

VNF Life Cycle Management

Virtual Multimedia Resource Function

User Guide

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Prerequisites	2
3	Onboarding	3
4	Prepare VNF Deployment Parameters	5
5	Procedures	6
5.1	Instantiate VNF	7
5.2	Upgrade VNF	10
5.3	Scale-out VNF	13
5.4	Scale-in VNF	15
5.5	Terminate VNF	18
	Reference List	21





1 Introduction

This document contains information for system administration tasks performed in the VNF Lifecycle Manager (VNF-LCM). VNF-LCM provides a workflow execution environment and a web-based application for managing VNF life cycle procedures.

VNF life cycle procedures are realized by executing ordered sequences of steps, called workflows. Each workflow must be provided with VNF-specific input parameters during execution.

This document covers the following life cycle management procedures:

- *Instantiate VNF* on page 7
- *Upgrade VNF* on page 10
- *Scale-out VNF* on page 13
- *Scale-in VNF* on page 15
- *Terminate VNF* on page 18



2 Prerequisites

This section provides information on the tools and conditions that apply to the procedures in this document.

Before performing any VNF-LCM procedure, ensure that the following conditions are met:

- The software delivery package including vIMS workflows, VNF-specific Heat Orchestration Template (HOT) files, example environment files, and the VNF-LCM scripts is available.
- VNF-LCM is available using either Operations Support System, Radio and Core (OSS-RC) or Ericsson Network Manager (ENM).
- One of the following Virtual Infrastructure Managers (VIMs) is used:
 - OpenStack Mitaka or newer
 - CEE R6 or newer
- The VIM is configured in VNF-LCM.

Note: The VIM configuration in VNF-LCM can be checked with the `vnflcm vim list` command.

For more information on configuration and the command, refer to *VNF-Lifecycle Manager System Administration Guide*, Reference [1].

- The version of the LAF image used is 3.4.9 or higher.



3 Onboarding

This section describes how to prepare for workflow-based VNF operations using VNF-LCM. Performing this procedure is a prerequisite for life cycle operations.

Steps

1. Install the RPM workflow bundle as described in the relevant network management system documentation.

For more information, refer to *VNF-Lifecycle Manager System Administration Guide*, Reference [1].

2. Create a directory for the VNF-specific files in `/vnflcm-ext/backups/workflows/vnfd/<VNFTYPE__VNFVersion>` and copy the **release-specific** HOT files provided in the software delivery package into it.

Note: Follow the naming convention as above: VNF type and VNF version separated by "__".

3. In `/vnflcm-ext/backups/workflows/vnfd/<VNFTYPE__VNFVersion>`, create a `configurations` subdirectory and a child directory for each VNF configuration. This allows for storing multiple VNF configurations.

Note: Each directory in `configurations` shall contain a VNF-specific `env.yaml` environment file. Each `env.yaml` file can be used for a different VNF instantiation, depending on, for example, network needs.

4. Copy the `lcmScripts` directory and its content into the directory created in [Step 2](#).

Note: The `lcmScripts` is provided in the software delivery package.

The example below shows a directory structure with two configurations stored.

Example

```
`-- vMRF__1.3
   |-- additionalParams.json
   |-- configurations
   |   |-- example_config_1
   |   |   |-- env.yaml
   |   |-- example_config_2
   |       |-- env.yaml
```



```
|-- main.yaml
|-- scaling_group.yaml
`-- lcmScripts
    |-- __init__.py
    |-- post_instantiation.py
    |-- post_scale_out.py
    |-- pre_scale_in.py
    |-- pre_scale_out.py
    |-- pre_termination.py
    `-- vmrscommon
        |-- __init__.py
        |-- lcm_common.py
        |-- post_instantiation_common.py
        |-- post_scale_out_common.py
        |-- pre_scale_in_common.py
        |-- pre_scale_out_common.py
        `-- pre_termination_common.py
```

5. Add the private SSH key to the `/home/jboss_user/.ssh/` folder, and the public SSH key in the `admin_authorized_key` parameter of the `env.yaml` file.

