



NSO Resource Manager 3.5.0

Americas Headquarters

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NSO Resource Manager Guide

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Introduction

NSO Resource Manager package contains both an API for generic resource pool handling called resource allocator, and two applications utilizing the API. The applications are the idallocator and the ipaddress-allocator, explained in separate chapters. This version of NSO Resource Manager is 3.5.0 and was released together with NSO version 5.3.2.

Background

NSO is often used to provision services in the networking layer. It is not unusual that these services require network-level information that are not (or cannot be) part of the instance data provided by the northbound system, so it needs to be fetched from, and eventually released back to a separate system. A common example of this is IP-addresses used for layer 3 VPN services. The orchestrator tool is not aware of the blocks of IP-addresses assigned to the network but relies on lower layers to fulfill this need.

Some customers have software systems to manage these types of temporary assets. E.g. for IP-addresses they are usually known as IP Address Management (IPAM) systems. There is a whole industry of solutions for such systems, ranging from simple open source solutions to entire suites integrated with DNS management. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IP_address_management for more on this.

There are customers that either don't have an IPAM system for services that are planned for NSO and are not planning to get one for this single purpose. They usually don't want the operational overhead of another system and/or don't see the need of a separate investment.

These customers are looking for NSO to provide basic resource allocation and lifecycle management for the assets required for services managed by NSO. They appreciate the fact that NSO is not an appropriate platform to provide more advanced features from the IPAM world like capacity planning nor to integrate with DNS and DHCP platforms. This means that the NSO Resource Manager does not compete with full-blown systems, but rather is a complementary feature.

Overview

The NSO Resource Manager interface, the resource allocator, provides a generic resource allocation mechanism that works well with services and in a high availability (HA) configuration. Expected is implementations of specific resource allocators implemented as separate NSO packages. A service will then have the possibility to use allocator implementations dedicated for different resources.

The YANG model of the resource allocator (resource-allocator.yang) can be augmented with different resource pools, as is the case for the two applications id-allocator and ipaddress-allocator. Each pool has an allocation list where services are expected to create instances to signal that they request an allocation. Request parameters are stored in the request container and the allocation response is written in the response container.

Since the allocation request may fail the response container contains a choice where one case is for error and one for success.

Each allocation list entry also contains an allocating-service leaf. This is an instance-identifier that points to the service that requested the resource. This is the service that will be re-deployed when the resource has been allocated.

Resource allocation packages should subscribe to several points in this resource-pool tree. First, they must detect when a new resource pool is created or deleted, secondly they must detect when an allocation request is created or deleted. A package may also augment the pool definition with additional parameters, for example, an ip address allocator may wish to add configuration parameters for defining the available subnets to allocate from, in which case it must also subscribe to changes to these settings.

Installation

Installation of this package is done as with any other package, as described in the NSO Packages chapter in NSO 5.3.2 Administration Guide.

Resource Allocator Data Model

The API of the resource allocator is defined in this YANG data model:

```
grouping resource-pool-grouping {
  leaf name {
    tailf:info "Unique name for the pool";
    type string;
}

list allocation {
  key id;

  leaf id {
    type string;
  }

  leaf username {
    description
        "Authenticated user for invoking the service";
    type string;
    mandatory true;
  }

leaf allocating-service {
    tailf:info "Instance identifier of service that owns resouce";
```

```
type instance-identifier;
}

container request {
  description
    "When creating a request for a resource the
    implementing package augments here.";
}

container response {
  config false;
  tailf:cdb-oper {
    tailf:persistent true;
  }
  choice response-choice {
    case error {
      leaf error {
         type string;
      }
    }
  case ok {
      // The implementing package augments here
    }
}
```

HA Considerations

Looking at High Availability there are two things we need to consider - the allocator state needs to be replicated, and the allocation needs only to be performed on one node.

The easiest way to replicate the state is to write it into CDB-oper and let CDB perform the replication. This is what we do in the ipaddress-allocator.

We only want the allocator to allocate addresses on the master node. Since the allocations are written into CDB they will be visible on both master and slave nodes, and the CDB subscriber will be notified on both nodes. In this case we only want the allocator on the master node to perform the allocation. We therefore read the HA mode leaf from CDB to determine which HA mode the current subscriber is running in, if none or master, we proceed with the allocation.

