

# Splunk Enterprise 8.0 System Administration - Class Lab Exercises

# Lab typographical conventions

Replace following keys with the values indicated:

Your assigned 2-digit student number {student-ID}

{idx-os-user} Your assigned OS account name on your indexer {fwd-os-user} Your assigned OS account name on your forwarder

Your assigned Splunk Web and Linux OS account password {password}

{host-eip} The external IP address of your assigned Splunk Enterprise instance {host-iip} The internal IP address of your assigned Splunk Enterprise instance

To support the lab activities, your lab environment also includes the following shared servers:

ip-10-0-0-100 The host name of your Splunk universal forwarder.

It has the private address of 10.0.0.100.

The host name of a lab support server serving as the Active Directory server bcgdc

and a distributed search peer. It has the private address of 10.0.0.150.

The SPLUNK HOME token indicates the directory where Splunk is installed on the host:

On Linux Indexer: /opt/splunk

On Windows Indexer: C:\Program Files\Splunk

On Forwarders: /opt/home/{fwd-os-user}/splunkforwarder

The following text editors are installed in your environment:

Linux server: nano

vi

Windows server: Notepad++

If you are unfamiliar with vi, use nano. It is an easy text editor.

Some steps contain icons which denote the action to take on the appropriate OS.



Linux OS



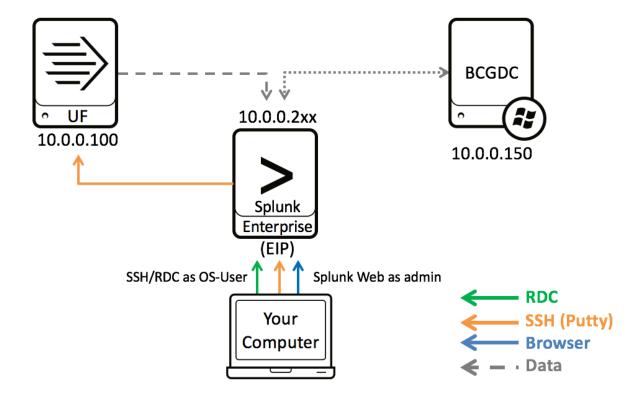
Windows OS

When you access the Splunk user interface for the first time, Splunk asks if you want a tour of the app. Throughout the exercises, you can dismiss this prompt at any time.

### Lab Environment Overview

Throughout the course, you will be working in a private network environment. This diagram provides the overview of your lab environment. Your instructor will assign you a public IP address to your Splunk Enterprise server, which is your primary access into your Splunk network. To complete your lab activities, connect to your Splunk Enterprise server with the public IP address and remote ssh into forwarders using the reserved private IP addresses.

#### **Splunk Environment:**





# Module 1 Lab Exercise – Configure Splunk

## Description

Welcome to the Splunk System Administration lab environment. In this exercise, you will perform basic configuration tasks using the Splunk Web interface and collect system information using the Splunk CLI.

Please record the following instructor-provided information: Your student ID is a unique 2-digit identifier used throughout the lab exercises to differentiate your work from other class participants' work. Student ID: {student-ID} The following information is required to access your Splunk Enterprise instance: Splunk Web URL: http://\_\_\_\_:8000 {host-eip} Splunk Username: admin Password: \_\_\_\_\_\_{password} **Linux OS** To access the Linux filesystem, you will use an SSH client such as Terminal (Mac) or PuTTY (Windows). Windows OS To access the Windows filesystem, you will use a Remote Desktop client (RDC), such as Microsoft Remote Desktop. 



## Configuration Steps

#### Task 1: Access Splunk Web and change the basic settings.

1. Direct your web browser to your Splunk (Indexer/Search Head) instance:

http://{host-eip}:8000

- 2. Log in as admin using your assigned password {password}.
- 3. Click Got it! in the "Helping You Get More Value from Splunk Software" pop-up page.
- 4. If an "Important changes coming!" pop-up page appears, click Don't show me this again.
- 5. If you are prompted to change the password, click **Skip** to continue using the provided password.
- 6. To identify the Splunk version and build number your server is running, click Help > About. Then click the "x" in the top corner to close the "About" page.
- 7. Click **Administrator** > **Account Settings** and change the **Full name** to *your name*.
- 8. In the Email address field, replace the current value with your two-digit {student-ID}. **Hint**: Leading zero required for student IDs 01-09.
- 9. Click Save.

Notice the **User settings saved** indicator at the top. You may have to refresh your browser.

10. Navigate to **Settings > Server settings > General settings**.

The directory where Splunk is installed is referred to as SPLUNK HOME. Make note of the path specified in the **Installation path** field:

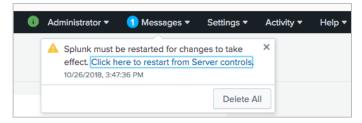
11. Rename the Splunk server name and default host name:

Splunk server name: splunk{student-ID} (Your assigned 2-digit ID) Default host name: splunk{student-ID} (Your assigned 2-digit ID)

12. Click Save.

These changes require a restart of Splunk.

13. Click Messages > Click here to restart from Server controls > Restart Splunk > OK.



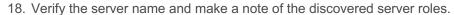
- 14. Click **OK** when the dialog box indicates that the restart was successful.
- 15. After the restart, log back into Splunk Web with your assigned password.



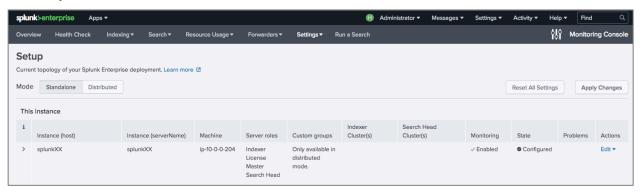
#### Check Your Work

### Task 2: Enable the Monitoring Console (MC) app.

- 16. In Splunk Web, navigate to **Settings > Monitoring Console**. (Look for the Monitoring Console icon on the left side of the menu.)
- 17. On the Monitoring Console navigation bar (the dark grey bar found under the black Splunk Web navigation bar) click **Settings** > **General Setup**.







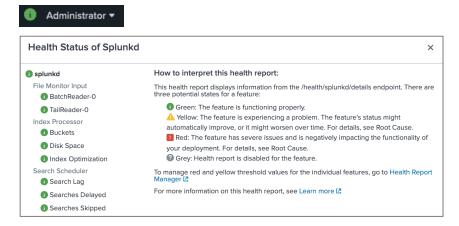
- 19. To complete the app setup, click **Apply Changes > Go to Overview**.
- 20. On the Overview page, confirm that:
  - MC is running in standalone mode.
  - No errors are displayed.
  - No extreme resource usage is detected. The CPU Usage or Memory Usage rates should not be higher than 75%.

