

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.

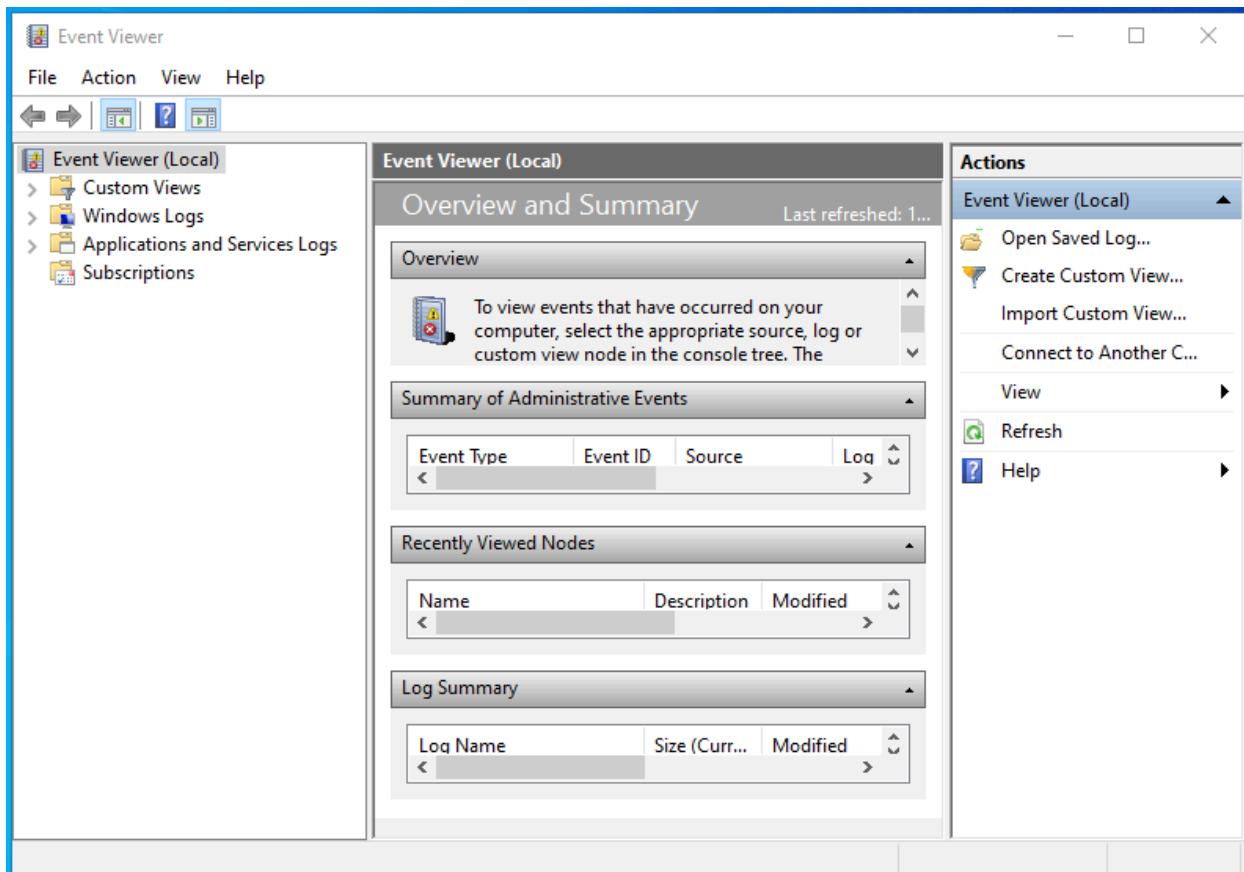
Steps:

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.

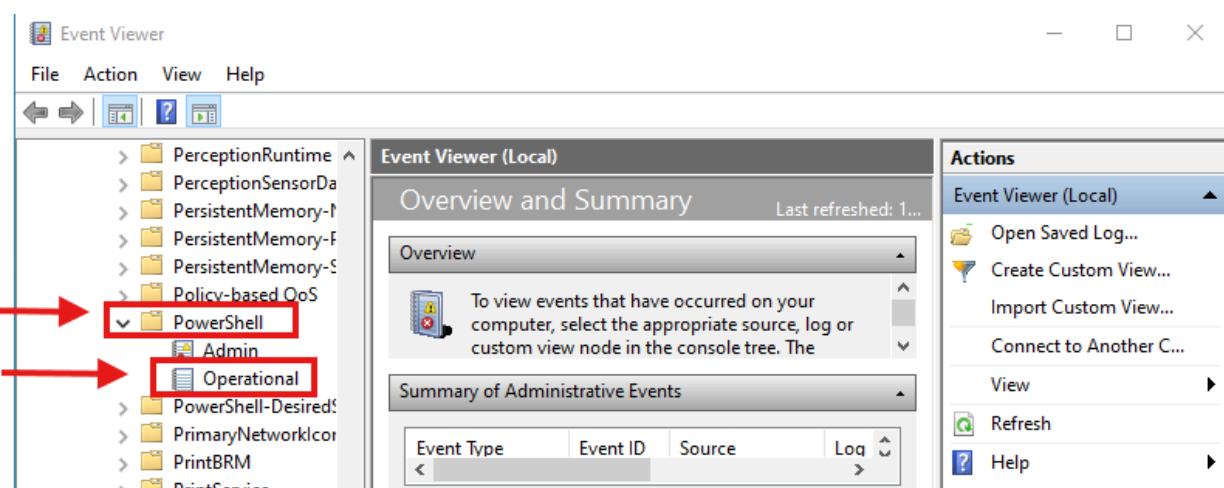
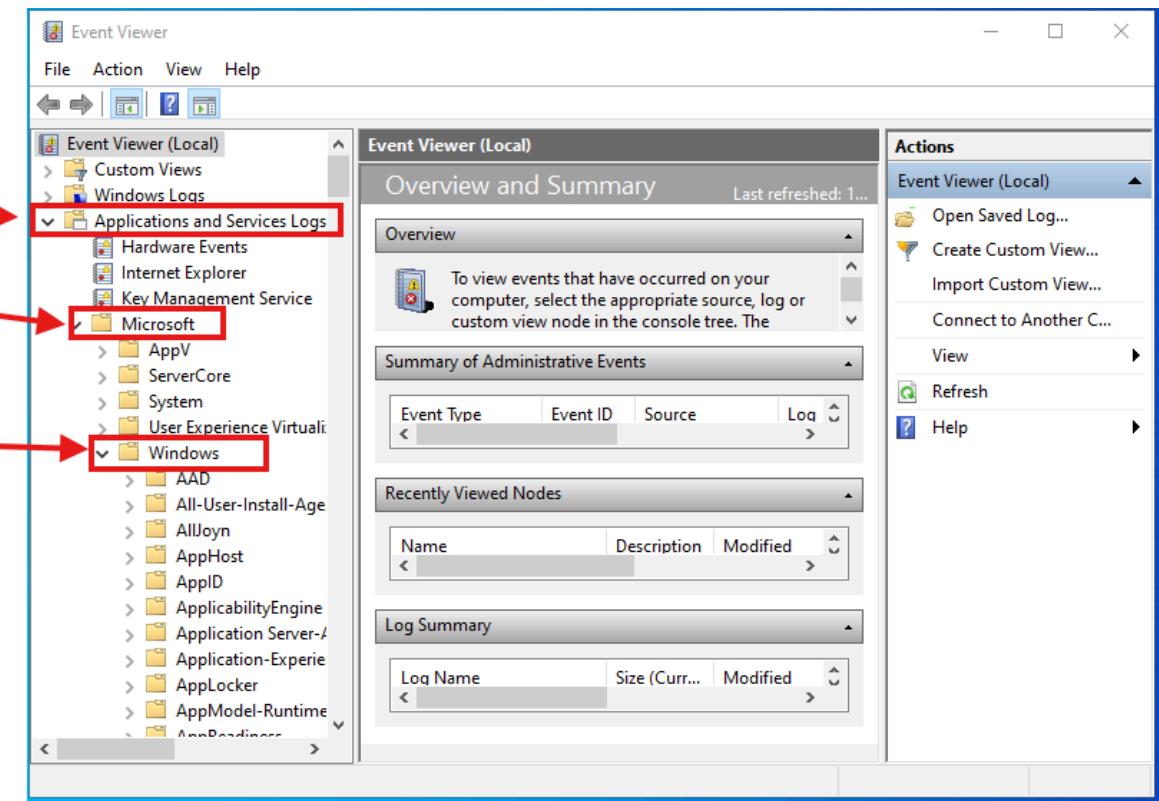
Enable PowerShell Operational Logs