HA Considerations



CHAPTER 4

NSO ID Allocator Deployment Guide

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Introduction

This document contains deployment information and procedures for the NSO ID Allocator.

The NSO ID Allocator is an extension of the generic resource allocation mechanism named NSO Resource Manager. It can allocate integers which can serve for instance as VLAN identifiers.

Overview

The ID Allocator can host any number of ID pools. Each pool contains a certain number of IDs that can be allocated. They are specified by a range, and potentially broken into several ranges by a list of excluded ranges.

The ID allocator YANG models are divided into a configuration data specific model (id-allocator.yang), and an operational data specific model (id-allocator-oper.yang). Users of this package will request allocations in the configuration tree. The operational tree serves as an internal data structure of the package.

An ID request can allocate either the lowest possible ID in a pool, or a specified (by the user) value, such as 5 or 1000.

Allocation requests can be synchronized between pools. This synchronization is based on the id of the allocation request itself (such as for instance allocation1), the result is that the allocations will have the same allocated value across pools.

Examples

This section presents some simple use cases of the NSO ID Allocator. The examples below are presented using Cisco style CLI.

Create an ID pool

The CLI interaction below depicts how it is possible to create a new ID pool, and assign it a range of values from 100 to 1000.

admin@ncs# resource-pools id-pool pool1 range start 100 end 1000 admin@ncs# commit

Create an allocation request

When a pool has been created, it is possible to create allocation requests on the values handled by a pool. The CLI interaction below shows how to allocate a value in the pool defined above.

admin@ncs# resource-pools id-pool pool1 allocation a1 user myuser
admin@ncs# commit

At this point, we have a pool with range 100 to 1000 and one allocation (100). This is shown in Table 1, "Pool range 100-1000"

Table 1. Pool range 100-1000

NAME	START	END	START	END	START	END	ID
pool1	_	_			101	1000	100

Create a synchronized allocation request

Allocations can be synchronized between pools by setting request sync to true when creating each allocation request. The allocation id, which is b in this CLI interaction, determines which allocations will be synchronized across pools.

admin@ncs# resource-pools id-pool pool2 range start 100 end 1000

admin@ncs# resource-pools id-pool pool1 allocation b user myuser request sync true

admin@ncs# resource-pools id-pool pool2 allocation b user myuser request sync true

admin@ncs# commit

As can be seen in Table 2, "Synchronized pools", allocations b (in pool1 and in pool2) are synchronized across pools pool1 and pool2 and receive the ID value of 1000 in both pools.

Table 2. Synchronized pools

NAME	START	END	START	END	START	END	ID
pool1	-	-			101	999	100
	_	_					1000
pool2	-	_			101	999	1000

Request an id using round robin method

Default behavior for requesting a new id is to request the first free id in increasing order.

This method is selectable using the 'method' container. For example the 'first free' method can be explicitly set.

admin@ncs# set resource-pools id-pool methodRangeFirst allocation a username \
admin request method firstfree

If we remove allocation a, and do a new allocation, using the default method we allocate the first free id, in this case 1 again. Using the round robin scheme, we instead allocate the next in order, i.e. 2.

admin@ncs# set resource-pools id-pool methodRoundRobin allocation a username \
admin request method roundrobin



Note that the request method is set on a per-request basis. Two different requests may request ids from the same pool using different request methods.

Security

The NSO ID Allocator requires a username to be configured by the service application when creating an allocation request. This username will be used to re-deploy the service application once a resource has been allocated. Default NACM rules denies all standard users access to the /ralloc:resource-pools list. These default settings are provided in the (initial_data/aaa_init.xml) file of the resource-manager package.

It's up to the administrator to add a rule that allows the user to perform the service re-deploy.

How the administrator should write these rules are detailed in the The AAA Infrastructure chapter in NSO 5.3.2 Administration Guide.

Alarms

There are two alarms associated with the ID Allocator:

Empty alarm

This alarm is raised when the pool is empty, there are no availabe IDs for further allocation.

