



Hewlett Packard
Enterprise

NO MORE MOATS: PROTECTING YOUR CLOUD NATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE WITH ZERO TRUST



Daniel Feldman
Software Engineer
HPE Security Engineering

AGENDA

1

WHAT IS ZERO TRUST

2

SPIFFE AND SPIRE ARCHITECTURE

3

BUILDING SYSTEMS WITH SPIFFE AND SPIRE

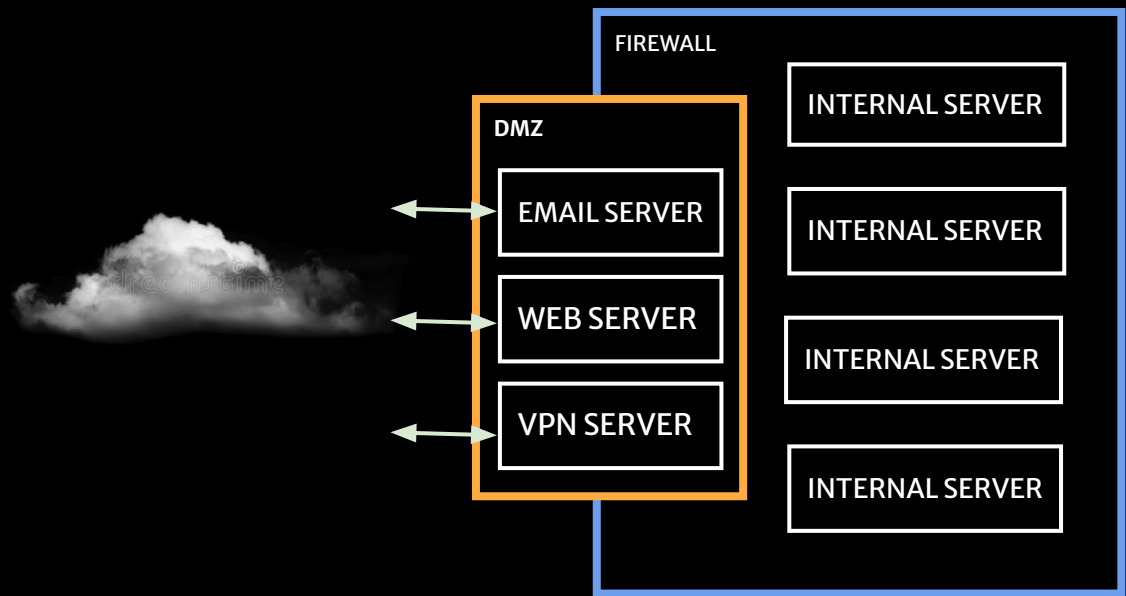
4

ROADMAP

5

NEXT STEPS

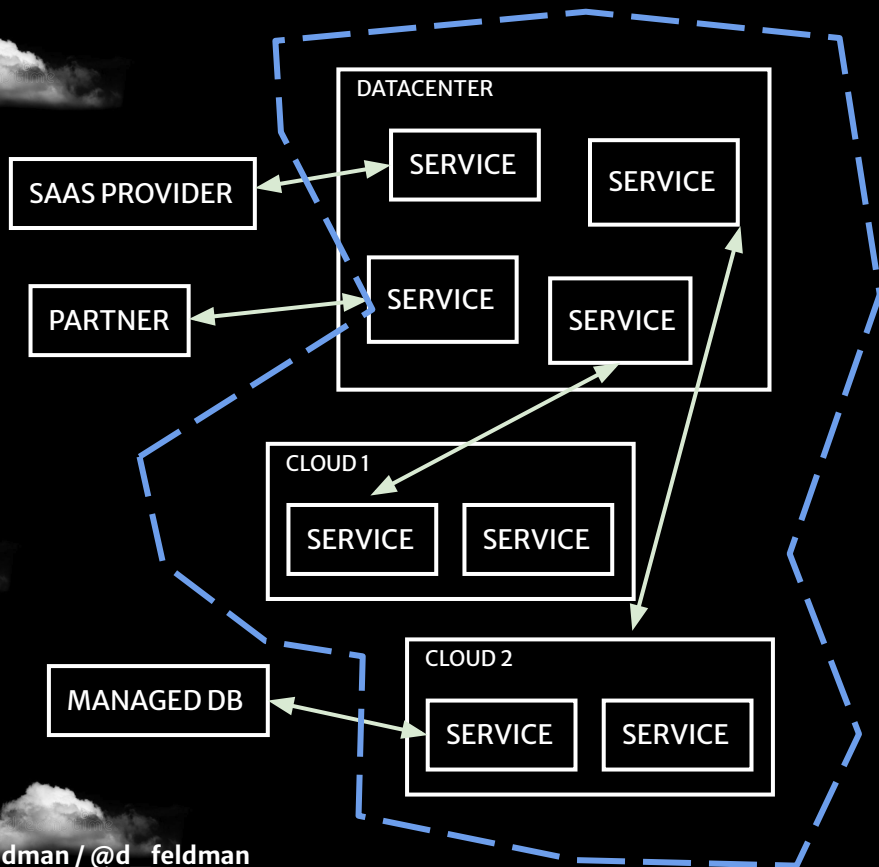
PERIMETER SECURITY



Everything inside the firewall is trusted.

Everything outside is untrusted

PERIMETER SECURITY



As we add:

