



Insider Guidance For Splunk Cloud Vetting Process

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Agenda

What is Cloud Vetting?

- Why Cloud Vetting?
- What Triggers Cloud Vetting?
- Self-Service Cloud and Managed Cloud

Getting Your Apps Vetted in Cloud

- Verify your App with AppInspect
- Package your App with the Splunk Packaging Toolkit

Common Failures and Best Practices

- Self-Service App Installation failures
- Cloud Vetting failures



What is Cloud Vetting

What is Cloud Vetting?

Cloud Vetting is required before an App can be installed on Splunk Cloud

COMPATIBILITY

Products: [Splunk Enterprise Security](#),
[Splunk Cloud](#), [Splunk Enterprise](#)

Learn more: <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/releaseapps/appinspect/cloudvettingguidelines/vetappsandaddons>



Splunk App for PCI Compliance - Splunk Enterprise Security

★★★★★ 4 ratings

Splunk Built



Overview

Details

[LOGIN TO DOWNLOAD](#)

The Splunk App for PCI Compliance (for Splunk Enterprise Security) is a Splunk developed and supported App designed to help organizations meet PCI DSS 3.2 requirements. It reviews and measures the effectiveness and status of PCI compliance technical controls in real time. It can also identify and prioritize any control areas that may need to be addressed and let you quickly address any auditor report or data request.

The App provides out-of-the-box searches, dashboards, reports, an incident response framework, and integration with employee and asset information to give you visibility into system, application, and device activity relevant to PCI compliance.

NOTE: There are two installer options for this App. If you are installing the App on Splunk Enterprise Security use the installer on this page. If you are installing the App stand-alone on Splunk Enterprise, use the installer <https://splunkbase.splunk.com/app/1143>

The Splunk App for PCI Compliance requires a paid license.

VERSION
3.7.1

COMPATIBILITY
Products: [Splunk Enterprise Security](#), [Splunk Cloud](#), [Splunk Enterprise](#)

[File a case](#)
[Flag as inappropriate](#)

COMPATIBILITY
Products: [Splunk Enterprise Security](#), [Splunk Cloud](#), [Splunk Enterprise](#)
Splunk Versions: 7.2, 7.1
Platform: Platform Independent
CIM Versions: 4.x

Why Cloud Vetting?

Why Cloud Vetting?

Security Issues

- Crypto Mining

Performance Overhead

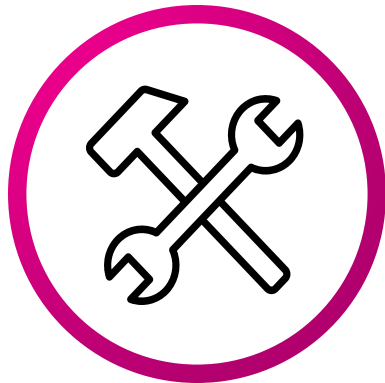
- `replicationWhitelist` in distsearch.conf



Why Cloud Vetting?

Our focuses

Build Time



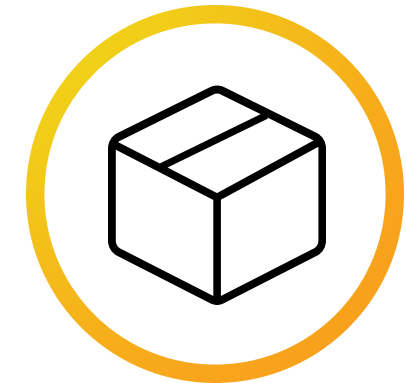
App development best practices

Run Time



- Security vulnerabilities
- Operational issues

Installation Time



- Installation location
- Self-Service App Installation (SSAI)
- Rolling restart
- Management inputs

What Triggers Cloud Vetting?

Customer

Browse more apps

App available?

