

# Cisco ASR 9900 Series Route Processor 3



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The Cisco® ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 (ASR 9900 RP3) is the next-generation system processor for the Cisco ASR 9912 Router and ASR 9922 Router, supporting high-density 100 and 400 Gigabit Ethernet line cards and provides backward compatibility with the Cisco ASR 9000 Series third generation family of line cards. The Cisco ASR 9900 RP3 system architecture is designed to accommodate new programmable deployment models and convergence of Layer 2 and Layer 3 services, as required by today's wireline, Data-Center-Interconnect (DCI), and mobile aggregation applications.

The ASR 9900 RP3 brings the time-tested and robust carrier-class capabilities of Cisco IOS® XR Software to the Carrier Ethernet edge. The operating system supports true software process modularity, and it allows each process to run in separate protected memory, including each routing protocol, along with multiple instances of control, data, and management planes supported. The software also supports distributed route processing.



**Figure 1.**  
Cisco ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 – SE



**Figure 2.**  
Cisco ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 – TR

The Cisco ASR 9900 RP3 is designed to deliver the high scalability, performance, and fast convergence required for today's and tomorrow's demanding video, cloud, and mobile services. These features provide exceptional scale, service flexibility, and high availability:

- Switch fabric architecture along with Cisco ASR 9900 Fabric Cards:
  - Distributed switch fabric architecture
  - Control of up to seven Cisco ASR 9900 Switch Fabric Cards to provide scalability and high availability on Cisco ASR 9922 Router and ASR 9912 Router chassis
  - Multistage low-latency nonblocking architecture
  - Service intelligence and traffic prioritization
- Superior network timing capabilities with support for:
  - Global Positioning System (GPS) via Time of Day (ToD), 10-MHz and 1-PPS interfaces
  - Centralized Building Integrated Timing Supply (BITS)
  - Precision Time Protocol (PTP), or IEEE 1588-2008, through dedicated 10-Mbps and 100-Mbps Ethernet port
  - Bidirectional Time of Day (ToD) with 10-MHz and 1-pps interface

## Route-Processor types

The Cisco ASR 9900 Route Processor is available in service-edge-optimized and packet-transport-optimized models. The service-edge-optimized version offers higher amount of memory that is essential for large-scale comprehensive service deployment. Both versions of the route processor support service-optimized, as well as transport-optimized, line cards. Different line cards can be mixed on the same chassis for greater flexibility.

Features and benefits of the ASR 9900 RP3 are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Features and Benefits of ASR 9900 RP3 in XR 6.5.15 or Later

Feature	Benefit
Highly scalable fabric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designed to support high 1-, 10-, 25- 40- 100- and 400-Gbps port densities</li><li>• Provides built-in scalability for investment protection</li></ul>
Control of up to seven switch fabric cards	Offers traffic load balancing simultaneously across up to seven fabrics
Distributed-forwarding-plane architecture	Allows line cards to support independent forwarding for enhanced performance and scale
Memoryless switch fabric	Provides transparent nonblocking, low-latency packet forwarding
Virtual output queuing and arbitration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offers service intelligence with prioritization of traffic (unicast and multicast)</li><li>• Provides efficient congestion-management mechanism and avoids problems related to head-of-line blocking</li></ul>
Centralized arbiter	Uses an efficient credit mechanism to help ensure transparent switchover with zero packet loss
IEEE 1588 support	Delivers timing services over the packet network efficiently and reliably
Two independent clock source connections: BITS and Synchronization Supply Unit (SSU) DTI	Offers redundant, centralized network synchronization support
Two 128-GB Solid-State Drives (SSDs)	Allows storing of core dumps and helps reduce the system Mean Time To Repair (MTTR)
Embedded Universal Serial Bus (eUSB) memory port	Provides access to onboard Universal Serial Bus (USB) flash-memory devices for software image storing and upgrades
Front-panel external USB 2.0 port	Provides access to USB flash-memory devices for quick software image loading and recovery
Front-panel LEDs	Provides visual indication of route-processor status (active or standby), power management, and activity on SSD
Management ports	Provides easy access to system console
Processor	8 cores, 2 GHz

Table 2 lists all the hardware available for the ASR 9900 RP3.

