

Generate Self-Signed Web Certificate For vManage

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Introduction

This document describes how to generate and install a self-signed web certificate when the existing one is expired on an on-prem vManage.

Background Information

Cisco does not sign web certificates for such deployments. Customers have to sign it by their own Certificate Authority (CA) or some 3rd party CA.

Problem

vManage web certificate is going to expire or has already expired. Access to the Graphical User Interface (GUI) can be lost or you can see permanent alarm in GUI about certificate expired.

Solution

If you are not concerned about the security aspect of self-signed certificate usage and just want to avoid alarm message and possible problems with vManage GUI access due to expired certificate, then you can use this solution with self-signed web certificate on a vManage.

1. In the vManage GUI, navigate to **Administration > Settings > Web Server Certificate > Certificate** and then save this information somewhere about certificate subject, for example, **Subject: CN=vmanage, OU=Cisco SDWAN, O=Cisco Systems, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US**.

The screenshot shows the 'Web Server Certificate' configuration page in vManage. The page title is 'Web Server Certificate' and the timestamp is '13 Jul 2024 12:30:30 AM'. The page is divided into sections: 'View' and 'Import' buttons, and a 'Certificate' section. The 'Certificate' section displays the following details:

```
[
  {
    Version: V3
    Subject: CN=vmanage, OU=Cisco SDWAN, O=Cisco Systems, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US
    Signature Algorithm: SHA256withRSA, OID = 1.2.840.113549.1.1.11

    Key: Sun RSA public key, 2048 bits
    modulus:
    232574226597237152948939941370679680322947127566172725670057808538623181771383302022762691461344903624854986511562109388188917698342871297369816671300165262071398320139930301666313216242312528920441641015972419230527012553150009
    2811231891510813034909155261437207780169991514896981395174780472295737812042479393229891660633123430007646493392908454535834860692621696387763217257681242793006386766749337598825691413855212922564917474743490876622725395717414
    2595290195550502053350301253794396639561043882019430611762521697203144861309110671191948813513203545050136221855234826228848105049451459370645612042907851141913
    public exponent: 65537
    Validity: [From: Fri Aug 09 00:30:30 CEST 2019,
      To: Sat Jul 13 00:30:30 CEST 2024]
    Issuer: CN=vmanage, OU=Cisco SDWAN, O=Cisco Systems, L=San Jose, ST=CA, C=US
    SerialNumber: [ 1f9375d]
```

2. In the vManage GUI, navigate to **Administration > Settings > Web Server Certificate > CSR** and select **Generate** in order to generate a new Certificate Signing Request (CSR). Ensure you enter the values from the **Subject** that you captured on the previous step.

3. Copy newly generated CSR to the copy-paste buffer as shown in the image.

4. Then enter a vshell and paste buffer content with CSR into the file on the vManage with help of **echo** command.

```
vmanage#
vmanage# vshell
vmanage:~$ mkdir web
vmanage:~$ cd web
vmanage:~/web$ echo "-----BEGIN NEW CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
> MIICsjCCAQAwbTElMAAGA1UEBhMCVVMxZzAjbG9uYVAgTAKNBmREwDwYDVQQH
> EwhTYW4gSm9zZTEwMBQGA1UEChMNQ21zY28gU31zdGVtczEUMBIGA1UECxMLQ21z
> Y28gU0RXQU4xEDAoBgNVBAMTB3ZtYW5hZ2UwggEiMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBAQUAA4IB
> DwAwggEKAoIBAQCRRdIKGUYuDwobn60PeDqf96d+r5z66VQ8NBtBBhgWzG57J7
> YIY9yNF5oSb+b1xUEXb61Wntq7qSHszJhFDX0BaL4/c9110Qped3yDE1CE01y3oH
> y88yg7TIZjnmz+j8Io92cRXnZLZ9YJwfs9PwEF0Z/4Gw5QIkukdAmLmkeKjOWD2A
> 4pG2sV80g+hnhUw8tJ1rKzQKsj2JJmD+iKeZbXu36iZvdKJB34iM2AsmsRbJhUff
> ujuU705E0z1nF2SBCJ+fpf7ze75dQRrBT0PA23QRobQEEg5wSMc+G//jD26zBCNg
> IEyUAX0/0NQf0qtMmcBm7QJDESse0Sufv4b9AgMBAAGgADANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQsF
> AAOCAQEAK2BenHnfYuW1agdcYrZJD6+uGC6fnfI6qqmvv9XEPFFW0QfPhu8rESyY
> K3qgf/ED+iCXEk/hudnf09vZ6ygm+P8a/zN3+J3VM5zCb6tn7vM0/cytcJONPtU
> mnZGpD0+XjZDDLYmS6j1B+h05gXeYyQ1t4Qv/s2H8jPhIWTraV376E+S9o318cva
> 7D7yp3W+ce5ItHs90bKW0aexVsyPAV4USrDaVsfsbyU97G2rCXqmMgRLJdBwZofg
> 04qsgRc8qG28aue1Q88XPa/HQtP0WB/Pxg7oe91s59Je/ETsMkR3vt7ag1emyXAJ
> na167+T/QWgLSJB2pQuPHo51MbA55w==
> -----END NEW CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----" > web_cert.csr
```

