Welcome

Splunk Tech Talks | Security Edition

Thanks for your patience! We will begin momentarily.

- All lines are muted as this session is being recorded and will be shared with all attendees.
- Please submit your questions to the Q&A option. We will address them during the session, at the end and afterward.
- Video replay will be available on Splunk Community Tech Talks.

Thank you for attending!

Splunk Enterprise Security 8

The Essential Upgrade for Threat Detection, Investigation, and Response

Thursday, November 6, 2025



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Speakers





Drew Church

Global Security Product Specialist

Brandon Tansey

Global Security Product Specialist



Topics

- Notable Changes (between ES 7 and ES 8*)
 - Terminology
- ES 8 Key Benefits and Features
- Enterprise Security Editions
- <u>Important Considerations</u>
 - Deprecated features & limitations
 - Known issues
 - Architectural nuances
 - REST API Support

Notable Changes

Terminology

Updated ES Taxonomy & Terminology

Changes from <=7.3 to 8

* = Conceptual difference

| <=ES 7.3 | ES 8 | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| Correlation search, correlation rule, risk rule | Event-based detection | | |
| Risk incident rule* | Finding-based detection | | |
| Notable (notable event, risk rotable) | Finding | | |
| Comment* | Note | | |
| MC incident, ES investigation* | Investigation | | |
| Risk event | Intermediate finding | | |
| Splunk events | Events | | |
| Alerts | Third-party Alerts | | |

For more information on the changed terms, see Glossary and Splunk Enterprise Security terminology.

Updated ES Taxonomy & Terminology

Changes from <=7.3 to 8

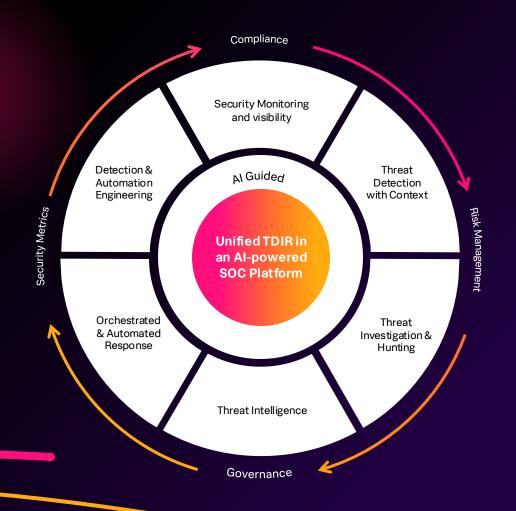
| <=ES 7.3 | ES 8 | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Incident Review | (Mission Control) Analyst Queue | | |
| MC incident details page | Investigation details page | | |
| Risk object Entity (any identity, asset, user or device) | | | |
| Response plan, Response template | Response plan | | |
| Indicator, Threat artifact | Indicator | | |
| Threat-matching searches | Threat-match detections | | |
| Threat match, threat activity | Threat findings | | |
| Artifact, evidence | Artifact | | |

For more information on the changed terms, see Glossary and Splunk Enterprise Security terminology.

The SOC Reimagined

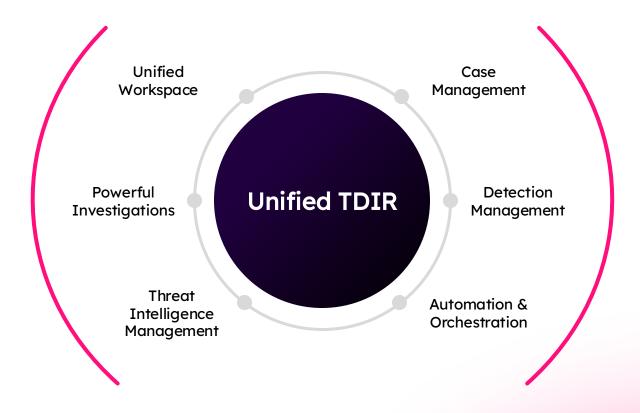
A human + Al partnership to harness massive volumes of data and:

- Focus on the threats that matter most.
- Accelerate detection and response.
- Enable digital resilience for the business.



Unified Analyst Experience to Accelerate TDIR

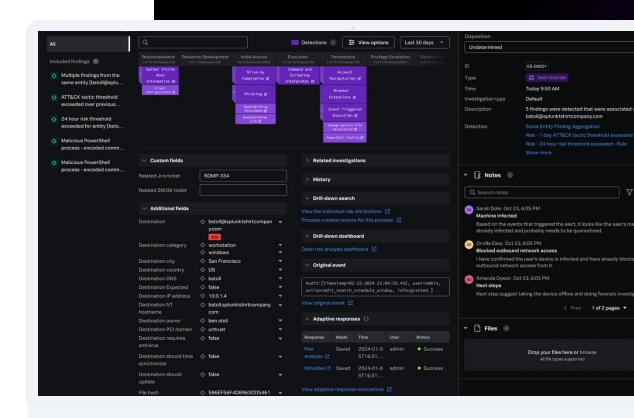
Coordination and collaboration across the TDIR lifecycle



Splunk Enterprise Security

The AI Powered SecOps Platform

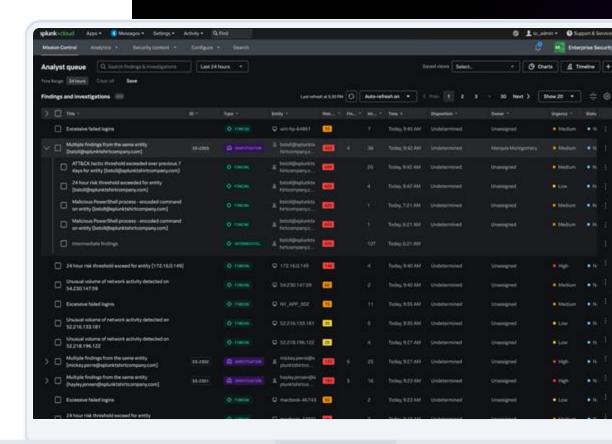
- Unlock full-fidelity visibility and control of your security data wherever it lives.
- Deliver the best analyst experience and tooling with unified TDIR.
- Accelerate the SOC with built-in Al and Agentics across every layer.



