

GENESYS

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Deployment Guide

Configuring External Cassandra and Elasticsearch

Configuring External Cassandra and Elasticsearch

Contents

- 1 Configuring External Cassandra and Elasticsearch
 - 1.1 Importing the Cassandra Resource Access Point Template
 - 1.2 Creating the Cassandra Resource Access Point Application
 - 1.3 Configuring the Cassandra Resource Access Point Application
 - 1.4 Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Template
 - 1.5 Creating the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Application
 - 1.6 Configuring the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Application
 - 1.7 Configuring the Web Engagement Cluster for Use with External Cassandra and Elasticsearch
 - 1.8 Deploy an Elasticsearch Cluster Node
 - 1.9 Deploy a Cassandra Cluster Node

Important

Starting with version 8.5.2, Genesys Web Engagement supports only external Cassandra and Elasticsearch clusters.

To set up an external Cassandra and Elasticsearch clusters, follow these steps:

- Create and configure Cassandra access points in Genesys Administrator for each seed node of the external Cassandra cluster.
- Deploy Cassandra.
- Create and configure Elasticsearch access points in Genesys Administrator for Load Balancer, used as a
 gateway to Elasticsearch (if you configured Load Balancer) or for an Elasticsearch node, which will be
 considered as a seed node.
- · Deploy Elasticsearch.

Note: Genesys recommends that you use Linux when deploying external Cassandra and Elasticsearch clusters. Cassandra nodes could be collocated on the same host with Elasticsearch nodes.

Note: You must synchronize the time on all hosts that contain Cassandra nodes. Failure to do this may lead to problems with removing data by TTL.

Note: If you plan to establish secure communications with your Cassandra cluster, Genesys recommends that you carefully evaluate the related security considerations.

Importing the Cassandra Resource Access Point Template

Note: For more information on how to work with templates in Genesys Administrator, consult Generic Configuration Procedures.

Start

- 1. Open Genesys Administrator and navigate to **Provisioning > Environment > Application Templates**.
- 2. In the **Tasks** panel, click **Upload Template**.



Upload Template link in the Tasks panel

- 3. In the Click 'Add' and choose application template (APD) file to import window, click Add.
- 4. Browse to the Cassandra_RAP.apd file. The New Application Template panel opens.
- 5. Click Save & Close.

End

Creating the Cassandra Resource Access Point Application

Note: For more information on how to work with application objects in Genesys Administrator, consult Generic Configuration Procedures.

Prerequisites

You completed Importing the Cassandra Resource Access Point Template.

Start

- 1. Open Genesys Administrator and navigate to **Provisioning > Environment > Applications**.
- 2. In the **Tasks** panel, click **Create New Application**.



Create New Application link.

- In the Select Application Template panel, click Browse for Template and select the Cassandra Resource Access Point template that you imported in Importing the Cassandra Resource Access Point Template. Click OK.
- 4. The template is added to the **Select Application Template** panel. Click **Next**.
- In the Select Metadata file panel, click Browse and select the Cassandra_RAP.xml' file. Click Open.
- 6. The metadata file is added to the **Select Metadata file** panel. Click **Next**.
- 7. In Specify Application parameters:
 - Enter a name for your application. For instance, GWE_Cassandra_Access_Point.
 - Make sure that **State** is enabled.
 - Select the **Host** on which the Access Point will reside.
 - Click Create.
- 8. The **Results** panel opens.
- 9. Enable **Opens the Application details form after clicking 'Finish'** and click **Finish**. The Cassandra Resource Access Point application form opens and you can start configuring the Cassandra Resource Access Point application.

End

Configuring the Cassandra Resource Access Point Application

Note: For more information on how to work with application objects in Genesys Administrator, consult Generic Configuration Procedures.

Prerequisites

You completed Creating the Cassandra Resource Access Point Application.

