



C0320

Threat Optics – Event Logs

Windows Audit Policies

Windows Event Viewer

Web Apps on IIS



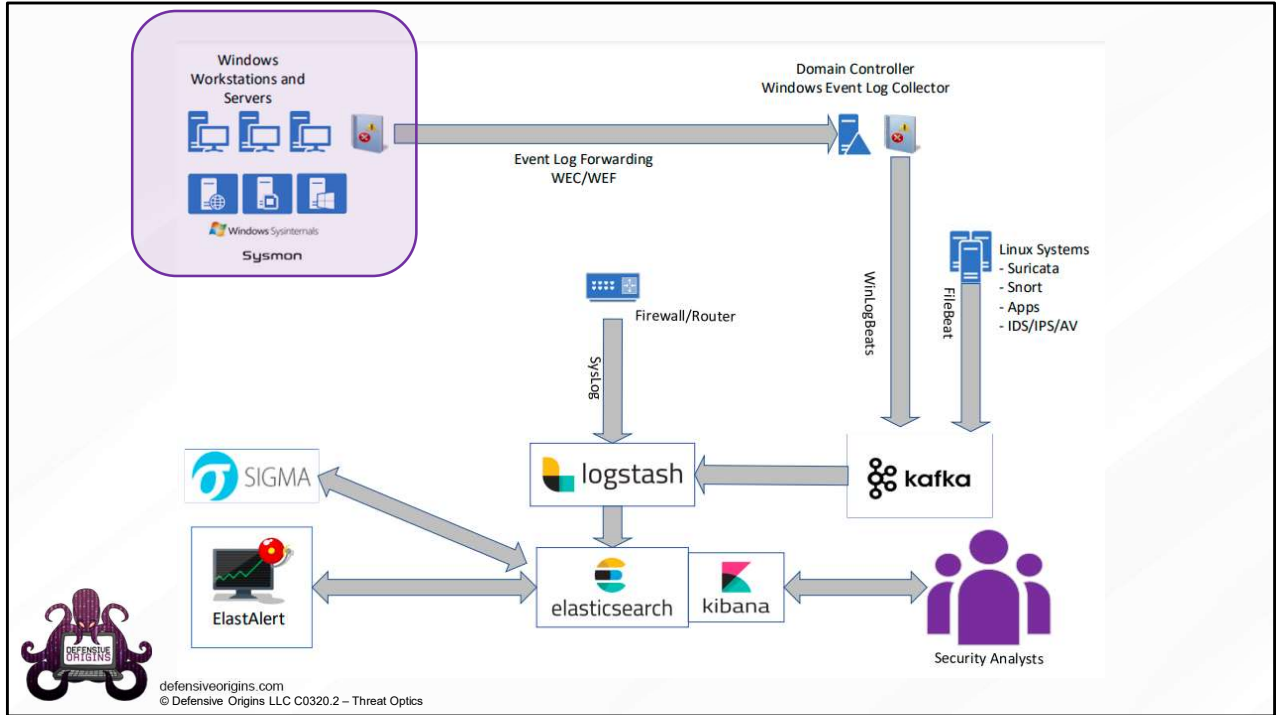
defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.1 – Threat Optics

## Applied Purple Teaming – C0320 Threat Optics – Event Logs

Windows Audit Policies

Windows Event Viewer

Web Apps on IIS



## Windows Audit Policy – Defining Windows Logging

Windows Audit Policies can help with:

- Intrusion detection (someone popped a reverse shell - 5 W's and likely How)
- Endpoint optics (vision to happenings on the workstations)

Windows Audit Policies can be divided into groups, think OU best practices.

- Baseline - all systems get this baseline
- Suspect\* - IIS / ASPX systems on the network boundary or DMZ
- Priority - like a domain controller, SQL, critical data locations



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.3 – Threat Optics

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/security/threat-protection/use-windows-event-forwarding-to-assist-in-intrusion-detection>

## Windows Audit Policy – Defining Windows Logging

Windows audit policies define what is written to a system's event logs.

- Configurable via auditpol.exe manually
- Configurable via group policies structurally

Be careful, some events are written thousands of times per day.

What do we need to track? Optics targets, things we're interested in.

- How is our network performance? Latency.
- What about the disk where resulting events are written? IOPS
- How many events per second? SQL / SIEM / Big Data



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.4 – Threat Optics

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/security/threat-protection/use-windows-event-forwarding-to-assist-in-intrusion-detection>

## Windows Audit Policy – Defining Windows Logging

Audit Policy Configuration is Categorized.

