

# Splunk: MySQL data connection setup

This document will detail the steps necessary for connecting to a Jamf Pro MySQL database as a Splunk data source.

One of the easier ways to get Jamf Pro data is to connect directly to the Jamf Pro's MySQL database. While the process for doing this is fairly straight forward, some of the steps are particular and should be done in a specific way. For example, allowing access to the MySQL database in a relatively secure fashion.

There are several steps to connecting Splunk to a database connection. Database connection add-ons and JDBC drivers need to be installed. User and connection information needs to be configured. How often particular data is pulled and how it's organized within Splunk needs to be determined. While there are a lot of steps, none of them are insurmountable or very complicated.

## Preparing MySQL

The first thing we have to do is prepare MySQL to both allow external connections in general and a specific user connection to gather data from MySQL. By default the Jamf Pro MySQL instance does not allow external connection or have users other than root and those used to connect to Jamf Pro.

### ▼ [Allowing connections to MySQL](#)

By default, external connections are not enabled to a Jamf Pro MySQL instance. The default IP of the MySQL server is '127.0.0.1', so external requests aren't even seen. We must change the MySQL configuration file and restart so external connections are possible.

```
> cd /etc/mysql/mysql.conf.d
> sudo vi mysqld.cnf
```

The exact location of the 'mysqld.cnf' file that needs editing may vary, but it should be located somewhere in '/etc/mysql'.

Comment out 'bind-address'.

```
43 #opener
44 bind-address                = 127.0.0.1
45 #

to

43 #opener
44 #bind-address              = 127.0.0.1
45 #
```

Restart mysql.

```
> sudo service mysql restart
```

### ▼ [Create limited MySQL user](#)

We should now create a MySQL user specifically for accessing MySQL from Splunk. There are a couple reasons for doing this. The first is to limit access to the databases and tables in MySQL. Splunk should only need access to the 'jamfsoftware' database and should only need 'read' (SELECT) access to tables within that database. Another reason is logging usage and access from Splunk. If all requests from Splunk come from specific users, it is easier to track any impact Splunk usage may have on the Jamf Pro instance.

First log in to MySQL. Where <admin> is a MySQL admin user or 'root'

```
> mysql -u <admin> -p
```

Now create a new user. <host> can be an IP address or a [FQDN](#).

```
: CREATE USER '<username>'@'<host>' IDENTIFIED BY '<password>';
```

examples

```
: CREATE USER 'splunk'@'foo.jamf.corp' IDENTIFIED BY 'jamf1234';
```

```
: CREATE USER 'splunk'@'10.20.30.40' IDENTIFIED BY 'jamf1234';
```

If SSL certificates are in use, the user can be created requiring their use for connections.

```
: CREATE USER '<username>'@'<host>' IDENTIFIED BY '<password>' REQUIRE  
SSL;
```

Give the user access to specific databases and tables within MySQL.

```
: GRANT SELECT ON jamfsoftware.<table> TO '<username>'@'<host>';
```

examples:

```
: GRANT SELECT ON jamfsoftware.computers_denormalized TO  
'splunk'@'foo.jamf.corp';
```

```
: GRANT SELECT ON jamfsoftware.mobile_devices_denormalized TO  
'splunk'@'foo.jamf.corp';
```

```
: GRANT SELECT ON jamfsoftware.buildings TO 'splunk'@'foo.jamf.corp';
```

```
: GRANT SELECT ON jamfsoftware.departments TO  
'splunk'@'foo.jamf.corp';
```

**Note:** While it is possible to grant a user access to all tables within a database with wildcards, doing so carries some risk. One could grant the user 'splunk' SELECT access to all tables and fields within the 'jamfsoftware' database. However this would include the 'users' table and all the Jamf Pro user subtables. When possible, MySQL users should only be granted the access required to produce the desired Splunk visualizations.

▼ [Create SSL cert for MySQL connection \(ver. 5.6 and before, optional\)](#)

[MySQL Documentation : creating ssl files](#)

Connecting to a MySQL database remotely can be done several ways. Splunk uses a standard connection to the default MySQL port 3306. While this method works well, it is also insecure. Credentials to log in to MySQL are passed via an unencrypted connection and could be

snooped. Luckily, there is a way to connect to MySQL via a secure encrypted connection.

Care should be taken protecting the certs, especially the private keys. With the private keys, anyone could generate client certs which could allow access to MySQL server.

This is the older, more complicated method for generating SSL certs for MySQL. With version 5.7 and newer there is a simpler method.

The steps below assume no certs are currently in use for MySQL.

First, create a certificate authority certificate.

```
> cd /etc/mysql
> mkdir certs && cd certs

> openssl genrsa 2048 > ca-key.pem
> openssl req -new -x509 -nodes -days 3600 -key ca-key.pem -out ca.pem
```

Follow the instructions presented

```
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be
incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or
a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
```

```
-----
```

```
Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:US
State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:MN
Locality Name (eg, city) []:Frostbite Falls
Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:Mooseworks
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:hats
Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:hats.moosensqurl.net
Email Address []:help@moosensqurl.net
```

Create server certificate. These are the certs that are used by the server to establish a secure connection.

Sign and add a passphrase for server certificate. 'server-cert.pem' is the public key. 'server-key.pem' is the private key.

```

> openssl req -newkey rsa:2048 -days 3600 -nodes -keyout
server-key.pem -out server-req.pem
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be
incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or
a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
-----
Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:US
State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:MN
Locality Name (eg, city) []:Frostbite Falls
Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:Mooseworks
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:hats
Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:hats.moosensqurl.net
Email Address []:help@moosensqurl.net

Please enter the following 'extra' attributes
to be sent with your certificate request
A challenge password []:rocky001BullW
An optional company name []:Mooseworks

> openssl rsa -in server-key.pem -out server-key.pem
> openssl x509 -req -in server-req.pem -days 3600 -CA ca.pem -CAkey
ca-key.pem -set_serial 00001 -out server-cert.pem

```

Create client certificates. These are the certs that will be used remotely to log in to MySQL securely.

The client challenge password should be different from server challenge password. There could be multiple client certs for a single server cert.

```

> openssl req -newkey rsa:2048 -days 3600 -nodes -keyout
client-key.pem -out client-req.pem

-----
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be
incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or
a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
-----
Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:US
State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:MN
Locality Name (eg, city) []:Frostbite Falls
Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:Mooseworks
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:hats
Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:hats.moosensqurl.net
Email Address []:help@moosensqurl.net

Please enter the following 'extra' attributes
to be sent with your certificate request
A challenge password []:boris991Natasha&
An optional company name []:Mooseworks

> openssl rsa -in client-key.pem -out client-key.pem
> openssl x509 -req -in client-req.pem -days 3600 -CA ca.pem -CAkey
ca-key.pem -set_serial 00001 -out client-cert.pem

```

Verify new certificates against certificate authority.

```

> openssl verify -CAfile ca.pem server-cert.pem client-cert.pem
server-cert.pem: OK
client-cert.pem: OK

```

Copy certs to MySQL data directory.

▼ [Find MySQL data directory](#)

The MySQL data directory can be found with a command to mysql.

```
> mysql -u <admin user> -p -e 'SHOW VARIABLES WHERE Variable_Name LIKE "%dir"'
```

```
> cd /etc/mysql/certs

## if certs file doesn't exist is data directory
> sudo mkdir /var/lib/mysql/certs
> sudo chown mysql:mysql /var/lib/mysql/certs
> sudo cp ca.pem server-cert.pem server-key.pem /var/lib/mysql/certs

## change ownership of certs so MySQL can access them
> sudo chown -R mysql:mysql /var/lib/mysql/certs
```

Now configure MySQL to use the new certs. The location and name of the MySQL configuration file can vary by individual installation.

MySQL : Using secure connections

▼ Find 'mysqld.cnf' files

> locate mysqld.cnf

```
> cd /etc/mysql/mysql.conf.d
> sudo vi mysqld.cnf
```

'mysqld.cnf'

```
[mysqld]
...
# mysql ssl certs
ssl-ca=/var/lib/mysql/certs/ca.pem
ssl-cert=/var/lib/mysql/certs/server-cert.pem
ssl-key=/var/lib/mysql/certs/server-key.pem
```

Restart mysql.

```
> sudo service mysql restart
```

▼ Create SSL cert for MySQL connection (ver 5.7 and after, optional)

With version 5.7 of MySQL there is a much simpler method for generating SSL certs for use with MySQL. A single command will generate all required certificates in a specified directory. Care should be taken protecting the certs, especially the private keys. With the private keys, anyone could generate client certs which could allow access to MySQL server.

