



Using the Device File Systems, Directories, and Files

This chapter contains the following sections:

- [Information About the Device File Systems, Directories, and Files, page 1](#)
- [Licensing Requirements for File Systems, Directories, and Files, page 3](#)
- [Working with Directories, page 3](#)
- [Working with Files, page 5](#)
- [Working with Archive Files, page 10](#)
- [Examples of Using the File System, page 13](#)
- [Default Settings for File System Parameters, page 16](#)
- [Additional References for File Systems, page 16](#)

Information About the Device File Systems, Directories, and Files

This section describes file systems, directories, and files on the Cisco NX-OS device.

File Systems

The syntax for specifying a local file system is `filesystem:[/!modules/]`. This table describes file systems that you can reference on your device.

Table 1: File System Syntax Components

File System Name	Module	Description
bootflash	sup-active sup-local	Internal CompactFlash memory located on the active supervisor module used for storing image files, configuration files, and other miscellaneous files. The initial default directory is bootflash.
	sup-standby sup-remote	Internal CompactFlash memory located on the standby supervisor module used for storing image files, configuration files, and other miscellaneous files.
volatile	—	Volatile random-access memory (VRAM) located on a supervisor module used for temporary or pending changes.
log	—	Memory on the active supervisor that stores logging file statistics.
system	—	Memory on a supervisor module used for storing the running-configuration file.
debug	—	Memory on a supervisor module used for debug logs.

Directories

You can create directories on bootflash: and external flash memory (slot0:, usb1:, and usb2:). You can navigate through these directories and use them for files.

Files

You create and access files on bootflash:, volatile:, slot0:, usb1:, and usb2: file systems. You can only access files on the system: file systems. You can use the debug: file system for debug log files specified in the **debug logfile** command.

You can download files, such as system image files, from remote servers using FTP, Secure Copy (SCP), Secure Shell FTP (SFTP), and TFTP. You can also copy files from an external server to the device, because the device can act as an SCP server.

Licensing Requirements for File Systems, Directories, and Files

The following table shows the licensing requirements for this feature:

Product	License Requirement
Cisco NX-OS	Using the file systems, directories, and files requires no license. Any feature not included in a license package is bundled with the Cisco NX-OS system images and is provided at no extra charge to you. For a complete explanation of the Cisco NX-OS licensing scheme, see the <i>Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide</i> .

Working with Directories

This section describes how to work with directories on the Cisco NX-OS device.

Identifying the Current Directory

You can display the directory name of your current directory.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>pwd</code> Example: <code>switch# pwd</code>	Displays the name of your current directory.

Changing the Current Directory

You can change the current directory for file system operations. The initial default directory is bootflash.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>pwd</code> Example: <code>switch# pwd</code>	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 2	cd { <i>directory</i> <i>filesystem</i> : <i>[/module/][directory]}</i> Example: switch# cd slot0:	Changes to a new current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive.

Creating a Directory

You can create directories in the bootflash: and flash device file systems.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	pwd Example: switch# pwd	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	cd { <i>directory</i> <i>filesystem</i> : <i>[/module/][directory]}</i> Example: switch# cd slot0:	(Optional) Changes to a new current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive.
Step 3	mkdir [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>[/module/]</i>] <i>directory</i> Example: switch# mkdir test	Creates a new directory. The <i>filesystem</i> argument is case sensitive. The <i>directory</i> argument is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum of 64 characters.

Displaying Directory Contents

You can display the contents of a directory.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	dir [<i>directory</i> <i>filesystem</i> : <i>[/module/][directory]</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash:test	Displays the directory contents. The default is the current working directory. The file system and directory names are case sensitive.

Deleting a Directory

You can remove directories from the file systems on your device.

Before You Begin

Ensure that the directory is empty before you try to delete it.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	pwd Example: switch# pwd	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	dir [<i>filesystem</i> :[// <i>module</i>]/][<i>directory</i>]] Example: switch# dir bootflash:test	(Optional) Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. If the directory is not empty, you must delete all the files before you can delete the directory.
Step 3	rmdir [<i>filesystem</i> :[// <i>module</i>]/] <i>directory</i> Example: switch# rmdir test	Deletes a directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.

Accessing Directories on the Standby Supervisor Module

You can access all file systems on the standby supervisor module (remote) from a session on the active supervisor module. This feature is useful when copying files to the active supervisor modules requires similar files to exist on the standby supervisor module. To access the file systems on the standby supervisor module from a session on the active supervisor module, you specify the standby supervisor module in the path to the file using either *filesystem://sup-remote/* or *filesystem://sup-standby/*.

