

Nagios Monitoring for IBM i

AAG At-A-Glance Monitoring

Features

- Easy set up and installation
- Monitors over 65 touch points
- Seamless integration with any Nagios Server
- Provides integrated view of your IBM i status
- Highly scalable
- HA4i/EM4i specific monitors
- Automated initial configuration
- Secure connections via SSL Certificates
- Alert distribution via Email & Pushover notifications
- Pre-built Linux IMG for plug and play installation

System Requirements

- Nagios Server (Linux based)
- IBM i OS version 7.1 or later
- 5770SS1 option34 DCM (for secure connections)



AAG

is a top solution to integrate IBM i into any Nagios monitoring configuration. This plugin has been developed by Shield Advanced Solutions Ltd and already includes more than 65 check commands, with additional content being developed constantly. AAG provides an exceptional number of data points and is a natural complement to both; your HA4i High Availability, and EM4i monitoring solutions. With the choice of a simplified or detailed view, this suite provides an efficient, simple to use overview of your infrastructure's status.

High Availability software is only part of the solution in today's distributed solutions, ensuring the system is always available requires notification of any system events that could impeded application processing or lead to a system loss. This is not only pertinent for the production system but also for the recovery system, we have seen a number of occasions where an unmonitored recovery system has been offline for a

significant period of time due to a lack of early warning monitoring.

Nagios is a well-known player in the Enterprise Monitoring Solution market but has very little IBM i integration, even with the community plugins provided. At Shield Advanced Solutions we looked initially at the available plugins provided by community members and IBM to add monitoring of the IBM i to Nagios but soon decided that an alternative approach would be required, this resulted in a new agent for the IBM i and a new plugin for Nagios.

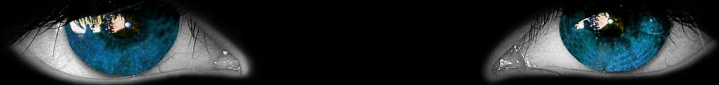
AAG is the Nagios plugin that allows system stats to be collected from the IBM i and reported back to Nagios, while NG4i is the IBM i responder application that provides the data back to AAG. NG4i is provided as an IBM LPP. Configuration is very simple using the panel groups provided, this means an IBM i instance can be installed and running in minutes.



75 First Street, Suite 206, Orangeville, Ontario, Canada, L9W 5B6

+1 (519)-940-1192

WWW.SHIELDADVANCED.COM



Nagios Monitoring for IBM i

AAG Benefits

Provides a single pane of glass view of your IBM i status and early notification of any problems that could affect system availability. Added Availability protection through the early notification of events that could expose your system.

Implementation

NG4i (AAG's IBM i responder) is packaged as an IBM LPP. This means the install and management uses the same IBM commands you use for installing and maintaining the IBM OS. To install, you simply download the base product as a save file from the website and use the RSTLICPGM command to install and configure the product.

The updates we provide are packaged as IBM PTFs and update packages. They will be posted to our website to allow download for those users who are under a current maintenance agreement for the product. Installation takes minutes and uses the IBM LOD/APYPTF commands.

AAG is provided as a plugin for Nagios via a pre-built Linux partition or a set of programs that need to be placed in the relevant directories on your Nagios server. Once the programs are implemented, configurations scripts have been provided to configure the IBM i hosts.

Configuration

AAG is configured using Nagios nconf. Where as NG4i provides a simple configuration panel group to allow configuration of the TCP/IP information which will be used for communication between the IBM i system and Nagios.

Management

AAG provides notifications for critical or warning ranges that occur on the IBM i. Monitoring of the browser interface or responding to the notifications will require user interaction which is normally carried out directly on the IBM i. Shield provides default warning and critical ranges for all of the default services we have provided, these will need to be altered to match the requirements of your infrastructure.

Enhancements

Shield is continually reviewing the products we provide for the IBM i, our customers also provide regular feedback on changes they would like to see which results in a solution that is constantly being improved upon. Our goal is to provide a modern effective solution for the IBM i customer base that will always be relevant and use technology that provides the best experience for the user.

Installation & configuration

AAG is able to be installed by most IBM i or Nagios administrators, however, if you need assistance, we provide highly trained consultants who will be able to install and configure AAG and help with

setting up the secure environment to meet your needs.

AAG requires a suitable Linux Administrator to integrate with Nagios and set up the required checks. Shield can provide skilled consultants to build a Nagios server based on our inhouse configurations that can run on any Linux system (standalone or VM) including a Raspberry Pi.

Bespoke development

If you need additional programming support to develop additional tools not provided by AAG please contact us for a detailed discussion and proposal. For requests seen to be a benefit to all AAG users, we will integrate into the product at our discretion.

Project management

Providing a fully functioning monitoring environment can be challenging due to the interaction between the knowledge required about both Linux and IBM i, we can offer expert project management to ensure your project is delivered on time and within budget. If you need a cloud-based solution for High Availability or system monitoring, we can offer the service via one of our partners.

Cost

Remarkably cost effective compared to other available solutions. Software as a subscription costed.



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