



## Troubleshooting Cisco Fabric Services

This chapter describes procedures used to troubleshoot Cisco Fabric Services (CFS) problems in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family multilayer directors and fabric switches. It includes the following sections:

- [Overview, page 5-1](#)
- [Best Practices, page 5-2](#)
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### Overview

Many features in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches require configuration synchronization in all switches in the fabric. It is important to maintain configuration synchronization across a fabric for consistency. In the absence of a common infrastructure, such synchronization is achieved through manual configuration at each switch in the fabric. This process is tedious and error prone.

As of Cisco MDS SAN-OS Release 2.0(1b), Cisco Fabric Services (CFS) provides a common infrastructure for automatic configuration synchronization in the fabric. It provides the transport function as well as a rich set of common services to the applications. CFS can discover CFS-capable switches in the fabric as well as their application capabilities. Applications that can be synchronized using CFS include:

- IVR
- NTP
- DPVM
- user roles
- AAA server addresses
- syslog
- call home

Applications may add to this list in future releases.

All switches in the fabric must be CFS capable. A Cisco MDS 9000 Family switch is CFS capable if it is running Cisco SAN-OS Release 2.0(1b) or later. Switches that are not CFS capable do not receive distributions and result in part of the fabric not receiving the intended distribution.

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CFS has the following requirements:

- **Implicit CFS usage**—The first time you issue a CFS task for a CFS-enabled application, the configuration modification process begins and the application locks the fabric.
- **Pending database**—The pending database is a temporary buffer to hold uncommitted information. The uncommitted changes are not applied immediately to ensure that the database is synchronized with the database in the other switches in the fabric. When you commit the changes, the pending database overwrites the configuration database (also known as active database or the effective database).
- **CFS distribution enabled or disabled on a per-application basis**—The default (enable or disable) for CFS distribution state differs between applications. If CFS distribution is disabled for an application, then that application does not distribute any configuration nor does it accept a distribution from other switches in the fabric.
- **Explicit CFS commit**—Most applications require an explicit commit operation to copy the changes in the temporary buffer to the application database and distributes the new database to the fabric and releases the fabric lock. The changes in the temporary buffer are not applied if you do not perform the commit operation.

As of Cisco SAN-OS Release 2.1(2b), some applications, such as Inter-VSAN Routing (IVR), require configuration distribution over some specific VSANs. These applications can specify to CFS the set of VSANs over which to restrict the distribution.

## Best Practices

You can avoid problems when configuring CFS if you observe the following best practices:

- Make sure that all the applications that you are using are enabled for CFS distribution on all the switches. By doing so, you ensure that application specific configurations will be in sync across the fabric.
- Do not simultaneously acquire a lock by configuring CFS from two different switches for the same application, even though the CFS module is capable of handling this type of activity. Applications on both sides might try to take the lock and might take a while to come out of the deadlock.
- If the CFS distribution for an application is enabled, then ensure that you either commit, abort, or clear the changes once you start the configuration. Applications take the lock on all the switches that come under the scope of the application's distribution. Once the lock is taken, if there is an ISL flap or a new switch joins the fabric, then the merge for that application goes into the waiting/in progress state until the lock is released.

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## Initial Troubleshooting Checklist

Begin troubleshooting CFS issues by checking the following issues first:

Checklist	Checkoff
Verify that CFS is enabled for the same applications on all affected switches.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Verify that CFS distribution is enabled for the same applications on all affected switches.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Verify that there are no pending changes for an application and that a CFS commit was issued for any configuration changes in a CFS enabled application.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Verify that there are no unexpected CFS locked sessions. Clear any unexpected locked sessions.	<input type="checkbox"/>

This section includes the following topics:

- [Verifying CFS Using Fabric Manager, page 5-3](#)
- [Verifying CFS Using the CLI, page 5-4](#)

