Smart Licensing Troubleshooting and Case Studies

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Cisco Webex App

Questions?

Use Cisco Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

How

- 1 Find this session in the Cisco Live Mobile App
- 2 Click "Join the Discussion"
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated until February 24, 2023.





Agenda

- Introduction
- Deployment Guidelines
- Troubleshooting Smart Licensing
- Case Studies & Recommendations





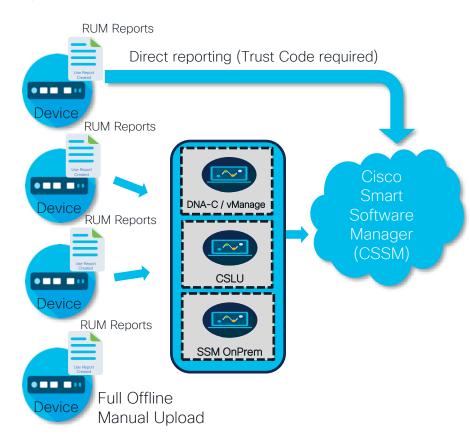


Smart Licensing Using Policy

 Smart Licensing using Policy first implemented in IOS-XE version 17.3.2.

 Policy determines the reporting frequency for each license type.

 Custom policies available for certain use cases based on contract agreements.





Difference between SL and SLP

Key Differences

Legacy Smart License (SL)

- Mandatory evaluation mode
- Registration to CSSM/satellite for compliance
- Licenses reported at regular intervals

Registration & Report Register PI with Token Allocate license Authorization renewal CSSM Smart Account

Smart Licensing using Policy (SLP)

- No registration or evaluation mode
- Allows usage of un-enforced licenses
- Usage reports gathered and sent later





RUM (Resource Utilization Measurement) report

- > Generated by the Product Instance
- Generated for each license IN USE



- > Cisco authentic, cert-signed by the HW chip onboard
- > Can be pulled from the device via APIs or CLIs
- > Can be exported from the device to a file
- > May be accompanied by other requests (e.g. DLC or SLAC request)
- > An ACK from CSSM may include RUM report IDs, authorization codes, trust codes, policy files



Reporting: What data does Cisco care about?

Required data fields for SW reconciliation per customer, per product	
UDI	HW Product serial number
SW	SW Unique ID SN
SW Package + Reg ID	Software product package and entitlement tag
Count	Software use count per license entitlement
Time and date stamp	Per license entitlement change and use

Device hostname is included in RUM reports in IOS-XE 17.9.1 onwards.



SLP Policy (IOS-XE)



Default policy

- ✓ Unenforced Perpetual Licenses:
 - First report 365 days
 - Subsequent reports Not required
- ✓ Unenforced Subscription Licenses:
 - First report 90 days
 - Subsequent reports 90 days
- ✓ On license change:
 - Perpetual Within 90 days
 - Subscription Within 90 days



Custom policies available based on contract agreements (e.g. military/government devices)



#show license status

<...>

Policy:

Policy in use: Merged from multiple sources.
Reporting ACK required: yes (CISCO default)

Unenforced/Non-Export **Perpetual** Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 365 (CISCO default) Reporting frequency (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Report on change (days): 90 (CISCO default)

Unenforced/Non-Export Subscription Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 90 (CISCO default)
Reporting frequency (days): 90 (CISCO default)

Report on change (days): 90 (CISCO default)



Default Policy vs Custom Policy

Policy definition displayed in "show license all"

Custom Policy (Example)

Policy:

Policy in use: Installed On Jan 10 16:39:30 2023 CET

Policy name: <CustomerName Policy>

Reporting ACK required: yes (Customer Policy)

Unenforced/Non-Export Perpetual Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 365 (Customer Policy)

Reporting frequency (days): 0 (Customer Policy)

Report on change (days): 365 (Customer Policy)

Unenforced/Non-Export Subscription Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 365 (Customer Policy)

Reporting frequency (days): 0 (Customer Policy)

Report on change (days): 365 (Customer Policy)

Enforced (Perpetual/Subscription) License Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Reporting frequency (days): 0 (Customer Policy)

Report on change (days): 0 (Customer Policy)

Export (Perpetual/Subscription) License Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Reporting frequency (days): 0 (Customer Policy)

Report on change (days): 0 (Customer Policy)

cisco life!

