



Expert Services

Qlikview Accesspoint Single Sign On

Version: 2
Date: 2010-11-15

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"A best practice is a technique or methodology that, through experience and research, has proven to reliably lead to a desired result."

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1 Introduction

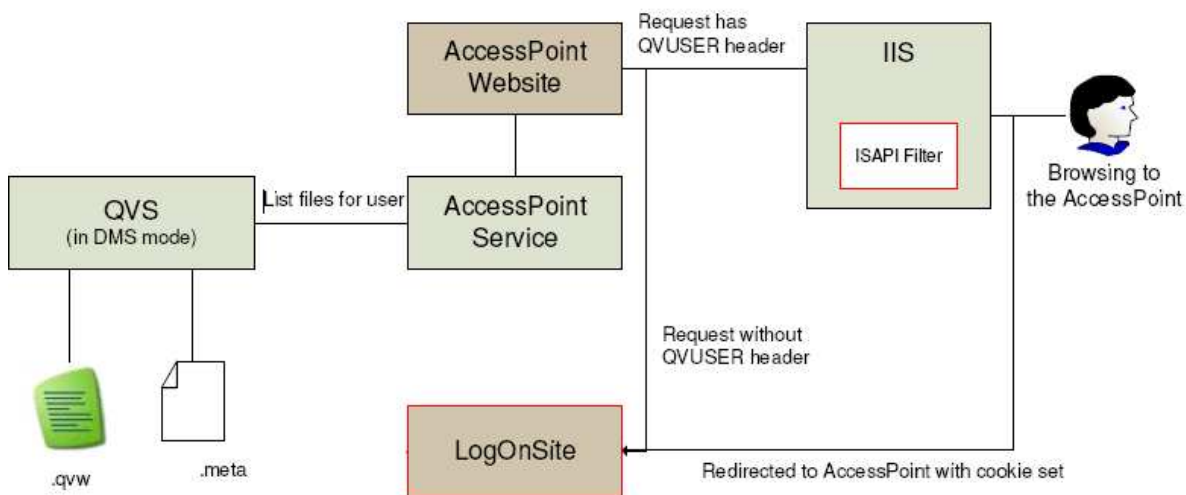
There are many single sign-on solutions in the market that protect a URL or web resource by redirecting the initial request for a protected resource to a login page prompting the user to enter their (single sign-on) credentials. Once a user is authenticated the user is again redirected, this time back to the originally requested resource, and this time the Single Sign-on solution will have also appended an HTTP header containing the user id of the logged in user. The name of the header will vary from system to system (e.g. the header name is "sm_user" for SiteMinder, ivuser for WebSEAL) and the content will be the user id.

If the Accesspoint does not find the user id in the header, the "Login address" will have Accesspoint redirect to the given URL (note in most commercial single sign-on solutions like this the redirect is handled outside of Accesspoint by the SSO piece so in many cases this will simply be a precaution that should never really get called)

This document describes how to configure Qlikview with IIS to use the existing SSO infrastructure. In the following chapter we will also mimic a SSO infrastructure. Be aware, that this example configuration is for testing only, and is not meant to be deployed in a productive environment.

1.1 Example

Attached to this document you will find the sources for a small example to mimic a SSO infrastructure.



The provided logon site will handle the logon. The actual site will not check the password, but allow whatever username you type in there. In a real world scenario, password checks etc. will have to be implemented.

The logon site will add a cookie to the user called QvCookie, containing the username in clear text. In a real world scenario this should be done using some kind of advanced ticket handling instead.

The user will be redirected to the Accesspoint. The ISAPI filter will now check for this cookie and if it is found, it will transfer the value to the header, named QVUSER.



The Accesspoint will trust this header and request files from the Qlikview server for this user.

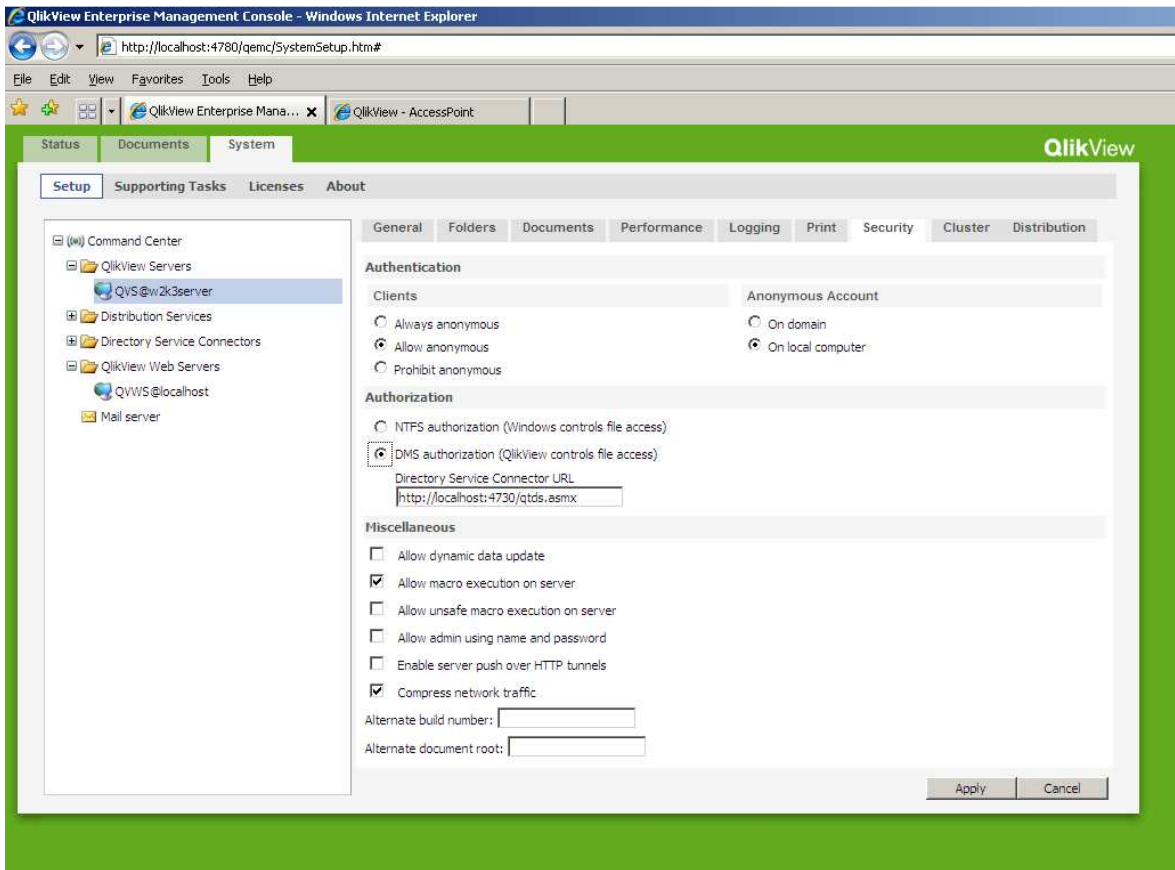
To allow us to use non windows-user with Qlikview the Qlikview Server has run in DMS mode. Additionally as we have to configure the Accesspoint to look for the HTTP-Header field. As we want to deploy an ISAPI-Filter for the SSO Example, we then need to configure IIS.

