



Using the Content Distribution Manager GUI

The Content Distribution Manager is the central location from which much of the work of creating and managing ACNS networks and hosted content can be controlled. Functions related to managing your ACNS network are done using the Content Distribution Manager graphical user interface (GUI). All modifications made through the Content Distribution Manager GUI are propagated to the Content Routers and Content Engines that make up your ACNS network.

This chapter explains how to use the Content Distribution Manager GUI. It contains the following sections:

- [Launching the Content Distribution Manager GUI, page 2-1](#)
- [Content Distribution Manager GUI Primary Feature Tabs, page 2-2](#)
- [Understanding the Interface, page 2-3](#)
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- [Logging On Following a Session Timeout, page 2-8](#)
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Launching the Content Distribution Manager GUI

To launch the Content Distribution Manager GUI from your system, follow these steps:

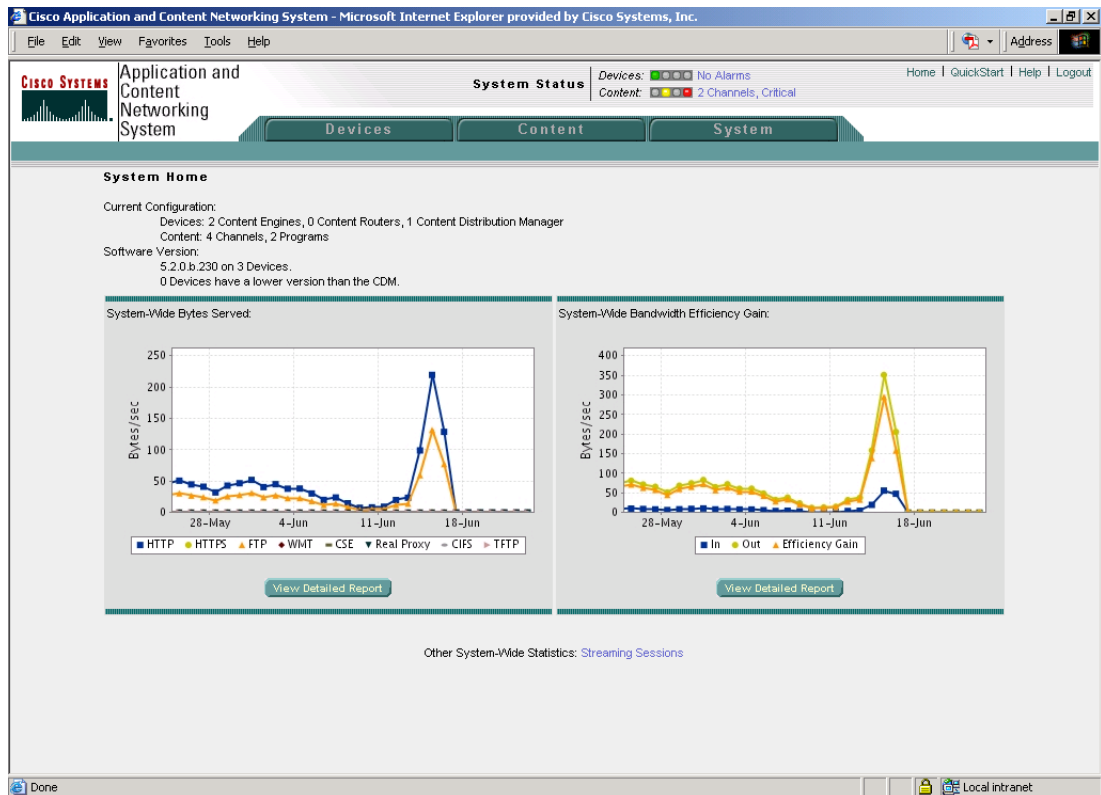
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- Step 1** In your web browser, enter the URL or IP address for the Content Distribution Manager. For example, enter the URL:
- `https://Name_of_Content_Distribution_Manager:8443`**
- Alternatively, enter the IP address:
- `https://IP_address_of_Content_Distribution_Manager:8443`**
- Step 2** The Security Alert window appears. Click **Yes** to accept the security certificate. The Login window appears.
- Step 3** Enter your username in the Username field. Enter your password in the Password field and click **Login**.
- User name: **admin**
Password: **<password>**



Note The default username is **admin** and the default password is **default**. If the defaults have been changed by another Content Distribution Manager administrator, you need to obtain the new username and password.

The System Home window appears. (See [Figure 2-1](#).)

Figure 2-1 ACNS Content Distribution Manager GUI System Home Window



Content Distribution Manager GUI Primary Feature Tabs

[Table 2-1](#) describes the three primary feature tabs and their associated functions of the Content Distribution Manager GUI.