Default Policy

Policy:

Policy in use: Merged from multiple sources.

Reporting ACK required: ves (CISCO default)

Unenforced/Non-Export Perpetual Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 365 (CISCO default)

Reporting frequency (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Report on change (days): 90 (CISCO default)

Unenforced/Non-Export Subscription Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 90 (CISCO default)

Reporting frequency (days): 90 (CISCO default)

Report on change (days): 90 (CISCO default)

Enforced (Perpetual/Subscription) License Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Reporting frequency (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Report on change (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Export (Perpetual/Subscription) License Attributes:

First report requirement (days): 0 (CISCO default) Reporting frequency (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Report on change (days): 0 (CISCO default)

Authorization Code (SLAC) for HSEC



- > Required for any purchased export-controlled software
- ➤ High Performance Security (HSEC) license
 - ➤ To enforce a US export law that prevents selling/exporting devices capable of encryption > 250 Mbps to restricted countries.
- > Requested from CSSM or installed at manufacturing
- > License status change on the Virtual Account:
 - Available → Reserved (not included in RUMs)
- > SLAC can be returned (reserved license becomes available again)

CSLU Functions

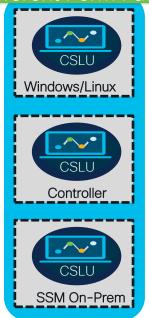
What is CSLU?

Cisco Smart License Utility can be deployed as micro service on Windows/Linux host

Can also be integrated as software component with controller-based products (e.g. Cisco DNA Center)

Able to deliver an on-line or off-line connectivity model for the license data.

CSLU Different Form Factor



CSLU Key Functions

Administer all licenses and their associated device

Sends authorization code requests to CSSM, receives authorization codes from CSSM and can install authorization codes on a device

Collects usage reports from the device and upload these usage reports to SA/VA in CSSM

The RUM report ACK from CSSM is collected online, or offline, and provided back to a device



Deployment Guidelines



SLP Direct Access



SLP Connected directly to CSSM - 1/2

Config on Product Instance

1. Smart Transport Config

(config) # license smart transport smart
(config) # license smart url default

2. Establish Trust with CSSM

license smart trust id <token-from-CSSM> all

(optional) If non-default trustpoint was configured:

(config) # license smart vrf <name>

(config) # ip http client secure-trustpoint SLA-TrustPoint

(optional) If VRF needs to be used:

(config) # ip http client source-interface <interface>
 or

For Smart Transport (17.9.x onwards)

Smart Transport is generally recommended.

Call-Home should work ... but it is legacy.

A single token can be used for multiple products, if it didn't expire.

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For Call-Home

SLP Connected directly to CSSM - 2/2

- HTTPS connection to smartreceiver.cisco.com
 - Configure DNS or add static host entry
 - Load balancing implemented
 - IP addresses might change (use nslookup, dig or similar utility)

Test connectivity with Telnet instead of ICMP

ICMP blocked

Telnet using IPv4

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```
$ ping smartreceiver.cisco.com
```

PING smartreceiver.xglb.cisco.com (173.36.127.32): 56 data bytes Request timeout for icmp_seq 0 Request timeout for icmp_seq 1

\$ telnet smartreceiver.cisco.com 443 /ipv4 [/source-int <N>] [/vrf <M>]
Trying 173.36.127.32...

Connected to smartreceiver.cisco.com.

Escape character is '^]'.

As of February 2023:

173.36.127.32

72.163.15.137

192.133.220.120

SLP Connected directly to CSSM - Verification

```
show license status
<..>
Transport:
  Type: Smart
  URL: https://smartreceiver.cisco.com/licservice/license
<..>
Usage Reporting:
  Last ACK received: Sep 22 12:54:51 2021 UTC
  Next ACK deadline: <none>
  Reporting push interval: 0 (no reporting)
  Next ACK push check: <none>
  Next report push: <none>
  Last report push: Sep 22 12:48:18 2021 UTC
  Last report file write: <none>
 Trust Code Installed: Sep 22 12:47:40 2021 UTC
```



High Security (HSECk9) license

- Enforced license must be aquired before use
- Requires SLAC to be installed first.

Last Confirmation code: xxxxxx

