

Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint Quick-Start Guide

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1. Introduction

This guide is intended for the first-time users of Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint. It can be used for evaluation purposes, therefore, it is recommended to read it sequentially, and follow the instructions in the order they are provided. After reading this guide you will be able to:

- Install and configure Netwrix Auditor
- Create a Managed Object to start auditing a SharePoint farm
- Launch data collection
- See how Netwrix Auditor enables complete visibility

NOTE: This guide only covers the basic configuration and usage options for auditing SharePoint with Netwrix Auditor. For advanced installation scenarios and configuration options, as well as for information on various reporting possibilities and other product features, refer to:

- [Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide](#)
- [Netwrix Auditor Administrator's Guide](#)
- [Netwrix Auditor User Guide](#)

1.1. Netwrix Auditor Overview

Netwrix Auditor is a visibility and governance platform that enables control over changes, configurations and access in hybrid cloud IT environments to protect sensitive data regardless of its location. The platform provides security analytics to detect anomalies in user behavior and investigate threat patterns before a data breach occurs.

Netwrix Auditor includes applications for Active Directory, Azure AD, Exchange, Office 365, Windows file servers, EMC storage devices, NetApp filer appliances, SharePoint, Oracle Database, SQL Server, VMware, and Windows Server. Empowered with a RESTful API and user activity video recording, the platform delivers visibility and control across all of your on-premises or cloud-based IT systems in a unified way.

Major benefits:

- Detect insider threats—on premises and in the cloud
- Pass compliance audits with less effort and expense
- Increase productivity of IT security and operations teams

Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint tracks and reports on read access and changes made to SharePoint farms, servers and sites, including modifications of content, security settings and permissions.

2. Netwrix Auditor System Requirements

This section lists the requirements for the systems that are going to be audited with Netwrix Auditor, and for the computer where the product is going to be installed.

2.1. Supported Audited Systems

The table below lists systems that can be audited with Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint:

Audited System	Supported Versions
SharePoint	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microsoft SharePoint Foundation 2010 and SharePoint Server 2010• Microsoft SharePoint Foundation 2013 and SharePoint Server 2013• Microsoft SharePoint Server 2016

2.2. Requirements to Install Netwrix Auditor

This section provides the requirements for the computer where Netwrix Auditor is going to be installed. Refer to the following sections for detailed information:

- [Hardware Requirements](#)
- [Software Requirements](#)

2.2.1. Hardware Requirements

Before installing Netwrix Auditor, make sure that your hardware meets the following requirements:

Hardware Component	Minimum	Recommended
Processor	Intel or AMD 32 bit, 2 GHz	Intel Core 2 Duo 2x 64 bit, 3 GHz Preferably a virtual machine

Hardware Component	Minimum	Recommended
RAM	2 GB	8 GB
Disk space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 MB physical disk space for the product installation 30 GB for the file-based Long-Term Archive 500 MB for the SQL Server-based Audit Database where audit data is going to be stored <p>NOTE: These are rough estimations, calculated for evaluation of Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint. Refer to Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide for complete information on the Netwrix Auditor disk space requirements.</p>	
Screen resolution	1280 x 1024	1920 x 1080 and higher

2.2.2. Software Requirements

The table below lists the minimum software requirements for the Netwrix Auditor installation:

Component	Requirements
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Windows Desktop OS (64-bit): Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1 Windows Server OS (64-bit): Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1, Windows Server 2012/2012 R2
Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .Net Framework 3.5 SP1
Installer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Windows Installer 3.1 and above

2.2.2.1. Additional Components

Audited system	Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SharePoint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .Net Framework 3.5 SP1 on the computer that hosts SharePoint Central Administration in the audited SharePoint farm—required for Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint Core Service.

3. Review Components Checklist

To speed up the evaluation process, Netwrix recommends you to ensure that the following services and components are up and running prior to the Netwrix Auditor installation.

Service or component	Recommendations
Network and audited system	Test connectivity to your audited system. Make sure you can access it by its NetBIOS and DNS names from the computer where you intend to install Netwrix Auditor—use the nslookup command-line tool to look up domain names. Domain controllers must be accessible as well.
SQL Server 2014 with SSRS (optional step)	<p>Although Netwrix Auditor provides a convenient interface for downloading SQL Server 2014 Express right from Netwrix Auditor Administrator Console, it is recommended to deploy SQL Server instance in advance. Test your SQL Server connectivity.</p> <p>NOTE: Netwrix Auditor provides an option to verify SSRS settings right in the Netwrix Auditor Administrator Console.</p>
Test account	<p>Netwrix recommends you to create a special account with extensive privileges. This account should have sufficient permissions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect audit data. See Configure Data Processing Account Rights and Permissions for more information.• Access data stored in the SQL Server instance:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The account must be assigned the Database owner (db_owner) role and the dbcreator server role.• The account must be assigned the Content Manager role on the SSRS Home folder.• Make test changes in your environment.

NOTE: There is no need to perform any additional configuration steps to prepare your IT infrastructure for auditing. Netwrix Auditor provides an option that automatically configures audit settings in the target environment. For a full list of settings required for Netwrix Auditor to collect comprehensive audit data and instructions on how to configure them manually, refer to [Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide](#).

3.1. Configure Data Processing Account Rights and Permissions

The Data Processing Account is used to collect audit data from the target systems. To ensure successful data collection, the Data Processing Account must comply with the following requirements depending on the audited system.

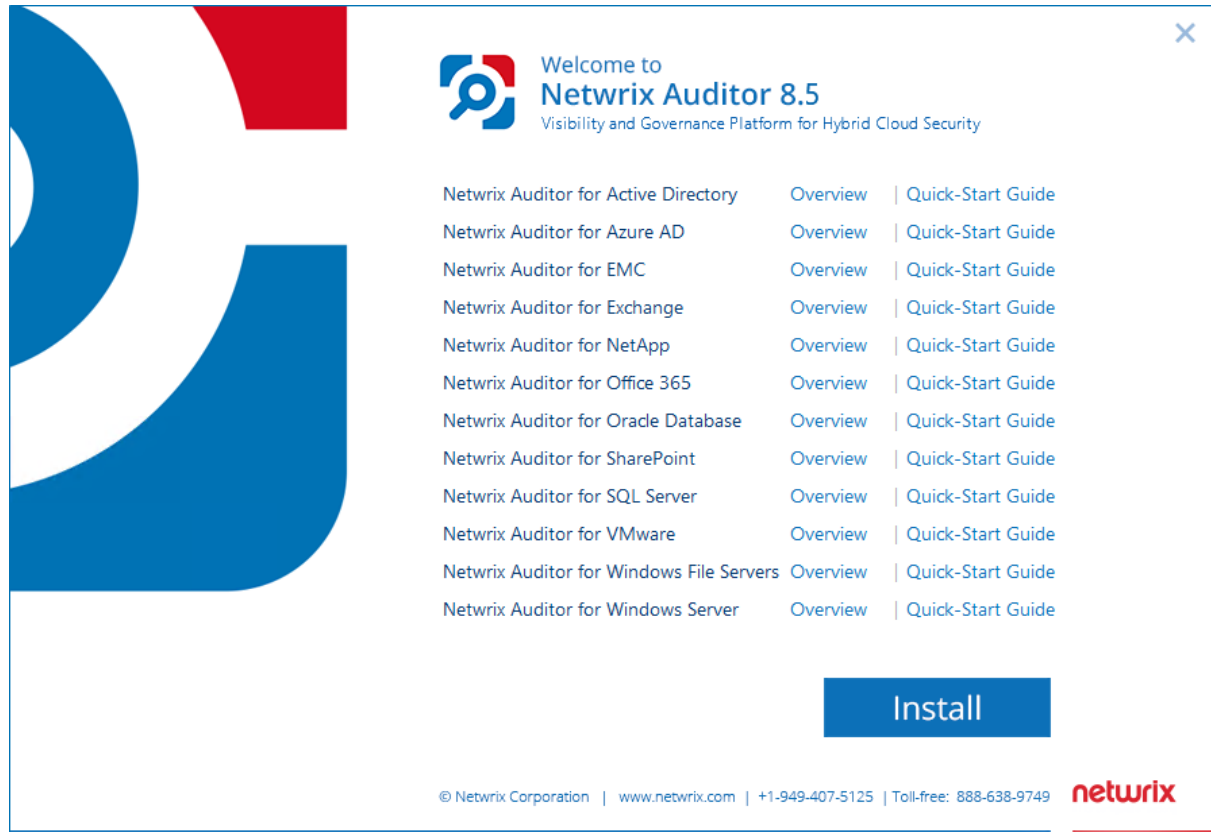
NOTE: The information in this section is outside the quick-start guide scope and is provided for reference only. See [Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide](#) for detailed instructions on how to configure your Data Processing Account.

