



CHAPTER 6

Configuring Basic Device Settings

This section contains the following topics:

- [Management IP Address, page 6-1](#)
- [System Time, page 6-2](#)
- [Configuring Advanced Device Management Features, page 6-4](#)
- [System Image/Configuration, page 6-6](#)
- [Device Name/Password, page 6-12](#)
- [System Software, page 6-13](#)

Management IP Address

The Management IP pane lets you set the management IP address for the security appliance or for a context in transparent firewall mode. A transparent firewall does not participate in IP routing. The only IP configuration required for the security appliance is the management IP address. The exception is that you can set the IP address for the Management 0/0 management-only interface, which does not pass through traffic. See the [Configuring Interfaces in Single Mode](#) chapter to set the IP address for Management 0/0.

This address is required, because the security appliance uses this address as the source address for traffic originating on the security appliance, such as system messages or communications with AAA servers. You can also use this address for remote management access.

Fields

- Management IP Address—Sets the management IP address.
- Subnet Mask—Sets the subnet mask.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
—	•	•	•	—

System Time

You can manually set the system date or time or have the security appliance dynamically set the system date and time using an NTP server.

See the following topics for more information:

- [Clock, page 6-2](#)
- [NTP, page 6-3](#)

Clock

The Clock pane lets you manually set the date and time for the security appliance. The time displays in the status bar at the bottom of the main ASDM pane.

In multiple context mode, you can set the time in the system configuration only.

To dynamically set the time using an NTP server, see the [NTP](#) pane; time derived from an NTP server overrides any time set manually in the [Clock](#) pane.

Fields

- **Time Zone**—Sets the time zone as GMT plus or minus the appropriate number of hours. If you select the Eastern Time, Central Time, Mountain Time, or Pacific Time zone, then the time adjusts automatically for daylight savings time, from 2:00 a.m. on the second Sunday in March to 2:00 a.m. on the first Sunday in November.



Note

Changing the time zone on the security appliance may drop the connection to intelligent SSMs.

- **Date**—Sets the date. Click the Date drop-down list to display a calendar. Then navigate to the correct date using the following methods:
 - Click the name of the month to display a list of months. Click the desired month. The calendar updates to that month.
 - Click the year to change the year. You can use the up and down arrows to scroll through the years, or you can type a year in the entry field.
 - Click the arrows to the right and left of the month and year display to scroll the calendar forward and backwards one month at a time.
 - Click a day on the calendar to set the date.
- **Time**—Sets the time on a 24-hour clock.
 - hh, mm, and ss boxes—Sets the hour, minutes, and seconds.
- **Update Display Time**—Updates the time shown in the bottom right corner of the ASDM pane. The current time updates automatically every ten seconds.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	•

NTP

The NTP pane lets you define NTP servers to dynamically set the time on the security appliance. The time displays in the status bar at the bottom of the main ASDM pane.

Time derived from an NTP server overrides any time set manually in the [Clock](#) pane.

NTP is used to implement a hierarchical system of servers that provide a precisely synchronized time among network systems. This kind of accuracy is required for time-sensitive operations, such as validating CRLs, which include a precise time stamp. You can configure multiple NTP servers. The security appliance chooses the server with the lowest stratum—a measure of how reliable the data is.

Fields

- NTP Server List—Shows defined NTP servers.
 - IP Address—Shows the NTP server IP address.
 - Interface—Specifies the outgoing interface for NTP packets, if configured. The system does not include any interfaces, so it uses the admin context interfaces. If the interface is blank, then the security appliance uses the default admin context interface according to the routing table.
 - Preferred?—Shows whether this NTP server is a preferred server, Yes or No. NTP uses an algorithm to determine which server is the most accurate and synchronizes to that one. If servers are of similar accuracy, then the preferred server is used. However, if a server is significantly more accurate than the preferred one, the security appliance uses the more accurate one. For example, the security appliance uses a more accurate server over a less accurate server that is preferred.
 - Key Number—Shows the authentication key ID number.
 - Trusted Key?—Shows if the key is a trusted key, Yes or No. The key must be trusted for authentication to work.
- Enable NTP Authentication—Enables authentication for all servers.
- Add—Adds an NTP server.
- Edit—Edits an NTP server.
- Delete—Deletes and NTP server.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	•

Add/Edit NTP Server Configuration

The Add/Edit NTP Server Configuration dialog box lets you add or edit an NTP server.

