Walk Through ServiceNow Integration with Catalyst Center

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Introduction

This document describes the step-by-step process for preparing and configuring Catalyst Center, ServiceNow, and a MID server to be integrated.

Prerequisites

Ensure that these prerequisites are met:

- Administrator access to ServiceNow.
- Administrator access to Cisco Catalyst Center.
- A virtual machine (VM) server running Ubuntu, RHEL, Windows, or CentOS to host the MID server.
- TCP port 443 must be allowed between Cisco Catalyst Center, ServiceNow, and the MID server.

Components Used

These components were used for this guide:

• Cisco Catalyst Center release: 2.3.7.9

· ServiceNow release: Yokohama

Ubuntu VM release: 22.04

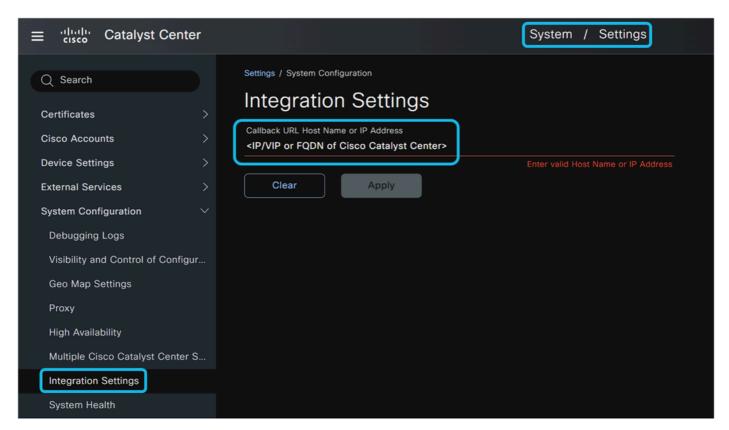
The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, ensure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

Acronyms

• CatC = Cisco Catalyst Center

Section 1: Setting up the Cisco Catalyst Center

- 1. Log in to the Cisco Catalyst Center graphical user interface (GUI).
- 2. Navigate to **System > Settings > System Configurations > Integration Settings**.

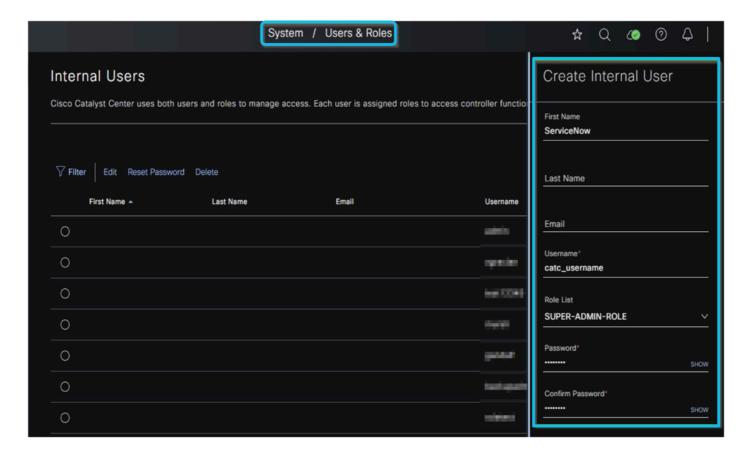


The Integration Settings page is crucial for enabling event notifications. When you enter an IP address, Virtual IP (VIP) address, or Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) for Cisco Catalyst Center on this page, it establishes the callback URL that Cisco Catalyst Center uses when sending event notifications to external systems such as ServiceNow, webhook servers, or SMTP servers. This configuration is mandatory for Cisco Catalyst Center to successfully send event notifications and automatically create change and incident tickets in ServiceNow. Proper configuration of the IP address on the Integration Settings page ensures that ServiceNow can route API calls (for ticket details, approval details, ticket closure details, and CMDB synchronization details) to the correct Cisco Catalyst Center instance, especially when multiple Cisco Catalyst Center instances are connected to the same ServiceNow instance.



Note: The IP address, VIP address, or FQDN configured in the Integration Settings page must be reachable by end-users who access links sent from ServiceNow in incident and change tickets.

Next, create a username and password with super-administrator privileges. This account enables the Cisco Catalyst Center application within ServiceNow to connect to the Cisco Catalyst Center platform using HTTPS and ITSM APIs via the MID server.

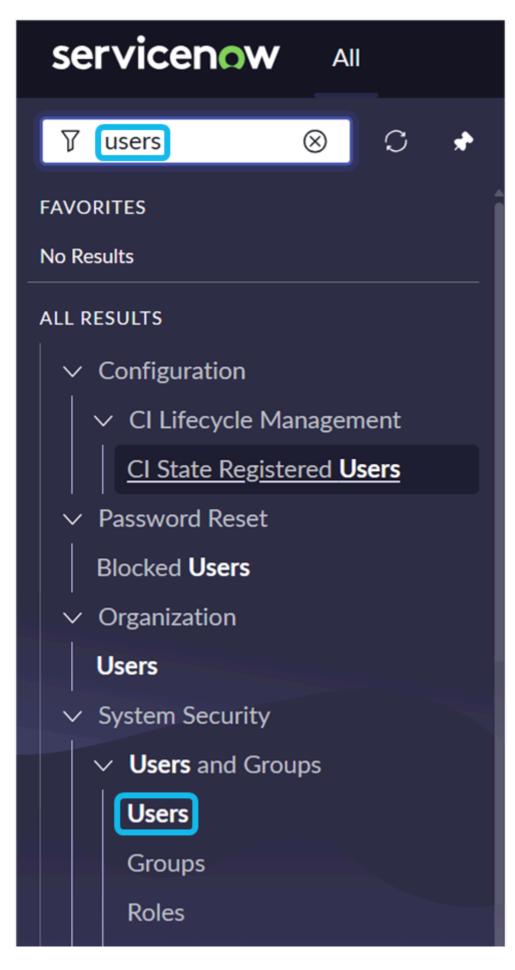


Section 2: Creating and Setting up a ServiceNow User

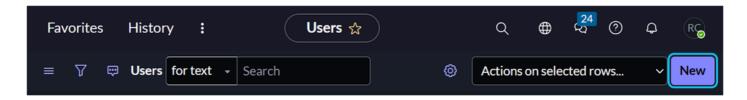
1. Log in to the ServiceNow GUI using administrator credentials.

