Cyber security

Md. Abdul Hai Al Hadi Date: 19 March 2021

Objectives:

- 1. What is Nagios?
- 2. Why we need Nagios?
- 3. Disadvantages of using Nagios?
- 4. All products of Nagios?
- 5. How we use and understand Nagios XI that monitors systems, networks and critical IT Infrastructure?
- 6. How we use and understand Nagios Log Server?

What is Nagios?

Any organization can contain a complex system of computers, servers, services, applications and more. A large amount of data are floating around in the cloud. It requires an interpreter, a guide, a watch-guard, in order to make sense of it and help promote efficiency and network security. Monitoring and managing infrastructure's data has all been streamlined through one suite of solutions. So, it's called "The industry standard in IT infrastructure monitoring".

Nagios is a powerful monitoring system that enables organizations to identify and resolve IT infrastructure problems before they affect critical business processes.

Nagios Core, formerly known as **Nagios**, is a free and open-source computer-software application that monitors systems, networks and infrastructure.

Nagios offers monitoring and alerting services for servers, switches, applications and services. It alerts users when things go wrong and alerts them a second time when the problem has been resolved.

Why We Need Nagios?

Here, are Important reasons to use Nagios monitoring tool are:

- Detects all types of network or server issues.
- Helps us to find the root cause of the problem which allows us to get the permanent solution to the problem.
- Active monitoring of our entire infrastructure and business processes.
- Allows us to monitors and troubleshoot server performance issues.

- Helps us to plan for infrastructure upgrades before outdated systems create failures.
- We can maintain the security and availability of the service.
- Automatically fix problems in a panic situation.

Disadvantages of Using Nagios

- Important feature like wizards or interactive dashboard are only available on Nagios XI, which is quite an expensive tool.
- Nagios core has a confusing interface.
- There're many configuration files which are very hard to configure for users.
- Nagios can't monitor network throughput.
- The tool not allows us to manage the network but only allows to monitor the network.
- Nagios makes no difference between various devices like servers, routers, or switches as it treats every device as a host.

All products of Nagios?

- 1. Nagios XI
- 2. Nagios Log Server
- 3. Nagios Network Analyzer
- 4. Nagios Fusion
- 5. Nagios Core

Nagios XI

we will be able to see exactly where the problem comes from on our infrastructure, and handle it quickly and efficiently, saving the time and money for our organization before it affects critical business processes.

Nagios Log Server

The powerful enterprise-grade log monitoring and management application that allows us to quickly and easily view, sort and configure logs from any source on any given network, allowing us to start making sense of our data.

Nagios Network Analyzer

The commercial-grade network flow data analysis solution that provides us with network traffic and bandwidth information of our infrastructure, making it easier for us to see where the bandwidth is dipping or spiking.

Nagios Fusion

Provides a centralized visual operational status, and enables faster problem resolution over our entire IT infrastructure. Now we can determine which service is down, what is taking up the bandwidth, where is the data is coming from, and how to resolve it. Servers, applications, routers, switches, and more, all able to monitored and manage with Nagios, making us the master of our data.

Nagios Core

The open source industry standard in IT infrastructure monitoring and alerting.

