Release Notes for StarOS™ Software, Release 2026.02.gah0

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StarOS™ Software, Release 2026.02.gaho

This Release Notes identifies changes and issues related to the Control and User Plane Separation (CUPS) software release.

For more information about the StarOS product documentation, see the Related resources section.

Qualified products and platforms

Table 1. Products and platforms qualified in this release

Component	Qualified?
Products	
CUPS	Yes
MME	No
ePDG	No
P-GW	Yes
SAEGW	Yes
SGSN	No
Platforms	
ASR 5500	No
VPC-DI	Yes
VPC-SI	Yes

Release lifecycle milestones

The following table provides EoL milestones for Cisco StarOS software:

Table 2. EoL milestone information for StarOS™ Software

Milestone	Date
First Customer Ship (FCS)	23-Apr-2026
End of Life (EoL)	23-Apr-2026
End of Software Maintenance (EoSM)	22-Oct-2027
End of Vulnerability and Security Support (EoVSS)	22-Oct-2027
Last Date of Support (LDoS)	31-Oct-2028

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These milestones and the intervals between them are defined in the Cisco ASR 5500 and Ultra Packet Core software release lifecycle product bulletin available on cisco.com.

New software features

There are no new software features introduced in this release.

Changes in behavior

This section provides a brief description of the behavior changes introduced in this release.

Table 3. Behavior changes for StarOS™ Software, Release 2026.02.gah0

Description	Behavior changes
ConfD schema compatibility handling [CSCwo47013]	**Previous behavior**: During ConfD upgrades, version incompatibilities with persisted schema files could lead to initialization failures and repeated confdmgr crashes; as there was no CLI utility available to clear this data, it was necessary to manually remove the contents of the /mnt/hd-raid/meta/confd directory during the upgrade process to ensure system stability. **New behavior:** A new CLI command, **clear confdmgr confd all**, has been introduced to clear all persistent ConfD data, which facilitates a clean reinitialization and prevents initialization failures during upgrades. For more information on the method of procedure, refer to the Upgrade the confd version

Resolved issues

This table lists the resolved issues in this specific software release.

Note: This software release may contain bug fixes first introduced in other releases. To see additional information, click the bug ID to access the Cisco Bug Search Tool. To search for a documented Cisco product issue, type in the browser: <bug number> site:cisco.com.

Table 4. Resolved issues for StarOS™ Software, Release 2026.02.gah0

Bug ID	Description	Product Found
CSCwf27561	High number of CC category misses	cups-cp
CSCwt65229	Destination Realm AVP missing in CCR-I message after fallback to Local Policy	cups-cp
CSCwq38956	Interfaces are down Post upgrade : 21.28.h14.98513	cups-up
CSCwt19501	PGW sends the IMSI in the CCR-I message to the PCRF for unauthenticated emergency calls	pdn-gw
CSCwr95955	PGW (VPC) incorrectly charges for Router Solicitation (RS) packets in IPv6 sessions.	pdn-gw

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Open issues

This table lists the open issues in this specific software release.

Note: This software release may contain open bugs first introduced in other releases. To see additional information, click the bug ID to access the Cisco Bug Search Tool. To search for a documented Cisco product issue, type in the browser: <bug number> site:cisco.com.

Table 5. Open issues for StarOS™ Software, Release 2026.02.gah0

Bug ID	Description	Product Found
CSCwt06603	Context removal & addition leads to incorrect flow creation leading to TCP flows recognized incorrect	cups-cp

Known issues

This section describes the known issue that may occur during the upgrade of the StarOS image.

Install and Upgrade Notes

This Release Note does not contain general installation and upgrade instructions. Refer to the existing installation documentation for specific installation and upgrade considerations.

When upgrading the StarOS image from a previous version to the latest version, issues may arise if there is a problem with the Cisco SSH/SSL upgrade. To avoid such issues, ensure that the boot file for Service Function (SF) cards is properly synchronized.

To synchronize the boot file for all the Service Function (SF) VPC-DI non-management cards, use the following CLI command:

```
[local] host_name# system synchronize boot
```

This ensures that the changes in boot file are identically maintained across the SF cards.

Note: Ensure that you execute the system synchronize boot command before reloading for version upgrade from any version earlier than 21.28.h8 to version 21.28.h8, or versions higher than 21.28.h8.

Upgrade the confd version

This section explains upgrading third-party software. Upgrade the confd software to ensure system compatibility and performance.

Note: During the April 2026 release, confd is upgraded to 8.6 version.

Prerequisites:

- Ensure you have appropriate permissions to perform this upgrade.
- Back up all necessary data and configurations to avoid permanent loss during file deletion.
- ConfD must be unconfigured before running the **clear confdmgr confd all** CLI.

Perform these steps to upgrade the confd version on the system.