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.

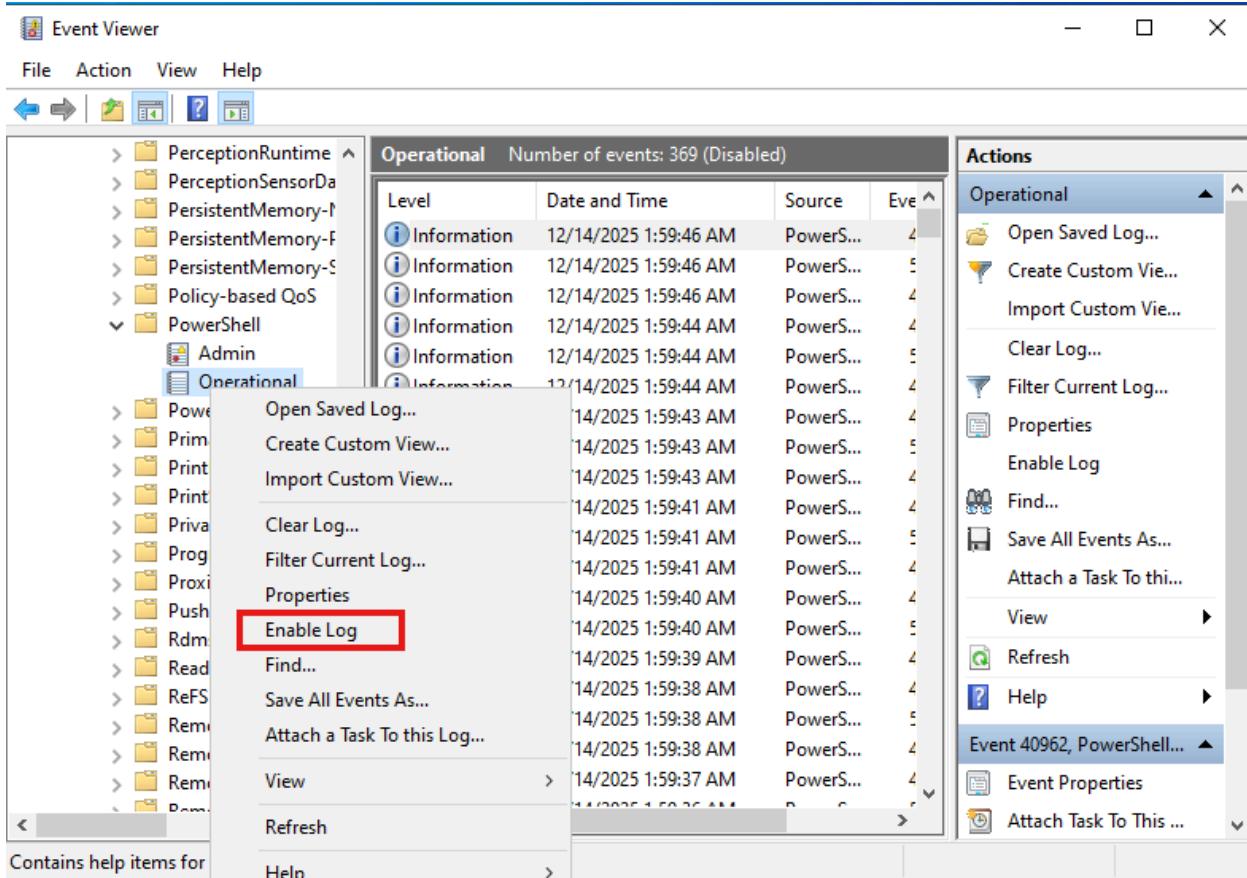


In Event Viewer, we navigate to the following path:

Application and Service Logs > Microsoft > Windows Powershell > Operational



Right-click on the Operational and select Enable Log.

