Progress®
Kemp® LoadMaster®

Feature Description Web Application Firewall - LoadMaster

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Introduction

With cybercriminal attacks on the rise, organizations need to do more than ever to mitigate risks to their applications on the web. Application security is a multifaceted and ever-changing task and must be applied at multiple levels of the infrastructure that serves applications. Security must be provided on the network before requests reach the backend application servers, and Progress Kemp has the experience and the tools you need to do this. Deploying LoadMaster with the Web Application Firewall (WAF) enabled as part of your network infrastructure helps deliver in-depth security for your web servers and applications.

The WAF enables secure deployment of web applications, preventing Layer 7 attacks while maintaining core load balancing services, ensuring comprehensive application delivery and security. WAF functionality directly augments the LoadMaster's existing security features to create a layered defense for web applications - enabling a safe, compliant, and productive use of published services.

Note: WAF is only available on certain subscriptions. Please contact a Progress Kemp representative if needed.

When WAF is enabled, the WAF engine scans every incoming HTTP packet – running through each assigned rule individually and deciding what action to take if a rule is triggered. The rules can be run on requests and responses.

WAF can protect against attacks, such as:

- SQL Injection
- Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
- Unvalidated redirects and forwards

- Missing function-level access control
- Sensitive data exposure

For a more detailed overview of the WAF feature, refer to the Web Application Firewall Pack (WAF) section of the Product Overview Progress Kemp LoadMaster.

Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to describe the WAF features and provide step-by-step instructions on how to configure the WAF settings in the LoadMaster.

For further information and assistance, refer to our Support site.

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Configuring WAF

Refer to the following sections for details on configuring the WAF options in the LoadMaster.

Contents

- Resource Considerations
- Balancing WAF Resource Utilization with High Load Applications
- WAF and Large Client Uploads
- Managing Daily Updates
- Custom Rules
- Configure WAF for a Virtual Service
- Backing Up and Restoring a WAF Configuration
- WAF Logging, Statistics, and Status Options

Resource Considerations

Note: Using WAF can have a significant performance impact on the LoadMaster deployment. Ensure that the appropriate resources are allocated.

For virtual and bare metal LoadMaster instances, a minimum of 2GB of allocated RAM is required for the operation of WAF. The default memory allocation for Virtual LoadMasters and LoadMaster Bare Metal instances before LoadMaster Operating System version 7.1-22 is 1 GB of RAM. If this default allocation has not been changed, modify the memory settings before proceeding with the WAF configuration. If the check

box to enable WAF is grayed out, it could mean that the LoadMaster does not have enough memory to run WAF.

There is a WAF engine open connection limit of 64000 per Virtual Service.

Note: To reduce the risk of the WAF connection limit being reached, connections will be closed after 20 seconds when a remote log server is too slow to respond. There is no impact on connections in use.

Balancing WAF Resource Utilization with High Load Applications

The WAF subsystem uses a significant amount of system resources. When enabling WAF, you should avoid overconsuming system resources that are needed for load balancing Virtual Services. When WAF starts to consume resources at a level that impacts overall system performance, one or more of these symptoms can be observed:

- High CPU utilization
- High memory utilization
- InterProcess Communication (IPC) issues between Layer 7 and WAF processes
- Decreased Virtual Service throughput
- Increased Virtual Service latency

There are essentially two ways of dealing with these issues:

- Disable WAF completely on one or more Virtual Services.
- Tailor the applied rulesets used on each Virtual Service to reduce the rules applied to the minimum necessary for secure operation.

The best practice for WAF rulesets is to avoid a blanket application of a ruleset and instead, enable only those rules in the ruleset that are specifically required for your application.

Note that internal processing and communication between WAF and Layer 7 in version 7.2.36 is enhanced to help mitigate resource exhausting issues through smarter thread and resource management. The best practice is still to enable a minimum set of rules instead of enabling the entire ruleset.

WAF and Large Client Uploads

WAF engines in general are not designed to examine very large incoming POST bodies. The WAF engine has a hard-coded limit of 100 MB on the size of a POST body that it will examine, and there is also a two-minute time limit on POST body examination. These are fail-safe measures to prevent the engine from becoming a bottleneck due to large incoming POSTs.

To work around this limitation on incoming POST data, the recommended best practice is to configure a Virtual Service with two SubVSs – one with WAF enabled and one without – and apply conditional content rules to each to force upload requests through the non-WAF SubVS.

Managing Daily Updates

The Progress- Kemp-provided daily updates can be set to download automatically and install. They can also be manually downloaded and installed. The sections below explain how to use each method.

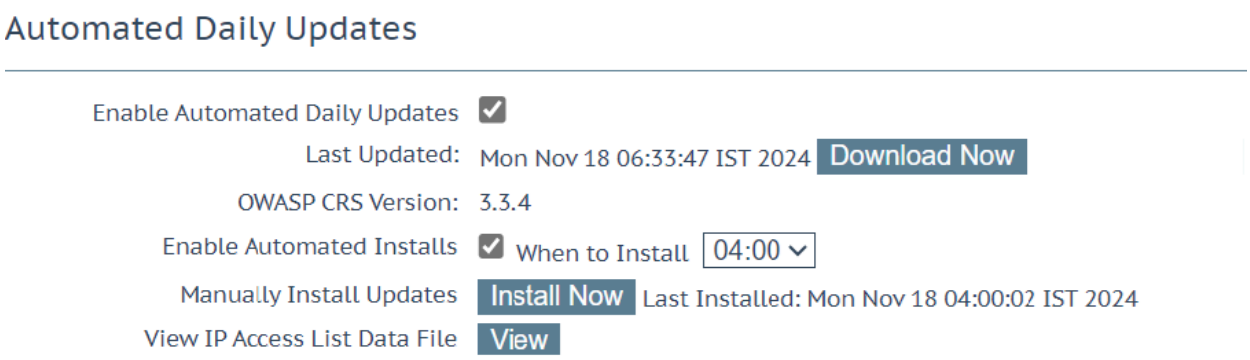
Note: The IP/FQDN and port of the Progress Kemp licensing server must be open on your firewall. The FQDN and IP address is **licensing.kemp.ax 52.166.52.190**, and the port is **443**. The old FQDNs for the Progress Kemp licensing server are **alsi.kemptechnologies.com** and **alsi2.kemptechnologies.com**, and the IP address for the old FQDNs is **52.136.251.129**. These also may need to be open depending on your LoadMaster version.

Note: Progress Kemp-provided daily updates are only available when you have an Enterprise Plus subscription. For further details on the subscription tiers, go to LoadMaster Support Subscriptions.

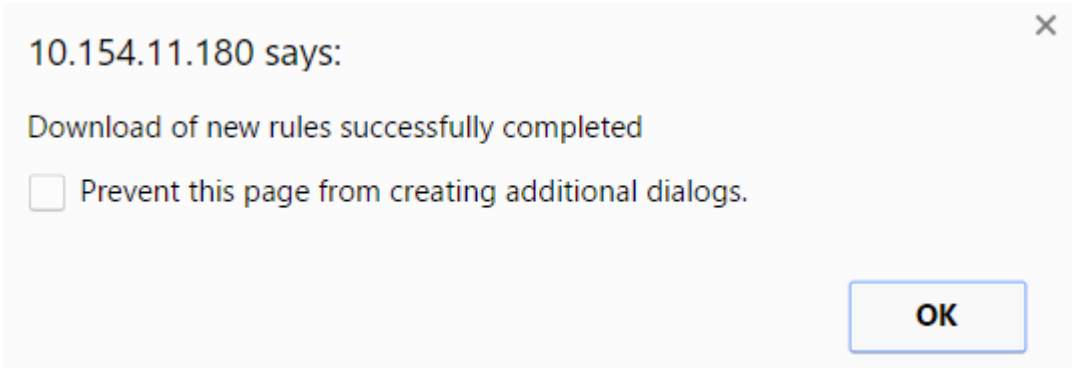
Automatic Downloading and Updating of Daily Updates

Before enabling the automatic installation of daily updates, you must first download and install the latest updates. Follow these steps to configure automatic download and installation settings for the latest updates:

1. In the main menu, select **Web Application Firewall > Access Settings**.



2. Click **Download Now** to download the latest daily updates.



3. Click **OK** on the success message.
4. Click **Install Now** to install the latest daily updates.

5. To enable the automatic download of daily updates, select the **Enable Automated Daily Updates** check box.

   Note: The **Download Now** and **Install Now** options are grayed out if the WAF support license has expired. If this is the case, contact Progress Kemp to renew your subscription.

6. To enable automatic installation of the daily updates, select the **Enable Automated Installs** check box.

   By default, the **Enable Automated Installs** and **Manually Install Updates** options are grayed out. The rules must be downloaded for the first time before these options become available.