**Table 2.** ASR 9900 RP3 Hardware

Product number	Product description
A99-RP3-TR	ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Packet Transport
A99-RP3-SE	ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Service Edge

Table 3 lists the technical specifications for the ASR 9900 RP3.

**Table 3.** Technical Specifications for ASR 9900 RP3 Hardware

Technical specifications
<b>Internal Memory</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Control of up to seven Cisco ASR 9900 switch fabric cards</li><li>• ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Packet Transport 24GB (product number: A99-RP3-TR): 24GB Error-Correcting Code (ECC)-protected DRAM</li><li>• ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Packet Transport 16GB (product number: A99-RP3-TR): 16GB ECC-protected DRAM. Field upgradable option to 24GB</li><li>• ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Service Edge 40GB (product number: A99-RP3-SE): 40GB ECC-protected DRAM</li><li>• Solid-state disk: Two 128GB SSDs</li><li>• 8GB embedded USB</li><li>• USB 2.0 Type A receptacle</li></ul>
<b>Timing System</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Timing: Two independent clock-source connections</li><li>• IEEE 1588 support: Copper 10-Mbps and 100-Mbps RJ-45 Ethernet port</li></ul>
<b>GPS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ToD (RS-422 and RS-232)</li><li>• 1-pps RS-422 or 1.0/2.3 50-ohm RF connector</li><li>• 10-MHz in/out 1.0/2.3 50-ohm RF connector</li></ul>
<b>Management</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two 100/1000BASE-T (RJ-45) LAN management ports</li><li>• One console port</li><li>• One auxiliary port</li></ul>
<b>Alarms</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alarm outputs: Critical alarm (CR), Major alarm (MJ), and Minor alarm (MN)</li></ul>

## Technical specifications

### LEDs

- Amber Alarm Cutoff (ACO) and lamp test
- System Synchronization alarm (SYNC)
- Global Positioning System (GPS)
- Fabric-card fault indicator
- SSD

## Software

The Cisco ASR 9000 Series Aggregation Services Router delivers superior scale, service flexibility, and high availability into access and aggregation networks. It is powered by Cisco IOS XR Software, an innovative self-healing, distributed operating system designed for always-on operation. Cisco IOS XR Software supports a Software-Maintenance-Update (SMU) capability, which allows bug fixing or even small feature releasing without interrupting existing services. It also supports Field-Programmable Device (FPD) upgrades, which can be used to update Field-Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) and more, while systems are running.

Cisco ASR 9000 Series Carrier Ethernet applications include business services such as Layer 2 VPN (L2VPN) and Layer 3 VPN (L3VPN), Internet Protocol Television (IPTV), Content-Delivery Networks (CDNs), and mobile backhaul transport networks. Features supported include Ethernet Services; L2VPN; IPv4, IPv6, and L3VPN; Layer 2 and Layer 3 Multicast; IP over Dense Wavelength-Division Multiplexing (IPoDWDM); SyncE; PTP, Ethernet Operations, Administration, and Management (EOAM) and Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM); Layer 2 and Layer 3 Access Control Lists (ACLs); Hierarchical Quality of Service (H-QoS); Segment Routing (SR), Segment Routing v6 (SRv6), RSVP- and SR-Traffic Engineering; TI-LFA and RSVP-based FRR; EVPN; Multichassis Link Aggregation (MC-LAG); Integrated Routing and Bridging (IRB); Cisco Nonstop Forwarding (NSF) and Nonstop Routing (NSR); Point-to-Multipoint Traffic Engineering (P2MP-TE); and mLDP; Lawful Intercept; Smart Call Home (SCH).

The Cisco ASR 9000 Series Multiservice Edge (MSE) and Ethernet MSE (E-MSE) capabilities allow enterprises to offer powerful business VPN services with strong Service-Level Agreement (SLA) enforcement. Such services typically require simultaneous scale increases across multiple dimensions, for example, the number of Virtual Route Forwarding (VRF) interfaces, IPv4 and IPv6 route scaling, Bidirectional Forwarding Detection (BFD) sessions, and instances of Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) Cisco NSR interfaces. A Cisco ASR 9900 system configuration requiring high multiple-dimensional scale requires the Service-Edge (SE) optimized route processor model to support the increased system scale.

