



Software Product Description

PRODUCT NAME: Netscape™ Commerce Server™ Version 1.12 for OpenVMS™ SPD 56.20.01

DESCRIPTION

Netscape™ Commerce Server™ Version 1.12 for OpenVMS™ is software for conducting secure electronic commerce and communications on the Internet and other TCP/IP-based networks.

Netscape Commerce Server provides the capability to publish hypermedia documents using the HyperText Markup Language (HTML) and deliver them over the Internet and other TCP/IP networks using the HyperText Transport Protocol (HTTP). To ensure data security, Netscape Commerce Server provides advanced security features such as server authentication, data encryption, data integrity, and user authorization. Communications are based on open standards such as HTML, HTTP, the Common Gateway Interface (CGI), and the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Integrated Security

Netscape Commerce Server provides integrated security features designed to allow secure electronic commerce and communications. Flexible user authorization controls access to individual files or directories using a user name and password, domain name, host name, IP address, or named groups.

Advanced security features are provided using the open SSL protocol, which has been published on the Internet and adopted by major providers of Internet hardware and software products, financial institutions, and certification authorities.

Secure Sockets Layer

SSL provides:

- Server authentication, which allows any SSL-compatible client to verify the identity of the server using a certificate and a digital signature.
- Data encryption, which ensures the privacy of client/server communications by encrypting the data stream between the two entities.
- Data integrity, which verifies that the contents of a message arrive at their destination in the same form as they were sent.

SSL employs public key cryptographic technology from RSA Data Security, an established leader in computer data security, and works with various encryption algorithms. Netscape Commerce Server supports public key encryption and delivers server authentication using signed digital certificates. A digital certificate is used to associate an identity with a server's public key. Digital signatures ensure the integrity and authenticity of information within a certificate. Netscape Commerce Server requires a signed digital certificate to operate securely; certification is an additional fee-based service. Pricing is available from your certification authority.

Encryption Support

Netscape Commerce Server is available in both 40-bit and 128-bit encryption schemes. The difference between 128- and 40-bit encryption is, most notably, that the U.S. government restricts the export of 128-bit encryption but not the export of 40-bit encryption.

128-bit encryption provides significantly greater cryptographic protection than 40-bit encryption. It is now necessary to employ larger keys to counter the increasing computing power of potential criminals.

128 bits and 40 bits refer to the size of the key used to encrypt the message. 128-bit encryption is roughly 309,485,009,821,345,068,724,781,056 times stronger than 40-bit encryption. 40-bit encryption is not considered “strong” security in the cryptographic community. Even accounting for Moore’s Law, which states that computing power doubles about every 18 months, 128-bit encryption represents a very strong method of encryption for the foreseeable future.

Note: Netscape products use a different key for every different security-enhanced communication, regardless of key size. This means that even if criminals were to devote significant resources and time to breaking a key for one encrypted communication, the discovered key would be useless for other communications.

Please note that this product is subject to export restrictions under the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and cannot be transmitted in any form outside the United States or to a foreign national in the United States without a valid Department of Commerce export license.

Open Standards

Netscape’s compatibility with network standards and document formats makes it interoperable with other environments and systems. Netscape Commerce Server supports HTTP V1.0, ensuring compatibility with any HTTP-compatible clients or servers, and delivers HTML documents, including full use of Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) types and standard image formats such as GIF and JPEG. The server integrates readily with legacy systems using the Common Gateway Interface (CGI), a standard API used across the installed base of existing web servers.

High-Performance Serving

Netscape’s process manager allows the creation of a configurable number of processes that reside in memory, waiting to fulfill HTTP requests. This improves system performance by eliminating the unnecessary overhead of creating and deleting processes to fulfill every HTTP request. The dynamic process management algorithm increases the number of server processes within configurable limits to efficiently handle periods of peak demand. It also dramatically reduces system load and increases system reliability. This efficiency leaves additional CPU resources available for running other applications.

Intuitive Server Management

Netscape Commerce Server uses the Netscape Navigator™ graphical interface to provide a consistent, easy-to-use operating environment. Its simple user interface and forms capability provide point-and-click server installation, configuration, and maintenance. Forms are used for the initial server configuration, as well as to manage all server functions, including user authorization, transaction logging, and process configuration.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Netscape Commerce Server Version 1.12 conforms to the following technical specifications:

- Provides sophisticated support for clustering, including transparent operation on mixed-architecture OpenVMS Clusters. This allows you to have a primary Web server on one cluster system (either VAX or Alpha), with automatic, transparent failover to any other system in the cluster (either VAX or Alpha).
- Is compatible with network standards.
 - Supports industry-standard HTTP V1.0 protocol.
- Serves all HTTP-compatible clients:
 - Serves HTML documents; supports MIME typing through file name extensions
 - Is CGI V1.1 compliant
- Provides integrated security using SSL, which incorporates public key cryptography technology from RSA Data Security.
- Offers enhanced user authorization, including HTTP V1.0 access authorization, IP and DNS-based access control, local access control, user-controlled passwords, and named groups.
- Provides an intuitive graphical user interface using Netscape Navigator for installation, configuration, and management.
- Extensive online documentation provides context-sensitive help.
- Log analysis tools allow summaries of log information so that it can be used to better manage server functions.
- Provides flexibility in configuration and management, including:
 - Configuration by file, directory, shell wildcard pattern, or template. Templates allow a set of configuration parameters to be created and applied to multiple directories (such as all user directories)
 - Configurable logging options; client accesses logged in common logfile format
 - Custom error messages

- Multiple-user public information directories with variable paths
- Customizable server-parsed HTML

SOFTWARE PREREQUISITES

Netscape Commerce Server Version 1.12 for OpenVMS requires:

- OpenVMS Version 6.1 or later
- DECwindows™ Motif ® Version 1.2-3 for OpenVMS or later (only needed for running a browser on OpenVMS to manage the server)
- DIGITAL TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS Version 3.3 or later or any TCP/IP product for OpenVMS that supports the Berkeley socket interface

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

Netscape Commerce Server has no specific hardware requirements. Any valid, supported configuration can support the server. The level of performance will vary depending upon the processor, memory, and system load.

ORDERING INFORMATION

- Media: OpenVMS Internet Product Suite Media Kit (CD-ROM; Alpha and VAX):
QA-5CNAH-H8 (International)
QA-577AA-H8 (U.S. and Canada only)
- License: Netscape Commerce Server V1.12 for OpenVMS VAX or Alpha:
QL-579A9-AA (International)
QL-5CQA9-AA (U.S. and Canada only)

SOFTWARE WARRANTY

DIGITAL warrants its software products according to the terms of the DIGITAL license for each product. DIGITAL warrants that the software will substantially conform to the applicable Software Product Description or documentation accompanying the software unless provided "AS IS."

SOFTWARE PRODUCT SERVICES

A variety of service options for this product are available from DIGITAL. For more information, contact your local DIGITAL account representative.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about OpenVMS Internet Product Suite, visit the OpenVMS home page at:

<http://www.openvms.digital.com>

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