Table 2-1 Content Distribution Manager GUI Feature Tabs

Feature Tab	Description
Devices	<p>Lets you configure and manage Content Distribution Managers, Content Engines, Content Routers, and device groups.</p> <p>Lets you create and manage ACNS network elements such as locations, location trees, and multicast clouds.</p> <p>Lets you view system logs and streaming and routing statistics for ACNS network devices.</p>
Content	Lets you create and modify channels, programs, and program addresses.
System	<p>Lets you configure routing and Content Distribution Manager configurations, and add a software update file.</p> <p>Lets you configure and manager user accounts, roles, domains, and passwords. You can also view audit trail logs.</p>

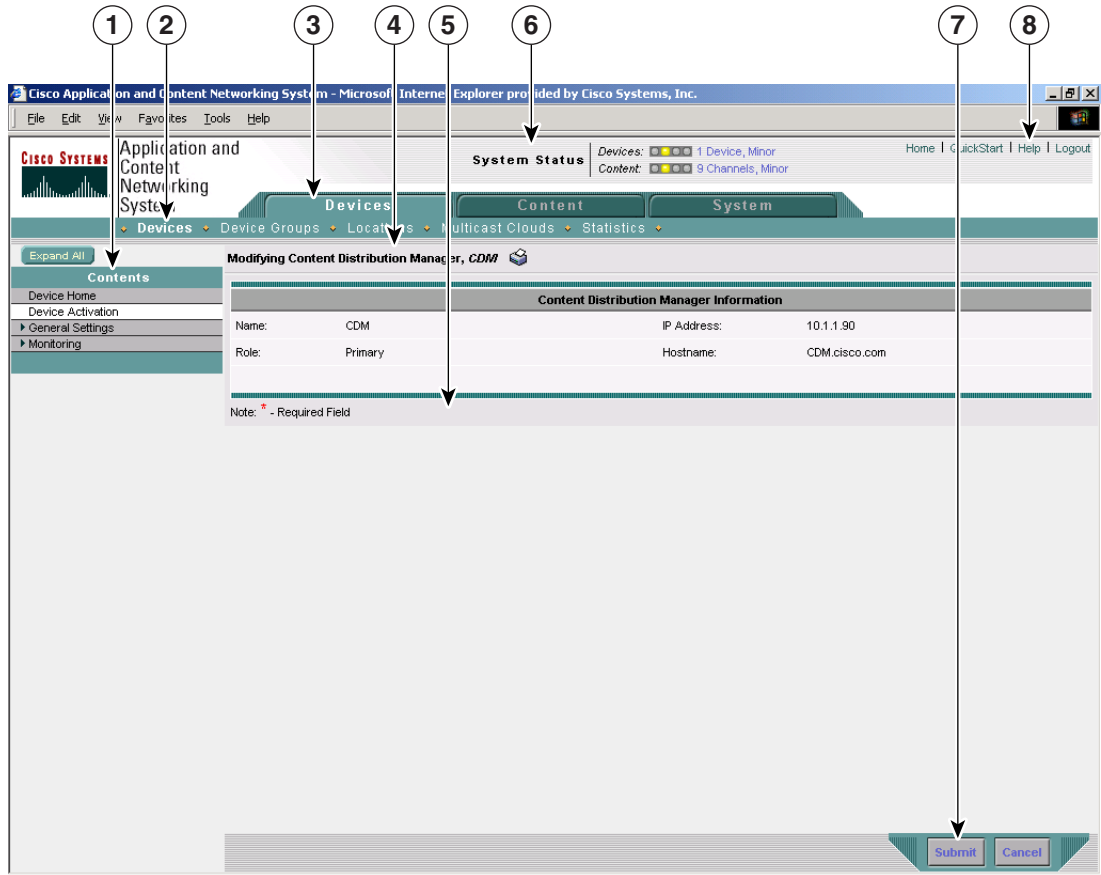
Understanding the Interface

This section describes both the Content Distribution GUI main window elements and the taskbar elements.

Window Elements

The Content Distribution Manager GUI contains several window elements with which you need to familiarize yourself. (See [Figure 2-2](#).) See [Table 2-2](#) for a description of each element.

Figure 2-2 Content Distribution Manager GUI Elements



1	Contents pane	5	Window
2	Options bar	6	System status bar
3	Tabs	7	Submit and Cancel buttons
4	Taskbar	8	Tools

Table 2-2 Content Distribution Manager GUI Elements

Element	Description
Contents pane	Displays available suboptions, if required.
Options bar	Displays the options available for the selected tab.
Tabs	Provides access to all the Content Distribution Manager product functionality. Tabs include Devices, Content, and System. See Table 2-1 for a description of each tab.
Taskbar	Displays available tasks for the selected option. See Table 2-3 for a description of all the Content Distribution Manager GUI icons. Some of these icons appear in the taskbar.
Window	Displays the area in which you perform application tasks.