Timing synchronization is an integral part of traditional circuit-based networks, so the availability of equivalent functions in next-generation Ethernet-based architectures has quickly become a critical requirement. The Cisco ASR 9900 chassis have GPS, DTI, and BITS connections on the route processor, along with SyncE and PTP support natively on the line cards, which gives mobile providers ample options for time and frequency synchronization. Additionally, the Cisco ASR 9900 Route Processor supplies centralized clocking functions throughout the system, providing consolidated timing distribution and recovery to and from the line cards.

## Product specifications

Table 4 provides details about the ASR 9900 RP3, which supports the Cisco ASR 9912 and Cisco ASR 9922 chassis, therefore providing common sparing. Both Cisco ASR 9922 and ASR 9912 systems are designed to the same high standards of performance and reliability. They feature the same power and thermal innovations, and they can share route processors, line cards, Power Entry Modules (PEMs), and power supplies, for greater flexibility in your network planning.

**Table 4.** Product Specifications in XR 6.5.15 or Later

Category	Part number or specification	
Route processor	A99-RP3-TR A99-RP3-SE For simplicity and common sparing, this route processor is introduced on Cisco IOS XR 64-bit Release 6.5.1, and it supports both Cisco ASR 9912 and ASR 9922 chassis.	
Part numbers of supported line cards	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Generation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A99-4T-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-10X400GE-X-SE</li> <li>• A99-10X400GE-X-TR</li> <li>• <b>A99-32HG-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-32X100GE-X-SE</li> <li>• A99-32X100GE-X-TR</li> <li>• <b>A9K-20HG-FLEX-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-20HG-FLEX-SE</li> <li>• A9K-20HG-FLEX-TR</li> <li>• <b>A9K-8HG-FLEX-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-8HG-FLEX-SE</li> <li>• A9K-8HG-FLEX-TR</li> <li>• <b>A99-4HG-FLEX-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-4HG-FLEX-SE</li> <li>• A99-4HG-FLEX-TR</li> <li>• <b>A9K-4HG-FLEX-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-4HG-FLEX-SE</li> <li>• A9K-4HG-FLEX-TR</li> <li>• <b>A99-4HG-FLEX-X-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-4HG-FLEX-X-SE</li> <li>• <b>A9K-4HG-FLEX-X-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-4HG-FLEX-X-SE</li> </ul> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Generation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A99-32X100GE-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-32X100GE-TR</li> </ul>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Generation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A99-12X100GE-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-12X100GE</li> <li>• A99-12X100GE-CM</li> <li>• <b>A99-8X100GE-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-8X100GE-SE</li> <li>• A99-8X100GE-TR</li> <li>• A99-8X100GE-CM</li> <li>• <b>A9K-8X100GE-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-8X100GE-SE</li> <li>• A9K-8X100GE-TR</li> <li>• A9K-8X100GE-CM</li> <li>• A9K-8X100G-LB-SE</li> <li>• A9K-8X100G-LB-TR</li> <li>• <b>A9K-4X100GE-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-4X100GE-SE</li> <li>• A9K-4X100GE-TR</li> <li>• <b>A9K-400GE-LAN-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-4X100GE</li> <li>• <b>A99-48X10GE-1G-FC</b></li> <li>• A99-48X10GE-1G-SE</li> <li>• A99-48X10GE-1G-TR</li> <li>• <b>A9K-48X10GE-1G-FC</b></li> <li>• A9K-48X10GE-1G-SE</li> <li>• A9K-48X10GE-1G-TR</li> <li>• A9K-48X10GE-1G-CM</li> </ul>

