

OTRS::ITSM 3.2 - Basic

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Preface

The document at hand addresses OTRS::ITSM users and administrators and provides information on the basic use of OTRS::ITSM by IT service managers, IT service staff (agent) and end users (customer). Information regarding installation, configuration and administration is only provided if there are differences to the OTRS core product or for functions, which only exist in OTRS::ITSM.

In spite of the many many hours of work, even more cups of coffee and quite a few sausages and pretzels consumed in the course of writing the following sections, this manual does not claim to be complete. The chapters will be revised and/or amended periodically for continual improvement.

We welcome your feedback as a critical contribution to the best possible quality of the following chapters and of the product itself. Please tell us if you miss information, find it difficult to understand certain aspects the way they are presented, have suggestions or other comments. Any feedback submitted at <http://otrs.org> is highly appreciated.

We are very proud of the product at hand and want to thank the ITIL experts of Enterprise Consulting GmbH and our top-notch OTRS developers. Their joint efforts have significantly contributed to the successful development of OTRS::ITSM.

We want to thank you, the users and OTRS::ITSM community, in advance for any kind of aid and feedback and hope you will have fun using OTRS::ITSM.

André Mindermann, Managing Partner OTRS AG

Bad Homburg, May 2007

((enjoy))

Chapter 1. OTRS::ITSM - The OTRS for IT service management

IT is expected to deliver consistently high service quality in an increasingly complex field. In this context, effective and efficient incident and problem management are indispensable. However, IT service management remains a task almost impossible if there is no consistent and up-to-date database with information about the state and configuration of the IT infrastructure.

The IT Infrastructure Library®, short ITIL®, is a series of books published by the United Kingdom's Office of Government Commerce (OGC), which generically combine best practice approaches to designing, providing, operating and managing IT services. ITIL does not center the technology but the services provided by the IT and comprises information on processes, roles, responsibilities, potential problem fields/resolutions and definitions of terms.

ITIL has established itself as de facto standard over the past years and its circulation in IT organizations contributed considerably to the development of a collective awareness and consistent terminology for IT service management. However, ITIL only describes "who should do what" and what should be considered along the way. In order to cover as wide a user group as possible, it does not or only rudimentarily address the issue of how to do things. Therefore, no implementable information is given for particular industries, companies or manufacturers.

In December 2005, the ITIL based ISO/IEC 20000 industry standard for IT service management was published. IT organizations can apply for ISO/IEC 20000 certification and prove their conformity.

The continuing boom caused demand for IT service management tools, which could represent the ITIL-based processes. So far, only proprietary solutions existed. Because of their considerable complexity, most of these tools are only affordable for large companies and effective in large IT departments.

The development of OTRS::ITSM was initiated as a logical consequence of the great success of the Open Ticket Request System OTRS in order to combine the globally accepted, public ITIL recommendations with the benefits of open-source software.

OTRS::ITSM 1.0 was the first real-world ITIL compliant IT service management solution on open-source basis, built on the solid fundament of over 55,000 known OTRS installations and the related active community (information dating from April 2007). OTRS::ITSM is under permanent development and new ITIL topics are added continuously.

Core objective of the development of OTRS::ITSM is a strong praxis orientation. This aim can be accomplished by the close development collaboration with Enterprise Consulting GmbH from Bad Homburg, which is very experienced in the practical application of ITIL. Additionally to providing ITSM consulting services and solutions, Enterprise operates complete ITIL compliant IT organizations for renowned customers.

The service-desk and ticket system solution OTRS forms the basis for the operation of the ITIL compliant IT service management solution OTRS::ITSM, its incident management, problem management, service level management and configuration management modules and the integrated CMDB.

OTRS::ITSM and OTRS are freely available (no license fees apply) and are subject to GNU Affero General Public License (AGPL).

Features

OTRS::ITSM 3.2 is based on the Open Ticket Request System OTRS 3.2. All functionalities known from OTRS continue to be available and the functionalities representing ITIL processes can be installed as packages.

New OTRS::ITSM 3.2 features

OTRS::ITSM 3.2 offers:

- Ported code to the OTRS 3.2 framework.

Enhanced Import/Export screen to show a summary after importing.

Added attachment support for ITSM config items.

Added new optional sysconfig option to check if config item names are unique.

New OTRS::ITSM 3.1 features

OTRS::ITSM 3.1 offers:

- Ported code to the OTRS 3.1 framework.

Added caching to speed up the condition / action backends in change management.

Added possibility to use a mirror database for change and workorder searches in change management.

New OTRS::ITSM 3.0 features

OTRS::ITSM 3.0 offers:

- Brand New Interface - OTRS 3.0 Look & Feel

Ported code to the OTRS 3.0 framework.

New Generic Search Dialogs.

New Search result types (Print, PDF and CSV).

New OTRS::ITSM 2.1 features

OTRS::ITSM 2.1 offers:

- Change Management

Improved speed of Change Management and GeneralCatalog by implementing caching technology.

New powerful FreeText fields for Changes and Workorders in Change Management.

Implemented an option to reset the change and workorder states while saving as template.

New alternative checksum generator for the change number.

New option to show workorder title and workorder state in the change zoom timeline.

New OTRS::ITSM 2.0 features

OTRS::ITSM 2.0 offers:

- Change Management

The new OTRS::ITSM package "ITSMChangeManagement" implements the ITIL discipline Change Management.

New OTRS::ITSM 1.3 features

OTRS::ITSM 1.3 is based on the Open Ticket Request System OTRS 2.4

It offers the same features as OTRS::ITSM 1.2, but runs on the OTRS 2.4 framework.

New OTRS::ITSM 1.2 features

OTRS::ITSM 1.2 is based on the Open Ticket Request System OTRS 2.3

OTRS::ITSM 1.2 offers:

- Modularization

From now on the additional ITSM packages covering single ITIL disciplines like incident management / problem management, configuration management, service level management, can be installed independently from each other. To you as a user that means that you neither have to install the packages in a certain installation order nor that you have to install them all to use OTRS::ITSM.

- Reduced reloads

ITSM functionalities (e. g. priority calculation based on a tickets impact) have been reimplemented in AJAX technology to reduce necessary reloads. That leads to an increased speed using OTRS::ITSM.

- Joint Link-Object mechanism

OTRS::ITSM 1.1 and lower releases were designed based on an own extended Object-Link mechanism. As a consequence, the Object-Link functionality of OTRS couldn't be used in OTRS::ITSM. A joint Object-Link mechanism has now been implemented, which covers all the features from both former Link object mechanisms.

- Improved speed

The improvement to faster access the Configuration Items (CI) database has been achieved by switching database access technology to SQL bind parameters.

- Locations

Locations are no longer a separate menu item. They are now integrated into the Configuration Items, which will bring a sustainable gain in flexibility.

- SLA-Service multi-assignments

It is now possible to assign an SLA to multiple Services.

- SLA Overview

In the service menu, there is now a new SLA overview mask.

- Refresh-Mechanism

Added a refresh mechanism to refresh the service overview and the config item overview screens automatically.

New OTRS::ITSM 1.1 features

OTRS::ITSM 1.1 offers:

- Authorization concept

Each object like Service/SLA, Location, CI, Linkobject now creates an own group, so the agents rights can be assigned more granulary.

- Allocation of services to customers

Services can be assigned to authorized customers. Further more, services may be assigned as general 'default services' which are valid to use for each customer.

- Service/CI view

A view on services and CIs including information on each objects current state allows to analyze an incident and calculate the incidents impact on affected services and customers. As an enhancement of the service view, now SLAs and linked CIs are displayed too. For each CI the current incident state is shown. Also, the incident state will be propagated for dependent SLAs and CIs. If a service is selected, the service details will be shown, now with the additional 'current incident state', which is calculated from the incident states of dependent services and CIs.

CIs are now enhanced with a 'current incident state', which includes two state types:

- Operational
- Incident

For each state type any number of states can be registered. The state of a CI affects the service state, which will be dynamically calculated, and can have one of the following three values:

- Operational (green)
- Warning (yellow)
- Incident (red)

The propagation of the incident state will be carried out if CIs are linked with the link type 'depend on'. Here the following rules apply:

- If a CI is dependent from another CI, which is in the state 'Incident', the dependent CI gets the state 'Warning'.
- If a service is dependent from CIs, and one of these CIs has a state 'Incident', the service will also get the state 'Incident'.

- If a service is dependent from CIs, and one of these CIs has the state 'Warning', the service will also get the state 'Warning'.
- If a service has sub-services, and one of these services has the state 'Incident', the parent service will get the state 'Warning'.
- If a service has sub-services, and one of these services has the state 'Warning', the parent service will get the state 'Warning'.

The states of the respective services, sub-services and CIs will be shown in the view.

- CI search and linking from agent interface

A service agent may search, select and assign any of a customers configuration items (CIs) or existing tickets while recording a new incident ticket.

- CMDB Import/Export (CSV and API)

This feature offers the possibility to import or update data from CSV files into the CMDB of OTRS::ITSM, and to export data from the CMDB to CSV files. Each line of the CSV file describes one CI, with the data of the CI in the columns.

The import and export is controlled with ImEx definitions. These definitions map the columns of the CSV file to the fields in the CMDB. You can create an ImEx definition via the admin interface in OTRS. For each available field in the CMDB, the corresponding column in the CSV file needs to be defined. This is done in a form, which represents the current CI definition. Also, a filter can be applied, to limit the number of the exported CIs. Any number of ImEx definitions can be stored in the system, and each definition can be used for import and for export.

To start an import (exports work the same way), two possibilities exist: interactive with the web interface, or automatically with a script. Using the interactive way, the desired ImEx definition is selected, and then the CSV file is uploaded to the system. During the interactive export, the CSV file will be offered for download respectively.

The automatic import is carried out via a script, which needs the name of the ImEx definition and the name of the CSV file as arguments. During the script based export, the CIs that were given the script as arguments, will be saved in a CSV file. Before the execution of the import or export, the selected ImEx definition will be compared with the current CI definition. If inconsistencies were found, the process will be cancelled. Also, during import, restrictions in the CI definition (e.g. mandatory fields) will be checked. If applicable, the data record is rejected, but the import process continues. An import protocol can be found in the syslog. Via the API the CSV based import/export can be replaced or enhanced by other formats/transports, like direct database access or XML. The implementation of the CSV interface can be used as a reference.

- A huge variety of additional reports have been created, e.g.:

Basic reports for tickets and configuration items (CIs):

- Total of all ever created tickets per ticket-type and priority (state, queue, service).
- Monthly overview of all ever created tickets of a previous month per ticket-type (priority, state, queue, service).
- Total of created tickets in a defined period per ticket-type and priority (state, queue, service).
- Total of all open tickets per ticket-type and priority (queue, service).

- Total of all configuration items (CIs) created per class (per state).
- Total of all configuration items (CIs) created in a previous month per class (per state).
- Total of all configuration items (CIs) created in a defined period per class (per state).

Much more reports have been added providing specific data regarding first time solution rate and average resolution time:

- First time solution rate of all ever created tickets per ticket-type and priority (queue, service).
- First time solution rate in a previous month per ticket-type (priority, queue, service).
- First time solution rate in a defined period per ticket-type and priority (queue, service).
- Average resolution time of all ever created tickets per ticket-type and priority (queue, service).
- Average resolution time in a previous month per ticket-type and priority (queue, service).
- Average resolution time in a defined period per ticket-type and priority (queue, service).
- Added print function for CIs, Services, SLAs, Locations.

OTRS::ITSM 1.0 features

OTRS::ITSM 1.0 offers:

- ITIL compliant representation of "service support" processes
 - incident management
 - problem management
 - configuration management
- an integrated, individually extensible configuration management database (CMDB)
- ITIL compliant names for new functions
- ITIL compliant role, responsibility and permission model
- cross-process communication management: within the IT service organization, with customers/users/management and suppliers/providers
- flexible stats functions for (trend) analyses; reporting, planning and controlling based on performance figures
- flexible configuration, customization and upgrade to meet individual requirements
- native ticket types are supported (integrated in OTRS): Various ticket types can be managed in the admin interface. Free-text fields are therefore no longer needed to specify ticket types. Installations using free-text fields for ticket type classification do not have to be migrated. The new feature is also shown in the ticket content and in the print view for agents and customers and can be adjusted in the agent interface.

Configuration management & integrated CMDB:

OTRS::ITSM is based on an integrated configuration management data base (CMDB), which serves as the fundament for the comprehensive control of the service management processes. It represents the configuration items (CI), their complex relationships and interdependencies with each other and with other components of the service chain.

- Comprehensive recording and management of ITSM relevant configuration items (CIs) such as computers, hardware, software, networks, documents and services, SLAs and organizational structures.
- Illustration of the IT service catalog and agreements in force (SLA, OLA, UC)
- Recording, management and illustration of technical and service related relationships and interdependences among CMDB data, e.g. a service with all necessary, alternative or relevant CIs
- Management of historic, current and future CI states, e.g. for problem diagnosis, server maintenance or planned changes
- Analysis of the potential impact of service failures or configuration changes
- Display of virtualized IT infrastructures, e.g. server / memory virtualization
- Software license management, e.g. licenses available / in use (third party products required)
- Chronological life cycle management for CIs, from acquisition to disposal
- Reporting of all configuration changes performed on CMDB data
- Interface to company directories (e.g. LDAP, eDirectory, Active Directory)

Incident management:

- Services and SLAs (integrated in OTRS): The new attributes "service" and "service level agreements (SLA)" were integrated in OTRS 2.2 on its way to becoming an IT service management tool. When creating a ticket, the customer can select a service (e.g. e-mail service) and a corresponding SLA. SLA attributes are "response time", "update time" and "solution time". IT service can use these attributes for notifications or ticket escalation in order to meet existing SLAs. Service and SLA specific information in the header of new e-mails can be analyzed as usual with the PostMaster filter module.
- Comprehensive support of IT service support organization processes with incident recording, classification, prioritization, direct help (1st level support), diagnosis, coordination (2nd/3rd level support, external partners etc.), service recovery, resolution, closure and documentation
- Incidents and service requests can be recorded quickly and intuitively by service desk staff and users (web self-service)
- Rule-based ticket generation and/or notification, e.g. in interaction with IT monitoring systems
- Classification and prioritization options (priority, impact, urgency)
- Complete CMDB coverage, e.g. services affected by the incident, configuration items concerned, FAQ database, link-up between tickets and CIs for analyses and reporting
- (Automatic) recording of "articles" for tickets (activity record)
- Constant monitoring and evaluation of the ticket processing progress

- complete integration of OTRS role, group and queue mechanisms for incident ticket allocation, tracking, escalation and interpretation
- Provision and storage of relevant time data, e.g. for service level management
- practical ticket handling (merge, split), allows to merge similar incidents and/or split complicated ones
- planning, proactive control and monitoring of service request activities (work packages, work plans, service lead times, due dates)
- generation and tracking of problem tickets from incidents

Problem management:

- comprehensive support of IT organization processes in problem identification, recording, classification, prioritization, problem origin diagnosis, resolution coordination, e.g. workaround or request for change, closure and documentation
- provision of relevant information for subprocesses
 - problem control (trouble-shooting),
 - error control (error processing),
 - proactive problem management (e.g. ticket trend analyses) and
 - management information (on incidents, problems and known errors)
- current/historic incidents, knowledge base (FAQs) and CMDB are constantly available
- complete integration of OTRS role, group and queue mechanisms to allocate, track, escalate and evaluate incident tickets
- systematic automated notifications on the problem resolution progress for users (user groups) concerned or the management
- incident management receives ready signal for resolved problems

Tickets are central information containers for IT service process management: They transport multiple possible underlying data such as:

- persons, organizations
- time stamp
- priority, impact, severity
- associations to IT service catalog and projects
- activities, e.g. note about a call with time accounting
- objects, e.g. CIs, including relations
- (sub)tickets, e.g. a problem with the underlying incidents
- notes and attachments, e.g. scanned service request forms

- work packages, i.e. planned, allocated tasks
- SLA information
- thresholds and escalation data
- ticket history (all changes)
- accounting information (time accounting).

Hardware and software requirements

The requirements for OTRS::ITSM are the same as for OTRS. More information can be found in the OTRS Admin Manual.

Community

A large community evolved around OTRS in the past years. Users and developers use mailing lists to share their insights about a wide variety of issues connected with the trouble ticket system. They address questions about installation, configuration, use, localization and development. Bugs can be reported using the bug tracking system at <http://bugs.otrs.org> (<http://bugs.otrs.org/>). They directly reach the developers responsible and fixes can be provided quickly.

The above mentioned community channels are open for OTRS::ITSM users, too, to constantly improve the product's quality. You can join the community at our homepage <http://otrs.org> (<http://otrs.org/>).

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Open Source

More than 5,000 active OTRS Community members, experts and enthusiasts, contribute to the OTRS open source project and software, driven by the same motivation, to enhancement and expedite OTRS' distribution based on voluntary contributions. Get involved, leverage OTRS' community tools and benefit from the support and technical expertise of this worldwide community.

