

RED HAT NETWORK FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

INTRODUCTION

Wish you could manage multiple Red Hat Enterprise Linux servers as easily as one? You can with Red Hat Network Satellite Server, an easy-to-use systems management platform for your growing Linux infrastructure. Red Hat Network Satellite is built on open standards and based on functional modules that allow you to enhance management capabilities for Red Hat Enterprise Linux on virtualized or bare metal deployments.

QUESTION: Does Red Hat® Network come with every Red Hat subscription purchase?

ANSWER: Yes, the Red Hat Network Hosted model is included with every Red Hat subscription offering. This model is focused on managing your subscription with certified content updates.

QUESTION: Why should I use Red Hat Network Satellite when I already get updates from my Red Hat Enterprise Linux® subscription?

ANSWER: The Red Hat Network Satellite and Red Hat Network Proxy server models are designed to be an extension of Red Hat Network Hosted. While you can do basic administrative tasks with the Red Hat Network services included with your subscription, Red Hat Network Satellite adds extensive management, provisioning, and monitoring capabilities through its modules. This administrative functionality is often needed by organizations with growing Red Hat Enterprise Linux environments.

QUESTION: How does the Red Hat Network Proxy Server help me manage my Red Hat Enterprise Linux servers?

ANSWER: Red Hat Network Proxy Server is focused on providing a local repository of certified content for Red Hat Enterprise Linux. This model extends the Red Hat Network or Red Hat Network Satellite Server to deliver updates, errata, and software in a highly scalable fashion while minimizing use of network bandwidth.

QUESTION: How can I purchase the Red Hat Network Satellite or Proxy models?

ANSWER: Contact your sales representative or complete the contact sales form: <https://engage.redhat.com/forms/contact-sales>. The list price for Red Hat Network Satellite Server is \$10,000 (USD) annually. Red Hat Network Proxy Server is \$2,500 annually.

QUESTION: What is included in the purchase of Red Hat Network Satellite Server?

ANSWER:

- Red Hat Network Satellite ISO for installation and entitlement
- Embedded Oracle database (optional)
- All necessary installation and usage documents
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux premium subscription
- Premium level support and installation support
- Upgrades, as available



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- All necessary installation and usage documents
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux premium subscription
- Premium level support and installation support
- Upgrades, as available

Please note that all hardware must be supplied by the customer and that no physical media is provided. All ISOs and documentation are electronically provided.

QUESTION: What options do I have to try Red Hat Network Satellite in my environment?

ANSWER: Red Hat is currently offering a 30-day trial evaluation available. Contact a Red Hat sales representative for details: <https://engage.redhat.com/forms/contact-sales>.

QUESTION: How much do Red Hat Network Satellite modules cost?

ANSWER: The following prices are for single-system entitlements. Additional options are available for other types of Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscriptions, including up to four guests and also unlimited guests:

- Red Hat Network Smart Management entitlements (includes Red Hat Network management and provisioning modules): \$192 USD per system annually
- Red Hat Network monitoring entitlements: \$96 USD per system annually

Volume discounts do apply. Contact your Red Hat sales representative to discuss discounts that may apply.

QUESTION: What level of service is included with Red Hat Network?

ANSWER: For Red Hat Network service entitlements (update, management, and provisioning), customers receive the same Service Level Agreement (SLA) as they currently subscribe to for the operating system.

Red Hat Network Proxy and Satellite models include a subscription to Red Hat Enterprise Linux premium, which ensures that customers receive Red Hat premium support.

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VIRTUALIZATION SUPPORT

QUESTION: Can Red Hat Network Satellite manage virtual instances of Red Hat Enterprise Linux?

ANSWER: Red Hat Network Satellite can manage any system running Red Hat Enterprise Linux on any supported hypervisor, including Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization and VMware, as well as IFLs on the mainframe. To do this, each Red Hat Enterprise Linux system managed by Red Hat Network Satellite must have the necessary Smart Management entitlement.

Smart Management and monitoring modules for use by Red Hat Network Satellite are available for every type of Red Hat Enterprise Linux subscription, including:

- Physical
- Up to four virtual guests
- Unlimited guests per socket

QUESTION: Can you run Red Hat Network Satellite as a virtual instance using Red Hat's virtualization technology? Can you run it using VMware?

ANSWER: Red Hat Network Satellite and Red Hat Network Proxy are currently supported on Red Hat Enterprise Linux guests hosted by supported hypervisors, such as Xen, KVM, and VMware hypervisors.

INSTALLATION AND ARCHITECTURE

QUESTION: What type of hardware do you need to run Red Hat Network Satellite Server?

