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Operations

Security Operations Analyst

FortiAnalyzer Architecture

FortiAnalyzer 7.4

Last Modified: 22 January 2025

Lesson Overview

- FortiAnalyzer Architecture
- Operation Modes
- FortiAnalyzer Fabric

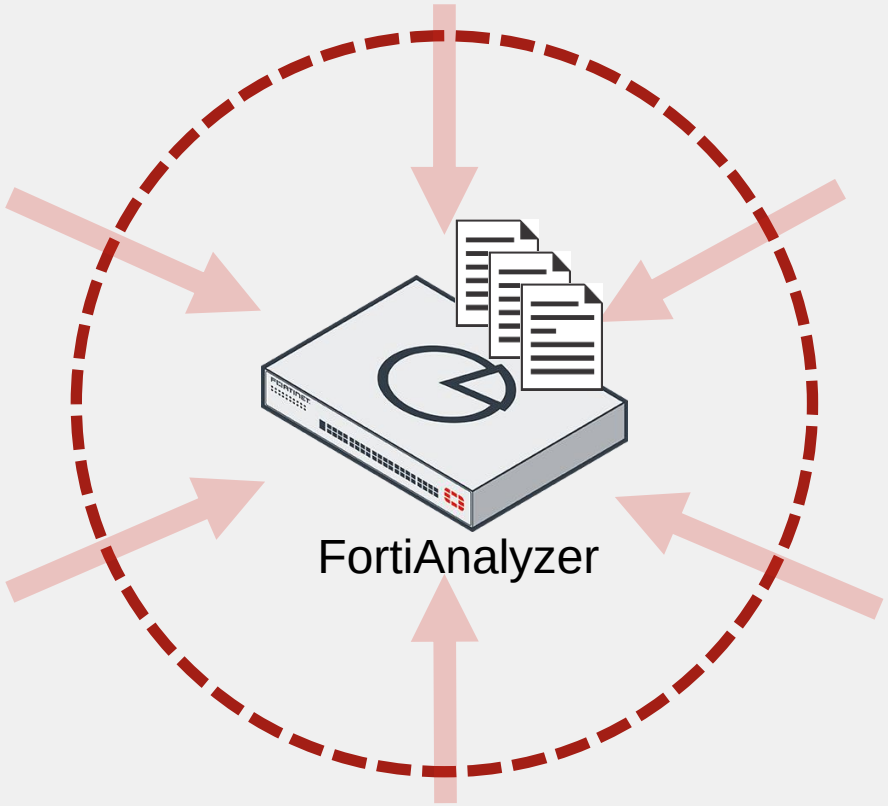
FortiAnalyzer Architecture

Objectives

- Describe the purpose of FortiAnalyzer in a SOC
- Describe administrative domains (ADOMs)

Centralized Log Repository

- FortiAnalyzer aggregates log data from one or more Fortinet devices
- Single view of security events taking place on a range of devices



Supported devices:

- FortiGate/FortiCarrier
- FortiAnalyzer
- FortiAuthenticator
- FortiCache
- FortiClient
- FortiDDoS
- FortiMail
- FortiManager
- FortiNAC
- FortiSandbox
- FortiWeb
- Syslog
- Chassis

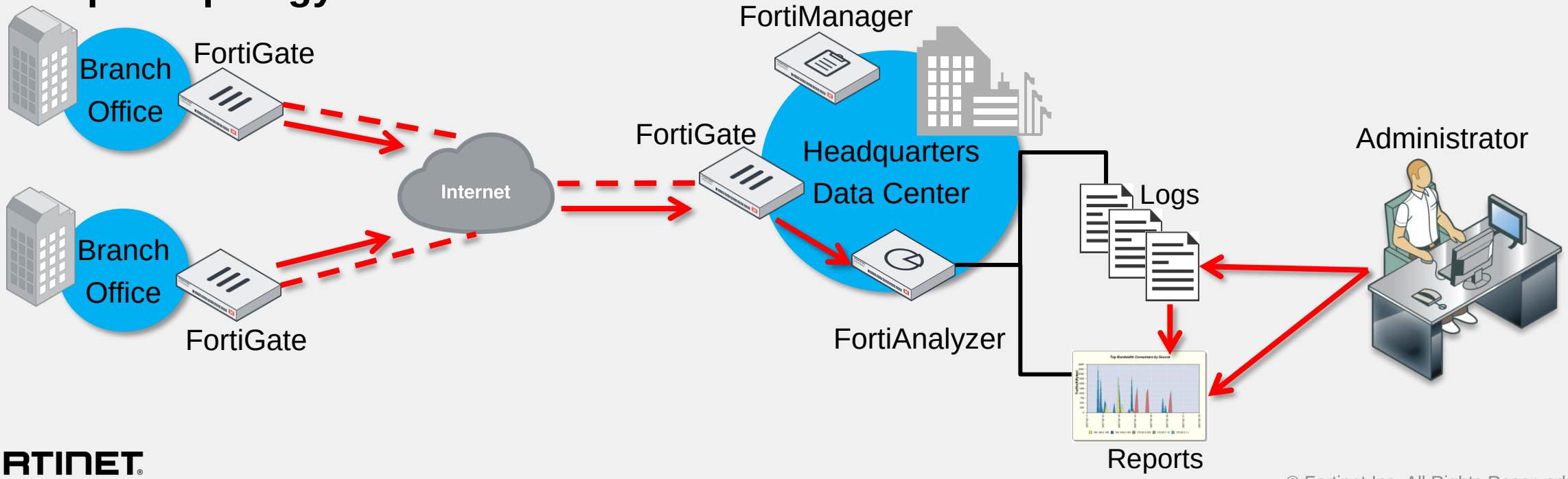
Note: The list is not exhaustive

Centralized Log Repository (Contd)

Workflow

1. Registered devices send logs to FortiAnalyzer
2. FortiAnalyzer buffers, reorganizes, and stores the logs
3. Administrators:
   - View and search the logs
   - Configure, request, and view reports (based on log data)

Sample Topology



Reports, Events, and Content Archiving

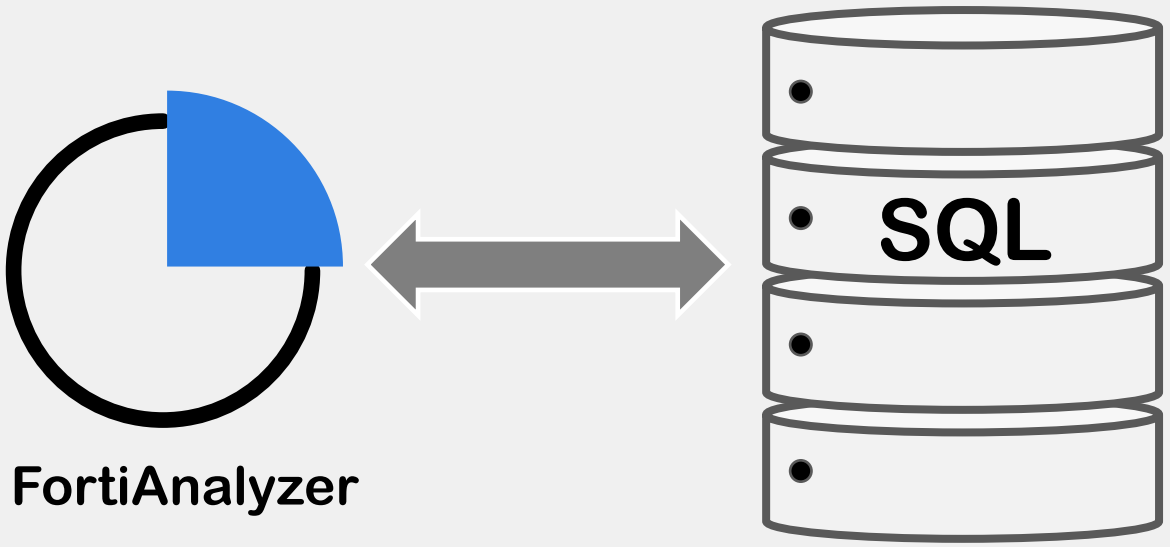
- **Reports**
  - Network-wide reporting of device events, activities, and trends
  - Archived, filtered, and mined for compliance or historical analysis purposes

- **Events**
  - Identify and react to security threats quickly when configured conditions are met
  - View events through **Event Monitor** (on the GUI), email, SNMP, or syslog
  - Events that require further investigation can be used to generate new incidents

- **Content archiving**
  - Simultaneously logs and archives full or summary copies of content transmitted over the network (email, FTP, NNTP, and web traffic)
  - Typically used to prevent sensitive information from leaving your network