servicenow	
User name Password	
Login	•
Forgot Password?	
•	•

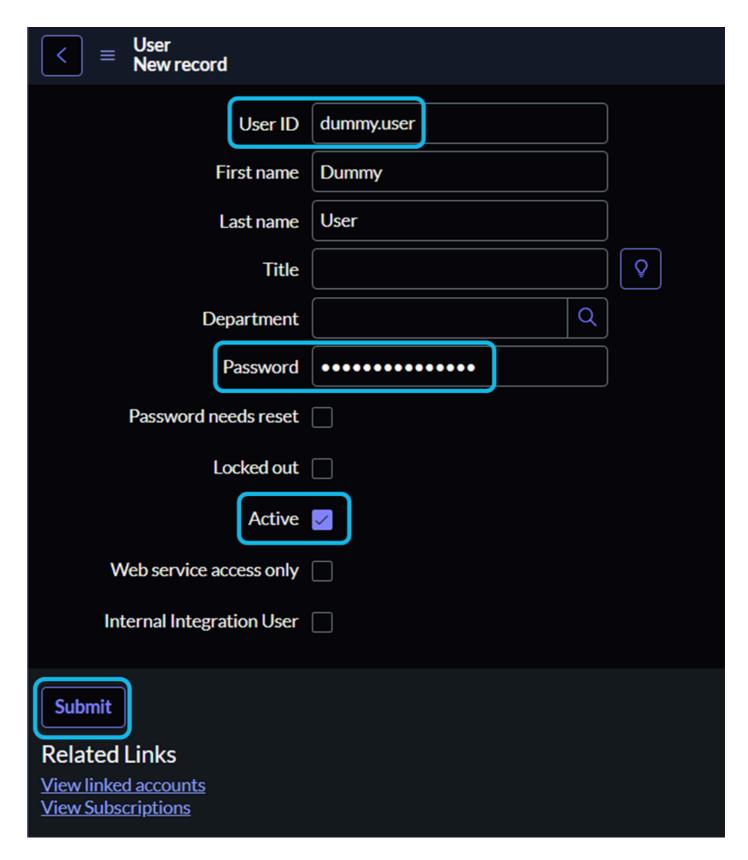
2. In the search field, type *users* and click **Users** under **Users and Groups**.



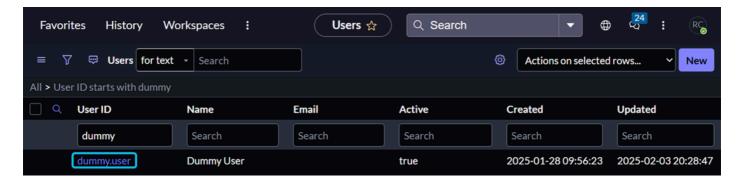
3. Click on the **New** button.



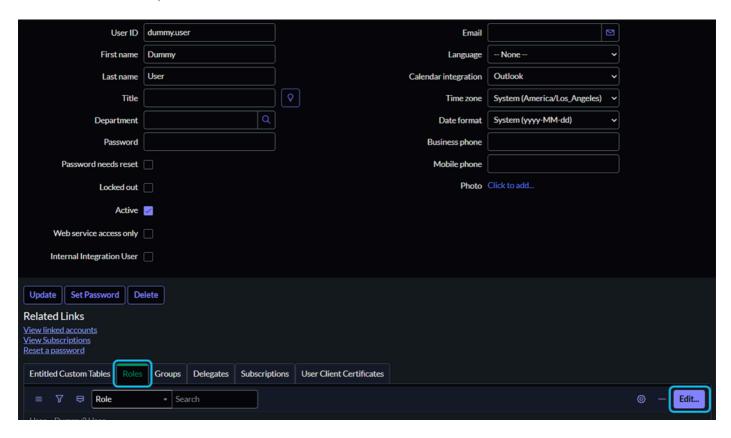
- 4. Complete the user information. At a minimum, populate the **User ID** and **Password** fields, and ensure the **Active** checkbox is selected.
- If you enter the password directly into the Password field, the blue message prompt is a redundant step and can be disregarded.



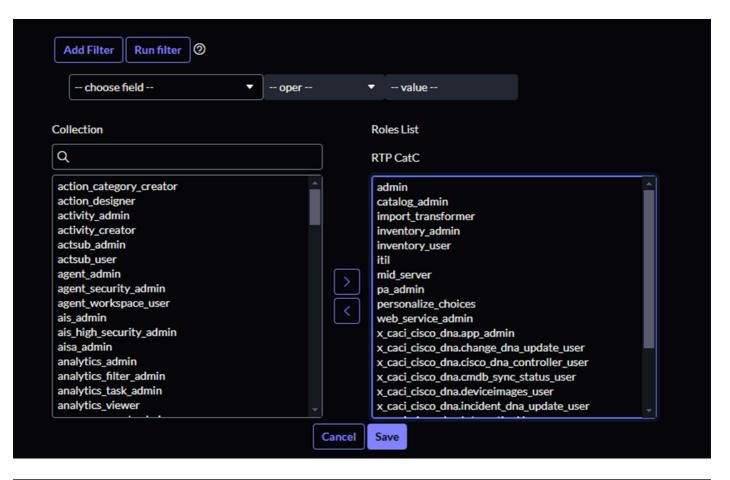
5. While still in the **Users** section, search for the newly created user and click on their entry.