#### Task 3: Start and view Health Check for your Splunk server.

21. From the Monitoring Console, click **Health Check**.

For the lab environment, you can ignore any warnings. You just want to confirm that all components are operational.

- 22. Click Start to view the current results for the instance. Wait until the health check has completed.
- 23. Click the icon next to your name to check the health status of **splunkd**.





#### Task 4: Access the command terminal of your designated Splunk server.

24. Connect to your dedicated Splunk indexer/search head.

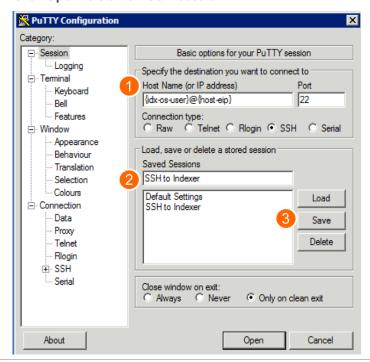


Use one of these two methods:

1. To start a an SSH session to your indexer from your terminal window:

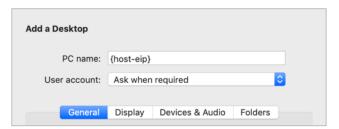
## ssh {idx-os-user}@{host-eip}

- 2. To use PuTTy to start an SSH session to your indexer:
  - Replace {idx-os-user}@{host-eip} with your designated values.
  - 2 Name your session and 3 click Save (optional setting for PuTTy).
  - Click Open to start an SSH session.



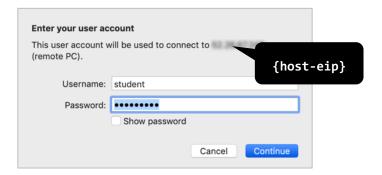


Use an RDC (Remote Desktop client) connection window to connect to your indexer using the designated IP address value for {host-eip}.





Open a remote desktop connection to the window and login using {idx-os-user} (normally set to **student**, on Windows).



In the remote Windows desktop, click **Start > Command Prompt**.

### Task 5: Retrieve basic system information using CLI.

25. From your terminal window, change to your SPLUNK\_HOME/bin directory:



26. Run a CLI command to check the status of your Splunk services.



The output shows the running status and the **splunkd** process IDs:

```
splunkd is running (PID: ####)
splunk helpers are running (PIDs: #####,####,...)
```



27. Using the Splunk CLI, retrieve the following information about your Splunk server.

If you are on the Windows server, omit the ./ from the commands. (For example, type: splunk version, instead of ./splunk version)

Use splunk help commands and splunk help show to obtain a list of Splunk CLI commands and syntax help.

**NOTE:** You will be prompted for the Splunk administrator username and password:

Splunk Username: admin Password: {password}.

Splunk version ./splunk version

Splunk Web port: ./splunk show web-port returns 8000

Splunk management

(splunkd) port: ./splunk show splunkd-port returns 8089

Splunk App Server ports: ./splunk show appserver-ports returns 8065

Splunk KV store port: ./splunk show kvstore-port returns 8191

Splunk server name: ./splunk show servername returns splunk{student-ID}

Default host name: ./splunk show default-hostname returns splunk{student-ID}

# **Troubleshooting Suggestions**

1. If you can't access Splunk Web, it is likely that the Splunk service is not running. In the terminal, run:



/splunk status



splunk status

2. If **splunkd** is not already running, start the **splunkd** service.



./splunk start



splunk start



# Module 2 Lab Exercise – Add and Configure Splunk Licenses

## Description

Update an Enterprise Trial license to an Enterprise license and modify the license pool.

# **Configuration Steps**

#### Task 1: Update the initial trial license to an Enterprise license.

- 1. In Splunk Web, select **Settings > Licensing** to access the **Licensing** page. What license group is your server currently configured to use? Trial license group
- 2. Add a license by uploading a license file to Splunk Web.

You need the splunk.license.big.license file on your local system. In this exercise, there are two ways to obtain the required license file (choose one):

- Download it from https://splk.it/edu-lab-licenses
- Check with your instructor if your class is using an alternate source to obtain the license.
- 3. From the Licensing page, click **Add license**.
- 4. Click **Browse** and locate the file downloaded to your local system: **splunk.license.big.license**
- 5. Click Open and then click Install.
- 6. Click Restart Now > OK.
- 7. After the restart, navigate back to the **Licensing** page and answer the following questions: What license group is your server configured to use now? Enterprise license group What is the maximum daily index volume licensed for your environment now? 200 MB

### Task 2: Modify the license pool.

- 8. From the Licensing page, click the Edit link next to the auto\_generated\_pool\_enterprise pool.
- 9. From Allocation, click A specific amount and set the allocation to 150 MB.
- 10. From Indexers, click Specific indexers.
- From the Available indexers field, select your host and move it to the Associated indexers field.
- 12. Click Submit > OK.
- 13. Confirm the settings you have configured for this pool on the **Licensing** page.

# Task 3: Enable an alert to monitor the license usage.

- 14. Navigate to Settings > Monitoring Console and scroll down to the Alerts section of the Overview page and click **Enable or Disable**.
- 15. Click the Enable next to the DMC Alert Total License Usage Near Daily Quota alert.
- 16. To confirm, click Enable. An alert will now fire if 90% of your pool quota is consumed.



# Module 3 Lab Exercise – Install an App

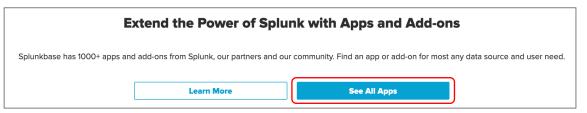
## Description

Apps and add-ons are a quick way to get value from your input data. In this lab exercise, you will install a sample app that configures an input, reports, dashboards, a lookup, and an index.

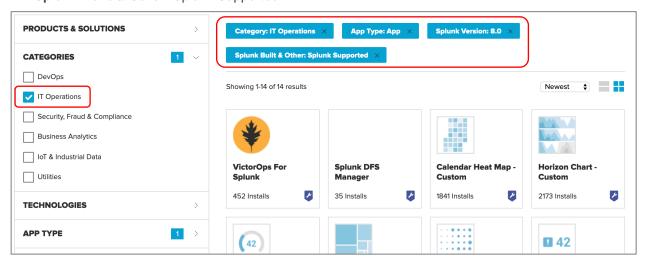
## Configuration Steps

#### Task 1: Look for Splunk apps and download an app.

- 1. Visit <a href="https://splunkbase.splunk.com/">https://splunkbase.splunk.com/</a>. (To download any apps from splunkbase, you first need a Splunk.com account.)
- 2. Find and click on See All Apps:



- 3. Search for apps that meet the following criteria:
  - Categories: IT Operations
  - App Type: App (no add-ons)
  - Splunk Version: 8.0
  - Splunk Built & Other: Splunk Supported



How many apps meet the above criteria?

