1 Table of Contents

1.1 Revision History

DATE	VERSION	EDITOR	CHANGES
03 May 2025	0.1	Ariya Parsamanesh	Initial creation
29 Jun 2025	0.2	Ariya Parsamanesh	New Central Monitoring

2 HPE Aruba New Central and 3rd Party LAN Switch Observability

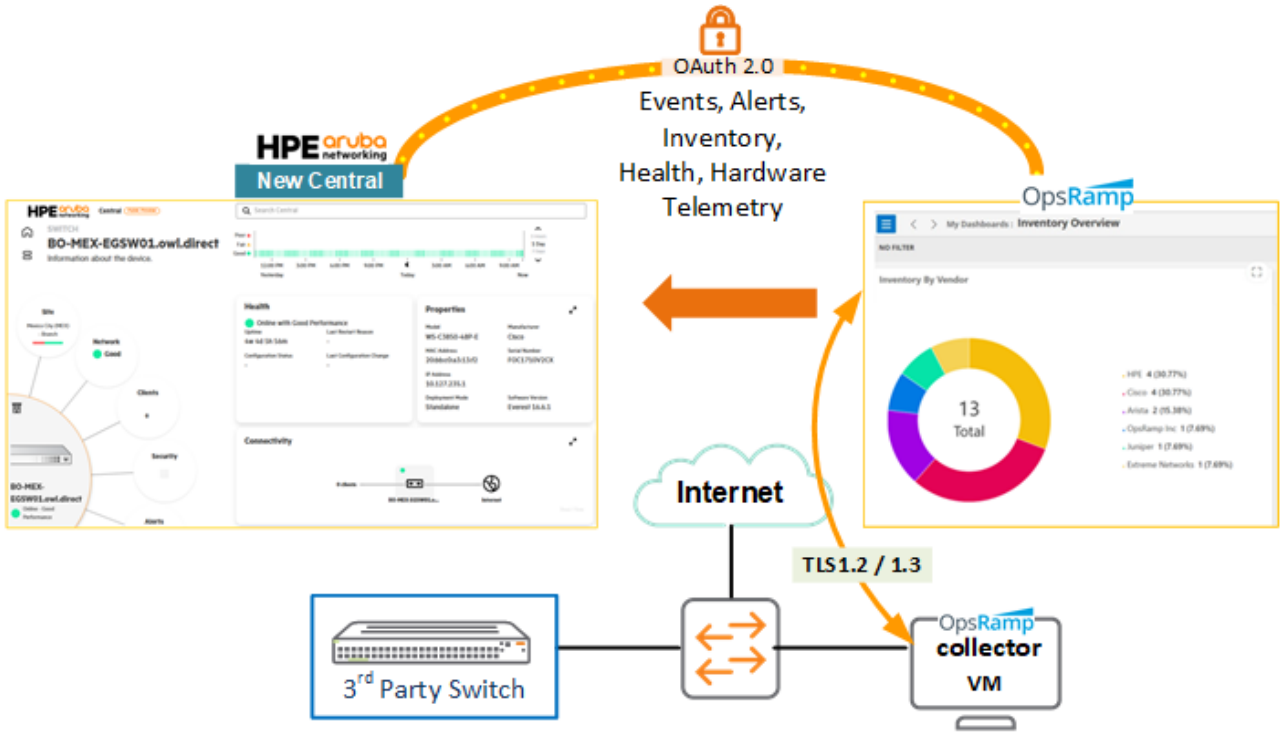
HPE Aruba Networking's New Central platform now includes enhanced capabilities for monitoring third-party network devices. It leverages AI-driven insights to help administrators oversee and troubleshoot their entire network infrastructure, including non-HPE Aruba components such as LAN switches.

This is done by integrating HPE Aruba Central with HPE OpsRamp platform which is a SaaS based IT operation management that provides total visibility for many types of resources, one being LAN switches.

There are two common ways to use OpsRamp

1. Standalone through HPE GreenLake platform
2. Integrated with some of the GreenLake platform services like HPE Aruba Networking

In this technote I'll cover the New Central integration with HPE OpsRamp through GreenLake that will enable New Central to provide observability of 3rd Party switches.



2.1 Things you need

We need the following.

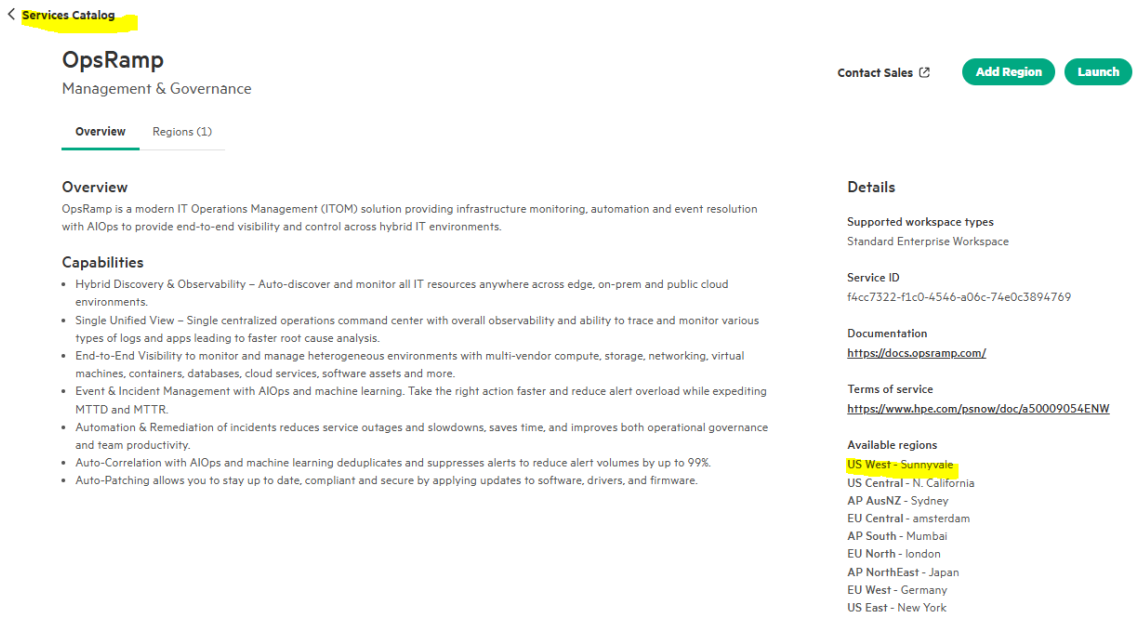
- At least one 3rd party switch, here I am using Cisco 2960
- VM infrastructure to run the OpsRamp collector
- Aruba Central OpsRamp extension license.

2.2 Assumptions

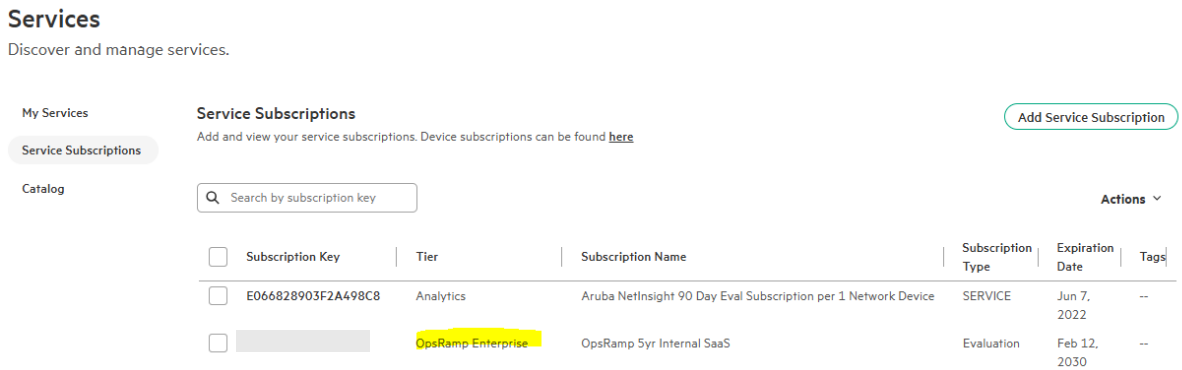
- The OpsRamp subscription license is already added to HPE GreenLake account.

3 Observability capabilities in HPE GreenLake

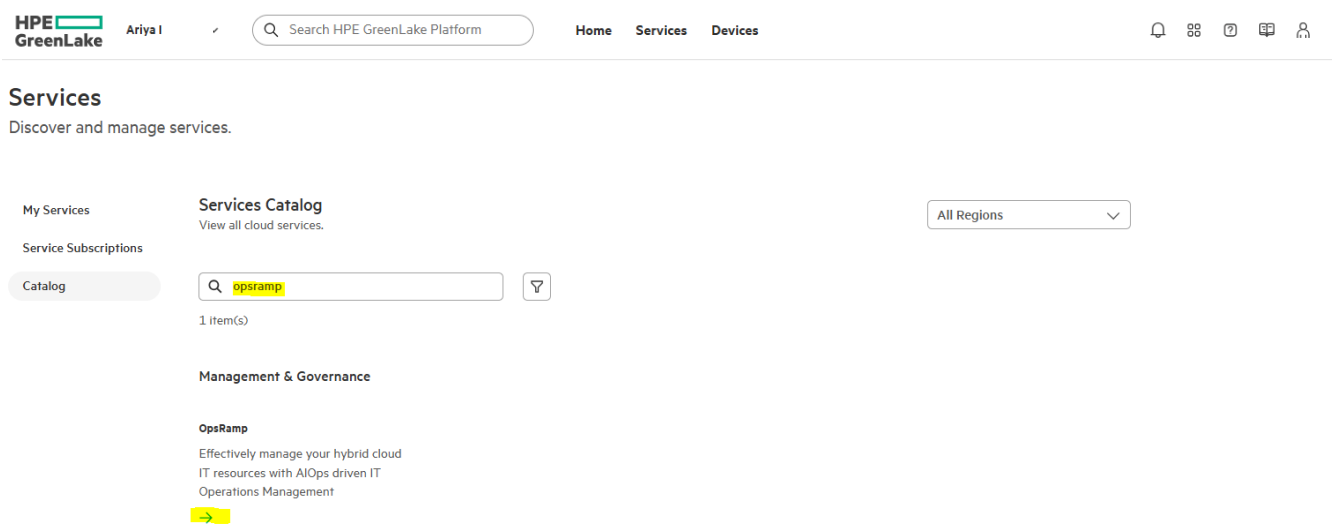
All GreenLake accounts have access to OpsRamp app but it is an allowlisted feature that you need to contact your local HPE Aruba Networking representative to enable it. Once it is allowlisted, you can configure it so that it can be used for sending the telemetry information to New Central. In this section I'll setup my OpsRamp service in GreenLake. Here is the OpsRamp app from the services Catalogue and I'll be using OpsRamp in US West region.



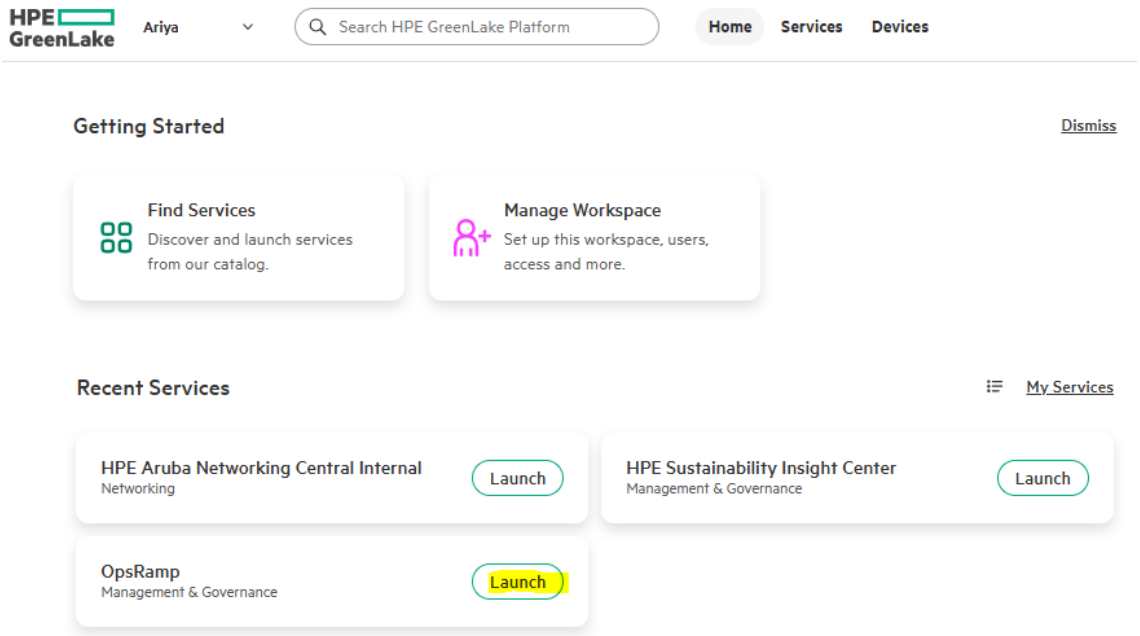
We need to provision the OpsRamp App and select US West as a region. For mapping between Aruba Central and OpsRamp instant you can refer here . As shown below you need a OpsRamp extension subscription.



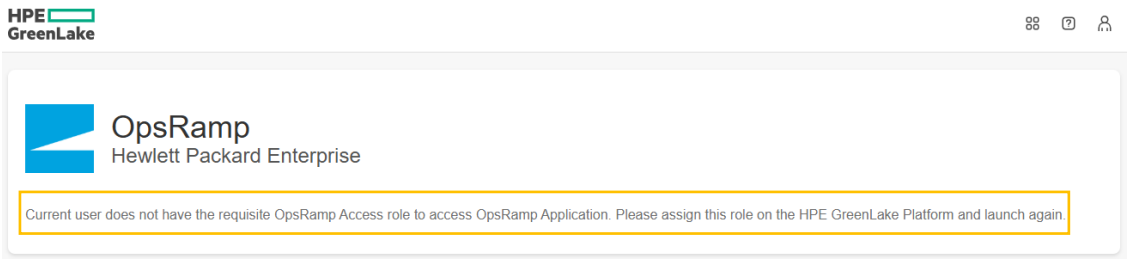
Once the subscription is added you are ready to launch OpsRamp App from the services catalog.



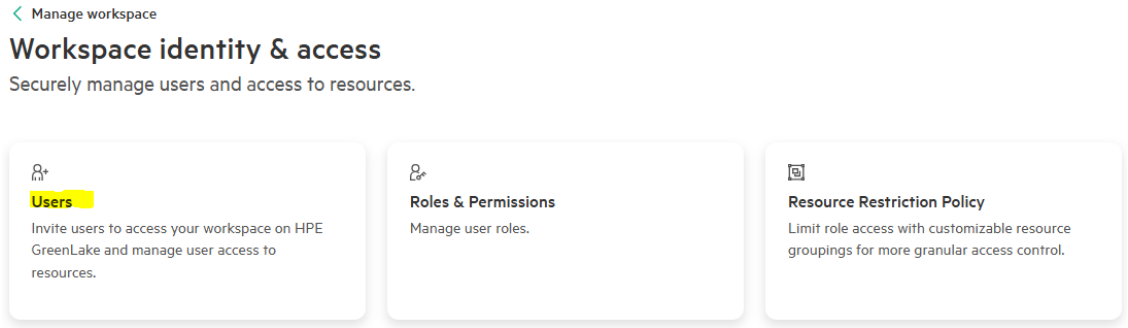
In my case because I had already launched it, it is listed in my recent services.



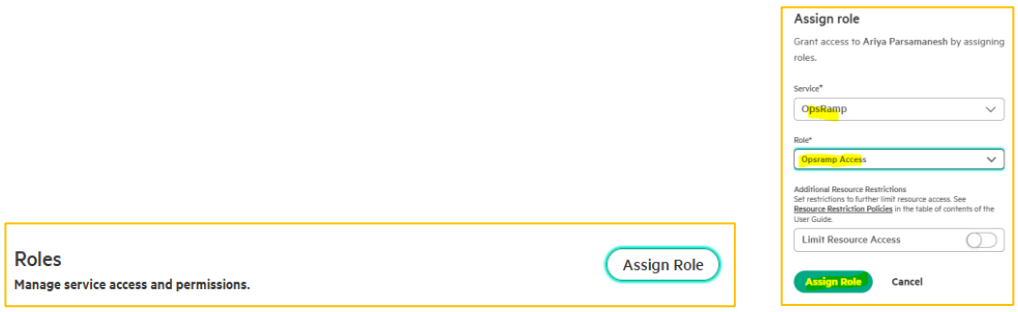
Most likely you'll get this error, this is because you have not added OpsRamp to your user role.



