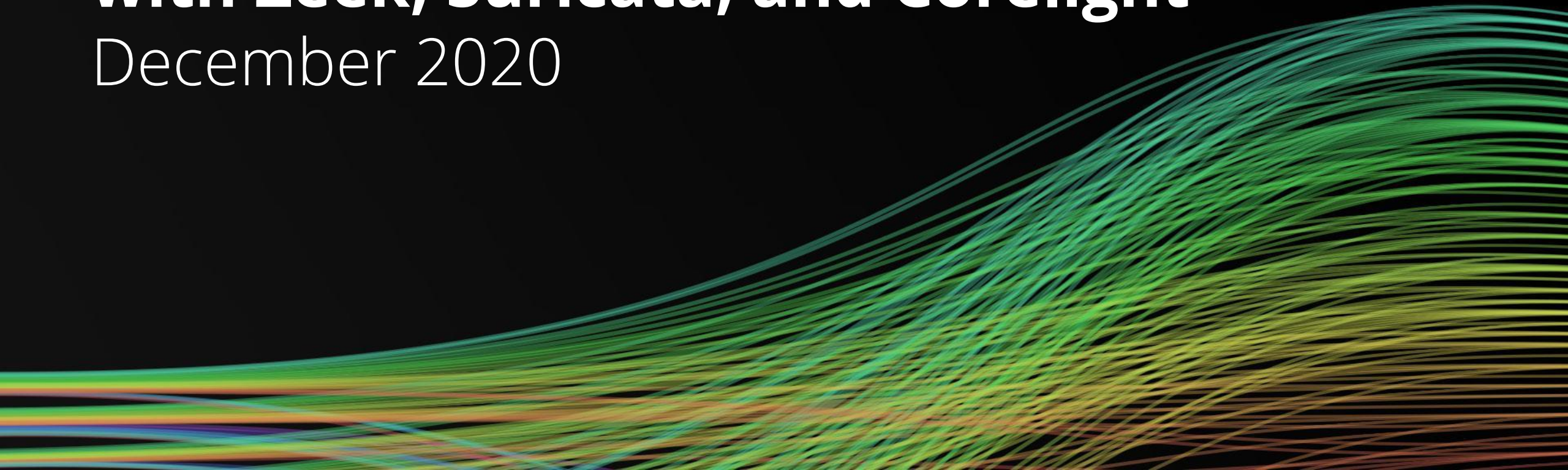


Finding SolarWinds / SUNBURST backdoors with Zeek, Suricata, and Corelight

December 2020



Today's speakers



Aaron Soto

Director of Learning



Alex Kirk

Global Principal, Suricata



Agenda

1. A brief landscape
2. What we know & how we know it
3. Reviewing Suricata rules
4. Importing Suricata rulesets from public repositories
5. Applying future knowledge to past Zeek data
6. Searching through Zeek/Corelight data for IOCs

Landscape

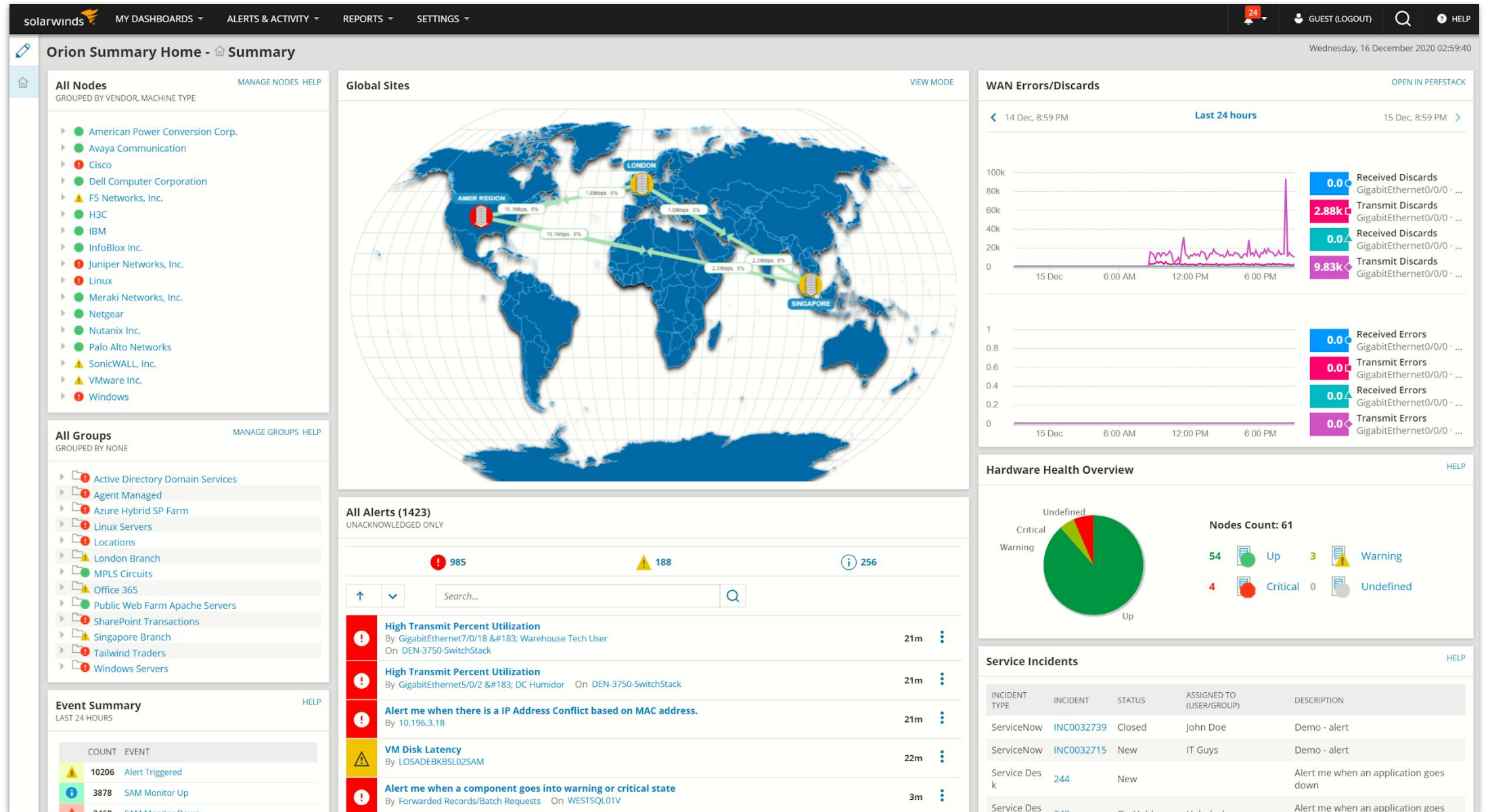
Landscape

1. What is an NMS? (Hint: not an NSM)
2. Who is SolarWinds? What is Orion?
3. Who uses it?
4. What is a supply chain attack?
5. How might a supply chain attack against an NMS affect me?
6. How can Suricata IDS rules protect me?
7. How does Corelight/Zeek data protect me?

What is an NMS?

- **Network Management Systems** automate the monitoring of individual resources and respond to outages immediately.
- Originally, NMS relied on basic SNMP polls and traps.
- Today, NMS involves credentialed access to virtual and cloud environments, network hardware, and critical servers.

Who is SolarWinds? What is Orion?



Who is SolarWinds? What is Orion?

MY DASHBOARDS ▾
ALERTS & ACTIVITY ▾
REPORTS ▾
SETTINGS ▾

24
GUEST (LOGOUT)

NPM Summary

All Nodes managed by NPM

MANAGE NODES HELP

GROUPED BY VENDOR, STATUS

- American Power Conversion Corp.
- Avaya Communication
- Cisco
- Dell Computer Corporation
- F5 Networks, Inc.
- H3C
- IBM
- InfoBlox Inc.
- Juniper Networks, Inc.
- Linux
- Meraki Networks, Inc.
- Netgear
- Nutanix Inc.
- Palo Alto Networks
- SonicWALL, Inc.
- Unknown
- VMware Inc.
- Windows

All Wireless Heat Maps

HELP

	NAME	APS	CLIENTS	LAST GENERATED
	1stFloorGood	5	22	7 hours ago
	2ndfloorMediocre	4	17	7 hours ago
	3rdFloorPoor	3	18	7 hours ago
	HQ	15	34	7 hours ago

List of all VLANs

VLAN ID	NAME	NODE NAME
▶ 1		
▶ 2		
▶ 3		

MPLS Network

VIEW MODE

List of Switch Stacks

CAPTION	IP ADDRESS	MAC ADDRESS	MEMBER COUNT	STATUS	DATA RING STATUS	POWER RING STATUS
WEST-3850-CORE	10.129.0.1	DC:A5:F4:78:07:80	4	▲ Warning	▲ Warning	● Up
EAST-9300-1stFl	10.1.0.21	D4:AD:BD:70:F3:80	2	● Up	● Up	● Up
DEN-3750-SwitchStack	10.1.120.23	00:25:46:F6:46:80	7	● Up	● Up	● Up