As of this writing, 14.

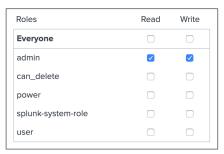
4. For this exercise, download the sample app (admin80.sp1) from <a href="https://splk.it/edu-system-80">https://splk.it/edu-system-80</a>.



#### Task 2: Install the class app.

In this task, you install a custom Splunk app from a file and change the permissions of the app so that only the admin role has read and write access.

- 5. In Splunk Web, navigate to **Settings > Indexes** and note the indexes that are currently configured for this instance.
- 6. In Splunk Web, navigate to Apps > Manage Apps page. Click the # icon if you are on the **Home** page (launcher).
- 7. Click Install app from file > Choose File to locate the admin80.spl file you downloaded in step 3.
- 8. Click Upload.
- 9. In Splunk Web, navigate to **Settings > Indexes**. Notice that a new index called "websales" has been
- 10. Navigate to the Apps > System Admin 8.0 Class App. System Admin 8.0 Class App is listed on the Home page as well as under the Apps dropdown.
- 11. Click Apps > Manage Apps.
- 12. For the System Admin 8.0 Class App, click Permissions.
- 13. Configure the permissions so only the admin role has Read and Write permissions.



14. Click Save.

#### Check Your Work

# Task 3: Verify the app installation.

- 15. Log into Splunk Web as emaxwell / open.sesam3.
- 16. Confirm that the **System Admin 8.0 Class App** app is not accessible.
- 17. Log into Splunk Web as admin / {password}.
- 18. Click the **splunk>** logo.
- 19. You should see Search & Reporting and System Admin 8.0 Class App in the left navigation bar.



# Module 4 Lab Exercise – Configuration Files

## Description

To observe how the Splunk software handles permissions and context, you will investigate a user issue with tags. In this exercise, it appears that different users are getting different results, although they are running the same search.

You must successfully complete the Module 3 lab steps to see the expected results in this lab exercise.

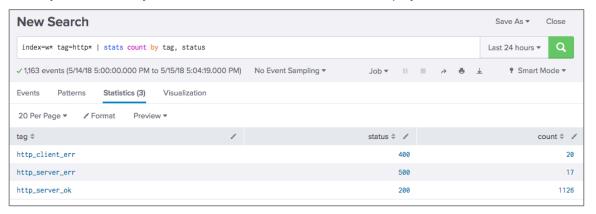
### Configuration Steps

#### Task 1: Identify a configuration problem with tags.

1. As the user admin, navigate to Search & Reporting app. If a popup appears asking about a quick tour, click Skip. Run the following search over the last 24 hours:

index=w\* tag=http\* | stats count by tag, status

Notice your results. Pay attention to the different status codes displayed.

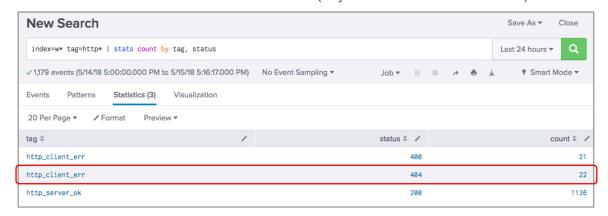


- Log in as emaxwell / open.sesam3.
- 3. Navigate to Search & Reporting app. If a popup appears asking about a quick tour, click Skip. Run the same search over the last 24 hours:

index=w\* tag=http\* | stats count by tag, status

4. Note the results that **emaxwell** gets from the same search.

What are the differences between the two results? (Pay attention to the status codes)





Investigate the Problem

#### Task 2: Use the CLI commands to investigate and troubleshoot.

In this task, use **btool** to investigate the differences between the search results. Use **splunk help btool** to display the syntax help about the command.

5. From your terminal window, navigate to the **SPLUNK\_HOME/bin** directory:



cd /opt/splunk/bin



cd \Program Files\Splunk\bin

6. To display the tag stanzas, run the **splunk btool** command:



./splunk btool tags list --debug



splunk btool tags list --debug

The **btool** option **--debug** displays the file path along with the stanza settings:

```
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf [status=200]
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf http server ok = enabled
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf [status=400]
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf http client err = enabled
```

How many stanza entries for tags did btool find? 2

So, where are the tags http server err status=500 and http client err status=404?

You should have seen these tags when you ran the search as admin and as emaxwell. Since they don't appear in any of the tags at the global or app levels, perhaps it is a private user tag.

The btool option, --debug --user={USER} --app={APP}, expands the listing of the private stanza settinas.



7. To locate the private stanza for **emaxwell**, run:



./splunk btool tags list --debug --user=emaxwell --app=search



splunk btool tags list --debug --user=emaxwell --app=search

The command returns \$SPLUNK HOME/etc/users/emaxwell/search/local/tags.conf showing the tag http client err status=404 as well as the relevant global and app level entries:

```
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf
                                                     [status=200]
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf
                                                     http server ok = enabled
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf
                                                     [status=400]
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/tags.conf
                                                     http client err = enabled
/opt/splunk/etc/users/emaxwell/search/local/tags.conf [status=404]
/opt/splunk/etc/users/emaxwell/search/local/tags.conf http client err = enabled
```

8. To locate the private stanza for **admin**, run:



./splunk btool tags list --debug --user=admin --app=search



splunk btool tags list --debug --user=admin --app=search

The command returns \$SPLUNK HOME/etc/users/admin/search/local/tags.conf showing the tag http server err status=500 as well as the relevant global and app level entries.

In conclusion, the reason that a user is seeing different results is because of his/her private tags. If this tag is important, as the administrator you may want to ask the owner to share his/her private tags.

#### **OPTIONAL Task: Use OS tools to list Splunk configuration file contents.**

Use grep with xargs on Linux or findstr on Windows to filter text lines matching a regular expression. Piping the Splunk CLI output to an OS search utility is very useful, especially when you want to look for matches in the btool output.

1. To confirm that your tag stanzas from the configuration steps exist, run the following command from the **SPLUNK\_HOME** directory:



```
cd /opt/splunk/etc
find . -name tags.conf | xargs grep "http_"
```

You can run this if you only want to locate the files:

find /opt/splunk -name tags.conf



cd C:\Program Files\Splunk\etc findstr /s /i "http\_" tags.conf

You should see three tags.conf files and four distinct tag values.



