

NetBackup 7.6 Feature Briefing OpsCenter Enhancements

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This document describes new features introduced to OpsCenter and OpsCenter Analytics in NetBackup7.6 and available in this and higher releases.

If you have any feedback or questions about this document please email them to IMG-TPM-Requests@symantec.com stating the document title.

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Feature Description

OpsCenter was introduced in NetBackup 7.0 as a merging of Veritas Backup Report (VBR) and NetBackup Operations Manager (NOM). Since then it has seen a number of new features and enhancements to make it a more reliable, user-friendly product.

This Feature Briefing will only cover the new enhancements in the 7.6 release. A number of other Feature Briefings from previous versions cover installation, configuration, report generation etc.

The main theme of this release is the ability to generate additional information for the NetBackup line of appliances, provide more accurate deduplication reporting and added alerting to notify the backup admin when hardware failures occur on the NetBackup appliances.

In addition to the Appliance enhancements, OpsCenter 7.6 has a new look and feel along with a number of new “getting started” Wizards to make it easier for first time users to get up and running with an OpsCenter Master.

So, what’s new In OpsCenter and OpsCenter Analytics 7.6?

- Improved NetBackup Appliance hardware monitoring and alert notification
- Support for latest generation of NetBackup Appliances (5030 and 5230)
- Improved Virtual Machine reporting and alerting
- Improved Low Disk Capacity Alerting for Disk Storage Units (MSDP, Basic and Advanced)
- Support for Windows 2012
- VCS 6.0 Clustering support for the OpsCenter Master
- Schema document published and included with other release documents
- Integration with LDAP and Active Directory for Role-based User Group level security authentication
- Improved integrated security for web server and password length verification
- Update to the Sybase ASA database
- SQL statements are now exposed for the canned reports

One item of note is that in OpsCenter 7.6 all support for third party reporting has been removed. This includes BackupExec, Enterprise Vault, IBM TSM and EMC NetWorker. OpsCenter is now a NetBackup only reporting tool.

Business Value

One of the challenges thus far with the NetBackup Appliances is that to OpsCenter they look like “just another Master” or “just another deduplication box”. Most customers who have adopted Appliances have a mixture of traditional Masters and Appliances in their environments so it was necessary for OpsCenter to be able to tell the difference between them for better management.

Deduplication reporting has also been a challenge especially with the Appliances. The reports were considered inaccurate by many customers. The report accuracy has been improved and two new reports have been added:

- Deduplication Rates by Master Server
- Deduplication Rates by Policy Type

Each of these reports can be used on a regular Master or an Appliance Master.

The new Alerts will also help customers by letting them know when the hardware – CPU, Disk, Fan, HBA etc. have issues. More information about the alerts can be found in the Test Drive section.

From a look and feel standpoint, changes have been made to make the user experience much easier when it comes to setting up a new OpsCenter Master. The new look will make the OC experience blend with the new WebUI when it is released at a later date.

Underlying Principles

This release of OpsCenter is geared mostly to enhancements to the Appliances and Deduplication reporting and some changes to the GUI. The rest of the reports have not been modified. The GUI changes do not change the functionality of the product beyond the initial setup and configuration. If a customer is not using Appliances or Deduplication there is little in this release that will benefit them however it is always recommended that the OpsCenter instance be higher or equal to the NetBackup version – therefore if the customer is upgrading to NetBackup 7.6 (or 7.5.0.6) then the OpsCenter instance should be upgraded to 7.6. There is no reason not to upgrade since there is an updated Sybase ASA database and security updates to the underlying web services.

Customers with Appliances must upgrade to this release to receive the benefits of the upgrade.

Test Drive

The user experience will change slightly if a customer installs OpsCenter for the first time. They will be greeted by a new Wizard that helps them install new Masters, add Groups (or Views), add Users who have access to the OpsCenter environment and configure email settings. The new Wizard is shown in Figure 1. After the initial installation, the Wizard can be brought up again if new Masters are added by simply clicking on **Home** in the top left corner. Once configuration is complete, the new reports and Alerting can be taken for a test drive.



Figure 1 – New OpsCenter Configuration Wizard

Deduplication by Master Server Report

The first new report – Deduplication by Master Server – will show the customer how well the systems attached to each Master (in many cases an Appliance) are deduplicating as shown in Figure 2 below.

Deduplication Rates by Master Server						
Master Server	Pre Dedup Size(GB)	Post Dedup Size(GB)	Job Size Deduplication Factor	Deduplication Rate	Job Size Deduplication Savings(GB)	
omwin2	0.02	0	1,152.85	99.91	0.02	
ramgad	0.1	0	2,387.16	99.96	0.1	
serena	0	0	50.03	98	0	

Total 3 Rows , 1 Page(s)

Lists all deduplication rates by master server for selected timeframe. This report is valid for NetBackup, PureDisk and Appliances.

Figure 2 – Deduplication by Master report

Deduplication by Policy Type

Should the customer choose to look at how much data is being deduplicated by Policy Type, that information is also available as seen in Figure 3. This report was added so that customers can see how much deduplication they are getting on things like Oracle, SQL, and other databases as well as for plain, “standard” backups.

Deduplication Rates by Policy Type						
Policy Type	Pre Dedup Size(GB)	Post Dedup Size(GB)	Deduplication Size Factor	Deduplication Rate	Job Size Deduplication Savings(GB)	
MS-Windows	0.02	0	1,152.85	99.91	0.02	
Standard	0.1	0	1,085.58	99.91	0.1	

Total 2 Rows , 1 Page(s)

Lists all deduplication rates by policy type for selected timeframe. This report is valid for NetBackup, PureDisk and Appliances.

