



Cisco Identity Services Engine Integration with Network and Application Performance Management Platforms

Increased Visibility for Better Network and Application Management

Networks have become increasingly complex with a multitude of devices constantly needing access. The increases in mobility traffic, software as a service (SaaS), and virtualization have contributed to the stress on the network and its applications.

At one time it was sufficient to analyze network and application performance using broad identifiers such as an IP address. However, enterprises now need more detailed user information to identify performance events and quickly perform root-cause analysis and remediation.

Cisco brings these features together by integrating the [Cisco® Identity Services Engine](#) (ISE) with [partner network](#) and application performance management platforms. Together, the systems deliver in-depth performance visibility along with relevant identity and device context. The integration of these solutions helps the IT manager to correlate contextual information with a performance event and to prioritize investigation activities. Network and application management platforms use the contextual information provided by the ISE for faster root-cause analysis and remediation of performance issues.

How the Integration Works

Integration makes new visibility and actions possible. Here's how:

- The Identity Services Engine provides contextual user identity and device information to network and application performance management platforms. It uses [Cisco Platform Exchange Grid \(pxGrid\) technology](#) to share contextual data such as user name, device type, operating system, and network location.
- The management application can use this contextual information for faster root-cause analysis and incident resolution. For example, use this contextual information to understand specific types of endpoint devices and OS version having performance issues with specific WLAN segments in specific buildings.

Benefits

- **Improve the quality** of users' experiences with networked applications.
- **Increase the accuracy and effectiveness** of network and application performance management platforms.
- **Reduce response time and complexity** when responding to network and application performance issues.
- **Decrease time for root-cause analysis** through deeper visibility into application and network performance management issues.

Next Steps

To learn more about the Cisco Identity Services Engine, visit <http://cisco.com/go/ise>.

For additional information regarding Cisco network and application performance management partners, visit <http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/security/partner-ecosystem.html>.

- Applications use the Identity Services Engine as a conduit for taking mitigation actions within the Cisco network. The Identity Services Engine can quarantine or block users and devices according to the policies it defines.

ISE collects and delivers the following contextual data:

- **User:** User name, IP address, authentication status, location
- **User class:** Authorization group, guest, quarantine status
- **Device:** Manufacturer, model, OS, OS version, MAC address, IP address, network connection method (wired or wireless), location
- **Posture:** Posture compliance status, antivirus installed, antivirus version, OS patch level, mobile device posture compliance status through mobile device management (MDM) or MDM ecosystem partners