



XML-PI

First Published: July 11, 2008

Last Updated: November 20, 2009

The eXtensible Markup Language Programmatic Interface (XML-PI) Release 1.0 leverages the Network Configuration Protocol (NETCONF) and offers new data models that collect **show** command output down to the keyword level and running configurations without the complexity and expense of screen-scraping technologies or external XML-to-Command Line Interface (CLI) gateways. XML-PI allows you to quickly develop XML-based network management applications that remotely adapt and control the behavior of any number of network devices simultaneously. XML-PI uses an industry standard protocol that allows Cisco network devices to be managed in a more automatic and programmatic way and is CLI accessible.

Finding Feature Information

Your software release may not support all the features documented in this module. For the latest feature information and caveats, see the release notes for your platform and software release. To find information about the features documented in this module, and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, see the “[Feature Information for XML-PI](#)” section on [page 26](#).

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco IOS and Catalyst OS software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn>. An account on Cisco.com is not required.

Contents

- [Prerequisites for XML-PI, page 2](#)
- [Restrictions for XML-PI, page 2](#)
- [Information About XML-PI, page 4](#)
- [How to Use XML-PI, page 10](#)
- [Configuration Examples for XML-PI, page 18](#)
- [Additional References, page 24](#)



Americas Headquarters:
Cisco Systems, Inc., 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134-1706 USA

© 2008–2009 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

- [Feature Information for XML-PI, page 26](#)
- [Glossary, page 27](#)

Prerequisites for XML-PI



Note

Be sure you have enough lines configured for the network devices you will be collecting command output from. XML-PI requires that you configure at least two vty lines per NETCONF session to handle the formatting.

- You must be familiar with NETCONF and the *Programmer's Guide for Cisco Enhanced Device Interface 2.2*.
- You must be familiar with RFC 4741, *NETCONF Configuration Protocol* and RFC 4742, *Using the NETCONF Configuration Protocol over Secure Shell (SSH)*.
- NETCONF and Secure Shell Version 2 (SSHv2) are both required to run XML-PI. SSHv2 is the only transport protocol supported for XML-PI Release 1.0. Together, NETCONF and SSHv2 terminate the session layer and provide a secure connection. See the [Network Configuration Protocol](#) document for additional prerequisites and information about NETCONF and SSHv2.

Restrictions for XML-PI

XML-PI Supported Only on Crypto Image Files

Use of NETCONF and SSHv2 with XML-PI functionality is supported only on Cisco IOS crypto reformation images, such as IPBASEK9. Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform and software support for Cisco IOS crypto security images; see the [“Finding Feature Information” section on page 1](#) in this document for more information about Feature Navigator.

Spec Files Must Be Local

Spec files (described in the [“ODM Tool and Spec Files”](#) section) must reside locally on the network device. Using spec files from a remote filesystem is not supported.

XML-PI and NETCONF

There are two ways XML-PI can deliver XML output from **show** commands: using either NETCONF or via the Cisco CLI from the console. In cases where non-CLI access to XML-PI is desirable, only NETCONF can be used to retrieve **show** command output.

Configuration changes using XML-PI can only be done using NETCONF. XML cannot be directly entered on the console CLI.

The Cisco IOS running configuration can be retrieved from the console by executing the **show running-config | format** command, in addition to being available via NETCONF.

Syntax Check is Not Supported

The `<edit-config>` operation may not work correctly.

Invalid XML Response with <get-config> Operation

The <get-config> operation with the config-format-xml filter returns missing or wrong closing tags for <X-Interface>, as shown in the following examples:

```
<LineVty0-Configuration>
  <X-Interface> password cisco<X-Interface> <X-Interface> transport input
  all<X-Interface> </LineVty0-Configuration>
```

XML Tag for Parameters Is Not Interpreted Correctly

The <edit-config> operation with a merge or create containing an invalid XML tag for parameters is not interpreted correctly. You must be sure to enter the string with proper capitalization.

In the following example, the router hostname becomes “systemnetworkname” (text in bold for purpose of example):

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<rpc message-id="7" xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:netconf:base:1.0"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

  <edit-config>
    <target>
      <running/>
    </target>
    <config>
      <xml-config-data>
        <Device-Configuration>
          <hostname>
            <systemnetworkname operation="create">XmlpiRouter</systemnetworkname>
          </hostname>
        </Device-Configuration>
      </xml-config-data>
    </config>
  </edit-config>
</rpc>
```

In the following example, the router hostname becomes “XmlpiRouter” because the “Systemnetworkname” string was entered correctly with an initial capital letter:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<rpc message-id="7" xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:netconf:base:1.0"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

  <edit-config>
    <target>
      <running/>
    </target>
    <config>
      <xml-config-data>
        <Device-Configuration>
          <hostname>
            <Systemnetworkname operation="create">XmlpiRouter</Systemnetworkname>
          </hostname>
        </Device-Configuration>
      </xml-config-data>
    </config>
  </edit-config>
</rpc>
```

Information About XML-PI

This section contains the following information about XML-PI:

- [XML-PI Overview, page 4](#)
- [NETCONF Overview, page 4](#)
- [ODM Tool and Spec Files, page 8](#)
- [XML-CLI Conversion Algorithms, page 9](#)

XML-PI Overview

XML-PI Release 1.0 offers new NETCONF data models that collect **show** command output down to the keyword level and running configurations without the complexity and expense of screen-scraping technologies or external XML-to-CLI gateways. XML-PI allows the native conversion of Cisco IOS **show** command output into tagged XML and provides the associated schema definition. The resulting output is in a consistent, unambiguous format that is easily interpreted. Additional tools allow the output format to be customized for individual user requirements.