Low threshold reached alarm

This alarm is raised when the pool is nearing empty, e.g. there is only ten percent or less left in the pool.

Low threshold reached alarm

NSO IP Address Allocator Deployment Guide

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- Overview, page 9
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Introduction

This document contains deployment information and procedures for the Tail-f NSO IP Address Allocator application.

Overview

The NSO IP Address Allocator application contains an IP address allocator that use the Resource Manager API to provide IP address allocation. It uses a RAM based allocation algorithm that stores its state in CDB as oper data.

The file resource-manager/src/java/src/com/tailf/pkg/ipaddressallocator/ IPAddressAllocator.java contains the part that deals with the resource manager APIs whereas the RAM based IP address allocator resides under resource-manager/src/java/src/com/tailf/pkg/ipam

The IPAddressAllocator class subscribes to five points in the DB:

/ralloc:resource-pools/ip-address-pool

To be notified when new pools are created/deleted. It needs to create/delete instances of the IPAddressPool class. Each instance of the IPAddressPool handles one pool.

/ralloc:resource-pools/ip-address-pool/subnet

To be notified when subnets are added/removed from an existing address pool. When a new subnet is added it needs to invoke the addToAvailable method of the right IPAddressPool instance. When a pool is removed it needs to reset all existing allocations from the pool, create new allocations, and re-deploy the services that had the allocations.

/ralloc:resource-pols/ip-address-pool/exclude

To detect when new exclusions are added, and when old exclusions are removed.

```
/ralloc:resource-pols/ip-address-pool/range
```

To be notified when ranges are added to or removed from an address pool.

```
/ralloc:resource-pols/ip-address-pool/allocation
```

To detect when new allocation requests are added, and when old allocations are released. When a new request is added the right size of subnet is allocated from the IPAddressPool instance, and the result is written to the response/subnet leaf, and finally the service is re-deployed.

Examples

This section presents some simple use cases of the NSO IP Address Allocator. It uses the C-style CLI.

Create an IP pool

Creating an IP pool requires the user to specify a list of subnets (identified by a network address and a CIDR mask), a list of IP ranges (identified by its first and last IP address), or a combination of the two to be handled by the pool. The following CLI interaction shows an allocation where a pool pool1 is created, and the subnet 10.0.0.0/24 and the range 192.168.0.0 - 192.168.255.255 is added to it.

```
admin@ncs# resource-pools ip-address-pool pool1 subnet 10.0.0.0 24
admin@ncs# resource-pools ip-address-pool pool1 range 192.168.0.0 192.168.255.255
```

Create an allocation request for a subnet

Since we have already populated one of our pools, we can now start creating allocation requests. In the CLI interaction below, we request to allocate a subnet with a CIDR mask of 30, in the pool pool 1.

```
admin@ncs# resource-pools ip-address-pool pool1 allocation al username \
myuser request subnet-size 30
```

Create a static allocation request for a subnet

If you need a specific IP or range of IPs for an allocation, now you can use the optional subnet-start-ip leaf, together with the subnet-size. The allocator will go through the available subnets in the requested pool and will look for a subnet containing the subnet-start-ip and which can also fit the subnet-size.

```
admin@ncs# resource-pools ip-address-pool pool1 allocation a2 username \
myuser request subnet-start-ip 10.0.0.36 subnet-size 32
```

The subnet-start-ip has to be the first IP address out of a subnet with size subnet-size:

- Valid: subnet-start-ip 10.0.0.36 subnet-size 30, IP range 10.0.0.36 to 10.0.0.39
- Invalid: subnet-start-ip 10.0.0.36 subnet-size 29, IP range 10.0.0.32 to 10.0.0.39

If the subnet-start-ip/subnet-size pair does not give a subnet range starting with subnet-start-ip, the allocation will fail.

Read the response to an allocation request

The response to an allocation request comes in the form of operational data written to the path / resource-pools/ip-address-pool/allocation/response. The response container contains a choice with two cases, ok and error. If the allocation failed, the error case will be set and an error message can be found in the leaf error. If the allocation succeeded, the ok case will be set and

the allocated subnet will be written to the leaf subnet and the subnet from which the allocation was made will be written to the leaf from. The following CLI interaction shows how to view the status of the current allocation requests.

admin@ncs# show resouce-pools

Table Table 3, "Subnet allocation" shows that a subnet with a CIDR of 30 has been allocated from the subnet 10.0.0.0/24 in pool1.

