This technical reference serves as a Quick Start Guide to the web-based reports that were introduced with SolarWinds Orion Platform version 2013.1.1 and SolarWinds Network Performance Monitor (NPM) version 10.6. For more detailed information about creating and configuring web-based reports, see the chapter, "Creating and Viewing Reports" in the SolarWinds Orion NPM Administrator Guide.
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SolarWinds Orion Web-Based Reports

This technical reference serves as a Quick Start Guide to the web-based reports that were introduced with SolarWinds Orion Platform version 2013.1.1 and SolarWinds Network Performance Monitor (NPM) version 10.6.

What's New

Web-based reports are created in the Orion Web Console, using the same resources, including charts, tables, and gauges, that are used to create web console views.

Figure 1: Reports now consist of the same resources used to create web console views.

Web-based reports are also fully customizable, as you are now able to include as many tables, charts, and gauges as you want in the same report.

Figure 2: Include as many resources as you need in a single report, as in this report that includes both a table and a chart.
Creating Reports in the Web Console
Modifying an existing web-based report is often the simplest way to generate a new report.

Figure 3: Click Edit Report when viewing any report in the web console to modify it.

The following procedure modifies an existing web-based report to create a new web-based report.

Note: This is the recommended approach for new users.

To modify an existing web-based report:

1. Log in to the Orion Web Console.
2. Click Home > Reports.
3. Click Manage Reports.
4. Check the web-based report you want to use as the basis for your new report, and then click **Duplicate & Edit**.

![Figure 4: The easiest way to create a new web-based report is to modify an existing web-based report](image)

5. **If you want to change the size of your new report**, either click **Fit to window width** to fit the new report to the current browser window, or enter a new value, in pixels (px), in the **Report width** field.

6. In the Header area, configure your new report as follows:
   a. Edit the **Title** and **Subtitle**, as required.
   b. **If you want to replace the current logo**, confirm that **Logo** is checked, and then click **Browse** for logo to select your new logo.

7. In the Content area, configure your new report as follows:
   a. Either select your desired **Page Layout** from the dropdown or provide the desired number of **Layout columns**.
   b. For each column, click **Add Content** to add appropriate elements to your report. For more information about adding content to report columns, see "Adding Content to Web Console Reports" on page 7.

8. **If you want to include a footer in your report**, confirm that **Footer** is checked, and then complete the following steps.
   - **If you want to automatically include the report creation date in the footer**, confirm that **Creation date** is checked.
   - **If you want to provide custom text in the footer**, confirm that **Custom text** is checked, and then provide the text you want to include.

9. Click **Next**.
10. **If the report preview is not acceptable**, click **Back**, and then make required edits, as indicated in previous steps.

11. **If the report preview is acceptable**, click **Next**.

12. **If you want to store this report as one of your Favorite Reports**, check **My Favorite Reports** on the Properties page.

   **Notes:**
   - Marking a report as a favorite promotes it to the top of any reports list in which it appears.
   - You can also click the star next to any report on this view or on the Manage Reports view to mark it as a favorite.

13. Provide an appropriate **Report Description**.

![Figure 5: Editing report properties.](image)

14. Select an appropriate **Report Category**.
   **Note:** This report will be included in the selected Group by category on the Manage Reports view.

15. **If there are any defined custom properties that may apply to this report**, they are listed in the **Custom Properties** area. Provide appropriate values for all listed custom properties.

16. **If you want to apply or change limitations for this report**, expand **Report Limitation**, and then select an appropriate **Report limitation category**.
   **Note:** Web-based reports are limited on the basis of assigned report limitation categories. Users may be assigned specific report limitation categories, and they may only view reports that are in the same report limitation category.

17. **If you want to regularly schedule creation or email distribution of this report**, click + to expand **More info** and then complete the provided instructions.

18. Click **Submit**.
**Adding Content to Web Console Reports**

Web-based reporting allows you to include most web console resource in your new web-based report, as indicated in the following procedure.

**Note:** The following procedure assumes that you are already creating or editing a report in the web console report Layout Builder. For more information, see "Creating Reports in the Web Console" on page 4.

**To add content to a web-based report column:**

1. Click **Add Content** in the column to which you add a new report resource.
2. Select a resource grouping criterion in the **Group by:** field.
   **Note:** The **Classic category** grouping provides the most comprehensive list of available resources.
3. Select the desired resource group from the list in the left pane.
4. Select the desired resource from the list in the main pane.

