

HEALTH CHECK AND CAPACITY REPORTING FOR HETEROGENEOUS SAN ENVIRONMENTS

Mumshad Mannambeth
Delivery Specialist
EMC Global Services

Sampath Salem
Advisory Solutions Architect
EMC Global Services

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1. Introduction

Large service delivery accounts often find it difficult to perform health checks and monitor capacity on hundreds of arrays and switches spread across different environments, in various locations, across the globe. These may be Cloud delivery accounts supporting multiple SAN environments, either dedicated to a customer or shared between multiple customers; or multiple SAN environments resulting from a merger or acquisition. To guarantee Service Level Agreement (SLAs), a health check report is prepared several times a day, so that the arrays could be monitored closely and to ensure that all failures are handled appropriately. This is a time-consuming, tedious task that requires the effort of multiple engineers dedicated for this purpose. The complexity increases as the fabrics may be spread across different environments and locations. Moreover, due to the heterogeneity of the arrays and switches, a single tool may not serve the purpose of monitoring the entire environment.

While the EMC-dominated fabrics use EMC ControlCenter[®] (ECC) for monitoring, other fabrics are monitored using other vendor tools such as HP Service Manager (HPSM) or IBM monitoring tools. While the Cisco-dominated fabrics are monitored using Fabric Manager, the Brocade fabrics are monitored using Connectrix Manager or Brocade Web Tools. These varieties of tools pose a challenge for the administrators to prepare a collaborated report of all the assets in their environment. Figure 1 shows an example of one such typical environment.

This article describes the methodologies used in implementing a time-saving, automated, health check and capacity report generation process of large numbers of different types of arrays and switches in a shared cloud environment.

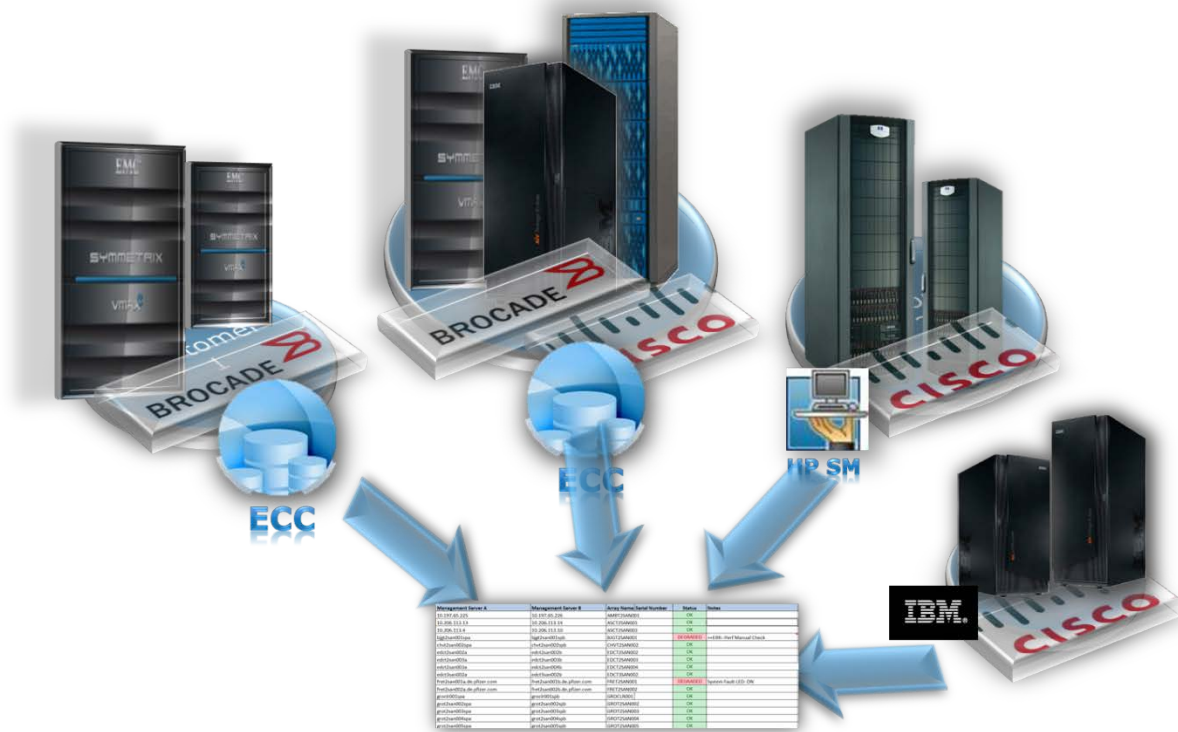


Figure 1: Typical SAN Environment

2. Architecture

The reporting procedure utilizes a number of scripts developed in OS-specific shells and presentation tools, like Excel, to prepare reports in matter of minutes. The process eliminates the need for users to log in to each management workstation to inspect the array. Instead, health check scripts are run on the workstations using scheduled tasks and reports are automatically emailed to the administrators group. Different types of scripts are used for different types of arrays and all required information is collated into a single email. Once all reports from various environments and arrays are received at the administrators email, an Excel VBA solution can be used to read the emails from Outlook and turn it into useful reports. Figure 2 portrays the block diagram of this architecture.

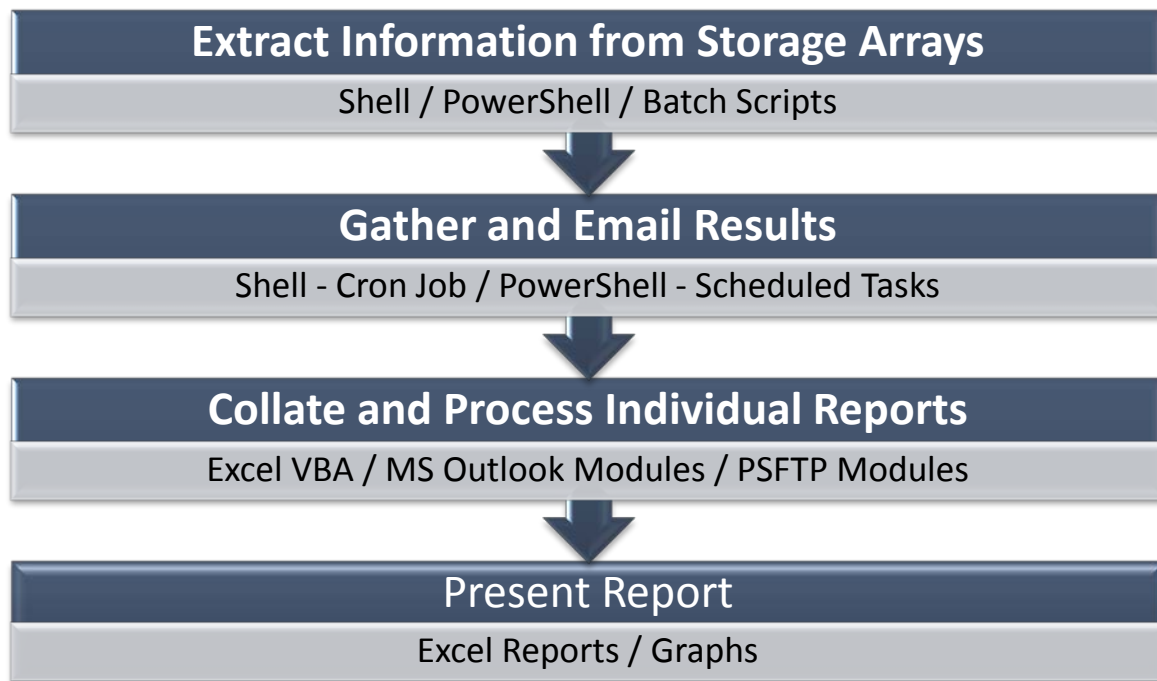


Figure 2: Architecture – Block Diagram

Next, we discuss health check routines for different types of arrays, and how these tasks can be automated using various tools.

3. Health Check Routine for Various Arrays

This section discusses the basic health check routines for various arrays. Once the health check routines are outlined, we discuss scripts to generate data automatically. A brief discussion of health check routines for heterogeneous arrays follows:

3.1 EMC Symmetrix Systems – DMX/VMAX

Health check for EMC Symmetrix[®] systems consists of checking the basic hardware status, environmental details, event logs and capacity consumption. This can be accomplished either through Unisphere[®] or SMC, or EMC Solutions Enabler (EMC SE). This article will discuss the health check routine using EMC SE, so that it can later be used for scripting.

3.1.1 Check Array Environmental Information

The first step is to check the basic environmental details of the array such as the status of the power supplies, enclosures, link control cards, FANs, management modules, and directors.

Command:

```
Symcfg -sid <symid> list -env_data
```



```

C:\Users\Administrator>symcfg -sid [redacted] list -env_data
Symmetrix ID : [redacted]
Timestamp of Status Data : 12/28/2013 03:50:05

System Bay

Bay Name : SB-1
Number of Standby Power Supplies : 8
Number of Drive Enclosures : 0
Number of Enclosure Slots : 4
Number of MIBE Enclosures : 4

Summary Status of Contained Modules
All Standby Power Supplies : Normal
All Enclosures : Normal
All Link Control Cards : Normal
All Power Supplies : Normal
All Enclosure Slots : Normal
All Power Supplies : Normal
All Fans : Normal
All Management Modules : Normal
All IO Module Carriers : Normal
All Directors : Normal
All MIBE Enclosures : Normal
All Power Supplies : Normal

Drive Bays

Bay Name : DB-1A
Number of Standby Power Supplies : 8
Number of Drive Enclosures : 16

Summary Status of Contained Modules
All Enclosures : Normal
All Link Control Cards : Normal
All Power Supplies : Normal
All Standby Power Supplies : Normal

Bay Name : DB-1B
Number of Standby Power Supplies : 8
Number of Drive Enclosures : 16

Summary Status of Contained Modules
All Enclosures : Normal

```

Figure 3: Screenshot – Environmental Information

3.1.2 Check director status

Next, check the status of all front-end, back-end and SRDF directors on the array.

