

AUTOMATED ESCROW FOR THE AGILE WORLD

IN 2016 PRAXIS PIONEERED DIRECT CONNECTION TO SOURCE CODE ARCHIVES FOR AUTOMATED ESCROW DEPOSITING AND DRAMATICALLY IMPROVED SOURCE CODE ESCROW SERVICES.

BENEFITS

- Improve Protection
- Automate Compliance
- Eliminate Administration
- Reduce Costs



GitLab



Team Foundation Server

PRAXIS' PROFESSIONAL & ENTERPRISE service levels include Automated Escrow depositing services to ensure our clients have more updated escrow deposits as well as to remove the administrative burden of manually making escrow deposits.

PRAXIS' clients using GitHub, BitBucket and many other similar code archiving systems can connect directly to their Digital Deposit account. This connection is easily established and PRAXIS' engineers can assist with this at no additional cost.

The PRAXIS solution relies upon the security built into each archival system. So our clients rest assured knowing that their IP is secure and no third party tools are needed to connect. Our clients determine the repositories to be shared, the frequency of the replication and the connectivity method. Once connected, PRAXIS makes weekly backups of the archive to ensure continuity and stores all version in our redundant data centers.



AUTOMATED ESCROW

The PRAXIS escrow server uses the Git version-control system to perform recurring, weekly “git clone” requests to all connected repositories. Automated deposits are performed on Wednesdays at 9PM EST.

Once the connection method and access control method have been tested, the initial deposit will be performed. During this process, access to all repositories to be deposited will be verified and all repositories will be cloned.



Process Overview

PRAXIS offers the ability to automate escrow deposits for online software repositories including: GitHub, GitLab, Bitbucket and virtually any online repository using the Git version-control system. This includes privately hosted Git platforms as long as they can be accessed remotely.

Online repositories offer several secure methods to remotely connect to your repository. By far, the two most widely available are SSH and HTTPS. The preferred method is SSH as it allows more granular control of permissions in most online repositories. It also allows easier connection to repositories using two-factor authentication. HTTPS connections are supported by PRAXIS and offered by most online repositories, but should only be used when SSH is not available.

