C H A P T E R 14

Viewing and Managing Activations

The follow topics describe Prime NetworkActivation and how you can use its features to manage activations and create new activation wizards.

Additional information about Prime NetworkActivation is available on the Cisco Developer Network (CDN), including some scripts that you can use as examples for using the framework. Other activation scripts are only available through Cisco Advanced Services.

What is Prime Network Activation?

Prime Network Activation provides a framework for creating new activation wizards and adding them to the Prime Network Vision GUI client so that users can run the wizards. Operators can access the wizards by selecting **Activations** from Vision's main menu.

Prime Network Activation provides an Activation Wizard Builder (AWB), which is a point-and-click GUI that simplifies the process of creating wizards. To create a new wizard, you must supply a valid workflow template as input to the AWB. You can create workflow templates using the Prime Network GUI client, as described in Creating and Testing a Workflow Template, page 12-4. Because workflow templates can call Command Builder commands, which you can create from scratch, the combination of Command Builder, Workflow, and Activation provides all the tools you need to create completely customized activations. The general steps are:

1. Use Command Builder to create new commands, and make the commands available (publish them) to other devices. Command Builder is launched from the Vision GUI client.

2. Use the Workflow GUI client to create one or more workflows that call the Command Builder commands. This process creates metadata-driven XML files that will control the activation flow on NEs.

Note When you create the workflow, be sure to choose **File > New Activation Workflow**. This is the workflow template that contains the attributes required by the AWB.

3. Use the Activation Wizard Builder to create a wizard that calls the workflows, and make the wizard available to your operators so they can access it from the Vision GUI client. Users will only be allowed to run activations on devices that are within their device scope.

The AWB creates XML files that control display and behavior of the activation wizards, and contain the attributes required by the wizard. Activation designers or system integrators can customize the wizards to collect or remove specific inputs that meet specific network needs or service provider needs

Table 14-1 identifies the user access roles required to use the Activation features.

Table 14-1   Prime Network Activation User Access Roles

Task	Viewer	Operator	Operator Plus	Configurator	Administrator
Create activation wizards	—	X	X	X	X
Preview and perform activations and deactivations	—	—	—	X	X
View activation details and output	X	X	X	X	X
Search for activations	—	X	X	X	X

Network Activation Window

Operators can access Activation wizards by launching them from the Activation menu in Prime Network Vision. The window is divided into the following parts.

Activation Menu Choices	Description
Activation	Displays available activation wizards. From here operators can launch the wizards, enter the necessary information, and run the activation.
Activation History	Displays all the activations that have been executed.
Activation Modification Utility	Used by activation planners to download and upload wizard files. **Tip** A best practice is to use the AWB to upload and download wizard files.

All of the scripts, workflows, and wizards you create reside on the gateway. For more information about the AWB, see Steps for Creating an Activation Wizard, page 15-2

For information on using the AWB, see Steps for Creating an Activation Wizard, page 15-2.

Running Activations and Viewing the Results

Activations can be launched from the Prime Network Vision GUI client.

Note   The Cisco Developer Network (CDN) has some scripts that you can use as examples for using the framework. Other activation scripts are only available through Cisco Advanced Services.

Step 1   From the Vision main menu, choose **Activation > Activation**. This opens a menu that lists the activations that the user can launch, depending on their user access role.

Step 2   Expand the tree and highlight the activation wizard you want to launch, and click **Next**.

Step 3   Enter all of the required data. You can only run activations on devices that are within your device scope.

Step 4   Check your entries and preview your changes:

a.   Click the User Input tab and check all of the values you entered.

b.   Click the Preview Configuration tab, which displays and validates the CLI commands that will be run on the device. It also highlights any errors so that you can make corrections to your input.

Step 5   Run the activation.

Step 6   View the output:

a.   Select the activation in the Activation History window, right-click and choose **Show Output**. The information presented in similar to the data displayed in Step 4 except it reflects the real runtime results.

–   Workflow Output—The sequence of commands that were run on the devices.

–   CLI Output—The actual CLI commands that were executed for the selected activation (for activations with an **Add** operation and a **Done** state).

b.   If you want to view the output at a later time, export the activation to a local drive by clicking **Export to File**. We recommend that you do not change the file type in case you seek help from a support team.

Searching for Activations (Activation History)

The Activation History window displays information about executed activations, even if the activations failed. The window displays a user-friendly search tools that allow you to locate specific activations and filter the results. A counter displays the total number of activations in the system.

Keep the following in mind when using the Activation History window:

• Searches are case-insensitive and wild card characters are not supported.

• Results are returned only if the utility can match attributes with data in the database.

If the search results display any empty fields, this is most likely because the search criteria was not entered correctly. If you confirm that the attributes were entered correctly and the fields are still empty, the attributes were probably not used by the activation so they were not saved in the database.

Rolling Back an Activation

Completed activations can be deactivated—that is, rolled back—to return a device to its original configuration. The rollback is a best effort; in some cases complete rollbacks may not be possible.

Before you roll back and activation, you can preview the CLI configuration sequence that will be executed before the rollback is performed.

Step 1   From the Activation menu, choose **Activation History**. The Activation History window displays a list of recent activation attempts.

Step 2   If necessary, search for the desired activation (see).

Step 3   Select the activation and view its details. Activations can be rolled back if the Operation column displays **Add** and the State column displays **Done**.

> ✎
> **Note**   You can attempt a deactivation on an aborted activation to clean up partial rollbacks, but the cleanup is a best effort.

Step 4   Right-click the selected activation and choose **Deactivate Preview**. You should verify the information in the User Input tab and the Preview configuration tab (errors will be highlighted).

If you want to test the deactivation on a single device before performing it on all selected devices, export the *preview* deactivation sequence to you local drive using **Export to File**. Then you can copy and paste the commands to a specific device.

Step 5   Right-click the selected activation and choose **Deactivate**.

Step 6   On the confirmation dialog box, click **Yes** and **Close**.

Cloning an Existing Activation

Cloning is useful when you know you will have to repeat an activation in the future. The cloning process saves all of the values that you entered in the original activation. This is useful when you have to perform a deactivation, but you know it will be followed be a re-activation with the same settings.

Step 1   From the Activation menu, choose **Activation**.

Step 2   Select the activation that you want to clone and click **Clone Activation**. The Activation History window is displayed.

Step 3   Search for the specific activation deployment that contains the settings you want to clone.

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> **Note**   The search results return the search based on the activation you have selected.

Step 4   Click **OK**. The activation clone is created.

Deleting Activations

Users with Administrator privileges can delete activations and activation templates from the Prime Network Administrator GUI client. Executed activations are automatically purged from the Prime Network database according to the purging settings set by the administrator. For more information, see the *Cisco Prime Network 3.9 Administrator Guide.*