Cisco Tidal Enterprise Transporter

Introduction to Enterprise Scheduling

IT operations that focus on the automation of business processes involve integrating a wide range of custom and enterprise applications and the infrastructure on which they run, often with complex interdependencies. In such environments, IT typically uses job scheduling tools to control batch and on demand event processing, which are vital to the success of a range of business operations from sales to manufacturing to financial management. For the past decade, Enterprise Scheduler has been defining standards for job scheduling usability, scalability, and breadth of coverage.

Product Overview

Cisco® Tidal Enterprise Transporter

With Enterprise Transporter, moving job scheduling definitions from development to test to production environments can now be managed in a structured and repeatable way. Enterprise Transporter is an automated, feature-rich data transport solution that allows job definitions and other scheduling objects to be transferred between Cisco Tidal Enterprise Scheduler databases, providing intuitive object mapping and granular reporting, while maintaining data consistency during relocation.

Enterprise Transporter gives IT organizations the ability to move detailed job definitions, with their specific dependencies, scheduling requirements, connections to various agents and adapters, and critical event triggers, from one database to another. Enterprise Transporter is flexible enough to handle the promotion of complete job schedules between databases, while also being able to copy individual actions, such as job events, variables, calendars, and job classes. These capabilities add another level of sophisticated functionality to Cisco's enterprise-wide job scheduling solutions.

Enterprise Transporter automates the process of job definition migration and definition synchronization with intuitive object mapping. The idea behind data object mapping is to provide a further level of automation to future job data migrations between the same databases. For subsequent data transfers, jobs are copied from the source database to the destination database, and the selected destination database value is substituted wherever the source value was used.

Features and Benefits

There are many situations that require IT to move job schedules and related data, such as shifting from development to production environments or even migrating Enterprise Scheduler from one OS to another. Regardless of the reason, Enterprise Transporter features work together to reduce the time and effort it takes to migrate job schedules, and they help to deliver a reliable outcome. The capabilities discussed in the following section enable Enterprise Transporter to increase staff productivity and improve scheduling outcomes:

Multiple Scheduling Environment Coverage – For organizations using Enterprise Scheduler with multiple scheduling environments, Transporter automates the migration of jobs among databases, eliminating the need to manually re-key jobs definitions. A typical multi-scheduling environment is comprised of separate development, test, and production environments, and Enterprise Transporter is designed to move thousands of scheduler definitions—including jobs, job classes, job groups, calendars, events, actions, and variables—among these different databases in seconds.

Enterprise Transporter users can easily locate jobs and parameters using advanced filtering criteria. Search criteria can include job, group, command, agent, owner, job class, job groups, and jobs that are active or not, or any combination of these. Objects and attributes can also be located using wildcard characters, which offer a wider variety of search options. The result is a reduction in the time required for volume job migration projects when hundreds or even thousands of jobs must be tested and released into production environments.

Job Lifecycle Management – Most data centers have constant job change/migration activities as applications and databases are brought online, updated, or retired. IT Operations needs an orderly and staged migration solution that minimizes risk and disruptions to job scheduling activities when new jobs and events are moved to production states. With Enterprise Transporter, jobs can be tested and migrated in large groups and configured to become active immediately or scheduled to become active at any future date.

During the production cycle of job definitions, Enterprise Transporter can be used to consolidate, decentralize, or split job databases among multiple Enterprise Scheduler environments, minimizing costly manual intervention. Enterprise Transporter can also make universal database changes, such as assigning existing jobs to different agents, thereby increasing IT staff efficiency and agility when facing complex environmental changes.

Changes to an Enterprise Scheduler OS Platform – Moving Enterprise Transporter job definitions between different OS environments is also possible as long as the Enterprise Scheduler versions are the same. For example, if a company chooses to move an Enterprise Scheduler from a Windows server to a UNIX server, Enterprise Transporter reduces the job database transfer time to minutes, making job scheduling migration seamless.