Database Language Support

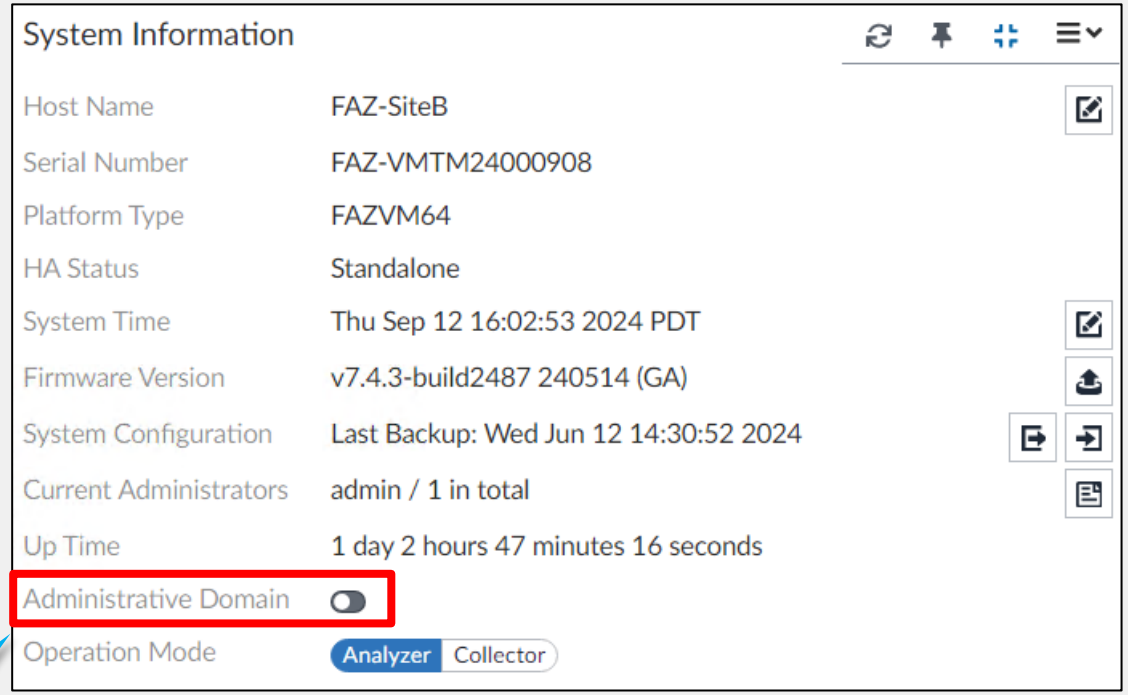
- FortiAnalyzer supports Structured Query Language (SQL) for logging and reporting
- FortiAnalyzer inserts log data into the SQL database for log view and report generation
- FortiAnalyzer uses a PostgreSQL database
- *Advanced reporting capabilities require some knowledge of SQL and databases*



ADOMs

- ADOMs group devices for administrators to monitor and manage
  - One or more devices are assigned to ADOMs and administrators are assigned to administer one or more ADOMs
- Purpose:
  - To divide administration of devices and restrict access
    - VDOMs, a feature of FortiGate, further restrict access
  - To more efficiently manage data policies and disk space allocation
    - Set for each ADOM (not for each device)

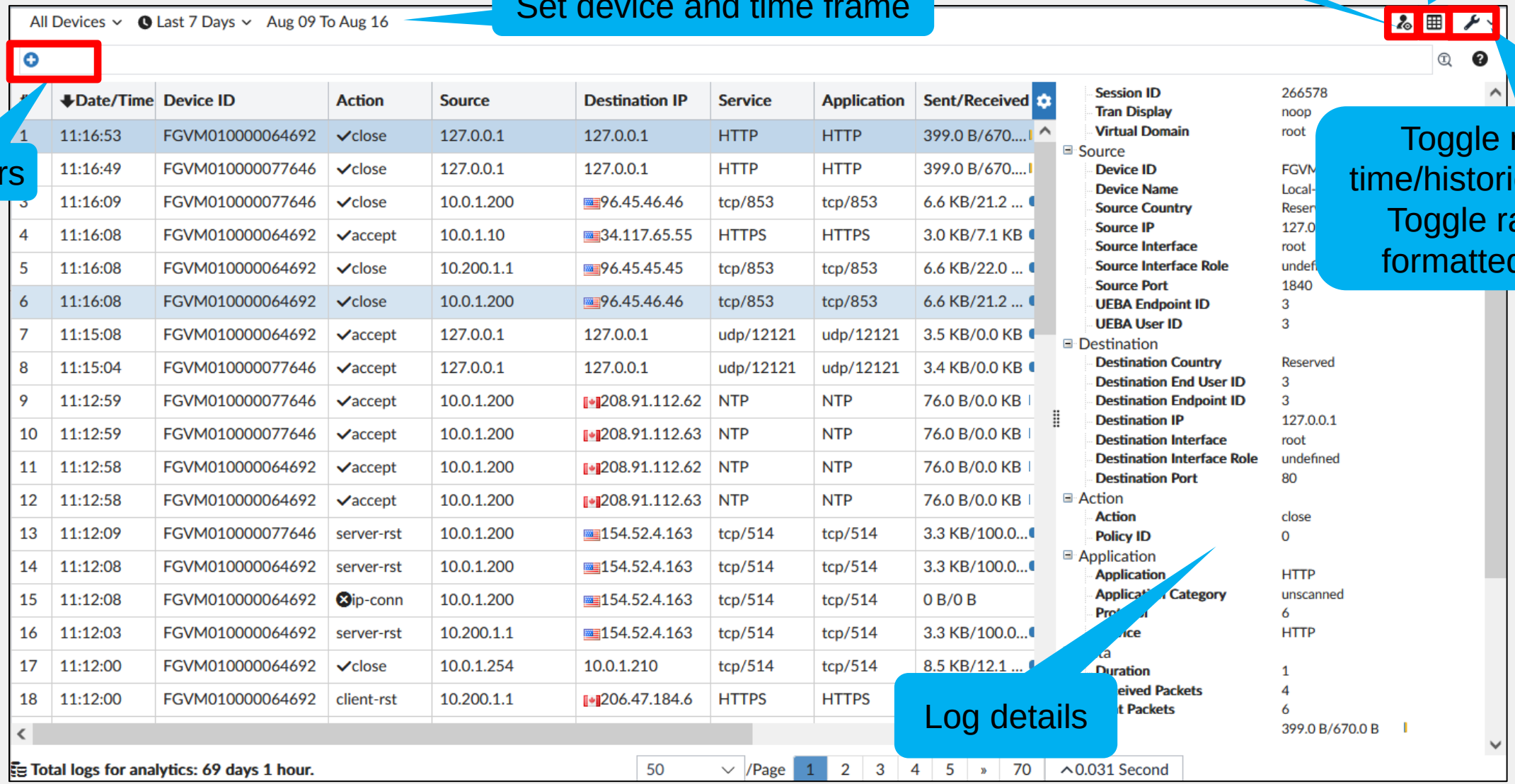
Dashboard > System Information




```
# config system global
   set adom-status {enable | disable}
  end
```