The following XML-PI Release 1.0 capabilities will help you quickly develop XML-based network management applications:

- Execute selected **show** commands and retrieve the output in well-formed XML.
Use a **format** modifier that feeds the **show** command output through an XML converter.
- Retrieve the XML Schema Definition (XSD) for selected **show** commands.
Execute the **show xsd-format** command to display the XSD to which the XML output conforms.
- Execute the **show format** command to display a list of commands with a *spec file entry* (SFE) in the spec file, display the XML format SFE for a specific command, or validate a spec file. For more information on spec files and SFEs, see the “[ODM Tool and Spec Files](#)” section on page 8
- Retrieve the running configuration in XML.
XML-PI Release 1.0 provides native XML output for the **show running-config** command.
- Change the running configuration on a network device by sending an XML fragment of a configuration change.
- Quickly adapt capabilities of XML-PI using fully formed sample applications.
You can use a built-in file containing definitions for the most commonly used **show** commands to get started on application development immediately.

The commands and output files are associated with NETCONF using the **netconf format** global configuration command. Commands are also available to help you see XML tag hierarchy, list the **show** commands that have been converted, and debug output.

NETCONF Overview

The following sections summarize the NETCONF operations:

- [NETCONF Enhancements, page 5](#)
- [Enhancement to Retrieve show running-config Output, page 5](#)
- [Enhancement to Change the Running Configuration, page 6](#)

- [Enhancement for Retrieving show Commands, page 7](#)

NETCONF Enhancements

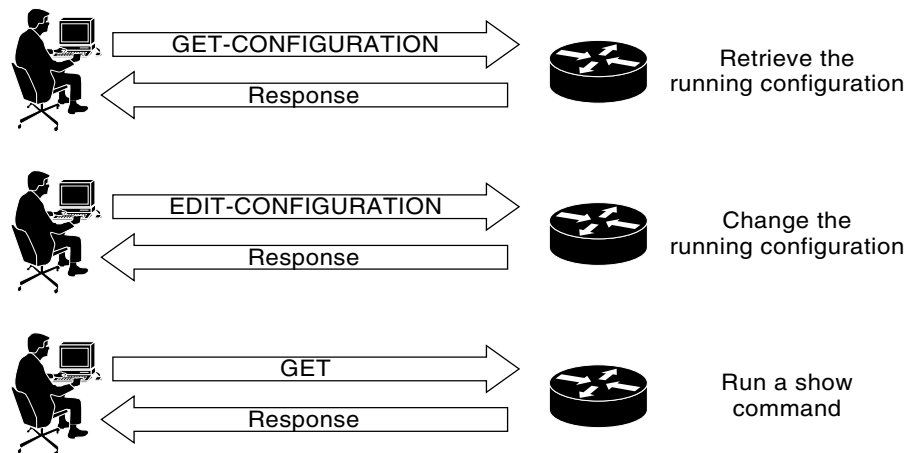
XML-PI is integrated as a data model for NETCONF, which builds on top of the industry standard protocol that allows Cisco network devices to be managed in a more automatic and programmatic way.

In XML-PI, each command keyword, parameter, and submode change is wrapped in XML tokens, which are generated based on, respectively, the keyword, help, and submode strings.

[Figure 1](#) shows the key enhancements to the get-config, edit-config, and get operations, which are entered as <get-config>, <edit-config>, and <get> strings respectively in the enhanced device interface for XML-PI Release 1.0.

The following sections summarize these enhancements. Refer to the *Programmer's Guide for Cisco Enhanced Device Interface 2.2* for more information.

Figure 1 XML-PI Release 1.0 Key Features



231225

Enhancement to Retrieve show running-config Output

The following subtree is added to the <get-config> operation to allow XML output for the **show running-config** to be retrieved using NETCONF:

```
<get-config>
  <source><running/></source>
  <filter type="cli"><config-format-xml options=".."></config-format-xml></filter>
</get-config>
```

The NETCONF <get-config> operation with the filter containing the string <config-format-xml> in the request expects a response in XML-PI format. Only the running configuration is supported. Following is an example:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<rpc message-id="4" xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:netconf:base:1.0">
  <get-config>
    <source><running/></source>
    <filter type="cli"><config-format-xml options="all"></config-format-xml></filter>
  </get-config>
</rpc>]]>]]>
```

Enhancement to Change the Running Configuration

The following subtree is added to the Config node to allow the running configuration to be changed using NETCONF:

```
<xml-config-data> ...entire subtree with C2X encoded payload </xml-config-data>
```

XML-PI configuration mode is allowed using the NETCONF <edit-config> operation only. The mode is identified when the config-format-xml XML tag is seen in an <edit-config> operation. The response is standard NETCONF success or fail. The configuration carried in the <edit-config> operation is converted to CLI using the X2C algorithm. All standard NETCONF options such as syntax check and rollback-on-error are supported. If the CLI generated from XML causes an error, an operation failed message is sent back to the request originator.

The ability for a NETCONF <edit-config> operation to accept XML-PI formatted requests is not related to the spec files. The understanding of the XML-PI configuration format is built into Cisco IOS and is an algorithmic conversion, so it cannot be modified dynamically like the spec files for the **show** commands.

A partial configuration as a subset of the full device configuration can be sent to the network device provided that the partial configuration unambiguously maps to a CLI configuration. The partial configuration must have context information such as interface or other submode information, if required, and must support rollback if the configuration cannot be applied.



Note

Rollback is supported only when “archive” is configured on the network device, which is a Cisco IOS requirement.

Adding Two IP Hosts: Example

The following is an example of using the <edit-config> operation to modify the running configuration by adding two IP hosts:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<rpc message-id="2" xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:netconf:base:1.0">
  <edit-config>
    <target><running/></target>
    <config>
      <xml-config-data>
        <Device-Configuration>
          <ip>
            <host>
              <NameHost>host1</NameHost>
              <HostIPAddress>10.2.3.4</HostIPAddress>
            </host>
          </ip>
          <ip>
            <host>
              <NameHost>host2</NameHost>
              <HostIPAddress>10.2.3.5</HostIPAddress>
            </host>
          </ip>
        </Device-Configuration>
      </xml-config-data>
    </config>
  </edit-config>
</rpc>]]>>>
```

