Okta Single Sign-On (SSO) Developed for Agility

At a Glance

Okta Single Sign-on is part of a complete identity and access management solution for organizations adopting and building for cloud and mobile who need to contain costs, fulfill user productivity targets, and avoid security risks.

Unlike legacy Federation and Access Management systems, Okta Single Sign-on is a light weight, easy to deploy solution that securely connects your employees, contractors, and customers across any of their devices to all their cloud and on-premises applications.

Capabilities

- **Integrated Access Management** Reliable integration for SSO to all your web and mobile apps, with a full featured federation engine that supports all modern protocols and flexible access policy.

- **Customizable User Experience** One user-friendly portal for end-users to access all their applications, tailored to each of their devices and fully customizable to their workflow.

- **Secure Directory with Integration** Securely store user credentials with support for custom attributes and delegated authentication to AD/LDAP across multiple domains with self-service AD/LDAP password reset with Universal Directory.

- **Real-Time Security Reporting** Sophisticated search of real-time system log, with geolocation tracking and integration with 3rd party SIEMs.

Benefits

- **Remove Barriers to Growth Within Your Organization** As organizations grow, one of the biggest IT challenges they face is how to best secure their environment. Individual employees, contractors, and customers all have their own permissions and security needs. It can be tough for one helpdesk administrator to manage all of these moving parts. Enter Okta Single Sign-on.

- **Decrease Costs While Increasing Efficiency** Okta reduces on-prem infrastructure and custom development by embracing cloud and mobile while increasing efficiencies by automating manual provisioning and reducing helpdesk calls.

- **Strengthen Security and Compliance** With the right SSO solution, companies can rest knowing that the right people have the right level of access. Even more, users can safely access all of their apps with a single password, from any device.

Why SSO?

The enterprise cloud revolution is here. IT organizations everywhere, from small and mid-sized businesses to Fortune 500 companies, are moving from on-premises software to on-demand, cloud-based services. As enterprise IT makes this transition to a new hybrid on-demand/on-premises configuration, controlling who is granted access to which applications becomes increasingly important. This presents CIOs and their teams with a whole new set of identity management challenges. In addition, users must keep track of multiple URLs, user names, and passwords to get access to their applications. This is a headache for users and a security risk for IT organizations.

SSO solves these issues by providing employees with a single point to log in and access all of their applications, while allowing IT departments to securely manage user credentials. For a solution to be enterprise-ready, it needs to be able handle an organization’s varying, ever-changing demands. This is especially important for companies with geographically dispersed employees and many subdivisions.

Okta’s Difference: Built in the Cloud to be Reliable, Scalable, and Secure

Okta is an enterprise grade identity management service, built from the ground up in the cloud and delivered with an unwavering focus on customer success. Enterprises everywhere are using Okta to manage access across any application, person or device to increase security, make people more productive, and maintain compliance.

Okta has the largest, most reliable application network with over 5,000 pre-integrated applications and over 700 SAML integrations. This enables rapid adoption of best-of-breed applications, with out-of-the-box integrations so users stay productive and IT departments don’t build and maintain application integrations themselves.

With a focus on the end user experience, the Okta portal is a simple access point to all applications on both mobile and desktop. Fully customizable with self-service password reset management and option to manage personal applications, Okta SSO improves adoption and utilization of revenue generating applications while reducing help desk tickets.

Eliminating insecure passwords and streamlining access makes Okta SSO a security solution. Reporting capabilities complete the security picture. Okta SSO provides powerful reporting with built-in reports, an event viewer with structured search and integration to 3rd party SIEMs to discover and troubleshoot security and access anomalies when they happen. Companies can better respond to their workforce’s needs at scale and in real-time.
Example Scenarios

- An employee needs to access a suite of apps from multiple devices but experiences bottlenecks with managing numerous, difficult to remember passwords. Productivity suffers as a result.

- At a growing organization, IT teams cannot keep up with the support tickets required to grant access for new and existing employees while also maintaining strong security protocols. New levels of automation, reporting, and analytics are necessary to enable business growth at a sustainable pace for IT.

How It Works

Typical cloud based applications (e.g. Salesforce, Google Apps, Workday, etc.) integrations are delivered as part of Okta’s Application Network. All technical details (such as SSO protocols and user management API implementations) are encapsulated in the service and continually maintained by Okta on your behalf. These applications may use a standard like SAML or OpenID, they may use a proprietary API, or they may use Okta’s Secure Web Authentication (SWA) protocol.

Many of the most popular on premises web based applications are also included in the Okta Application Network. For custom developed on-premises web based applications, Okta provides a range of integration options as well. Secure Web Authentication integration for SSO can be easily added by simply providing Okta the URL of the application’s login page. The Okta App Integration Wizard also provides easy integration for applications supporting SAML and OpenID Connect. For legacy applications, Okta has SAML toolkits that can be used to SAML enable your apps to modernize them. Finally, Okta has partnered with leading network gateway vendors, including F5 Networks and Citrix to fully support access to legacy on-prem applications.

When an internal web application is configured to delegate authentication to AD (the same source to which Okta delegates authentication), Okta can optionally capture the user’s AD password at login and automatically set that password for that user in any application that uses AD credentials. This allows users to simply click a link to access these applications, and then be logged in automatically.

Finally, Okta provides easy access to mobile enterprise applications from any device. Whether your enterprise apps are HTML5 web apps optimized for mobile platforms or Native iOS or Android apps, Okta has a solution. Any web application in the Okta Application Network can be accessed with single sign on from iOS or Android devices with Okta Mobile. Mobile web apps can use industry standard SAML, or they can use Okta’s Secure Web Authentication SSO technology. Native applications like Box Mobile can be integrated using SAML authentication for registration and utilize OAuth for ongoing use. Okta Mobile even powers SSO directly from the native mobile Safari browser on iOS.

Key Features and Capabilities

**Okta Application Network** — The largest, most reliable application network with over 5,000 pre-integrated applications

**Flexible Policy Engine** — Set policy for protected resources based on any number of conditions and actions

**Browser Plug-in** — Cross-platform browser plug-in to detects apps and allows users to add them automatically

**Okta Mobile** — Native, full-featured iOS and Android app that allows SSO to any app on any device

**Real-time Security Reporting** — Sophisticated search of real-time system log, with geolocation tracking and integration with SIEMs

**Okta Is the Identity Cloud**

Millions of people rely on Okta every day to securely connect with the technologies and services that let them do their most important work. Customers deploy our products in a multitude of ways to solve their toughest security and access challenges. Build better products, manage access easily, and streamline security. Our technology powers the future of identity management. Learn more about our product suite at [www.okta.com](http://www.okta.com).