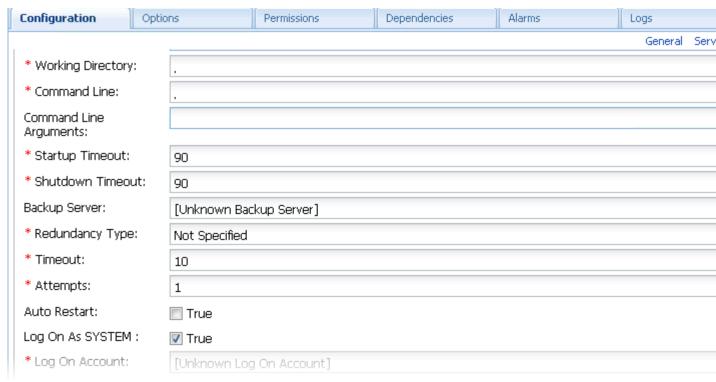
Start

- If your Cassandra Resource Access Point application form is not open in Genesys Administrator, navigate to **Provisioning > Environment > Applications**. Select the application defined for the Cassandra Resource Access Point and click **Edit...**.
- 2. Expand the **Server Info** pane.
- 3. In the Tenant section, click Add and select your tenant. For instance, Environment. Click OK.
- 4. If your **Host** is not defined, click the lookup icon to browse to the hostname of your application, which should point to the host where you plan to locate your Cassandra node.
- 5. In the Listening Ports section, create the default port by clicking **Add**. The **Port Info** dialog opens.
 - Enter the **Port**. For instance, 9160.
 - Click **OK**. The **default** port appears in the list of **Listening ports**.
- 6. Click **Add** again. The **Port Info** dialog opens.
 - In the ID field, enter native.
 - Enter the **Port**. For instance, 9042.
 - Click **OK**. The **native** port appears in the list of **Listening ports**.



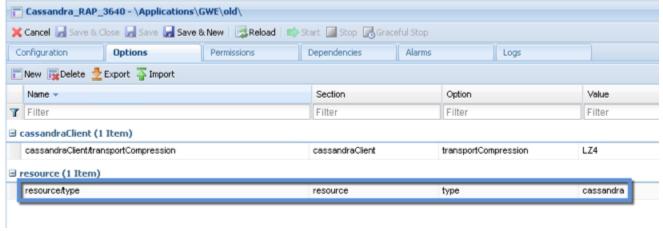
Cassandra port settings

7. Ensure the Working Directory and Command Line fields contain "." (period).



Commands

- 8. Click Save.
- 9. The **Confirmation** dialog for changing the application's port opens. Click **Yes**.
- 10. To configure External Cassandra, select the **Options** tab.
 - In the **[resource]** section, make sure **type** is set to cassandra.



Cassandra resource setting

11. Click Save & Close. If the Confirmation dialog opens, click Yes.

End

Note that you must execute this procedure and the previous one for each Cassandra seed-node in your Cassandra cluster.

Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Template

GWE installation does not provide a dedicated template for the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point. Instead, it is recommended to re-use the Cassandra Resource Access Point and correct the value of the "type" option.

Creating the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Application

Note: For more information about working with application objects in Genesys Administrator, see Generic Configuration Procedures.

Prerequisites

• You completed Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Template.

Start

- 1. Open Genesys Administrator and navigate to **Provisioning > Environment > Applications**.
- 2. In the Tasks panel, click Create New Application.



Create New Application link.

3. In the **Select Application Template** panel, click **Browse for Template** and select the Cassandra Resource Access Point template that you imported in Importing the Cassandra Resource Access Point

Template. Click OK.

- 4. The template is added to the **Select Application Template** panel. Click **Next**.
- 5. In the Select Metadata file panel, click Browse and select the Cassandra RAP.xml file. Click Open.
- 6. The metadata file is added to the **Select Metadata file** panel. Click **Next**.
- 7. In Specify Application parameters:
 - Enter a name for your application. For instance, GWE ES Access Point.
 - Make sure that **State** is enabled.
 - Select the **Host** on which the Access Point will reside. It should be either Load Balancer (if one is configured) or one of the Elasticsearch nodes.
 - Click Create.
- 8. The **Results** panel opens.
- 9. Enable **Opens the Application details form after clicking Finish'** and click **Finish**. The Elasticsearch Resource Access Point application form opens and you can start configuring the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point application.

End

Configuring the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Application

Note: For more information about working with application objects in Genesys Administrator, see Generic Configuration Procedures.

Prerequisites

You completed Creating the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Application.

Start

- If your Elasticsearch Resource Access Point application form is not open in Genesys Administrator, navigate to **Provisioning > Environment > Applications**. Select the application defined for the Cassandra Resource Access Point and click **Edit...**.
- 2. Expand the **Server Info** pane.
- 3. In the Tenant section, click Add and select your tenant. For instance, Environment. Click OK.
- 4. If your **Host** is not defined, click the lookup icon to browse to the hostname of your application, which should point to the host where you plan to locate your *seed* Elasticsearch node or Load Balancer to all Elasticsearch nodes.
- 5. In the Listening Ports section, create the default port by clicking **Add**. The **Port Info** dialog opens.
 - Enter the **Port**. For instance, 9200. This is the HTTP port configured in your Elasticsearch.
 - Click **OK**. The **default** port appears in the list of **Listening ports**.

