

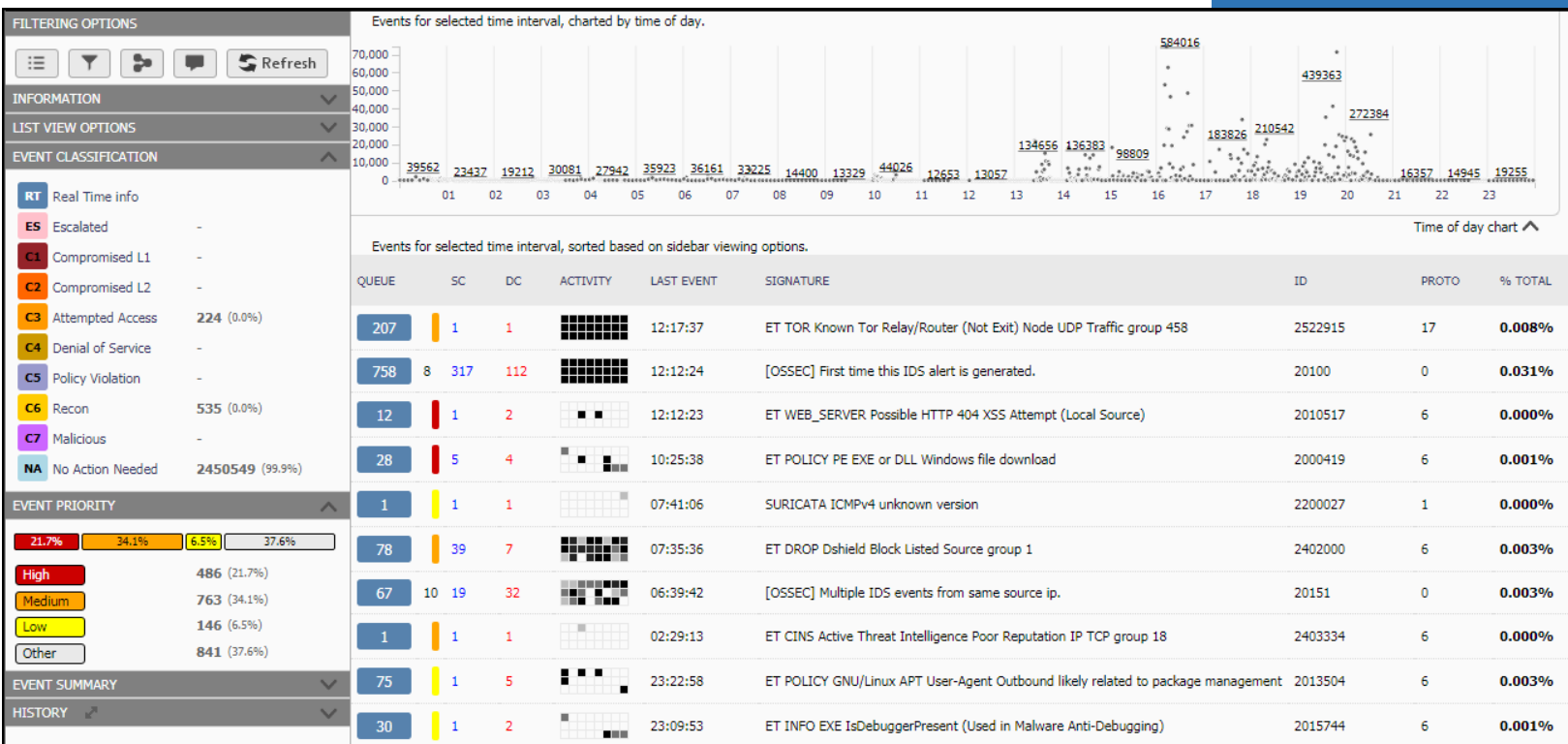
# Security Onion

## WHAT

Security Onion is a **Network Security Monitoring (NSM)** system that allows an analyst to peel back the layers of a network to see what's happening inside. It can be installed on a standalone server, incorporated into a VM environment, or distributed into a network with sensors linked to a master server. It combines multiple data gathering tools with multiple analysis tools to enable a human analyst high visibility to the traffic that is flowing on the network. It is not an automated protection system, it is a monitoring system that will provide visibility into network traffic as well as context around alerts and anomalous events. It requires human analysts to review alerts and investigate network activity for anomalies.

## CAPABILITIES

- Open-Source
- Simple Setup
- Full Packet Capture
- Intrusion Detection
- Analysis Tools
- Packet Level Visibility
- Traffic Forensics
- Scalable