Command:

```
symcfg -sid <symid> list -dir all
```

```

C:\Users\Administrator>symcfg -sid [redacted] list -dir all
Symmetrix ID: [redacted] (Local)
SYMMETRIX DIRECTORS
  Ident  Symbolic  Numeric  Slot  Type      Status
DF-5A   05A       5         5     DISK      Online
DF-6A   06A       6         6     DISK      Online
DF-7A   07A       7         7     DISK      Online
DF-8A   08A       8         8     DISK      Online
DF-9A   09A       9         9     DISK      Online
DF-10A  10A      10        10    DISK      Online
DF-11A  11A      11        11    DISK      Online
DF-12A  12A      12        12    DISK      Online
DF-5B   05B      21         5     DISK      Online
DF-6B   06B      22         6     DISK      Online
DF-7B   07B      23         7     DISK      Online
DF-8B   08B      24         8     DISK      Online
DF-9B   09B      25         9     DISK      Online
DF-10B  10B      26        10    DISK      Online
DF-11B  11B      27        11    DISK      Online
DF-12B  12B      28        12    DISK      Online
DF-5C   05C      37         5     DISK      Online
DF-6C   06C      38         6     DISK      Online
DF-7C   07C      39         7     DISK      Online
DF-8C   08C      40         8     DISK      Online
DF-9C   09C      41         9     DISK      Online
DF-10C  10C      42        10    DISK      Online
DF-11C  11C      43        11    DISK      Online
DF-12C  12C      44        12    DISK      Online
DF-5D   05D      53         5     DISK      Online
DF-6D   06D      54         6     DISK      Online
DF-7D   07D      55         7     DISK      Online
DF-8D   08D      56         8     DISK      Online
DF-9D   09D      57         9     DISK      Online
DF-10D  10D      58        10    DISK      Online
DF-11D  11D      59        11    DISK      Online
DF-12D  12D      60        12    DISK      Online
FA-5E   05E      69         5     FibreChanl Online
FA-6E   06E      70         6     FibreChanl Online
RF-7E   07E      71         7     RDF-BI-DIR Offline
FA-8E   08E      72         8     FibreChanl Online
FA-9E   09E      73         9     FibreChanl Online
RF-10E  10E      74        10     RDF-BI-DIR Online
FA-11E  11E      75        11     FibreChanl Online

```

Figure 4: Screenshot – Director Status

3.1.3 Check Events for Fatal Errors

Now, check the event logs for fatal errors. Examples of errors could be hardware failures, pool full conditions, CACA errors, etc.

Command:

```
symevent -sid <symid> list -error -fatal
```

```

C:\Users\Administrator>symevent -sid [REDACTED] list -error -fatal
Symmetrix ID: [REDACTED]
Time Zone : Eastern Standard Time
-----
Detection time      Dir   Src   Category      Severity      Error Num
-----
Sat Aug 24 20:53:10 2013 DF-11C Symm Director  Fatal         0x0040
A Symmetrix Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 20:53:33 2013 FA-9F  Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 20:53:33 2013 DF-12D Symm Director  Fatal         0x0040
A Symmetrix Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 20:53:33 2013 FA-11F Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:00 2013 FA-9F  Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:00 2013 DF-5D  Symm Director  Fatal         0x0040
A Symmetrix Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:00 2013 FA-11F Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:01 2013 FA-11E Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:01 2013 FA-12F Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:50 2013 FA-11E Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
-----
Detection time      Dir   Src   Category      Severity      Error Num
-----
Sat Aug 24 21:38:50 2013 DF-5C  Symm Director  Fatal         0x0040
A Symmetrix Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:50 2013 FA-9F  Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:50 2013 FA-11F Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009
A Symmetrix Disk Director is not responding
Sat Aug 24 21:38:51 2013 FA-12F Symm Director  Fatal         0x0009

```

Figure 5: Screenshot – Event Logs

3.1.4 Check for Failed Disks

Next, check for failed disks on the array. Although a dial home is automatically raised for the failed drives and an EMC CE is automatically engaged, it is a good practice to keep a check on the errors on the Symmetrix.

Command:

```
symdisk -sid <symevent> list -failed
```

```
Symmetrix ID : ██████████
Disks Selected : 65
```

Ident	Symb	Int	TID	Vendor	Type	Hypr	Total	Capacity(MB)	
								Free	Actual
DF-1A	01A	C	E	SEAGATE	T146155	7	140014	78769	140014
DF-2A	02A	C	7	SEAGATE	C146X15	7	140014	78769	140014
DF-2A	02A	C	1D	SEAGATE	T300155	0	0	0	286102
DF-5A	05A	C	4	SEAGATE	T300155	0	0	0	286102
DF-5A	05A	D	7	SEAGATE	T300155	0	0	0	286102

Figure 6: Screenshot – Failed Disks

3.1.5 Check for Pool Capacity Utilization

Next, we check the capacity utilization of the thin pools. This is very important to prevent a pool full condition which may result in I/O errors on the hosts if sufficient space is not available in the pool.

Command:

```
Symcfg -sid <symid> list -thin -pools
```

```
C:\Users\Administrator>symcfg -sid ██████████ list -thin -pool
```

```
Symmetrix ID: ██████████
```

```
SYMMETRIX POOLS
```

Pool Name	Flags PTECSL	Dev Config	Usable Tracks	Free Tracks	Used Tracks	Full (%)	Comp (%)
TF62_TH3CF	TF9DEI	2-Way Mir	600960	600960	0	0	0
R1_TP1	TF9DEI	2-Way Mir	121176	120300	876	0	0
TF62_TH3CS	TS9DEI	RAID-5(7+1)	450720	449376	1344	0	0
nkdpool	TF9DEI	2-Way Mir	262500	170712	91788	34	0
kmr	T--DD-	Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
R5_TP1	TF9DEI	RAID-5(3+1)	3177000	3027048	149952	4	0
hisham1	TF9DEI	2-Way Mir	12000	12000	0	0	0
varma_thin	TSFDEI	RAID-5(3+1)	163848	163824	24	0	0
newpool_p	TSFDEI	RAID-5(3+1)	163848	163764	84	0	0
vp_snap1	TSFDEI	2-Way Mir	49170	32718	16452	33	0
vp_snap2	TSFDEI	2-Way Mir	49170	4458	44712	90	0
SATA_TP1	TSFDEI	RAID-6(6+2)	213048	181404	31644	14	0
VP_SATA	T--DD-	Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
my_new	TSFDEI	RAID-5(3+1)	2491584	2069916	421668	16	0
testing	TSFDEI	2-Way Mir	1440600	1439424	1176	0	0
CG61_TH3CF	TF9DEI	2-Way Mir	150192	150192	0	0	0
CG61_TH3CS	TS9DEI	RAID-5(7+1)	150192	149664	528	0	0
SN62_TH3CF	TF9DEI	2-Way Mir	450720	450720	0	0	0
SN62_TH3CS	TS9DEI	RAID-5(7+1)	450720	450048	672	0	0
sata_pool_yh	TSFDEI	2-Way Mir	75000	74952	48	0	0
MAHMOUD	TSFDEI	2-Way Mir	24360	24348	12	0	0

Figure 7: Screenshot – Pool Utilization

3.1.6 Check for Storage Group wise Allocated Capacity

Some customers may require the capacity report to reflect a host-based capacity utilization. For this, use the command below.

Command:

```
symaccess -sid <symid> list devinfo
```

3.2 EMC Unified Storage – CLARiiON/VNX Arrays

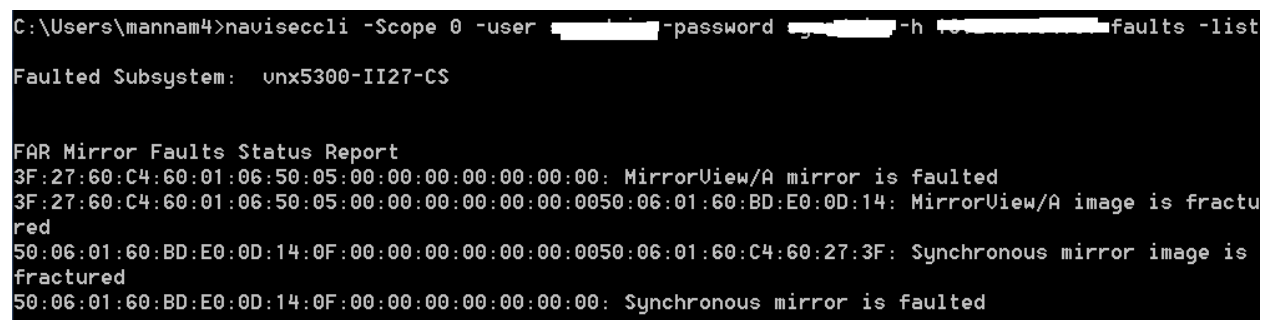
Health check routine for Clariion[®]/VNX[®] arrays is often performed through the Unisphere GUI. In this article, we discuss a CLI-oriented method. Using SecureCLI (naviseccli), we check the status of basic CLARiiON hardware, event logs, and capacity utilization. Secure CLI is a comprehensive Navisphere CLI solution that provides one application and one security model for all CLI commands. Secure CLI provides role-based authentication, audit trails of CLI events, and SSL-based data encryption. You do not need to install a JRE, to run Secure CLI^[1]. Secure CLI commands run in a command window. Each command consists of the naviseccli command (and options) together with another subcommand (and its options). Please refer to *VNX for Block Command Line Interface CLI Reference 1.0* for more information on setting up authentication and security details for SecureCLI.

3.2.1 Check Faults on the Array

First, check for the faults on the array using the faults list command.

