Patch Management in SAP Environments

Best Practice: Efficient Maintenance of Complex SAP Environments

This application example describes how networked components can be stopped and restarted in SAP landscapes for the purpose of maintenance work both automatically and in a controlled process.

Background Situation

You must stop the wide range of highly-networked components integrated in your modern SAP environments before you can begin to implement patches for operating systems, databases, and other infrastructure components, and you must do so in the correct sequence. This task is almost impossible to carry out manually due to all of the dependencies. Therefore, Arvato Systems has developed a highly automated solution based on developments to the patch processes in order to handle this frequent task. The standardized documentation of all SAP components including their dependencies serves as the basis for executing the start and stop scripts via „streamworks“.

Benefits

– Reduce strain on SAP Basis: Planning occurs during business hours and implementation is carried out overnight.

– Highly scalable: Automatization allows for maximum parallelization of patch actions.

– Optimum utilization of maintenance windows: Automatically self-adjusting process runtimes

– Reduction of manual activity: Automatization increases quality and ensures that audits and reports can be carried out properly.

– Standardization: Storing complex process logic in „streamworks“ enables patch actions to be carried out without special knowledge or expertise.
The Challenge: Stop and restart 400 SAP components on 160 servers automatically and in a controlled process

The objective of our project was to automatically stop and then restart SAP components distributed across a Linux server farm prior to a planned overnight operating system patch action. One crucial part of this task was to account for all the dependencies between the components, and therefore the order of the start and stop processes, so that the patch action could be carried out largely without SAP Basis support.

You have questions, need information or a contact? Get in touch with us.

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