

AMF™ Allied Telesis Management Framework™

A Simple, Powerful, Cost-Effective SDN Solution

Software Defined Networking (SDN) claims better network utilization and easier management.

Unfortunately, most SDN solutions are targeted at large data centers and are out of reach of the typical enterprise customer. The Allied Telesis SDN solution is different.

AMF Brings the Benefits of SDN to Enterprises—Without the Hefty Price Tag

One of the main advantages of SDN is the promise of centralized management that treats the network as a single virtual device. AMF achieves this and more. An entire network can be managed from any single device, through a simple and intuitive CLI. Configuration and firmware files are automatically and regularly backed up and can automatically regenerate failed devices; and configuration changes can be made on multiple devices simultaneously. These features enable AMF to decrease network operating expenses by reducing the skill level required to maintain the network.

Eliminate the Chore of Configuration Management

Research consistently shows that network configuration management is arduous and error-prone. Significant time and effort is expended on ensuring that the latest configuration changes are kept safely, so that if a replacement device is required urgently, the correct

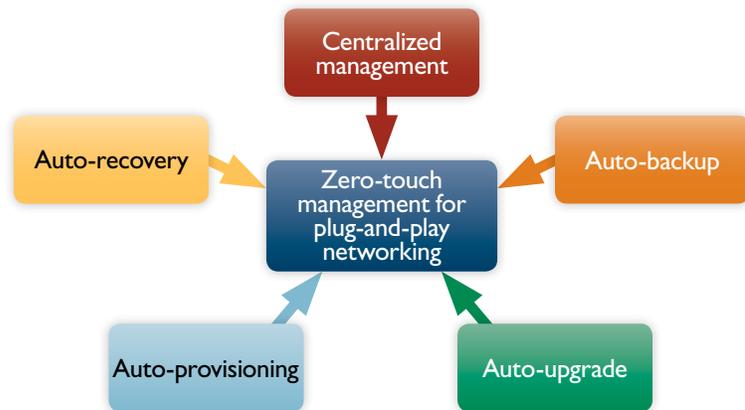
configuration can be found and installed quickly. When devices fail, often the most recent configuration is not available or the failed device is replaced by a slightly different one. This makes the task more complex and stressful, and is when mistakes can creep in.

AMF reduces effort and the risk of errors by managing the configurations for all devices in the network automatically. Every day, AMF automatically backs up the configurations and firmware for the entire network, into a central library. Backups can also be created manually after configuration changes. AMF also takes the stress out of assigning the correct configuration to devices because it can identify each device and select the correct configuration file from its library. Replacing a failed device becomes a truly zero-touch experience. The replacement device needs no configuration, other than a physical connection to the network. As soon as it is powered up, AMF will reconfigure the replacement device automatically.

Reduce Network Running Costs

A significant amount of time, and therefore cost, is spent by highly skilled network engineers, performing mundane or repetitive tasks on a daily basis. These tasks include installing new or replacement network devices, upgrading configurations or firmware, and making configuration changes across multiple devices. Each of these activities traditionally requires an experienced network engineer. Time is wasted travelling to remote locations, performing the same task again and again, or writing and testing complex automation scripts.

AMF provides an alternative approach: it automates many of the day-to-day tasks and takes the complexity out of repairing and extending the network. A large network can be run by fewer staff. This leads to considerable savings on operating expenditures and makes the network more agile to keep up with the pace of change that successful businesses demand.



Save time. Save money.

AMF can save considerable time and cost by reducing the amount of time skilled staff spend on day-to-day activities such as:

Adding a unit

With AMF, unconfigured devices can be added directly into the network because AMF will isolate the device until it has been successfully configured. Device configuration can be managed automatically by AMF or manually by the user. If automatic configuration is chosen, another device's configuration can be used as a template for the new device. It is very easy to grow the network rapidly, without requiring significant time from skilled network engineers.

Configuring multiple devices

A powerful feature of AMF is the consolidated command line, which enables CLI commands to be run on multiple devices simultaneously. The CLI commands are issued only once and AMF ensures that each device receives and processes the commands. This saves time and reduces the chances of mistakes when configuration changes need to be made across several devices.

Monitoring the network

The consolidated command line makes network monitoring simple, through a powerful range of monitoring commands. A user just issues a monitoring command once and AMF consolidates the results from a whole group of devices into a single report. Problematic devices become obvious at a glance.

Upgrading device firmware

Firmware upgrades can be rolled out to groups of devices or the entire AMF network, quickly and easily, using the consolidated command line. The user simply selects the group of devices to be upgraded, then issues the CLI commands to load the new firmware release. Each device in the group will download the files in preparation for a reboot.

Rather than having to reboot all devices in the group at the same time, a rolling reboot can be used. AMF ensures that only one device is rebooting at any one time, so maximum network connectivity is retained throughout the firmware upgrade process. Of course, all devices can be rebooted simultaneously, if preferred, simply by issuing a reboot command on the consolidated CLI.

AMF is available for the following Allied Telesis products, running the advanced AlliedWare Plus™ operating system:

- SwitchBlade® x8100 Core Chassis Switches
- SwitchBlade® x908 Advanced Layer 3+ Modular Switch
- x900 Series Advanced Layer 3+ Switches
- x610 Series Advanced Layer 3+ Switches
- x510 Series Stackable Access Switches
- AT-IX5-28GPX High Availability Video Surveillance Switch
- x310 Series Stackable Access Switches
- x230 Series PoE+ Gigabit Edge Switches
- x210 Series Gigabit Edge Switches

Learn More

To find out more about AMF and how it can improve your network, please contact your local Allied Telesis sales office or visit us online.

 **1 800-424-4284**

 **alliedtelesis.com/amf**