A Zero Trust Architecture for State and Local Governments

How Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler work in tandem to implement secure, compliant, easy-to-use Zero Trust environments

To begin a Zero Trust (ZT) implementation and improve security postures, state and local governments must look to vendors that maintain FedRAMP and StateRAMP authorizations since their offerings have already met the programs' risk assessment and cloud security requirements.

State agencies and localities are looking to get ahead of the ZT curve using federal mandates as a guide, including leveraging the foundational ZT requirements as laid out in President Biden's Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity (EO 14028) and following the guidelines, specifically those in NIST SP 800-207 Zero Trust Architecture. However, with old, legacy security systems and portals, most are struggling to begin the transition.

Pillars of protection

State and local governments need a solution that can help them fast-track their Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) implementation and follow ZT standards to ensure that only trusted devices and trusted users can be allowed to access authorized applications.

Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler have extensive capabilities to contribute to three of the five ZT maturity pillars as outlined by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Specifically, these solutions can work together to help agencies accelerate their digital transformation by addressing the device, identity, and network/environment pillars.

Technology providers working together

Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler are best-in-class security leaders in their respective fields and, when implemented together, can provide a foundational ZT reference architecture with a short implementation time that meets compliance expectations—a fast-tracked, modern, identity-centric strategy.

These integrated solutions can empower agencies to make leaps forward in meeting ZT implementation requirements—with a single, simple installation.

Invest in a Zero Trust Architecture

Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler can be implemented together to enable:

- A modern, easy-to-use digital government
- Comprehensive protection through collaborative security solutions that enable effective and efficient detection and threat response
- Improved user experiences for employees and citizens

Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler are fully integrated to deliver:

Feature	Benefit
Zero Trust access control	Incorporates user identity and trust, device compliance posture, and threat detection associated with the user and device
Adaptive user group membership and policies between solutions	Ensures only users and devices that meet security policy threshold can access authorized applications per session
Sharing of endpoint and network telemetry via traditional log injection and the CrowdXDR Alliance framework	Enhances end-to-end visibility and threat detection capabilities
Inter-platform workflows	Speed up response time and improve efficacy without hindering productivity
Cloud-based architecture with worldwide security service nodes and inline inspection	Ensures data stays within the US border, no matter where users are

Okta

As the world's #1 identity and access management platform, **Okta** enables a centralized view of all identities and is the first step of security that meets the first pillar of the Zero Trust Maturity Model developed by CISA: identity. Using its own context-based policy engine, Okta facilitates authentication decisions to enable unified, automated, and identity-driven security for the workforce and public.

CrowdStrike

The **CrowdStrike** Zero Trust solution meets the second pillar of the Zero Trust Maturity Model (device) with the Falcon® platform that addresses endpoint threat detection and response, identity protection, and device posture. The solution secures the modern enterprise with its cloud-delivered approach to stop breaches in real-time on any endpoint, cloud workload, or identity, wherever they are. CrowdStrike does all of the heavy lifting for enterprise security teams to enforce frictionless ZT with its industry-leading CrowdStrike Security Cloud—the world's largest unified, threat-centric data fabric to stop breaches.

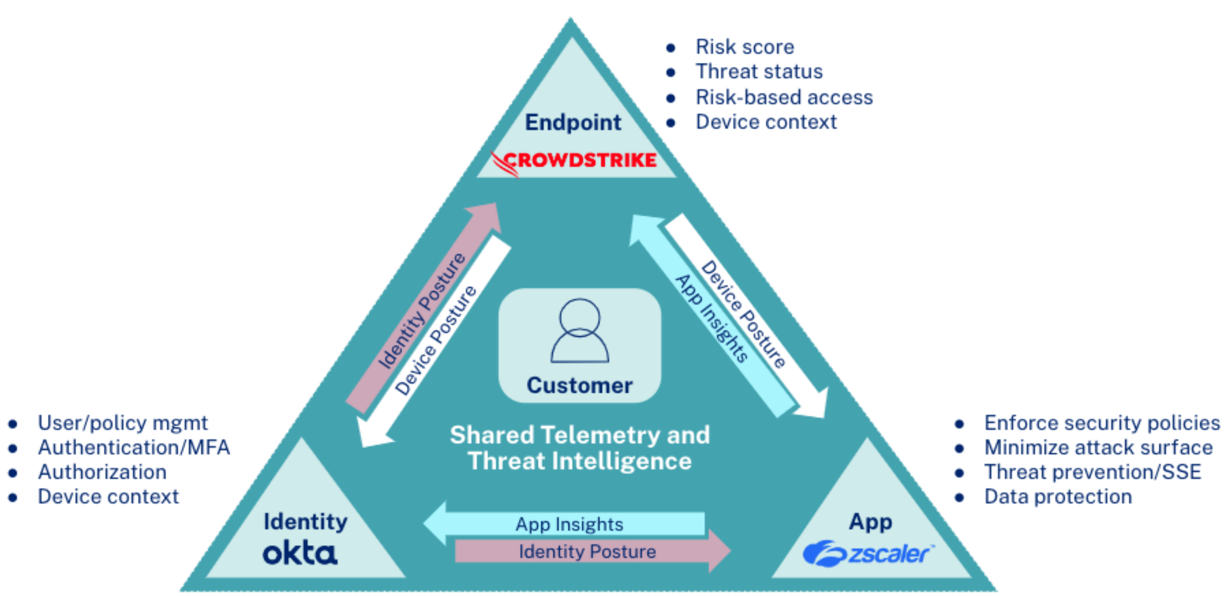
Zscaler

The **Zscaler** Zero Trust Exchange secures user-to-app, app-to-app, and machine-to-machine communications over any network and from any location, reducing business risk and meeting the third pillar of the Zero Trust Maturity Model: network/environment. Zscaler enables fast, secure connections based on the ZT principle of least privileged access, providing comprehensive security using context-based identity and policy enforcement. Operating across 150 data centers worldwide, Zscaler ensures service is closest to the user, creating the shortest path between your users and their destinations, providing comprehensive security and an amazing user experience.

Why Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler?

While no single or even a few security solutions can address all aspects of a ZT implementation, the below 3-way reference architecture provides a solid foundation to start your ZT initiative. It can simplify centralized identity to enforce endpoint and user identity security, and securely deliver services and data at scale, anywhere. Many state and local government agencies have trusted Okta, CrowdStrike, and Zscaler in their journey to the cloud and enabled work from anywhere without compromise. In an age where ransomware is rampant, and agencies are competing with private enterprises for cybersecurity expertise, the integrated and proven solutions are the ideal path forward to successfully transition to ZT and meet the demands of federal and state legislation on cybersecurity.

Device, Identity, and Application Risk Assessments:



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