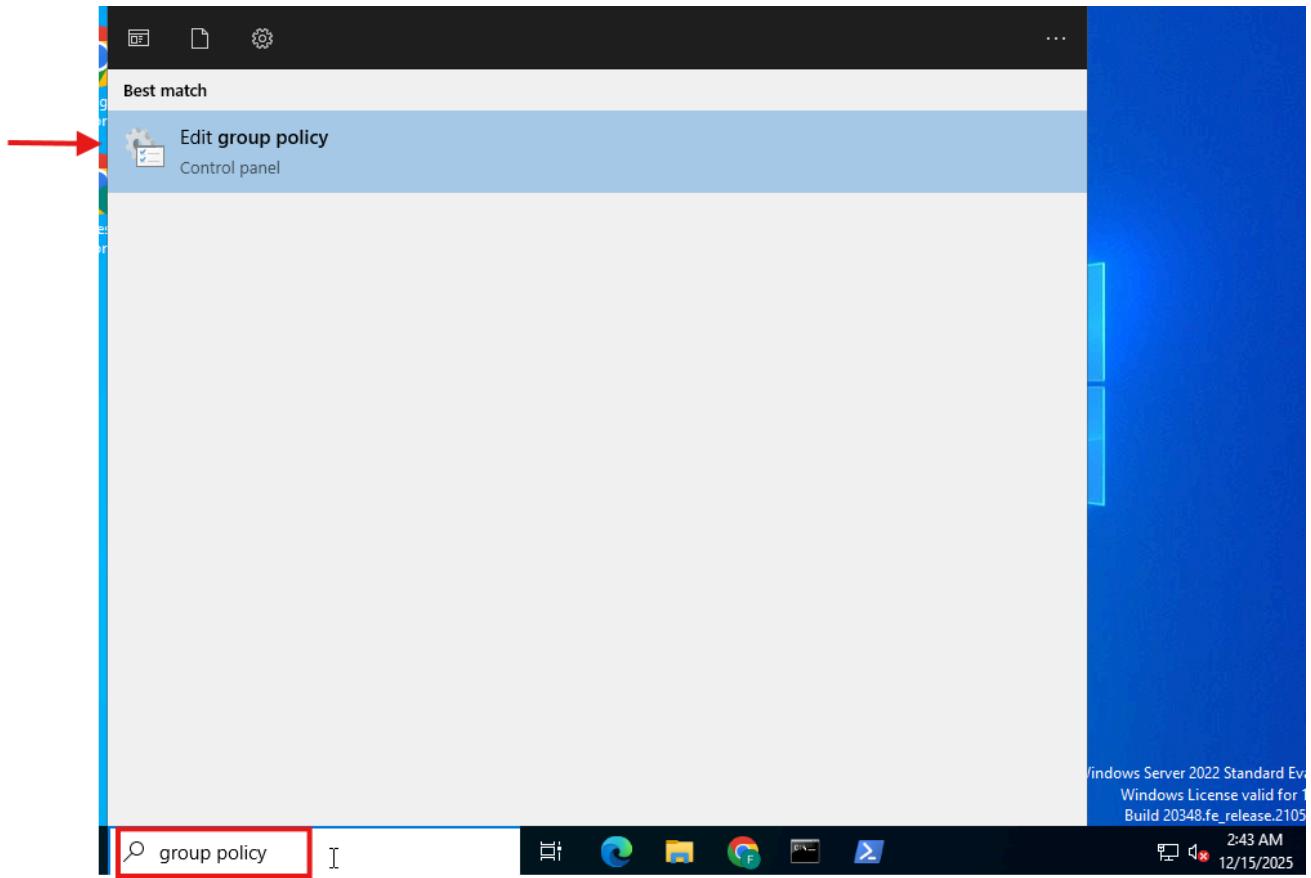


PowerShell Operational logging is now enabled. Windows will record basic PowerShell activity, such as command execution events and errors.

Enable PowerShell Script Block Logging and Module Logging

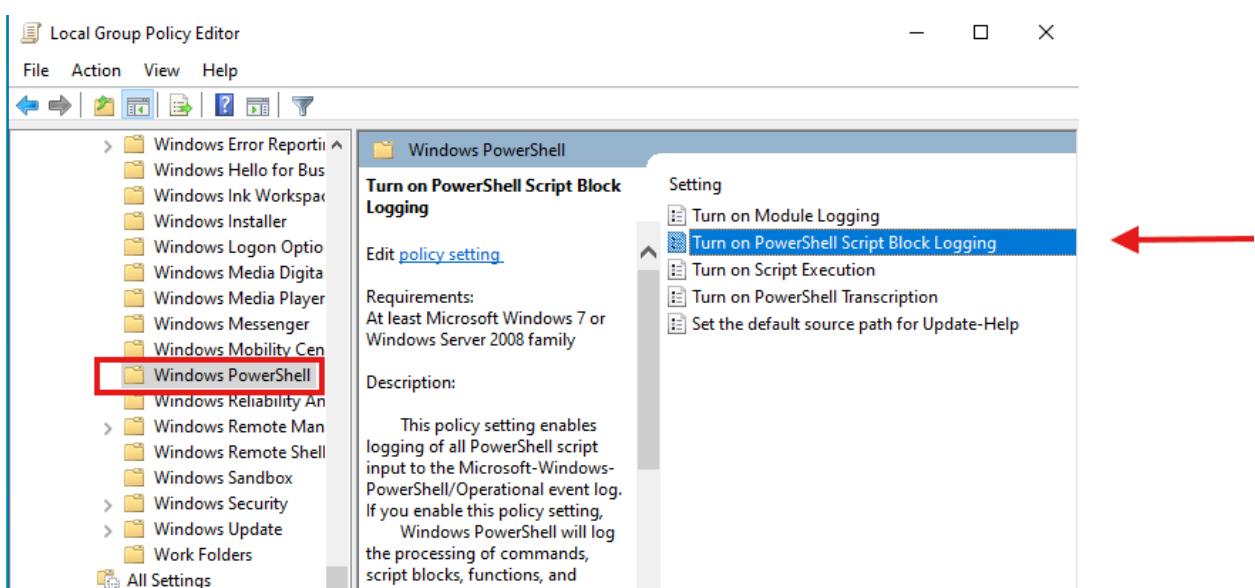
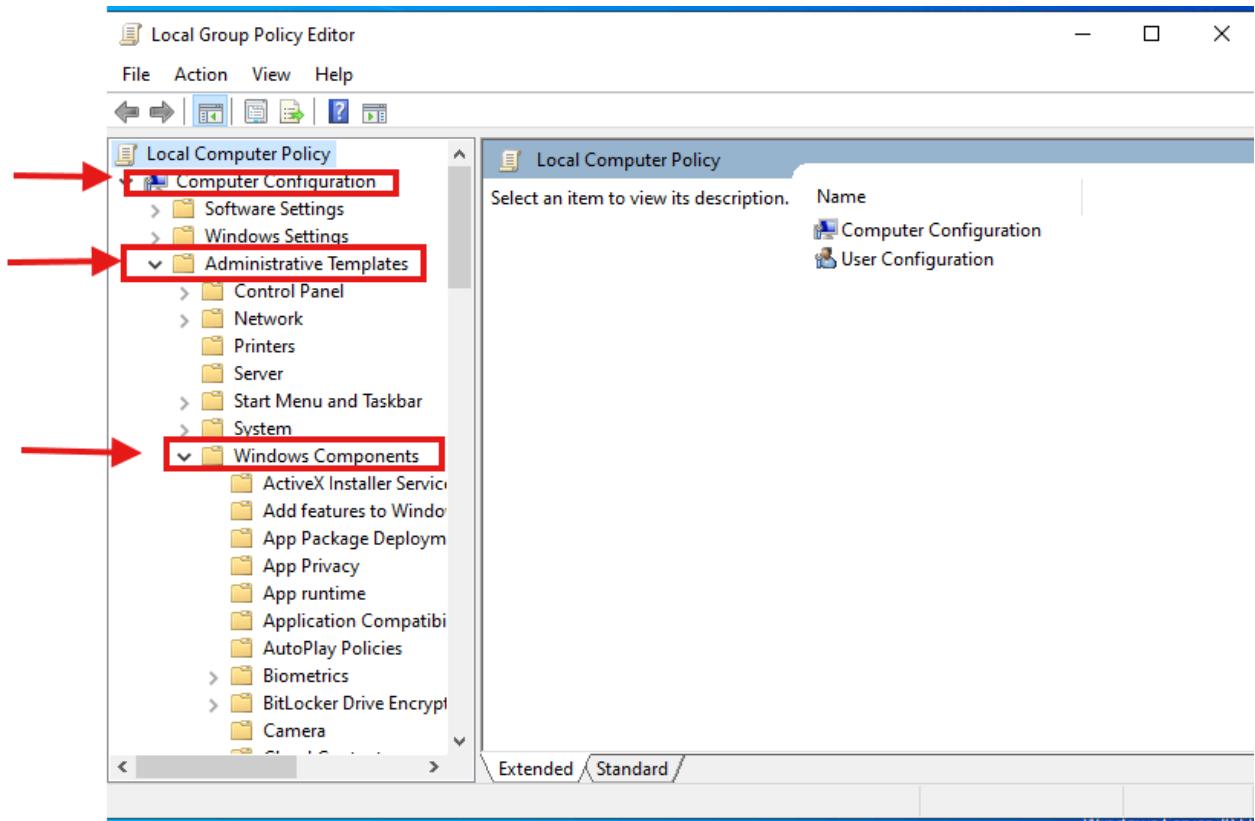
Script Block Logging records the full PowerShell commands and scripts executed on the system.