Generate certs.

```
> sudo mysql_ssl_rsa_setup --datadir=<mysql data directory> --verbose
```

```
## if certs file doesn't exist is data directory
```

```
> sudo mkdir /var/lib/mysql/certs
```

```
> sudo chown mysql:mysql /var/lib/mysql/certs
```

```
example:
```

```
> sudo mysql_ssl_rsa_setup --datadir=/var/lib/mysql/certs --verbose
```

```
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Destination directory:
/var/lib/mysql/certs
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl version
OpenSSL 1.0.2g  1 Mar 2016
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl req -newkey rsa:2048
-days 3650 -nodes -keyout ca-key.pem -subj
/CN=MySQL_Server_5.7.17_Auto_Generated_CA_Certificate -out ca-req.pem
&& openssl rsa -in ca-key.pem -out ca-key.pem
Generating a 2048 bit RSA private key
.....+++
.....+++
writing new private key to 'ca-key.pem'
-----
writing RSA key
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl x509 -sha256 -days
3650 -set_serial 1 -req -in ca-req.pem -signkey ca-key.pem -out ca.pem
Signature ok
subject=/CN=MySQL_Server_5.7.17_Auto_Generated_CA_Certificate
Getting Private key
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl req -newkey rsa:2048
-days 3650 -nodes -keyout server-key.pem -subj
/CN=MySQL_Server_5.7.17_Auto_Generated_Server_Certificate -out
server-req.pem && openssl rsa -in server-key.pem -out server-key.pem
Generating a 2048 bit RSA private key
.....+++
.....+++
writing new private key to 'server-key.pem'
-----
writing RSA key
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl x509 -sha256 -days
3650 -set_serial 2 -req -in server-req.pem -CA ca.pem -CAkey
ca-key.pem -out server-cert.pem
Signature ok
subject=/CN=MySQL_Server_5.7.17_Auto_Generated_Server_Certificate
```

```
Getting CA Private Key
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl req -newkey rsa:2048
-days 3650 -nodes -keyout client-key.pem -subj
/CN=MySQL_Server_5.7.17_Auto_Generated_Client_Certificate -out
client-req.pem && openssl rsa -in client-key.pem -out client-key.pem
Generating a 2048 bit RSA private key
.....
.....+++
.....
.....+++
writing new private key to 'client-key.pem'
-----
writing RSA key
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl x509 -sha256 -days
3650 -set_serial 3 -req -in client-req.pem -CA ca.pem -CAkey
ca-key.pem -out client-cert.pem
Signature ok
subject=/CN=MySQL_Server_5.7.17_Auto_Generated_Client_Certificate
Getting CA Private Key
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl verify -CAfile
ca.pem server-cert.pem client-cert.pem
server-cert.pem: OK
client-cert.pem: OK
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl genrsa -out
private_key.pem 2048
Generating RSA private key, 2048 bit long modulus
.....+++
.....+++
e is 65537 (0x10001)
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Executing : openssl rsa -in
```



```
private_key.pem -pubout -out public_key.pem  
writing RSA key  
2017-03-10 18:33:12 [NOTE]      Success!
```

Change ownership of certs so MySQL can access them.

```
> sudo chown -R mysql:mysql /var/lib/mysql/certs
```

#### ✓ [Testing the connection](#)

There are several tools for testing a MySQL connection to verify it functions. One could just try out the connection with Splunk. Splunk has a fairly robust connection tester. However other tools can also be used to test MySQL connections.

One useful tool in this regard is 'Sequel Pro'. Available for macOS, 'Sequel Pro' allows creation of database connections, browsing through available databases, even running SQL commands against tables.

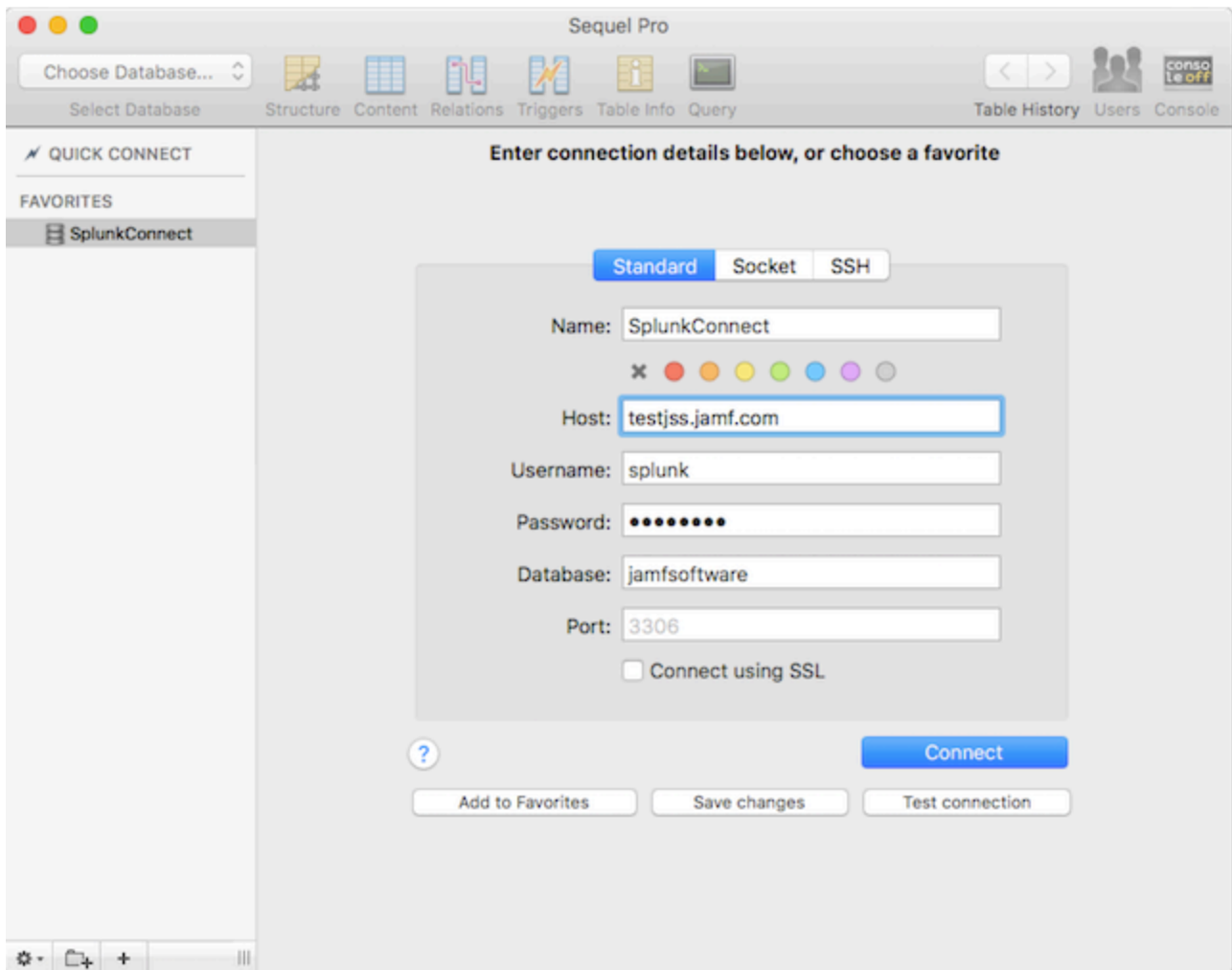
##### [Sequel Pro](#)

A more cross-platform solution would be MySQL's own tool, 'MySQL Workbench'. 'MySQL Workbench' has more functionality than 'Sequel Pro', but is often more complex to use.

##### [MySQL Workbench](#)

To demonstrate how to test a MySQL connection using 'Sequel Pro'.

