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Taming GDI: The Wild World of "Getting Data Into" Splunk

Peter Chen, Principal Software Engineer
Blaine Wastell, Director Product Management

October 2018 | Version 1.0

Forward-Looking Statements

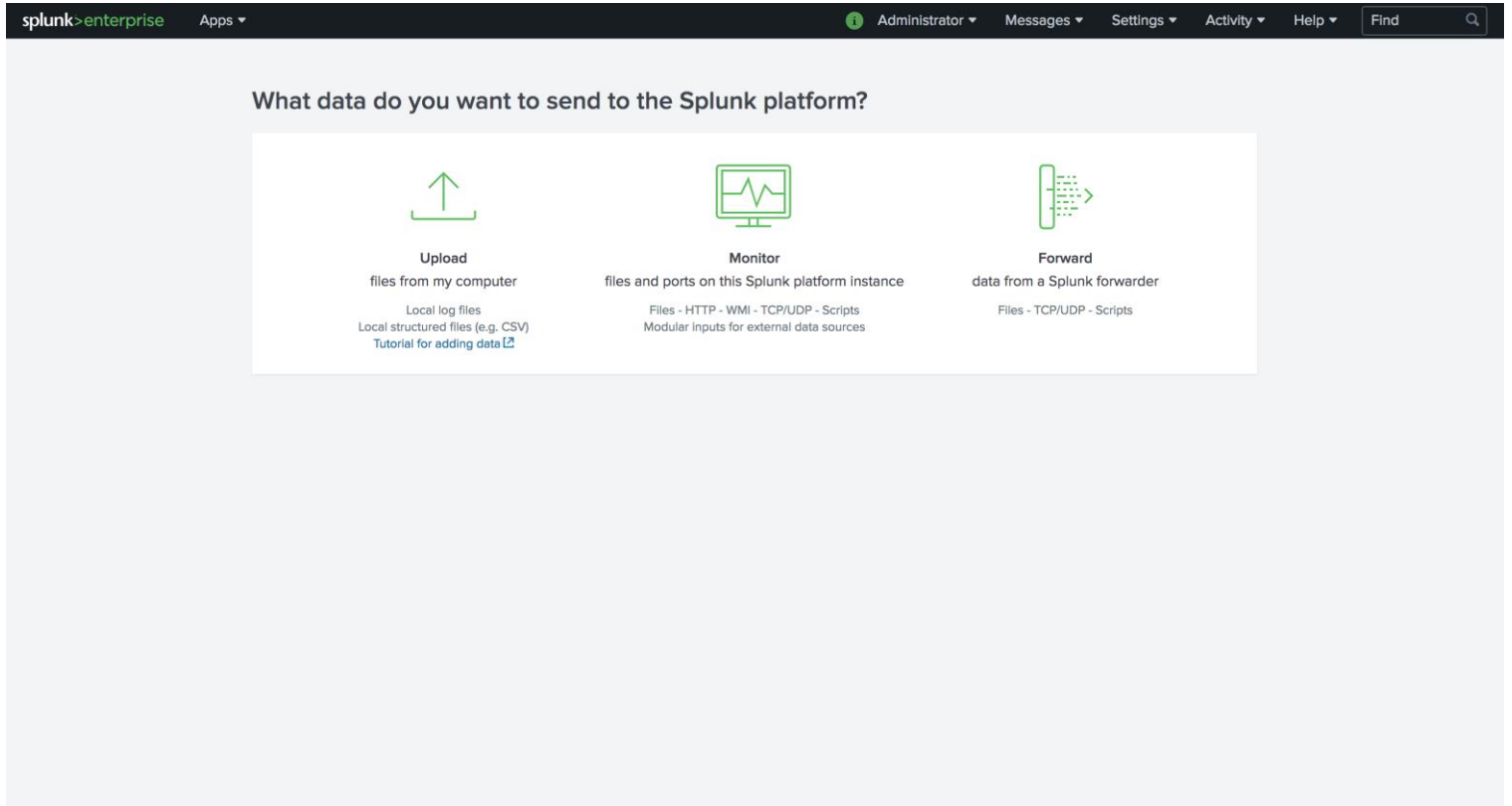
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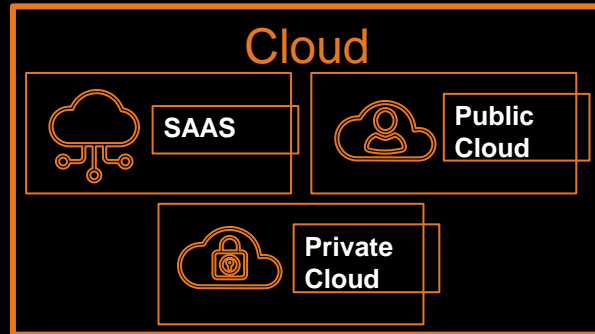
Current Add Data Screen

- How do I Ingest
- Windows Events or Linux Logs
- AWS CloudWatch Logs
- AWS CloudWatch Events
- Firewall Syslogs?