- Account Logon
- Account Management
- Detailed Tracking
- DS Access
- Logon/Logoff
- Object Access
- Policy Change
- Privilege Use
- System
- Global Object Access Auditing

The screenshot shows the Windows Security Settings application. The left pane displays a tree view of security settings, with 'Advanced Audit Policy Configuration' expanded and 'Audit Policies' selected. A red box highlights 'Audit Policies' in the tree, and a red arrow points to the right pane. The right pane shows a warning icon and text: 'When Advanced Audit Policy Configuration settings (Windows Vista or later) to override Policies\Security Options must also be enabled.' Below this, there are links for 'More about' and 'Which editions of'. A section titled 'A summary' contains a table of audit categories and their status.

Categories	Status
Account Logon	Not configured
Account Management	Not configured
Detailed Tracking	Not configured
DS Access	Not configured
Logon/Logoff	Not configured
Object Access	Not configured
Policy Change	Not configured
Privilege Use	Not configured
System	Not configured
Global Object Access Auditing	Not configured



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.5 – Threat Optics

## Windows Audit Policy – Baseline Policy

Microsoft claims the items here:

1. Should be considered a baseline set of events.
2. Will provide a ton of useful information in log form.

@Microsoft:

We're tired of configuring these everywhere. Can you just turn them on for us? By default?



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.6 – Threat Optics

Category	Subcategory	Audit settings
Account Logon	Credential Validation	Success and Failure
Account Management	Security Group Management	Success
Account Management	User Account Management	Success and Failure
Account Management	Computer Account Management	Success and Failure
Account Management	Other Account Management Events	Success and Failure
Detailed Tracking	Process Creation	Success
Detailed Tracking	Process Termination	Success
Logon/Logoff	User/Device Claims	Not configured
Logon/Logoff	IPsec Extended Mode	Not configured
Logon/Logoff	IPsec Quick Mode	Not configured
Logon/Logoff	Logon	Success and Failure
Logon/Logoff	Logoff	Success
Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	Success and Failure
Logon/Logoff	Special Logon	Success and Failure
Logon/Logoff	Account Lockout	Success
Object Access	Application Generated	Not configured
Object Access	File Share	Success
Object Access	File System	Not configured
Object Access	Other Object Access Events	Not configured
Object Access	Registry	Not configured
Object Access	Removable Storage	Success
Policy Change	Audit Policy Change	Success and Failure
Policy Change	MPSSVC Rule-Level Policy Change	Success and Failure
Policy Change	Other Policy Change Events	Success and Failure
Policy Change	Authentication Policy Change	Success and Failure
Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change	Success and Failure
Privilege Use	Sensitive Privilege Use	Not configured
System	Security State Change	Success and Failure
System	Security System Extension	Success and Failure
System	System Integrity	Success and Failure

# Audit Policy

The command prompt way.

```
auditpol.exe /set /Category:* /success:enable
auditpol.exe /set /Category:* /failure:enable
auditpol.exe /get /Category:*
```

## Configurable via GPO

- More difficult, settings in a few different places
- BUT – granular controls are nice

Account Management	
Computer Account Management	No Auditing
Security Group Management	Success and Failure
Distribution Group Management	No Auditing
Application Group Management	No Auditing
Other Account Management Events	Success and Failure
User Account Management	Success and Failure

```
PS C:\Users\Administrator> auditpol.exe /get /Category:*
System audit policy
Category/Subcategory      Setting
-----
System
Security System Extension  Success and Failure
System Integrity           Success and Failure
IPsec Driver               Success and Failure
Other System Events       Success and Failure
Security State Change     Success and Failure
Logon/Logoff
Logon                     Success and Failure
Logoff                   Success and Failure
Account Lockout           Success and Failure
IPsec Main Mode           Success and Failure
IPsec Quick Mode         Success and Failure
IPsec Extended Mode      Success and Failure
Special Logon             Success and Failure
Other Logon/Logoff Events Success and Failure
Network Policy Server    Success and Failure
User / Device Claims     Success and Failure
Object Access
File System              Success and Failure
Registry                Success and Failure
Kernel Object           Success and Failure
SAM                     Success and Failure
Certification Services  Success and Failure
Application Generated   Success and Failure
Handle Manipulation     Success and Failure
File Share              Success and Failure
Filtering Platform Packet Drop Success and Failure
Filtering Platform Connection Success and Failure
Other Object Access Events Success and Failure
Detailed File Share     Success and Failure
Removable Storage      Success and Failure
Central Policy Staging  Success and Failure
Privilege Use
Non Sensitive Privilege Use Success and Failure
Other Privilege Use Events Success and Failure
Sensitive Privilege Use Success and Failure
Detailed Tracking
Process Creation        Success and Failure
Process Termination     Success and Failure
DPMI Activity           Success and Failure
RPC Events              Success and Failure
Plug and Play Events    Success and Failure
Policy Change
Authentication Policy Change Success and Failure
Authentication Policy Change Success and Failure
MPSSVC Rule-level Policy Change Success and Failure
Filtering Platform Policy Change Success and Failure
Other Policy Change Events Success and Failure
Audit Policy Change     Success and Failure
Account Management
User Account Management Success and Failure
Computer Account Management Success and Failure
Security Group Management Success and Failure
Distribution Group Management Success and Failure
Application Group Management Success and Failure
Other Account Management Events Success and Failure
DS Access
Directory Service Changes Success and Failure
Directory Service Replication Success and Failure
Detailed Directory Service Replication Success and Failure
Directory Service Access
Account Logon
RemoteAuth Service Ticket Operations Success and Failure
Other Account Logon Events Success and Failure
RemoteAuth Authentication Service Success and Failure
Credential Validation
PS C:\Users\Administrator>
```



