



Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Manager Express Configuration Guide for IPS 6.1

Americas Headquarters

Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-1706
USA
<http://www.cisco.com>
Tel: 408 526-4000
800 553-NETS (6387)
Fax: 408 527-0883

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[zlib License](#) **D-39**

GLOSSARY

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Preface

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Contents

This document describes how to install, configure, and use Intrusion Prevention System Manager Express (IME) 6.1. It includes a glossary that contains expanded acronyms and pertinent IPS terms. It is part of the documentation set for Cisco Intrusion Prevention System 6.1. Use this guide with the documents listed in [Related Documentation, page xxx](#). This preface contains the following topics:

- [Audience, page xxix](#)
- [Conventions, page xxx](#)
- [Related Documentation, page xxx](#)
- [Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request, page xxxi](#)

Audience

This guide is for administrators who need to do the following:

- Install and configure IME.
- Secure their networks with IPS sensors.
- Prevent intrusion on their networks and monitor subsequent alerts.

Conventions

This document uses the following conventions:

Item	Convention
Commands, keywords, special terminology, and options that should be selected during procedures	boldface font
Variables for which you supply values and new or important terminology	<i>italic</i> font
Displayed session and system information, paths and filenames	screen font
Information you enter	boldface screen font
Variables you enter	<i>italic screen</i> font
Menu items and button names	boldface font
Indicates menu items to select, in the order you select them.	Option > Network Preferences



Note

Means *reader take note*. Notes identify important information that you should reflect upon before continuing, contain helpful suggestions, or provide references to materials not contained in the document.



Caution

Means *reader be careful*. In this situation, you might do something that could result in equipment damage, loss of data, or a potential breach in your network security.



Tip

Identifies information to help you get the most benefit from your product



Warning

Identifies information that you must heed to prevent damaging yourself, the state of software, or equipment. Warnings identify definite security breaches that will result if the information presented is not followed carefully.

Related Documentation

For more information on Cisco IPS, refer to the following documentation found at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/vpndevc/ps4077/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

- *Documentation Roadmap for Cisco Intrusion Prevention System*
- *Release Notes for Cisco Intrusion Prevention System*
- *Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Device Manager Configuration Guide*
- *Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Command Reference*
- *Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Sensor CLI Configuration Guide*

- *Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Appliance and Module Installation Guide*
- *Installing and Removing Interface Cards in Cisco IPS-4260 and IPS 4270-20*
- *Regulatory Compliance and Safety Information for the Cisco Intrusion Detection and Prevention System 4200 Series Appliance Sensor*
- *Regulatory Compliance and Safety Information for the Cisco ASA 5500-X Series Appliances and the Cisco Intrusion Prevention System 4300 Series Appliances*
- *Regulatory Compliance and Safety Information for the Cisco Intrusion Prevention System 4500 Series Sensor Appliance*

Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request

For information on obtaining documentation, submitting a service request, and gathering additional information, see the monthly *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation*, which also lists all new and revised Cisco technical documentation, at:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/general/whatsnew/whatsnew.html>

Subscribe to the *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation* as a Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feed and set content to be delivered directly to your desktop using a reader application. The RSS feeds are a free service and Cisco currently supports RSS version 2.0.



CHAPTER 1

Getting Started

This chapter describes IME and how to get started using it. It contains the following sections:

- [Introducing IME, page 1-1](#)
- [Advisory, page 1-1](#)
- [IME Home Pane, page 1-2](#)
- [System Requirements, page 1-3](#)
- [Before Installing IME 6.1, page 1-4](#)
- [IME Demo Mode, page 1-5](#)
- [Installing IME, page 1-5](#)

Introducing IME

IME is a network management application that provides system health monitoring, events monitoring, reporting, and configuration for up to five sensors. IME monitors sensor health using customizable dashboards and provides security alerts through RSS feed integration from Cisco Security Center. It monitors events and lets you sort views by filtering, grouping, and colorization. IME also supports tools such as ping, trace route, DNS lookup, and whois lookup for selected events. It contains a flexible reporting network. It embeds the IDM configuration component to allow for a seamless integration between the monitoring and configuration of IPS devices.

Within IME you can set up your sensors, configure policies, monitor IPS events, and generate reports. IME works in single application mode—the entire application is installed on one system and you manage everything from that system.



Note

IME 6.1 replaces IEV 5.x.

Advisory

IME contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States and local country laws governing import, export, transfer, and use. Delivery of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import, export, distribute, or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and users are

responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return the enclosed items immediately.

A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at the following website:

<http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html>

If you require further assistance, contact us by sending e-mail to export@cisco.com.

IME Home Pane

IME Home opens to the Device List pane where you can configure IME devices. It also has the following other features:

- Video help

IME has an overall feature presentation video that appears when you launch IME, plus five videos containing procedural help.

The video help appears in the pane that it pertains to, but you can also access all video help from **Help > Show Video Help**.



Note IME contains video help that requires you to have the Adobe Flash Player Internet Explorer plug-in version 8 or later.

- Notice of whether the clocks on your system and the sensor are synchronized.

In the upper right corner, an icon under the Time column indicates whether the sensor time and local system time are synchronized. If they are not, you must make sure you correct the time on the sensor, otherwise the timestamp for monitoring and reporting is not accurate.

- Events per second

In the lower right corner of the Home pane, the EPS (events per second) that IME has received recently is shown. The EPS count is updated every five seconds.

IME contains menu features that help you configure various aspects of IME.

- **File > Export**—Lets you export event data from the IME database in to a CSV file.
- **File > Import**—Lets you import the event data file that you exported from IEV 5.x.
- **View > Reset**—Lets you reset the IME panes to their default view.
- **Tools > Preferences**—Lets you configure how the IME database stores event data, lets you enable email notification, and lets you configure other application settings, such as the location of a network sniffer application, the maximum number of real-time events per view, the maximum number of historical events per view, the event polling interval, and whether to show the feature presentation video at startup. You can also delete the cached DNS names.

For More Information

For information on correcting the time on the sensor and configuring time on the sensor, see [Configuring Time, page 6-6](#).

System Requirements

IME has the following system requirements:

- IBM PC-compatible 2-GHz or faster processor
- Color monitor with at least 1024 x 768 resolution and a video card capable of 16-bit colors
- 100-GB hard-disk drive
- 2-GB RAM
- Operating Systems
 - Windows Vista Business and Ultimate (32-bit only)
 - Windows XP Professional (32-bit only)
 - Windows 2003 server

IME supports the following Cisco IPS hardware platforms:

- IPS-4240
- IPS-4255
- IPS-4260
- IPS 4270-20
- AIM-IPS
- AIP-SSM-10
- AIP-SSM-20
- AIP-SSM-40
- NME-IPS
- IDSM-2

IME supports the following Cisco IPS versions with the following features:

- Cisco IPS 6.1
 - Sensor Configuration
 - Sensor Health Dashboard
 - Events Dashboard
 - Event Monitoring
 - Reporting
 - Up to 5 devices
 - Up to 75 events per second (EPS)
- Cisco IPS 6.0
 - Events Dashboard
 - Events Monitoring
 - Reporting
 - Up to 5 devices
 - Up to 75 events per second (EPS)

- Cisco IPS 5.1
 - Events Dashboard
 - Events Monitoring
 - Reporting
 - Up to 5 devices
 - Up to 75 events per second (EPS)
- Cisco IOS IPS 12.3(14)T7 and 12.4(15)T2
 - Events Dashboard
 - Events Monitoring
 - Reporting
 - Up to 5 devices
 - Up to 75 events per second (EPS)

Before Installing IME 6.1

IME 6.1 detects previous versions of IEV and prompts you to manually remove the older version before installing IME 6.1 or to install IME on another system. The installation program then stops.

**Caution**

IME does not automatically uninstall IEV.

IME 6.1 coexists with other instances of the MySQL database. If you have a MySQL database installed on your system, you do NOT have to uninstall it before installing IME 6.1.

Migrating IEV Data

To migrate IEV 5.x events to IME, you must exit the installation and manually export the old events by using the IEV 5.x export function to move the data to local files. After installing IME 6.1, you can use the import function to import these files to the new system.

**Note**

IME 6.1 does not support import and migration functions for IEV 4.x.

To export event data from IEV 5.x to a local file:

-
- Step 1** From IEV 5.x, choose **File > Database Administration > Export Database Tables**.
- Step 2** Enter the file name and select the table(s).
- Step 3** Click **OK**.

The events in the selected table(s) are exported to the specified local file.

Importing IEV Event Data In to IME

To import event data in to IME, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** From IME, choose **File > Import**.
- Step 2** Select the file exported from IEV 5.x and click **Open**.
- The contents of the selected file are imported in to IME.
-

IME Demo Mode

IME provides a demo mode so that you can see the sensor configuration and event monitoring functions without being connected to real devices. We provide a separate IME Demo icon that you can launch from your desktop. IME Demo mode contains sample events and health and security data for demonstrating event monitoring and sensor health and security status.

You can run IME and IME Demo mode simultaneously, but you can only run one instance of IME Demo mode at a time. You cannot add or delete devices in Demo mode. The dashboard works with simulated data; however, the RSS feed works normally because it relies on Internet connectivity. You can add, edit, or delete event views. The views are filled with simulated events.

Installing IME

If you have a version of Cisco IPS Event Viewer installed, the Install wizard prompts you to remove it before installing IME.

IME event monitoring is also supported in IOS-IPS versions that support the Cisco IPS 5.x/6.x signature format. We recommend IOS-IPS 12.4(15)T4 if you intend to use IME to monitor an IOS IPS device. Some of the new IME functionality including health monitoring is not supported.



Caution

Do not install IME on top of existing installations of CSM or IEV. You must uninstall these applications before installing IME.



Caution

Disable any anti-virus or host-based intrusion detection software before beginning the installation, and close any open applications. The installer spawns a command shell application that may trigger your host-based detection software, which causes the installation to fail.

**Note**

You must be administrator to install IME.

To install IME, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Download the IME executable file to your computer, or start IDM in a browser window, and under Cisco IPS Manager Express, click **download** to install the IME executable file.
- IME-6.1.1.exe is an example of what the IME executable file might look like.
- Step 2** Double-click the executable file.
- The Cisco IPS Manager Express - InstallShield Wizard appears.
- Step 3** You receive a warning if you have a previous version of Cisco IPS Event Viewer installed. Acknowledge the warning, and exit installation. Remove the older version of IEV, and then continue IME installation.
- Step 4** Double-click the executable file.
- The Cisco IPS Manager Express - InstallShield Wizard appears.
- Step 5** Click **Next** to start IME installation.
- Step 6** Accept the license agreement and click **Next**.
- Step 7** Click **Next** to choose the destination folder, click **Install** to install IME, and then click **Finish** to exit the wizard.

The Cisco IME and Cisco IME Demo icons are now on your desktop.



CHAPTER 2

Configuring Device Lists

You can add devices to IME in the Device List pane and view important information about each device. This chapter describes the Device List pane and how to add devices. It contains the following sections:

- [Device List Pane, page 2-1](#)
- [Device List Pane Field Definitions, page 2-2](#)
- [Add and Edit Device List Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 2-3](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Devices, page 2-3](#)
- [Starting, Stopping, and Displaying Device, Event, and Health Status, page 2-4](#)
- [Using Tools for Devices, page 2-5](#)

Device List Pane

IME manages up to five Cisco IPS devices. The upper half of the Device List pane displays pertinent information about each device.

You can customize which columns you want to view and which you want to hide by clicking the column button in the far-right corner of the pane to bring up the Choose Columns to Display dialog box.

From this pane, you can add, edit, or delete a sensor in the device list. You can start and stop the health and events connections for a sensor and you can view the status of a sensor. You can also obtain information about the sensor by using tools such as ping, trace route, whois, and DNS lookup.

You can use the **Add**, **Edit**, **Delete**, **Start**, **Stop**, **Status**, and **Tools** buttons in the Device List table, or you can select the sensor in the table and use the right-click menu.

In the lower half of the Device List pane, the IME health monitoring center displays the details about the sensor you have selected in the upper half of the pane. The data displayed here match the information in the customizable dashboard gadgets.

The Device Details pane contains the following details about the selected sensor:

- **Sensor Health**—Sensor health and network security health information shown in graph form.
You can click **Details** to obtain the specifics about the sensor health and network security health.
If you want to change the sensor health metrics, choose **Details > Configure Sensor Health Metrics**, and you are taken to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Sensor Health**, where you can reconfigure the health metrics.

If you want to change the threat thresholds, choose **Details > Configure thresholds**, and you are taken to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**, where you can configure the threat thresholds.

If you want to reset the network security health, choose **Details > Reset Health Status**, and you are taken to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Properties > Reset Network Security Health**, where you can reset the status and calculation of network security health.

- **Sensor Information**—Displays the host name, IPS version, whether the sensor is using inline bypass, the total sensing interfaces, the sensor IP address, the device type, the total memory, and the total data storage.

Under Analysis Engine Status, you can view whether Analysis Engine is running or which state it is in.

- **CPU, Memory, and & Load**—Displays the CPU, memory, and sensor load in graph form.
- **Licensing**—Displays all of the pertinent license information.
- **Interface Status**—Displays the interface name, link status, whether it is enabled, the speed, the mode, and the received and transmitted packets.

For More Information

- For the procedure for configuring sensor and network security health, see [Configuring Sensor Health, page 17-15](#).
- For the procedure for changing threat thresholds, see [Configuring Risk Category, page 8-26](#).

Device List Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Device List pane:

- **Time**—If there is a problem with the synchronization between your local system and a sensor that you have added, an icon appears in the time field. If the local system and the sensor are synchronized, the field is empty.



Caution

If the time is not synchronized between the sensor and the local system, you do not receive accurate monitoring and reporting.

- **Device Type**—Displays the IPS model name.
- **Event Status**—Informs you that IME is connecting to the sensor to receive events.
- **Sensor Health**—Informs you whether the sensor health is normal or needs attention.
- **Version**—Displays the installed Cisco IPS software version.
- **License Expiration**—Informs you about how many days until the sensor license expires.
- **Load**—Displays the load percentage.
- **Memory**—Displays the memory percentage.
- **CPU**—Displays the percentage the CPU is using.
- **Signature Version**—Displays the current signature version.
- **Device Name**—Name that you gave this sensor.
- **IP Address**—IP address of this sensor.

Add and Edit Device List Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Device List dialog boxes:

- Sensor Name—Name of the sensor you are adding.
- Sensor IP Address—IP address of the sensor you are adding.
- User Name—Name of user account allowed to access this sensor.
- Password—Password of the user account allowed to access this sensor.
- Web Server Port—TCP port used by the web server.

The default is 443 for HTTP or HTTPS. You receive an error message if you enter a value out of the range of 1 to 65535.

- Communication protocol—Enables TLS and SSL in the web server.

The default is Use encrypted connection (https). We strongly recommend that you use an encrypted connection.

- Event Start Time (UTC)—Lets you choose to have the latest alerts retrieved or you can select the start date and time of alerts to retrieve.
- Exclude alerts of the following severity level(s)—Lets you choose to exclude security levels from retrieval. The default is for all security levels to be displayed.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Devices

To add, edit, and delete devices, follow these steps:

Step 1 Choose **Home > Devices > Device List**, and then click **Add**.

Step 2 Fill in the required fields in the Add Device dialog box:

- Enter the sensor name and sensor IP address of the sensor you are adding.
- Enter the user name and password of the person who will have access to this sensor.
- To change the default web server port, enter a new port number.
- Choose the communication protocol.



Note We strongly recommend that you use an encrypted connection.

- Choose the event start time by either checking the **Latest Alerts** check box or entering a start date and time in the Start Date and Start Time fields.
- Under Exclude alerts of the following severity level(s), check the check boxes of any levels you want to exclude.

The default is to have all of the levels configured.

- Click **OK** to add the sensor to the IME system.

Step 3 Click **Yes** to accept the certificate and continue the HTTPS connection with the sensor.



Note If you click **No** you reject the certificate and IME cannot connect to the sensor.

IME checks the time setting between IME and the sensor to make sure it is correct. If it is not, you receive a warning message if the sensor time and the IME system are more than five minutes apart. Make sure you synchronize the sensor with your system.

**Caution**

Having the correct time is very important so that reports, historical events, and the top gadgets are accurate. If the time is not within the range of five minutes, an icon appears next to the device in the Device Lists pane.

Step 4 To edit a device, select it in the list, click **Edit**, make any changes needed, and then click **OK**.

**Note**

You cannot change the Sensor Name because it is a key for the IME database.

Step 5 To delete a device, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**.

The device no longer appears in the Device List pane.

Starting, Stopping, and Displaying Device, Event, and Health Status

IME queries the sensor every 10 seconds to obtain health status information as long as you choose **Start > Health Connection**. IME pulls alerts from the sensor as long as you choose **Start Events Connection**.

There are some situations in which you might want to stop the sensor from polling events. For example, you can stop polling events from a specific sensor if you do not want its real-time events interfering when you are analyzing the events of another sensor. Then you can resume after the polling is done. Or you can stop polling health and security if you want to look at a snapshot of the status without the 10-second update.

To start, stop, and display event and health status, follow these steps:

Step 1 Select the sensor in the device list for which you want to start or stop event and health status.

Step 2 Choose **Start** or **Stop > Health Connection** or **Events Connection**.

The column now reads Connected or Not Connected.

Step 3 To display the connection status of IME to the sensor, the sensor version, and statistics information, select the sensor in the list, and then click **Status**.

The following IPS component statistics are displayed:

- Analysis Engine
- Anomaly Detection
- Event Store
- External Product Interface
- Host
- Interface

- Network Access
- Notification
- OS Identification
- SDEE Server
- Transaction Server
- Virtual Sensor
- Web Server

Step 4 To display details about a sensor, select it in the list, and then view the information displayed in the Device Details section of the pane.

To change the metrics that you see in the Device Details pane, go to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Sensor Health**.

Using Tools for Devices

You can use ping to diagnose basic network connectivity. Ping is a simple way to check if a sensor can communicate back. You can use traceroute to display the route an IP packet takes to a destination. You can use whois to determine the owner of a domain name or an IP address. You can use DNS lookup to translate host names to IP addresses, rather like a phone book.

To use tools for devices, follow these steps

Step 1 Choose **Home > Devices**.

Step 2 To obtain ping statistics for a sensor, select it in the device list table, and then click **Tools > Ping**.
The Executing command - ping dialog box appears displaying the ping statistics for that sensor.

Step 3 To find the route of the IP packet, select the sensor in the list, and then click **Tools > Traceroute**.
The Executing command - traceroute dialog box appears displaying the trace route statistics for that sensor.

Step 4 To find the whois information, select the sensor in the list, and then click **Tools > WhoIs**.
The Executing command - whois dialog box appears displaying the WHOIS statistics for that sensor.

Step 5 To find the DNS information, select the sensor in the list, and then click **Tools > DNS**.
The Executing command - nslookup dialog box appears displaying the DNS lookup statistics for that sensor.



CHAPTER 3

Configuring Dashboards

This chapter describes dashboards, and how to add and delete them. It contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Dashboards, page 3-1](#)
- [Adding and Deleting Dashboards, page 3-1](#)
- [IME Gadgets, page 3-3](#)
- [Working With a Single Event for Individual Top Attacker and Victim IP Addresses, page 3-12](#)
- [Working With a Single Event for a Top Signature, page 3-13](#)
- [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#)
- [Add and Edit Filter Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 3-15](#)
- [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#)

Understanding Dashboards

By default, the Health and Traffic dashboards with default gadgets are displayed. You can customize all dashboards. You can select from the available list of gadgets and drag and drop them into the default dashboards or you can create new dashboards.

To add a dashboard, click **Add Dashboard**. To show the available gadgets you can add to a dashboard, click **Add Gadgets**.

Adding and Deleting Dashboards

You can display the available gadgets in the Dashboard pane and then drag and drop them into any dashboards that you have created.

IME has the following gadgets:

- **Sensor Information**—Displays the most important sensor information.
- **Sensor Health**—Displays two meters. The Sensor Health meter indicates overall sensor health status and the Network Security Health meter indicates overall network security status.

The meters read Normal, Needs Attention, or Critical. Click **Details** to display the values or messages associated with the status.
- **Licensing**—Displays the licensing, signature version, and engine version of the sensor.

- **Interface Status**—Displays whether the interface is up or down, enabled or disabled, the speed and mode, and received and transmitted packet counts for each interface.
- **Network Security**—Displays graphs of the alert counts (including Meta and Summary counts), the average threat rating and risk rating values and the maximum threat rating and risk rating values over a configured time period. The sensor aggregates these values every 10 seconds and puts them in one of three risk categories: red, yellow, or green.

You can configure the risk value for each category in Event Action Rules as a threshold arrangement.

- **Top Applications**—Displays the top ten service ports that the sensor has observed over the past 10 seconds.
- **CPU, Memory, & Load**—Displays the current sensor CPU, memory, and disk usage. If the sensor has multiple CPUs, multiple meters are presented.

Click the **i** icon to display the details about the usage.

- **RSS Feed**—A generic RSS feed gadget. By default, the data is fed from Cisco Security Advisories. You may customize the feed.
- **Top Attackers**—Displays the top number of attacker IP addresses that occurred in the last configured time interval.

You can configure the top number of attacker IP addresses for 10, 20, or 30. You can configure the time interval to cover the last hour, last eight hours, or last 24 hours. And you can filter this information.

- **Top Victims**—Displays the top number of victim IP address that occurred in the last configured time interval.

You can configure the top number of victim IP addresses for 10, 20, or 30. You can configure the time interval to cover the last hour, last eight hours, or last 24 hours. And you can filter this information.

- **Top Signatures**—Displays the top number of signatures that occurred in the last configured time interval. And you can filter this information.
- **Attacks Over Time**—Displays the attack counts in the last configured interval. Each set of data in the graph is the total alert counts that IME receive during each minute.

You can configure the time interval to cover the last hour, last eight hours, or last 24 hours. And you can filter this information

**Note**

The top attackers, victims, signatures, and attacks over time come from the IME database. The RSS feed comes from the Cisco Security Advisories website. The other gadgets get their data from the get health and security status control transaction.

For More Information

- For information on customizing RSS feeds, see [Configuring RSS Feeds, page 4-1](#).
- For the procedure for configuring filters, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).

IME Gadgets

This section describes the IME gadgets, and contains the following topics:

- [Sensor Information Gadget, page 3-3](#)
- [Sensor Health Gadget, page 3-4](#)
- [Licensing Gadget, page 3-5](#)
- [Interface Status Gadget, page 3-6](#)
- [Network Security Gadget, page 3-7](#)
- [Top Applications Gadget, page 3-8](#)
- [CPU, Memory, & Load Gadget, page 3-8](#)
- [RSS Feed Gadget, page 3-9](#)
- [Top Attackers Gadget, page 3-9](#)
- [Top Victims Gadget, page 3-10](#)
- [Top Signatures Gadget, page 3-11](#)
- [Attacks Over Time Gadget, page 3-11](#)

Sensor Information Gadget

The Sensor Information gadget displays the following sensor information:

- Host name—Configured during initialization.
- IPS Version—Current installed IPS version.
- In Bypass—Whether interfaces are operating in bypass mode.
- Total Sensing Interfaces—Displays how many sensing interfaces your sensor platform has.
- IP Address—Configured during initialization.
- Device Type—Displays your IPS sensor platform.
- Total Memory—Displays the total amount of memory available.
- Total Data Storage—Displays the total amount of data storage available.
- Analysis Engine Status—Displays the running status of Analysis Engine. Unless Analysis Engine is initializing or being reconfigured, the status reads **Running Normally**.

Changing the Sensor Information Gadget Display

To change the title of the Sensor Information gadget and the sensor whose information it reflects, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner of the gadget.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Device
- Step 3** Click **Apply** to save your changes, or click **Cancel** to discard your changes.
-

Sensor Health Gadget

The Sensor Health gadget visually displays sensor health and network security information in two colored meters. The meters are labeled Normal, Needs Attention, or Critical according to an analysis of the specific metrics. The overall health status is set to the highest severity of all the metrics you configured. For example, if you configure eight metrics to determine the sensor health and seven of the eight are green while one is red, the overall sensor health is displayed as red.

Click the **i** icon by the Sensor Health graph to display the specific sensor health metrics, which are grouped according to yellow and red threshold levels.

If you want to change the sensor health metrics, choose **Details > Configure Sensor Health Metrics**, and you are taken to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Sensor Health**, where you can reconfigure the health metrics, and enable/disable the sensor health parameters.

The following sensor health metrics and their status are displayed:

- Inspection Load
- Missed Packet
- Signature Update
- License time remaining
- Event Retrieval
- Application Failed
- In Bypass Mode
- Active Interface Down

Click the **i** icon by the Network Security Health graph to display the specific network health metrics and their status. The colors reflect the risk and threat ratings gathered in the last five minutes, which are grouped in green, yellow, and red levels with red being the highest level of risk.

If you want to change the threat thresholds, choose **Details > Configure thresholds**, and you are taken to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies, > Risk Category** where you can configure the threat thresholds.

If you want to reset the network security health, choose **Details > Reset Health Status**, and you are taken to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Properties > Reset Network Security Health**, where you can reset the status and calculation of network security health.

Right-click in the meter to get a menu that lets you change the properties of the meters, print the information contained in the meters, and save the sensor and network health details.

Changing the Sensor Health Gadget Display

To change the title of the Sensor Health gadget and the sensor whose information it reflects, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner of the gadget.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Device
- Step 3** Click **Apply** to save your changes, or click **Cancel** to discard your changes.
-

For More Information

- For the procedure for changing the threat thresholds, see [Configuring Risk Category, page 8-26](#).
- For more information on bypass mode, see [Configuring Bypass Mode, page 7-24](#).

Licensing Gadget

The Licensing gadget displays the following pertinent information about your license key and the status of other software updates:

- License Status—Tells you if you have a license key installed and when it expires.
- Signature Version—Displays the installed signature version.
 - Released On—Date this signature version was released.
 - Applied On—Date this signature version was applied.
 - Auto Update Status—Whether automatic update has checked for new versions.
- Engine version—Displays the installed signature engine version.
 - Released On—Date this signature engine was released.
 - Applied On—Date this signature engine was applied.
 - Auto Update Status—Last time automatic update checked for updates.

Changing the Licensing Gadget Display

To change the title of the Licensing gadget and the sensor whose information it reflects, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner of the gadget.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Device
- Step 3** Click **Apply** to save your changes, or click **Cancel** to discard your changes.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining and installing the license key, see [Configuring Licensing, page 17-11](#).

Interface Status Gadget

The Interface Status gadget displays the following information about each interface:

- Interface name—The physical interface name (FastEthernet or GigabitEthernet).
- Link—Whether the interface is up or down.
- Enabled—Whether the interface is disabled or enabled.
- Speed—Whether the speed of the interface is Auto, 10 MB, 100 MB, or 1000 MB.
- Mode—Whether the interface is in promiscuous, inline interface, inline VLAN pair, or VLAN groups mode.
- Received packets—Total number of packets received on this interface.
- Transmitted packets—Total number of packets transmitted on this interface.

Changing the Interface Status Gadget Display

To change the title of the Interface Status gadget and the device whose information it reflects, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner of the gadget.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Device
- Step 3** Click **Apply** to save your changes, or click **Cancel** to discard your changes.
-

For More Information

For more information about interfaces, see [Chapter 7, “Configuring Interfaces.”](#)

Network Security Gadget

The Network Security gadget displays the following information about your network security:

- Alert counts including Meta and summary alerts.
- Average threat rating and risk rating values.
- Maximum threat rating and risk rating values over a designated time period.

These values are all aggregated by the sensor every 10 seconds and are categorized as green, yellow, or red with green being the most secure and red being the least. The overall network security value represents the least secure value from all virtual sensors.

The severity level for a given virtual sensor is calculated as follows:

- Red severity level if one or more red events have been detected on the sensor within the last n minutes, where n is a configured value that is defaulted to 5 minutes.
- Yellow severity level if one or more yellow events, but no red events, have been detected on the sensor within the last n minutes.

Otherwise the severity level is green.

You can configure risk categories and the risk values for green, yellow, and red as thresholds in the **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Risk Category** pane.

The top graph shows the number of events for each of the categories, such as total, red, yellow, and green events. It counts for alerts by severity or risk category. The lower graph shows the average risks versus the average threats, or the maximum risks versus the maximum threats. This information is categorized per virtual sensor.

Changing the Network Security Gadget Display

To change how the network security values are displayed in the Network Security gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - The device and virtual sensor
 - Which graphs to display in the Number of Events graph (all, red, yellow, or green)
 - Which graphs to display in the Risk vs. Threat graph (average risk vs. the average threat or the maximum risk vs. the maximum threat).
- Step 3** Click **Apply**.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for changing the threat thresholds, see [Configuring Risk Category, page 8-26](#).

Top Applications Gadget

The Top Applications gadget displays the top ten Layer 4 protocols that the sensor has discovered:

- TCP
- UDP
- ICMP
- IP

The Top Applications gadget gives you an on overall picture of the traffic mix on the sensor.

Changing the Top Applications Gadget Display

To change how the top applications are displayed in the Top Applications gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner of the gadget.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Device whose information you want to display
 - Method of display (pie chart, bar chart, or table)
 - Virtual sensor whose information you want to display
- Step 3** Click **Apply** to save your changes, or click **Cancel** to discard your changes.
-

CPU, Memory, & Load Gadget

The CPU, Memory, & Load gadget displays the sensor load, memory usage, and disk usage. If your sensor has multiple CPUs, multiple meters are displayed.

- Inspection load—Indicates how much traffic inspection capacity the sensor is using.
0 indicates that there is no traffic backup and 100 indicates that the buffers are completely backed up.
- CPU Usage—Indicates how much of the CPU of the sensor is being used.
- Memory Usage
 - System memory usage—Amount of memory used for configuration and event storage.
System memory is not used for traffic inspection. The number of configured virtual sensors affects system memory, but changes in traffic or attack rates do not affect system memory. System memory remains stable except when you are configuring the sensor.
 - Analysis Engine—A fixed amount of memory allocated to and used by Analysis Engine, which is part of SensorApp. The amount of memory that Analysis Engine is currently using is displayed here.
- Disk Usage
 - Boot—Contains the OS boot image and recovery image. This partitions is used when a system image is installed on the sensor.

- System—Contains the system and application files that are part of the IPS. This partition is used when a software upgrade is applied.
- Application Data—Contains the configuration data and IP log files.

Click the **i** icon to see the details of each usage.

Changing the Interface Status Gadget Display

To change the title of the CPU, Memory, & Load gadget and the sensor whose information it reflects, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner of the gadget.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Device
- Step 3** Click **Apply** to save your changes, or click **Cancel** to discard your changes.
-

RSS Feed Gadget

By default, the RSS Feed gadget is directly fed from the Cisco Security Advisors site on Cisco.com. You can have the RSS Feed gadget display any RSS feed channel that you set up. You can make a gadget for each RSS feed that you want to monitor.

Changing the RSS Feed Gadget Display

To change how the RSS feeds are displayed in the RSS Feed gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Feed Channel URL
- Step 3** Click **Apply**.
-

For More Information

For information on customizing RSS feeds, see [Configuring RSS Feeds, page 4-1](#).

Top Attackers Gadget

The Top Attackers gadget displays the number of events for each top attacker IP address over a specified time. The graph is changed according to the time limit. You can also filter on various conditions to get only the information you want to see. You can also choose to have DNS name resolution for each IP address.

Changing the Top Attackers Display

To change how the top attacker statistics are displayed in the Top Attackers gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Display form (bar chart, pie chart, or table)
 - How many top attacker statistics to display at one time (10, 20, or 30)
 - Interval to gather the statistics (last one hour, last eight hours, last one day)
 - Filter associated with this gadget
- Step 3** Check the **Resolve addresses** check box if you want to use DNS name resolution for each IP address.
- Step 4** Click **Apply**.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring filters, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).

Top Victims Gadget

The Top Victims gadget displays the number of events for each top victim IP address over a specified time. The graph is changed according to the time limit. You can also filter on various conditions to get only the information you want to see. You can also choose to have DNS name resolution for each IP address.

Changing the Top Victims Display

To change how the top victim statistics are displayed in the Top Victims gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Display form (bar chart, pie chart, or table)
 - How many top victim statistics to display at one time (10, 20, or 30)
 - Interval to gather the statistics (last one hour, last eight hours, last one day)
 - Filter associated with this gadget
- Step 3** Check the **Resolve addresses** check box if you want to use DNS name resolution for each IP address.
- Step 4** Click **Apply**.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring filters, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).

Top Signatures Gadget

The Top Signatures gadget displays the top number of signatures over a specified time. The graph is changed according to the time limit. You can also filter on various conditions to get only the information you want to see.

Changing the Top Signatures Display

To change how the top signatures statistics are displayed in the Top Signatures gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Display form (bar chart, pie chart, or table)
 - How many top signatures to display at one time (10, 20, or 30)
 - Interval to gather the statistics (last one hour, last eight hours, last one day)
 - Filter associated with this gadget
- Step 3** Click **Apply**.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring filters, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).

Attacks Over Time Gadget

The Attacks Over Time gadget displays the number of attacks over a specified time. The graph is changed according to the time limit. You can also filter on various conditions to get only the information you want to see.

Changing the Attacks Over Time Display

To change how the attacks over time statistics are displayed in the Attacks Over Time gadget, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Click the **Tool** icon in the upper right corner.
- Step 2** In the Configure Settings window, you can change the following values:
- Title of the gadget
 - Interval to gather the statistics (last one hour, last eight hours, last one day)
 - Filter associated with this gadget
- Step 3** Click **Apply**.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring filters, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions](#), page 3-14.

Working With a Single Event for Individual Top Attacker and Victim IP Addresses

To work with a single event for a specific IP address for a top attacker or victim, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Choose **Home > Dashboards > Dashboard**, and then click the tab of the dashboard for which you want to work with individual attacker or victim IP addresses.
- Step 2** From the Events for drop-down list, choose an attacker or victim IP address, for example, **Attacker 51.66.166.10**.
- Data are retrieved from the database and displayed. From this window, you can view the attacker or victim settings and change them, and you can view the event details.
- Step 3** To work with a single event, select the event in the list, and then click **Event** on the toolbar.
- From the Event drop-down list, you can view the following information (it also appears in the lower half of the window under Event Details displayed in tab form):
- **Summary**—Summarizes all of the information about that event.
 - **Explanation**—Provides the description and related signature information about the signature associated with this event.
 - **Related Threats**—Provides the related threats with a link to more detailed information in MySDN.
 - **Trigger Packet**—Displays information about the packet that triggered the event.
 - **Context Data**—Displays the packet context information.
 - **Actions Taken**—Lists which event actions were deployed.
 - **Notes**—Lets you take action on this event by assigning a designation for it (New, Assigned, Acknowledged, Closed, or Deleted). Add any notes in the Notes field and click **Save Note** to save it.
- Step 4** To print the details of this event, click **Show All Details** to display the event details in a printer-friendly window.
- Step 5** To add an attribute from a selected event, from the Filter drop-down menu, click **Add to Filter > Attacker IP/Victim IP/Signature ID**.
- The Filter tabs appear in the upper half of the window.
- Step 6** To create a filter from this event, from the Filter drop-down menu, click **Create a Filter**.
- Step 7** To edit the signature associated with this event, click **Edit Signature**.
- This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Active Signatures** where you can edit the signature.
- Step 8** To create an event action rules filter from this event, click **Create Rule**.
- This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Add Event Action Filter** where you can add the event action rules filter.

- Step 9** To stop the attacker, from the Stop Attacker drop-down menu, choose one of the following options:
- Using Inline Deny
This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Denied Attackers > Add Denied Attacker**.
 - Using Block on another device
This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Host Blocks > Add Host Block**.
- Step 10** To use ping, traceroute, DNS, and whois on the IP addresses involved in this event, choose them from the Tools drop-down menu.
- Step 11** To save, delete, or copy the event, from the Other drop-down list, choose the action you want to perform.
- Step 12** To save any changes that you have made to the view, click **Apply**. To discard any changes, click **Reset**.
-

For More Information

- For the procedure for adding filter rules, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).
- For the procedure for adding an event action rules filter, see [Configuring Event Action Filters, page 11-15](#).
- For the procedure for adding a denied attacker, see [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers, page 18-4](#).
- For the procedure for adding a host block, see [Configuring Host Blocks, page 18-5](#).
- For more information on using tools, see [Using Tools for Devices, page 2-5](#).

Working With a Single Event for a Top Signature

To work with a single event for a specific Signature ID, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Choose **Home > Dashboards > Dashboard**, and then click the tab for the sensor for which you want to work with a specific event for a specific signature.
- Step 2** From the Events for drop-down list, choose a signature ID, for example, **SigID 3142**.
Data are retrieved from the database and displayed. From this window, you can view the settings and change them, and you can view the event details.
- Step 3** To work with a single event, select the event in the list, and then click **Event**.
From the Event drop-down list, you can view the following information (it appears in the bottom half of the window under Event Details, and the same menu items are displayed in tab form):
- Summary—Summarizes all of the information about that event.
 - Explanation—Provides the description and related signature information about the signature associated with this event.
 - Related Threats—Provides the related threats with a link to more detailed information in MySDN.
 - Trigger Packet—Displays information about the packet that triggered the event.
 - Context Data—Displays the packet context information.

- Actions Taken—Lists which event actions were deployed.
 - Notes—Lets you take action on this event by assigning a designation for it (New, Assigned, Acknowledged, Closed, or Deleted). Add any notes in the Notes field and click **Save Note** to save it.
- Step 4** To print the details of this event, click **Show All Details** to display the event details in a printer-friendly window.
- Step 5** To add this event to a filter, from the Filter drop-down menu, click **Add to Filter > Attacker IP/Victim IP/Signature ID**.
- The Filter tabs appear in the upper half of the window.
- Step 6** To create a filter from this event, from the Filter drop-down menu, click **Create a Filter**.
- Step 7** To edit the signature associated with this event, click **Edit Signature**.
- This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Active Signatures** where you can edit the signature.
- Step 8** To create an event action rule filter from this event, click **Create Rule**.
- This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Add Event Action Filter** where you can add an event action rules filter.
- Step 9** To stop the attacker, from the Stop Attacker drop-down menu, choose one of the following options:
- Using Inline Deny
This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Denied Attackers > Add Denied Attacker**.
 - Using Block on another device
This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Host Blocks > Add Host Block**.
- Step 10** To use Ping, Traceroute, DNS, and WHOIS on the IP addresses involved in this event, choose them from the Tools drop-down menu.
- Step 11** To save, delete, or copy the event, from the Other drop-down list, choose the action you want to perform.
-

For More Information

- For the procedure for adding filter rules, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).
- For the procedure for adding an event action rules filter, see [Configuring Event Action Filters, page 11-15](#).
- For the procedure for adding a denied attacker, see [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers, page 18-4](#).
- For the procedure for adding a host block, see [Configuring Host Blocks, page 18-5](#).
- For more information on using tools, see [Using Tools for Devices, page 2-5](#).

Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Manage Filter Rules dialog box:

- Basic Top Attacker Filter—Shows all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for top attacker events.

- Action Denied-Attacker—Shows denied attacker actions, new alarm status, and all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for denied action events.
- Basic Over Time Attack Filter—Shows all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for attacks over time events.
- Basic Top Signature Filter—Shows all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for the top signature events.
- Basic Top Victim Filter—Shows all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for top victims events.
- Related Events Filter—Shows all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for related events.
- Critical Threat—Shows all threat ratings between 75 and 100, new alarm status, and all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for critical events.
- High Severity—Shows all alerts with a new alarm status and high severity level for all events.
- Basic View Filter—Shows all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for all events.
- Basic Filter—Shows new alarm status and all severity levels (high, medium, low, and informational) for all events.

Add and Edit Filter Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Filter dialog boxes:

- Filter Name—Lets you name this filter.
- Attacker IP—Attacker IP address you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *ip_address*, *ip_address_range*, for example, 10.0.0.1, !10.0.0.1, !10.1.1.1.
- Victim IP—Victim IP address you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *ip_address*, *ip_address_range*, for example, 10.0.0.1, !10.0.0.1, !10.1.1.1.
- Signature Name/ID—Signature Name/ID you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *signature_name* or *signature_id* or *signature_id/subsig_id* or *signature_id_range*, for example:
 - no_checkpoint
 - no_checkpoint, 3320
 - no_checkpoint, 3320/1
 - 3300-400
- Victim Port—Victim port you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *number*, *number_range*, for example >=80, 70-100, <90, !100.
- Severity—Severity levels you want to include in this filter.
- Risk Rating—risk rating you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *number*, *number_range*, for example >=80, 70-100, <90, !100.
- Threat Rating—Threat rating you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *number*, *number_range*, for example >=80, 70-100, <90, !100.
- Action(s) Taken—Lets you choose which actions the filter looks for in the alerts.

The actions are a string that you can chose or you can enter free format strings.

- **Sensor Name(s)**—Lets you assign which sensors are included in this filter.
- **Virtual Sensor**—Lets you assign which virtual sensors are included in this filter.
- **Status**—Lets you assign a status to this filter (All, New Assigned, Closed, Detected, Acknowledged).

The Status field is useful, for example, in a situation where you want to save analysis of certain events for later. You can add a note and change the status to 'Acknowledged,' and then later you can filter by status to see all cases that are acknowledged and then do further analysis.

- **Victim Locality**—An alert attribute in the participants/address alert on which you can filter. It is defined in the event action rules variables.

Configuring Filters

To configure filters, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Choose **Home > Dashboards**, and then click the tab of the dashboard for which you want to configure filter rules.
- Step 2** Choose the gadget for which you want to apply filters, for example, the Top Attackers gadget. You can apply filter rules to the Top Attackers, Top Victims, and Top Signatures gadgets.
- Step 3** From the Events for drop-down menu, choose the IP address or signature ID to which you want to add a filter.
- Step 4** Select the event(s) for which you want to apply filters.



Tip

To select more than one item in the list, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Step 5** Click **View Settings > Filter**.
- Step 6** From the Filter Name drop-down menu, choose the filter name for this filter, or click the **Note** icon and then click **Add** to add a new filter:
- In the Filter Name field, enter a name for this filter.
 - In the Attacker IP field, enter an attacker IP address, or click the **Note** icon and add a unique IP address or a range of IP addresses, and then click **OK**.
 - In the Victim IP field, enter a victim IP address, or click the **Note** icon and add a unique IP address or a range of IP addresses, and then click **OK**.
 - In the Signature Name/ID field, enter a signature name or ID, or click the **Note** icon, and then choose a signature type, and click **OK**.
 - In the Victim Port field, enter a victim port, or click the **Note** icon and enter a victim port that meets the conditions you require, and then click **OK**.
 - Choose the severity levels you want for this filter.
 - In the Risk Rating field, enter the risk rating for this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and then enter the risk rating that meets the conditions you require, and click **OK**.
 - In the Threat Rating field, enter the threat rating for this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and then enter the threat rating that meets the conditions you require, and click **OK**.

- i. In the Actions Taken field, enter the actions you want to trigger this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and then check the check boxes of the actions that you want to trigger this filter, and click **OK**.
- j. In the Sensor Name(s) field, enter the names of the sensors that are affected by this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and check the check boxes of the sensor to which this filter applies and click **OK**.
- k. In the Virtual Sensor field, enter the virtual sensor to which this filter applies.
- l. From the Status drop-down menu, choose on which status you want to filter.
- m. In the Victim Locality field, enter the name of any event action rules variable that you created on which you want to filter.

Step 7 To configure grouping, click the **Group By** tab:

- n. Check the **Group events based on the following criteria** check box, and then set up the hierarchy of how you want to group the events by selecting the category from the drop-down menus.
- o. Under Grouping Preferences, you can check the check boxes of the **Single Level**, **Show Group Columns**, or **Show Count Columns** check boxes.

You can only show count columns if you enable Show Group Columns.

Step 8 To add color rules, click the **Color Rules** tab, and then click **Add**.

- a. In the Filter Name field, enter a name for this color rules filter.
- b. Check the **Enable** check box.



Note If you do not check the **Enable** check box, your color rules filter will not go in to effect.

- c. Under Packet Parameters, enter the IP addresses, signature names and/or victim ports for which you want this color rules filter to apply.
- d. Under Rating and Action Parameters, enter the severity, risk rating, threat rating, and actions for which you want this color rules filter to apply.
- e. Under Other Parameters, enter the sensor name, virtual sensor name, status, and/or victim locality for which you want this color rules filter to apply.
- f. Under Color Parameters, choose the foreground and background colors, and the font type for this color rules filter, and then click **OK**.



Tip For aid in entering the correctly formatted values for these fields, click the **Note** icon.

Step 9 To event fields and their order, click the **Fields** tab, and then click **Add >>**, **<< Remove**, **Move Up**, and **Move Down** to chose which fields you want to display and to arrange the fields in the order in which you want to see them.

Step 10 Click the **General** tab, and then in the View Description field enter a description for your view.

Step 11 Click **Save As** to create the new view, and then in the Name field, enter a name for your view.

The settings are copied to the new view.

Step 12 Click **Save** to save any changes to the view.

Your filter now appears in the Filter Name drop-down menu.

Step 13 To save any changes that you have made to the view, click **Apply**. To discard any changes, click **Reset**.



CHAPTER 4

Configuring RSS Feeds

This chapter describes RSS feeds and how to configure them. It contains the following topics:

- [Understanding RSS Feeds, page 4-1](#)
- [Configuring RSS Feeds, page 4-1](#)

Understanding RSS Feeds

By default three RSS feed channels are set up to come directly from the [Cisco Security Center](#) website. But you can locate any RSS feeds that you want and configure IME to receive them in the **Cisco Security Center > RSS Feeds** pane. You can also have an RSS Feed gadget display the feeds from a specific URL.

RSS feed formats are used to publish frequently updated content such as security information, news items, podcasts, and blog entries. Through IME, you can configure RSS feeds to keep up with the latest in security challenges and security news.

IME supports the following RSS feed formats:

- RSS 0.9x
- RSS 1.0/RDF
- RSS 2.0
- Atom 0.3
- Atom 1.0

You can use these RSS feed formats by using an open source library from [Informa](#).

Use the tool bar in the RSS Feeds pane to configure and organize RSS feeds. You can also use the right-click menu for the same functions.

Configuring RSS Feeds

You can add RSS feed channels and organize them into categories. You can also configure RSS feeds preferences.



Note

Although the RSS Feeds icons do not have labels, you can determine which icon is which by using the hover-over help.

To configure RSS feeds, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Locate the website with the RSS feed that you want to add.
- Step 2** Copy the URL of the RSS Feed.
- Step 3** Choose **Home > Cisco Security Center > RSS Feeds**, and then click the **Add Channel** icon in the RSS Feeds tool bar.
- Step 4** In the Add Channel dialog box, enter the URL of the channel from which you want to receive RSS Feeds. The RSS Feed site appears in the left-hand pane and the items appear in the upper right-hand pane.
- Step 5** To view an RSS feed item, select it in the list and click it. The item information appears in the lower right-hand pane.
- Step 6** To create another category for this RSS feed, click the **Add Category** icon, and in the Add Category dialog box, assign a new category name for this channel.
- Step 7** To move a channel to another category, click the **Move Channel** icon and in the Move Channel dialog box, select the category to which you want to move the channel, and then click **OK**.
- Step 8** To view the RSS URL and site name for that channel, click the **Channel Property** icon to see the Channel Property dialog box. You can also edit the site name.
- Step 9** To configure the RSS Feeds preferences, click the **Preferences** icon.
- Check the **Allow duplicate channel creation** check box if you want to be able to create duplicate channels.
 - From the drop-down menu, choose how many news items you want to remain in cache. You can choose 10, 30, 50, 100, 300, or 1000.
 - In the Refresh every minutes field, choose how often you want to refresh RSS Feeds.
 - To change the default browser, click the **Use following browser** radio button, and enter the browser command line in the Browser command line field, and then click **OK**.
-



CHAPTER 5

Using the Startup Wizard

This chapter describes the Startup Wizard and how to use it to configure your sensor. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding the Startup Wizard, page 5-1](#)
- [Startup Wizard Introduction Window, page 5-1](#)
- [Setting up the Sensor, page 5-2](#)
- [Configuring Interfaces, page 5-6](#)
- [Configuring Virtual Sensors, page 5-11](#)

Understanding the Startup Wizard



Note

You must be administrator to configure basic sensor settings in the Startup Wizard.

You can use the Startup Wizard to set up a sensor and to modify a sensor that has already been configured. You cannot use it for initializing a new, unconfigured sensor. You must initialize the sensor using the **setup** command before you can choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup** in IME to further configure the sensor. Until you initialize the sensor with the **setup** command, IME cannot connect to the sensor.

For More Information

For the procedure for using the **setup** command to initialize the sensor, see [Basic Sensor Setup, page 21-3](#).

Startup Wizard Introduction Window



Caution

Because IME cannot communicate with an unconfigured sensor, you must log in to the sensor CLI and run the **setup** command to configure communication parameters.

The Startup Wizard leads you through the steps needed to configure the sensor to inspect, respond to, and report on traffic. You can configure basic sensor settings, configure interfaces, create virtual sensors, create policies, assign policies and interfaces to the virtual sensor and save your changes to the sensor.

**Note**

You can use the Startup Wizard on all IPS platforms. If a feature is not available on a certain platform, you will not see that configuration pane.

**Note**

VLAN groups are not supported in the Startup Wizard.

Setting up the Sensor

This section describes how to set up the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Sensor Setup Window, page 5-2](#)
- [Add and Edit ACL Entry Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 5-3](#)
- [Configure Summertime Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 5-4](#)
- [Configuring Sensor Settings, page 5-4](#)

Sensor Setup Window

In the Sensor Setup window, you can configure the sensor for basic operation. Most of the fields will already be populated because you assigned the values during initialization. But you can change them here if needed.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Sensor Setup window:

- **Host Name**—Name of the sensor.
The hostname can be a string of 1 to 64 characters that matches the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9_/-]+$`. The default is `sensor`. You receive an error message if the name contains a space or exceeds 64 alphanumeric characters.
- **IP Address**—IP address of the sensor. The default is 192.168.1.2.
- **Subnet Mask**—Mask corresponding to the IP address. The default is 255.255.255.0.
- **Default Gateway**—Default gateway address. The default is 192.168.1.1.

**Note**

If you change the sensor network settings, IME loses connection to the sensor when the changes are applied.

- **Permit Access Control List**—Lets you add ACLs.
 - **Network**—IP address of the network you want to add to the access list.
 - **Mask**—Netmask of the network you want to add to the access list.

**Note**

If you change the sensor ACL entries, IME may lose connection to the sensor when the changes are applied.

- **Current Sensor Date and Time**—Sets the time and date for appliances that are not configured with an NTP server.
 - **Date**—Sensor local date. When you update the time and date, click **Apply Date/Time to Sensor** to have it go in to effect.
 - **Apply Date/Time to Sensor**—Immediately updates the time and date on the sensor.



Note If you cancel the Startup Wizard, the date and time changes remain.

- **Time Zone**—Sets the zone name and UTC offset.
 - **Zone Name**—Local time zone when summertime is not in effect.
The default is UTC. You can choose from a predefined set of 37 time zones, or you can create a unique name (24 characters) in the following pattern: `^[A-Za-z0-9()+:./-]+$`
 - **Offset**—Local time zone offset in minutes.
The default is 0. If you select a predefined time zone this field is populated automatically.



Note Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- **NTP Server**—Lets you configure the sensor to use an NTP server as its time source.
 - **IP Address**—IP address of the NTP server if you use this to set time on the sensor.
 - **Authenticated NTP**—Lets you use authenticated NTP, which requires a key and key ID.
 - **Key**—NTP MD5 key type.
 - **Key ID**—ID of the key (1 to 65535) used to authenticate on the NTP server.
You receive an error message if the key ID is out of range.
- **Summertime**
 - **Enable Summertime**—Check to enable summertime mode. The default is disabled.
 - **Configure Summertime**—Click to configure summertime settings.

Add and Edit ACL Entry Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

You can configure the list of hosts or networks that you want to have access to your sensor.

The following hosts must have an entry in the access list:

- Hosts that need to Telnet to your sensor.
- Hosts that need to use SSH with your sensor.
- Hosts, such as IDM and ASDM, that need to access your sensor from a web browser.
- Management stations, such as CSM, that need access to your sensor.
- If your sensor is a master blocking sensor, the IP addresses of the blocking forwarding sensors must have an entry in the list.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit ACL Entry dialog boxes:

- IP Address—The IP address of the host or network you want to have access to your sensor.
- Network Mask—The network mask of the host or network you want to have access to your sensor.
The netmask for a single host is 32.

Configure Summertime Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Configure Summertime dialog box:

- Summer Zone Name—Summertime zone name. The default is UTC. You can choose from a predefined set of 37 time zones, or you can create a unique name (24 characters) in the following pattern: `^[A-Za-z0-9()+:./-]+$`
- Offset—The number of minutes to add during summertime. The default is 60. If you choose a predefined time zone, this field is populated automatically.



Note Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- Start Time—Summertime start time setting. The value is hh:mm. You receive an error message if the hours or minutes are out of range.
- End Time—Summertime end time setting. The value is hh:mm. You receive an error message if the hours or minutes are out of range.
- Summertime Duration—Lets you set whether the duration is recurring or a single date.
 - Recurring—Duration is in recurring mode.
 - Date—Duration is in nonrecurring mode.
 - Start—Start week, day, and month setting.
 - End—End week, day, and month setting.

Configuring Sensor Settings

To configure sensor settings in the Startup Wizard, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Startup Wizard > Launch Startup Wizard**, and then click **Next**.
- Step 3** In the Host Name field, enter the sensor name.
- Step 4** In the IP Address field, enter the sensor IP address.
- Step 5** In the Subnet Mask field, enter the network mask address.
- Step 6** In the Default Gateway field, enter the default gateway address.



Note If you change the sensor network settings, IME loses connection to the sensor when the changes are applied.

- Step 7** To configure the hosts and networks that are allowed to access the sensor, click **Add**.
- In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host you want to have access to the sensor.
 - In the Network Mask field, enter the network mask address of the host you want to have access to the sensor.
 - Click **OK**.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add ACL Entry dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 8** Under Current Sensor Date and Time, select the current date and time from the drop-down calendar, and then click **OK**, and then click **Apply Date/Time to Sensor**.

Date and time indicate the date and time on the local host.



Caution

If you accidentally specify the incorrect time, stored events have the wrong time stamp. You must clear the events.



Note If you cancel the Startup Wizard, the date and time changes remain.



Note You cannot change the date or time on IPS modules or if you have configured NTP.

- Step 9** Under Time Zone, configure the time zone and offset:
- In the Zone Name field, choose a time zone from the drop-down list, or enter one that you have created.

This is the time zone to be displayed when summertime hours are not in effect.

- In the Offset field, enter the offset in minutes from UTC.

If you choose a predefined time zone name, this field is automatically populated.



Note Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- Step 10** If you are using NTP synchronization, under NTP Server enter the following:

- The IP address of the NTP server in the IP Address field.
- If using authenticated NTP, check the **Authenticated NTP** check box, and then enter the key of the NTP server in the Key field, and the key ID of the NTP server in the Key ID field.



Note If you define an NTP server, the sensor time is set by the NTP server. The CLI **clock set** command produces an error, but time zone and daylight saving time parameters are valid.

- Step 11** To enable daylight saving time, check the **Enable Summertime** check box, and then click **Configure Summertime**.

- Step 12** Choose the Summer Zone Name from the drop-down list or enter one that you have created.

This is the name to be displayed when daylight saving time is in effect.

- Step 13** In the Offset field, enter the number of minutes to add during summertime.
If you choose a predefined summer zone name, this field is automatically populated.



Note Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- Step 14** In the Start Time field, enter the time to apply summertime settings.

- Step 15** In the End Time field, enter the time to remove summertime settings.

- Step 16** Under Summertime Duration, choose whether summertime settings will occur on specified days each year (recurring) or whether they will start and end on specific dates (date):

- a. Recurring—Choose the Start and End times from the drop-down lists.
The default is the second Sunday in March and the first Sunday in November.
- b. Date—Choose the Start and End time from the drop-down lists.
The default is January 1 for the start and end time.

- Step 17** Click **OK**.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

- Step 18** Click **Next** to continue through the Startup Wizard.



Note Changing the network settings may disrupt your connection to the sensor and force you to reconnect with the new address.

Configuring Interfaces



Note You cannot use the Startup wizard to configure interfaces and virtual sensors for AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, or NME-IPS.

This section describes how to configure the sensor interfaces, and contains the following topics:

- [Interface Summary Window, page 5-7](#)
- [Restore Defaults to an Interface Dialog Box, page 5-8](#)
- [Traffic Inspection Mode Window, page 5-8](#)
- [Interface Selection Window, page 5-8](#)
- [Inline Interface Pair Window, page 5-8](#)
- [Inline VLAN Pairs Window, page 5-9](#)
- [Add and Edit Inline VLAN Pair Entry Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 5-10](#)
- [Configuring Inline VLAN Pairs, page 5-10](#)

Interface Summary Window

The Interface Summary window displays the existing interface configuration settings. If an interface is not assigned to a virtual sensor, the Assigned Virtual Sensor column reads “Unassigned,” and the Details column reads “Promiscuous.”

**Note**

You can click **Finish** to exit the Startup Wizard on this window and commit your changes, or you can continue to configure interfaces and virtual sensors.

An interface can be either physical or logical. A physical interface can also be part of a logical interface and can be further subdivided. You can configure one physical or logical interface during each Startup Wizard session. To configure multiple interfaces, run Startup Wizard multiple times.

**Caution**

You can configure any single physical interface to run in promiscuous mode, inline pair mode, or inline VLAN pair mode, but you cannot configure an interface in a combination of these modes.

You can specify interface configuration in one of five types:

- Promiscuous
- Promiscuous VLAN group (a subinterface)
- Inline interface pair
- Inline interface pair VLAN group (a subinterface)
- Inline VLAN pair (a subinterface)

**Note**

VLAN groups are not supported in the Startup Wizard.

The IPS modules do not support the following features:

- AIM-IPS and NME-IPS—Inline interface pairs, VLAN groups, virtualization, or setting the time.
- AIP-SSM—Inline VLAN pairs, inline interface pairs, VLAN groups, setting the time, or interface configuration (you must configure interfaces on the adaptive security appliance).
- IDSM-2—VLAN groups for inline interface pairs or setting the time.

**Note**

The IPS modules get their time settings from the router, switch, or adaptive security appliance in which they are installed.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Interface Summary window:

- Name—Name of the interface. The values are FastEthernet or GigabitEthernet for promiscuous interfaces. For inline interfaces, the name is whatever you assigned to the pair.
- Details—Tells you whether the interface is promiscuous or inline and whether there are VLAN pairs.
- Assigned Virtual Sensor—Whether the interface or interface pair has been assigned to a virtual sensor.

- Enabled—Whether this interface is enabled or disabled.
- Description—Your description of the interface.

Restore Defaults to an Interface Dialog Box

The Restore Default Interface dialog box displays all of the interfaces that are configured or assigned to a virtual sensor. You can select any of the interfaces to be restored. If the selected interface is assigned to a virtual sensor, it is unassigned. If you select an inline interface pair, both physical interfaces are restored to the default and the logical interface is deleted. You cannot select and restore defaults to an inline VLAN pair or VLAN group.

**Caution**

You can only restore defaults to physical interfaces and inline interface pairs.

Traffic Inspection Mode Window

The Traffic Inspection Mode window lets you configure the sensor interfaces as Promiscuous, Inline Interface, or inline VLAN pair mode. If the sensor only has one physical interface, such as AIM-IPS, the Inline Interface Pair Mode radio button is disabled. If the sensor does not support inline VLAN pair mode, that option is also disabled.

The following radio buttons are found on the Traffic Inspection Mode window:

- Promiscuous Mode
The sensor is not in the data path of the inspected packets. The sensor cannot modify or drop packets.
- Inline Interface Pair Mode
The sensor is in the data path of the inspected packets. The sensor can modify or drop inspected packets. For inline interface inspection, you must pair two physical interfaces together.
- Inline VLAN Pair Mode
The sensor is in the data path of the inspected packets. The sensor can modify or drop inspected packets. For inline VLAN inspection, you must have one physical interface and an even number of VLANs and the interface must be connected to a trunk port.

Interface Selection Window

On the Interface Selection window, you can choose which interface you want to configure.

Inline Interface Pair Window

In the Inline Interface Pair window, you can assign an interface name for two unique interfaces. If your sensor supports hardware bypass, an icon identifies that. If you pair a hardware bypass interface with an interface that does not support hardware bypass, you receive a warning message indicating that hardware bypass is not available.

**Note**

Hardware bypass interfaces allow packet flow to continue even if power is disrupted.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Inline Interface Pair window:

- Inline Interface Name—Lets you assign a name to this inline interface pair.
- First Interface of Pair—Lets you assign the first interface of this pair.
- Second Interface of Pair—Lets you assign the other interface of this pair.

Inline VLAN Pairs Window

If you checked the Inline VLAN Pair Mode radio button in the Interface Inspection Mode window, you can configure inline VLAN pairs on the Inline VLAN Pairs window. If you have already configured Inline VLAN pairs, they appear in the table, and you can edit or delete them.

**Note**

You cannot create an inline VLAN pair for an interface that has already been paired with another interface or for an interface that is in promiscuous mode and assigned to a virtual sensor.

To create an inline VLAN pair for an interface that is in promiscuous mode, you must remove the interface from the virtual sensor and then create the inline VLAN pair. You can only pair interfaces that are available.

**Note**

If your sensor does not support inline VLAN pairs, the Inline VLAN Pairs window is not displayed. AIM-IPS and NME-IPS do not support inline VLAN pairs.

**Note**

You cannot use the default VLAN as one of the paired VLANs in an inline VLAN pair.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Inline VLAN Pairs window:

- Subinterface—Subinterface number of the inline VLAN pair. The value is 1 to 255.
- VLAN A—Displays the VLAN number for the first VLAN. The value is 1 to 4095.
- VLAN B—Displays the VLAN number for the second VLAN. The value is 1 to 4095.
- Interface—Name of the inline VLAN pair.
- Virtual Sensor—Name of the virtual sensor for this inline VLAN pair.
- Description—Your description of the inline VLAN pair.

Add and Edit Inline VLAN Pair Entry Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

**Note**

You cannot pair a VLAN with itself.

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Inline VLAN Pair Entry dialog boxes:

- Subinterface Number—Lets you assign a subinterface number. You can assign a number from 1 to 255.
- VLAN A—Lets you specify the first VLAN for this inline VLAN pair. You can assign any VLAN from 1 to 4095.
- VLAN B—Lets you specify the other VLAN for this inline VLAN pair. You can assign any VLAN from 1 to 4095.
- Description—Lets you add a description of this inline VLAN pair.

**Note**

The subinterface number and the VLAN numbers should be unique to each physical interface.

Configuring Inline VLAN Pairs

To configure inline VLAN pairs in the Startup Wizard, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Startup Wizard > Launch Startup Wizard**, and then click **Next**, until you get to the Traffic Inspection Mode window.
- Step 3** Click the **Inline VLAN Pair Mode** radio button, and click **Next**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 4** In the Subinterface Number field, enter a subinterface number (1 to 255) for the inline VLAN pair.
- Step 5** In the VLAN 1 field, specify the first VLAN (1 to 4095) for this inline VLAN pair.
- Step 6** In the VLAN 2 field, specify the other VLAN (1 to 4095) for this inline VLAN pair.
- Step 7** In the Description field, add a description of the inline VLAN pair if desired.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 8** Click **OK**.
The new inline VLAN pair appears in the list in the Inline VLAN Pairs window.
- Step 9** To edit an inline VLAN pair, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 10** You can change the subinterface number, the VLAN numbers, or edit the description.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 11** Click **OK**.
The edited VLAN pair appears in the list in the Inline VLAN Pairs window.

- Step 12** To delete a VLAN pair, select it, and click **Delete**.
The VLAN pair no longer appears in the list in the Inline VLAN Pairs window.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 13** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Virtual Sensors

This section describes how to configure virtual sensors, and contains the following topics:

- [Virtual Sensors Window, page 5-11](#)
- [Add Virtual Sensor Dialog Box, page 5-12](#)
- [Adding a Virtual Sensor, page 5-12](#)

Virtual Sensors Window

After you have configured interfaces, you assign them to a virtual sensor in the Virtual Sensors window of the Startup Wizard. By default, the interface is assigned to virtual sensor vs0. You can assign the interface to any existing virtual sensor or you can create a new virtual sensor. To create a virtual sensor, click **Create a Virtual Sensor**. The Add Virtual Sensor dialog box appears and you can configure a virtual sensor.



Note

AIP-SSM does not have configurable interfaces, therefore you can only create a virtual sensor and assign that to the sensor.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Virtual Sensors window:

- **Interface(s)**—Lists the interface(s) that you want to assign to a virtual sensor.
- **Assign Interface to Virtual Sensor**—Lists the available virtual sensors. The default sensor is vs0.
- **Create a Virtual Sensor**—Displays the Add Virtual Sensor dialog where you can create a virtual sensor with new signature, event action rules, and anomaly detection policies, or you can use the default policies.
- **IPS Policy Summary Information**—Displays the assigned interfaces with assigned policies.
- **Default Block Policy**—The default risk category used in the deny event action override. Alerts with a risk rating of 90-100 are denied by default.

If you do not want to use the default risk category, you can edit the HIGHRISK risk category, or create a new risk category in **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Risk Category**.

Add Virtual Sensor Dialog Box

In the Add Virtual Sensor dialog box, you can create a new signature policy, event action rules policy, and anomaly detection policy, but you cannot configure them. You create the new policy by cloning the default policy.

To configure the new policy, for new signature policies, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > NewSigPolicy > All Signatures**. For new event action rules policies, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > NewRulesPolicy**. For new anomaly detection policies, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Anomaly Detections > NewADPolicy**.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add Virtual Sensor dialog box:

- Virtual Sensor Name—Lets you assign a name to the virtual sensor.
- Description—Lets you add a description of the virtual sensor.
- Assign a Signature Policy
 - Assign an Existing Signature Policy—Lets you assign a signature policy that has already been created.
 - Create a New Signature Policy—Lets you create a new signature policy;
- Assign and Event Action Rules Policy
 - Assign an Existing Event Action Rules Policy—Lets you assign an event action rules policy that has already been created.
 - Create a New Event Action Rules Policy—Lets you create a new event action rules policy.
- Assign an Anomaly Detection Policy
 - Assign an Existing Anomaly Detection Policy—Lets you assign an anomaly detection policy that has already been created.
 - Create a New Anomaly Detection Policy—Lets you create a new anomaly detection policy.

Adding a Virtual Sensor

To add a virtual sensor using the Startup Wizard, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Step 1 | Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges. |
| Step 2 | Choose Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Startup Wizard > Launch Startup Wizard , and then click Next until you get to the Virtual Sensors window. |
| Step 3 | Click Create a Virtual Sensor . |
| Step 4 | In the Virtual Sensor Name field, enter the virtual sensor name. |
| Step 5 | In the Description field, enter a description that will help you identify this virtual sensor. |
| Step 6 | Assign a signature policy by doing one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Click the Assign a Signature Policy radio button and chose a signature policy from the drop-down list.b. Click the Create a Signature Policy radio button and enter a name for the signature policy in the field. |

**Note**

To configure the new signature policy, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Signature Definitions > NewSigPolicy > All Signatures**.

Step 7 Assign an event action rules policy by doing one of the following:

- a. Click the **Assign an Event Action Rules Policy** radio button and chose an event action rules policy from the drop-down list.
- b. Click the **Create an Event Action Rules Policy** radio button and enter a name for the event action rules policy in the field.

**Note**

To configure the new event action rules policy, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > NewRulesPolicy**.

Step 8 Assign an anomaly detection policy by doing one of the following:

- a. Click the **Assign an Anomaly Detection Policy** radio button and chose an anomaly detection policy from the drop-down list.
- b. Click the **Create an Anomaly Detection Policy** radio button and enter a name for the anomaly detection policy in the field.

**Note**

To configure the new anomaly detection policy, click **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Anomaly Detections > NewADPolicy**.

Step 9 Click **Finish**, and then in the Confirm Configuration Changes dialog box, click **OK** to save your changes.



CHAPTER 6

Setting Up the Sensor

This chapter provides information for setting up the sensor, and contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Sensor Setup, page 6-1](#)
- [Configuring Network Settings, page 6-1](#)
- [Configuring Allowed Hosts/Networks, page 6-4](#)
- [Configuring Time, page 6-6](#)
- [Configuring Users, page 6-16](#)

Understanding Sensor Setup



Caution

You must initialize the sensor before you can choose **Configuration > *sensor_name* > Sensor Setup** in IME to further configure the sensor.

After you initialize the sensor, you can make any changes and configure other network parameters in Sensor Setup.

For More Information

For the procedure for using the **setup** command to initialize the sensor, see [Basic Sensor Setup, page 21-3](#).

Configuring Network Settings



Note

You must be administrator to configure network settings.

Use the Network pane to specify network and communication parameters for the sensor.



Note

After you use the **setup** command to initialize the sensor, the network and communication parameter values appear in the Network pane. If you need to change these parameters, you can do so in the Network pane.

This section describes how to change the network settings, and contains the following topics:

- [Network Pane Field Definitions, page 6-2](#)
- [Configuring Network Settings, page 6-3](#)

Network Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Network pane:

- **Hostname**—Name of the sensor.
The hostname can be a string of 1 to 64 characters that matches the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9_-]+$. The default is sensor. You receive an error message if the name contains a space or exceeds 64 alphanumeric characters.`
- **IP Address**—IP address of the sensor. The default is `192.168.1.2`.
- **Network Mask**—Mask corresponding to the IP address. The default is `255.255.255.0`.
- **Default Route**—Default gateway address. The default is `192.168.1.1`.
- **FTP Timeout**—Sets the amount of time in seconds that the FTP client waits before timing out when the sensor is communicating with an FTP server.

The valid range is 1 to 86400 seconds. The default is 300 seconds.

- **Allow Password Recovery**—Enables password recovery. The default is enabled.
- **Web Server Settings**—Sets the web server security level and port.
 - **Enable TLS/SSL**—Enables TLS and SSL in the web server. The default is enabled.



Note We strongly recommend that you enable TLS and SSL.

- **Web server port**—TCP port used by the web server. The default is 443 for HTTPS.



Note You receive an error message if you enter a value out of the range of 1 to 65535.

- **Enable RDEP Event Server Subscriptions**—Enable if you are using a third-party event client that is only able to parse IDS 4.x alerts.



Note The RDEP event interface was deprecated in Cisco IPS 5.0 and replaced by SDEE/CIDEE.

- **Remote Access**—Enables the sensor for remote access.
 - **Enable Telnet**—Enables or disables Telnet for remote access to the sensor.



Note Telnet is not a secure access service and therefore is disabled by default.

Configuring Network Settings

To configure network settings, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Network**.
- Step 3** To edit the sensor hostname, enter the new name in the Hostname field.
- Step 4** To change the sensor IP address, enter the new address in the IP Address field.
- Step 5** To change the network mask, enter the new mask in the Network Mask field.
- Step 6** To change the default gateway, enter the new address in the Default Route field.
- Step 7** To change the amount of FTP timeout, enter the new amount in the FTP Timeout field.
- Step 8** To allow password recovery, check the **Allow Password Recovery** check box.



Note We strongly recommend that you enable password recover. Otherwise, you must reimage your sensor to gain access if you have a password problem.

- Step 9** To enable or disable TLS/SSL, check the **Enable TLS/SSL** check box.



Note We strongly recommend that you enable TLS/SSL.



Note TLS and SSL are protocols that enable encrypted communications between a web browser and a web server. When TLS/SSL is enabled, you connect to IME using `https://sensor_ip_address`. If you disable TLS/SSL, connect to IME using `http://sensor_ip_address:port_number`.

- Step 10** To change the web server port, enter the new port number in the Web server port field.



Note If you change the web server port, you must specify the port in the URL address of your browser when you connect to IME. Use the format `https://sensor_ip_address:port_number` (for example, `https://10.1.9.201:1040`).

- Step 11** To enable or disable RDEP Event Server Subscriptions, check the **Enable RDEP Event Server Subscriptions** check box.



Note If you are using a third-party event client that can only parse IDS 4.x alerts, you need to enable RDEP Event Server Subscriptions.

- Step 12** To enable or disable remote access, check the **Enable Telnet** check box.



Note Telnet is not a secure access service and therefore is disabled by default. However, SSH is always running on the sensor and it is a secure service.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 13 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.



Note Changing the network settings may disrupt your connection to the sensor and force you to reconnect with the new address.

Configuring Allowed Hosts/Networks

This section describes how to add allowed hosts and networks to the system, and contains the following topics:

- [Allowed Hosts/Networks Pane, page 6-4](#)
- [Allowed Hosts/Network Pane and Add and Edit Allowed Host Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 6-5](#)
- [Configuring Allowed Hosts and Networks, page 6-5](#)

Allowed Hosts/Networks Pane



Note

You must be administrator to configure allowed hosts and networks.

Use the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane to specify hosts or networks that have permission to access the sensor. After you use the **setup** command to initialize the sensor, the allowed hosts parameter values appear in the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane. If you need to change these parameters, you can do so in the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane. By default, there are no entries in the list, and therefore no hosts are permitted until you add them.



Note

You must add the management host, such as ASDM, IDM, IME, Cisco Security Manager and the monitoring host, such as Cisco Security Mars, to the allowed hosts list, otherwise they cannot communicate with the sensor.



Caution

When adding, editing, or deleting allowed hosts, make sure that you do not delete the IP address used for remote management of the sensor.



Allowed Hosts/Network Pane and Add and Edit Allowed Host Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane and Add and Edit Allowed Host dialog boxes:

- IP Address—IP address of the host allowed to access the sensor.
- Network Mask—Mask corresponding to the IP address of the host.

Configuring Allowed Hosts and Networks

To specify hosts and networks that have permission to access your sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Allowed Hosts/Networks**, and then click **Add** to add a host or network to the list.
- You can add a maximum of 512 allowed hosts.
- Step 3** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host or network.
- You receive an error message if the IP address is already included as part of an existing list entry.
- Step 4** In the Network Mask field, enter the network mask of the host or network, or choose a network mask from the drop-down list.
- IME requires that a netmask always be provided, whether the IP address is a host or a network. If you do not specify a netmask, you receive the following error: *Network Mask is not valid.*
- You also receive an error message if the network mask does not match the IP address.
- Step 5** Click **OK**.
- The new host or network appears in the list in the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane.
- Step 6** To edit an existing entry in the list, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 7** In the IP Address field, edit the IP address of the host or network.
- Step 8** In the Network Mask field, edit the network mask of the host or network.
- Step 9** Click **OK**.
- The edited host or network appears in the list in the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane.
- Step 10** To delete a host or network from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.
- The host no longer appears in the list in the Allowed Hosts/Networks pane.
-
-  **Caution** All future network connections from the host that you deleted will be denied.
-
-  **Tip** To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
-
- Step 11** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring Time

This section describes time sources and the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Time Pane, page 6-6](#)
- [Time Sources and the Sensor, page 6-6](#)
- [Synchronizing IPS Module System Clocks with Parent Device System Clocks, page 6-8](#)
- [Time Pane Field Definitions, page 6-9](#)
- [Configure Summertime Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 6-9](#)
- [Configuring Time on the Sensor, page 6-10](#)
- [Correcting Time on the Sensor, page 6-11](#)
- [Configuring NTP, page 6-12](#)
- [Manually Setting the System Clock, page 6-15](#)
- [Clearing Events, page 6-16](#)

Time Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure time settings.

Use the Time pane to configure the sensor local date, time, time zone, summertime (DST), and whether the sensor will use an NTP server for its time source.

**Note**

We recommend that you use an NTP server as the sensor time source.

Time Sources and the Sensor

The sensor requires a reliable time source. All events (alerts) must have the correct UTC and local time stamp, otherwise, you cannot correctly analyze the logs after an attack. When you initialize the sensor, you set up the time zones and summertime settings.

**Note**

We recommend that you use an NTP server. You can use authenticated or unauthenticated NTP. For authenticated NTP, you must obtain the NTP server IP address, NTP server key ID, and the key value from the NTP server. You can set up NTP during initialization or you can configure NTP through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM.

Here is a summary of ways to set the time on sensors:

- For appliances
 - Use the **clock set** command to set the time. This is the default.
 - Use NTP—You can configure the appliance to get its time from an NTP time synchronization source. You need the NTP server IP address, the NTP key ID, and the NTP key value. You can set up NTP on the appliance during initialization or you can configure NTP through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM.

- For IDSM-2
 - The IDSM-2 can automatically synchronize its clock with the switch time. This is the default. The UTC time is synchronized between the switch and the IDSM-2. The time zone and summertime settings are not synchronized between the switch and the IDSM-2.



Note Be sure to set the time zone and summertime settings on both the switch and IDSM-2 to ensure that the UTC time settings are correct. The local time of IDSM-2 could be incorrect if the time zone and/or summertime settings do not match between IDSM-2 and the switch.

- Use NTP—You can configure IDSM-2 to get its time from an NTP time synchronization source. You need the NTP server IP address, the NTP key ID, and the NTP key value. You can configure IDSM-2 to use NTP during initialization or you can set up NTP through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM.
- For AIM-IPS and NME-IPS
 - AIM-IPS and NME-IPS can automatically synchronize their clock with the clock in the router chassis in which they are installed (parent router). This is the default. The UTC time is synchronized between the parent router and AIM-IPS and NME-IPS. The time zone and summertime settings are not synchronized between the parent router and AIM-IPS and NME-IPS.



Note Be sure to set the time zone and summertime settings on both the parent router and AIM-IPS and NME-IPS to ensure that the UTC time settings are correct. The local time of AIM-IPS and NME-IPS could be incorrect if the time zone and/or summertime settings do not match between AIM-IPS and NME-IPS and the router.

- Use NTP—You can configure AIM-IPS and NME-IPS to get their time from an NTP time synchronization source, such as a Cisco router, other than the parent router. You need the NTP server IP address, the NTP key ID, and the NTP key value. You can configure AIM-IPS and NME-IPS to use NTP during initialization or you can set up NTP through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM.



Note AIM-IPS and NME-IPS can also use unauthenticated NTP.

- For AIP-SSM
 - AIP-SSM can automatically synchronize its clock with the clock in the adaptive security appliance in which it is installed. This is the default. The UTC time is synchronized between the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM. The time zone and summertime settings are not synchronized between the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM.



Note Be sure to set the time zone and summertime settings on both the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM to ensure that the UTC time settings are correct. The local time of AIP-SSM could be incorrect if the time zone and/or summertime settings do not match between AIP-SSM and the adaptive security appliance.

- Use NTP—You can configure AIP-SSM to get its time from an NTP time synchronization source, such as a Cisco router other than the parent router. You need the NTP server IP address, the NTP key ID, and the NTP key value. You can configure AIP-SSM to use NTP during initialization or you can set up NTP through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM.

Synchronizing IPS Module System Clocks with Parent Device System Clocks

All IPS modules (AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, IDSM-2, and NME-IPS) synchronize their system clocks to the parent chassis clock (switch, router, or security appliance) each time the module boots up and any time the parent chassis clock is set. The module clock and parent chassis clock tend to drift apart over time. The difference can be as much as several seconds per day. To avoid this problem, make sure that both the module clock and the parent clock are synchronized to an external NTP server. If only the module clock or only the parent chassis clock is synchronized to an NTP server, the time drift occurs.

Verifying the Sensor is Synchronized with the NTP Server

In Cisco IPS 6.1, you cannot apply an incorrect NTP configuration, such as an invalid NTP key value or ID, to the sensor. If you try to apply an incorrect configuration, you receive an error message. To verify the NTP configuration, use the **show statistics host** command to gather sensor statistics. The NTP statistics section provides NTP statistics including feedback on sensor synchronization with the NTP server.

To verify the NTP configuration, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the sensor.

Step 2 Generate the host statistics:

```
sensor# show statistics host
...
NTP Statistics
      remote      refid      st t when poll reach  delay  offset  jitter
11.22.33.44    CHU_AUDIO(1)    8 u  36   64   1   0.536   0.069   0.001
LOCAL(0)      73.78.73.84     5 l  35   64   1   0.000   0.000   0.001
ind assID status  conf reach auth condition last_event cnt
  1 10372 f014   yes  yes  ok    reject  reachable  1
  2 10373 9014   yes  yes  none  reject  reachable  1
status = Not Synchronized
```

Step 3 Generate the hosts statistics again after a few minutes:

```
sensor# show statistics host
...
NTP Statistics
      remote      refid      st t when poll reach  delay  offset  jitter
*11.22.33.44    CHU_AUDIO(1)    8 u  22   64  377   0.518  37.975  33.465
LOCAL(0)      73.78.73.84     5 l  22   64  377   0.000   0.000   0.001
ind assID status  conf reach auth condition last_event cnt
  1 10372 f624   yes  yes  ok    sys.peer reachable  2
  2 10373 9024   yes  yes  none  reject  reachable  2
status = Synchronized
```

Step 4 If the status continues to read `Not Synchronized`, check with the NTP server administrator to make sure the NTP server is configured correctly.

Time Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Time pane:

- **Sensor Local Date**—Current date on the sensor. The default is January 1, 1970. You receive an error message if the day value is out of range for the month.
- **Sensor Local Time**—Current time (hh:mm:ss) on the sensor. The default is 00:00:00. You receive an error message if the hours, minutes, or seconds are out of range.



Note The date and time fields are disabled if the sensor does not support these fields, or if you have configured NTP settings on the sensor.

- **Standard Time Zone**—Lets you set the zone name and UTC offset.
 - **Zone Name**—Local time zone when summertime is not in effect. The default is UTC. You can choose from a predefined set of 37 time zones, or you can create a unique name (24 characters) in the following pattern: `^[A-Za-z0-9()+:./-]+$`
 - **UTC Offset**—Local time zone offset in minutes. The default is 0. If you select a predefined time zone this field is populated automatically.



Note Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- **NTP Server**—Lets you configure the sensor to use an NTP server as its time source.
 - **IP Address**—IP address of the NTP server if you use this to set time on the sensor.
 - **Authenticated NTP**—Lets you use authenticated NTP, which requires a key and key ID.
 - **Key**—NTP MD5 key type.
 - **Key ID**—ID of the key (1 to 65535) used to authenticate on the NTP server. You receive an error message if the key ID is out of range.
 - **Unauthenticated NTP**—Lets you use NTP, but does not require authentication, therefore, no key or key ID.
- **Summertime**—Lets you enable and configure summertime settings.
 - **Enable Summertime**—Click to enable summertime mode. The default is disabled.

Configure Summertime Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Configure Summertime dialog box:

- **Summer Zone Name**—Summertime zone name. The default is UTC. You can choose from a predefined set of 37 time zones, or you can create a unique name (24 characters) in the following pattern: `^[A-Za-z0-9()+:./-]+$`
- **Offset**—The number of minutes to add during summertime. The default is 60. If you choose a predefined time zone, this field is populated automatically.



Note Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- **Start Time**—Summertime start time setting. The value is hh:mm. You receive an error message if the hours or minutes are out of range.
- **End Time**—Summertime end time setting. The value is hh:mm. You receive an error message if the hours or minutes are out of range.
- **Summertime Duration**—Lets you set whether the duration is recurring or a single date.
 - **Recurring**—Duration is in recurring mode.
 - **Date**—Duration is in nonrecurring mode.
 - **Start**—Start week, day, and month setting.
 - **End**—End week, day, and month setting.

Configuring Time on the Sensor

To configure time on the sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Time**.
- Step 3** Under Sensor Local Date, select the current date from the drop-down lists.
Date indicates the date on the local host.
- Step 4** Under Sensor Local Time, enter the current time (hh:mm:ss).
Time indicates the time on the local host. To see the current time, click **Refresh**.



Caution

If you accidentally specify the incorrect time, stored events have the wrong time stamp. You must clear the events.



Note

You cannot change the date or time on modules or if you have configured NTP.

- Step 5** Under Standard Time Zone configure the time zone and offset:
- In the Zone Name field, choose a time zone from the drop-down list, or enter one that you have created.
This is the time zone to be displayed when summertime hours are not in effect.
 - In the UTC Offset field, enter the offset in minutes from UTC.
If you choose a predefined time zone name, this field is automatically populated.



Note

Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- Step 6** If you are using NTP synchronization, under NTP Server enter the following:
- The IP address of the NTP server in the IP Address field.
 - If using authenticated NTP, check the **Authenticated NTP** check box, and then enter the key of the NTP server in the Key field, and the key ID of the NTP server in the Key ID field.
 - If using unauthenticated NTP, check the **Unauthenticated NTP** check box.

**Note**

If you define an NTP server, the sensor time is set by the NTP server. The CLI **clock set** command produces an error, but time zone and daylight saving time parameters are valid.

- Step 7** To enable daylight saving time, check the **Enable Summertime** check box.
- Step 8** Click **Configure Summertime**.
- Step 9** Choose the Summer Zone Name from the drop-down list or enter one that you have created.
This is the name to be displayed when daylight saving time is in effect.
- Step 10** In the Offset field, enter the number of minutes to add during summertime.
If you choose a predefined summer zone name, this field is automatically populated.

**Note**

Changing the time zone offset requires the sensor to reboot.

- Step 11** In the Start Time field, enter the time to apply summertime settings.
- Step 12** In the End Time field, enter the time to remove summertime settings.
- Step 13** Under Summertime Duration, choose whether summertime settings will occur on specified days each year (recurring) or whether they will start and end on specific dates (date):
- a. Recurring—Choose the Start and End times from the drop-down lists.
The default is the second Sunday in March and the first Sunday in November.
 - b. Date—Choose the Start and End time from the drop-down lists.
The default is January 1 for the start and end time.
- Step 14** Click **OK**.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 15** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
- Step 16** If you changed the time and date settings (Steps 3 and 4), you must also click **Apply Time to Sensor** to save the time and date settings on the sensor.

Correcting Time on the Sensor

If you set the time incorrectly, your stored events will have the incorrect time because they are stamped with the time the event was created.

The Event Store time stamp is always based on UTC time. If during the original sensor setup, you set the time incorrectly by specifying 8:00 p.m. rather than 8:00 a.m., when you do correct the error, the corrected time will be set backwards. New events might have times older than old events.