## Verifying CFS Using Fabric Manager

To verify CFS using Fabric Manager or Device Manager, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Choose **Admin > CFS** on Device Manager to verify that an application is listed and enabled. Repeat this on all switches.
- Step 2** To list the set of switches in which an application is registered with CFS, choose the application configuration menu on Fabric Manager and select the CFS tab. For example, to verify that DPVM is enabled and global distribution is enabled on all switches, choose **Fabricxx > All VSANs > DPVM** and select the **CFS** tab. Verify that the Oper field is enabled and the Global filed is enabled for all switches in the fabric.
- Step 3** To determine if all the switches in the fabric constitute one CFS fabric, or a multitude of partitioned CFS fabrics using Device Manager, follow these steps:
- Choose **Admin > CFS** and highlight the application that you want to verify CFS on.
  - Click **Details** and select the **Merge** tab in the Details dialog box.
  - If you see multiple rows in the Merge status table, then the fabric is partitioned into multiple CFS fabrics. Some features enable CFS per VSAN and this is expected. If the selected feature should be fabric wide but you see multiple rows in the Merge status table, then the fabric may be partitioned , and the merge status may show that the merge has failed, is pending, or is waiting.
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## Verifying CFS Using the CLI

To verify CFS using the CLI, follow these steps:

- Step 1** To verify that an application is listed and enabled, issue the **show cfs application** command to all switches. An example of the **show cfs application** command follows:

```
Switch# show cfs application
```

```
-----
Application      Enabled  Scope
-----
ivr              Yes     Physical
ntp              No      Physical
dpvm            Yes     Physical
fscm            Yes     Physical
role            Yes     Physical
radius          Yes     Physical
fctimer         No      Physical
syslogd         No      Physical
callhome        No      Physical
device-alias    Yes     Physical
port-security    Yes     Logical
```

```
Total number of entries = 11
```

The Physical scope means that CFS applies the configuration for that application to the entire switch. The Logical scope means that CFS applies the configuration for that application to a specific VSAN.

- Step 2** Verify the set of switches in which an application is registered with CFS, using the **show cfs peers name application-name** for physical scope applications, and the **show cfs peers name application-name vsan vsan-id** for logical scope applications.

An example command output for a physical scope application follows:

```
Switch# show cfs peers name dpvm
```

```
Scope      : Physical
-----
Switch WWN          IP Address
-----
20:00:00:0e:d7:0e:bf:c0 10.76.100.51 [Local]
20:00:00:0e:d7:00:3c:9e 10.76.100.52
```

```
Total number of entries = 2
```



### Note

The **show cfs peers name application-name** command displays the peers for all VSANs when applied to a logical application.

An example command output for a logical scope application follows:

```
Switch# show cfs peers name port-security
```

```
Scope      :Logical [VSAN 1]
-----
Domain     Switch WWN          IP Address
-----
236        20:00:00:0e:d7:00:3c:9e 10.76.100.52 [Local]
239        20:00:00:05:30:00:6b:9e 10.76.100.167
101        20:00:00:0d:ec:06:55:c0 10.76.100.205
```

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Total number of entries = 3

```
Scope      :Logical [VSAN 2]
-----
Domain    Switch WWN                IP Address
-----
239      20:00:00:0e:d7:00:3c:9e  10.76.100.52   [Local]
211      20:00:00:05:30:00:6b:9e  10.76.100.167
110      20:00:00:0d:ec:06:55:c0  10.76.100.205
```

Total number of entries = 3

```
Scope      :Logical [VSAN 3]
-----
Domain    Switch WWN                IP Address
-----
103      20:00:00:0e:d7:00:3c:9e  10.76.100.52   [Local]
221      20:00:00:05:30:00:6b:9e  10.76.100.167
11       20:00:00:0d:ec:06:55:c0  10.76.100.205
```

