

Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS High Availability and Redundancy Guide, Release 10.6(x)

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Preface

This preface includes the following sections:

- Reference Preface Map here, on page vii

Reference Preface Map here

Preface

Audience

This publication is for network administrators who install, configure, and maintain Cisco Nexus switches.

Document Conventions

Command descriptions use the following conventions:

Convention	Description
bold	Bold text indicates the commands and keywords that you enter literally as shown.
Italic	Italic text indicates arguments for which you supply the values.
[x]	Square brackets enclose an optional element (keyword or argument).
[x | y]	Square brackets enclosing keywords or arguments that are separated by a vertical bar indicate an optional choice.
{x | y}	Braces enclosing keywords or arguments that are separated by a vertical bar indicate a required choice.
[x {y | z}]	Nested set of square brackets or braces indicate optional or required choices within optional or required elements. Braces and a vertical bar within square brackets indicate a required choice within an optional element.
`variable`	Indicates a variable for which you supply values, in context where italics cannot be used.
string	A nonquoted set of characters. Do not use quotation marks around the string or the string includes the quotation marks.

Examples use the following conventions:

Convention	Description
`screen font`	Terminal sessions and information the switch displays are in screen font.
`boldface screen font`	Information that you must enter is in boldface screen font.
italic screen font	Arguments for which you supply values are in italic screen font.
< >	Nonprinting characters, such as passwords, are in angle brackets.
[ ]	Default responses to system prompts are in square brackets.
!, #	An exclamation point (!) or a pound sign (#) at the beginning of a line of code indicates a comment line.

Related Documentation for Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switches

The entire Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switch documentation set is available at the following URL:

https://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps13386/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

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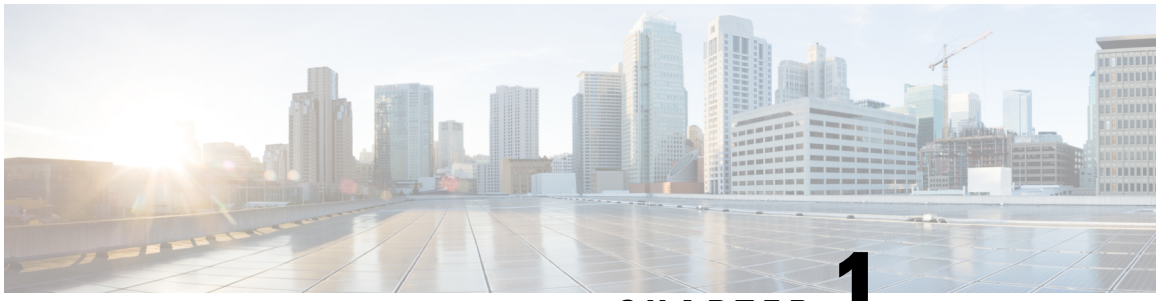
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CHAPTER 1

New and Changed Information

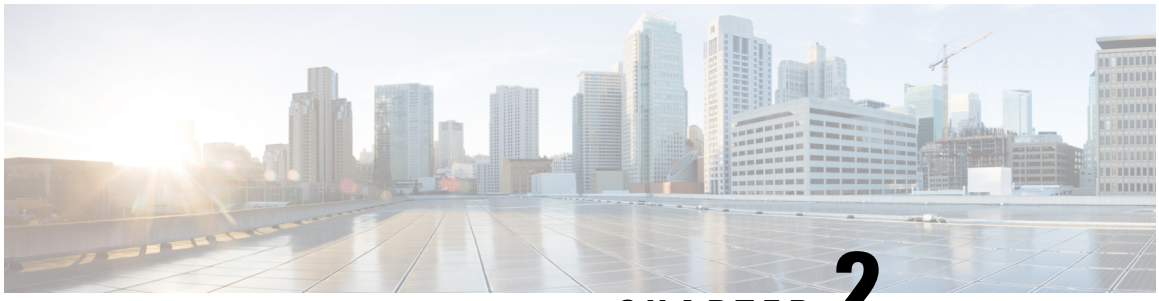
- New and Changed Information, on page 1

New and Changed Information

Table 1: New and Changed Features

Feature	Description	Changed in Release	Where Documented
Single PSU Mode	Introduced support for configuring Single PSU Mode, allowing the switch to operate with one active PSU in environments with external power redundancy.	10.6(1)F	Single PSU Mode, on page 23

New and Changed Information



CHAPTER 2

Overview

Cisco NX-OS is a resilient operating system that is specifically designed for high availability at the network, system, and process level.

This chapter describes high-availability (HA) concepts and features for Cisco NX-OS devices and includes the following sections:

- Licensing requirements, on page 3
- Supported platforms, on page 3
- About High Availability, on page 3
- Service-Level High Availability, on page 4
- System-Level High Availability, on page 4
- Network-Level High Availability, on page 7
- Additional Management Tools for Availability, on page 8
- Software Image, on page 8
- Virtual Device Contexts, on page 8

Licensing requirements

See the Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide and Cisco NX-OS Licensing Options Guide for Cisco NX-OS licensing recommendations and instructions to obtain and apply licenses.

Supported platforms

See the Nexus Switch Platform Support Matrix to know from which Cisco NX-OS releases various Cisco Nexus 9000 and 3000 switches support a selected feature.

About High Availability

To prevent or minimize traffic disruption during hardware or software failures, Cisco NX-OS has these features:

- Redundancy—Cisco NX-OS HA provides physical and software redundancy at every component level, spanning across the physical, environmental, power, and system software aspects of its architecture.

- Isolation of planes and processes—Cisco NX-OS HA provides isolation between control and data forwarding planes within the device and between software components so that a failure within one plane or process does not disrupt others.
- Restartability—Most system functions and services are isolated so that they can be restarted independently after a failure while other services continue to run. In addition, most system services can perform stateful restarts, which allow the service to resume operations transparently to other services.
- Supervisor stateful switchover—The Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, and 9516 chassis support an active and standby dual supervisor configuration. State and configuration remain constantly synchronized between the two supervisor modules to provide seamless and stateful switchover in the event of a supervisor module failure.
- Nondisruptive upgrades—Cisco NX-OS supports the in-service software upgrade (ISSU) feature, which allows you to upgrade the device software while the switch continues to forward traffic. ISSU reduces or eliminates the downtime typically caused by software upgrades.

Service-Level High Availability

Cisco NX-OS has a modularized architecture that compartmentalizes components for fault isolation, redundancy, and resource efficiency.

Isolation of Processes

In the Cisco NX-OS software, independent processes, known as services, perform a function or set of functions for a subsystem or feature set. Each service and service instance runs as an independent, protected process. This approach provides a highly fault-tolerant software infrastructure and fault isolation between services. A failure in a service instance (such as BGP) does not affect any other services that are running at that time (such as the Link Aggregation Control Protocol [LACP]). In addition, each instance of a service can run as an independent process, which means that two instances of a routing protocol (for example, two instances of the Open Shortest Path First [OSPF] protocol) can run as separate processes.

Process Restartability

Cisco NX-OS processes run in a protected memory space independently from each other and the kernel. This process isolation provides fault containment and enables rapid restarts. Process restartability ensures that process-level failures do not cause system-level failures. In addition, most services can perform stateful restarts, which allow a service that experiences a failure to be restarted and to resume operations transparently to other services within the platform and to neighboring devices within the network.

System-Level High Availability

The Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches are protected from system failure by redundant hardware components and a high-availability software framework.

Physical Redundancy

The Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches have the following physical redundancies:

- Power Supply Redundancy—To provide redundant power input to the chassis, the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches support the following number of power supply modules:

Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switches	Maximum Number of Supported Power Supply Modules
9200, 9300, 9300-EX, 9300-FX, 9300-FX2, and 9300-FXP platform switches	2
9504 switch	4
9508 switch	8
9516 switch	10

- Fan Tray Redundancy—For cooling the system, the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches support the following number of fan trays:

Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switches	Maximum Number of Supported Fan Trays
9272Q, 92304QC, and 93120TX switches	2
• 9336C-FX2 switch • 9348GC-FXP switch • 9364C switch • 9396PX/TX and 93128TX switches • 9504, 9508, and 9516 switches	3
• 9236C, 92160YC-X, and 92300YC switches • 9332PQ and 9372PX/PX-E/TX/TX-E switches • 9300-EX platform switches • 93108TC-FX and 93180YC-FX switches	4
C9332C switch	5
• N9K-C93360YC-FX2	3
• N9K-C9364C-GX	4
• N9K-C9316D-GX • N9K-C93600CD-GX	6
• N9K-C93180YC-FX3	4

- Fabric Redundancy—Cisco NX-OS provides switching fabric availability through redundant switch fabric modules. You can configure a single Cisco Nexus 9500 platform chassis with one to six switch fabric cards for capacity and redundancy.

Note The Cisco Nexus 9200, 9300, 9300-EX, and 9300-FX platform chassis do not have fabric modules.

