Release Notes

Meta-View Agent for Windows Version B.02i

Introduction

The following sections list the enhancements and resolved issues for this release and for past releases. This document is available on the documentation page of the Lund website at:

http://www.lund.com/support/documentation.html

Summary of significant changes

Starting with B.01v version, the data service speed was increased; by changing the way data is handled and sent. Starting with B.02i version, there is an improved alerting module in the data service.

Compatibility Matrix

Minimum versions of client/agent components:

MV Agent / Windows	MV Web	MV Alert	Performance Gallery Gold
B.01t	B.03f		F.03c
2.4.0.1	B.01j		
1.2.3.1	A.01o	A.01f	F.01g

Current Release

Version B.02i – Released April 19, 2005

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
1233	Added an improved alerting module.
1200	Added an alerting configuration module.
1201	The empty numeric values from smf files are reported as missing data in a response, using an item error for the value.
1202	Added and adapted the new alerting module.

Resolved Issues

SR#	Service Request Description
1234	The data service crashed when an item that was not logged was used in the alerts configuration file.
1222	The data service crashed when there was no data is smf directory, the bug appeared due the latest changes to adapt the new ADM and from the alert configuration module addition.
1224	The data service did not respond to url encoded requests - the bug appeared due the new alert configuration request, which can contain & and + chars.

Product History

This product history lists enhancements and resolved issues in prior releases.

Version B.02c – Released November 23, 2004

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
1161	Calculated items were added to the data service. It allows defining new items based on existing one, including new keys.
1162	The id items for processes and threads SeNTry classes are reported now as integers, instead of doubles.

Resolved Issues

SR#	Service Request Description
1163	Requests in the form *.item_name have problems for seNTry files.
1174	The data service crashed sometimes when reading Sentry files. This was due a problem in completion io used for file reading. The service reads the file synchronously now.

Version B.01z – Released Sep 13, 2004

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
1103	The data service is able to read the Sentry files location from Sentry registry setting. If there isn't such setting, or the user overrides the location from control panel applet, the path set on the control panel applet is used instead.

Resolved Issues

SR#	Service Request Description
1101	Sentry classes that had numbers at the end of the names had their names truncated, with the numbers removed, in consequence they were not returned in the response, some errors indicating those truncated class names were returned instead. Now the removal of those numbers is avoided for Sentry classes.

Version B.01x – Released August 23, 2004

This release is based on version B.01t.

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
842	Create process metric showing user. A new process class was added, allowing collecting the user for each process.
1017	The data service speed is improved.
1056	Added filters to classes at logging.
1057	Data can be collected now through WMI method calls.
1058	The snmp collection configuration was complicated. Now it's easier to configure it.

Resolved Issues

SR#	Service Request Description
909	Missing tips file for net provider configuration program was added
911	CollectConfig was not able to import mof files containing WMI classes with WMI methods.
912	CollectConfig imported abstract WMI classes as separate classes.
913	CollectConfig did not add the items from parent classes into derived classes, when importing from a mof file.
919	CollectConfig crashed in several circumstances, after importing a mof file.
1053	Process and thread ID had two trailing zero's in Sentry classes.

SR#	Service Request Description
1054	CollectConfig did not import well a mof file containing WMI instances.
1055	Big classes could become impossible to log due of a limit in record size for Jet databases. Even after changing the class, the class remained impossible to be logged. Now the log service deletes the metadata for such a class, recreating it each time, so when the class becomes small enough, it will be logged.
1080, 1092	The log service locked at startup in some circumstances.
1086	The mvlogsvc.log error log was created in system directory if an error appears early in the initialization phase.
1095	A warning message in the error log related with filters was incorrect.

Version B.01t – Released April 14, 2004

This release is based on version 2.4.0.1.

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
375	When a previous version of Meta-View Agent for Windows was found on the target system, the Setup program will uninstall that older version before installing the newer version. Now the Setup will ask the user to uninstall any previous versions of Meta-View Agent for Windows before continuing the installation process.
390	There are now descriptions of the mvlogsvc and the mvdatasvc services when viewing the properties of the services in the Services Window.
396	The installer now installs Microsoft XML SP2 rather than SP1.
428	There is now a new provider for network statistics, which allows mvlogsvc to log them.
432	There is now a new provider for SNMP traps, which allows mvlogsvc to log them.
435	There is now a new provider for Windows events, which allows mvlogsvc to log them.
663	The log database size limit was too low. The problem was solved by removing the threads class from logging, thus logging much less data than before. Also the database can now be split into one database file for each class.
664	The log service will now log an error message in the error log if it cannot read its parameters from registry, and the cause is other than that the key is missing (for example insufficient rights).
665	The data service returns host type as "sentry" instead of "windows" if it's configured to read only sentry data.
687	"Delete Records" on the Control Panel Applet now signals success or failure.
689	"Enable Logging" defaults to true.
690	"Delete old data" defaults to true.
691	The log service sets the log path into the registry at service registration, if it's not already set.
718	Data service now looks into subdirectories (one level deep) for smf files.
766	There is now a combo-box for selecting a protocol in the network provider configuration application. Now a name or a number can specify a protocol. The protocols are in an xml configuration file.
767	AHD code returns the IP address of the net card from where the request came.
780	Revised the alert config file.
814	The data service does not change the sentry item and class names anymore.
815	The data service supports a new version of the request protocol.
816	The "Invalid nameset" error message in the response now contains the nameset name.
817	Integrated the new alerting module code.
818	Data service now attempts several times to open a smf file, if it's opened exclusively by another application, before giving up.
822	MVNetConfigurator now selects the new added item after it's added.
833	Increased the license version number to 4, invalidating old licenses.
843	The control panel applet now removes the spaces in front and at the end of company name and license string.
847	Now the CollectConfig application and the log service are able to recognize the WMI boolean type.
849	The log and data services now have a boolean type.
850	There is a new logged class that contains disk space metrics.