ADOMs are not enabled by default

Logging Interface Overview

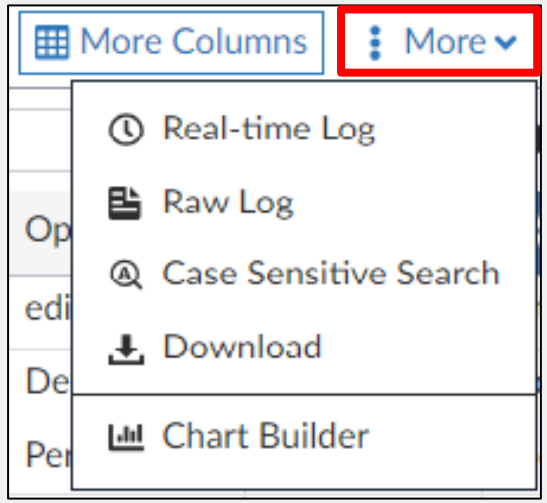


#	Date/Time	Device ID	Action	Source	Destination IP	Service	Application	Sent/Received
1	11:16:53	FGVM010000064692	close	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	HTTP	HTTP	399.0 B/670....
2	11:16:49	FGVM010000077646	close	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	HTTP	HTTP	399.0 B/670....
3	11:16:09	FGVM010000077646	close	10.0.1.200	96.45.46.46	tcp/853	tcp/853	6.6 KB/21.2 ...
4	11:16:08	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.0.1.10	34.117.65.55	HTTPS	HTTPS	3.0 KB/7.1 KB
5	11:16:08	FGVM010000064692	close	10.200.1.1	96.45.45.45	tcp/853	tcp/853	6.6 KB/22.0 ...
6	11:16:08	FGVM010000064692	close	10.0.1.200	96.45.46.46	tcp/853	tcp/853	6.6 KB/21.2 ...
7	11:15:08	FGVM010000064692	accept	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	udp/12121	udp/12121	3.5 KB/0.0 KB
8	11:15:04	FGVM010000077646	accept	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	udp/12121	udp/12121	3.4 KB/0.0 KB
9	11:12:59	FGVM010000077646	accept	10.0.1.200	208.91.112.62	NTP	NTP	76.0 B/0.0 KB
10	11:12:59	FGVM010000077646	accept	10.0.1.200	208.91.112.63	NTP	NTP	76.0 B/0.0 KB
11	11:12:58	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.0.1.200	208.91.112.62	NTP	NTP	76.0 B/0.0 KB
12	11:12:58	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.0.1.200	208.91.112.63	NTP	NTP	76.0 B/0.0 KB
13	11:12:09	FGVM010000077646	server-rst	10.0.1.200	154.52.4.163	tcp/514	tcp/514	3.3 KB/100.0...
14	11:12:08	FGVM010000064692	server-rst	10.0.1.200	154.52.4.163	tcp/514	tcp/514	3.3 KB/100.0...
15	11:12:08	FGVM010000064692	ip-conn	10.0.1.200	154.52.4.163	tcp/514	tcp/514	0 B/0 B
16	11:12:03	FGVM010000064692	server-rst	10.200.1.1	154.52.4.163	tcp/514	tcp/514	3.3 KB/100.0...
17	11:12:00	FGVM010000064692	close	10.0.1.254	10.0.1.210	tcp/514	tcp/514	8.5 KB/12.1 ...
18	11:12:00	FGVM010000064692	client-rst	10.200.1.1	206.47.184.6	HTTPS	HTTPS	

Session ID	266578
Tran Display	noop
Virtual Domain	root
Source	
Device ID	FGVM
Device Name	Local-
Source Country	Reser
Source IP	127.0
Source Interface	root
Source Interface Role	undef
Source Port	1840
UEBA Endpoint ID	3
UEBA User ID	3
Destination	
Destination Country	Reserved
Destination End User ID	3
Destination Endpoint ID	3
Destination IP	127.0.0.1
Destination Interface	root
Destination Interface Role	undefined
Destination Port	80
Action	
Action	close
Policy ID	0
Application	
Application	HTTP
Applicati Category	unscanned
Pro	6
ice	HTTP
ta	
Duration	1
eived Packets	4
t Packets	6
	399.0 B/670.0 B

Tools

- Toggle between **formatted/raw** logs
  - Formatted logs are sortable and columns can be customized
  - Raw logs are more difficult to read, but can be useful in providing syntax guidance
- Toggle between **historical/real-time** logs
  - View historical logs with the option to specify a time period
  - Real-time logs are shown as they come in, but you can pause them
- Enable/disable case-sensitive search
- Download logs based on the current filters



Formatted

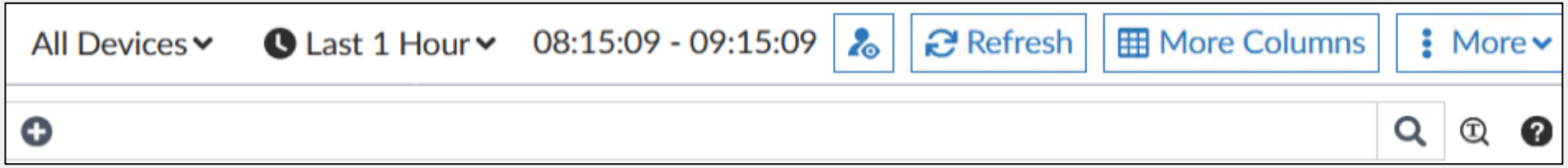
#	Date/Time	Device ID	Action	Source	Destination IP
4	14:59:50	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.200.1.1	208.91.112.60
5	14:59:40	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.200.1.1	208.91.112.61
6	14:59:30	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.0.1.200	208.91.112.60
7	14:59:30	FGVM010000064692	accept	10.0.1.200	208.91.112.63

Raw

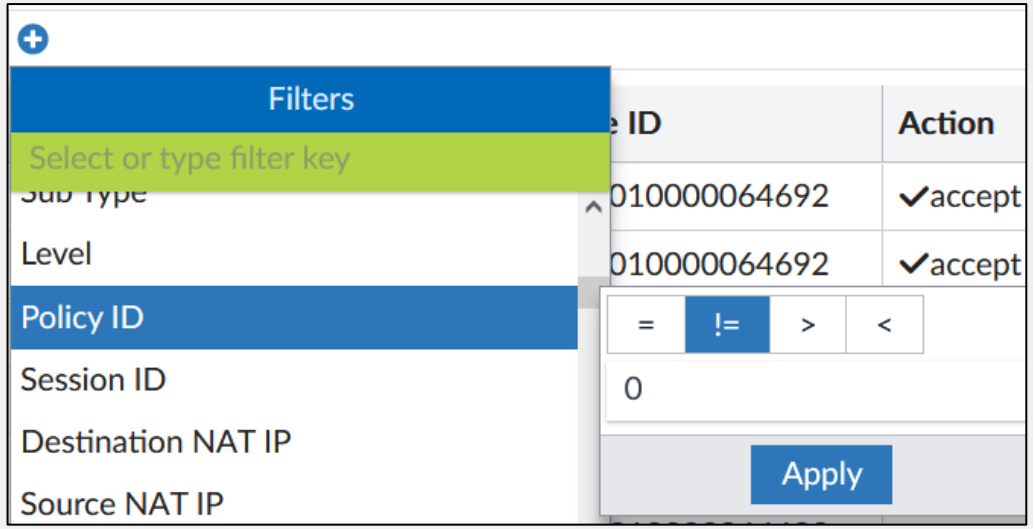
date=2023-08-16 time=14:59:24 id=7268043151217000450 itime=2023-08-16 14:59:25 euid=3 epid=104 dsteuid=3 dstepid=101 type=traffic subtype=local level=notice action=accept policyid=0 sessionid=89571 srcip=10.0.1.200 dstip=208.91.112.60 srcport=123 dstport=123 trandisp=noop duration=183 proto=17 sentbyte=76 rcvdbyte=76 sentpkt=1 rcvdpkt=1 logid=0001000014 service=NTP app=NTP appcat=unscanned srcintfrole=undefined dstintfrole=undefined eventtime=1692223164328415424 srccountry=Reserved dstcountry=Canada srcintf=root dstintf=port1 tz=-0700 devid=FGVM010000077646 vd=root dtime=2023-08-16 14:59:24 itime_t=1692223165

Search Tips

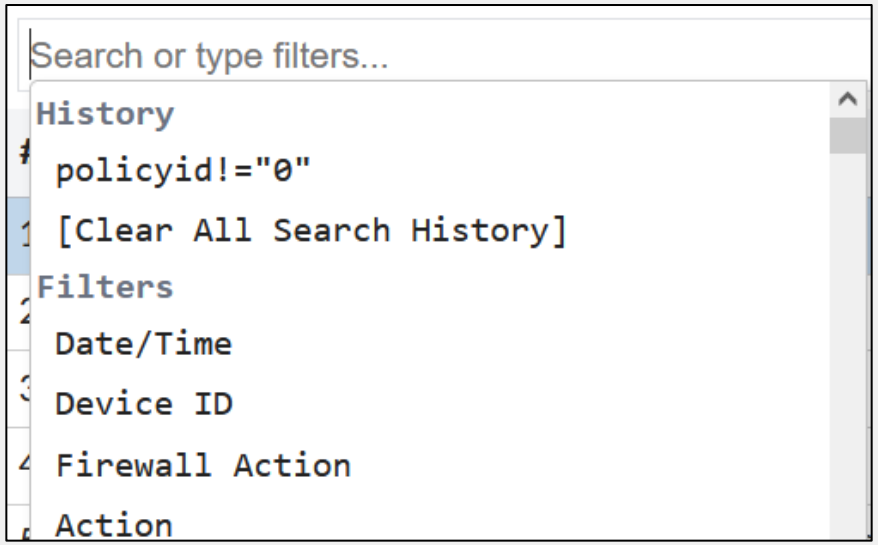
- Click on the magnifying glass to toggle between filter and text mode



- Filter mode allows you to click the filter search bar and define your search criteria using the GUI

