

Cisco TelePresence Conductor XC1.2

Software Release Notes
September 2012

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Introduction

These release notes describe the features and capabilities included in the Cisco TelePresence Conductor software version XC1.2.

The Cisco TelePresence Conductor XC1.2 operates with Cisco TelePresence Video Communication Servers (VCSs) and one or more pools of conference bridges (Cisco TelePresence MCUs) to provide conference services to users. TelePresence Conductor allows administrators to better utilize their conference bridge infrastructure by allowing conferences to be hosted on the most appropriate conference bridge and dynamically cascade conferences across multiple conference bridges as conference size increases.

VCS receives the call, communicates with TelePresence Conductor to identify how to route the call, and then places the call as directed. Endpoint users access conferences simply by dialing a specified conference alias.

The TelePresence Conductor is designed to be used alongside a Cisco VCS Control or Expressway version X6.0 or later, Cisco MCU 53XX running software version 4.3(2.17) or later, and Cisco MCU 4200 series, 4500 series, and MSE8000 blades 8420 and 8510 running software version 4.2 or later..

Product documentation

The following documents provide guidance on installation, initial configuration, and operation of the product:

- *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Administrator Guide*
- *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Getting Started Guide*
- *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Deployment Guide*
- *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Cluster Creation and Maintenance Deployment Guide*
- *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Geographic Cascading Deployment Guide*
- *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Virtual Machine Deployment Guide*

New features in XC1.2

Virtual appliance support

The TelePresence Conductor can run on VMware on Cisco UCS C200 M2, UCS C210 M2, or UCS B200 M2.

See *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Virtual Machine Deployment Guide* for installation instructions.

Geographic cascading support

TelePresence Conductor allows users to configure the auto-dialed participant parameters. This allows a cascade to be set up across geographic boundaries depending on the conference configuration.

VCS MultiWay™ support

Support for VCS MultiWay™ has been added to TelePresence Conductor.

Maximum conference duration

The ability to set a maximum conference duration has been added. The administrator has the option to set a maximum duration on the web interface, and if specified the conference will be destroyed when the conference duration is reached. Participants in conferences that have a maximum duration set will be notified before the conference is destroyed.

Basic conference configuration wizard

There is a new web interface wizard that allows the administrator to quickly configure a basic conference setup on TelePresence Conductor. The wizard configures a new conference bridge, pool, and Service Preference, as well as a conference template and alias for a meeting-type conference. It is possible to edit and extend the configuration as before, by using the main TelePresence Conductor web interface.

Prime Collaboration Manager support

Enhancements have been made to the TelePresence Conductor API so that information requested by the Prime Collaboration team can be sent via the documented API.

TMS scheduling ready

Enhancements have been made to the TelePresence Conductor API so that further information requested by the TMS team to improve TMS scheduling support can be sent via the documented API.

NTP authentication

It is now possible to configure authentication for NTP. The TelePresence Conductor supports private and symmetric key authentication.

HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS)

The HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS) feature has been added, which determines whether web browsers are instructed to only ever use a secure connection to access the system. This feature provides protection against man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks.

Other changes and improvements

Improved content support

The TelePresence Conductor now supports the MCU's dedicated content ports, so that all ports on the MCU can be fully utilized.

Simpler PIN configuration

The TelePresence Conductor web interface now contains new fields to make it easier to configure a participant PIN when configuring a meeting template, and both guest and chair PINs when configuring a lecture template.

Improved capacity alerts

New alarms will now be raised when each conference bridge pool reaches a configured percentage. (The default is 80% utilized.) This does not replace the existing alarms, and a separate alarm can still be configured that will be raised when the total number of conference bridges available (across all pools) become utilized.

Enhanced account security

Finer grain control of which accounts can access the web and the API has been added to TelePresence Conductor.

Web interface improvements

There are further improvements to the TelePresence Conductor web interface, to make it easier to configure and use.