Automation for the Transition from Ad Hoc to Scheduled Jobs – Many data centers create ad hoc jobs that need to run immediately. Gradually, these ad hoc jobs are reused and fall into predictable patterns. They then need to be organized into particular calendars or schedules. With Enterprise Transporter, ad hoc jobs can be easily transferred to standard production runs, eliminating manual intervention in the job scheduling process. Using Enterprise Transporter also gives IT Operations staff the ability to incorporate migration processes into established IT policies and to seamlessly make changes to run book operations.

Rich User Interface – An intuitive user interface provides visual choices for jobs, groups, agents, calendars, and schedules, eliminating guesswork and errors. This utility points out differences in a target environment such as calendars that do not exist, enabling users to select an appropriate calendar.

Rule-Based Mapping – Rule-based mapping adds automated intelligence to job migrations. IT staff can use object mapping to control environment settings, setting them once or mapping as they proceed. The UI guides users through the process of mapping calendars and variables, testing targets and events, and correcting connections to agents. Once completed, these objects can be applied as rules to entire sets of jobs as global changes, such as connecting a new agent to many jobs.

Data Integrity Support – Integrity of the job database is maintained through internal synchronization features. Manual migration mistakes can be avoided, because using rules can normalize agent naming discrepancies and eliminate selecting the wrong agent.

Migration Timing Control – Enterprise Transporter can move Enterprise Scheduler definitions from one database to another while running in live production environments, with no need to stop active job instances. Jobs can also be moved at a set time in the future through a standard calendaring function.

Advanced Error Checking – Advanced error checking catches potential problems before they affect schedule execution results, minimizing costly mistakes.

Feature Summary

The following features make the capabilities of Enterprise Transporter easily accessible to users, enabling them to become productive quickly:

- **Easy-to-use graphical user interface with features such as drag-and-drop from source database to destination database**
- **The ability to migrate complete jobs, job classes, job groups, calendars, events, actions, and variables between Enterprise Scheduler databases**
- **A search function that simplifies finding job and job components**
- **Extensive filters and job trees that simplify browsing through jobs**
- **The ability to modify ad hoc jobs and change definitions during migration**
- **The ability to add, delete, and test database connections**
- **Comprehensive logging and audit reporting**
- **An annotation feature to add notes on job transfers**
- **Rule mapping to automate global changes and resolve agent, calendar, owner, runtime user, and other conflicts**
- **An interactive mode that dynamically maps items and applies the changes to remaining jobs**
- **Configuration and desktop settings saved between sessions**
- **Processes integrated into existing IT policies and run book operations**

Key Requirements

Cisco Tidal Enterprise Transporter is designed to work with Cisco Tidal Enterprise Scheduler.

Although specific planning and sizing is straightforward, actual requirements can vary by enterprise depending on the environment and type of coverage needed. Specific requirements information is easily obtainable after an initial conversation with a product expert. Enterprise Transporter can be installed and deployed by the customer or by engaging Cisco Services. An array of materials is also available online through Cisco Knowledge Services.

About Cisco Tidal Enterprise Scheduler

Cisco Tidal Enterprise Scheduler drives efficiency by centralizing and providing a single view of cross-enterprise job scheduling events. This powerful, yet easy-to-use solution enables organizations to assemble complex batch job and business process schedules that span the enterprise. With its ability to closely monitor scheduled jobs, automatically detect problems, and define actions to aid in recovery, business process performance can be greatly enhanced.

With the broad coverage provided by Enterprise Scheduler, IT operations teams can effectively schedule processes that touch a wide range of databases, systems, and applications. They can also easily incorporate and manage new applications as they come online, which helps improve the operation of mission-critical business processes as the enterprise expands and evolves.

Companies in a variety of industries rely on Cisco Tidal Enterprise Scheduler to keep their daily operations running smoothly. Cisco Tidal enterprise job scheduling software and application performance management solutions can deliver even greater levels of automation and optimization to the data center than conventional scheduling and performance management solutions.

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