![Add Content](image)

**Figure 6:** Select any web console resource for inclusion in your web-based report.

5. Click **Select and Continue**.
Selecting Monitored Objects for Most Web-Based Report Resources

The following procedure provides the steps required to select objects for most resources that you may include in a web-based report.

**Notes:**

- The following procedure assumes that you are already creating or editing a report in the web console report Layout Builder. For more information, see "Creating Reports in the Web Console" on page 4.

- If you have selected either a Custom Chart or a Custom Table resource from the Reports group, the object selection procedure is more extensive. For more information see "Selecting Monitored Objects for Custom Chart and Table Resources" on page 9.

1. Select a network object grouping criterion in the **Group by:** field.
2. Expand the list of network objects as required to view the objects on which you want to report.
3. Select the objects on which you want to report, and then click **Add to Layout**.

![Figure 7: Select the monitored network objects on which you want to report.](image-url)
Selecting Monitored Objects for Custom Chart and Table Resources

The following procedure provides the more extensive steps required to select objects for Custom Chart and Custom Table resources.

**Note:** The following procedure assumes that you are already creating or editing a report in the web console report Layout Builder. For more information, see “Creating Reports in the Web Console” on page 4.

To select objects for a custom chart or a custom table added to a web-based report column:

1. **If you want to create a chart or a table for a predefined group of objects,** select Use previously specified objects, and then select the predefined object group you require for your report resource.

2. **If you want to create a chart or a table for a new, custom group of objects,** select Create new object selection, and then select the objects you require for your report resource using one of the following Selection methods:
   a. Select Specific Objects (static selection) if you know precisely which objects you want to include in your report resource.
      **Note:** This is the most straightforward selection method, and it is preferred both for newer users and for relatively permanent network objects.
   b. Select Dynamic Query Builder to select objects based on object properties.
      **Note:** This is the preferred selection method for groups of objects of a specified type that may change over time or when you are creating a Top XX report. “All Cisco nodes in Austin” is an example of a group best defined using the Dynamic Query Builder.
   c. Select Advanced DataBase Query (SQL, SWQL) only if you are comfortable querying your SolarWinds database directly, using SQL or SWQL.
      **Note:** For more information about SWQL and SQL queries, click How to use SWQL / SQL.

3. **If you selected the Specific Objects (static selection) method,** select objects as indicated in the following steps:
   a. Select the object type to include in your report resource from the Show dropdown.
   b. Select an appropriate grouping criterion from the Group by dropdown.
   c. Select objects by checking or expanding appropriate groups, and checking objects to include in your report resource.
   d. After selecting all objects to include in your report resource, provide a name for the selected group of objects in the Selection Name field.
   e. Click Add to Layout.

4. **If you selected the Dynamic Query Builder method,** define objects to include in your report resource as indicated in the following steps:
   a. Select the type of selector query you want to use (Basic or Advanced).
      **Note:** Though the Advanced Selector provides access to all network object characteristics, the Basic Selector provides access to a smaller subset of the most frequently used network object characteristics.
   b. Select the type of objects to include in your report resource.
   c. Build conditions to define your selection group, as follows:
      i. Select whether All child conditions must be satisfied (AND) or if only At least one child condition must be satisfied (OR).
ii. Select an object characteristic, an appropriate relation, and then provide a value.  
Note: The Advanced Selector enables you to select any database column name as a selection condition.

iii. Add additional conditions, as required, to define your object group.

   d. After selecting all objects to include in your report resource, provide a name for the selected group of objects in the Selection Name field, and then click Add to Layout.

Figure 8: Using the Basic Selector to build object selection group conditions.

5. If you selected the Advanced Database Query (SQL. SWQL), provide a selection query, as follows:

   a. Select the Query Type (SWQL or SQL).  
   Note: For more information about SWQL and SQL queries, click How to use SWQL / SQL.

   b. Enter a query, and then click Preview Results to confirm that your query provides expected results.

   c. After confirming that your query provides expected results, provide a name for the selected group of objects in the Selection Name field.

   d. Click Add to Layout.
**Additional Notes**

The following notes should be remembered when creating or editing web-based reports.

- Once you have added and initially configured your report resources, you can click-and-drag appropriately-sized resources to reconfigure your report layout, as desired.

![Figure 9: Change your report layout by moving included resources.](image)

- As of the release of Orion Core Platform version 2013.1.1 (released with SolarWinds Orion NPM version 10.6), scheduling a report for creation and email still requires using Orion report Scheduler.