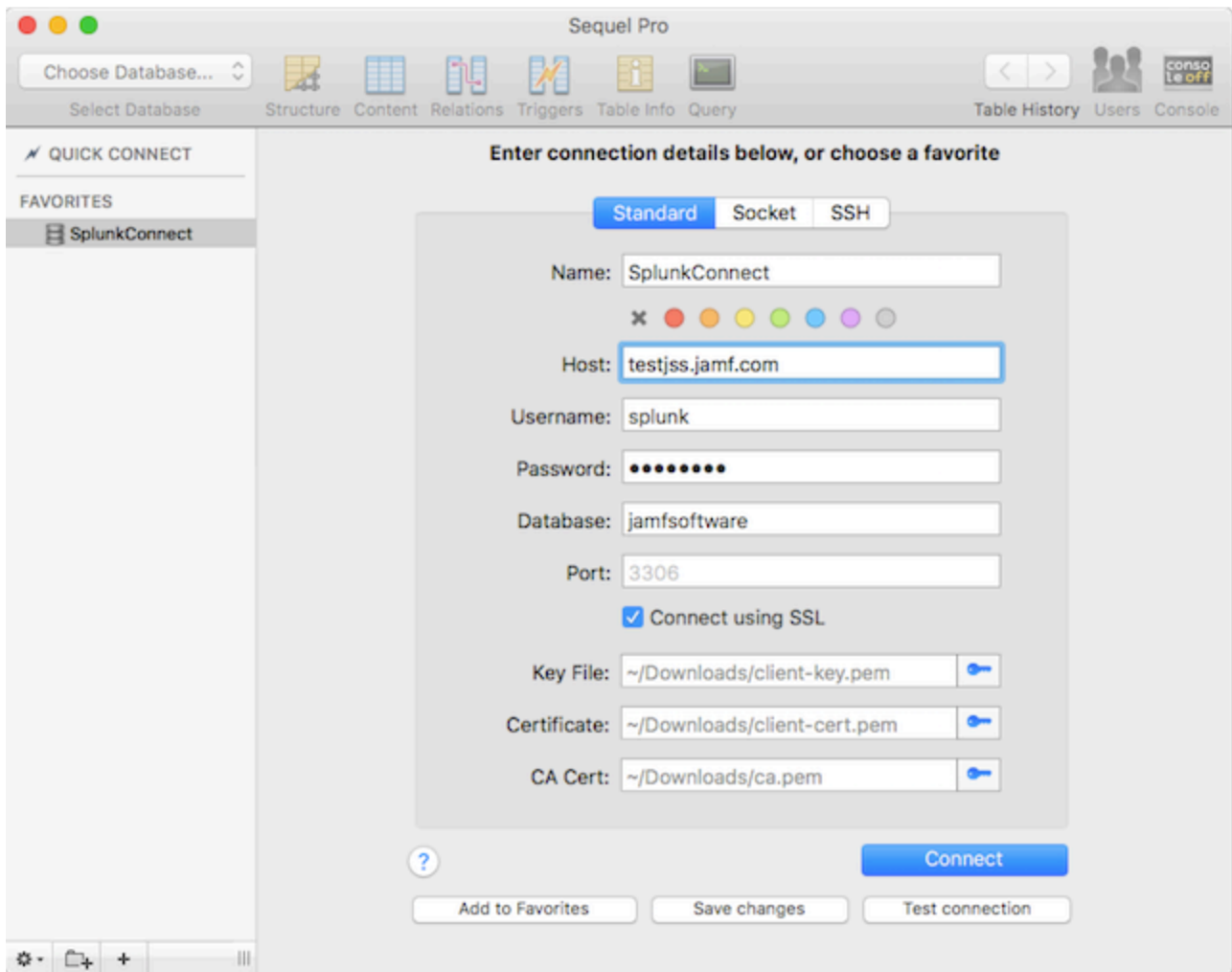
First look at the basic connection screen.



On this screen:

- **'Name'** is the label for the connection.
- **'Host'** is the fully qualified host name of the MySQL server.
- **'Username'** is the username used to log in to MySQL.
- **'Password'** is the password used to log in to MySQL.
- **'Database'** is an optional field. If a valid database name is entered here, when connecting to MySQL that database will automatically be opened. If left blank, a list of valid databases is shown on connection.
- **'Port'** is auto-populated with the default port for MySQL connections. It can be changed, but generally isn't.
- The **'Connect using SSL'** checkbox isn't required. However, connecting to MySQL via SSL is a good idea.

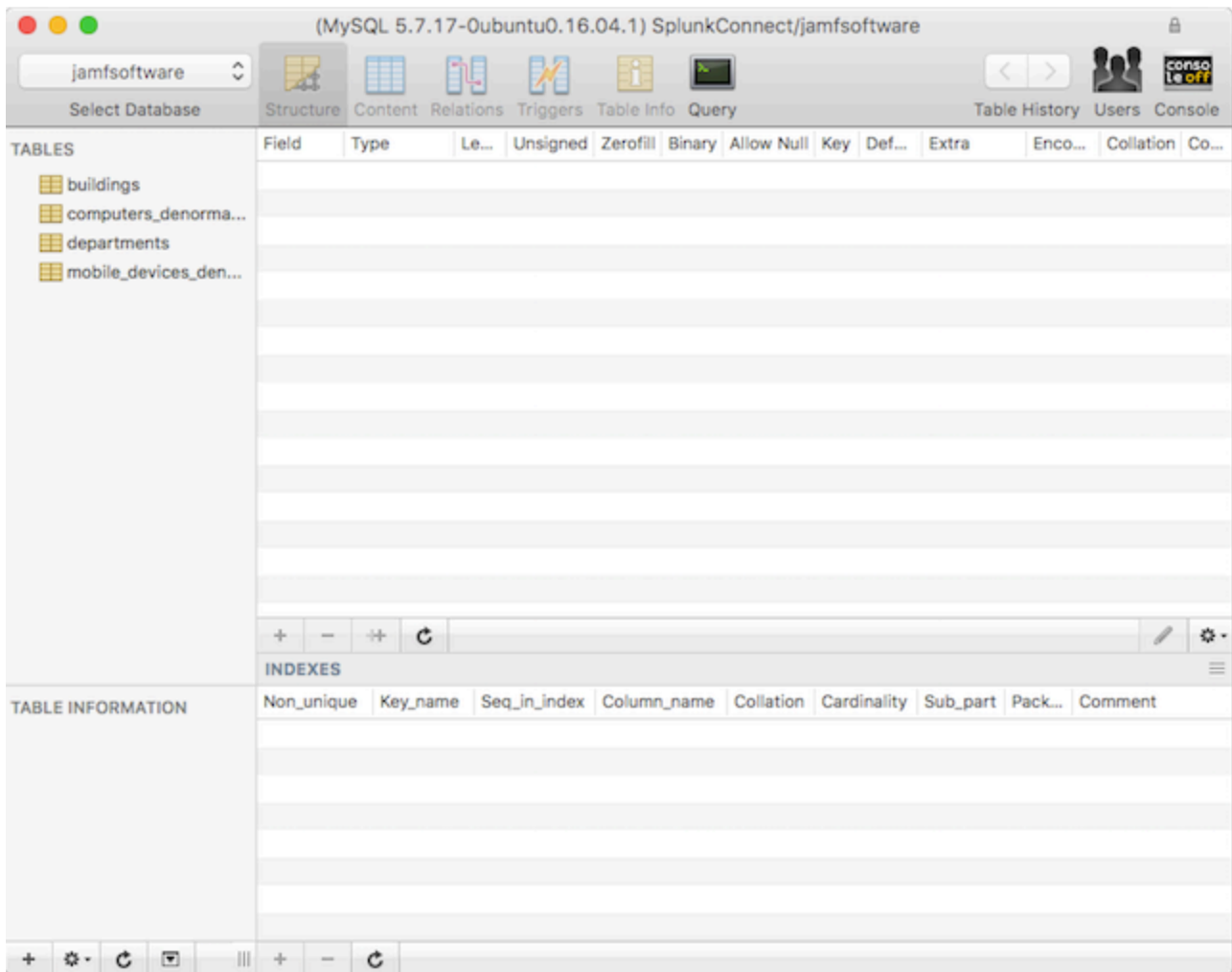
Using the certificates generated above, a secure connection to MySQL can be made.



Three certificates or encryption keys are needed by 'Sequel Pro' to establish a secure connection.

- The client private key file: **client-key.pem**
- The client certificate file: **client-cert.pem**
- The public certificate authority file: **ca.pem**