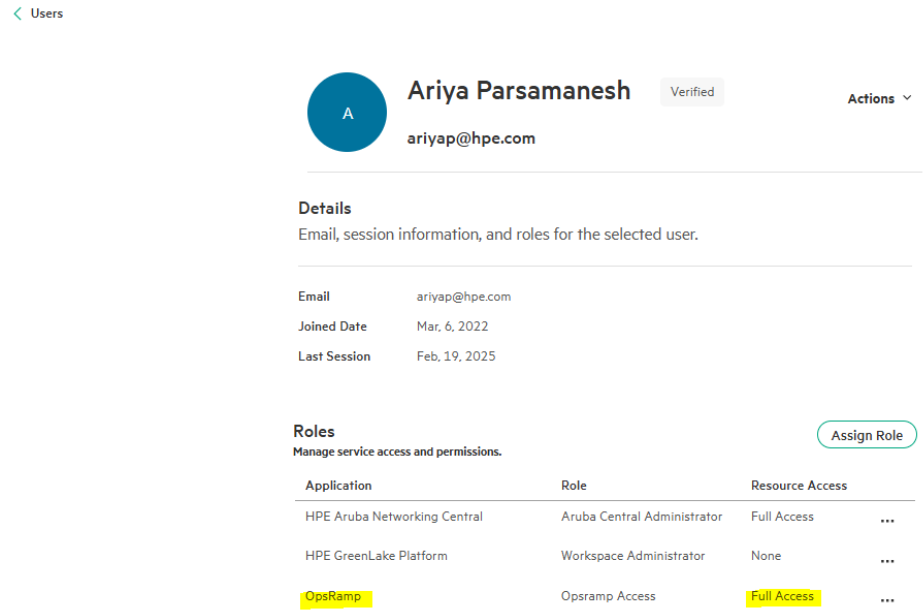
You need to go to user management and select the username and then assign the OpsRamp access role to it.



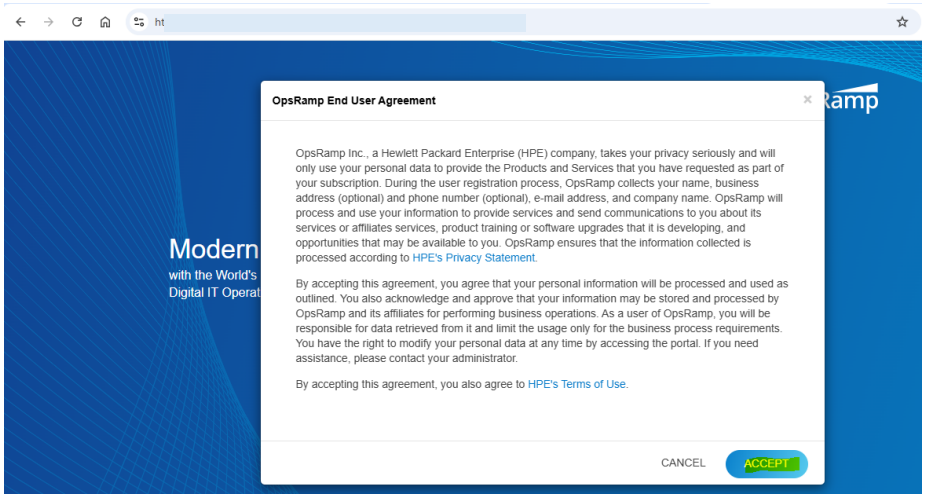
After selecting the user, you need to Assign a role.

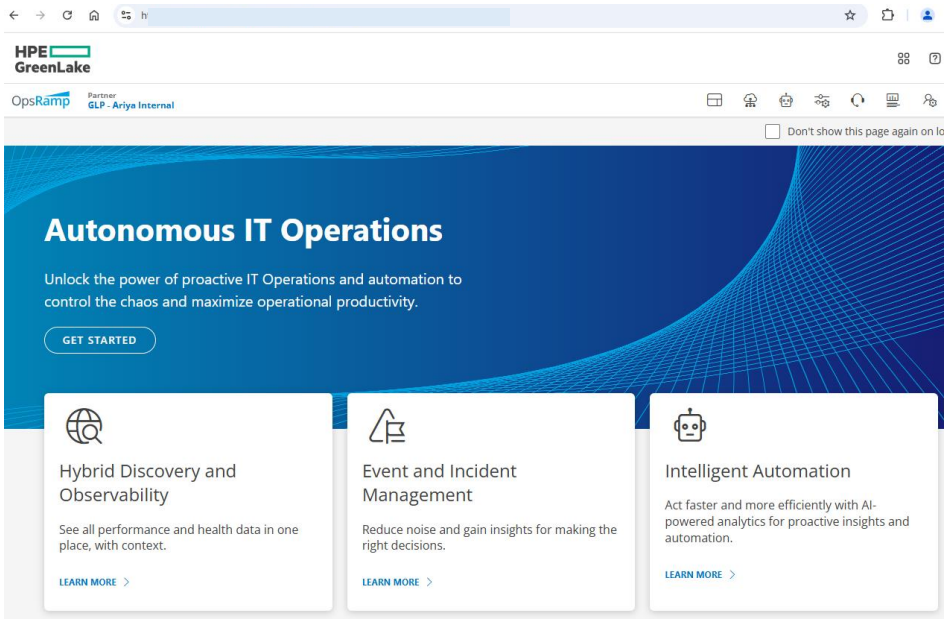


Once it is assigned, you can see the new role listed for that user as shown below.



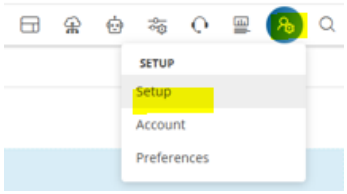
Now we go back and launch the OpsRamp app from GreenLake and this time there will be no errors and you should be getting the following.



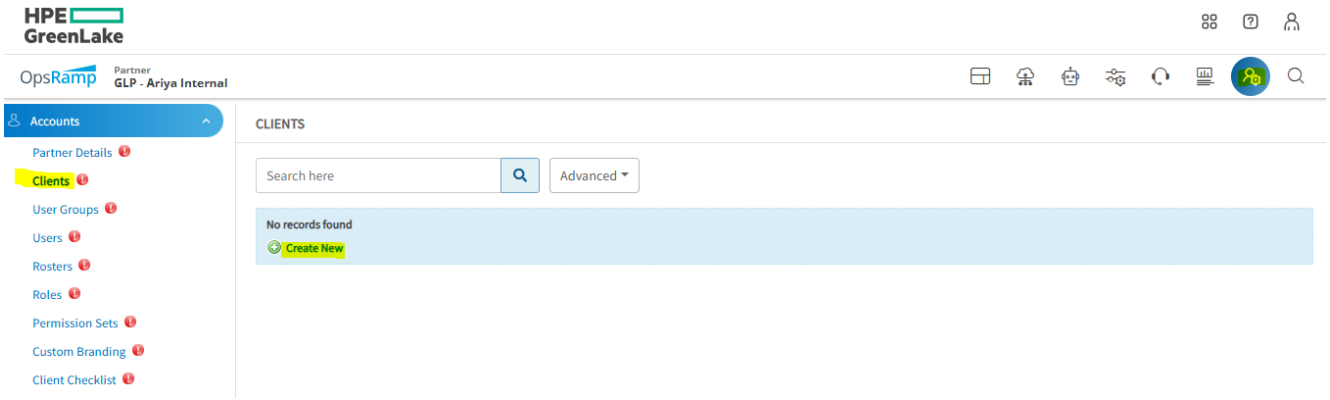


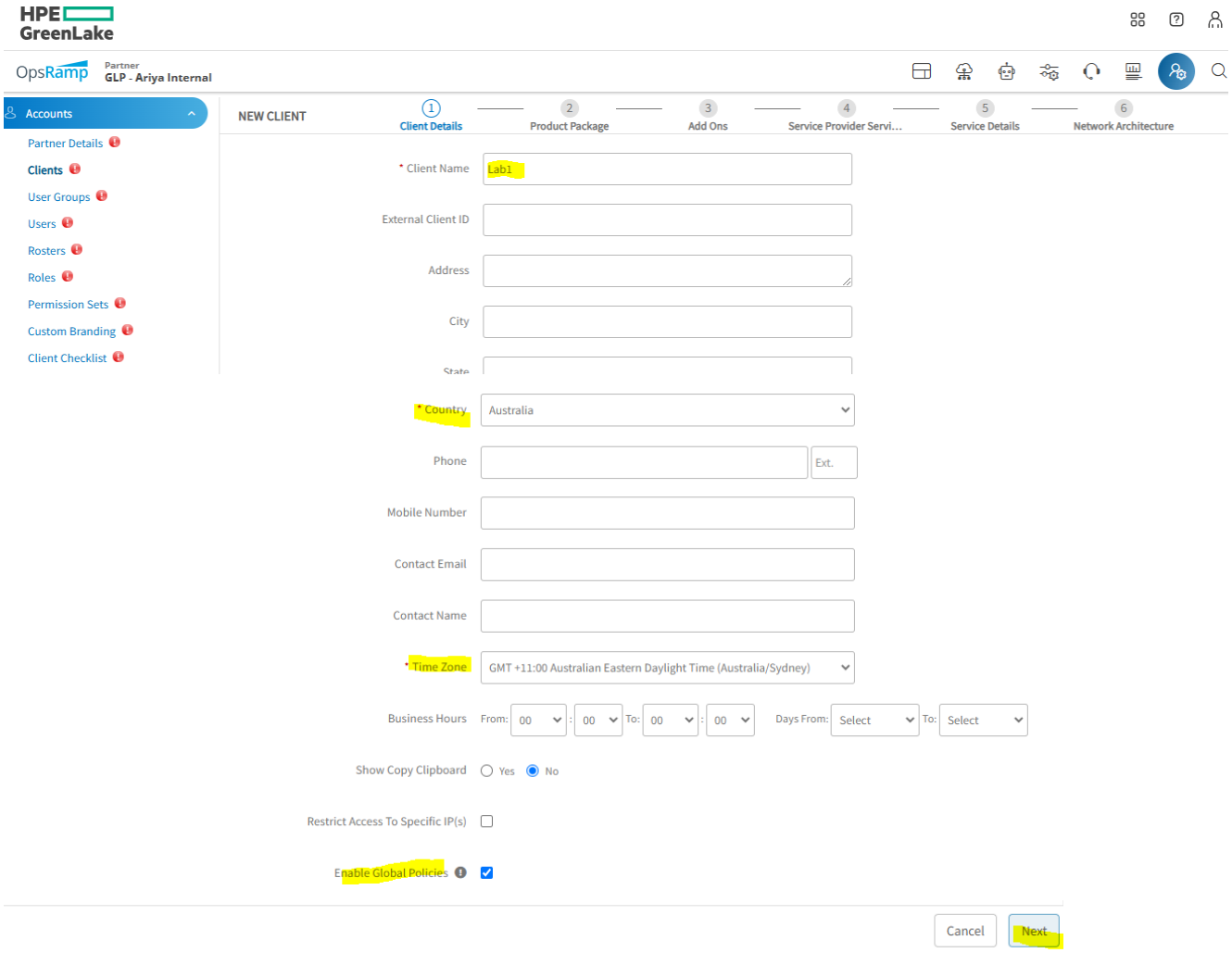
3.1 Creating the First Client

Now you need to create a client. In OpsRamp a Client represents an IT environment that you want to manage. The client account is automatically created in OpsRamp but here I'll go through the manual process just in case you might need it. So you'll start by going to "Setup" and clicking on "Setup".



Then create a new client as shown below.

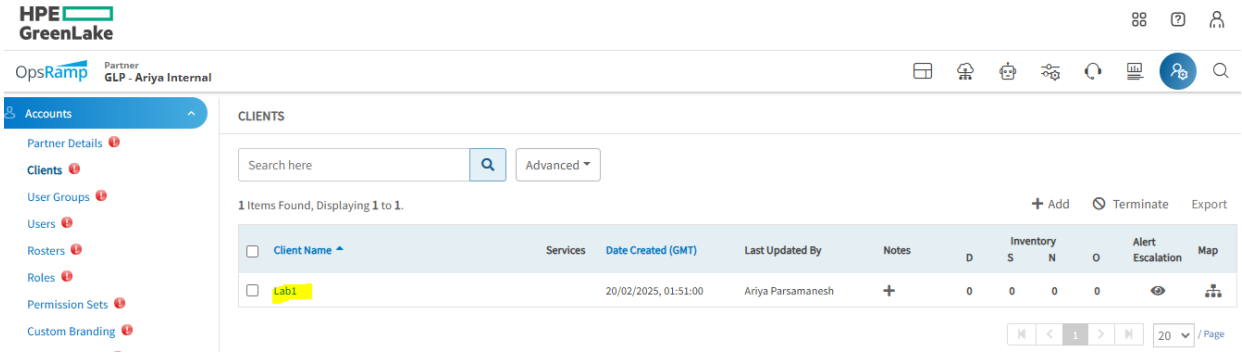




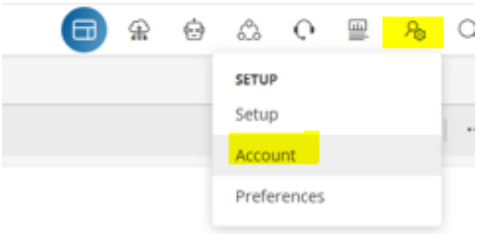
Make sure you select the “Enable Global Policies” checkbox shown above.

There are lots of other options that I am not showing, as I am going with bare minimum. We’ll click on Next button and then “Finish”. Note that the “Finish” button will be displayed after you click the “Next”.

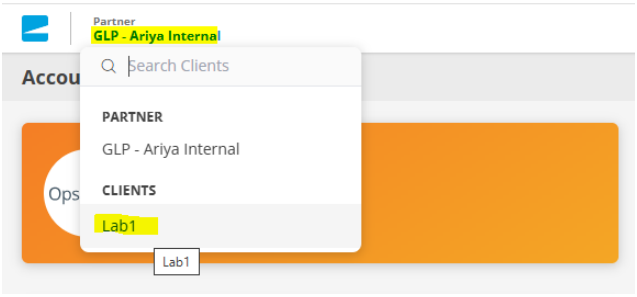
Once it is finished, you should get your client listed and you should get an email confirmation as well.



Next we need to add some custom attributes to this client (Lab1), for that you need to go to Setup->Account

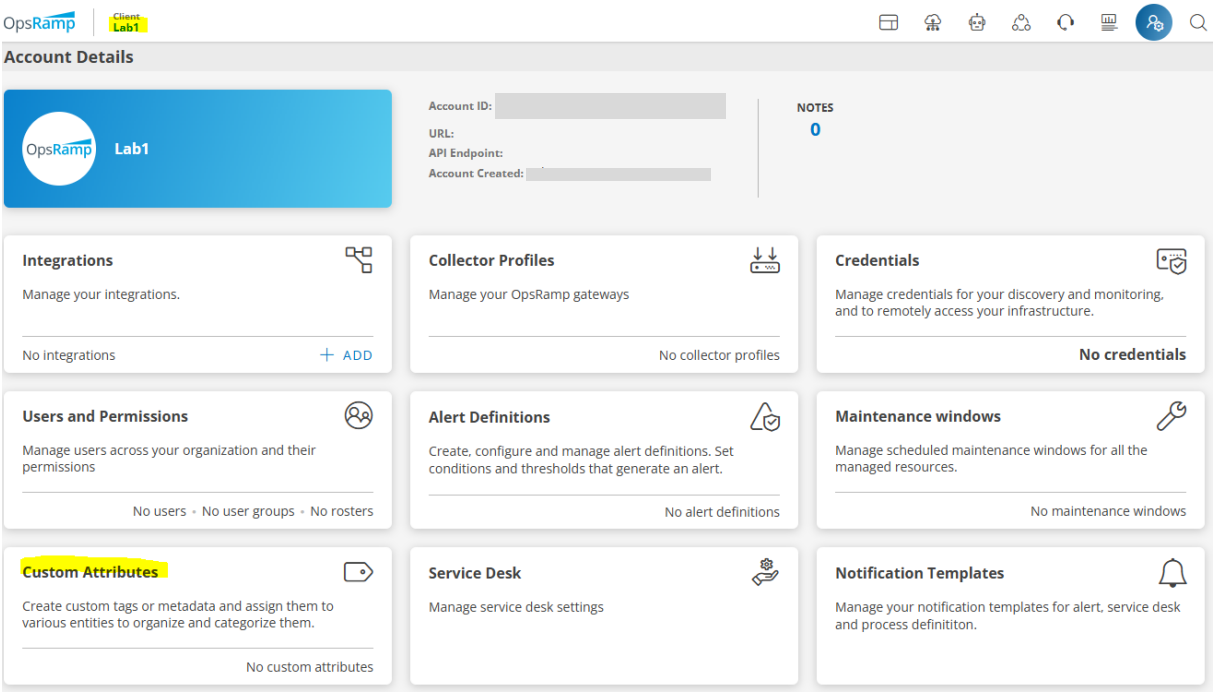


Then select your client as shown below.

