Horizontal Data Ingestion

Holistic ingestion across the stack for unified operational context

Selector ingests operational data horizontally across network, cloud, infrastructure, application, and adjacent tool domains, then normalizes those inputs into a common representation that can support correlation, querying, contextual enrichment, and downstream action. The technical differentiator is not simply that Selector accepts nearly any data source; it is that ingestion is designed as a cross-domain discipline from the beginning, so telemetry enters the system as part of a broader operational picture rather than as isolated domain records waiting to be reconciled later.

In many environments, telemetry is collected along organizational or vendor boundaries. Network data is handled one way, cloud data another, and application signals still another, and each pipeline tends to preserve the assumptions and constraints of the tool that produced it. That model can work for local monitoring, but it becomes harder to sustain when troubleshooting depends on relationships across systems, shared context, and coordinated response.

Why horizontal ingestion matters

Operational issues rarely stay inside a single domain. A user-facing slowdown may involve routing behavior, infrastructure conditions, application dependencies, and changes introduced elsewhere in the environment. When data is ingested in siloes, those relationships are reconstructed later through manual investigation, custom integration logic, or brittle correlation rules. Horizontal ingestion changes the sequence: data enters the platform with cross-domain use already in mind, which makes it easier to standardize, enrich, and analyze consistently across the stack.

How it works

1. **Collect telemetry across the environment**
   Selector ingests data from network, cloud, edge, and connected operational tools, including metrics, logs, configs, and flows.

2. **Standardize data into a shared model**
   Incoming records are mapped into a consistent representation so data from different systems can be analyzed together rather than handled as incompatible source formats.

3. **Enrich signals with operational context**
   Selector adds contextual metadata such as ownership, topology, service relationships, and maintenance context, creating a cleaner substrate for cross-domain interpretation.

4. **Feed downstream reasoning and workflows**
   Once data is unified at ingestion, the same foundation can support correlation, causation analysis, topology-aware investigation, visualization, and operational workflows.

What Selector does differently

Ingests across domains, not by silo

Selector connects to telemetry sources across network, cloud, infrastructure, and edge environments and collects metrics, logs, configs, and flows from across the stack. That platform is built to pull from existing systems rather than force data collection to mirror a single domain model or vendor boundary.

Normalizes into a common operational representation

Selector's data-centric architecture transforms raw data from different origins and formats into a unified metric and event framework. During deployment, incoming data is normalized into a standardized representation aligned with the customer's operational vocabulary, which makes cross-domain analysis more consistent and more interpretable.

Preserves source value while making signals usable together

The point of normalization is not to flatten away important details. Selector standardizes incoming data so it can be queried and correlated across sources while retaining the context needed to trace observations back to their operational meaning. This creates a cleaner foundation for investigation without requiring teams to abandon the detail available in source systems.

Supports heterogeneous environments without rearchitecting them

Selector can ingest from modern telemetry pipelines as well as existing tools such as Splunk, NetBox, and ThousandEyes. That matters in real environments where operational data is already distributed across multiple systems and cannot be consolidated through a single-tool strategy.

Challenges with the traditional approach

The traditional pattern for ingestion follows the structure of the tools already in place. Each domain collects and stores its own data, often with its own schema, timing assumptions, naming conventions, and workflow context. Cross-domain understanding is added later through exports, dashboards, connector logic, or specialist interpretation. That increases the amount of reconciliation required during incident analysis and makes operational context harder to maintain consistently.

A siloed ingestion model also narrows what can be done downstream. Correlation quality depends on how well source systems can be aligned after the fact. Querying across domains becomes more complex. Teams may still achieve visibility, but the path to that visibility usually involves more manual stitching, more assumptions, and more dependence on local expertise.

Why this matters operationally

Horizontal ingestion improves the quality of downstream operations because the data foundation is already structured for cross-domain use. When signals have been standardized and enriched in a shared framework, investigations can move more directly across infrastructure, applications, and network layers without requiring each handoff to rebuild context.

It also broadens the usefulness of existing telemetry investments. Selector does not ask teams to choose between keeping current tools and gaining broader visibility. By ingesting from across those systems and making the data usable together, the platform creates a more coherent operational layer above the tools already in place.

This architectural choice has implications beyond observability. Selector's platform messaging ties the unified data layer directly to AI-driven correlation, live querying, visualization, and insight delivery. In other words, the quality of the ingestion model shapes the quality of what comes later: context, investigation paths, recommendations, and operational workflows all depend on whether the platform can work across domains from the start.

Common use cases

Cross-domain incident analysis

Unify events, logs, metrics, configurations, and topology-related inputs so teams can investigate service issues that span application, infrastructure, and network boundaries.

Holistic operational visibility

Create a broader view across hybrid environments where data originates from different teams, tools, and telemetry systems.

Foundation for contextual correlation

Provide the clean, normalized input required for cause-and-effect analysis, contextual relationships, and topology-aware reasoning.

Support for workflow integration and downstream services

Feed shared data into investigation, collaboration, alerting, and operational response workflows without forcing each downstream service to reconcile incompatible inputs independently.

Built for Operational Outcomes

Selector uses horizontal data ingestion to address a structural problem in modern operations: telemetry is abundant, but it often enters operational systems in fragments shaped by domain and tool boundaries. By ingesting data holistically and normalizing it into a shared operational representation, Selector creates a stronger basis for correlation, contextual analysis, and response across the stack.

Build a stronger foundation for operations

See how Selector ingests data holistically across the stack to support faster analysis, clearer context, and more coordinated operations. Book a demo to learn more today.

Book a Demo

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