Integrating Nagios Network Analyzer With Nagios XI And Nagios Core



Purpose

This document describes how to integrate Nagios Network Analyzer with your Nagios XI and Nagios Core installs.

Target Audience

This document is intended for use by system admins who want to understand the different ways in which Nagios Network Analyzer can be integrated with Nagios XI And Nagios Core.

Overview

Nagios Network Analyzer can be integrated with Nagios XI and Nagios Core, extending the capabilities of Nagios Network Analyzer. The differences between integrating Nagios XI and Nagios Core are as follows:

- Nagios XI
 - Host and Service Status pages provide a Network Traffic Analysis tab
 - Provides a pie chart and table for the past 24 hours
 - Generate Reports from within Nagios XI
 - Dynamically create host and service directives received from Network Analyzer for passive checks
- Nagios Core

Nagios

• Configure Network Analyzer to send passive check results to Nagios Core using NRDP

Nagios XI - Configure Integration

In Nagios XI you configure the Nagios Network Analyzer Integration component with the details of the Nagios Network Analyzer server(s) that you would like integrated with Nagios XI. Integration is achieved by using an Authentication key that belongs to a Nagios Network Analyzer user account that has been granted API access. The first step is to get the API key that is required when configuring the component. Open Nagios Network Analyzer as the user with API access and then click the user's name in the top right corner of the screen.

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Page 1 / 17 Updated – February, 2019

Integrating Nagios Network Analyzer With Nagios XI And Nagios Core

Nagios Network Analyzer	8						readonly
Dashboard	Sources	Source Groups	Views	Reports	Queries	Help	Log Out
My Profile							

My Profile

Edit your profile, contact information, and account information. You may also manage your API key.

Personal Info

Username:

Company:

Email:

Phone:

Full Name: Account Actions

Change Password

Your personal i	information	and	account	name.
-----------------	-------------	-----	---------	-------

readonly

Read

Only

Update

Make changes	to your account	t-specific setting
🛤 Language	Default	~

API Access / Key

Your unique API key used for external API access. You can read more about what you can do with the API in the API documents in the help section.

Access Level: Read-Only

7314f41c330ebc40e48e4cb64a05dcbbb4778679

🕻 Generate New Key

In the screenshot above you can see the API key. Copy this into your clipboard or text file to use in the next step. You can see that a dedicated user account has been created specifically for this purpose. The access level this account has been granted is "User" which means it has read only access. Using a dedicated account is a best practice, you can generate a new key if you suspect the existing key has been compromised.

If the user account does not have an API Key on your My Profile page and it says **No API Access**, you will need to alter this user. Login as an admin user and navigate to **Administration > User Management**. Edit the user and change **API Access** to **Yes**.

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Page 2 / 17 Updated – February, 2019

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Now login to Nagios XI and navigate to Admin > System Extensions > Manage Components.

<u>N</u> agios' XI	Home	Views	Dashboards	Reports	Configure	Tools	Help	Admin	٩	۲	占 nagios	admin 😃	Logout	≡
▲ System Information	Core	Compo	nents											
∧ Users	These are	e componer	nts that are require	d for XI to fur	nction normally. 1	hese compo	nents shou	ld not be removed or a	edited.					
▲ System Config	Common										Turne	Cattinger	Manaian	
▲ Monitoring Config	Compo	nent									Туре	Settings	version	-
▲ Check Transfers	Nagios	Graph Ex	plorer 🔒											
✓ System Extensions	Nagios and das	Graph Explo shlets, use M	orer is an interactiv Iozilla Firefox or G	e graphing to oogle Chrome	ol for your Nagio e.	s data. Requ	ires Nagios	XI 2011R1.3 or later.	For most reliable	graphs	Core	-	2.2.0	
Manage Components	\$ 2.2.0	🌡 Nagios	Enterprises, LLC											
Manage Config Wizards	Nagios	Network	Analyzer Integra	ation										
🗲 Manage Plugins Manage Graph Templates	Allows y services	you to view s.	Nagios Network Ar	alyzer report	s in Nagios XI an	d allows Nag	ios Networl	c Analyzer to dynamic	ally add hosts and	ł	Core	\bigotimes	1.2.8	
Manage MIBs Custom Includes	♥ 1.2.8	<pre></pre>	2016 🛔 Nagios En	terprises, LLC	:									
∧ System Backups	Nagios	XI Core F	unctions											
		· · ·	11.1	e 10 10 e							-			