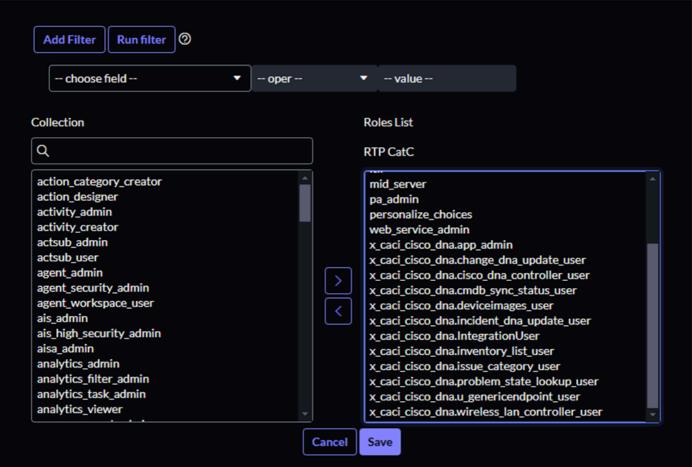


6. Click the **Roles** tab, then click **Edit**.



- 7. Add these required roles for a successful integration:
 - 1. Admin
 - 2. Catalog_admin
 - 3. Import_transformer
 - 4. Inventory_admin
 - 5. Inventory_user
 - 6. Itil
 - 7. Mid_server
 - 8. Pa_admin
 - 9. Personalize choices
 - 10. Web_service_admin
 - 11. All roles beginning with *x_caci*.



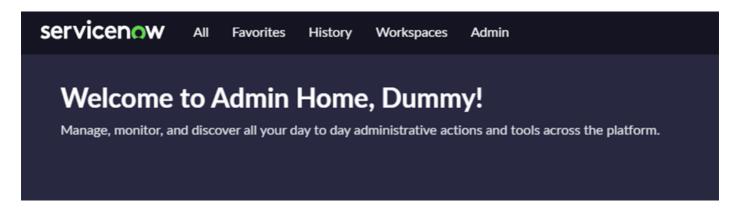


8. Click the **Save** button.

• Assigning the *mid_server* role to this user eliminates the need to create a separate user specifically for

the MID server in a subsequent step.

9. Log out of ServiceNow and verify the credentials of the new user.



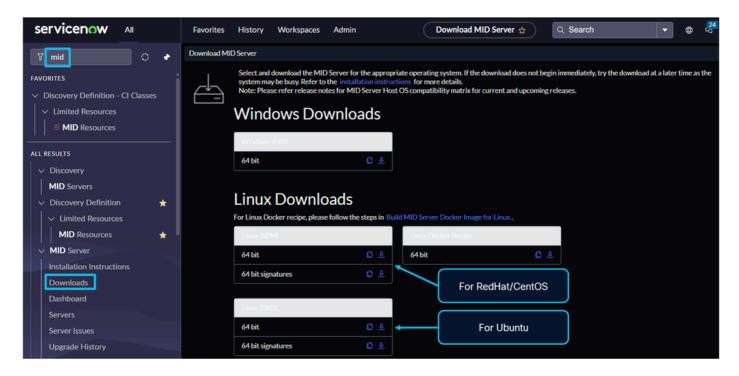
Section 3: Setting up the MID server

Before downloading and deploying the MID server package, select one of these compatible operating systems for the virtual machine (VM):

- Ubuntu
- CentOS
- RedHat
- Windows

Deploy the VM. The VM must have internet access and HTTPS access to both ServiceNow and Cisco Catalyst Center.

1. In the ServiceNow GUI search field, type *mid* and select **Downloads**.



2. Download the MID server installation package. You can either:

- Download it to a local computer and then transfer it to the VM server.
- Access the terminal of the VM and use the *wget* command with the URL of the package to download it directly to the VM server.
 - Click the **Copy** icon, located next to the **Download** icon, to copy the URL of the package.



Note: This section provides examples using the Ubuntu command-line interface (CLI). The steps for deploying the MID server package vary for CentOS, RedHat, or Windows VMs. For more information, refer to the external ServiceNow documentation, "Install a MID Server on Linux" and "Install a MID Server on Windows" available on the ServiceNow website.

3. Use the "Install a MID server on Linux" guide to download and deploy the MID server package on the VM.

Use the *wget* command with the URL of the MID server installation package to download the package.

```
dcloud@dcloud:~$ 1s -1ht
total 296M
-rw-rw-r-- 1 dcloud dcloud 296M Jun 5 04:53 mid-linux-installer.yokohama-12-18-2024 patch4-05-14-2025 06-04-2025 1836.linux.x86-64.deb
```

Install the DEB package.

```
dcloud@dcloud:~$ sudo dpkg -i mid-linux-installer.yokohama-12-18-2024__patch4-05-14-2025_06-04-2025_1836.linux.x86-64.deb [sudo] password for dcloud:

Selecting previously unselected package agent.
(Reading database ... 122152 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack mid-linux-installer.yokohama-12-18-2024__patch4-05-14-2025_06-04-2025_1836.linux.x86-64.deb ...
Unpacking agent (27.4.0.10-20034.el7) ...
Setting up agent (27.4.0.10-20034.el7) ...
This system supports neither RPM nor DEB.
MID Server has been installed at /opt/servicenow/mid
MID Server can be configured using /opt/servicenow/mid/agent/installer.sh script
Please refer README file for more details
```

Obtain root privileges using *sudo -i* and change directories to /opt/servicenow/mid/agent.

```
root@dcloud:/opt/servicenow/mid/agent# ls
total 268K
drwxr-x--- 3 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                          bin
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root 11K Jun
                                 5 04:47
                                          boot-config-reference.yaml
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root 1.3K Jun
                                5 04:47
                                          boot-config-sample.yaml
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                          conf
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root
                        35K Jun
                                 5 04:47
                                          configure.sh
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root 8.0K Jun
                                5 04:47
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                          etc
                       71K Jun
                                 5 04:47 'EULA - MID Server.pdf'
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jun
                                 5 04:47
                                          extlib
                                 5 04:47
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root
                        367 Jun
                                          installer.sh
drwxr-x--- 6 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
drwxr-x--- 3 root root
                        32K Jul 21 21:13
                                          lib
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root
                       883 Jun
                                 5 04:47
                                          linux-x86-64.xml
                                 5 04:47
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jun
                                          logs
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                          midinstaller
drwxr-x--- 4 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                          package
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                          properties
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root
                         16 Jun
                                          start.sh
                         15 Jun
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root
                                 5 04:47
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root 1.1K Jun
                                 5 04:47
                                          uninstall.sh
                                 5 04:47
drwxr-x--- 2 root root 4.0K Jun
                                          work
                                 5 04:47
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root 30K Jun
                                          wrapper-development-license-1.3.txt
-rwxr-x--- 1 root root 12K Jun
                                 5 04:47
                                          wrapper-tsims-addendum-1.3.txt
```

