

MC #9781 QA Review — Email Intake Pipeline Incident #8378

MC #9781 QA Review — Email Intake Pipeline Incident #8378

Canonical local evidence: `/Users/makinja/system/evidence/9781-qa-review-8378.md`

SHA-256: `ad7868fd9b3be3bd7eba035aae8b5b0c5c232299aa96890d4a6650a3a635bc17`

Incident ledger addendum: `/Users/makinja/system/evidence/sentinel-triage-2026-04-19/incident-ledger.md`

Incident ledger SHA-256 after addendum:
`ec112cafb4b23ad4a6aa59df3879f51be61b89580b6487a836fce574445b7359`

Proveo QA Review — MC #9781 / Source Task #8378

Date: 2026-07-28 Reviewer: John acting as Proveo QA reviewer, devops specialist persona `kelsey-hightower` Scope: Auto-generated QA review for completed MC #8378, `INCIDENT: Email intake pipeline DEAD 53 days (since 2026-02-25)`.

Verdict

PARTIAL FAIL — source task #8378 should not be treated as a clean closure. `MISDIAGNOSIS SENTINEL`

The QA evidence supports this narrower conclusion:

- The email pipeline is not proven dead now.
- The `alai` mailbox ingestion gap was real in historical data.
- The #8378 DoD text contains true observations (`5/6 accounts ingesting`, `alai` dormant) but the headline `MISDIAGNOSIS SENTINEL / Pipeline HEALTHY` overstates the case and obscures a resolved incident/backlog remediation.
- The documentation update requested inside #8378 DoD has now been appended to the original SENTINEL incident ledger by this QA review.

Task Records Read

MC #8378

Machine evidence: `node ~/system/tools/mc.js show 8378`

- Status: `done`
- Priority: `H`
- Owner: `codecraft`
- Category: `incident`
- Completed: `2026-04-27 16:56:49`
- DoD evidence recorded:

“ MISDIAGNOSIS SENTINEL. Tested: sqlite3 email-inbox.db SELECT pokazuje 5/6 accounta ingestuju danas (gmail/john/info/alem/dev). Alai dormant - IMAP INBOX=20 msgs, newest 2026-02-27, mailbox ne prima. Vault-proxy 502 intermittent non-blocking (5min retry, circuit breaker). Docs: `~/system/evidence/sentinel-triage-2026-04-19/incident-ledger.md` treba update. Pipeline HEALTHY.

MC #9781

Machine evidence: `node ~/system/tools/mc.js show 9781`

- Status before this report: `in_progress`
- Priority: `L`
- Owner/delegated_to: `pi-orchestrator`
- Category: `system`

Evidence Commands Executed

- `node ~/system/tools/discover.js "QA review #8378 email intake pipeline incident completed task evidence artifacts"`
- `node ~/system/tools/mc.js show 8378`
- `node ~/system/tools/mc.js show 9781`
- Read `~/system/evidence/sentinel-triage-2026-04-19/incident-ledger.md`
- Read/write `~/system/evidence/9781-qa-review-8378.md`
- `sqlite3 ~/system/databases/email-inbox.db "SELECT account, MAX(date) AS newest, COUNT(*) AS total FROM emails GROUP BY account ORDER BY account;"`
- `sqlite3 ~/system/databases/email-inbox.db "SELECT account, strftime('%Y-%W', date) AS week, MIN(date), MAX(date), COUNT(*) FROM emails WHERE date BETWEEN '2026-02-01' AND '2026-05-01' GROUP BY account, week ORDER BY account, week;"`
- `sqlite3 ~/system/databases/email-inbox.db "SELECT COUNT(*) FROM emails WHERE account='alai' AND date(date) > date('2026-02-25') AND date(date) < date('2026-04-21'); SELECT MAX(date), date(MAX(date)) FROM emails WHERE account='alai' AND date(date) <= date('2026-02-25'); SELECT MIN(date), date(MIN(date)) FROM emails WHERE account='alai' AND date(date) >= date('2026-04-21');"`
- `sqlite3 ~/system/databases/email-inbox.db "SELECT account, date, subject FROM emails WHERE account='alai' AND date BETWEEN '2026-04-15' AND '2026-04-22' ORDER BY date LIMIT 20;"`
- `ls -la ~/system/logs/email-agent.log ~/system/logs/email-agent-launchd.log ~/system/logs/email-batch-refetch-20260429-163931.log`
- `tail -15 ~/system/logs/email-agent.log`
- `tail -80 ~/system/logs/email-agent-launchd.log`
- `find ~/Library/LaunchAgents -iname '*email*' -maxdepth 1 -print`
- `stat -f '%N|mtime=%Sm|size=%z' ~/Library/LaunchAgents/com.john.email-agent.plist.pre-sentinel-20260419-1055 ~/Library/LaunchAgents/com.john.email-agent.plist ~/system/logs/email-agent.log ~/system/logs/email-agent-launchd.log`
- `grep -n "Email Body Integrity\|862\|alai" ~/system/logs/email-batch-refetch-20260429-163931.log | head -40`

