IBM Security QRadar
Version 7.2.0

Using IPv6 with QRadar Technical Note

Note: Before using this information and the product that it supports, read the information in Notices and Trademarks on page 7.

CONTENTS

1 DEPLOYING QRADAR IN AN IPV6 ENVIRONMENT

IPv4 and IPv6 addressing is supported for network connectivity and management of QRadar software and appliances.

When you install QRadar, you are prompted to specify whether your Internet protocol is an IPv4 or IPv6 environment.

Unless otherwise noted, all references to QRadar refer to IBM Security QRadar SIEM, IBM Security QRadar Log Manager, and IBM Security QRadar Network Anomaly Detection. References to flows do not apply to QRadar Log Manager

Understanding IPv6

IPv6 is an Internet protocol for packet-switched networks.

IPv6 has a larger address space than IPv4, thus allowing flexibility in allocating addresses and routing traffic. Event and flow records contain normalized fields for IPv6 addresses. Also, Device Support Modules (DSMs) can parse IPv6 source and destination address from event payloads.

IPv6 integration with QRadar

The following QRadar components support IPv6:

- **Network Activity tab**
- **Log Activity tab**
- **Searching, grouping, and reporting on IPv6 fields**
- **Custom rules**
- **Deployment editor**

Network Activity tab

Depending on your deployment, the **Network Activity** tab can display four IP address fields:

- Source IP Address
- Destination IP Address
- IPv6 Source Address
- IPv6 Destination Address

To save space and indexing in a native IPv4 or IPv6 source environment, additional IP address fields are not stored or displayed. In a mixed IPv4/IPv6 environment, a flow record contains both IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.

IPv6 addresses are supported for both packet data, including sFlow, and NetFlow V9 data. However, older versions of NetFlow may not support IPv6.

Log Activity tab

Depending on your deployment, the **Log Activity** tab can display four IP address fields:

- Source IP Address
- Destination IP Address
- IPv6 Source Address
- IPv6 Destination Address

When an address does not exist, template-based records are used to avoid wasted space.

DSMs can parse IPv6 addresses from the event payload. If any DSM can not parse IPv6 addresses, a log source extension can parse the addresses. For more information about log source extensions, see the *Log Sources Users Guide*.

Searching, grouping, and reporting on IPv6 fields

In an IPv6 or mixed deployment, you can:

- Search events and flows using IPv6 parameters in the search criteria.
- Group and sort event and flow records based on IPv6 parameters.
- Base reports on data from IPv6-based searches.

Custom rules

A custom rule has been added to support IPv6 addressing:

- SRC/DST IP = IPv6 Address
- IPv6-based building blocks have also been added for use in additional rules.

Deployment editor

The deployment editor supports IPv6 addresses.

IPv6 configuration considerations

When deploying QRadar in an IPv6 or mixed environment, consider the following:

- To log in to QRadar SIEM in an IPv6 or mixed environment, the IP address must be wrapped in square brackets as follows:

  `https://[<IP Address>]`

  Where **`<IP Address>`** is the IP address of the QRadar system.
- Both IPv4 and IPv6 environments can use a hosts file for address translation. An IPv6 or mixed environment Console requires that the client resolves the Console address by its host name. We recommend that you add the IP address of the IPv6 console to the /etc/hosts file on the client.

- Flow sources, such as NetFlow and sFlow, can be accepted from IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.
- Event sources, such as syslog and SNMP, can be accepted from IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.
- Disable superflows and flow bundling in an IPv6 environment. See the *Administration Guide.*
- By default, QRadar currently does not support adding an IPv4-only managed host to an IPv6/IPv4 mixed mode console.

To setup an IPv4-only managed host in a mixed mode system:

Step 1 Install your QRadar Console as IPv6.

Step 2 On the Console, type the following command:

`/opt/qradar/bin/setup_v6v4_console.sh`

Step 3 To add an ipv4 managed host, type the following command

`/opt/qradar/bin/add_v6v4_host.sh`

Step 4 Add the managed host through the interface.

Known limitations

When QRadar is deployed in an IPv6 environment, the following limitations are known:

- The network hierarchy is not updated to support IPv6. Some aspects of the QRadar deployment, including surveillance, searching, and analysis, do not take advantage of the network hierarchy. For example, within the **Log Activity** tab, you cannot search or aggregate events By Network.
- No IPv6-based asset profiles. Asset profiles are only created if QRadar receives events, flows, and vulnerability data for IPv4 hosts.
- No host profile test in custom rules for IPv6 addresses.
- No specialized indexing or optimization of IPv6 addresses.
- No IPv6-based sources and destinations for offenses.

A NOTICES AND TRADEMARKS

What's in this appendix:

This section describes some important notices, trademarks, and compliance information.

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