

Understand and Troubleshoot IPsec and DTLS Offloading in Secure Firepower 3100 and 4200

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Introduction

This document describes troubleshooting common issues in Firepower architecture responsible for handling flow offloading.

Prerequisites

IPSec configuration either route-based or policy-based or both.

Requirements

Cisco recommends that you have knowledge of these topics:

- Site to Site VPN
- Remote Access VPN

Components Used

The information in this document is based on:

- Cisco Secure Firewall Threat Defense 7.2.0+
- Cisco Secure Firewall 3K/4K

The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, ensure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

Feature Information

Supporting device models use IPsec flow offload where after the initial negotiation of an IPsec site-to-site VPN or remote access VPN security association (SA), IPsec connections are offloaded to the field-programmable gate array (FPGA) in the device, which improves device performance.

Offloaded operations are specifically related to the pre-decryption and decryption processing on ingress, and pre-encryption and encryption processing on egress. The system software handles the inner flow to apply your security policies.

Supported Platforms

IPsec flow offload is enabled by default, and applies to these device types so far:

- Secure Firewall 3100
- Secure Firewall 4200

IPsec flow offload is also used when the VTI is sourced from the loopback interface.

IPsec offloading is available on supported platforms starting:

- [Secure Firewall FTD 7.2](#)
- [Secure Firewall ASA 9.18](#)

While DTLS offloading is available on supported platforms starting:

- [Secure Firewall FTD 7.6](#)
- [Secure Firewall ASA 9.22](#)

Limitation

IPSec Offloading

These are the limitations of IPsec offloading:

- IKEv1
- Transport Mode
- Compression
- Post-fragmentation
- Anti-replay with window size other than 64-bits
- Firewall-filters for tunneled traffic
- Multi-context

DTLS Offloading

These are the limitations of DTLS offloading:

- DTLS 1.0
- Compression
- Multi-context
- Multi-instance

- Cluster

Configuration

Flow offload is enabled by default on supported platforms for both IPSEC and DTLS. Cli / flex-config can be leveraged for enabling or disabling it.

```
<#root>
```

```
FPR(config)#flow-offload-ipsec  
FPR(config)#no flow-offload-ipsec
```

```
<<<<<< disable flow-offload for ipsec
```

```
FPR(config)#flow-offload-ipsec egress-optimization  
FPR(config)#no flow-offload-ipsec egress-optimization
```

```
<<<<<< disable egress optimization for ipsec
```

```
FPR(config)#flow-offload-dtls  
FPR(config)#no flow-offload-dtls
```

```
<<<<<< disable flow-offload for DTLS
```

```
FPR(config)#flow-offload-dtls egress-optimization  
FPR(config)#no flow-offload-dtls egress-optimization
```

```
<<<<<< disable egress optimization for DTLS
```

Troubleshooting

Before proceeding further, please understand that offloading does not kick in until the negotiation is completed and you have SA established. The case is pretty much same for DTLS too so problems during initial handshakes or negotiations are possibly unrelated to offloading and can have the traditional troubleshooting approach with debugs and necessary captures. Specific problems related to flow offloading can occur in the form of traffic disruption.

Here are few important commands which can be executed to elicit a confirmation if you have flow offload enabled and problem is with the packet handling due to flow offload.