- System Controller Redundancy—A pair of redundant system controllers in the Cisco Nexus 9500 platform chassis offloads chassis management functions from the supervisor modules. You can have two of the same type or you can mix as follows:

Active	Standby	Ok?
A	A	Yes
B	B	Yes
A	A+	Yes
B	B+	Yes
A	B	Not unless A is able to failover to B
B	A	Not unless A is able to failover to B
A+	B+	Not unless A+ is able to failover to B+
B+	A+	Not unless A+ is able to failover to B+

Note The Cisco Nexus 9200, and 9300, 9300-EX, and 9300-FX platform chassis do not contain system controllers.

Note Supervisor A and A+ are not supported on N9K-C950x-FM-R fabric modules.

- Supervisor Module Redundancy—The Cisco Nexus 9500 platform chassis support dual supervisor modules to provide redundancy for the control and management plane.

Note The Cisco Nexus 9200, 9300, 9300-EX, and 9300-FX platform chassis do not support supervisor module redundancy.

ISSU

Cisco NX-OS allows you to perform an in-service software upgrade (ISSU), which is also known as a nondisruptive upgrade. The modular software architecture of Cisco NX-OS supports plug-in-based services and features, which allow you to perform complete image upgrades of supervisors and switching modules with little to no impact on other modules. Because of this design, you can upgrade Cisco NX-OS nondisruptively with no impact to the data forwarding plane and allow for nonstop forwarding during a software upgrade, even between full image versions.

Note ISSU feature is disruptive on any chassis with the fabric modules N9K-C95xx-FM-Ex and N9K-C950x-FM-R.

Network-Level High Availability

Network convergence is optimized by providing tools and functions to make both failover and fallback transparent and fast.

Layer 2 HA Features

Cisco NX-OS provides these Layer 2 HA features:

- Spanning Tree Protocol (STP) enhancements, such as Bridge Protocol Data Unit (BPDU) Guard, Loop Guard, Root Guard, BPDU Filters, and Bridge Assurance, to guarantee the health of the STP control plane
- Unidirectional Link Detection (UDLD) Protocol
- IEEE 802.3ad link aggregation

Note Virtual port channels (vPCs) allow you to create redundant physical links between two systems that act as a logical single link.

Layer 3 HA Features

Cisco NX-OS provides these Layer 3 HA features:

- Nonstop forwarding (NSF) graceful restart extensions for routing protocols

  Open Shortest Path First version 2 (OSPFv2), OSPFv3, Intermediate System to Intermediate System (IS-IS), Enhanced Interior Gateway Routing Protocol (EIGRP), and Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) utilize graceful restart extensions to the base protocols to provide nonstop forwarding and least obtrusive routing recovery for those environments.
- Shortest Path First (SPF) optimizations such as link-state advertisement (LSA) pacing and incremental SPF
- Protocol-based periodic refresh

- Millisecond timers for First-Hop Redundancy Protocols (FHRPs) such as the Hot Standby Router Protocol (HSRP) and the Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol (VRRP)

Note For more information on these Layer 3 routing protocols, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configuration Guide.

Additional Management Tools for Availability

Cisco NX-OS incorporates several Cisco system management tools for monitoring and notification of system availability events.

EEM

Cisco Embedded Event Manager (EEM) consists of Event Detectors, the Event Manager, and an Event Manager Policy Engine. Using EEM, you can define policies to take specific actions when the system software recognizes certain events through the Event Detectors. The result is a flexible set of tools to automate many network management tasks and to direct the operation of Cisco NX-OS to increase availability, collect information, and notify external systems or personnel about critical events.

For information about configuring EEM, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS System Management Configuration Guide.

Smart Call Home

Combining Cisco GOLD and Cisco EEM capabilities, Smart Call Home provides an e-mail-based notification of critical system events. Smart Call Home has message formats that are compatible with pager services, standard e-mail, or XML-based automated parsing applications. You can use this feature to page a network support engineer, e-mail a network operations center, or use Cisco Smart Call Home services to automatically generate a case with Cisco's Technical Assistance Center (TAC).

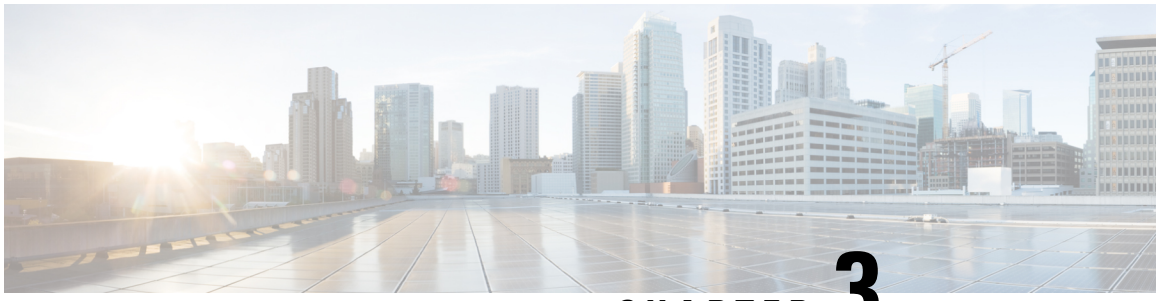
For information about configuring Smart Call Home, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS System Management Configuration Guide.

Software Image

The Cisco NX-OS software consists of one NXOS software image.

Virtual Device Contexts

Cisco NX-OS can segment operating system and hardware resources into virtual device contexts (VDCs) that emulate virtual devices. The Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches currently do not support multiple VDCs. All switch resources are managed in the default VDC.



CHAPTER 3

Service-Level High Availability

This chapter describes the Cisco NX-OS service restartability for service-level high availability (HA) and includes the following sections:

- About Cisco NX-OS Service Restarts, on page 9
- Restartability Infrastructure, on page 10
- Process Restartability, on page 12
- Restarts on Standby Supervisor Services, on page 13
- Restarts on Switching Module Services, on page 14
- Troubleshooting Restarts, on page 14
- Additional References for Service-Level High Availability, on page 14

About Cisco NX-OS Service Restarts

The Cisco NX-OS service restart features allow you to restart a faulty service without restarting the supervisor to prevent process-level failures from causing system-level failures. You can restart a service depending on current errors, failure circumstances, and the high-availability policy for the service. A service can undergo either a stateful or stateless restart. Cisco NX-OS allows services to store run-time state information and messages for a stateful restart. In a stateful restart, the service can retrieve this stored state information and resume operations from the last checkpoint service state. In a stateless restart, the service can initialize and run as if it had just been started with no prior state.

Not all services are designed for a stateful restart. For example, Cisco NX-OS does not store run-time state information for Layer 3 routing protocols (such as Open Shortest Path First [OSPF] and Routing Information Protocol [RIP]). Their configuration settings are preserved across a restart, but these protocols are designed to rebuild their operational state using information obtained from neighbor routers.

Note This chapter refers to processes and services interchangeably. A process is considered to be a running instance of a service.

Restartability Infrastructure

Cisco NX-OS allows stateful restarts of most processes and services. Back-end management and orchestration of processes, services, and applications within a platform are handled by a set of high-level system-control services.

System Manager

The System Manager directs overall system function, service management, and system health monitoring and enforces high-availability policies. The System Manager is responsible for launching, stopping, monitoring, and restarting services as well as initiating and managing the synchronization of service states and supervisor states for a stateful switchover.

Persistent Storage Service

Cisco NX-OS services use the persistent storage service (PSS) to store and manage the operational run-time information. The PSS component works with system services to recover states in the event of a service restart. PSS functions as a database of state and run-time information, which allows services to make a checkpoint of their state information whenever needed. A restarting service can recover the last known operating state that preceded a failure, which allows for a stateful restart.

Each service that uses PSS can define its stored information as private (it can be read only by that service) or shared (the information can be read by other services). If the information is shared, the service can specify that it is local (the information can be read only by services on the same supervisor) or global (it can be read by services on either supervisor or on modules). For example, if the PSS information of a service is defined as shared and global, services on other modules can synchronize with the PSS information of the service that runs on the active supervisor.

Message and Transaction Service

The message and transaction service (MTS) is a high-performance interprocess communications (IPC) message broker that specializes in high-availability semantics. MTS handles message routing and queuing between services on and across modules and between supervisors. MTS facilitates the exchange of messages such as event notification, synchronization, and message persistency between system services and system components. MTS can maintain persistent messages and logged messages in queues for access even after a service restart.

Configuring MTS Latency Threshold

Beginning with Cisco NX-OS Release 10.5(2)F, you can configure MTS latency threshold for a service access point (SAP) or range of SAPs. NX-OS uses SAP to send and receive messages and this feature helps users to identify any delay in message processing. This feature allows users to configure the threshold value in milliseconds. NX-OS logs the instance when the delay crosses the threshold value. This feature is supported on all N9K platform.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **configure terminal**
2. **[no] mts latency threshold {{sup | lc} [sap** <*range-of-sap*> **]** <*threshold-value-in-msecs*>**}**

3. **[no] mts latency threshold** <*log syslog*>

DETAILED STEPS

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose

Step 1	**configure terminal**
	Example:
	`switch# configure terminal`
	`switch(config)#`
		Enters global configuration mode.

