→ rsyslog is responsible for log processing in RHEL. rsyslog is abbreviation of 'Rocket Fast System for Log processing'. rsyslog offers high-performance, great security features and modular design. It can accept input from wide variety of sources, transform it and output the result to diverse destinations.

In this article, we will configure a central logging server using rsyslog on RHEL and then we will configure RHEL clients to submit their local logs to this rsyslog based central logging server.

→ rsyslog is by default installed on most of the Linux distros including RHEL/CentOS. Connect to rsyslog server and check status of rsyslog.service, start it if it is not running. (Install the package from repository if there is no such service present)

On Server :-

rpm -qi rsyslog

```
[root@client ~]# rpm -qi rsyslog
Name
             : rsyslog
              : 8.2310.0
Version
Release
             : 4.el9
Architecture: x86_64
Install Date: Sunday 18 August 2024 01:01:04 PM
Group : Unspecified
            : 2740597
Size
License : (GPLv3+ and ASL 2.0)
Signature : RSA/SHA256, Thursday 15 February 2024 12:24:40 AM, Key ID 199e2f91fd431d51
Source RPM : rsyslog-8.2310.0-4.el9.src.rpm
Build Date : Monday 08 January 2024 01:26:17 PM
Build Host : x86-64-02.build.eng.rdu2.redhat.com
Packager : Red Hat, Inc. < http://bugzilla.redhat.com/bugzilla>
Vendor
             : Red Hat, Inc.
URL
           : <a href="http://www.rsyslog.com/">http://www.rsyslog.com/</a>
: Enhanced system logging and kernel message trapping daemon
Summary
Description :
Rsyslog is an enhanced, multi-threaded syslog daemon. It supports MySQL,
syslog/TCP, RFC 3195, permitted sender lists, filtering on any message part,
and fine grain output format control. It is compatible with stock sysklogd and can be used as a drop-in replacement. Rsyslog is simple to set up, with
advanced features suitable for enterprise-class, encryption-protected syslog
relay chains.
[root@client ~]#
```

systemctl start rsyslog.service # systemctl enable rsyslog.service # systemctl status rsyslog.service

```
[root@client ~]# systemctl enable rsyslog.service
[root@client ~]# systemctl start rsyslog.service
[root@client ~]# systemctl startur rsyslog.service

• rsyslog.service - System Logging Service

• rsyslog.service - System Logging Service

Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/rsyslog.service; enabled; preset: enabled)

Active: active (running) since Thu 2024-09-19 20:01:01 IST; 44min ago

Docs: man:rsyslogd(s)

https://www.rsyslog.com/doc/

Main PID: 930 (rsyslogd)

Tasks: 3 (lumit: 4921)

Memory: 3.5M

CPU: 797ms

CGroup: /system.slice/rsyslog.service

L930 /usr/sbin/rsyslogd -n

Sep 19 20:01:01 client systemd[1]: Starting System Logging Service...

Sep 19 20:01:01 client rsyslogd[930]: [origin software="rsyslogd" swVersion="8.2310.0-4.el9" x-pid="930" x-info="https://www.rsyslog.com"] start

Sep 19 20:01:01 client rsyslogd[930]: imjournal: journal files changed, reloading... [v8.2310.0-4.el9 try https://www.rsyslog.com/e/0 ]
```

→ Edit this file and add this two line and save the file

nano /etc/rsyslog.conf

\$ModLoad imtcp

\$InputTCPServerRun 514

```
# rsyslog configuration file

# For more information see /usr/share/doc/rsyslog-*/rsyslog_conf.html

# or latest version online at http://www.rsyslog.com/doc/rsyslog_conf.html

# If you experience problems, see http://www.rsyslog.com/doc/troubleshoot.html

$ModLoad imtcp
$InputTCPServerRun 514

#### MODULES ####
```

→ Now restart the rsyslog.service.

systemctl restart rsyslog.service

```
[root@surya ~]# systemctl restart rsyslog.service
[root@surya ~]# ■
```

- → Allow rsyslog service port in Linux firewall and reload the firewall.
- # firewall-cmd --permanent --add-port=514/tcp
- # firewall-cmd --reload
- => Now syslog server is successfully configured

On Client:-

ightharpoonup Connect to rsyslogclient.nehraclasses and check status of rsyslog.service, start & enable it if not running.