- services
- datacenters
- clouds
- regions inside clouds

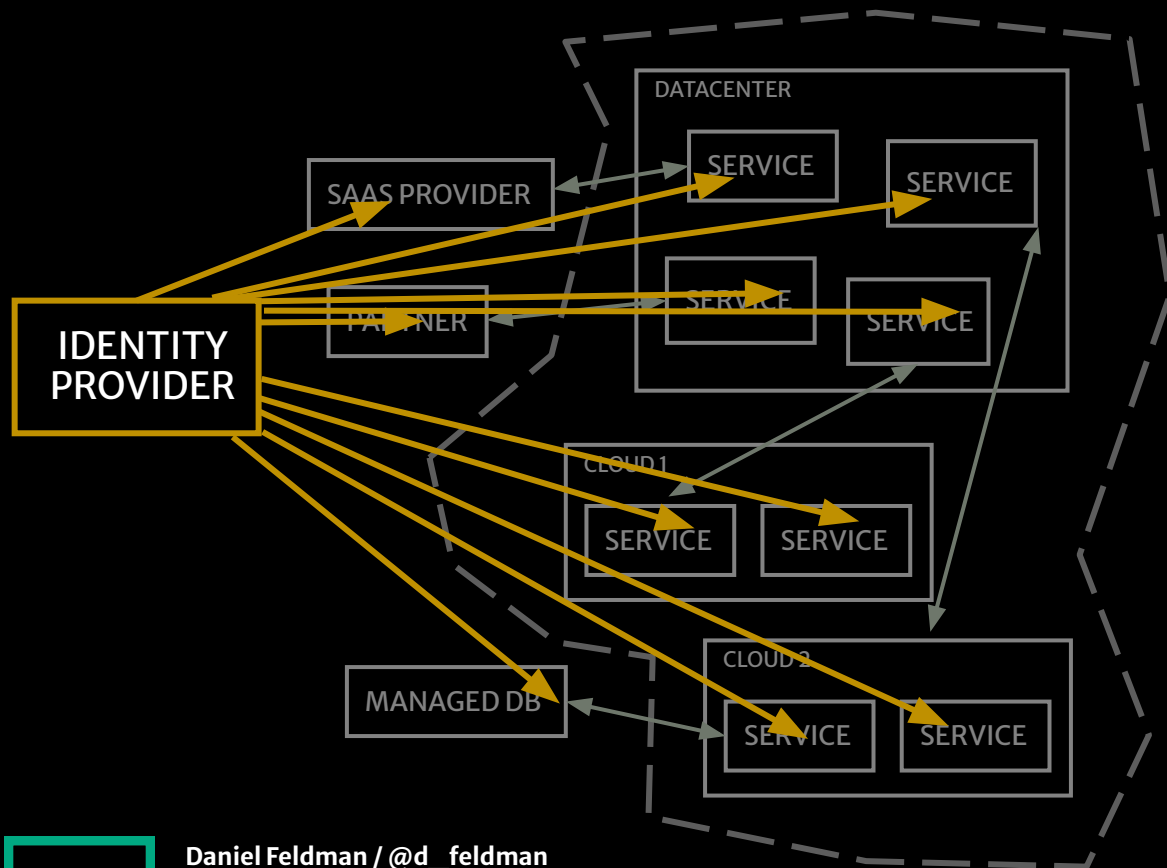
perimeter security
becomes increasingly
untenable



| We're protecting 21st-century
infrastructure with 14th-century
technology!

– *Frederick Kautz*

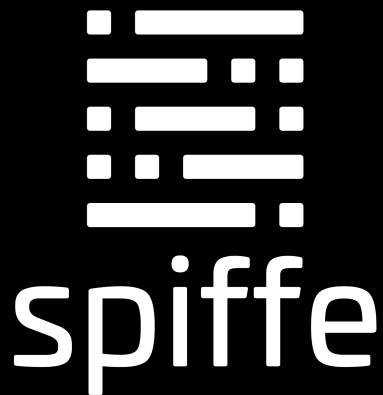
ZERO TRUST



Each service gets its own

- unique
- secure
- provable identity

SPIFFE AND SPIRE



Standard for applications to
use a service identity provider

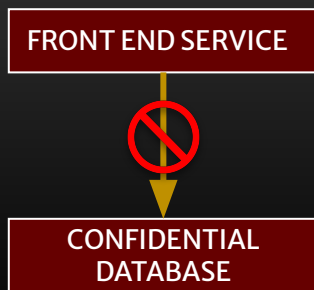


Production-ready
implementation of SPIFFE

KEY BENEFITS OF ZERO TRUST

DEFENSE IN DEPTH

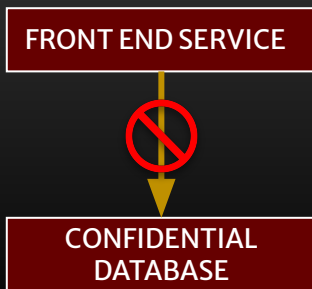
If one service is compromised, attackers can't move laterally within the network.



KEY BENEFITS OF ZERO TRUST

DEFENSE IN DEPTH

If one service is compromised, attackers can't move laterally within the network.



REDUCE SECURITY OVERHEAD

Security teams don't have to maintain perimeters and manually create and rotate credentials.



KEY BENEFITS OF ZERO TRUST

DEFENSE IN DEPTH

If one service is compromised, attackers can't move laterally within the network.



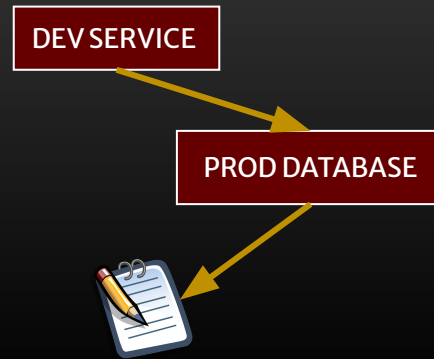
REDUCE SECURITY OVERHEAD

Security teams don't have to maintain perimeters and manually create and rotate credentials.



OBSERVABILITY AND LOGGING

Services can't operate without an explicit identity, which can be logged



AGENDA

1

WHAT IS ZERO TRUST

2

SPIFFE AND SPIRE ARCHITECTURE

3

BUILDING SYSTEMS WITH SPIFFE AND SPIRE

4

ROADMAP

5

NEXT STEPS

SPIFFE AND SPIRE



Standard for applications to
use a service identity provider



Production-ready
implementation of SPIFFE

SPIFFE IN FOUR PIECES

SPIFFE ID

Standard format for a service identifier

```
spiffe://trustdomain/service
```

SPIFFE IN FOUR PIECES

SPIFFE ID

Standard format for a service identifier

`spiffe://trustdomain/service`

SPIFFE VERIFIABLE IDENTITY DOCUMENT

(SVID)

Cryptographically verifiable document asserting a
SPIFFE ID



SPIFFE IN FOUR PIECES

SPIFFE ID

Standard format for a service identifier

`spiffe://trustdomain/service`

SPIFFE VERIFIABLE IDENTITY DOCUMENT

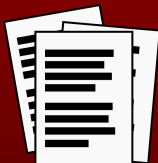
(SVID)

Cryptographically verifiable document asserting a
SPIFFE ID



TRUST BUNDLE

Set of public keys used to verify SVIDs



SPIFFE IN FOUR PIECES

SPIFFE ID

Standard format for a service identifier

`spiffe://trustdomain/service`

SPIFFE VERIFIABLE IDENTITY DOCUMENT

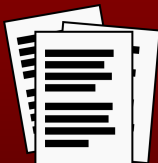
(SVID)

