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1 PURPOSE

Important Note: The distributed Readme document should be reviewed prior to the installation or upgrade of GroundWork Monitor Professional 5.0.

The purpose of this "Release Notes" document is to outline the new features in this release of the GroundWork Monitor Professional 5.0 product. Additionally, the documents "Installation" and "Readme" outline system hardware requirements, pre-installation planning, steps for a new installation or an upgrade; and to outline the bug fixes and known issues in the current release, respectively. All documents are distributed in .txt and .pdf formats.

2 WHAT'S NEW IN GROUNDWORK MONITOR PROFESSIONAL 5.0

GroundWork Monitor Professional is designed to provide centralized visibility and control over your entire IT infrastructure. It monitors systems, applications, databases, and network equipment. GroundWork Monitor Professional features a flexible architecture that supports custom configurations and custom reporting. The system is built on a modern architecture that combines the best of open source with innovative software developed by GroundWork's IT management experts for monitoring and managing your network availability and performance. New features in this version include:

Enhanced Profiles

Profiles define a set of standard Services that can be applied toward any Host. Profiles reflect GroundWork's deep expertise in monitoring design best practices - expertise gained by configuring monitoring systems to manage literally thousands of different types of applications, servers, services and network devices.

- Profiles have been enhanced with support for Oracle databases and expanded support for Windows servers and services.

Dashboard Viewer

- Ability to view monitoring data with customized Executive Dashboards.

Dashboard Builder

- Ability to create customized Executive Dashboards enabling easy viewing of monitoring data.
- Tailor visibility and control of your environment by defining read privileges to specific users, groups, and roles.

- Use drag and drop metaphor to quickly create custom dashboards.

GroundWork Monitor Distributed Dashboard Widget Library

- Tactical Overview
- Event Console
- Troubled Hosts List
- Troubled Services List
- Service List
- Host Group List
- Host List
- Performance Graph

Log File Processor

Comprehensive log file processing capability to efficiently consolidate and archive pertinent log data and generate standard and custom reports based on stored information. Log File Reports come pre-configured for most common log file types (e.g., Linux, Windows, Solaris, Exchange, FTP, HTTP). Administrators can customize Log Directories, Log File Types, Message Types, Message Classes, and Message filters.

GroundWork Monitor Professional Advanced Reporting

- Detailed service level reports for optimal business management
- Log file processing and consolidation
- Integrated open source customized reporting

Below lists the packaged set of pre-defined GroundWork Service Level Reports viewable using the integrated open source reporting framework, Eclipse BIRT's Report Viewer.

- Event History
- Host Group Status
- Host Status
- Host Group Availability
- Host Availability
- Log File Reports

Along with the pre-defined reports you now have the ability to create, modify, generate, and distribute new monitoring reports using the Eclipse BIRT Report Designer. (The Eclipse BIRT Report Designer requires installation and configuration).

Compatible with Nagios 2.5

- Faster performance
- Support for new Nagios directives

New UI Enhancements

- Integrate existing CGI or Web applications using Wrappit
- Status Viewer Host search capability
- Status Viewer Console view
- Status Viewer OverView enhanced performance

UI/Presentation Developer Enhancements

- Foundation Web Service (SOAP)
- Theme Manager - Enabling custom product branding
- Display Layout Templates - Abstraction layer between layout and application code
- AJAX-based Dojo Toolkit Integration - Best of breed, open source Web 2.0 toolkit
- Enhanced Debugger - Ease of use, security, event timing, and memory usage

Administration Enhancements

Configuration is managed by Monarch 2.0. Monarch is GroundWork's open source web-based configuration tool for Nagios. Improvements, among them:

- Define Hosts into different Nagios configuration files
- Extend configuration to multiple instances of Nagios
- Set and manage command arguments at the Group level
- Enhanced navigation

Foundation Web Service (SOAP)

SOAP is a communication protocol used by the Foundation Web Services.

- The foundation framework has been extended with a Web Service API using SOAP as the communication protocol. The Web Service API allows remote queries into Foundation. The Advanced Reporting and Status Viewer Overview use the Web Service API.

Bookshelf

- Updated user documentation 2.0.

Improved Installation and Upgrade Process

- Installer has been improved to reduce outside dependencies and efficiently install the necessary software to get GroundWork Monitor Professional up and running.
- There is now support for seamless upgrades between standard non-customized versions of the product.

Increased Platform Coverage

GroundWork Monitor Professional supports several Linux distributions for 32-bit and 64-bit machines. Refer to the Installation document for an up-to-date list of supported distributions.