Table 3. Subnet allocation

NAME	ID	ERROR	SUBNET	FROM
pool1	a1	_	10.0.0.0/30	10.0.0.0/24

Automatic redeployment of service

An allocation request may contain a reference to a service that is to be redeployed whenever the status of the allocation changes. The following status changes trigger redeployment.

- Allocation response goes from no case to some case (ok or error)
- Allocation response goes from one case to the other
- Allocation response case stays the same but the leaves within the case change. Typically because a reallocation was triggered by configuration changes in the IP pool.

The service reference is set in the allocating-service leaf, for example

admin@ncs# resource-pools ip-address-pool pool1 allocation a1 allocating-service \
/services/vl:loop[name='myservice'] username myuser request subnet-size 30

Security

The NSO IP Address Allocator requires a username to be configured by the service application when creating an allocation request. This username will be used to re-deploy the service application once a resource has been allocated. Default NACM rules denies all standard users access to the / ralloc:resource-pools list. These default settings are provided in the (initial_data/ aaa_init.xml) file of the resource-manager package.

Alarms

There are two alarms associated with the IP Address Allocator:

Empty alarm

This alarm is raised when the pool is empty, there are no availabe IPs that can be allocated.

Low threshold reached alarm

This alarm is raised when the pool is nearing empty, e.g. there is only ten percent or less separate IPs left in the pool.

Low threshold reached alarm



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- IP address allocator model, page 17

Resource allocator model

Example 4. Resource allocator YANG Model

```
module resource-allocator {
   namespace "http://tail-f.com/pkg/resource-allocator";
   prefix "ralloc";

import tailf-common {
    prefix tailf;
   }

import ietf-inet-types {
    prefix inet;
   }

organization "Tail-f Systems";
   description
   "This is an API for resource allocators.
```

An allocation request is signaled by creating an entry in the allocation ${\bf list}.$

The response is signaled by writing a **value** in the response leave(s). The responder is responsible for re-deploying the allocating owner after writing the result in the response **leaf**.

We expect a specific allocator package to do the following:

- Subscribe to changes in the allocation list and look for create operations.
- Perform the allocation and respond by writing the result into the response leaf, and then invoke the re-deploy action of the service pointed to by the owner leaf.

Most allocator packages will want to annotate this model with additional pool definition data. ";

```
revision 2015-10-20 {
   description
    "Initial revision.";
grouping resource-pool-grouping {
  leaf name {
    type string;
    description
      "The name of the pool";
    tailf:info "Unique name for the pool";
  list allocation {
    key id;
    leaf id {
      type string;
    leaf username {
      description
        "Authenticated user for invoking the service";
      type string;
      mandatory true;
    leaf allocating-service {
      type instance-identifier {
        require-instance false;
      description
        "Points to the service that owns the resource.";
      tailf:info "Instance identifier of service that owns resource";
    container request {
      description
        "When creating a request for a resource the
         implementing package augments here.";
    container response {
      config false;
      tailf:cdb-oper {
        tailf:persistent true;
      choice response-choice {
        case error {
          leaf error {
            type string;
            description
              "Text describing why the allocation request failed";
        case ok {
      description
        "The response to the allocation request.";
```

```
}
}
container resource-pools {
}
```