2 Configuration QV Server

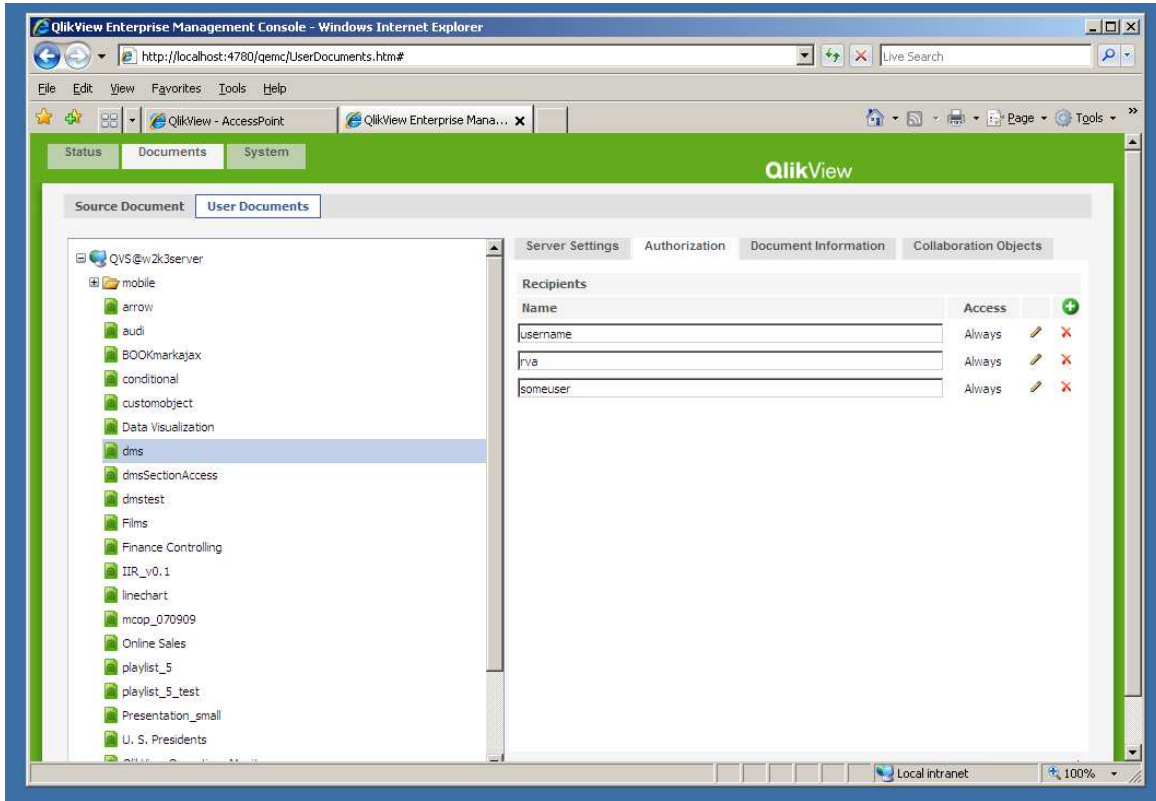
Out of the box Qlikview Server uses Active Directory users in NTFS mode. Typically a SSO system is placed on top of a non-AD directory services. In such a scenario the Qlikview Server needs to run in the so called “DMS”-mode and controls Authorization by itself (.qvw.meta files typically managed by Qlikview Publisher).

2.1 QVS DMS Mode

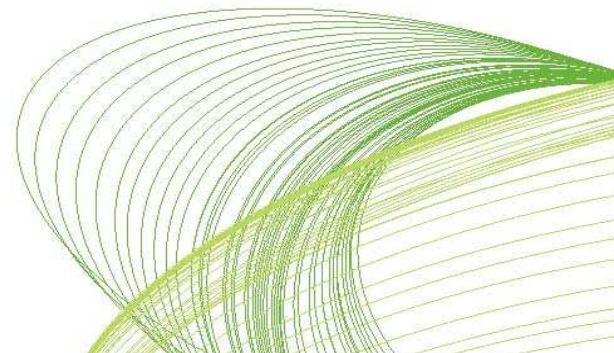
Use the QlikView Enterprise Management Console to configure DMS mode. Go to “System|Setup|QlikView Servers| Security|DMS Authorization”. Click “Apply” and restart the Qlikview server. The screenshot slightly differ in QV9 and QV10. But the relevant setting is the same.



To give users access to documents, go to “Document|User Documents”. Select a document and go to “Recipients”. Add the usernames (of your SSO system) which should have access to the document.



In the screenshot above we give the users „username“, „rva“ and „someuser“ access to the document „dms“. In a productive environment use Qlikview Publisher and distribution tasks to manage this list.



2.2 Configure Accesspoint

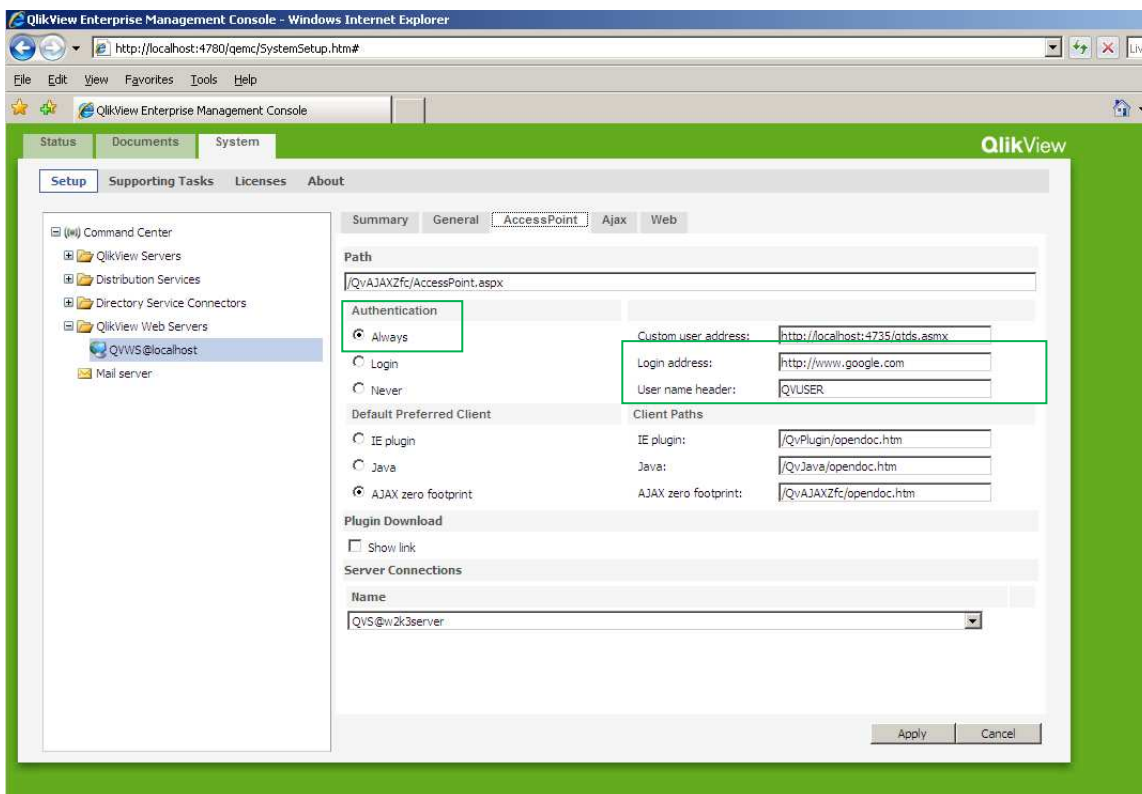
In the Enterprise Management Console go to „Qlikview Web Servers” and select the web server.

2.2.1 Qlikview 9

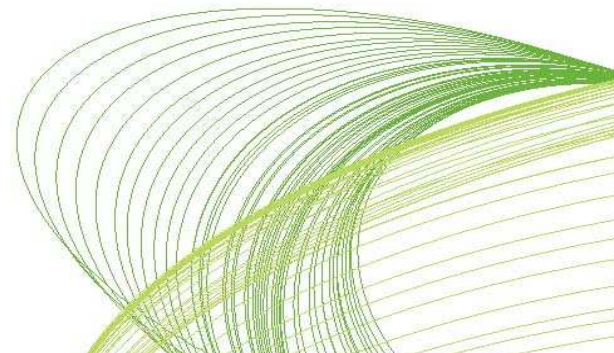
Go to “Accesspoint” and add to the field “User Name Header” the value “QVUSER”. This makes the Accesspoint to check for the HTTP-Header field.

