Reviewing History and Logs in Your Nexus Dashboard, Release 4.1.1

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Understanding history and logs

You can review history and log information in your Nexus Dashboard at several levels:

- At the upper Nexus Dashboard level: The **History and Logs** page allows you to see the system-wide list of events and alerts in your Nexus Dashboard cluster. See Review history and logs for your Nexus Dashboard for more information.
- At the lower fabric levels: The **History** tab within a configured fabric provides audit logs, deployment history, and policy change history information for that specific fabric. See Review history and logs for a fabric for more information.

Enable history and log settings

To enable history and log setting and set the maximum audit record retention duration for your Nexus Dashboard:

1. Go to **Admin > System Settings > General**.
2. Under **History and logs settings**, click **Edit**.

   The **History and logs settings** dialog box opens.

3. Check the box in the **Enable audit logs streaming** field to enable that feature, then choose a remote streaming server from the drop-down list.

   See Add remote streaming servers for more information on adding remote streaming servers.

4. In the **Maximum Number Record Retention duration** field, enter the number of months as the duration that you want to have the records retained.

   Valid entries are from `1-12`. The default duration is 12 months.

5. In the **Maximum Number of Audit Records** field, enter the maximum number of audit records that you want to retain.

   Valid entries are from `0-2147483647`. The default value for maximum number of audit records is 100K for virtual cluster setup and 500K for a physical cluster.

Review history and logs for your Nexus Dashboard

The **History and Logs** page allows you to see the system-wide list of audits in your Nexus Dashboard cluster.

View Audit Logs

Nexus Dashboard audit logging, which is automatically enabled when you first deploy the cluster, captures the operational changes made by the users in the environment.

You can view the History and logs by selecting **Admin > History and Logs** from the main navigation menu. You can also view History and Logs from the **Home** section of the main navigation menu. To view History and Logs, click **View All** under **Recent Activity**.

History and Logs provides this information for the audit logs in your Nexus Dashboard.

Field	Description
Creation time	Shows the date and time that the audit log was created.
User	Shows the user who was logged into the Nexus Dashboard when the audit log was created.
Affected object	Shows the object that was affected when the audit log was created.
Action performed	Shows the action that was performed when the audit log was created.
Description	Shows a description of the audit log. Click the entry in the **Description** column to display a drawer with additional information.
Fabric name	Shows the fabric that is associated with the audit log, if applicable.

The logs are not sorted by default. You can sort the list by clicking on any of the column headings. You can also sort data by choosing time modes like **Current**, **Last**, and **Date and Time Range**.

To filter the list by attribute, provide a specific attribute and value pair in the **Filter by attributes** field. For any entry in the table, click the funnel icon that appears to the right of that entry to automatically enter the filter attributes for that specific entry.

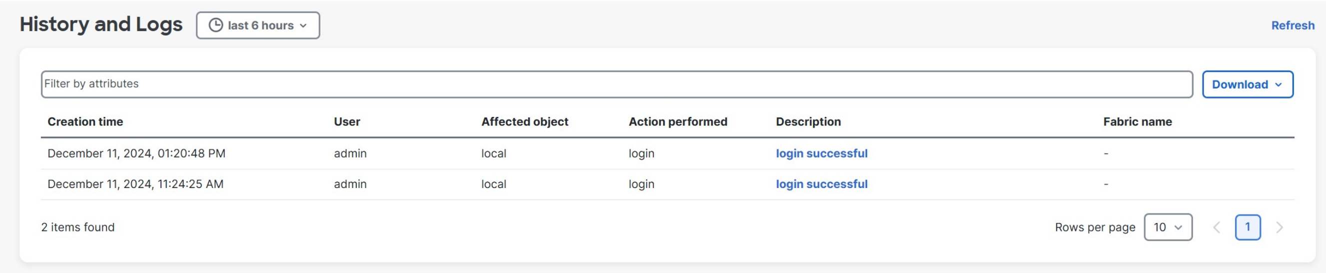
To filter the list based on time selection, click the clock icon next to **History and Logs**. Make the appropriate choice in the **Mode** area that appears:

- **Current**: Shows the latest available data.
- **Last...**: Choose from these options in the **Period** area:
  - last 15 minutes
  - last hour
  - last 2 hours
  - last 6 hours

- last day
- last week

- **Date and Time Range**: Choose the date and time range to use to filter the list.

