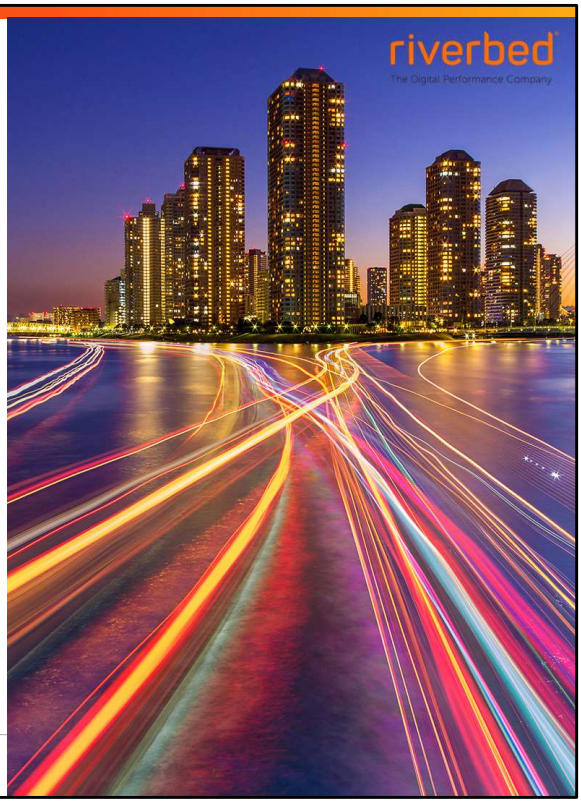
Learning Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Describe the SteelCentral Controller for SteelHead (SCC).
- Setup and operate the SCC.
- Manage your configurations with the SCC.
- Manage your software with the SCC.



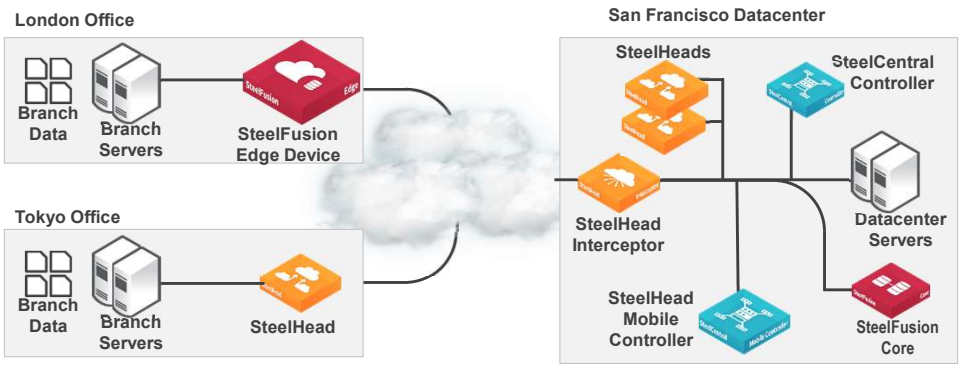
Key Points

- For deployments of more than a handful of SteelHead appliances the SteelCentral Controller (SCC) adds simplification and scalability.
- The SCC uses groups and policies to manage the appliances.
- For SSL optimization, the management of certificates and trust relationships can be greatly simplified using the SCC's certificate authority signing services.

The SCC's Certificate Authority capability greatly simplifies SteelHead peering trusts, and can generate proxy certificates for bypassed servers.

SCC Overview

- Management and reporting for SteelHead family appliances
  - Simplifies deployment, configuration, monitoring, and upgrading
  - Available as physical or virtual appliance



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Configuration: The SteelCentral Controller (SCC) enables you to automatically configure new appliances or to send configuration settings to appliances in remote offices. The SCC utilizes configuration objects (policies and groups) to facilitate centralized configuration and reporting.

Monitoring: The SCC provides both high-level status and detailed statistics of the performance of appliances and enables you to configure event notification for managed appliances.

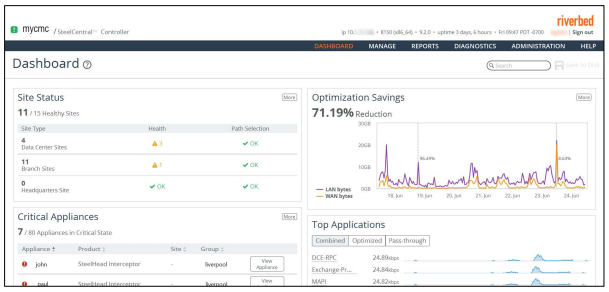
Management: The SCC enables you to start, stop, restart, and reboot remote appliances. You can also schedule jobs to send software upgrades and configuration changes to remote appliances or to collect logs from remote appliances.

Partial Federation: You can put any appliance into branch-managed mode to prevent configuration changes or maintenance operations from the SCC. The SCC continues to monitor and gather statistics from appliances that are branch managed.

Operations History: The Operations History page lists all of the actions related to configuring SteelHead appliances that have been performed and tells you if they were successful or not.

SCC Highlights
Overview

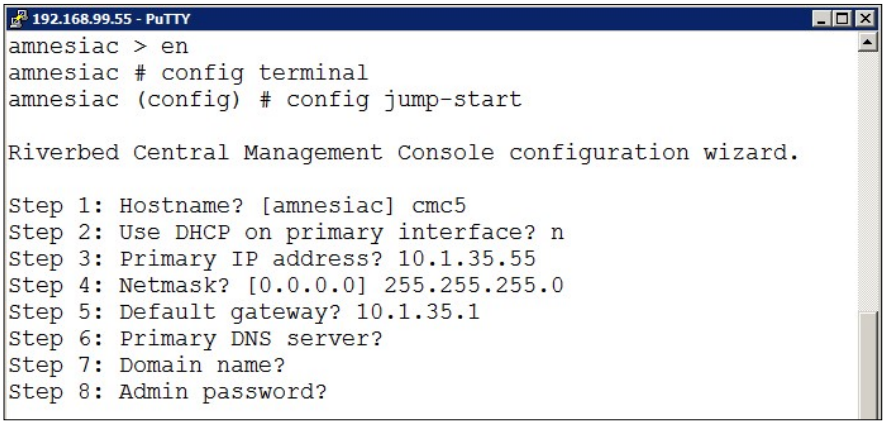
- Configures SteelHeads & Interceptors
- Status info for SteelHead Mobile Controllers and SteelFusion devices
- Monitoring: both high-level status and detailed statistics
- Maintenance: image updates, restarts, reboots, & more
- Troubleshooting: centralized system & TCP dumps



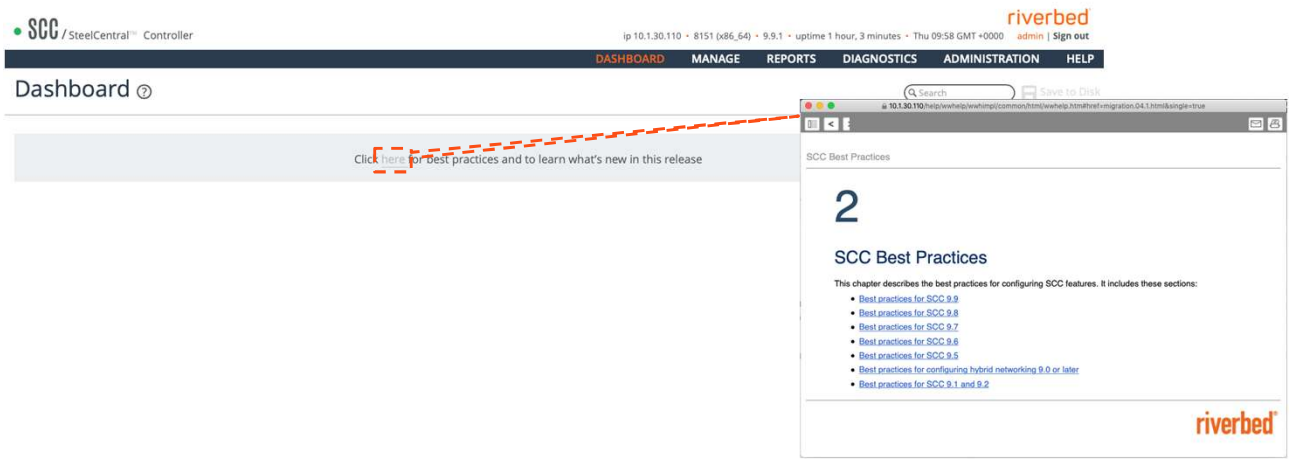
- Operation History
- SteelHead firmware library for centralized updates
- Import existing SteelHead configurations
- CLI command broadcasting
- Touchless SteelHead configuration
- Secure appliance communications
    - HTTPS access to CMC
    - SH to CMC communications over SSH
    - Radius / TACACS+ authentication

SCC Startup & Operations (Op's) – Jumpstart Wizard

- Wizard from the console for initial Primary interface configuration



SCC Startup & Op's – SCC Best Practices/RIs Notes



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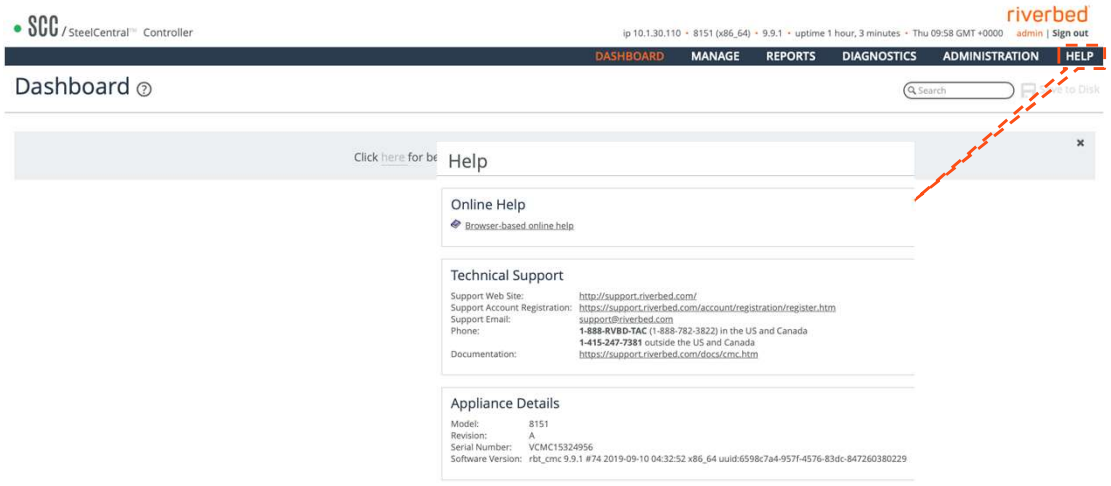
Welcome Widget - Click Learn More to view migration best practices for 9.0 and later, including how to set up sites, applications, path selection, QoS, and pushing configurations. Click the X to hide the widget.