Fields

- IP Address—Sets the NTP server IP address.
- Preferred—Sets this server as a preferred server. NTP uses an algorithm to determine which server is the most accurate and synchronizes to that one. If servers are of similar accuracy, then the preferred server is used. However, if a server is significantly more accurate than the preferred one, the security appliance uses the more accurate one. For example, the security appliance uses a more accurate server over a less accurate server that is preferred.
- Interface—Sets the outgoing interface for NTP packets, if you want to override the default interface according to the routing table. The system does not include any interfaces, so it uses the admin context interfaces. If you intend to change the admin context (thus changing the available interfaces), you should choose **None** (the default interface) for stability.
- Authentication Key—Sets the authentication key attributes if you want to use MD5 authentication for communicating with the NTP server.
 - Key Number—Sets the key ID for this authentication key. The NTP server packets must also use this key ID. If you previously configured a key ID for another server, you can select it in the list; otherwise, type a number between 1 and 4294967295.
 - Trusted—Sets this key as a trusted key. You must select this box for authentication to work.
 - Key Value—Sets the authentication key as a string up to 32 characters in length.
 - Reenter Key Value—Validates the key by ensuring that you enter the key correctly two times.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	•

Configuring Advanced Device Management Features

The following sections describe how to configure the items in the Advanced section.

Configuring HTTP Redirect

The HTTP Redirect table displays each interface on the security appliance, shows whether it is configured to redirect HTTP connections to HTTPS, and the port number from which it redirects those connections.

**Note**

To redirect HTTP, the interface requires an access list that permits HTTP. Otherwise, the interface cannot listen to the HTTP port.

To change the HTTP redirect setting of an interface or the port from which it redirects HTTP connections, select the interface in the table and click **Edit**. You can also double-click an interface. The Edit HTTP/HTTPS Settings dialog box opens.

Edit HTTP/HTTPS Settings

The Edit HTTP/HTTPS Settings dialog box lets you change the HTTP redirect setting of an interface or the port number.

Fields

The Edit HTTP/HTTPS Settings dialog box includes the following fields:

- **Interface**—Identifies the interface on which the security appliance redirects or does not redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS.
- **Redirect HTTP to HTTPS**—Check to redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS, or uncheck to not redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS.
- **HTTP Port**—Identifies the port from which the interface redirects HTTP connections. By default it listens to port 80.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	—	•	—	—

Configuring Maximum SSL VPN Sessions

This pane lets you set a maximum number of SSL VPN sessions.

Fields

Maximum Sessions—Enter the maximum number of Clientless SSL VPN sessions you want to allow. Be aware that the different ASA models support Clientless SSL VPN sessions as follows: ASA 5510 supports a maximum of 250; ASA 5520 maximum is 750; ASA 5540 maximum is 2500; ASA 5550 maximum is 5000.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	—	•	—	—

History Metrics

The History Metrics pane lets you configure the adaptive security appliance to keep a history of various statistics, which ASDM can display on any Graph/Table. If you do not enable history metrics, you can only monitor statistics in real time. Enabling history metrics lets you view statistics graphs from the last 10 minutes, 60 minutes, 12 hours, and 5 days.

To configure history metrics, perform the following steps:

-
- Step 1** Choose **Configuration > Device Management > Advanced > History Metrics**.
The History Metrics pane appears.
- Step 2** Check the **ASDM History Metrics** check box to enable history metrics, and then click **Apply**.
-

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	•	—

System Image/Configuration

This section includes the following topics:

- [Activation Key, page 6-6](#)
- [Auto Update, page 6-7](#)
- [Boot Image/Configuration, page 6-10](#)

Activation Key

Software licenses and their features are activated by activation keys. The Activation Key pane lets you view the device serial number and activation keys in the running configuration and flash memory. You can also update the activation key on this pane.

Features of temporary and permanent licenses combine to form the running license. When you activate a temporary license, it overrides any previously-activated temporary license and combines with the permanent license to create a new running license. When you activate a permanent license, it overwrites the currently running permanent and temporary licenses and becomes the running license.

The security appliance displays any resolved conflicts between the temporary and permanent licenses when you enter a temporary activation-key.

To update the activation key, perform the following steps:

Step 1 Go to **Configuration > Device Management > System Image/Configuration > Activation Key**.

