

SECURITY OPERATIONS MODULE - 7



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7. Security Operations



Basics of Security Operations

- Security Operations team is responsible for performing defensive activities for the organization
- They aim to protect critical organization assets from threat actors

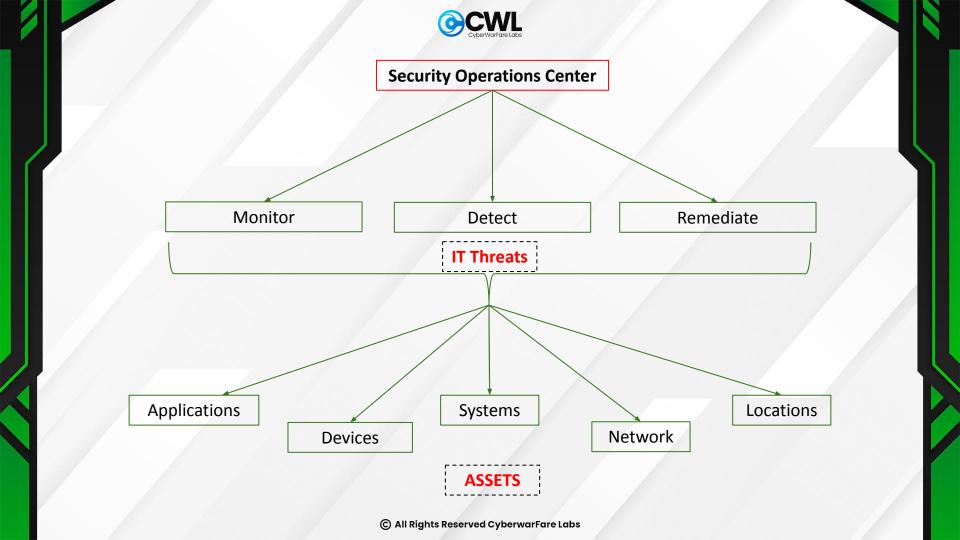


• Employee equipped with different expertise work together on protecting the organization infrastructure



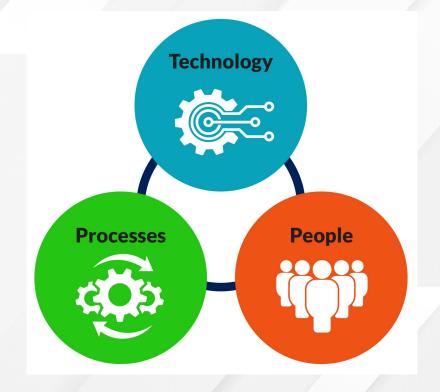
SOC procedural workflow:

- Collect Logs from each and every system devices, networks etc.
- Analyse the logs to remove false positives and detect anomaly
- Regularly scan the organization assets to detect mis-configurations / vulnerability
- Act on possible ways to remediate the identified threat
- Document the findings and prepare sustainable incident response plan for possible future cyber attack.





Three main functions of SOC

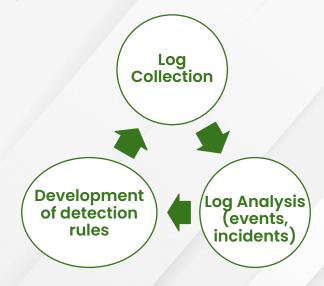


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Technology

- For SOC Team members, technology is their weapon, they use it to collect different type of logs (login events, activities etc).
- Security Monitoring :



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Threat Hunting:

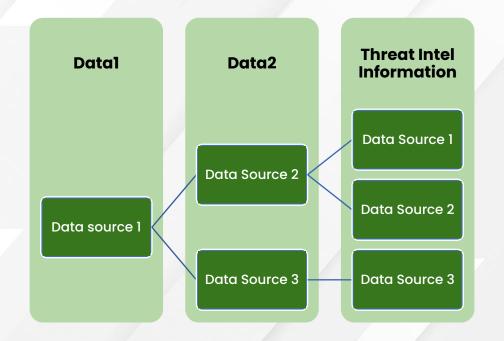
Collected Logs (events, incidents)

Active search for new threats

Suspicious Anomaly

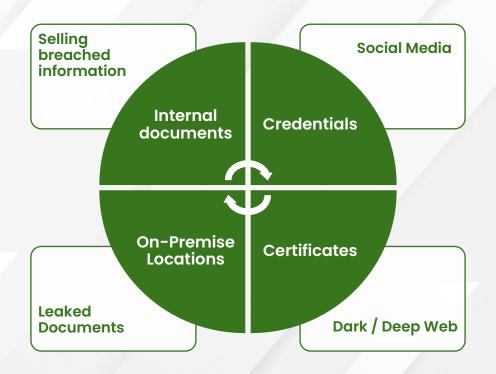


Threat Intelligence:





Continuous OSINT Gathering





People

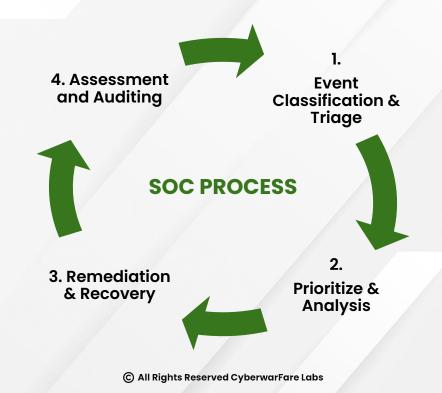
- Team comprises of people uses least amount of resources to get good visibility into active and emerging threats.
- Continuous consolidation of technologies and effectively organizing team is required

ROLE	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBILITIES
Jr. Security Analyst [Tier-1]	Triaging security incidents	Triage alerts acc. to urgency and relevancy. Manages & configures security monitoring tools
Security Analyst [Tier-2]	Incident Responder	Reviews triaged alerts, identify scope of the alert. Perform remediation and recovery efforts
Senior Security Analyst [Tier-3]	Threat Hunter	Conducts pentesting on production env. Optimizes SOC tools based on threat hunting
SOC Manager	Chief of SOC	Hiring, training & assessing staff. Measures SOC performance & communicates with CISOs



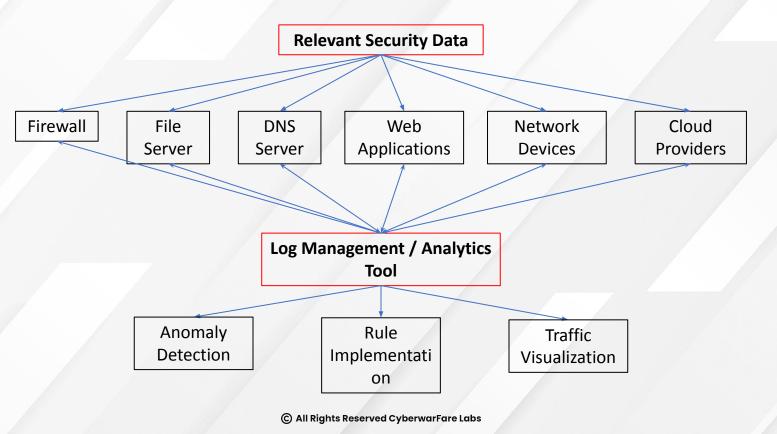
Processes

• Process ensures timely synchronization and execution of various activities performed by the SOC.





Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) WorkFlowD





Industry recognized SIEM Tools

 Feed data from organization resources and they provide deep level insights of the assets day to day operations

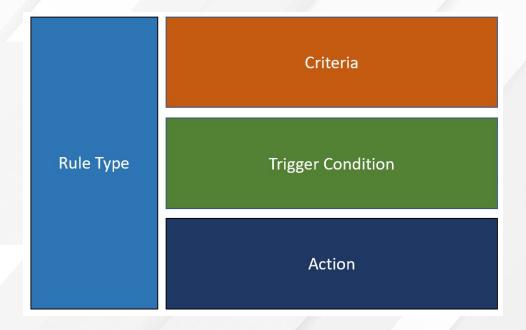






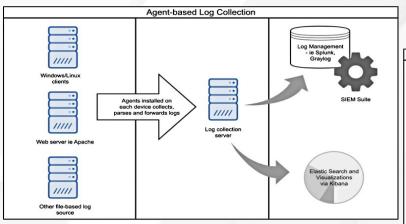


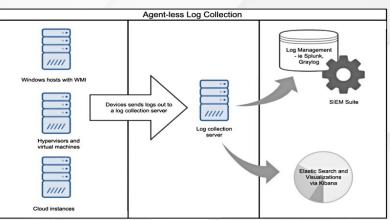
SIEM Detection Rule





Device integration with SIEM Tools



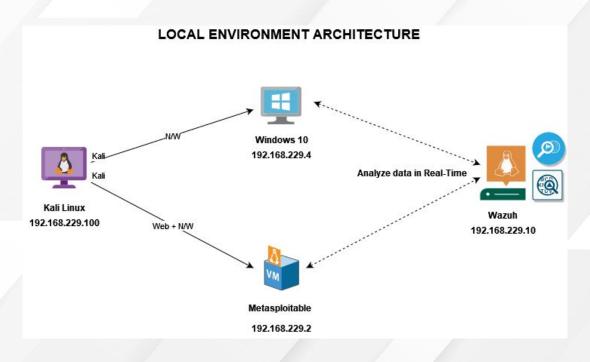


Reference: https://nxlog.co/agent-based-versus-agent-less



Exercises:

• <u>Setting-up the environment for attack and defense visualization</u>





Host based Defence

- Host includes physical / virtual OS that are allocated to the employee of organization
- Enterprise majorly have the following OS's:
 - Windows
 - Linux
 - Mac
- Tools like OSQuery (cross-platform), Sysmon (Windows) etc can be used to collect and transmit logs for analysing performance of hosts devices.