4. Configure the MID server by executing the *installer.sh* bash script (./installer.sh) and completing the prompts.

5. To verify if the MID server has started, execute the start.sh bash script.

```
root@dcloud:/opt/servicenow/mid/agent# ./start.sh
Dummy_ServiceNow_MID_Server is already running.
```

If the MID server did not start after configuration, use *start.sh* to initiate its services. To stop the MID server, run *stop.sh*. To uninstall the MID server service, run *uninstall.sh*.

For recent logs detailing interactions between Cisco Catalyst Center and ServiceNow, examine the logs/agent0.log.0 file

https://www.servicenow.com/docs/bundle/vancouver-servicenow-platform/page/product/mid-server/reference/r MIDServerTroubleshooting.html

```
root@dcloud:/opt/servicenow/mid/agent# 1s -1h logs
total 164K
-rw-r--r- 1 dcloud dcloud 153K Jul 22 15:50 agent0.log.0
-rw-r--r- 1 dcloud dcloud 0 Jul 22 14:55 agent0.log.0.lck
-rw-r--r- 1 dcloud dcloud 1.1K Jul 22 14:55 FileHandlerReport.txt
-rw-r--r- 1 dcloud dcloud 1.6K Jul 22 14:55 wrapper.log
```

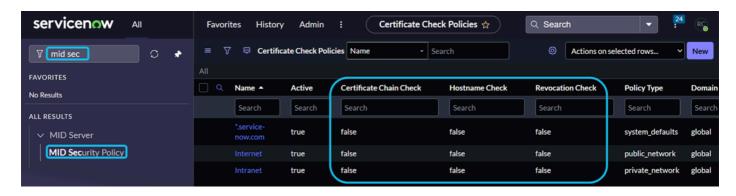
- 6. Temporarily stop the MID server: ./stop.sh
- 7. Edit the *config.xml* file (for example using *nano*)
 - Set *mid.proxy.use_proxy* to *false* if no proxy server exists between the MID server and ServiceNow.
- Set TLS values from *true* to *false*. This action disables certificate, certificate chain, and CRL checks, and prevents values on the ServiceNow "MID Security Policy" page from overwriting *config.xml* settings.
 - Save the changes.

```
root@dcloud:/opt/servicenow/mid/agent# ls -lh
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 8.0K Jul 22 14:51
                                             backup config.xml
                                             backup mid.shconf_override
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 1.1K Jul 22 14:51
drwxr-x--- 3 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 14:54
                                             bin
                                             boot-config-reference.yaml
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud
                          11K Jun 5 04:47
                                             boot-config-sample.yaml
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 1.3K Jun 5 04:47
drwxr-x--- 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                             conf
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 35K Jun 5 04:47
                                              configure.sh
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 8.1K Jul 22 16:02
                                             config.xml
drwxr-x--- 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 71K Jun 5 04:47 'EULA - MID Server.pdf'
drwxr-x--- 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jun 5 04:47
                                             extlib
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 367 Jun 5 04:47
drwxr-x--- 6 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                              jre
drwxr-x--- 3 dcloud dcloud 32K Jul 21 21:13
                                             lib
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 883 Jun 5 04:47
drwxr-x--- 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 16:03
                                             logs
drwxr-x--- 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 21 21:13 midinstaller
drwxr-x--- 4 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                             package
drwxr-x--- 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 21 21:13
                                             properties
drwxr-xr-x 6 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 14:56
                                             scripts
drwxr-xr-x 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 14:55
                                             security
drwxr-xr-x 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 14:55
                                             SecurityAudit
                                             security backup
drwxr-xr-x 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 16:03
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud
                            16 Jun 5 04:47
                                             start.sh
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud
                            15 Jun 5 04:47
                                             stop.sh
drwxr-xr-x 2 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 14:56
                                             tools
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 1.1K Jun 5 04:47
                                             uninstall.sh
drwxr-x--- 5 dcloud dcloud 4.0K Jul 22 16:03
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud
                                             wrapper-development-license-1.3.txt
                           30K Jun
                                    5 04:47
-rwxr-x--- 1 dcloud dcloud 12K Jun
                                     5 04:47
                                             wrapper-tsims-addendum-1.3.txt
```

```
<!--
<parameter name="mid.proxy.use_proxy" value="false"/>
<parameter name="mid.proxy.host" value="YOUR_PROXY_HOST"/>
<parameter name="mid.proxy.port" value="YOUR_PROXY_PORT"/>
-->
```

```
<!-- Bootstrap properties for TLS Connection policies that are controlled from the instance table (mid_cert_check_policy) -->
<parameter name="mid.ssl.bootstrap.default.check_cert_hostname" value="false">>
<parameter name="mid.ssl.bootstrap.default.check_cert_chain" value="false">>
<parameter name="mid.ssl.bootstrap.default.check_cert_revocation" value="false">>
<!-- If true, MID Sec Policy from SNOW instance will overwrite MID bootstrap cert policy in config.xml; false, otherwise -->
<parameter name="mid.ssl.use.instance.security.policy" value="false">></parameter name="mid.ssl.use.instance.security.policy" value="false">>
```

In the ServiceNow GUI, navigate to the **MID Security Policy** page. Verify that the values on this page align with the changes made in the *config.xml* file of the MID server. Correct configuration and matching values enable successful trust and connectivity during the validation process between ServiceNow and the MID server.



