



# FreeIPA-to-FreeIPA Migration: Current Capabilities and Use Cases

1-2 February 2025 | Brussels, Belgium

Francisco Triviño <[ftvivino@redhat.com](mailto:ftvivino@redhat.com)>

Rob Crittenden <[rcritten@redhat.com](mailto:rcritten@redhat.com)>

Mark Reynolds <[mareynol@redhat.com](mailto:mareynol@redhat.com)>

[Slides available](#)



# Background

## Key Migration Terminology

When managing an identity system, there are different approaches to keeping it up to date or moving it to a new environment:

- **Update** - minor release v4.12.2 → v4.12.3, (e.g. RHEL 9.1 → RHEL 9.2)
  
- **Upgrade** - moving to a new major version (e.g. RHEL8 → RHEL9)
  - in-place (keep data and config)
  - Upgrade procedure - add a replica (e.g. RHEL7 to RHEL8)
  
- **Migration**
  - Migration across major operating system versions (e.g. RHEL7 to RHEL9)

# Background

## Key Migration Terminology

When managing an identity system, there are different approaches to keeping it up to date or moving it to a new environment:

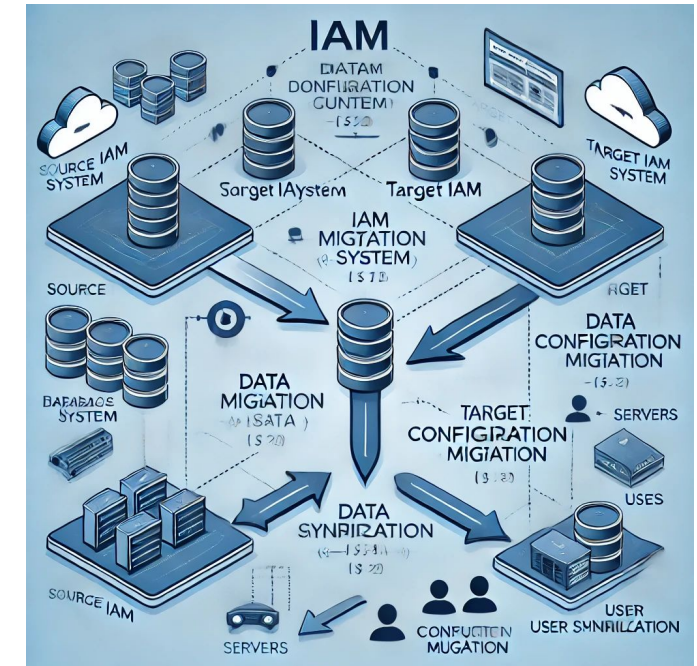
- **Update** - minor release v4.12.2 → v4.12.3, (e.g. RHEL 9.1 → RHEL 9.2)
  
- **Upgrade** - moving to a new major version (e.g. RHEL8 → RHEL9)
  - in-place (keep data and config)
  - Upgrade procedure - add a replica (e.g. RHEL7 to RHEL8)
  
- **Migration**
  - Migration across major operating system versions (e.g. RHEL7 to RHEL9)

# Background

## Importance of Migration Mechanism in Identity Management Systems

In the context of FreeIPA, full migration means transferring:

- Users, Groups, Roles, ..., Host Groups, Services, ... from one deployment to another
- Why it matters?
  - Reduce admin burden and complexity
  - Minimizes end-user disruption
  - helps avoid downtime and service interruptions



*... migrating without good tools is like moving a beehive bare-handed—you'll get it done, but expect pain ...*

# Background

## Overview of the old FreeIPA plugin-based migration

IPA has had a plugin-based migration for remote LDAP servers since version 2.0.0. This is insufficient for the following reasons:

- **Only migrate users and groups**, It severely limits IPA-to-IPA migration as all other entry types are lost
- User-private groups are not maintained
- It is executed as a server-side plugin and if it runs long enough the client may disconnect
- There is no feedback during the migration beyond watching the logs
- There is no migration-specific log
- Syntax errors can cause migration to fail with the only resolution being to skip broken entries or fix the remote LDAP server

