

# Window Powershell Integration

## Introduction

In this lab, we integrate Windows PowerShell with the Wazuh SIEM platform to monitor PowerShell activities on a Windows system. PowerShell is a powerful tool used by system administrators to manage Windows systems, but attackers also use it to run malicious commands. Because of this, monitoring PowerShell activity is very important for system security.

By integrating PowerShell with Wazuh, we can collect PowerShell logs, detect suspicious commands, and monitor system behavior from one central place. This helps security teams to quickly identify threats and respond to attacks.

## Environment Overview

### Windows Server 2022

This system is used as the target endpoint. The Wazuh Agent is installed on this machine to collect system, security, and PowerShell logs.

### Ubuntu Server (Wazuh Manager)

The Wazuh Manager is installed on an Ubuntu server. This server acts as the central monitoring and analysis system where all logs are received, security rules are applied, and alerts are generated.

### Network Connectivity

A stable network connection is required between the Windows Server and the Ubuntu-based Wazuh Manager so that logs can be sent from the agent to the manager in real time.

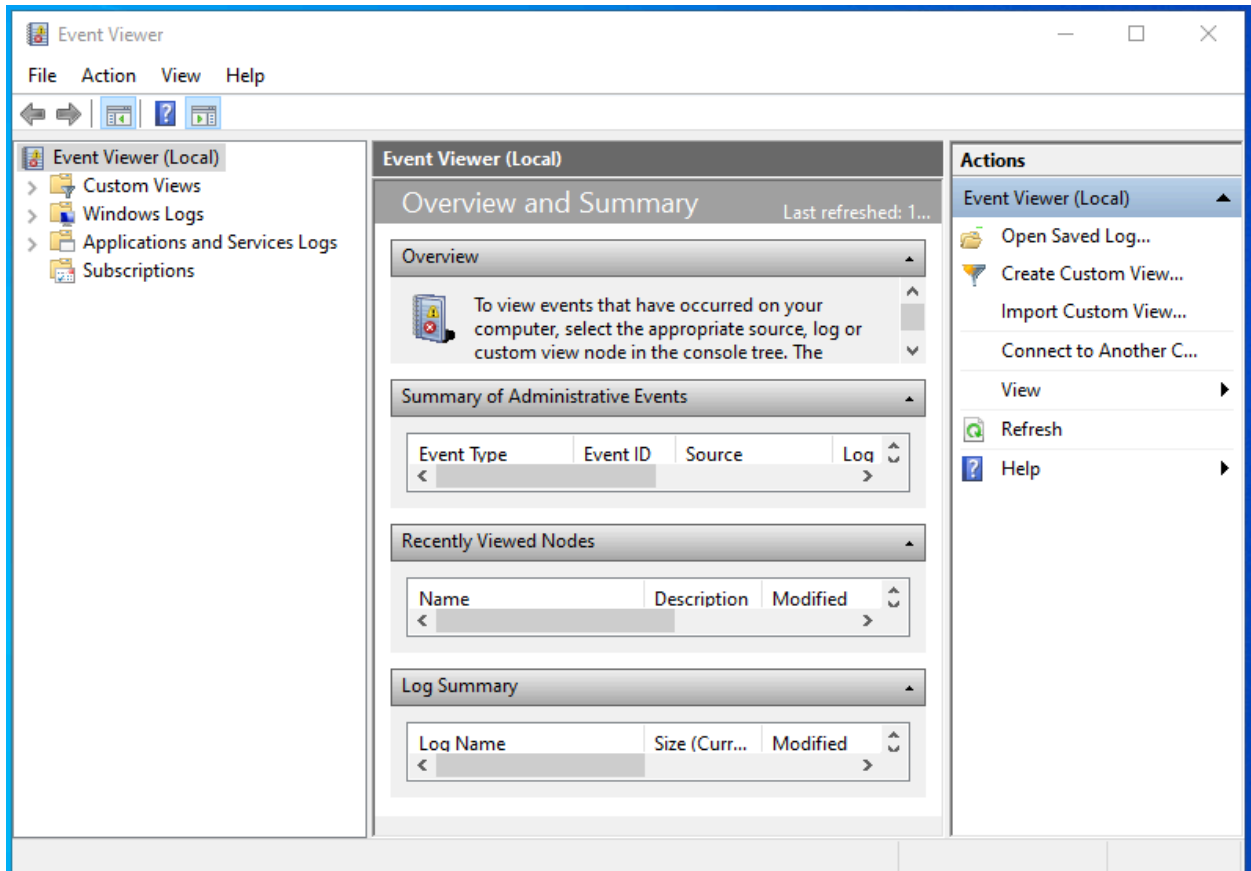
## Steps:

### Step 1: Enable PowerShell Logging

PowerShell logging is enabled so that Wazuh can read and monitor PowerShell activity on the Windows system. This includes normal commands, scripts, and suspicious actions that may indicate a security threat.

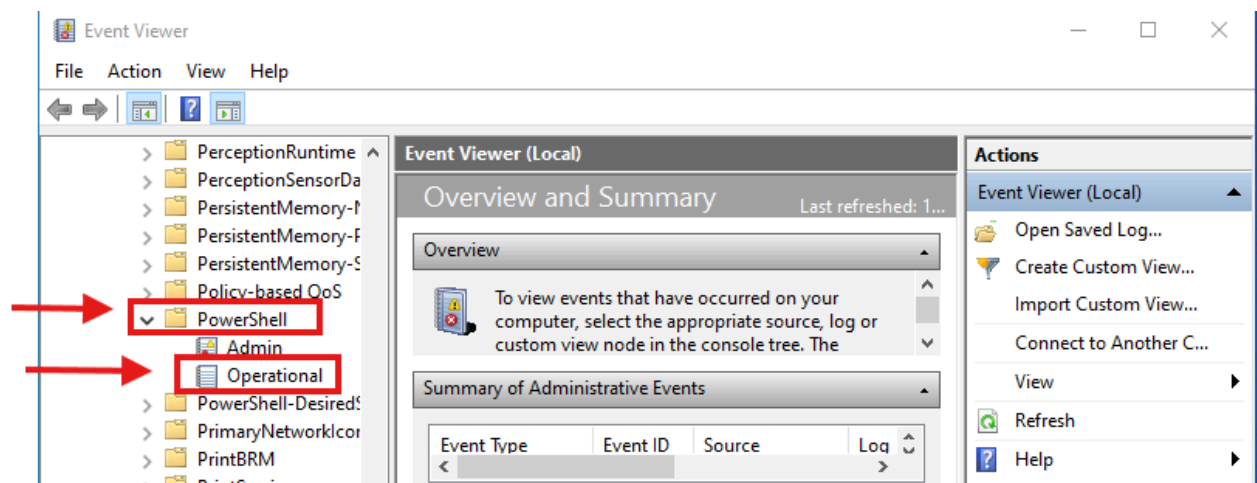
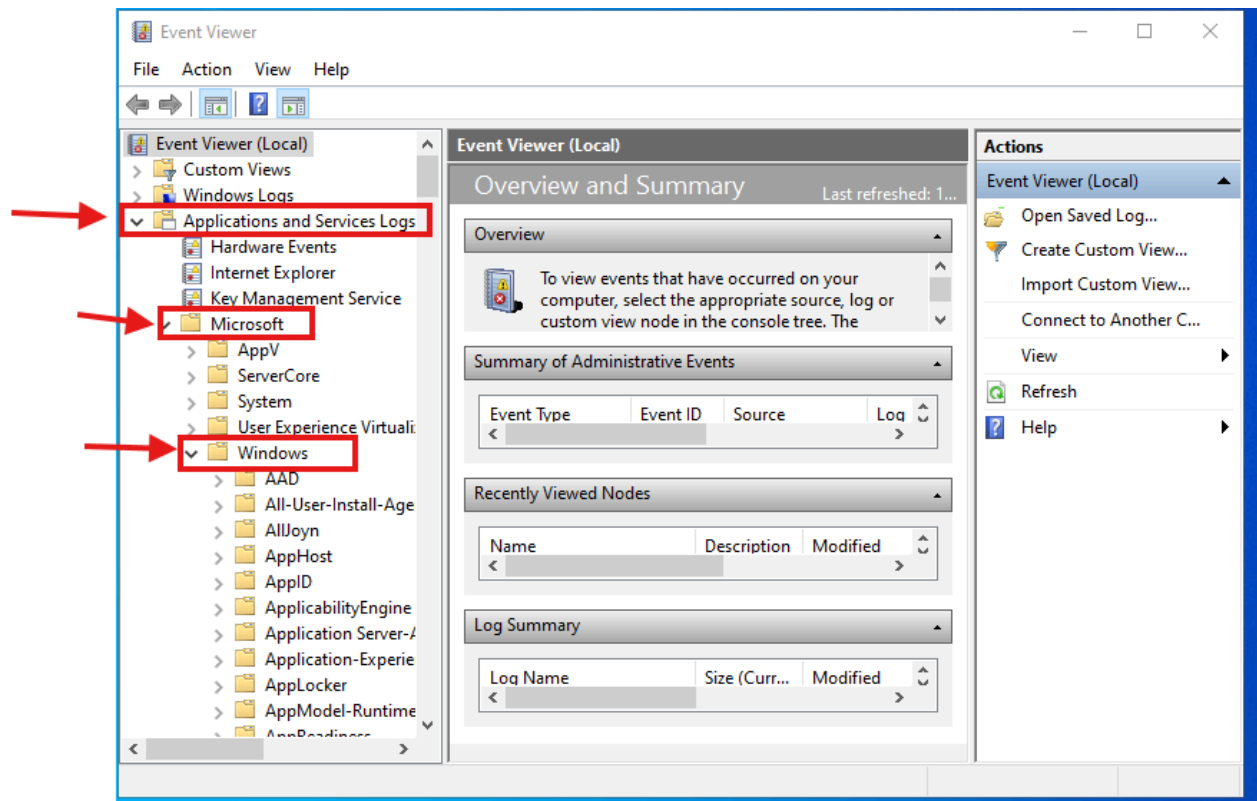
## Enable PowerShell Operational Logs

