

ServiceNow - ITAM

Asset Management




RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ASSETS, CIS


What is an Asset ?

An Asset represents a physical or logical item owned by the organization.

Asset tracks:

- Cost & depreciation
 - Vendor & purchase details
 - Warranty
 - Assignment (user / department)
 - Lifecycle (procure → in stock → in use → retired)
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Tables

- alm_asset (base table)
 - alm_hardware
 - alm_software
 - alm_license
- 


What is a CI ?

A CI represents anything that supports a business service and needs to be managed for availability, incidents, and changes.

CI tracks:

- Operational status
 - Relationships
 - Dependencies
 - Impact analysis
 - Monitoring
- 

Tables


- cmdb_ci (base table)
 - cmdb_ci_computer
 - cmdb_ci_server
 - cmdb_ci_network
 - cmdb_ci_application
- 

What is Configuration Management?


Configuration Management ensures:

- Accurate CI data
- Relationships between CIs
- Impact analysis during incidents & changes

It answers:

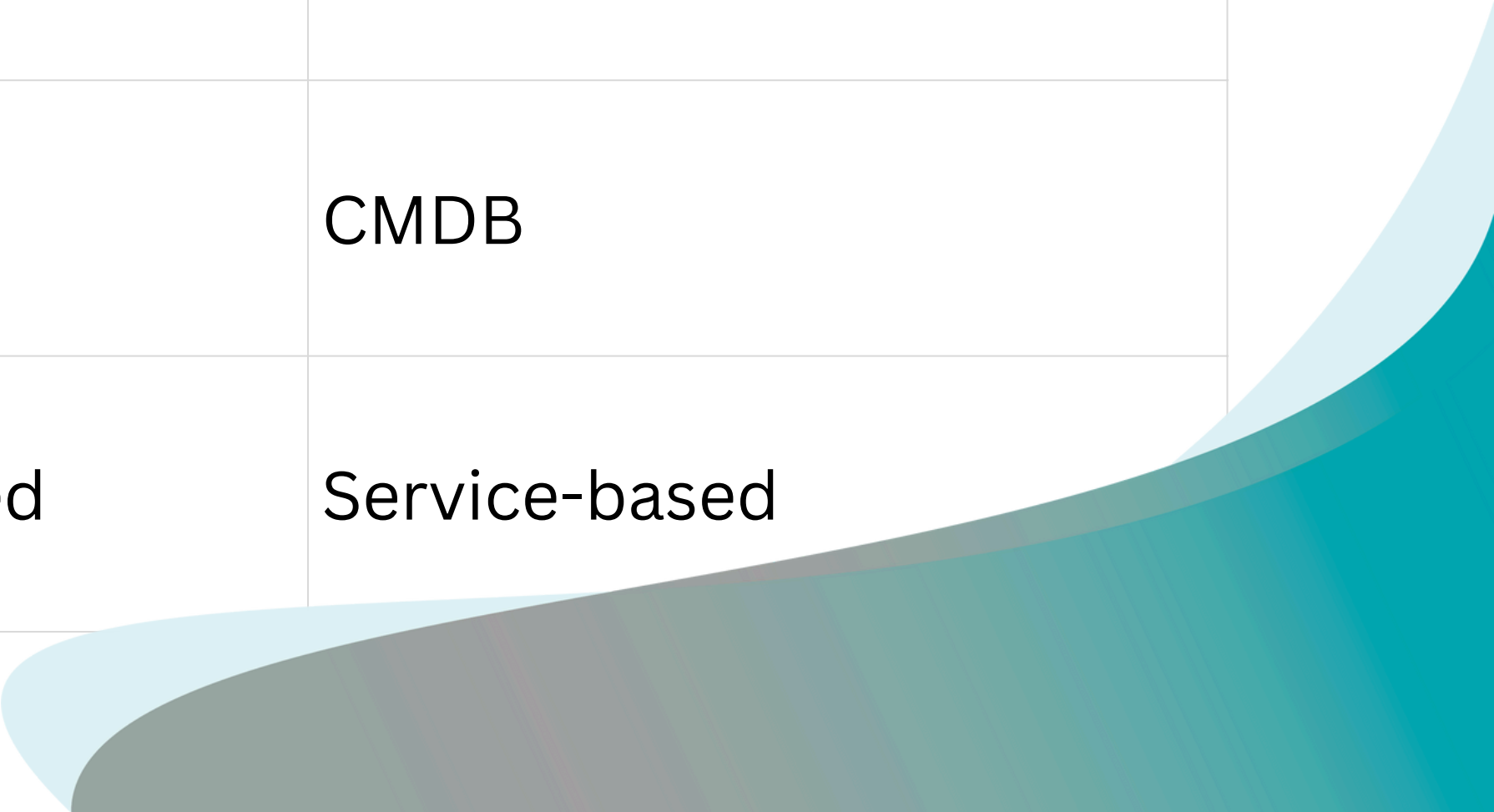
- What will break if this CI goes down?
 - Which services depend on this CI?
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Core components

- CMDB
 - Discovery
 - Service Mapping
 - Relationship tables
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Relationship Between Asset & CI

Aspect	Asset	CI
Focus	Financial	Operational
Tracks	Cost, warranty	Impact, dependencies
Module	ITAM	CMDB
Lifecycle	Procurement-based	Service-based



Real-Time Scenario

Laptop Use Case

Item	Asset View	CI View
Purchase	✓	✗
Cost & Warranty	✓	✗
User Assignment	✓	✓
Incident raised	✗	✓
Change impact	✗	✓
Monitoring	✗	✓

Same laptop, two perspectives.

How Incidents Use CIs

Incident Example:

User reports: “Laptop is slow”

- Incident links to CI
- CMDB checks:
 - Related software
 - Network dependencies
 - Past incidents
- ✗ Asset is not used for incident impact
- ✓ CI is mandatory for ITSM processes

Asset vs CI vs Configuration Management

Feature	Asset	CI	Configuration Mgmt
Financial tracking	✓	✗	✗
Operational tracking	✗	✓	✓
Incident impact	✗	✓	✓
Discovery	✗	✓	✓
Relationships	✗	✓	✓
ITAM	✓	✗	✗
ITSM	✗	✓	✓

Real Implementations

✓ Always create both Asset and CI for:

- Laptops
- Servers
- Network devices


✓ Ensure:

- Asset → CI link is maintained
- CI data is updated via Discovery
- Asset data is updated via Procurement

✗ Don't use Asset for incidents or changes

Interview / Exam One-Line Answer

Asset tracks ownership and cost, CI tracks service impact and relationships, and Configuration Management ensures CI accuracy and dependency mapping.



Thank you

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