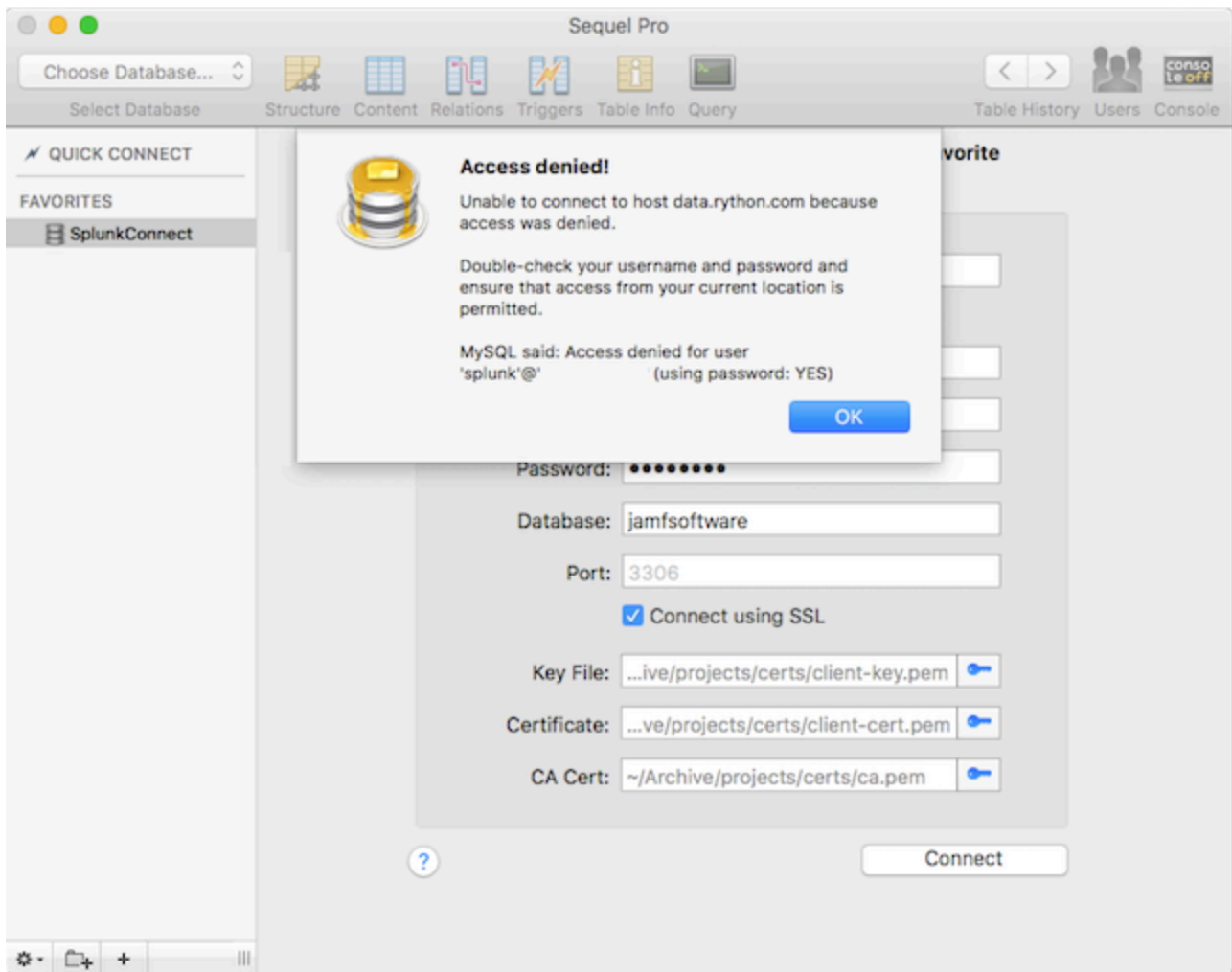
If a connection is successful, 'Sequel Pro' will show the databases and tables this user has access to. If the connection is set to automatically use a database, the available tables for that database will be shown.



General areas on this screen:

- **'Select Database'** shows this connection's available databases.
- **'Tables'** shows the database tables available to this connection.
- **'Table Information'** show some basic information for the selected table.
- The main panel can show multiple kinds of information about a table. In this case the **'Content'** of the database table is show.

If the connection fails, a message like the following will be displayed.



Connection failure can happen for many reasons. Some of them are:

- The username or password may be incorrect.
- The MySQL server may be down.
- The user's permissions may not allow a connection from the client system.
- The certificates may be invalid for the server system.

## Using Splunk Enterprise

Splunk Enterprise needs some configuration and setup before it can connect to a MySQL database. By default it has no capability to use MySQL connections. It achieves these connections through a Splunk add-ons and JDBC libraries. This example uses Splunk Enterprise 6.5.2.

The base Splunk add-on for creating a variety of database connections is 'Splunk DB Connect'.

[Splunk DB Connect add-on](#)

[Splunk Documentation: DB Connect add-on](#)

A Splunk MySQL specific add-on is available, but its primary purpose is accessing MySQL logs. Not general data pulls.

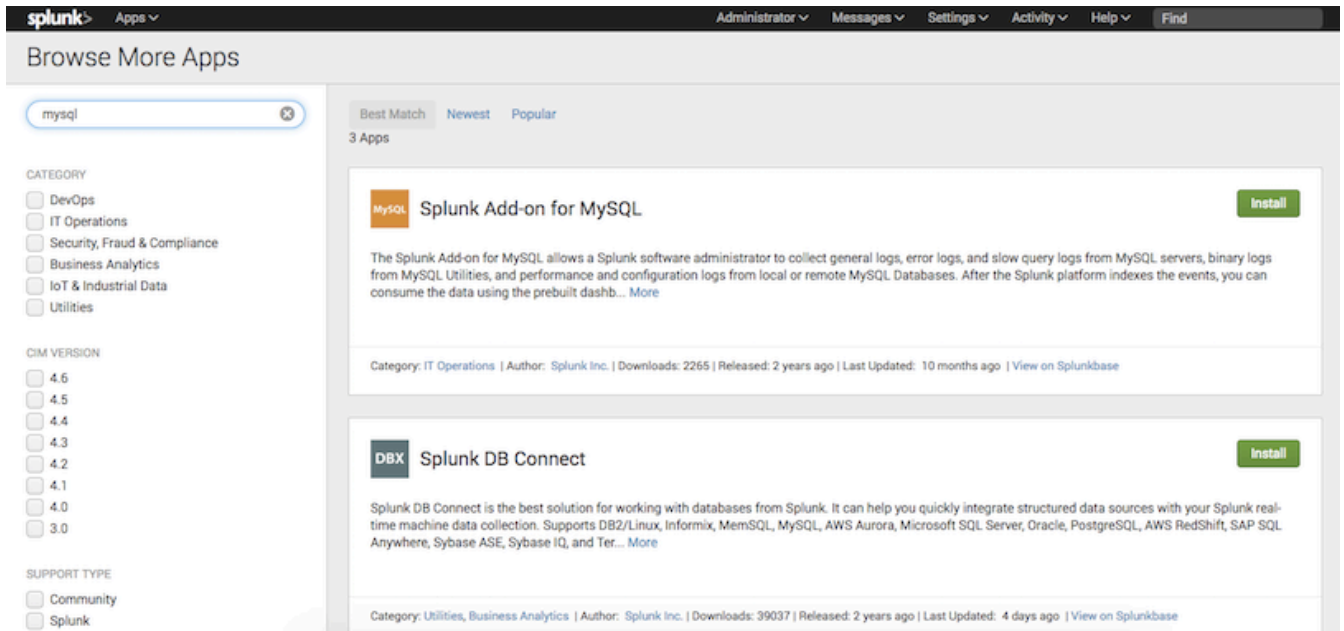
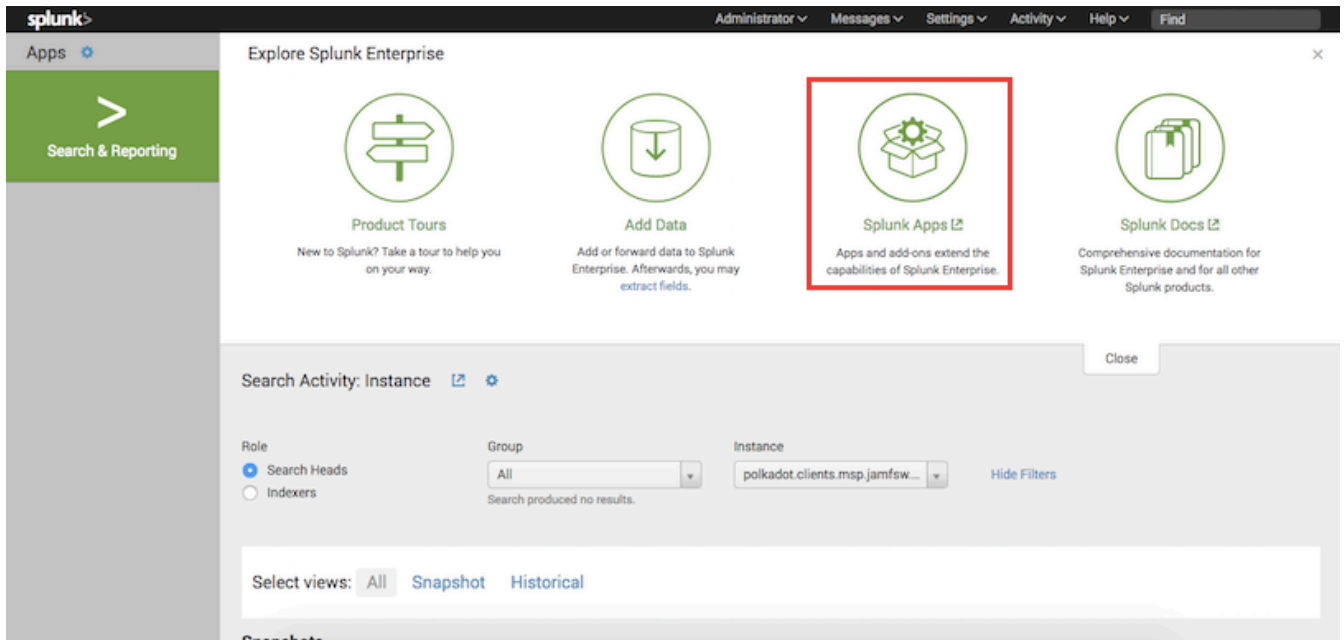
[Splunk add-on for MySQL](#)

[Splunk Documentation : MySQL add-on](#)

