

OpenNMS Meridian Release Notes

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OpenNMS Meridian v2019.1.2, Last updated 2020-01-07 11:01:57 EST

Table of Contents

OpenNMS Meridian Development Team	1
OpenNMS Meridian 2019	2
System Requirements	2
What's New in Meridian 2019.....	2
Architecture for Learning Enabled Correlation.....	2
Changes to the Alarm Lifecycle	2
Kafka Data Collection Sync	3
Sentinel	3
Node and Interface Metadata.....	3
Elasticsearch 7.x Support.....	3
Other Improvements.....	4
Release Meridian-2019.1.2.....	4
Release Meridian-2019.1.1.....	5
Release Meridian-2019.1.0.....	5

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OpenNMS Meridian 2019

System Requirements

- **Java 8 through 11:** OpenNMS Meridian 2019 runs on JDK 8 through 11. We recommend the most recent version of OpenJDK 11.
- **Default Heap Size:** The default heap size is now 2GB.
- **PostgreSQL 10 or higher:** Meridian 2019 requires any supported version of PostgreSQL 10 or higher.

What's New in Meridian 2019

Since Meridian 2018, we have introduced a large number of features, most notably Telemetryd (for processing streaming telemetry like NetFlow and sFlow), the Sentinel (for horizontal scaling of telemetry and other processing), and ALEC (for alarm correlation).

On top of that, there have been many other improvements and bug fixes since Meridian 2018.

Meridian 2019 roughly matches the feature set available in Horizon 25.

Architecture for Learning Enabled Correlation

Horizon 23 introduced support for correlation of alarms into meta-alarms called "situations" using an engine called the [Architecture for Learning Enabled Correlation](#).

Situations are OpenNMS alarms that contain one or more triggering alarms, which allows them to be browsed, acknowledged, and unacknowledged just like any other alarm.

A high-level overview of the goal and implementation of correlation can be seen [on the ALEC web site](#).

Changes to the Alarm Lifecycle

Alarm Clearing

Traditionally, OpenNMS has created and resolved alarms in pairs, with one alarm representing the triggering event (or events), and then a second alarm representing the resolution. Horizon 23 changes this default behavior to use a single alarm to track the problem state, incrementing the alarm count when it occurs while in a problem state, or when moving from resolved *back* into a problem state. Additionally, you can configure OpenNMS to create a new alarm if a problem happens again.

These behaviors are controlled by the introduction of 2 new settings in the `opennms.properties` file:

`org.opennms.alarmd.legacyAlarmState`

This setting reverts to the old (pre-23) behavior of creating separate alarms for a problem and its resolution.

`org.opennms.alarmd.newIfClearedAlarmExists`

This setting forces Alarmd to create a new alarm if a problem reoccurs, rather than incrementing an existing alarm. (Note: this is ignored if `legacyAlarmState` is set to `true`.)

These improvements are covered in a [lunch and learn video](#) we published recently, if you would like to learn more.

Alarmd Architecture

To facilitate the implementation of ALEC, alarmd has been rearchitected to use Drools to manage the alarm lifecycle, rather than Vacuumd automations, triggers, and actions.

If you are migrating changes to `vacuumd-configuration.xml` from an earlier Meridian release, it is strongly recommended you port them to the new Alarmd Drools context. The Drools rules are in the `$OPENNMS_HOME/etc/alarmd/drools-rules.d/` directory.

Additionally, we no longer generate `alarmCreated`, `alarmEscalated`, `alarmCleared`, `alarmUncleared`, `alarmUpdatedWithReducedEvent`, and `alarmDeleted` events. Instead, it is recommended that you add Drools rules to react to alarm changes.

For more complicated integrations, we also have a new API—`AlarmLifecycleListener`—for reacting to alarm changes.

Kafka Data Collection Sync

In addition to publishing events, alarms, and node inventory to Kafka, we now [publish collected time-series data to the Kafka bus](#) as well.

Sentinel

In addition to the Minion, we have added a new container-based subsystem called "Sentinel." The Sentinel is a Karaf container that can be configured to run a subset of OpenNMS daemons as a standalone tool, to aid in horizontal scaling and/or high availability.

Sentinel is designed to run our Karaf/Camel/SQS-based messaging bus, syslog listener, telemetry receiver, and Newts and Elasticsearch persistence.

Node and Interface Metadata

There is now support for associating arbitrary metadata with nodes and interfaces, including configuring arbitrary metadata in the requisition UI.

For details on using the metadata APIs, see [the Admin Guide](#) and [the Developer Guide](#).

Elasticsearch 7.x Support

All of the features that leverage integrations with Elasticsearch i.e. event & alarm history, flows & situation feedback have been updated to support Elasticsearch 7.x. Elasticsearch versions before 7.x are no longer supported.

