-- Sat 04 Jun 2011

Came back to using Nagios after a long time not using it. This was prompted by a meeting with James and Sharon last week Thursday. I was tasked mainly with monitoring and documentation. So, I looked around and there was a lot of new stuff, but nothing seems to be automated to the point where you can just run a program and it sets up everything for you yet, so I figured why not just go back to something I'd used before.

Of course, I have forgotten how to set it up and of course, I didn't save any of the scripts I had used before, so I am having to learn it all again.

Basically, there are 3 steps.

1. download the tarballs
2. compile the tarballs (the ./configure steps is important)
3. add the .cfg files for the individual machines to be monitored

Sample script at the end.

When monitoring a Linux machine, I just copied the default script for localhost and modified that a bit. That seems to work.

I have created a **servers** sub-directory and I am putting my scripts in there. So far, I have scripts for **mani**, **bianca**, **charles** and **oscar**. I also have a script called **hostgroups.cfg** which just exists to tie the machine together.

After modifying a script, you have to run

- /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -v /etc/nagios/nagios.cfg
- /etc/rc.d/init.d/nagios restart

Best to run them in a script coz you'll be doing it a lot.

Another thing. Sometimes, you'll see the system giving alarms for stuff. Like this morning, it said oscar was down. That was a false positive, so you have to check it. Oscar was up. I don't know why it gave an alarm.

-- Fri 03 Jun 2011

Monitoring project

- review everything on the IT Policy document that needs to be monitored
  - actually the document says only 'Windows servers and Linux servers'; not a lot of detail there
  - Charles Street
    - SVR
    - Bigbird
    - PBX
    - Dell Switch
    - Linksys router/wifi/firewall
    - UPS unit?
    - PCs
    - printers?
    - phones?

    - El Socorro
        - Oscar
        - PCs
        - phones
        - PBX
        - printers?
        - time clock?
        - switch?
        - UPS unit?
    - set up URLs to all devices that can be logged into locally
    - set up local Nagios servers that can cascade reports upwards to home and can be viewed locally as well

Nagios

- I really need a system to monitor all systems under my control - nagios? on Slackware? Jeff? how much RAM needed?
    - used this guide http://thesystemsadministrator.net/2009/12/nagios-on-slackware-part-i/
    - http://192.168.0.21/nagios - nagiosadmin 123456
    - problem - root partition free space is low!
    - add other hosts - how?

- I have installed Nagios on the **hpbackup** machine in MCL. This is a Slackware 13.0 machine and I'm fairly certain nothing will screw up on it. I had to create a second conf file and invoke a second instance of httpd to run the web server for Nagios. I have **/etc/httpd/nagios.conf**, **/etc/rc.d/rc.nagios-httpd**. You can access Nagios on port **81** here http://192.168.100.13:81/nagios user = nagiosadmin, password = 123456, try http://nagiosadmin:123456@192.168.100.13:81/nagios

- I need to come back and install stanza for SVR, SVR1, BIGBIRD, BIGBIRD1, TEST, PBX, the new PBX, OSCAR, the PCs, the phones, Oscar's PBX, Oscar's phones, Oscar's PCs, printers, Dell switch, etc.

Icinga

- I also found a fork of Nagios, which occurred 2 years ago. I've downloaded the software onto jeff, but I need to compile and set it up. It seems to have a better webui than nagios, but let's see how it goes. Too tired tonight to do anymore.

-- TWikiGuest - 02 Oct 2008

Install guide found at file:///home/rhamel/nagios-files/nagios-3.0.3/html/docs/index.html.

1) Create Account Information

Become the root user.

```
su -l
```

Create a new nagios user account and give it a password.

```
/usr/sbin/useradd -m nagios
passwd nagios
```

I also had to create a group called **nagios** and edit **/etc/passwd** to add the user **nagios** to it. Edit **/etc/group** to add the **nagios** group as follows :-

```
nagios:x:103:nagios
```

Edit **/etc/passwd** as follows :-

```
nagios:x:1001:103::/home/nagios:
```

Create a new **nagcmd** group for allowing external commands to be submitted through the web interface. Add both the **nagios** user and the **apache** user to the group.

```
/usr/sbin/groupadd nagcmd
/usr/sbin/usermod -G nagcmd nagios
/usr/sbin/usermod -G nagcmd apache
```

2) Download Nagios and the Plugins

Create a directory for storing the downloads.

```
mkdir ~/downloads
cd ~/downloads
```

Download the source code tarballs of both Nagios and the Nagios plugins (visit http://www.nagios.org/download/ for links to the latest versions). At the time of writing, the latest versions of Nagios and the Nagios plugins were 3.0.3 and 1.4.11, respectively.

```
wget http://osdn.dl.sourceforge.net/sourceforge/nagios/nagios-3.0.2.tar.gz
wget http://osdn.dl.sourceforge.net/sourceforge/nagiosplug/nagios-plugins-1.4.11.tar.g
```

3) Compile and Install Nagios

Extract the Nagios source code tarball.

```
cd ~/downloads
tar xzf nagios-3.0.2.tar.gz
cd nagios-3.0.2
```

Run the Nagios configure script, passing the name of the group you created earlier like so:

```
./configure --with-command-group=nagcmd
```

