



# Validate your environment with Active IQ Config Advisor

## HCI

Michael Wallis, Ann-Marie Grissino  
September 21, 2020

This PDF was generated from [https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/hci/docs/hci\\_prereqs\\_task\\_validate\\_config\\_advisor.html](https://docs.netapp.com/us-en/hci/docs/hci_prereqs_task_validate_config_advisor.html) on October 18, 2020. Always check docs.netapp.com for the latest.

# Table of Contents

- Validate your environment with Active IQ Config Advisor ..... 1
  - Install Active IQ Config Advisor ..... 1
  - Use Active IQ Config Advisor ..... 1

# Validate your environment with Active IQ Config Advisor

Before you rack NetApp HCI hardware and perform the installation of NetApp HCI, you need to verify that your environment meets NetApp HCI networking requirements. Active IQ Config Advisor runs checks on your environment by validating network, switch, and VMware vSphere configurations. The tool generates a report which you can use to help you resolve issues, and you can forward the report to your Professional Services engineer to prepare and schedule an installation.

## Install Active IQ Config Advisor

Download and install Active IQ Config Advisor on a PC that has access to the NetApp HCI networks.

### *Steps*

1. In a web browser, select **Tools** from the NetApp Support menu, search for Active IQ Config Advisor, and download the tool.

[NetApp Support Site > Tools](#).

After you agree to the End User License Agreement (EULA), the Download page appears. Microsoft Windows, Linux, and Mac binaries are available in the **Client Tool** pane.

2. Run the executable.
3. Select a language, and click **OK**.
4. Click **Next**.
5. Read the EULA and click **I Agree**.
6. Click **Install**.
7. Ensure that **Run Active IQ Config Advisor** is selected, and click **Finish**.

After a short delay, the Active IQ Config Advisor UI opens in a new browser window or tab.

## Use Active IQ Config Advisor

Active IQ Config Advisor runs in a browser window, collects information about your network and environment, and generates a report you can use to resolve any network or configuration issues that might interfere with NetApp HCI deployment.

*Before you begin*

You have installed Active IQ Config Advisor on a device that can access the management network, VMware vCenter Server networking (if you are joining an existing VMware installation), and switches that will be used for NetApp HCI.



If you are using Mellanox switches and NetApp Professional Services is configuring them as part of deployment, you do not need to provide switch information.

#### *About this task*

Active IQ Config Advisor performs only read-only checks to gather information. No configuration is modified as part of the collection.

#### *Steps*

1. Open Active IQ Config Advisor.

Config Advisor appears with the **Basic Settings** window in a web browser. Here, you can define global collection settings and encrypt the collection results.

2. Enter a passphrase in the **Encryption Settings** section to encrypt the collection project.

This ensures that only you are able to load this collection project after it is created.

3. Identify this collection report as yours by entering your name and email address in the **User Verification** section.
4. Click **Save**.
5. Click **Create a new data collection**.
6. Select **Solution Based** in the **Collection Type** drop-down menu.
7. Select **NetApp HCI Pre Deployment** in the **Profile** drop-down menu.
8. For each type of device in the **Type** column, select the number of that type of device in your NetApp HCI network in the **Actions** drop-down menu.

For example, if you have three Cisco switches, choose 3 from the **Actions** column drop-down menu in that row. Three rows appear, one for each Cisco switch you identified.



If you are using Mellanox switches and NetApp Professional Services is configuring them as part of deployment, you do not need to provide switch information.

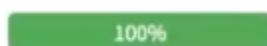
9. For any switches that you identified, enter the management IP address and administrator credentials.
10. For any VMware vCenter Servers you identified, do one of the following:
  - If you are deploying a new vCenter Server, provide the IP address or Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) that is planned for the server.

- If you are joining an existing vCenter Server, provide the IP address or FQDN and the administrator credentials for the server.
11. Optional: If you added information for switches, enter the number of compute and storage nodes in the **Switch Validation** section.
  12. Choose which compute node cabling configuration you plan to use in the **Compute node network** section.
  13. Enter individual switch ports and any VLAN tags you plan to use for the management, vMotion, and storage networks for any switches in the **Compute node network** section.
  14. Enter individual switch ports and any VLAN tags you plan to use for the management and storage networks for any switches in the **Storage node network** section.
  15. In the **Network Settings Check** section, enter the IP addresses and gateway IP address for the management network, followed by lists of servers for DNS, NTP, and vCenter Server (if you are deploying a new vCenter Server with NetApp HCI).

This section enables Active IQ Config Advisor to ensure that the management network is available for use, and also ensures that services such as DNS and NTP are working properly.

16. Click **Validate** to ensure all of the IP address information and credentials you have entered are valid.
17. Click **Save or Collect**.

This starts the collection process, and you can see the progress as the collection runs along with a real-time log of the collection commands. The **Progress** column shows color-coded progress bars for each collection task.



The progress bars use the following colors to show status:

- **Green:** The collection has finished with no command failures. You can see the deployment risks and recommendations by clicking the **View & Analyze** icon in the **Actions** menu.
  - **Yellow:** The collection has finished with some command failures. You can see the deployment risks and recommendations by clicking the **View & Analyze** icon in the **Actions** menu.
  - **Red:** The collection has failed. You need to resolve the errors and run the collection again.
18. Optional: When the collection is complete, you can click the binocular icon for any collection row to see the commands that were run and the data that was collected.
  19. Select the **View & Analyze** tab.

This page shows a general health report of your environment. You can select a section of the pie chart to see more details about those specific checks or descriptions of problems, along with recommendations on resolving any issues that might interfere with successful deployment. You can resolve these issues yourself or request help from NetApp Professional Services.

20. Click **Export** to export the collection report as a PDF or Microsoft Word document.



PDF and Microsoft Word document outputs include the switch configuration information for your deployment, which NetApp Professional Services uses to verify the network settings.

21. Send the exported report file to your NetApp Professional Services representative.

## Find more information

- [NetApp HCI Resources page](#)
- [NetApp HCI Documentation Center](#)

## Copyright Information

Copyright © 2020 NetApp, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S. No part of this document covered by copyright may be reproduced in any form or by any means-graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or storage in an electronic retrieval system-without prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Software derived from copyrighted NetApp material is subject to the following license and disclaimer:

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY NETAPP “AS IS” AND WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WHICH ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL NETAPP BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

NetApp reserves the right to change any products described herein at any time, and without notice. NetApp assumes no responsibility or liability arising from the use of products described herein, except as expressly agreed to in writing by NetApp. The use or purchase of this product does not convey a license under any patent rights, trademark rights, or any other intellectual property rights of NetApp.

The product described in this manual may be protected by one or more U.S. patents, foreign patents, or pending applications.

RESTRICTED RIGHTS LEGEND: Use, duplication, or disclosure by the government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subparagraph (c)(1)(ii) of the Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software clause at DFARS 252.277-7103 (October 1988) and FAR 52-227-19 (June 1987).

## Trademark Information

NETAPP, the NETAPP logo, and the marks listed at <http://www.netapp.com/TM> are trademarks of NetApp, Inc. Other company and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.