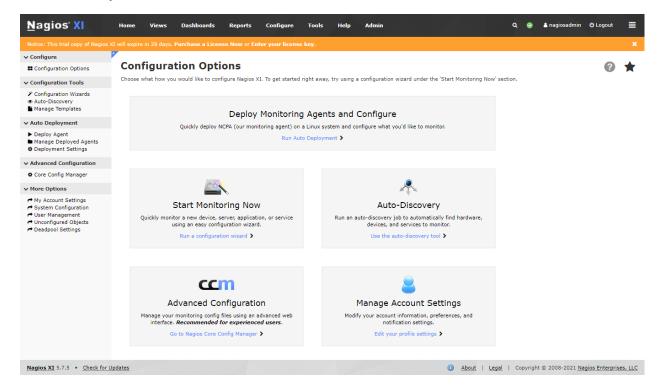
Recommended Software: Nagios XI

http://nagiosxi.demos.nagios.com/nagiosxi/login.php

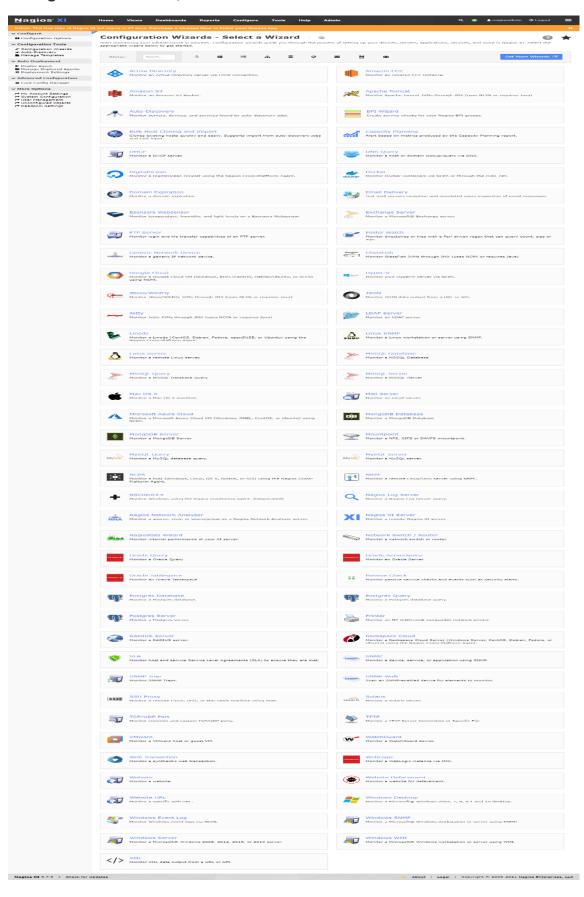
How we use and understand Nagios XI that monitors systems, networks and critical IT Infrastructure?

Configure, monitoring setup

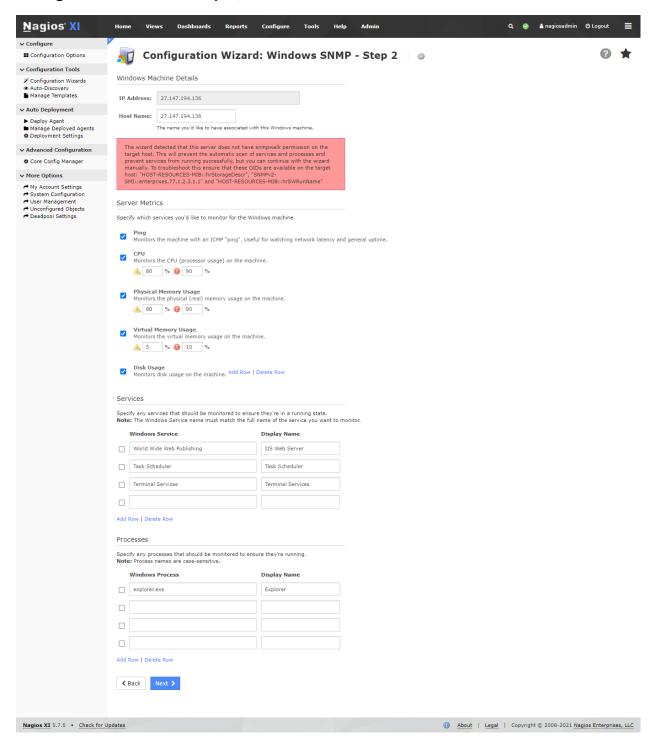
Add or modify items to be monitored.