Host Firewall - Windows

- Defender host firewall present in Win Vista, 7, 8, 10, 11 & server edition.
- It helps secure the devices by in-bound & out-bound rules.
- The rules states which network traffic can go in and out from the device
- The firewall works on 3 different network types : Private, Public & Domain





Inbound Rules:

Network traffic coming from the external device. Ex: Someone tries to connect to FTP Server on host machine.

Outbound rules:

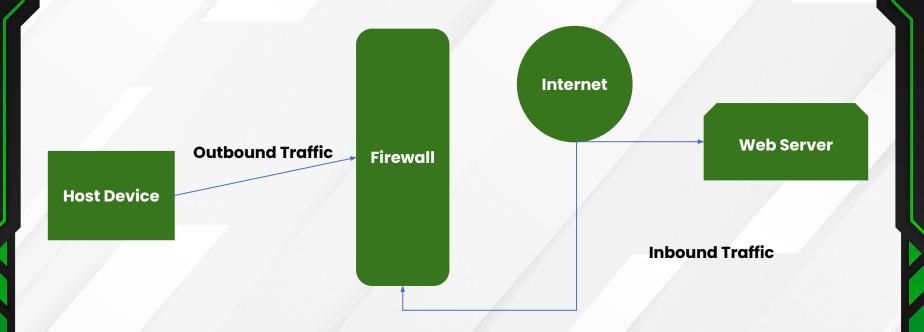
Network traffic originating from the host device. Ex: Host machine tries to connect to a web server.

Connection Rules:

Used to filter the network traffic going in and out the host device.



Traffic Flow Diagram



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DEMO: Block Google Chrome from accessing the internet



Outbound Setting

Exercise 1: Isolate Machine from Internet

Inbound Setting

Exercise 2 : Block ICMP packets originating from Internet towards your hosts machine



Host Firewall – iptables

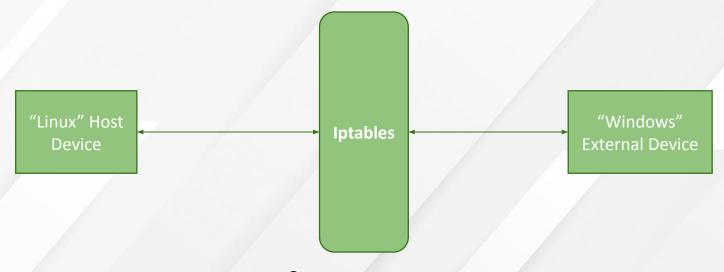
- Firewall utility that comes in-built in most Linux operating systems.
- It is a command line utility, that filters network traffic going-in or going-out of the system.
- Iptables has 3 different chains, namely:
 - Input: Controls incoming connections. Ex: SSH into host machine with iptables enabled
 - Output : Controls outgoing connections. Ex : Sending ICMP packets to a destination
 - Forward : Helpful during routing scenarios, utilizes traffic forwarding utilities to sent data to destined address.



Check the current configuration of iptables.

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables -L | grep policy
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
Chain FORWARD (policy DROP)
Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
```

Iptable accept, deny chains:



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DROP the connection in **INPUT** chain:

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables --policy INPUT DROP
root@ubuntu:~#
```

```
C:\Users>ping 192.168.0.103

Pinging 192.168.0.103 with 32 bytes of data:
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
```

ACCEPT the connection in **INPUT** chain:

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables --policy INPUT ACCEPT root@ubuntu:~# root@ubuntu:~# ■
```

```
C:\Users>ping 192.168.0.103

Pinging 192.168.0.103 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.0.103: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.0.103: bytes=32 time=1ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.0.103: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=64
Reply from 192.168.0.103: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=64
Ping statistics for 192.168.0.103:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),</pre>
```



DROP the connection in **INPUT** chain:

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables --policy OUTPUT DROP root@ubuntu:~# root@ubuntu:~# root@ubuntu:~# ping 192.168.0.108
PING 192.168.0.108 (192.168.0.108) 56(84) bytes of data. ping: sendmsg: Operation not permitted ping: sendmsg: Operation not permitted
```

ACCEPT the connection in **INPUT** chain:

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables --policy OUTPUT ACCEPT root@ubuntu:~# root@ubuntu:~# root@ubuntu:~# root@ubuntu:~# ping 192.168.0.108 PING 192.168.0.108 (192.168.0.108) 56(84) bytes of data. 64 bytes from 192.168.0.108: icmp_seq=25 ttl=128 time=1.07 ms 64 bytes from 192.168.0.108: icmp_seq=26 ttl=128 time=1.33 ms 64 bytes from 192.168.0.108: icmp_seq=27 ttl=128 time=0.567 ms 64 bytes from 192.168.0.108: icmp_seq=28 ttl=128 time=1.13 ms 64 bytes from 192.168.0.108: icmp_seq=28 ttl=128 time=0.439 ms
```



Connection Specific Responses:

- ACCEPT: Allow the connection
- DROP: Drop the connection without sending any errors
- **REJECT**: Drop the connection but send back an error response

Block connection from a range of IP address:

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables -A INPUT -s 192.168.0.0/24 -j DROP
root@ubuntu:~#
```

```
C:\Users>ping 192.168.0.103

Pinging 192.168.0.103 with 32 bytes of data:
Request timed out.
Request timed out.
```