SCC Startup & Op's – Help Menu

Documentation and Help



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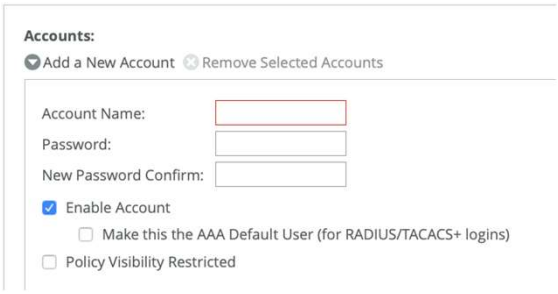
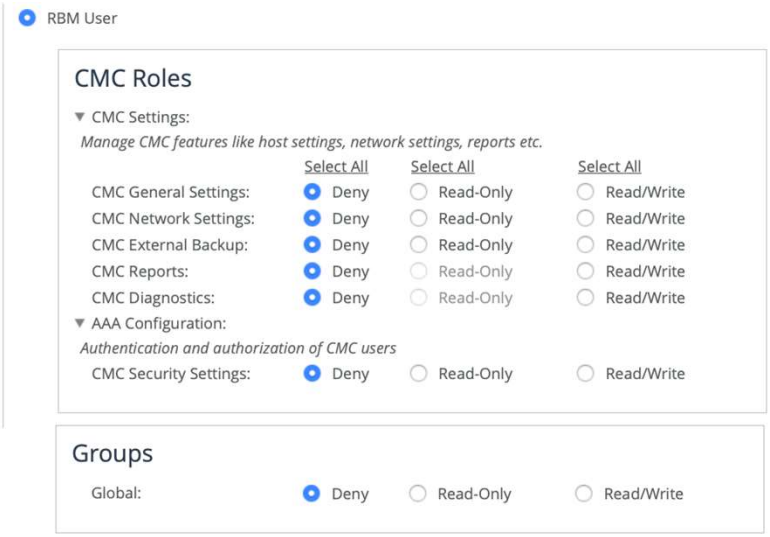
SCC Startup & Op's – Role Based Administration (RBA)

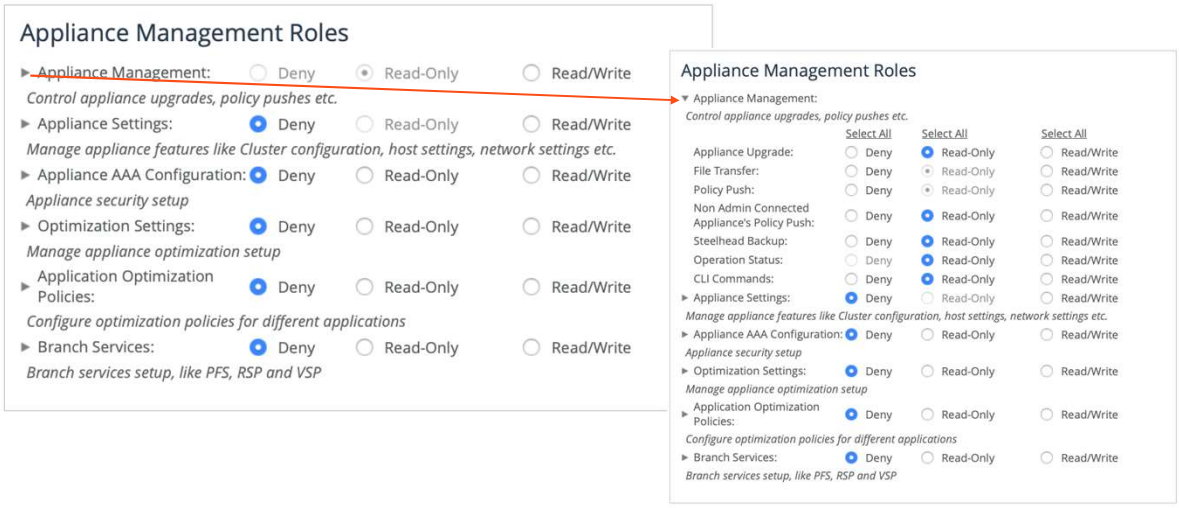
- Administration > Security > User Permissions
- Allows specific privilege levels
- Supported authentication integration methods:
  - Local (on SCC, the default)
  - RADIUS
  - TACACS
  - SAML



SCC Startup & Op's – RBA & SCC Settings



SCC Startup & Op's – RBA & Appliance Settings



SCC Startup & Op's – Backups & Scheduled Op's

- SteelCentral Controller and SteelHead configuration are full backups
- Statistics (data for reporting) backups are incremental
- Configuration and statistic backups can be scheduled separately
- Protocol can be CIFS, NFS, or SSH
- Backups can be configured as one-time or recurring
- Shows status of idle, success, running, or failed

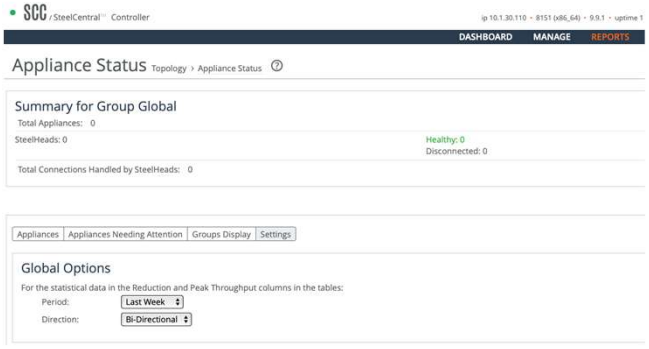
For SteelCentral Controller - typically, you do not need to use backups. Riverbed recommends that you restore an appliance to health by resending its configuration policies.

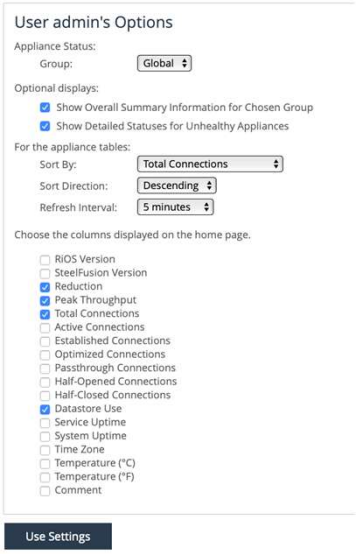
Backup/Restore Enhancement
The SteelCentral Controller now makes a distinction between the SteelCentral Controller's own configuration and nightly appliance backups (now called Appliance Configuration Snapshots) when backing up to or restoring from an external location. Additionally, nightly backups are only copied incrementally if SteelCentral Controller external appliance backups have a recurrence defined.

A status of idle indicates that there is no backup or restore history. The system does not retain a record of backup and restore statuses from prior to system startup (including reboots).

SCC Startup & Op's – SCC Dashboard

- Contains an overview of the current status
- Customizable per user, (Under Reports >Topology > Appliance Status > Settings)





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After you connect to the SCC Management Console, the Dashboard appears. The Dashboard provides a general overview regarding the status of your SCC, including site status, the status of configured appliances, and optimization savings.

Site Status - Displays the health status of sites by site type; for example branch office or data center and its location. In addition, it lists the path selection status for each site.

Optimized Savings - Summarizes the overall inbound and outbound bandwidth improvements for your network at specified time intervals.

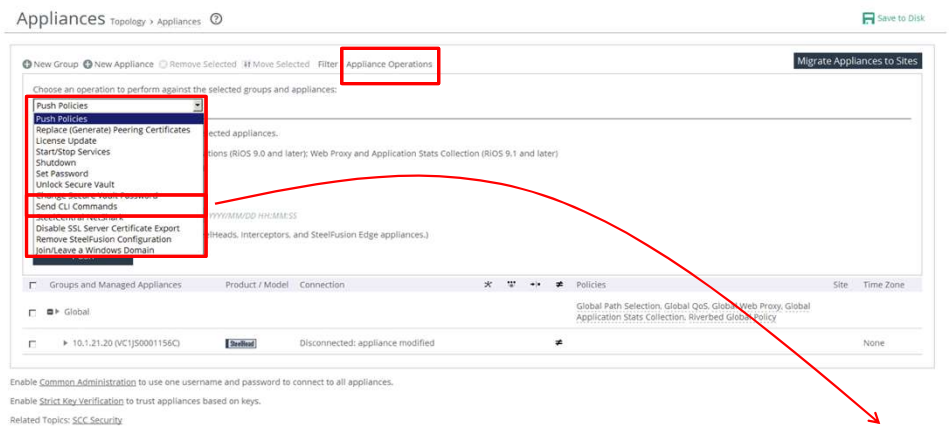
Top Applications - Top Applications on the Dashboard provide you with a summary of bandwidth reduction across applications for optimized, pass-through, and combined (optimized and pass through) traffic for the top ten applications in the network. Application statistics help you make optimization policy decisions and allocate resources appropriately. Top Applications provides historical data for up to one week for the entire network.

Byte counts - Refers to Layer 3 packet size (that is, the IP header plus the payload) without the potential tunnel overhead or higher layer retransmissions. Mouse over the data for each application to view the WAN throughput. Click the application name to go to the Applications Details page where you can view throughput data.

Critical Appliances - Provides a table of configured appliances that are currently in a Critical state. The table lists the appliance name, Riverbed appliance type (for example SteelHead or SteelHead EX), the hardware model, software version, site, and group. To view appliance details, click View Appliance. To connect to the appliance, click Console.

Appliance Administration

Perform actions on appliances / groups of appliances

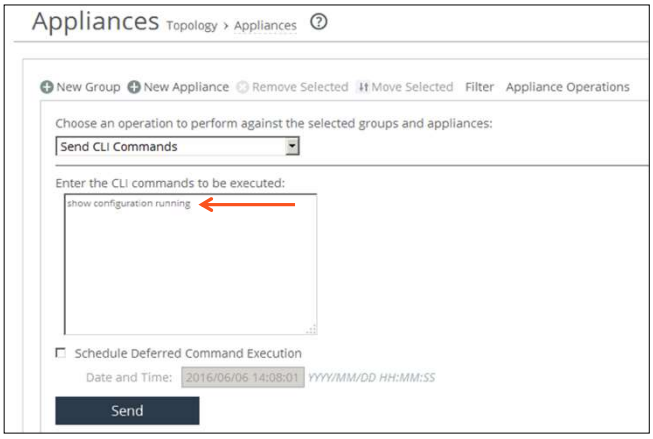


Next slide…

You can perform different appliance operations in the **Manage > Appliances page - Appliance Operations** tab.

Appliance Administration – CLI Broadcasting

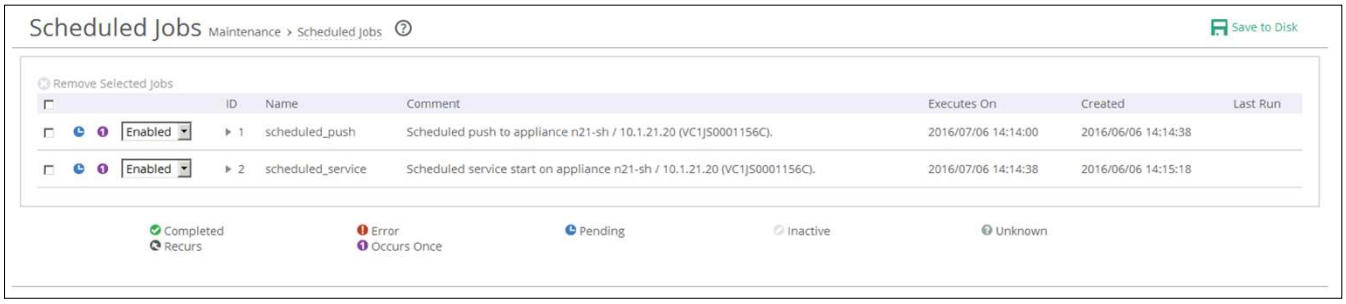
- Quickly send CLI commands to a group of SteelHead appliances
- Send immediately or schedule for later
- Assumes a “conf t” mode



You can send CLI commands to selected appliances and appliance groups in the **Manage > Topology > Appliances** page.