Audited system	Rights and permissions
SharePoint	<p><i>On the target server:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A member of the local Administrators group on SharePoint server, where the Core Service will be deployed• The SharePoint_Shell_Access role on the SharePoint SQL Server configuration database

4. Install the Product

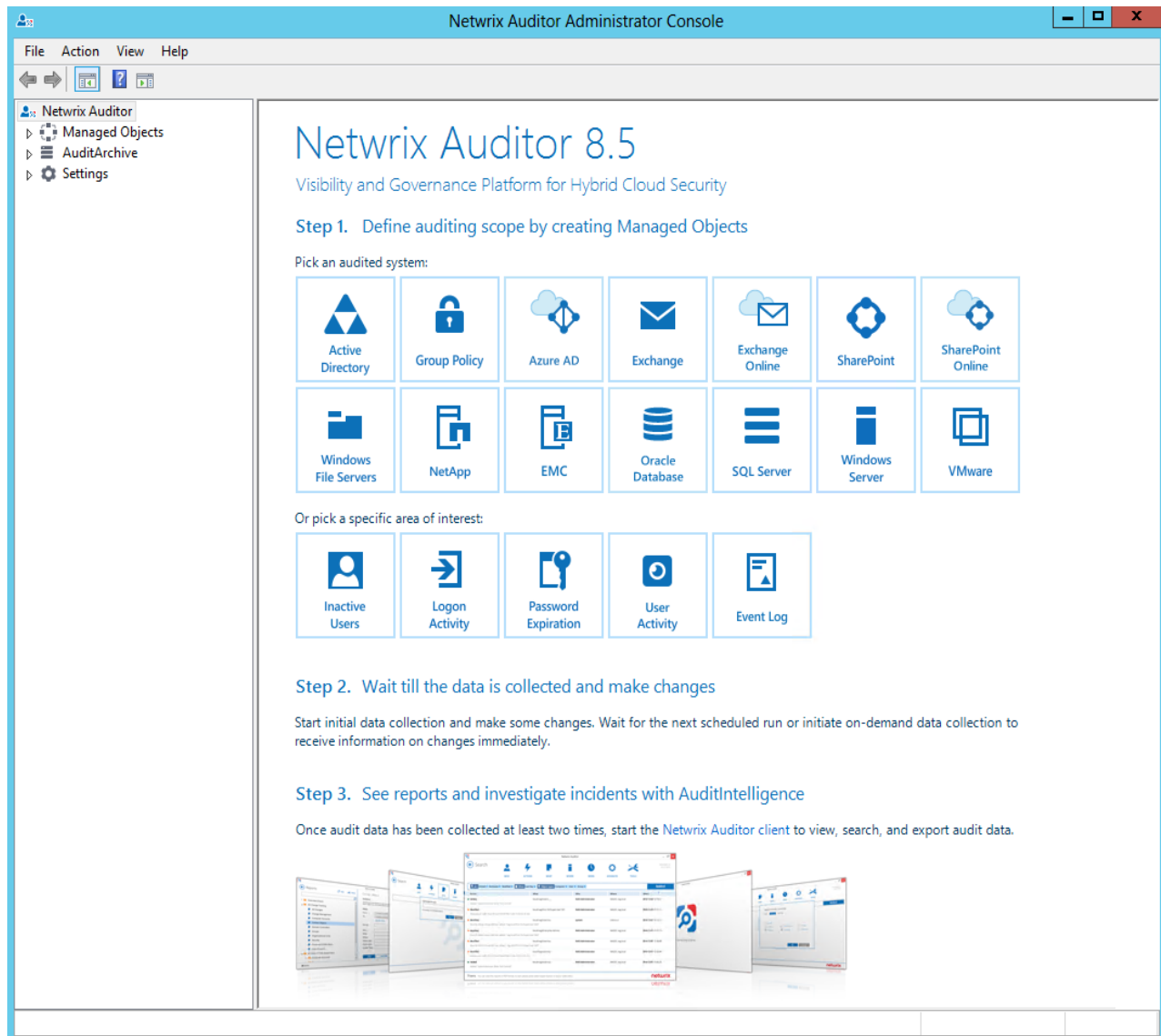
To install Netwrix Auditor

1. Download Netwrix Auditor 8.5 on [Netwrix website](#).
2. Unpack the installation package. The following window will be displayed on successful operation completion:



3. Follow the instructions of the setup wizard. When prompted, accept the license agreement.
4. On the **Select Installation Type** step, select **Full installation**.
5. On the **Destination Folder** step, specify the installation folder.
6. Click **Install**.

After a successful installation, Netwrix Auditor shortcuts will be added to the **Start** menu/screen and Netwrix Auditor Administrator Console will open.