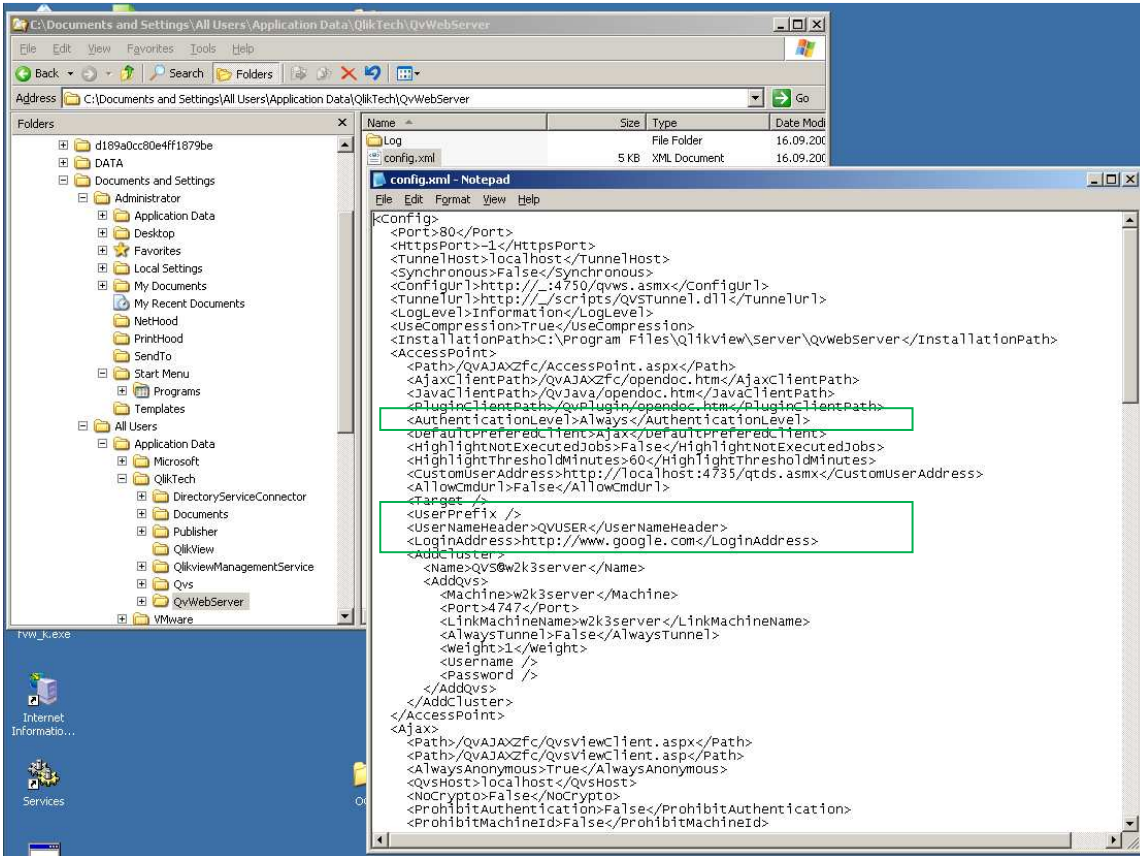
You can utilize the field “Login address” to make a redirect to the specified page if no HTTP-Header field was found. This should be the URL of your login-page. For testing purposes set it to <http://www.google.com>.

Ensure that the Authentication is set to “Always”.



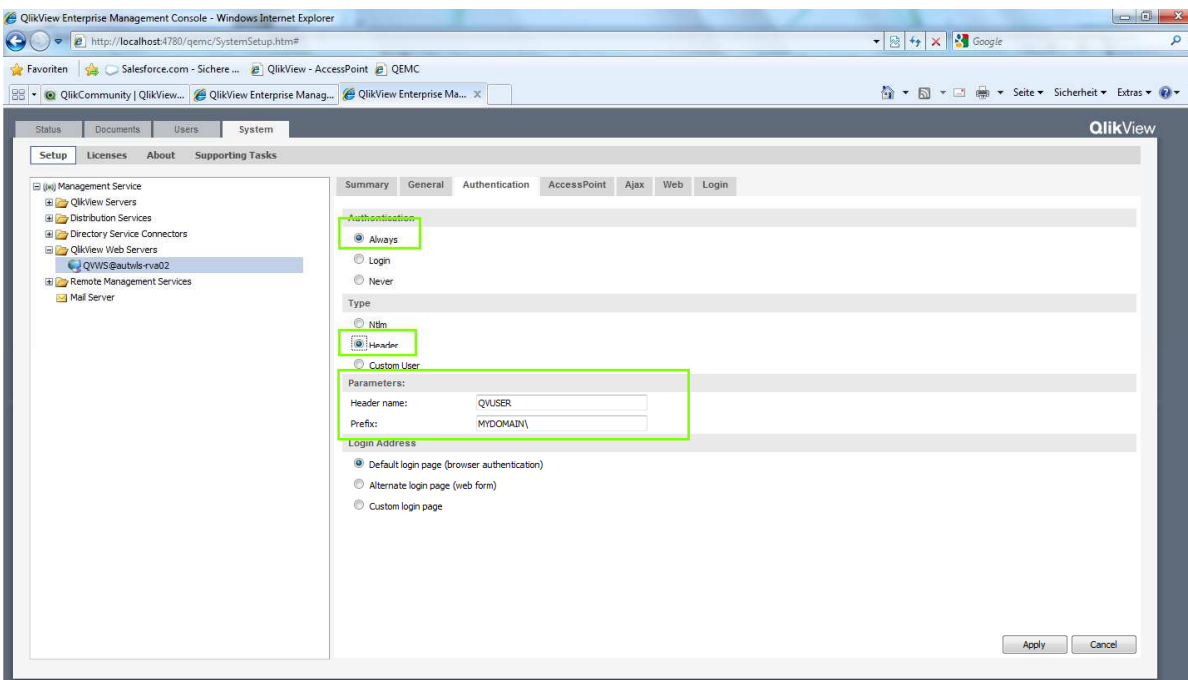
Double check the settings in the config file `C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\QlikTech\QvWebServer\config.xml`. If you don't want to use the default prefix “CUSTOM/” for all of your users remove it from the key `<UserPrefix>` .



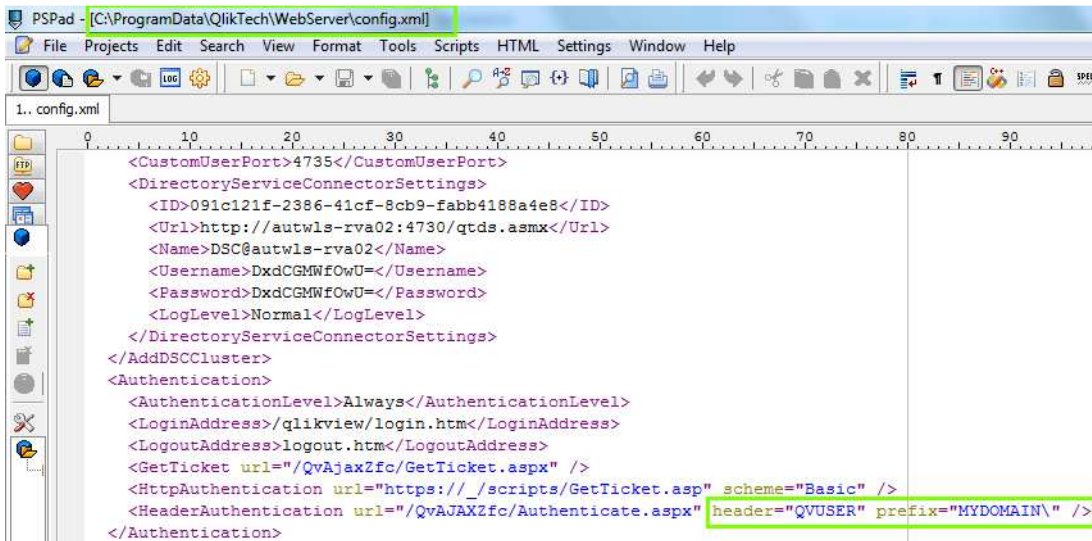


2.2.2 Qlikview 10

For Qlikview 10 the dialogs in QEMC have slightly changed. In the tab “Authorization” select the following options.



