Introduction to Splunk

Module 3: Parts of Splunk

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In this video...

- Use whatever you have
- Data pipeline
- Splunk components
- Distributed / Non-distributed / Clustered

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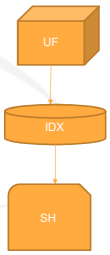
Data Pipeline

- Input
- Parsing
- Indexing
- Searching



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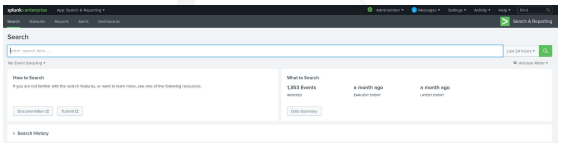
Search Heads

- Search management
- Scheduled searches, alerts, dashboards
- Distributes searches to indexers



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Indexers

- Receive, index, store data
- Search data based on search requests from search head

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Index…?

- Index – noun: data repository
- Index – verb: processing raw data
- Indexer: Splunk instance that indexes data

An indexer indexes data and puts it into an index.

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Forwarders

- Sends data onward
- Universal forwarder
- Light forwarder (deprecated)
- Heavy forwarder

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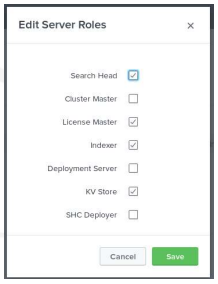
Other server roles



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Distributed environments

- "Horizontal scaling"
- Separate out the pieces

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Deployment Scales

- Very Small Office / Department
  - <20GB
  - <100 forwarders
- Large Enterprise
  - 300GB+
  - Up to 1000s of forwarders

→ Combined Search Head, Indexer

→ Distributed environment with 10+ indexers and separate deployment server and likely multiple search heads

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Clustering

- Data replication
  - Availability
  - Fidelity
  - Recovery

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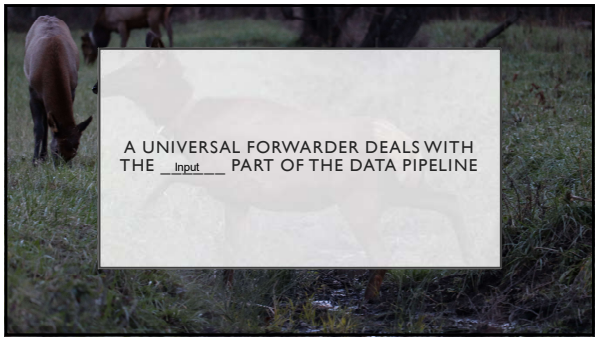

Review

- Forwarders send data, indexers turn data into events and place them in indexes, search heads send search requests, display data
- A large company will likely need a distributed environment
- Clustering provides redundancy

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Next up: Installation!

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