



CHAPTER 8

Managing Controller Software and Configurations

This chapter describes how to manage configurations and software versions on the controllers. It contains these sections:

- [Upgrading Controller Software, page 8-2](#)
- [Transferring Files to and from a Controller, page 8-8](#)
- [Saving Configurations, page 8-18](#)
- [Clearing the Controller Configuration, page 8-18](#)
- [Erasing the Controller Configuration, page 8-18](#)
- [Resetting the Controller, page 8-19](#)

Upgrading Controller Software

When you upgrade the controller's software, the software on the controller's associated access points is also automatically upgraded. When an access point is loading software, each of its LEDs blinks in succession. Up to 10 access points can be concurrently upgraded from the controller.



Caution

Do not power down the controller or any access point during this process; otherwise, you might corrupt the software image! Upgrading a controller with a large number of access points can take as long as 30 minutes, depending on the size of your network. However, with the increased number of concurrent access point upgrades supported in software release 4.0.206.0 and later, the upgrade time should be significantly reduced. The access points must remain powered, and the controller must not be reset during this time.

Guidelines for Upgrading Controller Software

Follow these guidelines before upgrading your controller to software release 4.2 from a previous release:

- Make sure you have a TFTP server available for the software upgrade. Keep these guidelines in mind when setting up a TFTP server:
 - Controller software release 4.2 is greater than 32 MB; therefore, you must make sure that your TFTP server supports files that are larger than 32 MB. Some TFTP servers that support files of this size are tftpd and the TFTP server within the WCS. If you attempt to download the 4.2 controller software and your TFTP server does not support files of this size, the following error message appears: “TFTP failure while storing in flash.”
 - If you are upgrading through the service port, the TFTP server must be on the same subnet as the service port because the service port is not routable, or you must create static routes on the controller.
 - If you are upgrading through the distribution system network port, the TFTP server can be on the same or a different subnet because the distribution system port is routable.
 - A third-party TFTP server cannot run on the same computer as the Cisco WCS because the WCS built-in TFTP server and the third-party TFTP server require the same communication port.
- If your controller is running software release 3.2.195.10 or a later 3.2 release, 4.0.206.0 or a later 4.0 release, or 4.1.171.0 (or a later 4.1 release), you can upgrade your controller directly to software release 4.2. If your controller is running an earlier 3.2 or 4.0 release, you must upgrade your controller to an intermediate release prior to upgrading to 4.2. [Table 8-1](#) shows the upgrade path that you must follow prior to downloading software release 4.2.



Note

To see the software release that your controller is currently running, click **Monitor** and look at the Software Version field under Controller Summary on the controller GUI or enter **show sysinfo** on the controller CLI.

Table 8-1 Upgrade Path to Controller Software Release 4.2

Current Software Release	Upgrade Path to 4.2 Software
3.2.78.0 or later 3.2 release	Upgrade to 4.0.206.0 (or a later 4.0 release) before upgrading to 4.2.
4.0.155.5	Upgrade to 4.0.206.0 (or a later 4.0 release) before upgrading to 4.2.
4.0.179.11	
4.0.206.0 or later 4.0 release	You can upgrade directly to 4.2.
4.1.171.0 or later 4.1 release	You can upgrade directly to 4.2.



Note When you upgrade the controller to an intermediate software release, wait until all of the access points joined to the controller are upgraded to the intermediate release before you install the 4.2 software. In large networks, it may take some time to download the software on each access point.

- Cisco recommends that you also install the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file on the controller. This file resolves bootloader defects and is necessary to ensure proper operation of the controller. The ER.aes file is required for all controller platforms. If you do not install this ER.aes file, your controller does not obtain the fix for these defects, and “Error” appears in the Bootloader Version field in the output of the **show sysinfo** command.



Note The bootloader is not upgradeable on the 2106 controller.



Note The ER.aes files are independent from the controller software files. You can run any controller software file with any ER.aes file. However, installing the latest boot software file (4.2 ER.aes) ensures that the bootloader modifications in all of the previous and current boot software ER.aes files are installed.

**Caution**

If you require a downgrade from one release to another, you may lose the configuration from your current release. The workaround is to reload the previous controller configuration files saved on the backup server or to reconfigure the controller.

