

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: Hi everyone this is Kaj Wierda from Release Automation product management team!

from yosef to Everyone: Hi, I have seen references to 'Star Topology' for execution server communication. Can someone please clarify what that means and what is the right method of configuring this communication? If there are options, what are they and what are the advantages/disadvantages.. Thanks!

from Julia Reingold - CA to Everyone: @Yosef, let me find the link to the doc and share the link with you

from Julia Reingold - CA to Everyone: @Yosef, please use this link for a start:
<https://communities.ca.com/docs/DOC-231149251>

from yosef to Everyone: @Julia, thanks, I think i have seen this. I will give this another look though. The doc talks about modifying the nimi_config. This makes sense. How does this relate to the 'Connected Execution Servers' checkboxes in ASAP?

from Julia Reingold - CA to Everyone: @Yosef - the 'Connected Execution Servers' checkboxes in ASAP is instead of manually updating nimi_config. The idea is to have 1 centralized NES that will serve as supernode, this is what we call star topology

from Mary Greening - CA to Everyone: @Yosef we will have an updated architecture guide in the next couple of weeks. It will be posted to the community and will explain the different architectures.

from Tom Kouhsari to Everyone: Creating a REST action using the SDK can a good bit of effort as you need to find some appropriate REST libraries and figure out how to use them....is there an easier way of doing this?

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Tom, we recently released the CA Release Automation Rapid Development Kit or RDK for this purpose. It enables a non-Java programmer to quickly wrap common API calls including REST as native actions for RA.

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Tom: RDK 1.0 can be downloaded from support.ca.com and is listed under RA 5.0 SP01

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: Are we considering a feature by which I can apply all possible certificates to various components of product in a centralized manner via DMS

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: I found NolioUpdate service with new install of product what is it used for?

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Saurabh: the Nolio Update Service is a broker that enables deploying new and updated action packs into RA. The action management part under Administration in ROC depends on this.

from yosef to Everyone: Q: What kind of recovery mechanisms are in place for agent communication? Specifically, if for some reason (e.g. network) communication is lost temporarily, how does the deployment recover? We see many instances of 'Failed-paused' due to agent connectivity issues with execution server and a resume resolves the failure.

from Julia Reingold - CA to Everyone: @Yosef, this is actually a nimi question :) several nimi issues were discovered in the past months, they should be included in 5.0.2, or cumulative fix for 4.7.1

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: As I know artifact distribution that files can be cached prior to execution? I want to know how do we cache and how we determine available size of cache? How application behave when cache size is not enough to hold new request do system raise alert/fails or swap out unused?

from Julia Reingold to Everyone: The cache size is configured in the nimi_config.xml, FIFO, however if required for single file is higher than configured, it will be extended (based on free disk space).

from Sanjeev to Everyone: Hi - Is there a way to clear out the stored artifact in nexus (thro nolio). Our nexus storage grows in a rapid rate and for a fact we know that we won't use any artifact older than 30 days.

from Billy Foss to Everyone: @Sanjeev - Are you generating snapshots or releases in Nexus?

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Sanjeev: yes there is an option to clear an artifact from the RA repository (Nexus). However, this is on a one by one basis and there's currently no built-in feature to perform this in bulk or using a "older than" rule. I suggest you submit an enhancement request to CA Communities Ideas section.

from Sanjeev to Everyone: @Billy - Not sure if I understand correctly. We are storing the artifacts in nexus using ROC action and pulling them back to promote when we have to.

from Billy Foss to Everyone: I thought Nexus had a feature that would automatically expire old artifacts. I agree, you would be better with the RA path.

from Sanjeev to Everyone: @Billy - Exactly. Though there are several instances the disk got full and we manually deleted some artifacts from nexus thus breaking the link between nexus artifacts and RA

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: What is the broken port 61616? For what we used it? in 5.0 onwards

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Saurabh: RA 5.0 introduced a new communication mechanism between management server and execution server using ActiveMQ which uses port 61616.

from Sanjeev to Everyone: @Julia - Is there an expected release date set for 5.0.2?

