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DEV1665 – Publishing Entire Splunk Dashboards Online Using the Latest Dashboard Features

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Agenda

- Background
- Architecture
- Use Case

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Background

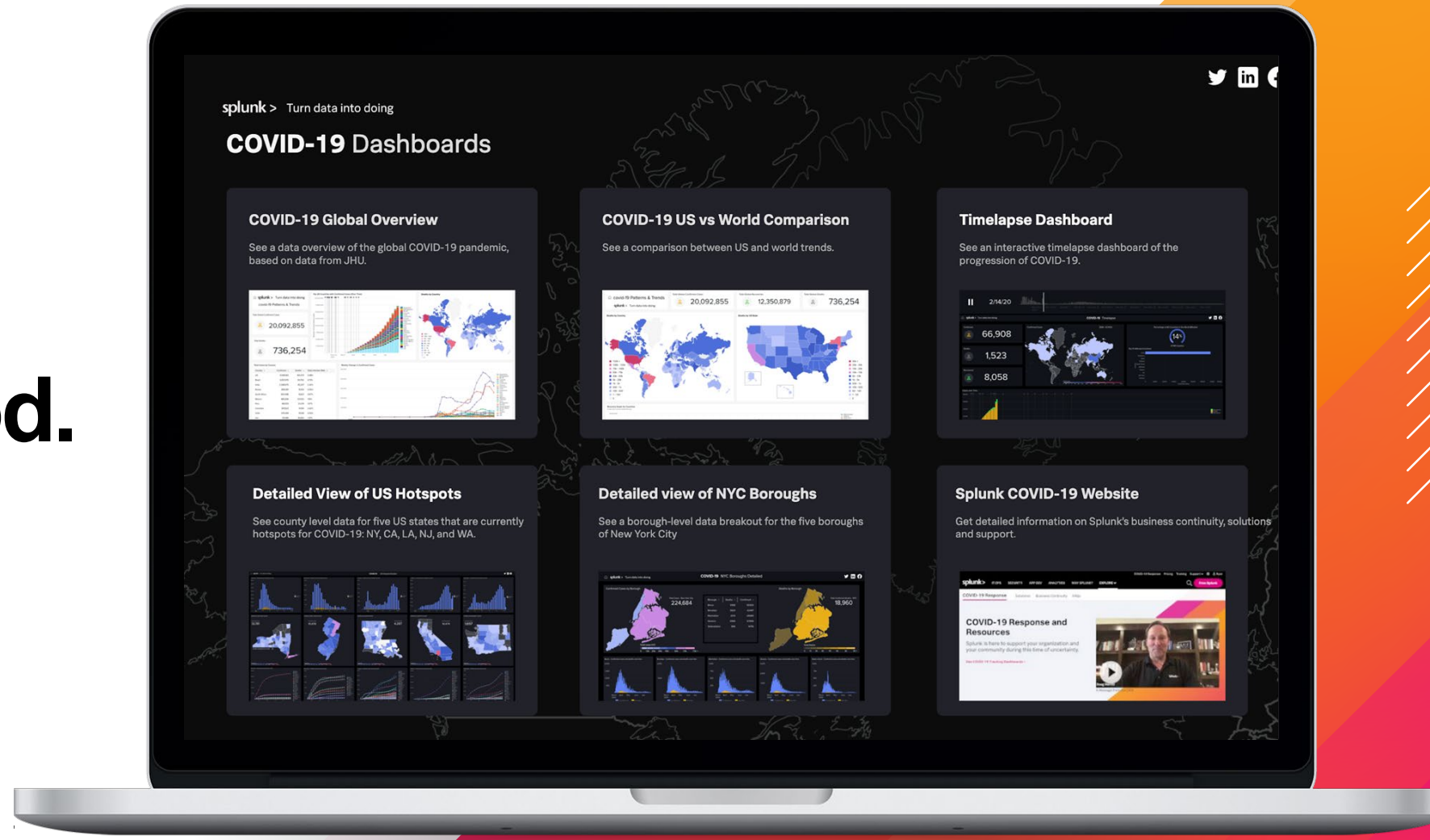
In January, Splunk for Good created a COVID-19 App for our Global Security Team

Looking for a way to disseminate information around COVID-19 to a larger audience

Connected up with William Searle in the UK on COVID-19 Efforts

Throughout the first half of 2020 we created 11 different COVID-19 Public Dashboards

covid19.splunkforgood.com



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Solution Design Decisions

What we are not solving:

