

Cisco IOS Software Product Lifecycle Dates and Milestones

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The Cisco IOS[®] Software release product lifecycle establishes the policies and milestones for Cisco IOS Software releases. These policies and milestones facilitate the Cisco IOS Software release selection process for deploying technologies during the supported software product lifespan, and provide migration path options for a proactive and streamlined software upgrade before a release reaches end of software maintenance.

Releases covered by the Cisco IOS Software release product lifecycle defined in this document include Releases 12.4, 12.4T, 12.2SR, 12.2SB, 12.2SE, 12.2SG, 12.2S, and 12.0S. This document provides clarity for these release product lifecycles, but does not change any Cisco standard end-of-life policies, located at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_end-of-life_policy.html.

Software maintenance for Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SX is defined in the following document:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/switches/ps5718/ps708/prod_bulletin0900aec804f0694.html.

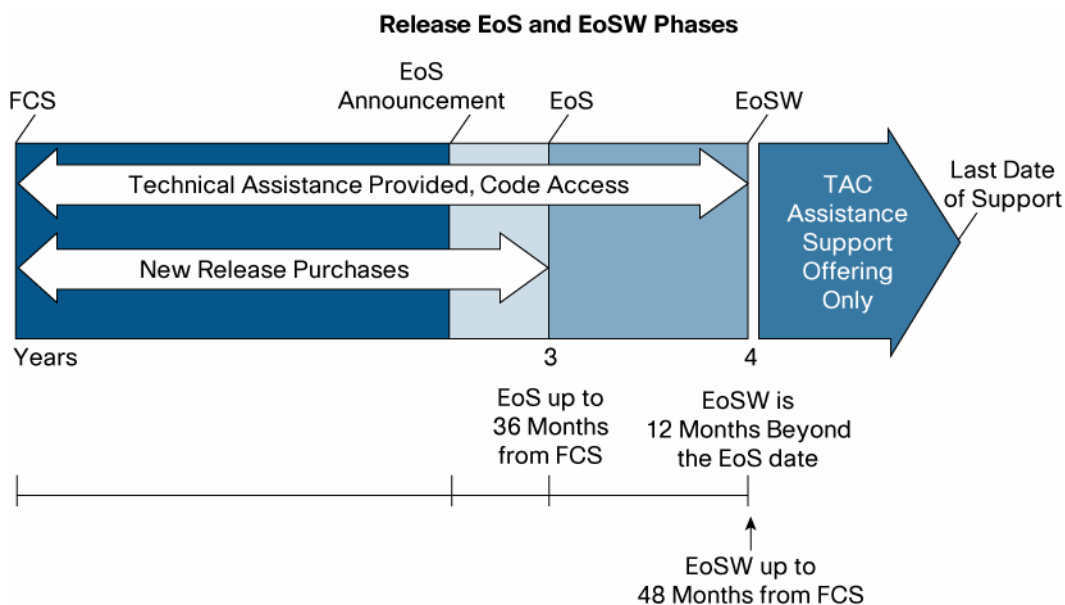
The Cisco IOS Software Product Lifecycle policy does not apply to special releases or other engineering only (non-TAC) supported releases. These types of releases generally have a much shorter lifecycle for software maintenance support. Contact your Cisco representative for more information regarding these types of releases, and refer to the Cisco Product & Services support page on Cisco.com to obtain additional information specific to your hardware platform <http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/index.html>.

Hardware-specific Cisco IOS Software maintenance policies and hardware end-of-sale announcements (including hardware platforms ending software support on a specific Cisco IOS release) may affect respective release image availability. These policies, announcements, and dates take precedence over the milestones defined in this document. To obtain hardware end-of-sale and end-of-life announcements, visit http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/prod_end_of_life.html.

Figure 1 illustrates the key milestones in the Cisco IOS Software Product Lifecycle, including First Customer Shipment, End of Sale Announcement, End of Sales, End of Software Maintenance (formerly, End of Engineering), and Last Date of Support. Cisco IOS Software releases receive software fixes and standard software maintenance support between First Customer Shipment and End of Software Maintenance milestone dates.

