Is Your Mail Server Talking Back to You?

AXIGEN - Advanced, Highly Customizable and Powerful Reporting Service

Following the general trend in the high-tech industry, reporting tools are increasingly becoming a critical part in the process of maintaining and optimizing a messaging environment. From pure management and marketing purposes, they have now turned into effective methods of controlling resource usage and access rates and drawing out requirements for future development and improvement of systems architecture and services.

With such proven effects, advanced reporting capabilities are sought out by corporate managers and executives looking to drive their business to the top and are taken into consideration by IT professionals when making a decision regarding their email communication systems.

A substantial number of advantages can be gained by analyzing the traffic and flow of information through a company's email server. Far too often, the system administrator will set up the mail server and instantly feel confident that everything is running as expected just because emails arrive to their intended recipients, from point A to B. Server fine tuning and resource usage optimization are overlooked, thus leading to indirect losses and wasted resources. A built-in reporting module can help prevent such situations and optimize server operations by enabling sysadmins to 'listen' to their server, more precisely to monitor their system's health and make the right decisions, depending on its evolution.

Monitor & control your mail server with the new AXIGEN Reporting Engine

Why Use AXIGEN?

➢ **Advanced Reporting Module**

The [AXIGEN Mail Server](#) provides comprehensive reporting services for network administrators or managers looking to control and improve the email communication flows within the corporate environment and beyond. AXIGEN's next generation reporting engine enables sysadmins to set collection policies for server runtime parameters such as system

load, connected users and sessions for each service, message queue size, average times spent executing service commands, values of inbound and outbound traffic counters etc. The monitored parameters are collected at specified time intervals and then rendered into graphical charts allowing the administrators to closely monitor and control server activities.

➢ Ease of Configuration

Just as with all other services, AXIGEN's reporting module can be easily set up and thoroughly configured from the Web-based administration interface. Only a few clicks are required to get the service running and start gathering data from the server. Moreover, parameters collect information in the background even if not used in any charts. On demand, a chart can be created and any parameter can be added to a chart for comparison or monitoring.

AXIGEN enables the creation of multiple charts. Once the chart's settings are saved, it can be used over and over for tracking purposes and future reference. The values of the chart also get updated live each time they are accessed, so outdated information is not an issue.

Parameter Configuration

➢ Fresh New Reporting Functionalities

AXIGEN Mail Server v6.2 introduces a series of new features and enhancements for the reporting module. Here is an overview of the functionalities brought by this new release:

- **Modular design.** The reporting service may have inherited the same product design line, but rendering and data collection engines are now separate entities and can be combined in new and countless ways. Using this approach, a complex graphic can be easily created, by just adding the parameters of interest to a chart.

- **Granular control.** Also inherited from the product design line, three levels of control can now be established for the data collection parameters. Server wide values can be collected separately from domain values and individual objects such as mailing lists and accounts. These can be further combined to achieve comparison charts.

- **Endless customization.** Charts are customizable to the smallest detail. Ranging from value aggregation methods (total, minimum, average etc.) to color setup and value representation (line, discrete points, outlines etc.). All of the customization options have a smart layout and are very user friendly. To further simplify the setup process, every display setting has a live preview section where a random chart is updated to reflect the changes and provide visual feedback on them.
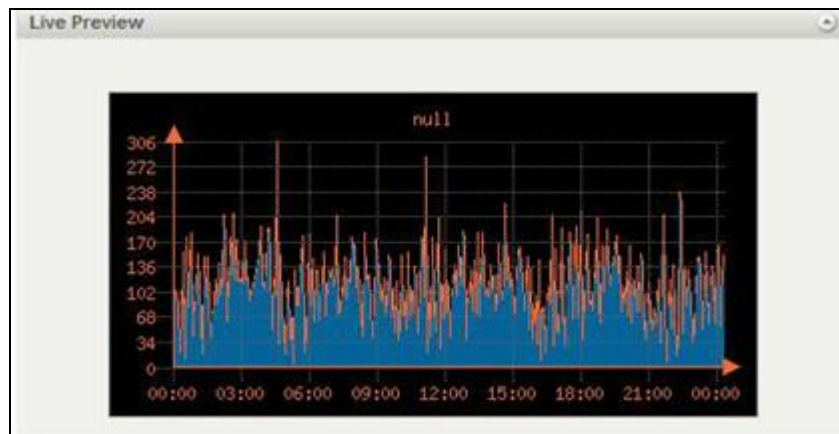

Chart Live Preview

- **SNMP Version 2c (community) support.** This standard protocol can be used to integrate third party applications to generate centralized charts for the entire network, including devices and services that support this feature.

Combining all of these features together, AXIGEN Mail Server's new reporting service can meet even the most complex requirements in terms of statistics and reports.

➢ **Practical Usage Scenarios and Benefits**

The most common example when usage reports are of help is server tuning. If the email server is installed on a very capable machine, odds are that the default settings don't really do any justice to the hardware resources. Therefore, by monitoring and comparing the system load and the flow of processed messages on the same chart, the system administrator can easily check if the system is idle even in peaking usage times. If this is the case, the processing threads number can safely be increased. On the other hand, the same test can provide information on why the server seems to be a bit too slow between 10AM and 11AM.

For an Internet Service Provider, establishing the timeframe of the report is critical. On a two year timeline, the usage graphic can visually represent the trend of the provided service. As an example, consider a steadily growing IMAP usage average compared to a declining POP3 average. This is a very clear indication on the number of users for each type of service at any given time as well as what should be expected within the following three to six months.

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Both of the above examples provide mission critical information that can give the edge over the competition in the fastest evolving industry around. Everyone knows that knowledge is power, however, when it comes to delivering it in the right context, using the right means and format, the AXIGEN Mail Server reporting service is unmatched.

Conclusion

Considering all of these new and improved functionalities of the AXIGEN reporting service, the answer to our question is very clear when it comes to the AXIGEN Mail Server. However, before our server can talk back to us, we need to let it know what feedback we require, how often we require it and how it should look like... The rest is in the charts.

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