Cryptographically verifiable document asserting a SPIFFE ID



TRUST BUNDLE

Set of public keys used to verify SVIDs

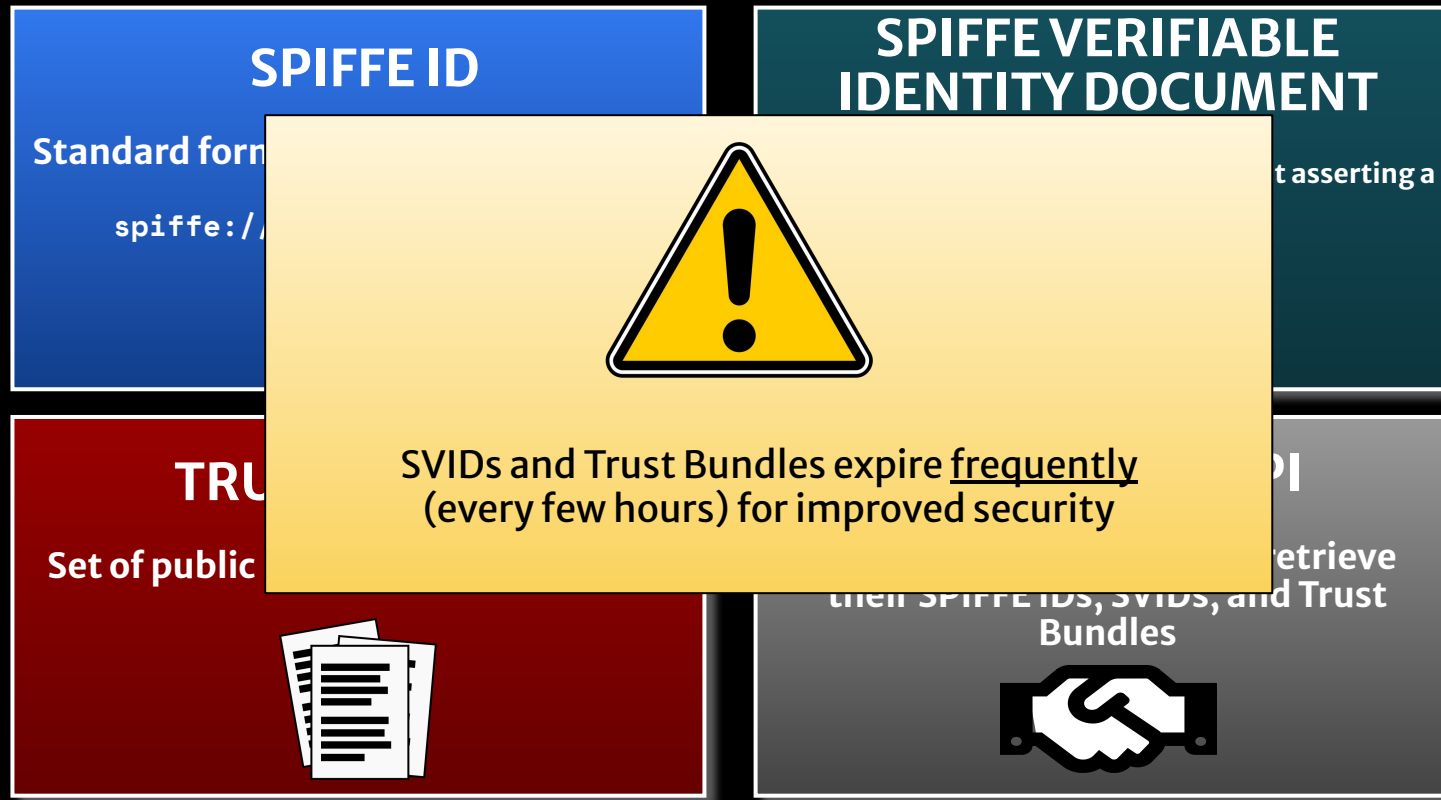


WORKLOAD API

Local API for workloads to retrieve their SPIFFE IDs, SVIDs, and Trust Bundles



SPIFFE IN FOUR PIECES



SPIRE

SPIRE Server



Cloud or Kubernetes Platform

Node

SPIRE Agent

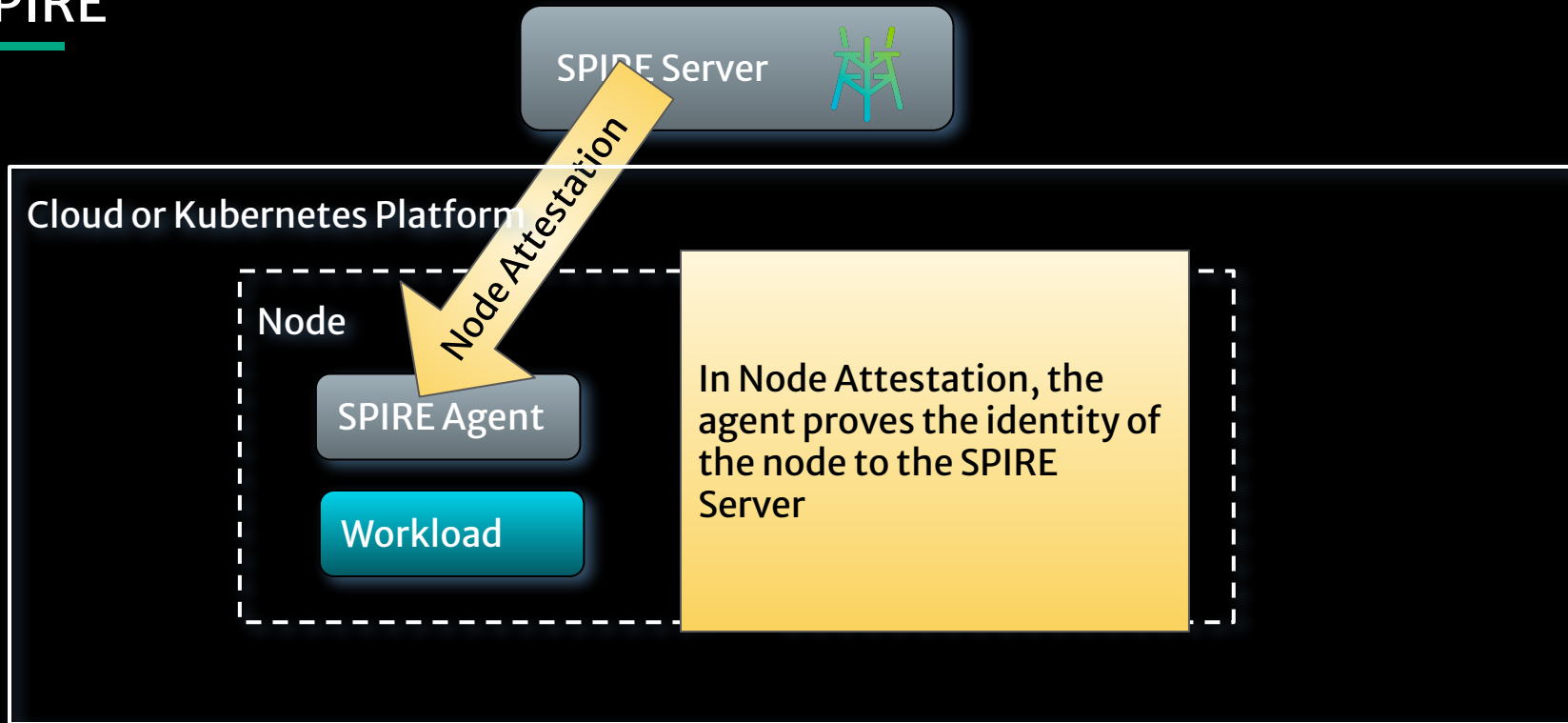
Workload

Node

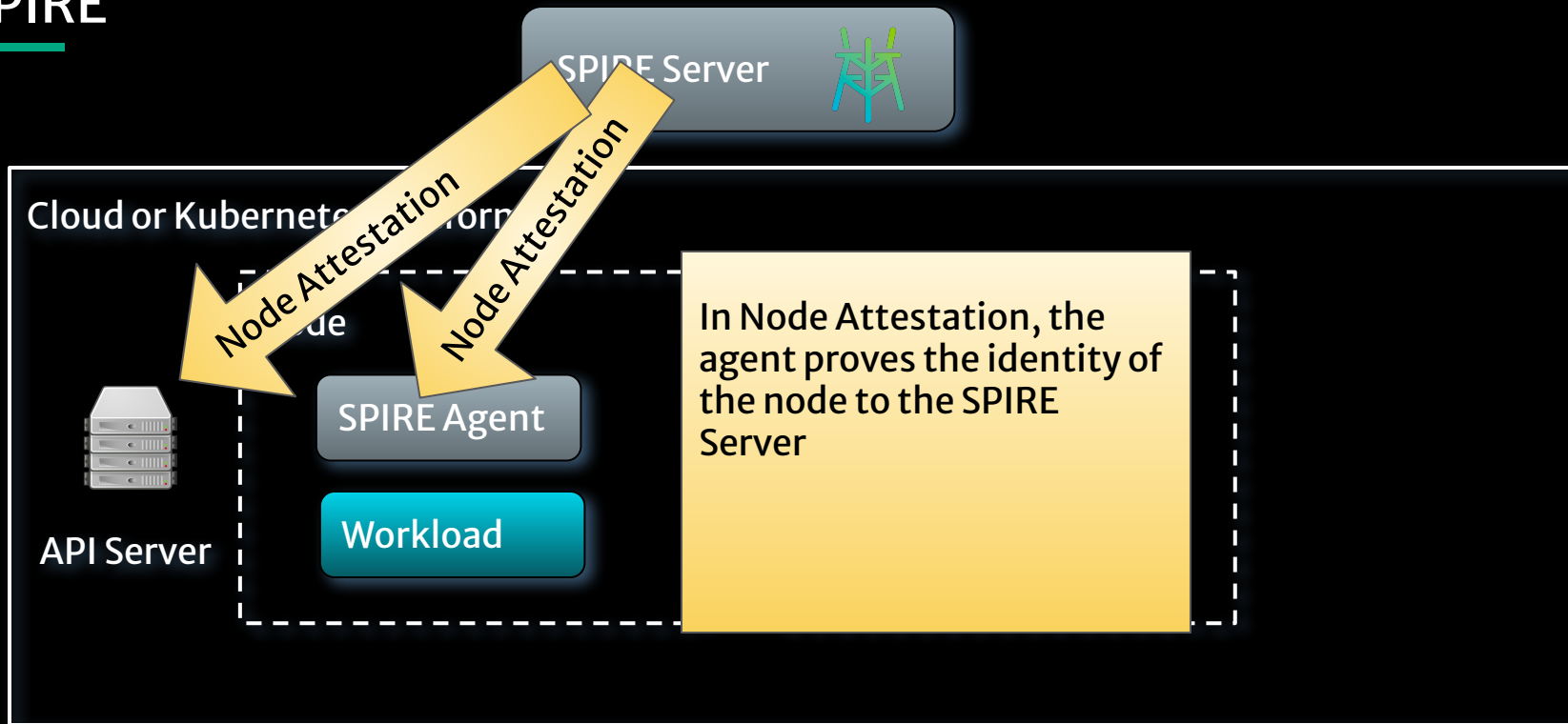
SPIRE Agent

Workload

