Creating a Contemporary “Print” PDF Design with MadCap Flare

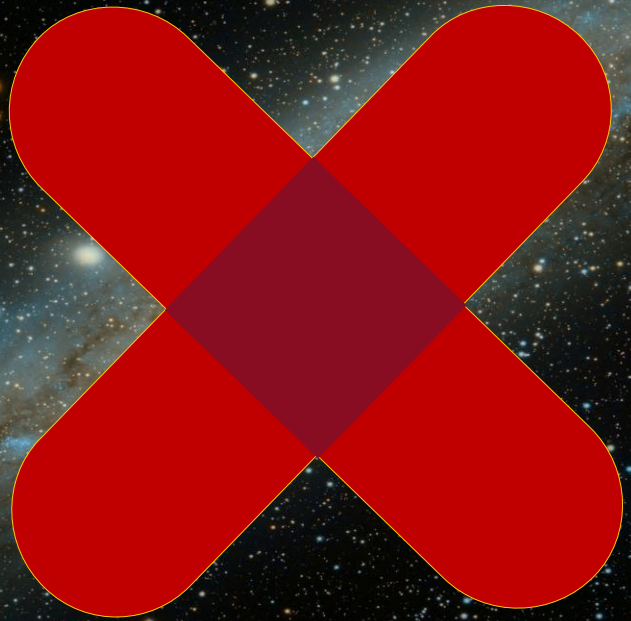
PRESENTED BY

Nate Wolf

AGENDA

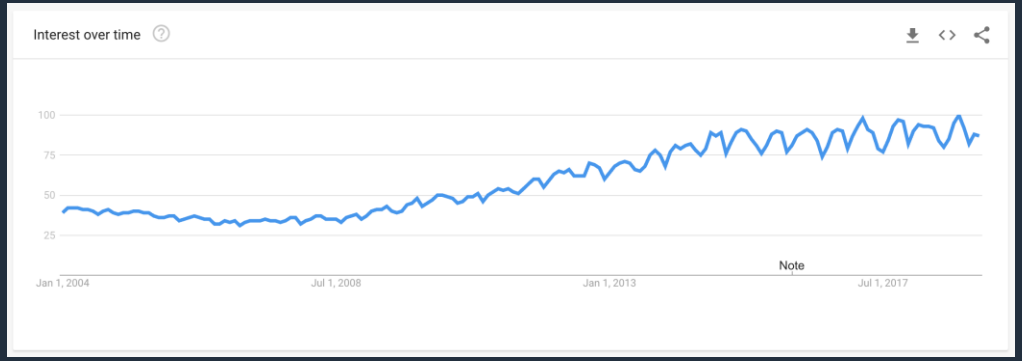
1. The Great Debate + a disclaimer
2. Designing Traditional PDF Documents
3. Designing Digital PDF Documents
4. Design Demo
5. Questions

THE GREAT DEBATE



HTML VS. PDF

- Use BOTH!
- People love them some PDFs!



Google Trends

Disclaimer

Release Notes
White Papers
Data Sheets
Spec Sheets
Quick Start Guides

Printed Docs
Hardware Guides
Software User Guides

Designing Traditional PDFs

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High-res images

Injecting empty pages

Roman Numerals

CHAPTER 1

Planning Your Upgrade

Before upgrading the ASA, you should perform the following preparation:

- Check compatibility between different versions of operating systems; for example, make sure that the ASA version is compatible with the ASA FirePOWER module version.
- Check the upgrade path for the current version to the target version; ensure you plan for any intermediate versions required for each operating system.
- Check for guidelines and limitations that affect your intermediate and target versions, or that affect failover and clustering zero downtime upgrading.
- Download all software packages required from Cisco.com.
- Back up your configurations, especially if there is a configuration migration.

The following topics explain how to upgrade your ASA.

- ASA Upgrade Checklist, on page 1
- Compatibility, on page 3
- Upgrade Path, on page 15
- Download the Software from Cisco.com, on page 28
- Important Guidelines Before You Upgrade, on page 40
- Back Up Your Configurations, on page 50

ASA Upgrade Checklist

To plan your upgrade, use this checklist.

1. ASA model (ASA Upgrade Path, on page 15): _____

   Current ASA version (ASA Upgrade Path, on page 15): _____

2. Check the ASA/ASDM compatibility per model (ASA and ASDM Compatibility Per Model, on page 3).

   Target ASA version: _____

   Target ASDM version: _____

3. Check the upgrade path for ASA (ASA Upgrade Path, on page 15). Are there intermediate versions required? Yes _____ No _____

Chapters starting on right page

Alternating page layouts

If yes, intermediate ASA version(s): _____

4. Download the target and intermediate ASA/ASDM versions (Download ASA Software, on page 28).

Note ASDM is included in the ASA for FXOS package.

5. Do you have an ASA FirePOWER module? Yes _____ No _____

   If yes:

   1. Current ASA FirePOWER version: _____

      View your current version: ASDM (ASA FirePOWER Upgrade Path with ASDM, on page 22) or Firepower Management Center (Firepower Management Center Upgrade Path, on page 25).

   2. Check ASA/FirePOWER compatibility (ASA and ASA FirePOWER Module Compatibility, on page 7).

      Target ASA FirePOWER version: _____

   3. Check the upgrade path for ASA FirePOWER (ASA FirePOWER Upgrade Path with ASDM, on page 22 or ASA FirePOWER Upgrade Path: with FMC, on page 24). Are there intermediate versions required? Yes _____ No _____

      If yes, intermediate ASA FirePOWER version(s): _____

   4. Download the target and intermediate ASA FirePOWER versions (Download ASA FirePOWER Software, on page 35).

   5. Do you manage the module using the Firepower Management Center? Yes _____ No _____

      If yes:

      1. Firepower Management Center model (Firepower Management Center Upgrade Path, on page 25): _____

         Current Firepower Management Center version (Firepower Management Center Upgrade Path, on page 25): _____

      2. Check the upgrade path for the Firepower Management Center (Firepower Management Center Upgrade Path, on page 25). Are there intermediate versions required? Yes _____ No _____

         If yes, intermediate ASA FirePOWER version(s): _____

      3. Check the Firepower Management Center compatibility with managed devices (FMC-Device Version Compatibility, on page 11). Make sure you plan to upgrade the ASA FirePOWER module in step with the Firepower Management Center upgrades.

      4. Download the target and intermediate versions for the Firepower Management Center (Firepower Management Center Upgrade Packages, on page 38).

6. Is your ASA model a Firepower 4100 or 9300? Yes _____ No _____

   If yes:

Designing Digital PDFs

What is a digital document?

Rethink our approach

“Design is the silent ambassador of your brand.”

Paul Rand

DESIGNING DIGITAL DOCUMENTS

Cut Down Your Docs

How can I make my docs shorter but still thorough?

Devices

What options for devices people use to read PDFs?

Flare Design

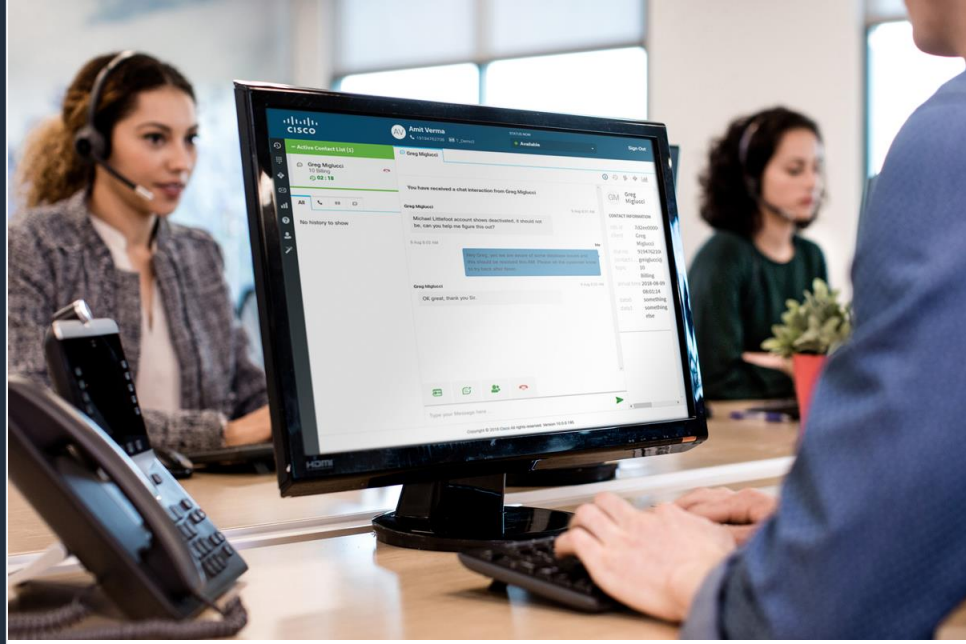
What settings and design aspects make sense for non-”print” documents?

CUT DOWN YOUR DOCS

- Cut text ruthlessly
- Active voice
- UX content writing
- Design approaches

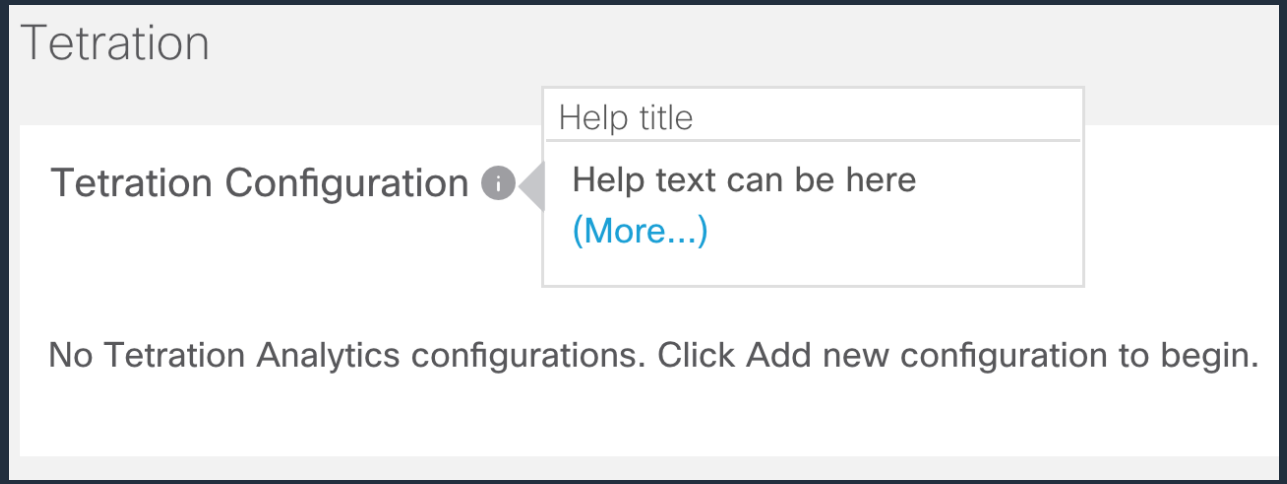
UX Content Writing

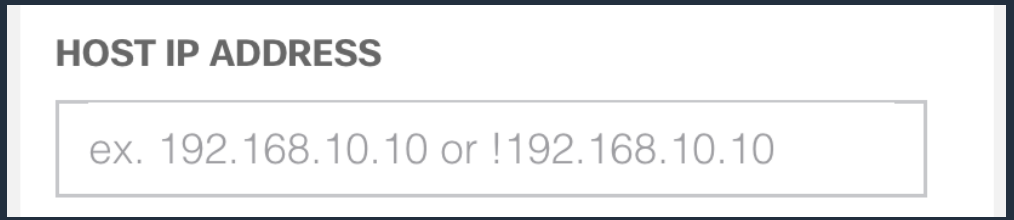
Documenting Inside Our Products



What can we add to the UI?

USER INTERFACE





USER INTERFACE

Use the Update Manager page to apply software upgrades, updates, and patches. The SMC and Flow Collector must be on for at least 1 hour but no more than 1 week to be updated. For best results, perform the update procedures on each appliance in the following order:

1. All UDP Directors (also known as FlowReplicators)
2. Flow Collector 5000 Series Databases
3. Flow Collector 5000 Series Engines
4. All other Flow Collectors
5. Endpoint Concentrator
6. Secondary Stealthwatch Management Console
7. Primary Stealthwatch Management Console
8. All Flow Sensors

Upload

Upload one file at a time.

For important instructions, download the Stealthwatch Update Guide from the Download & License Center.

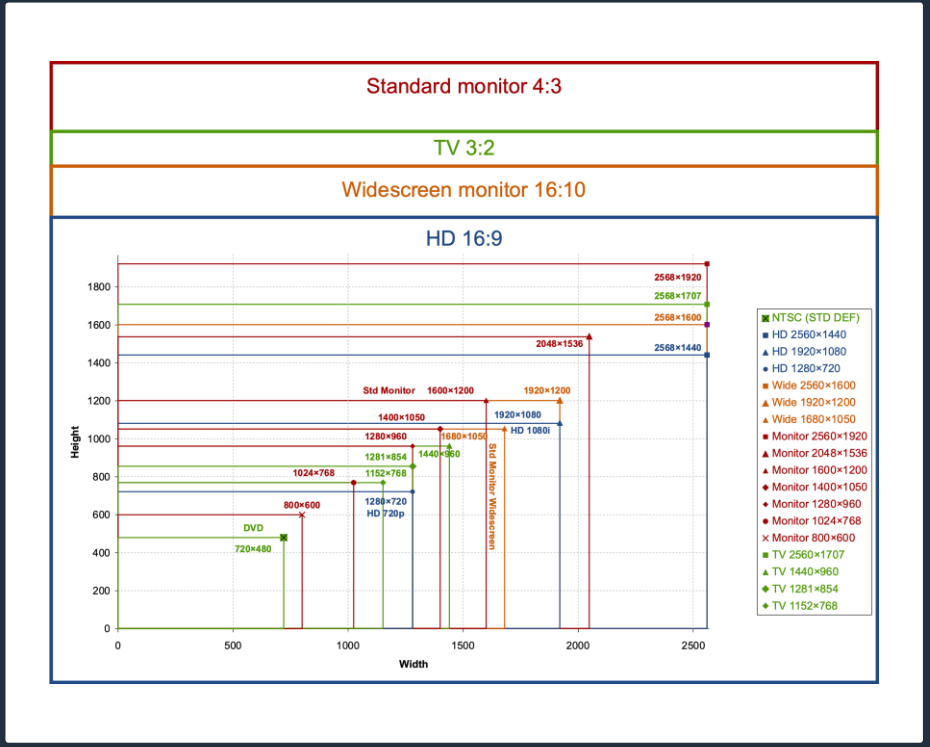
DEVICES

Phones

Tablets

Laptops

HD Monitor



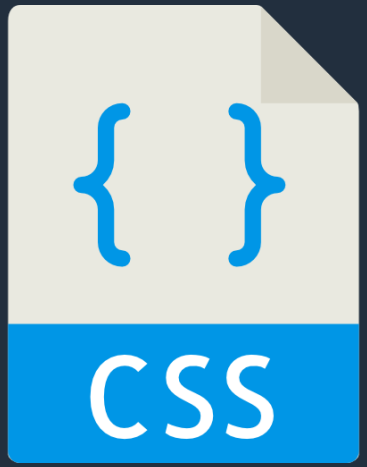
FLARE DESIGN

DESIGNING PAGE LAYOUTS

- Simple page layouts
- Landscape pages (or custom)

DESIGNING STYLESHEETS

- Use stylesheet mediums
- Bigger fonts (14pt body)



CREATING AND DESIGNING TOPICS

- Use cross-references
  - No conditions for print output
- Create topics to serve re-use
  - Title Page
  - TOC
  - Copyright Statement

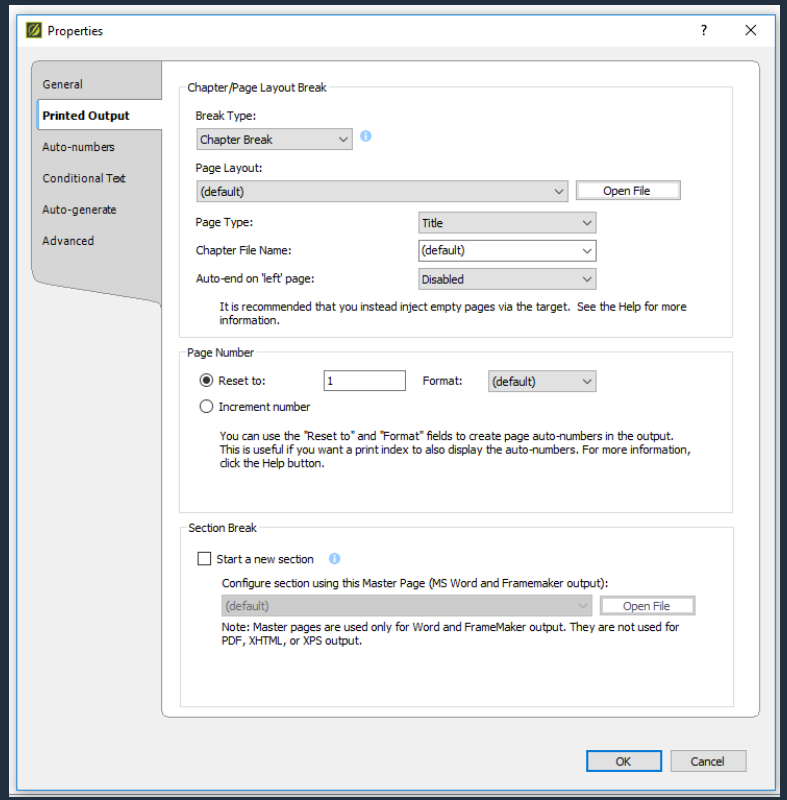
CREATING VARIABLES AND SNIPPETS

- Use variables to help re-use content
  - Version
  - Document Title
  - Product Name

- Use Snippets (and Snippet Conditions) for longer content
  - Copyright statements
  - Intro material

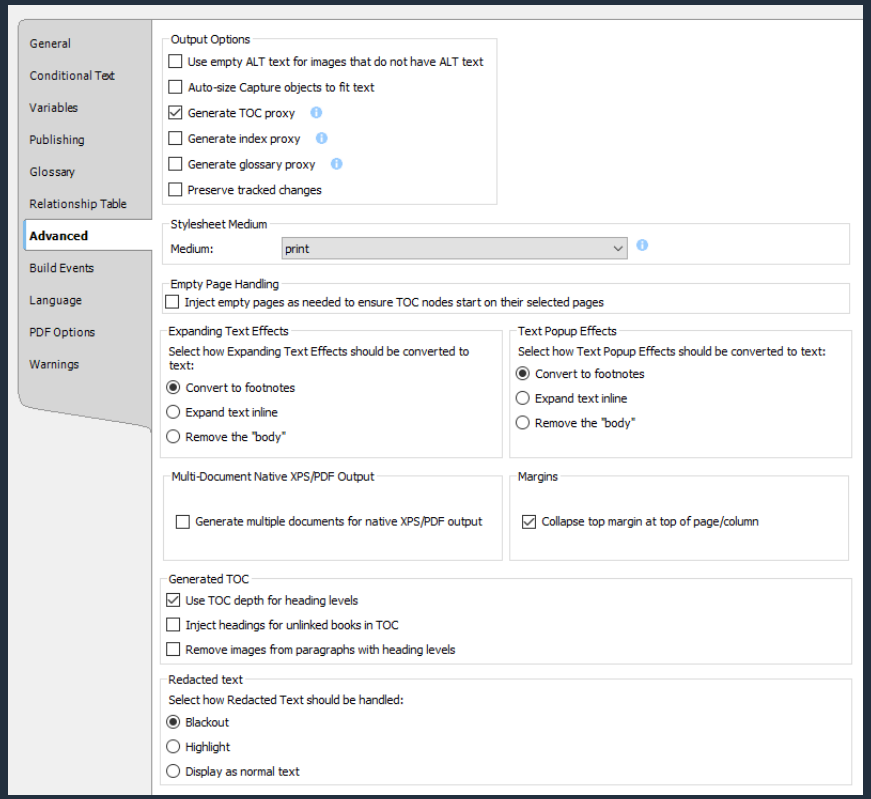
DESIGNING TOCS

- No roman numerals
- Disable auto-end
- Set Page Type



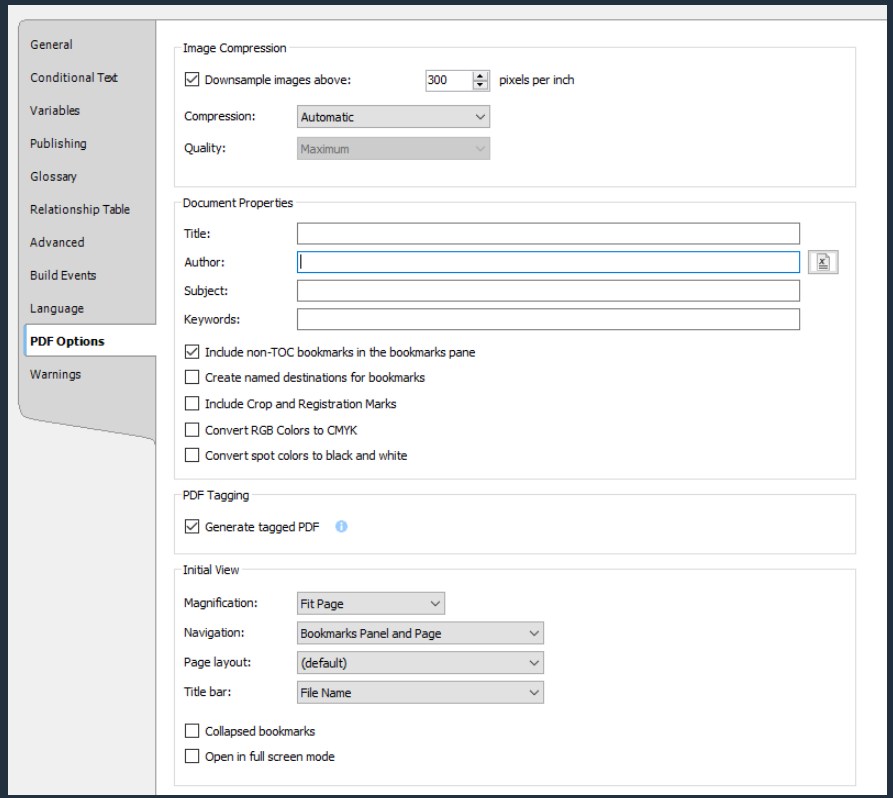
DESIGNING TARGETS

- Use stylesheet mediums
- Optional TOC page/proxy
- NO empty pages



DESIGNING TARGETS

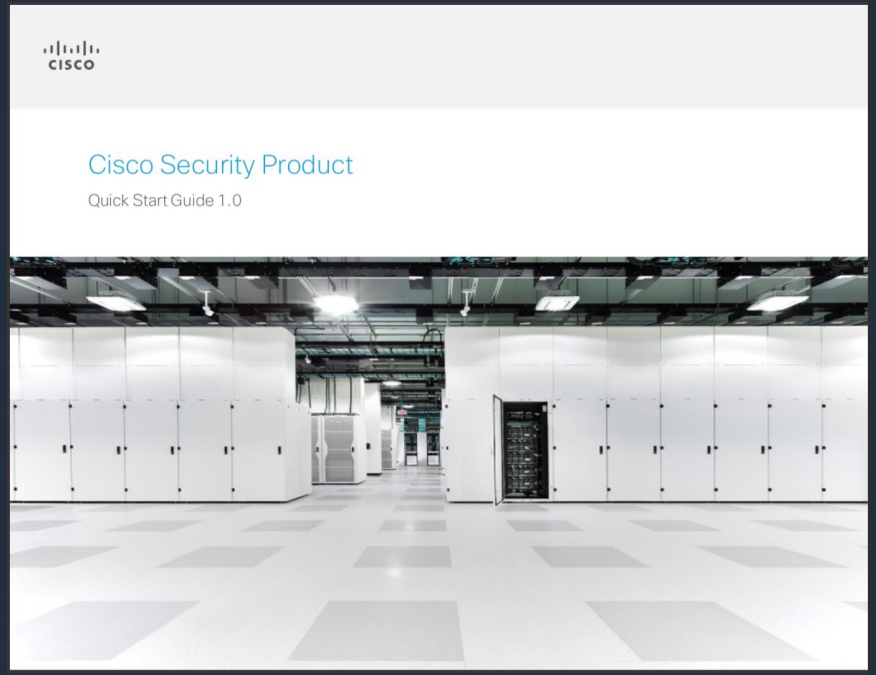
- PDF Tagging
- NO “print” settings
- View settings



DESIGN EXAMPLES

Landscape pages

Optional TOC page



No need for high-res print quality images, faster downloads

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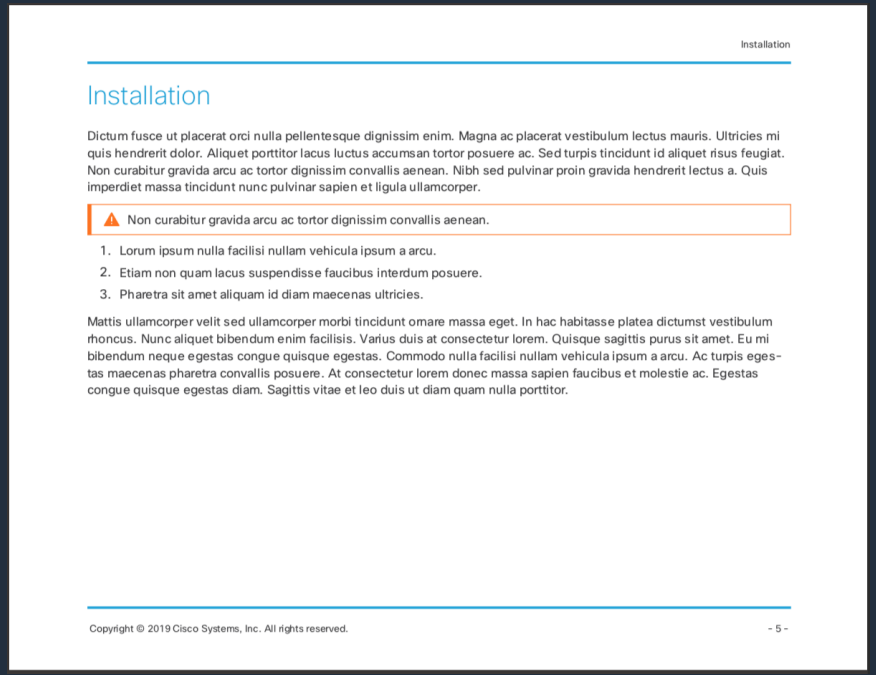
No roman numerals, number matches actual page number in PDF output

DESIGN EXAMPLES

Digital functionality



Installation

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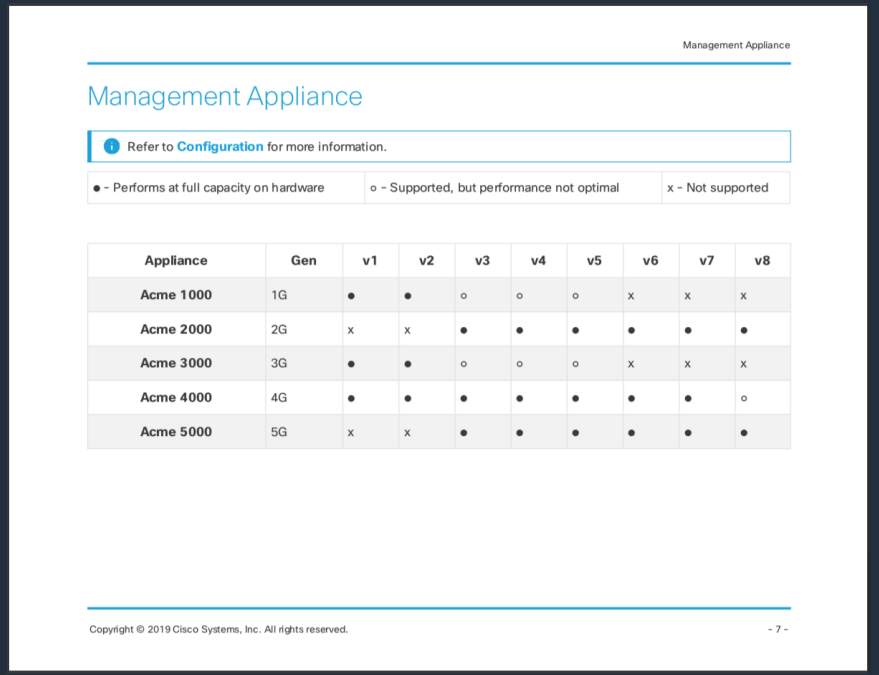
Simple design and layout



Management Appliance

Refer to **Configuration** for more information.

● - Performs at full capacity on hardware | o - Supported, but performance not optimal | x - Not supported

Appliance	Gen	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5	v6	v7	v8
Acme 1000	1G	●	●	o	o	o	x	x	x
Acme 2000	2G	x	x	●	●	●	●	●	●
Acme 3000	3G	●	●	o	o	o	x	x	x
Acme 4000	4G	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	o
Acme 5000	5G	x	x	●	●	●	●	●	●

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Less pages, great for elements like tables

Thank You!

Questions?