

IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF

Overview of benefits



This presentation provides an overview of benefits of using the IBM Tivoli® Monitoring Agent for z/TPF.

Goals

- Purpose of IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF
- Benefits
- Availability, requirements and documentation

The goals of this presentation are to communicate the purpose and benefits of IBM Tivoli Monitoring and the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF. The presentation highlights some of the primary benefits and concludes with information on availability, requirements and links to further documentation.

Purpose of IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF

- Allow IBM Tivoli Monitoring to become the “client component” of TPF continuous data collection
 - IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF supports z/TPF and TPF4.1
- Allow TPF customers to use IBM Tivoli Monitoring features

The purpose of the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF is to use IBM Tivoli Monitoring as the “client component” of continuous data collection. Continuous data collection is a performance monitoring tool that runs on TPF4.1 and z/TPF systems. The Agent supports both versions of TPF systems.

Benefits

- Create your own views of data
- Define custom situations and alerts
- Enterprise monitoring
- Centralized management
- Real-time and historical data
- Simple display of user data

This slide highlights some of the benefits of IBM Tivoli Monitoring and the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF. Benefits include:

Customizable views of data

User defined situations and alerts

Enterprise monitoring

Centralized management

Real-time and historical data

Simple display of user data

Create your own views of data

- Default workspaces included with monitoring agent
- Customize and share workspaces
 - Multiple table, graphing and charting options
 - Filter data to see only you want to see
 - Set thresholds to highlight warning and critical levels
- Monitor any combination of continuous data collection metrics in a single workspace
- Monitor multiple processors in single workspace

User customizable views of data

The IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF includes default workspaces, where a workspace is a group of views of various TPF continuous data collection data.

Users can create and share their own workspaces, choosing from a selection of table, chart and graph options. Additionally, there are filtering options to reduce display clutter and threshold options to provide visual aids in workspace views.

Continuous data collection metrics can be combined into a single workspace. For example, if a user wants to see Tape data and VFA data in a single workspace, they can create a workspace to do so.

Additionally, users can view multiple TPF processors in a single workspace, allowing users to see at a glance what is happening at a system complex level.

Define custom situations and alerts

- Situations generate alerts
 - For example, Processor Utilization Percentage ≥ 95
- Sample situations are included with monitoring agent
- Create your own custom situations
- Alert options:
 - Call an application – ex: send e-mail or text message
 - Visual – indicator in displays
 - Audio – alert nearby personnel
 - Route alert to Tivoli Enterprise Console®
- Complex situations
- Controls over when situation generates an alert

User defined situations and alerts

IBM Tivoli Monitoring includes the ability to define situations. When a situation becomes true, an alert is generated. The alert might be a visual indicator in an agent workspace, an audio alert or the situation can start an application such as for send an e-mail or text message to a mobile phone.

An example of a situation might be to generate an alert if processor utilization reaches 90%.

Situations can be written to monitor complex scenarios. For example, a situation can be created monitor for a case where DASD I/O is high and system block usage is high between 12AM and 6AM.

Enterprise monitoring

- Monitor TPF systems in same environment as other systems
- For example, z/TPF and z/OS®

Enterprise monitoring

Use of the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF allows TPF customers to monitor their TPF system in an environment capable of monitoring other non-TPF system such as z/OS or AIX®.

Centralized management

- IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF is typically installed on a server and managed by systems support personnel
 - Monitoring agent is multi-instance
 - One run-time instance per TPF processor
- No need to install software on users workstation
 - Tivoli Enterprise Portal Server browser interface
- Simplifies software upgrades

Centralized management

Typically the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF is installed on a server maintained by systems support personnel. The agent is multi-instance and each instance monitors a single TPF processor.

The IBM Tivoli Monitoring interface is the Tivoli Enterprise Portal. There are two portal options. A Java™ based desktop client and a browser client. If the browser client option is used, users will need to install no software on their workstation to monitor their TPF systems.

Real-time and historical data

- Real-time continuous data collection data
- Access to historical data saved by TPF
 - DB2® (TPFAR)
 - TPFDF
 - MySQL (z/TPF only, local or remote)
- IBM Tivoli Monitoring data warehouse
 - Includes data analysis software
- All historical data repositories are optional

Real-time and historical data

The IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF displays real-time continuous data collection data and can optionally be configured to display historical data saved by the continuous data collection collector on TPF.

Also, the IBM Tivoli Monitoring environment includes a data warehousing feature which is supported by the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF. The data warehouse option provides analytical software to help you understand system performance and trends over time. That analysis can be used to set situations and thresholds.

Simple display of user data

- For z/TPF customers only
- No IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF changes required to display user data
- Allows use of all IBM Tivoli Monitoring features
- Full historical data support

User data improvements

For z/TPF customers, a new user exit, cdcc.c, is available to add user data to continuous data collection data. The user exit allows individual values to be added to collections at a user controlled frequency. No changes to the IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF are required to display user data values. IBM Tivoli Monitoring features such as customizations and situations can be applied to user data. User data is also optionally written to all supported historical data repository.

Availability, requirements and documentation

- General availability occurred in May 2009
- Free download from tools download page for licensed TPF users
 - z/TPF: <http://www.ibm.com/tpf/maint/toolsztpf.html>
 - TPF4.1: <http://www.ibm.com/tpf/maint/toolstpf41.html>
 - Requires IBM Tivoli Monitoring 6.2.1 or later
- IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF documentation and requirements
 - <http://www.ibm.com/software/http/tpf/pubs/tpfpubs.htm>
- IBM Tivoli Monitoring documentation and requirements
 - <http://www.ibm.com/software/tivoli/products/monitor/>

The IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF became generally available in May of 2009. The IBM Tivoli Monitoring Agent for z/TPF is a free download for licensed TPF users. The agent requires IBM Tivoli Monitoring 6.2.1 or later. Provided on this slide are links to the agent download, agent documentation and to IBM Tivoli Monitoring documentation.

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