



CHAPTER 1

Overview of the Cisco ISE Command-Line Interface

This chapter provides an overview of how to access the Cisco ISE command-line interface (CLI), the different command modes, and the commands that are available in each mode.

You can configure and monitor the Cisco ISE by using the web interface. You can also use the CLI to perform configuration and monitoring tasks that this guide describes.

The following sections describe the Cisco ISE CLI:

- [Accessing the Cisco ISE Command Environment, page 1-1](#)
- [User Accounts and Modes in the Cisco ISE CLI, page 1-1](#)
- [Command Modes in the Cisco ISE CLI, page 1-4](#)
- [CLI Audit, page 1-9](#)

Accessing the Cisco ISE Command Environment

You can access the Cisco ISE CLI through a Secure Shell (SSH) client or the console port using one of the following machines:

- Windows PC running Windows XP/Vista
- Apple Computer running Mac OS X 10.4 or later
- PC running Linux

For detailed information on accessing the CLI, see [Chapter 2, “Using the Cisco ISE Command-Line Interface”](#)

User Accounts and Modes in the Cisco ISE CLI

Two different types of accounts are available on the Cisco ISE CLI:

- Admin (administrator)
- Operator (user)

When you power up the Cisco ISE appliances for the first time, you are prompted to run the **setup** utility to configure the appliances. During this setup process, an administrator user account, also known as an Admin account, is created. After you enter the initial configuration information, the appliances automatically reboot and prompt you to enter the username and the password that you specified for the Admin account. You must use this Admin account to log into the Cisco ISE CLI for the first time.

An Admin can create and manage Operator (user) accounts, which have limited privileges and access to the Cisco ISE server. An Admin account also provides the functionality that is needed to use the Cisco ISE CLI.

To create more users (with admin and operator privileges) with SSH access to the Cisco ISE CLI, you must run the **username** command in the Configuration mode (see [Command Modes in the Cisco ISE CLI](#), page 1-4).

Table 1-1 lists the command privileges for each type of user account: Admin and Operator (user).

Table 1-1 Command Privileges

Command	User Account	
	Admin	Operator (User)
application commands	*	
backup	*	
backup-logs	*	
cdp run	*	
clock	*	
configure terminal	*	
copy commands	*	
debug	*	
delete	*	
dir	*	
end	*	
exit	*	*
forceout	*	
halt	*	
hostname	*	
icmp	*	
interface	*	
ip default-gateway	*	
ip domain-name	*	
ip name-server	*	
ip route	*	
kron	*	
logging commands	*	
mkdir	*	

Table 1-1 *Command Privileges (continued)*

Command	User Account	
	Admin	Operator (User)
nslookup	*	*
ntp server	*	
password policy	*	
patch	*	
patch install	*	
patch remove	*	
pep	*	
ping	*	*
ping6	*	*
reload	*	
repository	*	
restore commands	*	
rmdir	*	
service	*	
show application	*	
show backup	*	
show cdp	*	*
show clock	*	*
show cpu	*	*
show disks	*	*
show icmp_status	*	*
show interface	*	*
show inventory	*	*
show ip route	*	
show logging	*	*
show logins	*	*
show memory	*	*
show ntp	*	*
show ports	*	*
show process	*	*
show repository	*	
show restore	*	
show running-config	*	
show startup-config	*	

Table 1-1 *Command Privileges (continued)*

Command	User Account	
	Admin	Operator (User)
show tech-support	*	
show terminal	*	*
show timezone	*	*
show timezones	*	
show udi	*	*
show uptime	*	*
show users	*	
show version	*	*
snmp-server commands	*	
ssh	*	*
tech	*	
telnet	*	*
terminal	*	*
traceroute	*	*
undebug	*	
username	*	
write	*	

Logging into the Cisco ISE node places you in the Operator (user) mode or the Admin (EXEC) mode, which always requires a username and password for authentication.

You can tell which mode you are in by looking at the prompt. A right angle bracket (>) appears at the end of the Operator (user) mode prompt; a pound sign (#) appears at the end of the Admin mode prompt, regardless of the submode.

Command Modes in the Cisco ISE CLI

Cisco ISE supports these command modes:

- EXEC—Use the commands in this mode to perform system-level configuration. See [EXEC Commands, page 1-5](#). In addition, refer to the commands in the EXEC that generate operational logs as listed in [Table 1-6](#).
- Configuration—Use the commands in this mode to perform configuration tasks in the Cisco ISE. See [Configuration Commands, page 1-8](#). In addition, refer to the commands in the configuration mode that generate operational logs as listed in [Table 1-5](#).

