



FORCEPOINT

NGFW Security Management Center

Release Notes

6.3.1

Revision A

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About this release

This document contains important information about this release of Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center (SMC); formerly known as Stonesoft® Management Center by Forcepoint (SMC).

We strongly recommend that you read the entire document.

System requirements

To use this product, your system must meet these basic hardware and software requirements.

Basic management system hardware requirements

You can install SMC on standard hardware.

- Intel® Core™ family processor or higher recommended, or equivalent on a non-Intel platform
- A mouse or pointing device (for Management Client only)
- SVGA (1024x768) display or higher (for Management Client only)
- Disk space for Management Server: 6 GB
- Disk space for Log Server: 50 GB
- Memory requirements:
 - 6 GB RAM for the Management Server, Log Server, or Web Portal Server (8 GB if all servers are installed on the same computer)

- 2 GB RAM for Management Client

Operating systems

SMC supports the following operating systems and versions.



Note: Only U.S. English language versions have been tested, but other locales might also work.

Supported Microsoft Windows operating systems (64-bit only):

- Windows Server 2016 Standard and Datacenter editions
- Windows Server 2012 R2
- Windows Server 2008 R1 SP2 and R2 SP1
- Windows 7 SP1
- Windows 10

Supported Linux operating systems (64-bit only):

- CentOS 6
- CentOS 7
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7
- SUSE Linux Enterprise 11 SP3
- SUSE Linux Enterprise 12 SP1
- Ubuntu 14.04 LTS
- Ubuntu 16.04 LTS

Web Start client

The Web Start distribution of the Management Client requires that Java Runtime Environment (JRE) is installed on the operating system.

Web Start is certified to run only on the listed official operating systems. However, it can also run on other operating systems that have JRE installed, for example, on macOS 10.9 or later and additional Linux distributions. For SMC 6.3, JRE 1.8.0_121 or a later critical patch update (CPU) release is required.

Build version

SMC 6.3.1 build version is 10444.

This release contains Dynamic Update package 1012.

Product binary checksums

Use the checksums to make sure that the files downloaded correctly.

- **smc_6.3.1_10444.zip**

```
SHA1SUM:  
c7d131a17e40eeba4d646c642b65526c944ada38  
  
SHA256SUM:  
b72ac3fcd3970201b636b3375246826e8aa4d8d84091a9f2878f98cdd7eb55b6  
  
SHA512SUM:  
5e032eef3988a14d02e5d88347a36f90  
7d872fad60597356ec35ae5c9a8b20fd  
a60da844f31c7c5e45e3d2bc432a063d  
1f965cb9029fea820713486834b989a9
```

- **smc_6.3.1_10444_linux.zip**

```
SHA1SUM:  
9899546ddd536cca808cf78428cfcfde241b2bc8  
  
SHA256SUM:  
362253c6261f74820f7224f1fa0b4465185d25f9f167700132b44cf094529278  
  
SHA512SUM:  
3cbc967ce5f2e6ebb004dd13907ceff8  
2a1d3e6a2f4897616cb2fb6ae7c5c131  
21e75a42473ea676c931c6bffa635382  
b98daa4932a742abef7e7089c3bb9a06
```

- **smc_6.3.1_10444_windows.zip**

```
SHA1SUM:  
7f96d3adf23a85a081b1c9db22bf937b5e36dd83  
  
SHA256SUM:  
a0592de306aab3c5829dc08e4fd24e0f1a4647078cb51cc9173657c27c014fe0  
  
SHA512SUM:  
dd7639b736cc3319e5128cb924e4f579  
537699192d12025fb880960749675ded  
d626f09916b07047357c9ff253ffd684  
922f112579880bc160e0ea1b7d5c65de
```

- **smc_6.3.1_10444_webstart.zip**

```
SHA1SUM:  
e529867e93645f331ec203846ea1831c46b5664c  
  
SHA256SUM:  
e2455163a70670892da7858122bf3d26ac09e508d3eddc24009a10278199cd8b  
  
SHA512SUM:  
81a9662a27a2dc1e9f2ff1a257ddea35  
e89f9a8276ed602f3f4ee3b6fdd2666d  
d875c301a4828739f37f1ef4a8697f1a  
ce05fd1e9dd0b3f5e0d7adcff2616ac2
```

Compatibility

SMC 6.3 is compatible with the following component versions.



