



# Data Center Automation Suite

Software Version: 2016.10

## At a Glance - Premium edition

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# Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Introduction .....                               | 4  |
| DCA Suite Premium edition .....                  | 5  |
| Components integration matrix .....              | 6  |
| Server Automation .....                          | 6  |
| Operations Orchestration .....                   | 7  |
| IT Operations Compliance .....                   | 7  |
| Database and Middleware Automation Premium ..... | 8  |
| Network Automation .....                         | 9  |
| Operations Bridge Reporter .....                 | 10 |
| Send documentation feedback .....                | 12 |

## Introduction

The Data Center Automation (DCA) Suite 2016.10 is a complete automation solution for standardizing and automating routine data center operations.

HPE has three editions for the DCA Suite that provide different levels of automation capabilities:

- DCA Suite Express
- DCA Suite Premium
- DCA Suite Ultimate

The DCA Suite 2016.10 Premium Edition provides tools that automate critical areas of your data center's server management, business service compliance, and IT processes, including provisioning, configuration, compliance, patching, and release management for databases and applications services.

For more information, see the [DCA Suite 2016.10 Premium Edition documentation](#) on the HPE Software Support site.

## DCA Suite Premium edition

The DCA Suite 2016.10 Premium edition is a virtual appliance solution used to manage infrastructure lifecycle management and compliance for IT.

It includes pre-integrated versions of:

- DCA Operations Portal for DCA virtual appliance
- Operations Orchestration (OO) 10.60
- Server Automation (SA) 10.50
- IT Operations Compliance (ITOC) 1.20

In addition, the following products are part of the DCA Suite Premium.

- Database and Middleware Automation (DMA) Premium 10.50
- Network Automation (NA) 10.20
- Operations Bridge Reporter (OBR) 10.00

Database and Middleware Automation is provided as a media download that can be imported into the OO component in the appliance. It is recommended that you install Network Automation on a separate server.

The DCA Suite 2016.10 Premium edition enables you to automate data center management activities including:

- Day 1 server discovery, provisioning, and configuration and virtualization management
- Day 2 software, database and middleware management, patching, audit, compliance and remediation, and infrastructure lifecycle actions across your data center

You can leverage and customize the sample out-of-the-box DCA Operations Portal automated services for day 1 and day 2 management activities, create your own, and can also tap into the rich capabilities of SA, OO, ITOC, DMA, OBR, and NA for more complex management use cases.

### Support details

The DCA Suite 2016.10 Premium edition provides support for:

- **More Content:** additional supported content packs available for download
- **Audit and Remediation:** additional audit and remediation capabilities

- **Larger supported environment:** A single installation of the DCA Suite 2016.10 Premium edition can support up to 3000 licensed servers on a network
- **Provisioning and managed platform:** Solaris x86 support including support for Solaris zones

## Components integration matrix

|                   | SA<br>10.50 | OO<br>10.60 | ITOC<br>1.20 | DMA Premium<br>10.50 | NA<br>10.20 | OBR<br>10.00 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| SA 10.50          |             | ✓           | ✓            | -                    | ✓           | ✓            |
| OO 10.60          | ✓           |             | -            | ✓                    | ✓           | -            |
| ITOC 1.20         | ✓           | -           |              | -                    | -           | -            |
| DMA Premium 10.50 | -           | ✓           | -            |                      | -           | -            |
| NA 10.20          | ✓           | ✓           | -            | -                    |             | -            |
| OBR 10.00         | ✓           | -           | -            | -                    | -           |              |

## Server Automation

Server Automation (SA) is a data-center automation software that centralizes and streamlines many data center functions and automates critical areas of your data center's server management including the following:

- server discovery
- operating system provisioning
- operating system patching
- software provisioning
- audit and compliance
- application configuration
- application deployment
- software compliance
- reporting

### Virtual environment management

You can also manage your heterogeneous virtual environment including:

- virtualization services (VSs)
- virtual machines (VMs)
- VM templates

You can provision, patch, configure, and audit all of your virtual machines the same way that you manage your physical servers.

SA enables you to make changes more safely and consistently because you can model and validate changes before you commit them to a managed server. SA provides methods to ensure that modifications you plan for your managed servers work because they have been tested before being applied, thereby reducing downtime.

For more information, see the SA documentation on the HPE Software support site.

## Operations Orchestration

Operations Orchestration (OO) is the industry-leading solution for IT process automation and runbook automation.

OO is a system for creating and using actions in structured sequences (called flows) which maintain, troubleshoot, repair, and provision your IT resources by performing the following actions:

- checking the health, diagnosing, and repairing, networks, servers, services, software applications, and individual workstations.
- deploying applications, patching, and maintaining them by checking client, server, and virtual machines for required software and updates, and, if needed, performing the necessary installations, updates, and distributions.
- performing repetitive tasks, such as checking status on internal or external web site pages.

