Data sheet

Get scalable log collection today

HP ArcSight Connectors

You archive and analyze log data for a broad set of reasons ranging from security monitoring to IT operations, and from regulatory compliance to fraud detection. An effective log collection layer simplifies and enhances the aggregation of logs across thousands of devices and hundreds of locations. It serves as the foundation of log management, and security information and event management (SIEM) platforms.

Comprehensive and efficient enterprise-wide log collection goes beyond providing a common taxonomy to facilitate analysis. With the rapid growth of the regulatory landscape, you need to collect from a much broader set of event sources, including physical, network, and security devices, hosts, databases, and a gamut of commercial and homegrown applications. Breadth and depth of device support in terms of log collection is therefore paramount.

The various devices, hosts, and applications that generate logs span hundreds or even thousands of physical locations. Log collection infrastructures must therefore scale to meet the needs of large, distributed heterogeneous networks. They must also deliver protected and reliable audit-quality log collection with traffic management controls, simple deployment, and administration.

HP ArcSight Connector technology addresses these core challenges through a powerful log aggregation and optimization interface layer that also represents the foundation for its broader log management and SIEM platform.

Breadth and depth of device support

The HP ArcSight library of out-of-the-box connectors provides source-optimized collection for more than 300 commercial products. These products span the entire stack of event-generating source types, from network and security devices to databases and enterprise applications. In addition to the many sources commonly supported, HP ArcSight Connector technology also uniquely supports:

- Identity and access management
- Data leak prevention
- Database activity monitoring
- Mainframe
- Applications

Furthermore, the HP FlexConnector framework provides a wizard-driven interface to build collection logic and to contextualize logs from legacy and homegrown sources. Each is critical to satisfying use cases such as compliance, fraud, and insider threats.

Distributed processing

Once collected, log data needs to be analyzed in real time and historically to address diverse use cases, such as security monitoring and regulatory compliance. Typically, all processing is left to centralized log management and SIEM components.

However, HP ArcSight Connectors are architected to efficiently offload the HP ArcSight log management and SIEM platforms from centrally processing tasks, which are just as efficiently executed at the point of collection. To this end, HP ArcSight Connectors can also perform a variety of functions, including:

- Collection of raw logs in conjunction with parsing of individual log events, and mapping both their values and schema into a universal event taxonomy. This plays a significant role in enabling cross-device searches, reporting, and correlation.
- Categorization or additional classification of events using a common, human-readable format, which saves the end user from having to be an expert in reading the output from myriad of devices from multiple vendors. Categorization also future-proofs companies by making all content device independent—so if you need to replace vendors, all reports and rules continue to work seamlessly.
- Optional filtering of data that is extraneous to analysis and is not required for retention by regulatory requirements or corporate policies, such as system health alerts.

Highlights

- Provides complete visibility with collection support for any event source from the physical layer through the application layer
- Offers ease of analysis through a common event format for all log sources
- Creates universal content relevance with prebuilt, vendor-independent content

Audit-quality log collection

Protected and reliable collection of audit logs is essential to enable the viability of log data for legal and forensic purposes. However, many sources in remote locations are only capable of generating logs over unreliable and unsecured protocols, such as syslog over user datagram protocol (UDP). HP ArcSight Connectors offer an easily deployable and manageable localized collection option for remote offices, which provides end-to-end security and availability of log data.

HP ArcSight Connectors offer local caching, so in the event of connectivity loss between remote offices and central log aggregation points, there is no loss of critical event data. HP ArcSight Connectors also support automated failover to a secondary HP ArcSight Logger or HP ArcSight Enterprise Security Manager (ESM) in the event that the primary destination is unavailable.

Log traffic management

Remote offices such as retail stores often lack high bandwidth wide area network (WAN) links to data centers. Additionally, any available bandwidth needs to be prioritized for business-critical transactional traffic. To address these challenges, HP ArcSight Connectors offer granular bandwidth controls, compression of logs in transit, as well as prioritization and batching of log data by time and severity.

Adherence to hardware and software deployment policies

Distributed, localized deployment of log collection infrastructure is critical for protected and reliable log collection. Yet organizations like yours struggle with the headaches of deploying additional infrastructure at remote locations. Rack space is often limited and existing servers cannot be overloaded with additional agents for log collection. Furthermore, your IT staff is often limited and cannot deploy and manage log collection infrastructure at remote offices. To address these constraints, HP ArcSight Connectors are available in a range of plug-and-play appliances and as software that can be easily deployed and remotely managed. HP ArcSight Connectors provide a localized, yet agent-less collection option, which reduces the net cost of acquisition and reduces delay due to hardware selection, procurements, and testing.

For locations where no additional rack space is available but where spare computing cycles are available on existing servers, HP ArcSight Connectors offer the flexibility of software-based deployments while still delivering strong centralized management capabilities.

Centralized management of log collection infrastructure

There is significant overhead associated with ongoing updates, upgrades, configuration changes, and general maintenance of a distributed log collection deployment. Even global organizations with numerous offices prefer to avoid expending valuable IT human resources on managing yet another distributed infrastructure. Therefore, it is not enough for a log collection solution to simply support distributed deployment. HP ArcSight Connectors help minimize ongoing administrative overhead through support for diagnostics, universal definition, selective definition, alteration and roll out of log collection parameters, and configuration settings from a centralized Web-based interface. The centralized management capabilities include all software-based and appliance-based connectors throughout the environment.