# Module 5 Lab Exercise – Add and Test Indexes

## Description

In this exercise, you create a new index and send data. You will use these indexes in subsequent lab exercises.

## Configuration Steps

#### Task 1: Examine the existing index configuration parameters.

- 1. Log into Splunk Web as admin.
- 2. Click **Settings > Indexes > main** to examine how the **main** index is configured.

Note the Max Size of Hot/Warm/Cold Bucket setting: auto high volume

### Task 2: Create an index for securityops.

In this task, you create a new dedicated index for the security operations data.

- 3. From **Settings > Indexes**, click **New Index**.
- 4. In the **Index Data Type** field, verify the default **Events** index is selected.
- 5. Populate the form as follows:

Index Name: securityops

 Index Data Type: **Events** (Default setting) Max Size of Hot/Warm/Cold Bucket: auto high volume App: Search & Reporting

This saves the configurations within the Search app-context.

- 6. Leave the rest of the fields empty to accept the defaults and click **Save**.
- 7. View the resulting configurations.



Linux users can use the cat command to view the configuration.

#### cat /opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/indexes.conf

[securityops] coldPath = \$SPLUNK DB/securityops/colddb enableDataIntegrityControl = 0 enableTsidxReduction = 0homePath = \$SPLUNK DB/securityops/db maxDataSize = auto high\_volume maxTotalDataSizeMB = 512000 thawedPath = \$SPLUNK DB/securityops/thaweddb



Windows users can use Notepad to view configurations are stored in C:\Program Files\Splunk\etc\apps\search\local\indexes.conf to view the file contents:

```
[securityops]
coldPath = $SPLUNK DB\securityops\colddb
enableDataIntegrityControl = 0
enableTsidxReduction = 0
homePath = $SPLUNK DB\securityops\db
maxDataSize = auto_high_volume
maxTotalDataSizeMB = 512000
thawedPath = $SPLUNK DB\securityops\thaweddb
```

Task 3: Add a file monitor input to send events to the securityops index.

In this task, you create a simple local data input to test that your index was created properly. Follow the steps carefully.

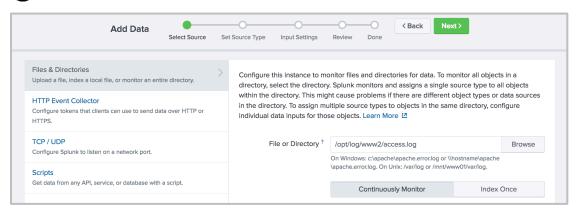
- 8. To start indexing events into the **securityops** index, click **Settings > Add Data**.
- 9. Click **Skip** to dismiss the **Welcome** (quick tour) pop-up window.
- 10. Click **Monitor** to start the local input wizard.
- 11. On the Select Source step, click Files & Directories.
- 12. Click **Browse** and navigate to select the following input source:



/opt/log/www2/access.log



C:\opt\log\www2\access.log



13. Click **Next** to display the **Set Source Type** step.

In this instance, Splunk automaticaly recognizes the data format and assigns a pretrained source type. Source types are explained in the Splunk Enterprise Data Administration course.

14. Click **Next** to display the **Input Settings** step.

15. On the **Input Settings** step, select the **securityops** index:

App Context Search & Reporting

Host Constant value (defaults to your host name splunk##)

Index securityops

#### 16. Click Review.

The summary of the input should look like this: Input Type **File Monitor** 

/opt/log/www2/access.log (Linux server) Source Path

C:\opt\log\www2\access.log (Windows server)

Continuously Monitor

Sourcetype access combined wcookie

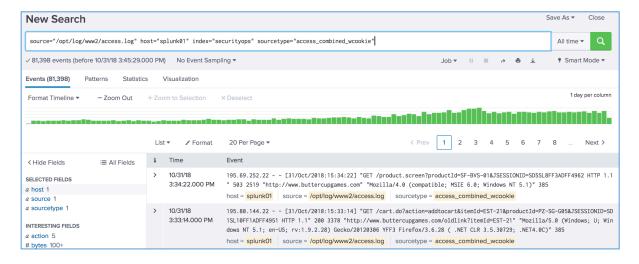
App Context search Host splunk## Index securityops

#### 17. Click Submit.

18. To verify your input, click Start Searching.

It might take a few moments for results to display. Repeat the Search (click the magnifying glass icon) until results appear.

If you don't see any results after several minutes, check with your instructor.





# Module 6 Lab Exercise - Splunk Index Management

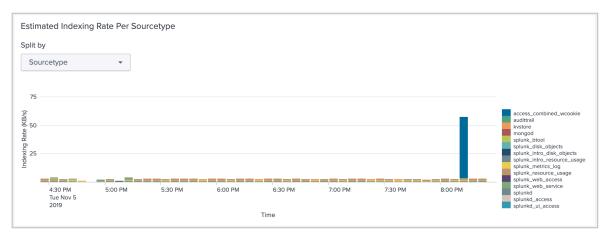
# Description

During this exercise, you will perform two tasks with the securityops index you created in the previous lab exercise. First, you will use the MC to view the indexing activity. Secondly, you will create a retention policy to apply to the index.

## **Configuration Steps**

### Task 1: Use the MC to check the indexing activities.

- 1. Navigate to **Settings > Monitoring Console**.
- 2. To check the indexing activity of the previous tasks, click Indexing > Performance > Indexing Performance: Instance.
  - Scroll down to the Historical Charts: Estimated Indexing Rate Per Sourcetype panel.



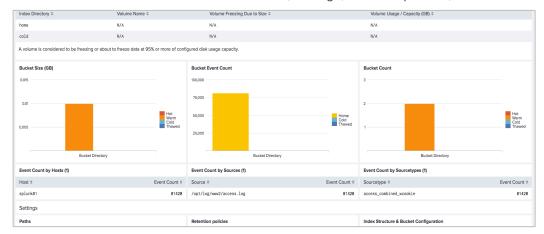
To see the specific source type rate, roll your mouse over the legend labeled access combined wcookie



3. To view the index data and path information, navigate to the top menu and select **Indexing** > Indexes and Volumes > Indexes and Volumes: Instance.

