GDMA 2.1 RELEASE NOTES

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Table of Contents

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RELEASE NOTES

This document describes the updates in Groundwork Distributed Monitoring Agent (GDMA) release 2.1.

CHANGES TO GDMA FROM THE PREVIOUS RELEASE.

Configurable per service check intervals [i]

Service checks can be configured to run as a multiple of the main poller interval. This provides additional flexibility in check scheduling. (See GDMA Installation and Configuration document)

Configurable per service timeouts[ii]

This feature provides enhanced functionality to decrease sensitivity to misbehaving plugins.

Spooler Enhancements[iii]

This release includes a redesigned spooler feature that incorporates the following features.

- Spooler and Poller separation
  - GDMA now has separate Poller and Spooler processes to address the different timing and processing requirements of these functions.
- Per target spooling.
  - Improved performance and reliability in Parent/Standby environments.
- Configurable max_retries
  - Improved configuration control of spooler retry behavior.
- Configurable retention_time
  - Improved configuration control of spool length.
- NSCA Bulk Sends
  - Performance enhancement decreases network overhead in the transmission of GDMA check results.
- NSCA batch_size
  - Configuration control of NSCA Bulk sends
- Configurable spool_proc_interval
  - Configuration control for spool processing frequency.

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Configuration Automation Enhancements[iv]

See GDMA Installation and Configuration document for details

Improved error handling and status notifications[v]

See GDMA Installation and Configuration document for details.

Master-Target Clock Synchronization

GDMA agents use the local system clock to timestamp check results before transmission to the master system. This requires that the target system and the master system clocks be synchronized. By default the Groundwork system will accept results that are up to 30 seconds old and up to 1 second in the future. Groundwork recommends changing these values to 900 seconds old to get the maximum benefit of spooling features. See GDMA Installation and Configuration document for details on configuration.

NSCA Communication

This version supports only the NSCA the XOR "encryption" method.

GDMA Target Hostnames

GDMA calculates the local hostname by using the perl SYS:Hostname function call and converting that result to lowercase. This can be either the short hostname or the FQDN depending on how the base operating system is configured. The calculated hostname is used all subsequent operations. This affects autoconfiguration and configuration fetch operations.

- GDMA will not operate correctly if the hostname cannot be determined.
- The Groundwork Master system will not distinguish between results sent from two hosts with identical calculated hostname values.
- FQDN Lowercase hostnames are recommended to enforce uniqueness and reduce confusion.

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References

[i] http://jira/browse/GDMA-2
[ii] http://jira/browse/GDMA-39
[iii] http://jira/browse/GDMA-54
[iv] http://jira/browse/GDMA-48
[v] http://jira/browse/GDMA-55

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