



# ExtremeControl & DatAlert Implementation Guide

## Abstract:

There are great security tools on the market. There are great network management tools on the same market. The best value for the customer is combination of both security tool and management tool. In other words the automation gives the customer great value. Varonis DatAlert automatically detect suspicious and unwanted activity across disparate platforms through analytics and in real-time, helping you spot issues and prevent data breaches. ExtremeControl solution is a multi-vendor solution that provides an unparalleled range of choices for fine-grained network access control.

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## Use Case

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DatAlert monitors enterprise assets for suspicious activity and unusual behavior, detecting critical events and compromised assets on customer core infrastructure.

Detect insider threats and cyber threats by analyzing data, account activity, and user behavior. Automate responses to suspicious activity and alert on unusual behavior – using deep analysis of metadata, machine learning, and advanced User Behavior Analytics (UBA).

ExtremeControl is part of Extreme Management Center (XMC). Management Center (formerly known as NetSight) is a single pane of glass management system that provides wired/wireless visibility and control from the data center to the mobile edge. The intelligence, automation, and integration of your management software enable the IT organization to optimize the efficiency of network operations and reduce total cost of ownership.

Management Center provides centralized visibility and granular control of enterprise network resources end to end. Management Center is distinctive for granularity that reaches beyond ports and VLANs down to individual users, applications, and protocols. No matter how many moves, adds, or changes occur in your environment, Management Center keeps everything in view and under control through role-based access controls. One click can equal a thousand actions when you manage your network with Extreme Networks. Management Center can even manage beyond Extreme Networks switching, routing, and wireless hardware to deliver standards-based control of other vendors' network equipment.

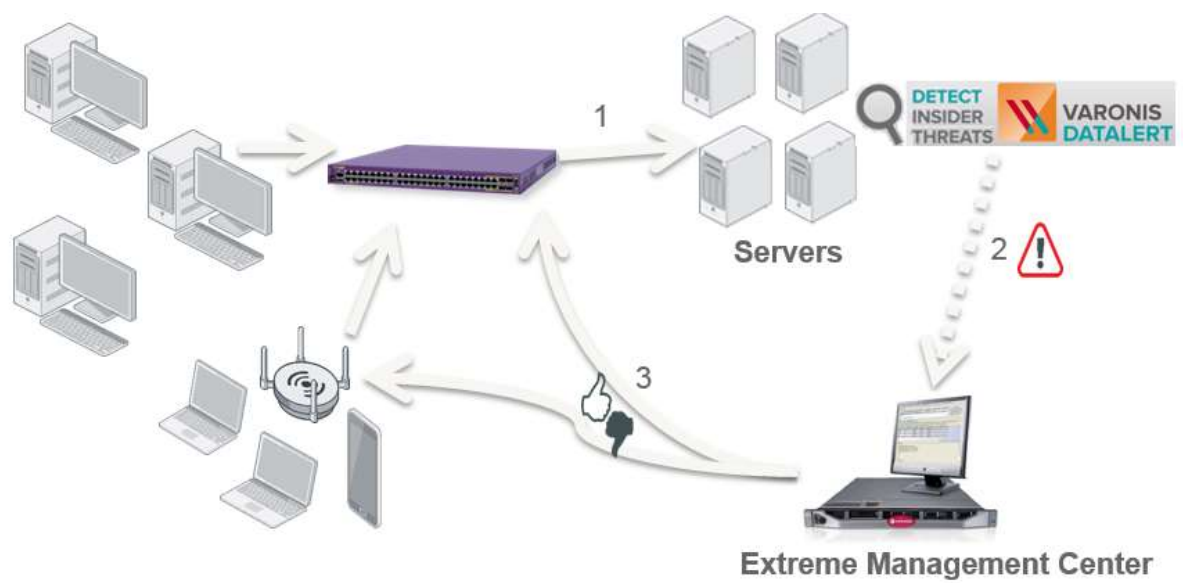
ExtremeControl is a complete standards-based, multi-vendor interoperable pre-connect and post-connect Access Control solution for wired and wireless LAN and VPN users. Using the Extreme Access Control Engine appliances and/or Virtual Appliance with XMC management configuration and reporting software, IT administrators can deploy a leading-edge Network Access Control solution to ensure only the right users have access to the right information from the right place at the right time including time of day, location, authentication types, device and OS type, and end system and user groups.

