

# Using Threshold Manager

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Threshold Manager is a CiscoView-launched threshold management application that allows you to set thresholds and retrieve event information. Threshold Manager relies on RMON (Remote Network Monitoring) alarm and event groups supported in Cisco routers and switches. A working knowledge of RMON is required for using this application.

Threshold Manager provides an easy-to-use interface to access device-specific threshold settings. Using Threshold Manager, you can set thresholds for network devices using Cisco-provided, predefined default policies. These policies can be applied automatically to target devices. Threshold Manager also supports detailed customization of threshold settings.

For a list of supported devices, refer to the *README* file and the release note. Threshold Manager also has an online help system.

This chapter provides the following sections:

- Starting Threshold Manager from CiscoView
- Introducing Threshold Manager Terms
- Managing Events
- Managing Thresholds
- Using Policy Files
- Starting a New Threshold Manager
- Filtering Profiles
- Troubleshooting Threshold Manager

# Starting Threshold Manager from CiscoView

After Threshold Manager is installed, the CiscoView menu has an additional pulldown menu item called **Tools**. Select **Tools>Threshold Manager** to launch Threshold Manager. Note that the Tools menu item is available only when CiscoView is invoked on devices that support RMON and have a Cisco IOS image with RMON support built into it. The Tools item is always enabled for non-Cisco IOS devices such as Catalyst switches.

To access Threshold Manager from CiscoView, complete the following steps:

- Step 1** Go to CiscoView - Main window.
- Step 2** Select **File>Open Device**.
- Step 3** Enter the IP address or host name of the Threshold Manager in the Host field.
- Step 4** Enter the Read Community string.
- Step 5** Enter the Write Community string.
- Step 6** Click **OK**.
- Step 7** Select **Tools>Threshold Manager** from the CiscoView menu bar.

The Threshold Manager Events List window appears.

## Starting Threshold Manager from Windows NT or Windows 95

You can also start Threshold Manager from the command line as a standalone application.

- Step 1** Locate TM.EXE in File Manager (Windows 3.1, 3.51) or Explorer (Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.0).
- Step 2** Start Threshold Manager using one of the two methods:

- (a) On Windows 3.1 and 3.51, select **File>Run** and in the command field enter

**TM.EXE -I *IP\_Address***

or

**TM.EXE -n *host\_name***

where:

- I** *IP-address* is the IP address of the device you want to monitor
- n** *host\_name* is the host name of the device. The default is the local machine.

Other supported runtime arguments are:

- p** is the directory where Threshold Manager is installed.
- r** *read\_community\_string* is an SNMP password. The default is public.
- w** *write\_community\_string* is an SNMP password. The default is public.
- e** *retry count* is the number of times Threshold Manager sends a request to an unresponsive device. The default is 3.
- m** *timeout* is the amount of time, in seconds, Threshold Manager waits before issuing another retry. The default is 10 seconds.
- f** *refresh\_interval* is the time, in seconds, the Events List window refreshes. The default is 360 seconds.

- (b) On Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.0, select **File>Open**.

## Introducing Threshold Manager Terms

To understand how Threshold Manager operates, you should be familiar with the terminology associated with this application. This section defines common terms you see throughout the interface. These are discussed in detail in various sections of this chapter.

### What Is a Threshold?

*Thresholds* define the range in which you expect your network to perform. If these thresholds exceed or go below the expected bounds, you examine these areas for potential problems. You can create thresholds for a specific device.

### What Is a Policy?

A *policy* is a set of predefined configuration data that specifies the condition for triggering a threshold event. Threshold Manager uses policies to set thresholds in a Cisco router or switch.

### What Is a Policy File?

A *policy file* is a collection of one or more policies that defines threshold values for specific MIB variables. Each threshold policy is associated with a single SNMP MIB variable type. If a policy specifies an interface type, Threshold Manager applies the threshold policy to the matching device interface. If the policy does not specify an interface type, the application applies the threshold value to all device interfaces. Multiple policy files can be enforced in a device or against a specific interface on a device.

There are two types of policy files available in Threshold Manager:

- **Default:** a set of generic preconfigured thresholds that can be used for all supported devices. Cisco Systems provides 18 default policy files that reflect a set of commonly monitored SNMP MIB variables and can be used as is or modified to meet the needs of a specific network. These policy files follow the naming convention *<default policyname>.thd*. For more information on default policies, see “Using the Default Policy Files” later in this chapter.
- **Customized:** a set of configured thresholds that deviate from the default policies. The user creates a customized policy when it is necessary to trigger events not covered under a default policy. These policies follow the naming convention *<MIB\_variable>.thd*. For more information on customized policies, see “Customizing a Policy File to Create New Threshold Settings” later in this chapter.

### What Is a Profile?

A *profile* is a group of threshold policy files that cover a specific management area. Threshold Manager supports four profile types:

- **System:** contains the default policy files that monitor device configuration information. Policy files of this type can include tracking the amount of free memory in the device, the number of buffer failures due to the lack of memory, or how often the CPU surpasses a capacity limit.

- **Interface:** contains the default policy files that are specific to an interface. Policy files of this type can include tracking the number of time the interface detected a carrier transition or the number of time the interface internally reset.
- **mon\_EtherStats:** contains the policy files specific to the Ethernet card. Policy files of this type can include the total number of fragmented packets received or the total number of collisions detected on a specific Ethernet segment.
- **Customize:** contains all user-defined policy files regardless of group.

### What Is an Alarm?

An *alarm* is a list of parameters to be watched and pointers to events that are triggered when defined values cross a given threshold. These parameters and pointers are defined by the RMON alarm group. For instance, you define an alarm by picking a variable, such as the number of Ethernet collisions, plus a time interval, such as 1 second, and a threshold, such as 60 collisions. Given this scenario, an alarm is generated when the number of Ethernet collisions exceeds 60 in 1 second.

### What Is an Event?

Alarms and events go hand in hand. An *event* defines what action is triggered as result of an alarm. For example, when the number of collisions on an Ethernet segment exceeds 60 per second, the corresponding event can cause a trap message to be sent to one or more management stations. Events are defined by the RMON event group.

An event is generated by the RMON agent, which could be triggered by a threshold crossing. An event can be signaled as a trap, a new entry in the RMON MIB log table, both, or neither. Threshold Manager displays all events captured from the log table of the RMON agent and correlates threshold-related events to the user-configured threshold policies.

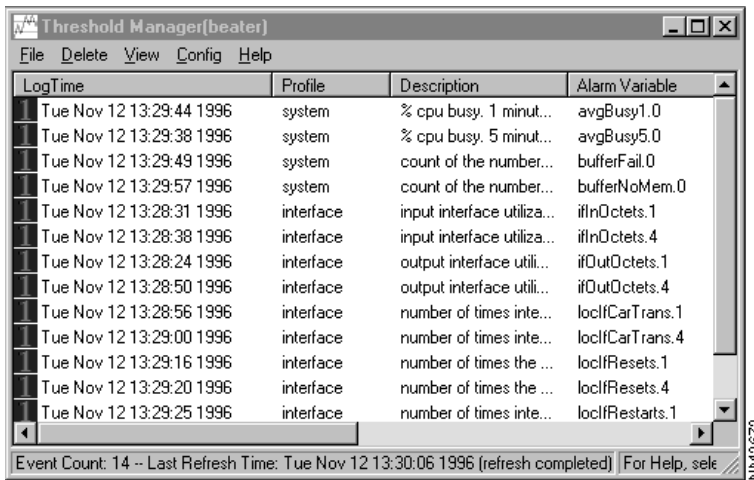
### What Is an Agent?

An *agent* is a process in the device that handles SNMP requests.

## Managing Events

When you start Threshold Manager, the Threshold Manager events list window appears, as shown in Figure 5-1. The Threshold Manager Events List window is a view of threshold events stored as RMON log records in the managed device. This window also indicates the name of the target device. The name of the device is displayed as either the host name or IP address depending on how you identified the device when you launched Threshold Manager or CiscoView.

**Figure 5-1** Threshold Manager Events List Window



Threshold Manager correlates the information from the event with an existing policy by comparing the object identifier (OID) of the event with the value of the alarm variable in the policy configuration file. If a match occurs, Threshold Manager complements the event display fields of the logged entry with information from the policy file. If no match occurs between a logged event and a policy file, Threshold Manager displays a value of *undefined* in those fields that would be completed by the policy.

