

# Configure IPsec on Catalyst 9000X Series Switches

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## Introduction

This document describes how to verify Internet Protocol Security (IPsec) feature on Catalyst 9300X switches.

## Prerequisites

### Requirements

Cisco recommends that you have knowledge of these topics:

- IPsec

### Components Used

The information in this document is based on these software and hardware versions:

- C9300X
- C9400X

- Cisco IOS® XE 17.6.4 and later

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

Starting in Cisco IOS® XE 17.5.1, Catalyst 9300-X series switches support IPsec. IPsec provides high levels of security through encryption and authentication, as well as protecting data from unauthorized access. The IPsec implementation on the C9300X provides secure tunnels between two peers using the sVTI (Static Virtual Tunnel Interface) configuration.

IPsec support on the Catalyst 9400-X series switches was introduced in Cisco IOS® XE 17.10.1, while support for Catalyst 9500-X is slated for 17.12.1.

## Terminology

<b>IOSd</b>	IOS daemon	This is the Cisco IOS daemon that runs on the Linux kernel. It is run as a software process within the kernel. IOSd processes CLI commands and protocols that build up state and configuration.
<b>PD</b>	Platform Dependent	Data and commands that are specific to the platform they are run on
<b>IPsec</b>	Internet Protocol Security	A secure network protocol suite that authenticates and encrypts packets of data to provide secure encrypted communication between two computers over an Internet Protocol network.
<b>sVTI</b>	Static Virtual Tunnel Interface	A statically configured virtual interface to which you can apply security features
<b>SA</b>	Security Association	An SA is a relationship between two or more entities that describes how the entities use security services to communicate securely
<b>FED</b>	Forwarding Engine Driver	The switch component responsible for hardware programming of UADP ASIC

## Configure

### Network Diagram

For the purpose of this example, the Catalyst 9300X and ASR1001-X function as IPsec peers with IPsec Virtual Tunnel Interfaces.



## Install HSEC license

**Enable** the IPsec feature on the Catalyst 9300X platform, an HSEC license (C9000-HSEC) is required. This is different from other Cisco IOS XE based routing platforms that support IPsec, where an HSEC license is only needed to increase the allowed encryption throughput. On the Catalyst 9300X platform, the **tunnel mode** and **tunnel protection** CLI is blocked if an HSEC license is not installed:

```
<#root>
C9300X(config)#
int tunnel1

C9300X(config-if)#
tunnel mode ipsec ipv4

%'tunnel mode' change not allowed

*Sep 19 20:54:41.068: %PLATFORM_IPSEC_HSEC-3-INVALID_HSEC: HSEC
license not present: IPSec mode configuration is rejected
```

**Install** the HSEC license when the switch is connected to CSSM or CSLU using Smart Licensing:

```
<#root>
C9300X#
license smart authorization request add hseck9 local

*Oct 12 20:01:36.680: %SMART_LIC-6-AUTHORIZATION_INSTALL_SUCCESS: A new licensing authorization code wa
```

**Verify** HSEC license is correctly installed:

```
<#root>
```

C9300X#

show license summ

Account Information:

Smart Account: Cisco Systems, TAC As of Oct 13 15:50:35 2022 UTC

Virtual Account: CORE TAC

License Usage:

License	Entitlement Tag	Count	Status
network-advantage	(C9300X-12Y Network Adv...)	1	IN USE
dna-advantage	(C9300X-12Y DNA Advantage)	1	IN USE
C9K HSEC	(Cat9K HSEC)	0	

NOT IN USE

**Enable IPsec as the tunnel mode on the tunnel interface:**

<#root>

C9300X(config)#

int tunnel1

C9300X(config-if)#

tunnel mode ipsec ipv4

C9300X(config-if)#

end

Once IPsec is enabled, the HSEC license becomes **IN USE**

<#root>

C9300X#

show license summ

Account Information:

Smart Account: Cisco Systems, TAC As of Oct 13 15:50:35 2022 UTC

Virtual Account: CORE TAC

License Usage:

License	Entitlement Tag	Count	Status
network-advantage	(C9300X-12Y Network Adv...)	1	IN USE
dna-advantage	(C9300X-12Y DNA Advantage)	1	IN USE
C9K HSEC	(Cat9K HSEC)	1	

IN USE

## SVTI Tunnel Protection

IPsec configuration on the C9300X uses the standard Cisco IOS XE IPsec configuration. This is a simple SVTI configuration using [IKEv2 Smart Defaults](#), where we are using the default IKEv2 policy, IKEv2 proposal, IPsec transform, and IPsec profile for IKEv2.