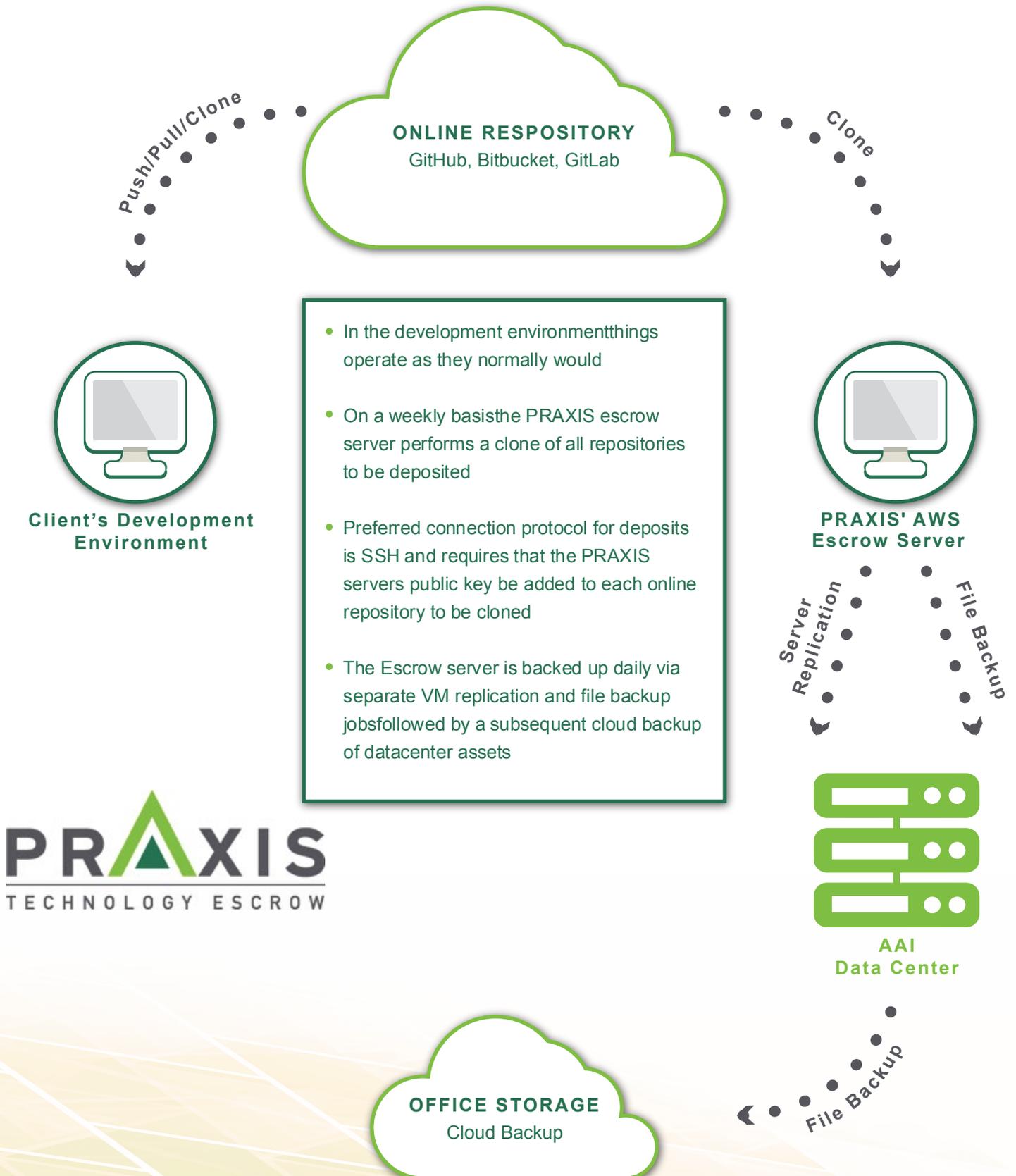
Allowing Access to Deposit Materials

Allowing the PRAXIS escrow server access to deposit materials will be done the same way an organization would allow any remote user to connect to their repositories. Whether an additional user license will be required typically depends on the method used to allow access and the level of service agreement the depositor has with their online repository provider.

All online repository providers have methods built-in to their platform to group repositories under teams. Once the repositories have been added to a team, then define repository permissions using groups. In most cases the SSH key can be added to that group. In cases where the SSH key either can't be added directly to a group, repository, or user we can also authenticate using HTTPS. When using HTTPS, PRAXIS will provide a user account for the depositor to add as a team member/collaborator.

PRAXIS requires read access to repositories.

PRAXIS AUTOMATED ESCROW



AUTOMATED ESCROW FAQ

1 TO WHICH ONLINE REPOSITORIES CAN YOU CONNECT

In theory, we can connect to any online repository that allows for replication of repositories. In practice, we have connected to repositories using the GIT set of commands/protocols. Currently we are providing this service for several Github, Gitlab, and Bitbucket.

2 ARE CONNECTIONS TO ONLINE REPOSITORIES SECURE

Yes. All connections are made using a secure protocol and data is encrypted while in motion between the repository and PRAXIS-hosted AWS archive servers.

3 ONCE A DEPOSIT IS MADE, ARE THE DEPOSITS BACKED UP

All electronic deposits made to PRAXIS are stored in a virtualized environment which is both replicated and backed up regularly.

4 WILL PRAXIS HAVE WRITE ACCESS TO OUR REPOSITORIES

We have no need for write access to any repository and none of our automated processes write data back to repositories. If your repository service supports the option, you may set PRAXIS to have read-only access.

5 DOES THIS CONNECTION REQUIRE ADDITIONAL USER LICENSES

In all cases we have seen so far, no additional license is required for a single repository connected via SSH. If there are multiple repositories or special permissions are required, an additional user account may be needed.

6 WHAT INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO GET THE INITIAL CONNECTION ESTABLISHED

After creating an account with PRAXIS, a phone call will be scheduled to set up the connection.

PRIOR TO THE CALL DETERMINE:

- What online repository will we be depositing from?
- How many repositories will be deposited?
- HTTPS or SSH URLs for all repositories to be deposited?

