

The new command `nsrclientserverlist`

With this new command, Dell/EMC modifies one of the oldest NetWorker 'laws':

Until version 19.6.1 the NetWorker server could only run a job - for example, a scheduled backup - successfully, if ...

- the name of the server was listed in the NetWorker client's file `/nsr/res/servers` or `..\nsr\res\servers` or
- this file did not contain a valid entry at all (which is the default).



As a result, each NetWorker server is capable to backup the data of such client. This was/still is a potential security hole.

If you want to limit the server's access, you ...

- had to add all allowed NetWorker server names in this file and additionally
- had to restart the NetWorker Service at the client host.

In such case this coarse rule applied: ***Enablers = Disablers***

With the new NetWorker 19.7.0 this rule is still valid, in general. However, this version now also includes the new command `nsrclientserverlist`, which allows you to remotely extend/modify the server names within the `servers` file at the client host.



To make this work, both computers - the NetWorker server as well as the NetWorker client - must have at least the version 19.7.0 installed.

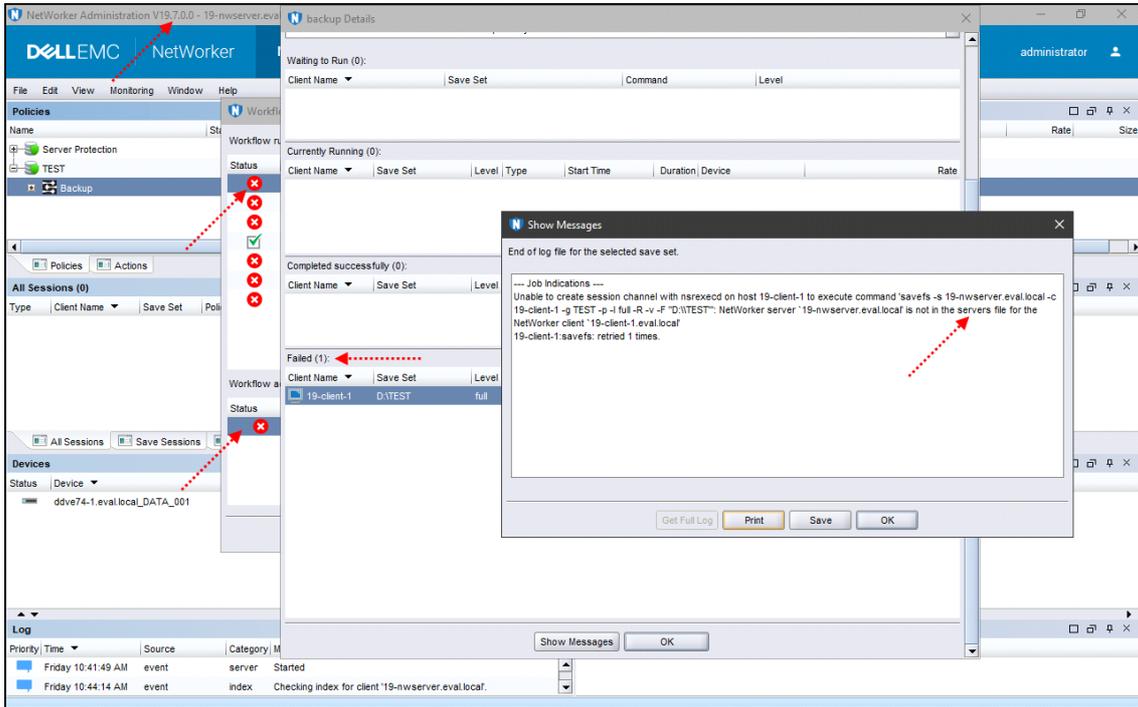
The interesting detail is that the NetWorker client service does not need a restart any longer.



Handle with care - this could become another security issue. A user with appropriate rights could now potentially modify the `servers` file at the client, add a new NetWorker server to the network and then steal the client's data.

On the following pages you will find a brief demonstration of the new command.

