

## Corrupting EAPOL-Key 3/4 Handshake Message RSNXE WPA-Key Information Elements

**Goal:** Manually override RSN-Extension-Element (RSNXE) of 3 of 4-way EAPOL authentication handshake messages sent by a LANforge system in AP Mode for testing purposes.

The `rsnxe_override_eapo1` field in LANforge **Custom WiFi Parameters** provides capability to corrupt specific information elements of **EAPOL-Key Message 3 of 4** of WPA3 authentication sequence using SAE with encrypted management frames (802.11w). The Robust Security Network Extension Element (RSNXE), used to communicate and confirm certain aspects of security negotiation such as "SAE-hash-to-element", must be consistent between Beacon frames and EAPOL-Key messages; this method corrupts this RSNXE IE, provoking authentication failure with a distinctive response message: **WPA: RSNXE mismatch between Beacon/ProbeResp and EAPOL-Key msg 3/4.**

### 1. Initial Setup for WPA3-Authentication Testing with Simultaneous Authentication of Equals (SAE).

The setup requires AP and station NIC drivers capable of enabling SAE encryption (this example uses MediaTek radios with ath10k(988x) driver), enabling encrypted management frames (802.11w), enabling WPA3 and disabling WPA2-PSK authentication in both station and AP.

- A. Set up a virtual AP for testing.  
In this test, it is named `vap0000` on parent device `wiphy0`.  
For more information see [Create VAP in Bridge Mode](#)
- B. On a separate radio, create a station to authenticate with `vap0000`:  
In the **Port Manager** tab, select `wiphy1` and click **Create**; select **WiFi STA**, then click **Apply**.  
In this test, the station is named `wlan1` on parent device `wiphy1`.  
For more information see [Generating Traffic for WLAN Testing](#)
- C. Configure `vap0000` and `wlan1` to use **WPA3-SAE** encrypted authentication.  
Ensure that `802.11w` is enabled, since it is required for WPA3.  
For more information see [Setting up WPA3](#)
- D. Configure `vap0000` and `wlan1` with **SSID** `test-wpa2-psk` and **Keyphrase** `qwertyuiop`.
- E. Create a Monitor Port on its own radio to sniff wireless packets.  
In this test, the monitor port is named `moni3a`.  
For more information see [Using Wireshark to Sniff WiFi Monitors](#)

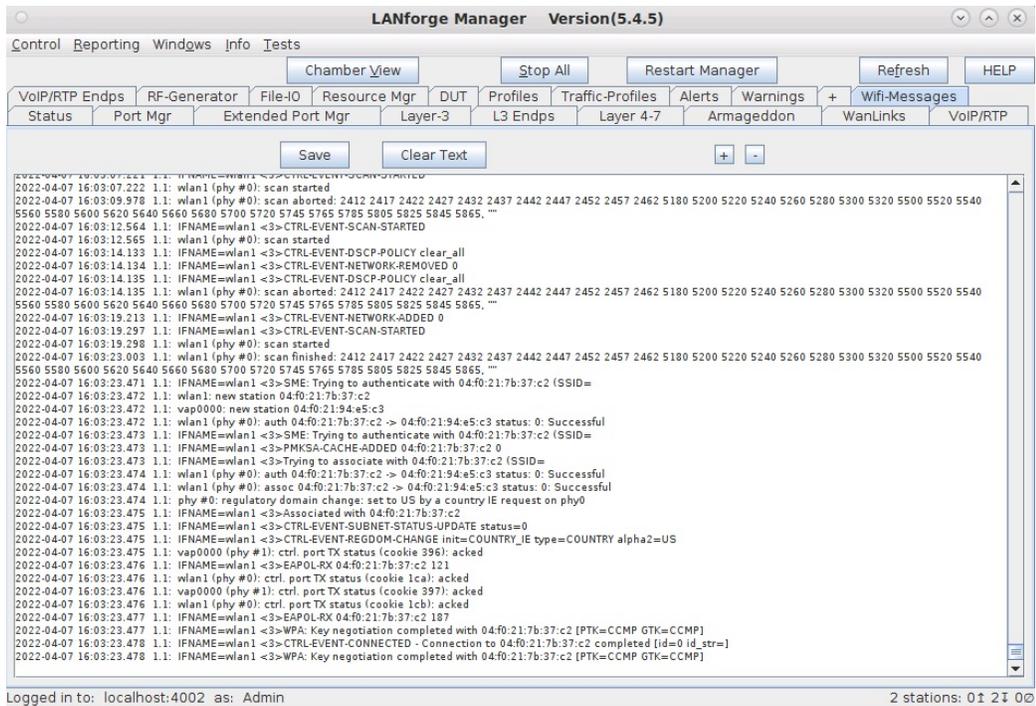
### 2. Control (No Change):