Scheduled Jobs

- Ability to schedule any configuration push
- Scheduler built into software upgrade mechanism
- Job Management interface for job status



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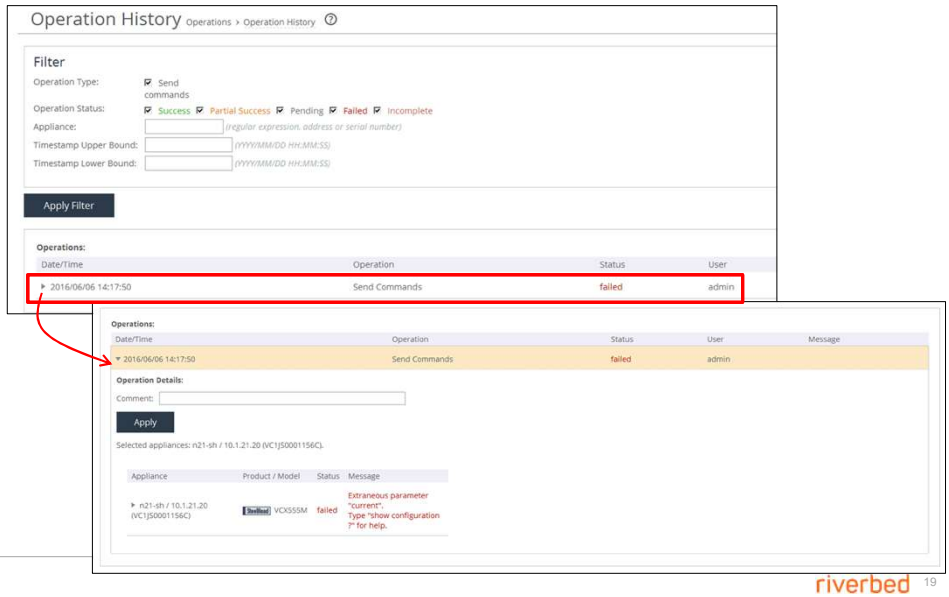
You can view completed, pending and inactive jobs, as well as jobs that were not completed because of an error in the **Administration > Maintenance > Scheduled Jobs** page.

Jobs are CLI commands that execute at a time you specify.

The only jobs you can schedule using the SteelCentral Controller GUI are software upgrades and configuration pushes; for all other jobs, you must use the CLI.

Operation History

- View operations applied to SteelHead appliances and groups
- Search filter by date/time, event, or type



You can view the operation history for the system, including the ID, time stamp, type, and the status of the operation in the **Manage > Operation History** page. You can open each operation in the history to view operation details, including the serial number of the appliance, current status of the operation for the appliance, and messages associated with the operation. For more information, see the *SteelHead Management Console User's Guide*.

Users can view the operation history of only those appliances and appliance groups for which they have permission.

Configuration Management (Config Mgmt) – Appliance Registration

- Appliances communicate over two connections
  - SSH
  - HTTPS
- Connections can be made manually or automatically
- Automatic registration requires DNS
  - All RiOS devices try to resolve riverbedcmc regularly
  - If resolved correctly they will auto-register
- If the Serial Number is added to the SCC it can be automatically configured and even upgraded after registration – *Touchless!*

You can manage remote appliances in the Appliances page. SteelHeads must be registered with the SCC so that you can monitor and manage them with the SCC.

SteelHeads are designed to send a registration request periodically to the SCC so that they're automatically registered. If can take up to an hour for all registered SteelHeads to appear in the Appliances page.

An unregistered SteelHead appears on the Appliances page with the error "NO ADDRESS SPECIFIED." You can manually add the SteelHead in the Appliances page.

Adding a Riverbed appliance creates a connection between the SCC and the appliance.

After you have registered an appliance, you can configure features and push configurations to remote appliances by group or for individual appliances using the SCC. The SCC collects statistics, health, and connection history information from registered appliances.

If you have SteelHeads that are behind a firewall you can run a CLI command that creates an SSL authorized port.

Config Mgmt – Registration CLI Commands

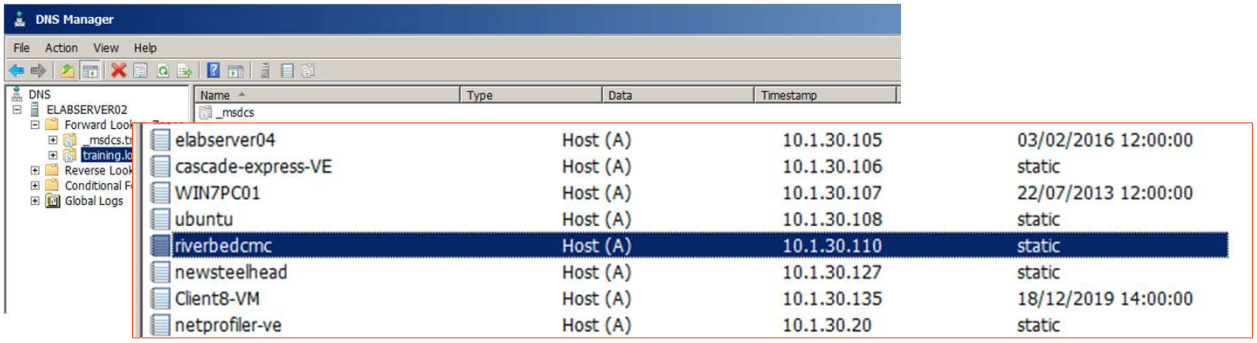
```
hostname$ ssh -l admin 10.1.30.26
Riverbed SteelHead
admin@10.1.30.26's password:
Last login: Thu Jan 30 11:01:14 2020
VCX255-B > en
VCX255-B # show cmc
CMC auto-registration enabled:       yes
CMC auto-registration hostname:      riverbedcmc
Managed by CMC:                      yes
CMC hostname:                        SCC (10.1.30.110)
Auto configuration status:           Inactive
Last message sent to cmc:            Auto-registration
Time that message was sent:          Thu Jan 30 11:02:12 2020
VCX255-B #
```

```
VCX255-B # show scc
Auto-registration:                Enabled
HTTPS connection (to the SCC):
        Status:                   Connected
        Hostname:                 riverbedcmc
SSH connection (from the SCC):
        Status:                   Connected
        Hostname:                 SCC (10.1.30.110)
```

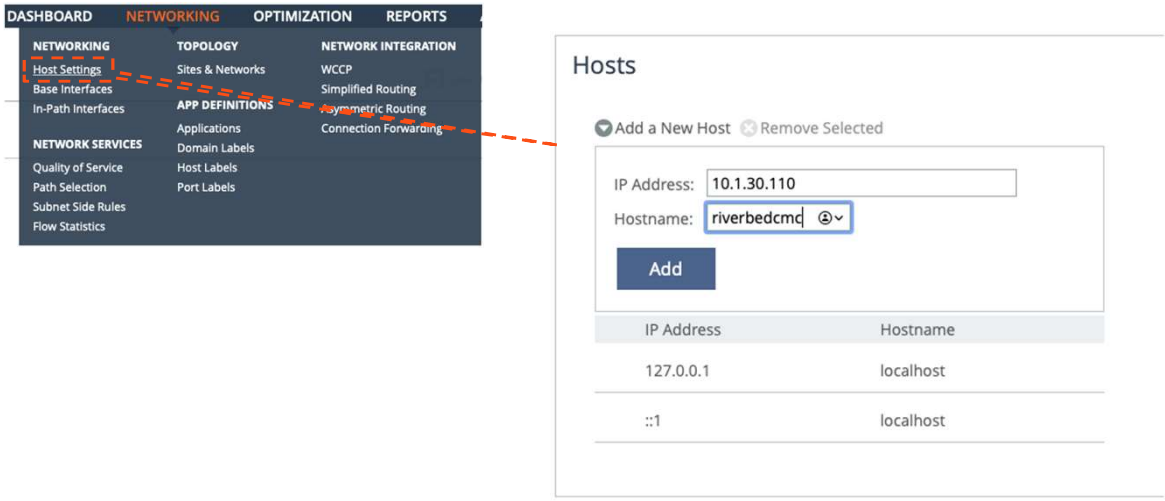
```
VCX255-A (config) # cmc ?
enable           Enable auto-registration with CMC
hostname         Set the CMC hostname used for auto-registration
VCX255-A (config) # scc ?
enable           Enable auto-registration with SCC
hostname         Hostname of the SCC.
VCX255-A (config) # scc
```

Config Mgmt – Auto-Registration: Using DNS

- DNS or Hostname Configuration is required
- Best Practice use NTP as well



Config Mgmt – Auto-Registration: Using Hostname, GUI

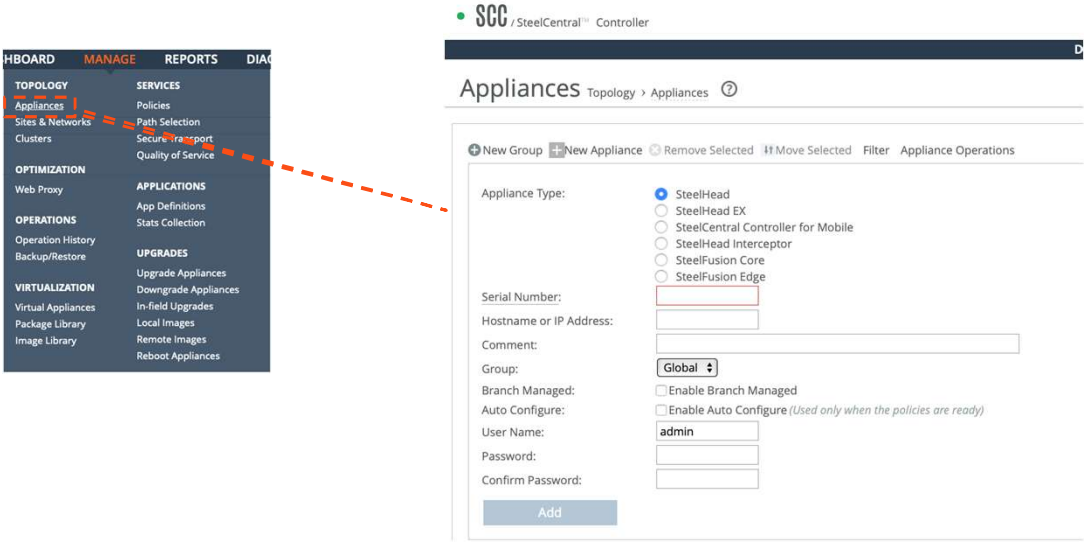


Config Mgmt – Auto-Registration: Using Hostname, CLI

```
VCX255-B (config) # ip host riverbedcmc 10.1.30.110
```

```
VCX255-B (config) # ping riverbedcmc
PING riverbedcmc (10.1.30.110) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from riverbedcmc (10.1.30.110): icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.267 ms
64 bytes from riverbedcmc (10.1.30.110): icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.403 ms
64 bytes from riverbedcmc (10.1.30.110): icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.388 ms
^C
--- riverbedcmc ping statistics ---
3 packets transmitted, 3 received, 0% packet loss, time 2676ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.267/0.352/0.403/0.064 ms
```