Unlock Full Fidelity Visibility

Make sense of all data and enable fast action

- Ingest, federate, and normalize data from any source, cloud, or OT for unified visibility.
- Optimize data routing, filtering, and storage to control costs and maintain full access for compliance and analysis.
- Enrich every alert with integrated Cisco Talos and Splunk threat intelligence for faster, more precise triage.
- Stay ahead with world-class detections—rulebased, Al-driven, and custom—continuously updated and mapped to MITRE ATT&CK.
- Deploy, test, and monitor detections faster with Detection Studio*, enabling seamless coverage and quick gap closure.
- Proactively address risk with RBA, correlating weak signals, reducing false positives, and accelerating triage.





Deliver the Best Analyst Experience

Unify threat detection, investigation and response (TDIR) workflows

New

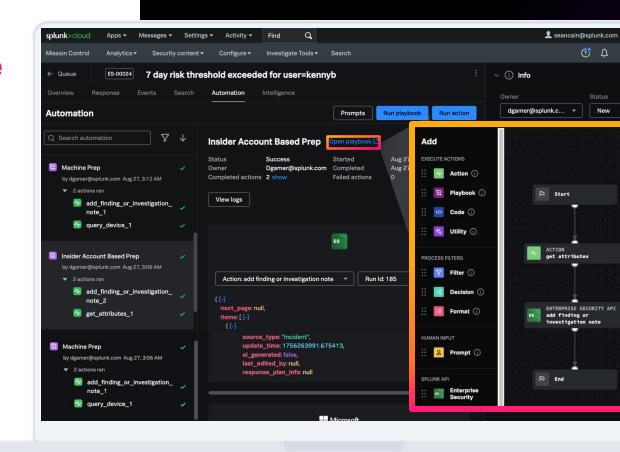
 Get integrated, end-to-end TDIR workflows with native SIEM, SOAR, UEBA, and threat intelligence for faster value and a unified analyst experience.

New

Empower every analyst with embedded SOAR* and case management to standardize playbooks, cut errors, and automate triage and response.

New

 Detect and mitigate insider threats with UEBA*, which baselines activity and elevates risky behaviors for rapid, confident action.



Accelerate the SOC

Use built-in AI and Agentics across every layer

Triage and Investigation

CA • Us

 Use AI Assistants* to generate SPL queries, summarize findings, and provide investigation and remediation guidance from natural language.



 Let Triage Agents** evaluate, prioritize, and explain alerts, reducing workload and highlighting critical issues.

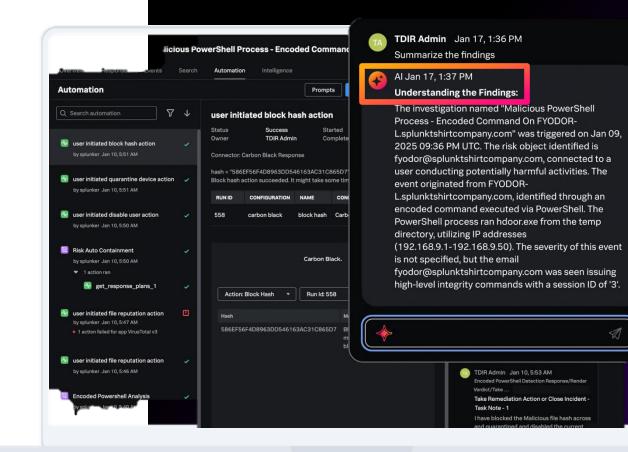
Automation and Response

Alpha

Accelerate automation with Al Playbook
 Authoring** that turns plain language into
 tested SOAR playbooks—no deep VPE
 expertise needed.

Alpha

 Rely on Autonomous Response Agents** to execute response actions in security tools based on set instructions.



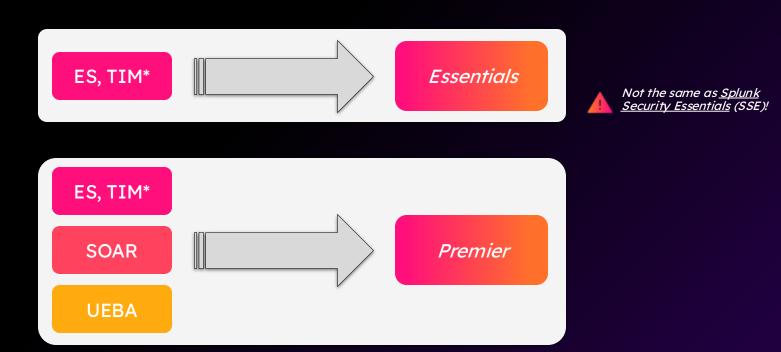
Enterprise Security Editions

One SecOps Platform, Available in Two Editions

| Use Case | | Essentials Edition | | Premier Edition |
|------------|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| × | Security Monitoring | Get a unified view across all environments for clearer threat visibility and faster, data-driven response | | |
| • | Threat Detection | Tackle unknown and known threats with a range of detections (correlations, rule-based, AI/ML, and custom) | | Elevate Threat Detection with AI to easily understand and fine tune detection rules* |
| (| Threat Investigation | Leverage the unified Mission Control interface to rapidly analyze, identify and investigate threats for an effective response | | Accelerate investigation through automated playbooks and amplify human expertise with the Triage Agent* to automatically enriches alerts with more context. |
| <u>(4)</u> | Threat Hunting | Use findings and searches to identify malicious activity and mitigate attacks before they escalate | | Enhance threat hunting by leveraging UEBA's ML-driven behavioral insights and accelerate evidence gathering and response with 1-click automated runbooks |
| | Automation | Use one time Adaptive Response actions for basic orchestration or integrate with a SOAR product for full spectrum automation | | Accelerate response time, minimize human error, and ensure consistent enforcement of security policies. Available OOTB for every person in the SOC |
| \$ | Insider Threat Detection | Requires manual implementation or integration with a separate product | | Mitigate insider threat in real time using: OOTB, proven, and scalable ML models, fully integrated in investigation workflows |

Individual Products → Platform with Editions

A single, integrated platform with capabilities and features supporting TDIR



*Cloud only at this time

Threat Detection

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At the core of a TDIR platform are detections

Detections

Pre-built | Rule-based | Dynamic | Custom

Automatic threat intelligence enrichment

Integration with cybersecurity frameworks
(NIST, MITRE ATT&CK)

Detection authoring and management

(Detection as code)

A Mix of Detection Capabilities

Pre-built detections

- 1,700+ Curated Detections by Splunk Threat Research
- 225+ Analytic Stories
- 75+ Automation Playbooks

Rule-based detections

- Event-based Detections
- Findings-based Detections
- Adaptive Response Actions
- Automation Rules and SOAR Playbooks

Dynamic detections

- ML-based Detections
- <u>User (and Entity) Behavior</u> <u>Analytics</u>
- Risk-Based Alerting