No

Contact Splunk Support

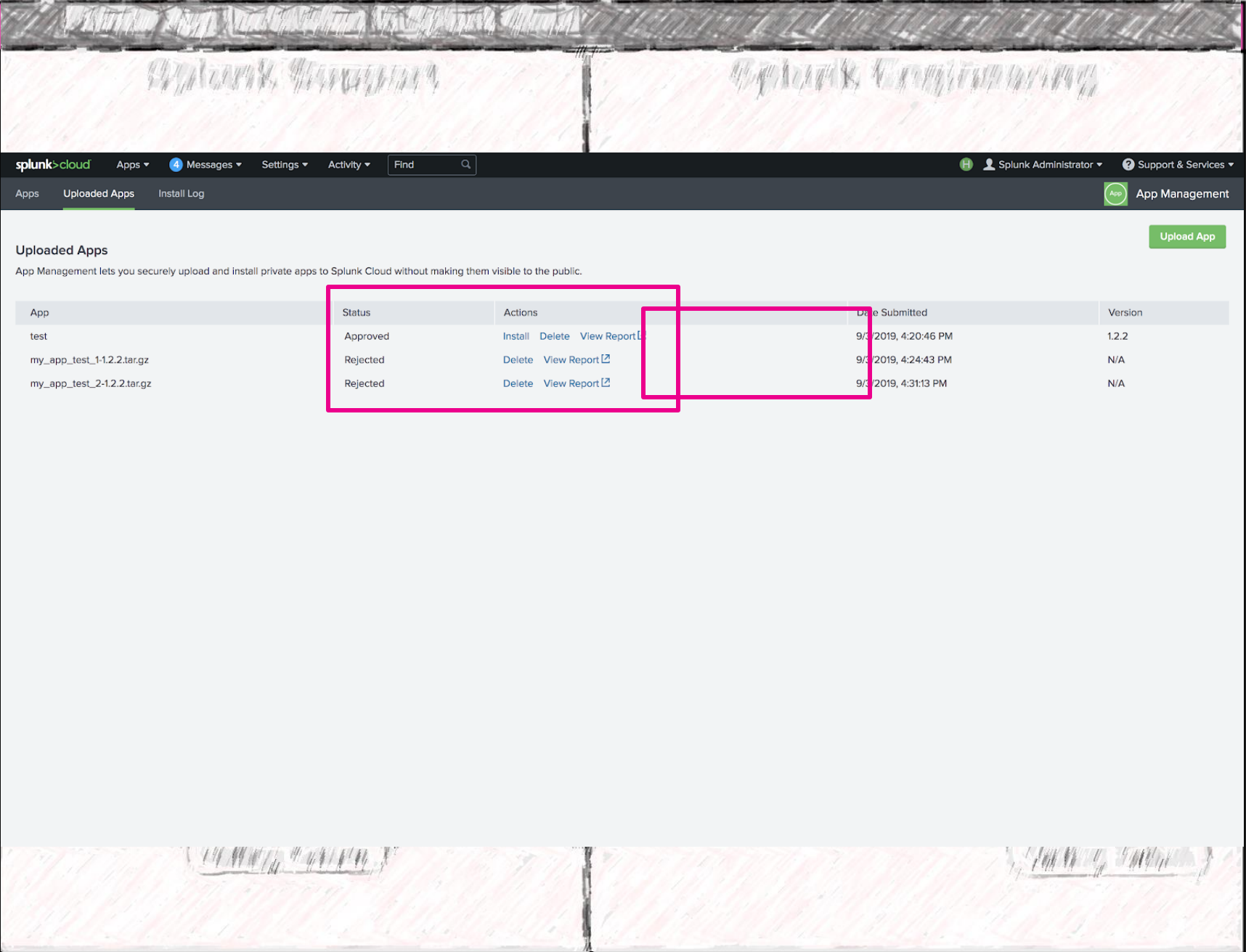