Established since: 2001	Downloads: 1,115,000
Members: 5,000+	Installations: 100,000
Community Forum: forums.otrs.org >>	Software available in: 32 languages

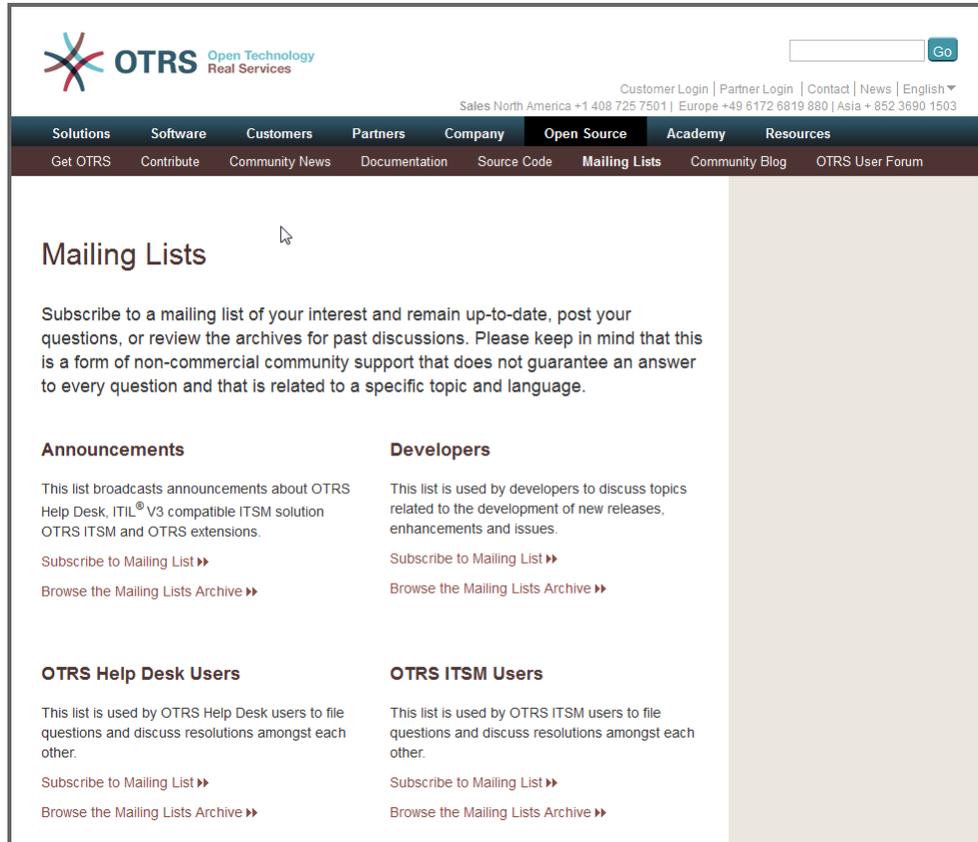
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Contribute
If you want to suggest or vote for a feature, report a bug, intend or already have completed a localization for the software or simply want to explore the community using the OTRS User forum, this is the right place to do.
[Get involved! >>](#)

FOUNDING
NetworkedHelpDesk.org
MEMBER

Mailing lists

Separate mailing lists have been set up for OTRS::ITSM. Please visit <http://lists.otrs.org> (<http://lists.otrs.org/>):



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Subscribe to a mailing list of your interest and remain up-to-date, post your questions, or review the archives for past discussions. Please keep in mind that this is a form of non-commercial community support that does not guarantee an answer to every question and that is related to a specific topic and language.

Announcements

This list broadcasts announcements about OTRS Help Desk, ITIL® V3 compatible ITSM solution OTRS ITSM and OTRS extensions.

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Developers

This list is used by developers to discuss topics related to the development of new releases, enhancements and issues.

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This list is used by OTRS Help Desk users to file questions and discuss resolutions amongst each other.

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Chapter 2. Commercial services for OTRS::ITSM

OTRS AG is manufacturer and source code owner of OTRS and all modules based upon it (e.g. OTRS::ITSM) and a professional service provider. Unlike those of proprietary software providers, OTRS AG's business model is not based on license fees: OTRS and OTRS::ITSM are available free of cost and we offer commercial services associated with the software applications instead.

As your capable partner, we provide optimal support in all phases of your OTRS project design, realization and operation. We believe in deploying the most modern methods and our staff are highly skilled experts. This philosophy guarantees credit for powerful business applications and happy customers lauding our service quality (<http://www.otrs.com/en/references/>).

OTRS::ITSM consulting and implementation

Are you planning to use OTRS::ITSM or have found out about OTRS::ITSM in a new product screening and want to assess the system's eligibility for your requirements. Or is your OTRS::ITSM evaluation completed and you want to make use of our consulting services to efficiently lead your project towards success.

We offer extensive practical expertise in IT process consulting, software engineering, development, and ITIL compliant IT operations and support. Security and quality management for your project complement our service portfolio. You benefit from an extensive and quick knowledge transfer.

Our services include:

- identification of your requirements and assistance with product evaluation
- guidance on design and implementation of ITSM process and organizational structures
- ITIL assessments and support with ISO 20000 certification
- ITIL trainings and coaching
- ITIL implementation
- compilation of IT service catalogs
- CMDB design
- installation & configuration of OTRS::ITSM including integration with your existing system environment
- review & optimization of existing OTRS::ITSM installations
- process and data migration from predecessor systems
- release updates
- specification of business and IT requirements and features, which exceed the given functional range of OTRS::ITSM
- design and realization of project complimentary administrator and service agent trainings

- advisory services regarding managed operations (ASP/SaaS) of OTRS::ITSM and application support

Software development

One significant advantage of the open-source software OTRS::ITSM is its flexibility regarding potential extensions of the functional range. No "vendor lock-in", a typical risk of proprietary systems and protracted negotiations with the manufacturer about expanding the functional range or building interfaces apply with OTRS::ITSM.

Experienced project managers and developers are at your disposal at any time to translate your requirements exceeding the functional range of OTRS::ITSM into business and IT specifications. We develop your features, program interfaces or upgrade existent functionalities according to your conception.

Extensions, which are useful for other customers too, will be added to the standard in later releases. All parties involved benefit: OTRS::ITSM is even more powerful with the features "born" by you and other customers, and you save the cost of porting your features to new releases.

Application support

The decision for an IT service management solution is an investment into the future which should not be underestimated, even if you opt for open-source software. A competent consulting partner is critical for the success of such an implementation project. Just as important, however, is a planned and successful porting of the solution to the life system and the lasting support of a reliable partner guaranteeing a faultless operating application service.

We provide this continuous support and our service packages are tailored flexibly to meet your requirements. They offer differentiated response times for the various service level agreements with up to 24/7/365 support, 24/7/365 access to our support portal, and optional phone support. Please visit <http://www.otrs.com/en/support/> for all details or contact our sales team at sales@otrs.com.

You will only pay for the services you really need. Optional add-on packages, e.g. support via remote control or an extension of the application support services to other OTRS::ITSM instances can be booked if required.

Our ITIL compliant operating Application Support Team is continually optimizing its processes and performance. Therefore, our service manager will contact you regularly to discuss your wishes and requirements regarding our services. The monthly service reporting in the service package of your choice serves as a base for these conversations.

Managed application services (ASP/SaaS)

You do not have to operate OTRS and/or OTRS::ITSM yourself. The products can be rented via the so called "ASP" (application service provisioning) resp. "SaaS" (software as a service) model from specialized companies.

The customers (software users) are admitted internet access to exclusively rented OTRS systems and, where required, functional application support (see section above) at a fixed monthly price and can employ the application in their business to the contracted extent. No additional license fees apply as only open-source products are used.

Commercial services
for OTRS::ITSM

The application service provider operates IT infrastructure, systems and software ITIL compliantly and guarantees service quality according to the agreed service levels. The provider maintains the application system, (e.g. patches, backup, monitoring), and supports the customer with incidents and/or service requests such as consultation requests, software extensions or configuration requests.

Chapter 3. Installing OTRS::ITSM

OTRS framework 3.2 must be installed prior to the installation of OTRS::ITSM. All necessary information, options and installation procedures are depicted in the OTRS Admin Manual.

Installation

As soon as OTRS 3.2 or later is installed, sign on as administrator. Using the package manager in the admin area or via <ftp://ftp.otrs.org/pub/otrs/itsm/packages32/> and install the ITSM packages in the following order:

- GeneralCatalog
- ITSMCore

If you have internet access from OTRS, use the online repository [--OTRS::ITSM 3.2 Master--] to install the packages below. Otherwise download the packages and use the package manager to install the packages:

- ITSMIncidentProblemManagement
- ITSMConfigurationManagement
- ITSMChangeManagement
- ITSMServiceLevelManagement
- ImportExport

You can find further information about the installation process here: INSTALL-32.ITSM [<http://ftp.otrs.org/pub/otrs/itsm/INSTALL-3.2.ITSM>]

The screenshot shows the OTRS Admin interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'ADMIN' highlighted. Below it, a message states: "No packages, or no new packages, found in selected repository." The main content area is divided into two sections: "Package Manager" and "Local Repository".

The "Package Manager" section includes a search box, a "Browse..." button, an "Install Package" button, and a dropdown menu for the repository. The "Local Repository" section contains a table with the following data:

NAME	VERSION	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ACTION
GeneralCatalog	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The General Catalog package.	installed	Uninstall
ImportExport	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The ImportExport package.	installed	Uninstall
ITSMChangeManagement	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The OTRS::ITSM Change Management package.	installed	Uninstall
ITSMConfigurationManagement	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The OTRS::ITSM Configuration Management package.	installed	Uninstall
ITSMCore	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The OTRS::ITSM Core package.	installed	Uninstall
ITSMIncidentProblemManagement	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The OTRS::ITSM Incident and Problem Management package.	installed	Uninstall
ITSMServiceLevelManagement	3.1.6	OTRS AG	The OTRS::ITSM Service Level Management package.	installed	Uninstall

Upgrade

If an older version than OTRS::ITSM 1.1 is installed, update the system to the latest version 1.1 first.

If OTRS::ITSM 1.1 is installed already, update your OTRS 2.2 framework to version 2.3 BEFORE you update OTRS::ITSM. To do so, download the latest OTRS 2.3 framework and follow the instructions in the file UPGRADING. After that, log in to your system and use the package manager to install the package ITSMUpgradeTo12. You can download it manually or use the online repository. Ignore all error messages about not correctly installed old ITSM packages. This package will install all needed packages to update your system to an OTRS::ITSM 1.2 version, and it will migrate all your data.

Note: The upgrade can take several minutes! Please do not stop the upgrade process once it is running!

If OTRS::ITSM 1.2 is installed already, update your OTRS 2.3 framework to version 2.4 BEFORE you update OTRS::ITSM. To do so, download the latest OTRS 2.4 framework and follow the instructions in the file UPGRADING. After that, log in to your system and use the package manager to install the packages as described in the section "Installation".

To upgrade an already installed OTRS::ITSM 1.3, use the package manager in the admin area. If you have internet access from OTRS, use the online repository [--OTRS::ITSM 1.3 Master--] to install newer packages. An 'upgrade' link next to the package name indicates if a newer package is available.

Otherwise download the packages and use the package manager to install the packages. Do not uninstall your current packages, or your data will get lost!

Chapter 4. First steps in OTRS::ITSM

OTRS::ITSM completely uses the agent and customer interfaces (customer frontend) implemented in OTRS. If OTRS has been used before, all features and steps such as login, queue configuration, user preferences, filters, rules, user permissions etc. can continually be used without any modifications.

The manual at hand will therefore only discuss differences to OTRS and new aspects of OTRS::ITSM and will focus particularly on:

- IT services and SLAs
- the CMDB
- new ticket fields and functions
- ITIL compliant terminology

Detailed information on the settings and proceedings identical in OTRS and OTRS::ITSM are provided at <http://doc.otrs.org/3.2/en/html/> in the OTRS Admin Manual, which is constantly being revised.

OTRS 3.1 - Admin Manual

[Next](#)

OTRS 3.1 - Admin Manual

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[What is a trouble ticket system, and why do you need one?](#)

[What is a trouble ticket?](#)

Chapter 5. ITIL compliant service support with OTRS::ITSM

Just as ITIL, OTRS::ITSM does not claim to be an "out-of-the-box" solution for all tasks and questions arising in IT service management. It is in fact supposed to serve as a flexible, stable and easy to understand information platform.

Without the thoughtful adaptation of generic ITIL processes to the individual business situation, OTRS::ITSM will confer no marked improvement core objective of IT service management to IT organization or customer service.

Therefore please excuse our raised finger at this point: The use of an ITIL compliant tool such as OTRS::ITSM only makes sense if processes, people and products (IT services) really are ITIL compliant.

Successful ITIL implementation projects typically take up to a year and longer. A neatly implemented ITIL compliant ITSM tool can help to save time and money though, as the process support of the tool supports and accelerates the process of rethinking.

OTRS::ITSM 2.0 supports the incident and problem management processes, service level management, and configuration management database and change management which usually are designed in the first phase of ITIL implementation. A closer description of use and adaptation of the system can be found in the following sections. The package names correspond to their respective ITIL topics, each package can be installed independently.

Implementation of OTRS::ITSM is based on ITIL v3.

Chapter 6. The CMDB - the central IT repository

The configuration management database (CMDB) is not a database in the technical sense but a conceptual IT model, which is indispensable for efficient IT service management. All IT components and inventories are managed in the CMDB. Configuration management exceeds asset management, often incorrectly used as a synonym, as it does not only document assets from a financial point of view, but captures information regarding the relationship between components, specifications or their location. Thus IT support can quickly access information on the interdependence of IT services and the IT components (= configuration items = CIs) necessary for them.

According to ITIL, a CMDB must feature the following functionalities:

- manual and, where applicable, automatic recording and modification of configuration items
- description of the relationship and/or interdependence between CIs
- change of CI attributes (e.g. serial numbers)
- location and user management for CIs
- integration via the ITIL processes represented in the system

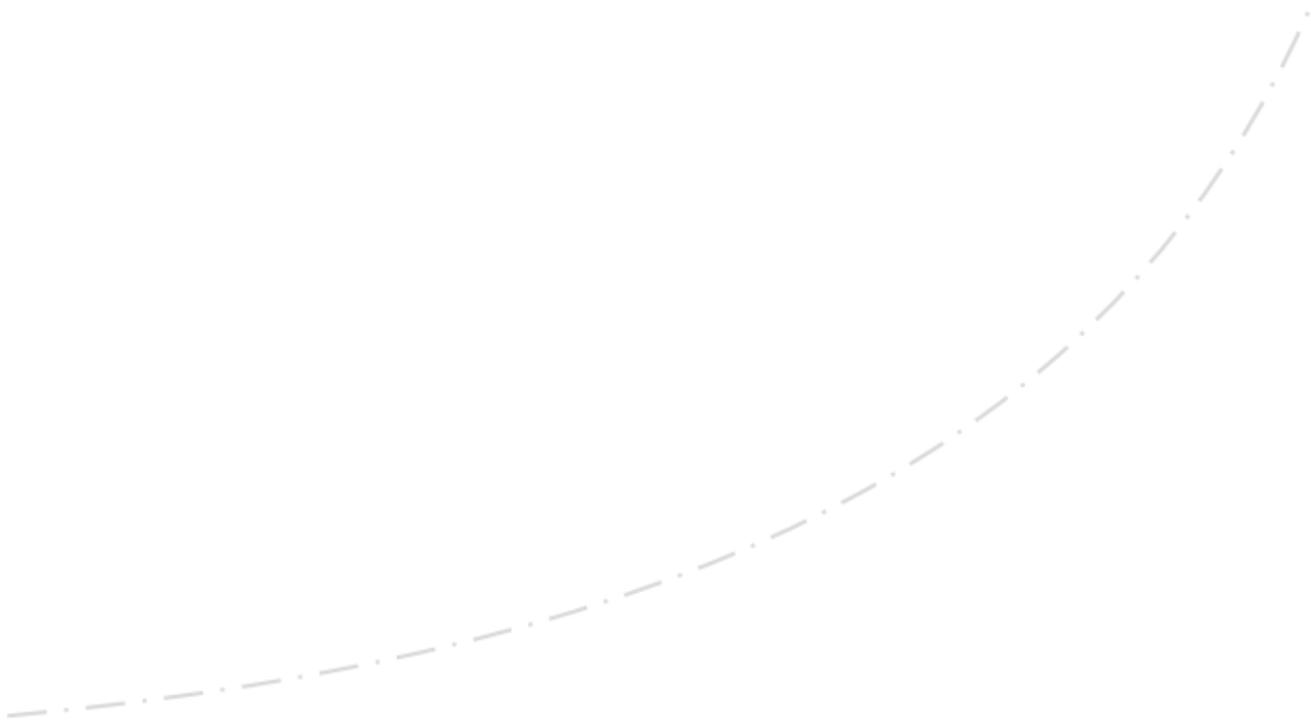
OTRS::ITSM meets all requirements stated above and offers numerous additional IT support functions in the CMDB.

The OTRS::ITSM database model

The modular architecture of OTRS::ITSM and the ability to install single OTRS::ITSM packages independently, make it difficult to display a complete database model in a single graphic. For this reason, separate graphics will be provided for the OTRS framework and for ITSM packages which change or extend the database scheme.

For better readability, the diagram can be found at <http://ftp.otrs.org/pub/otrs/misc/otrs-3.2-database.png>.

