Logging in the age of DevOps

DevOps requires that development, operations, and security teams have visibility into the workloads that they collaboratively design and manage. Today, those workloads often include both monolithic and legacy applications which results in more logs, more log data, and more varied logging structures to contend with. In short, logging in the age of DevOps has become harder than ever. And, it’s more critical than ever because it is key to maintaining visibility and security in fast-moving and highly dynamic environments. Here are our top tips for logging in the age of DevOps:

1. **Centralize your logs.**
   It’s not enough to aggregate some log data, increase a data leak, or add public cloud vendors’ log management. Use a cloud-native log management tool, like LogDNA, to aggregate and correlate data from anywhere across the entire infrastructure. You need a holistic view of log data in a single location that you can explore and analyze effectively.

2. **Use custom parsing.**
   Because logs aren’t structured or uniform in a monolithic environment, it’s important to search through all of your logs to find data and generate meaningful insights. In a polyglot infrastructure, you need tools that can query and search across any logs or event data, even if you’re working with logs of varying sizes and structures.

3. **Log to persistent storage.**
   To ensure data logs are available when you need them, you’ll need to implement a log retention and ingestion strategy that ensures data can be accessed from anywhere within a logical storage location.

4. **Establish logs as your single source of truth.**
   Whether you’re a developer, IT engineer, or a security and compliance professional, you need to work with log data. In fact, logging is one of the few tasks all IT professionals do. It’s often a cross-functional discipline, and in a centralized log management and analysis tool like LogDNA, you can:
   1. Search for and query logs.
   2. Use a single interface to navigate and interact with your logs.

If you need to upload your DevOps logging strategy, chat with a LogDNA expert or sign up for your free trial today.