First, PowerShell Operational logs are enabled on Windows Server using Event Viewer. To do this, the Event Viewer is searched from the Start menu and opened.

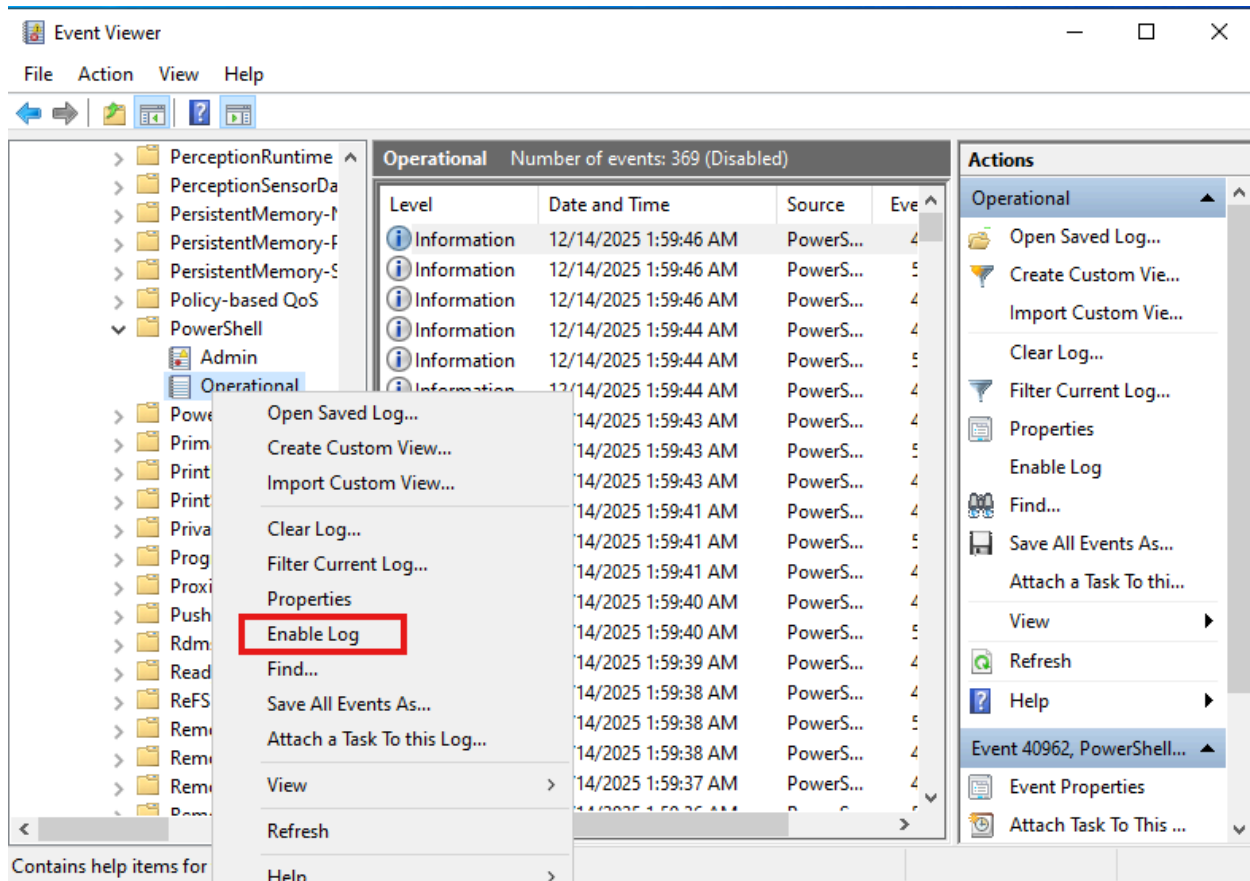


In Event Viewer, we navigate to the following path:

Application and Service Logs > Microsoft > Windows Powershell > Operational



Right-click on the Operational and select Enable Log.

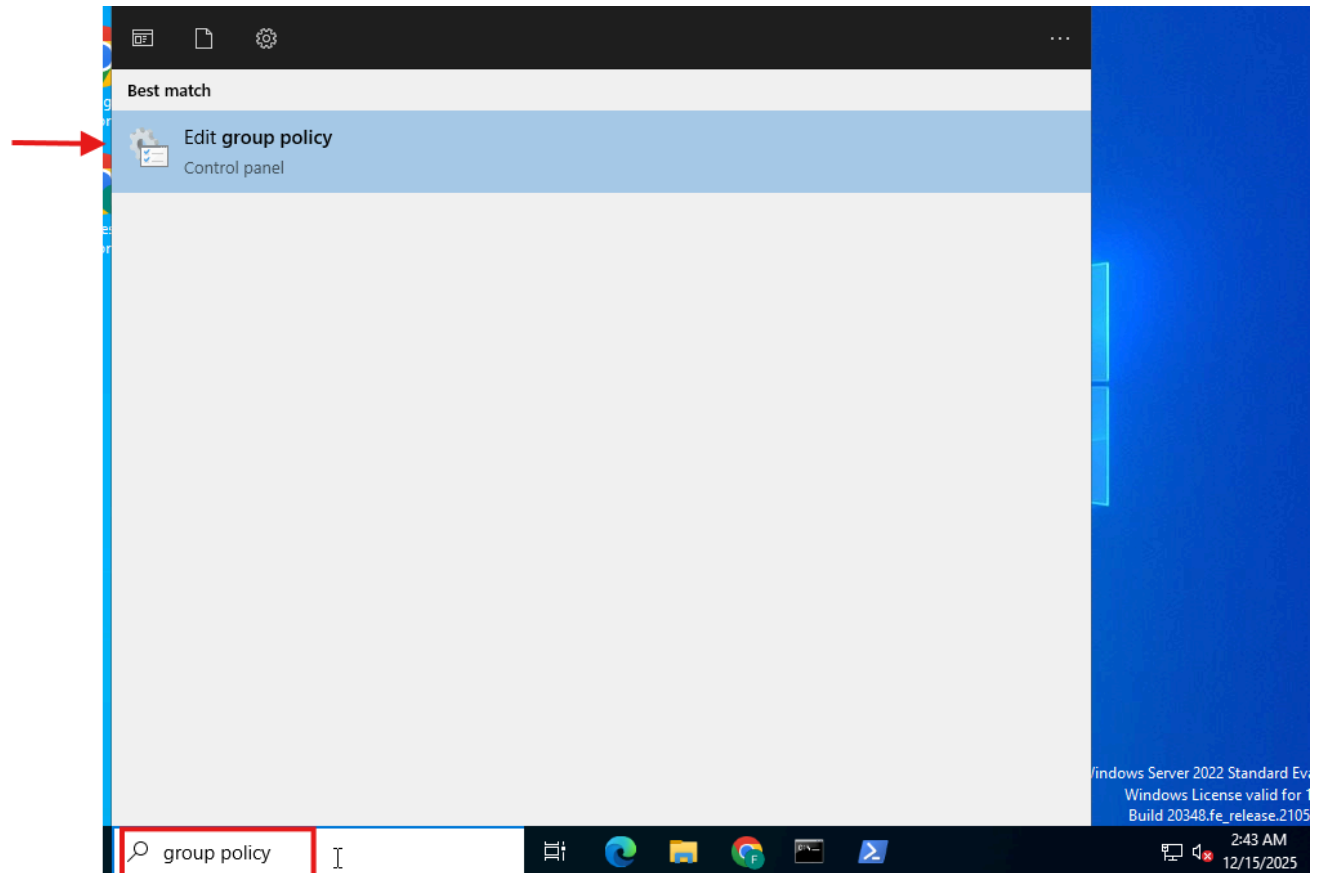


PowerShell Operational logging is now enabled. Windows will record basic PowerShell activity, such as command execution events and errors.