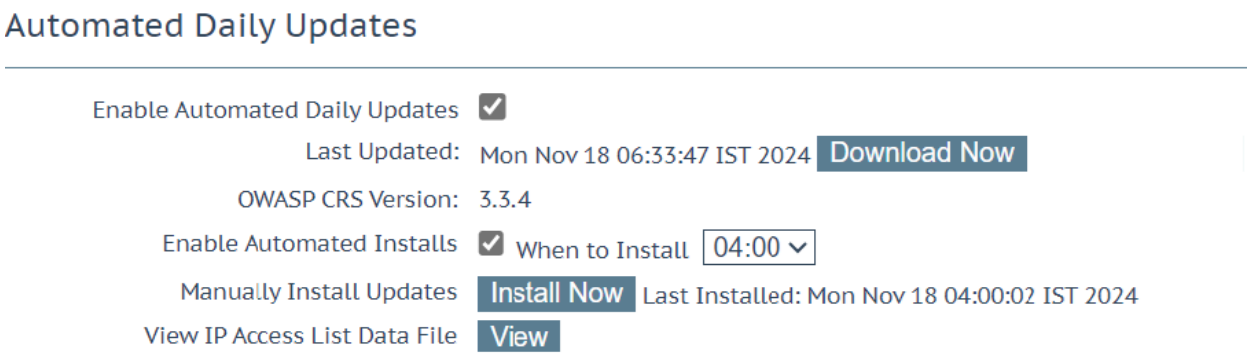
7. Select the time (hour of the day) to install the daily updates automatically.

   The daily updates must be assigned to a Virtual Service to take effect.

Manual Downloading and Updating of Daily Updates

To manually download and install the daily updates, follow these steps:

1. In the main menu, go to **Web Application Firewall > Access Settings**.



2. Click **Download Now** to download the daily updates now.

   A warning message appears if the rules have not been updated in the last seven days or if they have not been downloaded at all.

3. Click **Install Now** to install the daily updates manually.

Note: The daily updates must be assigned to a Virtual Service to take effect.

IP Access List Data File

You can view the IP access list data file in **Web Application Firewall > Access Settings** by clicking **View**. This file contains a list of blocked IP addresses for known bad actors. If the **Enable IP Reputation Blocking** check box is enabled for a Virtual Service (**Virtual Services > View/Modify Services > Modify > WAF**), client addresses are checked against the IP access list file and are blocked if a match is found.

Custom Rules

Third-party rules can be uploaded to the LoadMaster. You can also write your own custom rules, which can be uploaded. These rules must be in the ModSecurity rule format to upload correctly. The **Custom Rules** screen enables you to upload **WAF Custom Rules** (.conf) and associated **WAF Custom Rule Data** (.data or .txt) files. The first character in the filename must be an alpha character or an underscore (_). The other characters in the filename can include full stops (**.**) or dashes (**-**). You can also upload gzip-compressed Tarball files (.tar.gz) that contain multiple rule and data files.

Note: We do not recommend using the WAF rule "redirect" action in custom rules because of the impact this has on system performance. You should use content rules instead for that purpose.

Note: Based on OWASP recommended best practices, the order of WAF rule processing was changed in LoadMaster firmware version 7.2.57. As of 7.2.57, custom rules are processed before the OWASP CRS rules.

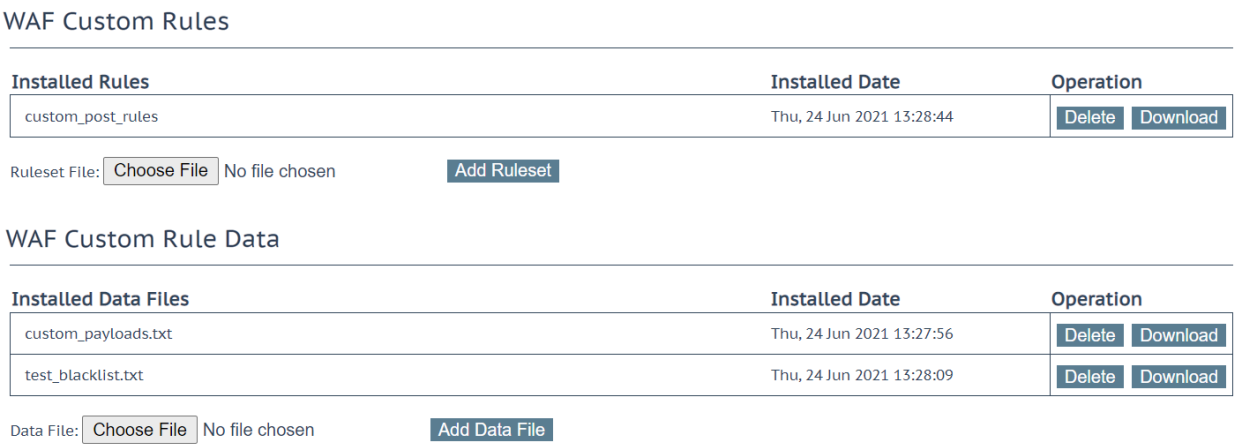
To check the order that the rules are processed in:

1. Go to **System Configuration > Logging Options > System Log Files > Debug Options** and click the **Enable Logging** button next to **Enable WAF Debug Logging**.
2. When WAF debug logging is enabled, if there are WAF debug logs - the option **WAF Debug Log File** becomes available in the **System Log Files** screen. Click **View** to view the WAF debug log file.
3. You can see what order the rules are processed in. Lines that say **Invoking rule** specify when the rule was processed.

   To upload rule and data files, follow the steps below:

   CAUTION: Be aware that enabling the WAF debug logging option will generate logs that may include Personally Identifiable Information as defined under the General Data Protection Agreement (EU GDPR). You should follow your organization's best practice to protect this information which may include anonymizing, deleting, or encrypting the data within the logs.

4. In the main menu, go to **Web Application Firewall > Custom Rules**.



5. To upload custom rules; in the **Installed Rules** section, click **Choose File**.

Individual rules can be uploaded as .conf files. Alternatively, you can upload a package of rules in a .tar.gz file.

Note: Rules listing IP addresses with the /32 subnet mask are not supported and will not upload successfully.

6. Browse to and select the rule file(s) to be uploaded.
7. Click **Add Ruleset**.
8. To upload any additional data files, in the **WAF Custom Rule Data** section, click **Choose File**.

   The additional files are for the rules' associated data files. If you uploaded a Tarball, the rules and data files can be packaged together.

9. Browse to and select the additional data files to be uploaded.
10. Click **Add Data File**.

The rules are now available to assign within the Virtual Services modify screen. Refer to the next section to determine how to configure the Virtual Service to use the installed rules.

Delete/Download a Custom Rule or Data File



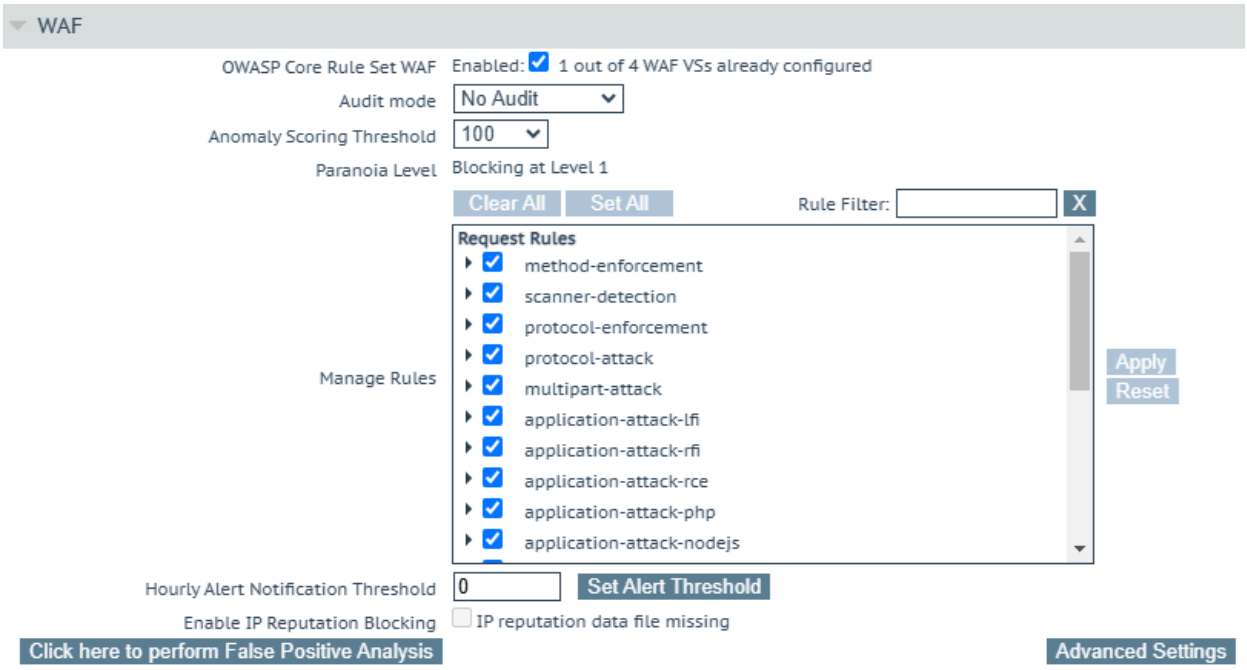
Custom rules and data files can be deleted or downloaded by clicking the relevant buttons.