Deleting Two IP Hosts: Example

The following is an example of using the `<edit-config>` operation to modify the running configuration by deleting two IP hosts:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<rpc message-id="3" xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:netconf:base:1.0">
  <edit-config>
    <target><running/></target>
    <config>
      <xml-config-data>
        <Device-Configuration>
          <ip>
            <host operation="delete">
              <NameHost>host1</NameHost>
              <HostIPAddress>10.2.3.4</HostIPAddress>
            </host>
          </ip>
          <ip>
            <host operation="delete">
              <NameHost>host2</NameHost>
              <HostIPAddress>10.2.3.5</HostIPAddress>
            </host>
          </ip>
        </Device-Configuration>
      </xml-config-data>
    </config>
  </edit-config>
</rpc>]]>]]>
```

<edit-config> Response

The reply to the `<edit-config>` operation is either the standard ok or an rpc-error.

Enhancement for Retrieving show Commands

NETCONF for retrieving **show** commands has the ability to collect command output down to the keyword level. The following subtree is added under the `<get>` operation:

```
<filter type="cli">
  <config-format-text-block><text-filter-spec>| inc
netconf</text-filter-spec></config-format-text-block>
  <oper-data-format-xml><show xsd="true">...</show><show>...</show></oper-data-format-xml>
</filter>
```

<get> Response

The reply to the `<get>` operation generates the following response:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<rpc-reply message-id="XXXX" xmlns="urn:ietf:params:netconf:base:1.0">
  <data>
    <cli-config-data-xml>... config gets embedded here ...</cli-config-data-xml>
    <cli-oper-data-xml>
      <item>
        <show>...</show>
        <xsd> ... xsd text gets embedded here ... </xsd>
      </item>
      ...multiple items ...
    </cli-oper-data-xml>
  </data>
</rpc-reply>]]>]]>
```

ODM Tool and Spec Files

The Operational Data Model (ODM) tool developed by Cisco Enhanced Device Interface (E-DI) provides an interface for creating a new ODM *spec file* from a CLI data file, for a particular **show** command. Spec files are defined by an E-DI metalanguage and contain a pattern-matching algorithm that collects output from Cisco IOS EXEC **show** commands and places it into a specific schema. The output of each **show** command is associated with an ODM spec file.

The spec file represents spatial information to extract or parse data and structural information to model the data. A benefit of using spec files is that different format descriptions can be embedded in them, thereby making the task of customizing applications easy.

The spec file can contain many individual command definitions stored as an SFE. Each SFE is delimited by a line containing three pound signs (###). The lines immediately following the ### delimiter contain the name of the command to convert. Following the command name line is spec file data, which must begin with an XML header, for example `<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>`. The ### is both a start and stop delimiter unless the end of file (EOF) string is encountered, as shown in the following sample format:

```
###
show ip arp
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
... the spec conversion for ip arp
###
show ip interface brief
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
... the spec conversion for show ip interface brief
###
show interfaces *
show another cli
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
... The spec conversion for ip interface
```

A wildcard character (*) can be used to match command names, and uses the following search order: Find an exact match or, if not an exact match, use the wildcard character to match the maximum number of characters. [Table 1](#) provides examples of how the wildcard character can be used in the spec file to match command names.

Table 1 Wildcard Character Command Name Matching

String	Example of Characters Matched
show interfaces	Matches “show interfaces”
show interfaces s*	Matches “show interfaces summary”
show interfaces *	Matches “show interfaces FastEthernet 0/0”

You can change the spec filename, and you can modify and customize the SFE to specific interpretation formats. If the contents of the SFE do not comply with the spec file format and language, the conversion is not loaded and no interpretation of data occurs. An error message stating the SFE is uninterpretable is generated. The format of the error message depends on the source of the request to access the spec file. NETCONF requests return a Remote Procedure Call (RPC) get rpc-reply with an error condition; CLI-based requests return get error messages on the console. Limited format debug capability is provided by the **debug format all** command. Each SFE is treated independently, and a badly formatted SFE does not affect any other SFE in the file.

You can use the **show format** command to display a list of commands with an SFE in the spec file, display the XML format SFE for a specific command, or validate a spec file.

**Note**

Sample spec files are available for most commonly used Cisco IOS **show** commands and can be downloaded from Cisco.com. You can use the sample files “as is” or modify them for your application.

XML-CLI Conversion Algorithms

The X2C and C2X conversion algorithms are used to convert XML into CLI and CLI into XML, respectively. There are no schema used with these algorithms. The following sections provide more information about these algorithms:

- [X2C Algorithm, page 9](#)
- [C2X Algorithm, page 9](#)

X2C Algorithm

The X2C algorithm builds a Document Object Model (DOM) tree from XML. Each node in the tree can be classified as one of three node types, depending on its name, as follows:

- **KEYWORD_NODE**—The tag name starts with a lowercase letter or an underscore. [a...z, _]. The underscore is used to prefix any numeric value that is a keyword.
- **SUBMODE_NODE**—The tag name ends with -Configuration.
- **PARAM_NODE**—Any other nonzero length string.

The X2C algorithm then decodes a DOM tree by recursively descending the tree. In the following example, `this_node` is used to track the current DOM node and `this_cmd` is the CLI string being built:

```
decode_node(this_node)
  if (this_node is KEYWORD_NODE) {
    if (this_node has attribute isNegation) {
      prepend "no" to this_cmd
    }
    convert this_node name to be a keyword.
    Add keyword to end of this_cmd
    iterate children of this_node through decode_node.
  } else if (this_node is PARAM_NODE) {
    add the node body data to this_cmd
  } else if (this_node is SUBMODE_NODE) {
    this_cmd is finalised and reset to ""
    iterate children of this_node through decode_node.
  }
}
```

C2X Algorithm

For the C2X algorithm, each CLI word is categorized as one of the three node types, the same as described in the “[X2C Algorithm](#)” section on page 9. The Cisco IOS CLI parser is used to generate the running configuration of the network device. As each line is generated, each word in the line is parsed through and, depending upon whether the parser encounters a **KEYWORD_NODE** or a **PARAM_NODE**, the appropriate XML tag conversion is made. If traversing through to the next line causes a **SUBMODE_NODE** change, the submode XML wrapper is entered or closed depending on whether the mode is entered or exited.

