

# Glossary

---

The words `tacctl` and this documentation use, in one list · Checked against `tacctl` 0.2.22

## Contents

---

Terms are in alphabetical order. Each entry points to the page that explains it in full.

| Term                             | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                           | More                            |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Accounting</b>                | The server's record of commands run on devices. <code>tacctl log accounting</code> shows it.                                                                                      | <i>Audit and Compliance</i>     |
| <b>Apply</b>                     | Junos only: tacctl commits a plan under <code>commit confirmed</code> , proves it with a fresh login as you, then confirms.                                                       | <i>Engineer Guide §5.1</i>      |
| <b>Audit line</b>                | A syslog line (tags <code>tacctl</code> , <code>tacctl-console</code> ) that tacctl writes for every change and refusal: who, what, result, snapshot.                             | <i>Audit and Compliance</i>     |
| <b>Back-out</b>                  | The lines that undo a plan's paste. <code>tacctl device config plan &lt;name&gt; --backout</code> prints them.                                                                    | <i>Engineer Guide §7</i>        |
| <b>Break-glass account</b>       | A local emergency account on a device, recorded per scope with <code>tacctl scope breakglass</code> ; on Junos it may be <code>root</code> . tacctl never stores its password.    | <i>Break Glass §1</i>           |
| <b>Break-glass hold</b>          | The server stops answering one device or host on purpose, so its local accounts work. Never expires.                                                                              | <i>Break Glass</i>              |
| <b>Canary</b>                    | During a Junos apply, the first device of each new shape goes alone before the others.                                                                                            | <i>Engineer Guide §5.1</i>      |
| <b>Client config</b>             | An ssh configuration file ( <code>tacctl device client-config</code> ) that gives plain ssh and scp the registry's pinned host keys.                                              | <i>Connecting to Devices §3</i> |
| <b>Configured / unconfigured</b> | A registered device is configured when a scope's prefixes cover its address. Only configured devices authenticate users.                                                          | <i>Concepts §4</i>              |
| <b>Console (login console)</b>   | The login shell of every tacctl user on the tacctl server: tacctl commands and ssh to devices, nothing else.                                                                      | <i>Getting Started §1</i>       |
| <b>Converge</b>                  | <code>device config plan --converge</code> : after the first paste is verified, also remove statements outside the standard (old servers and similar).                            | <i>Engineer Guide §4</i>        |
| <b>Diff</b>                      | What differs between a device's last pull and what tacctl renders, section by section.                                                                                            | <i>Engineer Guide §3</i>        |
| <b>Drift</b>                     | Two uses: a device whose configuration differs from the standard ( <code>device config list --differs</code> ), and a rendered server file edited by hand (DRIFT, exit status 3). | <i>Exit Codes</i>               |
| <b>Emergency lockdown</b>        | The server refuses the logins of chosen groups on a scope. Superusers keep access. Never expires.                                                                                 | <i>Emergency Lockdown</i>       |
| <b>Enroll (device)</b>           | <code>tacctl device enroll</code> : one attended run from a new address to its plan: key, vendor, registration, pull, plan.                                                       | <i>Engineer Guide §2.2</i>      |
| <b>Enroll (host)</b>             | <code>tacctl host enroll</code> : install TACACS+ or RADIUS login on a Linux host and register it.                                                                                | <i>Linux Host Operations §3</i> |

