Nagios XI 5 – How To Configure Outbound Checks

Purpose

This document describes how to configure outbound checks in Nagios XI and is intended for use by Nagios Administrators. Outbound checks are used in federated and distributed monitoring environments, as well as environments where the monitoring server sends passive check results to external applications.

Note: If you are using **Nagios XI 2024**, please refer to the updated document.

Other Documentation

The reader should be familiar with the following technical documentation in order to configure and use outbound checks:

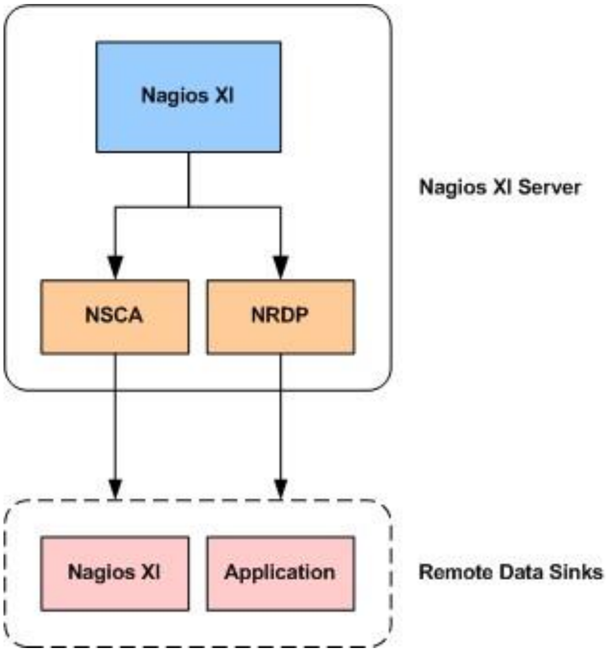
Configuring Inbound Checks With Nagios XI

Outbound Transfer APIs

There are two different APIs for handling outbound check transfers (passive checks) in Nagios XI:

- NRDP
    - Nagios Remote Data Processor
    - A modern web-based API that operates over port 80

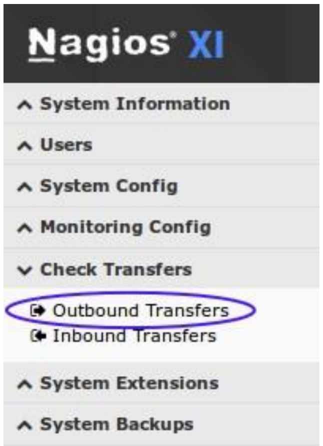
    (HTTP) or port 443 (HTTPS)
    - HTTPS enables flexible security and encryption
- NSCA
    - Nagios Service Check Acceptor
    - Operates over TCP port 5667
    - Historically used for passive check results



Accessing Transfer Settings

You can configure inbound check transfers by selecting the **Outbound Transfers** option in the Administrative interface of Nagios XI.

The outbound check transfer settings page allows you to configure both the NSCA and NRDP APIs.