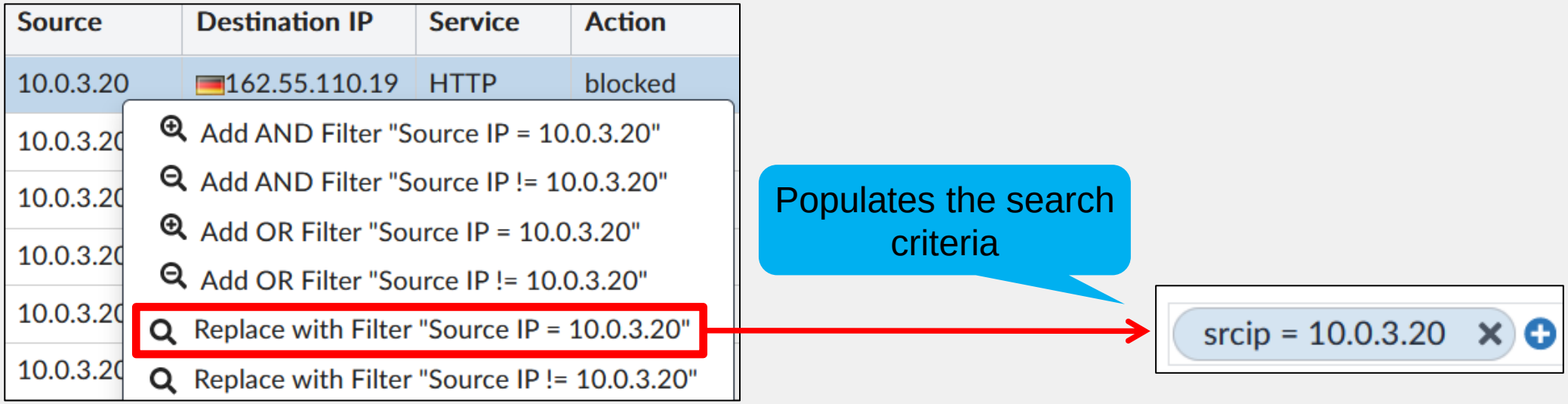


- Text mode allows you to type in your filter and conditions manually, or pick a filter from history



Search Tips (Contd)

- Right-click the desired field value to set a filter based on that data



- Can include (=), or exclude (!=) the selected value from the search results
- Use the AND logic if all conditions must be true
- Use the OR logic if any of the conditions must be true
- Can also replace the current filter with your new conditions

Example of a Log Search

- You need to identify the malicious websites visited by the client with the IP address `10.0.3.20` for a specific time period

Security subtype **Web Filter**

Custom time period

Malicious websites visited

Traffic | Security: Web Filter | Event

All Devices | Custom... | Jun 07 To Jun 08

srcip = 10.0.3.20 AND Category Description = Malicious Websites

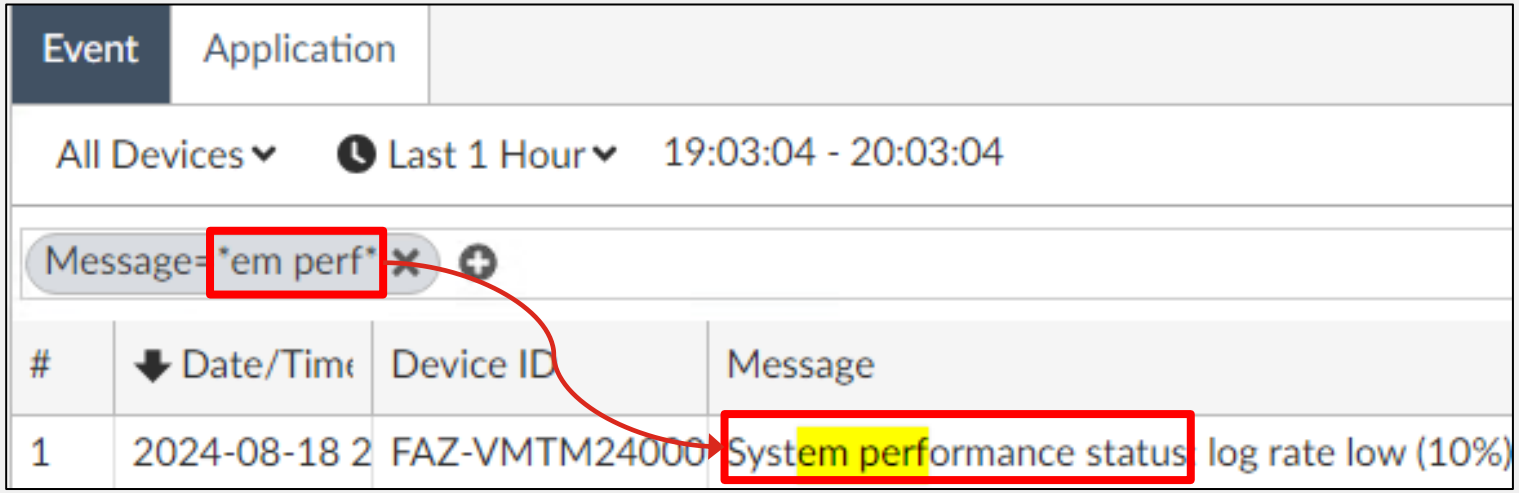
#	Date/Time	Devic	ID	Source	Destination IP	Service	Action	URL
1	06-08 10:37	FGVM	0000077646	10.0.3.20	64.70.19.203	HTTP	blocked	http://ffb07fb6990e3b5da86d66d43b4
2	06-08 10:37	FGVM	00077646	10.0.3.20	155.159.36.59	HTTP	blocked	http://whollyfitinc.com/
3	06-08 10:37	FGVM	077646	10.0.3.20	176.103.56.36	HTTP	blocked	http://176.103.56.36/
4	06-08 10:37	FGVM	77646	10.0.3.20	43.163.226.161	HTTP	blocked	http://234w.cc/
5	06-08 10:35	FGVM	646	10.0.3.20	50.28.56.190	HTTP	blocked	http://www.xn--l3cgic6bwb6ctd.com/

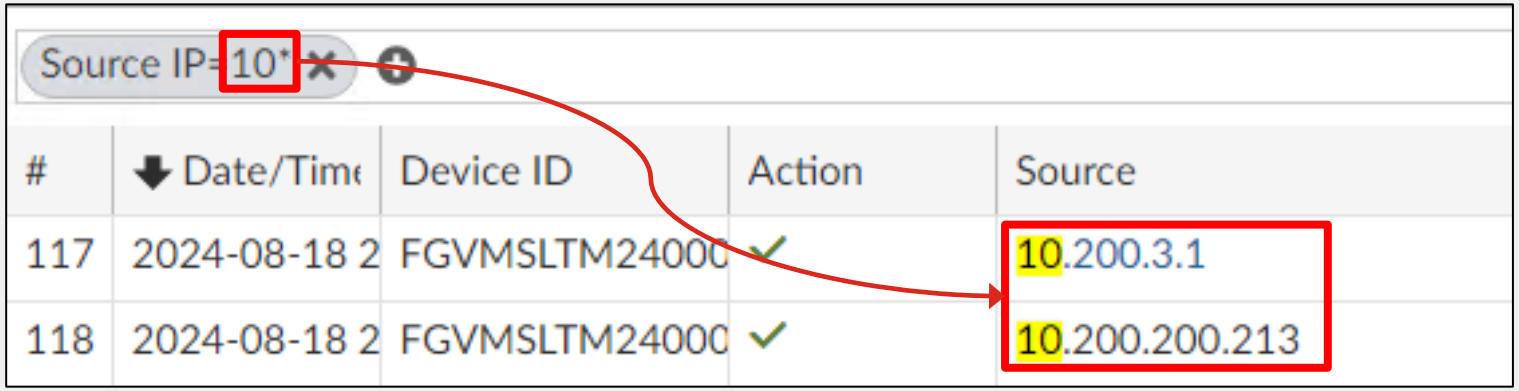
Filters are based on the client's IP as the source, and the category description

Fields used in the filter are highlighted

Example of a Log Search (Contd)

- Search also supports wildcards
  - Use * for partial matches, which matches any sequence of characters, including an empty sequence
  - For example, the string `*em perf*` will match **System performance status**





Regex

- You can use regex in FortiAnalyzer to search logs or match a generic text filter
- This table lists common regex operators:

Operator	Function	Operator	Function
~	Matches the following regex pattern	+	Matches one or more of the preceding element
!~	Does not match the following regex pattern	\	Character escape for special characters
.	Matches any character	|	Used as an OR operator
[ ]	Matches any one character from a set or range	( )	Used for grouping patterns together so that operators such as +, *, ?, | can be applied to the group
*	Matches zero or more of the preceding element	^	Anchors the pattern to the beginning of the string
?	Matches zero or one of the preceding element	$	Anchors the pattern to the end of the string

Regex (Contd)

~ matches the regex pattern

!~ does not match the regex pattern (negate logic)

```
srcip~"10\.[0-9]+\.[0-9]+\.[0-9]+"
```

#	Source	Date/Ti
1	10.200.3.3	2024-06-1

```
srcip!~"10\.200\.[0-9]+\.[0-9]+"
```

#	Source	Date/
1	172.16.200.6	2024-06

```
srcip~"^(10\.|172\.(1[6-9]|2[0-9]|3[0-1])\.|192\.168\.)"
```

- Matches private IP address ranges with patterns *beginning* with `10.` OR `172.16-31.` OR `192.168.`

Knowledge Check

1. What does FortiAnalyzer use for log viewing and report generation?
   - ✓ A. Queries on a database
   - B. Queries of plain text files

2. What is the purpose of using ADOMs?
   - ✓ A. To divide administration of devices, restrict access, and manage data policies
   - B. To reduce resource usage on FortiAnalyzer