Category	Part number or specification	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A99-32X100GE-CM</li><li>• <b>A9K-16X100GE-FC</b></li><li>• A9K-16X100GE-TR</li><li>• A9K-16X100GE-CM</li><li>• <b>A99-16X100GE-X-FC</b></li><li>• A99-16X100GE-X-SE</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A9K-24X10GE-1G-FC</b></li><li>• A9K-24X10GE-1G-SE</li><li>• A9K-24X10GE-1G-TR</li><li>• A9K-24X10GE-1G-CM</li><li>• <b>A9K-MOD400-FC</b></li><li>• A9K-MOD400-SE</li><li>• A9K-MOD400-TR</li><li>• A9K-MOD400-CM</li><li>• <b>A9K-MOD200-FC</b></li><li>• A9K-MOD200-SE</li><li>• A9K-MOD200-TR</li><li>• A9K-400G-DWDM-TR</li></ul>
Redundancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No single point of failure</li><li>• Route-processor redundancy (both route processors must be of the same kind)</li><li>• Software redundancy</li></ul>	
Physical specifications (includes ejector bracket/lever)	Each route processor occupies 1 slot; a redundant-route-processor configuration occupies 2 slots in Cisco ASR 9922 and ASR 9912 chassis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Height: 1.63 in. (4.14 cm)</li><li>• Width: 16.86 in. (42.82 cm)</li><li>• Depth: 24.67 in. (62.66 cm)</li><li>• Weight: 19.59 lb (8.89 kg)</li></ul>	
Environmental conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Operating temperature: 32 to 104° F (0 to 40° C)</li><li>• Storage temperature: -40 to 167° F (-40 to 75° C)</li><li>• Relative humidity: 10 to 90%, noncondensing</li></ul>	
Environmental Specifications		
Operating temperature (short-term)	23 to 131° F (-5 to 55° C) <b>Note:</b> Short-term refers to a period of not more than 96 consecutive hours and a total of not more than 15 days in 1 year (a total of 360 hours in any given year, but no more than 15 occurrences during that 1-year period).	
Operating humidity (nominal) (relative humidity)	10 to 85%	
Operating humidity (short-term)	5 to 90% <b>Note:</b> Not to exceed 0.024 kg water or dry air	
Storage temperature	-40 to 158° F (-40 to 70° C)	
Storage (relative humidity)	5 to 95% <b>Note:</b> Not to exceed 0.024 kg water or dry air	



Category	Part number or specification
Operating altitude	-60 to 4000m (up to 2000m conforms to IEC/EN/UL/CSA 60950 requirements)
<b>Compliance</b>	
<b>Network Equipment Building Standards (NEBS)</b>	<p>Cisco ASR 9900 platforms are designed to meet these standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SR-3580: NEBS Criteria Levels (Level 3)</li> <li>• GR-1089-CORE: NEBS Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) and Safety</li> <li>• GR-63-CORE: NEBS Physical Protection</li> <li>• VZ.TPR.9205: Verizon TEEER</li> </ul>
<b>ETSI standards</b>	<p>Cisco ASR 9900 platforms are designed to meet these standards (qualification in progress):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN300 386: Telecommunications Network Equipment (EMC)</li> <li>• ETSI 300 019 Storage Class 1.1</li> <li>• ETSI 300 019 Transportation Class 2.3</li> <li>• ETSI 300 019 Stationary Use Class 3.1</li> <li>• EN55022: Information Technology Equipment (Emissions)</li> <li>• EN55024: Information Technology Equipment (Immunity)</li> <li>• EN50082-1/EN-61000-6-1: Generic Immunity Standard</li> </ul>
<b>EMC standards</b>	<p>Cisco ASR 9900 platforms are designed to meet these standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FCC Class A</li> <li>• ICES 003 Class A</li> <li>• AS/NZS 3548 Class A</li> <li>• CISPR 22 (EN55022) Class A</li> <li>• VCCI Class A</li> <li>• BSMI Class A</li> <li>• IEC/EN 61000-3-2: Power Line Harmonics</li> <li>• IEC/EN 61000-3-3: Voltage Fluctuations and Flicker</li> <li>• EN 50121-4: Railway EMC</li> </ul>
<b>Immunity</b>	<p>Cisco ASR 9900 platforms are designed to meet these standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-2: Electrostatic Discharge Immunity (8kV Contact, 15kV Air)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-3: Radiated Immunity (10V/m)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-4: Electrical Fast Transient Immunity (2kV Power, 1kV Signal)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-5: Surge AC Port (4kV CM, 2kV DM)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-5: Signal Ports (1kV)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-5: Surge DC Port (1kV)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-6: Immunity to Conducted Disturbances (10Vrms)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-8: Power Frequency Magnetic Field Immunity (30A/m)</li> <li>• IEC/EN-61000-4-11: Voltage DIPS, Short Interruptions, and Voltage Variations</li> </ul>