```
ISR4000 (config) # license feature hseck9 (Applicable to ISR1k/4k and Catalyst 8200/8300 Edge)

or

C8000v# license smart authorization request add hseck9 local (Applicable to Catalyst 8000v)

*Mar 11 13:37:57.320: %SMART_LIC-6-AUTHORIZATION_INSTALL_SUCCESS: A new licensing authorization code was successfully installed on PID:C8000V, SN:99F5xxxxx

*Mar 11 13:37:57.596: %SMART_LIC-6-EXPORT_CONTROLLED: Usage of export controlled features is allowed for feature hseck9

Cat8000# show license authorization

Overall status:
Active: PID:C8300-2N2S-6T, SN:FDOxxxxxx

Status: SMART_AUTHORIZATION INSTALLED on May 08 08:45:52 2021 UTC
```



SLP SSM On-Prem



SLP Connected through On-Prem

From On-Prem GUI

Config on Product Instance

1. CSLU URL Config

(config) #license smart transport cslu (config) #license smart url cslu https://<On-Prem-FQDN>/cslu/v1/pi/TAC-Workshop-6

2. Disable revocation check

(config) #crypto pki trustpoint SLA-TrustPoint (ca-trustpoint) # revocation-check none

3. CLI to Push RUM Report

license smart sync all

(optional) configure HTTP client source interface

(config) # ip http client source-interface <Interface-Name>

Product Registration URL

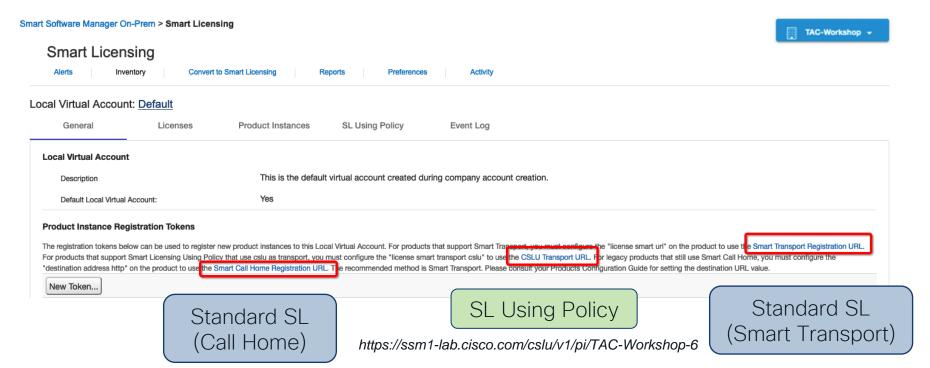
https://<On-Prem-FQDN>/cslu/v1/pi/TAC-Workshop-6

Press ctrl + c to copy selected text to clipboard.

No CRL check for TLS certificate self-signed by On-Prem



On-Prem: Registration URL vs CSLU Transport URL



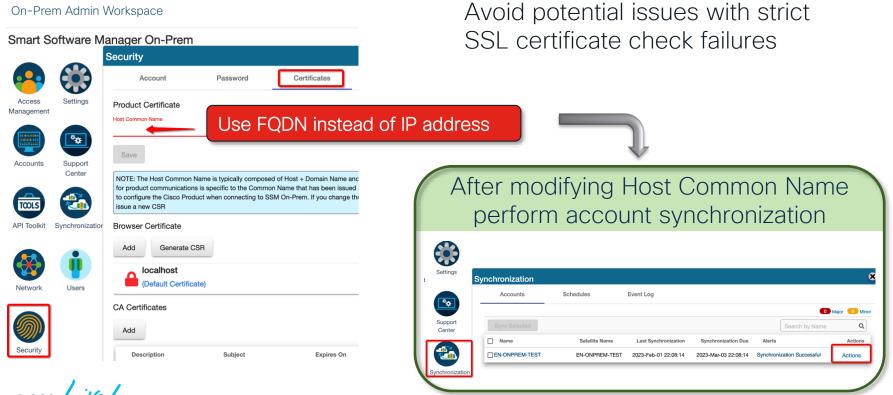
https://ssm1-lab.cisco.com/Transportgateway/services/DeviceRequestHandler

https://ssm1-lab.cisco.com/SmartTransport



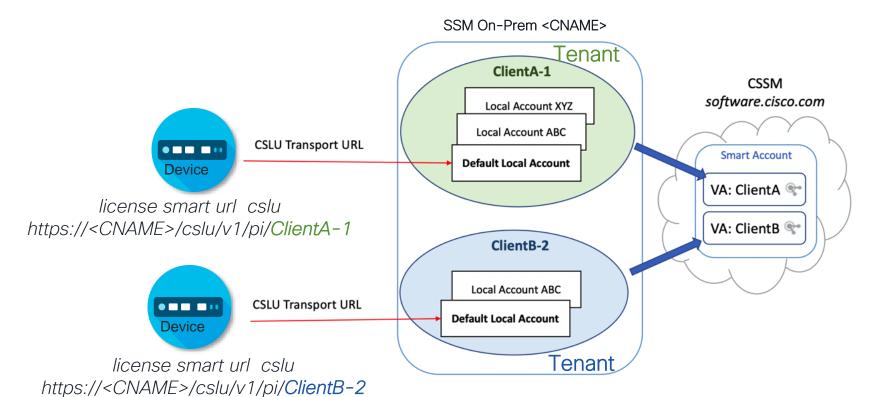


On-Prem: Host Common Name





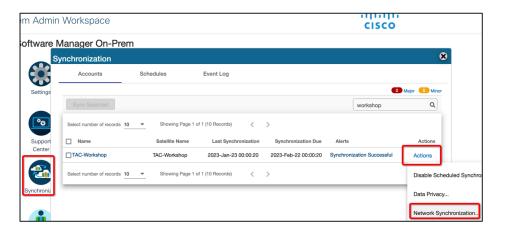
On-Prem: Tenants & Local Accounts



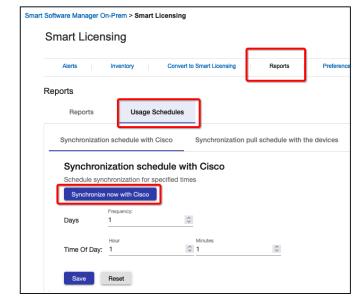


On-Prem: Account sync vs SLP license usage sync

- Admin workspace -> Synchronization
 - Every 30 days or on-demand
 - Standard SL + license count
 - RUM reports for SLP are not included