EXEC Commands

EXEC commands primarily include system-level commands such as **show** and **reload** (for example, application installation, application start and stop, copy files and installations, restore backups, and display information).

- [Table 1-2](#) describes the EXEC commands
- [Table 1-3](#) describes the show commands in the EXEC mode

For detailed information on EXEC commands, see [Understanding Command Modes, page 2-5](#).

EXEC or System-Level Commands

[Table 1-2](#) describes the EXEC mode commands.

Table 1-2 Summary of EXEC Commands

Command	Description
application install	Installs a specific application bundle.
application remove	Removes a specific application.
application reset-config	Resets the Cisco ISE configuration and clears the Cisco ISE database.
application reset-passwd	Resets the application password for a specific user (admin) in the application.
application start	Starts or enables a specific application.
application stop	Stops or disables a specific application.
application upgrade	Upgrades a specific application bundle.
backup	Performs a backup and places the backup in a repository.
backup-logs	Performs a backup of all the logs on the Cisco ISE to a remote location.
clock	Sets the system clock on the Cisco ISE server.
configure	Enters the Configuration mode.
copy	Copies any file from a source to a destination.
debug	Displays any errors or events for various command situations; for example, backup and restore, configuration, copy, resource locking, file transfer, and user management.
delete	Deletes a file in the Cisco ISE server.
dir	Lists the files in the Cisco ISE server.
exit	Disconnects the encrypted session with a remote system. Exits from the current command mode to the previous command mode.
forceout	Forces the logout of all the sessions of a specific Cisco ISE server system user.
halt	Disables or shuts down the Cisco ISE server.
help	Describes the help utility and how to use it in the Cisco ISE server.
mkdir	Creates a new directory.
nslookup	Queries the IPv4 address or hostname of a remote system.
patch	Installs System or Application patch.

Table 1-2 Summary of EXEC Commands (continued)

Command	Description
pep	Configures the Inline PEP node.
ping	Determines the IPv4 network connectivity to a remote system.
ping6	Determines the IPv6 network connectivity to a remote system.
reload	Reboots the Cisco ISE server.
restore	Restores a previous backup.
rmdir	Removes an existing directory.
show	Provides information about the Cisco ISE server.
ssh	Starts an encrypted session with a remote system.
tech	Provides Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) commands.
telnet	Establishes a Telnet connection to a remote system.
terminal length	Sets terminal line parameters.
terminal session-timeout	Sets the inactivity timeout for all terminal sessions.
terminal session-welcome	Sets the welcome message on the system for all terminal sessions.
terminal terminal-type	Specifies the type of terminal connected to the current line of the current session.
traceroute	Traces the route of a remote IP address.
undebug	Disables the output (display of errors or events) of the debug command for various command situations; for example, backup and restore, configuration, copy, resource locking, file transfer, and user management.
write	Erases the startup configuration that forces to run the setup utility and prompt the network configuration, copies the running configuration to the startup configuration, and displays the running configuration on the console.

Show Commands

The **show** commands are used to display the Cisco ISE settings and are among the most useful commands. See [Table 1-3](#) for a summary of the **show** commands.

The commands in [Table 1-3](#) require the **show** command to be followed by a keyword; for example, **show application status**. Some **show** commands require an argument or variable after the keyword to function; for example, **show application version**.

Table 1-3 Summary of show Commands

Command	Description
application (requires keyword)	Displays information about the installed application; for example, status information or version information.
backup (requires keyword)	Displays information about the backup.
cdp (requires keyword)	Displays information about the enabled Cisco Discovery Protocol interfaces.
clock	Displays the day, date, time, time zone, and year of the system clock.

Table 1-3 Summary of show Commands (continued)

