Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0

The following list of frequently asked questions is meant to help quickly address some of the commonly asked questions regarding Cisco Prime™ Network Registrar Release 8.0. For more information on the product refer to the datasheets.

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 Network Registrar?

A. Cisco Prime Network Registrar provides integrated, scalable, reliable Domain Name System (DNS), Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP), and IP Address Management (IPAM) (DDI) services for both IPv4 and IPv6.

The solution includes the following integrated components and their respective services - all supporting both IPv4 and IPv6:

- A single DHCP server for device network access

- A single DNS server for IP address translation and service delivery

- A DNS caching server that supports DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and is designed to prevent cache poisoning and other attacks

- A powerful, comprehensive IPAM system to automate and manage all IP address requirements

Q. Why is Cisco Prime Network Registrar version 8.0?

A. Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0 is the evolution of Cisco Network Registrar and continues to be the solution for service providers and enterprises that require DDI services. This release adds significant new DNS capabilities and IP Address Management (IPAM) capabilities, providing the control, security and visibility required to manage increasingly complex networks. Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0 is an upgrade from Cisco Network Registrar.

Q. Who should deploy Cisco Prime Network Registrar?

A. Cisco Prime Network Registrar is designed for service providers, cable MSOs, and enterprises that need a reliable and scalable DDI solution. The IPAM component targets any organization managing over 5,000 IP addresses.

Q. Where and when can I obtain part number information for Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0?

A. Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0 part numbers are available in the Ordering Guide for Cisco Prime Network Registrar Version 8.0.

Q. Where can I find information on upgrading from Cisco Network Registrar 7.2 to Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0?

A. Upgrade information is available in the Ordering Guide for Cisco Prime Network Registrar Version 8.0 on Cisco.com.

Q. What licensing method does Cisco Prime Network Registrar utilize?

A. Cisco Prime Network Registrar consists of four integrated components which can be ordered/purchased individually or as part of one of two suites. The first suite, Cisco Prime Network Registrar DD, includes DHCP and DNS. The second suite, Cisco Prime Network Registrar DDI, includes DHCP, DNS, IPAM. The Cisco Prime Network Registrar DNS caching server is only available as an individual component and is not currently offered in a suite.

Cisco Prime Network Registrar is licensed based on the number of IP nodes being supported (for DHCP and/or IPAM) and/or Zone Resource Records (RRs) (for DNS). Users must first order a base license which includes the software media kit and a license for 1000 IP nodes/RRs. If the network has more than 1000 IP nodes/RRs, users must order additional licenses to cover the remaining IP nodes/RRs. Similarly, when upgrading to Cisco Prime Network Registrar, users can upgrade the base license and then add additional licenses as necessary.

For the two suites, the license count applies to each service; for example, for the Cisco Prime Network Registrar DD base license, the license covers 1000 IP nodes for DHCP **and** 1000 RRs for DNS.

For additional licensing information, please reference the Ordering Guide for Cisco Prime Network Registrar Version 8.0 on Cisco.com.

Q. What are the new features introduced in Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0?

A. New features include the following:

- Enhanced IPAM functionality:
  - Centralized, full-lifecycle management and control across multiple technologies - DHCP, IPv4, IPv6.
  - Automation for simplified management: discover, track, allocate, and reclaim IP addresses automatically. Utilize tools to model IP data. Eliminate IP conflicts and configuration errors, and move away from spreadsheets and homegrown systems.
  - Real-time visibility into IPv4 and IPv6, subnet usage and device connections for faster troubleshooting. An intuitive graphical user interface promotes ease of use.
  - Accountability: Detailed IP audit reporting and diagnostics. Granular administrative IPAM access.
  - Flexibility/user control: High level of control allows organizations to manage their IP space according to their own policies and procedures. A patented, flexible container mechanism enables a user to organize IP address space according to a deployment's topology, geography, and router association for greater administrative simplicity. Granular, role-based IPAM delegation allows multiple administrators to manage the system with different rights.
  - Centralized enhanced IP address management functionality: including block and subnet allocation and alerts for address depletion.

- DNSSEC: Cisco Prime Network Registrar offers a separate DNSSEC caching-only server for improved performance. DNSSEC is an IETF standard and is used to authenticate DNS data as it transits the network.
- DNS64 (enhanced DNS): DNS64 provides access to the IPv4 Internet and servers for hosts that have only an IPv6 address. DNS64 is available with the Cisco Prime Network Registrar DNS caching server.

For a more complete listing of new capabilities, refer to the Cisco Prime Network Registrar What's New in Release 8.0 data sheet.

Q. What support does the Cisco Prime Network Registrar IPAM component provide for Cisco Prime Network Registrar DNS?

A. At this time, Cisco Prime Network Registrar DNS is supported by the IPAM component to the extent that the IPAM component will act as a DNS listener, but not a configuration agent or master.

Q. On what platforms is Cisco Prime Network Registrar supported?

A. Platform support for Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0 DHCP, DNS, and DNS Caching Server currently includes: Windows Server 2008, Solaris 10, Red Had Enterprise Linux 5.0 and Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.0. Platform support for Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0 IPAM currently includes Windows Server 8.0 (32-bit or 54-bit English versions), Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.x (64 bit).

Cisco Prime Network Registrar DHCP, DNS and DNS Caching Server are also certified to run on Solaris 10 LDOM, VMware ESX 4.x (for Red Hat Enterprise Server 5 and Windows Server 2008 R2), and Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS).

Q. Can Cisco Prime Network Registrar be deployed as a virtual appliance?

A. Yes, Cisco Prime Network Registrar can be deployed as a preconfigured virtual appliance, simplifying installation, lowering deployment risks, and reducing startup costs. An OVF image is available on the Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0 download site. To download software, visit the Cisco Software Center.

Q. Does Cisco Prime Network Registrar require Software Application Support (SAS)?

A. The purchase of an annual Cisco SAS maintenance contract is highly recommended to ensure Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) support and access to the Software Center on Cisco.com for patches and bug fixes. The Cisco SAS maintenance contract also entitles customers to free minor upgrades and maintenance releases.

Q. Where can more information be obtained?

A. For more information about Cisco Prime Network Registrar 8.0, go to http://www.cisco.com/go/networkregistrar, contact your local account representative, or send an email to. ask-networkregistrar@cisco.com.