SR#	Service Request Description
856	The alert data module now allows separate configuration files for regular and sentry data.

Resolved Issues

SR#	Service Request Description
369	In the Meta-View page of the Meta-View control panel, the computer name was referred to as Hostname rather than "Computer Name".
372	A request for a single item when the item is not the key one and rollup is enabled was ignored and shouldn't have been. The problem didn't affect existing clients.
373	For multi-instance classes, where instances change from sample to sample (processes and threads for example), instances from the same sample could have been given different timestamps making it appear as though they came from different samples. The attempt to fix this SR in this release was not completely successful. See SR 386.
374	The data service would abort when clients requested a single SeNTry item.
376	Scrolling in Meta-view Web to the beginning of an interval sometimes would sometimes make an item named "_Total" appear in the chart.
386	The attempt fix to bug 373 in release B.01b was not done properly. In some circumstances, the sample time wasn't set to the last timestamp in the rollup interval. Instead it was set to the rollup timestamp for the last added instance, which is not necessarily the same as the last timestamp.
395	When running the Setup, some of the dialogs were displayed behind other open windows.
469	mvlogsvc didn't recognize the "datetime" type. Now it knows that type, too.
471	There was a problem with namesets, which made in some circumstances (that do not occur with our current namesets) the item names being incorrectly translated.
543	mvlogsvc didn't always log datetime items. There was a problem with some uninitialized variables, which made the code log them randomly.
603	Setup wasn't compiling the MVEvents.mof file, which made the MVEvents class not being logged.
618	For NULL values (values not logged), the response contained invalid values. Now the response contains an error for such fields.
621	If data service received a request for several items from the same class, only the first was considered, for the others the data agent returning errors, as the items were not available.
624	Data culling did not work, at least with some versions of the Jet Engine.
637	In some particular circumstances, some "elapsed time" type items could have some very small negative values. If such circumstance occurs now, the value is set to 0.
641	Mvdatasvc used the old timezone if the time zone was changed when mvdatasvc was running. Now it reads the time zone each time a request is received, to use the correct time zone for time calculations.
648	The first logged sample contained several wrong values. Now the first sample won't be logged.
653	The deletion time on the Control Panel Applet showed the current time, if it wasn't set in the registry. Now it defaults to 12:00:00.
654	The deletion time would change when Apply or Ok was pressed. Something had to be changed on that property page, in order for Control Panel Applet to save the settings. Now that value defaults to 12:00:00 and it is saved into the registry if it's changed to something different.
666	A class named "Log" could generate problems at database splitting. Now such a class will remain in log.mdb.
667	An already existing child database could be deleted when splitting the database. Now if such database exists, it is left untouched.
668	Some database paths containing ' chars in them could generate problems during database splitting.
672	The SNMP traps provider leaked handles in some circumstances (for example if the SNMP traps service wasn't installed properly).
673	Splitting the database didn't preserve the primary keys, resulting in poor performance of data service queries (and possibly other problems). Now table exporting in split databases preserves the primary keys.
677	In some circumstances, the control panel applet didn't get the service state correctly. When starting or stopping a service, the service appeared to be started when it wasn't. Now if the reported service state is a pending state, reading the state is retried several times.
678	On Windows XP, the SNMP traps provider could cause the log service to abort.
681	The services registration now quotes the paths to images.