Figure 3 – Deduplication by Policy Type

Appliance Hardware Failure Alert

From an Alerting perspective, the new alert that has been added is very easy to use as noted in Figure 4.

Specify general properties and select alert condition

* Indicates required field

Name :

Description:

Alert Condition:

<input type="radio"/> Catalog not Backed up	An alert is generated when the catalog backup does not take place for a predefined time period.
<input type="radio"/> Catalog Backup Disabled	An alert is generated when the catalog backup is disabled.
Device	
<input type="radio"/> Mount Request	An alert is generated when a media mount request is pending.
<input type="radio"/> No Cleaning Tape	An alert is generated when no cleaning tapes are left.
<input type="radio"/> Drive is Down	An alert is generated when a drive in a specified robot/media server in the selected view goes down.
<input type="radio"/> High Down Drives	An alert is generated when the number of down drives exceeds the predefined threshold value.
<input type="radio"/> Open Storage	An alert is generated for events from Storage Servers.
Disk	
<input type="radio"/> Disk Pool Full	An alert is generated when one or more disk pools are full.
<input type="radio"/> Disk Volume Down	An alert is generated when the selected disk volume(s) is down.
<input type="radio"/> Low Disk Volume Capacity	An alert is generated when disk volume capacity is running low.
Host	
<input type="radio"/> Agent Server Communication Break	An alert is generated if communication between agent and server is broken.
<input type="radio"/> Master Server Unreachable	An alert is generated when OpsCenter loses contact with the master server.
<input type="radio"/> Lost Contact with Media Server	An alert is generated when the media server loses contact with the master server.
Appliance	
<input type="radio"/> Appliance Hardware Failure	An alert is generated when the selected type of hardware fails on the specified master server.
Others	
<input type="radio"/> Service stopped	An alert is generated when the selected services stop on any of the master servers in the selected view.
<input type="radio"/> Job Policy Change	An alert is generated when one or more job policies change.

Figure 4 – Alerting for Appliance Hardware

Once the Alert is checked, the next screen offers a more granular selection criteria based on the customer needs from “All” to individual components as shown in Figure 5.

Select hardware failure types to check for the specified condition

Limits evaluation by the condition only to the selected hardware type on any of the servers in the selected view.

All

- Adapter
- CPU
- Disk
- Enclosure Disk
- Enclosure Fan
- Enclosure Power Supply
- Enclosure Temperature
- Fan
- Fibre Channel HBA
- Network
- PCI
- Power Supply
- RAID
- Temperature

<Back Next> Save Cancel

Figure 5 – Appliance Hardware Alert Conditions

Following this screen, the Masters (Appliances) themselves can be selected for more granularity. Note that it is recommended that the Appliance Master Server version should be at N2.0.1 (7.1.0.3) or greater.

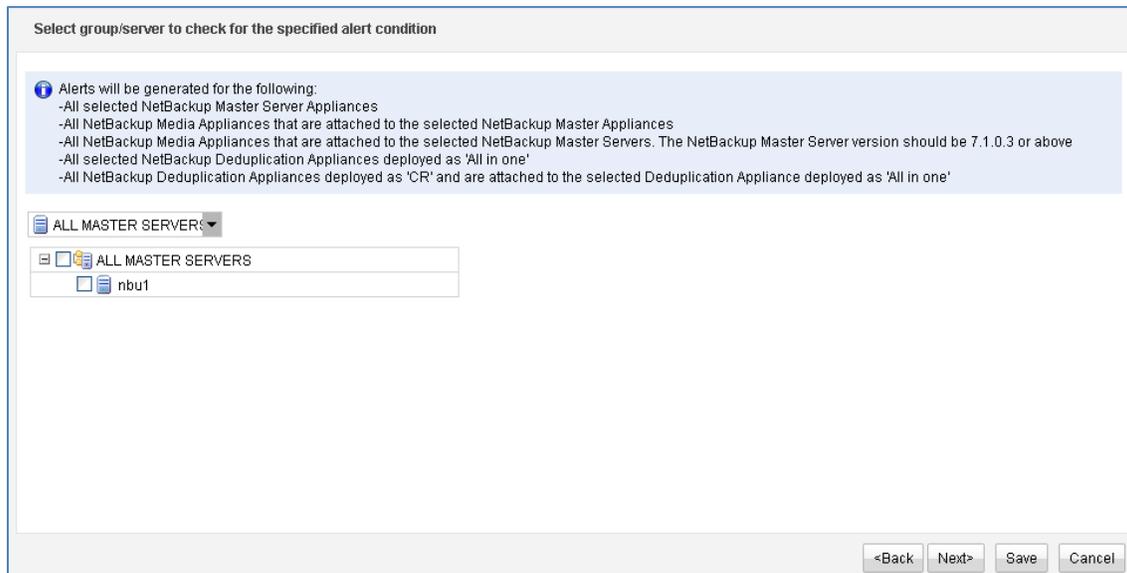


Figure 6 – Selecting the Masters to Alert on

These changes should help customers with Appliances utilize OpsCenter reporting and alerting more efficiently.

Licensing and support considerations

No changes have been made with regards to licensing.

Related documents

[OpsCenter Pages](#)

[NetBackup OpsCenter Administrator's Guide](#)

[NetBackup OpsCenter Reporting Guide](#)

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