Using the GUI to Upgrade Controller Software

Follow these steps to upgrade the controller software using the GUI.

Step 1 Upload your controller configuration files to a server to back them up.



Note Cisco highly recommends that you back up your controller's configuration files prior to upgrading the controller software. Otherwise, you must manually reconfigure the controller.

Step 2 Disable the controller 802.11a and 802.11b/g networks.

Step 3 Disable any WLANs on the controller.

Step 4 Follow these steps to obtain the 4.2 controller software and the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file from the Software Center on Cisco.com:

a. Click this URL to go to the Software Center:

<http://www.cisco.com/kobayashi/sw-center/sw-wireless.shtml>

b. Click **Wireless Software**.

c. Click **Wireless LAN Controllers**.

d. Click **Standalone Controllers, Wireless Integrated Routers, or Wireless Integrated Switches**.

e. Click the name of a controller.

f. Click **Wireless LAN Controller Software**.

g. Click a controller software release.

h. Click the filename (*filename.aes*).

i. Click **Download**.

j. Read Cisco's End User Software License Agreement and then click **Agree**.

k. Save the file to your hard drive.

l. Repeat steps a. to k. to download the remaining file (either the 4.2 controller software or the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file).

Step 5 Copy the controller software file (*filename.aes*) and the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file to the default directory on your TFTP server.

Step 6 Click **Commands > Download File** to open the Download File to Controller page (see [Figure 8-1](#)).

Figure 8-1 Download File to Controller Page

- Step 7** From the File Type drop-down box, choose **Code**.
- Step 8** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the TFTP server.
- Step 9** The default values of 10 retries and 6 seconds for the Maximum Retries and Timeout fields should work fine without any adjustment. However, you can change these values if desired. To do so, enter the maximum number of times that the TFTP server attempts to download the software in the Maximum Retries field and the amount of time (in seconds) that the TFTP server attempts to download the software in the Timeout field.
- Step 10** In the File Path field, enter the directory path of the software.
- Step 11** In the File Name field, enter the name of the controller software file (*filename.aes*).
- Step 12** Click **Download** to download the software to the controller. A message appears indicating the status of the download.
- Step 13** Repeat [Step 6](#) to [Step 12](#) to install the remaining file (either the 4.2 controller software or the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file).
- Step 14** After the download is complete, click **Reboot**.
- Step 15** If prompted to save your changes, click **Save and Reboot**.
- Step 16** Click **OK** to confirm your decision to reboot the controller.
- Step 17** After the controller reboots, re-enable the WLANs.
- Step 18** Re-enable your 802.11a and 802.11b/g networks.
- Step 19** If desired, reload your latest configuration file to the controller.
- Step 20** To verify that the 4.2 controller software is installed on your controller, click **Monitor** on the controller GUI and look at the Software Version field under Controller Summary.
- Step 21** To verify that the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file is installed on your controller, enter the **show sysinfo** command on the controller CLI and look at the Bootloader Version field. “N/A” appears if the ER.aes file is installed successfully. “Error” appears if the ER.aes file is not installed.



Note You can use this command to verify the boot software version on all controllers except the 2106 because the bootloader is not upgradable on the 2106 controller.

Using the CLI to Upgrade Controller Software

Follow these steps to upgrade the controller software using the CLI.

Step 1 Upload your controller configuration files to a server to back them up.



Note Cisco highly recommends that you back up your controller's configuration files prior to upgrading the controller software. Otherwise, you must manually reconfigure the controller.

Step 2 Disable the controller 802.11a and 802.11b/g networks.

Step 3 Disable any WLANs on the controller (using the **config wlan disable wlan_id** command).

Step 4 Follow these steps to obtain the 4.2 controller software and the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file from the Software Center on Cisco.com:

- a. Click this URL to go to the Software Center:
<http://www.cisco.com/kobayashi/sw-center/sw-wireless.shtml>
- b. Click **Wireless Software**.
- c. Click **Wireless LAN Controllers**.
- d. Click **Standalone Controllers, Wireless Integrated Routers, or Wireless Integrated Switches**.
- e. Click the name of a controller.
- f. Click **Wireless LAN Controller Software**.
- g. Click a controller software release.
- h. Click the filename (*filename.aes*).
- i. Click **Download**.
- j. Read Cisco's End User Software License Agreement and then click **Agree**.
- k. Save the file to your hard drive.
- l. Repeat steps a. to k. to download the emaining file (either the 4.2 controller software or the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file).