- Verify the **show crypto ipsec sa** command to check if offload is enabled.

```
<#root>
```

```
firepower# show crypto ipsec sa peer 203.0.113.2
```

```
peer address: 203.0.113.2
```

```
  Crypto map tag: CSM_dmz_a_001_map, seq num: 1, local addr: 203.0.113.1
```

```
access-list CSM_IPSEC_ACL_1 extended permit ip 192.0.2.0 255.255.255.252 192.0.2.4 255.255.255.252
Protected vrf (ivrf):
local ident (addr/mask/prot/port): (192.0.2.0/255.255.255.252/0/0)
remote ident (addr/mask/prot/port): (192.0.2.4/255.255.252.252/0/0)
current_peer: 203.0.113.2
```

```
#pkts encaps: 443, #pkts encrypt: 443, #pkts digest: 443
#pkts decaps: 10254, #pkts decrypt: 10254, #pkts verify: 10254
#pkts compressed: 0, #pkts decompressed: 0
#pkts not compressed: 443, #pkts comp failed: 0, #pkts decomp failed: 0
#pre-frag successes: 0, #pre-frag failures: 0, #fragments created: 0
#PMTUs sent: 0, #PMTUs rcvd: 0, #decapsulated frgs needing reassembly: 0
#TFC rcvd: 0, #TFC sent: 0
#Valid ICMP Errors rcvd: 0, #Invalid ICMP Errors rcvd: 0
#send errors: 886, #recv errors: 0
```

```
local crypto endpt.: 203.0.113.1/500, remote crypto endpt.: 203.0.113.2/500
path mtu 1500, ipsec overhead 86(44), media mtu 1500
PMTU time remaining (sec): 0, DF policy: copy-df
ICMP error validation: disabled, TFC packets: disabled
current outbound spi: XXXXXXXX
current inbound spi : YYYYYYYY
```

```
inbound esp sas:
spi: 0xYYYYYYYY (YYYYYYYY)
SA State: active
transform: esp-aes-256 esp-sha-384-hmac no compression
in use settings = {L2L, Tunnel, PFS Group 14, IKEv2,
```

```
CAN_BE_OFFLOADED, OFFLOADED, } <<<<<<
```

```
slot: 0, conn_id: 80438, crypto-map: CSM_cisco_map
sa timing: remaining key lifetime (kB/sec): (32808888/26585)
IV size: 16 bytes
replay detection support: Y
Anti replay bitmap:
0xFFFFFFFF 0xFFFFFFFF
```

```
outbound esp sas:
spi: 0xXXXXXXXX (XXXXXXXX)
SA State: active
transform: esp-aes-256 esp-sha-384-hmac no compression
in use settings = {L2L, Tunnel, PFS Group 14, IKEv2,
```

```
CAN_BE_OFFLOADED, OFFLOADED, } <<<<<<
```

```
slot: 0, conn_id: 80438, crypto-map: CSM_cisco_map
sa timing: remaining key lifetime (kB/sec): (34652026/26584)
IV size: 16 bytes
replay detection support: Y
Anti replay bitmap:
0x00000000 0x00000001
```

- The **show ipsec stats** command can also be referred for offloading confirmation.

```
<#root>
```

```
firepower# show ipsec stats
```


These outputs can also be fetched separately for DTLS and IPSEC by

```
show flow-offload-ipsec statistics
```

and

```
show flow-offload-dtls statistics
```

.

```
firepower# show flow-offload info detail
```

Packet stats of Pipe 0

Rx Packet count : 50736432

Tx Packet count : 45999280

Error Packet count : 0 <<<<<<<<

Drop Packet count : 0 <<<<<<<<

NOTE: The CAM counters displayed are cumulative counters
for all offload applications and indicates the total packets offloaded

CAM stats of Pipe 0

Option ID Table CAM Hit Count : 9675832699

Option ID Table CAM Miss Count : 0

Tunnel Table CAM Hit Count : 0

Tunnel Table CAM Miss Count : 74

6-Tuple CAM Hit Count : 177440969

6-Tuple CAM Miss Count : 9498391657

NOTE: The counters displayed are cumulative counters
for all offload applications and indicates the total packets offloaded

Packet stats of Pipe 0

Rx Packet count : 48444809

Tx Packet count : 44575287

Error Packet count : 0 <<<<<<<<

Drop Packet count : 41 <<<<<<<<

NOTE: The CAM counters displayed are cumulative counters
for all offload applications and indicates the total packets offloaded

CAM stats of Pipe 0

Option ID Table CAM Hit Count : 9675832699

Option ID Table CAM Miss Count : 0

Tunnel Table CAM Hit Count : 0

Tunnel Table CAM Miss Count : 74

6-Tuple CAM Hit Count : 177440969
6-Tuple CAM Miss Count : 9498391657

NOTE: The counters displayed are cumulative counters for all offload applications and indicates the total packets offloaded

- The **show counters** command can also be referred for offload counters and advised to be gathered multiple times for the sake of comparative analysis.

