TLS and SSL Configuration

Configure the FrameworX runtime HTTP server to serve HTTPS traffic using a PFX file or a Windows certificate store thumbprint.

Reference **Installation** TLS and SSL Configuration

New in 10.1.5. HTTPS is a supported baseline for cloud and SaaS deployment. The runtime auto-upgrades port 80 to 443 when certificate entries are present.

The 10.1.5 runtime loads its HTTPS configuration from the service JSON file next to each runtime executable. Set the certificate path or thumbprint there, then restart the service.

The same configuration format applies to every runtime HTTP server: `TStartup`, `TWebServices`, `TSecureGateway`, and `RuntimeMCPHttp`.

Configuration File
Certificate Properties
Example Configurations
Encrypting the Certificate Password
TLS on the Windows Authentication Port
Verification

Configuration File

Each runtime service reads its certificate configuration from a JSON file named after the process, located in the `MachineSettings` folder. When no file exists in `MachineSettings`, the runtime falls back to the assembly folder.

Service	Config File
TStartup	`TStartup.json`
TWebServices	`TWebServices.json`
TSecureGateway	`TSecureGateway.json`
RuntimeMCPHttp	`RuntimeMCPHttp.json`

Certificate Properties

Set the properties below under `appSettings.tRPCServer`. Two input modes are supported: a PFX file path plus password, or a thumbprint pointing at the Windows `LocalMachine\My` store.

Property	Description	Example
CertFileName	Full path to a PFX file.	`C:\Certs\plant1.pfx`
CertPass	PFX password. Wrap the value in # characters to use the built-in encrypted form.	`#0XF3A1B...#`
CertHash	Thumbprint of a certificate installed in the `LocalMachine\My` store. Use when you prefer the Windows certificate store over a file path.	`F1A20B9C3D4E5F6A7B8C9D0E1F2A3B4C5D6E7F8A`

Per-Port Variants

Append `_<port>` to any property name to scope it to a specific listener port. A per-port value wins over the bare property on the matching listener. Use per-port entries when a single service hosts multiple listeners.

Example Key	Effect
`CertFileName_443`	PFX used by the listener on port 443.
`CertPass_443`	Password for the port 443 PFX.
`CertHash_8443`	Store thumbprint for the listener on port 8443.

Automatic Port 80 to 443 Upgrade

When the configured port is 80 and the file contains `CertFileName_443` or `CertHash_443`, the runtime switches the listener to 443 and enables TLS automatically. This avoids a dedicated HTTPS config entry when the only listener is the web-facing port.

Example Configurations

PFX File

```
{
  "appSettings": {
    "portNumber": 443,
    "tRPCServer": {
      "CertFileName": "C:\\Certs\\plant1.pfx",
      "CertPass": "#0XF3A1B...#"
    }
  }
}
```

Windows Certificate Store

```
{
  "appSettings": {
    "portNumber": 443,
    "tRPCServer": {
      "CertHash": "F1A20B9C3D4E5F6A7B8C9D0E1F2A3B4C5D6E7F8A"
    }
  }
}
```

Port 80 Auto-Upgrade

```
{
  "appSettings": {
    "portNumber": 80,
    "tRPCServer": {
      "CertFileName_443": "C:\\Certs\\plant1.pfx",
      "CertPass_443": "#0XF3A1B...#"
    }
  }
}
```

The runtime starts on port 443 instead of 80.

Encrypting the Certificate Password

The runtime accepts a plain password inside `CertPass`. For deployments where the password goes into source control or configuration management, use the built-in encrypted form:

1. In Designer, open the runtime service settings dialog.
2. Paste the plain password into the **CertPass** field.
3. Click **Encrypt**. Designer rewrites the value wrapped in # characters.
4. Copy the wrapped value into the service JSON file.

The runtime detects the `#...#` wrapping and decrypts the value at startup.

TLS on the Windows Authentication Port

From FrameworX 10.1.6, the runtime server encrypts the Windows Authentication port (main port + 1) with TLS when `"EnableSSL": true` is set inside the `appSettings` object of `TServer.json` in the `MachineSettings` folder. In 10.1.5, this switch is in `TServer.exe.config`, and a server moving to 10.1.6 sets it in `TServer.json` instead. An https SmartClient URL also needs the SSL Port and SmartClient SSL options on the Runtime Startup page. The Secure Gateway keeps its own switch, `LocalEnableSSL`. See Runtime Startup Reference.

Verification

1. Restart the runtime service after saving the JSON file.
2. In the runtime trace log, look for the line `Started listen port: <port> :: SSL: True`. Any other value indicates the certificate failed to load.
3. Open `https://<host>:<port>/health` in a browser. A valid TLS handshake plus a JSON health body confirms the certificate is active.

Common Errors

Log Line	Cause	Fix
`Invalid certificate file configuration`	The PFX path is wrong or the password is incorrect.	Verify `CertFileName` and `CertPass`. Re-export the PFX if needed.
HTTPS handshake fails with `no common cipher`.	Client and server TLS protocol versions do not overlap.	Confirm the OS supports TLS 1.2 or later. Windows Server 2012 R2 requires the SChannel update.
Browser warns about an untrusted certificate.	The PFX is self-signed or the issuing CA is not installed on the client.	Install the CA chain on the client, or issue a certificate from a trusted public CA.

In this section...