Step 5 Copy the controller software file (*filename.aes*) and the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file to the default directory on your TFTP server.

Step 6 Log into the controller CLI.

Step 7 Enter **ping server-ip-address** to verify that the controller can contact the TFTP server.

Step 8 Enter **transfer download start** and answer **n** to the prompt to view the current download settings. Information similar to the following appears:

```
Mode..... TFTP
Data Type..... Code
TFTP Server IP..... xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
TFTP Path..... <directory path>
TFTP Filename..... xxx.aes
```

```
Are you sure you want to start? (y/n) n
Transfer Canceled
```

Step 9 Enter these commands to change the download settings, if necessary:

```
transfer download mode tftp
transfer download datatype code
transfer download serverip tftp-server-ip-address
transfer download filename filename
transfer download path tftp-server-path-to-file
```



Note Pathnames on a TFTP server are relative to the server's default or root directory. For example, in the case of the Solarwinds TFTP server, the path is “/”.

Step 10 Enter **transfer download start** to view the updated settings and answer **y** to the prompt to confirm the current download settings and start the software download. Information similar to the following appears:

```
Mode..... TFTP
Data Type..... Code
TFTP Server IP..... xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
TFTP Path..... <directory path>
TFTP Filename..... xxx.aes

Are you sure you want to start? (y/n) y
TFTP Code transfer starting.
TFTP receive complete... extracting components.
Writing new bootloader to flash.
Making backup copy of RTOS.
Writing new RTOS to flash.
Making backup copy of Code.
Writing new Code to flash.
TFTP File transfer operation completed successfully.
Please restart the switch (reset system) for update to complete.
```

Step 11 Repeat **Step 8** to **Step 11** to install the remaining file (either the 4.2 controller software or the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file).

Step 12 Enter **reset system** to save the code update to non-volatile NVRAM and reboot the controller. The controller completes the bootup process.

Step 13 Enter **config wlan enable *wlan_id*** to re-enable the WLANs.

Step 14 Re-enable your 802.11a and 802.11b/g networks.

Step 15 If desired, reload your latest configuration file to the controller.

Step 16 To verify that the 4.2 controller software is installed on your controller, enter **show sysinfo** and look at the Product Version field.

Step 17 To verify that the Cisco Unified Wireless Network Controller Boot Software 4.2 ER.aes file is installed on your controller, enter **show sysinfo** and look at the Bootloader Version field. “N/A” appears if the ER.aes file is installed successfully. “Error” appears if the ER.aes file is not installed.



Note You can use this command to verify the boot software version on all controllers except the 2106 because the bootloader is not upgradable on the 2106 controller.

Transferring Files to and from a Controller

Controllers have built-in utilities for uploading and downloading various files. Follow the instructions in these sections to import files using either the controller GUI or CLI:

- [Downloading Device Certificates, page 8-8](#)
- [Downloading CA Certificates, page 8-10](#)
- [Uploading PACs, page 8-12](#)
- [Uploading and Downloading Configuration Files, page 8-14](#)

Downloading Device Certificates

Each wireless device (controller, access point, and client) has its own device certificate. For example, the controller is shipped with a Cisco-installed device certificate. This certificate is used by EAP-FAST (when not using PACs), EAP-TLS, PEAP-GTC, and PEAP-MSCHAPv2 to authenticate wireless clients during local EAP authentication. However, if you wish to use your own vendor-specific device certificate, it must be downloaded to the controller.



Note

See the [“Configuring Local EAP” section on page 5-23](#) for information on configuring local EAP.

Follow the instructions in this section to download a vendor-specific device certificate to the controller through the GUI or CLI. However, before you begin, make sure you have a TFTP server available for the certificate download. Keep these guidelines in mind when setting up a TFTP server:

- If you are downloading through the service port, the TFTP server must be on the same subnet as the service port because the service port is not routable, or you must create static routes on the controller.
- If you are downloading through the distribution system network port, the TFTP server can be on the same or a different subnet because the distribution system port is routable.
- A third-party TFTP server cannot run on the same computer as the Cisco WCS because the WCS built-in TFTP server and the third-party TFTP server require the same communication port.