DatAlert is able to detect issues like ransomware or user suspicious activity. If such activity is detected there are several actions what can be triggered. In this integration we use custom syslog message originating from DatAlert going to XMC. The syslog message is being sent to the XMC. XMC does parse the syslog message and does decode username of the suspicious activity. Extreme Control does know what user is logged in on what endsystem and where is the endsystem connected to the network. Based on that syslog message notification all endsystems where reported username is present are quarantined. The MAC address of those endsystems are assigned to the Blacklist group. Administrator can define what will happen with such endsystems. Most common approach is deny network access or limit the network access to very limited way (only DHCP and ARP). Informing the user through the captive web portal is also supported.

Example use cases = when the account can be quarantined:

- **Crypto Activity Detected.** There is dictionary of file names what ransomware creates in the Varonis DatAlert solution. If such file is opened, created or renamed then such account can be quarantined from the network.

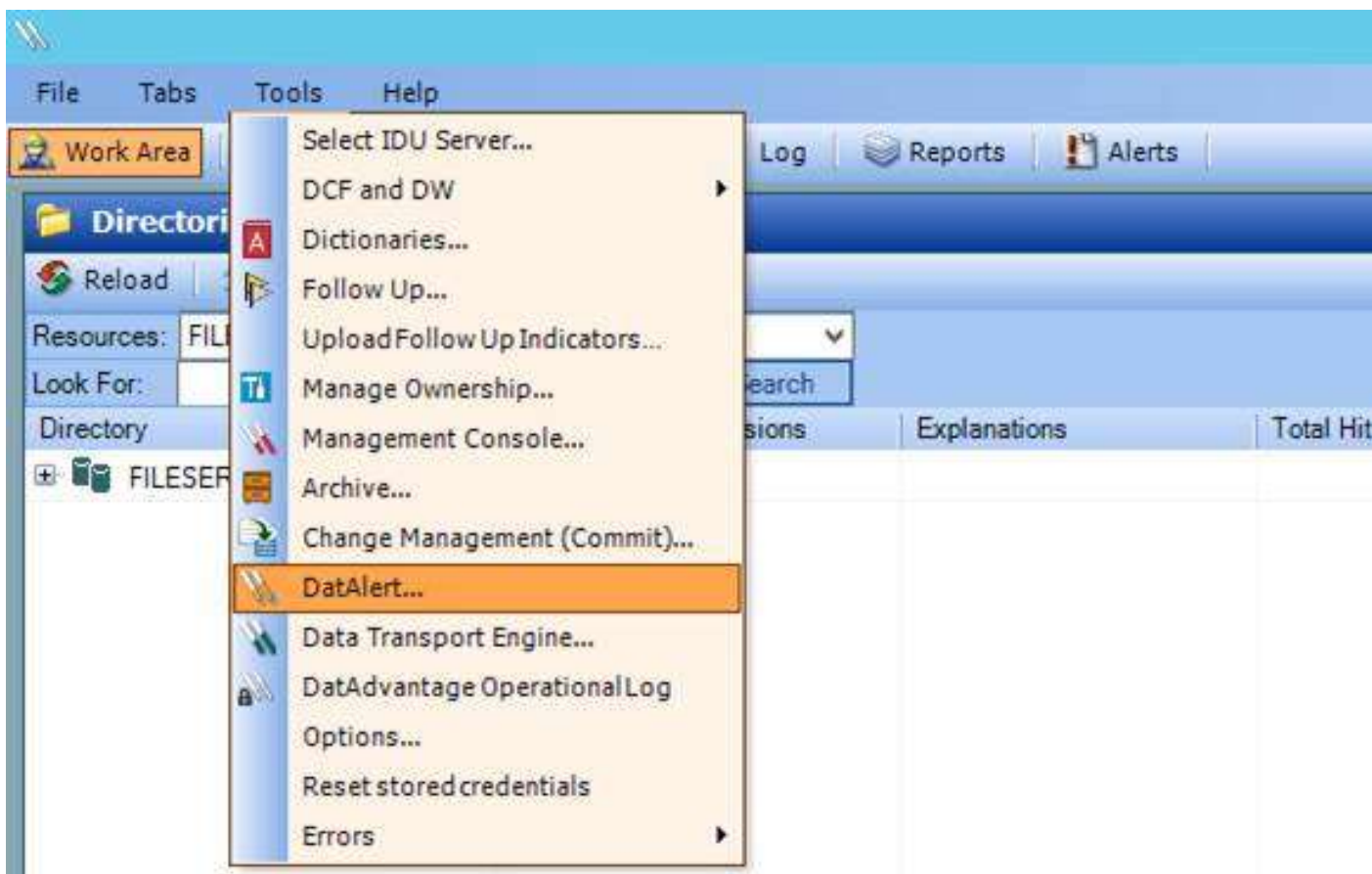
- **Abnormal Behavior: Unusual Number of File Deletion.** Varonis DatAlert is learning the behavior of users. If there is abnormal amount of files deleted from protected servers then the alarm is triggered. Threshold can be also configured. Such account can be quarantined from the network.
- **Membership Changes: Admin Groups.** If the company does out-source some services, it is very common that outsourced company does need admin access to accomplish contracted duties. If such out-sourced account with admin privileges does add privileges to another account it is evidence of breaking the out-sourcing contract. Such account can be quarantined from the network.
- **Modification: Critical GPOs.** If any of critical Group Policy Objects is modified by not authorized account the account can be quarantined from the network.



