



NETWRIX CHANGE NOTIFIER FOR SQL SERVER

QUICK-START GUIDE

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Overview

Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server allows automatic tracking of changes to SQL Server configuration, including security settings, users, roles, logins, schema changes, etc.

1.2. Licensing

Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server is a freeware product with an unlimited license.

1.3. How It Works

The product data collection and reporting workflow is as follows:

1. An administrator sets the parameters for automated data collection by specifying the SQL Servers to be monitored for configuration changes.
2. A dedicated scheduled task which is launched daily collects audit data and writes it to a local file-based storage referred to as Audit Archive.
3. After the task has been executed, a Change Summary containing a list of changes that occurred since the last data collection is sent to the specified recipients. You can also use the Report Viewer tool to generate and view on-demand summaries.

2. INSTALL NETWRIX CHANGE NOTIFIER FOR SQL SERVER

2.1. Installation Prerequisites

This section provides hardware and software requirements necessary to install Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server, and recommendations on how to deploy this product.

2.1.1. Deployment Options

Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server can be installed on any computer in the domain where the audited SQL Servers are located.

If you want to audit SQL Servers located in different domains, the target servers must have an account with the same name and password as the account under which the product is run. This account must have the sysadmin role on the target SQL server and the local admin rights on the computer where the product is installed.

2.1.2. Hardware Requirements

Before installing Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server, make sure that your hardware meets the following requirements:

Table 1: Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server Hardware Requirements

Hardware Component	Minimum	Recommended
Processor	Intel or AMD 32 bit, 500MHz	Intel or AMD 64 bit, 3GHz Note: The Itanium (IA64) processor is not supported.
Memory*	512MB RAM	2GB RAM
Disk space	50MB	20GB

- **These are rough estimations. The actual required memory size depends on the average number of changes per day in the audited environment.**

2.1.3. Software Requirements

Before installing Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server, make sure that your system meets the following software requirements:

Table 2: Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server Software Requirements

Component	Requirement
Operating System	Windows XP SP3 or above
Framework	.NET Framework 3.5
Additional Software	Windows Installer 3.1 or above

2.1.4. Supported SQL Server Versions

Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server supports auditing of the following SQL Server versions:

- Microsoft SQL Server 2000
- Microsoft SQL Server 2005
- Microsoft SQL Server 2008

- Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2
- Microsoft SQL Server 2012

2.2. Install Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server

To install Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server, download and run the Netwrix_Change_Notifier_for_SQL_Server.msi file. Follow the instructions of the installation wizard. When prompted, accept the license agreement and specify the installation folder.

3. CONFIGURE RIGHTS AND PERMISSIONS

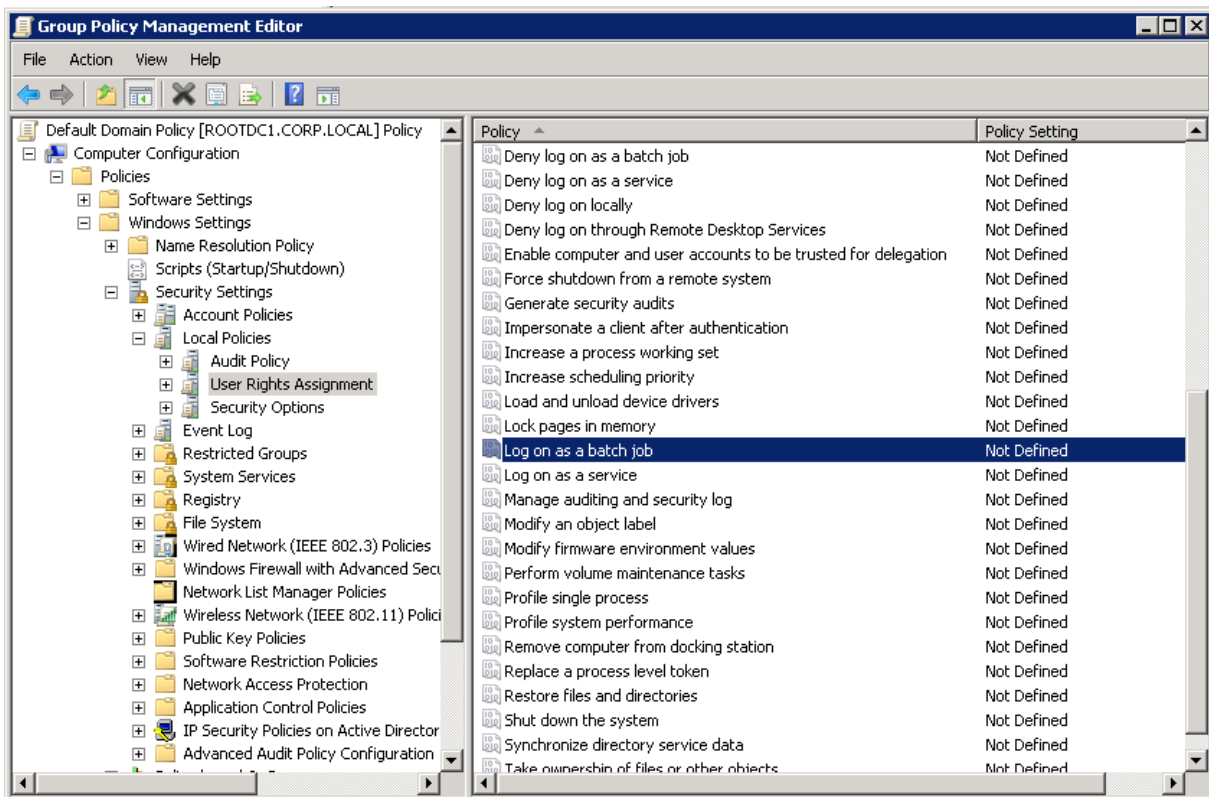
The account under which Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server collects data from the monitored servers must have the following rights and permissions:

- The account must be a member of the **Local Administrators group** on the computer where the product is installed and on the target servers.
- The **Log on as a batch job** policy must be defined for this account (see [Procedure 1 To define the Log on as a batch job policy](#))
- The account must be assigned the **sysadmin** role on the target SQL Server (see [Procedure 2 To assign the sysadmin role to an account](#)).

Procedure 1. To define the Log on as a batch job policy

1. Open the **Group Policy Management** console on any domain controller in the monitored domain: navigate to **Start** → **Administrative Tools** → **Group Policy Management**.
2. In the left pane, navigate to **Forest: <domain_name>** → **Domains** → **<domain_name>**, right-click **Default Domain Policy** and select **Edit** from the pop-up menu.
3. In the **Group Policy Management Editor** dialog, expand the **Computer Configuration** node on the left and navigate to **Policies** → **Windows Settings** → **Security Settings** → **Local Policies** → **User Rights Assignment** and locate the **Log on as a batch job** policy:

Figure 1: Group Policy Management Editor



4. Double-click this policy, select **Define these policy settings** and click **Add User or Group**. Specify the account that you want to define this policy for.

5. Navigate to **Start → Run** and type `cmd`. Input the `gpupdate /force` command and click **Enter** to update the group policy.

Procedure 2. To assign the sysadmin role to an account

1. Open **Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio**: navigate to **Start → Microsoft SQL Server → SQL Server Management Studio** and connect to the target server.
2. In the **Object Explorer**, navigate to **Security → Logins**.
3. Right click the user that you want to assign the system administrator role to, and select **Properties**.
4. In the **Login Properties** dialog, open the **Server Roles** page and select **sysadmin**.

