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Policy-driven IGA: Why this approach produces better outcomes?

Brian Iverson

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Identity Governance and Administration

Who’s working for whom?


Policy-based access control
Policy-driven administration

Brief Taxonomy Interlude

Identity Governance & Administration

Identities

Entitlements

Teams

Applications

=

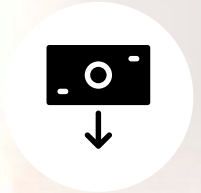
Accounts

Resources

Permissions

IT Systems

Finance & Accounting



Income

Expenses

=

Assets

Liabilities

Owners' Equity

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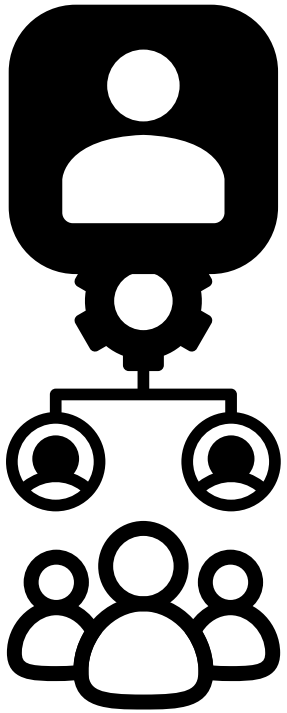
How is policy-driven administration related with RBAC?

Access Control Policies

Accounts
Assigned Access

Permissions



Profiles
Lists of allowed access

Roles
Lists of accounts with allowed access

Groups
Lists of accounts

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Entitlements and Teams

Entitlements

- Roles that bundle together cohesive sets of permissions
- Business-friendly abstraction for requests and reviews
- Belong to applications
- Focal point for policy-driven administration
- Policies should reference teams whenever possible

Teams

- Roles that group sets of identities that share a certain characteristic
- Business-friendly abstraction for attribute values
- Organized by shared dimensions (shared characteristics)
- Referenced by entitlements for policies
- Policies usually reference identity attributes

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Context-aware IGA

Permission catalog

Entitlement catalog

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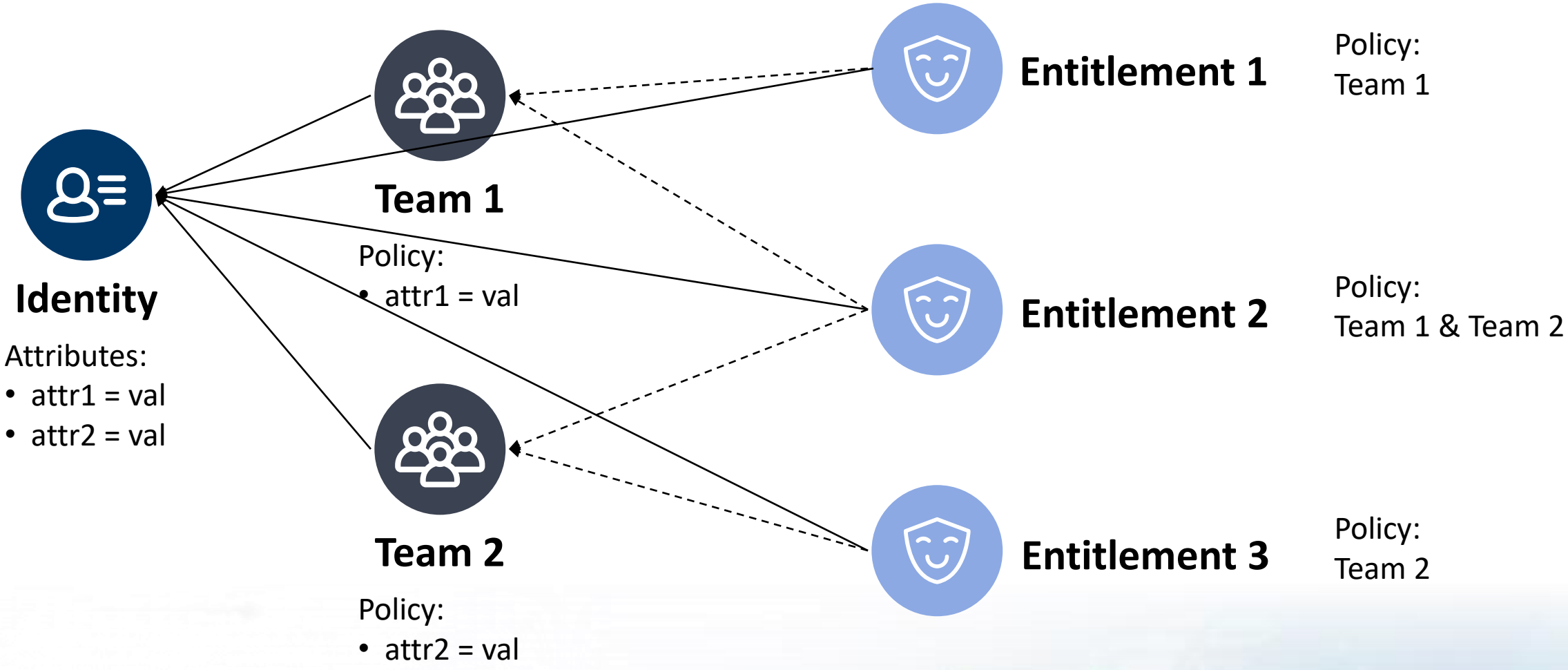
Roles make better attributes than attributes themselves



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Optimizing entitlements and policies

↑ Leverage

↓ Volatility

↓ Ceremony

+ Governance

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Entitlement/Policy Governance

Application owners exist and care deeply about their access risks

The Role of Artificial Intelligence

- **Tired:** Recommend entitlements to request or remove, approve/deny (in approvals) or accept/reject (in certification tasks)

- **Wired:** Recommend entitlements for assembly

- **Inspired:** Recommend policies for automatic assignment and removal of entitlements

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Policy-driven administration maturity

Maturity	Characteristics
Level 0	• No concept of identity • Possibilities are extremely limited
Level 1	• Identity foundation exists • Simple roles for bundling permissions, poor business-friendly abstractions • Possibilities remain limited, difficult to maintain
Level 2	• Entitlement catalog compresses permissions into business-friendly abstractions • Applications organize entitlements and provide governance structure • Policies are anchored to entitlements and attribute-driven
Level 3	• Abstractions for teams, entitlements and applications are fully realized • Policies, entitlements and teams are guided according to LVC+g model

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Recommendations

- ✓ Start with most critical applications
- ✓ Compress the administrative surface area with entitlements
- ✓ Track metrics to ensure overall objectives are being met
- ✓ Pay attention to leverage, volatility, ceremony and governance when modeling entitlements and policies
- ✓ Onboard more applications and repeat

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