1. User behavior is analyzed by Varonis DataAlert.
2. Ransomware is detected or attack is detected by Varonis DataAlert => EMC is notified by message.
3. Extreme Management Center initiates reaction against all machines where the user is located.

## Varonis DatAlert configuration

- 1) Run the DatAlert configuration from the DatAdvantage menu



## 2) SYSLOG configuration in DataAlert

The screenshot shows the 'DataAlert' application window with the 'Configuration' tab selected. The left sidebar contains 'Rules', 'Configuration', 'Alert Templates', and 'Predefined Scopes'. The main area is titled 'Configuration' and includes a 'Restore Default Settings' button. Below this are three sections: 'Mail Settings', 'Syslog Message Forwarding', and 'SNMP Trap'.

**Mail Settings**

- Aggregate similar events over: 5 minutes into a single message
- Threshold for suppressing messages: 20 messages within 5 minutes
- Select header image: Varonis DataAlert logo

**Syslog Message Forwarding**

- Syslog server IP address: 192.168.10.201
- Port: 514
- Facility name: 1 - user-level...
- Identity: Varonis-DatAl
- Test Message button

**SNMP Trap**

- SNMP server IP address: (empty)
- Port: 162
- Community name: public
- OID: (empty)
- Test Message button

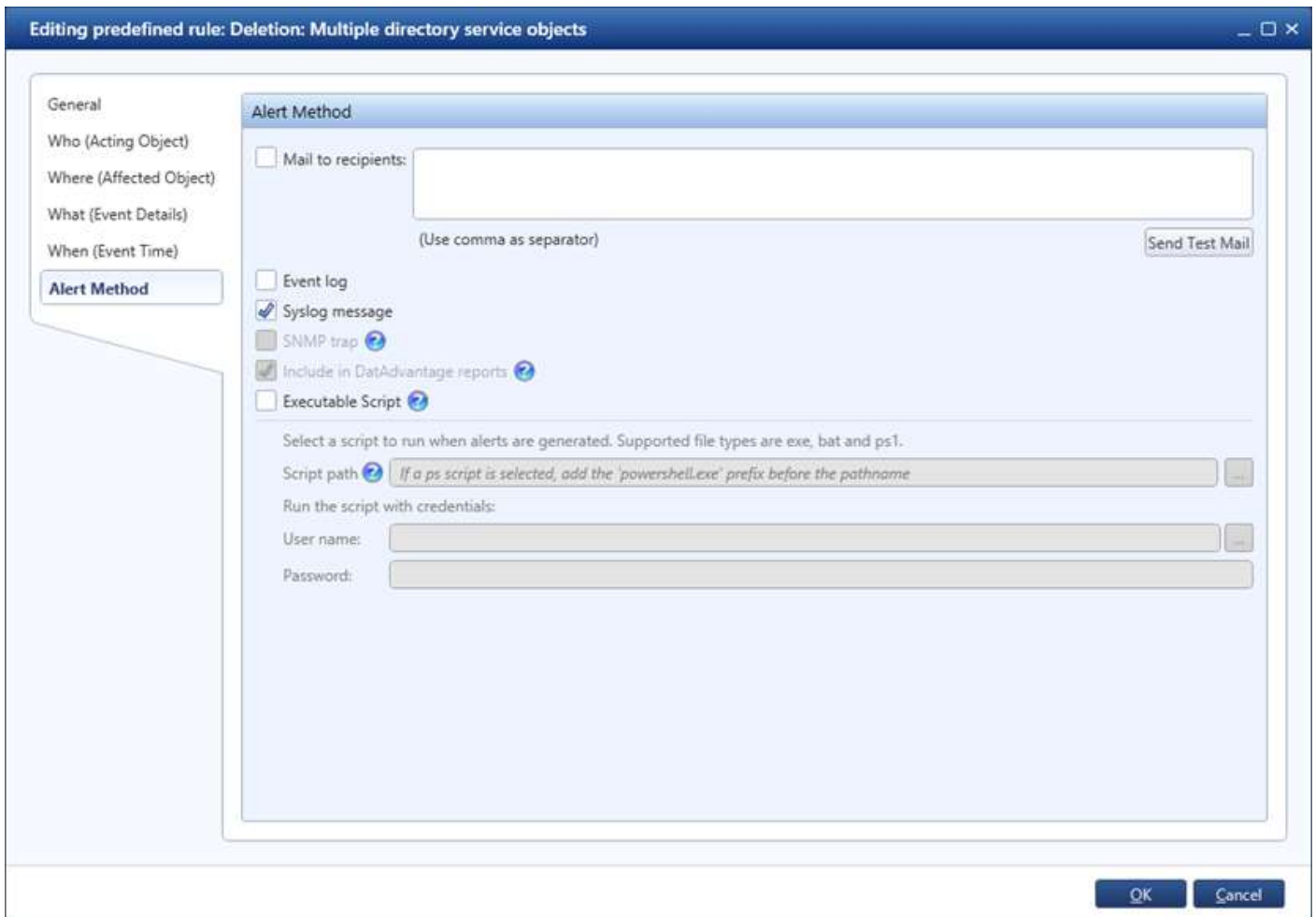
At the bottom right are buttons for 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply'.



### 3) Create Alert Template for SYSLOG



### 4) Enable SYSLOG message at the Alert method



## Varonis DataAlert tuning

By default the DataAlert does report the information with 60 seconds delay.

If needed you may edit file: Varonis\DatAdvantage\Probe\VrnsProbeSvc.exe.varonis.config

Find the section: <configuration><probe><filer><win> and modify:

Replace original values with new values:

Original value	New value
<add key="EnablePatternFilter" value="1"/>	<add key="EnablePatternFilter" value="0"/>
<add key="[long]QueueWaitTime" value="60000" />	<add key="[long]QueueWaitTime" value="10000" />

QueueWaitTime = how often does the sensor connect to file server and gather events. Value in milliseconds.

EnablePatternFilter = does filter temporary files which are part of short sequence of actions. Example is file deleted immediately after creation, file rename after creation.