Note: Some versions of Forcepoint NGFW might have reached end-of-life status. We recommend that you use a Long-Term Support version that is still supported. For more information about the Forcepoint NGFW lifecycle policy, see Knowledge Base article [10192](#).

SMC 6.3 can manage all compatible Forcepoint NGFW engine versions up to and including version 6.3.

- Forcepoint™ Next Generation Firewall (Forcepoint NGFW) 6.2 and 6.3
- Stonesoft® Next Generation Firewall by Forcepoint (Stonesoft NGFW) 6.0 and 6.1
- McAfee® Next Generation Firewall (McAfee NGFW) 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, and 5.10
- Stonesoft Firewall/VPN Express 5.5
- McAfee® ePolicy Orchestrator® (McAfee ePO™) 5.0.1 and 5.1.1
- McAfee® Enterprise Security Manager (McAfee ESM) 9.2.0 and later (9.1.0 CEF only)

New features

This release of the product includes these new features. For more information and configuration instructions, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide* and the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*.

Support for Forcepoint Endpoint Context Agent

Support for Forcepoint Endpoint Context Agent (ECA) allows you to use endpoint information in the Forcepoint NGFW policy to control access, identify users, and log their actions. ECA is a Windows client application that provides endpoint information to the NGFW Engine. ECA is a replacement for McAfee Endpoint Intelligence Agent (McAfee EIA).



CAUTION: If McAfee Endpoint Intelligence Agent (McAfee EIA) is configured on the NGFW Engine when you upgrade to version 6.3 or later, the NGFW Engine node is returned to the initial configuration state and stops processing traffic. You must remove the McAfee Endpoint Intelligence Agent (McAfee EIA) configuration and refresh the policy before you upgrade to version 6.3 or later. For more information, see Knowledge Base article [14093](#).

Multi-Layer Deployment for NGFW Engines in the Firewall/VPN role

Multi-layer deployment is now supported for NGFW Engines in the Firewall/VPN role. In multi-layer deployment, NGFW Engines in the Firewall/VPN role have both layer 2 physical interfaces and layer 3 physical interfaces. The same NGFW Engine can now provide the features of the Firewall/VPN role, as well as the inspection features of the IPS and Layer 2 Firewall roles.

Route-based VPN improvements

The user interface for configuring a route-based VPN has been improved. Instead of configuring a single Route-Based VPN element, you can create individual Route-Based VPN Tunnel elements. The route-based VPN tunnels can be used in Administrative Domains other than the Shared Domain.

Improvements in Forcepoint Advanced Malware Detection

In addition to the cloud sandbox, Forcepoint Advanced Malware Detection now also supports on-premises local sandboxes. Other improvements include the following:

- The NGFW Engine can now delay file transfers until the results of the sandbox scan are received.
- The NGFW Engine now separately requests a file reputation for each file in .zip archives.
- The reporting tools in the external portal have been improved, and it is easier to access reports in the external portal from the Management Client.

NGFW on Azure and Hyper-V

You can now deploy NGFW Engines in the Microsoft Azure cloud to provide VPN connectivity, access control, and inspection for services in the Microsoft Azure cloud. The Microsoft Hyper-V virtualization platform on Windows 2012 and 2016 servers is now also supported for NGFW deployment on a virtualization platform in a private cloud. Only NGFW Engines in the Firewall/VPN role are supported in the Microsoft Azure cloud and on the Microsoft Hyper-V virtualization platform.