Data Collection Options

Data Providers



Getting Data In

Collect

Deliver

Transports

- *Universal Forwarder*
- *Heavy Weight Forwarder*
- *HEC*
- *Kafka*
- *Kinesis*

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Topologies

- *Single Instance*
- *Clustered Indexers*
- *Single Search Head*
- *Search Head Cluster*

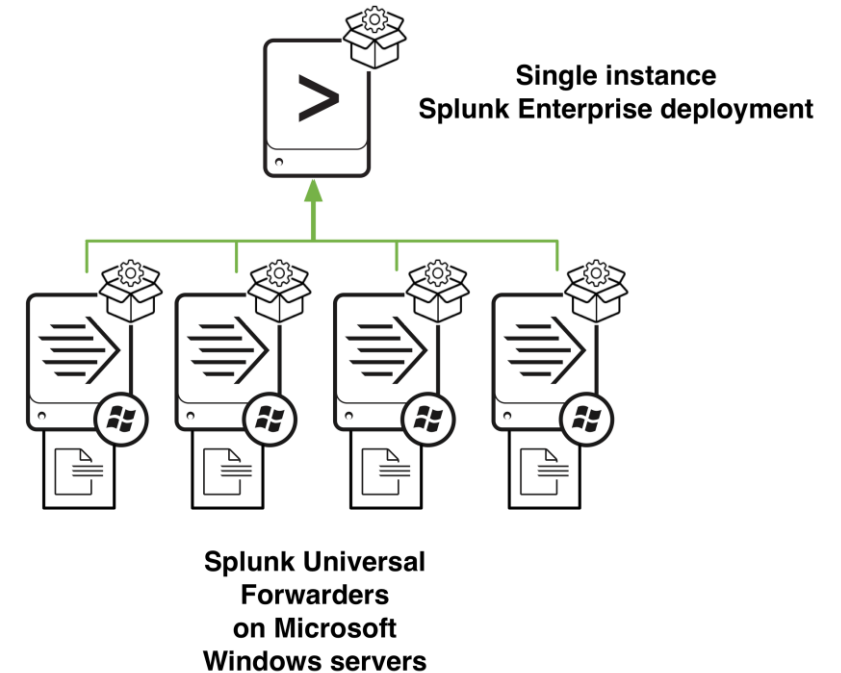
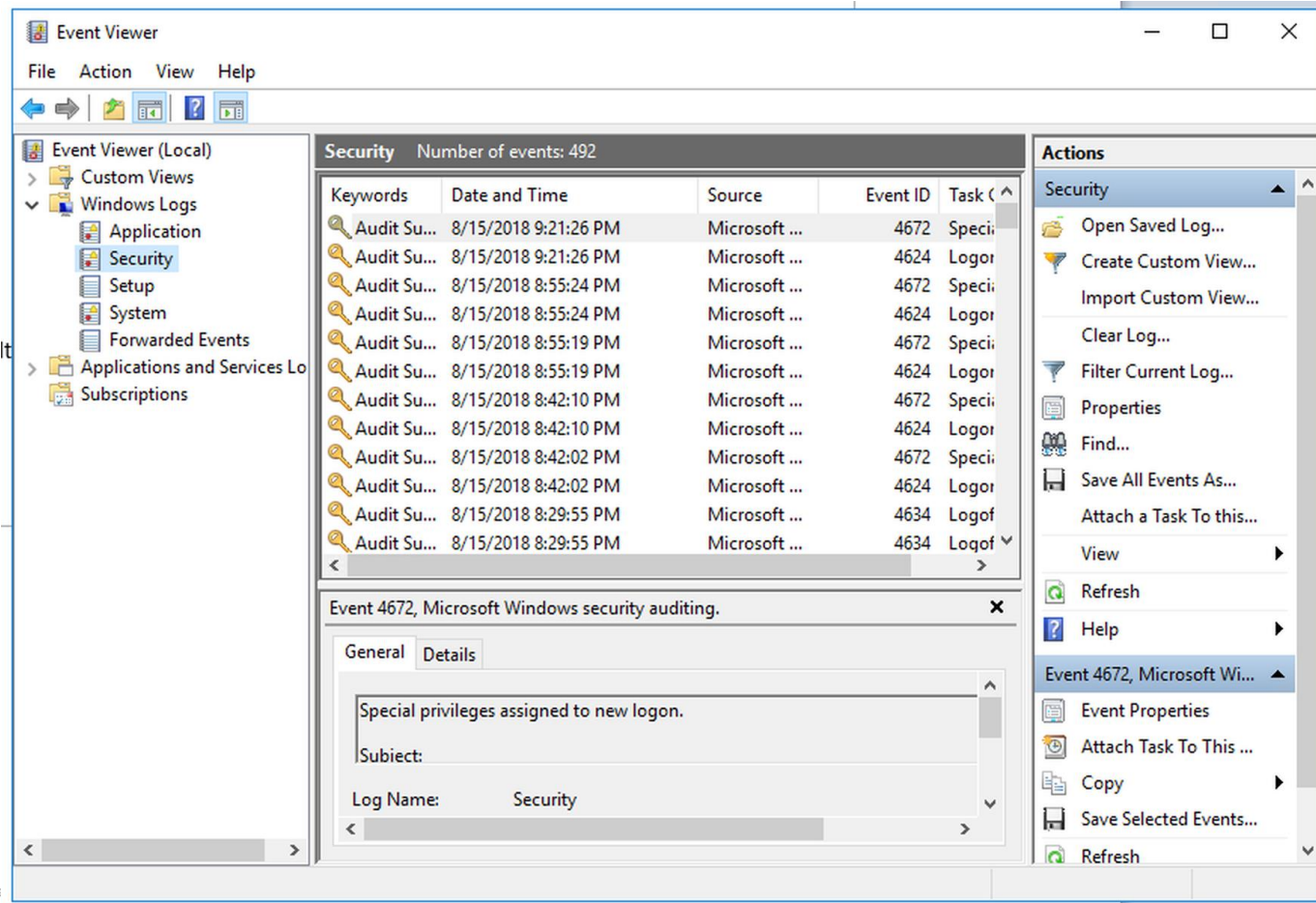
Connect

