IP address management for service providers

Cut down operational costs and optimize your resources across services and networks

Product highlights:

1. Obtain customer-centric views of IP and DNS resources
2. Expedite IP address requests from RIR with simplified reconciliation
3. Gain a network-centric view of your IP address deployments and devices
4. Lower DNS and DHCP management costs in a service provider environment
5. Optimize IPv4 resources and prepare for tomorrow with comprehensive IPv6 features
Get the visibility you need to plan and control your distributed IP resources

Service providers face the daunting task of managing large pools of address space serving a variety of purposes and services. Compounding the challenge is the adoption and sheer volume of IPv6. To optimize, accurately assign, and track address space among hundreds of customers and regional deployments, you need a holistic view of your IPv4 and IPv6 address deployments.

Designed to meet the unique IP address management needs of service providers, Address Commander gives you complete visibility into your IP resources. Through Address Commander, you can centralize, automate, and streamline the administration of increasingly complex IP environments. It manages the allocation and assignment of IP nodes and subnets, tracks them among access network type, regional offices, or business units, and automates reporting for internal audits or reconciliation with regional internet registries – without the hassle of manually entering data into spreadsheets. All this is achieved via a centralized management interface that allows you to manage your IP space anytime, anywhere. The multi-user system allows widespread, concurrent access and simultaneous updates. Problematic configuration concerns are eliminated through access controls, change audits, threshold alerts, business rules and constraints. You will gain a centralized as well as customer-centric view of your IP space. Optionally, you can give local and enterprise administrators the ability to self-provision domains and IP space.

There’s no need for a disruptive deployment project. Address Commander services can be deployed in phases in an “a la carte” manner based on your needs. It flexibly integrates with your operations support system and allows you to centralize your architecture for processes, such as network inventory maintenance and network component configuration.

Whether you are transitioning to IPv6 or trying to stretch your IPv4 addresses, use Address Commander to take control of your IP resources now.

Figure 1. Gain a holistic view of your IP address resources while allowing simultaneous user access with Address Commander

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Address Commander delivers Reduce the time spent on IP address management and free up your network IT staff for other critical tasks. Address Commander delivers unprecedented network-wide visibility, simplified IP request fulfillment, comprehensive reporting, a foundation for IPv6 transition, and DNS/DHCP alignment.

Unprecedented network-wide visibility
Address Commander presents a centralized view of all your IP data. Not only does it consolidate your IP planning and assignment information, it also gathers IP address usage information from all your DHCP servers. Through its user-friendly web management interface, you can easily identify everything IP-related, from blocks of fragmented and free space as well as high level usage and deployment trends, down to details about each IP address, including the customer, device, and user-defined attributes. What’s more, it minimizes the business cost of constantly monitoring address space and problematic IP configurations with automatic notifications.

Intelligent network discovery
Gain a cross-network view of your IPv4 and IPv6 configurations on your devices with Address Commander. It intelligently discovers network devices and collects their IP-related configurations, regardless of the vendor. Address Commander identifies new devices on your network by scanning millions of IPs with different SNMP community strings. You can then perform targeted scans of known routing elements and switches on a daily basis. When done on a regular basis, these scans help you stay on top of your network by capturing any changes, identifying stale IPs to ensure proper address utilization, and detecting duplicate IP assignments to minimize service disruptions. You can easily create reports that itemize discrepancies so that various groups can take action.

Internal, regional, and enterprise customer request fulfillment and management
Address Commander simplifies IP and domain request fulfillment while minimizing business costs caused by human errors. You can reserve IP blocks for specific groups such as geographic groups, access network types, commercial services, or high-speed data services. Users affiliated with a group can self-provision addresses from the reserved pool as well as its associated domain. By viewing the different groups, you gain a customer-centric view of the network. Optionally, you can empower business customers by giving them access to their own network information.

Simplified IPv6 transition via a consolidated IP plan
Get a handle on your current network by reconciling IP assignments with the information discovered from devices and DHCP servers on your network. The discovery strategies are vendor agnostic and lightweight so that they do not burden users or resources on the network. Lay the groundwork for your IPv6 and IPv4 address plans by using various planning features to visualize and plan out IPv4 and IPv6 addresses across your network.

Customized automation for enhanced service workflows
By integrating Address Commander with your OSS/BSS, you can centralize your architecture to support processes such as inventory maintenance, static address provisioning, and network component configuration. Address Commander can automatically send messages to third-party OSS systems when IP assignments or other key changes occur. The systems receiving the message can then implement customized workflows, notify other OSS systems, or make calls back to Address Commander via APIs written in SOAP or Java.

DNS and DHCP alignment
Address Commander integrates with DNS and DHCP services to provide a complete DNS, DHCP, and IPAM solution. Through this integration, the vendoragnostic solution collects utilization numbers across all your DHCP servers regardless of your network size. It reduces manual labour by automatically gathering DHCP configurations and reconciling them with information in Address Commander.
If it detects problematic configurations across DHCP servers, Address Commander notifies administrators and recommends possible solutions. You can also use Address commander to automate a number of DNS tasks.

**Safeguard VPN identifiers for MPLS/VRF or VLAN tags**

Resolve resource management issues in your virtual networks with an IPAM solution that integrates directly with virtual routing and forwarding (VRF) processes for virtual local area networks (VLANs) and virtual private networks (VPNs). Address Commander can track encapsulated networks and their identifiers for customer or service VPNs to ensure that name or tag collisions are avoided. Eliminating manual tracking also hastens the deployment and allocation of IP assignments over VPN, vLAN, and VRF.

**About Incognito**

Incognito Software Systems Inc. provides software and services solutions to help global service providers manage and monetize broadband services. Over 300 customers worldwide, including Cox, Claro, Globe, Foxtel, and SingTel, leverage Incognito solutions to fast-track the introduction of innovative broadband services over fiber, LTE, and cable technologies, while delivering a great customer experience. The company is a division of the Volaris Group, an operating group of Toronto-based Constellation Software Inc.

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