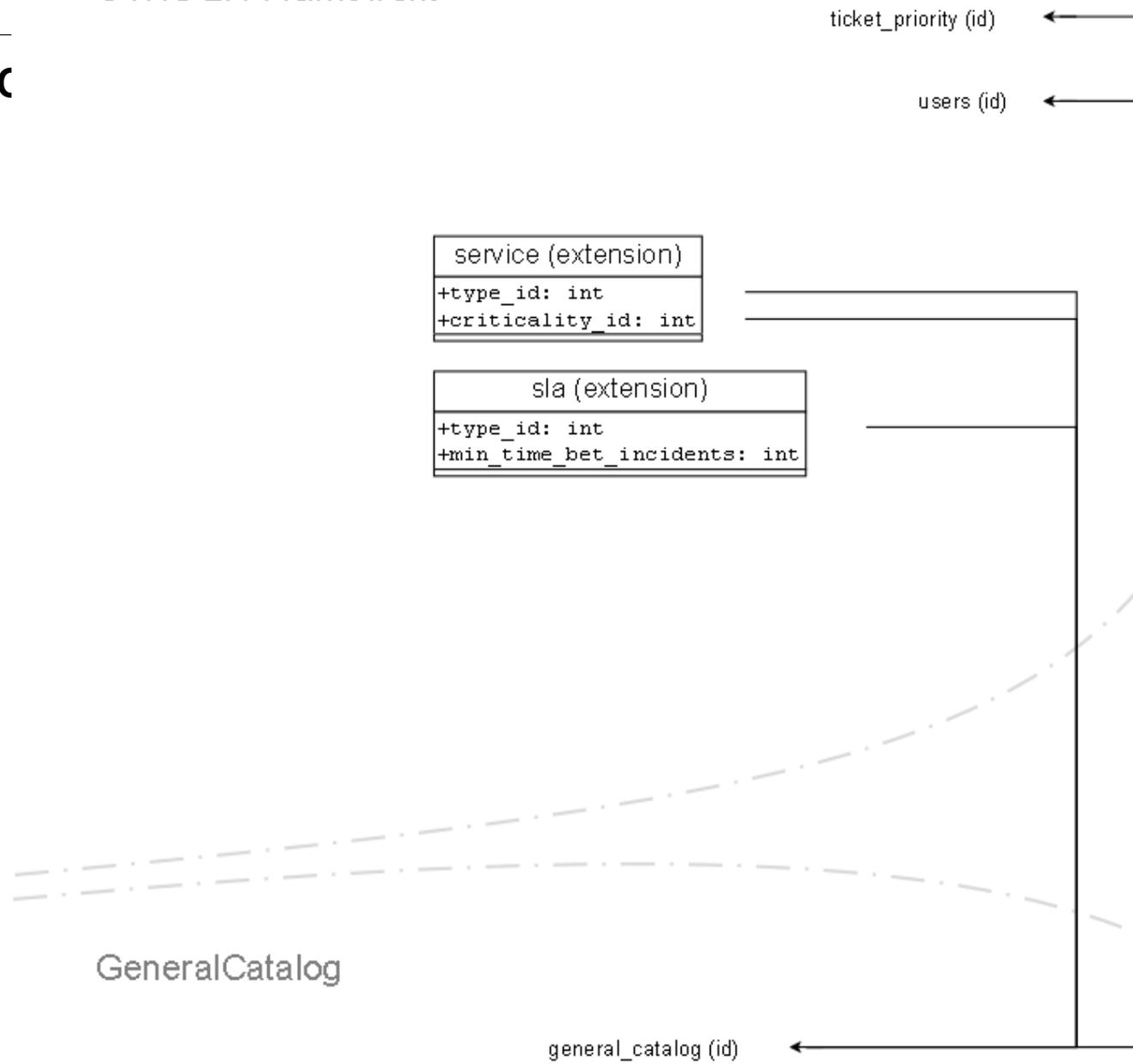
users (id)



The CMDB - the
central IT repository

For better readability, the diagram can be found at <http://source.otrs.org/viewvc.cgi/GeneralCatalog/doc/general-catalog-database.png>

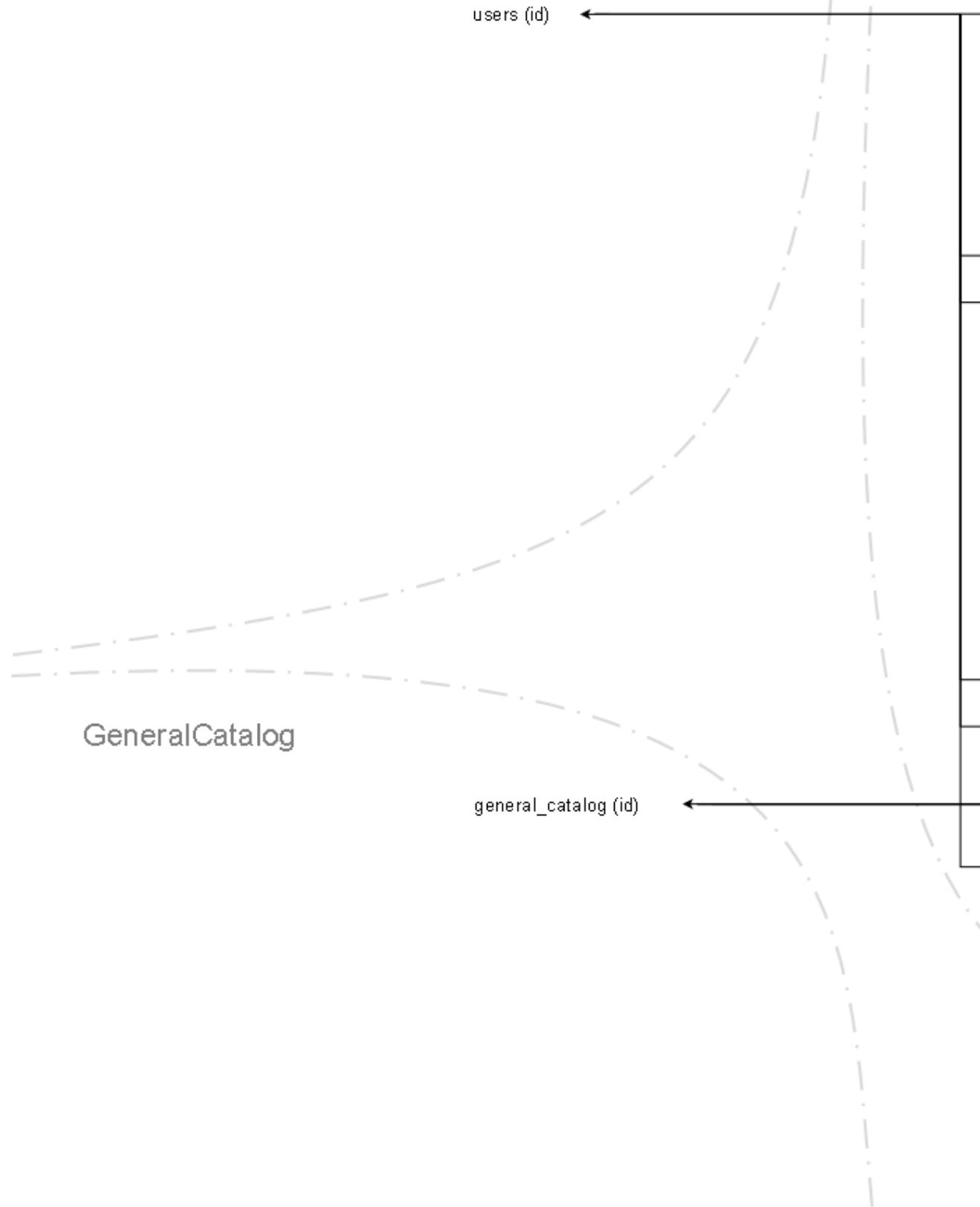
ITSMC



The CMDB - the
central IT repository

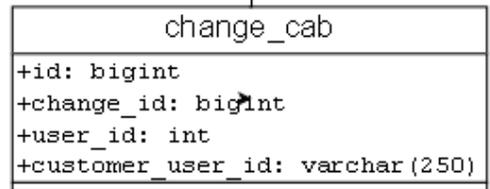
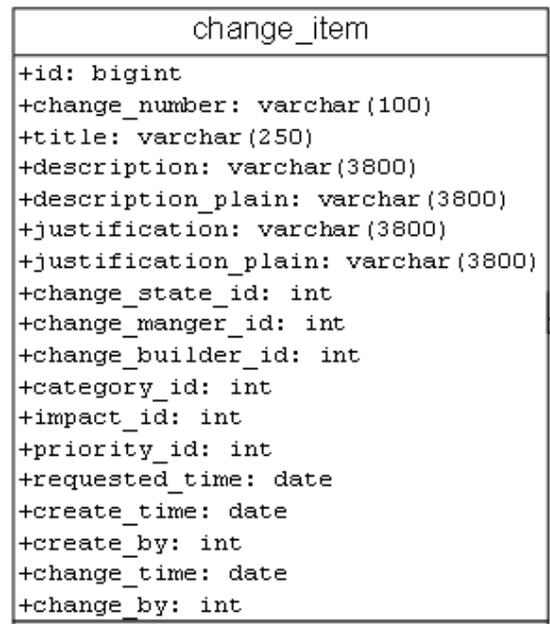
For better readability, the diagram can be found at <http://source.otrs.org/viewvc.cgi/ITSMCore/doc/itsm-core-database.png>

ITSMC



The CMDB - the
central IT repository

For better readability, the diagram can be found at <http://source.otrs.org/viewvc.cgi/ITSMConfigurationManagement/doc/itsm-configuration-management-database.png>



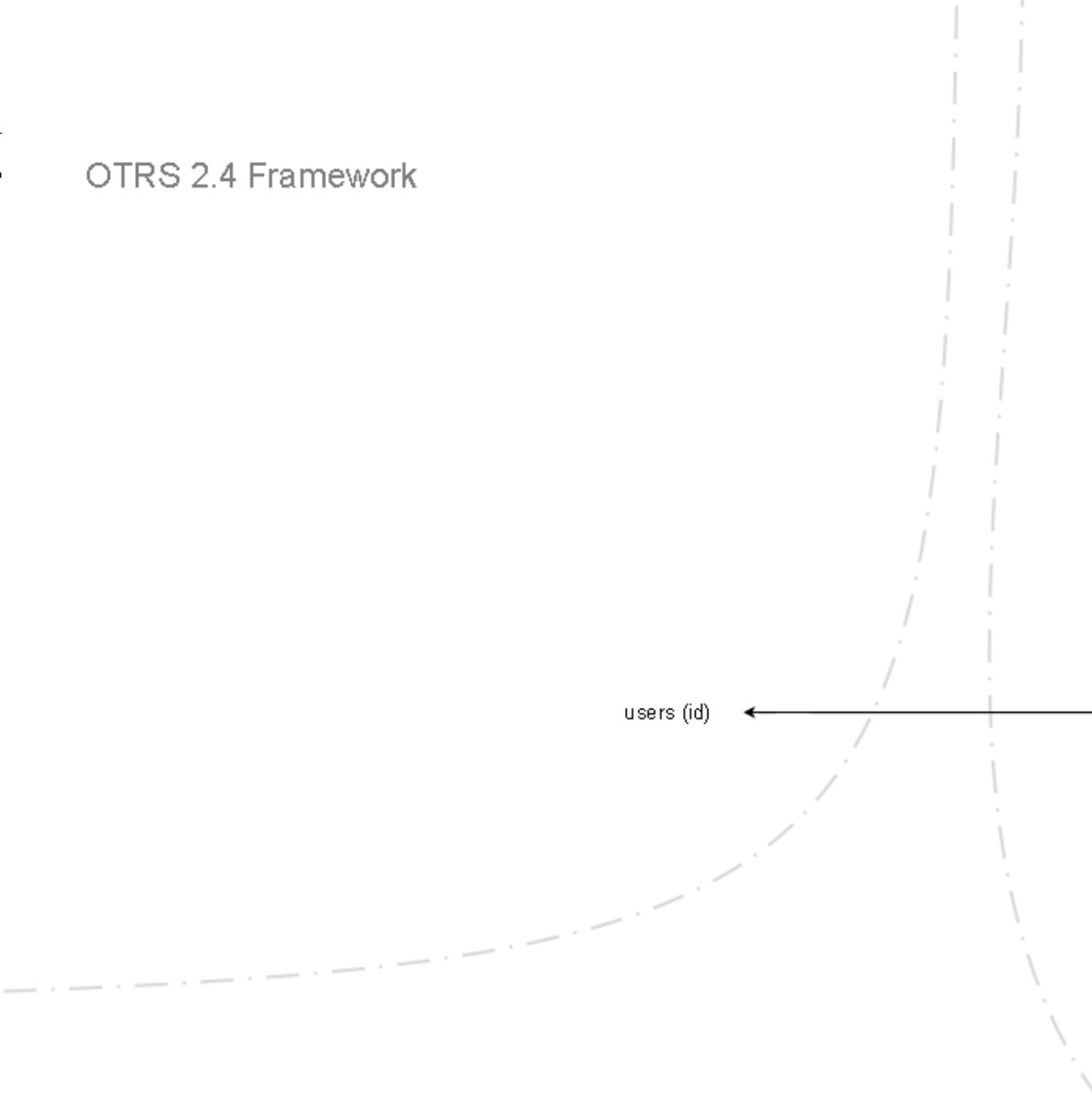
The CMDB - the
central IT repository

For better readability, the diagram can be found at <http://source.otrs.org/viewvc.cgi/ITSMChangeManagement/doc/itsm-change-management-database.png>

Impor

OTRS 2.4 Framework

users (id)



For better readability, the diagram can be found at <http://source.otrs.org/viewvc.cgi/ImportExport/doc/import-export-database.png>

Services, at the core of everything

Services such as "standard IT workstation", "e-mail" or "web access" are IT products and should at all costs be compiled in a so-called IT service catalog prior to the adoption of OTRS::ITSM. Such service catalogs are usually customer or company specific, can be structured hierarchically and should be formulated in a user-friendly, i.e. easily understood, language, as they can be accessed by IT personnel (agents) and IT users (customers).

Warning

Service catalog design is a task which should not be underestimated. Our experience shows that it is highly recommendable to validate conceptual thoughts in a dry run first and transfer the service structures to OTRS::ITSM in a second step. It has proven of value to resort to external assistance, e.g. of ITIL practice experts.

Example of (part of) a hierarchic IT service catalog specified in OTRS::ITSM as shown when a ticket is created

The screenshot shows the OTRS web interface for creating a new phone ticket. The navigation bar at the top includes 'DASHBOARD', 'TICKETS', 'STATISTICS', 'CUSTOMERS', and 'ADMIN'. The main content area is titled 'Create New Phone Ticket'. The form includes several fields: 'Type' (a dropdown menu), 'From customer' (a text input field with a dropdown arrow), 'To queue' (a dropdown menu), 'Service' (a dropdown menu with a list of services open), 'Subject' (a text input field), and 'Text' (a text area). The 'Service' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of services: 'Backups and archiving', 'Communication', 'Desktop Management', 'Desktop productivity tools', 'File / Print', 'Helpdesk', 'IT Operations', 'Identity and Access Management', 'Internet', 'Network access', 'Remote access', and 'Standard desktop'. To the right of the form is a 'Customer Information' box with the following details: 'Firstname: Jim', 'Lastname: User', 'Username: jim', 'Email: jim@otrs.com', 'Phone: 555 - 123 456', 'Street: Pier 5', 'City: San Francisco', 'Location: Location', and 'Open tickets (2)'. The OTRS logo is visible in the top right corner of the interface.

and in the administration area.

The CMDB - the central IT repository

The screenshot shows the OTRS Service Management interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for DASHBOARD, TICKETS, STATISTICS, CUSTOMERS, and ADMIN (highlighted). A search icon is also present. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Service Management". On the left, there is an "Actions" panel with a button labeled "Add service". The main area is titled "List" and contains a table with the following data:

SERVICE	COMMENT	VALIDITY	CHANGED	CREATED
Backups and archiving		valid	08/27/2012 11:03	08/27/2012 11:03
Communication		valid	08/27/2012 11:00	08/27/2012 11:00
Desktop Management		valid	08/27/2012 11:02	08/27/2012 11:02
Desktop productivity tools		valid	08/27/2012 11:01	08/27/2012 11:01
File / Print		valid	08/27/2012 11:01	08/27/2012 11:01
Helpdesk		valid	08/27/2012 11:02	08/27/2012 11:02
IT Operations		valid	08/27/2012 11:02	08/27/2012 11:02
Identity and Access Management		valid	08/27/2012 11:03	08/27/2012 11:03
Internet		valid	08/27/2012 11:02	08/27/2012 11:02
Network access		valid	08/27/2012 11:01	08/27/2012 11:01
Remote access		valid	08/27/2012 11:01	08/27/2012 11:01
Standard desktop		valid	08/27/2012 11:00	08/27/2012 11:00

At the bottom of the page, it says "Powered by OTRS 3.1.9" on the left and "Top of page" with an upward arrow on the right.

Service levels and service level agreements

Service levels and the respective agreements (service level agreements, SLAs) document quality pledges for IT services. SLAs are recorded and administered in the admin interface.

The screenshot shows the OTRS SLA Management interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for DASHBOARD, TICKETS, STATISTICS, CUSTOMERS, and ADMIN (highlighted). A search icon is also present. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "SLA Management". On the left, there is an "Actions" panel with a button labeled "Add SLA". The main area is titled "List" and contains a table with the following data:

SLA	SERVICE	COMMENT	VALIDITY	CHANGED	CREATED
24 / 7	Backups and archiving		valid	08/27/2012 11:03	08/27/2012 10:57
	Communication				
	Desktop Management				
	Desktop productivity tools				
	File / Print				
	Helpdesk				
	Identity and Access Management				
	Internet				
	IT Operations				
	Network access				
	Remote access				
	Standard desktop				
Ext Business Hours	Backups and archiving		valid	08/27/2012 11:03	08/27/2012 10:58
	Communication				
	Desktop Management				
	Desktop productivity tools				
	File / Print				
	Helpdesk				
	Identity and Access Management				
	Internet				

The following parameters can be recorded with every SLA:

The screenshot shows the OTRS ITSM Admin interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for DASHBOARD, TICKETS, STATISTICS, CUSTOMERS, and ADMIN. The ADMIN tab is selected. Below the navigation bar, there is a user profile section showing 'You are logged in as Jane Smith'. The main content area is titled 'SLA Management' and contains an 'Actions' box with a 'Go to overview' button. The 'Edit SLA' form is the primary focus, with the following fields and values:

- SLA: Ext Business Hours
- Type: Availability
- Service: Backups and archiving, Communication, Desktop Management, Desktop productivity tools, File / Print
- Calendar: Calendar 3 - 24 / 7
- Escalation - first response time (minutes): 120 (Notify by: 70%)
- Escalation - update time (minutes): 180 (Notify by: 80%)
- Escalation - solution time (minutes): 480 (Notify by: 90%)
- Minimum Time Between Incidents (minutes): 480
- Validity: valid
- Comment: (empty)

At the bottom of the form, there are 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons.

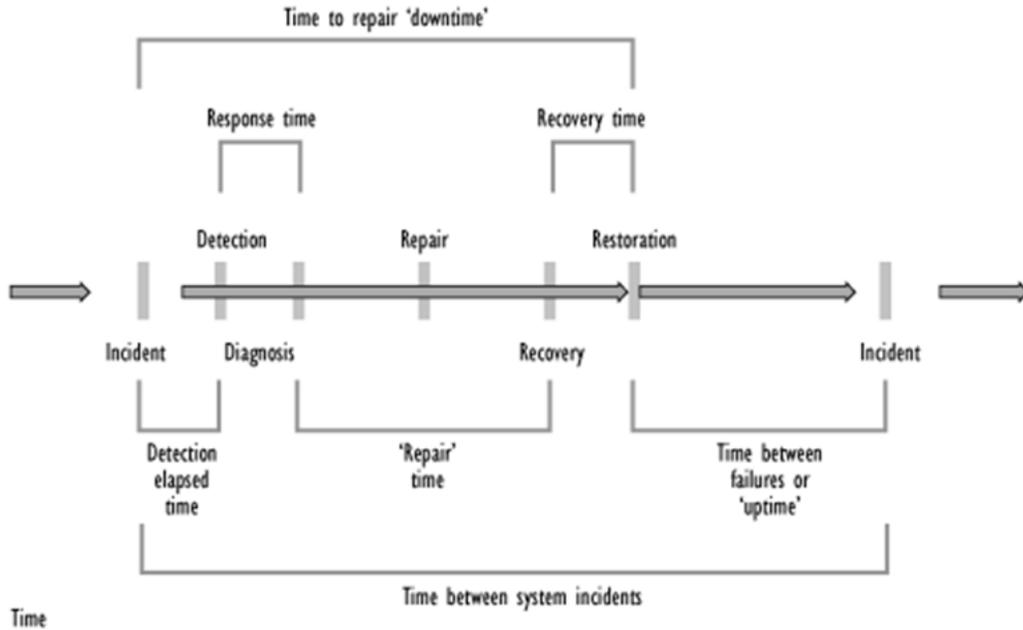
OTRS::ITSM offers up to 99 different calendars by default to describe the various time zones for work or service times. The SLAs can be allocated to them ("service level window"). Various time spans can be entered (in minutes) which OTRS::ITSM uses to control notification and escalation:

- [Response Time]
 - = reaction time with incidents
 - = start of service request procession ("service request lead time")
- [Update Time]
 - = notification time
- [Solution Time]
 - = time elapsed until incidents are resolved ("maximum time to repair", "MTTR")
 - = delivery time for service requests ("delivery time")
- [Min. Time Between Incidents]
 - = "MTBI": minimal time between closure of the last incident ticket and recurrence of an incident for which the same SLA applies.

