CLAIMS

1. A method of managing a data center, the data center comprising a first data center device; and a second data center device, the method comprising:

extracting running status information for the first device in a first data format;

converting the running status information for the first device from the first data format to a data transfer format, the data transfer format comprising a series of indications of metrics and a series of corresponding values for the metrics;

sending the running status information for the first device in the data transfer format to a management server for the data center over a messaging bus by sending a first set of data at a first time and a second set of data at a later time, wherein the first set of data comprises indications of metrics and corresponding values, and the second set of data comprises a set of values with the indications of metrics omitted;

storing the running status information for the first device in a management database on the management server;

extracting running status information for the second device in a second data format;

converting the running status information for the second device from the second data format to a data transfer format;

sending the running status information for the second device in the data transfer format to a management server for the data center over the messaging bus; and

storing the running status information for the second device in a management database on the management server.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein extracting running status information for the first device comprises executing an adapter configured for the first device.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the adapter configured for the first device has an associated configuration file and executing the adapter configured for the first device comprises executing the adapter configured for the first device according to the associated configuration file.

4. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the running status information for the first device and the running status information for the second device are sent at regular time intervals.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein timing of the sending of the running status information for the first device and the sending of the running status information for the second device is set by a signal distribution calculated by the management server.

6. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the data transfer format is a text based data format.

7. A method according to any preceding claim, wherein the running status information for the first device comprises dynamic data which changes over time and stable data which indicates the configuration of the first device, and wherein the dynamic data is sent at regular time intervals and the stable data is sent when a change in the configuration of the first device is detected.

8. A method according to any preceding claim, further comprising analyzing the running status information for the first device and / or the second device at the management server and sending control signals for the first device and / or the second device over the messaging bus.

9. A management system for a data center, the data center comprising a first data center device; and a second data center device, the management system comprising: a first monitoring server; a second monitoring server; a management server and a messaging bus coupling the first monitoring server, the second monitoring server and the management server,

the first monitoring server being configured to extract running status information for the first device in a first data format; convert the running status information for the first device from the first data format to a data transfer format, the data format transfer comprising a series of indications of metrics and a series of corresponding values for the metrics; and send the running status information for the first device in the data transfer format to the management server for the data center

over the messaging bus, by sending a first set of data at a first time and a second set of data at a later time, wherein the first set of data comprises indications of metrics and corresponding values, and the second set of data comprises a set of values with the indications of metrics omitted;

the second monitoring server being configured to extract running status information for the second device in a second data format; convert the running status information for the second device from the second data format to a data transfer format; and send the running status information for the second device in the data transfer format to a management server for the data center over the messaging bus;

the management server being configured to store the running status information for the first device in a management database on the management server; storing the running status information for the second device in the management database on the management server.

10. A data center according to claim 9, wherein the first monitoring server is configured to execute an adapter configured for the first device to extract the running status information for the first device

11. A data center according to claim 10, wherein the adapter configured for the first device has an associated configuration file and executing the adapter configured for the first device comprises executing the adapter configured for the first device according to the associated configuration file.

12. A data center according to any one of claims 9 to 11 wherein the running status information for the first device and the running status information for the second device are sent at regular time intervals.

13. A data center according to claim 12, wherein timing of the sending of the running status information for the first device and the sending of the running status information for the second device is set by a signal distribution calculated by the management server.

14. A data center according to any one of claims 9 to 13 wherein the data transfer format is a text based data format.

15. A data center according to any one of claims 9 to 14, wherein the running status information for the first device comprises dynamic data which changes over time and stable data which indicates the configuration of the first device, and wherein the dynamic data is sent at regular time intervals and the stable data is sent when a change in the configuration of the first device is detected.

16. A data center according to any one of claims 9 to 15, wherein the management server is further configured to analyze the running status information for the first device and / or the second device at the management server and to send control signals from the management server to the first monitoring server and / or the second monitoring server over the messaging bus.

17. A method on a monitoring server for monitoring a device of a data center, the method comprising:

extracting running status information for the device in a first data format;

converting, the running status information for the device from the first format to a data transfer format, the data transfer format comprising a series of indications of metrics and a series of corresponding values for the metrics; and

sending the running status information for the device in the data transfer format to a management server for the data center over a messaging bus by sending a first set of data at a first time and a second set of data at a later time, wherein the first set of data comprises indications of metrics and corresponding values, and the second set of data comprises a set of values with the indications of metrics omitted.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein extracting running status information for the first device comprises executing an adapter configured for the device.

19. A method according to claim 18, wherein the adapter configured for the device has an associated configuration file and executing the adapter configured for the device comprises executing the adapter configured for the device according to the associated configuration file.

20. A method according to any one of claims 17 to 19 wherein the running status information for the device is sent at regular time intervals.

21. A method according to claim 20, wherein timing of the sending of the running status information for the device is set by a signal distribution received from the management server.

22. A method according to any one of claims 17 to 21, wherein the data transfer format is a text based data format.

23. A method according to any one of claims 17 to 22, wherein the running status information for the device comprises dynamic data which changes over time and stable data which indicates the configuration of the device, and wherein the dynamic data is sent at regular time intervals and the stable data is sent when a change in the configuration of the device is detected.

24. A monitoring server for monitoring a device of a data center, the monitoring server being configured to extract running status information for the device in a first data format, the data transfer format comprising a series of indications of metrics and a series of corresponding values for the metrics; convert the running status information for the device from the first format to a data transfer format; and send the running status information for the device in the data transfer format to a management server for the data center over a messaging bus by sending a first set of data at a first time and a second set of data at a later time, wherein the first set of data comprises indications of metrics and corresponding values, and the second set of data comprises a set of values with the indications of metrics omitted.

25. A monitoring server according to claim 24, being further configured to execute an adapter configured for the device to extract the running status information.

26. A monitoring server according to claim 25, wherein the adapter configured has an associated configuration file and executing the adapter comprises executing the adapter according to the associated configuration file.

27. A monitoring server according to any one of claims 24 to 26, wherein the running status information for the device is sent at regular time intervals.

28. A monitoring server according to claim 27, wherein timing of the sending of the running status information for the device is set by a signal distribution received from the management server.

29. A monitoring server according to any one of claims 24 to 28, wherein the data transfer format is a text based data format.

30. A monitoring server according to any one of claims 24 to 29, wherein the running status information for the device comprises dynamic data which changes over time and stable data which indicates the configuration of the device, and wherein the dynamic data is sent at regular time intervals and the stable data is sent when a change in the configuration of the device is detected.

31. A computer readable carrier medium comprising processor executable instructions which when executed on a processor cause the processor to carry out a method according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or 17 to 23.