6. Ensure the Working Directory and Command Line fields contain "." (period).

	Configuration	Options	Permissions	Dependencies	Alarms	Logs
ľ	ı					General Ser
	* Working Directory:					
	* Command Line:					
	Command Line Arguments:					
	* Startup Timeout:	90				
	* Shutdown Timeou	it: 90				
	Backup Server:	[Unknown Bad	:kup Server]			
	* Redundancy Type	Not Specified				
	* Timeout:	10				
	* Attempts:	1				
	Auto Restart:	True				
	Log On As SYSTEM	: 🔽 True				
	* Log On Account:	[Unknown Log	g On Account]			

- Commands
 7. Click **Save**.
- 8. The **Confirmation** dialog for changing the application's port opens. Click **Yes**.
- 9. To confirm that the current application is an Elasticsearch Access Point, select the **Options** tab.
 - In the **[resource]** section, make sure **type** is set to elasticsearch.
- 10. Click Save & Close. If the Confirmation dialog opens, click Yes.

End

Configuring the Web Engagement Cluster for Use with External Cassandra and Flasticsearch

Prerequisites

• You completed Configuring the Cassandra Resource Access Point Application and Configuring the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point Application.

Start

- Navigate to Provisioning > Environment > Applications. Select the application defined for the Web Engagement Cluster and click Edit....
- In the Connections section of the Configuration tab, click Add. The Browse for applications panel
 opens. Select a Genesys application defined as a Cassandra Resource Access Point, select the native
 connection port, and then click OK.
- Repeat the previous step for all Cassandra Resource Access Point applications configured for external Cassandra nodes belonging to the same data center.
 Note: You must not connect Cassandra Resource Access Point applications belonging to different data centers to the same Web Engagement Cluster.
- 4. In the Connections section of the **Configuration** tab, click **Add**. The **Browse for applications** panel opens. Select a Genesys application defined as an Elasticsearch Resource Access Point, select the **default** connection port, and then click **OK**.

Note: Genesys recommends that you configure Load Balancer as an entry point to the Elasticsearch cluster. In this case, the Resource Access Point represents the Load Balancer address. You can also use a dedicated Elasticsearch node as an entry point. In this case, the Resource Access Point points to that node, so you must ensure that the node is available at the moment Web Engagement server is starting.

1. Click Save & Close. If the Confirmation dialog opens, click Yes.

End

Deploy an Elasticsearch Cluster Node

Installation

Installation procedure is described at Installing Elasticsearch

Important

Genesys is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.

Configuration

The following should be taken into account when configuring your Elasticsearch cluster:

- 1. The specified host should correspond to the one specified in the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point (unless you configured Load Balancer to access Elasticsearch nodes).
- 2. The specified **http.port** should correspond to the one specified in the Elasticsearch Resource Access Point (unless you configured Load Balancer to access Elasticsearch nodes).

3. Use unicast discovery mode to avoid potential issues when joining unexpected nodes to a cluster.

Genesys recommends that you configure Load Balancer to provide access to the HTTP port of the Elasticsearch cluster.

Deploy a Cassandra Cluster Node

Linux

Installation

- 1. Download version 3.11.4 (or higher) from the Cassandra 3.11 stream.
- 2. Unpack the archive into the installation directory. For example:

```
cd /genesys
tar xzf apache-cassandra-3.11.x-bin.tar.gz
```

Important

When installing Cassandra, do not use path names that contain spaces.

Configuration

- 1. Go to the directory where you installed your Cassandra node.
- 2. Edit **conf/cassandra.yaml**, using the following custom values:
 - cluster name: cluster name without spaces, for example WebMe Cassandra Cluster
 - **seeds**: <*comma-separated list of fully qualified domain names (FQDN) or IP addresses of one or more Cassandra nodes*> **Note:** This value must be the same for all nodes. Here are two examples:
 - 192.168.0.1,192.168.0.3
 - host1.mydomain.com, host2.mydomain.com
 - storage port: 7000 (default value)
 - ssl storage port: 7001 (default value)
 - **listen_address**: <*current node host name*> **Note:** This address is used for inter-node communication, so it must be available for use by other Cassandra nodes in your cluster.
 - native_transport_port: 9042 (default value)

- rpc_address: <current node host name> Note: This address is used by Web Engagement to connect to Cassandra, so it must be available to all Web Engagement hosts.
- rpc_port: 9160 (default value)
- endpoint snitch: GossipingPropertyFileSnitch

Note: Make sure that each Cassandra node has access to the ports specified for the other nodes.

