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1 PRESENTATION OF FAN

The purpose of FAN is to supply an installation CD which includes the most-used tools in the Nagios community. The FAN CD-ROM is ISO-certified. It is thus very easy to install.

A large number of tools are also being distributed, which makes the implementation of an efficient monitoring platform much easier.

1.1 Linux-based operating system

FAN is based on CentOS. All CentOS packages remain available, so that you can keep all the advantages of CentOS while having the Nagios tools already installed and configured for you.

Integrated tools:

- Nagios: core monitoring application;
- Nagios plug-ins: plug-ins to monitor different equipments;
- Centreon: Web interface for Nagios (Centreon is one of the best for this purpose!);
- NagVis: advanced mapping (geographical, functional, by services…);
- NDOUtils: stores the Nagios data into a MySQL database;
- NRPE: makes it possible to monitor the Windows servers (the NRPE daemon is not provided);

2 SUBJECTS NOT COVERED

The following subjects will not be covered by this documentation:

- The detailed use of Nagios plug-ins;
- The string theory.

3 EXISTING SOFTWARE

3.1 Nagios

Nagios™ (formerly Netsaint) is an application for system and network monitoring. It monitors the hosts and services you have specified, and informs you about the state of your systems. It is an open-source software under GPL licence.

It is a modular program which can be broken down into 3 parts:

1. The application engine which schedules the monitoring tasks.

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2. The Web interface, which gives an overview of the information system and the possible anomalies.

3. The plug-ins, a hundred mini-programs or so, which can be configured according to the user’s needs in monitoring each service or resource available on all computers or network devices of the Information System.

Description of the program:

• Monitoring of network services: (SMTP, POP3, HTTP, NNTP, ICMP, SNMP, LDAP, etc…)

• Monitoring of server resources (processor load, hard disk usage, paged memory usage), and all this on the most-widespread operating systems.

• Interface with the SNMP protocol.

• The Remote Monitoring can use SSH or a SSL tunnel.

• The plug-ins are written in programming languages which are best-adapted to their tasks: script shell (Bash, ksh...), C++, Perl, Python, Ruby, PHP, C#, etc...

• The checking of services is performed in parallel.

• It is possible to create a network hierarchy in order to be able to differentiate between an unreachable and a crashed server.

• The alert notification is fully configurable through plug-ins (alerts by e-mail, text message, etc…).

• Alerts are acknowledged by the administrators.

• Alert escalation management.

• Control of visibility: the users can have their access restricted to some devices.

• Oscillation management (changes from a "normal" state to an "error" state within a short period of time).

• Each test returns a particular state:
  1. OK (everything is fine)
  2. WARNING (the alert threshold has been exceeded)
  3. CRITICAL (the service has a problem)
  4. UNKNOWN (it is impossible to know the state of the service)

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EXISTING SOFTWARE

3.2 Centreon

Centreon is a network monitoring software based on the Nagios open-source tool.

Centreon has a user-friendly interface which makes it possible for a large number of users (including non-technical people) to view the state of the system, especially with graphics. However, technicians still have access to the Nagios technical information.

In July 2007, the Oreon software changed names to become Centreon.

The program includes:

- An intuitive and customisable multi-user interface;
- An advanced configuration interface allowing the user to configure the area to be monitored;
- Configuration help;
- Management of all Nagios configuration files (cgi, nagios.cfg...);
- A Nagios configuration load module;
- Compatibility with Nagios 1.x, Nagios 2.x, Nagios 3.x;
- A configuration validity check with the Nagios debugger;
- Network server/hardware ID files which include all the basic information on these types of resources;
- Advanced and customisable graphic representations;
- Intelligent management of access rights, including resources as well as interface pages;
- A system of modules which makes it possible to include other applications into Centreon;
- A full incident report;
- A real-time calculation system for quality of service which notifies the user whenever quality of service decreases;
- A Java map which offers a simplified version of the information system’s state (property of the Merethis Company).

3.3 Nagvis

Nagvis is visualisation module. It makes it possible to create functional views of monitoring. Nagvis can be paired with a network diagram in order to send the Nagios data to the diagram in real-time.