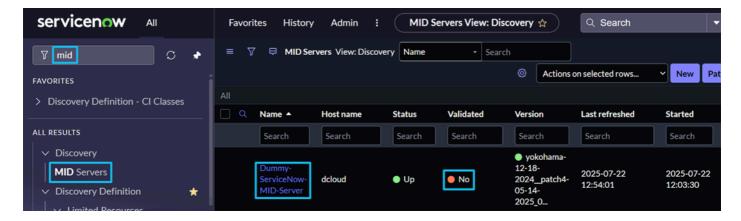


Note: If your company policy mandates certificate usage, update the relevant settings on both ServiceNow and the MID server to ensure proper certificate implementation for a successful connection.

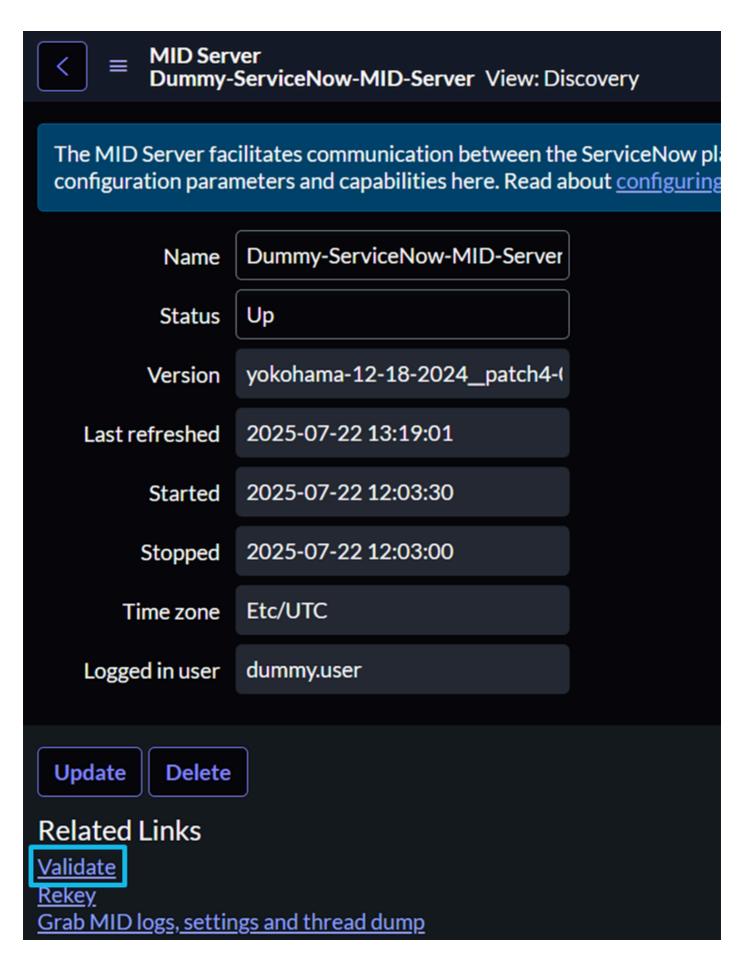
8. Start the MID server: ./start.sh

```
root@dcloud:/opt/servicenow/mid/agent# ./start.sh
Starting Dummy_ServiceNow_MID_Server with systemd...
Waiting for Dummy_ServiceNow_MID_Server...
running: PID:1836374
```

- 9. In the ServiceNow GUI, type *mid* in the search field and select **MID Servers**.
 - Locate the newly created MID server entry (for example "Dummy-ServiceNow-MID-Server").



10. Click the MID server entry, then click **Validate**.



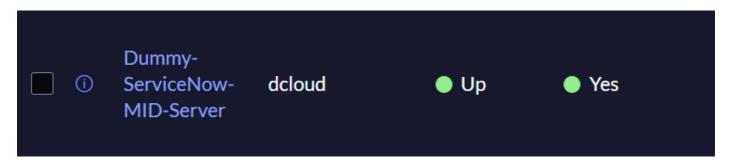
11. ServiceNow initiates a validation process to confirm connectivity, configuration, and assigned roles.

(i) MID server being validated

DummyServiceNow- dcloud ● Up ● Validating
MID-Server

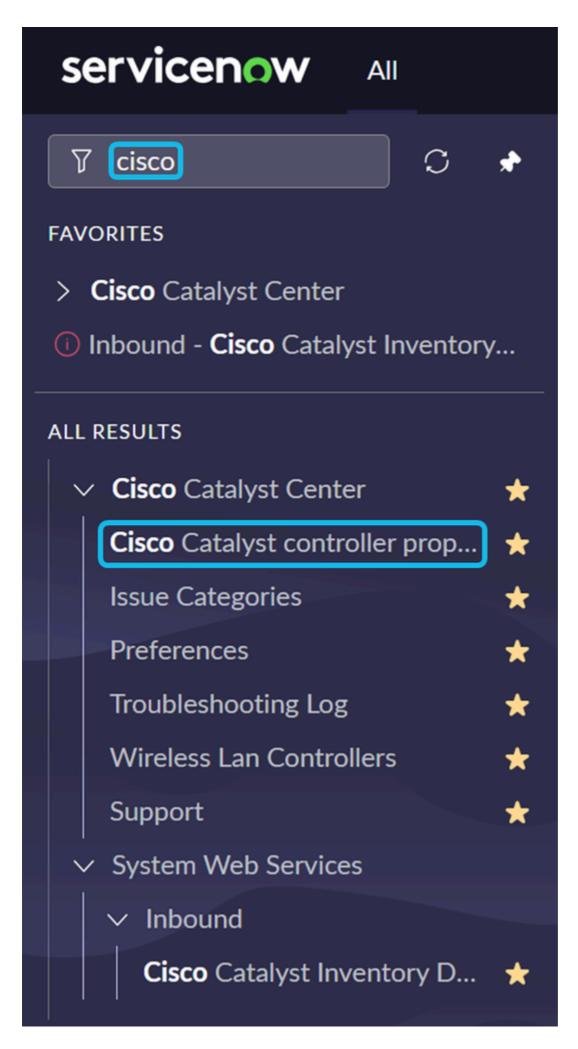
- 12. The validation process typically completes within 5 minutes. If the status remains "Validating" for more than 10 minutes, perform these checks:
 - Recheck the configuration settings on both ServiceNow and the MID server.
 - Verify HTTPS connectivity between ServiceNow and the MID server.
- If these checks are successful examine the *agent0.log.0* file on the MID server for certificate or other issues.