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



Navigate to the following path:

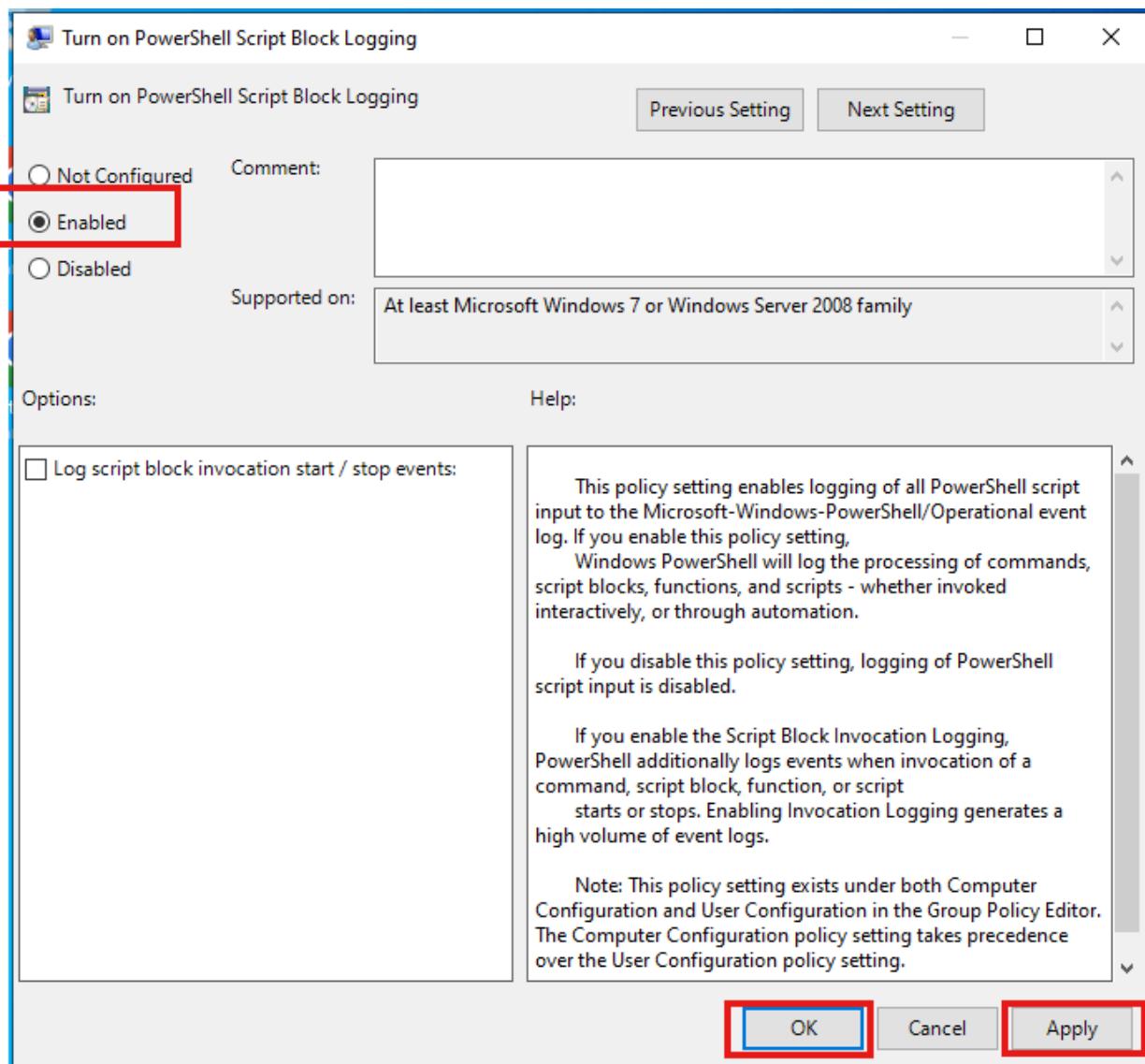
Computer Configuration > Administrative Templates > Windows Components >
Windows PowerShell



Double-click "Turn on PowerShell Script Block Logging".

Select Enabled.