SR#	Service Request Description
684	If the control panel was started before the log service, and the user did not choose a path for the log database, an empty value was set in the registry for that path. Now the Control Panel Applet does not save any default values into registry, and saving empty values is avoided.
685	If an empty value was set for the log database path, the data service tried to open the log database in the current directory (which is system32) instead of the installation directory. Now there is a less chance for such a value to occur and even if it does, the data service will try the installation path instead.
686	An attempt to split the log database with an empty log database path would result in presentation of the "Select Data Source" dialog box. Now an error message is displayed for an attempt to split, compact or delete records with an empty path.
688	The Control Panel Applet saved some default values in the registry for settings if the values weren't found. Now it doesn't write any. If they aren't found in the registry, they are implied as being the default values.
708	If one of the following subkeys: mvlogsvc, mvdatasvc, AHD, weren't found in registry, the CPL popped up message boxes, warning the user about insufficient rights for reading the registry. Now it those keys aren't found, they are created (if it's possible, if there aren't sufficient rights, message boxes will still pop up), instead of popping out message boxes.
723	mvdatasvc when alert_config.xml was changed to contain a SMF item
760	There was a problem in one function that reads parameters for mvdatad, which made that BusyInterval to stay at 30 seconds no matter which value was really set in the registry from CPL
761	Pragma serverIsBusy occurred too often: If no key for Busy Interval was set into registry, the BusyInterval value defaulted to 0, which made the Pragma: serverIsBusy appear a lot in a response.
773	The data service replaces spaces in class and item names with '-'. The alerting module was modified to allow '/' in item names.
774	Both data and log service could lock at startup, in very unlikely circumstances. Now there is code that prevents it.
823	MVNetConfigurator now updates the control-enabled status after selecting a protocol in the combo box.
848	The collector did not recognize empty WMI properties, in some cases wrong values were retrieved instead of setting them to null. Now the collector checks for a property to see if it's empty, before using the retrieved value.
855	The alerting module had a problem when receiving a protocol version 1.1 request. It unescaped the formulas in place, so for the following requests the formulas were unescaped, being impossible to be parsed by alerting module itself, and also if the request was ver 1.2, the formulas being in the incorrect format. Now there are unescaped copies of formulas.
858	Mvdatasvc aborted due of some functions in the new ADM that were not thread safe.

Version 2.4.0.1 – Released July 28, 2003

This release is based on version 1.2.3.1.

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
182	Added IIS and MS SQL Server classes to clsdef.xml. If one wants to collect them, they should be added into collector.xml as the other classes are.
314	The log service now uses MS XML Parser version 4 instead of MS XML Parser version 3.
315	The agent now supports the new authentication protocol that allows clients to authenticate agents.
316	The Agent now uses interlocked variables instead of slower means of synchronization to improve performance.
317	The data service will now reuse threads, avoiding the overhead of starting a thread for each request and improving performance.
318	There is now a way to cancel a worker thread when a client disconnects. This improves data service performance and responsiveness.
319	The data service now prevents a worker thread from locking out the main thread and other worker threads for a long period of time. A newly created "spin count" is used to limit the number of reads from a worker thread before the main thread will switch to the next one.
320	Data accuracy is improved by moving the calculations outside the priority boost, and doing only data gathering inside.
322	The two XML configuration files are now closed after reading to free some memory.
323	ELAPSED_TIME is a new data item.

SR#	Service Request Description
324	Changed the formatting of datatime strings from yyyy-mm-dd#hh:mm:ss to yyyy/mm/dd hh:mm:ss.
325	There are new data types provided by the data service.
326	There is a new ms (millisecond) unit.
327	The data service can now respond to a short tags request.
328	The beta nameset is now called prod1.
330	In order to make responses smaller, scientific format is now used for very big and very small values.
332	The data service can now read and serve Performance SeNTry data, though this capability is not yet supported.
333	The code used to get the service state in both the control panel applet and the log service has changed to return "service stopped" if the service isn't registered.
334	More detail is provided in mvlogsvc.log for service registration failures.
335	The control panel applet now handles Performance SeNTry access.
337	The control panel applet was enhanced to not present log service pages/controls if the service is not installed.
378	The installer will install over an older version rather than requiring it be uninstalled first.
380	The Company Name and License Code fields in the Customer Information dialog box are now automatically filled with the information from the Registry if it exists from previous installations.
381	The Setup error handling code is improved.
383	Setup will now run on Windows Server 2003.
384	Setup now displays the version number of the Meta-View Agent that it installs.

Resolved Issues

SR#	Service Request Description
68	The CPU-BUSY% value could be negative because it is based on several values collected separately. The problem was fixed by collecting the values in as short a time as possible, and by setting a floor of 0 for the calculated value.
151	The control panel applet was unresponsive during old-data deletions or database compaction. This was because the operations were done in the main thread, which handles user interaction also. Now separate threads are used for long operations.
169	The control panel applet didn't inform the user if he had insufficient rights to change service settings. Now it will present a dialog box with details about the problem.
182	Invalid thread handles were sometimes used to check for threads termination. The problem was fixed by using another handle to start the worker threads, which leaves the handle valid after thread termination.
329	The return type of dates and times was "datetime" instead of "string" as required by Meta-View Web.
331	The Agent was wrongly sending error messages if some requested items did not exist in older versions of a class but did exist in the last version.
336	In some cases the perfcsvc.log file was used instead of mvlogsvc.log to log errors/warnings/information.
382	Setup would register msxml4.dll, even if it were already installed.

Version 1.2.3.1 – Released April 28, 2003

Enhancements

SR#	Service Request Description
156	The log database file, log.mdb, grew unnecessarily, because space was not reused.
175	There is now a way to compact a log database. There is a button on the Log Database Configuration page that allows compressing and repairing of a log database. The services must be stopped and the log database closed before compacting.