Warning

If no values for the above-named times are entered in the SLAs, escalation is effected according to the time fields "response time", "update time" and "solution time" assigned to all queues!

Important time values of OTRS::ITSM are based on the "ITIL incident lifecycle":



Source: OGC, ITIL Service Support Documentation

The OTRS stats framework facilitates, among other things, the definition of the actual availability of a service from recorded incidents, which often serves as a performance figure in system-oriented SLAs.

Configuration items

Exemplary overview of recorded computer CIs (part) with current CI state:

OTRS interface showing the CMDB overview for Computer configuration items.

Navigation: DASHBOARD | TICKETS | SERVICES | **CMDB** | CHANGES | STATISTICS | CUSTOMERS | ADMIN

Overview: ITSM ConfigItem: Computer

Filters: All 3 | Computer 2 | Hardware 1 | Location 0 | Network 0 | Software 0

STATE	CONFIGITEM#	NAME	DEPLOYMENT STATE	CURRENT INCIDENT STATE	LAST CHANGED
Operational	389432000002	A1240	Production	Operational	08/27/2012 11:58:58
Operational	389432000001	A1239	Production	Operational	08/27/2012 11:57:40

Powered by OTRS 3.1.9 | Top of page

Example of an individual CI view:

The CMDB - the central IT repository

The screenshot displays the OTRS CMDB interface for configuration item P1234. The top navigation bar includes Dashboard, Tickets, Services, CMDB (highlighted), Changes, Statistics, Customers, and Admin. The main content area is titled "Configuration Item: 389433000001 — P1234". It features a table of version incidents and a detailed property list.

VERSION INCIDENT STATE	VERSION NUMBER	NAME	CREATED BY	CHANGED
Operational	1.	P1234 (Production)	jane (Jane Smith)	08/27/2012 12:00:16

Configuration Item Version Details

PROPERTY	VALUE
Name:	P1234
Deployment State:	Production
Incident State:	Operational
Vendor:	Brother
Model:	HL-2150N
Description:	
Type:	Printer
Owner:	
Serial Number:	Z21489AK
Warranty Expiration Date:	04/27/2018
Install Date:	08/27/2012

Configuration Item Information

- Class: Hardware
- Name: P1234
- Current Deployment State: Production
- Current Incident State: Operational
- Created: 08/27/2012 12:00:16
- Created by: Jane Smith
- Last changed: 08/27/2012 12:00:16
- Last changed by: Jane Smith

The graphic exemplarily shows the links between CIs. OTRS differentiates between bidirectional and nondirectional links. Whenever a CI is linked to another CMDB object, OTRS::ITSM automatically creates the respective reverse link.

The OTRS::ITSM standard offers seven link types:

The screenshot shows the "Link Object: ConfigItem# 389433000001: P1234" configuration window. It includes a "Select Target Object" section with a dropdown menu set to "Computer" and a "Search" section with input fields for ConfigItem#, Name, Deployment State, and Incident State, along with a "Search" button.

To link objects, the source object is chosen first, then the link type is defined and the target object chosen. The target object can be searched for using various criteria:

Documents and knowledge database

Using the FAQ system, which is an independent external module since OTRS 2.1, a knowledge database can be designed and managed, e.g. for suggestions and/or procedures related to the resolution of known errors.

Entries can be provided for internal use only, for all customers or the public. They can be created and sorted according to language or categories. The quality of FAQ articles can be evaluated

by agents. The number of articles last created or last revised to be displayed can be configured without any limitations. All articles can be indexed for an efficient search.

Changes and amendments to the data model

The data model can be adapted flexibly and can be extended with data types, attributes and even classes. Detailed information can be found in the section "The admin area of OTRS::ITSM" in this document or in "The admin area of OTRS" in the OTRS Admin Manual.

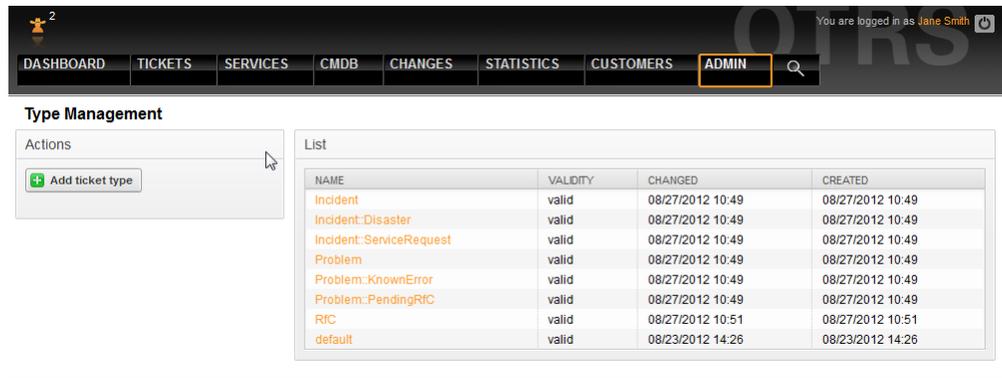
Warning

The design of a CMDB data model and the CIs to be managed within it is a task which should not be underestimated. Our experience shows that it is highly recommendable to validate conceptual thoughts in a dry run against the existing IT infrastructure first and change the OTRS::ITSM default data model and CI classes only afterwards. It has proven of value to resort to external assistance, e.g. of ITIL practice experts for CMDB design.

Ticket types and attributes

With OTRS 2.2, native ticket types were introduced, which are used in OTRS::ITSM, too. In the ITIL sub-processes which can be structured in queues, tickets are classified on their ticket types.

All ITIL processes to be implemented in later versions of OTRS::ITSM, e.g. change management, will be implemented in such a way. Ticket types such as RFC ("Request for Change") could be created.



NAME	VALIDITY	CHANGED	CREATED
Incident	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
Incident:Disaster	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
Incident:ServiceRequest	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
Problem	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
Problem:KnownError	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
Problem:PendingRFC	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
RFC	valid	08/27/2012 10:51	08/27/2012 10:51
default	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26

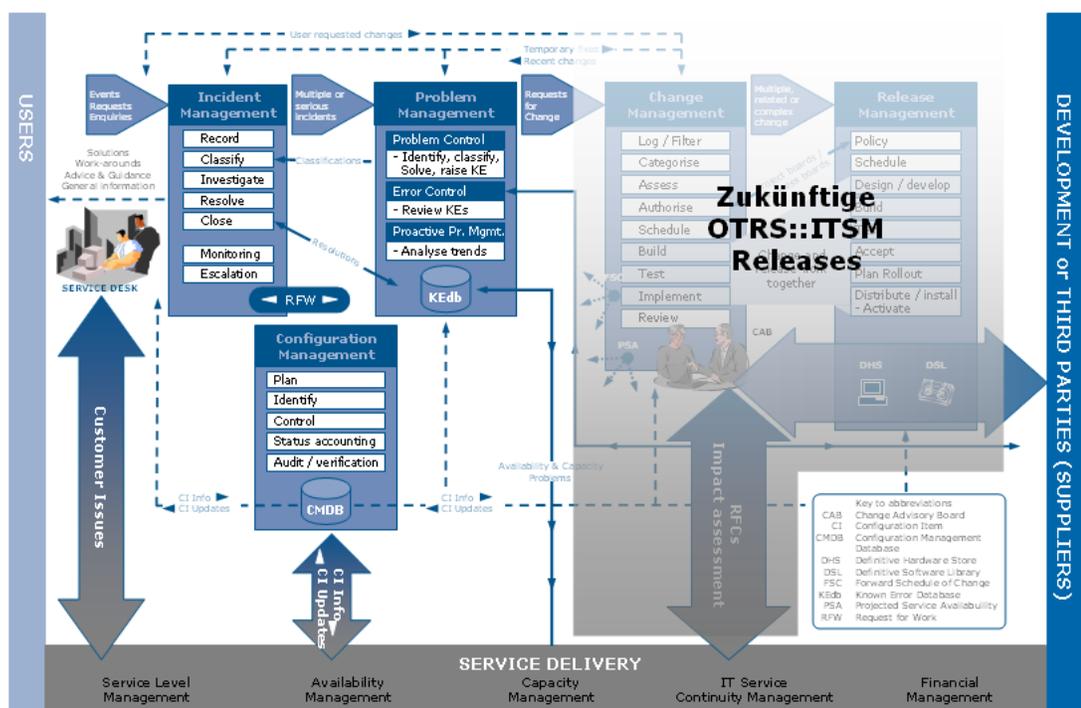
Warning

In order to assure the consistency of the data managed in OTRS::ITSM, information created in the admin area of the system cannot be deleted as a general rule. If you want to deactivate such information, change the value in the respective listbox settings from "valid" to "invalid" or "invalid-temporarily".

Chapter 7. Service desk, incident & problem management

The service desk (which, according to ITIL, is not a process but a function) is usually the ticket system's main field of application. All user messages and notifications from system monitoring and internal IT organization meet here. The ITIL service management process describes, closely interweaved with the service desk, which work steps, information, escalations and/or interfaces are relevant in connection with the processing of incidents or service requests.

The incident and problem management processes within OTRS::ITSM are based on ITIL recommendations and ITIL terminology. At the same time, user comfort was a main consideration and terms known from OTRS have been retained as far as possible.



Source: ILX Group (www.ilxgroup.com)

Ticket generation, classification and prioritization

At ticket generation in our case a phone ticket the following information can be registered additionally to the information implemented in OTRS:

- ticket type
- relevant service
- SLA

Service desk, incident & problem management

- impact
- priority

Depending on the service selected, impact and priority are automatically submitted from the criticality impact priority matrix but can be overwritten. Requests can thus be prioritized higher or lower, which corresponds to real day-to-day IT business requirements.

Surely every IT service staff member knows a so called VIP customer who wants to be treated more equal than others and can be, this way.

Create New Phone Ticket

* Type: Incident:ServiceRequest

* From customer: "Jim User" <jim@otrs.com>

* To queue: Service Desk

Service: File / Print

Service Level Agreement: -

Owner: Smith Jane (jane)

Responsible: -

* Subject: Request for new file share Marketing Collateral

Options: [Customer] [Link ticket]

* Text:

In order to let the MAR team collaborate more efficiently they would like to get a separate file-share for Marketing collateral.

Kind regards,
Jim User

Customer Information

Firstname: Jim
Lastname: User
Username: jim
Email: jim@otrs.com
Phone: 555 - 123 456
Street: Pier 5
City: San Francisco
Location
Open tickets (2)

By following the ticket content (zoom) link, detailed information about the ticket can be called up. All data relevant for IT support is consolidated in the right hand section:

3 1 You are logged in as Jane Smith

DASHBOARD TICKETS SERVICES CMDB CHANGES STATISTICS CUSTOMERS ADMIN

Ticket#201208273894000014 — Can't access VPN from home location

1 Article(s) Age: 1 h 42 m – Created: 08/27/2012 11:05 by Jane Smith

Back | Lock | History | Print | Priority | Additional ITSM Fields | Link | Owner | Responsible | Customer | Decision | Note | Merge | Pending | Close | Move -

☆	NO.	TYPE	FROM	SUBJECT	CREATED	
	1	customer -	Jim	Can't access VPN from	08/27/2012	

▼ #1 – Can't access VPN from home location Created: 08/27/2012 11:05 by Jane Smith

Forward | Phone Call Outbound | Phone Call Inbound | Split | Print | Reply -

From: Jim User
To: Service Desk
Subject: Can't access VPN from home location

Get error message "Username/password do not match".

Ticket information

Type: Incident
State: open
Locked: unlock
Queue: Service Desk
Owner: Jane Smith
Responsible: Jane Smith

Service: Network access
Service Level Agreement: Ext Business Hours

First Response Time: 17 m
Time: 08/27/2012 13:05
Update Time: 1 h 17 m
08/27/2012 14:05
Solution Time: 6 h 17 m
08/27/2012 19:05

Criticality: 5 very high
Impact: 3 normal
Priority: 4 high

CustomerID: CUSTOMER
Accounted time: 0

SLA relevant time information

With the additional ITSM fields link, time information additional to the response, update and solution time provided in the SLA can be recorded and existing information can be changed:

Change ITSM fields of ticket : 201208273894000032 - Request for new file share Marketing Collateral

[Cancel & close window](#)

Options

★Title:

Repair Start Time:

Recovery Start Time:

Due Date:

Allocate tickets (queues)

The OTRS::ITSM queues can be adapted flexibly to your organizational structures. They can follow the vertical scheme of service desk, first, second and third level support often used in IT service support or be configured in a process oriented manner based on the ticket life cycle of generation, processing, closure and post-processing.

Contrary to OTRS versions prior to version 2.2, ticket escalation in OTRS::ITSM is based first of all on the response, update and recovery times provided in the SLA. If no values are provided in the SLA, escalation is effected based on the queues and time information stored in them.

Tickets can be moved by choosing a new queue in the bottom right corner of the ticket view.

QueueView: Service Desk

My Queues (0) **Service Desk (2)**

All tickets 2 Available tickets 2

Bulk 1-2 of 2 | S M L

<input type="checkbox"/>	Ticket#: 201208273894000014 – Can't access VPN from home location					
From	Age	Queue	First Response Time	Update Time	Solution Time	
Jim User	3 m	Service Desk	1 h 56 m / 08/27/2012 13:05	2 h 56 m / 08/27/2012 14:05	7 h 56 m / 08/27/2012 19:05	
To	Created	State	Type	Priority		
Service Desk	08/27/2012 11:05:48	open	Incident	4 high		
Subject	Owner	Lock	Service	CustomerID		
Can't access VPN from home location	Jane Smith	unlock	Network access	CUSTOMER		
			Service Level Agreement			
			Ext Business Hours			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ticket#: 201208273894000023 – Please restore K:\Accounting\Overview.xls					
From	Age	Queue	First Response Time	Update Time	Solution Time	
Jim User	3 m	Service Desk	1 h 57 m / 08/27/2012 13:06	3 h 57 m / 08/27/2012 15:06	29 h 57 m / 08/28/2012 17:06	
To	Created	State	Type	Priority		
Service Desk	08/27/2012 11:06:46	open	Incident:ServiceRequest	4 high		
Subject	Owner	Lock	Service	CustomerID		
Please restore K:\Accounting\Overview.xls	Jane Smith	unlock	Backups and archiving	CUSTOMER		
			Service Level Agreement			
			Std Business Hours			

Powered by OTRS 3.1.9 Top of page

Warning

The design of a queue structure is a task which should not be underestimated. Our experience shows that it is highly recommendable to validate conceptual thoughts in a dry run against the existing IT infrastructure before configuring OTRS::ITSM. It has proven of value to resort to external assistance, e.g. of OTRS or ITIL practice experts for the queue design.

Change ticket data

All changes to the ticket can be effected just as in OTRS using the links below the navigation bar.

The screenshot displays the OTRS ITSM interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for DASHBOARD, TICKETS (highlighted), SERVICES, CMDB, CHANGES, STATISTICS, CUSTOMERS, and ADMIN. The user is logged in as Jane Smith. The main content area shows a ticket titled "Ticket#201208273894000014 — Can't access VPN from home location". The ticket details include:

- Age: 1 h 42 m – Created: 08/27/2012 11:05 by Jane Smith
- 1 Article(s)
- Back | Lock | History | Print | Priority | Additional ITSM Fields | Link | Owner | Responsible | Customer | Decision | Note | Merge | Pending | Close | Move -
- Table with columns: NO., TYPE, FROM, SUBJECT, CREATED. Row 1: 1, customer -, Jim, Can't access VPN from, 08/27/2012.
- Article #1: Can't access VPN from home location. Created: 08/27/2012 11:05 by Jane Smith. Forward | Phone Call Outbound | Phone Call Inbound | Split | Print | Reply -
- From: Jim User, To: Service Desk, Subject: Can't access VPN from home location.
- Get error message "Username/password do not match".

On the right side, the "Ticket Information" panel shows:

- Type: Incident
- State: open
- Locked: unlock
- Queue: Service Desk
- Owner: Jane Smith
- Responsible: Jane Smith
- Service: Network access
- Service Level Agreement: Ext Business Hours
- First Response Time: 17 m (08/27/2012 13:05)
- Update Time: 1 h 17 m (08/27/2012 14:05)
- Solution Time: 6 h 17 m (08/27/2012 19:05)
- Criticality: 5 very high
- Impact: 3 normal
- Priority: 4 high
- CustomerID: CUSTOMER
- Accounted time: 0

Approvals and decisions

In many cases, especially with service requests, decisions have to be taken before requests can be implemented. Depending on the competence framework, decisions are either taken directly by the service staff (standard changes) or the approval of a supervising manager must be obtained first. This is primarily the case with permission changes (a user wants to access a restricted file system directory) or cost generating requests (new laptop).

In OTRS::ITSM approvals and refusals are shown via the decision link and are permanently saved with the ticket:

Change Decision of Ticket : 201208273894000014 - Can't access VPN from home location

[Cancel & close window](#)

Options

*Subject:

*Text:

Format

Reason:

Attachment:

Note type:

Decision Result:

Generation of problem tickets from incidents

To generate a problem ticket from one or more incidents, generate a new ticket and link it with the relevant incident tickets. This way, the underlying incidents can be processed individually, can be closed with a workaround if necessary and later be substituted with a permanent solution.

A merging of incident and problem tickets obscures the reporting and complicates controlling and the continuous improvement of the IT services.

