

Collect Unified Backup of Secure FMC in High Availability

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Introduction

This document describes how to collect the unified backup on an active FMC, where a single backup file is created for both active and standby FMCs.

Prerequisites

Requirements

Cisco recommends you have knowledge of these topics:

- Secure Firewall Management Center High Availability (FMC HA) concepts and configuration.

Components Used

The information in this document is based on FMCv 7.4.2.

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.

Background Information

- Unified backup is taken on an active management center, where a single backup file is created for both the active and standby management centers. The unified backup is applicable only for configuration-only backup. If eventing or TID backup is required, you must take separate backups for active and standby management centers. When you select configuration-only backup, by default, unified backup is applied. In a unified backup, if the active management center is unable to get a backup tar file from the standby management center, the normal backup file is generated for the active unit that can be used for restoration. There are several benefits of unified backup over the normal backup.
- Unified backup does not require you to take separate backups on active and standby management centers.

- Redundant data in backups and storage constraints are removed in a unified backup.
- In a normal backup, when the primary unit fails, and if a secondary unit backup is not available, you had to break the high availability pairing for the secondary RMA. This situation is eradicated in a unified backup.
- While executing unified backup, you do not have to pause the HA synchronization to perform backup on the standby unit.

Procedure of Collecting Backup

- Log into the management center and select **System > Tools > Backup/Restore**.
- The Backup Management page lists all locally and remotely stored backup files including the unified backup file (configuration-only).

Backup Management

- Enter the **backup name** and click **Start Backup**.

Create Backup

Create Management Center Backup

Management Center High Availability: Primary-Active

Name

Storage Location

Configuration

☒ (Both active and standby)

Events

☐ (Active only)

Threat Intelligence Director

☐ (Active only)

Email

Configure External Storage

☐

Cancel

Save As New

Start Backup

If the backup filename has special characters other than hyphen, period, and underscore, these special characters will be replaced with an underscore.

Start Backup

- Backup completed successfully. The file is stored locally.

Firewall Management Backups

<input type="checkbox"/>	System Information	Date Created	File Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	firepower Secure Firewall Management Center for VMware v7.4.2	2025-01-10 05:51:29	Unified-fmc_ha_backup-2025-01-10T10-47-34.tar

Backup File Name

Restore Management Center from Unified Backup

- Log into the management center you want to restore and select **System > Tools > Backup/Restore**.
- The Backup Management page lists all locally and remotely stored backup files including the unified backup file (configuration-only).
- If the unified backup file is not in the list and you have it saved on your local computer, click **Upload Backup**.
- Select the unified backup file that you want to restore and click **Restore**.

Firewall Management Backups			
<input type="checkbox"/>	System Information	Date Created	File Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	firepower Secure Firewall Management Center for VMware v7.4.2	2025-01-10 05:51:29	Unified-fmc_ha_backup-2025-01-10T10-47-34.tar
<div><div>Restore</div><div>Download</div><div>Delete</div><div>Move</div></div>			

Restore File

- In the **Restore Backup** page, select which unit you want to restore. Because the unified backup stores the backup configuration of both primary and secondary management centers, you need to choose which unit you want to restore.

Restore Backup

Backup Name: fmc_ha_backup-2025-01-10T10-47-34
Date and Time: 2025-01-10 05:51:29



To ensure the HA management centers are not in Active/Active or Standby/Standby modes, verify the state of the second peer and then choose the appropriate state of the restoring peer.z

Select role and state of the Management Center to restore

☒ Primary Management Center

Host Name: firepower
IP Address: 19.19.26.46
Role: Primary
State: Active
UUID: 568c6906-
ce98-11ef-8b61-7693f6
505c3c

Choose State:

Active

Standby

☐ Secondary Management Center

Host Name: firepower
IP Address: 19.19.26.48
Role: Secondary
State: Standby
UUID: 74d7a516-cea1-11ef-
b385-48ce6565214b

Cancel

Restore

Choose the Correct State

- To select the state of the restored management center, click the **Active or Standby** radio button. You must verify the role and state of your working management center to avoid having both peers with same role and state configuration. Choosing the incorrect role and state for your management center when restoring can cause HA failure.
- Pause the **HA sync** before restoring the backup.
- Click **Restore**, and then **Confirm Restore** to begin the restoration.

Confirm Restore

You have selected Primary role and Active state.

Choosing an incorrect role and state for your management center during restoration can result in HA failure.

Make sure you verify the role and state of your working management center to avoid having both peers with same role and state configuration.

☒ Yes, I confirm

Cancel

Confirm Restore

Confirm Restore

- You can check the restoration status from the **Message Center > Tasks**.

✓

Restore (On Demand)

Restore File: Unified-fmc_ha_backup-2025-01-10T10-47-34.tar

Restore Complete

1m 28s

✕

Restore Complete