Findings

1. The original SENTINEL ledger did report a real mail ingestion incident

Read file: `~/system/evidence/sentinel-triage-2026-04-19/incident-ledger.md`.

The ledger item #9 says:

“ Email ingestion pipeline DEAD — vault ETIMEDOUT blocks email-agent — 53 days and counting.

It also says the detection method was Martin Kleppmann audit and that Alem was not notified.

2. The historical `alai` mailbox gap is confirmed by SQLite

Machine evidence:

```
sqlite3 ~/system/databases/email-inbox.db "SELECT COUNT(*) FROM emails WHERE account='alai'
AND date(date) > date('2026-02-25') AND date(date) < date('2026-04-21'); ..."
0
2026-02-25 13:05+00:00|2026-02-25
2026-04-21 11:38+00:00|2026-04-21
```

So, for account `alai`, the local DB has:

- last pre-gap row: `2026-02-25 13:05+00:00`
- no rows with normalized date after `2026-02-25` and before `2026-04-21`
- first post-gap row: `2026-04-21 11:38+00:00`

Weekly DB output also showed `alai` rows in weeks `2026-06`, `2026-07`, `2026-08`, then no rows until week `2026-16`.

3. Other accounts had mail during the same period

The weekly DB query showed continuing rows for `john`, `info`, `gmail`, `alem`, and `dev` across March/April 2026. That supports the #8378 statement that multiple accounts were ingesting while `alai` was dormant.

This does **not** support the stronger conclusion that the SENTINEL incident was false. It supports the narrower conclusion that the incident affected `alai` specifically, not every mailbox equally.

4. The old email-agent log matches the SENTINEL timestamp

Machine evidence:

```
/Users/makinja/system/logs/email-agent.log|mtime=Feb 25 11:45:35 2026|size=2528275
```

The tail of that file ends with:

```
[2026-02-25T10:44:35.139Z] === EMAIL AGENT START ===  
[2026-02-25T10:45:35.470Z] john: 0 unseen envelopes fetched (himalaya)  
[2026-02-25T10:45:35.704Z] info: 0 unseen envelopes fetched (himalaya)  
[2026-02-25T10:45:35.705Z] alai: 0 unseen envelopes fetched (himalaya)  
[2026-02-25T10:45:35.705Z] Found 0 unseen, 0 new (0 already processed)  
[2026-02-25T10:45:35.706Z] No new emails to process  
[2026-02-25T10:45:35.724Z] === EMAIL AGENT END ===
```

That is consistent with the original audit's observation that the legacy `email-agent.log` stopped on 2026-02-25.

5. A daemon/config change is visible on the SENTINEL date

Machine evidence:

```
/Users/makinja/Library/LaunchAgents/com.john.email-agent.plist.pre-sentinel-20260419-  
1055|mtime=Apr 19 10:55:57 2026|size=1053  
/Users/makinja/Library/LaunchAgents/com.john.email-agent.plist|mtime=Jul 17 15:36:59  
2026|size=1167
```

The `pre-sentinel-20260419-1055` backup is circumstantial evidence that the daemon config was changed or preserved for change on the same day as the SENTINEL audit.

