Mail NodeBrain Module

Release 0.8.17

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History

2005-10-12   Title: *NodeBrain Tutorial*
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2010-12-31   Release 0.8.3
   - Updates - still needed

Preface

This tutorial is intended for readers seeking an introduction to NodeBrain through a series of simple examples. Other documents are available for readers looking for a more complete reference to the rule language, modules, or API (application programmatic interface).

The intent of the examples in this tutorial is to illustrate individual concepts, not to provide complete working applications or show all related options. We avoid formal syntax descriptions, thinking you are here because you want to figure it out from examples.

Files referenced in this tutorial are included in the tutorial directory of the NodeBrain distribution.

See www.nodebrain.org for more information and the latest update to this document.

Documents

> *NodeBrain Guide* - Information on using `nb`
> *NodeBrain Tutorial* - A gentle introduction to `nb` and the rule language
> *NodeBrain Language* - Rule language syntax and semantics
> *NodeBrain Library* - C API

Document Conventions

Sample code and input/output examples are displayed in a monospace font, indented in HTML and Info, and enclosed in a box in PDF or printed copies. Bold text is used to bring the reader's attention to specific portions of an example. In the following example, the first and last line are associated with the host shell and the lines in between are input or output unique to NodeBrain. The `define` command is highlighted, indicating it is the focus of the example. Lines ending with a backslash \ indicate when a command is continued on the next displayed line. This is supported by the language within source files, but not for other methods of command input. If you copy an example of a command displayed over multiple lines, you must enter it as a single line when used outside the context of a source file.

```
$ nb
> define myFirstRule on(a=1 and b=2) mood="happy";
> assert mood="sad";
> show mood
mood = "sad"
> assert a=1,b=2,c=3,d="This is an example of a long single line that",\
    e="we depict on multiple lines to fit on the documnet page";
2008/06/05 12:09:08 NB000I Rule myFirstRule fired(mood="happy")
> show mood
mood = "happy"
> quit
$
```

Table of Contents

1 Concepts

The mail module accepts SMTP mail messages and stores them in a message queue for handling by the Peer module. See the *Peer Module* for information on message queues.

1.0.1 Disclaimer

This module will not send mail. We recommend using a servant script to send mail.

Use of this module is not recommended if a standard mail server (e.g., sendmail) is available, which is normally the case. The unusual situation where this module may be helpful is when all of the following are true.

1. You need to collect events from a sensor tool that is able to generate plain text email when conditions of interest are detected, but not capable of delivering alerts via a more convenient method.

2. You dont want the email delivered from the sensor product to a mail server over the network in plain text.

3. The sensor tool runs on a server without a standard mail server, and for some reason you dont want to install one.

4. You are able to install NodeBrain on the server hosting the sensor tool.

When all these conditions are true, you can configure this module to accept mail at the local host and configure the sensor tool to send email alerts to the local host. Ports other than 25 may be used if supported by your sensor tool. You can process the message queue files locally or use the Peer module for authenticated and encrypted delivery to a remote instance of NodeBrain for processing.

If any of the conditions above are not true, there is probably a better way to collect events from the sensor product.

2 Tutorial

3 Commands

This section describes commands used with the Mail module.

3.1 Define

Syntax

mailDefineCmd	::=	**define** š *term* š **node** [š *mailReaderDef*] •
mailReaderDef	::=	**mail.server(** "*socketSpec* " , " *qDirectoryPath* " **);**
socketSpec	::=	[*hostname* | *ipaddress*] : *port*
qDirectoryPath	::=	path to message queue directory

The server will only accept mail to usernames that have been declared as identities. See
DECLARE IDENTITY command in the *NodeBrain Language Reference.*

4 Triggers

The Mail module does not implement any triggers.

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