- Displaying dashboards created in the Splunk Enterprise Dashboards Beta on a public domain
- Deploying dashboards in an internet-scalable fashion
- Reasonable performance and load-times for most users
- Delivering near real-time insights
- Ability to review dashboards before they were made public
- Ability for people to expand upon the tool

What we are solving:

- Form inputs on Public Dashboards
- Returning results in absolute real-time
- Displaying Simple XML Dashboards
- Custom Visualizations
- An official Splunk supported product

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Architecture

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Architecture

React / Next.js App

Dashboard Framework

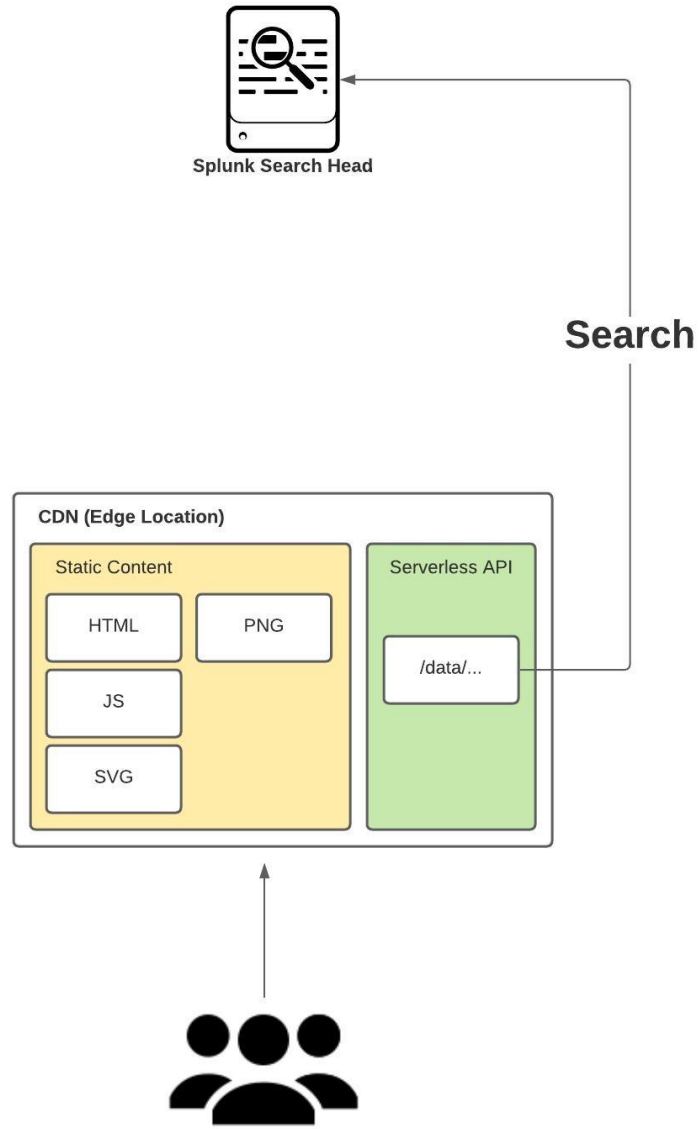
- NPM Packages

@splunk/dashboard-core