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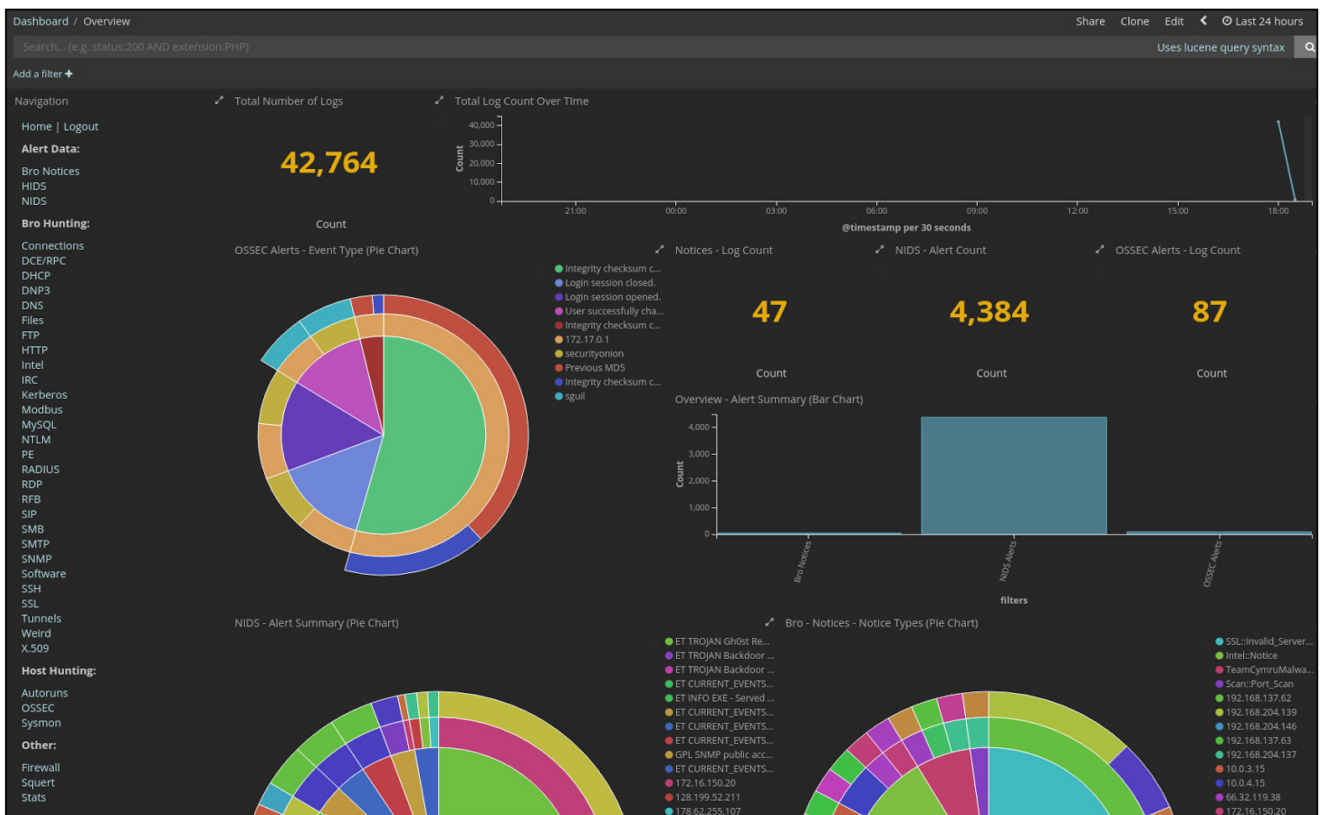
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Security Onion combines Full Packet Capture with both rule-driven NIDS (Network Intrusion Detection System) using either 'Snort' or 'Suricata', and analysis-driven NIDS using 'Bro IDS'.

- **Rule-driven** systems look at network traffic for fingerprints and identifiers that match known malicious, anomalous or otherwise suspicious data.
- **Analysis-driven** systems looks at all the data as a whole and correlates it into a framework that provides context for the events that can then be used as a trail to follow when investigating and analyzing activities.

Security Onion integrates multiple analysis tools to enable an analyst to make sense of the daunting amount of data collected.

- **Sguil** provides a single GUI that allows an analyst full visibility of the alerts as well as the individual packet data that can be correlated with associated traffic to investigate activities.
- **ELSA** (Enterprise Log Search & Archive) is a web-based query interface that allows analysts to easily search and chart syslog data.
- **Squert** is the current web interface (shown on the previous page) to the Sguil database that is much more user-friendly for quickly analyzing and reporting events.
- **CapMe** is a simple web interface enabling easy downloading of packet-capture data.
- **Kibana** is the next generation web interface giving advanced reporting with charts/graphs and visualization tools to better sort and filter the data for human consumption. Here is an example of the new interface coming soon.



## WHY

The ability to view, analyze, and report on network traffic is essential to securing any systems or networks connected to the internet. Many networks rely solely on a combination of automated firewalls and end-point security software. Firewalls and/or Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS) are necessary but they are not designed for in-depth packet analysis/storage, nor is anyone monitoring them in real-time. End-point security is also necessary but it cannot be relied upon as the only means of protection either because it does not see the traffic that is flowing on the rest of the network. A separate system is needed to monitor and 'sniff' all the traffic that is flowing in and out of a network to give an analyst the visibility and tools needed to discover anomalies and investigate exploits or breaches in real-time as well as historically if a security issue has occurred. Security Onion is that system.

## BARRIERS

The primary barrier to Network Security Monitoring is not the lack of data collection or automated tools that provide fancy interfaces, it is the lack of understanding that there is no replacement for the human analyst that must be monitoring and reviewing the alerts and network activity to not only protect the system from real-time intrusions but also investigate historical events. A Network Analyst is a combination of a security guard and detective. A broad range of networking and systems understanding is needed to decipher and make decisions on the vast and detailed information that Security Onion un-peels.

## WHERE

Innovate! has been using Security Onion to monitor the traffic on its internal development VM servers for quite some time. The information gathered when first activating it were enlightening and resulted in multiple system security measures being implemented.

Innovate! is also actively designing and testing standalone plug-and-play systems that can quickly be inserted into client networks.

**Interested in peeling back the layers of your network?** Innovate! offers the monitoring appliances, installation, setup, and monitoring staff to give businesses the visibility they need to protect their assets and data from the ever-growing hurricane of malicious attacks. Contact us today for more information.