Note: If the SSH key is not available yet, create it using the `ssh-keygen -t rsa` command.



4 Prepare VNF Deployment Parameters

The VNF-LCM uses the parameters of the `env.yaml` file as input for VNF instantiation, therefore they must be defined to match your network environment.

Note: The `.yaml` files included in the `examples` folder of the software delivery package serve as examples for a possible network configuration. They can be modified to match your network environment.

Steps

1. Ensure that **all** deployment HOT file parameters specified in the `/vnflcm-ext/backups/workflows/vnfd/<VNFType__VNFVersion>/configurations/<example_configuration_1>/env.yaml` files are assigned a correct value.
2. Add any missing deployment parameters and their default values to the `env.yaml` file.



5 Procedures

The following sections describe how to perform LCM operations.

VNF-LCM procedures utilize workflow instances. [Figure 1](#) shows an example of a workflow instance, where workflow progress can be tracked in the **Workflow Diagram** view. The **Workflow Diagram** only represents stages of the various procedures, operations are performed in the **Task** view.

It is not recommended to execute a workflow instance on a VNF while another one is in progress, as it can lead to unexpected behavior. If a new workflow procedure is needed, the ongoing one must be terminated before starting a new one.



Workflow Instance

[Cancel Execution](#)

Instantiate VNF_1496067991

Workflow Definition

Name Instantiate VNF

Version 0.0.8

Workflow Progress

In Progress

Not Available

[Workflow Diagram](#)[Workflow Log](#)

Instantiate VNF

Figure 1 Workflow Instance Overview

5.1 Instantiate VNF

This section describes how to instantiate a VNF using VNF-LCM.

Steps

1. In the VNF-LCM **Workflows** screen, select **Instantiate VNF**, and click the **Start a New Instance** button.



VNF LifeCycle Management

Workflows 5

Name	Instances with User Tasks	Active Instances
Instantiate VNF		
NR-Upgrade VNF		
Scale-In VNF		
Scale-Out VNF		
Terminate VNF		

Figure 2 Select Workflow

2. On the **Start a Workflow** screen, fill out the **Instance Name** field, and click **Submit**.
3. Select the newly created workflow from the **Instance Activity** panel.
4. On the **Workflow Instance** screen, add **VNF Name**, select VNF to instantiate, and click **Submit**.

Note: The **VNF Name** is also used as the Heat stack name.

The **Select VNF descriptor Id** field displays VNF releases available for instantiation in the `/vnflcm-ext/backups/workflows/vnfd/` directory.

Figure 3 Instantiate VNF



Task

Get VNF name and VNFD

Instantiate VNF

VNF Name*

Select VNF descriptor Id

*

vCSCF__x.y

vWCG__x.y

vEME__x.y

vMRF__1.2

vMTAS__x.y

vSBG__x.y

vBGF__1.9

vMRF__1.2

Submit

Reset

5. On the **Get Instance Configuration** screen, select a VNF configuration to instantiate, and click **Submit**.

Note: The **Select Configuration for the VNF instance** field displays VNF configurations available for instantiation in the `/vnflcm-ext/backups/workflows/vnfd/<VNFTYPE__VNFVersion>/configurations` directory.

Task

Get Instance Configuration Data

Get Instance Configuration

Select Configuration for the VNF instance*

▼

example_config_1
example_config_2
example_config_1

SubmitReset

Figure 4 Get Instance Configuration

The VNF is instantiated, it starts handling traffic after configuration data is provided. For more information on providing configuration data, refer to *Deployment Guide for OpenStack* or *Deployment Guide for Cloud Execution Environment (CEE)*, and *Initial Configuration Guide*.

5.2 Upgrade VNF

This section describes how to upgrade a VNF using VNF-LCM.

To perform this procedure without traffic stoppage, it is required that two VNFs are available in parallel during normal operation. During the upgrade process, configuration data is exported from the VNF selected to be upgraded. The VNF then is locked and removed. A new version of the VNF is deployed with configuration data of the previously removed VNF.