Step 2	**[no] mts latency threshold {{sup | lc} [sap** <*range-of-sap*> **]** <*threshold-value-in-msecs*>**}** **Example:** `switch(config)# configure terminal`	Configures MTS latency threshold for a service access point (SAP) or range of SAPs. Range is 2-2047 and there is no default value per SAP. The **no** form of this command will restore the value to global default or removes the SAP specific threshold. The default restore value is 300000 milliseconds or 5 minutes. • **sup**-Applies the threshold to the SUP logical node. • **lc**-Applies the threshold to line card logical node on all physical slots.
Step 3	**[no] mts latency threshold** <*log syslog*> **Example:** `switch(config)# mts latency threshold log syslog`	Enables logging the delays to the syslog. This configuration is a global configuration and applies to all the SAP and loges delays that are above the configured threshold. The **no** form of this command deletes the configuration.

HA Policies

Cisco NX-OS allows each service to have an associated set of internal HA policies that define how a failed service is restarted. Each service can have four defined policies—a primary and secondary policy when two supervisors are present and a primary and secondary policy when only one supervisor is present. If no HA policy is defined for a service, the default HA policy to be performed upon a service failure is a switchover if two supervisors are present or a supervisor reset if only one supervisor is present.

Each HA policy specifies three parameters:

- Action to be performed by the System Manager:
  - Stateful restart
  - Stateless restart
  - Supervisor switchover (or restart)
- Maximum retries—Specifies the number of restart attempts to be performed by the System Manager. If the service has not restarted successfully after this number of attempts, the HA policy is considered to

have failed, and the next HA policy is used. If no other HA policy exists, the default policy is applied, resulting in a supervisor switchover or restart.

- Minimum lifetime—Specifies the time that a service must run after a restart attempt to consider the restart attempt as successful. The minimum lifetime is no less than 4 minutes.

Process Restartability

Process restartability ensures that a failed service can recover and resume operations without disrupting the data plane or other services. Depending on the service HA policies, previous restart failures, and the health of other services running on the same supervisor, the System Manager determines the action to be taken when a service fails.

The action taken by the System Manager for various failure conditions is described in the following table.

Table 2: System Manager Action for Various Failure Cases

Failure	
Service/process exception	Service restart
Service/process crash	Service restart
Unresponsive service/process	Service restart
Repeated service failure	Supervisor reset (single) or switchover (dual)
Unresponsive System Manager	Supervisor reset (single) or switchover (dual)
Supervisor hardware failure	Supervisor reset (single) or switchover (dual)
Kernel failure	Supervisor reset (single) or switchover (dual)
Watchdog timeout	Supervisor reset (single) or switchover (dual)

Types of Process Restarts

A failed service is restarted by one of the methods described in this section, depending on the service's HA implementation and HA policies,

Stateful Restarts

When a restartable service fails, it is restarted on the same supervisor. If the new instance of the service determines that the previous instance was abnormally terminated by the operating system, the service then determines whether a persistent context exists. The initialization of the new instance attempts to read the persistent context to build a run-time context that makes the new instance appear like the previous one. After the initialization is complete, the service resumes the tasks that it was performing when it stopped. During the restart and initialization of the new instance, other services are unaware of the service failure. Any messages that are sent by other services to the failed service are available from the MTS when the service resumes.

Whether or not the new instance survives the stateful initialization depends on the cause of failure of the previous instance. If the service is unable to survive a few subsequent restart attempts, the restart is considered

as failed. In this case, the System Manager performs the action specified by the HA policy of the services, forcing either a stateless restart, no restart, or a supervisor switchover or reset.

During a successful stateful restart, there is no delay while the system reaches a consistent state. Stateful restarts reduce the system recovery time after a failure.

The events before, during, and after a stateful restart are as follows:

1. The running services make a checkpoint of their run-time state information to the PSS.
2. The System Manager monitors the health of the running services that use heartbeats.
3. The System Manager restarts a service instantly when it crashes or hangs.
4. After restarting, the service recovers its state information from the PSS and resumes all pending transactions.
5. If the service does not resume a stable operation after multiple restarts, the System Manager initiates a reset or switchover of the supervisor.
6. Cisco NX-OS collects the process stack and core for debugging purposes with an option to transfer core files to a remote location.

When a stateful restart occurs, Cisco NX-OS sends a syslog message of level LOG_ERR. If SNMP traps are enabled, the SNMP agent sends a trap. If the Smart Call Home service is enabled, the service sends an event message.

Stateless Restarts

Cisco NX-OS infrastructure components manage stateless restarts. During a stateless restart, the System Manager identifies the failed process and replaces it with a new process. The service that failed does not maintain its run-time state upon the restart. The service can either build the run-time state from the running configuration or if necessary, exchange information with other services to build a run-time state.

When a stateless restart occurs, Cisco NX-OS sends a syslog message of level LOG_ERR. If SNMP traps are enabled, the SNMP agent sends a trap. If the Smart Call Home service is enabled, the service sends an event message.

Switchovers

If a standby supervisor is available, Cisco NX-OS performs a supervisor switchover rather than a supervisor restart whenever multiple failures occur at the same time, because these cases are considered unrecoverable on the same supervisor. For example, if more than one HA application fails, that is considered an unrecoverable failure.

Restarts on Standby Supervisor Services

When a service fails on a supervisor that is in the standby state, the System Manager does not apply the HA policies and restarts the service after a delay of 30 seconds. The delay ensures that the active supervisor is not overloaded by repeated standby service failures and synchronizations. If the service being restarted requires synchronization with a service on the active supervisor, the standby supervisor is taken out of hot standby mode until the service is restarted and synchronized. Services that are not restartable cause the standby supervisor to reset.

When a standby service restart occurs, Cisco NX-OS sends a syslog message of level LOG_ERR. If SNMP traps are enabled, the SNMP agent sends a trap. If the Smart Call Home service is enabled, the service sends an event message.

Restarts on Switching Module Services

When services fail on a switching module or another nonsupervisor module, the recovery action is determined by HA policies for those services. Because service failures on nonsupervisor module services do not require a supervisor switchover, the recovery options are a stateful restart, a stateless restart, or a module reset. If the module is capable of a nondisruptive upgrade, it is also capable of a nondisruptive restart.

When a nonsupervisor module service restart occurs, Cisco NX-OS sends a syslog message of level LOG_ERR. If SNMP traps are enabled, the SNMP agent sends a trap. If the Smart Call Home service is enabled, the service sends an event message.

Troubleshooting Restarts

When a service fails, the system generates information that can be used to determine the cause of the failure. The following sources of information are available:

- Every service restart generates a syslog message of level LOG_ERR.
- If the Smart Call Home service is enabled, every service restart generates a Smart Call Home event.
- If SNMP traps are enabled, the SNMP agent sends a trap when a service is restarted.
- When a service failure occurs on a local module, you can view a log of the event by entering the **show processes log** command in that module. The process logs are persistent across supervisor switchovers and resets.
- When a service fails, a system core image file is generated. You can view recent core images by using the **show cores** command on the active supervisor. Core files are not persistent across supervisor switchovers and resets, but you can configure the system to export core files to an external server by using a file transfer utility such as the Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP).
- CISCO-SYSTEM-EXT-MIB contains a table for cores (cseSwCoresTable).

For information on collecting and using the generated information relating to service failures, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Troubleshooting Guide.

Additional References for Service-Level High Availability

This section describes additional information related to service-level high availability.

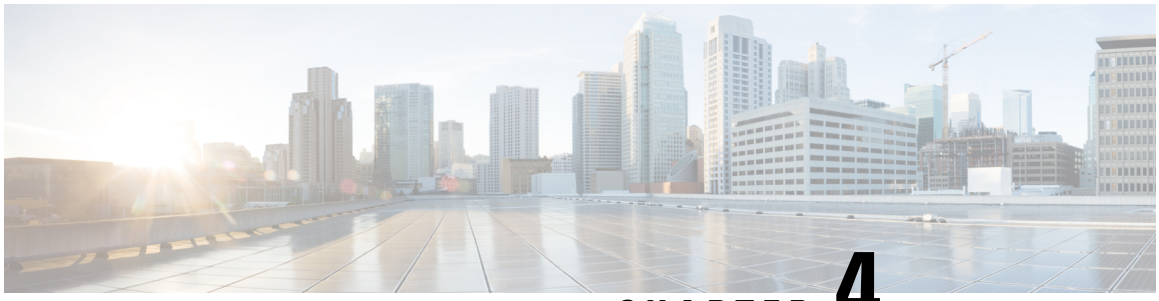
Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Troubleshooting	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Troubleshooting Guide

Related Topic	Document Title
Cisco NX-OS fundamentals	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Fundamentals Configur
Licensing	Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
MIBs related to service-level high availability	For more information about MIBs and to download MIBs f MIBs link, refer to Cisco Nexus 7000 Series and 9000 Se MIB Quick Reference.



CHAPTER 4

Network-Level High Availability

This chapter describes Cisco NX-OS network high availability (HA) and includes the following sections:

- About Network-Level High Availability, on page 17
- Spanning Tree Protocol, on page 17
- Virtual Port Channels, on page 18
- First-Hop Redundancy Protocols, on page 18
- Nonstop Forwarding in Routing Protocols, on page 19
- Additional References for Network-Level High Availability, on page 20

About Network-Level High Availability

Network-level HA is optimized by tools and functionality that provide failovers and fallbacks transparently and quickly. The features described in this chapter ensure high availability at the network level.