5. Create Managed Object to Audit SharePoint

To start auditing your IT Infrastructure with Netwrix Auditor, you must create a Managed Object. A Managed Object is a container within Netwrix Auditor that stores information on the auditing scope, the Data Processing Account used for data collection, Audit Database settings, etc.

To create a Managed Object to audit SharePoint farms

1. On the main Netwrix Auditor Administrator Console page, click the **SharePoint** tile to launch the **New Managed Object** wizard.
2. On the **Select Managed Object Type** step, select **SharePoint Farm** as a Managed Object type.
3. On the **Specify Default Data Processing Account** step, click **Specify Account**.

Enter the default Data Processing Account that will be used by Netwrix Auditor for data collection. For a full list of the rights and permissions required for the Data Processing Account, and instructions on how to configure them, refer to [Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide](#).

4. On the **Specify Email Settings** step, specify the email settings that will be used for Change Summaries, reports and real-time alerts delivery. Netwrix Auditor automatically detects SMTP settings or you can provide them manually. Complete the following fields:

Option	Description
SMTP server	Enter your SMTP server name. It can be your company's Exchange server or any public mail server (e.g., Gmail, Yahoo).
Port	Specify your SMTP server port number.
Sender address	Enter the address that will appear in the From field. NOTE: It is recommended to click Verify . The system will send a test message to the specified email address and inform you if any problems are detected.
SMTP Authentication	Select this checkbox if your mail server requires the SMTP authentication.
User name	Enter a user name for the SMTP authentication.

Option	Description
Password	Enter a password for the SMTP authentication.
Confirm password	Confirm the password.
Use Secure Sockets Layer encrypted connection (SSL)	Select this checkbox if your SMTP server requires SSL to be enabled.
Implicit SSL connection mode	Select this checkbox if the implicit SSL mode is used, which means that an SSL connection is established before any meaningful data is sent.

5. On the **Specify SharePoint Farm** step, enter the SharePoint Central Administration website URL.

NOTE: Netwrix Auditor cannot verify the Central Administration URL address if your Data Processing Account does not belong to the **Farm Administrators** group on your SharePoint Central Administration site. It does not affect the product operability, you can proceed with the Managed Object creation.

6. On the **Audit Database Settings** step, make sure that the **Make audit data available via summary emails only** checkbox is cleared. By default, the Audit Database is created automatically and is used to store collected audit data.

Select one of the following:

- **Automatically install and configure a new instance of SQL Server Express Edition** to automatically install and configure SQL Server 2014 Express with Advanced Services.
- **Use an existing SQL Server instance with SQL Server Reporting Services** to use an already installed SQL Server instance. Netwrix Auditor detects local SQL Server instance automatically and pre-populates the fields.

Complete the following fields:

Option	Description
SQL Server Settings	
SQL Server instance	Specify the name of the SQL Server instance to store audit data.
Authentication	Select the authentication type you want to use to connect to the SQL Server instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows authentication • SQL Server authentication

Option	Description
User name	Specify the account to be used to connect to the SQL Server instance.
	NOTE: This account must be granted the database owner (db_owner) role and the dbcreator server role. See Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide for more information.
Password	Enter a password.
SQL Server Reporting Services Settings	
Report Server URL	Specify the Report Server URL. Make sure that the resource is reachable.
Report Manager URL	Specify the Report Manager URL. Make sure that the resource is reachable.
User name	Specify the account to be used to connect to SSRS.
Password	Enter a password.

- On the **Configure Audit in Target Environment** step, select **Automatically for the selected audited systems**. Your current audit settings will be checked on each data collection and adjusted if necessary.

NOTE: If any conflicts are detected with your current audit settings, automatic audit configuration will not be performed. For a full list of audit settings required for Netwrix Auditor to collect comprehensive audit data and instructions on how to configure them, refer to [Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide](#).

- On the **Configure SharePoint Auditing Scope** step, you can select the type of changes you want to track and the scope of objects that will be audited in addition to SharePoint farm configuration. For evaluation purposes, check: **Permissions, Content** and **Read access**.
- On the **SharePoint Change Summary Delivery** step, click **Add** and enter your email.

NOTE: It is recommended to click **Verify**. The system will send a test message to the specified email address and inform you if any problems are detected.

- On the **Deploy Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint Core Service** step, specify **Automatically**. For information on the Core Service installation prerequisites, refer to [Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide](#).

NOTE: During the Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint Core Service installation / uninstallation your SharePoint sites may be unavailable.

11. On the last step, review your Managed Object settings and make sure **Run data collection now** is enabled. Click **Finish** to exit the wizard. The newly created Managed Object will appear under the **Managed Objects** node.