Click **Apply** after you have made the appropriate choice in this page. The entries in the table are updated based on the choice the you made in the **Mode** area. The figure below shows example output where **last 6 hours** is chosen in the **Mode** area.



History and Logs

To view detailed information about a specific entry, click the link in the **Description** column to open the **Details** page for that entry.

Download Audit Logs

In the **History and Logs** page, click the **Download** button and choose either **Download as CSV** or **Download as JSON** to download audit logs.

> The **Download as CSV** option downloads all audit log data, irrespective of the time selection in the **Mode** area and attributes filter in the **Filter by attributes** field.

Review history and logs for a fabric

You can review these history and logs at the fabric level:

- View audit logs
- View deployment history
- View policy change history

View audit logs

Nexus Dashboard audit logging is automatically enabled when you first deploy the cluster, and captures the operational changes made by the users in the environment.

To view the audit logs for a fabric:

1. Navigate to the fabric where you want to view the audit logs:
   a. Navigate to the main **Fabrics** page:

      Manage > Fabrics

   b. Single-click on the fabric where you want to view the audit logs.

      The Overview page for that fabric appears.
2. Click the **History** tab.
3. Click the **Audit Logs** subtab.

   These fields appear in the **Audit Logs** page.

   - The logs are not sorted by default; you can sort the list by clicking on any of the column headings.
   - You can choose to filter the list using the **Filter by attributes** field and providing a specific attribute and value pair.

Field	Description
Creation Time	Provides the date and time when an action was performed.
User	Provides information on the user who performed an action.
Resource	Provides information on the resource where an action was performed.
Action Performed	Describes what action was performed.
Description	Provides a description of the action that was performed.
Fabric Name	Provides information on the fabric name where an action was performed.

   You can also perform these actions in this page.

Action	Description
Download > Download as CSV	Click to download the audit log information to a CSV file.
Download > Download as JSON	Click to download the audit log information to a JSON file.

When you create anomaly alert rules, any updates to anomalies will not be recorded in the audit logs.

View deployment history

Deployment history of the switches and networks that are involved in the selected service policy or route peering are displayed in the **Deployment History** tab. The deployment history captures the changes that are pushed or deployed from Nexus Dashboard to the switches. The deployment history captures the changes that are pushed or deployed from Nexus Dashboard to the switches.

To view the deployment history for a fabric:

1. Navigate to the fabric where you want to view the deployment history:
   a. Navigate to the main **Fabrics** window:

      Manage > Fabrics

   b. Single-click on the fabric where you want to view the deployment history.

      The Overview window for that fabric appears.
2. Click the **History** tab.
3. Click the **Deployment History** subtab.

   This table describes the fields that appear on this page.

Field	Description
Hostname	Specifies the host name of the entity.
Entity Name	Specifies the entity name.
Entity Type	Specifies the entity type.
Source	Specifies the source of the deployment on the entity.
Commands	Click the link in the **Commands** column to bring up a window that displays the command execution details for the entity.
Status	Specifies the status of the host.
Serial Number	Specifies the serial number of the entity.
Status Description	Specifies the deployment status on the entity.
User	Specifies the user who performed the deployment on the entity.
Time of Completion	Specifies the timestamp of the deployment.

In certain scenarios after deploying configurations on a switch, the **Status** column displays the following error indicating a failure:

```
Deployment Failed to execute job for this device with " Reason: dcnm-sim-agent-xx expired.
```

However, the **Config Status** in **Manage > Inventory > Switches** page displays **In-Sync**. The reason for a conflicting status is due to inter-node connectivity issue that causes the keep alives between the sim-agent and the sim-master to fail, resulting in an agent expiry event, whereas the sim-agent is alive and deploying the configuration on the switch. No further action is required from you for this error.

View policy change history

Different users can simultaneously change expected configuration of switches in the Nexus Dashboard. You can view the history of policy changes in the **Policy Change History** tab.