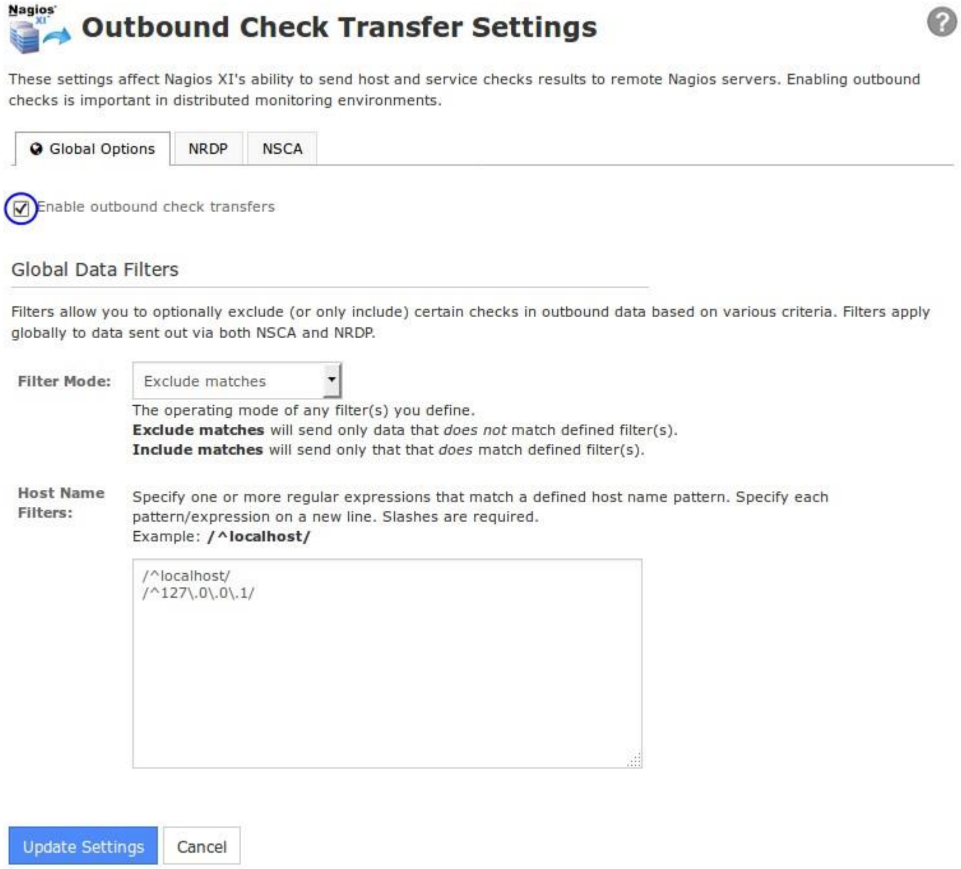


Enabling Outbound Transfers

Outbound check transfers are disabled by default. In order to enable outbound checks using either the NRDP or NSCA APIs, you must first enable outbound transfers. To do this **check** the **Enable Outbound Transfers** option and click the **Update Settings** button.

You can optionally prevent some checks from being transferred by using the global data filters option.

By default, checks for the Nagios XI *localhost* are not transferred out, as this could result in confusing information if the checks were being transferred to a remote Nagios XI server.



Outbound Check Transfer Settings

These settings affect Nagios XI's ability to send host and service checks results to remote Nagios servers. Enabling outbound checks is important in distributed monitoring environments.

☑ Enable outbound check transfers

Global Data Filters

Filters allow you to optionally exclude (or only include) certain checks in outbound data based on various criteria. Filters apply globally to data sent out via both NSCA and NRDP.

Filter Mode: Exclude matches

The operating mode of any filter(s) you define.
Exclude matches will send only data that *does not* match defined filter(s).
Include matches will send only that that *does* match defined filter(s).

Host Name Filters: Specify one or more regular expressions that match a defined host name pattern. Specify each pattern/expression on a new line. Slashes are required.
Example: **/^localhost/**

```
/^localhost/
/^127\.0\.0\.1/
```