Lesson Progress

- ✓ FortiAnalyzer Architecture
- Operation Modes
- FortiAnalyzer Fabric

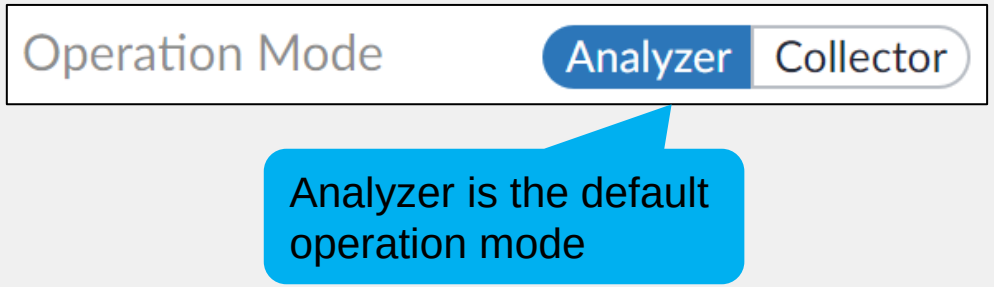
Operation Modes

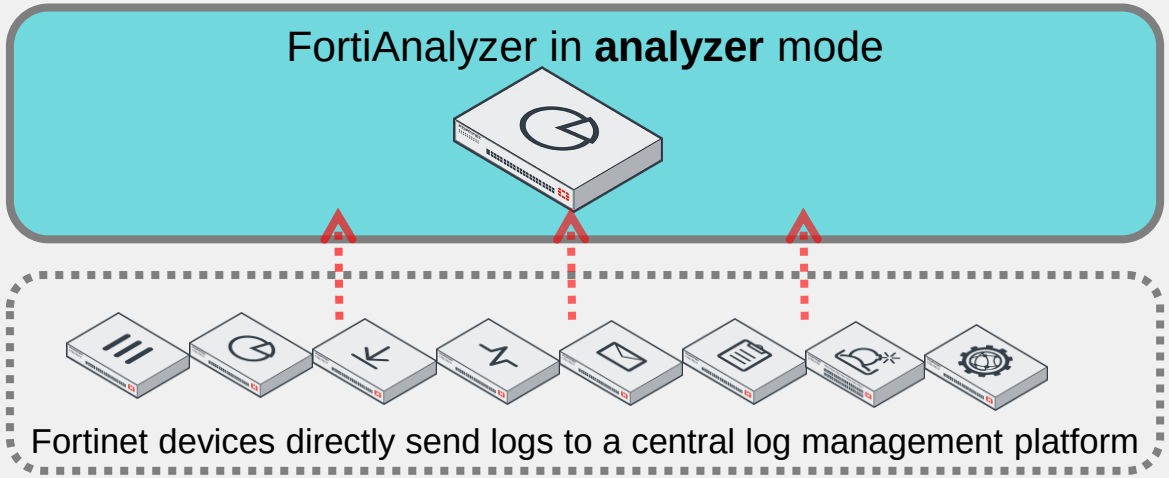
Objectives

- Describe FortiAnalyzer operation modes
- Configure FortiAnalyzer collectors
- Configure FortiAnalyzer analyzers

FortiAnalyzer Operation Modes—Analyzer

Dashboard > System Information

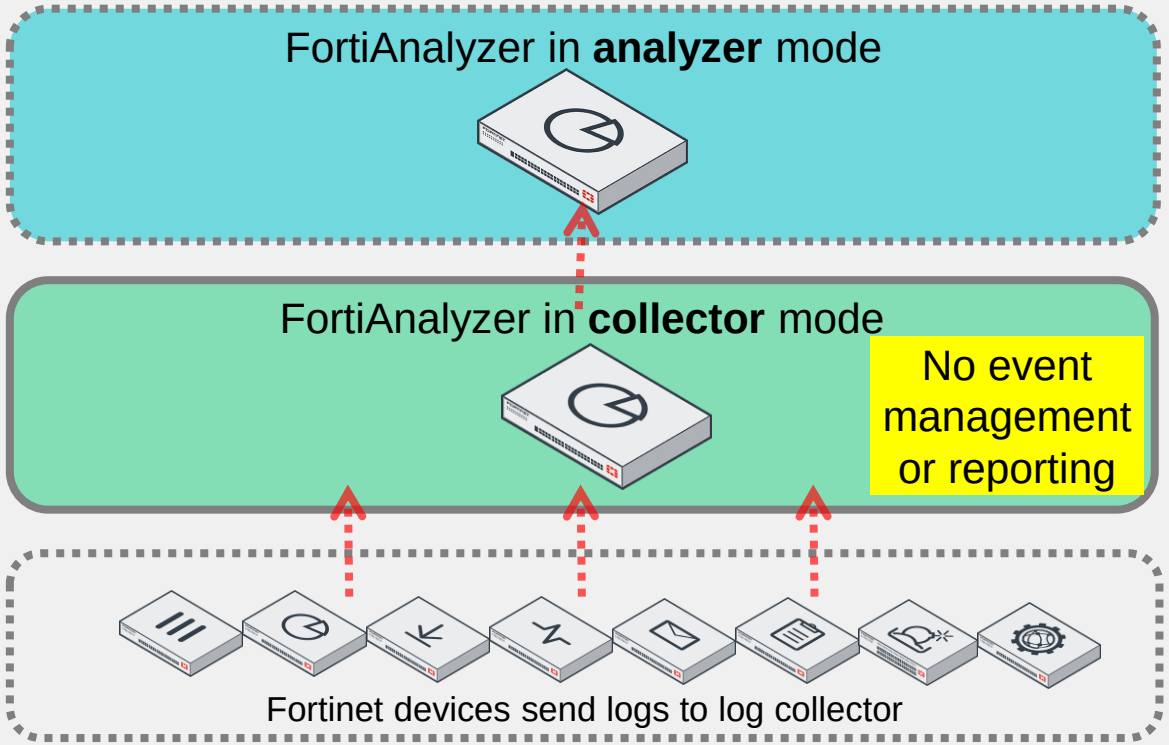




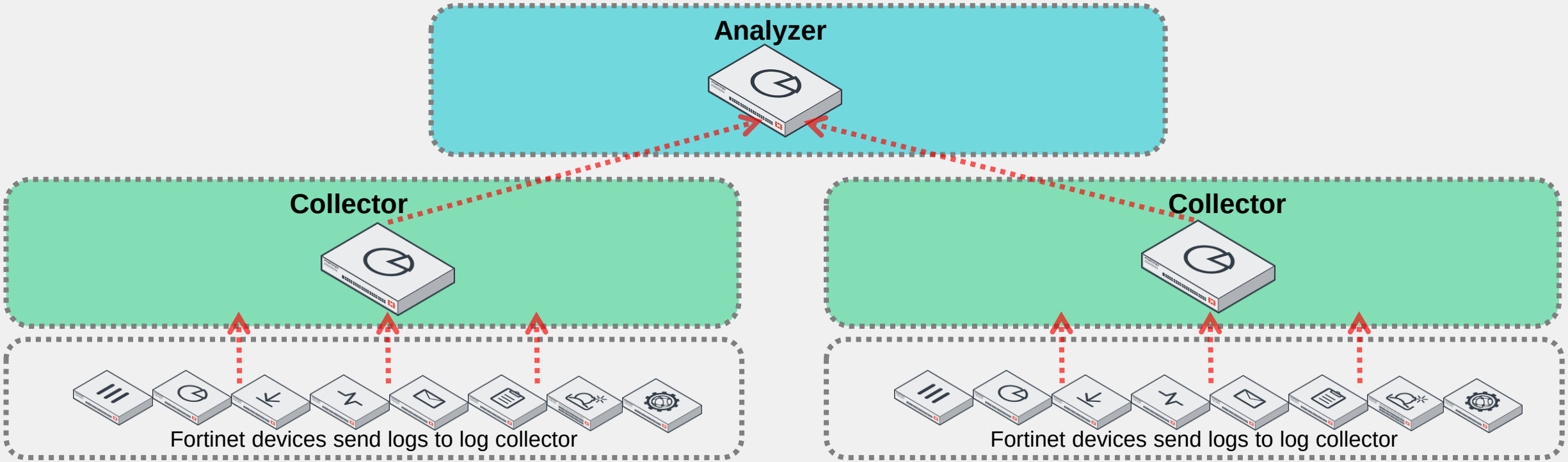
- Central log aggregator for one or more logging devices, or FortiAnalyzer in collector mode
  - Can still forward logs to another FortiAnalyzer (or syslog/CEF server)

FortiAnalyzer Operation Modes—Collector

- Collects logs from multiple devices and forwards them to FortiAnalyzer in analyzer mode
  - Can aggregate logs to another FortiAnalyzer
  - Can *only* forward to syslog/CEF server in real-time forwarding mode
- Not used for analytics—archiving only



