

Release Notes

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Paragon Active Assurance Control Center Release 3.2.0

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Introduction

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Paragon Active Assurance is a programmable test and service assurance solution using software-based and traffic-generating Test Agents, easily used and delivered from the cloud as a SaaS solution or deployed on-premise in NFV environments.

These release notes accompany Release 3.2.0 of Paragon Active Assurance Control Center and detail its new features.

Build numbers:

- Test Agent Appliance: 3.2.0.7
- Test Agent Application: 3.2.0.1
- Plugins: 3.2.0.21

A list of bug fixes is also provided as well as descriptions of limitations and known problems.

These release notes are available on the Paragon Active Assurance Documentation Web page at https://www.juniper.net/documentation/product/en_US/paragon-active-assurance.

General Notes

Please note that not all features of Paragon Active Assurance are available to every customer; rather, availability is dependent on what product or service has been purchased.

New and Changed Features

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Collection of Junos TWAMP Measurements

Paragon Active Assurance now has the ability to collect TWAMP measurement results from Juniper routers and switches running Junos. The Test Agent connects to the Juniper device via NETCONF, evaluates errored second criteria, and reports all data back to Control Center.

Fully Scalable Streaming API

The Streaming API now supports up to 100,000 concurrent streams.

Path Trace BGP AS Reporting

A path taken by a packet through a network to a specified destination can be defined in terms of a BGP AS path, which indicates the autonomous systems (ASes) that routing information passed through to get to the destination.

The Path trace tool has been augmented with a feature that has the Test Agent report autonomous systems (BGP AS numbers) discovered along the path. This allows you to determine, for example, whether the path is the intended standard one or deviates from the standard.

Lower Packet Rates Configurable in Path Trace Tool

The minimum traceroute packet rate in the Path trace tool has been lowered to 0.1 pps. This lets you prevent artificial packet loss from being reported when traceroute packets encounter a router which limits its ICMP TTL exceeded response rates.

Path Trace in Test Agent Application

The Path trace feature, previously available in the Test Agent Appliance, is now also supported in the Test Agent Application.

Periodically Active TWAMP Streams

Test Agents can now run TWAMP traffic towards reflectors in periodic bursts instead of a continuous stream. The Test Agents then repeats a cycle where it sends TWAMP packets for a given period, then stays silent for the rest of the cycle. The periodicity option allows you to test against a large number of reflectors in round-robin fashion.

Full TWAMP for IPv6

Full TWAMP (which uses the TWAMP control protocol) can now be run towards IPv6 reflectors. Previously only TWAMP Light was compatible with IPv6.

TWAMP Hardware Timestamping in Test Agent Application

Test Agent Application now supports the use of hardware timestamps in TWAMP measurements.

Enhanced Control Center Web Security Compliance

The default TLS configuration for Control Center now requires clients to support TLS 1.2 or higher and enables HSTS.

Deprecated Features

None

Known Issues

- NF-7569 Metrics data from SIP tests and monitors will neither be sent out via the Streaming API nor be stored in TimescaleDB.
- NF-7774 After you create a new account, it may happen that some Test Agent Application plugins are not detected as enabled when you try to use them, although they are shown as enabled when you run `ncc plugins list`. The corresponding measurement tasks will then fail on the Test Agent Application. (The Test Agent Appliance is not affected by this issue.)

The workaround to get the plugins working again is to run:

```
systemctl restart netrounds-plugin.service
```

- NF-7775 In TimescaleDB and in the Streaming API, `stream_name` for the Path trace task type does not contain the hop IP address as it should but takes the value `None` instead.
- NF-7789 Tests and monitors using the UDP tool require more processing in the Control Center than in previous releases. This means that a Control Center running several thousand streams using this tool may experience a performance degradation.

Note that this only applies to the specific tool named UDP; other UDP-based protocols, such as TWAMP, are unaffected.

Resolved Issues

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This section lists limitations that are resolved with this release. The priority of each issue is also indicated.

Control Center

- NF-7501, NF-7525 TWAMP plugin failed to enable or run in a system with many accounts. (Both P1 - Critical)
- NF-7622 Generation of PDF report from test failed. (P1 - Critical)
- NF-7649 No alarm was generated when a Test Agent running a monitor task went down. (P1 - Critical)

- NF-7328 Edits made to an email list in an alarm template did not propagate to alarms based on that template. (P2 - High)
- NF-7425 TWAMP performance impaired by avoidable database queries. (P2 - High)
- NF-7545 `netrounds.rest.plugins` topic created with incorrect settings. (P2 - High)
- NF-7602 Force delete of plugin silently failed with the plugin persisting after the delete operation. (P2 - High)
- NF-7603 Error displayed in Control Center GUI when sharing a test or monitor including Path trace. (P2 - High)
- ND-5653 Pathtrace route not reported correctly after unresponsive destination hop came back. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-6582 ES loss metric missing for Ping in Control Center. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7105 Not possible to set TWAMP percentile values without also setting delay threshold. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7291 REST output for `MonitorCreatedSchema` failed to validate. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7354 Too short delays before restarting crashed services. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7384 Invalid `netrounds_2.35_validate_db` tools included in 3.1 release packages. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7423 "Unknown error" displayed when trying to remove TWAMP reflectors from an account in the Control Center GUI. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7608 Search box in Test Agents view treated as user input field by LastPass and autofilled. (P3 - Medium)
- NF-7191 Not possible to tab for next input in TWAMP reflector creation dialog. (P4 - Low)

Metrics-related

These affected only Control Center installs with the Streaming API and/or TimescaleDB enabled.

- NF-7704 Broken legacy plugins prevented using Test Agent Appliance together with TimescaleDB and Streaming API. – These plugins have been removed. (P1 - Critical)
- NF-7752 Metrics service did not always start after upgrade. – Documentation corrected. (P1 - Critical)

- NF-7566 VoIP metrics dropped by metrics service. (P2 - High)
- NF-7573 Y.1731 tools were not recognized as plugins by metrics service. (P2 - High)
- NF-7617 TCP and UDP tool metrics not updated over Streaming API. (P2 - High)
- NF-7519 Kafka log warning messages about "Unexpected metric value". (P3 - Medium)

Test Agent

- ND-5764 Test Agent Application output the secret key in clear text when started in register-run mode. (P2 - High)
- ND-5729 Test Agent OVA set to sync time from host, which interfered with NTP time sync. (P2 - High)
- NF-7665 Test Agent failed to download Path trace plugin from Control Center. (P2 - High)
- ND-5671 Ethertypes transparency test sent incorrect MPLS frames. (P3 - Medium)