# /usr/sbin/ipa-migrate

ipa-migrate

- Designed to facilitate robust IPA-to-IPA migrations while addressing the complexities of **LDAP schema, configuration, and database migration**
- New *AdminTool* standalone client tool: **/usr/sbin/ipa-migrate**
- Configurable migration methods: **production** for retaining critical IDs and staging for regenerating attributes, and options to mix and match **online** and **offline** methods for optimized performance.
- Advanced capabilities such as **dry-run** simulations, **selective content migration**, and non-IPA data handling further enhance the tool's adaptability
- Logging (**/var/lib/ipa-migrate.log**), Verbose logging (**--verbose, -v**)
- Summary Report

Source:

FreeIPA [ipa-migrate design page](#)



# What is currently migrated ...

Adding IPA-to-IPA Migration Including All Entry Types.

## 1. The LDAP Schema:

- objectclasses
- attributes

## 2. The config:

- LDAP configuration under cn=config (dse.ldif)
- Performance tuning
- Security settings
- Log rotation settings
- ...

## 3. Database - the main LDAP database content:

- **Accounts:** Users, Groups, Roles, ..., Host Groups, Services, Views, ..., Sub IDs
- **HBAC & PBAC:** Services, Privileges, Permissions...
- **Sudo:** Rules, Commands, ...
- **DNS:** Records, Servers
- **Kerberos:** Realm, Policy, Passwd Policy, ...
- **Etc entries:** CA, Topology, Passkey, ...
- **Plugins:** Automember, DNA, MEP Templates, ...
- **Misc:** Trusts, Provisioning, SELinux, ...
- **REALM/Domain:** suffixes, ...
- **ID ranges:** automatic migration

# What is currently not migrated ...

## Supported Migration Scenarios

### Few points to consider:

**Replicas:** replicas are not migrated, ipa-replica-install can be used to add them after migrating the server.



# What is currently not migrated ...

## Supported Migration Scenarios

### Few points to consider:

**Replicas:** replicas are not migrated, ipa-replica-install can be used to add them after migrating the server.

**Certificates:** the existing CA is abandoned in favor of a CA on the new installation. All certificates will need to be re-issued.

# What is currently not migrated ...

## Supported Migration Scenarios

### Few points to consider:

**Replicas:** replicas are not migrated, ipa-replica-install can be used to add them after migrating the server.

**Kerberos:** the kerberos master key is not migrated. Kerberos principals are retained but the keys are not.

**Certificates:** the existing CA is abandoned in favor of a CA on the new installation. All certificates will need to be re-issued.

# Migration Methods

Online, Offline, Mixing Online and Offline

## Online Migration

- Contacting the remote server over the network and pulling in all the info.

## Offline Migration

- Using LDIF files from the remote server
  - /etc/dirsrv/slapd-<your-ldap-instance>/**dse.ldif**
  - schema - all files found under /etc/dirsrv/schema/\* and /etc/dirsrv/slapd-<your-ldap-instance>/schema/\*
  - database - export of the **userroot database** into an ldif file
- Copy all LDIF files to the new local server.

## Mixing online and offline methods

- Mix and Match - e.g. config & schema online, then use a database LDIF from the remote.

# Migration Modes

Production mode, Staging mode, ...

## Production Mode



- Assuming that the remote server is fully functional, **everything is brought over !!**
- DNA ranges, IDs, SIDs, ... migrated as is.

## Staging Mode



- Assuming that the remote server is in a staging environment..
- DNA ranges, IDs, SIDs, ... **should not be migrated as is.**
- DNA entry attrs will be reset to the magic *regen* value.

## Dry-run Migration Mode



- just to see what would be migrated to the new local server...

# Migration Scenarios

## Supported Migration Scenarios

### Scenario 1: Production to new Production

- There is a new IPA server installation with the **same realm and domain**
- The realm and domain may be changed, the migrated data will accommodate these changes but requires a reconfiguration of all the clients.

