How to Connect Aranet PRO to Azure Event Grid MQTT broker

This example will describe Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker and Aranet PRO base station MQTT configuration details for Client authentication using self-signed CA certificate chain.

Before configuration, make sure you have access to **Event Grid** Namespace and it has **MQTT broker enabled**, **alternative client authentication name sources enabled** and for client authentication **Alternative source fields in client certificate** set in following order:

- 1) Certificate Subject Name
- 2) Certificate DNS

Event Grid Namespace	d Configuration 🖈 …
₽ Search	«
Settings	MQTT broker
🕈 Access keys	The MQTT broker capability enables your MQTT clients to communicate with each other and with Azure services. Learn more
🗹 Scale	Enable MQTT broker
Networking	 MQTT broker cannot be disabled, once enabled for the namespace.
🚷 Identity	
💼 Configuration	Enable alternative client authentication name sources ①
Properties	Alternative source fields in client certificate Certificate Subject Name, Certificate DNS
🔒 Locks	(i) We will check for the client identity in the order of your selection.
Eventing	Current order of selection: 1) Certificate Subject Name
Topics	2) Certificate DNS

In this example will be used a self-signed CA certificate file, Client certificate file and Client key file.

For **CA certificate's** Common Name **MQTT hostname** of your Event Grid Namespace will be used.



For **Client certificate's** Common Name the Aranet base station **serial number** will be used. It will be also used later in Event Grid **"Clients"** configuration as **Client Authentication Name**.



Generate certificate and key files

In order to generate certificate and key files OpenSSL utilities will be used. In this example **OpenSSL** v3.0.2 is being used.

Additional configuration in OpenSSL configuration file *openssl.cnf* is required:

Configuration section	Section variable and value pairs
[v3_ca]	basicConstraints = critical, CA:TRUE
	subjectAltName = @ alt_names
[req]	x509_extensions = v3_ca,v3_req
	req_extensions = v3_req
[alt_names]	DNS.1 = <event grid="" hostname="" mqtt="" namespace=""></event>

Steps of generating the files

- 1) Generate CA key: openssl genrsa -aes256 -out ca.key 4096
- 2) Generate CA certificate file using previously created CA key file (for the Common Name use the MQTT hostname of your available Event Grid Namespace): openssl req -new -x509 -sha256 -days 2525 -key ca.key -out ca.crt extensions v3 ca

3) Verify that created CA certificate file contains necessary X509v3 extension key - value pairs: openssl x509 -in ca.crt -text



- Generate client key file: openssl genrsa -out client.key 4096
- Generate client certificate signing request file for signing the client certificate file (for the Common Name use the serial number of Aranet PRO base station):

```
openssl req -new -sha256 -out client.csr -key client.key -extensions v3_req
```

6) Generate client certificate file using previously generated CSR file and CA certificate and key files:

```
openssl x509 -req -sha256 -in client.csr -CA ca.crt -CAkey ca.key -
CAcreateserial -out client.crt -days 2525
```

- 7) Self-signed CA and client certificate and key files are now created. List of files:
 - a. ca.crt root CA certificate which was used to sign client certificate file (will be used in Event Grid "CA certificate" configuration);
 - b. **ca.key** CA privatye key file;
 - c. client.crt client certificate file signed with CA certificate (will be used in Aranet PRO base station MQTT configuration);
 - d. **client.key** client private key (will be used in Aranet PRO base station MQTT configuration);
 - e. **client.csr** can be removed (will not be used).

NOTE: if more than one pair of client key and certificate files are needed (in case if two or more Aranet PRO base stations are planned to be connected) then the same pair of CA certificate and key files can be used to sign other pairs of client certificate and key files as long as these clients are planned to be connected to the same Event Grid Namespace using the same MQTT hostname set in the CA certificate's **Common Name**.

Proceed with Event Grid configuration steps.

Event Grid configuration – add CA certificate

In Event Grid Namespace section "**MQTT broker**" open "CA certificates" and upload **ca.crt** file. Set name as **CertificateCA**.

Home > Aranet-Event-Grid

Event Grid Namespace	CA certificates 🛪 …
✓ Search «	CA certificates
🍾 Identity 🍝	For clients authenticated using CA-signed certificates, upload and ma
Configuration	
Properties	- Certificate O Refresh & Give feedback
Cocks	Certificate Name
Eventing	
Topics	No certificates were found.
MQTT broker	
🔁 CA certificates	
Certificate Name *	te ×
CertificateCA	\checkmark
Certificate .pem, .cer or .crt file 🛈	ca.crt Browse
Upload Cancel	

Event Grid configuration – create MQTT broker client

In the same Event Grid Namespace navigate to the MQTT broker section "**Clients**" and press on "+" to add a new Client.

Home > Aranet-Event-Grid

Aranet-Event-Gri	d	Clients ☆ …
₽ Search	~	Clients
🚷 Identity	*	
💼 Configuration		View, create, delete, and update your clients. Learn
Properties		Search to find client by name + Client
🔒 Locks		Client Name
Eventing		
Topics		
MQTT broker	J.	
🔁 CA certificates		
S Clients		

For the client following important Authentication Settings must be set:

- Client Authentication Name: <Aranet base station serial number>
- Client Certificate Authentication Validation Scheme: Subject Matches Authentication Name

Set **Connection Status** to **Enabled** and press "**Create**" to add the new client for the Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker.