The C2X algorithm converts Cisco IOS CLI into XML based on keywords and parameters. CLI keywords become XML tags and parameters become the bodies of tags whose names are made by parsing the CLI help strings.

The following example is the CLI view of an **interface** command:

```
interface GigabitEthernet0/1
 ip address 10.4.0.13 255.0.0.0
 duplex auto
 speed auto
 media-type rj45
 no negotiation auto
```

The following example shows the C2X equivalent:

```
<Device-Configuration>
  <interface>
    <Param>GigabitEthernet0/1</Param>
    <ConfigIf-Configuration>
      <ip>
        <address>
          <IPAddress>10.4.0.13</IPAddress>
          <IPSubnetMask>255.0.0.0</IPSubnetMask>
        </address>
      </ip>
      <duplex><auto/></duplex>
      <speed><auto/></speed>
      <media-type><rj45/></media-type>
      <negotiation operation="delete" ><auto/></negotiation>
    </ConfigIf-Configuration>
  </interface>
</Device-Configuration>
```

How to Use XML-PI

This section contains the following procedures:

- [Configuring NETCONF for XML-PI, page 10](#) (required)
- [Generating XML Format for Commands, page 13](#) (required)
- [Generating XSD Format for Commands, page 14](#) (required)
- [Troubleshooting ODM Errors, page 14](#) (optional)
- [Managing Files, page 15](#) (recommended)

Configuring NETCONF for XML-PI

Perform this required task to configure a secure login environment and define the file to use for XML-formatted requests.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **crypto key generate rsa**

4. Enter the Rivest, Shamir, and Adelman (RSA) key modulus, when prompted.
5. **ip ssh timeout** *seconds*
6. **ip ssh authentication-retries** *integer*
7. **ip ssh version** **2**
8. **line vty** *starting-line-number ending-line-number*
9. **login local**
10. **transport input ssh**
11. **exit**
12. **username** *name* **privilege level** **password** *secret*
13. **format global** *location:local-filename*
14. **netconf ssh**
15. **end**

DETAILED

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable Example: Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	configure terminal Example: Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 3	crypto key generate rsa Example: Router(config)# crypto key generate rsa	Generates RSA key pairs. <p>Note If the crypto key has already been generated, the response of the command will be:</p> <pre>% You already have RSA keys defined named xxx-nnn.cisco.com. % Do you really want to replace them? [yes/no]:</pre> <p>In most cases the reply is “no” because the crypto key has been previously generated and is stored on the NETCONF agent side. Reply “yes” if you need to reset the crypto key on the NETCONF agent side.</p>
Step 4	Enter the RSA key modulus, when prompted. Example: How many bits in the modulus [512]: 1024 % Generating 1024 bit RSA keys ...[OK]	Prompts for the RSA key modulus when not supplied as part of the command. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key modulus size must be in the range from 360 to 2048 for general purpose keys. The configuration for XML-PI requires a minimum key modulus size of 768. <p>Note The system may require a few minutes to react to a key modulus greater than 512.</p>

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 5	<code>ip ssh timeout <i>seconds</i></code> Example: Router(config)# ip ssh timeout 60	(Optional) Configures the time interval that the network device waits for the SSH client to respond.
Step 6	<code>ip ssh authentication-retries <i>integer</i></code> Example: Router(config)# ip ssh authentication-retries 3	(Optional) Configures the number of attempts after which the interface is reset.
Step 7	<code>ip ssh version 2</code> Example: Router(config)# ip ssh version 2	(Optional) Configures the network device to run only SSH Version 2.
Step 8	<code>line vty <i>starting-line-number</i> <i>ending-line-number</i></code> Example: Router(config)# line vty 0 8	Enters line configuration collection mode and configures a range of virtual terminal lines for remote console access. Note You must configure a range of lines large enough to handle two vty lines per NETCONF session.
Step 9	<code>login local</code> Example: Router(config-line)# login local	(Optional) Enables and selects local password checking. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authentication is based on the username specified with the username global configuration command.
Step 10	<code>transport input ssh</code> Example: Router(config-line)# transport input ssh	(Optional) Specifies that the SSH protocol be used for line connection.
Step 11	<code>exit</code> Example: Router(config-line)# exit	Exits the current configuration mode and returns to the next highest mode.
Step 12	<code>username <i>name</i> privilege <i>level</i> password <i>secret</i></code> Example: Router(config)# username me privilege 15 password mypassword	(Optional) Establishes a username-based authentication system. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• privilege—Sets the privilege level, a number from 0 to 15.• password—Sets the password, which can contain from 1 to 25 characters and embedded spaces, and must be the last option specified in the username command.
Step 13	<code>format global <i>location:local-filename</i></code> Example: Router(config)# format global disk2:spec3.3.odm	(Recommended) Specifies a default ODM spec file to use for XML-formatted requests.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 14	<code>netconf ssh</code> Example: Router(config)# netconf ssh	Enables NETCONF over SSHv2.
Step 15	<code>end</code> Example: Router(config)# end	Ends the current configuration session.

Generating XML Format for Commands

To convert Cisco IOS **show** command output into XML format, XML-PI provides the **format** output modifier to the **show** command output. This section describes how to use this modifier. For examples of command output, see the “[Generating show Command XML Format: Examples](#)” section on page 19 and the “[Generating show running-config XML Format: Examples](#)” section on page 20.



Note

The **show running-config** command output is generated natively in XML, so the spec filename could be an empty file. If a default spec file has been defined with the **format global** command, no filename is required.

SUMMARY STEPS

Choose the command in Step 1 or Step 2.