A successful validation, with correct configuration and HTTPS connectivity, displays the expected status on the ServiceNow "MID Server" page.



Section 4: Create a CatC Entry on ServiceNow

1. Open the ServiceNow GUI and enter "cisco" in the search bar. Select **Cisco Catalyst Controller Properties**.



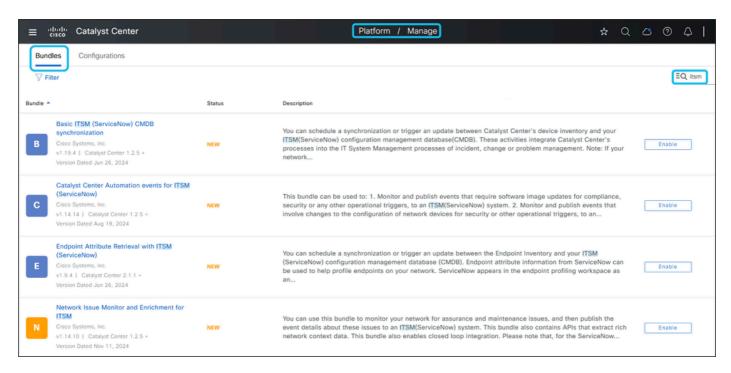
Passwords are encrypted and stored securely. When the property is used to generate the **x-auth-token** for CatC connections, the password is decrypted as needed.

The **MID Server** dropdown lists all available MID servers in your ServiceNow instance. Select the MID server you want to use to communicate with CatC.



Section 5: Start the Integration in the CatC GUI

1. Open the Cisco Catalyst Center GUI. Navigate to **Platform > Manage > Bundles**. Enter *itsm* in the search field.

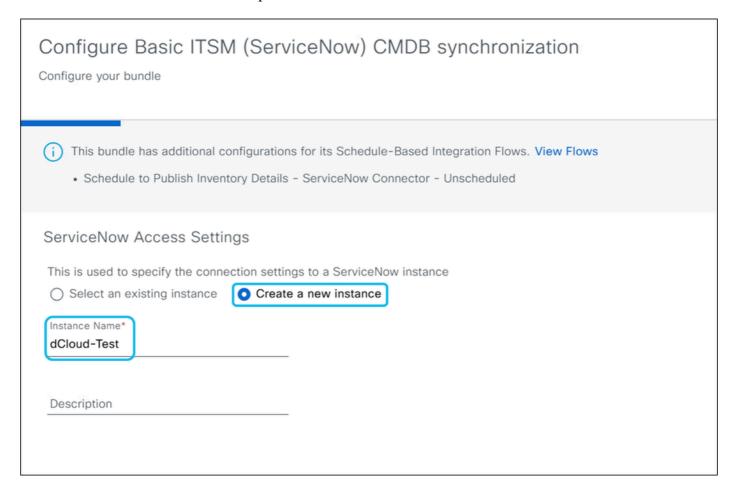


2. Click **Enable** for the **Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB Synchronization** bundle. In the confirmation pop-up, click **Enable** again.



Note: You must enable the Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB Synchronization bundle before

- 3. Click **Configure** and complete the required fields:
 - **Instance Name**: Enter a descriptive name for the ServiceNow instance.

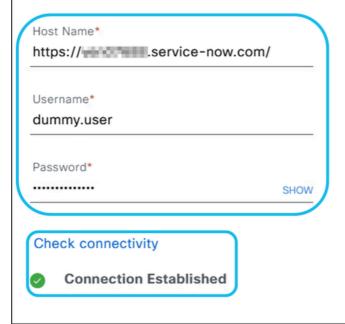


• **URL, Username, and Password**: Enter the ServiceNow instance credentials and test the connection. Communication from CatC to ServiceNow uses TCP port 443.

Configure Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB synchronization

Configure your bundle

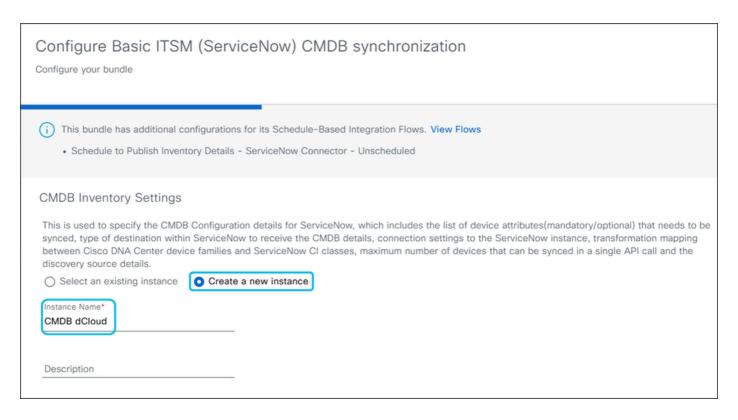
ServiceNow Access Settings



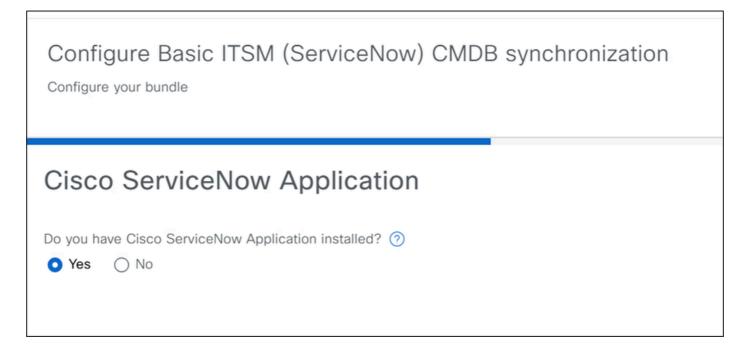


Note: Disable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) in the ServiceNow GUI to allow successful integration. If MFA is enabled an error is returned instead of the "Connection Established" message.

