

Identity Brokerage

What is Identity Brokerage?

Cogito Group's Identity Brokerage solution:

- Allows for a shared network and services infrastructure.
- Enables users in multi-tenanted government buildings to consume services without the need to duplicate the infrastructure.
- Is one trust point.

It shares the 'one connection' idea of the network service with an 'All of Government' directory or identity store of users, devices, and other resources (e.g. WIFI, applications, printers, even down to meeting rooms).

The Business Need

There are a number of business drivers pushing the adoption of identity brokerage, these include:

- Reducing duplication of services through shared services among building tenants.
- Removing the need to implement trusts between agency identity stores.
- Reducing the cost of managing credentials.
- Reducing the difficulties in complying with regulations.
- Reducing the interoperability complexities associated with supporting multiple identity protocols.

Organisations need only establish one connection that allows the authentication of third parties rather than a complex web of connections. Efficiencies are gained in that each organisation only needs to integrate with the identity broker once to be able to accept many types of credentials, with rules assigned regarding what can be accessed.

The Challenge

Traditionally, the only way to enable services and infrastructure to be shared was for individual agencies to manage, add and provision accounts from other agencies and their services providers. Not only is this a duplication of effort across multiple agencies and service providers, it led to agencies having less control and security over their resources. Figure 1 clearly illustrates the complicated duplication of resources and effort in order to simply share network and services infrastructure between agencies.

Given there are approximately 300 agencies within New Zealand, of varying sizes, the benefits of sharing services can clearly not be realised due to the inefficiencies in organising trusted access to these services. This leads to a complex web of connections creating cost and resource issues not only when connecting into other agencies, but also external providers and other applications agencies may have to access.

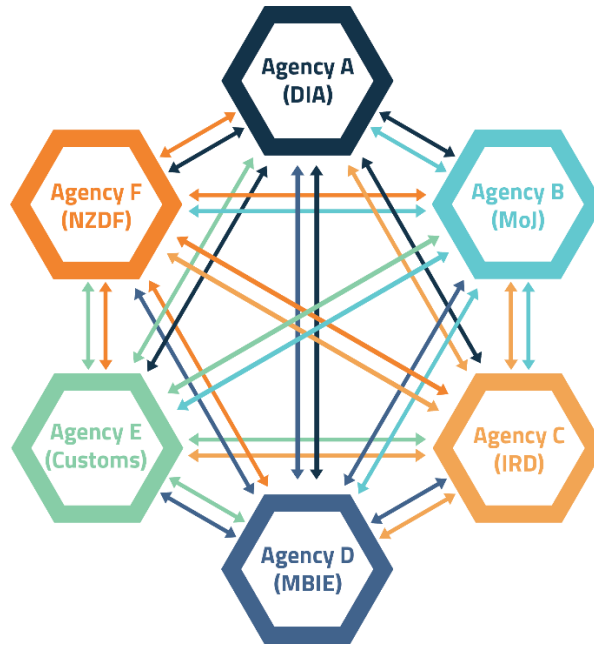


Figure 1: Workflow of Shared Account Data Between Agencies

The Solution

Cogito Group's Identity Brokerage solution enables the use of shared network services without the need to establish "trusts" between building tenants. Cogito Group's Identity Brokerage enables ONE connection per agency (not 300). This gives agencies seamless, secure access but importantly ensures they are in control of who has access within their network.



Figure 2: Workflow of Cogito Identity Brokerage Solution

Cogito Group's Identity Brokerage solution:

- Provides a single interface to applications to authenticate users.
- Provides a single interface for services to authenticate users.
- Allows users to utilise their existing credentials for authentication to shared services.
- Enables the sharing of resources (such as WIFI) by agencies without the need to duplicate or share accounts.
- Importantly, the agency is in control of who can access their infrastructure and how many.

This same scenario can also be applied to Service Providers. Service Providers that manage an agency's help desk or asset management, for example no longer need to create or delete accounts. The efficiencies created are outlined in Figure 3.

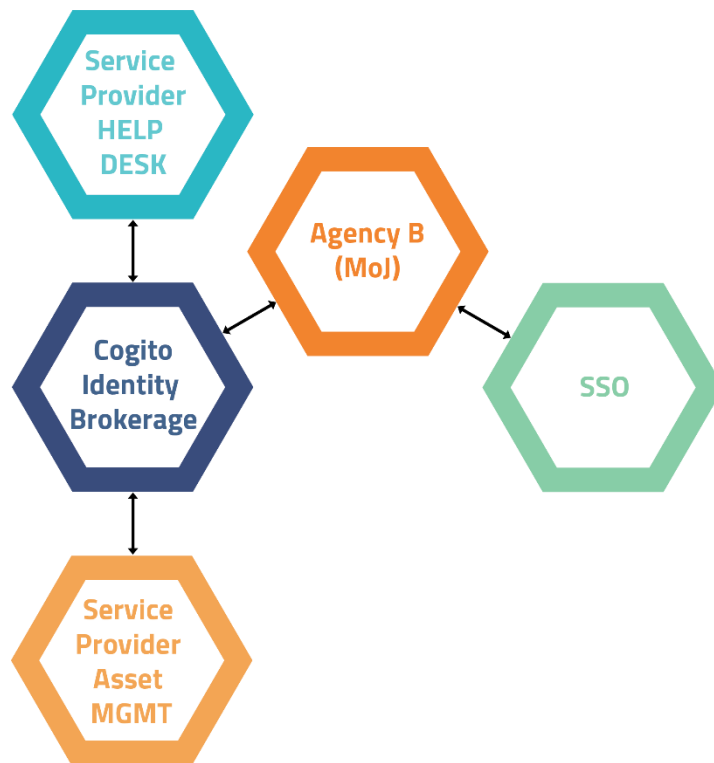


Figure 3: Workflow of Cogito Identity Brokerage to Service Providers

The Benefits

The benefit of Cogito Group's Identity Brokerage solution is the provision of a capability to allow users to continue to use their existing credentials to access shared services. With this capability organisations can maintain their existing security posture by avoiding the need to implement trusts between themselves and other agencies or a shared services domain.

There were additional benefits that were realised as part of the implementation, where other service providers were able to provide enhanced services to organisations through the integration of their applications or services with the identity brokerage service.

In utilising Cogito Group's Identity Brokerage solution, NZ agencies can:

- Access shared network and services infrastructure.
- Allow for multi-tenanted government building use without duplication of infrastructure.
- Share the one connection idea of the network service. An agency joins for authentication services once to use between many Agencies, systems, and services.
- All of Government directory of users, device, and other resources (e.g. meeting rooms).
- Automated provisioning and de-provisioning of access and services.

About Cogito Group

Cogito Group is an award-winning, Australian owned and operated ICT company, specialising in authentication, cloud security, identity management and data protection. Cogito Group protect the authentication methods used to access information through the use of Identity and other security technologies. Cogito Group protect data not only from unauthorised access and disclosure, but also from being altered by an unauthorised third party or a trusted insider with malicious intent. This assists in the detection and prevention of fraud or other malicious activities by third parties or trusted insiders.