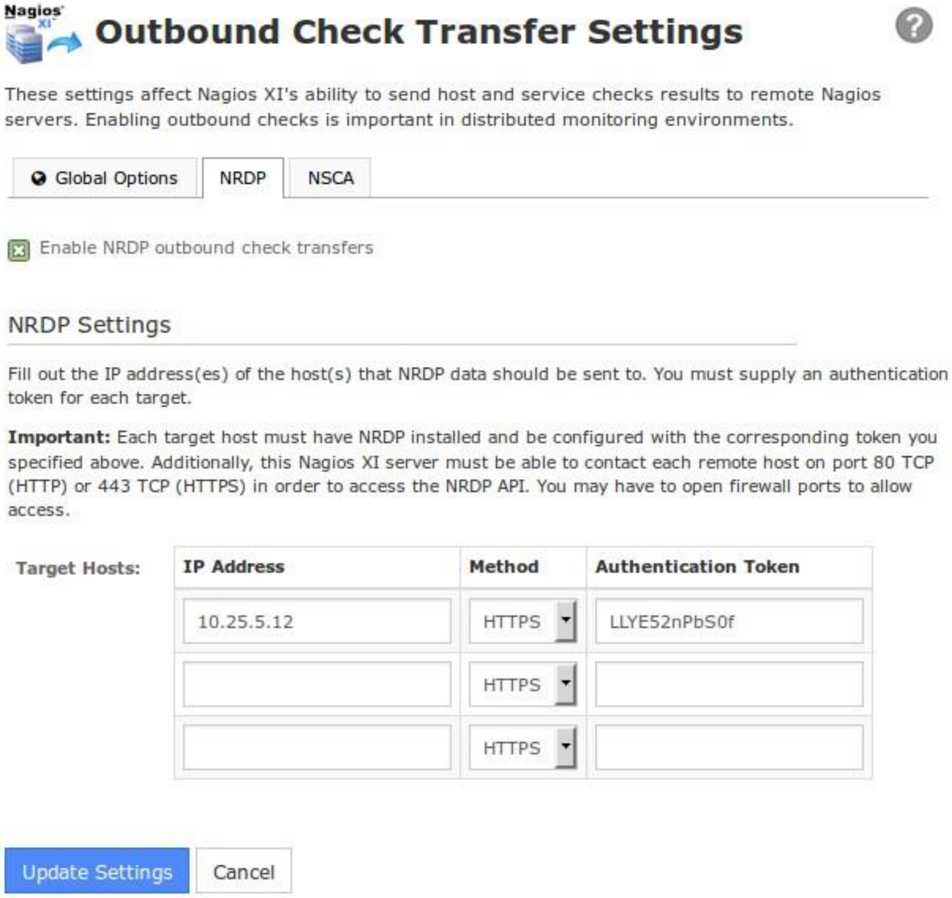
NRDP Configuration

To enable outbound checks using the NRDP API, you must:

- Check the **Enable NRDP Output** option
- Specify **the IP Address** and **Authentication Token** for the remote host that is accepting check results using NRDP
    - The authentication token you specify must be the same authentication token specified on the target host, or the check results will be ignored

You can configure Nagios XI to send passive check results to up to three (3) remote servers using the NRDP API.

Click the **Update Settings** button to save the NRDP settings.



Outbound Check Transfer Settings

These settings affect Nagios XI's ability to send host and service checks results to remote Nagios servers. Enabling outbound checks is important in distributed monitoring environments.

☒ Enable NRDP outbound check transfers

NRDP Settings

Fill out the IP address(es) of the host(s) that NRDP data should be sent to. You must supply an authentication token for each target.

Important: Each target host must have NRDP installed and be configured with the corresponding token you specified above. Additionally, this Nagios XI server must be able to contact each remote host on port 80 TCP (HTTP) or 443 TCP (HTTPS) in order to access the NRDP API. You may have to open firewall ports to allow access.

Target Hosts:

IP Address	Method	Authentication Token
10.25.5.12	HTTPS	LLYE52nPbS0f
	HTTPS	
	HTTPS	