- 4. Enter a name for the CMDB instance.
 - Specify the CMDB configuration details, including which device attributes to sync, the ServiceNow
 destination for CMDB details, connection settings, transformation mapping between Catalyst Center
 device families and ServiceNow Cl classes, the maximum number of devices per API call, and
 discovery source information.



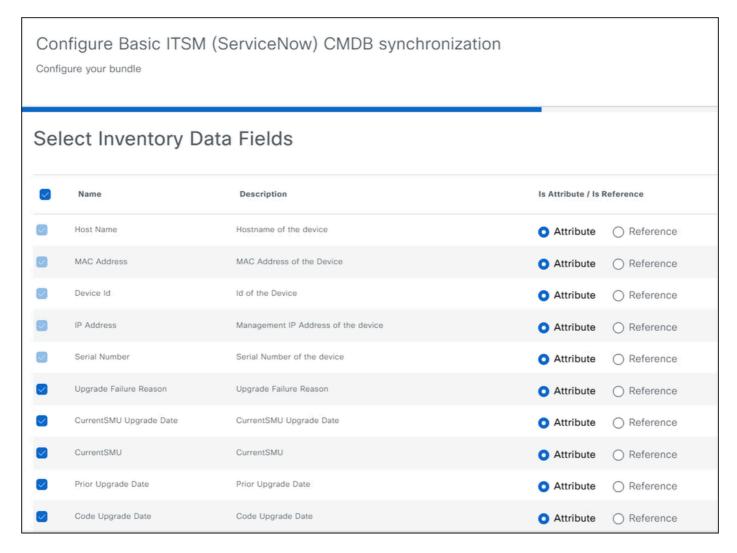
5. Select **Yes** if the CatC App is installed on ServiceNow.



6. Choose **Synchronize device inventory directly with CMDB**. This option sends data to a REST API endpoint within the CatC App on ServiceNow.

Configure Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB synchronization Configure your bundle
Select Destination
Destination Type* Synchronize device inventory directl Synchronize device inventory directly with CMDB
Destination Uri /api/now/import/x_caci_cisco_dna_cisc

7. Use the default inventory data fields or add additional fields as needed. Click **Next** on the **Update Transforms** page.



7. In this section, device families are mapped to Cl classes in ServiceNow. Most device families are mapped,

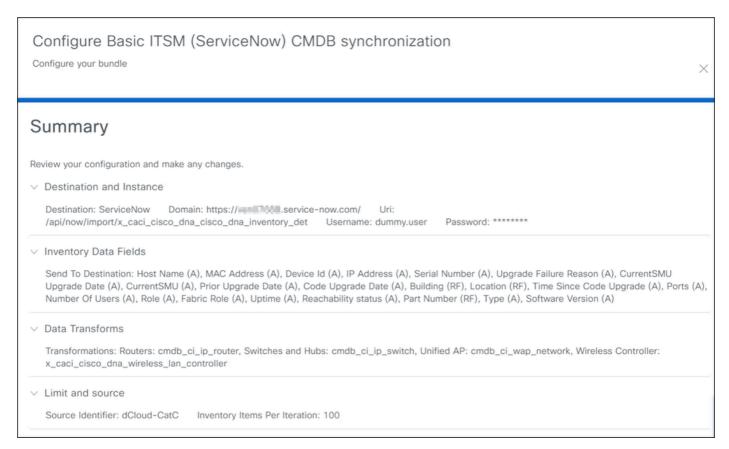
but you can edit the mappings. Only valid Cl classes under the "Network Gear" parent class can be selected. Valid classes appear in the "Update Transforms" section when configuring the Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB Synchronization bundle.

Configure Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB synchronization Configure your bundle		
Update Tra	ansforms	
Device Family	CI Class	
Routers	cmdb_ci_ip_router	
Switches and Hubs	cmdb_ci_ip_switch	
Unified AP	cmdb_ci_wap_network	
Wireless Controller	x_caci_cisco_dna_wireless_lan_control	

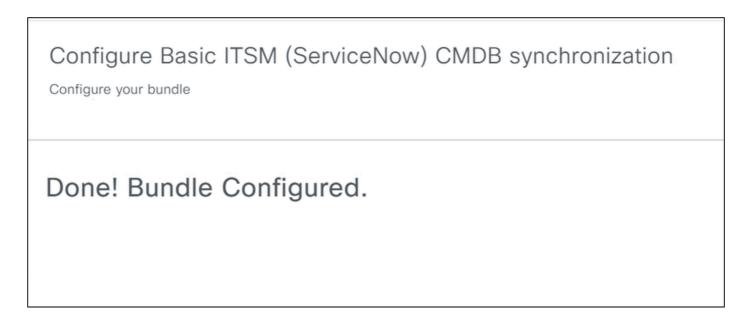
8. In the **Source Identifier (Exact Match)** dropdown, select **Cisco Catalyst Inventory**, **Other Automated**, or a custom identifier created in ServiceNow. The CatC retrieves the Cl list via API. This field is for record-keeping and does not impact system behavior. In the **Inventory Items per Iteration** field, enter a low value (such as 25 or 100). This allows ServiceNow adequate time to process each batch before the next is sent.

Configure Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB synchronization Configure your bundle Set Source Identifier and Operational Limit Source Identifier(Exact Match)* dCloud-CatC Inventory Items Per Iteration* 100

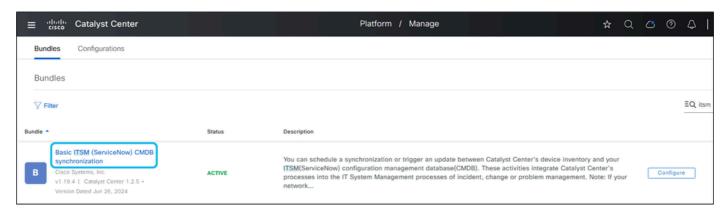
9. Review the summary page for the **Basic ITSM (ServiceNow) CMDB Synchronization** bundle. Click **Configure** to finish the setup.