@splunk/react-visualizations
…

Serverless API endpoints

- Access to search results
  - Public
  - Unauthenticated
  - Cached

Deployed to CDN



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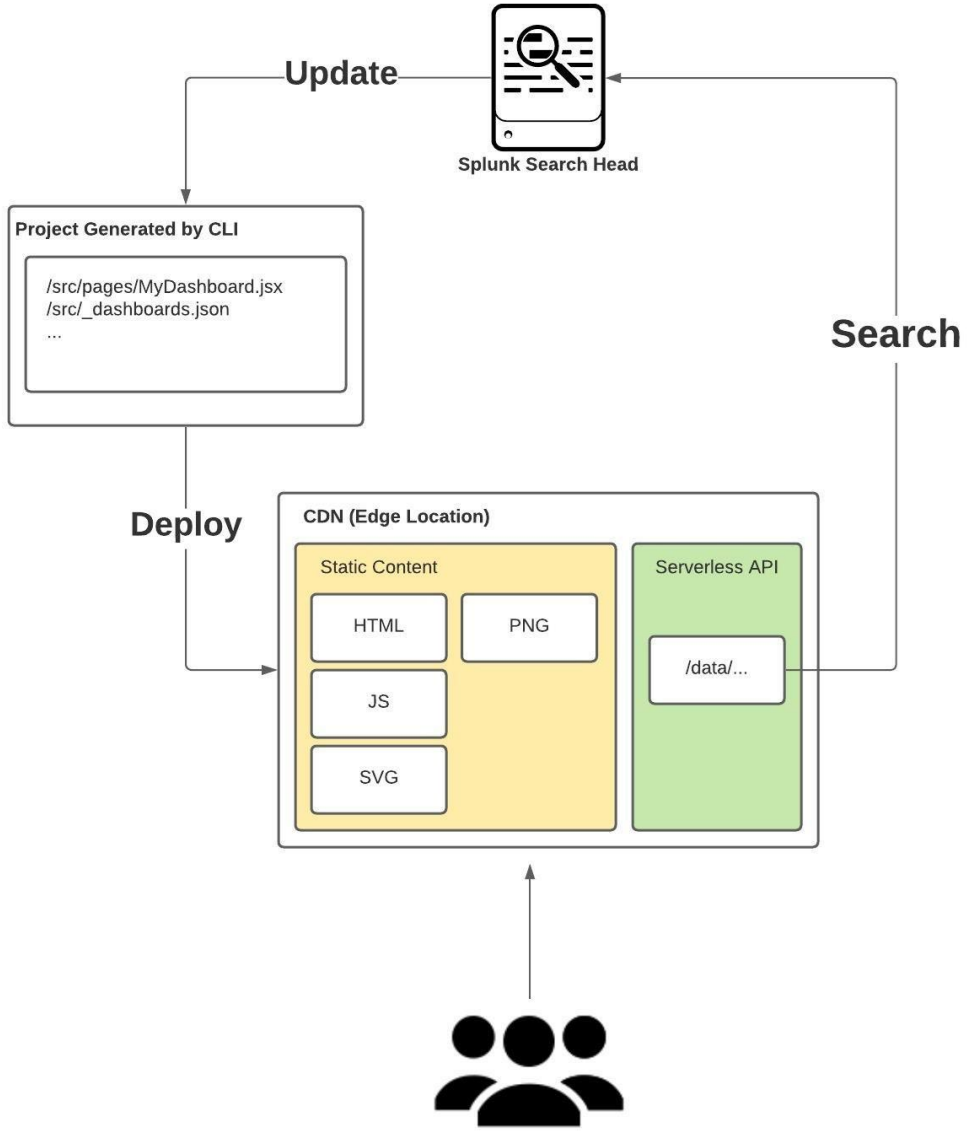
Publisher CLI

Generates:

- Boilerplate code
- Dashboard code
- Optimized assets
- Data snapshots (optional)

Subcommands:

- $ dashpub init
- $ dashpub update
- $ dashpub snapshot



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Customization

Generated app meant to be customized

- Custom Navigation
- Custom UI
- Drilldown Behavior
- Datasources
- …

Example: Time-lapse

- Time slider component
- Customized data source

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Limitations

No Simple XML

No search-driven interactivity with form inputs (like dropdowns)