Analyzer—Collector Collaboration



- Increase FortiAnalyzer performance by using both modes
- Offload the log-receiving task to the collector
- Analyzer focuses on data analysis and reporting
- Collector can help with slow or unreliable links by storing logs and forwarding them later
- On the collector, you should allocate most of the disk space to archive logs

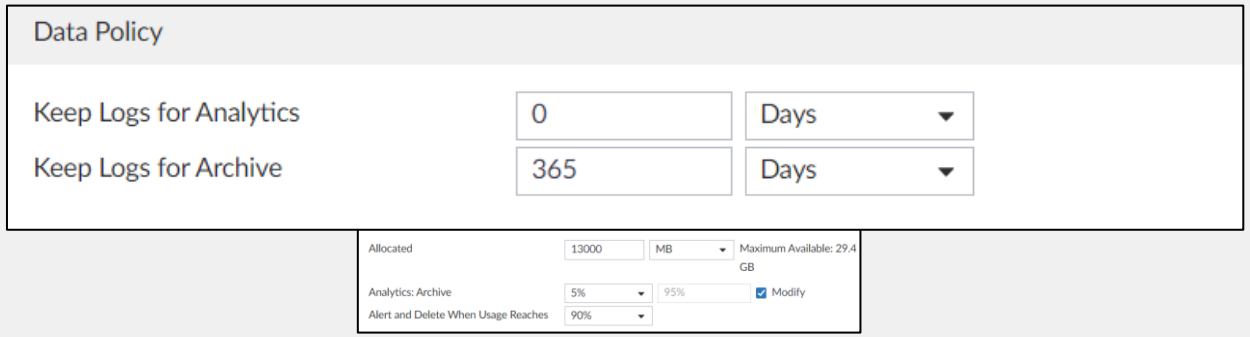
Collector Configuration

- Enable collector operation mode

Dashboard > System Information

- Modify the data policy to focus on archiving
  - Set to 0 days for analytics
  - Set archive retention based on your organizational requirements

System Setting > ADOMs



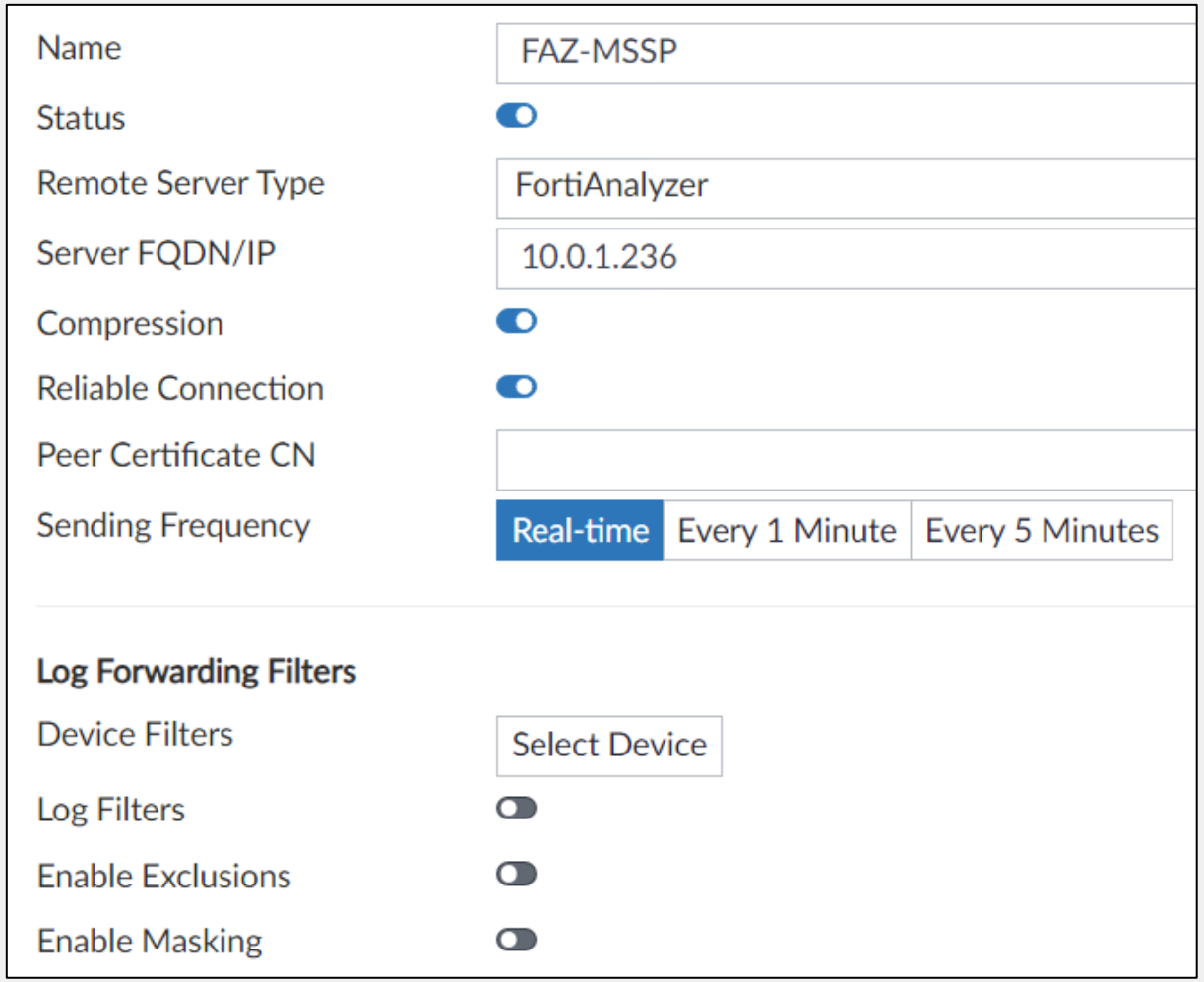
- Modify the disk utilization quota to focus on archiving
  - Allocate most disk space for archive log use
  - Set the analytics:archive ratio to 5%:95%

Note: You need to set the allocated disk quota to meet your requirements

Collector Configuration (Contd)

- Enable log forwarding on the collector
- Configure the required settings, including name, remote server type, server FQDN/IP, and other parameters
- Configure additional filters to forward matching logs, define fields to exclude, and mask sensitive fields

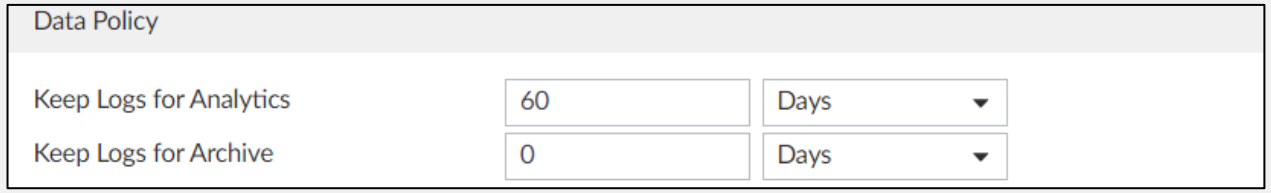
System Setting > Advanced > Log Forwarding



Analyzer Configuration

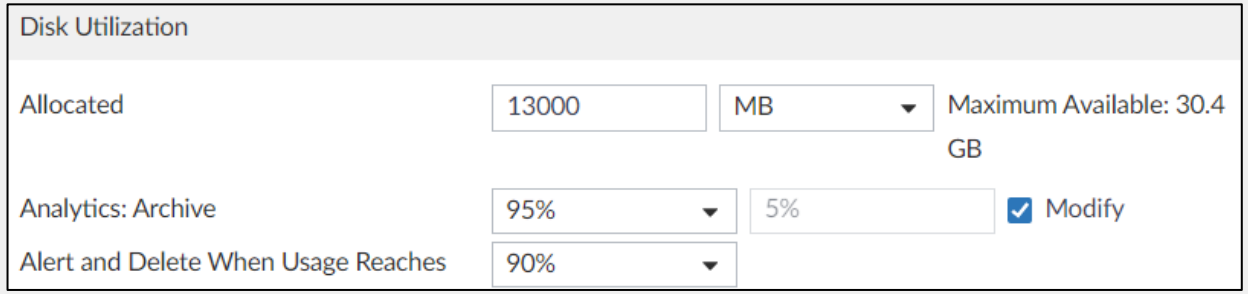
- Modify the data policy to focus on analytics
  - Set the analytics retention based on your organizational requirements
  - Set to 0 days for archive

System Setting > ADOMs



Note: Analytics logs take up significantly more space than archive logs, so adjust your settings appropriately

- Modify the disk utilization quota to focus on analytics
  - Set the analytics:archive ratio to 95%:5%