Prerequisites

- The new VNF version is onboarded, that is, the following parameters are exported from the old VNF:
 - mrf_image
 - shared_storage_ssh_private_key
 - admin_password_hash
 - payload_scaling_in_list
 - announcement_storage_ssh_private_key



Steps

1. In the VNF-LCM **Workflows** screen, select **NR-Upgrade VNF**, and click the **Start a New Instance** button.

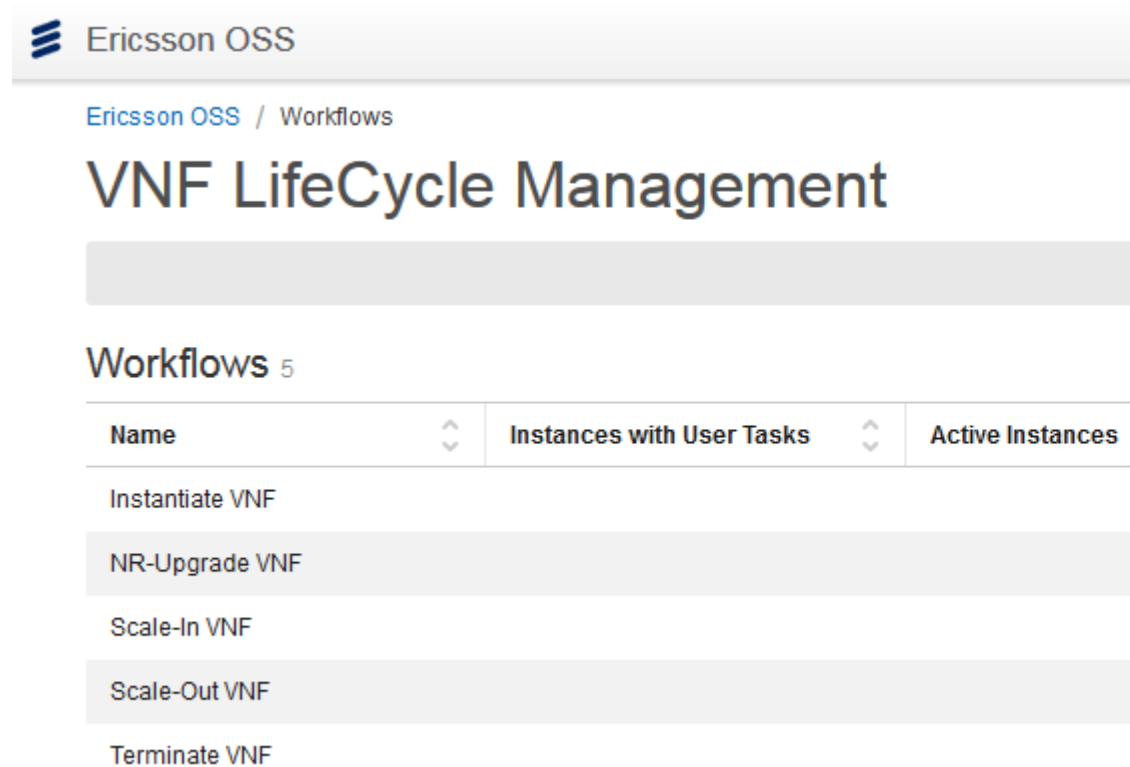


Figure 5 Select Workflow

2. On the **Start a Workflow** screen, fill out the **Instance Name** field, and click **Submit**.
3. Select the newly created workflow from the **Instance Activity** panel.
4. On the **Workflow Instance** screen, select the VNF to upgrade, termination options, and click **Submit**.

Task

Select VNF to upgrade

Upgrade VNF

Stacks

Select VNF to upgrade*

vMRF-cpi-demo

VNF Termination type:

Graceful

Graceful termination timeout (sec)

-1

SubmitReset

Figure 6 Select VNF to Upgrade

The following termination options are available:

Graceful	The VMs in the cluster are gracefully locked, the VNF instance gradually stops processing traffic. The VNF is terminated after the expiration of the graceful termination period.
Forceful	The VNF is terminated immediately, all ongoing traffic is lost. This option must be confirmed on the next screen, as it stops all traffic.