Config Mgmt – Manual Registration

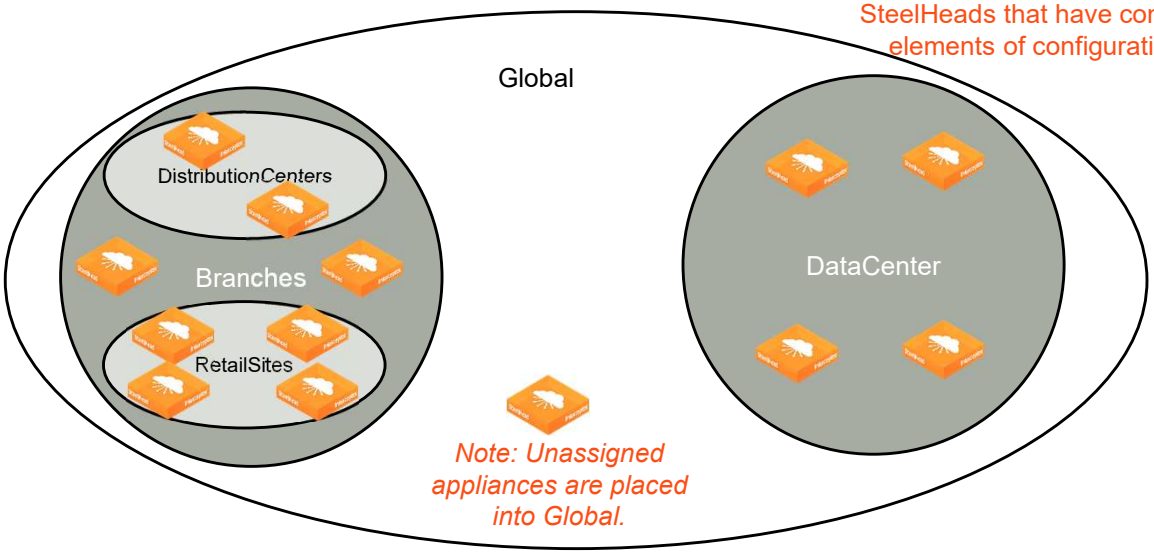


Config Mgmt – SteelHead Configuration Aspects

- Create groups
  - Populate the groups with SteelHeads
- Create policies
  - Add pages to the policies
    - Configure the pages
- Assign the policies to groups
- Push the policies
  - Check the Operations History
- …all explained on the following pages

Config Mgmt – Groups, SteelHeads, Policies

Groups should be created for SteelHeads that have common elements of configuration.



There is a limit of 256 groups… if you call that a limitation.

Config Mgmt – Policy Examples

Global-Policy
Pages
- Time/Date
- DNS
- Syslog
- SNMP
- Flow Statistics
- Secure Peering
- Announcements

DC-Policy
Pages
- Domain Join
- Service Accounts
- Simplified Routing
- General Service Settings
- SMB2/3
- In-path Rules
- Peering Rules
- SSL Advanced

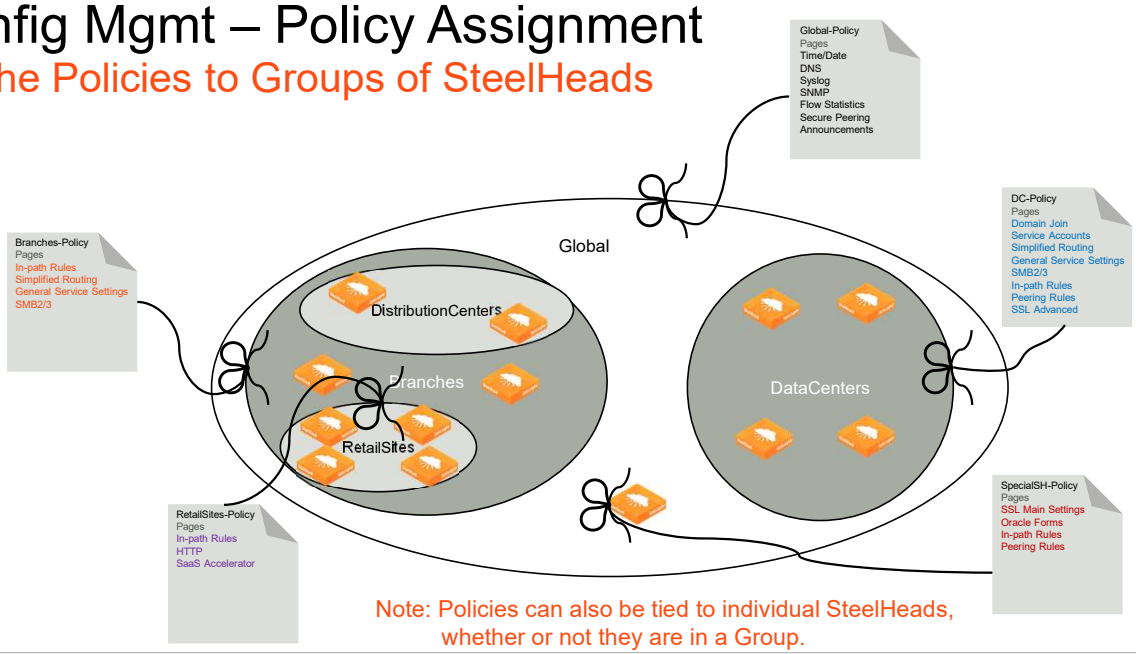
Branches-Policy
Pages
- In-path Rules
- Simplified Routing
- General Service Settings
- SMB2/3

RetailSites-Policy
Pages
- In-path Rules
- HTTP
- SaaS Accelerator

Note: The SCC will only configure the pages included in the push. All other pages/settings will stay as they are.

Config Mgmt – Policy Assignment

Tie the Policies to Groups of SteelHeads



Note: Policies can also be tied to individual SteelHeads, whether or not they are in a Group.

Config Mgmt – Policy Inheritance

Hierarchy & Inheritance of Policies

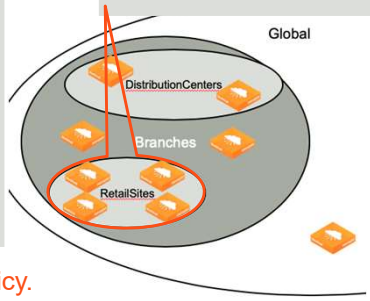
Global-Policy Pages
- Time/Date
- DNS
- Syslog
- SNMP
- Flow Statistics
- Secure Peering
- Announcements

Branches-Policy Pages
- In-path Rules
- Simplified Routing
- General Service Settings
- SMB2/3

Retail-Policy Pages
- In-path Rules
- HTTP
- SaaS Accelerator

RetailSites Pages
- Time/Date
- DNS
- Syslog
- SNMP
- Flow Statistics
- Secure Peering
- Announcements
- In-path Rules
- Simplified Routing
- General Service Settings
- SMB2/3
- HTTP
- SaaS Accelerator

Push from the SCC to RetailSites

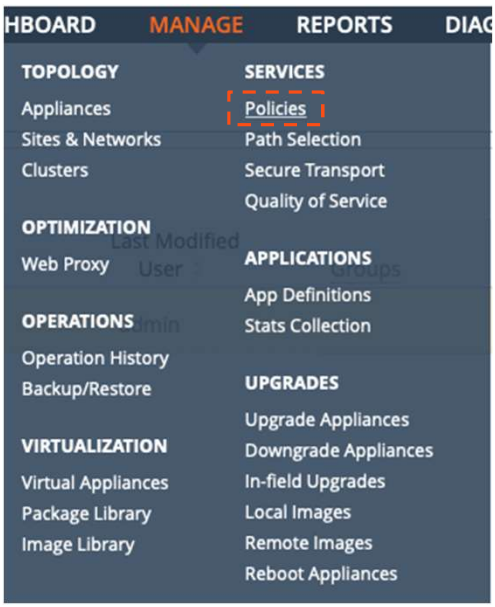


Note: The Retail-Policy overwrites the in-path Rules page of the Branches Policy.

Config Mgmt – Policy Creation

Create a Policy

- Manually
- Copy an existing policy and adjust it
- Import from a SteelHead
- Merge existing policies together



Config Mgmt – Merge Two or More Policies

- A group can have any number of policies assigned
- However, of course, each policy must have exclusive pages or you will not be allowed to apply it
- You can tidy up policies by merging them together

Config Mgmt – Policy Merge Example

Merging Two or More Policies

Global-Policy Pages

- Time/Date
- DNS
- Syslog
- SNMP
- Flow Statistics
- Secure Peering
- Announcements

Global-Policy-2 Pages

- In-path Rules
- Simplified Routing
- General Service Settings
- SMB2/3

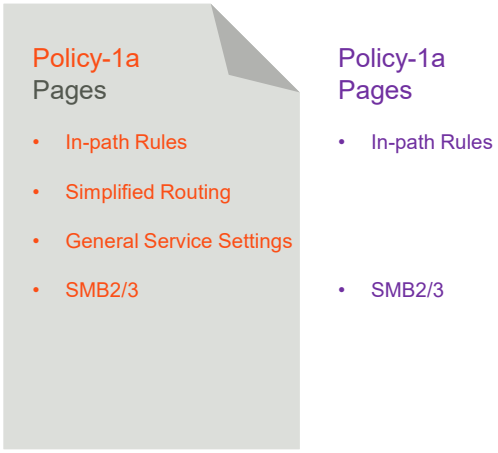
Merged-Global Pages

Config Mgmt – Simplify Policy Rollback

Workflow & Consideration to Use Policies for Rollback

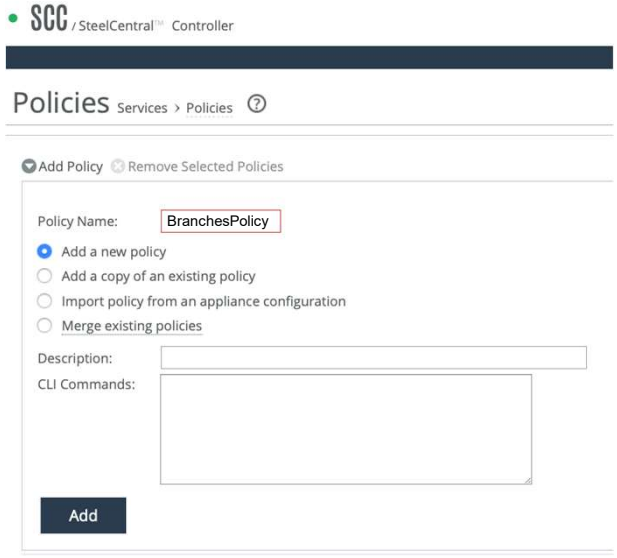
1. Create a new policy by copying the old one
2. Un-apply the old policy, and apply the new one to the group
3. Make your changes to the new policy and Push

- You can easily reverse the change if needed

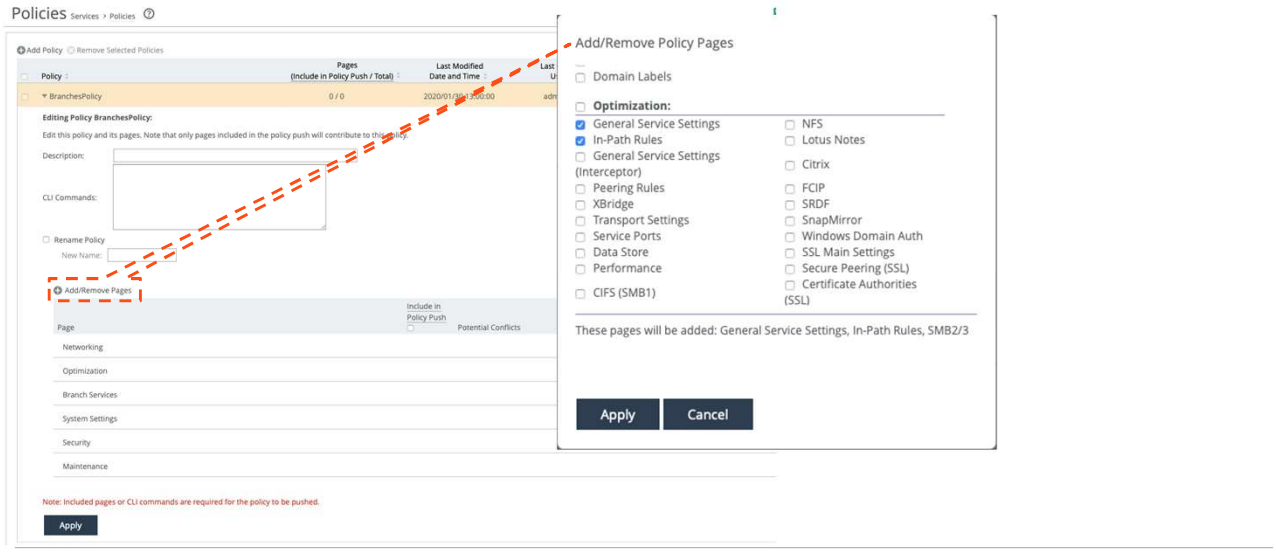


Important note: If new pages are added to the new policy, they will not be overwritten by changing back to the old one; a blank page will need to be added to the old policy and included in the push.