## ExtremeControl configuration

- 1) Upload the script to the XMC by SCP or winSCP to the /
- 2) ssh to the XMC
- 3) Create user account if the XMC is not configured to use external authentication

```
root@XMC:~$ adduser --force-badname APIuser
Allowing use of questionable username.
Adding user `APIuser' ...
Adding new group `APIuser' (1001) ...
Adding new user `APIuser' (1001) with group `APIuser' ...
Creating home directory `/home/APIuser' ...
Copying files from `/etc/skel' ...
Enter new UNIX password: password
Retype new UNIX password: password
passwd: password updated successfully
Changing the user information for APIuser
Enter the new value, or press ENTER for the default
    Full Name []:
    Room Number []:
    Work Phone []:
    Home Phone []:
    Other []:
Is the information correct? [Y/n] y
```

- 4) Unpack the script

```
root@XMC:/$ tar xzf varonis2quarantine.tgz
root@XMC:/$ chmod 750 /usr/local/bin/varonis2quarantine.sh
```

- 5) Update the credentials in the script and the IP

```
root@XMC:/$ cat /usr/local/bin/varonis2quarantine.sh
#!/bin/sh
ARGS=$@
APIUSERNAME=APIuser
APIPASSWORD=password
NMS=127.0.0.1
DESCRIPTION=$ARGS

/usr/bin/logger "AutoBlacklist started"
DOMAIN=`echo "$ARGS" | grep -oP 'Acting\sAccount:\s+' | cut -d ":" -f2 |
sed "s/ //g" | cut -d '\\' -f1 | tr [a-z] [A-Z] | cut -d '.' -f1`
USER=`echo "$ARGS" | grep -oP 'Acting\sAccount:\s+' | cut -d ":" -f2 |
sed "s/ //g" | cut -d '\\' -f2`
USERNAME="$DOMAIN\\$USER"
DESCRIPTION=`echo "$ARGS" | grep -oP 'Rule\sName:\s+' | sed "s/ /%20/g"`

/usr/bin/logger "AutoBlacklist searching for $USERNAME"
```

```
MACS=`/usr/bin/curl -u $APIUSERNAME:$APIPASSWORD -k -s
"https://$NMS:8443/axis/services/NACEndSystemWebService/getEndSystemsByUse
rName?userName=$USERNAME" | sed "s/,/\n/g" | grep macAddress= | cut -d "="
-f2`

/usr/bin/logger "AutoBlacklist applying blacklist for $MACS"

j=1
for i in $MACS
do
MAC=`echo $MACS |cut -d " " -f$j`
/usr/bin/curl -u $APIUSERNAME:$APIPASSWORD -k -s
"https://$NMS:8443/axis/services/NACWebService/addMACToBlacklist?macAddres
s=$MAC&description=$DESCRIPTION&reauthenticate=true">/dev/nul
j=`expr $j + 1`
done

/usr/bin/logger "AutoBlacklist done"
```

## 6) XMC Alarm configuration

If the Syslog does contain phrase „Varonis - DatAlert“ then execute the script

### Edit Custom Criteria Alarm Definition: Varonis to blacklist

Severity: ▼ Critical

Enabled: ☒

**Criteria** Actions Other Options

Custom Criteria

➕ Add
✎ Edit
➖ Remove

Match On:

Log: Syslog

Information Phrase: "Varonis - DatAlert"

Additional Criteria

Select Groups...

Save Cancel

### Alarm Configuration : Varonis to blacklist

Severity: ▼ Critical

Enabled: ☒

Criteria Actions Other Options

➕ Add
✎ Edit...
➖ Remove
Test

Actions

Execute Program [/usr/local/bin/varonis2quarantine.sh] at [/usr/local/bin]

Alarm Suppression

Limit the number of times an action is taken for a recurring alarm within a configured timeframe.

Enable Alarm Limit: ☐ Max Count: 5

Reset Interval: 1 Days Reset All

### Editing Custom Action

Program:

Working Directory:

Override Content: ☒ Show Keywords...