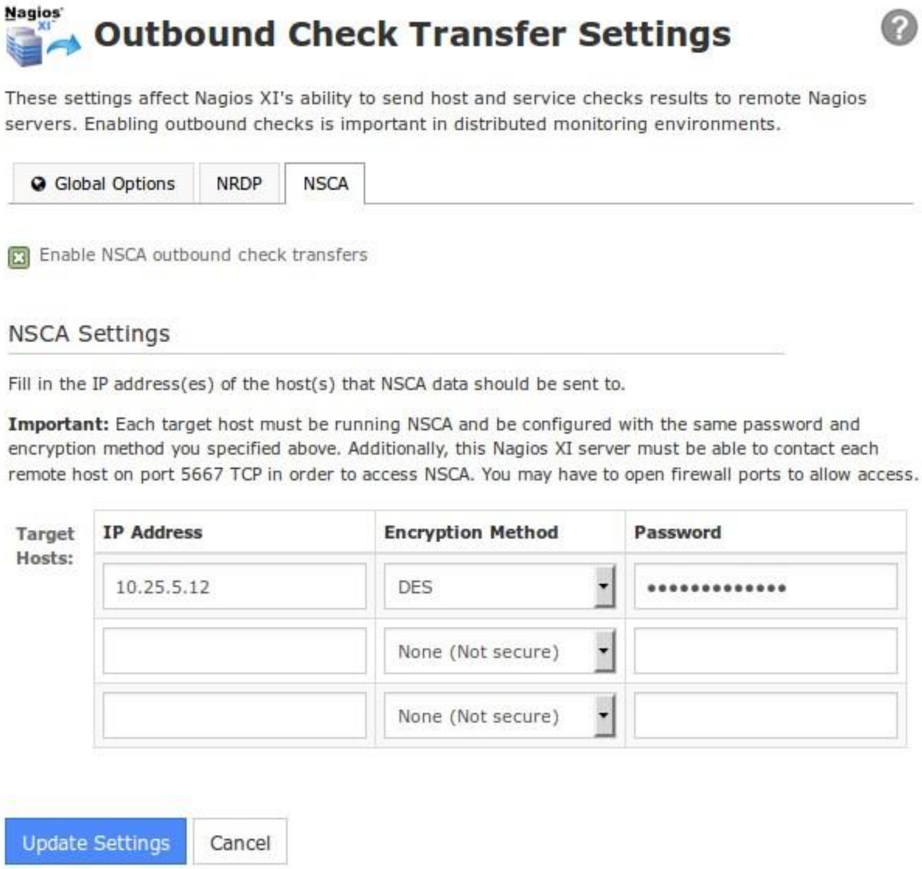
NSCA Configuration

To enable outbound checks using the NSCA API, you must:

- Check the **Enable NSCA Output** option
- Specify the **IP Address**, **Encryption Method** and **Password** for the remote host that is accepting check results using NSCA
    - The encryption method and password you specify must match the decryption method and password specified on the target host, or the check results will be ignored

You can configure Nagios XI to send passive check results to up to three (3) remote servers using the NSCA API.

Click the **Update Settings** button to save the NSCA settings.



Outbound Check Transfer Settings

These settings affect Nagios XI's ability to send host and service checks results to remote Nagios servers. Enabling outbound checks is important in distributed monitoring environments.

☒ Enable NSCA outbound check transfers

NSCA Settings

Fill in the IP address(es) of the host(s) that NSCA data should be sent to.

Important: Each target host must be running NSCA and be configured with the same password and encryption method you specified above. Additionally, this Nagios XI server must be able to contact each remote host on port 5667 TCP in order to access NSCA. You may have to open firewall ports to allow access.

Target Hosts:	IP Address	Encryption Method	Password
	10.25.5.12	DES	•••••••••••••
		None (Not secure)	
		None (Not secure)	

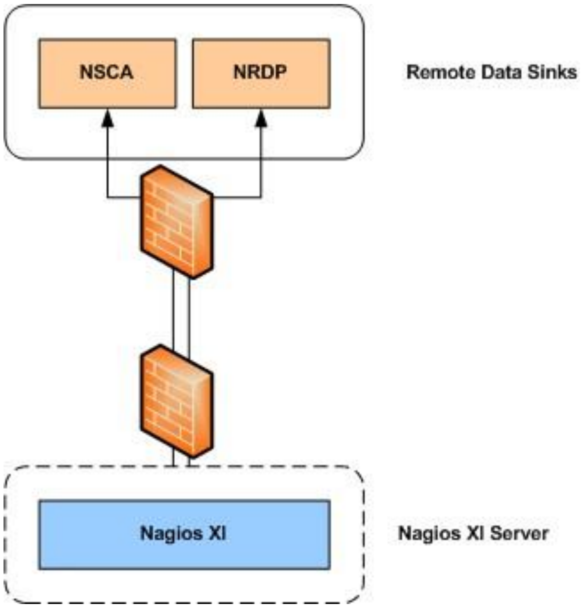
Firewall Configuration

Modification of firewall settings between the remote data sinks and the Nagios XI server may be required in order to allow outbound check results to be sent from Nagios XI.

The NRDP API works on **TCP port 80** using the HTTP protocol or **TCP port 443** using the HTTPS protocol.

NSCA uses a custom protocol that runs on **TCP port 5667**.

Firewalls must be configured to allow inbound and outbound traffic over the ports used by the API(s) you choose to utilize for handling outbound checks.



Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on configuring outbound checks with Nagios XI. If you have additional questions or other support-related questions, please visit us at our Nagios Support Forum, Nagios Knowledge Base, or Nagios Library:

[Visit Nagios Support Forum] [Visit Nagios Knowledge Base] [Visit Nagios Library]