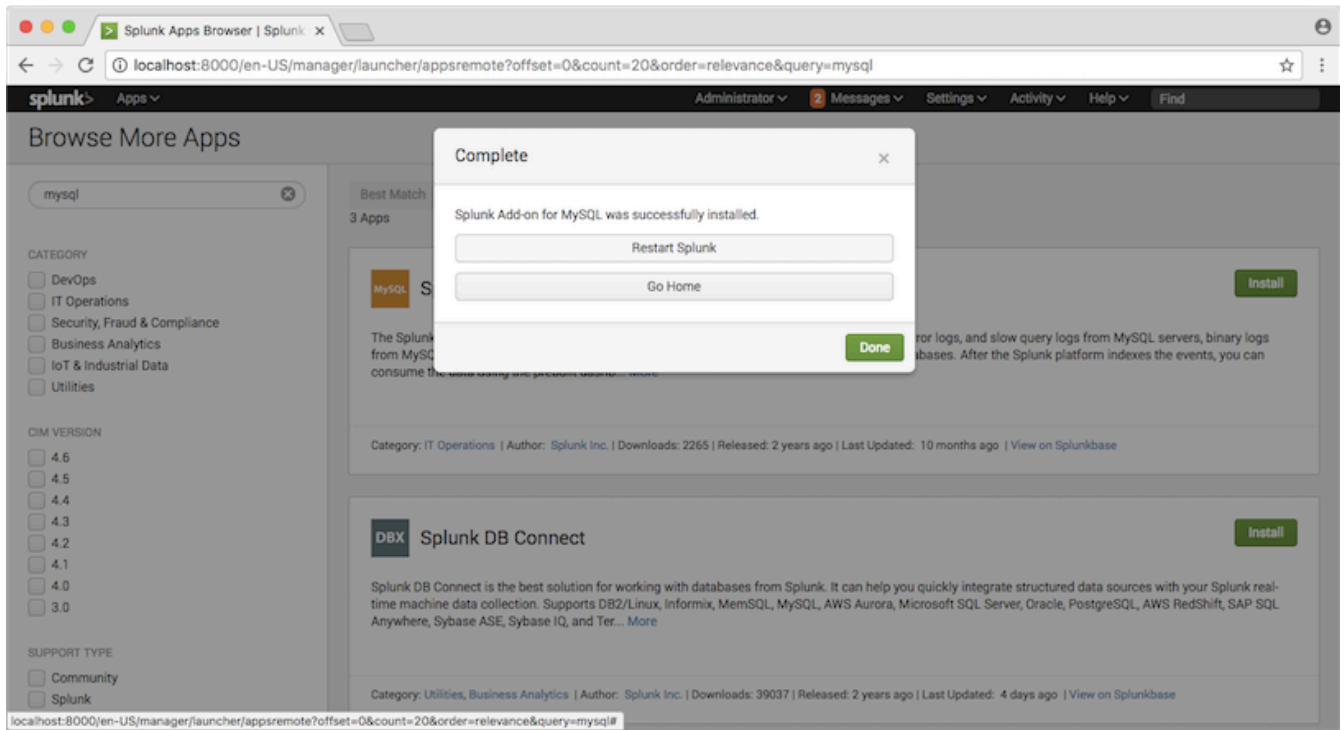
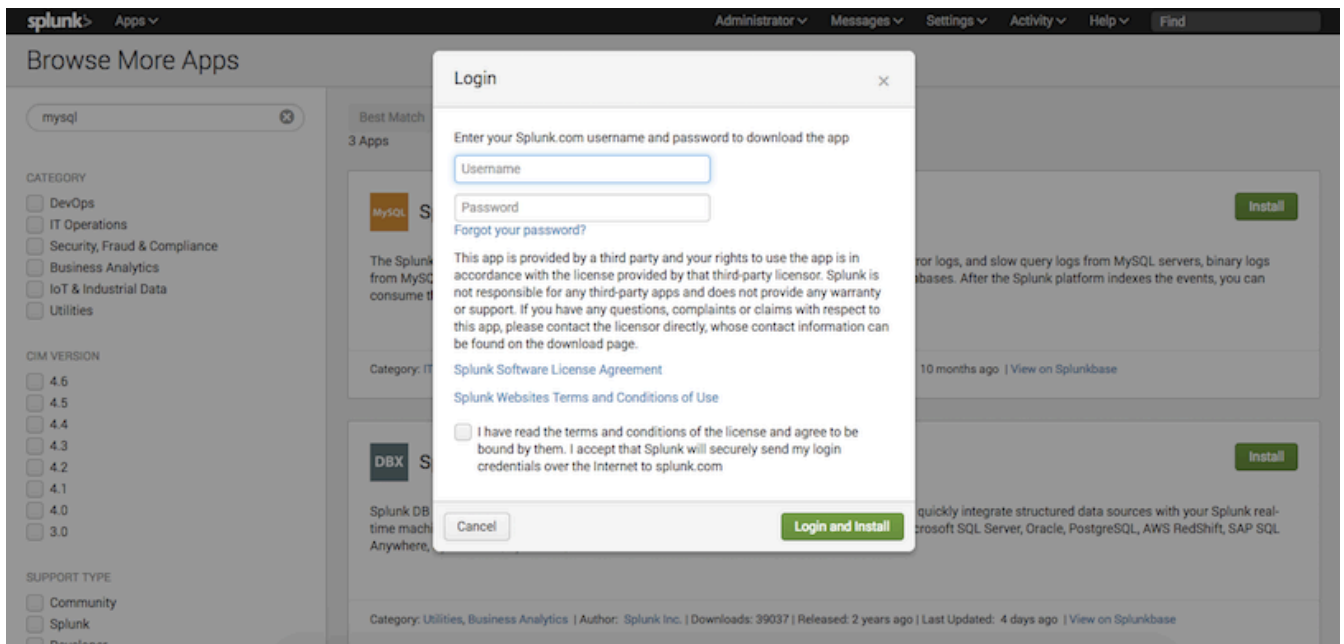
### ▼ Set up DB add-on and JDBC library

First we need to install and setup the Splunk DB Connect add-on and the associate MySQL JDBC driver.

Download and install the 'Splunk DB Connect' add-on. Go to the 'Find More Apps' page in the apps section of Splunk Enterprise and search for 'mysql'.



SplunkBase, a location for Splunk add-ons and apps, requires a login to download and install the 'DB Connect' add-on. Use your Splunk.com credentials here or create an account. Once the add-on is installed, a restart of Splunk.



One Splunk restarts, the JDBC driver for MySQL needs to be installed. The Splunk DB add-on uses Java and JDBC to manage database connections. If Java is not installed on the system Splunk Enterprise is running on, it will have to be installed.

[Splunk Documentation : Database driver installation](#)

Download the MySQL JDBC driver from MySQL.

[MySQL JDBC driver](#)

The driver is a jar and cross platform. After unarchiving the jar file, copy it to appropriate location in the Splunk application path. Later, when we are configuring the Splunk DB Connection app, we'll be able to verify the library is installed and functioning correctly.

```
> cp <mysql jdbc driver> <splunk
home>/etc/apps/splunk_app_db_connect/drivers/

ex.
(on macOS)
> cp mysql-connector-java-5.1.41-bin.jar
/Applications/Splunk/etc/apps/splunk_app_db_connect/drivers/

(on linux)
> cp mysql-connector-java-5.1.41-bin.jar
/opt/splunk/etc/apps/splunk_app_db_connect/drivers/
```

#### ✓ Configure the DB Connection add-on

Now we can configure the Splunk DB Connection add-on.