Block connection to a specific service port (SSH) over TCP

root@ubuntu:~# iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport ssh -s 192.168.0.108 -j DROP root@ubuntu:~# $_$

C:\Users>ssh dev@192.168.0.103 ssh: connect to host 192.168.0.103 port 22: Connection timed out

```
yash-mac@Yash-macs-MacBook-Pro ~ % ssh dev@192.168.0.103
The authenticity of host '192.168.0.103 (192.168.0.103)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:jF3WdetsABIxjpPZs5UaFt4AzdqS95SRvgPkBvL0Iyc.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.0.103' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
[dev@192.168.0.103's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 20.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.13.0-41-generic x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
                   https://ubuntu.com/advantage
 * Support:
115 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable
Your Hardware Enablement Stack (HWE) is supported until April 2025.
*** System restart required ***
Last login: Wed Jun 22 07:29:46 2022 from 192.168.0.108
|dev@ubuntu:~$
[dev@ubuntu:~$
                                      SSH from another machine
[dev@ubuntu:~$ whoami
```



Save the configured rules:

```
root@ubuntu:~# /sbin/iptables-save
# Generated by iptables-save v1.8.4 on Wed Jun 22 07:40:41 2022
:INPUT ACCEPT [82:6736]
:FORWARD DROP [0:0]
:OUTPUT ACCEPT [79:8341]
:DOCKER - [0:0]
:DOCKER-ISOLATION-STAGE-1 - [0:0]
:DOCKER-ISOLATION-STAGE-2 - [0:0]
:DOCKER-USER - [0:0]
 Completed on Wed Jun 22 07:40:41 2022
# Generated by iptables-save v1.8.4 on Wed Jun 22 07:40:41 2022
 PREROUTING ACCEPT [24000:1910075]
:INPUT ACCEPT [23762:1890610]
:OUTPUT ACCEPT [236:18382]
:POSTROUTING ACCEPT [217:16854]
 A PREROUTING -m addrtype --dst-type LOCAL -j DOCKER
 A OUTPUT ! -d 127.0.0.0/8 -m addrtype --dst-type LOCAL -j DOCKER
 A POSTROUTING -s 172.17.0.0/16 ! -o docker0 -j MASQUERADE
-A POSTROUTING -s 172.18.0.0/16 ! -o br-40a7f8f6f962 -j MASQUERADE
-A DOCKER -i docker0 -j RETURN
-A DOCKER -i br-40a7f8f6f962 -j RETURN
# Completed on Wed Jun 22 07:40:41 2022
```

Flush the rules:

```
root@ubuntu:~# iptables -F
root@ubuntu:~#
```



OUTPUT Setting

Exercise 1: Block ICMP packets using iptables

INPUT Setting

Exercise 2: Block ICMP packets originating from Internet towards your hosts machine



Anti-Virus

- In General Terms, it is a computer program used to prevent, detect and remove malicious s/w.
- They continuously scan incoming files (coming to system from everywhere) and if any anomaly is detected, it is quarantined / removed.
- The Landscape of security has moved a lot from focusing only a single device to end-point devices like Cell-phone, Enterprise laptop, Tablet, Servers, Computers etc.
- End Point Security protects network, using a combination of FireWall, AntiVirus,
 Anti-Malware etc.
- They are explicitly designed for enterprise clients to protect all their endpoints devices like servers, computers, mobile etc.



Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR)

Understanding Naming Context, it is clear that EDR is a solution that continuously monitors, stores endpoint-devices behaviour to detect and block suspicious / malicious activities and also provides remediation facilities all at one place (single dashboard).

Some unique key features of EDR are:

- Visibility
- Continuously updating Telemetry Database
- EDR Focus more on Indicator of Attack
 (IOA, Detecting the intention of an Adversary)
- Detailed Insights to the environment
- Precision & Accuracy in response
- Integrated with Cloud Based Solution
- Real-Time Monitoring and insights on a single dashboard





But why?