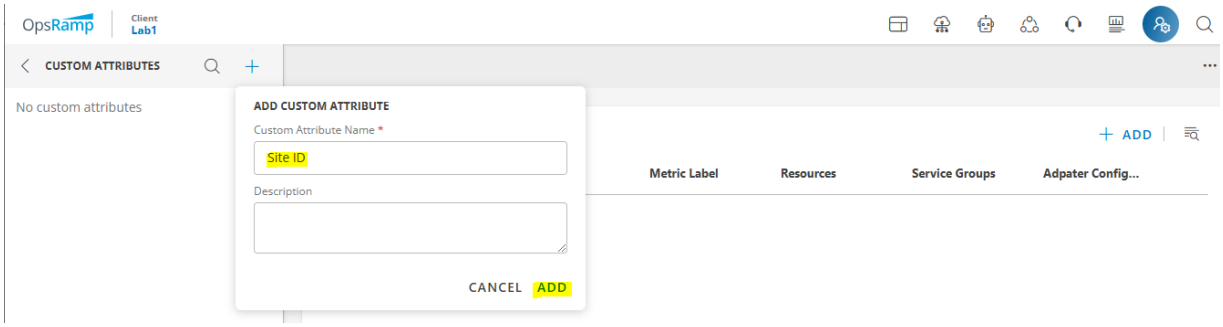


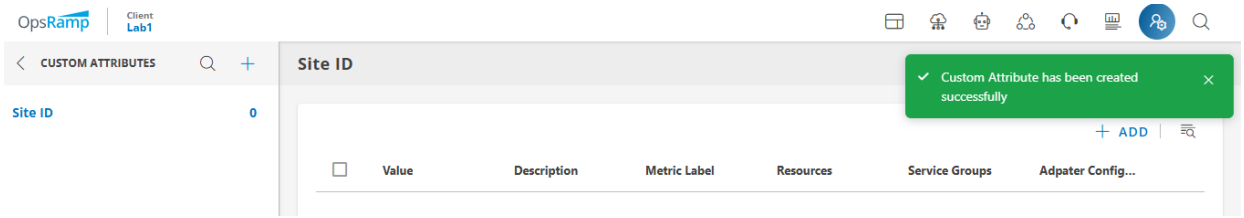
3.2 Custom Attributes

Your client account details are shown and now we select Custom Attributes card.

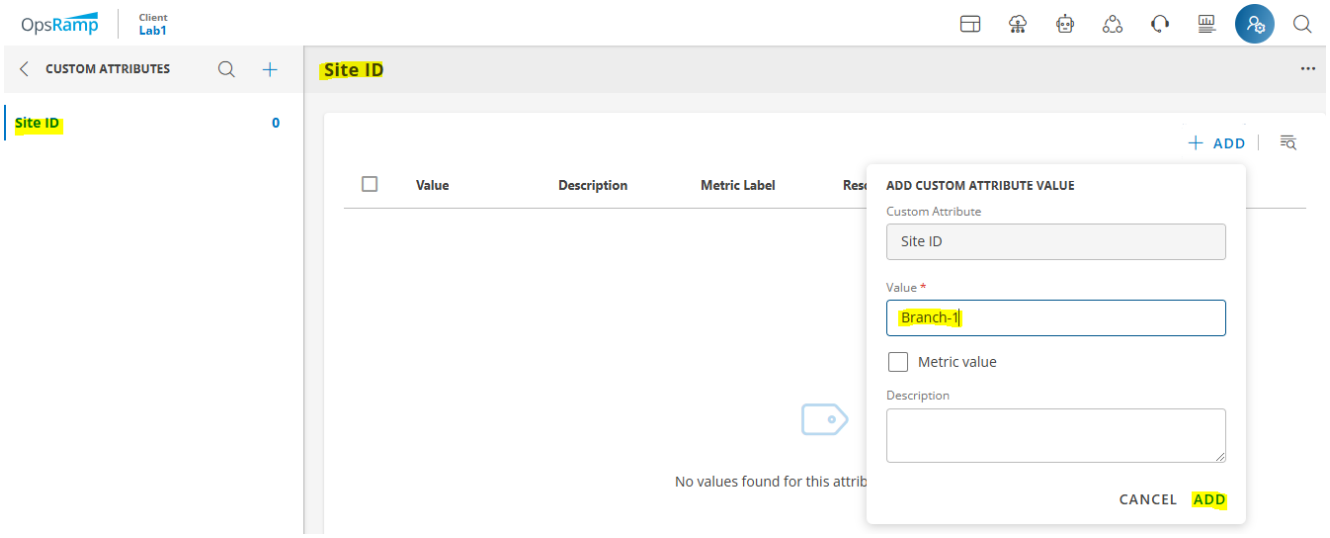


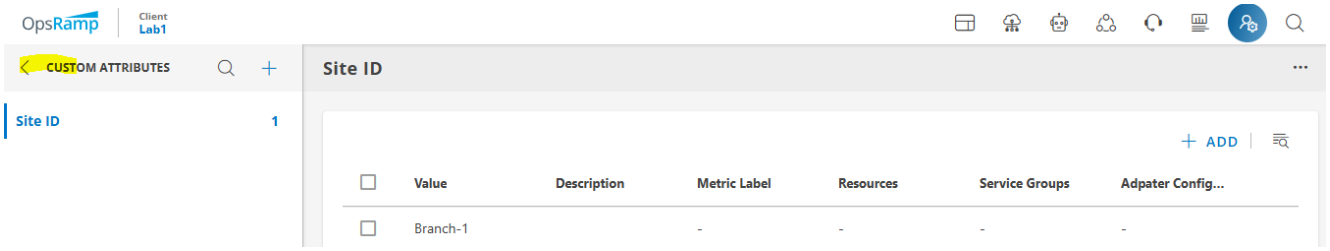
First we’ll add the “Site ID” as a name of custom attribute, followed by a value which obviously will be one of your Sites that are already configured in New Central.





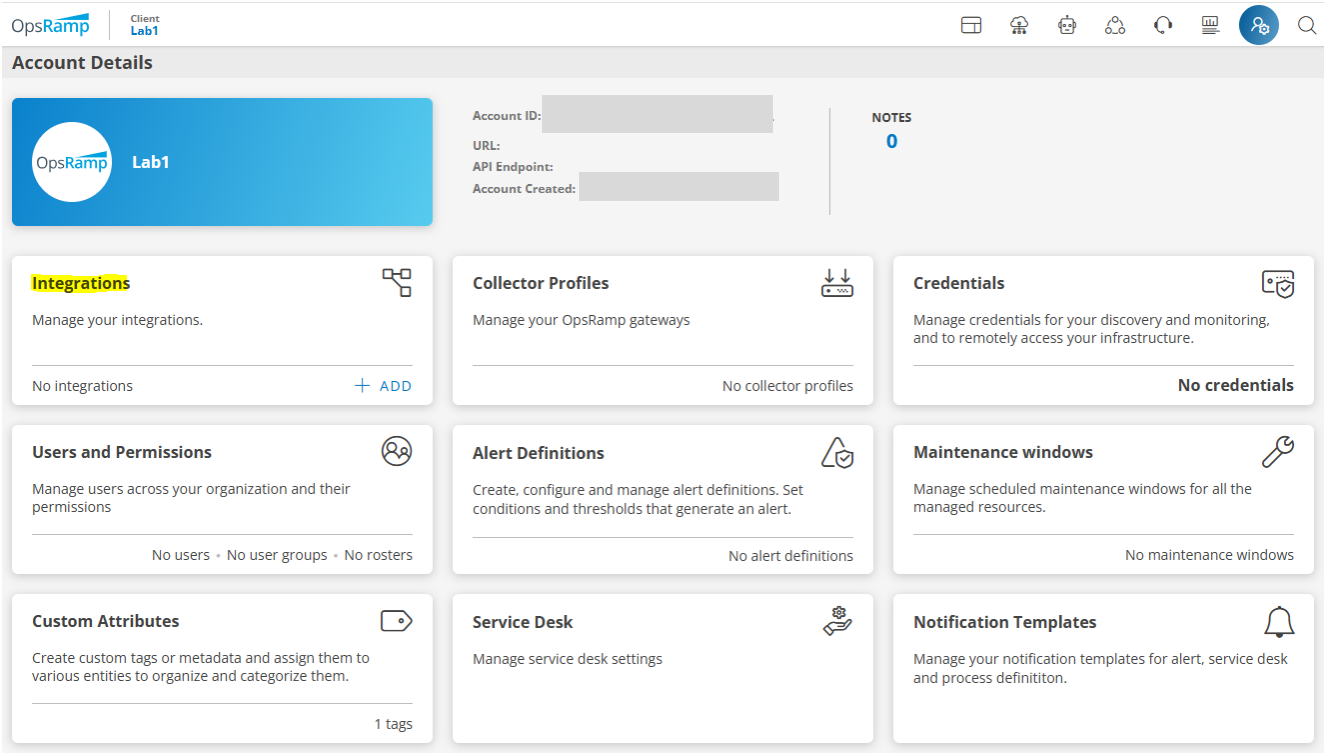
The value for Site ID in my case is Branch-1. Note that I have already created a Site called Branch-1 in my Classic Central. So when the 3rd party switch will be discovered, it will be visible in Branch-1 site using New Central.



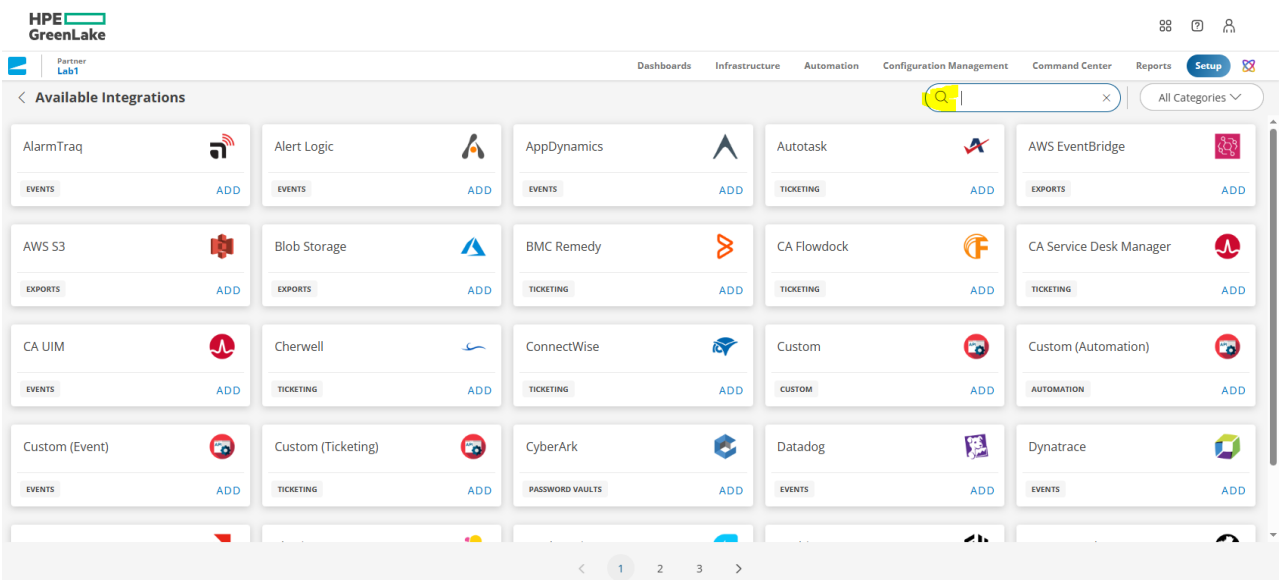


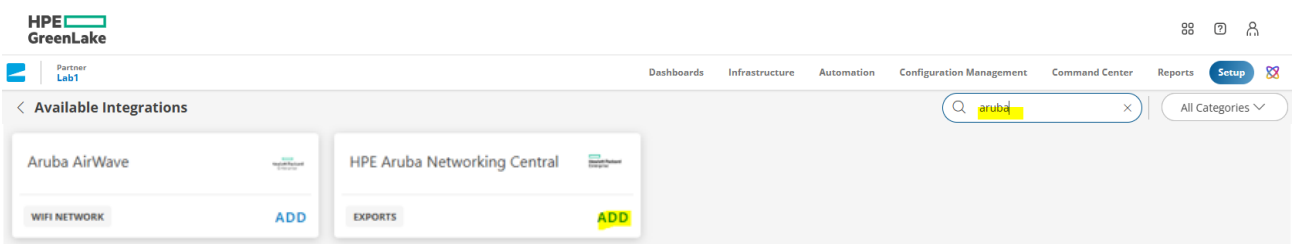
3.3 New Central Integration

Click on the highlighted arrow to take you back to the client account details where we need to add Integration for this client and the integration is to link it with New Central.

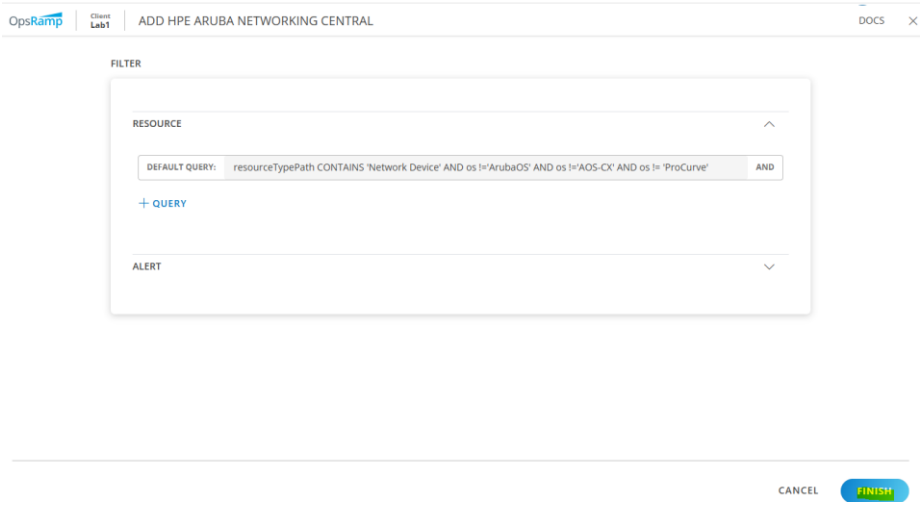


Select Integration card and you'll notice that there are many integrations and hence we'll search for "aruba"





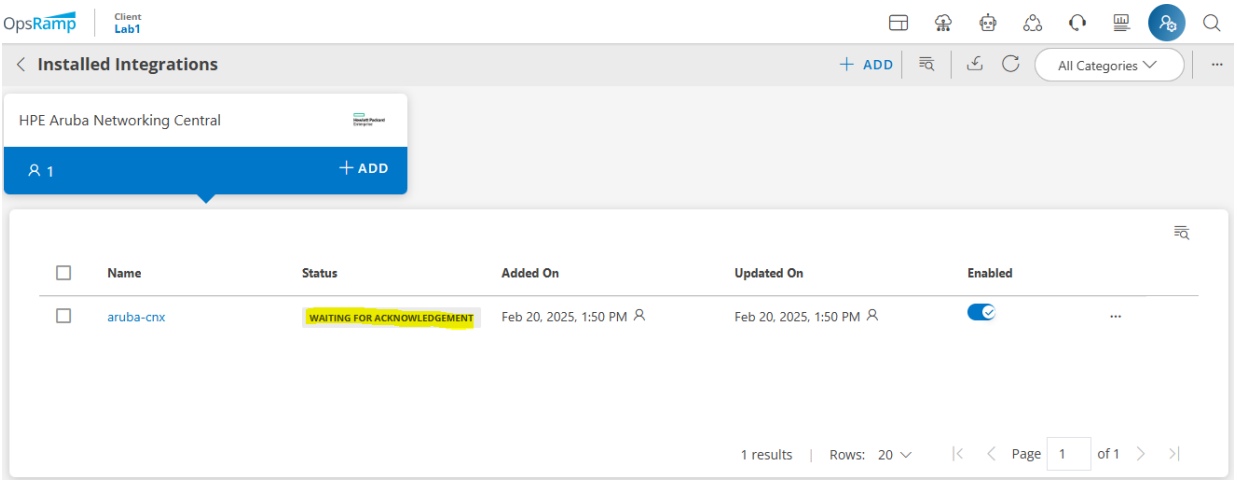
Click add and finish.



