Online System Manager

(OSM)

Release Notes

PARSEC$_{Group}$

OSM for OpenVMS

Release Notes

Version 5.0

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Chapter 1
Overview

Background

The Online System Manager (OSM) for OpenVMS aids in the management, predictive maintenance and support of OpenVMS systems. OSM allows system administrators to automatically monitor hardware, software, resource, performance, security and user-defined events that represent potential system failures. Once OSM detects an event, it reports that event to specified parties via E-mail. This allows corrective action before the event becomes a failure. OSM can execute a user-supplied command procedure, batch file or command to address the issues causing the event.

OSM is fully configurable through the use of parameter files and logical names. These parameter files may be maintained through the use of any text editor on the system. The parameters allow the user to control all aspects of OSM operation. For instance, there are parameters that allow the user to specify where OSM sends event information, what the individual event priorities are, which events are critical, how to handle an event (called event fixing), what email addresses to notify or telephone number to page, event thresholds and much more.

Once the monitor process has detected and recorded an event, the transport process reports that event as directed. For example, it can send hardware error reports to your hardware service vendor, as well as a copy to the system manager while sending all security events to your IT security department for evaluation.

History

Each major update to OSM includes support for a new platform. Other releases include significant enhancements, many of which were requested by the users of OSM.

V1

The original release of OSM was on VAX/VMS. This included the core functionality and design that is still in use today.

V2

When OpenVMS was ported to the Alpha architecture, OSM V2 included support for the new systems. Other enhancements included the addition of user-defined monitoring and automated fixes in V2.1. V2.2 added support for monitoring network connectivity, SYSUAF synchronization with other nodes and commands to test and demonstrate the OSM configuration.

V3

Support for Microsoft Windows NT and Windows 95 was added with OSM V3.0. Additional versions of windows were added but were eventually dropped from the supported platforms.

V4

As OpenVMS grew and was ported to the HP Integrity Servers, OSM V4.0 added support for those systems and monitoring of alignment faults and temperature sensors. At the same time, several enhancements were made to control output formatting; including output groups.

V4.2

This release of OSM adds monitoring of compute-bound processes and the availability of process slots. OSM-specific logical names may be placed in a separate logical name table to simplify maintenance.

SYSUAF synchronization is enhanced to allowing synchronizing changes made before OSM was installed or configured.

V5.0

This release of OSM adds support of VSI OpenVMS on x86_64 servers.

Prerequisites

Hardware Requirements

The following list provides the user with the minimal hardware configuration required to run OSM. Additional disk or memory may be required on some systems in a large environment to support storing reported events for several computers or for a large period of time.

- HP VAX, Alpha, Integrity, or x86 system running HP or VSI OpenVMS.
- Approximately 20MB of disk space for installation and use

Software Requirements

For VAX systems:

- OpenVMS VAX V6.0 or higher
- VAXCRTL.EXE is part of OpenVMS VAX, but may have been tailored off. This file must be installed for OSM to work.

For Alpha Systems:

- OpenVMS Alpha V6.1 or higher

For Integrity Server Systems:

- OpenVMS IA64 V8.2 or higher

For x86 Systems:

- OpenVMS x86 V9.0 or higher

For network communication (one or more of the following):

- TCP/IP services for OpenVMS
- TCPware for OpenVMS
- Multinet for OpenVMS
- DECnet Phase IV
- DECnet-Plus

Chapter 2
New Features

Overview

This chapter identifies the new features included in OSM V5.0. Additional information about these features may be found in the Online System Manager Operations Manual.

Installation

The installation procedures have been updated to include installation on OpenVMS x86 systems. Questions not relavant for x86 systems are not asked during those installations.

When updating OSM in a cluster environment, the command procedure osm_addnode is executed on each member of the cluster which may have been configured to run OSM to ensure it has the updated images and startup procedures.

Reports

Many of the reports generated by OSM have improved formatting to make them easier to read and more informative.

Reports on disk events more clearly identify whether the report was flagged due to errors, I/O rates, or available capacity.

Network Events

Monitoring of accessibility of remote OpenVMS hosts in the network has been enhanced to control of the frequency of reports. The parameter NETWORK_REPEAT controls how many times the events are reported before adding a delay between reports. This allows limiting the flood of messages that could occur when a node is taken down for a few hours.

Chapter 3
Bug Fixes

Overview

Each new release of OSM attempts to fix all known issues from previous releases. Here is a list of those fixes in OSM V5.0.

Reports

Blank reports caused by the existance of severity 0 data in the event file are no longer created.

Some blank lines have been removed from the reports.

Transport Process Aborts

Aborts of the OSM transport process caused by unexpected data in the event file have been fixed.

Send Contact Command

Errors that caused to SEND CONTACT command to silently fail have been fixed.

Monitor Data Collection

Some environments did not collect and report on disk utilization. These have been fixed.

Overflow in Data Calculations

Some calculations for disk reports and pool expansion could overflow causing erroneous reports. These have been fixed.

Help Text

The HELP text has been updated to match the code.

Chapter 4
OSM Installation

Overview

On OpenVMS, the standard VMSINSTAL command procedure located in the SYS$UPDATE directory is used to install and update OSM.

