

Recommended AireOS Wireless LAN Controller Releases

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Introduction

This document helps customers to find the most reliable AireOS Wireless LAN Controller (WLC) software available. Cisco recommends AireOS builds from each train of released WLC software. These recommendations may be updated on a weekly basis.

Escalation Builds/Maintenance Interims

In some cases, the recommended release might be an escalation or maintenance interim/beta build. Such releases are not available on CCO (Cisco.com), but have important bug fixes (beyond what is available in CCO code), and will be operational in production at customer sites for several weeks.

Note that, in some cases, the beta/escalation/interim build will contain support for unreleased features and/or hardware. Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) **does not support unreleased features or hardware** - until official release, such support will come from the

Business Unit (BU).

For released features and platforms, these builds are fully supported by TAC and the BU.

In order to request a TAC recommended escalation/maintenance interim build, open a Cisco TAC case on your Wireless LAN Controller contract.

TAC Recommended Builds

AireOS 8.10

TAC recommends AireOS 8.10.151.0. In general, TAC recommends that customers with 802.11ax (Catalyst 9100 Series Wi-Fi 6) access points run the latest available 8.10 release.

Note: Some 11ax clients of C9117/9130 APs may be unable to pass traffic if BSS Coloring is enabled. Workaround: disable BSS Coloring and then reload the APs. See [CSCvx99417](#).

AireOS 8.9

AireOS 8.9.100.0 and 8.9.111.0 are deferred. The 802.11ax APs require 8.9 or above; TAC recommends the latest available 8.10 release for deployments with these APs.

AireOS 8.8

TAC supports AireOS 8.8.130.0, which is the last 8.8 release - see the [End of Life bulletin](#).

AireOS 8.7

AireOS 8.7.106.0 is a short-lived release with no maintenance planned - see the [End of Life bulletin](#). Customers who require new features that are unavailable in 8.5 should run 8.10.

AireOS 8.6

AireOS 8.6.101.0 is a short-lived release with no maintenance planned, and is deferred - see the [End of Life bulletin](#). Customers who require new features that are unavailable in 8.5 should run 8.10.

AireOS 8.5

AireOS 8.5 is a long lived train. It's the last train for the following platforms: AP1600, AP2600, AP3500, AP3600, AP1552 (128MB version), AP802, WLC2504, WLC5508, WLC7510, WLC8510, WiSM2. See the [Product Bulletin](#) for 8.5 End of Life plans. AireOS 8.5 has two branches:

8.5 Mainline

The 8.5 Mainline branch supports 5508/8510/5520/8540/3504/2504/7510/WiSM2/vWLC controllers. It supports intercontroller mobility (IRCM) between AireOS and old "New Mobility" ("Converged Access") controllers (5760/3850/3650.) It does **not** support IRCM with 9800 controllers. For 8.5 Mainline deployments, TAC recommends 8.5.171.0.

8.5 IRCM

The 8.5 IRCM branch supports only 5508/8510/5520/8540/3504 controllers. It supports IRCM between AireOS and 9800 controllers; it does not support IRCM with old "New Mobility" controllers. For 8.5 IRCM deployments, TAC recommends 8.5.176.0; earlier 8.5 IRCM releases were 8.5.164.0 and 8.5.164.216.

AireOS 8.4

AireOS 8.4 is a short-lived release with no maintenance planned, and is deferred. Any deployment that requires post-8.3 features or hardware should run 8.5 instead.

AireOS 8.3

TAC supports 8.3.150.0 and 8.3.150.x Escalation code (available now from TAC.) 8.3 is the last train for the following platforms: AP1040, AP1140, AP1260, AP1552 (64MB version), OEAP600. 8.3.150.0 is the final CCO release of 8.3 - see the [End of Life bulletin](#).

AireOS 8.3.150.x Escalation

- For 8.3 deployments with AP-COS, TAC recommends 8.3.150.x Escalation (available upon request.)
- 8.3.150.x Escalation has all of 8.3.150.0's bugfixes, as well as several key bugfixes which are not present in 8.3.150.0, including the following:
 - AP-COS: AP not joining after enabling MIC certificate expiry check ([CSCvb93909](#))
 - [CSCvp73371](#) (see the tech tip [ARP Responses for Default Gateway IP Address Point to Wireless Clients](#))
 - AP generating 'hostapd' core files, does not respond to EAPOL ([CSCvi42632](#))
 - Cisco 1810W AP stops to send data frame intermittently ([CSCvg91770](#))
 - Cisco 3800 AP FW stopped working on Radio 0 ([CSCvh54235](#))
 - Cisco 2800,3800,1560 AP cannot forward packets downstream; 'Failed to get ARP entry for WLC' ([CSCvg44450](#))

AireOS 8.2

For deployments that require features or hardware introduced after 8.0, TAC supports 8.2.170.0. No further 8.2 releases are planned.

AireOS 8.1

8.1.131.0 is the final maintenance release of AireOS 8.1, and is deferred. The recommended upgrade path for AireOS 8.1 customers is to 8.3 or, if feasible, 8.5.

AireOS 8.0

For AireOS 8.0 customers, TAC supports 8.0.152.0. No further 8.0 releases are planned.

8.0.150.0 and 8.0.152.0 are susceptible to the AID Errors problem ([CSCve81314](#) (local mode APs) and [CSCve81269](#) (FlexConnect APs)). This is fixed in 8.0MR5esc, available from TAC. See

the [Field Notice](#) for more details.

Mobility Express

For Mobility Express deployments, TAC recommends using the latest 8.10 release.

General AireOS Release Recommendations

For general AireOS Release Recommendations, see:

- [Guidelines for Cisco Wireless Software Release Migration Bulletin](#)
- [Software Research](#)

Note for CIMC Software on 5520s and 8540s

5520 and 8540 controllers should have CIMC 3.0(4r) or 4.0(2n) installed

- If CIMC 2.x or 3.x is installed, upgrade to CIMC 3.0(4r)
- If CIMC 4.0x is installed, upgrade to CIMC 4.0(2n)

See the [CIMC Utility Upgrade](#) section of the 8.10.142.0 release notes for more details.

Note for Software Defined Access (SDA)

Always refer to the [SDA Compatibility Matrix](#) for code combination recommendations that work best for SDA. It lists specific combinations of code on Cisco DNA Center, the Identity Service Engine (ISE), switches, routers and Wireless LAN Controller codes that have been tested by the SDA Solution Test team at Cisco.

Related Information

- For wireless controller on IOS-XE, see [TAC Recommended IOS-XE Builds for Wireless LAN Controllers](#)
- Use the [TAC Recommended AireOS discussion thread](#) in Cisco Support Community
- [Technical Support & Documentation - Cisco Systems](#)
- [Cisco Wireless Solutions Software Compatibility Matrix](#) for information on which releases support which hardware platforms