New features in XC1.1

Service Differentiation

The Service Differentiation feature allows the TelePresence Conductor administrator to create multiple pools of similar MCUs (for example, "HD MCU pool (East Coast)", "HD MCU pool (West Coast)", "SD MCU pool (East Coast)", "SD MCU pool (Europe)" etc.). The administrator is able to create multiple MCU service preference groups and associate a number of these pools to each group. Each conference template can then be configured with an appropriate MCU service preference group, to be used when the conference is created.

TMS scheduling integration readiness

The TelePresence Conductor now provides (as part of its XMLRPC API) the ability to create a conference. This will allow future versions of Cisco TelePresence Management Suite (TMS) to create a conference that has been pre-scheduled on it. Note, that there are no MCU pools specifically partitioned for scheduled conferences, so the conference may fail if not enough resources are available at the time.

CUCM support for rendezvous conferencing through VCS

By using a SIP trunk between Cisco Unified Communications Manager (CUCM) and the VCS, endpoints registered to the CUCM, as well as endpoints registered to the VCS, will be able to join a conference call using the TelePresence Conductor.

Reporting MCU port capacity trouble tickets in TMS

When the available number of MCU ports used reaches a configured level an alarm is raised on the TelePresence Conductor. This alarm can also be seen on TMS. Note: Once raised, the alarm will not clear when the capacity drops below the threshold level, so information is not lost.

The percentage at which the alarm is raised is configurable via the web interface, where the alarm can also be completely switched off.

Maximum conference participants handling

It is now possible to limit a conference to a set number of participants. This is done using a new parameter on the [Conference templates](#) page.

DTMF for auto-dialed participant

There is a new field that can be configured individually for each auto-dialed participant and that allows DTMF signals to be sent after the call to the participant connects. This allows access to automated systems.

Other changes and improvements

Improvements have been made to the stability of the system, and to the clustering module to improve upgrade stability. Also, enhanced NTP support has been added.

Resolved issues

Resolved in XC1.2

The following issues were found in previous releases and were resolved in XC1.2:

Identifier	Description
CSCtu16047	<p>Symptom: When using IE version 9 admin UI is unformatted.</p> <p>Diagnosis: CSS is not loaded when using IE version 9.</p> <p>Versions affected: XC1.1</p> <p>Workaround: Use IE versions 7 or 8, Firefox versions 3 or 4, or Chrome.</p> <p>Status: This is fixed in XC1.2</p>

Identifier	Description
CSCtu16039	<p>Symptom: When using IE version 8 and 9 the tooltip for required fields sometimes does not fade, obscuring entry fields.</p> <p>Diagnosis: IE 8 and 9 handle HTML events differently from other versions.</p> <p>Versions affected: XC1.1</p> <p>Workaround: Either hover over a different required field or refresh the screen.</p> <p>Status: This is fixed in XC1.2</p>
CSCtu16052	<p>Symptom: After hardware alarms have been raised they are not cleared even when the error or fault goes away.</p> <p>Diagnosis: Clearing hardware alarms has not been implemented.</p> <p>Versions affected: XC1.1</p> <p>Workaround: To check whether the hardware alarm still applies, log in as root and run the command 'sensors'. This will display the current state of the hardware sensors. To clear the hardware alarms that no longer apply, reboot the TelePresence Conductor.</p> <p>Status: This is fixed in XC1.2</p>

Resolved in XC1.1

There were no resolved issues for TelePresence Conductor XC1.1, as this was the first release.

Open issues

The following issues apply to this version of Cisco TelePresence Conductor.

Identifier	Description
CSCua01811	<p>Symptom: Cannot load "trusted CA certificates file" onto Conductor via the web interface.</p> <p>Diagnosis: None.</p> <p>Versions affected: XC1.2</p> <p>Workaround: Load "trusted CA certificates file" onto Conductor using SCP.</p> <p>Status: This will be fixed in XC2.0.</p>

Using the Bug Search Tool

The Bug Search Tool contains information about open and resolved issues for this release and previous releases, including descriptions of the problems and available workarounds. The identifiers listed in these release notes will take you directly to a description of each issue.

