



CounterACT[®] DNS Client Plugin

Configuration Guide

Version 3.0.0

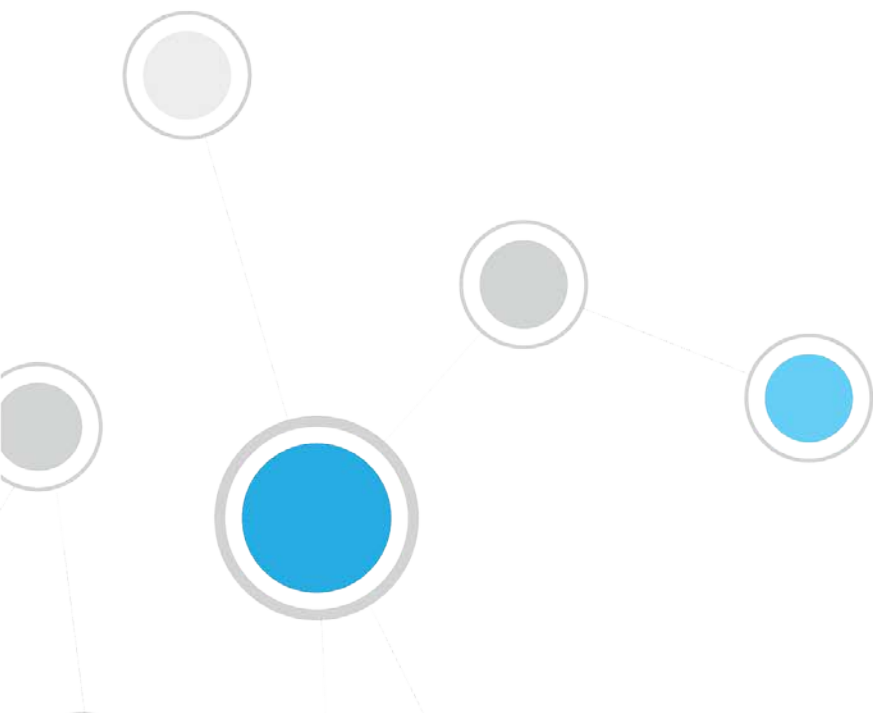
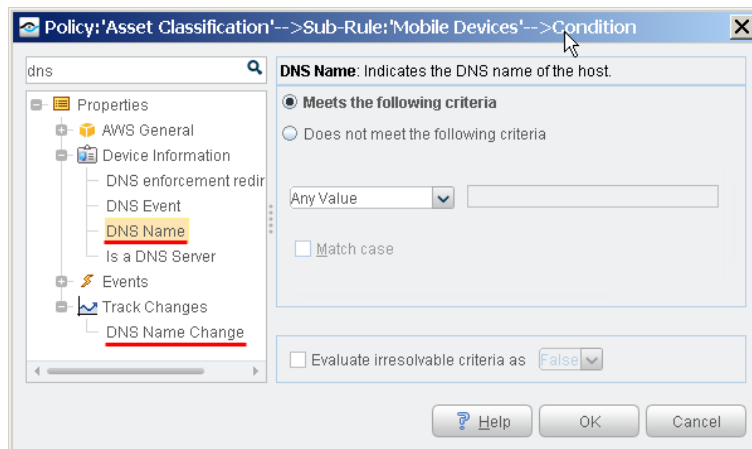


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About the DNS Client Plugin

The DNS Client Plugin resolves the DNS host name of a given IP address. The **DNS Name** property stores the name returned by the DNS server. A companion Track Changes property is also defined.



To resolve DNS names, the plugin queries the DNS servers that were defined during installation of CounterACT. See the *CounterACT Installation Guide* for details.

Requirements

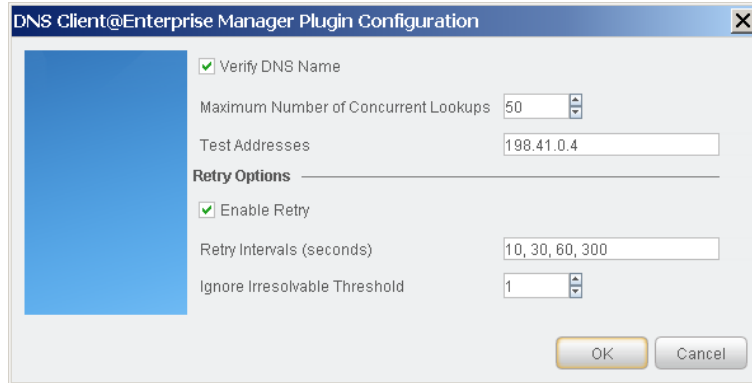
CounterACT version 7.0.0 or higher.