Spanning Tree Protocol



Note The Spanning Tree Protocol (STP) refers to IEEE 802.1w and IEEE 802.1s. If this publication is referring to the IEEE 802.1D STP, 802.1D is stated specifically.

When you create fault-tolerant internetworks, you must have a loop-free path between all nodes in a network. Multiple active paths between end stations cause loops in the network that result in network devices learning end station MAC addresses on multiple Layer 2 LAN ports. This condition can result in a broadcast storm, which creates an unstable network.

STP provides a loop-free network at the Layer 2 level. Layer 2 LAN ports send and receive STP frames, which are called Bridge Protocol Data Units (BPDUs), at regular intervals. Network devices do not forward these frames but use the frames to determine the network topology and to construct a loop-free path within that topology. Using the spanning tree topology, STP forces redundant data paths into a blocked state. If a network segment in the spanning tree fails and a redundant path exists, the STP algorithm recalculates the spanning tree topology and activates the blocked path.

Cisco NX-OS also supports the Multiple Spanning Tree Protocol (MSTP). The multiple independent spanning tree topology enabled by MSTP provides multiple forwarding paths for data traffic, enables load balancing, and reduces the number of STP instances required to support a large number of VLANs.

MST incorporates the Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (RSTP), which allows rapid convergence. MST improves the fault tolerance of the network because a failure in one instance (forwarding path) does not affect other instances (forwarding paths).



Note You can configure spanning tree parameters only on Layer 2 interfaces; a spanning tree configuration is not allowed on a Layer 3 interface. For information on creating Layer 2 interfaces, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Interfaces Configuration Guide.

For details about STP behavior and configuration, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Layer 2 Switching Configuration Guide.

Virtual Port Channels

The major limitation in classic port channel communication is that the port channel operates only between two devices. In large networks, the support of multiple devices together is often a design requirement to provide some form of hardware failure alternate path. This alternate path is often connected in a way that would cause a loop, limiting the benefits gained with port channel technology to a single path. To address this limitation, Cisco NX-OS provides a technology called virtual port channel (vPC). Although a pair of switches acting as a vPC peer endpoint looks like a single logical entity to port channel-attached devices, the two devices that act as the logical port channel endpoint are still two separate devices. This environment combines the benefits of hardware redundancy with the benefits of port channel loop management.



Note On Cisco N9300 Series Smart Switches with service-acceleration and high availability (HA) enabled, vPC port-channel activation depends on the readiness of the service-acceleration feature. If the Data Processing Units (DPUs) are not ready or HA flowsync is in progress, the port-channel will remain in the down state, regardless of the vPC configuration status. In this situation, the port-channel status displays the reason code "suspended by service-acceleration" or "suspndBySAS" in show command outputs. This behavior does not impact orphan or non-vPC interfaces.

For more information on vPCs, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Interfaces Configuration Guide.

First-Hop Redundancy Protocols

Within a group of two or more routers, first-hop redundancy protocols (FHRPs) allow a transparent failover of the first-hop IP router. Cisco NX-OS supports the following FHRPs:

- Hot Standby Router Protocol (HSRP)—HSRP provides first-hop routing redundancy for IP hosts on Ethernet networks configured with a default gateway IP address. An HSRP router group of two or more routers chooses an active gateway and a standby gateway. The active gateway routes packets while the standby gateway remains idle until the active gateway fails or when preset conditions are met.

Many host implementations do not support any dynamic router discovery mechanisms but can be configured with a default router. Running a dynamic router discovery mechanism on every host is not feasible for a number of reasons, including administrative overhead, processing overhead, and security issues. HSRP provides failover services to these hosts.

- Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol (VRRP)—VRRP dynamically assigns responsibility for one or more virtual routers to the VRRP routers on a LAN, which allows several routers on a multi-access link to use the same virtual IP address. A VRRP router is configured to run VRRP with one or more other routers attached to a LAN. One router is elected as the primary virtual router , while the other routers act as backups if the primary virtual router fails.

For configuration details about FHRPs, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configuration Guide.

Nonstop Forwarding in Routing Protocols

Cisco NX-OS provides a multilevel high-availability architecture. Open Shortest Path First version 2 (OSPFv2) supports stateful restart, which is also referred to as nonstop routing (NSR). If OSPFv2 experiences problems, it attempts to restart from its previous runtime state. The neighbors would not register any neighbor event in this case.

If the first restart is not successful and another problem occurs, OSPFv2 attempts a graceful restart. A graceful restart, or nonstop forwarding (NSF), allows OSPFv2 to remain in the data forwarding path through a process restart. When OSPFv2 needs to do a graceful restart, it first sends a link-local opaque (type 9) link-state advertisement (LSA), called a grace LSA. (For more information about opaque LSAs, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configuration Guide.) The restarting of the OSPFv2 platform is called NSF capable. The grace LSA includes a grace period, which is a specified time that the neighbor OSPFv2 interfaces hold onto the LSAs from the restarting OSPFv2 interface. (Typically, OSPFv2 tears down the adjacency and discards all LSAs from a down or restarting OSPFv2 interface.) The participating neighbors, which are called NSF helpers, keep all LSAs that originate from the restarting OSPFv2 interface as if the interface were still adjacent. When the restarting OSPFv2 interface is operational again, it rediscovers its neighbors, establishes adjacency, and starts sending its LSA updates again. At this point, the NSF helpers recognize that graceful restart has finished.

Scenarios where a stateful restart is used:

- First recovery attempt after a process experiences problems.
- ISSU
- User-initiated switchover using the **system switchover** command.
- Active supervisor removal.
- Active supervisor reload using the **reload module** *active-sup* command.

Scenarios where graceful restart is used:

- Second recovery attempt after a process experiences problems within a 4-minute interval.
- Manual restart of the process using the **restart** {**ospfv3** | **ospf** } command.

Note For more information on nonstop routing in routing protocols, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configuration Guide.

Additional References for Network-Level High Availability

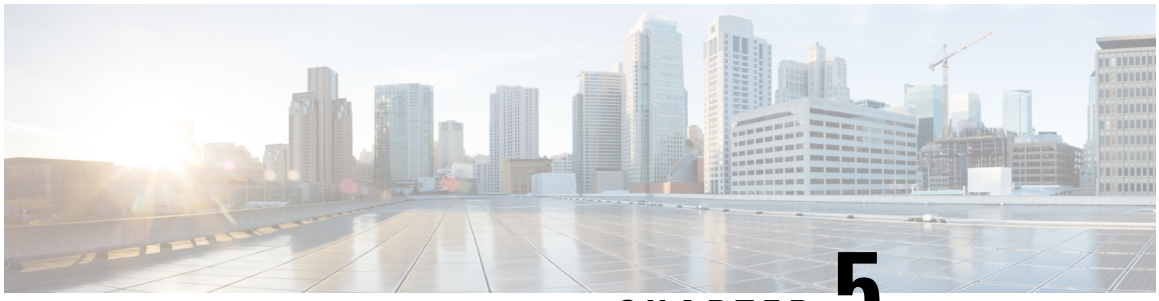
This section describes additional information related to network-level high availability.

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Graceful restart	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configurat
In-service software upgrades (ISSU)	ISSU and High Availability Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Software Upgrade and Dow Guide
Licensing	Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
MIBs related to network-level high availability	For more information about MIBs and to download MIBs from MIBs link, refer to Cisco Nexus 7000 Series and 9000 Series MIB Quick Reference.



CHAPTER 5

System-Level High Availability

This chapter describes the Cisco NX-OS high availability (HA) system and application restart operations and includes the following sections:

- About Cisco NX-OS System-Level High Availability, on page 21
- Physical Redundancy, on page 22
- Fabric Module and Line Card Compatibility, on page 29
- Supervisor Restarts and Switchovers, on page 29
- Displaying HA Status Information, on page 36
- Additional References for System-Level High Availability, on page 37

About Cisco NX-OS System-Level High Availability

Cisco NX-OS system-level HA mitigates the impact of hardware or software failures and is supported by the following features:

- Redundant hardware components:
  - Power supply
  - Fan tray (Cisco Nexus 9500 and 9800 platforms only) or modules (Cisco Nexus 9200/9300/9300-EX/9300-FX/9800-LCs)
  - Switch fabric (Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, and 9516 chassis only; also, Cisco Nexus 9800)
  - System controller (Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, and 9516 chassis only)
  - Supervisor (Cisco Nexus 9808, 9504, 9508, and 9516 chassis only)

    For details about physical requirements and redundant hardware components, see the Hardware Installation Guide for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis.

- HA software features:
  - In-service software upgrades (ISSU)—For details about configuring and performing nondisruptive upgrades, see ISSU and High Availability and the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Software Upgrade and Downgrade Guide.
  - Nonstop forwarding (NSF)—For details about nonstop forwarding, also known as graceful restart, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configuration Guide.

- Embedded Event Manager (EEM)—For details about configuring EEM, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS System Management Configuration Guide.
- Smart Call Home—For details about configuring Smart Call Home, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS System Management Configuration Guide.