### Scenario 2: Production to new Staging

- There is a new IPA server installation with a **different realm and domain** (e.g. staging.example.test)

### Scenario 3: Staging to new Production

- There is a new IPA server installation with a **different realm and domain** (e.g. production.example.test)

### Scenario 4: From IPA backup

- There is a new IPA server installation with the **same realm and domain**

# Logging

`/var/log/ipa-migrate.log`

By default, content will be appended to and not overwritten. Example:

```
024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG =====
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z INFO IPA to IPA migration starting ...
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG Migration options:
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --mode=prod-mode
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --hostname=hpe-dl385gen8-01.hpe2.lab.eng.bos.redhat.com
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --verbose=False
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --bind-dn=cn=directory manager
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --bind-pw-file=None
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --cacertfile=None
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --subtree=[]
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --log-file=/var/log/ipa-migrate.log
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --skip-schema=False
2024-02-27T17:10:03Z DEBUG --skip-config=False
```

Verbose logging, `--verbose`, `-v` CLI option.

```
...
...
2024-02-28T15:30:53Z INFO Migrating database ... (this make take a while)
2024-02-28T15:30:53Z INFO Entry is different and will be updated: 'uid=admin,cn=users,cn=accounts,dc=hpe2,dc=lab,dc=eng,dc=bos,dc=redhat,dc=com'
2024-02-28T15:30:53Z INFO Add db entry 'uid=mark,cn=users,cn=accounts,dc=hpe2,dc=lab,dc=eng,dc=bos,dc=redhat,dc=com'
2024-02-28T15:30:53Z INFO Entry is different and will be updated: 'cn=HPE2.LAB.ENG.BOS.REDHAT.COM_id_range,cn=ranges'
2024-02-28T15:30:53Z INFO Entry is different and will be updated: 'cn=HPE2.LAB.ENG.BOS.REDHAT.COM_subid_range,cn=ranges'
```

Source:

FreeIPA [ipa-migrate design page](#)

# Summary Report

At the end of the migration a summary report is displayed

Tracks/counts all entry types that were migrated

- Uses the “map” objects to dynamically generate this report

By default only displays the entry types that were updated

- Verbose option shows all the entry types that could be migrated

## General Information

```
-----
- Remote Host:                m1.origin.test
- Migration Duration:         0:01:05
- Migration Log:              /var/log/ipa-migrate.log
- Remote Host:                m1.origin.test
- Remote Domain:              origin.test
- Local Host:                 m2.target.test
- Local Domain:               target.test
- Remote Suffix:               dc=origin,dc=test
- Local Suffix:                dc=target,dc=test
- Remote Realm:                ORIGIN.TEST
- Local Realm:                 TARGET.TEST
- Schema Analyzed:             1882 definitions
- Config Analyzed:             1 entries
- Database Anaylzed:           628 entries
```

## Schema Migration (migrated 0 definitions)

```
-----
- Attributes:                  0
- Objectclasses:                0
```

## DS Configuration Migration (migrated 1 entries)

```
-----
- DNA Plugin:                  1
```

## Database Migration (migrated 70 entries)

```
-----
- DNA Ranges:                  2
- Sysaccounts:                 2
- Admin:                       1
- Users:                       50
- Groups:                      14
- AD:                           1
```

# DEMO

## Examples

### #### Examples

```
# ipa-migrate prod-mode remote.server.com
```

```
# ipa-migrate prod-mode remote.server.com --dryrun
```

```
# ipa-migrate prod-mode remote.server.com -D "cn=directory manager" -j ./passwd.txt
```

```
# ipa-migrate prod-mode remote.server.com --db-ldif=/tmp/remote-userroot.ldif
```

```
# ipa-migrate prod-mode remote.server.com --skip-config --skip-schema
```

```
# ipa-migrate stage-mode remote.server.com --dryrun-record=/tmp/dryrun-ops.ldif
```

```
# ipa-migrate stage-mode remote.server.com --config-ldif=/tmp/dse.ldif --schema-ldif=/tmp/schema.ldif  
--db-ldif=/tmp/remote-userroot.ldif
```

```
# ipa-migrate stage-mode remote.server.com --subtree="ou=my own data,dc=ipa,dc=com"
```

