IBM Sterling Control Center

Asset Tracking Guide

Version 5.3

This edition applies to the 5.3 Version of IBM® Sterling Control Center and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in *Notices*, on page 17.

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Contents

Sterling Control Center Asset Tracking

You can capitalize on the server monitoring capabilities of IBM® Sterling Control Center to track network assets. A Sterling Control Center feature called Guided Node Discovery allows you to accomplish this. Guided Node Discovery (also called, simply, Node Discovery) is an iterative process that lets you find all Sterling Connect:Direct servers deployed in your network.

Note: IBM® Sterling Connect:Enterprise®, IBM® Sterling Connect:Direct® Select, FTP, and IBM® Sterling B2B Integrator servers do not support Node Discovery.

This document consists of the following sections:

- Summary of the Node Discovery Process
- Summary of Node Discovery Procedures
- Identifying Servers for Node Discovery
- Managing the Explorer List
- Running Node Discovery
- Identifying the Status of Servers in the Node Discovery List
- Managing the Discovery List and My List

Summary of the Node Discovery Process

In the Node Discovery process, the following steps are executed:

- After you start Node Discovery, Sterling Control Center tries to contact each enabled Explorer server. It obtains the data transmission facility (DTF) address, DTF port, license, and node name and populates the Explorer List with this information. Sterling Control Center updates the Last Discovery Date/Time in the Explorer List.
- After Sterling Control Center contacts a server, it scans information from the server's network map and statistics records to search for other servers with whom the server communicates.
- If a server cannot be contacted, the MsgID and Return Code fields in the Explorer List are updated with information concerning the errors that prevented connection.

- For each trading partner identified in the network map or statistics record, a server entry is added to the Discovery List.
- When Node Discovery is complete, other fields in the Explorer List are populated, including return code, last explore range, and last successful Discovery.

Summary of Node Discovery Procedures

To use Node Discovery you do the following tasks:

Task	Procedure
Identify the servers on which Node Discovery can be performed by adding them to the Explorer List. With the appropriate server licenses, you can add managed servers already recognized by Sterling Control Center. Or, you can add unmanaged servers not defined in Sterling Control Center.	*Adding an Unmanaged Server to the Explorer List* on page 7
Enable servers for Node Discovery.	*Enabling a Server for Discovery* on page 8
Run Node Discovery to identify Sterling Connect:Direct nodes with which enabled servers communicate, based on network map entries and statistics records.	*Running Node Discovery* on page 9
Track nodes for additional Node Discovery as needed.	
• Add, edit, or remove servers from the Explorer List.	*Managing the Explorer List* on page 8
• Move servers from the Discovery List to Explorer List for Node Discovery or to My List to keep the Discovery list uncluttered.	*Managing the Discovery List and My List* on page 11
• Move servers from My List to the Explorer List for Node Discovery.	*Managing the Discovery List and My List* on page 11

Identifying Servers for Node Discovery

Before doing Node Discovery, you add the Sterling Connect:Direct servers on which you want to do Node Discovery to the Explorer List. You can add servers already managed by Sterling Control Center, or you can add unmanaged servers not defined in Sterling Control Center.

When adding managed servers, you may need to change the credentials of the server in the Explorer List to allow access to network maps.

After you add nodes to the Explorer List, each node is displayed with , indicating that the node has not been contacted. To determine whether a node can be contacted, enable the node for Node Discovery.

Note: If a server already defined in the Discovery List, Explorer List, or My List is located during Node Discovery, it is ignored. Servers with identical data transmission facility (DTF) addresses and DTF port values are considered duplicates.

Adding a Managed Server to the Explorer List

To add a managed server to the Explorer List:

1. Select **Tools** > **Node Discovery**.
2. From the **Explorer List** tab, click **+**.
3. Select **Control Center-Managed Server** and click **Next**.
4. In the **All Managed Servers** box, highlight one or more managed servers to add to the list and click **>** to add them to the Explorer List.