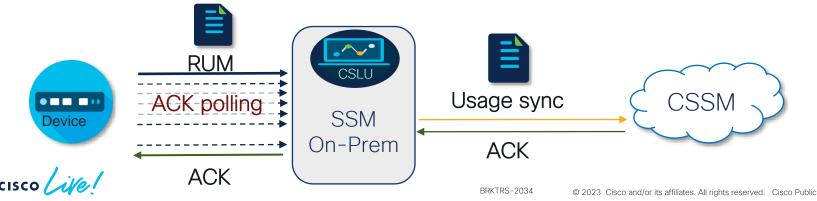
- Licensing workspace -> Reports tab
 - SLP usage sync (1:01 AM daily)
 - Manual: "Synchronize now with Cisco"





On-Prem: SLP Sync with CSSM (demistyfied)

- RUM report sent to OnPrem.
- Product Instance starts polling for ACK every 5 mins
- OnPrem syncs daily with CSSM (obtains ACK for pending RUMs)
 - or manual sync through "Synchronize with Cisco"
- OnPrem responds with ACK upon next check from Product Instance



HSECk9 via SSM On-Prem



- ➤ Make Product Instance known to SSM On-Prem and CSSM:
 - 1. Push RUM report to SSM On-Prem
 - 2. Perform SLP sync with CSSM
 - 3. Wait for ACK on Product Instance



- > [CSSM] Generate Auth Code for Product Instance, save it as Auth File
- > [SSM On-Prem] Import Auth File
- > [Product Instance] Trigger SLAC request

license feature hseck9

or

license smart authorization request add hseck9 local

Automated through Bulk Auth (available in SSM 8-202206 and IOS-XE 17.7.x)

> SSM On-Prem already has the Auth Code (Auth File) and will respond

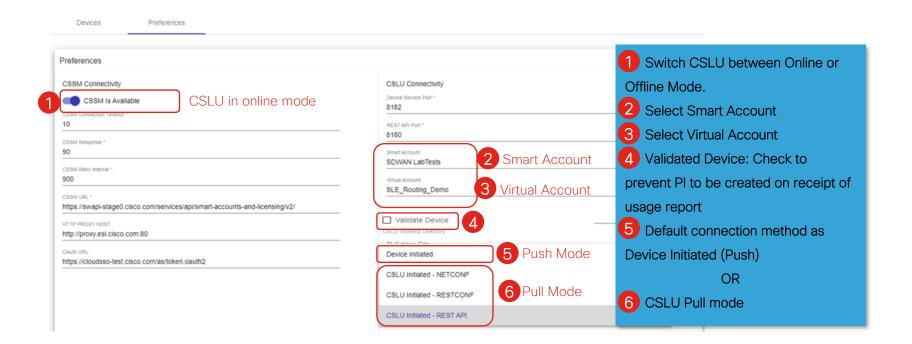


SLP CSLU





CSLU Preferences (Administration Panel)





SLP Connected through CSLU - Push Mode

Config on Product Instance

Config on CSLU for Push Mode

CSLU URL Config

(config)# license smart transport cslu

2. CSLU Discovery

Option 1: Use DNS to resolve cslu-local

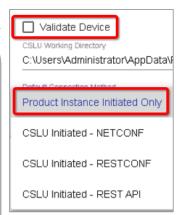
Option 2: Use DNS to resolve cslu-local.<domain_name>

Option 3: Specify CSLU IP address in CSLU URL:

(config)# license smart url cslu http://<cslu-ip>:8182/cslu/v1/pi

(optional) configure HTTP client source interface

(config)# ip http client source-interface <interface>



Leave un-selected

SLP Connected through CSLU - Pull Mode

Config on Product Instance

1. CSLU URL Config

(config) # license smart transport cslu

(optional) configure HTTP client source interface

(config) # ip http client source-interface <interface>

(optional) if NETCONF is used