1. Enter the debug shell using debug shell command.

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2. Navigate to the confd directory.
3. Run the command: cd /mnt/hd-raid/meta/confd/ to access the directory.
4. Remove existing files with the command; rm -rf *

   -or-

   Run the Staros CLI command **clear confdmgr confd all** to clear the same confd contents.

   Note: The /mnt/hd-raid/meta/confd directory will be empty. After clearing, confd can be started again as required. This clear cli should be used only during ConfD upgrade scenarios and not on each reload or reboot

All files and subdirectories are deleted, preparing the system for a fresh installation. To preserve data across the Method of Procedure, users with ConfD configured must contact their Cisco representative.

Compatibility

This section provides compatibility information about the StarOS package version, and the hardware and software requirements for the Legacy Gateway and CUPS software release.

Compatible StarOS package version

Table 6. Release package version information

StarOS packages	Version	Build number
StarOS package	2026.02.gah0	21.28.h17.100467

Compatible software and hardware components

This table lists only the verified basic software and hardware versions. For more information on the verified software versions for the products qualified in this release contact the Cisco account representative.

Table 7. Compatibility software and hardware information, Release 2026.02.gah0

Product	Version
ADC P2P Plugin	2.74.gh2.2788 **Note**: The 2026.02.gah0 StarOS software is compatible only with 2.74.gh2.2788 or before P2P plugin version

Supported software packages

This section provides information about the release packages associated with StarOS Classic Gateway, Control, and User Plane Separation (CUPS) software.

Table 8. Software packages for Release 2026.02.gah0

Software package	Description
VPC companion package	

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Software package	Description
companion-vpc-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains numerous files pertaining to this version of the VPC including SNMP MIBs, RADIUS dictionaries, ORBEM clients. These files pertain to both VPC-DI and VPC-SI, and for trusted and non-trusted build variants.
VPC-DI	
qvpc-di-2026.02.gah0.bin.zip	Contains the VPC-DI binary software image that is used to replace a previously deployed image on the flash disk in existing installations.
qvpc-di_T-2026.02.gah0.bin.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-DI binary software image that is used to replace a previously deployed image on the flash disk in existing installations.
qvpc-di-2026.02.gah0.iso.zip	Contains the VPC-DI ISO used for new deployments; a new virtual machine is manually created and configured to boot from a CD image.
qvpc-di_T-2026.02.gah0.iso.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-DI ISO used for new deployments, a new virtual machine is manually created and configured to boot from a CD image.
qvpc-di-template-vmware-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the VPC-DI binary software image that is used to on-board the software directly into VMware.
qvpc-di-template-vmware_T-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-DI binary software image that is used to on-board the software directly into VMware.
qvpc-di-template-libvirt-kvm-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the same VPC-DI ISO identified above and additional installation files for using it on KVM.
qvpc-di-template-vmware-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the VPC-DI binary software image that is used to on-board the software directly into VMware.
qvpc-di-template-libvirt-kvm_T-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the same trusted VPC-DI ISO identified above and additional installation files for using it on KVM.
qvpc-di-2026.02.gah0.qcow2.zip	Contains the VPC-DI binary software image in a format that can be loaded directly with KVM using an XML definition file, or with OpenStack.
qvpc-di_T-2026.02.gah0.qcow2.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-DI binary software image in a format that can be loaded directly with KVM using an XML definition file, or with OpenStack.
VPC-SI	
intellig3nt_onboarding-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the VPC-SI onboarding signature package that is used to replace a previously deployed image on the flash disk in existing installations.
qvpc-si-2026.02.gah0.bin.zip	Contains the VPC-SI binary software image that is used to replace a previously deployed image on the flash disk in existing installations.
qvpc-si_T-2026.02.gah0.bin.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-SI binary software image that is used to replace a previously deployed image on the flash disk in existing installations.

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Software package	Description
qvpc-si-2026.02.gah0.iso.zip	Contains the VPC-SI ISO used for new deployment. A new virtual machine is manually created and configured to boot from a CD image.
qvpc-si_T-2026.02.gah0.iso.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-SI ISO used for new deployments a new virtual machine is manually created and configured to boot from a CD image.
qvpc-si-template-vmware-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the VPC-SI binary software image that is used to on-board the software directly into VMware.
qvpc-si-template-vmware_T-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-SI binary software image that is used to on-board the software directly into VMware.
qvpc-si-template-libvirt-kvm-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the same VPC-SI ISO identified above and additional installation files for using it on KVM.
qvpc-si-template-libvirt-kvm_T-2026.02.gah0.zip	Contains the same trusted VPC-SI ISO identified above and additional installation files for using it on KVM.
qvpc-si-2026.02.gah0.qcow2.zip	Contains the VPC-SI binary software image in a format that can be loaded directly with KVM using an XML definition file, or with OpenStack.
qvpc-s3_T-2026.02.gah0.qcow2.zip	Contains the trusted VPC-SI binary software image in a format that can be loaded directly with KVM using an XML definition file, or with OpenStack.