Doublecheck the settings in c:\ProgramData\Qliktech\WebServer\config.xml

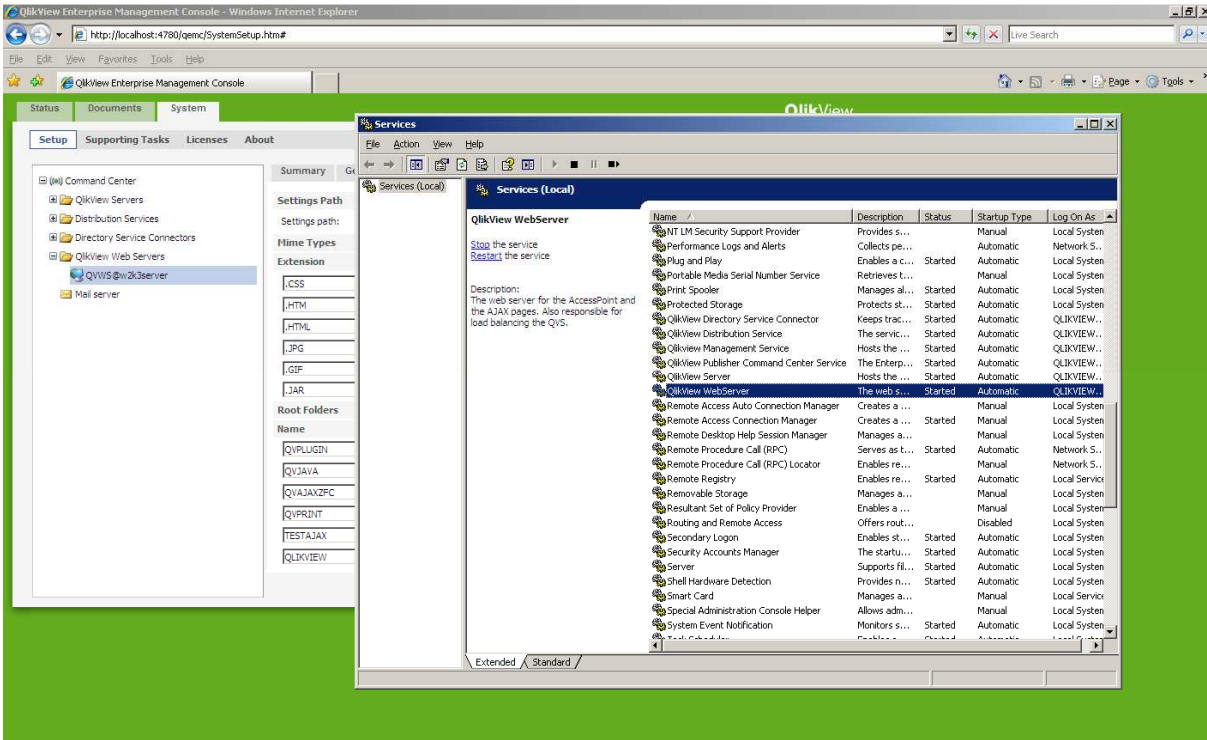


```
1.. config.xml
0      10      20      30      40      50      60      70      80      90
<CustomUserPort>4735</CustomUserPort>
<DirectoryServiceConnectorSettings>
  <ID>091c121f-2386-41cf-8cb9-fabb4188a4e8</ID>
  <Url>http://autwls-rva02:4730/qtds.asmx</Url>
  <Name>DSC@autwls-rva02</Name>
  <Username>DxdCGMWFOWU=</Username>
  <Password>DxdCGMWFOWU=</Password>
  <LogLevel>Normal</LogLevel>
</DirectoryServiceConnectorSettings>
</AddDSCCluster>
<Authentication>
  <AuthenticationLevel>Always</AuthenticationLevel>
  <LoginAddress>/qlikview/login.htm</LoginAddress>
  <LogoutAddress>logout.htm</LogoutAddress>
  <GetTicket url="/QvAjaxZfc/GetTicket.aspx" />
  <HttpAuthentication url="https://_/scripts/GetTicket.asp" scheme="Basic" />
  <HeaderAuthentication url="/QvAJAXZfc/Authenticate.aspx" header="QVUSER" prefix="MYDOMAIN\" />
</Authentication>
```



2.3 Stop QlikView WebServer

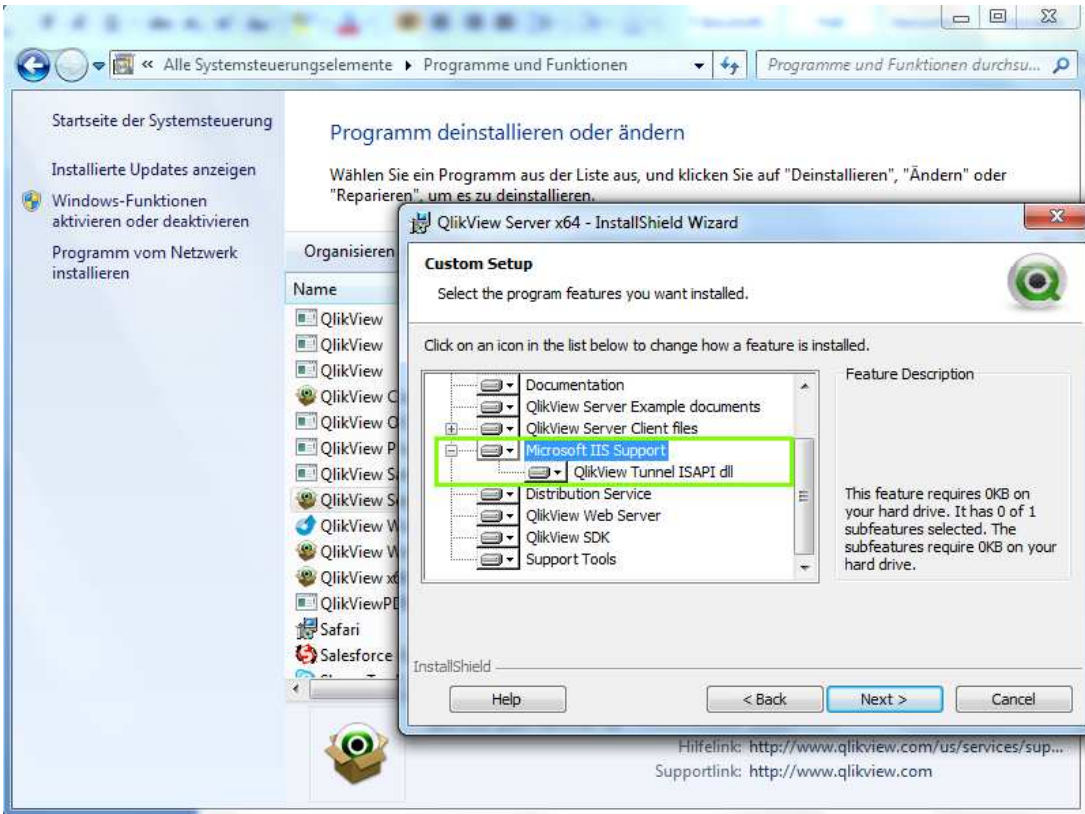
As we want to utilize IIS in our scenario, stop the service “QlikView Web Server”. You may want to set the “Startup Type” of the service to “Manual”.



3 Configuration IIS

3.1 Install with IIS Support

While it is possible to manually configure the virtual directories in IIS, you should always install Qlikview Server with the feature “Microsoft IIS Support”. See screenshot below.