Cisco IOS Software Release Product Lifecycle Milestones

Figure 1. Cisco IOS Software Product Lifecycle Milestones



- **First Customer Shipment (FCS):** The day the release is first available to customers on Cisco.com
- **End of Sale (EoS) Announcement:** Notification of the upcoming End of Sale date for the release. This milestone occurs six months prior to the actual End of Sale date.
- **End of Sales (EoS):** The day the release is no longer orderable or included in manufacturing shipments of Cisco hardware. End of Sales is up to 36 months from the First Customer Shipment date.
- **End of Software Maintenance (EoSW):** This is the last date that Cisco Engineering may release any final software maintenance releases or software fixes for the release. End of Software Maintenance is 1 year (12 months) beyond the End of Sale date, and does not exceed 4 years (48 months) from the First Customer Shipment (FCS) date. Support for a release beyond the End of Software Maintenance date is provided via successor supported releases as shown in Table 1 and Table 2 below.
- **Last Date of Support:** The last date to receive Cisco TAC service and support for the release. After this date, all support services for the release are unavailable, and the product becomes obsolete. Software bugfix support for a release beyond End of Software Maintenance (EoSW) until the last date of support is provided via successor supported releases shown in Table 1 and Table 2 below.

Table 1 below lists the Cisco IOS Software release lifecycle milestones for Releases 12.3 and 12.3T, Releases 12.2 and 12.2T, Release 12.1, and Release 12.1E.

Note: Lifecycle milestones for Releases 12.4 and 12.4T will be added to Table 1 when End of Sale and End of Software Maintenance dates for these releases are announced. For any queries regarding the projected lifecycle of a release, please contact your Cisco representative.

Table 1. Releases 12.4T, 12.3, 12.3T, 12.2, 12.2T, 12.1, and 12.1E Lifecycle Dates and Milestones (Updated: August, 2009)

| Release | First Customer Shipment | End of Sale Announcement Date | End of Sale Date | End of Software Maintenance Date | Migration Path |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Releases 12.4(2)T, 12.4(4)T, 12.4(6)T, 12.4(9)T, and 12.4(11)T | Various dates | 7/1/2009 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/colateral/iosswrel/ps8802/ps6968/ps6441/end_of_life_notice_c51-545733.html | 7/1/2009 | 7/1/2009 | Release 12.4(15)T |
| Releases 12.4(20)T and 12.4(22)T | Various dates | 7/1/2009 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/colateral/iosswrel/ps8802/ps6968/ps6441/end_of_life_notice_c51-548879.html | 12/30/2009 After this date, maintenance rebuilds and software-fix support will be provided only through rebuilds of Release 12.4(24)T or later supported release. | 6/30/2010 Engineering maintenance rebuilds and software-fix support for Releases 12.4(20)T and 12.4(22)T will be provided only through rebuilds of Release 12.4(24)T or later supported release. | Release 12.4(24)T or later |
| Release 12.3 | May, 2003 | 9/15/2006 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps5187/prod_eol_notice0900aecd8052e110.html | 3/15/2007 | 3/15/2008 | Releases 12.4, 12.4T |
| Release 12.3T | Oct, 2003 | 12/7/2005 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps5207/prod_bulletin0900aecd803a0ffe.html | 6/7/2006 | 6/7/2007 | Releases 12.4, 12.4T |
| Release 12.2 | May, 2001 | 9/19/2005 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1835/prod_eol_notice0900aecd80330813.html | 3/19/2006 | 3/19/2007 | Releases 12.4, 12.4T |
| Release 12.2T | Jun, 2001 | 5/30/2003 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1839/prod_eol_notice09186a0080186d83.html | 11/30/2003 | 11/30/2004 | Releases 12.4, 12.4T |
| Release 12.1 | Jun, 2000 | 12/12/2003 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1831/prod_eol_notice09186a008032d55c.html | 6/12/2004 | 2/12/2005 | Releases 12.4, 12.4T |
| Release 12.1E | Mar, 2000 | 9/15/2006 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1833/prod_eol_notice0900aecd8052e0f5.html | 3/15/2007 | 3/15/2008 | Release 12.2S Family ¹ |

Table 2 below lists the Cisco IOS Software release lifecycle milestones for the Release 12.2S family, and Release 12.0S.

