

HP Universal CMDB

for the Windows and Solaris operating systems

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Glossary

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Glossary

This document lists terminology that is used throughout the documentation.

adapter

An entity in Federated CMDB responsible for retrieving and updating data in a data store (data that is not saved in the Universal CMDB). The adapter is aware of how specific data in the data store is modeled and knows the vendor-specific protocol for communication with the data store.

CI

See configuration item.

CIT

See configuration item type.

CMDB

Configuration Management Database. A central repository for configuration information that is gathered from the various HP Universal CMDB and third-party applications and tools. This information is used when building HP Universal CMDB views. The CMDB also contains the object repositories used to define CIs.

configuration item

A component of the CMDB that represents a physical or logical entity in the system. For example, configuration items (CIs) can represent hardware, software, services, business processes, and so on. The CIs are organized into a hierarchical format based on the dependencies in your organization's IT environment.

configuration item type

The category for each configuration item (CI). Each configuration item type (CIT) provides a template for creating the CI and its associated properties.

configuration item type manager

The definitions of all the configuration items types (CITs) defined in the system and the relationships that define the connections between them.

configuration management database (CMDB)

The core information repository of HP Universal CMDB. The CMDB stores and handles the infrastructure data collected and updated by Discovery and Dependency Mapping. The information concerning discovered CIs and relationships is deposited, grouped, and updated in the form of CIT definitions according to ITIL methodology.

configuration management database

For storage of changes, over time, of the CMDB configuration items (CIs). Users can view CI changes as well as snapshots.

data store

Any data storage system, such as a CMDB, relational database, and so on, where external CIs and relationships are located.

Discovery and Dependency Mapping job

Jobs include pattern parameters, scheduling information, and TQL assignments. This separation between jobs and patterns enables the reuse and upgrade of patterns. All customization resides in the job which means that one pattern can be used for different schedules and with different parameters. (In versions earlier than 7.0, a job included both the pattern and the pattern configuration.)

Discovery and Dependency Mapping module

One or more Discovery and Dependency Mapping jobs that together enable the discovery of a specific technology or application. See Run Discovery.

Discovery and Dependency Mapping Probe

The main discovery component responsible for requesting tasks from the HP Universal CMDB server, dispatching them to the IT components, and sending the results back to the CMDB through the server. The Probe comprises two components: the Probe Gateway and the Probe Manager. The Gateway provides communication (http or https) between the Manager and the server, for processes such as downloading tasks and returning task results. The Manager runs the process itself. The Gateway communicates with the Manager using RMI. One Gateway can connect to several Managers. Usually, the Manager and the Gateway run as one process.

domain (Discovery and Dependency Mapping)

A logical term for a customer site where each IP address is individual, that is, each domain must contain unique IP addresses. There are two types of domains: customer, for a specific customer site that contains private IP addresses; external, for the Internet (public) domain that contains all the IP addresses that are not included in the customer site (used when upgrading from version 6.x systems).

external class

A class defined in the HP Universal CMDB class model whose instances are stored in external data stores and not in HP Universal CMDB.

federated CMDB

CMDB implementations often involve federation, the inclusion of data in the CMDB from other sources, in such a way that the source of the data retains control of the data.

federated TQL (FTQL)

A TQL which contains external CITs in its definition.

Federation Framework

In Federated CMDB, the Framework acts as a mediator between HP Universal CMDB and the adapters; and as a container for the federated adapters.

folding rule

Folding rules are added to relationships to define the organizational structure of CIs in the topology map, by displaying selected CIs at different levels (layers). There are four folding rules: parent, child, right sibling and left sibling. When no folding rules are defined, the topology map displays all CIs included in a query result on one level. For example, if a query result includes a CI and its child, both CIs are displayed on the same layer in the topology map.

Framework

In Discovery and Dependency Mapping, an API that can be used to retrieve information required to run the Jython script, such as information on the trigger CI and pattern parameters. For example, `Framework.getTriggerCIData(String attributeName)` provides an interface between the Trigger CI data defined in the pattern and the Jython script. Framework is also used to report on errors that occur during running of the script.

HP Business Availability Center

HP's solution for real-time performance and availability monitoring from a business perspective, service level management, end-user management, system availability management, and custom reporting.

HP Universal CMDB

An application that enables you to manage and display all the topological objects contained in a managed world. It can precisely identify and report problems in the managed world at any topology level, from the service level down to the level of individual objects.

inheritance relationship

CITs that inherit the attributes and behavior (such as the label function) of the CIT above it. For example, the IPserver and IPclient CITs inherit attributes from the IPport CIT.