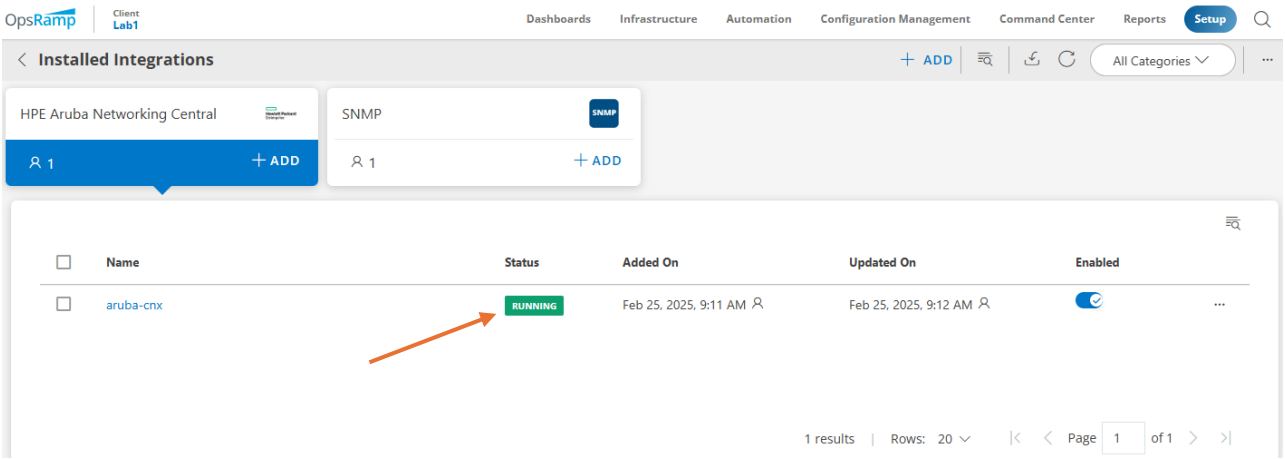
Here is the query that is used.

```
"resourceTypePath CONTAINS 'Network Device' AND os !='ArubaOS' AND os !='AOS-CX' AND os != 'ProCurve".
```

This is ensuring the info that is sent to Aruba Central is not for Aruba devices.



There might be times that you see the above status, if it is still showing after a few minutes it is best to delete and re-add the Central integration.

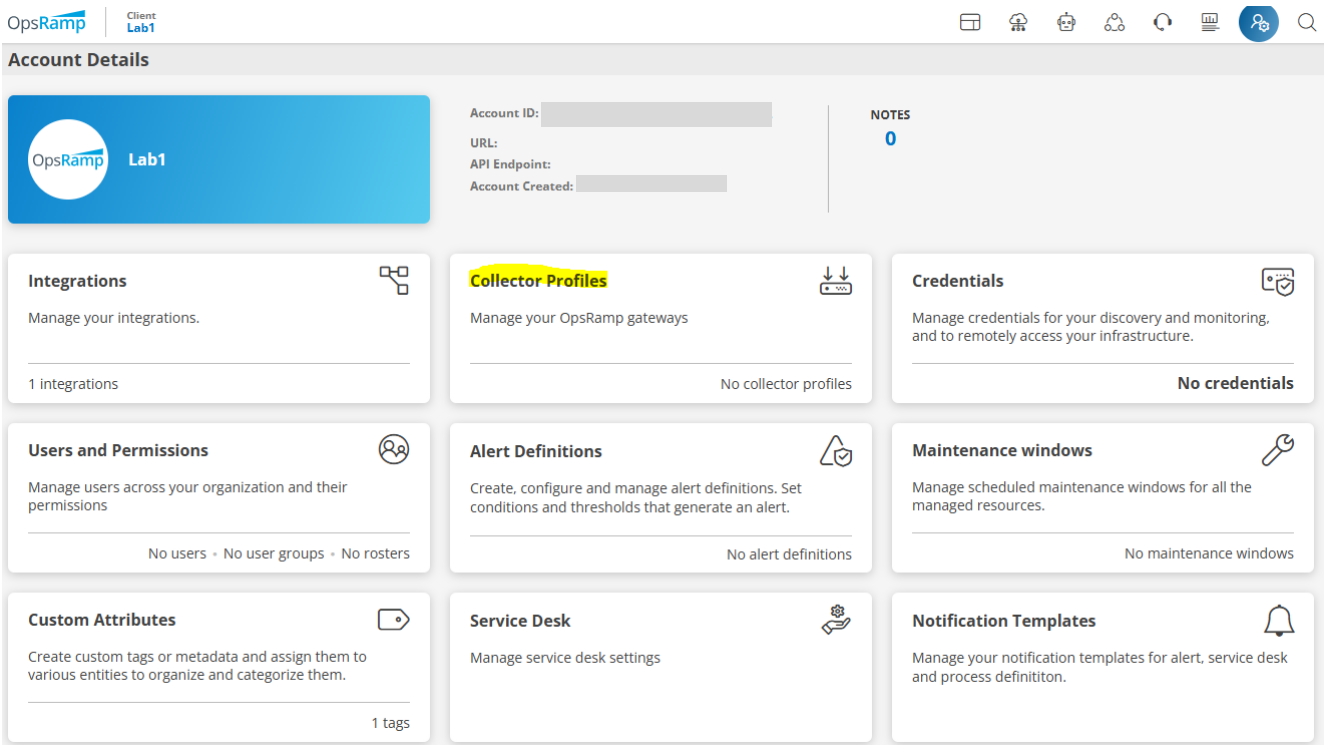


Once the status is running, you are set to go to the next section.

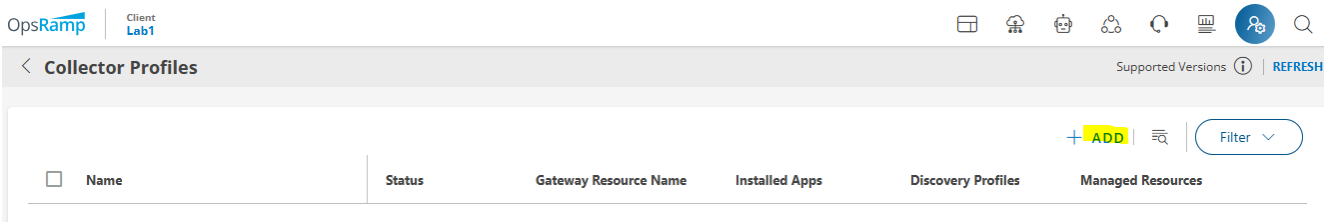
4 OpsRamp Collector

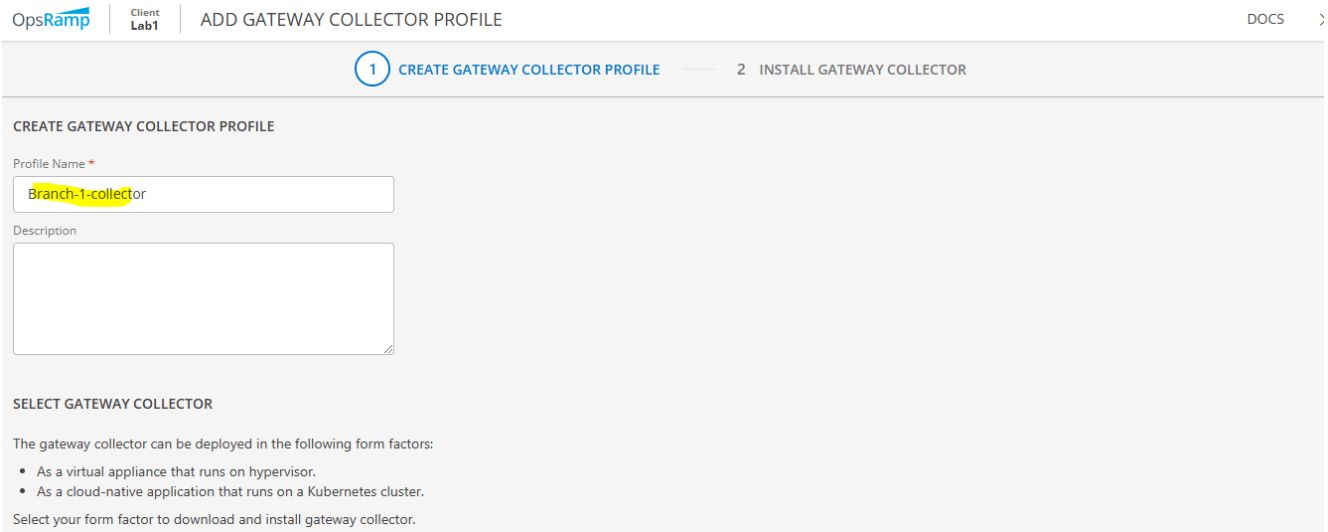
4.1 Configuring the Collector Profile

We need to add at least one collector to get the telemetry info from the 3rd party devices for that we'll first create a Collector profile.

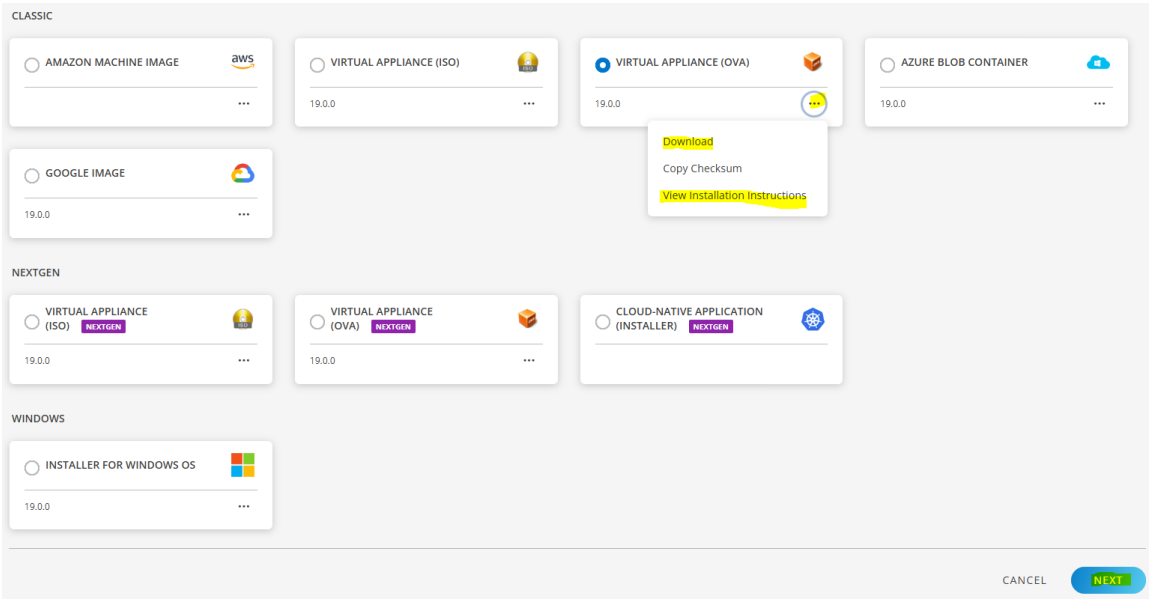


Here I am adding my first collector for branch-1 site.

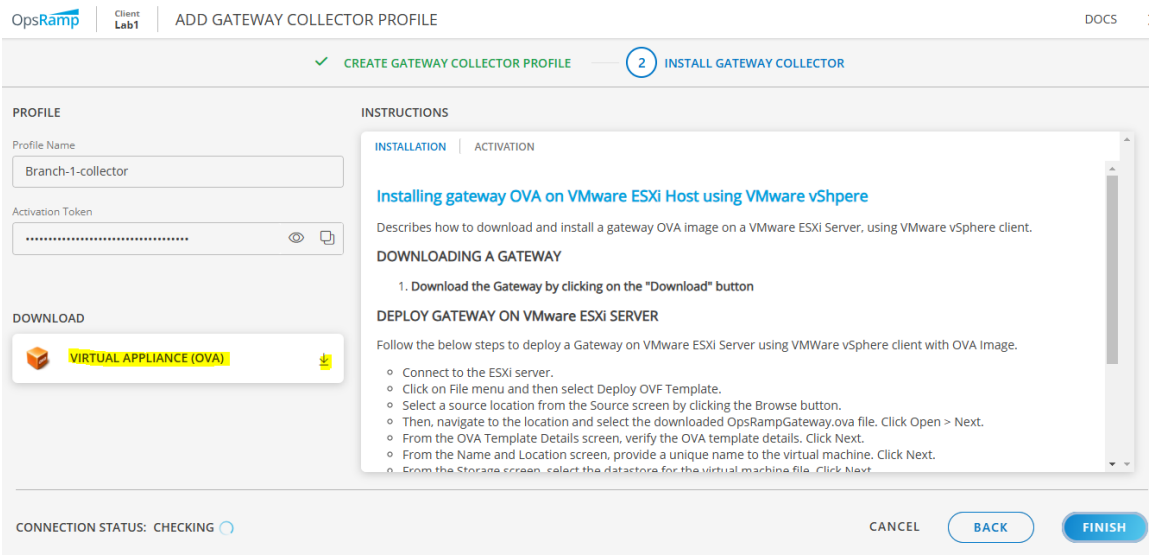




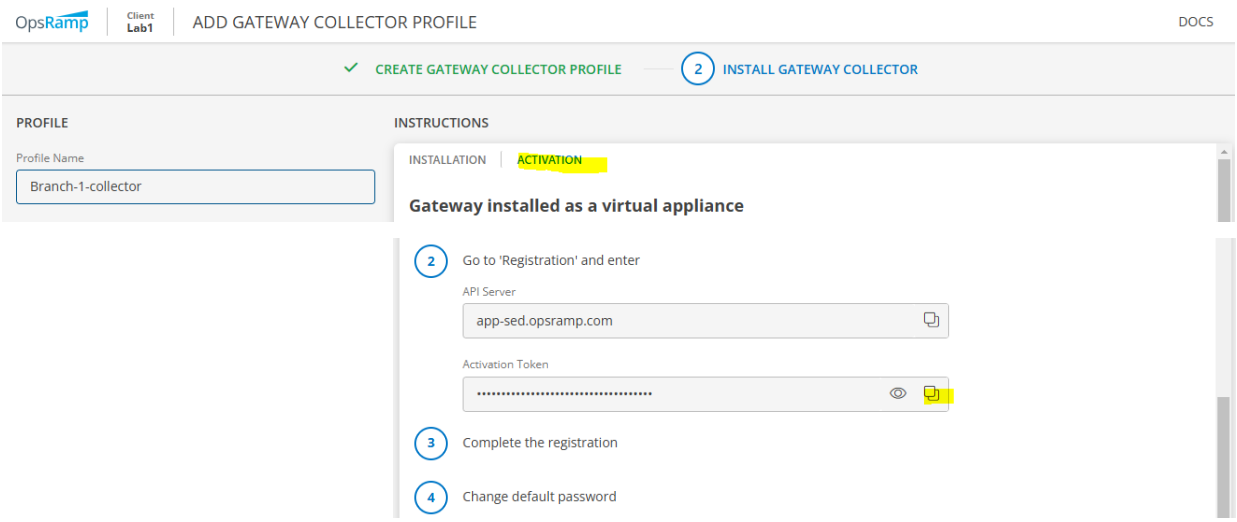
The collectors can be virtual machines and I am choosing that so I can run it on my ESXi infrastructure. Note, here I am using Collector version 19.0, but always use the latest version as new capabilities are added.



After clicking on the Next button, you'll see the following page where you have another opportunity to download the OVA and copy the activation key.



Now copy Activation token as shown below.



4.2 Installing the Classic Gateway Collector

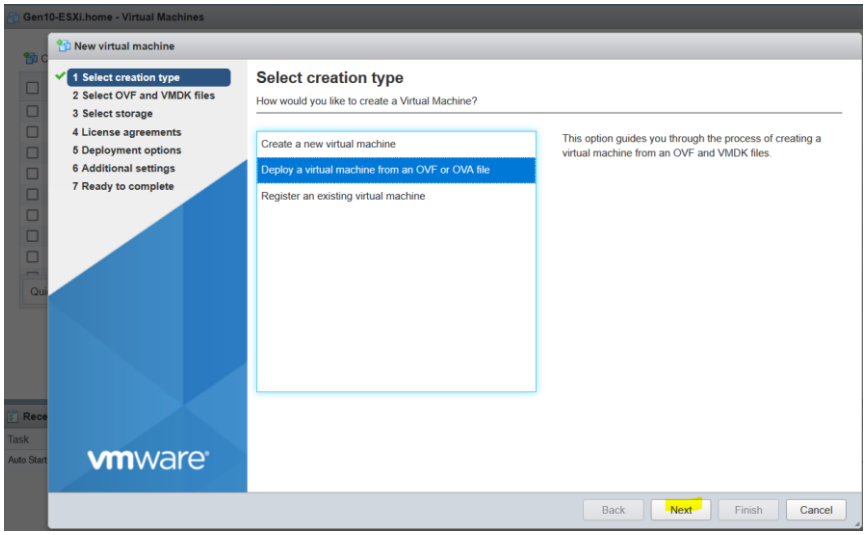
Here are the instructions that were shown when we were adding the Collector profile. I have added here for ease of use. Note that OpsRamp calls a VM collector as a gateway.

