

IBM® Sterling Control Center – Configuration Manager

*Simplify administration of your distributed
IBM® Sterling Connect:Direct network*



Benefits

- Simplifies configuration management
 - Normalizes configurations across platforms
 - Protects against downtime from configuration errors
 - Enforces security policy
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Decentralized servers cause management headaches

The decentralization of file transfer servers reduces costs and enables companies to keep up in today's fast-paced business environment. However, decentralization has also led to management headaches. Keeping up with configurations, managing license keys, and enforcing security policy across a large number of Sterling Connect:Direct servers can be a difficult task; depending on the number of servers, their locations, and amount of change in your environment.

Sterling Commerce simplifies configuration management

IBM® Sterling Control Center Configuration Manager provides a common and centralized interface for managing and auditing Sterling Connect:Direct servers to reduce costs while increasing configuration flexibility.

Normalize configurations across platforms

Configuration Manager uses a single, unified interface for administration of configuration objects across the many platform-specific versions of Sterling Connect:Direct in your enterprise. It normalizes parameters that might have different names or values pairs, and provides platform-specific syntax checking and easy-access tooltip help to ensure accuracy. This saves you time in making changes, which you can roll out across your entire network without having to manually change every affected server.



Protect against downtime from configuration errors

Mass updates run the risk of unintentionally taking an individual server down. Configuration Manager maintains version control over configuration objects that can be retained for auditing, and restored quickly and easily when needed. This restore protects against configuration errors caused by local, uncoordinated changes, such as hardware changes. For effective controls, Configuration Manager supports an audit log that identifies all changes that are made, and who makes them.

Enforce security policy

Effective security policy requires policing and enforcement. The Configuration Manager allows you to identify templates that reflect your policy for Sterling Connect:Direct configurations; for example, that all transmissions must use 3DES encryption. This policy template is compared across all servers to identify what is out of compliance, so it can be corrected.

Our customers have been using Sterling Control Center for years to provide visibility, service level agreements (SLAs) monitoring related to file-transfer activities, and distributing license keys. Now, Sterling Control Center enables centralized administration of your Sterling Connect:Direct servers. The Configuration Manager functionality includes:

Capability	Description
Central configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create, update, and delete Sterling Connect:Direct configuration objects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Netmaps – Initialization parameters – Users authorities and proxies (user IDs, passwords, and permissions for Connect:Direct servers) – IBM® Sterling Connect:Direct® Secure + (cipher suites, trusted certs)
Common interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update multiple servers across different platforms • Enables syntax checking and full text searches
Change control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains distinct versions of configuration objects that can be retained for auditing or restored when needed • Supports an audit log about changes to configuration objects; what changes are made and who made them
Policy management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers protected templates for configuration objects to compare configuration objects across servers and platforms to ensure compliance



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