Config Mgmt – Add a New Policy



Config Mgmt – Adding Pages to a Policy

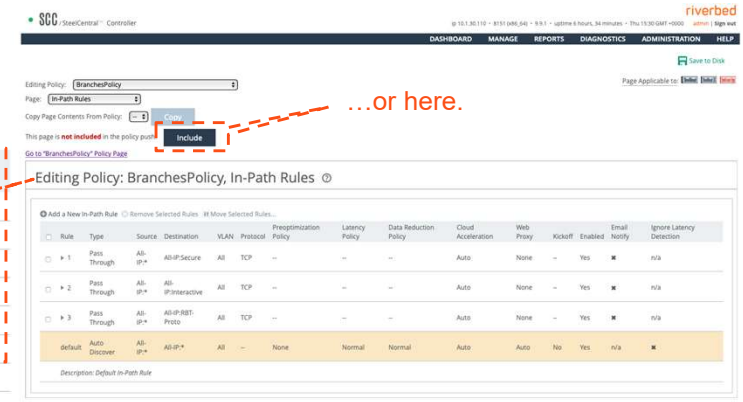


Config Mgmt – Editing Page Settings

Don't forget to include the pages in the Push.

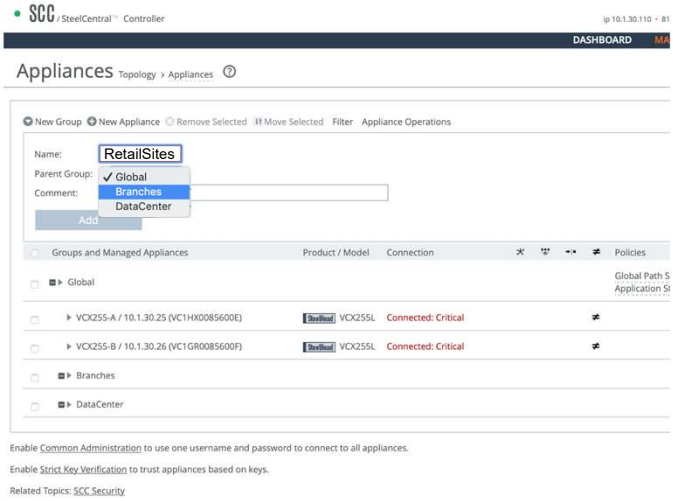
It can be done here…

…or here.

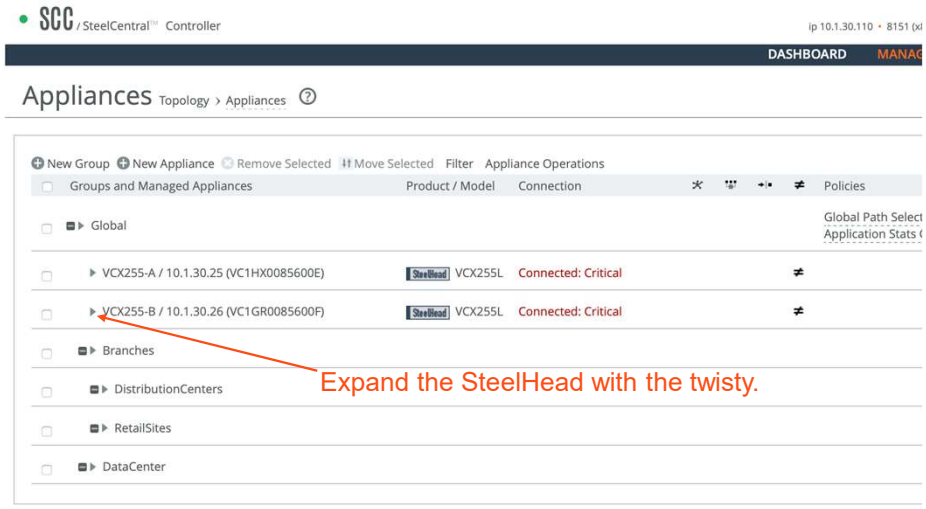


After the pages are added, they are configured exactly as they would be on a SteelHead.

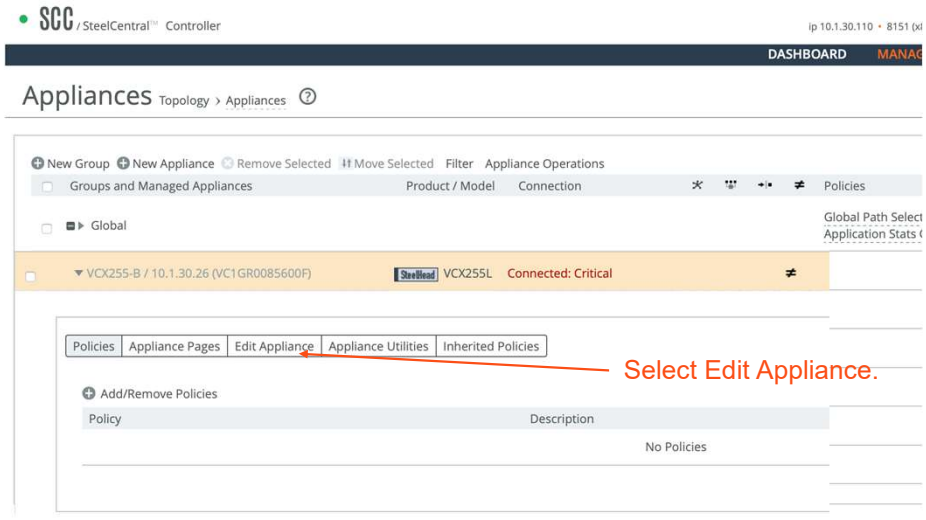
Config Mgmt – Creating Groups



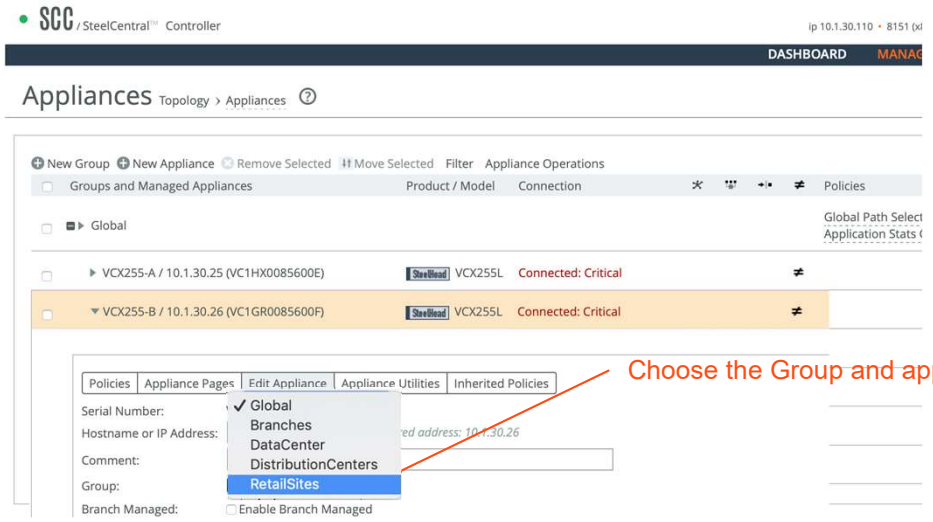
Config Mgmt – Add Existing SteelHead to Group (1/3)



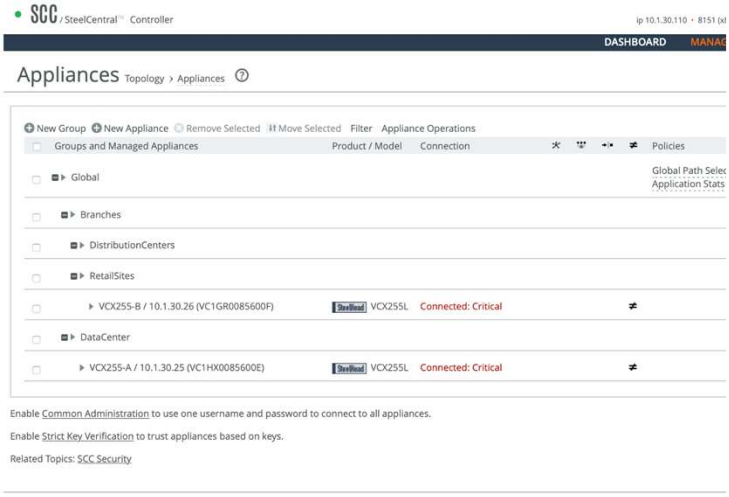
Config Mgmt – Add Existing SteelHead to Group (2/3)



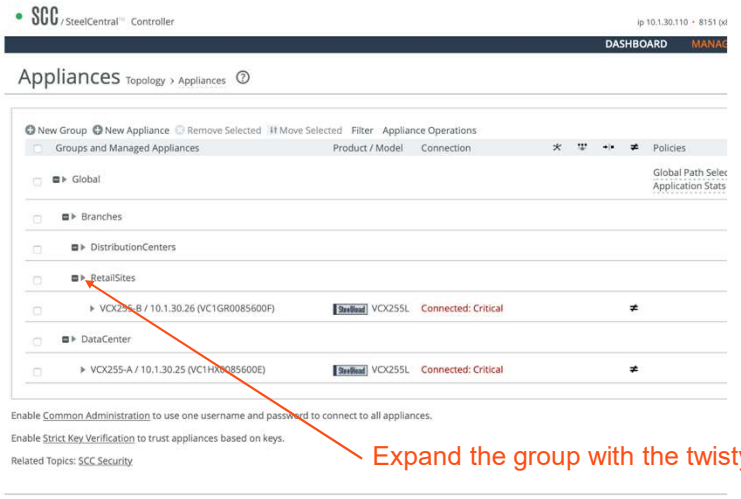
Config Mgmt – Add Existing SteelHead to Group (3/3)



