



NGFW Security Management Center

6.8.0

Release Notes

Contents

- [About this release](#) on page 2
- [System requirements](#) on page 2
- [Build number and checksums](#) on page 4
- [Compatibility](#) on page 4
- [New features](#) on page 5
- [Enhancements](#) on page 6
- [Resolved issues](#) on page 7
- [Installation instructions](#) on page 7
- [Upgrade instructions](#) on page 8
- [Known issues](#) on page 8
- [Find product documentation](#) on page 8

About this release

This document contains important information about this release of Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center (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.

SMC hardware requirements

You can install the SMC on standard hardware.

Component	Requirement
CPU	Intel® Core™ family processor or higher recommended, or equivalent on a non-Intel platform
Disk space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Management Server: 6 GB■ Log Server: 50 GB

Component	Requirement
Memory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Management Server, Log Server, Web Portal Server: 6 GB RAM ■ If all SMC servers are on the same computer: 16 GB RAM ■ If you use the SMC Web Access feature: an additional 2 GB RAM per administrator session ■ Management Client: 2 GB RAM <p>The SMC server requirements are the <i>minimum</i> requirements. The Management Server and Log Server in particular benefit from having more than the minimum amount of RAM.</p> <p>On high-end appliances that have a lot of RAM, the SMC might not provision the maximum amount of RAM for use by the SMC servers. For information about how to manually modify the provisioning, see Knowledge Base article 10016.</p>
Management Client peripherals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A mouse or pointing device ■ SVGA (1024x768) display or higher

**CAUTION**

To protect the privacy of your data, we recommend using dedicated hardware for all NGFW, SMC, and SMC Appliance installations. For cloud-based virtualization platforms, use an instance type that runs on dedicated hardware. For on-premises virtualization platforms, install the NGFW Engines, SMC components, or SMC Appliance on a hypervisor that does not host any other virtual machines. For third-party hardware, do not install any other software on the computer where you install the NGFW Engines or SMC components.

Operating systems

You can install the SMC on the following operating systems. Only 64-bit operating systems are supported.

Linux	Microsoft Windows
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CentOS 7 and 8 ■ Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7 and 8 ■ SUSE Linux Enterprise 12 and 15 ■ Ubuntu 16.04 LTS and 18.04 LTS 	<p>Standard and Datacenter editions of the following Windows Server versions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Windows Server 2019 ■ Windows Server 2016 ■ Windows Server 2012 R2 <p>On Windows 10, you can install the SMC in demo mode. You can also install the Management Client.</p>

We recommend that you only use operating system versions that are currently supported by the vendor.

Other versions of the listed operating systems might be compatible, but have not been tested. Only U.S. English language versions of the listed operating systems have been tested, but other locales might also be compatible.

Build number and checksums

The build number for SMC 6.8.0 is 10905. This release contains Dynamic Update package 1247.

Use checksums to make sure that files downloaded correctly.

■ smc_6.8.0_10905.zip

```
SHA1SUM:
90bd0d2c4a03b27514013549b8d3ae46ae08c1de

SHA256SUM:
6ffbfad2cef94ad9481f4a2a263202fddf50126a77b9b5448eda03af62f85c6

SHA512SUM:
dd529c0179aee813ffe12bbc20a88b32
a183d245a9a086100eef5666bfaab7cb
fdb08606f1b22a7ee5d78fc89735f915
0b42164b05fb2fcf2293487a1194bc12
```

■ smc_6.8.0_10905_linux.zip

```
SHA1SUM:
ce5742db110d48041cd75e04e6679aba052af0e3

SHA256SUM:
c18088f017b8730f676fcd91135a83a657312ba4bfc15695088dfe1f7cf83b03

SHA512SUM:
a3039ca077ab6f574434dd08983ae02a
f22e64d83e92e3569a7efa784140291b
6d56fee3cdf0674686148c65663a1ecc
d61dba1a12e2d7cb385b239d1b5cd275
```

■ smc_6.8.0_10905_windows.zip

```
SHA1SUM:
94a23302adc43997d3266dc006047820babd7e2f

SHA256SUM:
5e7e51d36f31045f6e686c155430cb1788d8e122f5b653862638e4f399489166

SHA512SUM:
6d2ee53cf0f699380f9510280153e3a2
503c03399b80bbfd5633427a7b40433e
89e7cfff9b6e28b4b97314602f76ab273
10f5f669457b6a2eebeee59d0d03f67
```

Compatibility

SMC 6.8 can manage all compatible Forcepoint NGFW Engine versions up to and including version 6.8.



Important

Some versions of Forcepoint NGFW have reached end-of-life status and no longer receive maintenance releases that contain security updates. Even though these Forcepoint NGFW versions might be compatible with the SMC, we recommend that you use a Long-Term Support version that is still supported. For more information about the Forcepoint NGFW lifecycle policy, see <https://support.forcepoint.com/ProductSupportLifeCycle>.

SMC 6.8 is compatible with the following component versions.

- Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall (Forcepoint NGFW) 6.3 or higher
- McAfee Next Generation Firewall (McAfee NGFW) 5.10
- Stonesoft Firewall/VPN Express 5.5
- McAfee ePolicy Orchestrator (McAfee ePO) 5.3 or higher
- McAfee Enterprise Security Manager (McAfee ESM) 9.2.0 or higher (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*.

