

Using Splunk and DNS to detect that your domains are being abused for phishing.



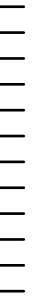
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Dutch Tax and Customs Administration



Arnold Hölzel

SMT Simple Management Technologies



Forward-Looking Statements

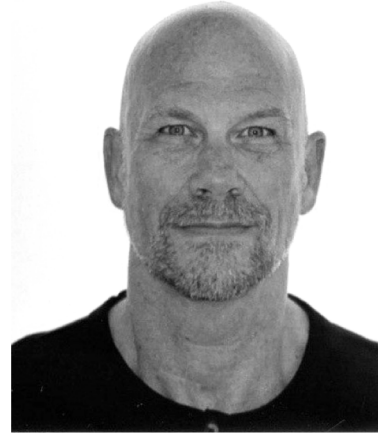
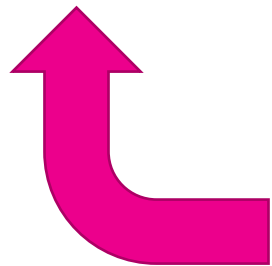


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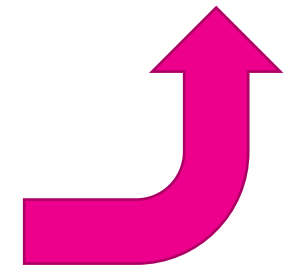
About us



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Who Are We Working For



- Citizens and Businesses
- Customers within the Dutch Tax and Customers Organization
- Customers outside the Dutch Tax and Customers Organization



Some figures

300.000.000+ DNS Querys/month	2 DataCenters	20.000.000+ Outgoing e-mail connections	15.000+ Mobile Devices
80.000.000+ Incoming e-mail connections	40.000+ Different sender domains/month	150.000.000 Outgoing e-mails	7.3 PetaByte Storage
50.000.000 Incoming e-mails	200.000+ Different recipient domains/month	250.000 Service Calls per year	35.000+ Notebooks

Splunk configuration

26000+ Source systems	Enterprise Security	2TB+ Data Volume during Tax Return Period	1100+ Users in Splunk
3700+ Scheduled Searches per hour	1.5TB Data volume processed per day	1800+ Dashboards	15 Search Heads
2 Search Head Clusters	31 Indexers	130 TerraBytes of historical logs	100+ Different teams using Splunk

Why do we combat phishing attacks?

- Why is fighting phishing so important?
 - Damage for citizens and businesses;
 - Losing trust in the relationship between the Taxpayer and the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration.
- Important to discover phishing campaigns as soon as possible.
- Break the money circle, it's all about money.



A phishing example

Van: Belastingdienst belastingangifte@belastingdienst.nl

Datum: 23-08-2015 11:05:10 CEST

Aan: xxxxxx@planet.nl

Onderwerp: Belastingangifte 2014

Bij controle van onze administratie hebben wij geconstateerd dat er een betalingsachterstand is ontstaan van uw belastingangifte 2014. Wij hebben geprobeerd om het openstaande bedrag te incasseren, helaas is dit niet gelukt op het rekeningnummer dat bij ons bekend staat. Het huidige openstaande bedrag bedraagt 83,04 euro. U ontvangt ook een schriftelijke herinnering die vandaag per post is verstuurd. Thans verzoeken wij u vriendelijk om dringend het openstaand bedrag van ...

Te betalen u kunt het bedrag overmaken naar bankrekeningnummer NL62ABNA XXXXXXXXXX tnv "belastingdienst" onder vermelding van betalingskenmerk BTW038372293N Als u deze betaling heeft voldaan kunt u de brief als niet verzonden beschouwen. Als u binnen acht dagen deze rekening niet heeft voldaan dan verzenden wij geen aanmaning en hierbij worden incasso kosten gerekend Ik hoop u voldoende geïnformeerd te hebben. Wij zien uw betaling graag tegemoet en danken u voor uw medewerking.

Met vriendelijke groet,

Robert Versteegen

Directeur Belastingdienst

N.B. Dit is een automatisch verzonden e-mail, het is niet mogelijk deze e-mail te beantwoorden.

OK... so what now!

Starting points:

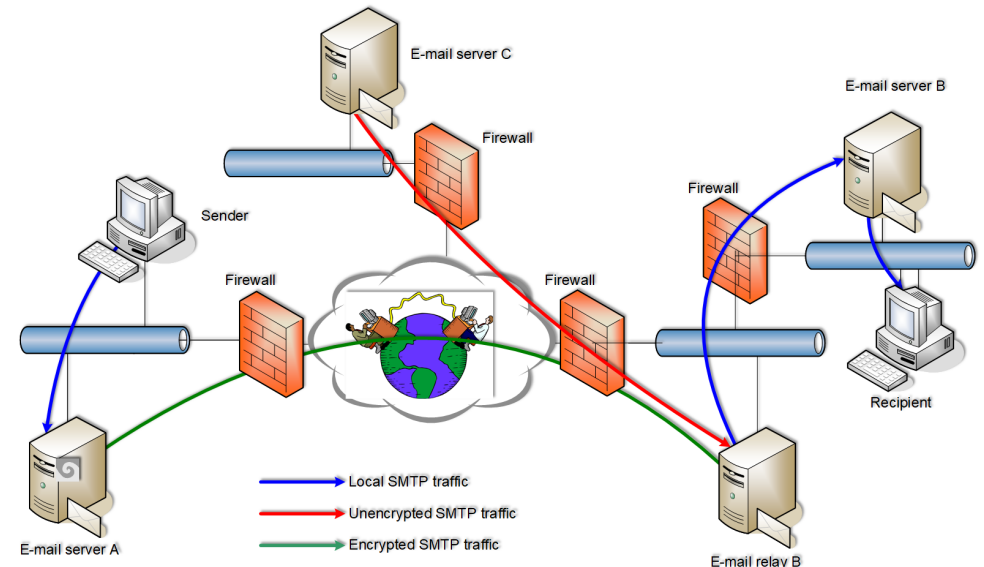
- Change may not impact the business.
- Using standards:
 - STARTTLS;
 - DNS-based Authentication of Named Entities;
 - SMTP MTA Strict Transport Security;
 - Sender Policy Framework;
 - DomainKeys Identified Mail;
 - Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance.

OK... so what now

STARTTLS



- STARTTLS is used to upgrade an un-secure connection to a secure connection.
- Used between mail servers to communicate over un-secure networks.
- Adding encryption to the un-secure connection.



More info:

- RFC3207 - SMTP Service Extension for Secure SMTP over Transport Layer Security.