Note

All certificates downloaded to the controller must be in PEM format.

Using the GUI to Download Device Certificates

Follow these steps to download a device certificate to the controller using the controller GUI.

-
- Step 1** Copy the device certificate to the default directory on your TFTP server.
 - Step 2** Click **Commands > Download File** to open the Download File to Controller page (see [Figure 8-2](#)).

Figure 8-2 Download File to Controller Page

The screenshot shows the Cisco Wireless LAN Controller web interface. The top navigation bar includes 'MONITOR', 'WLANs', 'CONTROLLER', 'WIRELESS', 'SECURITY', 'MANAGEMENT', 'COMMANDS', and 'HELP'. The 'COMMANDS' tab is active. On the left, a sidebar lists 'Commands' with 'Download File' selected. The main content area is titled 'Download file to Controller' and contains the following fields:

- File Type:** Vendor Device Certificate (dropdown menu)
- Certificate Password:** [password masked with dots]
- TFTP Server:**
 - IP Address: 10.10.10.4
 - Maximum retries: 10
 - Timeout (seconds): 60
 - File Path: tftpboot/username
 - File Name: devcert1.pem

Buttons for 'Clear' and 'Download' are located at the top right of the form area.

- Step 3** From the File Type drop-down box, choose **Vendor Device Certificate**.
- Step 4** In the Certificate Password field, enter the password that was used to protect the certificate.
- Step 5** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the TFTP server.
- Step 6** The default values of 10 retries and 6 seconds for the Maximum Retries and Timeout fields should work fine without any adjustment. However, you can change these values if desired. To do so, enter the maximum number of times that the TFTP server attempts to download the certificate in the Maximum Retries field and the amount of time (in seconds) that the TFTP server attempts to download the certificate in the Timeout field.
- Step 7** In the File Path field, enter the directory path of the certificate.
- Step 8** In the File Name field, enter the name of the certificate.
- Step 9** Click **Download** to download the device certificate to the controller. A message appears indicating the status of the download.
- Step 10** After the download is complete, click **Commands > Reboot > Reboot**.
- Step 11** If prompted to save your changes, click **Save and Reboot**.
- Step 12** Click **OK** to confirm your decision to reboot the controller.

Using the CLI to Download Device Certificates

Follow these steps to download a device certificate to the controller using the controller CLI.

- Step 1** Log into the controller CLI.
- Step 2** Enter **transfer download datatype eapdevcert**.
- Step 3** Enter **transfer download certpassword password**.
- Step 4** Enter **transfer upload serverip tftp-server-ip-address**.
- Step 5** Enter **transfer download filename filename.pem**.

Step 6 Enter **transfer download start** to view the updated settings; then answer **y** when prompted to confirm the current settings and start the download process. This example shows the download command output:

```
Mode..... TFTP
Data Type..... Vendor Dev Cert
TFTP Server IP..... 10.10.10.4
TFTP Packet Timeout..... 6
TFTP Max Retries..... 10
TFTP Path..... /tftpboot/username/
TFTP Filename..... filename.pem
```

```
This may take some time.
Are you sure you want to start? (y/N) y
```

```
TFTP EAP Dev cert transfer starting.
```

```
Certificate installed.
Reboot the switch to use the new certificate.
```

Step 7 Enter **reset system** to reboot the controller.

Step 8 After the controller reboots, enter **show certificates local-auth** to verify that the certificate is installed.

Downloading CA Certificates

Controllers and access points have a Certificate Authority (CA) certificate that is used to sign and validate device certificates. The controller is shipped with a Cisco-installed CA certificate. This certificate may be used by EAP-FAST (when not using PACs), EAP-TLS, PEAP-GTC, and PEAP-MSCHAPv2 to authenticate wireless clients during local EAP authentication. However, if you wish to use your own vendor-specific CA certificate, it must be downloaded to the controller.



Note

See the [“Configuring Local EAP” section on page 5-23](#) for information on configuring local EAP.