   Only managed servers capable of being explored will be listed.
5. Click **Next**.
6. Review the selected servers. If the list is correct, click **Finish** to add the servers. If not, click **Back** to make changes.
7. To add more servers, click **Add Another Server** and repeat steps 3–6.
8. Click **Close** to close the wizard.

Adding an Unmanaged Server to the Explorer List

To add an unmanaged server to the Explorer List:

1. Select **Tools > Node Discovery**.
2. From the **Explorer List** tab, click **+**. The **Add Server to Explorer List** wizard is displayed.
3. Select **Unmanaged Server** and click **Next**.
4. Select the type of server and click **Next**: Sterling Connect:Direct with TCP/IP API or Sterling Connect:Direct for i5/OS. Sterling Connect:Direct server platforms that operate under TCP/IP API include:
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for HP NonStop
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for z/OS®
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for UNIX
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for Microsoft Windows
5. Do one of the following:
   - If you chose Sterling Connect:Direct platforms with TCP/IP API, provide the following required information about the server:
     - API Address
     - API Port

        - User ID
        - Password
    - If you chose Sterling Connect:Direct for i5/OS, provide the following information:
        - Host Name
        - Library Name
        - User ID
        - Password

6. Fill in other fields with any available information.
7. Click **Test Connection** to validate the login information provided.
8. Click **Next**.
9. Review the information about the server. If the information is correct, click **Finish** to add the server.
10. To add another server, click **Add Another Server** and repeat steps 3–9.
11. Click **Close**.

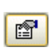
Managing the Explorer List

Use the following procedures to manage the Explorer List:

- Viewing or Modifying a Server Definition
- Enabling a Server for Discovery
- Disabling a Server for Discovery
- Adding a Managed Server to the Explorer List
- Removing a Server

Viewing or Modifying a Server Definition

To modify a server defined in the Explorer List:

1. From the **Node Discovery** window, highlight the server.
2. Click  .
3. Modify property fields as desired and click **OK**.

Enabling a Server for Discovery

To enable a server for Node Discovery:

1. From the **Node Discovery** window, highlight the server to enable and click **Enable for Discovery**.

2. If a selected server cannot be enabled, the **Enable Explorer Node Result** dialog is displayed. To enable the node for Node Discovery:
   a. Click **Yes** to configure the node.
   b. Type the correct information about the server.
   c. Click **OK**.

Disabling a Server for Discovery

To disable a server for Node Discovery, highlight the server and click **Disable**.

Adding a Managed Server

If you have the proper server licenses, you can add servers identified in the Explorer List as managed servers.

To add a managed server:

1. On the **Node Discovery Explorer List** tab, highlight the managed server.
2. Click **+**.

   The **Add Server** wizard displays. For assistance in adding server information consult the online help system (by clicking the Help button) or the *IBM Sterling Control Center System Administration Guide*.

Removing a Server

To remove a server from the Explorer list, highlight the server to remove from the **Node Discovery** window and click the subtraction icon (**–**).

Note: When you remove a server, all discovered nodes associated with the node in either the Discovery List or My List are removed. If a node in the Discovery List or My List is associated with the deleted node and another Explorer node, it is not removed.

Running Node Discovery

After you add servers to the Explorer List and enable them for Node Discovery, you are ready to run Node Discovery. The feature searches the added servers' statistics records and network map to identify other servers with which they have communicated.

To run Node Discovery:

1. Select **Tools > Node Discovery** to open the **Node Discovery** window.
2. From the **Explorer List** tab, click **Run Discovery**. The **Discovery Date Range** dialog is displayed.

3. To identify the date range of statistics records searched:
    a. Click **Start Date**.
    b. Select a date on which to begin searching statistics records.
    c. Click **OK**.
    d. Click **End Date**.
    e. Select an end date for the statistics record search.
    f. Click **OK**.
4. Click **OK**.