Add-ons
Push
Pull

Collect Windows Events or Linux Logs

Windows Logs

► Universal Forwarder



Windows Logs

► Universal Forwarder

Splunk® Enterprise Version 7.1.2 (latest release)

Getting Data In

[Download manual as PDF](#)

Documentation / Splunk® Enterprise / Getting Data In / Monitor Windows event log data

[Download topic as PDF](#)

Monitor Windows event log data [\[edit\]](#)

Windows generates log data during the course of its operation. The Windows Event Log service handles nearly all of this communication. It gathers log data published by installed applications, services and system processes and places them into event log channels. Programs such as Microsoft Event Viewer subscribe to these log channels to display events that have occurred on the system.

Splunk Enterprise can monitor event log channels and files stored on the local machine, and it can collect logs from remote machines. The event log monitor runs as an input processor within the `splunkd` service. It runs once for every event log input that you define in Splunk Enterprise. If you have Splunk Cloud and want to monitor event log channels, use the Splunk Universal Forwarder to collect the data and forward it to your Splunk Cloud deployment.

New for versions 6.4.5 and later of Splunk Enterprise, the Windows Event Log monitoring input has improved performance.

Why monitor event logs? [\[edit\]](#)

Windows event logs are the core metric of Windows machine operations - if there is a problem with your Windows system, the Event Log service has logged it. Splunk Enterprise indexing, searching, and reporting capabilities make your logs accessible.

Prerequisites to monitoring event logs [\[edit\]](#)

Activity:	Required permissions:
Monitor local event logs	Splunk Enterprise must run on Windows Splunk Enterprise must run as the Local System user to read all local event logs
Monitor remote event logs	Either Splunk Enterprise or a universal forwarder must run on the Windows machine from which you want to collect event logs Splunk Enterprise or a universal forwarder must run as a domain or remote user with read access to Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) on the target machine The user that Splunk Enterprise or the universal forwarder runs as must have read access to the event logs you want to collect

Monitor Windows event log data

- Why monitor event logs?
 - Prerequisites to monitoring event logs
 - Security and remote access considerations
 - Collect event logs from a remote Windows machine
 - Anomalous machine names are visible in event logs on some systems
 - Use Splunk Web to configure event log monitoring
 - Use inputs.conf to configure event log monitoring
 - Use the CLI to configure event log monitoring
 - Index exported event log (.evt or .evtx) files

WIN **Splunk Add-on for Microsoft Windows**

★★★★★ 24 ratings

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Splunk® Add-on for Windows Version 5.0.0 (latest release)

Deploy and Use the Splunk Add-on for Windows

[Download manual as PDF](#)

Documentation / Splunk® Add-on for Windows / Deploy and Use the Splunk Add-on for Windows

[Download topic as PDF](#)

Splunk Add-on for Windows [\[edit\]](#)

Version	5.0.0
Vendor Products	Windows 7 Windows 8 Windows 8.1 Windows 10 Windows Server 2008/2008 R2 Windows Server 2012/2012 R2 Windows Server 2016
Add-on has a web UI	No. This add-on does not contain any views.

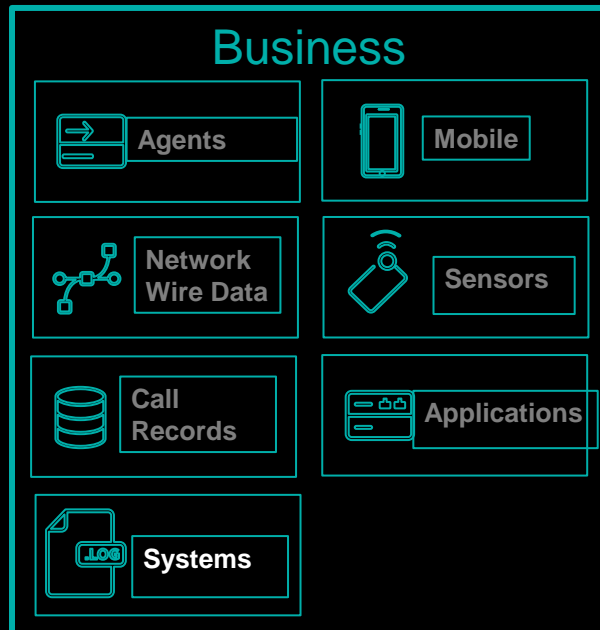
Deploy and Use the Splunk Add-on for Windows

Overview

- Splunk Add-on for Windows**
 - Sourcetypes for the Splunk Add-on for Windows
 - Release notes for the Splunk Add-on for Windows
 - Hardware and software requirements for the Splunk Add-on for Windows
 - Installation and configuration overview for the Splunk Add-on for Windows