For example, if during the initial setup, you configure the sensor as central time with daylight saving time enabled and the local time is 8:04 p.m., the time is displayed as 20:04:37 CDT and has an offset from UTC of -5 hours (01:04:37 UTC, the next day). A week later at 9:00 a.m., you discover the error:

the clock shows 21:00:23 CDT. You then change the time to 9:00 a.m. and now the clock shows 09:01:33 CDT. Because the offset from UTC has not changed, it requires that the UTC time now be 14:01:33 UTC, which creates the time stamp problem.

To ensure the integrity of the time stamp on the event records, you must clear the event archive of the older events by using the **clear events** command.

**Note**

You cannot remove individual events.

For More Information

For the procedure for clearing events from Event Store, see [Clearing Events, page 6-16](#).

Configuring NTP

This section describes how to configure a Cisco router to be an NTP server and how to configure the sensor to use an NTP server as its time source. It contains the following topics:

- [Configuring a Cisco Router to be an NTP Server, page 6-12](#)
- [Configuring the Sensor to Use an NTP Time Source, page 6-13](#)

Configuring a Cisco Router to be an NTP Server

The sensor requires an authenticated connection with an NTP server if it is going to use the NTP server as its time source. The sensor supports only the MD5 hash algorithm for key encryption. Use the following procedure to activate a Cisco router to act as an NTP server and use its internal clock as the time source.

**Caution**

The sensor NTP capability is designed to be compatible with Cisco routers acting as NTP servers. The sensor may work with other NTP servers, but is not tested or supported.

**Note**

Remember the NTP server key ID and key values. You need them along with the NTP server IP address when you configure the sensor to use the NTP server as its time source.

To set up a Cisco router to act as an NTP server, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the router.

Step 2 Enter configuration mode:

```
router# configure terminal
```

Step 3 Create the key ID and key value:

```
router(config)# ntp authentication-key key_ID md5 key_value
```

The key ID can be a number between 1 and 65535. The key value is text (numeric or character). It is encrypted later.

Example:

```
router(config)# ntp authentication-key 100 md5 attack
```



Note The sensor only supports MD5 keys.



Note Keys may already exist on the router. Use the **show running configuration** command to check for other keys. You can use those values for the trusted key in Step 4.

Step 4 Designate the key you just created in Step 3 as the trusted key (or use an existing key):

```
router(config)# ntp trusted-key key_ID
```

The trusted key ID is the same number as the key ID in Step 3.

Example:

```
router(config)# ntp trusted-key 100
```

Step 5 Specify the interface on the router that the sensor will communicate with:

```
router(config)# ntp source interface_name
```

Example:

```
router(config)# ntp source FastEthernet 1/0
```

Step 6 Specify the NTP master stratum number to be assigned to the sensor:

```
router(config)# ntp master stratum_number
```

Example:

```
router(config)# ntp master 6
```

The NTP master stratum number identifies the relative position of the server in the NTP hierarchy. You can choose a number between 1 and 15. It is not important to the sensor which number you choose.

Configuring the Sensor to Use an NTP Time Source

The sensor requires a consistent time source. We recommend that you use an NTP server. Use the following procedure to configure the sensor to use the NTP server as its time source. You can use authenticated or unauthenticated NTP.



Note

For authenticated NTP, you must obtain the NTP server IP address, NTP server key ID, and the key value from the NTP server.



Caution

The sensor NTP capability is designed to be compatible with Cisco routers acting as NTP servers. The sensor may work with other NTP servers, but is not tested or supported.

To configure the sensor to use an NTP server as its time source, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Enter configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

Step 3 Enter service host mode:

```
sensor(config)# service host
```

Step 4 For unauthenticated NTP:

a. Enter NTP configuration mode:

```
sensor(config-hos)# ntp-option enabled-ntp-unauthenticated
```

b. Specify the NTP server IP address:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# ntp-server ip_address
```

c. Verify the unauthenticated NTP settings:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# show settings
enabled-ntp-unauthenticated
-----
ntp-server: 10.89.147.45
-----
sensor(config-hos-ena)#
```

Step 5 For authenticated NTP:

a. Enter NTP configuration mode:

```
sensor(config-hos)# ntp-option enable
```

b. Specify the NTP server IP address and key ID:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# ntp-servers ip_address key-id key_ID
```

The key ID is a number between 1 and 65535. This is the key ID that you already set up on the NTP server.

Example:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# ntp-servers 10.16.0.0 key-id 100
```

c. Specify the key value NTP server:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# ntp-keys key_ID md5-key key_value
```

The key value is text (numeric or character). This is the key value that you already set up on the NTP server.

Example:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# ntp-keys 100 md5-key attack
```

d. Verify the NTP settings:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# show settings
enabled
-----
ntp-keys (min: 1, max: 1, current: 1)
-----
key-id: 100
```



```

-----
md5-key: attack
-----
ntp-servers (min: 1, max: 1, current: 1)
-----
ip-address: 10.16.0.0
key-id: 100
-----
sensor(config-hos-ena)#

```

Step 6 Exit NTP configuration mode:

```

sensor(config-hos-ena)# exit
sensor(config-hos)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]

```

Step 7 Press **Enter** to apply the changes or enter **no** to discard them.

Manually Setting the System Clock

Use the **clock set** *hh:mm [:ss] month day year* command to manually set the clock on the appliance. Use this command if no other time sources are available.



Note

You do not need to set the system clock if your sensor is synchronized by a valid outside timing mechanism such as an NTP clock source.

The **clock set** command does not apply to the following platforms:

- AIM-IPS
- AIP-SSM
- IDSM-2
- NME-IPS

To manually set the clock on the appliance, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Set the clock manually:

```

sensor# clock set 13:21 Mar 29 2008

```



Note

The time format is 24-hour time.

Clearing Events

Use the **clear events** command to clear Event Store.

To clear events from Event Store, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Clear Event Store:

```
sensor# clear events
Warning: Executing this command will remove all events currently stored in the event
store.
Continue with clear? []:
```

Step 3 Enter **yes** to clear the events.

Configuring Users

This section describes how to add and remove users on the system, and contains the following topics:

- [Users Pane, page 6-16](#)
- [User Pane Field Definitions, page 6-17](#)
- [Add and Edit User Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 6-17](#)
- [Understanding the Service Account, page 6-17](#)
- [Adding, Editing, Deleting Users and Creating Accounts, page 6-18](#)

Users Pane



Note

You must be administrator to add and edit users.

IME permits multiple users to log in at a time. You can create and remove users from the local sensor. You can only modify one user account at a time. Each user is associated with a role that controls what that user can and cannot modify.

User Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Users pane:

- **Username**—The username. The username follows the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9()+:./-]+$`, which means the username must start with a letter or number, and can include any letter A to Z (capital or small), any number 0 to 9, - and _, and can contain 1 to 64 characters.
- **Role**—The user role. The values are Administrator, Operator, Service, and Viewer. The default is Viewer.



Note Only one user with the role of Service is allowed.

- **Status**—Displays the current user account status, such as active, expired, or locked.

Add and Edit User Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields found in the Add and Edit User dialog boxes:

- **Username**—The username. The username follows the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9()+:./-]+$`, which means the username must start with a letter or number, and can include any letter A to Z (capital or small), any number 0 to 9, - and _, and can contain 1 to 64 characters.
- **User Role**—The user role. Valid values are Administrator, Operator, Service, and Viewer. The default is Viewer.



Note Only one user with the role of Service is allowed.

- **Password**—The user password. The password must conform to the requirements set by the sensor administrator.
- **Confirm Password**—Lets you confirm the password. You receive an error message if the confirm password does not match the user password.
- **Change the password to access the sensor**—Lets you change the password of the user. Only available in the Edit dialog box.

Understanding the Service Account

You can create a service account for TAC to use during troubleshooting. Although more than one user can have access to the sensor, only one user can have service privileges on a sensor. The service account is for support purposes only.



Caution

Do not make modifications to the sensor through the service account except under the direction of TAC. If you use the service account to configure the sensor, your configuration is not supported by TAC. Adding services to the operating system through the service account affects proper performance and functioning of the other IPS services. TAC does not support a sensor on which additional services have been added.

**Note**

The root user password is synchronized to the service account password when the service account is created. To gain root access you must log in with the service account and switch to user root with the **su - root** command.

**Caution**

You should carefully consider whether you want to create a service account. The service account provides shell access to the system, which makes the system vulnerable. However, you can use the service account to create a password if the administrator password is lost. Analyze your situation to decide if you want a service account existing on the system.

**Note**

For IPS 5.0 and later, you can no longer remove the **cisco** account. You can disable it using the **no password cisco** command, but you cannot remove it. To use the **no password cisco** command, there must be another administrator account on the sensor. Removing the **cisco** account through the service account is not supported. If you remove the **cisco** account through the service account, the sensor most likely will not boot up, so to recover the sensor you must reinstall the sensor system image.

Adding, Editing, Deleting Users and Creating Accounts

To configure users on the sensor, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Users**, and then click **Add** to add a user.
- Step 3** In the Username field, enter the username.
- Step 4** From the drop-down list in the User Role field, choose one of the following user roles:
 - Administrator
 - Operator
 - Viewer
 - Service

**Note**

Only one user with the role of Service is allowed.

- Step 5** Check the **Change the password to access the sensor** check box.
- Step 6** In the Password field, enter the new password for that user.
- Step 7** In the Confirm Password field, enter the new password for that user.
- Step 8** Click **OK**.
The new user appears in the users list in the Users pane.
- Step 9** To edit a user, select the user in the users list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 10** Make any changes you need to in the Username, User Role, and Password fields.
- Step 11** Click **OK**.

The edited user appears in the users list in the Users pane.

- Step 12** To delete a user from the user list, select the user, and click **Delete**.
That user is no longer in the users list in the User pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 13** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.



CHAPTER 7

Configuring Interfaces

This chapter describes the various interface modes and how to configure interfaces on the sensor. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Interfaces, page 7-1](#)
- [Understanding Interface Modes, page 7-11](#)
- [Interface Configuration Summary, page 7-13](#)
- [Configuring Interfaces, page 7-14](#)
- [Configuring Inline Interface Pairs, page 7-17](#)
- [Configuring Inline VLAN Pairs, page 7-19](#)
- [Configuring VLAN Groups, page 7-21](#)
- [Configuring Bypass Mode, page 7-24](#)
- [Configuring Traffic Flow Notifications, page 7-25](#)
- [Configuring CDP Mode, page 7-27](#)

Understanding Interfaces

This section describes the IPS sensor interfaces, and contains the following topics:

- [IPS Sensor Interfaces, page 7-1](#)
- [Command and Control Interface, page 7-2](#)
- [Sensing Interfaces, page 7-3](#)
- [Interface Support, page 7-4](#)
- [TCP Reset Interfaces, page 7-6](#)
- [Interface Configuration Restrictions, page 7-8](#)
- [Hardware Bypass Mode, page 7-9](#)

IPS Sensor Interfaces

The sensor interfaces are named according to the maximum speed and physical location of the interface. The physical location consists of a port number and a slot number. All interfaces that are built-in on the sensor motherboard are in slot 0, and the interface card expansion slots are numbered beginning with

slot 1 for the bottom slot with the slot numbers increasing from bottom to top (except for IPS 4270-20, where the ports are numbered from top to bottom). Interfaces with a given slot are numbered beginning with port 0 for the right port with the port numbers increasing from right to left. For example, GigabitEthernet2/1 supports a maximum speed of 1 Gigabit and is the second-from-the-right interface in the second-from-the bottom interface card expansion slot. IPS-4240, IPS-4255, IPS-4260, and IPS 4270-20 are exceptions to this rule. The command and control interface on these sensors is called Management0/0 rather than GigabitEthernet0/0. IPS 4270-20 has an additional interface called Management0/1, which is reserved for future use.

There are three interface roles:

- Command and control
- Sensing
- Alternate TCP reset

There are restrictions on which roles you can assign to specific interfaces and some interfaces have multiple roles. You can configure any sensing interface to any other sensing interface as its TCP reset interface. The TCP reset interface can also serve as an IDS (promiscuous) sensing interface at the same time. The following restrictions apply:

- Because AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, and NME-IPS only have one sensing interface, you cannot configure a TCP reset interface.
- Because of hardware limitations on the Catalyst switch, both of the IDSM-2 sensing interfaces are permanently configured to use System0/1 as the TCP reset interface.
- The TCP reset interface that is assigned to a sensing interface has no effect in inline interface or inline VLAN pair mode, because TCP resets are always sent on the sensing interfaces in those modes.

**Note**

Each physical interface can be divided into VLAN group subinterfaces, each of which consists of a group of VLANs on that interface.

Command and Control Interface

The command and control interface has an IP address and is used for configuring the sensor. It receives security and status events from the sensor and queries the sensor for statistics.

The command and control interface is permanently enabled. It is permanently mapped to a specific physical interface, which depends on the specific model of sensor. You cannot use the command and control interface as either a sensing or alternate TCP reset interface.

Table 7-1 lists the command and control interfaces for each sensor.

Table 7-1 *Command and Control Interfaces*

Sensor	Command and Control Interface
AIM-IPS	Management0/0
AIP-SSM-10	GigabitEthernet0/0
AIP-SSM-20	GigabitEthernet0/0
AIP-SSM-40	GigabitEthernet0/0
IDSM-2	GigabitEthernet0/2

Table 7-1 **Command and Control Interfaces (continued)**

Sensor	Command and Control Interface
IPS-4240	Management0/0
IPS-4255	Management0/0
IPS-4260	Management0/0
IPS 4270-20	Management0/0
NME-IPS	Management0/1

Sensing Interfaces

Sensing interfaces are used by the sensor to analyze traffic for security violations. A sensor has one or more sensing interfaces depending on the sensor. Sensing interfaces can operate individually in promiscuous mode or you can pair them to create inline interfaces.

**Note**

On appliances, all sensing interfaces are disabled by default. You must enable them to use them. On modules, the sensing interfaces are permanently enabled.

Some appliances support optional interface cards that add sensing interfaces to the sensor. You must insert or remove these optional cards while the sensor is powered off. The sensor detects the addition or removal of a supported interface card. If you remove an optional interface card, some of the interface configuration is deleted, such as the speed, duplex, description string, enabled/disabled state of the interface, and any inline interface pairings. These settings are restored to their default settings when the card is reinstalled. However, the assignment of promiscuous and inline interfaces to the Analysis Engine is not deleted from the Analysis Engine configuration, but is ignored until those cards are reinserted and you create the inline interface pairs again.

For More Information

- For the number and type of sensing interfaces available for each sensor, see [Interface Support, page 7-4](#).
- For more information on interfaces modes, see [Understanding Interface Modes, page 7-11](#).
- For the procedure for configuring virtual sensors, see [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Virtual Sensors, page 8-11](#).

Interface Support

Table 2 describes the interface support for appliances and modules running Cisco IPS 6.1.

Table 2 *Interface Support*

Base Chassis	Added Interface Cards	Interfaces Supporting Inline VLAN Pairs (Sensing Ports)	Combinations Supporting Inline Interface Pairs	Interfaces Not Supporting Inline (Command and Control Port)
AIM-IPS	—	GigabitEthernet0/1 by ids-service-module command in the router configuration instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/1 by ids-service-module command in the router configuration instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	Management0/0
AIP-SSM-10	—	GigabitEthernet0/1 by security context instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/1 by security context instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/0
AIP-SSM-20	—	GigabitEthernet0/1 by security context instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/1 by security context instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/0
AIP-SSM-40	—	GigabitEthernet0/1 by security context instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/1 by security context instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/0
IDS-2	—	GigabitEthernet0/7 GigabitEthernet0/8	0/7<->0/8	GigabitEthernet0/2
IPS-4240	—	GigabitEthernet0/0 GigabitEthernet0/1 GigabitEthernet0/2 GigabitEthernet0/3	0/0<->0/1 0/0<->0/2 0/0<->0/3 0/1<->0/2 0/1<->0/3 0/2<->0/3	Management0/0
IPS-4255	—	GigabitEthernet0/0 GigabitEthernet0/1 GigabitEthernet0/2 GigabitEthernet0/3	0/0<->0/1 0/0<->0/2 0/0<->0/3 0/1<->0/2 0/1<->0/3 0/2<->0/3	Management0/0
IPS-4260	—	GigabitEthernet0/1	N/A	Management0/0

Table 2 *Interface Support (continued)*

Base Chassis	Added Interface Cards	Interfaces Supporting Inline VLAN Pairs (Sensing Ports)	Combinations Supporting Inline Interface Pairs	Interfaces Not Supporting Inline (Command and Control Port)
IPS-4260	4GE-BP	GigabitEthernet0/1		Management0/0
	Slot 1	GigabitEthernet2/0 GigabitEthernet2/1 GigabitEthernet2/2 GigabitEthernet2/3	2/0<->2/1 ¹ 2/2<->2/3	
	Slot 2	GigabitEthernet3/0 GigabitEthernet3/1 GigabitEthernet3/2 GigabitEthernet3/3	3/0<->3/1 3/2<->3/3	
IPS-4260	2SX	GigabitEthernet0/1	All sensing ports can be paired together	Management0/0
	Slot 1	GigabitEthernet2/0 GigabitEthernet2/1		
	Slot 2	GigabitEthernet3/0 GigabitEthernet3/1		
IPS-4260	10GE	GigabitEthernet0/1		Management0/0
	Slot 1	TenGigabitEthernet2/0 TenGigabitEthernet2/1	2/0<->2/1 ²	
IPS 4270-20	—	—	N/A	Management0/0 Management0/1 ³
IPS 4270-20	4GE-BP			Management0/0 Management0/1 ⁵
	Slot 1	GigabitEthernet3/0 GigabitEthernet3/1 GigabitEthernet3/2 GigabitEthernet3/3	3/0<->3/1 ⁴ 3/2<->3/3	
	Slot 2	GigabitEthernet4/0 GigabitEthernet4/1 GigabitEthernet4/2 GigabitEthernet4/3	4/0<->4/1 4/2<->4/3	
IPS 4270-20	2SX		All sensing ports can be paired together	Management0/0 Management0/1 ⁶
	Slot 1	GigabitEthernet3/0 GigabitEthernet3/1		
	Slot 2	GigabitEthernet4/0 GigabitEthernet4/1		

Table 2 Interface Support (continued)

Base Chassis	Added Interface Cards	Interfaces Supporting Inline VLAN Pairs (Sensing Ports)	Combinations Supporting Inline Interface Pairs	Interfaces Not Supporting Inline (Command and Control Port)
IPS 4270-20	10GE Slot 1 Slot 2	TenGigabitEthernet5/0 TenGigabitEthernet5/1 TenGigabitEthernet7/0 TenGigabitEthernet7/1	All sensing ports can be paired together	Management0/0 Management0/1 ⁷
NME-IPS	—	GigabitEthernet0/1 by ids-service-module command in the router configuration instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	GigabitEthernet0/1 by ids-service-module command in the router configuration instead of VLAN pair or inline interface pair	Management0/1

1. To disable hardware bypass, pair the interfaces in any other combination (2/0<->2/2 and 2/1<->2/3, for example).
2. To disable hardware bypass, pair the interfaces in any other combination (2/0<->2/2 and 2/1<->2/3, for example).
3. Reserved for future use.
4. To disable hardware bypass, pair the interfaces in any other combination (2/0<->2/2 and 2/1<->2/3, for example).
5. Reserved for future use.
6. Reserved for future use.
7. Reserved for future use.

**Note**

IPS-4260 supports a mixture of 4GE-BP, 2SX, and 10GE cards. IPS 4270-20 also supports a mixture of 4GE-BP, 2SX, and 10GE cards up to a total of either six cards, or sixteen total ports, which ever is reached first, but is limited to only two 10GE card in the mix of cards.

TCP Reset Interfaces

This section explains the TCP reset interfaces and when to use them. It contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Alternate TCP Reset Interfaces, page 7-6](#)
- [Designating the Alternate TCP Reset Interface, page 7-7](#)

Understanding Alternate TCP Reset Interfaces

You can configure sensors to send TCP reset packets to try to reset a network connection between an attacker host and its intended target host. In some installations when the interface is operating in promiscuous mode, the sensor may not be able to send the TCP reset packets over the same sensing interface on which the attack was detected. In such cases, you can associate the sensing interface with an alternate TCP reset interface and any TCP resets that would otherwise be sent on the sensing interface when it is operating in promiscuous mode are instead sent out on the associated alternate TCP reset interface.

If a sensing interface is associated with an alternate TCP reset interface, that association applies when the sensor is configured for promiscuous mode but is ignored when the sensing interface is configured for inline mode.

With the exception of IDSM-2, any sensing interface can serve as the alternate TCP reset interface for another sensing interface. The alternate TCP reset interface on IDSM-2 is fixed because of hardware limitation.

Table 7-3 lists the alternate TCP reset interfaces.

**Note**

There is only one sensing interface on IPS modules (AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, and NME-IPS).

Table 7-3 *Alternate TCP Reset Interfaces*

Sensor	Alternate TCP Reset Interface
AIM-IPS	None
AIP-SSM-10	None
AIP-SSM-20	None
AIP-SSM-40	None
IDSM-2	System0/1 ¹
IPS-4240	Any sensing interface
IPS-4255	Any sensing interface
IPS-4260	Any sensing interface
IPS 4270-20	Any sensing interface
NME-IPS	None

1. This is an internal interface on the Catalyst backplane.

Designating the Alternate TCP Reset Interface

You need to designate an alternate TCP reset interface in the following situations:

- When a switch is being monitored with either SPAN or VACL capture and the switch does not accept incoming packets on the SPAN or VACL capture port.
- When a switch is being monitored with either SPAN or VACL capture for multiple VLANs, and the switch does not accept incoming packets with 802.1q headers.

**Note**

The TCP resets need 802.1q headers to tell which VLAN the resets should be sent on.

- When a network tap is used for monitoring a connection.

**Note**

Taps do not permit incoming traffic from the sensor.

You can only assign a sensing interface as an alternate TCP reset interface. You cannot configure the management interface as an alternate TCP reset interface.

Interface Configuration Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to configuring interfaces on the sensor:

- Physical Interfaces
 - On modules (AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, IDSM-2, and NME-IPS), all backplane interfaces have fixed speed, duplex, and state settings. These settings are protected in the default configuration on all backplane interfaces.
 - For nonbackplane FastEthernet interfaces the valid speed settings are 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, and auto. Valid duplex settings are full, half, and auto.
 - For Gigabit copper interfaces (1000-TX on IPS-4240, IPS-4255, IPS-4260, and IPS 4270-20), valid speed settings are 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 1000 Mbps, and auto. Valid duplex settings are full, half, and auto.
 - For Gigabit (copper or fiber) interfaces, if the speed is configured for 1000 Mbps, the only valid duplex setting is auto.
 - The command and control interface cannot also serve as a sensing interface.
- Inline Interface Pairs
 - Inline interface pairs can contain any combination of sensing interfaces regardless of the physical interface type (copper versus fiber), speed, or duplex settings of the interface. However, pairing interfaces of different media type, speeds, and duplex settings may not be fully tested or supported.
 - The command and control interface cannot be a member of an inline interface pair.
 - You cannot pair a physical interface with itself in an inline interface pair.
 - A physical interface can be a member of only one inline interface pair.
 - You can only configure bypass mode and create inline interface pairs on sensor platforms that support inline mode.
 - A physical interface cannot be a member of an inline interface pair unless the subinterface mode of the physical interface is **none**.
- Inline VLAN Pairs
 - You cannot pair a VLAN with itself.
 - You cannot use the default VLAN as one of the paired VLANs in an inline VLAN pair.
 - For a given sensing interface, a VLAN can be a member of only one inline VLAN pair. However, a given VLAN can be a member of an inline VLAN pair on more than one sensing interface.
 - The order in which you specify the VLANs in an inline VLAN pair is not significant.
 - A sensing interface in inline VLAN pair mode can have from 1 to 255 inline VLAN pairs.
- Alternate TCP Reset Interface
 - You can only assign the alternate TCP reset interface to a sensing interface. You cannot configure the command and control interface as an alternate TCP reset interface. The alternate TCP reset interface option is set to **none** as the default and is protected for all interfaces except the sensing interfaces.
 - You can assign the same physical interface as an alternate TCP reset interface for multiple sensing interfaces.
 - A physical interface can serve as both a sensing interface and an alternate TCP reset interface.

- The command and control interface cannot serve as the alternate TCP reset interface for a sensing interface.
- A sensing interface cannot serve as its own alternate TCP reset interface.
- You can only configure interfaces that are capable of TCP resets as alternate TCP reset interfaces.



Note The exception to this restriction is the IDSM-2. The alternate TCP reset interface assignments for both sensing interfaces is System0/1 (protected).

- VLAN Groups
 - You can configure any single interface for promiscuous, inline interface pair, or inline VLAN pair mode, but no combination of these modes is allowed.
 - You cannot add a VLAN to more than one group on each interface.
 - You cannot add a VLAN group to multiple virtual sensors.
 - An interface can have no more than 255 user-defined VLAN groups.
 - When you pair a physical interface, you cannot subdivide it; you can subdivide the pair.
 - You can use a VLAN on multiple interfaces; however, you receive a warning for this configuration.
 - You can assign a virtual sensor to any combination of one or more physical interfaces and inline VLAN pairs, subdivided or not.
 - You can subdivide both physical and logical interfaces into VLAN groups.
 - CLI, IDM, and IME prompt you to remove any dangling references. You can leave the dangling references and continue editing the configuration.
 - CLI, IDM, and IME do not allow configuration changes in Analysis Engine that conflict with the interface configuration.
 - CLI allows configuration changes in the interface configuration that cause conflicts in the Analysis Engine configuration. IDM and IME do *not* allow changes in the interface configuration that cause conflicts in the Analysis Engine configuration.

For More Information

For more information on interface pair combinations, see [Interface Support, page 7-4](#).

Hardware Bypass Mode

In addition to Cisco IPS 6.1 software bypass, IPS-4260 and IPS 4270-20 also support hardware bypass. This section describes the hardware bypass card and its configuration restrictions, and contains the following topics:

- [Hardware Bypass Card, page 7-10](#)
- [Hardware Bypass Configuration Restrictions, page 7-10](#)

Hardware Bypass Card

IPS-4260 and IPS 4270-20 support the 4-port GigabitEthernet card (part number IPS-4GE-BP-INT=) with hardware bypass. This 4GE bypass interface card supports hardware bypass only between ports 0 and 1 and between ports 2 and 3.

**Note**

To disable hardware bypass, pair the interfaces in any other combination, for example 2/0<->2/2 and 2/1<->2/3.

Hardware bypass complements the existing software bypass feature in Cisco IPS 6.1. The following conditions apply to hardware bypass and software bypass:

- When bypass is set to OFF, software bypass is not active.

For each inline interface for which hardware bypass is available, the component interfaces are set to disable the fail-open capability. If SensorApp fails, the sensor is powered off, reset, or if the NIC interface drivers fail or are unloaded, the paired interfaces enter the fail-closed state (no traffic flows through inline interface or inline VLAN subinterfaces).

- When bypass is set to ON, software bypass is active.

Software bypass forwards packets between the paired physical interfaces in each inline interface and between the paired VLANs in each inline VLAN subinterface. For each inline interface on which hardware bypass is available, the component interfaces are set to standby mode. If the sensor is powered off, reset, or if the NIC interfaces fail or are unloaded, those paired interfaces enter fail-open state in hardware (traffic flows unimpeded through inline interface). Any other inline interfaces enter fail-closed state.

- When bypass is set to AUTO (traffic flows without inspection), software bypass is activated if sensorApp fails.

For each inline interface on which hardware bypass is available, the component interfaces are set to standby mode. If the sensor is powered off, reset, or if the NIC interfaces fail or are unloaded, those paired interfaces enter fail-open state in hardware. Any other inline interfaces enter the fail-closed state.

**Note**

To test fail-over, set the bypass mode to ON or AUTO, create one or more inline interfaces and power down the sensor and verify that traffic still flows through the inline path.

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring inline bypass mode, see [Configuring Bypass Mode, page 7-24](#).

Hardware Bypass Configuration Restrictions

To use the hardware bypass feature on the 4GE bypass interface card, you must pair interfaces to support the hardware design of the card. If you create an inline interface that pairs a hardware-bypass-capable interface with an interface that violates one or more of the hardware-bypass configuration restrictions, hardware bypass is deactivated on the inline interface and you receive a warning message similar to the following:

Hardware bypass functionality is not available on Inline-interface pair0.
Physical-interface GigabitEthernet2/0 is capable of performing hardware bypass only when paired with GigabitEthernet2/1, and both interfaces are enabled and configured with the same speed and duplex settings.

The following configuration restrictions apply to hardware bypass:

- The 4-port bypass card is only supported on IPS-4260 and IPS 4270-20.
- Fail-open hardware bypass only works on inline interfaces (interface pairs), not on inline VLAN pairs.
- Fail-open hardware bypass is available on an inline interface if all of the following conditions are met:
 - Both of the physical interfaces support hardware bypass.
 - Both of the physical interfaces are on the same interface card.
 - The two physical interfaces are associated in hardware as a bypass pair.
 - The speed and duplex settings are identical on the physical interfaces.
 - Both of the interfaces are administratively enabled.
- Autonegotiation must be set on MDI/X switch ports connected to IPS-4260 and IPS 4270-20.

You must configure both the sensor ports and the switch ports for autonegotiation for hardware bypass to work. The switch ports must support MDI/X, which automatically reverses the transmit and receive lines if necessary to correct any cabling problems. The sensor is only guaranteed to operate correctly with the switch if both of them are configured for identical speed and duplex, which means that the sensor must be set for autonegotiation too.

Understanding Interface Modes

This section explains the various interface modes, and contains the following topics:

- [Promiscuous Mode](#)
- [Inline Interface Mode](#)
- [Inline VLAN Pair Mode](#)
- [VLAN Group Mode](#)

Promiscuous Mode

In promiscuous mode, packets do not flow through the sensor. The sensor analyzes a copy of the monitored traffic rather than the actual forwarded packet. The advantage of operating in promiscuous mode is that the sensor does not affect the packet flow with the forwarded traffic. The disadvantage of operating in promiscuous mode, however, is the sensor cannot stop malicious traffic from reaching its intended target for certain types of attacks, such as atomic attacks (single-packet attacks). The response actions implemented by promiscuous sensor devices are post-event responses and often require assistance from other networking devices, for example, routers and firewalls, to respond to an attack. While such response actions can prevent some classes of attacks, in atomic attacks the single packet has the chance of reaching the target system before the promiscuous-based sensor can apply an ACL modification on a managed device (such as a firewall, switch, or router).

By default, all sensing interfaces are in promiscuous mode. To change an interface from inline mode to promiscuous mode, delete any inline interface that contains that interface and delete any inline VLAN pair subinterfaces of that interface from the interface configuration.

Inline Interface Mode

Operating in inline mode puts the IPS directly into the traffic flow and affects packet-forwarding rates making them slower by adding latency. This allows the sensor to stop attacks by dropping malicious traffic before it reaches the intended target, thus providing a protective service. Not only is the inline device processing information on Layers 3 and 4, but it is also analyzing the contents and payload of the packets for more sophisticated embedded attacks (Layers 3 to 7). This deeper analysis lets the system identify and stop and/or block attacks that would normally pass through a traditional firewall device.

In inline mode, a packet comes in through the first interface of the pair on the sensor and out the second interface of the pair. The packet is sent to the second interface of the pair unless that packet is being denied or modified by a signature.

**Note**

You can configure AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, and NME-IPS to operate inline even though these modules have only one sensing interface.

**Note**

If the paired interfaces are connected to the same switch, you should configure them on the switch as access ports with different access VLANs for the two ports. Otherwise, traffic does not flow through the inline interface.

Inline VLAN Pair Mode

You can associate VLANs in pairs on a physical interface. This is known as inline VLAN pair mode. Packets received on one of the paired VLANs are analyzed and then forwarded to the other VLAN in the pair.

**Note**

Inline VLAN pairs are supported on all sensors that are compatible with Cisco IPS 6.1 except AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, and NME-IPS.

Inline VLAN pair mode is an active sensing mode where a sensing interface acts as an 802.1q trunk port, and the sensor performs VLAN bridging between pairs of VLANs on the trunk. The sensor inspects the traffic it receives on each VLAN in each pair, and can either forward the packets on the other VLAN in the pair, or drop the packet if an intrusion attempt is detected. You can configure an IPS sensor to simultaneously bridge up to 255 VLAN pairs on each sensing interface. The sensor replaces the VLAN ID field in the 802.1q header of each received packet with the ID of the egress VLAN on which the sensor forwards the packet. The sensor drops all packets received on any VLANs that are not assigned to inline VLAN pairs.

**Note**

You cannot use the default VLAN as one of the paired VLANs in an inline VLAN pair.

VLAN Group Mode

You can divide each physical interface or inline interface into VLAN group subinterfaces, each of which consists of a group of VLANs on that interface. Analysis Engine supports multiple virtual sensors, each of which can monitor one or more of these interfaces.

This lets you apply multiple policies to the same sensor. The advantage is that now you can use a sensor with only a few interfaces as if it had many interfaces.

**Note**

You cannot divide physical interfaces that are in inline VLAN pairs into VLAN groups.

VLAN group subinterfaces associate a set of VLANs with a physical or inline interface. No VLAN can be a member of more than one VLAN group subinterface. Each VLAN group subinterface is identified by a number between 1 and 255.

Subinterface 0 is a reserved subinterface number used to represent the entire unvirtualized physical or logical interface. You cannot create, delete, or modify subinterface 0 and no statistics are reported for it.

An unassigned VLAN group is maintained that contains all VLANs that are not specifically assigned to another VLAN group. You cannot directly specify the VLANs that are in the unassigned group. When a VLAN is added to or deleted from another VLAN group subinterface, the unassigned group is updated.

Packets in the native VLAN of an 802.1q trunk do not normally have 802.1q encapsulation headers to identify the VLAN number to which the packets belong. A default VLAN variable is associated with each physical interface and you should set this variable to the VLAN number of the native VLAN or to 0. The value 0 indicates that the native VLAN is either unknown or you do not care if it is specified. If the default VLAN setting is 0, the following occurs:

- Any alerts triggered by packets without 802.1q encapsulation have a VLAN value of 0 reported in the alert.
- Non-802.1q encapsulated traffic is associated with the unassigned VLAN group and it is not possible to assign the native VLAN to any other VLAN group.

**Note**

You can configure a port on a switch as either an access port or a trunk port. On an access port, all traffic is in a single VLAN is called the access VLAN. On a trunk port, multiple VLANs can be carried over the port, and each packet has a special header attached called the 802.1q header that contains the VLAN ID. This header is commonly referred as the VLAN tag. However, a trunk port has a special VLAN called the native VLAN. Packets in the native VLAN do not have the 802.1q headers attached. IDSM-2 can read the 802.1q headers for all nonnative traffic to determine the VLAN ID for that packet. However, IDSM-2 does not know which VLAN is configured as the native VLAN for the port in the switch configuration, so it does not know what VLAN the native packets are in. Therefore, you must tell IDSM-2 which VLAN is the native VLAN for that port. Then IDSM-2 treats any untagged packets as if they were tagged with the native VLAN ID.

For More Information

For more information about configuring IDSM-2 for VLAN group mode, refer to [Configuring IDSM-2](#).

Interface Configuration Summary

The Summary pane provides a summary of how you have configured the sensing interfaces—the interfaces you have configured for promiscuous mode, the interfaces you have configured as inline pairs, and the interfaces you have configured as inline VLAN pairs. The content of this pane changes when you change your interface configuration.

**Caution**

You can configure any single physical interface to run in promiscuous mode, inline mode, or inline VLAN pair mode, but you cannot configure an interface in a combination of these modes.

Summary Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Summary pane:

- **Name**—Name of the interface. The values are FastEthernet or GigabitEthernet for promiscuous interfaces. For inline interfaces, the name is whatever you assigned to the pair.
- **Details**—Tells you whether the interface is promiscuous or inline and whether there are VLAN pairs.
- **Assigned Virtual Sensor**—Whether the interface or interface pair has been assigned to a virtual sensor.
- **Description**—Your description of the interface.

Configuring Interfaces

This section describes how to configure interfaces on the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Interfaces Pane, page 7-14](#)
- [Interfaces Pane Field Definitions, page 7-14](#)
- [Edit Interface Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 7-15](#)
- [Enabling and Disabling Interfaces, page 7-16](#)
- [Editing Interfaces, page 7-16](#)

Interfaces Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to edit the interfaces on the sensor.

The Interfaces pane lists the existing physical interfaces on your sensor and their associated settings. The sensor detects the interfaces and populates the interfaces list in the Interfaces pane.

To configure the sensor to monitor traffic, you must enable the interface. When you initialized the sensor using the **setup** command, you assigned the interface or the inline pair to a virtual sensor, and enabled the interface or inline pair. If you need to change your interfaces settings, you can do so in the Interfaces pane. To add a virtual sensor and assign it an interface in the Add Virtual Sensor dialog box, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Add Virtual Sensor**.

Interfaces Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Interfaces pane:

- **Interface Name**—Name of the interface. The values are FastEthernet or GigabitEthernet for all interfaces.
- **Enabled**—Whether or not the interface is enabled.

- **Media Type**—Indicates the media type. The media type options are the following:
 - TX—Copper media
 - SX—Fiber media
 - XL—Network accelerator card
 - Backplane interface—An internal interface that connects the module to the backplane of the parent chassis.
- **Duplex**—Indicates the duplex setting of the interface. The duplex type options are the following:
 - Auto—Sets the interface to auto negotiate duplex.
 - Full—Sets the interface to full duplex.
 - Half—Sets the interface to half duplex.
- **Speed**—Indicates the speed setting of the interface. The speed type options are the following:
 - Auto—Sets the interface to auto negotiate speed.
 - 10 MB—Sets the interface to 10 MB (for TX interfaces only).
 - 100 MB—Sets the interface to 100 MB (for TX interfaces only).
 - 1000—Sets the interface to 1 GB (for gigabit interfaces only).
- **Default VLAN**—Indicates which VLAN the interface is assigned to.
- **Alternate TCP Reset Interface**—If selected, sends TCP resets on an alternate interface when this interface is used for promiscuous monitoring and the reset action is triggered by a signature firing.
- **Description**—Lets you provide a description of the interface.

Edit Interface Dialog Box Field Definitions


The following fields are found in the Edit Interface dialog box:

- **Interface Name**—Name of the interface. The values are FastEthernet or GigabitEthernet for all interfaces.
- **Enabled**—Whether or not the interface is enabled.
- **Media Type**—Indicates the media type. The media types are the following:
 - TX—Copper media
 - SX—Fiber media
 - XL—Network accelerator card
 - Backplane interface—An internal interface that connects the module to the backplane of the parent chassis.
- **Duplex**—Indicates the duplex setting of the interface. The duplex types are the following:
 - Auto—Sets the interface to auto negotiate duplex.
 - Full—Sets the interface to full duplex.
 - Half—Sets the interface to half duplex.
- **Speed**—Indicates the speed setting of the interface. The speed types are the following:
 - Auto—Sets the interface to auto negotiate speed.
 - 10 MB—Sets the interface to 10 MB (for TX interfaces only).

- 100 MB—Sets the interface to 100 MB (for TX interfaces only).
- 1000—Sets the interface to 1 GB (for gigabit interfaces only).
- Default VLAN—VLAN ID associated with native traffic, or 0 if unknown or if you do not care which VLAN it is.
- Use Alternate TCP Reset Interface—If checked, sends TCP resets on an alternate interface when this interface is used for promiscuous monitoring and the reset action is triggered by a signature firing.
 - Select Interface—Sets the interface that sends the TCP reset.
- Description—Lets you provide a description of the interface.

Enabling and Disabling Interfaces


To enable or disable an interface, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > Interfaces**.
- Step 3** Select the interface and click **Enable**.
- The interface is enabled. To have the interface monitor traffic, it must also be assigned to a virtual sensor.
- Step 4** Click **OK**.
- The Enabled column reads Yes in the list in the Interfaces pane.
- 

Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
-
- Step 5** To disable an interface, select it, and click **Disable**.
- The Enabled column reads No in the list in the Interfaces pane.
- Step 6** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Editing Interfaces

To edit the interface settings, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > Interfaces**.
- Step 3** Select the interface and click **Edit**.
- 

Note You can also double-click the interface and the Edit Interface dialog box appears.
-
- Step 4** You can change the description in the Description field, or change the state from enabled to disabled by checking the **No** or **Yes** check box. You can have the interface use the alternate TCP reset interface by checking the **Use Alternative TCP Reset Interface** check box.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 5 Click **OK**.

The edited interface appears in the list in the Interfaces pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 6 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Inline Interface Pairs

This section describes how to set up inline interface pairs, and contains the following topics:

- [Interface Pairs Pane, page 7-17](#)
- [Interface Pairs Pane Field Definitions, page 7-17](#)
- [Add and Edit Interface Pair Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 7-18](#)
- [Configuring Inline Interface Pairs, page 7-18](#)

Interface Pairs Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure interface pairs.

You can pair interfaces on your sensor if your sensor is capable of inline monitoring.

**Note**

AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, and NME-IPS do not need an inline pair for monitoring. You only need to add the physical interface to a virtual sensor.

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring AIP-SSM in inline mode, see [Configuring AIP-SSM](#).

Interface Pairs Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Interface Pairs pane:

- Interface Pair Name—The name you give the interface pair.
- Paired Interfaces—The two interfaces that you have paired (for example, GigabitEthernet0/0<->GigabitEthernet0/1).
- Description—Lets you add a description of this interface pair.

Add and Edit Interface Pair Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Interface Pair dialog boxes:

- **Interface Pair Name**—The name you give the interface pair.
- **Select two interfaces**—Lets you select two interfaces from the list to pair (for example, GigabitEthernet0/0<->GigabitEthernet0/1).
- **Description**—Lets you add a description of this interface pair.

Configuring Inline Interface Pairs

To configure inline interface pairs, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > Interface Pairs.**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** Enter a name in the Interface Pair Name field.
- The inline interface name is a name that you create.
- Step 4** Select two interfaces to form a pair in the Select two interfaces field.
- For example, GigabitEthernet0/0 and GigabitEthernet0/1.
- Step 5** You can add a description of the inline interface pair in the Description field if you want to.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **OK**.
- The new inline interface pair appears in the list in the Interface Pairs pane.
- Step 7** To edit an inline interface pair, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 8** You can change the name, choose a new inline interface pair, or edit the description.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
- The edited inline interface pair appears in the list in the Interface Pairs pane.
- Step 10** To delete an inline interface pair, select it, and click **Delete**.
- The inline interface pair no longer appears in the list in the Interface Pairs pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 11** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring Inline VLAN Pairs

This section describes how to configure inline VLAN pairs, and contains the following topics:

- [VLAN Pairs Pane, page 7-19](#)
- [VLAN Pairs Pane Field Definitions, page 7-19](#)
- [Add and Edit VLAN Pair Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 7-20](#)
- [Configuring Inline VLAN Pairs, page 7-20](#)

VLAN Pairs Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure inline VLAN pairs.

The VLAN Pairs pane displays the existing inline VLAN pairs for each physical interface. Click **Add** to create an inline VLAN pair.

To create an inline VLAN pair for an interface that is in promiscuous mode, you must remove the interface from the virtual sensor and then create the inline VLAN pair. If the interface is already paired or in promiscuous mode, you receive an error message when you try to create an inline VLAN pair.

**Note**

You cannot create an inline VLAN pair for an interface that has already been paired with another interface or for an interface that is in promiscuous mode and assigned to a virtual sensor.

**Note**

If your sensor does not support inline VLAN pairs, the VLAN Pairs pane is not displayed. AIM-IPS and AIP-SSM, and NME-IPS do not support inline VLAN pairs.

**Note**

You cannot use the default VLAN as one of the paired VLANs in an inline VLAN pair.

VLAN Pairs Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the VLAN Pairs pane:

- Interface Name—Name of the inline VLAN pair.
- Subinterface—Subinterface number of the inline VLAN pair. The value is 1 to 255.
- VLAN A—Displays the VLAN number for the first VLAN. The value is 1 to 4095.
- VLAN B—Displays the VLAN number for the second VLAN. The value is 1 to 4095.
- Description—Your description of the inline VLAN pair.

Add and Edit VLAN Pair Dialog Boxes Field Definitions


Note

You cannot pair a VLAN with itself.

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Inline VLAN Pair dialog boxes:

- **Interface Name**—Name of the interface you want to pair.
- **Subinterface Number**—Lets you assign a subinterface number. You can assign a number from 1 to 255.
- **VLAN A**—Lets you specify the first VLAN for this inline VLAN pair. You can assign any VLAN from 1 to 4095.
- **VLAN B**—Lets you specify the other VLAN for this inline VLAN pair. You can assign any VLAN from 1 to 4095.
- **Description**—Lets you add a description of this inline VLAN pair.


Note

The subinterface number and the VLAN numbers should be unique to each physical interface.

Configuring Inline VLAN Pairs

To configure inline VLAN pairs, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > VLAN Pairs**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** Choose an interface from the **Interface Name** list.
- Step 4** In the Subinterface Number field, enter a subinterface number (1 to 255) for the inline VLAN pair.
- Step 5** In the VLAN A field, specify the first VLAN (1 to 4095) for this inline VLAN pair.
- Step 6** In the VLAN B field, specify the other VLAN (1 to 4095) for this inline VLAN pair.
- Step 7** In the Description field, add a description of the inline VLAN pair if desired.


Tip

To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 8** Click **OK**.
The new inline VLAN pair appears in the list in the VLAN Pairs pane.
- Step 9** To edit an inline VLAN pair, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 10** You can change the subinterface number, the VLAN numbers, or edit the description.


Tip

To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 11** Click **OK**.

The edited VLAN pair appears in the list in the VLAN Pairs pane.

Step 12 To delete a VLAN pair, select it, and click **Delete**.

The VLAN pair no longer appears in the list in the VLAN Pairs pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 13 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring VLAN Groups

This section describes how to configure VLAN groups, and contains the following topics:

- [VLAN Groups Pane, page 7-21](#)
- [Deploying VLAN Groups, page 7-22](#)
- [VLAN Groups Pane Field Definitions, page 7-22](#)
- [Add and Edit VLAN Group Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 7-22](#)
- [Configuring VLAN Groups, page 7-23](#)

VLAN Groups Pane



Note

You must be administrator to configure VLAN groups.

In the VLAN Groups pane you can add, edit, or delete VLAN groups that you defined in the sensor interface configuration. A VLAN group consists of a group of VLAN IDs that exist on an interface. Each VLAN group consists of at least one VLAN ID. You can have up to 255 VLAN groups per interface (logical or physical). Each group can contain any number of VLANs IDs. You then assign each VLAN group to a virtual sensor (but not multiple virtual sensors). You can assign different VLAN groups on the same sensor to different virtual sensors.

After you assign the VLAN IDs to the VLAN group, you must assign the VLAN group to a virtual sensor.

IME cross-validates between the interface and virtual sensor configuration. Any configuration changes in one component that could invalidate the other is blocked.

For More Information

For the procedure for assigning the VLAN group to a virtual sensor, see [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Virtual Sensors, page 8-11](#).

Deploying VLAN Groups

Because a VLAN group of an inline pair does not translate the VLAN ID, an inline paired interface must exist between two switches to use VLAN groups on a logical interface. For an appliance, you can connect the two pairs to the same switch, make them access ports, and then set the access VLANs for the two ports differently. In this configuration, the sensor connects between two VLANs, because each of the two ports is in access mode and carries only one VLAN. In this case the two ports must be in different VLANs, and the sensor bridges the two VLANs, monitoring any traffic that flows between the two VLANs.

IDS-M-2 also operates in this manner, because its two data ports are always connected to the same switch.

You can also connect appliances between two switches. There are two variations. In the first variation, the two ports are configured as access ports, so they carry a single VLAN. In this way, the sensor bridges a single VLAN between the two switches.

In the second variation, the two ports are configured as trunk ports, so they can carry multiple VLANs. In this configuration, the sensor bridges multiple VLANs between the two switches. Because multiple VLANs are carried over the inline interface pair, the VLANs can be divided into groups and each group can be assigned to a virtual sensor.

The second variation does not apply to IDS-M-2 because it cannot be connected in this way.

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring IDS-M-2 in VLAN groups, see [Configuring IDS-M-2](#).

VLAN Groups Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the VLAN Groups pane:

- Interface Name—The physical or logical interface name of the VLAN group.
- Subinterface—Subinterface number of the VLAN group. The value is 1 to 255.
- VLAN Group—Displays the VLAN number for the VLAN group. The value is 1 to 4095.
- Description—Your description of the VLAN group.

Add and Edit VLAN Group Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit VLAN Group dialog boxes:

- Interface Name—Name of the VLAN group.
- Subinterface Number—Subinterface number of the VLAN group. The value is 1 to 255.
- VLAN Group—Displays the VLAN number for the VLAN group.
 - Unassigned VLANs—Let you choose all VLANs that have not yet been assigned to a VLAN group.
 - Specify VLAN group number—Lets you specify the VLAN IDs that you want to assign to this VLAN group.

The value is 1 to 4095 in a comma-separated pattern of individual VLAN IDs or ranges: 1, 5-8, 10-15.
- Description—Your description of the VLAN group.

Configuring VLAN Groups

To configure VLAN groups, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > VLAN Groups**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** From the Interface Name drop-down list, choose an interface.
- Step 4** In the Subinterface Number field, enter a subinterface number (1 to 255) for the VLAN group.
- Step 5** Under VLAN Group, specify the VLAN group for this interface by checking one of the following check boxes:
- a. **Unassigned VLANs**—Lets you assign all the VLANs that are not already specifically assigned to a subinterface.
 - b. **Specify VLAN Group**—Lets you specify the VLANs that you want to assign to this subinterface. You can assign more than one VLAN (1 to 4096) in this pattern: 1, 5-8, 10-15. This lets you set up different policies based on VLAN ID. For example, you can make VLANs 1-10 go to one virtual sensor (VS0) and VLANs 20-30 go to another virtual sensor (VS1).



Note You need to have the VLAN IDs that are set up on your switch to enter in the Specify VLAN Group field.

- Step 6** You can add a description of the VLAN group in the Description field if you want to.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **OK**.

The new VLAN group appears in the list in the VLAN Groups pane.

You must assign this VLAN group to a virtual sensor.

- Step 8** To edit a VLAN group, select it, and click **Edit**.

- Step 9** You can change the subinterface number, the VLAN group, or edit the description.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 10** Click **OK**.

The edited VLAN group appears in the list in the VLAN Groups pane.

- Step 11** To delete a VLAN group, select it, and click **Delete**.

The VLAN group no longer appears in the list in the VLAN Groups pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 12** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring Bypass Mode

This section describes how to configure bypass mode, and contains the following topics:

- [Bypass Pane, page 7-24](#)
- [Bypass Pane Field Definitions, page 7-24](#)
- [Adaptive Security Appliance, AIP-SSM, and Bypass Mode](#)

Bypass Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure bypass mode on the sensor.

You can use inline bypass as a diagnostic tool and a failover protection mechanism. Normally, the sensor Analysis Engine performs packet analysis. When inline bypass is activated, Analysis Engine is bypassed, allowing traffic to flow through the inline interfaces and inline VLAN pairs without inspection. Inline bypass ensures that packets continue to flow through the sensor when the sensor processes are temporarily stopped for upgrades or when the sensor monitoring processes fail. There are three modes: on, off, and automatic. By default, bypass mode is set to automatic.

**Caution**

There are security consequences when you put the sensor in bypass mode. When bypass mode is on, the traffic bypasses the sensor and is not inspected; therefore, the sensor cannot prevent malicious attacks.

**Note**

The inline bypass functionality is implemented in software, so it only functions when the operating system is running. If the sensor is powered off or shut down, inline bypass does not work—traffic does not flow through the sensor.

Bypass Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Bypass pane:

- **Auto**—Traffic flows through the sensor for inspection unless the monitoring process of the sensor is down.

If the monitoring process of the sensor is down, traffic bypasses the sensor until the sensor is running again. The sensor then inspects the traffic. Auto mode is useful during sensor upgrades to ensure that traffic is still flowing while the sensor is being upgraded. Auto mode also helps to ensure traffic continues to pass through the sensor if the monitoring process fails.

- **Off**—Disables bypass mode.

Traffic flows through the sensor for inspection. If the monitoring process of the sensor is down, traffic stops flowing. This means that inline traffic is always inspected.

- **On**—Traffic bypasses the SensorApp and is not inspected. This means that inline traffic is never inspected.

Adaptive Security Appliance, AIP-SSM, and Bypass Mode

The following conditions apply to bypass mode configuration, the adaptive security appliance, and the AIP-SSM.

The SensorApp Fails OR a Configuration Update is Taking Place

The following occurs when bypass is set to Auto or Off on the AIP-SSM:

- Bypass Auto—Traffic passes without inspection.
- Bypass Off—If the adaptive security appliance is configured for failover, then the adaptive security appliance fails over.

If the adaptive security appliance is not configured for failover or failover is not possible:

- If set to fail-open, the adaptive security appliance passes traffic without sending it to the AIP-SSM.
- If set to fail-close, the adaptive security appliance stops passing traffic until the AIP-SSM is restarted or completes reconfiguration.



Note

When bypass is set to On, traffic passes without inspection regardless of the state of the SensorApp.

The AIP-SSM Is Rebooted or Not Responding

The following occurs according to how the adaptive security appliance is configured for failover:

- If the adaptive security appliance is configured for failover, then the adaptive security appliance fails over.
- If the adaptive security appliance is not configured for failover or failover is not possible:
 - If set to fail-open, the adaptive security appliance passes traffic without sending it to the AIP-SSM.
 - If set to fail-close, the adaptive security appliance stops passing traffic until the AIP-SSM is restarted.

For More Information

- For more information on IPS software bypass mode, see [Configuring Bypass Mode, page 7-24](#).
- For more information on the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM, refer to [Configuring AIP-SSM](#).

Configuring Traffic Flow Notifications

This section describes how to configure traffic flow notifications, and contains the following topics:

- [Traffic Flow Notifications Pane, page 7-26](#)
- [Traffic Notifications Pane Field Definitions, page 7-26](#)
- [Configuring Traffic Flow Notifications, page 7-26](#)

Traffic Flow Notifications Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure traffic flow notifications.

You can configure the sensor to monitor the flow of packets across an interface and send notification if that flow changes (starts/stops) during a specified interval. You can configure the missed packet threshold within a specific notification interval and also configure the interface idle delay before a status event is reported.

Traffic Notifications Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Traffic Flow Notifications pane:

- Missed Packets Threshold—The percentage of packets that must be missed during a specified time before a notification is sent.
- Notification Interval—The interval the sensor checks for the missed packets percentage.
- Interface Idle Threshold—The number of seconds an interface must be idle and not receiving packets before a notification is sent.

Configuring Traffic Flow Notifications

To configure traffic flow notifications, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > Traffic Flow Notifications**.
- Step 3** In the Missed Packets Threshold field, determine the percent of missed packets that has to occur before you want to receive notification and enter that amount.
- Step 4** In the Notification Interval field, determine the amount of seconds that you want to check for the percentage of missed packets and enter that amount.
- Step 5** In the Interface Idle Threshold field, determine the amount of seconds that you will allow an interface to be idle and not receiving packets before you want to be notified and enter that.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 6** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring CDP Mode

This section describes how to configure CDP mode, and contains the following topics:

- [CDP Mode Pane, page 7-27](#)
- [CDP Mode Pane Field Definitions, page 7-27](#)
- [Configuring CDP Mode, page 7-27](#)

CDP Mode Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure CDP mode.

You can configure the sensor to enable or disable the forwarding of CDP packets. This action applies globally to all interfaces. Cisco Discovery Protocol is a media- and protocol-independent device-discovery protocol that runs on all Cisco-manufactured equipment, including routers, access servers, bridges, and switches. Using CDP, a device can advertise its existence to other devices and receive information about other devices on the same LAN or on the remote side of a WAN. CDP runs on all media that support SNAP, including LANs, Frame Relay, and ATM media.


CDP Mode Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the CDP Mode pane:

- Drop CDP Packets—The sensor does not forward CDP packets.
- Forward CDP Packets—The sensor forwards CDP packets.

Configuring CDP Mode

To configure CDP mode, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interfaces > CDP Mode**.
- Step 3** From the CDP Mode drop-down list, choose either Drop CDP Packets (default) or Forward CDP Packets.
-
-  **Tip** To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
-
- Step 4** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-



CHAPTER 8

Configuring Policies

This chapter describes IPS policies and how to configure the virtual sensor. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Policies, page 8-1](#)
- [IPS Policies Components, page 8-1](#)
- [Configuring IPS Policies, page 8-7](#)
- [Configuring Event Action Filters, page 8-13](#)
- [Configuring Target Value Rating, page 8-17](#)
- [Configuring OS Identifications, page 8-18](#)
- [Configuring Event Variables, page 8-23](#)
- [Configuring Risk Category, page 8-26](#)
- [Configuring General Settings, page 8-28](#)

Understanding Policies

You can create multiple security policies and apply them to individual virtual sensors. A security policy is made up of a signature definition policy, an event action rules policy, and an anomaly detection policy. Cisco IPS 6.1 contains a default signature definition policy called sig0, a default event action rules policy called rules0, and a default anomaly detection policy called ad0. You can assign the default policies to a virtual sensor or you can create new policies.

The use of multiple security policies lets you create security policies based on different requirements and then apply these customized policies per VLAN or physical interface.

IPS Policies Components

This section describes the various components of IPS Policies, and contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Analysis Engine, page 8-2](#)
- [Understanding the Virtual Sensor, page 8-2](#)
- [Advantages and Restrictions of Virtualization, page 8-3](#)
- [Inline TCP Session Tracking Mode, page 8-3](#)
- [Understanding Normalizer Mode, page 8-4](#)

- [Understanding Event Action Overrides, page 8-4](#)
- [Calculating the Risk Rating, page 8-4](#)
- [Understanding Threat Rating, page 8-6](#)
- [Event Action Summarization, page 8-6](#)
- [Event Action Aggregation, page 8-7](#)

Understanding Analysis Engine

Analysis Engine performs packet analysis and alert detection. It monitors traffic that flows through specified interfaces.

You create virtual sensors in Analysis Engine. Each virtual sensor has a unique name with a list of interfaces, inline interface pairs, inline VLAN pairs, and VLAN groups associated with it. To avoid definition ordering issues, no conflicts or overlaps are allowed in assignments. You assign interfaces, inline interface pairs, inline VLAN pairs, and VLAN groups to a specific virtual sensor so that no packet is processed by more than one virtual sensor. Each virtual sensor is also associated with a specifically named signature definition, event action rules, and anomaly detection configuration. Packets from interfaces, inline interface pairs, inline VLAN pairs, and VLAN groups that are not assigned to any virtual sensor are disposed of according to the inline bypass configuration.



Note

Cisco IPS 6.1 does not support more than four virtual sensors. You cannot delete the default virtual sensor vs0.

Understanding the Virtual Sensor

The sensor can receive data inputs from one or many monitored data streams. These monitored data streams can either be physical interface ports or virtual interface ports. For example, a single sensor can monitor traffic from in front of the firewall, from behind the firewall, or from in front of and behind the firewall concurrently. And a single sensor can monitor one or more data streams. In this situation a single sensor policy or configuration is applied to all monitored data streams.

A virtual sensor is a collection of data that is defined by a set of configuration policies. The virtual sensor is applied to a set of packets as defined by interface component.

A virtual sensor can monitor multiple segments, and you can apply a different policy or configuration for each virtual sensor within a single physical sensor. You can set up a different policy per monitored segment under analysis. You can also apply the same policy instance, for example, sig0, rules0, or ad0, to different virtual sensors.

You can assign interfaces, inline interface pairs, inline VLAN pairs, and VLAN groups to a virtual sensor.



Note

The default virtual sensor is vs0. You cannot delete the default virtual sensor. The interface list, the anomaly detection operational mode, the inline TCP session tracking mode, and the virtual sensor description are the only configuration features you can change for the default virtual sensor. You cannot change the signature definition, event action rules, or anomaly detection policies.

Advantages and Restrictions of Virtualization

Virtualization has the following advantages:

- You can apply different configurations to different sets of traffic.
- You can monitor two networks with overlapping IP spaces with one sensor.
- You can monitor both inside and outside of a firewall or NAT device.

Virtualization has the following restrictions:

- You must assign both sides of asymmetric traffic to the same virtual sensor.
- Using VACL capture or SPAN (promiscuous monitoring) is inconsistent with regard to VLAN tagging, which causes problems with VLAN groups.
 - When using Cisco IOS software, a VACL capture port or a SPAN target does not always receive tagged packets even if it is configured for trunking.
 - When using the MSFC, fast path switching of learned routes changes the behavior of VACL captures and SPAN.
- Persistent store is limited.

Virtualization has the following traffic capture requirements:

- The virtual sensor must receive traffic that has 802.1q headers (other than traffic on the native VLAN of the capture port).
- The sensor must see both directions of traffic in the same VLAN group in the same virtual sensor for any given sensor.

The following sensors support virtualization:

- IPS-4240
- IPS-4255
- IPS-4260
- IPS 4270-20
- AIP-SSM

IDS-2 supports virtualization with the exception of VLAN groups on inline interface pairs. AIM-IPS and NME-IPS do not support virtualization.

Inline TCP Session Tracking Mode

When you choose to modify packets inline, if the packets from a stream are seen twice by the Normalizer engine, it cannot properly track the stream state and often the stream is dropped. This situation occurs most often when a stream is routed through multiple VLANs or interfaces that are being monitored by the IPS. A further complication in this situation is the necessity of allowing asymmetric traffic to merge for proper tracking of streams when the traffic for either direction is received from different VLANs or interfaces. To deal with this situation, you can set the mode so that streams are perceived as unique if they are received on separate interfaces and/or VLANs (or the subinterface for VLAN pairs).

The following inline TCP session tracking modes apply:

- Interface and VLAN—All packets with the same session key (AaBb) in the same VLAN (or inline VLAN pair) and on the same interface belong to the same session. Packets with the same key but on different VLANs are tracked separately.
- VLAN Only—All packets with the same session key (AaBb) in the same VLAN (or inline VLAN pair) regardless of the interface belong to the same session. Packets with the same key but on different VLANs are tracked separately.
- Virtual Sensor—All packets with the same session key (AaBb) within a virtual sensor belong to the same session. This is the default and almost always the best option to choose.

Understanding Normalizer Mode

Normalizer mode only applies when the sensor is operating in inline mode. The default is strict evasion protection, which is full enforcement of TCP state and sequence tracking. The Normalizer enforces duplicate packets, changed packets, out-of-order packets, and so forth, which helps prevent attackers from evading the IPS.

Asymmetric mode disables most of the Normalizer checks. Use asymmetric mode only when the entire stream cannot be inspected, because in this situation, attackers can now evade the IPS.

Understanding Event Action Overrides

You can add an event action override to change the actions associated with an event based on the risk rating of that event. Event action overrides are a way to add event actions globally without having to configure each signature individually. Each event action has an associated risk rating range. If a signature event occurs and the risk rating for that event falls within the range for an event action, that action is added to the event. For example, if you want any event with a risk rating of 85 or more to generate an SNMP trap, you can set the risk rating range for Request SNMP Trap to 85-100. If you do not want to use action overrides, you can disable the entire event action override component.

Calculating the Risk Rating

A risk rating is a value between 0 and 100 that represents a numerical quantification of the risk associated with a particular event on the network. The calculation takes into account the value of the network asset being attacked (for example, a particular server), so it is configured on a per-signature basis (attack severity rating and signature fidelity rating) and on a per-server basis (target value rating). The risk rating is calculated from several components, some of which are configured, some collected, and some derived.



Note

The risk rating is associated with alerts not signatures.

Risk ratings let you prioritize alerts that need your attention. These risk rating factors take into consideration the severity of the attack if it succeeds, the fidelity of the signature, and the overall value of the target host to you. The risk rating is reported in the evIdsAlert.

The following values are used to calculate the risk rating for a particular event:

- Signature fidelity rating (SFR)—A weight associated with how well this signature might perform in the absence of specific knowledge of the target. The signature fidelity rating is configured per signature and indicates how accurately the signature detects the event or condition it describes.

Signature fidelity rating is calculated by the signature author on a per-signature basis. The signature author defines a baseline confidence ranking for the accuracy of the signature in the absence of qualifying intelligence on the target. It represents the confidence that the detected behavior would produce the intended effect on the target platform if the packet under analysis were allowed to be delivered. For example, a signature that is written with very specific rules (specific regular expression) has a higher signature fidelity rating than a signature that is written with generic rules.



Note The signature fidelity rating does not indicate how bad the detected event may be.

- Attack severity rating (ASR)—A weight associated with the severity of a successful exploit of the vulnerability.

The attack severity rating is derived from the alert severity parameter (informational, low, medium, or high) of the signature. The attack severity rating is configured per signature and indicates how dangerous the event detected is.



Note The attack severity rating does not indicate how accurately the event is detected.

- Target value rating (TVR)—A weight associated with the perceived value of the target.

The target value rating is a user-configurable value (zero, low, medium, high, or mission critical) that identifies the importance of a network asset (through its IP address). You can develop a security policy that is more stringent for valuable corporate resources and looser for less important resources. For example, you could assign a target value rating to the company web server that is higher than the target value rating you assign to a desktop node. In this example, attacks against the company web server have a higher risk rating than attacks against the desktop node. Target value rating is configured in the Event Action Rules policy.

- Attack relevance rating (ARR)—A weight associated with the relevancy of the targeted OS.

The attack relevance rating is a derived value (relevant, unknown, or not relevant), which is determined at alert time. The relevant OSes are configured per signature.

- Promiscuous delta (PD)—A weight associated with the promiscuous delta, which can be subtracted from the overall risk rating in promiscuous mode.

The promiscuous delta is in the range of 0 to 30 and is configured per signature.



Note If the trigger packet is not inline, the promiscuous delta is subtracted from the rating.

- Watch list rating (WLR)—A weight associated with the CSA MC watch list in the range of 0 to 100 (CSA MC only uses the range 0 to 35).

If the attacker for the alert is found on the watch list, the watch list rating for that attacker is added to the rating.

Figure 8-1 illustrates the risk rating formula:

Figure 8-1 Risk Rating Formula

$$RR = \frac{ASR * TVR * SFR}{10000} + ARR - PD + WLR$$

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Understanding Threat Rating

Threat rating is risk rating that has been lowered by event actions that have been taken. Nonlogging event actions have a threat rating adjustment. The largest threat rating from all the event actions taken is subtracted from the risk rating.

The event actions have the following threat ratings:

- Deny attacker inline—45
- Deny attacker victim pair inline—40
- Deny attacker service pair inline—40
- Deny connection inline—35
- Deny packet inline—35
- Modify packet inline—35
- Request block host—20
- Request block connection—20
- Reset TCP connection—20
- Request rate limit—20

Event Action Summarization

Summarization decreases the volume of alerts sent out from the sensor by providing basic aggregation of events into a single alert. Special parameters are specified for each signature and they influence the handling of the alerts. Each signature is created with defaults that reflect a preferred normal behavior. However, you can tune each signature to change this default behavior within the constraints for each engine type.

The nonalert-generating actions (deny, block, TCP reset) go through the filters for each signature event unsummarized. The alert-generating actions are not performed on these summarized alerts; instead the actions are applied to the one summary alert and then put through the filters.

If you select one of the other alert-generating actions and do not have it filtered out, the alert is created even if you do not select Produce Alert. To prevent alerts from being created, you must have all alert-generating actions filtered out.

Summarization and event actions are processed after the Meta engine has processed the component events. This lets the sensor watch for suspicious activity transpiring over a series of events.

Event Action Aggregation

Basic aggregation provides two operating modes. The simple mode involves configuring a threshold number of hits for a signature that must be met before the alert is sent. A more advanced mode is timed-interval counting. In this mode, the sensor tracks the number of hits per second and only sends alerts when that threshold is met. In this example, a hit is a term used to describe an event, which is basically an alert, but it is not sent out of the sensor as an alert until the threshold number of hits has been exceeded.

You can choose from the following summarization options:

- **Fire All**—Fire All mode fires an alert each time the signature is triggered. If the threshold is set for summarization, alerts are fired for each execution until summarization occurs. After summarization starts only one alert every summary interval fires for each address set. Alerts for other address sets are either all seen or separately summarized. The signature reverts to Fire All mode after a period of no alerts for that signature.
- **Summary**—Summary mode fires an alert the first time a signature is triggered, and then additional alerts for that signature are summarized for the duration of the summary interval. Only one alert every summary interval should fire for each address set. If the global summary threshold is reached, the signature goes into Global Summarization mode.
- **Global Summarization**—Global Summarization mode fires an alert for every summary interval. Signatures can be preconfigured for global summarization.
- **Fire Once**—Fire Once mode fires an alert for each address set. You can upgrade this mode to Global Summarization mode.

Configuring IPS Policies

This section describes IPS Policies and how to configure a virtual sensor. It contains the following topics:

- [IPS Policies Pane, page 8-7](#)
- [IPS Policies Pane Field Definitions, page 8-8](#)
- [Add and Edit Virtual Sensor Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-9](#)
- [Add and Edit Event Action Override Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-10](#)

IPS Policies Pane

The IPS Policies pane displays a list of the virtual sensors in the upper half of the pane. In the upper half of this pane you can add, edit, or delete virtual sensors.

For each virtual sensor the following information is displayed:

- Assigned interfaces or pairs
- Signature definition policy
- Event action rules overrides policy
 - Risk rating
 - Actions to add
 - Enabled or disabled

- Anomaly detection policy
- Description of the virtual sensor



Note

The default virtual sensor is vs0. You cannot delete the default virtual sensor.

In the lower half of the pane, you can configure the event action rules for each virtual sensor that you select in the upper half of the pane.



Note

You can also configure event action rules in the **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action rules > rules0** pane.

The Event Action Rules part of the pane contains the following tabs:

- Event Action Filters—Lets you remove specifications from an event or discard an entire event and prevent further processing by the sensor.
- Target Value Rating—Lets you assign a target value rating to your network assets. The target value rating is one of the factors used to calculate the risk rating value for each alert.
- OS Identifications—Lets you associate IP addresses with an OS type, which in turn helps the sensor calculate the attack relevance rating.
- Event Variables—Lets you create event variables to use in event action filters. When you want to use the same value within multiple filters, you can use an event variable.
- Risk Category—Lets you create the risk categories you want to use to monitor sensor and network health and to use in event action overrides.
- General Settings—Lets you configure some global settings that apply to event action rules.

IPS Policies Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the IPS Policies pane:

- Name—The name of the virtual sensor. The default virtual sensor is vs0.
- Assigned Interfaces (or Pairs)—The interfaces or interface pairs that belong to this virtual sensor.
- Sig Definition Policy—The name of the signature definition policy for this virtual sensor. The default signature definition policy is sig0.
- Event Action Rules Overrides Policy—The name of the event action rules overrides policy for this virtual sensor. The default event action rules policy is rules0.
 - Risk Rating—Indicates the risk rating range (low, medium, or high risk) that should be used to trigger this event action override.
 - Actions to Add—Specifies the event action that will be added to an event if the conditions of this event action override are satisfied.
 - Enabled—Indicates whether or not this event action overrides policy is enabled.
- Anomaly Detection Policy—The name of the anomaly detection policy for this virtual sensor. The default anomaly detection policy is ad0.
- Description—The description of this virtual sensor.

Add and Edit Virtual Sensor Dialog Boxes Field Definitions



Note

You must be administrator or operator to configure a virtual sensor.

You can apply the same policy, for example, sig0, rules0, and ad0, to different virtual sensors. The Add Virtual Sensor dialog box displays only the interfaces that are available to be assigned to this virtual sensor. Interfaces that have already been assigned to other virtual sensors are not shown in this dialog box.

You can also assign event action overrides to virtual sensors, and configure the following modes:

- Anomaly detection operational mode
- Inline TCP session tracking mode
- Normalizer mode

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Virtual Sensor dialog boxes:

- Virtual Sensor Name—Name for this virtual sensor.
- Description—Description for this virtual sensor.
- Interfaces—Lets you assign and remove interfaces for this virtual sensor.
 - Assigned—Whether the interfaces or interface pairs have been assigned to the virtual sensor.
 - Name—The list of available interfaces or interface pairs that you can assign to the virtual sensor (GigabitEthernet or FastEthernet).
 - Details—Lists the mode (Inline Interface or Promiscuous) of the interface and the interfaces of the inline pairs.
- Signature Definition Policy—The name of the signature definition policy you want to assign to this virtual sensor. The default is sig0.
- Event Action Rules Policy—The name of the event action rules policy you want to assign to this virtual sensor. The default is rules0.
- Use Event Action Overrides—When checked, lets you configure event action overrides when you click **Add** to open the Add Event Action Override dialog box.
 - Risk Rating—Indicates the level of risk rating for this override.
 - Actions to Add—Indicates the action to add to this override.
 - Enabled—Indicates whether this override is enabled or disabled.
- Anomaly Detection Policy—The name of the anomaly detection policy you want to assign to this virtual sensor. The default is ad0.
- AD Operational Mode—The mode that you want the anomaly detection policy to operate in for this virtual sensor. The default is Detect.
- Inline TCP Session Tracking Mode—The mode used to segregate multiple views of the same stream if the same stream passes through the sensor more than once. The default mode is Virtual Sensor.
 - Interface and VLAN—All packets with the same session key (AaBb) in the same VLAN (or inline VLAN pair) and on the same interface belong to the same session. Packets with the same key but on different VLANs are tracked separately.
 - VLAN Only—All packets with the same session key (AaBb) in the same VLAN (or inline VLAN pair) regardless of the interface belong to the same session. Packets with the same key but on different VLANs are tracked separately.

- Virtual Sensor—All packets with the same session key (AaBb) within a virtual sensor belong to the same session.
- Normalizer Mode—Lets you choose which type of Normalizer mode you need for traffic inspection:
 - Strict Evasion Protection—If a packet is missed for any reason, all packets after the missed packet are not processed. Strict evasion protection provides full enforcement of TCP state and sequence tracking.



Note Any out-of-order packets or missed packets can produce Normalizer engine signatures 1300 or 1330 firings, which try to correct the situation, but can result in denied connections.

- Asymmetric Mode Protection—Can only see one direction of bidirectional traffic flow. Asymmetric mode protection relaxes the evasion protection at the TCP layer.



Note Asymmetric mode lets the sensor synchronize state with the flow and maintain inspection for those engines that do not require both directions. Asymmetric mode lowers security because full protection requires both sides of traffic to be seen.

Add and Edit Event Action Override Dialog Boxes Field Definitions



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add or edit event action overrides.

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Event Action Override dialog boxes:

- Risk Rating—Lets you add the risk rating range, either low, medium, or high risk, that should be used to trigger this event action override.

If an event occurs with a risk rating that corresponds to the risk you configure, the event action is added to this event.

In **Add** mode, you can create a numeric range by entering it in to the Risk Rating field. In **Edit** mode, you can select the category that you created.
- Available Actions to Add—Specifies the event action that will be added to an event if the conditions of this event action override are satisfied.
- Enabled—Check the check box to enable the action.

Understanding Deny Packet Inline

For signatures that have Deny Packet Inline configured as an action or for an event action override that adds Deny Packet Inline as an action, the following actions may be taken:

- droppedPacket
- deniedFlow
- tcpOneWayResetSent

The deny packet inline action is represented as a dropped packet action in the alert. When a deny packet inline occurs for a TCP connection, it is automatically upgraded to a deny connection inline action and seen as a denied flow in the alert. If the IPS denies just one packet, the TCP continues to try to send that same packet again and again, so the IPS denies the entire connection to ensure it never succeeds with the resends.

When a deny connection inline occurs, the IPS also automatically sends a TCP one-way reset, which shows up as a TCP one-way reset sent in the alert. When the IPS denies the connection, it leaves an open connection on both the client (generally the attacker) and the server (generally the victim). Too many open connections can result in resource problems on the victim. So the IPS sends a TCP reset to the victim to close the connection on the victim side (usually the server), which conserves the resources of the victim. It also prevents a failover that would otherwise allow the connection to fail over to a different network path and reach the victim. The IPS leaves the attacker side open and denies all traffic from it.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Virtual Sensors



Note

You must assign all interfaces to a virtual sensor and enable them before they can monitor traffic.

To add, edit, and delete virtual sensors, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**, and then click **Add Virtual Sensor**.
 - Step 3** In the Virtual Sensor Name field, enter a name for the virtual sensor.
 - Step 4** In the Description field, enter a description of this virtual sensor.
 - Step 5** To assign the interface to the virtual sensor, check the check box next to the interface you need, and then click **Assign**.



Note

Only the available interfaces are listed in the Interfaces list. If other interfaces exist, but have already been assigned to a virtual sensor, they do not appear in this list.

-
- Step 6** Choose a signature definition policy from the drop-down list.
Unless you want to use the default sig0, you must have already added a signature definition policy by choosing **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > Add**.
 - Step 7** Choose an event action rules policy from the drop-down list.
Unless you want to use the default rules0, you must have already added a signature definition policy by choosing **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > Add**.
 - Step 8** To add event action override to this virtual sensor, check the **Use Event Action Overrides** check box, and then click **Add**.



Note

You must check the **Use Event Action Overrides** check box or none of the event action overrides will be enabled regardless of the value you set.

- a. Choose the risk rating from the Risk Rating drop-down list.

- b. Under the Assigned column, check the check boxes next to the actions you want to assign to this event action override.
- c. Under the Enabled column, check the check boxes next to the actions you want enabled.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Event Action Override dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- d. Click **OK**.

Step 9 Choose an anomaly detection policy from the drop-down list.

Unless you want to use the default ad0, you must have already added a signature definition policy by choosing **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Anomaly Detections > Add**.

Step 10 Choose the anomaly detection mode (Detect, Inactive, Learn) from the drop-down list. The default is Detect.

Step 11 Click the **Double Arrow** icon to change the default values under Advanced Options:

- a. Choose how the sensor tracks inline TCP sessions (by interface and VLAN, VLAN only, or virtual sensor).

The default is virtual sensor. This is almost always the best option to choose.

- b. Choose the Normalizer mode (by strict evasion protection or asymmetric mode protection).



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Virtual Sensor dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 12 Click **OK**.

The virtual sensor appears in the list in the IPS Policies pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 13 To edit a virtual sensor, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 14 Make any changes needed, and then click **OK**.

The edited virtual sensor appears in the list in the upper half of the IPS Policies pane.

Step 15 To remove a virtual sensor, select it, and then click **Delete**.

The virtual sensor no longer appears in the upper half of the IPS Policies pane.



Note You cannot delete the default virtual sensor, vs0.

Step 16 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Event Action Filters

This section describes how to configure event action filters, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Event Action Filters, page 8-13](#)
- [Event Action Filters Tab, page 8-13](#)
- [Event Action Filters Tab Field Definitions, page 8-13](#)
- [Add and Edit Event Action Filter Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-14](#)
- [Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, Disabling, and Moving Event Action Filters, page 8-15](#)

Understanding Event Action Filters

Event action filters are processed as an ordered list and you can move filters up or down in the list.

Filters let the sensor perform certain actions in response to the event without requiring the sensor to perform all actions or remove the entire event. Filters work by removing actions from an event. A filter that removes all actions from an event effectively consumes the event.



Note

When filtering sweep signatures, we recommend that you do not filter the destination addresses. If there are multiple destination addresses, only the last address is used for matching the filter.

Event Action Filters Tab



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, enable, disable, or delete event action filters.

You can configure event action filters to remove specific actions from an event or to discard an entire event and prevent further processing by the sensor. You can use the variables that you defined on the Event Variables pane to group addresses for your filters.



Note

You must preface the variable with a dollar sign (\$) to indicate that you are using a variable rather than a string. Otherwise, you receive the `Bad source and destination error`.



Caution

Event action filters based on source and destination IP addresses do not function for the Sweep engine, because they do not filter as regular signatures. To filter source and destination IP addresses in sweep alerts, use the source and destination IP address filter parameters in the Sweep engine signatures.

Event Action Filters Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Event Action Filters tab:

- **Name**—Lets you name the filter you are adding. You need to name your filters so that you can move them around in the list and move them to the inactive list if needed.
- **Enabled**—Indicates whether or not this filter is enabled.

- **Sig ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature. This value lets the sensor identify a particular signature. You can also enter a range of signatures.
- **SubSig ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this subsignature. The subSig ID identifies a more granular version of a broad signature. You can also enter a range of subSig IDs.
- **Attacker (address/port)**—Identifies the IP address and/or port of the host that sent the offending packet. You can also enter a range of addresses.
- **Victim (address/port)**—Identifies the IP address and/or port used by the attacker host. This is the port from where the offending packet originated. You can also enter a range of ports.
- **Risk Rating**—Indicates the risk rating range between 0 and 100 that should be used to trigger this event action filter. If an event occurs with a risk rating that falls within the minimum-maximum range you configure here, the event is processed against the rules of this event filter.
- **Actions to Subtract**—Indicates the actions that should be removed from the event, should the conditions of the event meet the criteria of the event action filter.

Add and Edit Event Action Filter Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Event Action Filters dialog boxes:

- **Name**—Lets you name the filter you are adding. You need to name your filters so that you can move them around in the list and move them to the inactive list if needed.
- **Enabled**—Lets you enable this filter.
- **Signature ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature. This value lets the sensor identify a particular signature. You can also enter a range of signatures.
- **Subsignature ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this subsignature. The subsignature ID identifies a more granular version of a broad signature. You can also enter a range of subsignature IDs.
- **Attacker Address**—Identifies the IP address of the host that sent the offending packet. You can also enter a range of addresses.
- **Attacker Port**—Identifies the port used by the attacker host. This is the port from where the offending packet originated. You can also enter a range of ports.
- **Victim Address**—Identifies the IP address of the host being attacked (the recipient of the offending packet). You can also enter a range of addresses.
- **Victim Port**—Identifies the port through which the offending packet was received. You can also enter a range of ports.
- **Risk Rating**—Indicates the risk rating range between 0 and 100 that should be used to trigger this event action filter. If an event occurs with a risk rating that falls within the minimum-maximum range you configure here, the event is processed against the rules of this event filter.
- **Actions to Subtract**—Opens the Edit Actions dialog box and lets you choose the actions that should be removed from the event, should the conditions of the event meet the criteria of the event action filter.
- **Active**—Lets you add the filter to the filter list so that it takes effect on filtering events.
- **OS Relevance**—Lets you filter out events where the attack is not relevant to the victim OS.
- **Deny Percentage**—Determines the percentage of packets to deny for deny attacker features. The valid range is 0 to 100. The default is 100 percent.

- **Stop on Match**—Determines whether or not this event will be processed against remaining filters in the event action filters list.
If set to No, the remaining filters are processed for a match until a Stop flag is encountered.
If set to Yes, no further processing is done. The actions specified by this filter are removed and the remaining actions are performed.
- **Comments**—Displays the user comments associated with this filter.

Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, Disabling, and Moving Event Action Filters

To add, edit, delete, enable, disable, and move event action filters, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**.
- Step 3** In the top half of the pane, select the virtual sensor in the list for which you want to add event action filters.
- Step 4** In the Event Action Rules half of the pane, click the Event Action Filters tab, and then click **Add**.
- Step 5** In the Name field, enter a name for the event action filter.
A default name is supplied, but you can change it to a more meaningful name.
- Step 6** In the Enabled field, click the **Yes** radio button to enable the filter.
- Step 7** In the Signature ID field, enter the signature IDs of all signatures to which this filter should be applied.
You can use a list (2001, 2004), or a range (2001–2004) or one of the SIG variables if you defined them on the Event Variables tab. Preface the variable with \$.
- Step 8** In the SubSignature ID field, enter the subsignature IDs of the subsignatures to which this filter should be applied.
- Step 9** In the Attacker Address field, enter the IP address of the source host.
You can use one of the variables if you defined them on the Event Variables tab. Preface the variable with \$. You can also enter a range of addresses (for example, 0.0.0.0-255.255.255.255).
- Step 10** In the Attacker Port field, enter the port number used by the attacker to send the offending packet.
- Step 11** In the Victim Address field, enter the IP address of the recipient host.
You can use one of the variables if you defined them on the Event Variables tab. Preface the variable with \$. You can also enter a range of addresses (for example, 0.0.0.0-255.255.255.255).
- Step 12** In the Victim Port field, enter the port number used by the victim host to receive the offending packet.
- Step 13** In the Risk Rating field, enter a risk rating range for this filter.
If the risk rating for an event falls within the range you specify, the event is processed against the criteria of this filter.
- Step 14** In the Actions to Subtract field, click the note icon to open the Edit Actions dialog box.
- Step 15** Check the check boxes of the actions you want this filter to remove from the event.



Tip

To choose more than one event action in the list, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Step 16** In the Active field, click the **Yes** radio button to add this filter to the list so that it takes effect on filtering events.
- Step 17** In the OS Relevance drop-down list, choose whether you want to know if the alert is relevant to the OS that has been identified for the victim.
- Step 18** In the Deny Percentage field, enter the percentage of packets to deny for deny attacker features.
The default is 100 percent.
- Step 19** In the Stop on Match field, click one of the following radio buttons:
- a. **Yes**—If you want the Event Action Filters component to stop processing after the actions of this particular filter have been removed.

Any remaining filters will not be processed; therefore, no additional actions can be removed from the event.
 - b. **No**—If you want to continue processing additional filters.
- Step 20** In the Comments field, enter any comments that you want to store with this filter, such as the purpose of this filter or why you have configured this filter in a particular way.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Event Action Filter dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 21** Click **OK**.
The new event action filter now appears in the list on the Event Action Filters tab.

- Step 22** To edit an existing event action filter, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

- Step 23** Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Event Action Filter dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 24** Click **OK**.
The edited event action filter now appears in the list on the Event Action Filters tab.

- Step 25** To delete an event action filter, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**.
The event action filter no longer appears in the list on the Event Action Filters tab.

- Step 26** To move an event action filter up or down in the list, select it, and then click the **Move Up** or **Move Down** arrow icons.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 27** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring Target Value Rating

This section describes how to configure the target value rating, and contains the following topics:

- [Target Value Rating Tab, page 8-17](#)
- [Target Value Rating Tab Field Definitions, page 8-17](#)
- [Add and Edit Target Value Rating Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-17](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Target Value Ratings, page 8-17](#)

Target Value Rating Tab



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, or delete target value ratings.

You can assign a target value rating to your network assets. The target value rating is one of the factors used to calculate the risk rating value for each alert. You can assign different target value ratings to different targets. Events with a higher risk rating trigger more severe signature event actions.

Target Value Rating Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Target Value Rating tab:

- Target Value Rating (TVR)—Identifies the value assigned to this network asset. The value can be High, Low, Medium, Mission Critical, or No Value.
- Target IP Address—Identifies the IP address of the network asset you want to prioritize with a target value rating.

Add and Edit Target Value Rating Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Target Value Rating dialog boxes:

- Target Value Rating (TVR)—Lets you assign a value to this network asset. The value can be High, Low, Medium, Mission Critical, or No Value.
- Target IP Address(es)—Identifies the IP address of the network asset you want to prioritize with a target value rating.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Target Value Ratings

To add, edit, and delete the target value rating for network assets, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Step 1 | Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges. |
| Step 2 | Choose Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies . |
| Step 3 | In the top half of the IPS Policies pane, select the virtual sensor for which you want to configure target value ratings. |
| Step 4 | In the Event Action Rules half of the pane, click the Target Value Rating tab, and then click Add . |

- Step 5** To assign a target value rating to a new group of assets, follow these steps:
- From the Target Value Rating (TVR) drop-down list, choose a rating.
The values are High, Low, Medium, Mission Critical, or No Value.
 - In the Target IP Address(es) field, enter the IP address of the network asset.
To enter a range of IP addresses, enter the lowest address followed by a hyphen and then the highest address in the range. For example: 10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Target Value Rating dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **OK**.
The new target value rating for the new asset appears in the list on the Target Value Rating tab.

- Step 7** To edit an existing target value rating, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

- Step 8** Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Target Value Rating dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
The edited network asset now appears in the list on the Target Value Rating tab.

- Step 10** To delete a network asset, select in the list, and then click **Delete**.
The network asset no longer appears in the list on the Target Value Rating tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 11** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring OS Identifications

This section describes how to configure OS maps, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Passive OS Fingerprinting, page 8-19](#)
- [Configuring Passive OS Fingerprinting, page 8-20](#)
- [OS Identifications Tab, page 8-20](#)
- [OS Identifications Tab Field Definitions, page 8-21](#)
- [Add and Edit Configured OS Map Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-21](#)
- [Adding, Editing, Deleting, and Moving Configured OS Maps, page 8-22](#)

Understanding Passive OS Fingerprinting

Passive OS fingerprinting lets the sensor determine the OS that hosts are running. The sensor analyzes network traffic between hosts and stores the OS of these hosts with their IP addresses. The sensor inspects TCP SYN and SYNACK packets exchanged on the network to determine the OS type.

The sensor then uses the OS of the target host OS to determine the relevance of the attack to the victim by computing the attack relevance rating component of the risk rating. Based on the relevance of the attack, the sensor may alter the risk rating of the alert for the attack and/or the sensor may filter the alert for the attack. You can then use the risk rating to reduce the number of false positive alerts (a benefit in IDS mode) or definitively drop suspicious packets (a benefit in IPS mode). Passive OS fingerprinting also enhances the alert output by reporting the victim OS, the source of the OS identification, and the relevance to the victim OS in the alert.

Passive OS fingerprinting consists of three components:

- Passive OS learning

Passive OS learning occurs as the sensor observes traffic on the network. Based on the characteristics of TCP SYN and SYNACK packets, the sensor makes a determination of the OS running on the host of the source IP address.

- User-configurable OS identification

You can configure OS host mappings, which take precedence over learned OS mappings.

- Computation of attack relevance rating and risk rating

The sensor uses OS information to determine the relevance of the attack signature to the targeted host. The attack relevance is the attack relevance rating component of the risk rating value for the attack alert. The sensor uses the OS type reported in the host posture information imported from the CSA MC to compute the attack relevance rating.

There are three sources of OS information. The sensor ranks the sources of OS information in the following order:

1. Configured OS mappings—OS mappings you enter. Configured OS mappings reside in the Event Action Rules policy and can apply to one or many virtual sensors.



Caution

You can specify multiple operating systems for the same IP address. The last one in the list is the operating system that is matched.

2. Imported OS mappings—OS mappings imported from an external data source. Imported OS mappings are global and apply to all virtual sensors.



Note

Currently CSA MC is the only external data source.

3. Learned OS mappings—OS mappings observed by the sensor through the fingerprinting of TCP packets with the SYN control bit set. Learned OS mappings are local to the virtual sensor that sees the traffic.

When the sensor needs to determine the OS for a target IP address, it consults the configured OS mappings. If the target IP address is not in the configured OS mappings, the sensor looks in the imported OS mappings. If the target IP address is not in the imported OS mappings, the sensor looks in the learned OS mappings. If it cannot find it there, the sensor treats the OS of the target IP address as unknown.

**Note**

Passive OS fingerprinting is enabled by default and the IPS contains a default vulnerable OS list for each signature.

Configuring Passive OS Fingerprinting

You do not have to configure passive OS fingerprinting for it to function. IPS provides a default vulnerable OS list for each signature and passive analysis is enabled by default.

You can configure the following aspects of passive OS fingerprinting:

- Define OS mappings

We recommend configuring OS mappings to define the identity of the OS running on critical systems. It is best to configure OS mappings when the OS and IP address of the critical systems are unlikely to change.

- Limit the attack relevance rating calculation to a specific IP address range

This limits the attack relevance rating calculations to IP addresses on the protected network.

- Import OS mappings

Importing OS mappings provides a mechanism for accelerating the learning rate and fidelity of the OS identifications made through passive analysis. If you have an external product interface, such as the CSA MC, you can import OS identifications from it.

- Define event action rules filters using the OS relevancy value of the target

This provides a way to filter alerts solely on OS relevancy.

- Disable passive analysis

Stops the sensor from learning new OS mappings.

- Edit signature vulnerable OS lists

The vulnerable OS list specifies what OS types are vulnerable to each signature. The default, general-os, applies to all signatures that do not specify a vulnerable OS list.

OS Identifications Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, and delete configured OS maps.

Use the OS Identifications tab to configure OS host mappings, which take precedence over learned OS mappings. On the OS Identifications tab you can add, edit, and delete configured OS maps. You can move them up and down in the list to change the order in which the sensor computes the attack relevance rating and risk rating for that particular IP address and OS type combination.

You can also move them up and down in the list to change the order in which the sensor resolves the OS associated with a particular IP address. Configured OS mappings allow for ranges, so for network 192.168.1.0/24 an administrator might define the following ([Table 8-1](#)):

Table 8-1 **Example Configured OS Mapping**

IP Address Range Set	OS
192.168.1.1	IOS
192.168.1.2-192.168.1.10,192.168.1.25	UNIX
192.168.1.1-192.168.1.255	Windows

More specific mappings should be at the beginning of the list. Overlap in the IP address range sets is allowed, but the entry closest to the beginning of the list takes precedence.

OS Identifications Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the OS Identifications tab:

- Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis—When checked, lets the sensor perform passive OS analysis.
- Restrict OS mapping and ARR to these IP addresses—Lets you configure the mapping of OS type to a specific IP address and have the sensor calculate the attack relevance rating for that IP address.
- Configured OS Map—Displays the attributes of the configured OS map.
 - Name—The Name you give the configured OS map.
 - Active—Whether this configured OS map is active or inactive.
 - IP Address—The IP address of this configured OS map.
 - OS Type—The OS type of this configured OS map.

Add and Edit Configured OS Map Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Configured OS Map dialog boxes:

- Name—Lets you name this configured OS map.
- Active—Lets you choose to have the configured OS map active or inactive.
- IP Address—Lets you enter the IP address associated with this configured OS map.

The IP address for configured OS mappings (and *only* configured OS mappings) can be a set of IP addresses and IP address ranges. The following are all valid IP address values for configured OS mappings:

- 10.1.1.1,10.1.1.2,10.1.1.15
- 10.1.2.1
- 10.1.1.1-10.2.1.1,10.3.1.1
- 10.1.1.1-10.1.1.5

- OS Type—Lets you choose one of the following OS Types to associate with the IP address:
 - AIX
 - BSD
 - General OS
 - HP UX
 - IOS
 - IRIX
 - Linux
 - Mac OS
 - Netware
 - Other
 - Solaris
 - UNIX
 - Unknown OS
 - Win NT
 - Windows
 - Windows NT/2K/XP

Adding, Editing, Deleting, and Moving Configured OS Maps

To add, edit, delete, and move configured OS maps, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**.
 - Step 3** In the top half of the IPS Policies pane, select the virtual sensor for which you want to configure OS identifications.
 - Step 4** In the Event Action Rules half of the pane, click the OS Identifications tab, and then click **Add**.
 - Step 5** In the Name field, enter a name for the configured OS map.
 - Step 6** In the Active field, click the **Yes** radio button to add this configured OS map to the list so that it takes effect.
 - Step 7** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host that you are mapping to an OS.
For example, use this format, 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.
 - Step 8** From the OS Type drop-down list, choose the OS that will be mapped to the IP address.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Configured OS Map dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
The new configured OS map now appears in the list on the OS Identifications tab.

Step 10 Check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box on the OS Identifications tab or none of the configured OS maps will be enabled regardless of the value you set in the Add Configured OS Map dialog box.

Step 11 To edit a configured OS map, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 12 Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Configured OS Map dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 13 Click **OK**.

The edited configured OS map now appears in the list on the OS Identifications tab.

Step 14 Check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box on the OS Identifications tab or none of the configured OS maps will be enabled regardless of the value you set in the Edit Configured OS Map dialog box.

Step 15 To delete a configured OS map, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**.

The configured OS map no longer appears in the list on the OS Identifications tab.

Step 16 To move a configured OS map up or down in the list, select it, and then click the **Move Up** or **Move Down** arrows.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 17 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Event Variables

This section describes how to configure event variables, and contains the following topics:

- [Event Variables Tab, page 8-24](#)
- [Event Action Filters Tab Field Definitions, page 8-13](#)
- [Add and Edit Event Variable Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-24](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Event Variables, page 8-25](#)

Event Variables Tab



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, or delete event variables.

You can create event variables and then use those variables in event action filters. When you want to use the same value within multiple filters, use a variable. When you change the value of the variable, any filter that uses that variable is updated with the new value.



Note

You must preface the variable with a dollar (\$) sign to indicate that you are using a variable rather than a string.

Some variables cannot be deleted because they are necessary to the signature system. If a variable is protected, you cannot select it to edit it. You receive an error message if you try to delete protected variables. You can edit only one variable at a time.

When configuring IP addresses, specify the full IP address or ranges or set of ranges. For example:

- 10.89.10.10-10.89.10.23
- 10.90.1.1
- 192.56.10.1-192.56.10.255
- 10.1.1.1-10.2.255.255, 10.89.10.10-10.89.10.23



Timesaver

For example, if you have an IP address space that applies to your engineering group and there are no Windows systems in that group, and you are not worried about any Windows-based attacks to that group, you could set up a variable to be the IP address space of the engineering group. You could then use this variable to configure a filter that would ignore all Windows-based attacks for this group.

Event Variables Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Event Variables tab:

- Name—Lets you assign a name to this variable.
- Type—Identifies the variable as an address.
- Value—Lets you add the value(s) represented by this variable.

Add and Edit Event Variable Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Event Variable dialog boxes:

- Name—Lets you assign a name to this variable.
- Type—Identifies the variable as an address.



Note

This is the only available event variable in Cisco IPS 6.1.

- Value—Lets you add the value(s) represented by this variable.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Event Variables

To add, edit, and delete event variables, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**.
- Step 3** In the top half of the IPS Policies pane, select the virtual sensor for which you want to configure event variables.
- Step 4** In the Event Action Rules half of the pane, click the Event Variables tab, and then click **Add**.
- Step 5** In the Name field, enter a name for this variable.



Note A valid name can only contain numbers or letters. You can also use a hyphen (-) or an underscore (_).

- Step 6** In the Value field, enter the values for this variable.
- Specify the full IP address or ranges or set of ranges. For example:
- 10.89.10.10-10.89.10.23
 - 10.90.1.1
 - 192.56.10.1-192.56.10.255



Note You can use commas as delimiters. Make sure there are no trailing spaces after the comma. Otherwise, you receive a `Validation failed` error.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Event Variable dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **OK**.
- The new variable appears in the list on the Event Variables tab.
- Step 8** To edit an existing variable, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 9** Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Event Variable dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 10** Click **OK**.
- The edited event variable now appears in the list on the Event Variables tab.
- Step 11** To delete an event variable, select in the list, and then click **Delete**.
- The event variable no longer appears in the list on the Event Variables tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 12 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Risk Category

This section describes how to configure them risk categories, and contains the following topics:

- [Risk Category Tab, page 8-26](#)
- [Risk Category Tab Field Definitions, page 8-26](#)
- [Add and Edit Risk Level Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 8-27](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Risk Categories, page 8-27](#)

Risk Category Tab



Note

You must be administrator to add and edit risk levels.

On the Risk Category tab, you can use predefined risk categories (HIGHRISK, MEDIUMRISK, AND LOWRISK) or you can define your own labels. Risk categories link a category name to a numeric range defining the risk rating. You specify the low threshold for the category to make sure that the ranges are contiguous. The upper category is either the next higher category or 100.

You can then group the threats in red, yellow, and green categories. These red, yellow, and green threshold statistics are used in event action overrides and are also shown in the Network Security Gadget on the Home page.



Note

You cannot delete a predefined risk category.

The red, yellow, and green threshold statistics represent the state of network security with red being the most critical. If you change a threshold, any event action overrides that had the same range as the risk category are changed to reflect the new range.

The new category is inserted in to the Risk Category list according to its threshold value and is automatically assigned actions that cover its range.

Risk Category Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Risk Category tab:

- Risk Category Name—Name of this risk level. The predefined categories have the following values:
 - HIGHRISK—90 (means 90 to 100)
 - MEDIUMRISK—70 (means 70-89)
 - LOWRISK—1 (means 1-69)
- Risk Threshold—Threshold number for this risk. The value is a number from 0 to 100.

- Risk Range—Risk Rating range for this risk category.

The risk rating is a range between 0 and 100 that represents a numerical quantification of the risk associated with a particular event on the network.

- Network Security Health Statistics—Lists the numbers for the red, yellow, and green thresholds. The overall network security value represents the least secure value (green is the most secure and red is the least secure).
 - Red Threat Thresholds
 - Yellow Threat Thresholds
 - Green Threat Thresholds

These color thresholds refer to the Sensor Health gadget on the Home pane.

Add and Edit Risk Level Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Risk Level dialog boxes:

- Risk Name—Lets you name this risk level.
- Risk Threshold—Lets you assign a risk threshold for this risk level.

You specify or change only the lower threshold for the category so that the risk categories are contiguous. The upper threshold is either the next higher category or 100.

- Active—Lets you make this risk level active.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Risk Categories

To add, edit, and delete risk categories, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**.
 - Step 3** In the top half of the IPS Policies pane, select the virtual sensor for which you want to configure risk categories.
 - Step 4** In the Event Action Rules half of the pane, click the Risk Category tab, and then click **Add**.
 - Step 5** In the Risk Name field, enter a name for this risk category.
 - Step 6** In the Risk Threshold field, enter a numerical value for the risk threshold (minimum 0, maximum 100).
This number represents the lower boundary of risk. The range appears in the Risk Range field and in the red, yellow, and green threshold fields.
 - Step 7** To make this risk category active, click the **Yes** radio button.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Risk Category dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 8** Click **OK**.
The new risk category appears in the list on the Risk Category tab.
- Step 9** To edit an existing risk category, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 10 Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Risk Category dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 11 Click **OK**.

The edited risk category now appears in the list on the Risk Category tab.

Step 12 To delete a risk category, select in the list, and then click **Delete**.

The risk category no longer appears in the list on the Risk Category tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 13 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring General Settings

This section describes how to configure the general settings, and contains the following topics:

- [General Tab, page 8-28](#)
- [General Tab Field Definitions, page 8-29](#)
- [Configuring the General Settings, page 8-29](#)

General Tab



Note You must be administrator or operator to configure the general settings for event action rules.

You can configure the general settings that apply globally to event action rules, such as whether you want to use the Summarizer and the Meta Event Generator. The Summarizer groups events into a single alert, thus decreasing the number of alerts the sensor sends out. The Meta Event Generator processes the component events, which lets the sensor watch for suspicious activity transpiring over a series of events.



Caution Do not disable the Summarizer or Meta Event Generator except for troubleshooting purposes. If you disable the Summarizer, every signature is set to Fire All with no summarization. If you disable the Meta Event Generator, all Meta engine signatures are disabled.

You can also use Threat Rating adjustment, Event Action Filters, and you can enable One Way TCP Reset. The one-way TCP reset operates for inline mode only and is an automatic addition to the deny packet inline actions. It sends a TCP reset to the victim of the alert, thus creating a black hole for the attacker and clearing the TCP resources of the victim.



Note An inline sensor now denies packets for any alert with a risk rating of greater than or equal to 90. It also issues a one-way TCP reset on TCP alerts with a risk rating of greater than or equal to 90.

You can configure how long you want to deny attackers, the maximum number of denied attackers, and how long you want blocks to last.

General Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found the on the General tab:

- **Use Summarizer**—Enables the Summarizer component.
By default, the Summarizer is enabled. If you disable it, all signatures are set to Fire All with no summarization. If you configure individual signatures to summarize, this configuration will be ignored if the Summarizer is not enabled.
- **Use Meta Event Generator**—Enables the Meta Event Generator.
By default, the Meta Event Generator is enabled. If you disable the Meta Event Generator, all Meta engine signatures are disabled.
- **Use Threat Rating Adjustment**—Enables threat rating adjustment, which adjusts the risk rating. If disabled, then risk rating is equal to threat rating.
- **Use Event Action Filters**—Enables the event action filter component. You must check this check box to use any filter that is enabled.
- **Enable One Way TCP Reset**—(inline mode only) Enables a one-way TCP reset for deny packet inline actions for TCP-based alerts. It sends a TCP reset to the victim of the alert thus clearing the TCP resources of the victim.
- **Deny Attacker Duration**—Number of seconds to deny the attacker inline. The valid range is 0 to 518400. The default is 3600.
- **Block Attack Duration**—Number of minutes to block a host or connection. The valid range is 0 to 10000000. The default is 30.
- **Maximum Denied Attackers**—Limits the number of denied attackers possible in the system at any one time. The valid range is 0 to 100000000. The default is 10000.

Configuring the General Settings



Caution

The general settings options operate at a global level, so enabling them affects all sensor processing of these features.

To configure the general settings for event action rules, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**.
 - Step 3** In the top half of the IPS Policies pane, select the virtual sensor for which you want to configure general categories.
 - Step 4** In the Event Action Rules half of the pane, click the General tab.
 - Step 5** To enable the summarizer feature, check the **Use Summarizer** check box.

**Caution**

Disable the Summarizer for troubleshooting purposes only. Otherwise, make sure the Summarizer is enabled so that all signatures you configure for summarization will actually summarize.

Step 6

To enable the meta event generator, check the **Use Meta Event Generator** check box.

**Caution**

Disable the Meta Event Generator for troubleshooting purposes only. Otherwise, make sure the Meta Event Generator is enabled so that all Meta engine signatures are functional.

Step 7

To enable threat rating adjustment, check the **Use Threat Rating Adjustment** check box.

Step 8

To enable event action filters, check the **Use Event Action Filters** check box.

**Note**

You must check the Use Event Action Filters check box on the General pane so that any event action filters you configured in the **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Event Action Filters** pane are active.

Step 9

To enable one way TCP reset for deny packet inline actions, check the **Enable One Way TCP Reset** check box.

Step 10

In the Deny Attacker Duration field, enter the number of seconds you want to deny the attacker inline.

Step 11

In the Block Action Duration field, enter the number of minutes you want to block a host or connection.

Step 12

In the Maximum Denied Attackers field, enter the maximum number of denied attackers you want at any one time.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 13

Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.



CHAPTER 9

Defining Signatures

This chapter explains how to create signature definition policies and how to configure signatures. It contains the following sections:

- [Security Policies, page 9-1](#)
- [Configuring Signature Definition Policies, page 9-1](#)
- [sig0 Pane, page 9-3](#)
- [Understanding Signatures, page 9-4](#)
- [MySDN, page 9-5](#)
- [Configuring Signatures, page 9-6](#)
- [Configuring Signature Variables, page 9-24](#)
- [Configuring Miscellaneous Settings, page 9-26](#)

Security Policies

You can create multiple security policies and apply them to individual virtual sensors. A security policy is made up of a signature definition policy, an event action rules policy, and an anomaly detection policy. Cisco IPS 6.1 contains a default signature definition policy called sig0, a default event action rules policy called rules0, and a default anomaly detection policy called ad0. You can assign the default policies to a virtual sensor or you can create new policies.

The use of multiple security policies lets you create security policies based on different requirements and then apply these customized policies per VLAN or physical interface.

Configuring Signature Definition Policies

This section describes how to configure signature definition policies, and contains the following topics:

- [Signature Definitions Pane, page 9-2](#)
- [Signature Definitions Pane Field Definitions, page 9-2](#)
- [Add and Clone Policy Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 9-2](#)
- [Adding, Cloning, and Deleting Signature Policies, page 9-3](#)

Signature Definitions Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add, clone, or delete signature policies.

In the Signature Definitions pane, you can add, clone, or delete a signature definition policy. The default signature definition policy is called sig0. When you add a policy, a control transaction is sent to the sensor to create the policy instance. If the response is successful, the new policy instance is added under Signature Definitions. If the control transaction fails, for example because of resource limitations, an error message appears.

If your platform does not support virtual policies, this means you can only have one instance for each component and you cannot create new ones or delete the existing one. In this case, the Add, Clone, and Delete buttons are disabled.

**Caution**

AIM-IPS and NME-IPS do not support sensor virtualization and therefore do not support multiple policies.

Signature Definitions Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Signature Definitions pane:

- Policy Name—Identifies the name of this signature definition policy.
- Assigned Virtual Sensor—Identifies the virtual sensor that this signature definition policy is assigned to.


Add and Clone Policy Dialog Boxes Field Definitions


The following field is found in the Add and Clone Policy dialog boxes:

- Name—The name of the virtual sensor. The default virtual sensor is vs0.
- Assigned Interfaces (or Pairs)—The interfaces or interface pairs that belong to this virtual sensor.
- Sig Definition Policy—The name of the signature definition policy for this virtual sensor. The default signature definition policy is sig0.
- Event Action Rules Overrides Policy—The name of the event action rules overrides policy for this virtual sensor. The default event action rules policy is rules0.
 - Risk Rating—Indicates the risk rating range (low, medium, or high risk) that should be used to trigger this event action override.
 - Actions to Add—Specifies the event action that will be added to an event if the conditions of this event action override are satisfied.
 - Enabled—Indicates whether or not this event action overrides policy is enabled.
- Anomaly Detection Policy—The name of the anomaly detection policy for this virtual sensor. The default anomaly detection policy is ad0.
- Description—The description of this virtual sensor.

Adding, Cloning, and Deleting Signature Policies

To add, clone, or delete a signature definition policy, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Signature Definitions**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** In the Policy Name field, enter a name for the signature definition policy.
- 

Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Policy dialog box, click **Cancel**.
-
- Step 4** Click **OK**.
- The signature definition policy appears in the list in the Signature Definitions pane.
- Step 5** To clone an existing signature definition policy, select it in the list, and then click **Clone**.
- The Clone Policy dialog box appears with “_copy” appended to the existing signature definition policy name.
- Step 6** In the Policy Name field, enter a unique name.
- Step 7** Click **OK**.
- The cloned signature definition policy appears in the list in the Signature Definitions pane.
- Step 8** To remove a signature definition policy, select it, and then click **Delete**.
- The Delete Policy dialog box appears asking if you are sure you want to delete this policy permanently.
- 

Caution You cannot delete the default signature definition policy, sig0.
-
- Step 9** Click **Yes**.
- The signature definition policy no longer appears in the list in the Signature Definitions pane.
- Step 10** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

sig0 Pane

The sig0 menu in the left navigation pane contains the list of signatures listed by categories, for example, by signature type, all signatures, or active signatures. Once you choose a signature type in the menu, the sig0 pane is populated with the tools to configure signatures. You can filter the signatures by a variety of categories, for example, by signature ID, signature name, whether the signature is enabled, severity, fidelity rating, base risk rating, action, type, and engine.



Note

You must select a signature category to see the signature configuration and add, clone, or edit signatures.

You can sort the data in each column by clicking the column head. The following columns are shown by default:

- ID
- Name
- Enabled
- Severity
- Fidelity Rating
- Base risk rating
- Signature Actions (Alert and Log, Deny, and Other)
- Type
- Engine
- Retired

To change the default column view, click the **Column** icon in the upper right of the pane and check or clear the check boxes in the Choose Columns to Display dialog box. You can also move the columns to a new location by selecting it and dragging it to a different place in the table.

There are configuration buttons grouped around the following configuration actions:

- Signature Configuration—Lets you edit event actions, enable and disable signatures, restore signature defaults, view signature information on MySDN, edit, add, delete, clone, and export signatures.
- Signature Wizard—Lets you use a wizard to create custom signatures.
- Advanced
 - Signature Variables—Lets you set up variables to use within multiple signatures.
 - Miscellaneous—Lets you configure application policy signatures, set up the mode for IP fragmentation and TCP stream reassembly, and configure IP logging.

Understanding Signatures

Attacks or other misuses of network resources can be defined as network intrusions. Sensors that use a signature-based technology can detect network intrusions. A signature is a set of rules that your sensor uses to detect typical intrusive activity, such as DoS attacks. As sensors scan network packets, they use signatures to detect known attacks and respond with actions that you define.

The sensor compares the list of signatures with network activity. When a match is found, the sensor takes an action, such as logging the event or sending an alert. Sensors let you modify existing signatures and define new ones.

Signature-based intrusion detection can produce false positives because certain normal network activity can be misinterpreted as malicious activity. For example, some network applications or operating systems may send out numerous ICMP messages, which a signature-based detection system might interpret as an attempt by an attacker to map out a network segment. You can minimize false positives by tuning your signatures.

To configure a sensor to monitor network traffic for a particular signature, you must enable the signature. By default, the most critical signatures are enabled when you install the signature update. When an attack is detected that matches an enabled signature, the sensor generates an alert, which is stored in the Event Store of the sensor. The alerts, as well as other events, may be retrieved from the Event Store by web-based clients. By default the sensor logs all Informational alerts or higher.

Some signatures have subsignatures, that is, the signature is divided into subcategories. When you configure a subsignature, changes made to the parameters of one subsignature apply only to that subsignature. For example, if you edit signature 3050 subsignature 1 and change the severity, the severity change applies to only subsignature 1 and not to 3050 2, 3050 3, and 3050 4.

Cisco IPS 6.1 contains over 10,000 built-in default signatures. You cannot rename or delete signatures from the list of built-in signatures, but you can retire signatures to remove them from the sensing engine. You can later activate retired signatures; however, this process requires the sensing engines to rebuild their configuration, which takes time and could delay the processing of traffic. You can tune built-in signatures by adjusting several signature parameters. Built-in signatures that have been modified are called tuned signatures.



Note We recommend that you retire any signatures that you are not using. This improves sensor performance.

You can create signatures, which are called custom signatures. Custom signature IDs begin at 60000. You can configure them for several things, such as matching of strings on UDP connections, tracking of network floods, and scans. Each signature is created using a signature engine specifically designed for the type of traffic being monitored.

MySDN



Note

Currently when you click **MySDN**, you are redirected to the IntelliShield site, which will eventually replace MySDN.

MySDN is a repository of information for individual signatures. It provides the following information about a signature:

- Signature ID
- Release version
- Original release date
- Latest release date
- Default enabled
- Default retired
- CVE
- Bugtraq ID
- Alarm severity
- Fidelity
- Description
- Recommended filters

- Benign filters
- IntelliShield alerts

The information from MySDN is available in the lower half of the sig0 pane. Select a signature in the list, and the information appears in the lower half. Or you can select a signature on **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Active Signatures**, and then click **MySDN**. After logging in to Cisco.com, you are taken to the specific information about that signature through the MySDN site ending at the IntelliShield site.

IME launches MySDN from the last browser window you opened, which is the default setting for Windows. To change this default behavior, in Internet Explorer, choose **Tools > Internet Options**, and then click the **Advanced** tab. Scroll down and uncheck the **Reuse windows for launching shortcuts** check box.

**Note**

The MySDN website has been decommissioned and is no longer available to Cisco.com users. You can get to the information only through IME.

Configuring Signatures

This section describes how to configure signatures. It contains the following topics:

- [Signature Configuration Field Definitions, page 9-6](#)
- [Add, Clone, and Edit Signatures Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 9-8](#)
- [Edit Actions Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 9-9](#)
- [Enabling, Disabling, and Retiring Signatures, page 9-12](#)
- [Adding Signatures, page 9-13](#)
- [Cloning Signatures, page 9-14](#)
- [Tuning Signatures, page 9-15](#)
- [Assigning Actions to Signatures, page 9-17](#)
- [Configuring Alert Frequency, page 9-19](#)
- [Example Meta Engine Signature, page 9-21](#)

Signature Configuration Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Sig0 pane:

- **Filter**—Lets you sort the list of signatures by selecting an attribute to filter.
- **ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature and subsignature. This value lets the sensor identify a particular signature.
- **Name**—Identifies the name assigned to the signature.
- **Enabled**—Identifies whether or not the signature is enabled. A signature must be enabled for the sensor to protect against the traffic specified by the signature.
- **Severity**—Identifies the severity level that the signature will report: High, Informational, Low, Medium.

- **Fidelity Rating**—Identifies the weight associated with how well this signature might perform in the absence of specific knowledge of the target.
- **Base RR**—Displays the base risk rating value of each signature. IDM automatically calculates the base risk rating by multiplying the fidelity rating and the severity factor and dividing them by 100 (Fidelity Rating x Severity Factor /100).

Severity Factor has the following values:

- Severity Factor = 100 if the severity level of the signature is high
- Severity Factor = 75 if severity level of the signature is medium
- Severity Factor = 50 if severity level of the signature is low
- Severity Factor = 25 if severity level of the signature is informational
- **Signature Actions**—Identifies the actions the sensor will take when this signature fires.
- **Type**—Identifies whether this signature is a default (built-in), tuned, or custom signature.
- **Engine**—Identifies the engine that parses and inspects the traffic specified by this signature.
- **Retired**—Identifies whether or not the signature is retired.

A retired signature is removed from the signature engine. You can activate a retired signature to place it back in the signature engine.



Note

We recommend that you retire any signatures that you are not using. This improves sensor performance.

Right-Click Menu Functions:

- **Edit Actions**—Opens the Edit Actions dialog box.
- **Enable**—Enables the selected signature.
- **Disable**—Disables the selected signature.
- **Set Severity To**—Lets you set the severity level that the signature will report: High, Medium, Low or Informational.
- **Restore Default**—Returns all parameters to the default settings for the selected signature.
- **Show MySDN Information**—Takes you to the description of that signature on the MySDN site on Cisco.com.
- **Edit**—Opens the Edit Signature dialog box. In the Edit Signature dialog box, you can change the parameters associated with the selected signature and effectively *tune* the signature. You can edit only one signature at a time.
- **Add**—Opens the Add Signature dialog box. In the Add Signature dialog box, you can add the parameters associated with the selected signature and effectively *tune* the signature.
- **Delete**—Deletes the selected custom signature. You cannot delete built-in signatures.
- **Clone**—Opens the Clone Signature dialog box. In the Clone Signature dialog box, you can create a signature by changing the prepopulated values of the existing signature you chose to clone.
- **Change Status To**—Lets you change the status to retired or active.
- **Export**—Lets you export currently displayed signatures in the table to a comma-separated Excel file (using CSV) or HTML file. You can also use **Ctrl-C** to copy the contents in to a clipboard and later paste in to Notepad or Word using **Ctrl-V**.

Add, Clone, and Edit Signatures Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

**Tip**

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

The following fields are found in the Add, Clone, and Edit Signature dialog boxes:

- **Signature Definition**
 - **Signature ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature. This value lets the sensor identify a particular signature. The value is 1000 to 65000.
 - **SubSignature ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this subsignature. The subsignature ID identifies a more granular version of a broad signature. The value is 0 to 255.
 - **Alert Severity**—Lets you choose the severity level of the signature: High, Informational, Low, Medium.
 - **Sig Fidelity Rating**—Lets you choose the weight associated with how well this signature might perform in the absence of specific knowledge of the target. The value is 0 to 100. The default is 75.
 - **Promiscuous Delta**—Lets you determine the seriousness of the alert.
- **Sig Description**—Lets you specify the following attributes that help you distinguish this signature from other signatures:
 - **Signature Name**—Name your signature. The default is MySig.
 - **Alert Notes**—Add alert notes in this field.
 - **User Comments**—Add your comments about this signature in this field.
 - **Alarm Traits**—Add the alarm trait in this field. The value is 0 to 65535. The default is 0.
 - **Release**—Add the software release in which the signature first appeared.
- **Engine**—Lets you choose the engine that parses and inspects the traffic specified by this signature.
- **Event Action**—Lets you assign the actions the sensor takes when it responds to events.
- **Event Counter**—Lets you configure how the sensor counts events. For example, you can specify that you want the sensor to send an alert only if the same signature fires 5 times for the same address set:
 - **Event Count**—The number of times an event must occur before an alert is generated. The value is 1 to 65535. The default is 1.
 - **Event Count Key**—The storage type used to count events for this signature. Choose attacker address, attacker address and victim port, attacker and victim addresses, attacker and victim addresses and ports, or victim address. The default is attacker address.
 - **Specify Alert Interval**—Specifies the time in seconds before the event count is reset. Choose Yes or No from the drop-down list and then specify the amount of time.

- **Alert Frequency**—Lets you configure how often the sensor alerts you when this signature is firing. Specify the following parameters for this signature:
 - **Summary Mode**—The mode of alert summarization. Choose Fire All, Fire Once, Global Summarize, or Summarize.

**Note**

When multiple contexts from the adaptive security appliance are contained in one virtual sensor, the summary alerts contain the context name of the last context that was summarized. Thus, the summary is the result of all alerts of this type from all contexts that are being summarized.

- **Summary Interval**—The time in seconds used in each summary alert. The value is 1 to 65535. The default is 15.
 - **Summary Key**—The storage type used to summarize alerts. Choose Attacker address, Attacker address and victim port, Attacker and victim addresses, Attacker and victim addresses and ports, or Victim address. The default is Attacker address.
 - **Specify Global Summary Threshold**—Lets you specify the threshold number of events to take the alert into global summary. Choose Yes or No and then specify the threshold number of events.
- **Status**—Lets you enable or disable a signature, or retire or unretire a signature:
 - **Enabled**—Lets you choose whether the signature is enabled or disabled. The default is yes (enabled).
 - **Retired**—Let you choose whether the signature is retired or not. The default is no (not retired).
 - **Obsoletes**—Lists the signatures that are obsoleted by this signature.
- **Mars Category**—Maps signatures to a MARS attack category.

This is a static information category that you can set in the configuration and view in the alerts.

Edit Actions Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Edit Actions dialog box:

- **Alert and Log Actions**
 - **Produce Alert**—Writes the event to Event Store as an alert.

**Note**

The Produce Alert action is not automatic when you enable alerts for a signature. To have an alert created in Event Store, you must select Produce Alert. If you add a second action, you must include Produce Alert if you want an alert sent to Event Store. Also, every time you configure the event actions, a new list is created and it replaces the old list. Make sure you include all the event actions you need for each signature.

**Note**

There are other event actions that force a Product Alert. These actions use Product Alert as the vehicle for performing the action. Even if Product Alert is not selected or is filtered, the alert is still produced. The actions are the following: Produce Verbose Alert, Request SNMP Trap, Log Attacker Packets, Log Victim Packets, and Log Pair Packets.

- Produce Verbose Alert—Includes an encoded dump of the offending packet in the alert.



Note This action causes an alert to be written to Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.

- Log Attacker Packets—Starts IP logging on packets that contain the attacker address and sends an alert.



Note This action causes an alert to be written to Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.

- Log Victim Packets—Starts IP Logging on packets that contain the victim address and sends an alert.



Note This action causes an alert to be written to Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.

- Log Attacker/Victim Pair Packets—(inline mode only) Starts IP Logging on packets that contain the attacker/victim address pair.



Note This action causes an alert to be written to Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.

- Request SNMP Trap—Sends a request to NotificationApp to perform SNMP notification.



Note This action causes an alert to be written to Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected. You must have SNMP configured on the sensor to implement this action.

- Deny Actions

- Deny Packet Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet.



Note You cannot delete the event action override for Deny Packet Inline because it is protected. If you do not want to use that override, disable it.

- Deny Connection Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the TCP flow.

- Deny Attacker Victim Pair Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker/victim address pair for a specified period of time.



Note To set the specified period of time and maximum number of denied attackers, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > General Settings**.

- Deny Attacker Service Pair Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker address victim port pair for a specified period of time.

- Deny Attacker Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets originating from the attacker address for a specified period of time.

The sensor maintains a list of attackers being denied by the system. To remove an entry from the denied attacker list, you can view the list of attackers and clear the entire list, or you can wait for the timer to expire. The timer is a sliding timer for each entry. Therefore, if attacker A is being denied, but issues another attack, the timer for attacker A is reset and attacker A remains in the denied attacker list until the timer expires. If the denied attacker list is at capacity and cannot add a new entry, the packet is still denied.



Note This is the most severe of the deny actions. It denies current and future packets from a single attacker address. To clear all denied attacker entries, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Denied Attackers > Clear List**, which permits the addresses back on the network.

- Modify Packet Inline— Modifies packet data to remove ambiguity about what the end point might do with the packet.



Note Modify Packet Inline is not an option for Add Event Action Filter or Add Event Action Override.

- Other Actions

- Request Block Connection—Sends a request to ARC to block this connection.



Note You must have blocking devices configured to implement this action.

- Request Block Host—Sends a request to ARC to block this attacker host.



Note You must have blocking devices configured to implement this action.



Note To set the duration of the block, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > General Settings**.

- Request Rate Limit—Sends a rate limit request to ARC to perform rate limiting.



Note You must have rate limiting devices configured to implement this action.



Note Request Rate Limit applies to a select set of signatures.

- Reset TCP Connection—Sends TCP resets to hijack and terminate the TCP flow.



Note Reset TCP Connection only works on TCP signatures that analyze a single connection. It does not work for sweeps or floods.

For More Information

- For detailed descriptions of the event actions, see [Event Actions](#), page 11-8.
- For the procedure for configuring the general settings, see [Configuring General Settings](#), page 11-29.
- For the procedure for configuring SNMP, see [Chapter 15, “Configuring SNMP.”](#)
- For the procedure for configuring denied attackers, see [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers](#), page 18-4.

Enabling, Disabling, and Retiring Signatures

To enable, disable, and retire signatures, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
- Step 3** To locate a signature, choose a sorting option from the Filter drop-down list.
- For example, if you are searching for a Flood Host signature, chose **Engine** from the drop-down list, then **Flood Host**, and then select the individual signature.
- The sig0 pane refreshes and displays only those signatures that match your sorting criteria.
- Step 4** To enable or disable an existing signature, select the signature, and follow these steps:
- a. View the Enabled column to determine the status of the signature. A signature that is enabled has the check box checked.
 - b. To enable a signature that is disabled, check the **Enabled** check box.
 - c. To disable a signature that is enabled, remove the check from the **Enabled** check box.
 - d. To retire one or more signatures, select the signature(s), right-click, and then click **Change Status To > Retired**.

**Note**

We recommend that you retire any signatures that you are not using. This improves sensor performance.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 5** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Adding Signatures

To create a custom signature that is not based on an existing signature, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** In the Signature ID field, enter a unique signature ID for the new signature.
New signatures start at 60000.
- Step 4** In the Subsignature field, enter a unique subsignature ID for the new signature.
- Step 5** From the Alert Severity drop-down list, choose the severity you want to associate with this signature.
- Step 6** In the Sig Fidelity Rating field, enter a value between 1 and 100 to represent the signature fidelity rating for this signature.
- Step 7** In the Promiscuous Delta field, enter the promiscuous delta (between 0 and 30) that you want to associate with this signature.
- Step 8** Complete the Sig Description fields and add any comments about this signature.
- Step 9** From the Engine drop-down list, choose the engine the sensor will use to enforce this signature.



Note If you do not know which engine to select, use the Custom Signature Wizard to help you create a custom signature.

- Step 10** Assign actions to this signature.
- Step 11** Configure the engine-specific parameters for this signature.
- Step 12** Configure Event Counter:
 - a. In the Event Count field, enter the number of events you want counted (1 to 65535).
 - b. From the Event Count Key drop-down list, choose the key you want to use.
 - c. From the Specify Alert Interface drop-down list, choose whether you want to specify the alert interval (Yes or No).
 - d. If you chose Yes, enter the alert interval (2 to 1000) in the Alert Interval field.
- Step 13** Configure the alert frequency.
- Step 14** Configure the status of the signature:
 - a. From the Enabled drop-down list, choose **Yes** to enable the signature.



Note A signature must be enabled for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.

- b. From the Retired drop-down list, choose **Yes** to make sure the signature is active. This places the signature in the engine.



Note A signature must not be retired for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.

- c. Choose the vulnerable OS(es).



Tip To select more than one OS, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Step 15** Choose the MARS category and click **OK**.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 16** Click **OK**. The new signature appears in the list with the Type set to Custom.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 17** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Cloning Signatures

On the sig0 pane, you can create a signature by cloning an existing signature. This task can save you time when you are creating signatures that are similar.



Caution

Some signature values in built-in signature are protected, which means that you cannot copy that value. You can still clone the signature, but you cannot configure certain values. You will receive an error message similar to the following when a signature value cannot be configured:

[Obsoletes] is protected, cannot copy the value. [Mars Category] is protected, cannot copy the value.



Tip

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

To create a signature by using an existing signature as the starting point, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
- Step 3** To locate a signature, choose a sorting option from the Filter drop-down list.
For example, if you are searching for a Flood Host signature, choose **Engine** from the drop-down list, then **Flood Host**, and then select the individual signature.
The sig0 pane refreshes and displays only those signatures that match your sorting criteria.
- Step 4** Select the signature and click **Clone**.
- Step 5** In the Signature field, enter a unique signature ID for the new signature.
- Step 6** In the Subsignature field, enter a unique subsignature ID for the new signature.

- Step 7** Review the parameter values and change the value of any parameter you want to be different for this new signature.



Tip To select more than one OS or event action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Step 8** Configure the status of the signature:

- a. From the Enabled drop-down list, choose **Yes** to enable the signature.