### C9300X Configuration

```
<#root>

ip routing

!

crypto ikev2 profile default


  match identity remote address 192.0.2.2 255.255.255.255
  authentication remote pre-share key cisco123
  authentication local pre-share key cisco123
!

interface Tunnel1

  ip address 192.168.1.1 255.255.255.252
  tunnel source 198.51.100.1
  tunnel mode ipsec ipv4
  tunnel destination 192.0.2.2

  tunnel protection ipsec profile default
```

---

 **Note:** Since Catalyst 9300X is essentially an access layer switch, **ip routing** has to be explicitly enabled for routing based features like VTI to work.

---

### Peer Configuration

```
<#root>

crypto ikev2 profile default

  match identity remote address 198.51.100.1 255.255.255.255
  authentication remote pre-share key cisco123
  authentication local pre-share key cisco123
!

interface Tunnel1

  ip address 192.168.1.2 255.255.255.252
  tunnel source 192.0.2.2
  tunnel mode ipsec ipv4
  tunnel destination 198.51.100.1

  tunnel protection ipsec profile default
```

For a more detailed discussion of the various IKEv2 and IPsec configuration constructs, please see [C9300X IPsec Configuration Guide](#).

## Verify

### IPsec Tunnel

IPsec implementation on the C9300X platform is architecturally different than on the routing platforms (ASR1000, ISR4000, Catalyst 8200/8300, etc), where the IPsec feature processing is implemented in the QFP (Quantum Flow Processor) microcode.

The C9300X forwarding architecture is based on the UADP ASIC, so most of the QFP feature FIA implementation does not apply here.

Here are some of the key differences:

- **show crypto ipsec sa peer x.x.x.x platform** does not show the platform programming information from the FMAN down to the QFP.
- Packet-trace also does not work (more on this below).
- UADP ASIC does not support crypto traffic classification, so **show crypto ruleset platform** does not apply

### IOSd Control Plane

IPsec control plane verification is exactly the same as that for the routing platforms, see . To display the IPsec SA installed in IOSd:

```
<#root>
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
show crypto ipsec sa
```

```
interface: Tunnel1
```

```
  Crypto map tag: Tunnel1-head-0, local addr 198.51.100.1
```

```
protected vrf: (none)
```

```
local ident (addr/mask/prot/port): (0.0.0.0/0.0.0.0/0/0)
```

```
remote ident (addr/mask/prot/port): (0.0.0.0/0.0.0.0/0/0)
```

```
current_peer 192.0.2.2 port 500
```

```
  PERMIT, flags={origin_is_acl,}
```

```
  #pkts encaps: 200, #pkts encrypt: 200, #pkts digest: 200
```

```
  #pkts decaps: 200, #pkts decrypt: 200, #pkts verify: 200
```

```
  #pkts compressed: 0, #pkts decompressed: 0
```

```
  #pkts not compressed: 0, #pkts compr.
```

```
failed: 0
```

```
  #pkts not decompressed: 0, #pkts decompress failed: 0
```

```
#send errors 0, #recv errors 0
```

```
local crypto endpt.: 198.51.100.1, remote crypto endpt.: 192.0.2.2
```

```
plaintext mtu 1438, path mtu 1500, ip mtu 1500, ip mtu idb TwentyFiveGigE1/0/1
```

current outbound spi: 0x42709657(1114674775)  
PFS (Y/N): N, DH group: none

**inbound esp sas:**

spi: 0x4FE26715(1340237589)  
transform: esp-aes esp-sha-hmac ,  
in use settings ={Tunnel, }  
conn id: 2098,

flow\_id: CAT9K:98

, sibling\_flags FFFFFFFF80000048, crypto map: Tunnel1-head-0  
sa timing: remaining key lifetime (k/sec): (26/1605)  
IV size: 16 bytes  
replay detection support: Y  
Status: ACTIVE(ACTIVE)

inbound ah sas:

inbound pcp sas:

**outbound esp sas:**

spi: 0x42709657(1114674775)  
transform: esp-aes esp-sha-hmac ,  
in use settings ={Tunnel, }  
conn id: 2097,

flow\_id: CAT9K:97

, sibling\_flags FFFFFFFF80000048, crypto map: Tunnel1-head-0  
sa timing: remaining key lifetime (k/sec): (32/1605)  
IV size: 16 bytes  
replay detection support: Y  
Status: ACTIVE(ACTIVE)

outbound ah sas:

outbound pcp sas:

Note the **flow\_id** in the output, this must match the flow id installed in the forwarding plane.

## PD Control Plane

Statistics between IOSd and PD control plane

<#root>

C9300X#

show platfor software ipsec policy statistics

PAL CMD	REQUEST	REPLY OK	REPLY ERR	ABORT
SADB_INIT_START	3	3	0	0
SADB_INIT_COMPLETED	3	3	0	0
SADB_DELETE	2	2	0	0
SADB_ATTR_UPDATE	4	4	0	0

SADB_INTF_ATTACH	3	3	0	0
SADB_INTF_UPDATE	0	0	0	0
SADB_INTF_DETACH	2	2	0	0
ACL_INSERT	4	4	0	0
ACL_MODIFY	0	0	0	0
ACL_DELETE	3	3	0	0
PEER_INSERT	7	7	0	0
PEER_DELETE	6	6	0	0
SPI_INSERT	39	37	2	0
SPI_DELETE	36	36	0	0
CFLOW_INSERT	5	5	0	0
CFLOW_MODIFY	33	33	0	0
CFLOW_DELETE	4	4	0	0
IPSEC_SA_DELETE	76	76	0	0
TBAR_CREATE	0	0	0	0
TBAR_UPDATE	0	0	0	0
TBAR_REMOVE	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
PAL NOTIFY	RECEIVE	COMPLETE	PROC ERR	IGNORE
NOTIFY_RP	0	0	0	0
SA_DEAD	0	0	0	0
SA_SOFT_LIFE	46	46	0	0
IDLE_TIMER	0	0	0	0
DPD_TIMER	0	0	0	0
INVALID_SPI	0	0	0	0
	0	5	0	0
VTI SADB	0	33	0	0
TP SADB	0	40	0	0

IPSec PAL database summary:

DB NAME	ENT ADD	ENT DEL	ABORT
PAL_SADB	3	2	0
PAL_SADB_ID	3	2	0
PAL_INTF	3	2	0
PAL_SA_ID	76	74	0
PAL_ACL	0	0	0
PAL_PEER	7	6	0
PAL_SPI	39	38	0
PAL_CFLOW	5	4	0
PAL_TBAR	0	0	0

SADB Object Table

<#root>

C9300X#

show plat software ipsec switch active f0 sadb all

IPsec SADB object table:

SADB-ID	Hint	Complete	#RefCnt	#CfgCnt	#ACL-Ref
3	vir-tun-int	true	2	0	0

SADB entry



<#root>

C9300X#

show plat software ipsec switch active f0 sadb identifier 3

```
===== SADB id: 3
         hint: vir-tun-int
         completed: true
reference count: 2
configure count: 0
ACL reference: 0
```

```
SeqNo (Static/Dynamic)      ACL id
-----
```

### IPsec Flow Information

<#root>

C9300X#

show plat software ipsec switch active f0 flow all

=====

Flow id: 97

```
mode: tunnel
direction: outbound
protocol: esp
        SPI: 0x42709657
local IP addr: 198.51.100.1
remote IP addr: 192.0.2.2
crypto map id: 0
        SPD id: 3
        cpp SPD id: 0
ACE line number: 0
QFP SA handle: INVALID
crypto device id: 0
IOS XE interface id: 65
interface name: Tunnel1
use path MTU: FALSE
object state: active
object bind state: new
```

=====

Flow id: 98

```
mode: tunnel
direction: inbound
protocol: esp
        SPI: 0x4fe26715
local IP addr: 198.51.100.1
remote IP addr: 192.0.2.2
crypto map id: 0
        SPD id: 3
        cpp SPD id: 0
```

```
ACE line number: 0
  QFP SA handle: INVALID
crypto device id: 0
IOS XE interface id: 65
  interface name: Tunnel1
  object state: active
```