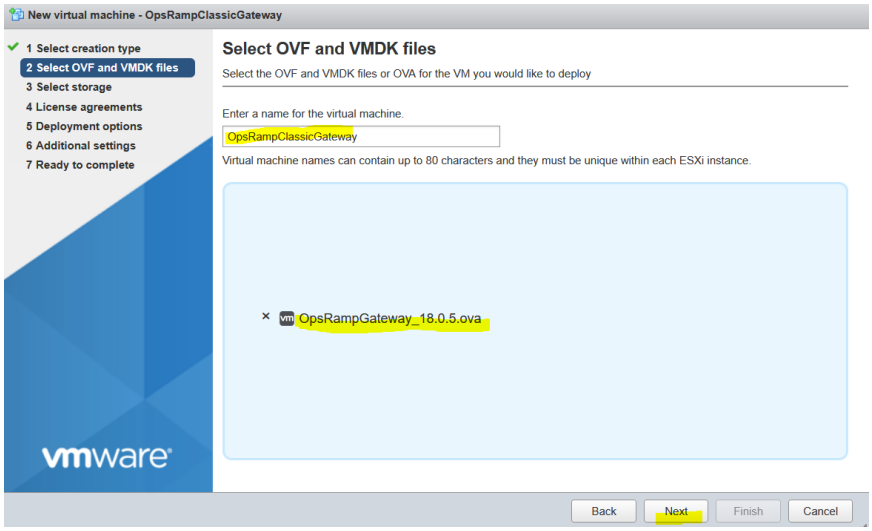
DEPLOY GATEWAY ON VMware ESXi SERVER

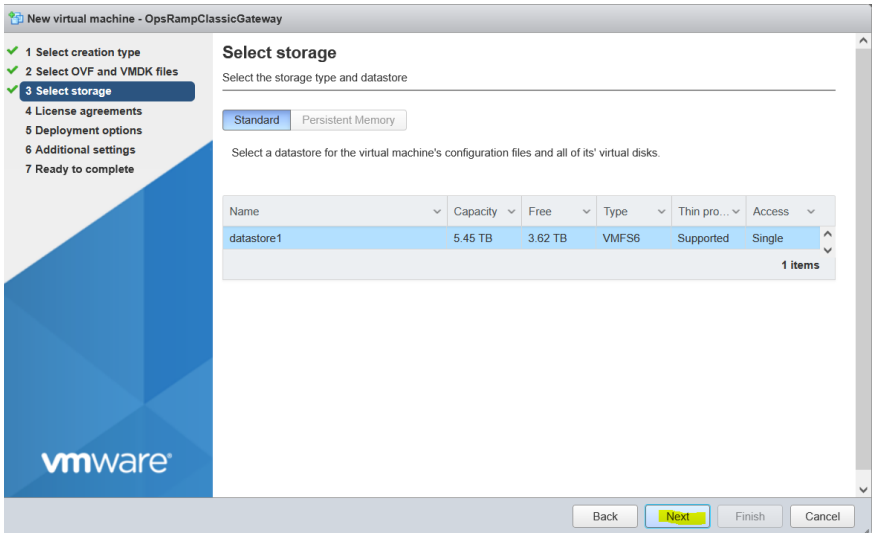
Follow the below steps to deploy a Gateway on VMware ESXi Server using VMWare vSphere client with OVA Image.

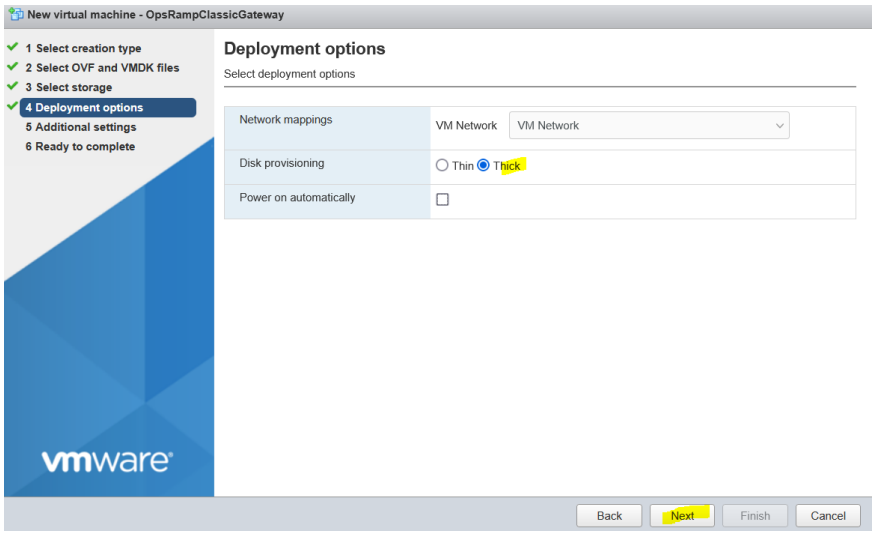
- Connect to the ESXi server.
- Click on File menu and then select Deploy OVF Template.
- Select a source location from the Source screen by clicking the Browse button.
- Then, navigate to the location and select the downloaded OpsRampGateway.ova file. Click Open > Next.
- From the OVA Template Details screen, verify the OVA template details. Click Next.
- From the Name and Location screen, provide a unique name to the virtual machine. Click Next.
- From the Storage screen, select the datastore for the virtual machine file. Click Next.
- From the Disk Format screen, select Thick Provision Lazy Zeroed.
- From the Network Mapping screen, choose the network adaptor.
- From the Ready to Complete screen, verify all of the deployment settings you've chosen. Finally, click Finish.
- A pop-up page appears, displaying the OpsRamp Gateway deployment progress.
- When the deployment is Successfully Completed, you will see a pop-up screen with a confirmation message. Now, the ESXi server displays the OpsRamp Gateway virtual machine.
- To power on the machine, right-click on the machine and select Power > Power On.

Now we'll start the installation process for the collector and here are the screenshots to guide you through it.

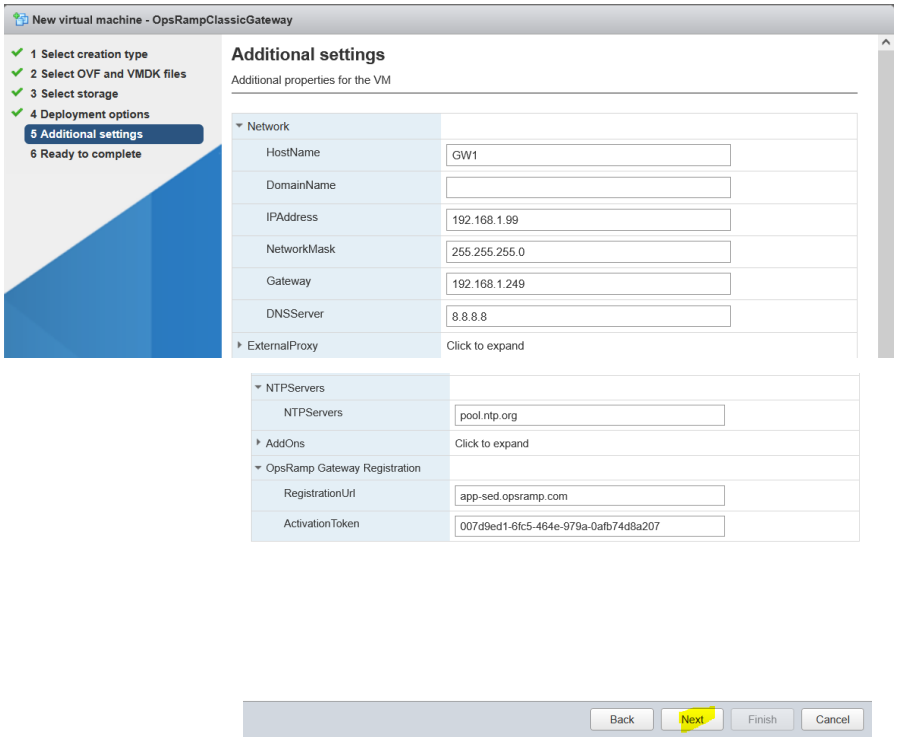


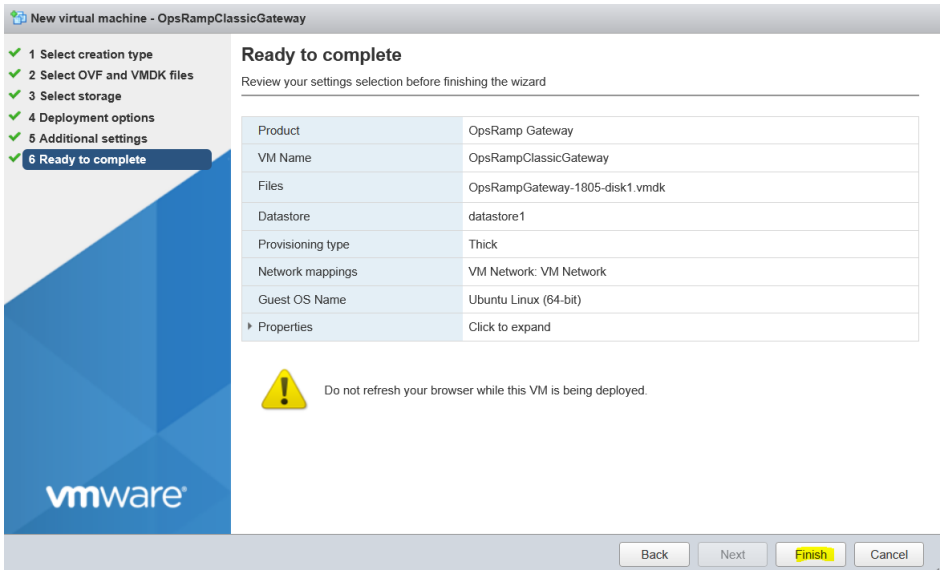




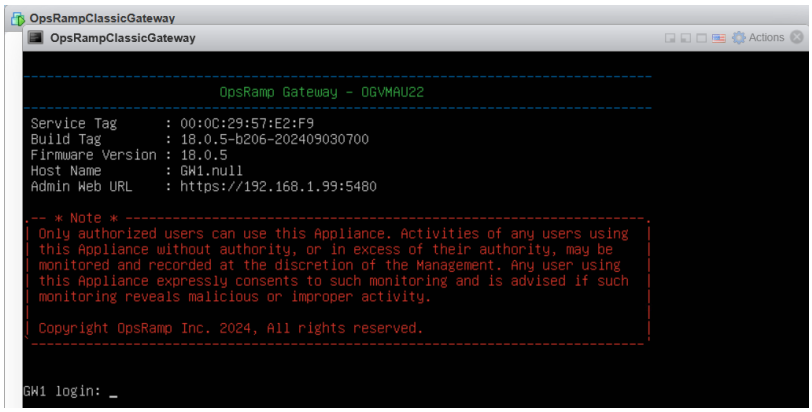


Note that we have not checked the “Power on Automatically”.

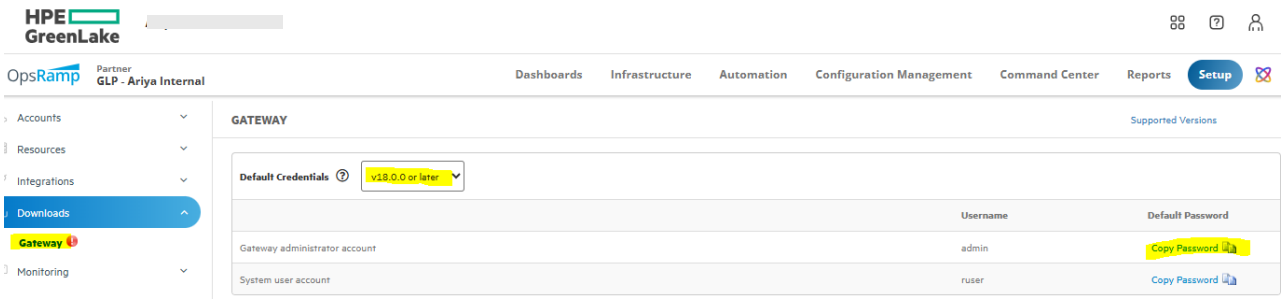




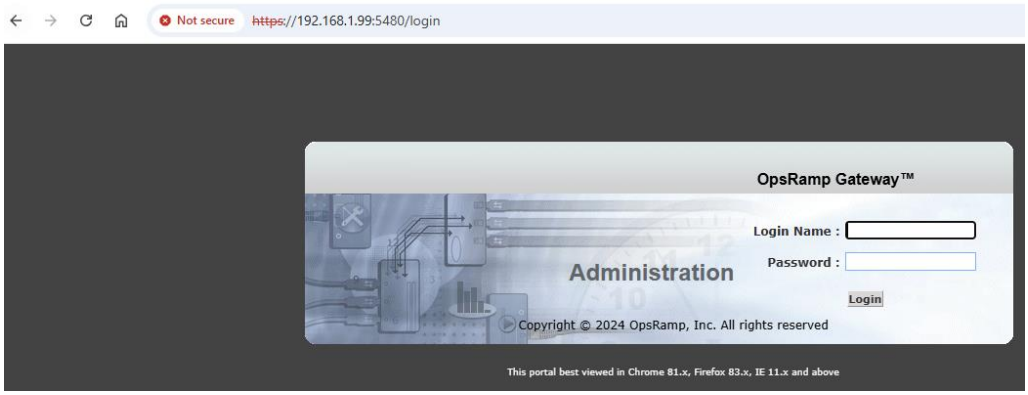
Last part is to save the configuration by clicking on the Finish button. Now you can power it up and should get the following on the console.

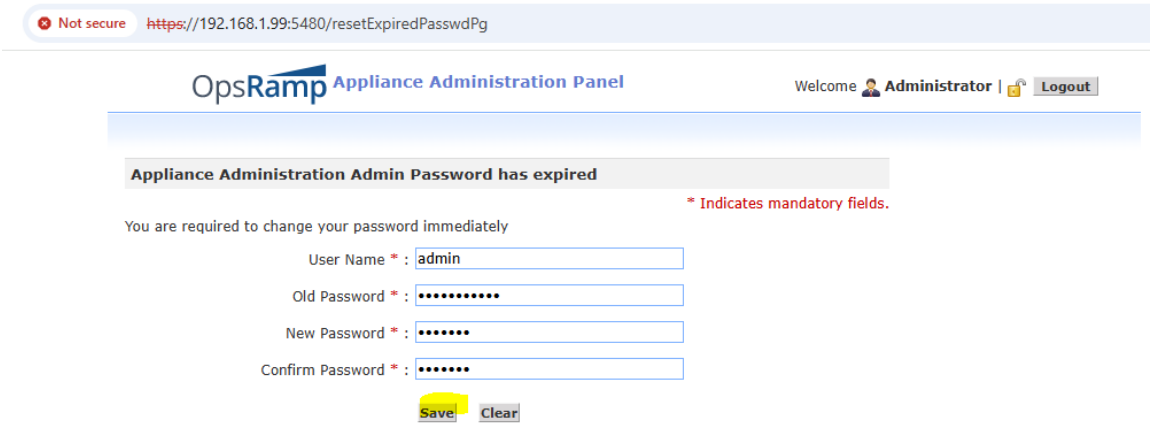


For the default password, you need to navigate to Setup->Setup, Download, and click Gateway to copy the access password settings.



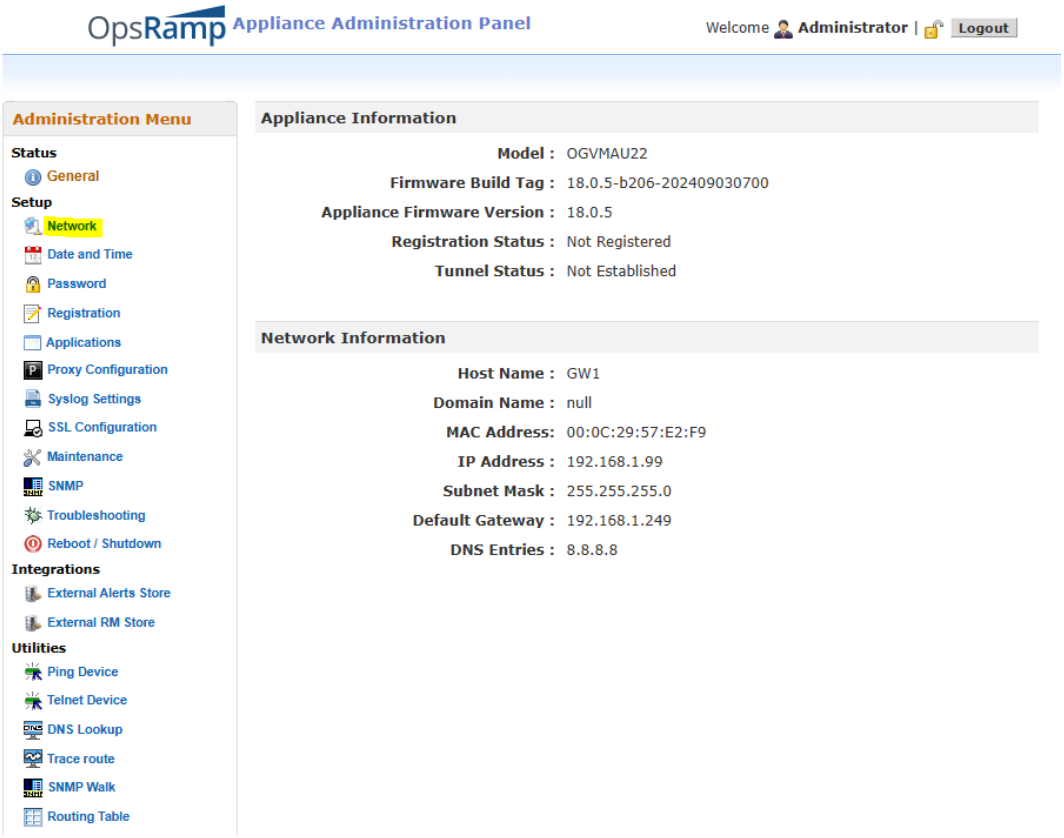
Now you can login to the gateway and on your first login you have to change the password.



