



Monitoring F5 BIG-IP DNS

F5: BIG-IP DNS PowerPack version 101

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Chapter

1

Introduction

Overview

This manual describes how to monitor an F5 BIG-IP DNS system in SL1 using the *F5: BIG-IP DNS PowerPack*.

The following sections provide an overview of BIG-IP DNS systems and the *F5: BIG-IP DNS PowerPack*:

This chapter covers the following topics:

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What is F5 BIG-IP DNS?

F5 Networks' BIG-IP DNS service provides global server load-balancing services for domain name system (DNS) queries. To ensure that the queries are answered quickly and efficiently, BIG-IP DNS routes DNS traffic for global applications to the closest or best-performing pool in a wide IP, and then to the best available virtual server within that pool. BIG-IP DNS also provides distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) protection for DNS infrastructure.

What Does the F5: BIG-IP DNS PowerPack Monitor?

The *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack enables you to monitor configuration and performance metrics for wide IP, pools, data centers, and physical and virtual servers. The PowerPack includes the following features:

- Dynamic Applications that discover and monitor F5 BIG-IP DNS devices
- Device Classes for each of the F5 BIG-IP DNS devices that the *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack can monitor
- Event Policies and corresponding alerts that are triggered when F5 BIG-IP DNS devices meet certain status criteria

Installing the F5: BIG-IP DNS PowerPack

Before completing the steps in this manual, you must import and install the latest version of the *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack.

TIP: By default, installing a new version of a PowerPack overwrites all content from a previous version of that PowerPack that has already been installed on the target system. You can use the **Enable Selective PowerPack Field Protection** setting in the **Behavior Settings** page (System > Settings > Behavior) to prevent new PowerPacks from overwriting local changes for some commonly customized fields. For more information, see the section on [Global Settings](#).

To download and install the PowerPack:

1. Search for and download the PowerPack from the **PowerPacks** page (Product Downloads > PowerPacks & SyncPacks) at the [ScienceLogic Support Site](#).
2. In SL1, go to the **PowerPacks** page (System > Manage > PowerPacks).
3. Click the **[Actions]** button and choose *Import PowerPack*. The **Import PowerPack** dialog box appears.
4. Click **[Browse]** and navigate to the PowerPack file from step 1.
5. Select the PowerPack file and click **[Import]**. The **PowerPack Installer** modal displays a list of the PowerPack contents.
6. Click **[Install]**. The PowerPack is added to the **PowerPacks** page.

NOTE: If you exit the **PowerPack Installer** modal without installing the imported PowerPack, the imported PowerPack will not appear in the **PowerPacks** page. However, the imported PowerPack will appear in the **Imported PowerPacks** modal. This page appears when you click the **[Actions]** menu and select *Install PowerPack*.

Chapter

2

Configuration and Discovery

Overview

The following sections describe how to configure and discover F5 BIG-IP DNS services for monitoring by SL1 using the *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack:

This chapter covers the following topics:

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Prerequisites for Monitoring F5 BIG-IP DNS

Before you can monitor F5 BIG-IP DNS services using the *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack, you must ensure that SL1 can communicate with BIG-IP DNS using SNMP and you must know the SNMP community string for the BIG-IP DNS system. SL1 can then use the data collected from BIG-IP DNS to create device records for all DNS components.

Creating an SNMP Credential for F5 BIG-IP DNS

To use the Dynamic Applications in the *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack, you must first define an SNMP credential in SL1. This credential allows SL1 to communicate with the BIG-IP DNS system.

To configure an SNMP credential for F5 BIG-IP DNS:

1. Go to the **Credential Management** page (System > Manage > Credentials).
2. Click the **[Actions]** button.

3. In the drop-down list that appears, select *Create SNMP Credential*. The **Credential Editor** page appears.
4. In the **Profile Name** field, type a name for the credential.
5. In the **SNMP Version** field, select *SNMP V2*.
6. In the **SNMP Community (Read Only)** field, type the community string for the BIG-IP DNS system.
7. Optionally, supply values in the other fields in this page. In most cases, you can use the default values for the other fields.
8. Click the **[Save]** button.

Discovering an F5 BIG-IP System

After you have created an SNMP credential for the F5 BIG-IP DNS system that you want to monitor, you can create and run a discovery session that will discover your BIG-IP DNS system.

CAUTION: The *F5: BIG-IP DNS* PowerPack enables you to discover and monitor a maximum of 1,500 component devices.

To discover your BIG-IP DNS system:


1. Go to the **Discovery Control Panel** page (System > Manage > Classic Discovery).
2. Click the **[Create]** button to create a new discovery session. The **Discovery Session Editor** window appears:
3. Complete the following fields:
 - **Name.** Type a name for the discovery session.
 - **IP Address/Hostname Discovery List.** Type the IP address for the BIG-IP DNS system.
 - **SNMP Credentials.** Select the SNMP Credential for the BIG-IP DNS system.
4. Optionally, you can enter values in the other fields on this page. For more information about the other fields on this page, see the **Discovery & Credentials** manual.
5. Click the **[Save]** button and then close the **Discovery Session Editor** window.
6. The discovery session you created will appear at the top of the **Discovery Control Panel** page. Click its lightning-bolt icon (⚡) to run the discovery session.
7. The **Discovery Session** window appears. When the BIG-IP DNS root device is discovered, you can click its device icon (🖨️) to view the system device's properties.

NOTE: SL1 might take several minutes to discover the component devices for your BIG-IP DNS service.

Viewing Component Devices

When SL1 performs collection for the F5 BIG-IP DNS system, SL1 will create component devices that represent each device and align other Dynamic Applications to those component devices. Some of the Dynamic Applications aligned to the component devices will also be used to create additional component devices. All component devices appear in the **Device Manager** page just like devices discovered using the ScienceLogic discovery process.

In addition to the **Device Manager** page, you can view the F5 BIG-IP DNS system and all associated component devices in the following places in the user interface:

- The **Device View** modal page (click the bar-graph icon  for a device, then click the **Topology** tab) displays a map of a particular device and all of the devices with which it has parent-child relationships. Double-clicking any of the devices listed reloads the page to make the selected device the primary device:
- The **Device Components** page (Registry > Devices > Device Components) displays a list of all root devices and component devices discovered by SL1 in an indented view, so you can easily view the hierarchy and relationships between child devices, parent devices, and root devices. To view the component devices associated with an F5 BIG-IP DNS system, find the BIG-IP device and click its plus icon (+):
- The **Device Component Map** page (Classic Maps > Device Maps > Components) allows you to view devices by root node and view the relationships between root nodes, parent components, and child components in a map. This makes it easy to visualize and manage root nodes and their components. SL1 automatically updates the **Device Component Map** as new component devices are discovered. SL1 also updates each map with the latest status and event information. To view the map for an F5 BIG-IP DNS system, go to the **Device Component Map** page and select the map from the list in the left NavBar. To learn more about the **Device Component Map** page, see the **Views** manual.

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