

## Cisco Prime Optical Release 10.0

The following list is meant to help quickly address some of the commonly asked questions regarding Cisco Prime™ Optical Release 10.0. For more information on the product, refer to the Cisco Prime Optical page at [www.cisco.com/go/primeoptical](http://www.cisco.com/go/primeoptical).

### General Questions

**Q.** What is Cisco Prime Carrier Management?

**A.** Cisco Prime Carrier Management is a powerful suite of software applications for unified multidomain management of carrier-grade networks. It facilitates efficient operations across multiple service domains to lower operating costs while meeting the highest level of customer expectations. It is a comprehensive, end-to-end network management solution that centralizes and automates the service lifecycle of design, fulfillment, assurance, and analysis. For more information on Cisco Prime Carrier Management, please refer to [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/service-provider/prime-carrier-management/index.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/service-provider/prime-carrier-management/index.html).

**Q.** What is Cisco Prime Optical?

**A.** Cisco Prime Optical is a preintegrated component of the Cisco Prime Carrier Management suite. It provides end-to-end configuration and provisioning capabilities, as well as fault management for the optical domain. It allows service providers to manage their converged IP and optical networks with accuracy and scale. Cisco Prime Optical is the evolution of Cisco® Transport Manager and includes all of the powerful capabilities of Cisco Transport Manager combined with significant enhancements.

**Q.** What are the major enhancements for Cisco Prime Optical 10.0?

**A.** New features in Cisco Prime Optical 10.0 include:

- Support for the new Network Convergence System 2000 network elements (NEs) and Cisco Transport Controller-based NE releases 10.0 and 10.0.1
- New Circuit Wizard
- GUI table enhancements
- Dense Wavelength-Division Multiplexing (DWDM) enhancements
- Support to limit concurrent user sessions
- New attributes added to the Wavelength Switched Optical Network (WSON) report

For a complete listing of capabilities, refer to the Cisco Prime Optical data sheet at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/datasheet-listing.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/datasheet-listing.html), and for detailed information on new features of each release, refer to the “New Features and Enhancements” section in the Cisco Prime Optical Release Notes document at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-release-notes-list.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-release-notes-list.html).

**Q.** What features are no longer supported in Cisco Prime Optical 10.0?

**A.** Please refer to the “Deprecated and Removed Features” of the Cisco Prime Optical Release Note at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-release-notes-list.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-release-notes-list.html).

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- Q.** Is the Multiprotocol Label Switching Transport Profile (MPLS-TP) technology available on a Carrier Packet Transport (CPT) device?
- A.** No, MPLS-TP is no longer supported from Cisco Prime Optical 9.8 as mentioned in the “Documentation Errata” at [www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/net\\_mgmt/prime/optical/9.8/release/notes/Cisco\\_Prime\\_Optical\\_98\\_Release-Notes.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/net_mgmt/prime/optical/9.8/release/notes/Cisco_Prime_Optical_98_Release-Notes.html) - wp1515917.
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical 10.0 support Solaris?
- A.** No, Cisco Prime Optical 9.8 is the last release supporting Solaris.
- Q.** What are the hardware requirements for Cisco Prime Optical?
- A.** Please refer to the “Installation Requirements” of the Cisco Prime Optical Installation Guide available at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_installation\\_guides\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_installation_guides_list.html).
- Q.** Is the Gateway/CORBA northbound interface available for all network element types?
- A.** Cisco Prime Optical supports fault and inventory through the CORBA interface for all network element types. In addition, the CORBA interface can be used for equipment and circuit provisioning on the Cisco ONS 15305, ONS 15327, ONS 15310-CL, ONS 15310-MA, ONS 15454 SONET, ONS 15454 SDH, ONS 15600 SONET, and ONS 15600 SDH. The CORBA interface can be used for performance monitoring for the Cisco ONS 15302, ONS 15305, ONS 15327, ONS 15454 SONET, ONS 15454 SDH, and ONS 15600 SONET. For further details on coverage, refer to the Cisco Prime Optical Gateway/CORBA Programmer Reference Guide for the specific release, available at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-documentation-roadmaps-list.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-documentation-roadmaps-list.html).
- Q.** Is the Gateway/CORBA interface based on an industry standard?
- A.** Yes, Gateway/CORBA is based on and compliant with TMF 814 (Version 3.0) as published by the TeleManagement Forum.
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical provide a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) northbound API?
- A.** Yes, Cisco Prime Optical forwards traps northbound from network elements that use SNMP.
- Q.** Can Cisco Prime Optical support a network with different versions of software releases of the same network element?
- A.** Yes, it can. See the Cisco Prime Optical Release Notes at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_release\\_notes\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_release_notes_list.html) for an updated list of network elements and releases supported by Cisco Prime Optical.
- Q.** Are there different configurations for the Cisco Prime Optical server?
- A.** Yes, the Cisco Prime Optical server can be installed in small, medium, large, and high-end configurations depending on the number of nodes managed and the hardware configuration available. For further details refer to the installation guide for Cisco Prime Optical at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_installation\\_guides\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_installation_guides_list.html). Additionally, during the upgrade, users can change the configuration size to the next available (that is, medium to large and large to high end; upgrade from the small configuration to the medium configuration is not supported).