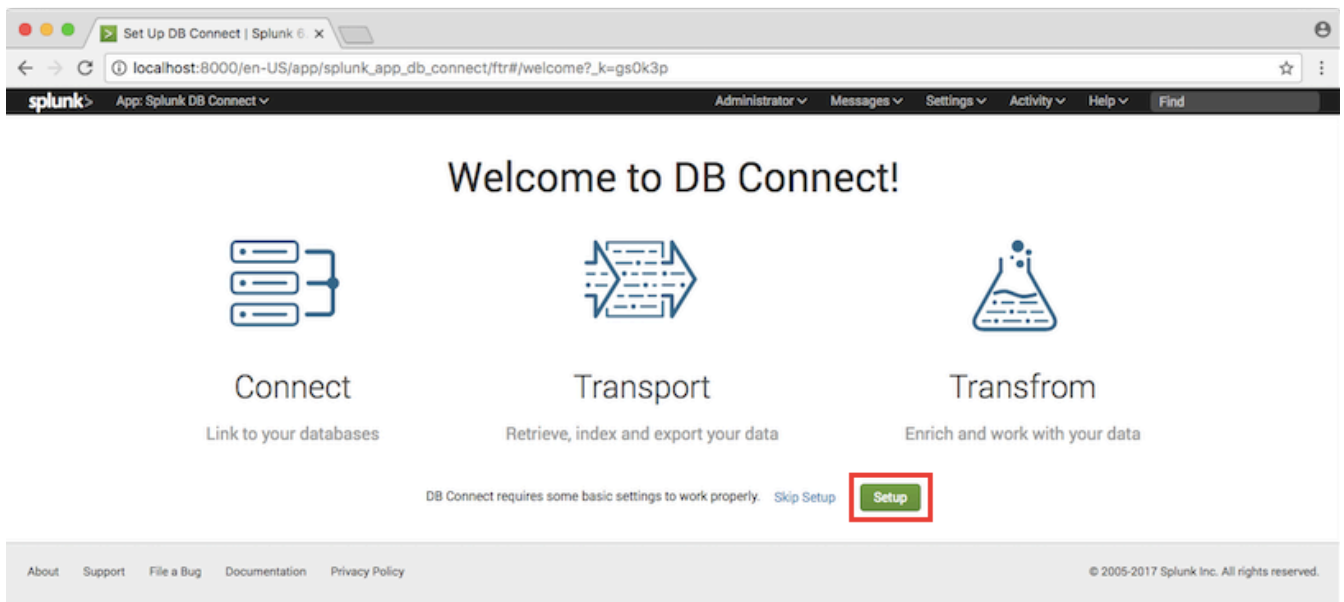
The add-on can be seen and configured on the 'Manage Apps' screen. Select 'Launch App' from 'Splunk DB Connect' line. Or select 'Splunk DB Connect' from apps menu.

The screenshot shows the Splunk web interface at localhost:8000/en-US/manager/launcher/apps/local. The 'Apps' menu is open, and 'Manage Apps' is selected. The table below lists various apps, with 'Splunk DB Connect' (splunk\_app\_db\_connect) highlighted. The 'Launch app' link in the 'Actions' column for this app is also highlighted.

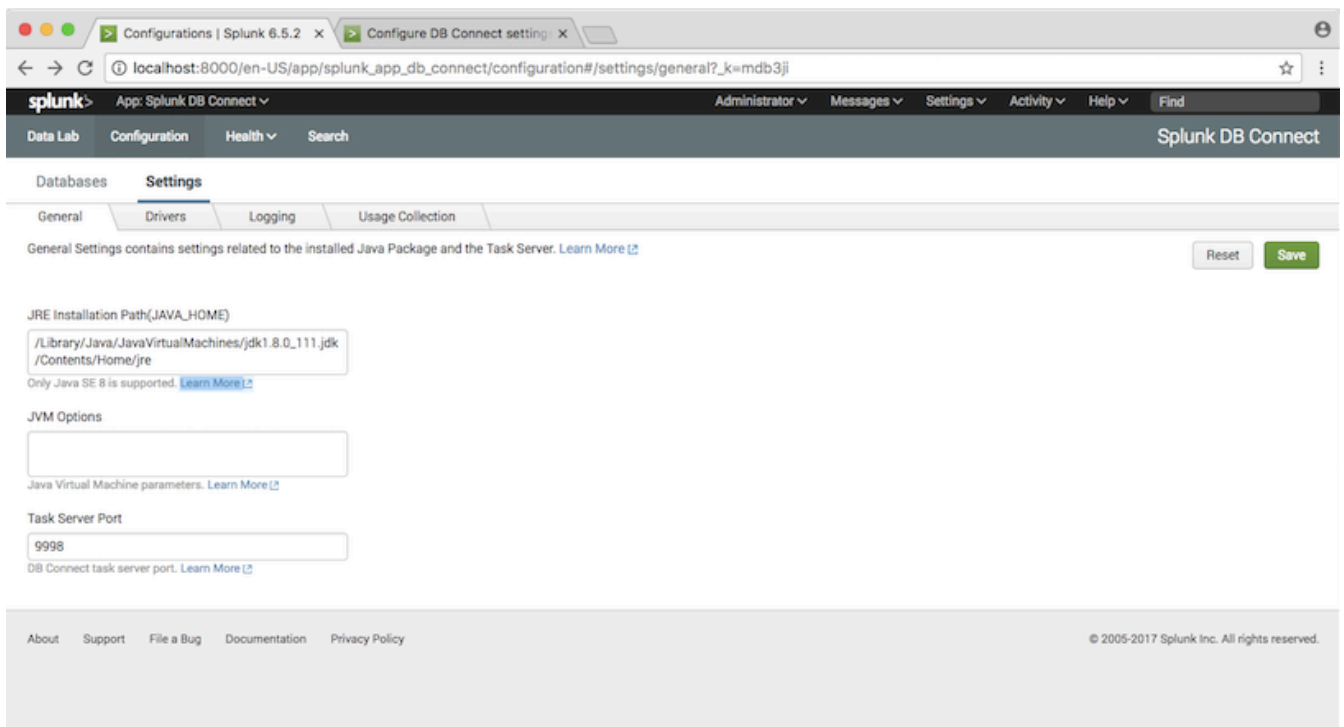
	Version	Update checking	Visible	Sharing	Status	Actions
SplunkForwarder	SplunkForwarder	Yes	No	App   Permissions	Disabled   Enable	
SplunkLightForwarder	SplunkLightForwarder	Yes	No	App   Permissions	Disabled   Enable	
Log Event Alert Action	alert_logevent	6.5.2	Yes	No	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Edit properties   View objects
Webhook Alert Action	alert_webhook	6.5.2	Yes	No	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Edit properties   View objects
Splunk DB Connect	splunk_app_db_connect	3.0.2	Yes	Yes	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   <b>Launch app</b>   Edit properties   View objects   View details on SplunkApps
Splunk Archiver App	splunk_archiver	1.0	Yes	No	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Edit properties   View objects   View details on SplunkApps
splunk_httpinput	splunk_httpinput		No	No	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Edit properties   View objects
Instrumentation	splunk_instrumentation	1.0	Yes	Yes	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Launch app   Edit properties   View objects
Monitoring Console	splunk_monitoring_console	6.5.2	Yes	Yes	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Launch app   Edit properties   View objects
Webhooks Input	webhooks_input	0.7	No	Yes	App   Permissions	Enabled   Disable   Launch app   Edit properties   View objects   View details on SplunkApps

From the initial apps page, select setup. The location of the Java JRE and JVM options need to be set. We can also check on the status of the MySQL JDBC drivers.

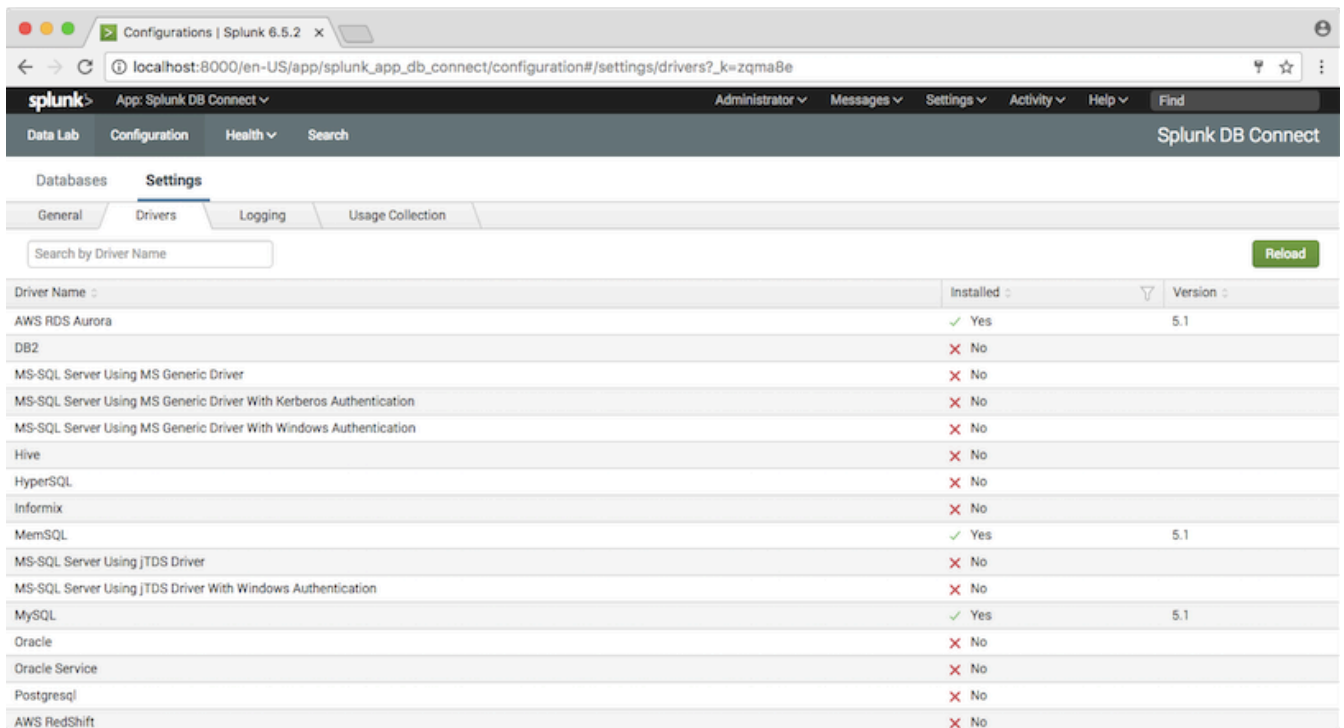




Select 'Settings:General' from 'Configuration'. Fill in the path of the JRE and any JVM options that will be used. If the JRE was installed when the DB Connection app was installed, the option '-Ddw.server.applicationConnector[0].port=9998' and the 'Task Server Port' should be filled in automatically by Splunk. Save the changes.