DNS-Based Authentication of Named Entities

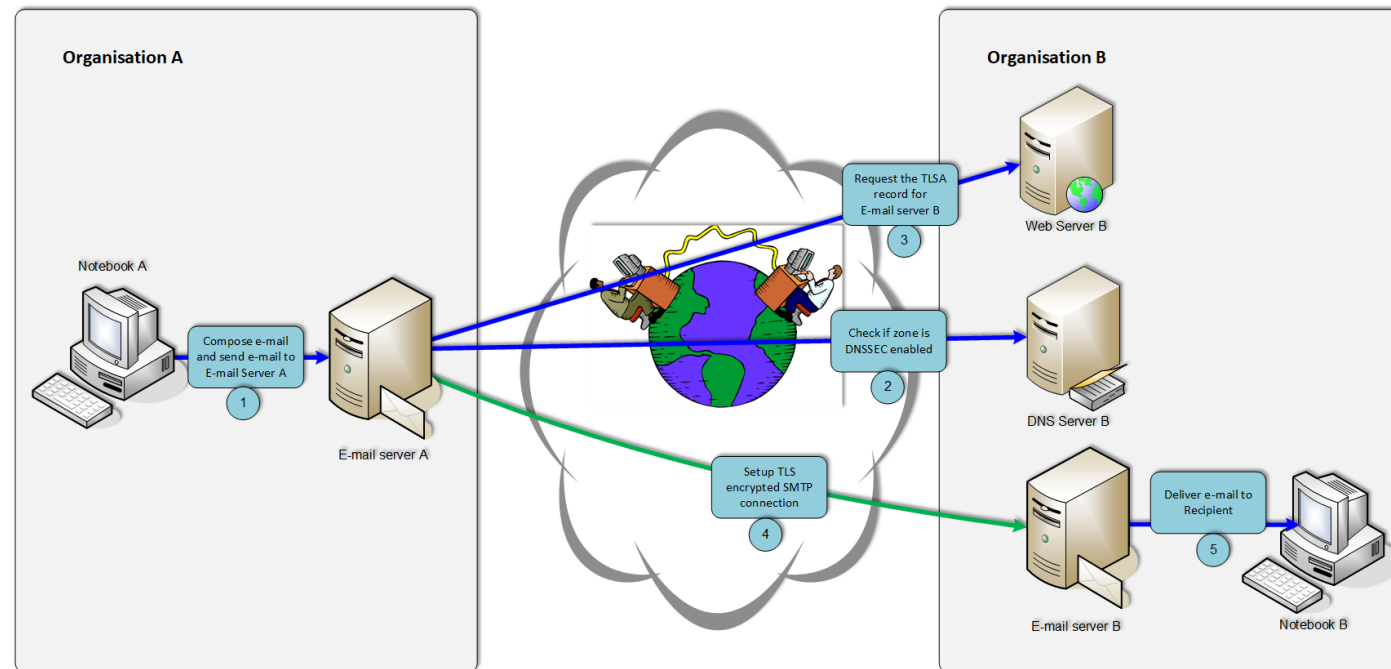
- DANE = DNS-Based Authentication of Named Entities.
- DANE allows to advertise TLS support through a TLSA TXT resource record.

ars TECHNICA

BIZ & IT

Don't count on STARTTLS to automatically encrypt your sensitive e-mails

TLS stripping and DNS attacks allow eavesdropping on protected messages.



More info:

- RFC6698 - DNS-Based Authentication of Named Entities;
- RFC7672 - DANE for SMTP.

DNS-Based Authentication of Named Entities

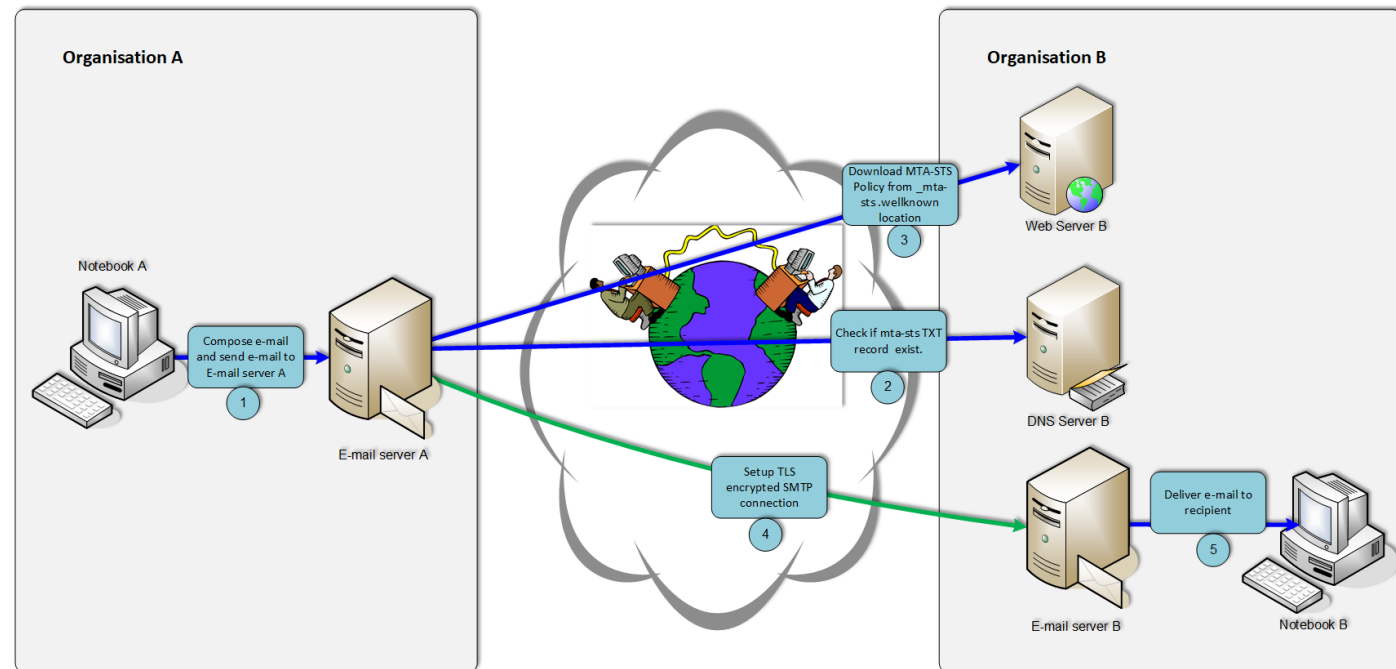
- Example: belastingdienst.nl
- TLSA TXT resource record:

```
_25._tcp.smtp1.belastingdienst.nl. IN TLSA 3 1 1  
b169456b9f12cecc88bfdc9e82dc4f2546a779e6cad0be9751d12e51654e898a
```

```
_25._tcp.smtp2.belastingdienst.nl. IN TLSA 3 1 1  
b3c1e98bf0c76de6af8905755fcd073400d99503de9c699b4b8f232b9b36b02b
```

SMTP Mail Transfer Agent Strict Transport Security

- MTA-STS = Mail Transfer Agent Strict Transport Security.
- MTA-STS allows a receiving e-mail domain to publish their TLS policy.
- RFC published September 2018.
- Implementation:
 - gmail.com April 2019;
 - belastingdienst.nl **June 2019**.



More info:

- RFC8461 - SMTP Mail Transfer Agent Strict Transport Security;
- RFC8460 - SMTP TLS Reporting.

SMTP Mail Transfer Agent Strict Transport Security

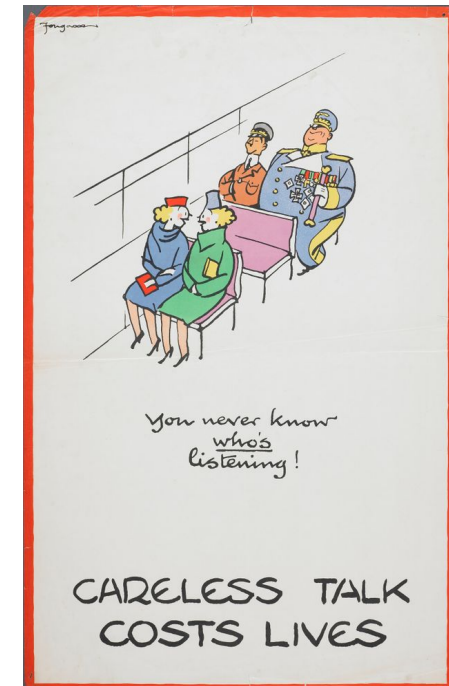
- Example: belastingdienst.nl
- MTA-STS/TLS-RPT resource records:

```
mta-sts.belastingdienst.nl.      IN A      85.159.98.22
_mta-sts.belastingdienst.nl.    IN TXT    "v=STSV1;\
    id=20190509101840"
_smtp._tls.belastingdienst.nl.  IN TXT    "v=TLSRPTv1;\
    rua=mailto:mta-sts@belastingdienst.nl"
```

