Recommended Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform Software Releases - for Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series Systems

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This document lists the recommended Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform software releases for use with Cisco HyperFlex HX-Series Systems applicable to both new and existing deployments. These recommendations are general. They should not replace environment-specific design review efforts and should not override Advanced Services recommended releases if employed.

Important: Patch releases from the recommended release trains can become available for download before they are recommended in this document. If a patch release later than what is recommended below is available for download, review the "Resolved Caveats" section in the Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform Release Notes and Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform Security Advisories to determine if any resolved caveats are applicable to your deployment scenario and feature set and upgrade to the later release to benefit from the incremental fixes.

General Recommendation for New and Existing Deployments

Cisco recommends that customers with new and existing Cisco HyperFlex Series deployments choose from the following recommended releases:

Cisco HyperFlex ESXi

Platforms (if any one of the following are required, select the corresponding software version)	Recommended Versions (with download links for HX and related software)	Recommended UCS Versions	Recommended VMware ESXi Versions
• All-NVMe (Server PID: HXAF220C-M5SN) • HX Acceleration Engine (PID: HX-PCIE-OFFLOAD-1) • HX Edge (2, 3 and 4 nodes) using Intersight installer (preferred for HX Edge) • NVIDIA T4 GPUs (PID: HX-GPU-T4-16) • 2.4TB 10K SAS HDD capacity	4.0(1a)	UCS Infrastructure Software Bundle - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS C-Series rack-mounted server version - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS B-Series blade server version - 4.0(2d) Cisco UCS Host Upgrade Utility version - 4.0(2f) - For HX Edge deployments	6.5U2 - Cisco HX Custom Image for ESXi 6.5 U2 EP13

Platforms (if any one of the following are required, select the corresponding software version)	Recommended Versions (with download links for HX and related software)	Recommended UCS Versions	Recommended VMware ESXi Versions
drives (PID: HX-HD24TB10K4KN) for Hybrid HX nodes • 12TB 7.2K rpm SAS HDD option for LFF Hybrid nodes (PID: HX-HD12T7KL4KN)			
All other configurations	3.5(2e)	UCS Infrastructure Software Bundle - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS C-Series rack-mounted server version - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS B-Series blade server - 4.0(2d) Cisco UCS Host Upgrade Utility version - 4.0(2f) - For HX Edge deployments	6.0U3 - Cisco HX Custom Image for ESXi 6.0 EP20 6.5U2 - Cisco HX Custom Image for ESXi 6.5 U2 EP13

Note: Stretched Cluster, Hyper-V, All-NVMe, HX Acceleration Engine, HX Edge 2 node and 4 node clusters are supported only on M5 hardware.

The star in the Software Download Page in CCO refers to the recommended release for Cisco HyperFlex M5 ESX standard HX deployments (SED/non-SED/Stretched Cluster)

Cisco HyperFlex Hyper-V

Platforms (if any one of the following are required, select the corresponding software version)	Recommended Version (with download links for HX and related software)	Recommended UCSM Version	Recommended Hyper-V Versions
Intel Optane NVMe (PID: HX-NVMEXP-I375) and NVMe cache drive (PID: HX-NVMEHW-H1600)	4.0(1a)	UCS Infrastructure Software Bundle - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS C-Series rack-mounted server version - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS B-Series blade server version - 4.0(2d)	Windows Server 2016
All other configurations	3.5(2e)	UCS Infrastructure Software Bundle - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS C-Series	Windows Server 2016

Platforms (if any one of the following are required, select the corresponding software version)	Recommended Version (with download links for HX and related software)	Recommended UCSM Version	Recommended Hyper-V Versions
		rack-mounted server version - 4.0(2d) Software for the UCS B-Series blade server version - 4.0(2d)	

Note: HX Edge, All-NVMe, HX Acceleration Engine, Stretched Cluster, Self-Encrypting Drives and VIC 1457 are not currently supported on Hyper-V.

For the complete HW and SW compatibility list refer to the Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform Release Notes.

For multi-cluster deployments under the same FI, ensure that the recommended UCSM version compatible with the latest HX release is used. Server firmware on each cluster should match the recommended version in the Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform Release Notes.

Release Support Timeline for Recommended Release – 3.5(2x)

Milestone	Definition	Date
Release date	The date that this software version was first available for download	Jan 8 2019
End-of-Download (EOD) Date	The last date to download the product through Cisco download page. The product is no longer available for download after this date.	Apr 8 2020
End of SW Maintenance (EOSM) Release Date	The last date that Cisco Engineering may release any final software maintenance releases or bug fixes. After this date, Cisco Engineering will no longer develop, repair, maintain, or test the product software.	Jul 8 2020
End of Security and Vulnerability Fixes	The last date that Cisco may provide support for security vulnerabilities.	Apr 8 2021
Last Date of Support	The last date to receive service and support for the product. After this date, all support services for the product are unavailable, and the product becomes obsolete.	Jul 8 2021

Release Support Timeline for Release – 4.0(1x)

Milestone	Definition	Date
Release date	The date that this software version was first available for download	Apr 29 2019
End-of-Download (EOD) Date	The last date to download the product through Cisco download page. The product is no longer available for download after this date.	Oct 29 2019
End of SW Maintenance	The last date that Cisco Engineering may release any final software	Oct 29 2019

(EOSM) Release Date	maintenance releases or bug fixes. After this date, Cisco Engineering will no longer develop, repair, maintain, or test the product software.	
End of Security and Vulnerability Fixes	The last date that Cisco may provide support for security vulnerabilities.	Oct 29 2019
Last Date of Support	The last date to receive service and support for the product. After this date, all support services for the product are unavailable, and the product becomes obsolete.	Jan 29 2020

Available Releases

Note: If you are using a feature release, we recommend that you always use the latest available patch release for the feature release.

For info on the Cisco HyperFlex release policy and support timelines refer the following bulletin – https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/hyperconverged-infrastructure/hyperflex-hx-data-platform/release-bulletin-hyperflex.html

For detailed list of dependencies, security fixes and resolved caveats, refer to the release notes for the specific release - https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/hyperconverged-systems/hyperflex-hx-data-platform-software/products-release-notes-list.html

For Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform end-of-sale and end-of-life announcements,

see https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/hyperconverged-infrastructure/hyperflex-hx-series/bulletin-listing.html

Supported Upgrade Paths to the Recommended Release

Note: If you are running a release that is prior to 3.0(1i), we recommend that you upgrade to the 3.5(2d) release.

For information on the supported upgrade paths, refer to the upgrade guide for that specific release – https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/hyperconverged-systems/hyperflex-hx-data-platform-software/products-installation-guides-list.html

Existing Deployments That Use Software Earlier Than One of the Recommended Releases

To the extent possible, Cisco recommends upgrading to one of the Cisco HyperFlex releases listed previously. If that is

Type of Release	Release Number
Current long-lived release train	3.5(2x)
Current feature release train	3.0(1x), 4.0(1x)

not possible, Cisco recommends that you review the Cisco HyperFlex HX Data Platform Release Notes for the earlier release and the Bug Search Tool to determine the impact of any open caveats.

Documentation and Software

For additional information, see the Cisco HyperFlex product documentation page.

For software, see the Download Software page.

Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request

For information on obtaining documentation, using the Cisco Bug Search Tool (BST), submitting a service request, and gathering additional information, see *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation* at: http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/general/whatsnew/whatsnew.html

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