Each event occupies a single line in the Events List window and is displayed until one of the following situations occurs:

- You delete the event.
- Another user managing that device deletes the event.
- The RMON agent reaches its event limit and records over the event or deletes it.

This section covers the following topics:

- Viewing Threshold Events
- Retrieving Events
- Sorting Events
- Printing Events
- Deleting Events
- Event Task Examples

## Viewing Threshold Events

Select **View>Retrieve Events**.

The threshold event list contains the logged events retrieved from the agent. Threshold manager retrieves events at startup time and when the refresh timer reaches a specified interval. For more information on the refresh timer, see “Retrieving Events.”

When a threshold event is retrieved from the agent, Threshold Manager tries to correlate the information from the event with existing policies to show additional information about the event. If an event cannot be correlated with any policy, Threshold Manager displays “undefined.”

Table 5-1 shows the fields and associated policy for each entry threshold in the event list.

**Table 5-1 Threshold Event List Fields and Policies**

| <b>Field</b>                   | <b>Policy</b>  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Capture of Event Priority Icon | The Event Priority icon is a visual representation of the severity of the event. The policy file defining the thresholds that generate this event sets the priority value for the event. Allowable values are 1 through 3 with 1 being the most severe. If Threshold Manager cannot correlate the event with a policy file, the application assigns a priority value of 3. |
| Log Time                       | Time the event was logged. The RMON agent in the managed device generates this value.  |
| Profile                        | The profile to which the threshold belongs. A profile is a group of policies. There are four profiles: system, interface, mon_EtherStats, and customize.   |
| Description                    | Threshold policy description.  |
| Alarm Variable                 | Name of the MIB variable.  |
| Priority                       | Priority of the event. Values are 1 (highest) to 3 (lowest). The predefined threshold policies have default priority value, but you can change the value according to the importance of the information to you. If Threshold Manager cannot correlate the event with a policy file, it assigns the event a priority of 3.  |
| Alarm OID                      | Object identifier of the particular variable to be sampled.  |
| Log Description                | Description of the event as defined in the RMON event entry that corresponds to this event.  |
| Event Index                    | Index of the RMON event entry that corresponds to this event.  |
| Log Index                      | Index of the RMON log entry.   |
| Owner                          | A text string that identifies the network management station or person to contact regarding the policy file associated with the event.   |

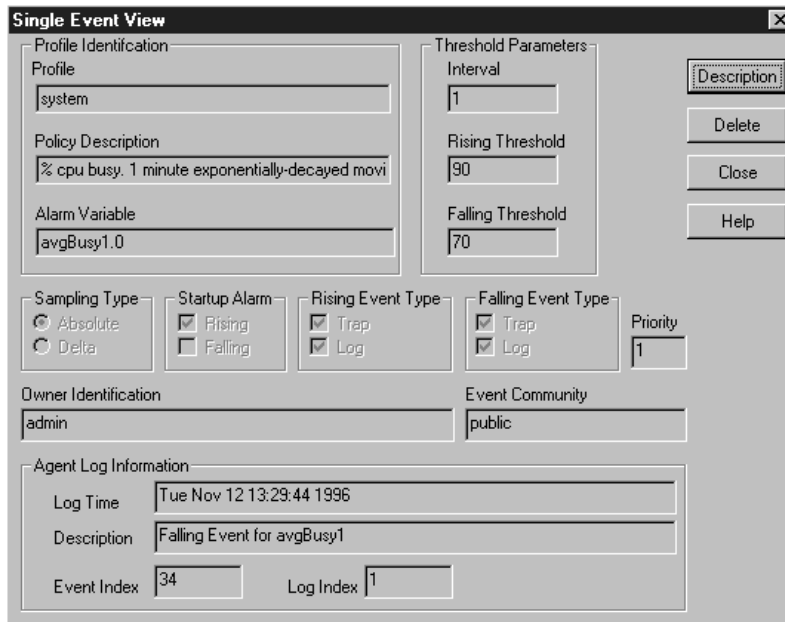
You can sort the event list by clicking on the field headers. You can also change the width of the columns by clicking on the dividers between the field headers and stretching the column to the desired size. Press the Shift key and click the middle mouse button while dragging the divider.



To view a single event, go to the Events List window and double-click on the event you want to see.

The Single Event View window appears, as shown in Figure 5-2. It allows you to easily view all information pertaining to a specific event. You use the Single Event View window to determine what threshold settings in the RMON agent generated the event.

**Figure 5-2 Single Event View Window**



The Single Event View window is divided into two panes: Profile Identification and Agent Log Information.

### Profile Identification Pane

The Profile Identification pane contains parameters related to the threshold settings that generated the event. This information is useful to help you determine what conditions triggered the event. These parameters are as follows:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Profile                                 | Contains the name of the profile to which the policy file belongs.   |
| Description                             | Contains a description of the policy. This is the MIB variable name.   |
| Threshold Parameters: Interval          | Interval in seconds over which the data is sampled and compared with rising and falling thresholds.  |
| Threshold Parameters: Rising Threshold  | <p>Threshold for the sampled statistic. When the current sampled value is greater than or equal to this threshold, a single event is generated. A single event is also generated if the first sample after this entry becomes active is greater than or equal to this threshold, and the associated Startup Alarm is equal to rising.</p> <p>After a rising event is generated, another such event is not generated until the sampled value falls below this threshold and reaches Falling Threshold. See “Creating a New Policy File to Create New Thresholds.”</p>   |
| Threshold Parameters: Falling Threshold | <p>Threshold for the sampled statistic. When the current sampled value is less than or equal to this threshold, and the value at the last sampling interval was greater than this threshold, a single event is generated. A single event is also be generated if the first sample after this entry becomes active is less than or equal to this threshold and the associated Startup Alarm is equal to falling.</p> <p>After a falling event is generated, another such event is not generated until the sampled value rises above this threshold and reaches Rising Threshold. See “Creating a New Policy File to Create New Thresholds.”</p> |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Sampling Type        | Method of sampling the selected variable and calculating the value to be compared against the thresholds. If the value of this object is Absolute, the value of the selected variable is compared directly with the thresholds at the end of the sampling interval. If the value of this object is Delta, the value of the selected variable at the last sample is subtracted from the current value, and the difference compared with the thresholds. |
| Startup Alarm        | Alarm that can be sent when this entry first becomes active. If the first sample after this entry becomes active is greater than or equal to Rising Threshold, and Startup Alarm is equal to rising, then a single rising alarm is generated. If the first sample after this entry becomes active is less than or equal to Falling Threshold, and Startup Alarm is equal to falling, then a single falling alarm is generated.                         |
| Rising Event Type    | Notification that the agent makes about the rising event. In the case of log, an entry is made in the log table for each event. In the case of snmp-trap, an SNMP trap is sent to one or more management stations.   |
| Falling Event Type   | Notification that the agent makes about the falling event. In the case of log, an entry is made in the log table for each event. In the case of snmp-trap, an SNMP trap is sent to one or more management stations.  |
| Priority             | The box indicates the event priority.  |
| Owner Identification | Text string, usually the name or user ID of the person who configured this entry and is therefore using the resources assigned to it.  |
| Event Community      | Specifies the SNMP community to which an SNMP trap is sent. Can be any text string; default is public.   |

If the threshold settings were created by a Threshold Manager policy file, the values from that policy file are displayed. If no policy file is associated with the threshold settings, the fields remain blank.

### Agent Log Information (Configuration Information)

The Agent Log Information pane contains information obtained by Threshold Manager from the RMON agent log. This information provides:

- The time the event was generated
- A description of the event
- The index number of the event
- The log index number of event

Because the Agent Log Information contains information from the RMON agent log in the managed device, these values display whether a Threshold Manager policy file can be associated with the event.