Collect Linux Logs & Windows Events

Data Providers



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Topologies

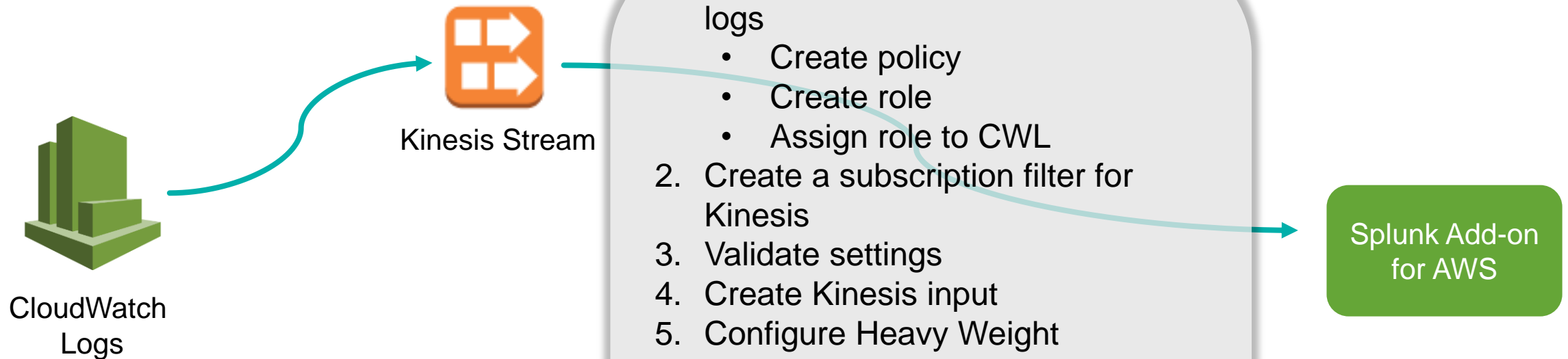
- *Single Instance*
- *Clustered Indexers*
- *Single Search Head*
- *Search Head Cluster*

Connect

Add-ons
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Pull

Collect AWS Cloud Watch Logs

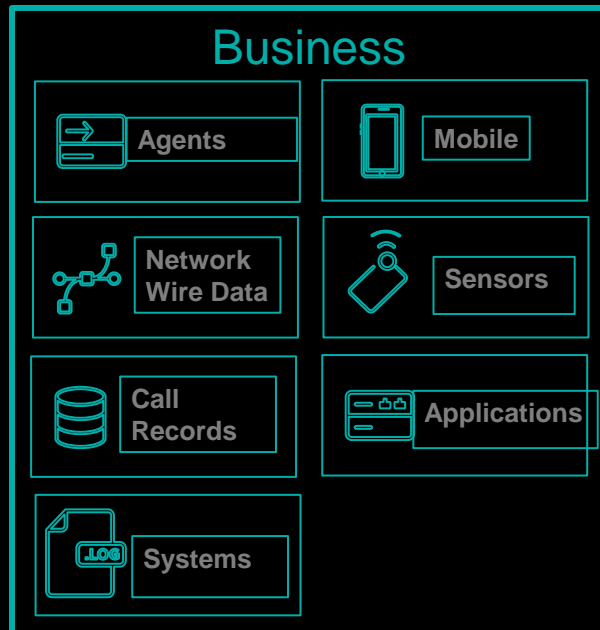
AWS CloudWatch Logs



1. Set permission to CloudWatch logs
 - Create policy
 - Create role
 - Assign role to CWL
2. Create a subscription filter for Kinesis
3. Validate settings
4. Create Kinesis input
5. Configure Heavy Weight Forwarder
6. Configure TA
 - Permission for Splunk
 - Add account
 - Add input

Collect AWS CloudWatch Logs

Data Providers



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Collect CloudWatch Metrics or Azure Events