Custom detections

- Fully customizable built-in detections
- Full flexibility to create custom detections
- Machine Learning Toolkit

Automatic threat intelligence enrichment

(Threat Intelligence Management, Talos Threat Intelligence, 3rd Party)

Integration with cybersecurity frameworks

(Threat Topology Visualization, MITRE ATT&CK, NIST CSF 2.0, Cyber Kill Chain®)

Detection authoring and management

(Automatic Detection Versioning, Open Source Tools)

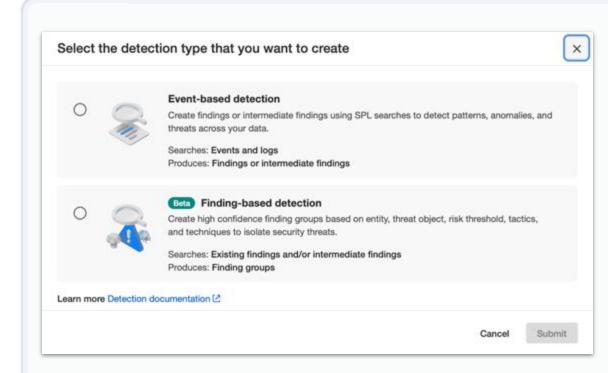
Detection Authoring and Management

- Detection Management: Detection engineers harness the redesigned detection editors to easily track and monitor changes
- Noise Reduction: Detection engineers now capture entity and risk context with all detections, and finding-based detections enable aggregation of findings



Enhanced Detections

Enhanced detection capabilities empower analysts to comprehend and employ a risk-based alerting strategy, offering the flexibility to create high-confidence aggregated alerts for thorough investigations.



Event-Based Detections

Analysts can choose if the detection outputs a finding or an intermediate finding

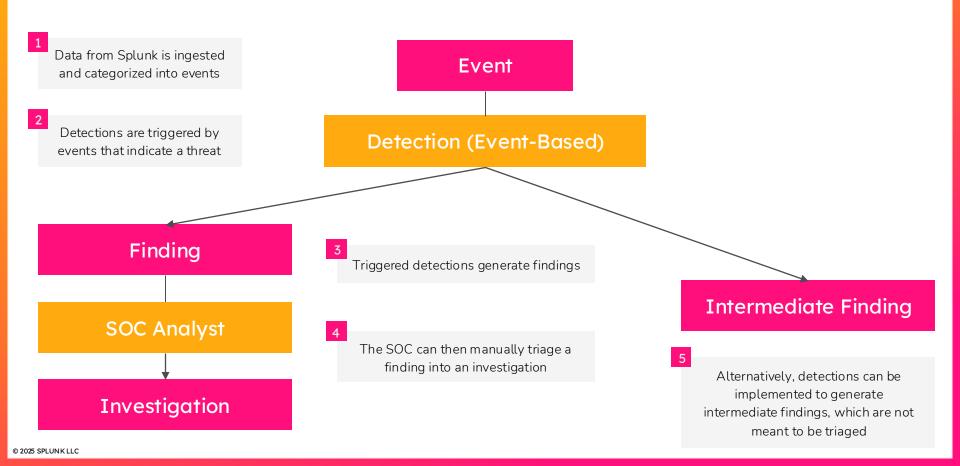
Findings

- Combine the features of notable events and risk events into a single object
- Represent one or more anomalous incidents or alerts
- Metadata about the detection including tactics, techniques, confidence, impact, risk score, and threat objects are included
- View and triage in the Analyst Queue
- Manually created or automatically generated by detections
- Can be a group of alerts or a standalone alert

Intermediate Findings

- Records or observations that indicate anomalies but might not be standalone security incidents
- Not available in the queue to triage
- Can appear identical to findings in style, format, and metadata based on the data stored in the index
- Might be used as input by advanced findingbased detections to discover potential security incidents with high fidelity and confidence

ES 8 Workflow: Event-Based Detections

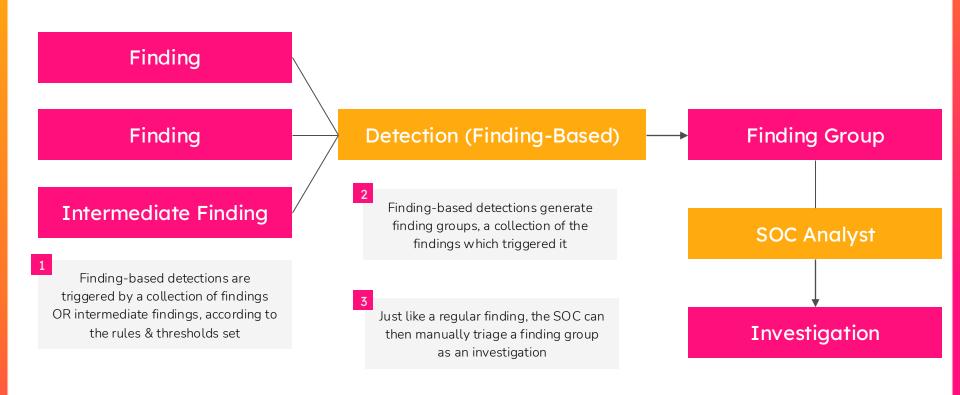


Finding-Based Detections (Beta)

NOTE: Finding-based detections in Splunk Enterprise Security are currently released as a preview feature.

- Similar to risk incident rules
- Based on findings, as opposed to events
- Can incorporate findings, intermediate findings, or both
- Output the findings and intermediate findings that triggered them, as a finding group
- Finding groups show up in the analyst queue and can be triaged into investigations

ES 8 Workflow: Finding-Based Detections

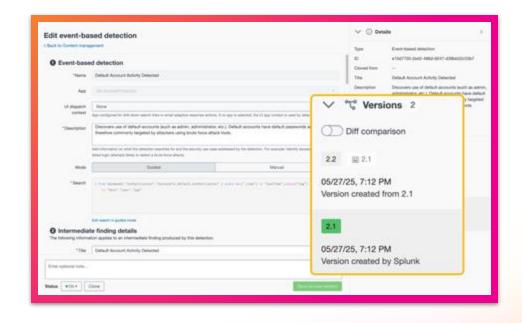


Tuning of Detections

Detection Versioning

Analysts can now use versioning to keep track of their history editing the detection