High Errors & Discards Today

HELPS

INTERFACES WITH ERRORS+DISCARDS GREATER THAN 1000 TODAY

NODE	INTERFACE	RECEIVE ERRORS	RECEIVE DISCARDS	TRANSMIT ERRORS	TRANSMIT DISCARDS
EAST-FW-B	Adaptive Security Appliance 'INSIDE' interface - INSIDE	0 errors	6,558,537,728 discards	0 errors	0 discards
EAST-FW-B	Adaptive Security Appliance 'OUTSIDE' interface - OUTSIDE	0 errors	5,303,346,688 discards	0 errors	0 discards
EAST-FW-B	Adaptive Security Appliance 'CAPITA-DMZ' interface - CAPITA DMZ - LINK TO CAPITA NETWORK	0 errors	2,025,664,768 discards	0 errors	0 discards
EAST-FW-B	Adaptive Security Appliance 'DMZ1' interface - DMZ1	0 errors	697,562,048 discards	0 errors	0 discards

Cisco ACI Map

VIEW MODE

Interfaces with High Percent Utilization

HELP

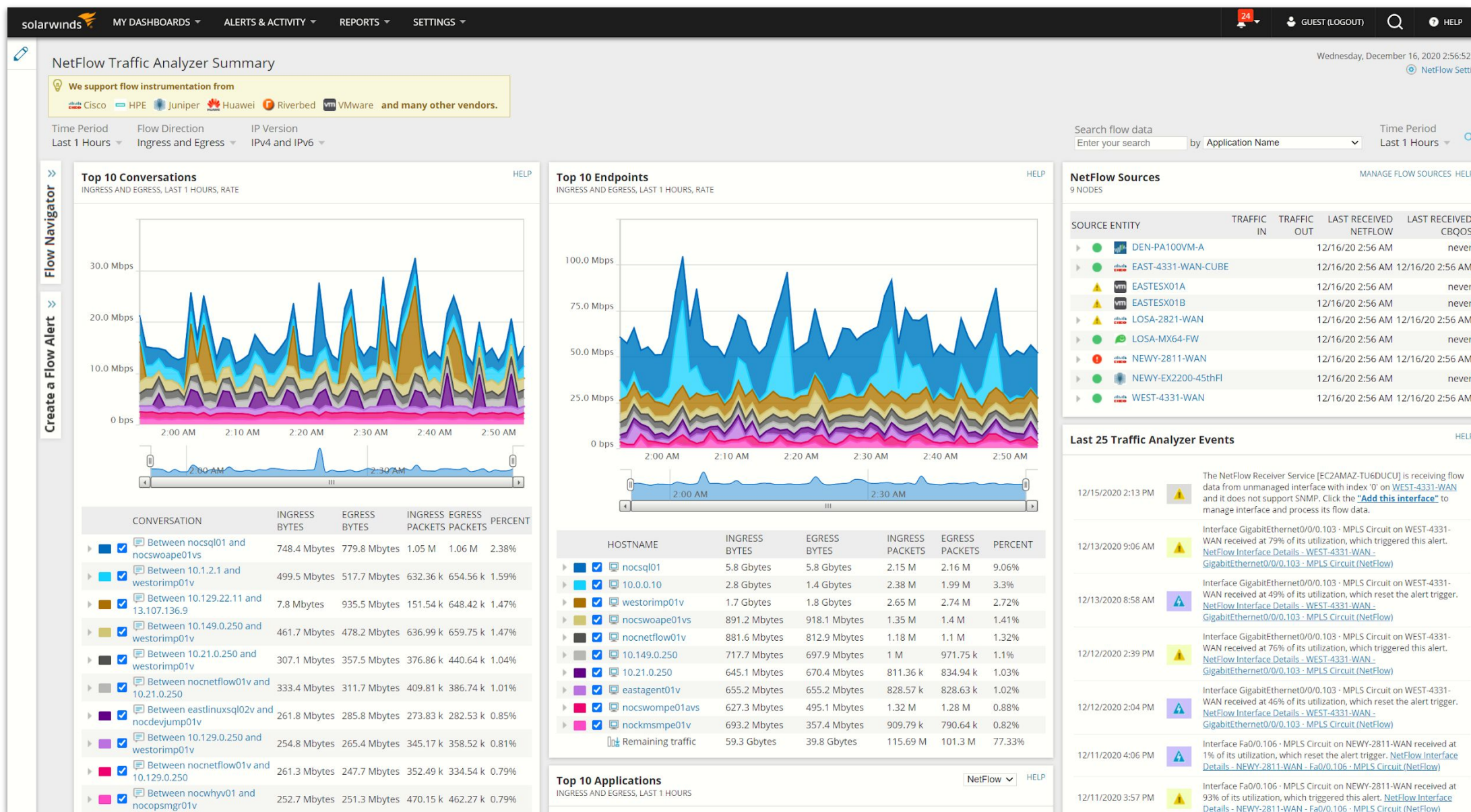
NODE	INTERFACE	RECEIVE	TRANSMIT
Nexus-2	port-channel31 · Po31	90%	60%
Nexus-1	Ethernet1/11 · Eth1/11	90%	30%
Nexus-2	mgmt0 · management0	30%	85%
Nexus-1	mgmt0 · management0	30%	85%
EAST-RPi	eth0	86%	24%

Page 1 of 2 | Items on page 5 | Show all | Displaying objects 1 - 5 of 9

Hardware Health Overview

HELP

Who is SolarWinds? What is Orion?



Who is SolarWinds? What is Orion?

SolarWinds

MY DASHBOARDSALERTS & ACTIVITYREPORTSSETTINGS

Virtualization Summary

HelpWednesday, 16 December 2020 02:51:17 PM

Virtualization Assets

VIRTUALIZATION SETTINGSHELP

VMware

- LABVCENTER01
 - EAST
 - Los Angeles, CA
 - New York, NY
 - WEST
 - LABVCENTER02
- Hyper-V
 - WESTHYVCL01
 - EASTHYV01A
 - EASTHYV01B
 - NOCWHYV01
 - NOCWHYV02
 - NOCWHYV01
- Nutanix
 - LONDON-NUTX-CL01
 - OSLO-NTX-AHV01

Virtualization Asset Summary

HELPHelp

Overall

- Number of Hosts29
- Number of VMs204 running, 225 total
- Total Number of Physical CPU Cores384
- Total RAM2961.6 GB
- Last Poll20 minutes ago

VMware

- Number of Virtual Centers2
- Number of Clusters6 total, 3 vSAN
- Resource Pools0
- Number of ESX Hosts17 clustered, 2 non-clustered
- Number of VMs107 running, 116 total
- Total Number of Physical CPU Cores312
- Total RAM2129.9 GB
- Last Poll20 minutes ago

Recommendations (19)

ALL RECOMMENDATIONSHELP

Grouped by: Clusters/Hosts with Recommendations

PROBLEMS BY PRIORITY	CLUSTERS/HOSTS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS
3	NOCEHYV01	3 Recommendations
2	EASTESXCLO1	2 Recommendations
1 1	NOCWHYV01	2 Recommendations
1	Madrid VSAN Cluster	1 Recommendation
3	WESTESXCLO1	3 Recommendations
2	WESTHYVCL01	2 Recommendations
2	Iosaesx01.demo.lab	2 Recommendations
1 2	LONDON-CL01	3 Recommendations
1	newyesx01.demo.lab	1 Recommendation

Virtual Summary

OPEN IN PERFSTACK

< 8 Dec, 8:51 PMLast 7 days15 Dec, 8:51 PM >

Utilization (%)

9 Dec10 Dec11 Dec12 Dec13 Dec14 Dec15 Dec

25.0% Average CPU Load EASTESXCLO1

62.3% Average CPU Load WESTHYVCL01

22.9% Average CPU Load Iosaesx01.demo.lab

8.8% Average CPU Load newyesx01.demo.lab

Utilization (%)

9 Dec10 Dec11 Dec12 Dec13 Dec14 Dec15 Dec

40.0% Average Percent Me... EASTESXCLO1

55.3% Average Percent Me... WESTHYVCL01

69.5% Average Percent Me... Iosaesx01.demo.lab

39.8% Average Percent Me... newyesx01.demo.lab

Potential Virtualization Issues (251)

ALL ACTIVE ALERTSHelp

VMware Events

ANALYZE LOGSHelp

< 15 Dec, 7:51:17 PMLast hour15 Dec, 8:51:17 PM >

2042

Search...