Indexes (10)							
Index \$	Data Type	Data Age vs Frozen Age (days) \$	Index Usage (GB) \$	Home Path Usage (GB) \$	Cold Path Usage (GB) ≑	Total Event	Total Bucket Count \$
_audit	event	26 / 2184	0.01 / 488.28	0.01 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	62,785	8
_internal	event	26 / 30	0.56 / 488.28	0.56 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	6,501,715	11
_introspection	event	14 / 14	0.99 / 488.28	0.99 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	887,393	4
_telemetry	event	25 / 730	0.00 / 488.28	0.00 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	98	4
airlinedata	event	14 / 2184	0.04 / 500.00	0.04 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	1,140,236	1
main	event	0 / 2184	0.00 / 488.28	0.00 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	0	0
securityops	event	116 / 2184	0.01 / 500.00	0.01 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	81,412	2
splunklogger	event	0 / 2184	0.00 / 488.28	0 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	0	0
summary	event	0 / 2184	0.00 / 488.28	0.00 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	0	0
test	event	56 / 2184	0.31 / 500.00	0.31 / unlimited	0 / unlimited	5,705,681	6

- 4. Click securityops to view the Index Detail: Instance page for the securityops index.
- Scroll down and view the current index volume, settings, retention policies, and structure.



Task 2: Configure a time-based retention policy for securityops.

6. Using a text editor, append the following attributes to the **securityops** stanza:



(nano or vi) /opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/indexes.conf

```
[securityops]
coldPath = $SPLUNK DB/securityops/colddb
enableDataIntegrityControl = 0
enalbeTsidxReduction = 0
homePath = $SPLUNK DB/securityops/db
maxDataSize = auto high volume
maxTotalDataSizeMB = 512000
thawedPath = $SPLUNK_DB/securityops/thaweddb
maxHotSpanSecs = 86400
                                  (add)
                                         NOTE: 86400 = 1 day
frozenTimePeriodInSecs = 7776000 (add)
                                         NOTE: 7776000 = 90 days
```





(Notepad) C:\Program Files\Splunk\etc\apps\search\local\indexes.conf

```
[securityops]
coldPath = $SPLUNK DB\securityops\colddb
enableDataIntegrityControl = 0
enalbeTsidxReduction = 0
homePath = $SPLUNK DB\securityops\db
maxDataSize = auto high volume
maxTotalDataSizeMB = 512000
thawedPath = $SPLUNK DB\securityops\thaweddb
maxHotSpanSecs = 86400
                                         NOTE: 86400 = 1 day
                                  (add)
frozenTimePeriodInSecs = 7776000 (add)
                                         NOTE: 7776000 = 90 days
```

These changes roll hot buckets every day and retain events in the index for 90 days.

- 7. Save your changes.
- 8. Restart Splunk using the CLI.



/opt/splunk/bin/splunk restart

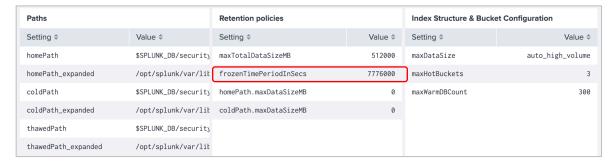


C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk restart

If you get an error during restart, it is most likely a mistake in the stanza of the indexes.conf file. Check your configuration and verify it is correct.

Task 3: Use the MC to check the view the retention policy settings.

- 9. From the MC, navigate to Indexing > Indexes and Volumes > Index Detail: Instance.
- 10. From the **Index** dropdown menu, select **securityops**.





# **Troubleshooting Suggestion**

1. Verify the indexes.conf configurations.



SPLUNK\_HOME/etc/apps/search/local/indexes.conf



C:\Program Files\Splunk\etc\apps\search\local\indexes.conf

Linux server	Windows server
<pre>[securityops] coldPath = \$SPLUNK_DB/securityops/colddb enableDataIntegrityControl = 0 enableTsidxReduction = 0 homePath = \$SPLUNK_DB/securityops/db maxDataSize = auto_high_volume maxTotalDataSizeMB = 512000 thawedPath = \$SPLUNK_DB/securityops/thaweddb maxHotSpanSecs = 86400 frozenTimePeriodInSecs = 7776000</pre>	<pre>[securityops] coldPath = \$SPLUNK_DB\securityops\colddb enableDataIntegrityControl = 0 enableTsidxReduction = 0 homePath = \$SPLUNK_DB\securityops\db maxDataSize = auto_high_volume maxTotalDataSizeMB = 512000 thawedPath = \$SPLUNK_DB\securityops\thaweddb maxHotSpanSecs = 86400 frozenTimePeriodInSecs = 7776000</pre>



# Module 7 Lab Exercise – Manage Users and Roles

# Description

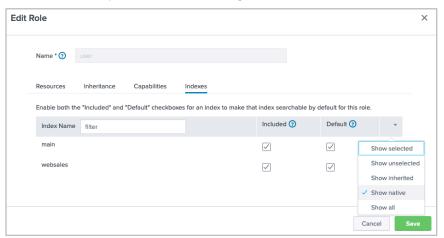
In this exercise, you will modify existing roles and add a new custom Splunk role for Data Administrators. Once the modifications are complete, verify the changes.

### Configuration Steps

#### Task 1: Modify the User, Power and Admin role privileges.

In this task, you modify the default settings for the existing user, power, and admin roles to change the default app, indexes searched by default, and limit data access to certain indexes.

- 1. Navigate to **Settings > Roles** (in the **Users and Authentication** section).
- Click the user role.
- 3. Click the 3. Indexes tab.
- 4. From Index Name list, click the Included and Default checkbox next to websales.
- 5. Check the **Included** and the **Default** checkbox next to **main**.
- 6. Uncheck the Included checkbox for All non-internal indexes.
- 7. Click the filter dropdown menu on the right and select **Show native**.



Click Save.



- 9. Click power role.
- 10. From the **5. Resources** tab, select **search** in the **Default** app drop-down menu.
- 11. Click the 3. Indexes tab.
- 12. Scroll down and notice that the **websales** and **main** indexes are inherited.



- Click the Included and Default checkboxes next to securityops.
- 14. Leave all other parameters at their default values and click Save.
- Click the admin role.
- 16. Click the 3. Indexes tab.
- 17. Click the Included and Default checkboxes by All non-internal indexes and All internal indexes.

This makes it easier for users with the admin role to see new data as it is added to the various indexes.

18. Click Save.

#### Task 2: Create a new role and assign an existing user to the new role.

- 19. From the Roles page, click New Role.
- 20. In the New Role dialog box, type soc analyst in the Name field.
- 21. In the **1.** Inheritance tab and select the checkbox next to the **power** role.
- 22. Click the **3. Indexes** tab, and select the **Included** and **Default** checkboxes next to **websales**.
- 23. From the 5. Resources tab, select search in the Default app drop-down menu.
- 24. Leave all other parameters at their default values and click **Create**.

