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Configuring SNMP Traps for ESX 3.5 and ESX 4.0

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Details

To generate virtual machine and environmental traps from ESX 3.5 and ESX 4.0 hosts, you must configure and enable the embedded SNMP agent. You cannot use the Net-SNMP-based agent to generate these traps, although it can receive GET transactions and generate other types of traps.

This represents a change in behavior from ESX 3.0.x, in which the configuration file for the Net-SNMP-based agent controlled the generation of virtual machine traps. For more information, see [Configuring SNMP on an ESX 3.0.x host \(1008186\)](#).

Solution

Use the `vicfg-snmp` command from the Remote CLI or vSphere CLI to enable this SNMP agent and configure trap destinations. Each time you specify a target with the `vicfg-snmp` command, the settings you specify overwrite all previously specified settings. To specify multiple targets, specify them in a single command, separated by commas.

To enable and configure SNMP traps:

Note: For ESX 3.5, use the Remote CLI. For ESX 4.0, use the vSphere CLI. The commands for both are same. `vicfg-snmp.pl` is located in the `C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware vSphere CLI\bin` directory after the VMware vSphere CLI installation, by default.

1. Specify the communities and trap targets with the command:

```
vicfg-snmp.pl --server <hostname> --username <username> --password <password> -t
<target hostname>@<port>/<community>
```

Note: Under ESX 4.0, you may need to use the `-c <community>` flag.

For example, to send SNMP traps from the host `host.example.com` to port 162 on `target.example.com` using the public community, use the command:

```
vicfg-snmp.pl --server host.example.com --username root --password password -t
target.example.com@162/public
```

2. To enable the SNMP service, run the command:

```
vicfg-snmp.pl --server <hostname> --username <username> --password <password> --
enable
```

3. (Optional) Send a test trap to verify that the agent is configured correctly with the command:

```
vicfg-snmp.pl --server <hostname> --username <username> --password <password> --
test
```

The test trap generated is a `warmStart` trap.

For additional information, see [SNMP trap information incorrectly displays in 3rd party monitoring software \(1007483\)](#).

The VMware Infrastructure Remote CLI can be downloaded from the [Download Center](#).

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