StarOS product version numbering system

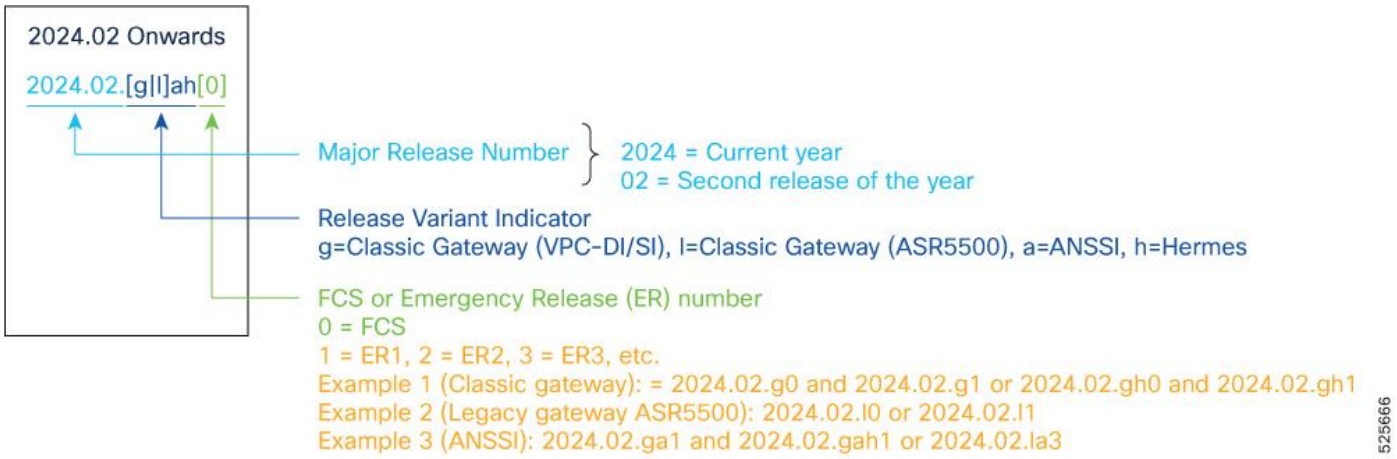
The output of the show version command displays detailed information about the version of StarOS currently running on the ASR 5500 or Cisco Virtualized Packet Core platform.

Starting 2024.01.0 release (January 2024), Cisco is transitioning to a new release versioning scheme. The release version is based on the current year and product. Refer to the figure for more details.

Note: During the transition phase, some file names will reflect the new versioning whereas others will refer to the 21.28.x- based naming convention. With the next release, StarOS-related packages will be completely migrated to the new versioning scheme.

Figure 1. Version numbering for FCS, emergency, and maintenance releases

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Note: For any clarification, contact your Cisco account representative.

Software integrity verification

To verify the integrity of the software image you have from Cisco, you can validate the SHA512 checksum information against the checksum identified by Cisco for the software. Image checksum information is available through Cisco.com Software Download details. Click Linux and then choose the Software Image Release Version.

To find the checksum, hover the mouse pointer over the software image you have downloaded. At the bottom you find the SHA512 checksum, if you do not see the whole checksum, you can expand it by pressing the "..." at the end.

To validate the information, calculate a SHA512 checksum using the information in the table and verify that it matches the one provided on the software download page. To calculate a SHA512 checksum on your local desktop see the table.

Table 9. Checksum calculations per operating system

Operating system	SHA512 checksum calculation command examples
Microsoft Windows	Open a command line window and type the following command: `> certutil.exe -hashfile <filename>.<extension> SHA512`
Apple MAC	Open a terminal window and type the following command: `$ shasum -a 512 filename.extension`

Linux	Open a terminal window and type the following command:
	`$ sha512sum filename.extension`
	OR
	`$ shasum -a 512 filename.extension`

Note: filename is the name of the file. extension is the file extension (for example, .zip or .tgz).	

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If the SHA512 checksum matches, you can be sure that no one has tampered with the software image or the image has not been corrupted during download.

If the SHA512 checksum does not match, we advise you to not attempt upgrading any systems with the corrupted software image. Download the software again and verify the SHA512 checksum again. If there is a constant mismatch, please open a case with the Cisco Technical Assistance Center.

Certificate validation

In 2024.01 and later releases, software images for StarOS, VPC-DI, and VPC-SI, and the companion software packages for StarOS and VPC are signed via x509 certificates. USP ISO images are signed with a GPG key. For more information and instructions on how to validate the certificates, refer to the README file available with the respective software packages.

Related resources

This table provides key resources and links to the support information and essential documentation for StarOS and CUPS products.

Table 10. Related resources and additional information

Resource	Link
Cisco ASR 5500 documentation	StarOS documentation
Cisco Ultra Packet Core documentation	CUPS documentation
Service request and additional information	Cisco Support

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