

Availability – Application Management Brick V2.0

Status of this Memo

This document proposes an update to a standard for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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1 Introduction

This document updates the NIH Technical Architecture Standard for Availability – Application Management tools for the NIH community.

2 Description

Availability - Application Management is the monitoring, collecting and correlating of performance, event and availability statistics to know when systems are available and to calculate historical availability to aid in the prediction of availability trends. This allows for proactively planning and trend analysis to avoid potential downtime of application servers and application services.

This discipline involves using automated tools to avoid problems (e.g., automatically increasing file space when it reaches a threshold) and job scheduling to reduce operator error and improve the availability of batch applications and data.

3 Availability – Application Availability Management Software

This brick provides baseline information of the as-is architecture and the future direction for using Availability – Application Availability Management software to meet business needs at NIH.

It should be noted that all technologies that are new to the brick are emboldened, and all technologies removed from the brick upon its update are indicated with a strikethrough.

Table 1. Availability – Application Management Brick

Tactical Deployment (0-2 years)	Strategic Deployment (3-5 years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ AlertSite Monitoring Suite (Subscription Service) ■ HP Operations Manager ■ HP SiteScope (Agentless) ■ Nagios (Linux Open Source) ■ SolarWinds ipMonitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ TBD
Retirement Targets (Technology to eliminate)	Containment (No new deployments)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Big Brother 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cacti (Open Source) ■ IBM SMS (Micromuse) ■ Ipswitch ■ RGE IPSentry ■ WhatsUp Gold ■ Zenoss
Baseline Environment (Today)	Emerging (Technology to track)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ AlertSite Monitoring Suite (Subscription Service) ■ Big Brother ■ Cacti (Open Source) ■ HP Operations Manager ■ HP SiteScope (Agentless) ■ IBM SMS (Micromuse) ■ Ipswitch ■ Nagios (Linux Open Source) ■ RGE IPSentry ■ SolarWinds ipMonitor ■ WhatsUp Gold ■ Zenoss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CA Unicenter Suite ■ IBM Tivoli Suite ■ Software designed to monitor availability of Service Oriented Architectures (SOA)
Comments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tactical and Strategic products were selected to leverage NIH's investment in products that are a proven fit for NIH's known future needs. Leveraging baseline products in the future will minimize the operations, maintenance, support and training costs for new products. ■ Some baseline products have been designated as Containment. These products are either not as widely or successfully deployed at NIH, or they do not provide as much functionality, value, or Total Cost of Ownership as low as the selected Tactical and Strategic products. ■ Additional trends continue towards full configuration management, change management, availability management as software suites. 	

4 Links

The following links are relevant to the standard at NIH.

- What is a Brick ?
<http://enterprisearchitecture.nih.gov/ArchLib/Guide/WhatIsBrick.htm>
- How to Create and Publish a Technical Standard at NIH
<http://enterprisearchitecture.nih.gov/About/Approach/StandardsDevelopmentProcess.htm>
- Availability – Application Management Brick
<http://enterprisearchitecture.nih.gov/ArchLib/AT/TA/AvailabilityApplicationManagementBrick.htm>
- Event Management - Manager of Managers (MOM) Brick
<http://enterprisearchitecture.nih.gov/ArchLib/AT/TA/EventManagerMOMBrick.htm>
- HP Operations Center
https://h10078.www1.hp.com/cda/hpms/display/main/hpms_content.jsp?zn=bt_o&cp=1-11-15-28_4000_100
- Mercury Products by HP
https://h10078.www1.hp.com/cda/hpms/display/main/hpms_content.jsp?zn=bt_o&cp=1-10%5E36653_4000_100_&jumpid=hpr_R1002_USEN

5 Contact

To contact the NIHRFC Editor, send an email message to
EnterpriseArchitecture@mail.nih.gov

6 Changes

Version	Date	Change	Authority	Author of Change
1.1	1/6/2010	Initiation		Joe Klosky
1.2	2/8/2010	Minor formatting changes	NIHRFC0001	Kiley Ohlson
1.3	4/16/2010	Incorporated comments	NIHRFC0001	Kiley Ohlson
2.0	5/25/2010	ARB Approved	ARB	Kiley Ohlson

7 Author's Address

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8 Summary of Comments

Comment

I would recommend adding Cacti (Linux, open source) to the baseline and for tactical. At NIMH we use Cacti as a companion open source product to Nagios to perform data gathering and graphing to support planning and trend analysis.

Response

Both were added to the baseline / containment due to limited use at NIH.

Comment

I would add Zenoss to the list for baseline and Tactical Deployments.

Response

It was added to the baseline / containment due to limited use at NIH.