## Troubleshoot

### IOSd

These debug and show commands are commonly collected:

```
<#root>
```

```
show crypto eli all
```

```
show crypto socket
```

```
show crypto map
```

```
show crypto ikev2 sa detail
```

```
show crypto ipsec sa
```

```
show crypto ipsec internal
```

```
<#root>
```

```
debug crypto ikev2
```

```
debug crypto ikev2 error
```

```
debug crypto ikev2 packet
```

```
debug crypto ipsec
```

```
debug crypto ipsec error
```

```
debug crypto kmi
```

```
debug crypto socket
```

```
debug tunnel protection
```

## PD Control Plane

To verify the PD Control Plane operations, use the verification steps shown previously. To debug any issues related to the PD control plane, enable PD control plane debugs:

1. **Increase** the btrace logging level to verbose:

```
<#root>
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
set platform software trace forwarding-manager switch active f0 ipsec verbose
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
show platform software trace level forwarding-manager switch active f0 | in ipsec
```

```
ipsec
```

```
Verbose
```

2. **Enable** PD controlplane conditional debugging:

```
<#root>
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
debug platform condition feature ipsec controlplane submode level verbose
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
show platform conditions
```

```
Conditional Debug Global State: Stop
```

Feature	Type	Submode	Level
---------	------	---------	-------

```
IPSEC
```

```
controlplane N/A
```

```
verbose
```

3. **Collect** the debug output from fman\_fp btrace output:

<#root>

C9300X#

show logging process fman\_fp module ipsec internal

Logging display requested on 2022/10/19 20:57:52 (UTC) for Hostname: [C9300X], Model: [C9300X-24Y], Ver

Displaying logs from the last 0 days, 0 hours, 10 minutes, 0 seconds

executing cmd on chassis 1 ...

Unified Decoder Library Init .. DONE

Found 1 UTF Streams

2022/10/19 20:50:36.686071658 {fman\_fp\_F0-0}{1}: [ipsec] [22441]: (ERR): IPSEC-PAL-IB-Key::

2022/10/19 20:50:36.686073648 {fman\_fp\_F0-0}{1}: [ipsec] [22441]: (ERR): IPSEC-b0 d0 31 04 85 36 a6 08