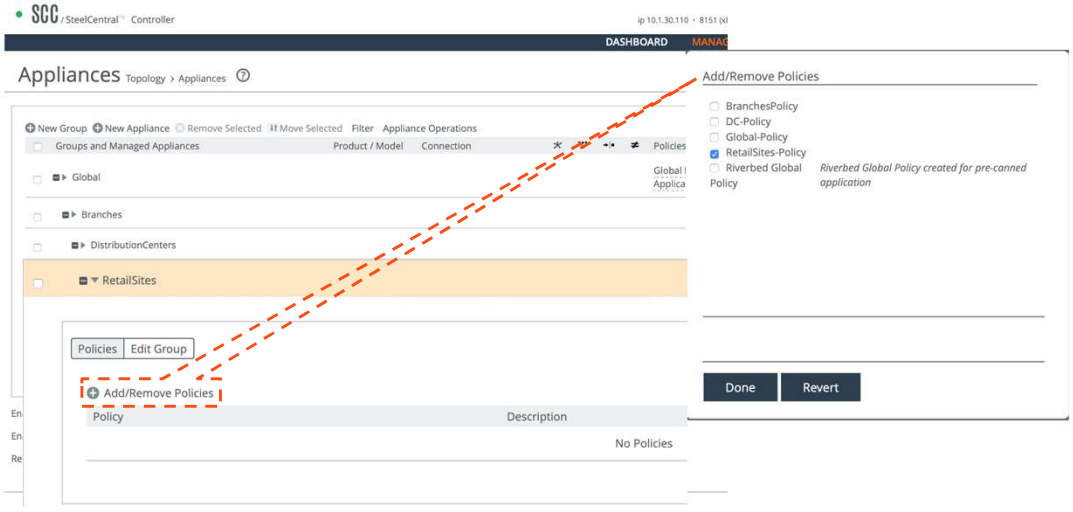
Config Mgmt – Hierarchical Group Display



Config Mgmt – Add Policy to Group, or SteelHead (1/2)

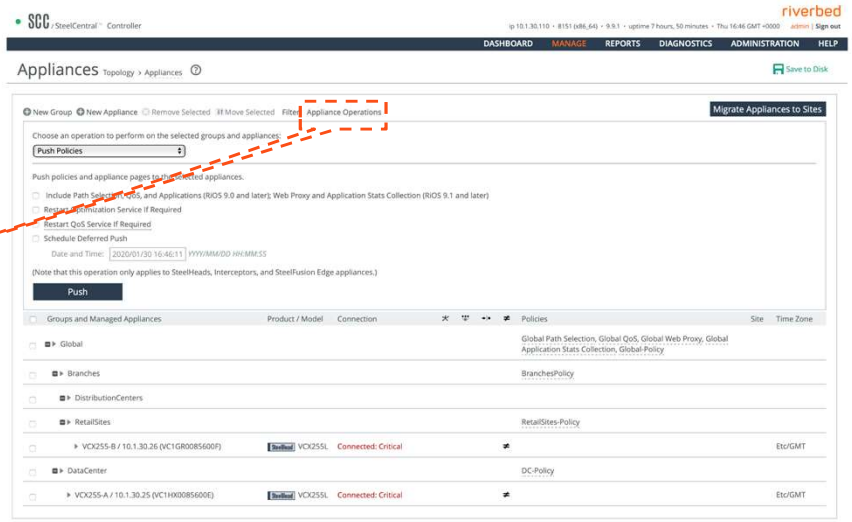


Config Mgmt – Add Policy to Group, or SteelHead (2/2)

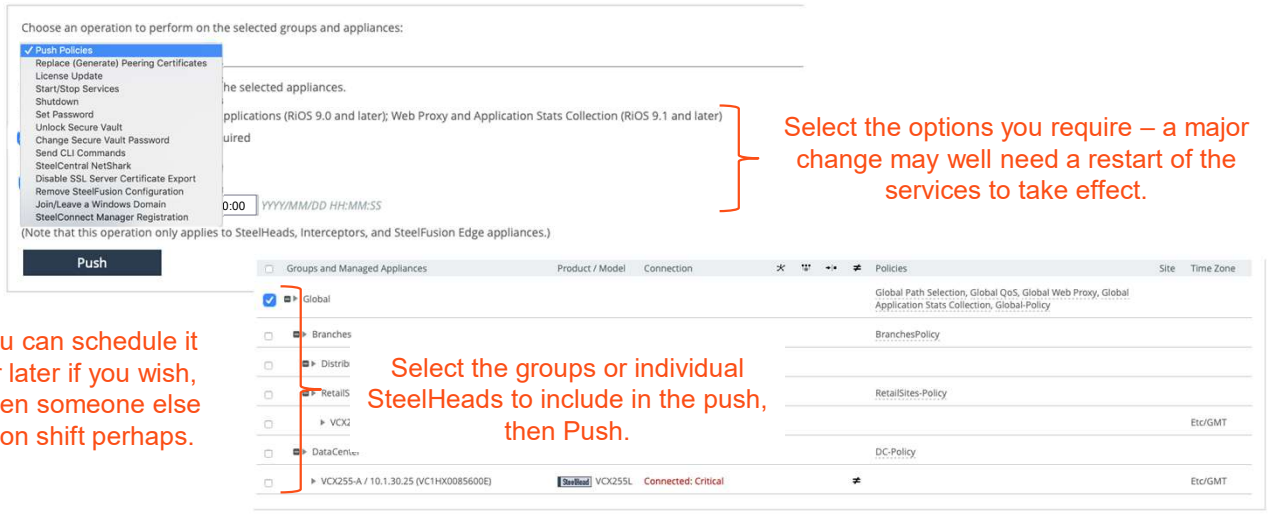


Config Mgmt – Push Policy/Config from SCC (1/2)

On the Manage Appliances page, select Appliance Operations.



Config Mgmt – Push Policy/Config from SCC (2/2)

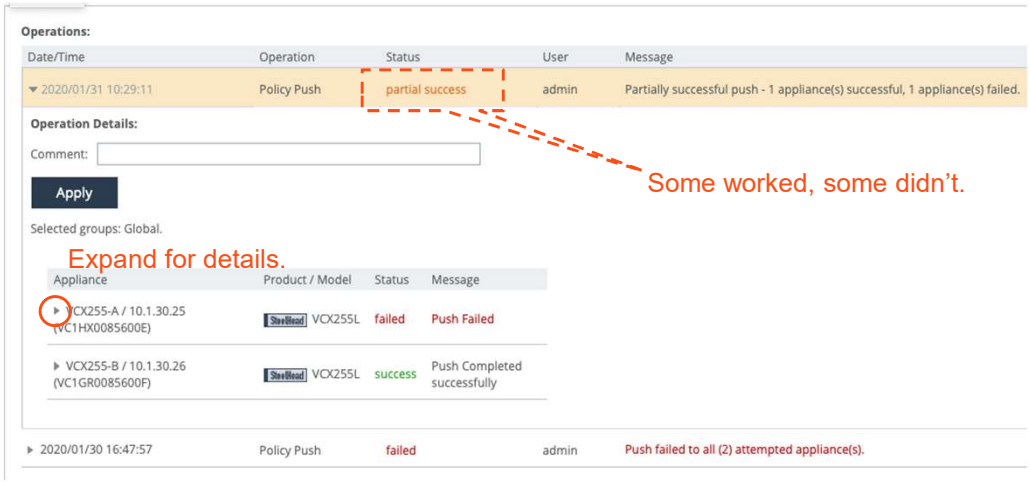


Select the options you require – a major change may well need a restart of the services to take effect.

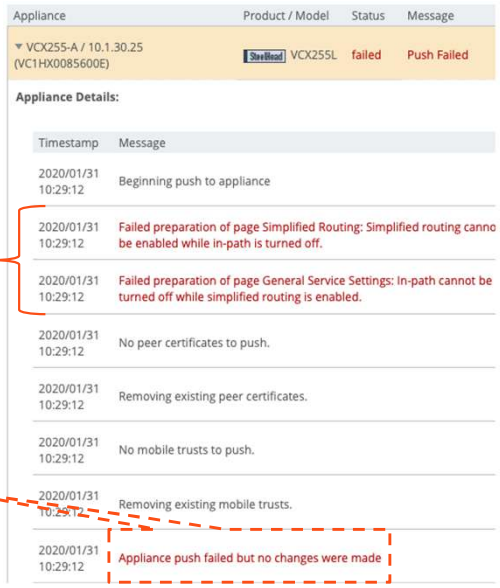
You can schedule it for later if you wish, when someone else is on shift perhaps.

Select the groups or individual SteelHeads to include in the push, then Push.

Config Mgmt – Operation History, Partial Success



Config Mgmt – Operation History, Details



The issues are listed here.

Important point: If a push fails nothing at all is changed.

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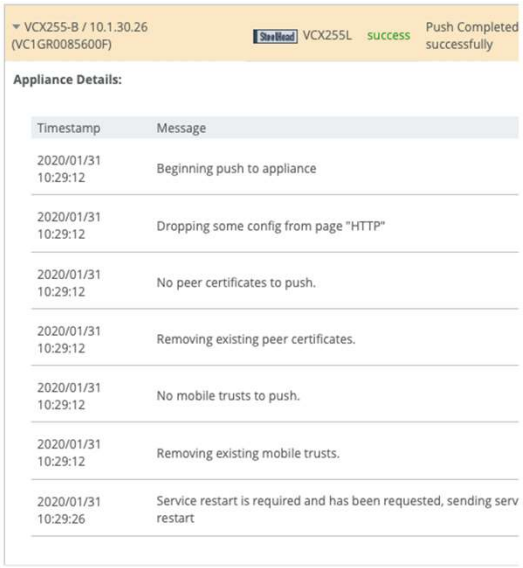
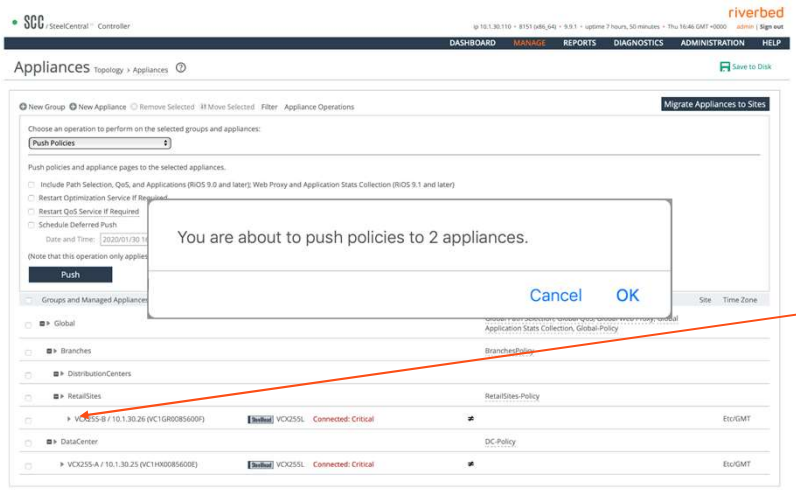
Config Mgmt – Operation History, Successful Push

A more successful one.

