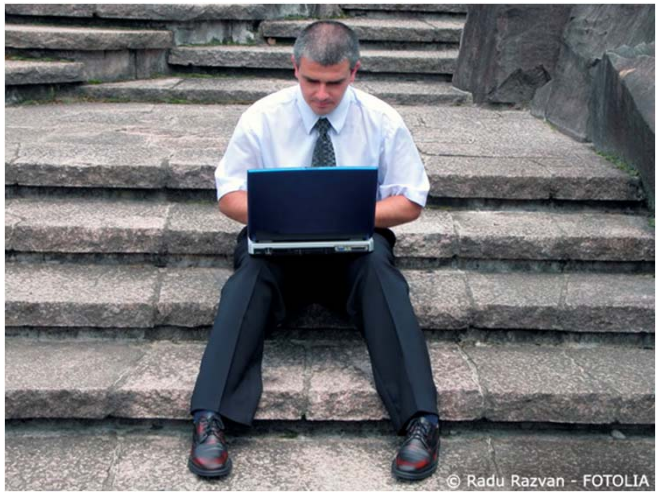
Drawbacks of a standard SSL VPN network - 1

- You have no way to match LAN internal traffic to the client or user sending it, as all data are sent from the SSL VPN into the LAN



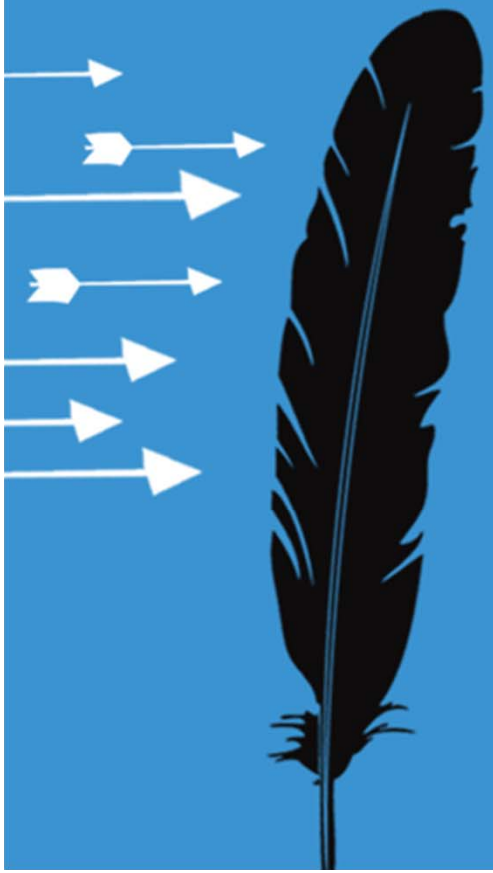
Drawbacks of a standard SSL VPN network - 2

- Anonymous network traffic
  - All traffic goes through the VPN, can never be sure where any data comes from
  - Can never be sure if data goes to intended target



Drawbacks of a standard SSL VPN network - 3

- A valid client IP address is needed for many LAN-based applications
  - Monitoring of software licenses
  - Allocating costs