SMTP Mail Transfer Agent Strict Transport Security

- Example: `belastingdienst.nl`
- URL: `https://mta-sts.belastingdienst.nl/.well-known/mta-sts.txt`
- MTA-STS Policy file:

```
version: STSv1
mode: testing
mx: smtp1.belastingdienst.nl
mx: <additional MX records>
max_age: 86400
```



SMTP MTA-STS Reporting – The GOOD

```
{ "organization-name": "Google Inc.",  
  "date-range": {  
    "start-datetime": "2019-06-24T00:00:00Z",  
    "end-datetime": "2019-06-24T23:59:59Z"},  
  "contact-info": smtp-tls-reporting@google.com,  
  "report-id": "2019-06-25T00:00:00Z_belastingdienst.nl",  
  "policies": [  
    { "policy":  
      { "policy-type": "sts",  
        "policy-string": [  
          "version: STSv1",  
          "mode: testing",  
          "mx: <MX records>",  
          "max_age: 10368000"],  
        "policy-domain": "belastingdienst.nl",  
        "summary": {  
          "total-successful-session-count": 1} } ]  
    }  
  ]  
}
```



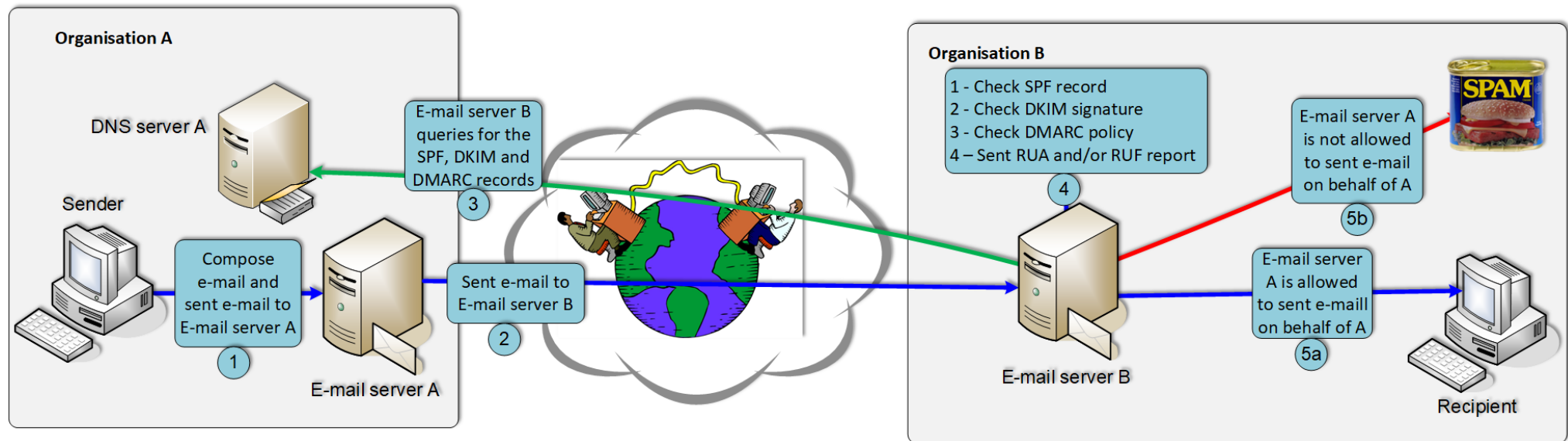
SMTP MTA-STS Reporting – The BAD

```
{ "organization-name": "Google Inc.",  
  . . . . .  
  "summary": { "total-failure-session-count": 1 },  
  "failure-details": [  
    {  
      "result-type": "starttls-not-supported",  
      "sending-mta-ip": "192.51.100.45",  
      "receiving-ip": "203.0.113.90",  
      "receiving-mx-hostname": "smtp.example.com",  
      "failed-session-count": 1  
    }  
  ]  
  . . . . .  
}
```



Sender Policy Framework

- SPF = Sender Policy Framework.
- Validates if an e-mail is sent from a valid IP address or domain.
- Check is done against SPF TXT resource records in the DNS.



More info:

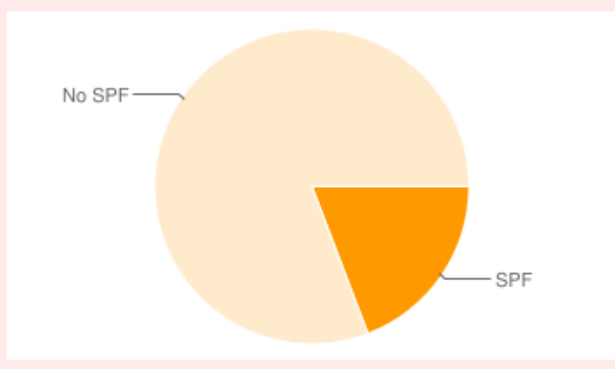
- RFC7208 - Sender Policy Framework (SPF), Version 1.

Sender Policy Framework

- Paragraph 7.2 – Macro Definitions.
- You need access to your DNS query and response log.
- 0.049% of registered domains have macros in their SPF TXT records*.

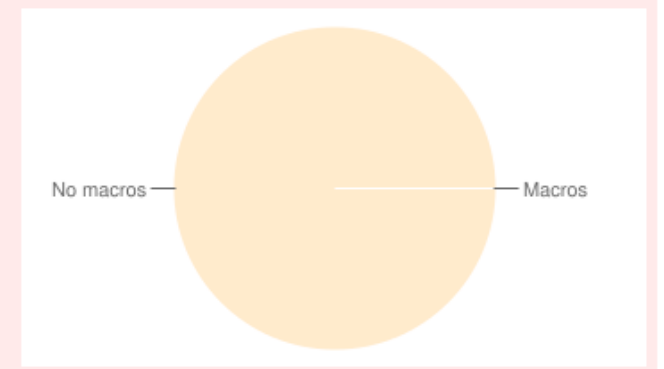
All Domains

Total Domains	140137379	100.0%
Domains with SPF	26910393	19.2%
Domains without SPF	113226986	80.8%



Domains With SPF Record Macros

Domains with SPF	26910393	100.000%
Macros	13172	0.049%
No macros	26897221	99.951%



- Gives you an e-mail track-and-trace system



* Source: <https://spf-all.com/stats.html>

Sender Policy Framework

- By using macros in the SPF TXT resource records you get visibility on:
 - %s - Complete sender e-mail address;
 - %h - HELO/EHLO of the sending e-mail server;
 - %l - Local-part of the sending e-mail address;
 - %o - Domain-part of the sending e-mail address;
 - %i - IP address of the sending e-mail server.

Appendix C. Further Testing Advice

Another approach that can be helpful is to publish records that include a "tracking exists:" mechanism. By looking at the name server logs, a rough list can then be generated. For example:

```
v=spf1 exists:_h.%{h}._l.%{l}._o.%{o}._i.%{i}._spf.%{d} ?all
```

This associated macro expansion would cause the sending HELO domain, local-part of the sending email address, domain part of the sending

BE AWARE

%l and %s will introduce a privacy-issue!

There will be valid e-mail addresses in resolver logs!

Sender Policy Framework

- Example: belastingdienst.nl
- Basic SPF implementation.
- SPF TXT resource record:

```
belastingdienst.nl IN TXT v=spf1 mx a:mailer1.belastingdienst.nl\  
a:mailer2.belastingdienst.nl a:smtp11.belastingdienst.nl\  
a:smtp12.belastingdienst.nl -all
```

- Do not forget your subdomains! (and there subdomains, and there....)

```
*.belastingdienst.nl IN TXT "v=spf1 -all"
```

```
*.acc.belastingdienst.nl IN TXT "v=spf1 -all"
```

“ If everything happens on the Internet and not on our servers, how can we detect phishers when they not abusing our infrastructure?.....”

Sender Policy Framework

- Example: belastingdienst.nl
- Advanced SPF implementation with macros.

