Cisco Compliance Management and Configuration Service

Manage Change and Compliance in Dynamic Networks

Networks are constantly changing. Partly that is because they must conform to internal policies and best practices as well as commercial and regulatory standards that are continually being altered. So a big part of managing a network is managing change. But poorly handled changes can wreak havoc on networks and their organizations.

That is where Cisco® Compliance Management and Configuration Service (CMCS) can help. It handles change management, making sure that the changes you make in your network are done correctly and consistently on all devices throughout your network. Built on a comprehensive set of network management tools along with Cisco operational expertise, CMCS helps make sure that network devices are configured correctly and comply with policies and regulations.

A Structured, Automated Approach

Many companies struggle to consistently implement and manage changes in compliance across complex and evolving networks. They must adhere to increasing security requirements, internal best practices, and commercial and regulatory standards.

But most of today’s change management tools are inadequate. They require too much manual work, and their results are often inconsistent. One manual error in a configuration can undermine the security of the entire organization. According to Gartner®, 85 percent of network problems are caused by changes, 60 percent of network outages are caused by human error, and 47 percent of changes are not accounted for or authorized. How can you eliminate or decrease problems like these?

Using a structured approach to manage change and compliance can counter the effects of inadequate implementation. And it can give you a deeper understanding of what operational outcomes that change can bring. Over time, automated, consistent processes can improve alignment and integration across your organization, resulting in true business transformation. And they can help you avoid the cost of configuration errors and noncompliance.

More Business Value through Controlled Change

CMCS supports your business continuity and growth through compliance and configuration management. The service applies Cisco intellectual capital, operational expertise, and smart workflow automation capabilities. It can help you:

- Gain greater insight into your business and accelerate change
- Resolve issues more quickly and more efficiently
- Address increasing compliance requirements
- Implement policies for compliance monitoring, with configuration analytics, reporting, and automated compliance checks and remediation steps

Based on Cisco expertise and industry standards, CMCS experts help you craft internal policies and measure your company’s compliance against changing regulatory, commercial, and organizational requirements. You can remove complexity, address ongoing regulatory change in your environment, and benefit from predictable performance. Have your compliance managed in ways that are fast, accurate, and repeatable.

*Source: Compliance Is No Longer a Primary Driver for IT Risk and Security, July 2013.
Benefits Delivered

Manage Change and Complexity
Cisco expertise, software automation, and industry standards are combined to manage ongoing network change requirements. Devices are compared against standards sourced from industry authority and Cisco best practices to achieve the highest levels of efficiency.

Mitigate Risk
CMCS eliminates multiple toolsets to:
• Prevent redundancy
• Reduce human factor mistakes in configuration changes
• Fully automate all release management activities
• Give you a view into industry best practices for configuration

Achieve and Enforce Compliance
CMCS offers automated compliance reporting. It also provides advanced network change control workflows, with customizable entitlement and approvals enforcement. It draws on 2400 best practices and configuration guidelines embedded in the application database. As a result, you can:
• Detect compliance violations on an ongoing basis
• Stay current with compliance standards
• Reduce noncompliance costs and penalties

Maintain Business Continuity
With software image management and configuration management, CMCS helps you increase your network uptime and stability through:
• Full archive and restore capabilities for configurations
• Auto rollback to decrease repair time
• Real-time change detection
• Integration for comprehensive views of your network infrastructure

Utilize a Customized Service
CMCS is customized to your network infrastructure. Cisco’s service management team becomes an extension of the customer IT group, advises on change best practices, and completes compliance network changes. The service simplifies IT operations, allowing you to focus on other strategic priorities. With CMCS, you can accelerate business transformation through smoother transitions to new solutions and technologies.

Why Cisco Services?
With Cisco Services, you can know more, save more, and innovate more. You can rely on us because we are the worldwide leader in IT, helping companies seize the opportunities of tomorrow. We have more than 28 years of experience, more than 50 million installed devices, and 6 million customer interactions each year. Delivered by Cisco and our Cisco channel partners, service engagements result in measurable business gains for our customers, who have achieved benefits such as 15 to 20 percent faster acceleration to revenue*, 30 percent lower infrastructure costs, 50 percent faster disaster recovery, and 90 percent reduction in deployment time.

In addition, Cisco has broad expertise in both change management and compliance. And it has particular expertise in software automation, one of the foundations of the Compliance Management and Configuration Service, and in industry standards, which form part of Cisco’s library of intellectual property. For information about Cisco Services, visit www.cisco.com/go/dcservices.

For More Information
To learn more about Cisco Compliance Management and Configuration Service, visit www.cisco.com/go/cmcs.

*Reviews of customer engagements.