Id allocator model

Example 5. Id allocator YANG Model

```
module id-allocator {
 namespace "http://tail-f.com/pkg/id-allocator";
  prefix idalloc;
  import tailf-common {
   prefix tailf;
  import resource-allocator {
   prefix ralloc;
  include id-allocator-alarms {
   revision-date "2017-02-09";
  organization "Tail-f Systems";
    "This module contains a description of an id allocator for defining pools
     of id:s. This can for instance be used when allocating VLAN ids.
     This module contains configuration schema of the id allocator. For the
     operational schema, please see the id-allocator-oper module.";
  revision 2017-08-14 {
   description
      "2.2
      Enhancements:
       Removed 'disable', add 'enable' for alarms.
      This means that if you want alarms you need to enable this explicitly
      now.
      " ;
  }
  revision 2017-02-09 {
   description
      "2.1
      Enhancements:
      Added support for alarms
  }
  revision 2015-12-28 {
     description "2nd revision. Added support for allocation methods.";
  revision 2015-10-20 {
     description "Initial revision.";
```

```
grouping range-grouping {
  leaf start {
    type uint32;
   mandatory true;
  leaf end {
    type uint32;
    mandatory true;
   must ". >= ../start" {
      error-message "range end must be greater or equal to range start";
      tailf:dependency "../start";
 }
}
// This is the interface
augment "/ralloc:resource-pools" {
 list id-pool {
    key "name";
    container range {
      description "The range the resource-pool should contain";
      uses range-grouping;
    list exclude {
     key "start end";
      leaf stop-allocation {
        type boolean;
        default "false";
      uses range-grouping;
      tailf:cli-suppress-mode;
    uses ralloc:resource-pool-grouping {
      augment "allocation/response/response-choice/ok" {
        leaf id {
          type uint32;
    container alarms {
      leaf enabled {
        type empty;
        description "Set this leaf to enable alarms";
      leaf low-threshold-alarm {
        type uint8 {
         range "0 .. 100";
        default 10;
        description "Change the value for when the low threshold alarm is
                     raised. The value describes the percentage IDs left in
                     the pool. The default is to raise the alarm when there
                     are ten (10) percent IDs left in the pool.";
    description "The state of the id-pool.";
    tailf:info "Id pool";
}
//augmenting the request/responses form resource-manager
```

```
augment "/ralloc:resource-pools/id-pool/allocation/request" {
 leaf sync {
    type boolean;
   default "false";
   description "Synchronize allocation with all other allocation
                 with same allocation id in other pools";
    tailf:info "Synchronize allocation id with other pools";
 leaf id {
   type uint32;
    description "The specific id to sync with";
    tailf:info "Request a specific id";
 container method {
   choice method {
      default firstfree;
      case firstfree {
        leaf firstfree {
          type empty;
          description "The default method to allocating a new id
                        is using the first free method. Using this
                        allocation method might mean that an id is reused
                        quickly which might not be what one wants nor is
                        supported in lower layers.";
          tailf:info "Default method used to request a new id.";
      case roundrobin {
        leaf roundrobin {
          type empty;
          description "Pick the next available id using a round
                         robin approach. Earlier used id:s will not be
                         reused until the range is exhausted and allocation
                         restarts from the start of the range again.
                       Note that sync will override round robin.";
          tailf:info "Round robin method used to request a new id.";
     }
   }
 }
```