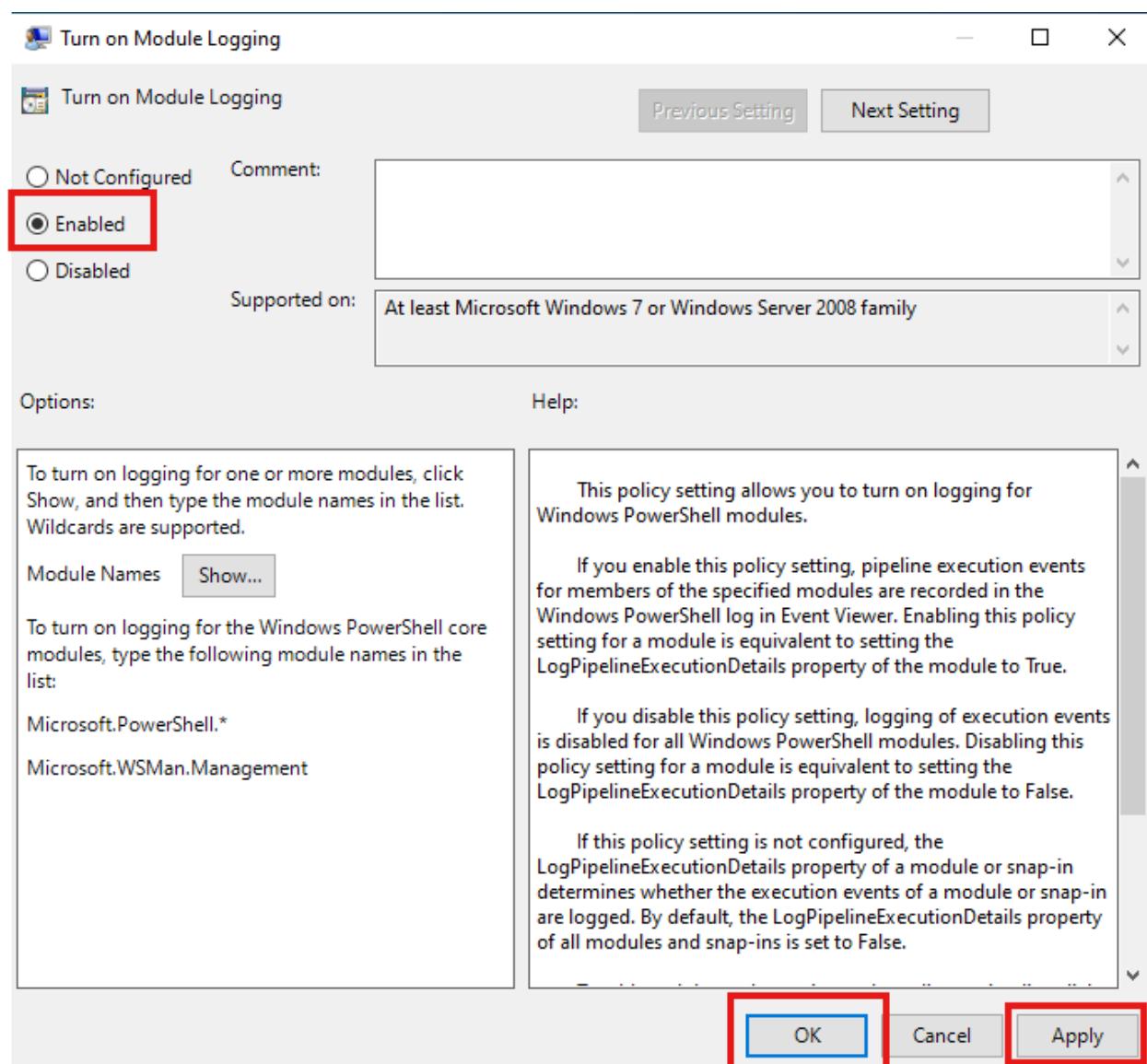
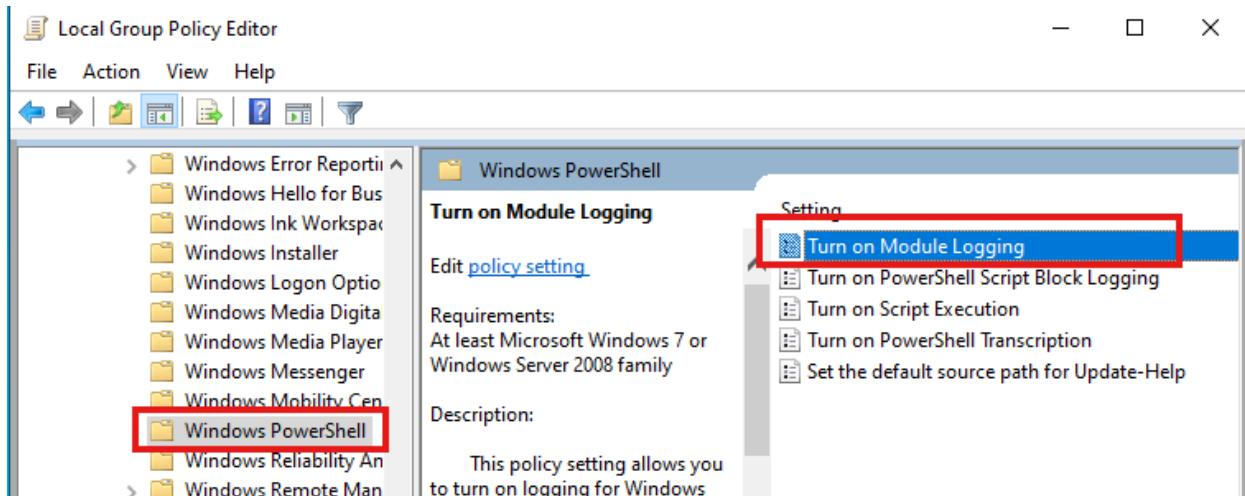
Click Apply, then click OK.



Now Script Block Logging is enabled.