Given the pace of changes and the number of breaking changes between major versions of Elasticsearch, we will focus on supporting a single major version of Elasticsearch per release moving forward.

Other Improvements

Since Meridian 2019 is based on Horizon 25, it contains all the fixes and updates that have occurred since Meridian 2018 was created from the Horizon 21 codebase.

For a more complete list of changes included in this release, see the "What's New" documentation for the following Horizon releases:

- [Horizon 22](#)
- [Horizon 23](#)
- [Horizon 24](#)
- [Horizon 25](#)

Release Meridian-2019.1.2

Release 2019.1.2 is the third release in the Meridian 2019 series.

It contains a number of alarm classification bug fixes and performance improvements, flow enhancements, and more.

The codename for 2019.1.2 is *Earth*

Bug

- possible issue in JCIFS Monitor - contiously increase of threads - finally heap dump (Issue [NMS-12407](#))
- Wrong links in the Help/Support page (Issue [NMS-12418](#))
- Classification Engine reload causes OOM when defining a bunch of rules (Issue [NMS-12429](#))
- Cannot define a specific layer in topology app URL (Issue [NMS-12431](#))
- Classification UI: Error responses are not shown properly (Issue [NMS-12432](#))
- Classification Engine: The end of the range is excluded, which is not intuitive (Issue [NMS-12433](#))
- Ticket-creating automations are incorrectly enabled by default (Issue [NMS-12439](#))
- Enable downtime model-based node deletion to happen when unmanaged interfaces exist (Issue [NMS-12442](#))
- Improve alarmd Drools engine performance by using STREAM mode (Issue [NMS-12455](#))

Enhancement

- Refactoring of the Cassandra installation instructions (Issue [NMS-12397](#))
- Allow telemetry flows to balance across Kafka partitions (Issue [NMS-12427](#))

- Add system test for IpfixTcpParser (Issue [NMS-12434](#))
- Associate exporter node using Observation Domain Id (Issue [NMS-12435](#))

Release Meridian-2019.1.1

Release 2019.1.1 is the second release in the Meridian 2019 series.

It contains a number of bug fixes mostly related to alarm and event processing and potential resource leaks, as well as provisioning enhancements to SNMP profiles.

The codename for 2019.1.1 is *Venus*

Bug

- Readiness probe with Minion in Kubernetes with health:check does not work (Issue [NMS-12120](#))
- Cannot use poller:poll karaf command with WsManMonitor through Minions (Issue [NMS-12365](#))
- Strange behavior on used threads and file descriptors on Minion (Issue [NMS-12366](#))
- Upstream Drools Bug: From with modify fires unexpected rule (Issue [NMS-12367](#))
- "Page Not Found" in alarm-list when choosing number of alarms in dropdown-list (Issue [NMS-12379](#))
- Build failure during release for 25.1.0 in CircleCI (Issue [NMS-12380](#))
- backport missing patches from 25.1.0 to foundation-2019 (Issue [NMS-12384](#))
- Discovery does not honor exclude-range inside a definition (Issue [NMS-12385](#))
- Discovery exclude-range is not location-aware (Issue [NMS-12386](#))
- Update OpenJDK 11.0.4 to 11.0.5 (Issue [NMS-12387](#))
- Elasticsearch event forwarder manipulates in-flight event (Issue [NMS-12390](#))
- send-event.pl is broken after OpenNMS 25.1.0 update (Issue [NMS-12392](#))
- SNMP profile fitting is not triggered in some cases when MINION is involved (Issue [NMS-12399](#))
- Alarmd fails intermittently and OOMs (Issue [NMS-12412](#))
- SNMP Remove from definitions fails for definitions with profile label (Issue [NMS-12413](#))

Enhancement

- Create a step-by-step guide how to setup Kafka for Minions (Issue [NMS-12368](#))
- Enhance new snmp profiles to allow fitting to nodes inside requisitions without SNMP service associated to any IPs configured (Issue [NMS-12396](#))

Release Meridian-2019.1.0

Release 2019.1.0 is the first release in the Meridian 2019 series.