6. A post-close integrity remediation ran on 2026-04-29

Machine evidence from `~/system/logs/email-batch-refetch-20260429-163931.log`:

```
[2026-04-29T14:39:31.400Z] [integrity-check] INFO: === Email Body Integrity Check starting  
(dry-run=false) ===  
[2026-04-29T14:39:31.421Z] [integrity-check] INFO: Found 862 email(s) with classification but  
empty body  
[2026-04-29T14:39:34.445Z] [integrity-check] INFO: Re-fetching body for email #3385 (alai,  
envelope 208): "GitHub Availability ☐☐ Cloud Cost Optimization ▲☐, Autonomy"
```

The log continues with many `alai` re-fetches. This indicates remediation/backfill work happened around the closure window, not a purely false alarm.

7. Present-day live context: latest launchd log shows active mailbox connection cycles

Machine evidence from `~/system/logs/email-agent-launchd.log` tail on 2026-07-28:

- Connected to john (john@alai.no)
- Connected to info (info@basicconsulting.no)
- Connected to alem (alem@alai.no)
- Connected to dev (dev@alai.no)
- Connected to gmail (alembasic@gmail.com)
- Connected to post-alai (post@alai.no)
- Connected to admin-alai (admin@alai.no)
- Connected to sales-bilko-io (sales@bilko.io)
- Connected to privacy-bilko-io (privacy@bilko.io)
- Connected to admin-bilko-io (admin@bilko.io)
- Connected to sales-bilko-cloud (sales@bilko.cloud)
- Connected to admin-bilko-cloud (admin@bilko.cloud)
- Connected to sales-bilko-company (sales@bilko.company)
- Connected to admin-bilko-company (admin@bilko.company)
- Connected to info-snowit (info@snowit.ba)
- Connected to admin-snowit (admin@snowit.ba)
- Connected to hello-lumiscare (hello@lumiscare.com)
- Connected to admin-lumiscare (admin@lumiscare.com)

The same latest cycle ended:

```
Found 1 recent (seen+unseen), 0 new to process (1 already in DB)
No new emails to process
=== EMAIL AGENT END ===
```

This supports: no live outage proven during this QA review.

Caveat: the DB currently contains rows for 15 historical accounts, and 8 accounts have DB mail rows newer than 14 days. Several configured accounts may simply have had no recent mail; the launchd connection log is stronger evidence for current daemon/account reachability than DB recency alone.

Acceptance Mapping

#8378 claim / requirement	QA result
---------------------------	-----------

5/6 accounts ingestuju danas (gmail/john/info/alem/dev)	Supported historically by DB rows for those accounts around the period.
Alai dormant	Confirmed by SQLite gap: no alai DB rows after 2026-02-25 and before 2026-04-21.
Vault-proxy 502 intermittent non-blocking	Not independently verified in this QA session; no vault-proxy dated log evidence was found/read.
MISDIAGNOSIS SENTINEL	Not supported as written. The alai outage/gap was real.
Pipeline HEALTHY	Too broad for the historical closure. Present-day launchd logs show active cycles; that does not make the historical alai gap false.
incident-ledger.md treba update	Done by this QA review: addendum appended to ~/system/evidence/sentinel-triage-2026-04-19/incident-ledger.md .

Final QA Decision

Close MC #9781 as QA completed with a **partial-fail / documentation-accuracy finding**:

- #8378 should remain completed operationally; no live pipeline outage was proven during this review.
- Do not use #8378 as precedent that SENTINEL's 2026-04-19 email-pipeline finding was wrong.
- Correct characterization: alai mailbox ingestion had a real Feb 25 → Apr 21 gap, then the system resumed/backfilled around the SENTINEL/closure window.

Artifacts Written / Updated

- Updated QA report: ~/system/evidence/9781-qa-review-8378.md
- Appended QA addendum: ~/system/evidence/sentinel-triage-2026-04-19/incident-ledger.md