Ticket closure

Unlike the OTRS standard, OTRS::ITSM facilitates ITIL compliant ticket closure with a workaround.

Processing of service requests

Service requests are incidents, too and are processed equally. They are distinguishable from disruptions because of the ticket type Incident::Service Request.

Another difference, the SLA relevant times, is explained in greater detail in the service levels and service level agreements section.

Service desk, incident & problem management

3 1 You are logged in as Jane Smith

DASHBOARD TICKETS SERVICES CMDB CHANGES STATISTICS CUSTOMERS ADMIN

SLA: 24 / 7

Back | Print

▼ SLA: 24 / 7

Type: Availability
Calendar: Calendar 3 - 24 / 7
First Response Time: 120 minutes
Update Time: 120 minutes
Solution Time: 240 minutes
Minimum Time Between Incidents: 240 minutes

SLA Information

Created: 08/27/2012 10:57:21
Created by: Jane Smith
Last changed: 08/27/2012 11:03:43
Last changed by: Jane Smith

Associated Services

STATE	SERVICE	TYPE	CRITICALITY	CHANGED
■	Backups and archiving	IT Management	5 very high	08/27/2012 11:03:24
■	Communication	End User Service	4 high	08/27/2012 11:00:31
■	Desktop Management	End User Service	3 normal	08/27/2012 11:02:50
■	Desktop productivity tools	End User Service	3 normal	08/27/2012 11:01:19
■	File / Print	IT Operational	4 high	08/27/2012 11:01:03
■	Helpdesk	Back End	2 low	08/27/2012 11:02:20
■	IT Operations	IT Operational	2 low	08/27/2012 11:02:33
■	Identity and Access Management	IT Management	5 very high	08/27/2012 11:03:09
■	Internet	IT Operational	5 very high	08/27/2012 11:02:06

Chapter 8. Change Management

Change Management, according to ITIL, is a Service Transition process whose purpose is to manage IT changes, including planning, documentation and implementation upon approval and clearance. The objective is to minimize negative effects on the IT infrastructure, particularly on critical services, resulting from ad-hoc or poorly-managed changes or amendments.

Change Management Module Requirements

Required Expertise

The implementation of OTRS::ITSM requires significant technical specification and preparation. Prior to a technical implementation, key elements of the Change Management process, such as required workflows, metrics or reports, must be defined.

Technical Requirements

The software below is necessary to implement the Change Management module:

1. OTRS Framework, version 3.2.1 or higher
2. ITSM "GeneralCatalog" package, version 3.2
3. ITSM "ITSMCore" package, version 3.2

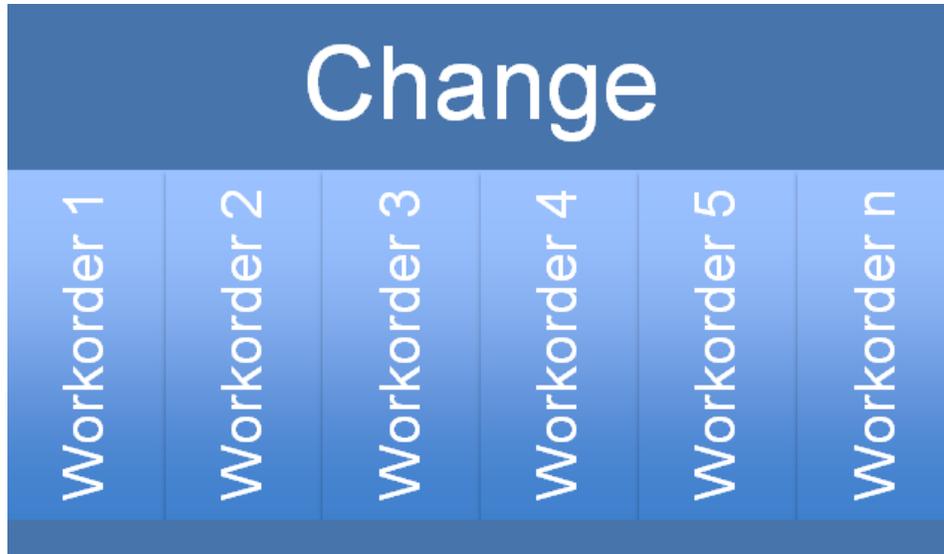
The following packages are recommended, but from a technical perspective not absolutely necessary:

- ITSM "ITSMIncidentProblemManagement" package, version 3.2
- ITSM "ITSMServiceLevelManagement" package, version 3.2
- ITSM "ITSMConfigurationManagement" package, version 3.2
- ITSM "ImportExport" package, version 3.2

Diagram of Change Management in OTRS::ITSM

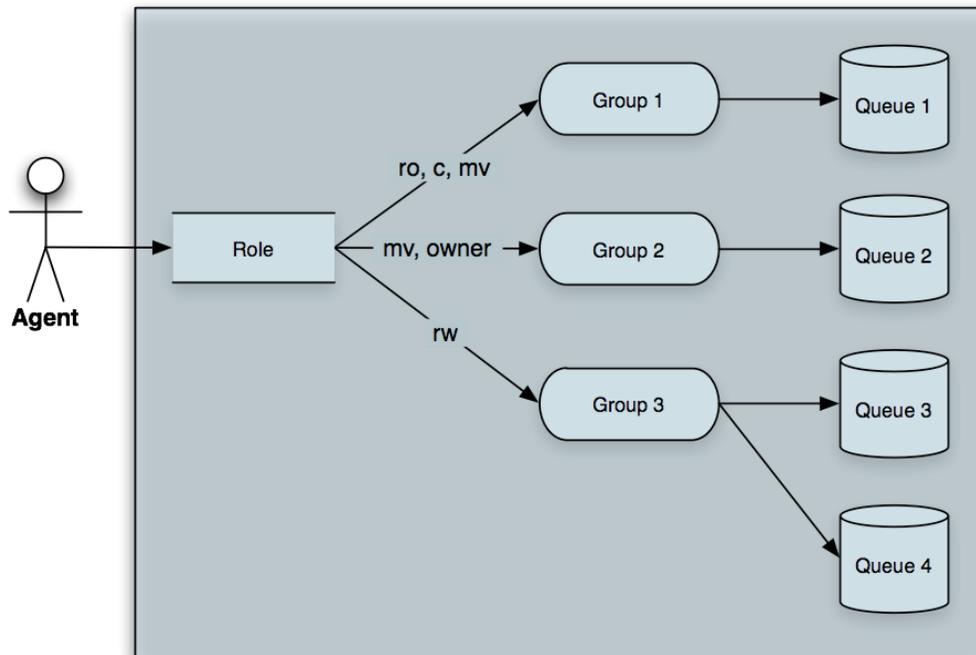
The Change Management implementation in OTRS::ITSM defines a Change as an alteration of the existing IT landscape, such as the installation of a new mail server.

As Changes typically consist of several sub-tasks, OTRS::ITSM allows any number of sub-tasks to be defined per change. These are known as Work Orders.



Available User Roles

Access to the Change Management module is managed on a role-based access concept. The required user roles are created via the OTRS Administrator, according to corresponding user group permissions in the Change Management module.



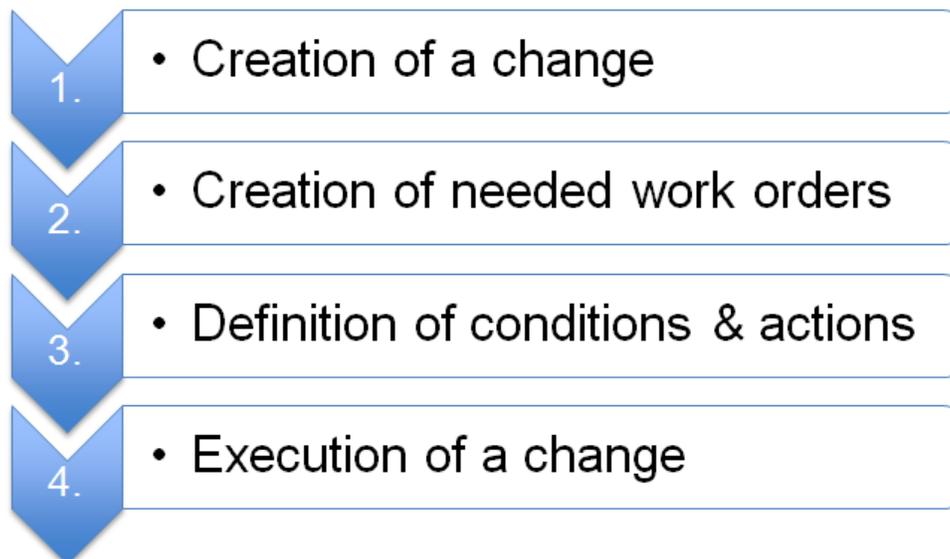
By installing the OPMs listed under "Technical Requirements", the user groups in the table below will be created:

Table 8.1. User roles

User role	Access and privileges
itsm-change	<p>Members of this user group have access to the Change Management module. All potential Work Order Agents should be assigned to this group.</p> <p>All Changes and Work Orders can be viewed by these users.</p>
itsm-change-builder	<p>Members of this user group can create new Changes and Work Orders in the system.</p> <p>All Changes and Work Orders can be viewed by this group.</p> <p>Changes and Work Orders created by the Change Builder, or that have been defined as accessible to the Change Builder, may be edited by these users.</p>
itsm-change-manager	<p>Members of this user group can create new Changes and Work Orders in the system.</p> <p>All Changes and Work Orders can be viewed by this group.</p> <p>These users can edit all Changes and Work Orders.</p>

Underlying Workflow

The implementation of a change, including all required Work Orders, follows the underlying workflow shown below.



Creating a New Change

Attributes of a Change

To create a new Change, the following attributes must be entered.

Table 8.2. Attributes of a Change

Attribute	Required Field	Details
Title	Yes	Short description / name of Change
Description	No	Longer text description of the Change
Justification	No	Text explanation of the reasons behind the Change; answer to the question: "What is the likely consequence if the Change is not implemented?"
Category	Yes	Defines the type of Change, e.g "3 normal" etc.
Impact	Yes	Defines the effects or impact the Change will have, eg. "4 high", etc.
Priority	Yes	Defines the priority of the Change, eg. "5 very high", "3 normal", etc. .
State	Yes	When creating a new Change, the status is automatically set. When modifying an existing Change, the Change Builder and Change Manager can manually set the status. Available status and result status are defined by the integrated State Machine, see the section called " Change State Machine " .
Requested (by customer) Date	No	If required, this attribute can be deactivated via SysConfig for the 'ChangeEdit', 'ChangeAdd' and 'ChangeZoom' templates, and display the customer's desired implementation date.
Attachment	No	Enables related files and documents to be attached

Category - Impact - Priority Matrix

To determine the priority of a Change, OTRS::ITSM supports the Change Builder through an integrated matrix which suggests a priority for selection, based on the chosen category and change impact entered in the system. This suggested priority can always be overridden by the Change Builder.

The category, impact and priority values given upon installation can be customized in the General Catalog by the administrator.

Priority allocation					
IMPACT \ CATEGORY	1 VERY LOW	2 LOW	3 NORMAL	4 HIGH	5 VERY HIGH
1 very low	1 very low	1 very low	2 low	2 low	3 normal
2 low	1 very low	2 low	2 low	3 normal	4 high
3 normal	2 low	2 low	3 normal	4 high	4 high
4 high	2 low	3 normal	4 high	4 high	5 very high
5 very high	3 normal	4 high	4 high	5 very high	5 very high

Submit

Here, the menu item "General Catalog" should be selected in the OTRS::ITSM Administration interface.

ITSM::Change Management::Category

Upon installation, OTRS::ITSM Change Management generates the following values for the Category selection field:

- 1 very low
- 2 low
- 3 normal
- 4 high
- 5 very high

ITSM::Change Management::Impact

Upon installation, OTRS::ITSM Change Management generates the following values for the Impact selection field:

- 1 very low
- 2 low
- 3 normal
- 4 high
- 5 very high

ITSM::Change Management::Priority

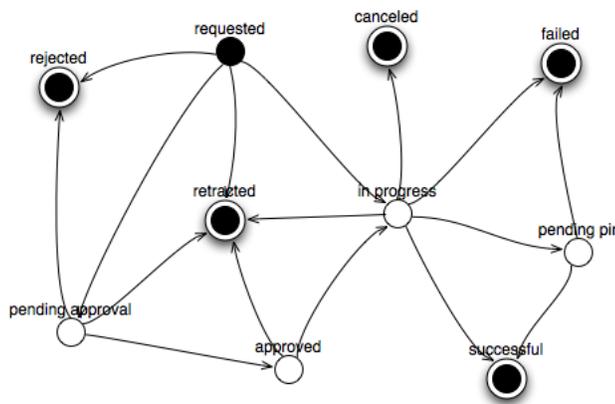
Upon installation, OTRS::ITSM Change Management generates the following values for the Priority selection field:

- 1 very low

- 2 low
- 3 normal
- 4 high
- 5 very high

Change State Machine

OTRS::ITSM features a State Machine which defines valid statuses and possible result statuses for a Change. The standard installation generates suggestions based on the following logic model:



Adjustments to the State Machine can be made by the system administrator in the administration front end, under menu option State Machine. The statuses and possible result statuses should be defined here.

Where necessary, additional statuses can be defined under the menu option "General Catalog" -> "ITSM::Change Management::Change::State". In OTRS::ITSM, this is illustrated as a table:

Admin State Machine

Actions

[Go to overview](#)

Overview over state transitions for ITSM::ChangeManagement::Change::State

STATE	NEXT STATE	DELETE
START	Requested	
Requested	In Progress	
Requested	Pending Approval	
Requested	Rejected	
Requested	Retracted	
Pending Approval	Approved	
Pending Approval	Rejected	
Pending Approval	Retracted	
Rejected	*END*	
Approved	Retracted	
Approved	In Progress	
In Progress	Canceled	
In Progress	Failed	
In Progress	Pending PIR	
In Progress	Retracted	
In Progress	Successful	
Pending PIR	Failed	
Pending PIR	Successful	
Successful	*END*	
Failed	*END*	
Canceled	*END*	
Retracted	*END*	

Defining Participant Roles / Persons Related to a Change

After entering the basic data of the Change, the persons participating in implementation can be defined in the Involved Persons feature.

Involved Persons

* Change Manager: <jack@otrs.com>

* Change Builder: <jane@otrs.com>

Change Advisory Board

CAB Template: -

Add to CAB:

Current CAB:

TYPE	LOGIN	DELETE
Agent	joe (Joe Johnson)	<input type="button" value="X"/>
Agent	mary (Mary Mars)	<input type="button" value="X"/>
Customer	claudie (Claude Green)	<input type="button" value="X"/>

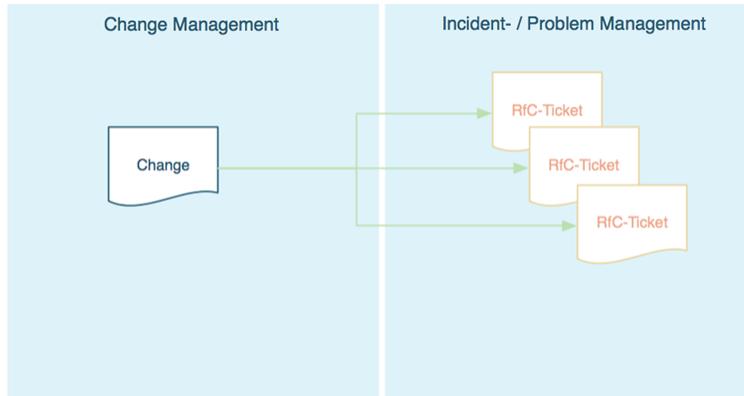
Here, the system offers convenient access to all connected client backends and agent backends, such as SQL databases or LDAP directory services. If specified, the CAB can be defined according to an existing CAB template.

Table 8.3. Involved Persons

Attribute	Required Field	Details
Change Manager	Yes	Assigns Change Manager privileges to an agent, for the current Change.
Change Builder	Yes	Defines the agent who processes and defines the current Change. When creating a new Change, the current agent is automatically entered as the Change Builder.
Change Advisory Board	No	Defines a group of people which can include agents and customers.

Linking a Change with a Request for Change

Through the OTRS Framework's renowned linking mechanism, the system allows a change to be linked to a ticket. In this way, the origin of a change ie. the Request for Change or problem can be easily identified.



Furthermore, it is possible to open the corresponding Change directly from a ticket within the Incident or Problem Management process ie. the ticket system from which it originated. In this case, the system creates a transparent link between the ticket and Change. In the configuration, this feature can be restricted to only those agents who are permitted to create Changes. It is also possible to restrict the usage of the ticket type "RfC" to only those agents who have access to the Change Management area. Please have a look at the following sysconfig options:

- Ticket -> Core::TicketACL - Ticket::Acl::Module###200-Ticket::Acl::Module
- ITSM Change Management -> Core::ITSMChange - ITSMChange::AddChangeLinkTicketTypes
- ITSM Change Management -> Core::ITSMChange - ITSMChange::RestrictTicketTypes::Groups

Defining Conditions

OTRS::ITSM allows conditions and actions to be defined based on the attributes of a Change and/or Work Order. Through the administration front-end, these attributes can be activated or deactivated for the Change Builder.

Workflows can be defined here. For example, a workflow to set the entire Change to "canceled" or request review / approval clearance when a Work Order is canceled.

Condition

* Name:

Matching: Any expression (OR) All expressions (AND)

Validity:

Comment:

Expressions

OBJECT	SELECTOR	ATTRIBUTE	OPERATOR	VALUE	DELETE
Change	20120828389400001	Category	is	4 high	
Workorder	any	Workorder State	is	Canceled	

[+ Add new expression](#)

Actions

OBJECT	SELECTOR	ATTRIBUTE	OPERATOR	VALUE	DELETE
Change	20120828389400001	Change State	set	Canceled	
Change	20120828389400001	Priority	set	5 very high	

[+ Add new action](#)

It should be noted that the defined conditions are not executed in a certain order; rather, actions are processed in the order they were set.

Conditions Available at the Change Level

The following attributes can be used to define Conditions at the Change level

Table 8.4. Conditions available at the Change level

Change Attribute	Logical Operator
AccountedTime	is
PlannedEffort	is not is empty is not empty is greater than is less than
Category	is
ChangeBuilder	is not
ChangeState	
Impact	
Priority	
ChangeManager	is is not is empty is not empty
ChangeTitle	begins with ends with contains does not contain is is not is empty is not empty

Conditions Available at the Work Order Level

The following attributes can be used to define conditions at the Work Order level.