After you start Node Discovery, you can close the **Node Discovery** window and continue working. Node Discovery continues to search statistics records and network maps of the enabled nodes. If you leave the window open, a progress bar displays the status of Node Discovery activity.

After Node Discovery is complete, Sterling Control Center updates the Last Discovery and Last Successful Discovery Date/Time (when applicable) for each enabled Explorer node.

If Sterling Control Center cannot contact an enabled Explorer server for Node Discovery, the Return Code, Msg ID, and Message Text fields are updated with information about why the connection failed.

Identifying the Status of Servers in the Node Discovery List

The **Node Discovery** window displays information about each of the servers that you have added to the Explorer List. One of the following icons is displayed with each server to indicate its status:

Icon	Description
	The server is connected and available for Node Discovery.
	The node either has not been enabled for Node Discovery or cannot be contacted.
	The server is enabled for Node Discovery.
	The server is managed by Sterling Control Center.

Managing the Discovery List and My List

After Node Discovery is complete, the **Discovery List** window displays information about servers discovered. After Node Discovery identifies a server, you can move the server to the Explorer List where it can be used to discover additional servers, or you can move it to My List. My List provides a work area and a place to move discovered nodes to prevent the Discovery List from getting cluttered.

Moving a Server to My List

To move a server to My List:

1. From the **Discovery List** tab, highlight the server to move.
2. Click **Move to My List**.

Moving a Server to the Discovery List

To move a server to the Discovery List:

1. From the **My List** tab, highlight the server to move.
2. Click **Move to Discovered List**.

Moving a Server to the Explorer List

To move a server to the Explorer List:

1. From the **Discovery List** tab or **My List** tab, highlight the server to move.
2. Click **Move to Explorer List**.
3. Select the type of server: Sterling Connect:Direct with TCP/IP API or Sterling Connect:Direct for i5/OS. Sterling Connect:Direct server platforms that operate under the TCP/IP API include:
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for HP NonStop
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for z/OS
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for UNIX
   - Sterling Connect:Direct for Microsoft Windows
4. Do one of the following:
   - If you chose Sterling Connect:Direct with TCP/IP API, provide the following required information about the server:
     - API Address
     - API Port
     - User ID
     - Password
   - If you chose Sterling Connect:Direct for i5/OS, provide the following information:

- Host Name
- Library Name
- User ID
- Password

5. Fill in optional fields with any available information.
6. Click **Test Connection** to validate the connection to the server.
7. Click **OK** to move the server.

Note: To add a server in the Explorer List to the list of managed servers, see *Adding a Managed Server* on page 9.

Showing Partners

The Partner Table lists all nodes that have communicated with the selected explorer or discovered node. A node contained in the explorer node’s netmap or that shows up in node statistics may also be listed in this table, even if the node in question has never communicated with the selected node. This status is indicated by the check mark in the netmap or statistics column.

To view the partners of an explorer node:

1. In the Node Discovery Explorer List or Discovery List, right-click a server.
2. Select **Show Partners**.

   The Partner Table displays a listing of partner nodes. The columns that comprise the listing are defined in the following table:

Column	Description
#	Row number.
Name or Alias	The server ID.
Node Name	The Sterling Connect:Direct node name.
Node Type	Type of Sterling Connect:Direct node (D = Discovered, E = Explorer).
From Netmap	A check mark indicates that this node was identified as a partner by virtue of being in the selected node’s netmap.
From Stats	A check mark indicates that this node was identified as a partner by virtue of being included in node statistics.
Discovered Time	Time the node was found during Node Discovery.

Removing a Server

To remove a server from the Discovery List or My List:

1. Click the **Discovery List** tab or **My List** tab.

2. Highlight the server or servers to remove and click **-**.

Note: When you remove a server, all discovered nodes associated with it (in either the Discovery List or My List) are removed. If a node in the Discovery List or My List is associated with the deleted node and another node, it is not removed.

Index

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