Graceful termination timeout (sec)

The graceful termination timeout value defines after how many seconds the VNF is terminated when graceful termination has been applied but there is still ongoing traffic. Default value: -1, meaning that there is no graceful termination period, that is, the VNF is terminated only after all VMs stopped processing traffic.

- On the **Select target VNF version** screen, select the new VNF version.
- On the **Select Target Instance Configuration Data** screen, select configuration data for the new VNF.

After this step, the old VNF is terminated according to the termination method chosen in [Step 4](#), and the new version is instantiated with the configuration data selected in [Step 6](#).



If the new VNF fails to instantiate, it is automatically terminated and the old VNF is recreated with the `-r` suffix in its stack name.

If the new VNF is instantiated successfully, the **Confirm upgrade** screen is displayed, and a 60 minute timer is started.

7. Check that traffic processing in the new VNF version is working properly.
 - If the operation of the new version is considered acceptable, select **Confirm** and click **Submit**.
 - If there are problems with the new version that cannot be solved and that are considered unacceptable, select **Rollback** and click **Submit**. The rollback procedure terminates the VNF and recreates the old VNF with the `-r` suffix in its stack name.

Task

Confirm upgrade

Check the if the upgrade was successful. Rollback or finish?

Time left until automatical rollback (minute)
59

☐ Rollback

Figure 7 Confirm Upgrade or Rollback

Note: If neither option is chosen before the timer expires, the new VNF is removed and the old one is instantiated automatically.

After the upgrade procedure is confirmed, the new version VNF continues accepting new incoming traffic.

5.3 Scale-out VNF

This section describes how to scale-out a VNF using VNF-LCM.

Continue with this procedure only if the VNF to be scaled-out was instantiated using the VNF-LCM.



Steps

1. In the VNF-LCM click **Start a Workflow**, and select **Scale-Out VNF**, and click the **Start a New Instance** button.

