HP Asset Manager Data Center Infrastructure Management module

Solution brief

Gain greater control over key assets.

HP Asset Manager software is designed to manage the full lifecycle of your IT assets, from cradle to grave. But what about your critical data center infrastructure?

Racks, power strips, PDUs, power provisioning, and cooling capacity are vital to a successful and efficient IT implementation, yet they are largely unknown to IT managers. That's because IT asset management and data center infrastructure management live in separate realms.

This gap between the two worlds causes costly problems. It can take seemingly ages to get a new server up and running. Power and cooling costs are hard to control if you don't have a clear view of the resources consumed by IT assets and your opportunities to optimize both IT equipment and data center facilities. The lack of a clear view can also hinder your green IT initiatives—because if you can't see the source of problems, you can't fix them.

These are just a few of the many arguments for building a solid bridge between the processes managed by your asset managers and your facilities managers.

This bridge is one of the keys to managing the data center from a holistic point of view and gaining better control over costs, while meeting your organization's IT service needs and compliance requirements.
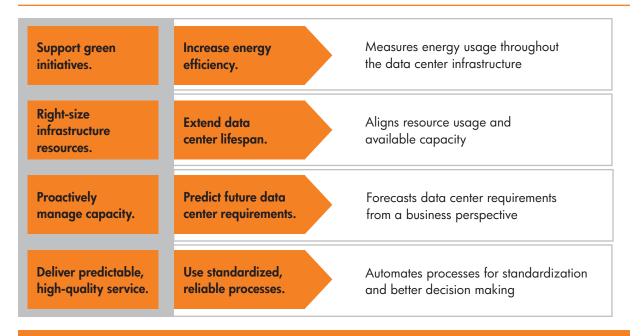
How do you build this bridge? Look to HP Asset Manager software and its Data Center Infrastructure Management (DCIM) module. This high-powered combination is designed to help you reduce costs and increase agility by bringing together the worlds of asset management and data center infrastructure management.

Key benefits
- Streamline procurement processes to reduce time from acquisition to installation.
- Understand outage impact and financial implications.
- Give life to green initiatives.
- Consolidate operational costs from DCIM and HP Asset Manager for total cost rollup.
- Buy data center equipment based on total cost of ownership (TCO).

Solving pressing problems
The HP Asset Manager DCIM module is designed to solve some of today's most challenging data center problems.

Support green initiatives.	**Increase energy efficiency.**	Measures energy usage throughout the data center infrastructure
Right-size infrastructure resources.	**Extend data center lifespan.**	Aligns resource usage and available capacity
Proactively manage capacity.	**Predict future data center requirements.**	Forecasts data center requirements from a business perspective
Deliver predictable, high-quality service.	**Use standardized, reliable processes.**	Automates processes for standardization and better decision making

HP Asset Manager DCIM module

The HP Asset Manager DCIM module extends capabilities into the management of the physical infrastructure of your data center. Among other benefits, this integration helps your organization improve energy efficiency and support green initiatives, improve the utilization of physical infrastructure resources (including space, power, and cooling), and financially optimize infrastructure investment both in the data center and IT.

With the HP Asset Manager DCIM module, your organization can:

- Better manage, measure, and optimize the cooling, space, and power needed to run data centers
- Consolidate data center infrastructure and perform proper decommissioning processes
- Standardize and automate data center processes to deliver predictable, high-quality service
- Right-size your physical infrastructure, extend the life of your data centers, and better manage procurement processes
- Accurately measure energy usage to help increase energy efficiency

Key features
- The **Data Center Configuration Management** feature models your entire physical environment to help you effectively manage the relationships between the IT and facilities assets within your data centers.
- The **Capacity Management** feature analyzes historical usage patterns to give you actionable insights into the current state and consumption trends for your data centers.
- The **Infrastructure Process Management** feature provides best practice processes for equipment installation, moves, and decommissions to help you improve efficiency and reduce time to market.
- The **Data Capture Handheld** feature provides an efficient method to collect information about data center assets to create an accurate information foundation.
- The **Integration Management** feature provides a standardized Web services interface that facilitates your efforts to integrate the HP Asset Manager DCIM module with other IT management systems.

The HP Asset Manager DCIM module bridges the gap between IT asset management and data center infrastructure management.

HP Asset Manager software

The Data Center Infrastructure Management module integrates important business data into the HP Asset Manager software suite. This suite provides your IT team with a comprehensive solution for automating and maintaining tight control over your company's capital investments.

HP Asset Manager helps you manage the physical, financial, and contractual aspects of an asset as it moves throughout the entire asset management lifecycle. It enables you to:

- Improve asset utilization and efficiency
- Tie appropriate asset disposal techniques to the asset lifecycle
- Achieve proactive compliance via regulatory templates and policy enforcement
- Leverage software asset management processes for efficient reuse of software
- Achieve greater benefits from virtualization without the threat of compliance issues

Modular components
In addition to the DCIM module, HP Asset Manager includes a rich collection of modular software products that work together to form a comprehensive asset management solution.

- **HP Asset Manager Procurement module** automates and streamlines the entire request lifecycle.
- **HP Asset Manager Portfolio Management module** simplifies asset tracking by consolidating assets and each configuration item into a central repository.
- **HP Asset Manager Contract Management module** simplifies, automates, and improves the business processes related to contract management.

- **HP Asset Manager Software Asset Management module** provides a simple, standardized, and proactive way to manage software license compliance.
- **HP Asset Manager Financial Management module** captures, monitors, and manages all costs associated with an asset, from acquisition through retirement. In addition, it allows for service-based charging based on actual use for the business units that consume IT services.

These modular software tools work together with other HP software products to help your organization enhance service and asset costs, mitigate security and compliance risks, and align IT with business objectives.

Complementary products
The HP Universal Configuration Management Database (UCMDB) has been extended to interface with the HP Asset Manager DCIM module. This integration extends IT Service Management (ITSM) principals into the data center physical infrastructure. It allows you to identify relationships and interdependences between IT systems and the underlying data center infrastructure by expanding the system's visibility down to physical assets, including equipment, space, power, environmentals, network, and storage.

The solution produces a complete visualization of logical assets mapped to the physical infrastructure that supports each asset, providing top-down visibility into the cause-effect relationship at one level of the IT organization and cascading down across the supporting systems. This view enables proactive management of capacity and data center requirements to meet business objectives.

Realizing the value of HP Asset Manager DCIM

Faced with a global economic slowdown and shrinking budgets, a leading financial institution needed to increase its focus on cost justification, avoidance, and reduction strategies. This was a difficult proposition, given that the company had a poor inventory of assets and no processes to manage and locate assets from requisition through disposal.

To address these challenges, the company implemented HP Asset Manager DCIM, which provided a set of robust, scalable, automated tools for capacity planning, process standardization, visibility into infrastructure assets, and compliance. Among other results, improved processes and efficiency gains saved in excess of $300,000 over a three-year period, and better management of telco contracts saved over $3 million in one year. The company achieved further cost savings by cutting the time required to plan for scheduled outages and maintenance windows and by greatly reducing the need for manual data gathering and frequent audits.

A complete solution

Comprehensive training
HP provides a comprehensive curriculum of HP Software and IT Service Management courses. These offerings provide the training you need to realize the full potential of your HP solutions, increase your network optimization and responsiveness, and achieve better return on your IT investments.

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