Working with Files

This section describes how to work with files on the Cisco NX-OS device.

Moving Files

You can move a file from one directory to another directory.

**Caution**

If a file with the same name already exists in the destination directory, that file is overwritten by the moved file.

You can use the **move** command to rename a file by moving the file within the same directory.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	pwd Example: switch# pwd	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	dir [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory]</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash	(Optional) Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 3	move [<i>filesystem:[//module/][directory /] directory/</i>] <i>source-filename</i> { <i>{filesystem:[//module/][directory /] directory/}</i> }[<i>target-filename</i>] <i>target-filename</i> } Example: switch# move test old_tests/test1	Moves a file. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. The <i>target-filename</i> argument is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum of 64 characters. If the <i>target-filename</i> argument is not specified, the filename defaults to the <i>source-filename</i> argument value.

Copying Files

You can make copies of files, either within the same directory or on another directory.

**Note**

Use the **dir** command to ensure that enough space is available in the target file system. If enough space is not available, use the **delete** command to remove unneeded files.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	pwd Example: switch# pwd	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 2	dir [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>//module</i>] <i>[directory]</i> Example: switch# dir bootflash	(Optional) Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 3	copy [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>//module</i>] <i>[directory/]</i> <i>directory/</i> <i>source-filename</i> <i>{filesystem</i> : <i>//module</i>] <i>[directory/]</i> <i>directory/</i> <i>{target-filename}</i> Example: switch# move test old_tests/test1	Copies a file. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. The <i>source-filename</i> argument is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum of 64 characters. If the <i>target-filename</i> argument is not specified, the filename defaults to the <i>source-filename</i> argument value.

Deleting Files

You can delete a file from a directory.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	dir [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>//module</i>] <i>[directory]</i> Example: switch# dir bootflash	(Optional) Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 2	delete <i>{filesystem</i> : <i>//module</i>] <i>[directory/]</i> <i>directory/</i> <i>filename</i> Example: switch# move test old_tests/test1	Deletes a file. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. The <i>source-filename</i> argument is case sensitive. Caution If you specify a directory, the delete command deletes the entire directory and all its contents.

Displaying File Contents

You can display the contents of a file.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	show file [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>][<i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> Example: switch# show file bootflash:test-results	Displays the file contents.

Displaying File Checksums

You can display checksums to check the file integrity.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	show file [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>][<i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> { <i>cksum</i> <i>md5sum</i> } Example: switch# show file bootflash:trunks2.cfg cksum	Displays the checksum or MD5 checksum of the file.

Compressing and Uncompressing Files

You can compress and uncompress files on your Cisco NX-OS device using Lempel-Ziv 1977 (LZ77) coding.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	dir [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>] <i>directory</i>] Example: switch# dir bootflash:	(Optional) Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.
Step 2	gzip [<i>filesystem:[//module/]</i>][<i>directory/</i> <i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> Example: switch# gzip show_tech	Compresses a file. After the file is compressed, it has a .gz suffix.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	gunzip [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>//module/</i>][<i>directory/</i>] [<i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> .gz Example: switch# gunzip show_tech.gz	Uncompresses a file. The file to uncompress must have the .gz suffix. After the file is uncompressed, it does not have the .gz suffix.

Displaying the Last Lines in a File

You can display the last lines of a file.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	tail [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>//module/</i>][<i>directory/</i>] <i>filename</i> [<i>lines</i>] Example: switch# tail ospf-gr.conf	Displays the last lines of a file. The default number of lines is 10. The range is from 0 to 80 lines.

Redirecting show Command Output to a File

You can redirect **show** command output to a file on bootflash:, slot0:, volatile:, or on a remote server. You can also specify the format for the command output.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	terminal redirection-mode { <i>ascii</i> <i>zipped</i> } Example: switch# terminal redirection-mode zipped	(Optional) Set the redirection mode for the show command output for the user session. The default mode is ascii .
Step 2	<i>show-command</i> > [<i>filesystem</i> : <i>//module/</i>][<i>directory</i>] [<i>directory /</i>] <i>filename</i> Example: switch# show tech-support > bootflash:techinfo	Redirects the output from a show command to a file.

Finding Files

You can find the files in the current working directory and its subdirectories that have names that begin with a specific character string.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>pwd</code> Example: switch# pwd	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	<code>cd {filesystem:[//module/][directory] directory}</code> Example: switch# cd bootflash:test_scripts	(Optional) Changes the default directory.
Step 3	<code>find filename-prefix</code> Example: switch# find bgp_script	Finds all filenames in the default directory and in its subdirectories beginning with the filename prefix. The filename prefix is case sensitive.