Follow the instructions in this section to download CA certificates to the controller through the GUI or CLI. However, before you begin, make sure you have a TFTP server available for the certificate download. Keep these guidelines in mind when setting up a TFTP server:

- If you are downloading through the service port, the TFTP server must be on the same subnet as the service port because the service port is not routable, or you must create static routes on the controller.
- If you are downloading through the distribution system network port, the TFTP server can be on the same or a different subnet because the distribution system port is routable.
- A third-party TFTP server cannot run on the same computer as the Cisco WCS because the WCS built-in TFTP server and the third-party TFTP server require the same communication port.



Note

All certificates downloaded to the controller must be in PEM format.

Using the GUI to Download CA Certificates

Follow these steps to download a CA certificate to the controller using the controller GUI.

- Step 1** Copy the CA certificate to the default directory on your TFTP server.
- Step 2** Click **Commands > Download File** to open the Download File to Controller page (see [Figure 8-3](#)).

Figure 8-3 Download File to Controller Page

The screenshot shows the Cisco GUI interface for downloading a file to the controller. The main heading is "Download file to Controller". On the left, there is a "Commands" sidebar with options like "Download File", "Upload File", "Reboot", etc. The main content area has a "File Type" dropdown menu currently set to "Vendor CA Certificate". Below this is a "TFTP Server" section with several input fields: "IP Address" (10.10.10.4), "Maximum retries" (10), "Timeout (seconds)" (60), "File Path" (/tftpboot/username), and "File Name" (ca.pem). At the top right of the form, there are "Clear" and "Download" buttons. The Cisco logo and navigation tabs (MONITOR, WLANs, CONTROLLER, WIRELESS, SECURITY, MANAGEMENT, COMMANDS, HELP) are visible at the top.

- Step 3** From the File Type drop-down box, choose **Vendor CA Certificate**.
- Step 4** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the TFTP server.
- Step 5** The default values of 10 retries and 6 seconds for the Maximum Retries and Timeout fields should work fine without any adjustment. However, you can change these values if desired. To do so, enter the maximum number of times that the TFTP server attempts to download the certificate in the Maximum Retries field and the amount of time (in seconds) that the TFTP server attempts to download the certificate in the Timeout field.
- Step 6** In the File Path field, enter the directory path of the certificate.
- Step 7** In the File Name field, enter the name of the certificate.
- Step 8** Click **Download** to download the CA certificate to the controller. A message appears indicating the status of the download.
- Step 9** After the download is complete, click **Commands > Reboot > Reboot**.
- Step 10** If prompted to save your changes, click **Save and Reboot**.
- Step 11** Click **OK** to confirm your decision to reboot the controller.

Using the CLI to Download CA Certificates

Follow these steps to download a CA certificate to the controller using the controller CLI.

- Step 1** Log into the controller CLI.
- Step 2** Enter **transfer download datatype eapcacert**.
- Step 3** Enter **transfer download serverip tftp-server-ip-address**.
- Step 4** Enter **transfer download filename filename.pem**.

- Step 5** Enter **transfer download start** to view the updated settings; then answer **y** when prompted to confirm the current settings and start the download process. This example shows the download command output:

```
Mode..... TFTP
Data Type..... Vendor CA Cert
TFTP Server IP..... 10.10.10.4
TFTP Packet Timeout..... 6
TFTP Max Retries..... 10
TFTP Path..... /tftpboot/username/
TFTP Filename..... filename.pem
```

```
This may take some time.
Are you sure you want to start? (y/N) y
```

```
TFTP EAP CA cert transfer starting.
```

```
Certificate installed.
Reboot the switch to use the new certificate.
```

- Step 6** Enter **reset system** to reboot the controller.
- Step 7** After the controller reboots, enter **show certificates local-auth** to verify that the certificate is installed.
-

Uploading PACs

Protected access credentials (PACs) are credentials that are either automatically or manually provisioned and used to perform mutual authentication with a local EAP authentication server during EAP-FAST authentication. When manual PAC provisioning is enabled, the PAC file is manually generated on the controller.



Note

See the [“Configuring Local EAP” section on page 5-23](#) for information on configuring local EAP.