To look for information about a specific problem mentioned in this document:

1. Using a web browser, go to the [Bug Search Tool](#).
2. Sign in with a cisco.com username and password.
3. Enter the bug identifier in the Search field and click **Search**.

To look for information when you do not know the identifier:

1. Type the product name in the **Search** field and click **Search**.
2. From the list of bugs that appears, use the **Filter** drop-down list to filter on either *Keyword*, *Modified Date*, *Severity*, *Status*, or *Technology*.

Use **Advanced Search** on the Bug Search Tool home page to search on a specific software version.

The Bug Search Tool help pages have further information on using the Bug Search Tool.

Limitations

The TelePresence Conductor XC1.2 supports

- 30 conference bridges
- a conference bridge type of Cisco TelePresence MCU

Virtual machine installation

From XC1.2 the TelePresence Conductor software can run on VMware.

Before you can order your release key, you must first download and install the .ova file in order to obtain your hardware serial number.

Note that the .ova file is only required for the initial install of the TelePresence Conductor software on VMware. Subsequent upgrades should use the .tar.gz file.

See *Cisco TelePresence Conductor Virtual Machine Deployment Guide* for full installation instructions.

Upgrade instructions

Note that you will need a release key if you are upgrading to a new major release (for example from XC1.2 to XC2.0). It is not required for dot releases (for example from XC1.1 to XC1.2).

Upgrading a standalone TelePresence Conductor

To upgrade a TelePresence Conductor that is not in a cluster the following procedure should be followed:

1. Stop the Cisco VCS from sending requests to TelePresence Conductor.
2. Log into the TelePresence Conductor web interface.
3. Create a backup of your configuration.
4. Upgrade using the **Upgrade** page (**Maintenance > Upgrade**) as described in the Administrator guide.

Upgrading a cluster of TelePresence Conductors

To upgrade a cluster of TelePresence Conductors the following procedure should be followed:

1. Remove the TelePresence Conductor that should be upgraded from the cluster, as described in the [Cisco TelePresence Conductor Cluster Creation and Maintenance Deployment Guide](#).
2. Log into the web interface.
3. Create a backup of your configuration.
4. Upgrade using the **Upgrade** page (**Maintenance > Upgrade**) as described in the Administrator guide.

For more information on upgrading a cluster of TelePresence Conductors see [Cisco TelePresence Conductor Cluster Creation and Maintenance Deployment Guide](#)

Interoperability

Equipment	Minimum software version	Comments
Cisco TelePresence Video Communication Server (VCS)	X6.0	Both Control and Expressway have been tested.
Cisco TelePresence MCU 4200 series	4.2	
Cisco TelePresence MCU 4500 series	4.2	
Cisco TelePresence MSE8000 blades 8420 and 8510	4.2	
Cisco TelePresence MCU 53XX series	4.3(2.17)	All other MCUs used by the same TelePresence Conductor need to be running release 4.3(2.18)
Cisco TelePresence Management Suite	13.1.2	

Getting help

If you experience any problems when configuring or using Cisco TelePresence Conductor, see the "Product documentation" section of these release notes. If you cannot find the answer you need in the documentation, check the web site at <http://www.cisco.com/cisco/web/support/index.html> where you will be able to:

- Make sure that you are running the most up-to-date software.
- Get help from the Cisco Technical Support team.

Make sure you have the following information ready before raising a case:

- Identifying information for your product, such as model number, firmware version, and software version (where applicable).
- Your contact email address or telephone number.
- A full description of the problem.

Third-party software included in TelePresence Conductor

Third-party software used in the TelePresence Conductor includes:

Third-party software	Version
Apache	2.2.21
OpenSSL	1.0.0g

Document revision history

Date	Revision	Description
2012-09-26	03	Virtual machine support added to Cisco TelePresence Conductor XC1.2
2012-05-23	02	Release of Cisco TelePresence Conductor XC1.2
2011-11-02	01	Release of Cisco TelePresence Conductor XC1.1

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