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Introduction

This document describes the Fabric Interconnect firmware auto-sync feature of the Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS). This feature can be used when introducing a second Fabric Interconnect (FI) to the existing one or when replacing a broken FI.

Prerequisites

Requirements

Cisco recommends that you have a working knowledge of these topics:

- Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS)
- Cisco Fabric Interconnect (FI)

Components Used

The information in this document is based on these software and hardware versions:

- Cisco UCS Fabric Interconnect 6248
- Cisco UCSM versions 2.2(5a) and 2.2(6c)

The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, make sure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

About the feature

When you introduce a second Fabric Interconnect to the existing one to form a cluster or when you replace a broken Fabric Interconnect, the firmware version on the new FI needs to match with the existing one.

The usual procedure is to configure the new FI as standalone and upgrade or downgrade it manually to the same version as the existing FI before adding it to the cluster.

Starting with UCSM 2.1(2), the firmware auto-sync feature will automatically upgrade or downgrade the new FI to the same version as the existing one. This eliminates the requirement of

manually upgrading or downgrading the FIs.

The existing FI needs to be at UCSM 1.4 or later and the new FI needs to be at UCSM 2.1(2) or later for this feature to work. Also, the FIs need to be of the same model for this to work.

Steps

1. Connect to the console of the new FI and add it to the existing cluster

2. Once added to the existing cluster, the new FI detects the presence of the existing one along with the firmware versions

```
  Installer has detected the presence of a peer Fabric interconnect. This Fabric interconnect will be added to the clust
er. Continue (y/n) ? y

  Enter the admin password of the peer Fabric interconnect:
    Connecting to peer Fabric interconnect... done
    Retrieving config from peer Fabric interconnect... done
    Installer has determined that the peer Fabric Interconnect is running a different firmware version than the local Fa
bric. Cannot join cluster.

    Local Fabric Interconnect
      UCSM version      : 2.2(5a)
      Kernel version    : 5.2(3)N2(2.25a)
      System version    : 5.2(3)N2(2.25a)
      local_model_no    : 6248

    Peer Fabric Interconnect
      UCSM version      : 2.2(6c)
      Kernel version    : 5.2(3)N2(2.26c)
      System version    : 5.2(3)N2(2.26c)
      peer_model_no     : 6248


  Do you wish to update firmware on this Fabric Interconnect to the Peer's version? (y/n):
```

3. Firmware Auto-sync feature copies the necessary files to the new FI and upgrade or downgrade it to match it with the existing FI

```
Verifying image bootflash:/installables/switch/ucs-6100-k9-kickstart.5.2.3.N2.2.26c.bin for boot variable "kic
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Verifying image bootflash:/installables/switch/ucs-6100-k9-system.5.2.3.N2.2.26c.bin for boot variable "system
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Verifying image type.
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Extracting "system" version from image bootflash:/installables/switch/ucs-6100-k9-system.5.2.3.N2.2.26c.bin.
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Extracting "kickstart" version from image bootflash:/installables/switch/ucs-6100-k9-kickstart.5.2.3.N2.2.26c.
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Extracting "bios" version from image bootflash:/installables/switch/ucs-6100-k9-system.5.2.3.N2.2.26c.bin.
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Performing module support checks.
[####################] 100% -- SUCCESS

Notifying services about system upgrade.
```

Related information

- Technical Support & Documentation - Cisco Systems