## Enable PowerShell Script Block Logging and Module Logging

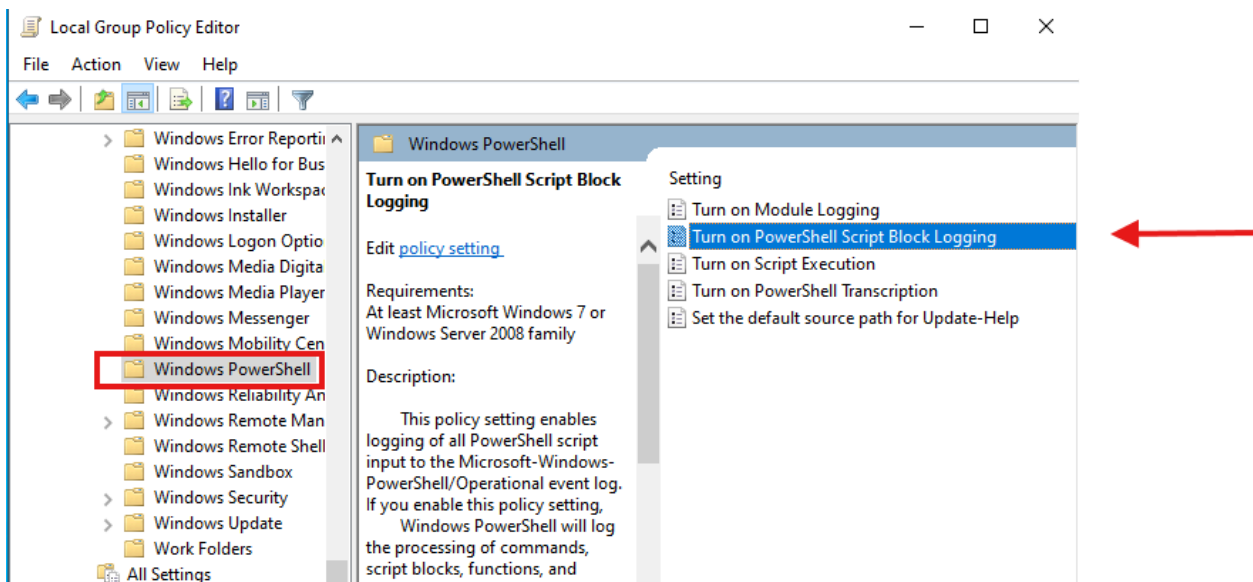
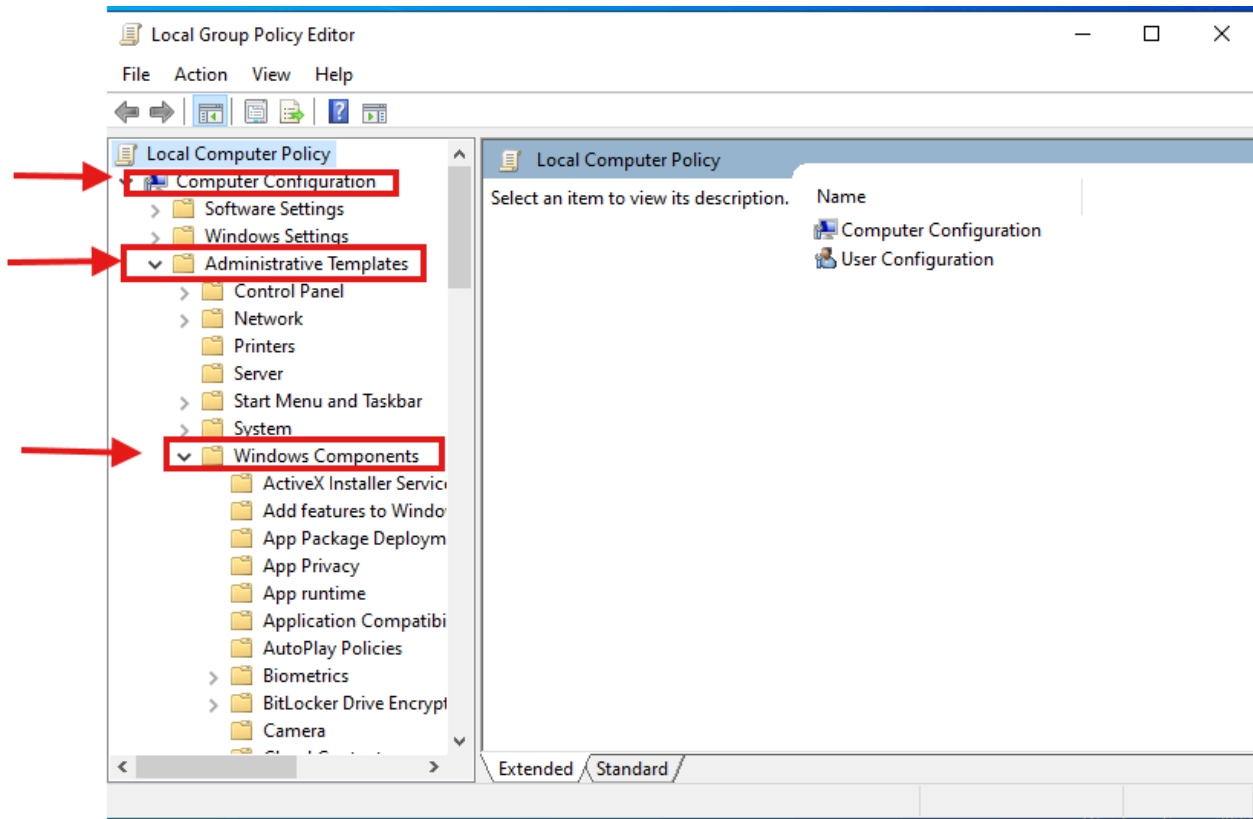
Script Block Logging records the full PowerShell commands and scripts executed on the system.

To enable Script Block Logging, "Edit Group Policy" is searched from the Start menu and opened.



Navigate to the following path:

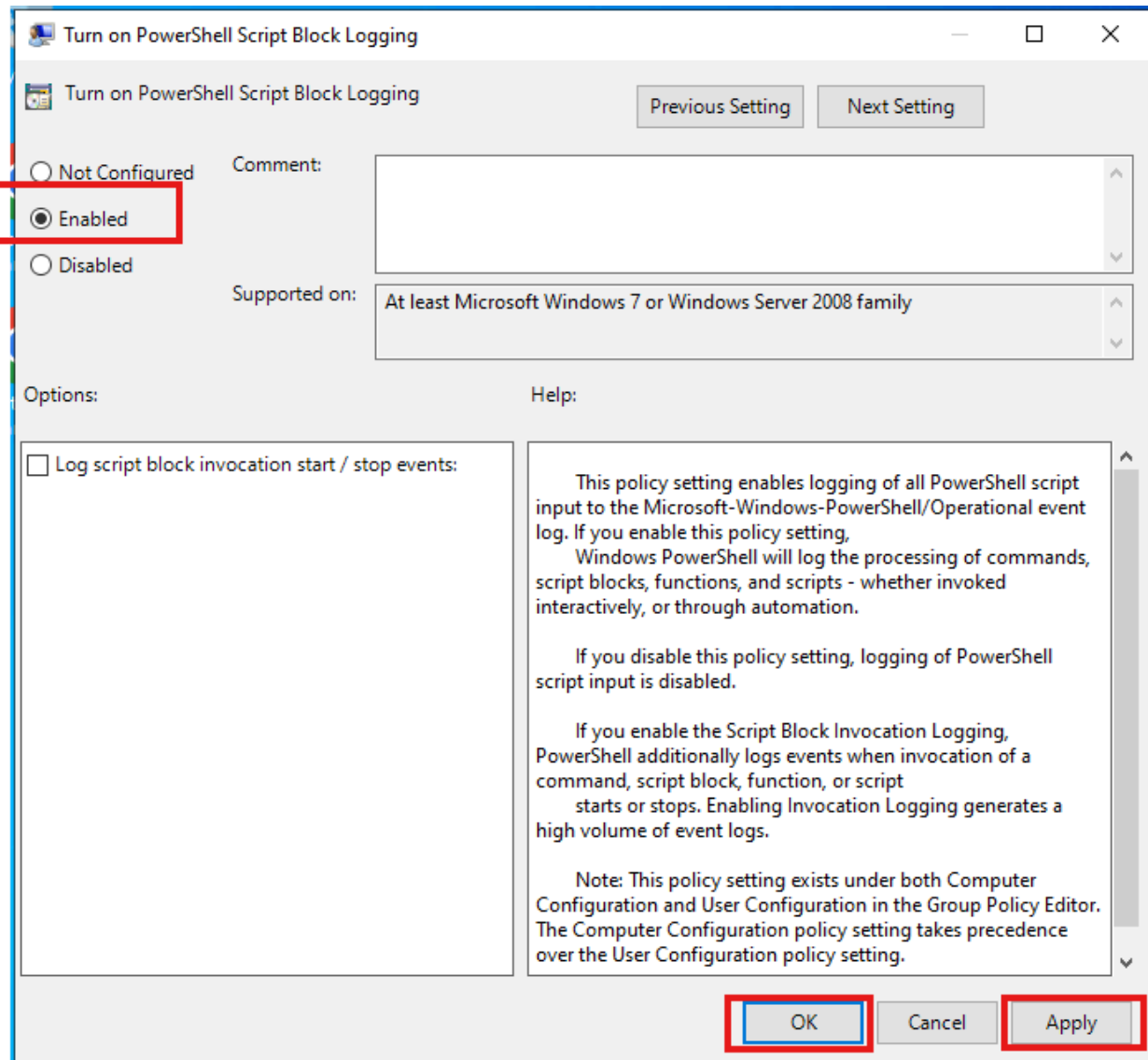
Computer Configuration > Administrative Templates > Windows Components >  
Windows PowerShell