NOTE: The inherited index settings will become visible only after saving the new role.

- 25. Navigate to Settings > Users (in the Users and Authentication section). Then click on emaxwell.
- 26. In the Assign to roles section, clear power and select soc analyst and click Save.
- 27. Log out as admin.
- 28. Log back in as emaxwell / open.sesam3

You should land on the App: Search and Reporting based on your new role properties.

29. Run the following search over the **last 24 hours**:

#### host=\* | stats count by index

You configured the **soc\_analyst** role to search the **websales** index by default, but why does the **securityops** index also appear in your search results?

In **Task 1**, you configured the **power** role to search the **websales** index by default (along with **main** and **securityops**). In this task, you configured the **soc\_analyst** role to inherit the **power** role's attributes.

- 30. Log out and log back in as admin.
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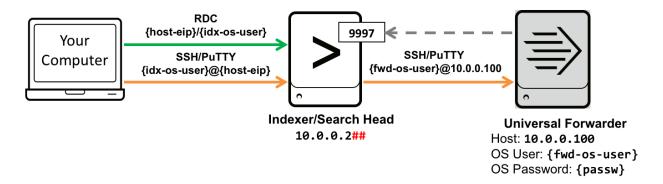


# Module 8 Lab Exercise – Setting up Forwarders

### Description

In earlier lab exercises, you set up inputs to monitor local files on the Splunk indexer. In most cases, the files that you want to monitor are not stored on a Splunk indexer. The best way to collect data from a remote system, and then send it to a Splunk indexer, is to use a forwarder.

In this exercise, you will configure your existing Splunk indexer as a receiver and set up a forwarder on a remote host. This scenario allows you to index data from a remote host to a centralized Splunk indexer.



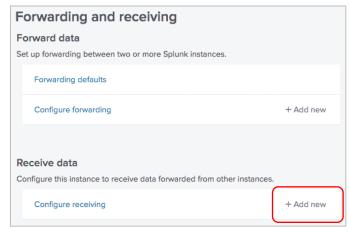
This lab exercise demonstrates a basic way to configure a forwarder.

# Configuration Steps

#### Task 1: Set up your Splunk indexer as the receiver.

In this task, you activate a receiving port on your indexer.

- 1. Log in as admin to Splunk Web and navigate to the Search & Reporting app. This causes the receiving port configuration to be saved in the **search** app's local directory.
- 2. Navigate to Settings > Forwarding and receiving > Configure receiving and click on + Add new.



3. In Listen on this port enter 9997 and click Save to configure a receiving port.

4. From your indexer's command line (command prompt for Windows), run ifconfig (on Linux) or ipconfig (on Windows) to identify your indexer's internal IP address.

It should be 10.0.0.2##, where ## represents your assigned student-ID. If not, notify your instructor.

#### Task 2: Connect to your universal forwarder.

5. To connect to your forwarder (10.0.0.100), start a remote ssh session from the indexer console.



ssh {fwd-os-user}@10.0.0.100

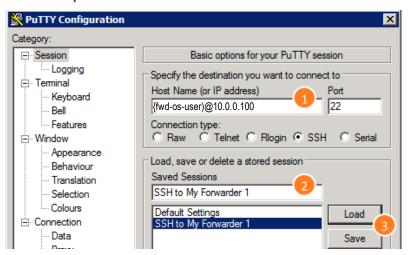


From your RDC session, locate **PuTTy** on the desktop:



Double-click the **PuTTy** application to open it, and configure an SSH session:

- Replace {fwd-os-user}@10.0.0.100 with your designated values.
- 2 Name your session and 3 Save.
- c. Click Open to start the session.



Once connected to the forwarder, the shell prompt indicates the host name:

fwd-os-user@ip-10-0-0-100 ~]\$



#### Task 3: Start your forwarder instance.

In this task, you start your forwarder instance and use the auto-ports flag to configure the management port (splunkd).

6. Use the start command with the accept-license and auto-ports argument:

```
cd ~/splunkforwarder/bin
./splunk start --accept-license --auto-ports
```

NOTE: These options automatically accept Splunk EULA and configure the splunkd-port for you.

- 7. When you receive the message "Please enter an administrator username:", enter admin and press enter to continue.
- 8. When you receive the message "Please enter a new password:", enter and confirm your assigned password to continue.
- 9. Using the show command, view the splunkd-port number (Splunk will prompt you for a Splunk username. Use admin, and enter the password.)

```
./splunk show splunkd-port
Splunkd port: 80##
```

### Task 4: Configure your forwarder to send event data to your receiver.

In this task, you configure the forwarder to send data to the receiving port you activated on your Splunk indexer in Task 1. The add forward-server command creates an outputs.conf in the forwarder's SPLUNK\_HOME/etc/system/local directory.

10. Configure forwarding to your indexer:

```
./splunk add forward-server 10.0.0.2##:9997
                                                  (## is your student-ID)
Added forwarding to: 10.0.0.2##:9997.
```

11. Verify forwarding is configured:

```
./splunk list forward-server
Active forwards:
        10.0.0.2##:9997
Configured but inactive forwards:
```

Hint: If your server is not listed or is listed as inactive, wait about 15 seconds and run the list command again.



#### Check Your Work

### Task 5: Use the Monitoring Console to validate the forwarder connection.

In this task, you enable forwarder monitoring in the Monitoring Console.

- 12. In Splunk Web, navigate to **Settings > Monitoring Console**.
- 13. On the MC menu, click **Settings > Forwarder Monitoring Setup**.
- 14. On the Forwarding Monitoring Setup page, click Enable, then Save.
  - The Build Forwarder Assets Now dialog displays.
- 15. Click Continue > Done.
- 16. Click Rebuild forwarder assets... > Start Rebuild > Done.
- 17. Switch to your terminal window, and restart the universal forwarder (not the Splunk server.)



./splunk restart

This step is only required to force log content to be sent to the indexer to speed up the process in the lab environment.

18. After the restart completes on your forwarder (10.0.0.100), list the contents of the outputs.conf file (created by the add forward-server command in the previous task).

```
fwd-os-user@ip-10-0-0-100 ~]$
cat ~/splunkforwarder/etc/system/local/outputs.conf
[tcpout]
defaultGroup = default-autolb-group
[tcpout:default-autolb-group]
server = 10.0.0.2##:9997
[tcpout-server://10.0.0.2##:9997]
```

19. On the MC menu, select Forwarders > Forwarders: Instance and check the status.



It might take a few minutes for the forwarder to display. If no result is displayed after several minutes, STOP and check the troubleshooting suggestions.