When a new Managed Object is created, Netwrix Auditor starts collecting data from the audited IT infrastructure. The first data collection runs automatically and gathers information on the audited system's current configuration state. Netwrix Auditor uses this information as a benchmark to collect data on changes.

6. Make Test Changes

Now that the product has collected a snapshot of the audited system's current configuration state, you can make test changes to see how they will be reported by Netwrix Auditor.

For example, make the following test changes:

- Add a user to the **Site Collection Administrators** group
- Add a list

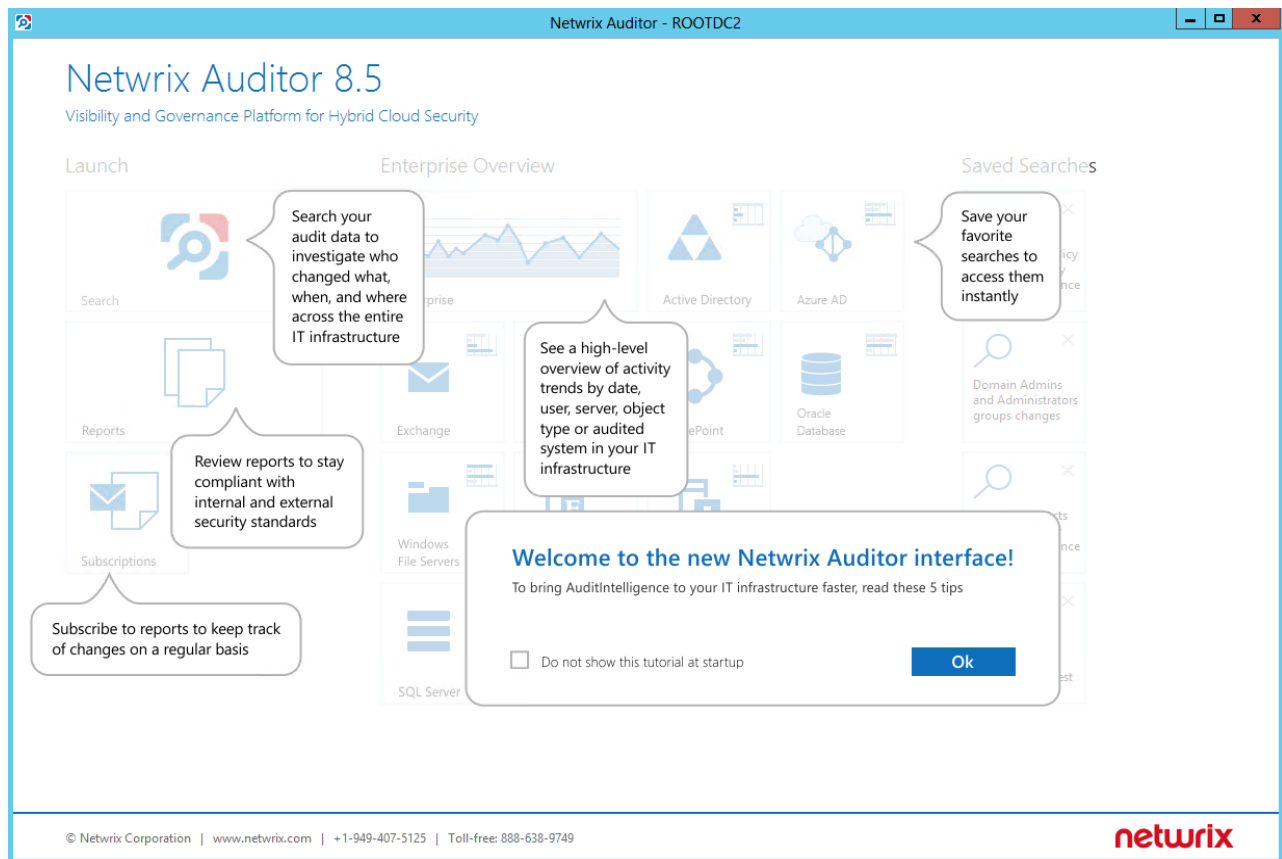
NOTE: Before making any test changes to your environment, ensure that you have the sufficient rights, and that the changes conform to your security policy.

7. See How Netwrix Auditor Enables Complete Visibility

After you have made test changes to the audited environment, you can see how Netwrix Auditor brings AuditIntelligence into your IT infrastructure and enables its complete visibility. This section explains how to review your test changes in the Netwrix Auditor client and Change Summary.

