

# IOS Software Releases

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## Types of Software Releases

Cisco® Wireless Software provides the types of releases listed in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Cisco Wireless LAN Controller Software Release Description

Software Release	Description	Benefit
<b>Maintenance Deployment (MD) releases</b>	Software releases that provide bug-fix support and ongoing software maintenance. These releases are categorized as Maintenance Deployment (MD). These are long-lived releases with ongoing software maintenance.	Provides customers with a software release that offers stability and long support duration with periodic maintenance releases (MRs).
<b>Early Deployment (ED) releases</b>	Software releases that provide new features and new hardware platform support in addition to bug fixes. These releases are categorized as Early Deployment (ED). These are short-lived releases.	Allows a customer to deploy the latest features and new hardware platforms or modules.

## Product Migration Options and Release Recommendations

Customers are encouraged to migrate their software according to the guidelines below.

### Maintenance Deployment (MD) Releases

- Release 3.6 is the MD release train (a release in this train will be qualified as MD).

### Early Deployment (ED) Releases

- Customers with 802.11n access points or earlier ED release versions of 3.2 or 3.3 should upgrade to 3.6.4.
- Release 3.6.4 is recommended for customers with 802.11ac deployments.

Table 2 summarizes the current MD and ED release recommendations.

**Table 2.** Cisco Wireless LAN Controller Software MD and ED Release

Software Release	Deployed Release	Recommended Release
<b>Early Deployment (ED) releases for 802.11n and 802.11ac deployments</b>	3.2 and 3.3 ED releases	3.6.4 release train
<b>Early Deployment (ED) releases for 802.11ac deployments</b>	3.6 ED release	3.6.4 release
<b>Maintenance Deployment (MD) release</b>	Any	3.6 release train

Table 3 provides detailed information on upcoming software releases.

**Table 3.** Detailed Software Release Guidance

Software Release	Upcoming Releases	Recommended Release
Release 3.2	No more MRs planned	3.6.4
Release 3.3 (MD release train)	No more MRs planned	3.6.4
Release 3.6	3.6 MR5 (H2 CY16) <sup>1</sup>	802.11ac deployments to 3.6 ED
Release 3.7	3.7 MR4 (H2 CY16) <sup>1</sup>	802.11ac deployments to 3.7 ED

<sup>1</sup> Represents the current plan for upcoming releases. This roadmap is subject to change at the sole discretion of Cisco, and Cisco will have no liability for delay in the delivery or failure to deliver any of the products or features set forth in this document.

### For More Information

For more information about these releases, go to <http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/wireless/5700-series-wireless-lan-controllers/products-release-notes-list.html>.

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