AWS CloudWatch Metrics



CloudWatch
Metrics

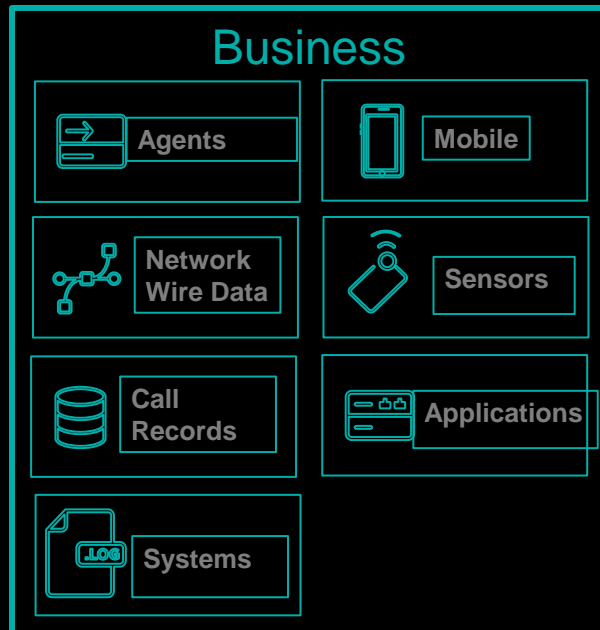
Pull

Splunk Add-on
for AWS

130.60.4 - - [07/Jan 18:10:57:153] "GET /category.screen?category_id=GIFTS&JSESSIONID=SD1SLAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 720 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=view&itemId=EST-6&product_id=FI-SW-01" "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; Win...)"
128.241.220.82 - - [07/Jan 18:10:57:123] "GET /product.screen?product_id=FL-DSH-01&JSESSIONID=SD5SL7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 404 3322 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=purchase&itemId=EST-26&product_id=K9-CW-01" "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; Win...)"
317 27.160.0.0 - - [07/Jan 18:10:56:156] "GET /oldlink?item_id=EST-26&JSESSIONID=SD5SL9FF1ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST-1B&product_id=AV-CB-01&JSESSIONID=SD1B5LBFF3ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 2423 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=purchase&itemId=EST-26&product_id=K9-CW-01" "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; Win...)"
100 125.17 14.11.11.11 - - [07/Jan 18:10:55:187] "GET /category.screen?category_id=FLOWERS&JSESSIONID=SD5SL8FF1ADFF6 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=remove&itemId=EST-1&product_id=K9-CW-01" "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; Win...)"