To launch the Netwrix Auditor client

- Navigate to Start → Netwrix Auditor.



Review the following for additional information:

- [Review a Change Summary](#)
- [Browse Data with AuditIntelligence Search](#)
- [Review SharePoint Overview](#)
- [Review the All SharePoint Changes Report](#)

In order not to wait for a scheduled data collection and a Change Summary generation, launch data collection manually.


To launch data collection manually

1. In the Netwrix Auditor Administrator Console, navigate to **Managed Objects** → **your_Managed_Object_name**.
2. In the right pane, click **Run**.
3. Check your mailbox for an email notification and make sure that the data collection has completed successfully.

7.1. Review a Change Summary

A Change Summary is email that lists all changes that occurred since the last Change Summary delivery. By default, a Change Summary is generated daily at 3:00 AM and delivered to the specified recipients. You can also launch data collection and a Change Summary generation manually.

After the data collection has completed, check your mailbox for a Change Summary and see how your test changes are reported:



Fri 4/24/2015 8:05 AM
 administrator@demolab.local
 Netwrix Auditor: SharePoint Change Summary - demolabsp

To Administrator

Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint

Change Summary

■ Added	1
■ Removed	0
■ Modified	1
■ Checked In	0
■ Checked Out	0
■ Discard Check Out	0
■ Moved	0
■ Read	0

Action	Object Type	What	Where	Who	When	Workstation	Details
■ Added	List	http://demolabsp/Lists/Tasks list	http://demolabsp	demolab\spuser	4/24/2015 8:03:30 AM	172.28.143.5	Template: "Custom List" Title: "Tasks list"
■ Modified	Group	Site Collection Administrators	http://demolabsp	demolab\spuser	4/24/2015 8:04:15 AM	Not applicable	Members Added: "demolab\sandra green"

This message was sent by Netwrix Auditor from demolabwks.demolab.local.
www.netwrix.com

The example Change Summary provides the following information:

Column	Description
Action	Shows the type of action that was performed on the object.
Object Type	Shows the type of the object.
What	Shows the name of the changed object or its path (click on the link to navigate to this object).
Where	Shows the name of the SharePoint object where the change occurred (click on the link to navigate to this object).
Who	Shows the name of the account under which the change was made.
When	Shows the exact time when the change occurred.
Workstation	Shows the IP address of the computer where the user was logged on when the change was made.
Details	Shows the before and after values of the modified object, object attributes, etc.

7.2. Browse Data with AuditIntelligence Search

Netwrix Auditor delivers complete visibility into your IT infrastructure. Its convenient AuditIntelligence search interface enables you to investigate incidents and browse audit data collected across the entire IT infrastructure. When running a search in Netwrix Auditor, you are not limited to a certain audited system, change type, or object name. You can create flexible searches that provide you with precise results on *who* changed *what*, and *when* and *where* each change was made.

After collecting initial data, making test changes to your environment and running data collection again, you can review changes in details with AuditIntelligence search.

To browse your audit data and see you test changes



1. On the main Netwrix Auditor page, navigate to **Search**.
2. Add search filters to your search by clicking on a corresponding icon and providing a value. By default, all entries that contain this filter value are shown. For an exact match, use quotation marks.

Filters are used to narrow your search results. To create a unique set of filters, you can:

- Add different filters to your search. Search results will be sorted by all selected filters since they work as a logical conjunction (e.g., **Who: Administrator** AND **Action: Added**).

- Specify several values in the same filter to search for any of them (e.g., **Action: Modified** OR **Action: Removed**). To do this, select a filter again and specify a new value.

For example, consider adding these filters:

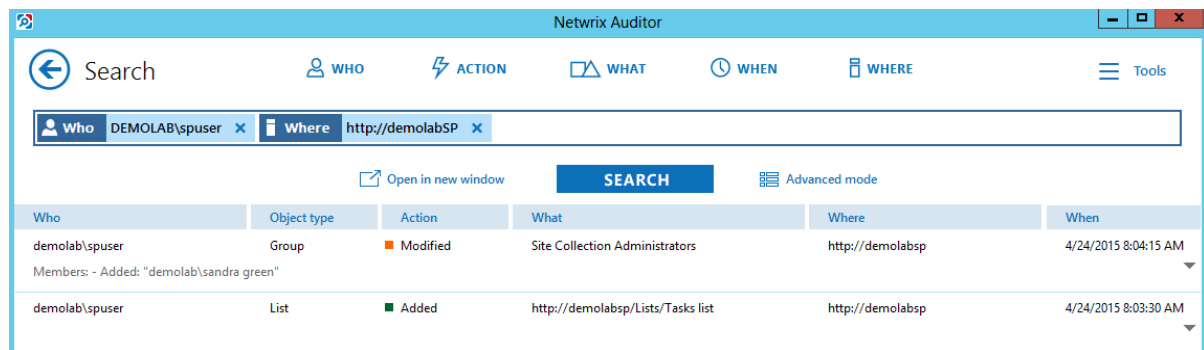
Filter	Value
 WHO	Specify an account you used to connect to your SharePoint farm and make test changes.
 WHERE	Specify your a link to your Site Collection.