Command:

```
naviseccli -h <SP ip address> faults -list
```



```
C:\Users\mannam4>naviseccli -Scope 0 -user ██████████ -password ██████████ -h ██████████ faults -list
Faulted Subsystem: unx5300-II27-CS

FAR Mirror Faults Status Report
3F:27:60:C4:60:01:06:50:05:00:00:00:00:00:00:00: MirrorView/A mirror is faulted
3F:27:60:C4:60:01:06:50:05:00:00:00:00:00:00:00:50:06:01:60:BD:E0:0D:14: MirrorView/A image is fractured
50:06:01:60:BD:E0:0D:14:0F:00:00:00:00:00:00:00:50:06:01:60:C4:60:27:3F: Synchronous mirror image is fractured
50:06:01:60:BD:E0:0D:14:0F:00:00:00:00:00:00:00: Synchronous mirror is faulted
```

Figure 8: Screenshot – CLARiiON Faults List

3.2.2 Check Environmental Information

Next, check the environmental details of the array such as inlet air temperature and input power status and make sure they are all in a valid state.

Command:

```
naviseccli -h <SP ip address> environment -list -all
```

```
C:\Users\mannam4>naviseccli -Scope 0 -user [REDACTED] -password [REDACTED] -h [REDACTED] environment
-list -all

Array

Input Power
Status: Valid
Present(watts): 833
Rolling Average(watts): 833

DPE8 Bus 0 Enclosure 0

Input Power
Status: Valid
Present(watts): 436
Rolling Average(watts): 435

Air Inlet Temperature
Status: Valid
Present(degree C): 36
Rolling Average(degree C): 36

DAE6S Bus 1 Enclosure 0
```

Figure 9 Screenshot – Environmental Details

3.2.3 Check Backend Connectivity

Check the status of the backend connectivity cards.

Command:

```
naviseccli -h <SP ip address> backendbus -get -all
```

```
C:\Users\mannam4>naviseccli -Scope 0 -user [REDACTED] password [REDACTED] -h [REDACTED] backendbus
get -all

Bus 0

Current Speed: 6Gbps.
Available Speeds:
    3Gbps.
    6Gbps.

SPA SFP State: N/A
SPB SFP State: N/A

I/O Module Slot: Onboard
Physical Port ID: 0

SPA Connector State: Mismatched
SPB Connector State: Mismatched
```

Figure 10: Screenshot Backend Connectivity

3.2.4 Check Cache Status

Check the status of the cache cards on the array.

Command:

```
naviseccli -h <SP ip address> cachecard -list
```

```
naviseccli -h ssl_spa cachecard -list
Total Memory: 512MB
Hardware State: Ok
```

3.2.5 Check Pool Utilization

Check the storage pool capacity utilization. This is very important to prevent a pool full condition which may result in I/O errors on the hosts if sufficient space is not available in the pool.

Command:

```
naviseccli -h <SP ip address> storagepool -list
```

```
C:\Users\mannam4>naviseccli -Scope 0 -user [REDACTED] -password [REDACTED] -h [REDACTED] storagepool
-list
Pool Name: Pool 1
Pool ID: 1
Raid Type: r_10
Percent Full Threshold: 70
Description:
Disk Type: SAS
State: Ready
Status: OK(0x0)
Current Operation: None
Current Operation State: N/A
Current Operation Status: N/A
Current Operation Percent Completed: 0
Raw Capacity (Blocks): 2251537208
Raw Capacity (GBs): 1073.617
User Capacity (Blocks): 1109458944
User Capacity (GBs): 529.031
Consumed Capacity (Blocks): 445464576
Consumed Capacity (GBs): 212.414
Available Capacity (Blocks): 663994368
Available Capacity (GBs): 316.617
Percent Full: 40.152
Total Subscribed Capacity (Blocks): 451768320
Total Subscribed Capacity (GBs): 215.420
Percent Subscribed: 40.720
Oversubscribed by (Blocks): 0
Oversubscribed by (GBs): 0.000
```

Figure 11: Screenshot – Storage Pool Utilization

3.3 EMC Avamar

Health check on an EMC Avamar[®] Grid is performed using a number of CLI commands available via the Avamar SSH terminal interface. After initiating an SSH to the Avamar terminal, execute the following commands:

3.3.1 Check status of the Nodes and Capacity Utilization

The status.dpn commands list the status of all the nodes in the Avamar Grid along with their capacity utilization percentage.

Command:

```
status.dpn
```

```
root@avmgrid:~/#: status.dpn
Node   IP Address   State   Disk   Suspend   Load   UsedMB   %Full
0.3 192.168.255.5 ONLINE    0   FALSE    4.03 32835200 23.50%
0.2 192.168.255.4 ONLINE    0   FALSE    4.14 32836936 23.50%
0.1 192.168.255.3 ONLINE    1   FALSE    4.06 32837892 23.40%
0 192.168.255.2 ONLINE    1   FALSE    4.3 32835760 23.50%

All reported states=(ONLINE), runlevels=(fullaccess), modes=(m000+0000+0000)
System-Status: ok
```

Figure 12: Screenshot – Avamar Status.dpn

3.3.2 Check the status of services

Next, check the status of different services, such as gsan, mcs, ems, backup scheduler, dtlt, axionfs, and maintenance windows scheduler.

Command:

```
dpnctl status
```

```
root@avmgrid:~/#:dpnctl status
dpnctl   Type           Component           Status
dpnctl   INFO           gsan status         degraded
dpnctl   INFO           MCS status          up.
dpnctl   INFO           EMS status          up.
dpnctl   INFO           Backup scheduler status up.
dpnctl   INFO           dtlt status         up.
dpnctl   INFO           axionfs status      up.
dpnctl   INFO           Maintenance windows scheduler status enabled.
```

Figure 13: Screenshot – Avamar Services Status

3.3.3 Check the uptime of the grid

Check the uptime of the grid to ensure no unexpected reboots have occurred.

Command:

```
uptime
```

```
root@avmgrid:~/#:uptime  
7:17am up 589 days 20:40, 2 users, load average: 0.14, 0.16, 0.17
```

Figure 14: Screenshot – Avamar Uptime

3.4 Hitachi HDS Arrays

Most storage administrators operating Hitachi HDS arrays may be familiar with the Hitachi Device Manager or Storage Navigator consoles. Here, we discuss performing health check using Device Manager HiCommand CLI.

The Device Manager CLI provides a command line from which you can use Hitachi Command Suite Software to perform storage system operations and to manage storage resources. A request is sent to the storage system by submitting an entered command to the Device Manager server.

The Device Manager CLI enables you to create a script that runs several commands in order, and perform batch operation for the Device Manager server. Therefore, using the Device Manager CLI allows efficient operation by the system administrator when setting large volumes of predetermined content, such as when making initial settings for the storage system^[2].

For more information on setting up HiCommand CLI, please refer to [Hitachi Command Suite Software CLI Reference Guide](#).

3.4.1 Check Free Space on Array Groups

Check the capacity utilization on array groups.

Command:

```
HiCommandCLI GetStorageArray subtarget=FreeSpace model=HDS9980V  
serialnum=10001
```

```
HiCommandCLI GetStorageArray subtarget=FreeSpace model=HDS9980U serialnum=10001
List of 1 ArrayGroup elements:
An instance of ArrayGroup
objectID=ARRAYGROUP.HDS9980U.10001.1.16
chassis=1
number=16
displayName=1-2-1
raidType=RAID5(3D+1P)
emulation=OPEN-3
diskType=DKR2D-J072FC
diskSize=72
diskSizeInKB=75,497,472
formFactor=-1
controllerID=1
totalCapacity=211,531,680
allocatedCapacity=134,588,160
freeCapacity=76,943,520
hiHsmCapacity=0
onDemandCapacity=0
totalFreeSpace=1,492,992
largestFreeSpace=1,492,992
```

Figure 15: Screenshot – Hitachi FreeSpace

3.4.2 Check System Alerts

Check system generated alerts for any hardware failures or warnings as shown in Figure 16

Command:

```
HiCommandCLI GetAlerts
```

3.5 IBM XIV Arrays

The IBM XIV Storage System command-line interface (XCLI) provides a mechanism for issuing commands to manage and maintain the XIV systems. XCLI commands are entered on an XCLI client system (or XCLI client) supplied by the customer^[3].

3.5.1 Check ATS Configuration

Check the status of the ATS (Automatic Transfer Switch) configuration. ATS switches between line cords to allow redundancy of external power.

```

HiCommandCLI GetAlerts
RESPONSE:
An instance of Alerts
Contains 2Alert instances:
An instance of Alert
number=2
type=Server
source=ARRAY.HDS9970U.35001
severity=3
component=DKU drive
description=Serious error detected on DKU drive.
actionToTake=Contact Customer Support.
data=Component has stopped.
timeOfAlert=2003/01/06 20:13:56
An instance of Alert
number=1
type=Server
source=ARRAY.HDS9970U.35001
severity=4
component=DKC processor
description=Moderate error detected on DKC processor.
actionToTake=Contact Customer Support.
data=Component does not function fully.
timeOfAlert=2003/01/06 20:13:51

```

Figure 16: Screenshot – Hitachi Check Alerts

Command:

ats_list ats

Example:

```
ats_list ats
```

Output:

Component ID	Status	Currently Functioning	Model	L1 Input OK	L2 Input OK
1:ATS:1	OK	yes	ATS-60A	no	yes
Cont.:					
Outlet 1 State	Outlet 2 State	Outlet 3 State	Firmware Version		
J2	J2	J2	4		
Cont.:					
3-Phase	Dual Active				
no	no				

Figure 17: Screenshot – XIV ATS Configuration

3.5.2 Check CF Status

Check the status of the Compact Flash (CF) cards on the array.

Command:

```
cf_list -f all
```

Example:

```
cf_list -f all
```

Output:

Component ID	Status	Currently Functioning	Hardware Status	Serial	Part #
1:CF:10:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521134A5	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:11:1	OK	yes	OK	0_5211349C	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:12:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521133F1	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:13:1	OK	yes	OK	20080604_00003C44	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:14:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521133B9	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:15:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521134AE	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:1:1	OK	yes	OK	0_5211347A	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:2:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521133C0	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:3:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521133B0	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:4:1	OK	yes	OK	0_52113568	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:5:1	OK	yes	OK	0_5211357D	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:6:1	OK	yes	OK	0_5211330F	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:7:1	OK	yes	OK	0_521133D6	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:8:1	OK	yes	OK	0_52113C99	TRANSCEND_20070418
1:CF:9:1	OK	yes	OK	0_5211344C	TRANSCEND_20070418

Figure 18: Screenshot – XIV Compact Flash Status

3.5.3 Check for Failed System Components

List the failed system components.