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.7 – Threat Optics

## Commands:

```
auditpol.exe /set /Category:* /success:enable
auditpol.exe /set /Category:* /failure:enable
auditpol.exe /get /Category:*
```

## Windows Event Collection - Command Line Logging is ~~Easy~~

Max log file size is small by default.  
Command line logging is off by default.

“To see the effects of this update, you will need to enable two policy settings”

- **Admin. Templates > System > Audit Process Creation**
- **Policies > Windows > Security > Advanced Audit > Detailed Tracking**

Yeah, and one last thing: The second setting may be overwritten.

When you use Advanced Audit Policy Configuration settings, you need to confirm that these settings are not overwritten by basic audit policy settings. Event 4719 is logged when the settings are overwritten.



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.8 – Threat Optics

### **Group Policy Object Policy Paths:**

Admin. Templates > System > Audit Process Creation

Policies > Windows > Security > Advanced Audit > Detailed Tracking

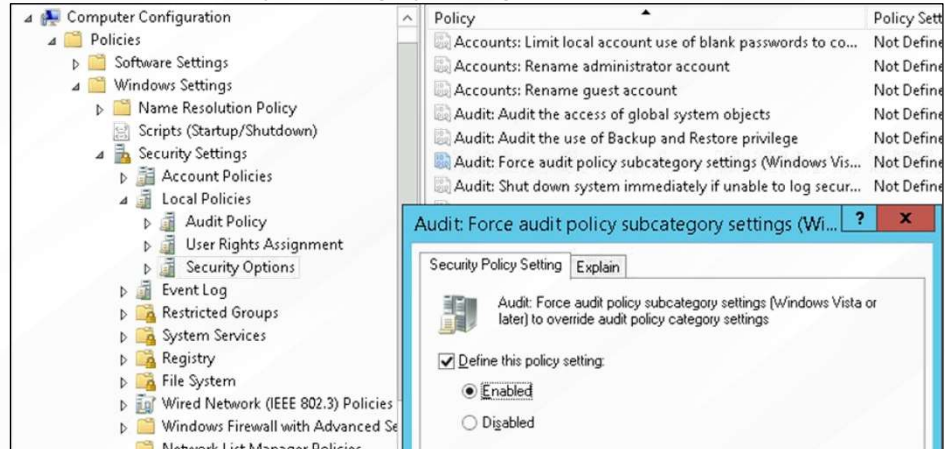


## Windows Event Collection - Command Line Logging is **Easy**

To avoid the overwriting of Advanced Audit settings, a *third* setting is required.

**Computer Configuration > Policies > Windows Settings > Security > Local > Security**

- Setting – **Audit: Force Audit Policy Subcategory Settings = Enabled**



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.9 – Threat Optics

### Group Policy Object Policy Paths:

Computer Configuration > Policies > Windows Settings > Security > Local > Security

**Setting:** Audit: Force Audit Policy Subcategory Settings = *Enabled*

## Windows Event Collection - PowerShell Logging is **Easy**

The PowerShell way to turn on auditing:

```
WevtUtil gl "Windows PowerShell" (list configuration)
WevtUtil sl "Windows PowerShell" /ms:512000000
WevtUtil sl "Windows PowerShell" /rt:false
WevtUtil gl "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational" (list configuration)
WevtUtil sl "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational" /ms:512000000
WevtUtil sl "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational" /rt:false
```

```
PS C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0> type .\profile.ps1
$LogCommandHealthEvent = $true
$LogCommandLifecycleEvent = $true
$LogPipelineExecutionDetails = $true
$PSVersionTable.PSVersion
```

Can also configure the following via command line options.