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

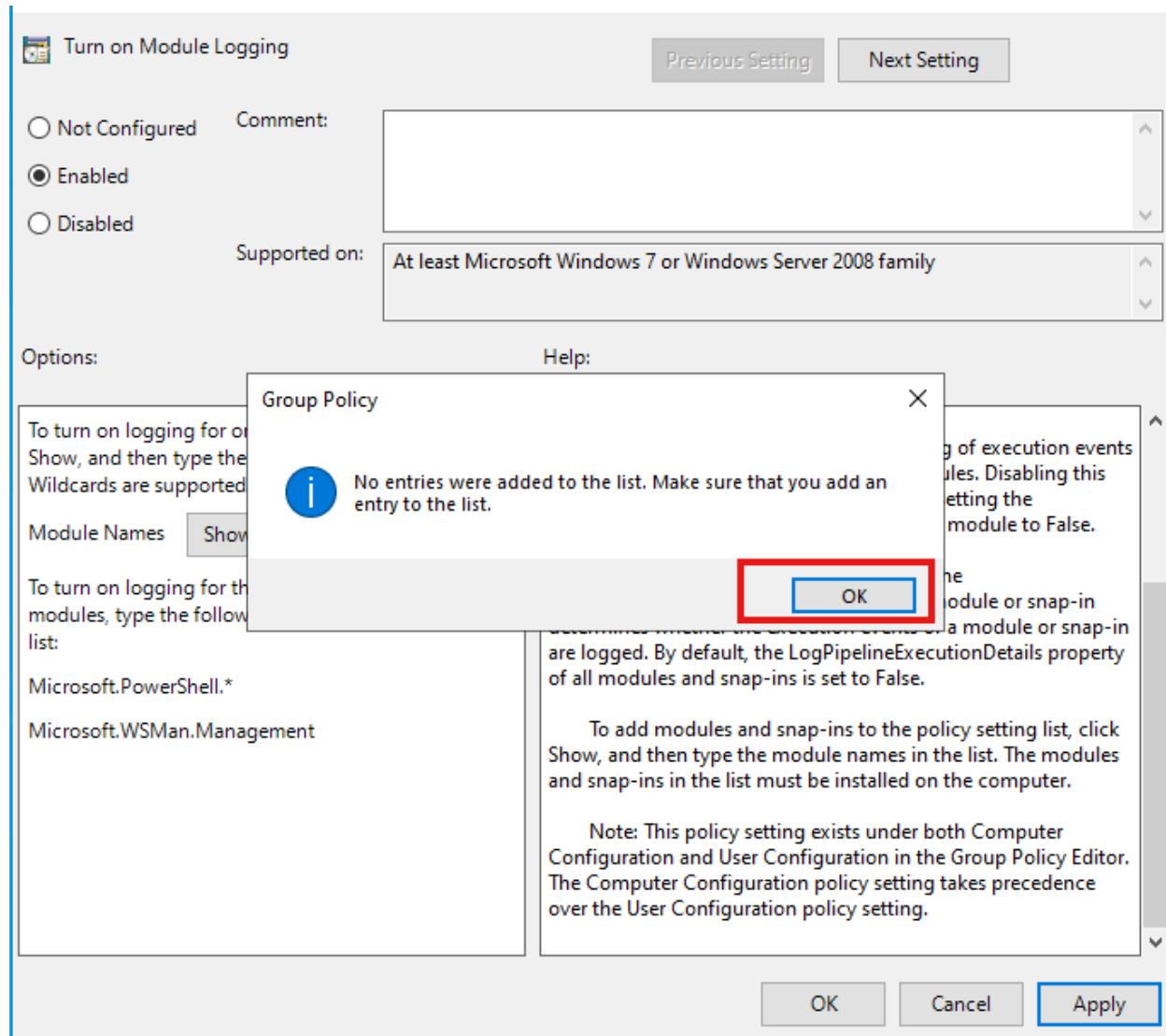
The policy "Turn on Module Logging" is opened and set to Enabled, then click Apply, and click OK

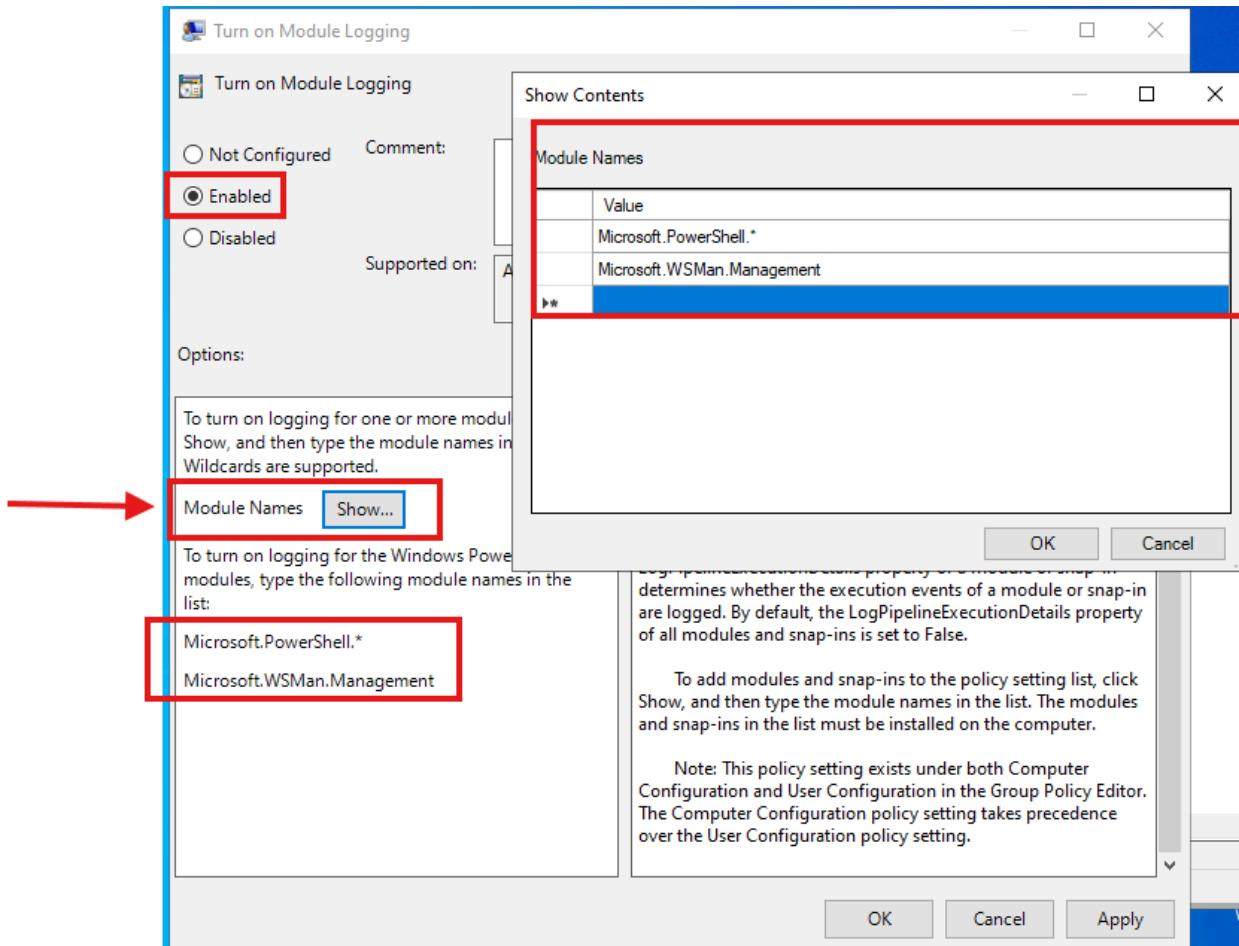


When you click Apply, a popup may appear saying:

"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.



