



Secure Copy

The Secure Copy Protocol (SCP) feature provides a secure and authenticated method for copying router configuration or router image files. SCP relies on Secure Shell (SSH), an application and a protocol that provide a secure replacement for the Berkeley r-tools.

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Finding Feature Information

Your software release may not support all the features documented in this module. For the latest caveats and feature information, see [Bug Search Tool](#) and the release notes for your platform and software release. To find information about the features documented in this module, and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, see the feature information table.

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to <https://cfng.cisco.com/>. An account on Cisco.com is not required.

Prerequisites for Secure Copy

- Before enabling SCP, you must correctly configure SSH, authentication, and authorization on the router.
- Because SCP relies on SSH for its secure transport, the router must have an Rivest, Shamir, and Adelman (RSA) key pair.

Information About Secure Copy

How SCP Works

The behavior of SCP is similar to that of remote copy (r`cp`), which comes from the Berkeley r-tools suite, except that SCP relies on SSH for security. In addition, SCP requires that authentication, authorization, and accounting (AAA) authorization be configured so the router can determine whether the user has the correct privilege level.

SCP allows a user who has appropriate authorization to copy any file that exists in the Cisco IOS XE File System (IFS) to and from a router by using the `copy` command. An authorized administrator may also perform this action from a workstation.

How to Configure SCP

Configuring SCP

To enable and configure a Cisco router for SCP server-side functionality, perform the following steps.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable Example: Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	configure terminal Example: Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 3	aaa new-model Example: Router (config)# aaa new-model	Sets AAA authentication at login.
Step 4	aaa authentication login {default list-name} method1[method2...] Example: Router (config)# aaa authentication login default group tacacs+	Enables the AAA access control system.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 5	aaa authorization {network exec commands level reverse-access configuration} {default list-name} [method1 [method2...]] Example: <pre>Router (config)# aaa authorization exec default group tacacs+</pre>	Sets parameters that restrict user access to a network. Note The exec keyword runs authorization to determine if the user is allowed to run an EXEC shell; therefore, you must use it when you configure SCP.
Step 6	username name [privilege level]{password encryption-type encrypted-password} Example: <pre>Router (config)# username superuser privilege 2 password 0 superpassword</pre>	Establishes a username-based authentication system. Note You may skip this step if a network-based authentication mechanism--such as TACACS+ or RADIUS--has been configured.
Step 7	ip scp server enable Example: <pre>Router (config)# ip scp server enable</pre>	Enables SCP server-side functionality.

Verifying SCP

To verify SCP server-side functionality, perform the following steps.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable Example: <pre>Router> enable</pre>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	show running-config Example: <pre>Router# show running-config</pre>	Verifies the SCP server-side functionality.

Troubleshooting SCP

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
	Example: Router> enable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	debug ip scp Example: Router# debug ip scp	Troubleshoots SCP authentication problems.

Configuration Examples for Secure Copy

Example SCP Server-Side Configuration Using Local Authentication

The following example shows how to configure the server-side functionality of SCP. This example uses a locally defined username and password.

```
! AAA authentication and authorization must be configured properly for SCP to work.
aaa new-model
aaa authentication login default local
aaa authorization exec default local
username tiger privilege 15 password 0 lab
! SSH must be configured and functioning properly.
ip ssh time-out 120
ip ssh authentication-retries 3
ip scp server enable
```

Example SCP Server-Side Configuration Using Network-Based Authentication

The following example shows how to configure the server-side functionality of SCP using a network-based authentication mechanism:

```
! AAA authentication and authorization must be configured properly for SCP to work.
aaa new-model
aaa authentication login default group tacacs+
aaa authorization exec default group tacacs+
! SSH must be configured and functioning properly.
ip ssh time-out 120
ip ssh authentication-retries 3
ip scp server enable
```

Additional References

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Cisco IOS commands	Cisco IOS Master Commands List, All Releases

Related Topic	Document Title
Security commands: complete command syntax, command modes, command history, defaults, usage guidelines, and examples	<i>Cisco IOS Security Command Reference</i>
Secure Shell	Configuring Secure Shell and Secure Shell Version 2 Support feature modules.
Configuring authentication and authorization	Configuring Authentication , Configuring Authorization , and Configuring Accounting feature modules.

Standards

Standards	Title
None	--

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
None	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco software releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs

RFCs

RFCs	Title
No new or modified RFCs are supported by this feature, and support for existing RFCs has not been modified by this feature.	--

Technical Assistance

Description	Link
The Cisco Support and Documentation website provides online resources to download documentation, software, and tools. Use these resources to install and configure the software and to troubleshoot and resolve technical issues with Cisco products and technologies. Access to most tools on the Cisco Support and Documentation website requires a Cisco.com user ID and password.	http://www.cisco.com/cisco/web/support/index.html

Glossary

AAA --authentication, authorization, and accounting. Framework of security services that provide the method for identifying users (authentication), for remote access control (authorization), and for collecting and sending security server information used for billing, auditing, and reporting (accounting).

rcp --remote copy. Relying on Remote Shell (Berkeley r-tools suite) for security, rcp copies files, such as router images and startup configurations, to and from routers.

SCP --secure copy. Relying on SSH for security, SCP support allows the secure and authenticated copying of anything that exists in the Cisco IOS XE File Systems. SCP is derived from rcp.

SSH --Secure Shell. Application and a protocol that provide a secure replacement for the Berkeley r-tools. The protocol secures the sessions using standard cryptographic mechanisms, and the application can be used similarly to the Berkeley rexec and rsh tools. SSH Version 1 is implemented in the Cisco IOS XE software.