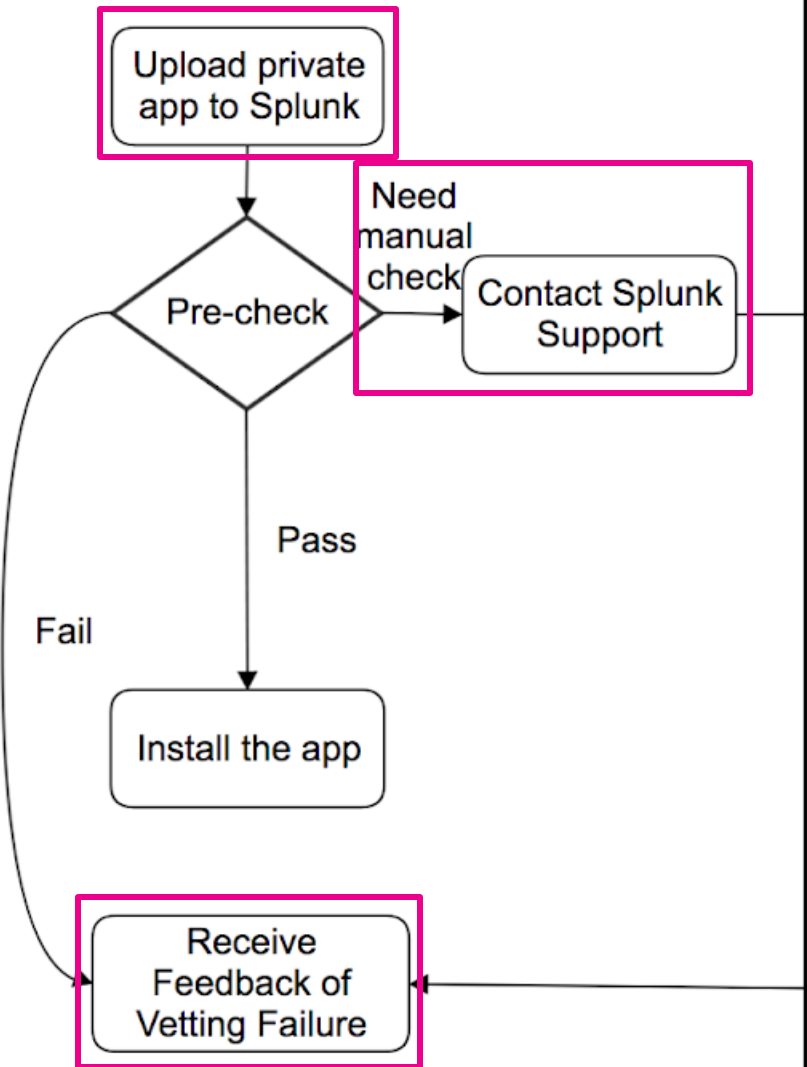
Yes