Collect AWS CloudWatch Metrics / Azure Logs / Service Now

Data Providers



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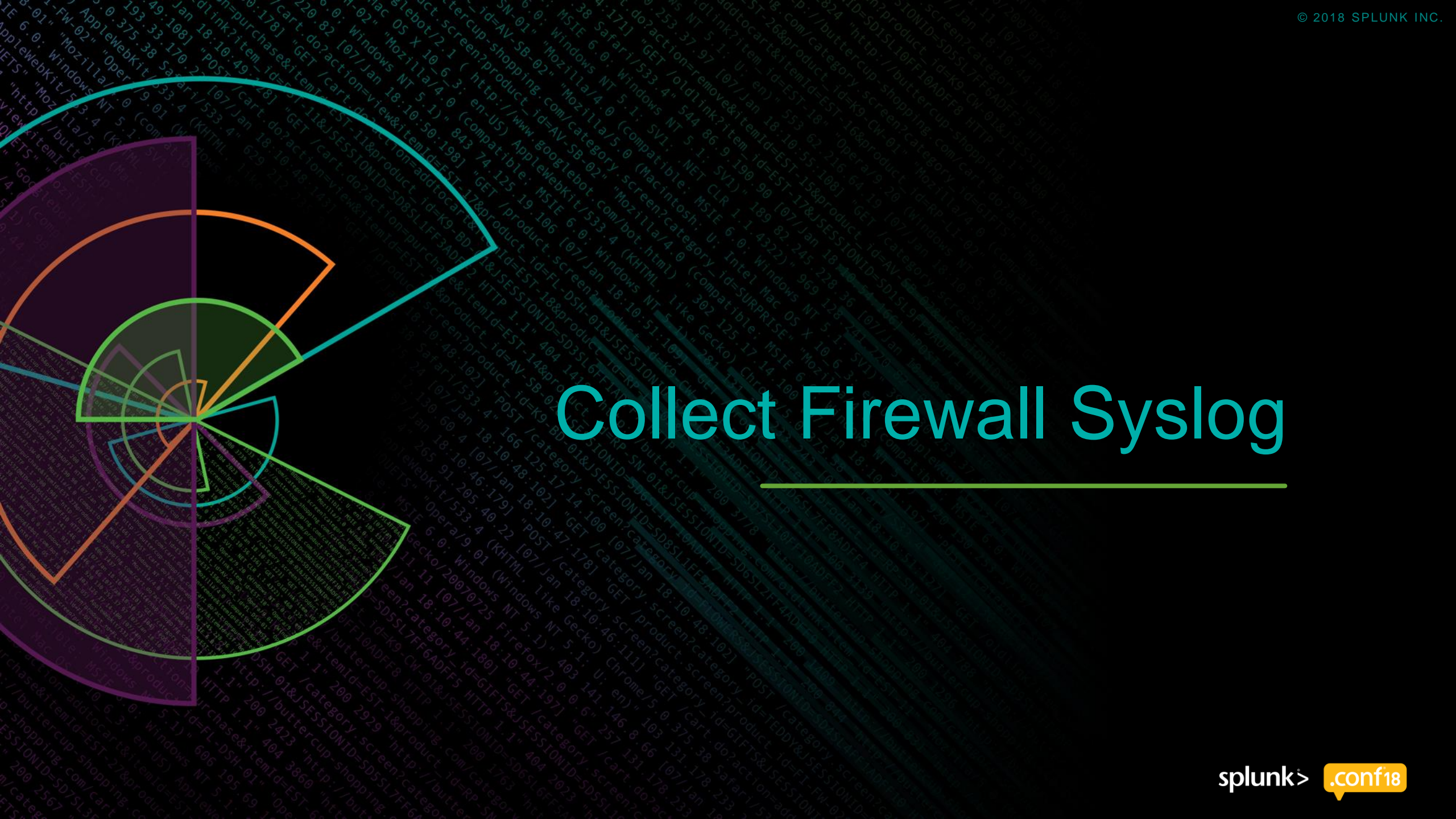
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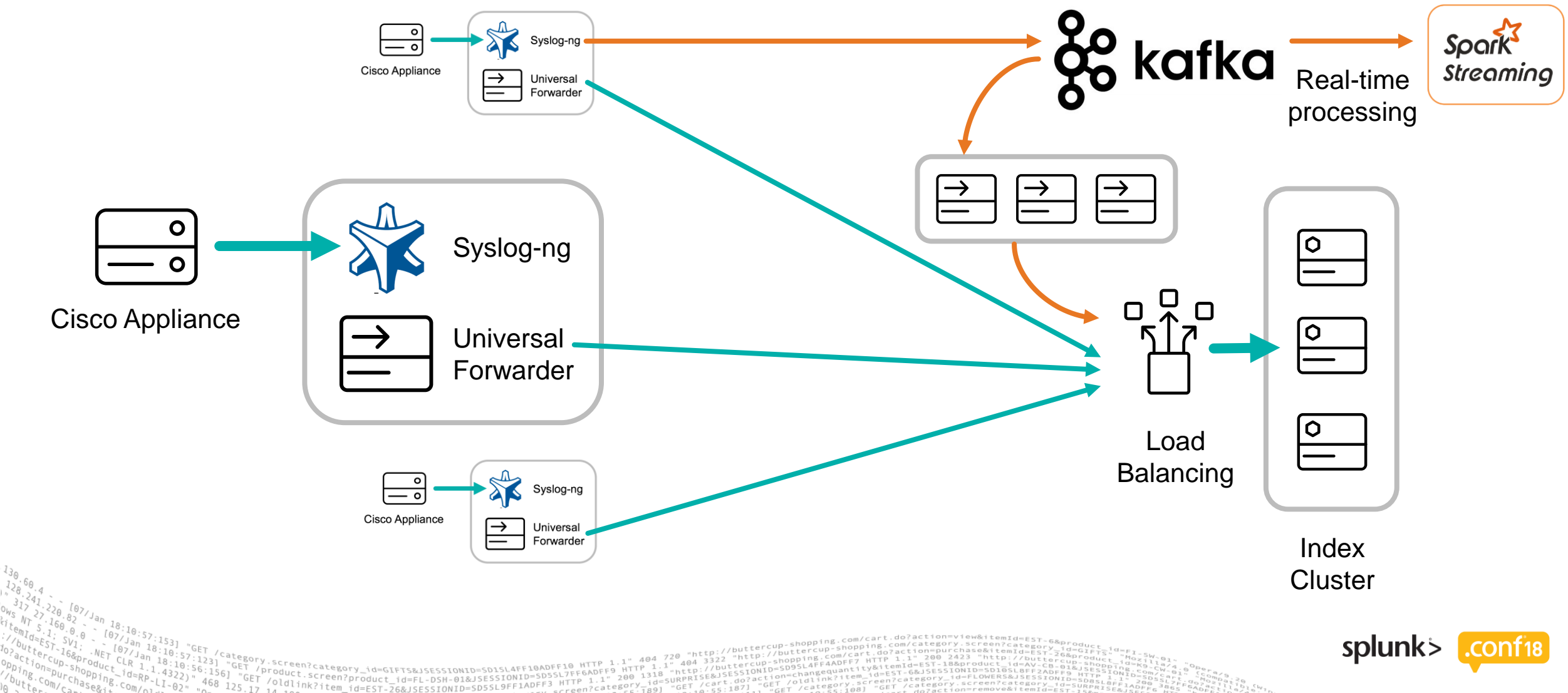
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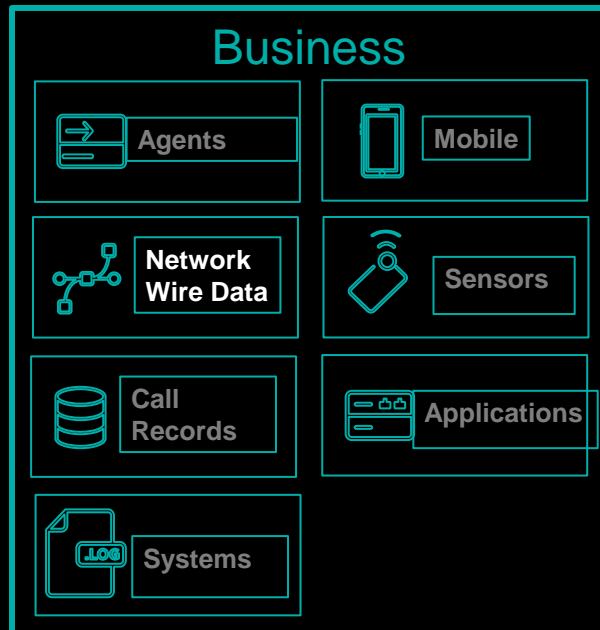
Collect Firewall Syslog

Cisco Firewall Syslog Data



Collect Cisco ASA Syslogs

Data Providers



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Top Customer Challenges for Data Collection

Survey from .conf
2017

1. Ability to monitor health of the data transfer lifecycle
2. Managing components on the edge is challenging
3. Would like to iterate on the data flow and see what's happening each step of the way
4. Data quality challenges creating inconsistent experiences for users
5. Keeping up with and responding to data drift which impacts #4
6. **Knowing which data to get and how to get that data in is challenging**

Announcing Guided Data Onboarding

New Add Data Screen


How do I Ingest Windows
Logs, AWS Cloud Metrics,
AWS CloudWatch Events,
Firewall Logs?

splunk>enterprise Apps ▾ ⓘ Administrator ▾ 2 Messages ▾ Settings ▾ Activity ▾ Help ▾ Find 🔍

What data do you want to send to the Splunk platform?