- The SPF redirect resource record:

```
belastingdienst.nl. IN TXT "v=spf1 redirect=_spf.belastingdienst.nl"
```

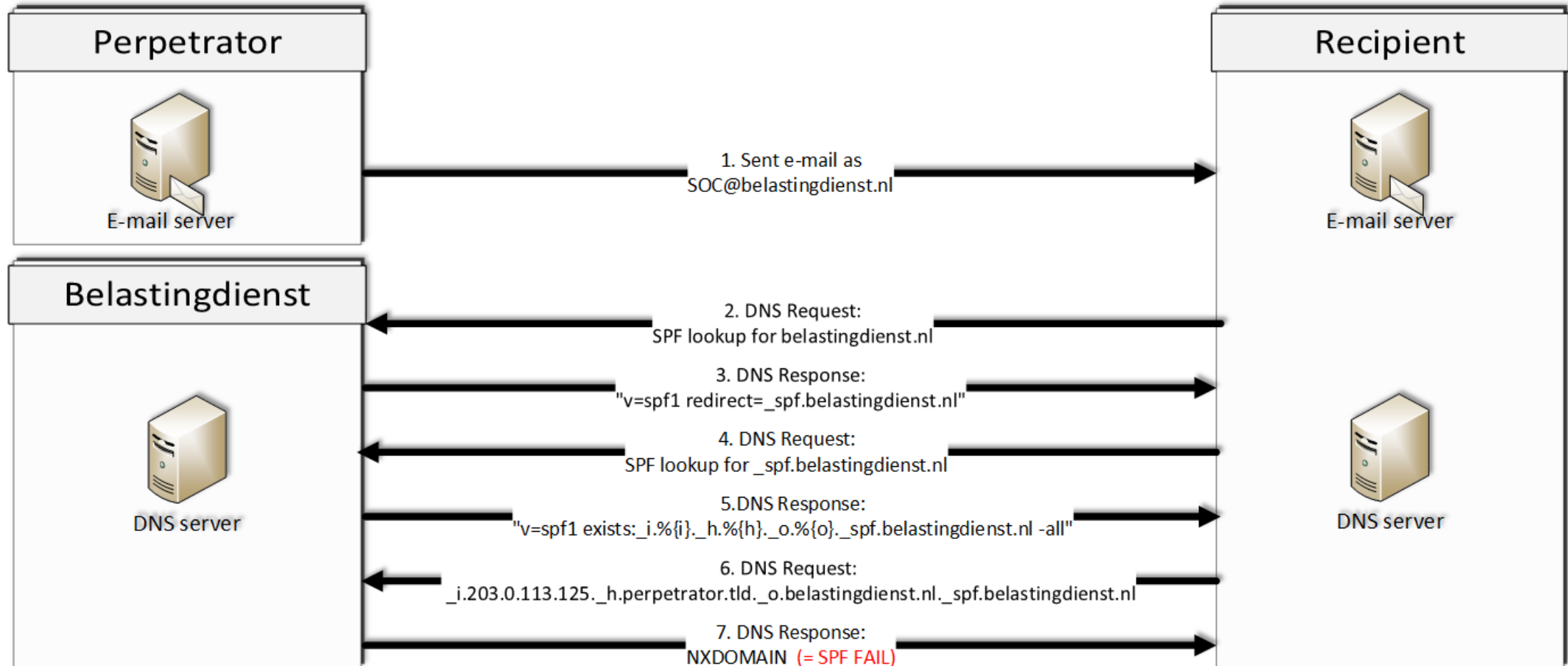
- The SPF exists resource record and macros:

```
_spf.belastingdienst.nl IN TXT "v=spf1 \  
exists:_i. %{i}._h. %{h}._o. %{o}._spf.belastingdienst.nl -all" \  
_i.85.159.101.15._h.smtp2.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl. \  
_spf.belastingdienst.nl. IN A 127.0.0.1 \  
_i.85.159.101.15._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl. \  
_spf.belastingdienst.nl. IN A 127.0.0.1
```

Sender Policy Framework – The Good

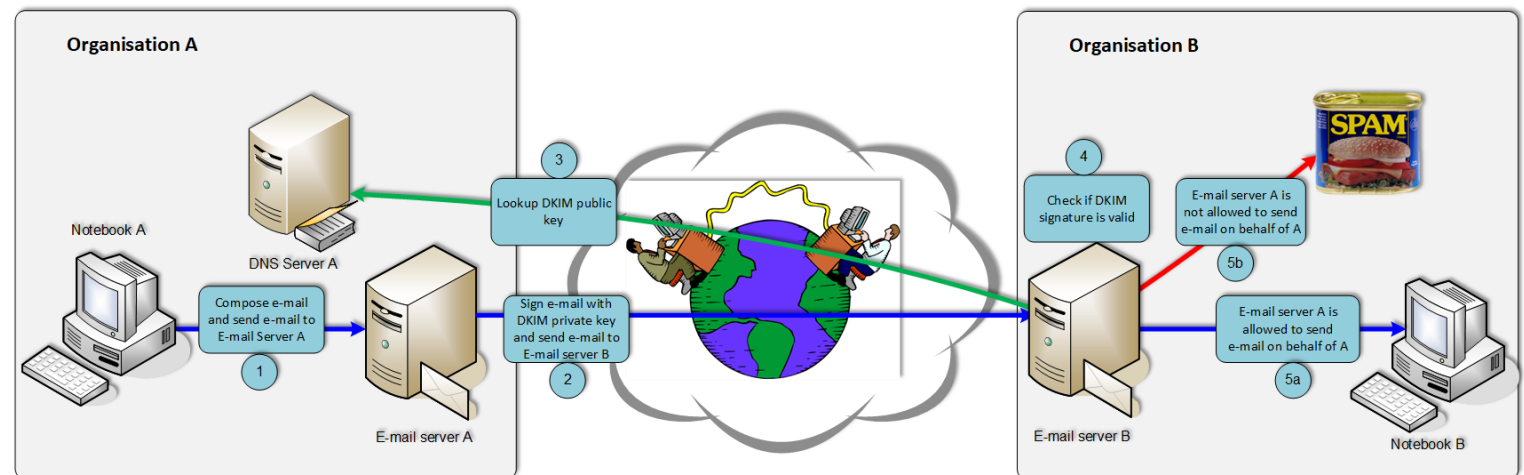


Sender Policy Framework – The Bad



DomainKeys Identified Mail

- DKIM = DomainKeys Identified Mail.
- Signs body and selected parts of the SMTP header.
- Signature is transmitted in a DKIM-signature header.
- Public DKIM key is stored in the DNS as a TXT resource record.



More info:

- RFC6376 - DomainKeys Identified Mail (DKIM) Signatures

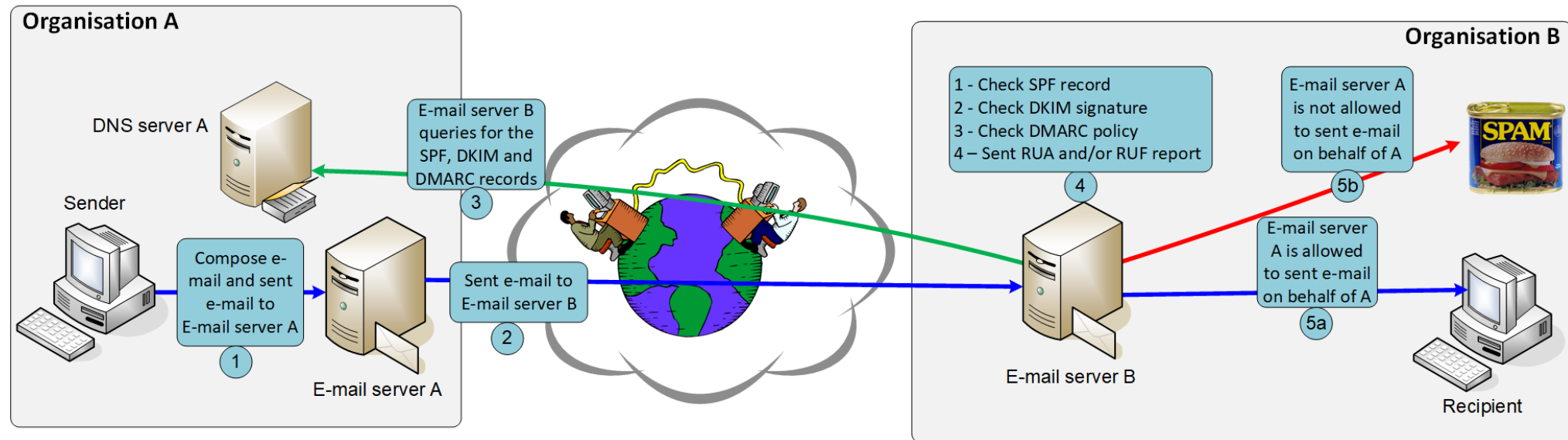
DomainKeys Identified Mail

- Example: belastingdienst.nl:201707
- A DKIM selector is needed. Can be found in the header of the e-mail.
- DKIM TXT resource record:

```
201707._domainkey.belastingdienst.nl IN TXT "v=DKIM1;  
p=MIIBIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAAOCAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEAYzXWCOzeB5qswey69WrHNeqdgNNUiFJkT/  
EMjm78h1zMXkrd6t0VtTB4rAe39/BlwNFC0jKskE3u1n16whfQX3fT/68xr2SdcOp6j/DTtS6rC1EWFx  
yawX6NfxM/Pt8DV5CLDFGHMht63LetGyiQYv+TrBBiATPjfLPgrArx7jaAoPv0Az/ec86rl+Q9jXA0QO  
7zR6Ih""0TIJYwnzVf/7Dsl4GpsmZsN1oEaXhauuDuyNqshM9iptzKC8IKHaGr9g8qPnh8PDAm0QJSWA  
q5j1h12j7qjMLwOMEwPKwCE9HnWzeUpzxaJDHL2K4dHYkXF6ErRjLhtTU2Mx6/F+7Ku4wQIDAQAB;"
```

Domain-based Authentication, Reporting & Conformance

- DMARC = Domain-based Authentication, Reporting & Conformance.
- How to deal with the results of the SPF and / or DKIM checks of received e-mails.



More info:

- RFC7489 - Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting, and Conformance.

Domain-based Authentication, Reporting & Conformance

- Example: belastingdienst.nl

- DMARC TXT resource record:

```
_dmarc.belastingdienst.nl IN TXT "v=DMARC1; p=reject;\n    rua=mailto:dmarc.rua@belastingdienst.nl; sp=reject;"
```

BE AWARE

The ruf-tag defines the e-mail address where forensics reports must be sent to. Be aware of privacy issues! RUF reports contain parts of the original mail body.

Summarization of the standards

- Implementation of these standards give you more detection and prevention capabilities.
- Implementation of these standards can be done. We have ~550 domains. It took us about 1 month to implement.
- Both sender as recipient must implement these standards.
- Dutch Governmental Organizations must comply to Dutch Standardization Platform comply or explain list.
- SIDN, financial incentive DMARC and STARTTLS.



**How to implement all of
this in Splunk**

**And the good news is
you get everything from
us for FREE!**

splunk>  .conf19



Now what, with all that info?

- Great info > do something with it:
 - DMARC > more insight in to what is happening on the receiving side;
 - SPF record > where are the mails coming from.

DMARC RUA Reports

- Delivered via e-mail as *.XML or *.XML.GZ
- The RUA e-mails are processed by Python scripts to use for dashboarding.
 - Output in key=value pair OR in JSON.
- You need to have:
 - a DMARC record in your DNS zone file;
 - network access to the RUA mail box by using POP3(s) or IMAP(s);
 - userid and password for the RUA mailbox.

DMARC Dashboards

DMARC overview Edit Export ...

Time Range: Last 24 hours | Header from domain: ALL x | Group by: Action taken | DNS lookup Source IP: No Yes Submit Hide Filters

DMARC: reject | **DKIM:** relaxed | **SPF:** relaxed

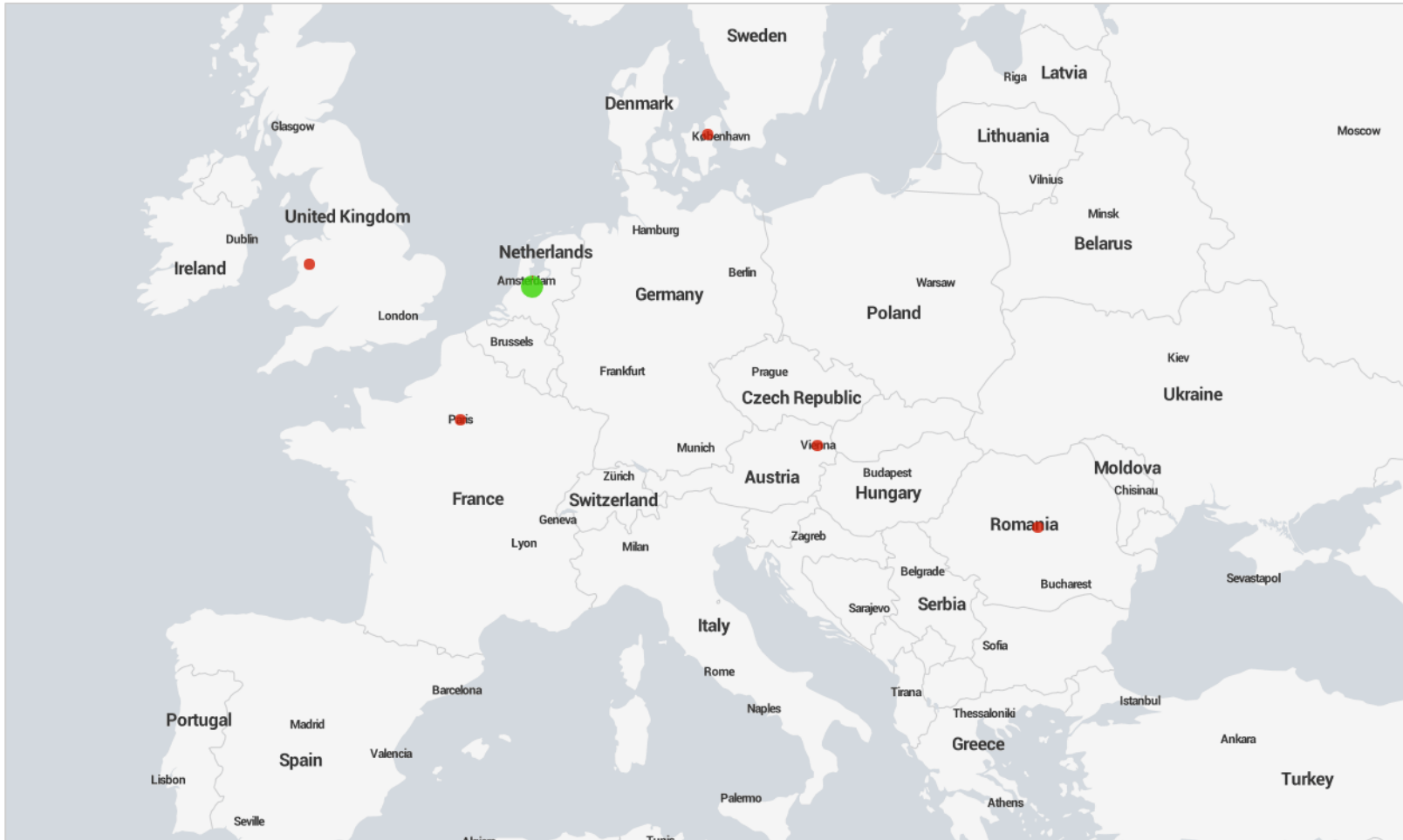
Select option

Action taken	From: domain count	Message count	IP count	SPF alignment score	DKIM alignment score
deliver	1	1212	18	99.3%	98.8%
reject	1	14	14	21.4%	21.4%