Note: If a rule is assigned to a Virtual Service, you cannot delete it.

Configure WAF for a Virtual Service

WAF settings can be configured for each Virtual Service. Follow these steps to configure the WAF in a Virtual Service:

1. In the main menu of the LoadMaster UI, go to **Virtual Services >View/Modify Services**.
2. Click **Modify** on the relevant Virtual Service (or on the relevant SubVS in the **SubVSs** section of the Virtual Service).
3. Expand the **WAF** section.

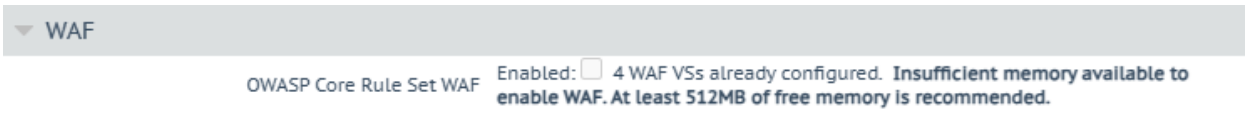


4. By default, WAF is disabled. To enable WAF, select **Enabled**.

Note: When using WAF in a Microsoft Exchange environment, ensure to enable WAF at the SubVS level to avoid issues with ActiveSync because standard WAF is unable to interpret the protocols used by ActiveSync.

Note: In general, WAF should be enabled at the SubVS level of the Virtual Service (not at the main Virtual Service level). You should not enable WAF on a parent Virtual Service and SubVS at the same time.

The maximum number of WAF-enabled Virtual Services is the total (unused or available) RAM (in MB)/512 MB. For example: 8 GB/512 MB = 16 WAF-enabled Virtual Services. When the maximum is reached, no additional Virtual Services can be enabled with WAF.



A message displays if there is insufficient memory available to enable WAF.

A message is displayed next to the **Enabled** check box displaying how many WAF-enabled Virtual Services exist and the maximum number of WAF-enabled Virtual Services that can exist. If the maximum number of WAF-enabled Virtual Services is reached, the **Enabled** check box is grayed out.

5. Specify the **Audit mode**.
   There are three audit modes:
   - **No Audit:** No data is logged.
   - **Audit Relevant:** Logs data that is of a warning level and higher.
   - **Audit All:** Logs all data through the Virtual Service.

   Selecting the **Audit All** option produces a large amount of log data. We do not recommend selecting the

Audit All option for normal operation. However, the **Audit All** option can be useful when troubleshooting a specific problem.

6. Specify the **Anomaly Scoring Threshold**.

   Note: For each request, every triggered detection raises the anomaly score. Most rules have a score of 5. If the cumulative anomaly score per request hits the configured limit, the request will be blocked. The default value is 100 and the allowable range is 1 to 10000.

7. The Paranoia Level can be set in **Advanced Settings**, but the value is displayed here for informational purposes.
8. Enable or disable rules in the **Manage Rules** section. When finished making changes, click **Apply**.

   Rules are grouped in the **Request Rules** section as per the OWASP numbering system. Rule groups or Individual rules within each ruleset can be enabled/disabled as required. To enable a rule or group of rules, select the relevant check box. If you have previously enabled/disabled rules in that ruleset, within that Virtual Service – the rules retain their previous settings.

   Note: Some rules or rule sets may have dependencies on other rules. There is no dependency check in the LoadMaster when rules are disabled - before disabling any rule, be aware of any rule chains or dependencies.

   There is a **Run First** check box available for custom rules. If the **Run First** check box is enabled for a custom rule, the rule will be run first, before the OWASP Core Rule Set (CRS). If the **Run First** check box is disabled for a custom rule, the custom rule runs after the CRS. The **Run First** check box is disabled by default.

   In the **Workloads** section there are several workloads available.

   If custom rules exist, they can be enabled or disabled within the **Custom Rules** section.

   To filter rules, enter text in the **Rule Filter** text box. Only rules containing that text will be shown. You can select the filtered rules by clicking **Set All** or deselect the filtered rules by clicking **Clear All**. Click **Apply** to apply the changes.

   Clicking **Reset** will reverse any changes that you have made that have not been applied.

9. Specify the **Hourly Alert Notification Threshold** and click **Set Alert Threshold**.

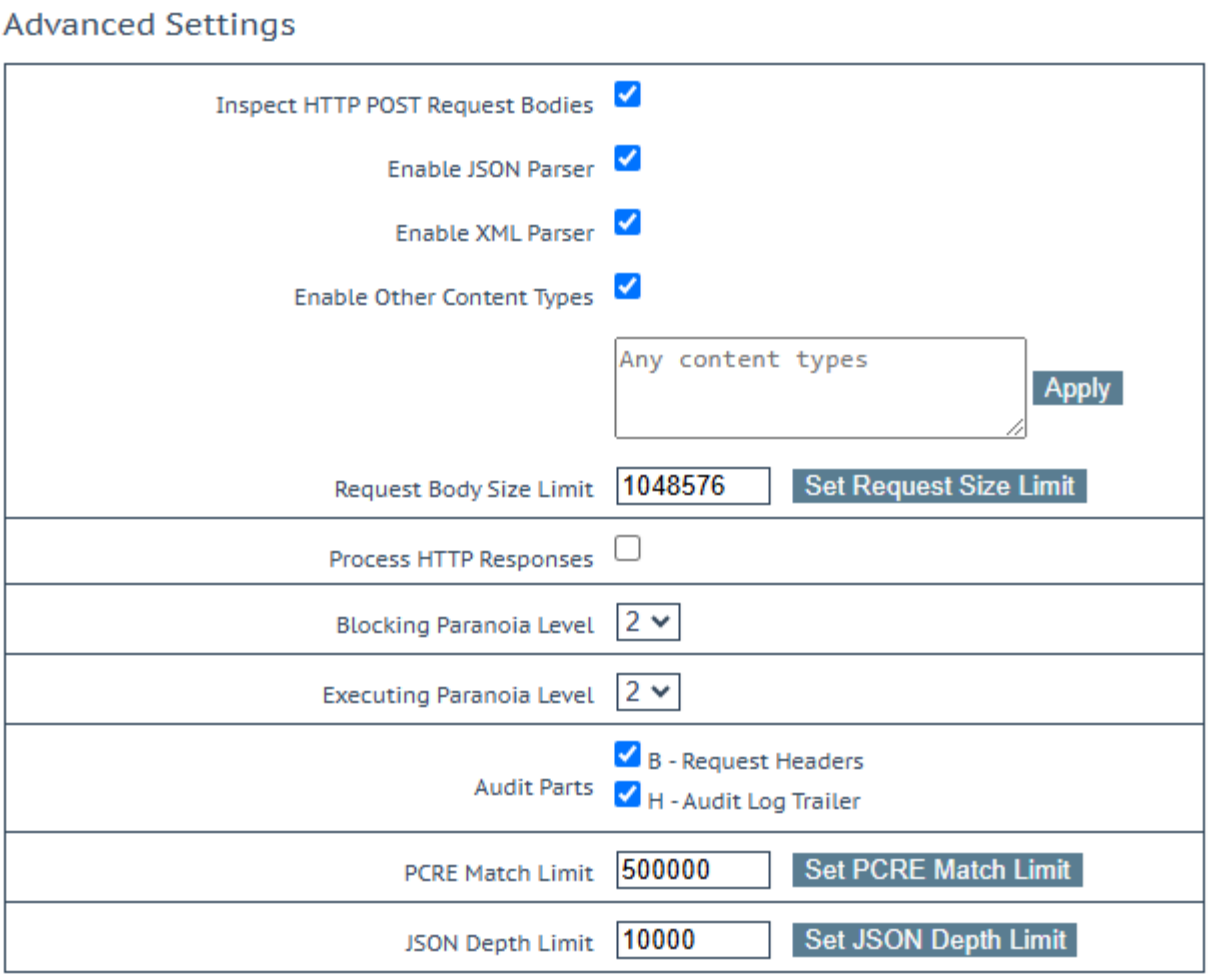
   This is the number of incidents per hour before sending an alert. Setting this to **0** disables alerting.

10. To enable the **IP Reputation Blocking** rule set, select the **IP Reputation Blocking** check box.

    In **Web Application Firewall > Access Settings** you can download and install the latest IP reputation file. If **Enable IP Reputation Blocking** is selected for a Virtual Service, client addresses are checked against the IP access list file and are blocked if a match is found.

Advanced Settings

Click **Advanced Settings** to configure the advanced OWASP settings.



1. Specify whether or not to **Inspect HTTP POST Request Bodies**.

   The **Inspect HTTP POST Request Bodies** option is disabled by default. If you enable this option, three more check boxes become available that allow you to enable the processing of JavaScript Object Notation (JSON), Extensible Markup Language (XML) requests, and other content types.

2. **Request Body Size Limit**: This option allows you to set the maximum size of POST request bodies that the WAF engine will allow through. Higher values require more memory resources and may impact WAF engine performance. The default value is 1048576 bytes. The range of valid values is 1024 to 52428800.
3. Select **Process HTTP Responses** to enable checking of the responses from the server to the client.

