

gNOI-gRPC Network Operations Interface

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About gNOI

gRPC Network Operations Interface (gNOI) defines a set of gRPC-based micro-services for executing operational commands on network devices. The operational commands supported are Ping, Traceroute, Time, SwitchControlProcessor, Reboot, RebootStatus, CancelReboot, Activate and Verify.

gNOI uses gRPC as the transport protocol and the configuration is same as that of gNMI. For details on configuration, please refer to Configuring gNMI.

To send gNOI RPC requests, user needs a client that implements the gNOI client interface for each RPC.

In Cisco NX-OS Release 10.1(1) the gNOI defines Remote Procedure Calls (RPCs) for a limited number of components and some of them related to hardware (like optical interfaces).

Proto files are defined for the gRPC micro-services and are available at GitHub.

Supported gNOI RPCs

The following are the supported gNOI RPCs:

Table 1:

Proto	gNOI RPC	Supported
System	Ping	Yes
	Traceroute	Yes
	Time	Yes
	SwitchControl Processor	Yes
	Reboot	Yes
	RebootStatus	Yes
	CancelReboot	Yes
OS	Activate	Yes
	Verify	Yes
Cert	LoadCertificate	Yes
File	Get	Yes
	Stat	Yes
	Remove	Yes

System Proto

The System proto service is a collection of operational RPCs that allows the management of a target outside the configuration and telemetry pipeline.

The following are the RPC support details for System proto:

RPC	Support	Description	Limitation
Ping	ping/ping6 cli command	Executes the ping command on the target and streams back the results. Some targets may not stream any results until all results are available. If a packet count is not explicitly provided, 5 is used.	do_not_resolve option is not supported.

RPC	Support	Description	Limitation
Traceroute	traceroute/traceroute6 cli command	Executes the traceroute command on the target and streams back the results. Some targets may not stream any results until all results are available. Max hop count of 30 is used.	itial_ttl, marx_ttl, wait, do_not_fragment, do_not_resolve and l4protocol options are not supported.
Time	local time	Returns the current time on the target. Typically used to test if the target is responding.	-
SwitchControl Processor	system switchover cli command	Switches from the current route processor to the provided route processor. Switchover happens instantly and the response may not be guaranteed to return to the client.	Switchover occurs instantly. As a result, the response may not be guaranteed to return to the client.
Reboot	cli: reload [module]	Causes the target to reboot.	message option is not supported, delay option is supported for switch reload, and the path option accepts one module number.
RebootStatus	show version [module] cli command	Returns the status of the reboot for the target.	-
CancelReboot	reload cancel	Cancels any pending reboot request.	-

Note The SetPackage RPC is not supported.

OS Proto

The OS service provides an interface for OS installation on a Target. The OS package file format is platform dependent. The platform must validate that the OS package that is supplied is valid and bootable. This must include a hash check against a known good hash. It is recommended that the hash is embedded in the OS package.

The Target manages its own persistent storage, and OS installation process. It stores a set of distinct OS packages, and always proactively frees up space for incoming new OS packages. It is guaranteed that the

Target always has enough space for a valid incoming OS package. The currently running OS packages must never be removed. The Client must expect that the last successfully installed package is available.

The following are the RPC support details for OS proto:

RPC	Support	Description	Limitation
Activate	install all nxos bootflash:///img_name	Sets the requested OS version as the version that is used at the next reboot. This RPC reboots the Target.	Cannot rollback or recover if the reboot fails.
Verify	show version	Verify checks the running OS version. This RPC may be called multiple times while the Target boots until it is successful.	-



Note The Install RPC is not supported.

Cert Proto

The certificate management service is exported by targets. Rotate, Install and other Cert Proto RPCs are not supported.

The following are the RPC support details for Cert proto:

RPC	Support	Description	Limitation
LoadCertificate	crypto ca import <trustpoint> pkcs12 <file> <passphrase>	Loads a bundle of CA certificates.	-

File Proto

The file proto streams messages based on the features of the file.proto RPCs. Put and other RPCs that are not listed here are not supported in File Proto.

Get, Stat, and Remove RPCs support file systems - bootflash, bootflash://sup-remote, logflash, logflash://sup-remote, usb, volatile, volatile://sup-remote and debug.

The following are the RPC support details for File proto:

RPC	Description	Limitation
Get	Get reads and streams the contents of a file from the target. The file is streamed by sequential messages, each containing up to 64 KB of data. A final message is sent prior to closing the stream that contains the hash of the data sent. An error is returned if the file does not exist or there was an error reading the file.	Maximum file size limit is 32 MB.
Stat	Stat returns metadata about a file on the target. An error is returned if the file does not exist or if there is an error in accessing the metadata.	-
Remove	Remove removes the specified file from the target. An error is returned if the file does not exist, is a directory, or the remove operation encounters an error.	-

Guidelines and Limitations

The gNOI feature has the following guidelines and limitations:

- A maximum of 16 active gNOI RPCs are supported.
- The Cisco Nexus 9000 series switches would run one endpoint with one gNMI service and two gNOI microservices.
- In 10.1(1) release, the gNOI RPCs are implemented with the equivalent CLI. The existing CLI restrictions or valid options remain as applicable.
- Beginning with 10.2(1)F release, the file.proto and cert.proto RPCs are supported.
- gRPC traffic destined for a Nexus device will hit the control-plane policer (CoPP) in the default class. To limit the possibility of gRPC drops, configure a custom CoPP policy using the gRPC configured port in the management class.

Verifying gNOI

To verify the gNOI configuration, enter the following commands:

Command	Description
clear grpc gnoi rpc	Serves to clean up the counters or calls.

Command	Description
debug grpc events {events|errors} show grpc nxsdk event-history {events|errors}	Debugs the events and errors from the event history.
show grpc internal gnoi rpc {summary|detail}	An internal keyword command added for serviceability.