- Module Logging
- Script Block Logging
- Script Execution Privileges (ie: signed / bypass / enforced)



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.10 – Threat Optics

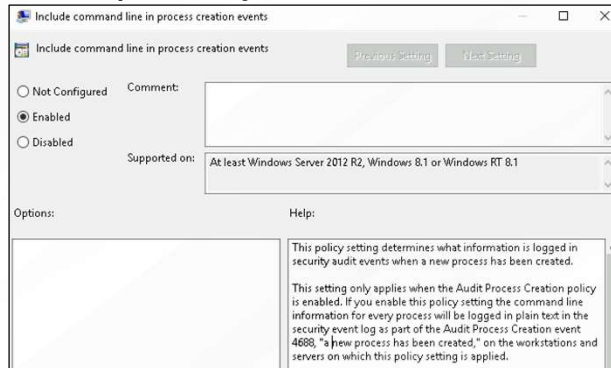
### Commands:

```
WevtUtil gl "Windows PowerShell" (list configuration)
WevtUtil sl "Windows PowerShell" /ms:512000000
WevtUtil sl "Windows PowerShell" /rt:false
WevtUtil gl "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational" (list
configuration)
WevtUtil sl "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational" /ms:512000000
WevtUtil sl "Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational" /rt:false
```

## Windows Event Collection - PowerShell Logging is **Easy**

The Group Policy way to turn on PowerShell auditing:

**Policies > Admin Templates > System > Audit Process Creation**



Can also configure more granular things under the PowerShell config section.

**Admin Templates > Windows Components > Windows PowerShell**

- Module Logging
- Script Block Logging
- Script Execution Privileges (ie: signed / bypass / enforced)



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.11 – Threat Optics

### Group Policy Object Policy Paths:

Policies > Admin Templates > System > Audit Process Creation

Admin Templates > Windows Components > Windows PowerShell

## Windows Event Collection What About IIS Logging?

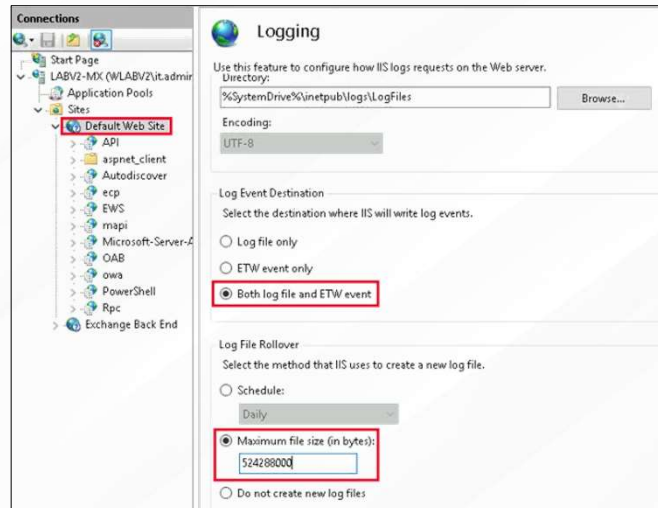
Yeah, that's not on by default either.  
LogFiles (text) written by default...  
**Nothing** to event log.

Enable:

- Both log file and ETW event
- Maximum file size

And then you can catch:

- MailSniper
- Burp Suite sprays
- Hydra
- Authentication interactions with Exchange



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.12 – Threat Optics

## RECAP.

Sysmon. Define internal tolerance for handling events. Configure, then Deploy Audit Policies.

We installed Sysmon earlier.

We need to understand our business culture's tolerance for:

- Windows Event Handling
- Shifting priorities - this is a challenge, once an organizations starts logging, and paying attention, tuning the noise out of an environment takes dedication to capital resource expenditure.

We have reviewed audit policies and understand some of the basics.

Let's deploy audit policies in our lab environment.



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.13 – Threat Optics



----- LAB -----



L0320

Import and Link Related GPOs  
Review GPOs as HTML Reports  
~15 Minutes

----- LAB -----



defensiveorigins.com  
© Defensive Origins LLC C0320.14 – Threat Optics

**Applied Purple Teaming – L0320 Threat Optics Lab 2**  
Group Policy Configuration and Import  
15 Minutes