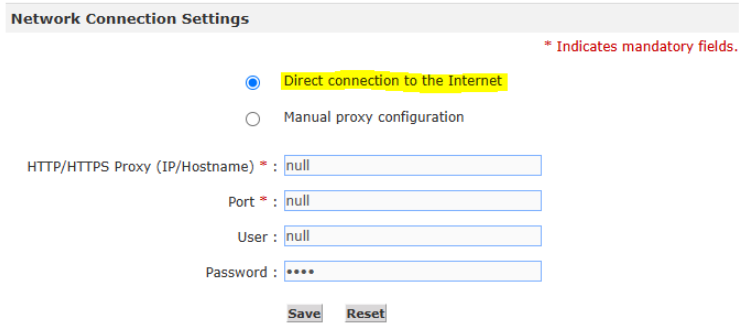


4.3 Configuring the Classic Gateway Collector

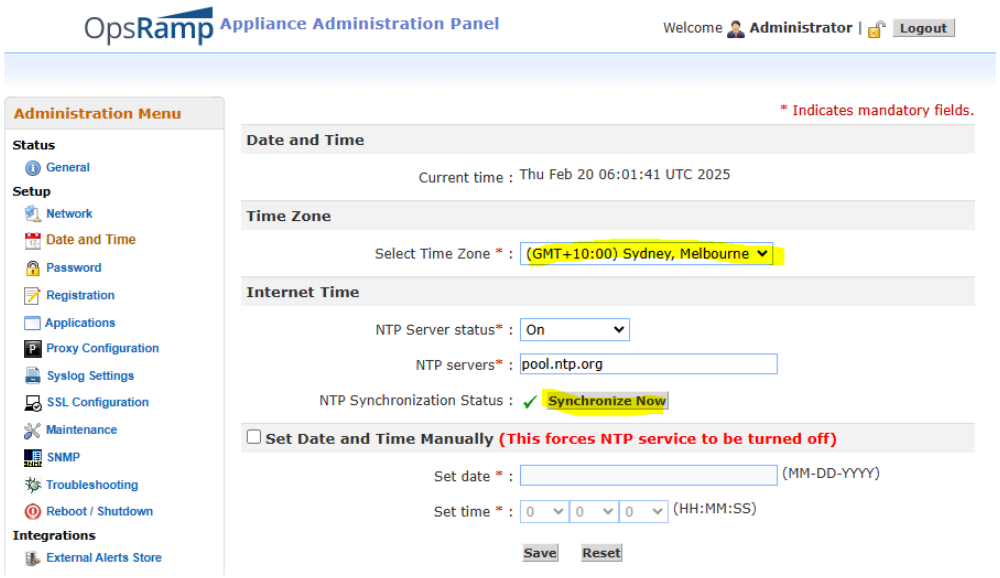
Here is what we see after successful login to the collector we just installed.



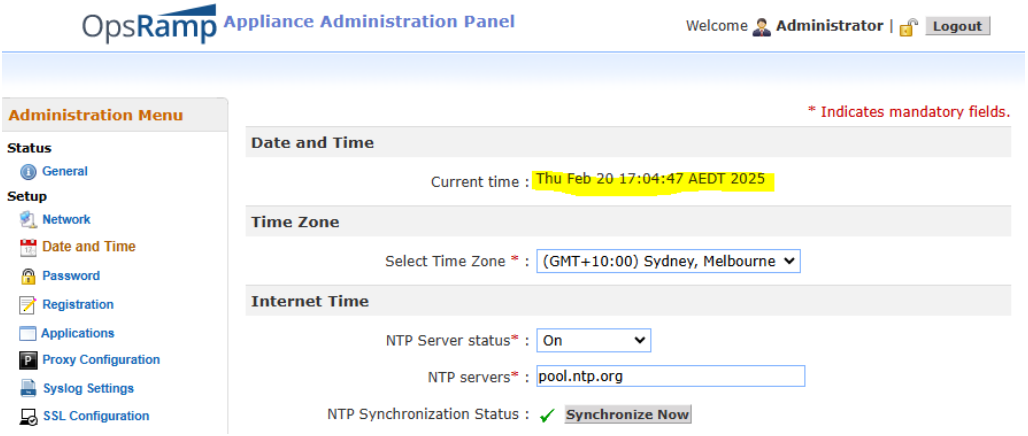
Our first task for my setup is to go to the network setting and change it to direct connection to Internet as I don't have any proxies.



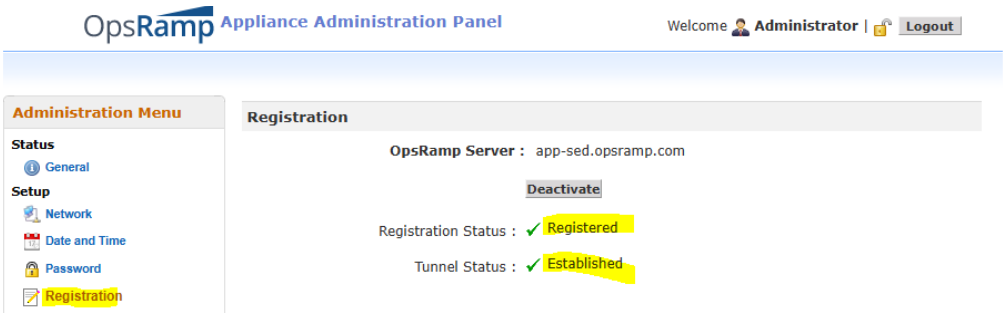
Next we need to setup the correct Date and time and select your correct Time Zone and click on Synchronise Now.



The current time will change for me it is synchronised.

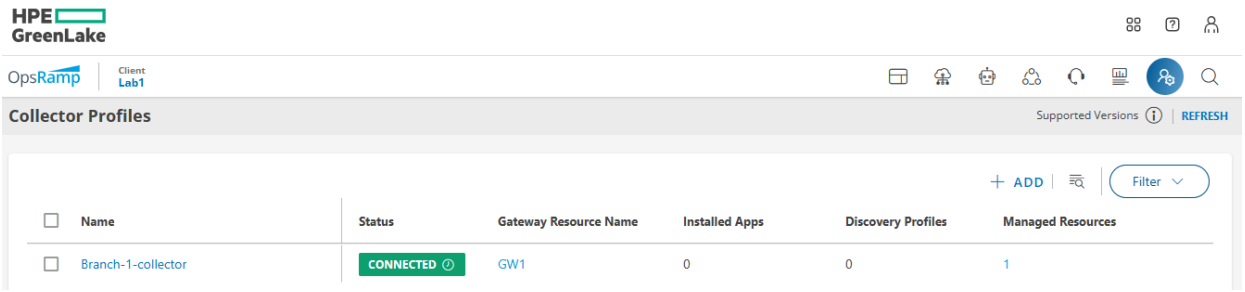


So now we'll check the registration and we see all is good and the TLS tunnel has been established.



Note that OpsRamp Gateway is a hardened Linux appliance that connects to OpsRamp cloud using TLS1.2 / TLS 1.3 protocols. So you need to configure your firewall to allow that traffic out and it does not need to have a public IP address. The connection is always initiated by the gateway just like all the Aruba Devices (APs, switches and gateways).

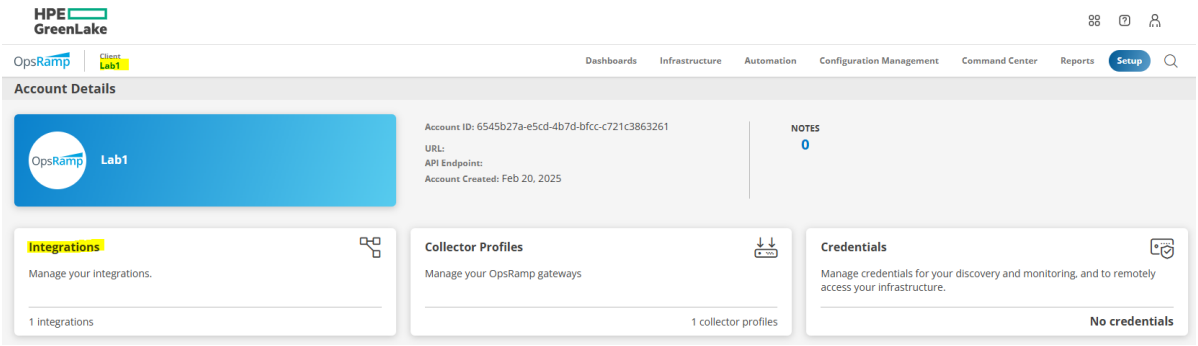
Now we go to the OpsRamp portal to view the status of our collector by going to Setup->Account->Collector Profiles.



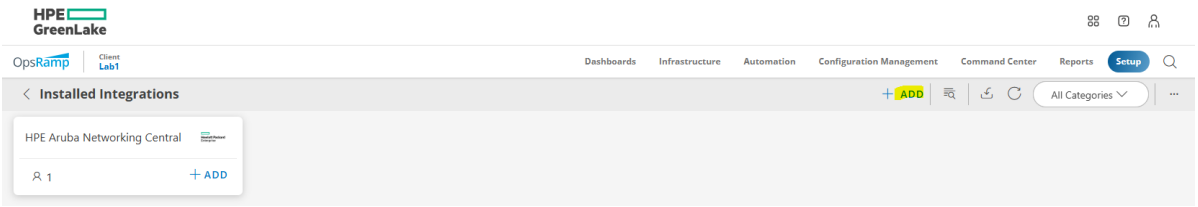
4.4 Creating SNMP Profile for Gateway Collector

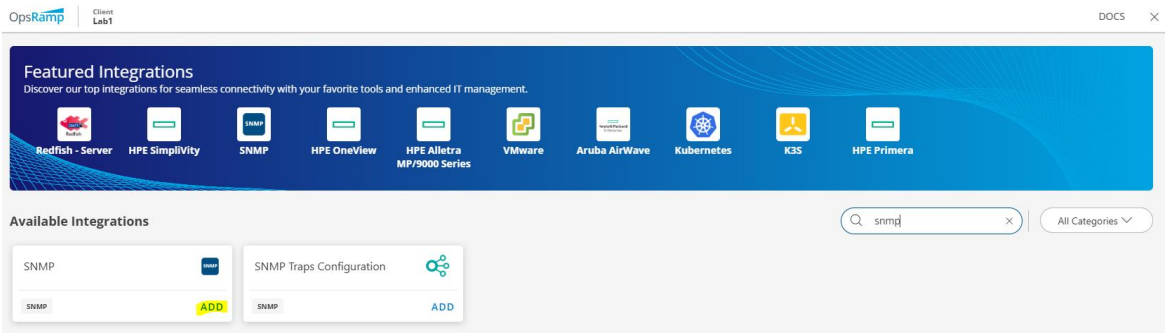
Our next task is to configure SNMP profiles that facilitates monitoring of network devices.

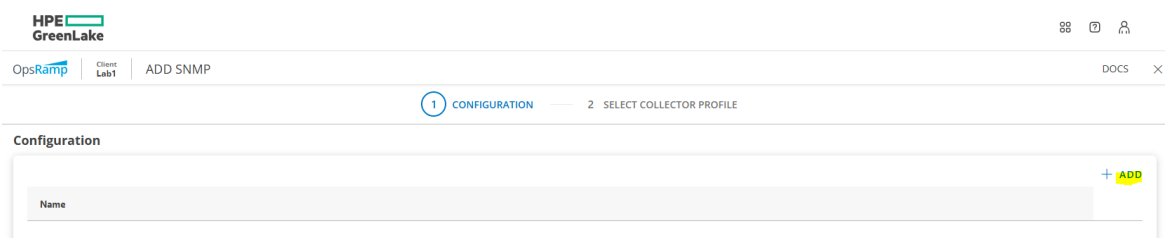
For that you need to go to Setup->Account->choose your client (Lab1 in my case).

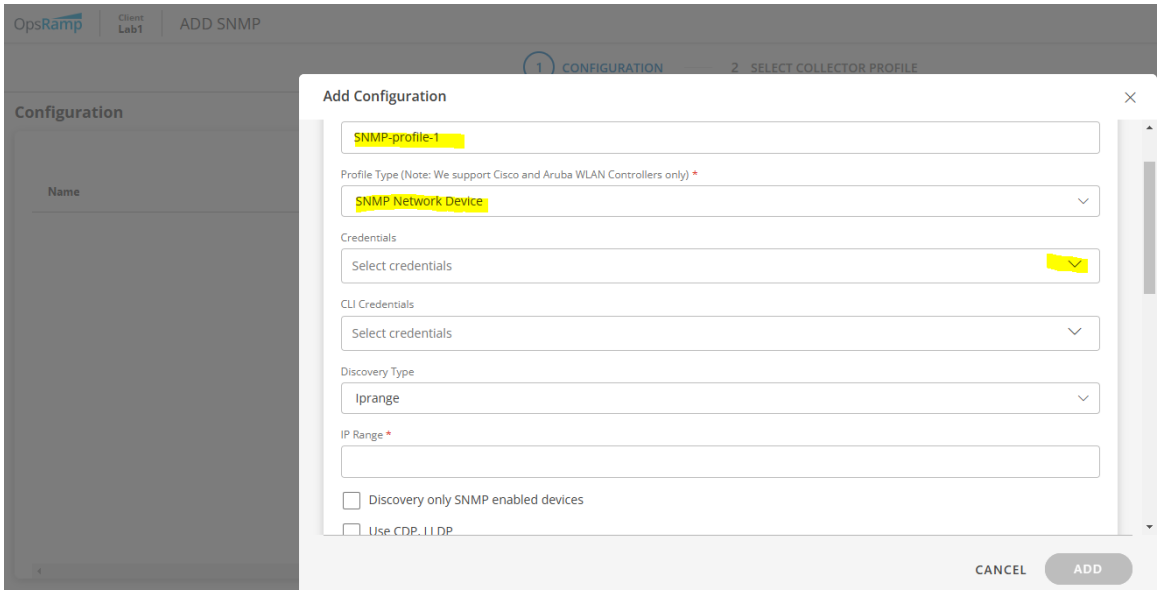


Then click on the Integration and then ADD and choose SNMP



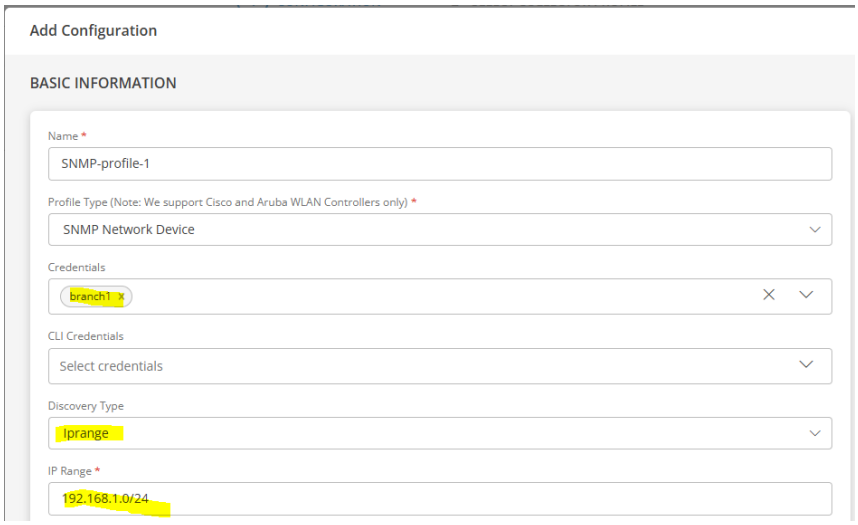


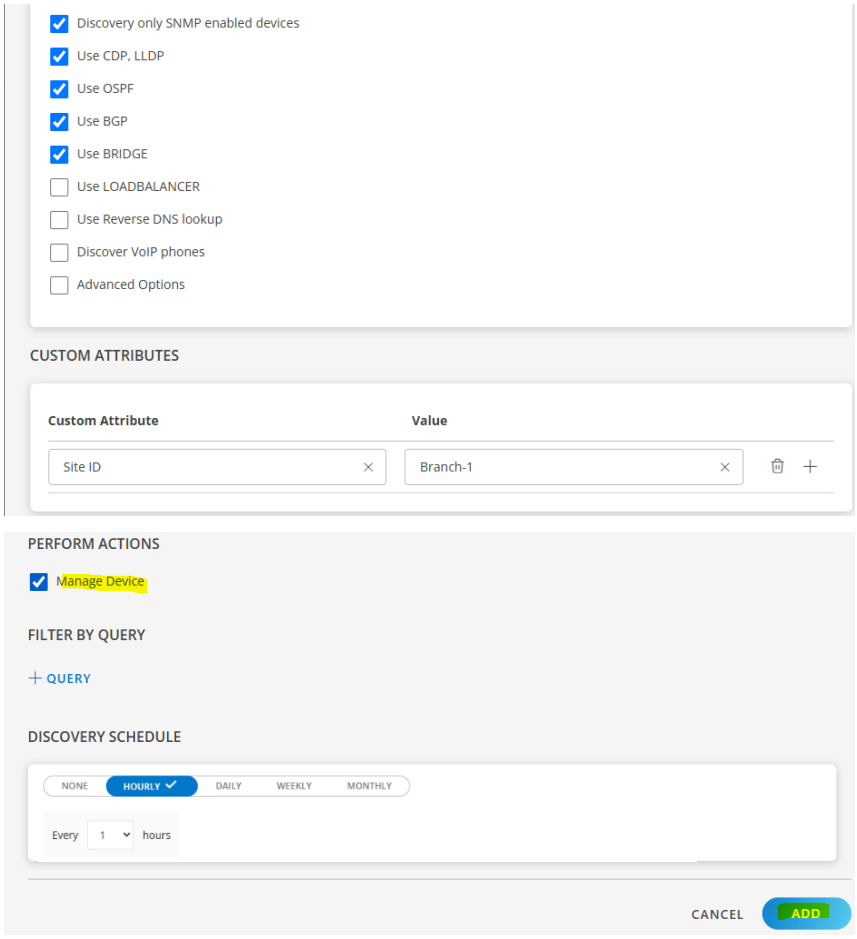




Then from the drop down menu choose SNMP communities based on the SNMP versions (v1-3 are supported)

Once you have configured the credentials click on the Add button to go back to the SNMP collect profile.