## PD Data Plane

**Verify** the dataplane IPsec tunnel statistics including common IPsec drops such as HMAC or replay failures

<#root>

C9300X#

show platform software fed sw active ipsec counters if-id all

#####

Flow Stats for if-id 0x41

#####

-----  
Inbound Flow Info for

flow id: 98

-----  
SA Index: 1

-----  
Asic Instance 0: SA Stats

Packet Format Check Error: 0

Invalid SA: 0

Auth Fail: 0

Sequence Number Overflows: 0

Anti-Replay Fail: 0

Packet Count: 200

Byte Count: 27600

-----  
Outbound Flow Info for

flow id: 97

-----  
SA Index: 1025

-----  
Asic Instance 0: SA Stats

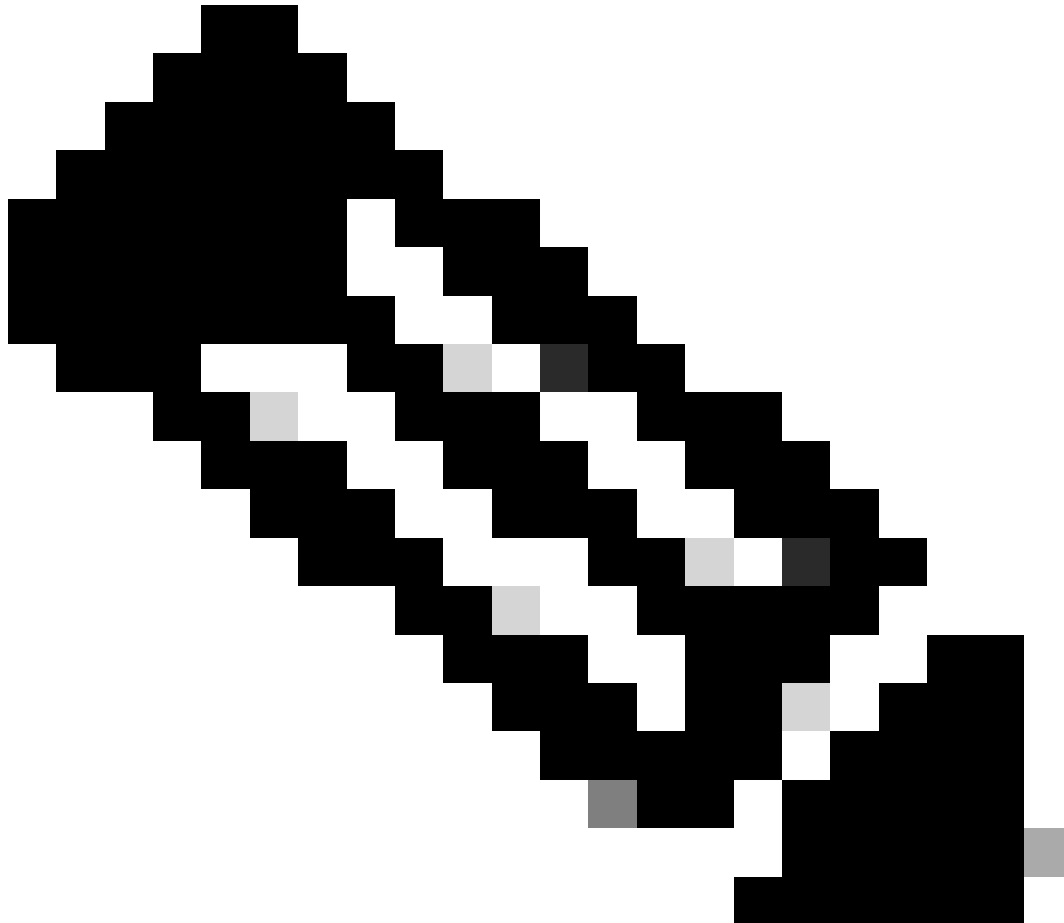
Packet Format Check Error: 0

Invalid SA: 0

Auth Fail: 0

Sequence Number Overflows: 0  
Anti-Replay Fail: 0  
Packet Count: 200  
Byte Count: 33600

---



**Note:** the flow id matches the flow id in the **show crypto ipsec sa** output. Individual flow statistics can also be obtained with the command **show platform software fed switch active ipsec counters sa <sa\_id>** where the sa\_id the **SA Index** in the previous output.

---

## Dataplane Packet-tracer

Packet-tracer on the UADP ASIC platform behaves very differently from that on the QFP based system. It can be enabled with either a manual trigger or a PCAP based trigger. Here is an example of using PCAP (EPC) based trigger.

1. **Enable** EPC and start capture:

<#root>

C9300X#

```
monitor capture test interface twentyFiveGigE 1/0/2 in match ipv4 10.1.1.2/32 any
```

<#root>

C9300X#

```
show monitor capture test
```

Status Information for Capture test

Target Type:

Interface: TwentyFiveGigE1/0/2, Direction: IN

Status : Inactive

Filter Details:

IPv4

Source IP: 10.1.1.2/32

Destination IP: any

Protocol: any

Buffer Details:

Buffer Type: LINEAR (default)

Buffer Size (in MB): 10

File Details:

File not associated

Limit Details:

Number of Packets to capture: 0 (no limit)

Packet Capture duration: 0 (no limit)

Packet Size to capture: 0 (no limit)

Maximum number of packets to capture per second: 1000

Packet sampling rate: 0 (no sampling)

## 2. **Run** the rest and stop the capture:

<#root>

C9300X#

```
monitor capture test start
```

Started capture point : test

\*Oct 18 18:34:09.656: %BUFCAP-6-ENABLE: Capture Point test enabled.

```
<run traffic test>
```

C9300X#

```
monitor capture test stop
```

Capture statistics collected at software:

Capture duration - 23 seconds

Packets received - 5

Packets dropped - 0

Packets oversized - 0

Bytes dropped in asic - 0

Capture buffer will exist till exported or cleared

Stopped capture point : test

### 3. Export the capture into flash

```
<#root>
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
show monitor capture test buff
```

```
*Oct 18 18:34:33.569: %BUFCAP-6-DISABLE
```

```
Starting the packet display ..... Press Ctrl + Shift + 6 to exit
```

```
 1  0.000000    10.1.1.2 -> 10.2.1.2    ICMP 114 Echo (ping) request  id=0x0003, seq=0/0, ttl=255
 2  0.000607    10.1.1.2 -> 10.2.1.2    ICMP 114 Echo (ping) request  id=0x0003, seq=1/256, ttl=2
 3  0.001191    10.1.1.2 -> 10.2.1.2    ICMP 114 Echo (ping) request  id=0x0003, seq=2/512, ttl=2
 4  0.001760    10.1.1.2 -> 10.2.1.2    ICMP 114 Echo (ping) request  id=0x0003, seq=3/768, ttl=2
 5  0.002336    10.1.1.2 -> 10.2.1.2    ICMP 114 Echo (ping) request  id=0x0003, seq=4/1024, ttl=2
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
monitor capture test export location flash:test.pcap
```

### 4. Run packet-tracer:

```
<#root>
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
show platform hardware fed switch 1 forward interface TwentyFiveGigE 1/0/2 pcap flash:test.pcap number 1
```

```
Show forward is running in the background. After completion, syslog will be generated.
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
*Oct 18 18:36:56.288: %SHFWD-6-PACKET_TRACE_DONE: Switch 1 F0/0: fed: Packet Trace Complete: Execute (
```

```
*Oct 18 18:36:56.288: %SHFWD-6-PACKET_TRACE_FLOW_ID: Switch 1 F0/0: fed: Packet Trace Flow id is 131077
```

```
C9300X#
```

```
C9300X#show plat hardware fed switch 1 forward last summary
```

```
Input Packet Details:
```

```
###[ Ethernet ]###
```

```
dst      = b0:8b:d0:8d:6b:d6
```

```
src=78:ba:f9:ab:a7:03
```

```
type     = 0x800
```

```
###[ IP ]###
```

```
version  = 4
```

```
ihl      = 5
```

```
tos      = 0x0
```

```
len      = 100
```

```
id       = 15
```

```
flags    =
```

```
frag     = 0
```

```
ttl      = 255
```

```
proto    = icmp
```

```
chksum   = 0xa583
```

```
src=10.1.1.2
```

```
dst      = 10.2.1.2
```

```
options  = ''
```

```
###[ ICMP ]###
```

```
type     = echo-request
```

```
code     = 0
```

```
chksum   = 0xae17
```





```

BlockForward      : 0
BlockLearn        : 0
L3 Interface      : 38
  IPv4 Routing    : enabled
  IPv6 Routing    : enabled
  Vrf Id          : 0
Adjacency:
  Station Index   : 177
  Destination Index : 21304
  Rewrite Index   : 21
  Replication Bit Map : 0x1 ['remoteData']
Decision:
  Destination Index : 21304
  Rewrite Index     : 21
  Dest Mod Index    : 0 [IGR_FIXED_DMI_NULL_VALUE]
  CPU Map Index     : 0 [CMI_NULL]
  Forwarding Mode   : 3 [Other or Tunnel]
  Replication Bit Map : ['remoteData']
  Winner            : L3FWDIPV4 LOOKUP
  Qos Label         : 1
  SGT               : 0
  DGTID             : 0

```

Egress:

```

Possible Replication :
  Port                : TwentyFiveGigE1/0/1
Output Port Data     :
  Port                : TwentyFiveGigE1/0/1
  Global Port Number  : 1
  Local Port Number   : 1
  Asic Port Number    : 0
  Asic Instance       : 1
  Unique RI           : 0
  Rewrite Type        : 0 [Unknown]
  Mapped Rewrite Type : 13 [L3_UNICAST_IPV4_PARTIAL]
  Vlan                : 0
  Mapped Vlan ID     : 0

```

Output Packet Details:

```

Port                : TwentyFiveGigE1/0/1

```

###[ Ethernet ]###

```

dst      = 00:62:ec:da:e0:02
src=b0:8b:d0:8d:6b:e4
type     = 0x800