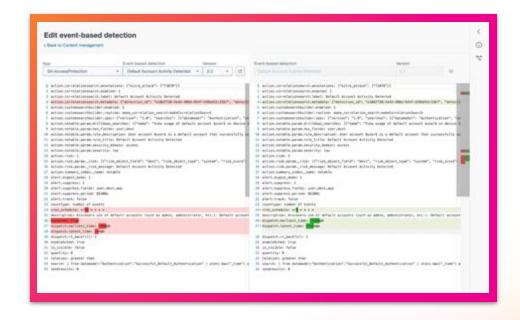
- Versioning and content pipelines so that content engineers can more easily build and maintain a content development lifecycle
- Rollback to any version so that an older version is be used while changes are saved to newer versions
- **Relationships** clearly connect original source to customized detections
- Change history captured for audit purposes (who, what, when..)
- Content archiving as a means to retire security detections without losing historical context
- Notes enforcement available for new versions are created



Detection Diffing

Line-by-line tracking for changes in detections

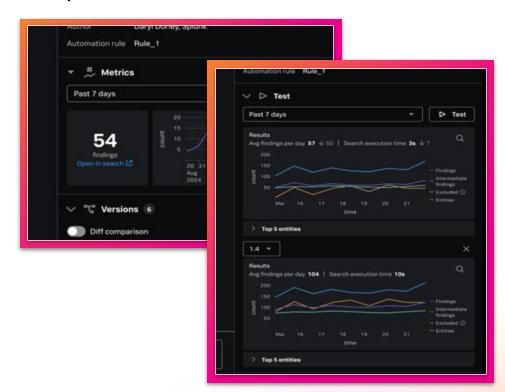
- Detection editors now allows side-by-side comparison of detections
- Differences between detections highlighted clearly
- Users can compare to other detections as well as prior versions of the same detection



Detection In-Editor Testing (Beta)

Native ability to validate SPL searches directly in the Detection Editor

- Quickly see how many Findings or Intermediate Findings a rule would generate over a defined time window
- Identify overly broad or narrow detections before they're deployed, reducing false positives and missed threats
- Streamline detection tuning for new analysts by giving immediate feedback during detection creation



Investigation

Case Management

Structured and efficient way to manage security incidents from detection to resolution



Workflow Management

Centralized and streamlined workflows for incident response, from initial triage to remediation.



Increased Efficiency

Native integration with Splunk SOAR to automate repetitive tasks and workflows to help SOC analysts become more efficient and productive.



Better Collaboration

Enhanced communication and collaboration among SOC analysts, incident responders, and other relevant teams.



Reduced Risk

Threat prioritization based on risk level, type of threat, the assets and identities affected, and the potential for damage.



Enhanced Compliance

Clear audit trail of security incidents and their handling, making it easier to demonstrate compliance to regulatory bodies.

Case Management

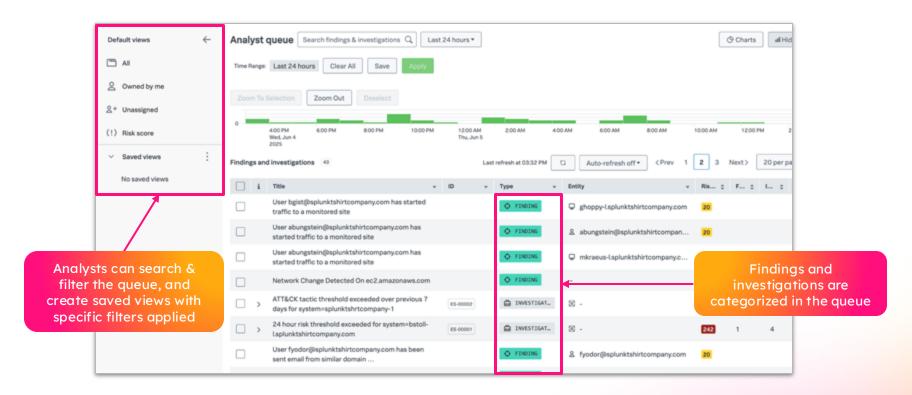
Case Management Workflow

- Triage: Analysts leverage the redesigned analyst queue to search, sort, filter, and inspect findings
- Investigate: Suspicious findings can be flagged, grouped, and reviewed via the new investigations feature
- Respond: Native SOAR integration and MC response plans offer numerous pathways to respond to threats both manually and via automation



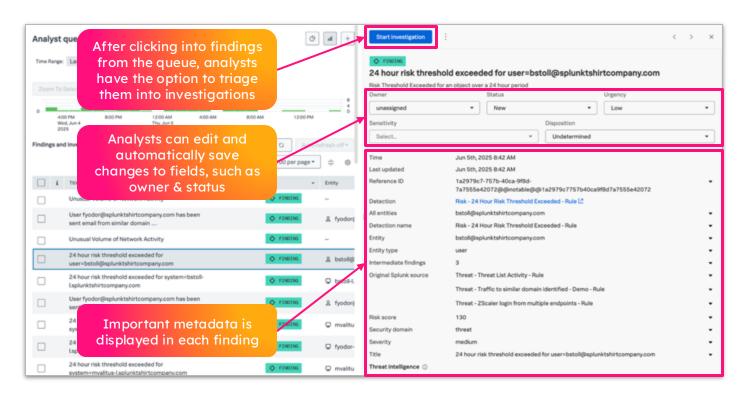
Analyst Queue

Centralized location for SOC analysts to view findings and investigations



Findings

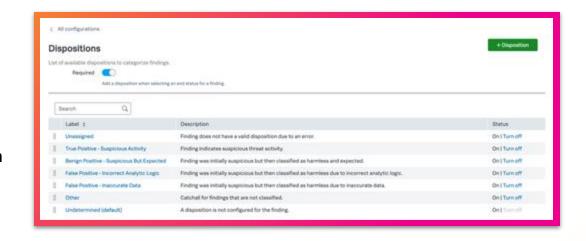
Contain what was observed, which entity was impacted, and relevant detection metadata



The Power of Dispositions

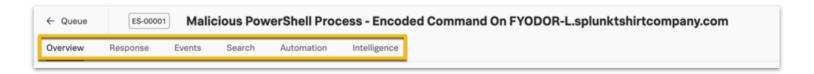
https://help.splunk.com/en/splunk-enterprise-security-8/administer/8.2/investigations/configure-dispositions-for-findings-in-splunk-enterprise-security

- Classification is necessary for effective tuning
- Improve detection context and accuracy
- Classify findings and investigations based on the threat level associated with them
- Define custom categories based on the actual work performed by incident responders
- Option to mandate entering a disposition before closing a finding



Investigation Tabs

Triage individual findings, multiple findings, or finding groups



Overview: View the data associated with an investigation (e.g., original event, drill-down search, detection, custom fields, additional fields, history)