Example of a Nagvis diagram:

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4 INSTALLATION OF FAN

Installing FAN is similar to installing a standard CentOS. It is quick and intuitive. No installation help is necessary. It requires 1 Gb. Since FAN 2.1, you can configure the distributed monitoring.

4.1 Distributed Monitoring

This feature is available since FAN 2.1. A distributed architecture is based on:

- 1 central monitoring servers
- 1 database server
- and several pollers monitors.

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The central server consolidates all monitoring data and offers a user interface which also offers the possibility to monitor and manage the central server and the poller monitors. The poller monitors send their check results to the database server. This type of setup permits distribution of checks – for any type of reason f.e. remote locations, DMZ, etc.

You need install minimun 2 FAN servers:

- fan-database
- fan-central, it may also be considered as fan-poller

But, we recommend to install 3 FAN servers:

- fan-database
- fan-central
- fan-poller

[http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net](http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net)
4.2 Various modes to install FAN

When starting the installation of FAN, several solutions available to you:

- Standalone installation (including Nagios, Centreon and database on the same server)
- FAN central (including Nagios, Centreon, Nagvis)
- FAN poller (including Nagios)
- FAN database (including MySQL)

4.3 Installation

Here are the installation steps:

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INSTALLATION OF FAN

Welcome to CentOS

Keyboard Type
What type of keyboard do you have?
- us-intl
- uk
- de-intl
- fr
- zh
- es
- it
- ru
- ja
- co-uk
- co

OK

Welcome to CentOS

Fully Automated Nagios

Installation requires partitioning of your hard drive.
By default, a partitioning layout is chosen which is reasonable for most users. You can either choose to use this or create your own.

Use free space on selected drives and create default layout:

Select the drives to use for this installation:

- select drives

[Advanced storage configuration]

[Check and modify partitioning layout]

[Review Notes]

Welcome to CentOS

Fully Automated Nagios

Please click into the map to choose a region:

[Select region]

[Advanced storage configuration]

[Back]

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INSTALLATION OF FAN

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
4.4 Configure the distributed monitoring

If you chose to install FAN distributed mode, you must read this chapter to configure your various servers (fan-central, fan-poller, fan-database).

4.4.1 Configure FAN database and poller

We need to temporarily allow root to login via ssh on fan poller and database.

Connect to fan-poller and modify this file /etc/ssh/sshd_config

```
PermitRootLogin yes
```

Redémarrez sshd

```
# service sshd restart
```

4.4.2 Configure FAN central

Connect to fan-central and run `system-config-distributed-monitoring` script

First configure acces fan-central to fan-database and answer questions :

```
# system-config-distributed-monitoring
Choose an action to do (addpoller or configdatabase): configdatabase
Give me the IP address of database server : 192.168.56.5 == IP de votre fan-database
Give me the root password of database server :
What's the IP address of fan-central (default 192.168.56.3) : [enter]  
[INFO] You must enable root user to login by ssh to database server "192.168.56.5" by ssh.
If this is not the case, edit /etc/ssh/sshd_config on database server and add "PermitRootLogin yes"
Do you want continu ? [y/n], default to [n]: y
Stopping ndo2db: done.
Starting ndo2db: done.
Stopping Centcore
Waiting for centcore to exit . done.
Starting Centcore
Stopping centreon data collector Collector : centstorage
Waiting for centstorage to exit . done.
Starting centstorage Collector : centstorage
```

Check Centreon on fan-central :

- Connect to http://fan-central/centreon/

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
and try to login to nagiosadmin/nagiosadmin

Second add poller fan-poller into fan-central:

```bash
# system-config-distributed-monitoring
Choose an action to do (addpoller or configdatabase): addpoller
Give me the new Poller Name? (no space) : fan-poller  
Give me the IP address of "fan-poller" : 192.168.56.4
Give me the root password of "fan-poller" :
What's the IP address of fan-central (default 192.168.56.3) : [enter] 

INFO] You must enable root user to login by ssh to "fan-poller" by ssh.
If this is not the case, edit /etc/sshd_config on "fan-poller" and add "PermitRootLogin yes"
Do you want continu? [y/n], default to [n]: y
Check if nagios user has a ssh key
Nagios user has a ssh key
Create a random password for nagios user on "fan-poller"
Copy ssh key to poller "fan-poller"
Add configuration poller in to centreon database
Stopping Centcore
Waiting for centcore to exit . done.
Starting Centcore
```

### 4.5 Disable root login by ssh

Connect to fan-poller and modify this file /etc/ssh/sshd_config

```
PermitRootLogin no
```

Restart sshd service

```
# service sshd restart
```

Make the same operation on fan-database.