Details

From: Domain	Source IP	PTR of source IP	Country	Messages	DKIM: Alignment	DKIM: Result	DKIM: d=	SPF: Alignment	SPF: Lookup	SPF: Domain	SPF: Scope	AS Received By	Action taken	Correct Policy?
belastingdienst.nl	85.159.97.15	smtp1.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	333	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	mfrom not_set	FastMail Pty Ltd, Mail.Ru + 70 more	deliver	Yes
belastingdienst.nl	85.159.101.15	smtp2.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	312	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	mfrom not_set	AMS-C380-01.colo.ppros.nl, AMS-C380-02.colo.ppros.nl + 61 more	deliver	Yes
belastingdienst.nl	85.159.96.4	mailer1.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	220	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	mfrom not_set	AMS-C380-01.colo.ppros.nl, AMS-C380-02.colo.ppros.nl + 36 more	deliver	Yes
belastingdienst.nl	85.159.100.4	mailer2.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	199	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	mfrom not_set	3dsystems.com, AMS-C380-01.colo.ppros.nl + 29 more	deliver	Yes
belastingdienst.nl	85.159.101.15	smtp2.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	54	aligned	none	belastingdienst.nl	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	not_set	actium.nl, berg-hansen.no + 2 more	deliver	Yes
belastingdienst.nl	85.159.97.15	smtp1.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	48	aligned	none	belastingdienst.nl	aligned	pass	belastingdienst.nl	not_set	rabobank.nl, wierden.nl	deliver	Yes

DMARC Dashboards



GREEN: Authorized mail servers **RED:** Possible malicious mail servers

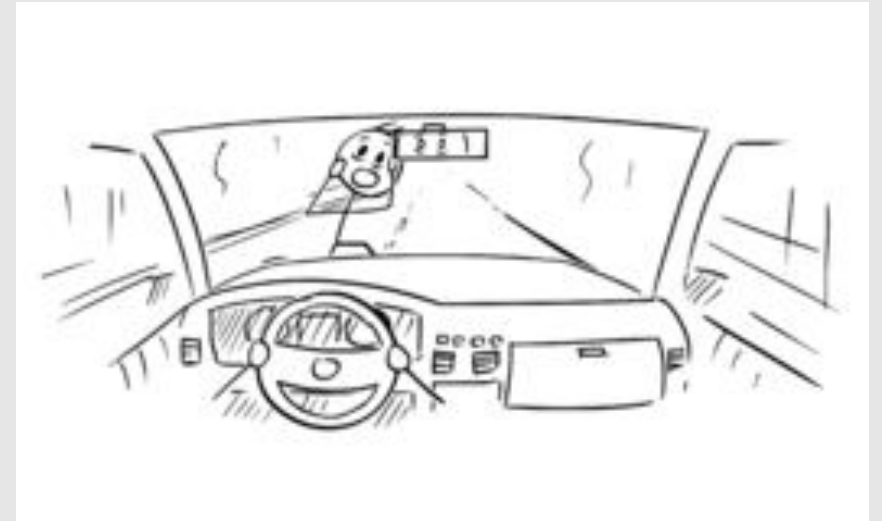
SPF Dashboarding

Get even more insight in where e-mail is coming from and going to.



You need:

- To have a SPF record with macros;
- To have DNS query logging enabled;
- To ingest your DNS log in Splunk;
- To know the good DNS queries.



SPF Dashboarding (The Good)

Sending server IP ↕	HELO/EHLO ↕	Country ↕	FROM email domain ↕	SPF server? ↕	DNS response ↕	Querying IP ↕	DNS Hits ↕	note ↕
85.159.96.4	mailer1.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	belastingdienst.nl	Yes	NOERROR	104. .28 104. .253 104. .225 104. .133 104. .134 + 2084 more	7510	-
85.159.100.4	mailer2.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	belastingdienst.nl	Yes	NOERROR	103. .250 103. .161 104. .28 104. .253 104. .225 + 2040 more	7367	-
85.159.101.15	smtp2.belastingdienst.nl	Netherlands	belastingdienst.nl	Yes	NOERROR	104. .28 104. .253 104. .225 104. .133 104. .134 + 1331 more	4588	-

SPF Dashboarding (The Badly Configured)

Sending server IP ↕	HELO/EHLO ↕	Country ↕	FROM email domain ↕	SPF server? ↕	DNS response ↕	Querying IP ↕	DNS Hits ↕	note ↕
85.159.100.4	unknown	Netherlands	belastingdienst.nl	Yes	NXDOMAIN	104. .132 149. .249 172. .11 172. .15 172. .9 + 36 more	553	-
85.159.96.4	localhost	Netherlands	belastingdienst.nl	Yes	NXDOMAIN	173. .111 173. .75 173. .77 194. .49 208. .21 + 16 more	94	-
85.159.97.15	localhost	Netherlands	belastingdienst.nl	Yes	NXDOMAIN	172. .10 172. .3 173. .100 173. .75 173. .77 + 21 more	83	-

SPF Dashboarding (The Evil!)

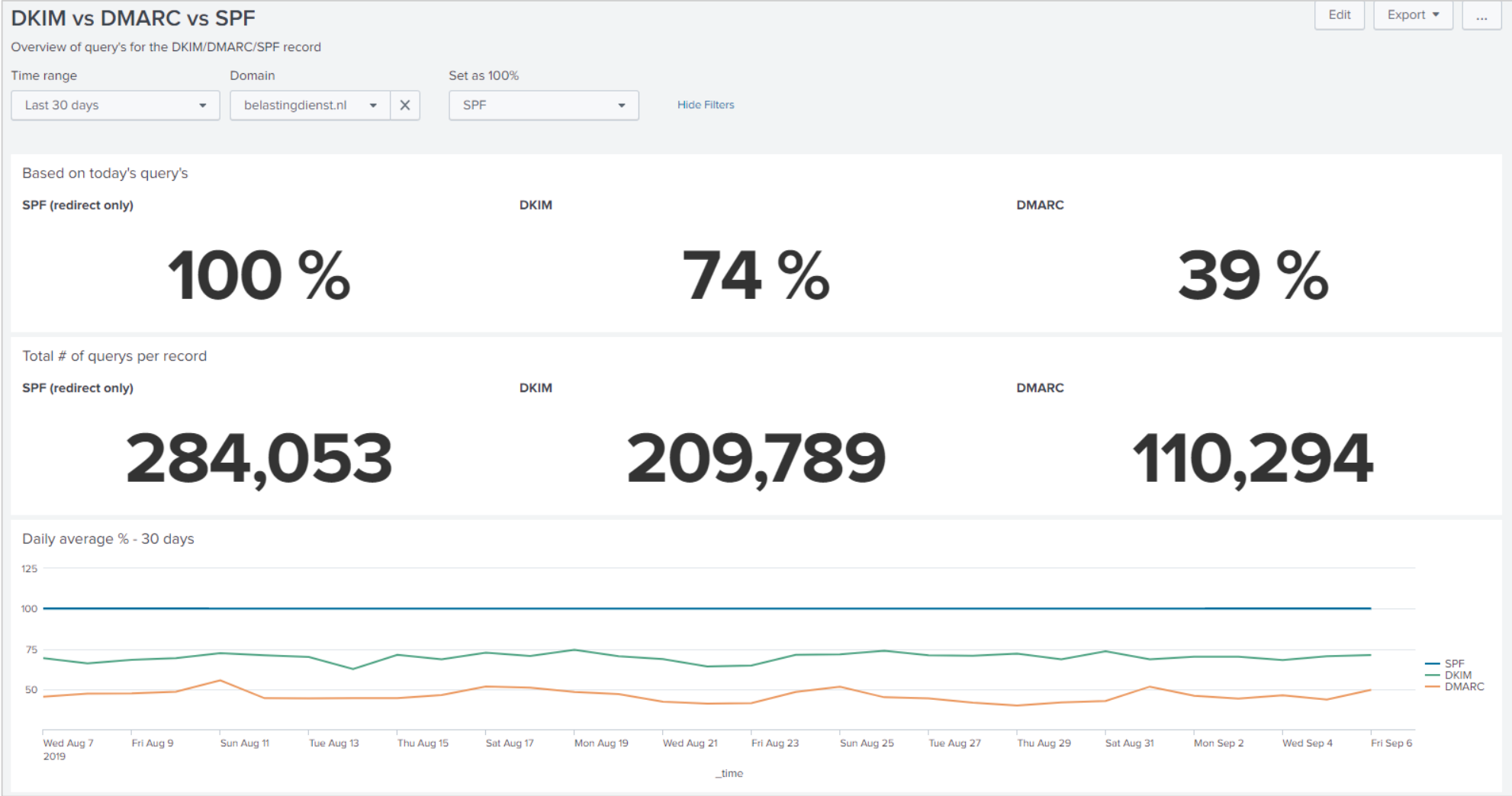
Sending server IP ↕	HELO/EHLO ↕	Country ↕	FROM email domain ↕	SPF server? ↕	DNS response ↕	Querying IP ↕	DNS Hits ↕	Note ↕
190. .202	forward24o.mail.yandex.net	Colombia	vrnacnpoenyr.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	185. .30 94. .126	14	-
123. .147	forward508o.mail.yandex.net	Sri Lanka	kutgsboh.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	217. .245 94. .123 94. .124	6	-
96. .253	forward2o.mail.yandex.net	United States	afpdxwdl.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	185. .30 94. .126	6	-
183. .62	forward767o.mail.yandex.net	Thailand	syxcmwfx.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	185. .30 94. .126	3	-
197. .128	forward4o.mail.yandex.net	Zambia	sdlmgczzvo.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	185. .30 94. .126	3	-
37. .246	forward40o.mail.yandex.net	Azerbaijan	ucevuqqppng.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	185. .30 94. .126	3	-
141. .222	forward7o.mail.yandex.net	Armenia	oayqvh.loopbaanlab.info	No	NXDOMAIN	94. .123	2	-

