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Building Operational Resilience in a More Connected World

Powered by Sword and Splunk

SWORD | splunk> by cisco



Entering the new era of operational resillience

Across industries, teams rely on increasingly interconnected IT and OT systems to keep operations running. This connectivity is creating opportunities for deeper insights, greater efficiency, and stronger outcomes.

But it also introduces new challenges.

Despite environments becoming more connected, data is often siloed, difficult to access, and disconnected from the context needed to drive strategic value. At the same time, the convergence of IT and OT creates new operational and security risks. To keep pace, organisations are moving away from disconnected tools and towards integrated, data-driven environments that help them:

- **Gain clearer visibility across systems.**
- **Respond faster to disruption.**
- **Make better decisions in real time.**

At its core, this shift is about building operational resilience - the ability to anticipate disruption, adapt quickly, and maintain performance under pressure. That requires a unified approach to observability, security, and actionable insights.

Meet the challenges of a more connected world:

Unified visibility across IT and OT ecosystems

Real-time intelligence from operational data

Proactive operations for greater resilience

Challenge 1

Lack of visibility across distributed environments

As OT environments expand to include connected equipment, sensors, and edge devices, maintaining visibility becomes increasingly difficult. Data is generated across a wide range of systems, often owned by different teams, using different tools, making it hard to create a consistent, end-to-end view of operations.

As a result, teams struggle to:

- **Identify equipment or technology issues.**
- **Investigate anomalies.**
- **Understand how events in enterprise IT systems impact production environments.**
- **Maintain consistent performance across operations.**

Solution

A unified approach to visibility

Observability provides a way to move beyond fragmented views by connecting data across IT and OT environments, giving teams a clearer understanding of what's happening across the full operational landscape.

With unified visibility, organisations can identify issues earlier, understand how events are connected across systems, and respond more quickly and effectively.

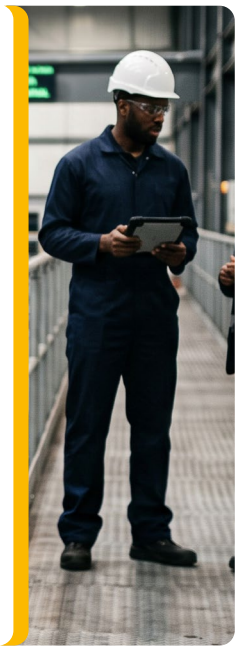
Manufacturing

94%

of manufacturers **cite monitoring critical business processes** as a moderately to very important observability capability to the overall business.

16%

of industry leaders **say they have real-time monitoring capabilities** across the manufacturing process.



Sword and Splunk can help fill this gap. Sword enables manufacturers to discover inventory and track operational technology (OT) assets. Splunk brings this telemetry together into a centralised platform, giving operations and security teams a full view across both IT and OT systems.

Challenge 2

There's more data than ever, but it's hard to manage

Data is an asset to organisations, but too often, it remains siloed across systems and disconnected from the operational context needed to make it meaningful. Organisations are also under increasing pressure to manage data responsibly. Regulatory requirements, industry standards, and internal governance policies all demand greater visibility into how data is collected, accessed, and used.

At the same time, organisations are under increasing regulatory pressure. Compliance is no longer a separate consideration - it's a core part of how data strategies are designed and executed. Without a clear, centralised view of data, meeting these requirements becomes more difficult.

It also creates challenges for organisations adopting AI, which depends on a strong, unified data foundation.

Solution

Turn data into real-time intelligence

Splunk enables organisations to ingest, search, and analyse massive volumes of data from virtually any source in real-time, while maintaining visibility and control over that data. Sword helps operationalise it by integrating data across environments, aligning it to real-world use cases, and ensuring it delivers meaningful, actionable insights.

When operational and clinical data is accessible, structured, and securely governed, organisations are better positioned to make informed decisions, improve performance, enable advanced analytics, and support emerging AI use cases.

Energy

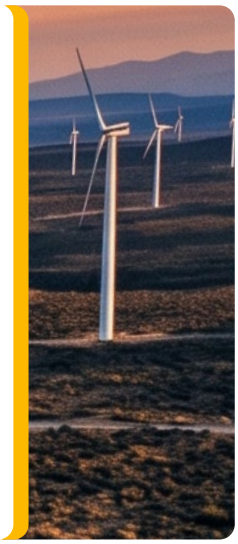
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of **data from sensors and logging tools** is used to inform decision-making.

34%

of companies have **clean, centralised data** with real-time integration for AI.

Sword helps energy organisations bring data together, integrating systems across environments to create a clearer, real-time view of production. With that foundation, Splunk enables advanced analytics on operational data, helping teams identify patterns, detect early signs of equipment issues, and make faster, more informed decisions.



Challenge 3

Teams are operating in reactive mode, responding to issues after they occur

Every new device, system, and integration expands the attack surface, often in ways that are difficult to fully track or secure. Many organisations are also balancing ageing infrastructure with limited resources. Teams are asked to manage growing volumes of data, modernise systems, and defend against increasingly sophisticated, AI-driven threats.

The result is a familiar pattern: too many alerts, not enough context, and constant pressure to respond quickly. Investigations take longer, and instead of getting ahead of issues, teams are reacting to them after the fact.

Solution

Build digital resilience

With a shared, real-time view of system performance and business impact, teams can:

- **Detect and investigate issues faster.**
- **Identify root causes with greater confidence.**
- **Prioritise response based on business impact.**
- **Protect critical services and maintain uptime.**

Splunk provides the foundation, enabling teams to monitor and troubleshoot applications, infrastructure, and networks using advanced analytics, machine learning, and AI-assisted workflows. With full-fidelity data across metrics, traces, and logs, teams gain the context needed to resolve issues quickly and accurately.

Sword builds on that foundation with deep expertise in OT cybersecurity and complex operational environments. Sword helps organisations strengthen reliability, streamline investigations, and improve cross-team response.

59%

of security leaders report **too many alerts drive inefficiency** in security operations.

57%

report **losing valuable time** during investigations due to gaps in their data management strategies.

59%

of security leaders say adopting a **unified security platform has led to faster incident response.**

Source: Splunk State of Security 2025



In a crowded technology landscape, many solutions promise visibility, security, or advanced analytics - but often deliver them in isolation, adding complexity instead of reducing it. Sword and Splunk take a more integrated approach. Sword helps organisations maximise the value of their technology investments by simplifying how Splunk is implemented, optimised, and managed. From deployment and configuration to ongoing support, Sword provides end-to-end expertise. OT cybersecurity specialists bring deep experience protecting critical infrastructure and industrial control systems, ensuring solutions align with the realities of complex operational environments.

Splunk provides the unified data platform that enables organisations to collect, analyse, and act on data across IT and OT environments in real time.

Together, Sword and Splunk help organisations move beyond fragmented tools and reactive processes by combining:

- **A unified, real-time data platform.**
- **Deep OT and cybersecurity expertise.**
- **Hands-on implementation and optimisation support.**

The result is a more connected and resilient approach to operations - giving organisations the ability to:

- **Improve visibility and response times.**
- **Anticipate and adapt to challenges.**
- **Maintain performance during disruption.**
- **Operate with greater confidence.**

This isn't just an investment in technology. It's an investment in long-term operational resilience and sustained success.

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