During an update to OSM, the installation procedure will stop the monitor and the transport processes if they are currently running. If you elect not to have the installation procedure start OSM automatically, you may start it later with the following command:

```
$ @SYS$MANAGER:OSM_STARTUP
```

Updating OSM in a VMScluster Environment

In a VMScluster environment, the installation updates other nodes of the cluster. This can be invoked manually with the following command.

```
$ @OSM$:[OSM]OSM_ADDNODE UPDATE
```

OSM Installation Example

The example starting on the following page is an update to OSM V5.0 on an HP Integrity Server rx2600 running OpenVMS V8.4.

```
$ @sys$update:vmsinstal osm050 dsa2:[software]


        OpenVMS  Software Product Installation Procedure V8.4


It is 23-FEB-2026 at 11:53.

Enter a question mark (?) at any time for help.

%VMSINSTAL-W-NOTSYSTEM, You are not logged in to the SYSTEM account.
%VMSINSTAL-W-ACTIVE, The following processes are still active:
       WILLIAMS
       _FTA81:
* Do you want to continue anyway [NO]? y
* Are you satisfied with the backup of your system disk [YES]?


The following products will be processed:

  OSM V5.0


        Beginning installation of OSM V5.0 at 11:53

    ******************************************************************
%VMSINSTAL-I-VALSIGN, Performing product kit validation of signed kits ...
%VMSINSTAL-I-NOVALDONE, Product is not signed by HP
* Do you want to install this product [NO]? y
%VMSINSTAL-I-RESTORE, Restoring product save set A ...

Installation of OSM V5.0
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Thank you for choosing OSM as your one and only on-line system manager
tool. You will be glad you did!

You, the person performing this installation, will probably be in a
position to know the most about how the product is used at your site.
If you think of any way that we can improve OSM to better meet your
needs and the needs of others, we would appreciate your call.  The
PARSEC Group products contain features which were originally suggested
by our customers.

Call us at (303) 763-9600 and ask for Technical Support if we can assist
you during the installation or at any other time while you are running OSM.

Press <RETURN> to continue.

    Proprietary Rights Notice:

    All rights reserved.  This software contains valuable properties
    and trade secrets of The PARSEC Group.  This software may not be
    reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, in part or
    in whole, without permission from:

        PARSEC Group
        5610 Ward Road
        Suite 110
        Arvada, CO  80002
        (303) 763-9600
```

```
    It is illegal to install or run OSM on any system that is not
    licensed.  If you are not sure which systems your company has
    licensed, check with The PARSEC Group before proceeding.  Demo
    sites may install and run OSM for the period specified by their
    demo license.

* Have you carefully read all of the above notice [YES]?
The logical name OSM$ points to DSA2:[OSM]
This directory will be updated with OSM V5.0.
* Do you want to purge files replaced by this installation [YES]?
* Do you want OSM started during installation [YES]?
%OSM-I-DONEASK, No further questions will be asked during this installation.
OSM provides to the user some template files which may be used as
examples during the setup of OSM.  They are located in the OSM$
directory and are listed here for your information.

Example parameter file which can be used by OSM
    OSM_CTLFILE.TEMPLATE

Example command procedure to define OSM logical names
    OSM_LOGICALS.TEMPLATE               OSM_SYSUAF_LOGICALS.TEMPLATE

Example command procedures for user defined monitoring
    CHECK_ENTRY_UDM.TEMPLATE            CHECK_LICENSE_UDM.TEMPLATE
    CHECK_PRINT_QUEUE_UDM.TEMPLATE      DS100_DS200_MONITOR_UDM.TEMPLATE
    DS90LPLUS_MONITOR_UDM.TEMPLATE      DSSI_MONITOR_UDM.TEMPLATE
    EXTRACT_NEWMAIL_UDM.TEMPLATE        OSM_SUMMARY_UDM.TEMPLATE

Example automated fix command procedures
    DISK_PURGE_FIX.TEMPLATE             HIGH_KERNEL_TIME_FIX.TEMPLATE
    PAGE_SWAP_FILE_FIX.TEMPLATE         T4_FIX.TEMPLATE
%OSM-I-PROGRESS, Removing old files which are no longer necessary.
%OSM-I-PROGRESS, Building executables.
Copyright (c) 1994 - 2024 The PARSEC Group Inc.  All rights reserved.
%OSM-I-PROGRESS, Stopping previous version if running.
Autostart is disabled for: transport
%OSM-I-PROGRESS, Setting up new version.
%VMSINSTAL-I-MOVEFILES, Files will now be moved to their target directories...
Copyright (c) 1994 - 2024 The PARSEC Group Inc.  All rights reserved.

%OSM-I-STARTUP, OSM is starting up
OSM started with pid 20364285

        Installation of OSM V5.04.2 completed at 11:53

    Adding history entry in VMI$ROOT:[SYSUPD]VMSINSTAL.HISTORY

    Creating installation data file: VMI$ROOT:[SYSUPD]OSM042.VMI_DATA


        VMSINSTAL procedure done at 11:54
```