Response: Use the phases and tasks of a response plan to guide the investigation

Events: Add events to investigations, providing a link between raw data and the ongoing investigation

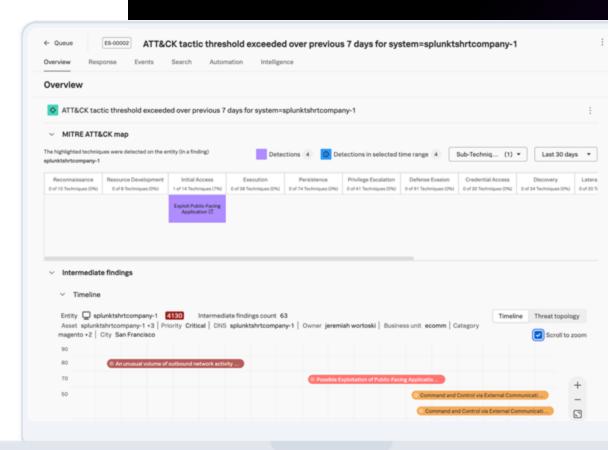
Search: Conduct searches within the investigation context, exploring relevant data and identifying additional findings

Automation: Automate investigation response with actions and playbooks

Intelligence: Integration with threat intelligence feeds, enriching detection rules and observables

Investigation Overview

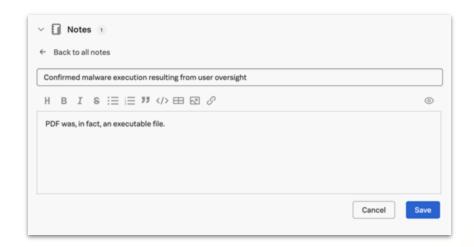
- Events
- Included findings
- MITRE ATT&CK map
- Intermediate findings
 - Timeline
 - Threat topology
 - Details
- Drill-down searches & dashboards
- Adaptive responses
- Custom & Additional fields
- MITRE ATT&CK TTPs
- Threat intelligence



Notes

Record investigation details or add attachments

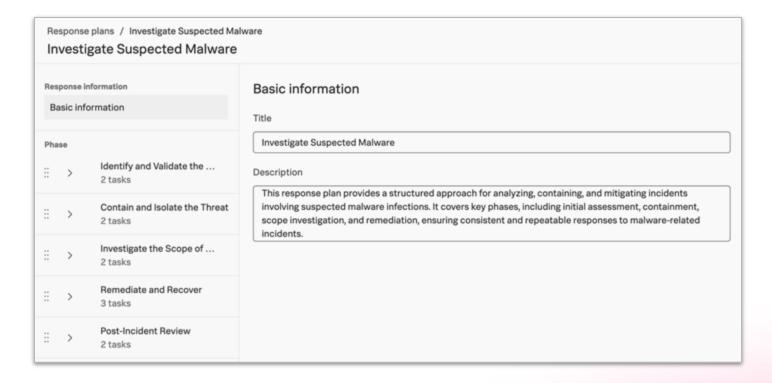
- General, Finding and Response notes
- Format text, add code block, table, files/images, and links
- All file types supported
- The maximum file size is 4 MB
- Make files available to Splunk SOAR
 - SOAR displays next to the name of files available in Splunk SOAR
- Delete files from ES, SOAR, or both



Notes can serve multiple purposes, including postincident reviews, ensuring compliance, facilitating training, and preserving the chain of custody.

Response Plans

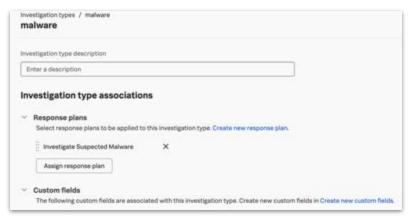
Standardize tasks and phases when investigating findings



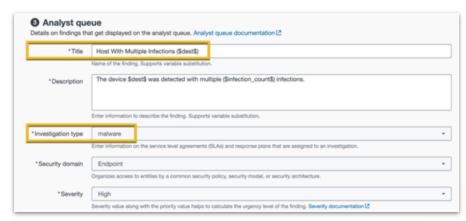
Investigation Type Associations

Standardize tasks and phases when investigating findings

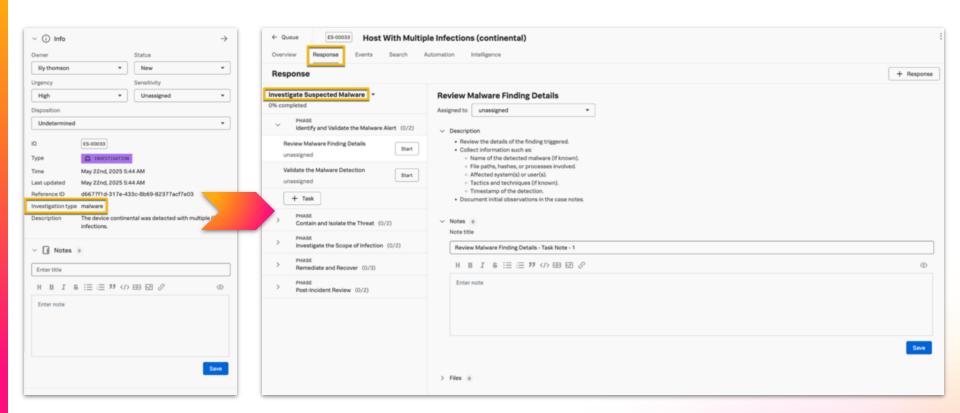
1 Create **Investigation type** to associate investigations with custom fields and response plans



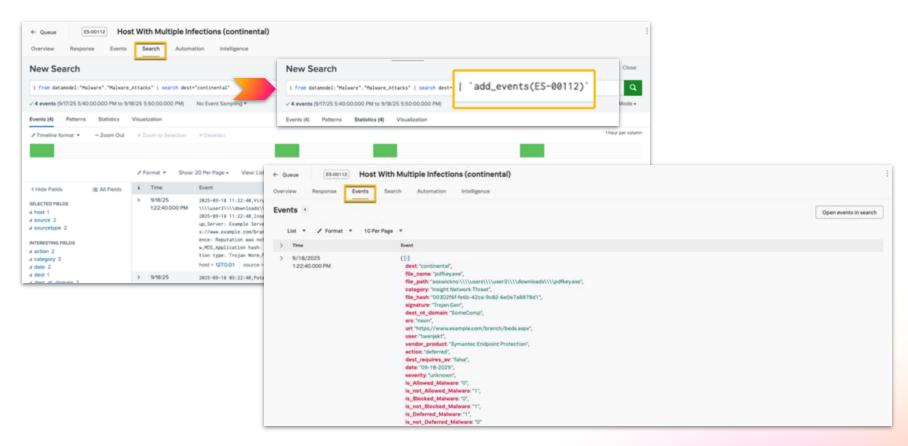
2 Associate Investigation type with detection



