

Getting Started

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Getting Started

The Marvel Enterprise Portal is the window into your Marvel monitored environment. The portal lets you explore your enterprise in the same way that your browser lets you explore the Internet. Consult the topics here to answer the questions, Where do I start? and What can I do here?

New in this Release

The following enhancements have been made to the Marvel Enterprise Portal for Version 6.3.

Application Property Installation attribute group	The Application Property Installation attribute group provides information related to the self-describing agent installation process.
ITM Historical Collection attribute group	The ITM Historical Collection attribute group provides information about the active historical collections that are exporting data from a location, including the metrics about each historical collection.
Historical Export Statistics workspace	The Historical Export Statistics workspace displays the enterprise and private historical exports to a Warehouse Proxy agent instance performed by a selected managed system. This workspace is available for monitoring servers and monitoring agents.
Historical situations	Historical_Exports_Critical, Historical_Exports_Failure, Historical_Exports_Warning, and Historical_RowsCorrupted help you manage your historical exports.
Define symbol name/value pairs for physical or logical navigator nodes	You can now define symbol name/value pairs for physical or logical navigator nodes. You can then create Take Action commands that reference these symbols.
Connect points in plot charts	The plot points are connected with lines even when gaps in time are present. This feature is only available for plot charts. Use the Always connects points option on the Style tab.
Marvel Enterprise Portal browser support for 32 bit and 64 bit browsers	The Marvel Enterprise Portal browser client now supports both 32 bit and 64 bit Firefox and Internet Explorer browsers on both Windows and Linux platforms. Support for the most current Extended Support Release versions of the Firefox browser is now available. Support for earlier versions of Firefox prior to version 3.6 are no longer supported in the IBM Marvel Monitoring 6.3 release.
Java™ 7 support	The Marvel Enterprise Portal now uses IBM Java 7 as the default JRE for all deployment modes: desktop, browser, and Java WebStart. Use of IBM Java 5 is no

longer supported in the IBM Marvel Monitoring 6.3 release.

Ability to access multiple Marvel Monitoring domains from a single browser instance

It is now possible to connect the Marvel Enterprise Portal to multiple IBM Marvel Monitoring domains from a single browser instance. Prior to release 6.3, if you needed to manage multiple domains using the Marvel Enterprise Portal, you were required to either launch separate browser instances (one for each domain), or use alternate client deployment modes (such as a desktop client or Java WebStart). Minor changes were also made to the Marvel Enterprise Portal for content improvements. New features and capability enhancements were made to the Marvel Management Services. For more information, see the following publications on the [Marvel Monitoring Information Center](#).

Marvel Management Services Architecture

The Marvel Enterprise Portal is based on a client-server-agent architecture. It comprises server hosts, delivers, and manages most of the resources and services to be consumed by the client. The agent collects the monitored data and passes it to the Marvel Enterprise Monitoring Server. A high-level representation of client-server-agent architecture is shown in the following figure.

