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Quick Installation Guide

CereusReporting - Standard Edition

Version 2.90



1 Introduction

1.1 About CereusReporting

CereusReporting is a plugin designed to enhance the reporting functionality of the Cacti Network Monitoring solution. CereusReporting adds PDF and HTML report generation as well as email and report scheduling functionality of Cacti.

CereusReporting comes in 2 different editions: The Express Edition with limited functionality but can be enhanced with unlocking additional modules and the Corporate Edition with support for DSSStats, Scheduling, Availability reports and other features.

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2 Installation

2.1 System Requirements

- Cacti has been installed using the cacti autoinstall script (<http://forums.cacti.net/viewtopic.php?t=38633>)
- DSStats Plugin *only needed for DSStats addon*
- memory_limit = 32M *php.ini - 64M is recommended*
- max_execution_time = 60 *php.ini - 120 is recommended*
- error_log = syslog *php.ini - for troubleshooting purposes*
- allow_url_fopen = on *php.ini - required for nmidSmokeping support*

2.2 Additional Plugins

There are several addons available which provide enhanced functionality to CereusReporting.

2.2.1 mPDF Report Engine

The mPDF Report Engine can be installed additionally to the already included FPDF engine. mPDF provides more features than the FPDF engine, but provided less performance.

2.2.2 DSStats Reports

The DSStats Reports provide some basic Top 10 like reports in addition to the existing RRD Graphics. There are some reports included and others can be added by request.

2.2.3 nmidSmokeping Support

When using the nmidSmokeping plugin, smokeping reports can be added to the PDF Reports using the nmidSmokeping support files.



2.3 Download

Additional Plugins (optional):

- http://blog.network-outsourcing.de/wp-content/uploads/CereusReportingFiles/getSmokePingPath_linux.tgz
- http://blog.network-outsourcing.de/wp-content/uploads/CereusReportingFiles/getSmokePingPath_windows.zip





2.4 Setup for Ubuntu 12.xx LTS 64bit+ cacti 0.8.8a

- 1 Please note: The CereusReporting plugin will have all functionality enabled on the Express Edition for Cacti installations with less than 200 active data sources.

Request a trial license for the Corporate Edition:



[Request a trial for the Corporate Professional/Business Edition](#)

2.4.1 Installation

Main plugin installation:

```
1 cd /var/www/cacti/plugins/
2 wget 'https://www.urban-software.com/?ddownload=2421' -O CereusReporting_Standard_v2.90.00.zip
3 unzip CereusReporting_Standard_v2.90.00.zip
4 rm CereusReporting_Standard_v2.90.00.zip
5 chown -R usercacti.www-data CereusReporting/
6 cd /var/www/cacti/plugins/CereusReporting
7 wget https://www.urban-software.com/wp-content/uploads/parallelGraphRetriever-linux-64bit.zip
8 unzip parallelGraphRetriever-linux-64bit.zip
9 chmod +x parallelGraphRetriever
10 rm parallelGraphRetriever-linux-64bit.zip
```

Installation of additional Reporting Engine with Unicode support:

```
1 cd /var/www/cacti/plugins/CereusReporting/ReportEngines
2 wget 'https://www.urban-software.com/?ddownload=2423' -O mpdf_ReportEngine_54.tgz
3 tar -xzf mpdf_ReportEngine_54.tgz
4 chown -R usercacti.www-data mpdf
5 chmod 775 mpdf/tmp
6 rm mpdf_ReportEngine_54.tgz
```

Installation of the IonCube loader:

```
1 export extDir=`php -i | grep extension_dir | sed 's/ //g' | awk -F '=>' '{ print $2}'`
2 export phpVersion=`php -i | grep -m 1 'PHP Version' | sed 's/ //g' | awk -F '=>' '{ print $2}'`
3 | sed 's/^(5\\.\\.\\.).*$/1/ig'`
4 cd /tmp
5 wget http://downloads2.ioncube.com/loader_downloads/ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz
6 tar -xzf ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz
7 cp ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_${phpVersion}.so $extDir
8 echo "zend_extension=$extDir/ioncube_loader_lin_${phpVersion}.so" > /etc/php5/conf.d/ioncube.ini
9 rm -rf /tmp/ioncube
10 rm /tmp/ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz
```

Installation of the ChartDirector PHP module

```
1 export extDir=`php -i | grep extension_dir | sed 's/ //g' | awk -F '=>' '{ print $2}'`
2 export phpVersion=`php -i | grep -m 1 'PHP Version' | sed 's/ //g' | awk -F '=>' '{ print $2}'`
3 | sed 's/^(5\\.\\.\\.).*$/5/ig'`
4 wget http://download2.advsofteng.com/chartdir_php_linux_64.tar.gz
5 tar -xzf chartdir_php_linux_64.tar.gz
6 cd ChartDirector/lib/
7 cp -R fonts/ $extDir
8 cp phpchartdir${phpVersion}0.dll $extDir
9 cp libchartdir.so $extDir
10 echo "extension=phpchartdir${phpVersion}0.dll" > /etc/php5/conf.d/chartdirector.ini
11 cd /tmp
12 rm -rf /tmp/ChartDirector/
```

Protecting the license file:



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InThe license file should be protected for being downloaded by a remote user. This can be done using a .htaccess file, or directly in the httpd.conf file. The following entries need to be placed in there:

```
1 # File: /etc/apache2/conf.d/ioncube.conf
2 #
3 # The following lines prevent IonCube license files from being
4 # downloaded by Web clients.
5 #
6 <Files ~ "\.lic$">
7     Order allow,deny
8     Deny from all
9 </Files>
```

Reload Apache:

```
1 /etc/init.d/apache2 reload
```

2.4.2 Setup the CronJob

It is recommended to use a cronjob instead of the poller based report generation. The following is going to setup a cronjob running once every minute.