Double-click “Turn on PowerShell Script Block Logging”.

Select Enabled.

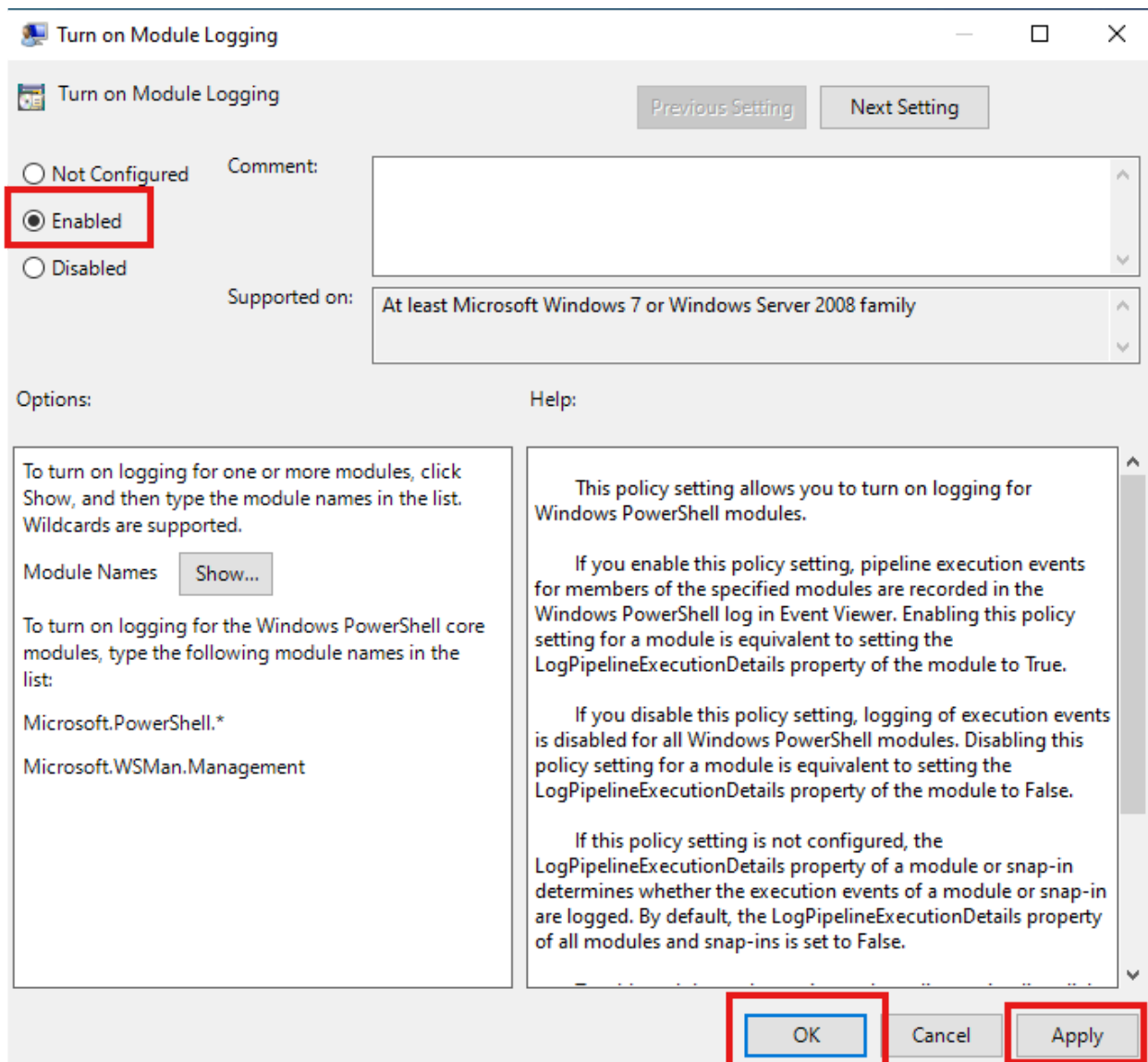
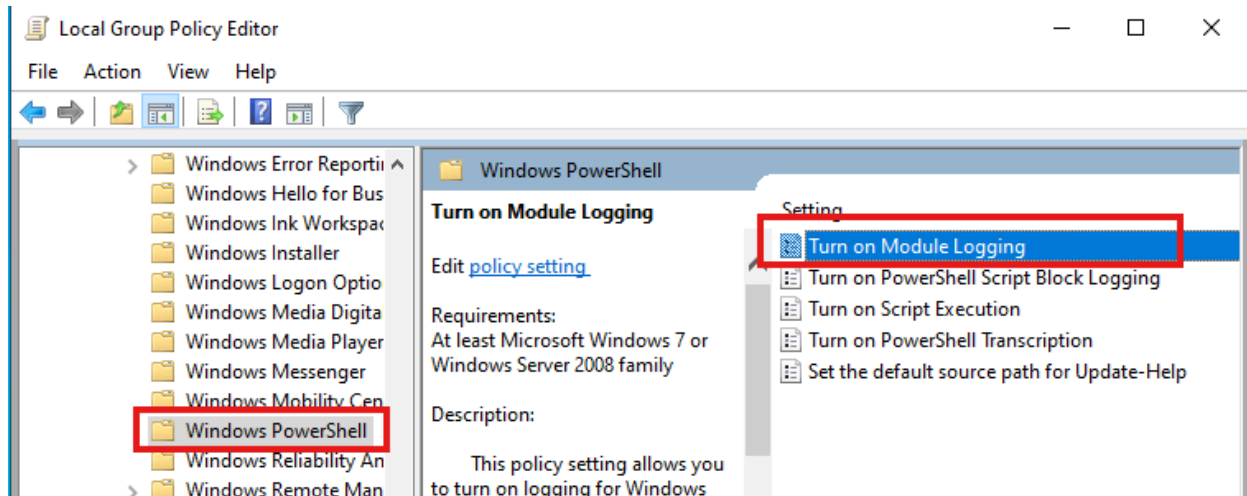
Click Apply, then click OK.



Now Script Block Logging is enabled.

After enabling Script Block Logging, **Module Logging** is also enabled from the same Windows PowerShell policy location.