Custom Arguments:

Save Cancel

### Alarm Configuration : Varonis to blacklist

Severity: ▼ Critical

Enabled: ☒

Criteria Actions **Other Options**

Clear Conditions

No Current Alarm (action only): ☒

Cleared by Alarms: ☐

- 7) API access configuration  
Create Authorization Group with following capability:

Add Authorization Group

Name:
APlaccsesGroup

Membership Criteria:

SNMP Redirect:
Never

Capability

> ☐ NetSight Application Analytics (0 of 2 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Automated Security Manager (0 of 5 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Console (0 of 29 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Inventory Manager (0 of 36 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Mediation Agent (0 of 2 enabled)  
☒ NetSight NAC Manager (5 of 7 enabled)  
    ☐ Edit NAC Manager Configuration  
    ☒ Force reauthentication and scan (assess) End-Systems  
    ☐ Launch NAC Manager  
    ☒ Read access to the NAC System Web Services APIs  
    ☒ Read access to the NAC Web Services API  
    ☒ Read/Write access to the NAC System Web Services APIs  
    ☒ Read/Write access to the NAC Web Services API  
> ☐ NetSight OneView (0 of 25 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Policy Control Console (0 of 2 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Policy Manager (0 of 3 enabled)  
> ☐ NetSight Suite (0 of 44 enabled)

Save
Cancel

## 8) API access configuration

### Add APluser to the authorization group

The screenshot shows the 'Administration' tab in the Extreme Networks configuration interface. The 'Users' sub-tab is selected. Under 'Authentication Method', the 'Authentication Type' is set to 'OS'. The checkbox 'Enable OS Authentication to Authorization Group' is unchecked, and the 'Authorization Group' is set to 'NetSight Administrator'.

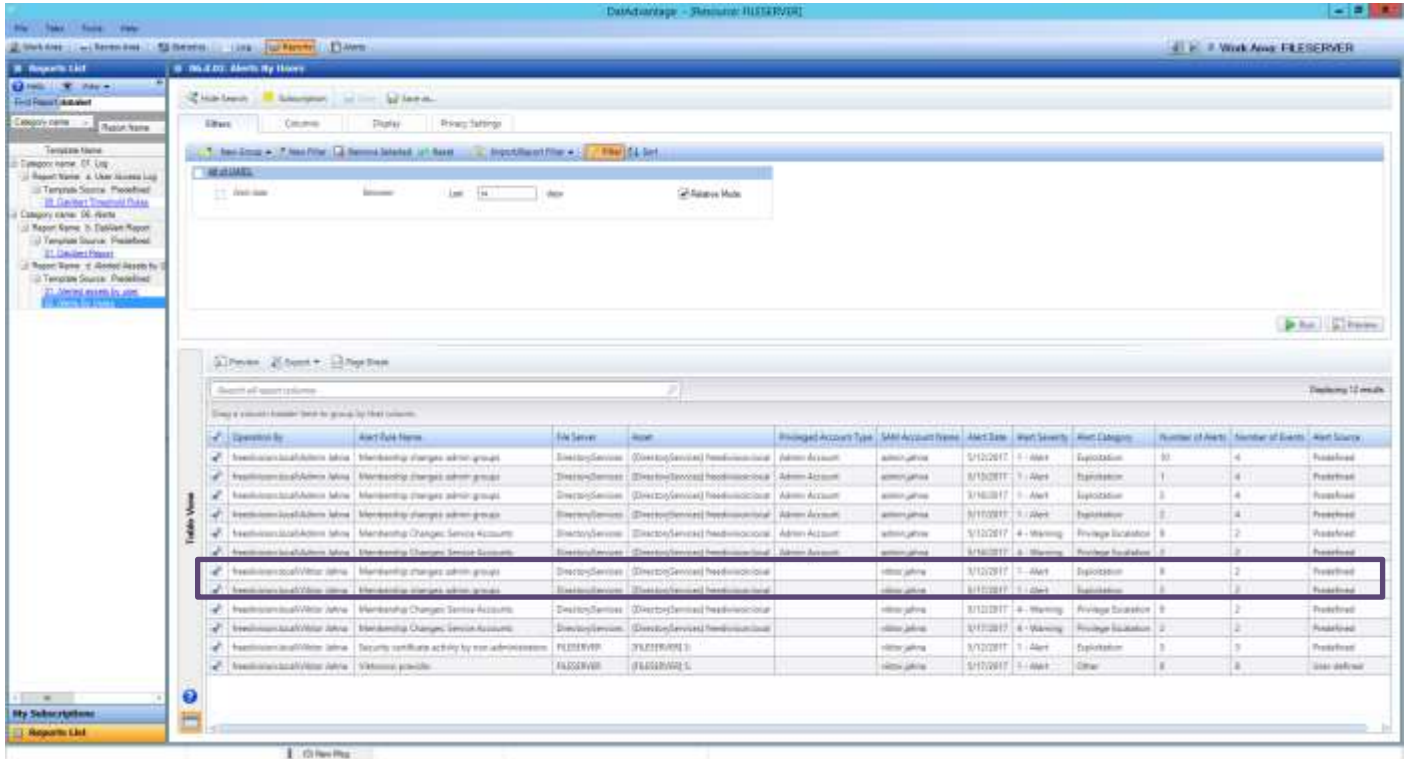
Under 'Authorized Users', there is a table with the following columns: 'User Name', 'Domain/Host Name', 'Authorization Group', and 'Automatic Member'. The table contains one entry: 'root' with 'NetSight Administrator' as the authorization group and 'false' as the automatic member status.