Experimental – not supported

No guaranteed version upgrades

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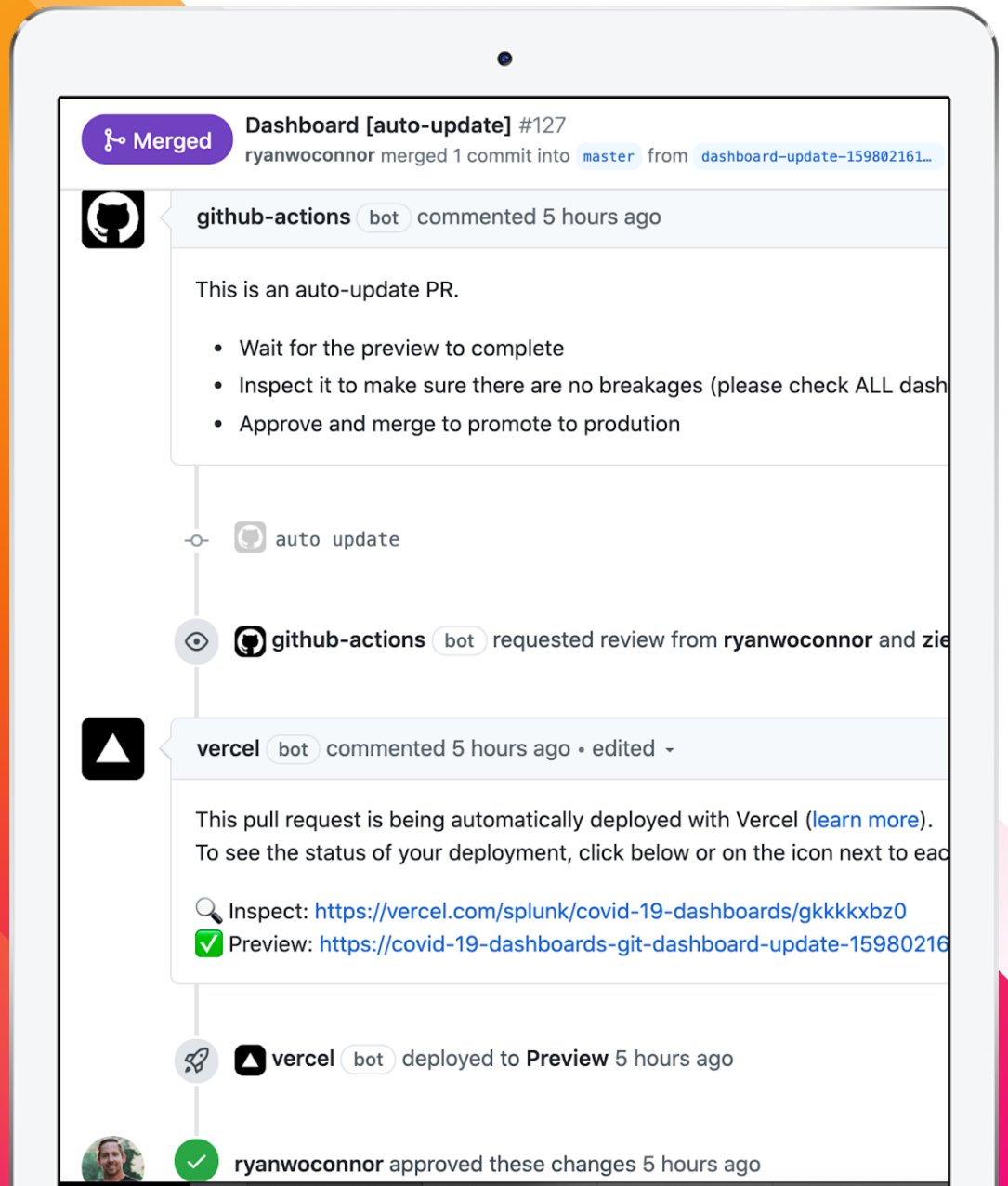

Collaboration

Github Actions for Automated Updates

Create Pull Request

Vercel Preview Deployment

Ability to share links of preview
Automated and manual checks

Merging Pull Requests

Promoting to Production

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Use Case

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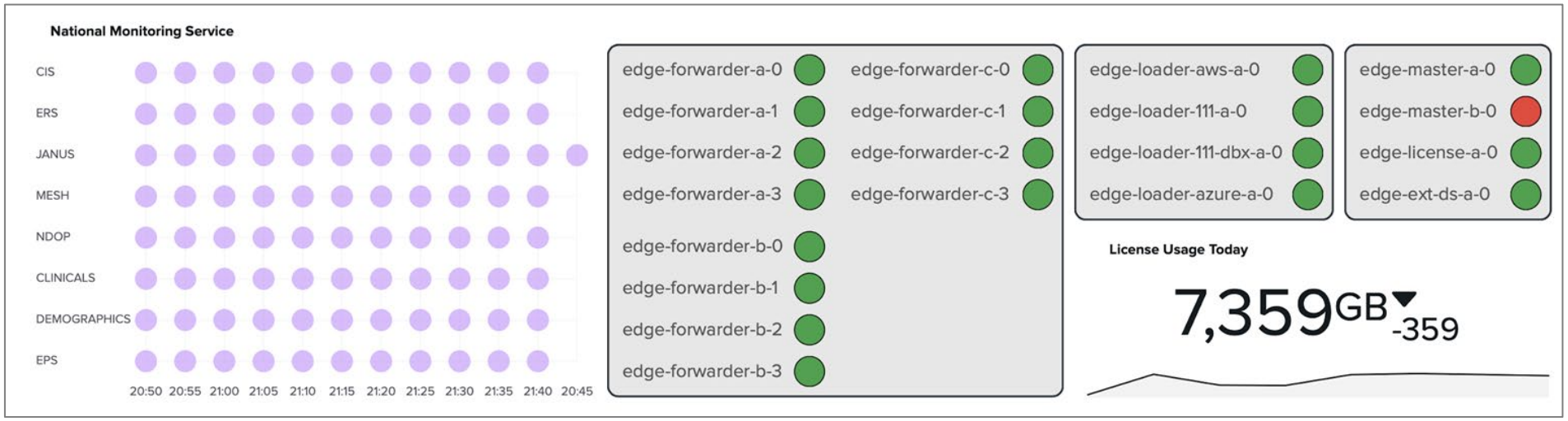
We have always asked “Can we embed the entire dashboard?”