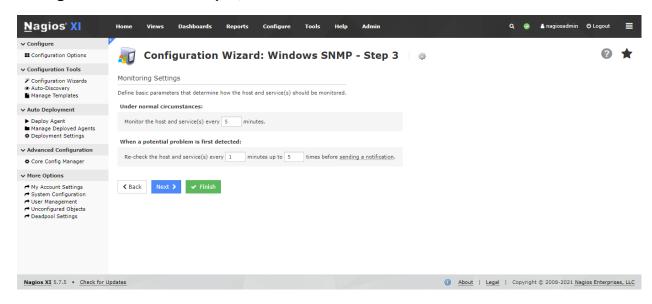
Configuration Wizards,



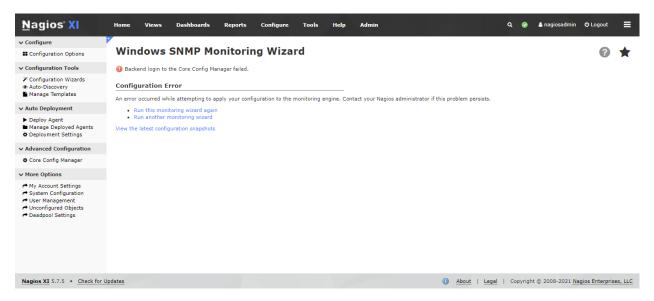
Configuration Wizards Step 2,



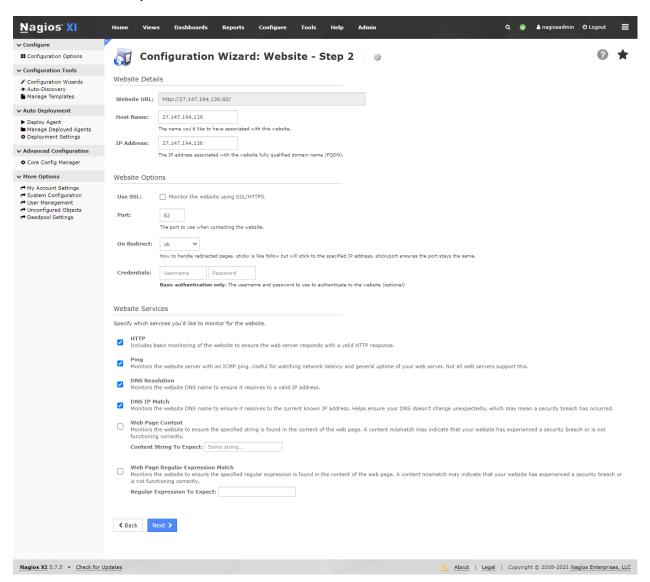
Configuration Wizards Step 3,



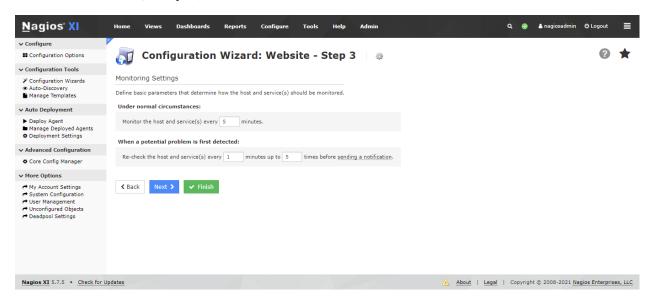
Configuration Wizards Step 4,



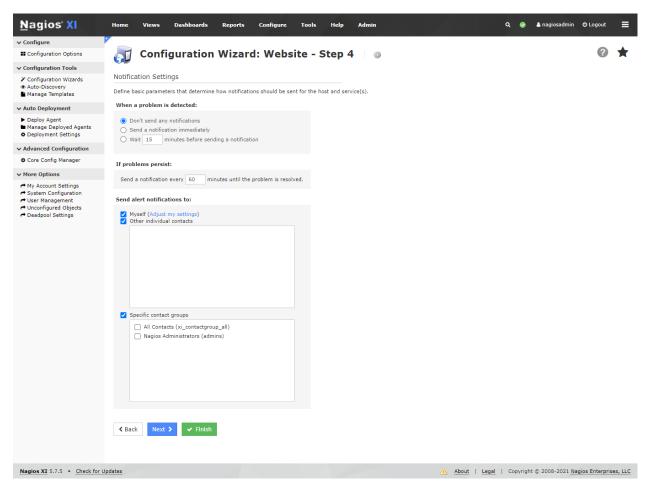
Web site monitor,