SPIRE



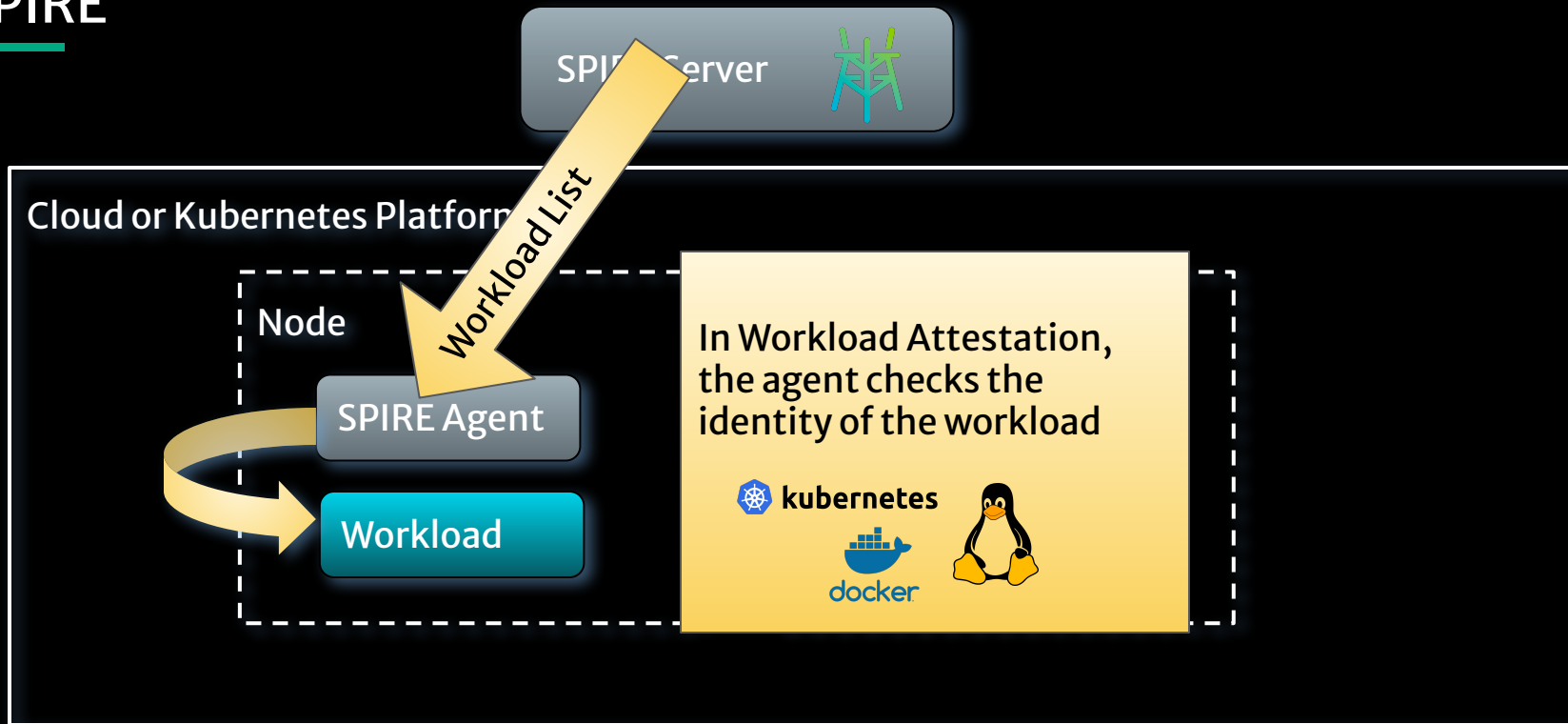
SPIRE



SPIRE



SPIRE



SPIRE

SPIRE Server



Cloud or Kubernetes Platform

Node

SPIRE Agent

Workload

SVID
Trust Bundle
SPIFFE ID

Node

SPIRE Agent

Workload

SPIRE

SPIRE Server



Cloud or Kubernetes Platform

Node

SPIRE Agent

Workload

SVID
Trust Bundle
SPIFFE ID

Node

SPIRE Agent

Workload

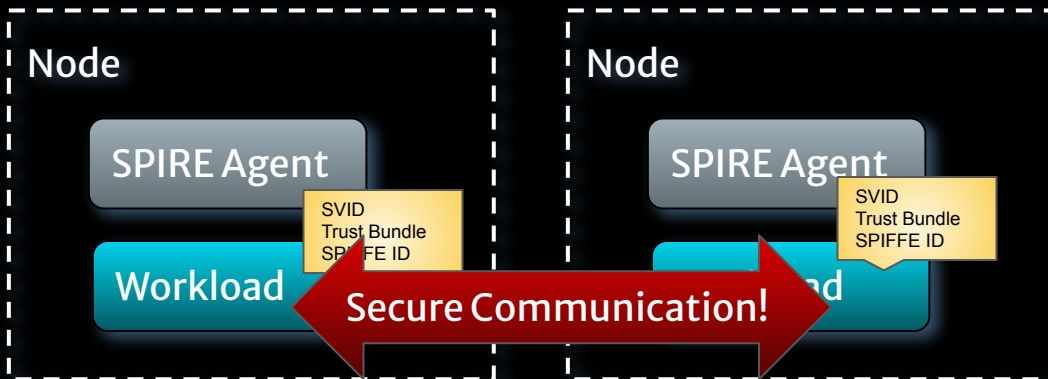
SVID
Trust Bundle
SPIFFE ID

SPIRE

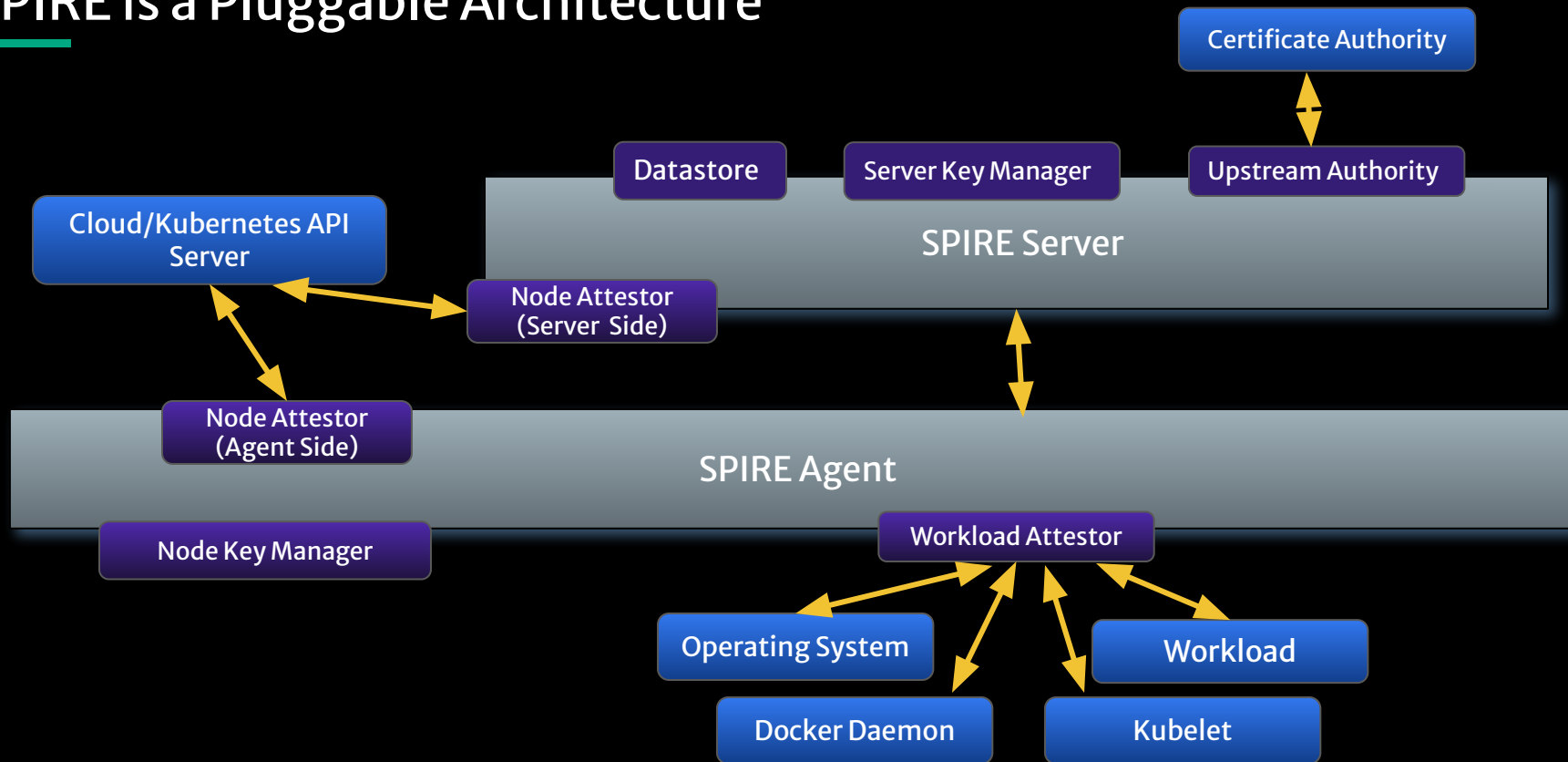