The policy "Turn on Module Logging" is opened and set to Enabled, then click Apply, and click OK

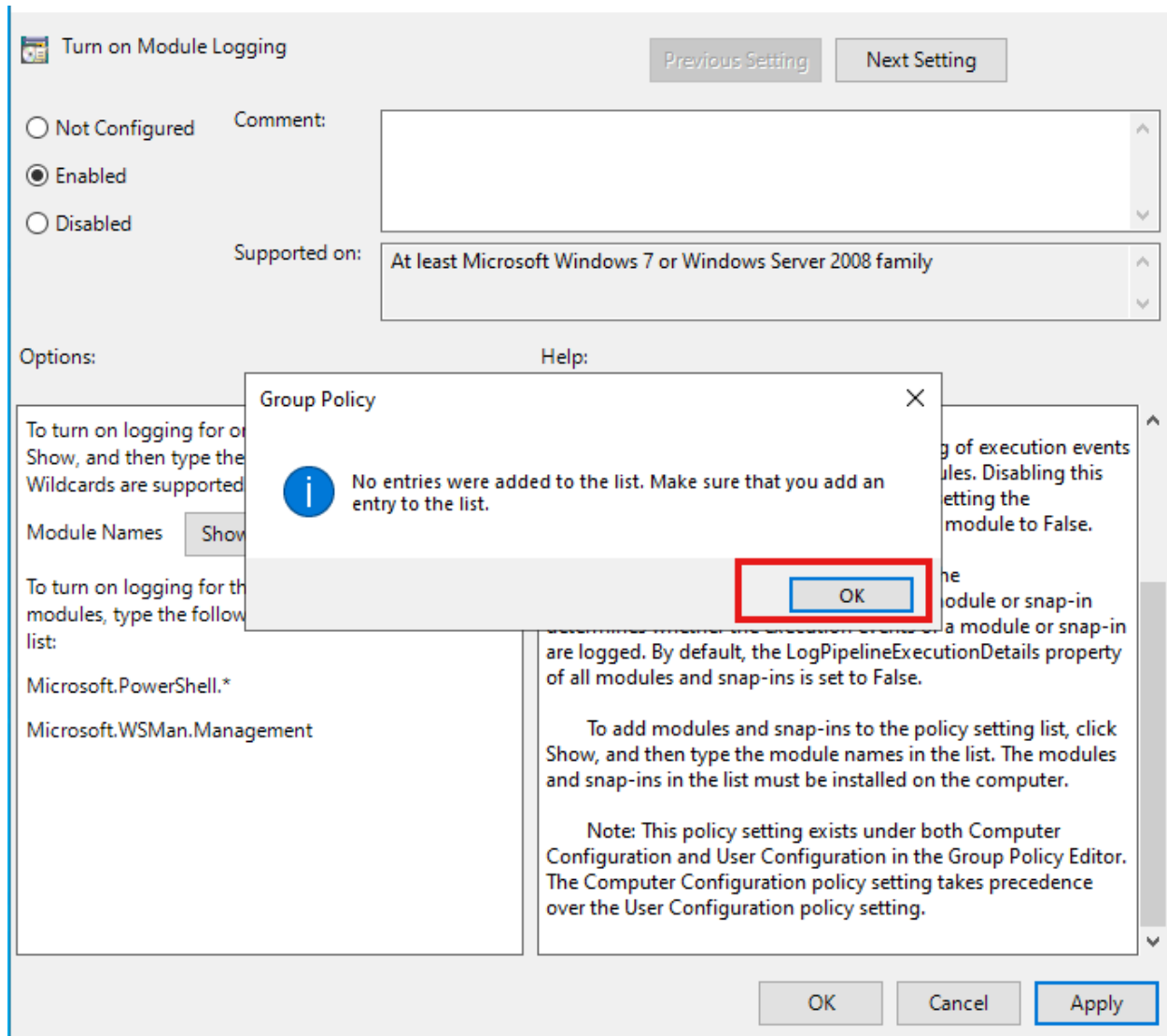


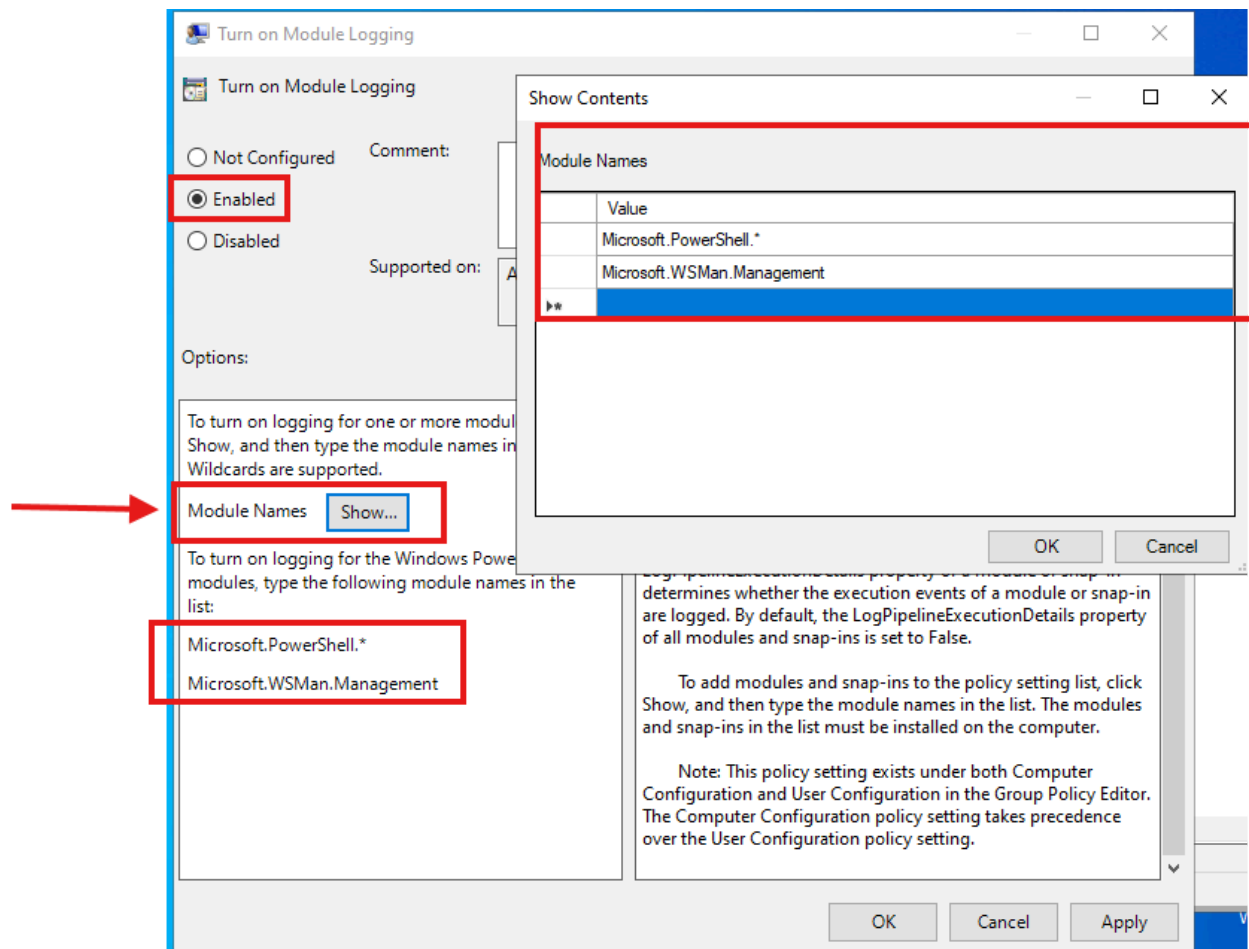


When you click Apply, a popup may appear saying:

*"No entries were added to the list. Make sure that you add an entry to the list."*

To resolve this, you need to add the module names in the list before applying the policy.



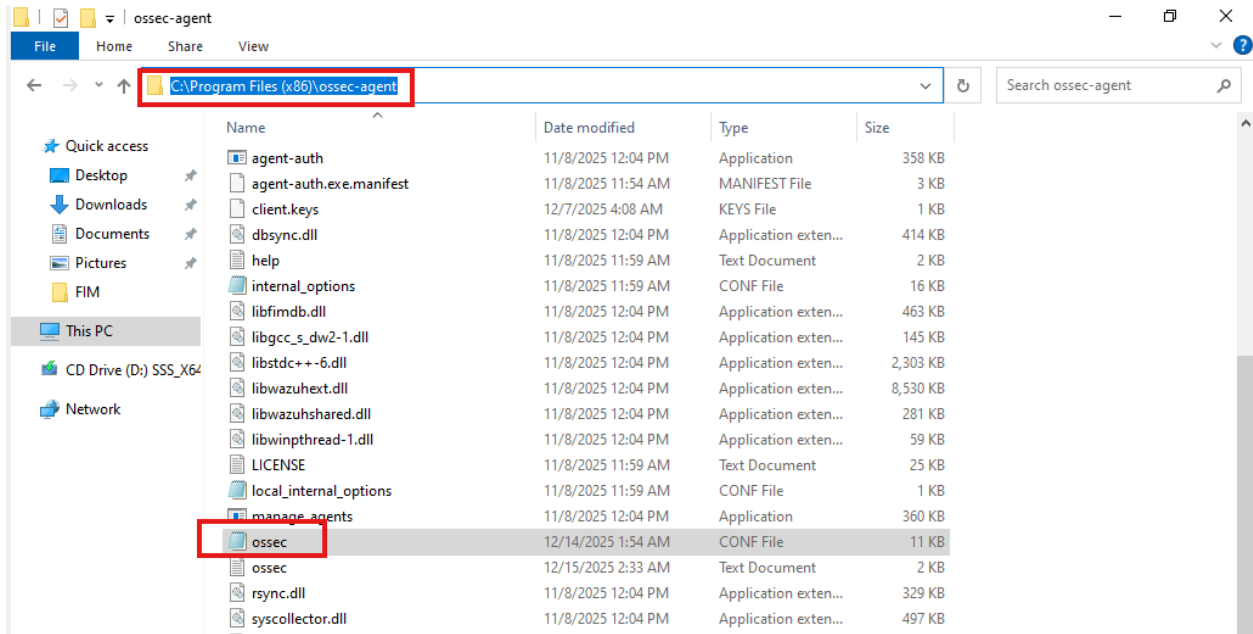


After adding the module names, click OK, then click Apply, and finally click OK again.

