

# VA ENTERPRISE DESIGN PATTERNS PRIVACY AND SECURITY NON-PERSON ENTITY (NPE) SECURITY



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Scope

This Enterprise Design Pattern describes the "to-be" state for VA NPE security. It describes "adaptive" authentication tools that need to be implemented and the need for authentication protocols that can support attribute- and risk-based access controls. This document will assist the VA in establishing policy and methodology related to 'user identity' propagation across all architectural tiers of system design.

### Business Need

NPEs act on a person's behalf, thereby creating issues with identifying users, applications, and system activities. This makes performing forensics more difficult. VA is migrating legacy applications and enterprise integration middleware to the IAM platform and ESS, and this migration requires NPE considerations to improve the overall security posture. "Application proxy" entities are used strictly for machine-to-machine actions (e.g. batch processing, etc.) related to application processes and are not associated with specific human-triggered interactions.

### Approach

The NPE solution offered in this document uses the API Gateway to manage the unmanned authentication of sponsors. The API Gateway will manage the entire NPE Sponsorship process and ensure that the NPE Sponsorship requirements for processing NPE communication according to VA policies are met. The NPE solution also leverages approved tools and standards catalogued in the Technical Reference Model (TRM).

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Enterprise Design Patterns (EDPs) are developed by TS in coordination with internal and external subject matter experts and stakeholders. An EDP is a reusable capability guidance document that identifies best practice approaches and resources for achieving VA IT strategic objectives. The EDP Team uses industry trends and innovations; enterprise architectural standards; and guiding principles for capabilities and constraints to improve efficiency and effectiveness and define solutions to reoccurring technical problems. The EDP helps guide the design of IT systems and services by VA project teams.