

IBM® Tivoli® Netcool/OMNIbus Probe Rules
Syntax Checker
4.0

Reference Guide
November 30, 2012



Note

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in [Appendix A, “Notices and Trademarks,”](#) on page 5.

Edition notice

This edition (SC27-2301-03) applies to version 4.0 of IBM Tivoli Netcool/OMNIbus Probe Rules Syntax Checker and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

This edition replaces SC23-2301-02.

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About this guide

The following sections contain important information about using this guide.

Document control page

Use this information to track changes between versions of this guide.

The IBM Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus Probe Rules Syntax Checker documentation is provided in softcopy format only. To obtain the most recent version, visit the IBM® Tivoli® Knowledge Center:

http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSSHTQ/omnibus/common/kc_welcome-444.html?lang=en

Table 1. Document modification history		
Document version	Publication date	Comments
SC27-2301-00	August 22, 2008	First IBM publication.
SC27-2301-01	December 31, 2008	Summary table updated.
SC27-2301-02	October 31, 2009	Installation section updated to reflect the new method of deploying the Probe Rules Syntax Checker with the introduction of Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus V7.3.0.
SC27-2301-03	November 30, 2012	“Using the Probe Rules Syntax Checker” on page 2 updated.

Conventions used in this guide

All probe guides use standard conventions for operating system-dependent environment variables and directory paths.

Operating system-dependent variables and paths

All probe guides use standard conventions for specifying environment variables and describing directory paths, depending on what operating systems the probe is supported on.

For probes supported on UNIX and Linux operating systems, probe guides use the standard UNIX conventions such as `$variable` for environment variables and forward slashes (/) in directory paths. For example:

```
$OMNIHOME/probes
```

For probes supported only on Windows operating systems, probe guides use the standard Windows conventions such as `%variable%` for environment variables and backward slashes (\) in directory paths. For example:

```
%OMNIHOME%\probes
```

For probes supported on UNIX, Linux, and Windows operating systems, probe guides use the standard UNIX conventions for specifying environment variables and describing directory paths. When using the Windows command line with these probes, replace the UNIX conventions used in the guide with Windows conventions. If you are using the bash shell on a Windows system, you can use the UNIX conventions.

Note : The names of environment variables are not always the same in Windows and UNIX environments. For example, %TEMP% in Windows environments is equivalent to \$TMPDIR in UNIX and Linux environments. Where such variables are described in the guide, both the UNIX and Windows conventions will be used.

Operating system-specific directory names

Where Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus files are identified as located within an *arch* directory under NCHOME or OMNIHOME, *arch* is a variable that represents your operating system directory. For example:

\$OMNIHOME/probes/*arch*

The following table lists the directory names used for each operating system.

Note : This probe may not support all of the operating systems specified in the table.

Table 2. Directory names for the arch variable	
Operating system	Directory name represented by <i>arch</i>
AIX® systems	aix5
Red Hat Linux® and SUSE systems	linux2x86
Linux for System z	linux2s390
Solaris systems	solaris2
Windows systems	win32

OMNIHOME location

Probes and older versions of Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus use the OMNIHOME environment variable in many configuration files. Set the value of OMNIHOME as follows:

- On UNIX and Linux, set \$OMNIHOME to \$NCHOME/omnibus.
- On Windows, set %OMNIHOME% to %NCHOME%\omnibus.

Chapter 1. Probe Rules Syntax Checker

The Probe Rules Syntax Checker verifies that the syntax of the rules file of a probe is correct.

This guide contains the following sections:

- [“Summary” on page 1](#)
- [“Installing the Probe Rules Syntax Checker” on page 1](#)
- [“Using the Probe Rules Syntax Checker” on page 2](#)
- [“Properties and command line options” on page 2](#)

Summary

The following table provides a summary of the Probe Rules Syntax Checker.

