



Switch Interoperability Matrix

This chapter lists the devices tested by Cisco Solution-Interoperability Engineering group (iLAB) for switch interoperability and lists firmware versions and software versions.

This matrix is created based on the configurations that Cisco has successfully tested. If some configuration is not listed in this document, it does not mean that they do not work. It only means that the configuration was not officially tested by Cisco. Cisco TAC supports only the Cisco qualified configurations. For more information, contact your local Cisco representative.

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The switch Interoperability test was performed per the Fibre Channel Methodologies for Interconnect (FC-MI) Technical Report version 1.92 which describes common methodologies for facilitating interoperability in a heterogeneous switch SAN environment.



Note For information on switch interoperability that is not covered in this document, contact your local Cisco representative. When topology and functional requirements are made explicit, Cisco can propose adequate implementations to make a multivendor environment possible. Depending on your requirements, switch interoperability may or may not be required.



Note If a major version is qualified, then all the qualified versions must also work for the switch. Also, a desired combination of a Cisco NX-OS software version and a Brocade switch may not appear in this section. In such scenarios, contact your local Cisco representative for more information.



Note From FOS version 7.x, only interop mode 3 is supported.



Note All Cisco data center switches including MDS, Nexus platforms, and UCS FI are interoperable among each other at all code levels released on Cisco website. If there is any feature specific code level recommendation for a release, we publish the information in Release Notes and product configuration guides.

Table 1: Switch Interoperability Matrix (InterOp Mode), MDS 9000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco MDS NX-OS Train	Cisco MDS NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco MDS InterOp Mode
Brocade	5100	7.1.x and earlier releases	6.2.x	6.2(1), 6.2(3)	3
	8510		7.x	7.3(0)D1(1)	
	5300		8.x	8.1(1), 8.2(1), 8.3(1), 8.4(1a)	
	6510				

Table 2: Switch Interoperability Matrix (InterOp Mode), Nexus 5000, and Nexus 9000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco Nexus 5000 and 9000 OS Train	Cisco NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco Nexus 9000 InterOp Mode
Brocade	5300 and 6510	7.x and later releases	9.3.5	9.3.5	3

Table 3: Switch Interoperability Matrix (NPV Mode), MDS 9000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco MDS NX-OS Train	Cisco MDS NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco Configuration Mode
Brocade	All switch models	7.x and later releases	6.2.x	6.2(1), 6.2(3)	NPV
			8.x	8.1(1), 8.2(1), 8.3(1), 8.4(1a), 8.4.(2f)	
			9.x	9.4(1), 9.4(1a)	

Table 4: Switch Interoperability Matrix (NPIV Feature), MDS 9000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco MDS NX-OS Train	Cisco MDS NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco Switch Feature
Brocade (Access Gateway Mode)	All switch models	7.x and later releases	6.2.x	6.2(1), 6.2(3)	NPIV
			8.x and 9.x	8.1(1), 8.2(1), 8.3(1), 8.4(1a), 9.2(1a), 9.4(1a), 9.4(2a)	

Table 5: Switch Interoperability Matrix (NPV Mode), Nexus 5000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco Nexus 5000 OS Train	Cisco NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco Configuration Mode
Brocade	All switch models	7.x and later releases	7.x	7.0(1)N1(1) 7.1(1)N1(1) 7.3(2)N1(1) 7.0(7)N1(1) 7.1(4)N1(1)	NPV

Table 6: Switch Interoperability Matrix (NPV Mode), Nexus 9000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco Nexus 9000 OS Train	Cisco NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco Configuration Mode
Brocade	All switch models	7.x and later releases	7.x and later releases	9.3.5	NPV



Note Brocade switch in Access gateway (AG) Mode connected to Cisco MDS switch with NPIV enabled is certified, and vice versa. Brocade AG mode is equivalent to Cisco NPV mode and Brocade switch with NPIV feature enabled is equivalent to Cisco switch with NPIV feature enabled.

Table 7: Switch Interoperability Matrix (NPIV Feature), MDS 9000 Series

Switch Vendor	Switch Models	Firmware Version	Cisco Nexus 9000 OS Train	Cisco NX-OS Qualified Versions	Cisco Switch Feature
HPE ¹	HPE Virtual Connects.	1.0.x and later releases	6.2.x	6.2(23), 6.2(25), 6.2(27), 6.2(29), 6.2(31)	NPIV
			7.x	7.0(1)N1(1) or later releases	

¹ For detailed information, see https://h20272.www2.hpe.com/spock/utility/document.aspx?docurl=Shared%20Documents/hw/switches/C-Series_FC_Switch_Connectivity_Stream.pdf.