### 4.6 Add a new poller

If you want to add a new poller:

- Install a FAN poller
- Permit root login by ssh
- Run configure_distributed_monitoring script

```
# system-config-distributed-monitoring addpoller
```

[http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net](http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net)
4.6.1 Delete a poller

If you want to delete a poller,
Go to Centreon webui.

• Delete Administration>Configuration>Nagios>NagiosCFG
• Delete Administration>Configuration>Centreon>Ndomod
• Delete Administration>Configuration>Centreon>Pollers

Go to Nagvis and delete the backend for the poller.

4.6.2 Gestion des trap snmp par poller

This feature is NOT available and stable into Centreon 2.1.13.

5 FIRST CONFIGURATION

In order to be able to use our new platform, a little configuration is required. You must at least configure:

• The network (IP address, routes, DNS…)
• The hostname

5.1 Network interface

The following command allows you to configure the server’s network interfaces:

```
# system-config-network
```

or

```
# vi /etc/sysconfig/networking/devices/ifcfg-eth0
```

```
# Advanced Micro Devices [AMD] 79c970 [PCnet32 LANCE]
DEVICE=eth0
ONBOOT=yes
HWADDR=00:0c:29:72:44:a3
TYPE=Ethernet
NETMASK=255.255.255.0
IPADDR=192.168.1.21
```

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
5.2 Configuring the routes

```
# route add -net 0.0.0.0 gw 10.166.200.252 netmask 255.255.255.0 (10.166.200.252
being the gateway)
```

Other routes will not be taken into account during startup.
To do so, you need to put them into a text file:

```
# vi /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/route-eth0
```

```
GATEWAY0=10.166.200.254
NETMASK0=255.255.0.0
ADDRESS0=10.174.0.0
```

5.3 Restart the network interface

```
# service network restart
```

5.4 Backing up/Restoring the network configuration

5.4.1 Backup

```
# system-config-network-cmd -e > /tmp/network-config
```

5.4.2 Restoration

```
# system-config-network-cmd -i -c -f /tmp/network-config
```

The -i option indicates the data import, the -c option triggers the deletion (before import) of the existing configuration and the -f option specifies which file to import.

5.5 The DNS

```
# vi /etc/resolv.conf
```

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
nameserver monDNS
nameserver DNSpublic
search mondomaine

5.6 The machine’s name

```bash
# vi/etc/sysconfig/network

HOSTNAME=FAN (où FAN est le nouveau nom :-)

Then:
# hostname FAN (se re-loguer)
```

5.7 Installing the graphical environment

For those who can not dispense GUI:

```bash
# yum --exclude=nautilus-sendto groupinstall " GNOME Desktop Environment" "X Window System"
# startx
# system-config-display (for display configuration)
```

6 First steps

All monitoring tools have now been installed and configured (just what we needed!).

For those who can’t wait, it is possible to access the project home page (from a network computer) via: http://ip-serveur/

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
This home page contains all the different services offered by FAN. You just have to click on Nagios, for example, to access the Nagios interface.
As indicated above, the default login and password are: **nagiosadmin/nagiosadmin**

### 6.1 Nagios

[http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net](http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net)
First steps

6.2 Nagvis

6.3 Centreon

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
7 prerequisites

7.1 Defining the requirements

Before the first line of command, it is important to precisely define the requirements. The following questions should be asked:

✔ Which device to monitor?
✔ Which service to monitor?
✔ Who will receive the e-mails?
✔ Who will use this platform and modify it?

This step is very important. If enough details are given, the configuration of Nagios/Centreon will be made much easier.