SPIRE Server



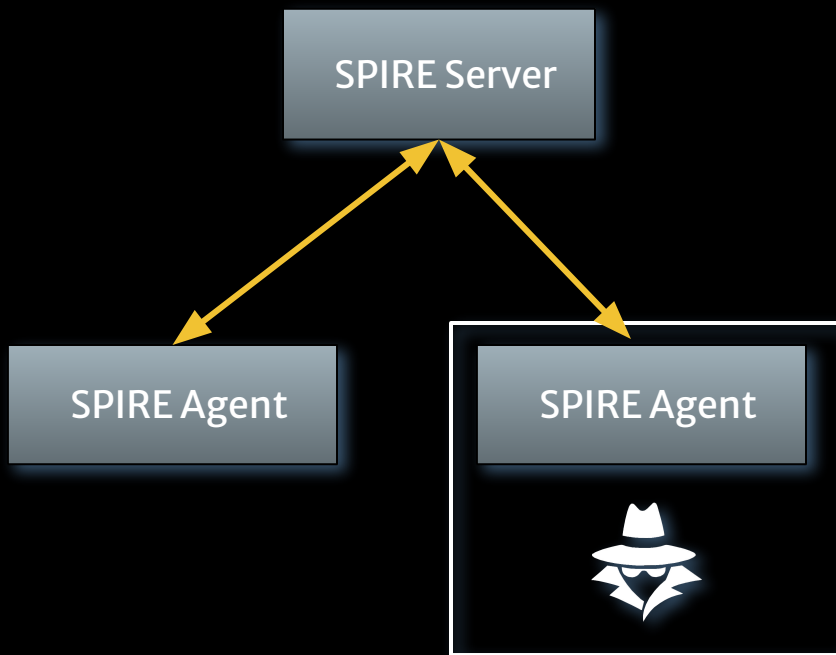
Cloud or Kubernetes Platform



SPIRE is a Pluggable Architecture



SPIRE is Defense in Depth



Even if one agent is compromised, it can't issue identities assigned to the other agents

AGENDA

1

WHAT IS ZERO TRUST

2

SPIFFE AND SPIRE ARCHITECTURE

3

BUILDING SYSTEMS WITH SPIFFE AND SPIRE

4

ROADMAP

5

NEXT STEPS

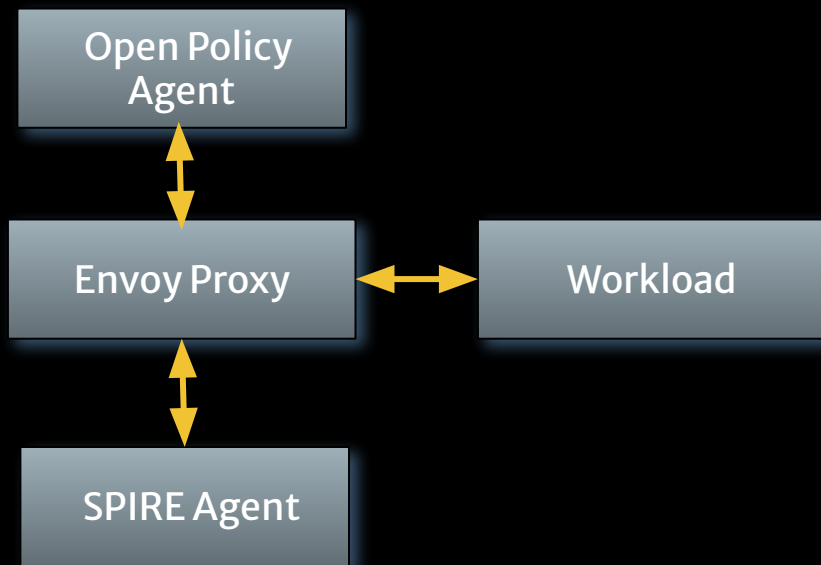
Three Ways to Use SPIFFE



DIRECT WORKLOAD API ACCESS

