
Deploying F5 with Cacti Open Source Network Monitoring System

Welcome to the F5 and Cacti deployment guide. This guide provides detailed procedures for configuring F5 devices with the Cacti Open Source Network Monitoring System.

Network Management Systems (NMS) provide insight to device and application performance, system stability, network trouble spots and a host of other items that affect a company's ability to provide computer network services. Recent advances in automated event correlation, data storage and retrieval, as well as open source systems that allow greater integration, have greatly improved today's Network Management Systems.

Cacti is a complete network graphing solution designed to harness the power of RRDTool's data storage and graphing functionality. Cacti provides a fast poller, advanced graph templating, multiple data acquisition methods, and user management features out of the box. All of this is wrapped in an intuitive, easy to use interface that makes sense for LAN-sized installations up to complex networks with hundreds of devices.

For more information on the Cacti project, see <http://www.cacti.net/>.

For further Cacti resources and information, see <http://cactiez.cactiusers.org/>.

For more information on F5 devices described in this guide, see <http://www.f5.com/products/big-ip/>.

To provide feedback on this deployment guide or other F5 solution documents, contact us at solutionsfeedback@f5.com.

Prerequisites and configuration notes

The following are prerequisites and configuration notes about this deployment:

- ◆ The BIG-IP LTM system must be running v9.0 or later. We highly recommend using v9.4 or later. Examples shown in this document are from a v10.0 system.
- ◆ While many versions of Cacti exist, examples shown in this document are from a CactiEZ v0.8.7c deployment. As with many open source projects, development is ongoing and Cacti v0.8.7d was recently released. There have been no changes to the user interface between releases that would affect information contained in this guide.
- ◆ This document is written with the assumption that the reader is familiar with BIG-IP LTM systems, open source tools, Linux server systems administration and the Cacti monitoring platform.
- ◆ Additionally, the system administrator should be familiar with the basic concepts of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP). For more information on configuring these products, consult the appropriate documentation.