1. **show-command** | **format** [*location:local-filename*]
or
2. **show running-config** {**all** | **brief** | **full** | **interface** *interface-name*} | **format** [*filename*]

DETAILED STEPS

Step 1 **show-command** | **format** [*location:local-filename*]

This command executes the **show** command then redirects the output into the **format** function that will generate XML based on the specified spec file or, if no spec file is specified, the default spec file defined by the **format global** configuration command. Command names can be truncated. The *location:local-filename* arguments and keyword are the location and filename of the ODM spec file. Valid locations are **bootflash:**, **flash:**, **nvrn:**, and any valid disk or slot number (for example: **disk0:** or **slot1:**). ODM spec files have a .odm suffix. The following is a sample command that uses the default ODM file to generate XML:

```
Router# show arp | format slot0:spec3.3.odm
```

Step 2 **show running-config** {**all** | **brief** | **full** | **interface** *interface-name*} | **format** [*filename*]

If you are generating output for the **show running-config** command, you can supply the following keywords and arguments with this command:

- **all**—Configuration with defaults (default when no keywords are specified with the **show running-config** command).

- **brief**—Configuration without certificate data.
- **full**—Full configuration.
- **interface *interface-name***—Specified interface output only. A full interface specification (**interface fastethernet0/0**, for example) is required. If the interface name does not match one that is supported on the network device, an error is returned.

The following is a sample command:

```
Router# show running-config brief | format
```

Generating XSD Format for Commands

The **show xsd-format** command is used to display the XSD to which the XML output conforms. This section describes how to use this command. For example of command output, see [“Generating show Command XSD Format: Example”](#) section on page 21.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **show xsd-format** [*location:local-filename*] **cli command**

DETAILED STEPS

Step 1 **show xsd-format** [*location:local-filename*] **cli command**

The *location* and *local-filename* arguments are the location and filename of the ODM spec file. Valid *location* keywords are **bootflash:**, **flash:**, **nvrn:**, and any valid disk or slot number (for example: **disk0:** or **slot1:**). ODM spec files have a .odm suffix. These arguments are not required if you want to use a default ODM file defined with the **format global** command.

The first of the following two examples, displays XSD output from a defined default ODM spec file:

```
Router# show xsd-format cli show arp
```

```
Router# show xsd-format disk2:spec3.3.odm cli show arp
```

Note When the user is entering command names, the full command name must be entered; do not use command truncation.

Troubleshooting ODM Errors

This section describes use of the **debug format all** command to troubleshoot spec file errors.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **debug format all**
3. **show-command | format** [*location:local-filename*]

4. no debug format all

DETAILED STEPS

Step 1 enable

Enter this command to enable the privileged EXEC mode required to run **debug** commands.

Step 2 debug format all

Enter this command to enable a verbose debugging mode that displays all ODM errors.

Step 3 show-command | format [location:local-filename]

Enter this command to generate XML output for the **show interfaces** command. The following is sample output:

```
Router# show interfaces | format slot0:spec3.3.odm
```

Selected debug data is displayed with comments followed by the full debug output.

The debug format statements are read in groups of two lines. As the following example shows, the first line describes what the attempted match was; the second line provides the offset and the byte count from the beginning of the **show interfaces** command output that the cursor of the screen scraper is currently at:

```
*May 4 01:20:35.279: ODM: Could not match Property mcast
*May 4 01:20:35.279: offset 703: 5 minute output rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
```

The following example shows where the SFE caused the ODM algorithm to return a truncated XML. Notice how the offset jumps from 703 to 3001. This is a large jump that implies a search between multicast and IP multicast probably caused the screen scraper to jump too far into the text. Because the cursor is not at a buffer, this condition is the likely candidate for the error. Looking at the spec file entry and doing a manual search through the **show** command output will confirm this suspicion.

```
*May 4 01:20:35.279: offset 703: 5 minute output rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
786 pa
*May 4 01:20:35.279: ODM: Could not match Property mcast
*May 4 01:20:35.279: offset 703: 5 minute output rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
786 pa
*May 4 01:20:35.279: ODM: Could not match Property IP multicasts
*May 4 01:20:35.279: offset 3001: no buffer
Received 0 broadcasts, 0 runts, 0 giants, 0
*May 4 01:20:35.279: ODM: Could not match Property watchdog
*May 4 01:20:35.279: offset 3122: ignored, 0 abort
0 packets output, 0 bytes, 0 underru
*May 4 01:20:35.279: ODM: Could not match Property input packets with dribble condition
detected
```

Step 4 no debug format all

Disable the **debug** command when troubleshooting is complete.

Managing Files

This section provides the following procedures for managing files in XML-PI:

- [Displaying Files on a Cisco IOS Filesystem: Example, page 16](#)

- [Managing Spec Files, page 16](#)
- [Validating Spec Files, page 17](#)

Displaying Files on a Cisco IOS Filesystem: Example

The following example shows how to display a list of files:

```
Router# show format slot0:?
```

```
slot0:spec3.3.odm      slot0:spec3.ALR.odm      slot0:spec3.empty.odm
```



Note

The question mark (?) command can be used following any of the *location* keywords (**bootflash**, **slot**, and so on) in the **show format** and **show xsd-format** commands, to list all files. Spec files have a .odm file extension.

Managing Spec Files

Use the **spec-file install** privileged EXEC command to manage the spec files. The following commands allow you to make backup copies of the built-in spec file before changing the contents of the file, and to restore the contents of a previous spec file. You can also copy and remove SFEs from one spec file to another.

Valid locations for local files are **bootflash:**, **flash:**, **nvrn:**, and any valid disk or slot number (example: **disk0:** or **slot1:**).

Valid URLs for remote files are **archive:**, **bootflash:**, **cns:**, **flash:**, **ftp:**, **http:**, **null:**, **nvrn:**, **pram:**, **rcp:**, **scp:**, **system:**, **tar:**, **tftp:**, **tmpsys:** and any valid disk or slot number (for example, **disk0:** or **slot1:**).