NOTE: Refer to [Netwrix Auditor User Guide](#) for detailed instructions on how to apply filters and change match types.

As a result, you will see the following filters in the **Search** field:



3. Click **Search**.



4. Now, you can narrow your search and modify it right from the search results pane. Double-click any entry that contains excess data, select **Exclude from search** and specify a filter, e.g., **Object type: List** to leave information on group membership changes only.

Who	Object type	Action	What
demolab\spuser	Group	Modified	Site Co
Members: - Added: "demolab\sandra green"			
demolab\spuser	List	Added	http://

Exclude from search

Details: No details

[Read more...](#)

Who: demolab\spuser

Object type: List

Audited system: SharePoint

Managed object: demolabsp

Action: Added

What: http://demolabsp/Lists/Tasks list

Where: http://demolabsp

When: 4/24/2015 8:03:30 AM

Your **Search** field will be updated, the **Object type not** filter will be added. Make sure to click **Search** again to update your search results.

The screenshot shows the Netwrix Auditor web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with icons for WHO, ACTION, WHAT, WHEN, and WHERE. Below this is a search bar with filters: 'Who: DEMOLAB\spuser', 'Where: http://demolabSP', and 'Object type not "List"'. A 'SEARCH' button is visible. Below the search bar, there's a table with columns: Who, Object type, Action, What, Where, and When. The table contains one row of results for 'demolab\spuser' (Group) with the action 'Modified' on 'Site Collection Administrators' at 'http://demolabsp' on '4/24/2015 8:04:15 AM'. A 'Tools' menu is located in the top right corner.

5. Having reviewed your search results, navigate to **Tools**.

- Click **Export data** to save your search results as a *.pdf or *.csv file.
- Click **Save search** to save the selected set of filters. This search will be added to the **Saved Searches** section on the main Netwrix Auditor page, so that you will be able to access it instantly. Refer to [Netwrix Auditor User Guide](#) for detailed instructions on how to create saved searches.