- 3. Edit conf/cassandra-rackdc.properties.
- 4. In order to set up indexing for Elasticsearch:
 - 1. Copy all jar files from **Web Engagement installation directory/tools/cassandra/libs** to **Cassandra installation directory/lib**.
 - 2. Copy the es-index.properties file from Web Engagement installation directory/tools/cassandra to Cassandra installation directory/conf.
 - 3. Edit the es-index.properties file.
- 5. Verify that the required communication ports are opened.

Setting Up a Cassandra Service

The sample script described in the following procedure should give you an idea of how to set up Cassandra as a service process.

- 1. Create the /etc/init.d/cassandra startup script.
- 2. Edit the contents of the file:

```
#!/bin/sh
# chkconfig: - 80 45
# description: Starts and stops Cassandra
# update daemon path to point to the cassandra executable
DAEMON=<Cassandra_installation_dir>/bin/cassandra
        echo -n "Starting Cassandra..."
        $DAEMON -p /var/run/cassandra.pid
        echo "OK"
        return 0
stop() {
        echo -n "Stopping Cassandra... "
        kill $(cat /var/run/cassandra.pid)
        echo "OK"
        return 0
case "$1" in
  start)
        start
  stop)
        stop
  restart)
        stop
```

```
start
;;
*)
    echo $"Usage: $0 {start|stop|restart}"
    exit 1
esac
exit $?
```

- 3. Make the file executable: sudo chmod +x /etc/init.d/cassandra
- 4. Add the new service to the list: sudo chkconfig --add cassandra
- 5. Now you can manage the service from the command line:
- sudo /etc/init.d/cassandra start
- sudo /etc/init.d/cassandra stop
- 6. Configure the service to be started automatically together with the VM: sudo chkconfig --level 2345 cassandra on

Windows

Installation

- 1. Download version 3.11.4 or higher from the Cassandra 3.11 stream.
- 2. Unpack the archive into a path without spaces.

Configuration

- 1. Go to the directory where you installed your Cassandra node.
- 2. Edit **cassandra.yaml**, using the following custom values:
 - cluster name: cluster name without spaces, for example WebMe Cassandra Cluster
 - **seeds**: <*comma-separated list of fully qualified domain names (FQDN) or IP addresses of one or more Cassandra nodes*> **Note:** This value must be the same for all nodes. Here are two examples:
 - 192.168.0.1,192.168.0.3
 - · host1.mydomain.com, host2.mydomain.com
 - storage port: 7000 (default value)
 - ssl_storage_port: 7001 (default value)
 - **listen_address**: <*current node host name*> **Note:** This address is used for inter-node communication, so it must be available for use by other Cassandra nodes in your cluster.
 - native transport port: 9042 (default value)
 - **rpc_address**: <*current node host name*> **Note:** This address is used by Web Engagement to connect to Cassandra, so it must be available to all Web Engagement hosts.

- rpc_port: 9160 (default value)
- endpoint_snitch: GossipingPropertyFileSnitch

Note: Make sure that each Cassandra node has access to the ports specified for the other nodes.

- 3. Edit conf/cassandra-rackdc.properties.
- 4. In order to set up indexing for Elasticsearch:
 - 1. Copy all jar files from **Web Engagement installation directory/tools/cassandra/libs** to **Cassandra installation directory/lib**.
 - 2. Copy the es-index.properties file from Web Engagement installation directory/tools/ cassandra to Cassandra installation directory/conf.
 - 3. Edit the es-index.properties file.
- 5. Verify that the required communication ports are opened.
- 6. Start Cassandra.

Configuring cassandra-rackdc.properties

For a single data center, use the following as a guide:

dc=<Data Center name>
rack=<RACK ID>

For example,

dc=OperationalDC
rack=RAC1

Note: Genesys recommends that you use the same **rack** ID if you do not have a clear understanding of your servers' rack usage. For more information about cassandra-rackdc.properties, refer to GossipingPropertyFileSnitch.