## Configure Wazuh Agent

Open the Wazuh agent configuration file on Windows (default path):

notepad "C:\Program Files (x86)\ossec-agent\ossec.conf"



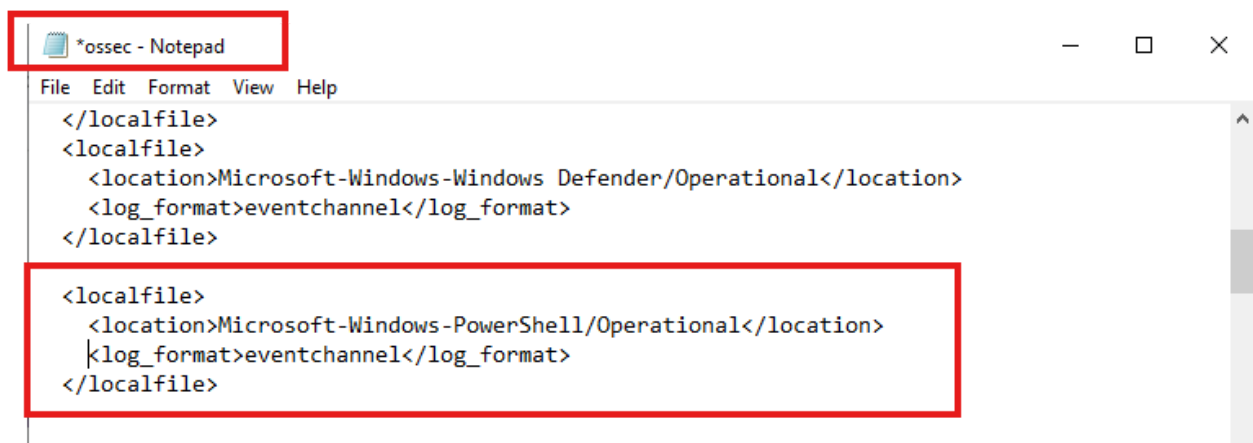
Add the following inside <ossec\_config> to instruct the agent to read the PowerShell Operational event channel

```
<localfile>
```

```
<location>Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational</location>
```

```
<log_format>eventchannel</log_format>
```

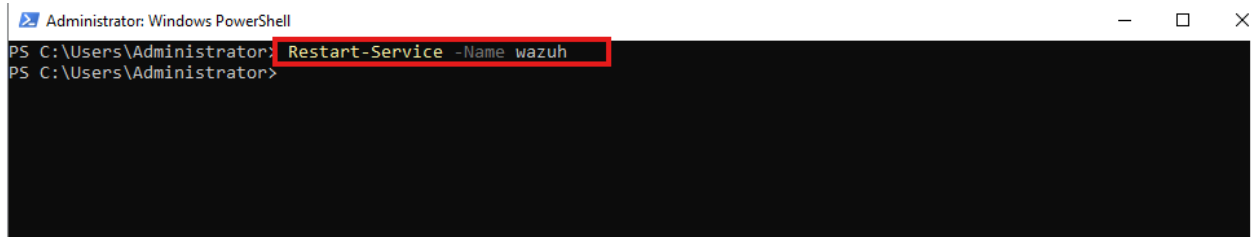
```
</localfile>
```



After configuration, save the changes.

Restart the Wazuh agent service for changes to take effect:

Restart-Service -Name wazuh

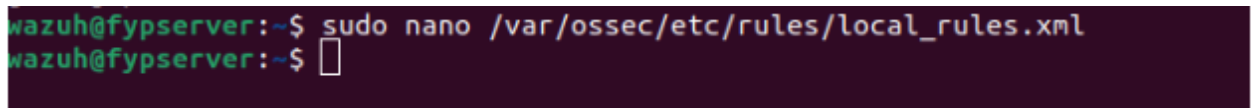
A screenshot of a Windows PowerShell terminal window titled "Administrator: Windows PowerShell". The command prompt shows "PS C:\Users\Administrator> Restart-Service -Name wazuh" with the command text highlighted in a red box. The prompt then changes to "PS C:\Users\Administrator>" on the next line.

## Configure Wazuh Manager

The manager uses rules to identify suspicious or malicious activities from the collected logs.

To configure this, edit the local rules file on the Ubuntu server where the Wazuh Manager is installed:

`sudo nano /var/ossec/etc/rules/local_rules.xml`

A screenshot of an Ubuntu terminal window. The prompt shows "wazuh@fypserver:~\$ sudo nano /var/ossec/etc/rules/local\_rules.xml". The command is entered, and the prompt changes to "wazuh@fypserver:~\$" with a cursor at the end.

Insert the following comprehensive rules for PowerShell exploitation detection:

```
<group name="windows,powershell">
```

```
<!-- 100201: Encoded PowerShell command detected -->
```

```
<rule id="100201" level="8">
```

```
<if_sid>60009</if_sid>
```

```
<field name="win.eventdata.payload" type="pcre2">(?)CommandInvocation</field>
```

```
<field name="win.system.message"
```

```
type="pcre2">(?)EncodedCommand|FromBase64String|EncodedArguments|-e\b|-enco\
b|-en\b</field>
```

```
<description>Encoded command executed via PowerShell. 360 ForTress Multi Layer
Cyber Protection System</description>
```

```
<mitre>
  <id>T1059.001</id>
  <id>T1562.001</id>
</mitre>
</rule>
```

```
<!-- 100202: PowerShell blocked by antivirus -->
<rule id="100202" level="4">
  <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
  <field name="win.system.message" type="pcre2">(?!i)blocked by your antivirus
software</field>
  <description>Windows Security blocked malicious command executed via
PowerShell.</description>
  <mitre>
    <id>T1059.001</id>
  </mitre>
</rule>
```

```
<!-- 100203: Malicious cmdlet like Invoke-Mimikatz detected -->
<rule id="100203" level="10">
  <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
  <field name="win.eventdata.payload" type="pcre2">(?!i)CommandInvocation</field>
  <field name="win.system.message"
type="pcre2">(?!i)Add-Persistence|Find-AVSignature|Invoke-Mimikatz|Invoke-Shellcode|
Set-MasterBootRecord</field>
  <description>Risky CMDLet executed. Possible malicious activity detected. 360
ForTress Multi Layer Cyber Protection System</description>
  <mitre>
    <id>T1059.001</id>
  </mitre>
</rule>
```

```
<!-- 100204: mshta used for suspicious download -->
<rule id="100204" level="8">
  <if_sid>91802</if_sid>
  <field name="win.eventdata.scriptBlockText"
type="pcre2">(?)mshta.*GetObject|mshta.*new ActiveXObject</field>
  <description>Mshta used to download a file. Possible malicious activity detected. 360
ForTress Multi Layer Cyber Protection System</description>
  <mitre>
    <id>T1059.001</id>
  </mitre>
</rule>
```

```
<!-- 100205: Execution policy set to bypass -->
<rule id="100205" level="5">
  <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
  <field name="win.eventdata.contextInfo"
type="pcre2">(?)ExecutionPolicy\s*bypass|exec\s*bypass</field>
  <description>PowerShell execution policy set to bypass.</description>
  <mitre>
    <id>T1059.001</id>
  </mitre>
</rule>
```

```
<!-- 100206: Invoke-WebRequest or IWR used -->
<rule id="100206" level="5">
  <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
  <field name="win.eventdata.contextInfo"
type="pcre2">(?)Invoke-WebRequest|IWR.*-url|IWR.*-InFile</field>
  <description>Invoke-WebRequest executed, possible download cradle
detected.</description>
```

```

<mitre>
  <id>T1059.001</id>
</mitre>
</rule>

</group>