   Enabling the **Process HTTP Responses** option makes two more options (**E - Intended Response Body** and **F- Response Headers**) available in the **Audit Parts** options.

   The processing of response data can be CPU and memory-intensive and may impact performance.

4. Select the **Blocking Paranoia Level** to define how strictly the ModSecurity engine implements each rule.

   The default Paranoia Level value is set at 1. With each paranoia level increase, the CRS enables stricter implementations of the rules, giving you a higher level of security. However, higher paranoia levels also increase the possibility of blocking some legitimate traffic due to false positives. If you use higher paranoia levels, you will likely need to add some exclusion rules for certain applications that need to receive complex input patterns.

5. Select the **Executing Paranoia Level** that defines the paranoia level at which the ModSecurity engine checks/verifies the requests coming from the servers. The results of the checks will be logged but the **Executing Paranoia Level** is not used to determine what traffic will be blocked.

   Though the **Executing Paranoia Level** can be higher than the **Blocking Paranoia Level**, it cannot be lower. A higher **Executing Paranoia Level** enables users to see which rules would be triggered at a higher Paranoia level without blocking traffic.

6. **Audit Parts**: A single string that contains the sections that are to be entered in the WAF audit log for each request. The supported values are A, B, E, F, H, K, and Z, though only the values B, E, F, and H can be enabled or disabled.

   For further information regarding the Audit Parts, please refer to https://github.com/SpiderLabs/ModSecurity/wiki/ModSecurity-2-Data-Formats

7. **PCRE Match Limit**: Set the PCRE Match Limit value and click **Set PCRE Match Limit**. The default value is 10000. The maximum value is 9999999.

   This setting sets the maximum iterations that the internal PCRE engine uses before failing a match. A lower value may cause a valid match to fail, whereas a higher value may cause the WAF engine to run slower. This setting can be used to protect against Denial of Service (DoS) attacks using complex regular expressions.

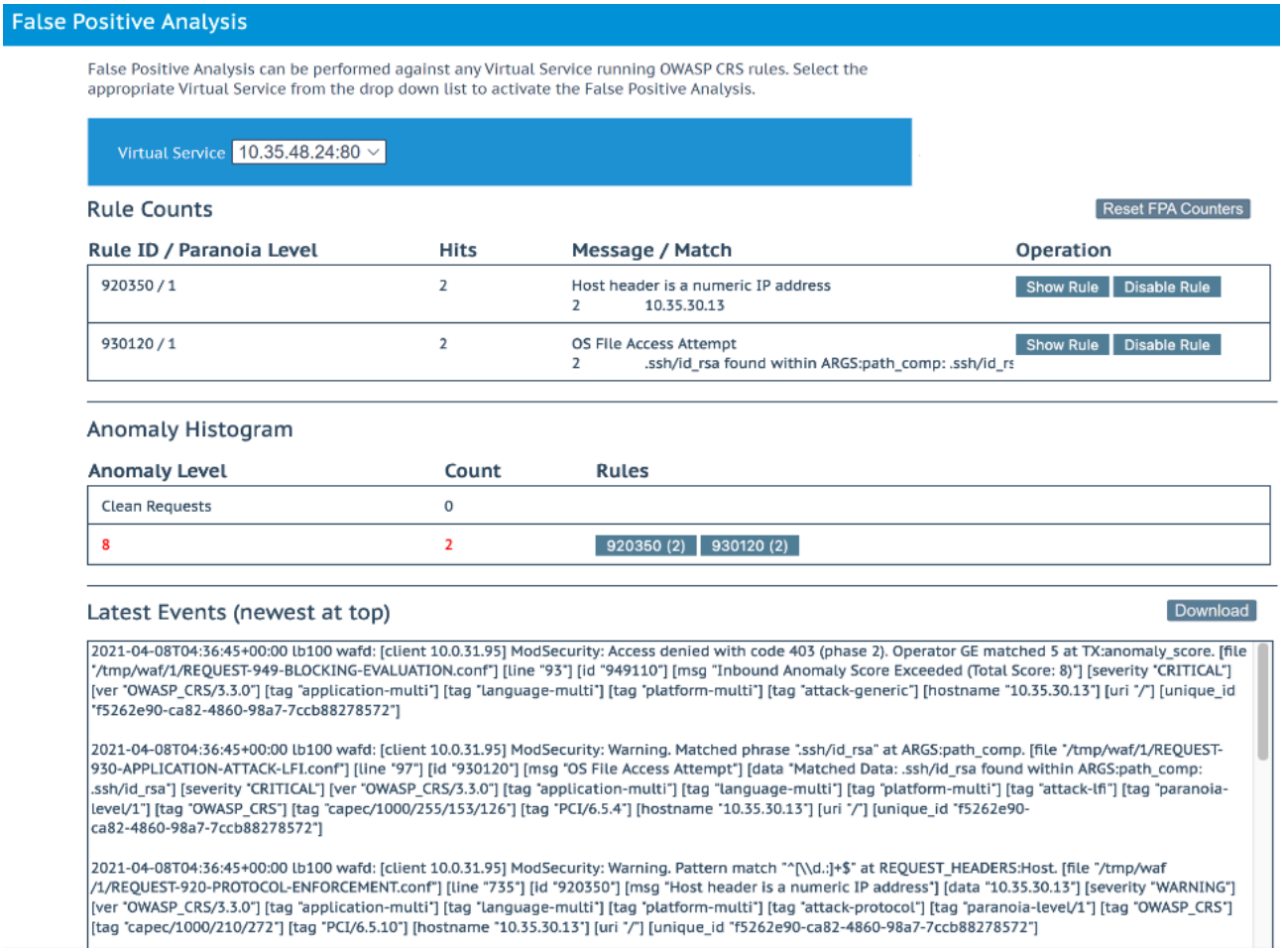
8. **JSON Depth Limit**: Set the JSON Depth Limit value and click **Set JSON Depth Limit**. The default value is 10000.

   This value sets the maximum depth that will be accepted during JSON parsing. Lower values may cause a valid match to fail. Higher values may cause the WAF engine to run slower. The range of valid values is 1000 to 99999.

9. **Countries to block**: Based on GEO IP information, you can select countries that should not be allowed access. Click the **Select All** button to block the access for all countries or select individual countries from the country list that are to be blocked and click **Set Excluded Countries**.

False Positive Analysis

This feature allows users to perform false positive analysis against their applications to obtain enhanced visibility of attacks and fine-tune protection. Click the **Click here to perform False Positive Analysis** button to check False Positives against any Virtual Service that runs OWASP CRS rules.



Rule Counts

The Rule Counts section displays information on any rules that are being triggered by requests. The Rule ID, the paranoia level the rule is running under, the number of hits per requests that have triggered the rule, and the message or match for the request are displayed for each rule that is triggered.

Clicking **Show Rule** in the **Operation** column displays the contents of the rule file associated with the triggered rule. This opens in a separate tab and the URL contains the triggered rule id.

The rule can be disabled by clicking **Disable Rule**.

Reset FPA Counters

Reset all False Positive Analysis Counters (Anomaly Histogram and Latest Events) for the Virtual Service. Clearing the Latest Events does not remove the logs from the LoadMaster, they are still available under **System Configuration > Logging Options > System Log Files > WAF Event Log File**.

Anomaly Histogram

The first row of the **Anomaly Histogram** section displays how many requests have been run without triggering a rule.

Each subsequent row gives details of rules that have been triggered and are affecting the Anomaly Score. Each row shows the cumulative Anomaly Score, the number of requests that have triggered the rule, and the

rule details.

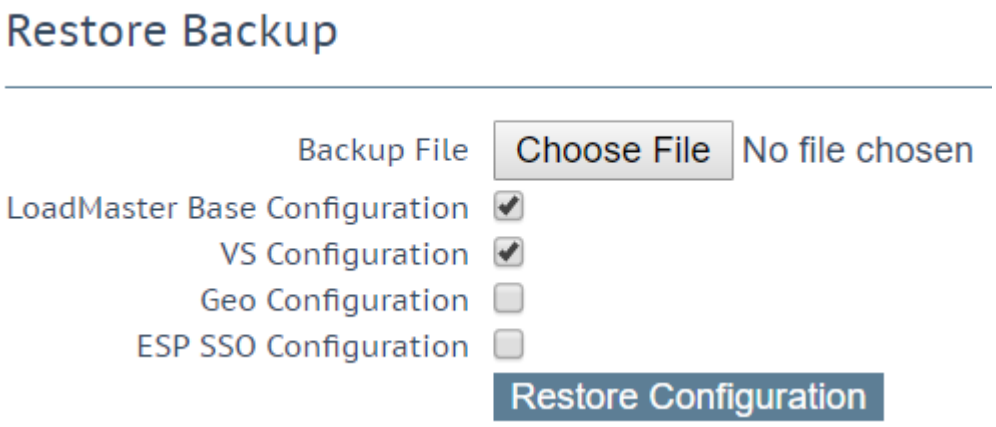
Latest Events (newest at top)

This section displays the event details for each rule that is triggered. These messages are in the standard ModSecurity log format and contain the anomaly score, the warning message, the attack state, and the paranoia level.