12/15/2020 8:00:40 PM Error event on LABVCENTER02 Unable to apply DRS resource settings on host denesxclo1a.lab.na in Demo L

12/15/2020 8:00:14 PM Error event on LABVCENTER02 Unable to apply DRS resource settings on host denesxclo1a.lab.na in Demo L

< 1> 1-2 of 2

Host in Maintenance Mode

OPEN IN PERFSTACK

< 8 Dec, 8:51 PMLast 7 days15 Dec, 8:51 PM >

Utilization (%)

9 Dec10 Dec11 Dec12 Dec13 Dec14 Dec15 Dec

5.0 Virtual Machines denesxclo1a.lab.na

1.0 Virtual Machines denesxclo1b.lab.na

Utilization (%)

9 Dec10 Dec11 Dec12 Dec13 Dec14 Dec15 Dec

21.3% Average Percent M... denesxclo1a.lab.na

44.3% Average Memory G... denesxclo1a.lab.na

Utilization (%)

9 Dec10 Dec11 Dec12 Dec13 Dec14 Dec15 Dec

1.6% Average Percent M... denesxclo1b.lab.na

0.3% Average Memory G... denesxclo1b.lab.na

Who is SolarWinds? What is Orion?

solarwinds MY DASHBOARDS ▾ ALERTS & ACTIVITY ▾ REPORTS ▾ SETTINGS ▾

Cloud - Summary

[Cloud Infrastructure Monitoring Settings ? Help](#)
 Wednesday, 16 December 2020 03:10:35

Cloud Instances Status Summary [HELP](#)

Status: All Search Instances

NAME	CPU LOAD	MEMORY	RECEIVE	TRANSMIT
aws-ami	1.13%	24%	426.2 B/s	236.4 B/s
AWS-Brazil-WPM-Player	6.8%	72%	40.1 kB/s	4.2 kB/s
AWS-Japan-WPM-Player	6.8%	62%	38.7 kB/s	2.4 kB/s
AZDEBVPN01v	0.7%	N/A	26.5 kB/s	1004.1 B/s
AZRHWEB01v	3.05%	65%	369.7 B/s	289.7 B/s
AZSHPCACHE01v	2.17%	36%	606.3 B/s	104.5 B/s
AZSHPCACHE02v	2.85%	33%	4.1 kB/s	805.0 B/s
AZSHPWEB01v	9.02%	71%	4.4 kB/s	1.1 kB/s
AZSHPWEB02v	12.43%	70%	4.4 kB/s	1.2 kB/s
AZUBUWEB01v	1.65%	68%	1.7 kB/s	285.0 B/s

Page 1 of 4 | Items on page 10 | Show all | Displaying objects 1 - 10 of 37

Cloud Server Infrastructure [HELP](#)

GROUPED BY CLOUD ACCOUNT, REGION

- Demo Systems
 - Asia Pacific (Sydney) 1
 - Asia Pacific (Tokyo)
 - AWS-Japan-WPM-Player
 - i-038e56721c5cbb0d2
 - EU West (Ireland)
 - DemoChefSvr
 - ORION-DEMO-ODv3-0-SQL-EU-0
 - ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-DPA2-EU-0
 - ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-DPA-EU-0
 - ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-ORION-EU-0
 - ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-SQL-EU-0
 - South America (Sao Paulo)
 - US East (Virginia) 2
 - US West (N. California) 1
 - US West (Oregon)
- Azure SolarWinds Demo
 - eastus2 1 ▲ 2

Active Cloud Alerts (9) [HELP](#)

ALL UNACKNOWLEDGED ALERTS

ALERT NAME	MESSAGE	TRIGGERING OBJECT	ACTIVE TIME	RELATED NODE
AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-SQL-USE-PROD-0	40m	
AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-SQL-USE-0	40m	
AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-SQL-APAC-0	43m	
Azure Cloud VM is in a Warning or Critical State	Azure Cloud VM is in a Warning or Critical State	AZSHPWEB01v	43m	AZSHPWEB01v
AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	AWS Cloud Instance is in a Warning or Critical State	ORION-DEMO-ODv3-1-SQL-EU-0	47m	

Page 1 of 2 | Items on page 5 | Show all | Displaying objects 1 - 5 of 9

Cloud Asset Summary [HELP](#)

AWS

INSTANCES 29 Running

ATTACHED VOLUMES 36

STORAGE CAPACITY 5.19 TB

Azure

VMS 8 Running

ATTACHED VOLUMES 8

STORAGE CAPACITY (MANAGED ONLY) 662 GB

In/Out Gateway Traffic By Region

REGION	IN	OUT	TOTAL ▼
eastus2	4.21 MB	6.97 MB	11.19 MB

Cloud Volumes Performance [HELP](#)

Volume Type: All Search Volumes

DISK	READ LATENCY	WRITE LATENCY	READ IOPS	WRITE IOPS	SIZE	TYPE	MANAGED
AZDEBVPN01v_OsDisk_1_...	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30 GB	Standard	Yes
AZRHWEB01v_OsDisk_1_3...	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	64 GB	Premium	Yes
AZSHPCACHE01v_OsDisk_...	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	127 GB	Premium	Yes
AZSHPCACHE02v_OsDisk_...	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	127 GB	Premium	Yes
AZSHPWEB01v_OsDisk_1_...	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	127 GB	Premium	Yes
AZSHPWEB02v_OsDisk_1_...	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	127 GB	Premium	Yes

Cloud Applications [HELP](#)

APPLICATION NAME
Microsoft IIS on AZSHPWEB01v
Microsoft IIS on AZSHPWEB02v
Nginx on AZRHWEB01v
SharePoint Server 2016 on AZSHPCACHE01v
SharePoint Server 2016 on AZSHPCACHE02v
SharePoint Server 2016 on AZSHPWEB01v
SharePoint Server 2016 on AZSHPWEB02v
SolarWinds Agent (Linux) on aws-ami
SolarWinds Agent (Linux) on AZRHWEB01v
SolarWinds Agent (Linux) on AZUBUWEB01v
SolarWinds Agent (Windows) on AWS-Brazil WPM Player
SolarWinds Agent (Windows) on AWS-Japan WPM Player

Who uses SolarWinds Orion?

Company

[About SolarWinds](#)[Investors](#)[Newsroom](#)[Customers](#)[Careers](#)[Management](#)[Contact Us](#)

SolarWinds' Customers

SolarWinds' comprehensive products and services are used by more than 300,000 customers worldwide, including military, Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and education institutions. Our customer list includes:

- More than 425 of the US Fortune 500
- All ten of the top ten US telecommunications companies
- All five branches of the US Military
- The US Pentagon, State Department, NASA, NSA, Postal Service, NOAA, Department of Justice, and the Office of the President of the United States
- All five of the top five US accounting firms
- Hundreds of universities and colleges worldwide

Partial customer listing:

Acxiom
Ameritrade
AT&T;
Bellsouth Telecommunications
Best Western Intl.
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Booz Allen Hamilton
Boston Consulting
Cable & Wireless
Cablecom Media AG
Cablevision
CBS
Charter Communications
Cisco
CitiFinancial

General Dynamics
Gillette Deutschland GmbH
GTE
H&R; Block
Harvard University
Hertz Corporation
ING Direct
IntelSat
J.D. Byrider
Johns Hopkins University
Kennedy Space Center
Kodak
Korea Telecom
Leggett and Platt
Level 3 Communications

Sabre
Saks
San Francisco Intl. Airport
Siemens
Smart City Networks
Smith Barney
Smithsonian Institute
Sparkasse Hagen
Sprint
St. John's University
Staples
Subaru
Supervalu
Swisscom AG
Symantec

Who uses SolarWinds Orion?



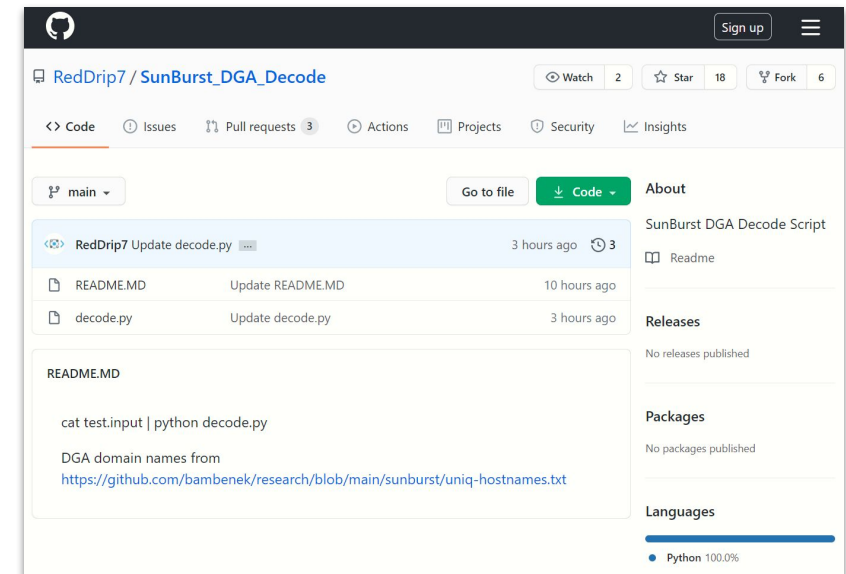
By decoding the [#DGA](#) domain names, we discovered nearly a hundred domains suspected to be attacked by [#UNC2452](#) [#SolarWinds](#), including universities, governments and high tech companies such as [@Intel](#) and [@Cisco](#). Visit our github project to get the script.

