

End-of-Sale and End-of-Life Announcement for Cisco Traditional NetFlow (TNF)

Cisco announces the end of sale and end of life for the Cisco[®] Traditional NetFlow (TNF) feature on the Cisco ASR 1000 Series platform. Cisco will not have any future development, command-line interface support, Technical Assistance Center support, or documentation on the Traditional NetFlow (TNF) feature beyond the Cisco IOS[®] XE 3.10S software release.

Feature Migration Option

Customers with the Cisco Traditional NetFlow (TNF) feature on the ASR 1000 platform are encouraged to migrate to the Cisco Flexible NetFlow (FNF) feature on the ASR 1000 platform.

Traditional NetFlow used a fixed seven-tuple of IP information to identify a flow most of the time. A big advantage of the new Flexible NetFlow concept is that the user can define the flow. The benefits of Flexible NetFlow include:

- Flexible NetFlow will integrate with Network-Based Application Recognition (NBAR) to provide application visibility rather than just “flow” visibility. This positions Flexible NetFlow as a unique tool to differentiate and meter applications right from within the network.
- Flexible NetFlow on the ASR 1000 platform will support IPFIX from the Cisco IOS XE 3.7S release.
- Flexible NetFlow has premade templates to emulate the Traditional NetFlow (TNF).
- Because only interesting flows with selected key fields will be analyzed, Flexible NetFlow generally offers better performance, scalability, and aggregation of flow information.
- The flow infrastructure is enhanced for security monitoring and distributed denial of service (DDoS) detection and identification.
- New information from packets adapts flow information to a particular service or operation in the network. Flexible NetFlow users can customize the flow information available.
- There is extensive use of Cisco's flexible and extensible NetFlow Version 9 export format.
- A comprehensive IP accounting feature can be used to replace many other accounting features, such as IP accounting, BGP Policy Accounting, and persistent caches.
- New high-end platforms such as the Cisco Catalyst[®] 6000 with EARL8, the Cisco Catalyst 4000 with K10, the next generation of Cisco Catalyst 3000, and so on will exclusively support Flexible NetFlow.

Traditional NetFlow allows you to understand what the network is doing and thus to optimize network design and reduce operational costs. With Flexible NetFlow the notion of “flow” goes beyond Layers 2/3/4. It gives you greater visibility and allows you to understand network behavior with more efficiency, with specific flow information tailored for various services used in the network.

Please refer to the white paper “Migrating from Traditional to Flexible NetFlow” for more details on Flexible NetFlow transition steps.

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/iosswrel/ps6537/ps6555/ps6601/ps6965/white_paper_c11-545581.html

For More Information

For more information about the Cisco NetFlow feature, go to http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6601/products_ios_protocol_group_home.html or contact your local account representative.

For more information about the Cisco End-of-Life Policy, go to: http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_end-of-life_policy.html

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