Command:

```
component_list filter=FAILED|NOTOK
```

3.5.4 Check the status of the Maintenance Module

Check the status of the maintenance module as shown in Figure 19.

Command:

```
mm_list -f all
```

3.5.5 Check the modules internal temperature

Check the status of the internal temperature of modules as shown in Figure 20

Command:

```
module_temperature_list -f all
```

Example:

```
mm_list -f all
```

Output:

```
Component ID      Status  Currently Functioning  Enabled  Version
-----
1:MaintenanceModule:1  OK      yes                    yes      MGMT-4.5

Temperature  Serial      Original Serial  Part #      Original Part Number
-----
49           0123456789  0123456789      0123456789  0123456789

Total Memory  Free Memory  Free disk (/)  Free disk (/var)  Link#1
-----
932172       602096      39031456       201873624        yes

Link#2  Requires Service
-----
yes     None
```

Figure 19: Screenshot – XIV Check Maintenance Module

Example:

```
module_temperature_list -f all
```

Output:

```
Module      Ambient  Midplane  EM Card  Fan Controller  CPU 1  DIMM 2  DIMM 4  DIMM 6  PCIe  InfiniBand HCA  Fibre Channel
-----
1:Module:13  24       23        28       19              34     32      31      31      34     77              <N/A>
1:Module:14  24       23        28       30              38     32      32      31      35     82              <N/A>
1:Module:2   21       23        27       33              33     31      31      31      34     77              <N/A>
1:Module:5   22       23        27       31              33     31      31      31      35     83              44
1:Module:8   22       23        27       24              36     31      31      30      35     79              49
```

Figure 20: Screenshot – XIV Check Module Temperature

3.5.6 Check Filesystems Health State

```
fs_check
```

3.5.7 Check status of FANs in the System

```
fan_list
```

Example:

```
xcli -u -c Nextral fan_list
```

Output:

Component ID	Status	Currently Functioning
1:Fan:1:1	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:10	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:2	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:3	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:4	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:5	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:6	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:7	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:8	OK	yes
1:Fan:1:9	OK	yes

Figure 21: Screenshot – XiV Check Fan Status

3.6 HP XP Arrays

The Command View XP Command Line Interface (CLI) is a text-based interface used to manage and retrieve information about XP disk arrays. Use the CLI if you prefer a text-based interface to the graphical user interface (GUI) or when it is more efficient to run scripts or batch files to manage your XP disk arrays^[4]. For more information on setting up XP Command Line Interface, please refer to [HP StorageWorks Command View XP Command Line Interface \(CLI\) reference guide](#).

3.6.1 Check Array Status

Check array locked status.

Command:

```
list array_status
```

Example:

```
Lock_State Lock_Status Refresh_State Refresh_Status Get_State  
10033 UNLOCKED OK IDLE OK COMPLETE OK  
20074 LOCKED OK IDLE OK OLD_DATA OK
```

3.6.2 Check Array Control Processor and Disk Adapter Status

Check the Array Control Processor (ACP) and Disk Adapter (DKA) status.

Command:

```
list acp_status  
list dka_status
```

Example:

```
DKA# Name Status
1 1 DKA-1B Normal
1 2 DKA-1C Service
1 3 DKA-1D Acute
1 4 DKA-1E Serious
```

3.6.3 Check Channel Host Interface Processor and Channel Adapter Status

Check the status of Channel Host Interface Processor (CHIP) and channel adapters (CHA)

Command:

```
list chip_status
list cha_status
```

Example:

```
CHA# Name Status
1 1 CHA-1P Normal
1 2 CHA-1Q Service
1 3 CHA-1S Serious
Cluster# CHA# Name Status
1 6 CHA-1B Normal
2 5 MIX-2F Normal
2 6 CHA-2E Normal
```

3.6.4 Check Channel Processor Status

Check the status of Channel Processors (CHP)

Command:

```
list chp_status
```

Example:

```
Cluster# CHA# CHP# Name Status
1 1 1 CHP00-1P Normal
1 2 2 CHP00-1Q Service
1 3 3 CHP00-1R Acute
1 4 4 CHP00-1S Serious
```

3.6.5 Check Cache Status

Command:

```
list cm_status
list csw_status
```

Example:

```
Cluster# Cache# Name Status
1 0 Cache-1T Normal
Cluster# CSW# Name Status
1 0 CSW-1N Normal
1 0 CSW-1P Service
```

3.6.6 Check Backend Disk Status

Command:

```
list dkc_status
list dkp_status
list dku_status
```

Example:

```
Component, Status
Processor, Normal
CSW, Serious
Cache, Moderate
Shared Memory, Normal
Power Supply, Normal
Battery, Normal
Fan, Normal
Environment, Serious
Cluster# DKA# DKP# Name Status
1 1 1 DKP80-1B Normal
1 2 2 DKP80-1C Service
1 3 3 DKP80-1D Acute
1 4 4 DKP80-1E Serious
Component, Status
Power Supply, Normal
Fan, Normal
Environment, Serious
Drive, Acute
```


3.6.7 Check Shared Memory Details

Command:

```
list sm_status
```

Example:

```
Cluster# CHA# Name Status
1 5 MIX-1A Normal
1 6 CHA-1B Normal
2 5 MIX-2F Normal
2 6 CHA-2E Normal
```

3.6.8 Check Capacity Utilization

The commands below help to check the capacity utilization in parity groups and pools.

Command:

```
list pg_freespace_info
```

3.7 Brocade Switches

On Brocade switches, health check and capacity reporting is performed by accessing the switch via the SSH terminal. Some of the commands that may be run to retrieve information are given below.

3.7.1 Check for Errors

Look for errors on the switch.

Command:

```
errshow -a
```

Example:

```
2010/08/25-10:10:41, [SEC-1203], 9036, CHASSIS, INFO, \
Spir_67, Login information : Login successful via \
TELNET/SSH/RSH. IP Addr: 10.106.7.62
[Type <CR> to continue, Q<CR> to stop:
2010/08/25-10:13:41, [ZONE-1022], 9037, CHASSIS, INFO,\
Spir_67, The effective configuration has changed to meh.
[Type <CR> to continue, Q<CR> to stop:
2010/08/25-11:35:04, [FABR-1001], 9041, CHASSIS, WARNING, \
Spir_67, port 0, incompatible Long distance mode.
[Type <CR> to continue, Q<CR> to stop:
2010/08/25-11:39:35, [LOG-1000], 9043, CHASSIS, INFO, \
```

Spir_67, Previous message repeated 1 time(s)
[Type <CR> to continue, Q<CR> to stop:

3.7.2 Check Hardware Components

Use the commands below to check the status of hardware components:

Command:

psshow
fanshow
chassisshow
slotshow

Example:

```
switch:admin> fanshow
Fan #1 is OK, speed is 2721 RPM
Fan #2 is OK, speed is 2657 RPM
Fan #3 is OK, speed is 2700 RPM
```

```
switch:admin> psshow
Power Supply #1 is OK
DELTA DPS-1001AB-1E 23000000601 S1 IXD0111000088
Power Supply #2 is faulty
DELTA DPS-1001AB-1E 23000000601 S1 IXD0111000162
Power Supply #3 is OK
DELTA DPS-1001AB-1E 23000000601 S1 IXD0111000120
Power Supply #4 is absent
```

```
switch:user> chassisshow
Chassis Family: DCX8510-8
Chassis Backplane Revision: 0
SW BLADE Slot: 1
Header Version: 2
Power Consume Factor: -180
Power Usage (Watts): -286
Factory Part Num: 60-1002144-02
Factory Serial Num: BQB0345F00G
Manufacture: Day: 9 Month: 11 Year: 2010
Update: Day: 19 Month: 2 Year: 2011
Time Alive: 41 days
Time Awake: 1 days
SW BLADE Slot: 2
Header Version: 2
Power Consume Factor: -180
Power Usage (Watts): -306
Factory Part Num: 60-1002144-02
Factory Serial Num: BQB0345F02R
Manufacture: Day: 21 Month: 11 Year: 2010
Update: Day: 19 Month: 2 Year: 2011
Time Alive: 41 days
```

```
Time Awake: 1 days
SW BLADE Slot: 3
Header Version: 2
Power Consume Factor: -180
Power Usage (Watts): -315
Factory Part Num: 60-1002144-02
Factory Serial Num: BQB0345F01N
Manufacture: Day: 16 Month: 11 Year: 2010
Update: Day: 19 Month: 2 Year: 2011
Time Alive: 39 days
Time Awake: 1 days
(output truncated)
```

```
switch:user> slotshow
Slot Blade Type ID Status
-----
1 SW BLADE 97 ENABLED
2 SW BLADE 96 ENABLED
3 SW BLADE 97 ENABLED
4 SW BLADE 96 ENABLED
5 CORE BLADE 98 ENABLED
6 CP BLADE 50 ENABLED
7 CP BLADE 50 ENABLED
8 CORE BLADE 98 ENABLED
9 SW BLADE 125 ENABLED
10 SW BLADE 126 ENABLED
11 SW BLADE 37 ENABLED
12 SW BLADE 55 ENABLED
```

3.7.3 Check Port Utilization

Check the number of used and unused ports to generate capacity report for switches.

Command:

```
switchshow
```

Example:

```
switch:admin> switchshow
switchName: Spirit_125
switchType: 66.1
switchState: Online
switchMode: Access Gateway Mode
switchWwn: 10:00:00:05:1e:85:95:d0
switchBeacon: OFF
FC Router: OFF
FC Router BB Fabric ID: 1
Area Port Media Speed State Proto
=====
0 0 -- N8 No_Module FC
1 1 -- N8 No_Module FC
2 2 -- N8 No_Module FC
3 3 -- N8 No_Module FC
4 4 -- N8 No_Module FC
5 5 -- N8 No_Module FC
6 6 -- N8 No_Module FC
7 7 -- N8 No_Module FC
```

```
8 8 -- N8 No_Module FC
9 9 id N8 Online FC F-Port 10:00:00:05:1e:53:2c:54 0x690105 (AoQ)
```

3.8 Cisco Switches

Use the following commands to check the status of Cisco switches and to generate a capacity report.