In all cases, the **force** keyword performs the command without prompting you to verify the file operation by entering a “yes” or “no” response.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **spec-file install** [**force**] *location:local-filename* **add-entry** *url:remote-filename* *command*
2. **spec-file install** [**force**] *location:local-filename* **built-in**
3. **spec-file install** [**force**] *location:local-filename* **file** *url:remote-filename*
4. **spec-file install** [**force**] *location:local-filename* **remove-entry** *command*
5. **spec-file install** [**force**] *location:local-filename* **restore**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<pre>spec-file install [force] location:local-filename add-entry url:remote-filename command</pre> <p>Example: Router# spec-file install slot0:spec_file.odm add-entry tftp://system1/user1/show_arp.odm show arp</p>	<p>Copies an SFE from a remote location and adds it to a local spec file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A check is performed on the loaded SFE to ensure that the command is not already present in the spec file, and that the SFE can be parsed correctly in XML. • If the spec file does not exist, you will be prompted before the file is created. • If the command SFE already exists in the spec file, you will be prompted before the command SFE is replaced. • A backup copy of the local spec file is created before the remote SFE is added.
Step 2	<pre>spec-file install [force] location:local-filename built-in</pre> <p>Example: Router# spec-file install slot0:spec_file.odm built-in</p>	<p>Replaces the current spec file with the built-in spec file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be prompted before the current file is replaced and <i>filename.bak</i> will be created.
Step 3	<pre>spec-file install [force] location:local-filename file url:remote-filename</pre> <p>Example: Router# spec-file install slot0:spec_file.odm file tftp://system1/user1/spec_file.odm</p>	<p>Replaces a local spec file with a remote spec file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A check of the loaded file is performed to ensure that each specified command is included only once, and that the SFE can be parsed correctly in XML.
Step 4	<pre>spec-file install [force] location:local-filename remove-entry command</pre> <p>Example: Router# spec-file install slot0:spec_file.odm remove-entry show arp</p>	<p>Removes an SFE from a spec file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A check is performed to ensure that the command SFE is present in the spec file. • If the spec file does not exist, this command fails. • A backup copy of the spec file is created before the SFE is removed.
Step 5	<pre>spec-file install [force] location:local-filename restore</pre> <p>Example: Router# spec-file install slot0:spec_file.odm restore</p>	<p>Restores a spec file to its original contents using a backup (.bak) file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the .bak file does not exist, this command fails.

Validating Spec Files

This section describes use of the **show format** command to validate a spec file.

The **show format built-in validate** form of the command is used to validate the built-in spec file. The **show format location:local-filename validate** form of the command is used to validate a specific spec file.

Restrictions

Spec files must reside locally on the network device. Using spec files from a remote filesystem is not supported.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **show format** [**built-in** | *location:local-filename*] [**cli command** | **validate**]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable Example: Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	show format [built-in <i>location:local-filename</i>] [cli command validate] Example: Router# show format built-in validate	Validates the built-in spec file.

Configuration Examples for XML-PI

This section provides the following configuration examples:

- [Configuring NETCONF for XML-PI: Example, page 18](#)
- [Generating show Command XML Format: Examples, page 19](#)
- [Generating show running-config XML Format: Examples, page 20](#)
- [Generating show Command XSD Format: Example, page 21](#)
- [Displaying the SFEs: Example, page 21](#)
- [Displaying Spec File Tag Hierarchy: Example, page 22](#)
- [Validating a Spec File: Example, page 23](#)

Configuring NETCONF for XML-PI: Example

The following example shows how to configure a secure login environment. Cisco recommends that you define a default ODM file to be used for all requests using the **format global** command. You can associate that file with NETCONF for all XML-formatted requests using the **netconf format** command. If no file is specified, the built-in spec file is used for all requests. See the **format global** and **netconf format** command reference pages for more information. The **netconf ssh** configuration command enables NETCONF over SSHv2, which terminates the session layer and provides a secure connection.

```
ip domain-name cisco.com
crypto key generate rsa
ip ssh timeout 60
```

```

ip ssh authentication-retries 3
ip ssh version 2
line vty 0 8
  login local
  transport input ssh
exit
username me privilege 15 password mypassword
format global disk2:spec3.3.odm
netconf format disk2:spec3.3.odm
netconf ssh
end

```

Generating show Command XML Format: Examples

The following examples show how to generate XML format of standard Cisco IOS **show** command output.

Standard show Command Output

Following is an example of the Cisco IOS **show arp** command output:

```

Router# show arp

```

Protocol	Address	Age (min)	Hardware Addr	Type	Interface
Internet	10.1.1.1	67	0001.42df.59e2	ARPA	FastEthernet0/0
Internet	10.3.1.2	8	0002.55c6.19a0	ARPA	FastEthernet0/0
Internet	10.4.0.5	-	000b.60dc.9408	ARPA	FastEthernet0/0

Generating XML

Following is an example of generating XML output of the **show arp** command from a default ODM file:

```

Router# show arp | format
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<ShowArp xmlns="ODM://disk0:/spec.odm//show_arp">
  <ARPTable>
    <entry>
      <Protocol>Internet</Protocol>
      <Address>10.1.1.1</Address>
      <Age>67</Age>
      <MAC>0001.42df.59e2</MAC>
      <Type>ARPA</Type>
      <Interface>FastEthernet0/0</Interface>
    </entry>
    <entry>
      <Protocol>Internet</Protocol>
      <Address>10.3.1.2</Address>
      <Age>8 </Age>
      <MAC>0002.55c6.19a0</MAC>
      <Type>ARPA</Type>
      <Interface>FastEthernet0/0</Interface>
    </entry>
    <entry>
      <Protocol>Internet</Protocol>
      <Address>10.4.0.5</Address>
      <MAC>000b.60dc.9408</MAC>
      <Type>ARPA</Type>
      <Interface>FastEthernet0/0</Interface>
    </entry>
  </ARPTable>
</ShowArp>

```

Generating show running-config XML Format: Examples

The following examples show the mapping between actual **show running-config** command output and the XSD format generated by piping the output through the spec3.3.odm spec file. (For sake of brevity, output from each command has been truncated.)

