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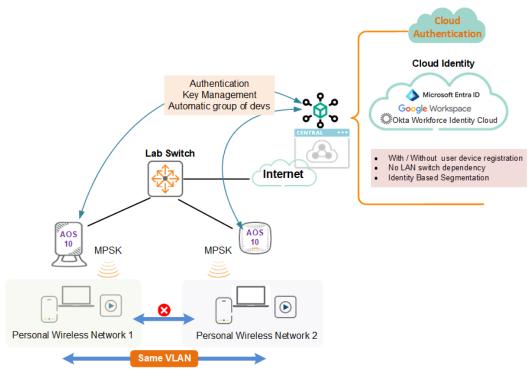
1.1 Revision History

DATE	VERSION	EDITOR	CHANGES					
12 Nov 2024	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		Initial creation					
25 Nov 2024			Added the pcap					

2 Personal Wireless Network with Aruba Central

Personal Wireless Networks (PWN) are groups of user-owned Wi-Fi devices that connect and operate together in a VLAN, enabling communication within that network. It's essential to ensure that only devices within the designated group can interact in one another, along with an added ability for the device owners to permit Multicast DNS (mDNS) and Simple Service Discovery Protocol (SSDP) based services to be shared with their friends.

In this technote I'll be demonstrating PWN solution, using Multi Pre-Shared Key (MPSK) on AOS10 APs and CloudAuth to provide user role-based policies for segmentation without any dependency on an identity store. There are two parts to this solution, one is the automating the operation workflow for user device registration and the second is the access policy part to provide segmentation.



PWN Benefits are

- Self-service portal makes it easy for users like students and faculty to onboard multiple personal devices and there is no need to register each device separately
- You can use this solution with or without the identity stores
- It eliminates IT help desk tickets through a user-driven, SSID-based approach
- There is no dependency on LAN infrastructure

2.1 Things you need

We need the following.

- 2x APs (I am using AP-515 and AP-605H) running Aruba AOS10 10.7.x.x or later
- Aruba Central account and a few wireless clients

2.2 Assumptions

- Aruba AP is added to the Aruba Central account and has a valid subscription.
- Aruba AP is visible and online in Aruba Central.
- Deny Intra VLAN Traffic is not enabled as it is mutually exclusive with PWN

3 CloudAuth and Personal Wireless networks

PWN with Aruba Central is a solution that uses several features to provide the outcome and those features include

- MPSK with AOS10 APs
- Cloud Auth
- AirGroup
- User roles-based policies for North-south traffic
- VXLAN and Group Based Policy (GBP) for East-West Traffic

First you need to configure MPSK to be the authentication mode for a WLAN. Note that MPSK and MAC authentication are mutually exclusive and AOS 10.4 and above is needed to support the MPSK feature.

The unique PSKs are assigned based on two methods

- 1. Admin Managed MPSK This is also known as Named MPSK, in which PSKs are auto-generated when the administrator creates a named MPSK entry that can be shared with one or more users or use it to configure multiple devices without dependency on identity store. This is for the use cases where devices that may need to connect to MPSK network do not have any user identity associated
- 2. User Managed MPSK These PSKs are specific to the user in the identity store and are auto-generated when the user signs in to the MPSK portal with their credentials. Then the users can connect multiple devices with this MPSK. So, there is a dependency on identity store.

Note that an identity provider should be configured before using the user-managed MPSK. Only the admin-managed MPSK (named MPSK) will work without configuring the identity provider.