[github.com/RedDrip7/SunBu...](https://github.com/RedDrip7/SunBurst_DGA_Decode)

```
882 q1b91c4fdd7q4td56rswoi0u0govirsv.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com    servitia.intern
883 q3b8h3lm9q7eoqa56260kun0e6iur0e.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com    sos-ad.state.
884 q3vcrhhcmdhdh7r15oi602ou6iur0grn.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com    its.iastate.ed
885 q80cgv4eolosbf04tvef0t12eu1.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        gncu.local
886 q882c5brq5oa58d4r6eud0i2st.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        escap.org
887 q8bbs26mocug6re4dutr70ct2w.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        pageaz.gov
888 q8g11thobvg6d604tvef0b12eu1.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        gncu.local
889 sf0q84qutb323q6eo6e202e2h.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        cisco.com
890 q8vmae18n3dpeu15vr2d32i2v0e60be2.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com    neophotonics.co
891 qb9it88vfr16v84euehoip0e12eu1.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        camcity.local
892 qbj2615jnkrdac5wh602un0twusouv0.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        vms.ad.varian
893 1cmge6dsc1rtfjce0e0gdohu0et2w.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        sc.pima.gov
894 qfnf6ab6u28je4d5un0b2dioho7r1p0b.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com    ad.optimizely.
895 qfnf6ab6u28je4d5un0b2dioho7r1p0c.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com    ad.optimizely.
896 qg1e4bctbk3gdkr4e2sd0bdieo0be2h.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        corp.ptci.com
897 qgc2g97t3sop415uhs0be2sd0govir1.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        amr.corp.intel
898 qgdubroda1vph414srd6sw0oe2h.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        repsrv.com
899 qipotp1jic4gav5oi60eou6iur0grn.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        its.iastate.ed
900 qit9415tqf2j9mq5wo11r02irssrc2vv.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        ville.terrebonn
901 qj1bggoa06prfj646d6n0g6j02eu.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        spsd.sk.ca
902 qj82njdvfuoi455uhs0be2sd0govir1.appsync-api.us-east-1.avsvmcloud.com        amr.corp.intel
903 q0q46rsf1b14k04e2mvr10ge2m0te2h.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        coxnet.cox.com
904 qrieo21mr659tfk5wh60iun0bwsouv0.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        vms.ad.varian
905 qnjtdj3aln1c3j0k4urso2ve2sd0be2h.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        aerioncorp.com
906 qvot463cl5rcg5r4urso2ve2sd0be2h.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        aerioncorp.com
907 r14ptgkl7qacucc5chsv0ee2h.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        bmrn.com
908 r1q6arhpujcf6jb6ervisu10dohu0it.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        central.pima.g
909 r1qshoj05j105ac6e0ip02jovt612v0c.appsync-api.us-west-2.avsvmcloud.com        city.kingston.
910 r69ncekf56j1kkr6oi602ou6iur02rn.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        its.iastate.ed
911 r6b5cj43deojp665u30c2st.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        ah.org
912 r74br8r0cce4m6r6oi60eou6iur0trn.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        its.iastate.ed
913 r75n0q0557bl6nv6oi60c0u6iur0orn.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com        its.iastate.ed
914 r7kqk893t5l082j6uhs0ie2sd0iovir1.appsync-api.us-east-2.avsvmcloud.com    amr.corp.intel
```

5:19 AM · Dec 16, 2020 · Twitter Web App

310 Retweets 43 Quote Tweets 500 Likes



What is a supply chain attack?

- Attacks on external dependencies (eg. libraries and packages)
- Attacks against build infrastructure
- Attacks against trusted/purchased hardware
- Attacks on a vendor's infrastructure

Previous examples:

- Typo-squatting colorama in PyPi repository
- Takeover of bb-builder NPM package to steal passwords
- SuperMicro hardware network backdoor (2015)
- Attacks against vendor infrasture (eg. Target)

How might an NMS supply chain attack affect me?

When you deploy an NMS, there are generally some base assumptions:

- NMS requires regular access a wide range of resources
- NMS requires credentials to perform in-depth monitoring
- NMS requires privileges to restart hosts/services

In short:

- An NMS is extremely difficult to lock down or monitor.
- Compromise of the NMS provides direct access to credentials and a launching point for direct and invasive attacks.

How might an NMS supply chain attack affect me?

CAUSE

Anti Virus can cause file locking and application related issues such as polling related problems and web console issues.

RESOLUTION

For SolarWinds products, to prevent possible application related issues, unexpected behaviour and performance related problems, at minimum you would need to consider excluding the following items from antivirus or security software that you install on your SolarWinds Primary, Additional, HA backup polling engines and any web servers that you run.

Directories

- Exclude whole folders, including subdirectories,
- Check the correct syntax for the above that your security software supports as not all may be *.
- **Volume:** is the volume you originally installed the product to.

Windows Server OS - 2019, 2016 (and 2012 R2 for old versions).

- Volume:\Inetpub\SolarWinds*
- Volume:\ProgramData\SolarWinds*
- Volume:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\SolarWinds*
- Volume:\Program Files (x86)\SolarWinds*
- Volume:\Windows\Temp\SolarWinds*
- Volume:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Crypto\RSA\MachineKeys*

How can Suricata IDS rules protect me?

Suricata rulesets are quick to update, often automated, allowing indicators of compromise (IOCs) to be widely distributed and quickly flagged, helping you find the needle in the haystack:

- IP Addresses
- Domains
- HTTP headers and data (eg. POST data contents)
- Payload data (HTML strings, JavaScript commands, etc.)

IDS rules protect you from today, moving forward.

How does Corelight/Zeek data protect me?

conn.log IP, TCP, UDP, ICMP connection details		
FIELD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ts	time	Timestamp of the first packet
uid	string	Unique ID of the connection - See conn.log
id.orig.h	addr	Originating endpoint's IP address (Orig)
id.orig.p	port	Originating endpoint's TCP/UDP port (or ICMP code)
id.resp.h	addr	Responding endpoint's IP address (Resp)
id.resp.p	port	Responding endpoint's TCP/UDP port (or ICMP code)
proto	proto	Transport layer protocol of connection
service	string	Detected application protocol, if any
duration	interval	Connection length
orig_bytes	count	Orig payload bytes; from sequence numbers if TCP
resp_bytes	count	Resp payload bytes; from sequence numbers if TCP
conn_state	string	Connection state (see conn.log - conn_state)
local_orig	bool	Is Orig in Site-local_net?
local_resp	bool	Is Resp in Site-local_net?
missed_bytes	count	Number of bytes missed due to content gaps
history	string	Connection state history (see conn.log - history)
orig_pkts	count	Number of Orig packets
orig_ip_bytes	count	Number of Orig IP bytes (via IP total_length header field)
resp_pkts	count	Number of Resp packets
resp_ip_bytes	count	Number of Resp IP bytes (via IP total_length header field)
tunnel_parents	set	If tunneled, connection UID of encapsulating parent(s)
orig_i2_addr	string	Link-layer address of the originator
resp_i2_addr	string	Link-layer address of the responder
vlan	int	The outer VLAN for this connection
inner_vlan	int	The inner VLAN for this connection

http.log HTTP request/reply details		
FIELD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ts	time	Timestamp of the HTTP request
uid & id	string	Underlying connection info - See conn.log
trans_depth	count	Traverse depth into the connection
method	string	HTTP Request verb: GET, POST, HEAD, etc
host	string	Value of the Host header
uri	string	URI used in the request
referrer	string	Value of the "Referer" header
user_agent	string	Value of the User-Agent header
request_body_len	count	Uncompressed content size of Orig data
response_body_len	count	Uncompressed content size of Resp data
status_code	count	Status code returned by the server
status_msg	string	Status message returned by the server
info_code	count	Last seen 1xx info reply code by server
info_msg	string	Last seen 1xx info reply message by server
tags	set	Indicators of various attributes discovered
username	string	Username if basic auth is performed
password	string	Password if basic auth is performed
proxied	set	Headers indicative of a proxied request
orig_fuids	vector	File unique IDs from Orig
orig_filenames	vector	File names from Orig
orig_mime_types	vector	File types from Orig
resp_fuids	vector	File unique IDs from Resp
resp_filenames	vector	File names from Resp
resp_mime_types	vector	File types from Resp
client_header_names	vector	The names of HTTP headers sent by Orig
server_header_names	vector	The names of HTTP headers sent by Resp
cookie_vars	vector	Variable names extracted from cookies
url_vars	vector	Variable names extracted from the URI
*If policy/protocols/http/header-names.bro is loaded		
*If policy/protocols/http/body-extraction-ur.bro is loaded		

