Different key based authentication to remote server

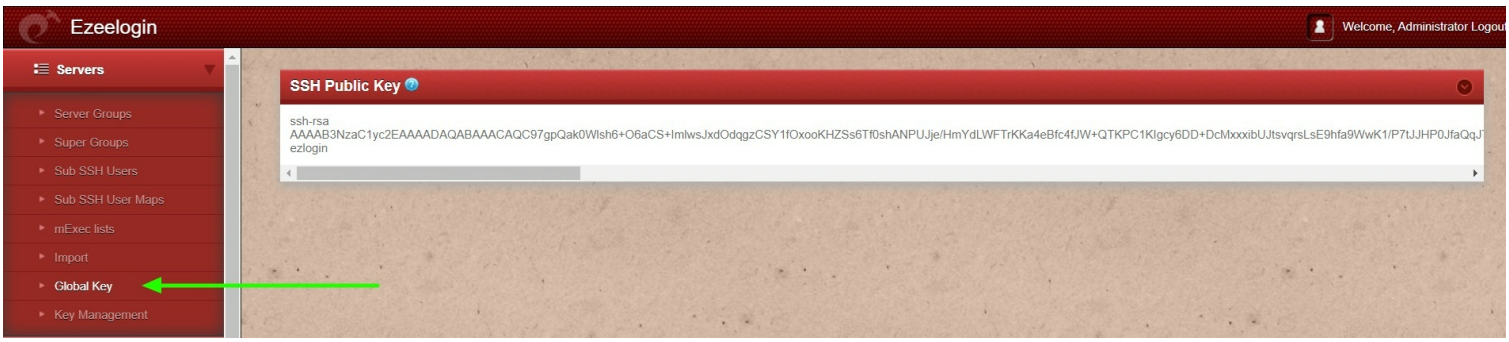
104 admin November 23, 2024 Tweaks & Configuration 9333

What are the different key based authentication methods for SSH to remote servers?

Overview: The article discusses various key-based authentication methods for SSH to remote servers using Ezeelogin. It covers topics such as global/public keys, private keys, key management, changing the default global key, and adding custom key pairs during the installation process.

1. Ezeelogin global or public key

Step 1(A): Login to Ezeelogin software GUI, navigate to **Global key** and copy the global key.



Step 1(B): Login to the Ezeelogin backend (ezsh) and keep the selector on **all servers** and press ' **F7** ' or ' * ' to get into the parallel shell

Step 1(C): Run the below command using the **parallel shell** to copy the public key to all servers. Wait for the **parallel shell execution to complete** before pressing any key to return to the command line. This will ensure that the **public_key** is copied across all servers.

```
root@gateway:~# echo 'paste_global_key_here' >> ~/.ssh/authorized_keys
```

2. SSH Private key

Step 2(A): Users can add a remote server with any private key. Copy the public key from **/root/.ssh/id_rsa.pub** and paste it inside the **authorized_keys** file of the user in the remote server.

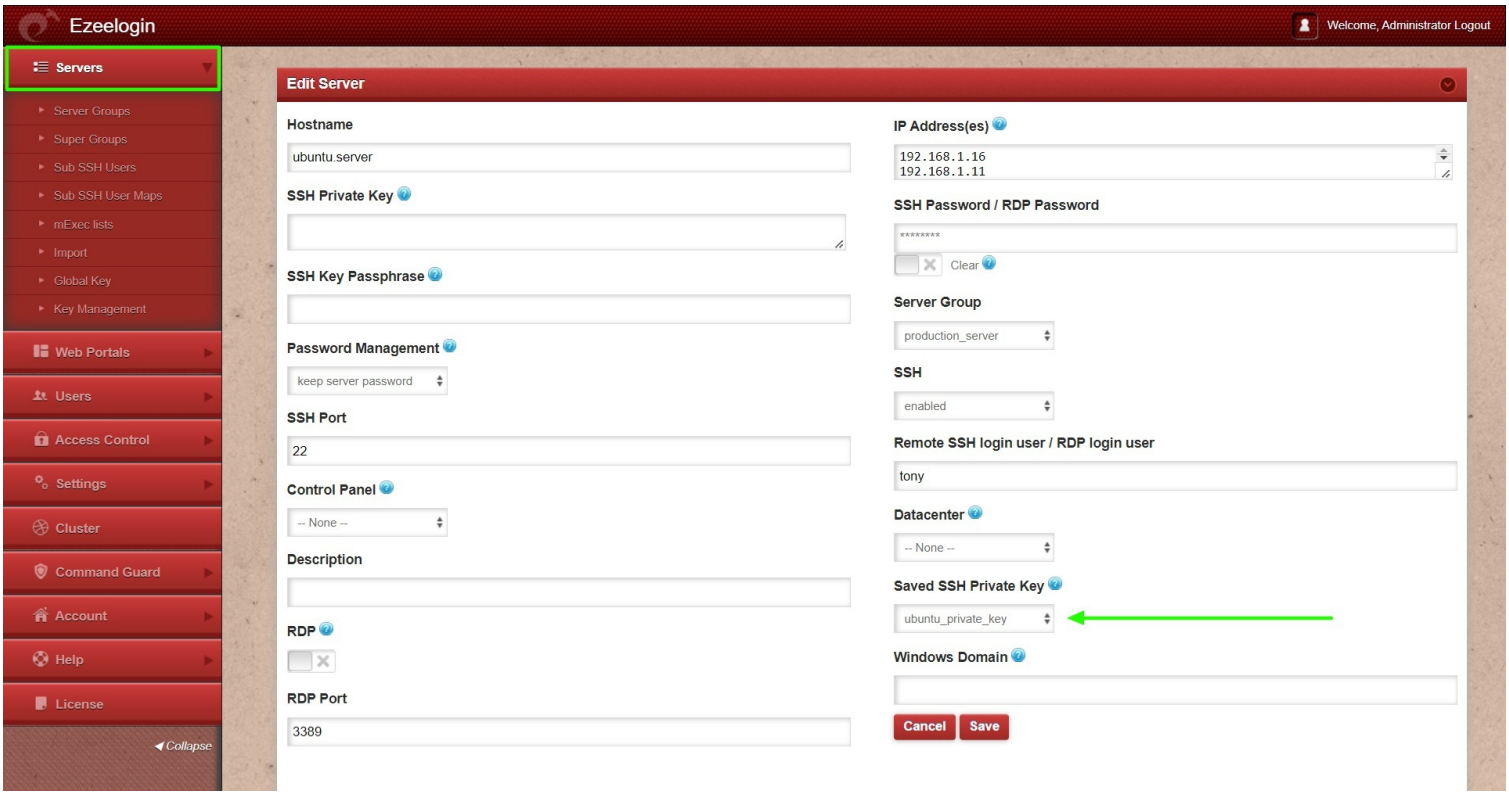
> How to add a server with the private key?