- Big enterprises with more endpoint devices have more sensitive data
- Adversaries targeting endpoint servers / computers to establish foothold
- Detailed Insights to the environment
- Enterprise Adoption of SaaS based solutions is growing
- More Scalability and ease of configuration
- EDR includes fine-tuned multiple security solutions (focus on consolidation)

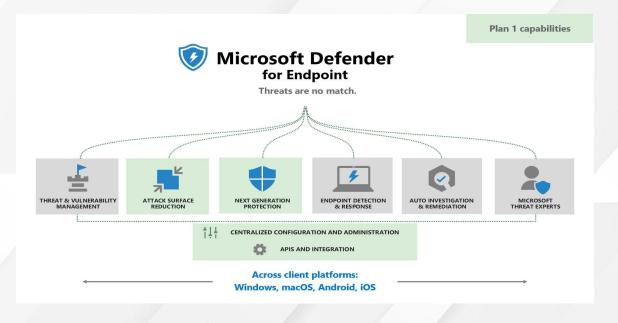
Examples of EDR in market (not particularly in order of performance):

- FireEye Endpoint Security
- CrowdStrike Falcon Insight
- Microsoft Defender Advanced Threat Protection (ATP)
- VMware Carbon Black EDR
- Symantec Endpoint Protection
- SolarWinds Endpoint Detection and Response etc



Microsoft Defender for Endpoint

- Centralized platform to manage all the organization endpoint devices in a single dashboard
- Works on agent based methodology, it needs to be installed on endpoints which collects the data & send the telemetry to dashboard



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Microsoft Defender for Endpoint sign-up procedure

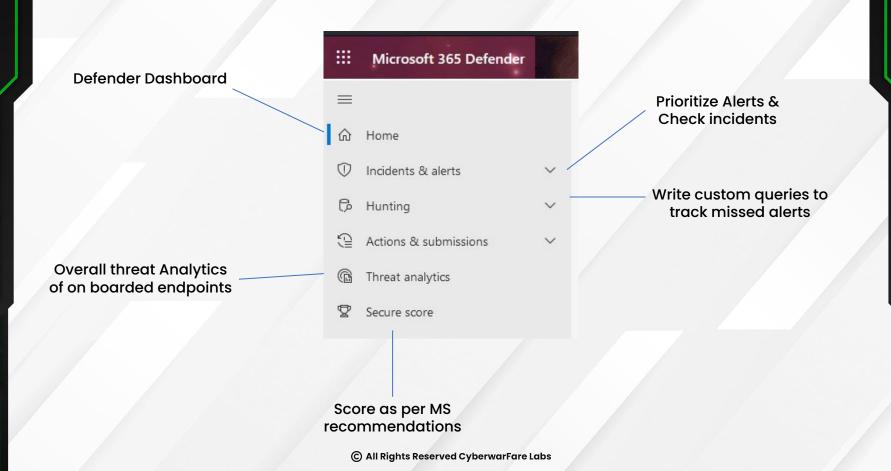
1. Sign-up with the Defender for Endpoint account

2. Login to the portal & select the platform agent

3. Download the agent to the endpoint and on-board it. Endpoint will be visible in the dashboard within 30 minutes

4. Manage the endpoint from the defender for endpoint dashboard







DEMO: MS Defender for Endpoint Demonstration



Exercise 1

Onboard a Windows Machine and check it's status in dashboard

Exercise 2

Onboard a Linux Machine and check it's status in dashboard



Network based Defence

- Network comprises of multiple hosts present in the organization
- Network are segregated using firewalls, switches etc
- Collecting logs from network devices becomes difficult as they have a ton of data regularly processing in the production



Snort

- Open-Source Intrusion prevention system (IPS) developed by Cisco
- This software is capable of performing real-time traffic analysis and packet logging on IP networks
- It can also be used to detect a variety of attacks and probes
- It has 3 modes:
 - Packet Sniffer (like tcpdump)
 - Packet Logger
 - Full-blown IPS





• Download the software from here: https://www.snort.org/downloads

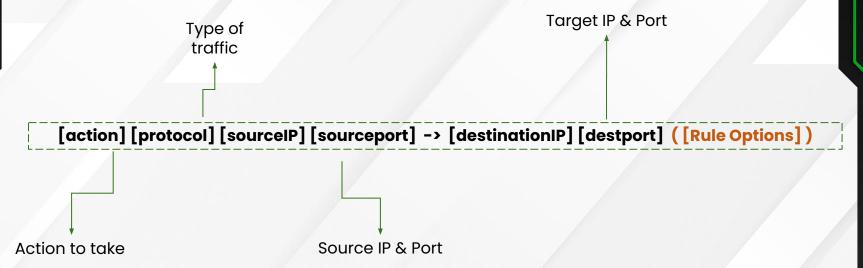
Binaries

snort-2.9.20-1.f35x86_64.rpm snort-2.9.20-1.src.rpm snort-openappid-2.9.20-1.centosx86_64.rpm snort-openappid-2.9.20-1.f35x86_64.rpm snort-2.9.20-1.centosx86_64.rpm Snort-2.9.20-1.staller.x64.exe

- The software can also be downloaded using the apt from already added repository
- Snort performs real-time monitoring of packets using rules that are present in the configuration file.



