

In order to make Logstash send logs to Logsense, you need to configure it with the Elasticsearch plugin to output to the Logsense endpoint, while specifying:

- **logsene-receiver.sematext.com** as the host
- **80** or **443** as the **port**
- your Logsense App token as the index name
- **http** as the **protocol**
- **ssl** as **true** for SSL/HTTPS

### Tailing a File

To send the contents of a file, you'd configure it like this:

```
input {
  file {
    path => "/var/log/apache.log"
    start_position => "beginning"           # this will also send existing contents the first time
    add_field => { "source" => "apache" }   # add a source field, for easier filtering
  }
}

output {
  elasticsearch {
    hosts => "logsene-receiver.sematext.com:443" # this is called "hosts" in Logstash
    ssl => true                                # (requires Logstash 1.5+) if you do not want to use SSL
    index => "LOGSENE_APP_TOKEN_GOES_HERE"
    manage_template => false                 # Logsense will manage templates for you
  }
}
```

To get started quickly, you can simply download Logstash, unpack it, save the above configuration into a file (e.g., /etc/logstash/conf.d/logsene.conf), then start Logstash:

```
bin/logstash -f /tmp/logstash.conf
```

After it starts, logs from that file will flow to Logsense and you should be able to start searching them.

### Parsing Unstructured Data

You may want to extract metrics from your logs, to do various analysis tasks. For example, you can make a pie chart in Kibana that shows you how often clients get 200 response codes, how often 500 and so on.

With Logstash, you can parse logs by using the grok filter. For example, you can enhance the previous configuration to parse your Apache combined log format by changing it to the following:

```
input {
  file {
    path => "/var/log/apache.log"
    add_field => { "source" => "apache" }    # add a source field, for easier filtering
    start_position => "beginning"
  }
}

filter {
  if [source] == "apache" {                  # only try to parse if logs are from the "apache"
    grok {
      match => [ "message", "%{COMBINEDAPACHELOG}" ]
    }
  }
}

output {
  elasticsearch {
    hosts => "logsene-receiver.sematext.com:443"
    ssl => true
    index => "LOGSENE_APP_TOKEN_GOES_HERE"
    manage_template => false
  }
}
```

## Tagging Specific Logs

Logstash populates a number of special fields, such as **host** and **@timestamp**. You can also configure it to add one or more tags to logs matching certain criteria. This is useful when you want to quickly identify a special kind of logs. For example, you could tag events that come from the apache log and contain the word “error” as “apache errors”.

To achieve this, you can use the mutate filter to add the tags, and wrap it in a conditional that matches those specific logs:

```
filter {
  if [source] == "apache" and [message] =~ "error" {
    mutate {
      add_field => {
        "tags" => ["apache errors" ]
      }
    }
  }
}
```

```
}  
}  
}
```