Associated Investigation Type with Response Plan



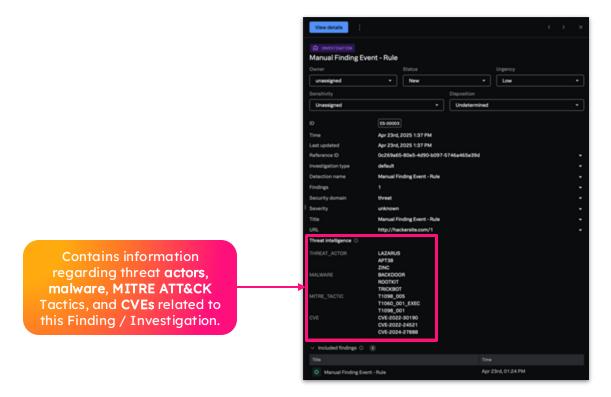
Associate Related Event(s) via Search to the Investigation



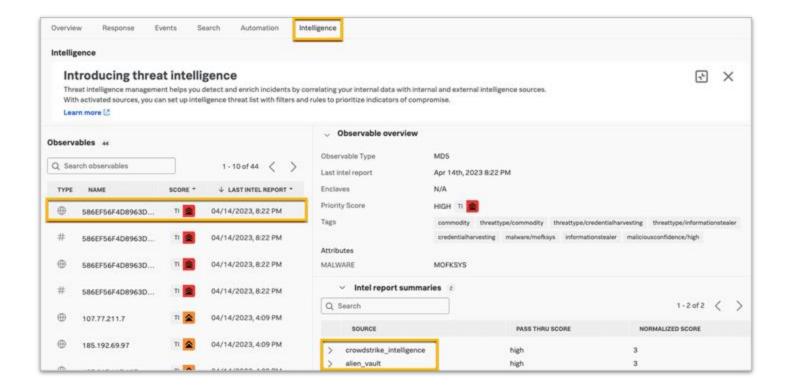
Threat Intelligence Management

**Splunk Cloud (commercial) on AWS only, where available

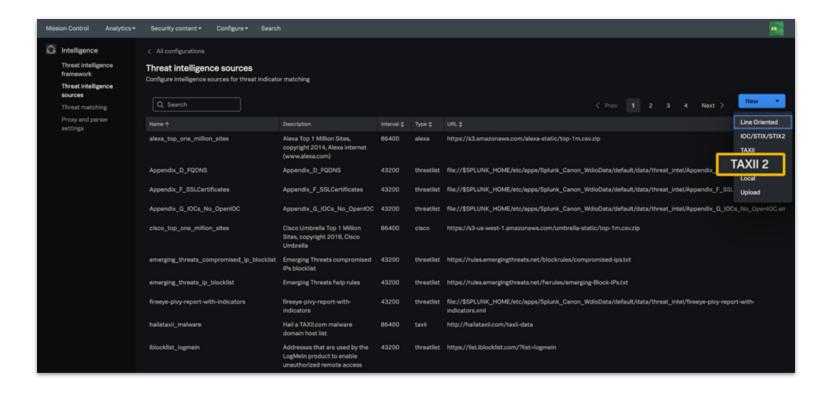
Threat Intelligence Summary



Intelligence Tab



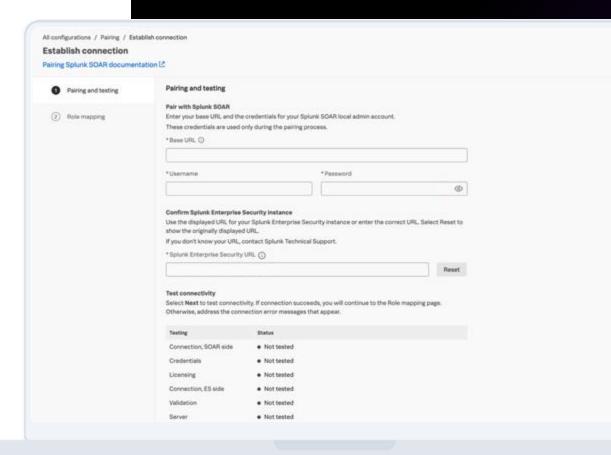
TAXII 2 Client in Threat Intel Framework (TIF)



Response

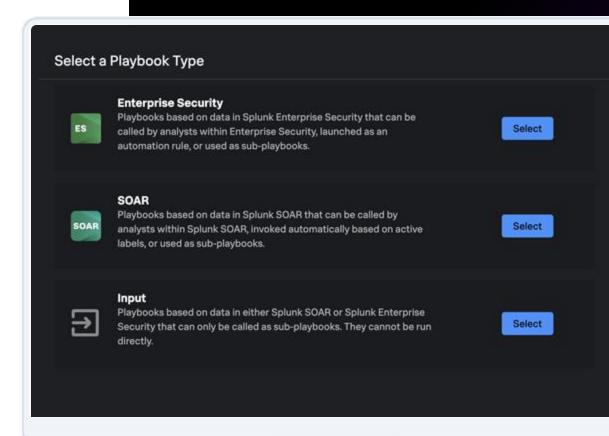
Self-Service Pairing

- Rapid pairing experience
- Does not clutter your existing SOAR case management
- Gives you immediate access to the new native SOAR integration in ES



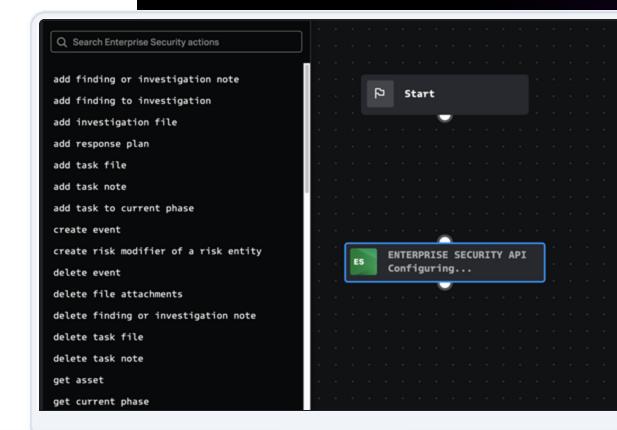
Enterprise Security Playbook Type

- New type of playbook for Mission Control investigations
- New data paths
- Debug directly against
 Mission Control data