As root, run the following command all in one line:

```
1 echo '*/*1 * * * * cacti /usr/bin/php
/var/www/cacti/plugins/CereusReporting/cron_pdf_scheduler.php > /dev/null 2>&1' >>
/etc/cron.d/reportScheduler
```

2.5 Setup / Configuration

The following steps will guide you through the setup and configuration procedures for the CereusReporting Corporate and Express Edition.

Step 1: Logon to your cacti web-interface as an administrator

Step 2: Go to the “Plugin Management” page:

Step 3: Click on the “Install” link for the CereusReporting plugin

Step 4: Click on the “Enable” link for the CereusReporting plugin

Step 5: Click on the “Install” link for the settings plugin

Step 6: Click on the “Enable” link for the settings plugin

This will install and enable the CereusReporting Corporate and/or Express Edition for your cacti installation.


Now go to the “User Management” page and select your admin user. You can now set the following options for the CereusReporting plugin. Not all functionality will be available for the Express Edition:



- NMID - Define PDF Reports
- NMID - Generate PDF Reports
- NMID - Manage Availability Data
- NMID - View Archived Reports
- NMID - View Availability Charts

Select all options as shown in the screenshot in order to test the installation. After saving these settings, there should be a new menu showing up in the admin console named “NMID” with the following items:

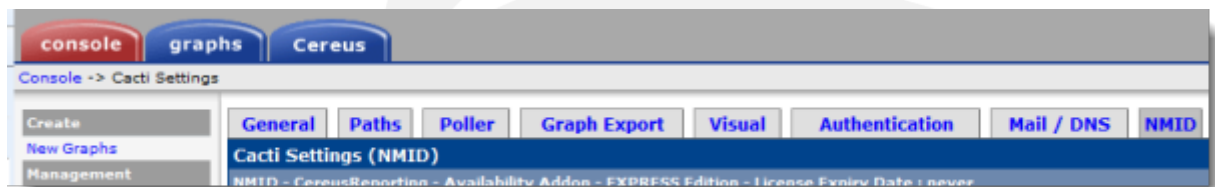
- Manage Reports
- Manage Backups
- Manage Archive
- Manage Report Schedule
- Manage Availability

 You should go to the “Debug Info” and check if all modules are installed and all tables and hooks have been registered correctly

2.5.1 Basic Configuration

Now go to:

Console -> Settings -> NMID



In the Availability section, enable the following check boxes:



- Add availability table to tree view
- Add detailed failed polls report table to tree view
- Add availability graph to report
- Add WinService availability table to tree view
- Add WinService availability graph to tree view
- Show Transparent area during non-SLA relevant time frames.
- Use RRD style data aggregation

At the end of that page use the following settings:

NMID - CereusReporting - General - EXPRESS Edition - License Expiry Date : never

Report Title The title of the report. This will only be displayed if the selected tree item is not a header.	Generic Report
Report Subtitle The default sub-title of the report. Eg. 'Provided by your Support Team'	Provided by IT Support
Report Footer The default footer of the report.	
Print Header/Footer to PDF Enables/Disables the printing of the Header and Footer. Should be disabled when using a CoverPage/Template.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print Header/Footer to PDF
Report Logo The company logo you want to be displayed on the PDF report. The default logo is images/default_logo.png. Needs to be a PNG file.	images/transparent_logo.png
Use 'HOSTNAME(IP)' in host only reports Displays 'Report for host hostname(a.b.c.d)' instead of the default report title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use 'HOSTNAME(IP)' in host only reports
Graphs link back to cacti A click on a graph in the PDF Report links back to the cacti page for that graph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graphs link back to cacti
Cacti Host/Server URL The Cacti Host/Server URL to be used in the graph links	
PHP binary path Full Path to the php binary. You need to define the full path to php e.g '/usr/bin/php'.	/usr/bin/php
Archive Directory Archive directory for storing the PDF Reports.	archive
GZip binary path Path to the GZip binary. Archived reports will be gzipped if this is set.	
Scheduler being used The poller is fine for small reports, but it is still recommended to use cron or windows scheduling.	Poller
Parallel Threads for Graph Retrieval The number of parallel processes for retrieving/generating the graphs for the PDF report.	2 Threads
Debugging mode Enable/Disable the debug mode for defined/on-demand reports (Enable: Do not delete tmp files).	Disabled
PDF Module to use Choose which PDF Engine you want to use.	mPDF
Use Unicode Unicode support will increase PDF filesize and processing time. Only supported with the mPDF Engine	<input type="checkbox"/> Use Unicode

The Installation of the CereusReporting Corporate and Express Edition plugin is now complete.

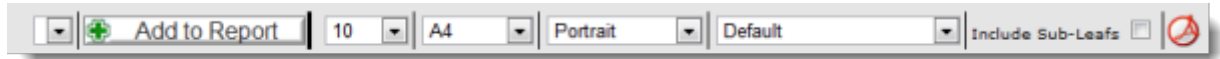
2.6 Initial Test

Go to the Graphs tab. You should see a new section for your graphs (in Tree View / Dual Pane mode only):



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Go to any host and click on the little Icon to the right. You should now be presented with a PDF file containing some graphs.





3 Support

3.1 Email Support

 Please use the following email addresses

Support: <http://urbansoftware.kayako.com>

Sales requests@nmid-plugins.de

Inquiries:

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3.2 Community / Forum support

Please use the topic in the Cacti community forum for community support.

 <http://forums.cacti.net/viewtopic.php?t=30192>

3.3 FAQ

 n/a

3.4 Phone Support

Phone support is available only for valid support contracts.

3.5 Mailing List

Please join the nmid-plugins mailing list for latest news and community support:

 n/a