dns.log DNS query/response details		
FIELD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ts	time	Timestamp of the DNS request
uid & id	string	Underlying connection info - See conn.log
proto	proto	Protocol of DNS transaction - TCP or UDP
trans_id	count	16 bit identifier assigned by DNS client - responses match
rtt	interval	Round trip time for the query and response
query	string	Domain name subject of the query
qclass	count	Value specifying the query class
qclass_name	string	Descriptive name of the query class (e.g., C, IN, INTERNET)
qtype	count	Value specifying the query type
qtype_name	string	Descriptive name of the query type (e.g., A, AAAA, PTR)
rcode	count	Response code value in the DNS response
rcode_name	string	Descriptive name of response code (e.g., NXDOMAIN, NOERROR)
AA	bool	Authoritative answer: T = server is authoritative for the query
TC	bool	Truncation: T = the message was truncated
RD	bool	Recursion desired: T = recursive lookup of query requested
RA	bool	Recursion available: T = server supports recursive queries
Z	count	Reserved field, should be zero in all queries and responses
answers	vector	List of resource descriptions in answer to the query
TTLs	vector	Caching intervals of the answers
rejected	bool	Whether DNS query was rejected by server
auth	set	Authoritative responses for the query
addl	set	Additional responses for the query
*If policy/protocols/dns/author-addl.bro is loaded		

files.log File analysis results		
FIELD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ts	time	Timestamp when file was first seen
fuid	string	Unique identifier for a single file
tx_hosts	set	Host(s) that sourced the data
rx_hosts	set	Host(s) that received the data
conn_uids	set	Connection UID(s) over which file transferred
source	string	An identification of the source of the file data
depth	count	Depth of file related to source (e.g., HTTP request depth)
analyzers	set	Set of analyzers attached during file analysis
mime_type	string	File type, as determined by Bro's signatures
filename	string	Filename, if available from source analyzer
duration	interval	The duration that the file was analyzed for
local_orig	bool	Did the data originate locally?
is_orig	bool	Was the file sent by the Originator?
seen_bytes	count	Number of bytes provided to file analysis engine
total_bytes	count	Total number of bytes that should comprise the file
missing_bytes	count	Number of bytes in file stream missed
overflow_bytes	count	Out-of-sequence bytes in the stream due to overflow
timedout	bool	If the file analysis timed out at least once
parent_fuid	string	Container file ID this was extracted from
md5sha1	string	MD5/SHA1 hash of the file
extracted	string	Local filename of extracted files, if enabled
entropy	double	Information density of the file contents

smtp.log SMTP transactions		
FIELD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ts	time	Timestamp when message was first seen
uid & id	string	Underlying connection info - See conn.log
trans_depth	count	Transaction depth if there are multiple msgs
helo	string	Contents of the HELO header
mailfrom	string	Contents of the MAIL FROM header
rcptto	set	Contents of the RCPT TO header
date	string	Contents of the DATE header
from	string	Contents of the FROM header
to	set	Contents of the TO header
cc	set	Contents of the CC header
reply_to	string	Contents of the Reply-To header
msg_id	string	Contents of the MsgID header
in_reply_to	string	Contents of the In-Reply-To header
subject	string	Contents of the Subject header
x_originating_ip	addr	Contents of the X-Originating-IP header
first_received	string	Contents of the first Received header
second_received	string	Contents of the second Received header
last_reply	string	Last server to client message
path	vector	Message transmission path, from headers
user_agent	string	Value of the client User-Agent header
tls	bool	Indicates the connection switched to TLS
fuids	vector	File unique IDs seen attached to message
is_webmail	bool	If the message was sent via webmail
*If policy/protocols/smtp/software.bro is loaded		

Corelight/Zeek provides comprehensive historical network metadata:

- Non-judgemental - it's a flight recorder.
- Easy to search, index, archive, and store.
- Directly linked to Suricata alerts for full context in a single-pivot.
- Gives you hindsight where IDS alerts cannot.

What we know and
how we know it

Sources

1. **FireEye** initial breach: <https://www.fireeye.com/blog/threat-research/2020/12/authorized-access-of-fireeye-red-team-tools.html>
2. **FireEye** blog: <https://www.fireeye.com/blog/threat-research/2020/12/evasive-attacker-leverages-solarwinds-supply-chain-compromises-with-sunburst-backdoor.html>
3. **FireEye** IOCs: https://github.com/fireeye/sunburst_countermeasures
4. **Washington Post**: [Russian government hackers are behind a broad espionage campaign that has compromised U.S. agencies, including Treasury and Commerce](#)
5. **Bambenek** IOCs: <https://github.com/bambenek/research/>
6. **Volexity** blog: <https://www.volexity.com/blog/2020/12/14/dark-halo-leverages-solarwinds-compromise-to-breach-organizations/>
7. **SolarWinds** SEC Filing: <https://www.sec.gov/ix?doc=/Archives/edgar/data/1739942/000162828020017451/swi-20201214.htm>

Informal sources



Timeline

March - June 2020: "compromise of the Orion software build system" affecting Orion products downloaded/updated during this time. Less than 18k of 33k customers affected. (Source: Solarwinds SEC filing)

December 8, 2020: FireEye announces they'd been hacked. Red Team tools stolen, but no zero-day exploits or unknown techniques. Releases IOCs.

December 13, 2020: US CISA releases emergency directive to begin forensic analysis and "immediately disconnect or power down SolarWinds Orion products."

December 14, 2020: FireEye posts details with IOCs and attributes UNC2452

December 14, 2020: Reuters, Washington Post reveal that US Treasury, Commerce breached, along with "consulting, technology, telecom, and oil and gas companies." Attributed to Russian SVR (aka APT29 / Cozy Bear)

December 15, 2020: SolarWinds expected to release hotfix.

Attacker Techniques

Commonly used techniques:

- Domain Generation Algorithms (DGA)
- Scalable and shared cloud-based infrastructure
- Cobalt Strike beacons

Uncommon / Novel techniques:

- Compromise of SolarWinds certificate used to build Orion updates (but how?)
- Blending in with naming conventions used by the development team
- Attacker changed hostnames to match those within victim environment
- Avoiding detection and analysis using payload delays (12-14 days) and IP exclusions for local sinkholes and Microsoft-owned IP ranges

Detection Opportunities

IP addresses tied to the victim's home country to remove obvious detections

Still presents an opportunity for “time travel” detection

Legitimate credential owner accesses a remote service from City A...

Attacker uses the same credentials from City B 10 minutes later...

But City A & City B are hours apart

Detection Opportunities

Leaked in RDP SSL certificate data **on servers outside the victim IP range**

FEYE recommendation to search (Shodan) scan data for RDP systems with hostnames from victim environment

Zeek logs this detail for all monitored RDP sessions - but also can easily track outbound RDP destinations

Domain IOCs

	FireEye	EmergingThreats	Volexity
avsvmcloud.com	X	X	X
digitalcollege.org	X	X	X
freescanonline.com	X	X	X
thedoccloud.com	X	X	X
deftsecurity.com	X	X	
virtualdataserver.com	X	X	
incomeupdate.com	X	X	
zupertech.com	X	X	
databasegalore.com	X	X	
panhardware.com	X	X	
highdatabase.com	X	X	
websitetheme.com	X	X	
webcodez.com			X
virtualwebdata.com			X
seobundlekit.com			X
lcomputers.com			X
solartrackingsystem.net			X
kubecloud.com			X
globalnetworkissues.com			X

Where do I get the Suricata rules?