There is no "miracle method", but the following advice can be useful:

✔ Make a list of all the devices to be monitored (name and IP address);
✔ Identify the critical services and attach them to the devices;
✔ Set up a logical alert notification policy (define contacts and contact groups);
✔ Create a network diagram which details the dependency of the devices;

8 CONFIGURING NAGIOS

The FAN project offers different configuration choices: The platform administrator can choose to only use Nagios. I will now give more details about platform configuration and I will use the Nagios text file configuration method.

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
First of all, it is important to know where the main files and directories are located.

### 8.1 Important directories
- `/etc/nagios`: directory containing configuration files
- `/usr/lib/nagios`: directory containing CGI files and Nagios plugins
- `/usr/share/nagios`: directory containing monitoring web files.

### 8.2 Description of files
```
# ls /etc/nagios/
```

- `cgi.cfg`: CGI configuration file;
- `localhost.cfg`: definition of host "localhost" (Nagios, in other words);
- `ndomod.cfg`: NDOUtils configuration file;
- `resource.cfg`: possibility to define sensitive information (identifier, password...);
- `command-plugins.cfg`: definition of the Check commands;
- `nagios.cfg`: main Nagios configuration file;
- `ndomod-load.cfg`: NDOUtils configuration file ("broker_module" location);
- `send_nsca.cfg`: NSCA configuration file;
- `commands.cfg`: definition of commands (Check and Notification commands);
- `nrpe.cfg`: NRPE server configuration file;
- `htpasswd.users`: stores the usernames and passwords having access to Nagios (encrypted);
- `ndo2db.cfg`: NDOUtils configuration file;
- `nsca.cfg`: NSCA server configuration file.

### 8.3 Methodology

In order to add a host with services to monitor, several files need to be configured. The following examples will help you understand how to configure Nagios. It is intended for people who have no or little knowledge of Nagios, and the following information is given as advice.

In order to simplify configuration, you can:
- Create a "conf.d" directory located in "/etc/nagios/" where you will place all your configuration files.
  Depending on your monitoring architecture (multi-site or not), you can create a directory with the company’s or the site’s name.

[http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net](http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net)
Create files named:

- servers_nameofsite.cfg;
- printers_nameofsite.cfg;
- switches_nameofsite.cfg;
- routers_nameofsite.cfg.

In this way, the different devices will be defined according to their types.

We also advise you to create the following files:

- contacts.cfg: to define contacts;
- dependances.cfg: to manage dependencies;
- extinfo.cfg: to add graphical functionalities (icon...);
- services.cfg: to define services;
- hostgroups.cfg: to define host groups;
- generic-host.cfg: to define host templates;
- generic-service.cfg: to define service templates;
- time-period.cfg: to define notification periods.

9 Example of configuration

servers_nameofsite.cfg file:

```bash
# declaring a server ; comment
define host {
  host_name SRVLEMANS ; device name
  alias Server Le Mans ; alias
  address 10.166.200.100 ; IP address
  use generic-host ; device type
}

# declaring a server
define host {
  host_name Fax-Server
  alias Fax Server
  address 10.166.200.183
  use generic-host
}
```

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Example of configuration

routers_nameofsite.cfg file:

```plaintext
# declaring a router
define host {
    host_name ASA-5505
    alias Cisco Router ASA-5505
    address 10.166.200.252
    use generic-host
}

# declaring a router
define host {
    host_name Google
    alias Search engine
    address www.google.com
    use generic-host
    parents ASA-5505 ; device it depends on (geographically) (status_map)
}
```

The files switches_nameofsite.cfg and printers_nameofsite.cfg have the same configuration type.

hostgroups.cfg file:

```plaintext
# All devices
define hostgroup {
    hostgroup_name All
    alias All devices
    members *
}

# declaring a group
define hostgroup {
    hostgroup_name LINUX Servers ; name of group
    alias Axians LINUX Servers; alias
    members nagios ; group member, corresponds to the
    host_name
}

# declaring a group
define hostgroup {
    hostgroup_name WINDOWS Servers
    alias Axians WINDOWS Servers
    members SRVLEMANS, Fax Server
}
```

