

# Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR Software Train Update: Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series Chassis Will Not Be Supported in Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SRB and Future Releases of the 12.2SR Cisco IOS Software Train

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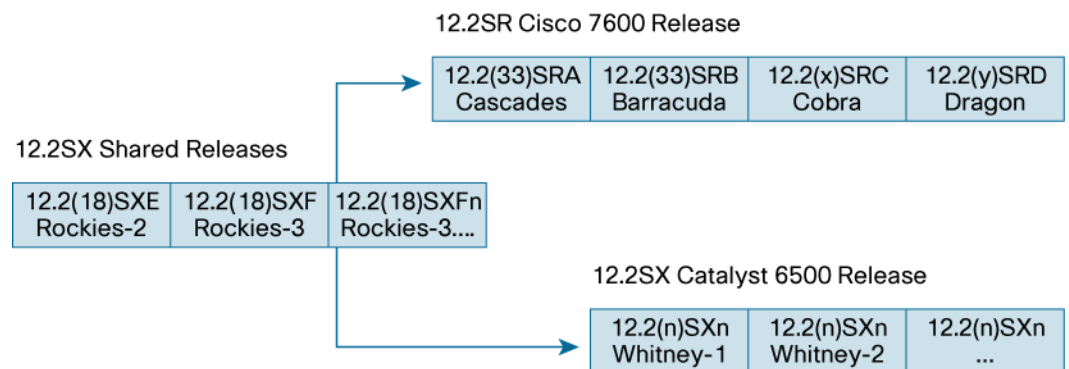
The Cisco® Catalyst® 6500 chassis will not be supported in the Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR release train, beginning with Release 12.2(33)SRB. From this code release onward, only the Cisco 7600 Series chassis will be supported.

## Cisco 7600 Series Router and Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series Switch Divergence

With the creation of the Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR software release train for the Cisco 7600 Series, the Cisco 7600 routers and Cisco Catalyst 6500 switches have begun a series of steps to align products and software to their respective market segments.

With the 12.2SR train, the Cisco 7600 Series will continue leading feature development focusing on Intelligent Carrier Ethernet, voice, video, and data services in metropolitan, cable, and eventually Ethernet Broadband Remote Access Server segments, as well as its continued focus on Tier-2/3 service provider, mobile, and next-generation enterprise metropolitan-area network (MAN) and WAN applications. The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series will continue to focus development in the Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SX software train as normal.

**Figure 1.** Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR and 12.2SX Divergence; Cisco 7600 Software Releases



Hand-in-hand with the previously noted software divergence comes an accompanying hardware divergence, in terms of both new line-card support and hardware support targeted toward focal market segments. Starting with Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2(33)SRB, the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series chassis will no longer be supported in the 12.2SR software train. Release 12.2SR will focus on the Cisco 7600 Series of routers.

## Resulting Action from Using Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR with Cisco Catalyst 6500 Switches

Two warnings have been implemented that will affect customers downloading Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR software with the intent to run this software on Cisco Catalyst 6500 chassis:

1. **Cisco.com Software Center Warning:** When downloading Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR, a note will appear, explaining that this software train is for Cisco 7600 only. All customers wishing to use this code for Cisco Catalyst 6500 switches will be referred to their Cisco sales contacts or account teams to work through a migration plan to 12.2SX or Cisco 7600 Series chassis if they wish to use Release 12.2SR.
2. **Boot Up Warning and System Restart:** Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR (starting with 12.2(33)SRB) will not boot on a Cisco Catalyst 6500 switch. If a Cisco 7600 image is booted on a Cisco Catalyst 6500 switch, a message of noncompliance will appear and the system will drop into the ROM monitor. At that point, manual intervention will be required in order to configure the device to load and boot a supportable image. Recovery of the system can be accomplished using the same techniques used to recover from loading any type of incompatible image.

If the original image still exists in the flash memory file system, delete the incompatible image and reboot the system. If no compatible image exists, the flash card should be moved to another system that is already booted so that a supportable image can be copied to that flash card from the working system. The flash card with the supported image can then be inserted back in the nonbooting device and the device can then be rebooted to get it back online.

Search [www.cisco.com](http://www.cisco.com) for 'Loading and Maintaining System Images' for details about recovery techniques.

## Mixed Chassis Environments and Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR

One question arising from the platform divergence and end of support follows: 'How do I support my network if it aligns with the 12.2SR roadmap and market segment focus, yet is running a mixed Cisco 7600 and Cisco Catalyst 6500 or all Cisco Catalyst 6500 chassis network for my applications?'

As shown in Figure 1, a customer can continue to use Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SX images for future software releases for pure Cisco Catalyst 6500 chassis environments, 12.2SXF images for mixed chassis environments, or the customer can migrate to the Cisco 7600 Series routers with Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SR. To aid in the transition, Cisco will provide a 12.2SR train image that will run on the existing Cisco Catalyst 6500 chassis until a migration to the Cisco 7600 platform is complete for qualifying customers. The ability to qualify for this special image will be made available for a limited time. Please contact your local Cisco account team to make a formal request if you need to take this route. If you do not have a local Cisco account team, please contact the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) and the technicians will have a Cisco representative contact you to discuss possible options.

## Timeline

Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SRB software will release in Q1 CY2007, starting with the 12.2(33)SRB release. The only chassis supported in 12.2SRB (and following releases) are listed in Table 1. Please refer to the software release notes for typical information with respect to line-card and supervisor compatibility.

**Table 1.** Chassis Supported in Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2SRB and Future 12.2SR Releases

| Product Name               | Part Number            |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Cisco 7600 13-slot chassis | CISCO7613              |
| Cisco 7600 9-slot chassis  | CISCO7609-S, CISCO7609 |
| Cisco 7600 6-slot chassis  | CISCO7606-S, CISCO7606 |
| Cisco 7600 4-slot chassis  | CISCO7604              |
| Cisco 7600 3-slot chassis  | CISCO7603-S, CISCO7603 |



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