There is more!

- Python script to resolve your SPF record and fill the lookup table.
- More dashboards:
 - RFC7208, SPF info;
 - RFC7489, DMARC info;
 - Number of query's per record type;
 - DNS record help for:
 - DMARC records;
 - (Advanced) SPF record.



Adoption overview (W.I.P.)



DMARC and SPF DNS help wizard

DMARC and SPF DNS help

Edit
Export ▾
...

Domain

Show panels

Dashboard info Hide Filters

DMARC info

Normal SPF

Advanced SPF

Dashboard info

In this dashboard all DNS records are shown that need to be created for DMARC and SPF to work correct. Select the dashboard panel(s) that you want to show and/or edit the settings for. If you modify a field, the information will be updated immediately and you can see the record needed in the DNS.

Note: The quotation marks in the dns record field also need to be included in the DNS record!

For DMARC details see [RFC7489](#)

For SPF details see [RFC7208](#)

DMARC info

Domain policy: The policy that you want for the domain, and if no specific subdomain policy is specified for all subdomains. (required) The available options are:

- *No Policy:* Deliver the mail and take no action if DMARC fails
- *Quarantine:* Deliver the mail but put the mail in the SPAM folder/mark as SPAM if DMARC fails
- *Reject:* Don't deliver the mail at all if DMARC fails

Subdomains policy: The policy that needs to be applied to the subdomains if that policy needs to be different than the domain policy. The available options are the same as for the domain level. (optional)

RUA mail address: A comma separated list of email addresses that you want te RUA mails to be send to. (optional)

RUF mail address: A comma separated list of email addresses that you want te RUF mails to be send to. (optional)

DKIM Alignment: The policy for the DKIM allignment taht needs to be applied, default is relxed. (See [RFC7489 Section 3.1.1](#) for more details)

- **Relaxed:** In relaxed mode, the Organizational Domains of both the [DKIM]-authenticated signing domain (taken from the value of the "d=" tag in the signature) and that of the RFC5322.From domain must be equal if the identifiers are to be considered aligned.
- **Strict:** In strict mode, only an exact match between both of the Fully Qualified Domain Names (FQDNs) is considered to produce Identifier Alignment.

SPF Alignment: The policy for the SPF alignment that needs to be applied, default is relaxed. (See [RFC7489 Section 3.1.2](#) for more details)

- **Relaxed:** In relaxed mode, the [SPF]-authenticated domain and RFC5322.From domain must have the same Organizational Domain.
- **Strict:** In strict mode, only an exact DNS domain match is considered to produce Identifier Alignment.

Normal SPF info

DNS records from the domain: Select the DNS entry's that are currently already in the DNS and allowed to send mail for this domain.

IPv4 servers: A comma seperated list of IPv4 addresses that are allowed to send emails for this domain.

DMARC and SPF DNS help wizard

DMARC and SPF DNS help

Edit Export ...

Domain

Show panels

- Dashboard info
- DMARC info
- Normal SPF
- Advanced SPF

[Hide Filters](#)

DMARC info

Domain policy:

Subdomains policy:

RUA mail address (comma sep.):

RUF mail address (comma sep.):

DKIM alignment: Relaxed Strict

SPF Alignment: Relaxed Strict

Advanced SPF info

Redirect OR Exists record: Exists Redirect

Add Macro prefixes: Yes No

Macro 1:

Macro 2:

Macro 3:

Macro 4:

Domainsuffix (optional):

All other systems:

Mail domain (if different from Domain):

Mailserver list [see dashboard info for format]:

DMARC and SPF DNS help wizard

DMARC and SPF DNS help

Edit Export ▾ ...

Domain:

Show panels

- Dashboard info
- DMARC info
- Normal SPF
- Advanced SPF

[Hide Filters](#)

DMARC info

Domain policy:

Subdomains policy:

RUA mail address (comma sep.):

RUF mail address (comma sep.):

DKIM alignment: Relaxed Strict

SPF Alignment: Relaxed Strict

Advanced SPF info

Redirect OR Exists record: Exists Redirect

Add Macro prefixes: Yes No

Macro 1:

Macro 2:

Macro 3:

Macro 4:

Domainsuffix (optional):

All other systems:

Mail domain (if different from Domain):

DMARC and SPF DNS help wizard

DNS records				
	DNS Domain ↕	Record Type ↕	DNS Record ↕	Note ↕
1	*.loopbaanlab.info.	IN TXT	"v=spf1 -all"	Default SPF record to prevent mailing from non-existing subdomains. NOTE: you also need to create a "*" record for your subdomains. e.g.: *.acc.loopbaanlab.info
2	_dmarc.loopbaanlab.info.	IN TXT	"v=DMARC1; p=reject; rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl"	DMARC policy record
3	loopbaanlab.info.	IN TXT	"v=spf1 redirect=_spf.belastingdienst.nl"	NOTE: with an redirect record the -all must NOT be added, or the redirect record will be ignored NOTE: you also need a valid SPF record on the redirect URL
4	loopbaanlab.info._report._dmarc.belastingdienst.nl.	IN TXT	"v=DMARC1"	DMARC record to allow the cross domain sending of RUA and/OR RUF mails (rfc7489 section 7.1).