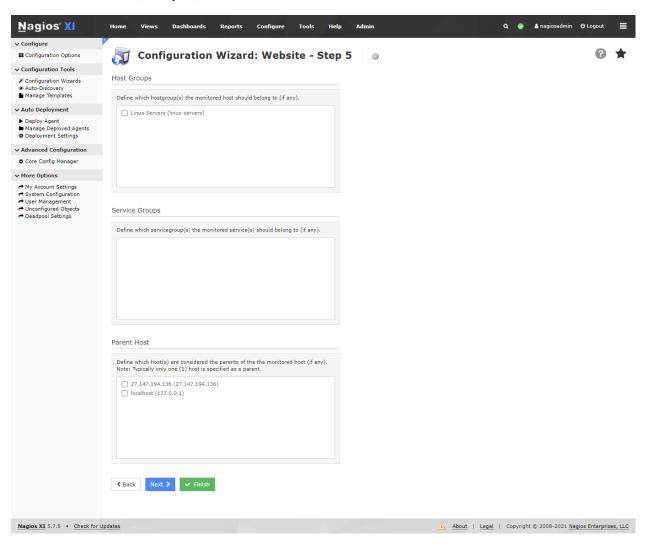
Web site monitor, Step 2,



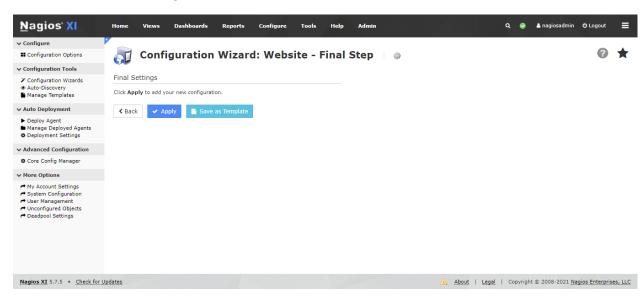
Web site monitor, Step 3,



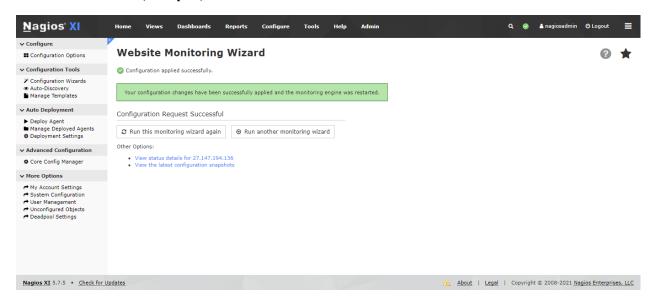
Web site monitor, Step 4,



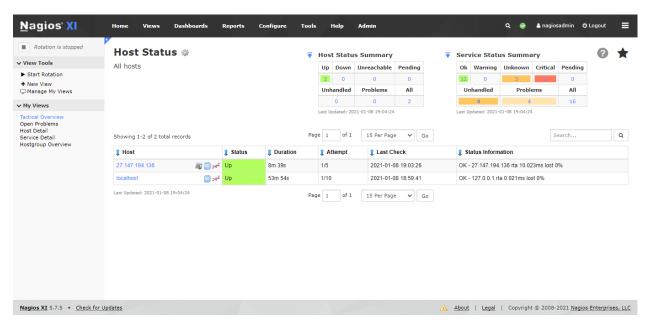
Web site monitor, Step 5,



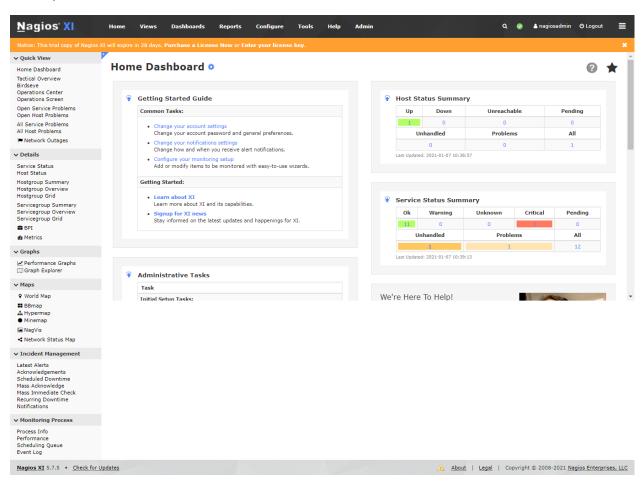
Web site monitor, Step 6,