Installation and Configuration

This plugin is bundled with your CounterACT system and does not require installation. In addition, the plugin is preconfigured with recommended settings.

To configure the plugin:

1. In the CounterACT Console, select **Options** from the **Tools** menu.
2. Select **DNS Client**. Then select **Configure**.
3. The Select Appliances dialog opens. Select the CounterACT device for which you want to configure plugin settings. Then select **OK**.
4. The Plugin Configuration window opens.



5. Configure the following settings.

Verify DNS Name	Select this option to verify the name returned by the DNS server. When this option is selected, the plugin resubmits the name returned by the DNS server, and verifies that the original IP address is returned. If the DNS server does not return the original IP address, the DNS Name property is evaluated as <i>Irresolvable</i> .
Maximum Number of Concurrent Lookups	Indicates the maximum number of IP addresses that the plugin can resolve simultaneously.
Test Addresses	The IP addresses used when the Test feature of the plugin is used. To enter several test addresses, separate each IP address with a comma or space character. The default test address is <i>198.41.0.4</i> , which should resolve to <i>a.root-servers.net</i> .
Enable Retry	Select this option to enable resubmission of the DNS query if the original DNS query fails.
Retry Intervals (seconds)	When the Enable Retry option is selected, use this field to define the time intervals at which CounterACT resubmits a failed/unresolved DNS query. Enter a comma-separated list of time intervals specified in seconds. Each time interval is counted from the time when the original DNS query was submitted. After the plugin submits the original query to the DNS Server, the DNS Name property is evaluated as <i>Pending</i> until a valid name is returned. If all defined retries fail, the DNS Name property is evaluated as <i>Irresolvable</i> .
Ignore Irresolvable Threshold	When the Enable Retry option is selected, use this field to specify how many of the defined retries are performed before the plugin evaluates the DNS Name property as <i>Irresolvable</i> . For example, if you define five retries in the Retry Intervals field, and enter the number 3 in the Ignore Irresolvable Threshold field, the plugin evaluates the DNS Name property as <i>Irresolvable</i> after the third retry fails.

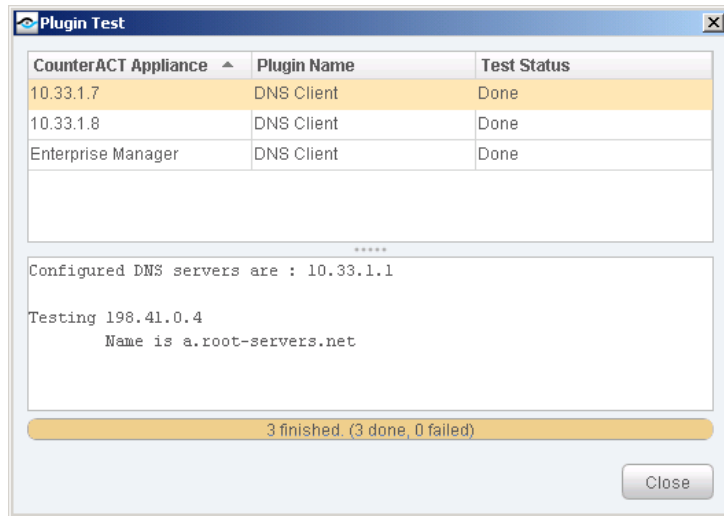
6. Select **OK** to save your changes.

Verify the Test DNS Name

Use the **Test** option to verify that the test addresses are properly resolved.

To test the DNS Client plugin:

1. Select the plugin from the Plugins pane.
2. Select **Test**. A confirmation screen opens.
3. Select **Yes**. The Plugin Test dialog box opens.



The test may fail due to the following misconfigurations:

- A DNS server was not configured properly during installation of CounterACT. Update DNS server configuration using the `fstool dns` command. See the CounterACT Installation Guide for details.
- A tested IP address is not listed at the DNS server.
- A tested IP address is listed at the DNS server, but the DNS name does not resolve back to the same IP address.

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