Emerging Threats feed

All signatures released by FireEye were imported into the ET Open set within < 24 hours of each public drop

SIDs 2031264-2031270, 2031273-2031297, 2031299-2031308 - FEYE red team tools

SIDs 2031321-2031370 - Sunburst

Came with notable performance/accuracy improvements over FireEye GitHub

Raw signature imports

Possible to import signatures directly from GitHub - get files as plaintext to start

SID management is your responsibility! Some of the FireEye rules overlapped with Talos

For those using suricata-update, the “--local <path>” option can be pointed to the downloaded file

Rules files are plain text, so public sources can be manually integrated with any other process

Reviewing Suricata rules

Hostname detail signatures

```
alert tcp any any <> any 443 (msg:"Backdoor.SUNBURST"; content:"|16  
03|"; depth:2; content:"avsvmcloud.com"; distance:0; sid:77600845;  
rev:1;)
```

```
alert tls $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET MALWARE [Fireeye]  
Backdoor.SUNBURST SSL Cert Inbound (avsvmcloud .com)";  
flow:established,to_client; tls.cert_subject; dotprefix;  
content:".avsvmcloud.com"; endswith; fast_pattern;  
reference:[...]; classtype:trojan-activity; sid:2031341; rev:2;  
metadata:[...];)
```

Similar HTTP rules published by FEYE (with similar upgrades from ET)
ET added DNS lookup rules as well

URL structure signatures

```
alert http $HOME_NET any -> $EXTERNAL_NET any (msg:"ET MALWARE  
[Fireeye] Backdoor.SUNBURST M2"; flow:established,to_server;  
http.uri; content:"/swip/upd/SolarWinds.CortexPlugin.Components.xml";  
http.host; content:!".solarwinds.com"; endswith;  
reference:[...]; classtype:trojan-activity; sid:2031337; rev:2;  
metadata:[...];)
```

Specific URL structure used by updates for my tool, going to a host not owned by the vendor

Proactive potential: what URLs do my tools legitimately use today? Can I detect those structures being sent to unusual hosts?

Beacon content signatures - headers

```
alert http $HOME_NET any -> $EXTERNAL_NET any (msg:"ET MALWARE  
[Fireeye] Backdoor.BEACON M1"; flow:established,to_server;
```

```
http.method; content:"POST";
```

```
http.request_body; content:"name=|22|"; content:"|22 3b|filename=|22|";  
content:"|22 0a|Content-Type|3a|"; fast_pattern;
```

```
reference:[...]; classtype:trojan-activity; sid:2031323; rev:2;  
metadata:[...])
```

Beacon content signatures - payloads

```
alert http $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET MALWARE  
[Fireeye] Backdoor.BEACON M3"; flow:established,from_server;
```

```
file.data; content:"<title>Woman-Five-How-To-Why-Your-Celebrating-  
Learn-Brand</title>"
```

```
reference:[...]; classtype:trojan-activity; sid:2031356; rev:2;  
metadata:[...])
```

Applying future knowledge
to past data

Applying future knowledge to past data

Attackers have already had a chance to clean up

Attackers with good tradecraft clean up as soon as possible

This is (yet again) why it is important to retain months of network forensic data

Don't expect the more specific indicators to have any real longevity

Searching through
Zeek/Corelight data for IOCs

IOCs

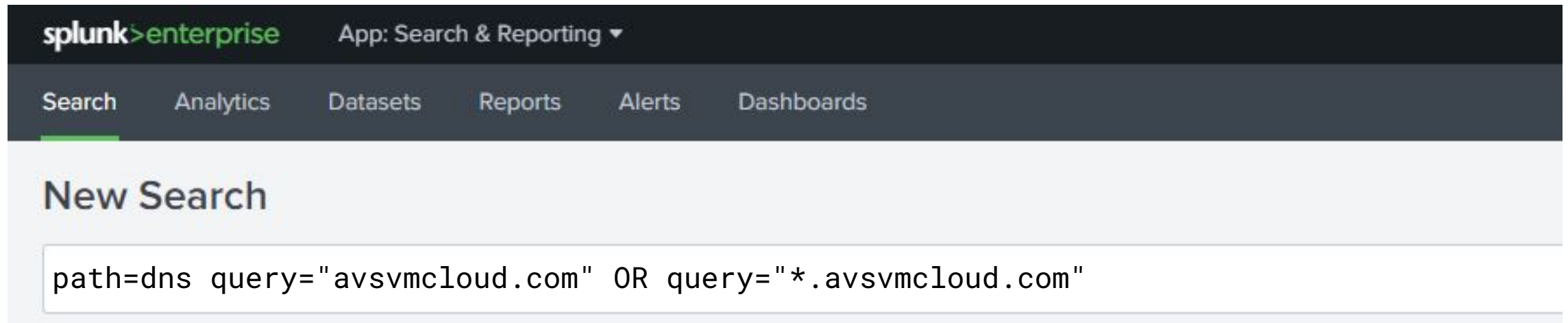
In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

- Domain names
- HTTP requests
- X.509 Certificates
- IP addresses
- File hashes

IOCs

In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

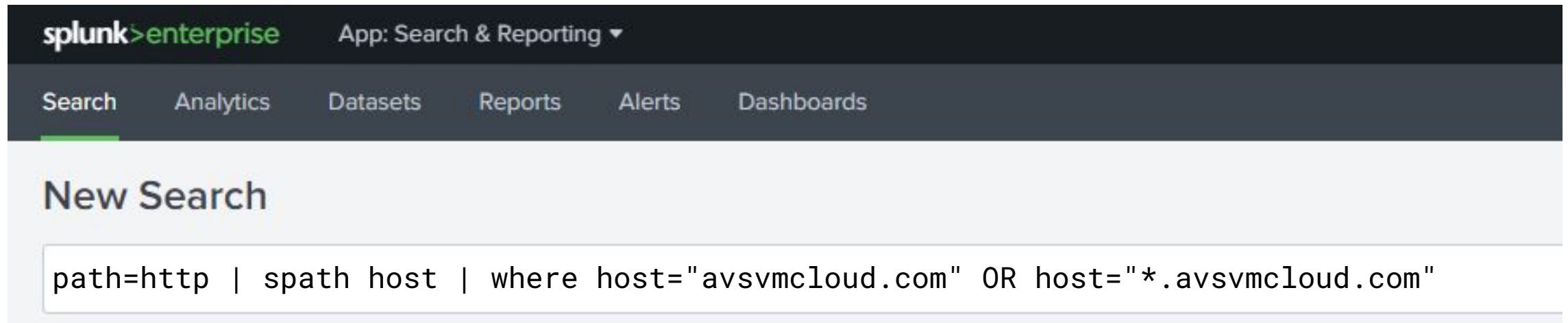
- **Domain names**
- HTTP requests
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IOCs

In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

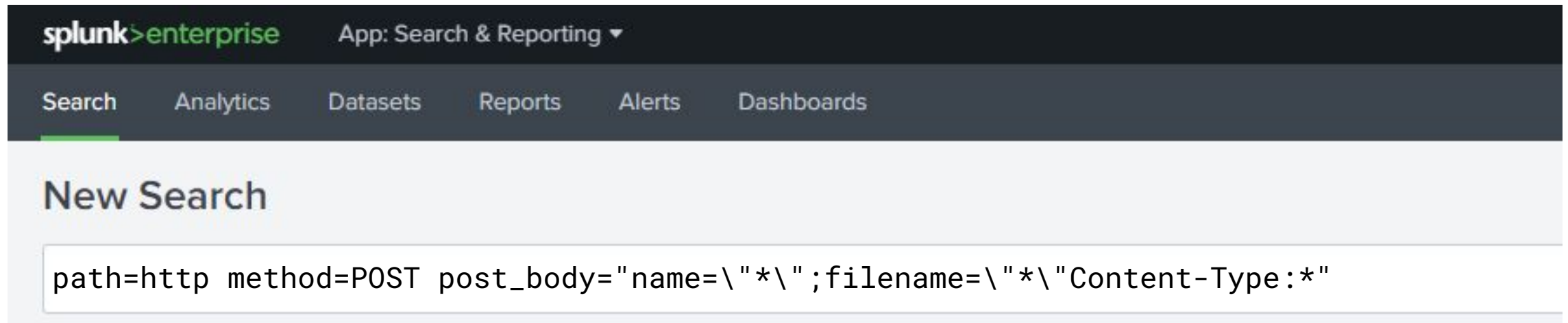
- **Domain names**
- **HTTP requests**
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IOCs

In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

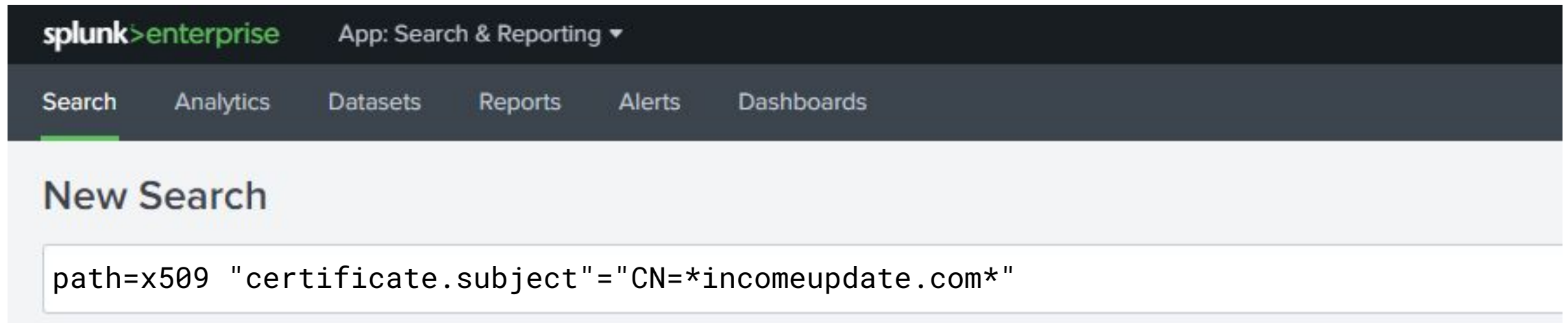
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IOCs