Locate the **Nagios Network Analyzer Integration** component and click the settings **%** icon. The following screenshot shows the component settings window that appears.

Nagios Network Analyzer Integration

Component Settings

These are all the general settings for this component.

Disable Host/Service Tabs from being shown

Nagios Network Analyzer Servers

Specify the addresses and a users API Key for each of the Nagios Network Analyzer servers. These servers will be shown in the reports section as servers to run reports on and are also allowed to send service and host directives to this Nagios XI box for dynamic host/service creation with passive checks from inside the Nagios Network Analyzer server.

Nagios Network Analyzer	Servers				
Name:	IP Address / Hostname:	API Key:	Use	Allow this host to use	
Network Analyzer	10.25.5.93	30ebc40e48e4cb64a05dcbbb4778679	SSL	Dynamic Integration	Remov

In the screenshot above click the **Add a Server** link to display the fields for adding a Nagios Network Analyzer server. You can see that they have been populated, these fields will be explained on the following page.

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- **Name** This is the name that you will see in the Network Analyzer Server drop-downs throughout Nagios XI. For example on the Network Report, Network Query Report and Configuration Wizard.
- IP Address / Hostname The network address that Nagios XI uses to communicate with Nagios
 Network Analyzer
- API Key This is used for authentication with Nagios Network Analyzer as explained earlier
- Use SSL Required if your Nagios Network Analyzer server is configured with SSL/TLS certificates
- Allow this host to use Dynamic Integration This allows Nagios XI to create host and service directives received from Network Analyzer for passive checks (NRDP)

When you have finished populating the fields click the **Apply Settings** button. You can add more Network Analyzer servers by clicking on the Add a Server link.

You can remove a server that you have previously set up if you wish by clicking on the **Remove** link.

If you do not want the Network Traffic Analysis tabs to be shown under the Hosts and Services details screen in Nagios XI, check the **Disable Host/Service Tabs from being shown** checkbox.

This completes the initial steps for integrating Nagios Network Analyzer with Nagios XI.

Nagios XI - Generating Reports

Generating reports from Nagios Network Analyzer in Nagios XI is explained in detail in the following documentation:

Integrating Nagios Network Analyzer Reports With Nagios XI

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Nagios XI - Network Traffic Analysis tab

Nagios XI adds a Network Traffic Analysis tab to the host and service status pages. Here is an example from an host object being monitored by Nagios XI:

Host Status Detail



Nagios Network Analyzer Server: Network Analyzer (10.25.5.93) Raw Query: src ip 10.25.14.3 or dst ip 10.25.14.3 (Open this query in Network Analyzer) ^{224.0.0.22} 10.25.5. 10.25.255.255 10.25.254.50 10.25.14.3 10,25,5,93

Summary Data

Total Flows	Total Bytes	Total Packets
1999	2.31 MB	16758

Brief Data Table (10 Records, Bytes Only)

Source IP	Destination IP	Bytes	Bytes/Sec
10.25.14.3	10.25.5.93	1.12 MB	109
10.25.14.3	10.25.254.50	627.31 kB	975
10.25.254.50	10.25.14.3	262.45 kB	408
10.25.14.3	224.0.0.22	161.29 kB	15
10.25.14.3	224.0.0.252	97.30 kB	9
10.25.5.13	10.25.14.3	28.01 kB	44
10.25.14.3	10.25.5.13	23.35 kB	37
10.25.14.3	10.25.255.255	16.55 kB	1

See all records and details in Network Analyzer

The host being monitored has the address 10.25.14.3 and this address was found when a raw query was performed against Nagios Network Analyzer. The pie chart shows the relationship between this address and the other address (be it source or destination). Hovering the mouse on the addresses in the chart will put the focus on this relationship and also highlight the data in the Brief Data Table.