# **Troubleshooting Suggestions**

If your forwarder information is not shown, check the following to isolate the problem:

- 1. Is my receiver enabled and listening on the port I designated? Execute this CLI command on the indexer: ./splunk display listen
- 2. Did I accidentally run the forwarder commands on the indexer?
  - a. In Splunk Web, navigate to Settings > Monitoring Console > Indexing > Indexing Performance: Instance.

The fill ratio of each queue in the Splunk Enterprise Data Pipeline should be at 0% or near zero.

b. Run this command on the indexer:

./splunk btool outputs list tcpout:default-autolb-group

This should be empty. If it is not, locate the source of the output with --debug, delete the outputs.conf fie, and restart your indexer.

3. Is my forwarder output setup active?

Execute this CLI command on the forwarder: ./splunk list forward-server If it is not active, check your syntax again.

Does the port number specified match your receiving port shown in troubleshooting step 1?

4. Are there any issues logged in **splunkd.log** on the forwarder:

egrep 'ERROR|WARN' ~/splunkforwarder/var/log/splunk/splunkd.log

- 5. If you make any corrections, repeat step 10.
- 6. Is the indexer getting any data from the forwarder?

Search with the time range set to **Last 15 minutes**:

index=\_internal ERROR OR host=ip-10-0-0-100 sourcetype=splunkd

7. If you still don't get results, ask your instructor for help.



# Module 9 Lab Exercise – Distributed Search

## Description

By default, the distributed search capability is enabled on all Splunk instances with the exception of universal forwarders. To be able to search events on a remote search peer (indexer), you just need to add the search peer to your search head.

In this exercise, you extend the search capabilities of your server by adding a search peer. The lab support server is already running as a Splunk indexer, so you can add it as a search peer to your existing indexer.

## Configuration Steps

#### Task 1A: Add a search peer.

- 1. Click Settings > Distributed search > Search peers > New Search Peer.
- 2. Enter the following peer connection information.

Peer URI: 10.0.0.150:8089

Remote username: ds user

Remote password: open.sesam3

Click Save.



### Check Your Work

#### Task 2A: Search for indexes and sourcetypes on the search peer.

4. Run the following search over the last 30 days:

index=\* splunk\_server!=splunk\* | stats count by splunk\_server, index, sourcetype

What is the Splunk server name of your search peer? bcgdc

Which index(es) are available on your search peer? main

What sourcetype(s) are available on your search peer? Perfmon:bcgdc\_resource



# Module 9 Lab Exercise – Create a Diag

## Description

In this exercise, you create a baseline Splunk diag file and index the output to the test index. Search the diag's contents to determine the memory consumption of Splunk processes.

#### Steps

#### Task 1B: Create a Splunk diag file for the deployment server.

1. From your Splunk indexer instance, generate a baseline diag file using the splunk diag command.



```
cd /opt/splunk/bin/
./splunk diag
Splunk diagnosis file created: /opt/splunk/diag-ip-10-0-0-201-
2019-11-05 22-16-19.tar.gz
cd C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin
```



```
splunk diag
Splunk diagnosis file created:
C:\Program Files\Splunk\diag-splunk indexer-2019-11-02 15-24-
18.tar.gz
```

# Task 2B: Index the baseline diag file for your records.

- 2. From your Splunk instance, launch the Add Data wizard and click monitor.
- 3. Click Files & Directories and browse to the SPLUNK HOME directory (/opt/splunk on Linux, C:\Program Files\Splunk on Windows), and select the diag file you just created, which should have the file extension .tar.gz.
- 4. Select the **Index Once** option and click **Next**.
- 5. Select Index main, and click Review.
- 6. Verify the Review page has the following settings:

Input Type File Monitor

Source Path SPLUNK HOME/diag\*.tar.gz

Continously Monitor No, index once

Whitelist N/A **Blacklist** N/A Sourcetype Automatic App Context search

Host splunk## (where ## is your student ID)

Index main

7. Click Submit.



### Check Your Work

### Task 3: Search the diag contents for the system information.

- 8. From the DS, execute the following search over All Time, replacing the ## with your student ID: index=main source=\*diag\* host=splunk## | stats count by source
  - The returned search lists all the files included with the tarball diag and the associated event count.
- 9. From the DS, execute the following search over All Time, replacing the ## with your student ID: index=main source=\*systeminfo.txt "diag launched" host=splunk##
- 10. In the returned event, click Show all XXX lines and scroll down the expanded data to see the amount of memory consumed by the Splunk processes.

Check the values under:

\*\*\*\*\*\* Process Listing (ps) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ps aux output lists process owner, process ID, CPU%, MEM%, total virtual memory used, non-swapped physical memory used, etc.



Check the values under:

\*\*\*\*\*\* Process Listing (tasklist) of splunkd.exe \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

tasklist /V /FI IMAGENAME eq splunkd.exe output lists name, PID, session name, session#, memory usage, status, user name, CPU time, etc.



# Appendix A Lab: Configure a Volume-based Retention Policy

In this exercise, you create a new index for the IT Operations team. Then you will configure a volumebased retention policy and view the results in the MC.

#### Task 1: Create an index for itops.

 Create an index for the IT operations team by navigating to Settings > Indexes > New Index. Use the following values:

Index Name: itops

Index Data Type: **Events** (Default setting)

Max Size of Entire Index: 100 GB

App: Search & Reporting

Leave the rest of the fields empty and accept the defaults.

2. Click Save.

#### Task 2: Configure a strict volume-based retention policy for itops.

3. In your text editor, update your indexes.conf file as follows in the /opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local:



Insert the following two volume stanzas before the **itops** stanza:

[volume:one] path = /opt/home/{idx-os-user}/one/ (substitute your {idx-os-user} name) maxVolumeDataSizeMB = 40000 [volume:two] path = /opt/home/{idx-os-user}/two/ (substitute your {idx-os-user} name) maxVolumeDataSizeMB = 80000

```
[itops]
coldPath = volume:two/itops/colddb
                                      (edit)
enableDataIntegrityControl = 0
enableTsidxReduction = 0
homePath = volume:one/itops/db
                                      (edit)
maxTotalDataSizeMB = 102400
thawedPath = $SPLUNK DB/itops/thaweddb
homePath.maxDataSizeMB = 30000
                                      (add)
coldPath.maxDataSizeMB = 60000
                                      (add)
```



```
Insert the following two volume stanzas before the itops stanza:
```

```
[volume:one]
path = C:/vol/one/
                               (NOTE: forward slashes required here)
maxVolumeDataSizeMB = 40000
[volume:two]
path = C:/vol/two/
                               (NOTE: forward slashes required here)
maxVolumeDataSizeMB = 80000
[itops]
coldPath = volume:two\itops\colddb (edit)
enableDataIntegrityControl = 0
enableTsidxReduction = 0
homePath = volume:one\itops\db
                                      (edit)
maxDataSize = auto
maxTotalDataSizeMB = 102400
thawedPath = $SPLUNK DB\itops\thaweddb
homePath.maxDataSizeMB = 30000
                                      (add)
coldPath.maxDataSizeMB = 60000
                                      (add)
```

This sets the volume limit of the hot and warm buckets to be no more than 30 GB out of 40GB and the cold buckets to be no more than 60 GB out of 80 GB.