If the server name is not listed in the `servers` file at the client, an automatic backup will fail with this error:



If both, server and client have NetWorker 19.7.0+ installed, the new command Befehl `nsrclientserverlist` exists which allows you to remotely modify the `servers` file at the client:

```

Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\>
C:\>
C:\>nsrclientserverlist -?
nsrclientserverlist utility to invoke Create/Update, Read, Delete operations in the servers file of a NW client.

Usage: [-c <clientname>] [-f <filepath>] [-a] [-d] [-F] [-l] [-r] [-s <servername>] [-u]

-a: Include all clients for the create/update, read, and delete operation.
-c: Specify the comma-separated clientname(s) whose 'servers' file
and 'servers list' resource on the NetWorker server
are updated.
-s: Specify the comma-separated servername(s) to be updated in the
resource database and NetWorker client's servers file.
-l: List unique active clients configured in the NetWorker server
This excludes non-active (retired, decommissioned, migrated and scanned) and NDMP clients.
-u: Create or update new server entry in the 'servers' file and the 'servers list'
client resource attribute for all specified clients.
-r: Displays server entries from the 'servers' file for the specified clients.
-d: Delete server entry in the 'servers' file and the 'servers list'
client resource attribute of all specified clients.
This requires the -s option.
-F: Forcefully delete the entries specified with -s in the NetWorker clients 'servers' file.
Permits the 'servers' file to become empty.
-f: Provide the list of NetWorker clients in a text file line-by-line.

C:\>
C:\>
C:\>
C:\>hostname
19-nwserver

C:\>
C:\>
C:\>nsrclientserverlist -c 19-client-1 -s "19-nwserver,19-nwserver.eval.local" -u
Host "19-nwserver,19-nwserver.eval.local" has been added to the servers file for client "19-client-1".
"servers list" attribute updated for client resource "19-client-1".

C:\>
  
```

Here you see the result in the `servers` file at the NetWorker client:

```

Administrator: Command Prompt
E:\>
E:\>
E:\>hostname
19-client-1
E:\>
E:\>
E:\>more E:\nsr\res\servers
# NetWorker uses the contents of this file to control who has the right to
# request a program to be executed on this client.
#
# This may be a server performing an archive request, a scheduled backup
# or a migration. It may also be another client requesting a directed
# recover. NetWorker automatically adds the name(s) of NetWorker servers
# entered during installation to this file. All other names must be entered
# manually using a text editor.
#
# If you want this client to back up to other NetWorker servers, you must
# add the names of the additional NetWorker servers to this file. One server
# name per line.
#
# If you want other clients to be able to perform directed recovers to this
# client, you will need to add their names to the res\servers
# file. Enter one client name per line.
#
# NOTE: NO machine names in this file will open access to ALL machines
# (servers and clients) for save as well as for recover.
#
# After you save your changes, you must restart the NetWorker Remote Exec
# Service for your changes to take effect.
19-nwtest
19-nwtest.eval.local
19-nwserver
19-nwserver.eval.local
E:\>
  
```

Now, scheduled backups of the client are not a problem any longer:

The screenshot shows the NetWorker Administration console with a 'Workflow Backup - Policy TEST' dialog box open. The dialog displays a table of workflow runs and actions.

Status	Start Time	Duration	Restart of	Messages
✓	7/15/22 10:52:16 AM	00:01:08		7/15/2022 10:52:16 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfl...
✗	7/15/22 10:47:21 AM	00:00:18		7/15/2022 10:47:22 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfl...
✗	7/15/22 10:26:58 AM	00:00:18		7/15/2022 10:26:59 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfl...
✓	7/15/22 10:24:17 AM	00:00:18		7/15/2022 10:24:18 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfl...
✓	7/15/22 8:55:31 AM	00:01:08		7/15/2022 8:55:32 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfo...
✗	7/15/22 8:51:17 AM	00:00:18		7/15/2022 8:51:17 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfo...
✗	7/15/22 8:48:34 AM	00:00:18		7/15/2022 8:48:35 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfo...
✗	7/15/22 8:44:57 AM	00:00:17		7/15/2022 8:44:57 AM Starting Protection Policy 'TEST' workfo...

Status	Name	Type	Start Time	Duration	Messages
✓	backup	backup	7/15/22 10:52:16 AM	00:01:07	suppressed 5436 bytes of output. 7/15/2022 10...

The background console shows the 'Policies' section with 'TEST' selected, and the 'Devices' section with 'ddve74-1.eval.local_DATA_001' listed. The 'Log' window at the bottom shows an event for 'server Started' at 10:41:49 AM and an index check at 10:44:14 AM.