Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart

Q. What is Cisco® Access Registrar Jumpstart?

A. Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart is a hardware appliance for RADIUS/Diameter authentication, authorization, and accounting (AAA) services. The appliance combines the speed, scalability, and reliability of Cisco Access Registrar and its robust, world-class AAA offering with the ease-of-deployment of an appliance format and the high performance of Cisco server hardware. The first release of Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart includes the following:

- Cisco Access Registrar 5.1, CentOS 5.4, and VMware ESXi 4.1 - all preinstalled on the server
- Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS™) C200 M2 (one rack-unit [RU] rack-mount server) with an Intel Xeon x5670 2.66 GHz 6 core processor, 24 GB RAM, two 300 GB 15K disk drives (RAID 1, yielding 300 GB total space), and dual power supplies

Q. What are the benefits of Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart?

A. Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart is designed to help network operators address the challenges to meet the specific authentication, authorization, and accounting needs of service providers, including deployment, performance, scalability, resilience, extensibility, and the reduction of operating expenses (OpEx). The solution is fast and easy to implement with low startup costs. AAA services can be immediately turned on, configured, and integrated into the network service for fast time to value. The Cisco UCS C200 M2 server provides superior scale and performance in a compact form factor, and the application is preinstalled as a virtual machine (VM), providing support for virtualized data centers. Finally, Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart is an integrated solution from one vendor, on one box - all supported by Cisco.

Q. How many transactions per second (TPS) are included with Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart?

A. Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart includes a base license of 100 TPS.

Q. Can additional TPS be added to the 100 count base license that is shipped with Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart?

A. Yes. Additional TPS licenses to support more than 20,000 total TPS with this single Cisco UCS server can be purchased.

Information concerning licensing for additional TPS can be found in the Cisco Access Registrar data sheet at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/netmgtsw/ps5698/ps411/data_sheet_c78-688518.html.

Q. What operating system runs on the Cisco UCS server?

A. Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart ships preinstalled with and supports the CentOS Linux operating system version 5.4.

Q. Is Oracle preinstalled on Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart and can Oracle be installed on the same Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart server?

A. No, Oracle is not preinstalled on Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart. Customers need to install Oracle on a separate server; it is not recommended to have any third-party application running on the Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart appliance.

Q. What is the value of introducing a virtualization layer with VMware ESXi between the operating system and the hardware if the operator has no plans to run additional virtual machines?

A. There is considerable value in running the Cisco Access Registrar virtual machine on top of VMware ESXi instead of running the operating system directly on the hardware. The value in this case is not realized so much during day-to-day operations as it is when conditions change or performance weakens. Operators routinely find that the load that they have placed on a particular server has grown beyond what that server can handle as network traffic levels increase and requirements change. At some point, an operator may wish to move Cisco Access Registrar to a larger hardware base. While this task is straightforward in the traditional model where the operating system runs on bare hardware, it is time consuming at best, incurs some risk, and may be hard to fit into a maintenance window. However, in a virtualized environment, such as that provided with the Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart appliance, the operator can simply shut down the virtual machine, use VMware tools to copy the virtual machine to another VMware platform, and then turn it on. This can reduce a complicated and time-consuming task to one that takes only a few minutes.

Q. Can additional virtual machines run on the Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart appliance? It comes with VMware ESXi preinstalled.

A. It is not recommended to run other VMs or applications on the Cisco Access Registrar appliance.

Q. What support is available with Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart?

A. SMARTnet[®] support applies to the hardware. Software Application Support (SAS) is available for the Cisco Access Registrar application.

Q. What type of warranty does the appliance carry?

A. The product ships with a standard 90-day hardware warranty.

Q. Where and when can I obtain more information?

A. For more information about Cisco Access Registrar Jumpstart 5.1, go to http://www.cisco.com/go/jumpstart-ar, contact your local account representative, or send an email to ar-tme@cisco.com.

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