```

###[ IP ]###

```

version = 4
ihl     = 5
tos     = 0x0
len     = 168
id      = 2114
flags   = DF
frag    = 0
ttl     = 254
proto   = ipv6_crypt
chksum  = 0x45db
src=198.51.100.1
dst     = 192.0.2.2
options = ''

```

###[ Raw ]### load = '

6D 18 45 C9

00 00 00 06 09 B0 DC 13 11 FA DC F8 63 98 51 98 33 11 9C C0 D7 24 BF C2 1C 45 D3 1B 91 0B 5F B4 3A C0  
 \*\*\*\*\*

C9300X#

```
show crypto ipsec sa | in current outbound
```

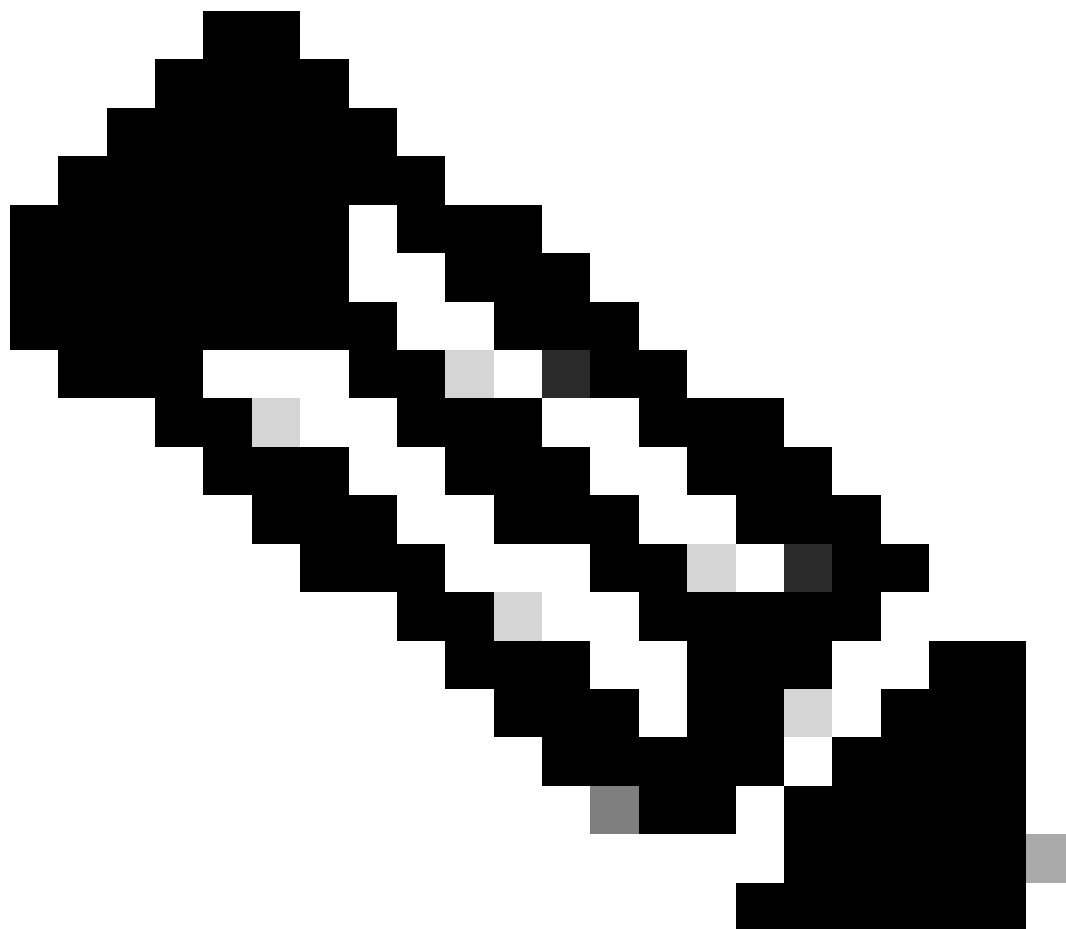
```
current outbound spi:
```

```
0x6D1845C9
```

```
(1830307273)
```

```
<-- Matches the load result in packet trace
```