Knowledge Check

1. Which FortiAnalyzer operation mode do you use for analytics?
   - ✔ A. Analyzer
   - B. Collector

2. Which type of logs consume more disk space?
   - ✔ A. Analytics
   - B. Archive

Lesson Progress

- ✓ FortiAnalyzer Architecture
- ✓ Operation Modes
- FortiAnalyzer Fabric

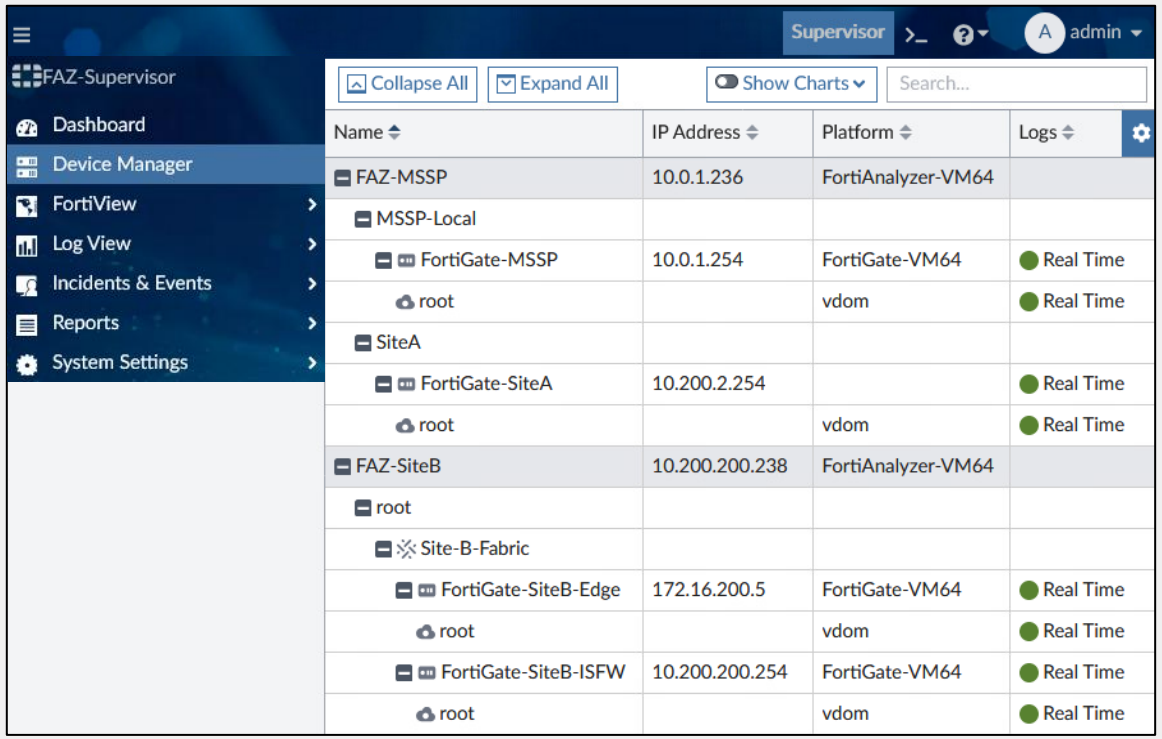
FortiAnalyzer Fabric

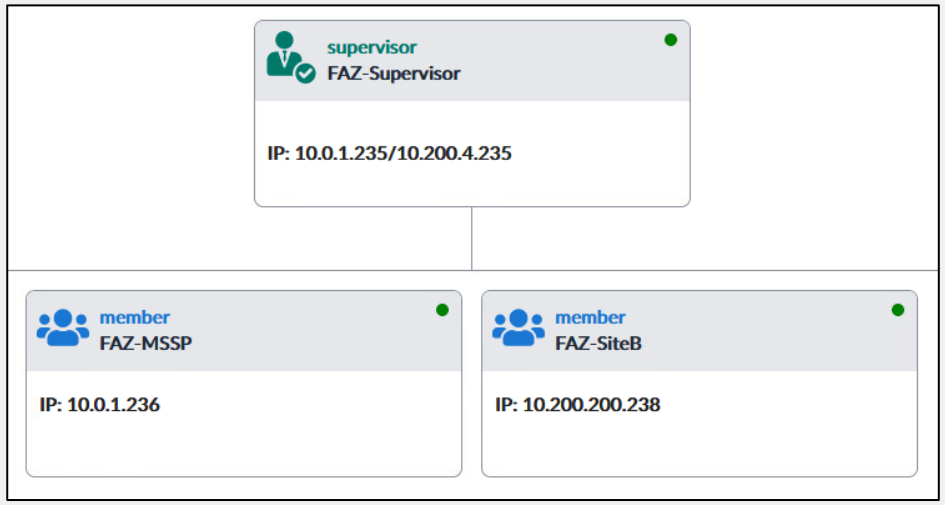
Objectives

- Describe the FortiAnalyzer Fabric
- Design FortiAnalyzer Fabric topologies
- Configure the FortiAnalyzer Fabric supervisor and members
- Manage Fabric groups

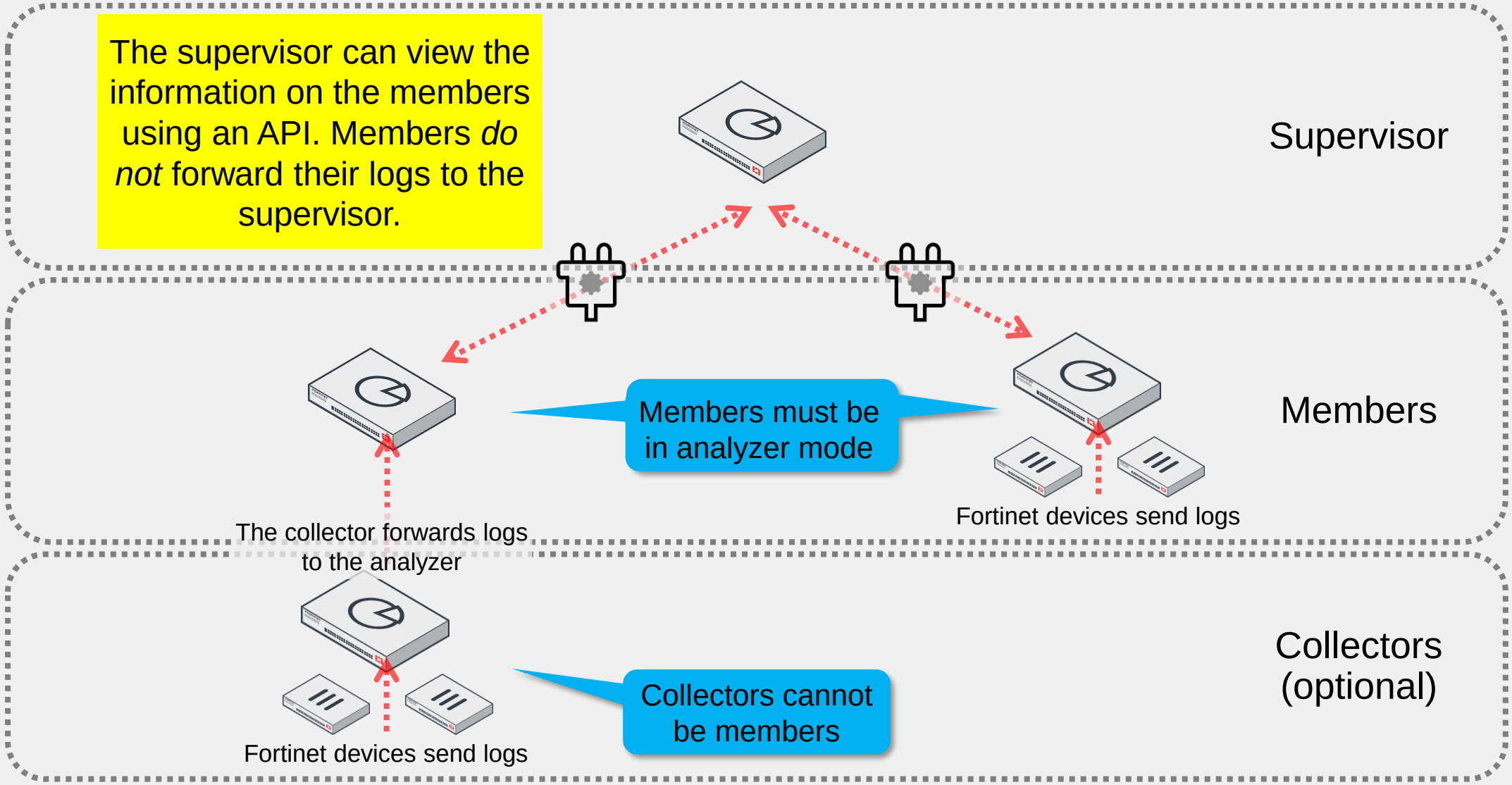
FortiAnalyzer Fabric

- Enables centralized viewing of devices, incidents, and events across multiple FortiAnalyzer devices
- Ideal for environments with multiple FortiAnalyzer devices and high log volume
- Two operation modes:
  - Supervisor—one per fabric; acts as the root
  - Member—sends information to the supervisor
- The supervisor includes these modules:
  - Device Manager
  - FortiView
  - Log View
  - Incidents & Events
  - Reports