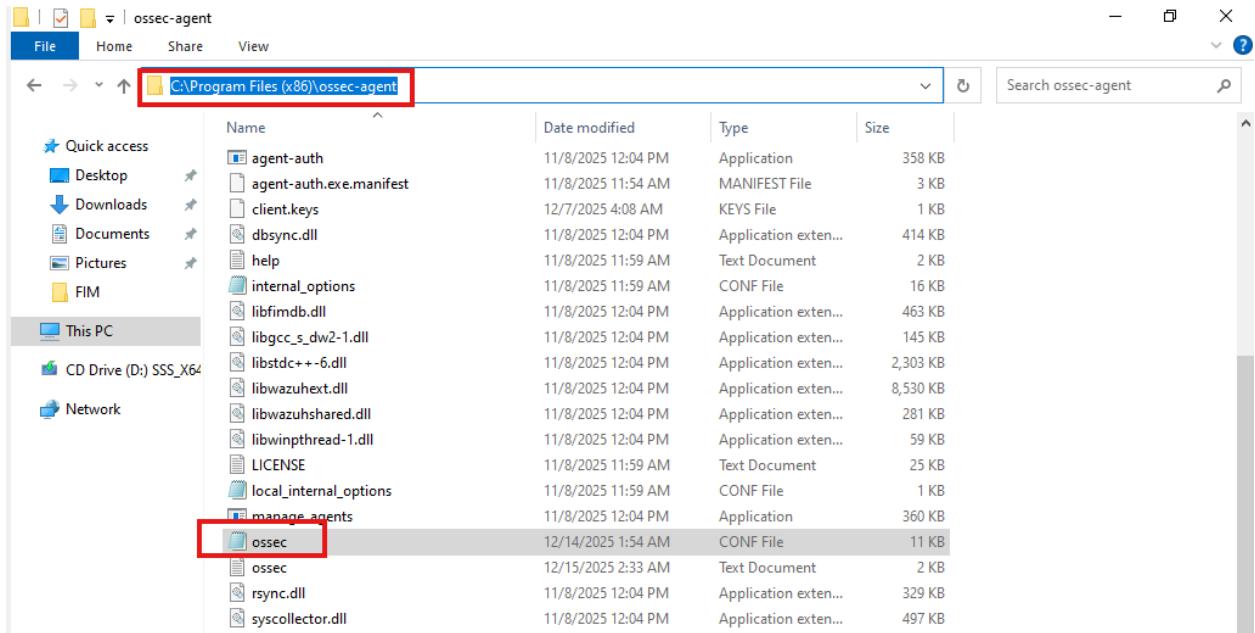


After adding the module names, click OK, then click Apply, and finally click OK again.

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>
```

```
*ossec - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
</localfile>
<localfile>
<location>Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational</location>
<log_format>eventchannel</log_format>
</localfile>

<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
```



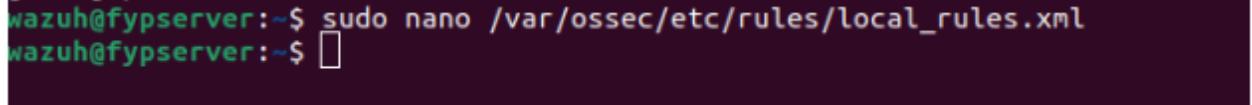
A screenshot of a Windows PowerShell window titled "Administrator: Windows PowerShell". The command "Restart-Service -Name wazuh" is highlighted with a red box. The window shows the command being typed and the resulting output.

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 a terminal window on an Ubuntu server. The command "sudo nano /var/ossec/etc/rules/local_rules.xml" is shown being typed. The terminal prompt "wazuh@fypserver:~\$" is visible.

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">(?i)CommandInvocation</field>
        <field name="win.system.message" type="pcre2">(?i)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>
```

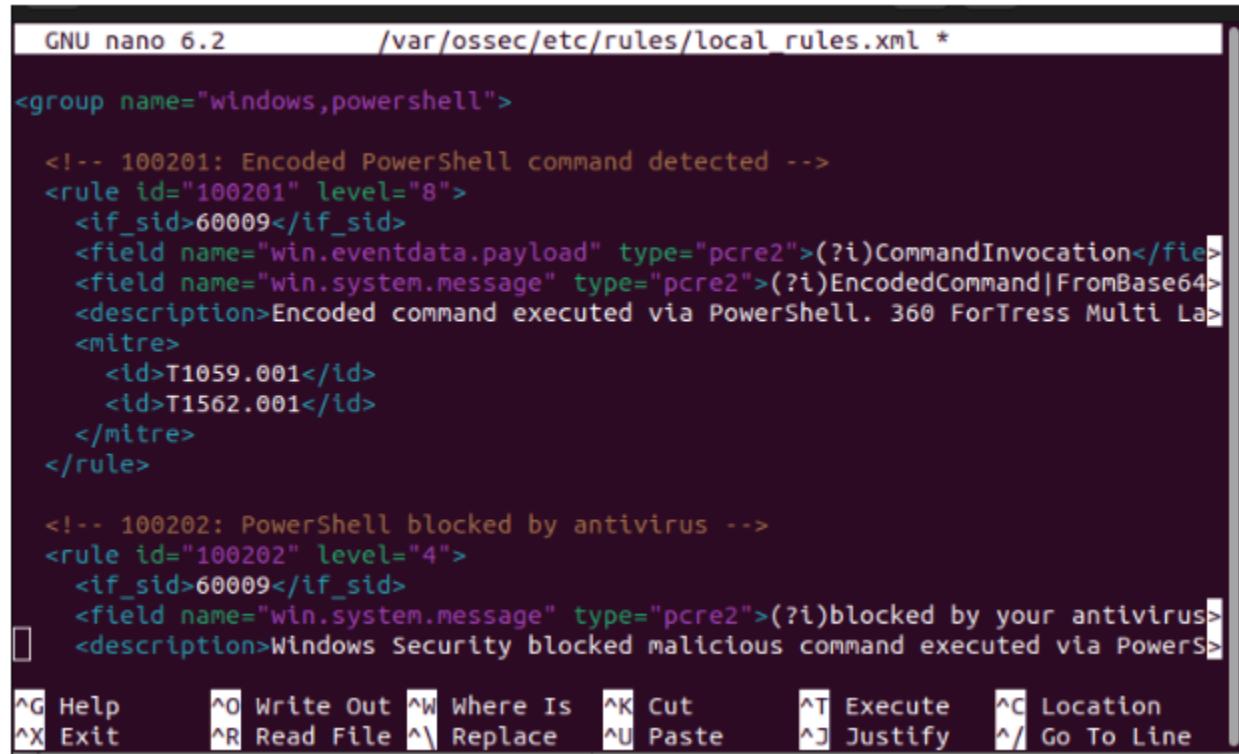
```
<!-- 100204: mshta used for suspicious download -->
<rule id="100204" level="8">
  <if_sid>91802</if_sid>
  <field name="win.eventdata.scriptBlockText"
type="pcre2">(?i)mshta.*GetObject|mshta.*new ActiveXObject</field>
  <description>Mshta used to download a file. Possible malicious activity detected.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

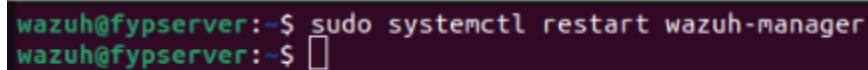
  <!-- 100201: Encoded PowerShell command detected -->
  <rule id="100201" level="8">
    <if_sid>60009</if_sid>
    <field name="win.eventdata.payload" type="pcre2">(?i)CommandInvocation</file>
    <field name="win.system.message" type="pcre2">(?i)EncodedCommand|FromBase64</file>
    <description>Encoded 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</file>
    <description>Windows Security blocked malicious command executed via Powers>