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: How many manifest can we store? How can we remove manifest from the list where we stored it or from the list of previously loaded manifest?

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Saurabh: the manifest files are all kept in the repository configured for RA. There's no direct way to remove previously loaded manifests from the list in the UI.

from Sanjeev to Everyone: @Kai - Thanks, sure. I will submit an enhancement request. It's a huge pain point for us

from yosef to Everyone: Q: Log parsing and management is a problem for us. If troubleshooting needs to happen, gathering and correlating the logs is challenging. Do you have any tools that you use (Support team) that you can share to ease this process? We are looking into Logstash/ElasticSearch to possibly help with this, but nay direction would be appreciated.

from Julia Reingold CA Support Delivery Manager to Everyone: @Yosef - we are mostly using notepad++ and a self-developed tool

from yosef to Everyone: @Julia, ouch. Sorry. :)

from Julia Reingold CA Support Delivery Manager to Everyone: @Yosef LOL, we just know all the errors by heart :P

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: @Yosef: I know of other customers that are looking into the ELK stack for similar purposes. I'd like to follow up with you 1:1 to discuss this some more.

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: With utility server we can run parallel process, my question is how many process can I run on utility server type? What is the impact if that limit is crossed?

from Keith Puzey to Everyone: @Saurabh the question is really concurrent processes, I know one customers that runs about 10 but if you are moving artifacts this can slow down throughput

from Julia Reingold CA Support Delivery Manager to Everyone: @Saurabh - our SWAT team is currently testing various scenarios, I will be happy to share the final result with you once we get it.

from Mary Greening - CA to Everyone: Hello Everyone, we will be closing out in about 4 minutes in case you have any last minute questions.

from yosef to Everyone: Q: In system settings, what is the parameter 'DYNAMIC_AGENT_MAPPING_ENABLED'?

from Uri Scheiner to Everyone: @yosef We have the ability to install and agent and, during installation, to associate the agent to a given environment and server type. When doing so, the agent is being mapped automatically after being connected to the system. This flag turns this feature on/off.

from Saurabh Jain to Everyone: What is the value an action wait for user to input? What is the default value that an action waits before it timeout? Is this value configurable?

from Uri Scheiner to Everyone: @Saurabh It's good for manual operation that user does during deployment ('Check that the db script finished successfully before proceeding'). There is no timeout.

from yosef to Everyone: @Kaj, thanks.

from Sanjeev to Everyone: Is there a way to roll logs for let's say a period of time (About 10 hours). We constantly see communication issues randomly between the execution servers and agents. Turning on the hibernate logs will lead to gigs of data and consuming all available disk space. There were several closed tickets because we weren't able to reproduce the problem and provide the logs :)

from Julia Reingold CA Support Delivery Manager to Everyone: @Sanjeev - yes, most of the logs are rotatable and can be configured at log4j.properties

from yosef to Everyone: Q: When a release sits in 'Failed-Paused' or 'Blocked' state in one of the steps, what is the system utilization for that process? Is there polling? We notice a significant slowdown when ~10 releases are in queue/blocked. Is this expected?

from Julia Reingold CA Support Delivery Manager to Everyone: @Yosef, yes it is expected, however I would like you to open a case with support, we would like to have the relevant logs and thread dumps. (we can discuss 1:1 exact need)

from Sanjeev to Everyone: @Julia - thanks. was going to ask if there is a global property. that will work as well

from Julia Reingold CA Support Delivery Manager to Everyone: @Sanjeev No. For changes in logging properties, I suggest to refer to these KBs: <https://communities.ca.com/docs/DOC-231149250> & <https://communities.ca.com/docs/DOC-231148892>

from Kaj Wierda - CA Product Management to Everyone: We'll follow up on any open questions now that we have reached the top of the hour...

from Sanjeev to Everyone: Thank you everyone. This was great. How often do we have sessions like this one?

from yosef to Everyone: Thanks, everyone.

from Mary Greening - CA to Everyone: We are going to be doing this once a month. Stay tuned to the communities for more information.

from Mary Greening - CA to Everyone: Thanks for joining!