Table 2-2 Content Distribution Manager GUI Elements (continued)

Element	Description
System status bar	Displays device and content alarms and presents the overall device and content health of the system.
Submit button	Saves the entries made in the window.
Cancel button	Returns to the previous window without saving entries. Use this button instead of the browser Back button.
Tools	Contains the following links: Home—Returns you to the System Home window Quick Start—Launches the Quick Start tool. Help—Opens a new window that displays context-sensitive help information. Logout—Logs you out of the Content Distribution Manager.

**Note**

Use only the Content Distribution Manager GUI elements, which are described in [Table 2-2](#), to navigate within the GUI. Web browser buttons, such as the Back and Refresh buttons, are not supported and do not allow you to navigate to the correct GUI window.

Content Distribution Manager GUI Icons

[Table 2-3](#) lists and describes the Content Distribution Manager icons that you can use to perform specific tasks.

Table 2-3 Content Distribution Manager GUI Icons






Taskbar Icon	Function
	Activates all inactive Content Engines
	Alerts you to a new system message
	Displays table of contents
	Displays all playlists
	Displays all devices

Table 2-3 Content Distribution Manager GUI Icons (continued)













Taskbar Icon	Function
	Deactivates the device
	Runs Content Engine Cache GUI
	Updates application statistics
	Forces refresh of replication information
	Forces full database update
	Lets you view read-only items
	Creates new items
	Edits items
	Deletes items
	Adds a content item for acquisition
	Deletes selected items
	Manages between host and proxy servers for content acquisition

Table 2-3 Content Distribution Manager GUI Icons (continued)



















Taskbar Icon	Function
	Saves to disk
	Exports a table to a comma-separated values (CSV) file
	Creates a filter table
	Displays a graph
	Applies the default settings to the device
	Overrides the group settings on the device
	Lets you view all items
	Refreshes the table
	Reboots the device
	Shuts down the device
	Prints the current window
	Copies a program

Table 2-3 Content Distribution Manager GUI Icons (continued)

Taskbar Icon	Function
	Deletes all conditions from an IP ACL
	Assigns all items to the entity
	Removes all items from the entity
	Identifies services for roles
	Indicates that the current transaction was successfully completed
	Indicates that user input is invalid and that the transaction did not finish

Using Online Help

ACNS 5.x software offers online help for the Content Distribution Manager GUI. There are several ways to access online help, depending on the information you want and the method you find most convenient.

If you want to read one or more help topics, click the **Help** link. A separate browser window appears that contains online help. From the online help Contents tab, click the name of a topic to display information about that topic. For information about a specific window, click the **Help** link while viewing that window.

Use the browser Back and Forward buttons to navigate between online help windows.



Note

Although the web browser Back and Forward buttons are not supported when navigating in the Content Distribution Manager GUI, these buttons *are* supported when navigating within online help.

Logging On Following a Session Timeout

The Content Distribution Manager web interface is equipped with a timeout feature that terminates idle sessions after a set length of time. See the [“Modifying System Default Properties” section on page 16-23](#) for instructions on changing the length of time that must pass before your session times out.

When a session has timed out, you immediately lose access to the Content Distribution Manager web interface, which is replaced with this message:

Your session has expired.

To log back on to the Content Distribution Manager, follow these steps:

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- Step 1** Close all web browser windows that were used to access the Content Distribution Manager by clicking the **Close** button to close the active window, or click the **File** menu and choose **Close** or **Exit**.



Note Often when you log on to the Content Distribution Manager, the web interface is loaded into a separate instance of the web browser from the one used to point to the Content Distribution Manager URL. Make sure that both instances of the browser are terminated before attempting to log back on to the Content Distribution Manager.

- Step 2** Open a new instance of your preferred web browser and point it to the URL of your Content Distribution Manager. You are prompted to log on to the Content Distribution Manager web interface.
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Exiting the Content Distribution Manager GUI

To exit the Content Distribution Manager GUI, follow these steps:

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- Step 1** Click **Submit** to save any changes you made, or click **Cancel** to cancel the changes.
- Step 2** In the upper right corner of the Content Distribution Manager GUI, click **Logout**. You are prompted to confirm your decision.
- Step 3** Click **OK**. The Content Distribution Manager GUI returns to the Login window.
- Step 4** To exit the browser, choose **Close** from the browser **File** menu, or click the browser **Close** button.
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