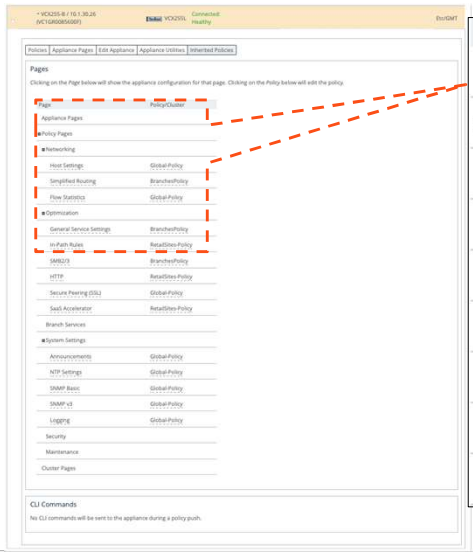


Config Mgmt – Push Policies



This would be a scary moment if you were not sure what was being pushed. You can check by using the twisty on the individual appliances.

Config Mgmt – Appliance > Policy Inheritance Page

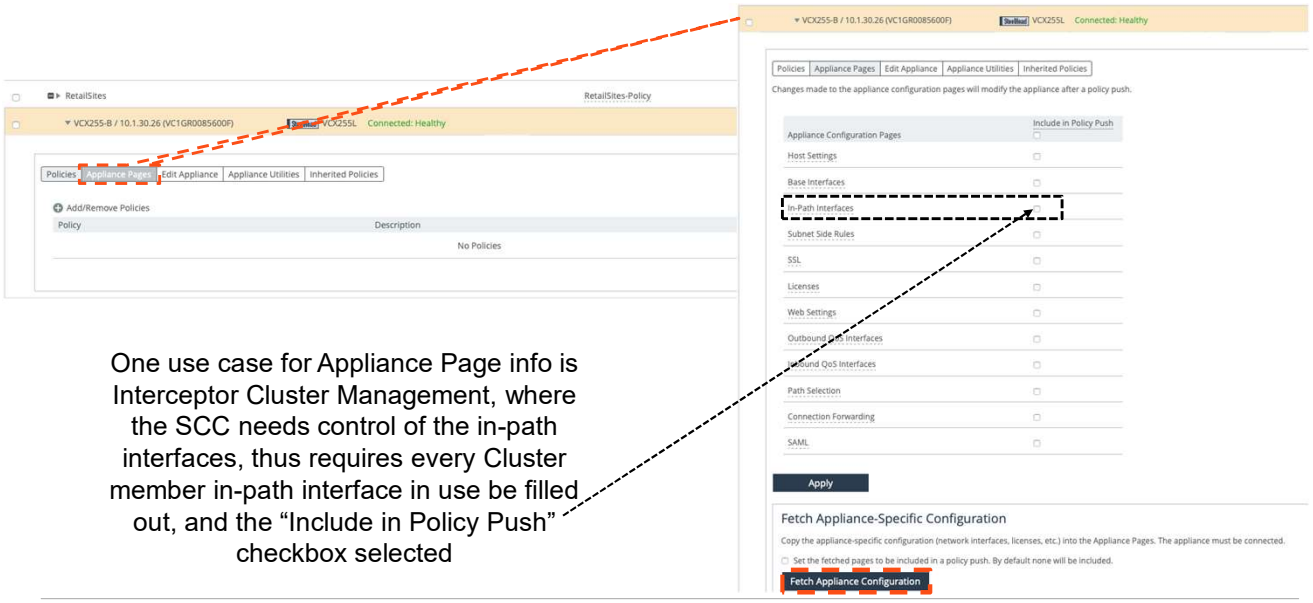


Page	Policy/Cluster
Appliance Pages	
Policy Pages	
Networking	
Host Settings	Global-Policy
Simplified Routing	BranchesPolicy
Flow Statistics	Global-Policy
Optimization	
General Service Settings	BranchesPolicy
In-Path Rules	RetailSites-Policy

Config Mgmt – Appliance Pages Overview

- Policies are used to create consistent configurations across a group, however, some settings are unique to each device:
  - Hostname,
  - IP addresses,
  - SSL Certificate
  - and so on…
- These settings are kept on the SCC in each device's **Appliance Pages**
- They are not by default populated, nor Pushed
- A manual 'fetch' can be carried out to easily populate the pages

Config Mgmt – Appliance Pages GUI



One use case for Appliance Page info is Interceptor Cluster Management, where the SCC needs control of the in-path interfaces, thus requires every Cluster member in-path interface in use be filled out, and the “Include in Policy Push” checkbox selected

SCC Initial Configuration and Policy Management

HOL1710
HOL1721

In this lab, you will:

- Perform Initial Configuration of an SCC
- Manage Appliances & Policies

Duration: **45 minutes**

eLab system: link and access details provided in your course confirmation email

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Software Management – Upgrade Appliances

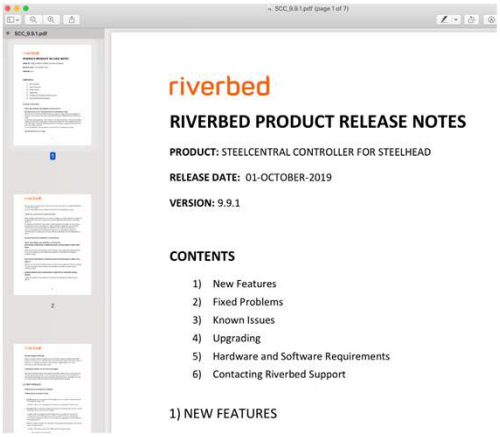
- The SCC can upgrade or downgrade:
  - SteelHeads
    - Interceptors
      - Mobile Controllers
        - SteelFusion Edges
          - SteelFusion Cores

Software Management – Upgrade Workflow

1. Upgrade the SCC, if Necessary
2. Add the new SteelHead code to the Library
3. Run the Upgrade Wizard

Software Management – Obtain SCC Upgrade Image

- This procedure is the same for all RiOS devices
- Visit the Support Website
- Go to appliance (SCC, in this case)
- Download the code and check the Release Notes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RIVERBED PRODUCT RELEASE NOTES

PRODUCT: STEELCENTRAL CONTROLLER FOR STEELHEAD

RELEASE DATE: 01-OCTOBER-2019

VERSION: 9.9.1

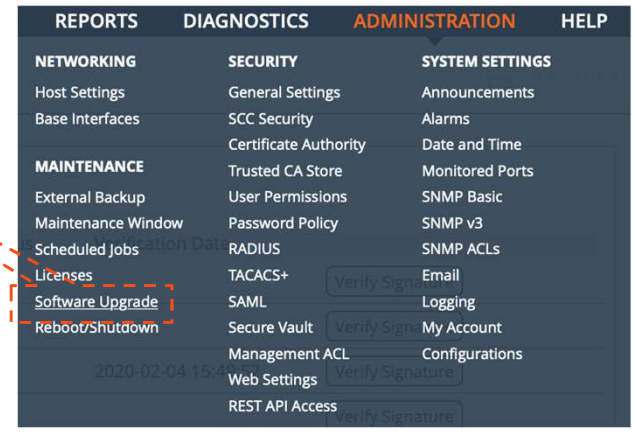
CONTENTS

1) New Features
2) Fixed Problems
3) Known Issues
4) Upgrading
5) Hardware and Software Requirements
6) Contacting Riverbed Support

1) NEW FEATURES

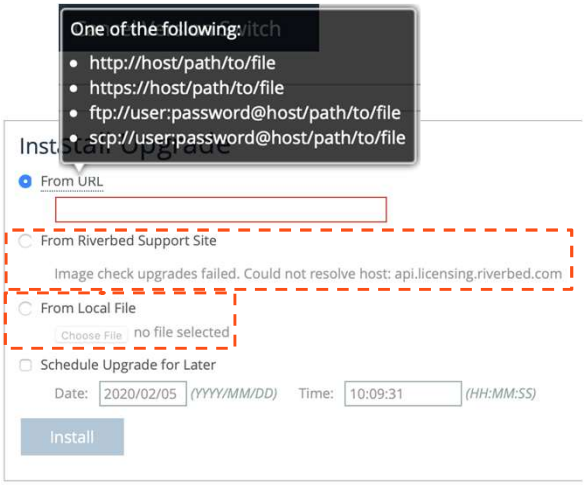
Software Management – Access SCC Upgrade Page

- Logon to the SCC and select **Software Upgrade** under Administration.



Software Management – Options to Download Code

- "From Local File", if you are doing the upgrade locally from your workstation.
- "From URL", if your image is on a networked Server.
- "From Riverbed Support Site"; the SCC (or any RiOS device) can 'call home', if it has Internet access.
- Choose the file and press **Install** when ready, then reboot.



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You can upgrade or revert to a backup version of the software in the Software Upgrade page. The bottom of the page displays the software version history, including the version number and the software installation date.

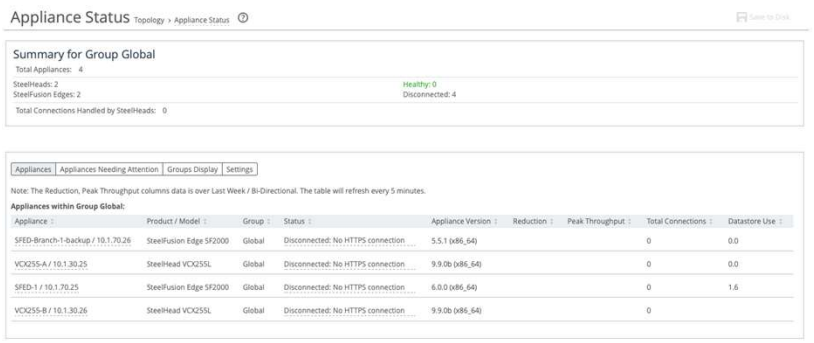
To find allowed upgrades between RiOS versions and recommended upgrade paths, use the Software Upgrade tool on the Riverbed Support site at https://support.riverbed.com. The tool includes all of the
recommended intermediate RiOS versions.

Software Management – Upgrade Considerations

- The installed code always overwrites code on the backup partition.
- Once installed, the device will automatically switch the next boot to the newly-installed code.
  - You can cancel this switch if you like.
- The SCC upgrade process and the reboot can be independently scheduled.
  - Upgrading devices directly, it is always a two-step process: Upgrade, then Reboot.
  - When the SCC is used to centrally manage upgrades, both the Install and the Reboot can be scheduled.