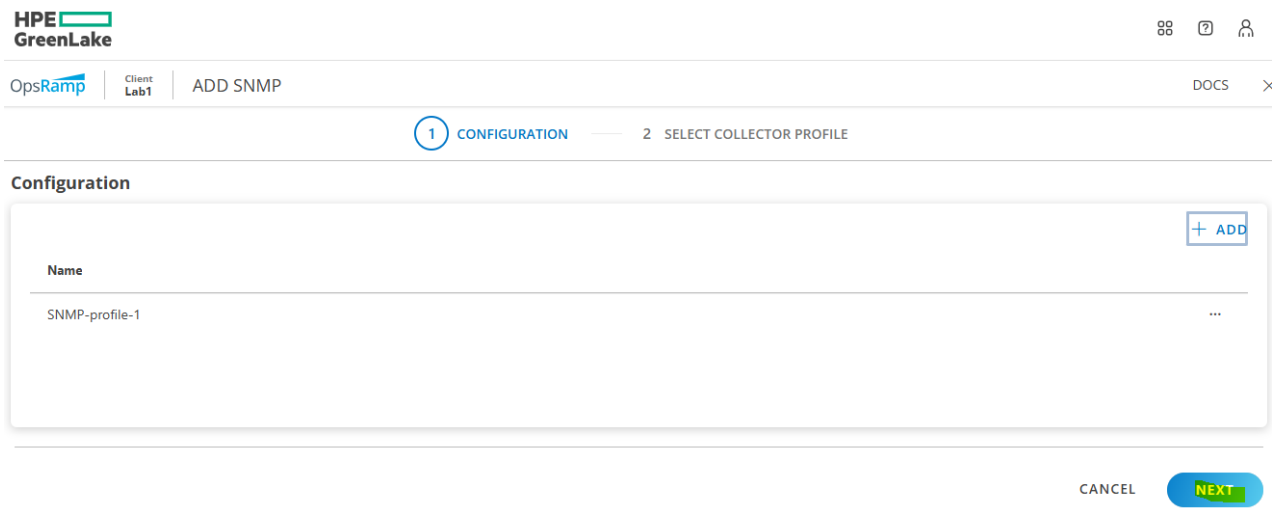


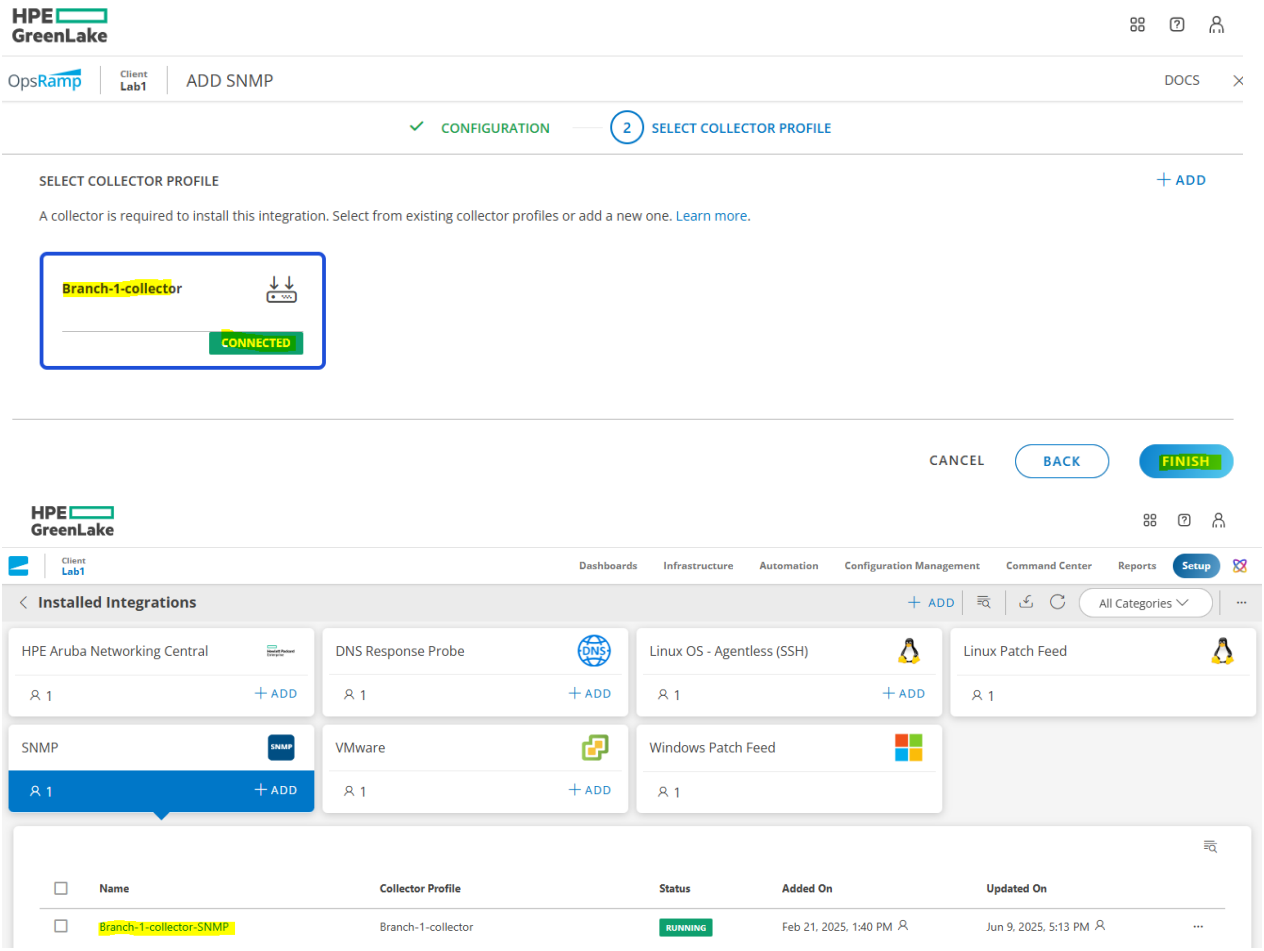


There are couple of points to note

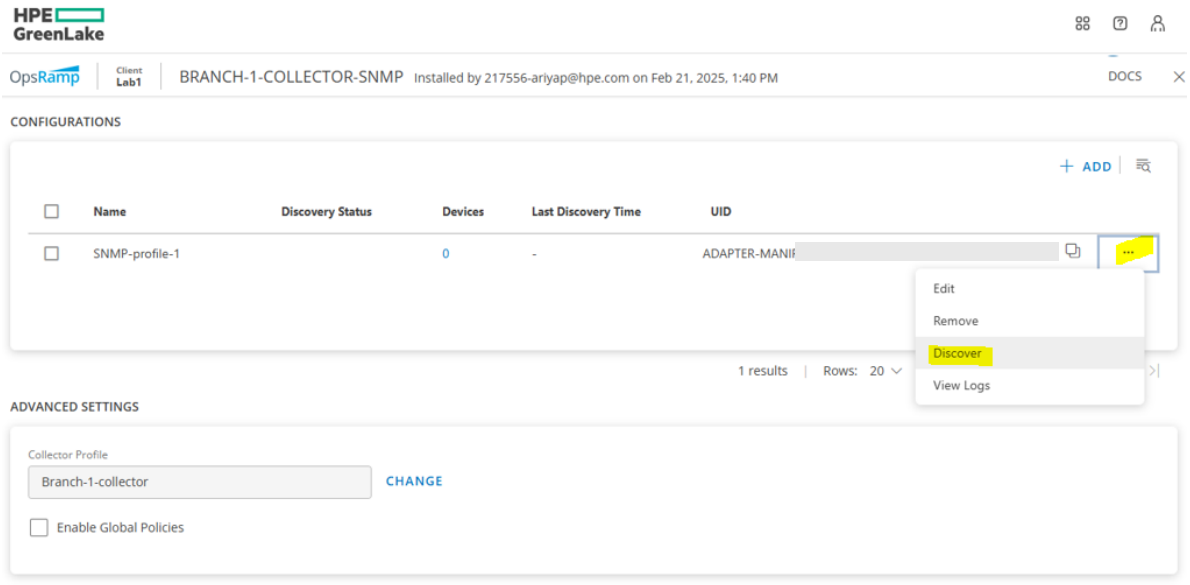
1. We are using the custom attribute that we previously configured with the “Site” value.
2. The discovery type is IP range and you can have multiple ranges but it should be separated by commas.

Once you add it you get the following screen.

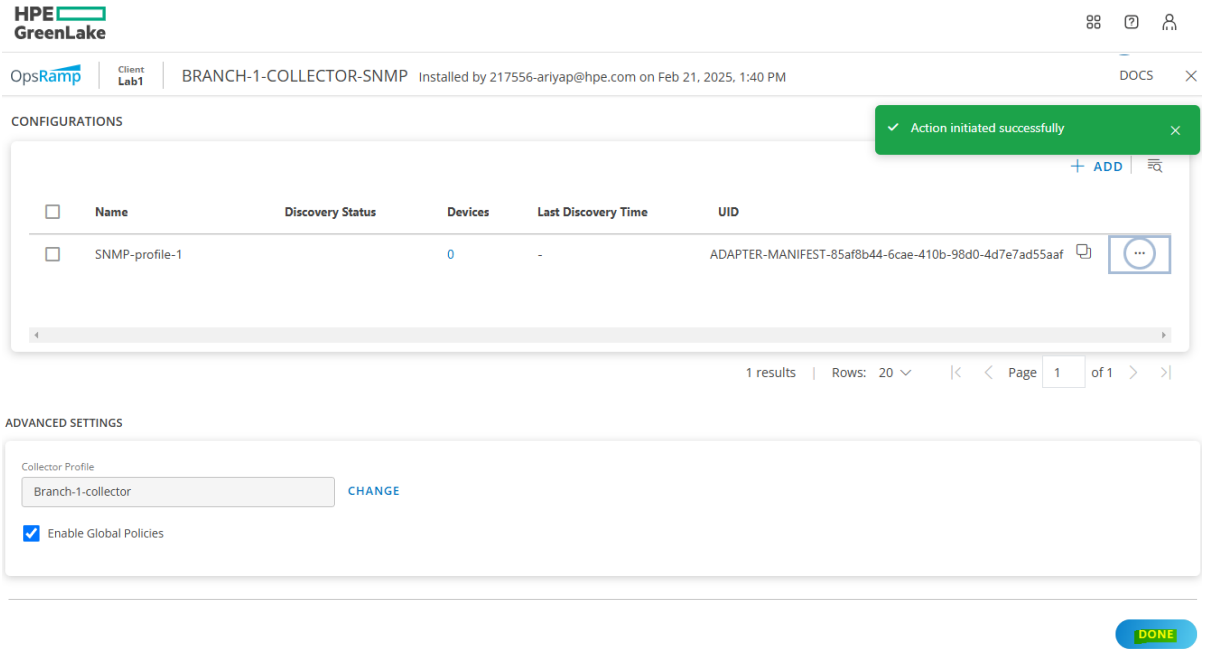




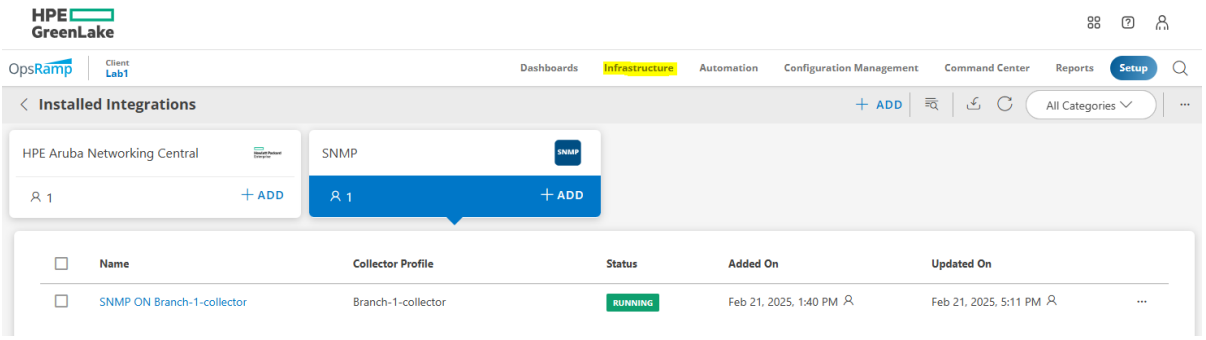
We can now start the discovery process by clicking on the highlighted SNMP profile.



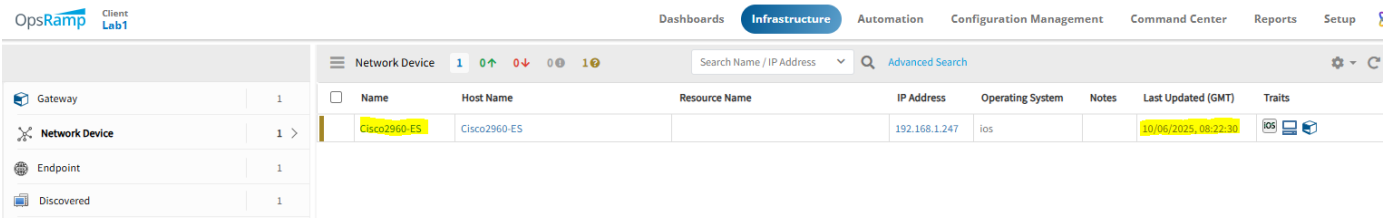
So by doing the discovery, the switch that will be discovered and its associated attributes with be synched with HPE Aruba Networking New Central using the custom attribute.



Once you click on Done button, you are taken back to the following screen.