Download

Click **Download** to download the displayed WAF event log details.

Backing Up and Restoring a WAF Configuration



A backup of the LoadMaster configuration can be taken by going to **System Configuration > System Administration > Backup/Restore** and clicking **Create Backup File**.

The configuration can be restored from this screen too. Note that the Virtual Service settings can be restored by selecting **VS Configuration**, and the rules can be restored by selecting **LoadMaster Base Configuration**.

Note: The base configuration preserves the IP configuration information. The IP configuration information will need to be reconfigured when you restore the LoadMaster Base Configuration.

Note: A WAF configuration can only be restored onto a LoadMaster with a WAF license.

Note: Legacy WAF was fully deprecated and removed from the LoadMaster in firmware version 7.2.61. If you restore a backup containing legacy WAF-enabled Virtual Services on 7.2.61 or above, these Virtual Services will be converted to use OWASP WAF with the default settings. For further details, refer to the: Converting from Legacy WAF to OWASP WAF.

Note: If you restore a backup taken on LoadMaster version 7.2.58 or below (with legacy Web Application Firewall (WAF) enabled on some Virtual Services) to a fresh install of 7.2.59 or above (where Legacy WAF is no longer available) - the LoadMaster will enable OWASP WAF on the affected Virtual Services with default WAF settings. If this happens, a message is displayed listing the Virtual Services and SubVSs that were

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affected. You should review these Virtual Services and make any modifications needed.

WAF Logging, Statistics, and Status Options

This section describes the WAF Logging, Statistics, and Status options available in the LoadMaster UI.

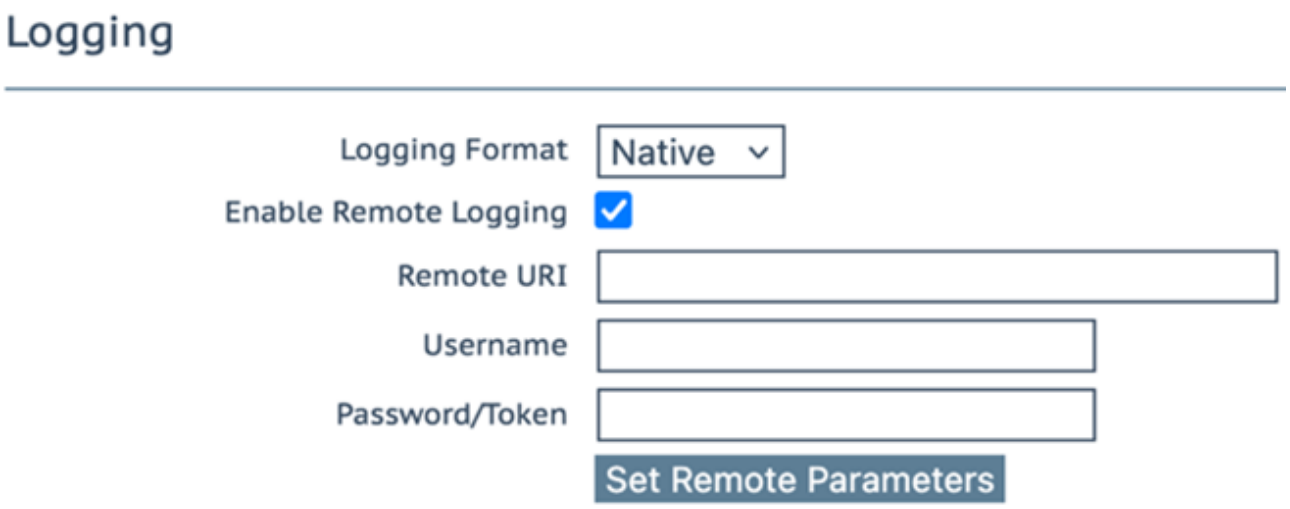
Contents

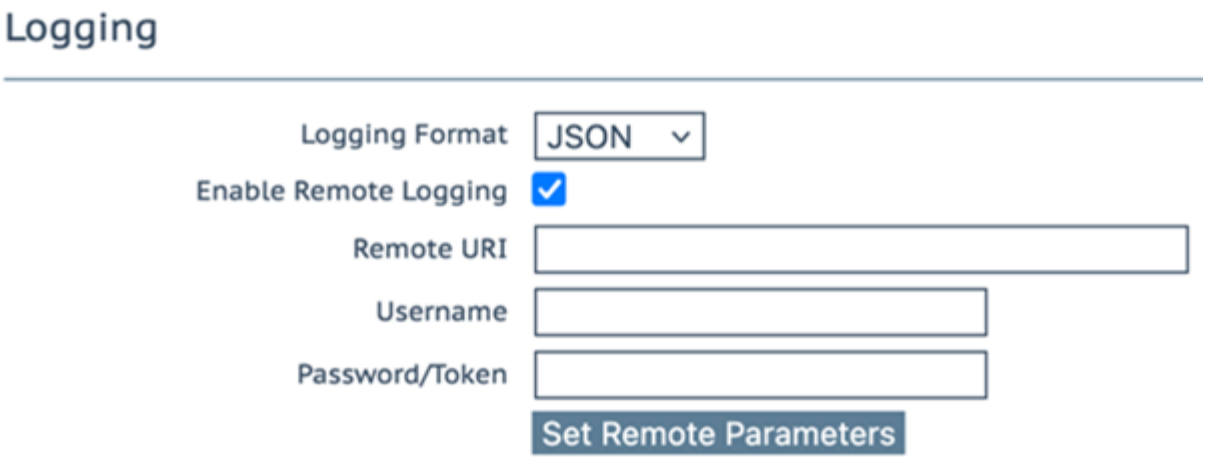
- Export WAF Logs
- WAF Event Log
- WAF Options in the Extended Log Files Screen
- Enable WAF Debug Logging
- WAF Statistics
- WAF Misconfigured Virtual Service Status

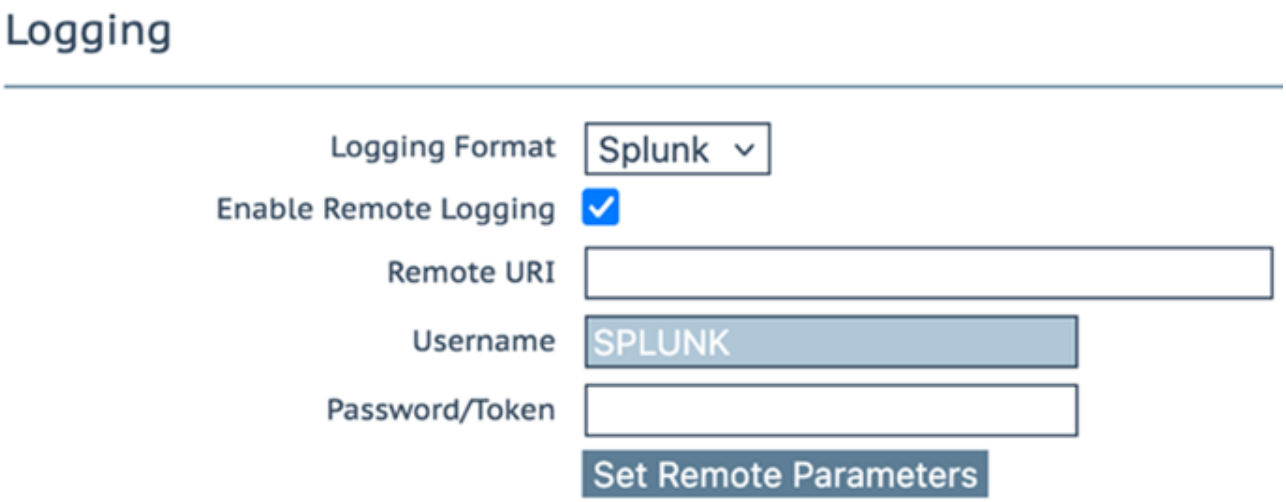
Export WAF Logs

Go to **Web Application Firewall > Export Logs** in the main menu of the LoadMaster UI.

Screenshots of the page when the different logging formats are selected are provided below:







Logging Format

Depending on what format you want the audit logs to appear in, you can select the logging format option from drop-down list:

- Native
- JSON
- Splunk

Note: The **Splunk** option is only available if **Enable Remote Logging** is selected.

Note: Do not use **SPLUNK** as the **Username** if you are using a **Logging Format** other than **Splunk**.

Enable Remote Logging

This check box enables you to enable or disable remote logging for WAF.

Remote URI

Specify the Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) for the remote logging server.