3.8.1 Check basic hardware and environmental information

Use the below command to check basic hardware configuration.

Command:

```
show environment power
show environment fan
show environment temperature
```

Example:

```
MDS# show environment power
```

```
-----
PS Model Power Power Status
(Watts) (Amp @42V)
-----
1 DS-CAC-2500W 1153.32 27.46 ok
2 DS-CAC-2500W 1153.32 27.46 ok
Mod Model Power Power Power Power Status
Requested Requested Allocated Allocated
(Watts) (Amp @42V) (Watts) (Amp @42V)
-----
1 DS-X9016 210.00 5.00 210.00 5.00 powered-up
2 DS-X9308-SMIP 200.34 4.77 200.34 4.77 powered-up
5 DS-X9530-SF1-K9 209.16 4.98 209.16 4.98 powered-up
6 DS-X9530-SF1-K9 209.16 4.98 209.16 4.98 powered-up
7 DS-X9016 210.00 5.00 0.00 0.00 pwr-denied
```

```
MDS# show environment fan
```

```
-----
Fan Model Hw Status
-----
Chassis DS-9SLOT-FAN 1.2 ok
PS-1 -- -- ok
PS-2 -- -- ok
```

```
MDS# show environment temperature
```

```
-----
Module Sensor MajorThresh MinorThres CurTemp Status
(Celsius) (Celsius) (Celsius)
-----
1 Outlet 75 60 37 ok
1 Intake 65 50 31 ok
2 Outlet 75 60 36 ok
2 Intake 65 50 30 ok
. . .
```

3.8.2 Check Port Usage

Check port usage to generate capacity reports.

Command:

```
show interface brief
```

Example:

```
MDS# show flogi database
```

```
-----  
INTERFACE VSAN FCID PORT NAME NODE NAME  
-----
```

```
fc1/1 1 0x050001 50:06:04:8a:cc:c8:bd:a1 50:06:04:8a:cc:c8:bd:a1  
fc1/3 1 0x050003 50:06:04:8a:cc:c8:bd:9e 50:06:04:8a:cc:c8:bd:9e  
fc1/13 1 0x0501ef 50:06:01:62:3c:e0:16:7c 50:06:01:60:bc:e0:16:7c
```

4. Automating Health Check

Now that we have described the procedures for health check and capacity calculation on different arrays, our next step is to simplify and automate these tasks. In this section, we look at different approaches toward automation in various environments.

4.1 Automation in Linux Environment

As it is a well-equipped scripting platform, automation in Linux environment is primarily implemented using the basic shell scripts. The commands required to perform health checks and capacity reporting (as discussed in Chapter 3) is combined into a shell script.

4.2 Automation in Windows Environment

In this article, we discuss scripts written in Windows, since most of our management servers are based on Windows. When it comes to Windows environment, we have multiple possibilities for automation starting with the basic DOS CMD Batch scripts to advanced PowerShell scripts. This article discusses automation using PowerShell Scripts as it has the following advantages.

Advantages of PowerShell:

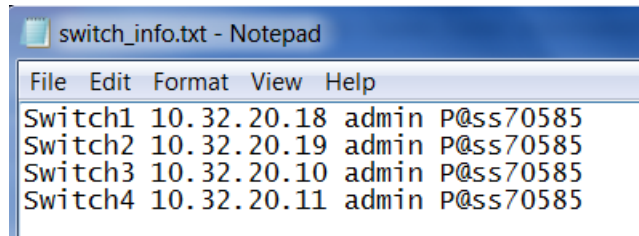
- PowerShell is built on .Net Framework and hence has full access to all .Net classes, COM, and WMI
- PowerShell provides a hosting API with which the Windows PowerShell runtime can be embedded inside other applications
- PowerShell can be integrated with Microsoft Office components such as Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook.

This section covers some scripts that can be used for data collection from arrays and switches.

4.3 Data Collection from a Cisco Switch

As discussed in section 3.8, we can connect to the SSH terminal of a Cisco switch to collect information necessary to generate a health check and capacity report. A basic batch and PowerShell script can help automate this task. These scripts require two input files.

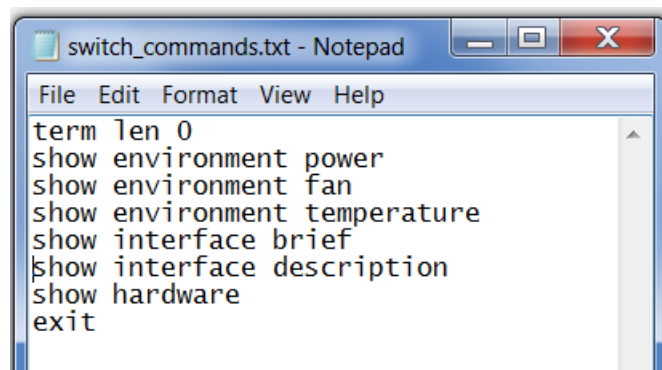
1. switch_info.txt – a file that contains information regarding the different switches, their IP addresses, and credentials.



```
switch_info.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
Switch1 10.32.20.18 admin P@ss70585
Switch2 10.32.20.19 admin P@ss70585
Switch3 10.32.20.10 admin P@ss70585
Switch4 10.32.20.11 admin P@ss70585
```

Figure 22: Input File – Switch_info

2. switch_commands.txt – a file that contains the basic commands that must be executed once a SSH connection is established to the switch.



```
switch_commands.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
term len 0
show environment power
show environment fan
show environment temperature
show interface brief
show interface description
show hardware
exit
```

Figure 23: Input File – Switch_commands.txt

The scripts utilize Plink to establish a SSH terminal to a switch. [Plink](#) is a CLI version of Putty which can be used to automatically log in (via ssh) to a switch and execute a set of commands.

The batch version of the script looks like this:

```
FOR /F "tokens=1,2,3,4 delims=/ " %a IN (switch_info.txt) DO (
plink -ssh %b -l %c -pw %d < switch_commands.txt > %a.txt
)
```

This script connects to each switch and executes the commands listed in the switch_commands.txt file. The output is redirected to a file named after the switch. A PowerShell version of the same script can be found below. The entire script can be found on EMC One - <http://one.emc.com/clearspace/docs/DOC-89592>. The advantages of using PowerShell over batch script will be discussed in the section, Gathering the Data. The same procedure can be used to collect data from Brocade switches, VPLEX, and EMC Avamar products.

```

Switch_Status_Check.ps1* X
27 #####
28 # DEFINE FUNCTION - Process_Switch
29 #####
30
31 function Process_Switch($username, $password, $switchIp, $SwitchName){
32
33     $output = Get-Content cisco_commands4.sh | ./plink.exe -pw $password $username@$switchIp -v
34
35 }
36
37 #####
38 # MAIN Program
39 #####
40
41 Get-Content .\switch_info.txt | select-string -NotMatch "^#" | %{
42 $username = ($_ -split "\s+")[2]
43 $password = ($_ -split "\s+")[3]
44 $SwitchIp = ($_ -split "\s+")[1]
45 $SwitchName = ($_ -split "\s+")[0]
46 Process_Switch $username $password $SwitchIp $SwitchName
47 }

```

Figure 24: Screenshot – PowerShell Script – Cisco Switch

The script results in multiple output files, one for each switch, which contains the output of the commands specified in input file switch_commands.txt.