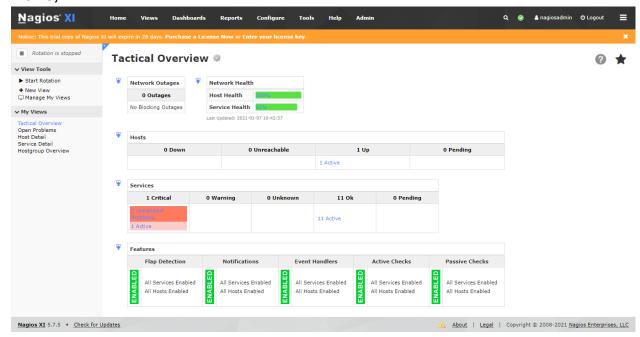
Then Views, Host Detail



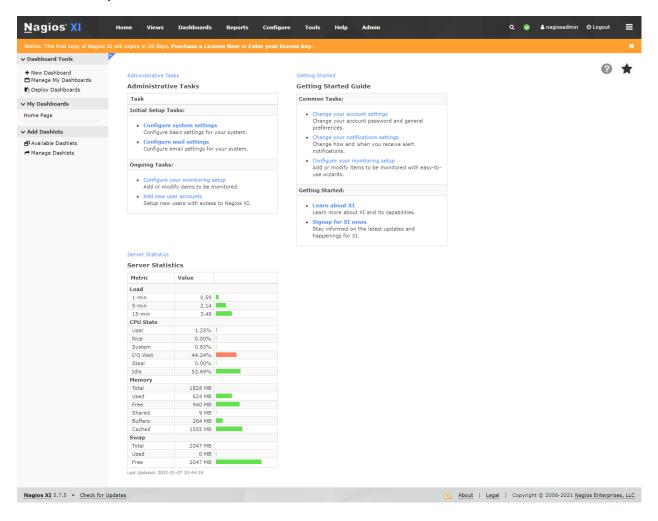
Home,



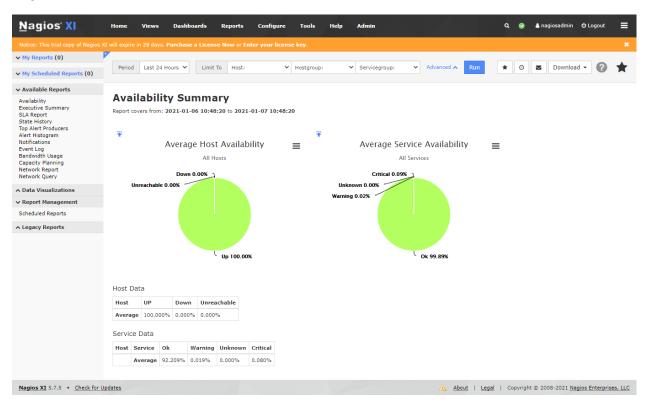
Views,



Dashboards,



Reports:

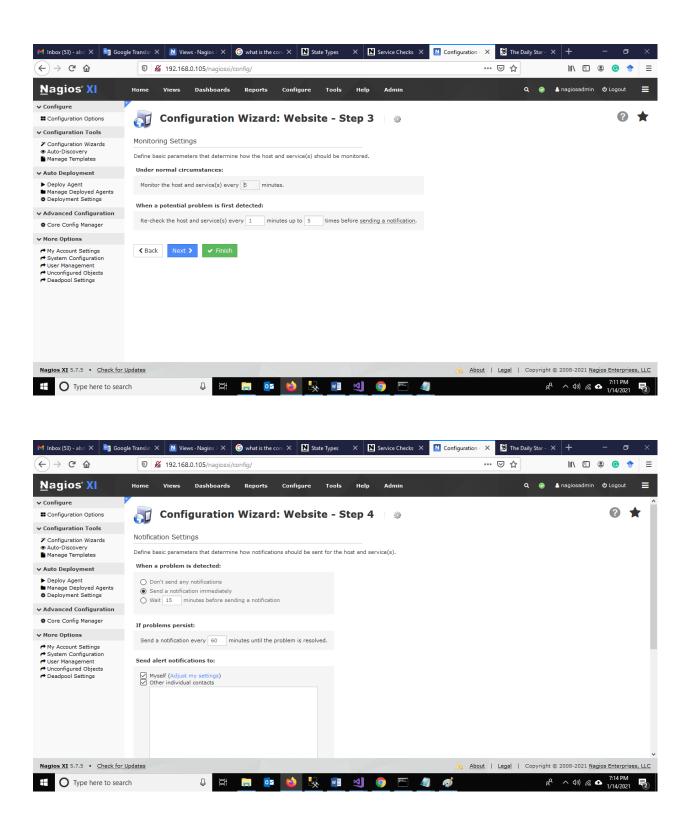


Service Status Summary

Service Status Summary

Ok	Warning	Unknown	Critical	Pending
753	85	35	127	7
Unhandled		Problems		All
247		247		1007

