Main page: Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Express, Release 2.x

Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Express Release 2.x can operate in one of two modes: either in scheduled and reservationless conferencing mode or in ad hoc conferencing mode. The mode is controlled by the type of license that you install. Scheduled and reservationless conferencing mode uses premium licenses and ad hoc conferencing mode uses standard licenses. See Installing and Managing Licenses on the Cisco Unified MeetingPlace Express System for information about these licenses.

After you install either a standard or premium license on your system, the system provides you with a trial feature for the unlicensed mode, allowing up to six trial voice, web, and video ports to be used for evaluation purposes. For example, if a system is licensed for scheduled and reservationless conferencing mode, up to six additional ports are also available which will work in ad hoc video mode.

Although scheduled and ad hoc conferencing cannot be licensed simultaneously, the system lets you use the unlicensed mode so that you can work in trial mode. Trial mode has no impact on scheduled port allocations, either for voice or video. The six web trial ports expire after 60 days.

Contents

Licensed Ports

When users schedule meetings, they reserve ports. Ports are consumed when an endpoint joins a meeting. The maximum number of ports that can be scheduled on the system are denoted by the value of the voiceconf, webconf, and videoconf licenses.

Floater Ports

Floater ports are used when the number of participants exceeds the number of ports. If no regular ports are available, the system uses a floater port when a caller joins the meeting. The system administrator configures the number of floater ports.

Floater ports are also used when users call into a meeting for which no resources were reserved. If the floater port count is zero, callers into meetings without reservations can use any unused regular ports for the

meeting.

Increasing the number of floater ports available decreases the total number of licensed ports that can be reserved.

Overbook Ports

Overbook ports provide some leeway in port allocations. The concept is based on the assumption that not all scheduled ports will be fully utilized. When a user schedules a meeting, the system reserves ports based on the specified number of meeting participants. Overbook ports allow users to schedule more meetings and participants than the system actually has licenses for. The system administrator configures the number of overbook ports.

Increasing the number of overbook ports available decreases the total number of licensed ports that can be reserved.

System Resource Units (SRUs)

Ports and resources (also called System Resource Units or SRUs) are different entities. Every meeting participant counts as one port. The number of SRUs used, however, depends on the voice and video attributes of the call. For example, if the caller uses the G.729a audio codec, more resources are consumed on the system than a caller using a G.711 codec. An SRU is defined as a measurement of the system computing power used by one G.711 call.

System resources are consumed by three elements: the voice compression type, the video bit rate, and whether or not web conferencing is used. Each of these services independently consumes SRUs.

The audio codec G.729a, because of its higher complexity, consumes significantly more resources than a standard G.711 call. Additionally, increasing the maximum video bit rate for a meeting also consumes more resources than one scheduled with a lower maximum rate. The number of G.729a calls supported and the number of high-bit-rate meetings that can be configured depends on the capacity of the server, and the server should be sized accordingly.

The total SRU capacity of a system is calculated based on the type, the speed, and the number of processors on that system. You can obtain this information from the following two files on the system: /proc/cpuinfo and /etc/hwprofile.

You configure the number of G.729a ports on the Meeting Configuration page in the Administration Center. Contact your technical sales representative if you need assistance sizing a new server where the G.729a audio codec or high bitrate video may be used.

Recommended Port Configurations

Table: Recommended Port Configurations shows the port configuration settings that maximize the port utilization and capacity of the system, depending on how much traffic is used for reservationless meetings for voice and web. These recommendations apply to both voice ports and web ports. Port settings are configured on the Meeting Configuration page along with the other system-wide parameters for scheduled and reservationless meetings.

Table: Recommended Port Configurations uses the following values:

- R = percent of traffic used for reservationless meetings and Cisco Unified Personal Communicator web meetings.
- N = total number of voice or web ports including capacity assurance (CAP).
- 30% can be substituted for the standard operating percentage.

Table: Recommended Port Configurations

Reservationless Traffic	Overbook Ports	Floater Ports
R < 50%	N x 30%	N x 30%
R >= 50%	N x 15%	N x (R + 25%)
R = 100%	N	N

Tips

- Make sure that the total number of scheduling ports available (including overbook ports) is greater than or equal to the largest meeting size you expect users to schedule.
- These guidelines are good defaults for a new system. If your system is already configured with settings that work well for your user base, then keep the existing settings.