

Updated Health Monitoring & Recovery Test Pack Available

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Citrix Presentation Server 4.5 introduced a new feature called Health Assistant for Enterprise and Platinum editions. This feature maintains the health of critical services in a Presentation Server farm.

Every Presentation Server has a service called a Health Check Agent (HCA) that periodically runs the tests to review the health of that server. If a test fails, the system can take a pre-configured corrective action along with writing to the event log.

PS 4.5 comes with 4 health tests and now, 6 new tests have been released.

PS 4.5 has the following 4 health packs/tests

- 1. Logon/Logoff test – This test monitors the logon/logoff cycle to determine if there is a problem with session initialization. When the time between logon and logoff is below a given value, it normally indicates a problem. Too many of these short cycles within a given time period indicates a problem with the health of the server
- 2. Terminal Services test – This test ensures that sessions can be enumerated, session information can be retrieved etc to gauge the health of terminal services (similar to what "quser" utility does)
- 3. IMA test – This test enumerates applications to check the health of the IMA service
- 4. XML Ticket Request test – This test checks the health of the XML service by ensuring that it is able to process XML ticket requests

With PS 4.5 Feature Pack 1, Citrix released 6 new health packs, which can be downloaded from [here](#)

These new tests perform the following:

- 5. Microsoft Print Spooler test - This test ensures Microsoft print spooler reliability. It enumerates printers on the local server, enumerates printer drivers and print processors. Exercising these tasks is fundamental to gauge the health of the print service
- 6. Citrix Print Manager Service test – This test verifies the health of the service by enumerating local session printers etc
- 7. Check DNS test - The Check DNS test by default will run a forward DNS lookup and a reverse DNS lookup to ensure that there are no DNS related errors that can degrade the health of the server.
- 8. ICA Listener test - The responsibility of this test is to ensure that ICA clients can make a successful connection to the local server via the ICA protocol. This functionality is validated by pinging the ICA listener and monitoring the response.
- 9. Check XML Threads - This test monitors to see if the XML service is getting overloaded with traffic. When this happens, Web Interface/PN Agent connections will suffer. This test will alert administrators that they may need to address XML server performance
- 10. Check Local Host Cache test – This test is responsible for recognizing and responding to LHC corruptions and inconsistencies on the local machine that might have resulted from stale data left when removing a server and/or published application. LHC inconsistencies refer to duplicate entries or entries that do not match with the data store objects.

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