By selecting the 'Drivers' tab the status of the MySQL JDBC driver can be checked.

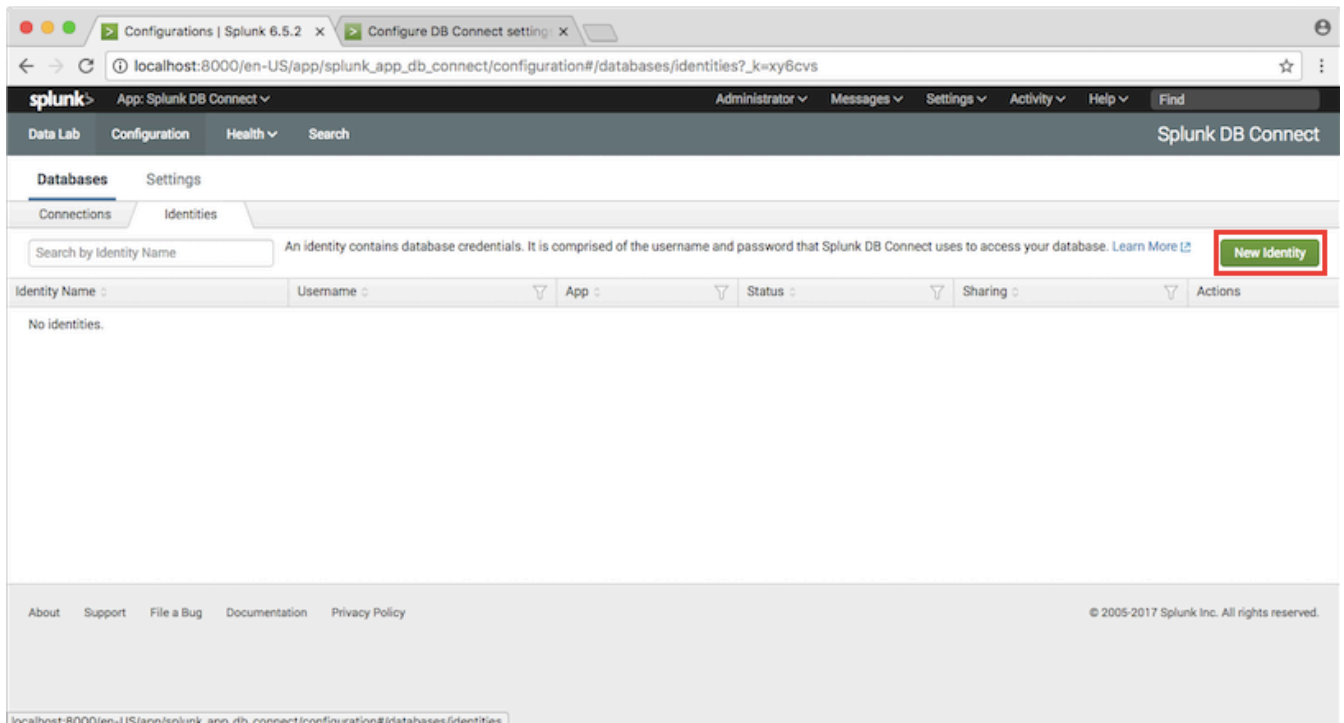


The screenshot shows the 'Drivers' tab in the Splunk DB Connect configuration interface. A search bar at the top allows filtering by driver name. A table lists various database drivers with their installation status and version.

Driver Name	Installed	Version
AWS RDS Aurora	Yes	5.1
DB2	No	
MS-SQL Server Using MS Generic Driver	No	
MS-SQL Server Using MS Generic Driver With Kerberos Authentication	No	
MS-SQL Server Using MS Generic Driver With Windows Authentication	No	
Hive	No	
HyperSQL	No	
Informix	No	
MemSQL	Yes	5.1
MS-SQL Server Using JTDS Driver	No	
MS-SQL Server Using JTDS Driver With Windows Authentication	No	
MySQL	Yes	5.1
Oracle	No	
Oracle Service	No	
Postgresql	No	
AWS RedShift	No	

#### [Create connection to JSS MySQL server](#)

Now that all the drivers and support software is in place, a connection to a Jamf Pro MySQL server can be created. First an 'identity' or login credentials need to be set up. This will be the credentials of the MySQL user set up earlier. Select 'Configuration:Settings:Identities' from the menu tabs and create a 'New Identity'.



The screenshot shows the 'Identities' tab in the Splunk DB Connect configuration interface. A search bar is present, and a description explains that an identity contains database credentials. A 'New Identity' button is highlighted with a red box. Below the search bar, there is a table with columns for Identity Name, Username, App, Status, Sharing, and Actions. The table is currently empty, showing 'No identities.'

Fill in the username and password for the Splunk MySQL user and save. Default permissions should not need to be changed.

The screenshot shows the 'New Identity' configuration page in the Splunk DB Connect app. The page has two tabs: 'Settings' and 'Permissions'. Under the 'Settings' tab, there are input fields for 'Identity Name' (containing 'splunk\_jss'), 'Username' (containing 'splunk'), and 'Password' (containing masked characters). Below these fields is a checkbox for 'Use Windows Authentication Domain' which is unchecked, and a text field for 'Windows Authentication Domain'. A note at the bottom of the settings section states: 'Configure your environment to use generic Microsoft driver with Windows auth. [Learn More](#)'. At the top right of the page are 'Cancel' and 'Save' buttons. The Splunk header and footer are also visible.

With the identity just creates, set up a new database connection to a Jamf Pro MySQL. First select 'Configuration:Databases:Connections' from the menu tabs. Then select 'New Connection'.

The screenshot shows the 'Connections' page in the Splunk DB Connect app. The 'Databases' tab is selected, and within it, the 'Connections' sub-tab is active. A search bar labeled 'Search by Connection Name' is present. A descriptive text says: 'A database connection object contains the necessary information for connecting to a remote database. [Learn More](#)'. A green 'New Connection' button is highlighted with a red rectangle. Below this is a table with columns: 'Connection Name', 'Identity', 'Connection Type', 'App', 'Status', 'Sharing', and 'Actions'. The table currently shows 'No connections.' The Splunk header and footer are also visible.

Now fill in the fields with the values of the identity just created and the connection information to a Jamf Pro MySQL server. The JDBC connection string preview will be auto-populated as information is filled in. If SSL connections are being used, that option can be selected. 'Read Only' for the database should also be turned on. With Splunk we are only interested in aggregating data, not altering it.

Save the new connection when done.

**New Connection** Cancel Save

Settings Permissions

Connection Name  
splunk\_jss

Identity  
splunk\_jss

Connection Type  
MySQL

**JDBC URL Settings**

Host  
testjss.jamf.corp

Port  
3306

Default Database  
jamfsoftware  
The usage and meaning of this parameter varies between database vendors. [Learn More](#)

**JDBC URL Preview**  
jdbc:mysql://testjss.jamf.corp:3306/jamfsoftware?useSSL=true

☐ Edit JDBC URL

**JDBC URL Settings**

Host  
testjss.jamf.corp

Port  
3306

Default Database  
jamfsoftware  
The usage and meaning of this parameter varies between database vendors. [Learn More](#)

☒ Enable SSL  
This is a DB driver flag and may not be supported by all JDBC drivers. [Learn More](#)

**Advanced Settings**

☒ Read Only  
Use a read-only database connection to ensure that data cannot be altered. This is a DB driver flag and not guarantee to work for all drivers.

Fetch Size  
  
The number of rows to return at a time from the database. Default is 300. [Learn More](#)

**JDBC URL Preview**  
jdbc:mysql://testjss.jamf.corp:3306/jamfsoftware?useSSL=true

☐ Edit JDBC URL

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#### Using the MySQL connection in Splunk

Splunk provides an SQL Explorer tool as a way of testing connections and possible data feeds.

Select 'Data Lab:SQL Explorer' from the menu tabs. The previously created 'splunk\_jss' connection can be used, selecting catalogs (databases), tables, and specific SQL as appropriate. When a query is constructed, select 'Run'.

