



Brocade IPv6 Supportability Statement

April 27, 2007

Brocade plans to introduce support for the IPv6 protocol before the end of the U.S. Federal Government fiscal year 2007 for selected Brocade products. This is in accordance with the timelines defined in the Department of Defense CIO Memorandum "Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6), June 9, 2003" and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum "Transition Planning for Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)".

All Brocade IPv6 upgrades will require customers to be on a current support contract.

Brocade intends to enable IPv6 as part of a future release of Brocade Fabric OS (FOS). The Brocade FOS release will enable Ethernet-based management interfaces to utilize the IPv6 protocol on supported platforms. In addition, all Brocade FOS platforms that utilize the FCIP protocol will support IPv6 on the respective Ethernet interfaces. However, Brocade does not plan to support IPv6 on older Brocade FOS-based switches and directors that do not support the IPv6-enabled release of Brocade FOS (including the Brocade 12000 Director and switch models based on Brocade FOS 3.x and 2.x).

Brocade intends to enable IPv6 as part of a future Brocade USD-X firmware release. This IPv6 upgrade will be available only for Brocade USD-X systems running the Linux-based version of the service monitor. Brocade plans to enable both Ethernet-based management interfaces and data path interfaces for IPv6 as part of the Brocade USD-X update.

Brocade intends to enable IPv6 as part of a future Brocade M-Enterprise OS (M-EOS) firmware release. This release will enable Ethernet-based management interfaces to utilize the IPv6 protocol on Brocade M6140 and Brocade Mi10K Directors. Brocade does not plan to support IPv6 on older switches and directors running Brocade M-EOS (including the ED-6064 and the ED-5000).

Brocade intends to release a version of Brocade Enterprise Fabric Connectivity Manager (EFCM) software that will support simultaneous IPv6 and IPv4 connectivity. Switches and directors running Brocade M-EOS can be managed with Brocade EFCM via Ethernet management interfaces (including the currently shipping Brocade M6140, Brocade Mi10K, Brocade M4700, and Brocade M4400).

The Brocade M1620, Brocade M2640, and Brocade Edge M3000 will not support IPv6.

Regards,
Doug Ingraham
Senior Director, Product Management
SAN Product Team
Brocade Communications Systems, Inc.