Note A signature must be enabled for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.

- b. From the Retired drop-down list, choose **Yes** to make sure the signature is active.
This places the signature in the engine.



Note A signature must not be retired for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Clone Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- c. Click **OK**. The cloned signature now appears in the list with the Type set to Custom.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 9** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Tuning Signatures

On the sig0 pane, you can edit, or *tune* a signature.








Note You can tune built-in signatures by adjusting several signature parameters. Built-in signatures that have been modified are called *tuned* signatures.



Tip An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

To tune an existing signature, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
- Step 3** To locate a signature, choose a sorting option from the Filter drop-down list.
- For example, if you are searching for a Flood Host signature, choose **Engine** from the drop-down list, then **Flood Host**, and then select the individual signature.
- The sig0 pane refreshes and displays only those signatures that match your sorting criteria.
- Step 4** Select the signature and click **Edit**.
- Step 5** Review the parameter values and change the value of any parameter you want to tune.
-  **Tip** To select more than one OS, event action, vulnerable OS, or MARS category, hold down the **Ctrl** key.
-
- Step 6** Configure the status of the signature:
- a. From the Enabled drop-down list, choose **Yes** to enable the signature.
-  **Note** A signature must be enabled for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.
- b. From the Retired drop-down list, choose **Yes** to make sure the signature is active.
- This places the signature in the engine.
-  **Note** A signature must not be retired for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.
-  **Tip** To discard your changes and close the Edit Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.
-
- Step 7** Click **OK**. The edited signature now appears in the list with the Type set to Tuned.
-  **Tip** To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
-
- Step 8** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Assigning Actions to Signatures

On the sig0 pane, you can assign actions to a signature.

To edit actions for a signature or a set of signatures, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
- Step 3** To locate a signature, choose a sorting option from the Filter drop-down list.
- For example, if you are searching for a Flood Host signature, choose **Engine** from the drop-down list, then **Flood Host**, and then select the individual signature.
- The sig0 pane refreshes and displays only those signatures that match your sorting criteria.
- Step 4** Select the signature(s), and click **Edit Actions**.
- Step 5** Check the check boxes next to the actions you want to assign to the signature(s).



Note A check mark indicates that the action is assigned to the selected signature(s). No check mark indicates that the action is not assigned to any of the selected signatures. A gray check mark indicates that the action is assigned to some of the selected signatures.



Tip To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

Choose from the following actions:



Caution

The Produce Alert action is not automatic when you enable alerts for a signature. To have an alert created in Event Store, you must select Produce Alert. If you add a second action, you must include Produce Alert if you want an alert sent to Event Store. Also, every time you configure the event actions, a new list is created and it replaces the old list. Make sure you include all the event actions you need for each signature.

- Alert and Log Actions
 - Produce Alert—Writes the event to Event Store as an alert.
 - Produce Verbose Alert—Includes an encoded dump of the offending packet in the alert.
 - Log Attacker Packets—Starts IP logging on packets that contain the attacker address and sends an alert.
 - Log Victim Packets—Starts IP Logging on packets that contain the victim address and sends an alert.
 - Log Attacker/Victim Pair Packets—(inline mode only) Starts IP Logging on packets that contain the attacker/victim address pair.
 - Request SNMP Trap—Sends a request to NotificationApp to perform SNMP notification.
- Deny Actions
 - Deny Packet Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet.

- Deny Connection Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the TCP flow.
- Deny Attacker Victim Pair Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker/victim address pair for a specified period of time.
- Deny Attacker Service Pair Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker address victim port pair for a specified period of time.
- Deny Attacker Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets originating from the attacker address for a specified period of time.

The sensor maintains a list of attackers being denied by the system. To remove an entry from the denied attacker list, you can view the list of attackers and clear the entire list, or you can wait for the timer to expire. The timer is a sliding timer for each entry. Therefore, if attacker A is being denied, but issues another attack, the timer for attacker A is reset and attacker A remains in the denied attacker list until the timer expires. If the denied attacker list is at capacity and cannot add a new entry, the packet is still denied.

- Modify Packet Inline— Modifies packet data to remove ambiguity about what the end point might do with the packet.
- Other Actions
 - Request Block Connection—Sends a request to ARC to block this connection.
 - Request Block Host—Sends a request to ARC to block this attacker host.
 - Request Rate Limit—Sends a rate limit request to ARC to perform rate limiting.
 - Reset TCP Connection—Sends TCP resets to hijack and terminate the TCP flow.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Assign Actions dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 6 Click **OK** to save your changes and close the dialog box.
The new action(s) now appears in the Action column.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 7 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

For More Information

- For detailed descriptions of the event actions, see [Event Actions, page 11-8](#).
- For the procedure for configuring the general settings, see [Configuring General Settings, page 11-29](#).
- For the procedure for configuring SNMP, see [Chapter 15, “Configuring SNMP.”](#)
- For the procedure for configuring denied attackers, see [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers, page 18-4](#).

Configuring Alert Frequency

You can control how often a signature fires. For example, you may want to decrease the volume of alerts sent out from the sensor. Or you may want the sensor to provide basic aggregation of signature firings into a single alert. Or you may want to counter anti-IPS tools such as “stick,” which are designed to send bogus traffic so that the IPS produces thousands of alerts during a very short time.



Note

When multiple contexts from the adaptive security appliance are contained in one virtual sensor, the summary alerts contain the context name of the last context that was summarized. Thus, the summary is the result of all alerts of this type from all contexts that are being summarized.



Tip

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

To configure the alert frequency of a signature, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
- Step 3** Click **Add** to add a signature, choose a signature to clone, and click **Clone**, or choose a signature to edit, and click **Edit**.
- Step 4** Configure the event count, key, and alert interval:
 - a.** In the Event Count field, enter a value for the event count.
This is the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending one alert for this signature.
 - b.** From the Event Count Key drop-down list, choose an attribute to use as the Event Count Key.
For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the Event Count Key.
 - c.** If you want to count events based on a rate, choose **Yes** from the Specify Event Interval drop-down list, and then in the Alert Interval field, enter the number of seconds that you want to use for your interval.
- Step 5** To control the volume of alerts and configure how the sensor summarizes alerts, choose one of the following options from the Summary Mode drop-down list:
 - **Fire All**
Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert every time the signature detects malicious traffic. You can then specify additional thresholds that let the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.
Go to Step 6.
 - **Fire Once**
Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert the first time the signature detects malicious traffic. You can then specify additional thresholds that let the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.
Go to Step 7.

- Summarize

Specifies that you want the sensor to only send summary alerts for this signature instead of sending alerts every time the signature fires. You can then specify additional thresholds that let the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.

Go to Step 8.

- Global Summarize

Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert the first time a signature fires on an address set, and then only send a global summary alert that includes a summary of all alerts for all address sets over a given time interval.

Go to Step 9.

Step 6 Configure the Fire All option:

- From the Specify Summary Threshold drop-down list, choose **Yes**.
- In the Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a summary alert for this signature.
- In the Summary Interval field, enter the number of seconds that you want to use for the time interval.
- To have the sensor enter global summarization mode, choose **Yes** from the Specify Global Summary Threshold drop-down list.
- In the Global Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.
- From the Summary Key drop-down list, choose the type of summary key.

The summary key identifies the attribute to use for counting events. For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the summary key.

Step 7 Configure the Fire Once option:

- From the Summary Key drop-down list, choose the type of summary key.
The summary key identifies the attribute to use for counting events. For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the summary key.
- To have the sensor use global summarization, choose **Yes** from the Specify Global Summary Threshold drop-down list.
- In the Global Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.

When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single alert the first time a signature fires to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior.



Note

When multiple contexts from the adaptive security appliance are contained in one virtual sensor, the summary alerts contain the context name of the last context that was summarized. Thus, the summary is the result of all alerts of this type from all contexts that are being summarized.

- In the Summary Interval field, enter the number of seconds during which the sensor counts events for summarization.

Step 8 Configure the Summarize option:

- a. In the Summary Interval field, enter the number of seconds during which the sensor counts events for summarization.
- b. From the Summary Key drop-down list, choose the type of summary key.
The summary key identifies the attribute to use for counting events. For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the summary key.
- c. To have the sensor use dynamic global summarization, choose **Yes** from the Specify Global Summary Threshold drop-down list.
- d. In the Global Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.

When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single alert the first time a signature fires to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior.

Step 9 To configure the Global Summarize option, in the Summary Interval field, enter the number of seconds during which the sensor counts events for summarization.

Step 10 Click **OK** to save your alert behavior changes.

You are returned to the sig0 pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

Step 11 To apply your alert behavior changes to the signature configuration, click **Apply**.

The signature you added or edited is enabled and added to the list of signatures.

Example Meta Engine Signature

The Meta engine defines events that occur in a related manner within a sliding time interval. This engine processes events rather than packets. As signature events are generated, the Meta engine inspects them to determine if they match any or several Meta definitions. The Meta engine generates a signature event after all requirements for the event are met.

All signature events are handed off to the Meta engine by the Signature Event Action Processor. The Signature Event Action Processor hands off the event after processing the minimum hits option. Summarization and event action are processed after the Meta engine has processed the component events.

**Caution**

A large number of Meta signatures could adversely affect overall sensor performance.

The following example demonstrates how to create a signature based on the Meta engine. For example, signature 64000 subsignature 0 fires when it sees the alerts from signature 2000 subsignature 0 and signature 3000 subsignature 0 on the same source address. The source address selection is a result of the meta key default value of Axxx. You can change the behavior by changing the meta key setting to xxBx (destination address) for example.

**Note**

The Meta engine is different from other engines in that it takes alerts as input where most engines take packets as input.

**Tip**

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

To create a signature based on the Meta engine, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signature Configuration**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** In the Signature ID field, enter a unique signature ID for the new signature.
- Step 4** In the Subsignature field, enter a unique subsignature ID for the new signature.
- Step 5** From the Alert Severity drop-down list, choose the severity you want to associate with this signature.
- Step 6** In the Signature Fidelity Rating field, enter a value between 1 and 100 to represent the signature fidelity rating for this signature.
- Step 7** Leave the default value for the Promiscuous Delta field.
- Step 8** Complete the signature description fields and add any comments about this signature.
- Step 9** From the Vulnerable OS List drop-down list, choose the operating systems that are vulnerable to this signature.

**Tip**

To choose more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Step 10** From the Engine drop-down list, choose **Meta**.
- Step 11** Configure the Meta engine-specific parameters:
 - a.** From the Event Action drop-down list, choose the actions you want the sensor to take when it responds to an event.

**Tip**

To choose more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- b.** From the Swap Attacker Victim drop-down list, choose **Yes** to swap the attacker and victim addresses and ports (destination and source) in the alert message and for any actions taken.
- c.** In the Meta Reset Interval field, enter the time in seconds to reset the Meta signature. The valid range is 0 to 3600 seconds. The default is 60 seconds.
- d.** Click the pencil icon next to Component List to insert the new Meta signature. The Component List dialog box appears.
- e.** Click **Add** to insert the first Meta signature. The Add List Entry dialog box appears.
- f.** In the Entry Key field, enter a name for the entry, for example, Entry1. The default is MyEntry.
- g.** In the Component Sig ID field, enter the signature ID of the signature (2000 in this example) on which to match this component.

- h. In the Component SubSig ID field, specify the subsignature ID of the signature (0 in this example) on which to match this component.
- i. In the Component Count field, enter the number of times this component must fire before it is satisfied.
- j. Click **OK**. You are returned to the Add List Entry dialog box.
- k. Select your entry and click **Select** to move it to the Selected Entries list.
- l. Click **OK**.
- m. Click **Add** to insert the next Meta signature. The Add List Entry dialog box appears.
- n. In the Entry Key field, enter a name for the entry, for example Entry2.
- o. In the Component Sig ID field, enter the signature ID of the signature (3000 in this example) on which to match this component.
- p. In the Component SubSig ID field, enter the subsignature ID of the signature (0 in this example) on which to match this component.
- q. In the Component Count field, enter the number of times this component must fire before it is satisfied.
- r. Click **OK**. You are returned to the Add List Entry dialog box.
- s. Select your entry and click **Select** to move it to the Selected Entries list.
- t. Select the new entry and click **Move Up** or **Move Down** to order the new entry.



Tip Click **Reset Ordering** to return the entries to the Entry Key list.

- u. Click **OK**.
- v. From the Meta Key drop-down list, choose the storage type for the Meta signature:
 - Attacker address
 - Attacker and victim addresses
 - Attacker and victim addresses and ports
 - Victim address
- w. In the Unique Victims field, enter the number of unique victims required for this signature. The valid value is 1 to 256. The default is 1.
- x. From the Component List in Order drop-down list, choose **Yes** to have the component list fire in order.

Step 12 Configure Event Counter:

- a. In the Event Count field, enter the number of events you want counted (1 to 65535).
- b. From the Event Count Key drop-down list, choose the key you want to use.
- c. From the Specify Alert Interface drop-down list, choose whether you want to specify the alert interval (Yes or No).
- d. If you chose Yes, enter the alert interval (2 to 1000) in the Alert Interval field.

Step 13 Configure the alert frequency.

Step 14 Configure the status of the signature:

- a. From the Enabled drop-down list, choose **Yes** to enable the signature.

**Note**

A signature must be enabled for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.

- b. From the Retired drop-down list, choose **Yes** to make sure the signature is active. This places the signature in the engine.

**Note**

A signature must not be retired for the sensor to actively detect the attack specified by the signature.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 15 Click **OK**. The new signature appears in the list with the Type set to Custom.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 16 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

For More Information

For detailed descriptions of the event actions, see [Event Actions, page 11-8](#).

Configuring Signature Variables

This section describes how to configure signature variables, and contains the following topics:

- [Signature Variables Tab, page 9-24](#)
- [Signature Variables Tab Field Definitions, page 9-25](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Signature Variables, page 9-25](#)

Signature Variables Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure signature variables.

When you want to use the same value within multiple signatures, use a variable. When you change the value of a variable, that variable is updated in all signatures in which it appears. This saves you from having to change the variable repeatedly as you configure signatures.

**Note**

You must preface the variable with a dollar (\$) sign to indicate that you are using a variable rather than a string.

Some variables cannot be deleted because they are necessary to the signature system. If a variable is protected, you cannot select it to edit it. You receive an error message if you try to delete protected variables. You can edit only one variable at a time.

Signature Variables Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Signature Variables tab and in the Add and Edit Signature Variable dialog boxes:

- **Name**—Identifies the name assigned to this variable.
- **Type**—Identifies the variable as a web port or IP address range.
- **Value**—Identifies the value(s) represented by this variable.



Note

To designate multiple port numbers for a single variable, place a comma between the entries. For example, 80, 3128, 8000, 8010, 8080, 8888, 24326.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Signature Variables

To add, edit, and delete signature variables, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures > Advanced > Signature Variables**, and then click **Add** to create a variable.
- Step 3** In the Name field, enter the name of the signature variable.



Note

A valid name can only contain numbers or letters. You can also use a hyphen (-) or underscore (_).

- Step 4** From the Type drop-down list, choose the type of signature variable.
- Step 5** In the Value field, enter the value for the new signature variable.



Note

You can use commas as delimiters. Make sure there are no trailing spaces after the comma. Otherwise, you receive a `Validation failed` error.

web-ports has a predefined set of ports where web servers are running, but you can edit the value. This variable affects all signatures that have web ports. The default is 80, 3128, 8000, 8010, 8080, 8888, 24326.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **OK**. The new variable appears in the signature variables list on the Signature Variables tab.
- Step 7** To edit an existing variable, select it in the signature variables list, and then click **Edit**.

- Step 8** Make any changes needed in the Value field, and then click **OK**. The edited variable appears in the signature variables list on the Signature Variables tab.
- Step 9** To delete a variable, select it in the signature variables list, and then click **Delete**. The variable no longer appears in the signature variables list on the Signature Variables tab.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 10** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring Miscellaneous Settings

This section describes the Miscellaneous tab and how to configure Application Inspection and Control (AIC) signatures, IP fragment reassembly signatures, TCP stream reassembly signatures, and IP logging. It contains the following topics:

- [Miscellaneous Tab, page 9-26](#)
- [Miscellaneous Tab Field Definitions, page 9-27](#)
- [Configuring Application Policy Signatures, page 9-28](#)
- [Configuring IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures, page 9-36](#)
- [Configuring TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures, page 9-40](#)
- [Configuring IP Logging, page 9-47](#)

Miscellaneous Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure the parameters on the Miscellaneous tab.

On the Miscellaneous tab, you can perform the following tasks:

- Configure the application policy parameters (also known as AIC signatures)
You can configure the sensor to provide Layer 4 to Layer 7 packet inspection to prevent malicious attacks related to web services. You first set up the AIC parameters, then you can either use the default AIC signatures or tune them.
- Configure IP fragment reassembly options
You can configure the sensor to reassemble a datagram that has been fragmented over multiple packets. You can specify boundaries that the sensor uses to determine how many datagrams and how long to wait for more fragments of a datagram. The goal is to ensure that the sensor does not allocate all its resources to datagrams that cannot be completely reassembled, either because the sensor missed some frame transmissions or because an attack has been launched that is based on generating random fragment datagrams. You first choose the method the sensor will use to perform IP fragment reassembly, then you can tune the IP fragment reassembly signatures, which are part of the Normalizer engine.

- Configure TCP stream reassembly

You can configure the sensor to monitor only TCP sessions that have been established by a complete three-way handshake. You can also configure how long to wait for the handshake to complete, and how long to keep monitoring a connection where no more packets have been seen. The goal is to prevent the sensor from creating alerts where a valid TCP session has not been established. There are known attacks against sensors that try to get the sensor to generate alerts by simply replaying pieces of an attack. The TCP session reassembly feature helps to mitigate these types of attacks against the sensor. You first choose the method the sensor will use to perform TCP stream reassembly, then you can tune TCP stream reassembly signatures, which are part of the Normalizer engine.


Caution

For signature 3050 Half Open SYN Attack, if you choose modify packet inline as the action, you can see as much as 20 to 30% performance degradation while the protection is active. The protection is only active during an actual SYN flood.

- Configure IP logging options

You can configure a sensor to generate an IP session log when the sensor detects an attack. When IP logging is configured as a response action for a signature and the signature is triggered, all packets to and from the source address of the alert are logged for a specified period of time.

Miscellaneous Tab Field Definitions

The following fields and buttons are found on the Miscellaneous tab:

- Application Policy—Lets you configure application policy enforcement.
 - Enable HTTP —Enables protection for web services. Check the Yes check box to require the sensor to inspect HTTP traffic for compliance with the RFC.
 - Max HTTP Requests—Specifies the maximum number of outstanding HTTP requests per connection.
 - AIC Web Ports—Specifies the variable for ports to look for AIC traffic.
 - Enable FTP—Enables protection for web services. Check the Yes check box to require the sensor to inspect FTP traffic.
- Fragment Reassembly—Lets you configure IP fragment reassembly.
 - IP Reassembly Mode—Identifies the method the sensor uses to reassemble the fragments, based on the operating system.
- Stream Reassembly—Lets you configure TCP stream reassembly.
 - TCP Handshake Required—Specifies that the sensor should only track sessions for which the three-way handshake is completed.
 - TCP Reassembly Mode—Specifies the mode the sensor should use to reassemble TCP sessions with the following options:
 - Asymmetric—Can only see one direction of bidirectional traffic flow.


Note

Asymmetric mode lets the sensor synchronize state with the flow and maintain inspection for those engines that do not require both directions. Asymmetric mode lowers security because full protection requires both sides of traffic to be seen.

Strict—If a packet is missed for any reason, all packets after the missed packet are not processed.

Loose—Use in environments where packets might be dropped.

- IP Log—Lets you configure the sensor to stop IP logging when any of the following conditions are met:
 - Max IP Log Packets—Identifies the number of packets you want logged.
 - IP Log Time—Identifies the duration you want the sensor to log. A valid value is 1 to 60 seconds. The default is 30 seconds.
 - Max IP Log Bytes—Identifies the maximum number of bytes you want logged.

Configuring Application Policy Signatures

This section describes AIC signatures and how to configure them. This section contains the following topics:

- [Understanding AIC Signatures, page 9-28](#)
- [AIC Engine and Sensor Performance, page 9-29](#)
- [AIC Request Method Signatures, page 9-29](#)
- [AIC MIME Define Content Type Signatures, page 9-30](#)
- [AIC Transfer Encoding Signatures, page 9-33](#)
- [AIC FTP Commands Signatures, page 9-34](#)
- [Configuring Application Policy, page 9-35](#)
- [Tuning an AIC Signature, page 9-36](#)

Understanding AIC Signatures

AIC has the following categories of signatures:

- HTTP request method
 - Define request method
 - Recognized request methods
- MIME type
 - Define content type
 - Recognized content type
- Define web traffic policy

There is one predefined signature, 12674, that specifies the action to take when noncompliant HTTP traffic is seen. The parameter Alarm on Non HTTP Traffic enables the signature. By default this signature is enabled.

- Transfer encodings
 - Associate an action with each method
 - List methods recognized by the sensor
 - Specify which actions need to be taken when a chunked encoding error is seen

- FTP commands
 - Associates an action with an FTP command.

For More Information

For more information on the AIC signature engine, see [AIC Engine, page B-10](#).

AIC Engine and Sensor Performance

Application policy enforcement is a unique sensor feature. Rather than being based on traditional IPS technologies that inspect for exploits, vulnerabilities, and anomalies, AIC policy enforcement is designed to enforce HTTP and FTP service policies. The inspection work required for this policy enforcement is extreme compared with traditional IPS inspection work. A large performance penalty is associated with using this feature. When AIC is enabled, the overall bandwidth capacity of the sensor is reduced.

AIC policy enforcement is disabled in the IPS default configuration. If you want to activate AIC policy enforcement, we highly recommend that you carefully choose the exact policies of interest and disable those you do not need. Also, if your sensor is near its maximum inspection load capacity, we recommend that you not use this feature since it can oversubscribe the sensor. We recommend that you use the adaptive security appliance firewall to handle this type of policy enforcement.

AIC Request Method Signatures

The HTTP request method has two categories of signatures:

- Define request method—Allows actions to be associated with request methods. You can expand and modify the signatures (Define Request Method).
- Recognized request methods—Lists methods that are recognized by the sensor (Recognized Request Methods).

[Table 9-1](#) lists the predefined define request method signatures. Enable the signatures that have the predefined method you need.

Table 9-1 Request Method Signatures

Signature ID	Define Request Method
12676	Request Method Not Recognized
12677	Define Request Method PUT
12678	Define Request Method CONNECT
12679	Define Request Method DELETE
12680	Define Request Method GET
12681	Define Request Method HEAD
12682	Define Request Method OPTIONS
12683	Define Request Method POST
12685	Define Request Method TRACE
12695	Define Request Method INDEX
12696	Define Request Method MOVE
12697	Define Request Method MKDIR

Table 9-1 *Request Method Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID	Define Request Method
12698	Define Request Method COPY
12699	Define Request Method EDIT
12700	Define Request Method UNEDIT
12701	Define Request Method SAVE
12702	Define Request Method LOCK
12703	Define Request Method UNLOCK
12704	Define Request Method REVLABEL
12705	Define Request Method REVLOG
12706	Define Request Method REVADD
12707	Define Request Method REVNUM
12708	Define Request Method SETATTRIBUTE
12709	Define Request Method GETATTRIBUTENAME
12710	Define Request Method GETPROPERTIES
12711	Define Request Method STARTENV
12712	Define Request Method STOPREV

AIC MIME Define Content Type Signatures

There are two policies associated with MIME types:

- Define content type—Associates specific actions for the following cases (Define Content Type):
 - Deny a specific MIME type, such as an image/jpeg
 - Message size violation
 - MIME-type mentioned in header and body do not match
- Recognized content type (Recognized Content Type)

Table 9-2 lists the predefined define content type signatures. Enable the signatures that have the predefined content type you need. You can also create custom define content type signatures.

Table 9-2 *Define Content Type Signatures*

Signature ID	Signature Description
12621	Content Type image/gif Invalid Message Length
12622 2	Content Type image/png Verification Failed
12623 0	Content Type image/tiff Header Check
12623 1	Content Type image/tiff Invalid Message Length
12623 2	Content Type image/tiff Verification Failed
12624 0	Content Type image/x-3ds Header Check
12624 1	Content Type image/x-3ds Invalid Message Length
12624 2	Content Type image/x-3ds Verification Failed

Table 9-2 Define Content Type Signatures (continued)

Signature ID	Signature Description
12626 0	Content Type image/x-portable-bitmap Header Check
12626 1	Content Type image/x-portable-bitmap Invalid Message Length
12626 2	Content Type image/x-portable-bitmap Verification Failed
12627 0	Content Type image/x-portable-graymap Header Check
12627 1	Content Type image/x-portable-graymap Invalid Message Length
12627 2	Content Type image/x-portable-graymap Verification Failed
12628 0	Content Type image/jpeg Header Check
12628 1	Content Type image/jpeg Invalid Message Length
12628 2	Content Type image/jpeg Verification Failed
12629 0	Content Type image/cgf Header Check
12629 1	Content Type image/cgf Invalid Message Length
12631 0	Content Type image/x-xpm Header Check
12631 1	Content Type image/x-xpm Invalid Message Length
12633 0	Content Type audio/midi Header Check
12633 1	Content Type audio/midi Invalid Message Length
12633 2	Content Type audio/midi Verification Failed
12634 0	Content Type audio/basic Header Check
12634 1	Content Type audio/basic Invalid Message Length
12634 2	Content Type audio/basic Verification Failed
12635 0	Content Type audio/mpeg Header Check
12635 1	Content Type audio/mpeg Invalid Message Length
12635 2	Content Type audio/mpeg Verification Failed
12636 0	Content Type audio/x-adpcm Header Check
12636 1	Content Type audio/x-adpcm Invalid Message Length
12636 2	Content Type audio/x-adpcm Verification Failed
12637 0	Content Type audio/x-aiff Header Check
12637 1	Content Type audio/x-aiff Invalid Message Length
12637 2	Content Type audio/x-aiff Verification Failed
12638 0	Content Type audio/x-ogg Header Check
12638 1	Content Type audio/x-ogg Invalid Message Length
12638 2	Content Type audio/x-ogg Verification Failed
12639 0	Content Type audio/x-wav Header Check
12639 1	Content Type audio/x-wav Invalid Message Length
12639 2	Content Type audio/x-wav Verification Failed
12641 0	Content Type text/html Header Check
12641 1	Content Type text/html Invalid Message Length
12641 2	Content Type text/html Verification Failed
12642 0	Content Type text/css Header Check
12642 1	Content Type text/css Invalid Message Length
12643 0	Content Type text/plain Header Check
12643 1	Content Type text/plain Invalid Message Length
12644 0	Content Type text/richtext Header Check
12644 1	Content Type text/richtext Invalid Message Length

Table 9-2 *Define Content Type Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID	Signature Description
12645 0	Content Type text/sgml Header Check
12645 1	Content Type text/sgml Invalid Message Length
12645 2	Content Type text/sgml Verification Failed
12646 0	Content Type text/xml Header Check
12646 1	Content Type text/xml Invalid Message Length
12646 2	Content Type text/xml Verification Failed
12648 0	Content Type video/flc Header Check
12648 1	Content Type video/flc Invalid Message Length
12648 2	Content Type video/flc Verification Failed
12649 0	Content Type video/mpeg Header Check
12649 1	Content Type video/mpeg Invalid Message Length
12649 2	Content Type video/mpeg Verification Failed
12650 0	Content Type text/xmcd Header Check
12650 1	Content Type text/xmcd Invalid Message Length
12651 0	Content Type video/quicktime Header Check
12651 1	Content Type video/quicktime Invalid Message Length
12651 2	Content Type video/quicktime Verification Failed
12652 0	Content Type video/sgi Header Check
12652 1	Content Type video/sgi Verification Failed
12653 0	Content Type video/x-avi Header Check
12653 1	Content Type video/x-avi Invalid Message Length
12654 0	Content Type video/x-fli Header Check
12654 1	Content Type video/x-fli Invalid Message Length
12654 2	Content Type video/x-fli Verification Failed
12655 0	Content Type video/x-mng Header Check
12655 1	Content Type video/x-mng Invalid Message Length
12655 2	Content Type video/x-mng Verification Failed
12656 0	Content Type application/x-msvideo Header Check
12656 1	Content Type application/x-msvideo Invalid Message Length
12656 2	Content Type application/x-msvideo Verification Failed
12658 0	Content Type application/ms-word Header Check
12658 1	Content Type application/ms-word Invalid Message Length
12659 0	Content Type application/octet-stream Header Check
12659 1	Content Type application/octet-stream Invalid Message Length
12660 0	Content Type application/postscript Header Check
12660 1	Content Type application/postscript Invalid Message Length
12660 2	Content Type application/postscript Verification Failed
12661 0	Content Type application/vnd.ms-excel Header Check
12661 1	Content Type application/vnd.ms-excel Invalid Message Length
12662 0	Content Type application/vnd.ms-powerpoint Header Check
12662 1	Content Type application/vnd.ms-powerpoint Invalid Message Length

Table 9-2 *Define Content Type Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID	Signature Description
12663 0	Content Type application/zip Header Check
12663 1	Content Type application/zip Invalid Message Length
12663 2	Content Type application/zip Verification Failed
12664 0	Content Type application/x-gzip Header Check
12664 1	Content Type application/x-gzip Invalid Message Length
12664 2	Content Type application/x-gzip Verification Failed
12665 0	Content Type application/x-java-archive Header Check
12665 1	Content Type application/x-java-archive Invalid Message Length
12666 0	Content Type application/x-java-vm Header Check
12666 1	Content Type application/x-java-vm Invalid Message Length
12667 0	Content Type application/pdf Header Check
12667 1	Content Type application/pdf Invalid Message Length
12667 2	Content Type application/pdf Verification Failed
12668 0	Content Type unknown Header Check
12668 1	Content Type unknown Invalid Message Length
12669 0	Content Type image/x-bitmap Header Check
12669 1	Content Type image/x-bitmap Invalid Message Length
12673 0	Recognized content type

AIC Transfer Encoding Signatures

There are three policies associated with transfer encoding:

- Associate an action with each method (Define Transfer Encoding)
- List methods recognized by the sensor (Recognized Transfer Encodings)
- Specify which actions need to be taken when a chunked encoding error is seen (Chunked Transfer Encoding Error)

[Table 9-3](#) lists the predefined transfer encoding signatures. Enable the signatures that have the predefined transfer encoding method you need.

Table 9-3 *Transfer Encoding Signatures*

Signature ID	Transfer Encoding Method
12686	Recognized Transfer Encoding
12687	Define Transfer Encoding Deflate
12688	Define Transfer Encoding Identity
12689	Define Transfer Encoding Compress
12690	Define Transfer Encoding GZIP
12693	Define Transfer Encoding Chunked
12694	Chunked Transfer Encoding Error

AIC FTP Commands Signatures

Table 9-4 lists the predefined FTP commands signatures. Enable the signatures that have the predefined FTP command you need.

Table 9-4 *FTP Commands Signatures*

Signature ID	FTP Command
12900	Unrecognized FTP command
12901	Define FTP command abor
12902	Define FTP command acct
12903	Define FTP command allo
12904	Define FTP command appe
12905	Define FTP command cdup
12906	Define FTP command cwd
12907	Define FTP command dele
12908	Define FTP command help
12909	Define FTP command list
12910	Define FTP command mkd
12911	Define FTP command mode
12912	Define FTP command nlst
12913	Define FTP command noop
12914	Define FTP command pass
12915	Define FTP command pasv
12916	Define FTP command port
12917	Define FTP command pwd
12918	Define FTP command quit
12919	Define FTP command rein
12920	Define FTP command rest
12921	Define FTP command retr
12922	Define FTP command rmd
12923	Define FTP command rnfr
12924	Define FTP command rnto
12925	Define FTP command site
12926	Define FTP command smnt
12927	Define FTP command stat
12928	Define FTP command stor
12929	Define FTP command stou
12930	Define FTP command stru
12931	Define FTP command syst

Table 9-4 *FTP Commands Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID	FTP Command
12932	Define FTP command type
12933	Define FTP command user

Configuring Application Policy



Tip

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

To configure the application policy parameters, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures > Advanced > Miscellaneous**.
- Step 3** In the Enable HTTP field, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list to enable inspection of HTTP traffic.
- Step 4** In the Max HTTP Requests field, enter the number of outstanding HTTP requests per connection that can be outstanding without having received a response from the server.
- Step 5** In the AIC Web Ports field, enter the ports that you want to be active.
- Step 6** In the Enable FTP field choose **Yes** from the drop-down list to enable inspection of FTP traffic.



Note

If you enable the application policy for HTTP or FTP, the sensor checks to be sure the traffic is compliant with the RFC.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **OK**.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 8** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Tuning an AIC Signature

The following example demonstrates how to tune an AIC signature, a Recognized Content Type (MIME) signature, specifically, signature 12,623 1 Content Type image/tiff Invalid Message Length.

To tune a MIME-type policy signature, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
 - Step 3** From the Filter drop-down list, choose **Engine** and then choose **AIC HTTP** as the engine.
 - Step 4** Scroll down the list and select Sig ID 12,623 Subsig ID 1 Content Type image/tiff Invalid Message Length, and click **Edit**.



Tip You can click the Sig ID column head to have the signature IDs appear in order.



Tip An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

- Step 5** Under Status, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list in the Enabled field.
- Step 6** Under Engine, choose one of the options, for example, **Length**, in the Content Type Details field.
- Step 7** In the Length field, make the length smaller by changing the default to 30,000.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 8** Click **OK**, and then click **Apply** to save your changes.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Configuring IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures

This section describes IP fragment reassembly, lists the IP fragment reassembly signatures with their configurable parameters, and describes how to configure them. This section contains the following topics:

- [Understanding IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures, page 9-37](#)
- [IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures and Configurable Parameters, page 9-37](#)
- [Configuring the IP Fragment Reassembly Mode, page 9-38](#)
- [Tuning an IP Fragment Reassembly Signature, page 9-39](#)

Understanding IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures

You can configure the sensor to reassemble a datagram that has been fragmented over multiple packets. You can specify boundaries that the sensor uses to determine how many datagram fragments it reassembles and how long to wait for more fragments of a datagram. The goal is to ensure that the sensor does not allocate all its resources to datagrams that cannot be completely reassembled, either because the sensor missed some frame transmissions or because an attack has been launched that is based on generating random fragmented datagrams.



Note

You configure the IP fragment reassembly per signature.

For More Information

For more information on this signature engine, see [Normalizer Engine, page B-22](#).

IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures and Configurable Parameters

[Table 9-5](#) lists IP fragment reassembly signatures with the parameters that you can configure for IP fragment reassembly. The IP fragment reassembly signatures are part of the Normalizer engine.

Table 9-5 *IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures*

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Action
1200 IP Fragmentation Buffer Full	Fires when the total number of fragments in the system exceeds the threshold set by Max Fragments.	Specify Max Fragments 10000 (0-42000)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ¹
1201 Fragment Overlap	Fires when the fragments queued for a datagram overlap each other.	None ²	
1202 Datagram Too Long	Fires when the fragment data (offset and size) exceeds the threshold set with Max Datagram Size.	Specify Max Datagram Size 65536 (2000-65536)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ³
1203 Fragment Overwrite	Fires when the fragments queued for a datagram overlap each other and the overlapping data is different. ⁴	None	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ⁵
1204 No Initial Fragment	Fires when the datagram is incomplete and missing the initial fragment.	None	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ⁶
1205 Too Many Datagrams	Fires when the total number of partial datagrams in the system exceeds the threshold set by Max Partial Datagrams.	Specify Max Partial Datagrams 1000 (0-10000)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ⁷
1206 Fragment Too Small	Fires when there are more than Max Small Frags of a size less than Min Fragment Size in one datagram. ⁸	Specify Max Small Frags 2 (8-1500) Specify Min Fragment Size 400 (1-8)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ⁹
1207 Too Many Fragments	Fires when there are more than Max Fragments per Datagram in one datagram.	Specify Max Fragments per Datagram 170 (0-8192)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ¹⁰

Table 9-5 *IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Action
1208 Incomplete Datagram	Fires when all of the fragments for a datagram have not arrived during the Fragment Reassembly Timeout. ¹¹	Specify Fragment Reassembly Timeout 60 (0-360)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ¹²
1220 Jolt2 Fragment Reassembly DoS attack	Fires when multiple fragments are received all claiming to be the last fragment of an IP datagram.	Specify Max Last Fragments 4 (1-50)	Deny Packet Inline Produce Alert ¹³
1225 Fragment Flags Invalid	Fires when a bad combination of fragment flags is detected.	None ¹⁴	

1. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packets and all associated fragments for this datagram. If you disable this signature, the default values are still used and packets are dropped (inline mode) or not analyzed (promiscuous mode) and no alert is sent.
2. This signature does not fire when the datagram is an exact duplicate. Exact duplicates are dropped in inline mode regardless of the settings. Modify Packet Inline removes the overlapped data from all but one fragment so there is no ambiguity about how the endpoint treats the datagram. Deny Connection Inline has no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
3. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram. Regardless of the actions set the datagram is not processed by the IPS if the datagram is larger than the Max Datagram size.
4. This is a very unusual event.
5. Modify Packet Inline removes the overlapped data from all but one fragment so there is no ambiguity about how the endpoint treats the datagram. Deny Connection Inline has no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packets and all associated fragments for this datagram.
6. IPS does not inspect a datagram missing the first fragments regardless of the settings. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
7. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
8. IPS does not inspect the datagram if this signature is on and the number of small fragments is exceeded.
9. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
10. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
11. The timer starts when the packet for the datagram arrives.
12. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
13. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Connection Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.
14. Modify Packet Inline modifies the flags to a valid combination. Deny Connection Inline has no effect on this signature. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet and all associated fragments for this datagram.

Configuring the IP Fragment Reassembly Mode



Note

You can configure this option if your sensor is operating in promiscuous mode. If your sensor is operating in inline mode, the method is NT only.

To configure the mode the sensor uses for IP fragment reassembly, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures > Advanced > Miscellaneous**.

**Tip**

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

- Step 3** Under Fragment Reassembly, from the IP Reassembly Mode field choose the operating system you want to use to reassemble the fragments.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Advanced dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 4** Click **OK**, and then **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Tuning an IP Fragment Reassembly Signature

The following procedure demonstrates how to tune an IP fragment reassembly signature, specifically, signature 1200 0 IP Fragmentation Buffer Full.

To tune an IP fragment reassembly signature, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.
- Step 3** In the Filter field, choose **Engine** from the drop-down list, and then choose **Normalizer** as the engine.
- Step 4** Select the IP fragment reassembly signature you want to configure in the list, for example, Sig ID 1200 Subsig ID 0 IP Fragmentation Buffer Full, and then click **Edit**.

**Tip**

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

- Step 5** Change the default setting of any IP fragment reassembly parameters that can be configured for signature 1200. For example, in the Max Fragments field change the setting from the default of 10000 to 20000.

For signature 1200, you can also change the parameters of these options:

- Specify TCP Idle Timeout
- Specify Service Ports
- Specify SYN Flood Max Embryonic

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **OK**, and then **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Configuring TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures

This section describes TCP stream reassembly, lists the TCP stream reassembly signatures with the configurable parameters, describes how to configure TCP stream signatures, and how to configure the mode for TCP stream reassembly. This section contains the following topics:

- [Understanding TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures, page 9-40](#)
- [TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures and Configurable Parameters, page 9-40](#)
- [Configuring the TCP Stream Reassembly Mode, page 9-45](#)
- [Configuring TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures, page 9-40](#)

Understanding TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures

You can configure the sensor to monitor only TCP sessions that have been established by a complete three-way handshake. You can also configure how long to wait for the handshake to complete, and how long to keep monitoring a connection where no more packets have been seen. The goal is to prevent the sensor from creating alerts where a valid TCP session has not been established. There are known attacks against sensors that try to get the sensor to generate alerts by simply replaying pieces of an attack. The TCP session reassembly feature helps to mitigate these types of attacks against the sensor.

You configure TCP stream reassembly parameters per signature. You can configure the mode for TCP stream reassembly.

For More Information

For more information on this signature engine, see [Normalizer Engine, page B-22](#).

TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures and Configurable Parameters

[Table 9-6](#) lists TCP stream reassembly signatures with the parameters that you can configure for TCP stream reassembly. TCP stream reassembly signatures are part of the Normalizer engine.

Table 9-6 *TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures*

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Actions
1301 TCP Session Inactivity Timeout ¹	Fires when a TCP session has been idle for a TCP Idle Timeout.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600 (15-3600)	— ²
1302 TCP Session Embryonic Timeout ³	Fires when a TCP session has not completes the three-way handshake in TCP embryonic timeout seconds.	TCP Embryonic Timeout 15 (3-300)	— ⁴

Table 9-6 TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures (continued)

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Actions
1303 TCP Session Closing Timeout ⁵	Fires when a TCP session has not closed completely in TCP Closed Timeout seconds after the first FIN.	TCP Closed Timeout 5 (1-60)	— ⁶
1304 TCP Session Packet Queue Overflow	This signature allows for setting the internal TCP Max Queue size value for the Normalizer engine. As a result it does not function in promiscuous mode. By default this signature does not fire an alert. If a custom alert event is associated with this signature and if the queue size is exceeded, an alert fires. Note The IPS signature team discourages modifying this value.	TCP Max Queue 32 (0-128) TCP Idle Timeout 3600	— ⁷
1305 TCP Urg Flag Set ⁸	Fires when the TCP urgent flag is seen	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ⁹
1306 0 TCP Option Other	Fires when a TCP option in the range of TCP Option Number is seen. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Option Number 6-7,9-255 (Integer Range Allow Multiple 0-255 constraints) TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline Produce Alert ¹⁰
1306 1 TCP SACK Allowed Option	Fires when a TCP selective ACK allowed option is seen. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ¹¹
1306 2 TCP SACK Data Option	Fires when a TCP selective ACK data option is seen. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ¹²
1306 3 TCP Timestamp Option	Fires when a TCP timestamp option is seen. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ¹³

Table 9-6 *TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Actions
1306 4 TCP Window Scale Option	Fires when a TCP window scale option is seen. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ¹⁴
1306 5 TCP MSS Option	Fires when a TCP MSS option is detected. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline
1306 6 TCP option data after EOL option	Fires when the TCP option list has data after the EOL option. All 1306 signatures fire an alert and do not function in promiscuous mode.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline
1307 TCP Window Variation	Fires when the right edge of the recv window for TCP moves to the right (decreases).	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Deny Connection Inline Produce Alert ¹⁵
1308 TTL Evasion ¹⁶	Fires when the TTL seen on one direction of a session is higher than the minimum that has been observed.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ¹⁷
1309 TCP Reserved Flags Set	Fires when the reserved bits (including bits used for ECN) are set on the TCP header.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline Produce Alert ¹⁸
1311 TCP Packet Exceeds MSS	Fires when a packet exceeds the MSS that was exchanged during the three-way handshake.	TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Produce Alert ¹⁹
1312 TCP MSS Below Minimum	Fires when the MSS value in a packet containing a SYN flag is less than TCP Min MSS.	TCP Min MSS 400 (0-16000) TCP Idle Timeout 3600	Modify Packet Inline ²⁰
1313 TCP Max MSS	Fires when the MSS value in a packet containing a SYN flag exceed TCP Max MSS	TCP Max MSS 1460 (0-16000)	Modify Packet Inline disabled ²¹
1314 TCP Data SYN	Fires when TCP payload is sent in the SYN packet.	—	Deny Packet Inline disabled ²²
1315 ACK Without TCP Stream	Fires when an ACK packet is sent that does not belong to a stream.	—	Produce Alert disabled ²³

Table 9-6 *TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Actions
1317 Zero Window Probe	Fires when a zero window probe packet is detected.	Modify Packet Inline removes data from the Zero Window Probe packet.	Modify Packet Inline
1330 ²⁴ 0 TCP Drop - Bad Checksum	Fires when TCP packet has bad checksum.	Modify Packet Inline corrects the checksum.	Deny Packet Inline
1330 1 TCP Drop - Bad TCP Flags	Fires when TCP packet has bad flag combination.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 2 TCP Drop - Urgent Pointer With No Flag	Fires when TCP packet has a URG pointer and no URG flag.	Modify Packet Inline clears the pointer.	Modify Packet Inline disabled
1330 3 TCP Drop - Bad Option List	Fires when TCP packet has a bad option list.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 4 TCP Drop - Bad Option Length	Fires when TCP packet has a bad option length.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 5 TCP Drop - MSS Option Without SYN	Fires when TCP MSS option is seen in packet without the SYN flag set.	Modify Packet Inline clears the MSS option.	Modify Packet Inline
1330 6 TCP Drop - WinScale Option Without SYN	Fires when TCP window scale option is seen in packet without the SYN flag set.	Modify Packet Inline clears the window scale option.	Modify Packet Inline
1330 7 TCP Drop - Bad WinScale Option Value	Fires when a TCP packet has a bad window scale value.	Modify Packet Inline sets the value to the closest constraint value.	Modify Packet Inline
1330 8 TCP Drop - SACK Allow Without SYN	Fires when the TCP SACK allowed option is seen in a packet without the SYN flags set.	Modify Packet Inline clears the SACK allowed option.	Modify Packet Inline
1330 9 TCP Drop - Data in SYN ACK	Fires when TCP packet with SYN and ACK flags set also contains data.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 10 TCP Drop - Data Past FIN	Fires when TCP data is sequenced after FIN.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 11 TCP Drop - Timestamp not Allowed	Fires when TCP packet has timestamp option when timestamp option is not allowed.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 12 TCP Drop - Segment Out of Order	Fires when TCP segment is out of order and cannot be queued.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 13 TCP Drop - Invalid TCP Packet	Fires when TCP packet has invalid header.	—	Deny Packet Inline

Table 9-6 *TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID and Name	Description	Parameter With Default Value and Range	Default Actions
1330 14 TCP Drop - RST or SYN in window	Fires when TCP packet with RST or SYN flag was sent in the sequence window but was not the next sequence.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 15 TCP Drop - Segment Already ACKed	Fires when TCP packet sequence is already ACKed by peer (excluding keepalives).	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 16 TCP Drop - PAWS Failed	Fires when TCP packet fails PAWS check.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 17 TCP Drop - Segment out of State Order	Fires when TCP packet is not proper for the TCP session state.	—	Deny Packet Inline
1330 18 TCP Drop - Segment out of Window	Fires when TCP packet sequence number is outside of allowed window.	—	Deny Packet Inline
3050 Half Open SYN Attack		syn-flood-max-embryonic 5000	
3250 TCP Hijack		max-old-ack 200	
3251 TCP Hijack Simplex Mode		max-old-ack 100	

1. The timer is reset to 0 after each packet on the TCP session. by default, this signature does not produce an alert. You can choose to produce alerts for expiring TCP connections if desired. A statistic of total number of expired flows is updated any time a flow expires.
2. Modify Packet Inline, Deny Connection Inline, and Deny Packet Inline have no effect on this signature.
3. The timer starts with the first SYN packet and is not reset. State for the session is reset and any subsequent packets for this flow appear to be out of order (unless it is a SYN).
4. Modify Packet Inline, Deny Connection Inline, and Deny Packet Inline have no effect on this signature.
5. The timer starts with the first FIN packet and is not reset. State for the session is reset and any subsequent packets for this flow appear to be out of order (unless it is a SYN).
6. Modify Packet Inline, Deny Connection Inline, and Deny Packet Inline have no effect on this signature.
7. Modify Packet Inline and Deny Packet Inline have no effect on this signature. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session.
8. Phrak 57 describes a way to evade security policy using URG pointers. You can normalize the packet when it is in inline mode with this signature.
9. Modify Packet Inline strips the URG flag and zeros the URG pointer from the packet. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
10. Modify Packet Inline strips the selected option(s) from the packet. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
11. Modify Packet Inline strips the selected ACK allowed option from the packet. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
12. Modify Packet Inline strips the selected ACK allowed option from the packet. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
13. Modify Packet Inline strips the timestamp option from the packet. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
14. Modify Packet Inline strips the window scale option from the packet. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
15. Modify Packet Inline has no effect on this signature. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP connection. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.

16. This signature is used to cause TTLs to monotonically decrease for each direction on a session. For example, if TTL 45 is the lowest TTL seen from A to B, then all future packets from A to B will have a maximum of 45 if Modify Packet Inline is set. Each new low TTL becomes the new maximum for packets on that session.
17. Modify Packet Inline ensures that the IP TTL monotonically decreases. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
18. Modify Packet Inline clears all reserved TCP flags. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
19. Modify Packet Inline has no effect on this signature. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP connection. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
20. 2.4.21-15.EL.cisco.1 Modify Packet Inline raises the MSS value to TCP Min MSS. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet 2.4.21-15.EL.cisco.1.
21. Modify Packet Inline lowers the MSS value to TCP Max MSS. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet 2.4.21-15.EL.cisco.1.
22. Modify Packet Inline has no effect on this signature. Deny Connection Inline drops the current packet and the TCP session. Deny Packet Inline drops the packet.
23. Modify Packet Inline, Deny Connection Inline, and Deny Packet Inline have no effect on this signature. By default, the 1330 signatures drop packets for which this signature sends alerts.
24. These subsignatures represent the reasons why the Normalizer might drop a TCP packet. By default these subsignatures drop packets. These subsignatures let you permit packets that fail the checks in the Normalizer through the IPS. The drop reasons have an entry in the TCP statistics. By default these subsignatures do not produce an alert.

Configuring the TCP Stream Reassembly Mode



Note

The parameters TCP Handshake Required and TCP Reassembly Mode only impact sensors inspecting traffic in promiscuous mode, not inline mode. To configure asymmetric options for sensors inspecting inline traffic, use the Normalizer Mode parameter.

To configure the TCP stream reassembly mode, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures > Advanced > Miscellaneous**.



Tip

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

- Step 3** Under Stream Reassembly, in TCP Handshake Required field, choose **Yes**.
Choosing TCP Handshake Required specifies that the sensor should only track sessions for which the three-way handshake is completed.

Step 4 In the TCP Reassembly Mode field, from the drop-down list, choose the mode the sensor should use to reassemble TCP sessions:

- **Asymmetric**—Lets the sensor synchronize state with the flow and maintain inspection for those engines that do not require both directions.
- **Strict**—If a packet is missed for any reason, all packets after the missed packet are processed.
- **Loose**—Use in environments where packets might be dropped.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Advanced dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 5 Click **OK**, and then **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

For More Information

For information on asymmetric inspection options for sensors configured in inline mode, see [Inline TCP Session Tracking Mode, page 8-3](#) and [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Virtual Sensors, page 8-11](#).

Tuning a TCP Stream Reassembly Signature

The following procedure demonstrates how to tune a TCP stream reassembly signatures, for example, signature 1313 0 TCP MSS Exceeds Maximum.



Caution

For signature 3050 Half Open SYN Attack, if you choose modify packet inline as the action, you can see as much as 20 to 30% performance degradation while the protection is active. The protection is only active during an actual SYN flood.

To tune a TCP stream reassembly signature, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures**.

Step 3 From the Filter drop-down list, choose **Engine** and then choose **Normalizer**.

Step 4 Select the TCP fragment reassembly signature you want to configure in the list, for example, Sig ID 1313 Subsig ID 0 TCP MSS Exceeds Maximum, and click **Edit**.



Tip An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

- Step 5** Change the default setting of any configurable IP fragment reassembly parameters for signature 1313. For example, in the TCP Max MSS field, change the setting from the default of 1460 to 1380.



Note Changing this parameter from the default of 1460 to 1380 helps prevent fragmentation of traffic going through a VPN tunnel.

For signature 1313 0, you can also change the parameters of these options:

- Specify Hijack Max Old Ack
- Specify TCP Idle Timeout
- Specify Service Ports
- Specify SYN Flood Max Embryonic



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Signature dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **OK**, and then **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Configuring IP Logging

You can configure a sensor to generate an IP session log when the sensor detects an attack. When IP logging is configured as a response action for a signature and the signature is triggered, all packets to and from the source address of the alert are logged for a specified period of time.



Note IP logging allows a maximum limit of 20 concurrent IP log files. Once the limit of 20 is reached, you receive the following message in main.log: Cid/W errWarnIpLogProcessor::addIpLog: Ran out of file descriptors.



Tip An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.



Note When the sensor meets any one of the IP logging conditions, it stops IP logging.

To configure IP logging parameters, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > All Signatures > Advanced > Miscellaneous**.

Step 3 Under IP Log in the Max IP Log Packets field, enter the number of packets you want logged.

Step 4 In the IP Log Time field, enter the duration you want the sensor to log. A valid value is 1 to 60 minutes. The default is 30 minutes.

Step 5 In the Max IP Log Bytes field, enter the maximum number of bytes you want logged.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Advanced dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 6 Click **OK**, and then **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.



CHAPTER 10

Using the Signature Wizard

This chapter describes the Custom Signature Wizard and how to use it to create custom signatures. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding the Custom Signature Wizard, page 10-1](#)
- [Using a Signature Engine, page 10-1](#)
- [Signature Engines Not Supported for the Custom Signature Wizard, page 10-2](#)
- [Not Using a Signature Engine, page 10-3](#)
- [Creating Custom Signatures, page 10-4](#)
- [Signature Wizard Field Definitions, page 10-10](#)

Understanding the Custom Signature Wizard



Note

You must be administrator or operator to create custom signatures.

The Custom Signature wizard guides you through a step-by-step process for creating custom signatures. There are two possible sequences—using a signature engine to create your custom signature or creating the custom signature without a signature engine.

For More Information

For more information on the individual signature engines, see [Appendix B, “Signature Engines.”](#)

Using a Signature Engine

The following sequence applies if you use a signature engine to create your custom signature:

Step 1 Choose a signature engine:

- Atomic IP
- Service HTTP
- Service MSRPC
- Service RPC

- State (SMTP, ...)
- String ICMP
- String TCP
- String UDP
- Sweep

Step 2 Assign the signature identification parameters:

- Signature ID
- Subsignature ID
- Signature Name
- Alert Notes (optional)
- User Comments (optional)

Step 3 Assign the engine-specific parameters.

The parameters differ for each signature engine, although there is a group of master parameters that applies to each engine.

Step 4 Assign the alert response:

- Signature Fidelity Rating
- Severity of the Alert

Step 5 Assign the alert behavior.

You can accept the default alert behavior. To change it, click **Advanced**, which opens the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard. With this wizard you can configure how you want to handle alerts for this signature.

Step 6 Click **Finish**.

Signature Engines Not Supported for the Custom Signature Wizard

The Custom Signature wizard in Cisco IPS 6.1 does not support creating custom signatures based on the following signature engines:

- AIC FTP
- AIC HTTP
- Atomic ARP
- Atomic IP6
- Flood Host
- Flood Net
- Meta
- Multi String
- Normalizer
- Service DNS

- Service FTP
- Service Generic
- Service Generic Advanced
- Service H225
- Service IDENT
- Service MSSQL
- Service NTP
- Service SMB
- Service SMB Advanced
- Service SNMP
- Service SSH
- Service TNS
- Sweep Other TCP
- Traffic ICMP
- Traffic Anomaly
- Trojan Bo2k
- Trojan Tfn2k
- Trojan UDF

You can create custom signatures based on these existing signature engines by cloning an existing signature from the engine you want.

Not Using a Signature Engine

The following sequence applies if you are not using a signature engine to create your custom signature:

-
- Step 1** Specify the protocol you want to use:
- IP—Go to Step 3.
 - ICMP—Go to Step 2.
 - UDP—Go to Step 2.
 - TCP—Go to Step 2.
- Step 2** For ICMP and UDP protocols, select the traffic type and inspect data type. For TCP protocol, select the traffic type.
- Step 3** Assign the signature identification parameters:
- Signature ID
 - Subsignature ID
 - Signature Name
 - Alert Notes (optional)
 - User Comments (optional)

Step 4 Assign the engine-specific parameters.

The parameters differ for each signature engine, although there is a group of master parameters that applies to each engine.

Step 5 Assign the alert response:

- Signature Fidelity Rating
- Severity of the Alert

Step 6 Assign the alert behavior.

You can accept the default alert behavior. To change it, click **Advanced**, which opens the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard. With this wizard you can configure how you want to handle alerts for this signature.

Step 7 Click **Finish**.

Creating Custom Signatures

The Custom Signature wizard provides a step-by-step procedure for configuring custom signatures.



Caution

Adding a custom signature can affect sensor performance. To monitor the effect the new signature has on the sensor, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Interface Configuration > Traffic Flow Notifications** and configure the Missed Packet Threshold and Notification Interval options to judge how the sensor is handling the new signature.

To create custom signatures using the Custom Signature wizard, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Signature Wizard**.



Caution

A custom signature can affect the performance of your sensor. Test the custom signature against a baseline sensor performance for your network to determine the overall impact of the signature.

Step 3 If you know the specific signature engine you want to use to create the new signature, click the **Yes** radio button, choose the engine from the Select Engine drop-down list, and then click **Next**. Go to Step 12.

If you do not know what engine you should use, click the **No** radio button, and then click **Next**.

Step 4 Click the radio button that best matches the type of traffic you want this signature to inspect, and then click **Next**:

- IP (for IP, go to Step 12.)
- ICMP (for ICMP, go to Step 5.)
- UDP (for UDP, go to Step 6.)
- TCP (for TCP, go to Step 8.)

Step 5 In the ICMP Traffic Type window, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- Single Packet

You are creating a signature to inspect a single packet for an attack using either the Atomic IP engine (for Header Data) or the String ICMP engine.

Go to Step 11.

- Sweeps

You are creating a signature to detect a sweep attack using the sweep engine for your new signature.

Go to Step 12.

Step 6 In the UDP Traffic Type window, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- Single Packet

You are creating a signature to inspect a single packet for an attack using either the Atomic IP engine (for Header Data) or the String UDP engine.

Go to Step 11.

- Sweeps

You are creating a signature to detect a sweep attack using the sweep engine for the signature.

Go to Step 7.

Step 7 In the UDP Sweep Type window, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- Host Sweep

You are creating a signature that uses a sweep to search for open ports on a host. The sweep engine is used to create the new signature and the storage key is set to Axxx.

Go to Step 12.

- Port Sweep

You are creating a signature that uses a sweep to search for hosts on a network. The sweep engine is used to create the new signature and the storage key is set to AxBx.

Go to Step 12.

Step 8 In the TCP Traffic Type window, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- Single Packet

You are creating a signature to inspect a single packet for an attack. The atomic IP engine is used to create the signature.

Go to Step 12.

- Single TCP Connection

You are creating a signature to detect an attack in a single TCP connection.

Go to Step 9.

- Multiple Connections

You are creating a signature to inspect multiple connections for an attack.

Go to Step 10.

Step 9 In the Service Type window, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- HTTP

You are creating a signature to detect an attack that uses the HTTP service. The service HTTP engine is used to create the signature.

- SMTP

You are creating a signature to detect an attack that uses the SMTP service. The SMTP engine is used to create the signature.

- RPC

You are creating a signature to detect an attack that uses the RPC service. The service RPC engine is used to create the signature.

- MSRPC

You are creating a signature to detect an attack that uses the MSRPC service. The service MSRPC engine is used to create the signature.

- Other

You are creating a signature to detect an attack that uses a service other than HTTP, SMTP, or RPC. The string TCP engine is used to create the signature.

Go to Step 12.

Step 10 On the TCP Sweep Type window, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- Host Sweep

You are creating a signature that uses a sweep to search for open ports on a host. The sweep engine is used to create the signature and the storage key is set to Axxx.

- Port Sweep

You are creating a signature that uses a sweep to search for hosts on a network. The Sweep engine is used to create the new signature and the storage key is set to AxBx.

Go to Step 12.

Step 11 In the Inspect Data window, for a single packet, click one of the following radio buttons, and then click **Next**:

- Header Data Only

Specifies the header as the portion of the packet you want the sensor to inspect.

- Payload Data Only

Specifies the payload as the portion of the packet you want the sensor to inspect.

Go to Step 12.

Step 12 In the Signature Identification window, specify the attributes that uniquely identify this signature, and then click **Next**:

- In the Signature ID field, enter a number for this signature.

Custom signatures are range from 60000 to 65000.

- In the Subsignature ID field, enter a number for this signature.

The default is 0.

You can assign a subsignature ID if you are grouping signatures together that are similar.

- In the Signature Name field, enter a name for this signature.

A default name appears in the Signature Name field. Change it to a name that is more specific for your custom signature.



Note

The signature name, along with the signature ID and subsignature ID, is reported to Event Viewer when an alert is generated.

- d. (Optional) In the Alert Notes field, enter text to be added to the alert.

You can add text to be included in alerts associated with this signature. These notes are reported to Event Viewer when an alert is generated.

- e. (Optional) In the User Comments field, enter text that describes this signature.

You can add any text that you find useful here. This field does not affect the signature or alert in any way.

Step 13 Assign values to the engine-specific parameters, and then click **Next**.



Tip

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

Step 14 In the Alert Response window, specify the following alert response options:

- a. In the Signature Fidelity Rating field, enter a value.

The signature fidelity rating is a valid value between 0 and 100 that indicates your confidence in the signature, with 100 being the most confident.

- b. From the Severity of the Alert drop-down list, choose the severity to be reported by Event Viewer when the sensor sends an alert:

- High
- Informational
- Low
- Medium

Step 15 To accept the default alert behavior, click **Finish** and go to Step 22. To change the default alert behavior, click **Advanced** and continue with Step 16.



Note

You can control how often this signature fires. For example, you may want to decrease the volume of alerts sent out from the sensor. Or you may want the sensor to provide basic aggregation of signature firings into a single alert. Or you may want to counter anti-IPS tools such as “stick,” which are designed to send bogus traffic so that the IPS produces thousands of alerts during a very short time.

Step 16 Configure the event count, key, and interval:

- a. In the Event Count field, enter a value for the event count.

This is the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending one alert for this signature.

- b. From the Event Count Key drop-down list, choose an attribute to use as the event count key.

For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the event count key.

- c. If you want to count events based on a rate, check the **Use Event Interval** check box, and then in the Event Interval (seconds) field, enter the number of seconds that you want to use for your interval.

- d. Click **Next** to continue.

The Alert Summarization window appears.

Step 17 To control the volume of alerts and configure how the sensor summarizes alerts, click one of the following radio buttons:

- Alert Every Time the Signature Fires

Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert every time the signature detects malicious traffic. You can then specify additional thresholds that let the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.

Go to Step 18.

- Alert the First Time the Signature Fires

Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert the first time the signature detects malicious traffic. You can then specify additional thresholds that let the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.

Go to Step 19.

- Send Summary Alerts

Specifies that you want the sensor to only send summary alerts for this signature instead of sending alerts every time the signature fires. You can then specify additional thresholds that let the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.

Go to Step 20.

- Send Global Summary Alerts

Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert the first time a signature fires on an address set, and then only send a global summary alert that includes a summary of all alerts for all address sets over a given time interval.



Note

When multiple contexts from the adaptive security appliance are contained in one virtual sensor, the summary alerts contain the context name of the last context that was summarized. Thus, the summary is the result of all alerts of this type from all contexts that are being summarized.

Go to Step 21.

Step 18 Configure the Alert Every Time the Signature Fires option:

- a. From the Summary Key drop-down list, choose the type of summary key.

The summary key identifies the attribute to use for counting events. For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the summary key.

- b. To use dynamic summarization, check the **Use Dynamic Summarization** check box.

Dynamic summarization lets the sensor dynamically adjust the volume of alerts it sends based on the summary parameters you configure.

- c. In the Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a summary alert for this signature.

- d. In the Summary Interval (seconds) field, enter the number of seconds that you want to use for the time interval.

- e. To have the sensor enter global summarization mode, check the **Specify Global Summary Threshold** check box.

- f. In the Global Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.

Step 19 Configure the Alert the First Time the Signature Fires option:

- a. From the Summary Key drop-down list, choose the type of summary key.
The summary key identifies the attribute to use for counting events. For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the summary key.
- b. To have the sensor use dynamic global summarization, check the **Use Dynamic Global Summarization** check box.
- c. In the Global Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.
When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single alert the first time a signature fires to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior.
- d. In the Global Summary Interval (seconds) field, enter the number of seconds during which the sensor counts events for summarization.

Step 20 Configure the Send Summary Alerts option:

- a. In the Summary Interval (seconds) field, enter the number of seconds during which the sensor counts events for summarization.
- b. From the Summary Key drop-down list, choose the type of summary key.
The summary key identifies the attribute to use for counting events. For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, choose Attacker address as the summary key.
- c. To have the sensor use dynamic global summarization, check the **Use Dynamic Global Summarization** check box.
- d. In the Global Summary Threshold field, enter the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.
When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single alert the first time a signature fires to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior.

Step 21 In the Global Summary Interval (seconds) field, enter the number of seconds during which the sensor counts events for summarization.

Step 22 Click **Finish** to save your alert behavior changes.

Step 23 Click **Finish** to save your custom signature.

Step 24 Click **Yes** to create the custom signature.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

The signature you created is enabled and added to the list of signatures.

Signature Wizard Field Definitions

This section describes the Custom Signature wizard windows and lists the field definitions for the Custom Signature wizard. It contains the following topics:

- [Welcome Window, page 10-10](#)
- [Protocol Type Window, page 10-11](#)
- [Signature Identification Window, page 10-11](#)
- [Service MSRPC Engine Parameters Window, page 10-12](#)
- [ICMP Traffic Type Window, page 10-12](#)
- [Inspect Data Window, page 10-12](#)
- [UDP Traffic Type Window, page 10-13](#)
- [UDP Sweep Type Window, page 10-13](#)
- [TCP Traffic Type Window, page 10-13](#)
- [Service Type Window, page 10-13](#)
- [TCP Sweep Type Window, page 10-13](#)
- [Atomic IP Engine Parameters Window, page 10-14](#)
- [Service HTTP Engine Parameters Window, page 10-15](#)
- [Service RPC Engine Parameters Window, page 10-18](#)
- [State Engine Parameters Window, page 10-19](#)
- [String ICMP Engine Parameters Window, page 10-20](#)
- [String TCP Engine Parameters Window, page 10-20](#)
- [String UDP Engine Parameters Window, page 10-23](#)
- [Sweep Engine Parameters Window, page 10-24](#)
- [Alert Response Window, page 10-25](#)
- [Alert Behavior Window, page 10-25](#)

Welcome Window

The following fields are found in the Welcome window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- **Yes**—Activates the Select Engine field and lets you choose from a list of signature engines.
- **Select Engine**—Displays the list of available signature engines. If you know which signature engine you want to use to create a signature, click **Yes**, and choose the engine type from the drop-down list.
 - **Atomic IP**—Lets you create an Atomic IP signature.
 - **Service HTTP**—Lets you create a signature for HTTP traffic.
 - **Service MSRPC**—Lets you create a signature for MSRPC traffic.
 - **Service RPC**—Lets you create a signature for RPC traffic.
 - **State SMTP**—Lets you create a signature for SMTP traffic.
 - **String ICMP**—Lets you create a signature for an ICMP string.
 - **String TCP**—Lets you create a signature for a TCP string.

- String UDP—Lets you create a signature for a UDP string.
- Sweep—Lets you create a signature for a sweep.
- No—Lets you continue with the advanced engine selection screens of the Custom Signature wizard.

Protocol Type Window

You can define a signature that looks for malicious behavior in a certain protocol. You can have the following protocols decoded and inspected by your signature:

- IP
- ICMP
- UDP
- TCP

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Protocol Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- IP—Creates a signature to decode and inspect IP traffic.
- ICMP—Creates a signature to decode and inspect ICMP traffic.
- UDP—Creates a signature to decode and inspect UDP traffic.
- TCP—Creates a signature to decode and inspect TCP traffic.

Signature Identification Window

The signature identification parameters describe the signature but do not affect the behavior of the signature. You must have a signature ID, subsignature ID, and a signature name. The other fields are optional.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Signature Identification window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Signature ID—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature. The signature ID lets the sensor identify a particular signature. The signature ID is reported to the Event Viewer when an alert is generated. The valid range is between 60000 and 65000.
- SubSignature ID—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this subsignature. The subsignature ID identifies a more granular version of a broad signature. The valid value is between 0 and 255. The subsignature is reported to the Event Viewer when an alert is generated.
- Signature Name—Identifies the name assigned to this signature. Reported to the Event Viewer when an alert is generated.
- Alert Notes—(Optional) Specifies the text that is associated with the alert if this signature fires. Reported to the Event Viewer when an alert is generated.
- User Comments—(Optional) Specifies notes or other comments about this signature that you want stored with the signature parameters.

Service MSRPC Engine Parameters Window

The Service MSRPC engine processes MSRPC packets. MSRPC allows for cooperative processing between multiple computers and their application software in a networked environment. It is a transaction-based protocol, implying that there is a sequence of communications that establish the channel and pass processing requests and replies.

MSRPC is an ISO Layer 5-6 protocol and is layered on top of other transport protocols such as UDP, TCP, and SMB. The MSRPC engine contains facilities to allow for fragmentation and reassembly of the MSRPC PDUs. This communication channel is the source of recent Windows NT, Windows 2000, and Windows XP security vulnerabilities.

The Service MSRPC engine only decodes the DCE and RPC protocol for the most common transaction types.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the MSRPC Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options enable you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Specify Regex String—(Optional) Lets you specify an exact match offset, including the minimum and maximum match offset, Regex string, and minimum match length.
- Protocol—Lets you specify TCP or UDP as the protocol.
- Specify Operation—(Optional) Lets you specify an operation.
- Specify UUID—(Optional) Lets you specify a UUID.

ICMP Traffic Type Window

The following fields are found in the ICMP Traffic Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Single Packet—Specifies that you are creating a signature to inspect a single packet for an attack.
- Sweeps—Specifies that you are creating a signature to detect a sweep attack.

Inspect Data Window

The following fields are found in the Inspect Data window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Header Data Only—Specifies the header as the portion of the packet you want the sensor to inspect.
- Payload Data Only—Specifies the payload as the portion of the packet you want the sensor to inspect.

UDP Traffic Type Window

The following fields are found in the UDP Traffic Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Single Packet—Specifies that you are creating a signature to inspect a single packet for an attack.
- Sweeps—Specifies that you are creating a signature to detect a sweep attack.

UDP Sweep Type Window

The following fields are found in the UDP Sweep Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Host Sweep—Identifies a sweep that searches for hosts on a network.
- Port Sweep—Identifies a sweep that searches for open ports on a host.

TCP Traffic Type Window

The following fields are found in the TCP Traffic Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Single Packet—Specifies that you are creating a signature to inspect a single packet for an attack.
- Single TCP Connection—Specifies that you are creating a signature to inspect a single TCP connection for an attack.
- Multiple Connections—Specifies that you are creating a signature to inspect multiple connections for an attack.

Service Type Window

The following fields are found in the Service Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- HTTP—Specifies you are creating a signature to describe an attack that uses the HTTP service.
- SMTP—Specifies you are creating a signature to describe an attack that uses the SMTP service.
- RPC—Specifies you are creating a signature to describe an attack that uses the RPC service.
- MSRPC—Specifies you are creating a signature to describe an attack that uses the MSRPC service.
- Other—Specifies you are creating a signature to describe an attack that uses a service other than HTTP, SMTP, RPC, or MSRPC.

TCP Sweep Type Window

The following fields are found in the TCP Sweep Type window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Host Sweep—Identifies a sweep that searches for hosts on a network.
- Port Sweep—Identifies a sweep that searches for open ports on a host.

Atomic IP Engine Parameters Window

The Atomic IP engine defines signatures that inspect IP protocol headers and associated Layer 4 transport protocols (TCP, UDP, and ICMP) and payloads.

**Note**

The Atomic engines do not store persistent data across packets. Instead they can fire an alert from the analysis of a single packet.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Atomic IP Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options let you create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- **Event Action**—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.

**Tip**

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- **Fragment Status**—Indicates whether you want to inspect fragmented or unfragmented traffic.
- **Specify Layer 4 Protocol**—(Optional) Lets you choose whether or not a specific protocol applies to this signature.

If you choose Yes, you can choose from the following protocols:

- **ICMP Protocol**—Lets you specify an ICMP sequence, type, code, identifier, and total length.
- **Other IP Protocols**—Lets you specify an identifier.
- **TCP Protocol**—Lets you set the TCP flags, window size, mask, payload length, urgent pointer, header length, reserved attribute, and port range for the source and destination.
- **UDP Protocol**—Lets you specify a valid UDP length, length mismatch, and port range for the source and destination.
- **Specify Payload Inspection**—(Optional) Lets you specify the following payload inspection options.
- **Specify IP Payload Length**—(Optional) Lets you specify the payload length.
- **Specify IP Header Length**—(Optional) Lets you specify the header length.
- **Specify IP Type of Service**—(Optional) Lets you specify the type of service.
- **Specify IP Time-to-Live**—(Optional) Lets you specify the time-to-live for the packet.
- **Specify IP Version**—(Optional) Lets you specify the IP version.
- **Specify IP Identifier**—(Optional) Lets you specify an IP identifier.
- **Specify IP Total Length**—(Optional) Lets you specify the total IP length.
- **Specify IP Option Inspection**—(Optional) Lets you specify the IP inspection options.

Select from the following:

- **IP Option**—IP option code to match.
- **IP Option Abnormal Options**—Malformed list of options.

- Specify IP Addr Options—(Optional) Lets you specify the following IP Address options:
 - Address with Localhost—Identifies traffic where the local host address is used as either the source or destination.
 - IP Addresses—Lets you specify the source or destination address. Use the following syntax: x.x.x.x-z.z.z.z, for example, 10.10.10.1-10.10.10.254.
 - RFC 1918 Address—Identifies the type of address as RFC 1918.
 - Src IP Equal Dst IP—Identifies traffic where the source and destination addresses are the same.

Service HTTP Engine Parameters Window

The Service HTTP engine is a service-specific string-based pattern-matching inspection engine. The HTTP protocol is one of the most commonly used in networks of today. In addition, it requires the most amount of preprocessing time and has the most number of signatures requiring inspection making it critical to the overall performance of the system.

The Service HTTP engine uses a Regex library that can combine multiple patterns into a single pattern-matching table allowing a single search through the data. This engine searches traffic directed to web services only to web services, or HTTP requests. You cannot inspect return traffic with this engine. You can specify separate web ports of interest in each signature in this engine.

HTTP deobfuscation is the process of decoding an HTTP message by normalizing encoded characters to ASCII equivalent characters. It is also known as ASCII normalization.

Before an HTTP packet can be inspected, the data must be deobfuscated or normalized to the same representation that the target system sees when it processes the data. It is ideal to have a customized decoding technique for each host target type, which involves knowing what operating system and web server version is running on the target. The Service HTTP engine has default deobfuscation behavior for the Microsoft IIS web server.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Service HTTP Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options let you create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.

**Tip**

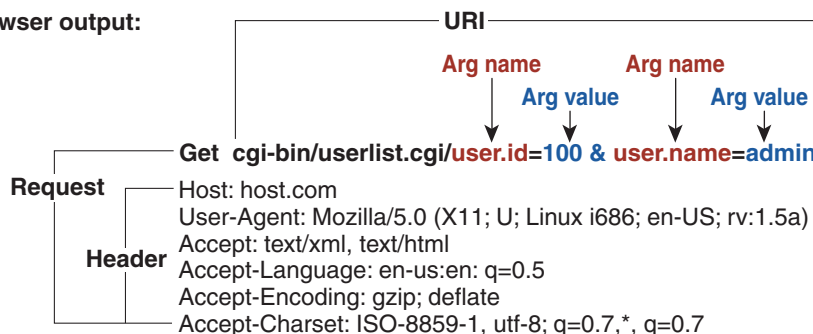
To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- De Obfuscate—Specifies whether or not to apply anti-evasive HTTP deobfuscation before searching. The default is Yes.
- Max Field Sizes—(Optional) Lets you specify maximum URI, Arg, Header, and Request field lengths.

The following figure demonstrates the maximum field sizes:

User Input: <http://10.20.35.6/cgi-bin/userlist.cgi/user.id=100&user.name=admin>

Browser output:



Note*: Individual arguments are separated by '&' Argument name and value are separated by "="

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- **Regex**—Lets you specify a regular expression for the URI, Arg, Header, and Request Regex.
- **Service Ports**—Identifies the specific service ports used by the traffic. The value is a comma-separated list of ports.
- **Swap Attacker Victim**—Specifies whether to swap the source and destination addresses that are reported in the alert when this signature fires. The default is No.

Example Service HTTP Signature

Use the Custom Signature wizard to create a custom Service HTTP signature.



Caution

A custom signature can affect the performance of your sensor. Test the custom signature against a baseline sensor performance for your network to determine the overall impact of the signature.

To create a custom Service HTTP signature, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Signature Wizard**.
- Step 3** Click the **Yes** radio button, choose **Service HTTP** from the Select Engine drop-down list, and then click **Next**.
- Step 4** To specify the attributes that uniquely identify this signature, complete the following required values, and then click **Next**:
 - a.** In the Signature ID field, enter a number for the signature.
Custom signatures range from 60000 to 65000.
 - b.** In the Subsignature ID field, enter a number for the signature.
The default is 0. You can assign a subsignature ID if you are grouping signatures together that are similar.
 - c.** In the Signature Name field, enter a name for the signature.
A default name, My Sig, appears in the Signature Name field. Change it to a name that is more specific for your custom signature.

**Note**

The signature name, along with the signature ID and subsignature ID, is reported to Event Viewer when an alert is generated.

- d. (Optional) In the Alert Notes field, enter text to be added to the alert.

You can add text to be included in alerts associated with this signature. These notes are reported to Event Viewer when an alert is generated. The default is My Sig Info.

- e. (Optional) In the User Comments field, enter text that describes this signature, and then click **Next**.

You can add any text that you find useful here. This field does not affect the signature or alert in any way. The default is Sig Comment.

**Tip**

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

Step 5 Assign the event actions.

The default is Produce Alert. You can assign more actions, such as deny or block, based on your security policy.

**Tip**

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

Step 6 In the De Obfuscate field, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list to configure the signature to apply anti-evasive deobfuscation before searching.**Step 7** (Optional) Under Max Field Sizes you can configure the following optional parameters for maximum field sizes:

- Specify Max URI Field Length—Enables the maximum URI field length.
- Specify Max Arg Field Length—Enables maximum argument field length.
- Specify Max Header Field Length—Enables maximum header field length.
- Specify Max Request Field Length—Enables maximum request field length.

Step 8 Under Regex, configure the Regex parameters:

- a. In the Specify URI Regex field, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list.
- b. In the URI Regex field, enter the URI Regex, for example, [Mm][Yy][Ff][Oo][Oo].
- c. You can specify values for the following optional parameters:
 - Specify Arg Name Regex—Enables searching the Arguments field for a specific regular expression.
 - Specify Header Regex—Enables searching the Header field for a specific regular expression.
 - Specify Request Regex—Enables searching the Request field for a specific regular expression.

Step 9 In the Service Ports field, enter the port number. For example, you can use the web ports variable, \$WEBPORTS.

The value is a comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.

Step 10 (Optional) From the Swap Attacker Victim drop-down list, choose **Yes** to swap the attacker and victim addresses and ports (destination and source) in the alert message and for any actions taken.

Step 11 Click **Next**.

Step 12 (Optional) You can change the following default alert response options:

- a. In the Signature Fidelity Rating field, enter a value.

The signature fidelity rating is a valid value between 0 and 100 that indicates your confidence in the signature, with 100 being the most confident. The default is 75.

- b. In the Severity of the Alert field, choose the severity to be reported by Event Viewer when the sensor sends an alert. The default is Medium.

Step 13 Click **Next**.

Step 14 To change the default alert behavior, click **Advanced**.

Otherwise click **Finish** and your custom signature is created.

The Create Custom Signature dialog box appears and asks if you want to create and apply this custom signature to the sensor.

Step 15 Click **Yes** to create the custom signature.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

The signature you created is enabled and added to the list of signatures.

Service RPC Engine Parameters Window

The Service RPC engine specializes in RPC protocol and has full decode as an anti-evasive strategy. It can handle fragmented messages (one message in several packets) and batch messages (several messages in a single packet).

The RPC portmapper operates on port 111. Regular RPC messages can be on any port greater than 550. RPC sweeps are like TCP port sweeps, except that they only count unique ports when a valid RPC message is sent. RPC also runs on UDP.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Service RPC Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options allow you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Direction—Indicates whether the sensor is watching traffic destined to or coming from the service port. The default is To Service.
- Protocol—Lets you specify TCP or UDP as the protocol.
- Service Ports—Identifies ports or port ranges where the target service may reside. The valid value is a comma-separated list of ports or port ranges.
- Specify Regex String—Lets you specify a Regex string to search for.

- Specify Port Map Program—Identifies the program number sent to the port mapper of interest for this signature. The valid range is 0 to 999999999.
- Specify RPC Program—Identifies the RPC program number of interest for this signature. The valid range is 0 to 1000000.
- Specify Spoof Src—Fires the alarm when the source address is set to 127.0.0.1.
- Specify RPC Max Length—Identifies the maximum allowed length of the whole RPC message. Lengths longer than this cause an alert. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Specify RPC Procedure—Identifies the RPC procedure number of interest for this signature. The valid range is 0 to 1000000.

State Engine Parameters Window

The State engine provides state-based regular expression-based pattern inspection of TCP streams. A state engine is a device that stores the state of something and at a given time can operate on input to transition from one state to another and/or cause an action or output to take place. State machines are used to describe a specific event that causes an output or alarm.

There are three state machines in the State engine: SMTP, Cisco Login, and LPR Format String.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the State Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options allow you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- State Machine—Identifies the name of the state to restrict the match of the regular expression string. The options are: Cisco Login, LPR Format String, and SMTP.
- State Name—Identifies the name of the state. The options are: Abort, Mail Body, Mail Header, SMTP Commands, and Start.
- Specify Min Match Length—Identifies the minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match from the start of the match to end of the match. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Regex String—Identifies the regular expression string that triggers a state transition.
- Direction—Identifies the direction of the data stream to inspect for the transition. The default is To Service.
- Service Ports—Identifies ports or port ranges where the target service may reside. The valid value is a comma-separated list of ports or port ranges.
- Swap Attacker Victim—Specifies whether to swap the source and destination addresses that are reported in the alert when this signature fires. The default is No.
- Specify Exact Match Offset—Identifies the exact stream offset in bytes in which the regular expression string must report the match. If you choose Yes, you can set the exact match offset. The valid range is 0 to 65535. If you choose No, you can set the minimum and maximum match offset.

String ICMP Engine Parameters Window

The String engine is a generic-based pattern-matching inspection engine for ICMP, TCP, and UDP protocols. The String engine uses a regular expression engine that can combine multiple patterns into a single pattern-matching table allowing for a single search through the data.

There are three String engines: String ICMP, String TCP, and String UDP.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the String ICMP Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options allow you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Specify Min Match Length—Identifies the minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match from the start of the match to the end of the match. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Regex String—Identifies the regular expression string to search for in a single packet.
- Direction—Identifies the direction of the data stream to inspect for the transition. The default is To Service.
- ICMP Type—The ICMP header TYPE value. The valid range is 0 to 18. The default is 0-18.
- Swap Attacker Victim—Specifies whether to swap the source and destination addresses that are reported in the alert when this signature fires. The default is No.
- Specify Exact Match Offset—Identifies the exact stream offset in bytes in which the regular expression string must report the match. If you choose Yes, you can set the exact match offset. The valid range is 0 to 65535. If you choose No, you can set the minimum and maximum match offsets.

String TCP Engine Parameters Window

The String engine is a generic-based pattern-matching inspection engine for ICMP, TCP, and UDP protocols. The String engine uses a regular expression engine that can combine multiple patterns into a single pattern-matching table allowing for a single search through the data. There are three String engines: String ICMP, String TCP, and String UDP.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the String TCP Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options allow you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- **Strip Telnet Options**—Strips the Telnet option control characters from the data stream before the pattern is searched. This is primarily used as an anti-evasion tool. The default is No.
- **Specify Min Match Length**—Identifies the minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match from the start of the match to end of the match. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- **Regex String**—Identifies the regular expression string to search for in a single packet.
- **Service Ports**—Identifies ports or port ranges where the target service may reside. The valid value is a comma-separated list of ports or port ranges.
- **Direction**—Identifies the direction of the data stream to inspect for the transition. The default is To Service.
- **Specify Exact Match Offset**—Identifies the exact stream offset in bytes in which the regular expression string must report the match. If you choose Yes, you can set the exact match offset. The valid range is 0 to 65535. If you choose No, you can set the minimum and maximum match offsets.
- **Swap Attacker Victim**—Specifies whether to swap the source and destination addresses that are reported in the alert when this signature fires. The default is No.

Example String TCP Signature

Use the Custom Signature wizard to create a custom String TCP signature.



Caution

A custom signature can affect the performance of your sensor. Test the custom signature against a baseline sensor performance for your network to determine the overall impact of the signature.



Note

The following procedure also applies to creating custom String ICMP and UDP signatures.

To create a custom String TCP signature, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Signature Wizard**.
- Step 3** Click the **Yes** radio button, choose **String TCP** from the Select Engine drop-down list, and then click **Next**.
The Signature Identification window appears.
- Step 4** To specify the attributes that uniquely identify this signature, complete the following required values, and then click **Next**:
 - a. In the Signature ID field, enter a number for the signature.
Custom signatures range from 60000 to 65000.
 - b. In the Subsignature ID field, enter a number for the signature.
The default is 0. You can assign a subsignature ID if you are grouping signatures together that are similar.
 - c. In the Signature Name field, enter a name for the signature.
A default name, My Sig, appears in the Signature Name field. Change it to a name that is more specific for your custom signature.

**Note**

The signature name, along with the signature ID and subsignature ID, is reported to Event Viewer when an alert is generated.

- d. (Optional) In the Alert Notes field, enter text to be added to the alert.

You can add text to be included in alerts associated with this signature. These notes are reported to Event Viewer when an alert is generated. The default is My Sig Info.

- e. (Optional) In the User Comments field, enter text that describes this signature.

You can add any text that you find useful here. This field does not affect the signature or alert in any way. The default is Sig Comment.

Click **Next**.

The Engine Specific Parameters window appears.

**Tip**

An empty check box indicates the default value is being used. Check the check box to configure that parameter. Click the value field to change the parameter. A green check indicates that a user-defined value is being used. Click the green check to change the value back to the default.

Step 5 Assign the event actions.

The default is Produce Alert. You can assign more actions, such as deny or block, based on your security policy.

**Tip**

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

Step 6 (Optional) In the Strip Telnet Options field, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list to strip the Telnet option characters from the data before the pattern is searched.

Step 7 (Optional) In the Specify Min Match Length field, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list to enable minimum match length, and then in the Min Match Length field, enter the minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match (0 to 65535).

Step 8 In the Regex String field, enter the string this signature will be looking for in the TCP packet.

Step 9 In the Service Ports field, enter the port number, for example, 23.

The value is a comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.

Step 10 From the Direction drop-down list, choose the direction of the traffic:

- From Service—Traffic from service port destined to client port.
- To Service—Traffic from client port destined to service port.

Step 11 (Optional) In the Specify Exact Match Offset field, choose **Yes** from the drop-down list to enable exact match offset.

The exact match offset is the exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid (0 to 65535).

- a. In the Specify Max Match Offset field, enter the maximum value.
- b. In the Specify Min Match Offset field, enter the minimum value.

Step 12 From the Swap Attacker Victim drop-down list, choose **Yes** to swap the attacker and victim addresses and ports (destination and source) in the alert message and for any actions taken, and then click **Next**.

Step 13 (Optional) You can change the following default alert response options:

- a. In the Signature Fidelity Rating field, enter a value.

The signature fidelity rating is a valid value between 0 and 100 that indicates your confidence in the signature, with 100 being the most confident. The default is 75.

- b. In the Severity of the Alert field, choose the severity to be reported by Event Viewer when the sensor sends an alert. The default is Medium.

Step 14 Click **Next**.

Step 15 To change the default alert behavior, click **Advanced**.

Otherwise click **Finish** and your custom signature is created.

The Create Custom Signature dialog box appears and asks if you want to create and apply this custom signature to the sensor.

Step 16 Click **Yes** to create the custom signature.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Cancel**.

The signature you created is enabled and added to the list of signatures.

String UDP Engine Parameters Window

The String engine is a generic-based pattern-matching inspection engine for ICMP, TCP, and UDP protocols. The String engine uses a regular expression engine that can combine multiple patterns into a single pattern-matching table allowing for a single search through the data. There are three String engines: String ICMP, String TCP, and String UDP.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the String UDP Engine Parameters window of the Custom Signature wizard. These options allow you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- Event Action—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- Specify Min Match Length—Identifies the minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match from the start of the match to end of the match. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Regex String—Identifies the regular expression string to search for in a single packet.
- Service Ports—Identifies ports or port ranges where the target service may reside. The valid value is a comma-separated list of ports or port ranges.
- Direction—Identifies the direction of the data stream to inspect for the transition.

- **Swap Attacker Victim**—Specifies whether to swap the source and destination addresses that are reported in the alert when this signature fires. The default is No.
- **Specify Exact Match Offset**—Identifies the exact stream offset in bytes in which the regular expression string must report the match. If you choose Yes, you can set the exact match offset. The valid range is 0 to 65535. If you choose No, you can set the minimum and maximum match offset.

Sweep Engine Parameters Window

The Sweep engine analyzes traffic between two hosts or from one host to many hosts. You can tune the existing signatures or create custom signatures. The Sweep engine has protocol-specific parameters for ICMP, UDP, and TCP.

The alert conditions of the Sweep engine ultimately depend on the count of the unique parameter. The unique parameter is the threshold number of distinct hosts or ports depending on the type of sweep. The unique parameter triggers the alert when more than the unique number of ports or hosts is seen on the address set within the time period. The processing of unique port and host tracking is called counting.

A unique parameter must be specified for all signatures in the Sweep engine. A limit of 2 through 40 (inclusive) is enforced on the sweeps. 2 is the absolute minimum for a sweep, otherwise, it is not a sweep (of one host or port). 40 is a practical maximum that must be enforced so that the sweep does not consume excess memory. More realistic values for unique range between 5 and 15.

TCP sweeps must have a TCP flag and mask specified to determine which sweep inspector slot in which to count the distinct connections. The ICMP sweeps must have an ICMP type specified to discriminate among the various types of ICMP packets.

DataNode

When an activity related to Sweep engine signatures is seen, the IPS uses a DataNode to determine when it should stop monitoring for a particular host. The DataNode contains various persistent counters and variables needed for cross-packet reassembly of streams and for tracking the inspection state on a per-stream/per-source/per-destination basis. The DataNode containing the sweep determines when the sweep should expire. The DataNode stops a sweep when the DataNode has not seen any traffic for x number of seconds (depending on the protocol).

There are several adaptive timeouts for the DataNodes. The DataNode expires after 30 seconds of idle time on the address set after all of the contained objects have been removed. Each contained object has various timeouts, for example, TCP Stream has a one-hour timeout for established connections. Most other objects have a much shorter expiration time, such as 5 or 60 seconds.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Sweep Engine Parameters window in the Custom Signature wizard. These options allow you to create a signature to detect a very general or very specific type of traffic.

- **Event Action**—Specifies the actions you want the sensor to perform if this signature is detected. The default is Produce Alert.



Tip

To select more than one action, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

- **Unique**—Identifies the threshold number of unique host connections. The alarm fires when the unique number of host connections is exceeded during the interval.

- Protocol—Identifies the protocol:
 - ICMP—Lets you specify the ICMP storage type and choose one of these storage keys: attacker address, attacker address and victim port, or attacker and victim addresses.
 - TCP—Lets you choose suppress reverse, inverted sweep, mask, TCP flags, fragment status, storage key, or specify a port range.
 - UDP—Lets you choose a storage key, or specify a port range
- Src Addr Filter—Processes packets that do not have a source IP address (or addresses) defined in the filter values.
- Dst Addr Filter—Processes packets that do not have a destination IP address (or addresses) defined in the filter values.
- Swap Attacker Victim—Specifies whether to swap the source and destination addresses that are reported in the alert when this signature fires. The default is No.

Alert Response Window

The following fields are found in the Alert Response window of the Custom Signature wizard:

- Signature Fidelity Rating—A weight associated with how well this signature might perform in the absence of specific knowledge of the target.

Signature fidelity rating is calculated by the signature author on a per-signature basis. A signature that is written with very specific rules (specific Regex) will have a higher signature fidelity rating than a signature that is written with generic rules.

- Severity of the Alert—The severity at which the alert is reported.

You can choose from the following options:

- High—The most serious security alert.
- Medium—A moderate security alert.
- Low—The least security alert.
- Information—Denotes network activity, not a security alert.

Alert Behavior Window

Normal alert behavior for the sensor is to send the first alert for each address set, and then to send a summary of all the alerts for this address set over the next 15 seconds. Click **Advanced** to change this alert behavior.

Event Count and Interval Window

The following fields are found in the Event Count and Interval window of the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard:

- Event Count—Identifies the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending one alert for this signature.
- Event Count Key—Identifies the attribute to use for counting events.

For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, select Attacker Address as the Event Count Key.

- **Use Event Interval**—Specifies that you want the sensor to count events based on a rate.
For example, if set your Event Count to 500 events and your Event Interval to 30 seconds, the sensor sends you one alert if 500 events are received within 30 seconds of one another.
- **Event Interval (seconds)**—Identifies the time interval during which the sensor counts events for rate-based counting.

Alert Summarization Window

The following fields are found in the Alert Summarization window of the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard:

- **Alert Every Time the Signature Fires**—Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert every time the signature detects malicious traffic.
You can then specify additional thresholds that allow the sensor to dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.
- **Alert the First Time the Signature Fires**—Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert the first time the signature detects malicious traffic.
You can then specify additional thresholds that allow the sensor to dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.
- **Send Summary Alerts**—Specifies that you want the sensor to only send summary alerts for this signature, instead of sending alerts every time the signature fires.
You can then specify additional thresholds that allow the sensor to dynamically adjust the volume of alerts.
- **Send Global Summary Alerts**—Specifies that you want the sensor to send an alert the first time a signature fires on an address set, and then only send a global summary alert that includes a summary of all alerts for all address sets over a given time interval.

Alert Dynamic Response Fire All Window

The following fields are found in the Alert Dynamic Response window of the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard when you choose Alert Every Time the Signature Fires:

- **Summary Key**—Identifies the attribute to use for counting events.
For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, select Attacker Address as the Summary Key.
- **Use Dynamic Summarization**—Lets the sensor dynamically enter summarization mode.
When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single alert for each signature to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior. A global summary counts signature firings on all attacker IP addresses and ports and all victim IP addresses and ports.
 - **Summary Threshold**—Identifies the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a summary.
 - **Summary Interval (seconds)**—Specifies that you want to count events based on a rate and identifies the number of seconds that you want to use for the time interval.

- **Specify Summary Threshold**—Lets you choose a summary threshold.
 - **Global Summary Threshold**—Identifies the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.

Alert Dynamic Response Fire Once Window

The following fields are found in the Alert Dynamic Response window of the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard when you choose Alert the First Time the Signature Fires:

- **Summary Key**—Identifies the attribute to use for counting events.
For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, select Attacker Address as the Summary Key.
- **Use Dynamic Global Summarization**—Lets the sensor dynamically enter global summarization mode.
 - **Global Summary Threshold**—Identifies the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.
When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single alert the first time a signature fires to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior.
 - **Global Summary Interval (seconds)**—Identifies the time interval during which the sensor counts events for summarization.

Alert Dynamic Response Summary Window

The following fields are found in the Alert Dynamic Response window of the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard when you choose Summary:

- **Summary Interval (seconds)**—Identifies the time interval during which the sensor counts events for summarization.
- **Summary Key**—Identifies the attribute to use for counting events.
For example, if you want the sensor to count events based on whether or not they are from the same attacker, select Attacker Address as the Summary Key.
- **Use Dynamic Global Summarization**—Allows the sensor to dynamically enter global summarization mode.
 - **Global Summary Threshold**—Identifies the minimum number of hits the sensor must receive before sending a global summary alert.
When the alert rate exceeds a specified number of signatures in a specified number of seconds, the sensor changes from sending a single summary alert to sending a single global summary alert. When the rate during the interval drops below this threshold, the sensor reverts to its configured alert behavior.



Note

When multiple contexts from the adaptive security appliance are contained in one virtual sensor, the summary alerts contain the context name of the last context that was summarized. Thus, the summary is the result of all alerts of this type from all contexts that are being summarized.

Global Summarization Window

The following field is found in the Global Summarization window of the Advanced Alert Behavior wizard:

- Global Summary Interval (seconds)—Identifies the time interval during which the sensor counts events for summarization.



CHAPTER 11

Configuring Event Action Rules

You can define different event action rules policies to apply to your virtual sensors. This chapter explains how to add event action rules policies and how to configure event action rules. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Policies, page 11-1](#)
- [Event Action Rules Components, page 11-2](#)
- [Configuring Event Action Rules Policies, page 11-10](#)
- [rules0 Pane, page 11-12](#)
- [Configuring Event Action Overrides, page 11-13](#)
- [Configuring Event Action Filters, page 11-15](#)
- [Configuring Target Value Rating, page 11-18](#)
- [Configuring OS Identifications, page 11-20](#)
- [Configuring Event Variables, page 11-25](#)
- [Configuring Risk Category, page 11-27](#)
- [Configuring General Settings, page 11-29](#)

Understanding Policies



Note

You cannot create event action rules policies for AIM-IPS and NME-IPS.

You can create multiple security policies and apply them to individual virtual sensors. A security policy is made up of a signature definition policy, an event action rules policy, and an anomaly detection policy. Cisco IPS 6.1 contains a default signature definition policy called sig0, a default event action rules policy called rules0, and a default anomaly detection policy called ad0. You can assign the default policies to a virtual sensor or you can create new policies.

The use of multiple security policies lets you create security policies based on different requirements and then apply these customized policies per VLAN or physical interface.

Event Action Rules Components

This section describes the various components of event action rules, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Event Action Rules, page 11-2](#)
- [Calculating the Risk Rating, page 11-2](#)
- [Understanding Threat Rating, page 11-4](#)
- [Understanding Event Action Overrides, page 11-4](#)
- [Understanding Event Action Filters, page 11-4](#)
- [Event Action Summarization, page 11-5](#)
- [Event Action Aggregation, page 11-5](#)
- [Signature Event Action Processor, page 11-6](#)
- [Event Actions, page 11-8](#)

Understanding Event Action Rules

Event action rules are a group of settings you configure for the event action processing component of the sensor. These rules dictate the actions the sensor performs when an event occurs.

The event action processing component is responsible for the following functions:

- Calculating the risk rating
- Adding event action overrides
- Filtering event action
- Executing the resulting event action
- Summarizing and aggregating events
- Maintaining a list of denied attackers

**Note**

Rate limiting and blocking are not supported for IPv6 traffic. If a signature is configured with a block or rate limit event action and is triggered by IPv6 traffic, an alert is generated but the action is not carried out.

Calculating the Risk Rating

A risk rating is a value between 0 and 100 that represents a numerical quantification of the risk associated with a particular event on the network. The calculation takes into account the value of the network asset being attacked (for example, a particular server), so it is configured on a per-signature basis (attack severity rating and signature fidelity rating) and on a per-server basis (target value rating). The risk rating is calculated from several components, some of which are configured, some collected, and some derived.

**Note**

The risk rating is associated with alerts not signatures.

Risk ratings let you prioritize alerts that need your attention. These risk rating factors take into consideration the severity of the attack if it succeeds, the fidelity of the signature, and the overall value of the target host to you. The risk rating is reported in the `evIdsAlert`.

The following values are used to calculate the risk rating for a particular event:

- Signature fidelity rating (SFR)—A weight associated with how well this signature might perform in the absence of specific knowledge of the target. The signature fidelity rating is configured per signature and indicates how accurately the signature detects the event or condition it describes.

The signature fidelity rating is calculated by the signature author on a per-signature basis. The signature author defines a baseline confidence ranking for the accuracy of the signature in the absence of qualifying intelligence on the target. It represents the confidence that the detected behavior would produce the intended effect on the target platform if the packet under analysis were allowed to be delivered. For example, a signature that is written with very specific rules (specific regular expression) has a higher signature fidelity rating than a signature that is written with generic rules.



Note The signature fidelity rating does not indicate how bad the detected event may be.

- Attack severity rating (ASR)—A weight associated with the severity of a successful exploit of the vulnerability.

The attack severity rating is derived from the alert severity parameter (informational, low, medium, or high) of the signature. The attack severity rating is configured per signature and indicates how dangerous the event detected is.



Note The attack severity rating does not indicate how accurately the event is detected.

- Target value rating (TVR)—A weight associated with the perceived value of the target.

Target value rating is a user-configurable value (zero, low, medium, high, or mission critical) that identifies the importance of a network asset (through its IP address). You can develop a security policy that is more stringent for valuable corporate resources and looser for less important resources. For example, you could assign a target value rating to the company web server that is higher than the target value rating you assign to a desktop node. In this example, attacks against the company web server have a higher risk rating than attacks against the desktop node. Target value rating is configured in the Event Action Rules policy.

- Attack relevance rating (ARR)—A weight associated with the relevancy of the targeted OS.

The attack relevance rating is a derived value (relevant, unknown, or not relevant), which is determined at alert time. The relevant OSes are configured per signature.

- Promiscuous delta (PD)—A weight associated with the promiscuous delta, which can be subtracted from the overall risk rating in promiscuous mode.

The promiscuous delta is in the range of 0 to 30 and is configured per signature.



Note If the trigger packet is not inline, the promiscuous delta is subtracted from the rating.

- Watch list rating (WLR)—A weight associated with the CSA MC watch list in the range of 0 to 100 (CSA MC only uses the range 0 to 35).

If the attacker for the alert is found on the watch list, the watch list rating for that attacker is added to the rating.

Figure 11-1 illustrates the risk rating formula:

Figure 11-1 Risk Rating Formula

$$RR = \frac{ASR * TVR * SFR}{10000} + ARR - PD + WLR$$

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Understanding Threat Rating

Threat rating is risk rating that has been lowered by event actions that have been taken. Nonlogging event actions have a threat rating adjustment. The largest threat rating from all the event actions taken is subtracted from the risk rating.

The event actions have the following threat ratings:

- Deny attacker inline—45
- Deny attacker victim pair inline—40
- Deny attacker service pair inline—40
- Deny connection inline—35
- Deny packet inline—35
- Modify packet inline—35
- Request block host—20
- Request block connection—20
- Reset TCP connection—20
- Request rate limit—20

Understanding Event Action Overrides

You can add an event action override to change the actions associated with an event based on the risk rating of that event. Event action overrides are a way to add event actions globally without having to configure each signature individually. Each event action has an associated risk rating range. If a signature event occurs and the risk rating for that event falls within the range for an event action, that action is added to the event. For example, if you want any event with a risk rating of 85 or more to generate an SNMP trap, you can set the risk rating range for Request SNMP Trap to 85-100. If you do not want to use action overrides, you can disable the entire event action override component.

Understanding Event Action Filters

Event action filters are processed as an ordered list and you can move filters up or down in the list. Filters let the sensor perform certain actions in response to the event without requiring the sensor to perform all actions or remove the entire event. Filters work by removing actions from an event. A filter that removes all actions from an event effectively consumes the event.

**Note**

When filtering sweep signatures, we recommend that you do not filter the destination addresses. If there are multiple destination addresses, only the last address is used for matching the filter.

**Caution**

Event action filters based on source and destination IP addresses do not function for the Sweep engine, because they do not filter as regular signatures. To filter source and destination IP addresses in sweep alerts, use the source and destination IP address filter parameters in the Sweep engine signatures.

Event Action Summarization

Summarization decreases the volume of alerts sent out from the sensor by providing basic aggregation of events into a single alert. Special parameters are specified for each signature and they influence the handling of the alerts. Each signature is created with defaults that reflect a preferred normal behavior. However, you can tune each signature to change this default behavior within the constraints for each engine type.

The nonalert-generating actions (deny, block, TCP reset) go through the filters for each signature event unsummarized. The alert-generating actions are not performed on these summarized alerts; instead the actions are applied to the one summary alert and then put through the filters.

If you select one of the other alert-generating actions and do not have it filtered out, the alert is created even if you do not select Produce Alert. To prevent alerts from being created, you must have all alert-generating actions filtered out.

Summarization and event actions are processed after the Meta engine has processed the component events. This lets the sensor watch for suspicious activity transpiring over a series of events.

Event Action Aggregation

Basic aggregation provides two operating modes. The simple mode involves configuring a threshold number of hits for a signature that must be met before the alert is sent. A more advanced mode is timed-interval counting. In this mode, the sensor tracks the number of hits per second and only sends alerts when that threshold is met. In this example, a hit is a term used to describe an event, which is basically an alert, but it is not sent out of the sensor as an alert until the threshold number of hits has been exceeded.

You can choose from the following summarization options:

- **Fire All**—Fire All mode fires an alert each time the signature is triggered. If the threshold is set for summarization, alerts are fired for each execution until summarization occurs. After summarization starts only one alert every summary interval fires for each address set. Alerts for other address sets are either all seen or separately summarized. The signature reverts to Fire All mode after a period of no alerts for that signature.
- **Summary**—Summary mode fires an alert the first time a signature is triggered, and then additional alerts for that signature are summarized for the duration of the summary interval. Only one alert every summary interval should fire for each address set. If the global summary threshold is reached, the signature goes into Global Summarization mode.

- **Global Summarization**—Global Summarization mode fires an alert for every summary interval. Signatures can be preconfigured for global summarization.
- **Fire Once**—Fire Once mode fires an alert for each address set. You can upgrade this mode to Global Summarization mode.

Signature Event Action Processor

The Signature Event Action Processor coordinates the data flow from the signature event in the alarm channel to processing through the Signature Event Action Override, the Signature Event Action Filter, and the Signature Event Action Handler. It consists of the following components:

- **Alarm channel**
The unit that represents the area to communicate signature events from the SensorApp inspection path to signature event handling.
- **Signature Event Action Override**
Adds actions based on the risk rating value. The Signature Event Action Override applies to all signatures that fall in the range of the configured risk rating threshold. Each Signature Event Action Override is independent and has a separate configuration value for each action type.
- **Signature Event Action Filter**
Subtracts actions based on the signature ID, addresses, and risk rating of the signature event. The input to the Signature Event Action Filter is the signature event with actions possibly added by the Signature Event Action Override.



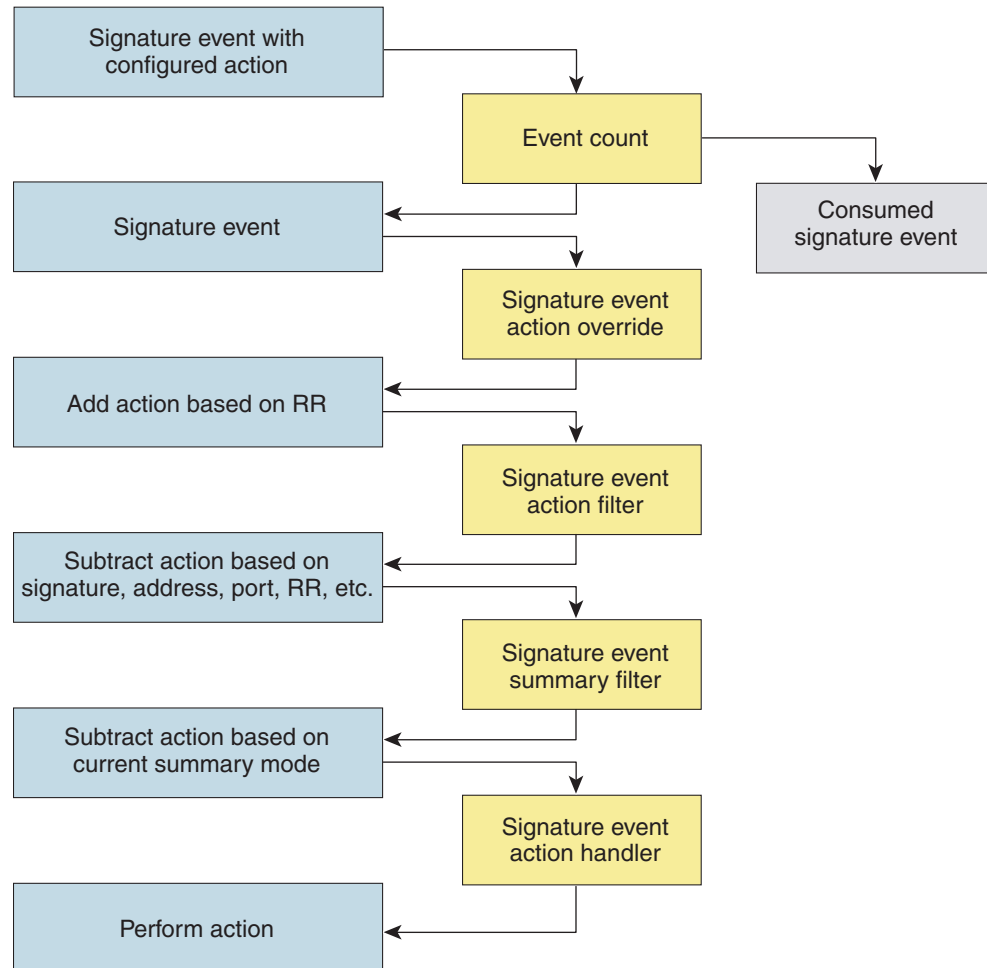
Note The Signature Event Action Filter can only subtract actions, it cannot add new actions.

The following parameters apply to the Signature Event Action Filter:

- Signature ID
 - Subsignature ID
 - Attacker address
 - Attacker port
 - Victim address
 - Victim port
 - Risk rating threshold range
 - Actions to subtract
 - Sequence identifier (optional)
 - Stop-or-continue bit
 - Enable action filter line bit
 - Victim OS relevance or OS relevance
- **Signature Event Action Handler**
Performs the requested actions. The output from the Signature Event Action Handler is the actions being performed and possibly an evIdsAlert written to the Event Store.

Figure 11-2 illustrates the logical flow of the signature event through the Signature Event Action Processor and the operations performed on the action for this event. It starts with the signature event with configured action received in the alarm channel and flows top to bottom as the signature event passes through the functional components of the Signature Event Action Processor.

Figure 11-2 *Signature Event Through the Signature Event Action Processor*



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For More Information

For more information on calculating the risk rating, see [Calculating the Risk Rating, page 11-2](#).

Event Actions

Cisco IPS 6.1 has the following event actions:

- Alert and Log Actions
 - Product Alert—Writes the event to the Event Store as an alert.

**Note**

The Product Alert action is not automatic when you enable alerts for a signature. To have an alert created in the Event Store, you must select Product Alert. If you add a second action, you must include Product Alert if you want an alert sent to the Event Store. Also, every time you configure the event actions, a new list is created and it replaces the old list. Make sure you include all the event actions you need for each signature.

**Note**

There are other event actions that force a Product Alert. These actions use Product Alert as the vehicle for performing the action. Even if Product Alert is not selected or is filtered, the alert is still produced. The actions are the following: Produce Verbose Alert, Request SNMP Trap, Log Attacker Packets, Log Victim Packets, and Log Pair Packets.

- Produce Verbose Alert—Includes an encoded dump of the offending packet in the alert. This action causes an alert to be written to the Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.
 - Log Attacker Packets—Starts IP logging on packets that contain the attacker address and sends an alert. This action causes an alert to be written to the Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.
 - Log Victim Packets—Starts IP Logging on packets that contain the victim address and sends an alert. This action causes an alert to be written to the Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.
 - Log Attacker/Victim Pair Packets—Starts IP Logging on packets that contain the attacker/victim address pair. This action causes an alert to be written to the Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected.
 - Request SNMP Trap—Sends a request to the Notification Application component of the sensor to perform SNMP notification. This action causes an alert to be written to the Event Store, even if Produce Alert is not selected. You must have SNMP configured on the sensor to implement this action.
- Deny Actions
 - Deny Packet Inline—(Inline only) Terminates the packet.

**Note**

You cannot delete the event action override for Deny Packet Inline because it is protected. If you do not want to use that override, disable it.

- Deny Connection Inline—(Inline only) Terminates the current packet and future packets on this TCP flow.
- Deny Attacker Victim Pair Inline—(Inline only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker/victim address pair for a specified period of time.

**Note**

For deny actions, to set the specified period of time and maximum number of denied attackers, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > General Settings**.

- Deny Attacker Service Pair Inline—(Inline only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker address victim port pair for a specified period of time.
- Deny Attacker Inline—(Inline only) Terminates the current packet and future packets from this attacker address for a specified period of time.

The sensor maintains a list of attackers being denied by the system. To remove an entry from the denied attacker list, you can view the list of attackers and clear the entire list, or you can wait for the timer to expire. The timer is a sliding timer for each entry. Therefore, if attacker A is being denied, but issues another attack, the timer for attacker A is reset and attacker A remains in the denied attacker list until the timer expires. If the denied attacker list is at capacity and cannot add a new entry, the packet is still denied.

**Note**

This is the most severe of the deny actions. It denies current and future packets from a single attacker address. To clear all denied attacker entries, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Denied Attackers > Clear List**, which permits the addresses back on the network.

- Modify Packet Inline— Modifies packet data to remove ambiguity about what the end point might do with the packet.

**Note**

Modify Packet Inline is not an option for Add Event Action Filter or Add Event Action Override.

- Other Actions

- Request Block Connection—Sends a request to ARC to block this connection. You must have blocking devices configured to implement this action.
- Request Block Host—Sends a request to ARC to block this attacker host. You must have blocking devices configured to implement this action.

**Note**

For block actions, to set the duration of the block, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > General Settings**.

- Request Rate Limit—Sends a rate limit request to ARC to perform rate limiting. You must have rate limiting devices configured to implement this action.

**Note**

Request Rate Limit applies to a select set of signatures.

- Reset TCP Connection—Sends TCP resets to hijack and terminate the TCP flow. Reset TCP Connection only works on TCP signatures that analyze a single connection. It does not work for sweeps or floods.

Understanding Deny Packet Inline

For signatures that have Deny Packet Inline configured as an action or for an event action override that adds Deny Packet Inline as an action, the following actions may be taken:

- Dropped Packet
- Denied Flow
- TCP One Way Reset Sent

The deny packet inline action is represented as a dropped packet action in the alert. When a deny packet inline occurs for a TCP connection, it is automatically upgraded to a deny connection inline action and seen as a denied flow in the alert. If the IPS denies just one packet, the TCP continues to try to send that same packet again and again, so the IPS denies the entire connection to ensure it never succeeds with the resends.

When a deny connection inline occurs, the IPS also automatically sends a TCP one-way reset, which shows up as a TCP one-way reset sent in the alert. When the IPS denies the connection, it leaves an open connection on both the client (generally the attacker) and the server (generally the victim). Too many open connections can result in resource problems on the victim. So the IPS sends a TCP reset to the victim to close the connection on the victim side (usually the server), which conserves the resources of the victim. It also prevents a failover that would otherwise allow the connection to fail over to a different network path and reach the victim. The IPS leaves the attacker side open and denies all traffic from it.

TCP Reset Differences Between IPS Appliances and AIP-SSM

The IPS appliance sends TCP reset packets to both the attacker and victim when Reset TCP Connection is selected. The IPS appliance sends a TCP reset packet only to the victim under the following circumstances:

- When a Deny Packet Inline or Deny Connection Inline is selected
- When TCP-based signatures and Reset TCP Connection have NOT been selected

In the case of the AIP-SSM, the TCP reset request is sent to the ASA, and then the ASA sends the TCP reset packets. The ASA sends TCP reset packets to both the attacker and victim when the Reset TCP Connection is selected. When Deny Packet Inline or Deny Connection Inline is selected, the ASA sends the TCP reset packet to either the attacker or victim depending on the configuration of the signature. Signatures configured to swap the attacker and victim when reporting the alert can cause the ASA to send the TCP reset packet to the attacker.

For More Information

- For the procedure for configuring the general settings, see [Configuring General Settings, page 11-29](#).
- For the procedure for configuring SNMP, see [Chapter 15, “Configuring SNMP.”](#)
- For the procedure for configuring denied attackers, see [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers, page 18-4](#).

Configuring Event Action Rules Policies

This section describes how to create event action rules policies, and contains the following topics:

- [Event Action Rules Pane, page 11-11](#)
- [Event Action rules Pane Field Definitions, page 11-11](#)
- [Add and Clone Policy Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-11](#)

- [Adding, Cloning, and Deleting Event Action Rules Policies, page 11-12](#)

Event Action Rules Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add, clone, or delete event action rules policies.

**Note**

In the Event Action Rules pane, you can create event action rules policies and configure them. You can also configure event action rules in the lower half of the IPS Policies pane: **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies**.

You can define different event action rules policies to apply to your virtual sensors.

In the Event Action Rules pane, you can add, clone, or delete an event action rules policy. The default event action rules policy is rules0. When you add a policy, a control transaction is sent to the sensor to create the policy instance. If the response is successful, the new policy instance is added under Event Action Rules. If the control transaction fails, for example because of resource limitations, an error message appears.

If your platform does not support virtual policies, this means you can only have one instance for each component and you cannot create new ones or delete the existing one. In this case, the Add, Clone, and Delete buttons are disabled.

**Caution**

AIM-IPS and NME-IPS do not support sensor virtualization and therefore do not support multiple policies.

Event Action rules Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Event Action Rules pane:

- Policy Name—Identifies the name of this event action rules policy.
- Assigned Virtual Sensor—Identifies the virtual sensor for which this event action rules policy is assigned.

Add and Clone Policy Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following field is found in the Add and Clone Policy dialog boxes:

- Policy Name—Lets you create a unique name for the new policy.

Adding, Cloning, and Deleting Event Action Rules Policies

To add, clone, or delete an event action rules policy, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules**, and then click **Add**.

Step 3 In the Policy Name field, enter a name for the event action rules policy.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 4 Click **OK**.

The event action rules policy appears in the list in the Event Action Rules pane.

Step 5 To clone an existing event action rules policy, select it in the list, and then click **Clone**.

The Clone Policy dialog box appears with “_copy” appended to the existing event action rules policy name.

Step 6 In the Policy Name field, enter a unique name.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 7 Click **OK**.

The cloned event action rules policy appears in the list in the Event Action Rules pane.

Step 8 To remove an event action rules policy, select it, and then click **Delete**.

The Delete Policy dialog box appears asking if you are sure you want to delete this policy permanently.



Caution You cannot delete the default event action rules policy, rules0.

Step 9 Click **Yes**.

The event action rules policy no longer appears in the list in the Event Action Rules pane.

rules0 Pane

The Event Action Rules (rules0) pane contains seven tabs on which you can configure event action overrides, event action filters, target value ratings, OS identifications, event variables, risk categories, and general settings for the event action rules policies that you added in the **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules** pane.

You can also configure event action rules in the lower half of the **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies** pane.

Configuring Event Action Overrides

This section describes how to configure event action overrides, and contains the following topics:

- [Event Action Overrides Tab, page 11-13](#)
- [Event Action Overrides Tab Field Definitions, page 11-13](#)
- [Add and Edit Event Action Override Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-13](#)
- [Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, and Disabling Event Action Overrides, page 11-14](#)

Event Action Overrides Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add or edit event action overrides.

On the Event Action Overrides tab, you can add an event action override to change the actions associated with an event based on specific details about that event.

Event Action Overrides Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Event Action Overrides tab:

- **Use Event Action Overrides**—If checked, lets you use any event action override that is enabled.
- **Risk Rating**—Indicates the risk rating level that should be used to trigger this event action override.
If an event occurs with a risk rating that matches this level, the event action is added to this event.
- **Actions to Add**—Specifies the event action that will be added to an event if the conditions of this event action override are satisfied.
- **Enabled**—Indicates whether or not the override is enabled.

Add and Edit Event Action Override Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Event Action Override dialog boxes:

- **Risk Rating**—Indicates the risk rating range, either low, medium, or high risk, that should be used to trigger this event action override.
If an event occurs with a risk rating that corresponds to the risk you configure, the event action is added to this event.
- **Available Actions to Add**—Specifies the event action that will be added to an event if the conditions of this event action override are satisfied.
- **Enabled**—Check the check box to enable the action when the event action override is triggered.

Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, and Disabling Event Action Overrides

To add, edit, delete, enable, and disable event action overrides, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Event Action Rules** > *rules0* > **Event Action Overrides**.
 - Step 3** To create a event action override, click **Add**.
 - Step 4** From the Risk Rating drop-down menu, assign a risk rating range to this network asset.
 - Step 5** From the Available Actions to Add list, check the event actions this event action override will correspond to.
 - Step 6** Check the Enabled check boxes for the actions you want to enable in the override.



Tip

To discard your changes and close the Add Event Action Override dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **OK**. The new event action override now appears in the list on the Event Action Overrides tab.
- Step 8** Check the **Use Event Action Overrides** check box.



Note

You must check the **Use Event Action Overrides** check box on the Event Action Overrides tab or none of the event action overrides will be enabled regardless of the value you set.

- Step 9** To edit an existing event action override, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**. Make any changes needed.



Tip

To discard your changes and close the Edit Event Action Override dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 10** Click **OK**. The edited event action override now appears in the list on the Event Action Overrides tab.
- Step 11** Check the **Use Event Action Overrides** check box.



Note

You must check the **Use Event Action Overrides** check box on the Event Action Overrides tab or none of the event action overrides will be enabled regardless of the value you set.

- Step 12** To delete an event action override, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**.
The event action override no longer appears in the list on the Event Action Overrides tab.



Note

You cannot delete the event action override for Deny Packet Inline because it is protected. If you do not want to use that override, disable it.

- Step 13** To enable or disable an event action override, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 14** To disable an event action override, clear the **Enabled** check boxes for any event actions that you have assigned to that event action override. To enable an event action override, check any **Enabled** check boxes for any event actions that you have assigned to that event action override.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 15 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

For More Information

For detailed information about event actions, see [Event Actions, page 11-8](#).

Configuring Event Action Filters

This section describes how to configure event action filters, and contains the following topics:

- [Event Action Filters Tab, page 11-15](#)
- [Event Action Filters Tab Field Definitions, page 11-15](#)
- [Add and Edit Event Action Filter Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-16](#)
- [Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, Disabling, and Moving Event Action Filters, page 11-17](#)

Event Action Filters Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, enable, disable, or delete event action filters.

You can configure event action filters to remove specific actions from an event or to discard an entire event and prevent further processing by the sensor. You can use the variables that you defined on the Event Variables pane to group addresses for your filters.

**Note**

You must preface the variable with a dollar sign (\$) to indicate that you are using a variable rather than a string. Otherwise, you receive the `Bad source and destination error`.

**Caution**

Event action filters based on source and destination IP addresses do not function for the Sweep engine, because they do not filter as regular signatures. To filter source and destination IP addresses in sweep alerts, use the source and destination IP address filter parameters in the Sweep engine signatures.