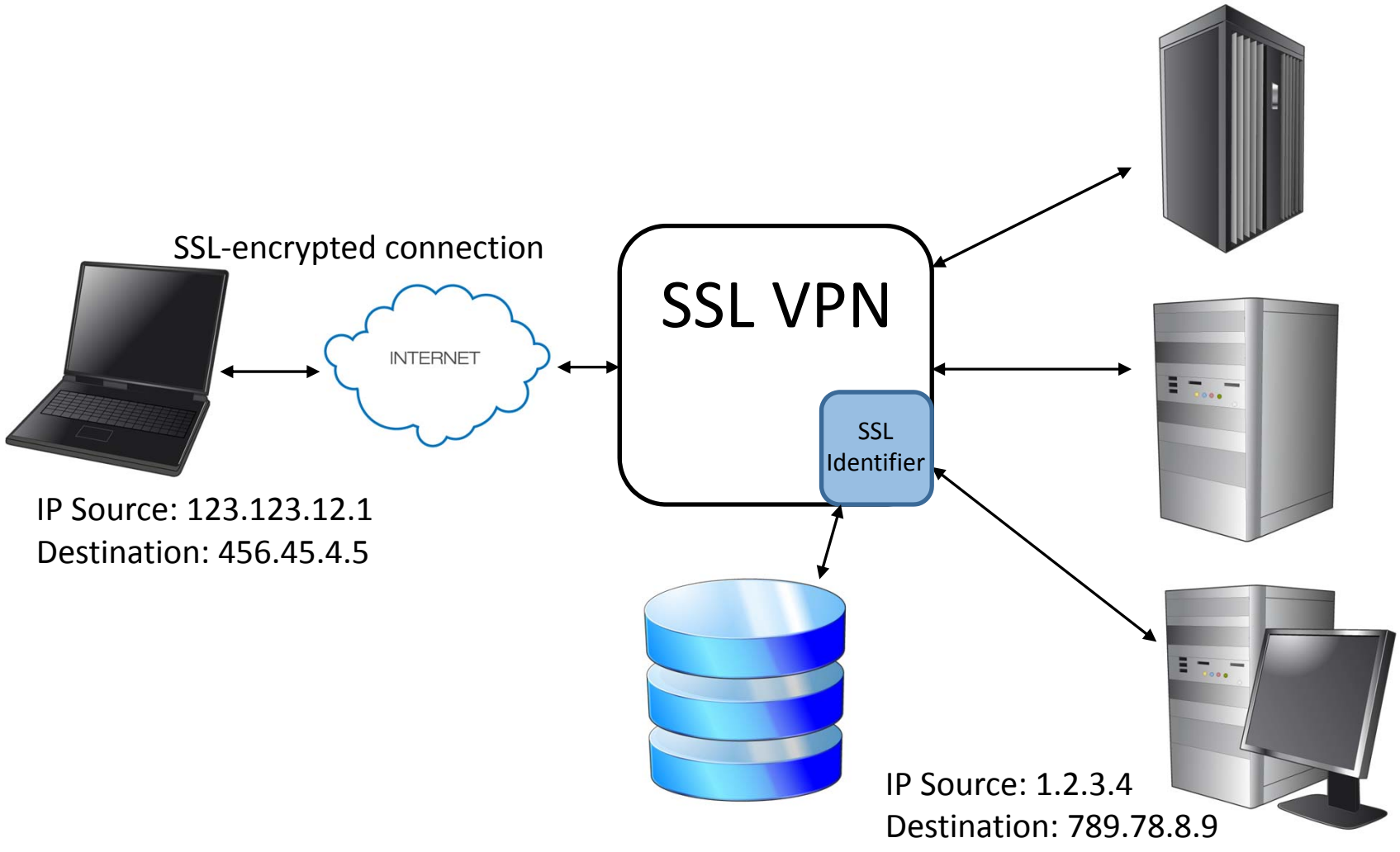


What IS the SSL Identifier?

What is an SSL Identifier?

- Optional feature for an SSL VPN
- The SSL Identifier assigns an individual and specific identifying address to all incoming traffic based on the user's identity
- Each SSL Identifier address is assigned from a database
- This SSL Identifier address is sent with all traffic from this user into the LAN