We have libraries for Java and Go
(Python planned)

Three Ways to Use SPIFFE

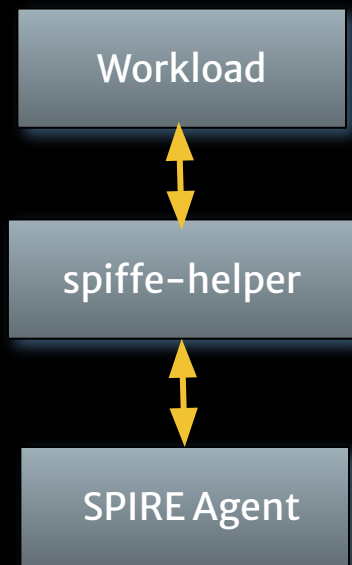


SIDECAR PROXY

Envoy can integrate with SPIRE.

Optionally, you can use Open Policy Agent (OPA) to make complex authorization rules.

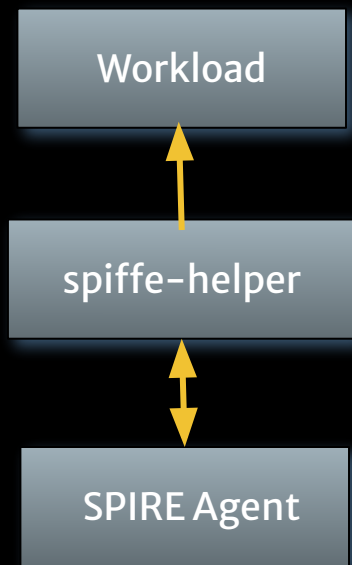
Three Ways to Use SPIFFE



SPIFFE HELPER

The SPIFFE Helper can put SPIFFE certificates and trust bundles in files that are compatible with non-SPIFFE-aware workloads.