Snort Rule Header



Snort Rule Header Example

alert tcp \$source|P \$sourceport -> \$destination|P any



Snort Rule Options

General Rule Options

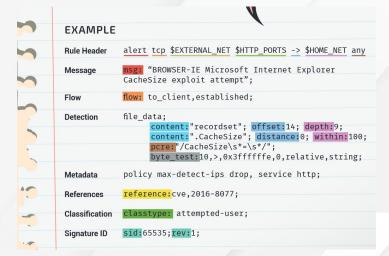
Message: Meaningful **msg** stating the purpose of rule

sid / rev: Unique identified for each rule

Classtype: What the effect of successful attack would be

Reference: External source of information

Reference: For the rule to fire, specifies which direction the network traffic is going.



Detection Rule Options

Content: Search for a specific content in the packet payload

pcre: Regular expresssions

Byte Test: It allows a rule to test a number of bytes against a specific value in binar

Snort Infographic



• Snort configuration file location

/etc/snort/snort.conf

• Edit custom snort rules

/etc/snort/rules/local.rules

• Adding a rule in the **local.rules**

alert icmp any any -> 192.168.1.8 any (msg:"ICMP Test"; sid: 1000001; rev:1;)



• Starting snort and capturing traffic as per configured rules

sudo snort -T -i eth0 -c /etc/snort/snort.conf

sudo snort -A console -q -i eth0 -c /etc/snort/snort.conf



DEMO: Detect SSH Login Attempt



Exercise 1

Detect ICMP packet heading towards the snort installed machine

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IOTUqfkAhQ

Exercise 2

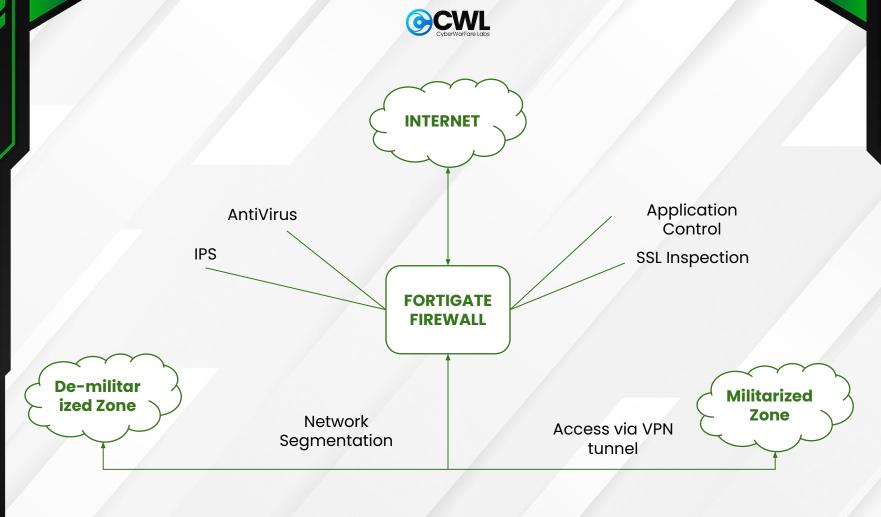
Detect failed FTP attempt using alert type



Fortinet Fortigate Firewall

- Next-Generation firewall that provides ultimate threat protection for businesses
- Mainly used in enterprises for the following purposes:
 - VPN tunnels
 - Network segmentation
 - Web Filtering
 - Secure Firewall Portal Access
 - Easy integration with other Fortinet products







Exercise 1

Fortinet Fortigate Dashboard Demonstration

Exercise 2

Fortinet Fortigate Abuse Demonstration (RCE)



Security Information and Event Management – Splunk

- It provides real-time data to perform analysis based on security events
- Tools like Splunk matches collected events against rules & analytics engines to detect & analyse advanced threats
- Alert indexing is an important aspect that is covered by Splunk. It integrates the events into alert workflow procedure
- Splunk and SIEM can be deployed in
 - Single environment
 - Distributed environment



Splunk Working Modes



Search Head



Initiate searches and visualize results via Search Heads



Indexer







Compress and store data on Splunk Indexers



Forwarders









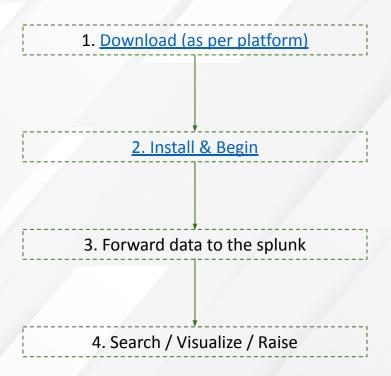


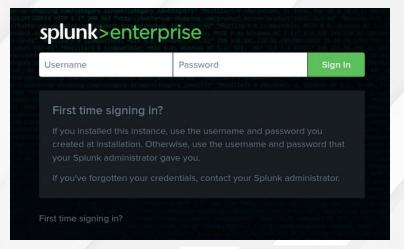


Collect machine data from thousands sources via Splunk forwarders



Configuring Splunk







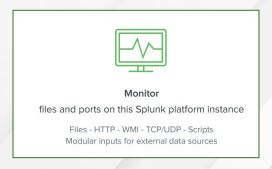
Log Collection in Splunk (local setup)



