
Nagios Installation and Configuration

Notes:

- * Commands preceded with "\$" imply that you should execute the command as a general user - not as root.
- * Commands preceded with "#" imply that you should be working as root.
- * Commands with more specific command lines (e.g. "RTR-GW>" or "mysql>") imply that you are executing commands on remote equipment, or within another program.

Exercises

PART IV

Adding Parent Relationships

Each item is a child of either a switch or a router in our classroom, EXCEPT for your gateway router (rtrX) and the other members of your group. We are now going to add a "parents" statement for each device we have configured.

If you are unsure of the parent relationships you can look at our classroom Network Diagram. Remember, the parent relationships are from the point of view of your Nagios instance running on your pc.

1. Adding Parents to switches.cfg

```
# cd /etc/nagios3/conf.d
# editor switches.cfg
```

Update the entry:

```
define host {
    use          generic-host
    host_name    sw
    alias        Backbone Switch
    address      10.10.0.253
}
```

to be

```
define host {
    use          generic-host
    host_name    sw
    alias        Backbone Switch
    address      10.10.0.253
    parents rtrX
}
```

Where "rtrX" is the gateway router for your group. I.E., for group 1 you would use "rtr1", for group 2, "rtr2" and so forth.

Save and exit from the file.

2. Adding Parents to routers.cfg

```
# editor routers.cfg
```

For each entry we will add a "parents" line. So, for the gw-rtr definition at the top of the file this should now look like:

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    gw-rtr
    alias        Classroom Gateway Router
    address      10.10.0.254
    parents      sw
}
```

For all the remaining rtrX entries you should, also, add a line that says:

```
parents sw
```

EXCEPT For the rtrX entry for your group. There should be NO PARENTS entry.

So, if you are in group 2, then the entries for groups 1, 2 and 3 would look like:

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    rtr1
    alias        Group 1 Router
    address      10.10.1.254
    parents      sw
}
```

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    rtr2
    alias        Group 2 Router
    address      10.10.2.254
}
```

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    rtr3
    alias        Group 3 Router
    address      10.10.3.254
    parents      sw
}
```

Update the rest of the file correctly and then save and exit from the file.

3. Adding Parents to pcs.cfg

For all the PC entries you should add a "parents" line that has the router for that PC's group. For the noc the parent is the core switch or "sw"

```
#
# Classroom NOC
```

#

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    noc
    alias        Workshop NOC machine
    address      10.10.0.250
    parents      sw
}
```

For PCs in Group 1 entries look like:

#

Group 1

#

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    pc1
    alias        pc1
    address      10.10.1.1
    parents      rtr1
}
```

```
define host {
    use         generic-host
    host_name    pc2
    alias        pc2
    address      10.10.1.2
    parents      rtr1
}
```

etc...

Do this for all the PCs in the remaining groups.

BUT, FOR THE 4 ENTRIES FOR THE PCS IN YOUR GROUP DO NOT ADD ANY PARENTS STATEMENT!

Save and exit from the file.

4. Restart Nagios and See the Updated Status Map

```
# service nagios3 restart
```

If you have errors, fix these and try restarting again.

Open a web browser to <http://pcN.ws.nsrc.org/nagios3> and click on the "Status Map" link on the left. Your map should now look quite different. You should see a map that represents the Nagios world point of view from your machine.

PART V

Create More Host Groups

0. In the web view, look at the pages "Hostgroup Overview", "Hostgroup Summary", "Hostgroup Grid". This gives a convenient way to group together hosts which are related (e.g. in the same site, serving the same purpose).

1. Update /etc/nagios3/conf.d/hostgroups_nagios2.cfg

- For the following exercises it will be very useful if we have created or update the following hostgroups:

```
debian-servers
routers
switches
```

If you edit the file /etc/nagios3/conf.d/hostgroups_nagios2.cfg you will see an entry for debian-servers that just contains localhost. Update this entry to include all the classroom PCs, including the noc (this assumes that you created a "noc" entry in your pcs.cfg file). Remember to skip your PC entry as it is represented by the localhost entry.

```
# editor /etc/nagios3/conf.d/hostgroups_nagios2.cfg
```

Update the entry that says:

```
# A list of your Debian GNU/Linux servers
```

```
define hostgroup {
    hostgroup_name  debian-servers
        alias        Debian GNU/Linux Servers
        members       localhost
}
```

So that the "members" parameter contains something like this. Use your classroom network diagram to confirm the exact number of machines and names in your workshop.

```
        members      localhost,pc1,pc2,pc3,pc4,pc5,pc6,pc7,pc8,pc9,pc10,pc11,pc12,
```

Be sure that the line wraps and is not on separate lines. Otherwise you will get an error when you go to restart Nagios. Remember that your own PC is "localhost".