3. Key management or saved key

Step 3(A): User can add a remote server with the private key stored in key management. Save the private keys and use them while adding the servers.

Step 3(B): Navigate to **Servers** -> **Key Management** and add the private key along with the passphrase (if the key was generated with a passphrase).

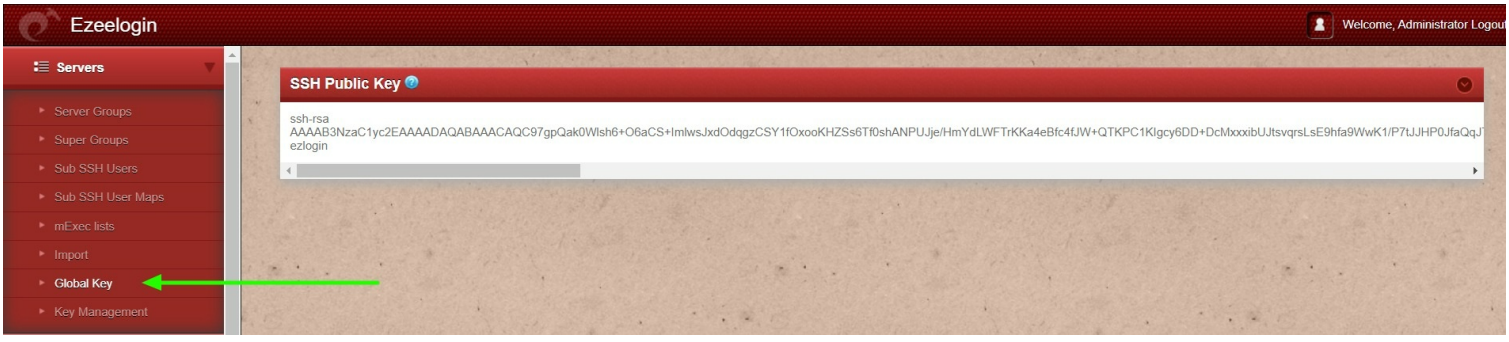
Step 3(C): Add a remote server with the key saved in the key management tab.



4. Change gloabl key

This feature is available only from Ezeelogin Version 7.3.6 and above.

How to change the default Global Key being used to log on to remote servers?



Change the existing key pair used in Ezeelogin.

5. Can a user use custom private and public keys in Ezeelogin?

Step 5(A): Users can add a custom key pair during installation only. It cannot be changed to a custom key pair after installation. You would need to generate your own 4096-bit RSA Keys using ssh-keygen

```
root@gateway:~# ssh-keygen -b 4096 -t rsa -P <enter-strong-pass> -f /root/test-pvt-key

Your identification has been saved in /root/test-pvt-key

Your public key has been saved in /root/test-pvt-key.pub
```

Step 5(B): Run the Ezeelogin installation package with the following option.

```
root@gateway:~# sh ezlogin_7.1.6.bin -- -help

-sshkey : Specify the path of SSH private key to be used. Default: generates new key
-sshkeypass : Specify the password (if any) for SSH private key. Default: no password
```

```
root@gateway:~# sh ezlogin_7.1.6.bin -- -sshkey /root/test-pvt-key -sshkeypass ads*9s798js0sdf9#$2!sdr@@
```

Complete the installation. The custom public key would be used when new servers are added in and would be visible under **Servers** -> **Global Key**

The private key cannot be decrypted. To get the private key, a new global key pair has to be generated.

Related Articles:

SSH Key rotation to remote servers

Add a server using SSH key pair in ezeelogin

Using custom private and public keys in Ezeelogin

Different types of SSH authentication keys

Online URL: https://www.ezeelogin.com/kb/article/different-key-based-authentication-to-remote-server-104.html