Client-Server-Agent Architecture

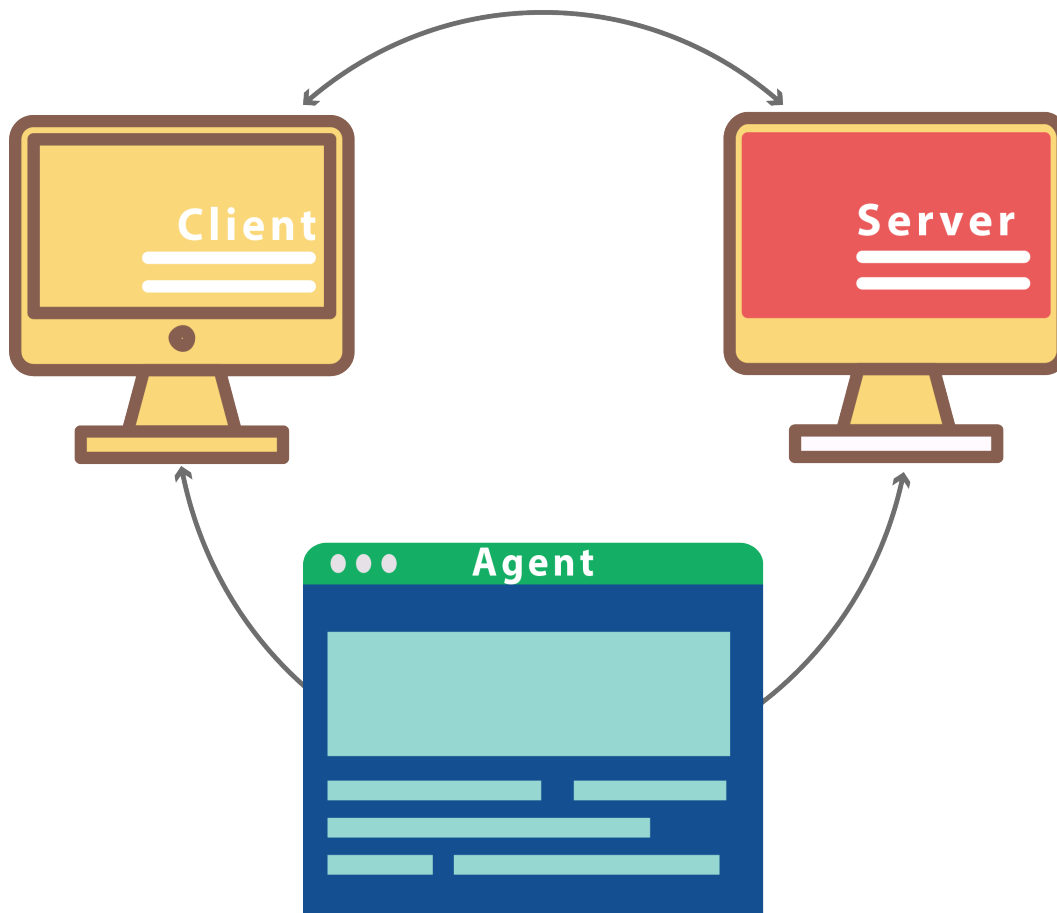


Figure 1: Client server agent architecture

More details on the architecture are provided in the following sections.

Agent

Marvel Enterprise Monitoring Agents are installed on the systems whose applications or resources you want to monitor. The monitoring agent collects the monitored data, and passes it to the Marvel Enterprise Monitoring Server to which it is connected. The client gathers the current values of the monitored properties, or attributes, and displays them in views. It can also test the values against a threshold and display an event indicator when that threshold is exceeded.

Client

The Marvel Enterprise Portal client is a Java-based user interface for viewing and monitoring your enterprise network. Depending on how it was installed, you can start Marvel Enterprise Portal as a desktop application, a web application through your browser, or Java Webstart, which downloads the installable software from the Marvel Enterprise Portal Server, installs it, and then makes it available as a desktop application.

Monitoring Agents

Marvel Enterprise Monitoring Agents are installed where you have resources you want to monitor. The agents and the operating system, subsystem or computer that they are running on are referred to as managed systems. The Navigator Physical view shows the types of agents installed and running on each managed system.

Some agents also have subagents. In such instances the agent is the managing agent. For example, the WebSphere® MQ Integrator Series agent has MQSI Broker subagents. Subagents are displayed in the Navigator below the managing agent and its attribute groups.

MQSI Agent- KQIA

1. MQSI Components
2. Product Events
3. MQSI Broker MQSIBroker1::KQIB
 - a. Broker Events
 - b. Flow Events
 - c. Broker Information
 - d. Broker Statistics
 - e. Execution Group Statistics
 - f. Message Flow Statistics
 - g. Neighbors
 - h. Topics

The agent gathers the current values of the attributes (elements) specified in a view. Gathered attribute values can also be tested against a threshold and display an event indicator when conditions exceed the threshold. Some agents have fewer than 100 attributes, and many have several hundred. These attribute values are displayed in the table and chart views of workspaces at the system, agent, and attribute group level of the Navigator Physical view. When an attribute value (or range of values) is specified in a situation, as a table threshold, or as a chart or table view filter, Marvel Enterprise Portal compares the current value with the value specified and does the following:

1. If the comparison in the situation is met, then the situation is true and event indicators are displayed in the Navigator.
2. If the compared value exceeds the threshold specified for the table, the cell is highlighted in red, yellow, or blue.
3. If the compared value meets the filter condition, it is included in the chart or table display.