```

```

GNU nano 6.2 /var/ossec/etc/rules/local_rules.xml *

<group name="windows,powershell">

  <!-- 100201: Encoded PowerShell command detected -->
  <rule id="100201" level="8">
    <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
    <field name="win.eventdata.payload" type="pcre2">(?!i)CommandInvocation</fie>
    <field name="win.system.message" type="pcre2">(?!i)EncodedCommand|FromBase64</fi>
    <description>Encoded command executed via PowerShell. 360 Fortress Multi La>
    <mitre>
      <id>T1059.001</id>
      <id>T1562.001</id>
    </mitre>
  </rule>

  <!-- 100202: PowerShell blocked by antivirus -->
  <rule id="100202" level="4">
    <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
    <field name="win.system.message" type="pcre2">(?!i)blocked by your antivirus>
    <description>Windows Security blocked malicious command executed via PowerS>

^G Help      ^O Write Out ^W Where Is  ^K Cut       ^T Execute  ^C Location
^X Exit      ^R Read File ^\ Replace   ^U Paste     ^J Justify  ^_ Go To Line

```

Restart Wazuh manager to apply rules:

`sudo systemctl restart wazuh-manager`

```

wazuh@fypserver:~$ sudo systemctl restart wazuh-manager
wazuh@fypserver:~$

```

Testing Phase:

Basic PowerShell Command:

Test1: **Get-Process**

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> Get-Process
```

Handles	NPM(K)	PM(K)	WS(K)	CPU(s)	Id	SI	ProcessName
88	6	880	4604	0.03	3276	0	AggregatorHost
242	16	4164	24596	0.33	1640	1	ApplicationFrameHost
240	21	24664	63524	0.53	516	1	chrome
436	36	19372	77500	62.56	1528	1	chrome
242	10	2188	7168	0.05	2092	1	chrome
421	40	165996	233740	33.42	2240	1	chrome
306	22	38932	86208	1.44	3060	1	chrome
383	36	151108	221612	136.09	3140	1	chrome
285	21	25772	69332	0.66	3780	1	chrome
235	20	23152	53952	0.16	3884	1	chrome
476	37	23104	51244	104.17	4596	1	chrome
196	17	12940	27228	0.13	4672	1	chrome
607	76	334104	419272	93.42	4928	1	chrome
263	22	37992	78076	1.80	4984	1	chrome
222	16	10044	20820	0.86	5360	1	chrome
236	20	16664	48932	0.27	5736	1	chrome
600	63	306936	412816	45.58	5912	1	chrome
2220	83	159908	286468	190.89	6140	1	chrome
244	14	7564	18148	0.22	6408	1	chrome
445	19	10696	25696	0.30	6416	1	chrome
258	21	21656	53480	0.52	6876	1	chrome

Test2: **Invoke-WebRequest http://example.com -OutFile test.txt**

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\Users\Administrator> Invoke-WebRequest http://example.com -OutFile test.txt
PS C:\Users\Administrator>
```

Now, Open the Wazuh Dashboard and navigate to Security Events

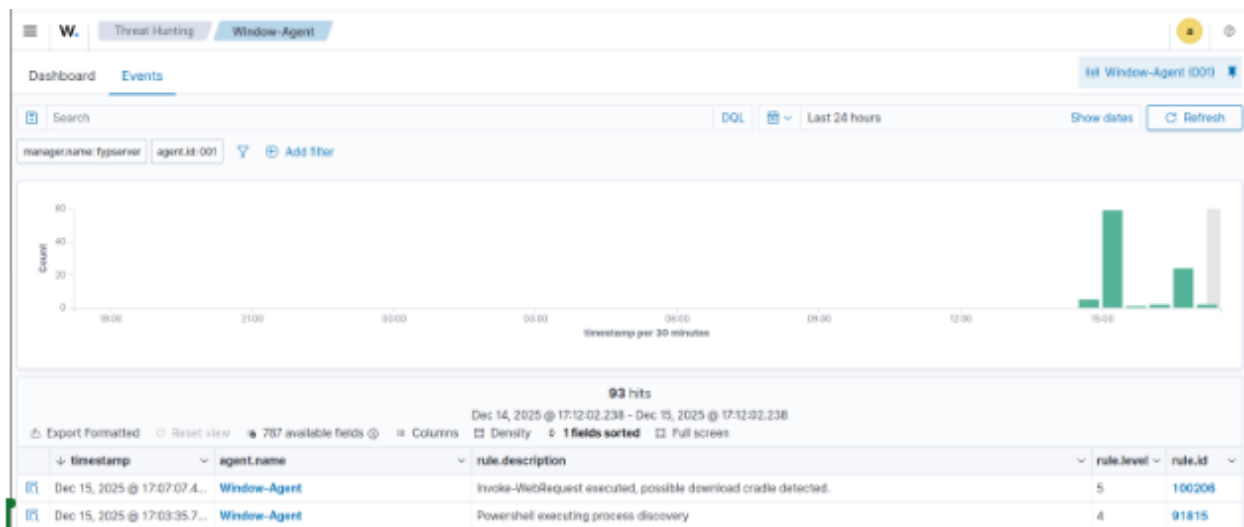
Confirm that the alert for the PowerShell encoded command (**Invoke-WebRequest** download cradle) is visible in the logs.

First see the Wazuh Dashboard for connectivity between the Window Agent and Manager.





Here are the alerts:



By clicking on one alert we see the details of alerts.

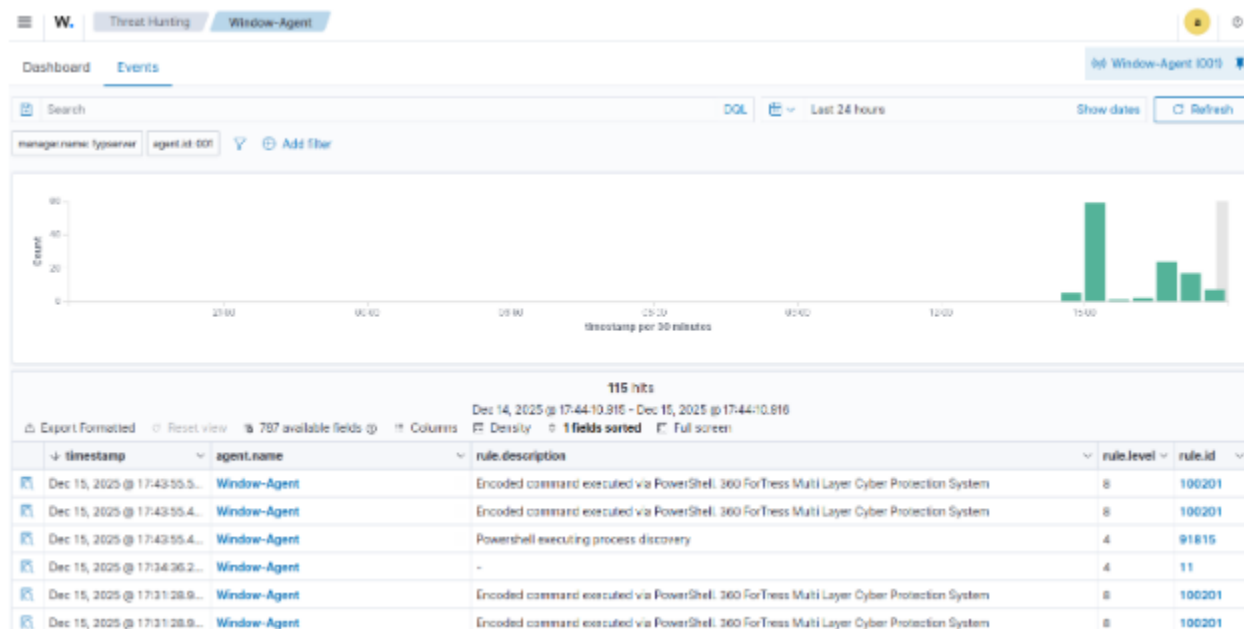
W.	Discover	wazuh-alerts-4.x-2025-12-15@613a25b9047XD7H5S2z	8	
Table JSON				
@timestamp	Dec 15, 2025 @ 17:07:07.448			
_index	wazuh-alerts-4.x-2025-12-15			
_agent.id	001			
_agent.ip	10.10.149.51			
_agent.name	Windows Agent			
data.win.eventdata.contextinfo	<div><div>Severity = Informational</div><div>Host Name = ConsoleHost</div><div>Host Version = 5.1.26048.558</div><div>Host ID = 472e569a-a993-4178-a722-35aaa2ba5465</div><div>Host Application = C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe</div><div>Engine Version = 5.1.26048.558</div><div>Runspace ID = abc18b43-882a-4b29-a622-1765896427-253167</div><div>26440f0c</div><div>Pipeline ID = 0</div><div>Command Name = Invoke-WebRequest</div><div>Command Type = Cmdlet</div><div>Script Name =</div><div>Command Path =</div><div>Run Number = 74</div><div>User = WIN-119083F9002\Administrator</div><div>Connected User =</div><div>Shell ID = Microsoft.PowerShell</div></div>			
data.win.eventdata.payload	<div><div>CommandInvocation([Invoke-WebRequest]): {"Invoke-WebRequest"</div><div>ParameterBinding([Invoke-WebRequest]): name="OutFile"; value="test.txt"</div><div>ParameterBinding([Invoke-WebRequest]): name="Uri"; value="http://example.com/"</div></div>			
data.win.system.channel	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational			
data.win.system.computer	WIN-119083F9002			
data.win.system.eventID	4103			
data.win.system.eventRecordID	560			
data.win.system.keywords	6x8			
data.win.system.level	4			
data.win.system.message	<div><div>CommandInvocation([Invoke-WebRequest]): {"Invoke-WebRequest"</div><div>ParameterBinding([Invoke-WebRequest]): name="OutFile"; value="test.txt"</div><div>ParameterBinding([Invoke-WebRequest]): name="Uri"; value="http://example.com/"</div></div> <div>Context: RunspaceID = 76f5896427-253167</div>			
data.win.system.providerName	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell			
data.win.system.severityValue	INFORMATION			
data.win.system.systemTime	2025-12-15T12:07:07.1225363Z			
data.win.system.task	566			
data.win.system.threadID	4628			
data.win.system.version	5			
decoder.name	windows_eventchannel			
full_log	{ "win": {"system": {"providerName": "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell", "providerGuid": "{ad1832b-6c46-4b15-8766-3c7f630f08da}", "eventID": "4103", "version": "1", "level": "4", "task": "106", "opcode": "28", "keywords": "6x8", "systemTime": "2025-12-15T12:07:07.1225363Z", "eventRecordID": "560", "processID": "6162", "threadID": "4628", "channel": "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational", "computer": "WIN-119083F9002", "severityValue": "INFORMATION", "message": {"CommandInvocation([Invoke-WebRequest]): {"Invoke-WebRequest" <div>ParameterBinding([Invoke-WebRequest]): name="OutFile"; value="test.txt"/}</div> <div>ParameterBinding([Invoke-WebRequest]): name="Uri"; value="http://example.com/"</div> <div>Severity = Informational</div> <div>Host Name = ConsoleHost</div> <div>Host Version = 5.1.26048.558</div> <div>Host ID = 472e569a-a993-4178-a722-35aaa2ba5465</div> <div>Host Application = C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe</div> <div>Engine Version = 5.1.26048.558</div> <div>Runspace ID = abc18b43-882a-4b29-a622-1765896427-253167</div> <div>26440f0c</div> <div>Pipeline ID = 0</div> <div>Command Name = Invoke-WebRequest</div> <div>Command Type = Cmdlet</div> <div>Script Name =</div> <div>Command Path =</div> <div>Run Number = 74</div> <div>User = WIN-119083F9002\Administrator</div> <div>Connected User =</div> <div>Shell ID = Microsoft.PowerShell</div>			
id	1765896427.253167			
input.type	log			
location	EventChannel			
manager.name	fypserver			
rule.description	Invoke-WebRequest executed, possible download oracle detected.			
rule.firetime	1			
rule.groups	windows, powershell			
rule.id	100206			
rule.level	5			
rule.mail	false			
rule.mitre.id	T1059.001			