Physical Redundancy

The Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, 9516, and 9800 chassis include the following physical redundancies:

- Power supply
- Fan tray
- Switch fabric
- System controller (Cisco Nexus 9800 does not require a System controller)
- Supervisor module

The Cisco Nexus 9200, 9300, 9300-EX, and 9300-FX platform switches include the following physical redundancies:

- Power supply
- Fan tray

For additional details about physical redundancies, see the Hardware Installation Guide for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis.

Power Supply Redundancy

The Cisco Nexus N9K-C9348GC-FXP chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 350 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 350 W).

The Cisco Nexus N9K-C93360YC-FX2 chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 1200 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W).

Cisco Nexus N9K-C9316D-GX and Cisco Nexus N9K-C93600CD-GX chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 1100 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 1100 W).

The Cisco Nexus 9336C-FX2 and the Cisco Nexus 93240YC-FX2 chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 1100 W).

The Cisco Nexus C9364C chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 1200 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W).

The Cisco Nexus 92300YC chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 650 W) or two HVDC universal power supplies (each delivering up to 1200 W).

The Cisco Nexus 9272Q chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules, each delivering up to 1200 W, and the Cisco Nexus 9236C, 92160YC-X, and 92304QC chassis support up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 650 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W).

The Cisco Nexus 93120TX and 93128TX chassis support up to two AC power supplies (each delivering up to 1200 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W).

The Cisco Nexus 9332PQ, 9372PX/TX/TX-E, and 9396PX/TX chassis support up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 650 W) or two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W).

The Cisco Nexus 9348GC-FXP chassis supports up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 350 W).



Note **Syslog Behavior for Power Supply Events on Cisco Nexus N9K-C9348GC-FXP:** On this platform, if power is disconnected from a power supply unit (PSU), the system logs a message stating "Power supply <n> removed," even though the PSU is still inserted. When the PSU is physically removed from the chassis, no syslog message is generated. This behavior is due to the hardware design, where the PSU's SPROM is not readable when power is disconnected, and may differ from other Cisco Nexus platforms.

The Cisco Nexus 93108TC-EX and 93180YC-EX chassis support up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 650 W), two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W), or two HVAC/HVDC universal power supplies (each delivering up to 1200 W).

The Cisco Nexus 93108TC-FX, and 93180YC-FX chassis support up to two AC power supply modules (each delivering up to 500 W), two DC power supplies (each delivering up to 930 W), or two HVAC/HVDC universal power supplies (each delivering up to 1200 W).

The Cisco Nexus 9504 chassis supports up to four power supply modules, the Cisco Nexus 9508 chassis supports up to eight power supply modules, and the Cisco Nexus 9516 chassis supports up to ten power supply modules. Each 9500 platform AC or DC power supply module can deliver up to 3 kW.



Note A replacement power supply must have the same wattage and airflow direction as the power supply being replaced. Do not mix AC, DC, or HVAC/HVDC power supplies in the same switch.

The power subsystem allows the power supplies to be configured in one of the available redundancy modes. By installing more modules, you can ensure that the failure of one module does not disrupt system operations. You can replace the failed module while the system is operating. For information on power supply module installation and replacement, see the *Hardware Installation Guide* for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis.

Single PSU Mode

Starting with NX-OS Release 10.6(1)F, you can configure Single PSU Mode on specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches.

Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches are designed to use multiple PSUs for power redundancy by default. If one PSU fails, the other PSU(s) take over. By enabling Single PSU Mode, you configure the switch to function using only one active PSU.

This feature is designed for specific environments, where external power redundancy mechanisms are in place.

Supported Switch and PSU

You can configure Single PSU Mode on certain Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches.

The supported Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches are:

- N9K-C9336C-FX2
- N9K-C9348GC-FXP
- N9K-C9332D-GX2B

Chassis LED behavior

LED	Color	Status
ENV	Green	**Single PSU mode enabled:** Fans and power supply modules are operational in normal mode. Solid Green indicates Single PSU mode is enabled.
	Amber	**Single PSU mode disabled:** At least one fan or power supply module is not operating.

Configuring Single PSU Mode

Single PSU Mode is *not* enabled by default. It must be explicitly enabled through the CLI command.

Procedure

Step 1 To enable Single PSU Mode

Example:

```
switch(config)# hardware psu mode single
```

Step 2 To disable Single PSU Mode

Example:

```
switch(config)# no hardware psu mode single
```

Power Modes

Each of the power redundancy modes imposes different power budgeting and allocation models, which deliver varying usable power yields and capacities. For more information about power budgeting, usable capacity, planning requirements, and redundancy configuration, see the Hardware Installation Guide for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis.

The available power supply redundancy modes are described in the following table.

Table 3: Power Redundancy Modes

Redundancy Mode	Description
Combined (nonredundant)	This mode does not provide power redundancy. The available power is the total power capacity of all power supplies.
insrc-redundant (grid redundancy)	This mode provides grid redundancy when you connect half of the power supplies to one grid and the other half of the power supplies to the second grid. The available power is the amount of power available through a grid. To enable grid redundancy, you must connect the power supplies to the correct power grid slots. For example, on the Cisco Nexus 9508 switch, slots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are in grid A, and slots 5, 6, 7, and 8 are in grid B. To configure and operate in grid redundancy mode, you must connect half of your power supplies to the slots in grid A and the rest of your power supplies to the slots in grid B. For more information on power grid slot assignments for your power supplies, see the Hardware Installation Guide for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series platform.
ps-redundant (N+1 redundancy)	This mode provides an extra power supply if an active power supply goes down. One power supply of all the available power supplies is considered an extra power supply, and the total available power is the amount provided by the active power supply units.

Use the **power redundancy-mode** {**combined** | **insrc_redundant** | **ps-redundant**} command to specify one of these power modes.

Fan Tray Redundancy

The Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches contain redundant system fan trays for cooling the system. For the number of supported fan trays per chassis, see Physical Redundancy, on page 5.

The fan speeds are variable and depend on the temperature of the ASICs in the system. If fans are removed or go bad, the other fan modules can start running at a higher speed to compensate for the missing or failed fans. If the system temperature increases above the thresholds, the system shuts down.

- If a single fan fails within a fan tray, the fan speed of the other fans in the tray does not increase.
- If multiple fans fail within a fan tray, the fan speed increases to 100% on all the fan trays.
- If an entire fan tray is removed, the fan speed for the other two fan trays increases to 100% as soon as the tray is removed.
- If multiple fan trays are removed and not replaced within 2 minutes, the device will shut down. The switch can be recovered by power cycle. When the device comes back, if it still detects the multiple fan tray failure, it will shut down again after 2 minutes. If required, you can use EEM to overwrite this policy.

- If a fan tray fails, leave the failed unit in place to ensure proper airflow until you can replace it. The fan trays are hot swappable, but you must replace one fan tray at a time. Otherwise, the device reboots after 2 minutes if multiple fan trays are missing.



Note There is no time limit for replacing a single fan tray, but to ensure proper airflow, replace the fan tray as soon as possible.

Switch Fabric Redundancy

Cisco NX-OS provides switching fabric availability through redundant switch fabric module implementation. You can configure a single Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, or 9516 chassis with one to six switch fabric modules for capacity and redundancy or you can configure or Cisco Nexus 9800 with one to eight switch fabric modules for capacity and redundancy. Each line card installed in the system automatically connects to and uses all functionally of the installed switch fabric modules. A failure of a switch fabric module triggers an automatic reallocation and balancing of traffic across the remaining active switch fabric modules. Replacing the failed fabric module reverses this process. After you insert the replacement fabric module and bring it online, traffic is again redistributed across all installed fabric modules and redundancy is restored.

Fabric modules are hot swappable. Hot swapping can temporarily disrupt traffic. To prevent the disruption of traffic when you hot-swap fabric modules, use the **poweroff module** *slot-number* command before you remove a fabric module and the **no poweroff module** *slot-number* command after you reinsert the fabric module.

X9400 line cards: To achieve the maximum bandwidth allowed per card requires four fabric modules (N9K-C95xx-FM-S for the N9K-X9432C-S or N9K-C95xx-FM for the other X9400 line cards) in four fabric module slots (FM2, FM3, FM4, and FM6). Additional fabric modules will not provide additional redundancy for these line cards.

X9500 line cards: To achieve the maximum bandwidth allowed per card requires three fabric modules (N9K-C95xx-FM) in the even fabric module slots (FM2, FM4, and FM6). Additional fabric modules will provide additional redundancy for these line cards. Each even fabric module provides redundancy for each odd fabric module failure (FM2 provides redundancy for FM1, FM4 provides redundancy for FM3, and FM6 provides redundancy for FM5).

X9600 line cards: The maximum bandwidth allowed per card requires six fabric modules (N9K-C95xx-FM).

X9600-R line cards: The maximum bandwidth allowed per N9K-X9636C-R requires five fabric modules (N9K-C95xx-FM-R), and the maximum bandwidth allowed per N9K-X9636Q-R requires four fabric modules (N9K-C95xx-FM-R). Additional fabric modules will provide additional redundancy for these line cards. The maximum bandwidth allowed per N9K-X96136YC-R line card requires six N9K-C9504-FM-R fabric modules for redundancy. The maximum bandwidth allowed per N9K-X9636C-R (P-100) requires 5 fabric modules. The maximum bandwidth allowed per N9K-X9636-RX requires 6 fabric modules for redundancy.