Follow guides for onboarding popular data sources


 🔍



Networking

Get your networking data in to the Splunk platform.


2 data sources



Operating System

Get your operating system data in to the Splunk platform.

1 data source




Security

Get your security data in to the Splunk platform.

3 data sources

3 data sources in total


Or get data in with the following methods



Upload

files from my computer


Local log files
Local structured files (e.g. CSV)
[Tutorial for adding data](#)



Monitor

files and ports on this Splunk platform instance

Files - HTTP - WMI - TCP/UDP - Scripts
Modular inputs for external data sources

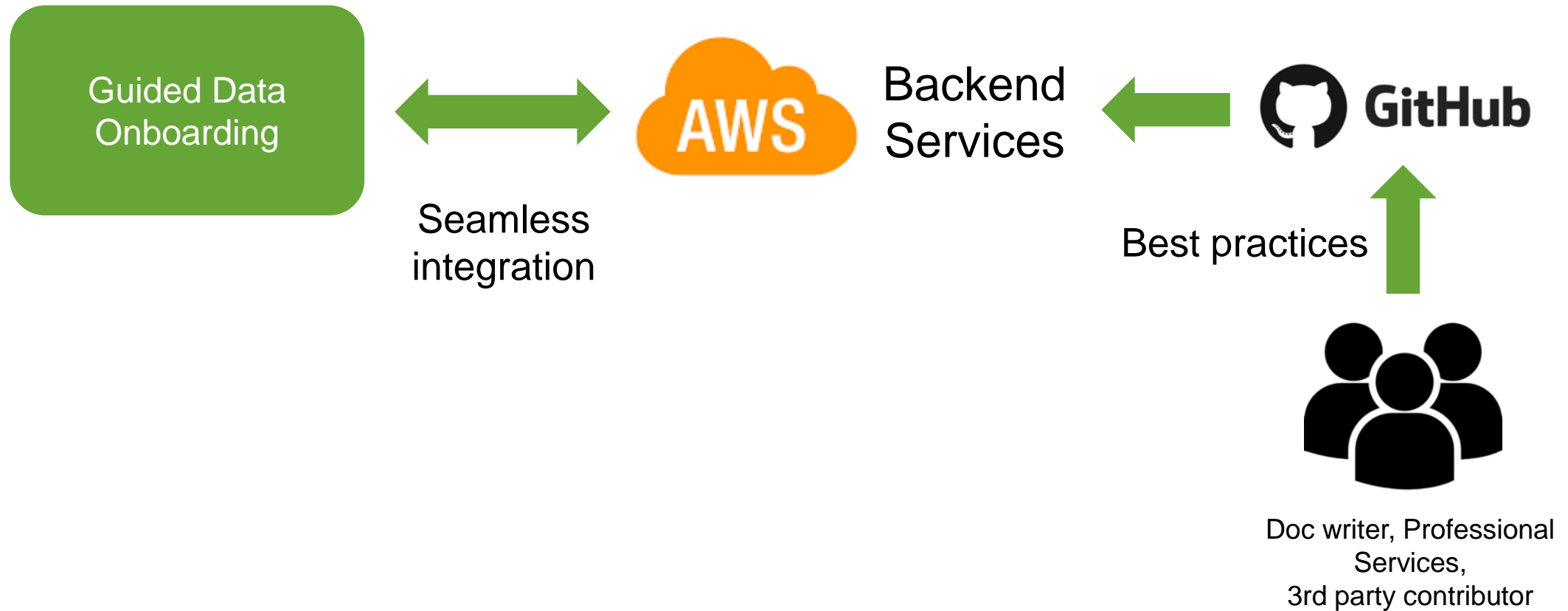


Forward

data from a Splunk forwarder

Files - TCP/UDP - Scripts

Demo of Guided Data Onboarding



Guided Data Onboarding Demo

Presented by Peter Chen

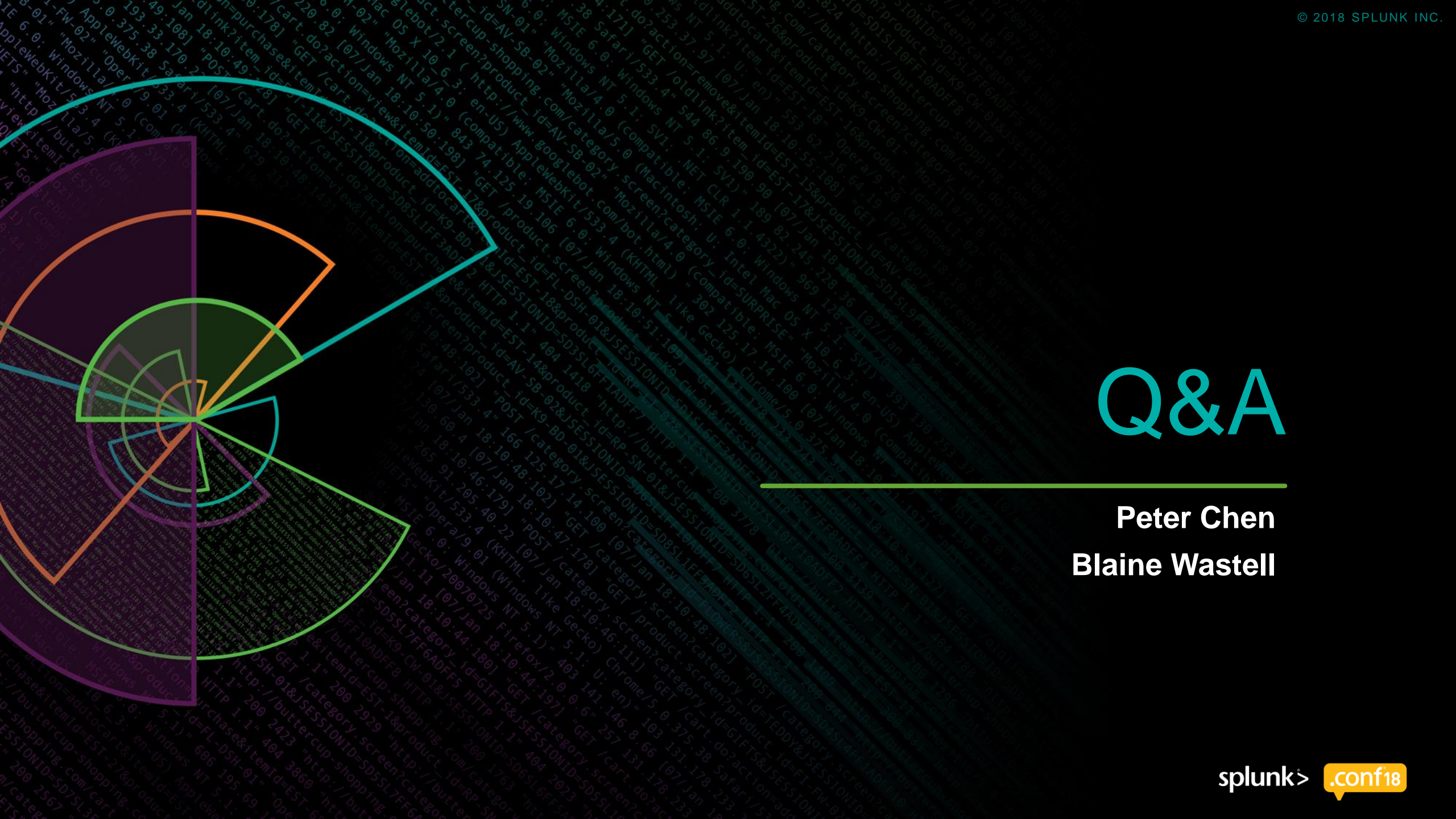
Key Takeaways

- ▶ New Guided Data Onboarding: setup and configuration guidance for ingesting data into Splunk
- ▶ More data sources to come

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Data Ingestion Sessions

Tuesday	2:15 – 3:00	FN1913 - Old Meets New: Syslog and Splunk Connect for Kafka	Scott Haskell , Principal SE Architect, Splunk Mark Bonsack Staff Sales Engineer, Splunk
	2:15 – 3:00	FN1313 – Taming GDI: The Wild World of “Getting Data Into” Splunk	Peter Chen , Principal Software Engineer, Splunk Blaine Wastell , Product Management Director, Splunk