Last Updated: 2021-01-14 01:11:16



State Types

https://assets.nagios.com/downloads/nagioscore/docs/nagioscore/3/en/statetypes.html

https://assets.nagios.com/downloads/nagioscore/docs/nagioscore/3/en/servicechecks.html

Pros and Cons

Pros

- Nagios is open source software. It's free to use and edit.
- It has an open configuration which is easy to add a custom scripts to extend the services available.
- There're many devices which the Nagios system can monitor. The requirement is an SNMP protocol on that device.
- Alert, notification or comment the status of the system. It has varieties of alert tools.
- It has many plugins and add-ons which are free to download and develop.

(https://www.nagios.com/news/2020/08/benefits-of-network-monitoring/)

Cons

- Many features are not available on a free version of Nagios. Features such as wizards or interactive dashboard are available on Nagios XI, which is very expensive.
- There're many configuration files which are very hard to configure.
- Nagios core has a confusing interface.
- Nagios can't monitor network throughput (bandwidth uses or available).
- Nagios can't manage the network, just monitor the network.
- Nagios makes no distinction among different types of devices like servers, routers, or switches.
- Nagios treats every device generically as a host.

Notes:

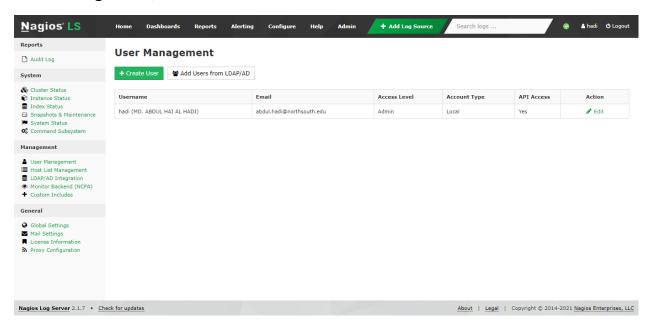
- 1. The main tasks of Nagios are to monitor status of network devices and their services and to notify system administrators of network problems.
- 2. Nagios perform status check and notify a problem through the use of external "plugins", which are compiled executables or scripts (Perl, shell, etc.)
- **3.** The core of Nagios engine is a scheduler daemon that regularly executes plugins to probe specified network devices and their services

How we use and understand Nagios Log Server?

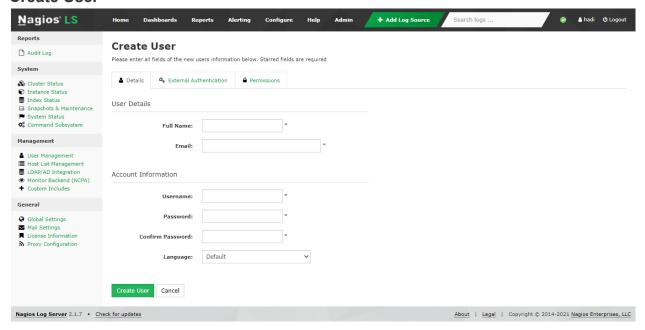
Nagios Log Server facilitates the ability to search all entries of logs in a quick and easy way. Beyond that, it has allowed us to configure alerts for notification when there are potential threats (may they be security threats or only application-side problems), and to filter the data for audits and compliance.

Admin:

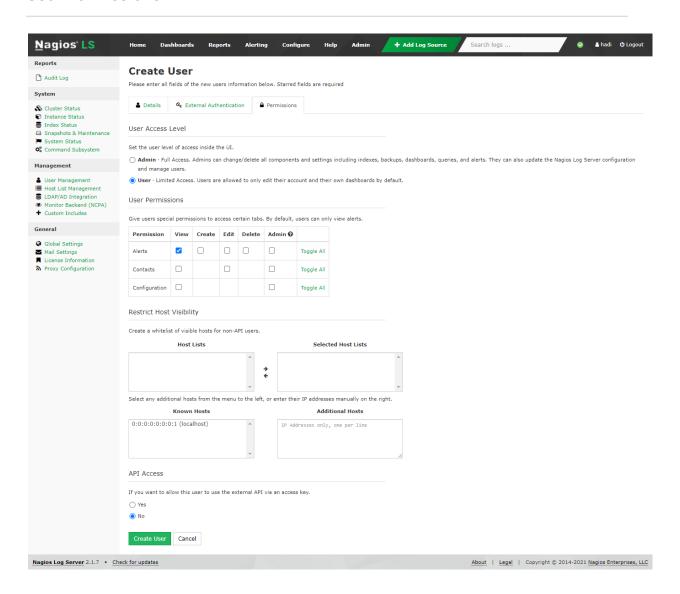
User management,



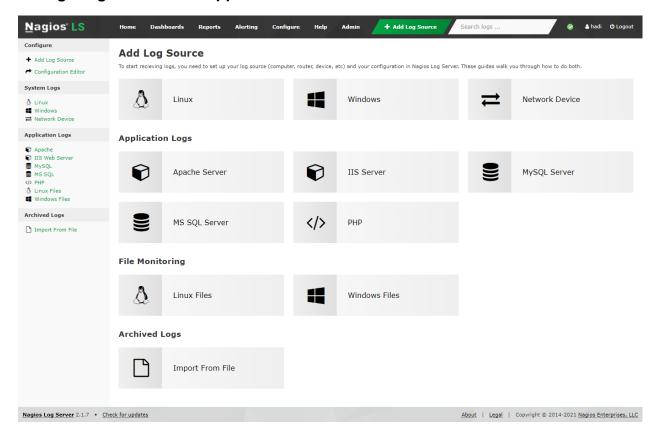
Create User



User Permissions



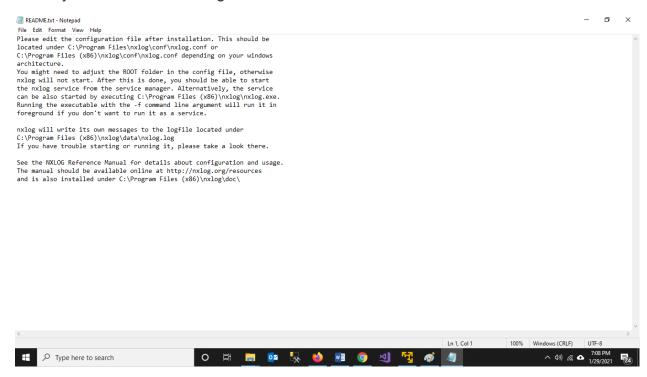
Configuring devices and applications



Windows:

Download agent

Get started by downloading NXLog CE and install it on the Windows desktop or server you want to receive logs from.



Notes:

1. Nagios Log Server provides centralized log management, monitoring and analysis software.

Best Network Monitoring Software

The best Network Monitoring Software vendors are Zabbix, PRTG Network Monitor, SolarWinds NPM, LogicMonitor, and NETSCOUT nGeniusONE. Zabbix is the top solution according to IT Central Station reviews and rankings. One reviewer writes: "A free enterprise monitoring solution ", and another reviewer writes: "Reasonable network monitoring which works okay if you don't mind the glitches". The 2nd best product is PRTG Network Monitor. A user writes: "The product makes it easier for us to find and identify problems", and another reviewer writes: "We can see as soon as there is a problem and track it down pretty quickly".

Summary

- Continuous monitoring is a process to detect, report, respond all the attacks which occur in its infrastructure.
- Nagios is free to use open source software tool for continuous monitoring
- Nagios offers effective monitoring of entire infrastructure and business processes.
- Ethan Galstad uses the ideas and architecture of his earlier work to begin building a new application Nagios which runs under Linux OS.
- Nagios is relatively scalable, Manageable, and Secure.
- Three important components of Nagios architecture are
 - 1) Web Interface (GUI)
 - 2) Nagios Server
 - 3) Plugin
- Nagios allows application monitoring from a single console with transaction-level insights
- This tool not allows us to manage the network but only allows to monitor the network.

System Requirements

These figures represent the minimum requirements to run Nagios XI. To view more detailed guidelines view our hardware requirements PDF.

Hard Drive Memory CPU

20 GB 2 GB Dual core, 2.4 GHz Operating System

CentOS or Redhat Enterprise Linux (RHEL),
Ubuntu or Debian

Database

MySQL/MariaDB, plus PostgresQL if running versions less than XI 5 or if upgrading from a pre-5 version