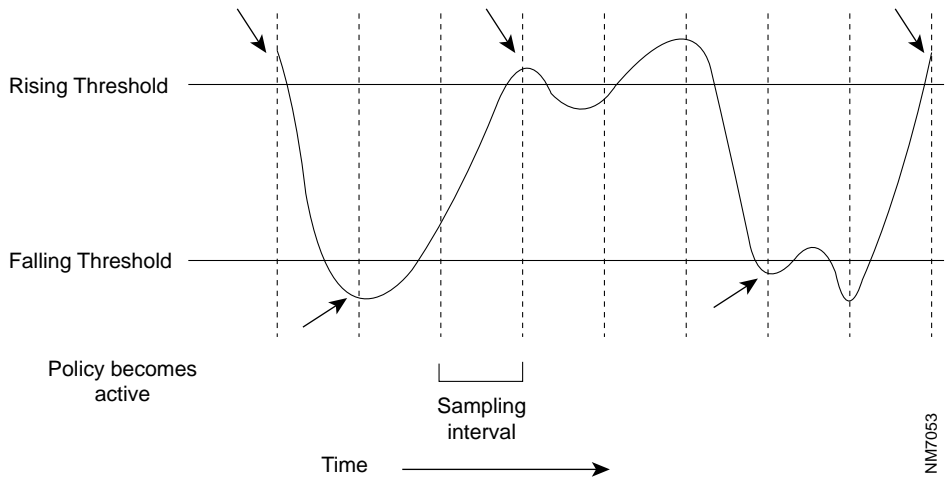
Table 5-2 provides a description of the action buttons.

**Table 5-2 Action Buttons**

| Button             | Action  |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Description</b> | Click <b>Description</b> to see a more detailed description of the event.   |
| <b>Delete</b>      | Click <b>Delete</b> to delete the event from the event log. This has the same effect as selecting the event in the Events List window and selecting <b>Delete&gt;Selected Events</b> . You might want to delete events after you have finished analyzing a particular event type and no longer need to view it, or you want to decrease the number of events displayed in the events list window. |
| <b>Close</b>       | Click <b>Close</b> to close the window.   |
| <b>Help</b>        | Click <b>Help</b> to get online help about this window.   |

Figure 5-3 shows when rising and falling events occur with the Startup Alarm set to **Rising** and **Falling**.

**Figure 5-3** When Threshold Events Occur



## Retrieving Events

Select **View>Retrieve Events** to force a retrieve event action from the Events List window.

Threshold Manager retrieves events from the RMON agent log in the following situations:

- When you launch an instance of Threshold Manager
- At the end of the refresh interval
- When you request a retrieve operation

When the application is operational, Threshold Manager automatically retrieves events from the RMON log at regular intervals. This interval is defined by the refresh timer parameter associated with that instance of Threshold Manager. This parameter is defined

when you initiate a Threshold Manager session. The default value is 360 seconds. If the refresh timer is set to 0, the Threshold Manager will not automatically retrieve events from the RMON agent.

## Sorting Events

To sort events, go to the Events List window and click any column header to sort the items in that column.

Threshold Manager allows you to change the order in which you view events in the Events List window. This capability permits you to view events in a manner that is most meaningful to you. You can reorder the following fields:

- Log Time—descending alphanumeric
- Profile—ascending alphabetic
- Description—ascending alphabetic
- Alarm Variable—ascending alphabetic
- Priority—ascending numeric
- Log Description—ascending alphabetic
- eventIndex—ascending numeric
- logIndex—ascending numeric
- Owner—ascending alphabetic

## Printing Events

To print events, do the following:

- Step 1** Open the Threshold Manager window.
- Step 2** Make sure your printer is set up properly for the host system.
- Step 3** Select **File>Print** to print out events in the window.
- Step 4** Enter the name of the printer in the Print dialog box.
- Step 5** Click **OK**.

Because events can be deleted from the log, printing lets you maintain a history log of device activity. This log is also helpful in accumulating data to determine your network baselines and performance trends. The printed version of the Event List window contains the information described in “Viewing Threshold Events.”

## Deleting Events

You can remove events from the RMON log in the managed device. You delete events because you

- Have completed analysis of a particular event type and no longer need to view it
- Want to decrease the number of events displayed on the Events List screen

Because events are physically removed from the RMON agent log, deleting events also improves the performance of Threshold Manager when retrieving and displaying new events.

To delete a selected event from the RMON agent log:

**Step 1** Highlight the event to be deleted by selecting it from any field within the Events List window.

**Step 2** Select **Delete>Delete Selected Events**.

To delete all events from the RMON agent log, select **Delete>Delete All Events**.

You can also delete selected events from the Single Event View window.

Any user who has launched an instance of Threshold Manager against a device can delete events from that RMON agent log. This means that your Events List window might not display the current contents of the RMON agent log of a device if that device is being managed by more than one Threshold Manager. Your Events List window reflects the change when

- You delete an event using Threshold Manager
- Threshold Manager automatically updates the window at the end of the refresh interval
- You force a retrieve operation using the Retrieve Events command

## Managing Events

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Threshold Manager allows you to delete selected events or all events in the log. When you delete a selected event, all events with the same eventIndex value are removed from the RMON log.

## Event Task Examples

Table 5-3 shows examples of event tasks that you can use to help manage your network.

**Table 5-3**      **Event Tasks**

| <b>Task Description</b>                          | <b>Solution</b>  | <b>Operations</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| A network segment is having congestion problems. | Check whether any threshold events have occurred in the device close to the segment. | Open the Threshold Manager window.<br>Select <b>View&gt;Retrieve Events</b> .<br>View all of the displayed events.<br>Click on the header of any column in the main window to sort the events to investigate the correlation between threshold events and the network problem.<br>Double-click on an interesting event to bring up the Single Event View window to investigate the threshold setting that caused the event to occur.<br>Click <b>Description</b> to read the description of why this event was generated. |
| Sort the tasks by priority.                      | N/A  | Open the Threshold Manager window.<br>Sort the events by priority by clicking on the header of the Priority column.   |
| Finished investigating the displayed events.     | Delete some events in the box to reduce memory use in the agent.                     | Open the Threshold Manager window.<br>Select the events and use <b>Delete&gt; Selected Events</b> to delete the selected ones; or<br>Use <b>Delete&gt;All Events</b> to delete all the events.  |



## Managing Thresholds

With Threshold Manager you can manage existing threshold settings and policies or create new policies. This capability allows you to tailor alarms and events to your specific network needs. The Configure Threshold dialog box provides you with the tools to

- Manipulate current threshold settings and policies
- Create new policies
- Obtain current information about the managed device
- Change the target device for this instance of Threshold Manager

The Managing Thresholds section covers the following topics:

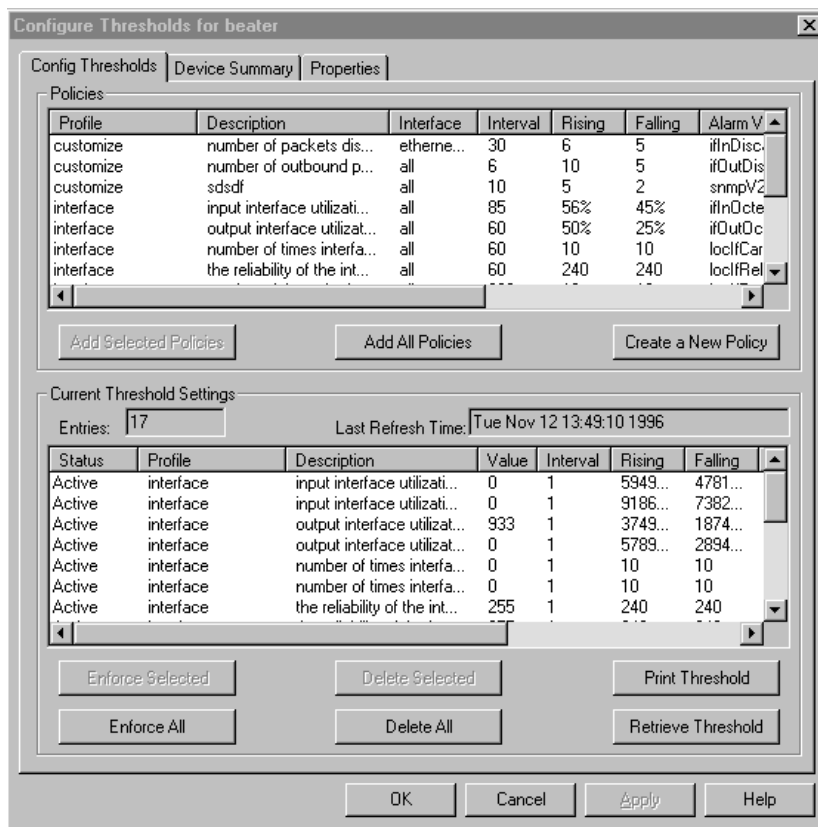
- Displaying Thresholds
- Managing Existing Thresholds
- Obtaining Current Information about the Managed Device
- Changing the Managed Device
- Configuring Thresholds
- Adding a Threshold Setting
- Modifying Threshold Settings
- Deleting a Threshold Setting
- Threshold Manager Task Examples

### Displaying Thresholds

To access the Configure Thresholds dialog box, select **Config>Thresholds...**

The Configure Thresholds dialog box defaults to the Config Threshold tab. You access these subsequent windows from the **Config** pulldown menu. Figure 5-4 shows the Configure Thresholds tab.