Total number of entries = 3

- Step 3** To determine if all the switches in the fabric constitute one CFS fabric, or a multitude of partitioned CFS fabrics, issue the **show cfs merge status name *application-name*** command and the **show cfs peers name *application-name*** command and compare the outputs. If the outputs contain the same list of switches, the entire set of switches constitutes one CFS fabric. When this is the case the merge status should always show success at all switches. Example command outputs follow:

```
Switch# show cfs merge status name dpvm
Physical Merge Status: Success [ Sat Nov 20 11:59:36 2004 ]
Local Fabric
-----
Switch WWN                IP Address
-----
20:00:00:05:30:00:4a:de  10.76.100.51   [Merge Master]
20:00:00:0d:ec:0c:f1:40  10.76.100.204
```

```
Switch# show cfs peers name dpvm
Scope      : Physical
-----
Switch WWN                IP Address
-----
20:00:00:0d:ec:0c:f1:40  10.76.100.204   [Local]
20:00:00:05:30:00:4a:de  10.76.100.51
```

Total number of entries = 2

If the list of switches in the **show cfs merge status name** command output is shorter than that of the **show cfs peers name** command output, the fabric is partitioned into multiple CFS fabrics and the merge status may show that the merge has failed, is pending, or is waiting.

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## Merge Failure Troubleshooting

During a merge, the merge managers in the merging fabrics exchange their configuration databases with each other. The application on one of them merges the information, decides if the merge is successful, and informs all switches in the combined fabric of the status of the merge. When a merge is successful, the merged database is distributed to all switches in the combined fabric and the entire new fabric remains in a consistent state. A merge failure indicates that the merged fabrics contain inconsistent data that could not be merged.

If a new switch is added to the fabric and the merge status for any application shows "In Progress" for a prolonged period of time, then there may be an active session for that application in some switch. Check the lock status for that application on all the switches using the **show cfs lock** CLI command. If there are any locks, then the merge will not proceed. Commit the changes or clear the session lock so that the merge can proceed.

## Recovering from a Merge Failure with Fabric Manager

To recover from a merge failure using Fabric Manager, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1 Select the **CFS** tab for the application that you are configuring and check the merge field to identify a switch that shows a merge failure. For example, choose **Fabricxx > All VSANS > DPVM** and select the **CFS** tab to determine if there is a merge failure for DPVM.
  - Step 2 Set the Config Action drop-down menu to **commit** and click **Apply Changes** to restore all peers in the fabric to the same configuration database.
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## Recovering from a Merge Failure with the CLI

To recover from a merge failure using the CLI, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1 To identify a switch that shows a merge failure, issue the **show cfs merge status name application-name** command. Example command output follows:

```
Switch# show cfs merge status name ntp

Physical Merge Status:Failure [ Mon Nov 22 06:49:52 2004 ]
Local Fabric
-----
Switch WWN                IP Address
-----
20:00:00:05:30:00:6b:9e   10.76.100.167   [Merge Master]
20:00:00:0e:d7:00:3c:9e   10.76.100.52

Remote Fabric
-----
Switch WWN                IP Address
-----
20:00:00:0d:ec:06:55:c0   10.76.100.205   [Merge Master]
```

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- Step 2** Enter configuration mode and issue the *application-name* **commit** command to restore all peers in the fabric to the same configuration database. Example command output follows:

```
Switch# config terminal  
Switch(config)# ntp commit  
Switch(config)#
```

---

## Lock Failure Troubleshooting

In order to distribute a configuration in the fabric, a lock must first be acquired on all switches in the fabric. Once this is accomplished a commit can be issued which will distribute the data to all switches in the fabric before releasing the lock.

When a lock has been acquired by another application peer, you cannot commit new configuration changes. This is normal operation and you should postpone any changes to an application until the lock is released. Use the troubleshooting steps in this section only if you believe the lock has not been properly released.