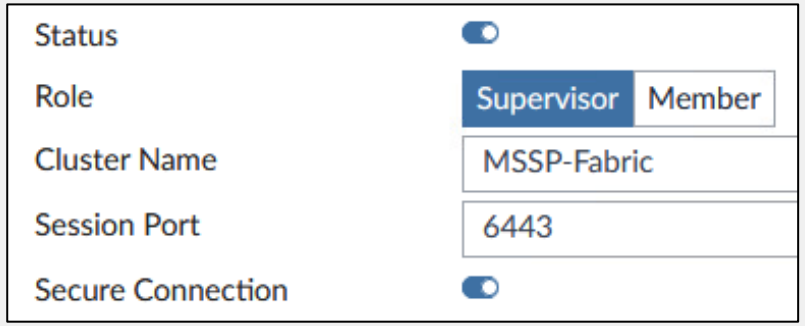
Sample FortiAnalyzer Fabric Topology



Configure the FortiAnalyzer Supervisor

- Configure the supervisor using the GUI:

System Settings > Fabric Management



- Alternatively, on the CLI:

```
# config system soc-fabric
   set status enable
   set name "MSSP-Fabric"
   set supervisor <IP/DNS Name>
```

- (CLI only) Enable `soc-fabric` on the interface

```
# config system interface
   edit <port #>
   set allowaccess soc-fabric <add other protocols you need>
  end
```

Do not forget to add other administrative access protocols, such HTTPS and SSH, as required. Existing settings will be overwritten.

Configure the FortiAnalyzer Member

- Configure the member using the GUI:

System Settings > Fabric Management

Status	ON
Role	Supervisor / **Member**
Cluster Name	MSSP-Fabric
IP	10.0.1.235
Session Port	6443
Secure Connection	ON

- Alternatively, on the CLI:

```
# config system soc-fabric
   set status enable
   set name "MSSP-Fabric"
   set supervisor <IP/DNS Name>
```

- (CLI only) Enable `soc-fabric` on the interface

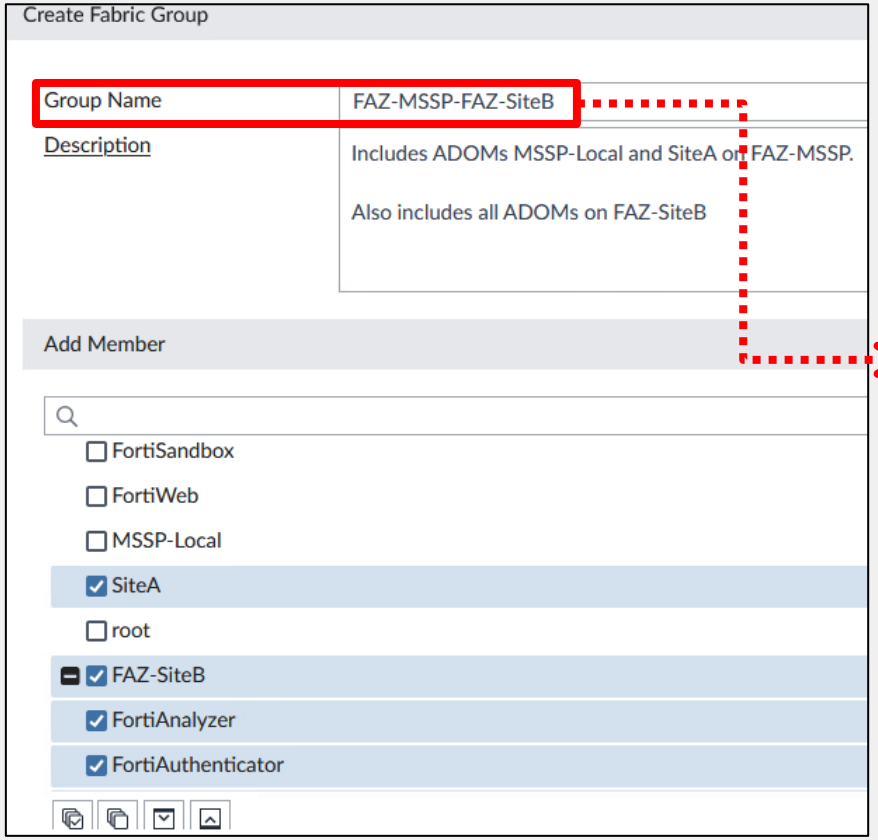
```
# config system interface
   edit <port #>
   set allowaccess soc-fabric <add other protocols you need>
  end
```

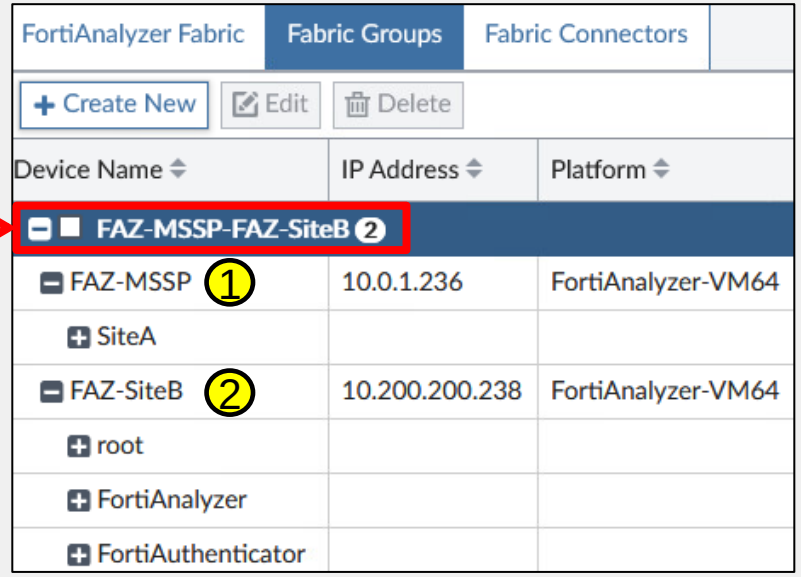
Do not forget to add other administrative access protocols, such HTTPS and SSH, as required. Existing settings will be overwritten.

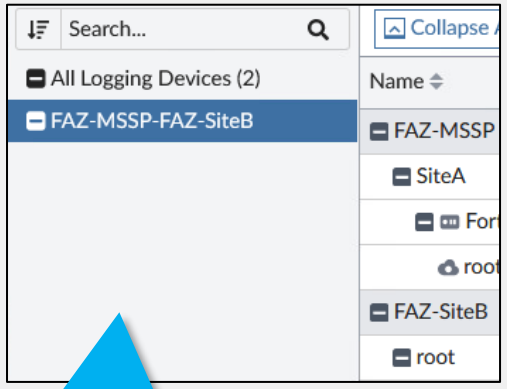
Fabric Groups

- To filter information to specific FortiAnalyzer fabric members or ADOMs, you can create Fabric groups

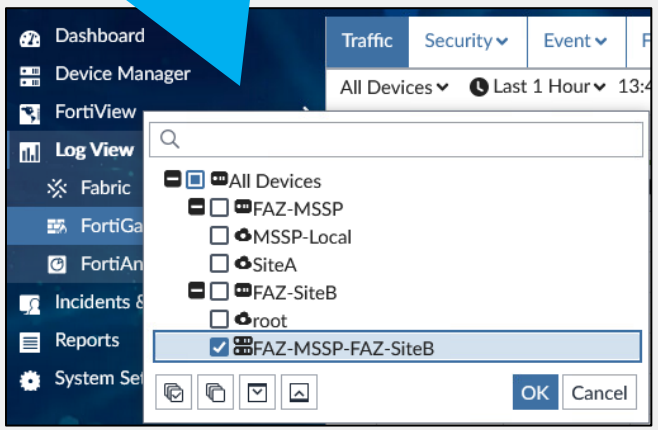
System Settings > Fabric Groups







The fabric group can be used to filter devices



Knowledge Check

1. Which FortiAnalyzer operation mode must you configure Fabric members in?
   - ✔ A. Analyzer
   - B. Collector

2. Which statement about the Fabric supervisor is true?
   - A. All logging devices are registered to the Fabric supervisor.
   - ✔ B. Logging devices cannot be registered to the Fabric supervisor.

Lesson Progress

- ✓ Introduction to FortiAnalyzer Architecture
- ✓ Operation Modes
- ✓ FortiAnalyzer Fabric

Review

- ✓ Manage administrative domains
- ✓ Describe FortiAnalyzer operation modes
- ✓ Configure FortiAnalyzer collectors and analyzers
- ✓ Design and deploy FortiAnalyzer Fabric deployments
- ✓ Manage Fabric groups