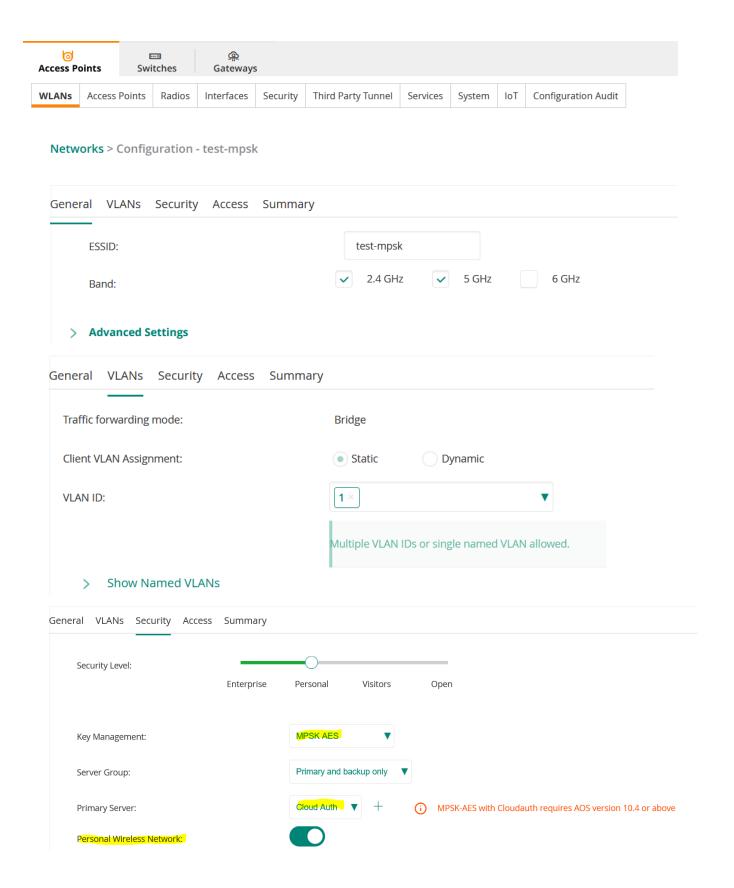
We'll be covering Admin Managed MPSK here.

3.1 WLAN MPSK configuration

Here we'll configure "test-mpsk" WLAN that will use for our demonstration.

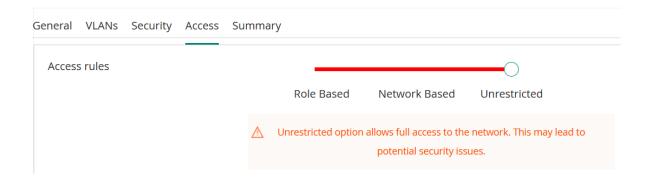


Here are the details of WLAN configuration.

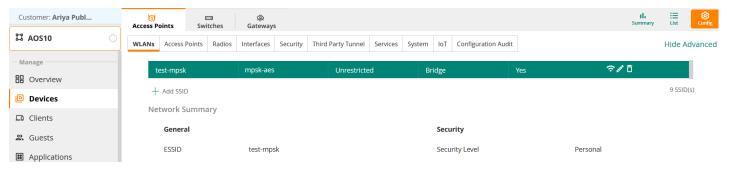


The important thing here is that we have selected MPSK AES and Personal Wireless Network (PWN). By selecting PWN Aruba Central's Cloud auth will auto generate a Personal Area Network id (PAN-id) for each user community and shares it with the APs. Then devices with the same PAN-id can communicate together while devices with different PAN-id cannot have any access to one another. This is how the micro segmentation is achieved.

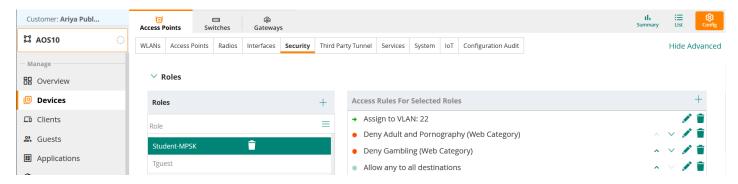
Using PWN, user's devices can roam from one AP to another while maintaining access to their devices with no risk of access of their devices to other end users. This is done using a PAN ID that is embedded into network traffic and restricts traffic to flow only between devices that belong to the same user.