Follow the instructions in this section to generate and load PACs from the controller through the GUI or CLI. However, before you begin, make sure you have a TFTP server available for the PAC upload. Keep these guidelines in mind when setting up a TFTP server:

- If you are uploading through the service port, the TFTP server must be on the same subnet as the service port because the service port is not routable, or you must create static routes on the controller.
- If you are uploading through the distribution system network port, the TFTP server can be on the same or a different subnet because the distribution system port is routable.
- A third-party TFTP server cannot run on the same computer as the Cisco WCS because the WCS built-in TFTP server and the third-party TFTP server require the same communication port.

Using the GUI to Upload PACs

Follow these steps to upload a PAC from the controller using the controller GUI.

- Step 1** Click **Commands > Upload File** to open the Upload File from Controller page (see [Figure 8-4](#)).

Figure 8-4 Upload File from Controller Page

The screenshot shows the Cisco GUI for uploading a Protected Access Credential (PAC). The page title is 'Upload file from Controller'. The navigation menu includes: MONITOR, WLANs, CONTROLLER, WIRELESS, SECURITY, MANAGEMENT, **COMMANDS**, and HELP. The sidebar on the left lists: Commands, Download File, Upload File (highlighted), Reboot, Reset to Factory Default, and Set Time. The main form contains the following fields:

- File Type:** PAC (Protected Access Credential) (dropdown menu)
- User (Identity):** username
- Validity (in days):** 10
- Password:** [masked with dots]
- Confirm Password:** [masked with dots]
- TFTP Server:**
 - IP Address:** 10.10.10.4
 - File Path:** tftpboot/username
 - File Name:** test.pac

Buttons for 'Clear' and 'Upload' are located at the top right of the form area. A vertical ID number '230922' is visible on the right edge of the screenshot.

- Step 2** From the File Type drop-down box, choose **PAC (Protected Access Credential)**.
- Step 3** In the User field, enter the name of the user who will use the PAC.
- Step 4** In the Validity field, enter the number days for the PAC to remain valid. The default setting is zero (0).
- Step 5** In the Password and Confirm Password fields, enter a password to protect the PAC.
- Step 6** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the TFTP server.
- Step 7** In the File Path field, enter the directory path of the PAC.
- Step 8** In the File Name field, enter the name of the PAC file. PAC files have a .pac extension.
- Step 9** Click **Upload** to upload the PAC from the controller. A message appears indicating the status of the upload.
- Step 10** Follow the instructions for your wireless client to load the PAC on your client devices. Make sure to use the password that you entered above.

Using the CLI to Upload PACs

Follow these steps to upload a PAC from the controller using the controller CLI.

- Step 1** Log into the controller CLI.
- Step 2** Enter **transfer upload datatype pac**.
- Step 3** Enter **transfer upload pac username validity password**.
- Step 4** Enter **transfer upload serverip ftp-server-ip-address**.
- Step 5** Enter **transfer upload filename manual.pac**.

- Step 6** Enter **transfer upload start** to view the updated settings; then answer **y** when prompted to confirm the current settings and start the upload process. This example shows the upload command output:

```
Mode..... TFTP
TFTP Server IP..... 10.10.10.4
TFTP Path..... /tftpboot/username/
TFTP Filename..... manual.pac
Data Type..... PAC
PAC User..... username
PAC Validity..... 10 days
PAC Password..... password

Are you sure you want to start? (y/N) y

PAC transfer starting.

File transfer operation completed successfully.
```

- Step 7** Follow the instructions for your wireless client to load the PAC on your client devices. Make sure to use the password that you entered above.

Uploading and Downloading Configuration Files

Prior to upgrading your controller's software, Cisco recommends that you upload your controller's configuration file to a server to back it up. Then after the new controller software is installed, you can download the configuration file to the controller.



Note

If you do not back up your controller's configuration file prior to upgrading the controller software, you must manually reconfigure the controller.

In controller software release 4.2, the controller's bootup configuration file is stored in an Extensible Markup Language (XML) format rather than in binary format. Therefore, you cannot download a binary configuration file onto a controller running software release 4.2.61.0. However, when you upgrade a controller from a previous software release to 4.2.61.0, the configuration file is migrated and converted to XML.



Note

Do not attempt to make changes to the configuration file. If you do so and then download the file to a controller, the controller displays a cyclic redundancy checksum (CRC) error while it is rebooting and returns the configuration parameters to their default values.