Event Action Filters Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Event Action Filters tab:

- **Name**—Lets you name the filter you are adding. You need to name your filters so that you can move them around in the list and move them to the inactive list if needed.
- **Enabled**—Indicates whether or not this filter is enabled.
- **Sig ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature. This value lets the sensor identify a particular signature. You can also enter a range of signatures.

- **SubSig ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this subsignature. The subSig ID identifies a more granular version of a broad signature. You can also enter a range of subSig IDs.
- **Attacker (address/port)**—Identifies the IP address and/or port of the host that sent the offending packet. You can also enter a range of addresses.
- **Victim (address/port)**—Identifies the IP address and/or port used by the attacker host. This is the port from where the offending packet originated. You can also enter a range of ports.
- **Risk Rating**—Indicates the risk rating range between 0 and 100 that should be used to trigger this event action filter. If an event occurs with a risk rating that falls within the minimum-maximum range you configure here, the event is processed against the rules of this event filter.
- **Actions to Subtract**—Indicates the actions that should be removed from the event, should the conditions of the event meet the criteria of the event action filter.

Add and Edit Event Action Filter Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Event Action Filters dialog boxes:

- **Name**—Lets you name the filter you are adding. You need to name your filters so that you can move them around in the list and move them to the inactive list if needed.
- **Enabled**—Lets you enable this filter.
- **Signature ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this signature. This value lets the sensor identify a particular signature. You can also enter a range of signatures.
- **Subsignature ID**—Identifies the unique numerical value assigned to this subsignature. The subsignature ID identifies a more granular version of a broad signature. You can also enter a range of subsignature IDs.
- **Attacker Address**—Identifies the IP address of the host that sent the offending packet. You can also enter a range of addresses.
- **Attacker Port**—Identifies the port used by the attacker host. This is the port from where the offending packet originated. You can also enter a range of ports.
- **Victim Address**—Identifies the IP address of the host being attacked (the recipient of the offending packet). You can also enter a range of addresses.
- **Victim Port**—Identifies the port through which the offending packet was received. You can also enter a range of ports.
- **Risk Rating**—Indicates the risk rating range between 0 and 100 that should be used to trigger this event action filter. If an event occurs with a risk rating that falls within the minimum-maximum range you configure here, the event is processed against the rules of this event filter.
- **Actions to Subtract**—Opens the Edit Actions dialog box and lets you choose the actions that should be removed from the event, should the conditions of the event meet the criteria of the event action filter.
- **Active**—Lets you add the filter to the filter list so that it takes effect on filtering events.
- **OS Relevance**—Lets you filter out events where the attack is not relevant to the victim OS.
- **Deny Percentage**—Determines the percentage of packets to deny for deny attacker features. The valid range is 0 to 100. The default is 100 percent.
- **Stop on Match**—Determines whether or not this event will be processed against remaining filters in the event action filters list.


If set to No, the remaining filters are processed for a match until a Stop flag is encountered.

If set to Yes, no further processing is done. The actions specified by this filter are removed and the remaining actions are performed.

- **Comments**—Displays the user comments associated with this filter.

Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, Disabling, and Moving Event Action Filters

To add, edit, delete, enable, disable, and move event action filters, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Event Action Filters**, and then click **Add**.
 - Step 3** In the Name field, enter a name for the event action filter.
A default name is supplied, but you can change it to a more meaningful name.
 - Step 4** In the Enabled field, click the **Yes** radio button to enable the filter.
 - Step 5** In the Signature ID field, enter the signature IDs of all signatures to which this filter should be applied.
You can use a list (2001, 2004), or a range (2001–2004) or one of the SIG variables if you defined them on the Event Variables tab. Preface the variable with \$.
 - Step 6** In the SubSignature ID field, enter the subsignature IDs of the subsignatures to which this filter should be applied.
 - Step 7** In the Attacker Address field, enter the IP address of the source host.
You can use one of the variables if you defined them on the Event Variables tab. Preface the variable with \$. You can also enter a range of addresses (for example, 0.0.0.0-255.255.255.255).
 - Step 8** In the Attacker Port field, enter the port number used by the attacker to send the offending packet.
 - Step 9** In the Victim Address field, enter the IP address of the recipient host.
You can use one of the variables if you defined them on the Event Variables tab. Preface the variable with \$. You can also enter a range of addresses (for example, 0.0.0.0-255.255.255.255).
 - Step 10** In the Victim Port field, enter the port number used by the victim host to receive the offending packet.
 - Step 11** In the Risk Rating field, enter a risk rating range for this filter.
If the risk rating for an event falls within the range you specify, the event is processed against the criteria of this filter.
 - Step 12** In the Actions to Subtract field, click the note icon to open the Edit Actions dialog box.
 - Step 13** Check the check boxes of the actions you want this filter to remove from the event.
-
- 

Tip

To choose more than one event action in the list, hold down the **Ctrl** key.
-
- Step 14** In the Active field, click the **Yes** radio button to add this filter to the list so that it takes effect on filtering events.
 - Step 15** In the OS Relevance drop-down list, choose whether you want to know if the alert is relevant to the OS that has been identified for the victim.
 - Step 16** In the Deny Percentage field, enter the percentage of packets to deny for deny attacker features. The default is 100 percent.

Step 17 In the Stop on Match field, click one of the following radio buttons:

- a. **Yes**—If you want the Event Action Filters component to stop processing after the actions of this particular filter have been removed.

Any remaining filters will not be processed; therefore, no additional actions can be removed from the event.

- b. **No**—If you want to continue processing additional filters.

Step 18 In the Comments field, enter any comments that you want to store with this filter, such as the purpose of this filter or why you have configured this filter in a particular way.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Event Action Filter dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 19 Click **OK**.

The new event action filter now appears in the list on the Event Action Filters tab.

Step 20 To edit an existing event action filter, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 21 Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Event Action Filter dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 22 Click **OK**.

The edited event action filter now appears in the list on the Event Action Filters tab.

Step 23 To delete an event action filter, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**.

The event action filter no longer appears in the list on the Event Action Filters tab.

Step 24 To move an event action filter up or down in the list, select it, and then click the **Move Up** or **Move Down** arrow icons.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 25 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

For More Information

For detailed information about event actions, see [Event Actions, page 11-8](#).

Configuring Target Value Rating

This section describes how to configure the target value rating, and contains the following topics:

- [Target Value Rating Tab, page 11-19](#)
- [Target Value Rating Tab Field Definitions, page 11-19](#)
- [Add and Edit Target Value Rating Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-19](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Target Value Ratings, page 11-19](#)

Target Value Rating Tab



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, or delete target value ratings.

You can assign a target value rating to your network assets. The target value rating is one of the factors used to calculate the risk rating value for each alert. You can assign different target value ratings to different targets. Events with a higher risk rating trigger more severe signature event actions.

Target Value Rating Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Target Value Rating tab:

- **Target Value Rating (TVR)**—Identifies the value assigned to this network asset. The value can be High, Low, Medium, Mission Critical, or No Value.
- **Target IP Address**—Identifies the IP address of the network asset you want to prioritize with a target value rating.

Add and Edit Target Value Rating Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Target Value Rating dialog boxes:

- **Target Value Rating (TVR)**—Lets you assign a value to this network asset. The value can be High, Low, Medium, Mission Critical, or No Value.
- **Target IP Address(es)**—Identifies the IP address of the network asset you want to prioritize with a target value rating.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Target Value Ratings

To add, edit, and delete the target value rating for network assets, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Target Value Rating**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** To assign a target value rating to a new group of assets, follow these steps:
 - a.** From the Target Value Rating (TVR) drop-down list, choose a rating.
The values are High, Low, Medium, Mission Critical, or No Value.
 - b.** In the Target IP Address(es) field, enter the IP address of the network asset.
To enter a range of IP addresses, enter the lowest address followed by a hyphen and then the highest address in the range. For example: 10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.



Tip

To discard your changes and close the Add Target Value Rating dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 4** Click **OK**. The new target value rating for the new asset appears in the list on the Target Value Rating tab.

Step 5 To edit an existing target value rating, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 6 Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Target Value Rating dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 7 Click **OK**. The edited network asset now appears in the list on the Target Value Rating tab.

Step 8 To delete a network asset, select in the list, and then click **Delete**. The network asset no longer appears in the list on the Target Value Rating tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 9 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring OS Identifications

This section describes how to configure OS identifications, and contains the following topics:

- [OS Identifications Tab, page 11-20](#)
- [Understanding Passive OS Fingerprinting, page 11-21](#)
- [Configuring Passive OS Fingerprinting, page 11-22](#)
- [OS Identifications Tab Field Definitions, page 11-23](#)
- [Add and Edit Configured OS Map Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-23](#)
- [Adding, Editing, Deleting, and Moving Configured OS Maps, page 11-24](#)

OS Identifications Tab



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, and delete configured OS maps.

Use the OS Identifications tab to configure OS host mappings, which take precedence over learned OS mappings. On the OS Identifications tab you can add, edit, and delete configured OS maps. You can move them up and down in the list to change the order in which the sensor computes the Attack Relevance Rating and Risk Rating for that particular IP address and OS type combination.

You can also move them up and down in the list to change the order in which the sensor resolves the OS associated with a particular IP address. Configured OS mappings allow for ranges, so for network 192.168.1.0/24 an administrator might define the following ([Table 11-1](#)):

Table 11-1 Example Configured OS Mapping

IP Address Range Set	OS
192.168.1.1	IOS

Table 11-1 Example Configured OS Mapping (continued)

IP Address Range Set	OS
192.168.1.2-192.168.1.10,192.168.1.25	UNIX
192.168.1.1-192.168.1.255	Windows

More specific mappings should be at the beginning of the list. Overlap in the IP address range sets is allowed, but the entry closest to the beginning of the list takes precedence.

Understanding Passive OS Fingerprinting

Passive OS fingerprinting lets the sensor determine the OS that hosts are running. The sensor analyzes network traffic between hosts and stores the OS of these hosts with their IP addresses. The sensor inspects TCP SYN and SYNACK packets exchanged on the network to determine the OS type.

The sensor then uses the OS of the target host OS to determine the relevance of the attack to the victim by computing the attack relevance rating component of the risk rating. Based on the relevance of the attack, the sensor may alter the risk rating of the alert for the attack and/or the sensor may filter the alert for the attack. You can then use the risk rating to reduce the number of false positive alerts (a benefit in IDS mode) or definitively drop suspicious packets (a benefit in IPS mode). Passive OS fingerprinting also enhances the alert output by reporting the victim OS, the source of the OS identification, and the relevance to the victim OS in the alert.

Passive OS fingerprinting consists of three components:

- Passive OS learning

Passive OS learning occurs as the sensor observes traffic on the network. Based on the characteristics of TCP SYN and SYNACK packets, the sensor makes a determination of the OS running on the host of the source IP address.

- User-configurable OS identification

You can configure OS host mappings, which take precedence over learned OS mappings.

- Computation of attack relevance rating and risk rating

The sensor uses OS information to determine the relevance of the attack signature to the targeted host. The attack relevance is the attack relevance rating component of the risk rating value for the attack alert. The sensor uses the OS type reported in the host posture information imported from the CSA MC to compute the attack relevance rating.

There are three sources of OS information. The sensor ranks the sources of OS information in the following order:

1. Configured OS mappings—OS mappings you enter.

Configured OS mappings reside in the Event Action Rules policy and can apply to one or many virtual sensors.



Caution

You can specify multiple operating systems for the same IP address. The last one in the list is the operating system that is matched.

2. Imported OS mappings—OS mappings imported from an external data source.

Imported OS mappings are global and apply to all virtual sensors.



Note Currently CSA MC is the only external data source.

3. Learned OS mappings—OS mappings observed by the sensor through the fingerprinting of TCP packets with the SYN control bit set.

Learned OS mappings are local to the virtual sensor that sees the traffic.

When the sensor needs to determine the OS for a target IP address, it consults the configured OS mappings. If the target IP address is not in the configured OS mappings, the sensor looks in the imported OS mappings. If the target IP address is not in the imported OS mappings, the sensor looks in the learned OS mappings. If it cannot find it there, the sensor treats the OS of the target IP address as unknown.



Note

Passive OS fingerprinting is enabled by default and the IPS contains a default vulnerable OS list for each signature.

Configuring Passive OS Fingerprinting

You do not have to configure passive OS fingerprinting for it to function. IPS provides a default vulnerable OS list for each signature and passive analysis is enabled by default.

You can configure the following aspects of passive OS fingerprinting:

- Define OS mappings

We recommend configuring OS mappings to define the identity of the OS running on critical systems. It is best to configure OS mappings when the OS and IP address of the critical systems are unlikely to change.

- Limit the attack relevance rating calculation to a specific IP address range

This limits the attack relevance rating calculations to IP addresses on the protected network.

- Import OS mappings

Importing OS mappings provides a mechanism for accelerating the learning rate and fidelity of the OS identifications made through passive analysis. If you have an external product interface, such as the CSA MC, you can import OS identifications from it.

- Define event action rules filters using the OS relevancy value of the target

This provides a way to filter alerts solely on OS relevancy.

- Disable passive analysis

Stops the sensor from learning new OS mappings.

- Edit signature vulnerable OS lists

The vulnerable OS list specifies what OS types are vulnerable to each signature. The default, general-os, applies to all signatures that do not specify a vulnerable OS list.

OS Identifications Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the OS Identifications tab:

- Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis—When checked, lets the sensor perform passive OS analysis.
- Restrict OS mapping and ARR to these IP addresses—Lets you configure the mapping of OS type to a specific IP address and have the sensor calculate the attack relevance rating for that IP address.
- Configured OS Map—Displays the attributes of the configured OS map.
 - Name—The Name you give the configured OS map.
 - Active—Whether this configured OS map is active or inactive.
 - IP Address—The IP address of this configured OS map.
 - OS Type—The OS type of this configured OS map.

Add and Edit Configured OS Map Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Configured OS Map dialog boxes:

- Name—Lets you name this configured OS map.
- Active—Lets you choose to have the configured OS map active or inactive.
- IP Address—Lets you enter the IP address associated with this configured OS map.

The IP address for configured OS mappings (and *only* configured OS mappings) can be a set of IP addresses and IP address ranges. The following are all valid IP address values for configured OS mappings:

- 10.1.1.1,10.1.1.2,10.1.1.15
- 10.1.2.1
- 10.1.1.1-10.2.1.1,10.3.1.1
- 10.1.1.1-10.1.1.5
- OS Type—Lets you choose one of the following OS Types to associate with the IP address:
 - AIX
 - BSD
 - General OS
 - HP UX
 - IOS
 - IRIX
 - Linux
 - Mac OS
 - Netware
 - Other
 - Solaris
 - UNIX

- Unknown OS
- Win NT
- Windows
- Windows NT/2K/XP

Adding, Editing, Deleting, and Moving Configured OS Maps

To add, edit, delete, and move configured OS maps, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > OS Identifications**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** In the Name field, enter a name for the configured OS map.
- Step 4** In the Active field, click the **Yes** radio button to add this configured OS map to the list so that it takes effect.
- Step 5** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host that you are mapping to an OS.
For example, use this format, 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.
- Step 6** From the OS Type drop-down list, choose the OS that will be mapped to the IP address.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Configured OS Map dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **OK**. The new configured OS map now appears in the list on the OS Identifications tab.
- Step 8** Check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box on the OS Identifications tab or none of the configured OS maps will be enabled regardless of the value you set in the Add Configured OS Map dialog box.

- Step 9** To edit a configured OS map, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 10** Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Configured OS Map dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 11** Click **OK**. The edited configured OS map now appears in the list on the OS Identifications tab.
- Step 12** Check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable passive OS fingerprinting analysis** check box on the OS Identifications tab or none of the configured OS maps will be enabled regardless of the value you set in the Edit Configured OS Map dialog box.

- Step 13** To delete a configured OS map, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**. The configured OS map no longer appears in the list on the OS Identifications tab.

- Step 14** To move a configured OS map up or down in the list, select it, and then click the **Move Up** or **Move Down** arrows.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 15** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Event Variables

This section describes how to configure event variables, and contains the following topics:

- [Event Variables Tab, page 11-25](#)
- [Event Variables Tab Field Definitions, page 11-26](#)
- [Add and Edit Event Variable Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-26](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Event Variables, page 11-26](#)

Event Variables Tab



Note You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, or delete event variables.

You can create event variables and then use those variables in event action filters. When you want to use the same value within multiple filters, use a variable. When you change the value of the variable, any filter that uses that variable is updated with the new value.



Note You must preface the variable with a dollar (\$) sign to indicate that you are using a variable rather than a string.

Some variables cannot be deleted because they are necessary to the signature system. If a variable is protected, you cannot select it to edit it. You receive an error message if you try to delete protected variables. You can edit only one variable at a time.

When configuring IP addresses, specify the full IP address or ranges or set of ranges. For example:

- 10.89.10.10-10.89.10.23
- 10.90.1.1
- 192.56.10.1-192.56.10.255
- 10.1.1.1-10.2.255.255, 10.89.10.10-10.89.10.23



Timesaver

For example, if you have an IP address space that applies to your engineering group and there are no Windows systems in that group, and you are not worried about any Windows-based attacks to that group, you could set up a variable to be the IP address space of the engineering group. You could then use this variable to configure a filter that would ignore all Windows-based attacks for this group.

Event Variables Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Event Variables tab:

- Name—Lets you assign a name to this variable.
- Type—Identifies the variable as an address.
- Value—Lets you add the value(s) represented by this variable.

Add and Edit Event Variable Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Event Variable dialog boxes:

- Name—Lets you assign a name to this variable.
- Type—Identifies the variable as an address.



Note

This is the only available event variable in Cisco IPS 6.1.

- Value—Lets you add the value(s) represented by this variable.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Event Variables

To add, edit, and delete event variables, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Event Variables**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** In the Name field, enter a name for this variable.



Note

A valid name can only contain numbers or letters. You can also use a hyphen (-) or an underscore (_).

- Step 4** In the Value field, enter the values for this variable.
Specify the full IP address or ranges or set of ranges. For example:

- 10.89.10.10-10.89.10.23
- 10.90.1.1
- 192.56.10.1-192.56.10.255



Note

You can use commas as delimiters. Make sure there are no trailing spaces after the comma. Otherwise, you receive a `validation failed` error.



Tip

To discard your changes and close the Add Event Variable dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 5 Click **OK**. The new variable appears in the list on the Event Variables tab.

Step 6 To edit an existing variable, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 7 Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Event Variable dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 8 Click **OK**. The edited event variable now appears in the list on the Event Variables tab.

Step 9 To delete an event variable, select in the list, and then click **Delete**. The event variable no longer appears in the list on the Event Variables tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 10 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Risk Category

This section describes how to configure risk categories, and contains the following topics:

- [Risk Category Tab, page 11-27](#)
- [Risk Category Tab Field Definitions, page 11-28](#)
- [Add and Edit Risk Level Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 11-28](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Risk Categories, page 11-28](#)

Risk Category Tab



Note You must be administrator to add and edit risk levels.

On the Risk Category tab, you can use predefined risk categories (HIGH RISK, MEDIUM RISK, AND LOW RISK) or you can define your own labels. Risk categories link a category name to a numeric range defining the risk rating. You specify the low threshold for the category to make sure that the ranges are contiguous. The upper category is either the next higher category or 100.

You can then group the threats in red, yellow, and green categories. These red, yellow, and green threshold statistics are used in event action overrides and are also shown in the Network Security Gadget on the Home page.



Note You cannot delete a predefined risk category.

The red, yellow, and green threshold statistics represent the state of network security with red being the most critical. If you change a threshold, any event action overrides that had the same range as the risk category are changed to reflect the new range.

The new category is inserted in to the Risk Category list according to its threshold value and is automatically assigned actions that cover its range.

Risk Category Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Risk Category tab:

- Risk Category Name—Name of this risk level. The predefined categories have the following values:
 - HIGHRISK—90 (means 90 to 100)
 - MEDIUMRISK—70 (means 70-89)
 - LOWRISK—1 (means 1-69)
- Risk Threshold—Threshold number for this risk. The value is a number from 0 to 100.
- Risk Range—Risk Rating range for his risk category.

The risk rating is a range between 0 and 100 that represents a numerical quantification of the risk associated with a particular event on the network.

- Network Security Health Statistics—Lists the numbers for the red, yellow, and green thresholds. The overall network security value represents the least secure value (green is the most secure and red is the least secure).
 - Red Threat Thresholds
 - Yellow Threat Thresholds
 - Green Threat Thresholds

These color thresholds refer to the Sensor Health gadget on the Home pane.

Add and Edit Risk Level Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Risk Level dialog boxes:

- Risk Name—Lets you name this risk level.
- Risk Threshold—Lets you assign a risk threshold for this risk level.

You specify or change only the lower threshold for the category so that the risk categories are contiguous. The upper threshold is either the next higher category or 100.

- Active—Lets you make this risk level active.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Risk Categories

To add, edit, and delete risk categories, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Risk Category**, and then click **Add**.
 - Step 3** In the Risk Name field, enter a name for this risk category.
 - Step 4** In the Risk Threshold field, enter a numerical value for the risk threshold (minimum 0, maximum 100).

This number represents the lower boundary of risk. The range appears in the Risk Range field and in the red, yellow, and green threshold fields.

Step 5 To make this risk category active, click the **Yes** radio button.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Risk Category dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 6 Click **OK**. The new risk category appears in the list on the Risk Category tab.

Step 7 To edit an existing risk category, select it in the list, and then click **Edit**.

Step 8 Make any changes needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Risk Category dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 9 Click **OK**. The edited risk category now appears in the list on the Risk Category tab.

Step 10 To delete a risk category, select it in the list, and then click **Delete**. The risk category no longer appears in the list on the Risk Category tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 11 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring General Settings

This section describes how to configure the general settings, and contains the following topics:

- [General Tab, page 11-29](#)
- [General Tab Field Definitions, page 11-30](#)
- [Configuring the General Settings, page 11-30](#)

General Tab



Note You must be administrator or operator to configure the general settings for event action rules.

You can configure the general settings that apply globally to event action rules, such as whether you want to use the Summarizer and the Meta Event Generator. The Summarizer groups events into a single alert, thus decreasing the number of alerts the sensor sends out. The Meta Event Generator processes the component events, which lets the sensor watch for suspicious activity transpiring over a series of events.



Caution Do not disable the Summarizer or Meta Event Generator except for troubleshooting purposes. If you disable the Summarizer, every signature is set to Fire All with no summarization. If you disable the Meta Event Generator, all Meta engine signatures are disabled.

You can also use Threat Rating adjustment, Event Action Filters, and you can enable One Way TCP Reset.

The one-way TCP reset operates for inline mode only and is an automatic addition to the deny packet inline actions. It sends a TCP reset to the victim of the alert, thus creating a black hole for the attacker and clearing the TCP resources of the victim.

**Note**

An inline sensor now denies packets for any alert with a risk rating of greater than or equal to 90. It also issues a one-way TCP reset on TCP alerts with a risk rating of greater than or equal to 90.

You can configure how long you want to deny attackers, the maximum number of denied attackers, and how long you want blocks to last.

General Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the General tab:

- **Use Summarizer**—Enables the Summarizer component.
By default, the Summarizer is enabled. If you disable it, all signatures are set to Fire All with no summarization. If you configure individual signatures to summarize, this configuration will be ignored if the Summarizer is not enabled.
- **Use Meta Event Generator**—Enables the Meta Event Generator.
By default, the Meta Event Generator is enabled. If you disable the Meta Event Generator, all Meta engine signatures are disabled.
- **Use Threat Rating Adjustment**—Enables threat rating adjustment, which adjusts the risk rating. If disabled, then risk rating is equal to threat rating.
- **Use Event Action Filters**—Enables the event action filter component. You must check this check box to use any filter that is enabled.
- **Enable One Way TCP Reset**—(inline mode only) Enables a one-way TCP reset for deny packet inline actions for TCP-based alerts. It sends a TCP reset to the victim of the alert thus clearing the TCP resources of the victim.
- **Deny Attacker Duration**—Number of seconds to deny the attacker inline. The valid range is 0 to 518400. The default is 3600.
- **Block Attack Duration**—Number of minutes to block a host or connection. The valid range is 0 to 10000000. The default is 30.
- **Maximum Denied Attackers**—Limits the number of denied attackers possible in the system at any one time. The valid range is 0 to 100000000. The default is 10000.

Configuring the General Settings

**Caution**

The general settings options operate at a global level, so enabling them affects all sensor processing of these features.

To configure the general settings for event action rules, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > General**.

Step 3 To enable the summarizer feature, check the **Use Summarizer** check box.



Caution

Disable the Summarizer for troubleshooting purposes only. Otherwise, make sure the Summarizer is enabled so that all signatures you configure for summarization will actually summarize.

Step 4 To enable the meta event generator, check the **Use Meta Event Generator** check box.



Caution

Disable the Meta Event Generator for troubleshooting purposes only. Otherwise, make sure the Meta Event Generator is enabled so that all Meta engine signatures are functional.

Step 5 To enable threat rating adjustment, check the **Use Threat Rating Adjustment** check box.

Step 6 To enable event action filters, check the **Use Event Action Filters** check box.



Note

You must check the Use Event Action Filters check box on the General pane so that any event action filters you configured in the **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Event Action Filters** pane are active.

Step 7 To enable one way TCP reset for deny packet inline actions, check the **Enable One Way TCP Reset** check box.

Step 8 In the Deny Attacker Duration field, enter the number of seconds you want to deny the attacker inline.

Step 9 In the Block Action Duration field, enter the number of minutes you want to block a host or connection.

Step 10 In the Maximum Denied Attackers field, enter the maximum number of denied attackers you want at any one time.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 11 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.



CHAPTER 12

Configuring Anomaly Detection

This chapter describes how to create multiple security policies and apply them to individual virtual sensors. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Policies, page 12-1](#)
- [Anomaly Detection Components, page 12-1](#)
- [Configuring Anomaly Detection Policies, page 12-8](#)
- [ad0 Pane, page 12-9](#)
- [Configuring Operation Settings, page 12-10](#)
- [Configuring Learning Accept Mode, page 12-11](#)
- [Configuring the Internal Zone, page 12-14](#)
- [Configuring the Illegal Zone, page 12-22](#)
- [Configuring the External Zone, page 12-29](#)
- [Turning Off Anomaly Detection, page 12-36](#)

Understanding Policies

You can create multiple security policies and apply them to individual virtual sensors. A security policy is made up of a signature definition policy, an event action rules policy, and an anomaly detection policy. Cisco IPS 6.1 contains a default signature definition policy called sig0, a default event action rules policy called rules0, and a default anomaly detection policy called ad0. You can assign the default policies to a virtual sensor or you can create new policies.

The use of multiple security policies lets you create security policies based on different requirements and then apply these customized policies per VLAN or physical interface.

Anomaly Detection Components

The following section describes the various components of anomaly detection, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Anomaly Detection, page 12-2](#)
- [Worms, page 12-2](#)
- [Anomaly Detection Modes, page 12-3](#)

- [Anomaly Detection Zones, page 12-4](#)
- [Anomaly Detection Configuration Sequence, page 12-4](#)
- [Anomaly Detection Signatures, page 12-6](#)

Understanding Anomaly Detection

The anomaly detection component of the sensor detects worm-infected hosts. This enables the sensor to be less dependent on signature updates for protection against worms and scanners, such as Code Red and SQL Slammer and so forth. The anomaly detection component lets the sensor learn normal activity and send alerts or take dynamic response actions for behavior that deviates from what it has learned as normal behavior.

**Note**

Anomaly detection does not detect email-based worms, such as Nimda.

Anomaly detection detects the following two situations:

- When the network starts on the path of becoming congested by worm traffic.
- When a single worm-infected source enters the network and starts scanning for other vulnerable hosts.

Worms

**Caution**

Anomaly detection assumes it gets traffic from both directions. If the sensor is configured to see only one direction of traffic, you should turn off anomaly detection. Otherwise, when anomaly detection is running in an asymmetric environment, it identifies all traffic as having incomplete connections, that is, as scanners, and sends alerts for all traffic flows.

Worms are automated, self-propagating, intrusion agents that make copies of themselves and then facilitate their spread. Worms attack a vulnerable host, infect it, and then use it as a base to attack other vulnerable hosts. They search for other hosts by using a form of network inspection, typically a scan, and then propagate to the next target. A scanning worm locates vulnerable hosts by generating a list of IP addresses to probe, and then contacts the hosts. Code Red worm, Sasser worm, Blaster worm, and the Slammer worm are examples of worms that spread in this manner.

Anomaly detection identifies worm-infected hosts by their behavior as scanners. To spread, a worm must find new hosts. It finds them by scanning the Internet or network using TCP, UDP, and other protocols to generate unsuccessful attempts to access different destination IP addresses. A scanner is defined as a source IP address that generates events on the same destination port (in TCP and UDP) for too many destination IP addresses.

The events that are important for TCP protocol are nonestablished connections, such as a SYN packet that does not have its SYN-ACK response for a given amount of time. A worm-infected host that scans using TCP protocol generates nonestablished connections on the same destination port for an anomalous number of IP addresses.

The events that are important for UDP protocol are unidirectional connections, such as a UDP connection where all packets are going only in one direction. A worm-infected host that scans using UDP protocol generates UDP packets but does not receive UDP packets on the same quad within a timeout period on the same destination port for multiple destination IP addresses.

The events that are important for other protocols, such as ICMP, are from a source IP address to many different destination IP addresses, that is, packets that are received in only one direction.

**Caution**

If a worm has a list of IP addresses it should infect and does not have to use scanning to spread itself (for example, it uses passive mapping—listening to the network as opposed to active scanning), it is not detected by the anomaly detection worm policies. Worms that receive a mailing list from probing files within the infected host and email this list are also not detected, because no Layer 3/Layer 4 anomaly is generated.

For More Information

For the procedure for turning off anomaly detection, refer to [Turning Off Anomaly Detection](#).

Anomaly Detection Modes

Anomaly detection initially conducts a “peacetime” learning process when the most normal state of the network is reflected. Anomaly detection then derives a set of policy thresholds that best fit the normal network.

Anomaly detection has the following modes:

- Learning accept mode

Although anomaly detection is in detect mode by default, it conducts an initial learning accept mode for the default period of 24 hours. We assume that during this phase no attack is being carried out. Anomaly detection creates an initial baseline, known as a knowledge base (KB), of the network traffic. The default interval value for periodic schedule is 24 hours and the default action is rotate, meaning that a new KB is saved and loaded, and then replaces the initial KB after 24 hours.

**Note**

Anomaly detection does not detect attacks when working with the initial KB, which is empty. After the default of 24 hours, a KB is saved and loaded and now anomaly detection also detects attacks.

**Note**

Depending on your network complexity, you may want to have anomaly detection in learning accept mode for longer than the default 24 hours.

- Detect mode

For ongoing operation, the sensor should remain in detect mode. This is for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Once a KB is created and replaces the initial KB, anomaly detection detects attacks based on it. It looks at the network traffic flows that violate thresholds in the KB and sends alerts. As anomaly detection looks for anomalies, it also records gradual changes to the KB that do not violate the thresholds and thus creates a new KB. The new KB is periodically saved and takes the place of the old one thus maintaining an up-to-date KB.

- Inactive mode

You can turn anomaly detection off by putting it in inactive mode. Under certain circumstances, anomaly detection should be in inactive mode, for example, if the sensor is running in an asymmetric environment. Because anomaly detection assumes it gets traffic from both directions, if the sensor is configured to see only one direction of traffic, anomaly detection identifies all traffic as having incomplete connections, that is, as scanners, and sends alerts for all traffic flows.

The following example summarizes the default anomaly detection configuration. If you add a virtual sensor at 11:00 pm and do not change the default anomaly detection configuration, anomaly detection begins working with the initial KB and only performs learning. Although it is in detect mode, it cannot detect attacks until it has gathered information for 24 hours and replaced the initial KB. At the first start time (10:00 am by default), and the first interval (24 hours by default), the learning results are saved to a new KB and this KB is loaded and replaces the initial KB. Because the anomaly detection is in detect mode by default, now that anomaly detection has a new KB, the anomaly detection begins to detect attacks.

For More Information

- For more information on how worms operate, see [Worms, page 12-2](#).
- For the procedure for configuring the sensor to be in different modes, see [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Virtual Sensors, page 8-11](#).

Anomaly Detection Zones

By subdividing the network into zones, you can achieve a lower false negative rate. A zone is a set of destination IP addresses. There are three zones, internal, illegal, and external, each with its own thresholds.

The external zone is the default zone with the default Internet range of 0.0.0.0-255.255.255.255. By default, the internal and illegal zones contain no IP addresses. Packets that do not match the set of IP addresses in the internal or illegal zone are handled by the external zone.

We recommend that you configure the internal zone with the IP address range of your internal network. If you configure it in this way, the internal zone is all the traffic that comes to your IP address range, and the external zone is all the traffic that goes to the Internet.

You can configure the illegal zone with IP address ranges that should never be seen in normal traffic, for example, unallocated IP addresses or part of your internal IP address range that is unoccupied. An illegal zone can be very helpful for accurate detection, because we do not expect any legal traffic to reach this zone. This allows very low thresholds, which in turn can lead to very quick worm virus detection.

For More Information

For more information, see [Configuring the Internal Zone, page 12-14](#), [Configuring the Illegal Zone, page 12-22](#), and [Configuring the External Zone, page 12-29](#).

Anomaly Detection Configuration Sequence

You can configure the detection part of anomaly detection. You can configure a set of thresholds that override the KB learned thresholds. However, anomaly detection continues learning regardless of how you configure the detection. You can also import, export, and load a KB and you can view a KB for data.

Follow this sequence when configuring anomaly detection:

1. Create an anomaly detection policy to add to the virtual sensors.
Or you can use the default anomaly detection policy, ad0.
2. Add the anomaly detection policy to your virtual sensors.
3. Configure the anomaly detection zones and protocols.

4. By default, the anomaly detection operational mode is set to detect, although for the first 24 hours it performs learning to create a populated KB. The initial KB is empty and during the default 24 hours, anomaly detection collects data to use to populate the KB. If you want the learning period to be longer than the default period of 24 hours, you must manually set the mode to learn accept.
5. Let the sensor run in learning accept mode for at least 24 hours (the default).

You should let the sensor run in learning accept mode for at least 24 hours so it can gather information on the normal state of the network for the initial KB. However, you should change the amount of time for learning accept mode according to the complexity of your network.



Note We recommend leaving the sensor in learning accept mode for at least 24 hours, but letting the sensor run in learning accept mode for longer, even up to a week, is better.

After the time period, the sensor saves the initial KB as a baseline of the normal activity of your network.

6. If you manually set anomaly detection to learning accept mode, switch back to detect mode.
7. Configure the anomaly detection parameters:
 - Configure the worm timeout and which source and destination IP addresses should be bypassed by anomaly detection.
After this timeout, the scanner threshold returns to the configured value.
 - Decide whether you want to enable automatic KB updates when anomaly detection is in detect mode.
 - Configure the 18 anomaly detection worm signatures to have more event actions than just the default Produce Alert. For example, configure them to have Deny Attacker event actions.

For More Information

- For the procedures for putting anomaly detection in different modes, see [Adding, Editing, and Deleting Virtual Sensors](#), page 8-11.
- For the procedure for configuring a new anomaly detection policy, see [Configuring Anomaly Detection Policies](#), page 12-8.
- For more information on configuring zones, see [Configuring the Internal Zone](#), page 12-14, [Configuring the Illegal Zone](#), page 12-22, and [Configuring the External Zone](#), page 12-29.
- For more information on anomaly detection modes, see [Anomaly Detection Modes](#), page 12-3.
- For more information about configuring learning accept mode, see [Configuring Learning Accept Mode](#), page 12-11.
- For more information on configuring anomaly detection signatures, see [Anomaly Detection Signatures](#), page 12-6.
- For more information on Deny Attacker event actions, see [Event Actions](#), page 11-8.

Anomaly Detection Signatures

The Traffic Anomaly engine contains nine anomaly detection signatures covering three protocols (TCP, UDP, and other). Each signature has two subsignatures, one for the scanner and the other for the worm-infected host (or a scanner under worm attack). When anomaly detection discovers an anomaly, it triggers an alert for these signatures. All anomaly detection signatures are enabled by default and the alert severity for each one is set to high.

When a scanner is detected but no histogram anomaly occurred, the scanner signature fires for that attacker (scanner) IP address. If the histogram signature is triggered, the attacker addresses that are doing the scanning each trigger the worm signature (instead of the scanner signature). The alert details state which threshold is being used for the worm detection now that the histogram has been triggered.

From that point on, all scanners are detected as worm-infected hosts.

The following anomaly detection event actions are possible:

- Produce alert—Writes the event to the Event Store.
- Deny attacker inline—(Inline only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets originating from the attacker address for a specified period of time.
- Log attacker packets—Starts IP logging for packets that contain the attacker address.
- Deny attacker service pair inline—Blocks the source IP address and the destination port.
- Request SNMP trap—Sends a request to NotificationApp to perform SNMP notification.
- Request block host—Sends a request to ARC to block this host (the attacker).

Table 12-1 lists the anomaly detection worm signatures.

Table 12-1 Anomaly Detection Worm Signatures

Signature ID	Subsignature ID	Name	Description
13000	0	Internal TCP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a TCP protocol in the internal zone.
13000	1	Internal TCP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a TCP protocol in the internal zone; the TCP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a TCP protocol was identified.
13001	0	Internal UDP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a UDP protocol in the internal zone.
13001	1	Internal UDP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a UDP protocol in the internal zone; the UDP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a UDP protocol was identified.
13002	0	Internal Other Scanner	Identified a single scanner over an Other protocol in the internal zone.
13002	1	Internal Other Scanner	Identified a worm attack over an Other protocol in the internal zone; the Other histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over an Other protocol was identified.
13003	0	External TCP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a TCP protocol in the external zone.

Table 12-1 *Anomaly Detection Worm Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID	Subsignature ID	Name	Description
13003	1	External TCP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a TCP protocol in the external zone; the TCP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a TCP protocol was identified.
13004	0	External UDP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a UDP protocol in the external zone.
13004	1	External UDP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a UDP protocol in the external zone; the UDP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a UDP protocol was identified.
13005	0	External Other Scanner	Identified a single scanner over an Other protocol in the external zone.
13005	1	External Other Scanner	Identified a worm attack over an Other protocol in the external zone; the Other histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over an Other protocol was identified.
13006	0	Illegal TCP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a TCP protocol in the illegal zone.
13006	1	Illegal TCP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a TCP protocol in the illegal zone; the TCP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a TCP protocol was identified.
13007	0	Illegal UDP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a UDP protocol in the illegal zone.
13007	1	Illegal UDP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a UDP protocol in the illegal zone; the UDP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a UDP protocol was identified.
13008	0	Illegal Other Scanner	Identified a single scanner over an Other protocol in the illegal zone.
13008	1	Illegal Other Scanner	Identified a worm attack over an Other protocol in the illegal zone; the Other histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over an Other protocol was identified.

For More Information

For the procedure for assigning actions to signatures, see [Assigning Actions to Signatures](#), page 9-17.

Configuring Anomaly Detection Policies

This section describes how to create anomaly detection policies, and contains the following topics:

- [Anomaly Detections Pane, page 12-8](#)
- [Anomaly Detections Pane Field Definitions, page 12-8](#)
- [Add and Clone Policy Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 12-8](#)
- [Adding, Cloning, and Deleting Anomaly Detection Policies, page 12-9](#)

Anomaly Detections Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add, clone, or delete anomaly detection policies.

In the Anomaly Detections pane, you can add, clone, or delete an anomaly detection policy. The default anomaly detection policy is ad0. When you add a policy, a control transaction is sent to the sensor to create the new policy instance. If the response is successful, the new policy instance is added under Anomaly Detections. If the control transaction fails, for example because of resource limitations, an error message appears.

If your platform does not support virtual policies, this means you can only have one instance for each component and you cannot create new ones or delete the existing one. In this case, the Add, Clone, and Delete buttons are disabled.

**Caution**

AIM-IPS and NME-IPS do not support sensor virtualization and therefore do not support multiple policies.

Anomaly Detections Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Anomaly Detections pane:

- Policy Name—Identifies the name of this anomaly detection policy.
- Assigned Virtual Sensor—Identifies the virtual sensor that this anomaly detection policy is assigned to.

Add and Clone Policy Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following field is found in the Add and Clone Policy dialog boxes:

- Policy Name—Identifies the name of this anomaly detection policy.

Adding, Cloning, and Deleting Anomaly Detection Policies

To add, clone, or delete an anomaly detection policy, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Anomaly Detections**, and then click **Add**.

Step 3 In the Policy Name field, enter a name for the anomaly detection policy.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 4 Click **OK**.

The anomaly detection policy appears in the list in the Anomaly Detections pane.

Step 5 To clone an existing anomaly detection policy, select it in the list, and then click **Clone**.

The Clone Policy dialog box appears with “_copy” appended to the existing anomaly detection policy name.

Step 6 In the Policy Name field, enter a unique name.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 7 Click **OK**.

The cloned anomaly detection policy appears in the list in the Anomaly Detections pane.

Step 8 To remove an anomaly detection policy, select it, and then click **Delete**.

The Delete Policy dialog box appears asking if you are sure you want to delete this policy permanently.



Caution You cannot delete the default anomaly detection policy, ad0.

Step 9 Click **Yes**.

The anomaly detection policy no longer appears in the list in the Anomaly Detections pane.

ad0 Pane

The ad0 pane (default) contains the tools to configure anomaly detection. There are five tabs:

- **Operation Settings**—Lets you set the worm timeout and which source and destination IP addresses you want the sensor to ignore during anomaly detection processing.
- **Learning Accept Mode**—Lets you enable the sensor to automatically accept the learning KB, and to configure a schedule for accepting the learned KB.
- **Internal Zone**—Lets you configure the destination IP addresses and the threshold of the internal zone.

- Illegal Zone—Lets you configure the destination IP addresses and the threshold of the illegal zone.
- External Zone—Lets you configure the threshold of the external zone.

Configuring Operation Settings

This section describes how to configure operation settings, and contains the following topics:

- [Operation Settings Tab, page 12-10](#)
- [Operating Settings Tab Field Definitions, page 12-10](#)
- [Configuring Anomaly Detection Operation Settings, page 12-10](#)

Operation Settings Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure anomaly detection operation settings.

On the Operation Settings tab, you can set the worm detection timeout. After this timeout, the scanner threshold returns to the configured value. You can also configure source and destination IP addresses that you want the sensor to ignore when anomaly detection is gathering information for a KB. Anomaly detection does not track these source and destination IP addresses and the KB thresholds are not affected by these IP addresses.

Operating Settings Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Operation Settings tab:

- Worm Timeout—Lets you enter the time in seconds for the worm termination timeout. The range is 120 to 10,000,000 seconds. The default is 600 seconds.
- Configure IP address ranges to ignore during anomaly detection processing—Lets you enter IP addresses that should be ignored while anomaly detection is processing.
 - Enable ignored IP Addresses—If checked, enables the list of ignored IP addresses.
 - Source IP Addresses—Lets you enter the source IP addresses that you want anomaly detection to ignore.
 - Destination IP Addresses—Lets you enter the destination IP addresses that you want anomaly detection to ignore.

Configuring Anomaly Detection Operation Settings

To configure anomaly detection operation settings, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Anomaly Detections** > **ad0** > **Operation Settings**.

Step 3 In the Worm Timeout field, enter the number of seconds you want to wait for a worm detection to time out.

The range is 120 to 10,000,000 seconds. The default is 600 seconds.

Step 4 To enable the list of ignored IP addresses, check the **Enable ignored IP Addresses** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable ignored IP Addresses** check box or none of the IP addresses you enter will be ignored.

Step 5 In the Source IP Addresses field, enter the addresses or range of source IP addresses that you want anomaly detection to ignore.

The valid form is 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.

Step 6 In the Destination IP Addresses field, enter the addresses or range of destination IP addresses that you want anomaly detection to ignore.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 7 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Learning Accept Mode

This section describes how to configure learning accept mode, and contains the following topics:

- [Learning Accept Mode Tab, page 12-11](#)
- [The KB and Histograms, page 12-12](#)
- [Learning Accept Mode Tab Field Definitions, page 12-13](#)
- [Add and Edit Start Time Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 12-13](#)
- [Configuring Learning Accept Mode, page 12-13](#)

Learning Accept Mode Tab



Note You must be administrator or operator to configure learning accept mode.

Use the Learning Accept Mode tab to configure whether you want the sensor to create a new KB every so many hours. You can configure whether the KB is created and loaded (Rotate) or saved (Save Only). You can schedule how often and when the KB is loaded or saved.

The default generated filename is *YYYY-Mon-dd-hh_mm_ss*, where *Mon* is a three-letter abbreviation of the current month.

The KB and Histograms

The KB has a tree structure, and contains the following information:

- KB name
- Zone name
- Protocol
- Service

The KB holds a scanner threshold and a histogram for each service. If you have learning accept mode set to auto and the action set to rotate, a new KB is created every 24 hours and used in the next 24 hours. If you have learning accept mode set to auto and the action is set to save only, a new KB is created, but the current KB is used. If you do not have learning accept mode set to auto, no KB is created.

**Note**

Learning accept mode uses the sensor local time.

The scanner threshold defines the maximum number of zone IP addresses that a single source IP address can scan. The histogram threshold defines the maximum number of source IP addresses that can scan more than the specified numbers of zone IP addresses.

Anomaly detection identifies a worm attack when there is a deviation from the histogram that it has learned when no attack was in progress (that is, when the number of source IP addresses that concurrently scan more than the defined zone destination IP address is exceeded). For example, if the scanning threshold is 300 and the histogram for port 445, if anomaly detection identifies a scanner that scans 350 zone destination IP addresses, it produces an action indicating that a mass scanner was detected. However, this scanner does not yet verify that a worm attack is in progress. [Table 12-2](#) describes this example.

Table 12-2 *Example Histogram*

Number of source IP addresses	10	5	2
Number of destination IP addresses	5	20	100

When anomaly detection identifies six concurrent source IP addresses that scan more than 20 zone destination IP addresses on port 445, it produces an action with an unspecified source IP address that indicates anomaly detection has identified a worm attack on port 445. The dynamic filter threshold, 20, specifies the new internal scanning threshold and causes anomaly detection to lower the threshold definition of a scanner so that anomaly detection produces additional dynamic filters for each source IP address that scans more than the new scanning threshold (20).

You can override what the KB learned per anomaly detection policy and per zone. If you understand your network traffic, you may want to use overrides to limit false positives.

Triggering the High Category Histogram Before the Single-Scanner Threshold

Based on the default histogram (nonlearned knowledge base [KB]) values, histogram-based detection can occur before single-scanner detection.

Single scanner detection is based on the scanner threshold settings. The scanner threshold setting is a single number for that port or protocol and zone. Any single IP address scanning more than that number of hosts of that port or protocol in that zone is alerted as a scanner.

There is a histogram for that port or protocol and zone that tracks how many systems normally scan a smaller number of hosts (10 hosts, 20 hosts, or 100 hosts). When more than that normal number of scanners are seen, then a worm is declared and all IPs scanning more than the associated number of hosts are alerted on as being a worm scanner.

**Note**

An IP source address can be alerted on as being a worm scanner without ever reaching the scanner threshold. The scanner threshold is used to detect single systems scanning a large number of hosts and is tracked separately from the algorithms for detecting worms.

Learning Accept Mode Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Learning Accept Mode tab:

- Automatically accept learning knowledge base—If checked, the sensor automatically updates the KB. If not checked, anomaly detection does not automatically create a new KB.
- Action—Lets you specify whether to rotate or save the KB.
If you choose Save Only, the new KB is created. You can examine it and decide whether to load it into anomaly detection. If you choose Rotate, the new KB is created and loaded according to the schedule you define.
- Schedule—Lets you choose Calendar Schedule or Periodic Schedule.
 - Periodic Schedule—Lets you configure the first learning snapshot time of day and the interval of the subsequent snapshots. The default is the periodic schedule in 24-hour format.
Start Time—Enter the time you want the new KB to start. The valid format is hh:mm:ss.
Learning Interval—Enter how long you want anomaly detection to learn from the network before creating a new KB.
 - Calendar Schedule—Lets you configure the days and times of the day for the KB to be created.
Times of Day—Click **Add** and enter the times of day in the Add Start Time dialog box.
Days of the Week—Check the check boxes of the days of the week you want to configure.

Add and Edit Start Time Dialog Boxes Field Definitions



The following field is found in the Add and Edit Start Time dialog boxes:

- Start Time—Lets you enter the start time for learning accept mode in hours, minutes, and seconds. The valid form is hh:mm:ss in 24-hour time.

Configuring Learning Accept Mode

To configure learning accept mode for anomaly detection, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Anomaly Detections** > **ad0** > **Learning Accept Mode**.

- Step 3** To have anomaly detection automatically update the KB, check the **Automatically accept learning knowledge base** check box.
- Step 4** From the Action drop-down list, choose one of the following action types:
- Rotate—New KB is created and loaded. This is the default.
 - Save Only—New KB is created but not loaded. You can view it to decide if you want to load it.
- Step 5** From the Schedule drop-down list, choose one of the following schedule types:
- Calendar Schedule—Go to Step 6.
 - Periodic Schedule—Go to Step 7.
- Step 6** To configure the calendar schedule:
- Click **Add** to add the start time.
 - Enter the start time in hours, minutes, and seconds using the 24-hour time format.
-  **Tip** To discard your changes and close the Add Start Time dialog box, click **Cancel**.
- Click **OK**.
 - In the Days of the Week field, check the check boxes of the days you want the anomaly detection module to capture KB snapshots.
- Step 7** To configure the periodic schedule (the default):
- In the Start Time fields, enter the start time in hours, minutes, and seconds using the 24-hour time format.
 - In the Learning Interval field, enter the interval of the subsequent KB snapshots.
-  **Tip** To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
- Step 8** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring the Internal Zone

This section describes how to configure the internal zone, and contains the following topics:

- [Internal Zone Tab, page 12-15](#)
- [General Tab, page 12-15](#)
- [TCP Protocol Tab, page 12-15](#)
- [UDP Protocol Tab, page 12-16](#)
- [Other Protocols Tab, page 12-17](#)
- [Configuring the Internal Zone, page 12-18](#)

Internal Zone Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure the internal zone.

The Internal Zone tab has four tabs:

- General—Lets you enable the internal zone and specify which subnets it contains.
- TCP Protocol—Lets you enable TCP protocol and configure your own thresholds and histograms.
- UDP Protocol—Lets you enable UDP protocol and configure your own thresholds and histograms.
- Other Protocols—Lets you enable other protocols and your own thresholds and histograms.

The internal zone should represent your internal network. It should receive all the traffic that comes to your IP address range.

General Tab

On the General tab, you enable the zone. If the zone is disabled, packets to this zone are ignored. By default the zone is enabled.

You then add the IP addresses that belong to this zone. If you do not configure IP addresses for all zones, all packets are sent to the default zone, the external zone.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the General tab:

- Enable the Internal Zone—If checked, enables the internal zone.
- Service Subnets—Lets you enter the subnets that you want to apply to the internal zone. The valid format is 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.

TCP Protocol Tab

On the TCP Protocol tab, you enable or disable TCP protocol for the internal zone. You can configure a destination port for the TCP protocol. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

TCP Protocol Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the TCP Protocol tab:

- Enable the TCP Protocol—If checked, enables TCP protocol.
- Destination Port Map tab—Lets you associate a specific port with the TCP protocol.
 - Port Number—Displays the configured port number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.

Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.

Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.

- **Default Thresholds tab**—Displays the default thresholds and histograms. Default thresholds are used for services that are not in the KB and were not overridden by the configuration.
 - **Scanner Threshold**—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - **Threshold Histogram**—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Destination Port Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Destination Port dialog boxes:

- **Destination Port number**—Lets you enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- **Enable the Service**—If checked, enables the service.
- **Override Scanner Settings**—If checked, overrides the default scanner settings and lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- **Scanner Threshold**—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- **Threshold Histogram**—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - **Number of Destination IP Addresses**—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - **Number of Source IP Addresses**—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Add and Edit Histogram Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit Histogram dialog boxes:

- **Number of Destination IP Addresses**—Lets you add a high, medium, or low number of destination IP addresses. Low is 5 destination IP addresses, medium is 20, and high is 100.
- **Number of Source IP Addresses**—Lets you add the number of source IP addresses. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

UDP Protocol Tab

On the UDP Protocol tab, you enable or disable UDP protocol for the internal zone. You can configure a destination port for the UDP protocol. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

UDP Protocol Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the UDP Protocol tab:

- **Enable the UDP Protocol**—If checked, enables UDP protocol.
- **Destination Port Map tab**—Lets you associate a specific port with the UDP protocol.
 - **Port Number**—Displays the configured port number.
 - **Service Enabled**—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - **Scanner Overridden**—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - **Overridden Scanner Settings**—Displays the configured scanner settings.

Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.

Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.

- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms.

- Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.

Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.

Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Destination Port Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Destination Port dialog boxes:

- Destination Port number—Lets you enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Enable the Service—If checked, enables the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, overrides the default scanner settings and lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Add and Edit Histogram Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit Histogram dialog boxes:

- Number of Destination IP Addresses—Lets you add a high, medium, or low number of destination IP addresses. Low is 5 destination IP addresses, medium is 20, and high is 100.
- Number of Source IP Addresses—Lets you add the number of source IP addresses. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

Other Protocols Tab

On the Other Protocols tab, you enable or disable other protocols for the internal zone. You can configure a protocol number map for the other protocols. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

Other Protocols Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Other Protocols tab:

- Enable Other Protocols—If checked, enables the other protocols.
- Protocol Number Map tab—Lets you associate a specific protocol number with the other protocols.
 - Protocol Number—Displays the configured protocol number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.

- Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
- Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
- Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
- Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
- Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
- Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Protocol Number Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Protocol Number dialog boxes:

- Protocol number—Lets you enter a protocol number.
- Enable the Service—Lets you enable the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Configuring the Internal Zone

To configure the internal zone for anomaly detection, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Anomaly Detections** > **ad0** > **Internal Zone**, and then click the **General** tab.
- Step 3** To enable the internal zone, check the **Enable the Internal Zone** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable the Internal Zone** check box or any protocols that you configure will be ignored.

- Step 4** In the Service Subnets field, enter the subnets that you want the internal zone to apply to.
The valid format is 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.
- Step 5** To configure TCP protocol, click the **TCP Protocol** tab.
- Step 6** To enable TCP protocol, check the **Enable the TCP Protocol** check box.

**Note**

You must check the **Enable the TCP Protocol** check box or the TCP protocol configuration will be ignored.

- Step 7** Click the **Destination Port Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a destination port.
- Step 8** In the Destination Port Number field, enter the destination port number.
The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Step 9** To enable the service on that port, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 10** To override the scanner values for that port, check the **Override Scanner Settings** check box.
You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 11** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 12** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 13** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 14** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Destination Port dialog box.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Destination Port dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 15** Click **OK**. The new destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 16** To edit the destination port map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 17** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 18** To delete a destination port map, select it, and click **Delete**. The destination port map no longer appears in the list Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 19** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab.
- Step 20** Select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and click **Edit**.
- Step 21** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses the drop down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 22** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.

- Step 23** To configure UDP protocol, click the **UDP Protocol** tab.
- Step 24** To enable UDP protocol, check the **Enable the UDP Protocol** check box.

**Note**

You must check the **Enable the UDP Protocol** check box or the UDP protocol configuration will be ignored.

- Step 25** Click the **Destination Port Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a destination port.
- Step 26** In the Destination Port Number field, enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Step 27** To enable the service on that port, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 28** To override the scanner values for that port, check the **Override Scanner** Settings check box. You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 29** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 30** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 31** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 32** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Destination Port dialog box.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Destination Port dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 33** Click **OK**. The new destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 34** To edit the destination port map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 35** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 36** To delete a destination port map, select it, and click **Delete**. The destination port map no longer appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 37** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 38** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 39** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.

- Step 40** To configure Other protocols, click the **Other Protocols** tab.
- Step 41** To enable other protocols, check the **Enable Other Protocols** check box.

**Note**

You must check the **Enable Other Protocols** check box or the other protocols configuration will be ignored.

- Step 42** Click the **Protocol Number Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a protocol number.
- Step 43** In the Protocol Number field, enter the protocol number. The valid range is 0 to 255.
- Step 44** To enable the service of that protocol, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 45** To override the scanner values for that protocol, check the **Override Scanner Settings** check box. You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 46** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 47** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 48** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 49** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Protocol Number dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Protocol Number dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 50** Click **OK**. The new protocol number map appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.
- Step 51** To edit the protocol number map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 52** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited protocol number map appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.
- Step 53** To delete a protocol number map, select it, and click **Delete**. The protocol number map no longer appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.
- Step 54** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 55** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 56** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 57** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring the Illegal Zone

This section describes how to configure the illegal zone, and contains the following topics:

- [Illegal Zone Tab, page 12-22](#)
- [General Tab, page 12-22](#)
- [TCP Protocol Tab, page 12-22](#)
- [UDP Protocol Tab, page 12-24](#)
- [Other Protocols Tab, page 12-25](#)
- [Configuring the Illegal Zone, page 12-26](#)

Illegal Zone Tab

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure the illegal zone.

The Illegal Zone tab has four tabs:

- **General**—Lets you enable the illegal zone and specify which subnets it contains.
- **TCP Protocol**—Lets you enable TCP protocol and configure your own thresholds and histograms.
- **UDP Protocol**—Lets you enable UDP protocol and configure your own thresholds and histograms.
- **Other Protocols**—Lets you enable other protocols and your own thresholds and histograms.

The illegal zone should represent IP address ranges that should never be seen in normal traffic, for example, unallocated IP addresses or part of your internal IP address range that is unoccupied.

General Tab

On the General tab, you enable the zone. If the zone is disabled, packets to this zone are ignored. By default the zone is enabled.

You then add the IP addresses that belong to this zone. If you do not configure IP addresses for all zones, all packets are sent to the default zone, the external zone.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the General tab:

- **Enable the Internal Zone**—If checked, enables the internal zone.
- **Service Subnets**—Lets you enter the subnets that you want to apply to the internal zone. The valid format is 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.

TCP Protocol Tab

On the TCP Protocol tab, you enable or disable TCP protocol for the illegal zone. You can configure a destination port for the TCP protocol. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

TCP Protocol Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the TCP Protocol tab:

- Enable the TCP Protocol—If checked, enables TCP protocol.
- Destination Port Map tab—Lets you associate a specific port with the TCP protocol.
 - Port Number—Displays the configured port number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
 - Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
 - Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms. Default thresholds are used for services that are not in the KB and were not overridden by the configuration.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Destination Port Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Destination Port dialog boxes:

- Destination Port number—Lets you enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Enable the Service—If checked, enables the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, overrides the default scanner settings and lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Add and Edit Histogram Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit Histogram dialog boxes:

- Number of Destination IP Addresses—Lets you add a high, medium, or low number of destination IP addresses. Low is 5 destination IP addresses, medium is 20, and high is 100.
- Number of Source IP Addresses—Lets you add the number of source IP addresses. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

UDP Protocol Tab

On the UDP Protocol tab, you enable or disable UDP protocol for the illegal zone. You can configure a destination port for the UDP protocol. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

UDP Protocol Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the UDP Protocol tab:

- Enable the UDP Protocol—If checked, enables UDP protocol.
- Destination Port Map tab—Lets you associate a specific port with the UDP protocol.
 - Port Number—Displays the configured port number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
 - Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
 - Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Destination Port Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Destination Port dialog boxes:

- Destination Port number—Lets you enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Enable the Service—If checked, enables the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, overrides the default scanner settings and lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Add and Edit Histogram Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit Histogram dialog boxes:

- Number of Destination IP Addresses—Lets you add a high, medium, or low number of destination IP addresses. Low is 5 destination IP addresses, medium is 20, and high is 100.
- Number of Source IP Addresses—Lets you add the number of source IP addresses. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

Other Protocols Tab

On the Other Protocols tab, you enable or disable other protocols for the illegal zone. You can configure a protocol number map for the other protocols. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

Other Protocols Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Other Protocol tab:

- Enable Other Protocols—If checked, enables the other protocols.
- Protocol Number Map tab—Lets you associate a specific protocol number with the other protocols.
 - Protocol Number—Displays the configured protocol number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
 - Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
 - Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Protocol Number Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Protocol Number dialog boxes:

- Protocol number—Lets you enter a protocol number.
- Enable the Service—Lets you enable the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Configuring the Illegal Zone

To configure the illegal zone for anomaly detection, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Anomaly Detections** > **ad0** > **Illegal Zone**.
- Step 3** Click the **General** tab.
- Step 4** To enable the illegal zone, check the **Enable the Illegal Zone** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable the Illegal Zone** check box or any protocols that you configure will be ignored.

- Step 5** In the Service Subnets field, enter the subnets that you want the illegal zone to apply to. The valid format is 10.10.5.5,10.10.2.1-10.10.2.30.
- Step 6** To configure TCP protocol, click the **TCP Protocol** tab.
- Step 7** To enable TCP protocol, check the **Enable the TCP Protocol** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable the TCP Protocol** check box or the TCP protocol configuration will be ignored.

- Step 8** Click the **Destination Port Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a destination port.
- Step 9** In the Destination Port Number field, enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Step 10** To enable the service on that port, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 11** To override the scanner values for that port, check the **Override Scanner** Settings check box.
You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 12** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 13** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 14** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 15** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Destination Port dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Destination Port dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 16** Click **OK**. The new destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 17** To edit the destination port map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 18** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.

- Step 19** To delete a destination port map, select it, and click **Delete**. The destination port map no longer appears in the list Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 20** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 21** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 22** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the **Default Thresholds** tab.

- Step 23** To configure UDP protocol, click the **UDP Protocol** tab.
- Step 24** To enable UDP protocol, check the **Enable the UDP Protocol** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable the UDP Protocol** check box or the UDP protocol configuration will be ignored.

- Step 25** Click the **Destination Port Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a destination port.
- Step 26** In the Destination Port Number field, enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Step 27** To enable the service on that port, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 28** To override the scanner values for that port, check the **Override Scanner** Settings check box. You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 29** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 30** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 31** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 32** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Destination Port dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Destination Port dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 33** Click **OK**. The new destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 34** To edit the destination port map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 35** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 36** To delete a destination port map, select it, and click **Delete**. The destination port map no longer appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.

- Step 37** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 38** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 39** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.

- Step 40** To configure Other protocols, click the **Other Protocols** tab.
- Step 41** To enable other protocols, check the **Enable Other Protocols** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable Other Protocols** check box or the other protocols configuration will be ignored.

- Step 42** Click the **Protocol Number Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a protocol number.
- Step 43** In the Protocol Number field, enter the protocol number. The valid range is 0 to 255.
- Step 44** To enable the service of that protocol, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 45** To override the scanner values for that protocol, check the **Override Scanner** Settings check box. You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 46** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 47** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 48** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 49** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Protocol Number dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Protocol Number dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 50** Click **OK**. The new protocol number map appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.
- Step 51** To edit the protocol number map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 52** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited protocol number map appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.
- Step 53** To delete a protocol number map, select it, and click **Delete**. The protocol number map no longer appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.
- Step 54** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.

- Step 55** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 56** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 57** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring the External Zone

This section describes how to configure external zone, and contains the following topics:

- [External Zone Tab, page 12-29](#)
- [TCP Protocol Tab, page 12-30](#)
- [UDP Protocol Tab, page 12-31](#)
- [Other Protocols Tab, page 12-32](#)
- [Configuring the External Zone, page 12-33](#)

External Zone Tab



Note You must be administrator or operator to configure the external zone.

The External Zone tab has three tabs:

- **TCP Protocol**—Lets you enable TCP protocol and configure your own thresholds and histograms.
- **UDP Protocol Tab**—Lets you enable UDP protocol and configure your own thresholds and histograms.
- **Other Protocols**—Lets you enable other protocols and your own thresholds and histograms.

The external zone is the default zone with the default Internet range of 0.0.0.0-255.255.255.255. By default, the internal and illegal zones contain no IP addresses. Packets that do not match the set of IP addresses in the internal or illegal zone are handled by the external zone.

TCP Protocol Tab

On the TCP Protocol tab, you enable or disable TCP protocol for the external zone. You can configure a destination port for the TCP protocol. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

TCP Protocol Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the TCP Protocol tab:

- Enable the TCP Protocol—If checked, enables TCP protocol.
- Destination Port Map tab—Lets you associate a specific port with the TCP protocol.
 - Port Number—Displays the configured port number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
 - Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
 - Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms. Default thresholds are used for services that are not in the KB and were not overridden by the configuration.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Destination Port Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Destination Port dialog boxes:

- Destination Port number—Lets you enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Enable the Service—If checked, enables the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, overrides the default scanner settings and lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Add and Edit Histogram Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit Histogram dialog boxes:

- Number of Destination IP Addresses—Lets you add a high, medium, or low number of destination IP addresses. Low is 5 destination IP addresses, medium is 20, and high is 100.
- Number of Source IP Addresses—Lets you add the number of source IP addresses. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

UDP Protocol Tab

On the UDP Protocol tab, you enable or disable UDP protocol for the external zone. You can configure a destination port for the UDP protocol. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

UDP Protocol Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the UDP Protocol tab:

- Enable the UDP Protocol—If checked, enables UDP protocol.
- Destination Port Map tab—Lets you associate a specific port with the UDP protocol.
 - Port Number—Displays the configured port number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
 - Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
 - Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Destination Port Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Destination Port dialog boxes:

- Destination Port number—Lets you enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Enable the Service—If checked, enables the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, overrides the default scanner settings and lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.
- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.

- Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Add and Edit Histogram Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit Histogram dialog boxes:

- Number of Destination IP Addresses—Lets you add a high, medium, or low number of destination IP addresses. Low is 5 destination IP addresses, medium is 20, and high is 100.
- Number of Source IP Addresses—Lets you add the number of source IP addresses. The valid range is 0 to 4096.

Other Protocols Tab

On the Other Protocols tab, you enable or disable other protocols for the external zone. You can configure a protocol number map for the other protocols. You can either use the default thresholds or override the scanner settings and add your own thresholds and histograms.

Other Protocols Tab Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Other Protocols tab:

- Enable Other Protocols—If checked, enables the other protocols.
- Protocol Number Map tab—Lets you associate a specific protocol number with the other protocols.
 - Protocol Number—Displays the configured protocol number.
 - Service Enabled—Whether or not the service is enabled.
 - Scanner Overridden—Whether or not the scanner has been overridden.
 - Overridden Scanner Settings—Displays the configured scanner settings.
 - Threshold—Displays the configured threshold setting.
 - Histogram—Displays the configured histogram.
- Default Thresholds tab—Displays the default thresholds and histograms.
 - Scanner Threshold—Lets you change the scanner threshold.
 - Threshold Histogram—Displays the default threshold histograms.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses grouped as low, medium, and high.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses associated with each group of destination IP addresses.

Add and Edit Protocol Number Dialog Boxes Field Definitions





The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Protocol Number dialog boxes:

- Protocol number—Lets you enter a protocol number.
- Enable the Service—Lets you enable the service.
- Override Scanner Settings—If checked, lets you add, edit, delete, and select all histograms.
- Scanner Threshold—Lets you set the scanner threshold. The valid range is 5 to 1000. The default is 100.

- Threshold Histogram—Displays the histograms that you added.
 - Number of Destination IP Addresses—Displays the number of destination IP addresses that you added.
 - Number of Source IP Addresses—Displays the number of source IP addresses that you added.

Configuring the External Zone

To configure the external zone for anomaly detection, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Policies** > **Anomaly Detections** > **ad0** > **External Zone**.
- Step 3** To enable the external zone, check the **Enable the External Zone** check box.
-
-  **Note** You must check the **Enable the External Zone** check box or any protocols that you configure will be ignored.
-
- Step 4** To configure TCP protocol, click the **TCP Protocol** tab.
- Step 5** To enable TCP protocol, check the **Enable the TCP Protocol** check box.
-
-  **Note** You must check the **Enable the TCP Protocol** check box or the TCP protocol configuration will be ignored.
-
- Step 6** Click the **Destination Port Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a destination port.
- Step 7** In the Destination Port Number field, enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Step 8** To enable the service on that port, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 9** To override the scanner values for that port, check the **Override Scanner Settings** check box.
- You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 10** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 11** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 12** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.
-
-  **Tip** To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.
-
- Step 13** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Destination Port dialog box.
-
-  **Tip** To discard your changes and close the Add Destination Port dialog box, click **Cancel**.
-
- Step 14** Click **OK**. The new destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 15** To edit the destination port map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.

- Step 16** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 17** To delete a destination port map, select it, and click **Delete**. The destination port map no longer appears in the list Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 18** To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.
- Step 19** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 20** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.

- Step 21** To configure UDP protocol, click the **UDP Protocol** tab.
- Step 22** To enable UDP protocol, check the **Enable the UDP Protocol** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable the UDP Protocol** check box or the UDP protocol configuration will be ignored.

- Step 23** Click the **Destination Port Map** tab, then click **Add** to add a destination port.
- Step 24** In the Destination Port Number field, enter the destination port number. The valid range is 0 to 65535.
- Step 25** To enable the service on that port, check the **Enable the Service** check box.
- Step 26** To override the scanner values for that port, check the **Override Scanner Settings** check box. You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.
- Step 27** To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.
- Step 28** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 29** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 30** Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Destination Port dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Destination Port dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 31** Click **OK**. The new destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 32** To edit the destination port map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.
- Step 33** Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited destination port map appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.
- Step 34** To delete a destination port map, select it, and click **Delete**.

The destination port map no longer appears in the list on the Destination Port Map tab.

Step 35 To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab, select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and then click **Edit**.

Step 36 From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).

Step 37 In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.

Step 38 To configure Other protocols, click the **Other Protocols** tab.

Step 39 To enable other protocols, check the **Enable Other Protocols** check box.



Note You must check the **Enable Other Protocols** check box or the other protocols configuration will be ignored.

Step 40 Click the **Protocol Number Map** tab, and then click **Add** to add a protocol number.

Step 41 In the Protocol Number field, enter the protocol number. The valid range is 0 to 255.

Step 42 To enable the service of that protocol, check the **Enable the Service** check box.

Step 43 To override the scanner values for that protocol, check the **Override Scanner Settings** check box. You can use the default scanner values, or you can override them and configure your own scanner values.

Step 44 To add a histogram for the new scanner settings, click **Add**.

Step 45 From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, choose the value (High, Medium, or Low).

Step 46 In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, enter the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 47 Click **OK**. The new scanner setting appears in the list in the Add Protocol Number dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Protocol Number dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 48 Click **OK**. The new protocol number map appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.

Step 49 To edit the protocol number map, select it in the list, and click **Edit**.

Step 50 Make any changes to the fields and click **OK**. The edited protocol number map appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.

Step 51 To delete a protocol number map, select it, and click **Delete**. The protocol number map no longer appears in the list on the Protocol Number Map tab.

Step 52 To edit the default thresholds, click the **Default Thresholds** tab.

Step 53 Select the threshold histogram you want to edit, and click **Edit**.

- Step 54** From the Number of Destination IP Addresses drop-down list, change the value (High, Medium, or Low).
- Step 55** In the Number of Source IP Addresses field, edit the number of source IP addresses you want associated with this histogram. The valid range is 0 to 4096.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Histogram dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The edited threshold histogram appears in the list on the Default Thresholds tab.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 56** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Turning Off Anomaly Detection

If you have your sensor configured to see only one direction of traffic, you should disable anomaly detection. Otherwise, you will receive many alerts, because anomaly detection sees asymmetric traffic as having incomplete connections, that is, like worm scanners, and fires alerts.

To disable anomaly detection, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with Administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Enter analysis engine submode.
- ```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service analysis-engine
sensor(config-ana)#
```
- Step 3** Enter the virtual sensor name that contains the anomaly detection policy you want to disable.
- ```
sensor(config-ana)# virtual-sensor vs0
sensor(config-ana-vir)#
```
- Step 4** Disable anomaly detection operational mode.
- ```
sensor(config-ana-vir)# anomaly-detection
sensor(config-ana-vir-ano)# operational-mode inactive
sensor(config-ana-vir-ano)#
```
- Step 5** Exit analysis engine submode.
- ```
sensor(config-ana-vir-ano)# exit
sensor(config-ana-vir)# exit
sensor(config-ana)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]:
```
- Step 6** Press **Enter** to apply your changes or enter **no** to discard them.



CHAPTER 13

Configuring SSH and Certificates

This chapter describes how to configure SSH and certificates for your sensor, and it contains the following sections:

- [Understanding SSH, page 13-1](#)
- [Configuring Authorized Keys, page 13-2](#)
- [Configuring Known Host Keys, page 13-4](#)
- [Generating the Sensor Key, page 13-7](#)
- [Understanding Certificates, page 13-8](#)
- [Configuring Trusted Hosts, page 13-9](#)
- [Generating the Server Certificate, page 13-11](#)

Understanding SSH

SSH provides strong authentication and secure communications over channels that are not secure.

SSH encrypts your connection to the sensor and provides a key so you can validate that you are connecting to the correct sensor. SSH also provides authenticated and encrypted access to other devices that the sensor connects to for blocking.

SSH authenticates the hosts or networks using one or both of the following:

- Password
- User RSA public key

SSH protects against the following:

- IP spoofing—A remote host sends out packets pretending to come from another trusted host.

**Note**

SSH even protects against a spoofer on the local network who can pretend he is your router to the outside.

- IP source routing—A host pretends an IP packet comes from another trusted host.
- DNS spoofing—An attacker forges name server records.
- Interception of clear text passwords and other data by intermediate hosts.

- Manipulation of data by those in control of intermediate hosts.
- Attacks based on listening to X authentication data and spoofed connection to the X11 server.

**Note**

SSH never sends passwords in clear text.

Configuring Authorized Keys

**Note**

You must be administrator to add or edit authorized keys. If you have operator or viewer privileges and you try to add or edit an authorized key, you receive the `Delivery Failed` message.

This section describes how to configure authorized keys for the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Authorized Keys Pane, page 13-2](#)
- [Authorized Keys Pane Field Definitions, page 13-2](#)
- [Defining Authorized Keys, page 13-3](#)

Authorized Keys Pane

Use the Authorized Keys pane to define public keys for a client allowed to use RSA authentication to log in to the local SSH server. The Authorized Keys pane displays the public keys of all SSH clients allowed to access the sensor.

Each user who can log in to the sensor has a list of authorized keys compiled from each client the user logs in with. When using SSH to log in to the sensor, you can use the RSA authentication rather than using passwords.

Use an RSA key generation tool on the client where the private key is going to reside. Then, display the generated public key as a set of three numbers (modulus length, public exponent, public modulus) and enter those numbers in the fields on the Authorized Keys pane.

You can view only your key and not the keys of other users.

Authorized Keys Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for authorized keys, and contains the following topics:

- [Authorized Keys Pane, page 13-3](#)
- [Add and Edit Authorized Key Dialog Boxes, page 13-3](#)

Authorized Keys Pane

The following fields are found in the Authorized Keys pane:

- **ID**—A unique string (1 to 256 characters) to identify the key. You receive an error message if the ID contains a space or exceeds 256 alphanumeric characters.
- **Modulus Length**—Number of significant bits (511 to 2048) in the modulus. You receive an error message if the length is out of range.
- **Public Exponent**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The valid range is 3 to 2147483647. You receive an error message if the exponent is out of range.
- **Public Modulus**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The public modulus is a string of 1 to 2048 numbers (where modulus is $(2^{\text{length}} < \text{modulus} < (2^{(\text{length} + 1)))$). You receive an error message if the modulus is out of range or if you use characters rather than numbers. The numbers must match the following pattern: `^[0-9][0-9]*$`.

Add and Edit Authorized Key Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Authorized Key dialog boxes:

- **ID**—A unique string (1 to 256 characters) to identify the key. You receive an error message if the ID contains a space or exceeds 256 alphanumeric characters.
- **Modulus Length**—Number of significant bits (511 to 2048) in the modulus. You receive an error message if the length is out of range.
- **Public Exponent**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The valid range is 3 to 2147483647. You receive an error message if the exponent is out of range.
- **Public Modulus**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The public modulus is a string of 1 to 2048 numbers (where modulus is $(2^{\text{length}} < \text{modulus} < (2^{(\text{length} + 1)))$). You receive an error message if the modulus is out of range or if you use characters rather than numbers. The numbers must match the following pattern: `^[0-9][0-9]*$`.

Defining Authorized Keys

To define public keys, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > SSH > Authorized Keys**, and then click **Add** to add a public key to the list.
- You can add a maximum of 50 SSH authorized keys.
- Step 3** In the ID field, enter a unique ID to identify the key.
- Step 4** In the Modulus Length field, enter an integer.

The modulus length is the number of significant bits in the modulus. The strength of an RSA key relies on the size of the modulus. The more bits the modulus has, the stronger the key.

**Note**

If you do not know the modulus length, public exponent, and public modulus, use an RSA key generation tool on the client where the private key is going to reside. Display the generated public key as a set of three numbers (modulus length, public exponent, and public modulus) and enter those numbers in Steps 4 through 6.

Step 5 In the Public Exponent field, enter an integer.

The RSA algorithm uses the public exponent to encrypt data. The valid value for the public exponent is a number between 3 and 2147483647.

Step 6 In the Public Modulus field, enter a value.

The public modulus is a string value of numbers (where modulus is $(2^{\text{length}} < \text{modulus} < (2^{(\text{length} + 1))))$).

The RSA algorithm uses the public modulus to encrypt data.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 7 Click **OK**.

The new key appears in the authorized keys list in the Authorized Keys pane.

Step 8 To edit an existing entry in the authorized keys list, select it, and click **Edit**.

Step 9 Edit the Modulus Length, Public Exponent, and Public Modulus fields.

**Caution**

You cannot modify the ID field after you have created an entry.

Step 10 Click **OK**.

The edited key appears in the authorized keys list in the Authorized Keys pane.

Step 11 To delete a public key from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The key no longer appears in the authorized keys list in the Authorized Keys pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 12 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Configuring Known Host Keys

**Note**

You must be administrator to add or edit known host keys.

This section describes how to configure known host keys, and contains the following topics:

- [Known Host Keys Pane, page 13-5](#)
- [Known Host Keys Pane Field Definitions, page 13-5](#)
- [Defining Known Host Keys, page 13-6](#)

Known Host Keys Pane

Use the Known Host Keys pane to define public keys for the blocking devices that the sensor manages, and for SSH (SCP) servers that are used for downloading updates or copying files. You must get each device and server to report its public key so that you have the information you need to configure the Known Host Keys pane. If you cannot obtain the public key in the correct format, click **Retrieve Host Key** in the Add Known Host Keys dialog box.

IME attempts to retrieve the known host key from the host specified by the IP address. If successful, IME populates the Add Known Host Key pane with the key.



Note

Retrieve Host Key is available only in the Add dialog box. You receive an error message if the IP address is invalid.

Known Host Keys Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the known host keys field definitions, and contains the following topics:

- [Known Host Keys Pane, page 13-5](#)
- [Add and Edit Known Host Key Dialog Boxes, page 13-5](#)

Known Host Keys Pane

The following fields are found in the Known Host Keys pane:

- **IP Address**—IP address of the host you are adding keys for.
- **Modulus Length**—Number of significant bits (511 to 2048) in the modulus. You receive an error message if the length is out of range.
- **Public Exponent**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The valid range is 3 to 2147483647. You receive an error message if the exponent is out of range.
- **Public Modulus**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The public modulus is a string of 1 to 2048 numbers (where modulus is $(2^{\text{length}} < \text{modulus} < (2^{\text{length} + 1}))$). You receive an error message if the modulus is out of range or if you use characters rather than numbers. The numbers must match the following pattern: `^[0-9][0-9]*$`.

Add and Edit Known Host Key Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Known Host Key dialog boxes:

- **IP Address**—IP address of the host you are adding keys for.
- **Modulus Length**—Number of significant bits (511 to 2048) in the modulus. You receive an error message if the length is out of range.

- **Public Exponent**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The valid range is 3 to 2147483647. You receive an error message if the exponent is out of range.
- **Public Modulus**—Used by the RSA algorithm to encrypt data. The public modulus is a string of 1 to 2048 numbers (where modulus is $(2^{\text{length}} < \text{modulus} < (2^{(\text{length} + 1)))$). You receive an error message if the modulus is out of range or if you use characters rather than numbers. The numbers must match the following pattern: `^[0-9][0-9]*$`.

Defining Known Host Keys

To define known host keys, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > SSH > Known Host Keys.**, and then click **Add** to add a known host key to the list.
- Step 3** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host you are adding keys for.
- Step 4** Click **Retrieve Host Key**.

IME attempts to retrieve the key from the host whose IP address you entered in Step 3. If the attempt is successful, go to Step 8. If the attempt is not successful, complete Steps 5 through 7.



Caution

Validate that the key that was retrieved is correct for the specified address to make sure the server IP address is not being spoofed.

-
- Step 5** In the Modulus Length field, enter an integer.
- The modulus length is the number of significant bits in the modulus. The strength of an RSA key relies on the size of the modulus. The more bits the modulus has, the stronger the key.
- Step 6** In the Public Exponent field, enter an integer.
- The RSA algorithm uses the public exponent to encrypt data.
- Step 7** In the Public Modulus field, enter a value.
- The public modulus is a string value of numbers (where modulus is $(2^{\text{length}} < \text{modulus} < (2^{(\text{length} + 1)))$).
- The RSA algorithm uses the public modulus to encrypt data.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

-
- Step 8** Click **OK**.
- The new key appears in the known host keys list in the Known Host Keys pane.
- Step 9** To edit an existing entry in the authorized keys list, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 10** Edit the Modulus Length, Public Exponent, and Public Modulus fields.



Caution

You cannot modify the ID field after you have created an entry.

- Step 11** Click **OK**.

The edited key appears in the known host keys list in the Known Host Keys pane.

Step 12 To delete a public key from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The key no longer appears in the known host keys list in the Known Host Keys pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 13 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Generating the Sensor Key



Note You must be administrator to generate sensor SSH host keys.

This section describes how to obtain a sensor key, and contains the following topics:

- [Sensor Key Pane, page 13-7](#)
- [Displaying and Generating the Sensor SSH Host Key, page 13-7](#)

Sensor Key Pane

The server uses the SSH host key to prove its identity. Clients know they have contacted the correct server when they see a known key.

The sensor generates an SSH host key the first time it starts up. It is displayed in the Sensor Key pane. Click **Generate Key** to replace that key with a new key.

Field Definitions

The Sensor Key pane displays the sensor SSH host key. Press **Generate Key** to generate a new sensor SSH host key.

Displaying and Generating the Sensor SSH Host Key

To display and generate sensor SSH host keys, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > SSH > Sensor Key**.

The sensor SSH host key is displayed.

Step 3 To generate a new sensor SSH host key, click **Generate Key**.

A dialog box displays the following warning:

Generating a new SSH host key requires you to update the known hosts tables on remote systems with the new key so that future connections succeed. Do you want to continue?

**Caution**

The new key replaces the existing key, which requires you to update the known hosts tables on remote systems with the new host key so that future connections succeed.

Step 4

Click **OK** to continue.

A new host key is generated and the old host key is deleted.

A status message states the key was updated successfully.

Understanding Certificates

**Note**

The IDM configuration component is embedded in IME.

Cisco IPS 6.1 contains a web server that is running IDM. Management stations connect to this web server. Blocking forwarding sensors also connect to the web server of the master blocking sensor. To provide security, this web server uses an encryption protocol known as TLS, which is closely related to SSL protocol. When you enter a URL into the web browser that starts with `https://ip_address`, the web browser responds by using either TLS or SSL protocol to negotiate an encrypted session with the host.

**Caution**

The web browser initially rejects the certificate presented by IDM because it does not trust the CA.

**Note**

IDM is enabled by default to use TLS and SSL. We highly recommend that you use TLS and SSL.

The process of negotiating an encrypted session in TLS is called “handshaking,” because it involves a number of coordinated exchanges between client and server. The server sends its certificate to the client. The client performs the following three-part test on this certificate:

1. Is the issuer identified in the certificate trusted?

Every web browser ships with a list of trusted third-party CAs. If the issuer identified in the certificate is among the list of CAs trusted by your browser, the first test is passed.

2. Is the date within the range of dates during which the certificate is considered valid?

Each certificate contains a Validity field, which is a pair of dates. If the date falls within this range of dates, the second test is passed.

3. Does the common name of the subject identified in the certificate match the URL hostname?

The URL hostname is compared with the subject common name. If they match, the third test is passed.

When you direct your web browser to connect with IDM, the certificate that is returned fails because the sensor issues its own certificate (the sensor is its own CA) and the sensor is not already in the list of CAs trusted by your browser.

When you receive an error message from your browser, you have three options:

- Disconnect from the site immediately.
- Accept the certificate for the remainder of the web browsing session.

- Add the issuer identified in the certificate to the list of trusted CAs of the web browser and trust the certificate until it expires.

The most convenient option is to permanently trust the issuer. However, before you add the issuer, use out-of-band methods to examine the fingerprint of the certificate. This prevents you from being victimized by an attacker posing as a sensor. Confirm that the fingerprint of the certificate appearing in your web browser is the same as the one on your sensor.

**Caution**

If you change the organization name or hostname of the sensor, a new certificate is generated the next time the sensor is rebooted. The next time your web browser connects to IDM, you will receive the manual override dialog boxes. You must perform the certificate fingerprint validation again for Internet Explorer and Firefox.

Configuring Trusted Hosts

**Note**

You must be administrator to add trusted hosts.

This section describes how to configure trusted hosts, and contains the following sections.

- [Trusted Hosts Pane, page 13-9](#)
- [Trusted Hosts Pane Field Definitions, page 13-9](#)
- [Adding Trusted Hosts, page 13-10](#)

Trusted Hosts Pane

Use the Trusted Hosts pane to add certificates for master blocking sensors and for TLS and SSL servers that the sensor uses for downloading updates. You can also use it to add the IP addresses of external product interfaces, such as CSA MC, that the sensor communicates with.

The Trusted Hosts pane lists all trusted host certificates that you have added. You can add certificates by entering an IP address. IME retrieves the certificate and displays its fingerprint. If you accept the fingerprint, the certificate is trusted. You can add and delete entries from the list, but you cannot edit them.

Trusted Hosts Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for trusted hosts, and contains the following topics:

- [Trusted Hosts Pane, page 13-10](#)
- [Add Trusted Host Dialog Box, page 13-10](#)

Trusted Hosts Pane

The following fields are found in the Trusted Hosts pane:

- IP Address—IP address of the trusted host.
- MD5—Message Digest 5 encryption. MD5 is an algorithm used to compute the 128-bit hash of a message.
- SHA1—Secure Hash Algorithm. SHA1 is a cryptographic message digest algorithm.

Add Trusted Host Dialog Box

The following fields are found in the Add Trusted Host dialog box:

- IP Address—IP address of the trusted host.
- Port—(Optional) Specifies the port number of where to obtain the host certificate.

Adding Trusted Hosts

To add trusted hosts, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Certificates > Trusted Hosts**, and then click **Add** to add a trusted host to the list.
- Step 3** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the trusted host you are adding.
- Step 4** In the Port field, enter a port number if the sensor is using a port other than 443.
- Step 5** Click **OK**.
- IME retrieves the certificate from the host whose IP address you entered in Step 3. The new trusted host appears in the trusted hosts list in the Trusted Hosts pane.
- A dialog box informs you that IME is communicating with the sensor:
- ```
Communicating with the sensor, please wait ...
```
- A dialog box provides status about whether IDM/IME was successful in adding a trusted host:
- ```
The new host was added successfully.
```
- Step 6** Verify that the fingerprint is correct by comparing the displayed values with a securely obtained value, such as through direct terminal connection or on the console. If you find any discrepancies, delete the trusted host immediately.
- Step 7** To view an existing entry in the trusted hosts list, select it, and click **View**.
- The View Trusted Host dialog box appears. The certificate data is displayed. Data displayed in this dialog box is read-only.
- Step 8** Click **OK**.
- Step 9** To delete a trusted host from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.
- The trusted host no longer appears in the trusted hosts list in the Trusted Hosts pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 10 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Generating the Server Certificate

**Note**

You must be administrator to generate server certificates.

This section describes how to generate the server certificate, and contains the following topics:

- [Server Certificate Pane, page 13-11](#)
- [Displaying and Generating the Server Certificate, page 13-11](#)

Server Certificate Pane

The Server Certificate pane displays the sensor server X.509 certificate. You can generate a new server self-signed X.509 certificate from this pane. A certificate is generated when the sensor is first started. Click **Generate Certificate** to generate a new host certificate.

**Caution**

The sensor IP address is included in the certificate. If you change the sensor IP address, you must generate a new certificate.

Field Definitions

The Server Certificate pane displays the sensor server X.509 certificate. Click **Generate Certificate** to generate a new sensor X.509 certificate.

Displaying and Generating the Server Certificate

To display and generate the sensor server X.509 certificate, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > *sensor_name* > Sensor Setup > Certificate > Server Certificate**.
- The sensor server X.509 certificate is displayed.
- Step 3** To generate a new sensor server X.509 certificate, click **Generate Certificate**.

A dialog box displays the following warning:

Generating a new server certificate requires you to verify the new fingerprint the next time you connect or when you add the sensor as a trusted host. Do you want to continue?

**Caution**

Write down the new fingerprint. Later you will need it to verify what is displayed in your web browser when you connect, or when you are adding the sensor as a trusted host. If the sensor is a master blocking sensor, you must update the trusted hosts table on the remote sensors that are sending blocks to the master blocking sensor.

Step 4

Click **OK** to continue.

A new server certificate is generated and the old server certificate is deleted.



CHAPTER 14

Configuring Attack Response Controller for Blocking and Rate Limiting

This chapter describes how to configure blocking on your sensor.



Note

ARC is formerly known as Network Access Controller. Although the name has been changed, IME and the CLI contain references to Network Access Controller, **nac**, and **network-access**.

This chapter contains the following sections:

- [ARC Components, page 14-1](#)
- [Blocking Properties, page 14-7](#)
- [Device Login Profiles, page 14-11](#)
- [Blocking Devices, page 14-14](#)
- [Router Blocking Device Interfaces, page 14-16](#)
- [Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces, page 14-21](#)
- [Master Blocking Sensor, page 14-24](#)

ARC Components

This section describes the various components of ARC, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Blocking, page 14-2](#)
- [Understanding Rate Limiting, page 14-4](#)
- [Understanding Service Policies for Rate Limiting, page 14-4](#)
- [Before Configuring ARC, page 14-5](#)
- [Supported Devices, page 14-5](#)

Understanding Blocking

ARC is responsible for managing network devices in response to suspicious events by blocking access from attacking hosts and networks. ARC blocks the IP address on the devices it is managing. It sends the same block to all the devices it is managing, including any other master blocking sensors. ARC monitors the time for the block and removes the block after the time has expired.


Caution

Blocking is not supported on the FWSM in multiple mode admin context.


Note

ARC completes the action response for a new block in no more than 7 seconds. In most cases, it completes the action response in less time. To meet this performance goal, you should not configure the sensor to perform blocks at too high a rate or to manage too many blocking devices and interfaces. We recommend that the maximum number of blocks not exceed 250 and the maximum number of blocking items not exceed 10. To calculate the maximum number of blocking items, a security appliance counts as one blocking item per blocking context. A router counts as one blocking item per blocking interface/direction. A switch running Catalyst software counts as one blocking item per blocking VLAN. If the recommended limits are exceeded, ARC may not apply blocks in a timely manner or may not be able to apply blocks at all.

For security appliances configured in multi-mode, IPS 6.1 does not include VLAN information in the block request. Therefore you must make sure the IP addresses being blocked are correct for each security appliance. For example, the sensor is monitoring packets on a security appliance customer context that is configured for VLAN A, but is blocking on a different security appliance customer context that is configured for VLAN B. Addresses that trigger blocks on VLAN A may refer to a different host on VLAN B.

There are three types of blocks:

- Host block—Blocks all traffic from a given IP address.
- Connection block—Blocks traffic from a given source IP address to a given destination IP address and destination port.

Multiple connection blocks from the same source IP address to either a different destination IP address or destination port automatically switch the block from a connection block to a host block.


Note

Connection blocks are not supported on security appliances. Security appliances only support host blocks with additional connection information.

- Network block—Blocks all traffic from a given network.

You can initiate host and connection blocks manually or automatically when a signature is triggered. You can only initiate network blocks manually.


Caution

Do not confuse blocking with the ability of the sensor to drop packets. The sensor can drop packets when the following actions are configured for a sensor in inline mode: deny packet inline, deny connection inline, and deny attacker inline.

For automatic blocks, you must check the Request Block Host or Request Block Connection check boxes as the event action for particular signatures, and add them to any event action overrides you have configured, so that SensorApp sends a block request to ARC when the signature is triggered. When ARC receives the block request from SensorApp, it updates the device configurations to block the host or connection.

On Cisco routers and Catalyst 6500 series switches, ARC creates blocks by applying ACLs or VACLs. ACLs and VACLs permit or deny passage of data packets through interface directions or VLANs. Each ACL or VACL contains permit and deny conditions that apply to IP addresses. The security appliances do not use ACLs or VACLs. The built-in **shun** and **no shun** command is used.

**Caution**

The ACLs that ARC makes should never be modified by you or any other system. These ACLs are temporary and new ACLs are constantly being created by the sensor. The only modifications that you can make are to the Pre- and Post-Block ACLs.

You need the following information for ARC to manage a device:

- Login user ID (if the device is configured with AAA)
- Login password
- Enable password (not needed if the user has enable privileges)
- Interfaces to be managed (for example, ethernet0, vlan100)
- Any existing ACL or VACL information you want applied at the beginning (Pre-Block ACL or VACL) or end (Post-Block ACL or VACL) of the ACL or VACL that will be created

This does not apply to the security appliances because they do not use ACLs to block.

- Whether you are using Telnet or SSH to communicate with the device
- IP addresses (host or range of hosts) you never want blocked
- How long you want the blocks to last

**Note**

ARC is formerly known as Network Access Controller. Although the name has been changed, IME and the CLI contain references to Network Access Controller, **nac**, and **network-access**.

**Tip**

To see the status of ARC, in IME choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Statistics**.

For More Information

- For the procedure to add Request Block Host or Request Block Connection event actions to a signatures, see [Assigning Actions to Signatures, page 9-17](#).
- For the procedure for configuring overrides that add the Request Block Host or Request Block Connection event actions to alerts of specific risk rating, see [Adding, Editing, Deleting, Enabling, and Disabling Event Action Overrides, page 11-14](#).
- For more information on Pre- and Post-Block ACLs, see [How the Sensor Manages Devices, page 14-18](#).

Understanding Rate Limiting

ARC is responsible for rate limiting traffic in protected networks. Rate limiting lets sensors restrict the rate of specified traffic classes on network devices. Rate limit responses are supported for the Host Flood and Net Flood engines, and the TCP half-open SYN signature. ARC can configure rate limits on network devices running Cisco IOS 12.3 or later. Master blocking sensors can also forward rate limit requests to blocking forwarding sensors.



Tip

To see the status of ARC, in IME choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Statistics**.

To add a rate limit, you specify the following:

- Source address and/or destination address for any rate limit
- Source port and/or destination port for rate limits with TCP or UDP protocol.

You can also tune rate limiting signatures. You must also set the action to Request Rate Limit and set the percentage for these signatures.

[Table 14-1](#) lists the supported rate limiting signatures and parameters.

Table 14-1 Rate Limiting Signatures

Signature ID	Signature Name	Protocol	Destination IP Address Allowed	Data
2152	ICMP Flood Host	ICMP	Yes	echo-request
2153	ICMP Smurf Attack	ICMP	Yes	echo-reply
4002	UDP Flood Host	UDP	Yes	none
6901	Net Flood ICMP Reply	ICMP	No	echo-reply
6902	Net Flood ICMP Request	ICMP	No	echo-request
6903	Net Flood ICMP Any	ICMP	No	None
6910	Net Flood UDP	UDP	No	None
6920	Net Flood TCP	TCP	No	None
3050	TCP HalfOpenSyn	TCP	No	halfOpenSyn

For More Information

- For the procedure for configuring rate limiting on a router, see [Configuring the Router Blocking and Rate Limiting Device Interfaces](#), page 14-20.
- For the procedure for configuring a sensor to be a master blocking sensor, see [Configuring the Master Blocking Sensor](#), page 14-26.

Understanding Service Policies for Rate Limiting

You must not apply a service policy to an interface/direction that is configured for rate limiting. If you do so, the rate limit action will fail. Before configuring rate limits, confirm that there is no service policy on the interface/direction, and remove it if one exists. ARC does not remove the existing rate limit unless it is one that ARC had previously added.

Rate limits use ACLs, but not in the same way as blocks. Rate limits use **acls** and **class-map** entries to identify traffic, and **policy-map** and **service-policy** entries to police the traffic.

Before Configuring ARC

Before you configure ARC for blocking or rate limiting, make sure you do the following:

- Analyze your network topology to understand which devices should be blocked by which sensor, and which addresses should never be blocked.



Caution

Two sensors cannot control blocking or rate limiting on the same device. If this situation is needed, configure one sensor as the master blocking sensor to manage the devices and the other sensors can forward their requests to the master blocking sensor.



Note

When you add a master blocking sensor, you reduce the number of blocking devices per sensor. For example, if you want to block on 10 security appliances and 10 routers with one blocking interface/direction each, you can assign 10 to the sensor and assign the other 10 to a master blocking sensor.

- Gather the usernames, device passwords, enable passwords, and connections types (Telnet or SSH) needed to log in to each device.
- Know the interface names on the devices.
- Know the names of the Pre-Block ACL or VACL and the Post-Block ACL or VACL if needed.
- Understand which interfaces should and should not be blocked and in which direction (in or out). You do not want to accidentally shut down an entire network.

Supported Devices

By default, ARC supports up to 250 devices in any combination. The following devices are supported for blocking by ARC:



Caution

If the recommended limits are exceeded, ARC may not apply blocks in a timely manner or may not be able to apply blocks at all.

- Cisco series routers using Cisco IOS 11.2 or later (ACLs):
 - Cisco 1600 series router
 - Cisco 1700 series router
 - Cisco 2500 series router
 - Cisco 2600 series router
 - Cisco 2800 series router
 - Cisco 3600 series router
 - Cisco 3800 series router
 - Cisco 7200 series router

- Cisco 7500 series router
- Catalyst 5000 switches with RSM with IOS 11.2(9)P or later (ACLs)
- Catalyst 6500 switches and 7600 routers with IOS 12.1(13)E or later (ACLs)
- Catalyst 6500 switches 7600 routers with Catalyst software version 7.5(1) or later (VACLs)
 - Supervisor Engine 1A with PFC
 - Supervisor Engine 1A with MSFC1
 - Supervisor Engine 1A with MFSC2
 - Supervisor Engine 2 with MSFC2
 - Supervisor Engine 720 with MSFC3



Note We support VACL blocking on the Supervisor Engine and ACL blocking on the MSFC.

- PIX Firewall with version 6.0 or later (**shun** command)
 - 501
 - 506E
 - 515E
 - 525
 - 535
- ASA with version 7.0 or later (**shun** command)
 - ASA-5510
 - ASA-5520
 - ASA-5540
- FWSM 1.1 or later (**shun** command)

You configure blocking using either ACLs, VACLs, or the **shun** command. All firewall and ASA models support the **shun** command.

The following devices are supported for rate limiting by ARC:

- Cisco series routers using Cisco IOS 12.3 or later:
 - Cisco 1700 series router
 - Cisco 2500 series router
 - Cisco 2600 series router
 - Cisco 2800 series router
 - Cisco 3600 series router
 - Cisco 3800 series router
 - Cisco 7200 series router
 - Cisco 7500 series router



Caution

ARC cannot perform rate limits on 7500 routers with VIP. ARC reports the error but cannot rate limit.

Blocking Properties

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to add, edit, or delete IP addresses never to be blocked.

Use the Blocking Properties pane to configure the basic settings required to enable blocking and rate limiting.

This section describes how to configure blocking properties for the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Blocking Properties, page 14-7](#)
- [Blocking Properties Pane Field Definitions, page 14-8](#)
- [Configuring Blocking Properties, page 14-9](#)
- [Add and Edit Never Block Address Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 14-10](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting IP Addresses Never to be Blocked, page 14-10](#)

Understanding Blocking Properties

ARC controls blocking and rate limiting actions on managed devices.

You must tune your sensor to identify hosts and networks that should never be blocked, not even manually. You may have a trusted network device whose normal, expected behavior appears to be an attack. Such a device should never be blocked, and trusted, internal networks should never be blocked. Properly tuning signatures reduces the number of false positives and helps ensure proper network operations. Tuning and filtering signatures prevents alarms from being generated. If an alarm is not generated, the associated block does not occur.

**Note**

Never Block Address does not apply to rate limiting. This option applies only to the Request Block Host and Request Block Connection event actions. It does not apply to the Deny Attacker Inline, Deny Connection Inline, or Deny Packet Inline event actions. Use event action rules to filter out the hosts that you do not want blocked, denied, or dropped.

If you specify a netmask, this is the netmask of the network that should never be blocked. If no netmask is specified, only the IP address you specify will never be blocked.

**Caution**

We recommend that you do not permit the sensor to block itself, because it may stop communicating with the blocking device. You can configure this option if you can ensure that if the sensor creates a rule to block its own IP address, it will not prevent the sensor from accessing the blocking device.

By default, blocking is enabled on the sensor. If ARC is managing a device and you need to manually configure something on that device, you should disable blocking first. You want to avoid a situation in which both you and ARC could be making a change at the same time on the same device. This could cause the device or ARC to fail.

**Note**

By default, only blocking is supported on Cisco IOS devices. You can override the blocking default by selecting rate limiting or blocking plus rate limiting.

Blocking Properties Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Blocking Properties pane:

- **Enable blocking**—Whether or not to enable blocking of hosts. The default is enabled. You receive an error message if Enable blocking is disabled and nondefault values exist in the other fields.



Note When you enable blocking, you also enable rate limiting. When you disable blocking, you also disable rate limiting. This means that ARC cannot add new or remove existing blocks or rate limits.



Note Even if you do not enable blocking, you can configure all other blocking settings.

- **Allow the sensor IP address to be blocked**—Whether or not the sensor IP address can be blocked. The default is disabled.
- **Log all block events and errors**—Configures the sensor to log events that follow blocks from start to finish and any error messages that occur.

When a block is added to or removed from a device, an event is logged. You may not want all these events and errors to be logged. Disabling this option suppresses new events and errors. The default is enabled.



Note Log all block events and errors also applies to rate limiting.

- **Enable NVRAM write**—Configures the sensor to have the router write to NVRAM when ARC first connects. If enabled, NVRAM is written each time the ACLs are updated. The default is disabled.



Note Enabling NVRAM writing ensures that all changes for blocking and rate limiting are written to NVRAM. If the router is rebooted, the correct blocks and rate limits will still be active. If NVRAM writing is disabled, a short time without blocking or rate limiting occurs after a router reboot. Not enabling NVRAM writing increases the life of the NVRAM and decreases the time for new blocks and rate limits to be configured.

- **Enable ACL Logging**—Causes ARC to append the log parameter to block entries in the ACL or VACL. This causes the device to generate syslog events when packets are filtered. This option only applies to routers and switches. The default is disabled.
- **Maximum Block Entries**—Maximum number of entries to block. The value is 1 to 65535. The default is 250.
- **Maximum Interfaces**—Configures the maximum number of interfaces for performing blocks.

For example, a PIX 500 series security appliance counts as one interface. A router with one interface counts as one, but a router with two interfaces counts as two. The maximum number of interfaces is 250 per device. The default is 250.

**Note**

You use Maximum Interfaces to set an upper limit on the number of devices and interfaces that ARC can manage. The total number of blocking devices (not including master blocking sensors) cannot exceed this value. The total number of blocking items also cannot exceed this value, where a blocking item is one security appliance context, one router blocking interface/direction, or one Catalyst Software switch blocking VLAN.

**Note**

In addition, the following maximum limits are fixed and you cannot change them: 250 interfaces per device, 250 security appliances, 250 routers, 250 Catalyst Software switches, and 100 master blocking sensors.

- **Maximum Rate Limit Entries**—Maximum number of rate limit entries. The maximum rate limit should be equal to or less than the maximum blocking entries. If you configure more rate limit entries than block entries, you receive an error. The value is 1 to 32767. The default is 250.
- **Never Block Addresses**—Lets you configure IP addresses that you want the sensor to avoid blocking:

**Note**

Never Block Address does not apply to rate limiting. This option applies only to the Request Block Host and Request Block Connection event actions. It does not apply to the Deny Attacker Inline, Deny Connection Inline, or Deny Packet Inline event actions. Use event action rules to filter out the hosts that you do not want blocked, denied, or dropped.

- **IP Address**—IP address to never block.
- **Mask**—Mask corresponding to the IP address never to block.

Configuring Blocking Properties

To configure blocking properties, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Blocking > Blocking Properties**.
- Step 3** Check the **Enable blocking** check box to enable blocking and rate limiting.

**Note**

For blocking or rate limiting to operate, you must set up devices to do the blocking or rate limiting.

- Step 4** Do not check the **Allow the sensor IP address to be blocked** check box unless necessary.

**Caution**

We recommend that you do not allow the sensor to block itself, because it may stop communicating with the blocking device. You can select this option if you can ensure that if the sensor creates a rule to block its own IP address, it will not prevent the sensor from accessing the blocking device.

- Step 5** Check the **Log all block events and errors** check box if you want the blocking events and errors logged.

- Step 6** Check the **Enable NVRAM write** check box if you want the sensor to have the router write to NVRAM when ARC first connects.
- Step 7** Check the **Enable ACL logging** check box if you want ARC to append the log parameter to block entries in the ACL or VACL.
- Step 8** In the Maximum Block Entries field, enter how many blocks are to be maintained simultaneously (1 to 65535).

**Note**

We do not recommend setting the maximum block entries higher than 250.

**Note**

The number of blocks will not exceed the maximum block entries. If the maximum is reached, new blocks will not occur until existing blocks time out and are removed.

- Step 9** Enter the number of interfaces you want to have performing blocks in the Maximum Interfaces field.
- Step 10** Enter the number of rate limit entries (1 to 32767) you want in the Maximum Rate Limit Entries field.

**Caution**

The maximum rate limit should be equal to or less than the maximum blocking entries. If you configure more rate limit entries than block entries, you receive an error.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 11** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Add and Edit Never Block Address Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Never Block Address dialog boxes:

- IP Address—IP address to never block.
- Mask—Mask corresponding to the IP address never to block.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting IP Addresses Never to be Blocked

To add, edit, and delete an IP address never to be blocked, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Blocking > Blocking Properties**, and click **Add** to add a host or network to the list of addresses never to be blocked.
- Step 3** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host or network.
- Step 4** In the Network Mask field, enter the network mask of the host or network, or select a network mask from the list.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Never Block Address dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 5 Click **OK**.

You receive an error message if the entries are identical.

The new host or network appears in the Never Block Addresses list in the Blocking Properties pane.

Step 6 To edit an existing entry in the never block addresses list, select it, and click **Edit**.

Step 7 In the IP Address field, edit the IP address of the host or network.

Step 8 In the Network Mask field, edit the network mask of the host or network.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Never Block Address dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 9 Click **OK**.

The edited host or network appears in the Never Block Addresses list in the Allowed Hosts pane.

Step 10 To delete a host or network from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The host no longer appears in the Never Block Addresses list in the Blocking Properties pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 11 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Device Login Profiles



Note

You must be administrator or operator to add or edit device login profiles.

This section describes how to configure device login profiles, and contains the following topics:

- [Device Login Profiles Pane, page 14-11](#)
- [Device Login Profiles Pane Field Definitions, page 14-12](#)
- [Configuring Device Login Profiles, page 14-13](#)

Device Login Profiles Pane

Use the Device Login Profiles pane to configure the profiles that the sensor uses when logging in to blocking devices.

You must set up device login profiles for the other hardware that the sensor manages. The device login profiles contain username, login password, and enable password information under a name that you create. For example, routers that all share the same passwords and usernames can be under one device login profile name.

**Note**

You must have a device login profile created before configuring the blocking devices.

Device Login Profiles Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for device login profiles, and contains the following topics:

- [Device Login Profiles Pane, page 14-12](#)
- [Add and Edit Device Login Profile Dialog Boxes, page 14-12](#)

Device Login Profiles Pane

The following fields are found on the Device Login Profiles pane:

- Profile Name—Name of the profile.
- Username—Username used to log in to the blocking device.
- Login Password—Login password used to log in to the blocking device.

**Note**

If a password exists, it is displayed with a fixed number of asterisks.

- Enable Password—Enable password used on the blocking device.

**Note**

If a password exists, it is displayed with a fixed number of asterisks.

Add and Edit Device Login Profile Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Device Login Profile dialog boxes.

- Profile Name—Name of the profile.
- Username—Username used to log in to the blocking device.
- Login Password—Login password used to log in to the blocking device.

**Note**

If a password exists, it is displayed with a fixed number of asterisks.

- Enable Password—Enable password used on the blocking device.

**Note**

If a password exists, it is displayed with a fixed number of asterisks.

Configuring Device Login Profiles

To configure device login profiles, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Blocking > Device Login Profiles**, and click **Add** to add a profile.
- Step 3** In the Profile Name field, enter the profile name.
- Step 4** (Optional) In the Username field, enter the username used to log in to the blocking device.
- Step 5** (Optional) In the New Password field, enter the login password.
- Step 6** (Optional) In the Confirm New Password field, enter the login password again to confirm it.
- Step 7** (Optional) In the New Password field, enter the enable password.
- Step 8** (Optional) In the Confirm New Password field, enter the enable password again to confirm it.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Device Login Profile dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
- You receive an error message if the profile name already exists.
- The new device login profile appears in the list in the Device Login Profile pane.
- Step 10** To edit an existing entry in the device login profile list, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 11** In the Username field, edit the username used to log in to the blocking device.
- Step 12** Check the **Change the login password check box** to change the login password.
- Step 13** In the New Password field, enter the new login password.
- Step 14** In the Confirm New Password field, enter the new login password to confirm it.
- Step 15** Check the **Change the enable password** check box to change the enable password.
- Step 16** In the New Password field, enter the new enable password.
- Step 17** In the Confirm New Password field, enter the enable password to confirm it.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Device Login Profile dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 18** Click **OK**.
- The edited device login profile appears in the list in the Device Login Profile pane.
- Step 19** To delete a device login profile from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.
- The device login profile no longer appears in the list in the Device Login Profile pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 20** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Blocking Devices

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure blocking devices.

This section describes how to configure blocking devices, and contains the following topics:

- [Blocking Device Pane, page 14-14](#)
- [Blocking Devices Pane Field Definitions, page 14-14](#)
- [Add and Edit Blocking Device Dialog Boxes, page 14-15](#)

Blocking Device Pane

Use the Blocking Devices pane to configure the devices that the sensor uses to implement blocking and rate limiting.

You can configure your sensor to block an attack by generating ACL rules for deployment to a Cisco IOS router, or a Catalyst 6500 switch, or by generating shun rules on a security appliance. The router, switch, or security appliance is called a blocking device.

Rate limits use ACLs, but not in the same way as blocks. Rate limits use ACLs and class-map entries to identify traffic, and policy-map and service-policy entries to police the traffic.

**Caution**

A single sensor can manage multiple devices but multiple sensors cannot manage a single device. For that you must use a master blocking sensor.

You must specify a device login profile for each device that the sensor manages before you can configure the devices in the Blocking Devices pane.

Blocking Devices Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for blocking devices, and contains the following topics:

- [Blocking Device Pane, page 14-14](#)
- [Add and Edit Blocking Device Dialog Boxes, page 14-15](#)

Blocking Device Pane

The following fields are found in the Blocking Devices pane:

- IP Address—IP address of the blocking device.
- Sensor's NAT Address—NAT address of the sensor.
- Device Login Profile—Device login profile used to log in to the blocking device.
- Device Type—Type of device (Cisco Router, Cat 6K, PIX/ASA). The default is Cisco Router.
- Response Capabilities—Indicates whether the device uses blocking or rate limiting or both.
- Communication—Indicates the communication mechanism used to log in to the blocking device (SSH 3DES, SSH DES, Telnet). The default is SSH 3DES.

Add and Edit Blocking Device Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Blocking Device dialog boxes:

- IP Address—IP address of the blocking device.
- Sensor's NAT Address—NAT address of the sensor.
- Device Login Profile—Device login profile used to log in to the blocking device.
- Device Type—Type of device (Cisco Router, Cat 6K, PIX/ASA). The default is Cisco Router.
- Response Capabilities—Indicates whether the device uses blocking or rate limiting or both.
- Communication—Indicates the communication mechanism used to log in to the blocking device (SSH 3DES, SSH DES, Telnet). The default is SSH 3DES.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting Blocking and Rate Limiting Devices

To add, edit, or delete blocking and rate limiting devices, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Blocking > Blocking Devices**, and click **Add** to add a blocking device.
- You receive an error message if you have not configured the device login profile.
- Step 3** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the blocking device.
- Step 4** (Optional) In the Sensor's NAT Address field, enter the NAT address of the sensor.
- Step 5** From the Device Login Profile drop-down list, choose the device login profile.
- Step 6** From the Device Type drop-down list, choose the device type.
- Step 7** In the Response Capabilities field, check the **Block** and/or **Rate Limit** check boxes to specify whether the device will perform blocking, rate limiting, or both.



Note You must select the blocking and rate limiting actions for particular signatures so that SensorApp sends a block or rate limit request to ARC when the signature is triggered.

- Step 8** From the Communication drop-down list, choose the communication type.
- If you choose SSH 3DES or SSH DES, go to Step 11.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Blocking Device dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
- You receive an error message if the IP address has already been added.
- The new device appears in the list in the Blocking Devices pane.
- Step 10** If you choose SSH 3DES or SSH DES, you must add the device to the known hosts list:



Note If you select SSH 3DES or SSH DES, the blocking device must have a feature set or license that supports the desired 3DES/DES encryption.



Note You can also choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > SSH > Known Host Keys > Add Known Host Key** to add the device to the known hosts list.

a. Telnet to your sensor and log in to the CLI.

b. Enter global configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

c. Obtain the public key:

```
sensor(config)# ssh host-key blocking_device_ip_address
```

d. You are prompted to confirm adding the public key to the known hosts list:

```
Would you like to add this to the trusted certificate table for this host?[yes]:
```

e. Enter **yes**.

f. Exit global configuration mode and the CLI:

```
sensor(config)# exit
sensor# exit
```

Step 11 To edit an existing entry in the blocking devices list, select it, and click **Edit**.

Step 12 Edit the NAT address of the sensor if needed.

Step 13 Change the device login profile if needed.

Step 14 Change the device type if needed.

Step 15 Change whether the device will perform blocking or rate limiting if needed.

Step 16 Change the communication type if needed.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit Blocking Device dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 17 Click **OK**.

The edited blocking device appears in the list in the Blocking Device pane.

Step 18 To delete a blocking device from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The blocking device no longer appears in the list in the Blocking Device pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 19 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Router Blocking Device Interfaces



Note You must be administrator or operator to configure the router blocking device interfaces.

You must configure the blocking or rate limiting interfaces on the router and specify the direction of traffic you want blocked or rate-limited in the Router Blocking Device Interfaces pane.

This section describes how to configure router blocking device interfaces, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Router Blocking Device Interfaces, page 14-17](#)
- [How the Sensor Manages Devices, page 14-18](#)
- [Router Blocking Device Interfaces Pane Field Definitions, page 14-19](#)
- [Configuring the Router Blocking and Rate Limiting Device Interfaces, page 14-20](#)

Understanding Router Blocking Device Interfaces

You create and save Pre-Block and Post-Block ACLs in your router configuration. These ACLs must be extended IP ACLs, either named or numbered. See your router documentation for more information on creating ACLs.



Note

Pre-Block and Post-Block ACLs do not apply to rate limiting.

Enter the names of these ACLs that are already configured on your router in the Pre-Block ACL and Post-Block ACL fields.

The Pre-Block ACL is mainly used for permitting what you do not want the sensor to ever block. When a packet is checked against the ACL, the first line that gets matched determines the action. If the first line matched is a permit line from the Pre-Block ACL, the packet is permitted even though there may be a deny line (from an automatic block) listed later in the ACL. The Pre-Block ACL can override the deny lines resulting from the blocks.

The Post-Block ACL is best used for additional blocking or permitting that you want to occur on the same interface or direction. If you have an existing ACL on the interface or direction that the sensor will manage, that existing ACL can be used as a Post-Block ACL. If you do not have a Post-Block ACL, the sensor inserts **permit ip any any** at the end of the new ACL.

When the sensor starts up, it reads the contents of the two ACLs. It creates a third ACL with the following entries:

- A **permit** line for the sensor IP address
- Copies of all configuration lines of the Pre-Block ACL
- A **deny** line for each address being blocked by the sensor
- Copies of all configuration lines of the Post-Block ACL

The sensor applies the new ACL to the interface and direction that you designate.



Note

When the new ACL is applied to an interface or direction of the router, it removes the application of any other ACL to that interface or direction.

How the Sensor Manages Devices

ARC uses ACLs on Cisco routers and switches to manage those devices. These ACLs are built as follows:

**Note**

ACLs do not apply to rate limiting devices.

1. A **permit** line with the sensor IP address or, if specified, the NAT address of the sensor

**Note**

If you permit the sensor to be blocked, this line does not appear in the ACL.

2. Pre-Block ACL (if specified)

This ACL must already exist on the device.

**Note**

ARC reads the lines in the ACL and copies these lines to the beginning of the ACL.

3. Any active blocks

4. Either:

- Post-Block ACL (if specified)

This ACL must already exist on the device.

**Note**

ARC reads the lines in the ACL and copies these lines to the end of the ACL.

**Note**

Make sure the last line in the ACL is **permit ip any any** if you want all unmatched packets to be permitted.

- **permit ip any any** (not used if a Post-Block ACL is specified)

ARC uses two ACLs to manage devices. Only one is active at any one time. It uses the offline ACL name to build the new ACL, then applies it to the interface. ARC then reverses the process on the next cycle.

**Caution**

The ACLs that ARC makes should never be modified by you or any other system. These ACLs are temporary and new ACLs are constantly being created by the sensor. The only modifications that you can make are to the Pre- and Post-Block ACLs.

If you need to modify the Pre-Block or Post-Block ACL, do the following:

1. Disable blocking on the sensor.
2. Make the changes to the configuration of the device.
3. Reenable blocking on the sensor.

When blocking is reenabled, the sensor reads the new device configuration.

**Caution**

A single sensor can manage multiple devices, but you cannot use multiple sensors to control a single device. In this case, use a master blocking sensor.

For More Information

- For the procedure for enabling blocking, see [Configuring Blocking Properties, page 14-9](#).
- For the procedure for configuring the sensor to be a master blocking sensor, see [Configuring the Master Blocking Sensor, page 14-26](#).

Router Blocking Device Interfaces Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for router blocking device interfaces, and contains the following topics:

- [Router Blocking Device Interfaces Pane, page 14-19](#)
- [Add and Edit Router Blocking Device Interface Dialog Boxes, page 14-19](#)

Router Blocking Device Interfaces Pane

The following fields are found in the Router Blocking Device Interfaces pane:

- Router Blocking Device—IP address of the router blocking or rate limiting device.
- Blocking Interface—Interface to be used on the router blocking or rate limiting device. A valid value is 1 to 64 characters in the format a-z, A-Z, 0-9 and the special characters “.” and “/.”
- Direction—Direction to apply the blocking ACL. A valid value is In or Out.
- Pre-Block ACL—ACL to apply before the blocking ACL. A valid value is 0 to 64 characters. This field does not apply to rate limiting.
- Post-Block ACL—ACL to apply after the blocking ACL. A valid value is 0 to 64 characters. This field does not apply to rate limiting.

**Note**

The Post-Block ACL cannot be the same as the Pre-Block ACL.

Add and Edit Router Blocking Device Interface Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Router Blocking Device Interface dialog boxes:

- Router Blocking Device—IP address of the router blocking or rate limiting device.
- Blocking Interface—Interface to be used on the router blocking or rate limiting device. A valid value is 1 to 64 characters in the format a-z, A-Z, 0-9 and the special characters “.” and “/.”
- Direction—Direction to apply the blocking ACL. A valid value is In or Out.

- Pre-Block ACL—ACL to apply before the blocking ACL. A valid value is 0 to 64 characters. This field does not apply to rate limiting.
- Post-Block ACL—ACL to apply after the blocking ACL. A valid value is 0 to 64 characters. This field does not apply to rate limiting.

**Note**

The Post-Block ACL cannot be the same as the Pre-Block ACL.

Configuring the Router Blocking and Rate Limiting Device Interfaces

To configure router blocking and rate limiting device interfaces, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Blocking > Router Blocking Device Interfaces**, and click **Add** to add a router blocking or rate limiting device interface.
- Step 3** In the Router Blocking Device drop-down list, choose the IP address of the router blocking or rate limiting device.
- Step 4** In the Blocking Interface field, enter the blocking or rate limiting interface name.
- Step 5** From the Direction drop-down list, choose the direction (in or out).
- Step 6** (Optional) In the Pre-Block ACL field, enter the name of the Pre-Block ACL.

**Note**

This step does not apply to rate limiting devices.

- Step 7** (Optional) In the Post-Block ACL field, enter the name of the Post-Block ACL.

**Note**

This step does not apply to rate limiting devices.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Router Blocking Device Interface dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 8** Click **OK**.
- You receive an error message if the IP address/interface/direction combination already exists.
- The new interface appears in the list in the Router Blocking Device Interfaces pane.
- Step 9** To edit an existing entry in the router blocking device interfaces list, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 10** Edit the blocking or rate limiting interface name, if needed.
- Step 11** Change the direction, if needed.
- Step 12** Edit the Pre-Block ACL name, if needed.
- Step 13** Edit the Post-Block ACL name, if needed.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Router Blocking Device Interface dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 14 Click **OK**.

The edited router blocking or rate limiting device interface appears in the list in the Router Blocking Device Interfaces pane.

Step 15 To delete a router blocking or rate limiting device interface from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The router blocking or rate limiting device interface no longer appears in the list in the Router Blocking Device Interfaces pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 16 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure the Catalyst 6500 series switches blocking device interfaces.

You specify the VLAN ID and VACLs on the blocking Catalyst 6500 series switch in the Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces pane.

This section describes how to configure Catalyst 6500 Series interfaces, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces, page 14-21](#)
- [Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces Pane Field Definitions, page 14-22](#)
- [Configuring Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces, page 14-23](#)

Understanding Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces

You can configure ARC to block using VACLs on the switch itself when running Cisco Catalyst software, or to block using router ACLs on the MSFC or on the switch itself when running Cisco IOS software. This section describes blocking using VACLs. You cannot configure switches that use VACLs to perform rate limiting.

You must configure the blocking interfaces on the Catalyst 6500 series switch and specify the VLAN of traffic you want blocked.

You create and save Pre-Block and Post-Block VACLs in your switch configuration. These VACLs must be extended IP VACLs, either named or numbered. See your switch documentation for more information on creating VACLs.

Enter the names of these VACLs that are already configured on your switch in the Pre-Block VACL and Post-Block VACL fields.

The Pre-Block VACL is used mainly for permitting what you do not want the sensor to ever block. When a packet is checked against the VACL, the first line that gets matched determines the action. If the first line matched is a permit line from the Pre-Block VACL, the packet is permitted even though there may be a deny line (from an automatic block) listed later in the VACL. The Pre-Block VACL can override the deny lines resulting from the blocks.

The Post-Block VACL is best used for additional blocking or permitting that you want to occur on the same VLAN. If you have an existing VACL on the VLAN that the sensor will manage, the existing VACL can be used as a Post-Block VACL. If you do not have a Post-Block VACL, the sensor inserts **permit ip any any** at the end of the new VACL.

**Note**

IDS-2 inserts **permit ip any any capture** at the end of the new VACL.

When the sensor starts up, it reads the contents of the two VACLs. It creates a third VACL with the following entries:

- A **permit** line for the sensor IP address
- Copies of all configuration lines of the Pre-Block VACL
- A **deny** line for each address being blocked by the sensor
- Copies of all configuration lines of the Post-Block VACL

The sensor applies the new VACL to the VLAN that you designate.

**Note**

When the new VACL is applied to a VLAN of the switch, it removes the application of any other VACL to that VLAN.

For More Information

For blocking using router ACLs, see [Configuring the Router Blocking and Rate Limiting Device Interfaces](#), page 14-20.

Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces Pane Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for Cat 6K blocking device interfaces, and contains the following topics:

- [Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces Pane](#), page 14-22
- [Add and Edit Cat 6K Blocking Device Interface Dialog Boxes](#), page 14-23

Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces Pane

The following fields are found in the Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces pane:

- Cat 6K Blocking Device—IP address of the Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device.
- VLAN ID—VLAN ID to be used on the Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device. The value is 1 to 4094.

- Pre-Block VACL—VACL to apply before the blocking VACL. The value is 0 to 64 characters.
- Post-Block VACL—VACL to apply after the blocking VACL. The value is 0 to 64 characters.

**Note**

The Post-Block VACL cannot be the same as the Pre-Block VACL.

Add and Edit Cat 6K Blocking Device Interface Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Cat 6K Blocking Device Interface dialog boxes:

- Cat 6K Blocking Device—IP address of the Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device.
- VLAN ID—VLAN ID to be used on the Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device. The value is 1 to 4094.
- Pre-Block VACL—VACL to apply before the blocking VACL. The value is 0 to 64 characters.
- Post-Block VACL—VACL to apply after the blocking VACL. The value is 0 to 64 characters.

**Note**

The Post-Block VACL cannot be the same as the Pre-Block VACL.

Configuring Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces

To configure Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device interfaces, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Blocking > Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces**, and click **Add** to add a Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device interface.
- Step 3** From the Cat 6K Blocking Device drop-down list, choose the IP address of the Catalyst 6500 series switch.
- Step 4** In the VLAN ID field, enter the VLAN ID.
- Step 5** (Optional) In the Pre-Block VACL field, enter the name of the Pre-Block VACL.
- Step 6** (Optional) In the Post-Block VACL field, enter the name of the Post-Block VACL.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Cat 6K Blocking Device Interface dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **OK**.
- You receive an error message if the IP address/VLAN combination already exists.
- The new interface appears in the list in the Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces pane.
- Step 8** To edit an existing entry in the Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device interfaces list, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 9** Edit the VLAN ID, if needed.
- Step 10** Edit the Pre-Block VACL name, if needed.
- Step 11** Edit the Post-Block VACL name, if needed.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Cat 6K Blocking Device Interface dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 12 Click **OK**.

The edited Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device interface appears in the list in the Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces pane.

Step 13 To delete a Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device interface from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The Catalyst 6500 series switch blocking device interface no longer appears in the list in the Cat 6K Blocking Device Interfaces pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 14 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Master Blocking Sensor

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure the master blocking sensor.

You specify the master blocking sensor that is used to configure the blocking devices in the Master Blocking Sensor pane.

This section describes how to configure the master blocking sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the Master Blocking Sensor, page 14-24](#)
- [Master Blocking Sensor Field Definitions, page 14-25](#)
- [Configuring the Master Blocking Sensor, page 14-26](#)

Understanding the Master Blocking Sensor

Multiple sensors (blocking forwarding sensors) can forward blocking requests to a specified master blocking sensor, which controls one or more devices. The master blocking sensor is the ARC running on a sensor that controls blocking on one or more devices on behalf of one or more other sensors. The ARC on a master blocking sensor controls blocking on devices at the request of the ARCs running on other sensors.

**Caution**

Two sensors cannot control blocking or rate limiting on the same device. If this situation is needed, configure one sensor as the master blocking sensor to manage the devices and the other sensors can forward their requests to the master blocking sensor.

**Note**

When you add a master blocking sensor, you reduce the number of blocking devices per sensor. For example, if you want to block on 10 firewalls and 10 routers with one blocking interface/direction each, you can assign 10 to the sensor and assign the other 10 to a master blocking sensor.

Master blocking sensors can also forward rate limits.

On the blocking forwarding sensor, identify which remote host serves as the master blocking sensor; on the master blocking sensor you must add the blocking forwarding sensors to its access list.

If the master blocking sensor requires TLS for web connections, you must configure the ARC of the blocking forwarding sensor to accept the X.509 certificate of the master blocking sensor remote host. Sensors by default have TLS enabled, but you can change this option.

**Note**

Typically the master blocking sensor is configured to manage the network devices. Blocking forwarding sensors are not normally configured to manage other network devices, although doing so is permissible.

Even if you have no devices configured for blocking or rate limiting, a sensor that is configured for blocking or rate limiting can forward blocking and rate limiting requests to a master blocking sensor. When a signature fires that has blocking or rate limit requests configured as event actions, the sensor forwards the block or rate limit request to the master blocking sensor, which then performs the block or rate limit.

**Caution**

Only one sensor should control all blocking interfaces on a device.

Master Blocking Sensor Field Definitions

This section lists the field definitions for master blocking sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Master Blocking Sensor Pane, page 14-25](#)
- [Add and Edit Master Blocking Sensor Dialog Boxes, page 14-26](#)

Master Blocking Sensor Pane

The following fields are found in the Master Blocking Sensor pane:

- IP Address—IP address of the master blocking sensor.
- Port—Port on which to connect to the master blocking sensor. The default is 443.
- Username—Username used to log in to the master blocking sensor. The username follows the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9()+,./-]+$`, which means the username must start with a letter or number, and can include any letter A to Z (capital or small), any number 0 to 9, - and _, and can contain 1 to 64 characters.
- TLS Used—Whether or not TLS is being used.

Add and Edit Master Blocking Sensor Dialog Boxes

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Master Blocking Sensor dialog boxes:

- IP Address—IP address of the master blocking sensor. You receive a warning if the IP address already exists.
- Port (optional)—Port on which to connect on the master blocking sensor. The default is 443.
- Username—Username used to log in to the master blocking sensor. The username follows the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9()+,._/-]+$`, which means the username must start with a letter or number, and can include any letter A to Z (capital or small), any number 0 to 9, - and _, and can contain 1 to 64 characters.
- Change the password—Whether or not to change the password.
- New Password—Login password used to log in to the master blocking sensor.
- Confirm Password—Confirms the login password.
- Use TLS—Whether or not to use TLS.

Configuring the Master Blocking Sensor

To configure the master blocking sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Blocking > Master Blocking Sensor**, and click **Add** to add an master blocking sensor.
- Step 3** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the master blocking sensor.
- Step 4** (Optional) In the Port field, enter the port number.
The default is 443.
- Step 5** In the Username field, enter the username.
- Step 6** In the New Password field, enter the password for the user.
- Step 7** In the Confirm New Password field, enter the password to confirm it.
- Step 8** Check the **TLS** check box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Master Blocking Sensor dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
You receive an error message if the IP address has already been added.
The new master blocking sensor appears in the list in the Master Blocking Sensor pane.
- Step 10** If you selected TLS, configure the ARC of the blocking forwarding sensor to accept the TLS/SSL X.509 certificate of the master blocking sensor remote host:

**Note**

You can also choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Certificates > Trusted Hosts > Add Trusted Host** to configure the blocking forwarding sensor to accept the X.509 certificate.

- a. Log in to the CLI of the blocking forwarding sensor using an account with administrator privileges.
- b. Enter global configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

- c. Add the trusted host:

```
sensor(config)# tls trusted-host ip-address master_blocking_sensor_ip_address
```

You are prompted to confirm adding the trusted host:

```
Would you like to add this to the trusted certificate table for this host?[yes]:
```

- d. Enter **yes** to add the host.
- e. Exit global configuration mode and the CLI:

```
sensor(config)# exit
sensor# exit
```

**Note**

You are prompted to accept the certificate based on the fingerprint of the certificate. Sensors provide only self-signed certificates (instead of certificates signed by a recognized certificate authority). You can verify the host sensor certificate of the master blocking sensor by logging in to the host sensor and entering the **show tls fingerprint** command to see that the fingerprints of the host certificate match.

Step 11 To edit an existing entry in the master blocking sensor list, select it, and click **Edit**.

Step 12 (Optional) Edit the port.

Step 13 Edit the username, if needed.

Step 14 To change the password for this user, check the **Change the password** check box.

- a. In the New Password field, enter the new password.
- b. In the Confirm New Password field, enter the new password to confirm it.

Step 15 Check or uncheck the **TLS** check box, if needed.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Master Blocking Sensor dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 16 Click **OK**.

The edited master blocking sensor appears in the list in the Master Blocking Sensor pane.

Step 17 To delete a master blocking sensor from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The master blocking sensor no longer appears in the list in the Master Blocking Sensor pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 18 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.



CHAPTER 15

Configuring SNMP

This chapter describes how to configure the sensor to use SNMP and SNMP traps. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding SNMP, page 15-1](#)
- [Configuring SNMP General Configuration, page 15-2](#)
- [Configuring SNMP Traps, page 15-3](#)
- [Supported MIBs, page 15-6](#)

Understanding SNMP



Caution

To have the sensor send SNMP traps, you must also select **Request SNMP Trap** as the event action when you configure signatures.

SNMP is an application layer protocol that facilitates the exchange of management information between network devices. SNMP enables network administrators to manage network performance, find and solve network problems, and plan for network growth.

SNMP is a simple request/response protocol. The network-management system issues a request, and managed devices return responses. This behavior is implemented by using one of four protocol operations: Get, GetNext, Set, and Trap.

You can configure the sensor for monitoring by SNMP. SNMP defines a standard way for network management stations to monitor the health and status of many types of devices, including switches, routers, and sensors.

You can configure the sensor to send SNMP traps. SNMP traps enable an agent to notify the management station of significant events by way of an unsolicited SNMP message.

Trap-directed notification has the following advantage—if a manager is responsible for a large number of devices, and each device has a large number of objects, it is impractical to poll or request information from every object on every device. The solution is for each agent on the managed device to notify the manager without solicitation. It does this by sending a message known as a trap of the event.

After receiving the event, the manager displays it and can take an action based on the event. For instance, the manager can poll the agent directly, or poll other associated device agents to get a better understanding of the event.

**Note**

Trap-directed notification results in substantial savings of network and agent resources by eliminating frivolous SNMP requests. However, it is not possible to totally eliminate SNMP polling. SNMP requests are required for discovery and topology changes. In addition, a managed device agent cannot send a trap if the device has had a catastrophic outage.

For More Information

For detailed information on the Request SNMP Trap event action, see [Assigning Actions to Signatures](#), page 9-17.

Configuring SNMP General Configuration

This section describes how to configure SNMP, and contains the following topics:

- [SNMP General Configuration Pane](#), page 15-2
- [SNMP General Configuration Pane Field Definitions](#), page 15-2
- [Configuring SNMP General Parameters](#), page 15-3

SNMP General Configuration Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure the sensor to use SNMP.

Use the SNMP General Configuration pane to configure the sensor to use SNMP.

SNMP General Configuration Pane Field Definitions



The following fields are found in the SNMP General Configuration pane:

- Enable SNMP Gets/Sets—If checked, allows SNMP gets and sets.
- SNMP Agent Parameters—Configures the parameters for SNMP agent.
 - Read-Only Community String—Identifies the community string for read-only access.
 - Read-Write Community String—Identifies the community string for read and write access.
 - Sensor Contact—Identifies the contact person, contact point, or both for the sensor.
 - Sensor Location—Identifies the location of the sensor.
 - Sensor Agent Port—Identifies the IP port of the sensor. The default is 161.
 - Sensor Agent Protocol—Identifies the IP protocol of the sensor.

The default is UDP.

Configuring SNMP General Parameters

To set the general SNMP parameters, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > SNMP > General Configuration**.
- Step 3** To enable SNMP so that the SNMP management workstation can issue requests to the sensor SNMP agent, check the **Enable SNMP Gets/Sets** check box.
- Step 4** Configure the SNMP agent parameters:
- These are the values that the SNMP management workstation can request from the sensor SNMP agent.
- In the Read-Only Community String field, enter the read-only community string.
The read-only community string helps to identify the sensor SNMP agent.
 - In the Read-Write Community String field, enter the read-write community string.
The read-write community string helps to identify the sensor SNMP agent.
-  **Note** The management workstation sends SNMP requests to the sensor SNMP agent, which resides on the sensor. If the management workstation issues a request and the community string does not match what is on the sensor, the sensor will reject it.
- In the Sensor Contact field, enter the sensor contact user ID.
 - In the Sensor Location field, enter the location of the sensor.
 - In the Sensor Agent Port field, enter the port of the sensor SNMP agent.
The default SNMP port number is 161.
 - From the Sensor Agent Protocol drop-down list, choose the protocol the sensor SNMP agent will use.
The default protocol is UDP.
-  **Tip** To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
- Step 5** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.
-

Configuring SNMP Traps

This section describes how to configure SNMP traps, and contains the following topics:

- [SNMP Traps Configuration Pane, page 15-4](#)
- [SNMP Traps Configuration Pane Field Definitions, page 15-4](#)
- [Add and Edit SNMP Trap Destination Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 15-4](#)
- [Configuring SNMP Traps, page 15-5](#)

SNMP Traps Configuration Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure SNMP traps on the sensor.

**Caution**

To have the sensor send SNMP traps, you must also select **Request SNMP Trap** as the event action when you configure signatures.

Use the Traps Configuration pane to set up SNMP traps and trap destinations on the sensor. An SNMP trap is a notification. You configure the sensor to send traps based on whether the event is fatal, an error, or a warning.

For More Information

For detailed information on the Request SNMP Trap event action, see [Assigning Actions to Signatures](#), page 9-17.

SNMP Traps Configuration Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the SNMP Traps Configuration pane:

- Enable SNMP Traps—If chosen, indicates the remote server will use a pull update.
- Under SNMP Traps—Choose the error events to notify through SNMP:
 - Fatal—Generates traps for all fatal error events.
 - Error—Generates traps for all error error events.
 - Warning—Generates traps for all warning error events.
- Enable detailed traps for alerts—If checked, includes the full text of the alert in the trap. Otherwise, sparse mode is used. Sparse mode includes less than 484 bytes of text for the alert.
- Default Trap Community String—The community string used for the traps if no specific string has been set for the trap.
- Specify SNMP trap destinations—Identifies the destination for the trap. You must specify the following information about the destination:
 - IP Address—The IP address of the trap destination.
 - UDP Port—The UDP port of the trap destination.
 - Trap Community String—The trap community string.

Add and Edit SNMP Trap Destination Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit SNMP Trap Destination dialog boxes:

- IP Address—The IP address of the trap destination.
- UDP Port—The UDP port of the trap destination. The default is port 162.
- Trap Community String—The trap community string.

Configuring SNMP Traps

To configure SNMP traps, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > SNMP > Traps Configuration**.
- Step 3** To enable SNMP traps, check the **Enable SNMP Traps** check box.
- Step 4** Set the parameters for the SNMP trap:
- a. Check the error events you want to be notified about through SNMP traps.
You can choose to have the sensor send an SNMP trap based on one or all of the following events: fatal, error, warning.
 - b. To receive detailed SNMP traps, check the **Enable detailed traps for alerts** check box.
 - c. In the Default Trap Community String field, enter the community string to be included in the detailed traps.
- Step 5** Set the parameters for the SNMP trap destinations so the sensor knows which management workstations to send them to:
- a. Click **Add**.
 - b. In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the SNMP management station.
 - c. In the UDP Port field, enter the UDP port of the SNMP management station.
 - d. In the Trap Community String field, enter the trap Community string.



Note

The community string appears in the trap and is useful if you are receiving multiple types of traps from multiple agents. For example, a router or sensor could be sending the traps, and if you put something that identifies the router or sensor specifically in your community string, you can filter the traps based on the community string.



Tip

To discard your changes and close the Add SNMP Trap Destination dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **OK**.
The new SNMP trap destination appears in the list in the Traps Configuration pane.

- Step 7** To edit an SNMP trap destination, select it, and click **Edit**.

- Step 8** Edit the UDP Port and Trap Community String fields, if needed.



Tip

To discard your changes and close the Edit SNMP Trap Destination dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 9** Click **OK**.
The edited SNMP trap destination appears in the list in the Traps Configuration pane.

- Step 10** To delete an SNMP trap destination, select it, and click **Delete**.
The SNMP trap destination no longer appears in the list in the Traps Configuration pane.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 11

Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Supported MIBs

The following private MIBs are supported on the sensor:

- CISCO-CIDS-MIB
- CISCO-ENHANCED-MEMPOOL-MIB
- CISCO-ENTITY-ALARM-MIB

You can obtain these private Cisco MIBs under the heading SNMP v2 MIBs at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/public/sw-center/netmgmt/cmtk/mibs.shtml>

**Note**

MIB II is available on the sensor, but we do not support it. We know that some elements are not correct (for example, the packet counts from the IF MIB on the sensing interfaces). While you can use elements from MIB II, we do not guarantee that they all provide correct information. We fully support the other listed MIBs and their output is correct.

**Note**

CISCO-PROCESS-MIB is available on the sensor, but we do not support it. We know that some elements are not available. While you can use elements from CISCO-PROCESS-MIB, we do not guarantee that they all provide correct information. We fully support the other listed MIBs and their output is correct.



CHAPTER 16

Configuring External Product Interfaces

This chapter explains how to configure external product interfaces. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding External Product Interfaces, page 16-1](#)
- [Understanding CSA MC, page 16-1](#)
- [External Product Interface Issues, page 16-3](#)
- [Configuring CSA MC to Support IPS Interfaces, page 16-3](#)
- [Configuring External Product Interfaces, page 16-4](#)
- [Troubleshooting External Product Interfaces](#)

Understanding External Product Interfaces

The external product interface is designed to receive and process information from external security and management products. These external security and management products collect information that can be used to automatically enhance the sensor configuration information. For example, the types of information that can be received from external products include host profiles (the host OS configuration, application configuration, and security posture) and IP addresses that have been identified as causing malicious network activity.



Note

In Cisco IPS 6.1, you can only add interfaces to the CSA MC.

Understanding CSA MC

CSA MC enforces a security policy on network hosts. It has two components:

- Agents that reside on and protect network hosts.
- Management Console (MC)—An application that manages agents. It downloads security policy updates to agents and uploads operational information from agents.

CSA MC receives host posture information from the CSA agents it manages. It also maintains a watch list of IP addresses that it has determined should be quarantined from the network.

CSA MC sends two types of events to the sensor—host posture events and quarantined IP address events.

Host posture events (called imported OS identifications in IPS) contain the following information:

- Unique host ID assigned by CSA MC

- CSA agent status
- Host system hostname
- Set of IP addresses enabled on the host
- CSA software version
- CSA polling status
- CSA test mode status
- NAC posture

For example, when an OS-specific signature fires whose target is running that OS, the attack is highly relevant and the response should be greater. If the target OS is different, then the attack is less relevant and the response may be less critical. The signature attack relevance rating is adjusted for this host.

The quarantined host events (called the watch list in IPS) contain the following information:

- IP address
- Reason for the quarantine
- Protocol associated with a rule violation (TCP, UDP, or ICMP)
- Indicator of whether a rule-based violation was associated with an established session or a UDP packet.

For example, if a signature fires that lists one of these hosts as the attacker, it is presumed to be that much more serious. The risk rating is increased for this host. The magnitude of the increase depends on what caused the host to be quarantined.

The sensor uses the information from these events to determine the risk rating increase based on the information in the event and the risk rating configuration settings for host postures and quarantined IP addresses.

**Note**

The host posture and watch list IP address information is not associated with a virtual sensor, but is treated as global information.

Secure communications between CSA MC and the IPS sensor are maintained through SSL/TLS. The sensor initiates SSL/TLS communications with CSA MC. This communication is mutually authenticated. CSA MC authenticates by providing X.509 certificates. The sensor uses username/password authentication.

**Note**

You can only enable two CSA MC interfaces.

**Caution**

You must add the CSA MC as a trusted host so the sensor can communicate with it. To add the CSA MC as a trusted host, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Certificates > Trusted Hosts > Add**.

For More Information

For the procedure to add a trusted host, see [Adding Trusted Hosts, page 13-10](#).

External Product Interface Issues

When the external product interface receives host posture and quarantine events, the following issues can arise:

- The sensor can store only a certain number of host records.
 - If the number of records exceeds 10,000, subsequent records are dropped.
 - If the 10,000 limit is reached and then it drops to below 9900, new records are no longer dropped.
- Hosts can change an IP address or appear to use another host IP address, for example, because of DHCP lease expiration or movement in a wireless network.

In the case of an IP address conflict, the sensor presumes the most recent host posture event to be the most accurate.
- A network can include overlapping IP address ranges in different VLANs, but host postures do not include VLAN ID information.

You can configure the sensor to ignore specified address ranges.
- A host can be unreachable from the CSA MC because it is behind a firewall.

You can exclude unreachable hosts.
- The CSA MC event server allows up to ten open subscriptions by default. You can change this value.

You must have an Administrative account and password to open subscriptions.
- CSA data is not virtualized; it is treated globally by the sensor.
- Host posture OS and IP addresses are integrated into passive OS fingerprinting storage. You can view them as imported OS profiles.
- You cannot see the quarantined hosts.
- The sensor must recognize each CSA MC host X.509 certificate. You must add them as a trusted host.
- You can configure a maximum of two external product devices.

For More Information

- For more information on working with OS maps and identifications, see [Adding, Editing, Deleting, and Moving Configured OS Maps, page 11-24](#) and [Working With OS Identifications, page 18-24](#).
- For the procedure for adding trusted hosts, see [Adding Trusted Hosts, page 13-10](#).

Configuring CSA MC to Support IPS Interfaces

You must configure CSA MC to send host posture events and quarantined IP address events to the sensor.



Note

For more detailed information about host posture events and quarantined IP address events, refer to [Using Management Center for Cisco Security Agents 5.1](#).

To configure CSA MC to support IPS interfaces, follow these steps:

Step 1 Choose **Events > Status Summary**.

Step 2 In the Network Status section, click **No** beside **Host history collection enabled**, and then click **Enable** in the popup window.



Note Host history collection is enabled globally for the system. This feature is disabled by default because the MC log file tends to fill quickly when it is turned on.

Step 3 Choose **Systems > Groups** to create a new group (with no hosts) to use in conjunction with administrator account you will next create.

Step 4 Choose **Maintenance > Administrators > Account Management** to create a new CSA MC administrator account to provide IPS access to the MC system.

Step 5 Create a new administrator account with the role of **Monitor**.

This maintains the security of the MC by not allowing this new account to have Configure privileges.

Remember the username and password for this administrator account because you need them to configure external product interfaces on the sensor.

Step 6 Choose **Maintenance > Administrators > Access Control** to further limit this administrator account.

Step 7 In the Access Control window, select the administrator you created and select the group you created.



Note When you save this configuration, you further limit the MC access of this new administrator account with the purpose of maintaining security on CSA MC.

Configuring External Product Interfaces

This section describes the External Product Interfaces pane, and contains the following topics:

- [Configuring External Product Interfaces, page 16-4](#)
- [External Product Interfaces Pane Field Definitions, page 16-5](#)
- [Add and Edit External Product Interface Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 16-6](#)
- [Add and Edit Posture ACL Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 16-7](#)
- [Adding, Editing, and Deleting External Product Interfaces and Posture ACLs, page 16-7](#)

External Product Interfaces Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to add, edit, and delete external product interfaces and posture ACLs.

Use the External Product Interfaces pane to add the interfaces of CSA MC so that the sensor can receive and process information from CSA MC.

**Caution**

You must add the external product as a trusted host so the sensor can communicate with it. To add a trusted host, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Certificates > Trusted Hosts > Add**.

External Product Interfaces Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the External Product Interfaces pane:

- IP Address—IP address of the external product.
- Enabled—Indicates whether the external product interface is enabled.
- Port—Specifies the port being used for communications.
- TLS Used—Indicates whether secure communications are being used.
- User Name—Indicates the user login name that connects to CSA MC.
- Host Posture Settings—Indicates how host postures received from CSA MC should be handled.
 - Enabled—Indicates that receipt of the host postures is enabled. If disabled, the host posture information received from a CSA MC is deleted.
 - Allow Unreachable—Allows/denies the receipt of host posture information for hosts that are not reachable by CSA MC.

A host is not reachable if CSA MC cannot establish a connection with the host on any IP addresses in the host posture. This option is useful in filtering the postures whose IP addresses may not be visible to the IPS or may be duplicated across the network. This filter is most applicable in network topologies where hosts that are not reachable by CSA MC are also not reachable by the IPS, for example if the IPS and CSA MC are on the same network segment.
 - Posture ACLs—Specifies network address ranges for which host postures are allowed or denied. This option provides a mechanism for filtering postures that have IP addresses that may not be visible to the IPS or may be duplicated across the network.
- Watch List Settings—Indicates how watch list settings received from CSA MC should be handled.
 - Enabled—Indicates that receipt of the watch list is enabled. If disabled, the watch list information received from a CSA MC is deleted.
 - Manual RR Increase—Indicates by what percentage the manual watch list risk rating should be increased.
 - Session RR Increase—Indicates by what percentage the session-based watch list risk rating should be increased.
 - Packet RR Increase—Indicates by what percentage the packet-based watch list risk rating should be increased.

- SDEE URL—Indicates the URL on the CSA MC the IPS uses to retrieve information using SDEE communication. You must configure the URL based on the software version of the CSA MC that the IPS is communicating with as follows.
 - For CSA MC version 5.0:
/csamc50/sdee-server
 - For CSA MC version 5.1:
/csamc51/sdee-server
 - For CSA MC version 5.2 and higher:
/csamc/sdee-server (the default value)

Add and Edit External Product Interface Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit External Product Interface dialog boxes:

- External Product's IP Address—IP address of the external product.
- Enable receipt of information—Enables the sensor to receive information from the external product interface.



Note If not checked, all host posture and quarantine information from this device is purged from the sensor.

- Communication Settings—Lets you see the SDEE URL and TLS, and lets you change the port.
 - SDEE URL—Indicates the URL on the CSA MC the IPS uses to retrieve information using SDEE communication. You must configure the URL based on the software version of the CSA MC that the IPS is communicating with as follows:
For CSA MC version 5.0—/csamc50/sdee-server.
For CSA MC version 5.1—/csamc51/sdee-server.
For CSA MC version 5.2 and higher—/csamc/sdee-server (the default value).
 - Port—Specifies the port being used for communications.
 - Use TLS—Indicates that secure communications are being used.
You cannot change this value.
- Login Settings—Lets you specify the credentials required to log into CSA MC.
 - User Name—Lets you enter the username used to log in to CSA MC.
 - Password—Lets you assign a password to the user.
 - Confirm Password—Lets you confirm the password.
- Watch List Settings—Lets you configure how watch list settings received from CSA MC should be handled.
 - Enable receipt of watch list—Enables/disables the receipt of the watch list information. The watch list information received from a CSA MC is deleted when disabled.
 - Manual Watch List RR Increase—Lets you increase the percentage of the manual watch list risk rating.

- Session RR Increase—Lets you increase the percentage of the session-based watch list risk rating.
- Packet RR Increase—Lets you increase the percentage of the packet-based watch list risk rating.
- Host Posture Settings—Indicates how host postures received from CSA MC should be handled.
 - Enable receipt of host postures—Enables/disables the receipt of the host posture information. The host posture information received from a CSA MC is deleted when disabled.
 - Allow unreachable hosts' postures—Allows/denies the receipt of host posture information for hosts that are not reachable by the CSA MC.

A host is not reachable if the CSA MC cannot establish a connection with the host on any IP addresses in the host's posture. This option is useful in filtering the postures whose IP addresses may not be visible to the IPS or may be duplicated across the network. This filter is most applicable in network topologies where hosts that are not reachable by the CSA MC are also not reachable by the IPS, for example if the IPS and CSA MC are on the same network segment.

- Name—Name of the posture ACL.
- Active—Indicates whether this posture ACL is active.
- Network Address—Network address of the posture ACL.
- Action—Action (deny or permit) the posture ACL will take.

Add and Edit Posture ACL Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add and Edit Posture ACL dialog boxes:

- Name—Name of the posture ACL.
- Active—Indicates whether this posture ACL is active.
- Network Address—Network address of the posture ACL.
- Action—Action (deny or permit) the posture ACL will take.

Adding, Editing, and Deleting External Product Interfaces and Posture ACLs



Caution

In Cisco IPS 6.1, the only external product interfaces you can add are CSA MC interfaces. Cisco IPS 6.1 supports two CSA MC interfaces.



Note

Make sure you add the external product as a trusted host so the sensor can communicate with it. To add a trusted host, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Certificates > Trusted Hosts > Add**.

To add an external product interface, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > External Product Interfaces**, and click **Add** to add an external product interface.

- Step 3** In the External Product's IP Address field, enter the IP address of the external product.
- Step 4** Check the **Enable receipt of information** check box to allow information to be passed from the external product to the sensor.
- Step 5** In the Port field, change the default port 443 if needed.



Note Under Communication Settings, you can only change the Port value.

- Step 6** Configure the login settings:
- In the Username field, enter the username of the user who can log in to the external product.
 - In the Password field, enter the password the user will use.
 - In the Confirm Password field, enter the password again.



Note Steps 7 through 15 are optional. If you do not perform Steps 7 through 15, the default values are used receive all of the CSA MC information with no filters applied.

- Step 7** (Optional) Configure the watch list settings:
- Check the **Enable receipt of watch list** check box to allow the watch list information to be passed from the external product to the sensor.



Note If you do not check the **Enable receipt of watch list** check box, the watch list information received from a CSA MC is deleted.

- In the Manual Watch List RR Increase field, you can change the percentage from the default of 25. The valid range is 0 to 35.
- In the Session-based Watch List RR increase field, you can change the percentage from the default of 25. The valid range is 0 to 35.
- In the Packet-based Watch List RR Increase field, you can change the percentage from the default of 10. The valid range is 0 to 35.

- Step 8** (Optional) Check the **Enable receipt of host postures** check box to allow the host posture information to be passed from the external product to the sensor.



Note If you do not check the **Enable receipt of host postures** check box, the host posture information received from a CSA MC is deleted.

- Step 9** (Optional) Check the **Allow unreachable hosts' postures** check box to allow the host posture information from unreachable hosts to be passed from the external product to the sensor.

**Note**

A host is not reachable if CSA MC cannot establish a connection with the host on any of the IP addresses in the host posture. This option is useful in filtering the postures whose IP addresses may not be visible to the IPS or may be duplicated across the network. This filter is most applicable in network topologies where hosts that are not reachable by CSA MC are also not reachable by the IPS, for example if the IPS and CSA MC are on the same network segment.

Step 10 (Optional) To add a posture ACL, click **Add**.

**Note**

Posture ACLs are network address ranges for which host postures are allowed or denied. Use posture ACLs to filter postures that have IP addresses that may not be visible to the IPS or may be duplicated across the network.

Step 11 (Optional) In the Name field, enter a name for the posture ACL.

Step 12 (Optional) In the Active field, click the **Yes** radio button to make the posture ACL active.

Step 13 (Optional) In the Network Address field, enter the network address the posture ACL will use.

Step 14 (Optional) In the Action drop-down list, choose the action (Deny or Permit) the posture ACL will take.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add Posture ACL dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 15 (Optional) Click **OK**.

The new posture ACL appears in the Host Posture Setting list in the Add External Product Interface dialog box.

You can use the **Move Up** and **Move Down** buttons to reorder the posture ACLs that you create.

Step 16 To edit an existing posture ACL, select it, and click **Edit**.

Step 17 Edit the Network Address and Action fields or change the active state to inactive by clicking the **No** radio button.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Edit Posture ACL dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 18 Click **OK**.

The edited posture ACL appears in the Host Posture Setting list in the Add External Product Interface dialog box.

Step 19 To delete a posture ACL from the list, select it, and click **Delete**.

The posture ACL no longer appears in the Host Posture Setting list in the Add External Product Interface dialog box.

Step 20 Click **OK**.

**Tip**

To discard your changes and close the Add External Product Interface dialog box, click **Cancel**.

The external product interface now appears in the Management Center for Cisco Security Agents list in the External Product Interfaces pane.

Step 21 To edit the external product interface, select it, and click **Edit**.

Step 22 Make any changes needed to the fields in the dialog box.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Edit External Product Interface dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 23 Click **OK**.

The edited external product interface appears in the Management Center for Cisco Security Agents list in the External Product Interfaces pane.

Step 24 To delete an external product interface, select it, and click Delete.

The external product interface no longer appears in the Management Center for Cisco Security Agents list in the External Product Interfaces pane.



Tip To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Step 25 Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Troubleshooting External Product Interfaces

To troubleshoot external product interfaces, check the following:

- Make sure the interface is active by checking the output from the **show statistics external-product-interface** command in the CLI, or choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Statistics** in IME and check the Interface state line in the response.
- Make sure you have added the CSA MC IP address to the trusted hosts. If you forgot to add it, add it, wait a few minutes and then check again.
- Confirm subscription login information by opening and closing a subscription on CSA MC using the browser.
- Check Event Store for CSA MC subscription errors.

For More Information

- For the procedure for adding trusted hosts, see [Adding Trusted Hosts, page 13-10](#).
- For the procedure for displaying events, see [Monitoring Events, page 18-1](#).



CHAPTER 17

Managing the Sensor

This chapter describes how to manage your sensor, for example, how to set passwords, obtain and install license keys, set up IP logging variables, update your sensor with the latest software, restore sensor defaults, reboot the sensor, and shut down the sensor. It contains the following sections:

- [Configuring Passwords, page 17-1](#)
- [Recovering the Password, page 17-3](#)
- [Configuring Licensing, page 17-11](#)
- [Configuring Sensor Health, page 17-15](#)
- [Configuring IP Logging Variables, page 17-16](#)
- [Configuring Automatic Update, page 17-16](#)
- [Manually Updating the Sensor, page 17-20](#)
- [Restoring Defaults, page 17-23](#)
- [Rebooting the Sensor, page 17-23](#)
- [Shutting Down the Sensor, page 17-24](#)

Configuring Passwords

This section describes how to set up passwords for users on the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Passwords Pane, page 17-1](#)
- [Passwords Pane Field Definitions, page 17-2](#)
- [Configuring Password Requirements, page 17-2](#)

Passwords Pane

As Sensor administrator, you can configure how passwords are created in the Passwords pane. All user-created passwords must conform to the policy that you set in the Passwords pane.

Passwords Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Passwords pane:

- **Attempt Limit**—Lets you lock accounts so that users cannot keep trying to log in after a certain number of failed attempts. The default is 0, which indicates unlimited authentication attempts. For security purposes, you should change this number.
- **Size Range**—Range you specify for the minimum and maximum allowed size for a password. The valid range is 6 to 64 characters.
- **Minimum Digit Characters**—Minimum number of numeric digits that you specify must be in a password.
- **Minimum Upper Case Characters**—Maximum number of upper-case alphabet characters that you specify must be in a password.
- **Minimum Lower Case Characters**—Minimum number of lower-case alphabet characters that you specify must be in a password.
- **Minimum Other Characters**—Minimum number of non-alphanumeric printable characters that you specify must be in a password.
- **Number of Historical Passwords**—Number of historical passwords you want the sensor to remember for each account. Any attempt to change the password of an account fails if the new password matches any of the remembered passwords. When this value is 0, no previous passwords are remembered.



Caution

If the password policy includes minimum numbers of character sets, such as upper case or number characters, the sum of the minimum number of required character sets cannot exceed the minimum password size. For example, you cannot set a minimum password size of eight and also require that passwords must contain at least five lowercase and five uppercase characters.

Configuring Password Requirements

To configure password requirements, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Passwords**.
- Step 3** In the Attempt Limit field, enter how many attempts a user has to enter the correct password.



Note

The default is 0, which indicates unlimited authentication attempts. For security purposes, you should change this number.

- Step 4** In the Size Range field, enter how long the password can be. The valid range is 6 to 64.
- Step 5** In the Minimum Digit Characters field, enter the minimum number of numeric digits a password can have.
- Step 6** In the Minimum Upper Case Characters field, enter the least number of upper case characters the password can have.

- Step 7** In the Minimum Lower Case Characters field, enter the least number of lower case characters the password can have.

**Caution**

If the password policy includes minimum numbers of character sets, such as upper case or number characters, the sum of the minimum number of required character sets cannot exceed the minimum password size. For example, you cannot set a minimum password size of eight and also require that passwords must contain at least five lowercase and five uppercase characters.

- Step 8** In the Minimum Other Characters field, enter the least number of other characters the password can have.

- Step 9** In the Number of Historical Passwords field, enter the number of historical passwords you want the sensor to remember for each account.

**Tip**

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

- Step 10** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration.

Recovering the Password

For most IPS platforms, you can now recover the password on the sensor rather than using the service account or reimaging the sensor. This section describes how to recover the password on the various platforms, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Password Recovery, page 17-3](#)
- [Password Recovery for Appliances, page 17-4](#)
- [Password Recovery for AIM-IPS, page 17-6](#)
- [Password Recovery for AIP-SSM, page 17-6](#)
- [Password Recovery for IDSM-2, page 17-8](#)
- [Password Recovery for NME-IPS, page 17-9](#)
- [Disabling Password Recovery, page 17-10](#)
- [Troubleshooting Password Recovery, page 17-11](#)
- [Verifying the State of Password Recovery, page 17-11](#)

Understanding Password Recovery

Password recovery implementations vary according to IPS platform requirements. Password recovery is implemented only for the cisco administrative account and is enabled by default. The IPS administrator can then recover user passwords for other accounts using the CLI. The cisco user password reverts to **cisco** and must be changed after the next login.

**Note**

Administrators may need to disable the password recovery feature for security reasons.

Table 17-1 lists the password recovery methods according to platform.

Table 17-1 Password Recovery Methods According to Platform

Platform	Description	Recovery Method
4200 series sensors	Standalone IPS appliances	GRUB prompt or ROMMON
AIM-IPS NME-IPS	Router IPS modules	Bootloader command
AIP-SSM	ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance modules	ASA CLI command
IDSM-2	Switch IPS module	Password recovery image file

Password Recovery for Appliances

There are two ways to recover the password for appliances—using the GRUB menu or ROMMON. This section describes how to recover the password on appliances, and contains the following topics:

- [Using the GRUB Menu, page 17-4](#)
- [Using ROMMON, page 17-5](#)

Using the GRUB Menu

For 4200 series appliances, the password recovery is found in the GRUB menu, which appears during bootup. When the GRUB menu appears, press any key to pause the boot process.

**Note**

You must have a terminal server or direct serial connection to the appliance to use the GRUB menu to recover the password.

To recover the password on appliances, follow these steps:

Step 1 Reboot the appliance.

The following menu appears:

```
GNU GRUB version 0.94 (632K lower / 523264K upper memory)
-----
0: Cisco IPS
1: Cisco IPS Recovery
2: Cisco IPS Clear Password (cisco)
-----
```

Use the ^ and v keys to select which entry is highlighted.
Press enter to boot the selected OS, 'e' to edit the
Commands before booting, or 'c' for a command-line.

Highlighted entry is 0:

Step 2 Press any key to pause the boot process.

Step 3 Choose 2: **Cisco IPS Clear Password (cisco)**.

The password is reset to **cisco**. You can change the password the next time you log in to the CLI.

Using ROMMON

For IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 you can use the ROMMON to recover the password. To access the ROMMON CLI, reboot the sensor from a terminal server or direct connection and interrupt the boot process.

To recover the password using the ROMMON CLI, follow these steps:

Step 1 Reboot the appliance.

Step 2 To interrupt the boot process, press **ESC** or **Control-R** (terminal server) or send a **BREAK** command (direct connection).

The boot code either pauses for 10 seconds or displays something similar to one of the following:

- Evaluating boot options
- Use BREAK or ESC to interrupt boot

Step 3 Enter the following commands to reset the password:

```
confreg 0x7
boot
```

Sample ROMMON session:

```
Booting system, please wait...
CISCO SYSTEMS
Embedded BIOS Version 1.0(11)2 01/25/06 13:21:26.17
...
Evaluating BIOS Options...
Launch BIOS Extension to setup ROMMON
Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(11)2) #0: Thu Jan 26 10:43:08 PST 2006
Platform IPS-4240-K9
Use BREAK or ESC to interrupt boot.
Use SPACE to begin boot immediately.
Boot interrupted.
Management0/0
Link is UP
MAC Address:000b.fcfa.d155
Use ? for help.
rommon #0> confreg 0x7
Update Config Register (0x7) in NVRAM...
rommon #1> boot
```

Password Recovery for AIM-IPS

To recover the password for AIM-IPS, use the **clear password** command. You must have console access to AIM-IPS and administrative access to the router.

To recover the password for AIM-IPS, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the router.
- Step 2** Enter privileged EXEC mode on the router:
- ```
router> enable
```
- Step 3** Confirm the module slot number in your router:
- ```
router# show run | include ids-sensor
interface IDS-Sensor0/0
router#
```
- Step 4** Session in to AIM-IPS:
- ```
router# service-module ids-sensor slot/port session
```
- Example:
- ```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/0 session
```
- Step 5** Press **Control-shift-6** followed by **x** to navigate to the router CLI.
- Step 6** Reset AIM-IPS from the router console:
- ```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/0 reset
```
- Step 7** Press **Enter** to return to the router console.
- Step 8** When prompted for boot options, enter **\*\*\*** quickly.
- You are now in the bootloader.
- Step 9** Clear the password:
- ```
ServicesEngine boot-loader# clear password
```

AIM-IPS reboots. The password is reset to **cisco**. Log in to the CLI with username **cisco** and password **cisco**. You can then change the password.

Password Recovery for AIP-SSM

You can reset the password to the default (**cisco**) for the AIP-SSM using the CLI or the ASDM. Resetting the password causes it to reboot. IPS services are not available during a reboot.



Note

To reset the password, you must have ASA 7.2.2 or later.

Use the **hw-module module slot_number password-reset** command to reset the password to the default **cisco**. If the module in the specified slot has an IPS version that does not support password recovery, the following error message is displayed:

```
ERROR: the module in slot <n> does not support password recovery.
```

Resetting the Password Using the CLI

To reset the password on the AIP-SSM, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log into the adaptive security appliance and enter the following command to verify the module slot number:

```
asa# show module
```

Mod	Card Type	Model	Serial No.
0	ASA 5510 Adaptive Security Appliance	ASA5510	JMX1135L097
1	ASA 5500 Series Security Services Module-40	ASA-SSM-40	JAF1214AMRL

Mod	MAC Address Range	Hw Version	Fw Version	Sw Version
0	001b.d5e8.e0c8 to 001b.d5e8.e0cc	2.0	1.0(11)2	8.4(3)
1	001e.f737.205f to 001e.f737.205f	1.0	1.0(14)5	7.0(7)E4

Mod	SSM Application Name	Status	SSM Application Version
1	IPS	Up	7.0(7)E4

Mod	Status	Data Plane Status	Compatibility
0	Up Sys	Not Applicable	
1	Up	Up	

- Step 2** Reset the password for module 1.

```
asa# hw-module module 1 password-reset
Reset the password on module in slot 1? [confirm]
```

- Step 3** Press **Enter** to confirm.

```
Password-Reset issued for slot 1.
```

- Step 4** Verify the status of the module. Once the status reads Up, you can session to the AIP-SSM.

```
asa# show module 1
```

Mod	Card Type	Model	Serial No.
1	ASA 5500 Series Security Services Module-40	ASA-SSM-40	JAF1214AMRL

Mod	MAC Address Range	Hw Version	Fw Version	Sw Version
1	001e.f737.205f to 001e.f737.205f	1.0	1.0(14)5	7.0(7)E4

Mod	SSM Application Name	Status	SSM Application Version
1	IPS	Up	7.0(7)E4

Mod	Status	Data Plane Status	Compatibility
1	Up	Up	

- Step 5** Session to the AIP-SSM.

```
asa# session 1
Opening command session with slot 1.
Connected to slot 1. Escape character sequence is 'CTRL-^X'.
```

- Step 6** Enter the default username (**cisco**) and password (**cisco**) at the login prompt.

```
login: cisco
```

Password: **cisco**

You are required to change your password immediately (password aged)
Changing password for cisco.
(current) password: **cisco**

Step 7 Enter your new password twice.

New password: **new password**
Retype new password: **new password**

NOTICE

This product contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States and local country laws governing import, export, transfer and use. Delivery of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import, export, distribute or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and users are responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return this product immediately.

A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at:
<http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html>

If you require further assistance please contact us by sending email to export@cisco.com.

LICENSE NOTICE

There is no license key installed on this IPS platform. The system will continue to operate with the currently installed signature set. A valid license must be obtained in order to apply signature updates. Please go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/license> to obtain a new license or install a license.
aip_ssm#

Using the ASDM

To reset the password in the ASDM, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** From the ASDM menu bar, choose **Tools > IPS Password Reset**.



Note This option does not appear in the menu if there is no IPS present.

- Step 2** In the IPS Password Reset confirmation dialog box, click **OK** to reset the password to the default (**cisco**). A dialog box displays the success or failure of the password reset. If the reset fails, make sure you have the correct ASA and IPS software versions.

- Step 3** Click **Close** to close the dialog box. The sensor reboots.
-

Password Recovery for IDSM-2

To recover the password for the IDSM-2, you must install a special password recovery image file. This installation only resets the password, all other configuration remains intact. The password recovery image is version-dependent and can be found on the Cisco Download Software site. For IPS 6.x, download WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-a-6.0-password-recovery.bin.gz. For IPS 7.x, download WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-a-7.0-password-recovery.bin.gz.

FTP is the only supported protocol for image installations, so make sure you put the password recovery image file on an FTP server that is accessible to the switch. You must have administrative access to the Cisco 6500 series switch to recover the password on the IDSM-2.

During the password recovery image installation, the following message appears:

```
Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the hard disk.
Do you want to proceed installing it [y|n]:
```

This message is in error. Installing the password recovery image does not remove any configuration, it only resets the login account.

Once you have downloaded the password recovery image file, follow the instructions to install the system image file but substitute the password recovery image file for the system image file. The IDSM-2 should reboot in to the primary partition after installing the recovery image file. If it does not, enter the following command from the switch:

```
hw-module module module_number reset hdd:1
```



Note

The password is reset to **cisco**. Log in to the CLI with username **cisco** and password **cisco**. You can then change the password.

For More Information

- For the procedure for installing system images on the IDSM-2, see [Installing the IDSM-2 System Image, page 24-26](#).
- For more information on downloading Cisco IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Password Recovery for NME-IPS

To recover the password for NME-IPS, use the **clear password** command. You must have console access to NME-IPS and administrative access to the router.

To recover the password for NME-IPS, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the router.
- Step 2** Enter privileged EXEC mode on the router:
- ```
router> enable
```
- Step 3** Confirm the module slot number in your router:
- ```
router# show run | include ids-sensor
interface IDS-Sensor1/0
router#
```
- Step 4** Session in to NME-IPS:
- ```
router# service-module ids-sensor slot/port session
```
- Example:
- ```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 session
```
- Step 5** Press **Control-shift-6** followed by **x** to navigate to the router CLI.

Step 6 Reset NME-IPS from the router console:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 reset
```

Step 7 Press **Enter** to return to the router console.

Step 8 When prompted for boot options, enter ******* quickly.

You are now in the bootloader.

Step 9 Clear the password:

```
ServicesEngine boot-loader# clear password
```

NME-IPS reboots. The password is reset to **cisco**. Log in to the CLI with username **cisco** and password **cisco**. You can then change the password.

Disabling Password Recovery



Caution

If you try to recover the password on a sensor on which password recovery is disabled, the process proceeds with no errors or warnings; however, the password is not reset. If you cannot log in to the sensor because you have forgotten the password, and password recovery is set to disabled, you must reimage your sensor.

Password recovery is enabled by default. You can disable password recovery through the CLI or IME.

Disabling Password Recovery Using the CLI

To disable password recovery in the CLI, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Enter global configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

Step 3 Enter host mode:

```
sensor(config)# service host
```

Step 4 Disable password recovery:

```
sensor(config-hos)# password-recovery disallowed
```

Disabling Password Recovery Using IME

To disable password recovery in IME, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Network**.

Step 3 To disable password recovery, uncheck the **Allow Password Recovery** check box.

Troubleshooting Password Recovery

When you troubleshoot password recovery, pay attention to the following:

- You cannot determine whether password recovery has been disabled in the sensor configuration from the ROMMON prompt, GRUB menu, switch CLI, or router CLI. If you attempt password recovery, it always appears to succeed. If it has been disabled, the password is not reset to **cisco**. The only option is to reimage the sensor.
- You can disable password recovery in the host configuration. For the platforms that use external mechanisms, such as the AIM-IPS and NME-IPS bootloader, ROMMON, and the maintenance partition for IDS-M-2, although you can run commands to clear the password, if password recovery is disabled in the IPS, the IPS detects that password recovery is not allowed and rejects the external request.
- To check the state of password recovery, use the **show settings | include password** command.
- When performing password recovery on IDS-M-2, you see the following message: *Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the storage media*. You can ignore this message. Only the password is reset when you use the specified password recovery image.

Verifying the State of Password Recovery

Use the **show settings | include password** command to verify whether password recovery is enabled.

To verify whether password recovery is enabled, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the CLI.
- Step 2** Enter service host submode:
- ```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor (config)# service host
sensor (config-hos)#
```
- Step 3** Verify the state of password recovery by using the **include** keyword to show settings in a filtered output:
- ```
sensor(config-hos)# show settings | include password
password-recovery: allowed <defaulted>
sensor(config-hos)#
```
-

Configuring Licensing

**Note**

You must be administrator to view license information in the Licensing pane and to install the sensor license key.

This section describes how to obtain and install the license key, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Licensing, page 17-12](#)
- [Service Programs for IPS Products, page 17-12](#)

- [Licensing Pane Field Definitions, page 17-13](#)
- [Obtaining and Installing the License Key, page 17-14](#)

Understanding Licensing

Although the sensor functions without the license key, you must have a license key to obtain signature updates. To obtain a license key, you must have the following:

- Cisco Service for IPS service contract
Contact your reseller, Cisco service or product sales to purchase a contract.
- Your IPS device serial number
To find the IPS device serial number in IME, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Licensing.**, or in the CLI use the **show version** command.
- Valid Cisco.com username and password

Trial license keys are also available. If you cannot get your sensor licensed because of problems with your contract, you can obtain a 60-day trial license that supports signature updates that require licensing.

You can obtain a license key from the Cisco.com licensing server, which is then delivered to the sensor. Or, you can update the license key from a license key provided in a local file. Go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/license> and click **IPS Signature Subscription Service** to apply for a license key.

You can view the status of the license key in these places:

- IME Home page in the Device Details section on the Licensing tab
- License Notice at CLI login

Whenever you start IME or the CLI, you are informed of your license status—whether you have a trial, invalid, or expired license key. With no license key, an invalid license key, or an expired license key, you can continue to use IME and the CLI, but you cannot download signature updates.

If you already have a valid license on the sensor, you can click **Download** on the License pane to download a copy of your license key to the computer that IME is running on and save it to a local file. You can then replace a lost or corrupted license, or reinstall your license after you have reimaged the sensor.

Service Programs for IPS Products

You must have a Cisco Services for IPS service contract for any IPS product so that you can download a license key and obtain the latest IPS signature updates. If you have a direct relationship with Cisco Systems, contact your account manager or service account manager to purchase the Cisco Services for IPS service contract. If you do not have a direct relationship with Cisco Systems, you can purchase the service account from a one-tier or two-tier partner.

When you purchase the following IPS products you must also purchase a Cisco Services for IPS service contract:

- IPS-4240
- IPS-4255
- IPS-4260
- IPS 4270-20

- AIM-IPS
- IDSM-2
- NME-IPS

When you purchase an ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance product that does not contain IPS, you must purchase a SMARTnet contract.

**Note**

SMARTnet provides operating system updates, access to Cisco.com, access to TAC, and hardware replacement NBD on site.

When you purchase an ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance product that ships with AIP-SSM installed, or if you purchase AIP-SSM to add to your ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance product, you must purchase the Cisco Services for IPS service contract.

**Note**

Cisco Services for IPS provides IPS signature updates, operating system updates, access to Cisco.com, access to TAC, and hardware replacement NBD on site.

For example, if you purchased an ASA-5510 and then later wanted to add IPS and purchased an ASA-SSM-AIP-10-K9, you must now purchase the Cisco Services for IPS service contract. After you have the Cisco Services for IPS service contract, you must also have your product serial number to apply for the license key.

**Caution**

If you ever send your product for RMA, the serial number will change. You must then get a new license key for the new serial number.

Licensing Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Licensing pane:


- Current License—Provides the status of the current license:
 - License Status—Current license status of the sensor.
 - Expiration Date—Date when the license key expires (or has expired). If the key is invalid, no date is displayed.
 - Serial Number—Serial number of the sensor.
 - Product ID—The product ID of your sensor.
- Update License—Specifies from where to obtain the new license key:
 - Cisco Connection Online—Contacts the license server at Cisco.com for a license key.
 - License File—Specifies that a license file be used.
 - Local File Path—Indicates where the local file containing the license key is.

Obtaining and Installing the License Key

**Note**

In addition to a valid Cisco.com username and password, you must also have a Cisco Services for IPS service contract before you can apply for a license key.

To obtain and install the license key, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Licensing**.
- The Licensing pane displays the status of the current license. If you have already installed your license, you can click **Download** to save it if needed.
- Step 3** Obtain a license key by doing one of the following:
- Click the **Cisco.com** radio button to obtain the license from Cisco.com.
IME contacts the license server on Cisco.com and sends the server the serial number to obtain the license key. This is the default method. Go to Step 4.
 - Click the **License File** radio button to use a license file.
To use this option, you must apply for a license key at this URL: www.cisco.com/go/license.
The license key is sent to you in e-mail and you save it to a drive that IME can access. This option is useful if your computer cannot access Cisco.com. Go to Step 7.
- Step 4** Click **Update License**, and in the Licensing dialog box, click **Yes** to continue.
- The Status dialog box informs you that the sensor is trying to connect to Cisco.com. An Information dialog box confirms that the license key has been updated.
- Step 5** Click **OK**.
- Step 6** Go to www.cisco.com/go/license.
- Step 7** Fill in the required fields.
-
-  **Caution** You must have the correct IPS device serial number because the license key only functions on the device with that number.
-
- Your license key will be sent to the e-mail address you specified.
- Step 8** Save the license key to a hard-disk drive or a network drive that the client running IME can access.
- Step 9** Log in to IME.
- Step 10** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Licensing**.
- Step 11** Under Update License, click the **License File** radio button.
- Step 12** In the Local File Path field, specify the path to the license file or click **Browse Local** to browse to the file.
- Step 13** Browse to the license file and click **Open**.
- Step 14** Click **Update License**.
-

Configuring Sensor Health

This section describes how to configure sensor health metrics, and contains the following topics:

- [Sensor Health Pane, page 17-15](#)
- [Sensor Health Pane Field Definitions, page 17-15](#)

Sensor Health Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure sensor health metrics.

In the Sensor Health pane, you can configure the metrics that are used to determine the health and network security status of the IPS. The results show up in the Home pane in the various gadgets.

If you do not select a metric by checking the check box, it does not show up in the health and network security status results. You can accept the default configuration or edit the values.

The overall health is set to the most critical settings of any of the metrics. For instance, if all the selected metrics are green except for one that is red, the overall health becomes red. The IPS produces a health and security status event when the overall health status of the IPS changes.

The security status of the sensor is determined for each virtual sensor using the threat ratings of events detected by the virtual sensors. The security status of the virtual sensor is raised when the virtual sensor detects an event with a threat rating that exceeds the threshold for that virtual sensor. Once a threshold has been exceeded, the security status remains at a critical level until the configured amount of time has passed with no more events being detected at the higher level.

Sensor Health Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Sensor Health pane:

- **Inspection Load**—Lets you set a threshold for inspection load and whether this metric is applied to the overall sensor health rating.
- **Missed Packet**—Lets you set a threshold percentage for missed packets and whether this metric is applied to the overall sensor health rating.
- **Memory Usage**—Lets you set a threshold percentage for memory usage and whether this metric is applied to the overall sensor health rating.
- **Signature Update**—Lets you set a threshold for when the last signature update was applied and whether this metric is applied to the overall sensor health rating.
- **License Expiration**—Lets you set a threshold for when the license expires and whether this metric is applied to the overall sensor health rating.
- **Event Retrieval**—Lets you set a threshold for when the last event was retrieved and whether this metric is applied to the overall sensor health rating.

**Note**

The event retrieval metric keeps track of when the last event was retrieved by an external monitoring application such as IME. Disable Event Retrieval if you are not doing external event monitoring.

- Application Failure—Lets you choose to have an application failure applied to the overall sensor health rating.
- IPS in Bypass Mode—Let you choose to know if bypass mode is active and have that apply to the overall sensor health rating.
- One or More Active Interfaces Down—Lets you choose to know if one or more enabled interfaces are down and have that apply to the overall sensor health rating.
- Yellow Threshold—Lets you set the lowest threshold in percentage, days, or seconds for yellow.
- Red Threshold—Lets you set the lowest threshold in percentage, days, or seconds for red.