Now that it is saved, we have our MPSK WLAN as shown below.

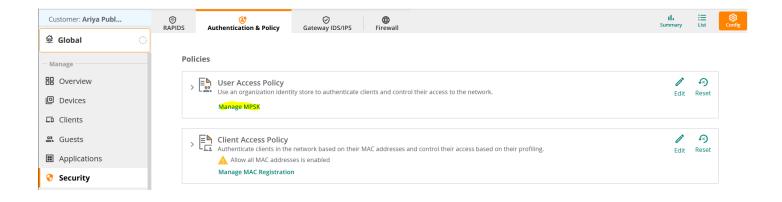


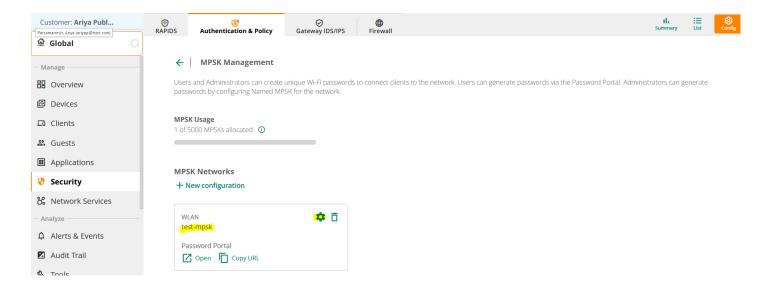
Next, we'll also configure a new user-role "Student-MPSK" that we'll be using for our PWN based MPSK wireless network.



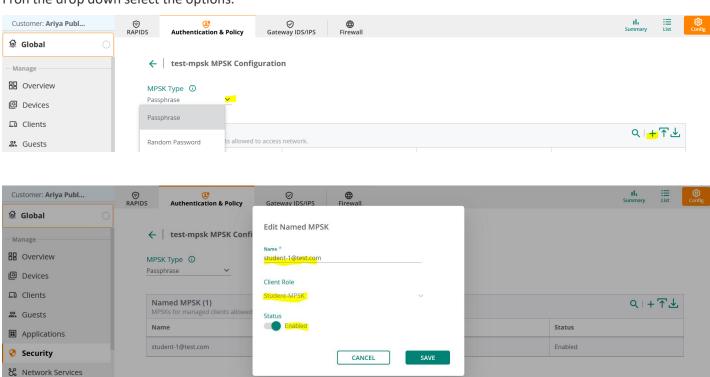
3.2 Admin Managed MPSK

In this section we'll configure the MPSKs for two students that will create their own two device communities.

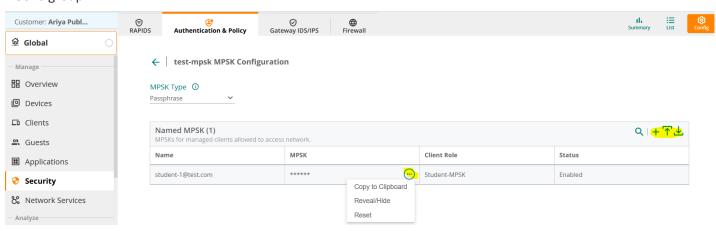




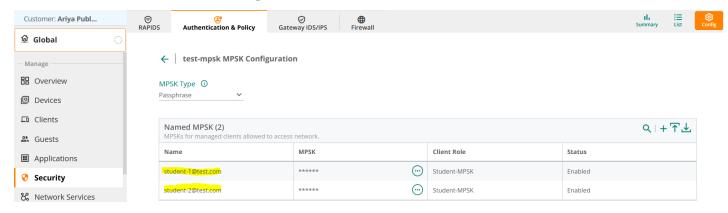
Fron the drop down select the options.



