Creating NMIS Email Notifications for a Specific Node and Interface

Network Management Information System (NMIS) is very powerful for sending out custom notifications to people who want to be notified about specific things. For example if a network manager wanted to be notified when a specific interface on a specific router or switch was down, you could configure this as an escalation. The following will describe how to configure NMIS Contacts and Escalations to do this.

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 - 3 Create an Escalation to receive Email Notifications
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Determine Node and Interface in NMIS

Using the NMIS GUI, find the node, then when viewing the node select "interfaces" or "active intf" to view the interfaces. Please note NMIS will only send notifications for interfaces which are "active" that means NMIS is managing the interface and when "Event on" is equal to true.

We need the interface name, in this example from a NetGear 24 port switch, it has an odd and long name, "Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit - Level", will will need this exact text.



Create a Contact for the Escalation

Create a new contact or edit an existing contact, access the contacts from the NMIS Menu "System -> System Configuration -> Contacts", click on Add or Edit.

Fill in the Contact, Email address at a minimum, in the example below, DutyTime is configured for 24x7 emails, you can also configure this for Business Hours, which would be "08:18:MonTueWedThuFri" for example. This means that emails will only be sent during those times. The other very powerful option is the Level field, here I am saying only send events to this contact which are Fatal or Critical or Major or Normal, alternately I could include all the levels which would be "(Fatal|Critical|Major|Minor|Warning|Normal)". The level for Normal is so that Up Notifications can be set.

More details about configuring Contacts can be found here: NMIS8 Contacts

Contacts	🕤 🗭 🗲 Wed 14:48 🗙						
Table Contacts							
Contact	NetworkManager						
DutyTime	00:24:MonTueWedThuFriSatSun						
Level	(Fatal Critical Major Normal)						
Email	keiths+nm@opmantek.com						
Location	default						
Mobile							
Pager							
Phone							
TimeZone	0						
	* mandatory fields.						
	Add Cancel						

Create an Escalation to receive Email Notifications

Create a new escalation policy access the escalations from the NMIS Menu "System -> System Configuration -> Escalation Policy", click on Add.

Configure:

- The Event by selecting "Interface Down" from the list.
- Event Node to be the name of the router or switch. The node name can be a regular expression and will match ignore case sensitive.
- The Event Element to be the name of the interface you saved earlier, in this example "Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit Level". Event Element can be a
 regular expression and will match ignore case sensitive. There is a known bug in NMIS 8.6.8, where elements with "/" are not processed correctly.
 In this case, a regular expression should be used. This bug will be fixed in the next release.
- Set the escalation Level you require, in this case it is set to Level 0, which means send the notification straight away, setting it to Level 1 would wait for by default 300 seconds (5 minutes) before sending the email, if the interface was to come up within 300 seconds, the event would close and no notification would be sent.
- Lastly the UpNotify has been configured to true which means an email will be sent when the interface comes up again.

Escalation Policy	🖅 🔁 🗲 Wed 15:47 ;	×			
Table Escalation	ons				
Group	default	¢			
Role	default	¢			
Туре	default	¢			
Event	[Interface Down	ŧ			
Event Node	gdc-sw1				
Event Element	Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit - Level				
Level 0	email:NetworkManager				
Level 1					
Level 2					
Level 3					
Level 4					
Level 5					
Level 6					
Level 7					
Level 8					
Level 9					
Level 10					
UpNotify	true	¢			
* mandatory fields.					
	Add Cancel	11			

Receiving Less Specific Events

If the manager wanted to receive ANY event associated to this element, the element being the Interface on this node, then you can leave the Event field configured as "default" and any event NMIS generates for this interface will be sent to the manager, like Interface Utilisation, Error Packets, Discarded Packets, etc.

Emails, Notifications and Escalations 🛛 🗐 💽 🗲 Wed 14:51 🗙									
Table Escalations									
Group	default \$								
Role	default								
Туре	default 🗘								
Event	default	¢							
Event Node	gdc-sw1								
Event Element	Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit - Level								
Level 0	email:NetworkManager								
Level 1									
Level 2									
Level 3									
Level 4									
Level 5									
Level 6									
Level 7									
Level 8									
Level 9									
Level 10									
UpNotify	true	\$							
* mandatory fields.									
	Add Cancel	1							

Resulting Logs in the NMIS Event Log

When all this is configured, and the interface goes down, easily tested on my switch here, you will see an event for the Interface Down in the NMIS event log as well as a log entry letting you know an email was sent and who it was sent to.

Log of Event_Log 🛛 🕤 🖓 Wed 14:53 🗙								
Log Name Event_Log \$	Search String gdc-sw1	Lines 50 🛟	Level ALL 🛟	Sort 🔶	Group Go			
Lines: <u>15 25 50 100 250 500 1000</u> Lo	wel: <u>ALL Fatal Critical Major Mino</u>	er <u>Warning Error</u> Non		Summary	Log List			
NMIS 14-Jan-2015 14:53:37 gdc-sw1 email to keiths+nm@opmantek.com UP Notify Normal Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit - Level Customer Loki Time=00:00:29								
NMIS 14-Jan-2015 14:53:34 gdc-sw1 Interface Up Normal Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit - Level Customer Loki Time=00:00:29								
NMIS 14-Jan-2015 14:53:07 gdc-sw1 email to keiths+nm@opmantek.com Esc0 Interface Down Major Slot: 0 Port: 21 Gigabit - Level Customer Loki								
NMIS 14-Jan-2015 14:53:05 gdc-sw1	Interface Down Major Slot: 0 Po	ort: 21 Gigabit - Level	Customer Loki					