

# Swarming Postmortem: 2014-12-04

Status:final

## Summary

- Description: Incapacity to create a Swarming task
- Component(s): Chromium CI, CQ, TS
- Date/time: 2014-12-04 14:15:57 UTC
- Duration of problem: 47:22
- User impact: Loss of CI coverage, False negative on CQs. **15518 tasks** were aborted.

## Owner(s)

maruel@chromium.org

## Timeline

14:15:57 1167-c87df13.2014 is pushed to chromium-swarm. Author was in a hurry.  
14:16:00.392764 First exception report, 3 seconds after rolling in the broken version.  
14:49 First user report about HTTP 500 sent to two internal MLs (c-i-t@ and s-e@).  
15:00 User report sent on irc on #chromium  
15:00 Automated report from both swarming and isolate server.  
15:01 Ack of failure and start of investigation.  
15:01 User report sent to 3rd internal ML (c-t@) alerting Swarming failures.  
15:03:21 chromium-swarm is rolled back to 1166-53a754b.  
15:03:22.693404 Last exception report, 1 second after the rollback was completed.

## Root causes

1. Type of `365*24*60*60*1000*1000` is **int** on local server, **long** on prod.
2. Overzealous assert asserted that the variable type was int.

## Action Items

### Automate deployment

| Action Item                                                                                 | Owner  | Tracking bug                 | Notes |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|-------|
| Write remote_smoke_test.py to automate remote smoke testing; similar to local_smoke_test.py | maruel | <a href="#">swarming:186</a> |       |
| Write deployment script                                                                     | maruel | <a href="#">swarming:187</a> |       |

This would have caught this issue immediately on the staging server and would still be fast enough (<5 minutes) to be usable. Doing this has been discussed for a long time but was not done yet.

#### Increase ereporter2 rate

Change it from 1h to 5m cycle and see if we can survive the flow.

### What Worked

- ereporter2 reported the failure on its hourly schedule.
- ereporter2 could be used to know both the extent of the downtime and the exact number of task requests denied.
- Maintainer monitors irc and emails.

### What didn't Work

- Local tests passed.
- Staging server was not used at all before pushing to prod.
- Alert send to s-e@ and c-i-t@ was ignored for 11 minutes.
- CI, TS and CQ were affected.

### Lessons Learned

Don't bypass the staging server, damn!

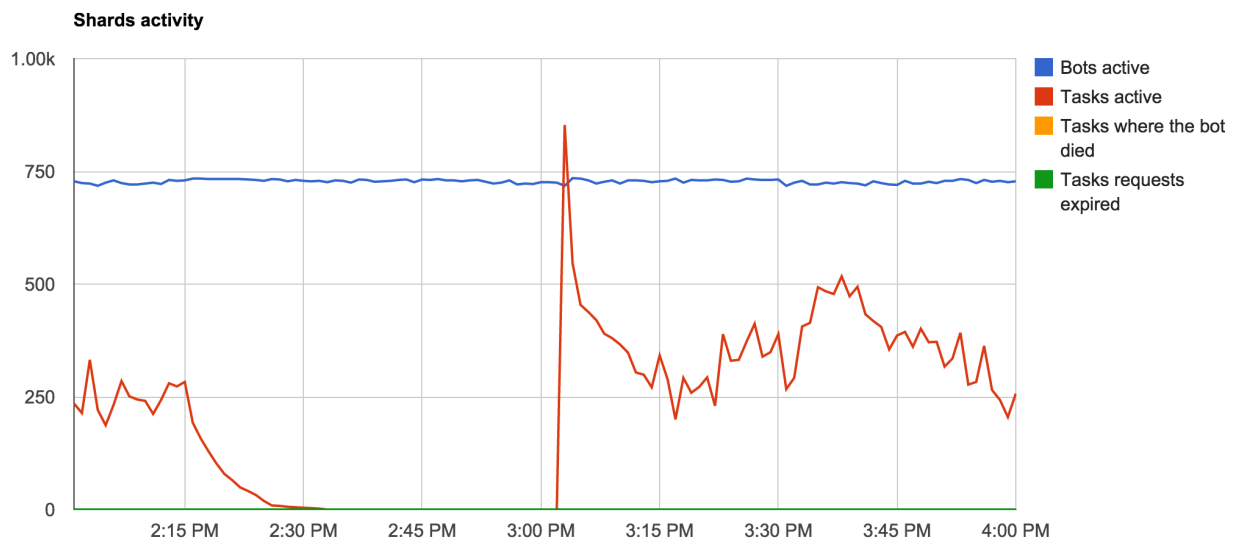
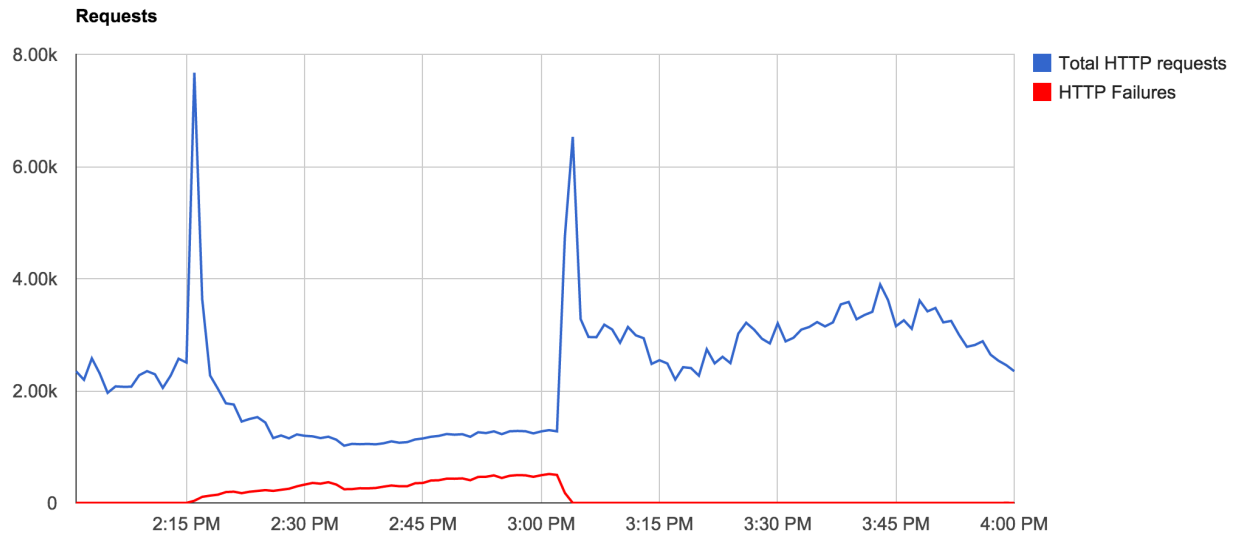
### References

Public

IRC: <http://echelog.com/logs/browse/chromium/1417647600>

Swarming server stats:

<https://chromium-swarm.appspot.com/stats?resolution=minutes&now=2014-12-04%2016:00>



Private

[https://appengine.google.com/adminlogs?tz=UTC&app\\_id=s~chromium-swarm](https://appengine.google.com/adminlogs?tz=UTC&app_id=s~chromium-swarm)

<http://g/chrome-troopers/3MHstklzMf8>

<http://g/chrome-infrastructure-team/o7QxSzKsVbl>