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Introduction

This document shows how to perform access point image recovery on an ISR (Integrated Services Router) with an embedded AP802. The method described here relies upon the fact that the AP802's flash partition is directly accessible from the host router. This technique cannot be used from a router with an embedded AP801; on such platforms, you will need to perform AP (access point) image recovery from the AP801 console (bootloader.) (How to tell if you have an AP801 or AP802).

Example router CLI log

The example given below was performed on an 819HWD running IOS (Internetwork Operating System) 15.2(4)M5.

Router flash contents

Reformatting AP flash

The flash:1: filesystem is the partition used by the AP802. In our test, we will format this filesystem to wipe it clean, then reboot the AP802 to cause it to boot into the AP bootloader. (Note: do not reformat AP flash unless necessary - this is done here for illustrative purposes.)

Connect to AP802

Connect to the AP802's console to verify that its flash is now empty.

Copy AP IOS onto router flash

Copy the desired AP IOS tarball from a TFTP (Trivial File Transfer Protocol) server onto the router's main flash partition. In this case, we use ap802-k9w7-tar.152-4.JB5.tar which is autonomous IOS 15.2(4)JB5. (See the article Understanding Access Point IOS Images.)
Extract AP IOS

Unbundle the tarball onto AP flash (flash:1:), using the `archive tar /xtract` command.

Configure AP to boot new IOS image

Console to the AP802’s bootloader, and configure it to boot the IOS image. Note that AP’s IOS image is normally called `flash:/platform-featureset-mx.version/platform-featureset-mx-version`. Then boot AP IOS.

Clean up router flash and configure for autonomous

Now delete the tarball from router flash, as it is no longer needed. Also address the "WLAN_AP_SM-6-UNIFIED_IMAGE" message, which indicates that the router thinks that the AP should be running lightweight IOS, so we need to use the `service-module-wlan n bootimage` command to tell the router that the AP is running autonomous (or lightweight).

How to tell whether an ISR has AP801 or AP802

Q: How do you tell whether an ISR has an AP801 or an AP802?

A1. Do a show version on the AP.