UUID license binding for SMC licenses

When you install the SMC or upgrade the SMC to version 6.8, the SMC generates a Unique Installation Identifier (UUID). As an alternative to binding licenses for SMC components to the IP addresses of the components, you can now bind the SMC licenses to a UUID. Using UUID binding allows organizations to obtain SMC licenses without disclosing the internal IP addresses of the SMC components.



Note

The UUID is not stored in SMC backups or restored when you restore a backup. After the UUID is generated, it will not be overwritten when you restore backups or upgrade the SMC in the future.

You can continue to use your existing licenses or optionally change the license binding method. You can use IP-address-bound licenses for some SMC components and UUID-bound licenses for other SMC components.

Management Client downloads from the Management Server

Java Web Start is no longer supported in SMC 6.8. As an alternative, you can now configure the Management Server to provide the Management Client installation files on a download web page hosted by the Management Server. Administrators download and install the Management Client from the locally hosted SMC Downloads web page.



Note

Management Client downloads are not supported for macOS in SMC 6.8. For administrators who use macOS, we recommend using the SMC Web Access feature.

Enhancements

This release of the product includes these enhancements.

Enhancements in SMC version 6.8.0

Enhancement	Description
Easier configuration of dynamic link selection for NGFW Engines	It is now possible to select Link Usage Profile elements for NGFW Engines in the Firewall/VPN role to define which link types are preferred, avoided, or not used for specific types of outbound Multi-Link traffic. NGFW Engine-specific exceptions to the Link Usage Profile also allow you to specify which traffic uses specific NetLinks.
Re-authentication when using browser-based user authentication	If an end user has authenticated using browser-based user authentication and the session will soon expire, the user can re-authenticate to extend the authentication time-out and avoid connections closing before the user has finished their tasks.
Custom script upload for NGFW Engines when using Custom Properties Profile elements	To upload custom scripts to the NGFW Engine, you can add the scripts to the properties of the NGFW Engine using a Custom Properties Profile element. The scripts are uploaded when the policy is installed or refreshed.
Expiration time for one-time passwords	You can now set the expiration time for one-time passwords that are generated when you save the initial configuration for an NGFW Engine. If the one-time password is not used, it automatically expires after the expiration time has elapsed. By default, one-time passwords expire after 30 days.
PPPoE support on VLAN interfaces	You can now configure point-to-point protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) for dynamic IP addresses that are assigned to VLAN interfaces.
User domain support for integrated ICAP servers for DLP	NGFW integration with external ICAP servers for DLP now uses the WinNT schema in the X-Authenticated-Users header instead of the Local schema that was used previously. Using the WinNT schema allows matching users against a user domain in the user directory on the ICAP server.
More granular identification of Microsoft Office 365 network applications	<p>Starting from dynamic update package 1300, the Microsoft-Office-365 Network Application element includes dependencies that allow more granular identification of Microsoft Office 365 in traffic.</p> <p>No action is required if you use the Microsoft-Office-365 Network Application element in the following types of rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Access rules with the Allow, Discard, Refuse, or Jump action ■ NAT rules <p>If you use the Microsoft-Office-365 Network Application element in an access rule with the Continue action, you must manually add the Network Application elements that are listed as dependencies. Options that are configured in a rule with the Continue action are not automatically applied to dependencies.</p> <p>For more information, see Knowledge Base article 19195.</p>

Resolved issues

These issues are resolved in this release of the product. For a list of issues fixed in a previous release, see the Release Notes for the specific release.

Description	Issue number
When you open a policy from a log entry, the view might not be focused on the highlighted rule. Focus in the policy might also be lost when you change from Preview mode to Edit mode.	SMC-23887
The Route Query tool might give incorrect results when the source is defined because the tool takes into account routes through NetLinks where the source IP address does not match the NetLink source network.	SMC-24034

Installation instructions

Use these high-level steps to install the 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/Documentation>.



Note

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



Note

If you install the SMC on Windows 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 in the Management Client from the **Configuration** view.
- 4) To generate initial configurations, right-click each NGFW Engine, then select **Configuration > Save Initial Configuration**.
Make a note of the one-time password.
- 5) Make the initial connection from the NGFW Engines to the Management Server, then enter the one-time password.
- 6) Create and upload a policy on the NGFW Engines in the Management Client.

Upgrade instructions

Take the following into consideration before upgrading the SMC.



Note

The SMC (Management Server, Log Server, and Web Portal Server) must be upgraded before the NGFW Engines are upgraded to the same major version.

- SMC 6.8 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 in the Management Client before upgrading the software.
- To upgrade a lower version of the SMC to 6.8, 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.
- When you upgrade the SMC, 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.
- You can upgrade from the following SMC versions:
 - 5.6.2 – 6.4.10
 - 6.5.0 – 6.5.15
 - 6.6.0 – 6.6.5
 - 6.7.0 – 6.7.4

Versions lower than 5.6.2 require an upgrade to one of these versions before upgrading to 6.8.0.

- Before upgrading, make sure that you have removed all elements related to McAfee Endpoint Intelligence Agent (McAfee EIA). Also remove all references in Access rules.

Known issues

For a list of known issues in this product release, see Knowledge Base article [18381](#).

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, release notes, Knowledge Base articles, downloads, cases, and contact information.

You might need to log on to access the Forcepoint support website. If you do not yet have credentials, create a customer account. See <https://support.forcepoint.com/CreateAccount>.

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*
- *Forcepoint VPN Client User Guide* for Windows or Mac
- *Forcepoint VPN Client Product Guide*