Support for Forcepoint User ID Service

Forcepoint User ID Service collects information about users, groups, and IP addresses from Windows Active Directory (AD) servers and AD domains. You can use the information from the Forcepoint User ID Service in the Forcepoint NGFW policy to identify users and control access.

Support for HTTPS in Sidewinder HTTP Proxy

The Sidewinder HTTP Proxy can now provide decryption, inspection, protocol validation, certificate validation, and certificate revocation checking for the HTTPS protocol.

Enhancements

This release of the product includes these enhancements.

Enhancements in SMC version 6.3.0

Enhancement	Description
Rate limit per Virtual NGFW Engine for traffic from the Master NGFW Engine	You can now set a rate limit per Virtual NGFW Engine for traffic from the Master NGFW Engine to the Virtual NGFW Engine. When the limit is set, a single Virtual NGFW Engine that is under very heavy load cannot disrupt the operation of the other Virtual NGFW Engines that are hosted by the Master NGFW Engine.
Dedicated control plane operation	You can now dedicate a specified number of CPUs to control plane operations. Even under very heavy loads, you can continue to manage NGFW Engines and refresh policies, and the status of the NGFW Engines remains green in the Home view.
Cloud Discovery Tool	The SMC installer now includes the optional Cloud Discovery Tool component. The Cloud Discovery Tool is a command line tool that can process log data exported from the SMC to produce a summary report about cloud application usage. The Cloud Discover Tool requires a separate license.
Changes related to certificates	<p>The NGFW Engine can now validate certificates and check the certificate revocation status for features that have certificate validation and certificate revocation checks enabled, such as features that use a TLS Profile in the configuration.</p> <p>Except for VPN certificates, most elements related to certificates are now found in the Administration > Certificates branch of the Configuration view.</p> <p>There is no longer a separate Pending Certificate Request element. Certificate requests are now created as TLS Credentials elements. The state of the TLS Credentials element indicates whether is it a signed certificate or a certificate request.</p>
Limit for half-open TCP connections	As part of the SYN flood protection feature, you can now set a limit for the number of half-open TCP connections. When the limit is reached, SYN flood protection is enabled.
Improvements to SSM architecture	Improvements to SSM integration remove some previous limitations on inspection when Sidewinder Proxies are used. These former limitations include matching traffic based on Network Applications, file filtering, and URL filtering. New Combined Protocol elements allow you to apply a standard Protocol element and a Sidewinder Proxy Protocol element to the same traffic.

Enhancement	Description
New commands for managing NGFW Engines and NGFW appliances	It is now possible to power off an NGFW Engine remotely through the Management Client. In addition, you can now also reset an NGFW appliance to factory settings through the Management Client. To increase security, you can set how many times you want the stored data on the file system of the NGFW appliance to be overwritten.
Task for validating policies	There is a new task for validating policies. The Validate Policy task allows you to validate the policy installed on NGFW Engines or Master NGFW Engines or the Alert Policy installed in an administrative Domain. You can run the Validate Policy task either manually or according to a schedule.
Updated product names	The NGFW product names have been updated. Stonesoft Management Center is now called Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center (SMC), and Stonesoft Next Generation Firewall (Stonesoft NGFW) is now called Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall (Forcepoint NGFW). The new product names are used in the SMC installer, the SMC installation directory, in the Management Client, and in the list of services in the Windows Control Panel.
Improvements in change approval process	It is now possible to give individual administrators permission to approve changes. Previously, only administrators with unrestricted permissions (superusers) could approve changes. You can also specify whether administrators are allowed to approve their own changes.
Home page improvements in the Management Client	You can now easily customize the home page for components in the Home view. You can use drag-and-drop to re-organize the panes and select new panes from a predefined selection of panes to replace existing panes on the home page. You can now include statistics in home pages. The Management Server and the Log Server now have their own home page in the Home view.
SYN rate limits support IPv6 connections	SYN rate limits now also support IPv6 connections.
SMC API improvements	Tasks and their scheduling can be managed through the SMC API.

Resolved issues

These issues are resolved in this release of the product.