Working with Archive Files

The Cisco NX-OS software supports archive files. You can create an archive file, append files to an existing archive file, extract files from an archive file, and list the files in an archive file.

Creating an Archive Files

You can create an archive file and add files to it. You can specify the following compression types:

- bzip2
- gzip
- Uncompressed

The default is gzip.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>tar create {bootflash: volatile:}archive-filename</code>	Creates an archive file and adds files to it. The filename is alphanumeric, not case sensitive, and has a maximum length of 240 characters.

Command or Action	Purpose
<p>[absolute] [bz2-compress] [gz-compress] [remove] [uncompressed] [verbose] <i>filename-list</i></p>	<p>The absolute keyword specifies that the leading backslash characters (\) should not be removed from the names of the files added to the archive file. By default, the leading backslash characters are removed.</p> <p>The bz2-compress, gz-compress, and uncompressed keywords determine the compression utility used when files are added, or later appended, to the archive and the decompression utility to use when extracting the files. If you do not specify an extension for the archive file, the defaults are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For bz2-compress, the extension is .tar.bz2. • For gz-compress, the extension is .tar.gz. • For uncompressed, the extension is .tar. <p>The remove keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should delete the files from the filesystem after adding them to the archive. By default, the files are not deleted.</p> <p>The verbose keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should list the files as they are added to the archive. By default, the files are listed as they are added.</p>

This example shows how to create a gzip compressed archive file:

```
switch# tar create bootflash:config-archive gz-compress bootflash:config-file
```

Appending Files to an Archive File

You can append files to an existing archive file on your Cisco NX-OS device.

Before You Begin

You have created an archive file on your Cisco NX-OS device.

Procedure

Command or Action	Purpose
<p>Step 1 tar append {bootflash: volatile:}<i>archive-filename</i> [absolute] [remove] [verbose].<i>filename-list</i></p>	<p>Adds files to an existing archive file. The archive filename is not case sensitive.</p> <p>The absolute keyword specifies that the leading backslash characters (\) should not be removed from the names of the files added to the archive file. By default, the leading backslash characters are removed.</p> <p>The remove keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should delete the files from the filesystem after adding them to the archive. By default, the files are not deleted.</p>

	Command or Action	Purpose
		The verbose keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should list the files as they are added to the archive. By default, the files are listed as they are added.

This example shows how to append a file to an existing archive file:

```
switch# tar append bootflash:config-archive.tar.gz bootflash:new-config
```

Extracting Files from an Archive File

You can extract files to an existing archive file on your Cisco NX-OS device.

Before You Begin

You have created an archive file on your Cisco NX-OS device.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	tar extract {bootflash: volatile;} <i>archive-filename</i> [keep-old] [screen] [to {bootflash: volatile;}[<i>directory-name</i>]] [verbose]	<p>Extracts files from an existing archive file. The archive filename is not case sensitive.</p> <p>The keep-old keyword indicates that the Cisco NX-OS software should not overwrite files with the same name as the files being extracted.</p> <p>The screen keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should display the contents of the extracted files to the terminal screen.</p> <p>The to keyword specifies the target filesystem. You can include a directory name. The directory name is alphanumeric, case sensitive, and has a maximum length of 240 characters.</p> <p>The verbose keyword specifies that the Cisco NX-OS software should display the names of the files as they are extracted.</p>

This example shows how to extract files from an existing archive file:

```
switch# tar extract bootflash:config-archive.tar.gz
```

Displaying the Filenames in an Archive File

You can display the names of the files in an archive files using the **tar list** command.

```
tar list {bootflash: | volatile;}archive-filename
```

The archive filename is not case sensitive.

```
switch# tar list bootflash:config-archive.tar.gz
config-file
new-config
```

Examples of Using the File System

This section includes example of using the file system on the Cisco NX-OS device.