Uploading Configuration Files

You can upload configuration files using either the GUI or the CLI.

Using the GUI to Upload Configuration Files

Using the controller GUI, follow these steps to upload a configuration file.

- Step 1** Click **Commands > Upload File** to open the Upload File from Controller page (see [Figure 8-5](#)).

Figure 8-5 Upload File from Controller Page

The screenshot shows the Cisco Controller WebUI interface for uploading a file. The top navigation bar includes 'MONITOR', 'WLANs', 'CONTROLLER', 'WIRELESS', 'SECURITY', 'MANAGEMENT', 'COMMANDS', and 'HELP'. The 'COMMANDS' tab is active. On the left, a sidebar lists 'Commands' such as 'Download File', 'Upload File', 'Reboot', 'Reset to Factory Default', and 'Set Time'. The main content area is titled 'Upload file from Controller' and contains the following fields and controls:

- File Type:** A drop-down menu set to 'Configuration'.
- Configuration File Encryption:** A checked checkbox labeled 'Enabled'.
- Encryption Key:** A text field containing masked characters (dots).
- TFTP Server:** A section with three input fields:
 - IP Address:** 10.10.10.4
 - File Path:** tftpboot/username/
 - File Name:** AS_4402_4_55

Buttons for 'Clear' and 'Upload' are located at the top right of the form area. A vertical ID '232284' is visible on the right side of the screenshot.

- Step 2** From the File Type drop-down box, choose **Configuration**.
- Step 3** To enable encryption, check the **Configuration File Encryption** check box and enter the encryption key. File encryption ensures that data is encrypted while the configuration file is being uploaded through a TFTP server.
- Step 4** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the TFTP server.
- Step 5** In the File Path field, enter the directory path of the configuration file.
- Step 6** In the File Name field, enter the name of the configuration file.
- Step 7** Click **Upload** to upload the configuration file to the TFTP server. A message appears indicating the status of the upload. If the upload fails, repeat this procedure and try again.

Using the CLI to Upload Configuration Files

Using the controller CLI, follow these steps to upload a configuration file to the controller.

- Step 1** Log into the controller CLI.
- Step 2** Enter **transfer upload datatype config**.
- Step 3** To encrypt the configuration file, do the following:
- Enter **transfer encrypt enable**.
 - Enter **transfer encrypt set-key key**.
- Step 4** Enter **transfer upload serverip tftp-server-ip-address**.
- Step 5** Enter **transfer upload path path**.
- Step 6** Enter **transfer upload filename filename**.

- Step 7** Enter **transfer upload start** to view the updated settings; then answer **y** when prompted to confirm the current settings and start the upload process. This example shows the upload command output:

```
Mode..... TFTP
TFTP Server IP..... 10.10.10.4
TFTP Path..... Config/
TFTP Filename..... AS_4402_4_2_55_8_Config.xml
Data Type..... Config File
Encryption..... Disabled
```

```
*****
*** WARNING: Config File Encryption Disabled ***
*****
```

Are you sure you want to start? (y/N) **y**

File transfer operation completed successfully.

If the upload fails, repeat this procedure and try again.

Downloading Configuration Files

You can download configuration files using either the GUI or the CLI.

Using the GUI to Download Configuration Files

Using the controller GUI, follow these steps to download a configuration file to the controller.

- Step 1** Click **Commands > Download File** to open the Download File to Controller page (see [Figure 8-6](#)).

Figure 8-6 Download File to Controller Page

The screenshot shows the Cisco GUI interface for downloading a file to the controller. The top navigation bar includes 'MONITOR', 'WLANS', 'CONTROLLER', 'WIRELESS', 'SECURITY', 'MANAGEMENT', 'COMMANDS', and 'HELP'. The 'COMMANDS' menu is active. On the left, a sidebar lists 'Commands', 'Download File', 'Upload File', 'Reboot', 'Reset to Factory Default', and 'Set Time'. The main content area is titled 'Download file to Controller' and contains the following fields and controls:

- File Type:** A drop-down menu set to 'Configuration'.
- Configuration File Encryption Key:** A text field containing six dots (••••••).
- TFTP Server:** A section with several input fields:
 - IP Address:** 10.10.10.4
 - Maximum retries:** 10
 - Timeout (seconds):** 6
 - File Path:** tftpboot/username/
 - File Name:** AS_4402_4_55
- Buttons:** 'Clear' and 'Download' buttons are located at the top right of the form.