Configuring es-index.properties

 For every node in a given data center, set the discovery.zen.ping.unicast.hosts property in the esindex.properties file for that node to a comma-separated list of the servers that host the Elasticsearch nodes belonged to that data center.

If you have n data centers in your Cassandra cluster, then you should have n different versions of the **es-index.properties** file (one for each data center). The primary difference between these lists will be the values of the **discovery.zen.ping.unicast.hosts** property.

For example:

- The Cassandra nodes located on host_DC1_A, host_DC1_B, and host_DC1_C belong to data center DC1. Because of this, the discovery.zen.ping.unicast.hosts property in the esindex.properties files for nodes host_DC1_A, host_DC1_B, and host_DC1_C will be defined as host_DC1_A, host_DC1_B, host_DC1_C.
- The Cassandra nodes located on host_DC2_X, host_DC2_Y, and host_DC2_Z belong to data center DC2. Because of this, the discovery.zen.ping.unicast.hosts property in the esindex.properties files for nodes host_DC2_X, host_DC2_Y, and host_DC2_Z will be defined as host_DC2_X, host_DC2_Y, host_DC2_Z.
- Set the **index.number_of_shards** property to three times the number of Cassandra nodes in the current data center. For example, if you have 3 Cassandra nodes in the current data center, then the number of shards for each index should be 9.
- If you prefer not to store your Elasticsearch data in the default directory, you can use the **path.data** property to specify another location. This property is commented out by default.

Communication Ports

Cassandra and Elasticsearch use the following ports for external and internode communication. **Note:** Either or both of them may not work as expected unless you ensure that these ports are opened for communication between all servers that host Cassandra nodes.

Port	Default	Where to Change the Value		
Cassandra Storage port	7000	storage_port in cassandra.yaml		
Cassandra SSL Storage port	7001	ssl_storage_port in cassandra.yaml		
Cassandra Thrift port	9160	rpc_port in cassandra.yaml		
Cassandra CQL port	9042	native_transport_port in cassandra.yaml		
Elasticsearch REST request service port	9200	http.port property in the es- index.properties file		
Elasticsearch transport port	9300	transport.tcp.port property in the es-index.properties file		

Starting the Cassandra Cluster Nodes

Prior to starting Cassandra Cluster, you need to start the Elasticsearch cluster. There is no specific order when starting Elasticsearch nodes. However, your Cassandra nodes must be started in the following order:

- 1. Start the seed nodes.
- 2. Start the other non-seed nodes.

The seed node is one of the nodes specified in the **seeds** option.

Verifying Your Cassandra Cluster

After you have deployed your Cassandra Cluster, you may want to verify that all of the nodes can communicate with each other. To do this, execute the following command on any Database VM:

Linux

```
cd <Cassandra_installation_dir>/bin
./nodetool -h <hostname> status
```

Windows

cd <Cassandra_installation_dir >/bin
nodetool -h <hostname> status

Sample Output

This command should produce output that looks something like this:

Datacenter: DC1					
Status=Up/Down / State=Normal/Leaving/Join Address TD		Tokens	0wns	Host Rack	
	6,36 KB RAC1	256	?		380d02fb-
UN 10.51.XX.XXX 10 aald-417b-911f-22340ae62c38	8,22 KB RAC1	256	?		601f05ac-
UN 10.51.XX.XXX 10 fa4d-410e-431b-51297af13e96	7,61 KB RAC1	256	?		171a15cd-
Datacenter: DC2					
Status=Up/Down / State=Normal/Leaving/Join	ing/Moving				
Address	Load		Tokens	0wns	Host Rack
UN 10.51.XX.XXX 10 48ad4d08-555b-4526-8fab-d7ad	4,06 KB 021b14af	256 RAC1	?		
UN 10.51.XX.XXX 10 ac4e-a324ceea90c9 RAC	,	256	?		8ca0fb45-aef7-4f0a-
UN 10.51.XX.XXX 10 1c45e1fa-9f82-4bc4-a896-5575	,	256 RAC1	?		

Verifying Your Elasticsearch Cluster

Each of your Cassandra data centers must have a dedicated Elasticsearch cluster. To verify the status of your Elasticsearch clusters, execute the following request. (You can use your browser for this.)