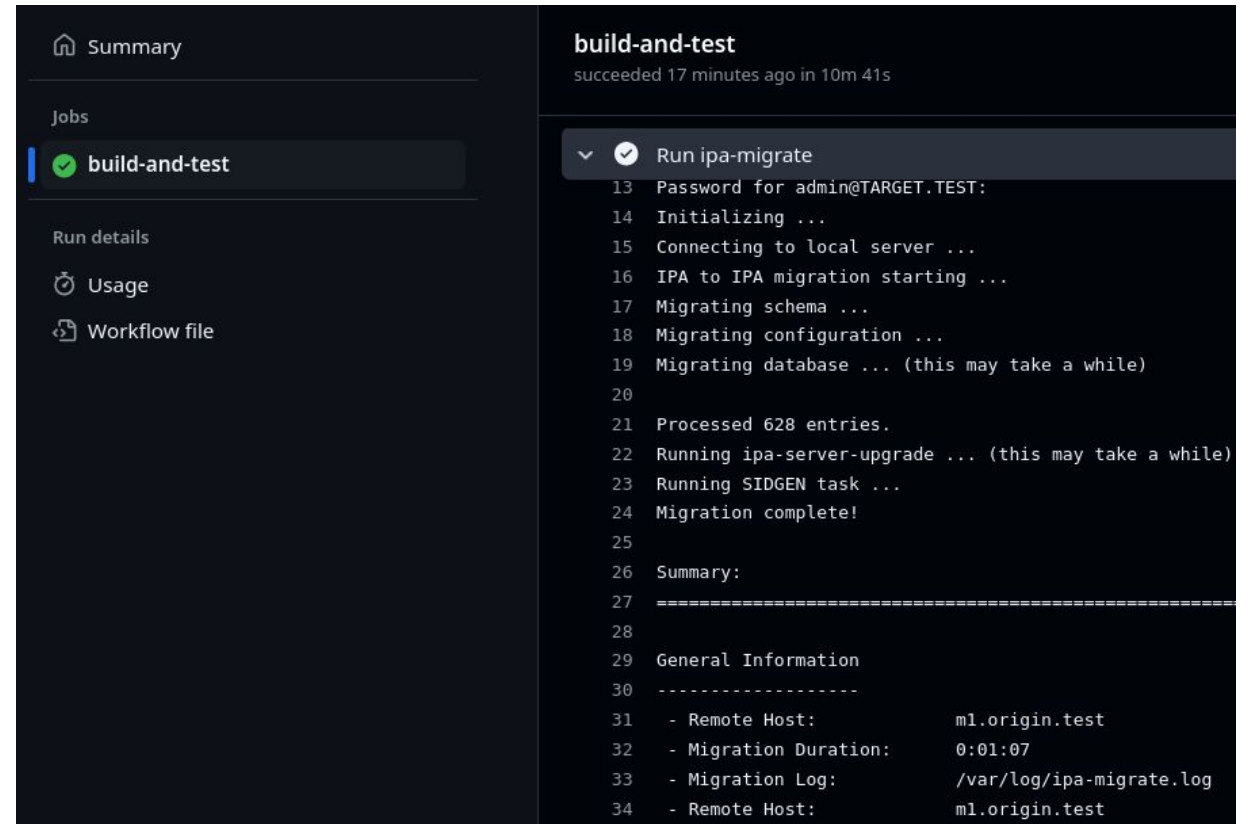


# DEMO



# Tutorial Demo Available

[ipalab-config/ipa-migrate](https://github.com/ipalab-config/ipa-migrate)