#rpm -qi rsyslog

```
[root@client ~]# rpm -qi rsyslog
Name
              : rsyslog
               : 8.2310.0
Version
Release
              : 4.el9
Architecture: x86 64
Install Date: Sunday 18 August 2024 01:01:04 PM
             : Unspecified
Group
Size
             : 2740597
License
             : (GPLv3+ and ASL 2.0)
Signature : RSA/SHA256, Thursday 15 February 2024 12:24:40 AM, Key ID 199e2f91fd431d51 Source RPM : rsyslog-8.2310.0-4.el9.src.rpm
Build Date : Monday 08 January 2024 01:26:17 PM
Build Host : x86-64-02.build.eng.rdu2.redhat.com
Packager : Red Hat, Inc. < http://bugzilla.redhat.com/bugzilla>
Vendor
               : Red Hat, Inc.
URL
              : <a href="http://www.rsyslog.com/">http://www.rsyslog.com/</a>
              : Enhanced system logging and kernel message trapping daemon
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Description :
Rsyslog is an enhanced, multi-threaded syslog daemon. It supports MySQL,
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and can be used as a drop-in replacement. Rsyslog is simple to set up, with
advanced features suitable for enterprise-class, encryption-protected syslog
relay chains.
[root@client ~]#
```

systemctl start rsyslog.service # systemctl enable rsyslog.service # systemctl start rsyslog.service

 \rightarrow Now configure rsyslog client to transmit its log to our rsyslog server by adding the following directives in /etc/rsyslog.conf

nano /etc/rsyslog.conf

. @@192.168.226.137:514

```
GNU nano 5.6.1
                                                                                         /etc/rsyslog
# Logging much else clutters up the screen.
#kern.*
                                                                    /dev/console
# Log anything (except mail) of level info or higher.
# Don't log private authentication messages!
                                                                    /var/log/messages
*.info;mail.none;authpriv.none;cron.none
# The authpriv file has restricted access.
authpriv.*
                                                                    /var/log/secure
# Log all the mail messages in one place.
mail.*
                                                                    -/var/log/maillog
# Log cron stuff
cron.*
                                                                    /var/log/cron
# Everybody gets emergency messages
*.emerg
                                                                    :omusrmsq:*
# Save news errors of level crit and higher in a special file.
uucp,news.crit
                                                                    /var/log/spooler
# Save boot messages also to boot.log
local7.*
                                                                    /var/log/boot.log
# ### sample forwarding rule ###
#action(type="omfwd"
# # An on-disk queue is created for this action. If the remote host is
# # down, messages are spooled to disk and sent when it is up again.
#queue.filename="fwdRule1" # unique name prefix for spool files
#queue.maxdiskspace="1g" # 1gb space limit (use as much as possible)
#queue.saveonshutdown="on" # save messages to disk on shutdown
#queue.type="LinkedList" # run asynchronously
#action.resumeRetryCount="-1" # infinite retries if host is down
# # Remote Logging (we use TCP for reliable delivery)
# # remote_host is: name/ip, e.g. 192.168.0.1, port optional e.g. 10514
#Target="remote host" Port="XXX" Protecol="tcp")
*.* @@192.168.226.137:514
                     ^O Write Out
                                            Where Is
                                                                 Cut
                                                                                   `T Execute
   Help
                        Read File
    Exit
                                             Replace
                                                                 Paste
                                                                                      Justify
```

→ Restart the rsyslog.service to apply changes.

systemctl restart rsyslog.service

```
[root@client ~]# systemctl restart rsyslog.service [root@client ~]#
```

→Our rsyslog client has been configured,Now connect to our rsyslog server and check /var/log/messages

tail /var/log/messages

```
[root@client ~]# tail /var/log/messages

Sep 19 21:15:10 client systemd[1]: Started System Logging Service.

Sep 19 21:15:10 client rsyslogd[1609]: imjournal: journal files changed, reloading... [v8.2310.0-4.el9 try https://www.rsyslog.com/e/0 ]

Sep 19 21:16:01 client NetworkManager[815]: <info> [1726760761.3070] dhcp4 (ens160): state changed new lease, address=192.168.226.133

Sep 19 21:16:03 client systemd[1]: Starting Network Manager Script Dispatcher Service...

Sep 19 21:16:04 client systemd[1]: NetworkManager Script Dispatcher Service.

Sep 19 21:16:15 client systemd[1]: NetworkManager-dispatcher.service: Deactivated successfully.

Sep 19 21:16:15 client systemd[1]: NetworkManager-dispatcher.service: Consumed 1.414s CPU time.

Sep 19 21:16:29 client systemd[1]: Starting Time & Date Service..

Sep 19 21:16:29 client systemd[1]: Started Time & Date Service.

Sep 19 21:16:59 client systemd[1]: systemd-timedated.service: Deactivated successfully.

[root@client ~]# ||
```

We can see that client is forwarding its logs to server.

THANK YOU

Suryadev Chaudhay