In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

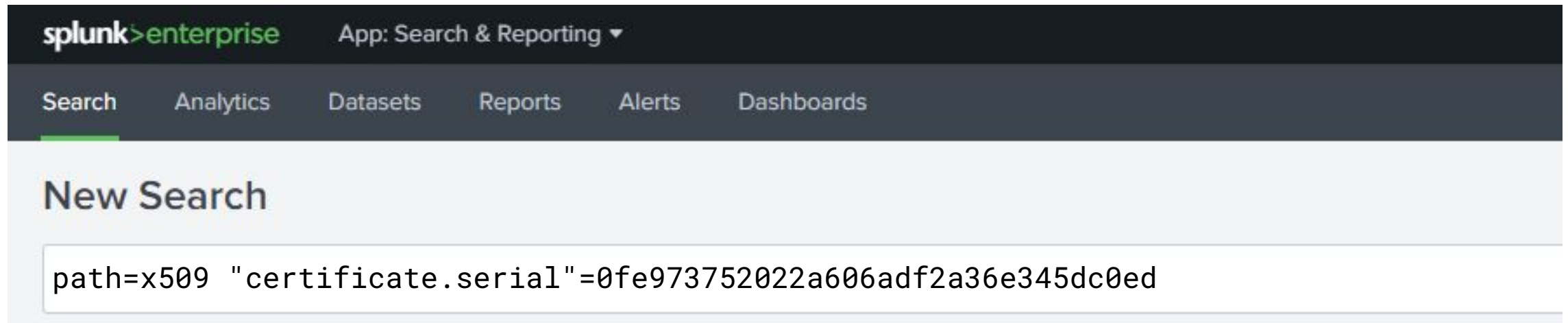
- Domain names
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In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

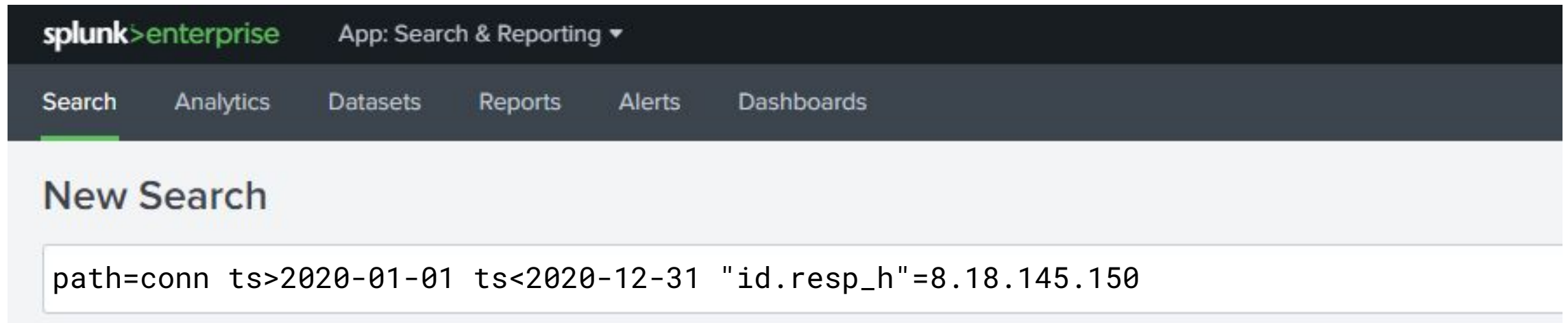
- Domain names
- HTTP requests
- **X.509 Certificates**
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IOCs

In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

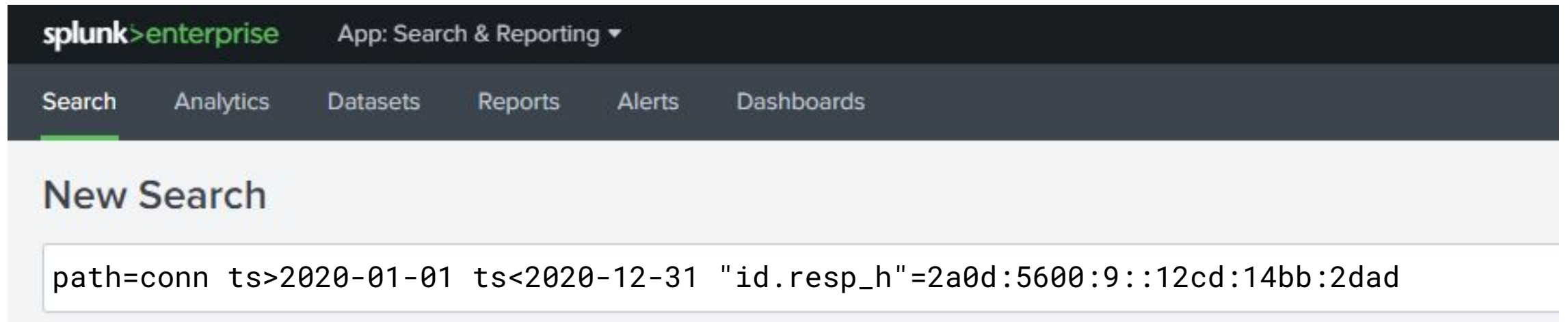
- Domain names
- HTTP requests
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- File hashes



IOCs

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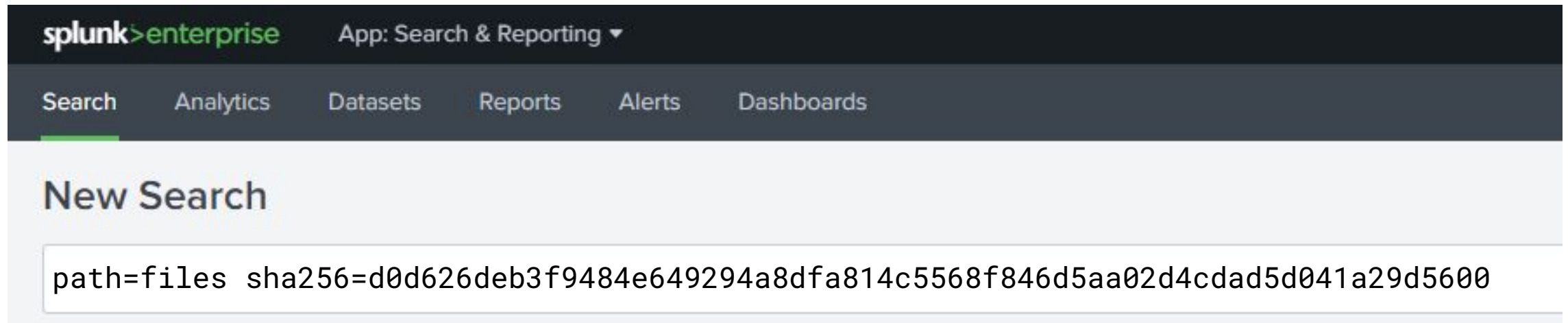
- Domain names
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IOCs

In order of confidence, here are the IOCs to focus on:

- Domain names
- HTTP requests
- X.509 Certificates
- IP addresses
- **File hashes**



Do I have SolarWinds?

Potential queries to determine if you have SolarWinds products:

- HTTP User-Agent of "SolarWindsOrionImprovementClient/*"
- DNS resolution of "api.solarwinds.com" or "downloads.solarwinds.com" (daily)
"licensestatusserver.solarwinds.com" or "licenseserver.solarwinds.com" (intermittent)

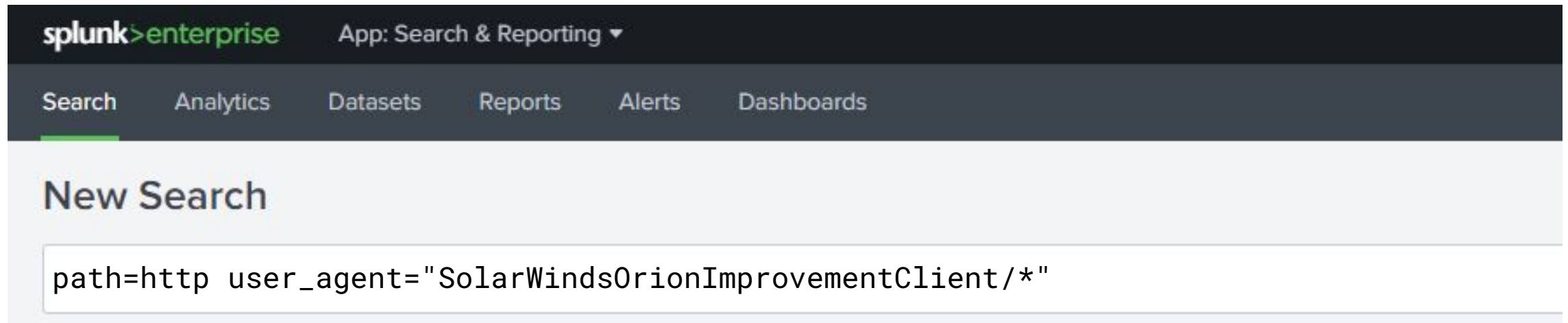
(This will likely return results for other SolarWinds products other than Orion)