(config) # netconf-yang

(optional) if RESTCONF is used

(config)# ip http secure-server

(config) # restconf

(config) # ip http authentication local

Config on CSLU for Pull Mode

1. Add devices manually in CSLU or perform bulk upload with .csv file



2. Select Product Instance(s) and click "Collect Usage"





CSLU with HTTPS

Collect CSLU certificate from CSLU (<working_dir>/conf) and upload it to the IOSXE device



Router(config)#crypto pki trustpoint CSLU
Router(ca-trustpoint)#enrollment terminal

Name

cslu.conf

a cslu.crt

Router# more bootflash:cslu.crt <base 64 encoded certificate displayed>

Type: Security Certificate Size: 1.06 KB

Date modified: 12/4/2020 1:03 AM

Router(config) #crypto pki authenticate CSLU

By This PC > Local Disk (C:) > Users > Administrator > AppData > Roaming > CSLU > conf

Date modified

4/24/2021 10:35 AM

12/4/2020 1:03 AM

1014/2020 1:03 AM

Enter the base 64 encoded CA certificate.
----BEGIN CERTIFICATE---<...>
----END CERTIFICATE----

- % Do you accept this certificate? [yes/no]: yes
 % Certificate successfully imported
- Router(config) #license smart url cslu https://<IP-addr>:8543/cslu/v1/pi

- Create a new trustpoint on the device
- Display the contents of the .crt file
- Import the CSLU certificate under the new trustpoint
- Configure CSLU URL using HTTPS and port 8543



Size

2 KB

2 KB

2 KB

CONF File

KEY File

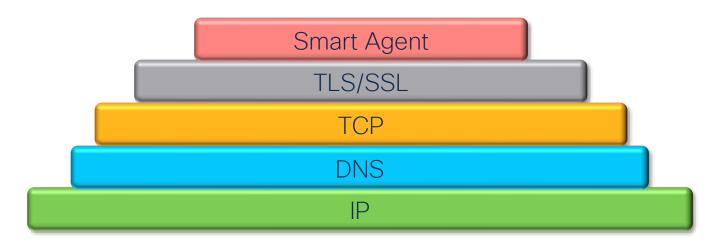
Security Certificate

Troubleshooting Smart Licensing



Is it a Smart Licensing problem?

- Identify the actual troublemaker
- More than one layer might be causing the issue





Useful IOS-XE commands for troubleshooting SLP

- show license status
- show license summary
- show license all
- show license tech support
- show crypto pki trustpoint

One-stop-shop output

show tech license

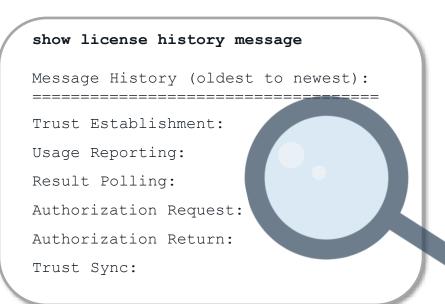


- show license eventlog [days]
- show license history message
- SL related events
- SL messages exchanged with CSSM / SSM On-Prem