| Term                            | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | More                                    |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Extras</b>                   | Statements in a managed section that tacctl does not render. Reported, left alone until <code>--converge</code> .                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>Engineer Guide</i> §4                |
| <b>Group</b>                    | Decides <i>what</i> a user can do: device privilege and tacctl tier.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>Concepts</i> §2                      |
| <b>Host key / pin</b>           | The device's ssh host key. tacctl pins it at registration, and ssh accepts only the pinned key.                                                                                                                                                                                           | <i>Connecting to Devices</i> §5         |
| <b>Host sync</b>                | <code>tacctl host sync</code> : push user changes to enrolled Linux hosts. Nothing reaches a host without it.                                                                                                                                                                             | <i>Linux Host Operations</i> §2         |
| <b>Legacy ssh</b>               | A device setting for old IOS that offers only SHA-1 key exchange, CBC ciphers and <code>ssh-rsa</code> . Separate from the configuration syntax.                                                                                                                                          | <i>Vendor Notes</i> §2.4                |
| <b>Managed sections</b>         | The parts of a device's configuration tacctl compares: <code>aaa</code> , <code>roles</code> , <code>mgmt-acl</code> , <code>snmp</code> , <code>netconf</code> , <code>breakglass</code> , and in some scopes <code>system</code> .                                                      | <i>Concepts</i> §6                      |
| <b>Managed server login</b>     | The login of every user to the tacctl server and its console: the reserved scope <code>tacctl</code> , this server's registry entry, the PAM client and sshd's drop-in. <code>install</code> and <code>upgrade</code> set it up; <code>host enroll --local</code> rebuilds or repairs it. | <i>Superuser Daily Operations</i> §11.1 |
| <b>Notice</b>                   | A flag on a device or host that needs attention, with the command that fixes it. <code>tacctl device notice list</code> .                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Concepts</i> §5                      |
| <b>Onboard</b>                  | <code>tacctl device onboard</code> : bring a blank Junos device in through one of its local accounts.                                                                                                                                                                                     | <i>Engineer Guide</i> §2.3              |
| <b>Password cache</b>           | Keeps your network password in locked memory for the session. A superuser allows it per tier; each user turns it on with <code>console password-cache on</code> . With it on, <code>ssh</code> asks for the password the first time and keeps it.                                         | <i>Getting Started</i> §1.3             |
| <b>PENDING</b>                  | A Junos apply whose state could not be read after the commit. Type nothing on the device until the time shown (the device's own clock) passes.                                                                                                                                            | <i>Vendor Notes</i> §3.2                |
| <b>Plan</b>                     | The exact fix for a device: report, the region between <code>PASTE FROM HERE</code> and <code>PASTE TO HERE</code> , checks and back-out.                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Engineer Guide</i> §4                |
| <b>Pull</b>                     | Log in to a device as you and read its managed sections. Read only.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <i>Engineer Guide</i> §3                |
| <b>Reason</b>                   | Free text given with <code>--reason</code> on lockdowns and holds. Logged as typed: never put a secret in it.                                                                                                                                                                             | <i>Audit and Compliance</i> §6          |
| <b>Registry</b>                 | The list of devices (and hosts) by name, with address, vendor and pinned keys.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <i>Concepts</i> §4                      |
| <b>Required password change</b> | A user must change the password before logging in to anything but the tacctl server. Set by <code>user add</code> and a superuser's <code>user passwd</code> by default; never binds a superuser.                                                                                         | <i>Access Lifecycle</i> §5.1            |

| Term                          | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                                                  | More                                    |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Restore point</b>          | Cisco: a copy of the configuration on flash, added before a plan's region with <code>--restore-point=flash:</code> .                                                                                     | <i>Vendor Notes</i> §2.5                |
| <b>Scope</b>                  | Client address prefixes plus a shared secret. Decides <i>where</i> a user can log in.                                                                                                                    | <i>Concepts</i> §3                      |
| <b>Secret (shared secret)</b> | The TACACS+ or RADIUS key between a scope's devices and the server. Every print writes a <code>secret - read</code> audit line.                                                                          | <i>Concepts</i> §3                      |
| <b>Server address</b>         | The address devices and hosts reach this server at: the setting <code>server.addresses</code> , shown and changed by <code>tacctl server addresses</code> . It is the default of <code>--server</code> . | <i>Superuser Daily Operations</i> §11.2 |
| <b>Severity</b>               | A plan's rating of each problem: <code>ACCESS</code> , <code>MONITORING</code> or <code>COSMETIC</code> .                                                                                                | <i>Engineer Guide</i> §4                |
| <b>Shape</b>                  | A set of devices that need the same change. A Junos apply groups its review by shape.                                                                                                                    | <i>Engineer Guide</i> §5.1              |
| <b>sid</b>                    | The session id that ends every audit line of one command run, so <code>grep sid=&lt;id&gt;</code> finds them all.                                                                                        | <i>Audit and Compliance</i> §2          |
| <b>Snapshot</b>               | A copy of tacctl's configuration taken before every change. <code>tacctl backup list</code> .                                                                                                            | <i>Backups and Undo</i>                 |
| <b>Status (user)</b>          | Enabled or disabled: decides <i>whether</i> a user can log in.                                                                                                                                           | <i>Access Lifecycle</i>                 |
| <b>System shell</b>           | A user's own shell on the tacctl server, started with the console word <code>system-shell</code> . Superusers always; read-only and operator users when a superuser opens it; engineers never.           | <i>Superuser Daily Operations</i> §10.1 |
| <b>Template user</b>          | Junos: the local account a TACACS+ user logs in through. Must exist before TACACS+ logins work.                                                                                                          | <i>Vendor Notes</i> §3.1                |
| <b>Tier</b>                   | The level of tacctl access a group gives: read-only < operator < engineer < superuser.                                                                                                                   | <i>Concepts</i> §2                      |
| <b>Timing scale</b>           | A whole number from 1 to 10 that multiplies the network timings tacctl uses to reach a device, for a slow or distant one. Set for a device, a scope or the server; 1 changes nothing.                    | <i>Connecting to Devices</i> §7         |

See also: *Concepts* · *Command Reference Map* · `man tacctl`