



# CHAPTER 15

## Maintaining Device Configuration Inventory

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### Overview of Device Configuration Archive

When Prime Infrastructure discovers the devices in your network, it retrieves and stores the device configurations in its archives. When you make a change to a device configuration, Prime Infrastructure stores the previous version as well as the current version. Prime Infrastructure stores all device configuration versions.

You can perform configuration archive tasks in two places:

- **Operate > Configuration Archives**—Lists all configuration archives by device type, site group, or user-defined group. You can schedule archive collections, rollbacks, and view details of configurations.
- **Operate > Device Work Center**—View a specific device's archived configurations, compare its configurations, schedule a configuration rollback, and schedule archive collections for that device.

### Changing Configuration Archive Settings

By default, Prime Infrastructure archives up to five device configuration versions for each device for seven days after:

- Every inventory collection
- Prime Infrastructure receives notification of a configuration change event

To change when Prime Infrastructure archives configurations:

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|---------------|--|
| <b>Step 1</b> | Choose <b>Administration &gt; System Settings &gt; Configuration Archive</b> .   |
| <b>Step 2</b> | Change the necessary settings. To archive an unlimited number of configuration versions, uncheck <b>Number of version to retain</b> and <b>Number of days to retain</b> .  |
| <b>Step 3</b> | To have Prime Infrastructure ignore commands for a particular device type, click the <b>Advanced</b> tab, choose the device type, and enter the commands to be ignored.<br><br>If the device you specify has a change in its configuration and Prime Infrastructure detects that the change is in one of the commands in the exclude list, Prime Infrastructure does not create an archived version of the configuration with this change. |
| <b>Step 4</b> | Click <b>Save</b> .  |
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## Scheduling Configuration Archive Collection

To specify when to archive configurations:

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- Step 1** Choose **Operate > Configuration Archives**.
  - Step 2** Choose the device(s) whose configuration you want to archive, then click **Schedule Archive**.
  - Step 3** In the Configuration Archive Schedule window, enter schedule parameters for the archive collection.
  - Step 4** Click **Save**.
  - Step 5** To view the progress of the configuration archive job, choose **Administration > Jobs Dashboard**.
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## Comparing Configuration Archives

You can compare any two archived running or startup configurations to find changes made to a device. If you decide to cancel a configuration change, you can roll back to any earlier archived configuration (see [Rolling Back Configuration Changes, page 15-2](#)).

To compare archived configurations:

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- Step 1** Choose **Operate > Device Work Center**.
  - Step 2** Choose the device whose configurations you want to compare, then click **Configuration Archive**. The list of archived configurations for the selected device appears.
  - Step 3** Click the expand icon for the archived configuration you want to compare with others.
  - Step 4** Click the appropriate link in the **Compare With** column:
    - a. To compare the running and startup configurations, click **Startup**.
    - b. To compare the archived configuration with another archived version, click **Other Version**. Then select the other archived version and click **Compare**.
    - c. To compare the archived configuration with an archived configuration on a different device, click **Other Device**. Then select the other device and click **Compare**.
  - Step 5** To see only the differences between the two configuration archives you are comparing:
    - a. Click **Raw Configuration**.
    - b. From the **Select Type** drop-down menu, choose **Difference only**.  
The differences are highlighted in red.
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## Rolling Back Configuration Changes

You can use Prime Infrastructure to rollback a device's configuration to a previous version of the configuration. See [Rolling Back Device Configuration Versions](#) for more information.