IT universe model

Part of the CMDB, responsible for holding the CIs and the relationships between the CIs. The IT universe model is organized into a hierarchical format that represents your organization's IT environment.

job execution policy (Discovery and Dependency Mapping)

A blackout period when jobs in a discovery should not run.

Manage Resources (Discovery and Dependency Mapping)

The application that enables you to configure the resources needed to run a discovery.

mapping engine

A component that identifies links between CIs from different data stores that have virtual relationships between them. The identification is performed by reconciling HP Universal CMDB CIs and external CIs.

modeling

The process of mapping the complex relationships between servers, network, storage, and software, and logical elements such as business services, VPNs, and end users.

multinode

An artificial entity defined in an adapter for reconciliation. For example, if reconciliation is done by a host CI, a host multinode is defined and all fields used for reconciliation are mapped to columns in the database.

OID (Discovery and Dependency Mapping)

A vendor's authoritative identification number assigned to devices in a network for SNMP identification purposes.

An identifier, usually a string of integers, that uniquely identifies a particular object in a system.

package

A subset of resources defined by certain defined criteria. Enables actions, such as the discovery of specific IT infrastructure assets, and moving resources from one system to another.

Package Manager

Enables you to deploy some or all of a package's resources to the CMDB from your local directory, as well as export some or all of a package's resources in the Package Manager to your local directory.

pattern

An XML file that is used by Discovery and Dependency Mapping to discover specific components in a system. A pattern is one of the resources of a job and includes parameters, scripts, and other code needed for discovery, as well as an input TQL that describes the potential input CIs and relationships that are created with each specific pattern.

pattern view

The pattern view enables the query to the CMDB by defining topology query language (TQL) queries (see topology query language).

perspective

A pattern to be applied to a model or a collection of CIs to create a perspective based view using the Modeling Studio.

reconciliation

The process of resolving data from two or more sources, either by resolving to a common naming schema or resolving data overlap differences within the records to a single answer.

resources

Applications, databases, network devices (hardware and software), and servers that are discovered and managed by HP Universal CMDB.

Run Discovery

Enables the discovery of a specific technology or application. For example, Run Discovery can discover network components such as IPs, servers, switches, and routers. Run Discovery manages the DDM process by defining the scope, defining the protocols, defining the connection data for the protocols, and activating the jobs.

Set up Probes (Discovery and Dependency Mapping)

The application that enables you to configure Probes and credentials.

Show Status Snapshot (Discovery and Dependency Mapping)

Enables you to view current information on all active jobs running on the Probes.

signature

The state of properties in the CI. If changes are made to property values in a CI, the CI signature must also be changed. The CI signature helps detect whether a CI has changed without the need to retrieve and compare all CI properties. Both the CI and CI signature are provided by the appropriate adapter. The adapter is responsible for changing the CI signature when the CI properties are altered.

subgraph

A graph that represents additional TQL query data related to a specific CI.

system report

A report that is based on a specific Report TQL query. The report display statistics about a query results and can be defined to display very detailed and focused information.

Topology Query Language (TQL)

A language and tool for discovering, organizing, and managing IT infrastructure data. It is used to create queries that retrieve specific data from the configuration management database (CMDB) and display that data. It is a language that enables you to draw conceptual relationships between CIs and create visual images of IT infrastructure resources.

trigger CIs

Following installation, the network on which the Discovery and Dependency Mapping Probe is located, the host on which the Probe resides, and the host's IP address are automatically discovered and a CI is created for each of these objects. These discovered CIs are placed in the CMDB. They act as triggers that activate a job. Every time a job is activated, the job discovers more CIs, which in turn are used as triggers for other jobs. This process continues until the entire IT infrastructure is discovered and mapped.

Trigger nodes

A node can be defined as a trigger node in Correlation Manager. Correlation Manager enables you to simulate how infrastructure changes you want to make impact your system. A node defined as a trigger node is the root cause node, or the node that represents the changes you want to make to the system.

Trigger TQLs

Define which specific CIs should be the trigger CIs for a job.

view

A collection of CIs and relationships represented by icons. These CIs and relationships are the result of a TQL query to the CMDB, and are displayed as a view according to display and organizational rules that are assigned to them. Each CI/relationship can be presented in multiple views or by multiple icons in different view layers.

View Explorer

A tool used in various applications for displaying, managing, and searching within the CI views.

virtual relationship

A relationship between two graph nodes that come from different data stores. The instances of these relationships do not exist in any data store and are created during FTQL calculation.