<#root>

For IPSEC offload

```
firepower# show counters
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_IB_PKT_PROCESS          46201663  Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_IB_PKT_PROCESS_SUCCESS  46201663  Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_OB_PKT_PROCESS          44580990  Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_OB_PKT_PROCESS_SUCCESS  44580990  Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_EGRESS_OPTIMIZE_PKT    44580990  Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_FLOW_INBOUND_ADD_RULE   296       Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_FLOW_OUTBOUND_ADD_RULE  296       Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_FLOW_INBOUND_DEL_RULE   286       Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_FLOW_OUTBOUND_DEL_RULE  286       Summary
IPSEC  OFFLOAD_FLOW_INBOUND_UPDATE_SUCCESS 253       Summary
```

For DTLS offload

```
firepower# show counters
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_IB_PKT_PROCESS      11122701  Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_IB_PKT_SUCCESS     11122701  Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_OB_PKT_PROCESS     27269819  Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_OB_PKT_SUCCESS     27269819  Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_FLOW_IB_ADD_RULE    4189      Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_FLOW_OB_ADD_RULE    4189      Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_FLOW_IB_UPDATE_SUCCESS 3730      Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_RX_ALERT            621       Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_CONTROL_IN_PKT     226951    Summary
CRYPTO  DTLS_OFFLOAD_EGRESS_OPTIMIZE_PKT 27269819  Summary
```

- IPSEC or DTLS offload captures can be gathered to make sure you are receiving the encrypted packets if nothing is seen in LINA captures. LINA captures only prints the outputs if FPGA handled the incoming packet correctly and injected it into datapath. If packet was not handled correctly by FPGA, then there are chances nothing is visible in the LINA captures but this does not imply that you have not received any packet at all. Any tool can be used to restore the dumps to readable format.

<#root>

```
firepower# capture TAC ipsec-offload match spi 0x7XXXXXX9 203.0.113.1 203.0.113.2
```

<<< for IPSEC

```
firepower# capture TAC-DTLS dtls-offload match udp 203.0.113.1 eq <src port> 203.0.113.2 eq <dst port>
```

<<< for DTLS

```
firepower# show capture TAC
```

<<<< this is extracted for ipsec-offload

2 packets captured

```
1: 13:54:40.883758      20db.ea88.ce95 c860.8f37.f614 0xc008 Length: 202
```

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
83a8 7c14 3c64 594f 951d ca36 0e4d ca7e
2d34 d4ea 3515 0202 ce36 ace9 59a5 6f69
04c6 8ff9 ddf7 9e82 f6c2 11c5
```

```
2: 13:54:42.877014      20db.ea88.ce95 c860.8f37.f614 0xc008 Length: 202
```

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
3e83 a9b4 63b1 41cb 2408 0de1 4819 288b
9df8 fade 611e a338 98e5 74ec 552f c37d
8aa0 42d9 0b68 e5e7 7876 8bab
```

2 packets shown

- You also have option to check switch level captures to make sure that traffic is received and forwarded to FPGA correctly. These captures are taken from lab environment, please make sure to apply appropriate filters to minimize the impact on production environments. Details can be referred in [Secure Firewall Captures](#).

```
firepower# capture TAC switch interface <interface name> match ip 203.0.113.1 203.0.113.2
OR
```

```
firepower# capture TAC switch real-time
```

6 packets captured using switch real-time capture

```
1: 09:10:29.298126 bc5a.56ac.6702 e4a4.0400.11bc 0x2057 Length: 150
```

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
c685 5d8e c938 1617 c72e 7028 af65 ae8a
04b8 d2d5 db53 783f afed a8ee 9dcd 5938
f198 e89f 5555 5555
```

```
2: 09:10:39.298751 bc5a.56ac.6702 e4a4.0400.11bc 0x2057 Length: 150
```

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
a340 8252 d626 6cd8 f16a c6f7 3460 0e5a
290a 5ca7 8f9b 864c ef76 cdad 1839 8020
2590 804b 5555 5555
```

```
3: 09:10:49.298766 bc5a.56ac.6702 e4a4.0400.11bc 0x2057 Length: 150
```

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
```

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
7ebc d4f3 c706 55ac 1358 ab7c 6363 9827
ec29 47fe 4f91 4967 73a3 b646 7499 9269
0816 f463 5555 5555
```