Install the app

Receive Feedback of Vetting Failure

The screenshot shows the Splunk Cloud App Management interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'splunk>cloud', 'Apps', 'Messages', 'Settings', 'Activity', and 'Find'. Below that, there are tabs for 'Apps', 'Uploaded Apps', and 'Install Log'. The main heading is 'Browse More Apps'. A search bar contains 'machine learning'. On the left, there are several filter sections: 'CATEGORY' (with options like DevOps, Security, IT Operations, etc.), 'CIM VERSION' (4.x checked, 3.x), 'SUPPORT TYPE' (Developer checked, Splunk, Not Supported), 'APP CONTENT' (Inputs, Alert Actions, Visualizations), and 'APP TYPE' (App, Add-on). The main area displays 6 apps. The first app is 'Technical Add-on for Malwarebytes' with an 'Install' button. The second is 'Malwarebytes Visibility and Dashboards' with a 'Request Install' button and a warning icon. The third is 'Malwarebytes Cloud Remediation' with a 'Not Yet Available' button and a warning icon. The fourth is 'Query.AI Splunk AI Analyst' with a 'Not Yet Available' button and a warning icon. The interface is overlaid with a hand-drawn sketch of a customer's face and some scribbles.

Customer



Self-Service Cloud vs. Managed Cloud

Self-Service Cloud vs. Managed Cloud

Self-Service Cloud

- No support for Private Apps
- Paid customers can open a support ticket to request Vetting for Public Apps

Managed Cloud

- Issues with Search Head Clustering (**SHC**):
 - SSAI is supported on SHC in version 7.2 or later
 - Some Public Apps are Cloud-compatible, but not SHC compatible. Splunkbase does not expose this information (yet), but App will not be available in the UI
- Issues with stacks that have multiple Search Heads:
 - SSAI will only be installed on one Search Head or SHC. All other Search Heads require a support case for every app install



Getting Your Apps Vetted in Cloud

Verify your app with AppInspect

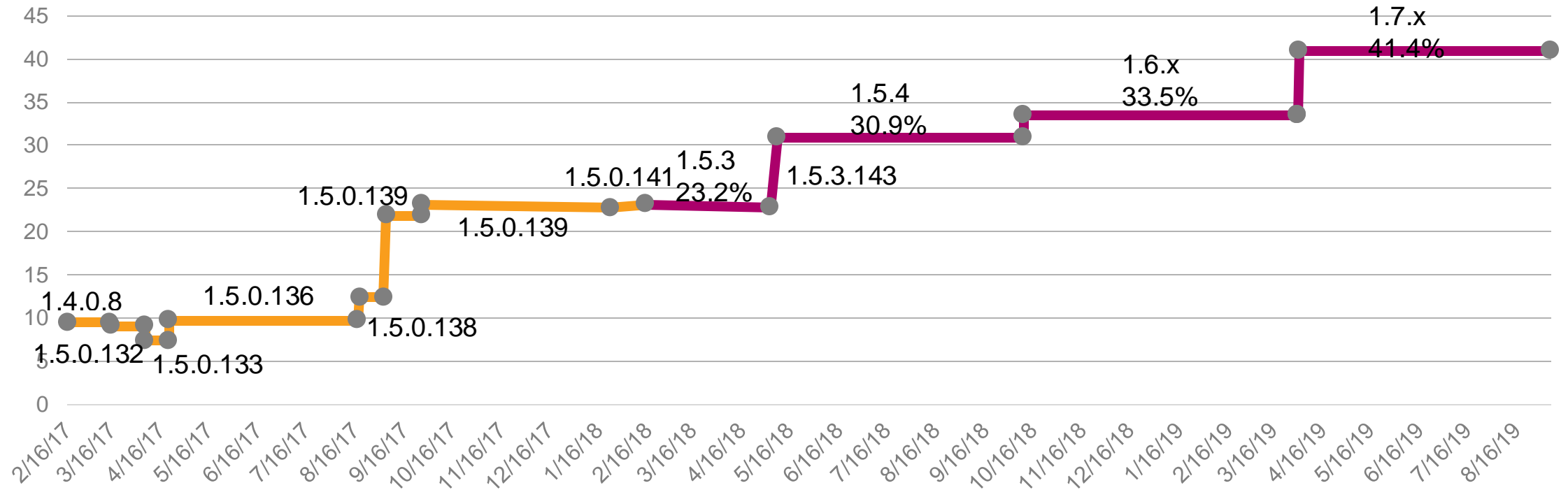
Splunk AppInspect evaluates your Splunk app against a set of Splunk-defined criteria so that you can be assured of the quality and robustness of your app.

Check out the docs:

- <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/releaseapps/appinspect/>
- CLI:
 - Runs Cloud validation with `cloud` tag
 - Has custom check ability
- Web API:
 - Also runs installation checks
 - Also runs antivirus
 - Also runs Packaging Toolkit validation with `self-service` tag

Automation Rate

% of apps that can be auto vetted in AppInspect API service



Verify your app with Applnspect

Results

Result	Description	Resolution
success	Checked functionality adheres to the Cloud Vetting policy.	N/A
warning	Checked functionality is identified as a non-blocking issue in Splunk Cloud	Suggest to fix the issue based on the Applnspect output
failure	Checked functionality violate the Cloud Policy	Fix the issue based on the Applnspect output
manual_check	Checked functionality must be manually reviewed	Review the check's message to determine what issues to look for in the app.
not_applicable	Checked functionality doesn't exist in the app	N/A
error	A failure has occurred within Applnspect	N/A; this code does not indicate a problem in the app package.