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- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical support all the configuration and provisioning features provided in the Cisco Transport Controller for the Cisco ONS Family?
- A.** No, there are some feature differences between Cisco Prime Optical and Cisco Transport Controller for the Cisco ONS 15305, ONS 15310-CL, ONS 15310-MA, ONS 15327, ONS 15454 SONET, ONS 15454 SDH, ONS 15600 SONET, and ONS 15600 SDH, CPT 600, CPT 200, and CPT 50. These differences are identified in the Cisco Prime Optical User Guide at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-user-guide-list.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-user-guide-list.html).
- Q.** What TCP and SNMP ports does Cisco Prime Optical use?
- A.** This information is documented in the “Client-Server Communication Ports and Protocols” section of the Cisco Prime Optical Installation Guide, which can be found at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-installation-guides-list.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-installation-guides-list.html).
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical Client support Windows 7?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical Client support virtual machines?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Is the Cisco Prime Optical database schema published?
- A.** No, the database schema is no longer published.
- Q.** What are the options for Oracle licenses?
- A.** You can install the embedded database with the Cisco Prime Optical installation without any additional licenses; in this case, the database can be accessed only by the Cisco Prime Optical application. License of the database also can be purchased from Oracle following Oracle’s licensing schema (CPU-based or Named User Plus [NUP]-based). The Cisco Prime Optical installation guide at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_installation\\_guides\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_installation_guides_list.html) provides detailed information on the number of named users required. A full Oracle license is required for the primary Sun server and no additional Oracle licenses are required for the secondary Sun server. An Oracle sales representative can offer the best advice on exact licensing fees, based on your hardware configuration.

## High Availability Solution

- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical support a high availability (HA) configuration?
- A.** Yes, Cisco Prime Optical can be installed on redundant servers in a failover configuration. The Cisco Prime Optical High Availability Installation Guide is available online as a password-protected PDF. The password is available upon purchase of the HA license. Contact your local account team for details.
- Q.** What is included in the HA version of Cisco Prime Optical?
- A.** The Cisco Prime Optical software used in the standalone version and in the HA solution is the same. The Cisco Prime Optical HA Linux version and Oracle Active Data Guard (ADG) are included in the embedded license. However, the Red Hat Cluster Suite (RHCS) must be obtained from Red Hat.