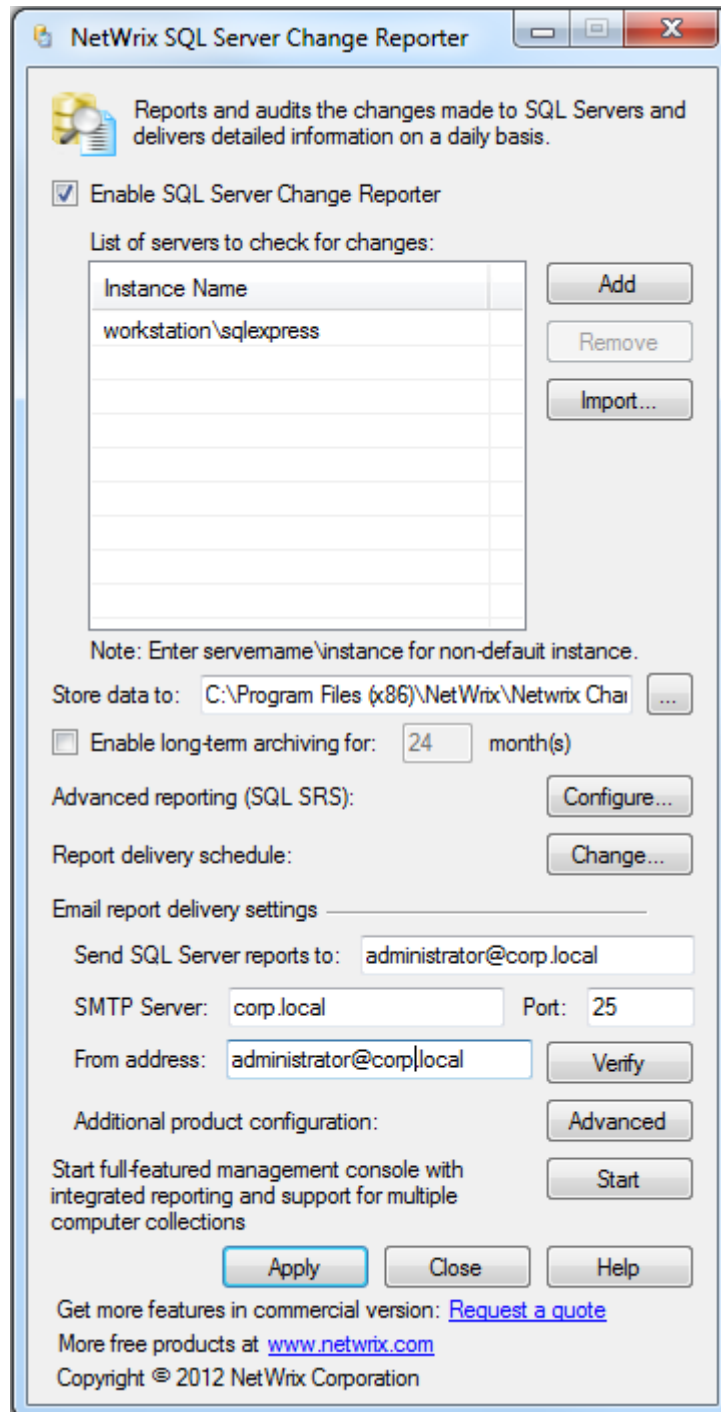
4. CONFIGURE NETWRIX CHANGE NOTIFIER FOR SQL SERVER

After Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server has been installed, you need to enable and configure SQL Server audit.

Procedure 3. To Configure SQL Server Audit

1. Navigate to Start → All Programs → Netwrix Freeware → Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server. The product configuration dialog will open:

Figure 2: The Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server Configuration Dialog



- Specify the following settings and parameters:

Table 3: Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server Settings

Parameter	Instruction
Enable SQL Server Change Reporter	Enable this option to start SQL Server audit.
List of servers to check for changes	Click Add and enter the names of SQL Server instances that you want to audit for changes.
Store data to	Specify the location for the local file-based storage of audit data.
Report delivery schedule	Click the Change button to modify Change Summary delivery schedule. Note: Before you can modify the Change Summary delivery schedule, you must save your current configuration.
Send SQL Server reports to	Enter the email address of the Change Summary recipient. You can enter several addresses separated by a semicolon.
SMTP Server	Enter the SMTP server name.
Port	Specify the SMTP port number.
From address	Enter the email address that will appear in the "From" file in the Change Summary emails.

- Save your configuration by clicking the **Apply** button. The **Scheduled Task Credentials** dialog will be displayed.
- Specify the account under which the product scheduled task will collect audit data. Make sure that this account has the necessary rights and permissions (see Chapter 3 Configure Rights and Permissions)
- Enter and confirm the account password and click **OK**.

Note: To modify the product settings later, launch the product configuration dialog from the **Start** menu.

5. MONITOR SQL SERVERS FOR CHANGES

When the product has been configured, it starts collecting data on SQL Server changes from the monitored computers. By default, the data collection task is launched daily at 3:00 AM. If required, you can launch the product scheduled task manually or modify its schedule.

5.1. Launch the Product Task Manually

Procedure 4. To launch the product scheduled task manually:

1. Launch **Task Scheduler**.
2. In the left pane, expand the **Task Scheduler Library** node. In the right pane, select the task called **Netwrix Management Console - SQL Server Change Reporter**.
3. Right-click the task and select **Run** from the drop-down list. Alternatively, use the **Run** option from the **Actions** menu.