To view the policy change history for a fabric:

1. Navigate to the fabric where you want to view the policy change history:
   a. Navigate to the main **Fabrics** window:

      Manage > Fabrics

   b. Single-click on the fabric where you want to view the policy change history.

      The **Overview** page for that fabric appears.
2. Click the **History** tab.
3. Click the **Policy Change History** subtab.

   This table describes the fields that appear on this page.

Field	Description
Template	Specifies the template that was used in the policy change.
Description	Specifies the description of the policy change.
Content Type	Specifies the content type for the policy change.
Operations	Specifies the Policy Template Instances (PTIs).
Generated Config	Specifies the configuration history for the policy change. Click **Detailed History**, if available, to view the configuration history for the policy change.
Entity Name	Specifies the entity name where the policy change was performed.
Entity Type	Specifies the entity type where the policy change was performed.
Source	Specifies the source of the policy change.
Priority	Specifies the priority value of the policy change.

Field	Description
Policy ID	Specifies the policy ID of the policy change.
Host Name	Specifies the host name where the policy change was performed.
Created On	Specifies that date on which the policy was created.
Serial Number	Specifies the serial number where the policy change was performed.
User	Specifies the user who performed the policy change.

Add remote streaming servers

You might need remote streaming servers to be configured when you deal with various areas in Nexus Dashboard, such as tech support, anomalies, and history and logs.

To add remote streaming servers:

1. Choose **Admin > System Settings**.

   The **General** tab is selected by default.

2. Locate the **Remote streaming servers** tile and click **Edit**.

   A table showing any already-configured remote streaming servers appears.

3. Click **Add Server**.

   The **Add Server** dialog box opens.

4. Determine the service where you want to add remote streaming servers.
   - Splunk
   - Syslog

Splunk

1. In the **Protocol** field, choose **HTTP** or **HTTPS** based on the Splunk URL that you use.

   For example:

   - Choose **HTTP**, if your login URL is http://splunk.mycompany.com:8000.
   - Choose HTTPS, if your login URL is https://mycompany.splunkcloud.com/, https://mycompany.splunkcloud.com:443, or https://splunk.mycompany.com.

   Before enabling HTTP or HTTPS, you must upload the CA certificate for the Splunk destination host to Nexus Dashboard.

2. Enter a name for the Splunk remote streaming server in the **Name** field.
3. In the **Hostname/IP Address**, enter the hostname or IP address.
4. In the **Port** field, enter the HTTP event collector (HEC) port number.

   The HEC port number for Splunk deployments over HTTP or HTTPS protocols can be one of the following:

   - 8088 on Splunk Cloud free trials
   - 443 by default on Splunk Cloud Platform instances

5. In the **Token** field, enter the HEC token.

   For more information on Splunk deployment guidelines, see the https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/9.4.0/Data/UsetheHTTPEventCollector [Set up and use HTTP Event

Collector in Splunk Web].

6. In the **Index** field, enter the necessary index information for the Splunk remote streaming server.

   The index details on the Nexus Dashboard should match with the Splunk index.

7. Click **Save** in the **Add Server** page.

   You are returned to the **Remote streaming server** page.

8. In the **Remote streaming server** page, click **Add Server** to add another remote streaming server or click **Save** to save the configured remote streaming servers.

Syslog

1. In the **Protocol** field, choose either **TCP** or **UDP**.
2. Enter a name for the Syslog remote streaming server in the **Name** field.
3. In the **Hostname/IP Address** and **Port** fields, enter the hostname or IP address and port details.
4. Check the box next to the **TLS** field to enable this option.

   Before enabling TLS, you must upload the CA certificate for the Syslog destination host to Nexus Dashboard. See Managing Certificates in your Nexus Dashboard for more information.

5. Click **Save** in the **Add Server** page.

   You are returned to the **Remote streaming server** page.

6. In the **Remote streaming server** page, click **Add Server** to add another remote streaming server or click **Save** to save the configured remote streaming servers.

   The CA certificate you upload is used to sign the certificate that Splunk and Syslog uses. The certificate for Splunk and Syslog should contain the IP address or DNS name in the Subject Alternative Name (SAN) section.

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