- 4. Save your changes and close the text editor.
- 5. Restart Splunk using the CLI.



/opt/splunk/bin/splunk restart



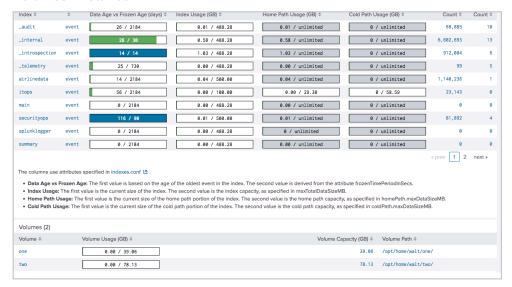
C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk restart

The local directories used to simulate a storage volume mount will automatically be created after the Splunk restart completes.

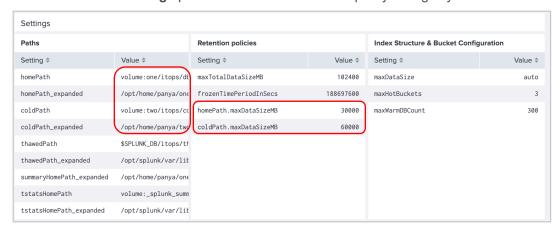


#### Task 5: Use the MC to view the retention settings.

- 6. Navigate to **Settings > Monitoring Console**.
- To check the retention overview, navigate to Indexing > Indexes and Volumes > Indexes and Volumes: Instance.



- 8. To see the index detail of the **itops** index, click **itops**.
  - The **Index Detail: Instance** page opens with the **itops** index selected.
  - Scroll down to the **Settings** panel to confirm the retention policy changes you have made.



# Troubleshooting Suggestion

Verify the indexes.conf configurations.



/opt/splunk/etc/apps/search/local/indexes.conf



C:\Program Files\Splunk\etc\apps\search\local\indexes.conf





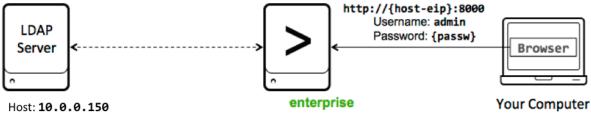
# Appendix B Lab: Configure Splunk to use LDAP

## Description

Your organization uses the Active Directory (AD) services to manage users and computers. AD makes use of Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) to authenticate and authorize all users and computers in a network. In this exercise, you will configure Splunk to use AD LDAP service for access controls.

#### Task 1: Configure Splunk to use LDAP.

In this task, you create an LDAP strategy to use the lab environment's LDAP Server.



Port: 389

User name: adsuser@buttercupgames.local

Password: open.sesam3

- 1. Navigate to Settings > Users and Authentication > Authentication method.
- 2. Select the LDAP radio button and click Configure Splunk to use LDAP.
- Click New LDAP.
- 4. Populate the form as follows:

LDAP strategy name: AD splunkers Host: 10.0.0.150

Port: 389

Bind DN: adsuser@buttercupgames.local

Bind DN Password: open.sesam3 Confirm password: open.sesam3

User base DN: OU=splunk, DC=buttercupgames, DC=local

User base filter: (leave blank) User name attribute: samaccountname Real name attribute: displayName Email attribute: (leave blank)

Group mapping attribute:

Group base DN: OU=splunk, DC=buttercupgames, DC=local

Static group search filter: (leave blank)

Group name attribute: cn Static member attribute: member



5. Leave the rest of the fields blank or at default values. Click **Save**.

If you encounter an error, check the troubleshooting suggestions section.

#### Task 2: Map LDAP groups to Splunk roles.

In this task, you map Active Directory groups to Splunk roles.

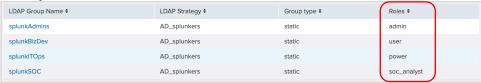
Click Map groups.



7. For each LDAP Group Name, assign the following Splunk Roles by clicking on the group name, selecting the role, and clicking Save:

LDAP Group Name	Splunk Roles
splunkAdmins	admin
splunkBizDev	user
splunkITOps	power
splunkSOC	soc_analyst

When you are done, it should look like this:



### Check Your Work

#### Task 3: Verify the LDAP configuration.

In this task, you verify the capabilities of Active Directory users.

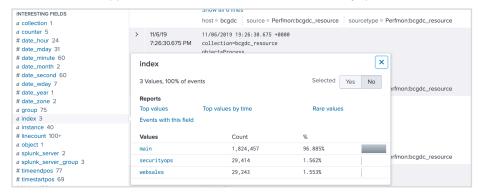
Navigate to **Settings > Users and Authentication > Users**.

How many users are imported from Active Directory?

Which LDAP users are mapped to the **user** role? Bao Lu (blu) and Dwight Hale (dhale)

9. Log in as nsharpe or pbunch (password: open.sesam3) and search index=\* for Last 30 days.

Which indexes appear in the results? main, securityops, and websales



# **Troubleshooting Suggestion**

1. Check the output of SPLUNK\_HOME/etc/system/local/authentication.conf. It should be:

```
[AD splunkers]
SSLEnabled = 0
anonymous referrals = 1
bindDN = adsuser@buttercupgames.local
bindDNpassword = <some hashed password>
charset = utf8
emailAttribute = mail
groupBaseDN = OU=splunk,DC=buttercupgames,DC=local
groupMappingAttribute = dn
groupMemberAttribute = member
groupNameAttribute = cn
host = 10.0.0.150
nestedGroups = 0
network timeout = 20
port = \overline{3}89
realNameAttribute = displayName
sizelimit = 1000
timelimit = 15
userBaseDN = OU=splunk,DC=buttercupgames,DC=local
userNameAttribute = samaccountname
[authentication]
authSettings = AD splunkers
authType = LDAP
[roleMap AD splunkers]
admin = splunkAdmins
power = splunkITOps
soc analyst = splunkSOC
user = splunkBizDev
```