



# CHAPTER 11

## Managing Licenses

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This chapter describes the licensing mechanism and licensing schemes available in the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) and how to add or upgrade a license. The following topics are covered:

- [Understanding Licensing, page 11-1](#)
- [Viewing Current Licenses, page 11-2](#)
- [Adding and Upgrading Licenses, page 11-3](#)
- [Removing Licenses, page 11-4](#)

## Understanding Licensing

In Cisco ISE, licensing enables you to provide coverage for increasing numbers of endpoints and offer more complex policy services depending on the capabilities of the license or licenses that you choose to apply.

Cisco ISE licenses are available in Base, Advanced, and Wireless packages. Each package includes a number of SKUs that is equal to the number of licenses included in the package. To use Cisco ISE, you must have a valid Base, Base and Advanced, or Wireless license package.

The Base package includes all of the base services required to enable authentication and authorization, Guest services, and link encryption. The Advanced package includes Posture, Profiler, and Security Group Access services.

Cisco ISE is bundled with a licensing mechanism that has the following important features:

- **Built-in License**—Cisco ISE comes with a built-in evaluation license, which is valid for 90 days. The evaluation license includes both Base and Advanced packages and limits the number of endpoints to 100 for both the Base and Advanced packages. Therefore, it is not required to install a regular license immediately upon installation.
- **Central Management**—Licenses are centrally managed by the ISE administration node. In a distributed deployment, where two ISE nodes assume the Administration persona (primary and secondary), upon successful installation of the license file, the licensing information from the primary Administration node is propagated to the secondary Administration node. So there is no need to install the same license on each Administration node within the deployment.
- **Concurrent Endpoint Count**—The Cisco ISE license includes a count value for Base and Advanced packages, which restricts the number of endpoints that use those services. The count value is the number of endpoints across the entire deployment that are concurrently connected to the network and accessing the service.

**Note**

Concurrent endpoints represent the total number of supported users and devices. An endpoint can be any combination of users, personal computers, laptops, IP phones, smart phones, gaming consoles, printers, fax machines, or other types of network devices.

The following license types are available in Cisco ISE:

- Evaluation License
- Base License
- Advanced License
- Wireless License

**Note**

Wireless Licenses cannot coexist on an Administration ISE node with Base or Base and Advanced Licenses

Refer to the [Cisco Identity Services Engine Hardware Installation Guide, Release 1.0.4](#), for more information about the license types available in the Cisco ISE license scheme.

## Viewing Current Licenses

To view current license in Cisco ISE, choose **Administration > System > Licensing > Current Licenses**. The Current License page appears, which contains the following information:

- Administration Node—Name of the ISE server instance where the primary node is installed.
- ID—Administration node ID obtained from the licensing information.
- Version—Version number of the Cisco ISE.
- Type—Type of license that is activated in the Cisco ISE node.
- Expires—Number of days remaining after which the current license expires.
- Licensed To—Name of the organization to which the license has been allotted.
- Base—The ratio in this number represents the number of utilized endpoints versus the number of allowed endpoints supported under the current Base licensing scheme. For example, if you are using an evaluation license and have identified only one endpoint, this number is 1/100.
- Advanced—The ratio in this number represents the number of utilized endpoints versus the number of allowed endpoints supported under the current Advanced licensing scheme. For example, if you are using an evaluation license and have identified only one endpoint, this number is 1/100.

## Viewing Licensing History

You can obtain reports about the license types and actions taken (such as when the license was installed, upgraded, deleted, and so on) from the Licensing History page. To view the licensing history, choose **Monitor > System > Reports > Licensing History**. The Licensing History page appears, which provides the following licensing information:

- Time Stamp—The time at which a particular license was added, updated, or deleted.
- Admin User Name—Name of the Admin User who took the particular action.

- Admin IP Address—IP address of the Cisco ISE node where the license is installed.
- Action—Action taken such as created, upgraded, deleted, and so on.
- License File—Name of the license file that has been added, updated, or deleted. This column remains blank if the license is an evaluation license.
- Description—A short description of the action taken.

See [System Reports, page 23-10](#) for information on how to generate the report on licensing history.

## Adding and Upgrading Licenses

You can add a license only on a standalone or primary Administration ISE node. You can upgrade your existing evaluation license on or before the expiry of the 90-day evaluation period. You have two options for upgrading/replacing your evaluation license. You must either:

- Install a Base license and then choose whether or not to also install an Advanced license
- Install a Wireless license

### Prerequisite

Make sure that you have obtained and installed appropriate license on your Cisco ISE node. Refer to the [Cisco Identity Services Engine Hardware Installation Guide, Release 1.0.4](#), for more information about how to obtain a valid license and how to install it.

**To add or upgrade a license, complete the following steps:**

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- Step 1** From the ISE Administration interface, select **Administration > System > Licensing > Current Licenses**. The Current Licenses page appears with a list of available deployment licenses and their configuration.
- Step 2** Click the radio button next to the license name that you want to upgrade and click **Edit**.  
The Licensed Service page appears, which contains the following information:
- Service—The services available on the Cisco ISE node.
  - Installations—The services currently installed on the Cisco ISE node.
  - License File—Type of license that is currently activated on the Cisco ISE node.
  - End Points—Number of endpoints supported under the current licensing scheme.
  - Updated Time—Time at which the license was updated.
  - Counter—Number of licenses that are installed in the Cisco ISE node and the number of endpoints that are supported under the current licensing scheme.
- Step 3** Click **Add Services**. The Import New License File page appears.
- Step 4** Click **Browse** to import the new license file that supports the added service.
- Step 5** Click **Save**.
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Go back to the Current Licenses page to verify the addition of the upgraded license. For further confirmation, check the features of the respective services for which the license has been upgraded.

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# Removing Licenses

You can add a license only on a standalone or primary Administration ISE node. You cannot remove evaluation licenses. If you remove the production licenses within the evaluation period, the evaluation license is restored upon deletion.

If Base, Advanced, or Wireless packages are installed, you can remove each of them individually. If you have installed a combined license, all related installations in the Base and Advanced packages are removed.

**Note**

- If the Advanced package count is greater than the Base package count, then the Base package cannot be deleted.
- If you have installed a Wireless Upgrade license after a Wireless license, you must remove the Wireless Upgrade license before you can remove the underlying Wireless license.

**To remove a license, complete the following steps:**

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- Step 1** From the Cisco ISE Administration interface, select **Administration > System > Licensing > Current Licenses**. The Current Licenses page appears with a list of available deployment licenses and their configuration.
- Step 2** Click the radio button next to the node name and click **Edit**. The Licensed Services page appears.
- Step 3** Click the radio button next to the license name that you want to delete and click **Remove**.
- Step 4** Click **OK** in the confirmation dialog box to confirm that you want to delete this licensing package. The Licensed Services page appears with the modified status.
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