Username

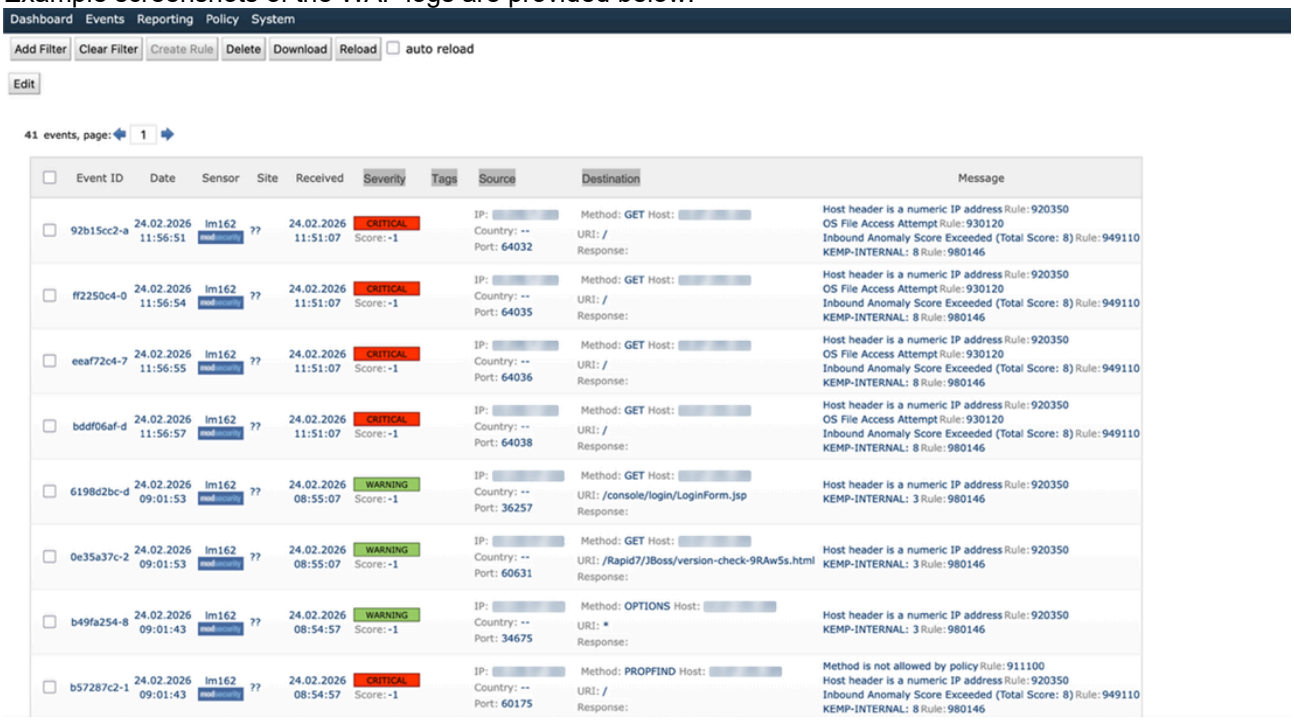
Specify the username for the remote logging server.

Password/Token

Specify the password or token for the remote logging server.

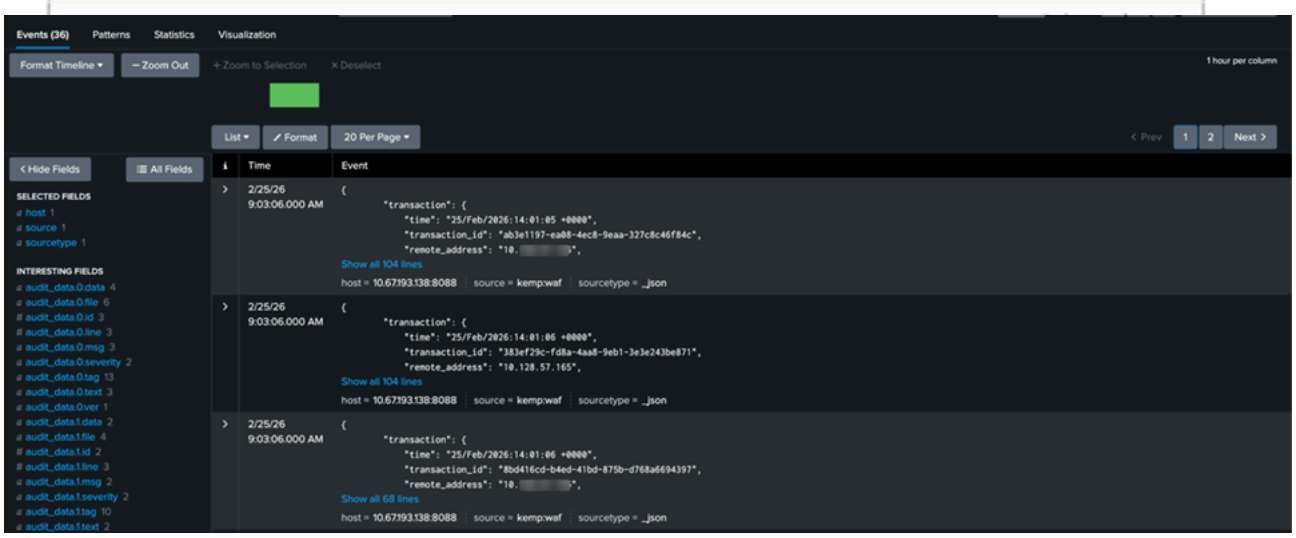
Note: Specify the Splunk HTTP Event Collector (HEC) token in the **Password/Token** text box if the **Logging Format** is set to **Splunk**.

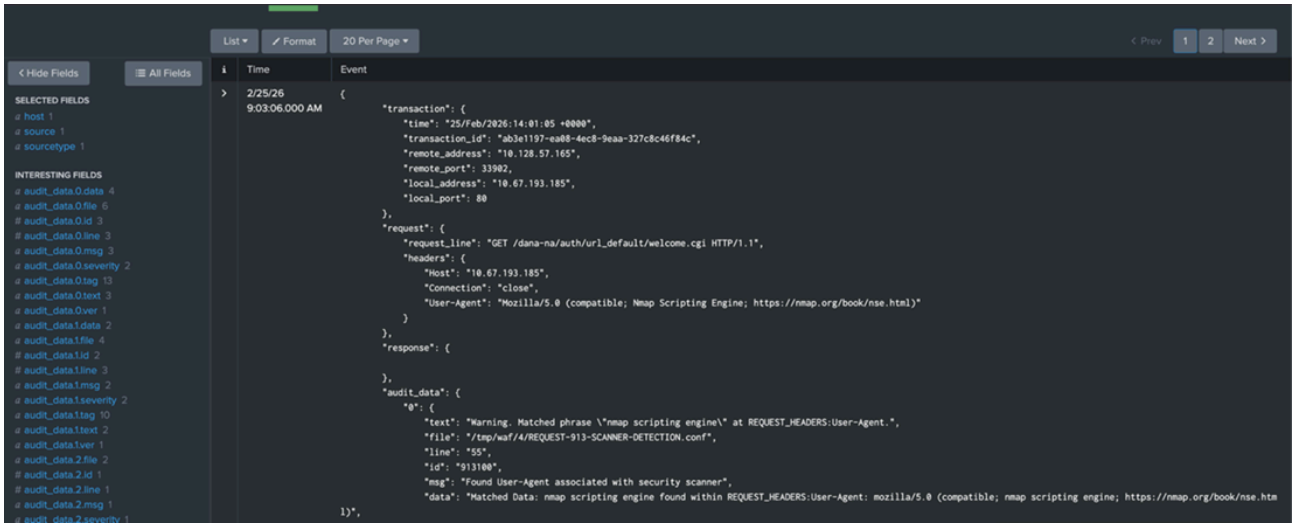
Example screenshots of the WAF logs are provided below:



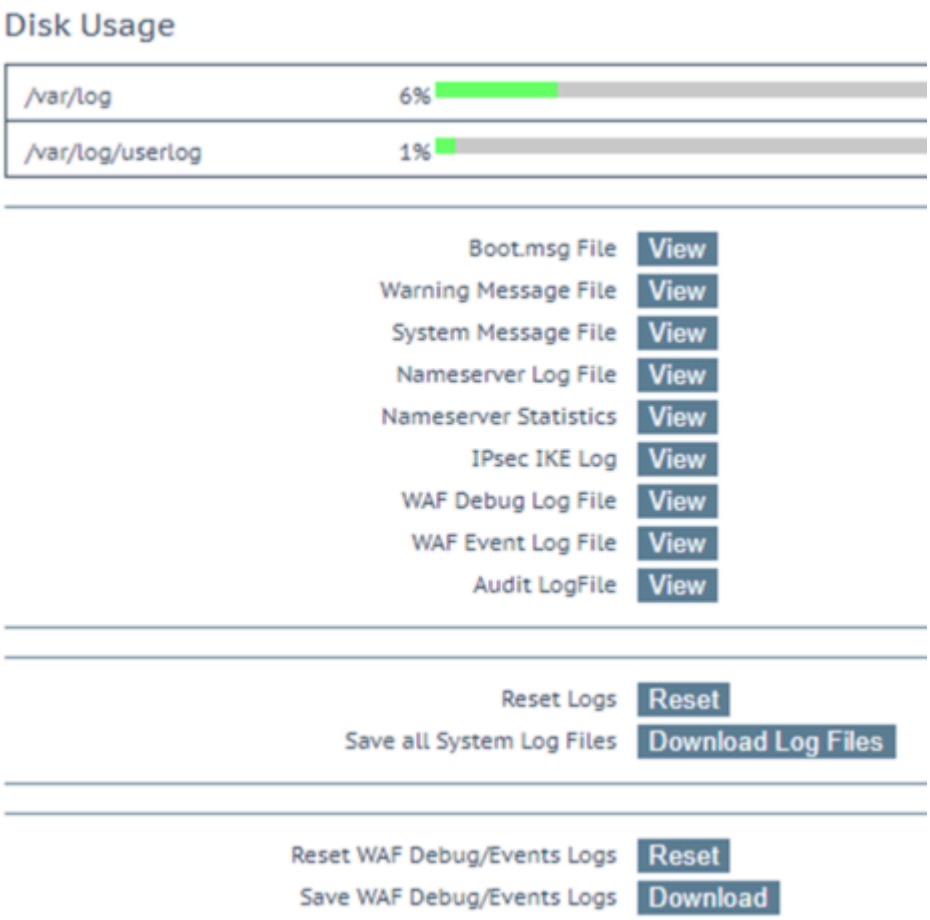
Alerts
(Last 10 messages)

