



Release Notes for the Catalyst 2900 Series XL Modules

May 1, 2000

These release notes describe limitations, restrictions, and caveats that apply to the Catalyst 2900 series XL modules supported by IOS Release 12.0(5)XU and Release 12.0(5.1)XU. See the “Related Documentation” section for the complete list of Catalyst 2900 series XL modules and switch documentation.

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Introduction

The Catalyst 2900 series XL modules add hot-swappable port density and high-performance connectivity to a Catalyst 2900 series network. When installed in the appropriate Catalyst 2900 series switch, these modules support a full range of cabling types, port connectors, and 10-, 100-, and 1000 megabit-per-second (Mbps) transmission speeds.



1000BaseT Module

The Catalyst 2900 series switches now offer a 1000BaseT module in addition to the switched 10BaseT/100BaseTX, 100BaseFX, and 1000BaseX modules. The 1000BaseT module provides one switched 1000-Mbps, full-duplex port over UTP copper cabling. The 1000BaseT module port supports the IEEE 802.3ab standard.


Note

The 1000BaseT module requires Release 12.0(5.1)XU or higher. Refer to “IOS Release 12.0(5.1)XU Requirement for 1000BaseT Module” later in this release note.

Key Features

Some of the key Catalyst 2900 module features supported by this release include:

- Automatic medium dependent interface (MDI) crossover. Both straight-through and crossover cables work for any device connection.
- Management through a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) management station, the Cisco IOS command-line interface (CLI), or the web-based Visual Switch Manager (VSM).
- Increased autonegotiation capabilities of duplex mode and flow control.

For more information about the specific capabilities for each module, refer to the *Catalyst 2900 Series XL Modules Hardware Installation Guide*.

- IEEE 802.1Q virtual LAN (VLAN) trunk support.
- Inter-Switch Link (ISL) trunk support.
- Up to 8192 MAC addresses on each modular switch.
- Gigabit EtherChannel or Fast EtherChannel support for applicable modules.
- Compliant with applicable IEEE 802.3ab standards.
- Hot swappable


Caution

Catalyst 2900 series modules are “hot swappable” provided that you disconnect the cable from the module port before removing the module from the switch. Removing the module before disconnecting the module port cable can result in a reboot or crash of the switch.

Important Notes

This section describes important information related to the Catalyst 2900 modules.

Module Support Limitations for Earlier Releases of IOS Software

Some versions of the 2900 series XL software do not support all Catalyst 2900 module types, and other versions do not support some of the features in this software release. The following modules and features are not supported by software releases earlier than Release 12.0(5)XU.

- Redundant loop configurations.

For more information about the support and function of redundant loop configurations, see the *Catalyst GigaStack Gigabit Interface Converter Hardware Installation Guide*.

- The GigaStack Gigabit Interface Converter (GBIC) installed in a Catalyst 2900 series switch 1000BaseX module.

For more information about the GigaStack GBIC, see the *Catalyst GigaStack Gigabit Interface Converter Hardware Installation Guide*.

The following module is not supported by software releases earlier than Release 12.0(5.1)XU.

- 1000BaseT module.

For more information, refer to “IOS Release 12.0(5.1)XU Requirement for 1000BaseT Module.”



Note

We recommend that you upgrade cluster switches so that they all run the latest software release required by any element in the cluster.

Before upgrading your switch, refer to *Release Notes for the Catalyst 2900 Series XL and 3500 Series XL Cisco IOS Release 12.0(5)XU* for important information.

IOS Release 12.0(5.1)XU Requirement for 1000BaseT Module

The 1000BaseT module requires Release 12.0(5.1)XU to provide accurate power-on self-test (POST) diagnostics. This release is functionally identical to Release 12.0(5)XU.

Documentation Notes

- The “Overview” chapter of the *Catalyst 2900 Series XL Modules Hardware Installation Guide* states that the WS-X2931-XL 1000BaseX module is supported only by Release 12.0(5)XU or later. The 1000BaseX module is actually supported by Release 11.2(8)SA5 or later.
- The “Overview” chapter of the *Catalyst 2900 Series XL Modules Hardware Installation Guide* states that Catalyst 2900 series modules are hot-swappable. This is true provided that you disconnect the cable from the module port before removing the module from the switch. Removing the module before disconnecting the module port cable can result in a reboot or crash of the switch.

Upgrading Your Catalyst 2900 Series XL Switch Software

The following related documentation contains instructions for upgrading your Catalyst 2900 series switch.

- *Release Notes for the Catalyst 2900 Series XL and 3500 Series XL Cisco IOS Release 12.0(5)XU.* Refer to these notes first for the latest detailed information regarding the software and its installation in Catalyst 2900 series switches.
- *Cisco IOS Desktop Switching Software Configuration Guide.* This guide contains general instructions for upgrading switch software. The online help files provide detailed instructions for upgrading switch software.

Related Documentation

Refer to the following product documentation for the Catalyst 2900 series switches and modules.

Catalyst 2900 Series XL Modules Hardware Installation Guide

Catalyst 2900 Series XL Installation Guide

Quick Start Guide: Catalyst 2900 Series XL Switches

Cisco IOS Desktop Switching Software Configuration Guide for Cisco IOS Software Release 12.0(5)XU

Cisco IOS Desktop Command Reference (online only)

Release Notes for the Catalyst 2900 Series XL and 3500 Series XL Cisco IOS Release 12.0(5)XU

Catalyst GigaStack Gigabit Interface Converter Hardware Installation Guide

Release Notes for the Catalyst GigaStack Gigabit Interface Converter

Obtaining Documentation

World Wide Web

You can access the most current Cisco documentation on the World Wide Web at <http://www.cisco.com>, <http://www-china.cisco.com>, or <http://www-europe.cisco.com>.

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- Modem using standard connection rates and the following terminal settings: VT100 emulation; 8 data bits; no parity; and 1 stop bit.
 - From North America, call 408 526-8070
 - From Europe, call 33 1 64 46 40 82

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The Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) is available to warranty or maintenance contract customers who need technical assistance with a Cisco product that is under warranty or covered by a maintenance contract.

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<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/687/Directory/DirTAC.shtml>.

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