opnSense Cron Jobs

Overview

Basically, it uses configd, so you have to create a service definition for your new script.

```
ls /usr/local/opnsense/service/conf/actions.d
```

Create a file with the name *actions_NAME.conf*, where *NAME* is something meaningful to you. The file should have a basic win ini format, with the action needed, then a bunch of lines describing what to do.

After creating the file, you will need to restart configd, then test your configuration

```
service configd restart
configctl COMMANDNAME start # or reload, or whatever
```

COMMANDNAME is the command you created. The filename, without the preceeding *actions_* or the extension

Once this is done, the string after message (or description, I don't know which) will show up as a possible cron job in the opnSense GUI for cron.

You can create multiple actions (stop,start) in the same file with different scripts and/or parameters.

The log files are stored in /var/log/configd.log

Examples

updatedns

This will execute the script /root/updateDNS. The file /usr/local/opnsense/service/conf/actions.d/actions_updatedns.conf is created with the following contents

```
[reload]
command:/root/updateDNS
parameter:
type:script
message:update Daily Data DNS
description:Update Daily Data DNS
```

Note that this uses the **reload** parameter.

Now that you have added a new config, you need to reload configd so it will read it, then test it (we

are passing **reload** to it since that is the action we are using)

```
service configd restart
configctl updatedns reload
```

Starting suricata if it dies

I ran into a problem where suricata would randomly die on rule rule reload, so I set up a cron job to see if it was running and, if not, start it up

First, I created the file /usr/local/opnsense/service/conf/actions.d/actions_suricata_watchdog.conf

```
[start]
command:/usr/sbin/service suricata status >/dev/null 2>&1 ||
/usr/sbin/service suricata start
type:script
message:Suricata watchdog: start Suricata if not running
description:Suricata watchdog: start Suricata if not running
```

Reloaded configd and tested my config file

```
service configd restart
configctl suricata_watchdog start
```

Then, I went to the opnSense GUI and made a new entry in System | Settings | Cron to run at 14 minutes after the hour, every hour (I can lose a little bit of monitoring, and did not want it running every minute).

Note that I built this totally inside of the config file; no external files to access and run. I just told it to use the command:

```
/usr/sbin/service suricata status >/dev/null 2>&1 || /usr/sbin/service
suricata start
```

This is basic shell magic. By calling service suricata status, I'll check the status of suricata. I don't care about the output, so I send STDOUT and STDERR to /dev/null. What I want is the return status, which is false if the service is not running. In that case, the || (OR) will execute the other command, which will start suricata back up.

Bibliography

- https://docs.opnsense.org/development/backend/configd.html
- https://docs.opnsense.org/development/backend.html
- https://forum.opnsense.org/index.php?topic=2263.0
- http://www.manpagez.com/man/8/configd/

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