Select the following icon after signing up

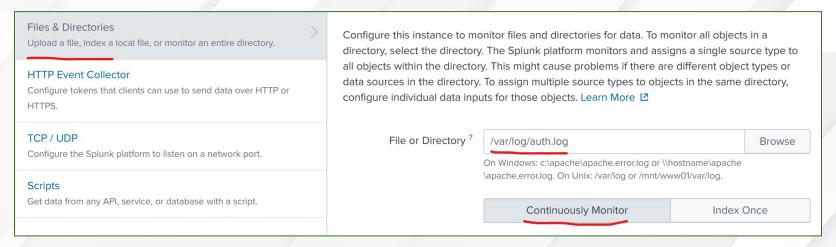


• Navigate and choose the "Monitor" option, it will monitor the local splunk platform instance

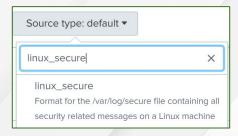




Choose the auth.log file that collects login attempts locally

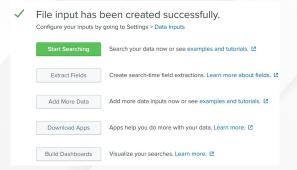


Select the source type as "linux_secure"

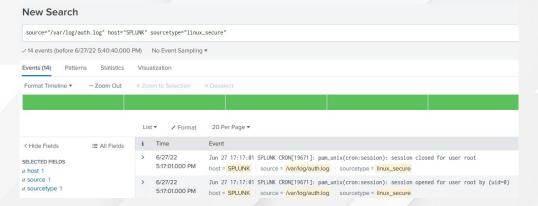




Perform the final review and then start searching

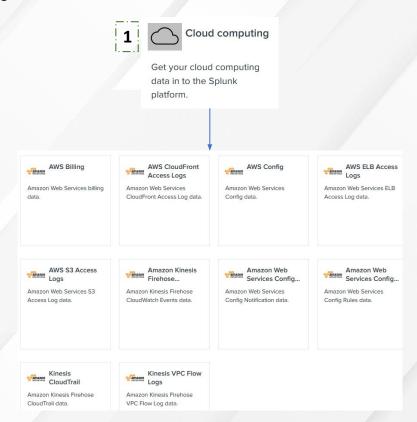


· Monitor the events in real-time





Log collection other sources





Get your networking data in to the Splunk platform.

Cisco Adaptive Cisco Security...

Record user authentication, user session, VPN and intrusion messages from Cisco ASA, PIX, and FWSM devices



Data from every product in the Palo Alto Networks Nextgeneration Security Platform, including Firewalls, Panorama, Traps Endpoints...



Get your operating system data in to the Splunk platform.









Get your security data in to the Splunk platform.



McAfee ePO AV and Intrushield

Anti-virus information and Network Security Platform (Intrushield) information



Microsoft Active Directory (AD)

Active Directory health, site, and login information.



Symantec Endpoint...

Symantec Endpoint Protection (SEP) server and client activity logs from SEP Manager dump files





Upload

files from my computer

Local log files Local structured files (e.g. CSV) Tutorial for adding data ☑



Monitor

files and ports on this Splunk platform instance

Files - HTTP - WMI - TCP/UDP - Scripts Modular inputs for external data sources



Forward

data from a Splunk forwarder

Files - TCP/UDP - Scripts



DEMO: Install Splunk in Linux Instance



DEMO: Log forwarding to Splunk

- 1. Installing "sysmon" in Windows Machine
- 2. Collecting & Transferring logs via "Universal Forwarder (UF)"

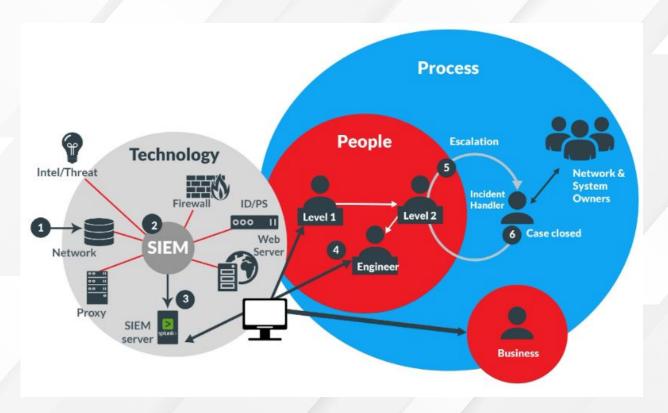


DEMO: Log forwarding to Splunk

- 1. Installing "sysmon" in Windows Machine
- 2. Collecting & Transferring logs via "Universal Forwarder (UF)"