Adding Splunk visualizations into existing systems or wallboards

Take advantage of new dashboard features



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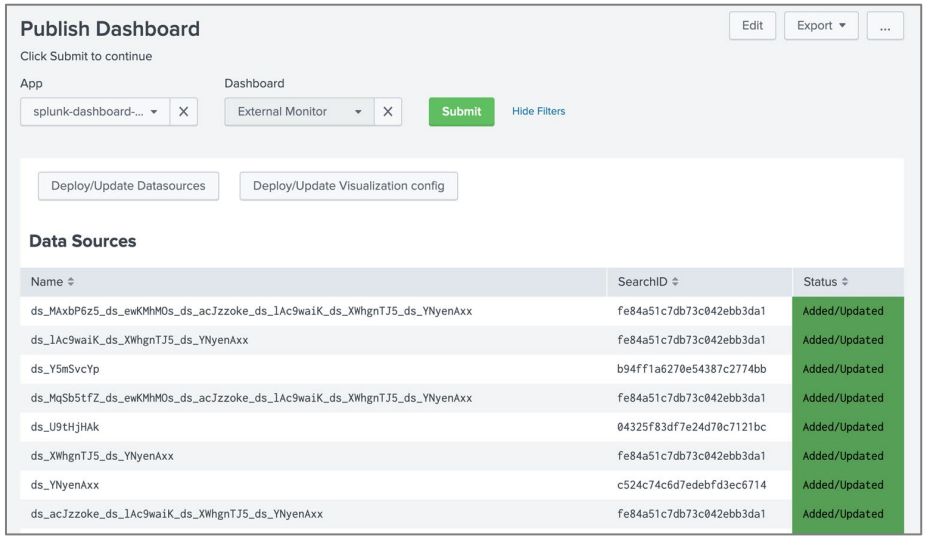
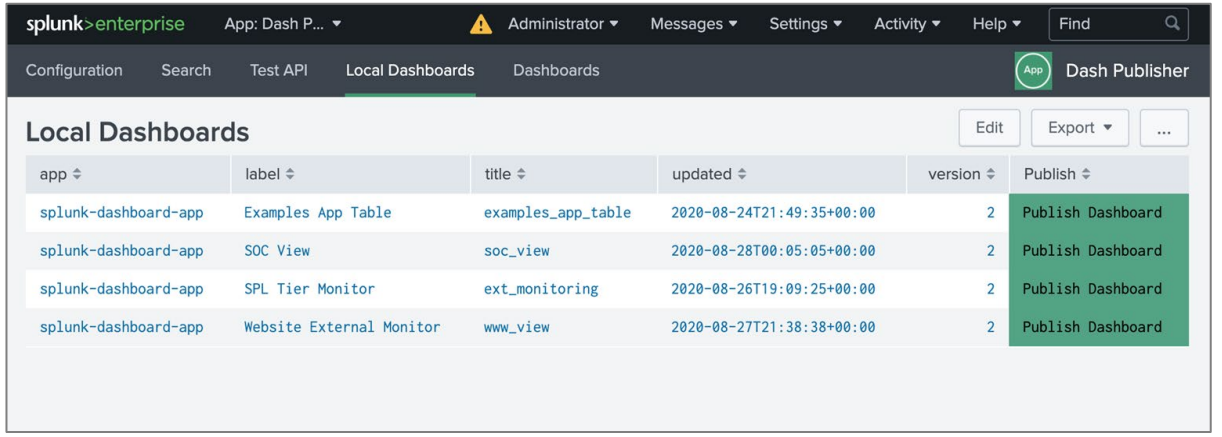
Publish Dashboards from Splunk!