Licensing communications details

View messages (XML format) sent between device and CSSM / SSM On-Prem



- Did the device send the request?
- Was the response received?
- Any errors reported?

Viewing RUM reports



Examine the status and contents of RUM reports

IOS-XE 17.6.x and older

(config)# service internal
#test license smart rum id-list

IOS-XE 17.7.x and newer

#show license rum id all

test license smart rum id-list

report_id:1673725840 state:SmartAgentRumStateUnacknowledged report_id:1673725841 state:SmartAgentRumStateUnacknowledged report_id:1673725842 state:SmartAgentRumStateOpen report_id:1673725843 state:SmartAgentRumStateOpen

test license smart rum show 1673725843
 <snip>

show license rum id all

Smart Licensing Usage Report:

Report Id State Flag Feature Name
1673377132 UNACK E Frror network-advantage_100M
1673377133 OPEN N Normal network-advantage 100M

show license rum id 1673377133 detail

<snip>



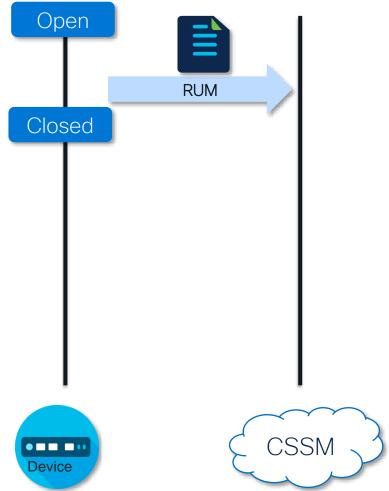
RUM state	Description
Open	New report created by Smart Agent on the device





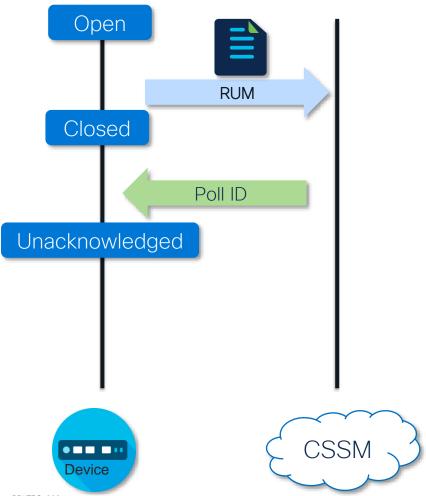


RUM state	Description
Open	New report created by Smart Agent on the device
Closed	RUM report sent to CSSM or saved locally



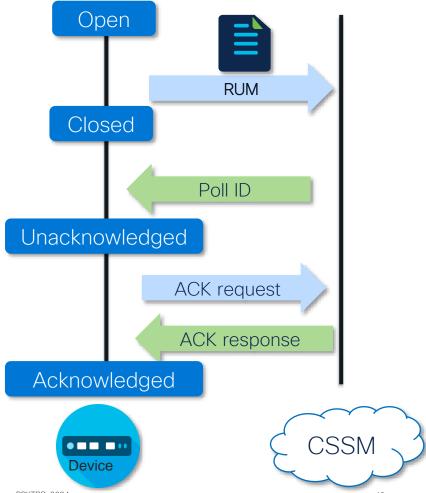


RUM state	Description
Open	New report created by Smart Agent on the device
Closed	RUM report sent to CSSM or saved locally
Unacknowledged	RUM report pending acknowledgement from CSSM (poll ID provided)





RUM state	Description
Open	New report created by Smart Agent on the device
Closed	RUM report sent to CSSM or saved locally
Unacknowledged	RUM report pending acknowledgement from CSSM (poll ID provided)
Acknowledged	RUM acknowledged by CSSM





Useful debugs and traces

- HTTP layer:
 - debug ip http client all

- Crypto layer:
 - debug crypto pki [...]
 - debug ssl openssl msg
- Smart Agent layer:
 - show log process iosrp module smart-agent internal start last <X>

