

# Create an application through the Trigger API

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An application is a user-defined container that you can associate with multiple devices and protocols for a unified view of built-in metrics. The ExtraHop Trigger API enables you to create more complex applications than you can through the ExtraHop Web UI. For example, you can write a trigger to apply additional filters for collecting metrics, to create custom application metrics, or to collect metrics from non-L7 traffic.

In the following example, we will show you how to create an application for your web servers that will only collect metrics when the processing time on HTTP responses exceeds 500 milliseconds.

## Before you begin

- Familiarize yourself with ExtraHop triggers by reading the [Build a trigger](#) section and completing the walkthrough: [Build a trigger to collect custom metrics for HTTP 404 errors](#).
- Have the [ExtraHop Trigger API Reference](#) available to search for the specific events, methods, and properties you need for your trigger.

**Important:** Applications cannot be deleted. The application ID is permanent and cannot be changed.

1. Log into the ExtraHop Discover or Command appliance.
2. Click the System Settings icon  and then click **Triggers**.
3. Click **New** to open the Trigger Configuration window.
4. Complete the information in the fields for **Name**, **Author**, and **Description**.
5. In the **Events** field, type `HTTP` and then select `HTTP_RESPONSE`.
6. Click the **Editor** tab.
7. In the Trigger Script textbox, type the following code:

```
if (HTTP.processingTime > 500){
    Application("myAppID").commit();
}
```

where "myAppID" is the permanent application ID. The value of "myAppID" is also applied as the display name, which can be modified later in the Web UI.

8. Click **Save and Close**.

## Next steps

- The trigger will not run until you [assign the trigger to a device or device group](#).
- After you assign the trigger, click **Metrics > Applications** to locate the application with the name you specified in "myAppID" and view metrics collected by the application.
- Learn more about working with applications:
  - [Applications](#)
  - [Applications FAQ](#)