show running-config Command

```
Router# show running-config

Building configuration...

Current configuration : 1190 bytes
!
upgrade fpd auto
version 12.4
service timestamps debug datetime msec
service timestamps log datetime msec
no service password-encryption
service internal
!
hostname Router1
!
boot-start-marker
boot system flash:c7200-js-mz.123-5.9.T
boot-end-marker
!
logging message-counter syslog
enable password secret
!
no aaa new-model
ip cef
!
no ip domain lookup
ip domain name cisco.com
ip host host1 10.66.152.11
ip host host2 10.2.2.2
multilink bundle-name authenticated
.
.
.
```

Piped Output to Generate XML

```
Router# show running-config | format

Building configuration...

<Device-Configuration>
<upgrade><fpd><auto/></fpd></upgrade>
<version><Param>12.4</Param></version>
<service><timestamps><debug><datetime><msec/></datetime></debug></timestamps></>
<service><timestamps><log><datetime><msec/></datetime></log></timestamps></serv>
<service operation="delete" ><password-encryption/></service>
<service><internal/></service>
<hostname><SystemNetworkName>Router1</SystemNetworkName></hostname>
<boot-start-marker></boot-start-marker>
<boot><system><TFTPFileNameURL>flash:c7200-js-mz.123-5.9.T</TFTPFileNameURL></s>
<boot-end-marker></boot-end-marker>
<logging><message-counter><syslog/></message-counter></logging>
<enable><password><UnencryptedEnablePassword>secret</UnencryptedEnablePassword><>
<aaa operation="delete" ><new-model/></aaa>
<ip><cef/></ip>
```

```

<ip operation="delete" ><domain><lookup/></domain></ip>
<ip><domain><name><DefaultDomainName>cisco.com</DefaultDomainName></name></doma>
<ip><host><NameHost>host1 </NameHost><HostIPAddress>10.66.152.11</HostIPAddre>
<ip><host><NameHost>host2 </NameHost><HostIPAddress>10.2.2.2</HostIPAddress></ho>
<multilink><bundle-name><authenticated/></bundle-name></multilink>
.
.
.

```

The returned data is the requested configuration converted using the C2X algorithm.

Generating show Command XSD Format: Example

The following example shows how to generate XSD for the **show arp** command:

```
Router# show xsd-format disk2:spec3.3.odm cli show arp
```

```

<?xml version="1.0"?>
  <xsd:schema elementFormDefault="qualified" attributeFormDefault="unqualified"
    xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema">
    <xsd:complexType name="ShowArp_def">
      <xsd:sequence>
        <xsd:choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded">
          <xsd:element ref="Info"/>
          <xsd:element name="ARPTable" minOccurs="0">
            <xsd:complexType>
              <xsd:sequence>
                <xsd:element name="entry" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded">
                  <xsd:complexType>
                    <xsd:sequence>
                      <xsd:element name="Protocol" minOccurs="0" type="string" />
                      <xsd:element name="Address" minOccurs="0" type="string" />
                      <xsd:element name="Age" minOccurs="0" type="integer" />
                      <xsd:element name="MAC" minOccurs="0" type="string" />
                      <xsd:element name="Type" minOccurs="0" type="string" />
                      <xsd:element name="Interface" minOccurs="0" type="string" />
                    </xsd:sequence>
                  </xsd:complexType>
                </xsd:element>
              </xsd:sequence>
            </xsd:complexType>
          </xsd:element>
        </xsd:choice>
      </xsd:sequence>
    </xsd:complexType>
    <xsd:element name="Info" type="xsd:string"/>
    <xsd:element name="ShowArp" type="ShowArp_def"/>
  </xsd:schema>

```

Displaying the SFEs: Example

The following example shows how to display the SFE for the **show arp** command:

```
Router# show format disk2:spec3.3.odm cli show arp
```

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<ODMSpec>
  <Command>
    <Name>show arp</Name>
  </Command>

```

```

<OS>ios</OS>
<DataModel>
  <Container name="ShowArp" >
    <Table name="ARPTable">
      <Header name = "Protocol" start = "0" end = "10" type = "String"/>
      <Header name = "Address" start = "10" end = "26" type = "IpAddress"/>
      <Header name = "Age (min)" alias = "Age" start = "26" end = "36" type =
"Integer"/>
      <Header name = "Hardware Addr" alias="MAC" start = "36" end = "53" type =
"String"/>
      <Header name = "Type" start = "53" end = "59" type = "String"/>
      <Header name = "Interface" start = "59" end = "-1" nullable = "true" type =
"String"/>
    </Table>
  </Container>
</DataModel>
</ODMSpec>

```

The following example shows a list of fully expanded command names that have spec files in the default ODM file:

```
Router# show format
```

The following CLI are supported in slot0:spec3.3.odm

```

show arp
show cdp neighbors detail
show context
show flash:
show interfaces*
show inventory
show ip interface brief
show ip nat translations
show line value
show line
show processes cpu
show processes memory
show region
show spanning-tree
show stacks
show vlans

```

Displaying Spec File Tag Hierarchy: Example

The **show odm-format** command displays the spec file structure in a fixed output that you can refer to in order to understand the spec file tag hierarchy. The following example shows the fixed output from the **show odm-format** command. Refer to the *Programmer's Guide for Cisco Enhanced Device Interface 2.2* for more information about the ODM tool and tag hierarchy.

