Reminder about HTTP Cookies

HTTP Cookies are usually used to identify a user on a website in order to keep his own information (personnal information, website customization, trolley, etc...).
HTTP Cookies implies two HTTP headers:

- **Set-Cookie**: used by the server to insert a **Cookie** in the client's User-Agent (basically, the browser).
- **Cookie**: sent by the client in its requests to a server, only if the cookie has been set.

In the **ALOHA Load-Balancer LB Admin** tab, the options to manipulate cookies are:

- **Http / Cookie affinity**: enable / disable cookie persistence
- **Cookie affinity / Cookie name**: the string name to track in **Set-Cookie** and **Cookie** HTTP headers
- **Cookie affinity / Cookie mode**: the way the **ALOHA Load-Balancer** manipulates cookies to ensure persistence
- **Cookie affinity / Cookie not cacheable**: allows / prevent shared caches to cache the server response
- Parameter **Cookie ID** on the server line definition: the value of the **Cookie** affected to this server

ALOHA Cookie persistence methods

In the **ALOHA GUI**, on the **LB Admin** tab, you can choose the **Cookie mode** persistence in the **Cookie affinity** area. The different options are listed below, with their usage:

- **passive**: **Cookie** is analysed on incoming request to choose server. The **ALOHA** does not perform any insertion, update or deletion on the **Cookie** or **Set-Cookie**. If the **Cookie** is not set, then the **ALOHA** applies the load-balancing algorithm.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name>
- **passive-silent**: **Cookie** is analysed on incoming request to choose server. The **ALOHA** does not perform any insertion, update or deletion on the **Cookie**. **Set-Cookie** is removed from response if not required. If the **Cookie** is not set, then the **ALOHA** applies the load-balancing algorithm.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> indirect
- **reset**: **Cookie** is analysed on incoming request to choose server and **Set-Cookie** value is overwritten in response if present. If the **Set-Cookie** isn't sent by the server, the the **ALOHA** won't set it.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> rewrite
- **set**: **Cookie** is analyzed on incoming request to choose server and **Set-Cookie** value is overwritten if present and set to an unknown value or inserted in response if not present.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> insert
- **set-silent**: **Cookie** is analyzed on incoming request to choose server and **Set-Cookie** value is overwritten if present, inserted in response if needed and removed if a valid **Cookie** was provided.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> insert indirect
- **session-prefix**: **Cookie** is analyzed on incoming request to choose server whose **Cookie Name** prefix matches. **Set-Cookie** value is prefixed using server line **Cookie ID** in response. **Cookie** is modified only between the **ALOHA** and the client only.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> prefix
- **insert-only**: **Cookie** is analyzed on incoming request to choose the server. **Set-Cookie** value is set only if the server does not provide one or if the client came without the **Cookie**.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> preserve insert
- **insert-only-silent**: **Cookie** is analyzed on incoming request to choose server and **Set-Cookie** value is left untouched if present, inserted in response if needed or removed if not needed.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> preserve insert indirect
- **passive-session-prefix**: **Cookie** is analysed on incoming request to choose server whose **Cookie ID** prefix matches.
  The following option is set in **HAProxy**'s configuration:
  - cookie <cookie name> preserve prefix indirect