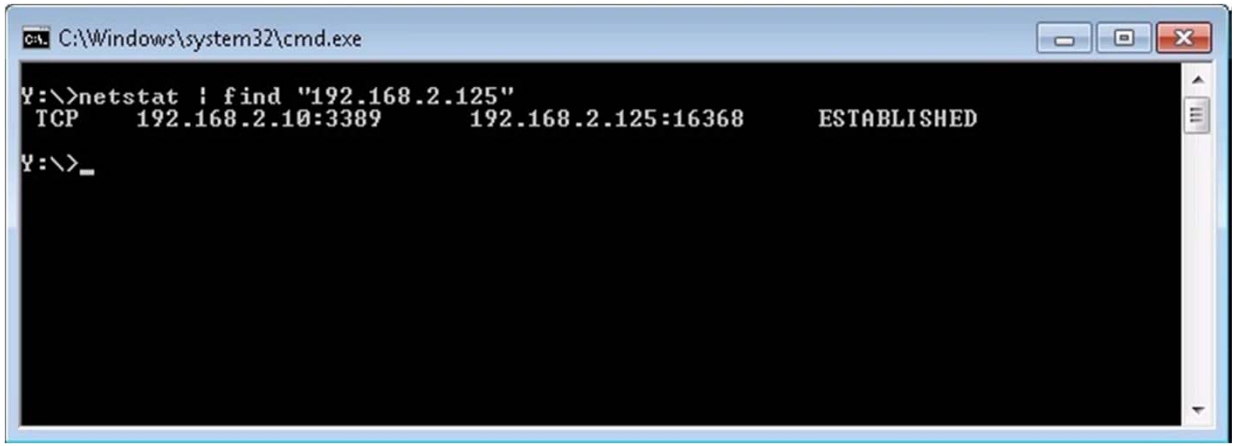
How the SSL Identifier works

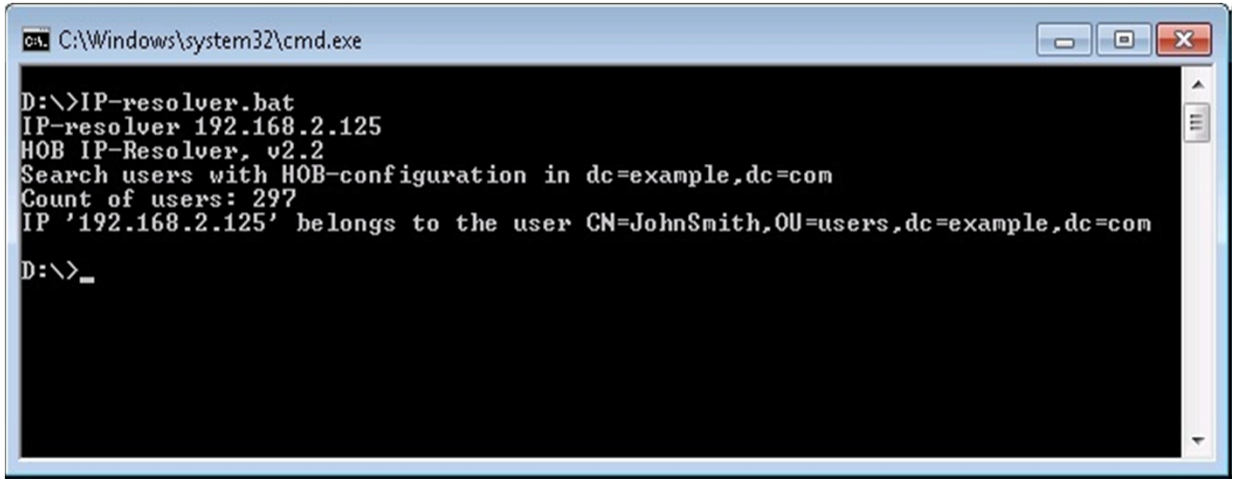


Assigning SSL Identifier addresses

- Original message:
  - Source IP: 123.123.12.1
  - Destination IP: 456.45.4.5 (SSL VPN)
- SSL Identifier:
  - User: JohnSmith = 1.2.3.4
  - By name assignment
- New address for the message:
  - Source IP: 1.2.3.4
  - Destination IP: 789.78.8.9

Tracing the users





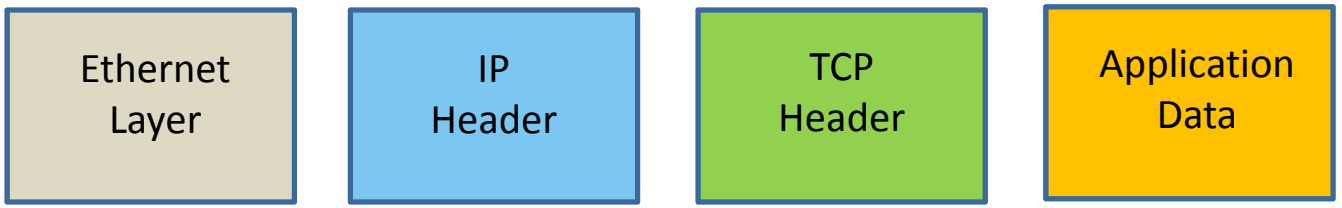
- Identify the connection in use
  - e.g. Netstat command
- Identify who is using this connection
  - e.g. Search database command

A bit more detail

- The SSL Identifier assigns a pre-defined Virtual IP address for each user
- The Source IP address is replaced for all internal communication
- The Virtual IP address assigned by the SSL Identifier is used for each individual user
- This Virtual IP address is used to identify the user for ALL connections (even if simultaneous)

