



The Problem

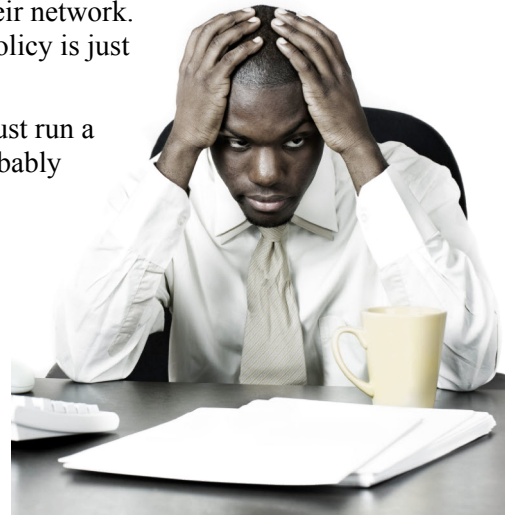
Thousands and thousands of OM messages every day. And every message costs money to process. Wouldn't you like to have the money that would be saved by reducing those messages by 5% or even 10%? But how? A typical OM installation will have from 800 to 3,000 unique policies spread around their network. Some of these policies are deployed to every server. And every policy is just waiting for an opportunity to generate a message.

It should be easy to reduce the number of messages you receive: just run a report and see which are the most frequent. But you have probably already tried that and it does not solve the problem.

There are many aspects to consider when analyzing messages.

- The policy and condition
- The node and node group
- The time
- The severity
- And more

Classical reporting just cannot do the job. That is why there are special tools specifically made to analyze large amounts of data.



On-Line Analytical Processing (OLAP)

OLAP tools have been the secret weapon of financial analysts for a long time. Their chief advantages are:

- OLAP does not report on the original data. Complex queries on operational data can severely impact the performance of the operational system.
- No cryptic codes: The data is enriched to make it more understandable, for example a policy name and condition number is substituted for a condition ID.
- No SQL skills are required. Behind the GUI is a query language but that is not your problem. You select dimensions such as policy, node and time and the OLAP system will get you your data.
- Multi-dimensional: OLAP tools don't work with attributes such as time stamp. They work with a whole hierarchy of dimensions such as TIME. TIME can include: Year, Quarter, Month, Week, Day, Shift and even Hour.
- Drill down and Drill up: These are standard procedures in the OLAP tool box. You can start at year and drill down to quarters, months, week, day or even hour to find the cause of the problem.
- OLAP is fast. The secret behind OLAP is the aggregation engine which pre-calculates aggregates for all of the dimensions. This means that you don't have to wait for the computer to find, aggregate and sort data for every report. It is there just waiting for you to ask a question.



By now you have probably guessed that MIDAS Analyzer uses OLAP technology.

MIDAS Analyzer

MIDAS Analyzer is an out of the box solution to analyze Operations Manager messages, configuration and audit logs.

MIDAS Analyzer uses modern ETL (Extract, Transform and Load) technology to *extract* data from the various sources, *transform* data so it is suitable for analysis and *load* the transformed data into the analysis database.

MIDAS Analyzer also uses OLAP technology to make it easy for you to answer the difficult questions.

- Which policies / conditions are generating the most messages?
- Which nodes / node groups generate the most messages?
- If a policy is deployed to many nodes, do some nodes produce an excessive number of messages?
- Are there certain time periods where the number of messages is above average?
- Are these messages coming from all nodes or just a small group of nodes?
- What percentage of messages have a routine severity?
- Are there policies which never generate messages?
- Are there conditions which never generate messages?
- Which policies are changed most often? How often? By whom?



These are just a few examples of the questions you can answer using MIDAS Analyzer.

The MIDAS Analyzer user interface provides you with a wide range of standard reports and charts which can be filtered in multiple dimensions directly from the GUI. All of these reports and charts are also printable.

Additionally MIDAS Analyzer provides an *ad hoc* reporting capability using a pivot table. This allows you to freely select dimensions for both rows and columns. Drill down and filtering is also possible. The pivot table results can also be exported to MS Excel in the event you want to do special formatting for printing purposes.

MIDAS Analyzer Road Map

The first release of MIDAS Analyzer will support HP Operations Manager for Unix. A release for Operations Manager for Windows is also planned for 2009.

Future plans for MIDAS Analyzer include statistical analysis such as trend and correlation.

Future data sources will include: help desk, trouble ticket and notification systems and performance data.

So don't despair, with MIDAS Analyzer you will find your way through the maze of data.



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