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- Q.** Is there a migration mechanism for standalone Cisco Transport Manager 8.x and 9.x customers to migrate to Cisco Prime Optical in HA configuration?
- A.** Yes, you can migrate your current standalone Cisco Transport Manager instance to a standalone instance of Cisco Prime Optical, provided you follow the correct migration steps outlined in the installation guide found at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_installation\\_guides\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_installation_guides_list.html). It is not possible to migrate from a standalone to an HA configuration.
- Q.** What does the Cisco Prime Optical HA Agent do?
- A.** It is a software module that monitors processes and assesses the status of the primary server to help ensure that Cisco Prime Optical is operating correctly.
- Q.** What is the virtual IP address?
- A.** The virtual IP address hides or masks the physical IP addresses normally assigned to the Sun server Ethernet ports. By masking the physical IP address, all network elements, clients, and operations support systems (OSSs) target the virtual IP address. In the event of a hardware failover, the standby UNIX server assumes this virtual IP address. Only the active UNIX server has the virtual IP address, so all entities are communicating with the same IP address.
- Q.** Does an HA design affect the functionality of the Cisco Prime Optical clients, network-element access, or OSS?
- A.** No, all services and features are designed to operate identically to a standalone configuration.
- Q.** Can the HA solution be installed on an existing standalone server?
- A.** No, there is no migration path from a standalone Cisco Prime Optical configuration to an HA configuration.
- Q.** What licenses will I need with Cisco Prime Optical in an HA environment?
- A.** You will need to purchase OPTICAL-10.0-SBY-K9. When the license is purchased, all HA documentation will be available to you on Cisco.com. Please refer to Cisco Prime Optical release notes at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_release\\_notes\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_release_notes_list.html) to download the latest electronic copy.
- Q.** Is there any customization needed in the HA environment?
- A.** You may wish to modify specific aspects of the HA configuration to fit your environment, such as adding more Ethernet modules, not mirroring internal disks, or modifying steps that are documented in the Cisco Prime Optical HA Installation Guide (password is available upon purchase of HA license; contact your local account team for details).
- Q.** Will Cisco provide information on how to back up Cisco Prime Optical in an HA environment?
- A.** Cisco provides an application note similar to the one provided for the Cisco Prime Optical standalone servers.
- Q.** What options do I have for backing up data?
- A.** For more information, please see the Cisco Prime Optical User Guide where all the options for backing up data are reported. The “Overview of Backing Up the Prime Optical Database” section can be found at [www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-user-guide-list.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/prime-optical/products-user-guide-list.html).

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- Q.** What causes the secondary server to assume the role of the primary server?
- A.** The secondary server assumes the load of the primary server in the event of primary server failure. Essentially, a number of criteria must be met for the HA setup to determine that the primary server has failed. When the HA setup has detected a failure, the primary system is shut down in an orderly sequence (assuming no system failures on the CPU, motherboard, and so on), and the secondary server activates all appropriate daemons, launches Oracle, activates the virtual IP, and restarts Cisco Prime Optical.
- Q.** What is the impact on the network in the case of a primary server failure?
- A.** Any alarms sent to the primary server when the systems are switching to the secondary server will be lost until Cisco Prime Optical resynchronizes with the network element and receives an updated alarm status. When the secondary Cisco Prime Optical server comes online, Cisco Prime Optical can synchronize either manually or automatically to every network element to obtain the latest alarm status.
- Q.** Will the secondary server toggle back to the primary server if the Cisco Prime Optical HA Agent detects a failure in the secondary server?
- A.** No. This requires a platform manager intervention and prevents the systems from toggling back and forth until someone investigates what caused the initial failover situation.