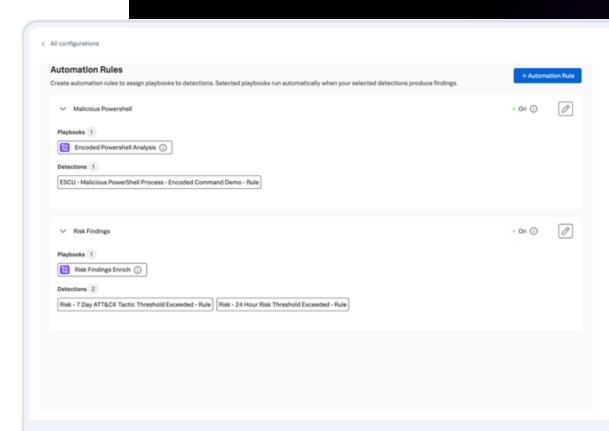
ES Connector for SOAR

- Special APIs for bidirectional interaction with Splunk SOAR
- Automate anything an analyst can do in the UI
- Augment existing playbooks with ES 8 functionality



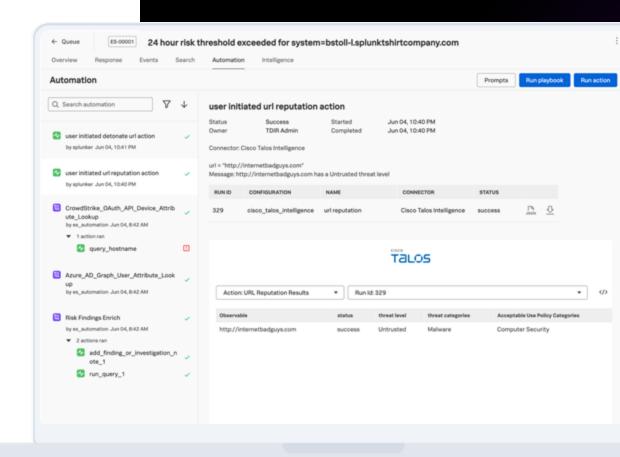
Automation Rules Framework

- Easily trigger Playbooks based on ES Detections
- Better visibility and control over what playbooks are being triggered automatically
- Supports both generic enrichment and hyperspecific automation use cases



Automation History

- Run actions and/or playbooks and respond to prompts within Enterprise Security
- Review history and detailed results of automation regardless of how it was run
- Open playbooks in one click to paired SOAR instance



User Entity Behavior Analytics

A Note on UBA (formerly Caspida) versus UEBA Feature in ES Premier

UEBA ≠ **UBA**

UEBA is not a standalone product. It is a new feature/capability that will be launched as part of the ES Premier only.



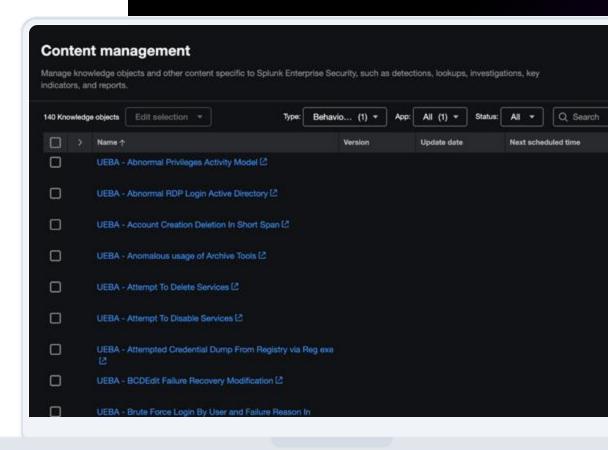
There will be **no capability to migrate configuration or data**from the existing UBA product to
the new UEBA feature in Premier.



UEBA capabilities will be delivered to ES Premier Cloud & CMP.

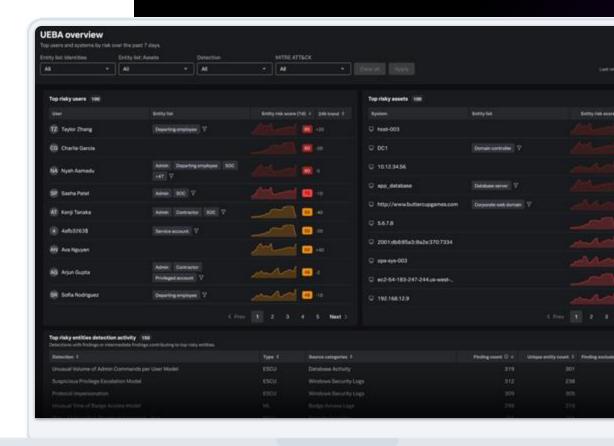
UEBA Detection Types

- ML models
 - Example: Rare VPN Login Location
- Anomaly rules
 - Example: Unauthorized
 Activity Time
- Streaming rules
 - Example: DNS Lookup using Nslookup App



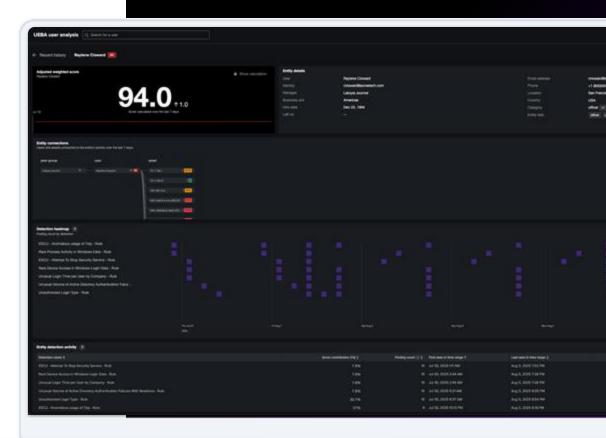
UEBA Overview

- Holistic view of the riskiest users and assets
- Drill down into specific users or assets
- Helps with prioritization based on the ERS