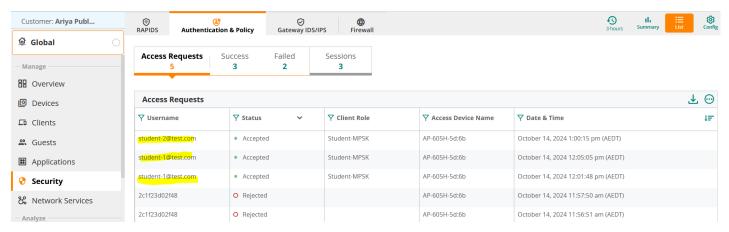
Here we have used student-1@test.com and chosen the Student-MPSK client role that we had previously created in our AOS10 group.



We'll create the second user "student-2@test.com" as well.



Note that you can use CSV files to upload bulk info and export the named MPSK info as well. As clients connect to the PWN based MPSK their authentication sessions are listed here.



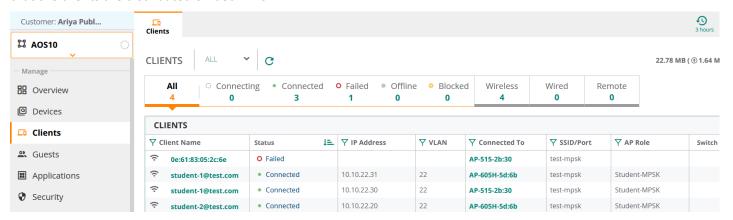
So now we have 3x clients connected that are all from student-1@test.com and student-2@test.com as shown above.

4 PWN Testing

We have connected two APs in the AOS10 group that are configured with PWN.



We now have 3x connected clients as well, in which 2x devices are from Strunet-1 and 1x device is from student-2. Note that the clients are distributed on both APs.



Here is the CLI view of the AP-605H.

```
AP-605H-5d:6b# sh client
Client List
Name
                    IP Address
                               MAC Address
                                                    OS
                                                                       Access Point
Channel Type
                            IPv6 Address Signal(dB)
                                                       Speed (Mbps)
              Role
student-2@test.com 10.10.22.20 ce:55:81:30:f8:3c
                                                    Win 10 test-mpsk
                                                                       AP-605H-5d:6b
                                                       780 (good)
     AC Student-MPSK --
                                           43 (good)
                                                            test-mpsk AP-605H-5d:6b
student-1@test.com
                    10.10.22.31
                                 2c:1f:23:d0:2f:48
                                                    Apple
               Student-MPSK --
                                                       135 (good)
100+
        AN
                                           46 (good)
Number of Clients
                    :2
                    :5959
Info timestamp
AP-605H-5d:6b#
```

You can get the PAN-id from these two commands.

```
AP-605H-5d:6b# sh ap association

The phy column shows client's operational capabilities for current association

Flags: H: Hotspot(802.11u) client, K: 802.11k client, M: Mu beam formee, R: 802.11k client, W: WMM client, w: 802.11w client, V: 802.11v BSS trans capable, P: Punctured preamble, U: HE UL Mu-mimo, O: OWE client, S: SAE client, E: Enterprise client, m: Agile Multiband client, C: Cellular Data Capable - network available, c: Cellular Data Capable - network unavailable, T: Individual TWT client, t: Broadcast TWT client

PHY Details: HT : High throughput; 20: 20MHz; 40: 40MHz; t: turbo-rates (256-QAM)
```