5. Ensure that CSR is saved correctly with the help of **cat** command.

```
vmanage:~/web$ cat web_cert.csr
-----BEGIN NEW CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
MIICsjCCAZoCAQAwbTElMAkGA1UEBhMCVVMxCzAJBgNVBAGTAkNBMRwDwYDVQQH
EwhTYW4gSm9zZTEwMBQGA1UEChMNQ21zY28gU31zdGVtczEUMBIGA1UECxMLQ21z
Y28gU0RXQU4xEDAoBgNVBAMTB3ZtYW5hZ2UwggEiMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBAQUAA4IB
DwAwggEKAoIBAQRDdIKGUYuDwobn60PeDqfq96d+r5z66VQ8NBTBBhgwZgG57J7
YIY9yNF5oSb+b1xUEXb61Wntq7qSHSszJhFDX0BaL4/c9110Qped3yDE1CE01y3oH
y88yg7TIZjnmz+j8Io92cRXnZLZ9YJwfs9PwEF0Z/4Gw5QIkukdAmLmkeKjOWD2A
4pG2sV80g+hnhUw8tJ1rKzQKsj2JJmD+ikeZbXu36iZvdKJB34iM2AsmsRbJhUFF
ujUU705E0z1nF2SBCJ+fpf7ze75dQRrBT0PA23QRobQEEg5wSMc+G//jD26zBCNg
IEyUAX0/ONQf0qtMmcBm7QJDESse0Sufv4b9AgMBAAGgADANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQsF
AAOCAQEAK2BenHnfYuW1agdcYrZJD6+uGC6fNfI6qqmvv9XEPFFW0QfPhu8rESyY
K3qgf/ED+iCXEk/hudnf09vZ6gygM+P8a/zN3+J3VM5zCb6tn7vM0/cytcJONPtU
mnZGpDO+XjZDDLymS6jlB+h05gXeYyQ1t4Qv/s2H8jPhIWTraV376E+S9o318cva
7D7yp3W+ce5ItHs90bKw0aexVsypAV4USrDaVsfsbyU97G2rCXqmMgRLJdBwZofg
04qsgRc8qG28aue1Q88XPa/HQtp0WB/Pxg7oe91s59Je/ETsMkR3vt7ag1emyXAJ
na167+T/QWgLSJB2pQuPHo51MbA55w==
-----END NEW CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
```

```
vmanage:~/web$
```

6. With the help of openssl, generate a **key** for Root Certificate named rootca.key.

```
vmanage:~/web$ openssl genrsa -out rootca.key 2048
Generating RSA private key, 2048 bit long modulus
..
.....
e is 65537 (0x10001)
vmanage:~/web$ ls
rootca.key  web_cert.csr
vmanage:~/web$
```

7. Generate Root CA certificate named rootca.pem and sign it with rootca.key that was generated on the previous step.

```
vmanage:~/web$ openssl req -x509 -new -nodes -key rootca.key -sha256 -days 4000 -out rootca.pem
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
-----
Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:US
State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:CA
Locality Name (eg, city) []:San Jose
Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:Cisco Systems
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:Cisco SDWAN
Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:vmanage
Email Address []:
```