Step 2 Enter the new activation key in the New Activation Key field. Enter the activation key as a four- or five-element hexadecimal string with one space between each element, for example:

```
0x00000000 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x00000000
```

The leading 0x specifier is optional; all values are assumed to be hexadecimal. The key is not stored in the configuration file. The key is tied to the serial number.

Step 3 Click **Update Activation Key**.

Auto Update

The Auto Update pane lets you configure the security appliance to be managed remotely from servers that support the Auto Update specification. Auto Update lets you apply configuration changes to the security appliance and receive software updates from remote locations.

Auto Update is useful in solving many of the challenges facing administrators for security appliance management:

- Overcomes dynamic addressing and NAT challenges.
- Gives ability to commit configuration changes in one atomic action.
- Provides a reliable method for updating software.
- Leverages well understood methods for high scalability.
- Open interface gives developers tremendous flexibility.
- Simplifies security solutions for Service Provider environments.
- High reliability, rich security/management features, broad support by many products.

The Auto Update specification provides the infrastructure necessary for remote management applications to download security appliance configurations, software images, and to perform basic monitoring from a centralized location or multiple locations.

The Auto Update specification allows the Auto Update server to either push configuration information and send requests for information to the security appliance, or to pull configuration information by causing the security appliance to periodically poll the Auto Update server. The Auto Update server can also send a command to the security appliance to send an immediate polling request at any time. Communication between the Auto Update server and the security appliance requires a communications path and local CLI configuration on each security appliance.

The Auto Update feature on the security appliance can be used with Cisco security products, as well as products from third-party companies that want to manage the security appliance.

Important Notes

- If the security appliance configuration is updated from an Auto Update server, ASDM is not notified. You must choose **Refresh** or **File > Refresh ASDM with the Running Configuration on the Device** to get the latest configuration, and any changes to the configuration made in ASDM will be lost.
- If HTTPS is chosen as the protocol to communicate with the Auto Update server, the security appliance will use SSL. This requires the security appliance to have a DES or 3DES license.

Fields

The Auto Update pane consists of an Auto Update Servers table and two areas: the Timeout area, and the Polling area.

The Auto Update Servers table lets you view the parameters of previously-configured Auto Update servers. The security appliance polls the server listed at the top of the table first. You can change the order of the servers in the table with the Move Up and Move Down buttons. The Auto Update Servers table contains the following columns:

- Server—The name or IP address of the Auto Update server.
- User Name—The user name used to access the Auto Update server.
- Interface—The interface used when sending requests to the Auto Update server.
- Verify Certificate—Indicates whether the security appliance checks the certificate returned by the Auto Update server against the Certification Authority (CA) root certificates. This requires that the Auto Update server and the security appliance use the same CA.

Double-clicking any of the rows in the Auto Update Server table opens the Edit Auto Update Server dialog box, in which you can modify the Auto Update server parameters. These changes are immediately reflected in the table, but you must click **Apply** to save them to the configuration.

The Timeout area lets you set the amount of time the security appliance waits for the Auto Update server to time out. The Timeout area contains the following fields:

- Enable Timeout Period—Check to enable the security appliance to time out if no response is received from the Auto Update server.
- Timeout Period (Minutes)—Enter the number of minutes the security appliance will wait to time out if no response is received from the Auto Update server.

The Polling area lets you configure how often the security appliance will poll for information from the Auto Update server. The Polling area contains the following fields:

- Polling Period (minutes)—The number of minutes the security appliance will wait to poll the Auto Update server for new information.
- Poll on Specified Days—Allows you to specify a polling schedule.
- Set Polling Schedule—Displays the Set Polling Schedule dialog box where you can configure the days and time-of-day to poll the Auto Update server.
- Retry Period (minutes)—The number of minutes the security appliance will wait to poll the Auto Update server for new information if the attempt to poll the server fails.
- Retry Count—The number of times the security appliance will attempt to retry to poll the Auto Update server for new information.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	—

Set Polling Schedule

The Set Polling Schedule dialog box lets you configure specific days, and the time-of-day for the security appliance to poll the Auto Update server.

Fields

The Set Polling Schedule dialog box contains the following fields:

Days of the Week—Check the days of the week that you want the security appliance to poll the Auto Update server.