- A. Configure **Custom WiFi** in `vap0000`:  
Select `vap0000` and click **Modify**.  
Navigate to the **Custom WiFi** tab.  
Ensure that no `sae_commit_override` parameter is set in **User-Specified supplicant/hostapd configuration text**.  
Click **Apply** then **OK**.
- B. Set the vAP down and back up to allow changes to take effect:  
In the **Port Manager** tab, select `vap0000`.  
Admin all selected interfaces **DOWN** (CTRL-PLUS).  
Admin all selected interfaces **UP** (CTRL-MINUS).
- C. Sniff packets to observe the authentication behavior:  
On the observation system in the **Port Manager** tab, select only `moni3a`:  
Click **Sniff Packets**.

- D. Observe the results, which should be similar to the following:
- The station wlan1 succeeds in authenticating with vap0000.
  - LANforge **WiFi Messages** shows WPA: Key negotiation completed.

E. Example results:

A. Behavior in LANforge **WiFi Messages**: Control Test



3. RSNXE Mismatch in EAPOL-Key Message 3/4:

- A. Configure **Custom WiFi** in vap0000:
- Select **vap0000** and click **Modify**.
- Navigate to the **Custom WiFi** tab.
- In the **User-Specified supplicant/hostapd configuration text** field, write:
- ```
rsnx_override_eapol=F40100.
```
- Click **Apply** then **OK**.
- B. Reset ports and sniff packets:
- Repeat steps B through D of **Step 2**.
- C. Observe the results, which should be similar to the following:
- Message 2/4 shows only encrypted in Wireshark due to having enabled **802.11w**.
  - The station wlan1 fails to authenticate with vap0000.
  - LANforge **WiFi-Messages** recognizes WPA:RSN mismatch between Beacon/ProbeResp and EAPOL-Key msg 3/4 and gives CTRL-EVENT-DISCONNECTED for reason 17: Information element in 4-way handshake different from (Re-)associate request/Probe response/Beacon.
  - Deauthentication management frame is sent by the station with Reason code: Information element in 4-way Handshake different from (Re)Association Request/Probe Response/Beacon frame (0x0011).
  - Compare **EAPOL-Key Message 3 of 4** and **BEACON** RSNXE information for mismatch.
- D. Example results:

A. Behavior in LANforge **Wifi Messages: RSNXE Override Test**

LANforge Manager Version(5.4.5)

Control Reporting Windows Info Tests

Chamber View Stop All Restart Manager Refresh HELP

VoIP/RTP Endps RF-Generator File-I/O Resource Mgr DUT Profiles Traffic-Profiles Alerts Warnings + Wifi-Messages