Accessing Directories on Standby Supervisor Modules

This example shows how to list the files on the standby supervisor module:

```
switch# dir bootflash://sup-remote
12198912   Aug 27 16:29:18 2003  m9500-sflek9-kickstart-mzg.1.3.0.39a.bin
 1864931   Apr 29 12:41:59 2003  dplug2
   12288   Apr 18 20:23:11 2003  lost+found/
12097024   Nov 21 16:34:18 2003  m9500-sflek9-kickstart-mz.1.3.1.1.bin
41574014   Nov 21 16:34:47 2003  m9500-sflek9-mz.1.3.1.1.bin

Usage for bootflash://sup-remote
67747169 bytes used
116812447 bytes free
184559616 bytes total
```

This example shows how to delete a file on the standby supervisor module:

```
switch# delete bootflash://sup-remote/aOldConfig.txt
```

Moving Files

This example shows how to move a file on an external flash device:

```
switch# move slot0:samplefile slot0:mystorage/samplefile
```

This example shows how to move a file in the default file system:

```
switch# move samplefile mystorage/samplefile
```

Copying Files

This example shows how to copy the file called samplefile from the root directory of the slot0: file system to the mystorage directory:

```
switch# copy slot0:samplefile slot0:mystorage/samplefile
```

This example shows how to copy a file from the current directory level:

```
switch# copy samplefile mystorage/samplefile
```

This example shows how to copy a file from the active supervisor module bootflash to the standby supervisor module bootflash:

```
switch# copy bootflash:system_image bootflash://sup-2/system_image
```

You can also use the **copy** command to upload and download files from the slot0: or bootflash: file system to or from a FTP, TFTP, SFTP, or SCP server.

Deleting a Directory

You can remove directories from the file systems on your device.

Before You Begin

Ensure that the directory is empty before you try to delete it.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	pwd Example: switch# pwd	(Optional) Displays the name of your current default directory.
Step 2	dir [<i>filesystem</i> :[<i>//module/</i>][<i>directory</i>]] Example: switch# dir bootflash:test	(Optional) Displays the contents of the current directory. The file system, module, and directory names are case sensitive. If the directory is not empty, you must delete all the files before you can delete the directory.
Step 3	rmdir [<i>filesystem</i> :[<i>//module/</i>]] <i>directory</i> Example: switch# rmdir test	Deletes a directory. The file system and directory name are case sensitive.

Displaying File Contents

This example displays the contents of a file on an external flash device:

```
switch# show file slot0:test
configure terminal
interface ethernet 1/1
no shutdown
end
show interface ethernet 1/1
```

This example displays the contents of a file residing in the current directory:

```
switch# show file myfile
```

Displaying File Checksums

This example shows how to display the checksum of a file:

```
switch# show file bootflash:trunks2.cfg cksum
583547619
```

This example shows how to display the MD5 checksum of a file:

```
switch# show file bootflash:trunks2.cfg md5sum
3b94707198aabefcf46459de10c9281c
```

Compressing and Uncompressing Files

This example shows how to compress a file:

```
switch# dir
 1525859      Jul 04 00:51:03 2003 Samplefile
...
switch# gzip volatile:Samplefile
switch# dir
 266069      Jul 04 00:51:03 2003 Samplefile.gz
...
```

This example shows how to uncompress a compressed file:

```
switch# dir
 266069      Jul 04 00:51:03 2003 Samplefile.gz
...
switch# gunzip samplefile
switch# dir
 1525859      Jul 04 00:51:03 2003 Samplefile
...
```

Redirecting show Command Output

This example shows how to direct the output to a file on the bootflash: file system:

```
switch# show interface > bootflash:switch1-intf.cfg
```

This example shows how to direct the output to a file on external flash memory:

```
switch# show interface > slot0:switch-intf.cfg
```

This example shows how to direct the output to a file on a TFTP server:

```
switch# show interface > tftp://10.10.1.1/home/configs/switch-intf.cfg
Preparing to copy...done
```

This example directs the output of the **show tech-support** command to a file:

```
switch# show tech-support > Samplefile
Building Configuration ...
switch# dir
 1525859      Jul 04 00:51:03 2003 Samplefile
```

```
Usage for volatile://
 1527808 bytes used
19443712 bytes free
20971520 bytes total
```

Finding Files

This example shows how to find a file in the current default directory:

```
switch# find smm_shm.cfg
/usr/bin/find: ./lost+found: Permission denied
./smm_shm.cfg
./newer-fs/isan/etc/routing-sw/smm_shm.cfg
./newer-fs/isan/etc/smm_shm.cfg
```

Default Settings for File System Parameters

This table lists the default settings for the file system parameters.

Table 2: Default File System Settings

Parameters	Default
Default filesystem	bootflash:

Additional References for File Systems

This section includes additional information related to the file systems.

Related Documents for File Systems

Related Topic	Document Title
Licensing	<i>Cisco NX-OS Licensing Guide</i>
Command reference	<i>Cisco Nexus 7000 Series NX-OS Fundamentals Command Reference</i> <i>Cisco Nexus 3000 Series NX-OS Command Reference</i>