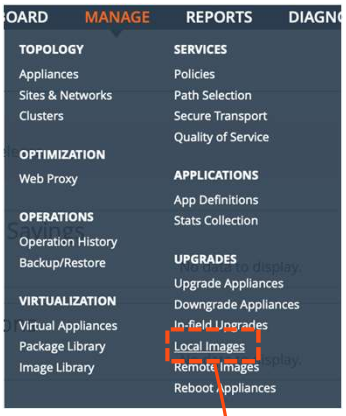
Software Management – Upgrade Appliances with SCC

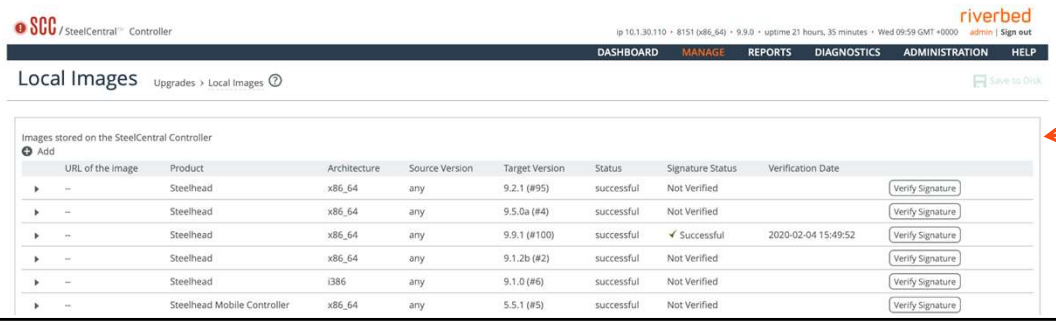
- Wizard-driven process for upgrade and downgrade
- Strict rules apply when downgrading
- The Appliance Status Report shows the code that your appliances are currently running



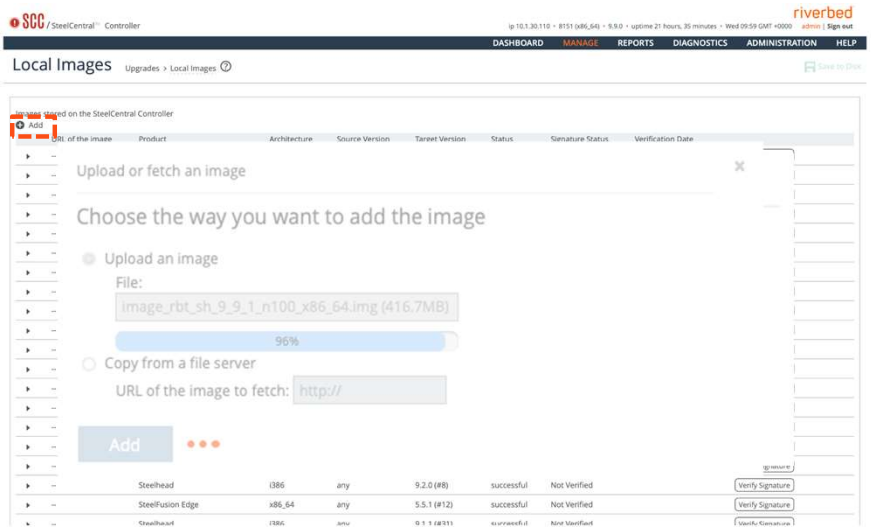
Software Management - SCC Library

- For configuration of SteelHeads, the SCC must be equal or newer in release, check the release notes
- The SCC has a library of code images, and knows which images are valid for each appliance





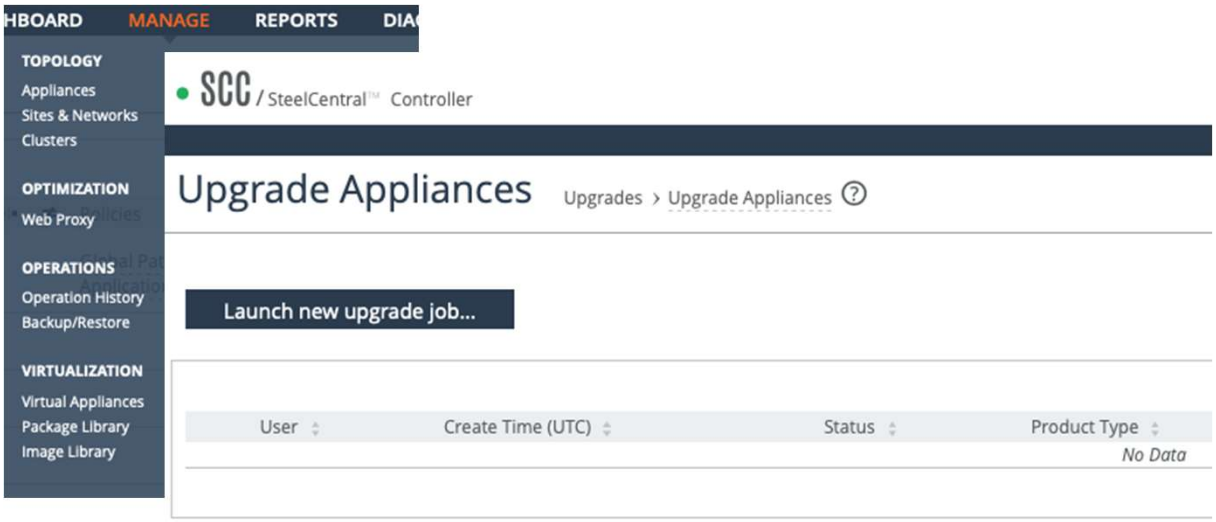
Software Management – Add Image to the Library



Software Management – Upgrade Wizard Process

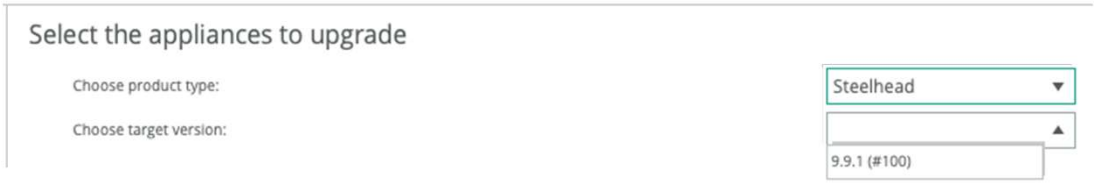
- Run Wizard, then select the product you want to upgrade, such as Steelhead or Interceptor.
- Select the target version.
- Filter and select the appliances.
  - This page also displays ineligible appliances that cannot be upgraded due to the reasons displayed.
- Specify the upgrade settings.
  - Notes about the upgrade job, upgrade time, reboot options, and ESXi force (for Steelhead EX).
- Review your selections. You can go back to change or cancel your settings.
- Click Upgrade to upgrade the appliances.

Software Management – Run the Upgrade Wizard



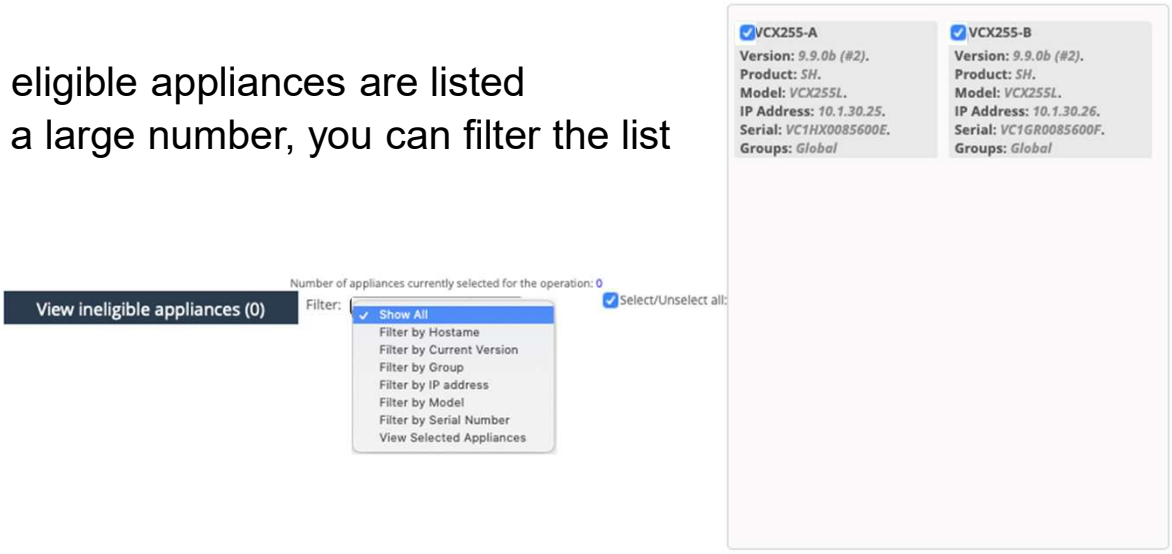
Software Management – Select Appliance Type

- Once selected the code can be chosen
- The SCC knows current the versions of the appliances
- It will only show the valid code in the list

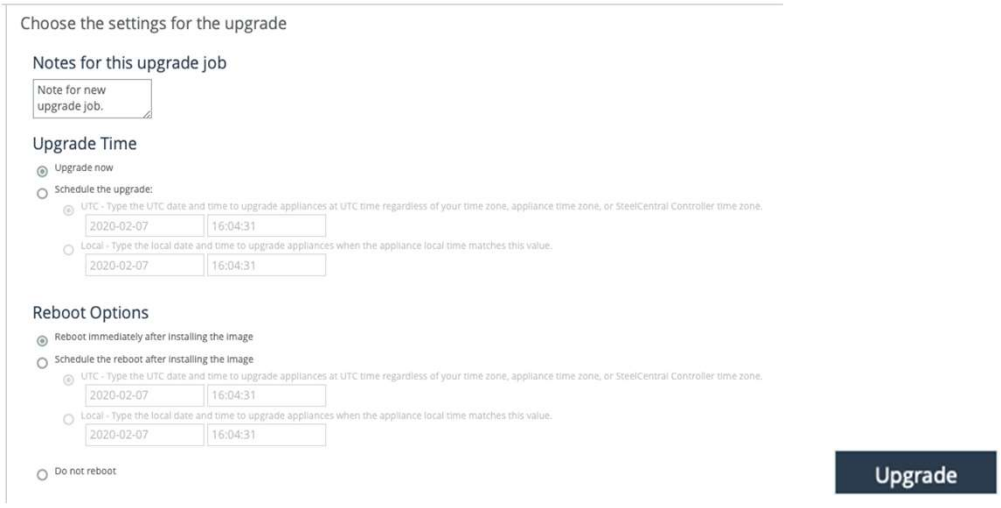


Software Management – Choose Your Appliances

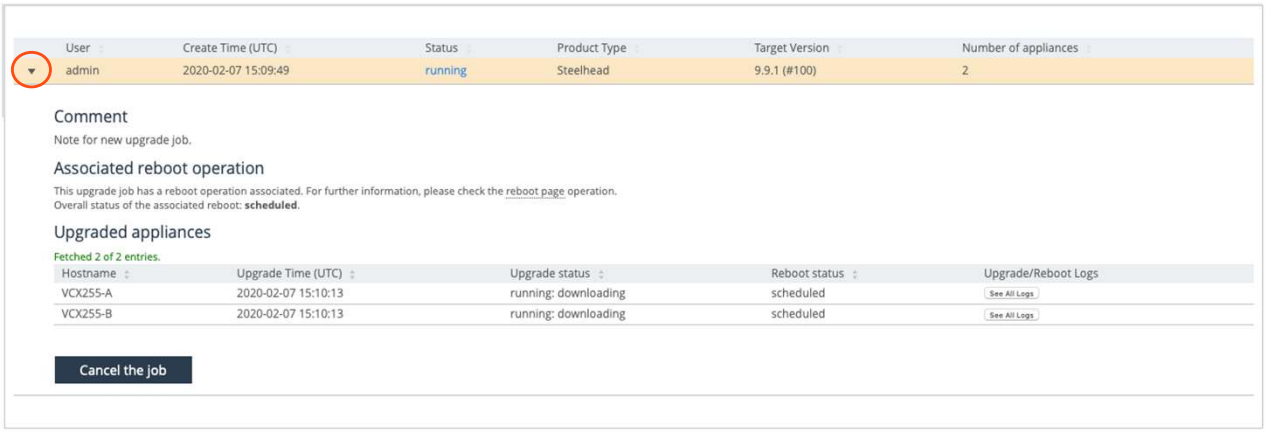
- Only eligible appliances are listed
- If it's a large number, you can filter the list



Software Management – Choose Upgrade Settings



Software Management – View Upgrade Status



Module Review

You should now be able to:

- Describe the SteelCentral Controller for SteelHead (SCC).
- Setup and operate the SCC.
- Manage your configurations with the SCC.
- Manage your software with the SCC.

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The Digital Performance Company