

It's easy!

The difference between
IP/proxy and OpenAthens
single sign-on.



Here's a comparison of the two technologies:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Included <input type="radio"/> Optional	OpenAthens	IP/proxy
Cloud hosted solution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administration interface	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Group-level security (permission sets)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Customisable end-user access portal	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
SSO solution	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SSO with IP recognition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integration with local applications	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
REST based API	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Service Desk support	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Requires local IdM infrastructure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supports any attribute set	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Create user categories	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Ability to connect directly to LDAP	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Add own branding to user interface	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Out-of-the-box statistics reporting	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Out-of-the-box statistics by user category	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Out-of-the-box statistics by individual user	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Export report data	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SSO with Federated resources	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
SAML 1x capability to log into resources	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
SAML 2x capability to log into resources	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Define which attributes are sent to each Service Provider	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Resource link generator & knowledgebase (Redirector)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	

OpenAthens provides flexibility to adapt to changing workflows, peace of mind against fraud and misuse, and the transparency to make informed decisions.



OpenAthens

Authentication

VS

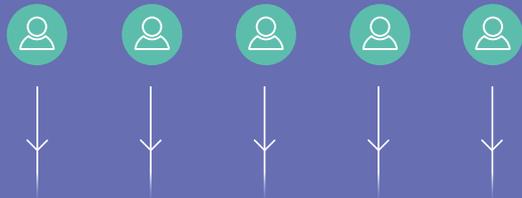


IP/proxy

Recognition

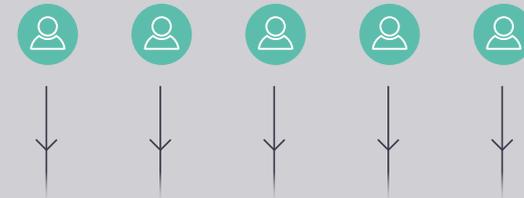
Simple set up

Technical set up



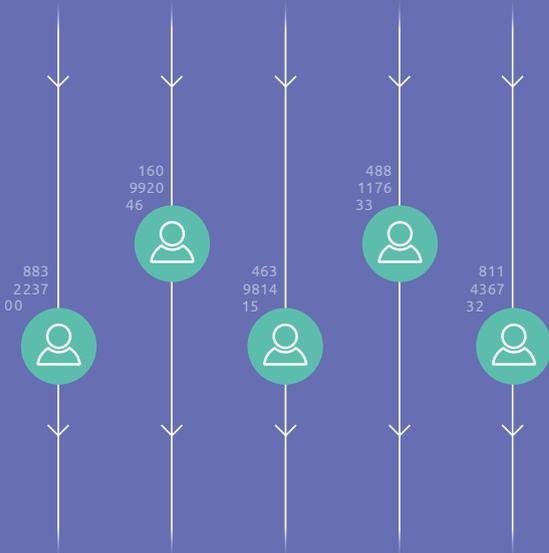
SAML handshake

Secure – end user / publisher / library

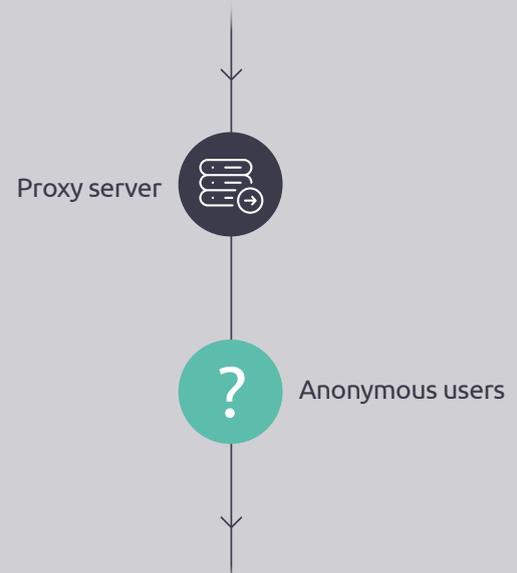


IP recognition

Insecure / open to spoofing



Two way transparency / individual stats



No individual details / anonymous

Publisher

Publisher

Global standard in authentication

Legacy technology / work around

Simplicity for the library

Complexity for the library

Access knowledge the easy way

With our simple, secure technology OpenAthens enables people to access the knowledge they need to achieve great things.

Older systems can pose a significant security risk. IP addresses are open to various methods of abuse and the lack of transparency makes accurate usage reporting difficult.

How we help:



Happy users

The simple interface will reduce user queries.



Minimal admin

Our tools make it easy to categorise and allocate resources to users.



Peace of mind

No compromise on security, all information remains safe.



Statistics and insight

We collect data and show you patterns of engagement.



Leave the difficult stuff to us

Our optimised solution enables integration with other systems.

Glossary of terms

Identity provider (IdP)

An organization or product that confirms user identities and attributes to enable them to access content owned by service providers. Examples of IdP products are OpenAthens, Shibboleth and Ping Federate.

IP address

A numerical reference (e.g. 123.123.123.0) that identifies the location of a device on a network or the wider internet, managed globally.

IP recognition

A form of access management that grants access to resources based on the IP address of a user's device.

OpenAthens

An access management system for organizations or content providers (IdPs or SPs in SAML terms) that facilitates SSO access to subscription content.

Proxy service

Software that acts as an intermediary between users and content. Often used to facilitate remote access to subscription-based content.

Remote access

Allows users to access library holdings (particularly subscription content) with their normal login credentials when they are outside of the institution network (for example, at home or using a mobile device).

SAML

Security Assertion Markup Language. A protocol for exchanging security information between identity providers and service providers.

Service provider (SP)

An organization that provides content or services.

SSO

Single Sign-on. Providing users with access to many different systems through a single set of login details.