KerioControl

Trusted Devices - the third layer

Security for your VPN connections

Your VPN verifies who is connecting. It does not verify what device they are connecting from. That gap is the problem.

The gap that credentials cannot close

A stolen password gives an attacker access from any machine on the planet. Two-factor authentication reduces that risk, but a compromised 2FA token still admits any device. Neither layer asks the question that matters most: **is this an approved machine?**

What Trusted Devices does

Trusted Devices binds every VPN connection to a specific, administrator-approved device. The device is identified by a fingerprint built from seven hardware attributes - CPU serial, motherboard serial, disk serial, MAC address, BIOS UUID, OS version, and hostname - hashed together using SHA-256.

This is not a MAC address filter. MAC addresses can be changed in seconds with a single command. A multi-attribute hardware fingerprint requires an attacker to simultaneously match identifiers burned into physical hardware at the factory, across multiple system layers, on the exact approved machine.

	MAC filtering	Trusted devices
Identifiers checked	1 (MAC address)	7 hardware attributes
Spoofable by software	Yes, trivially	Not practical
Applies to VPN	No	Yes
Certificate required	No	Yes - mutual TLS
Admin approval required	No	Yes - per device

The three-layer result

All three must pass. Defeating one layer is not enough.

Layer 1	**Username + password**	Something you know
Layer 2	**Two-factor authorization**	Something you have
Layer 3	**Trusted device**	A verified, approved machine

What admins control

- **Approve or deny** each device registration request individually.
- **Revoke any device instantly** — access ends immediately and the certificate is deleted.
- **Full audit trail** — every registration, approval, denial, and revocation is logged.
- **Automatic certificates** — issued, renewed, and managed for you, with no manual PKI work.

Availability

Trusted Devices is available in **GFI KerioControl v10.**

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