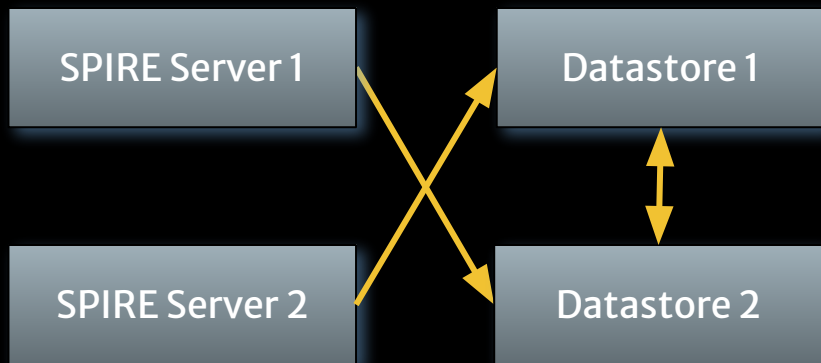
Three Ways to Use SPIFFE



SPIFFE HELPER

The SPIFFE Helper can put SPIFFE certificates and trust bundles in files that are compatible with non-SPIFFE-aware workloads.

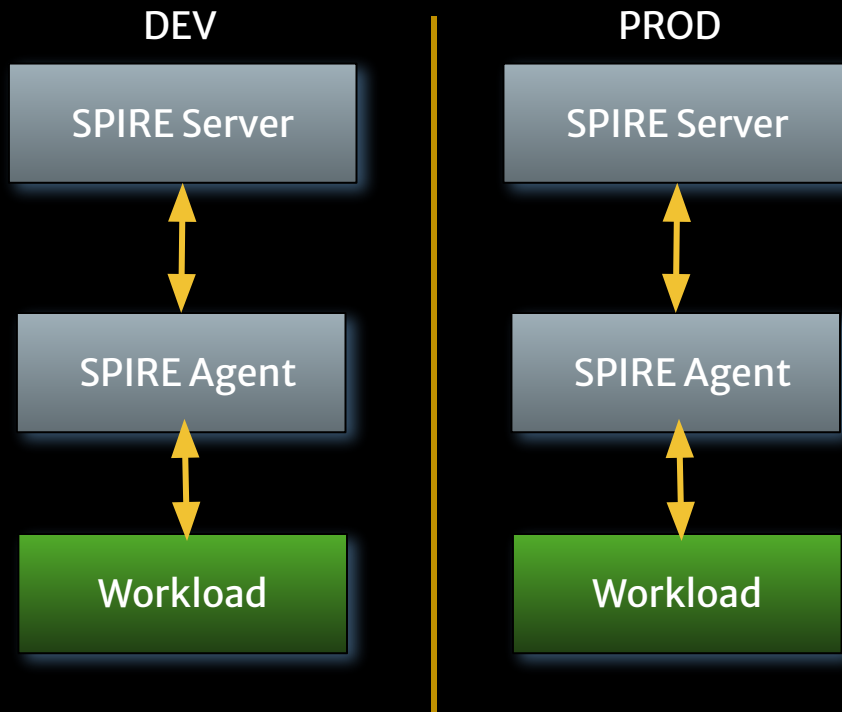
Zero Trust Design Patterns



HIGH AVAILABILITY

SPIRE stores all its data in an external datastore. If this is a distributed database, the SPIRE server can be an active-active high availability cluster.

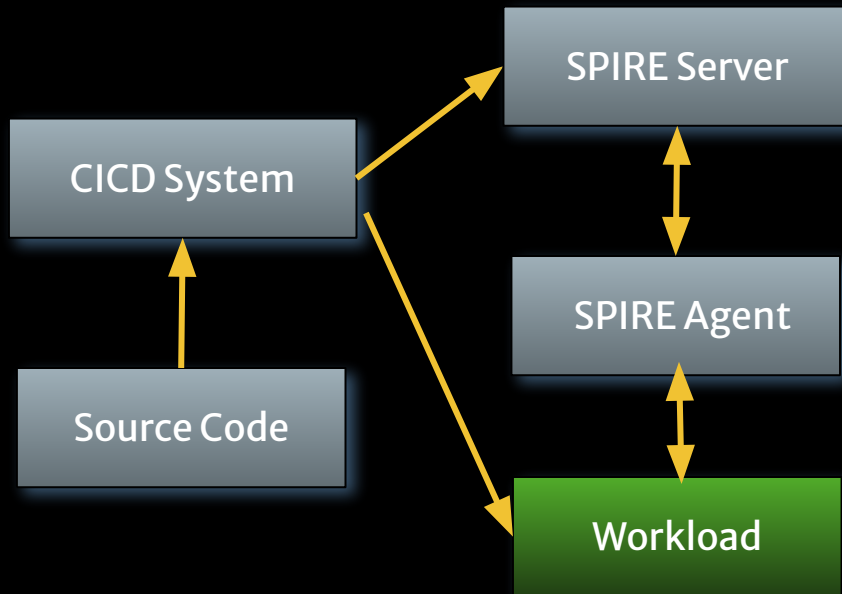
Zero Trust Design Patterns



SEPARATE TRUST DOMAINS

Use separate SPIRE domains for dev and prod workloads, in order to ensure isolation of prod workloads.

Zero Trust Design Patterns

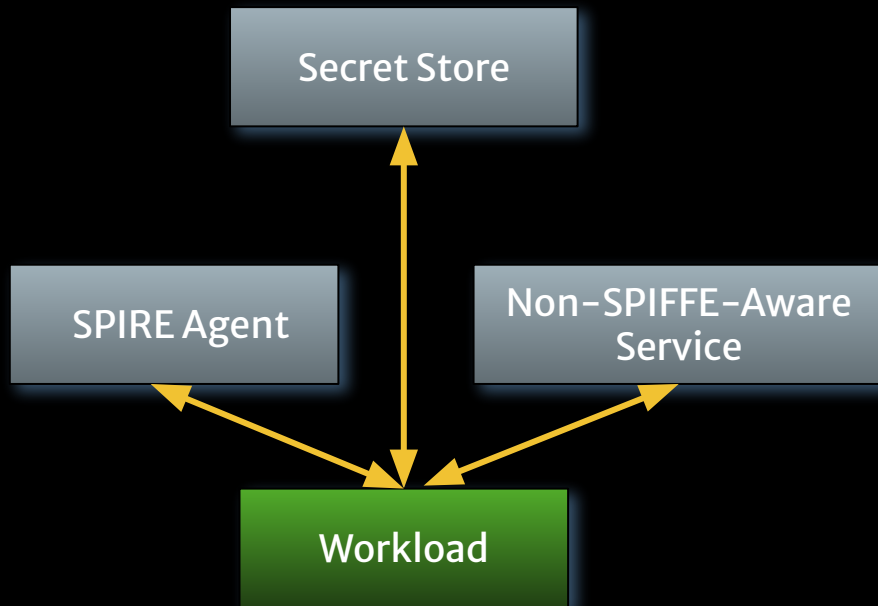


CICD BASED IDENTITY CREATION

As containers are built in a CICD system, identities are automatically updated.