X9700-FX line cards: The maximum bandwidth allowed per N9K-X9788TC-FX requires 2 fabric modules. N9K-X9732C-FX is redundant with 5 fabric modules (the fabric modules can be either 95xx-FM-E or 95xx-FM-E2). N9K-X9736C-FX requires 5 fabric modules for maximum bandwidth. N9K-X9736C-FX is not redundant with additional fabric modules (the fabric modules can be either 95xx-FM-E or 95xx-FM-E2). Fabric Module 25 is the fifth fabric module for both N9K-X9732C-FX and N9K-X9736C-FX. FM25 will be powered down if there are any EX linecards in the chassis.

Note To achieve Fabric module redundancy, N9k-9732C-FX should not be mixed with any older modules. If any other module is detected, Fabric Module 25 is powered down by the system.

Line card and Fabric module failures

To keep line cards and Fabric module powered down whenever they fail or crash, use the **system module failure-action shutdown** command to prevent the cards from rebooting. This command is useful if your topology is configured for network-level redundancy and you want to prevent a second disruption from occurring in the network because a line card or fabric module is trying to come up.

You can use the **show module** *module* command to verify that the line card has been powered down. If desired, use the **no poweroff module** *module* command to manually bring the module (fabric or line card) back up.

```
switch(config)# system module failure-action shutdown
2014 Sep 8 23:31:51 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %SYSMGR-SLOT1-2-SERVICE_CRASHED:
Service "ipfib" (PID 2558) hasn't caught signal 11 (core will be saved).

2014 Sep 8 23:32:25 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %PLATFORM-2-MOD_PWRDN:
Module 1 powered down (Serial number SAL1815Q1DP)

switch(config)# show module 1
Mod  Ports  Module-Type                          Model            Status
---  -----  ------------------------------------ ---------------- ----------
1    52     48x1/10G-T 4x40G Ethernet Module     N9K-X9564TX     powered-dn

switch(config)# no poweroff module 1
2014 Sep 8 23:34:31 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %PLATFORM-2-PFM_MODULE_POWER_ON:
Manual power-on of Module 1 from Command Line Interface

2014 Sep 8 23:34:31 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %PLATFORM-2-MOD_DETECT:
Module 1 detected (Serial number SAL1815Q1DP) Module-Type 48x1/10G-T
4x40G Ethernet Module Model N9K-X9564TX

2014 Sep 8 23:34:31 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %PLATFORM-2-MOD_PWRUP:
Module 1 powered up (Serial number SAL1815Q1DP)
```

System Controller Redundancy

Two redundant system controllers in the Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, and 9516 chassis offload chassis management functions from the supervisor modules. The controllers are responsible for managing power supplies and fan trays and act as a central point for the Gigabit Ethernet Out-of-Band Channel (EOBC) between the supervisors, fabric modules, and line cards.

Supervisor Module Redundancy

The Cisco Nexus 9504, 9508, 9516, 9804, and 9808 chassis support dual supervisor modules to provide 1+1 redundancy for the control and management plane. A dual supervisor configuration operates in an active or standby capacity in which only one of the supervisor modules is active at any given time, while the other acts as a standby backup. The state and configuration remain constantly synchronized between the two supervisor modules to provide stateful switchover in the event of a supervisor module failure.

A Cisco NX-OS generic online diagnostics (GOLD) subsystem and additional monitoring processes on the supervisor trigger a stateful failover to the redundant supervisor when the processes detect unrecoverable critical failures, service restartability errors, kernel errors, or hardware failures.

If a supervisor-level unrecoverable failure occurs, the currently active failed supervisor triggers a switchover. The standby supervisor becomes the new active supervisor and uses the synchronized state and configuration while the failed supervisor is reloaded. If the failed supervisor is able to reload and pass self-diagnostics, it initializes, becomes the new standby supervisor, and then synchronizes its operating state with the newly active unit.

Supervisor Modules

Two supervisor modules are available for the Cisco Nexus 9500 Series switches: Supervisor A (SUP A) and Supervisor B (SUP B). The following table lists the differences between the two modules.

	Supervisor A	Supervisor B	Supervisor A+	Supervisor B+
CPU	4 core, 1.8 GHz	6 core, 2.1 GHz	4 core, 1.8 GHz	6 core, 1.9 GHz
Memory	16 GB	24 GB	16 GB	32 GB
SSD storage	64 GB	256 GB	256 GB	256 GB
Software release	6.1(2)I1(1) or later release	6.1(2)I3(1) or later release	7.0(3)I7(1)	7.0(3)I7(1)

SUP A and SUP B are not compatible and should not be installed in the same chassis, except for migration purposes. For dual supervisor systems, you should install either two SUP A modules or two SUP B modules (and not a combination of the two) to ensure supervisor module redundancy.

In a dual supervisor system, Cisco NX-OS checks the memory size of both the active and standby supervisors. If the memory size is different for each supervisor (because both SUP A and SUP B are installed), a message appears instructing you to replace SUP A with a second SUP B.

To migrate from SUP A to SUP B, insert SUP B into the device and enter the **system switchover** command. SUP B becomes the active supervisor, and SUP A becomes the standby supervisor, which is not a supported configuration. A warning message appears every hour until you remove SUP A or replace it with a second SUP B.

The supervisor module available for Nexus 9800 switches, SUP A, is not compatible with the supervisor module of Nexus 9500.

The following table provides information about the 9800 Supervisor A.

	9800 Supervisor A
CPU	8 core for 9808 and 4 core for 9804, 2.4Ghz
Memory	32 GB
SSD storage	128 GB

	9800 Supervisor A
Software release	N9K-C9808 in 10.4(1)F **Note** Added redundancy SUP support on Nexus 9808 from Cisco NX-OS Release 10.4(1)F. N9K-C9804 in 10.4(2)F **Note** It is mandatory to perform EPLD upgrade for dual SUP deployments for Nexus 9800. For more information, see Cisco Nexus 9000 Series FPGA/EPLD Upgrade Release Notes. For step-by-step instructions and important considerations when migrating a Nexus 9800 Modular Switch from a single to a dual supervisor deployment, see the Migrate to Dual Supervisors for Nexus 9800 Modular Switch Guide.

Fabric Module and Line Card Compatibility

- Cisco Nexus 9500 Platform switches support only one type of fabric module per chassis. Do not mix the N9K-C95xx-FM, N9K-C95xx-FM-E, N9K-C95xx-FM-R, and N9K-C95xx-FM-S fabric modules in a Cisco Nexus 9500 Platform chassis.
- Only the following fabric module and line card combinations are supported:

Fabric Module	Supported Line Cards
N9K-C95xx-FM	X9400, X9500, and X9600 line cards (except the N9K-X9432C-S line card)
N9K-C95xx-FM-E	X9700-EX and X9700-FX line cards only
N9K-C95xx-FM-R	N9K-X9600-R line cards only
N9K-C95xx-FM-S	N9K-X9432C-S line cards only

Supervisor Restarts and Switchovers

Restarts on Single Supervisors

In a system with only one supervisor, when all HA policies have been unsuccessful in restarting a service, the supervisor restarts. The supervisor and all services reset and start with no prior state information.

Restarts on Dual Supervisors

When a supervisor-level failure occurs in a system with dual supervisors, the System Manager performs a switchover rather than a restart to maintain stateful operation. In some cases, however, a switchover might not be possible at the time of the failure. For example, if the standby supervisor module is not in a stable standby state, a restart rather than a switchover is performed.

Switchovers on Dual Supervisors

A dual supervisor configuration allows nonstop forwarding (NSF) with a stateful switchover (SSO) when a supervisor-level failure occurs. The two supervisors operate in an active/standby capacity in which only one of the supervisor modules is active at any given time, while the other acts as a standby backup. The two supervisors constantly synchronize the state and configuration in order to provide a seamless and stateful switchover of most services if the active supervisor module fails.

Switchover Characteristics

An HA switchover has the following characteristics:

- It is stateful (nondisruptive) because control traffic is not affected.
- It does not disrupt data traffic because the switching modules are not affected.
- Switching modules are not reset.

Switchover Mechanisms

Switchovers occur by one of the following two mechanisms:

- The active supervisor module fails and the standby supervisor module automatically takes over.
- You manually initiate a switchover from an active supervisor module to a standby supervisor module.

When a switchover process begins, another switchover process cannot be started on the same switch until a stable standby supervisor module is available.

Switchover Failures

Supervisor switchovers are generally hitless and occur without traffic loss. If for some reason a switchover does not complete successfully, the supervisors reset. A reset prevents loops in the Layer 2 network if the network topology was changed during the switchover. For optimal performance of this recovery function, we recommend that you do not change the Spanning Tree Protocol (STP) default timers.

If three system-initiated switchovers occur within 20 minutes, all nonsupervisor modules shut down to prevent switchover cycling. The supervisors remain operational to allow you to collect system logs before resetting the switch.

Manually Initiating a Switchover

To manually initiate a switchover from an active supervisor module to a standby supervisor module, use the **system switchover** command. After you run this command, you cannot start another switchover process on the same system until a stable standby supervisor module is available.