The codename for 2019.1.0 is *Mercury*

Bug

- removed service will break BSM web ui (Issue [NMS-9322](#))
- Event parameters no longer preserve ordering (Issue [NMS-9827](#))
- The JMX-Cassandra service goes down for all the cluster when a single instance is down. (Issue [NMS-10027](#))
- deleting a BSM monitor while an alarm is active doesn't clear the alarm (Issue [NMS-10184](#))
- default event description is incorrect (Issue [NMS-10346](#))
- Config tester doesn't detect missing xml datacollection file (Issue [NMS-10396](#))
- BSM alarm severity is not being updated (Issue [NMS-10578](#))
- snmp authentication error traps with Enhanced Linkd / bridge discovery (Issue [NMS-10582](#))
- Zooming with Backshift is broken (Issue [NMS-10635](#))
- Karaf shell history thrown out with bathwater on upgrade (Issue [NMS-10664](#))
- Node detail page renders with no content when invalid node ID specified (Issue [NMS-10679](#))
- Apparent memory leak in JMX collector, possibly restricted to "weird" JMX transports (Issue [NMS-10684](#))
- Elasticsearch forwarding fails to recover after outage (Issue [NMS-10697](#))
- Flow rest results for top N queries are not returned in the correct order (Issue [NMS-12104](#))
- karaf.log appears on the root file system when running Minion/Sentinel on Ubuntu/Debian. (Issue [NMS-12125](#))
- WS-MAN doesn't work with JDK 11 (Issue [NMS-12235](#))
- ReST API for meta-data doesn't support JSON (Issue [NMS-12272](#))
- UI for meta-data is only present when using the horizontal layout (Issue [NMS-12273](#))
- Groups disappear in classification UI (Issue [NMS-12291](#))
- BSM simulation mode does not reset the last state (Issue [NMS-12302](#))
- Web Assets Dependency Rollup 2019-09-24 (Issue [NMS-12320](#))
- Memory leak in Drools engine for alarmd (Issue [NMS-12322](#))
- Threshold state keys do not incorporate the collected resource's instance label (Issue [NMS-12329](#))
- Reportd generated reports cause: "No bean named " is defined" in Persisted Reports (Issue [NMS-12337](#))
- InterfaceNodeCache doesn't remove deleted nodes immediately (Issue [NMS-12338](#))
- Delivering a report with "-" in local part of email address is not working (Issue [NMS-12342](#))
- Install guide for R-core is broken for CentOS 8 (Issue [NMS-12352](#))
- Karaf feature install issue with opennms-core-tracing-jaeger (Issue [NMS-12359](#))
- Fix requisition cache when accessing the Requisitions UI via "Edit in Requisition" (Issue [NMS-12360](#))

Enhancement

- Refactor the compatibility matrix in the documentation (Issue [NMS-9684](#))
- Be able to change the number of rows for the pagination control on the Requisitions UI (Issue [NMS-9793](#))
- Documentation typo for /rest/ifservices on the developers guide (Issue [NMS-9842](#))
- Remove alarm-change-notifier plugin (Issue [NMS-10658](#))
- Add OpenTracing support for Camel (JMS) RPC (Issue [NMS-10961](#))
- Support large buffer sizes in Kafka Sink Layer (Issue [NMS-11126](#))
- Investigate OpenTracing for our RPC communications (Issue [NMS-11177](#))
- RPC Metrics (Issue [NMS-11517](#))
- Sink Metrics (Issue [NMS-11540](#))
- Add a command to show configuration diffs (Issue [NMS-12129](#))
- Add Web-Hook as delivery option (Issue [NMS-12153](#))
- Add reply-to field to notification emails (Issue [NMS-12224](#))
- Refactor Event Timestamps to ISO-8601 Format (Breaking Change) (Issue [NMS-12263](#))
- Improve robustness of CassandraBlobStore for async operations (Issue [NMS-12274](#))
- Clearing threshold states via shell should take effect immediately and not require restart (Issue [NMS-12277](#))
- BSM configuration breaks without being notified (Issue [NMS-12288](#))
- List Kafka RPC/Sink topics, Expose Metrics on Karaf shell (Issue [NMS-12294](#))
- Create proper systemd files for OpenNMS, Minion and Sentinel (Issue [NMS-12299](#))
- Add ability to update definitions when SNMP profile changes (Issue [NMS-12307](#))
- Fix security vulnerability with jackson-databind (Issue [NMS-12308](#))
- Availability boxes on node pages including sub pages differ (Issue [NMS-12321](#))
- OpenNMS 25 Dependency Still Allows Old PostgreSQL Versions (Issue [NMS-12341](#))
- Update base container image to use CentOS 8 (Issue [NMS-12353](#))
- Remove floating OpenJDK dependencies in OCI build (Issue [NMS-12354](#))
- Detect and help resolve Karaf bootstrap issues (Issue [NMS-12356](#))
- Update CISCO-ENTITY-SENSOR-MIB threshold trap events to include alarm-data (Issue [NMS-12362](#))
- switch core/web-assets from yarn to npm (Issue [NMS-12363](#))
- Collect and display file descriptor statistics via JMX for OpenNMS and Minion (Issue [NMS-12364](#))