

11.1 Purpose of the Control Plane

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The [Control Plane](#) supports operational coordination and observability. It allows [Nodes](#), scripts, test tools, and demonstration observers to exchange runtime status, commands, acknowledgements, and health-related information without mixing operational messages with business or financial data.

The Phase 0 Control Plane should help the team answer practical runtime questions:

1. Which Nodes started?
2. Which Nodes reached the Running state?
3. Which Nodes reported Degraded, Recovering, Failed, or Unknown status?
4. Which Nodes received commands?
5. Which Nodes responded to commands?
6. Which Nodes stopped cleanly?
7. Which logs and Evidence support the observed behavior?

The Control Plane should remain separate from the [Data Plane](#). Control Plane Topics should not carry FX transaction data, ACTUS computation results, cash-flow outputs, authorized release packages, or other domain payloads unless the architecture explicitly defines those messages as operational control information.

The Control Plane does not replace full operations management, orchestration, policy enforcement, security administration, or monitoring infrastructure. Phase 0 uses it to demonstrate basic distributed Node visibility and command handling.

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