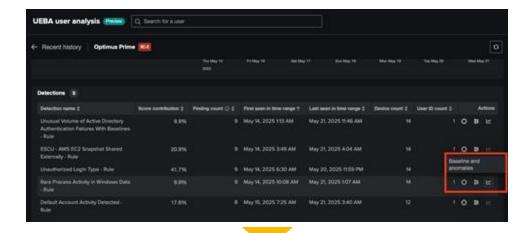
User & Asset Centric Analysis

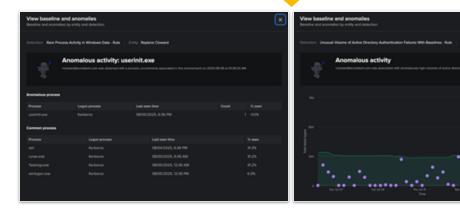
- Dashboards focused on users or assets, providing a consolidated view of behavior, detections and risk
- Introduces ERS (Entity Risk Scoring) based on behaviors and detections
- Includes user details, related assets, relevant detections, and a MITRE ATT&CK heatmap



Baselines & Anomalies

- Clear visualization of behavior deviation from baseline to highlight unusual activity
- Drill into each anomaly to understand what triggered it and why UEBA flagged it as an suspicious behavior
- Helps analysts visualize suspicious activity and make informed investigation decisions





Important Considerations

Before you upgrade....

- Cloud customers should ensure we have the **correct Operational Contact(s)** listed to receive maintenance window notifications.
- On-Prem or BYOL License customers are advised to make a backup and also test the latest version in a
 development environment to validate all the changes. Please review the latest release notes for details
- Back up any custom navigation content before you upgrade so that you can restore custom configurations after migration.
- Customers actively using the Investigations features in 7.3 and older are advised to update to 8.3* or higher to access the limited-time legacy feature for closing and archival purposes.
- Some new features might not work for on-prem deployments 8.x and higher, unless you upgrade the Splunk_TA_ForIndexers add-on for every release. See Splunk docs.
- Existing SOAR playbooks will need to leverage the new **Enterprise Security block** to have interoperability.
 - Automation Rules (configured within ES) can only be used with playbooks of type "Enterprise Security", not regular SOAR or input playbooks.

Deprecated or Removed Features & Limitations

Deprecated or Removed Features

https://help.splunk.com/en/splunk-enterprise-security-8/release-notes-and-resources/8.2/splunk-enterprise-security-release-notes/limitations

| Feature | Details |
|--|--|
| Incident Review row expansion | Use the side panel view to review information on findings and investigations. |
| Enhanced workflows | Replaced by settings available in Analyst queue. |
| Investigation bar, dashboard, and workbench | Replaced by the Mission Control UI. NOTE: MC incident data will be migrated to findings, but not investigation data. See Migrating Splunk Mission Control incident data to Splunk Enterprise Security 8.0 |
| Sequence templates | Read-only with documentation available for transition to RBA. |
| Standalone Mission Control app: SLAs, role-based incident type filtering | Not available in ES 8.x. |

Deprecated or Removed Features

https://help.splunk.com/en/splunk-enterprise-security-8/release-notes-and-resources/8.2/splunk-enterprise-security-release-notes/limitations

| Feature | Details |
|-----------------------------|--|
| BRSOAR not supported on ES8 | BRSOAR stack (legacy MC standalone app) requires migration to a new ES8 compatible SOAR stack. |
| Comments | Replaced by capability to add notes to a finding or an investigation. |

Limitations

https://help.splunk.com/en/splunk-enterprise-security-8/release-notes-and-resources/8.2/splunk-enterprise-security-release-notes/limitations

| Feature | Details |
|--|--|
| Adaptive Response Actions (ARA) – limitation | Not available for investigations, but can be run on a finding by accessing menu using : next to Start investigation button |
| Finding-based detections (FBD) | FBD's are a Beta feature |
| SOAR (on-prem) multi-tenancy | SOAR (on-prem) and ES pairing does not support multi-tenancy at this time |

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Known Issues

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Open/Known Issues

https://help.splunk.com/en/splunk-enterprise-security-8/release-notes-and-resources/8.2/splunk-enterprise-security-release-notes/known-issues

- Diff comparison for detections is not populating information for restricted environment
- Similar Findings type FBD Does not Create All Finding Groups
- URLs linked to ES documentation need to be updated
- Existing detections will run without issue, but may introduce new required fields (e.g., description, risk message) upon first edit of the detection post upgrade

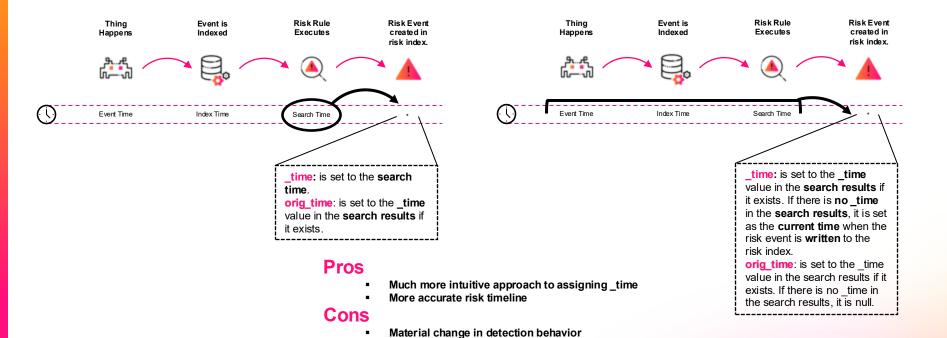
For more information on the known issues, see the latest Release Notes and Resources.

Risk Event _time changes

8.X Introduces material changes to time assignment for Risk Events.

ES 7.3.x Risk Events

ES 8.x Risk Events



May impact customer created detections

REST API Support

Splunk Enterprise Security API Reference

https://help.splunk.com/en/splunk-enterprise-security-8/api-reference/8.2/splunk-enterprise-security-api-reference

*Supported SPL | rest function

| Supported Functions in ES 8.1 | New Functions in ES 8.2 |
|---|--|
| Retrieve a list of findings* | Create a finding |
| Retrieve a list of investigations* | Associate a finding with an investigation |
| Retrieve a single finding* | Create/Read/Update/Delete a Note / Note Title* |
| Create an investigation | Respect note title enforcement setting via API |
| Update an existing investigation | Support pagination and filtering (limit, offset, filter) |
| Delete an investigation | Role-based authorization on each endpoint |
| Retrieve a list of risk scores by Entity* | Standardized error handling |
| Retrieve an asset by ID* | API request/response logging to audit index |
| Retrieve an identity by ID* | Rate limiting (IP and API key-based) |
| Add risk modifier to entity | |

^{*}NOTE: API calls will respect the user-configured preference on whether to have a note title. Must be the note creator to update or delete a Note/Note Title.

Thank you!