```
status = 8
sta_free() is entered
stas_free(): response data freed
stas_free(): response data freed
status: is entered. tid (2136), status (220), err_string (Service Unavailable)
status: set tid (2136) resp status to failure

sunavailable
stat: charset=iso-8859-1

//ools.cisco.com/its/service/oddce/services/DDCEServicefailed, tid (2136), response
stable)

//outps://tools.cisco.com/its/service/oddce/services/DDCEService" failed, rc 220, error

suntered, url = https://tools.cisco.com/its/service/oddce/services/DDCEService
stack(), get http server identity check
surl https://tools.cisco.com/its/service/oddce/services/DDCEService, sid 2, len 15548,
stam_source_interface() set http resolve-hostname from source interface
```

On-Prem: monitoring license usage reporting

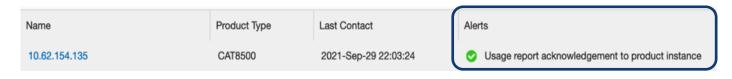
• RUM pushed by the device:



SLP Sync with CSSM completed:



ACK pushed to the device upon the next ACK poll:





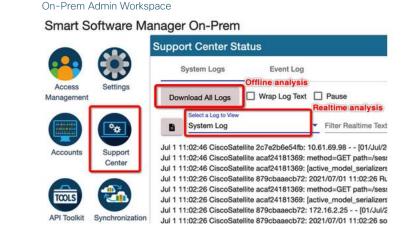
On-Prem: System logs and DB dump [Admin WS]

System logs:

- Offline analysis: Download All Logs
- · Real-time analysis: System Log

Database Backup collection:

- 1. Connect as admin and log into the console
- 2. Select the destination, start the DB backup
- 3. Collect the backup file for analysis



\$onprem-console

\$database backup

<...>

Database successfully backed up to [destination directory]: /var/files/backups/onprem-8-202206-2022072016822.sql.qz



Case Studies



CSLU: Unable to resolve server hostname

```
%SMART_LIC-3-COMM_FAILED: Communications failure with the Cisco Smart License Utility (CSLU): Unable to resolve server hostname/domain name
```

- With default config in place (CSLU Transport) RUM reports get sent to "cslu-local"
- Example trace message from IOSRP tracelogs:

```
{IOSRP R0-0}{1}: [smart-agent] SAUtilReport-URL[http://cslu-local.domain.cisco.com:8182/cslu/v1/pi/hello]
```

Solution:

→ configure DNS server to resolve *cslu-local* into the IP address of the CSLU (zero-touch)

or

→ configure CSLU URL pointing to CSLU IP address:

```
(config) # license smart url cslu http://x.x.x.x:8182/cslu/v1/pi
```



CSSM Reachability Issues

```
%SMART LIC-3-COMM FAILED: Communications failure with the Cisco Smart
Software Manager (CSSM): No detailed information given
```

→ HTTPS communication with CSSM could not be established

- → Determine which interface should be the source interface (e.g. management port?)
- → Check if correct HTTP client source interface is configured
- → Check if smartreceiver.cisco.com / tools.cisco.com is resolved into IP address
- → Check if smartreceiver.cisco.com / tools.cisco.com is reachable on TCP port 443
- → Clock not in sync (NTP disabled?)

%PKI-2-NON AUTHORITATIVE CLOCK: PKI functions can not be initialized until an authoritative time source, like NTP, can be obtained.

→ Collect debugs (http client, ssl, pki)



No RUM reports sent

```
Router# show license status
<..>
Usage Reporting:
 Last ACK received: <none>
 Next ACK deadline: <none>
 Reporting push interval: 0 (no reporting)
 Next ACK push check: <none>
 Next report push: <none>
 Last report push: <none>
 Last report file write: <none>
Router# show license summary
License Usage:
                Entitlement Tag Count Status
  License
  No licenses in use
Router#test license smart rum-report id-list
No report in device
```