Note If the standby supervisor module is not in a stable state (ha-standby), a manually initiated switchover is not performed.

To ensure that an HA switchover is possible, use the **show system redundancy status** command or the **show module** command. If the command output displays the ha-standby state for the standby supervisor module, you can manually initiate a switchover.

Switchover Guidelines

Follow these guidelines when performing a switchover:

- When you manually initiate a switchover, it takes place immediately.
- A switchover can be performed only when two supervisor modules are functioning in the switch.
- The modules in the chassis must be functioning.

Verifying Switchover Possibilities

This section describes how to verify the status of the switch and the modules before a switchover.

- Use the **show system redundancy status** command to ensure that the system is ready to accept a switchover.
- Use the **show module** command to verify the status (and presence) of a module at any time. A sample output of the **show module** command follows:

```
switch# show module
Mod  Ports  Module-Type                          Model              Status
---  -----  ----------------------------------- ------------------ ----------
1    32     32p 40G Ethernet Module             N9K-X9432PQ        ok
2    52     48x1/10G SFP+ 4x40G Ethernet Module N9K-X9564PX        ok
5    52     48x1/10G SFP+ 4x40G Ethernet Module N9K-X9464PX        ok
6    36     36p 40G Ethernet Module             N9K-X9536PQ        ok
7    36     36p 40G Ethernet Module             N9K-X9536PQ        ok
10   32     32p 40G Ethernet Module             N9K-X9432PQ        ok
11   52     48x1/10G-T 4x40G Ethernet Module    N9K-X9564TX        ok
12   52     48x1/10G-T 4x40G Ethernet Module    N9K-X9464TX        ok
15   52     48x1/10G SFP+ 4x40G Ethernet Module N9K-X9464PX        ok
21   0      Fabric Module                       N9K-C9516-FM       ok
22   0      Fabric Module                       N9K-C9516-FM       ok
23   0      Fabric Module                       N9K-C9516-FM       ok
24   0      Fabric Module                       N9K-C9516-FM       ok
25   0      Fabric Module                       N9K-C9516-FM       ok
26   0      Fabric Module                       N9K-C9516-FM       ok
27   0      Supervisor Module                   N9K-SUP-A          ha-standby
28   0      Supervisor Module                   N9K-SUP-A          active *
29   0      System Controller                   N9K-SC-A           active
30   0      System Controller                   N9K-SC-A           standby

Mod  Sw               Hw     Slot
---  ---------------  ------ ----
1    6.1(2)I3(1)      0.1050 LC1
2    6.1(2)I3(1)      0.2010 LC2
5    6.1(2)I3(1)      0.1010 LC5
6    6.1(2)I3(1)      0.2060 LC6
7    6.1(2)I3(1)      0.2060 LC7
10   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.1010 LC10
```

```
11   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.2100 LC11
12   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.1010 LC12
15   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.1050 LC15
21   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.3010 FM1
22   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.3040 FM2
23   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.3040 FM3
24   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.3040 FM4
25   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.3010 FM5
26   6.1(2)I3(1)      0.3040 FM6
27   6.1(2)I3(1)      1.1    SUP1
28   6.1(2)I3(1)      1.1    SUP2
29   6.1(2)I3(1)      1.2    SC1
30   6.1(2)I3(1)      1.2    SC2

Mod  MAC-Address(es)                         Serial-Num
---  --------------------------------------  ----------
1    74-26-ac-10-cb-0c to 74-26-ac-10-cb-9f  SAL1817REX2
2    00-22-bd-fd-93-57 to 00-22-bd-fd-93-9a  SAL1733B92R
5    74-26-ac-eb-99-0c to 74-26-ac-eb-99-4f  SAL1814PTNM
6    c0-8c-60-62-60-98 to c0-8c-60-62-61-2b  SAL1812NTG1
7    c0-8c-60-62-5f-70 to c0-8c-60-62-60-03  SAL1812NTFD
10   74-26-ac-e9-32-68 to 74-26-ac-e9-32-fb  SAL1811NH4K
11   78-da-6e-74-15-14 to 78-da-6e-74-15-57  SAL1746G7XE
12   74-26-ac-ec-2b-50 to 74-26-ac-ec-2b-93  SAL1816QUQX
15   c0-8c-60-62-a3-b4 to c0-8c-60-62-a3-f7  SAL1816QGXE
21   NA                                      SAL1801K507
22   NA                                      SAL1813P9Y2
23   NA                                      SAL1813P9YM
24   NA                                      SAL1813P9Y9
25   NA                                      SAL1801K50F
26   NA                                      SAL1813NZN3
27   c0-67-af-a1-0e-d6 to c0-67-af-a1-0e-e7  SAL1803KWXY
28   c0-67-af-a1-0d-a4 to c0-67-af-a1-0d-b5  SAL1804L578
29   NA                                      SAL1801JU2Z
30   NA                                      SAL1801JU4V

Mod  Online Diag Status
---  ------------------
1    Pass
2    Pass
5    Pass
6    Pass
7    Pass
10   Pass
11   Pass
12   Pass
15   Pass
21   Pass
22   Pass
23   Pass
24   Pass
25   Pass
26   Pass
27   Pass
28   Pass
29   Pass
30   Pass

* this terminal session
```

The Status column in the output should display an OK status for switching modules and an active or ha-standby status for supervisor modules.

- Use the **show boot auto-copy** command to verify the configuration of the auto-copy feature and if an auto-copy to the standby supervisor module is in progress. Sample outputs of the **show boot auto-copy** command are as follows:

```
switch# show boot auto-copy
Auto-copy feature is enabled

switch# show boot auto-copy list
No file currently being auto-copied
```

Replacing the Active Supervisor Module in a Dual Supervisor System

You can nondisruptively replace the active supervisor module in a dual supervisor system.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. switch # **system switchover**
2. switch# **reload module** *slot-number* **force**
3. switch# **copy bootflash:***nx-os-image* **bootflash:***nx-os-image*
4. switch# **configure terminal**
5. switch (config)# **boot nxos bootflash:***nx-os-image* [*sup-number*]
6. (Optional) switch(config)# **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	switch # **system switchover**	Initiates a manual switchover to the standby supervisor. **Note** Wait until the switchover completes and the standby supervisor becomes active.
Step 2	switch# **reload module** *slot-number* **force**	Boots the supervisor module replacement immediately. **Note** If you do not force the boot, the replacement supervisor module should be booted by the active supervisor module 6 minutes after insertion. For information on replacing a supervisor module, see the Hardware Installation Guide for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis.
Step 3	switch# **copy bootflash:***nx-os-image* **bootflash:***nx-os-image*	Copies the nx-os image from the active supervisor module to the standby supervisor module.
Step 4	switch# **configure terminal**	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 5	switch (config)# **boot nxos bootflash:***nx-os-image* [*sup-number*]	Configures the standby supervisor boot variables.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 6	(Optional) switch(config)# **copy running-config startup-config**	Saves the change persistently through reboots and restarts by copying the running configuration to the startup configuration.

Example

This example shows how to replace the active supervisor module in a dual supervisor system:

```
switch# system switchover
 Raw time read from Hardware Clock: Y=2013 M=2 D=2 07:35:48
 writing reset reason 7,

NX9 SUP Ver 3.17.0
Serial Port Parameters from CMOS
PMCON_1: 0x200
PMCON_2: 0x0
PMCON_3: 0x3a
PM1_STS: 0x1
Performing Memory Detection and Testing
Testing 1 DRAM Patterns
Total mem found : 4096 MB
Memory test complete.
NumCpus = 2.
Status 61: PCI DEVICES Enumeration Started
Status 62: PCI DEVICES Enumeration Ended
Status 9F: Dispatching Drivers
Status 9E: IOFPGA Found
Status 9A: Booting From Primary ROM
Status 98: Found Cisco IDE
Status 98: Found Cisco IDE
Status 90: Loading Boot Loader
 Reset Reason Registers: 0x1 0x10
 Filesystem type is ext2fs, partition type 0x83
 Filesystem type is ext2fs, partition type 0x83

              GNU GRUB  version 0.97


                Loader Version 3.17.0

current standby sup
----------------------------
switch(standby)# 2014 Aug  2 07:35:46 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %KERN-2-SYSTEM_MSG: Switchover
started by redundancy driver - kernel
2014 Aug  2 07:35:47 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %SYSMGR-2-HASWITCHOVER_PRE_START: This supervisor
is becoming active (pre-start phase).
2014 Aug  2 07:35:47 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %SYSMGR-2-HASWITCHOVER_START: This supervisor is
becoming active.
2014 Aug  2 07:35:48 switch %$ VDC-1 %$ %SYSMGR-2-SWITCHOVER_OVER: Switchover completed.

switch# reload module 27 force
switch# copy bootflash:n9000-dk9.6.1.2.I3.1.bin bootflash:n9000-dk9.6.1.2.I3.1.bin
switch# config terminal
switch# boot nxos bootflash:n9000-dk9.6.1.2.I3.1.bin sup-1
switch# copy running-config startup-config
```

Replacing the Standby Supervisor Module in a Dual Supervisor System

You can nondisruptively replace the standby supervisor module in a dual supervisor system.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. switch# **reload module** *slot-number* **force**
2. switch# **copy bootflash:***nx-os-image* **bootflash:***nx-os-image*
3. switch# **configure terminal**
4. switch (config)# **boot nxos bootflash:***nx-os-image* [*sup-number*]
5. (Optional) switch(config)# **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	switch# **reload module** *slot-number* **force**	Boots the supervisor module replacement immediately. **Note** If you do not force the boot, the replacement supervisor module should be booted by the active supervisor module 6 minutes after insertion. For information on replacing a supervisor module, see the Hardware Installation Guide for your specific Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis.
Step 2	switch# **copy bootflash:***nx-os-image* **bootflash:***nx-os-image*	Copies the nx-os image from the active supervisor module to the standby supervisor module.
Step 3	switch# **configure terminal**	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 4	switch (config)# **boot nxos bootflash:***nx-os-image* [*sup-number*]	Configures the standby supervisor boot variables.
Step 5	(Optional) switch(config)# **copy running-config startup-config**	Saves the change persistently through reboots and restarts by copying the running configuration to the startup configuration.

