Outlook Web Access SSL Port Relocation

Overview

A client had a single IP address available and a service on another server which required SSL. Only one of the machines could receive Port 443 from external sources and it was decided to change the SSL Port for Exchange 2007. There was no documentation for this process on Exchange 2007, and articles relating to Exchange 2003 were unhelpful. With some experimentation it turned out to be extremely easy.

Procedure

Test OWA, make sure it is working internally, and if you can borrow port 443 from the other application, make sure it is working externally as well. If there are problems, resolve them now.

In IIS Administration, right click the Default Web Site, and select edit bindings.
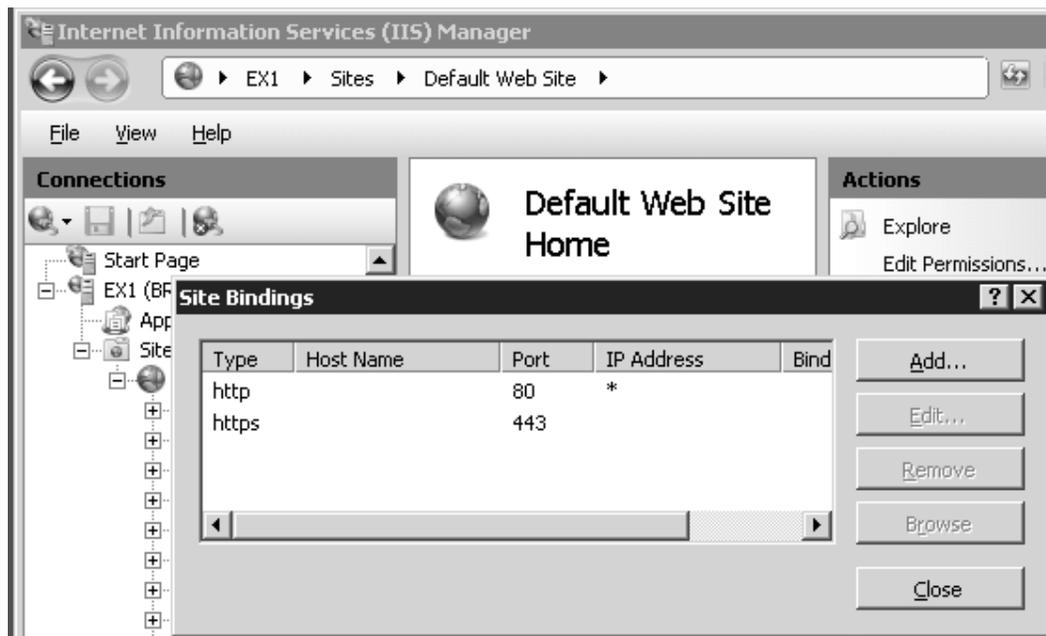
Select https and select E*d*it…
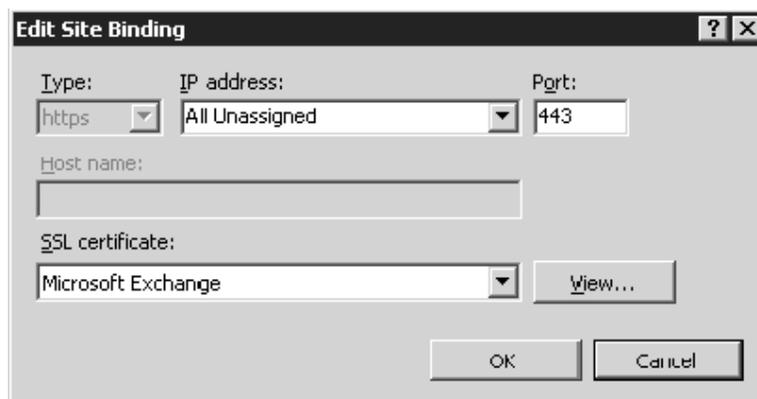
Note the certificate that is selected, the default self-signed certificate will show as Microsoft Exchange, if you have replaced it, you may see something else.

Cancel out of this dialog.
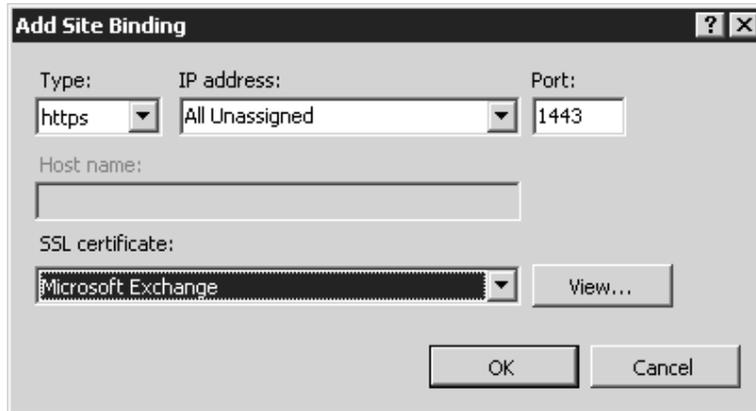
Now click <u>A</u>dd… in the Site Bindings Dialog.

In the Type: dropdown select https.

Under Port: enter the Port you will be using, for this example I'm using 1443.

Select the SSL Certificate, it should be the same as the one used by 443.