- Once you have done this, add in two more host groups, one for routers and one for switches. Call these entries "routers" and "switches".
- When you are done be sure to verify your work and restart Nagios.
- Remember to skip your pc entry as it is represented by the localhost entry.

2. Go back to the web interface and look at your new hostgroups

PART VI

Extended Host Information ("making your graphs pretty")

1. Update extinfo_nagios2.cfg

- If you would like to use appropriate icons for your defined hosts in Nagios this is where you do this. We have the three types of devices:

Cisco routers
Cisco switches
Ubuntu servers

There is a fairly large repository of icon images available for you to use located here:

/usr/share/nagios/htdocs/images/logos/

these were installed by default as dependent packages of the nagios3 package in Ubuntu. In some cases you can find model-specific icons for your hardware, but to make things simpler we will use the following icons for our hardware:

/usr/share/nagios/htdocs/images/logos/base/debian.*
/usr/share/nagios/htdocs/images/logos/cook/router.*
/usr/share/nagios/htdocs/images/logos/cook/switch.*

- The next step is to edit the file /etc/nagios3/conf.d/extinfo_nagios2.cfg and tell nagios what image you would like to use to represent your devices.

editor /etc/nagios3/conf.d/extinfo_nagios2.cfg

Here is what an entry for your routers looks like (there is already an entry for debian-servers that will work as is). Note that the router model (3600) is not all that important. The image used represents a router in general.

```
define hostextinfo {
    hostgroup_name    routers
    icon_image        cook/router.png
    icon_image_alt    Cisco Routers (7200)
    vrml_image        router.png
    statusmap_image   cook/router.gd2
}
```

Now add an entry for your switches. Once you are done check your work and restart Nagios. Take a look at the Status Map in the web interface. It should be much nicer, with real icons instead of question marks.

PART VII

Create Service Groups

1. Create service groups for ssh and http for each set of pcs.

- The idea here is to create three service groups. Each service group will be for a quarter of the classroom. We want to see these PCs grouped together and include status of their ssh and http services. To do this edit and create the file:

editor /etc/nagios3/conf.d/servicegroups.cfg

Here is a sample of the service group for group 1:

```
define servicegroup {
    servicegroup_name    group1-services
    alias                group 1 services
    members              pc1,SSH,pc1,HTTP,pc2,SSH,pc2,HTTP,pc3,SSH,pc3,HTTP,pc4,SSH,pc4,HTTP
}
```

- Note that the members line should wrap and not be on two lines.
- Note that "SSH" and "HTTP" need to be uppercase as this is how the service_description written in the file /etc/nagios3/conf.d/services_nagios2.cfg
- You should create an entry for other groups of servers too
- Save your changes, verify your work and restart Nagios. Now if you click on the Servicegroup menu items in the Nagios web interface you should see this information grouped together.

PART VIII

Configure Guest Access to the Nagios Web Interface

1. Edit /etc/nagios3/cgi.cfg to give read-only guest user access to the Nagios web interface.

- By default Nagios is configured to give full r/w access via the Nagios web interface to the user nagiosadmin. You can change the name of this user, add other users, change how you authenticate users, what users have access to what resources and more via the cgi.cfg file.
- First, lets create a "guest" user and password in the htpasswd.users file.

```
# htpasswd /etc/nagios3/htpasswd.users guest
```

You can use any password you want (or none). A password of "guest" is not a bad choice.

- Next, edit the file /etc/nagios3/cgi.cfg and look for what type of access has been given to the nagiosadmin user. By default you will see the following directives (note, there are comments between each directive):

```
authorized_for_system_information=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_configuration_information=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_system_commands=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_all_services=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_all_hosts=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_all_service_commands=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_all_host_commands=nagiosadmin
```

Now let's tell Nagios to allow the "guest" user some access to information via the web interface. You can choose whatever you would like, but what is pretty typical is this:

```
authorized_for_system_information=nagiosadmin,guest
authorized_for_configuration_information=nagiosadmin,guest
authorized_for_system_commands=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_all_services=nagiosadmin,guest
authorized_for_all_hosts=nagiosadmin,guest
authorized_for_all_service_commands=nagiosadmin
authorized_for_all_host_commands=nagiosadmin
```

- Once you make the changes, save the file cgi.cfg, verify your work and restart Nagios.

- To see if you can log in as the "guest" user you may need to clear the cookies in your web browser. You will not notice any difference in the web interface. The difference is that a number of items that are available via the web interface (forcing a service/host check, scheduling checks, comments, etc.) will not work for the guest user.