DMARC and SPF DNS help wizard

	DNS Domain ↕	Record Type ↕	DNS Record ↕	Note ↕
1	*.belastingdienst.nl.	IN TXT	"v=spf1 -all"	Default SPF record to prevent mailing from non-existing subdomains.
2	_dmarc.belastingdienst.nl.	IN TXT	"v=DMARC1; p=reject; rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl"	DMARC policy record
3	_i.85.159.100.246._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the RFC5321.MailFrom SPF check.
4	_i.85.159.100.246._h.smtp11.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the HELO/EHLO SPF check.
5	_i.85.159.100.4._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the RFC5321.MailFrom SPF check.
6	_i.85.159.100.4._h.mailer2.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the HELO/EHLO SPF check.
7	_i.85.159.101.15._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the RFC5321.MailFrom SPF check.
8	_i.85.159.101.15._h.smtp2.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the HELO/EHLO SPF check.
9	_i.85.159.96.4._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the RFC5321.MailFrom SPF check.
10	_i.85.159.96.4._h.mailer1.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the HELO/EHLO SPF check.
11	_i.85.159.97.15._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the RFC5321.MailFrom SPF check.
12	_i.85.159.97.15._h.smtp1.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the HELO/EHLO SPF check.
13	_i.85.159.97.246._h.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the RFC5321.MailFrom SPF check.
14	_i.85.159.97.246._h.smtp12.belastingdienst.nl._o.belastingdienst.nl._spf.belastingdienst.nl.	IN A	127.0.0.1	The exists option needs to have any A record to work. See RFC7208 section 5.7 This record is for the HELO/EHLO SPF check.

DMARC and SPF DNS help wizard

splunk>enterprise App: SA-dmarc Administrator Messages Settings Activity Help Find

DMARC overview DMARC cluster map DMARC mails by source results SPF resolving RFC info DMARC and SPF DNS help Search SA-dmarc

New Search Save As Close Last 24 hours

```

1 | makeresults
2 | eval DESCRIPTION="This is the default SPF record generating search"
3 | eval dns_domain=if(substr("loopbaanlab.info",1,1)!="*","*default*","loopbaanlab.info","loopbaanlab.info"),
4   dns_record_type="IN TXT",
5   record=if(substr(dns_domain,1,9)!="*default*","\v=spf1 -all\","spf_record"),
6   record_note=if(substr(dns_domain,1,9)!="*default*",mvappend("Default SPF record to prevent mailing from non-existing subdomains.", " ", "NOTE: you also need to create a \v*" record for your subdomains. e.g.: *.acc."loopbaanlab.info"
7   ),record_note),
8   dns_domain=if(substr(dns_domain,1,9)!="*default*","*."loopbaanlab.info",dns_domain)
9 | append
10 [ | makeresults
11 | eval DESCRIPTION="This is the DMARC RUA record generating search for cross domain RUA mails"
12 | eval rua_maildomain=if("rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl"!="rua=mailto:-",replace("rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl", "(.*\@.*?)([A-Za-z0-9-]+\.[A-Za-z]{3,}\.[A-Za-z]{2}\.[A-Za-z]{2}$)", "\2"),null()),
13   dns_domain=if(isnotnull(rua_maildomain) AND rua_maildomain!=replace("loopbaanlab.info", "(.*?)([A-Za-z0-9-]+\.[A-Za-z]{3,}\.[A-Za-z]{2}\.[A-Za-z]{2}$)", "\2"),"loopbaanlab.info"."_report._dmarc"."rua_maildomain",null
14   ()),
15   dns_record_type=if(isnotnull(dns_domain),"IN TXT",null()),
16   record=if(isnotnull(dns_domain),"\v=DMARC1\","null()),
17   record_note="DMARC record to allow the cross domain sending of RUA and/OR RUF mails (rfc7489 section 7.1)."
18 | eval dns_domain=if("true"=="true",dns_domain,null()), dns_record_type=if("true"=="true",dns_record_type,null()), record=if("true"=="true",record,null()), record_note=if("true"=="true",record_note,null())
19 ]
20 | append
21 [ | makeresults
22 | eval DESCRIPTION="This is the DMARC RUF record generating search for cross domain RUF mails"
23 | eval ruf_maildomain=if("ruf=mailto:-"!="ruf=mailto:-",replace("ruf=mailto:-", "(.*\@.*?)([A-Za-z0-9-]+\.[A-Za-z]{3,}\.[A-Za-z]{2}\.[A-Za-z]{2}$)", "\2"),null()),
24   dns_domain=if(isnotnull(ruf_maildomain) AND ruf_maildomain!=replace("loopbaanlab.info", "(.*?)([A-Za-z0-9-]+\.[A-Za-z]{3,}\.[A-Za-z]{2}\.[A-Za-z]{2}$)", "\2"),"loopbaanlab.info"."_report._dmarc"."ruf_maildomain",null
25   ()),
26   dns_record_type=if(isnotnull(dns_domain),"IN TXT",null()),
27   record=if(isnotnull(dns_domain),"\v=DMARC1\","null()),
28   record_note="DMARC record to allow the cross domain sending of RUA and/OR RUF mails (rfc7489 section 7.1)."
29 | eval dns_domain=if("true"=="true",dns_domain,null()), dns_record_type=if("true"=="true",dns_record_type,null()), record=if("true"=="true",record,null()), record_note=if("true"=="true",record_note,null())
30 ]
31 [ | makeresults
32 | eval DESCRIPTION="This is the general DMARC record generating search"
33 | eval dmarc_record_info="v=DMARC1; p=reject",
34   dmarc_record_info=if("!"!="",mvappend(dmarc_record_info,"sp=","-"),dmarc_record_info),
35   dmarc_record_info=if(len("rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl") > 5 AND "rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl"!="rua=mailto:-",mvappend(dmarc_record_info,"rua=mailto:rua@belastingdienst.nl"),dmarc_record_info),
36   dmarc_record_info=if(len("ruf=mailto:-") > 5 AND "ruf=mailto:-"!="ruf=mailto:-",mvappend(dmarc_record_info,"ruf=mailto:-"),dmarc_record_info),
37   dmarc_record_info=if("r"=="s",mvappend(dmarc_record_info,"adkim=s"),dmarc_record_info),
38   dmarc_record_info=if("r"=="s",mvappend(dmarc_record_info,"aspf=s"),dmarc_record_info)
39 | eval record="\v".mvjoin(dmarc_record_info,"; ")."\v", dns_domain="dmarc"."loopbaanlab.info", dns_record_type="IN TXT", record_note="DMARC policy record"
40 | eval dns_domain=if("true"=="true",dns_domain,null()), dns_record_type=if("true"=="true",dns_record_type,null()), record=if("true"=="true",record,null()), record_note=if("true"=="true",record_note,null())

```

Lessons Learned

- Investigate where all your mail servers are located. The marketing department often use different mail servers for campaigns.
- Monitor your mail server logs.
- Test, test, test your SPF policy and DMARC policy. Must be in production!
- Don't forget to create a SPF record for your (non) existing subdomains with a wildcard DNS resource record!
- Splunk Dashboards and code can be found on: <https://github.com/aholzel>



Final Thoughts



1. Get more insight into who is sending e-mails pretending to be you and/or your organization.
2. The information can be used to gain more visibility in the MTAs your organization is using. You will be surprised, we were!
3. Implementation must be done in the production environment. And yes, it can be done, we have implemented it successfully without major issues.
4. A rollout can only be successful if your MTA administrators, SOC analysts and NOC engineers work closely together. Don't forget the business!
5. Please only use standards defined in RFCs to avoid compatibility issues.

Resource Overview

Splunk App	https://github.com/aholzel
RFC3207 (SMTP)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3207
RFC6376 (DKIM)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6376
RFC6698 (DANE-TLSA)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6689
RFC7208 (SPF)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7208
RFC7489 (DMARC)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7489
RFC7672 (DANE-TLS)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7672
RFC8460 (TLS reporting)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc8460
RFC8461 (MTA-STS)	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc8461
SPF statistics	https://spf-all.com/stats.html
DMARC adoption report	https://250ok.com/e-mail-deliverability/how-has-dmarc-adoption-evolved-since-2018-its-complicated/



splunk>

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