For more information, see the OO documentation on the HPE Software support site.

## IT Operations Compliance

IT Operations Compliance (ITOC) allows IT Operations users to track business service compliance against corporate and regulatory policies, making their environment compliant and therefore secure.

With ITOC, you can:

- scan compliance of business services against policies in a repeatable and reliable manner
- remediate non-compliance
- provide an overall view of compliance status across policies and business services
- track exceptions of resources to requirements in the Statement of Applicability (SoA)
- track the life cycle and revisions of policies, business services, controls, and SoAs

For more information, see the IT Operations Compliance documentation on the HPE Software support site.

## Database and Middleware Automation Premium

Database and Middleware Automation (DMA) software automates administrative tasks like:

- provisioning and configuration
- compliance
- patching
- release management for databases and application servers

When performed manually, these day-to-day software administration operations are error-prone, time consuming, and difficult to scale.

DMA automates these administration tasks that take up 60-70% of a database or application server administrator's day. Automating these tasks enables greater efficiency and faster change delivery with higher quality and better predictability.

DMA provides role-based access to automation content. This enables you to better utilize resources at every level:

- end users can deliver routine, yet complex, DBA and middleware tasks.
- operators can execute expert level tasks across multiple servers including provisioning, patching, configuration, and compliance checking.
- subject matter experts can define, enforce, and audit full stack automation across network, storage, server, database, and middleware.

### **DMA workflows**

Use a DMA workflow to performs a specific automated task, such as:

- provisioning databases or application servers
- patching databases or application servers
- checking a database or application server for compliance with a specific standard

You specify environment-specific information that the workflow requires by configuring DMA parameters. You can also group related DMA workflows into a solution pack.

For more information, see the DMA documentation on the HPE Software support site.

## Network Automation

Network Automation (NA) provides an enterprise class solution that tracks and regulates configuration and software changes across routers, switches, firewalls, load balancers, and wireless access points.

NA provides visibility into network changes, enabling an IT staff to identify and correct trends that could lead to problems, while mitigating compliance issues, security hazards, and disaster recovery risks. NA also captures full audit trail information about each device change.

Network engineers can use NA to pinpoint the following:

- which device configuration changed?
- what exactly was changed in the configuration?
- who made the change?
- why the change was made?

In addition, NA can enforce security and regulatory policies at the network level by making sure that configurations comply with pre-defined standards. The result is a resilient and maintainable network that is compliant with standards and regulations.

NA supports an array of devices from leading vendors, including Hewlett Packard Enterprise Development LP, Cisco, Nortel, F5 Networks, and Extreme, to provide insights into your network change process. NA's scalable architecture enables you to incorporate the best devices from the best vendors, and support all your devices using one tool.

For more information, see the NA documentation on the HPE Software support site.

# Operations Bridge Reporter

HPE Operations Bridge Reporter (OBR) is a cross-domain historical infrastructure performance reporting solution. It leverages the topology information to show how the underlying infrastructure's health, performance, and availability are affecting your business services and business applications in the long term. HPE OBR manages the relationship of infrastructure elements to the business services at run-time by using the same topology services that are used by the products that collect the performance data from the managed nodes.

HPE OBR collects data from different data sources, processes the data, and generates top-down and bottoms-up reports with the processed data. The SAP BusinessObjects, HP Vertica database, and PostgreSQL database are embedded software component of HPE OBR.

You can use the interactive reports in HPE OBR to:

- Report and analyze the pattern of problems in your IT environment.
- Forecast IT resource performance based on historical data.
- Drill down across time boundaries for the available data. For example, you can drill down from yearly level reports to monthly and daily level reports and vice versa to analyze the pattern of problems in a specific period of time.
- Perform a custom analysis of the data using report filters.

You can use HPE OBR to determine the changes that you can make in your IT environment to improve the performance of your business services.

HPE OBR has high data retention capability. This makes it possible to maintain high performance data over a long period of time and aid in decision making.

HPE OBR provides Content Pack which is a data mart—a repository of data collected from various sources—that pertains to a particular domain, such as system performance or virtual environment performance, and meets the specific demands of a particular group of knowledge users in terms of analysis, content presentation, and ease of use.

Content Packs contain the rules that define how the metrics will be collected, transformed, and aggregated in the reports. A typical Content Pack defines the metrics for a specific domain along with the necessary rules for analysis required in that domain.

HPE OBR allows you to perform the following functions:

- Create your own Content Packs. HPE OBR provides Content Development Environment (CDE) to create new Content Packs and customize existing Content Packs.
- Customize and extend the out-of-the-box Content Packs provided in the product.
- Create your own groups for reporting. For example, you can create groups based on the business management chain or business functions.

For more information, see the OBR documentation on the HPE Software support site.

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