Package your app with Splunk Packaging Toolkit

The Packaging Toolkit (also known as “SLIM”) is a tool for authoring, packaging, and validating a Splunk App in a way that eases App management, including installation, configuration, and updating.

SLIM helps:

- Check app packaging issues
- Package the source of the app

SLIM v1.0.0 supports Splunk Cloud 7.2 and later

Learn more: <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/releaseapps/packagingtoolkit/>

Package your app with Splunk Packaging Toolkit

Package command

- Package the source of a Splunk app to a valid format.
- Ignore prohibited file, such as .DS_STORE, by specifying own .slimignore file

```
$ slim package splunk_app_for_nix
slim package: Packaging app at "splunk_app_for_nix"
slim package: [WARNING] Could not find alert_overlay.conf.spec
slim package: [WARNING] Could not find unix_setup.conf.spec
slim package: [WARNING] Skipping validation for dynamic dependency "Splunk_TA_nix"
slim package: [NOTE] Source package exported to "splunk_app_for_nix-5.2.3.tar.gz"
```

Package your app with Splunk Packaging Toolkit

Validate command

- Validates the app and app manifest (if it exists). This includes validating any statically declared dependencies. If a manifest does not exist, one will be generated.
- This command also checks the configuration related issues, such as malformed configuration files

```
$ slim validate splunk_app_for_nix-5.2.3.tar.gz
slim validate: Validating app at "splunk_app_for_nix-5.2.3.tar.gz"...
slim validate: [WARNING] Could not find alert_overlay.conf.spec
slim validate: [WARNING] Could not find unix_setup.conf.spec
slim validate: [WARNING] Skipping validation for dynamic dependency "Splunk_TA_nix"
slim validate: [NOTE] App validation complete
```



Common Failures and Best Practices

Inconsistent/ Invalid Configurations



Cloud
Incompatible

- Make sure the configurations are valid and consistent in the app

Inconsistent Configurations

Cause of Failure

The configurations in the conf file are inconsistent with the app.manifest

```
1 #
2 # app.conf example
3 #
4
5 [package]
6 id = my_app
7
8 [install]
9 build = 1
10
11 [ui]
12 is_visible = 1
13 label = My App for Splunk
14
15 [launcher]
16 author = Yinqing Hao
17 description = my_app
18 version = 1.0.1

1 {
2     "schemaVersion": "1.0.0",
3     "info": {
4         "title": "My App for Splunk",
5         "id": {
6             "group": null,
7             "name": "my_app",
8             "version": "1.0.0"
9         },
10        "author": [{
11            "name": "Yinqing Hao",
12            "email": "null",
13            "company": "null"
14        }],
15        "releaseDate": null,
16        "description": "my app",
```

Invalid Configurations

Cause of Failure

Not using Semantic Versioning
(Major.Minor.Revision)

```
1 #
2 # Splunk app configuration file
3 #
4
5 [package]
6 id = my_app
7
8 [install]
9 build = 1
10
11 [ui]
12 is_visible = 1
13 label = My App for Splunk
14
15 [launcher]
16 author = Yinqing
17 description = Yinqing's App
18 version = 1.0.1.1
19
```

Inconsistent/Invalid Configuration

Preventive Action

- Run ``slim validate`` to check the app configurations
- Fix all slim errors if exist