Figure 5-4 Config Thresholds Tab



The Config Thresholds tab is divided into two panes. The upper pane is called the Policies pane. The lower pane is called the Current Threshold Settings pane.

### Policies Pane

The Policies pane displays all the existing policy files that can be applied to the managed device. The displayed policies can be default policies provided by Cisco Systems, modified default policies, or any user-defined policies. Threshold Manager provides detailed information about each policy to help you determine which thresholds to set in the RMON agent.

The content of this pane is specific to the instance of Threshold Manager and is visible only at your local machine.

This pane also allows you to

- View the default policies
- Add selected or all policies to the Current Threshold Settings pane
- Modify an existing policy
- Create a new policy

For more information on the policies, see “Using Policy Files” later in this chapter.

### Current Threshold Settings Pane

The Current Threshold Settings pane displays a list of threshold settings for the RMON agent in a managed device. The threshold settings that display an active status are those threshold settings that are enforced in the RMON agent. These threshold settings are viewable from any Threshold Manager launched against that device. The Current Threshold Settings pane also provides information on the number of current threshold settings, the status of those settings, and the last time the current threshold settings pane was updated. From the Current Threshold Settings pane, you can

- Obtain detailed information about a current threshold setting
- Modify a current threshold setting in the RMON agent
- Enforce all or selected threshold settings. Enforcing a threshold setting changes its from pending to active. The status displays a failed value if the threshold setting cannot be enforced in the RMON agent
- Delete all or selected threshold settings. Deleting a threshold setting deletes all events in the RMON log that have been generated as a result of those settings

## Managing Thresholds

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- Print the contents of the Current Threshold Settings pane
- Retrieve current threshold settings from the RMON agents. Retrieving current threshold settings deletes all pending threshold settings

If Threshold Manager created the threshold settings, the fields displayed in the Current Threshold Settings pane will contain data provided by the policy file. If Threshold Manager did not create the policy or Threshold Manager cannot associate a policy with an event, then only the information provided by the RMON agent will be displayed.

## Managing Existing Thresholds

With Threshold Manager you can manage existing threshold settings and policies or create new policies. This capability allows you to tailor alarms and events to your specific network needs. The Configure Threshold dialog box provides you with the tools to

- Manipulate current threshold settings and policies
- Create new policies
- Obtain current information about the managed device
- Change the target device for this instance of Threshold Manager

To access the Configure Threshold dialog box, select **Config>Thresholds...**

## Obtaining Current Information about the Managed Device

The Device Summary tab, shown in Figure 5-5, displays summary information about the device and the RMON MIB. The Device Summary dialog box provides you with information about the device currently managed by Threshold Manager. This is helpful if you want to determine the class of the target device or if you want to obtain information about the device interfaces. Go to the Events List window and select **Config>Device Summary** to access the Device Summary tab.

Figure 5-5 Thresholds Device Summary Tab

**Configure Thresholds for 198.92.34.212**

Config Thresholds | **Device Summary** | Properties

Device Class

RMON Summary Info

Last Refresh Time

Log Entries     Alarm Entries     Event Entries

System Group

System Name     System Contact

System Uptime

System Description

System Location

Interface/Port List

| ifIndex | ifDesc            | ifType               | ifStatus | ifName | ifSpeed |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| 1       | BR10: B-Channel 1 | propPointToPointS... | down     | BR0:1  | 64000   |
| 2       | BR10: B-Channel 2 | propPointToPointS... | down     | BR0:2  | 64000   |
| 3       | BR11: B-Channel 1 | propPointToPointS... | down     | BR1:1  | 64000   |
| 4       | BR11: B-Channel 2 | propPointToPointS... | down     | BR1:2  | 64000   |

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Table 5-4 provides a description of the fields in the Device Summary tab.

**Table 5-4 Device Summary Tab**

| <b>Field</b>  | <b>Description</b>  |
|---|---|
| Device Class  | Type of device.   |
| Last Refresh Time   | Last time events were retrieved by the agent.   |
| Log Entries<br>Alarm Entries<br>Event Entries   | Number of entries in the log, alarm, and event tables. <sup>1</sup>   |
| System Name<br>System Contact<br>System Uptime<br>System Description<br>System Location | Information about the system. One or more fields may be blank depending on the device configuration.  |
| Interface/Port List   | <p>List of interfaces and ports available to the device. The icon (Windows NT only) in the left column is either an I (interface) or P (port). A red icon indicates the interface or port is down, and a green icon indicates the interface or port is up.</p> <p>The list of ports and interfaces for the device provides you with information regarding the individual interfaces. This is helpful when designing and applying policies for specific interfaces. You can sort on the fields within this window to present the information in a manner that is most meaningful to you.</p> |

1. The counters of the RMON tables in the Device Summary tab reflect the value at the time the interface table entries were completely retrieved. Since tables are retrieved asynchronously within Threshold Manager and a large log table might be completed much later than the interface table, there are situations when the counters in the Device Summary dialog do not match the actual counters.

Click **Retrieve** to get the latest Interface/Port information.

## Changing the Managed Device

There is a one-to-one relationship between a single instance of Threshold Manager and the managed device. Also, when Threshold Manager is launched from CiscoView, the application receives default run-time arguments used for operations. Threshold Manager allows you to alter both the target device and the run-time parameters from within the application. This is particularly useful if you want to use a single instance of Threshold Manager to apply threshold settings in multiple devices or if you started the application with the wrong run-time parameters.

This device information is changed from the Properties dialog box. The Properties dialog box lets you

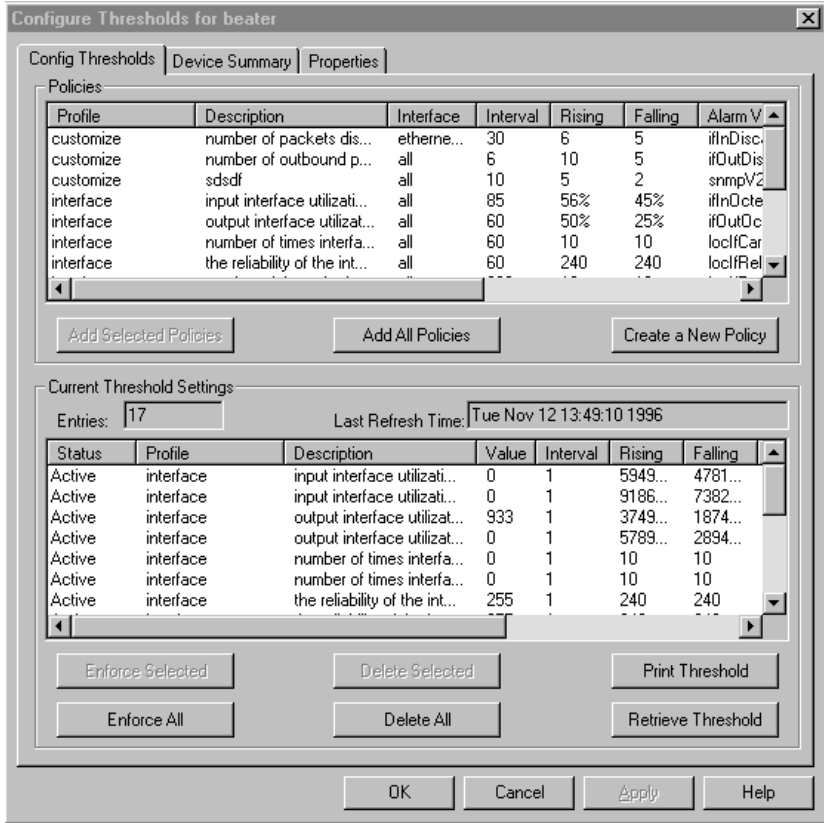
- Manage a new device
- Increase or decrease the value of the refresh timer
- Alter the Read/Write Community strings
- Increase or decrease the amount of time Threshold Manager waits to receive a response from the device before timing out
- Increase or decrease the number of times Threshold manager attempts to contact the target device if no response is received

Go to the Event List window and select **Config>Properties** to access the Properties dialog box.

## Configuring Thresholds

The Config Thresholds tab of the Configure Thresholds window, shown in Figure 5-6, allows you to modify and create policies and work with threshold settings.

Figure 5-6 Config Thresholds Tab



This window consists of two panes: the Policies pane and the Current Threshold Settings pane, which are described in “Managing Thresholds.” For information on changing policies, see “Using Policy Files” later in this chapter. When Threshold Manager is installed, 18 policy files appear in this window. You can select one or all to use as thresholds.



## Adding a Threshold Setting

Before you can set a threshold in the RMON agent, you first add the settings to the Current Threshold Settings pane. You can add all policies as threshold settings or you can add specific policies. A policy can result in multiple threshold settings in the Current Threshold Settings pane. The number of times Threshold Manager adds the policy to the Current Threshold Settings pane depends on the target type and number of interfaces defined in the policy file.

To add all policies in the Policies pane to the Current Threshold Settings pane, click **Add All Policies**.

To add selected policies to the Current Threshold Settings pane:

- Click once on the selected policy.
- Click **Add Selected Policies**.

To add multiple selected policies:

- Click once on the policy at the beginning of the range of selected policies.
- Hold down the Shift key.
- Click once on the policy at the end of the range of selected policies.
- Click **Add Selected Policies**.

A policy added to the Current Threshold Settings pane retains a pending status. The pending status does not change until you enforce the threshold settings to the RMON agent. Threshold settings with a pending status are viewable only from your local machines.

## Modifying Threshold Settings

To modify threshold settings:

- Step 1** Go to the Config Thresholds tab.
- Step 2** Go to the Current Threshold Settings pane.
- Step 3** Double-click on the selected threshold setting.

The Modify Threshold Settings dialog box appears. From this dialog box you can do the following:

- Increase or decrease the threshold parameters.
- Change the Sampling Type to absolute or delta.
- Indicate the Startup Alarm as rising or falling.
- Specify the rising event notification as log, trap, or both.
- Specify the falling event notification as log, trap, or both.
- Modify the name of the policy owner.
- Change the Event Community string to that of the managed device.
- Delete a existing threshold settings or enforce the changes.

Threshold Manager lets you modify existing threshold settings. This feature lets you temporarily alter threshold settings for an Alarm object instance. This is useful when you want to monitor network performance for a specific period of time or to fine-tune threshold settings before permanently applying them. Changes to existing threshold settings are not saved in the associated policy file. Therefore, if the device loses power or is shut down, the modifications to the threshold settings are lost. If you want to make permanent changes to the threshold settings, alter the associated policy file and add the new threshold settings to the Current Threshold Settings pane.

You can alter a threshold setting that has a pending or active status. A threshold setting with a failed status indicates the threshold setting was rejected by the RMON agent and cannot be altered.

## Deleting a Threshold Setting

You can remove active threshold settings enforced in the RMON agent and pending threshold settings from the Current Threshold Settings pane. Deleting a threshold setting removes all events associated with that threshold setting from the RMON log.

To delete a selected threshold setting, regardless of status:

- Click once on the threshold setting.
- Click **Delete Selected**.

To delete more than one threshold setting, regardless of status:

- Click once on the threshold setting at the beginning of the desired range.
- Hold down the shift key.
- Click once on the threshold setting at the end of the desired range.
- Click **Delete Selected**.

Click **Delete All** to remove all threshold settings, regardless of status.

Threshold settings with a pending status are removed from the Current Threshold Setting pane when you

- Delete them.
- Retrieve threshold settings from the RMON agent.
- Exit the Config Threshold tab.

## Threshold Manager Task Examples

Table 5-5 describes common Threshold Manager tasks.

**Table 5-5 Common Threshold Manager Tasks**

| Task Description   | Operations  |
|--|---|
| When viewing the events, there are too many occurrences of a particular kind of event. | <p>Modify the threshold parameters because they are set too low or too high with respect to the network baseline by performing the following steps:</p> <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Double-click on the threshold.</p> <p>Modify the rising and/or falling threshold parameter(s) to adjust to network baseline so that the events are generated only on exceptions.</p> |

## Managing Thresholds

---

**Table 5-5 Common Threshold Manager Tasks (Continued)**

| <b>Task Description</b>  | <b>Operations</b>  |
|--|--|
| Delete some thresholds to reduce load added by threshold monitoring.   | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Click <b>Retrieve Thresholds</b> to retrieve the current active thresholds from the managed agent.</p> <p>Check the count of the current thresholds setting to see how many thresholds are active.</p> <p>Select the threshold rows that are less critical to monitor.</p> <p>Click <b>Delete Selected</b> to delete the thresholds from the agent. The events associated with these deleted thresholds are removed as well.</p> |
| Use different threshold settings for each interface for interface-specific thresholds when the thresholds are still pending in the management station. | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Double click on a threshold row in the lower pane of the window.</p> <p>Modify the threshold parameters in the Modify Threshold Setting window.</p> <p>Click <b>Enforce</b> to enforce to the agent.</p> <p>Double-click on another threshold, and repeat the steps until the threshold setting for each interface is configured properly.</p>   |
| Adjust the event retrieving interval, because events are retrieved too frequently, and there is not that much event activity going on in this device.  | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Threshold Properties</b> to bring up the Properties window.</p> <p>Set the Refresh Timer to a larger number.</p> <p>Click <b>OK</b>.</p>  |

## Using Policy Files

Threshold Manager is delivered with a set of predefined policy files. Threshold Manager uses policies described in a policy file to set threshold values into an RMON device agent. A threshold manager policy file contains at least one threshold policy, the default policy, for the Alarm variable defined in the policy file. A policy file can contain more than one threshold policy to define threshold values for specific interface types but it contains policies for only one MIB variable. In other words, there is a separate policy for each MIB variable. When an interface-specific policy is defined, Threshold Manager applies the threshold policy to the matching interface type. If no interface-specific threshold policy is defined, Threshold Manager applies the default threshold value to all device interfaces.

This section covers the following topics:

- Policy File Format
- Interface-Specific Policy
- Loading Policies
- Naming Convention
- Using the Default Policy Files
- Modifying a Policy File
- Customizing a Policy File to Create New Threshold Settings
- Creating a New Policy File to Create New Thresholds
- Adding Settings to Multiple Interfaces
- Deleting a Policy File
- Policy Task Examples

### Policy File Format

Many predefined policy files are shipped with Threshold Manager. A policy file is a plain text file; it is defined by keywords that are used by Threshold Manager to scan the file. Each policy file defines a Alarm variable to be monitored by a device RMON agent, as well as one or more threshold policies to be set to the device agent for monitoring purposes.

To understand the meaning of policies and to simplify file parsing, Threshold Manager imposes strict rules whenever a policy file is created either manually or through the Create Policy dialog in Threshold Manager. It is strongly recommended that you create customized policy files by using the Threshold Manager graphical user interface.

A policy file is composed of many keyword-value pairs. A keyword and its value are separated by an equal sign (=). If the keyword requires more than one value, each value is separated by a colon (:). Each line of a policy profile contains only one keyword-value pair, for example:

```
Target_Type = etherStats
Rising_Threshold = 200
Falling_Threshold = 20
Sample_Interval = 60:0:300
```

The order of the keyword-value pair is not important. All white spaces are ignored by the Threshold Manager during file parsing. If a keyword appears more than once, the last keyword-value pair takes effect. The only exception to this rule is keyword **Interface\_Threshold**.

## Interface-Specific Policy

An interface-specific policy is defined by the keyword **Interface\_Threshold**. There can be multiple **Interface\_Threshold** keyword-value pairs in a policy profile, each of which defines specific threshold policy (value) for a particular interface type, for example:

```
Interface_Threshold = ethernetCsmacd:375000000:187500000:100000000
Interface_Threshold = ethernetCsmacd:37500000:18750000:10000000
```

The syntax of this special keyword-value pair is as follows:

```
Interface_Threshold=interface_type:rising_thresh_value:falling_thresh_valu  
e:interface_speed
```

where *interface\_speed* is optional.

Threshold Manager uses the interface-specific policy to set thresholds for the interface type involved. If the interface speed is specified in the policy, the policy is applied to interfaces that match both the interface type and speed. If interface speed is not present, the policy is

applied to the interface that matches the specified interface type, regardless of its speed. The default policy is used to set thresholds for interfaces without an interface-specific policy defined.

## Loading Policies

Policies are loaded into Threshold Manager during startup of Threshold Manager and when a new instance of Threshold Manager is launched to monitor another device. After the policies are loaded, any new policy file created manually is ignored by Threshold Manager. However, a new policy file that is created and saved by the Create Policy dialog box is immediately visible inside the Threshold Manager.

Policy files are grouped into three types: global, device class, and host. All policy files are saved under the *config* directory of the Threshold Manager. Policy files under the *config* directory are global policy files and are used for all devices. Policy files under the device class subdirectory apply to devices that belong to the same device class family. Policy files that are saved in the host subdirectory are used to set thresholds against only the specific host.

When reading policies for a given device, Threshold Manager first searches that host subdirectory to locate any host-specific policy files defined for that device, then it scans the device class subdirectory for policy files defined for that device class, and finally it picks up any policy files not defined elsewhere.

## Naming Convention

- Policy File

All policy files have a **.thd** file extension. Threshold Manager loads only policy files with a **.thd** extension. You can create new policy files manually or by using the Threshold Manager GUI. A policy file created using the Threshold Manager GUI is saved as one of the policy file classes based on user's choice, with a file name *alarm\_variable\_name.thd* where *alarm\_variable\_name* is the alarm variable entered.

- Config Directory

The config directory is installed by the Threshold Manager installation script. Threshold Manager is installed under **\$NMSROOT/etc/cview/devices/Threshold-Mgr**. The config directory is under Threshold-Mgr. CiscoView launches Threshold Manager with

a default config directory of `$NMSROOT/etc/cview/devices/Threshold-Mgr/config`. However, this can be overridden by starting the Threshold Manager with `-p Threshold Manager` argument. Once Threshold Manager is started, you cannot change the Threshold Manager directory even when you launch a new instance of Threshold Manager from within the application to monitor another device.

## Using the Default Policy Files

Threshold Manager comes with 18 policy files already defined. In addition, there could be policies that are device specific that are under the device subdirectories. These device-specific policies override the default policies.

Table 5-6 contains a brief description of the policy files.

**Table 5-6 Default Policy File Descriptions**

| Policy File      | Description  | Default Threshold                  |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| avgBusy5         | Average CPU busy in the last 5 minutes.<br>See note in next entry.   | 90%                                |
| avgBusy1         | Average CPU busy in the last minute. Both policies 1 and 2 are used so that the user gets at least 2 events (traps and/or logs) in case the CPU's load keeps increasing. | 70%                                |
| etherStatsOctets | Ethernet segment utilization (RMON Ethernet statistic group).  | 50%                                |
| freeMem          | Free memory.   | Falling threshold (absolute): 500K |
| ifInOctets       | Interface input utilization.   | 50%                                |
| ifOutOctets      | Interface output utilization.  | 50%                                |
| locIfCarTrans    | Carrier transitions.   | 10/minute                          |
| locIfReliab      | Reliability of the interface.  | Falling threshold: 240             |
| locIfResets      | Number of resets.  | 10/minute                          |
| locIfRestarts    | Number of restarts.  | 10/minute                          |
| bufferFail       | Buffer allocating failures.  | 5/30 seconds                       |



**Table 5-6 Default Policy File Descriptions (Continued)**

| <b>Policy File</b>       | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Default Threshold</b> |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| bufferNoMem              | Buffer creation failures.  | 5/30 seconds             |
| etherStatsPkts           | Ethernet segment utilization (RMON Ethernet statistic group).      | 500/second               |
| etherStatsCRCAlignErrors | Ethernet segment alignment error (RMON Ethernet statistic group).  | 50/minute                |
| etherStatsCollisions     | Ethernet segment collision errors (RMON Ethernet statistic group). | 50/minute                |
| etherStatsUndersizePkts  | Ethernet segment size errors (RMON Ethernet statistic group).      | 50/minute                |
| etherStatsOversizePkts   | Ethernet segment size errors (RMON Ethernet statistic group).      | 50/minute                |
| etherStatsFragments      | Ethernet fragmentation errors (RMON Ethernet Statistic group).     | 50/minute                |

## Modifying a Policy File

Threshold Manager allows you to modify an existing threshold policy file, so you can change threshold settings for an Alarm variable without redefining the complete policy. You can create a policy file once, then tailor it for specific interface types. Altering the policy file values does not change any previously added threshold settings, regardless of the status of those settings.

Double-click the selected policy in the Policies pane to activate the Modify Threshold Policy dialog box. From this window, you can

- Increase or decrease the threshold parameters
- Change the Sampling Type to absolute or delta
- Indicate the StartUp Alarm as rising or falling
- Specify the rising event notification as log, trap, or both
- Specify the falling event notification as log, trap, or both
- Alter the event priority

- Modify the name of the policy file owner
- Change the Event Community string to that of the managed device

When you complete the modifications to the policy file, you can save the changes in the host-specific, device class, or global directories. Saving a policy file automatically updates the existing policy file in the Policies pane. Clicking **Continue** directly applies the altered policy to the Current Threshold Settings pane without saving the changes.

## Customizing a Policy File to Create New Threshold Settings

A powerful feature of Threshold Manager is that it allows you to easily create customized threshold policies. This means that you can design threshold settings that are specific to the conditions and performance of your network. Customization also means you can define which Alarm variables to monitor, the type of threshold variable, and the specific interfaces to which the thresholds apply.

You create new threshold policies to

- Set new thresholds for an Alarm Object Identifier
- Define configuration files for Alarm Object Identifiers supported by the RMON agent but not covered by an existing policy
- Apply new thresholds to one or more interfaces on a device

Cisco maintains a list of all SNMP MIBs supported by Cisco IOS Release 10.2 and later. This list is found at:

`ftp://ftp.cisco.com/pub/mibs/supportlists/`

The SNMP MIBs are organized by device class for both routers and switches.

## Creating a New Policy File to Create New Thresholds

You create a new policy from the Create Threshold Policy dialog box. You access this screen by clicking the **Create New Policy** button in the Modify Threshold dialog box.

The Create Threshold Policy dialog box contains the following fields:

- Profile—the name of the profile to which the new policy file will belong. The value of this field is customized and cannot be altered.

- **Policy Description**—a string of any alphanumeric characters used to describe the policy file. You must enter a value in this field.
- **Alarm Object**—uniquely identifies the threshold variable. You must enter a value in this field. You may or may not have to qualify the instance id depending on the value of the next field.
- **Target Type**—defines how Threshold Manager manipulates the Alarm Object ID. If this value is one of the five Threshold Manager target types, you do not have to qualify the instance identifier for the OID. These target types are known variables to Threshold Manager and the application provides the mechanism to access the instance identifier of the object in the SNMP MIB. If you define this value as customized, you must provide the instance identifier for the Alarm Object.
- **Alarm Variable**—a string of any alphanumeric characters representing the name of the SNMP MIB object. If the policy file is saved, the value of this field is used as the policy file name.