Category	Part number or specification
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN 50121-4: Railway EMC</li> </ul>
<b>Safety</b>	<p>Cisco ASR 9900 platforms are designed to meet these standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UL/CSA/IEC/EN 60950-1</li> <li>• IEC/EN 60825 Laser Safety</li> <li>• ACA TS001</li> <li>• AS/NZS 60950</li> <li>• FDA: Code of Federal Regulations Laser Safety</li> </ul>

## Cisco Services for Cisco ASR 9000 Series Route processors

Through a lifecycle services approach, Cisco delivers comprehensive support to service providers to help them successfully deploy, operate, and optimize their Cisco Prime™ Evolved Programmable Networks. Cisco Services for Cisco ASR 9000 Series Aggregation Services Routers provide the services and proven methodologies that help assure service deployment with substantial return on investment, operational excellence, optimal performance, and high availability. These services are delivered using leading practices, tools, processes, and lab environments developed specifically for Cisco ASR 9000 Series deployments and post implementation support. The Cisco Services team addresses your specific requirements, mitigates risk to existing revenue-generating services, and helps accelerate time to market for new network services.

For more information about Cisco Services, contact your local Cisco account representative or visit: <https://www.cisco.com/go/spservices>.

## Ordering information

Table 5 provides ordering information for the Cisco ASR 9900 Route Processor 3.

**Table 5.** Ordering Information

Product description	Supported Software Release	Part number
<b>ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Packet Transport</b>	Cisco IOS XR Software Release 6.5.15 or later	A99-RP3-TR
<b>ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Packet Transport, spare</b>	Cisco IOS XR Software Release 6.5.15 or later	A99-RP3-TR =
<b>ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Service Edge</b>	Cisco IOS XR Software Release 6.5.15 or later	A99-RP3-SE
<b>ASR 9900 Route Processor 3 for Service Edge, Spare</b>	Cisco IOS XR Software Release 6.5.15 or later	A99-RP3-SE =

To place an order, visit [Cisco Ordering Homepage](#) and refer to Table 5.

# Product sustainability

Information about Cisco’s environmental, social and governance (ESG) initiatives and performance is provided in Cisco’s CSR and sustainability [reporting](#).

**Table 6.** Product sustainability

Sustainability Topic		Reference
General	Information on product-material-content laws and regulations	<a href="#">Materials</a>
	Information on electronic waste laws and regulations, including our products, batteries and packaging	<a href="#">WEEE Compliance</a>
	Information on product takeback and resuse program	<a href="#">Cisco Takeback and Reuse Program</a>
	Sustainability Inquiries	Contact: <a href="mailto:csr_inquiries@cisco.com">csr_inquiries@cisco.com</a>
Material	Product packaging weight and materials	Contact: <a href="mailto:environment@cisco.com">environment@cisco.com</a>

## Cisco Capital

### Flexible payment solutions to help you achieve your objectives

Cisco Capital makes it easier to get the right technology to achieve your objectives, enable business transformation and help you stay competitive. We can help you reduce the total cost of ownership, conserve capital, and accelerate growth. In more than 100 countries, our flexible payment solutions can help you acquire hardware, software, services and complementary third-party equipment in easy, predictable payments. [Learn more](#).

### For more information

<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/routers/asr-9000-series-aggregation-services-routers/index.html>.

# Document history

Table 7. Document history

New or Revised Topic	Described In	Date
Added SKUs for new 5 <sup>th</sup> Generation line cards that offer native 1G support	<a href="#">Product specifications, Features and Benefits of the ASR 9000 Series RSP5, Technical Specifications for Cisco ASR 9000 Series RSP5 Hardware</a>	July 10, 2025
Added new SKUs for 5th Generation line cards and updated relevant features and technical specifications across document.	<a href="#">Product specifications, Features and Benefits of the ASR 9000 Series RP3, Technical Specifications for Cisco ASR 9000 Series RP3 Hardware</a>	April 21, 2021

Americas Headquarters  
Cisco Systems, Inc.  
San Jose, CA

Asia Pacific Headquarters  
Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.  
Singapore

Europe Headquarters  
Cisco Systems International BV Amsterdam,  
The Netherlands

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