This allows identities to be tied to a specific build hash.

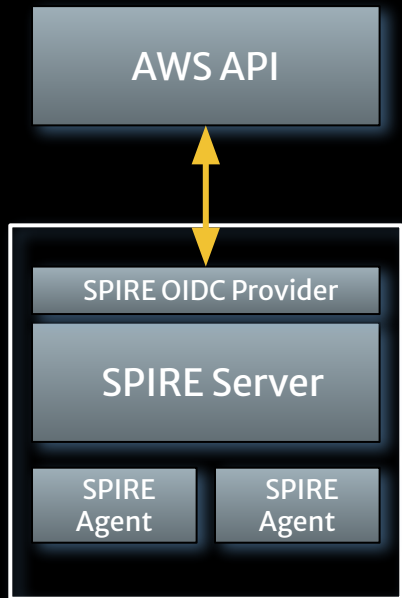
Zero Trust Design Patterns



SECRET STORE ACCESS

SPIFFE Identities can be used to access secrets in a secret store, which can then be used to access non-SPIFFE-aware resources.

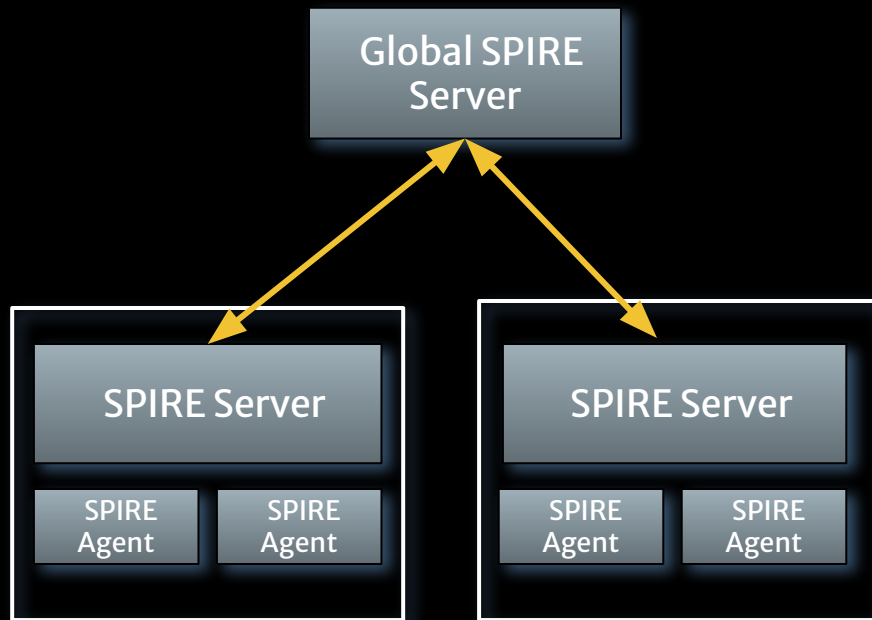
Zero Trust Design Patterns



OIDC FEDERATION

OIDC Federation lets your services authenticate to many common external APIs (like AWS)

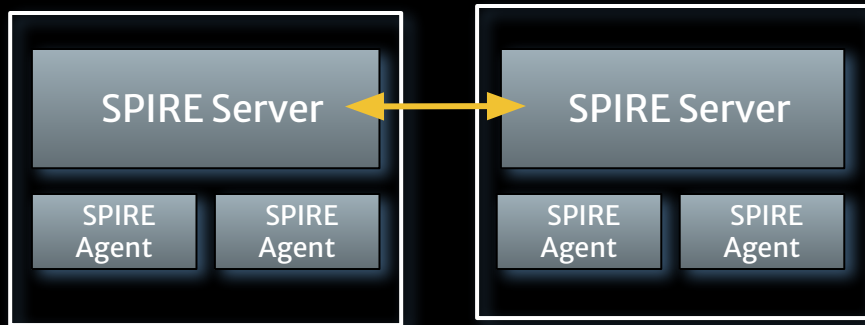
Zero Trust Design Patterns



NESTED SPIRE

Nested SPIRE can help you separate failure domains between multiple data centers or clouds

Zero Trust Design Patterns



FEDERATION

Federation lets you separate security domains between two independent SPIRE servers.

AGENDA

1

WHAT IS ZERO TRUST

2

SPIFFE AND SPIRE ARCHITECTURE

3

BUILDING SYSTEMS WITH SPIFFE AND SPIRE

4

ROADMAP

5

NEXT STEPS

ROADMAP

IMPROVED DATASTORE LAYER

SUPPORT FOR TRUSTED PLATFORM MODULES

SUPPORT FOR SERVERLESS FUNCTIONS

CERTIFICATE TRANSPARENCY

IMPROVED KUBERNETES SUPPORT



WHO'S USING SPIRE

Other CNCF Projects:

Kuma

Network Service Mesh

Others in progress...

End Users:

ByteDance (TikTok)

Square

Bloomberg

Anthem (Health Insurance)

HPE Cray

Uber

GitHub

Stripe

TransferWise

AGENDA

1

WHAT IS ZERO TRUST

2

SPIFFE AND SPIRE ARCHITECTURE

3

BUILDING SYSTEMS WITH SPIFFE AND SPIRE

4

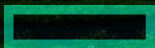
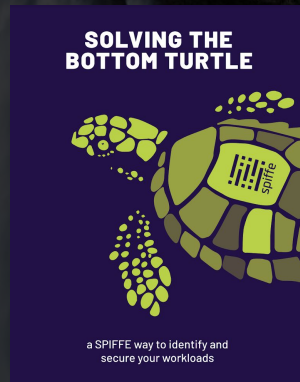
ROADMAP

5

NEXT STEPS

NEXT STEPS

- spiffe.io
- spiffe.slack.com
- [@spiffeio](https://twitter.com/spiffeio)
- Book coming out soon!





THANK YOU

Daniel Feldman
HPE Security Engineering
dan.feldman@hpe.com
[@d_feldman](#)

