2. Definitions

Overview

In this section you can learn the meaning of some terms commonly used in Zabbix.

Definitions

**host**
- a networked device that you want to monitor, with IP/DNS.

**host group**
- a logical grouping of hosts; it may contain hosts and templates. Hosts and templates within a host group are not in any way linked to each other. Host groups are used when assigning access rights to hosts for different user groups.

**item**
- a particular piece of data that you want to receive off of a host, a metric of data.

**trigger**
- a logical expression that defines a problem threshold and is used to “evaluate” data received in items.

When received data are above the threshold, triggers go from 'Ok' into a 'Problem' state. When received data are below the threshold, triggers stay in/return to an 'Ok' state.

**event**
- a single occurrence of something that deserves attention such as a trigger changing state or a discovery/agent auto-registration taking place.

**event tag**
- a pre-defined marker for the event. It may be used in event correlation, permission granulation, etc.

**event correlation**
- a method of correlating problems to their resolution flexibly and precisely.

For example, you may define that a problem reported by one trigger may be resolved by another trigger, which may even use a different data collection method.

**problem**
- a trigger that is in “Problem” state.
**action**
- a predefined means of reacting to an event.

An action consists of operations (e.g. sending a notification) and conditions (when the operation is carried out)

**escalation**
- a custom scenario for executing operations within an action; a sequence of sending notifications/executing remote commands.

**media**
- a means of delivering notifications; delivery channel.

**notification**
- a message about some event sent to a user via the chosen media channel.

**remote command**
- a pre-defined command that is automatically executed on a monitored host upon some condition.

**template**
- a set of entities (items, triggers, graphs, screens, applications, low-level discovery rules, web scenarios) ready to be applied to one or several hosts.

The job of templates is to speed up the deployment of monitoring tasks on a host; also to make it easier to apply mass changes to monitoring tasks. Templates are linked directly to individual hosts.

**application**
- a grouping of items in a logical group.

**web scenario**
- one or several HTTP requests to check the availability of a web site.

**frontend**
- the web interface provided with Zabbix.

**Zabbix API**
- Zabbix API allows you to use the JSON RPC protocol to create, update and fetch Zabbix objects (like hosts, items, graphs and others) or perform any other custom tasks.

**Zabbix server**
- a central process of Zabbix software that performs monitoring, interacts with Zabbix proxies and agents, calculates triggers, sends notifications; a central repository of data.

**Zabbix agent**
- a process deployed on monitoring targets to actively monitor local resources and applications.

**Zabbix proxy**

- a process that may collect data on behalf of Zabbix server, taking some processing load off of the server.

**encryption**

- support of encrypted communications between Zabbix components (server, proxy, agent, zabbix_sender and zabbix_get utilities) using Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol.