

Management Pack for Device Networks Release Notes

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The Management Pack for Network Devices extends the operational management capabilities of the vRealize Operations platform to the areas of physical data center networking. This management pack discovers and collects data for all the leaf switches and spine switches in your physical network environment, and discovers the relationships between these switches and vCenter objects, namely hosts and virtual machines.

Known Issues

- If you configure a Network Device adapter instance in an environment in which you have configured multiple vCenter adapter instances, when you click **Test Connection**, the connection will fail. Workaround: Configure the adapter instance with the correct community strings for all the vCenter adapters and save the instance. In this way, the adapter can discover the necessary leaf and spine switches.
- The path between two hosts is not displayed in the Network Device Connectivity dashboard. This is due to a bug in vRealize Operations Manager, and will be fixed in a future release.
- To discover Top of the Rack switches when using vCenter 5.0 and 5.1, you must install vRealize Operations Manager 6.1.1., and later.
- The Management Pack for Network Devices does not support multiple instances of the Network Device adapter. Configure only one instance of the adapter.

Upgrading from the Management Pack for NSX for vSphere 2.0

- You cannot install the Management Pack for Network Devices on top of the Management Pack for NSX for vSphere version 2.0. If you want to use both management packs to manage your network environment, you must upgrade to the Management Pack for NSX for vSphere 3.0. This management pack automatically installs the Management Pack for Network Devices.
- The leaf and spine switches in the Management Pack for Network Devices replace the switch and router objects monitored by the Physical Discovery Adapter configured in the Management Pack for NSX for vSphere version 2.0. When you upgrade from NSX for vSphere version 2.0 to the Management Pack for Network Devices, all existing objects are deleted.

Compatibility

The Management Pack for Network Devices is compatible with vRealize Operations Manager 6.1 and above.

This management pack has been tested with Cisco UCS, Cisco FI, Cisco 5K, Cisco 9K, Cisco Catalyst, Arista switches.

The management pack does not work with Brocade VDX switches.

Scalability

The Management Pack for Network Devices collects data on data center switch objects with the use of several different protocols and API's. These include neighbor switch to switch objects via CDP and LLDP, and health, operations and performance metrics via SNMP.

This management pack has been designed to scale across multiple vSphere clusters, through a single adapter instance and provide topology and operations representation for the physical switches that interconnect vSphere hosts. As there are a number of interdependencies on the responsiveness of these API's/SNMP it is very hard to characterize the initial discovery period, as well as the refresh of the operational data on each device discovered by SNMP gets. Scalability of the aforementioned is addressed via a scale out approach where multiple discovery and SNMP threads are deployed. The initial discovery may take a series of minutes while refresh/operation updates will scale out within the default five-minute metric collection window. This management pack has been designed with these various different discovery and update times.

The Management Pack for Network Devices has been tested within VMware development and production labs, as well as within partner labs with the largest lab having approximately 90 switches.