Concept of Operations





Security Orchestration, Automation and Response – Azure Sentinel

• It is a technology that allows organizations to collect data (alerts + events) & allows analysts to respond to threats in real-time using repetitive tasks

Orchestration

Threat & Vulnerability Management

Security OAR

Automation

Automate particular areas of security operations

Response

Security Incident
Response to strategically
increase the
effectiveness of Security
Operations

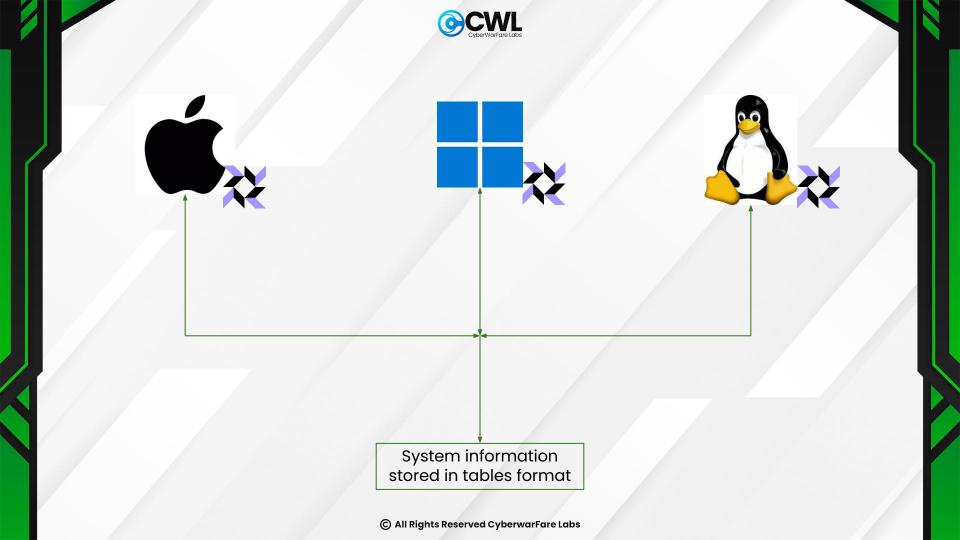


OSQuery 101

 OSQuery framework originally developed by Meta, exposes an OS as a high-operational database.



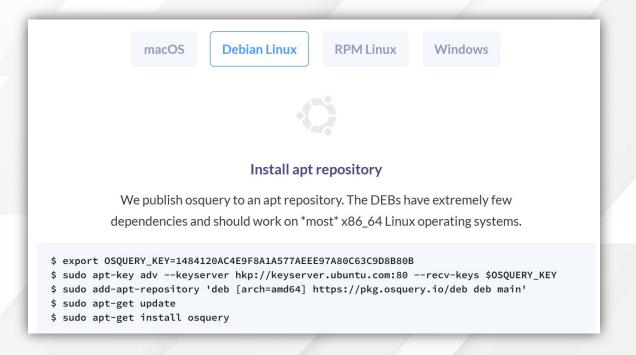
- Data like system network connection, running processes etc is stored in tables
- We can extract the system data using SQL queries from the tables
- Extracted information can then be feed to SIEM servers etc for further processing





Install OSQuery (Linux)

Link: https://osquery.io/downloads/





Exercise: Install OSQUERY in Linux Instance



Run and check all the available tables:

```
root@ubuntu:~# osqueryi
Using a virtual database. Need help, type '.help'
osquery> .tables
 => acpi tables
  => apparmor events
  => apparmor profiles
  => apt sources
  => arp cache
  => atom packages
  => augeas
  => authorized keys
  => azure instance metadata
  => azure instance tags
  => block devices
  => bpf process events
  => bpf socket events
  => carbon black info
  => carves
  => certificates
  => chrome extension content scripts
  => chrome extensions
  => cpu time
```



Check the structure of each table

osquery> PRAGMA table_info(users);					
cid	name	type	notnull	dflt_value	pk
+ 0	+ uid ~:d	BIGINT	+ 1	+ 	1
1	gid uid_signed	BIGINT BIGINT	0 0		0 0
3	gid_signed username	BIGINT TEXT	0 1		0
5 6	description directory	TEXT TEXT	0 0		0
7 8	shell uuid	TEXT TEXT	0 1		0 3
+	+	+	+	+	++



Query from a table and limit the results



Selecting 2 columns from a table

With Filtering

```
osquery> select pid, name, cmdline from processes where name='dockerd' LIMIT 5;

+----+
| pid | name | cmdline |

+----+
| 1089 | dockerd | /usr/bin/dockerd -H fd:// --containerd=/run/containerd/containerd.sock |

+----+
```



Exercise: Explore the Tables & Replicate the above exercises



Thank You

For Professional Red Team / Blue Team / Purple Team,
Cloud Cyber Range labs / Courses / Trainings, please contact

info@cyberwarfare.live

To know more about our offerings, please visit:

https://cyberwarfare.live