## Order Information

- Q.** Does the Cisco Prime Optical product include the required hardware?
- A.** No, Cisco Prime Optical is a software-only application product that runs on industry-standard, off-the-shelf Sun and Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) hardware platforms.
- Q.** Are hard copy manuals shipped with Cisco Prime Optical?
- A.** No. Cisco Prime Optical documentation is available online at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/tsd\\_products\\_support\\_series\\_home.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/tsd_products_support_series_home.html).
- Q.** Can I download Cisco Prime Optical from Cisco.com?
- A.** Yes, the software is available with both electronic and physical delivery.
- Q.** Is Cisco Prime Optical demonstration software available?
- A.** Yes, you can obtain Cisco Prime Optical for evaluation from your Cisco sales representative or email a request to [prime-optical@cisco.com](mailto:prime-optical@cisco.com).
- Q.** What warranty is included with Cisco Prime Optical?
- A.** Cisco Prime Optical includes a standard software warranty from Cisco that warrants for 90 days from the date of delivery to you that (a) the media on which the software is furnished will be free of defects in materials and workmanship under normal use; and (b) the software substantially conforms to its published specifications.
- Q.** What service contract is available for Cisco Prime Optical prior to Release 10.0?
- A.** You must purchase a Cisco Software Application Support (SAS) contract to receive access to technical assistance through the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) or Cisco.com. Cisco SAS also provides you with Cisco Prime Optical software updates (maintenance, minor) as they are made available for the duration of your contract. Software Application Support plus Upgrades (SASU) service contracts are no longer available since Cisco Prime Optical 9.3.

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- Q.** How do I upgrade to Cisco Prime Optical Release 10.0?
- A.** Cisco Prime Optical 10.0 offers a smart and comprehensive way for customers to maximize their investment by providing timely access to the latest software updates for major, minor, and maintenance releases, as well as online tools and communities that help resolve issues quickly. Cisco Essential Operate Service (ESW) is for minor upgrades and was previously known as SAS. Cisco Product Assured Software Subscription (PASS) is for major upgrades and was previously known as SASU.
- Q.** Does Cisco Prime Optical Release 10.0 require a major upgrade from previous versions?
- A.** Yes.

## Installation and Support

- Q.** What maintenance contracts are required for an HA configuration?
- A.** The maintenance contracts required for HA on the Linux platform are:
- RHCS support subscription
  - Annual Cisco Prime Optical maintenance contract from Cisco
  - Disk array support (EMC, Hitachi, and so on) (if used in the HA architecture)
- Q.** What are the options for external HA support?
- A.** You can obtain support from the individual third-party vendors mentioned previously, through joint support alliances, or you can rely on your own in-house expertise.
- Q.** Does the annual Cisco Prime Optical maintenance contract differ for installation on HA servers versus standalone servers?
- A.** Yes, for installation on HA servers, you must purchase the standard Cisco contract for Cisco Prime Optical, along with an HA contract. The minimum baseline joint support alliance contract is also required, but you can purchase higher levels of support - such as two-hour hardware replacement, fly-to-site, priority queuing, and more - from each vendor.
- Q.** Because the Cisco Prime Optical HA solution consists of two servers, does this require the purchase of two copies of Cisco Prime Optical and two maintenance contracts?
- A.** No, with the OPTICAL-10.0-SBY-K9 license, only the Cisco Prime Optical software and a single maintenance contract are required.
- Q.** Why has Cisco chosen to recommend outsourced support for my HA infrastructure?
- A.** Because timely resolution of critical problems is best managed by those with the expertise to assist with these third-party products.

## Third-Party Hardware and Software

- Q.** What software is required to run on the HA configuration (Linux Version)?
- A.** The software requirements for the HA configurations include:
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux and RHCS
  - Cisco Prime Optical including Oracle ADG

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- Q.** What are the options for Oracle licenses?
- A.** An Oracle license is embedded in the Cisco Prime Optical licenses. However, if you would like to access the management SATA directly from the Oracle database, you must own and license the Oracle database. In this case you can pay Oracle based on the number of CPUs installed in your system or based on the number of named users. The Cisco Prime Optical Installation Guide found at [www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod\\_installation\\_guides\\_list.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11670/prod_installation_guides_list.html) provides detailed information on the number of named users required. Full Oracle licensing is required for the primary Sun server; no additional Oracle licenses are required for the secondary Sun server. An Oracle sales representative can offer the best advice on exact licensing fees, based on your hardware configuration.



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