Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Documentation Overview

This document is a roadmap that summarizes the steps required to use Prime Provisioning and provides a suggested reading order for the Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 documentation set. Prior to this release, this document was named Documentation and Getting Started Guide.

Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 is a follow-on release to *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.2*.

Details of added, changed, and dropped functionality are provided in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Release Notes*.

Note All documentation *might* be upgraded over time. All upgraded documentation will be available at the same URLs specified in this document.

Note Prime Provisioning can be used as a standalone product or as part of the Cisco Prime for IP Next Generation Network (IP NGN) Suite. When installed as part of the suite, you can launch Prime Provisioning from the Prime Central portal. For more information about Prime Central, see the documentation for Cisco Prime Central 1.1.

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Cisco Prime Provisioning is an Experience Lifecycle Manager that contains a number of intelligent network management applications that help reduce overall administration and management costs by providing automated resource management and rapid profile-based provisioning capabilities.
Prime Provisioning enables fast deployment and time to market of Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) and Carrier Ethernet technologies. In addition, the Prime Provisioning Traffic Engineering Management application is Cisco's exclusive planning and provisioning application for Cisco MPLS Traffic Engineering (MPLS-TE)-enabled routers. Cisco Prime Diagnostics is an automated, decision tree analysis-based network management application you can use to troubleshoot and diagnose a wide range of problems in Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) VPNs.

The primary applications in Prime Fulfillment include:

- Layer 2 VPN and Carrier Ethernet Management
- Radio Access Network (RAN) Backhaul Management
- MPLS Virtual Private Network (MPLS VPN) Management
- MPLS Transport Profile (MPLS TP) Management
- MPLS Traffic Engineering (MPLS TE) Management
- Diagnostics for MPLS VPNs

These and Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) are all distributed on one product DVD.

Getting Started with Prime Provisioning

This section explains how to get started using the Prime Provisioning 6.3 product. Please follow the steps in the specified order.

Step 1 You can access the entire documentation set for Prime Provisioning 6.3 at:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps12199/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

From here you can navigate to any Prime Provisioning 6.3 documentation you need.

Step 2 Read the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Release Notes*.

This document gives you information about this specific Prime Provisioning 6.3 release (for example, new and changed information and known problems in the release).

Step 3 Check for needed device and platform support in the sortable *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Supported Devices* spreadsheet.

Step 4 Locate the CD-ROM for the Prime Provisioning 6.3 product in the product box, and then proceed with your installation.

Information about the system recommendations, how to install and log into Prime Provisioning, setting up an Oracle database (optional), setting up the Cisco Configuration Engine (optional), backing up and restoring the Prime Provisioning repository, and setting up a standby system is available in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Installation Guide* .

Step 5 Upon completing your installation, you start and log into Prime Provisioning. Then you must enter the license key(s) for newly purchased components or upgrades, which are specified on the Right to Use document(s) found in your product box.

Information about entering license information is found in the chapter, Installing and Logging Into Prime Provisioning, in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Installation Guide*.

Third party and open source copyright information is found in the *Open Source Used in Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3*.

Step 6 Next you configure Prime Provisioning to know about the preconfiguration information, such as devices, providers, customers, and so on, that Prime Provisioning is going to manage and their roles. The procedure for installing license keys and information about setting up users and user roles is described in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 Administration Guide*.

Any relevant post-installation preconfiguration information is explained in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 User Guide* at the beginning of each chapter that describes the Prime Provisioning services. How to create the associated elements and set up basic services in Prime Provisioning is explained in the chapter “Before Setting Up Prime Provisioning,” and how to import devices is explained in the appendix “Inventory — Discovery”.

Step 7 Next you configure Prime Provisioning to set up the users and Role Based Access Control (RBAC) roles.

How to set up the users and RBAC roles is explained in the chapter "Administration Tasks" in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 User Guide*:

Step 8 The next part of the documentation you reference is the specific provisioning documentation that applies to your network.

This information is located in the *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 User Guide*:

The main components of Prime Provisioning include:

- Managing L2VPN and Carrier Ethernet Services

  This part of the user guide provides information for the VPN technologies: the Layer 2 Virtual Private Network (L2VPN) (point-to-point) technology, with access technologies such as ATM, Frame Relay, and Ethernet (Carrier Ethernet); and the Virtual Private LAN Services (VPLS) (point-to-multipoint) technology, with access technology Ethernet (Carrier Ethernet) on Layer 2 and Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) cores.

- Managing RAN Backhaul Services

  This part of the user guide also provides information on setting up radio access network (RAN) backhaul transport services. RAN backhaul extends the IP network from the core to the edge by preparing all RAN backhaul traffic for transport over pseudowires or carrier-metro Ethernet.

- Managing MPLS VPN Services

  MPLS-based VPNs are created in Layer 3 and are based on the peer model, which makes them more scalable and easier to build and manage than conventional VPNs. This part of the user guide explains the tasks and step-by-step procedures you need to perform to set up the MPLS VPN network infrastructure in Prime Provisioning and deploy the MPLS VPN service on the network.

- Managing MPLS Transport Profile Services

  This part of the user guide provides information for MPLS Transport Profile (TP) technologies, MPLS-TP is the technology that enables MPLS to be deployed in a transport network and operated in a similar manner to existing transport technologies.

- Managing MPLS Traffic Engineering Services

  This part of the user guide explains how to use Traffic Engineering Management (TEM), which is a tool for managing MPLS Traffic Engineering (TE) primary and backup tunnels for the purpose of offering Service Level Agreement (SLA) guarantees for your network traffic.

- Performing Diagnostics

  This part of the user guide provides details of all failure scenarios and observations reported by the Diagnostics application for Prime Provisioning. It also lists all IOS and IOS XR commands executed by the troubleshooting workflows.

Step 9 For more information about the API feature set, see the following documents:

- *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 API Programmer Guide*:

  This programmer guide provides information about the Prime Provisioning API components and processes that allow you to use operations support system (OSS) client programs to connect to the Prime Provisioning system.

- *Cisco Prime Provisioning 6.3 API Programmer Reference*:

  This programmer reference provides XML examples for the Prime Provisioning 6.3 APIs.

Obtaining Documentation, Obtaining Support, and Security Guidelines

For information on obtaining documentation, obtaining support, providing documentation feedback, security guidelines, and also recommended aliases and general Cisco documents, see the monthly *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation*, which also lists all new and revised Cisco technical documentation, at:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/general/whatsnew/whatsnew.html