Prerequisites

- · Your Cassandra cluster was initialized
- Your Cassandra cluster was started

· At least one Web Engagement Server instance is running in each of your Web Engagement Clusters

Start

http://<Elasticsearch Node OR Elasticsearch LoadBalancer>:9200/ cluster/state?pretty

End

Note: This example uses port 9200, which is the default Elasticsearch HTTP port. If you are not using the default Elasticsearch HTTP port, substitute the port number that you are using.

Output

The output from this request will describe your nodes, as shown here:

```
"nodes": {
    "xxx-xxxxx-xxxxxxxxxxx": {
        "name": <node name>,
        "transport_address": <address for inter-node Elasticsearch communication>,
        "attributes": {}
    }
}
```

If your Elasticsearch clusters are correctly configured:

- Any requests executed on Elasticsearch nodes belonging to the *same* data center should result in *identical* lists of Elasticsearch nodes.
- Any requests executed on Elasticsearch nodes belonging to *different* data centers should result in *different* lists of Elasticsearch nodes.

Upgrading Cassandra Nodes

You can upgrade your Cassandra version without interrupting service if:

- The version you are upgrading to is in the same stream (for example, from one 3.11.x version to another)
- · You are not changing your database schema

Use the following steps for this task:

- 1. Stop the first Cassandra seed node.
- 2. Preserve your database storage.
- 3. Upgrade your Cassandra version, following the instructions in the Release Notes for the new version.
- 4. Be sure that your database storage is in the preserved state (the same set of files).
- 5. Start the first Cassandra seed node.
- 6. Execute steps 1 through 5 for the other seed nodes.

- 7. Execute steps 1 through 5 for the other non-seed nodes.
- 8. Verify that the Cassandra cluster is working, as shown above in Verifying Your Cassandra Cluster.

If your upgrade plans include changing your database schema or changing Cassandra versions between streams, then you will have to interrupt service. Use the following steps for this task:

- 1. Stop all of your Cassandra nodes.
- 2. If your database schema has been changed since you installed the previous version, update the Cassandra database, following the instructions in the Release Notes for the new version.
- 3. Configure each node, following the instructions in the Release Notes for the new version.
- 4. Start the Cassandra seed nodes.
- 5. Start the other nodes.
- 6. Verify that the Cassandra cluster is working, as shown above in Verifying Your Cassandra Cluster.

Maintenance

Because Cassandra is a critical component of Web Engagement, it is essential to keep track of its health. The Datastax documentation provides some really good information about how to do this at https://docs.datastax.com/en/archived/cassandra/3.x/cassandra/tools/toolsNodetool.html.

Genesys recommends that you use the **nodetool** utility that is bundled with your Cassandra installation package and that you make a habit of using the following nodetool commands to monitor the state of your Cassandra cluster.

ring

Displays node status and information about the cluster, as determined by the node being queried. This can give you an idea of the load balance and whether any nodes are down. If your cluster is not properly configured, different nodes may show a different cluster; this is a good way to check that every node views the cluster the same way.

```
nodetool -h <HOST NAME> -p <JMX PORT> ring
```

status

Displays cluster information.

```
nodetool -h <HOST_NAME> -p <JMX_PORT> status
```

compactionstats

Displays compaction statistics.

```
nodetool -h <HOST NAME> -p <JMX PORT> compactionstats
```

getcompactionthroughput \ setcompactionthhroughput

Displays the compaction throughput on the selected Cassandra instance. By default it is 32 MB/s.

You can increase this parameter if you observe permanent growth of database size after the TTL and grace periods are passed. Note that increasing compaction throughput will affect memory and CPU consumption. Because of this, you need make sure to have sufficient hardware to support the rate that you have selected.

```
nodetool -h <HOST NAME> -p <JMX PORT> getcompactionthroughput
```

To increase compaction throughput to 64 MB/s, for example, use the following command:

```
nodetool -h <HOST NAME> -p <JMX PORT> setcompactionthroughput 64
```

Recovery

Depending on the replication factor and consistency levels of a Cassandra cluster configuration, the Web Engagement Cluster can handle the failure of one or more Cassandra nodes in the data center without any special recovery procedures and without interrupting service or losing functionality. When the failed node is back up, the Web Engagement Cluster automatically reconnects to it.

• Therefore, if an eligible number of nodes have failed, you should just restart them.

However, if too many of the Cassandra nodes in your cluster have failed or stopped, you will lose functionality. To ensure a successful recover from failure of multiple nodes, Genesys recommends that you:

- Stop every node, one at a time, with at least two minutes between operations.
- Then restart the nodes one at a time, with at least two minutes between operations.