

Log Drain

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Estimated Time: 25 minutes

Requirements

This lab is part of a workshop available at <https://github.com/Pivotal-Field-Engineering/DevNexus2017>
General Pre-Requisites are available in the Readme.md

In general the Labs should be done in numerical order since they are interdependent.

What you will learn

- How to create a log drain

Exercises

Create a log drain

Pivotal Cloud Foundry does not persist logs. For long term storage of logs, drain logs to a third party log management service.

1) Read about log draining (<http://docs.pivotal.io/pivotalcf/devguide/services/log-management.html>).

In this section, you will configure application log draining into a log analysis tool with a User Provided Service Instance. We will use the free Papertrail service, but any tool that supports tcp syslog draining can be used.

2) Sign up for a free Papertrail account (<https://papertrailapp.com/>). We've got some instructions (<http://docs.pivotal.io/pivotalcf/devguide/services/log-management-thirdparty-svc.html#papertrail>) to set up Papertrail:

- In a nutshell
 1. Create a Papertrail account, fill in your email and password
 2. Browse to papertrailapp.com/systems/new (<https://papertrailapp.com/systems/new>)
 3. Select "I use Cloud Foundry"
 4. "What should we call it?" give it a name - `log-drain`
 5. Click "Save"
 6. Take note of the url (`logs2.papertrail.com:<some-port>`)

3) Create a User Provided Service Instance that streams logs to Papertrail.

```
$ cf create-user-provided-service articulate-log-drain -l syslog://<SYSLOG-DRAIN-URL>
```

4) Bind the `articulate-log-drain` service to the `articulate` application.

```
$ cf bind-service articulate articulate-log-drain
```

NOTE: It can take up to ten minutes for logs to start flowing into Papertrail. At the time of writing, this was consistently 10 minutes before seeing logs in Papertrail.

QUESTION: Is `cf restart/restage` required for log draining to start working? Why? Why not?

5) View `articulate` in a browser. Refresh as necessary to generate logs.

6) To view the logs in Papertrail do the following:

1. Click on “Dashboard”
2. Click on “log-drain”

7) Experiment. Restart the `articulate` application.

```
$ cf restart articulate
```

Questions

- How does this approach differ from how you get your logs today?
- What kinds of alerts or visualizations could you create from your logs data?

Beyond the Class

- Visualize your logs

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