About Headers

- TCP/IP headers are normally created automatically by the operating system of the source machine



- New TCP/IP headers must be generated by the SSL Identifier

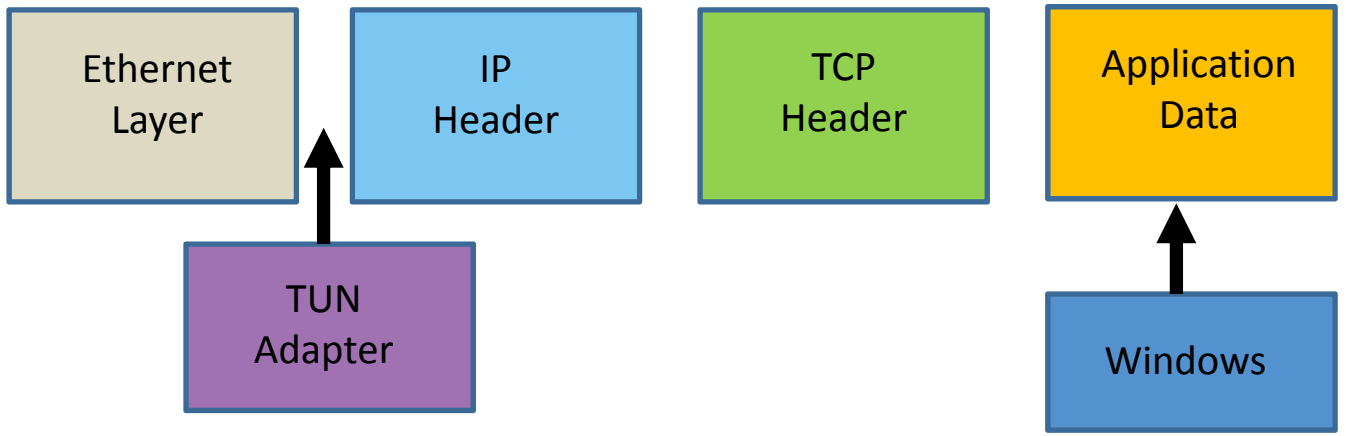
Components of the SSL Identifier

- Userspace TCP Stack
  - Generates new TCP/IP headers
- TUN Adapter
  - Inserts new TCP/IP headers into the message