Example

This example shows how to replace the standby supervisor module in a dual supervisor system:

```
switch# reload module 27 force
switch# copy bootflash:n9000-dk9.6.1.2.I3.1.bin bootflash:n9000-dk9.6.1.2.I3.1.bin
switch# config terminal
switch# boot nxos bootflash:n9000-dk9.6.1.2.I3.1.bin sup-1
switch# copy running-config startup-config
```

Displaying HA Status Information

Use the **show system redundancy status** command to view the HA status of the system.

```
switch# show system redundancy status
Redundancy mode
---------------
      administrative:   HA
         operational:   HA
This supervisor (sup-1)
-----------------------
    Redundancy state:   Active
    Supervisor state:   Active
      Internal state:   Active with HA standby
Other supervisor (sup-2)
------------------------
    Redundancy state:   Standby
    Supervisor state:   HA standby
      Internal state:   HA standby
```

The following conditions identify when automatic synchronization is possible:

- If the internal state of one supervisor module is Active with HA standby and the other supervisor module is ha-standby, the system is operationally HA and can perform automatic synchronization.
- If the internal state of one of the supervisor modules is none, the system cannot perform automatic synchronization.

The following table lists the possible values for the redundancy states.

Table 4: Redundancy States

State	Description
Not present	The supervisor module is not present or is not plugged into the chassis.
Initializing	The diagnostics have passed, and the configuration is being downloaded.
Active	The active supervisor module and the switch are ready to be configured.
Standby	A switchover is possible.
Failed	The system detects a supervisor module failure on initialization and automatically attempts to power-cycle the module three times. After the third attempt, it continues to display a failed state.
Offline	The supervisor module is intentionally shut down for debugging purposes.
At BIOS	The system has established a connection with the supervisor, and the supervisor module is performing diagnostics.
Unknown	The system is in an invalid state. If it persists, call TAC.

The following table lists the possible values for the supervisor module states.

Table 5: Supervisor States

State	Description
Active	The active supervisor module in the switch is ready to be configured.
HA standby	A switchover is possible.
Offline	The system is intentionally shut down for debugging purposes.
Unknown	The system is in an invalid state and requires a support call to TAC.

The following table lists the possible values for the internal redundancy states.

Table 6: Internal States

State	Description
HA standby	The HA switchover mechanism in the standby supervisor module is enabled.
Active with no standby	A switchover is impossible.
Active with HA standby	The active supervisor module in the switch is ready to be configured. The standby supervisor module is in the ha-standby state.
Shutting down	The system is being shut down.
HA switchover in progress	The system is in the process of entering the active state.
Offline	The system is intentionally shut down for debugging purposes.
HA synchronization in progress	The standby supervisor module is in the process of synchronizing its state with the active supervisor modules.
Standby (failed)	The standby supervisor module is not functioning.
Active with failed standby	The active supervisor module and the second supervisor module are present, but the second supervisor module is not functioning.
Other	The system is in a transient state. If it persists, call TAC.

Additional References for System-Level High Availability

This section describes additional information related to system-level high availability.

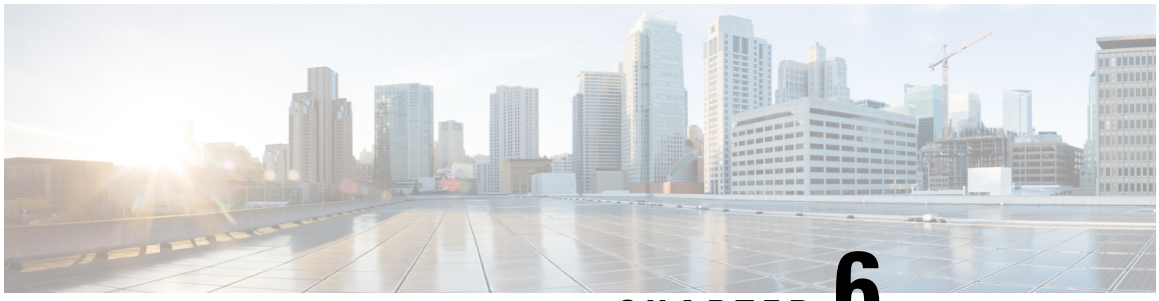
Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Hardware	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switch Hardware Installation G
Power mode configuration and Cisco NX-OS fundamentals	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Fundamentals Configur

Related Topic	Document Title
Nonstop forwarding (NSF)	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Unicast Routing Configurat
In-service software upgrades (ISSU)	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Software Upgrade and Dow Guide
EEM and Smart Call Home	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS System Management Confi Guide
Licensing	Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
MIBs related to system-level high availability	For more information about MIBs and to download MIBs from MIBs link, refer to Cisco Nexus 7000 Series and 9000 Series MIB Quick Reference.



CHAPTER 6

ISSU and High Availability

This chapter describes the Cisco NX-OS in-service software upgrades (ISSU) and includes the following sections:

- About ISSU, on page 39
- Guidelines and Limitations, on page 40
- How an ISSU Works, on page 40
- Determining ISSU Compatibility, on page 40
- Additional References for ISSU and High Availability, on page 41

About ISSU

In a Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis with dual supervisors, you can use the in-service software upgrade (ISSU) feature to upgrade the system software while the system continues to forward traffic. An ISSU uses the existing features of nonstop forwarding (NSF) with stateful switchover (SSO) to perform the software upgrade with no system downtime.

An ISSU is initiated through the command-line interface (CLI) by an administrator. When initiated, an ISSU updates (as needed) the following components on the system:

- Supervisor BIOS and nx-os image
- Module BIOS and image

In a redundant system with two supervisors, one of the supervisors is active while the other operates in standby mode. During an ISSU, the new software is loaded onto the standby supervisor while the active supervisor continues to operate using the old software. As part of the upgrade, a switchover occurs between the active and standby supervisors, and the standby supervisor becomes active and begins running the new software. After the switchover, the new software is loaded onto the (formerly active) standby supervisor.

Note The ISSU feature is not supported on any Nexus 9504, 9508, or 9516 chassis with N9K-C95xx-FM-Ex, N9K-C950x-FM-R, or N9K-C95xx-FM-G fabric modules inserted in the chassis. Software upgrades with this hardware combination are disruptive and require the switch to reload. Non-disruptive ISSU is not supported.

Note For more information on ISSU, including the list of supported platforms, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Software Upgrade and Downgrade Guide.

Guidelines and Limitations

An ISSU has the following limitations and restrictions:

- Do not change any configuration settings or network connections during the upgrade. Any changes in the network settings may cause a disruptive upgrade.
- Configuration mode is blocked during the ISSU to prevent any changes.
- Only disruptive downgrades are supported. Non-disruptive downgrades are not supported.

For more information about compatible upgrades and downgrades, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Release Notes. For more information about ISSU and the list of platforms for which it is supported, see the Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Software Upgrade and Downgrade Guide.

How an ISSU Works

On a Cisco Nexus 9000 Series chassis with two supervisors, the ISSU process follows these steps:

1. Begins when the administrator uses the **install all** command.
2. Verifies the location and integrity of the new software image file.
3. Verifies the operational status and the current software versions of both supervisors and all switching modules to ensure that the system is capable of an ISSU.
4. Loads the new software image to the standby supervisor and brings it up to the HA ready state.
5. Forces a supervisor switchover.
6. Loads the new software image to the (formerly active) standby supervisor and brings it up to the HA ready state.
7. Performs a nondisruptive upgrade of each switching module.

During the upgrade process, the system presents detailed status information on the console, requesting administrator confirmation at key steps.

Determining ISSU Compatibility

An ISSU may be disruptive if you have configured features that are not supported on the new software image. To determine ISSU compatibility, use the **show incompatibility-all nxos bootflash:***filename* command.

Additional References for ISSU and High Availability

This section describes additional information related to ISSU and high availability.

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
ISSU configuration	Cisco Nexus 9000 Series NX-OS Software Upgrade and I Guide

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
MIBs related to ISSU and high availability	For more information about MIBs and to download MIBs f MIBs link, refer to Cisco Nexus 7000 Series and 9000 Se MIB Quick Reference.



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