The Daily Update pane group lets you configure the time of day when you want the security appliance to poll the Auto Update server, and contains the following fields:

- **Start Time**—Enter the hour and minute to begin the Auto Update poll.
- **Enable randomization**—Check to enable the security appliance to randomly choose a time to poll the Auto Update server.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	—

Add/Edit Auto Update Server

The Edit Auto Update Server dialog box contains the following fields:

- **URL**—The protocol the Auto Update server uses to communicate with the security appliance, either http or https, and the path to the Auto Update server.
- **Interface**—The interface to use when sending requests to the Auto Update server.
- **Verify Certificate**—Select to enable the security appliance to verify the certificate returned by the Auto Update server against the Certification Authority (CA) root certificates. This requires that the Auto Update server and the security appliance use the same CA.

The User area contains the following fields:

- **User Name (Optional)**—Enter the user name needed to access the Auto Update server.
- **Password**—Enter the user password for the Auto Update server.
- **Confirm Password**—Reenter the user password for the Auto Update server.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	—

Advanced Auto Update Settings**Fields**

- Use Device ID to uniquely identify the ASA—Enables authentication using a Device ID. The Device ID is used to uniquely identify the security appliance to the Auto Update server.
- Device ID—Type of Device ID to use.
 - Hostname—The name of the host.
 - Serial Number—Device serial number.
 - IP Address on interface—The IP address of the selected interface, used to uniquely identify the security appliance to the Auto Update server.
 - MAC Address on interface—The MAC address of the selected interface, used to uniquely identify the security appliance to the Auto Update server.
 - User-defined value—A unique user ID.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	—

Boot Image/Configuration

Boot Image/Configuration lets you choose which image file the security appliance will boot from, as well as which configuration file it will use at startup.

You can specify up to four local binary image files for use as the startup image, and one image located on a TFTP server for the device to boot from. If you specify an image located on a TFTP server, it must be first in the list. In the event the device cannot reach the TFTP server to load the image from, it will attempt to load the next image file in the list located in Flash.

If you do not specify any boot variable, the first valid image on internal flash will be chosen to boot the system.

Fields

- **Boot Order**—Displays the order in which binary image files will be used to boot.
- **Boot Image Location**—Displays the physical location and path of the boot file.
- **Boot Configuration File Path**—Displays the location of the configuration file.
- **Add**—Lets you add a flash or TFTP boot image entry to be used in the boot process.
- **Edit**—Lets you edit a flash or TFTP boot image entry.
- **Delete**—Deletes the selected flash or TFTP boot image entry.
- **Move Up**—Moves the selected flash or TFTP boot image entry up in the boot order.
- **Move Down**—Moves the selected flash or TFTP boot image entry down in the boot order.
- **Browse Flash**—Lets you specify the location of a boot image or configuration file.

ASDM Image Configuration

- **ASDM Image File Path**—Displays the location of the configuration file the device will use at startup.
- **Browse Flash**—Lets you specify the location of a boot image or configuration file.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	•

Add Boot Image

To add a boot image entry to the boot order list, click **Add** in the Boot Image/Configuration pane.

You can select a Flash or TFTP image to add a boot image to the boot order list.

Either type the path of the image, or click **Browse Flash** to specify the image location. You must type the path of the image location if you are using TFTP.

Fields

- **Flash Image**—Select to add a boot image located in the flash file system.
 - **Path**—Specify the path of the boot image in the flash file system.
- **TFTP Image**—Select to add a boot image located on a TFTP server.
 - **[Path]**—Enter the path on the TFTP server of the boot image file, including the IP address of the server.
- **OK**—Accepts changes and returns to the previous pane.
- **Cancel**—Discards changes and returns to the previous pane.
- **Help**—Provides more information.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	•

Device Name/Password

The Device Name/Password pane lets you set the hostname and domain name for the security appliance and set the enable and telnet passwords.

The hostname appears in the command line prompt, and if you establish sessions to multiple devices, the hostname helps you keep track of where you enter commands. The hostname is also used in system messages.

For multiple context mode, the hostname that you set in the system execution space appears in the command line prompt for all contexts. The hostname that you optionally set within a context does not appear in the command line; it can be used for a banner.

The security appliance appends the domain name as a suffix to unqualified names. For example, if you set the domain name to “example.com,” and specify a syslog server by the unqualified name of “jupiter,” then the security appliance qualifies the name to “jupiter.example.com.”

The Telnet Password sets the login password. By default, it is “cisco.” Although this area is called Telnet Password, this password applies to Telnet and SSH access. The login password lets you access EXEC mode if you connect to the security appliance using a Telnet or SSH session. (If you configure user authentication for Telnet or SSH access, then each user has their own password, and this login password is not used.)

