

Introduction

This document describes current guidelines on the Cisco Industrial Network Director® (IND) Software time-based release model and release support timeline and answers some common questions. The information contained in this document is informational only and is subject to change without notice. Cisco recommends you periodically check the [Cisco IND support documentation website](#) to ensure you are reviewing the most current version of this document.

Types of Software Releases

The Cisco IND Software model has two types of software releases - Feature releases and Maintenance releases. Feature releases are time-based, and Maintenance releases are used to deploy asynchronous software patches.

The examples in these guidelines use the X.Y.Z format for release version numbers, for example 1.5.1



Feature Release

Cisco IND Software Feature releases (X.Y.Z) are signified by a change to either the first digit (X) or the second digit (Y) in the release version number. In general, a change to X would indicate a larger change, or the addition of a platform.

Feature releases are delivered for one or more of the following reasons:

- Likely to cause a change to X: Significant changes throughout the software, including infrastructure or architectural changes.
- Likely to cause a change to Y: New functions and features, and bug fixes and enhancements to existing functions introduced in a previous feature release.

Feature releases are delivered approximately every 4 months. Cisco may alter the frequency of this release interval upon customers' feedback and market conditions in the future, but every attempt is made to maintain a time-based release.

Maintenance Release

A maintenance release is signified by the third digit (Z) in the release version number. Maintenance releases do not follow a scheduled release mechanism. They are delivered asynchronously to address critical bug fixes or security-related problems as guided by Cisco PSIRT and in accordance with the Cisco Security Vulnerability Policy to Cisco IND Software feature releases.

Maintenance releases are cumulative for the feature release they support. At the time it is published, the latest maintenance release includes all critical fixes published since the feature release was introduced. Cisco encourages all Cisco IND Software customers to actively migrate to the latest maintenance release at their earliest convenience. If a bug is encountered that has been fixed in a maintenance release, the Cisco support will recommend an upgrade to the latest available maintenance release.

Release Support Documentation and Software

- The list of critical bug fixes and features added to a release is provided in the release notes posted at <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/industrial-network-director/products-release-notes-list.html>
- Installation instructions and dependencies are posted at <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/cloud-systems-management/industrial-network-director/products-installation-and-configuration-guides-list.html>
- The software images are available to download from <https://software.cisco.com/download/home/286310815/type/286310951/release/>




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