Command	Description
cpu	Displays CPU information.
disks	Displays file-system information of the disks.
icmp-status	Displays the Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) echo response configuration information.
interface	Displays statistics for all the interfaces configured on the Cisco ISE.
inventory	Displays information about the hardware inventory, including the Cisco ISE appliance model and serial number.
logging (requires keyword)	Displays the Cisco ISE server logging information.
logins (requires keyword)	Displays the login history of the Cisco ISE server.
memory	Displays memory usage by all running processes.
ntp	Displays the status of the Network Time Protocol (NTP) servers.
pep	Displays the Inline PEP node information.
ports	Displays all the processes listening on the active ports.
process	Displays information about the active processes of the Cisco ISE server.
repository (requires keyword)	Displays the file contents of a specific repository.
restore (requires keyword)	Displays the restore history in the Cisco ISE.
running-config	Displays the contents of the configuration file that currently runs in the Cisco ISE.
startup-config	Displays the contents of the startup configuration in the Cisco ISE.
tech-support	Displays system and configuration information that you can provide to the TAC when you report a problem.
terminal	Displays information about the terminal configuration parameter settings for the current terminal line.
timezone	Displays the current time zone in the Cisco ISE.
timezones	Displays all the time zones available for use in the Cisco ISE.
udi	Displays information about the unique device identifier (UDI) of the Cisco ISE.
uptime	Displays how long the system you are logged in to has been up and running.
users	Displays information about the system users.
version	Displays information about the currently loaded software version, along with hardware and device information.

Configuration Commands

Configuration commands include **interface** and **repository**. To access the Configuration mode, run the **configure** command in the EXEC mode.

Some of the configuration commands require that you enter the configuration submode to complete the configuration.

Table 1-4 describes the configuration commands.

Table 1-4 Summary of Configuration Commands

Command	Description
backup-staging-url	Specifies a Network File System (NFS) temporary space or staging area for the remote directory for backup and restore operations.
cdp holdtime	Specifies the amount of time the receiving device should hold a Cisco Discovery Protocol packet from the Cisco ISE server before discarding it.
cdp run	Enables Cisco Discovery Protocol.
cdp timer	Specifies how often the Cisco ISE server sends Cisco Discovery Protocol updates.
clock timezone	Sets the time zone for display purposes.
do	Executes an EXEC-level command from the configuration mode or any configuration submode. Note To initiate, the do command precedes the EXEC command.
end	Returns to the EXEC mode.
exit	Exits the Configuration mode.
hostname	Sets the hostname of the system.
icmp echo	Configures the ICMP echo requests.
interface	Configures an interface type and enters the interface configuration mode.
ipv6 address autoconfig	Enables IPv6 stateless autoconfiguration in the interface configuration mode.
ipv6 address dhcp	Enables IPv6 address DHCP in the interface configuration mode.
ip address	Sets the IP address and netmask for the Ethernet interface. Note This is an interface configuration command.
ip default-gateway	Defines or sets a default gateway with an IP address.
ip domain-name	Defines a default domain name that a Cisco ISE server uses to complete hostnames.
ip name-server	Sets the Domain Name System (DNS) servers for use during a DNS query.
kron occurrence	Schedule one or more Command Scheduler commands to run at a specific date and time or a recurring level.
kron policy-list	Specifies a name for a Command Scheduler policy.
logging	Enables the system to forward logs to a remote system.
logging loglevel	Configures the log level for the logging command.
no	Disables or removes the function associated with the command.

Table 1-4 Summary of Configuration Commands (continued)

Command	Description
ntp	Synchronizes the software clock through the NTP server for the system.
password-policy	Enables and configures the password policy.
repository	Enters the repository submode.
service	Specifies the type of service to manage.
snmp-server community	Sets up the community access string to permit access to the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP).
snmp-server contact	Configures the SNMP contact the Management Information Base (MIB) value on the system.
snmp-server host	Sends SNMP traps to a remote system.
snmp-server location	Configures the SNMP location MIB value on the system.
username	Adds a user to the system with a password and a privilege level.

For detailed information on Configuration mode and submode commands, see [Understanding Command Modes, page 2-5](#).

CLI Audit

You must have administrator access to execute the Cisco ISE configuration commands. Whenever an administrator logs in to the configuration mode and executes a command that causes configurational changes in the Cisco ISE server, the information related to those changes is logged in the Cisco ISE operational logs.

[Table 1-5](#) describes the Configuration mode commands that generate operational logs.

Table 1-5 Configuration Mode Commands for the Operation Log

Command	Description
clock	Sets the system clock on the Cisco ISE server.
ip name-server	Sets the DNS servers for use during a DNS query.
hostname	Sets the hostname of the system.
ip address	Sets the IP address and netmask for the Ethernet interface.
ntp server	Allows synchronization of the software clock by the NTP server for the system.

In addition to the configuration mode commands, some commands in the EXEC generate operational logs.

Table 1-6 describes the EXEC mode commands that generate operational logs.

Table 1-6 EXEC Mode Commands for the Operation Log

Command	Description
backup	Performs a backup (Cisco ISE and Cisco ADE OS) and places the backup in a repository.
restore	Restores from backup the file contents of a specific repository.
backup-logs	Backs up system logs.