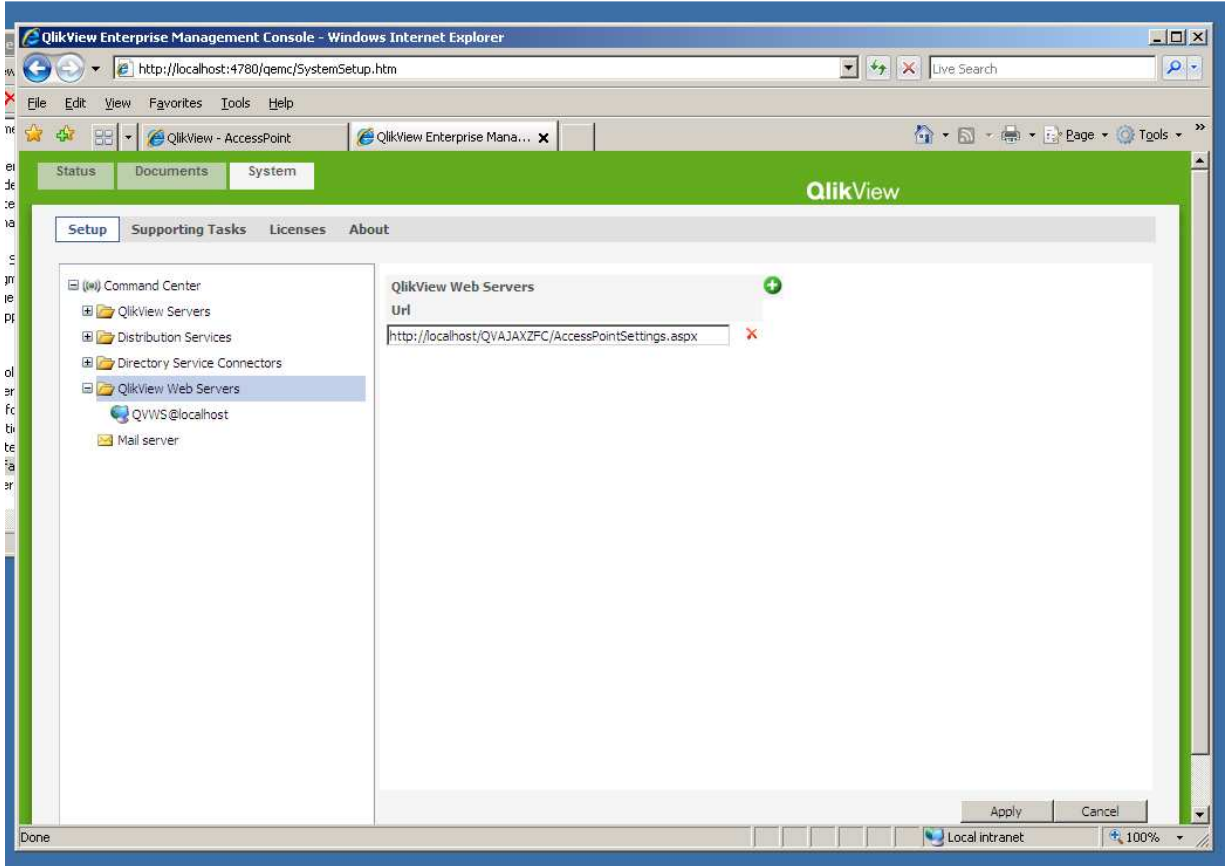


For the official documentation please refer to QVS10 Reference Manual Chapter 2.5 “Completing the installation” section “Running Microsoft Internet Information Services”.



3.2 Configure QlikView Server to use IIS

To make Qlikview aware of IIS open the “Enterprise Management Console”. Go to “System|Setup|QlikView Web Servers”. Remove the old entry, and add a new URL <http://localhost/QVAJAXZFC/AccessPointSettings.aspx>. Press “Apply”.

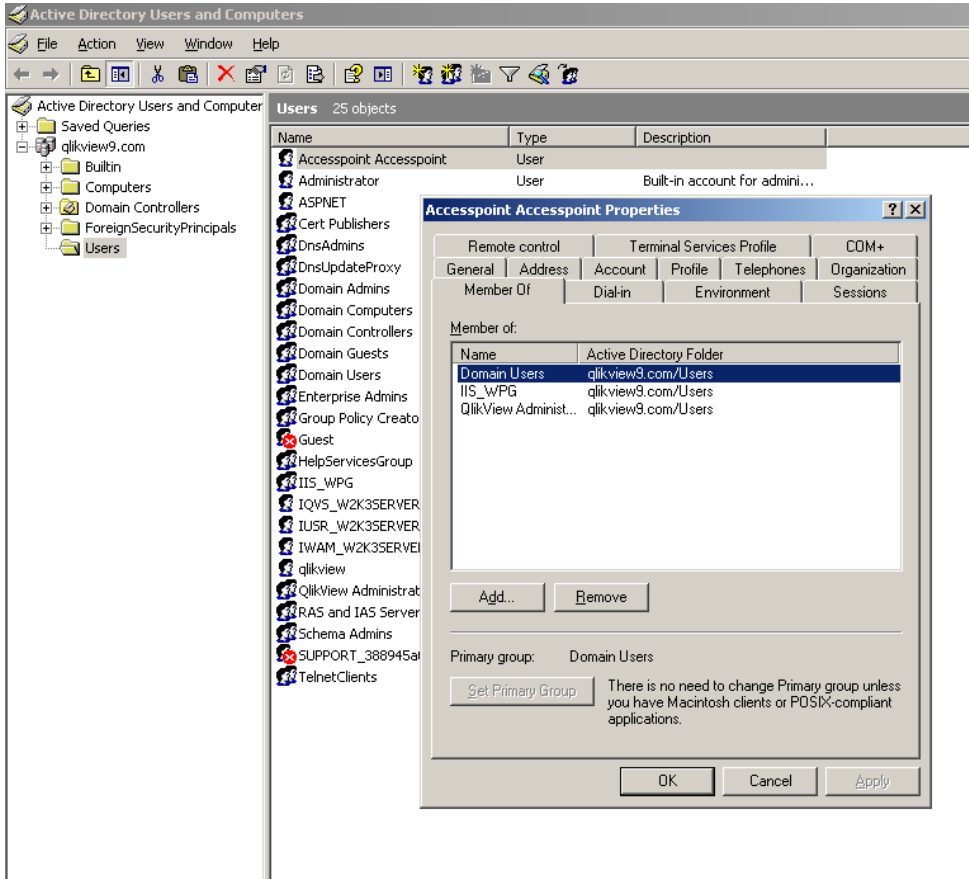


3.3 Create user for Application Pool

This is a mandatory step for QVS9. QVS10 Setup does this automatically.

In DMS Mode a ticketing process is in place to allow users to access an application. This ticket is passed over by the QlikView Server when requested by a “QlikView administrator”. Therefore we need a user that is allowed to request such a ticket.

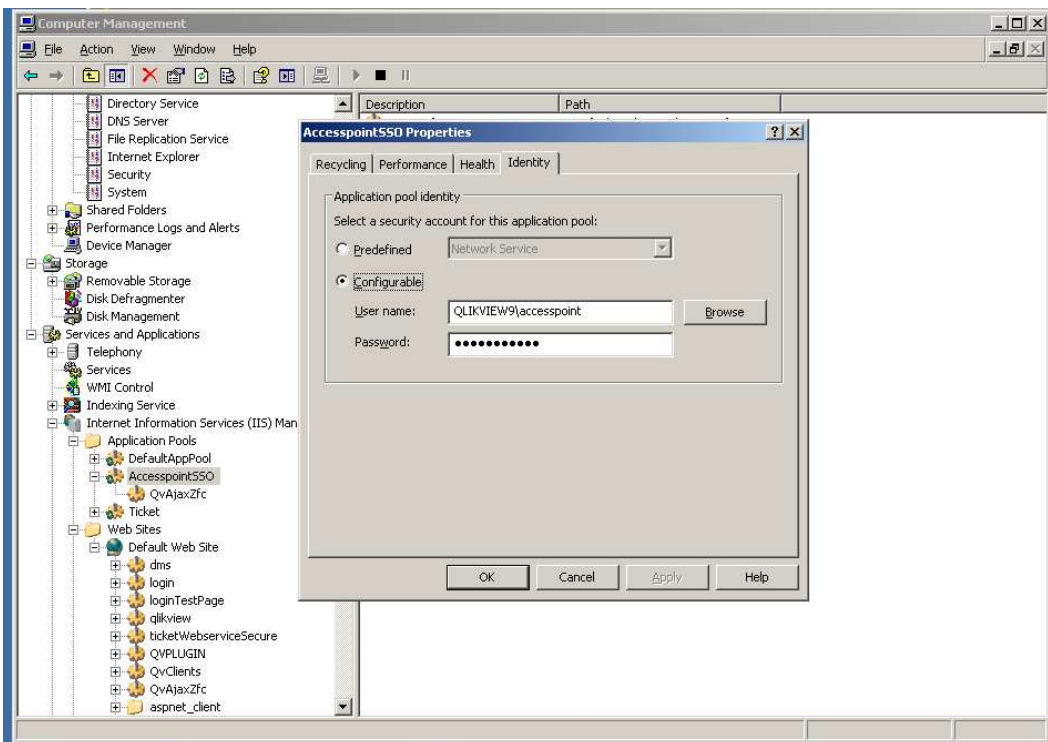
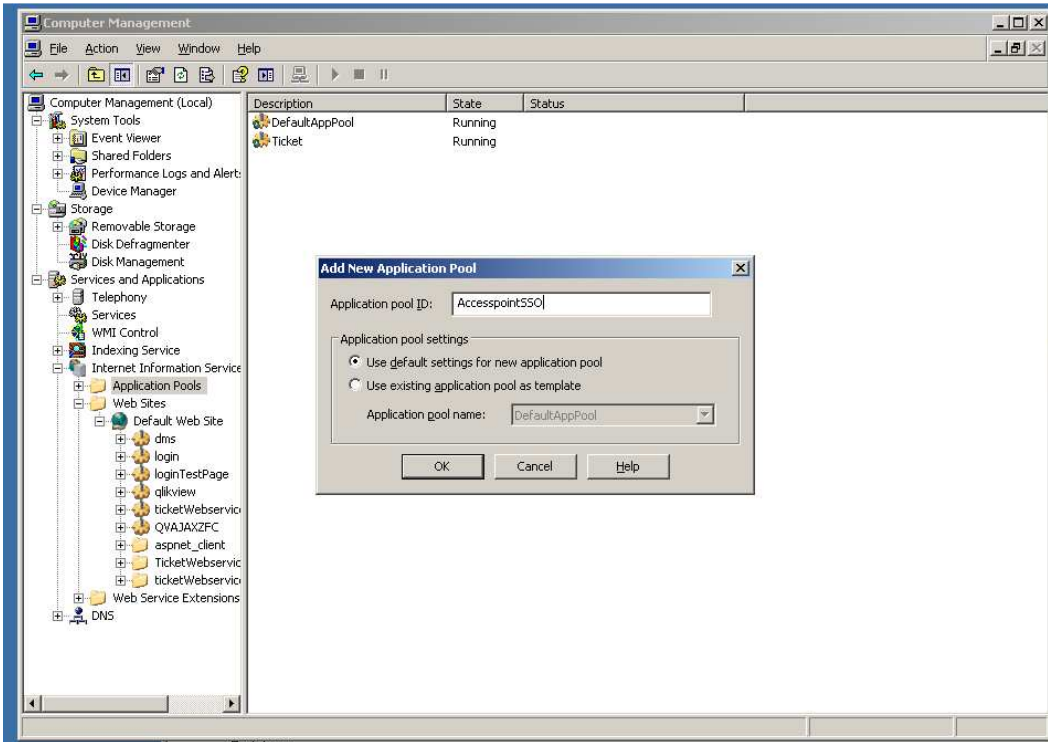
Create a new user “Accesspoint” that is member of the group “QlikView Administrators” and is allowed to run an IIS application pool (typically the user needs to be a member of the group “IIS_WPG” for that).