4: 09:10:59.303405 bc5a.56ac.6702 e4a4.0400.11bc 0x2057 Length: 150

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
d15c 1115 3042 72b4 3b81 88ea 7548 c7e4
3401 b7ba 5555 5555
```

5: 09:11:09.308165 bc5a.56ac.6702 e4a4.0400.11bc 0x2057 Length: 150

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
752b 0ed4 1f2d 3429 0a09 bda5 2c68 1acd
64e9 7e5e 5555 5555
```

6: 09:11:19.313139 bc5a.56ac.6702 e4a4.0400.11bc 0x2057 Length: 150

```
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx
0631 4b9d 0a08 52b5 d084 cb39 d55a ad91
777c cfe4 5555 5555
```

6 packets shown

- For DTLS specific outputs, along with the previous **show** outputs, this can be verified for session specific data. These can also be fetched multiple times for the sake of analysis, especially the marked counters confirming if packets are processed and forwarded correctly.

<#root>

firepower# show asp table socket offloaded

| Protocol | Socket | State | Local Address | Foreign Address | IB-Pipe# |
|----------|----------|-----------|--|--|----------|
| SVC_UDP | 104d40e8 | CONNECTED | 203.0.113.5:443 | 0 0 | |
| SVC_UDP | 0f435518 | CONNECTED | 198.51.100.5:3875 | 198.51.100.6:13265 | 0 |

firepower# show asp table socket 104d40e8 detail

Statistics for socket

0x104d40e8

:

3) AM Module

```
Mod handle: 0x00000000104d40eb
Rx: 0/3 ( 0 queued), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 1
Tx: 0/3 ( 0 queued), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 0
App Flow-Ctrl Tx: 0
Stack: 0x000014a89473bb80
New Conn Cb: 0x00005559542f6130
Notify Cb: 0x00005559542f62a0
```

App Hd1: 0x00000000549358a
Shared Lock: 0x000014a7e010d848
Group Lock: 0x000014a7e010d848
Async Lock: 0x000014a84a270b40
Closed Mod Rx: -1, Tx: 4
Push Module: INVALID
State: CONNECTED
Flags: 0x500003
Inbound
Accepted
New Conn App Notify Success
Stack Ref count

2) SVC_UDP Module

Mod handle: 0x000014a8921aa180
Rx: 0/1 (0 queued), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 1
Tx: 0/1 (0 queued), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 785
Idle (ms): 0
DF-Bit Ignore: Disable
MTU: 1150
Fragmented Packets: 0
Downstream:
Data Pkts/Bytes: 768/481092

Drop Pkts/Bytes: 0/0

Ctrl Pkts/Bytes: 15/10347
Upstream:
Data Pkts/Bytes: 1093/536093

Drop Pkts/Bytes: 0/0

Ctrl Pkts/Bytes: 21/102
Offload Stats:

#pkts in: 1093, #bytes in: 536093, #pkts decrypt: 1093 <<<<<< this is expected to match with vpn-sessiondb

#pkts out: 767, #bytes out: 480393, #pkts encrypt: 767

<<<<<< this is expected to match with vpn-sessiondb det output counters

#send errors: 0, #rcv errors: 0
#pkts failed (send): 0, #pkts failed (rcv): 0
#pkts replay failed (rcv): 0

1) DTLS Module

Mod handle: 0x000014a89030f300
Rx: 0/128 (0 queued), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 0
Tx: 0/128 (0 queued), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 786
Upstream Active/peak/total: 0/0/0
Downstream Active/peak/total: 0/1/785
Inbound bytes rx/tx: 303/0
Inbound packets rx/tx: 2/0
Inbound packets lost: 0

Outbound bytes rx/tx: 427737/444392
Outbound packets rx/tx: 785/786
Outbound packets lost: 0
Upstream Close Attempt: 0
Upstream Close Forced: 0
Upstream Close Next: 0
Upstream Close Handshake: 0
Downstream Close Attempt: 0
Downstream Close Forced: 0
Downstream Close Next: 0
Inbound discard empty buf: 0
Empty downstream buf: 0
Encrypt call: 0
Encrypt call error: 0
Encrypt handoff: 0
Encrypt CB success: 0
Encrypt CB fail: 0
Flowed Off: 0
Stats Last State: 0x20 (TRFIN)
Pending crypto cmds: 0
Socket Last State: 0x1 (SSLOK)
Socket Read State: 0xf0 (read header)
Handle Read State: 0xf0 (read header)
References: 2
In Rekey: 0x0
Flags: 0x2000000
Header Len: 13
Record Type: 0x0
Record Len: 0
Queued Blocks: 0
Queued Bytes: 0