Date	Event ID	Severity	Category	Rule ID	Rule Message
24.02.2026 11:51:07	92b1..f9ae	WARNING	[application-multi, language-multi, platform-multi, attack-protocol, paranoia-level/1, OWASP_CRS, capec/1000/210/272, PCI/6.5.10]	920350	Host header is a numeric IP address
24.02.2026 11:51:07	92b1..f9ae	CRITICAL	[application-multi, language-multi, platform-multi, attack-lfi, paranoia-level/1, OWASP_CRS, capec/1000/255/153/126, PCI/6.5.4]	930120	OS File Access Attempt
24.02.2026 11:51:07	92b1..f9ae	CRITICAL	[application-multi, language-multi, platform-multi, attack-generic]	949110	Inbound Anomaly Score Exceeded (Total Score: 8)
24.02.2026 11:51:07	ff22..7c1b	WARNING	[application-multi, language-multi, platform-multi, attack-protocol, paranoia-level/1, OWASP_CRS, capec/1000/210/272, PCI/6.5.10]	920350	Host header is a numeric IP address
24.02.2026 11:51:07	ff22..7c1b	CRITICAL	[application-multi, language-multi, platform-multi, attack-lfi, paranoia-level/1, OWASP_CRS, capec/1000/255/153/126, PCI/6.5.4]	930120	OS File Access Attempt





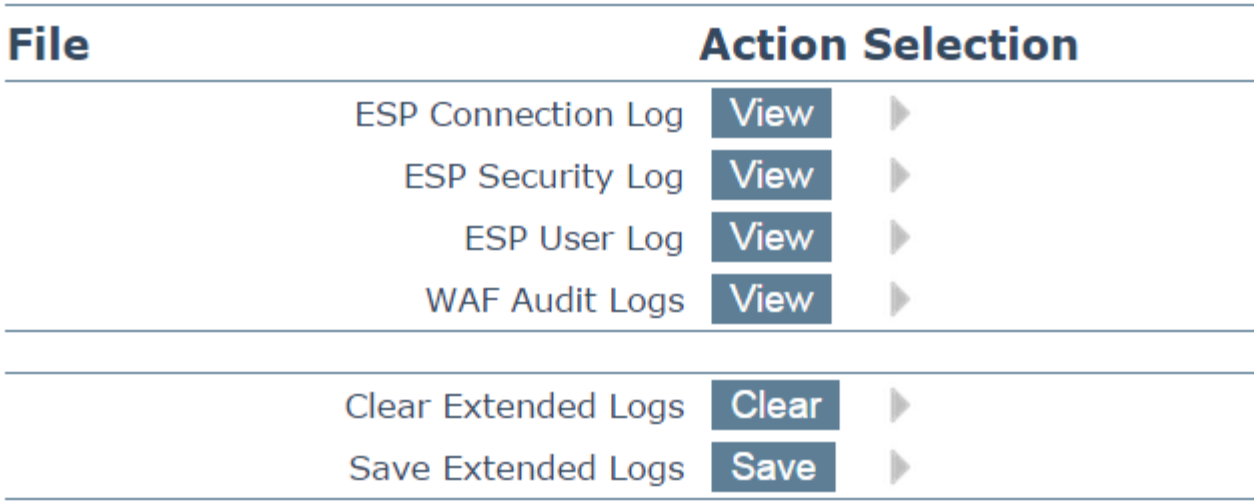
WAF Event Log



You can view the WAF Event Log by going to **System Configuration > Logging Options > System Log Files** and clicking the relevant **View** button. This log file contains all WAF alerts and automatically updates to show new events.

You can also reset and/or download the WAF debug/event logs by clicking the relevant buttons.

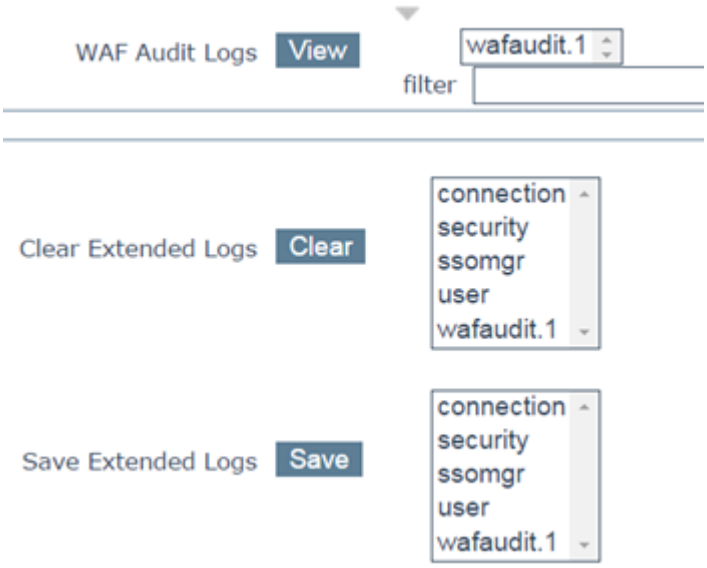
WAF Options in the Extended Log Files Screen



The **Extended Log Files** screen (**System Configuration > Logging Options > Extended Log Files**) provides options for logs relating to the Edge Security Pack (ESP) and Web Application Firewall (WAF) features. These logs are persistent and will be available after a LoadMaster reboot. To view all of the options click the ▸ icons.

The ESP and WAF audit logs are rotated every 30 days (older logs are removed). WAF remote logs are rotated every seven days.

Note: If debug logging is enabled, it is possible that sensitive information may appear in the logs. If you are concerned by this, clear all the logs immediately after disabling debug logging.



Note: In addition to WAF logs, ESP logs are also available on this screen. For more information, refer to the Edge Security Pack (ESP) Feature Description.

WAF Audit Logs: WAF logs based on what has been selected for the **Audit mode** drop-down list (either **Audit Relevant** or **Audit All**) in the **WAF Options** section of the Virtual Service modify screen.

To view the logs, select the appropriate log file and click the relevant **View** button.

The number listed in each log entry corresponds to the ID of the Virtual Service. To get the Virtual Service ID, first ensure that the Application Programming Interface (API) is enabled (**Certificates & Security > Remote Access > Enable API Interface**). Then, in a web browser address bar, enter **https://<LoadMasterIPAddress>/access/listvs**. Check the **index** of the Virtual Service. This is the number that corresponds to the number on the audit log entry.

One or more archived log files can be viewed by selecting the relevant file(s) from the list of file names and clicking **View** . You can filter the log files by entering a word(s) or regular expression in the **filter** field and clicking the **View** field.

Clear Extended Logs

All extended logs can be deleted by clicking **Clear** .

Specific log files can be deleted by filtering one or more individual log files in the log file list, or selecting a specific log type (for example, connection, security, or user) in the log file list and clicking **Clear**. Click **OK** on any warning messages.

Save Extended Logs

All extended logs can be saved to a file by clicking **Save** .

Specific log files can be saved by filtering one or more individual log files in the log file list, or selecting a specific log type (for example connection, security or user) in the log file list and clicking **Save**.

Enable WAF Debug Logging

You can enable logging to get detailed information about he traffic that is analyzed by the Web Application Firewall (WAF). Information that is contained in the logs includes the time that LoadMaster WAF received the request from your LoadMaster resource, detailed information about the request, and the action for the rule that each request matched.

To enable the WAF debug traces, click **Enable Logging** at **System Configuration > Logging Options > System Log Files > Debug Options**.