Configuring IP Logging Variables

**Note**

You must be administrator to configure the IP logging variable.

You can configure the IP logging variable, Maximum Open IP Log Files, which applies to the general operation of the sensor.

Field Definitions

The following field is found in the Global Variables pane:

- Maximum Open IP Log Files—Maximum number of concurrently open IP log files. The valid range is from 20 to 100. The default is 20.

Configuring Automatic Update

This section describes how to configure your sensor for automatic software updates, and contains the following topics:

- [Auto/Cisco.com Update Pane, page 17-16](#)
- [Supported FTP and HTTP Servers, page 17-17](#)
- [UNIX-Style Directory Listings, page 17-17](#)
- [Signature Updates and Installation Time, page 17-18](#)
- [Auto/Cisco.com Update Pane Field Definitions, page 17-18](#)
- [Configuring Auto Update, page 17-19](#)

Auto/Cisco.com Update Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to view the Auto Update pane and to configure automatic updates.

You can configure the sensor to automatically download signature and signature engine updates from Cisco.com and from a local server.

**Caution**

Automatic updates do not work with Windows FTP servers configured with DOS-style paths. Make sure the server configuration has the UNIX-style path option enabled rather than DOS-style paths.

When you enable automatic updates, the sensor logs in to Cisco.com and checks for signature and signature engine updates. When an update is available, the sensor downloads the update and installs it. You must have a Cisco.com user account with cryptographic privileges to download Cisco IPS signature and signature engine updates from Cisco.com.

**Caution**

The sensor does not support communication with Cisco.com through nontransparent proxy servers.

Supported FTP and HTTP Servers

The following FTP servers are supported for IPS software updates:

- WU-FTPD 2.6.2 (Linux)
- Solaris 2.8
- Sambar 6.0 (Windows 2000)
- Serv-U 5.0 (Windows 2000)
- MS IIS 5.0 (Windows 2000)

The following HTTP/HTTPS servers are supported for IPS software updates:

- CMS - Apache Server (Tomcat)
- CMS - Apache Server (JRun)

UNIX-Style Directory Listings

To configure Auto Update using an FTP server, the FTP server must provide directory listing responses in UNIX style. MS-DOS style directory listing is not supported by the sensor Auto Update feature.

**Note**

If the server supplies MS-DOS style directory listings, the sensor cannot parse the directory listing and does not know that there is a new update available.

To change Microsoft IIS to use UNIX-style directory listings, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Choose **Start > Program Files > Administrative Tools**.
- Step 2** Click the **Home Directory** tab.
- Step 3** Click the **UNIX directory listings style** radio button.

Signature Updates and Installation Time

There is a short period of time that traffic is not inspected while you are performing signature updates. However, traffic continues to flow if you have auto bypass enable.

When a signature update adds or modifies signatures that contain regular expressions, the regular expression cache tables used by SensorApp have to be recompiled. The amount of recompile time varies by platform, number of signatures modified and/or added, and type of signatures modified and/or added.

If a signature update only adds one or two new signatures on a high-end platform, for example, IPS-4255 or IPS-4260, the recompile can be as fast as a few seconds.

The recompile takes several minutes and even up to a half hour under the following conditions:

- When a signature update adds a large number of signatures, for example, when you are skipping several signature levels to install a newer one, for example, installing S258 on top of S240.
- When a signature update modifies a large number of signatures, for example when a large number of older signatures is disabled and/or retired.

During the recompile, sensorApp stops monitoring packets. The interface driver detects this when the packet buffers begin filling up on their way to SensorApp and the driver stops receiving packets from SensorApp. If the sensor is in inline mode, the driver either turns on software bypass if the bypass option is set to Auto, or brings down the interface links if bypass is set to Off.

**Note**

Some packets can be dropped before the bypass setting begins operating. Once SensorApp completes the recompile of the regular expression cache files, sensorApp reconnects to the driver and begins monitoring again, and the driver begins passing packets to SensorApp for analysis, and if necessary, also brings the interface links back up.

Auto/Cisco.com Update Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Auto/Cisco.com Update pane:

- Enable Auto Update From a Remote Server—Lets the sensor install updates stored on a remote server.

**Note**

If Enable Auto Update From a Remote Server is not checked, all fields are disabled and cleared. You cannot toggle this on or off without losing all other settings.

- Remote Server Access—Lets you specify the following options:
 - IP Address—Identifies the IP address of the remote server.
 - File Copy Protocol—Specifies whether to use FTP or SCP.
 - Directory—Identifies the path to the update on the remote server.
 - Username—Identifies the username corresponding to the user account on the remote server.
 - Password—Identifies the password for the user account on the remote server.
 - Confirm Password—Confirms the password by forcing you to retype the remote server password.
- Enable Signature and Engine Updates from Cisco.com—Lets the sensor go to Cisco.com to download signature and engine updates.

- Cisco.com Access
 - Username—Identifies the username corresponding to the user account on Cisco.com.
 - Cisco.com URL—Automatically populated with the correct URL when you check the **Enable Signature and Engine Updates from Cisco.com** check box.
 - Password—Identifies the password for the user account on Cisco.com.
 - Confirm Password—Confirms the password by forcing you to retype the Cisco.com password.
- Schedule—Lets you specify the following options:
 - Start Time—Identifies the time to start the update process. This is the time when the sensor will contact the remote server and search for an available update.
 - Frequency—Specifies whether to perform updates on an hourly or weekly basis.
 - Hourly—Specifies to check for an update every n hours.
 - Daily—Specifies the days of the week to perform the updates.

Configuring Auto Update

To configure automatic updates from a remote server or Cisco.com, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Auto/Cisco.com Update**.
- Step 3** To enable automatic updates from a remote server, check the **Enable Auto Update from a Remote Server** check box.
- a. In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the remote server where you have downloaded and stored updates.
 - b. To identify the protocol used to connect to the remote server, from the File Copy Protocol drop-down list, choose either FTP or SCP.
 - c. In the Directory field, enter the path to the directory on the remote server where the updates are located. A valid value for the path is 1 to 128 characters.
 - d. In the Username field, enter the username to use when logging in to the remote server. A valid value for the username is 1 to 2047 characters.
 - e. In the Password field, enter the username password on the remote server. A valid value for the password is 1 to 2047 characters.
 - f. In the Confirm Password field, enter the password to confirm it.
 - g. For hourly updates, check the **Hourly** check box, and follow these steps:
 - In the Start Time field, enter the time you want the updates to start. The valid value is hh:mm:ss.
 - In the Every_hours field, enter the hour interval at which you want every update to occur. The valid value is 1 to 8760.

For example, if you enter 5, every 5 hours the sensor looks at the directory of files on the server. If there is an available update candidate, it is downloaded and installed. Only one update is installed per cycle even if there are multiple available candidates. The sensor determines the most recent update that can be installed and installs that file.
 - h. For weekly updates, check the **Daily** check box, and follow these steps:
 - In the Start Time field, enter the time you want the updates to start. The valid value is hh:mm:ss.

- In the Days field, check the day(s) you want the sensor to check for and download available updates.

Step 4 To enable signature and engine updates from Cisco.com, check the **Enable Signature and Engine Updates from Cisco.com** check box.

- In the Username field, enter the username to use when logging in to Cisco.com. A valid value for the username is 1 to 2047 characters.
- In the Password field, enter the username password for Cisco.com. A valid value for the password is 1 to 2047 characters.
- In the Confirm Password field, enter the password to confirm it.
- For hourly updates, check the **Hourly** check box, and follow these steps:
 - In the Start Time field, enter the time you want the updates to start. The valid value is hh:mm:ss.
 - In the Every_hours field, enter the hour interval at which you want every update to occur. The valid value is 1 to 8760.

For example, if you enter 5, every 5 hours the sensor looks at the directory of files on the server. If there is an available update candidate, it is downloaded and installed. Only one update is installed per cycle even if there are multiple available candidates. The sensor determines the most recent update that can be installed and installs that file.

- For weekly updates, check the **Daily** check box, and follow these steps:
 - In the Start Time field, enter the time you want the updates to start. The valid value is hh:mm:ss.
 - In the Days field, check the day(s) you want the sensor to check for and download available updates.

Step 5 Click **Apply** to save your changes.



Tip

To discard your changes, click **Reset**.

Manually Updating the Sensor

This section describes how to manually update the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Update Sensor Pane, page 17-20](#)
- [Update Sensor Pane Field Definitions, page 17-21](#)
- [Updating the Sensor, page 17-21](#)

Update Sensor Pane



Note

You must be administrator to view the Update Sensor pane and to update the sensor with service packs and signature updates.

In the Update Sensor pane, you can immediately apply service pack and signature updates.

**Note**

The sensor cannot download service pack and signature updates from Cisco.com. You must download the service pack and signature updates from Cisco.com to your FTP server, and then configure the sensor to download them from your FTP server.

Update Sensor Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Update Sensor pane:

- Update is located on a remote server and is accessible by the sensor—Lets you specify the following options:
 - URL—Identifies the type of server where the update is located. Specify whether to use FTP, HTTP, HTTPS, or SCP.
 - ://—Identifies the path to the update on the remote server.
 - Username—Identifies the username corresponding to the user account on the remote server.
 - Password—Identifies the password for the user account on the remote server.
- Update is located on this client—Lets you specify the following options:
 - Local File Path—Identifies the path to the update file on this local client.
 - Browse Local—Opens the Browse dialog box for the file system on this local client. From this dialog box, you can navigate to the update file.

Updating the Sensor

**Note**

The sensor cannot download service pack and signature updates from Cisco.com. You must download the service pack and signature updates from Cisco.com to your FTP server, and then configure the sensor to download them from your FTP server.

To immediately apply a service pack and signature update, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Update Sensor**.
- Step 3** To pull an update down from a remote server and install it on the sensor, follow these steps:
 - a. Check the **Update is located on a remote server and is accessible by the sensor** check box.
 - b. In the URL field, enter the URL where the update can be found.

The following URL types are supported:

- FTP:—Source URL for an FTP network server.

The syntax for this prefix is the following:

```
ftp://location/relative_directory/filename
```

or

```
ftp://location//absolute_directory/filename
```

- **HTTPS:**—Source URL for a web server.

The syntax for this prefix is the following:

```
https://location/directory/filename
```



Note Before using the HTTPS protocol, set up a TLS trusted host.

- **SCP:**—Source URL for a SCP network server.

The syntax for this prefix is the following:

```
scp://location/relative_directory/filename
```

or

```
scp://location/absolute_directory/filename
```

- **HTTP:**—Source URL for a web server.

The syntax for this prefix is the following:

```
http://location/directory/filename
```

The following example shows the FTP protocol:

```
ftp://user@ip_address/UPDATES/file_name.rpm.pkg
```



Note You must have already downloaded the update from Cisco.com and put it on the FTP server.

- c. In the Username field, enter the username for an account on the remote server.
- d. In the Password field, enter the password associated with this account on the remote server.

Step 4 To push from the local client and install it on the sensor, follow these steps:

- a. Check the **Update is located on this client** check box.
- b. Specify the path to the update file on the local client or click **Browse Local** to navigate through the files on the local client.

Step 5 Click **Update Sensor**. The Update Sensor dialog box tells you that if you want to update, you will lose your connection to the sensor and you must log in again.

Step 6 Click **OK** to update the sensor.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.



Note The IME and CLI connections are lost during the following updates: service pack, minor, major, and engineering patch. If you are applying one of these updates, the installer restarts the IPS applications. A reboot of the sensor is possible. You do not lose the connection when applying signature updates and you do not need to reboot the system.

Restoring Defaults

**Note**

You must be administrator to view the Restore Defaults pane and to restore the sensor defaults.

**Warning**

Restoring the defaults removes the current application settings and restores the default settings. Your network settings also return to the defaults and you immediately lose connection to the sensor.

You can restore the default configuration to your sensor. To restore the default configuration, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Management > Restore Defaults**.
- Step 3** To restore the default configuration, click **Restore Defaults**.
- Step 4** In the Restore Defaults dialog box, click **OK**.

**Note**

Restoring defaults resets the IP address, netmask, default gateway, and access list. The password and time are not reset. Manual and automatic blocks also remain in effect. You must manually reboot your sensor.

Rebooting the Sensor

**Note**

You must be administrator to see the Reboot Sensor pane and to reboot the sensor.

You can shut down and restart the sensor from the Reboot Sensor pane. To reboot the sensor, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > Sensor Management > Reboot Sensor**, and then click **Reboot Sensor**.
- Step 3** To shut down and restart the sensor, click **OK**. The sensor applications shut down and then the sensor reboots. After the reboot, you must log back in.

**Note**

There is a 30-second delay during which users who are logged in to the CLI are notified that the sensor applications are going to shut down.

Shutting Down the Sensor

**Note**

You must be administrator to view the Shut Down Sensor pane and to shut down the sensor.

You can shut down the IPS applications and then put the sensor in a state in which it is safe to power it off. To shut down the sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration** > *sensor_name* > **Sensor Management** > **Shut Down Sensor**, and then click **Shut Down Sensor**.
- Step 3** In the Shut Down Sensor dialog box, click **OK**. The sensor applications shut down and any open connections to the sensor are closed.

**Note**

There is a 30-second delay during which users who are logged in to the CLI are notified that the sensor applications are going to shut down.



CHAPTER 18

Monitoring the Sensor

IME lets you monitor all aspects of the sensor, including performance, statistics, and connections. You can also view the list of denied attackers and events. You can configure IP logging, set up host and network blocks, and configure and manage rate limiting. You can monitor OS identifications and anomaly detection.

This section describes how to monitor your sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Monitoring Events, page 18-1](#)
- [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers, page 18-4](#)
- [Configuring Host Blocks, page 18-5](#)
- [Configuring Network Blocks, page 18-8](#)
- [Configuring Rate Limits, page 18-10](#)
- [Configuring IP Logging, page 18-12](#)
- [Monitoring Anomaly Detection KBs, page 18-15](#)
- [Working With OS Identifications, page 18-24](#)
- [Clearing Flow States, page 18-26](#)
- [Resetting Network Security Health, page 18-28](#)
- [Generating a Diagnostics Report, page 18-28](#)
- [Viewing Statistics, page 18-29](#)
- [Viewing System Information, page 18-30](#)

Monitoring Events

This section describes how to filter and view event data on your sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Events Pane, page 18-2](#)
- [Events Pane Field Definitions, page 18-2](#)
- [Event Viewer Pane Field Definitions, page 18-3](#)
- [Configuring Event Display, page 18-3](#)
- [Clearing Event Store, page 18-4](#)

Events Pane

The Events pane lets you filter and view event data. You can filter events based on type, time, or both. By default all alert and error events are displayed for the past one hour. To access these events, click **View**.

When you click **View**, IME defines a time range for the events if you have not already configured one. If you do not specify an end time of the range, it is defined as the moment you click **View**.

To prevent system errors when retrieving large numbers of events from the sensor, IME limits the number of events you can view at one time (the maximum number of rows per page is 500). Click **Back** and **Next** to view more events.

Events Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Events pane:

- Show Alert Events—Lets you configure the level of alert you want to view:
 - Informational
 - Low
 - Medium
 - HighThe default is all levels enabled.
- Threat Rating (0-100)—Lets you change the range (minimum and maximum levels) of the threat rating value.
- Show Error Events—Lets you configure the type of errors you want to view:
 - Warning
 - Error
 - FatalThe default is all levels enabled.
- Show Attack Response Controller events—Shows ARC (formerly known as Network Access Controller) events. The default is disabled.

**Note**

NAC is now known as ARC; however, in Cisco IPS 6.1, the name change has not been completed throughout IME and the CLI.

- Show status events—Shows status events. The default is disabled.
- Select the number of the rows per page—Lets you determine how many rows you want to view per page. The valid range is 100 to 500. The default is 100.
- Show all events currently stored on the sensor—Retrieves all events stored on the sensor.
- Show past events—Lets you go back a specified number of hours or minutes to view past events.
- Show events from the following time range—Retrieves events from the specified time range.


Event Viewer Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Event Viewer pane:

- #—Identifies the order number of the event in the results query.
- Type—Identifies the type of event as Error, NAC, Status, or Alert.
- Sensor UTC Time—Identifies when the event occurred.
- Event ID—The numerical identifier the sensor has assigned to the event.
- Events—Briefly describes the event.
- Sig ID—Identifies the signature that fired and caused the alert event.

Configuring Event Display

To configure how you want events to be displayed, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > *sensor_name* > Sensor Monitoring > Events**.
- Step 3** Under Show Alert Events, check the check boxes of the levels of alerts you want to be displayed.
- Step 4** In the Threat Rating field, enter the minimum and maximum range of threat rating.
- Step 5** Under Show Error Events, check the check boxes of the types of errors you want to be displayed.
- Step 6** To display ARC (formerly known as Network Access Controller) events, check the **Show Attack Response Controller events** check box.
- Step 7** To display status events, check the **Show status events** check box.
- Step 8** In the Select the number of the rows per page field, enter the number of rows per page you want displayed.
The default is 100. The values are 100, 200, 300, 400, or 500.
- Step 9** To set a time for events to be displayed, click one of the following ratio buttons:
- **Show all events currently stored on the sensor**
 - **Show past events**
Enter the hours and minutes you want to go back to view past events.
 - **Show events from the following time range**
Enter a start and end time.
- 
-
- Tip** To discard your changes, click **Reset**.
-
- Step 10** Click **View** to display the events you configured.
- Step 11** To sort up and down in a column, click the right-hand side to see the up and down arrow.
- Step 12** Click **Next** or **Back** to page by one hundred.

- Step 13** To view details of an event, select it, and click **Details**.
The details for that event appear in another dialog box. The dialog box has the Event ID as its title.
-

Clearing Event Store

**Note**

The Event Store has a fixed size of 30 MB for all platforms.

Use the **clear events** command to clear Event Store.

To clear events from Event Store, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

- Step 2** Clear Event Store:

```
sensor# clear events
Warning: Executing this command will remove all events currently stored in the event
store.
Continue with clear? []:
```

- Step 3** Enter **yes** to clear the events.
-

Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers

This section describes how to monitor the denied attackers list, and contains the following topics:

- [Denied Attackers Pane, page 18-4](#)
- [Denied Attackers Pane Field Definitions, page 18-4](#)
- [Monitoring the Denied Attackers List and Adding Denied Attackers, page 18-5](#)

Denied Attackers Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to monitor and clear the denied attackers list.

The Denied Attackers pane displays all IP addresses and the hit count for denied attackers. You can reset the hit count for all IP addresses or clear the list of denied attackers. You can also configure denied attackers to be monitored.

Denied Attackers Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Denied Attackers pane:

- Virtual Sensor—Virtual sensor that is denying the attacker.

- Attacker IP—IP address of the attacker the sensor is denying.
- Victim IP—IP address of the victim the sensor is denying.
- Port—Port of the host the sensor is denying.
- Protocol—Protocol that the attacker is using.
- Requested Percentage—Percentage of traffic that you configured to be denied by the sensor in inline mode.
- Actual Percentage—Percentage of traffic in inline mode that the sensor actually denies.

**Note**

The sensor tries to deny exactly what percentage you requested, but because of percentage fractions, the sensor is sometimes below the requested threshold.

- Hit Count—Displays the hit count for that denied attacker.

Monitoring the Denied Attackers List and Adding Denied Attackers

To view the list of denied attackers, their hit counts, and to add denied attackers, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Denied Attackers**.
- Step 3** To refresh the list, click **Refresh**.
- Step 4** To clear the entire list of denied attackers, click **Clear List**.
- Step 5** To have the hit count start over, click **Reset All Hit Counts**.
- Step 6** To add a denied attacker to the list to be monitored, click **Add**.
- Step 7** In the Attacker IP field, enter the attacker IP address.
- Step 8** Click the **Specify Victim Address or Port** check box, and enter the IP address and port number.
- Step 9** Click the **Specify Virtual Sensor** check box and choose the virtual sensor from the drop-down list.

**Tip**

Click **Cancel** to discard your changes and return to the Denied Attackers pane.

- Step 10** Click **OK** to save your changes.
The denied attacker appears in the Denied Attacker list.

Configuring Host Blocks

This section describes how to configure host blocks, and contains the following topics:

- [Host Blocks Pane, page 18-6](#)
- [Host Block Pane Field Definitions, page 18-6](#)

- [Add Active Host Block Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 18-7](#)
- [Configuring and Managing Host Blocks, page 18-7](#)

Host Blocks Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure active host blocks.

**Note**

Connection blocks and network blocks are not supported on security appliances. Security appliances only support host blocks with additional connection information.

Use the Host Blocks pane to configure and manage blocking of hosts. A host block denies traffic from a specific host permanently (until you remove the block) or for a specified amount of time. You can base the block on a connection by specifying the destination IP address and the destination protocol and port. A host block is defined by its source IP address. If you add a block with the same source IP address as an existing block, the new block overwrites the old block.

If you specify an amount of time for the block, the value must be in the range of 1 to 70560 minutes (49 days). If you do not specify a time, the host block remains in effect until the sensor is rebooted or the block is deleted.

Host Block Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Host Blocks pane:

- Source IP—Source IP address for the block.
- Destination IP—Destination IP address for the block.
- Destination Port—Destination port for the block.
- Protocol—Type of protocol (TCP, UDP, or ANY). The default is ANY.
- Minutes Remaining—Time remaining for the blocks in minutes.
- Timeout (minutes)—Original timeout value for the block in minutes. A valid value is between 1 to 70560 minutes (49 days).
- VLAN— Indicates the VLAN that carried the data that fired the signature.

**Caution**

Even though the VLAN ID is included in the block request, it is not passed to the security appliance. Sensors cannot block on FWSM 2.1 or greater when logged in to the admin context.

- Connection Block Enabled—Whether or not to block the connection for the host.

Add Active Host Block Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add Active Host Block dialog box:

- Source IP—Source IP address for the block.
- Enable connection blocking—Whether or not to block the connection for the host.
- Connection Blocking—Lets you configure parameters for connection blocking:
 - Destination IP—Destination IP address for the block.
 - Destination Port (optional)—Destination port for the block.
 - Protocol (optional)—Type of protocol (TCP, UDP, or ANY). The default is ANY.
- VLAN (optional)—Indicates the VLAN that carried the data that fired the signature.



Caution

Even though the VLAN ID is included in the block request, it is not passed to the security appliance. Sensors cannot block on FWSM 2.1 or later when logged in to the admin context.

- Enable Timeout—Lets you set a timeout value for the block in minutes.
- Timeout—Number of minutes for the block to last. A valid value is between 1 and 70560 minutes (49 days).
- No Timeout—Lets you choose to have no timeout for the block.

Configuring and Managing Host Blocks

To configure and manage host blocks, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Host Blocks**, and then click **Add** to add a host block.
- Step 3** In the Source IP field, enter the source IP address of the host you want blocked.
- Step 4** To make the block connection-based, check the **Enable Connection Blocking** check box.



Note

A connection block blocks traffic from a given source IP address to a given destination IP address and destination port.

- a. In the Destination IP field, enter the destination IP address.
- b. (Optional) In the Destination Port field, enter the destination port.
- c. (Optional) From the Protocol drop-down list, choose the protocol.
- Step 5** (Optional) In the VLAN field, enter the VLAN for the connection block.
- Step 6** Configure the timeout:
 - To configure the block for a specified amount of time, click the **Enable Timeout** radio button, and in the Timeout field, enter the amount of time in minutes.
 - To not configure the block for a specified amount of time, click the **No Timeout** radio button.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Active Host Block dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 7 Click **Apply**. The new host block appears in the list in the Host Blocks pane.

Step 8 Click **Refresh** to refresh the contents of the host blocks list.

Step 9 To delete a block, select a host block in the list, and click **Delete**. The Delete Active Host Block dialog box asks if you are sure you want to delete this block.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Delete Active Host Block dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 10 Click **Yes** to delete the block. The host block no longer appears in the list in the Host Blocks pane.

Configuring Network Blocks

This section describes how to configure network blocks, and contains the following topics:

- [Network Blocks Pane, page 18-8](#)
- [Network Blocks Pane Field Definitions, page 18-9](#)
- [Add Network Block Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 18-9](#)
- [Configuring and Managing Network Blocks, page 18-9](#)

Network Blocks Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure network blocks.

**Note**

Connection blocks and network blocks are not supported on security appliances. Security appliances only support host blocks with additional connection information.

Use the Network Blocks pane to configure and manage blocking of networks. A network block denies traffic from a specific network permanently (until you remove the block) or for a specified amount of time. A network block is defined by its source IP address and netmask. The netmask defines the blocked subnet. A host subnet mask is accepted also.

If you specify an amount of time for the block, the value must be in the range of 1 to 70560 minutes (49 days). If you do not specify a time, the block remains in effect until the sensor is rebooted or the block is deleted.

Network Blocks Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Network Blocks pane:

- IP Address—IP address for the block.
- Mask—Network mask for the block.
- Minutes Remaining—Time remaining for the blocks in minutes.
- Timeout (minutes)—Original timeout value for the block in minutes. A valid value is between 1 and 70560 minutes (49 days).

Add Network Block Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add Network Block dialog box:

- Source IP—IP address for the block.
- Netmask—Network mask for the block.
- Enable Timeout—Indicates a timeout value for the block in minutes.
- Timeout—Indicates the duration of the block in minutes. A valid value is between 1 and 70560 minutes (49 days).
- No Timeout—Lets you choose to have no timeout for the block.

Configuring and Managing Network Blocks

To configure and manage network blocks, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Network Blocks**, and then click **Add** to add a network block.
- Step 3** In the Source IP field, enter the source IP address of the network you want blocked.
- Step 4** From the Netmask drop-down list, choose the netmask.
- Step 5** Configure the timeout:
- To configure the block for a specified amount of time, click the **Enable Timeout** radio button, and in the Timeout field, enter the amount of time in minutes.
 - To not configure the block for a specified amount of time, click the **No Timeout** radio button.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Network Block dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 6** Click **Apply**. You receive an error message if a block has already been added. The new network block appears in the list in the Network Blocks pane.
- Step 7** Click **Refresh** to refresh the contents of the network blocks list.
- Step 8** Select a network block in the list and click **Delete** to delete that block. The Delete Network Block dialog box asks if you are sure you want to delete this block.

- Step 9** Click **Yes** to delete the block. The network block no longer appears in the list in the Network Blocks pane.
-

Configuring Rate Limits

This section describes how to configure and manage rate limits, and contains the following topics:

- [Rate Limits Pane, page 18-10](#)
- [Rate Limits Pane Field Definitions, page 18-10](#)
- [Add Rate Limit Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 18-11](#)
- [Configuring and Managing Rate Limiting, page 18-11](#)

Rate Limits Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to add rate limits.

Use the Rate Limits pane to configure and manage rate limiting. A rate limit restricts the amount of a specified type of traffic that is allowed on a network device interface to a percentage of maximum bandwidth capacity. Traffic that exceeds this percentage is dropped by the network device. A rate limit can restrict traffic to a specified target host, or to all traffic that crosses the configured interface/directions. You can use rate limits permanently or for a specified amount of time. A rate limit is identified by a protocol, an optional destination address, and an optional data value.

Because the rate limit is specified as a percent, it may translate to different actual limits on interfaces with different bandwidth capacities. A rate limit percent value must be an integer between 1 and 100 inclusive.

Rate Limits Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Rate Limits pane:

- **Protocol**—Protocol of the traffic that is rate limited.
- **Rate**—Percent of maximum bandwidth that is allowed for the rate-limited traffic. Matching traffic that exceeds this rate will be dropped.
- **Source IP**—Source host IP address of the rate-limited traffic.
- **Source Port**—Source host port of the rate-limited traffic.
- **Destination IP**—Destination host IP address of the rate-limited traffic.
- **Destination Port**—Destination host port of the rate-limited traffic.
- **Data**—Additional identifying information needed to more precisely qualify traffic for a given protocol. For example, echo-request narrows the ICMP protocol traffic to rate-limit pings.
- **Minutes Remaining**—Remaining minutes that this rate limit is in effect.
- **Timeout (minutes)**—Total number of minutes for this rate limit.

Add Rate Limit Dialog Box Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Add Rate Limit dialog box:

- Protocol—Protocol of the traffic that is rate-limited (ICMP, TCP, or UDP).
- Rate (1-100)—Percentage of the maximum bandwidth allowed for the rate-limited traffic.
- Source IP (optional)—Source host IP address of the rate-limited traffic.
- Source Port (optional)—Source host port of the rate-limited traffic.
- Destination IP (optional)—Destination host IP address of the rate-limited traffic.
- Destination Port (optional)—Destination host port of the rate-limited traffic.
- Use Additional Data—Lets you choose whether to specify more data, such as echo-reply, echo-request, or halfOpenSyn.
- Timeout—Lets you choose whether to enable timeout:
 - No Timeout—Timeout not enabled.
 - Enable Timeout—Lets you specify the timeout in minutes (1 to 70560).

Configuring and Managing Rate Limiting

To configure and manage rate limiting, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Rate Limits**, and then click **Add** to add a rate limit.
 - Step 3** From the Protocol drop-down list, choose the protocol (ICMP, TCP, or UDP) of the traffic you want rate limited.
 - Step 4** In the Rate field, enter the rate limit (1 to 100) percent.
 - Step 5** (Optional) In the Source IP field, enter the source IP address.
 - Step 6** (Optional) In the Source Port field, enter the source port.
 - Step 7** (Optional) In the Destination IP field, enter the destination IP address.
 - Step 8** (Optional) In the Destination Port field, enter the destination port.
 - Step 9** (Optional) To configure the rate limit to use additional data, check the **Use Additional Data** check box.
 - Step 10** From the Select Data drop-down list, choose the additional data (echo-reply, echo-request, or halfOpenSyn).
 - Step 11** Configure the timeout:
 - If you do not want to configure the rate limit for a specified amount of time, click the **No Timeout** radio button.
 - If you want to configure a timeout in minutes, click the **Enable Timeout** radio button, and in the Timeout field, enter the amount of time in minutes (1 to 70560).



Tip To discard your changes and close the Add Rate Limit dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 12** Click **Apply**. The new rate limit appears in the list in the Rate Limits pane.
- Step 13** Click **Refresh** to refresh the contents of the Rate Limits list.
- Step 14** To delete a rate limit, select a rate limit from the list, and click **Delete**. The Delete Rate Limit dialog box asks if you are sure you want to delete this rate limit.



Tip Click **No** to close the Delete Rate Limit dialog box.

- Step 15** Click **Yes** to delete the rate limit. The rate limit no longer appears in the rate limits list.

Configuring IP Logging

This section describes how to configure IP logging, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding IP Logging, page 18-12](#)
- [IP Logging Pane, page 18-13](#)
- [IP Logging Pane Field Definitions, page 18-13](#)
- [Add and Edit IP Logging Dialog Boxes Field Definitions, page 18-14](#)
- [Configuring IP Logging, page 18-14](#)

Understanding IP Logging

The simplest IP logging consists of an IP address. You can configure the sensor to capture all IP traffic associated with a host you specify by IP address. The sensor begins collecting as soon as it sees the first IP packet with this IP address and continues collecting depending on the parameters that you have set. You can specify in minutes how long you want the IP traffic to be logged at the IP address, and/or how many packets you want logged, and/or how many bytes you want logged. The sensor stops logging IP traffic at the first parameter you specify.

Log files are in one of three states:

- Added—When IP logging is added
- Started—When the sensor sees the first packet, the log file is opened and placed into the Started state.
- Completed—When the IP logging limit is reached.

The number of files in all three states is limited to 20. The IP logs are stored in a circular buffer that is never filled because new IP logs overwrite the old ones.



Note Logs remain on the sensor until the sensor reclaims them. You cannot manage IP log files on the sensor.

**Note**

IP logging allows a maximum limit of 20 concurrent IP log files. Once the limit of 20 is reached, you receive the following message in main.log: Cid/W errWarnIpLogProcessor::addIpLog: Ran out of file descriptors.

You can copy IP log files to an FTP or SCP server so that you can view them with a sniffing tool such as WireShark or TCPDUMP. The files are stored in PCAP binary form with the pcap file extension.

**Caution**

Turning on IP logging slows system performance.

IP Logging Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator or operator to configure IP logging.

The IP Logging pane displays all IP logs that are available for downloading on the system.

IP logs are generated in two ways:

- When you add IP logs in the Add IP Logging dialog box
- When you select one of the following as the event action for a signature:
 - Log Attacker Packets
 - Log Pair Packets
 - Log Victim Packets

When the sensor detects an attack based on this signature, it creates an IP log. The event alert that triggered the IP log appears in the IP logging table.

IP Logging Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the IP Logging pane:

- Log ID—ID of the IP log.
- Virtual Sensor—The virtual sensor the IP log is associated with.
- IP Address—IP address of the host for which the log is being captured.
- Status—Status of the IP log. Valid values are added, started, or completed.
- Start Time—Timestamp of the first captured packet.
- Current End Time—Timestamp of the last captured packet. There is no timestamp if the capture is not complete.
- Alert ID—ID of the event alert, if any, that triggered the IP log.
- Packets Captured—Current count of the packets captured.
- Bytes Captured—Current count of the bytes captured.

Add and Edit IP Logging Dialog Boxes Field Definitions

The following fields are found on the Add and Edit IP Logging dialog boxes:

- Virtual Sensor—Lets you choose the virtual sensor from which you want to capture IP logs.
- IP Address—IP address of the host for which the log is being captured.
- Maximum Values—Lets you set the values for IP logging.
- Duration—Maximum duration to capture packets. The range is 1 to 60 minutes. The default is 10 minutes.



Note

For the Edit IP Logging dialog box, the Duration field is the time that is extended once you apply the edit to IP logging.

- Packets (optional)—Maximum number of packets to capture. The range is 0 to 4294967295 packets.
- Bytes (optional)—Maximum number of bytes to capture. The range is 0 to 4294967295 bytes.

Configuring IP Logging

To log IP traffic for a particular host, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > IP Logging**, and then click **Add**.
- Step 3** From the Virtual Sensor drop-down list, choose for which virtual sensor you want to turn on IP logging.
- Step 4** In the IP Address field, enter the IP address of the host from which you want IP logs to be captured.
You receive an error message if a capture is being added that exists and is in the Added or Started state. In the Duration field, enter how many minutes you want IP logs to be captured. The range is 1 to 60 minutes. The default is 10 minutes.
- Step 5** (Optional) In the Packets field, enter how many packets you want to be captured. The range is 0 to 4294967295 packets.
- Step 6** (Optional) in the Bytes field, enter how many bytes you want to be captured. The range is 0 to 4294967295 packets.



Tip

To discard your changes, and close the Add IP Log dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 7** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration. The IP log with a log ID appears in the list in the IP Logging pane.
- Step 8** To edit an existing log entry in the list, select it, and click **Edit**.
- Step 9** In the Duration field, edit the minutes you want packets to be captured.
- Step 10** Click **Apply** to apply your changes and save the revised configuration. The edited IP log appears in the list in the IP Logging pane.
- Step 11** To stop IP logging, select the log ID for the log you want to stop, and click **Stop**.
- Step 12** Click **OK** to stop IP logging for that log.

- Step 13** To download an IP log, select the log ID, and click **Download**.
- Step 14** Save the log to your local machine. You can view it with WireShark.
-

Monitoring Anomaly Detection KBs

This section describes how to work with anomaly detection KBs, and contains the following topics:

- [Anomaly Detection Pane, page 18-15](#)
- [Understanding KBs, page 18-15](#)
- [Anomaly Detection Pane Field Definitions, page 18-16](#)
- [Showing Thresholds, page 18-17](#)
- [Comparing KBs, page 18-19](#)
- [Saving the Current KB, page 18-20](#)

Anomaly Detection Pane

**Note**

You must be administrator to monitor anomaly detection KBs.

The Anomaly Detection pane displays the KBs for all virtual sensors. In the Anomaly Detection pane, you can perform the following actions:

- Show thresholds of specific KBs
- Compare KBs
- Load a KB
- Make the KB the current KB
- Rename a KB
- Download a KB
- Upload a KB
- Delete a KB or all KBs

**Note**

The anomaly detection buttons are active if only one row in the list is selected, except for Compare KBs, which can have two rows selected. If any other number of rows is selected, none of the buttons is active.

Understanding KBs

The KB has a tree structure, and contains the following information:

- KB name
- Zone name

- Protocol
- Service

The KB holds a scanner threshold and a histogram for each service. If you have learning accept mode set to auto and the action set to rotate, a new KB is created every 24 hours and used in the next 24 hours. If you have learning accept mode set to auto and the action is set to save only, a new KB is created, but the current KB is used. If you do not have learning accept mode set to auto, no KB is created.

**Note**

Learning accept mode uses the sensor local time.

The scanner threshold defines the maximum number of zone IP addresses that a single source IP address can scan. The histogram threshold defines the maximum number of source IP addresses that can scan more than the specified numbers of zone IP addresses.

Anomaly detection identifies a worm attack when there is a deviation from the histogram that it has learned when no attack was in progress (that is, when the number of source IP addresses that concurrently scan more than the defined zone destination IP address is exceeded). For example, if the scanning threshold is 300 and the histogram for port 445, if anomaly detection identifies a scanner that scans 350 zone destination IP addresses, it produces an action indicating that a mass scanner was detected. However, this scanner does not yet verify that a worm attack is in progress. [Table 18-1](#) describes this example.

Table 18-1 *Example Histogram*

Number of source IP addresses	10	5	2
Number of destination IP addresses	5	20	100

When anomaly detection identifies six concurrent source IP addresses that scan more than 50 zone destination IP addresses on port 445, it produces an action with an unspecified source IP address that indicates anomaly detection has identified a worm attack on port 445. The dynamic filter threshold, 50, specifies the new internal scanning threshold and causes anomaly detection to lower the threshold definition of a scanner so that anomaly detection produces additional dynamic filters for each source IP address that scans more than the new scanning threshold (50).

You can override what the KB learned per anomaly detection policy and per zone. If you understand your network traffic, you may want to use overrides to limit false positives.

Anomaly Detection Pane Field Definitions

The following fields and buttons are found in the Anomaly Detection pane:

- Virtual Sensor—The virtual sensor that the KB belongs to.
- Knowledge Base Name—The name of the KB.

**Note**

By default, the KB is named by its date. The default name is the date and time (year-month-day-hour_minutes_seconds). The initial KB is the first KB, the one that has the default thresholds.

- Current—Yes indicates the currently loaded KB.

- Size—The size in KB of the KB. The range is usually less than 1 KB to 500-700 KB.
- Created—The date the KB was created.

Button Functions

- Show Thresholds—Opens the Thresholds window for the selected KB. In this window, you can view the scanner thresholds and histograms for the selected KB.
- Compare KBs—Opens the Compare Knowledge Bases dialog box. In this dialog box, you can choose which KB you want to compare to the selected KB. It opens the Differences between knowledge bases *KB name* and *KB name* window.
- Load—Loads the selected KB, which makes it the currently used KB.
- Save Current—Opens the Save Knowledge Base dialog box. In this dialog box, you can save a copy of the selected KB.
- Rename—Opens the Rename Knowledge Base dialog box. In this dialog box, you can rename the selected KB.
- Download—Opens the Download Knowledge Base From Sensor dialog box. In this dialog box, you can download a KB from a remote sensor.
- Upload—Opens the Upload Knowledge Base to Sensor dialog box. In this dialog box, you can upload a KB to a remote sensor.
- Delete—Deletes the selected KB.
- Refresh—Refreshes the Anomaly Detection pane.

Showing Thresholds

This section describes how to display KB threshold information, and contains the following topics:

- [Thresholds for KB_Name Window, page 18-17](#)
- [Thresholds for KB_Name Window Field Definitions, page 18-18](#)
- [Monitoring the KB Thresholds, page 18-18](#)

Thresholds for *KB_Name* Window

In the Thresholds for *KB_Name* window, the following threshold information is displayed for the selected KB:

- Zone name
- Protocol
- Learned scanner threshold
- User scanner threshold
- Learned histogram
- User histogram

You can filter the threshold information by zone, protocols, and ports. For each combination of zone and protocol, two thresholds are displayed: the Scanner Threshold and the Histogram threshold either for the learned (default) mode or the user-configurable mode.

Thresholds for *KB_Name* Window Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Thresholds for *KB_Name* window:

- Filters—Lets you filter the threshold information by zone or protocol:
 - Zones—Filter by all zones, external only, illegal only, or internal only.
 - Protocols—Filter by all protocols, TCP only, UDP only, or other only.



Note

If you choose a specific protocol, you can also filter on all ports or a single port (TCP and UDP), all protocols, or a single protocol (other).

- Zone—Lists the zone name (external, internal, or illegal).
- Protocol—Lists the protocol (TCP, UDP, or Other)
- Scanner Threshold (Learned)—Lists the learned value for the scanner threshold.
- Scanner Threshold (User)—Lists the user-configured value for the scanner threshold.
- Histogram (Learned)—Lists the learned value for the histogram.
- Histogram (User)—Lists the user-configured value for the histogram.

Monitoring the KB Thresholds

To monitor KB thresholds, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.
 - Step 3** To refresh the Anomaly Detection pane with the latest KB information, click **Refresh**.
 - Step 4** To display the thresholds for a KB, select the KB in the list and click **Show Thresholds**. The Thresholds for *KB_Name* window appears. The default display shows all zones and all protocols.
 - Step 5** To filter the display to show only one zone, choose the zone from the Zones drop-down list.
 - Step 6** To filter the display to show only one protocol, choose the protocol from the Protocols drop-down list. The default display shows all ports for the TCP or UDP protocol and all protocols for the Other protocol.
 - Step 7** To filter the display to show a single port for TCP or UDP, click the **Single Port** radio button and enter the port number in the Port field.
 - Step 8** To filter the display to show a single protocol for Other protocol, click the **Single Protocol** radio button and enter the protocol number in the Protocol field.
 - Step 9** To refresh the window with the latest threshold information, click **Refresh**.
-

Comparing KBs

This section describes how to compare KBs, and contains the following topics:

- [Compare Knowledge Bases Dialog Box](#), page 18-19
- [Differences between knowledge bases KB_Name and KB_Name Window](#), page 18-19
- [Difference Thresholds between knowledge bases KB_Name and KB_Name Window](#), page 18-19
- [Comparing KBs](#), page 18-20

Compare Knowledge Bases Dialog Box

You can compare two KBs and display the differences between them. You can also display services where the thresholds differ more than the specified percentage. The Details of Difference column shows in which KB certain ports or protocols appear, or how the threshold percentages differ.

Field Definitions

The following field is found in the Compare Knowledge Bases dialog box:

- Drop-down list containing all KBs

Differences between knowledge bases *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* Window

The Differences between knowledge base *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* window displays the following types of information:

- Zone
- Protocol
- Details of Difference

You can specify the percentage of the difference that you want to see. The default is 10%.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Differences between knowledge bases *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* window:

- Specify Percentage of Difference—Lets you change the default from 10% to show different percentages of differences.
- Zone—Displays the zone for the KB differences (internal, illegal, or external).
- Protocol—Displays the protocol for the KB differences (TCP, UDP, or Other).
- Details of Difference—Displays the details of difference in the second KB.

Difference Thresholds between knowledge bases *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* Window

The Difference Thresholds between knowledge base *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* window displays the following types of information:

- Knowledge base name
- Zone name
- Protocol

- Scanner threshold (learned and user-configured)
- Histogram (learned and user-configured)

Field Definitions

The Difference Thresholds between knowledge base *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* window displays the following types of information:

- Knowledge Base—Displays the KB name.
- Zone—Displays the name of the zone (internal, illegal, or external).
- Protocol—Displays the protocol (TCP, UDP, or Other).
- Scanner Threshold (Learned)—Lists the learned value for the scanner threshold.
- Scanner Threshold (User)—Lists the user-configured value for the scanner threshold.
- Histogram (Learned)—Lists the learned value for the histogram.
- Histogram (User)—Lists the user-configured value for the histogram.

Comparing KBs

To compare two KBs, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.
- Step 3** To refresh the Anomaly Detection pane with the most recent KB information, click **Refresh**.
- Step 4** Select one KB in the list that you want to compare and click **Compare KBs**.
- Step 5** From the drop-down list, choose the other KB you want in the comparison.



Note Or you can choose KBs in the list by holding the **Ctrl** key and selecting two KBs.

- Step 6** Click **OK**. The Differences between knowledge bases *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* window appears.



Note If there are no differences between the two KBs, the list is empty.

- Step 7** To change the percentage of difference from the default of 10%, enter a new value in the Specify Percentage of Difference field.
- Step 8** To view more details of the difference, select the row and then click **Details**. The Difference Thresholds between knowledge bases *KB_Name* and *KB_Name* window appears displaying the details.
-

Saving the Current KB

This section describes how to work with KBs, and contains the following topics:

- [Save Knowledge Base Dialog Box, page 18-21](#)
- [Loading a KB, page 18-21](#)

- [Saving a KB, page 18-21](#)
- [Deleting a KB, page 18-22](#)
- [Renaming a KB, page 18-22](#)
- [Downloading a KB, page 18-23](#)
- [Uploading a KB, page 18-24](#)

Save Knowledge Base Dialog Box

You can save a KB under a different name. An error is generated if anomaly detection is not active when you try to save the KB. If the KB name already exists, whether you chose a new name or use the default, the old KB is overwritten. Also, the size of KB files is limited, so if a new KB is generated and the limit is reached, the oldest KB (as long as it is not the current or initial KB) is deleted.



Note

You cannot overwrite the initial KB.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Save Knowledge Base dialog box:

- **Virtual Sensor**—Lets you choose the virtual sensor for the saved KB.
- **Save As**—Lets you accept the default name or enter a new name for the saved KB.

Loading a KB



Note

Loading a KB sets it as the current KB.

To load a KB, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.
- Step 3** Select the KB in the list that you want to load and click **Load**. The Load Knowledge Base dialog box appears asking if you are sure you want to load the knowledge base.
- Step 4** Click **Yes**. The Current column now reads Yes for this KB.

Saving a KB

To save a KB with a new KB and virtual sensor, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.
- Step 3** Select the KB in the list that you want to save as a new KB and click **Save Current**.
- Step 4** From the Virtual Sensor drop-down list, choose the virtual sensor you want this KB to apply to.

Step 5 In the Save As field, either accept the default name, or enter a new name for the KB.



Tip To discard your changes and close the Save Knowledge Base dialog box, click **Cancel**.

Step 6 Click **Apply**. The KB with the new name appears in the list in the Anomaly Detection pane.

Deleting a KB



Note You cannot delete the KB that is loaded as the current KB, nor can you delete the initial KB.

To delete a KB, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.

Step 3 Select the KB in the list that you want to delete and click **Delete**. The Delete Knowledge Base dialog box appears asking if you are sure you want to delete the knowledge base.

Step 4 Click **Yes**. The KB no longer appears in the list in the Anomaly Detection pane.

Renaming a KB



Note You cannot rename the initial KB.

To rename a KB, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.

Step 3 Select the KB in the list that you want to rename and click **Rename**.

Step 4 In the New Name field, enter the new name for the KB.

Step 5 Click **Apply**. The newly named KB appears in the list in the Anomaly Detection pane.

Downloading a KB

You can download a KB to a remote location using FTP or SCP protocol. You must have the remote URL, username, and password.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Download Knowledge Base From Sensor dialog box.

- File Transfer Protocol—Lets you choose SCP or FTP as the file transfer protocol.
- IP address—The IP address of the remote sensor you are downloading the KB from.
- Directory—The path where the KB resides on the remote sensor.
- File Name—The filename of the KB.
- Username—The username corresponding to the user account on the remote sensor.
- Password—The password for the user account on the remote sensor.

Downloading a KB

To download a KB from a sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.
 - Step 3** To download a KB from a sensor, click **Download**.
 - Step 4** From the File Transfer Protocol drop-down list, choose the protocol you want to use (SCP or FTP).
 - Step 5** In the IP address field, enter the IP address of the sensor you are downloading the KB from.
 - Step 6** In the Directory field, enter the path where the KB resides on the sensor.
 - Step 7** In the File Name field, enter the filename of the KB.
 - Step 8** In the Username field, enter the username corresponding to the user account on the sensor.
 - Step 9** In the Password field, enter the password for the user account on the sensor.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 10** Click **Apply**. The new KB appears in the list in the Anomaly Detection pane.
-

Uploading a KB

You can upload a KB from a remote location using FTP or SCP protocol. You must have the remote URL, username, and password.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Upload Knowledge Base to Sensor dialog box:

- File Transfer Protocol—Lets you choose SCP or FTP as the file transfer protocol.
- IP address—The IP address of the remote sensor you are uploading the KB to.
- Directory—The path where the KB resides on the sensor.

- File Name—The filename of the KB.
- Virtual Sensor—The virtual sensor you want to associate this KB with.
- Save As—Lets you save the KB as a new file name.
- Username—The username corresponding to the user account on the sensor.
- Password—The password for the user account on the sensor.

Uploading a KB

To upload a KB to a sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > Anomaly Detection**.
- Step 3** To upload a KB to a sensor, click **Upload**.
- Step 4** From the File Transfer Protocol drop-down list, choose the protocol you want to use (SCP or FTP).
- Step 5** In the IP address field, enter the IP address of the sensor to which you are downloading the KB.
- Step 6** In the Directory field, enter the path where the KB resides on the sensor.
- Step 7** In the File Name field, enter the filename of the KB.
- Step 8** From the Virtual Sensor drop-down list, choose the virtual sensor to which you want this KB to apply.
- Step 9** In the Save As field, enter the name of the new KB.
- Step 10** In the Username field, enter the username corresponding to the user account on the sensor.
- Step 11** In the Password field, enter the password for the user account on the sensor.



Tip To discard your changes and close the dialog box, click **Cancel**.

- Step 12** Click **Apply**. The new KB appears in the list in the Anomaly Detection pane.
-

Working With OS Identifications

The Learned OS and Imported OS panes display the OS mappings for the sensor. This section describes how to display learned OS and imported OS mappings for the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Displaying and Clearing Learned OS Values, page 18-24](#)
- [Displaying and Clearing Imported OS Values, page 18-25](#)

Displaying and Clearing Learned OS Values



Note

You must administrator or operator to clear the list or delete entries in the Learned OS pane.

The Learned OS pane displays the learned OS mappings that the sensor has learned from observing traffic on the network. The sensor inspects TCP session negotiations to determine the OS running on each host.

To clear the list or delete one entry, select the row and click **Delete**. Click **Refresh** to update the list. Click **Export** to export currently displayed learned OSes in the table to a comma-separated Excel file (using CSV) or HTML file. You can also use **Ctrl-C** to copy the contents in to a clipboard and later paste in to Notepad or Word using **Ctrl-V**.

**Note**

If passive OS fingerprinting is still enabled and hosts are still communicating on the network, the learned OS mappings are immediately repopulated.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Learned OS Pane:

- Virtual Sensor—The virtual sensor that the OS value is associated with.
- Host IP Address—The IP address the OS value is mapped to.
- OS Type—The OS type associated with the IP address.

Deleting Values and Clearing the Learned OS List

To delete a learned OS value or to clear the entire list, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > OS Identifications > Learned OS**.
- Step 3** To delete one entry in the list, select it, and click **Delete**. The learned OS value no longer appears in the list on the Learned OS pane.
- Step 4** To get the most recent list of learned OS values, click **Refresh**. The learned OS list is refreshed.
- Step 5** To clear all learned OS values, click **Clear List**. The learned OS list is now empty.
- Step 6** To save the learned OS list to CSV and HTML formats, click **Export**. You can also use **Ctrl-C** to copy the contents of the Learned OS pane and then use **Ctrl-V** to copy the contents in a NotePad or Word

Displaying and Clearing Imported OS Values

**Note**

You must administrator or operator to clear the list or delete entries in the Imported OS pane.

The Imported OS pane displays the OS mappings that the sensor has imported from CSA MC if you have CSA MC set up as an external interface product. Choose **Configuration > External Product Interfaces** to add an external product interface. To clear the list or delete one entry, select the row, and then click **Delete**.

Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Imported OS Pane:

- Host IP Address—The IP address the OS value is mapped to.
- OS Type—The OS type associated with the IP address.

Deleting Values and Clearing the Imported OS List

To delete an imported OS value or to clear the entire list, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Dynamic Data > OS Identifications > Imported OS**.
- Step 3** To delete one entry in the list, select it, and click **Delete**. The imported OS value no longer appears in the list on the Imported OS pane.
- Step 4** To clear all imported OS values, click **Clear List**. The imported OS list is now empty.
- Step 5** To update the pane with current imported OS values, click **Refresh**.
-

Clearing Flow States

This section describes how to clear sensor databases, and contains the following topics:

- [Clear Flow States Pane, page 18-26](#)
- [Clear Flow States Pane Field Definitions, page 18-27](#)
- [Clearing Flow States, page 18-27](#)

Clear Flow States Pane

The Clear Flow States pane lets you clear the database of some or all of its contents, for example, the nodes, alerts, or inspectors databases. If you do not provide the virtual sensor name, all virtual sensor databases are cleared.

Clearing the nodes in the database causes the sensor to start fresh as if from a restart. All open TCP stream information is deleted and new TCP stream nodes are created as new packets are received.

When you clear the inspectors database, the TCP and state information is retained, but all inspection records that might lead to a future alert are deleted. New inspection records are created as new packets are retrieved.

When you clear the alerts database, the alerts database is cleared entirely.

**Caution**

Clearing the alerts database deletes any summary alerts in progress, which prevents a final summary alert. We recommend that you only clear the alerts database for troubleshooting purposes.

Clear Flow States Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Clear Flow States pane:

- **Clear Nodes**—Clears the overall packet database elements, including the packet nodes, TCP session information, and inspector lists.
- **Clear Inspectors**—Clears inspector lists contained within the nodes.
Does not clear TCP session information or nodes. Inspector lists represent the packet work and observations collected during the sensor up time.
- **Clear Alerts (not recommended)**—Clears the alerts database, including the alerts nodes, Meta inspector information, summary state, and event count structures.



Caution

Clearing the alerts database deletes any summary alerts in progress, which prevents a final summary alert. We recommend that you only clear the alerts database for troubleshooting purposes.

- **Clear All**—Clears all of the virtual sensor databases.
- **Specify a Single Virtual Sensor (otherwise all virtual sensors will be cleared)**—Lets you clear the database of a specific virtual sensor.

Clearing Flow States

To clear flow states, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Properties > Clear Flow States**.
- Step 3** Click the radio buttons of the values you want to clear:
 - Clear Nodes
 - Clear Inspectors
 - Clear Alerts (not recommended)
 - Clear All



Caution

Clearing the alerts database deletes any summary alerts in progress, which prevents a final summary alert. We recommend that you only clear the alerts database for troubleshooting purposes.

- Step 4** To clear the flow state of one virtual sensor, check the **Specify a Single Virtual Sensor (otherwise all virtual sensors will be cleared)** check box.
- Step 5** Click **Clear Flow State Now**.

Resetting Network Security Health

**Note**

You must be administrator to reset network security health.

The Reset Network Security Health pane lets you reset the status and calculation of network security health. This clears the Network Security Health gadget on the Home page. If you do not provide the virtual sensor name, all virtual sensor network security health information is cleared.

Field Definitions

The following field is found in the Reset Network Security Health pane:

- Specify a Single Virtual Sensor (otherwise network security for all virtual sensors will be reset)—Lets you clear the network security data for a specific virtual sensor.

Resetting Network Security Health Data

To reset network security health data, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Properties > Reset Network Security Health**.
- Step 3** To reset the network security health of one virtual sensor, check the **Specify a Single Virtual Sensor (otherwise network security for all virtual sensors will be reset)** check box. To reset the data for all virtual sensors, go to Step 5.
- Step 4** From the drop-down list, select the virtual sensor for which you want to clear network security health data.
- Step 5** Click **Reset Network Security Health Now**. The data in the Network Security Health gadget on the Home page is cleared.

**Note**

To change the threat thresholds displayed in the Network Security gadget, choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Event Action Rules > rules0 > Risk Category**.

For More Information

- For more information on the Sensor Health gadget and network security health, see [Sensor Health Gadget, page 3-4](#).
- For the procedure for setting up criteria for network security health, see [Configuring Sensor Health, page 17-15](#).
- For the procedure for configuring risk categories, see [Configuring Risk Category, page 11-27](#).

Generating a Diagnostics Report

**Note**

You must be administrator to run diagnostics.

You can obtain diagnostics information on your sensors for troubleshooting purposes. The diagnostics report contains internal system information, such as logs, status, configuration, and so forth, that is intended for TAC to use when troubleshooting the sensor. You can view the report in the Diagnostics Report pane or you can click **Save** and save it to the hard-disk drive.

**Note**

Generating a diagnostics report can take a few minutes.

Button Definitions

The following buttons are found in the Diagnostics Report pane:

- **Save**—Opens the Save As dialog box so you can save a copy of the diagnostics report to your hard-disk drive.
- **Generate Report**—Starts the diagnostics process.

This process can take several minutes to complete. After the process is complete, a report is generated and the display is refreshed with the updated report.

Generating a Diagnostics Report

To run diagnostics, follow these steps:

**Caution**

After you start the diagnostics process, do not click any other options in IME or leave the Diagnostics pane. This process must be completed before you can perform any other tasks for the sensor.

Step 1 Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Diagnostics Report**, and then click **Generate Report**.

**Note**

The diagnostics process can take some time to complete. When the process has finished running, the display is refreshed with the updated results.

Step 3 To save this report as a file, click **Save**. The **Save As** dialog box opens and you can save the report to your hard-disk drive.

Viewing Statistics

The Statistics pane shows statistics for the following categories:

- Analysis Engine
- Anomaly Detection
- External Product Interface
- Host
- Interface Configuration
- Logger

- Network Access Controller (now known as Attack Response Controller)
- Notification
- OS Identification
- Transaction Server
- Virtual Sensor
- Web Server

Button Definitions

The following button is found in the Statistics pane:

- Refresh—Displays the most recent information about the sensor applications, including the Web Server, Transaction Source, Transaction Server, Network Access Controller, Logger, Host, Event Store, Event Server, Analysis Engine, Interface Configuration, and Authentication.



Note

Network Access Controller, now known as Attack Response Controller beginning with Cisco IPS 5.1, is still listed as Network Access Controller in the statistics output.

Viewing Statistics

To show statistics for your sensor, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
 - Step 2** Choose **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Statistics**.
 - Step 3** To update statistics as they change, click **Refresh**.
-

Viewing System Information

The System Information pane displays the following information:

- TAC contact information
- Platform information
- Booted partition
- Software version
- Status of applications
- Upgrades installed
- PEP information
- Memory usage
- Disk usage

Button Definitions

The following button is found on the System Information pane:

- **Refresh**—Displays the most recent information about the sensor, including the software version and PEP information.

Viewing System Information

To view system information, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to IME using an account with administrator or operator privileges.
- Step 2** Choose **Configuration > *sensor_name* > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > System Information**. The System Information pane displays information about the system.
- Step 3** Click **Refresh**. The pane refreshes and displays new information.
-



CHAPTER 19

Configuring Event Monitoring

This chapter describes IME event monitoring and how to configure it. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Event Monitoring, page 19-1](#)
- [Understanding Grouping and Color Rules, page 19-2](#)
- [Understanding Filters, page 19-2](#)
- [Filter Pane Field Definitions, page 19-3](#)
- [Working With Event Views, page 19-4](#)
- [Working With a Single Event, page 19-4](#)
- [Configuring Filters for Event Views, page 19-6](#)

Understanding Event Monitoring

The Event Viewer contains views—a window of events either in real time or historical time (events stored in the database). IME contains predefined views and you can also create your own views. You cannot delete or save changes to the predefined views. The left-hand side of the Event Monitoring window is a view tree, and the right-hand side contains the view.

The Event Viewer pane consists of three parts:

- **Settings tab**—You can specify what events and how you want to see events. You can specify filters, grouping, or coloring.
You can use color so that certain specific data stand out. For example, if you are looking for events from a certain attacker IP address, you can highlight the events with the severity level as high and then apply a certain color to those event
- **Events table**—Displays the events. You can interface with events by selecting a row and then performing various actions using the toolbar or the right-click menu.
- **Event Details**—Select a single row in the Events table and the details for that event are displayed in the Event Details section of the pane.

You can create filters based on a variety of criteria so that only the information you want to see is shown in your view. You can group events in single levels or columns, or according to the following criteria:

- None
- Severity
- Attacker IP address

- Victim IP address
- Signature ID
- Signature Name
- Threat rating
- Risk rating
- Device

Understanding Grouping and Color Rules

Grouping lets you group events based on the attributes of an event. Up to four levels of nested grouping are allowed. For example, you can group on severity, then on Attacker IP address, and so forth.

Color rules let you select events based on specific criteria and then apply different background and foreground colors to those events. The selection criteria is the same as that for creating filters. You must apply the colors from top to bottom. At the first match, the color rule is applied.

Understanding Filters

You can configure filtering properties for specific views in IME, thus allowing you to view only the events you want to see. If you do not apply filters to events, you see all events; otherwise, with a filter applied, you see only the events that match the criteria specified in the filter.

For example, if you are interested in all events that have high severity, you can create a filter with the **High** check box checked in the Severity section of the filter. This filter will then show only events that have a high severity.

You can use predefined filters or add new ones. You cannot edit or delete the predefined filters. You can enter comma-separated values in each field. Each field supports single entries, ranges, and NOT operations. For example, the attacker IP address supports the following formats:

- 10.1.1.1,10.1.1.5
- 10.1.1.1-10.1.1.15
- ! 10.1.1.1

Using filters, you can run queries, such as the following:

- Show events with attacker IP 10.1.1.1 or 10.1.1.5 and Sig ID 5042
- Show events with risk rating 75-100 and attacker IP address 192.2.3.3

Risk rating, threat rating, and destination port fields support the following formats:

- =
- !=
- >
- >=
- <
- <=

- in the range
- not in the range

The Manage Filters dialog box displays these filter definitions.

Filter Pane Field Definitions

The following fields are found in the Filter pane:

- **Filter Name**—Lets you name this filter.
- **Attacker IP**—Attacker IP address you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *ip_address*, *ip_address_range*, for example, 10.0.0.1, !10.0.0.1, !10.1.1.1.
- **Victim IP**—Victim IP address you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *ip_address*, *ip_address_range*, for example, 10.0.0.1, !10.0.0.1, !10.1.1.1.
- **Signature Name/ID**—Signature Name/ID you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *signature_name* or *signature_id* or *signature_id/subsig_id* or *signature_id_range*, for example:
 - no_checkpoint
 - no_checkpoint, 3320
 - no_checkpoint, 3320/1
 - 3300-400
- **Victim Port**—Victim port you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *number*, *number_range*, for example >=80, 70-100, <90, !100.
- **Severity**—Severity levels you want to include in this filter.
- **Risk Rating**—Risk rating you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *number*, *number_range*, for example >=80, 70-100, <90, !100.
- **Threat Rating**—Threat rating you want to include in this filter.
The valid values are *number*, *number_range*, for example >=80, 70-100, <90, !100.
- **Action(s) Taken**—Lets you choose which actions the filter looks for in the alerts.
The actions are a string that you can chose or you can enter free format strings.
- **Sensor Name(s)**—Lets you assign which sensors are included in this filter.
- **Virtual Sensor**—Lets you assign which virtual sensors are included in this filter.
- **Status**—Lets you assign a status to this filter (All, New Assigned, Closed, Detected, Acknowledged).
The Status field is useful, for example, in a situation where you want to save analysis of certain events for later. You can add a note and change the status to 'Acknowledged,' and then later you can filter by status to see all cases that are acknowledged and then do further analysis.
- **Victim Locality**—An alert attribute in the participants/address alert on which you can filter. It is defined in the event action rules variables.

Working With Event Views

To work with event views, follow these steps:

Step 1 Choose **Event Monitoring > Event Monitoring > Event Views**.

There are three predefined views: Basic View, Grouped By Severity View, and Real-Time Colored View. The events appear in the lower half of the View pane.

Step 2 To create a view, click **New**.

Step 3 In the New View dialog box, enter a name for the view in the Name field, and then click **OK**.

The new view now appears in the left part of the pane under My Views.

You can work with a single event and apply and create filters for your view.

For More Information

- For the procedure for working with a single event, see [Working With a Single Event, page 19-4](#).
- For the procedure for applying and creating filters for your view, see [Configuring Filters for Event Views, page 19-6](#).

Working With a Single Event

To work with a single event, follow these steps:

Step 1 Chose **Event Monitoring > Event Monitoring > Event Views > Basic View**.

Step 2 Configure the time period from which you want to gather events.

Step 3 To work with a single event, select the event in the list, and then click **Event** on the toolbar.

From the Event drop-down list, you can view the following information (it also appears in the lower half of the window under Event Details displayed in tab form):

- Summary—Summarizes all of the information about that event.
- Explanation—Provides the description and related signature information about the signature associated with this event.
- Related Threats—Provides the related threats with a link to more detailed information in MySDN.
- Trigger Packet—Displays information about the packet that triggered the event.
- Context Data—Displays the packet context information.
- Actions Taken—Lists which event actions were deployed.
- Notes—Lets you take action on this event by assigning a designation for it (New, Assigned, Acknowledged, Closed, or Deleted). Add any notes in the Notes field and click **Save Note** to save it.

Step 4 To print the details of this event, click **Show All Details** to display the event details in a printer-friendly window.

- Step 5** To add an attribute from a selected event, from the Filter drop-down menu, click **Add to Filter > Attacker IP/Victim IP/Signature ID**.
- The Filter tabs appear in the upper half of the window.
- Step 6** To create a filter from this event, from the Filter drop-down menu, click **Create a Filter**.
- Step 7** To edit the signature associated with this event, click **Edit Signature**.
- This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > Signature Definitions > sig0 > Active Signatures** where you can edit the signature.
- Step 8** To create an event action rules filter from this event, click **Create Rule**.
- This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Policies > IPS Policies > Add Event Action Filter** where you can add the event action rules filter.
- Step 9** To stop the attacker, from the Stop Attacker drop-down menu, choose one of the following options:
- Using Inline Deny
This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Denied Attackers > Add Denied Attacker**.
 - Using Block on another device
This takes you to **Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Host Blocks > Add Host Block**.
- Step 10** To use ping, traceroute, DNS, and whois on the IP addresses involved in this event, choose them from the Tools drop-down menu.
- Step 11** To save, delete, or copy the event, from the Other drop-down list, choose the action you want to perform.
- Step 12** To save any changes that you have made to the view, click **Apply**. To discard any changes, click **Reset**.
-

For More Information

- For the procedure for adding filters, see [Configuring Filters for Event Views](#), page 19-6.
- For the procedure for adding an event action rules filter, see [Configuring Event Action Filters](#), page 11-15.
- For the procedure for adding a denied attacker, see [Configuring and Monitoring Denied Attackers](#), page 18-4.
- For the procedure for adding a host block, see [Configuring Host Blocks](#), page 18-5.
- For more information on these tools, see [Using Tools for Devices](#), page 2-5.

Configuring Filters for Event Views

To configure filters, follow these steps:

Step 1 Chose **Event Monitoring** and then click **New**.



Tip To select more than one item in the list, hold down the **Ctrl** key.

Step 2 In the New View dialog box, enter the name of the new view.

The new view appears under My Views in the View tree.

Step 3 Click **View Settings > Filter**.

Step 4 From the Filter Name drop-down menu, choose the filter name for this filter, or click the **Note** icon and then click **Add** to add a new filter:

- a. In the Filter Name field, enter a name for this filter.
- b. In the Attacker IP field, enter an attacker IP address, or click the **Note** icon and add a unique IP address or a range of IP addresses, and then click **OK**.
- c. In the Victim IP field, enter a victim IP address, or click the **Note** icon and add a unique IP address or a range of IP addresses, and then click **OK**.
- d. In the Signature Name/ID field, enter a signature name or ID, or click the **Note** icon, and then choose a signature type, and click **OK**.
- e. In the Victim Port field, enter a victim port, or click the **Note** icon and enter a victim port that meets the conditions you require, and then click **OK**.
- f. Choose the severity levels you want for this filter.
- g. In the Risk Rating field, enter the risk rating for this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and then enter the risk rating that meets the conditions you require, and click **OK**.
- h. In the Threat Rating field, enter the threat rating for this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and then enter the threat rating that meets the conditions you require, and click **OK**.
- i. In the Actions Taken field, enter the actions you want to trigger this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and then check the check boxes of the actions that you want to trigger this filter, and click **OK**.
- j. In the Sensor Name(s) field, enter the names of the sensors that are affected by this filter, or click the **Note** icon, and check the check boxes of the sensor to which this filter applies and click **OK**.
- k. In the Virtual Sensor field, enter the virtual sensor to which this filter applies.
- l. From the Status drop-down menu, choose on which status you want to filter.
- m. In the Victim Locality field, enter the name of any event action rules variable that you created on which you want to filter.

Step 5 To configure grouping, click the **Group By** tab:

- n. Check the **Group events based on the following criteria** check box, and then set up the hierarchy of how you want to group the events by selecting the category from the drop-down menus.
- o. Under Grouping Preferences, you can check the check boxes of the **Single Level**, **Show Group Columns**, or **Show Count Columns** check boxes.

You can only show count columns if you enable Show Group Columns.

Step 6 To add color rules, click the **Color Rules** tab, and then click **Add**.

- a. In the Filter Name field, enter a name for this color rules filter.
- b. Check the **Enable** check box.



Note If you do not check the **Enable** check box, your color rules filter will not go in to effect.

- c. Under Packet Parameters, enter the IP addresses, signature names and/or victim ports for which you want this color rules filter to apply.
- d. Under Rating and Action Parameters, enter the severity, risk rating, threat rating, and actions for which you want this color rules filter to apply.
- e. Under Other Parameters, enter the sensor name, virtual sensor name, status, and/or victim locality for which you want this color rules filter to apply.
- f. Under Color Parameters, choose the foreground and background colors, and the font type for this color rules filter, and then click **OK**.



Tip For aid in entering the correctly formatted values for these fields, click the **Note** icon.

Step 7 To event fields and their order, click the **Fields** tab, and then click **Add >>**, **<< Remove**, **Move Up**, and **Move Down** to chose which fields you want to display and to arrange the fields in the order in which you want to see them.

Step 8 Click the **General** tab, and then in the View Description field enter a description for your view.

Step 9 Click **Save As** to create the new view, and then in the Name field, enter a name for your view.
The settings are copied to the new view.

Step 10 Click **Save** to save any changes to the view.

Your filter now appears in the Filter Name drop-down menu.

Step 11 To save any changes that you have made to the view, click **Apply**. To discard any changes, click **Reset**.



CHAPTER 20

Configuring and Generating Reports

This chapter describes IME reports and how to configure and generate them. It contains the following topics:

- [Understanding IME Reporting, page 20-1](#)
- [Configuring and Generating Reports, page 20-1](#)

Understanding IME Reporting

IME lets you create different reports that you can customize using different filters. A report consists of a window with a bar or pie chart along with the tabular data used for the graphs. There are four types:

- **Top Attacker**—Shows top attacker IP addresses for a specified time. You specify the top number of attacker IP addresses.
- **Top Victim**—Shows top victim IP addresses for a specified time. You specify the top number of victim IP addresses.
- **Top Signature**—Shows top signatures fired for a specified time. You specify the top number of signatures.
- **Attacks Over Time**—Shows the attacks over a specified time.

These reports show the number of top attackers, victims, signatures matched, and total attacks during a specific time period. There are also user-defined reports and demo reports that are predefined examples of reports.

The Reports window is divided into two parts: the left-hand pane, the Report tree, shows the reports list in the form of a tree, and the right-hand pane, the Report Settings pane, contains the report. The Report tree contains a set of predefined reports, such as Basic Top Attacker, and a user-defined report under the My Reports node. When you select a report in the list and click **Generate Report**, the corresponding report containing a graph and a table is displayed in the lower half of the Report Settings pane. The Reports Setting pane contains two tabs, General and Filter, which let you customize the report.

Configuring and Generating Reports

You can customize your report by configuring the number of items you want in your report and what the time interval should be. You can also use DNS to resolve the IP addresses. You can also use filters to further refine the type of information you want your report to contain.

To configure and generate reports, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** In the Report tree, click **New**, and then in the New Report dialog box, enter the name of the new report, choose the type of report from the drop-down list, and then click **OK**.
- Your new report shows up under My Reports in the Report tree.
- Step 2** Select your report, and on the **General** tab, configure the settings for your report:
- In the Report Description field, enter a description for this report.
 - In the Top field, enter how many top events you want to see in this report.
 - Check the **Resolve Addresses Using DNS** check box, if you want to use DNS address resolution.
 - Configure the time interval for this report, either the duration or enter a custom time.
- Step 3** On the **Filter** tab, from the Filter Name drop-down menu, choose the filter name, or to add a filter, click the **Note** icon.
- Step 4** Click **Generate Report**.
- Your report shows up in the bottom half of the Report Settings pane, displaying the statistics in graph and table form.
- Step 5** To customize the display, choose Bar or Pie Chart in the **Display Type** drop-down menu.
- Step 6** Click **Print** to print the report, or click **Save** to save the report in PDF or RFT format to your hard-disk drive.
- Step 7** To see events for a single IP address, choose the IP address from the Events for drop-down list.
-

For More Information

- For the procedure for creating a filter, see [Manage Filter Rules Dialog Box Field Definitions, page 3-14](#).
- For the procedure for configuring events for single IP addresses, see [Working With a Single Event for Individual Top Attacker and Victim IP Addresses, page 3-12](#).
- For the procedure for configuring events for single signatures, see [Working With a Single Event for a Top Signature, page 3-13](#).



CHAPTER 21

Initializing the Sensor

This chapter describes how to use the **setup** command to initialize the sensor, and contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Initialization, page 21-1](#)
- [Simplified Setup Mode, page 21-1](#)
- [System Configuration Dialog, page 21-2](#)
- [Basic Sensor Setup, page 21-3](#)
- [Advanced Setup, page 21-6](#)
- [Verifying Initialization, page 21-27](#)

Understanding Initialization

Before configuring IDM, you must initialize the sensor.

After you install the sensor on your network, you must use the **setup** command to initialize it so that you can communicate with it over the network. With the **setup** command, you configure basic sensor settings, including the hostname, IP interfaces, access control lists, and time settings. You can continue using Advanced Setup in the CLI to enable Telnet, configure the Web server, and assign and enable virtual sensors and interfaces, or you can use the Startup Wizard in IME.



Note

You must be administrator to use the **setup** command.

Simplified Setup Mode

The sensor automatically calls the **setup** command when you connect to the sensor using a console cable and the sensor basic network settings have not yet been configured. The sensor does not call automatic setup under the following conditions:

- When initialization has already been successfully completed.
- If you have recovered or downgraded the sensor.
- If you have set the host configuration to default after successfully configuring the sensor using automatic setup.

When you enter the **setup** command, an interactive dialog called the System Configuration Dialog appears on the system console screen. The System Configuration Dialog guides you through the configuration process. The values shown in brackets next to each prompt are the default values last set.

System Configuration Dialog

When you enter the **setup** command, an interactive dialog called the System Configuration Dialog appears on the system console screen. The System Configuration Dialog guides you through the configuration process.

The values shown in brackets next to each prompt are the current values.

You must go through the entire System Configuration Dialog until you come to the option that you want to change. To accept default settings for items that you do not want to change, press **Enter**.

To return to the EXEC prompt without making changes and without going through the entire System Configuration Dialog, press **Ctrl-C**.

The System Configuration Dialog also provides help text for each prompt. To access the help text, enter **?** at a prompt.

When you complete your changes, the System Configuration Dialog shows you the configuration that you created during the setup session. It also asks you if you want to use this configuration. If you enter **yes**, the configuration is saved. If you enter **no**, the configuration is not saved and the process begins again. There is no default for this prompt; you must enter either **yes** or **no**.

You can configure daylight savings time either in recurring mode or date mode. If you choose recurring mode, the start and end days are based on week, day, month, and time. If you choose date mode, the start and end days are based on month, day, year, and time. Choosing disable turns off daylight savings time.



Note

You only need to set the date and time in the System Configuration Dialog if the system is an appliance and is NOT using NTP.



Note

The System Configuration Dialog is an interactive dialog. The default settings are displayed.

[Example 21-1](#) shows a sample System Configuration Dialog.

Example 21-1 Example System Configuration Dialog

```
--- Basic Setup ---

--- System Configuration Dialog ---
```

At any point you may enter a question mark '?' for help.
User ctrl-c to abort configuration dialog at any prompt.
Default settings are in square brackets '[]'.

```
Current time: Thu Mar  6 21:19:51 2008
```

```
Setup Configuration last modified:
```

```
Enter host name[sensor]:
Enter IP interface[192.168.1.2/24,192.168.1.1]:
```

```

Modify current access list?[no]:
Current access list entries:
  No entries
Permit:
Permit:
Modify system clock settings?[no]:
  Modify summer time settings?[no]:
    Use USA SummerTime Defaults?[yes]:
    Recurring, Date or Disable?[Recurring]:
    Start Month[march]:
    Start Week[second]:
    Start Day[sunday]:
    Start Time[02:00:00]:
    End Month[november]:
    End Week[first]:
    End Day[sunday]:
    End Time[02:00:00]:
    DST Zone[]:
    Offset[60]:
  Modify system timezone?[no]:
    Timezone[UTC]:
    UTC Offset[0]:
  Use NTP?[no]: yes
  NTP Server IP Address[]:
  Use NTP Authentication?[no]: yes
    NTP Key ID[]: 1
    NTP Key Value[]: 8675309

```

Basic Sensor Setup

You can perform basic sensor setup using the **setup** command, and then finish setting up the sensor using the CLI, IDM, or IME.

To perform basic sensor setup using the **setup** command, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the sensor using an account with administrator privileges.



Note Both the default username and password are **cisco**.

- Step 2** The first time you log in to the sensor you are prompted to change the default password. Passwords must be at least eight characters long and be strong, that is, not be a dictionary word. After you change the password, basic setup begins.
- Step 3** Enter the **setup** command.
The System Configuration Dialog is displayed.
- Step 4** Specify the hostname.
The hostname is a case-sensitive character string up to 64 characters. Numbers, “_” and “-” are valid, but spaces are not acceptable. The default is sensor.
- Step 5** Specify the IP interface.

The IP interface is in the form of IP Address/Netmask, Gateway: *X.X.X.X/nn,Y.Y.Y.Y*, where *X.X.X.X* specifies the sensor IP address as a 32-bit address written as 4 octets separated by periods, *nn* specifies the number of bits in the netmask, and *Y.Y.Y.Y* specifies the default gateway as a 32-bit address written as 4 octets separated by periods.

Step 6 Enter **yes** to modify the network access list.

- a. To delete an entry, enter the number of the entry and press **Enter**, or press **Enter** to get to the Permit line.
- b. Enter the IP address and netmask of the network you want to add to the access list.
For example, 10.0.0.0/8 permits all IP addresses on the 10.0.0.0 network (10.0.0.0-10.255.255.255) and 10.1.1.0/24 permits only the IP addresses on the 10.1.1.0 subnet (10.1.1.0-10.1.1.255). To permit access to a single IP address than the entire network, use a 32-bit netmask. For example, 10.1.1.1/32 permits just the 10.1.1.1 address.
- c. Repeat Step b until you have added all networks that you want to add to the access list, and then press **Enter** at a blank permit line to go to the next step.

Step 7 Enter **yes** to modify the system clock settings.

- a. Enter **yes** to modify summertime settings.



Note Summertime is also known as DST. If your location does not use Summertime, go to Step m.

- b. Enter **yes** to choose the USA summertime defaults, or enter **no** and choose recurring, date, or disable to specify how you want to configure summertime settings. The default is recurring.
- c. If you chose recurring, specify the month you want to start summertime settings.
Valid entries are january, february, march, april, may, june, july, august, september, october, november, and december. The default is march.
- d. Specify the week you want to start summertime settings. Valid entries are first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and last. The default is second.
- e. Specify the day you want to start summertime settings.
Valid entries are sunday, monday, tuesday, wednesday, thursday, friday, and saturday. The default is sunday.
- f. Specify the time you want to start summertime settings. The default is 02:00:00.



Note The default recurring summertime parameters are correct for time zones in the United States. The default values specify a start time of 2:00 a.m. on the second Sunday in March, and a stop time of 2:00 a.m. on the first Sunday in November. The default summertime offset is 60 minutes.

- g. Specify the month you want summertime settings to end.
Valid entries are january, february, march, april, may, june, july, august, september, october, november, and december. The default is november.
- h. Specify the week you want the summertime settings to end.
Valid entries are first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and last. The default is first.
- i. Specify the day you want the summertime settings to end.

Valid entries are sunday, monday, tuesday, wednesday, thursday, friday, and saturday. The default is sunday.

- j. Specify the time you want summertime settings to end. The default is 02:00:00.

- k. Specify the DST zone.

The zone name is a character string up to 24 characters long in the pattern [A-Za-z0-9()+;,-/_-]+\$.

- l. Specify the summertime offset.

Specify the summertime offset from UTC in minutes (negative numbers represent time zones west of the Prime Meridian). The default is 60.

- m. Enter **yes** to modify the system time zone.

- n. Specify the standard time zone name.

The zone name is a character string up to 24 characters long.

- o. Specify the standard time zone offset.

Specify the standard time zone offset from UTC in minutes (negative numbers represent time zones west of the Prime Meridian). The default is 0.

- p. Enter **yes** to use NTP.

To use authenticated NTP, you need the NTP server IP address, the NTP key ID, and the NTP key value. If you do not have those at this time, you can configure NTP later. Otherwise, you can choose unauthenticated NTP.

The following completed configuration appears:

The following configuration was entered.

```
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.89.143.126/24,10.89.143.254
host-name sensor126
telnet-option disabled
access-list 10.0.0.0/8
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset -360
standard-time-zone-name CST
exit
summertime-option recurring
offset 60
summertime-zone-name CDT
start-summertime
month march
week-of-month second
day-of-week sunday
time-of-day 02:00:00
exit
end-summertime
month november
week-of-month first
day-of-week sunday
time-of-day 02:00:00
exit
exit
ntp-option enabled
ntp-keys 1 md5-key 8675309
ntp-servers 10.89.143.92 key-id 1
exit
```

```
exit
```

```
[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return to setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.
[3] Continue to Advanced setup.
```

Step 8 Enter **2** to save the configuration (or **3** to continue with advanced setup using the CLI, IDM, or IME).

```
Enter your selection[2]: 2
Configuration Saved.
```

Step 9 Enter **yes** to reboot the sensor.

Step 10 After reboot, log in to the sensor, and display the self-signed X.509 certificate (needed by TLS):

```
sensor# show tls fingerprint
MD5: C4:BC:F2:92:C2:E2:4D:EB:92:0F:E4:86:53:6A:C6:01
SHA1: 64:9B:AC:DE:21:62:0C:D3:57:2E:9B:E5:3D:04:8F:A7:FD:CD:6F:27
```

Step 11 Write down the certificate fingerprints.

You need the fingerprints to check the authenticity of the certificate when using HTTPS to connect to this appliance with a web browser.

Step 12 Apply the most recent service pack and signature update.

You are now ready to configure your sensor for intrusion prevention.

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining the most recent IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Advanced Setup

This section describes how to continue with Advanced Setup in the CLI for the various Cisco IPS platforms. It contains the following sections:

- [Advanced Setup for the Appliance, page 21-6](#)
- [Advanced Setup for AIM-IPS, page 21-12](#)
- [Advanced Setup for AIP-SSM, page 21-15](#)
- [Advanced Setup for IDSM-2, page 21-20](#)
- [Advanced Setup for NME-IPS, page 21-24](#)

Advanced Setup for the Appliance

The interfaces change according to the appliance model, but the prompts are the same for all models.



Note

Adding new subinterfaces is a two-step process. You first organize the interfaces when you edit the virtual sensor configuration. You then choose which interfaces and subinterfaces are assigned to which virtual sensors.

To continue with advanced setup for the appliance, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the appliance using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Enter the **setup** command.

The System Configuration Dialog is displayed.

Step 3 Enter **3** to access advanced setup.

Step 4 Specify the Telnet server status. The default is disabled.

Step 5 Specify the web server port.

The web server port is the TCP port used by the web server (1 to 65535). The default is 443.



Note

If you change the web server port, you must specify the port in the URL address of your browser when you connect to the IDM in the format `https://appliance_ip_address:port` (for example, `https://10.1.9.201:1040`).



Note

The web server is configured to use TLS/SSL encryption by default. Setting the port to 80 does not disable the encryption.

Step 6 Enter **yes** to modify the interface and virtual sensor configuration.

The current interface configuration appears:

```
Current interface configuration
Command control: Management0/0
Unassigned:
Promiscuous:
GigabitEthernet0/0
GigabitEthernet0/1
GigabitEthernet0/2
GigabitEthernet0/3

Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0

Virtual Sensor: vs1
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0

Virtual Sensor: vs2
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0

[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:
```

Step 7 Enter **1** to edit the interface configuration.

**Note**

The following options let you create and delete interfaces. You assign the interfaces to virtual sensors in the virtual sensor configuration. If you are using promiscuous mode for your interfaces and are not subdividing them by VLAN, no additional configuration is necessary.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Remove interface configurations.
[2] Add/Modify Inline Vlan Pairs.
[3] Add/Modify Promiscuous Vlan Groups.
[4] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pairs.
[5] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pair Vlan Groups.
[6] Modify interface default-vlan.
```

Option:

Step 8 Enter **2** to add inline VLAN pairs.

**Caution**

The new VLAN pair is not automatically added to a virtual sensor.

The list of available interfaces is displayed:

```
Available Interfaces
[1] GigabitEthernet0/0
[2] GigabitEthernet0/1
[3] GigabitEthernet0/2
[4] GigabitEthernet0/3
```

Option:

Step 9 Enter **1** to add an inline VLAN pair to GigabitEthernet0/0, for example:

```
Inline Vlan Pairs for GigabitEthernet0/0
None
```

Step 10 Enter a subinterface number and description:

```
Subinterface Number:
Description[Created via setup by user asmith]:
```

Step 11 Enter numbers for VLAN 1 and 2:

```
Vlan1[]: 200
Vlan2[]: 300
```

Step 12 Press **Enter** to return to the available interfaces menu.

**Note**

Entering a carriage return at a prompt without a value returns you to the previous menu.

