



Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

First Published: March 2004

Last Updated: October 17, 2008

The Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature assists configuration management by enabling faster collection of running configuration file information. This feature is especially useful in managing large networks with numerous interfaces configured.

Finding Feature Information in This Module

Your Cisco IOS software release may not support all of the features documented in this module. For the latest feature information and caveats, see the release notes for your platform and software release. To reach links to specific feature documentation in this module and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, use the [“Feature Information for Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement” section on page 7](#).

Finding Support Information for Platforms and Cisco IOS and Catalyst OS Software Images

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco IOS and Catalyst OS software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn>. An account on Cisco.com is not required.

Contents

- [Restrictions for Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 2](#)
- [Information About Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 2](#)
- [How to Configure the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 3](#)
- [Configuration Examples for the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 4](#)
- [Additional References, page 4](#)
- [Command Reference, page 6](#)
- [Feature Information for Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 7](#)



Americas Headquarters:
Cisco Systems, Inc., 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134-1706 USA

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Restrictions for Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

The device on which the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature is used must have enough memory available to store (cache) a large interface configuration file. For example, if the interface configurations take up 15 KB of memory, using this feature would require having an additional 15 KB of memory space available.

Information About Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

Before enabling the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature, you should understand the following concepts:

- [Cisco IOS Software Configuration Storage, page 2](#)
- [Benefits of the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 2](#)

Cisco IOS Software Configuration Storage

In the Cisco IOS software configuration model, the configuration state is maintained in a distributed manner, with each component storing its own configuration state. To retrieve configuration information, the software must poll every component to collect the distributed information. This configuration state retrieval operation is performed by a process known as nonvolatile generation (NVGEN), and it is used by command-line interface (CLI) commands such as **show running-configuration**, **write memory**, and **copy system:running-configuration** to display or copy the running system configuration. When invoked, NVGEN queries each system component and each instance of interface or other configuration objects. A running configuration file is constructed as NVGEN traverses the system performing these queries.

Benefits of the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

Before the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature was introduced, NVGEN always had to query the entire system and could generate only a total configuration. The time required to process the running configuration creates performance problems for configuration management, because completion of the NVGEN operation can take many minutes.

The Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature reduces the execution time for NVGEN processes and is especially useful for managing large configuration files that contain numerous interface configurations. This feature provides faster execution of commands that process the running system configuration by caching interface configuration information in system memory, and by retrieving only configuration information that has changed.

How to Configure the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

This section contains the following procedure:

- [Configuring the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement, page 3](#) (required)

Configuring the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

Perform this task to enable the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. `enable`
2. `configure terminal`
3. `parser config cache interface`
4. `end`

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>enable</code> Example: Router> <code>enable</code>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	<code>configure terminal</code> Example: Router# <code>configure terminal</code>	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 3	<code>parser config cache interface</code> Example: Router(config)# <code>parser config cache interface</code>	Reduces the time required for the CLI to execute commands that manage the running system configuration, especially for large configuration files.
Step 4	<code>end</code> Example: Router(config)# <code>end</code>	Exits global configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.

Configuration Examples for the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

This section provides the following examples:

- [Configuring the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement: Example, page 4](#)
- [Verifying the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement: Example, page 4](#)

Configuring the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement: Example

The following example shows how to enable the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature:

```
Router(config)# parser config cache interface
```

Verifying the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement: Example

You can verify that the **parser config cache interface** command has been enabled by checking for the command in the system configuration file displayed when you enter the **show running-configuration EXEC** command.



Note

The first time you display the configuration file, you will not see much evidence of improvement in performance because the interface cache will be filled up. However, you will notice performance improvements when you enter subsequent NVGEN-type commands such as the **show running-configuration EXEC** command.

Each time the interface configuration of an changes, the cache of the specified interface is flushed. The other interface data remains cached as before. Entering an NVGEN-type command after modifying the interface configuration will once again not show much evidence of improvement until the next NVGEN-type command is entered.

```
Router# show running-configuration  
!  
!  
parser config cache interface  
!  
!
```

Additional References

The following sections provide references related to the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature.

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
System configuration file management	“ Managing Configuration Files ” module in the <i>Cisco IOS Configuration Fundamentals Configuration Guide</i>
System configuration file management commands	The <i>Cisco IOS Configuration Fundamentals Command Reference</i> appropriate to your software release.

Standards

Standards	Title
None	—

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
None	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs

RFCs

RFCs	Title
None	—

Technical Assistance

Description	Link
<p>The Cisco Support website provides extensive online resources, including documentation and tools for troubleshooting and resolving technical issues with Cisco products and technologies.</p> <p>To receive security and technical information about your products, you can subscribe to various services, such as the Product Alert Tool (accessed from Field Notices), the Cisco Technical Services Newsletter, and Really Simple Syndication (RSS) Feeds.</p> <p>Access to most tools on the Cisco Support website requires a Cisco.com user ID and password.</p>	http://www.cisco.com/techsupport

Command Reference

The following commands are introduced or modified in the feature or features documented in this module. For information about these commands, see the *Cisco IOS Configuration Fundamentals Command Reference* at

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/ios/fundamentals/command/reference/cf_book.html. For information about all Cisco IOS commands, go to the Command Lookup Tool at <http://tools.cisco.com/Support/CLILookup> or to the *Cisco IOS Master Commands List*.

- **parser config cache interface**

Feature Information for Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

Table 1 lists the release history for this feature.

Not all commands may be available in your Cisco IOS software release. For release information about a specific command, see the command reference documentation.

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Note

Table 1 lists only the Cisco IOS software release that introduced support for a given feature in a given Cisco IOS software release train. Unless noted otherwise, subsequent releases of that Cisco IOS software release train also support that feature.

Table 1 Feature Information for the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement Feature

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement	12.3(7)T 12.2(25)S 12.2(33)SRC 12.2(33)SB 12.2(33)SXI	<p>The Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement feature assists configuration management by enabling faster collection of running configuration file information. This feature is especially useful in managing large networks with numerous interfaces configured.</p> <p>In 12.2(33)SB, this feature was implemented on the Cisco 10000 series.</p> <p>The following sections provide information about this feature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information About Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement How to Configure the Configuration Generation Performance Enhancement

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