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Nagios XI - Configuration Wizard

To begin using the Nagios Network Analyzer wizard navigate via the top menu bar to **Configure > Run a configuring wizard**, and select the **Nagios Network Analyzer** wizard. In the following screenshot you can see how the search field allows you to quickly find a wizard.



On Step 1 you need to select the **NNA Server** and **Source** or **Sourcegroup** that the wizard will use in Step 2.

Click Next to progress to step 2.

On step 2 you will configure all of the options for monitoring.

To start off with make sure a valid **Host Name** has been entered. By default the format is:

Configuration Wizard: Nagios Network Analyzer - Step 1	÷
Nagios Network Analyzer Server	
Select one of your Nagios Network Analyzer server's source, sourcegroup, or view.	
NNA Server: Network Analyzer (10.25.5.93)	
Host Name: Source FlowTraq	
<pre>\$ Back Next ></pre>	

Configuration Wizard: Nagios Network Analyzer - Step 2 👘 🐲



NNA Source/Sourcegroup - <Selected Source/Sourcegroup Name>.

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Next you can select what to monitor. **Bytes**, **Flows** and **Packets** all require warning and critical thresholds. Based off the existing data queried from the source, suggested threshold values will be populated. The graph underneath shows the last week of data, here you can hover the mouse to get an understanding of historic values which can help you determine thresholds.

Abnormal Behavior is a check that will report if there is a pattern of behavior that is not normal (relative to the existing history).

Use the check boxes to deselect any checks that you do not think are necessary.

Click Next and then complete the wizard by choosing the required options in Step 3 – Step 5.

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To finish up, click on **Finish** in the final step of the wizard.

This will create the new hosts and services and begin monitoring. Once the wizard applies the configuration, click the View status details for xxxxx link to see the new host and services that were created.

↓ Host	\$ Service	🄱 Status	Duration	1 Attempt	🖡 Last Check	\$ Status Information
NNA Source - FlowTrag	Abnormal Behavior	Ok	20m 5s	1/5	2017-05-15 17:26:55	OK - No abnormal behavior detected
	Bytes 💅	Ok	16m 25s	1/5	2017-05-15 17:25:32	OK - 135473 bytes sent/recieved
	Flows 📌	Ok	16m 42s	1/5	2017-05-15 17:25:15	OK - 187 flows sent/recieved
	Packets 💉	Warning	6m 5s	5/5	2017-05-15 17:24:37	WARNING - 1457 packets sent/recieved

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Select What to Monitor

Select if you'd like to monitor including bytes, flows, packets and behavior on sources. The graph on the right is provided to help with estimating the warning and critical thresholds.

Default values are created by the following: Warning Threshold: **20% above max value**, Critical Threshold: **40% above max value**

- Bytes

 Amount of bytes being transferred.

 ▲ 290617872 bytes ④ 339054184 bytes

 ✓

 Flows

 Amount of flows being transferred.

 ▲ 5372 flows ④ 6267 flows

 ✓

 Packets

 Amount of packets being transferred.
 - Amount of packets being transferred.

 Amount of packets being transferred.

 (1) 201317E

 packets

 (1) 2348707

 packets
- ☑ Abnormal Behavior If there is abnormal behavior on the source this check will return critical.



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Page 7 / 17 Updated – February, 2019

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Nagios XI and Nagios Core - NRDP Passive Checks

The following section applies to both Nagios XI and Nagios Core. To be able to send alerts using NRDP you will need to do the following:

- Nagios XI
 - Configure the Inbound Transfers on your Nagios XI server
- Nagios Core
 - Install and configure NRDP

Please refer to the following documentation for Nagios XI or Nagios Core on how to perform these tasks:

NRDP Overview

Please take note of the **NRDP Token** you define in that documentation, you will need it in the following step.