The screenshot displays a CI/CD pipeline interface. On the left, a sidebar shows the 'Summary' tab selected, with a list of jobs including 'build-and-test' which is marked as successful with a green checkmark. Below the jobs list, there are links for 'Run details', 'Usage', and 'Workflow file'. The main panel on the right shows the details of the 'build-and-test' job, indicating it 'succeeded 17 minutes ago in 10m 41s'. The job log shows a series of steps for running 'ipa-migrate', including password prompts, initialization, server connection, schema migration, configuration migration, and database migration. It concludes with a summary of the migration process and general information.

```
Summary
succeeded 17 minutes ago in 10m 41s

Jobs
[✓] build-and-test

Run details
Usage
Workflow file

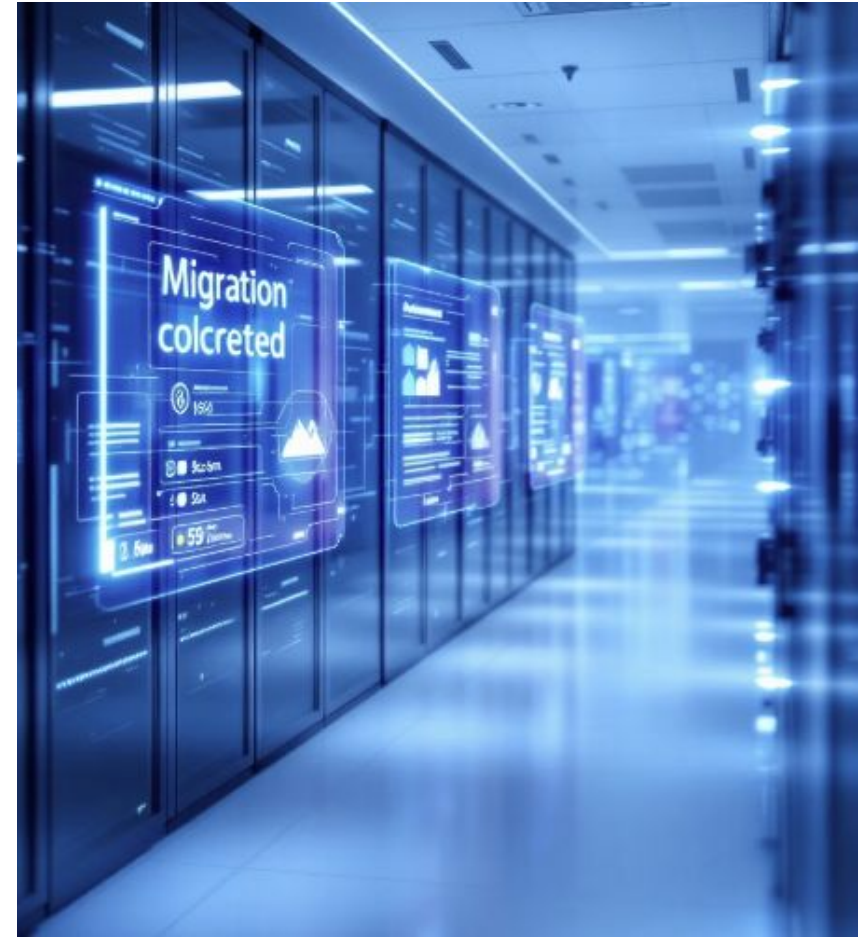
build-and-test
succeeded 17 minutes ago in 10m 41s

Run ipa-migrate
13 Password for admin@TARGET.TEST:
14 Initializing ...
15 Connecting to local server ...
16 IPA to IPA migration starting ...
17 Migrating schema ...
18 Migrating configuration ...
19 Migrating database ... (this may take a while)
20
21 Processed 628 entries.
22 Running ipa-server-upgrade ... (this may take a while)
23 Running SIDGEN task ...
24 Migration complete!
25
26 Summary:
27 =====
28
29 General Information
30 -----
31 - Remote Host:          m1.origin.test
32 - Migration Duration:   0:01:07
33 - Migration Log:        /var/log/ipa-migrate.log
34 - Remote Host:          m1.origin.test
```

# Streamlined IPA Migration

New IPA to IPA migration tool

- [ipa-migrate](#) available in the freeipa project
- If you find issues, please file a ticket <https://pagure.io/freeipa/issues>
- The tool is available in Fedora and RHEL 9 (as Tech Preview)
- [Fedora Test Day](#)



# Q&A

[Slides available](#)



# FreeIPA-to-FreeIPA Migration: Current Capabilities and Use Cases

1-2 February 2025 | Brussels, Belgium

Francisco Triviño <[frivino@redhat.com](mailto:frivino@redhat.com)>

Rob Crittenden <[rcritten@redhat.com](mailto:rcritten@redhat.com)>

Mark Reynolds <[mareynol@redhat.com](mailto:mareynol@redhat.com)>

[Slides available](#)