```
Router# show odm format
```

```

New Name Space ''
<NotARealTag> Either 0 or 1 allowed
<ODMSpec> Exactly 1 required
  <Command> Exactly 1 required
    <Name> Exactly 1 required
      <AliasSet> Either 0 or 1 allowed
        <Alias> At least 1 required
      <OS> Either 0 or 1 allowed
    <DataModel> Exactly 1 required
      <Container> Exactly 1 required
        <Table> 0 or more is allowed

```

```
<Header> At least 1 required
  <Option> 0 or more is allowed
  <EndOfTheTable> Either 0 or 1 allowed
<Property> 0 or more is allowed
  <Option> 0 or more is allowed
<Container> 0 or more is allowed
  <Table> 0 or more is allowed
    <Header> At least 1 required
      <Option> 0 or more is allowed
      <EndOfTheTable> Either 0 or 1 allowed
    <Property> 0 or more is allowed
      <Option> 0 or more is allowed
      <Container> 0 or more is allowed
    <Legends> 0 or more is allowed
      <Legend> At least 1 required
    <IgnorableLinesList> 0 or more is allowed
      <Line> At least 1 required
    <Legends> 0 or more is allowed
      <Legend> At least 1 required
    <IgnorableLinesList> 0 or more is allowed
      <Line> At least 1 required
```

Validating a Spec File: Example

The following example shows how to validate a built-in spec file:

```
Router# show format built-in validate
```

```
The file built-in has been validated
```

Additional References

The following sections provide references related to using XML-PI.

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Cisco IOS commands	<i>Cisco IOS Master Commands List, All Releases</i>
Cisco IOS network management commands	<i>Cisco IOS Network Management Command Reference</i>
NETCONF	<i>Network Configuration Protocol</i>
ODM tool	<i>Programmer's Guide for Cisco Enhanced Device Interface 2.2</i>

Standards

Standard	Title
XML-PI based on NETCONF standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>User Guide for Cisco Enhanced Device Interface 2.2</i> <i>Programmer's Guide for Cisco Enhanced Device Interface 2.2</i>

MIBs

MIB	MIBs Link
None	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs

RFCs

RFC	Title
RFC 4741	<i>NETCONF Configuration Protocol</i>
RFC 4742	<i>Using the NETCONF Configuration Protocol over Secure SHell (SSH)</i>

Technical Assistance

Description	Link
<p>The Cisco Support website provides extensive online resources, including documentation and tools for troubleshooting and resolving technical issues with Cisco products and technologies.</p> <p>To receive security and technical information about your products, you can subscribe to various services, such as the Product Alert Tool (accessed from Field Notices), the Cisco Technical Services Newsletter, and Really Simple Syndication (RSS) Feeds.</p> <p>Access to most tools on the Cisco Support website requires a Cisco.com user ID and password.</p>	<p>http://www.cisco.com/cisco/web/support/index.html</p>

Feature Information for XML-PI

Table 2 lists the release history for this feature.

Not all commands may be available in your Cisco IOS software release. For release information about a specific command, see the command reference documentation.

Cisco IOS software images are specific to a Cisco IOS software release, a feature set, and a platform. Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and software image support. Cisco Feature Navigator enables you to determine which Cisco IOS and Catalyst OS software images support a specific software release, feature set, or platform. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn>. An account on Cisco.com is not required.



Note

Table 2 lists only the Cisco IOS software release that introduced support for a given feature in a given Cisco IOS software release train. Unless noted otherwise, subsequent releases of that Cisco IOS software release train also support that feature.

Table 2 Feature Information for XML-PI

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
XML-PI	12.4(20)T 12.2(33)SRE	<p>The eXtensible Markup Language Programmatic Interface (XML-PI) Release 1.0 leverages the Network Configuration Protocol (NETCONF) and offers new data models that collect show command output down to the keyword level and running configurations without the complexity and expense of screen-scraping technologies or external XML-to-CLI gateways. XML-PI allows you to quickly develop XML-based network management applications.</p> <p>The following commands were introduced or modified by this feature: debug format, format global, netconf format, show format, show odm-format, show xsd-format, spec-file install add-entry, spec-file install built-in, spec-file install file, spec-file install remove-entry, and spec-file install restore.</p> <p>This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(33)SRE.</p> <p>The following command was introduced or modified by this feature: show format.</p>

Glossary

C2X—CLI to XML.

CLI—command-line interface. An interface that allows the user to interact with the operating system by entering commands and optional arguments.

E-DI—Enhanced Device Interface.

NETCONF—Network Configuration Protocol.

ODM—Operational Data Model.

RSA—Rivest, Shamir, and Adelman, the inventors of the technique. Public-key cryptographic system that can be used for encryption and authentication.

SSH—Secure Shell.

X2C—XML to CLI.

XML—eXtensible Markup Language.

XSD—XML Schema Definition.

CCDE, CCENT, CCSI, Cisco Eos, Cisco HealthPresence, Cisco IronPort, the Cisco logo, Cisco Nurse Connect, Cisco Pulse, Cisco SensorBase, Cisco StackPower, Cisco StadiumVision, Cisco TelePresence, Cisco Unified Computing System, Cisco WebEx, DCE, Flip Channels, Flip for Good, Flip Mino, Flipshare (Design), Flip Ultra, Flip Video, Flip Video (Design), Instant Broadband, and Welcome to the Human Network are trademarks; Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn, Cisco Capital, Cisco Capital (Design), Cisco:Financed (Stylized), Cisco Store, Flip Gift Card, and One Million Acts of Green are service marks; and Access Registrar, Aironet, AllTouch, AsyncOS, Bringing the Meeting To You, Catalyst, CCDA, CCDP, CCIE, CCIP, CCNA, CCNP, CCSP, CCVP, Cisco, the Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert logo, Cisco IOS, Cisco Lumin, Cisco Nexus, Cisco Press, Cisco Systems, Cisco Systems Capital, the Cisco Systems logo, Cisco Unity, Collaboration Without Limitation, Continuum, EtherFast, EtherSwitch, Event Center, Explorer, Follow Me Browsing, GainMaker, iLYNX, IOS, iPhone, IronPort, the IronPort logo, Laser Link, LightStream, Linksys, MeetingPlace, MeetingPlace Chime Sound, MGX, Networkers, Networking Academy, PCNow, PIX, PowerKEY, PowerPanels, PowerTV, PowerTV (Design), PowerVu, Prisma, ProConnect, ROSA, SenderBase, SMARTnet, Spectrum Expert, StackWise, WebEx, and the WebEx logo are registered trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the United States and certain other countries.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document or website are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (0910R)

Any Internet Protocol (IP) addresses used in this document are not intended to be actual addresses. Any examples, command display output, and figures included in the document are shown for illustrative purposes only. Any use of actual IP addresses in illustrative content is unintentional and coincidental.

© 2008–2009 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