Here you'll see the mpskcache that Aruba Central sent to the APs.

```
AP-605H-5d:6b# sh ap mpskcache 2c:1f:23:d0:2f:48
Station MAC address
                            :2c:1f:23:d0:2f:48
Seq no
                            :2288
Kev
                            :(6): d1 d7 ff a5 ed 78
ESSID
                            :test-mpsk
Name
                            :student-1@test.com
Role
                            :Student-MPSK
Server
                            :Not set
VLAN
                            :22
                            :0
To Del
Expire
                            :2m:26s
                            :254
Vlanhow
Rolehow
                            :0
                        :229374
ACL Rule Index
                :13984993
:28800
User panid
Session timeout
AP-605H-5d:6b#
AP-605H-5d:6b# sh ap mpskcache ce:55:81:30:f8:3c
Station MAC address
                           :ce:55:81:30:f8:3c
Seq no
                            :2289
Key
                            :(6): b2 f6 f4 57 02 c2
ESSID
                            :test-mpsk
Name
                            :student-2@test.com
                            :Student-MPSK
Role
Server
                            :Not set
                            :22
VLAN
                            :0
To Del
```

```
Expire :6m:19s
Vlanhow :254
Rolehow :0
ACL Rule Index :229374
User panid :4347809
Session timeout :28800
AP-605H-5d:6b#
```

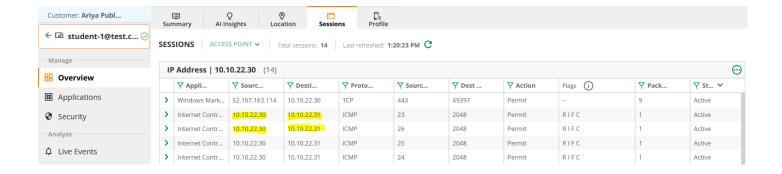
Now I'll check the other AP (AP-515) and we see that the PAN id is the same since they are the devices of the same user (student-1@test.com)

```
AP-515-2b:30# sh clients
Client List
         IP Address MAC Address OS ESSID Access Point
Name
Channel Type Role IPv6 Address Signal(dB) Speed (Mbps)
          -----
--- ----
                 _________
AC Student-MPSK -- 49 (good) 702 (good)
Number of Clients :1
Info timestamp :2602
AP-515-2b:30# sh ap mpskcache 5c:51:4f:e6:a9:83
Station MAC address
                   :5c:51:4f:e6:a9:83
                    :2284
Seq no
                    :(6): d1 d7 ff a5 ed 78
Key
ESSID
                    :test-mpsk
                    :student-1@test.com
Name
Role
                    :Student-MPSK
                    :Not set
Server
                    :22
VLAN
                    :0
To Del
                    :0s
Expire
                    :254
Vlanhow
                    :0
Rolehow
ACL Rule Index
                   :0
                    :13984993
User panid
             :28800
Session timeout
AP-515-2b:30#
```

The breakdown of the clients are as follows and all are on the same VLAN/IP subnet.

Username	Clients	MAC address	IP address	User Pan id	AP-name		
student-1@test.com	Ipod	2c:1f:23:d0:2f:48	10.10.22.31	13984993	AP-605H-5d:6b		
	Win10	5c:51:4f:e6:a9:83	10.10.22.30	13984993	AP-515-2b:30		
student-2@test.com	Win11	ce:55:81:30:f8:3c	10.10.22.20	4347809	AP-605H-5d:6b		

Now we'll ping between the student-1's devices, note that they are associated to different APs and we find that the ping is successful.

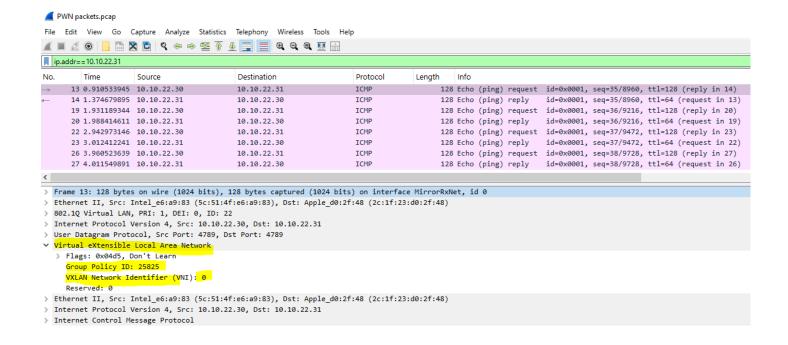


Because the student-1's devices are on different APs, under the hood, the APs will make a tunnel encapsulation for this traffic.