Note: Lifecycle milestones for Releases 12.2SB, 12.2SR, 12.2SE, 12.2SG, and 12.2SX will be added to Table 2 when End of Sale and End of Software Maintenance dates for these releases are announced. For any queries regarding the projected lifecycle of a release, please contact your Cisco representative.

¹ The migration path for this release is hardware dependent. Refer to the End of Sale and End of Life Announcement for Cisco IOS Software Release 12.1E Product Bulletin for more information http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1833/prod_eol_notice0900aecd8052e0f5.html.

Table 2. Release 12.2S Family and Release 12.0S Lifecycle Dates and Milestones (Updated: March, 2009)

| Release | First Customer Shipment | End of Sale Announcement Date | End of Sale Date | End of Software Maintenance Date | Migration Path |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Release 12.2S | Jan, 2003 | 6/19/2006 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1838/prod_eol_notice0900aecd804be5cf.html | 12/12/2006 | 12/12/2007 | Release 12.2S Family ² |
| Release 12.2(27)SB | Sept, 2005 | 5/1/2006 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/iosswrel/ps8802/ps6970/ps1838/prod_end-of-life_notice0900aecd80481a49_ps352_Products_End-of-Life_Notice.html | 11/1/2006 | 11/1/2007 | Release 12.2(31)SB or later supported releases |
| 12.2(28)SB | March, 2006 | 4/28/2008 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/iosswrel/ps8802/ps6970/ps1838/end_of_life_notice_c51-462739.html | 1/27/2009 | 1/27/2010 | Release 12.2(31)SB or later supported releases |
| 12.0(2)S through 12.0(25)S | Dec, 1998 | 9/17/2007 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1829/prod_eol_notice0900aecd806caed8.html | 3/15/2008 | 3/15/2009 | See Footnote 3 |
| 12.0(26)S through 12.0(31)S | Aug, 2003 | 9/17/2007 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1829/prod_eol_notice0900aecd806caed8.html | 9/16/2008 | 9/16/2009 | See Footnote 3 |
| Release 12.0(32)S | January, 2006 | 1/31/2009 http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/iosswrel/ps8802/ps1829/end_of_life_notice_c51-518699.html | 1/31/2010 | 1/31/2012 | See Footnote 3 |

Additional Information

- **Cisco IOS Software Reference Guide:**
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1828/products_white_paper09186a008018305e.shtml
- **Cisco IOS Software Releases:**
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/products_ios_cisco_ios_software_releases.html
- **Cisco IOS Software Upgrade Planner:** <http://www.cisco.com/cgi-bin/Software/Iosplanner/Planner-tool/iosplanner.cgi>
- **Cisco Feature Navigator:** <http://tools.cisco.com/ITDIT/CFN/jsp/index.jsp>
- **Cisco Software Advisor:** <http://tools.cisco.com/Support/Fusion/FusionHome.do>
- **Cisco Products and Services End-of-Life Policy:**
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_end-of-life_policy.html

² The migration path for this release is hardware dependent. Refer to the End of Sale and End of Life Product Bulletin for Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2S for more information
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/sw/iosswrel/ps1838/prod_eol_notice0900aecd804be5cf.html.

³ The migration path is hardware dependent. Refer to the End of Sale and End of Life Product Bulletin for Cisco IOS Software Release 12.0(32)S for more information:
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/iosswrel/ps8802/ps1829/end_of_life_notice_c51-518699.html

- **Hardware End-of-Sale and End-of-Life Announcements:** http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/prod_end_of_life.html
- **Subscribe to receive End-of-Life/End-of-Sale information:** <http://www.cisco.com/cgi-bin/Support/FieldNoticeTool/field-notice>
- **Cisco Product and Services Security Advisories:** <http://www.cisco.com/go/psirt>
- **Cisco IOS Software Release related comments and questions on this document:** ios-release-pm@cisco.com



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