Server

The Marvel Enterprise Portal client connects to its application server, the Marvel Enterprise Portal Server. The Marvel Enterprise Portal Server is a collection of software services for the client that enables retrieval, manipulation and analysis of data from the monitoring agents on your enterprise. This server connects to the Marvel Enterprise Monitoring Server, which acts as a collection and control point for alerts received from the monitoring agents, and collects performance and availability data. The main, or hub, Marvel Enterprise Monitoring Server correlates the monitoring data collected by agents and remote servers and passes it to the Marvel Enterprise Portal Server for presentation and your evaluation.

Features

The Marvel Enterprise Portal gives you a single point of control for managing the resources your applications rely on, including a range of operating systems, servers, databases, platforms, and web components. For example, a typical IT network might have a web server on Windows, an application server and database on UNIX, and a transaction processor on CICS® on the mainframe. The Marvel Enterprise Portal brings all these views together in a single window so that you can see when any aspect of your network is not working as expected. Your IBM Marvel Monitoring products use the portal interface with these major features, and you can find demos for many of them on developer works in the [Media Gallery](#).

Table 1: Features

Feature	Description
Customizing workspaces	Marvel Enterprise Portal presents information in a single pane of glass called a workspace, which consists of one or more views. Monitoring data is retrieved at regular intervals and the results sent to the workspace in the form of chart and table views. You can start monitoring activity and system status immediately with the predefined workspaces. With just a few clicks of the mouse, you can tailor your own workspaces to look at specific conditions, display critical threshold values in red, and filter incoming data so you see only what matters.
Customizing workspace views	     The charts display data that the monitoring agents have gathered from the systems where they are running. They can also show data from any ODBC-compliant database you write a custom query for.  The notepad view opens a simple text editor for writing text that can be saved with the workspace.  The table view displays data that the monitoring agents have gathered from the systems where they are running.  The message log shows the status of all situations distributed to the managed systems in your enterprise.  The universal message console view shows situation and policy activity, and messages received as the result of universal message generation.

Marvel Enterprise Portal Tour

Welcome to the Marvel Enterprise Portal tour. In under 10 minutes, this hands-on practice introduces you to some of the major features.

Situations

To open the Situation editor, the user ID must have permission to View Situations.

In addition to providing a map of your enterprise, the Navigator can alert you of changing conditions in the systems you are monitoring. When a condition changes, the associated item is marked with an icon:



Fatal



Critical



Minor



Warning



Harmless



Informational









Unknown

The Navigator places one of these icons, called *alert indicator* or *event indicator*, at every level of the hierarchy so you can see an alert even if a Navigator branch is closed.

If you see any of these icons in the Navigator now, move the mouse pointer over an event indicator to open a flyover listing of the situations that caused the events at that level of the Navigator and below.

Tivoli Enterprise Portal runs tests called situations on systems where monitoring agents are installed. When the conditions of a situation have been met, an event occurs and an event indicator is displayed over the applicable items in the Navigator.

To open a situation,







1. Right-click a system name in the Navigator and click  **Situations**.
The Situation editor opens with a list of situations on the left. This is where you can view and edit situations or create new ones.
2. Click a situation name in the tree to see the Situation editor tabs.
 -  Formula to view, add, and change the conditions being tested.
 -  Distribution to view and specify the systems on which to run the situation.
 -  Expert Advice to write comments or instructions to be read in the event results workspace.
 -  Action to send a command to the managed system.
 -  Until to close the event after a period of time or when another situation is true.
3. Click **Cancel** to close the Situation editor.

Properties

Use Properties editor to edit the appearance and content of the views chosen for a workspace.

User account must have necessary permissions to view the Properties editor.

To open a Properties,

1. Click  **Properties**.
The **Properties** editor opens with a list of the views on the left, grouped by type. On the right, the general workspace properties appear.
2. Select one of the views in the **Properties** tree.
All types of views have a  **Style** tab, with different options for the type of view. The table, charts, and topology views have  **Query** and  **Filters** tabs, table and topology have a  **Thresholds** tab, and terminal emulators have a  **Configuration** tab. Whenever you want to change the data elements that display for a chart or table or change the styling of a view, go to the Properties editor.
3. Click **Cancel** to close the Properties editor.

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