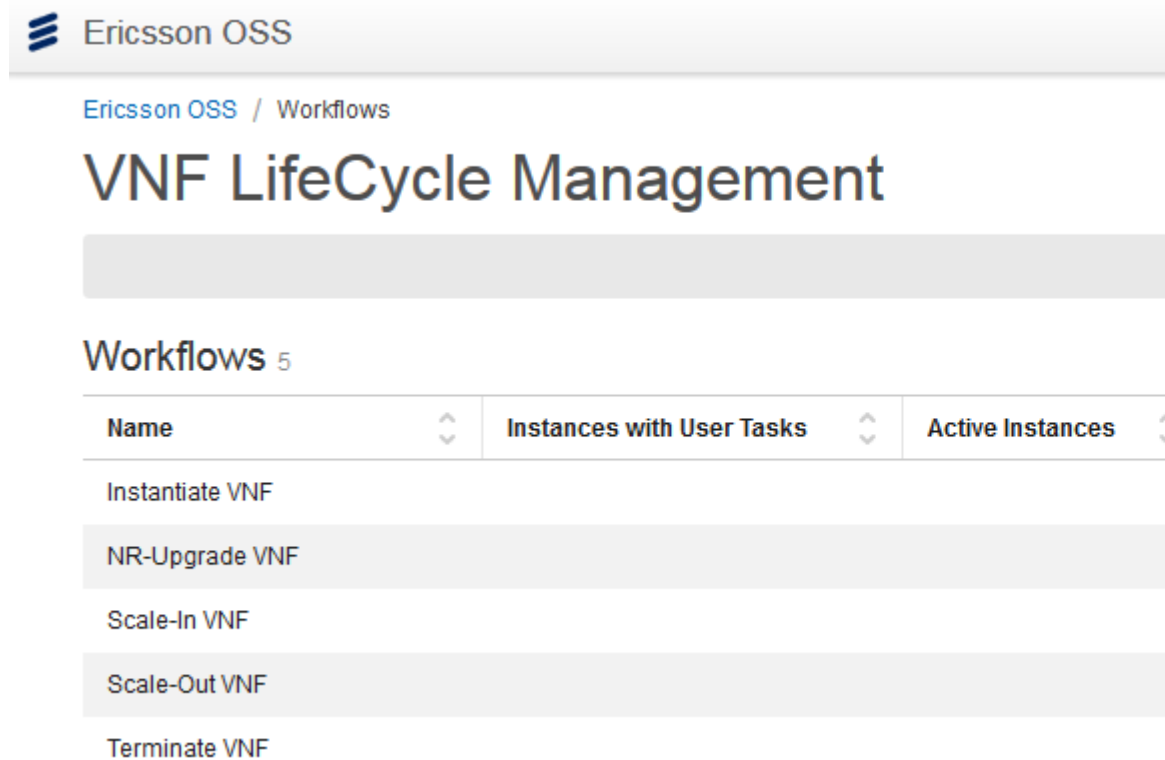


Figure 8 Select Workflow

2. On the **Start a Workflow** screen, fill out the **Instance Name** field, and click **Submit**.
3. Select the newly created workflow from the **Instance Activity** panel.
4. On the **Workflow Instance** screen, select the VNF to be scaled out, specify the number of VMs to be added to the VNF, and click **Submit**.



Task

Collect user data for Scale-Out

Scale-Out VNF instance

Scale-Out Data

Select VNF instance*

vMRF-12

Number of additional
VMs*

2

Submit

Reset

Figure 9 Scale-out VNF Instance

The VNF instance is scaled-out, new VMs are added to the cluster.

5.4 Scale-in VNF

This section describes how to scale-in a VNF using VNF-LCM.

Continue with this procedure only if the VNF to be scaled-in was instantiated using the VNF-LCM.

Steps

1. In the VNF-LCM click **Start a Workflow**, and select **Scale-In VNF**, and click the **Start a New Instance** button.



VNF LifeCycle Management

Workflows ⁵

Name	Instances with User Tasks	Active Instances
Instantiate VNF		
NR-Upgrade VNF		
Scale-In VNF		
Scale-Out VNF		
Terminate VNF		

Figure 10 Select Workflow

2. On the **Start a Workflow** screen, fill out the **Instance Name** field, and click **Submit**.
3. Select the newly created workflow from the **Instance Activity** panel.
4. On the **Workflow Instance** screen, select the VNF to be scaled in, specify the number of VMs to be removed from the VNF, and click **Submit**.

Figure 11 Scale-in VNF Instance



Task

Collect user data for Scale-In

Scale-In VNF instance

Scale-In Data

Select VNF instance*

vMRF-12

Number of VMs to Scale-In*

1

Submit

Reset

- On the **Collect extra parameters** screen, specify the needed parameters, and click **Submit**.

Note: This step is optional, leave the fields blank if none of these parameters is needed.

Figure 12 Scale-in VNF Instance

Task

Collect extra parameters

Input additional parameters for workflow!

Optional: List of VM UUIDs to scale-in

2bd90c9f-9641-4c25-8fc1-d9c2a206f

Scale in type

GRACEFUL

Optional: Graceful Scale In timeout

Submit

Reset

The following optional scale-in parameters are available:

- Specific VMs to be scaled-in
- VM locking method, that is, graceful or forceful
- If VMs are locked gracefully, a timer for graceful lock

The VNF instance is scaled-in, the specified number of VMs with the highest index is removed from the cluster.

5.5 Terminate VNF

This section describes how to terminate a VNF using VNF-LCM.

Continue with this procedure only if the VNF to be terminated was instantiated using the VNF-LCM.