Normally you won't set the hostname. The most likely exception I can think of is if you are using separate certificates for your internal and external access. If you are an ASP providing a customized OWA URL for each client, you may also need to worry about host bindings.

You can also specify IP addresses, but in most cases it is better to go with All Unassigned, because if you change or add IP addresses in the future you will need to review all of the bindings.

Check the URLs in the Exchange Management Console

Open Server Configuration: Client Access, select your OWA server. On the lower tab "Outlook Web Access", right click owa.
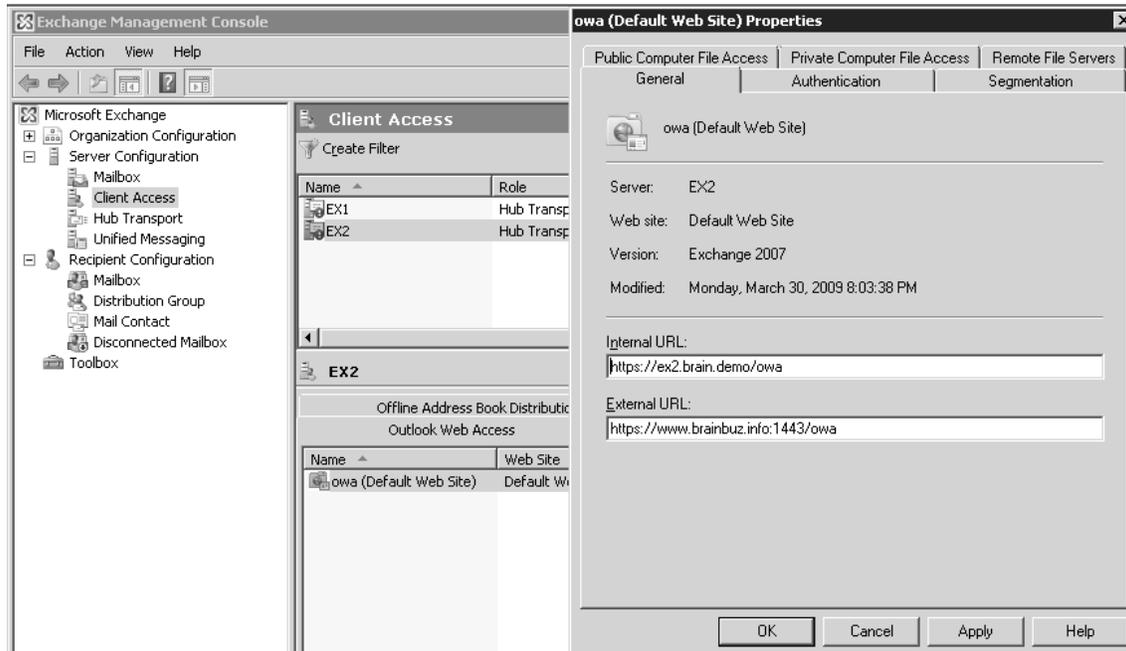
It isn't necessary to put the port number into the URL, however, you do want to check your URLs are correct. Since we'll only be accessing the external URL from the new port, I included it.

Open the Port on Windows Firewall

If you have Windows Firewall Running, you will need to open the Port.

netsh advfirewall firewall add rule name="OWA SSL Port 1443"
                    dir=in action=allow protocol=TCP localport=1443

Restart IIS

You can do this through Services or by the command **iisreset /restart /noforce**.

Test

Go test it, it should work. I was pretty surprised to find that it was this simple.

Redirect Your Users.

Most End Users have a problem typing https:// before the url, nevermind sticking a port number in the middle somewhere. To make it easy for them, create redirects from wherever it is that they're likely to go. If in an earlier version of exchange they accessed the URL http://www.brainbuz.info/exchange, put a redirect there. If they can be getting the same redirect from either inside or outside and you will need a more complicated script, or to make sure that the external address is reachable internally.

For each directory where you want this to appear save the document as default.htm (the default, default document in IIS 7), if the page will be served by Apache or Tomcat the likely default page name will be index.html (check with the server's admin or webmaster).

HTML Redirect Page

```
<html>
<head>
<title>
Outlook Web Access Web Redirection Page for Brainbuz.info
</title>
<meta HTTP-EQUIV="REFRESH" content="0;
url= https://ex2.brain.demo:1443/owa/auth/logon.aspx">
</head>
<body>
<h1>Redirect</h1>
<p>
<a href="https://ex2.brain.demo:1443/owa/auth/logon.aspx">
If you are not automatically redirected to the login page for
Outlook Web Access, click here.
</a>
</p>
</body>
</html>
```

Warning

Exchange creates a number of folders which return an error when you try to browse them, but which contain active elements of OWA. Don't touch them.

Setting 403 Error Page Redirection

If IIS is locked down to require SSL (the default for WS08/E2K7); you will need to allow unencrypted connections, or redirect port 80 to another web-server, or set 403/302 redirection.

You may need to adjust the default page setting if IISStart is coming up.

The pure IIS method is to set the 403 error to respond with a 302 redirect to OWA. This method works when the server requires SSL (default for E2K7).

In IIS Manager select the website (usually default) and select Error Pages.

Choose the 403 Error.

Select Respond with a 302 Redirect.

And set the url you want clients to access.