ANSWER: A basic guideline:

- Intel multicore processor, 2.4GHz dual processor, 512K cache, or equivalent
- Minimum of 2GB of memory (8GB recommended)
- Minimum of 50GB of storage/disk space for the base Red Hat Enterprise Linux installation, database, and Red Hat Network channel repository

See the Red Hat Network Satellite installation guide for the most current specifications:

http://docs.redhat.com/docs/en-US/Red_Hat_Network_Satellite/5.5/html/Installation_Guide/.

QUESTION: Are there any high availability options for Red Hat Network Satellite?

ANSWER:

- For Red Hat Network Satellite servers using a stand-alone database, you can create a redundant Red Hat Network Satellite that can be operated as active or on stand-by.
- For Red Hat Network Satellite servers with an embedded database, there is a cloning option to create an offline spare, but there is no true high availability option.

Red Hat Network Satellite clients can also be configured for high availability and will contact a backup Red Hat Network Satellite Server if necessary.

QUESTION: What kind of database is required to run Red Hat Network Satellite Server in my environment?

ANSWER: Red Hat Network Satellite Server uses an embedded Oracle database. You may use your own Oracle database instance, or you can use the embedded database that's available with the subscription (at no additional charge).

If you plan on scaling your environment to more than 5,000 systems—or if you intend to run a high-availability Red Hat Network Satellite—Red Hat recommends that you run your own independent Oracle instance. For non-embedded deployments, see the Red Hat Network Satellite installation guide for a list of supported Oracle databases:

http://docs.redhat.com/docs/en-US/Red_Hat_Network_Satellite/5.5/html/Installation_Guide/.

QUESTION: Are there installation and consulting services available for Red Hat Network Satellite Server?

ANSWER: Yes, Red Hat Global Professional Services has a one-week package specifically for Red Hat Network Satellite customers. Contact Red Hat sales for more information:

<https://engage.redhat.com/forms/contact-sales>.

QUESTION: What is the scalability of Red Hat Network Satellite?

ANSWER: Red Hat Network Satellite currently scales to more than 10,000 managed systems. This is achieved using Red Hat Network Satellite Server and Red Hat Network Proxy Server at each remote location and for every 2,000 managed systems. Red Hat continues to make changes that greatly enhance the scalability of Red Hat Network.

INTEROPERABILITY AND CUSTOMIZATION

QUESTION: Does Red Hat Network Satellite work with other management products such as HP® Openview, IBM® Tivoli, or BMC® Patrol?

ANSWER: You can use the application programming interface (API) in Red Hat Network Satellite to script commands inside the product and to exchange information with other management products. Customers have used the API in Red Hat Network Satellite to integrate it with other management tools from vendors like HP and IBM.

QUESTION: Does Red Hat Network Satellite have an API access layer?

ANSWER: The Red Hat Network Satellite API is based on eXtensible Markup Language-Remote Procedure Call (XML-RPC), which lets distinct pieces of software on disparate systems make remote procedure calls using XML over HTTP. For more information, read the detailed Red Hat Network Satellite API overview: https://access.redhat.com/knowledge/docs/en-US/Red_Hat_Network_Satellite/5.5/html/API_Overview/index.htm.

SECURITY IMPLICATIONS

QUESTION: My environment will not allow me to have a network connection from my Red Hat Network Satellite back to Red Hat Network. What other options do I have?

ANSWER: Red Hat Network Satellite is capable of being run in a disconnected/secure mode where content updates are loaded using physical media. Channel content ISOs can be downloaded from Red Hat Network Hosted and are required to keep certified content up-to-date. Many organizations that have very tight security requirements use the disconnected Red Hat Network Satellite configuration.

QUESTION: How is security implemented between Red Hat Network Satellite Server and its managed nodes?

ANSWER: From a features perspective, Red Hat Network Satellite offers administrators the ability to implement a full audit trail of all activities taken through Red Hat Network Satellite and assign policies and permissions for simple role-based administration.

From the network side, Red Hat Network Satellite ensures secure communications. The communication method between client and server is always client-initiated. Communications between Red Hat Network Satellite and clients use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) and GNU Privacy Guard (GPG) encryption.

VERSION HISTORY

For more information on what's new with Red Hat Network Satellite, access the latest product data-sheets located here: www.redhat.com/products/enterprise-linux/rhn-satellite/datasheets.html.



ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, virtualization, storage, Linux, and middleware technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. Red Hat is an S&P company with more than 70 offices spanning the globe, empowering its customers' businesses.



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