Wednesday	3:15 – 4:00	FN1185 - Unleashing Data Ingestion From Apache Kafka	Scott Haskell , Principal SE Architect, Splunk Donald Tregonning , Senior Software Engineer, Splunk Sharon Xie , Software Engineer, Splunk
	3:15 – 4:00	IT1647 - A Container Adventure: Scaling and Monitoring Kubernetes Logging Infrastructure	Matthew Modestino , ITOA Practitioner, Splunk David Baldwin , Principal Product Manager, Splunk Gimi Liang , Senior Software Engineer, Splunk
	4:30 – 5:15	FN1211 - Don't Miss the Bus — Splunking Kafka at Scale	Scott Haskell , Principal SE Architect, Splunk Ken Chen , Principal Software Engineer, Splunk Donald Tregonning , Senior Software Engineer, Splunk
	4:30 – 5:15	FN1919 - Gain Control of Your Data Flow Using Stream Processing	Thor Taylor , Director of Product Management, Splunk Joey Echeverria , Senior Principal Software Engineer, Splunk
	4:30 – 5:15	IT1402 - Using Splunk to Increase Developer Confidence in the Pivotal Cloud Foundry Platform	Kirk Hanson , Sales Engineer, Splunk Ram Gogineni , Senior Manager – Cloud Operations, Charles Schwab Shubham Jain , Software Engineer, Splunk
Thursday	12:15 – 1:00	FN1729 - Splunk DB Connect Deep Dive: Beyond the Basics	Denis Vergnes , Principal Software Engineer, Splunk Tyler Muth , Analytics Architect, Splunk



Q&A

Peter Chen
Blaine Wastell

**Making machine data
accessible, usable and
valuable to everyone.**

Thank You

Don't forget to **rate this session**
in the **.conf18** mobile app

.conf18

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