In Nagios Network Analyzer navigate to **Alerting** and then click the **Nagios Setup** tab. Click the **New Nagios Server** button.

Dashboard	Sources	Source Groups Vie	ws Reports	Queries	Alerting	Help	Administration	Log Out
Alerting / Serve	ers							
Alerting	J							
A Checks	Nagios Setup	SNMP Receivers	a 🚍 Comman	ds				
New Service/H	lostname			A New N	lagios Server			
Servicename	Hostname	Associated Server	Actions	Name	NRDP Address		NRDP Token	Actions
No associations created. No servers created.								

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Here you need to provide the details of your Nagios XI or Nagios Core server.

Name - The human-readable name used to refer to this Nagios server in alerts.

NRDP Address - The address that NRDP
results will be sent to. Be sure to include the
http:// or https:// part as well.

Enter Information ×						
Enter information about the Na	igios Server.					
Name	Nagios XI					
NRDP Address	http://10.25.5.13/nrdp/					
NRDP Token	hfiuNSu0po23					
	Cancel	Finish & Save				

NRDP Token - The token that Network

Analyzer will attempt to use to connect to the NRDP server.

Network Analyzer validates your NRDP server settings by attempting to connect with the NRDP server right away, and if it cannot connect to the server or the token provided is invalid, it will warn you. Once added the screen will update reflecting this.

A Checks	📕 Nagios Setup	SNMP Receivers	Commands					
Successfully created Nagios server.								
New Service/Hostname								
Servicename	Hostname	Associated Server	Actions	Name	NRDP Address	NRDP Token	Actions	
No association	s created.			Nagios XI	http://10.25.5.13/nrdp/	hfiuNSu0po23	View / Edit	Delete

Now that the Nagios Server has been defined you now need to define a Service/Hostname that the NRDP passive checks will be sent to on your Nagios Server. Click the **New Service/Hostname** button.

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Servicename - The name of the service that the alert will be sent to in Nagios XI or Core.

Hostname - The name of the host object that you want the service to be assigned to in Nagios XI or Core.

Server - The Nagios XI or Core service you want the alert to be sent to.

Click the Finish & Save button to create the

Service/Hostname object. The screen will update like the following:

♣ Checks ♣ Nagios Setup ♣ SNMP Receivers ≣ Commands							
Successfully created Hostname/Servicename. If you are using Nagios XI, log into Nagios XI and apply the new config.							
New Service/Hostname							
Servicename	Hostname	Associated Server	Actions	Name	NRDP Address	NRDP Token	Actions
Source Working	10.25.14.3	Nagios XI	View / Edit Delete	Nagios XI	http://10.25.5.13/nrdp/	hfiuNSu0po23	View / Edit Delete

As per the notification, if your Nagios server is a Nagios XI server AND you have Dynamic Integration enabled all you need to do now is go into Core Configuration Manager in Nagios XI and apply configuration. This will create the new host and service objects ready to accept passive check results. If for some reason the services are not created, once the check in Network Analyzer has been created, the services will appear under **Unconfigured Objects** in Nagios XI (Admin > Monitoring Config).

If you have Nagios Core, you will need to create your own passive services to accept these check results. Details on how to do this are outside the scope of this documentation however on the following page is a simple example:

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Page 10 / 17 Updated – February, 2019

Enter Information						
Enter information about the Se	ervicename/Hostname.					
Servicename	Source Working					
Hostname	10.25.14.3					
	on					
Server	Nagios XI	-				
		Cancel	Finish & Save			

Integrating Nagios Network Analyzer With Nagios XI And Nagios Core

define service {

service_description	Source Working
host_name	10.25.14.3
use	generic-service
active_checks_enabled	0
passive_checks_enabled	1
flap_detection_enabled	0
check_period	24x7
max_check_attempts	1
check_interval	5
retry_interval	1
check_freshness	0
contact_groups	admins
notification_interval	60
notification_period	24x7
notification_options	w,u,c,r

The last remaining step is to define an alert so Nagios XI or Nagios Core will receive check results. The following example creates an alert that will notify if a source has no flow data received on the port that the flow data is being received on. Click the **Checks** tab and then click the **New Check** button.