The Create Threshold Policy dialog box lets you define the

- **Sampling Interval**—sets the minimum and maximum values, in seconds, for the boundaries of the sampling interval.
- **Rising and falling thresholds** for the sampled data. You must enter a value in these fields.
- **Interface Type**—determines the type of physical interface against which the threshold settings are applied. You can define multiple interface specific thresholds within a single policy file. This field is optional and can be used only if the variable is part of an interface table or the Ethernet statistical table.
- **Interface Speed**—used to calculate the line usage. Like the Interface Type, this field applies only to interface-type variables and is optional.
- **Interface List**—indicates the specific threshold values for each interface you selected.
- **Sampling Type.**
- **StartUp Alarm.**
- **Rising and Falling Event types.**
- **Event Priority.**

- Owner Identification.
- Event Community.

### Configuration File Content

The policy configuration file is a text file that sets the parameters of the threshold for a specific MIB variable. The data in the configuration file is composed of keyword-value pairs in the form of <item name> = <item value>. The keywords contained in the configuration file are as follows:

- Profile\_Name defines the group to which the policy file belongs. As mentioned earlier, there are four allowable profiles: System, Interface, mon\_EtherStats, and Customize.
- Policy\_Name provides a description that further defines the policy. The value of this item is contained in a default policy name. For a customized policy, the creator of the policy provides this information.
- MIB\_Name is the name of the SNMP MIB object to be monitored. The value of this item is derived from combining the Alarm variable name plus the object identifier (OID). Cisco Systems provides these values in the default policy files. For a customized policy, you must define a string of alphanumeric characters for the Alarm variable name and identify a valid SNMP MIB OID. The name of the customized policy file is derived from this value.
- Target\_Type defines how Threshold Manager accesses the OID. The possible entries for this keyword are as follows:
  - Sys defines the value as a scalar variable and represents the system object.
  - loc\_if defines the value as a columnar variable of the Cisco local interface table.
  - mib2\_if defines the value as a columnar variable of the Cisco local interface table.
  - mib2\_util defines the value as a percentage of utilization and is derived by a columnar variable of the MIB II ifTable. The threshold setting for the interface is determined from this value and the speed of the interface.
  - etherstats defines the value of the columnar field of the RMON etherStatsTable.
- Sample\_Interval defines the amount of time (in seconds) over which the data is sampled and compared with a threshold.

- **Sample\_Type** defines the method used to derive the value of the selected variable to be compared with the threshold. Allowable values are
  - **abs.** This attribute means the value of the selected variable will be compared directly with the thresholds at the end of the defined period of time.
  - **delta.** This attribute means that the value of the selected variable from the last sampling interval is subtracted from the current value. The difference is then compared with the threshold.
- **Startup\_Alarm** defines the alarm generated for the first sample interval. Allowable values for this keyword are Rising or Falling.
- **Rising\_Threshold** indicates a threshold value. When the current sampled value is greater than or equal to this threshold value, and the value of the last sample interval is less than this threshold value, a rising alarm is generated. A rising alarm is also generated if the value of the first sampling interval is greater than or equal to this threshold value and the Startup\_Alarm value is set to Rising.
- **Falling\_Threshold** indicates a threshold value. When the current sampled value is less than this threshold value, and the value of the last sample interval is greater than this threshold value, a falling alarm is generated. A falling alarm is also generated if the value of the first sampling interval is less than this threshold value and the Startup\_Alarm value is set to Falling.
- **Owner\_Spec** identifies who created the policy or the person to contact in case there are questions or problems regarding the policy file. All default policy files have an Owner\_Spec value of “admin.” The Owner\_Spec value is user-defined for customized policies.
- **Event\_Priority** indicates the severity of the event generated as a result of the policy file. This keyword is predefined in the default policy files. For customized policies, the event priority value is assigned by the creator of the policy. Allowable values are 1 to 3, with the value of 1 being most critical.
- **Interface\_Threshold** defines a rising and falling threshold that is specific to an interface type. This keyword is optional if the values of the Rising and falling Threshold keywords are defined. However, if no values are specified for the Rising and Falling Threshold keywords and the Interface\_Threshold keyword is not defined, Threshold Manager will not apply the policy file in the RMON agent.

The syntax of the `Interface_Threshold` keyword is:

```
<interface type>:<rising threshold value>:<falling threshold value>:<interface speed>
```

The following is an example of the `Interface_Threshold` keyword and value:

```
Interface_Threshold = ethernet Csmacd:375000000:187500000:100000000
```

- `Rising_Event_Type` indicates the type of notification the RMON agent makes when a rising event is triggered. Allowable values are `log`, `trap`, or `both`. If the `log` value is selected, the agent is the device makes an entry in its log table when a rising event is generated. If the `trap` value is selected, an SNMP trap message is sent to one or more management stations when a rising event is generated. The RMON agent for the device will generate an entry in its log and send a trap for a rising event when the both value is indicated.
- `Falling_Event_Type` indicates the type of notification the agent in a the device makes when a falling event is triggered Like the `Rising_Event_Type`, allowable values are `log`, `trap`, or `both`.
- `Event_Community` specifies the SNMP community where the trap is sent.

Policy configuration files are secured using the standard file security procedures in the host operating system.

After you create a policy file, you can:

- Save the policy file.
- Apply the policy file to one or more interfaces.
- Add the policy file as a current threshold setting.

You can save a threshold policy file in the host-specific, device class, or global directory. Remember that the host-specific directory takes on the name of the managed device. This name can be the host name or IP address of the device, depending on how you identified the device when you launched Threshold Manager. Policy files previously saved under the host name of a device will not appear in the Policies pane if you specify the IP address of the managed device when you launch Threshold Manager.

You cannot save a policy file that has a customized target type.

If the policy file is of an interface variable type, you can apply the threshold settings to one or more interfaces.

You can also add a policy file directly as a threshold setting without saving it to disk. This feature lets you create and add temporary threshold settings. However, there is no permanent record of these policies. The threshold settings are lost when the managed device is turned off or goes down, or when you delete the threshold settings from Threshold Manager.

Click **Continue** after creating the policy file to add it to the Current Threshold Settings pane as a threshold setting. The new threshold setting will have a status of pending.

## Adding Settings to Multiple Interfaces

Threshold Manager lets you assign multiple threshold settings to one or more interfaces within a single policy file. You can define common variables once while retaining the freedom to specify individual threshold on an interface-by-interface basis.

To add multiple interface threshold settings within a single policy file

- Step 1** Define the first set of threshold parameters.
- Step 2** Select the interface type of the target interface.
- Step 3** Click **Add** to add the interface type with its configured threshold settings to the Interface List.
- Step 4** Define the next set of threshold parameters.
- Step 5** Select the target interface type and add it to the interface list.

Repeat Step 3 and Step 4 as many times as necessary to add interface threshold settings.

After you have defined each specific threshold setting, you can apply it to one or more physical interfaces. Click **Continue** to access the Interface Selection dialog box. This dialog box displays all available interfaces in an up state for that device. Select the desired interfaces and click **OK** to apply the threshold settings to the physical interfaces. This action also places the threshold settings in the lower pane of the Configure Threshold window with a status of pending.

### Deleting a Policy File

The current implementation of Threshold Manager does not provide a mechanism to delete existing threshold policies from within the application. You delete policies using the delete function of the Windows operating systems.

The policies are located in the *Threshold-Mgr/config* directory. Depending on how you saved the policy file, it can be found in one of the following subdirectories:

- Global
- Device Class
- Host-specific

All default policies in this release of Threshold Manager are found in the global directory.

### Policy Task Examples

Table 5-7 describes common Threshold Manager policy tasks.