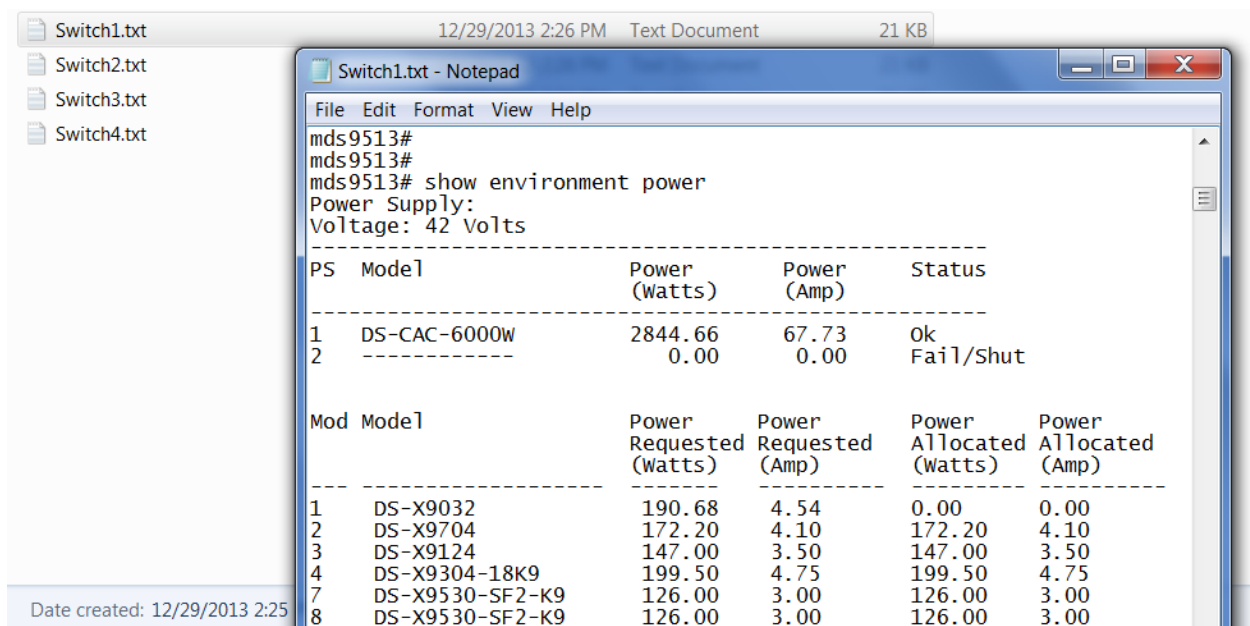


Figure 25: Screenshot – Script results

4.4 Data Collection from Symmetrix Arrays

Data collection from Symmetrix arrays can be automated by implementing scripts on the management host that hosts Solutions Enabler. Solutions Enabler commands may be put together into a batch script or PowerShell script to automatically collect information. Below we see one such PowerShell Script. The entire script can be found at this location on EMC One.


```
Symmetrix_Grabber.ps1 X
24
25 function Initialize(){
26 $symids = read-host "Enter Symmetrix ID for generating report. Or leave blank for all A
27
28 if (($symids -eq "")-or ($symids -eq $null)){
29     if ($dev_mode -eq "OFF"){
30         symcfg list > $symcfg_list_file
31     }
32     $symids = Get-Content $symcfg_list_file | %{$_.trim()} | select-string "Local"
33 }else{
34     $symids = @($symids -split ",")
35 }
36
37 foreach ($symid in $symids){
38     if($symid){
39         if ($dev_mode -eq "OFF"){
40             $file_name = ($symid+"_data.txt")
41             Remove-Item $file_name -ErrorAction silentlyContinue
42
43             #Health Check Section
44             "Collecting Data for $symid"
45             "Environmental Data.."
46             symcfg -sid $symid list -env_data >> $file_name
47             "Director Data.."
48             symcfg -sid $symid list -dir all >> $file_name
49             "Event Data.."
50             symevent -sid $symid list -error -fatal >> $file_name
51             "Failed Disks Data.."
52             symdisk -sid $symid list -failed >> $file_name
53             #Capacity Section
54             "Disk Group Capacity Data.."
55             symdisk -sid $symid list -dskgrp_summary >> $file_name
56             "Thin Pool Capacity Data.."
57             symcfg -sid $symid list -thin -pools -mb -detail >> $file_name
58             symcfg -sid $symid list -thin -pools -mb -v -detail >> $file_name
59
60         }
61     }
}
```

Figure 26: PowerShell Script – Symmetrix Data Collection

This script results in multiple output files as shown in Figure 27, one for each Symmetrix array which contains information necessary to generate a health check and capacity report. In the Gathering the Data chapter, we discuss ways to gather this data and process it to generate meaningful reports.

- 000195700136_data.txt
- 000195700137_data.txt
- 000195700138_data.txt
- 000195700139_data.txt
- output_symcfg_list.txt

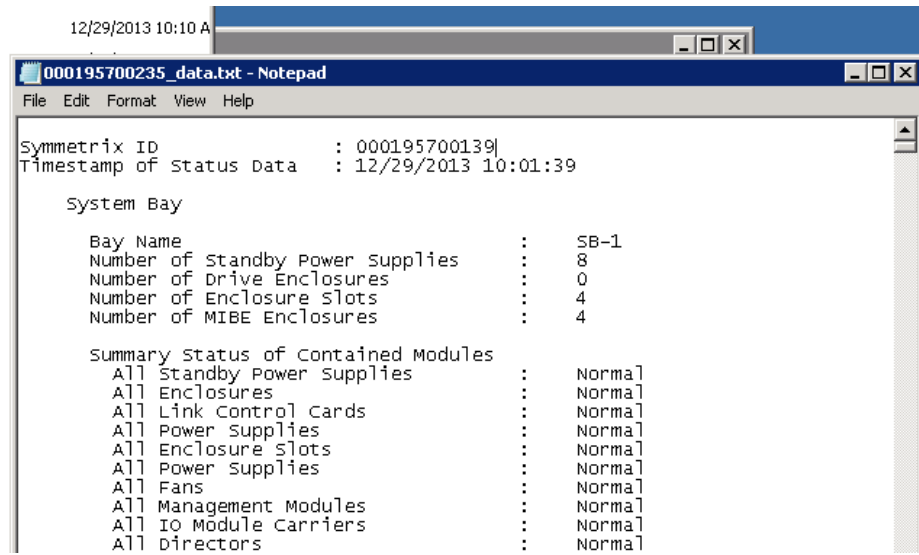


Figure 27: Screenshot – Chapter Symmetrix Reports

5. Gathering the Data

Once data is collected at individual management stations - which may be in different environments, different domains, different customer sites, different data centers or any location on the globe – we collate them to a single location to process and generate meaningful collaborated reports. In this Chapter we discuss various ways of collating this information and processing them.

5.1 Data Collection Approaches

Data may be gathered from various management hosts in three ways. Data may be sent to the administrators email ID through email, or output files may be redirected to a location on the common share via remote login. A third option is to automatically upload the files to a location on the FTP share so that the files may be available outside the organization's infrastructure. Graph in Figure 28 describes the three ways.

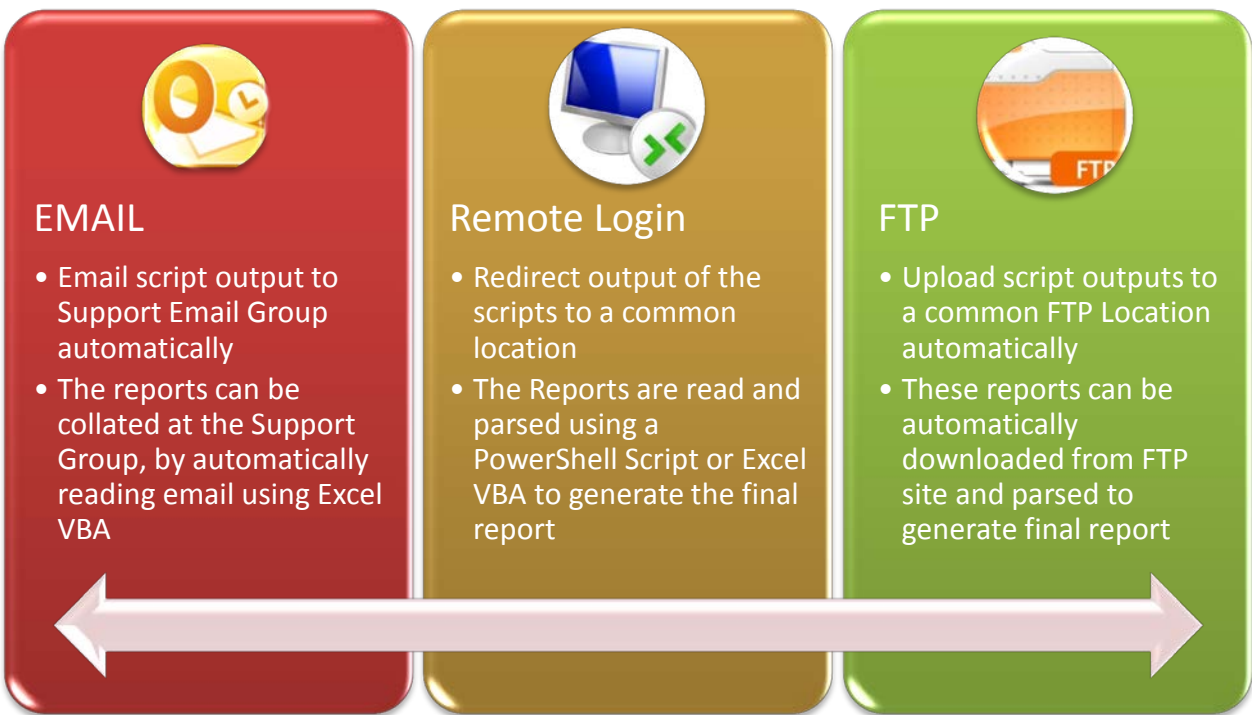


Figure 28: Data Collection Approaches

5.2 Advantages of using PowerShell over Batch Script

The advantage of using an enhanced scripting utility such as PowerShell is that it helps in implementing the above mentioned tasks.

- With PowerShell, we can easily send the results as an email using a local SMTP server
- The FTP Client module helps us to easily upload results to an FTP location
- PowerShell can also be integrated with API's of cloud service providers such as Amazon S3 or Google Drive to share the results via cloud

Each of these are described in detail below.

5.3 Email results using PowerShell

The built-in .Net classes in PowerShell helps to easily email results to administrators from any management station. Obviously, restrictions in the customer environment regarding emailing and SMTP issues must be taken care of first.

Pre-requisites:

- Contact network administrator must know if it is OK to automatically send email from the management servers to the destination email ID
- Get the SMTP Server details – address is sufficient in most cases
- Ensure the server firewall permits PowerShell to send email

Script:

Below is the PowerShell script that performs this task.

```
#####
# Email Results
#####
# Define Variables
$Send_Email = 1
$to_addr = "mumshad.mannambeth@emc.com"
$from_addr = "Switch_REPORT@emc.com"
$smtpServer = "smtp.emc.com"

# Global Output
$email_body = $global:All_Output | Out-String
if ($Send_Email -eq 1){
Send-MailMessage -To $to_addr -From $from_addr -Subject "Switch Report" -Body $email_body -
Smtperver $smtpServer
}
}
```

5.4 Upload results to FTP Location using PowerShell

The PSFTP module helps us to easily connect to FTP location and upload or download files as necessary.