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Step 1

You must enter a name for the check for management/organizational purposes. It can contain only whitespaces and alphanumeric characters.

Then you need to select your source or source group. This is the source the check will get values from. If you select a source, you can select a view to test against as well.

Click the **Step Two button** to proceed to Step 2.

Step 2

Analyze traffic for - This is the metric you would like to get the number for to check against. If you want a packet count, pick Packets. If you want total bytes, pick Bytes. There are several other options, but the point is there are multiple dimensions to the traffic on your network, and this specifies which one will be checked.

Warning and Critical - Once Network Analyzer has extracted a number from the metric you selected, it will use these thresholds to determine if the number is in a WARNING, CRITICAL or OK state. In this example 1 : means that if less than 1 was received then it will be in a CRITICAL state (meaning no flows were received).

Step 1 - Sele	ect Sourc	е		×
Please name the che Flow Data 2055	eck for managemen	nt: (Required)		
	Source		oup	
Source				
FlowTraq	•			
View				
No View	•			
			Cancel	Step Two 🔰

Step 2 - Select C	Criteria ×
Analyze traffic for:	Flows
Warning threshold is:	1:
Critical threshold is:	1:
Where The:	Destination Port
(required)	2055
	And
	Cancel Step One Step Three >

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More detailed information on thresholds is explained in the Nagios Threshold Values section of this document.

The bottom half of step 2 is how you filter what data the check is looking at, this allows granularity.

In the screenshot on the previous page, **Flows** is the type of traffic being analyzed. The filter criteria used is:

- Destination The direction of the flow traffic being looked at
- **Port** This check testing to make sure flow data is actually being received, seeing as the flow data is received on a port then this makes it easy to check
- is This is the operation, we want to make sure the destination port IS 2055
- 2055 Here the port number 2055 has been defined

Based on those selections, if no flow data is received it will be in a CRITICAL state, otherwise it will be OK.

You can specify as many of these filters as you would like by clicking the **And** button at the bottom. It will add a new box where you can specify additional filters. Please note that it is a Boolean AND, where the traffic must meet all specifications that are chosen for the check to be used.

Click the **Step Three** button to proceed to Step 3.

Here you select the alerting method. In this example the **Nagios** tab has been selected and the Servicename/Hostname that was previously defined has been selected.

Click the **Finish and Save** button to create the alert.

Step 3 - Select Alerting Methods							
Select how you would like to be notified of these checks. Select any of the items in the lists under the tabs, and all the selected elements will be notified.							
Email Users	Nagios	SNMP Traps Commands					
Select the Host/S Removing: Hold c	Select the Host/Service associations you would like to send the check results as. Removing: Hold ctrl and click to un-select Host/Services.						
10.25.14.3/Source Working on Naglos XI							
		Cancel Step Two Finish & S	ave				

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The check will be created and will appear on the screen in a pending state:

Alerting

Checks	📕 Nagios Setup	SNMP Receivers	E Commands
H New Chee	ck		

Name	Associated With	Last Status	Last Date Ran	Last Stdout	Actions
Flow Data 2055	FlowTraq	PENDING	N/A		View / Edit • Delete

Here is an example of the check when it had a CRITICAL state:

Name	Associated With	Last Status	Last Date Ran	e Ran Last Stdout	
Flow Data 2055	FlowTraq	CRITICAL	2017-05-15 21:35:10	flows on FlowTraq with filter `dst port 2055` is 0 flows=0;1:;1:;0	View / Edit • Delete

Here is an example of the check when it had a OK state:

Name	Associated With	Last Status	Last Date Ran	Last Stdout	Actions
Flow Data 2055	FlowTraq	ок	2017-05-15 21:40:10	flows on FlowTraq with filter `dst port 2055` is 3 flows=3;1:;1:;0	View / Edit • Delete