Compile the Nagios source code.

```
make all

*** Compile finished ***

If the main program and CGIs compiled without any errors, you
can continue with installing Nagios as follows (type 'make'
without any arguments for a list of all possible options):

  make install
     - This installs the main program, CGIs, and HTML files

  make install-init
     - This installs the init script in /etc/rc.d/init.d

  make install-commandmode
     - This installs and configures permissions on the
       directory for holding the external command file

  make install-config
     - This installs *SAMPLE* config files in /usr/local/nagios/etc
       You'll have to modify these sample files before you can
       use Nagios.  Read the HTML documentation for more info
       on doing this.  Pay particular attention to the docs on
       object configuration files, as they determine what/how
       things get monitored!
```

```
  make install-webconf
     - This installs the Apache config file for the Nagios
       web interface

  make install-exfoliation
     - This installs the Exfoliation theme for the Nagios
       web interface

  make install-classicui
     - This installs the classic theme for the Nagios
       web interface


*** Support Notes *****************************************

If you have questions about configuring or running Nagios,
please make sure that you:

     - Look at the sample config files
     - Read the documentation on the Nagios Library at:
          http://library.nagios.com

before you post a question to one of the mailing lists.
Also make sure to include pertinent information that could
help others help you.  This might include:

     - What version of Nagios you are using
     - What version of the plugins you are using
     - Relevant snippets from your config files
     - Relevant error messages from the Nagios log file

For more information on obtaining support for Nagios, visit:

       http://support.nagios.com

************************************************************

Enjoy.
```

Install binaries, init script, sample config files and set permissions on the external command directory.

```
make install
make install-init
make install-config
make install-commandmode
```

Don't start Nagios yet - there's still more that needs to be done...

4) Customize Configuration

Sample configuration files have now been installed in the **/usr/local/nagios/etc** directory. These sample files should work fine for getting started with Nagios. You'll need to make just one change before you proceed...

Edit the **/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/contacts.cfg** config file with your favorite editor and change the email address associated with the **nagiosadmin** contact definition to the address you'd

like to use for receiving alerts.

```
vi /usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/contacts.cfg
```

5) Configure the Web Interface

Install the Nagios web config file in the Apache conf.d directory.

```
make install-webconf
```

NB: this script will probably fail on Slackware. You'll need to make the directory it wants to use.

```
mkdir -p /etc/httpd/conf.d
```

It puts **nagios.conf** into **/etc/httpd/conf.d**. You need to edit **/etc/httpd/httpd.conf** to include **/etc/httpd/conf.d/nagios.conf** like so :-

```
Include /etc/httpd/conf.d/nagios.conf
```

Create a **nagiosadmin** account for logging into the Nagios web interface. Remember the password you assign to this account - you'll need it later.

```
htpasswd -c /usr/local/nagios/etc/htpasswd.users nagiosadmin
```

Restart Apache to make the new settings take effect.

```
/etc/rc.d/rc.httpd restart
```

6) Compile and Install the Nagios Plugins

Extract the Nagios plugins source code tarball.

```
cd ~/downloads
tar xzf nagios-plugins-1.4.11.tar.gz
cd nagios-plugins-1.4.11
```

Compile and install the plugins.

```
./configure --with-nagios-user=nagios --with-nagios-group=nagios
make
make install
```

7) Start Nagios

Add Nagios to the list of system services and have it automatically start when the system boots.

```
vi /etc/rc.d/rc.local
```

Add the line

```
/etc/rc.d/init.d/nagios start
```

Verify the sample Nagios configuration files.

```
/usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios -v /usr/local/nagios/etc/nagios.cfg
```

If there are no errors, start Nagios.

```
/etc/rc.d/init.d/nagios start
```

9) Login to the Web Interface

You should now be able to access the Nagios web interface at the URL below. You'll be prompted for the username (nagiosadmin) and password you specified earlier.

http://localhost/nagios/

Click on the "Service Detail" navbar link to see details of what's being monitored on your local machine. It will take a few minutes for Nagios to check all the services associated with your machine, as the checks are spread out over time.

10) Other Modifications

Make sure your machine's firewall rules are configured to allow access to the web server if you want to access the Nagios interface remotely.

Configuring email notifications is out of the scope of this documentation. While Nagios is currently configured to send you email notifications, your system may not yet have a mail program properly installed or configured. Refer to your system documentation, search the web, or look to the NagiosCommunity.org wiki for specific instructions on configuring your system to send email messages to external addresses. More information on notifications can be found here.

11) You're Done

This was a very successful day. Not only did I get Nagios running but I also learnt how to add a Windows service to the list of services to be monitored. Apparently, the trick is that the name of the service must be in capital letters. So, cisvc.exe becomes CISVC in the config file.

The Windows install requires unzipping a file, editing an ini file and registering the service. After that, the service can be started using the normal **services.msc** applet like any other service. I test this on W2K of course, since I don't have Windows XP installed at home.

I also got Thunderbird working again with Gmail. So I don't have to log on to the web page anymore. Tbird will download it for me.

I followed the Quickstart guide for Fedora. Obviously, I didn't do the yum bits. NB: **useradd** on Slackware does NOT make the user directory **/home/nagios**. Also, I had to edit manually **/etc/passwd** to add the user **nagios** to the group **nagios**. I also had to add the group **nagios** to **/etc/group** manually. This is needed for **make install**.

I followed the Windows guide as well, which worked except that **"nsclient++ SysTray"** doesn't work. However, when you start the service, the tray icon does appear, so all's well.

When you unzip the tarball, it puts an HTML guide in the html sub-directory. So, you can use that instead of having to go to the net. It's the same guide as on the website anyhow.