Pre-Requisites:

- Download PSFTP module from [Microsoft Technet Website](#)
- The server must have port open to connect to FTP site
- Firewall must allow PowerShell to connect to FTP site

Script:

Below is the PowerShell script that can upload results to a FTP location. This may be appended to the scripts that collect information from individual arrays:

```
#####  
# UPLOAD TO FTP  
#####  
# Import PSFTP Module  
Import-Module PSFTP  
  
#Set FTP Target Upload Path  
$url = "ftp://yKJiFAUoU:oJqJ6oqoB6@ftp.emc.com/"  
  
#Set the location of the report file to be uploaded  
$report = "c:\my_report_file.txt"  
  
#Derive username and password from URL  
$pass = (((($url -split "//")[1] -split "@")[0] -split ":")[1]  
$user = (($url -split "//")[1] -split ":")[0]  
$global:server = "ftp://" + (($url -split "/")[2] -split "@")[1]  
$path = ($url -split "/",4)[3]  
  
#Set Credentials and Initiate connection to FTP site  
$password = ConvertTo-SecureString $pass -AsPlainText -Force  
$username = $user  
$cred = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential $username, $password  
Set-FTPConnection -Credentials $cred -Server $server -Session MyTestSession -UseBinary -  
UsePassive  
  
#Upload files to FTP  
Add-FTPItem -Session $global:Session -Path $path -LocalPath $report
```

5.5 Set up Scheduled Tasks to automatically run the scripts

It is now time to set up and forget! Even though collecting information from individual SAN components has been automated, it is still a tedious task to run these scripts on 100s of management servers spread across the globe. Set up a task scheduler to automatically execute these scripts as per the customer requirement. Some customers may want a report weekly

while the others may need it on a monthly basis. Here are different ways to set up a scheduler in Windows and Linux Platforms.

5.5.1 Windows

Once we have deployed the script that would collect information from arrays and email the results to the administrators, we must set up a trigger for the script. The 'Task Scheduler' in Windows helps us achieve this. Open the task scheduler from Start-> All Programs -> Accessories -> System Tools -> Task Scheduler.

Once task scheduler is opened:

1. Select the wizard – Create Task
2. Give the task a meaningful name
3. Go to Triggers tab and select the interval to run the task – Daily, Weekly, Monthly
4. Go to Actions tab and select the script to run

5.5.2 Linux

In Linux, use Crone Tab to set up automatic script execution. Cron job are used to schedule commands to be executed periodically. You can set up commands or scripts, which will repeatedly run at a set time^[5].

1. To edit your crontab file use command -> crontab -e
2. Append the script to be run along with arguments in the following format:

```
* * * * * command to be executed
- - - - -
| | | | |
| | | | | ----- Day of week (0 - 7) (Sunday=0 or 7)
| | | ----- Month (1 - 12)
| | ----- Day of month (1 - 31)
| ----- Hour (0 - 23)
----- Minute (0 - 59)
```

Example:

```
0 3 * * * /root/backup.sh
```

6. Processing and Generating Report

Thus far, we have deployed scripts to collect information from the arrays. We have set up task schedulers to automatically run these scripts. The scripts collect information from the arrays and upload them to a central location. Once all the information needed is in a central location, the next step is to process this data and generate meaningful reports. This can be accomplished using various scripting techniques. The objective is to parse through the output of commands gathered and process it to generate reports. Since the final reports are best viewable in an Excel spreadsheet, we propose a method utilizing Excel VBA (Visual Basic for Applications) to process and present the data.

VBA enables building user defined functions (UDFs), automating processes and accessing Windows API and other low-level functionality through dynamic-link libraries (DLLs)^[6]. With its seamless integration with Microsoft Excel, VBA provides a good platform for data analysis and presentation. A completely developed Excel spreadsheet with the VBA code can be found at EMC One - <http://one.emc.com/clearspace/docs/DOC-89591>. The sheet is explained in this section.

6.1 VBA Function to read information from Outlook Emails

Below is the code snippet of a function used to read the latest email containing a particular string in the subject line from Outlook:

```
Public Function get_latest_outlookmail(subject_line) As String

    Dim olApp As Outlook.Application
    Dim objNS As Outlook.Namespace
    Set olApp = Outlook.Application
    Set objNS = olApp.GetNamespace("MAPI")

    Set myINBOXFolder = objNS.GetDefaultFolder(olFolderInbox)

    If Worksheets("settings").Cells(2, 2) = "Inbox" Then
        Set myOlItems = myINBOXFolder.Items
    Else
        t = Worksheets("settings").Cells(2, 2)
        Set myNewFolder = myINBOXFolder.Folders(t)
        Set myOlItems = myNewFolder.Items
    End If

    Set myItem = myOlItems(1)
    Dim latest_date As Date

    For Each mail In myOlItems

        If mail.Subject = subject_line Then
```

```

        If mail.CreationTime > latest_date Then
            latest_date = mail.CreationTime
            latest_body = mail.Body
        End If
    End If
Next mail
get_latest_outlookmail = latest_body

```

End Function

6.2 VBA Function to read data from File

VBA also has the ability to read data directly from the files.

```

Function read_file(filename) As String

    Open filename For Input As #1
    WholeFile = Input$(LOF(1), #1)
    Close #1

    read_file = WholeFile

```

End Function

6.3 VBA Function to analyze Symmetrix Data

Once the data is read from the sources, it is analyzed by VBA and updated in the spreadsheet reports. A code snippet on data processing is shown below:

```

Public Function process_disk_section(section, array_id)

    disk_details = ""
    disk_details_section = False

    For Each Line In Split(section, vbLf)
        Line = Replace(Line, vbCr, "")

        If disk_details_section = True And Line <> "" And Line <> " " Then
            disk_details = disk_details & vbLf & "DISK: " & Line
        End If

    Next Line

    If disk_details <> "" Then
        updateErrorNotes Worksheets("VMAX-DMX").Cells(array_id.Row, 5), disk_details
        If Worksheets("VMAX-DMX").Cells(array_id.Row, 4) = "OK" Then
            Worksheets("VMAX-DMX").Cells(array_id.Row, 4) = "DEGRADED"
            markRed Worksheets("VMAX-DMX").Cells(array_id.Row, 5)
        End If
    End If

End Function

```


6.4 Symmetrix Health Check Report

The Symmetrix Health Check report displays the basic health status of the array, and notes indicating the fault on it. Below is a sample Symmetrix Health Check report.

Management Serv	Array Name	Serial Number	Status	Notes
GSUN628	GROSYM009	0001	300	OK
GSUN628	GROT1SAN011	0001	388	OK
GSUN628	GROSAN300	0001	320	OK
AMRNDHS041	NDHT1SAN001	0001	563	DEGRADED ENVIRONMENT: SystemBay:All Standby Power Supplies : Failed (1)
AMRNDHS041	NDHT1SAN002	0001	371	DEGRADED DIR: RF-3C 03C 35 3 RDF-BI-DIR Offline DIR: RF-3D 03D 51 3 RDF-BI-DIR Offline DIR: RF-14D 14D 62 14 RDF-BI-DIR Offline
AMRNDHS041	NDHT1SAN003	0001	382	DEGRADED DIR: RF-3C 03C 35 3 RDF-BI-DIR Offline DIR: RF-3D 03D 51 3 RDF-BI-DIR Offline DIR: RF-14D 14D 62 14 RDF-BI-DIR Offline
AMRNDHS041	NDHT1SAN004	0001	553	DEGRADED DISK: DF-1D 01D C 9 SEAGATE T300155 0 0 0 286102
AMRNDHS041	NDHSAN300	0001	121	DEGRADED DIR: DF-6A 06A 6 6 DISK Dead
AMRNDHS041	NDHSAN301	0001	552	OK
AMRNDHS041	NDHSAN303	0001	509	DEGRADED DISK: DF-7A 07A C 4 SEAGATE EGC4515 0 0 0 418710
AMRNDHS041	NDHSAN304	0001	520	OK
AMRNDHS041	NDHSAN302	0001	564	OK
amrndhw2278	NDHSAN307	0001	338	OK

Figure 29: Screenshot – Report Symmetrix Health Check

6.5 Symmetrix Capacity Report

Similarly, Symmetrix Capacity report displays total capacity and storage group-wise capacity.

VMax name	Serial number	Total capacity	Used capacity (Gb)	% used		
SC9-VMAX2875	19: '5	684204	681605	99.6		
Disk Groups						
Disk group name	Type	% used	Capacity (GB)	Free (GB)		
DISK_GROUP_001	FC	99	499399.8	2507.31		
DISK_GROUP_002	SATA	99	149042.19	91.76		
DISK_GROUP_003	EFD	100	17881.41	0.19		
DISK_GROUP_004	EFD	100	17881.41	0.19		
Thin Pools						
Thin Pool Name	Enabled Capacity	Current Allocated	% Allocated	Free (GB)	Max subscription	% subscribed
EFD_2875	30809.8	23768.59	77	7041.26	100%	80
FC_2875	365335.6	77429.63	21	287905.44	0%	33
SATA_2875	109861.92	85061.63	77	24800.30	0%	117

Figure 30: Screenshot – Symmetrix Capacity Reporting

6.6 Symmetrix Capacity report per Storage Group

The sheet also provides a Symmetrix Capacity report on a per storage group basis.

Storage Group	Total Available GB
ALP_DST_APP_PROD_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	13126.34
ALP_DST_APP_UAT_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	2187.72
ALP_DST_APP_UAT_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	2734.65
ALP_DST_APP_UAT_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	2461.19
ALP_DST_DB_PROD_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1914.25
ALP_DST_DB_UAT_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1914.25
ALP_DST_DB_UAT_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1093.86
ALP_DST_DB_UAT_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1093.86
ALP_PROD_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	820.39
ALP_PROD_BIZTALK_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	820.39
ALP_PROD_BIZTALK_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	820.39
ALP_PROD_BIZTALK_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	820.39
ALP_PROD_CTX_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1367.32
ALP_PROD_CTX_ESX_4-0_CLUS2_SG	15040.6
ALP_PROD_FN_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	5469.31
ALP_PROD_FN_ESX_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1914.25
ALP_PROD_ORACLE_DB_4-0_CLUS1_SG	1914.25

Figure 31: Symmetrix Capacity Report per Storage Group

6.7 VNX Health Check Report

The VNX Health Check report provides a list of VNX arrays and their general health status. If any array is degraded, detailed information on the error is given.