3.4 Setup Application Pool

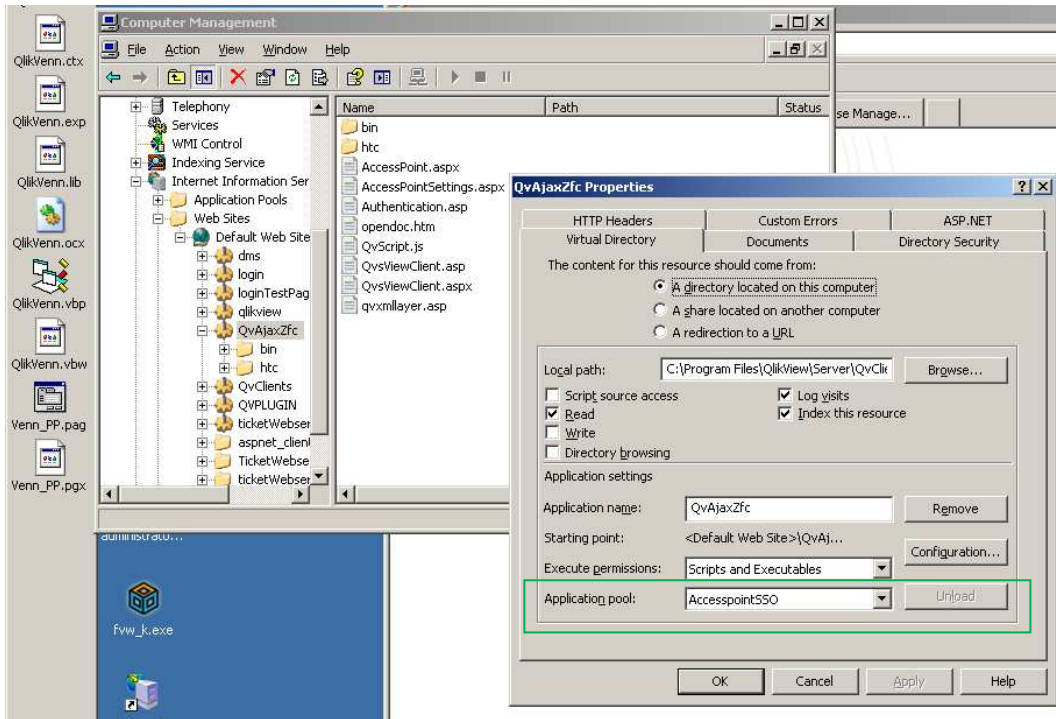
This is a mandatory step for QVS9. QVS10 Setup does this automatically.

Go back to IIS and create a new application pool „AccesspointSSO“. Go to “Properties|Identity” and assign the newly created user to run the application pool.



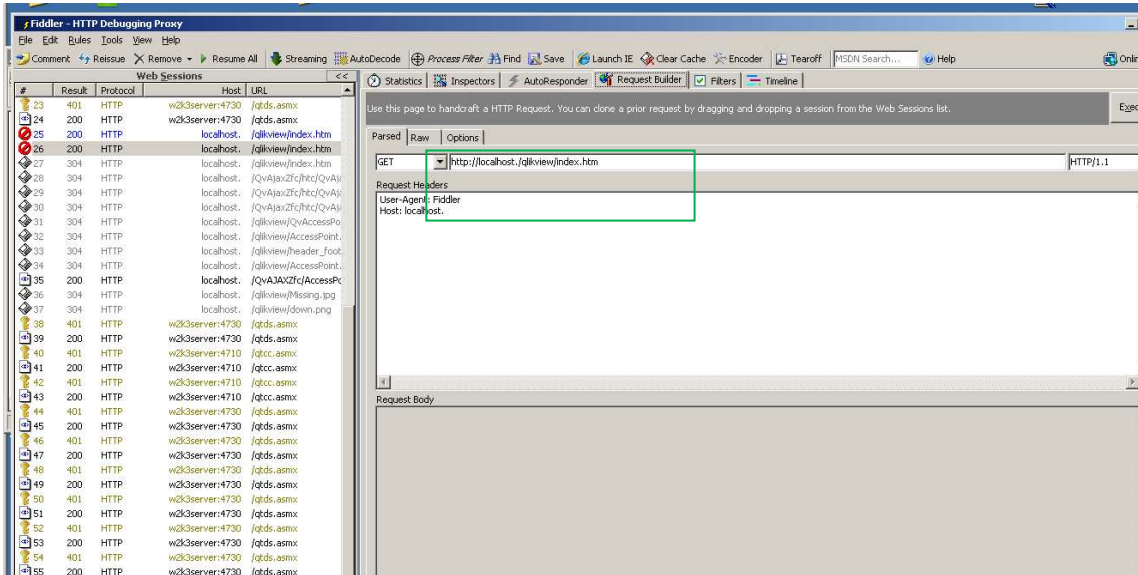
This is a mandatory step for QVS9. QVS10 Setup does this automatically.

To allow IIS to retrieve the ticket, you now have to assign the application pool to the virtual directory „QVAjaxZfc“. Select the virtual directory, go to “Properties|Application Pool” and select “AccesspointSSO” from the dropdown.