Test 3: powershell -EncodedCommand RwBIAHQALQBQAHIAbwBjAGUAcwBzAA==

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\Users\Administrator> powershell -EncodedCommand RwB1AHQALQBQAHIAbwBJAGUAcwBzAA==
```

Handles	NPM(K)	PM(K)	WS(K)	CPU(s)	Id	SI	ProcessName
88	6	880	4604	0.03	3276	0	AggregatorHost
242	16	4164	24596	0.33	1640	1	ApplicationFrameHost
240	21	24972	64076	0.58	516	1	chrome
429	40	19416	108000	74.28	1528	1	chrome
235	10	2188	7168	0.09	2092	1	chrome
421	40	168332	236052	35.03	2240	1	chrome
306	22	39400	86596	1.52	3060	1	chrome
383	36	151192	221720	137.17	3140	1	chrome
285	21	26968	70396	0.94	3780	1	chrome
235	20	23356	54184	0.23	3884	1	chrome
469	34	23092	51532	115.44	4596	1	chrome
196	18	12904	27184	0.06	4624	1	chrome
612	77	396576	505668	128.66	4928	1	chrome
263	22	37932	78188	1.86	4984	1	chrome
221	15	10032	20780	0.97	5360	1	chrome
236	20	16872	49544	0.30	5736	1	chrome
597	66	346528	453424	94.41	5912	1	chrome
2138	84	151996	281604	212.70	6140	1	chrome
244	14	7564	18148	0.28	6408	1	chrome
445	19	10664	25680	0.33	6416	1	chrome
259	21	21844	53708	0.59	6876	1	chrome
75	6	2392	4824	0.02	1892	1	cmd
245	13	7348	21688	0.23	3552	1	conhost
256	14	7360	21816	2.34	6868	1	conhost
506	20	1928	6268	1.69	452	0	csrss
438	19	1944	6776	9.66	532	1	csrss

On Dashboard:



Details Alerts:

Table JSON

# timestamp	Dec 15, 2025 @ 17:43:55.590
# _index	wazuh-alerts-4.x-2025.12.15
# agent.id	001
# agent.ip	10.10.140.31
# agent.name	Windows-Agent
# data.xn.eventdata.contextInfo	<p>Severity = Informational      Host Name = ConsoleHost      Host Version = 5.1.26348.558      Host ID = 6a9fba73-6249-464b-a654-43183dedb15      Hu  at Application = C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe -ExecutionPolicy All -Command netstat -an   findstr /i /s "Microsoft  Rumspice ID = 4ac9f902-9a99-4d56-9af8-983a1428f6d3      Pipeline ID = 1      Command Name =      Command Type = Script      Engine Version = 5.1.26348.558  d Path =      Sequence Number = 10      User = WIN-ILKMG79KX2\Administrator      Connected User =      Shell ID = Microsoft.PowerShell</p>
# data.xn.eventdata.payload	<p>CommandInvocation(Out-Default): '\Out-Default'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (AggregatorHost)'    ParameterBindi  ng(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (ApplicationFrameHost)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Dia  gnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='Inpu  tObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBind  ing(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Proc  ess (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; va  lua='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'    ParameterBinding(Out-Defau  t): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'</p>
# data.xn.system.channel	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational
# data.xn.system.computer	WIN-ILKMG79KX2
# data.xn.system.eventID	4193
# data.xn.system.eventRecordID	578
# data.xn.system.keywords	0x0
# data.xn.system.level	4
# data.xn.system.message	<p>"CommandInvocation(Out-Default): '\Out-Default'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (AggregatorHost)'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (ApplicationFrameHost)'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'  ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'"</p>
# data.xn.system.opcode	20
# data.xn.system.processID	4772
# data.xn.system.providerGuid	{6e918330-6c48-4010-8766-3cfc9d8f985a}
# data.xn.system.providerName	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
# data.xn.system.severityValue	INFORMATION
# data.xn.system.systemTime	2025-12-15T12:43:54.5866645Z
# data.xn.system.task	560
# data.xn.system.threadID	1660
# data.xn.system.version	5
# decoder.name	windows_eventchannel
# full.log	<pre>{   "win": {     "system": {       "providerName": "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell",       "providerGuid": "{6e918330-6c48-4010-8766-3cfc9d8f985a}",       "eventID": "4193",       "version": "5",       "level": "4",       "task": "560",       "opcode": "20",       "keywords": "0x0",       "systemTime": "2025-12-15T12:43:54.5866645Z",       "eventRecordID": "578",       "processID": "4772",       "threadID": "1660",       "channel": "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational",       "computer": "WIN-ILKMG79KX2",       "severityValue": "INFORMATION",       "message": "\"CommandInvocation(Out-Default): '\Out-Default'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (AggregatorHost)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (ApplicationFrameHost)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'\r\nParameterBinding(Out-Default): name='InputObject'; value='System.Diagnostics.Process (chrome)'"     }   } }</pre>
# id	1765882635.432565
# input.type	log
# location	EventChannel
# manager.name	sysserver

### Summary:

In this project, Windows PowerShell logging was successfully integrated with the Wazuh SIEM platform to monitor and detect suspicious activities. PowerShell Operational Logging, Script Block Logging, and Module Logging were enabled to capture normal commands, full scripts, and module usage. The Wazuh manager on Ubuntu was configured with custom rules to detect encoded and potentially malicious PowerShell commands. During testing, safe PowerShell commands, including encoded and hidden window commands, were executed, generating logs that were successfully captured by

the agent and forwarded to the Wazuh Manager. The Wazuh manager then monitored these logs and successfully generated alerts for any suspicious or potentially harmful activity.