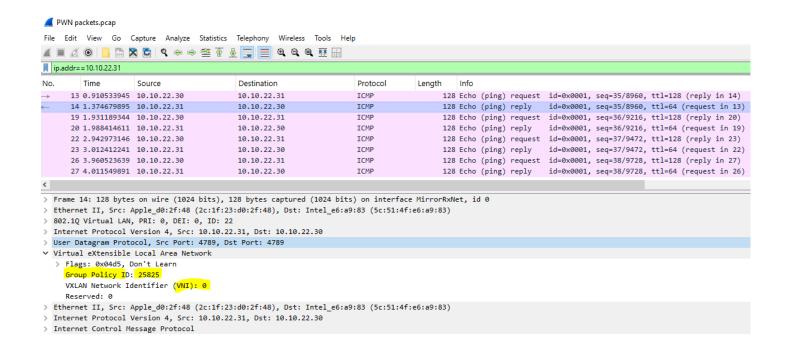
Here is the datapath session table when we were pinging between 10.10.22.30 and .31

```
AP-605H-5d:6b# sh datapath session | incl 10.10.22.31
Datapath Session Table Entries
Flags: A - Application Firewall Inspect
       C - client, D - deny, E - Media Deep Inspect
       F - fast age, G - media signal, H - high prio
       I - Deep inspect, L - ALG session, M - mirror, N - dest NAT
       O - Session is programmed through SDN/Openflow controller
       P - set prio, R - redirect, S - src NAT, T - set ToS, U - Locally destined, V - VOIP
       X - Http/https redirect for dpi denied session
       Y - no syn
       a - rtp analysis, h - Https redirect error page
       i - in offload flow, m - media mon
       p - Session is marked as permanent
       s - media signal
       d - DPI cache hit
       f - FIB init pending in session
       c - MSCS or SCS session
RAP Flags: 0 - Q0, 1 - Q1, 2 - Q2, r - redirect to conductor
            t - time based, i - in flow, l - local redirect
Flow Offload Denylist Flags: O - Openflow, E - Default, U - User os unknown, T - Tunnel
                                 R - L3 route
17.57.145.39
                    10.10.22.31
                                     6
                                           5223
                                                 51581 0
                                                             0
                                                                   0
                                                                       9
                                                                            dev30
                                                                                         6d41 9
                                                                                                   2a8
                                           51581 5223
                                                                                         6d41 a
10.10.22.31
                   17.57.145.39
                                                             0
                                                                   0
                                                                       9
                                                                                                   3d6
                                                                                                         Ci
                                     6
                                                        0
                                                                           dev30
17.57.145.39
                   10.10.22.31
                                           5223
                                               51581 0
                                                                   0
                                                                       10
                                                                           dev30
                                                                                         6dc0 9
                                                                                                   2a8
                                                                                                         i
                                     6
10.10.22.30
                    10.10.22.31
                                                 2048
                                                                                                   3с
                                                                                                         FCI
                                                                            tunnel 1
                                           30
                                                 2048
                                                             0
                                                                   0
                                                                       0
                                                                                         10
                                                                                                   Зс
                                                                                                         FCI
10.10.22.30
                    10.10.22.31
                                                        0
                                                                            tunnel 1
10.10.22.30
                    10.10.22.31
                                           29
                                                 2048
                                                                   0
                                                                                                         FCI
                                                                           tunnel
                                                                                         1a
                                                                                                   Зс
10.10.22.30
                    10.10.22.31
                                           28
                                                 2048
                                                                       Ω
                                                                                         25
                                                             \cap
                                                                            tunnel
                                                                                                         FCT
10.10.22.31
                    17.57.145.39
                                           51581 5223
                                     6
                                                        0
                                                             0
                                                                   0
                                                                       10
                                                                           dev30
                                                                                         6dc0
                                                                                                   3d6
                                                                                                         Ci
10.10.22.31
                    10.10.22.30
                                           29
                                                                                                   Зс
                                                                            tunnel 1
                                                                                         1a
10.10.22.31
                    10.10.22.30
                                           28
                                                 0
                                                        0
                                                             0
                                                                   0
                                                                       0
                                                                                         25
                                                                                                   3c
                                                                           tunnel
                                                                                                         FRI
10.10.22.31
                    10.10.22.30
                                           30
                                                 0
                                                        0
                                                             0
                                                                   0
                                                                       0
                                                                           tunnel
                                                                                         10
                                                                                                   3с
                                                                                                         FRI
10.10.22.31
                    10.10.22.30
                                                             Λ
                                                                                                   30
                                                                                                         FRI
                                                                            tunnel
10.10.22.31
                   10.10.22.30
                                     17
                                          4789
                                                 4789
                                                             0
                                                                       0
                                                                                         2 f
                                                        0
                                                                   0
                                                                                              4
                                                                                                   1b8
                                                                           dev6
                                                                                                         FA
10.10.22.30
                    10.10.22.31
                                     17
                                          4789
                                                 4789
                                                                            dev6
                                                                                         2f
                                                                                              4
                                                                                                   1b8
                                                                                                         FCA
AP-605H-5d:6b#
```

