# dcTrack ${ }^{\circledR}$ Connectivity Management: Full Power Chain and Network Connection Management 


#### Abstract

Despite the overall increase in data center capability, managers are often asked to improve uptime and capacity utilization. In order to safely meet these demands, full power chain and network connection management must be leveraged.


## What is Connectivity Management?

Connectivity management encompasses two areas - full power chain and network connection management:

- Full power chain management is the ability to track the data center power path from the UPS to the PDU to the Branch Circuit to the Rack PDU to the Outlet to the Load. It tracks power capacity, nameplate, actual load, connector type and color code at each power connection point.
- Network connection management tracks from the device NIC to switch to the patch panel to the structured cable to the router to the uplink. It tracks connections usage or availability, protocol, data rate, connector type and color code.


## Why is Connectivity Management important?

A dynamic data center will have frequent additions, moves and changes. Each of these actions in a high density environment require you to answer the following questions: What is the impact on my power chain? Do I have available power and network connection capacity? Full power chain and network connection management provides fast accurate answers to these and other questions which greatly reduces time and increases the reliability of making changes in the data center. It budgets power the same way an electrical engineer would only the calculations are done in real time by the system before you make the change. This just might save you from over loading and faulting a branch circuit.

Have you ever needed a fast accurate answer to the question, "How is this connected?" This question is frequently asked just after a

service incident when time means money. You can improve your ability to respond to incidents by ensuring that you have your full power chain and all network connections documented for easy access to aide in tracing routes. You can search by cable ID and display full connection path with one click. Color code labels allow for easy identification in the trouble shooting and service restoration process.

Most data center mangers are tasked with getting the most out of the existing facility. This means uncover all standard capacity before you spend millions of dollars to build a new facility. Full power chain and network connection management plays an important part in finding stranded capacity. By tracking power capacity and actual load at each point in the power chain you know exactly how much load you can add to each circuit. No need to strand capacity by overengineering.

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dcTrack Connection Management provides the ability to budget power at every connection point from the UPS to the power supply with ( n ) or $(\mathrm{N}+1)$ redundancy.

dcTrack Connection Management allows you to build network connections with as few or as many hops possible.

## Capability

Modern, easy to use web interface with intelligent guidance for creating power and network connections.

End-to-end power chain management gives you the ability to budget power at every connection point and prevents you from overloading a power circuit and a visual trace route helps you troubleshoot incidents.

Intelligent search and place that correlates space, power, cooling and connection resources.

## Benefit

- Saves time in making moves, adds and changes.
- Improves uptime.
- Improves data center capacity utilization.


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