IP address allocator model

Example 6. IP address allocator YANG Model

```
module ipaddress-allocator {
  namespace "http://tail-f.com/pkg/ipaddress-allocator";
  prefix ipalloc;
  import tailf-common {
    prefix tailf;
  }
  import ietf-inet-types {
    prefix inet;
  }
```

```
import resource-allocator {
  prefix ralloc;
include ipaddress-allocator-alarms {
  revision-date "2017-02-09";
organization "Tail-f Systems";
description
  "This module contains a description of an IP address allocator for defining
   pools of IPs and allocating addresses from these.
   This module contains configuration schema of the id allocator. For the
   operational schema, please see the id-allocator-oper module.";
revision 2018-02-27 {
  description
    "Introduce the 'invert' field in the request container that enables
    one to allocate the same size network regardless of the network
     type (IPv4/IPv6) in a pool by using the inverted cidr.";
revision 2017-08-14 {
 description
    "2.2
    Enhancements:
    Removed 'disable', add 'enable' for alarms.
     This means that if you want alarms you need to enable this explicitly
    now.
    ";
}
revision 2017-02-09 {
  description
    "1.2
    Enhancements:
    Added support for alarms
    ";
revision 2016-01-29 {
 description
    "1.1
    Added support for defining pools using IP address ranges.
}
revision 2015-10-20 {
  description "Initial revision.";
// This is the interface
augment "/ralloc:resource-pools" {
  list ip-address-pool {
    tailf:info "IP Address pools";
   key name;
    uses ralloc:resource-pool-grouping {
      augment "allocation/request" {
        leaf subnet-size {
```

```
tailf:info "Size of the subnet to be allocated.";
      type uint8 {
        range "1..128";
      mandatory true;
    leaf subnet-start-ip {
      description
        "Optional parameter used to request for a particular IP for
        the allocation (instead of the first available subnet matching
        the subnet-size). The subnet-start-ip has to be the first IP
        in the range defined by subnet-size, otherwise the allocation will
        fail. Ex: subnet-start-ip 10.0.0.36 subnet-size 30 gives the
        equivalent range 10.0.0.36-10.0.0.39, and it's a valid value.
        subnet-start-ip 10.0.0.36 subnet-size 29 gives the range
        10.0.0.32-10.0.0.39 and it's NOT a valid option.";
      type inet:ip-address;
    leaf invert-subnet-size {
      description
        "By default subnet-size is considered equal to the cidr, but by
         setting this leaf the subnet-size will be the \"inverted\" cidr.
         I.e: If one sets subnet-size to 8 with this leaf unset 2^24
         addresses will be allocated for a IPv4 pool and in a IPv6 pool
         2^120 addresses will be allocated. By setting this leaf only
         2^8 addresses will be allocated in either a IPv4 or a IPv6
         pool.";
      type empty;
    }
  augment "allocation/response/response-choice/ok" {
    leaf subnet {
      type inet:ip-prefix;
   leaf from {
      type inet:ip-prefix;
}
leaf auto-redeploy {
  tailf:info "Automatically re-deploy services when an IP address is "
    +"re-allocated";
  type boolean;
  default "true";
list subnet {
 key "address cidrmask";
  tailf:cli-suppress-mode;
  description
    "List of subnets belonging to this pool. Subnets may not overlap.";
 must "(contains(address, '.') and cidrmask <= 32) or</pre>
        (contains(address, ':') and cidrmask <= 128)" {
    error-message "cidrmask is too long";
  tailf:validate ipa_validate {
    tailf:dependency ".";
```

```
}
  leaf address {
    type inet:ip-address;
  leaf cidrmask {
    type uint8 {
     range "1..128";
 }
}
list exclude {
 key "address cidrmask";
  tailf:cli-suppress-mode;
  description "List of subnets to exclude from this pool. May only "
   +"contains elements that are subsets of elements in the list of "
    +"subnets.";
  must "(contains(address, '.') and cidrmask <= 32) or</pre>
        (contains(address, ':') and cidrmask <= 128)" {
    error-message "cidrmask is too long";
  tailf:validate ipa_validate {
    tailf:dependency ".";
  leaf address {
    type inet:ip-address;
  leaf cidrmask {
    type uint8 {
     range "1..128";
  }
}
list range {
 key "from to";
  tailf:cli-suppress-mode;
  description
    "List of IP ranges belonging to this pool, inclusive. If your "
    +"pool of IP addresses does not conform to a convenient set of "
    +"subnets it may be easier to describe it as a range. "
    +"Note that the exclude list does not apply to ranges, but of "
    +"course a range may not overlap a subnet entry.";
  tailf:validate ipa_validate {
    tailf:dependency ".";
  leaf from {
    type inet:ip-address-no-zone;
  leaf to {
    type inet:ip-address-no-zone;
```

```
must "(contains(from, '.') and contains(to, '.')) or
               (contains(from, ':') and contains(to, ':'))" {
            error-message
             "IP addresses defining a range must agree on IP version.";
       container alarms {
         leaf enabled {
           type empty;
           description "Set this leaf to enable alarms";
         leaf low-threshold-alarm {
            type uint8 {
             range "0 .. 100";
           default 10;
           \  \, \text{description} \quad \text{"Change the value for when the low threshold alarm is}
                         raised. The value describes the percentage IPs left in
                         the pool. The default is to raise the alarm when there
} }
                         are ten (10) percent IPs left in the pool.";
```

IP address allocator model



Resources

• References for further reading, page 23

References for further reading

NSO Packages chapter in NSO 5.3.2 Administration Guide.

The AAA Infrastructure chapter in NSO 5.3.2 Administration Guide.

References for further reading