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Brocade Network Advisor

Target Path Selection Guide

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Document History

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08/24/17	Updated Target Path to 14.2.1 (general users) and to 14.3.0 (AMP users).
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1 Introduction

This document provides initial guidance for selecting the Target Path code for a customer. These code selection rules provide high-level guidance as to which Brocade Network Advisor version is generally the best version to select. This document also identifies the projected next Target Path release of Brocade Network Advisor, after it achieves the required field experience and soak time.

These guidelines are not intended to be the only resources used in selecting code for a customer. The field SE or support engineer who is using this guide should also consult the Brocade release notes for patches built on the Target Path code releases. The release notes might identify a specific issue or corner case that should also be considered when making a code recommendation.

This guide is meant to assist the field SE or support engineer in selecting the best level of Brocade Network Advisor based on supported hardware, known issues, and proven field experience.

2 Definition of a Target Path Release

A Brocade Network Advisor release is identified as a “Target Path” release once it meets the following qualifications:

- The OEM has qualified the release.
- SQA testing demonstrates a high level of confidence in a stable release.
- The release has had at least one month of exposure in the field.

In rare cases, an emergency patch might be tagged as a Target Path release based on the severity of the defects addressed.

3 Target Path Code Selection

The following sections identify the specific Target Path code releases within each version of Brocade Network Advisor. The general recommendation is to always select the highest level patch within the release that is supported by the customer’s OEM.

3.1 Brocade Network Advisor Target Path

3.1.1 All Products

Brocade Network Advisor 14.2.1 should generally be recommended for all Brocade Fabric OS, Network OS, and IronWare OS customers.

Note: SMIA users should continue using Brocade Network Advisor 14.0.3 since there is a known issue with SMIA indications in Brocade Network Advisor 14.2.0 and 14.2.1.

Brocade Network Advisor 14.2.1 has the following set of new features:

- Support for Brocade Gen 6 32-GB FOS switches, including the Brocade G610
- VM Insight support
- 16 LS support for Gen 6 chassis
- Flow Vision and MAPS enhancements
- FCIP 10 circuits/tunnel support

- Web UI enhancements
- REST API enhancements
- EMC Call Home – Send Test functionality
- Defect fixes

New Hardware Supported:

- Brocade Gen 6 G610 Switch (Fabric OS)
- Brocade Ruckus ICX 7150 Switch
- Ruckus wireless access point AP720

New Software Supported:

- Fabric OS 8.1.0x, 8.1.1x
- Network OS 7.1.0x
- FastIron OS 8.0.60x
- NetIron OS 6.1.0x

3.1.2 Analytics Monitoring Platform

Brocade Network Advisor 14.3.1 should generally be recommended for all Brocade Fabric OS customers with Analytics Monitoring Platform (AMP).

Brocade Network Advisor 14.3.1 has the following set of new features:

- Intuitive Graphical Interface for Analytics Monitoring Platform (AMP) Flow metrics Reports
 - Violation reports
 - Time series reports
 - Top N reports
- Ability to schedule and export the reports
- Global Audit Report widgets (for AMP data)
- Ability to turn on Analytics Monitoring Service using the configuration wizard
- Flow status representation change for collection flows

New Software Supported:

- AMP OS 2.1.0
- Fabric OS 8.1.1x
- Request Over-subscription (ROS)

3.1.3 Target Path by Package and OEM

The following table provides the recommended Target Path by package and OEM.

Package	Brocade	EMC	HP	IBM	IBM System z
SAN	14.2.1	14.2.0*	14.2.1	14.2.1	14.2.1
SAN AMP	14.3.1	14.3.1	14.3.1	N/A	N/A
SAN + SMIA	14.0.3	14.0.3	14.0.3	14.0.3	14.0.3
Network OS	14.2.1	14.2.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
NetIron/ FastIron/ ADX	14.2.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Refer to the EMC release notes for specific version support.

3.2 Recommended Upgrade Paths to the Target Path Release

The following upgrade paths are recommended for customers who are running older versions of DCFM and Brocade Network Advisor and who wish to upgrade to the Target Path release, avoiding known issues.

3.2.1 DCFM Upgrade Path to the Brocade Network Advisor Target Path

- DCFM 10.4.X → Network Advisor 11.1.X → Network Advisor 11.3.X → Network Advisor 12.1.X → Network Advisor 12.3.X → Network Advisor 12.4.X → Network Advisor 14.0.X → Network Advisor 14.2.1

or

- DCFM 10.4.X → Network Advisor 11.1.X → Network Advisor 12.0.X → Network Advisor 12.2.X → Network Advisor 12.4.X → Network Advisor 14.0.X → Network Advisor 14.2.1

3.2.2 Brocade Network Advisor Upgrade Path to the Target Path

Network Advisor 11.1.X:

- Network Advisor 11.1.X → Network Advisor 11.3.X → Network Advisor 12.1.X → Network Advisor 12.3.X → Network Advisor 12.4.X → Network Advisor 14.0.X → Network Advisor 14.2.1

or

- Network Advisor 11.1.X → Network Advisor 12.0.X → Network Advisor 12.2.X → Network Advisor 12.4.X → Network Advisor 14.0.X → Network Advisor 14.2.1

3.2.3 Brocade Network Advisor Upgrade Path to the Target Path for AMP Users

Network Advisor 14.3.1:

- Network Advisor 12.4.X → Network Advisor 14.1.1 → Network Advisor 14.3.1
or
- Network Advisor 14.0.X → Network Advisor 14.1.1 → Network Advisor 14.3.1
or
- Network Advisor 14.2.X → Network Advisor 14.3.1
or
- Network Advisor 14.3.0 → Network Advisor 14.3.1

Note: Historic data for AMP flows from pre-14.1 will not be migrated to 14.1.1.

4 Exceptions for Target Path Selection

None.

5 Next Planned Target Path Release

The next planned Target Path release is Brocade Network Advisor 14.4.1, which will GA in 2018.