Splunk Publisher app:

- What it is
- Why we built it
- How it works





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Why AWS?

- Cloud-first approach
- Utilising serverless components
- Reduced management overhead
- Regional data storage / security requirements

What goes on behind the scenes?

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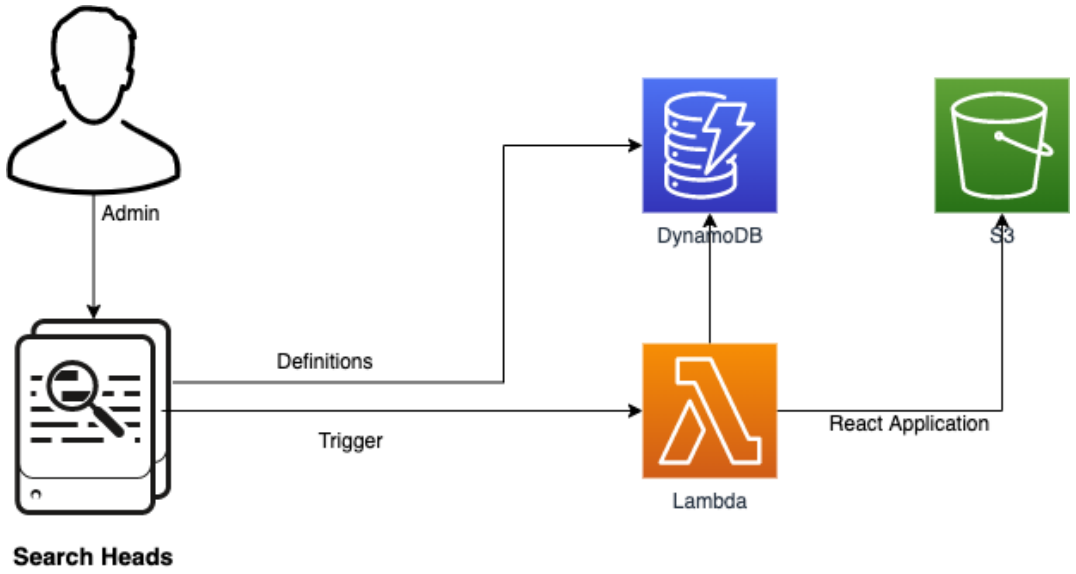
Admins

Users / Viewers



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Resources

Technical Resources:

Dashboard Publisher – https://splk.it/dashpub

Will's Dashboard Publisher – https://github.com/livehybrid/splunk_dashboard_publishing

Vercel – https://vercel.com/

Convert Simple XML Dashboard – Docs Link Here

Related Talks:

PLA1320A – What's New in Splunk Dashboards?

DEV1345 – Build Next-gen Splunk App: Custom UI & Visualization with React

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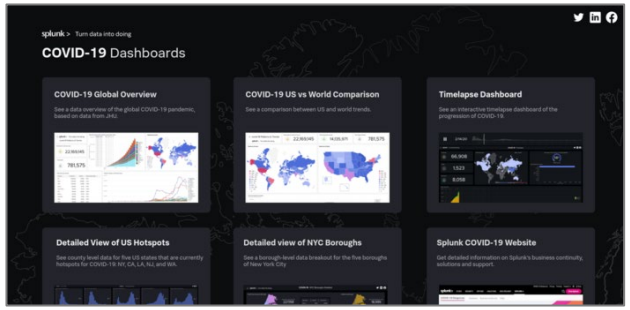
Examples in the Wild



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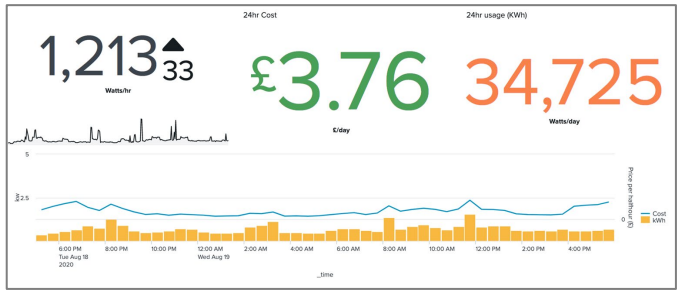

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