Table 8.5. Conditions available at the Work Order level

Work Order Attribute	Logical Operator
AccountedTime	is
PlannedEffort	is not is empty is not empty is greater than is less than
WorkOrderNumber	is is not is greater than is less than
WorkOrderState	is
WorkOrderType	is not
WorkOrderAgent	
WorkOrderTitle	begins with ends with contains does not contain is is not is empty is not empty

Defining Actions

After the conditions have been established, OTRS::ITSM allows you to define any number of actions to be executed on the current Change or all / one of the Work Orders of the current change.

Actions Available at the Change Level

The following actions can be performed for Change objects. The operator "set" enables the selected attribute to be set at a specific value, if the defined condition is true. On the other hand, the operator "lock" freezes the selected attribute, for as long as the defined condition is true ie. a manual change is not possible.

Table 8.6. Actions available at the Change level

Change Attribute	Action
Category	set
Impact	
Priority	
ChangeState	set
	lock

Actions Available at the Work Order Level

The following actions can be performed for Work Order objects. The operator "set" enables the selected attribute to be set at a specific value, if the defined condition is true. On the other hand, the operator "lock" freezes the selected attribute, for as long as the defined condition is true ie. a manual change is not possible.

Table 8.7. Actions available at the Work Order level

Work Order Attribute	Action
WorkOrderState	set
	lock

Rescheduling (Postponing) the Start / End Time of a Change

In practice, the planned start or end time of a Change may need to be revised. The system allows the Change Builder to do this with the "Move Time Slot" feature.

Through selector fields, the Change Builder has the ability to shift the planned Change implementation timeframe.

Creating a Work Order

Within a Change, the system offers a "Add Work Order" feature which enables any number of sub-tasks (Work Orders) related to a selected Change to be entered.

Attributes of a Work Order

Once a Change is created, it effectively serves as a container for the definition of sub-tasks, ie. Work Orders, and these Work Orders can now be defined by the Change Builder.

Table 8.8. Attributes of a Work Order

Attribute	Required Field	Details
Title	Yes	Short description / name of Work Order.
Instruction	No	Longer text description of the Work Order.
Work Order Type	Yes	Selection list to define the type of Work Order, eg. approval, work order, PIR, etc.
Category	Yes	Defines the type of Change, e.g "3 normal" etc.
Impact	Yes	Defines the effects or impact of the Change, eg. "4 high", etc.
Priority	Yes	Defines the priority of the Change, eg. "5 very high", "3 normal", etc.
State	Yes	When creating a new Change, the status is automatically set. When modifying an existing Change the Change Builder and Change Manager can manually set the status. Available statuses and result statuses are defined by the integrated State Machine, see the section called " Change State Machine " .
Requested (by customer) Date	No	If required, this attribute can be deactivated via SysConfig for the 'ChangeEdit', 'ChangeAdd' and 'ChangeZoom' templates, and display the customer's desired implementation date.
Attachment	No	Enables related files and documents to be attached

In addition to these attributes, the assigned Work Order agent can collect attributes through the "Report" feature, which is explained in detail in the "Work Order Agent Report" chapter.

Work Order Type

The following entries for the "Work Order Type" attribute are available in the standard installation of OTRS::ITSM Change Management:

- Approval
- Work Order
- Backout

- Decision
- PIR (Post Implementation Review)

The administrator can freely define and specify Work Order types, as well as add new types.

Work Order State Machine

OTRS::ITSM features a State Machine which defines valid statuses and possible result statuses for a Work Order. The standard installation generates suggestions based on the following logic model:

Overview over state transitions for ITSM::ChangeManagement::WorkOrder::State

STATE	NEXT STATE	DELETE
START	Created	
Created	Accepted	
Created	Canceled	
Accepted	Ready	
Accepted	Canceled	
Ready	Canceled	
Ready	In Progress	
In Progress	Canceled	
In Progress	closed	
closed	*END*	
Canceled	*END*	

Adjustments to the State Machine can be made by the system administrator in the administration front end, under menu option State Machine. The statuses and possible result statuses should be defined here.

Where necessary, additional statuses can be defined under the menu option "General Catalog" -> "ITSM::ChangeManagement::WorkOrder::State".

In OTRS::ITSM, this is illustrated as a table:

Overview over state transitions for ITSM::ChangeManagement::WorkOrder::State

STATE	NEXT STATE	DELETE
START	Created	
Created	Accepted	
Created	Canceled	
Accepted	Ready	
Accepted	Canceled	
Ready	Canceled	
Ready	In Progress	
In Progress	Canceled	
In Progress	closed	
closed	*END*	
Canceled	*END*	

Defining the Work Order Agent

Each Work Order can be assigned to a so-called Work Order agent, ie. a person responsible for the execution of the Work Order.

The system offers access to all connected agent back-ends here. It is important to note that only agents who have full access rights to the user group "have itsm-change" are displayed.

Workorder Agent:

- "Jack Brown" <jack@otrs.com> (4)
- "Jane Smith" <jane@otrs.com> (2)
- "Mary Mars" <mary@otrs.com> (5)
- "Admin OTRS" <root@localhost> (1)

Work Order Agent Report

The assigned Work Order agent can document related information such as comments, the actual Work Order start and end times, required processing time and status.

Report

Report:

State: Created

Save

Linking Work Orders to Configuration Items / Services

Within a Work Order, OTRS::ITSM allows linking to other objects.

In the standard installation, a Work Order can be linked to the following objects:

- CIs
 - CI-Class Computer
 - CI-Class Hardware
 - CI-Class Location
 - CI-Class Network
 - CI-Class Software
- Services
- Tickets

These settings are defined via SysConfig under "Framework -> Core::LinkObject" and can be extended when desired.

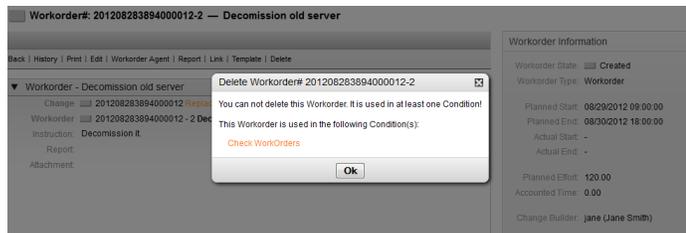
Saving a Work Order as a Template

A Work Order can be saved as a template through the "Template" feature, within the Work Order itself.

The dialog box requires the Change Builder to give the template a name and an optional comment. Once the user leaves the dialog box by clicking the "Add" button, the Work Order will be available as a template when a new Work Order is being created.

Deleting a Work Order

The Change Builder can delete a Work Order as long as it is not referred to in a Condition (see the "Defining conditions" section).



Viewing the Content of a Change

After creating a Change and its associated Work Order, the system has the capability to display other information related to the Change, including corresponding Work Orders, linked tickets and CIs.

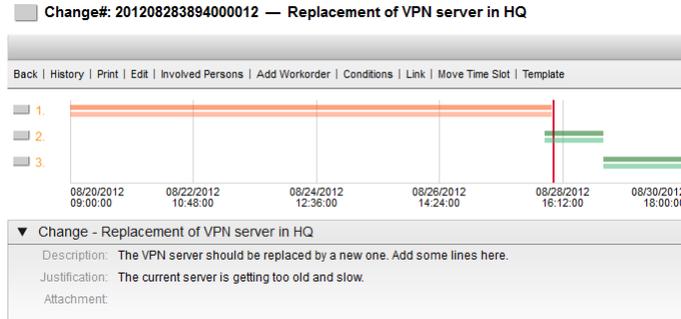
INCIDENT STATE	CONFIGITEM#	NAME	DEPLOYMENT STATE	CREATED	LINKED AS
Production	389432000003	S1245	Production	08/28/2012 10:45:59	Normal
Planned	389432000004	S4522	Planned	08/28/2012 10:48:09	Normal

The defined Work Orders are numbered in order of their planned execution and displayed in a timeline. The color of the displayed Work Order in the timeline reflects their type, and can be customized via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewChangeZoom" as required.

The system generates two bars per Work Order in the Change timeline. The upper, darker bar represents the planned Work Order implementation time, while the lower, lighter bar displays the actual Work Order implementation time.

The status of each Work Order is represented by traffic lights, as seen in the following view:

- Gray - Work Order is "created"
- Yellow - Work Order is "pending approval"
- Green - Work Order is "closed"
- Red - Work Order is "canceled"



Change Views

OTRS::ITSM offers a variety of ways to view the Changes saved in the system. Access to these views can be disabled where desired.

Change Overview

All Changes are displayed in an overview screen, which can be sorted in ascending or descending order per column.

Overview: Changes: All

STATE	CHANGER	CHANGE TITLE	CHANGE BUILDER	WORKORDERS	CHANGE STATE	PRIORITY	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
Requested 3								
Pending Approval 0								
Rejected 0								
Approved 0								
In Progress 0								
Pending PR 0								
Successful 0								
Failed 0								
Cancelled 0								
Retracted 0								

STATE	CHANGER	CHANGE TITLE	CHANGE BUILDER	WORKORDERS	CHANGE STATE	PRIORITY	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
	201208283894000012	Replacement of VPN server in HQ	jane (Jane Smith)	3	Requested	4 high	08/20/2012 09:00:00	08/30/2012 18:00:00
	201208283894000021	Migrate OTRS test environment to 3.2 test[...]	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Requested	2 low		
	201208283894000031	Implement OTRS interface with SAP Solu[...]	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Requested	3 normal		

The columns can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewChangeOverview" with the following available attributes:

Table 8.9. Change Overview

Attribute	Active	Details
ActualStartTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation began
ActualEndTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation ended
Category	No	Category or type of Change
ChangeBuilder	Yes	Change Builder's name

Attribute	Active	Details
ChangeManager	Yes	Change Manager's name
ChangeNumber	Yes	System generated Change number
ChangeState	Yes	Change status
ChangeStateSignal	Yes	Change status indicator, shown as traffic light
ChangeTitle	Yes	Name of Change
CreateTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was created
Impact	No	Expected effect of the Change
PlannedStartTime	Yes	Planned Change implementation start date and time
PlannedEndTime	Yes	Projected Change implementation end date and time
Priority	Yes	Priority level of the Change
RequestedTime	No	Customer's desired implementation date
Services	Yes	Services affected by the Change
WorkOrderCount	Yes	Number of Work Orders related to the Change

Additionally, the Change Overview can filter and display changes according to various attributes. The following filters are available and can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewChangeOverview":

Table 8.10. Change Overview Filters

Attribute	Details
requested	Displays all changes that have the status "requested"
pending approval	Displays all changes that have the status "pending approval"
rejected	Displays all changes that have the status "rejected"
approved	Displays all changes that have the status "approved"
in progress	Displays all changes that have the status "in progress"
successful	Displays all changes that have the status "successful"
failed	Displays all changes that have the status "failed"

Attribute	Details
canceled	Displays all changes that have the status "canceled"
retracted	Displays all changes that have the status "retracted"

Change Schedule

In the Change Schedule view, all Changes which have the status "approved" ie. are in the queue for implementation, are displayed. The column titles can be sorted by the following attributes in ascending or descending order:

Overview: Change Schedule: Approved

STATE	CHANGE#	CHANGE TITLE	CHANGE BUILDER	WORKORDERS	CHANGE STATE	PRIORITY	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
Approved	201208283894000012	Replacement of VPN server in HQ	jane (Jane Smith)	3	Approved	4 high	08/29/2012 09:00:00	08/30/2012 18:00:00
Approved	201208283894000031	Implement OTRS interface with SAP Solu[...]	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Approved	3 normal		
Approved	201208283894000021	Migrate OTRS test environment to 3.2 be[...]	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Approved	2 low		

The displayed attributes can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend:: Agent:: ViewChangeScheduleOverview":

Table 8.11. Change Schedule

Attribute	Active	Details
ActualStartTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation began
ActualEndTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation was completed
Category	No	Category or type of Change
ChangeBuilder	Yes	Change Builder's name
ChangeManager	Yes	Change Manager's name
ChangeNumber	Yes	System generated Change number
ChangeState	Yes	Change status
ChangeStateSignal	Yes	Change status indicator; shown as traffic light
ChangeTitle	Yes	Name of the Change
CreateTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was created
Impact	No	Expected effect of the Change
PlannedStartTime	Yes	Planned Change implementation start date and time

Attribute	Active	Details
PlannedEndTime	Yes	Projected Change implementation completion date and time
Priority	Yes	Priority level of the Change
RequestedTime	No	Customer's desired implementation date
Services	Yes	Services affected by the Change
WorkOrderCount	Yes	Number of Work Orders related to the Change

PIR - Post Implementation Review

This view displays work orders of the "PIR" type, which can be sorted in ascending or descending order by the given column headings.

Overview: PIR: All

STATE	WORKORDER#	WORKORDER TITLE	CHANGE TITLE	WORKORDER AGENT	WORKORDER STATE	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
	201208283894000012-4	Post Implementation Review	Replacement of VPN server in HQ		Ready	09/03/2012 09:00:00	09/07/2012 16:00:00

The columns to be displayed can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewPIROverview":

Table 8.12. PIR - Post Implementation Review

Attribute	Active	Details
ActualStartTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation began
ActualEndTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation was completed
Category	No	Category or type of Change
ChangeBuilder	Yes	Change Builder's name
ChangeManager	Yes	Change Manager's name
ChangeNumber	No	System generated Change number
ChangeState	No	Change status
ChangeStateSignal	No	Change status indicator; shown as traffic light
ChangeTitle	Yes	Name of Change
CreateTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was created
Impact	No	Expected effect of the Change
PlannedStartTime	Yes	Planned Change implementation start date and time

Attribute	Active	Details
PlannedEndTime	Yes	Projected Change implementation completion date and time
Priority	Yes	Priority level of the Change
RequestedTime	No	Customer's desired implementation date
Services	Yes	Services affected by the Change
WorkOrderAgent	Yes	Agent assigned to the PIR
WorkOrderNumber	Yes	Work Order number
WorkOrderState	Yes	Number of Work Orders related to the Change
WorkOrderStateSignal	No	Work Order status indicator to be shown as traffic light
WorkOrderTitle	Yes	Name of the Work Order
WorkOrderType	No	The type of Work Order

Template

This view displays all the defined templates in the system. The agent can sort the displayed information in ascending or descending order, by the given column headings.

Overview: Template: All

Filter						
NAME	TYPE	COMMENT	VALIDITY	DELETE	CREATED BY	CREATED
Provision new server	Workorder	Standard template for provisioning new servers	valid		jane (Jane Smith)	2012-08-28 11:48:32

The columns to be displayed can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewTemplateOverview":

Table 8.13. Template

Attribute	Active	Details
ChangeBy	No	Username of the agent who last modified the template
ChangeTime	No	Date and time of the last modification
Comment	Yes	Comments / description of the template
CreateBy	Yes	Username of the agent who created the template
CreateTime	Yes	Date and time at which the template was created
Delete	Yes	Option to delete a chosen template
Name	Yes	Name of the template

Attribute	Active	Details
TemplateID	No	The template's internal database identity
Type	Yes	Type of template
Valid	Yes	Defines the validity of the template (valid, invalid, and temporarily invalid). Invalid / temporarily invalid templates cannot be used by Change Builders.

After installing the Change Management module, the following template types are available in the system. These can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewTemplateOverview":

Table 8.14. Template Types

Attribute	Details
ITSMChange	Templates for Changes
ITSMWorkOrder	Templates for Work Orders
CAB	Templates for Change Advisory Boards

Search

To find Changes or Work Orders which meet specific search criteria, the system is equipped with a separate search function based on the following search query attributes:

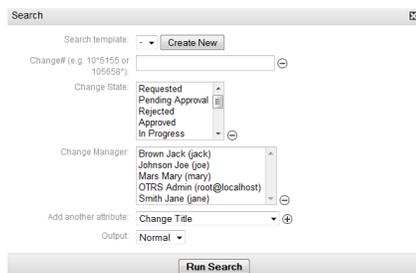


Table 8.15. Template

Attribute	Details
Change#	Search by Change number; an asterisk ("*") may be used as a wildcard
ChangeTitle	Search by Change title or name
Work Order Title	Search by the title/name of a Work Order
CABAgent	Search by CAB member, defined in the system as an agent
CABCustomer	Search by CAB member, defined in the system as a customer. Here, the auto-complete

Change Management

Attribute	Details
	function can offer suggestions when typing in the CAB customer field
Change Description	Search in the Change description text
Change Justification	Search in the reason / justification for the Change
Work Order Instruction	Search in Work Order instructions
Work Order Report	Search in a Work Order report
Change Priority	Search by Change priority level
Change Impact	Search by Change effect / impact level
Change Category	Search by Change category or type
Change State	Search by Change status
Change Manager	Search by Change Manager
Change Builder	Search by Change Builder
Created by Agent	Search by agent user name who created the Change
Work Order State	Search by the status of a Work Order
Work Order Agent	Search by the entered Work Order agent
Requested (by customer) Date	Search by the customer requested Change implementation date. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).
Planned Start Time	Search by the planned start date and time of a Change implementation. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).
Planned End Time	Search by the projected end date and time of a Change implementation. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).
Actual Start Time	Search by the actual start date and time of a Change implementation. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).
Actual End Time	Search by the actual end date and time of a Change implementation. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).
Create Time	Search by the Change creation date and time. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative

Attribute	Details
	time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).
Change Time	Search by the date and time a Change was modified. Search can be performed using absolute time values (eg. from date 1 to date 2) or in relative time values (eg. Changes created in the last x days / weeks).

Change Manager

OTRS::ITSM offers a separate view to agents currently logged in, which displays the Changes for which they are registered as the Change Manager.

