



# Management and Monitoring Tools

The following topics are covered in this chapter:

- iManager: Managing your eDirectory system
- NDS iMonitor: Monitoring your eDirectory system
- SNMP: Monitoring the eDirectory event system

Novell eDirectory provides many tools that will allow you to manage and monitor your eDirectory system. The three main eDirectory tools are iManager, NDS iMonitor, and SNMP, which are the focus of this chapter.

## iManager: Managing Your eDirectory System

iManager is the primary administration console for most of Novell's products. iManager is a web-based application that runs under the Tomcat servlet engine, which by default is hooked into the Apache Web Server. Many plugins are available for iManager, which provide a way to manage many different Novell solutions as well as non-Novell products. iManager is installed by default if you install NetWare 6.x. It is also included in Novell's OES bundle for Linux. iManager is free and can be downloaded from <http://download.novell.com>.

There are two different types of iManager. You can download the full-blown version and run it from a server. Or you can download Mobile iManager. Although this is a full-scale version of iManager, Tomcat and Apache, which run underneath, are stripped of most features. Mobile iManager runs on a self-contained embedded version of Tomcat and utilizes the libraries found in both Internet Explorer and Firefox for its web browser interface. You can

download Mobile iManager, unzip the archive to a directory, and execute a batch file on Windows or a shell script on Linux. When you run Mobile iManager, it launches a scaled-down version of Tomcat and integrates with embedded browser libraries and launches iManager for you. When you close Mobile iManager, Tomcat is shut down and the browser is closed. Mobile iManager gives you the ability to have a standalone web application on your laptop or workstation that will administer your entire network.

Regardless of which iManager plug-in you use, you need to run only one copy of iManager for your entire network (although you can run as many copies as you need from as many servers as you like). It should be noted that although Novell is trying to make iManager platform independent, there are some plug-ins that work only on Linux and other plug-ins that work only on NetWare. For this reason, if you have a mixed Linux and NetWare environment, you probably should run at least one iManager instance on each platform. However, all of the eDirectory-based plug-ins are platform independent, so you can administer your mixed-platform, mixed-eDirectory-version environment from one instance of iManager.

Within iManager, there are two basic views for configuring and manipulating objects. You can use either the Roles and Tasks view or the View Objects view, each of which is described in detail next.

## Roles and Tasks View

A role in iManager is a collection place for tasks. Tasks are specific operations. For instance, a role may be called Users, which may contain a task called Add User. Roles enable you to collect common tasks for ease of administration. The default roles are sufficient for most cases. However, iManager provides you with an interface wherein you can create your own roles and assign any task you want to the role. iManager plug-ins can contain one or many roles and tasks. When you install a plug-in, iManager copies the role XML files and the task binaries onto the file system under the iManager directories. Because roles and tasks are stored in the file system on the server running iManager (or workstation, in the case of Mobile iManager), you must install a desired plug-in into all instances of iManager to get access to the plug-in's roles and tasks from all instances of iManager. In other words, iManager plug-ins do not synchronize between instances of iManager.

By default, iManager runs in Unrestricted Access mode. This means that everyone who has rights to eDirectory can launch iManager and see all roles that are installed in that instance of iManager. Keeping in mind that tasks are just an interface into the directory, you must ensure that you have sufficient ACL rights to whatever object you are trying to read or configure through that task. If you do not have sufficient rights to execute whatever that task performs, an eDirectory error will be returned and you will not be able to complete the task.