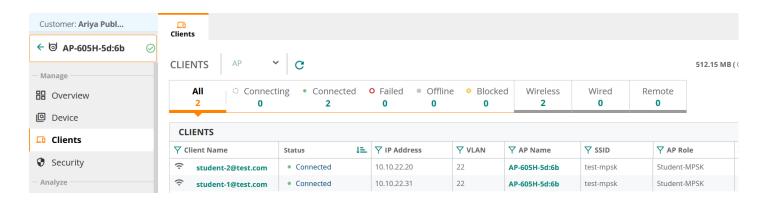
Here is the pcap which was done on the switch to see the ICMP ping traffic between the two devices for student-1 that are on different AP. Note that there is, indeed an UDP encapsulation between the two APs the port that is used is VXLAN. Now when looked closer you'll see that the VNI=0 but it also carries group Policy ID that is automatically generated and assigned.



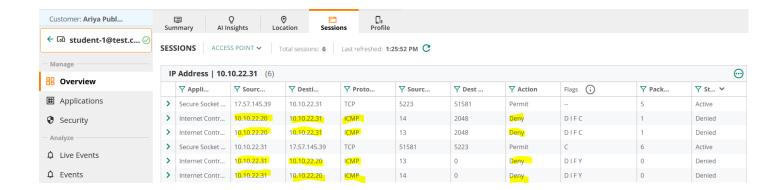
And this is the return traffic and note that the group policy Id are the same and hence the traffic is allowed.



Next, we'll ping between student-1 and student-2's devices that are on the same AP.



And as expected they pings fail as the devices have different PAN-id and drop happens on the destination AP.



Here we are looking for D flag (indicating drops) between 10.10.22.20 and 10.10.22.31. Note that PAN-id will not change for the users even though one might change the MPSK.

AP-605H-5d:6b# sh datapath session incl 10.10.22.31													
17.57.145.39 10.10.22.20 10.10.22.31 10.10.22.31 10.10.22.31 AP-605H-5d:6b#	10.10.22.31 10.10.22.31 17.57.145.39 10.10.22.20 224.0.0.22	6 1 6 1 2	5223 16 51581 16 2	51581 2048 5223 0 2	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 48	11 0 11 0 1	dev30 dev30 dev30 dev30 dev30	3fb2 2e 3fb2 2e 8c	1	3c	i FDCI Ci FDYI FCA

This is simple yet powerful way to enforce Microsegmentation for this specific use case.