STATE	CHANGE#	CHANGE TITLE	CHANGE BUILDER	CHANGE MANAGER	WORKORDERS	CHANGE STATE	PRIORITY	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
	201208283894000021	Migrate OTRS test environment to 3.2 beta_1	jane (Jane Smith)	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Pending PIR	2 low		
	201208283894000049	Enable Cloud Printing	jane (Jane Smith)	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Requested	2 low		

The displayed column headings can be sorted according to the following attributes in ascending or descending order. The columns to be displayed can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewChangeManagerOverview":

Table 8.16. Change Manager

Attribute	Active	Details
ActualStartTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation began
ActualEndTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation was completed
Category	No	Category or type of Change
ChangeBuilder	Yes	Change Builder's name
ChangeManager	Yes	Change Manager's name
ChangeNumber	Yes	System generated Change number
ChangeState	Yes	Change status
ChangeStateSignal	Yes	Change status indicator to be shown as traffic light
ChangeTitle	Yes	Name of Change
CreateTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was created
Impact	No	Expected effect of the Change
PlannedStartTime	Yes	Planned Change implementation start date and time

Attribute	Active	Details
PlannedEndTime	Yes	Projected Change implementation completion date and time
Priority	Yes	Priority level of the Change
RequestedTime	No	Customer's desired implementation date
Services	Yes	Services affected by the Change
WorkOrderCount	Yes	Number of Work Orders related to the Change

In addition, the Change Manager Overview can filter the displayed Changes by various attributes as follows These can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewChangeManagerOverview" if desired:

Table 8.17. Change Manager Filter

Attribute	Details
requested	Displays all Changes which have status "requested"
pending approval	Displays all Changes which have status "pending approval"
approved	Displays all Changes which have status "approved"
in progress	Displays all Changes which have status "in progress"

My Changes

The "My Changes" view displays all Changes created by the agent currently logged in, where the agent is registered as the Change Builder.

Overview: My Changes: All

STATE	CHANGE#	CHANGE TITLE	CHANGE BUILDER	WORKORDERS	CHANGE STATE	PRIORITY	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
Requested	201208283894000049	Enable Cloud Printing	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Requested	2 low		
Pending PIR	201208283894000021	Migrate OTRS test environment to 3.2 beta	jane (Jane Smith)	0	Pending PIR	2 low		

The display can be sorted by the column headings in ascending or descending order. The attributes can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewMyChangesOverview":

Table 8.18. My Changes

Attribute	Active	Details
ActualStartTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation began
ActualEndTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was completed

Attribute	Active	Details
Category	No	Category or type of Change
ChangeBuilder	Yes	Change Builder's name
ChangeManager	Yes	Change Manager's name
ChangeNumber	Yes	System generated Change number
ChangeState	Yes	Change status
ChangeStateSignal	Yes	Change status indicator to be shown as traffic light
ChangeTitle	Yes	Name of Change
CreateTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was created
Impact	No	Expected effect the Change will have
PlannedStartTime	Yes	Planned Change implementation start date and time
PlannedEndTime	Yes	Projected Change completion date and time
Priority	Yes	Priority level of the Change
RequestedTime	No	Customer's desired implementation date
Services	Yes	Services affected by the Change
WorkOrderCount	Yes	Number of Work Orders related to the Change

In addition, the My Changes Overview can filter the displayed Changes by various attributes as below. These can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewMyChangesOverview":

Table 8.19. My Changes Filter

Attribute	Details
requested	Displays all Changes which have status"requested"
pending approval	Displays all Changes which have status"pending approval"
approved	Displays all Changes which have status"approved"
in progress	Displays all Changes which have status"in progress"

My Work Orders

Similar to the OTRS Ticket Engine's "Locked Tickets" view, OTRS::ITSM offers the currently logged-in agent a separate view of the Work Orders assigned to him / her.

Overview: My WorkOrders: All

STATE	WORKORDER#	WORKORDER TITLE	CHANGE TITLE	WORKORDER AGENT	WORKORDER STATE	PLANNED START	PLANNED END
	201208283894000049-1	Provision new server	Enable Cloud Printing	jane (Jane Smith)	Created	08/28/2012 13:29:00	08/29/2012 21:29:00
	201208283894000021-1	Check Chef script	Migrate OTRS test environment to 3.2 bel[...]	jane (Jane Smith)	Created	08/28/2012 13:30:00	08/28/2012 14:30:00

The displayed information can be sorted by column heading in ascending or descending order. The attributes used can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewMyWorkOrdersOverview":

Table 8.20. My Work Orders

Attribute	Active	Details
ActualStartTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation began
ActualEndTime	No	Date and time at which the Change implementation was completed
Category	No	Category or type of Change
ChangeBuilder	No	Change Builder's name
ChangeManager	No	Change Manager's name
ChangeNumber	No	System generated Change number
ChangeState	No	Change status
ChangeStateSignal	No	Change status indicator to be shown as traffic light
ChangeTitle	Yes	Name of Change
CreateTime	No	Date and time at which the Change was created
Impact	No	Expected effect the Change will have
PlannedStartTime	Yes	Planned Change implementation start date and time
PlannedEndTime	Yes	Projected Change completion date and time
Priority	No	Priority level of the Change
RequestedTime	No	Customer's desired implementation date
Services	Yes	Services affected by the Change
WorkOrderAgent	Yes	Agent assigned to the PIR
WorkOrderNumber	Yes	Work Order number

Attribute	Active	Details
WorkOrderState	Yes	Number of Work Orders related to the Change
WorkOrderStateSignal	No	Work Order status indicator to be shown as traffic light
WorkOrderTitle	Yes	Name of the Work Order
WorkOrderType	No	The type of Work Order

In addition, the My Work Orders Overview can filter the displayed Work Orders by various attributes as below, which can be defined via SysConfig "ITSM Change Management -> Frontend::Agent::ViewMyWorkOrdersOverview":

Table 8.21. My Work Orders Filter

Attribute	Details
created	Displays all Work Orders which have the status "created"
accepted	Displays all Work Orders which have the status "accepted"
ready	Displays all Work Orders which have the status "ready"
in progress	Displays all Work Orders which have the status "in progress"

Change Management Statistics

OTRS::ITSM provides the following reports for the evaluation of key indicators in supervising Change Management. All reports can be accessed through the integrated report generator.

Number of Changes Within a Defined Period

The report allows the definition of a relative (eg. Changes within the last x days) or absolute time period (eg. Changes from date1 to date 2). In addition, it is also possible to define the Change status to be reported.

Reports are available in "CSV" or "Print" (PDF) output formats.

Number of Changes by Change Category

The report allows the definition of a relative (eg. Changes within the last x days) or absolute time period (eg. Changes from date1 to date 2). In addition, it is also possible to define the Change status to be reported.

Reports are available in "CSV" or "Print" (PDF) output formats.

Number of Rejected Changes

The report allows the definition of a relative (eg. Changes within the last x days) or absolute time period (eg. Changes from date1 to date 2). In addition, it is also possible to define the Change status to be reported.

Reports are available in "CSV" or "Print" (PDF) output formats.

Number of Withdrawn Changes

The report allows the definition of a relative (eg. Changes within the last x days) or absolute time period (eg. Changes from date1 to date 2). In addition, it is also possible to define the Change status to be reported.

Reports are available in "CSV" or "Print" (PDF) output formats.

Ratio of Changes to Incidents

The report allows the definition of a relative (eg. Changes within the last x days) or absolute time period (eg. Changes from date1 to date 2). In addition, it is also possible to define the Change status to be reported.

Reports are available in "CSV" or "Print" (PDF) output formats.

RFCs Per Requester

The report allows the definition of a relative (eg. Changes within the last x days) or absolute time period (eg. Changes from date1 to date 2). In addition, it is also possible to define the RFC Requester to be reported.

Reports are available in "CSV" or "Print" (PDF) output formats.

Chapter 9. Release Management

The release management process will be implemented in a later OTRS::ITSM version. Basic information, however, can be configured, captured and controlled since version 1.0 too.

As an example, approval rules or overviews from DSL (Definitive Software Library) can be configured and used.

Chapter 10. Service Level Management

The OTRS stats framework has been completely revised for version 2.1 and nearly every type of ticket report can be created in the web interface. Generation and view of stats and charts can be activated for users, groups and/or roles. It is possible to import or export existing or new stats and further use can be made of stats modules from previous OTRS versions. With the installation of the ITSMServiceLevelManagement package, additional ITSM relevant statistics are available.

Example of a report overview:

Overview: Stats

Actions

List

STAT#▲	TITLE	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION
10001	List of tickets closed last month	Ticketlist	List of all tickets closed last month. Order by ag[...]
10002	New Tickets	TicketAccumulation	Total number of new tickets per day and queue whic[...]
10003	List of open tickets, sorted by time left until response deadline expires	Ticketlist	List of open tickets, sorted by time left until re[...]
10004	List of tickets closed, sorted by response time.	Ticketlist	List of tickets closed last month, sorted by respo[...]
10005	List of tickets created last month	Ticketlist	List of all tickets created last month. Order by a[...]
10006	List of the most time-consuming tickets	Ticketlist	List of tickets closed last month which required t[...]
10007	List of open tickets, sorted by time left until escalation deadline expires	Ticketlist	List of open tickets, sorted by time left until es[...]
10008	List of tickets closed, sorted by solution time	Ticketlist	List of tickets closed last month, sorted by solu[...]
10009	Overview about all tickets in the system	TicketAccumulation	Current state of all tickets in the system without[...]
10010	List of open tickets, sorted by time left until solution deadline expires	Ticketlist	List of open tickets, sorted by time left until so[...]
10011	Changes of status in a monthly overview	StateAction	Monthly overview, which reports status changes per[...]
10012	Total number of all tickets ever created per Ticket-Type and Priority.	TicketAccumulation	Total number of all tickets ever created per Ticket[...]

XML export of report settings:

View: Stat# 10002

Actions

Hint

With the input and select fields you can influence the format and contents of the statistic. Exactly what fields and formats you can influence is defined by the statistic administrator.

Stat Details

Stat#: 10002

Title: New Tickets

Object: TicketAccumulation

Description: Total number of new tickets per day and queue which have been created during the last month.

Format:

Sum rows:

Sum columns:

Cache:

Validity:

Exchange Axis:

Created:

Created by:

Changed:

Changed by:

Create Time:

X-axis:

Value Series

Queue: Misc
Postmaster
Service Desk

Opening New_Tickets_2012-08-30_10-05.xml

You have chosen to open

New_Tickets_2012-08-30_10-05.xml
which is a: XML Document (692 bytes)
from: http://vo1298.vo.otrs.com

What should Firefox do with this file?

Open with Internet Explorer (default)

Save File

Do this automatically for files like this from now on.

Dialog-based creation of a new report template:

Service Level Management

Edit: Stat# 10002

Step 1
General Specifications

Step 2
Select the element that will be used at the X-axis

Step 3
Select the elements for the value series

Step 4
Select the restrictions to characterize the stat

Actions

General Specifications (1/4)

* Title:

* Description:

* Dynamic-Object: TicketAccumulation

* Permissions:

itsm-change-builder
 itsm-change-manager
 itsm-configitem
 itsm-service
stats

You can select one or more groups to define access for different agents.

* Result format:

CSV
Print
 graph-area
 graph-bars
 graph-hbars

A PDF generator is incorporated too, which facilitates the export of the print view of tickets, stats and search results in PDF files:

OTRS Open Technology Real ServicesStat#10002

New Tickets 2012-07-01 00:00:00-2012-07-31 23:59:59 printed by Jane Smith (jane@otrs.com) 08/30/2012 10:21:08

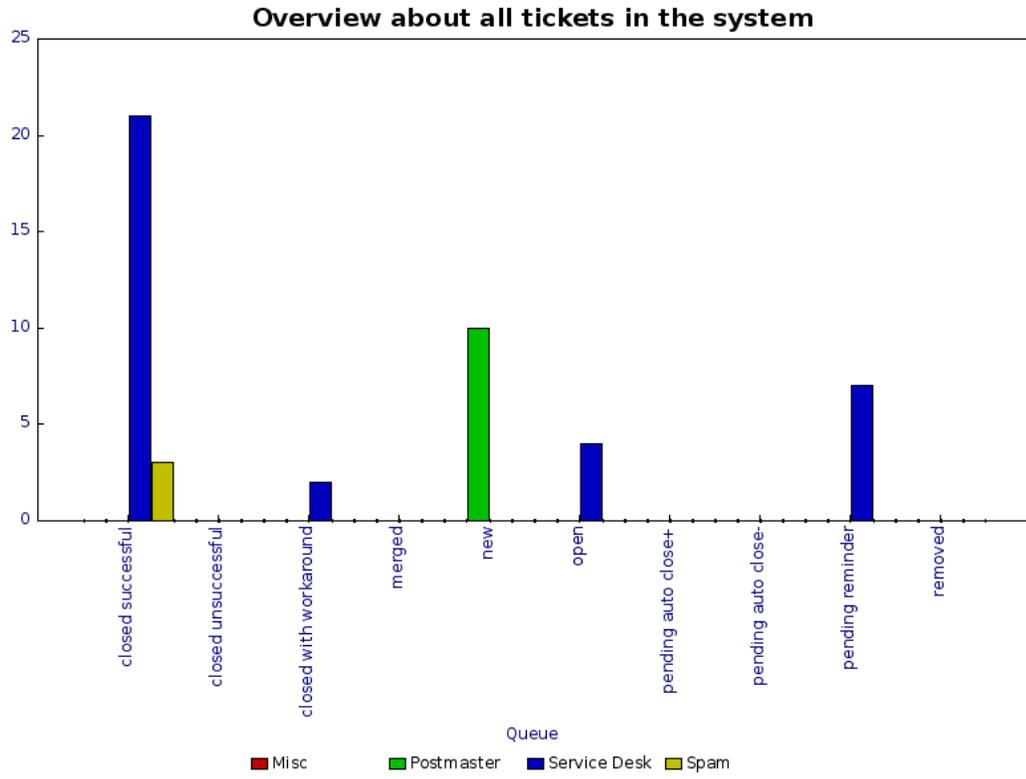
Queue	Sun 1	Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thu 5	Fri 6	Sat 7	Sun 8	Mon 9	Tue 10	Wed 11	Thu 12	Fri 13	Sat 14	Sun 15	Mon 16	Tue 17	Wed 18	Thu 19	Fri 20	Sat 21	Sun 22	Mon 23	Tue 24	Wed 25	Thu 26	Fri 27	Sat 28	Sun 29	Mon 30	Tue 31	Sum	
Misc	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Postmaster	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Service Desk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

OTRS Open Technology Real ServicesStat#10009

Overview about all tickets in the system printed by Jane Smith (jane@otrs.com) 08/30/2012 10:24:26

Queue	closed successful	closed unsuccessful	closed with workaround	merged	new	open	pending auto close+	pending auto close-	pending reminder	removed	Sum
Misc	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Postmaster	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	42
Service Desk	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	5
Spam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sum	1	0	0	0	42	4	0	0	0	0	47

Example of a graphical ticket overview:



Chapter 11. The admin area of OTRS::ITSM

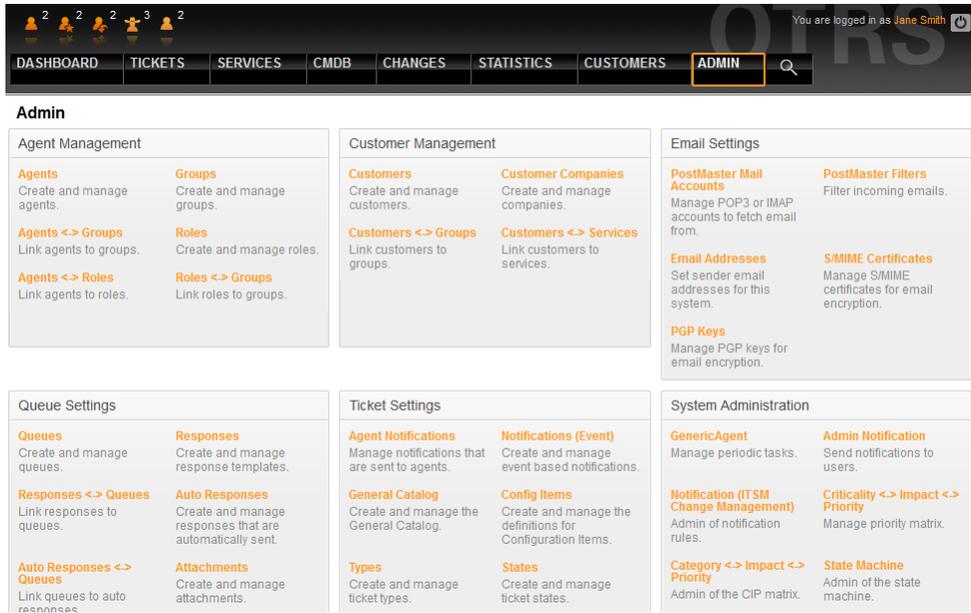
The admin area is the central interface for the ticket system administrator. All important settings of the system configuration can be checked and/or changed here, and the system can be adapted to individual needs.

The admin area can be accessed via the "admin" link in the agent interface navigation bar. The link is only shown to users logged on to the system as OTRS::ITSM administrators or having administrator permissions in the system. After a default installation you can log on to the system as OTRS admin using the user name "root@localhost" and the password "root".

Warning

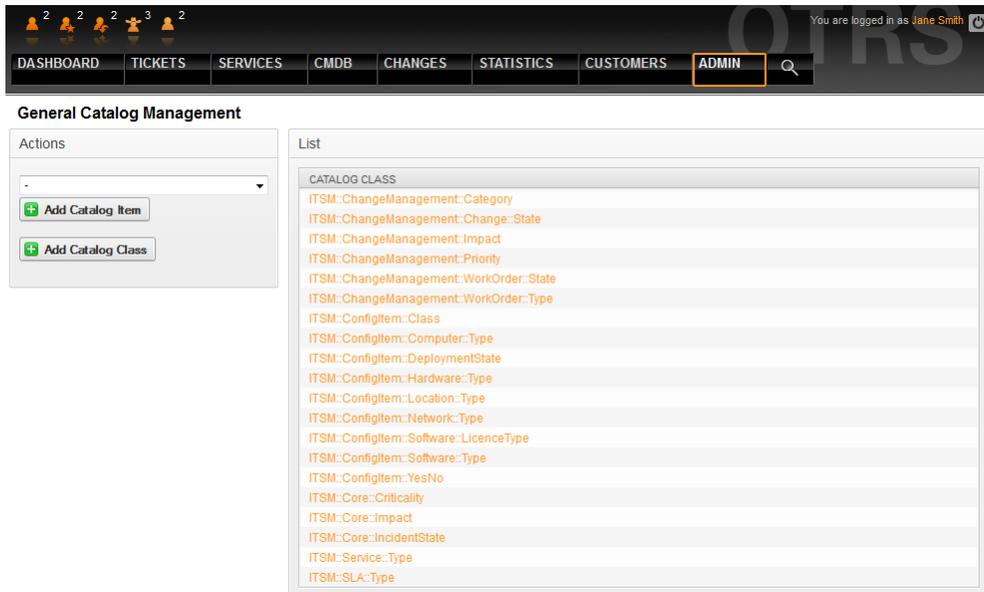
Make sure to change the password of root@localhost in the user preferences as quickly as possible after the installation as it is the default password and commonly known.

