

Running Zabbix over the internet

Active-only hosts over the web

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Introduction



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Server Monitoring as a Service (SMaaS) has the future in small/medium scale dedicated/virtual server monitoring

- Walter Heck, 30 years old
- Founder OlinData / Tribily
- Ex-Delphi programmer
- Narcoleptic
- Traveler / hitchhiker / couchsurfer / diver / hiker / geek / environmentalist / metalhead

In-house vs External



'Special' circumstances:

No access to client server

No access to client firewall

Have to assume the 'dumbest' user (KISS)

Restrictions



- Active only
 - Only open firewall on our server on one port
- No proxies
- No Distributed Monitoring
- Targeting SME users

Targets



- Don't monitor too much
- Don't monitor too often
- When external scripts needed, use bash preferrably, or otherwise perl or php
- Prefer zabbix-triggered sender scripts over crontriggered senders

Challenges



- Agent doesn't currently support encryption or authentication
 - Patch in the works, will contribute back if Zabbix
 SIA allows it
- Developing templates for software/hardware we don't have in production
- Worldwide alerting through text message (SMS)
 - Clickatell most wide coverage

Backend



- Zabbix on a single server
- Drupal Frontend + Zabbix frontend
 - On webserver with 10 other sites
- Dual master MySQL setup
 - 8G RAM, 2* 750G HD's, 2*4 core CPU
- Hosted at Hetzner
 - Cheap, good connectivity
 - Reserve unlimited rackspace

Future plans



- Offer our own repackaging for major distro's
 - Simplify setup for customers
- Worldwide phone call alerts
 - Global SIP/VOIP gateway?
- Allow clients to plug in templates from http://zabbixtemplates.com



Questions / Feedback?

The End!



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