



- Physical and virtual servers
- CI environment
- Distributed systems
- Storage systems
- OS environment



// FNT Command Server Management

Comprehensive Planning and Documentation of Modern Server Infrastructures in a Single, Integrated System

Reliable delivery of diverse services and applications is now a fundamental and increasingly business-critical requirement in the world of corporate IT. But as the associated server infrastructures become increasingly heterogeneous, they are also more difficult to manage. To deliver high-quality services despite all the various links and dependencies, IT managers need reliable information on every aspect of their server landscape. Only with the aid of comprehensive documentation in a centralized system is it possible to monitor data centers efficiently and manage them with the requisite control.

With FNT Command Server Management, it is now possible to fully document every aspect of a modern server infrastructure. In addition to physical and virtual servers, the Server Management module supports storage and memory assets as well as distributed systems, allowing end-to-end documentation. Objects are documented in their respective contexts rather than as individual components, which enables easy tracking in the event of a fault. The module also includes a full range of management and allocation functions for accessory items, such as

contracts, persons, maintenance windows, and logbook entries on each of the servers. The comprehensive planning capability can be used to prepare and implement changes and additions to the server infrastructure. Early recognition of critical dependencies and knock-on effects enables targeted prevention of system faults and performance losses.

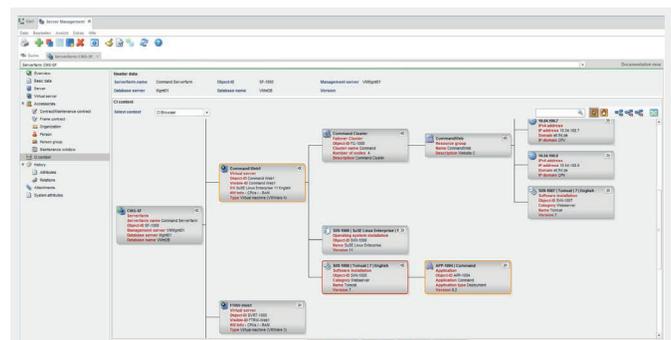


Fig. 1: Relationships between physical and virtual servers and their components, viewed in CI browser

Physical Servers

The Server Management module enables full documentation of all hardware-based servers with all necessary basic data and all physically installed components, including hard drives, RAM modules, processors, and plug-in cards. To ensure error-free documentation of complex servers, all component data is automatically verified during placement using built-in integrity checks.

Virtual Servers

It is also possible to document and manage virtual servers based on the underlying physical infrastructure. As with the physical systems, these can only use virtual hardware resources that are provided by a physical server. When installing an operating system on a server, or assigning an IP configuration or application to it, it is also possible to create coherent documentation of the underlying OS environment in order to provide clarity and transparency in large-scale server landscapes.

Storage Systems

Like with physical servers, physical storage systems can be fully documented and assigned to a network, thereby allowing the use of other FNT Command functions, such as signal tracing. This layer can then be used to configure logical storage systems and assign them to the corresponding physical systems.

Distributed Systems

The module can also be used to document distributed systems, such as failover clusters and server farms. To increase transparency where multiple server systems are used, each distributed system has its own CI context, where organizational responsibilities can be stored.

CI Environment

The CI browser provides a graphical overview of all documented objects and their dependencies. The ability to open individual configuration items (CI) is a convenient way of viewing all subsequently linked CIs and of quickly tracing the logical links.

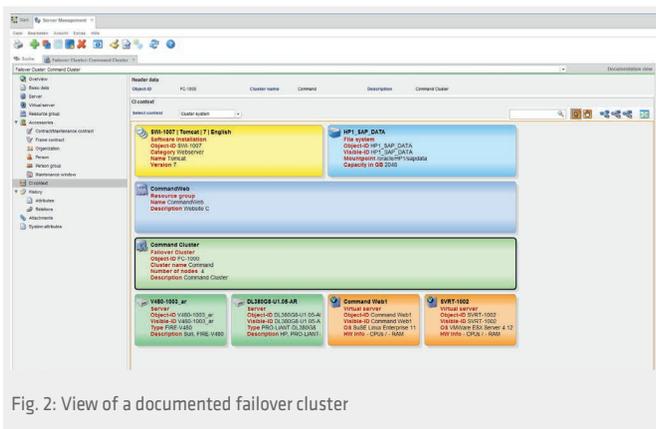


Fig. 2: View of a documented failover cluster

Software and Applications

The Server Management module has a basic OS environment, which enables users to assign installed operating systems,

software, and IP configurations to specific servers and to document these relationships in their respective contexts. It also provides the basis for comprehensive documentation and management of installed software and applications for the Software Management module.

Management of Contracts, Persons, and Organizations

The Server Management module can be used to link organizational information to each component. This provides the user with an easily accessible overview of organizational responsibilities and relationships. It is also easy to view and manage all current maintenance contracts and agreements for each individual CI.

Lifecycle Management

The built-in Lifecycle Management function records all errors, activities, and status changes for each CI during its entire lifecycle. This provides the user with an easily accessible overview of all key activities relating to the selected CI.

Search and Query Functions

The Server Management module offers extensive search and query options, with a wide range of search criteria. Search results can be exported in a choice of standard formats (XLS, PDF), enabling targeted infrastructure analysis and secondary use of data.

Data Import

The Server Management module also includes built-in templates for easy import of data in standard formats (e.g., MS Excel). There are also predefined interfaces for commonly used server environment platforms, such as VMware vCenter™ and Microsoft SCCM™, to enable automated import from existing data sources. Additional checks guarantee the integrity of the imported data as well as proper assignment and linking in the CI context.

History and Attachments

An unlimited number of file attachments can be assigned to each object, which enables comprehensive documentation at all levels of detail. There is also a History function for attributes, links, and additional location information.

System Requirements

The FNT Command C base module is a prerequisite for using the Server Management module.