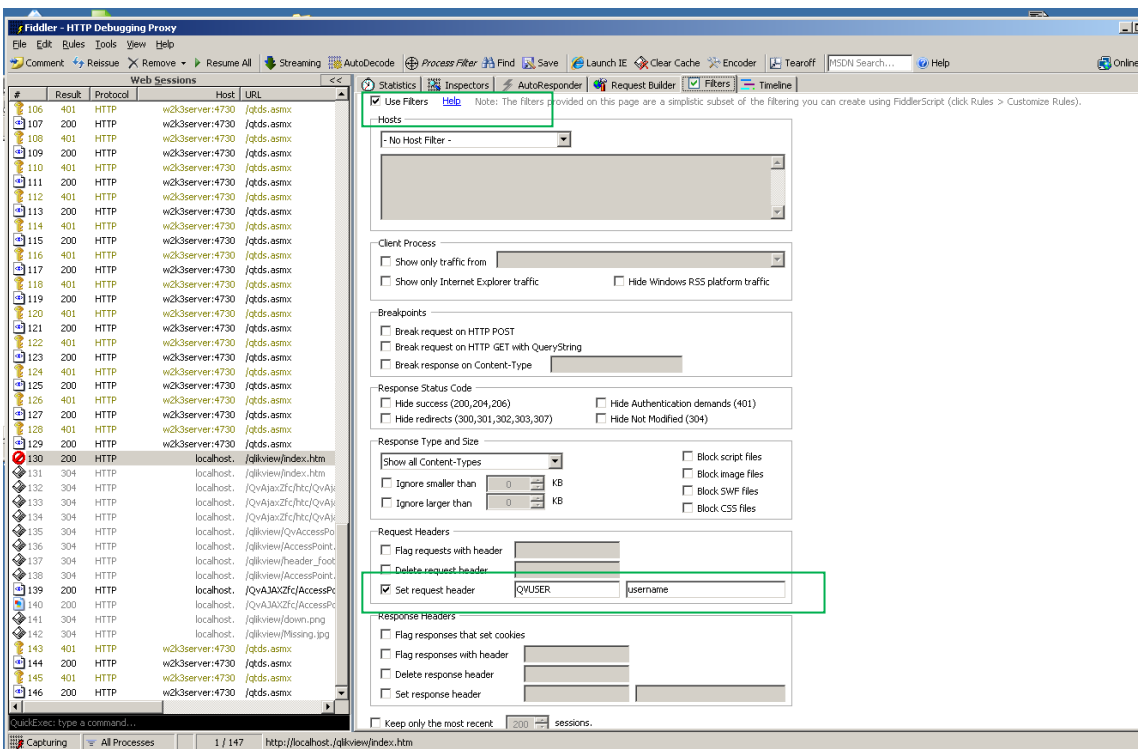


3.5 User Fiddler to test configuration

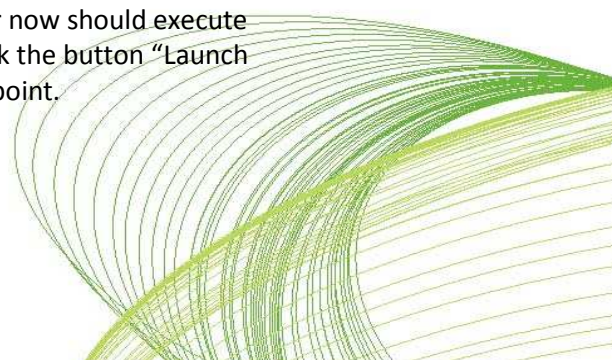
Optionally you can use Fiddler (<http://www.fiddler2.com/fiddler2/>) to test your configuration right now. Use the “Request Builder” and enter the URL <http://localhost./qlikview/index.htm>. (Use “localhost.” or the name of your computer; Fiddler will not log requests to “localhost”).

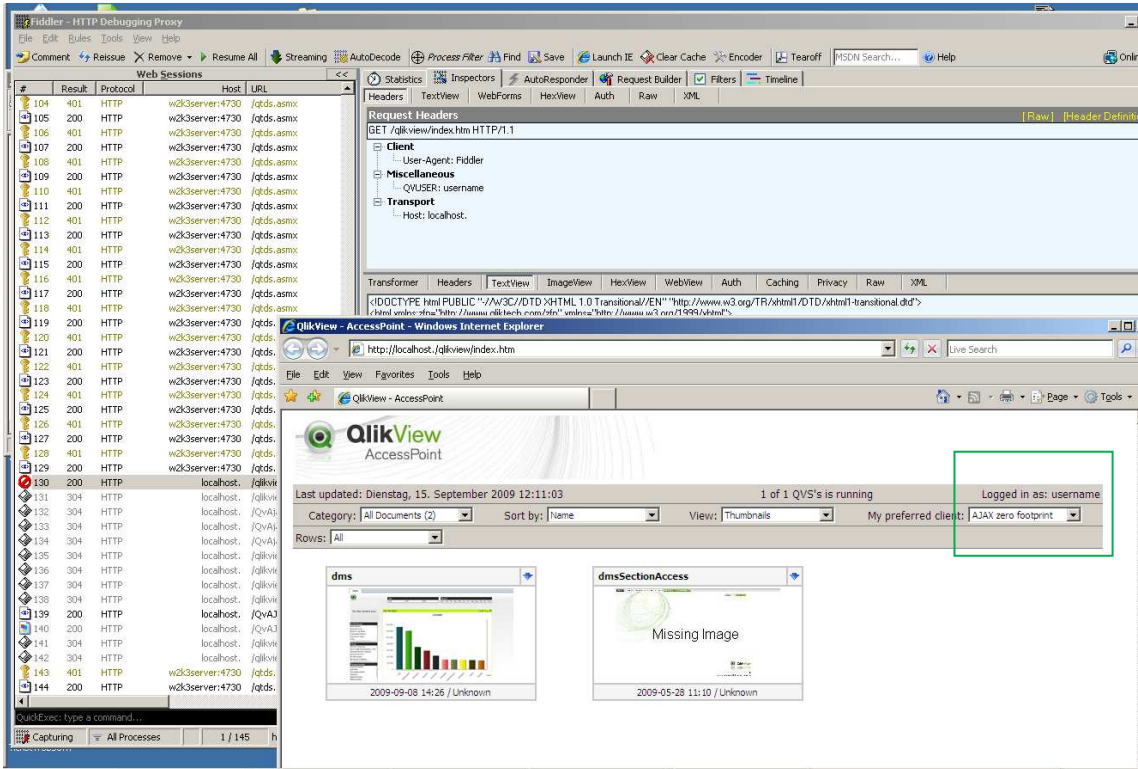


Go to tab “Filters”. Check the checkbox “Use Filters”. Scroll down and add under “Request Headers|Set Request Header” the value “QVUSER” with “username”.



Go back to “Request Builder” and press the button “Execute”. Fiddler now should execute the HTTP-request successfully. Select the line on the left side and click the button “Launch IE”. You now should see the user “username” logged into the Accesspoint.

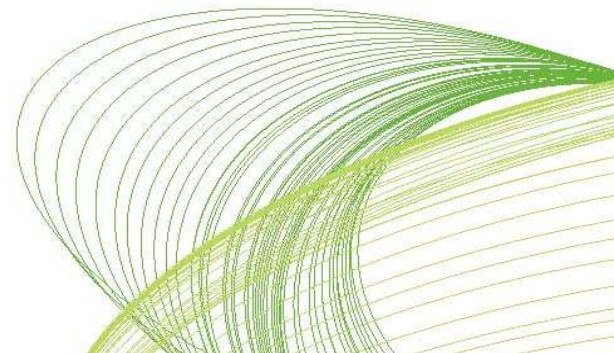




3.6 Summary

Qlikview Accesspoint is now configured to retrieve the authenticated username from a HTTP Header field. This username is matched against the Authorization-table we defined in chapter 2.1.

The actual authentication is implemented by the SSO system, or can be done manually using some hookups on the webservice (Authentication done with mod_ldap on Apache, or HTTPModules in IIS 7). For more detailed information on Authentication please contact the author of this paper. Protect the Qlikview Accespoint from attacks as shown above with Fiddler. An attacker should not be able to inject the HTTPHeader directly.



4 Configuration SSO-Example

As mentioned in the introduction this document has an example attached to mimic a single sign on scenario. All files and source codes can be found in the SSOSample.zip. ***Don't use this example in a productive environment! This example does not replace a full-fledged SSO system!***

The logon site will handle the logon. The actual site will not check the password, but allow whatever username you type in there. In a real world scenario, password checks etc will have to be implemented.

The logon site will add a cookie to the user called QvCookie, containing the username in clear text. In a real world scenario this should be done using some kind of advanced ticket handling instead.