- from OTRS::ITSM 1.0 on
 - [General Catalog]
 - [Criticality - Impact - Priority]
 - [ConfigItem]
- from OTRS::ITSM 1.1 on
 - [Import/Export]
- from OTRS::ITSM 2.0 on
 - [Notification (ITSM Change Management)]
 - [Category - Impact - Priority]
 - [State Machine]
- from OTRS 2.2 on
 - [Type]
 - [Status]
 - [Service]
 - [SLA]
- from OTRS 2.3 on
 - [Priority]

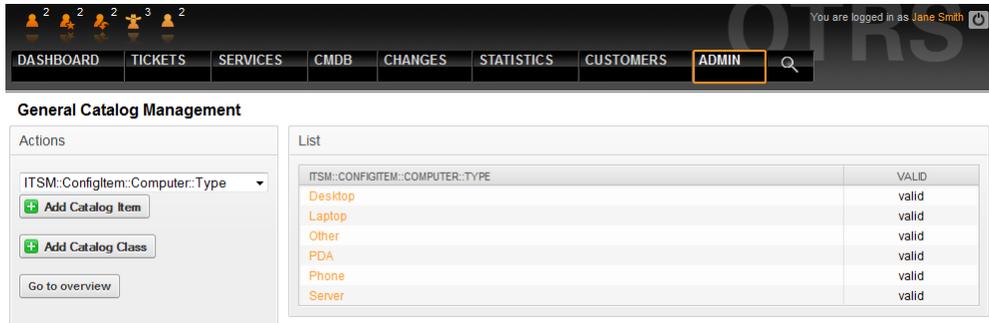


The general catalog

As the name indicates, the general catalog serves for basic ITSM relevant configurations in OTRS::ITSM.



For example the editing of reference chart entries for drop-down fields:



Configuring configuration item classes

By default OTRS::ITSM provides five CI classes to represent all relevant IT elements:

- [Computer]

All CIs, which are classically referred to as computers, e.g. desktop PCs or laptops, and all intelligent, configurable and non-peripheral appliances such as switches, routers or other active network components.

- [Hardware]

All hardware components not being considered as computers, ranging from "blade center" chassis, to printers and USB sticks depending on the level of detailedness of the listing.

- [Network]

Logical nets (LAN, WLAN, WAN etc.), which span IP address spaces.

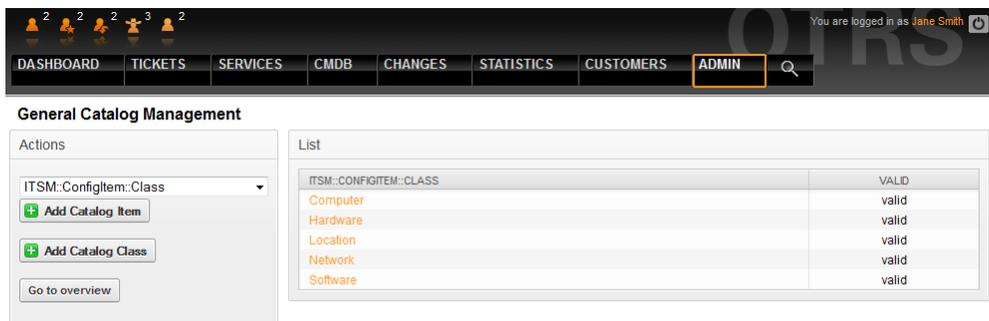
- [Software]

All software products and licenses.

- [Locations]

All Locations, e.g. building, workplace, IT facility.

If the five classes do not suffice to describe your IT environment, further classes can be added via the "general catalog" link in the OTRS::ITSM admin area. After creating a new CI class in the general catalog, a definition must be entered in ConfigItem".



Warning

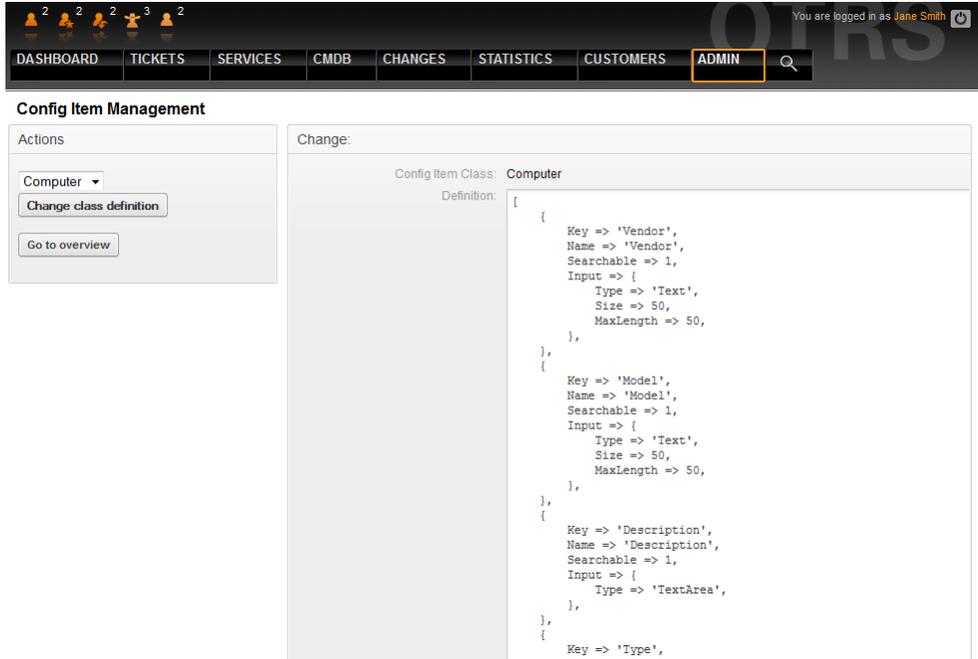
The design of a CMDB data model and the CIs to be managed in it is a task which should not be underestimated. Our experience shows that it is highly recommendable to validate conceptual thoughts in a dry run against the existing IT infrastructure before changing the OTRS::ITSM standard data model and/or CI classes. It has proven of value to resort to external assistance, e.g. of ITIL practice experts for the CMDB design.

Please find below a part of the self-explaining default configuration for the "computer" CI class:

```
[
  {
    Key => 'Description',
    Name => 'Description',
    Searchable => 1,
    Input => {
      Type => 'TextArea',
    },
  },
  {
    Key => 'Type',
    Name => 'Type',
    Searchable => 1,
    Input => {
      Type => 'GeneralCatalog',
      Class => 'ITSM::ConfigItem::Computer::Type',
    },
  },
  {
    Key => 'Owner',
    Name => 'Owner',
    Searchable => 1,
    Input => {
      Type => 'Customer',
    },
  },
  {
    Key => 'AssetTag',
    Name => 'Asset Tag',
    Searchable => 1,
    Input => {
      Type => 'Text',
      Size => 50,
      MaxLength => 100,
      Required => 1,
    },
    CountMin => 0,
    CountMax => 1,
    CountDefault => 0,
  },
  :
  :
```

```
      :
    {
      Key => 'Model',
      Name => 'Model',
      Searchable => 1,
      Input => {
        Type => 'Text',
        Size => 50,
        MaxLength => 50,
      },
    },
    {
      Key => 'OperatingSystem',
      Name => 'Operating System',
      Input => {
        Type => 'Text',
        Size => 50,
        MaxLength => 100,
      },
    },
    {
      Key => 'CPU',
      Name => 'CPU',
      Input => {
        Type => 'Text',
        Size => 50,
        MaxLength => 100,
      },
      CountMin => 1,
      CountMax => 16,
      CountDefault => 1,
    },
  ],
];
```

Attribute changes and amendments can be effected in the graphical configuration area selecting "change definition":

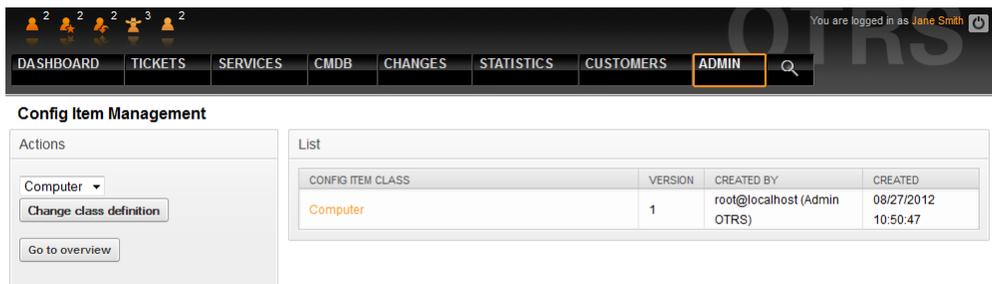


Warning

In order to assure the consistency of the data managed in OTRS::ITSM, information created in the admin area of the system cannot be deleted as a general rule. If you want to deactivate such information, change the value in the respective listbox settings from "valid" to "invalid" or "invalid-temporarily".

Version management of CI classes

Version management for all CI classes is integrated into the system. The latest versions are used for the processes represented in OTRS::ITSM.



Adjustment of ticket state

In ITIL compliant incident management, incidents are either resolved successfully or closed with a workaround. For such cases, OTRS::ITSM standard provides the ticket state "closed with workaround".

The screenshot shows the OTRS::ITSM Admin interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for DASHBOARD, TICKETS, SERVICES, CMDB, CHANGES, STATISTICS, CUSTOMERS, and ADMIN (which is highlighted). Below the navigation bar, the 'State Management' section is visible. On the left, there is an 'Actions' panel with a green '+ Add state' button and a 'Hint' panel with a warning message: 'Attention: Please also update the states in SysConfig where needed. See also: <http://doc.otrs.org>'. On the right, there is a 'List' table showing the following data:

NAME	TYPE	COMMENT	VALIDITY	CHANGED	CREATED
closed successful	closed	Ticket is closed suc[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
closed unsuccessful	closed	Ticket is closed uns[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
closed with workaround	closed	ticket is closed wit[...]	valid	08/27/2012 10:49	08/27/2012 10:49
merged	merged	State for merged tic[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
new	new	New ticket created b[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
open	open	Open tickets.	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
pending auto close+	pending auto	Ticket is pending fo[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
pending auto close-	pending auto	Ticket is pending fo[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
pending reminder	pending reminder	Ticket is pending fo[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26
removed	removed	Customer removed tic[...]	valid	08/23/2012 14:26	08/23/2012 14:26

With OTRS::ITSM you can change ticket states or add new ones. There are two important options: the name of the state "state-name" and the type of it "state-type". All states and types available by default are pictured above.

State names can be chosen freely. In the "state" settings within the admin interface new states can be added or changed for existing state types.

Please consider that changes to the "new" state require changes in the configuration file kernel/config.pm or in the graphical configuration front-end.

```
[...]
# PostmasterDefaultState
# (The default state of new tickets.) [default: new]
$self->{PostmasterDefaultState} = 'new';

# CustomerDefaultState
# (default state of new customer tickets)
$self->{CustomerDefaultState} = 'new';
[...]
```

The same applies to changes to the "open" state: changes in the kernel/Config.pm or in the graphical configuration frontend are necessary.

```
[...]
# default phone new state
$self->{'Ticket::Frontend::PhoneNextState'} = 'open';

# PostmasterFollowUpState
# (The state if a ticket got a follow up.) [default: open]
```

```
$Self->{PostmasterFollowUpState} = 'open';
[...]
```

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The criticality impact priority matrix

OTRS::ITSM provides five ticket priority levels:

- [Criticality]

Significance ("criticality") of the service for the IT user(s)/customer(s)

- [Impact]

Impact of failures of the concerned service on the user(s)/customer(s)

- [Priority]

Priority within OTRS::ITSM as resulting from criticality and impact

The OTRS::ITSM ticket priority is determined with the matrix shown below and the prioritized ticket is integrated in the queue views.

Criticality <-> Impact <-> Priority

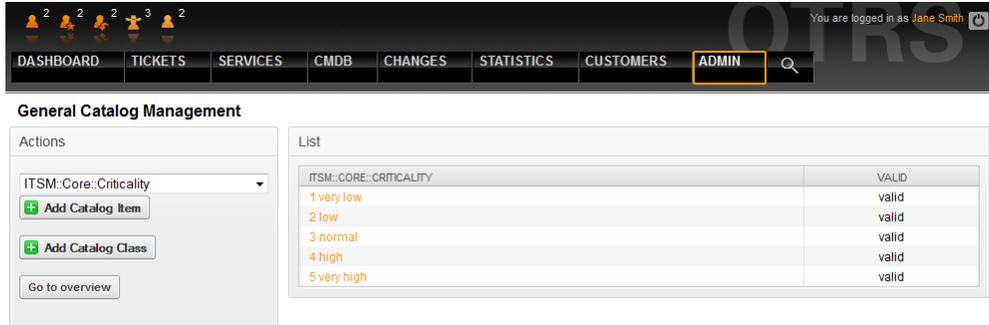
Note
Manage the priority result of combining Criticality <-> Impact.

Priority allocation

IMPACT \ CRITICALITY	1 VERY LOW	2 LOW	3 NORMAL	4 HIGH	5 VERY HIGH
1 very low	1 very low	1 very low	2 low	2 low	3 normal
2 low	1 very low	2 low	2 low	3 normal	4 high
3 normal	2 low	2 low	3 normal	4 high	4 high
4 high	2 low	3 normal	4 high	4 high	5 very high
5 very high	3 normal	4 high	4 high	5 very high	5 very high

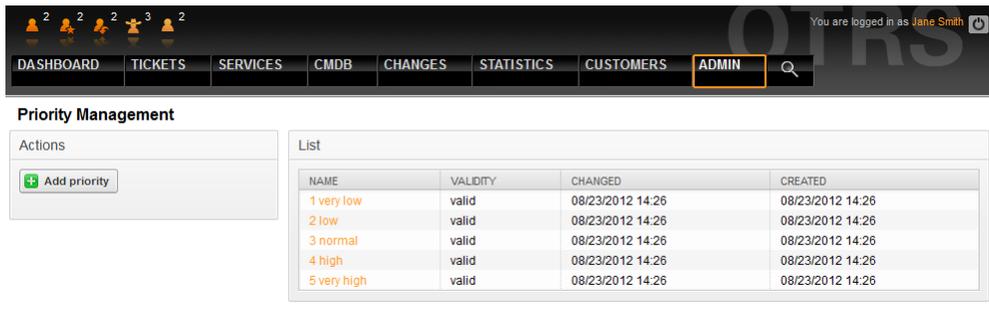
Submit

The level number, descriptions and validity can be accessed and changed in the admin interface via the "general catalog" link:



Adjustment of ticket priorities

Tickets are arranged within OTRS::ITSM on the basis of ticket priorities, i.e. tickets with a higher priority are displayed further up in the queue views and lower priority ones in lower positions. Priorities can be adjusted, re-named and amended in the graphical admin frontend.



More detailed information can be found in the OTRS Admin Manual.

Warning

The "id" attribute decides the OTRS::ITSM internal sequence of priorities. => 1 corresponds to the minimum and 5 (or higher) to the maximum. The number in the priority name is used to implement the correct sequence within the priorities.

Warning

In order to assure the consistency of the data managed in OTRS::ITSM, information created in the admin area of the system cannot be deleted as a general rule. If you want to deactivate such information, change the value in the respective listbox settings from "valid" to "invalid" or "invalid-temporarily".

Chapter 12. Additional OTRS applications - calendar

In OTRS 3.2, 9 calendars can directly be configurated graphically by default. This number can be extended to 99. Calendar configuration is effected in the admin interface using the SysConfig framework calendar 1 etc. links:

The screenshot shows the OTRS SysConfig interface. The top navigation bar includes DASHBOARD, TICKETS, SERVICES, CMDB, CHANGES, STATISTICS, CUSTOMERS, and ADMIN. The user is logged in as Jane Smith. The SysConfig section is active, showing a search bar and a dropdown menu set to 'Framework (432)'. Below this are 'Export settings' and 'Import settings' buttons. The main content area displays a table of configurations:

SUBGROUP	ELEMENTS	GROUP
Core	28	Framework
Core::LinkObject	32	Framework
Core::Log	6	Framework
Core::MIME-Viewer	4	Framework
Core::MirrorDB	3	Framework
Core::PDF	12	Framework
Core::Package	7	Framework
Core::PerformanceLog	3	Framework
Core::ReferenceData	1	Framework
Core::SOAP	2	Framework
Core::Sendmail	9	Framework
Core::Session	16	Framework
Core::SpellChecker	4	Framework
Core::Stats	11	Framework
Core::Stats::Graph	17	Framework
Core::Time	10	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar1	5	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar2	5	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar3	5	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar4	5	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar5	5	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar6	5	Framework
Core::Time::Calendar7	5	Framework

"TimeWorkingHours" can be used in OTRS::ITSM to define so-called "service level windows" time frames in which certain service levels are guaranteed, if applicable monitored and/or evaluated to secure service level compliance.

The screenshot shows the OTRS SysConfig interface for editing 'Core::Time::Calendar1'. The top navigation bar is the same as in the previous screenshot. The SysConfig section is active, and the main content area displays the configuration settings for 'Core::Time::Calendar1'.

Edit Config Settings in Framework -> Core::Time::Calendar1

- TimeZone::Calendar1Name**

Default value: Calendar Name 1
 Defines the name of the indicated calendar.
- TimeZone::Calendar1**
Default value: + 0
 Defines the time zone of the indicated calendar, which can be assigned later to a specific queue.
- TimeVacationDays::Calendar1**
Month - Day - Text

1	1	New Year's Day	⊖
5	1	International Work	⊖
12	24	Christmas Eve	⊖
12	25	First Christmas D	⊖

Chapter 13. OTRS::ITSM interfaces

The following, partly generic, interfaces can be used for data exchange between OTRS::ITSM and other (ITSM) software products:

- NAGIOS
- SOAP
- LDAP
- E-mail (POP3, IMAP, SMTP)
- CSV Import/Export

OTRS AG will gladly create additional interfaces on request or members of the community can develop them.

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