Non-Unicode Encoding



Cloud
Incompatible

- Only Unicode encoding is allowed in Splunk app

Non-Unicode Encoding

Cause of Failure

The app contains files with unexpected encoding

```
1  #
2  # Splunk app configuration file
3  #
4
5  [package]
6  id = my_app
7
8  [install]
9  build = 1
10
11 [ui]
12 is_visible = 1
13 label = My App for Splunk
14
15 [launcher]
16 author = Yinqing
17 description = Yíñqíng's App
18 version = 1.0.0
19
```

Common Failures

Non-Unicode Encoding

Preventive Action

- Enable the encoding of unicode string in all app files

Confliction of Splunkbase and Custom App Id



Cloud
Incompatible

- Custom app ID should be different with the Splunkbase app ID

Confliction of Splunkbase and Custom App Id

Preventive Actions

- The custom app id remain the same as the Splunkbase app
- It may cause issues when the custom app gets deployed on Splunk Cloud

```
1 [launcher]
2 description = Splunk Machine Learning Toolkit (Custom version)
3 author = Splunk
4 version = 4.4.1
5
6 [package]
7 id = Splunk_ML_Toolkit
8
9 [install]
10 build = 1566518380334
11
12 [ui]
13 is_visible = 1
14 label = Splunk Machine Learning Toolkit (Custom version)
15
```

Conflict of Splunkbase and Custom App Id

Preventive Actions

- Always modify the app id in the custom app
- App id format should be "customerName_the_original_app_ID"
- Test the app functionality after modification in case the app id is hard-coded in the script

```
1 [launcher]
2 description = Splunk Machine Learning Toolkit (Custom version)
3 author = Splunk
4 version = 4.4.1
5
6 [package]
7 id = Splunk_ML_Toolkit_Custom
8
9 [install]
10 build = 1566518380334
11
12 [ui]
13 is_visible = 1
14 label = Splunk Machine Learning Toolkit (Custom version)
15
```

Insecure Network Communication



Cloud
Incompatible

- All network communications must be encrypted on Splunk Cloud

Insecure Network Communication

Cause of Failure

The http scheme is configured or hard-coded from the alert actions, data inputs or setup page, which is NOT validated

```
# encoding = utf-8
import sys
import json
import requests

def get_items(helper, access_token, url):
    header = {'Authorization': 'Bearer ' + access_token}

    try:
        r = requests.get(url, headers=header)
        r.raise_for_status()
        response_json = json.loads(r.content)

    except Exception, e:
        raise e

    return response_json
```

Insecure Network Communication

Preventative Actions

Always validate the user input and only accept https communications

```
1 # encoding = utf-8
2 import sys
3 import json
4 import requests
5
6 def get_items(helper, access_token, url):
7     header = {'Authorization': 'Bearer ' + access_token}
8
9     if not url.startswith('https://'):
10         helper.log_error('Possible insecure network communication')
11         return None
12
13     try:
14         r = requests.get(url, headers=header)
15         r.raise_for_status()
16         response_json = json.loads(r.content)
17
18     except Exception, e:
19         raise e
20
21     return response_json
```


Secret Disclosure



Cloud
Incompatible

- All secrets must be encrypted all time and not even temporarily exposed

Secret Disclosure

Plain Text Secrets Storage in the Files

Cause of failure:

- API key, password, private key, token, splunk session key
- Save secrets to log files/conf files in plain text

```
1 import requests
2
3 from logger import setup_logging as create_logger
4
5 logger = create_logger('example_log', 'example.log')
6
7 def send_request(username, password, url):
8     headers = {
9         'content-type': 'application/json'
10    }
11    payload = {
12        "username": username,
13        "password": password
14    }
15
16    logger.info('payload>>>>>>'+str(payload))
17
18    response = requests.post(url, headers=headers,
19        data=json.dumps(payload))
20
21    return response
```

Secret Disclosure

Plain Text Secrets Storage in the Files

Preventative actions:

- Avoid to save secrets to log files
- Use `storage/passwords` endpoint to save your credentials
- <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/python/sdk-python/howtousesplunkpython/howtoworkwithusersroles/>

```
1 import requests
2
3 from logger import setup_logging as create_logger
4
5 logger = create_logger('example_log', 'example.log')
6
7 def send_request(username, password, url):
8     headers = {
9         'content-type': 'application/json'
10    }
11    payload = {
12        "username": username,
13        "password": password
14    }
15
16    logger.info('Try to login. Username: {}'.format(username))
17
18    response = requests.post(url, headers=headers,
19                             data=json.dumps(payload))
20
21    return response
```

Out of Boundary



Cloud
Incompatible

- Splunk app is only allowed to manipulate the files within the app container

Out of Boundary

Cause of Failure

The app manipulates files outside of the app's boundary

```
1 import os
2
3 SPLUNK_HOME = os.environ['SPLUNK_HOME']
4
5 def update_lookups(data):
6     path = os.path.join(
7         SPLUNK_HOME, 'etc', 'system', 'lookups'
8     )
9
10    with open(path, 'w+') as f:
11        f.write(data)
12
13
14    return True
15
```

Out of Boundary

Cause of Failure

Make sure all file manipulations are limited inside the app's boundary, which includes the following paths:

`$SPLUNK_HOME/etc/apps/<APP_NAME>`

`$SPLUNK_HOME/var/log/<APP_NAME>`

```
1 import os
2
3 SPLUNK_HOME = os.environ['SPLUNK_HOME']
4
5
6 def update_lookups(data):
7     path = os.path.join(
8         SPLUNK_HOME, 'etc', 'apps', APP_NAME, 'lookups'
9     )
10
11     with open(path, 'w+') as f:
12
13         f.write(data)
14
15     return True
16
```


Shell Injection Vulnerabilities



Cloud
Incompatible

- Shell injection is a serious security flaw that should be avoided

Shell Injection Vulnerabilities

Cause of Failure

The use of `shell=True` in `subprocess` module.

```
1 import os
2 import subprocess
3
4 SPLUNK_HOME = os.environ['SPLUNK_HOME']
5
6 def run_main():
7     # get config from user input
8     config = get_config()
9
10    process_string = '%s/bin/splunk cmd node %s/test.js' % (SPLUNK_HOME,
11                                                         config['path'])
12
13    subprocess.Popen(process_string, shell=True)
14
15
```

Shell Injection Vulnerabilities

Preventative actions

Set `shell=False` to disables all shell based features and prevent the shell injections

```
2 import subprocess
3
4 SPLUNK_HOME = os.environ['SPLUNK_HOME']
5
6 def run_main():
7     # get config from user input
8     config = get_config()
9
10    splunk = '{}bin/splunk'.format(SPLUNK_HOME)
11    path = '{}test.js'.format(config['path'])
12
13    args = [splunk, 'cmd', 'node', path]
14    subprocess.Popen(args, shell=False)
15
16
17
```

Key Takeaways

1. Cloud Vetting makes your data safer
2. Use AppInspect and Packaging Toolkit to make your app more compliant with Splunk standards
3. Avoid the common failures and make your app better

Additional Links

Splunk Packaging Toolkit Documentation

- <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/releaseapps/packagingtoolkit/>

Splunk AppInspect Documentation

- <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/releaseapps/appinspect/>

Splunk Cloud app requirements and best practices

- <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/releaseapps/appinspect/cloudvettingguidelines/vetappsandaddons#Common-failures-and-preventive-actions>

Storage/Passwords Tutorial

- <https://dev.splunk.com/enterprise/docs/python/sdk-python/howtousesplunkpython/howtoworkwithusersroles/>

Types of Splunk Cloud

- <https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/SplunkCloud/latest/User/TypesofSplunkClouddeployment>

Contact

Contact Splunk Application Health Team

- appinspect@splunk.com

Contact Splunk Cloud SRE Team

- cloud-apps-SRE@splunk.com

Slack channel

- <https://splunk-usergroups.slack.com/messages/CF5QNJAJX>



splunk>

Thank

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Q&A

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