Status Port Mgr Extended Port Mgr Layer-3 Layer-4-7 Armageddon WanLinks VoIP/RTP

Save Clear Text + -

```

2022-04-04 16:09:24.846 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>Trying to associate with 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 (SSID=
2022-04-04 16:09:24.846 1.1: wlan1 (phy #0): assoc 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 -> 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3 status: 0: Successful
2022-04-04 16:09:24.846 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>Associated with 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
2022-04-04 16:09:24.847 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-SUBNET-STATUS-UPDATE status=0
2022-04-04 16:09:24.847 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-REGDOM-CHANGE init=COUNTRY_IE type=COUNTRY alpha2=US
2022-04-04 16:09:24.850 1.1: phy #0: regulatory domain change: set to US by a country IE request on phy0
2022-04-04 16:09:24.851 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>EAPOL-RX 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 121
2022-04-04 16:09:24.853 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): ctrl. port TX status (cookie 384): acked
2022-04-04 16:09:24.854 1.1: wlan1 (phy #0): ctrl. port TX status (cookie 1c8): acked
2022-04-04 16:09:24.854 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): ctrl. port TX status (cookie 385): acked
2022-04-04 16:09:24.855 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>EAPOL-RX 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 187
2022-04-04 16:09:24.855 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>WPA: RSNXE mismatch between Beacon/ProbeResp and EAPOL-Key msg 3/4
2022-04-04 16:09:24.856 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): unprotected deauth 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3 -> 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 reason: 17: Information element in 4-way handshake different from (Re-)Associate request/Probe response/Beacon
2022-04-04 16:09:24.856 1.1: wlan1: del station 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
2022-04-04 16:09:24.857 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-DISCONNECTED bssid=04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 reason=17 locally_generated=1
2022-04-04 16:09:24.857 1.1: wlan1 (phy #0): deauth 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3 -> 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 reason: 17: Information element in 4-way handshake different from (Re-)Associate request/Probe response/Beacon
2022-04-04 16:09:24.859 1.1: wlan1 (phy #0): disconnected (local request) reason: 17: Information element in 4-way handshake different from (Re-)Associate request/Probe response/Beacon
2022-04-04 16:09:24.860 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-DSCP-POLICY clear_all
2022-04-04 16:09:24.860 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-DSCP-POLICY clear_all
2022-04-04 16:09:24.861 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>WPA: PTK not available, cannot decrypt EAPOL-Key Key Data
2022-04-04 16:09:24.861 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-DSCP-POLICY clear_all
2022-04-04 16:09:25.130 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): ctrl. port TX status (cookie 386): no ack
2022-04-04 16:09:27.131 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): ctrl. port TX status (cookie 387): no ack
2022-04-04 16:09:29.133 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): ctrl. port TX status (cookie 388): no ack
2022-04-04 16:09:29.175 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>CTRL-EVENT-SCAN-STARTED
2022-04-04 16:09:29.175 1.1: wlan1 (phy #0): scan started
2022-04-04 16:09:31.130 1.1: vap0000 (phy #1): mgmt TX status (cookie 389): no ack
2022-04-04 16:09:31.173 1.1: vap0000: del station 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3
2022-04-04 16:09:32.858 1.1: wlan1 (phy #0): scan finished: 2412 2417 2422 2427 2432 2437 2442 2447 2452 2457 2462 5180 5200 5220 5240 5260 5280 5300 5320 5500 5520 5540
5560 5580 5600 5620 5640 5660 5680 5700 5720 5745 5765 5785 5805 5825 5845 5865, ...
2022-04-04 16:09:32.943 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>SME: Trying to authenticate with 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 (SSID=
2022-04-04 16:09:32.944 1.1: wlan1: new station 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
2022-04-04 16:09:32.944 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>Trying to associate with 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2 (SSID=
2022-04-04 16:09:33.127 1.1: vap0000: new station 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3
2022-04-04 16:09:33.128 1.1: IFNAME=wlan1 <3>Associated with 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
    
```

Logged in to: localhost:4002 as: Admin 2 stations: 1 1 1 0 0

B. Deauthentication: RSNXE Override Test

```

Type/Subtype: Deauthentication (0x000c)
- Frame Control Field: 0xc000
  ... ..00 = Version: 0
  ... ..00.. = Type: Management frame (0)
  1100 ... = Subtype: 12
  - Flags: 0x00
    ... ..00 = DS status: Not leaving DS or network is operating in AD-HOC mode (To DS: 0 From DS: 0) (0x0)
    ... ..0.. = More Fragments: This is the last fragment
    ... ..0... = Retry: Frame is not being retransmitted
    ... ..0 .... = PWR MGT: STA will stay up
    ... ..0 .... = More Data: No data buffered
    ... ..0... = Protected flag: Data is not protected
    ... ..0... = Order flag: Not strictly ordered
  .000 0000 0011 1100 = Duration: 60 microseconds
  Receiver address: 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
  Destination address: 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
  Transmitter address: 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3
  Source address: 04:f0:21:94:e5:c3
  BSS Id: 04:f0:21:7b:37:c2
  ... ..0000 = Fragment number: 0
  0001 0000 1000 ... = Sequence number: 264
- IEEE 802.11 Wireless Management
  - Fixed parameters (2 bytes)
    Reason code: Information element in 4-Way Handshake different from (Re)Association Request/Probe Response/Beacon frame (0x0011)
0000 00 00 44 00 2f 40 40 a0 20 08 00 a0 20 08 00 a0 ..D./00. ....
0010 20 08 00 a0 20 08 00 00 0b 3a 77 fb 00 00 00 00 ... ..:w.....
0020 00 0c 3c 14 40 01 ee 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ...<@.....
0030 0b 3a 77 fb 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 03 ee 00 e3 01 :W.....
0040 e3 02 e4 03 c0 00 3c 00 04 f0 21 7b 37 c2 04 f0 .....<...!{7...
0050 21 94 e5 c3 04 f0 21 7b 37 c2 80 10 01 00 !.....!{ 7...
    
```