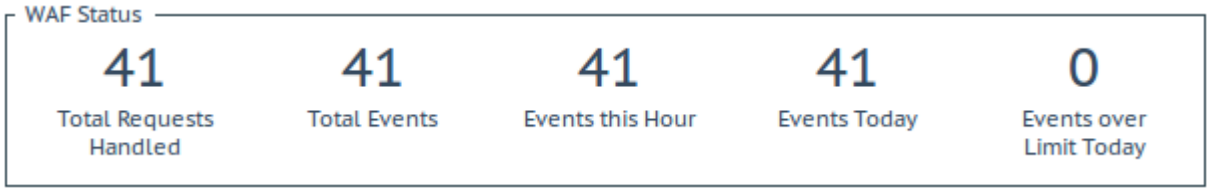
CAUTION: Be aware that enabling this option will generate logs that may include Personally Identifiable Information as defined under the General Data Protection Agreement (EU GDPR). You should follow your organization's best practice to protect this information, which may include anonymizing, deleting, or encrypting the data within the logs.

Note: This generates a lot of log traffic. It also slows down WAF processing. Only enable this option when requested to do so by Progress Kemp Technical Support. We do not recommend enabling this option in a production environment.

The WAF debug logs are never closed and they are rotated if they get too large. WAF (in general) needs to be disabled and re-enabled (by clearing and re-selecting the **Enabled** check box) in all WAF-enabled Virtual Service settings to re-enable the debug logs. Alternatively, perform an update (in the **Web Application Firewall > Access Settings** screen), with daily updates that are relevant for the Virtual Service(s).

WAF Statistics

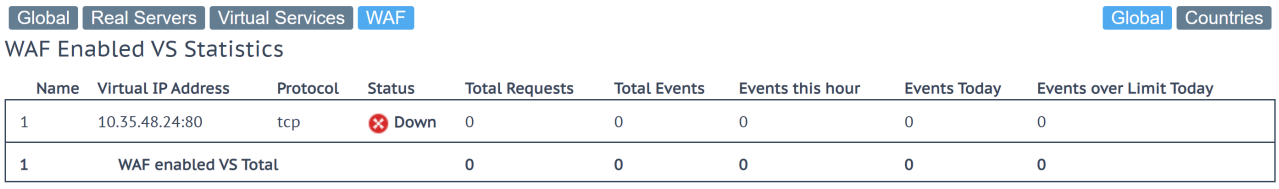
Home Page



The **WAF Status** section is displayed on the UI home page if at least one Virtual Service has WAF enabled. The values shown here are as follows:

- The total number of requests handled by the WAF shows all requests, whether they were blocked or not. Two requests are recorded for each connection – one incoming and one outgoing request.
- The total number of events handled by the WAF, therefore requests that were blocked.
- The number of events that have happened in the current hour since xx.00.00.
- The number of events that have happened since 00.00 am local time.
- The number of times the event counter has gone over the configured warning threshold today. For example, if the threshold is set to 10 and there have been 20 events, this counter will be set to 2. The warning threshold is set on a per-Virtual Service basis by filling out the **Hourly Alert Notification Threshold** field in the **WAF** section in the Virtual Service modify screen.

Statistics Page



To get to the WAF statistics page in the LoadMaster UI, go to **Statistics > Real Time Statistics > WAF > Global**. These statistics refresh every 5 to 6 seconds. The following items are displayed on this screen:

Count: The left-most column displays the total number of WAF-enabled Virtual Services.

Name: The name of the WAF-enabled Virtual Service.

Virtual IP Address: The IP address and port of the Virtual Service.

Protocol: The protocol of the Virtual Service (tcp or udp).

Status: Displays the status of the Virtual Service. For information on each of the possible statuses, refer to the Web User Interface (WUI) Configuration Guide.

Total Requests: The total number of requests handled by the WAF. This shows all requests, whether they were blocked or not. Two requests are recorded for each connection – one incoming and one outgoing request.

Total Events: The total number of events handled by the WAF (requests that were blocked).

Events this hour: The number of events that have happened in the current hour since xx.00.00.

Events Today: The number of events that have happened since 00.00 am local time.

Events over Limit Today: The number of times the event counter has gone over the configured warning threshold today. For example, if the threshold is set to 10 and there have been 20 events, this counter will be set to 2. The warning threshold is set on a per-Virtual Service basis by filling out the **Hourly Alert Notification Threshold** field in the **WAF** section in the Virtual Service modify screen.

Countries: Click **Countries** in the top right of the page to display the screen that contains a list of the top 10 blocked countries.

These WAF statistics can also be seen in the Virtual Service statistics screen (go to **Statistics > Real Time Statistics > Virtual Services** and then click the **Virtual IP Address** link).

WAF Misconfigured Virtual Service Status



On the **View/Modify Services** screen in the LoadMaster UI, the **Status** of each Virtual Service is displayed. If the WAF for a particular Virtual Service is misconfigured (for example, if there is an issue with a rule file), the status changes to **WAF Misconfigured** and turns to red.

CAUTION: If the Virtual Service is in a **WAF Misconfigured** state, all traffic stops flowing. WAF can be disabled for that Virtual Service to stop the traffic being blocked (if required) while troubleshooting the problem.

3

Troubleshooting

Refer to the following section below for some information relating to WAF troubleshooting.

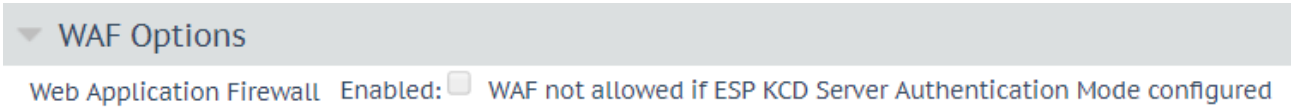
WAF Logging

All events are logged but there may be a delay in them being available for Administrator viewing. For further information on the WAF logging options, refer to the WAF Event Log and Enable WAF Debug Logging sections.

WAF Compatibility with Kerberos Constrained Delegation (KCD)

As of the 7.2.40 LoadMaster firmware version, you cannot enable both WAF and KCD at the same Virtual Service level. For example:

- If WAF is enabled in the parent Virtual Service, you cannot enable KCD as the **Server Authentication Mode** in the parent Virtual Service



- If KCD is enabled in the parent Virtual Service, you cannot enable WAF

However, you can enable the Edge Security Pack (ESP)/KCD in the SubVS and then enable WAF in the parent Virtual Service.

If you had WAF and KCD enabled at the same level before upgrading to 7.2.40 and you upgrade the firmware to 7.2.40 or above, the configuration will not be changed. File attachments in SharePoint will not work. To resolve this, enable WAF on the parent Virtual Service and ESP/KCD on the SubVS.

The following combination is not supported: WAF with ESP Client Certificate authentication and KCD.

Unable to Download/Update Daily Updates

We recommend adding the Progress Kemp Licensing Server URLs as allowed URLs on your firewall to ensure all licensing features work, including the downloading and updating of WAF daily updates. The URLs to allow vary depending on your LoadMaster firmware version:

- LoadMaster firmware version 7.2.53 or above (or 7.2.48.3 Long Term Support (LTS) and above): **licensing.kemp.ax**
- LoadMaster firmware versions below 7.2.53 (or below 7.2.48.3 LTS): **alsi.kemptechnologies.com** and **alsi2.kemptechnologies.com**

4

Converting from Legacy WAF to OWASP WAF

In LoadMaster firmware version 7.2.61, legacy WAF was deprecated. If you use legacy WAF and want to upgrade to LoadMaster version 7.2.61 or above, refer to the following guidelines:

- If you use legacy WAF, take a full configuration backup (in **System Configuration > System Administration > Backup/Restore** in the LoadMaster User Interface (UI)) before attempting to update the LoadMaster firmware.
- If you use legacy WAF, go to **Web Application Firewall > Custom Rules** and check if any **Legacy Custom Rules** or **Legacy Custom Rule Data** files are in use. These custom legacy WAF files will be inaccessible after upgrading to 7.2.61 (or above). You should download any custom legacy WAF rules and back them up to a safe location before attempting to update.
- If you have legacy WAF custom rules, keep the following points in mind:
  - Rule exclusions or custom rules that include rule exclusions (for example, as ‘ctl’ statements) will most likely become irrelevant post-update. The underlying rule set that powered the legacy WAF functionality has been retired. The new LoadMaster WAF functionality is powered by the rule set from the OWASP CRS project. The rules are different and the rule ID numbers are completely different, hence any existing rule exclusions from the legacy WAF will refer to rules and ID numbers that no longer exist.
  - Custom rules that implement specific detections or specific blocking conditions (for example, "block all requests from the subnet 10.2.0.0/16" or "block all POST requests to the location /admin.php") should be re-usable with the new WAF functionality. You can upload these custom rules in **Web Application Firewall > Custom Rules** and you can re-apply them to new WAF services.

    If you need personalized advice about your custom WAF rules, contact the Progress Kemp Professional Services team.

- Virtual Services that currently have the legacy WAF functionality enabled will be automatically transitioned to use the new OWASP CRS WAF system post-update. The default settings for the new WAF service ensure that web traffic continues to flow without issue. You are advised to monitor any auto-converted WAF services for false positives and to tune the new WAF services for the applications they are protecting. For further details, refer to the following article: False Positive Handling on LoadMaster or contact Progress Kemp Support.

5

References

Other useful documents are as follows:

Edge Security Pack (ESP) Feature Description

Progress Kemp LoadMaster Product Overview

Web User Interface (WUI) Configuration Guide