```

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

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	10644	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:

Time	Event Description	Rule Level	Rule ID
Dec 15, 2025 @ 17:07:07.4...	Invoke-WebRequest executed, possible download cradle detected.	5	100206
Dec 15, 2025 @ 17:03:35.7...	Powershell executing process discovery	4	91815

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

Table JSON	
⌚ @timestamp	Dec 15, 2025 @ 17:07:07.448
# _index	wazuh-alerts-4.x-2025.12.15
# _id	601
# _score	10.10.149.31
# _type	Windows Agent
⌚ data.waz.eventdata.eventinfo	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Severity = Informational Host Name = ConsoleHost Host Version = 5.1.20048.000 Host ID = 472500a-d001-4170-a712-10ca2bfa5465 File </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> File Application = C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe Engine Version = 5.1.20048.550 Namespace ID = WICBHD3 000e450b sub Mac </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Pipeline ID = 0 Command Name = Invoke-WebRequest Command Type = Cmdlet Script Name = Command Path = </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Process ID = 28408fc User = BIIH-BI98579007\AdmireMaster Connected User = Shell ID = Microsoft.PowerShell Source </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Process Number = 28 User - BIIH-BI98579007\AdmireMaster Connected User - Shell ID - Microsoft.PowerShell Source - </div>
⌚ data.waz.eventdata.payload	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> DemandQualifiedUri((Invoke-WebRequest)) : ("Invoke-WebRequest") ParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='OutFile'; value='test.txt'; ParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='Uri'; value='http://example.com/' ParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='OutFile'; value='test.txt' ParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='Uri'; value='http://example.com/' </div>
# data.waz.system.channel	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational
# data.waz.system.computer	WIN-1198579007
# data.waz.system.eventID	4103
# data.waz.system.eventRecordID	900
# data.waz.system.keywords	0x8
# data.waz.system.level	4
# data.waz.system.message	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> "CommandInvocation(Invoke-WebRequest); "Invoke-WebRequest" ParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='OutFile'; value='test.txt' ParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='Uri'; value='http://example.com/' </div>
Contact:	
# data.waz.system.providerName	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
# data.waz.system.severityValue	INFORMATION
# data.waz.system.systemTime	2025-12-15T12:07:07.122936Z
# data.waz.system.task	106
# data.waz.system.threadID	4628
# data.waz.system.version	1
# decoder.name	windows_eventchannel
# full_log	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> ({"win": {"sysmeta": {"providerName": "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell", "providerGuid": "{ab1800b-5c40-4b10-8764-3cfbc0f900a}", "eventID": "4103", "version": "1", "level": "4", "task": "106", "opcode": "28", "keywords": "0x8"}, "systemTime": "2025-12-15T12:07:07.122936Z", "eventRecordID": "900", "processID": "4103", "threadID": "4628", "channel": "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational", "computer": "WIN-1198579007", "severityValue": "INFORMATION", "message": "CommandInvocation(Invoke-WebRequest); \"Invoke-WebRequest\"\\r\\nParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='OutFile'; value='test.txt'\\r\\nParameterBinding((Invoke-WebRequest)) : name='Uri'; value='http://example.com/'\\r\\n\\r\\nSeverity = Informational\\r\\n Host Name = ConsoleHost\\r\\n Host Version = 5.1.20048.550\\r\\n Host ID = 472500a-d001-4170-a712-10ca2bfa5465\\r\\n File Application = C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe\\r\\n Engine Version = 5.1.20048.550\\r\\n Namespace ID = WICBHD3 000e450b\\r\\n Command Name = File </div>
# id	1765880427-253167
# input.type	log
# location	EventChannel
# manager.name	Fysaer
# rule.description	Invoke-WebRequest executed, possible download malware detected.
# rule.firedtimes	1
# rule.groups	windows, powershell
# rule.id	100006
# rule.level	5
# rule.mail	false
# rule.mitre.id	T1059.001

Test 3: powershell -EncodedCommand RwBIAHQALQBQAHIAbwBjAGUAcwBzAA==

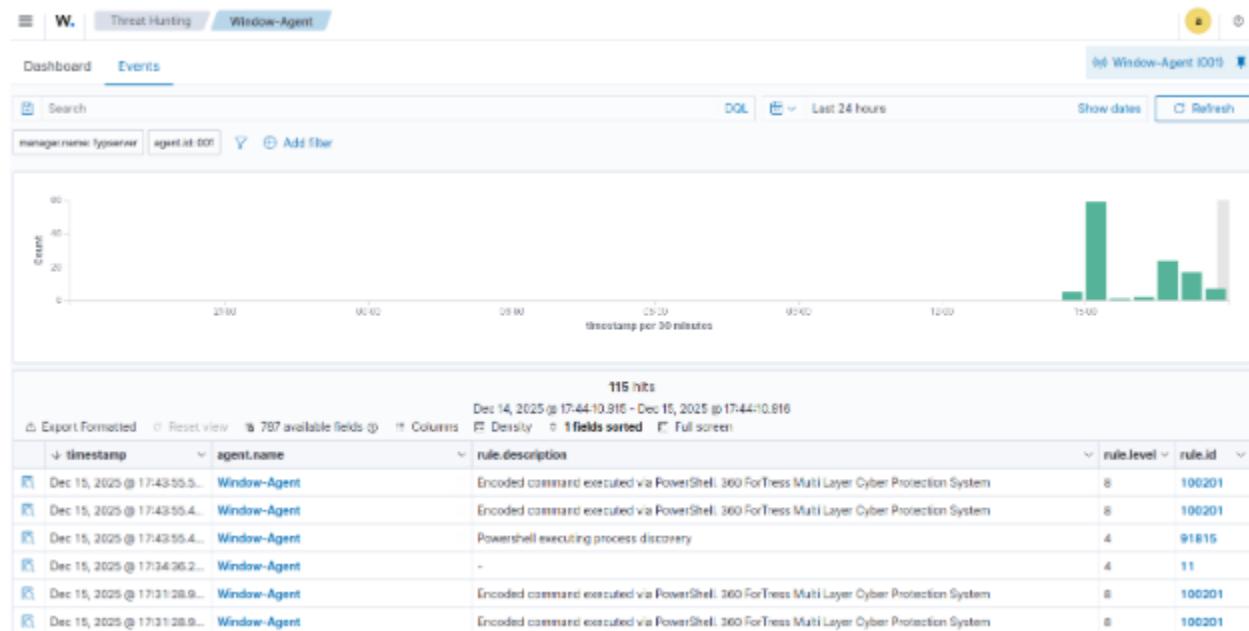
```

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

Handles  NPM(K)    PM(K)      WS(K)      CPU(s)      Id  SI ProcessName
----  -----  -----  -----  -----  --  --  -----
 88       6     880      4684      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     12984      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:

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.