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
Example of configuration

services.cfg file:

```
define service{
    use         generic-service ; used template
    host_name   nagios            ; name of the affected host
    service_description User Number ; name of service
    check_command check_users!20!50 ; used command (commands.cfg)
}

define service{
    use         generic-service
    hostgroup_name srv-linux ; name of the affected group
    service_description Total Processus
    check_command check_procs!400!800
}

define service{
    use         generic-service
    host_name   nagios
    service_description Current Load
    check_command check_load!5.0!4.0!3.0!10.0!6.0!4.0
}
```

generic-host.cfg file:

```
define host{
    name         generic-host ; Name of this host template
    notifications_enabled 1 ; Host notifications are enabled
    event_handler_enabled 1 ; Host event handler is enabled
    flap_detection_enabled 1 ; Flap detection is enabled
    failure_prediction_enabled 1 ; Failure prediction is enabled
    process_perf_data 1 ; Process performance data
    retain_status_information 1 ; Retain status information across program
    restarts
    retain_nonstatus_information 1 ; Retain non-status information across program restarts
    check_command check-host-alive ; default test command (ping)
    max_check_attempts 10
    notification_interval 0
    notification_period 24x7
    notification_options d,u,r
    contact_groups admins
    register 0
}
```

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
Example of configuration

generic-service.cfg file:

```plaintext
define service{
  name generic-service ; The 'name' of this service template
  active_checks_enabled 1 ; Active service checks are enabled
  passive_checks_enabled 1 ; Passive service checks are enabled
  parallelize_check 1 ; Active service checks should be parallelized (disabling this can lead to major performance problems)
  obsess_over_service 1 ; We should obsess over this service (if necessary)
  check_freshness 0 ; Default is to NOT check service "freshness"
  notifications_enabled 1 ; Service notifications are enabled
  event_handler_enabled 1 ; Service event handler is enabled
  flap_detection_enabled 1 ; Flap detection is enabled
  failure_prediction_enabled 1 ; Failure prediction is enabled
  process_perf_data 1 ; Process performance data
  retain_status_information 1 ; Retain status information across program restarts
  retain_nonstatus_information 1 ; Retain non-status information across program restarts
  notification_interval 0 ; Only send notifications on status change by default.
  is_volatile 0
  check_period 24x7
  normal_check_interval 5
  retry_check_interval 1
  max_check_attempts 4
  notification_period 24x7
  notification_options w,u,c,r
  contact_groups admins
  register 0
}
```

extinfo.cfg file:

```plaintext
define hostextinfo{
  hostgroup_name LINUX servers
  notes LINUX servers
  icon_image base/debian.png
  icon_image_alt Debian GNU/Linux
}
```

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
Example of configuration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>vrml_image</th>
<th>debian.png</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>statusmap_image</td>
<td>base/debian.gd2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**time-period.cfg file**

```plaintext
define timeperiod{
  timeperiod_name workhours
  alias           Standard Work Hours
  monad           09:00-17:00
  tuesday         09:00-17:00
  wednesday       09:00-17:00
  thursday        09:00-17:00
  friday          09:00-17:00
}
```

**dependances.cfg file**

```plaintext
define hostdependency {
  host_name          ASA-5505
  dependent_host_name google
  notification_failure_criteria d ; d -> down
}
```

# If the ASA-5505 device is down, then no notification will be sent about the Google device.

If you want more information about these files, please refer to the official Nagios documentation at:

[http://nagios.sourceforge.net/docs/3_0/toc.html](http://nagios.sourceforge.net/docs/3_0/toc.html)

Please note:
I won’t go into too much detail about the different possible monitoring tests, since it is not the purpose of this documentation. However, you will find many links on this subject in the appendix.

With the above examples of configuration, you can quickly obtain a monitoring platform of this type:

[http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net](http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net)
Example of configuration

http://fannagioscd.sourceforge.net
10 Useful links

Site officiel de Nagios: [http://nagios.sourceforge.net/docs/3_0/quickstart.html](http://nagios.sourceforge.net/docs/3_0/quickstart.html)
Site de Centreon: [http://www.centreon.com](http://www.centreon.com)
Site de Nagvis: [http://www.nagvis.org](http://www.nagvis.org)
Site de plugins Nagios: [https://www.monitoringexchange.org/](https://www.monitoringexchange.org/)