



# Discover and protect local accounts with Silverfort

Continuously discover and protect local accounts across Windows endpoints to eliminate hidden identity risks and stop lateral movement

## The Challenge: **Local accounts remain unmonitored and unprotected**

Local accounts have long operated outside the scope of traditional identity security controls, leaving organizations without visibility or centralized management over their usage and authentication activity. Since these accounts authenticate locally directly on endpoints and not through Active Directory (AD) or an identity provider (IdP), they fall outside the reach of traditional identity security tools and cannot support or enforce MFA or access-based policies.

This lack of oversight creates a critical blind spot. Regulatory authorities, including FBI, CISA, and CIS, increasingly warn that unprotected local admin accounts represent a high-risk identity exposure frequently exploited in lateral movement and privilege escalation attacks. As identity hygiene requirements continue to tighten, organizations are under pressure to centralize visibility and control over local accounts.

### These gaps create several critical identity risks for organizations:

- **Lack of visibility** leaves local account activity unmonitored, without any centralized logging, auditing or correlation
- **Unmanaged privileges** allow local admins to install software, modify configurations, and escalate access permissions without oversight
- **Weaker authentication controls** prevent organizations from enforcing MFA on local logins, creating a major identity security gap
- **Lateral movement exposure** increases as attackers frequently exploit local admin accounts after gaining endpoint access

## Local accounts security:

End-to-end visibility, control, and protection for all local Windows accounts



**Discover and manage all local accounts** across Windows endpoints with full context, including username, device name, account type, status, and last seen activity



**Enforce access security controls on local logins**, applying Allow, Deny, or Notify access-based policies directly through Silverfort for Windows Logon (S4WL). When MFA action is required, bind the local accounts to an AD identity to enable MFA enforcement



**Reduce lateral movement risk** by preventing attackers from exploiting unmanaged local admin accounts and ensuring all local logins are evaluated and audited

## How it works

Silverfort provides centralized visibility, management and policy enforcement for local accounts through S4WL, enabling authentication activity monitoring, access control, and MFA protection where needed.

### Step 1: Discover local accounts automatically

S4WL surfaces all local accounts detected across Windows endpoints and consolidates them into a centralized Local Accounts view for management and activity monitoring.

### Step 2: Apply access-based policies and bind accounts when MFA protection is required

Silverfort evaluates each local login attempt for anomalies or risky behavior and applies the defined policy action (Allow, Deny, MFA or Notify) to block unauthorized access and prevent lateral movement.

### Step 3: Protect local accounts and audit all activity

At login, Silverfort evaluates the authentication attempt, whether it is a local or domain-based, against defined policy rules, and enforces the configured action. All local account logins are recorded in the Authentication Logs, providing full auditability and visibility for investigations.



**The result:** organizations gain centralized visibility and control over local accounts, improve compliance readiness, and reduce lateral movement risk across their hybrid environments

The screenshot displays the 'MFA User Management' interface. It features a sidebar with navigation icons and a main content area. The main area includes a 'Local accounts' summary with a total of 18,019, broken down into 11,176 active and 6,843 non-active accounts. A donut chart shows the distribution of account types: Admin (65%), User (28%), and Guest (19%). A status bar indicates 32 enabled and 68 disabled accounts. A 'Bound accounts' section shows a 50% bound status. Below these are filters for 'Last seen', 'Binding status', 'Device name', and 'Status'. A table lists individual accounts with columns for Name, Status, Device, Account type, Mode, Last seen, and Bound users.

Name (100 / 18,090)	Status	Device	Account type	Mode	Last seen	Bound users
Walter White	Bound	Macbook KJQGRQFT2	Guest	Disabled	May 25, 2024	Peter Schuler
Jesse Pinkman	Unbound	Desktop - 5644	Administrator	Enabled	May 25, 2024	
Marie Schrader	Unbound	Desktop - 5644	Administrator	Enabled	May 25, 2024	
Skyler White	Bound	Macbook KJQGRQFT2	Standard user	Enabled	May 25, 2024	Benicio Fuentes + 3
Hank Schrader	Bound	Macbook KJQGRQFT2	Standard user	Enabled	May 25, 2024	Stephanie Doswell
Saul Goodman	Excluded Less than 1 hr left	Laptop - 4176	Administrator	Enabled	May 25, 2024	Paul Tyree

## About Silverfort

Silverfort secures every dimension of identity—humans or machines across the cloud and on-prem. We deliver end-to-end identity security that is easy to deploy and won't disrupt business operations, resulting in better security outcomes with less work. Discover every identity, analyze exposures, and enforce protection inline to stop lateral movement, ransomware, and other identity threats.