Description	Issue number
SMC versions 6.3.0 and 6.3.2 do not correctly validate dynamic update packages. These SMC versions cannot activate dynamic update packages that contain content for SMC version 6.4.0 or higher. If you have SMC 6.3.0 or 6.3.2 installed, we recommend that you upgrade to another 6.3 maintenance version, such as 6.3.1 or 6.3.3, to ensure that you can continue to activate dynamic update packages.	SMC-10450

Description	Issue number
When you configure log forwarding from the Log Server or audit log forwarding from the Management Server to the syslog server in the Management Client, you can select a TLS profile to enable TLS protection. You can also configure that the identity of the TLS server is checked. If the TLS server uses a certificate from an intermediate Certificate Authority (CA), log forwarding fails if only the root CA is selected as a trusted CA in the TLS profile.	SMC-10764

Installation instructions

Use these high-level steps to install SMC and the Forcepoint NGFW engines.

For detailed information, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*. All guides are available for download at <https://support.forcepoint.com>.



Note: The sgadmin user is reserved for SMC use on Linux, so it must not exist before SMC is installed for the first time.



Note: If you install the SMC on Windows 10 and Windows Defender is enabled, it might take a long time to activate a dynamic update package. For more information, see Knowledge Base article [14055](#).

Steps

- 1) Install the Management Server, the Log Servers, and optionally the Web Portal Servers.
- 2) Import the licenses for all components.
You can generate licenses at <https://stonesoftlicenses.forcepoint.com>.
- 3) Configure the Firewall, IPS, or Layer 2 Firewall elements with the Management Client using the **Configuration** view.
- 4) To generate initial configurations for the engines, right-click each Firewall, IPS, or Layer 2 Firewall element, then select **Configuration > Save Initial Configuration**.
Make a note of the one-time password.
- 5) Make the initial connection from the engines to the Management Server, then enter the one-time password.
- 6) Create and upload a policy on the engines using the Management Client.

Upgrade instructions

Take the following into consideration before upgrading the SMC.



Note: SMC (Management Server, Log Server, and Web Portal Server) must be upgraded before the engines are upgraded to the same major version.

- SMC 6.3 requires an updated license.
 - If the automatic license update function is in use, the license is updated automatically.
 - If the automatic license update function is not in use, request a license upgrade on our website at <https://stonesoftlicenses.forcepoint.com>. Activate the new license using the Management Client before upgrading the software.
- To upgrade a previous version of the SMC to 6.3, we strongly recommend that you stop all SMC servers and create a backup before continuing with the upgrade. After creating the backup, run the appropriate setup file, depending on the operating system. The installation program detects the old version and does the upgrade automatically.
- The dynamic update package that is included with the SMC installer is imported and activated. However, if a newer version of the dynamic update package has previously been imported or downloaded before the upgrade, the newest version is activated instead.
- Upgrading is supported from SMC versions 5.6.2 – 6.2.5, and 6.3.0. Versions earlier than 5.6.2 require an upgrade to one of these versions before upgrading to 6.3.1.

Known issues

For a list of known issues in this product release, see Knowledge Base article [14117](#).

Find product documentation

On the Forcepoint support website, you can find information about a released product, including product documentation, technical articles, and more.

You can get additional information and support for your product on the Forcepoint support website at <https://support.forcepoint.com>. There, you can access product documentation, Knowledge Base articles, downloads, cases, and contact information.

Product documentation

Every Forcepoint product has a comprehensive set of documentation.

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide*
- Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall online Help



Note: By default, the online Help is used from the Forcepoint help server. If you want to use the online Help from a local machine (for example, an intranet server or your own computer), see Knowledge Base article [10097](#).

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*

Other available documents include:

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Hardware Guide* for your model
- *Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance Hardware Guide*
- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance Quick Start Guide*

- *Forcepoint NGFW SMC API Reference Guide*
- *Stonesoft VPN Client User Guide for Windows or Mac*
- *Stonesoft VPN Client Product Guide*