Highlights

- Centralized security management console for HP ArcSight log analytics solution
- Ease of deployment, management, and scalability
- Manage large deployments easily enabling high scalability
- Simplified change management through single console

HP ArcSight Management Center

Centralized console

A centralized security management center that unifies management, configuration, and monitoring of HP ArcSight log management solution for large enterprises. The HP ArcSight Management Center allows customers to manage large deployments of HP ArcSight Logger(appliance and software), SmartConnectors, FlexConnectors, and Connector Appliance (ConApp) through a single consolidated view. Management Center enables you to focus on your use cases, feeds, and threats effectively as opposed to managing log management solution.

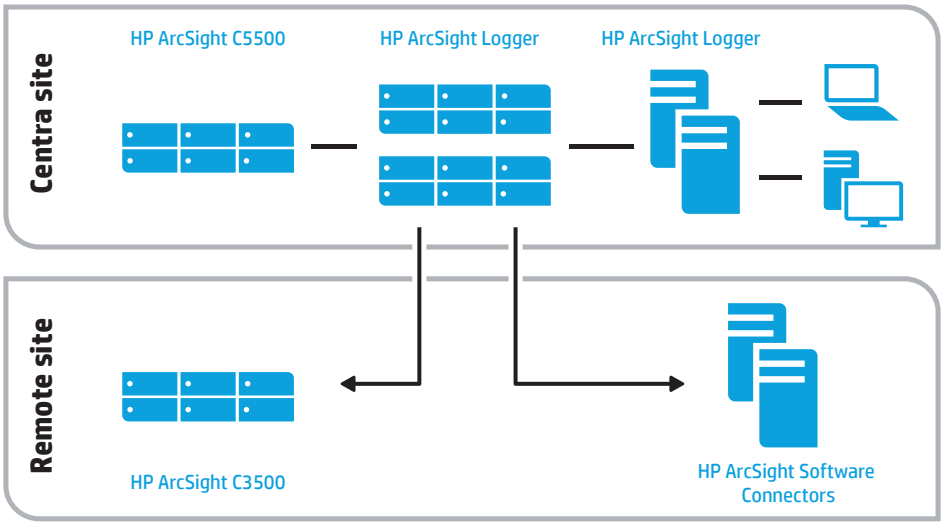
Content sharing with HP ArcExchange

The HP ArcSight Connectors makes information sharing possible with a simple click of a mouse. With the HP ArcExchange feature, users can download and upload custom-built connectors directly to Protect 724, the HP Enterprise Security online user community. Connectors developed and shared by this community allow the collection of event data from customized and advanced applications, databases, devices, and others. This capability, along with out-of-the-box support for more than 300 products, makes the HP ArcSight platform the broadest available SIEM solution on the market.

HP ArcSight platform integration

Regulatory retention requirements, audit reporting needs, IT operations troubleshooting, service-level agreement (SLA), and proactive monitoring of security threats all represent a continuum in the value chain of extracting context and intelligence from log data. As such, it is logical to leverage a common collection infrastructure across the full range of log collection and archival needs for an enterprise—and that is exactly what HP ArcSight Connectors offer. As the data collection layer in the platform, connectors provide a comprehensive, robust, scalable, and easily manageable collection infrastructure that can be used across its log management and SIEM modules, as seen in figure 1. This is a distinct advantage of the integrated HP ArcSight platform, and it avoids the deployment of multiple collection infrastructures that would be needed if different vendor solutions were used for log management and SIEM. This benefit applies to both appliance and software-based HP ArcSight Connector technology deployments.

Figure 1. Protected and reliable log collection across all devices and locations



HP ArcSight Connector Appliance (ConApp)

Model	Max EPS
C3500 (HP)	2500
C5500 (HP)	5000
Software ConApp	**Supported OS:** Red Hat Enterprise Linux v6.2, 64-bit Oracle Enterprise Linux, v6.1, 64-bit CentOS, v6.2, 64-bit **Software Version:** Connector Appliance v6.3 or later **Recommended Minimum Hardware:** CPU: 1 or 2x Intel® Xeon® Quad Core or equivalent Memory: 4–12 GB Disk space: 4-12 GB
Appliance ConApp	**Supported OS:** Red Hat Enterprise Linux v6.2, 64-bit **Management:** Web browser, CLI, Web Services API **Software Version:** Connector Appliance v6.4 P1 or later **CPU:** 1x Intel Xeon, E5-2620 2.0 GHz, 6-core Processor **RAM:** 32 GB, 1600 MHz RAM **Chassis:** 1U **Storage:** 4x500 GB (1.5 TB RAID-5) **Power:** 2 x 460W CS Platinum Power Supply **Dimension (LxWxH):** 27.5" x 17.1" x 1.7" **Ethernet Interfaces:** 4 x 10/100/1000

Conclusion

HP ArcSight Connectors deliver flexible, scalable, audit-quality logs in a protected, reliable manner for security and compliance monitoring. Centralized management of all connectors throughout the environment increases operational efficiencies by making deployment and administration simple. Our products adapt to customer needs by providing connectors in both software and hardware appliance form factors, thereby, adapting to your requirements and not forcing you to adapt to ours.

About HP Enterprise Security

We are a leading provider of security and compliance solutions for the modern enterprise that wants to mitigate risk in their hybrid environment and defend against advanced threats. Based on market-leading products from HP ArcSight, HP Fortify, and HP TippingPoint, the HP Security Intelligence Platform uniquely delivers the advanced correlation, application protection, and network defenses to protect today's hybrid IT infrastructure from sophisticated cyber threats.

HP Software Services

HP ESP Global Services take a holistic approach to building and operating cyber security and response solutions and capabilities that support the cyber threat management and regulatory compliance needs of the world's largest enterprises. We use a combination of operational expertise—yours and ours—and proven methodologies to deliver fast, effective results and demonstrate ROI. Our proven, use-case driven solutions combine market-leading technology together with sustainable business and technical process executed by trained and organized people.

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