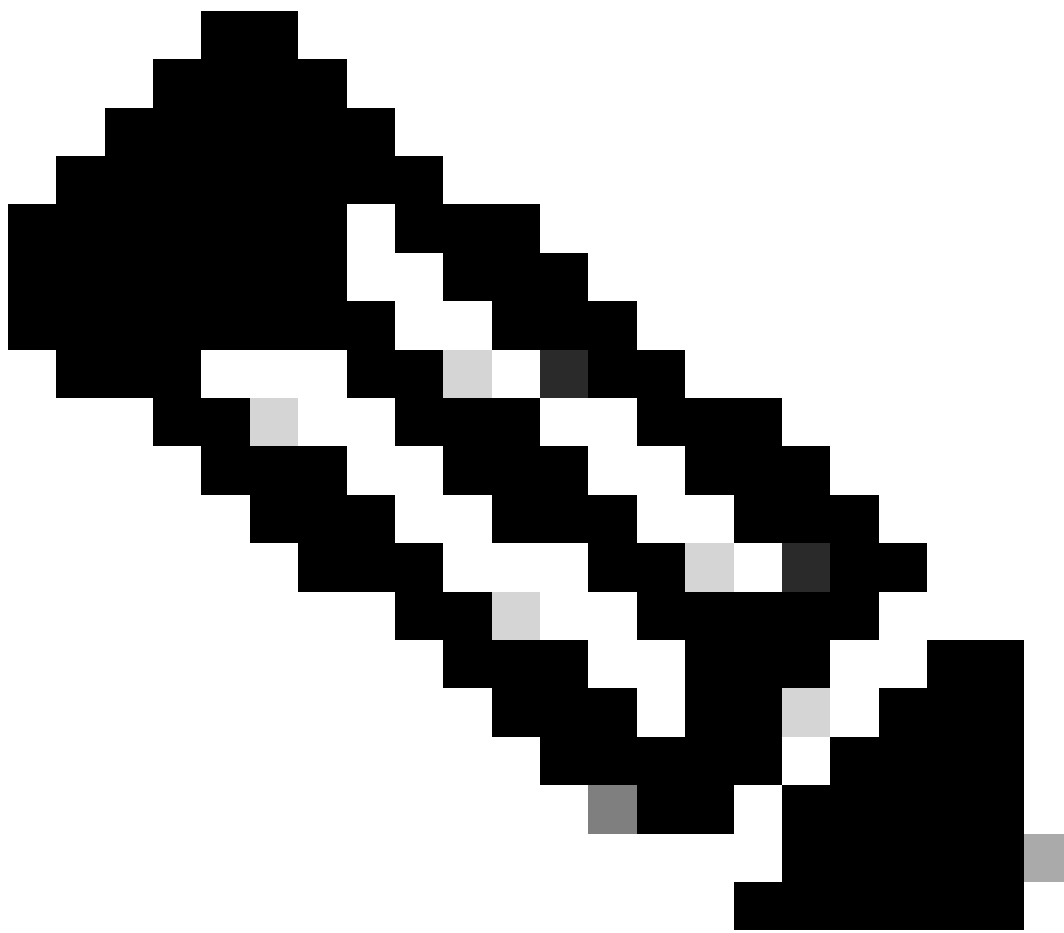
---



**Note:** in the previous output, the packet forwarded egress is the ESP packet with the current outbound SA SPI. For a more detailed FED forwarding decision analysis, the **detail** variant of the same command. Example: **show plat hardware fed switch 1 forward last detail** can be used.

---

## PD Dataplane Debugging



---

**Note:** PD dataplane debugging should only be enabled with assistance from TAC. These are very low level traces that engineering needs if the issue cannot be identified via normal CLIs/Debugs.

---

<#root>

C9300X#

```
set platform software trace fed switch active ipsec verbose
```

C9300X#

```
debug platform condition feature ipsec dataplane submode all level verbose
```

C9300X#

```
show logging process fed module ipsec internal
```

## IPsec PD SHIM Debugs

<#root>

```
debug platform software ipsec info
```

```
debug platform software ipsec error
```

```
debug platform software ipsec verbose
```

```
debug platform software ipsec all
```

## Related Information

- [Configure IPsec on Catalyst 9300 Switches](#)