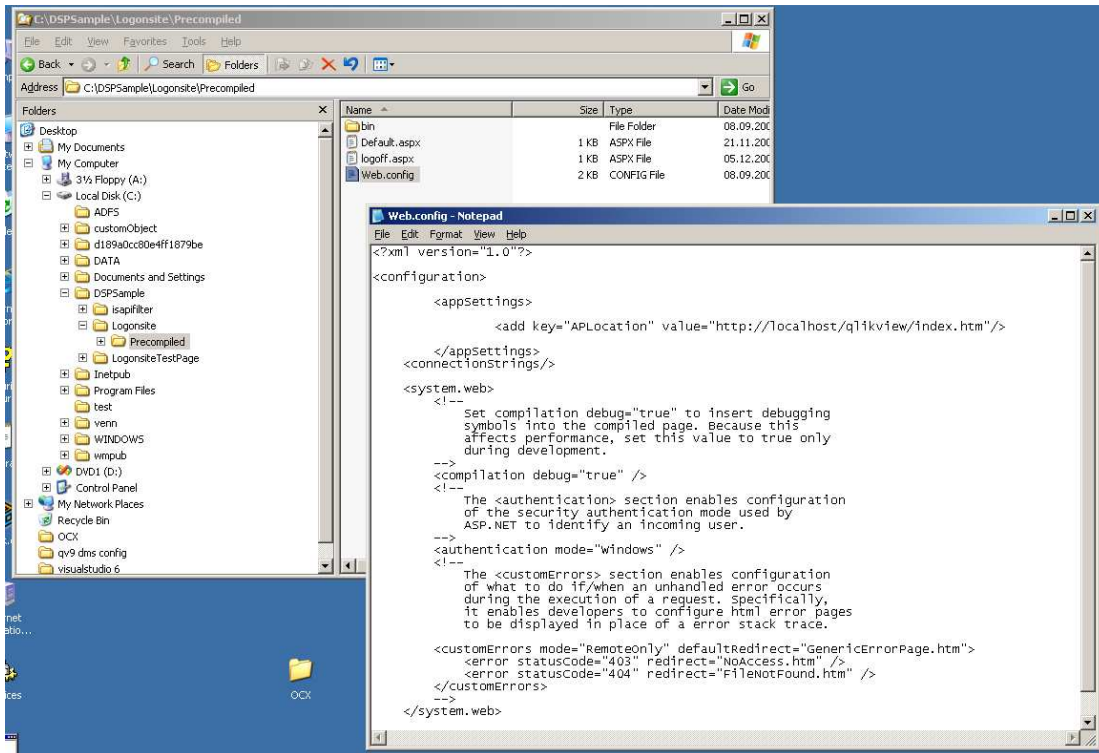
The user will be redirected to the Accesspoint. The ISAPI filter will now check for this cookie and if it is found, it will transfer the value to the header, named QVUSER. The Accesspoint will trust this header and request files from the QlikView server for this user.

4.1 Logon site

1. Save the logon site files to disk. Go to the IIS manager. Add a virtual directory to your logon site, pointing to the files' location, for example `C:\DSPSample\Logonsite\Precompiled`.

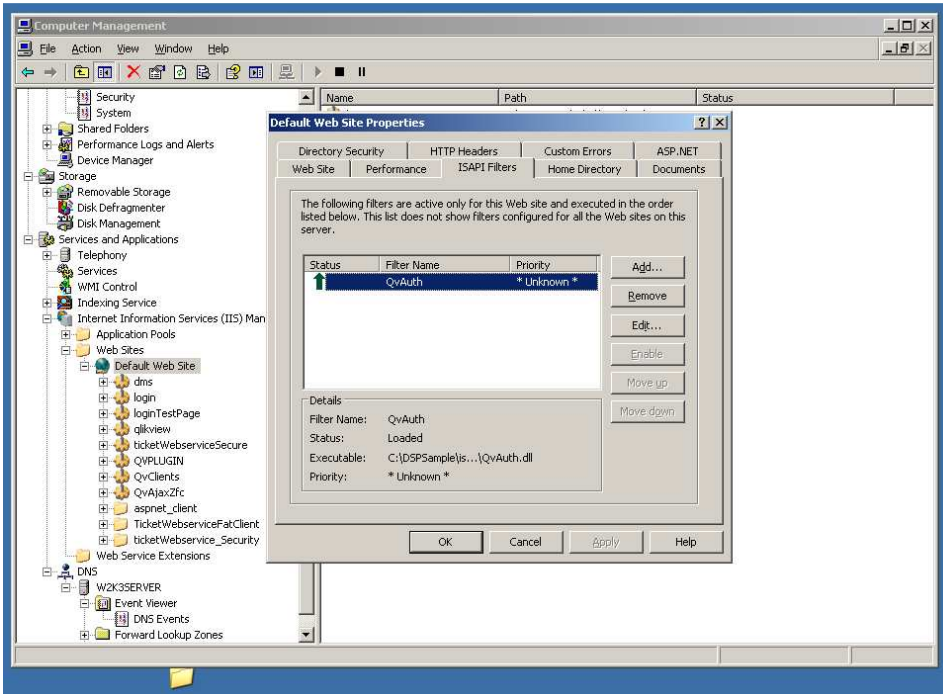
Assume this logon site is at `http://localhost/login/` and the Accesspoint is at `http://localhost/qlikview/index.htm`

2. If your Accesspoint is running on a different URL, edit `web.config` for the logon site. Change the "APLocation" key.



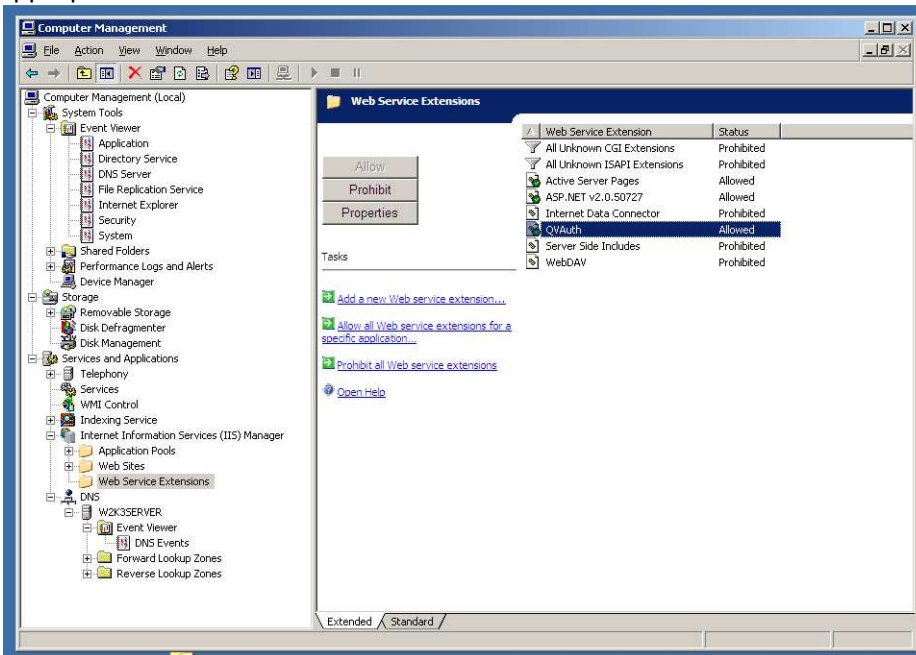
4.2 Isapi-filter

For 32 bit versions select the file \isapifilter\x86\QvAuth.dll. For 64 bit versions select the file \isapifilter\x64\QvAuth.dll. Start the IIS Manager.



2. Select „Properties“ for the default website. Go to the ISAPI Filters tab and add QvAuth.dll. Name it appropriately. Click ok.

3. This step applies only to IIS version 6. Go to Web Service Extension. Right-click and select” Add New Web Service Extension... “. Set the extension name to something appropriate. Click Add and select the same .dll file. Set the extension status to “Allowed”.



4.3 Test Example

Go to <http://localhost/login/>. Enter username “username” and click “Logon”. The logon page now redirects to the Accesspoint and puts the username in a cookie. ISAPI-filter puts in the HTTP-Header field “QVUser”. The Accesspoint then shows only the applications the user “username” is authorized to see.

