How To Migrate Nagios Core To Nagios XI 2024

Purpose

This document describes the basic steps involved in migrating an existing Nagios Core installation to Nagios XI.

Target Audience

This document is intended for use by Nagios administrators who have existing Nagios Core installations.

Additional Resources

In addition to this document, Nagios administrators should be familiar with the following technical documents:

- Using the Nagiois XI Config Import Prep Tool
- Importing Config Files Into Nagios XI
- Nagios XI Directory Structure
- Managing Config Files Manually With Nagios XI
- Understanding Nagios XI Users And Contacts

These documents provide supporting information needed to successfully plan for and complete a migration.

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> As of Nagios XI 5.8, users now have the ability to automatically migrate their Nagios Core data to Nagios XI. See Automatically Migrating Nagios Core to Nagios XI for more information.

Steps Involved

Migrating from a Nagios Core installation to Nagios XI involves several steps including:

- Deploying a new Nagios XI instance
- Uploading plugins and scripts to Nagios XI
- Migrating Nagios Core configuration files to Nagios XI

- Adding user accounts to the Nagios XI server
- Testing the XI server
- De-commissioning the old Nagios Core server

Advanced Nagios Core Installations

This document is not intended to describe all necessary steps involved in migrating from an advanced Nagios Core installation. For example, the details of migrating distributed monitoring setups is not covered in this document.

Nagios administrators with distributed monitoring environments who would like to upgrade to Nagios XI should investigate proceeding with a migration as follows:

- Build a new central monitoring server that runs Nagios XI
  - o You may follow this guide for building the central monitoring server and importing the configuration files from your existing Nagios Core central server
- Configure NRDP or NSCA on the Nagios XI machine
  - o NRDP and NSCA are already installed on the XI server, they just need configuring l
  - o The NRDP configuration file is located:
    - /usr/local/nrdp/server/config.inc.php
  - o The NSCA configuration files are located
    - /usr/local/nagios/etc/nsca.cfg
    - /etc/xinetd.d/nsca
  - o Both NRDP and NSCA can be configured in Nagios XI via Admin > Check Transfers > Inbound Transfers
- Point your distributed Nagios Core servers to report to the new central server running Nagios XI

Note that centralized configuration of distributed monitoring installations is not yet available. This feature is planned for a future release of Nagios XI.

Professional Migration Assistance

Nagios Enterprises provides consulting services to organizations that would like assistance with upgrading from Nagios Core to Nagios XI. To discuss your project requirements and obtain a quote, please contact us at 1-888-624-4671 or email us at sales@nagios.com.

Migration Strategy

In order to migrate from Nagios Core to Nagios XI you should deploy a clean installation of Nagios XI to a different physical server or virtual machine than what is used for your existing Nagios Core installation. This allows you to migrate settings to XI and test the new monitoring setup before decommissioning your old server.

Deploying A New Nagios XI Instance

For the first step in the migration, you must install a new Nagios XI instance to a physical server or virtual machine (VM). Nagios XI is available as a VMware or Microsoft VM, the VM has XI already installed ready to go. Running Nagios XI in a virtualized environment simplifies future management of the XI server and can simplify the operating system side of things if you are unfamiliar with Linux. If you haven't already done so, you may download Nagios XI as a virtual machine and obtain installation instructions at:

https://www.nagios.com/downloads/nagios-xi

You may also choose to install Nagios XI on your own VM or physical hardware, this allows you to customize aspects of the operating system like disk partitioning. Installation instructions can be found in the following documentation:
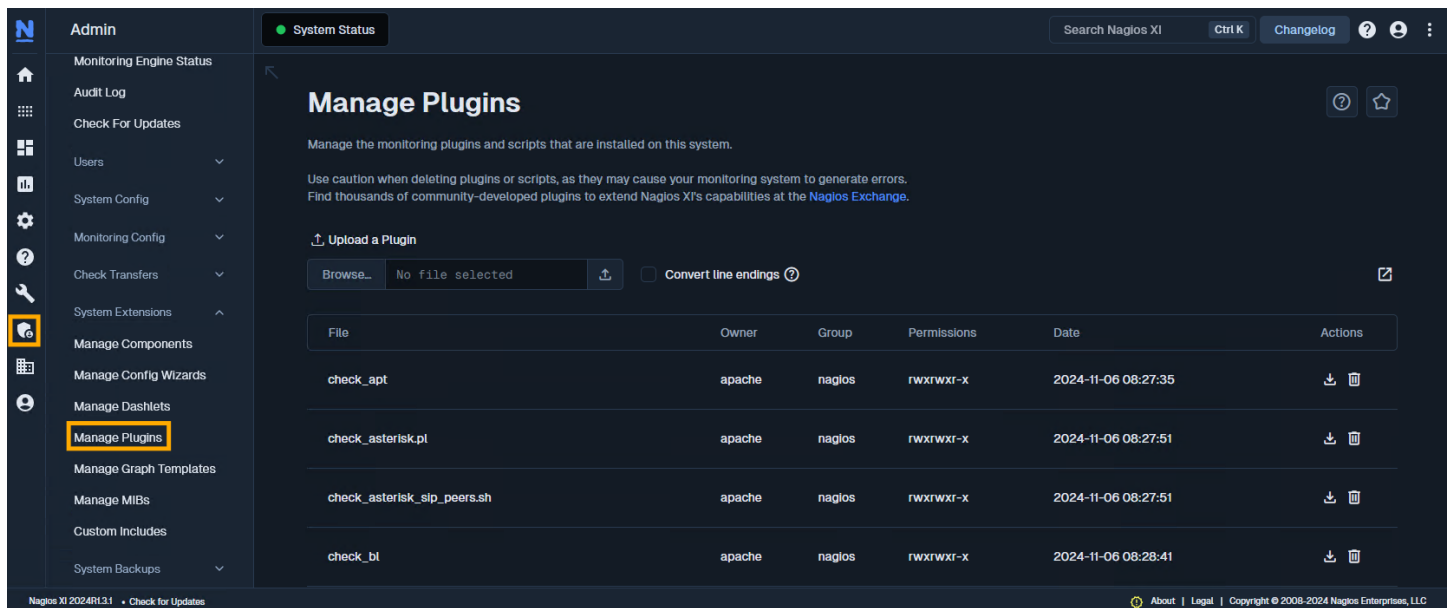
Installing Nagios XI Manually On Linux

Uploading Plugins And Scripts

Nagios XI comes with the most common plugins already pre-installed. If you have additional or custom plugins installed on your Nagios Core system, you will need to install these on the Nagios XI server. Plugins and scripts can be placed in the /usr/local/nagios/libexec directory.

You may upload plugins to Nagios XI using a web interface which can be accessed under the **Admin** menu.

For instructions on uploading plugins via the web interface, refer to the following documentation:

[Managing Plugins In Nagios XI](#)

> After uploading plugins through the XI web interface you do not need to define commands that make use of the plugins. Your existing command definitions will be created in a later step when you import the Nagios Core object configuration files.

If you have custom event handlers or notification scripts, you will need to install these on the Nagios XI server as well. It is recommended that custom scripts be installed in the /usr/local/nagios/libexec directory, or in a sub-directory such as /usr/local/nagios/libexec/eventhandlers.

Migrating Nagios Core Configuration Files

The next step of the migration process is to import your Nagios Core configuration files into Nagios XI. Configuration files that can be migrated include all files which contain object definitions (hosts, services, commands, contacts, timeperiods, etc).

There are two options for migrating configuration files to Nagios XI. You can choose to either:

- Maintain the configuration files manually
- Import the configuration files into the Configuration Manager database

If you wish, you may start with manually maintained configuration files, and import the files into the web configuration database at a later date. You may also choose to import some configuration files into the database, and manually-maintain others.

Option 1: Manually Maintained Config Files

Manually maintained configuration files should be stored in the /usr/local/nagios/etc/static directory on the Nagios XI server. Read the following documentation if you wish to manually maintain your object configuration files, rather than import them into the Nagios XI web configuration database.

[Managing Config Files Manually With Nagios XI](#)

Option 2: Importing Config Files

Importing configuration files into the Nagios XI web configuration database is the easiest way of maintaining configuration files for both administrators and users. Read the following documentation for instructions on importing your configuration files.

[Importing Core Configuration Files Into Nagios XI](#)

Nagios Core configuration files should be pre-processed using the configuration prep tool prior to import. Read the following documentation for instructions on using the import prep tool.

[Using The Nagios XI Config Import Prep Tool](#)

Adding User Accounts

Once you finishing migrating your Nagios Core object configuration files to Nagios XI, you will need to add user accounts to Nagios XI to allow users to login to the XI web interface, view status information, and manage their settings. You can create new user accounts by entering the user management screen via **Admin > Users > Manage Users.**

By default Nagios XI allows users to manage their notification preferences, notification times, and notification messages through the XI web interface. When importing an existing Nagios Core configuration, you may choose to retain control of contact preferences outside of the XI web interface if you have advanced notification schedules or custom notification methods defined.

More information on this subject can be found in the following documentation:

Understanding Nagios XI Users And Contacts

Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on how to migration from Nagios Core to Nagios XI.

If you have additional questions or other support related questions, please visit us at our Nagios Support Forums or Knowledgebase:

Visit Nagios Support Forum   Visit Nagios Knowledgebase