Also required is a database for storing Usernames and Passwords

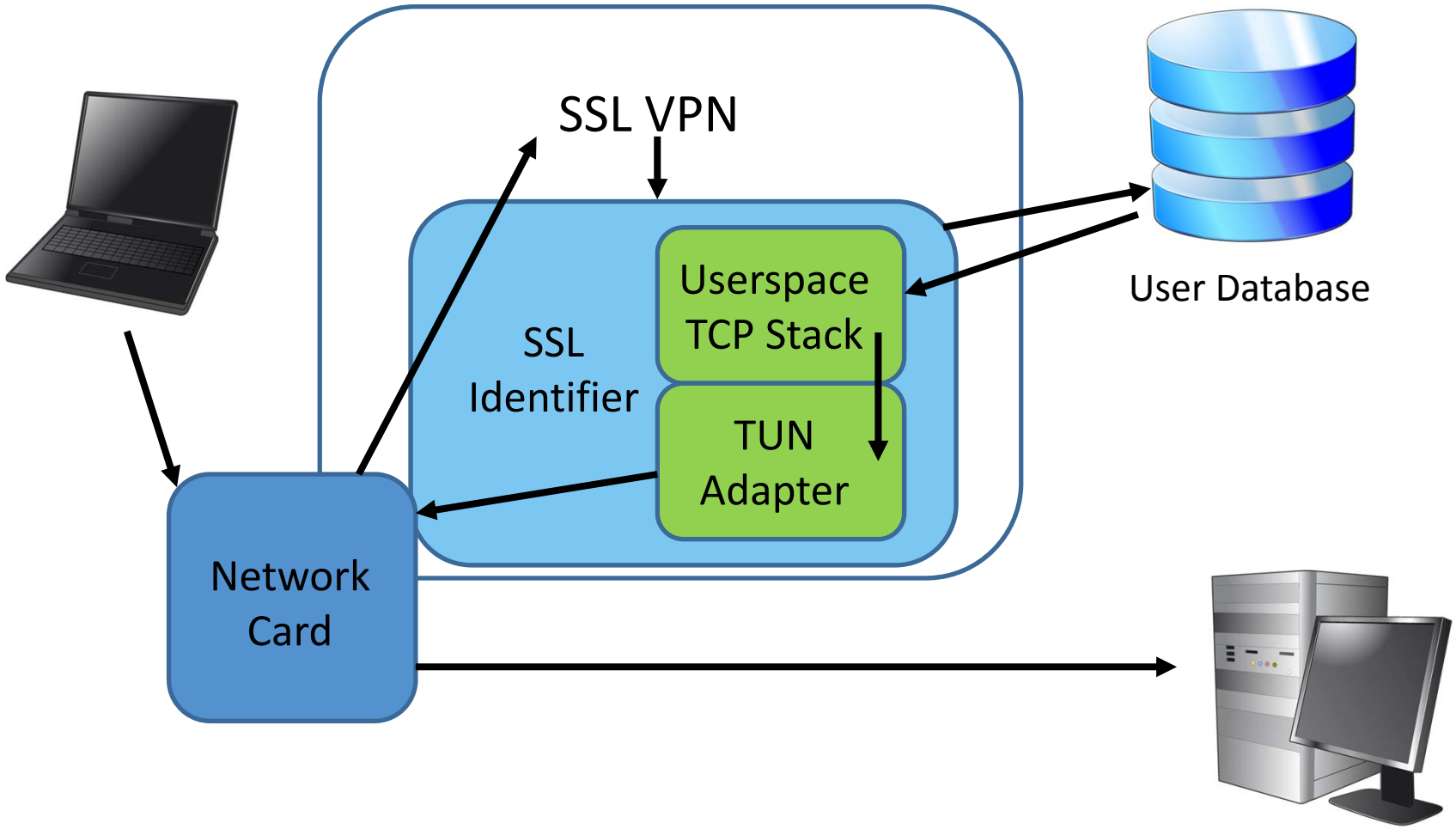
The situation with Windows

- Windows does not allow self-created TCP/IP packets to be sent – they can only be modified in the User Space of your machine



- Using a TUN Adapter allows the IP and TCP headers to be replaced

The TCP/IP Header generation process



What does the Userspace TCP Stack do?