5.2. Modify the Product Task Schedule

Procedure 5. To modify the product task schedule:

1. Launch **Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server**.
2. In the main configuration dialog, click **Change** next to **Report delivery schedule**.
3. In the dialog that opens, click **Change**, modify the default schedule, click **OK**, and click **Apply** in the main window to save the changes.

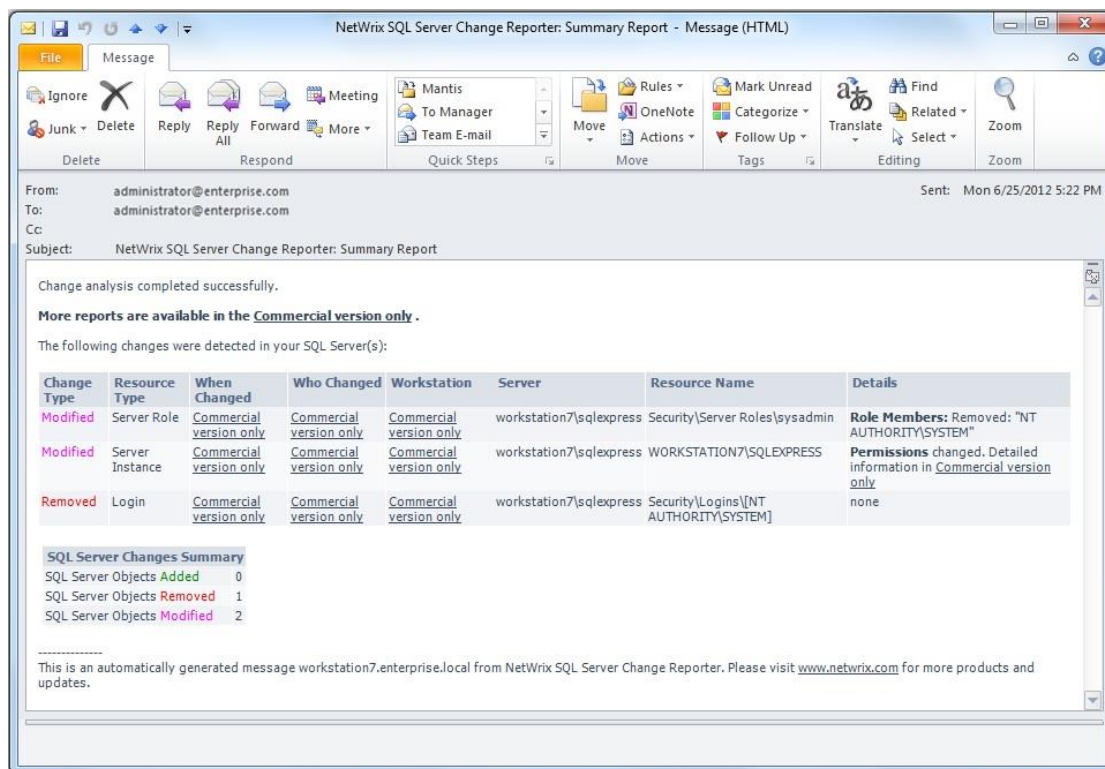
5.3. View a Change Summary

After the first data collection task has finished, an email will be delivered to the specified address notifying you that the initial analysis has been completed.

After that, you can make test changes to your environment to see how they are reported.

When the task is launched the next time (either automatically or manually), it detects the changes made since the last data collection, generates and delivers the Change Summary to the specified recipients:

Figure 3: Change Summary Example



The Change Summary provides the following information for each change:

- Change type, for example Added, Removed, Modified
- Resource Type, for example, Server Instance, Login, etc.
- WHERE the change occurred;
- Additional details on the change made to server configuration including the before and after values of the changed setting.

5.4. Generate an On-Demand Change Summary

If you wish to view the changes made to server configuration within some specified time frame, do the following:

Procedure 6. To generate an on-demand Change Summary:

1. Navigate to **Start → All Programs → Netwrix Freeware → Netwrix Change Notifier for SQL Server → Advanced Tools → Report Viewer**.
2. Select the server for which you would like to view the changes from the drop-down list.
3. Specify the time frame by selecting the sessions in the **First snapshot** and **Second snapshot** drop-down lists.
4. Click the **Generate** button.
5. You will be asked to save the result as an HTML document.
6. The changes made to server configuration within the specified time frame will be displayed in the default web browser.