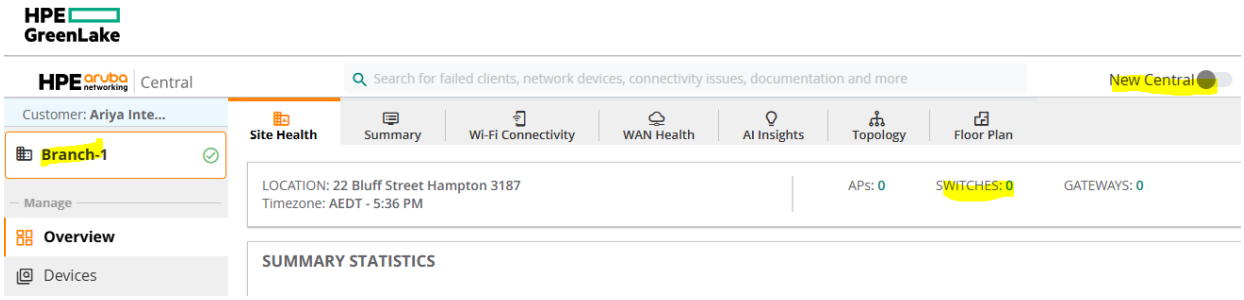
You can then navigate to Infrastructure-> Resources



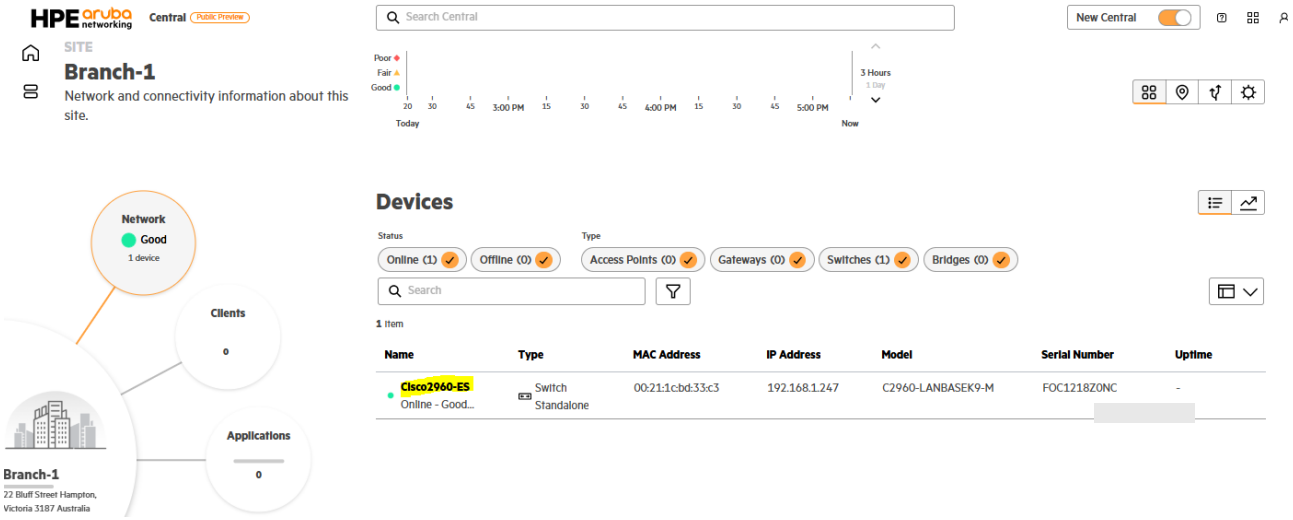
At this point we are finished with the OpsRamp platform configuration.

5 Monitoring 3rd Party Switches in New Central

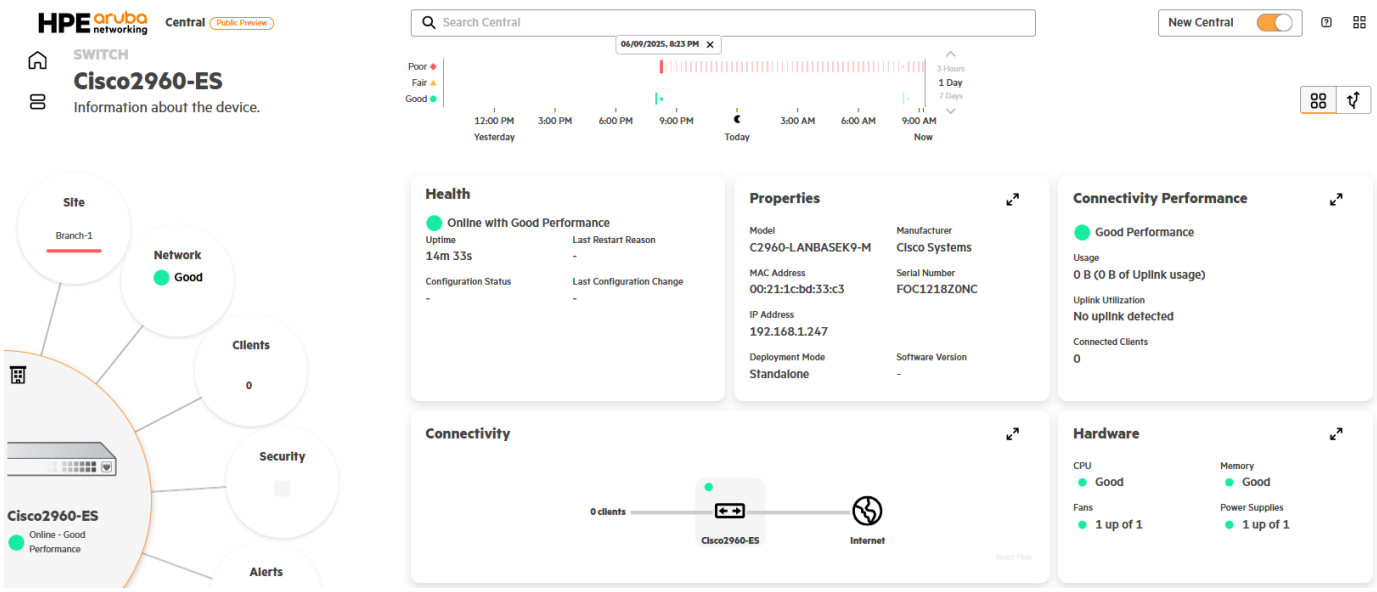
Now we should be able view the 3rd party switch in New Central. Remember that the component that stiches this visibility is that customer attribute that we configured and then added to SNMP profile of the client in OpsRamp. So when we go to the classic Central, the 3rd party switch is not even listed in the Branch-1 site.



This is because this functionality is only for New Central. So now that we go to New Central we see it listed in Branch-1 Site.

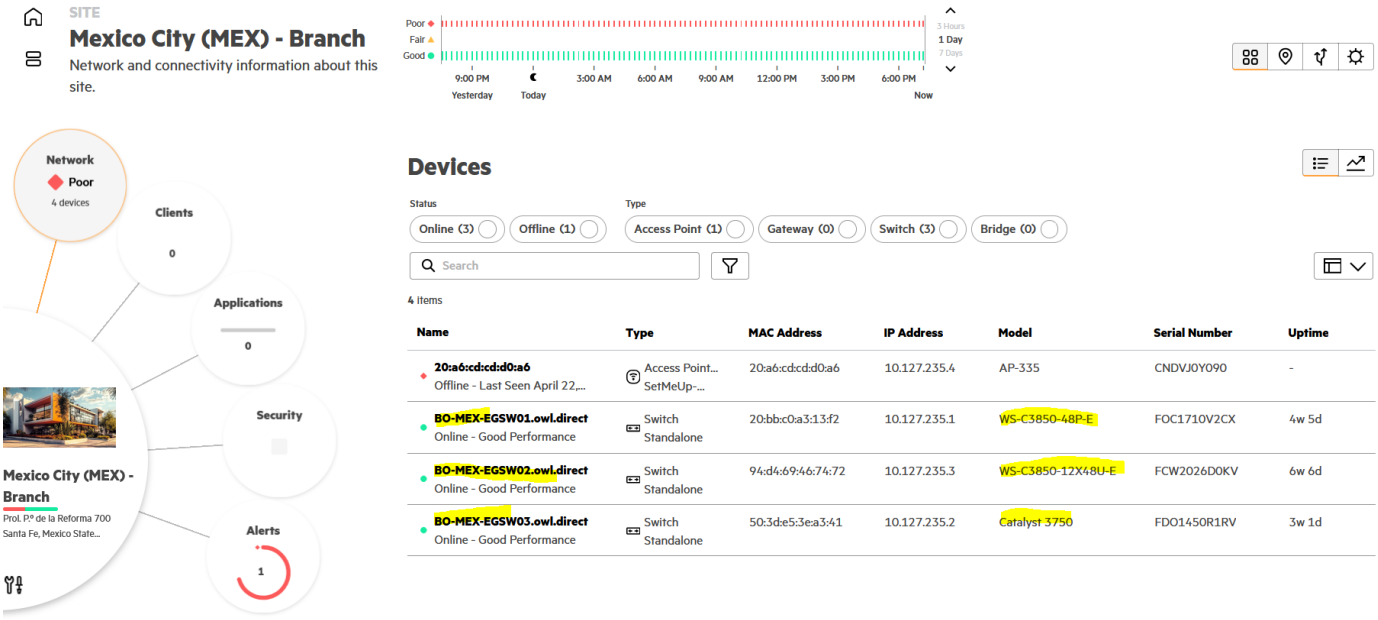


When the switch is click we get more information about it as shown below.

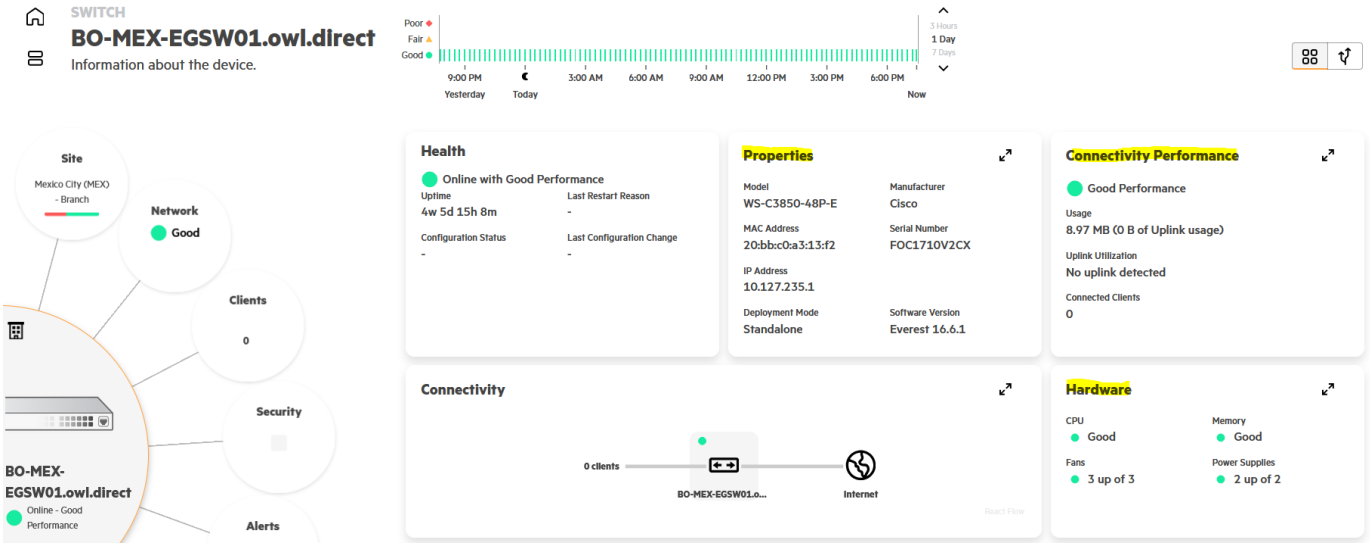


The sync period between OpsRamp and New Central for State/topology is hourly and for statistics, events and alerts is every 5 minutes.

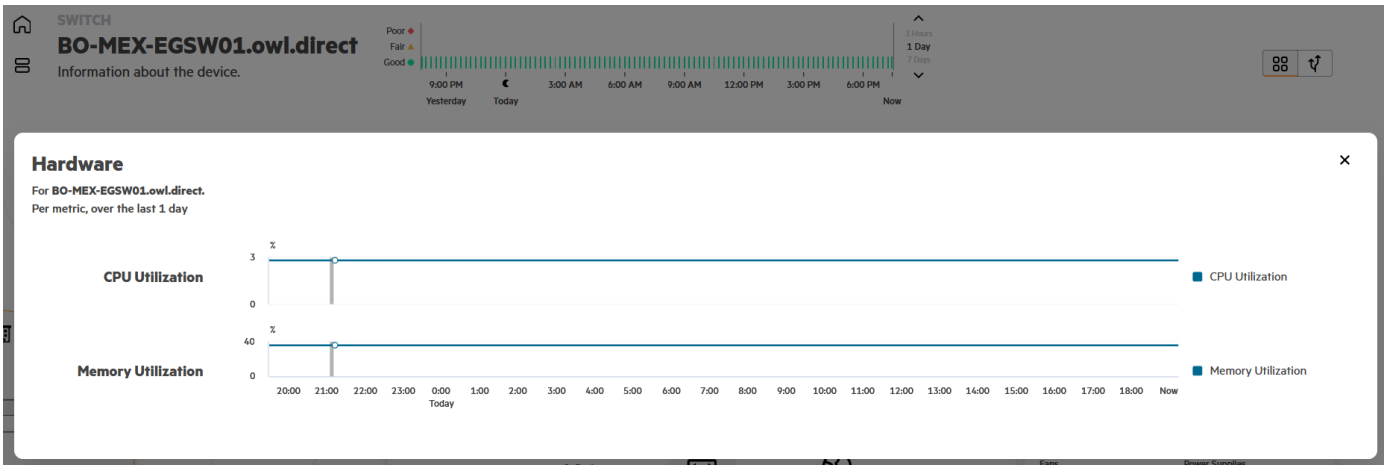
Here are other 3rd party switches that were also added.



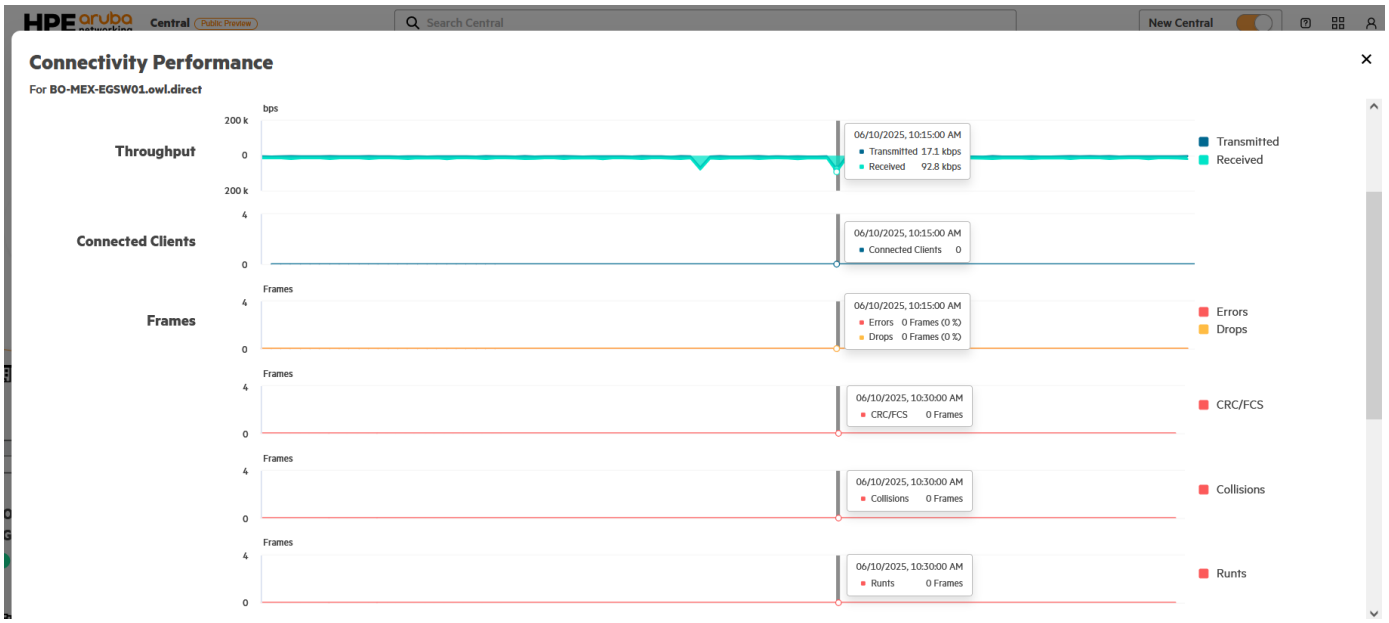
Checking out the first switch



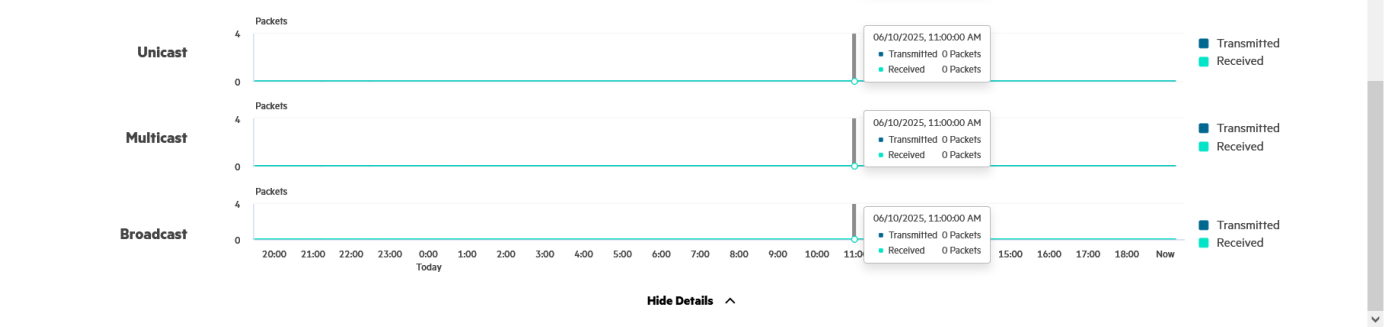
Checking the Hardware card



The connectivity Performance



You also get the unicast, Multicast and Broadcast levels.



You can also get the faceplate of the switch by selecting the Network planet

And then expanding it