The enable password lets you access privileged EXEC mode after you log in. Also, this password is used to access ASDM as the default user, which is blank. The default user shows as “enable_15” in the User Accounts pane. (If you configure user authentication for enable access, then each user has their own password, and this enable password is not used; see [About Authentication, page 14-2](#). In addition, you can configure authentication for HTTP/ASDM access.)

Fields

The Hostname and Domain Name area contains the following fields:

- Hostname—Sets the hostname. The default hostname depends on your platform.
- Domain Name—Sets the domain name. The default domain name is default.domain.invalid.

The Enable Password area contains the following fields. In multiple context mode, the Enable Password area only appears in contexts; it does not appear in the system execution space.

- Change the privileged mode password—Lets you change the enable password.
- Old Password—Enter the old password.
- New Password—Enter the new password.
- Confirm New Password—Confirm the new password.

The Telnet Password area contains the following fields. In multiple context mode, the Telnet Password area only appears in contexts; it does not appear in the system execution space.

- Change the password to access the platform console—Lets you change the login password.
- Old Password—Enter the old password.
- New Password—Enter the new password.
- Confirm New Password—Confirm the new password.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	•	•

System Software

The System Software pane lets you configure the parameters of security appliances configured as Auto Update clients when this security appliance is acting as an Auto Update server.

As an Auto Update server, you can specify the platform and ASDM images for security appliances configured as Auto Update clients, including image revision numbers and locations, according to the device ID, device family, or device type of the client.

The Auto Update specification provides the infrastructure necessary for remote management applications to download security appliance configurations, software Images, and to perform basic monitoring from a centralized location.

As an Auto Update server, the specification allows the Auto Update server to either push configuration information and send requests for information to the security appliance, or to pull configuration information by causing the security appliance to periodically poll the Auto Update server. The Auto Update server can also send a command to the security appliance to send an immediate polling request at any time. Communication between the Auto Update server and the security appliance requires a communications path and local CLI configuration on each security appliance.

Fields

The Client Update pane consists of the following fields:

- Enable Client Update—Check to allow the security appliance to update the images used by other security appliances that are configured as Auto Update clients.
- Client Images table—lets you view previously-configured Client Update entries and includes the following columns:
 - Device—Displays a text string corresponding to a device-id of the client.
 - Device Family—Displays the family name of a client, either asa, pix, or a text string.
 - Device Type—Displays the type name of a client.
 - Image Type—Specifies the type of image, either ASDM image or Boot image.
 - Image URL—Specifies the URL for the software component.

- Client Revision—Specifies the revision number(s) of the software component.

Double-clicking any of the rows in the Client Images table opens the Edit Client Update Entry dialog box, in which you can modify the client parameters. These changes are immediately reflected in the table, but you must click Apply to save them to the configuration.

- Live Client Update area—Lets you immediately update Auto Update clients that are currently connected to the security appliance through a tunnel.
 - Tunnel Group—Select “all” to update all Auto Update clients connected over all tunnel groups, or specify a tunnel group for clients that you want to update.
 - Update Now—Click to begin an immediate update.



Note Live Client Update is only available when the security appliance is configured in routed mode.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	—

Add/Edit Client Update

Fields

The Add/Edit Client Update dialog box displays the following fields:

- Device Identification group:
 - Device ID—Enable if the client is configured to identify itself with a unique string, and specify the same string that the client uses. The maximum length is 63 characters.
 - Device Family—Enable if the client is configured to identify itself by device family, and specify the same device family that the client uses. It can be asa, pix, or a text string with a maximum length of 7 characters.
 - Device Type—Enable if the client is configured to identify itself by device type, and specify the same device type that the client uses. It can be pix-515, pix-515e, pix-525, pix-535, asa5505, asa5510, asa5520, or asa5540. It can also be a text string with a maximum length of 15 characters.
 - Not Specified—Select for clients that do not match the above.
- Image Type—Specifies an image type, either ASDM or boot image. This URL must point to a file appropriate for this client. Maximum length of 255 characters.
- Client Revision—Specifies a text string corresponding to the revision number(s) of the software component. For example: 7.1(0)22.
- Image URL—Specifies the URL for the software component. This URL must point to a file appropriate for this client.

Modes

The following table shows the modes in which this feature is available:

Firewall Mode		Security Context		
Routed	Transparent	Single	Multiple	
			Context	System
•	•	•	—	—

