

DCS FAQ / Trouble Shooting Guide

- I want the DCS to start with no connections in place.

By default, at powerup, the DCS will attempt to restore connections to its last known state, or load a predefined set of connections. To prevent this, and leave the DCS in the nothing-is-connected state, perform the following steps:

delete the file: `/etc/snmp/snmpRestore`

delete the file: `/val/local/dcs/saved-settings/autoload.dcs` (it may already be deleted)

reboot the DCS

- How do I disable the DCS multicast feature?

Normally, the DCS allows one input to be sent to multiple outputs. This feature can be disabled by creating a file called: `/etc/snmp/point2point`. If this file exists when SNMP starts, then multicast will be prevented. After creating or deleting this file, you must reboot the system, or run the command: `service dcsSnmpAgent restart`. The status of the multicast feature is recorded in the log file: `/var/log/dcs.log`. Look for a line: “dcsSnmpAgent: multicast is enabled” or “dcsSnmpAgent: multicast is disabled”

- Configuring Putty to communicate with the DCS ASCII interface (dcsapi)

set the default port to 17567, and the protocol to 'raw'. You may also need to turn on the option: 'implicit CR with each LF'

- Using the network ASCII interface, what should I do after I send a command to the DCS?

wait for the response from the DCS; it will be either an OK response or an error code.

- Can the DCS restore connections after loss of power?

Yes it can. If the file `/etc/snmp/snmpRestore` exists, then the DCS status is continually updated and saved. If the DCS is shut down normally, this status file is deleted. However, after a power failure, this file will exist and the DCS will use it to restore the connections that were in place before the failure.

- How do I set the DCS to email its logs to a user?

You must edit the file: `/etc/aliases`, changing the last line which has root's email address to be the address of the recipient. For example, this :

```
# Person who should get root's mail
```

```
root: admin@mycompany.com
```

will send the email to user admin.

You will also need to start the sendmail service with the following commands:

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service sendmail start

chkconfig sendmail on

- How do I set the DCS to transmit SNMP traps?

You will need to edit the file: `/etc/snmp/snmpd.conf`, and then restart the SNMP service with the command:

service snmpd restart

The line you need to edit in the file starts with `trap2sink`. Next on the line is the name or IP address of the server to receive the traps. Here is a sample line:

`trap2sink aaa.my.network`

The DCS monitors temperatures, voltages, fan speeds, and other system events. SNMP traps are used to report error conditions as they occur.

use the file `/etc/hosts` to contain name and IP address associations.

- The system is very slow to respond to commands, why?

If the DNS network settings are not correct, then the system may take many seconds (20+ seconds in some cases) to respond to commands. You must verify that the IP addresses located in the file `/etc/resolv.conf` are valid addresses for your DNS servers. If you do not have access to any DNS servers, then you should delete the `/etc/resolv.conf` file. You may use the file `/etc/hosts` to contain name and IP address associations.

- Are there any command line utilities that can be used to aid in debugging the DCS?

Yes, they are located in: `/root/testing`. They are meant for low level testing of the DCS and its connections. A 'man' page is available for the commands:

`man dcs-testing`

- Using syslog to debug events.

edit the file `/etc/syslog.conf`, changing the line:

`local4.notice /var/log/dcs.log`

to read

`local4.info /var/log/dcs.log`

Then run the command:

service syslog restart

Data will be logged to the file: `/var/log/dcs.log`

- Can the DCS be configured to load a default set of connections at power up?

Normally, the DCS turns off all connections when it starts up. A special settings file can be created that will be loaded at startup. This file is named:

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/var/local/dcs/saved-settings/autoload.dcs. This file can be created with the DCS API command: XFILESAVEautoload.dcs

When the DCS is powering up, the 'loss of power' connection map takes precedence over the autoload.dcs file.

- What is a 'salvo' and how do I create and run one?

A 'salvo' is a term used to describe a predefined set of connections. In the DCS, the XFILESAVE command is used to save the configuration of the switch. This saves the entire switch configuration, not selected pieces. Using the file created by XFILESAVE, XFILELOAD will break all existing connections and then make new connections to replicate the state the DCS was in when XFILESAVE was run.

- Can I run a set of 'canned' DCS commands? (also known as macros)

The file read by XFILELOAD may contain a series of API commands.

- How do I disable the SNMP traps that are issued whenever a connection is made or broken?

By default, the DCS issues connection begin and connection end traps. There is a script called /root/setup/disable.Connect.Traps that will disable the sending of these traps for all ports. There is a similar script called enable.Connect.Traps that will enable these traps. The connection begin and end events are always logged via syslog.