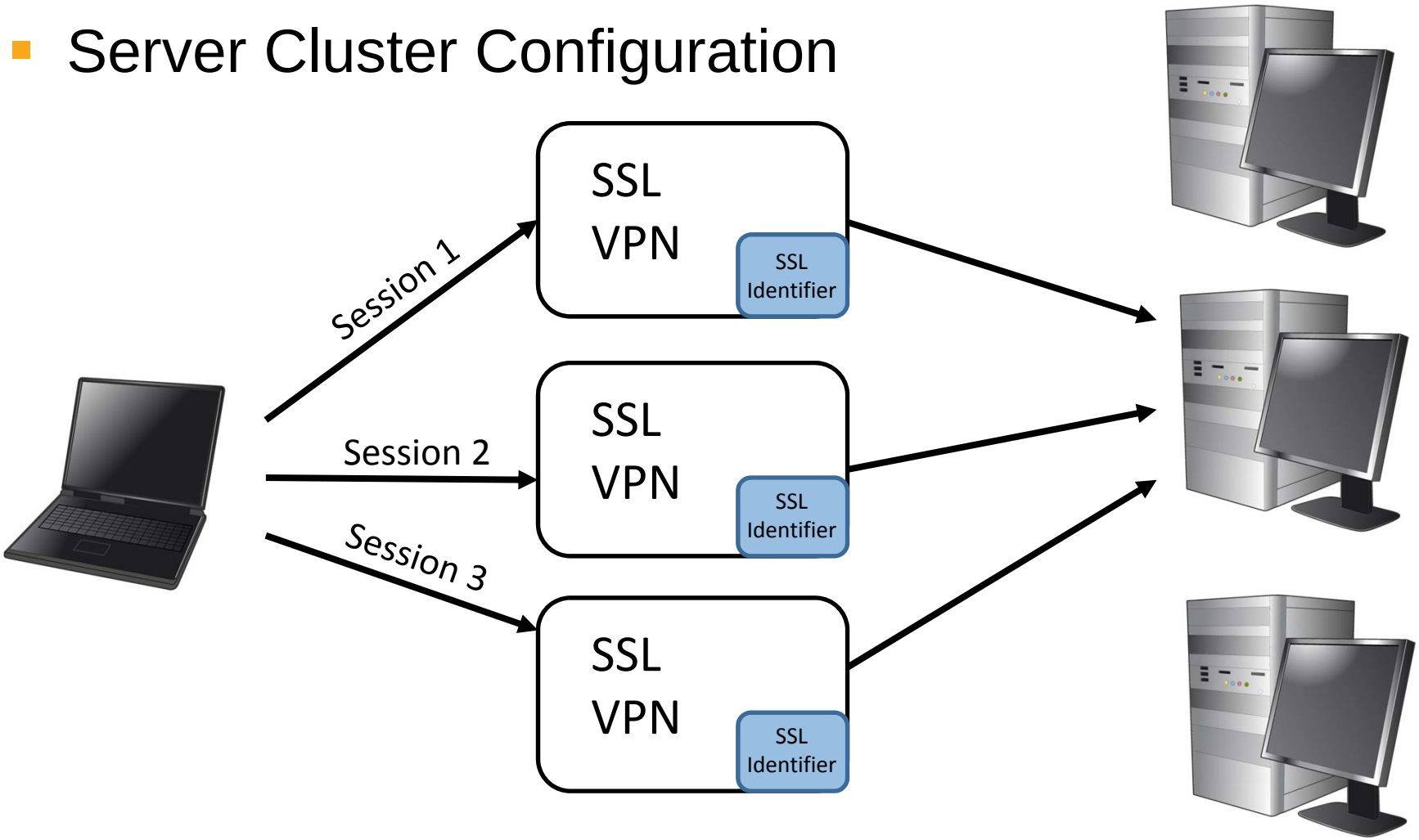
- Receives the SSL Identifier address for each user from the user data base
- Generates a set of TCP and IP headers that can be added to any message being sent

What does the TUN Adapter do?

- TUN is a virtual network kernel device used for routing IP Packets
- The TUN adapter allows self-generated IP and TCP headers to be added
- Automatically creates TCP/IP headers when using the TUN protocol

A user with multiple Virtual IP Addresses

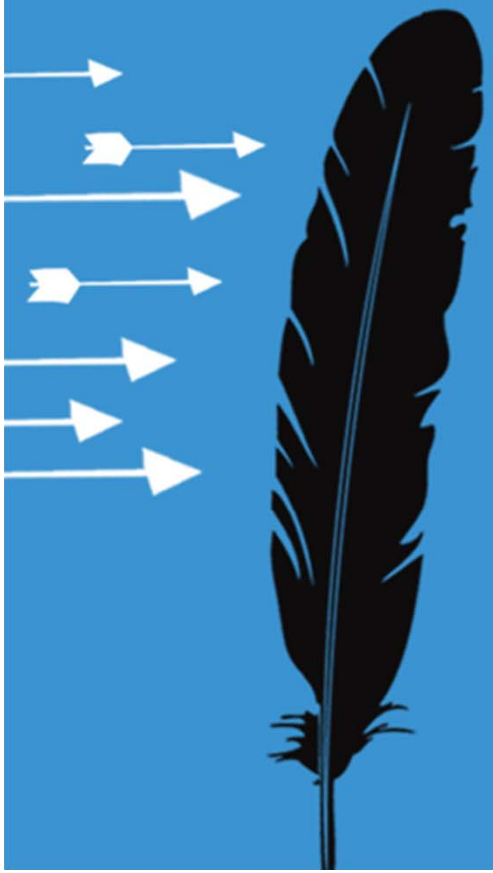
- Server Cluster Configuration



A user with multiple Virtual IP Addresses

- New session = new user
- New user = new SSL Identifier address
- Ensures that the origin of each communication can be clearly identified
- Also works with users on virtual machines

Conclusion - How the SSL Identifier can be used



Using the SSL Identifier

- Implement on the SSL VPN – one instance for all users and traffic
- Allow enough database space for storage of Identifier addresses for all potential users
- Usable for other gateway or proxy solutions

Thank you very much for your attention

Any questions?

Picture Credit:
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