The screenshot shows the Splunk SQL Explorer interface. On the left, under 'Choose Table', the 'Connection' is set to 'splunk\_jss', 'Catalog' to 'jamfsoftware', and 'Schema' to 'Select...'. The 'Table' search box is empty. In the center, the 'SQL Editor' contains the query: `SELECT * FROM `jamfsoftware`.`computers_denormalized``. To the right, the 'SPL Editor' shows the corresponding SPL query: `1 | dbxquery query="SELECT * FROM `jamfsoftware`.`computers_denormalized`" connection="splunk_jss"`. A red box highlights the 'Run' button in the top right of the SPL Editor. Below the editors, a table of results is displayed with columns: active\_directory\_status, alt\_mac\_address, applecare\_id, asset\_tag, bar\_code\_1, bar\_code\_2, battery\_capacity, ble\_capable, and boot\_drive\_availability. The table contains three rows of data.

	active_directory_status	alt_mac_address	applecare_id	asset_tag	bar_code_1	bar_code_2	battery_capacity	ble_capable	boot_drive_availability
1		02:A7:2E:A8:BB:14					0	1	
2		5E:80:07:F1:BA:C9					0	1	
3		08:72:24:3D:45:95					0	1	

The MySQL connection can also be used to create data inputs into Splunk. The data from these input can be searched, aggregated, visualized, or used any other way data can be used in Splunk. A Splunk input from a database connection is a four step process, though not all the steps will be filled out.

First select 'Data Lab:Inputs' from the menu tabs. Create a 'New Input'.

The screenshot shows the 'New Input' page in Splunk. The 'Inputs' tab is selected in the top navigation bar. A search box labeled 'Search by Input Name' is present. A red box highlights the 'New Input' button in the top right corner. Below the search box, there are dropdown menus for 'Name', 'Connection', 'App', 'Status', and 'Actions'. The footer contains links for 'About', 'Support', 'File a Bug', 'Documentation', and 'Privacy Policy', along with the copyright notice '© 2005-2017 Splunk Inc. All rights reserved.'

The first step is to name the input, give it a short description, then select which app and database connection it uses. In this example the app is the 'Splunk DB Connect' add-on and the connection is the 'splunk\_jss' connection created earlier. Once the information is filled out, select 'Continue'.

**New Input** 1 of 4

Name: Computers

Description: Computer info from JSS MySQL db.

App: Splunk DB Connect

Connection: splunk\_jss

Valid connection

**Continue**

Choose and Preview Table 2 of 4

Set Parameters 3 of 4

localhost:8000/en-US/app/splunk\_app\_db\_connect/data\_lab# 4 of 4

In the second step, select which catalog (database) and table to use for the input feed. The lookup can be previewed before continuing.

Input Type: Batch Input Rising Column

Automatic Mode

Execute

Catalog: jamfsoftware Schema: NULL Table: computers\_denormalized Max Rows: 100

✓ 100 rows

Results

	computer_id	computer_name	uuid	last_report_id	asset_tag	platform	bar_code_1	bar_code_2	last_contact_time_epoch	last_report_dat
1	15053	Samual Landsman's Computer	f10032bb-fa63-44a2-9ee3-f65b3b3a579a	35212		Mac			1485446691117	14871
2	15081	Priscilla Zoelle's Computer	4bae2862-2d51-4f7a-97ee-3196464629d1	35213		Mac			1485446672374	14871
3	15059	Darrel Blossom's Computer	f0ab84c9-90dc-4605-8330-4938b22a04eb	15060		Mac			1485446672278	14105
4	15013	Zona Wangberg's Computer	35a0e19e-79d3-4388-b0fa-f6ba8f311a1c	15014		Mac			1485446672045	14463
5	15071	Daina Mcguirk's Computer	1dc555e4-f47e-42c8-974d-ef4b93f71a99	15072		Mac			1485446672077	14107
6	15051	Teddy Mcfadin's Computer	70557647-8725-47c2-bd2a-671d0282d23b	15052		Mac			1485446672026	14577
7	15031	Jamey Moine's Computer	727a7afa-b8a9-4be6-a3bf-cc553e669fe3	15032		Mac			1485446672563	14680
8	15043	Queenie Ottogary's Computer	019d8a5a-0a24-458a-baf4-f0a4f32e595e	15044		Mac			1485446672065	14376
9	15049	Kaylene Vannover's Computer	b0de3eff-b0d7-46e4-b7bf-dae9ff4d2afb	15050		Mac			1485446672034	14498
10	15047	Una Jenab's Computer	6b2a7b47-2fb0-4d82-b6cc-5894926b22f9	15048		Mac			1485446672046	14730

**Continue**

localhost:8000/en-US/app/splunk\_app\_db\_connect/data\_lab#

The third step configures some of the parameter data for the input. For example the maximum number of rows to pull at once and how often data is pulled from the database.

The screenshot shows the 'Data Lab | Splunk 6.5.2' interface. The browser address bar shows 'localhost:8000/en-US/app/splunk\_app\_db\_connect/data\_lab#/inputs/new?\_k=1k1mpi'. The interface has a progress bar at the top with four steps: 'Name Input' (1 of 4), 'Choose and Preview Table' (2 of 4), 'Set Parameters' (3 of 4), and 'Metadata' (4 of 4). The 'Set Parameters' step is active, showing configuration options for a 'Batch Input'.

**Set Parameters Configuration:**

- Input Type:** Batch Input
- Max Rows to Retrieve:** 10000 (with a note: 'Enter an integer between 1 and 10000000.')
- Fetch Size:** (empty field, with a note: 'The number of rows to return at a time from the database. Default is 300.')
- Timestamp:** Current Index Time (with a 'Choose Column' button)
- Execution Frequency:** 604800 (with a note: 'Enter seconds or a valid cron string.')

A red box highlights the 'Continue' button at the bottom right of the configuration section. Below the configuration is a 'Metadata' section (4 of 4) with 'Cancel' and 'Save' buttons. The footer includes links for 'About', 'Support', 'File a Bug', 'Documentation', and 'Privacy Policy', along with the copyright notice '© 2005-2017 Splunk Inc. All rights reserved.'

In the fourth step the host, source, sourcetype, and index can be specified. Each of these values help organize data coming in to Splunk and is used in searches. See the Splunk documentation for more detailed descriptions.

[Splunk Documentation : Managing database inputs](#)

#### Search Splunk Data

The database input will pull data from the Jamf Pro MySQL database on the interval used. This data can be searched and used in any way Splunk can use data.

For example, searching by the data 'host'.

The screenshot shows the 'Search | Splunk 6.5.2' interface. The browser address bar shows 'localhost:8000/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20host%3D%22testjss.jamf.corp%22&sid=1490384020.42&display.page.search.mode=smart&dispatch.sample\_ra...'. The interface has a top navigation bar with 'Search & Reporting' and a sub-navigation bar with 'Search', 'Datasets', 'Reports', 'Alerts', and 'Dashboards'. The 'Search' section is active, showing a 'New Search' form with the query 'host=testjss.jamf.corp'. The search results show 10,004 events (before 3/24/17 2:33:40.000 PM) with 'No Event Sampling'.

**Search Results:**

- Events (10,004):** 10,004 events (before 3/24/17 2:33:40.000 PM) No Event Sampling
- Format Timeline:** Zoom Out, Zoom to Selection, Deselect
- 1 second per column**
- List View:** 20 Per Page
- Selected Fields:** host, source, sourcetype
- Interesting Fields:** alt\_mac\_address, battery\_capacity, ble\_capable, boot\_drive\_available\_mb

The search results table shows a single event for the host 'testjss.jamf.corp' on 3/24/17 at 2:33:19.904 PM. The event details include computer\_id, computer\_name, uid, last\_contact\_time\_epoch, last\_report\_date\_epoch, last\_report\_date\_epoch, last\_cloud\_backup\_date\_epoch, last\_enrolled\_date\_epoch, is\_managed, management\_username, jamf\_binary\_version, last\_ip, last\_reported\_ip, last\_location\_id, department\_id, building\_id, make, model, model\_identifier, mac\_address, nic\_speed, optical\_drive, processor\_speed\_mhz, processor\_r\_count, core\_count, processor\_architecture, total\_ram\_mb, open\_ram\_slots, smc\_version, battery\_capacity, file\_vault\_1\_status, file\_vault\_1\_status\_percent, file\_vault\_2\_status, file\_vault\_2\_recovery\_key\_valid, file\_vault\_2\_institutional\_key\_present, file\_vault\_2\_eligibility\_message, hard\_drive\_size\_mb, lvm\_managed\_boot\_partition, boot\_drive\_percent\_full, boot\_drive\_available\_mb, operating\_system\_name, operating\_system\_version, operating\_system\_build, operating\_system\_comparable, master\_password\_set, active\_directory\_status, number\_of\_available\_updates, leased, purchased, lease\_date\_epoch.