A lock occurs when an administrator configures a change for a CFS-enabled application. If two administrators on the same switch attempt to configure the same application, only one administrator is given the lock. The other administrator is prevented from making changes to that application until the first administrator commits a change or discards any changes. Use the **show cfs lock name** CLI command to determine the name of the administrator who holds the lock for an application. You should check with that administrator before clearing the lock.

A CFS lock can also be held by another switch in your fabric. Use the **show cfs peers name** CLI command to determine all switches that participate in the CFS distribution for this application. That use the **show cfs lock name** CLI command on each switch to determine who owns the CFS lock for that applications. You should check with that administrator before clearing the lock.

Use the CFS **abort** option to release the lock without distributing the data to the fabric.

## Resolving Lock Failure Issues Using Fabric Manager

To resolve a lock failure using Fabric Manager, follow these steps:

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- Step 1** Select the **CFS** tab for the application that you are configuring and view the **Master** check box to identify the master switch for that CFS application. For example, choose **Fabricxx > All VSANS > DPVM** and select the **CFS** tab.
- Step 2** Set the Config Action drop-down menu on the master switch to **commit** or **abort** and click **Apply Changes** to restore all peers in the fabric to the same configuration database and free the CFS lock.
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## Resolving Lock Failure Issues Using the CLI

To resolve a lock failure using the CLI, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Issue a **show cfs lock name** command to determine the lock holder. An example of the **show cfs lock name** command follows:

```
Switch# show cfs lock ntp
Application:ntp
Scope      :Physical
-----
Switch WWN                IP Address      User Name      User Type
-----
20:00:00:05:30:00:6b:9e  10.76.100.167  admin          CLI/SNMP v3

Total number of entries = 1
```

- Step 2** If the lock is being held by a remote peer, an *application-name* **commit** command or an *application-name* **abort** command must be executed at that switch. An example of the *application-name* **commit** command follows:

```
Switch# config terminal
Switch(config)# ntp commit
Switch(config)#
```

An example of the *application-name* **abort** command follows:

```
Switch# config terminal
Switch(config)# ntp abort
Switch(config)#
```

## System State Inconsistent and Locks Being Held

An inconsistent system state occurs when locks are not held on all of the switches in the fabric, or when locks are held on all switches in the fabric, but a session does not exist with the lock holding switch. In either case, it may be necessary to use the **clear** option to release the locks.

## Clearing Locks Using Fabric Manager

To clear a lock using Fabric Manager, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Select the **CFS** tab for the application that you are configuring and view the **Master** check box to identify the master switch for that CFS application. For example, choose **Fabricxx > All VSANS > DPVM** and select the **CFS** tab.
- Step 2** Set the Config Action drop-down menu on the master switch to **clear** and click **Apply Changes** to free the CFS lock.

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## Clearing Locks Using the CLI

When a lock is being held on a remote peer and issuing the *application-name* **commit** command or the *application-name* **abort** command does not clear the lock, issue the **clear application-name session** command to clear all locks in the fabric. After all locks are cleared, a new distribution must be started to restore all the switches in the fabric to the same state.

Example command output follows:

```
Switch# clear ntp session
Switch# config terminal
Switch(config)# ntp commit
Switch(config)#
```

## Distribution Status Verification

After configuring an application and committing the changes, you may want to verify that CFS is distributing the configuration change throughout the fabric or VSAN.

## Verifying Distribution Using Fabric Manager

In Fabric Manager, choose the **CFS** tab for the application that you are configuring and check the **Last Results** field to view the distribution status for your latest commit.

## Verifying Distribution Using the CLI

In the CLI, use the **show cfs lock name application-name** command to determine if a distribution is in progress on the fabric. If the application does not show in the output, the distribution has completed.

Example command output follows:

```
Switch# show cfs lock name ntp

Scope      :Physical
-----
Switch WWN          IP Address      User Name      User Type
-----
20:00:00:05:30:00:6b:9e  10.76.100.167  admin          CLI/SNMP v3

Total number of entries = 1
```

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