An 'Add User' dialog box is open, showing the following fields:
 

- 'User Name': 'APluser' (with a red squiggly line indicating a validation error)
- 'Domain/Host Name': (empty)
- 'Authorization Group': 'APlacesGroup' (selected from a dropdown menu)

 The dialog box has 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom.

# Verification it works



The screenshot shows the DatAlert console interface. The main window displays a table of alerts. The table has the following columns: Alert Name, Alert Type, Alert Date, Alert Severity, Alert Category, Number of Alerts, Number of Events, and Alert Source. The table is titled "Alerts by User" and shows a list of alerts generated by the system. The table is sorted by Alert Date in descending order. The table shows several alerts, with the first few rows highlighted by a red box. The alerts are generated by the system and are of the "Alert" type. The alerts are categorized as "Privilege Escalation" and "Exploitation". The number of alerts and events for each alert is shown in the "Number of Alerts" and "Number of Events" columns. The alert source is listed in the "Alert Source" column.

Alert Name	Alert Type	Alert Date	Alert Severity	Alert Category	Number of Alerts	Number of Events	Alert Source
Membership changes admin group	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	31	4	Predefined
Membership changes admin group	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	1	4	Predefined
Membership changes admin group	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	3	4	Predefined
Membership changes admin group	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	3	4	Predefined
Membership Changes Service Account	Alert	5/10/2017	4 - Warning	Privilege Escalation	6	2	Predefined
Membership Changes Service Account	Alert	5/10/2017	6 - Warning	Privilege Escalation	3	2	Predefined
Membership changes admin group	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	8	2	Predefined
Membership changes admin group	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	3	2	Predefined
Membership Changes Service Account	Alert	5/10/2017	4 - Warning	Privilege Escalation	9	2	Predefined
Membership Changes Service Account	Alert	5/10/2017	4 - Warning	Privilege Escalation	2	2	Predefined
Security certificate activity by non-administrators	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Exploitation	3	3	Predefined
Windows privilege	Alert	5/10/2017	1 - Alert	Other	8	8	User-defined



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## Resources

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Varonis2quarantine  
.tgz

## Software versions

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Extreme Management Center (including Extreme Control and Extreme Connect)

Tested version 8.1.35. Potential minimum version 8.0

Varonis DatAlert

Tested version 6.3.257.58. Potential minimum version 6.0.113.12

## Revision History

**Table 1.** Extreme Networks ExtremeControl & Varonis DatAlert Implementation Guide - revision history

Date	Version #	Changes Made	Author
09/06/17	0.9	Initial version	Zdeněk Pala
12/06/17	0.9.1	Fixed the picture, added some highlights	Zdeněk Pala
27/08/18	1.0	Updated screenshot, use cases, Added software version, added DatAlert tuning	Zdeněk Pala