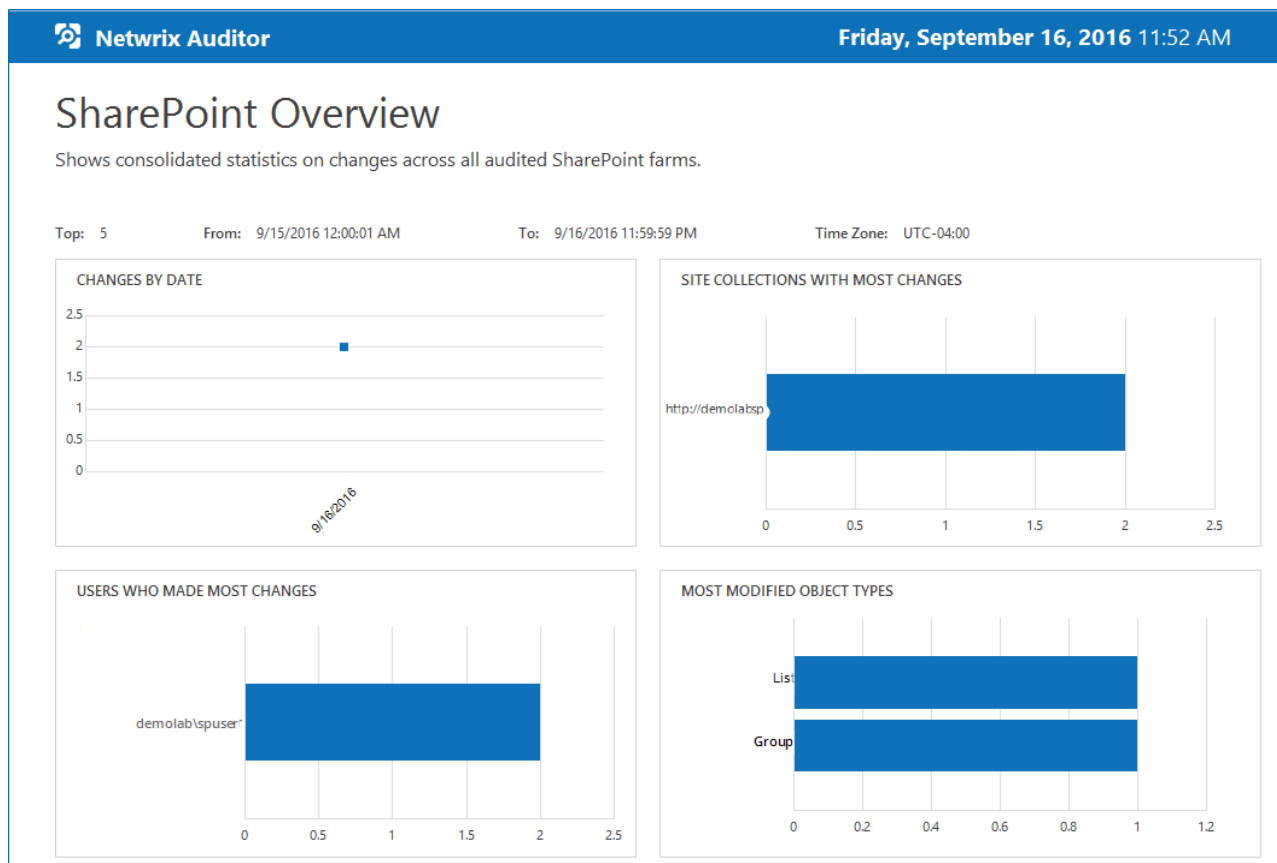
7.3. Review SharePoint Overview

Enterprise Overview provides a high-level overview of activity trends by date, user, server, object type or audited system in your IT infrastructure. The **Enterprise** diagram aggregates data on all Managed Objects and all audited systems, while system-specific diagrams provide quick access to important statistics within one audited system.

After collecting initial data, making test changes to your environment and running data collection again, you can get at-a-glance statistics for changes with the **SharePoint Overview**.

To see how your changes are reported with SharePoint Overview

1. On the main Netwrix Auditor page, navigate to the **Enterprise Overview** section.
2. Click the **SharePoint** tile to open it.
3. Review your changes.
4. Click on any chart to jump to a table report with the corresponding grouping and filtering of data.



7.4. Review the All SharePoint Changes Report


Netwrix Auditor allows generating audit reports based on Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services (SSRS). The Netwrix Auditor client provides a variety of predefined reports that aggregate data from the entire audited IT infrastructure, an individual system, or a Managed Object.

Change reports can be found under the **Reports** → **SharePoint** and provide a narrower insight into what is going on in the audited infrastructure and help you stay compliant with various standards and regulations (FISMA, HIPAA, PCI, SOX, etc.).

After collecting initial data, making test changes to your environment and running data collection again, you can take advantage of the reports functionality.

To see how your changes are listed in the report

1. In the Netwrix Auditor client, navigate to **Reports** → **SharePoint**.
2. Select the **All SharePoint Changes** report.
3. Click **View** to open the report.


Netwrix Auditor
Friday, April 24, 2015 8:15 AM


All SharePoint Changes

Shows changes to farms, site collections, web applications, policies, permissions, lists, documents, etc.

Filter

Value

Action	Object Type	What	Who	When
■ Added	List	http://demolabsp/Lists/Tasks list	demolab\spuser	4/24/2015 8:03:30 AM
Where: http://demolabsp				
Workstation: 172.28.143.5				
■ Modified	Group	Site Collection Administrators	demolab\spuser	4/24/2015 8:04:15 AM
Where: http://demolabsp				
Members:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added: "demolab\sandra green" 				


netwrix | All SharePoint Changes
 1 of 1

8. Related Documentation

The table below lists all documents available to support Netwrix Auditor for SharePoint:

Document	Description
Netwrix Auditor Installation and Configuration Guide	Provides detailed instructions on how to install Netwrix Auditor, and explains how to configure your environment for auditing.
Netwrix Auditor Administrator's Guide	Provides step-by-step instructions on how to configure and use the product.
Netwrix Auditor User Guide	Provides detailed instructions on how to enable complete visibility with AuditIntelligence.
Netwrix Auditor Integration API Guide	Provides step-by-step instructions on how to leverage Netwrix Auditor audit data with on-premises and cloud auditing solutions using RESTful API.
Netwrix Auditor Release Notes	Lists the known issues that customers may experience with Netwrix Auditor 8.5, and suggests workarounds for these issues.