- Step 2** From the File Type drop-down box, choose **Configuration**.
- Step 3** In the Configuration File Encryption Key field, enter the encryption key that encrypts the data in the configuration file when the file is downloaded.
- Step 4** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the TFTP server.

- Step 5** The default values of 10 retries and 6 seconds for the Maximum Retries and Timeout fields should work fine without any adjustment. However, you can change these values if desired. To do so, enter the maximum number of times that the TFTP server attempts to download the configuration file in the Maximum Retries field and the amount of time (in seconds) that the TFTP server attempts to download the configuration file in the Timeout field.
- Step 6** In the File Path field, enter the directory path of the configuration file.
- Step 7** In the File Name field, enter the name of the configuration file (*filename*).
- Step 8** Click **Download** to download the file to the controller. A message appears indicating the status of the download, and the controller reboots automatically. If the download fails, repeat this procedure and try again.

Using the CLI to Download Configuration Files

Using the controller CLI, follow these steps to download a configuration file to the controller.

- Step 1** Log into the controller CLI.
- Step 2** Enter **transfer download datatype config**.
- Step 3** To encrypt the configuration file, do the following:
- a. Enter **transfer encrypt enable**.
 - b. Enter **transfer encrypt set-key key**.
- Step 4** Enter **transfer download serverip tftp-server-ip-address**.
- Step 5** Enter **transfer download path path**.
- Step 6** Enter **transfer download filename filename**.
- Step 7** Enter **transfer download start** to view the updated settings; then answer **y** when prompted to confirm the current settings and start the download process. This example shows the download command output:

```
Mode..... TFTP
TFTP Server IP..... 10.10.10.4
TFTP Path..... Config/
TFTP Filename..... AS_4402_4_2_55_8_Config.xml
Data Type..... Config File
Encryption..... Disabled
```

```
*****
*** WARNING: Config File Encryption Disabled ***
*****
```

```
Are you sure you want to start? (y/N) y
```

```
File transfer operation completed successfully.
```

If the download fails, repeat this procedure and try again.

Saving Configurations

Controllers contain two kinds of memory: volatile RAM and NVRAM. At any time, you can save the configuration changes from active volatile RAM to non-volatile RAM (NVRAM) using one of these commands:

- Use the **save config** command. This command saves the configuration from volatile RAM to NVRAM without resetting the controller.
- Use the **reset system** command. The CLI prompts you to confirm that you want to save configuration changes before the controller reboots.
- Use the **logout** command. The CLI prompts you to confirm that you want to save configuration changes before you log out.

Clearing the Controller Configuration

Follow these steps to clear the active configuration in NVRAM.

-
- Step 1** Enter **clear config** and enter **y** at the confirmation prompt to confirm the action.
 - Step 2** Enter **reset system**. At the confirmation prompt, enter **n** to reboot without saving configuration changes. When the controller reboots, the configuration wizard starts automatically.
 - Step 3** Follow the instructions in the [“Using the Configuration Wizard” section on page 4-2](#) to complete the initial configuration.
-

Erasing the Controller Configuration

Follow these steps to reset the controller configuration to default settings:

-
- Step 1** Enter **reset system**. At the confirmation prompt, enter **y** to save configuration changes to NVRAM. The controller reboots.
 - Step 2** When you are prompted for a username, enter **recover-config** to restore the factory default configuration. The controller reboots and the configuration wizard starts automatically.
 - Step 3** Follow the instructions in the [“Using the Configuration Wizard” section on page 4-2](#) to complete the initial configuration.
-

Resetting the Controller

You can reset the controller and view the reboot process on the CLI console using one of the following two methods:

- Turn the controller off and then turn it back on.
- On the CLI, enter **reset system**. At the confirmation prompt, enter **y** to save configuration changes to NVRAM. The controller reboots.

When the controller reboots, the CLI console displays the following reboot information:

- Initializing the system.
- Verifying the hardware configuration.
- Loading microcode into memory.
- Verifying the Operating System software load.
- Initializing with its stored configurations.
- Displaying the login prompt.