Create client			
Client Name *	AranetPRO-base	-station-394261000091	~
Client Description	AranetPRO base	station with S/N: 394261000091	
Authentication Settings Client authentication settings allow y identity to authenticate the client. Client Authentication Name ① Client Certificate Authentication Validation Scheme * ①	rou to configure the uniq 394261000091 Subject Matches	ue client identifier and the certific	ate field that contains the
Connection Status	Enabled		
Client Attributes (j) Client attributes represent a set of key-v on common attribute values.	value pairs that provide c	lescriptive information about the	client and help group clients
Кеу	Туре	Value	
+ Add attribute			

Create root topic for the Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker

In order to publish and subscribe on MQTT messages additional configuration step – creation of topic must be performed. For this proceed to the Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker section "**Topic space**" and create a new **Topic space** by pressing "+".

Home > Aranet-Event-Grid

Aranet-Event-Grid	Topic spaces 🛛 🛣 🗠
	Topic spaces Topic spaces allow you to create a git Topic space Refresh
Eventing	
+ Topics	
MQTT broker	
CA certificates	
🕤 Clients	
Client groups	
Topic spaces	

Give a **Name** for the Topic space. This name will be used later in the **Permission bindings** (publish and subscribe access rights) configuration. Press "**Add topic template**" to add a new topic template for this Topic space.

Create topic space	×
Name *	
AranetPROTopicSpace	\checkmark
Topic templates *	
Topic templates are flexible topic filters with variables support, along with the MQTT wild cards. Learn more	ł
+ Add topic template	

For the Topic template set the topic: aranetPROBaseStations/#

IMPORTANT: aranetPROBaseStations can be replaced with any other name. Topic template string must end with '/#'.

Create topic space	×
Name * AranetPROTopicSpace	~
Topic templates * Topic templates are flexible topic filters with variables support, a cards. Learn more aranetPROBaseStations/# + Add topic template	long with the MQTT wild ✓ * ₪
Create	

Later in this configuration example manual the topic template **aranetPROBaseStations** will be used in Aranet PRO MQTT configuration as the "**Root topic**" string.

Finally press "Create" button to add a new topic template.

NOTE: in the scenario where multiple base stations are connected to the same MQTT broker hostname, the same topic template can be used across all base stations for publishing and subscribing to MQTT messages.

Setup topic Permission bindings for the Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker

Proceed to the Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker section "**Permission bindings**". Press on "+" to create a new "Permission binding" for MQTT message **publishing** permission.

Aranet-Event-Grid Event Grid Namespace	Permission bindings
₽ Search «	Permission bindings
😵 Identity 🔺	
💼 Configuration	Permission bindings enable you to g
Properties	+ Permission binding 🖒 Ref
🔒 Locks	Name
Eventing	ArapatDRODublisherRinding
Topics	AranetPROSubscriberBinding
MQTT broker	
🔁 CA certificates	
5 Clients	
Client groups	
📒 Topic spaces	
Permission bindings	

Create permission for the **Publisher** with following settings:

Create permission binding Event Grid	×
Name *	
aranetProBaseStationsPublish	\checkmark
Client group name *	
\$all	~
Topic space name *	
AranetPROTopicSpace	\sim

 \sim

Permission *
Publisher

Create

Press "Create". Permission for Publisher has been created.

Now press on "+" to create a new "Permission binding" for MQTT message **subscribe** permission. Create permission for the **Subscriber** with following settings:

Create permission binding	\times
Event Grid	
Name *	
aranetProBaseStationsSubscribe	\checkmark
Client group name *	
\$all	\sim
Topic space pame *	
AranetPROTopicSpace	~
Permission *	
Subscriber	~



Press "Create" to add permission for the Subscriber.

Now Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker configuration is completed. Proceed to Aranet PRO base station to configure MQTT client settings in order to connect to Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker.

Setup Aranet PRO connection with Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker

Open web GUI of your Aranet PRO base station and proceed to Integrations: MQTT section.



Aranet PRO MQTT Connection settings

- Enable: ON
- Host address: MQTT hostname of your available Event Grid Namespace
- Port: **8883**
- Protocol version: MQTT v5
- keepAlive: 30 seconds
- Authentication: OFF
- QoS level: **0** or **2** (connection is being dropped by using QoS: 1)
- Root topic: aranetPROBaseStations
- Sensor measurement format: raw or JSON
- Encryption: TLSv1.2

- Validate host certificate: OFF
- Supply client certificate: ON
- Client private key: upload client.key file
- Client certificate: upload client.crt file

Status (2024-03-28 15:39)		
C Enable		
Host address *		
ananet erent 5namorarearope na	erengnalazar enret	54 / 255
Dort ž		
8883		
Protocol version		
MQTT v5		•
keepAlive *		
30		
Authentication		
OoS level		
0		•
Root topic *		
aranetPROBaseStations		
		13 / 100
Sensor measurement format		•
Encryption TLSv1.2		•
Validate host certificate Supply client certificate		
Client private key		
1024/2048 bit PEM encoded		
Signature:		
B.0 1.02.17.121.02.01.55.120.57.00		
	MQTT_CLIENT.KEY	REGENERATE
mattClient csr		
U		
		+
		<u> </u>
Client certificate		
1024/2048 bit PEM encoded		
Signature:		
	.20,16	
	<u>↑</u> N	IQTT_CLIENT.CRT

Press to save the configuration. If all the steps were performed correctly Aranet PRO MQTT base station MQTT client process will report status "**Connection successful**".



Now messages of the Arent PRO base station MQTT client are being published to the Event Grid Namespace MQTT broker.