<i>Table 3. Summary</i>	
Probe target	Rules file of a probe.
Probe executable name	nco_p_syntax (UNIX and Linux) nco_p_syntax.exe (Windows)
Patch number	4.0
Properties file	\$OMNIHOME/probes/arch/syntax.props
Rules file	\$OMNIHOME/probes/arch/syntax.rules
Requirements	A currently supported version of IBM Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus.
Connection method	Not applicable
Remote connectivity	Not applicable
Multicultural support	Available
Peer-to-peer failover functionality	Not applicable
IP environment	Not applicable
Federal Information Protocol Standards (FIPS)	Not applicable

Installing the Probe Rules Syntax Checker

The process of installing the Probe Rules Syntax Checker on Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus 7.2.0, and 7.2.1 consists of downloading the appropriate patch from the Passport Advantage Website, and then installing it on the machine running the probe whose rules file you want to check.

Note : With the introduction of Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus V7.3.0, the Probe Rules Syntax Checker is installed with the Probe Support feature. It is no longer necessary to download it separately

Installing the Probe Rules Syntax Checker on Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus 7.2.0, and 7.2.1 on UNIX and Linux operating systems

To install the Probe Rules Syntax Checker on UNIX and Linux operating systems, use the following steps:

1. Download the Probe Rules Syntax Checker patch from the Passport Advantage Online Web site:
http://www-306.ibm.com/software/howtobuy/passportadvantage/pao_customers.htm
2. Run the following command:

```
$NCHOME/omnibus/install/nco_patch -install patch_path
```

Where *patch_path* is the path of the patch you downloaded.

Installing the Probe Rules Syntax Checker on Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus 7.2.0, and 7.2.1 on Windows operating systems

To install the Probe Rules Syntax Checker on Windows platforms, use the following steps:

1. Download the Windows version of the Probe Rules Syntax Checker patch from the Passport Advantage Online Web site:
http://www-306.ibm.com/software/howtobuy/passportadvantage/pao_customers.htm
2. Open the patch file using a file extraction application that supports preserving the directory structure.
3. Extract all the files within this file into the following location: %NCHOME%\omnibus

Using the Probe Rules Syntax Checker

You can use the Probe Rules Syntax Checker to test the syntax of the rules file of any probe. This is more efficient than running the target probe to test the syntax of its rules file.

To run the Probe Rules Syntax Checker, use the following command:

```
nco_p_syntax -rulesfile rules_file_path
```

Where *rules_file_path* is the complete path of the rules file of the probe that you are testing.

The Probe Rules Syntax Checker always runs in debug mode. When the syntax checker starts, it reads the rules file, returns an exit code, displays any errors on the screen, and then exits.

If the syntax of the rules file is incorrect, the syntax checker returns an exit code of 1 and displays the errors on the screen. If the syntax of the rules file is correct, the syntax checker returns an exit code of 0 and displays no error messages. For details about probe rules file syntax, see the *IBM Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus Probe and Gateway Guide*, (SC23-9684).

Note : The Probe Rules Syntax Checker can only check functions against the Netcool/OMNIBus library and not probe specific functions. For example, if you run the Probe Rules Syntax Checker against the rules file of the SNMP Probe (*nco_p_mttrapd.rules*), it displays errors relating to any *snmpget()* functions included in the rules file. This is because the *snmpget()* function is supported by the probe, but not by the Netcool/OMNIBus library against which the Probe Rules Syntax Checker checks. Such errors can be safely ignored.

Properties and command line options

You use properties to specify how the probe interacts with the device. You can override the default values by using the properties file or the command line options.

The following table describes the properties and command line options specific to this probe. For information about default properties and command line options, see the *IBM Tivoli Netcool/OMNIBus Probe and Gateway Guide*, (SC23-6373).

Table 4. Properties and command line options

Property name	Command line option	Description
N/A	-rulesfile <i>string</i>	Use this command line option to specify the path of the rules file whose syntax that the probe is testing.

Appendix A. Notices and Trademarks

This appendix contains the following sections:

- Notices
- Trademarks

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SC27-2301-03