0) TM Module

Mod handle: 0x00000000104d40e8

Rx: 0/1 (

0 queued

), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 2

Tx: 0/1 (

0 queued

), Flow-Ctrl: 0, Tot: 786

Transp Flow-Ctrl Rx: 0

UDP handle: 0x000014a890217500

Conn Timeout: 1800000 ms

Local host: 203.0.113.5, Local port: 443

Foreign host: 198.51.100.5, Foreign port: 3875

Rcvd: 2

with data: 2

total data bytes: 303

Sent: 786

with data: 786

total data bytes: 444392

Dropped:

Rcv queue full: 0 <<<<<<<<<

- There are few additional CLIs which can be executed depending on the requirement.

<#root>

Global stats

- show flow-offload-dtls statistics
- show crypto protocol ssl statistics
(aggregate of offloaded/ non-offloaded stats)

- show ssl mib
(aggregate of offloaded/ non-offloaded stats)

- show crypto accelerator statistics
(separate Offloaded statistics added)

Clearing stats

- clear flow-offload-dtls statistics

- Along with this, for both DTLS and IPSEC offload, the **show npu-accel statistics** can also be gathered from the fxos CLI multiple times during the issue to verify few important counters. This output varies, depending on the problem type and the environment.

<#root>

```
>show npu-accel statistics
```

Output is cropped and gathered from one of the affected devices.

```
ilk_tx_good_pkt_cnt = 133997299
ilk_rx_good_pkt_cnt = 129123883

ilk_tx_err_pkt_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<

ilk_tx_taildrop_pkt_cnt = 4867559 <<<<<<<<<

ilk_tx_fifo_sbit_err_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<

ilk_tx_fifo_dbit_err_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<
```

ilk_rx_fifo_sbit_err_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

ilk_rx_fifo_dbit_err_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

ilk_rx_err_pkt_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

ilk_rx_seg_sop_cnt = 129123883

ilk_rx_seg_eop_cnt = 129123883

module: nvppu, pipe: 0

nvppu_ipsec_in_pkt_count = 46201704

nvppu_ipsec_in_byte_count = 5970198256

nvppu_ipsec_in_decrypt_pkt_count = 46201704

nvppu_ipsec_in_decrypt_byte_count = 4122130096

nvppu_ipsec_in_hash_pkt_count = 46201704

nvppu_ipsec_in_hash_byte_count = 5230970992

nvppu_ipsec_out_pkt_count = 44575287

nvppu_ipsec_out_byte_count = 31277069992

nvppu_ipsec_out_encrypt_pkt_count = 44575287

nvppu_ipsec_out_encrypt_byte_count = 29494058512

nvppu_ipsec_out_hash_pkt_count = 44575287

nvppu_ipsec_out_hash_byte_count = 30563865400

nvppu_ipsec_drop_pkt_count = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

nvppu_dtls_in_pkt_count = 11122815

nvppu_dtls_in_byte_count = 2810772142

nvppu_dtls_out_pkt_count = 27223995

nvppu_dtls_out_byte_count = 17111805764

nvppu_dtls_in_drop_pkt_count = 82 <<<<<<<<<<

nvppu_dtls_out_drop_pkt_count = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

nvppu_filtering_total_cnt = 46201704

nvppu_tfc_drop_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

nvppu_filtering_drop_cnt = 41 <<<<<<<<<<

nvppu_anti_drop_cnt = 0 <<<<<<<<<<

nvppu_dtls_anti_drop_cnt = 114 <<<<<<<<<<

- Generally, it is recommended to have troubleshooting file of FXOS and FTD both collected along with show tech support from FTD CLI from both devices in case if they are running in HA for the

analysis along with the previous outputs.

Conclusion

The purpose of this document is to explain in depth how to gather offload specific outputs as this is challenging in terms of limited visibility because of the architectural changes done in newer FPGA based platforms.