

Cisco Prime Performance Manager 1.0

The following list of frequently asked questions is meant to help quickly address some of the commonly asked questions regarding Cisco Prime Performance Manager Release 1.0. For more information on the product, refer to the Cisco Prime Performance Manager page at <http://www.cisco.com/go/performance>.

Q. What is Cisco Prime™?

A. The Cisco Prime portfolio of enterprise and service provider management offerings empowers IT organizations to more effectively manage their networks and the services they deliver. Built on a service-centered foundation, the Cisco Prime portfolio of products supports integrated lifecycle management through an intuitive workflow-oriented user experience.

The suite of Cisco Prime solutions for service providers provides A-to-Z management for IP next-generation networks, mobility, video, and managed services.

Q. What is Cisco Prime Performance Manager?

A. Cisco Prime Performance Manager is an easy-to-deploy and easy-to-use solution for gathering and reporting on performance statistics for Cisco® and multivendor networks. Cisco Prime Performance Manager provides actionable information that spans core, aggregation, and access networks, with a rich set of prepackaged reports for network resource and service performance monitoring of a wide variety of network technologies including:

- Converged IP/Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) core and service edge networks
- Mobile backhaul networks
- Carrier Ethernet networks

Q. Who should deploy Cisco Prime Performance Manager?

A. Cisco Prime Performance Manager is designed for service providers and other carrier-grade network operators.

Q. Does Cisco Prime Performance Manager require a Software Application Support (SAS) contract?

A. The purchase of an annual Cisco SAS maintenance contract is required. The Cisco SAS maintenance contract entitles the customer to free upgrades for minor and maintenance application releases, access to the Cisco Software Center website for patches and bug fixes, along with Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) support.

Q. Where can I obtain part numbers and pricing information for Cisco Prime Performance Manager?

A. The Cisco Prime Performance Manager data sheet has part numbers. Visit the pricing tool and run a search on the product family (Network Management) or the product description or product number, for example, PRIME-1-PERFMGR-K9.

- Q.** Can Cisco Prime Performance Manager be integrated into OSS applications?
- A.** Cisco Prime Performance Manager provides comprehensive reports across a number of technologies. These reports are exported in comma-separated value (CSV) format to a local file system on the gateway in standard Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) Type A or Type B format. These CSV files can easily be loaded into any OSS application or reporting tool.

Cisco Prime Performance Manager also generates events and alarms for failures detected during normal operations and polling. These system-generated alerts can be forwarded as Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) notifications conforming to CISCO-EPM-NOTIFICATION-MIB format.

- Q.** What reports are provided?
- A.** Cisco Prime Performance Manager provides more than 200 prepackaged reports and can be easily extended to add reports. For a complete set of reports, refer to <http://www.cisco.com/go/performance>. The following is a sample set of report categories:
- Application traffic: Authentication, authorization, and accounting (AAA), SNMP, TCP, User Datagram Protocol (UDP)
 - Availability: Interfaces, MPLS networks, Pseudowires, SNMP ping
 - IP quality of service (QoS): Committed Access Rate (CAR), Class map, Ethernet Virtual Connection (EVC)
 - IP protocols: Border Gateway Protocol (BGP), Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP), Open Shortest Path First (OSPF)
 - IP service-level agreement (SLA): Ethernet Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM), ICMP jitter, round-trip time, UDP jitter
 - Resources: Buffers, CPU, memory
 - Transport statistics: Interface, ATM interface, ATM PVC, EVC interface, Ethernet errors
 - MPLS: In segment, Label Distribution Protocol (LDP), MPLS interface, out segment, traffic engineering (TE) tunnel
 - Pseudowire
- Q.** What devices are supported in Cisco Prime Performance Manager?
- A.** Cisco Prime Performance Manager supports major Cisco device families such as CRS, ASR9000, 7600, ME3800X, ME3600X, ASR1000, MWR2941, ME3400, ISR, Catalyst® 4500, and Catalyst 4900. For a complete list of devices, please refer to the latest documentation at <http://www.cisco.com/go/performance>.
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Performance Manager support non-Cisco devices?
- A.** Yes, Cisco Prime Performance Manager supports a rich set of performance reports based on standard MIBs. If a device supports these standard MIBs, Cisco Prime Performance Manager will be able to collect the statistics and report on the information provided by the MIBs. In addition, Cisco Prime Performance Manager also provides the capability to load new MIBs and add reports based on these MIBs. Customers can choose to extend the system themselves or contact their partner or Cisco Advanced Services to develop or validate support for a new device or for new reports.
- Q.** Can Cisco Prime Performance Manager integrate with Cisco Active Network Abstraction (ANA)?
- A.** Yes, Cisco Prime Performance Manager provides an easy-to-use, GUI-driven integration with Cisco ANA. It helps enable Cisco Prime Performance Manager to automatically synchronize with ANA for device inventory, and reports generated in Cisco Prime Performance Manager can be contextually cross-launched from ANA.

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- Q.** How can I get evaluation software?
- A.** You can download a no-cost evaluation version of Cisco Prime Performance Manager. To download a copy for evaluation, please go to the Cisco Marketplace at <http://www.cisco.com/go/nmsevals> and look for Network Management applications. Evaluation software provides full access to the capabilities of Cisco Prime Performance Manager for 60 days.
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Performance Manager support external authentication?
- A.** Yes, Cisco Prime Performance Manager supports external authentication using Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP), RADIUS, and TACACS. It supports fallback options for local authentication in case of external authentication server failure. See the Cisco Prime Performance Manager User Guide at <http://www.cisco.com/go/performance> for more information.
- Q.** Can I customize reports?
- A.** Yes, reports are fully customizable. Please refer to the Cisco Prime Performance Manager 1.0 Integration Developer Guide (available mid-June) at <http://www.cisco.com/go/performance> for information on how to customize existing reports or add new reports.
- Q.** Where can I find more information?
- A.** For more information about Cisco Prime Performance Manager, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/performance>, contact your local Cisco account representative, or send an email to prime-performance@cisco.com.



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