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"licensestatusserver.solarwinds.com" or "licenseserver.solarwinds.com" (intermittent)

(This will likely return results for other SolarWinds products other than Orion)

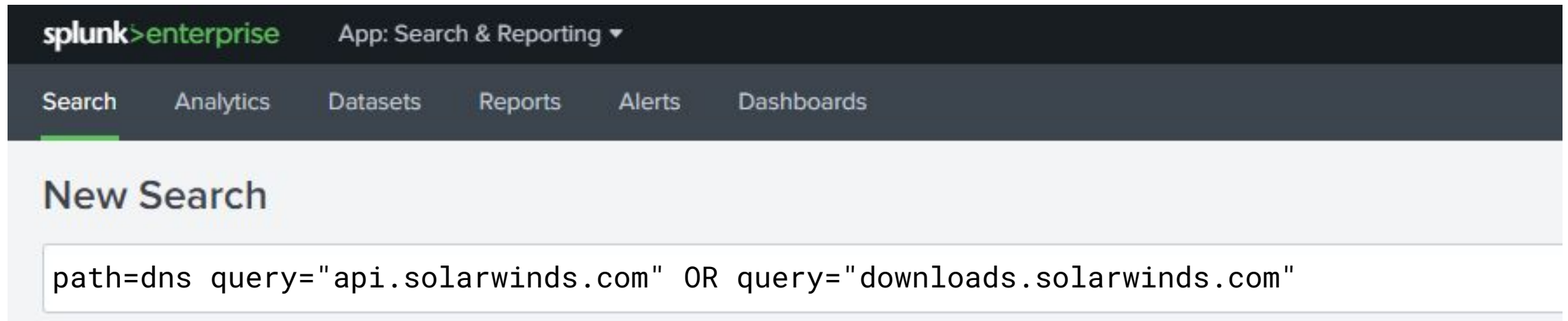


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(This will likely return results for other SolarWinds products other than Orion)

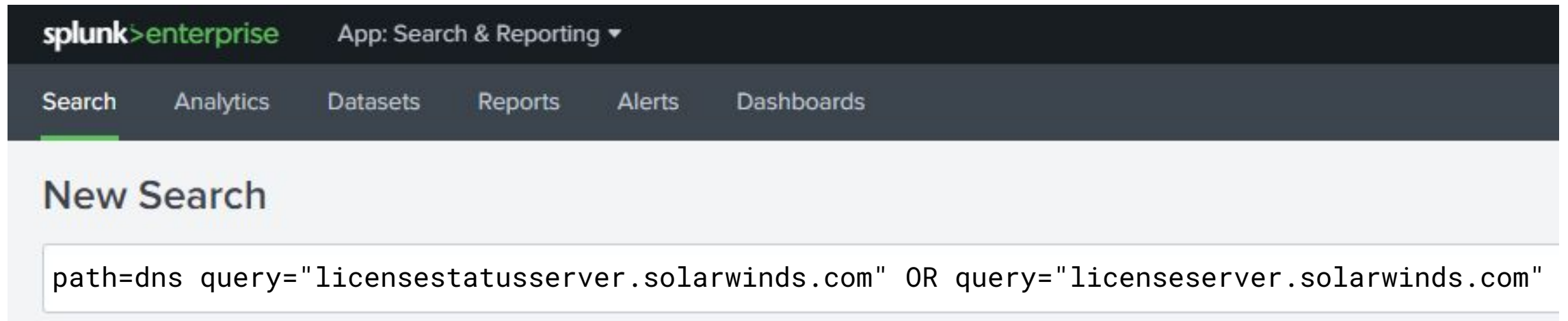


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"licensestatusserver.solarwinds.com" or "licenseserver.solarwinds.com" (intermittent)

(This will likely return results for other SolarWinds products other than Orion)



Resources

Watch these sources for updates!

- FireEye IOCs: https://github.com/fireeye/sunburst_countermeasures
- ET Rules: <https://rules.emergingthreats.net/open/suricata-5.0/>
- Sigma Rules: <https://socprime.com/blog/sunburst-backdoor-detection-solarwinds-supply-chain-attack-on-fireeye-and-us-agencies/>
- Corelight Blog: <https://corelight.blog/tag/solarigate/>

Q+A

(... and one more thing ...)

Searching Corelight data for Solarigate IOCs

<https://solarigate.training.corelight.io>

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Confidence	Source	Log	Fields	Splunk Query
2	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	uri, host	path="http" uri="/swip/Events" spath host where host!=".solarwinds.com"
3	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	uri, host	path="http" uri="/swip/upd/SolarWinds.CortexPlugin.Components.xml" spath host where host!=".solarwinds.com"
4	Medium	FireEye HXIOC	http	uri, host	path="http" uri="/swip/SystemDescription" spath host where host!=".solarwinds.com"
5	Medium	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=02af7cec58b9a5da1c542b5a32151ba1
6	Medium	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=08e35543d6110ed11fd5f58bb093d401
7	High	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=2c4a910a1299cdae2a4e55988a2f102e
8	High	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=846e27a652a5e1bfb0dd38a16dc865
9	High	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=b91ce2fa41029f6955bf20079468448
10	High	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=4f2eb62fa529c0283b28d05ddd311fae
11	High	FireEye Hashes	files	md5	path="files" md5=56ceb8d0011d87b6e4d7023d7ef85676
12	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	uri, host	path="http" uri="/swip/Upload.ashx" spath host where host!=".solarwinds.com"
13	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	uri, host	path="http" uri="/swip/upd/" spath host where host!=".solarwinds.com"
14	High	FireEye Snort Rules	dns	query	path="dns" query="avsvmcloud.com" OR query="*.avsvmcloud.com"
15	High	FireEye Snort Rules	dns	query	path="dns" query="digitalcollege.org" OR query="*.digitalcollege.org"
16	High	FireEye Snort Rules	dns	query	path="dns" query="freescanonline.com" OR query="*.freescanonline.com"
17	High	FireEye Snort Rules	dns	query	path="dns" query="defsecurity.com" OR query="*.defsecurity.com"
18	High	FireEye Snort Rules	dns	query	path="dns" query="thedoccloud.com" OR query="*.thedoccloud.com"
19	High	FireEye Snort Rules	dns	query	path="dns" query="virtualdataserver.com" OR query="*.virtualdataserver.com"
20	High		dns	query	path="dns" query="incomeupdate.com" OR query="*.incomeupdate.com"
21	High		dns	query	path="dns" query="zupertech.com" OR query="*.zupertech.com"
22	High		dns	query	path="dns" query="databasegalore.com" OR query="*.databasegalore.com"
23	High		dns	query	path="dns" query="panhardware.com" OR query="*.panhardware.com"
24	Medium	FireEye NBIs	dns	query	path="dns" query="highdatabase.com" OR query="*.highdatabase.com"
25	Medium	FireEye NBIs	dns	query	path="dns" query="websitetheme.com" OR query="*.websitetheme.com"
26	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	host	path="http" spath host where host="avsvmcloud.com" OR host="*.avsvmcloud.com"
27	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	host	path="http" spath host where host="digitalcollege.org" OR host="*.digitalcollege.org"
28	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	host	path="http" spath host where host="freescanonline.com" OR host="*.freescanonline.com"
29	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	host	path="http" spath host where host="defsecurity.com" OR host="*.defsecurity.com"
30	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	host	path="http" spath host where host="thedoccloud.com" OR host="*.thedoccloud.com"
31	High	FireEye Snort Rules	http	host	path="http" spath host where host="virtualdataserver.com" OR host="*.virtualdataserver.com"
32	High		http	host	path="http" spath host where host="incomeupdate.com" OR host="*.incomeupdate.com"

Caveats:

- These IOCs come from the community (FireEye, Volexity, John Bambenek, SANS)
- Splunk queries use JSON, are written to be overly broad, and may tax your cluster
- Zeek-Cut queries are more prone to error (both false positives and false negatives)

Q+A



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Watch our blog post for updates:

<https://corelight.blog/2020/12/15/finding-sunburst-backdoor-with-zeek-logs-and-corelight/>

We will post recording, slide deck and Corelight / Zeek IOCs URL shortly.