



## Before You Begin

This chapter lists the information you need to have before you begin using your MDS 9000 Switch. For information on setting up the switch and doing an initial configuration, refer to the *Cisco MDS 9000 Family Configuration Guide*.

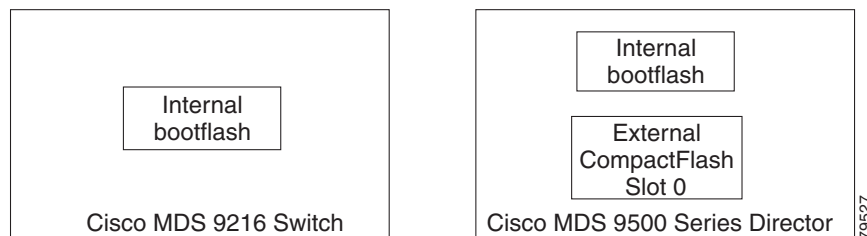
This chapter contains the following topics:

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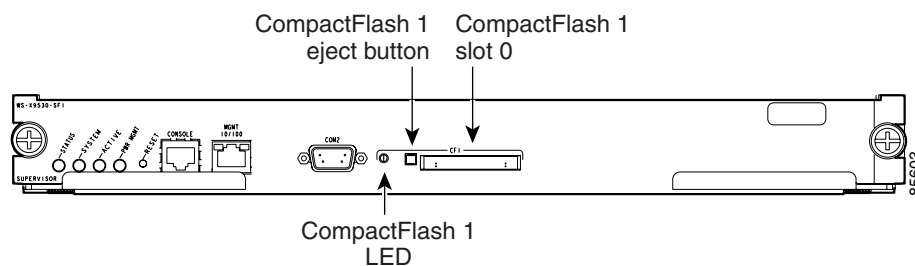
## About Flash Devices

Every switch in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family contains one internal bootflash. The Cisco MDS 9500 Series additionally contains one external CompactFlash called slot0. (See [Figure 4-1](#) and [Figure 4-2](#).)

**Figure 4-1** Flash Devices in the Cisco MDS 9000 Supervisor Module



**Figure 4-2** External CompactFlash in the Cisco MDS 9000 Supervisor Module



## Internal bootflash:

All switches in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family have one internal bootflash: that resides in the supervisor or switching module. You have access to two directories within the internal bootflash: file system.

- The volatile: directory which provides temporary storage, and is also the default. Files in temporary storage (volatile:) are erased when the switch reboots.
- The bootflash (nonvolatile storage): directory which provides permanent storage. The files in bootflash are preserved through reboots and power outages.

## External CompactFlash (Slot0)

Cisco MDS 9500 Series directors contain an additional external CompactFlash called slot0:

The external CompactFlash, an optional device for MDS 9500 Series directors, can be used for storing software images, logs, and core dumps.

## Switch Roles

By default, two roles exist in all switches:

- Network operator—Has permission to view the configuration.
- Network administrator—Has permission to execute all commands and to set up to 64 permission levels based on user roles and groups.

When you execute a command, perform command completion, or obtain context sensitive help, the switch software allows the operation to progress if you have the correct permission as specified in the description of the command.

## Using Valid Formats and Ranges



### Note

Do not enter ellipsis (...), vertical bars (|), less than or greater than (<>), brackets ([ ]), or braces ({ }) in any formats or ranges. These characters have special meaning in SAN-OS text strings.

**Table 4-1** Valid Formats and Ranges

Address	Description	Valid Format Example	Range
MAC address	6 bytes in hexadecimal format separated by colons (not case-sensitive)	00:00:0c:24:d2:Fe	--



**Table 4-1 Valid Formats and Ranges (continued)**

Fabric Shortest Path First (FSPF)	Integer that specifies the hold time (in milliseconds) before making FSPF computations.	1000	0 to 65535
Fabric Analyzer	The allowed range for the frame size limit in bytes.	64	64 to 65536
Fabric Analyzer captures	An example of 10 frames, limits the number of frames captured to 10.	10	0 to 2147483647
FCIP profile	Integer that specifies the FCIP profile	101	1 to 255
TCP retransmit time	Integer that specifies the minimum retransmit time for the TCP connection in milliseconds	300	250 to 5000
Keepalive timeout	Integer that specifies the TCP connection's keepalive timeout in seconds.	60	1 to 7200
TCP retransmissions	Integer that specifies the maximum number of TCP transmissions.	6	1 to 8
PMTU	Integer that specifies the path MTU reset time in seconds	90	60 to 3600
TCP buffer size	Integer that specifies the advertised TCP buffer size in KB.	5000	0 to 8192
Traffic burst size	Integer that specifies the maximum burst size in KB.	30	10 to 100
Peer TCP port	Integer that specifies the TCP port number	3000	0 to 65535
Acceptable time difference	Integer that specifies the acceptable time difference in milliseconds for a packet being accepted.	4000	1 to 60,000

**Table 4-1** Valid Formats and Ranges (continued)

iSCSI pWWN allocation	Integer that specifies the number of pWWNs that must be allocated to an iSCSI initiator.	2	1 to 64
CDP refresh and hold time	Integer that specifies the refresh time interval and the hold time in seconds for the CDP protocol.	60	5 to 255