Here is the service in Nagios when it had a CRITICAL state:

👃 Host	1 Service	🅽 Status	Duration	1 Attempt	🖡 Last Check	\$ Status Information
10.25.14.3 🛛 🗊 🗋 🛪	Source Working 🍃	Critical	34s	1/1	2017-05-16 10:40:10	flows on FlowTraq with filter `dst port 2055` is 0

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Page 14 / 17 Updated – Februar<u>y, 2019</u>

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Here is the service in Nagios when it had an OK state:

👃 Host	1 Service	1 Status	Duration	1 Attempt	1 Last Check	\$\frac{1}{2}\$ Status Information
10.25.14.3 🛛 🗊 📄 🛩	Source Working	Ok	1m 4s	1/1	2017-05-16 10:35:10	flows on FlowTraq with filter `dst port 2055` is 1

The checks are run every five minutes, it's important to understand that every five minutes the check will fire off a notification to Nagios XI or Nagios Core. Based on the WARNING and CRITICAL thresholds you defined on the check, Nagios will receive the check results with the state from the check.

Note: If the services did not appear in Nagios XI after applying configuration, the services will appear under **Unconfigured Objects** in Nagios XI (Admin > Monitoring Config).



Check the box on the left and click the gear icon below to run the Unconfigured Objects wizard. More information on Unconfigured Objects can be found in the following documentation:

Monitoring Unconfigured Objects With XI

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Page 15 / 17 Updated – February, 2019

Integrating Nagios Network Analyzer With Nagios XI And Nagios Core

Leveraging The API

You can also query the check results directly from the API. Here is an example using the query defined in the previous section (assuming you are already logged into Nagios Network Analyzer):

http://na_ip_address/nagiosna/index.php/api/checks/read?q[name]=Flow%20Data%202055

This will return JSON output:

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```
[{"cid":"1","rawquery":"dst port 2055","name":"Flow Data
2055","warning":"1:","sid":"1","gid":null,"vid":null,"active":"1","critical":"1:
","aberrant":"0","lastval":"1","lastrun":"2017-05-16
10:50:10","lastcode":"0","laststdout":"flows on FlowTraq with filter `dst port
2055` is 1 | flows=1;1:;1:;0","metric":"flows","assoc with":"FlowTraq"}]
```

You can also use a curl command from another machine, however this requires your API key to be submitted with the token argument, for example (this is one long command):

curl -g "http://na_ip_address/nagiosna/index.php/api/checks/read? token=7314f41c330ebc40e48e4cb64a05dcbbb4778679&q[name]=Flow%20Data%202055"

When used in a script you can programmatically access the data in the JSON object and do what you like with it.

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Page 16 / 17 Updated – February, 2019

Integrating Nagios Network Analyzer With Nagios XI And Nagios Core

Nagios Threshold Values

Nagios Thresholds can be complicated to initially understand, however once grasped they can be very powerful. Documentation on Nagios thresholds is available here:

https://nagios-plugins.org/doc/guidelines.html#THRESHOLDFORMAT

The Nagios Threshold standards were designed with many different use cases, for example negative numbers are valid values. However in the case of Nagios Network Analyzer, the alert value being tested will always be 0 or greater (no negative numbers are involved).

Network Ports

The following network ports are used for communication between Nagios Network Anaylzer and Nagios XI or Nagios Core:

- Nagios XI Integration communicates with the Nagios Network Analyzer server on TCP 80 or 443
- Nagios Network Analyzer when using NRDP for sending passive check to Nagios XI or Nagios Core occurs on on TCP 80 or 443

Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on integrating Nagios Network Analyzer With Nagios XI And Nagios Core. If you have additional questions or other support related questions, please visit us at our Nagios Support Forums:

https://support.nagios.com/forum

The Nagios Support Knowledgebase is also a great support resource:

https://support.nagios.com/kb

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