Management Server A	Array Name	Serial	Status	Notes	Incident Number	Incident Owner
10	225	AM	V001	OK		
10	1.13	AS	001	OK		
10	1.4	AS	002	OK		
bj	1spa	BJ	001	DEGRADED	++ERR-:Perf Manual Check	
ch	12spa	CH	1002	OK		
fre	1a.de.pfizer.com	FRI	001	DEGRADED	System Fault LED: ON; Disk Failed	GRO20041088i gantav
fre	2a.de.pfizer.com	FRI	002	OK		
gr	1a	GR	1001	OK		
gr	12spa	GR	1002	OK		
gr	18spa	GR	1008	OK		
gr	19spa	GR	1009	DEGRADED	System Fault LED: ON	GRO20022057i Vummak
ict	1a	ICT	001	OK		JPN20057589i JAINA76
ict	2a	ICT	002	OK		

Faulted Subsystem: GROT2SAN009

Bus 3 Enclosure 1 : Faulted

Bus 3 Enclosure 1 Disk 5 : Removed

Figure 32: Screenshot – VNX Health Check Report

6.8 VNX Capacity Report

The VNX Capacity Report provides detailed information regarding the overall capacity utilization. Capacity utilization per host as well as raw capacity information is displayed.

WDC-VNX7500-0889		WDC-VNX7500-0889	
Server Name (Masking View)	Size (GB)	Server Name (Masking View)	Size (GB)
VPLEX_0150	208776	wdc-dr-prod-vmg6-2	16416
wdc-dr-prod-vmg2-3	36936	wdc-dr-srm1	28708
wdc-dr-prod-vmg3-4	114912	wdc-dr-prod-vmg3-2	114912
wdc-dr-prod-vmg5-1	2052	wdc-drsp-prod-vmg1	16384
wdc-dr-prod-vmg5-2	2052	wdc-dr-prod-vmg2-1	36936
wdc-dr-prod-vmg5-3	30780	wdc-dr-prod-vmg2-3	36936
wdc-dr-prod-vmg5-4	2052	WDC-RPA4-DR	68386
wdc-dr-prod-vmg6-2	16416	WDC-RPA2-DR	190662
wdc-drsp-prod-vmg1,	16384	wdc-dr-prod-vmg5-1	30780
wdc-dr-srm1,	24612	wdc-dr-prod-vmg3-4	114912
WDC-RPA2-DR	10106	wdc-dr-prod-vmg3-5	114912
WDC-RPA3-DR	2249	Logical Capacity Summary	
WDC-RPA4-DR	6858	Total Lun Capacity	506,505.84
Logical Capacity Summary		Total Allocated LUN Capacity	470,873
Total Lun Capacity	6,505.84	Total UnAllocated LUN Capacity	35,632.84
Total Allocated LUN Capacity	873	Raw Disk Space	588729
Total UnAllocated LUN Capacity	632.84		
Raw Disk Space	68729		

Figure 33: Screenshot – VNX Capacity Report

6.9 XIV Health Check Report

The XIV Sheet provides XIV Health Check Report and detailed information on the failure on the array.

Array Name	Status	Notes	Incident Number	Incident
N J100	OK			
N J101	OK			
N J102	OK			
N J103	OK			
N J104	DEGRADED	Health Checks FAILED		"1:Disk:5:3", "Failed", "no"
SC J100	OK			
SC J101	OK			
SL J100	OK			
N :01	OK			
SC :01	OK			

Figure 34: Screenshot – XIV Health Check Report

6.10 Switch Health Check Report

The Switch sheet displays health check report on the switches. Details regarding the errors are also displayed.

Switch Name	Serial Number	Status	Notes	Incident Number
Brocade_Switch1	XYZ10245	OK		
Brocade_Switch2	XYZ10246	OK		
Cisco_Switch1	XYZ10247	DEGRADED	SFP Failure	
Cisco_Switch2	XYZ10248	DEGRADED	Port Down, High Error Count on Port fc1/2	
Cisco_Switch3	XYZ10249	OK		
Cisco_Switch4	XYZ10250	OK		

Figure 35: Screenshot – Switch Health Check

6.11 Switch Capacity Report

The Switch capacity page displays capacity information about the switches.

Switch Name	Total Ports	Ports Allocated	Max Ports	Use	Vendor	Model
Grl-bcd-01	32	15	32	Shared Backup	Brocade	5000
Grl-bcd-02	32	15	32	Shared Backup	Brocade	5000
Msl-mcd-13	32	31	32	Shared Backup	Mcdata	Sphereon 4700
Msl-mcd-14	32	31	32	Shared Backup	Mcdata	Sphereon 4700
Prl-mcd-03	24	18	32	Shared Backup		
Prl-mcd-04	24	18	32	Shared Backup		
Swi-csc-01	40	36	48	Shared Backup	cisco	Cisco MDS 9148
Swi-csc-02	40	37	48	Shared Backup	cisco	Cisco MDS 9148
Wat-mcd-09	32	27	32	Shared Backup	Mcdata	DS-4700M
Wat-mcd-10	32	28	32	Shared Backup	Mcdata	DS-4700M
Grl-dir-01	40	10	144	Shared SAN	Mcdata	ED-140M
Grl-dir-02	40	14	144	Shared SAN	Mcdata	ED-140M
Grl-mcd-01	24	5	24	Shared SAN	Mcdata	DS-24M2
Grl-mcd-02	24	6	24	Shared SAN	Mcdata	DS-24M2
Grl-mcd-03	24	10	24	Shared SAN	Mcdata	DS-24M2

Figure 36: Screenshot – Switch Capacity Report

6.12 Consolidated Health Check Report Graph of SAN Environment

The dashboard also displays a consolidated graph of all the arrays and their general health status.

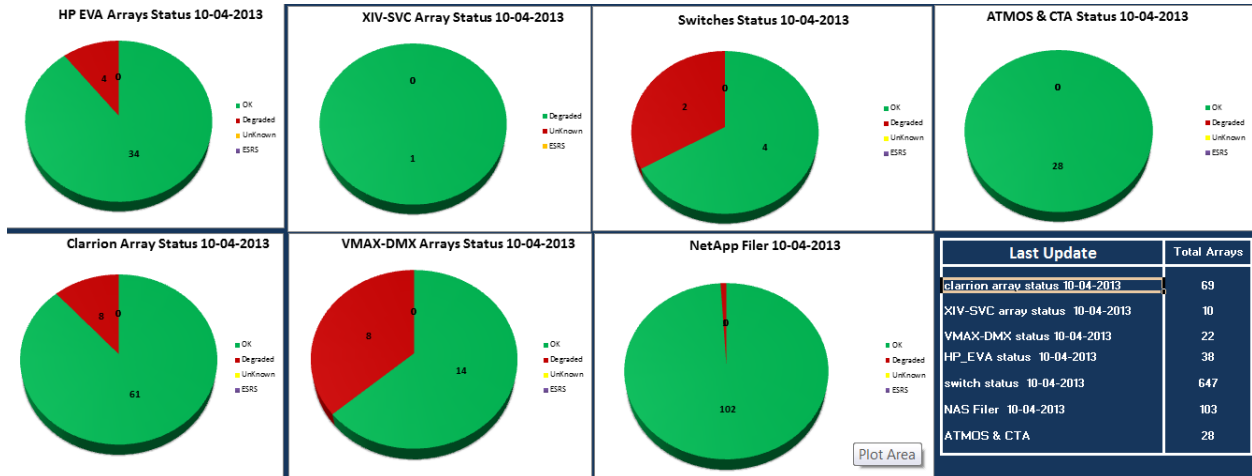


Figure 37: Screenshot – Dash Board – Consolidated Graph

7. Advantages

The tools and techniques described in the previous few sections help us to perform health check and capacity reporting for any number of arrays from any vendor, in an easy, fast manner.

- This procedure can be used to perform reporting on any array from any vendor. By inserting modules for each array we are able to integrate any type of array into the Excel Reporting tool.
- Risk of missing information due to human error when done manually can be eliminated.
- It took multiple engineers to log on to 100s of management stations each time to collect information from the arrays. Now, with the tasks scheduled to run automatically, array information is automatically collated in a central location.
- Administrators no longer need to go through the output of each command and analyze the health of the array; instead Excel VBA performs this task and updates the spreadsheet.
- Time savings for such a solution is significant. Table 1 Time Savings with Automation shows the time saved with this approach in a large account with storage arrays from multiple vendors. As shown, up to 64 hours' worth of human effort can be saved with the entire process for reporting on a large data center with 263 components.

Array Type	Time / Array	Total Arrays	Total Time	Automation
Symmetrix	15 Minutes	22	330 Minutes	5 Minutes
CLARiiON/VNX	20 Minutes	69	1380 Minutes	5 Minutes
XIV	15 Minutes	10	150 Minutes	5 Minutes
Switch	10 Minutes	124	1240 Minutes	5 Minutes
HP EVA	20 Minutes	38	760 Minutes	5 Minutes
Total	100 Minutes (~1.6 Hours)	263	3860 Minutes (~64 Hours)	30 Minutes

Table 1: Time Savings with Automation

To generate a consolidated report that can be presented to top management would require multiple administrators working in parallel for a couple of days to perform health checks and capacity reporting on all the components of the SAN infrastructure. However, with automation implemented, most of these tasks wouldn't even require human intervention. The reports automatically arrive at the administrator's email ID or are accumulated in a common place. Once the reports arrive, it is only a matter of seconds for Excel to combine it.

8. Conclusions

This article discussed new techniques that may be implemented in various stages of health check and capacity reporting for a variety of arrays in a SAN environment. Health check routines for multiple arrays were discussed in detail and scripts are deployed to automate these tasks. The tools and scripts deployed help in automatically collating information from the arrays and generating reports without human intervention. These were deployed in various projects in EMC Managed Services and resulted in significant time savings. In a large account consisting of approximately 250 components in a SAN network, this procedure resulted in a time saving of up to 64 hours. Reporting is now an easy and automated task requiring almost zero human effort. Additional modules may be added to the VBA solution to include support for other multi-vendor arrays and SAN components not discussed in this article.

9. Appendix

Cisco Status Check Script <http://one.emc.com/clearspace/docs/DOC-89592>

Symmetrix Grabber Script <http://one.emc.com/clearspace/docs/DOC-89586>

Excel VBA Solution for consolidated reporting <http://one.emc.com/clearspace/docs/DOC-89591>

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