```
Router# show version
<..>

License Type: Perpetual
License Level: <empty>
Next reload license Level: <empty>
License Type: Subscription
License Level: <empty>
Next reload license Level: <empty>
```

Solution:

- 1. Configure "license boot level..."
- 2. Save the config
- 3. Reload

BRKTRS-2034

No ACK received from On-Prem

```
Router# show license status
<...>
Usage Reporting:
Last ACK received: <none>
Next ACK deadline: Apr 23 20:54:13 2023 UTC
Reporting push interval: 30 days
Next ACK push check: Jan 23 22:49:06 2023 UTC
Next report push: Feb 22 20:49:32 2023 UTC
Last report push: Jan 23 20:49:15 2023 UTC
Last report file write: <none>
```

• "Next ACK push check" updated every 5 minutes

- Collect:
 - show license eventlog
 - show license history message
- Confirm RUM was successfully sent out
- Confirm On-Prem responded with Poll ID
- In On-Prem GUI (Licensing Workspace) navigate to:
 - Reports → Usage Schedules and click "Synchronize now with Cisco"
- Allow 5-10 minutes and verify if ACK was received on Product Instance



High CPU due to a number of RUM reports

```
C9300#show process cpu sorted
CPU utilization for five seconds: 100%/1%; one minute: 61%; five minutes: 28%
PID Runtime(ms) Invoked uSecs 5Sec 1Min 5Min TTY Process
662 272007421 19185503 14177 60.00% 45.62% 13.41% 0 SAGetRUMIds
150 310763355 20821285 14925 38.03% 12.50% 13.43% 0 SAUtilRepSave
```

Buildup of unacknowledged RUM reports due to a communication issue (ACK not received)

Workaround:

- → Set Transport Mode to "OFF"
 - No new RUM reports will be generated
- → Licensing Factory Reset
 - Clear all saved smart licensing information:
 - Trust code + RUM reports + reporting timestamps + SLAC



```
Device #license smart factory reset %Warning: reload required after "license smart factory reset" command
```

License consumed from incorrect account

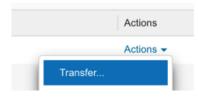


Which Virtual Account do we actually communicate with?

- Device connecting directly to CSSM Wirtual Account determined by Token-ID
- Device connected to CSLU wirtual Account selected in CSLU config
- Device connected to On-Prem Wirtual Account determined by CSLU Transport URL
- Device air-gapped / off-line RUM report uploaded manually to Virtual Account

Workaround:

Transfer the Product Instance to the correct Virtual Account (along with licenses it consumes)



Wrapping Up



Key Takeaways

- > In SLP all unenforced licenses are authorized by default
- > RUM report created for each license in use
- ➤ License reporting intervals determined by policy
- > By default the SLP transport refers to CSLU modify as needed
- > Smart Transport preferred over Call Home
- Verify connectivity before claiming licensing problem
- > "License factory reset" is the last resort remedy (reload required)



Related Sessions@Cisco Live 2023

Smart Licensing with CSSM On-Prem - LABOPS-1159

Hands-on with Smart Licensing using Policy - LABOPS-1007

Cisco DNA Center Licensing for Campus Networks - BRKOPS-2019

Introduction to Smart Licensing using Policy - LTROPS-1007



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- Please complete your session survey after each session. Your feedback is very important.
- Complete a minimum of 4 session surveys and the Overall Conference survey (open from Thursday) to receive your Cisco Live t-shirt.



https://www.ciscolive.com/emea/learn/sessions/session-catalog.html





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Visit the On-Demand Library for more sessions at <u>ciscolive.com/on-demand</u>.





Thank you



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SSM On-Prem - important updates

- >8-202102: support for SLP (integrated CSLU)
- >8-202108: support for proxy between On-Prem and CSSM + fixes
- >8-202112: support for SLP Bulk Auth Code + fixes
- >8-202201: suport for License Hierarchy + fixes
- >8-202206: support for MSLA, PI Hostname + fixes
- >8-202212: support for TLS 1.3, SAN extension to Host CNAME,

API enhancements + fixes





CSLU 2.0 Key Features/Enhancements

- ➤ Bulk Authorization support for SLAC
- ➤ Hostname feature for SLP products, push and pull modes
- >Trust request support so customers can get trust code also via CSLU
- Scalability fixes for large RUM reports, duplicate RUM reports, etc...
- ➤ Diagnostic Logging for faster customer case resolution.



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