

Summary

Currently Zabbix does not support scheduled PDF report generation, it is one of the major complains of enterprise users. It is time to fix it by enabling Zabbix to support sending of existing dashboards as PDF reports.

In the future dashboards widgets should be enhanced to support more widgets suitable for reporting purposes.

Zabbix acceptance

1. Zabbix must support scheduled generation of PDF versions of dashboards and sending them by email
2. It must be possible to create a new report from the "Actions" menu of a dashboard. New popup window will be displayed:
 - a. General parameters
 - i. Owner: user who created this report (read-only information)
 - ii. Report name: <mandatory non-unique report name>
 - iii. Based on: <selection of dashboard>, by default current dashboard is used
 - iv. Period: Previous day | Previous week | Previous month | Previous year
 - v. Repeats: Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly
 - vi. Send at: <time selector>, for example, "7am". User timezone will be used
 - vii. Repeats on: S [X], M [X], T [X], W [X], S [X], F [X], S [X]. For daily and weekly reports only.
 - viii. Starts: <date when to start sending reports>, 'Now' by default
 - ix. Ends: Never | On <some date>
 - b. Report parameters
 - i. Email subject: <email subject>
 - ii. Email body: <email body> (can have HTML content)
 - iii. Format: A4/Letter (if possible to implement)
 - iv. Orientation: Horizontal/Vertical (if possible to implement)
 - c. Recipients
 - i. Send to: myself or empty (default, sent to creator of the report only) | <select list of individual users and user groups> (sent to selected users and user groups only)
 - ii. Do not send to: <select list of individual users we do not want to send this report to>
 - d. Test
 - i. Test button should exist in order to test execution and sending of the report
3. A new action for user roles must be introduced: Manage scheduled reports
 - a. It allows creation and managements of scheduled reports
4. List of reports linked to a specific dashboard must be accessible from the dashboard
5. New page Reports→Scheduled reports must be created to have a list of all reports and management functions (create, update, delete)
 - a. It will list all scheduled reports
 - i. Owner, Report name, Repeats, Period, Active (Expired or Active)
 - b. It will provide management functions: Create, Update and Delete
 - c. Filter
 - i. Name: filter by report name
 - ii. Owner: filter by owner
 - iii. Status: filter by Any | Active | Expired
6. Zabbix will generate PDF reports at specific time with report owner permissions and send them attached by email to users having email media type enabled

- a. Email subject: <Report title>
 - b. Email body: <Email body>
 - c. Attachment: PDF report
 - d. The following macros must be supported in email subject and body:
 - i. Macro {TIME} with corresponding fmttime() function
7. Audit functionality must be extended to keep information about scheduled reports
 8. Reports will be generated by a remote Rest API based service that will use headless Chrome for PDF report generation
 - a. PDF will be made in fullscreen mode with no visible filter

Nonfunctional requirements

1. N/A

Use cases

1. I want to get daily email with PDF report on what happened yesterday

Decisions made

1. Clearly this solution is not a full featured reporting engine and it has some limitations. For example, not all of 1000 of problems will be sent to user, only what fits vertically to a fixed size widget. It is a good start anyway!
 - a. We may want to implement different rendering of widgets when used for PDF reporting in the future

Open questions

1. How to unsubscribe from a report if someone else subscribed me?
2. Do we need to keep generated reports in the database?
3. Error handling. What if a report cannot be generate for some reason?

Changes log

- N/A