Steps

1. In the VNF-LCM **Workflows** screen select **Terminate VNF**, and click the **Start a New Instance** button.

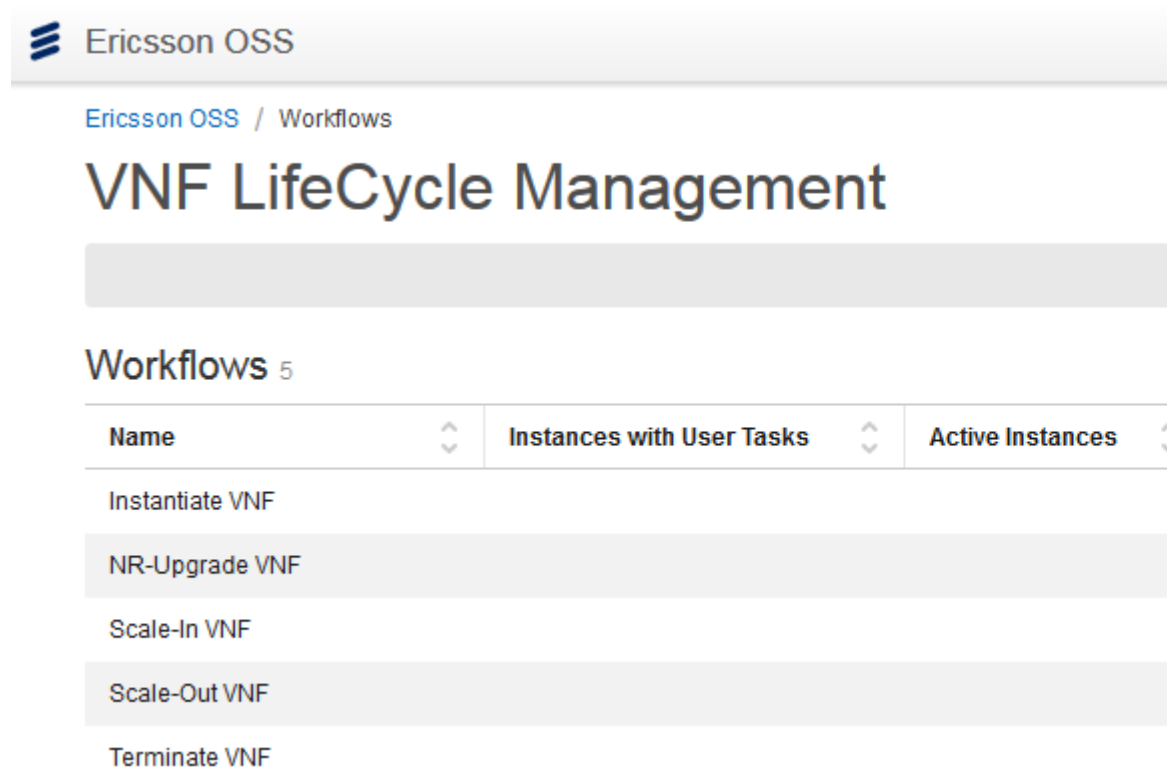


Figure 13 Select Workflow



2. On the **Start a Workflow** screen, fill out the **Instance Name** field, and click **Submit**.
3. Select the newly created workflow from the **Instance Activity** panel.
4. On the **Workflow Instance** screen, select the VNF to terminate, termination options, and click **Submit**.

Task

Collect user data for Terminate

Terminate VNF instance

Termination Data

Select VNF instance*

vMRF-12

Termination type:

Graceful

Graceful termination
timeout (sec)

-1

Submit

Reset

Figure 14 Terminate VNF

The following termination options are available:

Graceful

The VMs in the cluster are gracefully locked, the VNF instance gradually stops processing traffic. The VNF is terminated after the expiration of the graceful termination period.

Forceful

The VNF is terminated immediately, all ongoing traffic is lost. This option must be confirmed on the next screen, as it stops all traffic.

Graceful termination timeout (sec)

The graceful termination timeout value defines after how many seconds the VNF is terminated when graceful termination has been applied but there is still ongoing traffic. Default value: -1, meaning that there is no graceful termination period, that is, the VNF is terminated only after all VMs stopped processing traffic.



The VMs in the cluster are terminated with the method selected in [Step 4](#), the VNF instance stops processing traffic, and is terminated.



Reference List

- [1] *VNF-Lifecycle Manager System Administration Guide*, 1543-APR 901 0578