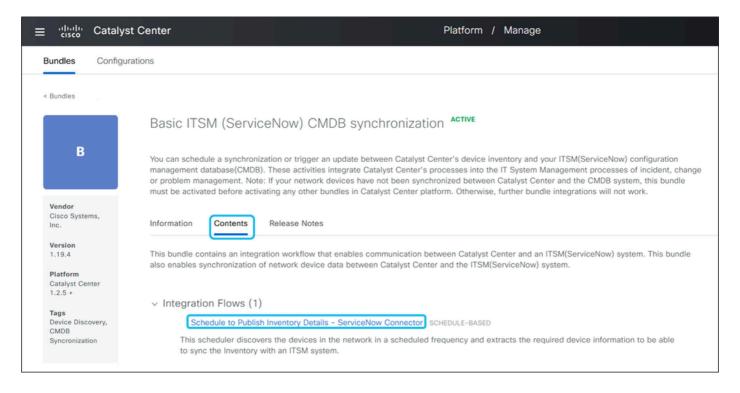
The bundle has been configured!



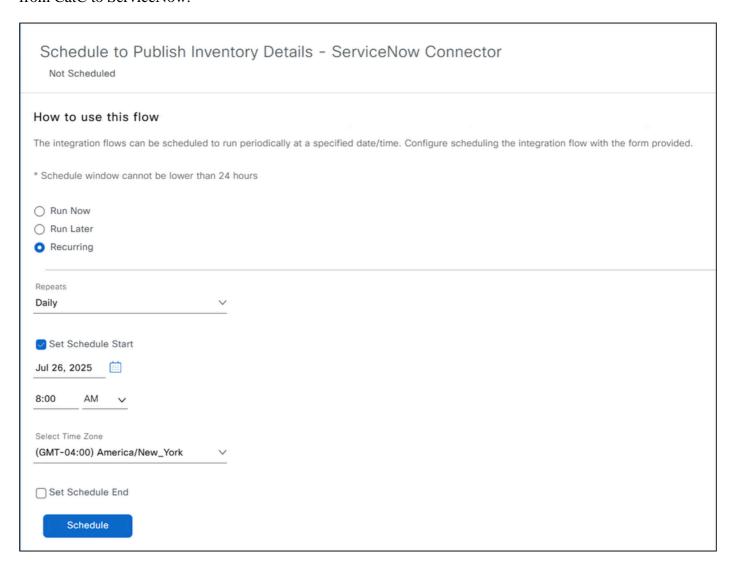
10. Return to the **Bundles** page and select **Basic ITSM** (ServiceNow) CMDB Synchronization.



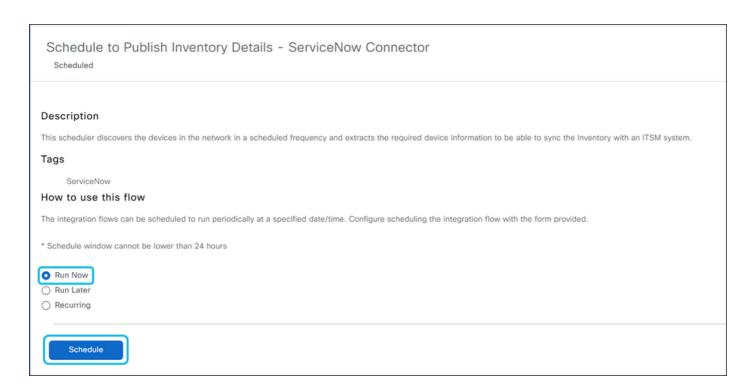
11. Go to the **Contents** tab, expand **Integration Flows**, and select **Schedule to Publish Inventory Details** – **ServiceNow Connector**.



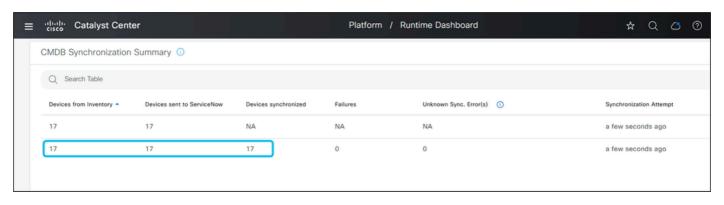
12. Set a daily or weekly schedule, or run the synchronization immediately to send managed device data from CatC to ServiceNow.



13. We can also run the synchronization process immediately to view managed devices from the CatC inventory page in the ServiceNow CMDB CI device list right away.

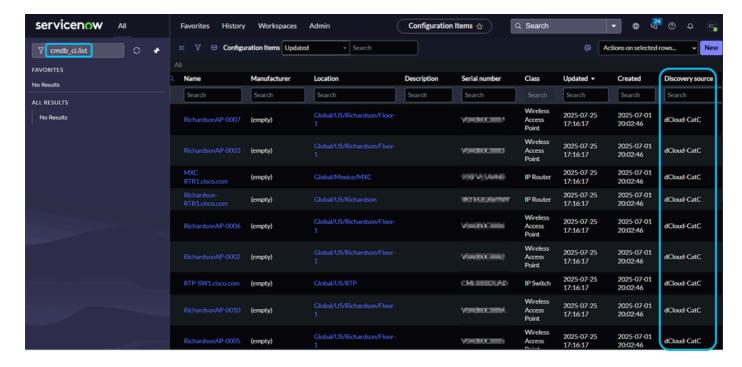


14. Navigate to **Platform > Runtime Dashboard** to view the status and success of the CMDB inventory sync.





15. In the ServiceNow GUI, enter *cmdb_ci.list* in the search bar and press Enter. Confirm that managed devices from the CatC inventory appear in the CMDB Cl device list and are associated with the correct source identifier.



I hope this workflow has been helpful!

References

Cisco Catalyst Center ITSM Integration Guide, Release 2.3.7.x

External Documentation on the feature with the Cisco Catalyst Center integrating with ServiceNow:

Scope Underlying Concepts of Catalyst Center and ITSM Integration

Synchronize Catalyst Center Inventory with ServiceNow CMDB System

Use Catalyst Center Network Issue Monitor and Enrichment for ITSM

Monitor Catalyst Center Automation (SWIM) Events for ITSM