**Table 5-7 Policy Task Examples**

| <b>Task Description</b>                                  | <b>Operations</b>  |
|--|--|
| Monitor all recommended thresholds on the managed agent. | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up the Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Click <b>Add All Policies</b>.</p> <p>The thresholds are populated in the lower pane of the window based on the device configuration.</p> <p>Click <b>Enforce All</b>.</p> <p>All pending thresholds are downloaded to the agent and become active thresholds.</p> |



Table 5-7 Policy Task Examples (Continued)

| Task Description   | Operations  |
|--|---|
| Do not want to overload the agent with too many active thresholds by leveraging only the interface profiles. | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up the Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Click on the <b>Profile</b> title to sort the policies by profile name.</p> <p>Select all of the policy rows in the interface profile to be monitored.</p> <p>Click <b>Add Selected Policies</b>.</p> <p>The selected thresholds are populated in the lower pane of the window for all currently <b>Up</b> interfaces, and are marked “Pending” in the Status column.</p> <p>Click <b>Enforce All</b>.</p> <p>All the pending thresholds are downloaded to the agent, and become active thresholds, marked “Active” in the Status column.</p> |
| Create a new threshold policy and save it for later use.   | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up the Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Click <b>Create New Policy</b>.</p> <p>Choose the appropriate target type for the threshold to be defined.</p> <p>Set up all parameters for this customized threshold policy.</p> <p>Save this policy to the desired location by clicking the button representing the destination (global, device class, or host) on the right hand side of the window.</p>   |

**Table 5-7 Policy Task Examples (Continued)**

| <b>Task Description</b>  | <b>Operations</b>  |
|--|--|
| Customize the threshold parameters for predefined thresholds.                                    | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up the Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Double-click on the threshold policy you want to modify.</p> <p>Set up the parameters to fit your network baseline.</p> <p>Save the changes to disk.</p> <p>The changes can be saved at the global level, which can be used by all devices; saved at the device class level, which can be used by all devices of the same device type; or saved at the device instance level, which can be used again only for this particular device.</p> |
| Determine what a policy means.   | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up the Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Double-click on a threshold policy that you want to learn more about.</p> <p>Click <b>Description</b> in the Modify Threshold Policy window.</p> <p>Threshold Manager provides help text on what this policy means.</p>  |
| Apply an interface-specific threshold only to a particular interface, instead of all interfaces. | <p>Open the Threshold Manager window.</p> <p>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up the Configure Thresholds window.</p> <p>Double click on the threshold policy you wish to enforce to the agent.</p> <p>Click <b>Continue</b> in the Modify Threshold Policy window.</p> <p>Select the interface for setting the threshold from the Interface Selection dialog.</p> <p>Click <b>OK</b> to push it to the staging area.</p> <p>Click <b>Enforce All</b> to download the changes to the agent.</p>   |

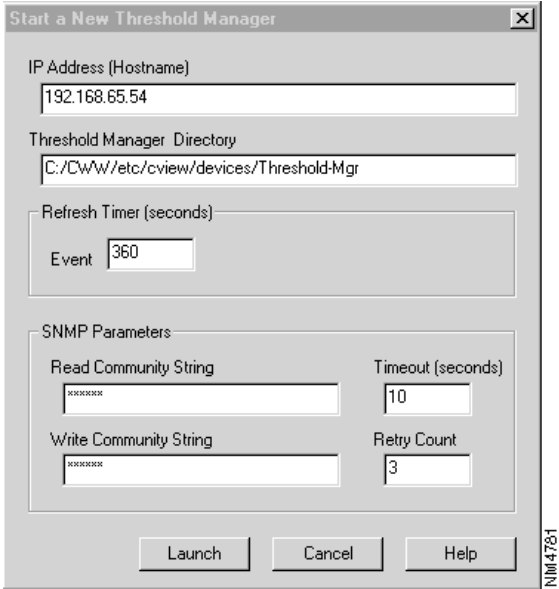
Table 5-7 Policy Task Examples (Continued)

| Task Description                    | Operations  |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Set thresholds for only system MIB. | Open the Threshold Manager window.<br>Select <b>Config&gt;Profiles</b> to hide profiles other than system.<br>In the Filter Profiles window, select profiles other than system and click on the arrow to move the profiles to the Hide Profiles box.<br>Select <b>Config&gt;Thresholds</b> to bring up Configure Thresholds window.<br>The upper window now shows only the system policies. |

## Starting a New Threshold Manager

You can run multiple instances of Threshold Manager simultaneously to manage thresholds on several devices. From the pulldown menu, select **File>New Threshold Manager** to open the dialog box shown in Figure 5-7.

Figure 5-7 Start a New Threshold Manager Dialog Box



The defaults in this dialog box apply to the current device configuration. You need to set the host address of the device to be managed. You also need to specify the Threshold Manager directory if it is not installed in the default location. The Threshold Manager directory is under the Threshold directory called **Threshold-Mgr**. For example:

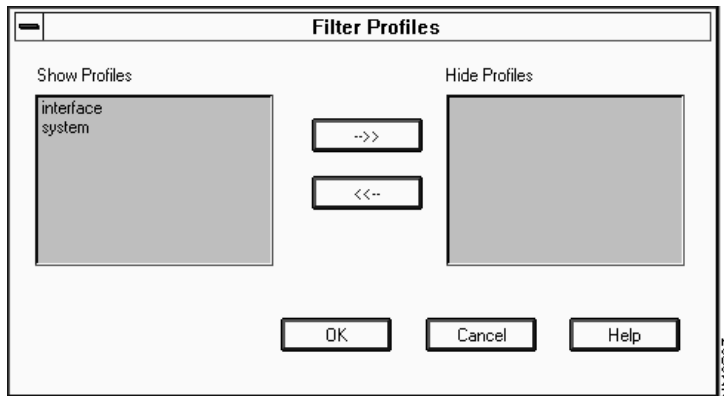
```
/CWW/etc/cview/devices/Threshold-Mgr/
```

For descriptions of the other input fields in this window, see the section “Starting Threshold Manager from CiscoView” earlier in this chapter.

## Filtering Profiles

Threshold Manager lets you filter out profiles. A profile is a set of policy files that belong to a specific management area. When you filter a profile, all the policy files contained in that profile are no longer available to this instance of Threshold Manager. Filtering profiles is useful when you want to limit the number or focus on the type of policies available to an RMON agent. You can also use it when you want to set interface-related thresholds. By disabling all other profiles, only the interface policies are shown in the windows that manage policies. To access the Filter Profiles dialog box, select **Config>Profiles** to open the dialog box shown in Figure 5-8.

**Figure 5-8** Filter Profiles Dialog Box



To filter one or more profiles:

- Highlight the desired profiles in the Show Profiles pane.
- Click the right arrow.

Profiles appearing in the Hide Profiles panes are no longer available to this instance of Threshold Manager, and policy files contained in these profiles will not be displayed in the Policies pane of the Config Thresholds tab of the Configure Thresholds window. However, any threshold settings active in the RMON agent that belong to the filtered profile are not affected.

## Troubleshooting Threshold Manager

Table 5-8 provides a description of known problems and an explanation of how to correct them.

**Table 5-8 Threshold Manager Troubleshooting Procedures**

| Problem   | Explanation  |
|---|--|
| Cisco 7000 devices do not display Threshold Manager in the CiscoView pulldown menu. | <p>Edit the <i>c7com.dd</i> file located in <i>\$NMSROOT/etc/cview/devices/7000/dd/c7com.dd</i></p> <p>Change:</p> <pre>source \$Cv_Path/devices/Router-share/CRTOOLBR.dd source \$Cv_Path/devices/Router-share/C47CH.dd</pre> <p>To:</p> <pre>source \$Cv_Path/devices/Router-share/C47CH.dd source \$Cv_Path/devices/Router-share/CRTOOLBR.dd</pre> <p>Change:</p> <pre>set DD(menubar.menu) {{{ "Admin" admin}}}</pre> <p>To:</p> <pre>lappend DD(menubar.menu) {{{ "Admin" admin}}</pre> |
| New policies are always added to the display list.                                  | Exit the Configure Thresholds window, then reopen it.  |

**Table 5-8      Threshold Manager Troubleshooting Procedures (Continued)**

| <b>Problem</b>   | <b>Explanation</b>   |
|--|--|
| Policy file names won't match if IP address is used.                                     | Use hostname instead of IP address when saving host-specific policies.   |
| Threshold Manager shows undefined fields in the Event List window.                       | The Threshold Manager directory is incorrect. Go to the directory where the policy files that you want to use are defined.   |
| Duplicate global/device/host policies may be allowed, depending on which window is used. | When creating a custom policy, you can only save it once, either as global, device, or host. But after saving the policy, you can use the Modify Threshold Policy window to modify the saved custom policy and save it as all three. |
| The policy that you are using was not created by this Threshold Manager.                 | Create the policy on this instance of Threshold Manager or copy it from the Threshold Manager where it is defined.   |