```
[1] GigabitEthernet0/0
[2] GigabitEthernet0/1
[3] GigabitEthernet0/2
[4] GigabitEthernet0/3
```

Option:

**Note**

At this point, you can configure another interface, for example, GigabitEthernet0/1, for inline VLAN pair.

Step 13 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level interface editing menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Remove interface configurations.
[2] Add/Modify Inline Vlan Pairs.
[3] Add/Modify Promiscuous Vlan Groups.
[4] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pairs.
[5] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pair Vlan Groups.
[6] Modify interface default-vlan.
```

Option:

Step 14 Enter **4** to add an inline interface pair.

The following options appear:

```
Available Interfaces
GigabitEthernet0/1
GigabitEthernet0/2
GigabitEthernet0/3
```

Step 15 Enter the pair name, description, and which interfaces you want to pair:

```
Pair name: newPair
Description[Created via setup by user asmith:
Interface1[]: GigabitEthernet0/1
Interface2[]: GigabitEthernet0/2
Pair name:
```

Step 16 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level interface editing menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Remove interface configurations.
[2] Add/Modify Inline Vlan Pairs.
[3] Add/Modify Promiscuous Vlan Groups.
[4] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pairs.
[5] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pair Vlan Groups.
[6] Modify interface default-vlan.
```

Option:

Step 17 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level editing menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
```

Option:

Step 18 Enter **2** to edit the virtual sensor configuration.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Remove virtual sensor.
[2] Modify "vs0" virtual sensor configuration.
[3] Create new virtual sensor.
```

Option:

Step 19 Enter **2** to modify the virtual sensor configuration, vs0.

The following options appear:

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0
```

```

No Interfaces to remove.

Unassigned:
Promiscuous:
  [1] GigabitEthernet0/3
  [2] GigabitEthernet0/0
Inline Vlan Pair:
  [3] GigabitEthernet0/0:1 (Vlans: 200, 300)
Inline Interface Pair:
  [4] newPair (GigabitEthernet0/1, GigabitEthernet0/2)
Add Interface:

```

Step 20 Enter **3** to add inline VLAN pair GigabitEthernet0/0:1.

Step 21 Enter **4** to add inline interface pair NewPair.

Step 22 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level virtual sensor menu.

The following options appear:

```

Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0
Inline Vlan Pair:
  GigabitEthernet0/0:1 (Vlans: 200, 300)
Inline Interface Pair:
  newPair (GigabitEthernet0/1, GigabitEthernet0/2)

[1] Remove virtual sensor.
[2] Modify "vs0" virtual sensor configuration.
[3] Create new virtual sensor.
Option: GigabitEthernet0/1, GigabitEthernet0/2
Add Interface:

```

Step 23 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following options appear:

```

[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:

```

Step 24 Enter **yes** to modify the default threat prevention settings:



Note The sensor comes with a built-in override to add the deny packet event action to high risk rating alerts. If you do not want this protection, disable automatic threat prevention.

The following appears:

```

Virtual sensor newVs is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode. (Risk
Rating 90-100)
Virtual sensor vs0 is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode.
(Risk Rating 90-100)
Do you want to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors?[no]:

```

Step 25 Enter **yes** to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors.

Step 26 Press **Enter** to exit the interface and virtual sensor configuration.

The following completed configuration appears:

The following configuration was entered.

```
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.1.9.201/24,10.1.9.1
host-name sensor
telnet-option disabled
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
summertime-option disabled
ntp-option disabled
exit
service web-server
port 342
exit
service interface
physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/0
admin-state enabled
subinterface-type inline-vlan-pair
subinterface 1
description Created via setup by user asmith
vlan1 200
vlan2 300
exit
exit
exit
physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/1
admin-state enabled
exit
physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/2
admin-state enabled
exit
physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/0
admin-state enabled
exit
inline-interfaces newPair
description Created via setup by user asmith
interface1 GigabitEthernet0/1
interface2 GigabitEthernet0/2
exit
exit
service analysis-engine
virtual-sensor newVs
description Created via setup by user cisco
signature-definition newSig
event-action-rules rules0
anomaly-detection
anomaly-detection-name ad0
operational-mode inactive
exit
physical-interface GigabitEthernet0/0
exit
virtual-sensor vs0
physical-interface GigabitEthernet0/0 subinterface-number 1
logical-interface newPair
service event-action-rules rules0
overrides deny-packet-inline
override-item-status Disabled
risk-rating-range 90-100
exit
exit
```

```
[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return back to the setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.
```

Step 27 Enter **2** to save the configuration.

```
Enter your selection[2]: 2
Configuration Saved.
```

Step 28 Reboot the appliance:

```
sensor# reset
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and reboot the node.
Continue with reset? []:
```

Step 29 Enter **yes** to continue the reboot.

Step 30 Apply the most recent service pack and signature update.

You are now ready to configure your appliance for intrusion prevention.

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining the most recent IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Advanced Setup for AIM-IPS

To continue with advanced setup for AIM-IPS, follow these steps:

Step 1 Session in to AIM-IPS using an account with administrator privileges:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/0 session
Trying 10.1.9.1, 2322 ... Open
```

```
sensor login: cisco
Password: *****
```

Step 2 Enter the **setup** command.

The System Configuration Dialog is displayed.

Step 3 Enter **3** to access advanced setup.

Step 4 Specify the Telnet server status.

You can disable or enable Telnet services. The default is disabled.

Step 5 Specify the web server port.

The web server port is the TCP port used by the web server (1 to 65535). The default is 443.



Note

The web server is configured to use TLS/SSL encryption by default. Setting the port to 80 does not disable the encryption.

Step 6 Enter **yes** to modify the interface and virtual sensor configuration.

You may receive a warning that Analysis Engine is initializing and you cannot modify the virtual sensor configuration at this time. Press the space bar to receive the following menu:

```
[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return back to the setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.
```

Enter your selection[2]:

If you receive the warning that Analysis Engine is initializing, enter **2** to save your configuration thus far and exit setup. You can then reenter setup and press **Enter** until you are back to the interface and virtual sensor menu.

Step 7 Enter **2** to modify the virtual sensor configuration.

```
Modify interface/virtual sensor configuration?[no]: yes
Current interface configuration
  Command control: Management0/0
  Unassigned:
  Monitored:
    GigabitEthernet0/1
```

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
  Anomaly Detection: ad0
  Event Action Rules: rules0
  Signature Definitions: sig0
```

```
[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
```

Option:

Step 8 Enter **2** to edit the virtual sensor vs0 configuration.

The following appears:

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
  Anomaly Detection: ad0
  Event Action Rules: rules0
  Signature Definitions: sig0
```

No Interfaces to remove.

```
Unassigned:
  Monitored:
    [1] GigabitEthernet0/1
Add Interface:
```

Step 9 Enter **1** to add GigabitEthernet0/1 to virtual sensor vs0.

Add Interface: **1**

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
  Anomaly Detection: ad0
  Event Action Rules: rules0
  Signature Definitions: sig0
  Monitored:
    GigabitEthernet0/1
```

```
[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
```

Option:

Step 10 Press **Enter** to exit the interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following option appears:

```
Modify default threat prevention settings?[no]:
```

Step 11 Enter **yes** to modify the default threat prevention settings:



Note The sensor comes with a built-in override to add the deny packet event action to high risk rating alerts. If you do not want this protection, disable automatic threat prevention.

The following appears:

```
Virtual sensor newVs is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode. (Risk
Rating 90-100)
Virtual sensor vs0 is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode.
(Risk Rating 90-100)
Do you want to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors?[no]:
```

Step 12 Enter **yes** to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors.

The following completed configuration appears:

The following configuration was entered.

```
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.1.9.201/24,10.1.9.1
host-name aim-ips
telnet-option disabled
access-list 10.0.0.0/8
access-list 64.0.0.0/8
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
summertime-option disabled
ntp-option disabled
exit
service web-server
port 443
exit
service analysis-engine
virtual-sensor vs0
physical-interface GigabitEthernet0/1
exit
exit
service event-action-rules rules0
overrides deny-packet-inline
override-item-status Disabled
risk-rating-range 90-100
exit
exit
```

```
[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return back to the setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.
```


Step 13 Enter **2** to save the configuration.

```
Enter your selection[2]: 2
Configuration Saved.
```

Step 14 Reboot AIM-IPS.

```
aim-ips# reset
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and reboot the node.
Continue with reset? []:
```

Step 15 Enter **yes** to continue the reboot.

Step 16 Apply the most recent service pack and signature update.

You are now ready to configure your AIM-IPS for intrusion prevention.

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining the most recent IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Advanced Setup for AIP-SSM

To continue with advanced setup for AIP-SSM, follow these steps:

Step 1 Session in to AIP-SSM using an account with administrator privileges:

```
asa# session 1
```

Step 2 Enter the **setup** command.

The System Configuration Dialog is displayed.

Step 3 Enter **3** to access advanced setup.

Step 4 Specify the Telnet server status.

You can disable or enable Telnet services. The default is disabled.

Step 5 Specify the web server port.

The web server port is the TCP port used by the web server (1 to 65535). The default is 443.



Note

The web server is configured to use TLS/SSL encryption by default. Setting the port to 80 does not disable the encryption.

Step 6 Enter **yes** to modify the interface and virtual sensor configuration.

The current interface configuration appears:

```
Current interface configuration
Command control: GigabitEthernet0/0
Unassigned:
Monitored:
  GigabitEthernet0/1

Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
```

```
Signature Definitions: sig0

[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:
```

Step 7 Enter **1** to edit the interface configuration.



Note You do not need to configure interfaces on AIP-SSM. You should ignore the Modify interface default-vlan setting. The separation of traffic across virtual sensors is configured differently for AIP-SSM than for other sensors.

The following option appears:

```
[1] Modify interface default-vlan.
Option:
```

Step 8 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:
```

Step 9 Enter **2** to edit the virtual sensor configuration.

```
[1] Remove virtual sensor.
[2] Modify "vs0" virtual sensor configuration.
[3] Create new virtual sensor.
Option:
```

Step 10 Enter **2** to modify the virtual sensor vs0 configuration.

The following appears:

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0
```

No Interfaces to remove.

```
Unassigned:
Monitored:
[1] GigabitEthernet0/1
Add Interface:
```

Step 11 Enter **1** to add GigabitEthernet0/1 to virtual sensor vs0.



Note With ASA 7.2 and earlier, one virtual sensor is supported. The virtual sensor to which GigabitEthernet0/1 is assigned is used for monitoring packets coming from the adaptive security appliance. We recommend that you assign GigabitEthernet0/1 to vs0, although you can assign it to another virtual sensor.

**Note**

With ASA 7.2.3 and later running IPS 6.0 or later, multiple virtual sensors are supported. The ASA 7.2.3 can direct packets to specific virtual sensors or can send packets to be monitored by a default virtual sensor. The default virtual sensor is the virtual sensor to which you assign GigabitEthernet0/1. We recommend that you assign GigabitEthernet0/1 to vs0, although you can assign it to another virtual sensor.

Step 12 Press **Enter** to return to the main virtual sensor menu.

Step 13 Enter **3** to create a virtual sensor.

The following option appears:

Name []:

Step 14 Enter a name and description for your virtual sensor.

```
Name[]: newVs
Description[Created via setup by user cisco]: New Sensor
Anomaly Detection Configuration
  [1] ad0
  [2] Create a new anomaly detection configuration
Option[2]:
```

Step 15 Enter **1** to use the existing anomaly-detection configuration, ad0.

The following options appear:

```
Signature Definition Configuration
  [1] sig0
  [2] Create a new signature definition configuration
Option[2]:
```

Step 16 Enter **2** to create a signature-definition configuration file.

Step 17 Enter the signature-definition configuration name, **newSig**.

The following options appear:

```
Event Action Rules Configuration
  [1] rules0
  [2] Create a new event action rules configuration
Option[2]:
```

Step 18 Enter **1** to use the existing event-action-rules configuration, rules0.

**Note**

If GigabitEthernet0/1 has not been assigned to vs0, you are prompted to assign it to the new virtual sensor.

**Note**

With ASA 7.2 and earlier, one virtual sensor is supported. The virtual sensor to which GigabitEthernet0/1 is assigned is used for monitoring packets coming from the adaptive security appliance. We recommend that you assign GigabitEthernet0/1 to vs0, although you can assign it to another virtual sensor.

**Note**

With ASA 7.2.3 and later with IPS 6.0, multiple virtual sensors are supported. The ASA 7.2.3 can direct packets to specific virtual sensors or can send packets to be monitored by a default virtual sensor. The default virtual sensor is the virtual sensor to which you assign GigabitEthernet0/1. We recommend that you assign GigabitEthernet0/1 to vs0, although you can assign it to another virtual sensor.

The following options appear:

```
Virtual Sensor: newVs
  Anomaly Detection: ad0
  Event Action Rules: rules0
  Signature Definitions: newSig
  Monitored:
    GigabitEthernet0/1

[1] Remove virtual sensor.
[2] Modify "newVs" virtual sensor configuration.
[3] Modify "vs0" virtual sensor configuration.
[4] Create new virtual sensor.
Option:
```

Step 19 Press **Enter** to exit the interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following option appears:

```
Modify default threat prevention settings?[no]:
```

Step 20 Enter **yes** to modify the default threat prevention settings:

**Note**

The sensor comes with a built-in override to add the deny packet event action to high risk rating alerts. If you do not want this protection, disable automatic threat prevention.

The following appears:

```
Virtual sensor newVs is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode. (Risk
Rating 90-100)
Virtual sensor vs0 is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode.
(Risk Rating 90-100)
Do you want to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors?[no]:
```

Step 21 Enter **yes** to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors.

The following completed configuration appears:

The following configuration was entered.

```
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.1.9.201/24,10.1.9.1
host-name aip-ssm
telnet-option disabled
access-list 10.0.0.0/8
access-list 64.0.0.0/8
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
```

```
summertime-option disabled
ntp-option disabled
exit
service web-server
port 342
exit
service analysis-engine
virtual-sensor newVs
description New Sensor
signature-definition newSig
event-action-rules rules0
anomaly-detection
anomaly-detection-name ad0
exit
physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/1
exit
exit
service event-action-rules rules0
overrides deny-packet-inline
override-item-status Disabled
risk-rating-range 90-100
exit
exit
```

[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return back to the setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.

Step 22 Enter **2** to save the configuration.

```
Enter your selection[2]: 2
Configuration Saved.
```

Step 23 Reboot AIP-SSM.

```
aip-ssm# reset
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and reboot the node.
Continue with reset? []:
```

Step 24 Enter **yes** to continue the reboot.

Step 25 Apply the most recent service pack and signature update.

You are now ready to configure your AIP-SSM for intrusion prevention.

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining the most recent IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Advanced Setup for IDSM-2

To continue with advanced setup for IDSM-2, follow these steps:

Step 1 Session in to IDSM-2 using an account with administrator privileges:

- For Catalyst software:

```
console> enable
console> (enable) session module_number
```

- For Cisco IOS software:

```
router# session slot slot_number processor 1
```

Step 2 Enter the **setup** command.

The System Configuration Dialog is displayed.

Step 3 Enter **3** to access advanced setup.

Step 4 Specify the Telnet server status.

You can disable or enable Telnet services. The default is disabled.

Step 5 Specify the web server port.

The web server port is the TCP port used by the web server (1 to 65535). The default is 443.



Note The web server is configured to use TLS/SSL encryption by default. Setting the port to 80 does not disable the encryption.

Step 6 Enter **yes** to modify the interface and virtual sensor configuration.

The current interface configuration appears:

```
Current interface configuration
Command control: GigabitEthernet0/2
Unassigned:
Promiscuous:
  GigabitEthernet0/7
  GigabitEthernet0/8

Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0

[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:
```

Step 7 Enter **1** to edit the interface configuration.



Note The following options let you create and delete interfaces. You assign the interfaces to virtual sensors in the virtual sensor configuration. If you are using promiscuous mode for your interfaces and are not subdividing them by VLAN, no additional configuration is necessary.

**Note**

The IDSM-2 does not support the Add/Modify Inline Interface Pair Vlan Groups option. When running an inline interface pair the two IDSM-2 data ports are configured as access ports or a trunk port carrying only the native VLAN. The packets do not have 802.1q headers and cannot be separated by VLAN. To monitor multiple VLANs inline, use Inline VLAN Pairs.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Remove interface configurations.
[2] Add/Modify Inline Vlan Pairs.
[3] Add/Modify Promiscuous Vlan Groups.
[4] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pairs.
[5] Modify interface default-vlan.
```

Option:

Step 8 Enter **3** to add promiscuous VLAN groups.

The list of available interfaces is displayed:

```
Available Interfaces
[1] GigabitEthernet0/7
[2] GigabitEthernet0/8
Option:
```

Step 9 Enter **2** to add VLAN groups to GigabitEthernet0/8.

```
Promiscuous Vlan Groups for GigabitEthernet0/8
None
Subinterface Number:
```

a. Enter **10** to add subinterface 10.

```
Subinterface Number: 10
Description[Created via setup by user asmith]:
Select vlans:
[1] All unassigned vlans.
[2] Enter vlans range.
Option:
```

b. Enter **1** to assign all unassigned VLANs to subinterface 10.

```
Subinterface Number:
```

c. Enter **9** to add subinterface 9.

```
Subinterface Number: 9
Description[Created via setup by user asmith]:
Vlans[]:
```

d. Enter **1-100** to assign VLANs 1-100 to subinterface 9.

**Note**

This removes VLANs 1-100 from the unassigned VLANs contained in subinterface 10.

e. Repeat Steps c and d until you have added all VLAN groups.

f. Press **Enter** at a blank subinterface line to return to list of interfaces available for VLAN groups.

The following options appear:

```
[1] GigabitEthernet0/7
[2] GigabitEthernet0/8
Option:
```

Step 10 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level interface configuration menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Remove interface configurations.
[2] Add/Modify Inline Vlan Pairs.
[3] Add/Modify Promiscuous Vlan Groups.
[4] Add/Modify Inline Interface Pairs.
[5] Modify interface default-vlan.
```

Option:

Step 11 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
```

Option:

Step 12 Enter **2** to edit the virtual sensor configuration.

The following option appears:

```
[1] Remove vs
[2] Modify "vs0"
[3] Create new vs
```

Option:

Step 13 Enter **2** to modify the virtual sensor vs0 configuration.

The following options appear:

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0
```

No Interfaces to remove.

Unassigned:

```
Promiscuous:
[1] GigabitEthernet0/7
```

Step 14 Enter **2** to add VLAN group GigabitEthernet0/8:10 to the virtual sensor vs0.

```
Promiscuous Vlan Groups:
[2] GigabitEthernet0/8:10 (Vlans: unassigned)
[3] GigabitEthernet0/8:9 (Vlans: 1-100)
Add Interface:
```

Step 15 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following options appear:

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0
Promiscuous Vlan Groups:
GigabitEthernet0/8:10 (Vlans: unassigned)
GigabitEthernet0/8:9 (Vlans: 1-100)
```

```
[1] Remove vs
[2] Modify "vs0"
[3] Create new vs
```

Option:

Step 16 Press **Enter** to return to the top-level interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following options appear:

```
[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
```

Option:

Step 17 Press **Enter** to exit the interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

Step 18 Enter **yes** to modify the default threat prevention settings:



Note

The sensor comes with a built-in override to add the deny packet event action to high risk rating alerts. If you do not want this protection, disable automatic threat prevention.

The following appears:

```
Virtual sensor vs0 is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode.
(Risk Rating 90-100)
Do you want to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors?[no]:
```

Step 19 Enter **yes** to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors.

The following completed configuration appears:

```
The following configuration was entered.
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.1.9.201/24,10.1.9.1
host-name idsm-2
telnet-option disabled
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
summertime-option disabled
ntp-option disabled
exit
service web-server
port 342
exit
service interface
physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/8
admin-state enabled
subinterface-type vlan-group
subinterface 9
description Created via setup by user asmith
vlans range 1-100
exit
subinterface 10
description Created via setup by user asmith
vlans unassigned
exit
exit
exit
exit
service analysis-engine
virtual-sensor vs0
```

```

description Created via setup by user cisco
signature-definition sig0
event-action-rules rules0
anomaly-detection
anomaly-detection-name ad0
operational-mode inactive
exit
physical-interface GigabitEthernet0/8 subinterface-number 9
physical-interface GigabitEthernet0/8 subinterface-number 10
service event-action-rules rules0
overrides deny-packet-inline
override-item-status Disabled
risk-rating-range 90-100
exit

```

```

[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return back to the setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.

```

Step 20 Enter **2** to save the configuration.

```

Enter your selection[2]: 2
Configuration Saved.

```

Step 21 Reboot IDSM-2:

```

idsm-2# reset
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and reboot the node.
Continue with reset? []:

```

Step 22 Enter **yes** to continue the reboot.

Step 23 Apply the most recent service pack and signature update.

You are now ready to configure your IDSM-2 for intrusion prevention.

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining the most recent IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Advanced Setup for NME-IPS

To continue with advanced setup for NME-IPS, follow these steps:

Step 1 Session in to NME-IPS using an account with administrator privileges:

```

router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 session
Trying 10.1.9.1, 2322 ... Open

```

```

sensor login: cisco
Password: *****

```

Step 2 Enter the **setup** command.

The System Configuration Dialog is displayed.

Step 3 Enter **3** to access advanced setup.

Step 4 Specify the Telnet server status.

You can disable or enable Telnet services. The default is disabled.

Step 5 Specify the web server port.

The web server port is the TCP port used by the web server (1 to 65535). The default is 443.



Note The web server is configured to use TLS/SSL encryption by default. Setting the port to 80 does not disable the encryption.

Step 6 Enter **yes** to modify the interface and virtual sensor configuration.

You may receive a warning that Analysis Engine is initializing and you cannot modify the virtual sensor configuration at this time. Press the space bar to receive the following menu:

```
[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return back to the setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.
```

Enter your selection[2]:

If you receive the warning that Analysis Engine is initializing, enter **2** to save your configuration thus far and exit setup. You can then reenter setup and press **Enter** until you are back to the interface and virtual sensor menu.

Step 7 Enter **2** to modify the virtual sensor configuration.

```
Modify interface/virtual sensor configuration?[no]: yes
Current interface configuration
  Command control: Management0/1
  Unassigned:
  Monitored:
    GigabitEthernet0/1

Virtual Sensor: vs0
  Anomaly Detection: ad0
  Event Action Rules: rules0
  Signature Definitions: sig0

[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:
```

Step 8 Enter **2** to edit the virtual sensor vs0 configuration.

The following appears:

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
  Anomaly Detection: ad0
  Event Action Rules: rules0
  Signature Definitions: sig0

No Interfaces to remove.

Unassigned:
  Monitored:
    [1] GigabitEthernet0/1
Add Interface:
```

Step 9 Enter **1** to add GigabitEthernet0/1 to virtual sensor vs0.

Add Interface: **1**

```
Virtual Sensor: vs0
Anomaly Detection: ad0
Event Action Rules: rules0
Signature Definitions: sig0
Monitored:
  GigabitEthernet0/1

[1] Edit Interface Configuration
[2] Edit Virtual Sensor Configuration
[3] Display configuration
Option:
```

Step 10 Press **Enter** to exit the interface and virtual sensor configuration menu.

The following option appears:

```
Modify default threat prevention settings?[no]:
```

Step 11 Enter **yes** to modify the default threat prevention settings:



Note The sensor comes with a built-in override to add the deny packet event action to high risk rating alerts. If you do not want this protection, disable automatic threat prevention.

The following appears:

```
Virtual sensor vs0 is configured to prevent high risk threats in inline mode.
(Risk Rating 90-100)
Do you want to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors?[no]:
```

Step 12 Enter **yes** to disable automatic threat prevention on all virtual sensors; otherwise, press **Enter** to accept the default of no.

The following completed configuration appears:

The following configuration was entered.

```
service host
network-settings
host-ip 192.168.1.2/24,192.168.1.1
host-name nme-ips
telnet-option enabled
access-list 10.0.0.0/8
access-list 64.0.0.0/8
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
summertime-option disabled
ntp-option disabled
exit
service web-server
port 443
exit
service analysis-engine
virtual-sensor vs0
physical-interface GigabitEthernet0/1
```

```

exit
exit
service event-action-rules rules0
overrides
override-item-status Enabled
risk-rating-range 90-100
exit
exit

[0] Go to the command prompt without saving this config.
[1] Return to Advanced setup without saving this config.
[2] Save this configuration and exit setup.

```

Step 13 Enter **2** to save the configuration.

```

Enter your selection[2]: 2
Configuration Saved.

```

Step 14 Reboot NME-IPS.

```

nme-ips# reset
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and reboot the node.
Continue with reset? []:

```

Step 15 Enter **yes** to continue the reboot.

Step 16 Apply the most recent service pack and signature update.

You are now ready to configure your NME-IPS for intrusion prevention.

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining the most recent IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Verifying Initialization

To verify that you initialized your sensor, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the sensor.

Step 2 View your configuration:

```

sensor# show configuration
! -----
! Current configuration last modified Fri Mar 28 19:24:58 2008
! -----
! Version 6.1(1)
! Host:
!   Realm Keys          key1.0
! Signature Definition:
!   Signature Update    S310.0    2007-12-05
!   Virus Update        V1.2      2005-11-24
! -----
service interface
exit
! -----
service authentication
exit

```

```

! -----
service event-action-rules rules0
exit
! -----
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.89.147.24/25,10.89.147.126
host-name sensor
telnet-option enabled
access-list 0.0.0.0/0
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
exit
! -----
service logger
exit
! -----
service network-access
exit
! -----
service notification
exit
! -----
service signature-definition sig0
exit
! -----
service ssh-known-hosts
exit
! -----
service trusted-certificates
exit
! -----
service web-server
exit
! -----
service anomaly-detection ad0
exit
! -----
service external-product-interface
exit
! -----
service health-monitor
exit
! -----
service analysis-engine
exit
sensor#

```



Note You can also use the **more current-config** command to view your configuration.

Step 3 Display the self-signed X.509 certificate (needed by TLS):

```

sensor# show tls fingerprint
MD5: C4:BC:F2:92:C2:E2:4D:EB:92:0F:E4:86:53:6A:C6:01
SHA1: 64:9B:AC:DE:21:62:0C:D3:57:2E:9B:E5:3D:04:8F:A7:FD:CD:6F:27

```

Step 4 Write down the certificate fingerprints.

You need the fingerprints to check the authenticity of the certificate when connecting to this sensor with a web browser.

For More Information

For the procedure for logging in to the sensor, see [Chapter 22, “Logging In to the Sensor.”](#)



CHAPTER 22

Logging In to the Sensor



Note

All IPS platforms allow ten concurrent CLI sessions.

This chapter explains how to log in to the various Cisco IPS platforms, and contains the following sections:

- [Logging In to the Appliance, page 22-1](#)
- [Connecting an Appliance to a Terminal Server, page 22-2](#)
- [Logging In to AIM-IPS, page 22-3](#)
- [Logging In to AIP-SSM, page 22-6](#)
- [Logging In to IDSM-2, page 22-7](#)
- [Logging In to NME-IPS, page 22-8](#)
- [Logging In to the Sensor, page 22-10](#)

Logging In to the Appliance

You can log in to the appliance from a console port.



Note

You must initialize the appliance (run the **setup** command) from the console. After networking is configured, SSH and Telnet are available.

To log in to the appliance, follow these steps:

Step 1 Connect a console port to the sensor to log in to the appliance.

Step 2 Enter your username and password at the login prompt:



Note

The default username and password are both **cisco**. You are prompted to change them the first time you log in to the appliance. You must first enter the UNIX password, which is **cisco**. Then you must enter the new password twice.

```
login: cisco
Password:
```

NOTICE

This product contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States and local country laws governing import, export, transfer and use. Delivery of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import, export, distribute or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and users are responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return this product immediately.

A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at:
<http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html>

If you require further assistance please contact us by sending email to
export@cisco.com.

LICENSE NOTICE

There is no license key installed on the system.
 Please go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/license>
 to obtain a new license or install a license.
 ips-4240#

For More Information

- For the procedure for connecting an appliance to a terminal server, see [Connecting an Appliance to a Terminal Server, page 22-2](#).
- For the procedure for using the **setup** command to initialize the appliance, see [Chapter 21, “Initializing the Sensor.”](#)

Connecting an Appliance to a Terminal Server

A terminal server is a router with multiple, low speed, asynchronous ports that are connected to other serial devices. You can use terminal servers to remotely manage network equipment, including appliances.

To set up a Cisco terminal server with RJ-45 or hydra cable assembly connections, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Connect to a terminal server using one of the following methods:
- For terminal servers with RJ-45 connections, connect a 180 rollover cable from the console port on the appliance to a port on the terminal server.
 - For hydra cable assemblies, connect a straight-through patch cable from the console port on the appliance to a port on the terminal server.
- Step 2** Configure the line and port on the terminal server.

In enable mode, enter the following configuration, where # is the line number of the port to be configured:

```
config t
line #
login
transport input all
stopbits 1
flowcontrol hardware
speed 9600
exit
```

```
exit  
wr mem
```

Step 3 Be sure to properly close a terminal session to avoid unauthorized access to the appliance.

If a terminal session is not stopped properly, that is, if it does not receive an `exit(0)` signal from the application that initiated the session, the terminal session can remain open. When terminal sessions are not stopped properly, authentication is not performed on the next session that is opened on the serial port.

**Caution**

Always exit your session and return to a login prompt before terminating the application used to establish the connection.

**Caution**

If a connection is dropped or terminated by accident, you should reestablish the connection and exit normally to prevent unauthorized access to the appliance.

Logging In to AIM-IPS

This section describes how to session to AIM-IPS, and contains the following topics:

- [AIM-IPS and the session Command, page 22-3](#)
- [Sessioning In to AIM-IPS, page 22-4](#)

AIM-IPS and the session Command

You session in to AIM-IPS from the router console.

Because AIM-IPS does not have an external console port, console access to AIM-IPS is enabled when you issue the **service-module ids-sensor slot/port session** command on the router, or when you initiate a Telnet connection into the router with the slot number corresponding to the AIM-IPS port number. The lack of an external console port means that the initial bootup configuration is possible only through the router.

When you issue the **service-module ids-sensor slot/port session** command, you create a console session with AIM-IPS, in which you can issue any IPS configuration commands. After completing work in the session and exiting the IPS CLI, you are returned to the Cisco IOS CLI.

The **session** command starts a reverse Telnet connection using the IP address of the IDS-Sensor interface. The IDS-Sensor interface is an interface between AIM-IPS and the router. You must assign an IP address to the IDS-Sensor interface before invoking the **session** command. Assigning a routable IP address can make the IDS-Sensor interface itself vulnerable to attacks, because AIM-IPS is visible on the network through that routable IP address, meaning you can communicate with AIM-IPS outside the router. To counter this vulnerability, assign an unnumbered IP address to the IDS-Sensor interface. Then the AIM-IPS IP address is only used locally between the router and AIM-IPS, and is isolated for the purposes of sessioning in to AIM-IPS.

**Note**

Before you install your application software or reimage the module, opening a session brings up the bootloader. After you install the software, opening a session brings up the application.

**Caution**

If you session to the module and perform large console transfers, character traffic may be lost unless the host console interface speed is set to 115200/bps or higher. Use the **show running config** command to check that the speed is set to 115200/bps.

For More Information

For the procedure for setting up an unnumbered IP address, refer to [Using an Unnumbered IP Address Interface](#).

Sessioning In to AIM-IPS

**Note**

You must initialize AIM-IPS (run the **setup** command) from the router. After networking is configured, SSH and Telnet are available.

Use the **service-module ids-sensor slot/port session** command to establish a session from AIM-IPS to the module. Press **Ctrl-Shift-6**, then **x**, to return a session prompt to a router prompt, that is, to go from the AIM-IPS prompt back to the router prompt. Press **Enter** on a blank line to go back to the session prompt, which is also the router prompt. You should only suspend a session to the router if you will be returning to the session after executing router commands. If you do not plan on returning to the AIM-IPS session, you should close the session rather than suspend it.

When you close a session, you are logged completely out of the AIM-IPS CLI and a new session connection requires a username and password to log in. A suspended session leaves you logged in to the CLI. When you connect with the **session** command, you can go back to the same CLI without having to provide your username and password.

**Note**

Telnet clients vary. In some cases, you may have to press **Ctrl-6 + x**. The control character is specified as **^^**, **Ctrl-^**, or ASCII value 30 (hex 1E).

**Caution**

If you use the **disconnect** command to leave the session, the session remains running. The open session can be exploited by someone wanting to take advantage of a connection that is still in place.

To open and close sessions to AIM-IPS, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the router.

Step 2 Check the status of AIM-IPS to make sure it is running:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/1 status
Service Module is Cisco IDS-Sensor0/1
Service Module supports session via TTY line 322
Service Module is in Steady state
Getting status from the Service Module, please wait..
Cisco Systems Intrusion Prevention System Network Module
  Software version:  6.1(1)E1
  Model:             AIM-IPS
  Memory:            443508 KB
  Mgmt IP addr:      10.89.148.196
  Mgmt web ports:    443
```

```
Mgmt TLS enabled: true
```

```
router#
```

Step 3 Open a session from the router to AIM-IPS:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/1 session
Trying 10.89.148.196, 2322 ... Open
```

Step 4 Exit, or suspend and close the module session.

- sensor# **exit**

**Note**

If you are in submodes of the IPS CLI, you must exit all submodes. Enter **exit** until the sensor login prompt appears.

**Caution**

Failing to close a session properly makes it possible for others to exploit a connection that is still in place. Remember to enter **exit** at the `router#` prompt to close the Cisco IOS session completely.

- To suspend and close the session to AIM-IPS, press **Ctrl-Shift** and press **6**. Release all keys, and then press **x**.

**Note**

When you are finished with a session, you need to return to the router to establish the association between a session (the IPS application) and the router interfaces you want to monitor.

Step 5 Disconnect from the router:

```
router# disconnect
```

Step 6 Press **Enter** to confirm the disconnection:

```
router# Closing connection to 10.89.148.196 [confirm] <Enter>
```

For More Information

For the procedure for initializing AIM-IPS, see [Advanced Setup for AIM-IPS, page 21-12](#).

Logging In to AIP-SSM

You log in to AIP-SSM from the ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance.



Note

You must initialize AIP-SSM (run the **setup** command) from the ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance. After networking is configured, SSH and Telnet are available.

To session in to AIP-SSM from the ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance.



Note

If the ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance is operating in multi-mode, use the **change system** command to get to the system level prompt before continuing.

Step 2 Session to AIP-SSM:

```
asa# session 1
Opening command session with slot 1.
Connected to slot 1. Escape character sequence is 'CTRL-^X'.
```

You have 60 seconds to log in before the session times out.

Step 3 Enter your username and password at the login prompt:



Note

The default username and password are both **cisco**. You are prompted to change them the first time you log in to AIP-SSM. You must first enter the UNIX password, which is **cisco**. Then you must enter the new password twice.

```
login: cisco
Password:
***NOTICE***
This product contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States
and local country laws governing import, export, transfer and use. Delivery
of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import,
export, distribute or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and
users are responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using
this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you
are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return this product immediately.
```

A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at:
<http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html>

If you require further assistance please contact us by sending email to
export@cisco.com.

```
***LICENSE NOTICE***
There is no license key installed on the system.
Please go to http://www.cisco.com/go/license
to obtain a new license or install a license.
aip-ssm#
```

- Step 4** To escape from a session and return to the ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance prompt, do one of the following:
- Enter **exit**.
 - Press **CTRL-Shift-6-x** (represented as **CTRL^X**).

For More Information

For the procedure for using the **setup** command to initialize AIP-SSM, see [Advanced Setup for AIP-SSM, page 21-15](#).

Logging In to IDSM-2

You log in to IDSM-2 from the switch.



Note

You must initialize IDSM-2 (run the **setup** command) from the switch. After networking is configured, SSH and Telnet are available.

To session in to IDSM-2, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Session to IDSM-2 from the switch:

- For Catalyst Software:

```
console> (enable) session slot_number
```
- For Cisco IOS software:

```
router# session slot_number processor 1
```

- Step 2** Enter your username and password at the login prompt:



Note

The default username and password are both **cisco**. You are prompted to change them the first time you log in to IDSM-2. You must first enter the UNIX password, which is **cisco**. Then you must enter the new password twice.

```
login: cisco
```

```
Password:
```

```
***NOTICE***
```

```
This product contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States
and local country laws governing import, export, transfer and use. Delivery
of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import,
export, distribute or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and
users are responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using
this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you
are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return this product immediately.
```

```
A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at:
http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html
```

```
If you require further assistance please contact us by sending email to
export@cisco.com.
```

```
***LICENSE NOTICE***
There is no license key installed on the system.
Please go to http://www.cisco.com/go/license
to obtain a new license or install a license.
idsm-2#
```

For More Information

For the procedure for using the **setup** command to initialize IDSM-2, see [Advanced Setup for IDSM-2, page 21-20](#).

Logging In to NME-IPS

This section describes how to session to NME-IPS, and contains the following topics:

- [NME-IPS and the session Command, page 22-8](#)
- [Sessioning In to NME-IPS, page 22-9](#)

NME-IPS and the session Command

You session in to NME-IPS from the router console.

Because NME-IPS does not have an external console port, console access to NME-IPS is enabled when you issue the **service-module ids-sensor slot/port session** command on the router, or when you initiate a Telnet connection into the router with the slot number corresponding to the NME-IPS port number. The lack of an external console port means that the initial bootup configuration is possible only through the router.

When you issue the **service-module ids-sensor slot/port session** command, you create a console session with NME-IPS, in which you can issue any IPS configuration commands. After completing work in the session and exiting the IPS CLI, you are returned to the Cisco IOS CLI.

The **session** command starts a reverse Telnet connection using the IP address of the IDS-Sensor interface. The IDS-Sensor interface is an interface between NME-IPS and the router. You must assign an IP address to the IDS-Sensor interface before invoking the **session** command. Assigning a routable IP address can make the IDS-Sensor interface itself vulnerable to attacks, because NME-IPS is visible on the network through that routable IP address, meaning you can communicate with NME-IPS outside the router. To counter this vulnerability, assign an unnumbered IP address to the IDS-Sensor interface. Then the NME-IPS IP address is only used locally between the router and NME-IPS, and is isolated for the purposes of sessioning in to NME-IPS.



Note

Before you install your application software or reimage the module, opening a session brings up the bootloader. After you install the software, opening a session brings up the application.



Caution

If you session to the module and perform large console transfers, character traffic may be lost unless the host console interface speed is set to 115200/bps or higher. Use the **show running config** command to check that the speed is set to 115200/bps.

For More Information

For the procedure for setting up interfaces on NME-IPS and the router, refer to [Setting Up Interfaces on NME-IPS and the Router](#).

Sessioning In to NME-IPS

**Note**

You must initialize NME-IPS (run the **setup** command) from the router. After networking is configured, SSH and Telnet are available.

Use the **service-module ids-sensor slot/port session** command to establish a session from NME-IPS to the module. Press **Ctrl-Shift-6**, then **x**, to return a session prompt to a router prompt, that is, to go from the NME-IPS prompt back to the router prompt. Press **Enter** on a blank line to go back to the session prompt, which is also the router prompt. You should only suspend a session to the router if you will be returning to the session after executing router commands. If you do not plan on returning to the NME-IPS session, you should close the session rather than suspend it.

When you close a session, you are logged completely out of the NME-IPS CLI and a new session connection requires a username and password to log in. A suspended session leaves you logged in to the CLI. When you connect with the **session** command, you can go back to the same CLI without having to provide your username and password.

**Note**

Telnet clients vary. In some cases, you may have to press **Ctrl-6 + x**. The control character is specified as **^^**, **Ctrl-^**, or ASCII value 30 (hex 1E).

**Caution**

If you use the **disconnect** command to leave the session, the session remains running. The open session can be exploited by someone wanting to take advantage of a connection that is still in place.

To open and close sessions to NME-IPS, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the router.

Step 2 Check the status of NME-IPS to make sure it is running:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 status
Service Module is Cisco IDS-Sensor1/0
Service Module supports session via TTY line 130
Service Module is in Steady state
Service Module heartbeat-reset is disabled
Getting status from the Service Module, please wait..

Cisco Systems Intrusion Prevention System Network Module
  Software version:  6.1(1)E2
  Model:             NME-IPS
  Memory:            443508 KB
  Mgmt IP addr:      10.89.148.195
  Mgmt web ports:    443
  Mgmt TLS enabled:  true

router#
```

Step 3 Open a session from the router to NME-IPS:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 session
Trying 10.89.148.195, 2322 ... Open
```

Step 4 Exit, or suspend and close the module session.

- sensor# **exit**



Note If you are in submodes of the IPS CLI, you must exit all submodes. Enter **exit** until the sensor login prompt appears.



Caution

Failing to close a session properly makes it possible for others to exploit a connection that is still in place. Remember to enter **exit** at the `router#` prompt to close the Cisco IOS session completely.

- To suspend and close the session to NME-IPS, press **Ctrl-Shift** and press **6**. Release all keys, and then press **x**.



Note When you are finished with a session, you need to return to the router to establish the association between a session (the IPS application) and the router interfaces you want to monitor.

Step 5 Disconnect from the router:

```
router# disconnect
```

Step 6 Press **Enter** to confirm the disconnection:

```
router# Closing connection to 10.89.148.196 [confirm] <Enter>
```

For More Information

For the procedure for initializing NME-IPS, see [Advanced Setup for NME-IPS, page 21-24](#).

Logging In to the Sensor



Note

After you have initialized the sensor using the **setup** command and enabled Telnet, you can use SSH or Telnet to log in to the sensor.

To log in to the sensor, follow these steps:

Step 1 To log in to the sensor over the network using SSH or Telnet:

```
ssh sensor_ip_address
telnet sensor_ip_address
```

Step 2 Enter your username and password at the login prompt:

```
login: *****
```

Password: *****

NOTICE

This product contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States and local country laws governing import, export, transfer and use. Delivery of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import, export, distribute or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and users are responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return this product immediately.

A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at:
<http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html>

If you require further assistance please contact us by sending email to export@cisco.com.

LICENSE NOTICE

There is no license key installed on the system.
Please go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/license>
to obtain a new license or install a license.
sensor#



CHAPTER 23

Obtaining Software

This chapter describes how to obtain and install the latest Cisco IPS software, and contains the following topics:

- [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#)
- [IPS Software Versioning, page 23-3](#)
- [Software Release Examples, page 23-6](#)
- [Upgrading Cisco IPS Software to 6.1, page 23-7](#)
- [Accessing IPS Documentation, page 23-9](#)
- [Cisco Security Intelligence Operations, page 23-9](#)

Obtaining Cisco IPS Software

You can download the latest Cisco IPS software from Cisco.com. You must be logged into Cisco.com to access the software download site. The first time you download software, you set up an account with cryptographic access. You can sign up for IPS Alert Bulletins to receive information on the latest software releases.



Caution

The BIOS on Cisco IPS sensors is specific to Cisco IPS sensors and must only be upgraded under instructions from Cisco with BIOS files obtained from the Cisco website. Installing a non-Cisco or third-party BIOS on Cisco IPS sensors voids the warranty.

You can find major and minor updates, service packs, signature and signature engine updates, system and recovery files, firmware upgrades, and readmes on the Download Software site on Cisco.com.

Signature updates are posted to Cisco.com approximately every week, more often if needed. Service packs are posted to Cisco.com as needed. Major and minor updates are also posted periodically. Check Cisco.com regularly for the latest IPS software.



Note

You must be logged in to Cisco.com to download software. You must have an active IPS maintenance contract and a Cisco.com password to download software. You must have a license to apply signature updates.

Downloading IPS Software

To download software on Cisco.com, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to Cisco.com.
 - Step 2** From the Support drop-down menu, choose **Download Software**.
 - Step 3** Under Select a Software Product Category, choose **Security Software**.
 - Step 4** Choose **Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)**.
 - Step 5** Enter your username and password.
 - Step 6** In the Download Software window, choose **IPS Appliances > Cisco Intrusion Prevention System** and then click the version you want to download.



Note You must have an IPS subscription service license to download software.

- Step 7** Click the type of software file you need.

The available files appear in a list in the right side of the window. You can sort by file name, file size, memory, and release date. And you can access the Release Notes and other product documentation.
- Step 8** Click the file you want to download.

The file details appear.
- Step 9** Verify that it is the correct file, and click **Download**.
- Step 10** Click **Agree** to accept the software download rules.

The first time you download a file from Cisco.com, you must fill in the Encryption Software Export Distribution Authorization form before you can download the software.

 - Fill out the form and click **Submit**.

The Cisco Systems Inc. Encryption Software Usage Handling and Distribution Policy appears.
 - Read the policy and click **I Accept**.

The Encryption Software Export/Distribution Form appears.

If you previously filled out the Encryption Software Export Distribution Authorization form, and read and accepted the Cisco Systems Inc. Encryption Software Usage Handling and Distribution Policy, these forms are not displayed again.

The File Download dialog box appears.
- Step 11** Open the file or save it to your computer.
- Step 12** Follow the instructions in the Readme to install the update.



Note Major and minor updates, service packs, recovery files, signature and signature engine updates are the same for all sensors. System image files are unique per platform.

IPS Software Versioning

**Note**

The software version installed on your sensor is listed on the Sensor Information tab in the Device List pane in IME.

When you download IPS software images from Cisco.com, you should understand the versioning scheme so that you know which files are base files, which are cumulative, and which are incremental.

Major Update

A major update contains new functionality or an architectural change in the product. For example, the Cisco IPS 6.0 base version includes everything (except deprecated features) since the previous major release (the minor update features, service pack fixes, and signature updates) plus any new changes. Major update 6.0(1) requires 5.x. With each major update there are corresponding system and recovery packages.

**Note**

The 6.0(1) major update is only used to upgrade 5.x sensors to 6.0(1). If you are reinstalling 6.0(1) on a sensor that already has 6.0(1) installed, use the system image or recovery procedures rather than the major update.

Minor Update

A minor update is incremental to the major version. Minor updates are also base versions for service packs. The first minor update for 6.0 is 6.1(1). Minor updates are released for minor enhancements to the product. Minor updates contain all previous minor features (except deprecated features), service pack fixes, signature updates since the last major version, and the new minor features being released. You can install the minor updates on the previous major or minor version (and often even on earlier versions). The minimum supported version needed to upgrade to the newest minor version is listed in the Readme that accompanies the minor update. With each minor update there are corresponding system and recovery packages.

Service Pack

A service pack is cumulative following a base version release (minor or major). Service packs are used for the release of defect fixes with no new enhancements. Service packs contain all service pack fixes since the last base version (minor or major) and the new defect fixes being released. Service packs require the minor version. The minimum supported version needed to upgrade to the newest service pack is listed in the Readme that accompanies the service pack. Service packs also include the latest engine update. For example, if service pack 6.0(3) is released, and E3 is the latest engine level, the service pack is released as 6.0(3)E3.

Patch Release

A patch release is used to address defects that are identified in the upgrade binaries after a software release. Rather than waiting until the next major or minor update, or service pack to address these defects, a patch can be posted. Patches include all prior patch releases within the associated service pack level. The patches roll into the next official major or minor update, or service pack.

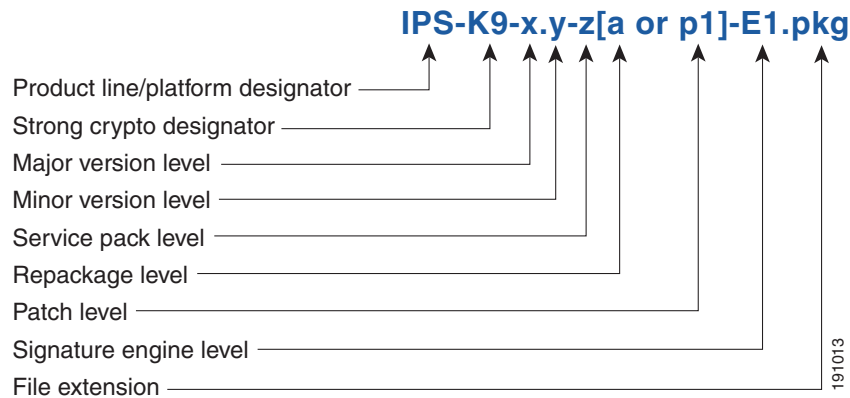
Before you can install a patch release, the most recent major or minor update, or service pack must be installed. For example, patch release 5.0(1p1) requires 5.0(1).

**Note**

Upgrading to a newer patch does not require you to uninstall the old patch. For example, you can upgrade from patch 5.0(1p1) to 5.0(1p2) without first uninstalling 5.0(1p1).

Figure 23-1 illustrates what each part of the IPS software file represents for major and minor updates, service packs, and patch releases.

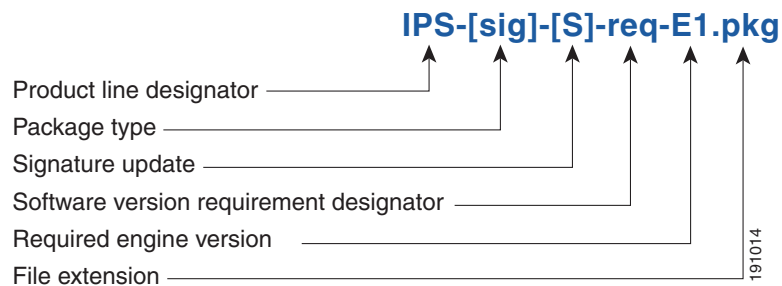
Figure 23-1 *IPS Software File Name for Major and Minor Updates, Service Packs, and Patch Releases*

**Signature Update**

A signature update is a package file containing a set of rules designed to recognize malicious network activities. Signature updates are released independently from other software updates. Each time a major or minor update is released, you can install signature updates on the new version and the next oldest version for a period of at least six months. Signature updates are dependent on a required signature engine version. Because of this, a *req* designator lists the signature engine required to support a particular signature update.

Figure 23-2 illustrates what each part of the IPS software file represents for signature updates.

Figure 23-2 *IPS Software File Name for Signature Updates*

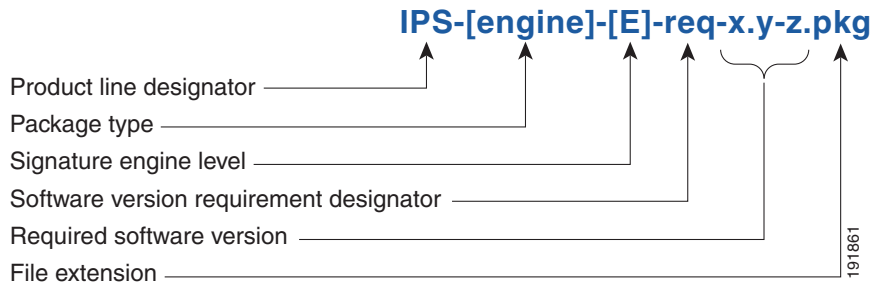


Signature Engine Update

A signature engine update is an executable file containing binary code to support new signature updates. Signature engine files require a specific service pack, which is also identified by the *req* designator.

Figure 23-3 illustrates what each part of the IPS software file represents for signature engine updates.

Figure 23-3 IPS Software File Name for Signature Engine Updates



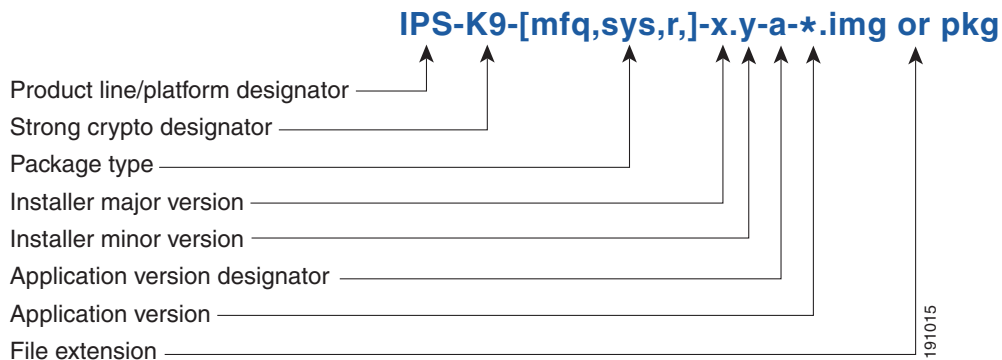
Recovery and System Image Files

Recovery and system image files contain separate versions for the installer and the underlying application. The installer version contains a major and minor version field. The major version is incremented by one of any major changes to the image installer, for example, switching from .tar to rpm or changing kernels. The minor version can be incremented by any one of the following:

- Minor change to the installer, for example, a user prompt added.
- Repackages require the installer minor version to be incremented by one if the image file must be repackaged to address a defect or problem with the installer.

Figure 23-4 illustrates what each part of the IPS software file represents for recovery and system image files.

Figure 23-4 IPS Software File Name for Recovery and System Image Files



Software Release Examples

Table 23-1 lists platform-independent Cisco IPS 6.x software release examples. Refer to the Readmes that accompany the software files for detailed instructions on how to install the files.

Table 23-1 Platform-Independent Release Examples

Release	Target Frequency	Identifier	Example Version	Example Filename
Signature update ¹	Weekly	sig	S353	IPS-sig-S353-req-E2.pkg
Signature engine update ²	As needed	engine	E2	IPS-engine-E2-req-6.1-1.pkg
Service packs ³	Semi-annually or as needed	—	6.1(3)	IPS-K9-6.1-3-E2.pkg
Minor version update ⁴	Annually	—	6.1(1)	IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg Note The minor version update for AIM-IPS is IPS-AIM-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg.
Major version update ⁵	Annually	—	6.0(1)	IPS-K9-6.0-1-E1.pkg
Patch release ⁶	As needed	patch	6.0(1p1)	IPS-K9-patch-6.0-1p1-E1.pkg
Recovery package ⁷	Annually or as needed	r	1.1-6.1(1)	IPS-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E2.pkg

- Signature updates include the latest cumulative IPS signatures.
- Signature engine updates add new engines or engine parameters that are used by new signatures in later signature updates.
- Service packs include defect fixes.
- Minor versions include new minor version features and/or minor version functionality.
- Major versions include new major version functionality or new architecture.
- Patch releases are for interim fixes.
- The r 1.1 can be revised to r 1.2 if it is necessary to release a new recovery package that contains the same underlying application image. If there are defect fixes for the installer, for example, the underlying application version may still be 6.0(1), but the recovery partition image will be r 1.2.

Table 23-2 describes platform-dependent software release examples.

Table 23-2 Platform-Dependent Release Examples

Release	Target Frequency	Identifier	Supported Platform	Example Filename
System image ¹	Annually	sys	Separate file for each sensor platform	IPS-4240-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
Maintenance partition image ²	Annually	mp	IDS-2	c6svc-mp.2-1-2.bin.gz

Table 23-2 Platform-Dependent Release Examples (continued)

Release	Target Frequency	Identifier	Supported Platform	Example Filename
Bootloader	As needed	bl	AIM-IPS NME-IPS	pse_aim_x.y.z.bin pse_nm_x.y.z.bin (where x, y, z is the release number)
Mini-kernel	As needed	mini-kernel	AIM-IPS NME-IPS	pse_mini_kernel_1.1.10.64.bz2

1. The system image includes the combined recovery and application image used to reimage an entire sensor.
2. The maintenance partition image includes the full image for the IDSM-2 maintenance partition. The file is installed from but does not affect the IDSM-2 application partition.

Table 23-3 describes the platform identifiers used in platform-specific names.

Table 23-3 Platform Identifiers

Sensor Family	Identifier
IPS-4240 series	4240
IPS-4255 series	4255
IPS-4260 series	4260
IPS 4270-20 series	4270_20
IDS module for Catalyst 6K	IDSM2
IPS network module	AIM NME
AIP-SSM	SSM_10 SSM_20 SSM_40

For More Information

For instructions on how to access these files on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Upgrading Cisco IPS Software to 6.1

Observe the following when upgrading your sensor:

- The minimum required version for upgrading to 6.1(1) is 5.0(1) or later, which is available as a download from Cisco.com.
- Use the IPS-AIM-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg upgrade file to upgrade AIM-IPS. For all other supported sensors, use the IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg upgrade file.
- If you configured Auto Update for your sensor, copy the Cisco IPS 6.1(1)E1 update to the directory on the server that your sensor polls for updates. If you install an update on your sensor and the sensor is unusable after it reboots, you must reimage your sensor.

You can reimage your sensor in the following ways:

- For all sensors, use the **recover** command.
- For IPS-4240, IPS-4255, IPS-4260, and IPS 4270-20, use the ROMMON to restore the system image.
- For AIM-IPS and NME-IPS, use the bootloader.
- For IDSM-2, reimage the application partition from the maintenance partition.

**Note**

You cannot upgrade the IDSM (WS-X6381) to IPS 6.x. You must replace your IDSM (WS-X6381) with IDSM-2 (WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9), which supports version 6.1(1)E1.

- For AIP-SSM, reimage from the adaptive security appliance using the **hw-module module 1 recover configure/boot** command.

**Caution**

When you install the system image for your sensor, all accounts are removed and the default account and password are reset to **cisco**.

For More Information

- For the procedure for accessing downloads on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).
- For the procedure for using the **upgrade** command to upgrade the sensor, see [Upgrading the Sensor, page 24-2](#).
- For the procedure for configuring automatic upgrades on the sensor, see [Configuring Automatic Upgrades, page 24-6](#).
- For the procedure for using the **recover** command, see [Recovering the Application Partition, page 24-10](#).
- For the procedures for using ROMMON to restore the system image, see [Installing the IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 System Images, page 24-14](#), [Installing the IPS-4260 System Image, page 24-17](#), and [Installing the IPS 4270-20 System Image, page 24-19](#).
- For the procedure for restoring the AIM-IPS system image, see [Installing the AIM-IPS System Image, page 24-21](#).
- For the procedure for reimagining the IDSM-2 application partition from the maintenance partition, see [Installing the IDSM-2 System Image, page 24-26](#).
- For the procedure for using the **hw-module module 1 recover configure/boot** command to reimage AIP-SSM, see [Installing the AIP-SSM System Image, page 24-24](#).
- For the procedure for restoring the NME-IPS system image, see [Installing the NME-IPS System Image, page 24-38](#).

Accessing IPS Documentation

You can find IPS documentation at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/vpndevc/ps4077/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

Or to access IPS documentation from Cisco.com, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to [Cisco.com](http://www.cisco.com).
- Step 2** Click **Support**.
- Step 3** Under Support at the bottom of the page, click **Documentation**.
- Step 4** Choose **Products > Security > Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) > IPS Appliances > Cisco IPS 4200 Series Sensors**. The Cisco IPS 4200 Series Sensors page appears. All of the most up-to-date IPS documentation is on this page.



Note Although you will see references to other IPS documentation sites on Cisco.com, this is the site with the most complete and up-to-date IPS documentation.

- Step 5** Click one of the following categories to access Cisco IPS documentation:

- **Download Software**—Takes you to the Download Software site.



Note You must be logged into Cisco.com to access the software download site.

- **Release and General Information**—Contains documentation roadmaps and release notes.
 - **Reference Guides**—Contains command references and technical references.
 - **Design**—Contains design guide and design tech notes.
 - **Install and Upgrade**—Contains hardware installation and regulatory guides.
 - **Configure**—Contains configuration guides for IPS CLI, IDM, and IME.
 - **Troubleshoot and Alerts**—Contains TAC tech notes and field notices.
-

Cisco Security Intelligence Operations

The Cisco Security Intelligence Operations site on Cisco.com provides intelligence reports about current vulnerabilities and security threats. It also has reports on other security topics that help you protect your network and deploy your security systems to reduce organizational risk.

You should be aware of the most recent security threats so that you can most effectively secure and manage your network. Cisco Security Intelligence Operations contains the top ten intelligence reports listed by date, severity, urgency, and whether there is a new signature available to deal with the threat.

Cisco Security Intelligence Operations contains a Security News section that lists security articles of interest. There are related security tools and links.

You can access Cisco Security Intelligence Operations at this URL:

<http://tools.cisco.com/security/center/home.x>

Cisco Security Intelligence Operations is also a repository of information for individual signatures, including signature ID, type, structure, and description.

You can search for security alerts and signatures at this URL:

<http://tools.cisco.com/security/center/search.x>



CHAPTER 24

Upgrading, Downgrading, and Installing System Images

This chapter describes how to upgrade, downgrade, and install system images. It contains the following sections:

- [Upgrades, Downgrades, and System Images, page 24-1](#)
- [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#)
- [Upgrading the Sensor, page 24-2](#)
- [Configuring Automatic Upgrades, page 24-6](#)
- [Downgrading the Sensor, page 24-10](#)
- [Recovering the Application Partition, page 24-10](#)
- [Installing System Images, page 24-12](#)

Upgrades, Downgrades, and System Images

You can upgrade and downgrade the software on the sensor. Upgrading applies a service pack, signature update, signature engine update, minor version, major version, or recovery partition file. Downgrading removes the last applied service pack or signature update from the sensor.



Caution

You cannot use the **downgrade** command to go from Cisco IPS 6.1 to 6.0. To revert to 6.0, you must reimage the sensor.

You can recover the application partition image on your sensor if it becomes unusable. Using the **recover** command lets you retain your host settings while other settings revert to the factory defaults.

To install a new system image on the sensor, use ROMMON, the bootloader file, or the maintenance partition depending on which platform you have.

When you install a new system image on your sensor, all accounts are removed and the default cisco account is reset to use the default password **cisco**. After installing the system image, you must initialize the sensor again.

After you reimage and initialize your sensor, upgrade your sensor with the most recent service pack, signature update, signature engine update, minor update, major update, and recovery partition file.

For More Information

- For the procedure for initializing the sensor, see [Chapter 21, “Initializing the Sensor.”](#)
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1.](#)

Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers

The following FTP servers are supported for IPS software updates:

- WU-FTPD 2.6.2 (Linux)
- Solaris 2.8
- Sambar 6.0 (Windows 2000)
- Serv-U 5.0 (Windows 2000)
- MS IIS 5.0 (Windows 2000)

The following HTTP/HTTPS servers are supported for IPS software updates:

- CMS - Apache Server (Tomcat)
- CMS - Apache Server (JRun)

For More Information

- For the procedure for downloading IPS software updates from Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1.](#)
- For the procedure for configuring automatic updates, see [Configuring Automatic Upgrades, page 24-6.](#)

Upgrading the Sensor

**Note**

For the IME procedure for upgrading the sensor, see [Manually Updating the Sensor, page 17-20.](#)

This section explains how to use the **upgrade** command to upgrade the software on the sensor. It contains the following topics:

- [IPS 6.1 Upgrade Files, page 24-3](#)
- [upgrade Command and Options, page 24-3](#)
- [Using the upgrade Command, page 24-4](#)
- [Upgrading the Recovery Partition, page 24-5](#)

IPS 6.1 Upgrade Files

The following files are part of Cisco IPS 6.1(1)E1:

- Readme
 - IPS-6.1-1-E1.readme.txt
- Minor Version Upgrade File
 - IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg
 - IPS-AIM-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg
- System Image Files
 - IPS-4240-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-4255-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-4260-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-4270-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.bin.gz
 - IPS-SSM_10-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-SSM_20-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-SSM_40-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-AIM-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
 - IPS-NME-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E2.img
- Recovery Image Files
 - IPS-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.pkg
 - IPS-AIM-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.pkg
 - IPS-NME-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E2.pkg

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining these files on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

upgrade Command and Options

Use the **upgrade** *source-url* command to apply service pack, signature update, engine update, minor version, major version, or recovery partition file upgrades.

The following options apply:

- *source-url*—The location of the source file to be copied.
 - ftp:—Source URL for an FTP network server. The syntax for this prefix is:
 ftp://[[username@]location][relativeDirectory]/filename
 ftp://[[username@]location][absoluteDirectory]/filename



Note You are prompted for a password.

- scp:—Source URL for the SCP network server. The syntax for this prefix is:

scp://[[username@]location][relativeDirectory]/filename

scp://[[username@]location][absoluteDirectory]/filename



Note You are prompted for a password. You must add the remote host to the SSH known hosts list.

- http:—Source URL for the web server. The syntax for this prefix is:

http://[[username@]location][directory]/filename



Note The directory specification should be an absolute path to the desired file.

- https:—Source URL for the web server. The syntax for this prefix is:

https://[[username@]location][directory]/filename



Note The directory specification should be an absolute path to the desired file. The remote host must be a TLS trusted host.

Using the upgrade Command



Note For the IME procedure for upgrading the sensor, see [Manually Updating the Sensor, page 17-20](#).

To upgrade the sensor, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Download the appropriate file (for example, IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg) to an FTP, SCP, HTTP, or HTTPS server that is accessible from your sensor.



Note You must log in to Cisco.com using an account with cryptographic privileges to download the file. The first time you download software, you set up a cryptographic account. Do not change the filename. You must preserve the original filename for the sensor to accept the update.

- Step 2** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

- Step 3** Enter configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

- Step 4** Upgrade the sensor:

```
sensor(config)# upgrade url/IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg
```

The URL points to where the update file is located, for example, to retrieve the update using FTP, enter the following:

```
sensor(config)# upgrade ftp://username@ip_address//directory/IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1.pkg
```

Step 5 Enter the password when prompted:

```
Enter password: *****
```

Step 6 Enter **yes** to complete the upgrade.



Note

Major updates, minor updates, and service packs may force a restart of the IPS processes or even force a reboot of the sensor to complete installation.



Note

The operating system is reimaged and all files that have been placed on the sensor through the service account are removed.

For More Information

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com and obtaining an account with cryptographic privileges, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Upgrading the Recovery Partition

Use the **upgrade** command to upgrade the recovery partition with the most recent version so that it is ready if you need to recover the application partition on your sensor.



Note

Recovery partition images are generated for major and minor updates and only in rare situations for service packs or signature updates.



Note

AIM-IPS and NME-IPS have unique recovery images (IPS-AIM-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.pkg and IPS-NME-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E2.pkg) that you must use to upgrade the recovery partition.

To upgrade the recovery partition on your sensor, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the recovery partition image file (IPS-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1.pkg) to an FTP, SCP, HTTP, or HTTPS server that is accessible from your sensor.



Caution

Some browsers add an extension to the filename. The filename of the saved file must match what is displayed on the download page or you cannot use it to upgrade the recovery partition.

Step 2 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 3 Enter configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

Step 4 Upgrade the recovery partition:

```
sensor(config)#  
upgrade scp://user@server_ipaddress//upgrade_path/IPS-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.pkg
```

```
sensor(config)#
upgrade ftp://user@server_ipaddress//upgrade_path/IPS-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.pkg
```

- Step 5** Enter the server password.
The upgrade process begins.



Note This procedure only reimages the recovery partition. The application partition is not modified by this upgrade. To reimage the application partition after the recovery partition, use the **recover application-partition** command.

For More Information

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).
- For the procedure for using the **recover** command, see [Using the recover Command, page 24-11](#).

Configuring Automatic Upgrades



Note For the IME procedure for automatically upgrading the sensor, see [Configuring Automatic Update, page 17-16](#).

This section describes how to configure the sensor to automatically look for upgrades in the upgrade directory. It contains the following topics:

- [Automatic Upgrades, page 24-6](#)
- [auto-upgrade Command and Options, page 24-7](#)
- [Using the auto-upgrade Command, page 24-8](#)

Automatic Upgrades

You can configure the sensor to look for new upgrade files in your upgrade directory automatically. For example, several sensors can point to the same remote FTP server directory with different update schedules, such as every 24 hours, or Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11:00 pm.

You specify the following information to schedule automatic upgrades:

- Server IP address
- Path of the directory on the file server where the sensor checks for upgrade files
- File copy protocol (SCP or FTP)
- Username and password
- Upgrade schedule

You must download the software upgrade from Cisco.com and copy it to the upgrade directory before the sensor can poll for automatic upgrades.

For More Information

For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

auto-upgrade Command and Options

Use the **auto-upgrade-option enabled** command in the service host submode to configure automatic upgrades.

The following options apply:

- **cisco-server**—Enables automatic signature and engine updates from Cisco.com.
- **cisco-url**—The Cisco server locator service.

You do not need to change this unless the www.cisco.com IP address changes.

- **default**—Sets the value back to the system default setting.
- **directory**—Directory where upgrade files are located on the file server.

A leading '/' indicates an absolute path.

- **file-copy-protocol**—File copy protocol used to download files from the file server. The valid values are **ftp** or **scp**.



Note If you use SCP, you must use the **ssh host-key** command to add the server to the SSH known hosts list so the sensor can communicate with it through SSH.

- **ip-address**—IP address of the file server.
- **password**—User password for Cisco server authentication.
- **schedule-option**—Schedules when Cisco server automatic upgrades occur. Calendar scheduling starts upgrades at specific times on specific days. Periodic scheduling starts upgrades at specific periodic intervals.
 - **calendar-schedule**—Configure the days of the week and times of day that automatic upgrades will be performed.
 - days-of-week**—Days of the week on which auto-upgrades will be performed. You can select multiple days: *sunday* through *saturday* are the valid values.
 - no**—Removes an entry or selection setting.
 - times-of-day**—Times of day at which auto-upgrades will begin. You can select multiple times. The valid value is *hh:mm[:ss]*.
 - **periodic-schedule**—Configure the time that the first automatic upgrade should occur, and how long to wait between automatic upgrades.
 - interval**—The number of hours to wait between automatic upgrades. Valid values are 0 to 8760.
 - start-time**—The time of day to start the first automatic upgrade. The valid value is *hh:mm[:ss]*.
- **user-name**—Username for server authentication.
- **user-server**—Enables automatic upgrades from a user-defined server.

For More Information

For the procedure for adding the SCP server to the SSH known hosts list, see [Defining Known Host Keys](#), page 13-6.

Using the auto-upgrade Command

**Note**

For the IME procedure for automatically upgrading the sensor, see [Configuring Automatic Update](#), page 17-16.

**Note**

If you get an unauthorized error message while configuring an automatic update, make sure you have the correct ports open on any firewalls between the sensor and Cisco.com. For example, you need 198.133.219.25 port 443 for the initial automatic update connection to www.cisco.com, and you need 198.133.219.243 port 80 to download the chosen package from a Cisco file server. The IP address may change for the Cisco file server, but you can find it in the lastDownloadAttempt section in the output of the **show statistics host** command.

**Note**

To check the status of the last automatic update or the next scheduled automatic update, run the **show statistics host** command and check the Auto Update Statistics section.

To schedule automatic upgrades, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Enter automatic upgrade submode:
- ```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service host
sensor(config-hos)# auto-upgrade
sensor(config-hos-aut)#
```
- Step 3** Configure the sensor to automatically look for new upgrades either on Cisco.com or on your file server:
- On Cisco.com:  

```
sensor(config-hos-aut)# cisco-server enabled
```

Continue with Step 4.
  - From your server:  

```
sensor(config-hos-aut)# user-server enabled
```
  - Specify the IP address of the file server:  

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# ip-address 10.1.1.1
```
  - Specify the directory where the upgrade files are located on the file server:  

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# directory /tftpboot/sensor_updates
```
  - Specify the file server protocol:  

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# file-copy-protocol ftp
```

**Note**

If you use SCP, you must use the **ssh host-key** command to add the server to the SSH known hosts list so the sensor can communicate with it through SSH.

**Step 4** Specify the username for authentication:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# user-name tester
```

**Step 5** Specify the password of the user:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# password
Enter password[]: *****
Re-enter password: *****
```

**Step 6** Specify the scheduling:

a. For calendar scheduling, which starts upgrades at specific times on specific day:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# schedule-option calendar-schedule
sensor(config-hos-ena-cal)# days-of-week sunday
sensor(config-hos-ena-cal)# times-of-day 12:00:00
```

b. For periodic scheduling, which starts upgrades at specific periodic intervals:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# schedule-option periodic-schedule
sensor(config-hos-ena-per)# interval 24
sensor(config-hos-ena-per)# start-time 13:00:00
```

**Step 7** Verify the settings:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# show settings
enabled

schedule-option

periodic-schedule

start-time: 13:00:00
interval: 24 hours

ip-address: 10.1.1.1
directory: /tftpboot/update/6.1_dummy_updates
user-name: tester
password: <hidden>
file-copy-protocol: ftp default: scp

sensor(config-hos-ena)#
```

**Step 8** Exit automatic upgrade submode:

```
sensor(config-hos-ena)# exit
sensor(config-hos)# exit
Apply Changes?[yes]:
```

**Step 9** Press **Enter** to apply the changes or type **no** to discard them.

**For More Information**

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).
- For the procedure for adding the SCP server to the SSH known hosts list, see [Defining Known Host Keys, page 13-6](#).

## Downgrading the Sensor

Use the **downgrade** command to remove the last applied service pack or signature upgrade from the sensor.

**Caution**

You cannot use the **downgrade** command to go from Cisco IPS 6.1 to 6.0. To revert to 6.0, you must reimage the sensor. You can only use the **downgrade** command to downgrade from the latest service pack or signature update.

To remove the last applied service pack or signature update from the sensor, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the sensor using an account with administrator privileges.

**Step 2** Enter global configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

**Step 3** Downgrade the sensor:

```
sensor(config)# downgrade
```

```
Warning: Executing this command will reboot the system and downgrade to
IPS-K9-sp.6.0-2-E1.pkg. Configuration changes made since the last upgrade will be lost and
the system may be rebooted.
Continue with downgrade?:
```

**Step 4** Enter **yes** to continue with the downgrade.

**Step 5** If there is no recently applied service pack or signature update, the **downgrade** command is not available:

```
sensor(config)# downgrade
No downgrade available.
sensor(config)#
```

## Recovering the Application Partition

This section explains how to recover the application partition, and contains the following topics:

- [Application Partition, page 24-11](#)
- [Using the recover Command, page 24-11](#)



## Application Partition

You can recover the application partition image for the appliance if it becomes unusable. Some network configuration information is retained when you use this method, which lets you have network access after the recovery is performed.

Use the **recover application-partition** command to boot to the recovery partition, which automatically recovers the application partition on your appliance.



### Note

If you have upgraded your recovery partition to the most recent version before you recover the application partition image, you can install the most up-to-date software image.

Because you can execute the **recover application-partition** command through a Telnet or SSH connection, we recommend using this command to recover sensors that are installed at remote locations.



### Note

When you reconnect to the sensor after recovery, you must log in with the default username and password **cisco**.

### For More Information

For the procedure for upgrading the recovery partition to the most recent version, see [Upgrading the Recovery Partition, page 24-5](#).

## Using the recover Command

To recover the application partition image, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Download the recovery partition image file (IPS-K9-r-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.pkg) to an FTP, HTTP, or HTTPS server that is accessible from your sensor.
- Step 2** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 3** Enter configuration mode:  

```
sensor# configure terminal
```



### Note

To upgrade the recovery partition the sensor must already be running IPS 6.1(1) or later.

- Step 4** Recover the application partition image:  

```
sensor(config)# recover application-partition
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and re-image the node to
version 6.1(1)E1. All configuration changes except for network settings will be reset to
default.
Continue with recovery? []:
```
- Step 5** Enter **yes** to continue.  

Shutdown begins immediately after you execute the **recover** command. Shutdown can take a while, and you will still have access to the CLI, but access will be terminated without warning.

The application partition is reimaged using the image stored on the recovery partition. You must now initialize the appliance with the **setup** command. The IP address, netmask, access lists, time zone, and offset are saved and applied to the reimaged application partition. If you executed the **recover application-partition** command remotely, you can SSH to the sensor with the default username and password (**cisco/cisco**) and then initialize the sensor again with the **setup** command. You cannot use Telnet until you initialize the sensor because Telnet is disabled by default.

#### For More Information

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).
- For the procedure for using the **setup** command, see [Chapter 21, “Initializing the Sensor.”](#)

## Installing System Images

This section contains the procedures for installing system images on the appliances and modules. It contains the following topics:

- [Understanding ROMMON, page 24-12](#)
- [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#)
- [Connecting an Appliance to a Terminal Server, page 24-13](#)
- [Installing the IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 System Images, page 24-14](#)
- [Installing the IPS-4260 System Image, page 24-17](#)
- [Installing the IPS 4270-20 System Image, page 24-19](#)
- [Installing the AIM-IPS System Image, page 24-21](#)
- [Installing the AIP-SSM System Image, page 24-24](#)
- [Installing the IDSM-2 System Image, page 24-26](#)
- [Installing the NME-IPS System Image, page 24-38](#)



#### Caution

All user configuration settings are lost when you install the system image. Before trying to recover the sensor by installing the system image, try to recover by using the **recover application-partition** command or by selecting the recovery partition during sensor bootup.

## Understanding ROMMON

Some Cisco sensors include a preboot CLI called ROMMON, which lets you boot images on sensors where the image on the primary device is missing, corrupt, or otherwise unable to boot the normal application. ROMMON is particularly useful for recovering remote sensors as long as the serial console port is available.

Access to ROMMON is available only through the serial console port, a Cisco-standard asynchronous RS-232C DTE available in an RJ-45F connector on the sensor chassis. The serial port is configured for 9600 baud, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity, and no flow control.

**For More Information**

For the procedure for using a terminal server, see [Connecting an Appliance to a Terminal Server, page 24-13](#).

## TFTP Servers

ROMMON uses TFTP to download an image and launch it. TFTP does not address network issues such as latency or error recovery. It does implement a limited packet integrity check so that packets arriving in sequence with the correct integrity value have an extremely low probability of error. But TFTP does not offer pipelining so the total transfer time is equal to the number of packets to be transferred times the network average RTT. Because of this limitation, we recommend that the TFTP server be located on the same LAN segment as the sensor. Any network with an RTT less than a 100 milliseconds should provide reliable delivery of the image. Be aware that some TFTP servers limit the maximum file size that can be transferred to ~32 MB.

## Connecting an Appliance to a Terminal Server

A terminal server is a router with multiple, low speed, asynchronous ports that are connected to other serial devices. You can use terminal servers to remotely manage network equipment, including appliances.

To set up a Cisco terminal server with RJ-45 or hydra cable assembly connections, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Connect to a terminal server using one of the following methods:
- For terminal servers with RJ-45 connections, connect a 180 rollover cable from the console port on the appliance to a port on the terminal server.
  - For hydra cable assemblies, connect a straight-through patch cable from the console port on the appliance to a port on the terminal server.
- Step 2** Configure the line and port on the terminal server.
- In enable mode, enter the following configuration, where # is the line number of the port to be configured:
- ```

config t
line #
login
transport input all
stopbits 1
flowcontrol hardware
speed 9600
exit
exit
wr mem

```
- Step 3** Be sure to properly close a terminal session to avoid unauthorized access to the appliance.
- If a terminal session is not stopped properly, that is, if it does not receive an exit(0) signal from the application that initiated the session, the terminal session can remain open. When terminal sessions are not stopped properly, authentication is not performed on the next session that is opened on the serial port.

**Caution**

Always exit your session and return to a login prompt before terminating the application used to establish the connection.

**Caution**

If a connection is dropped or terminated by accident, you should reestablish the connection and exit normally to prevent unauthorized access to the appliance.

Installing the IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 System Images

You can install the IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 system image by using the ROMMON on the appliance to TFTP the system image onto the compact flash device.

**Note**

This procedure is for IPS-4240, but is also applicable to IPS-4255. The system image for IPS-4255 has “4255” in the filename.

To install the IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 system image, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Download the IPS-4240 system image file (IPS-4240-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img) to the tftp root directory of a TFTP server that is accessible from your IPS-4240.

**Note**

Make sure you can access the TFTP server location from the network connected to the Ethernet port of your IPS-4240.

- Step 2** Boot IPS-4240.

The console display resembles the following:

```
Booting system, please wait...
```

```
CISCO SYSTEMS
Embedded BIOS Version 1.0(5)0 09/14/04 12:23:35.90
```

```
Low Memory: 631 KB
```

```
High Memory: 2048 MB
```

```
PCI Device Table.
```

Bus	Dev	Func	VendID	DevID	Class	Irq
00	00	00	8086	2578	Host Bridge	
00	01	00	8086	2579	PCI-to-PCI Bridge	
00	03	00	8086	257B	PCI-to-PCI Bridge	
00	1C	00	8086	25AE	PCI-to-PCI Bridge	
00	1D	00	8086	25A9	Serial Bus	11
00	1D	01	8086	25AA	Serial Bus	10
00	1D	04	8086	25AB	System	
00	1D	05	8086	25AC	IRQ Controller	
00	1D	07	8086	25AD	Serial Bus	9
00	1E	00	8086	244E	PCI-to-PCI Bridge	
00	1F	00	8086	25A1	ISA Bridge	
00	1F	02	8086	25A3	IDE Controller	11
00	1F	03	8086	25A4	Serial Bus	5

```

00 1F 05 8086 25A6 Audio 5
02 01 00 8086 1075 Ethernet 11
03 01 00 177D 0003 Encrypt/Decrypt 9
03 02 00 8086 1079 Ethernet 9
03 02 01 8086 1079 Ethernet 9
03 03 00 8086 1079 Ethernet 9
03 03 01 8086 1079 Ethernet 9
04 02 00 8086 1209 Ethernet 11
04 03 00 8086 1209 Ethernet 5

```

Evaluating BIOS Options ...

Launch BIOS Extension to setup ROMMON

Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(5)0) #1: Tue Sep 14 12:20:30 PDT 2004

Platform IPS-4240-K9

Management0/0

MAC Address: 0000.c0ff.ee01

Step 3 Press **Break** or **Esc** at the following prompt while the system is booting to interrupt boot. Press the spacebar to begin boot immediately.



Note You have ten seconds to press **Break** or **Esc**.

Use BREAK or ESC to interrupt boot.
Use SPACE to begin boot immediately.

The system enters ROMMON mode. The `rommon>` prompt appears.

Step 4 Check the current network settings:

```
rommon> set
```

The output on the configured system resembles the following:

```

ROMMON Variable Settings:
  ADDRESS=0.0.0.0
  SERVER=0.0.0.0
  GATEWAY=0.0.0.0
  PORT=Management0/0
  VLAN=untagged
  IMAGE=
  CONFIG=

```

The variables have the following definitions:

- Address—Local IP address of IPS-4240
- Server—TFTP server IP address where the application image is stored
- Gateway—Gateway IP address used by IPS-4240
- Port—Ethernet interface used for IPS-4240 management
- VLAN—VLAN ID number (leave as untagged)
- Image—System image file/path name
- Config—Unused by these platforms

**Note**

Not all values are required to establish network connectivity. The address, server, gateway, and image values are required. If you are not sure of the settings needed for your local environment, contact your system administrator.

Step 5 If necessary, change the interface used for the TFTP download:

**Note**

The default interface used for TFTP downloads is Management0/0, which corresponds to the MGMT interface of IPS-4240.

```
rommon> PORT=interface_name
```

Step 6 If necessary, assign an IP address for the local port on IPS-4240:

```
rommon> ADDRESS=ip_address
```

**Note**

Use the same IP address that is assigned to IPS-4240.

Step 7 If necessary, assign the TFTP server IP address:

```
rommon> SERVER=ip_address
```

Step 8 If necessary, assign the gateway IP address:

```
rommon> GATEWAY=ip_address
```

Step 9 Verify that you have access to the TFTP server by pinging it from your local Ethernet port with one of the following commands:

```
rommon> ping server_ip_address
rommon> ping server
```

Step 10 If necessary define the path and filename on the TFTP file server from which you are downloading the image:

```
rommon> IMAGE=path/file_name
```

**Caution**

Make sure that you enter the **IMAGE** command in all uppercase. You can enter the other ROMMON commands in either lower case or upper case, but the **IMAGE** command specifically must be all uppercase.

UNIX example:

```
rommon> IMAGE=/system_images/IPS-4240-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```

**Note**

The path is relative to the default tftpboot directory of the UNIX TFTP server. Images located in the default tftpboot directory do not have any directory names or slashes in the IMAGE specification.

Windows example:

```
rommon> IMAGE=\system_images\IPS-4240-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```

Step 11 Enter **set** and press **Enter** to verify the network settings.



Note You can use the **sync** command to store these settings in NVRAM so they are maintained across boots. Otherwise, you must enter this information each time you want to boot an image from ROMMON.

Step 12 Download and install the system image:

```
rommon> tftp
```



Caution

To avoid corrupting the system image, do not remove power from IPS-4240 while the system image is being installed.



Note If the network settings are correct, the system downloads and boots the specified image on IPS-4240. Be sure to use the IPS-4240 image.

For More Information

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Installing the IPS-4260 System Image

You can install the IPS-4260 system image by using the ROMMON on the appliance to TFTP the system image onto the flash device.

To install the IPS-4260 system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the IPS-4260 system image file (IPS-4260-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img) to the tftp root directory of a TFTP server that is accessible from your IPS-4260.

Make sure you can access the TFTP server location from the network connected to your IPS-4260 Ethernet port.

Step 2 Boot IPS-4260.

Step 3 Press **Ctrl-R** at the following prompt while the system is booting:

```
Evaluating Run Options...
```



Note You have five seconds to press **Ctrl-R**.

The console display resembles the following:

```
Assuming IPS-4260-K9 Platform
 2 Ethernet Interfaces detected
```

```
Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(11)1c) #26: Mon Mar 13 18:05:54 CST 2006
```

```
Platform IPS-4260-K9
Management0/0
Link is UP
MAC Address: 0004.23cc.6047
```

```
Use ? for help.
rommon #0>
```

Step 4 If necessary, change the port used for the TFTP download:

```
rommon #1> interface name
```

The port in use is listed just after the platform identification. In the example, port Management0/0 is being used.



Note The default port used for TFTP downloads is Management0/0, which corresponds with the command and control (MGMT) interface of the IPS-4260.



Note Ports Management0/0 (MGMT) and GigabitEthernet0/1 (GE 0/1) are labeled on the back of the chassis.

Step 5 Specify an IP address for the local port on IPS-4260:

```
rommon> address ip_address
```



Note Use the same IP address that is assigned to IPS-4260.

Step 6 Specify the TFTP server IP address:

```
rommon> server ip_address
```

Step 7 Specify the gateway IP address:

```
rommon> gateway ip_address
```

Step 8 Verify that you have access to the TFTP server by pinging it from the local Ethernet port:

```
rommon> ping server_ip_address
rommon> ping server
```

Step 9 Specify the path and filename on the TFTP file server from which you are downloading the image:

```
rommon> file path/filename
```

UNIX example:

```
rommon> file /system_images/IPS-4260-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```



Note The path is relative to the default tftpboot directory of the UNIX TFTP server. Images located in the default tftpboot directory do not have any directory names or slashes in the file location.

Windows example:

```
rommon> file <tftpboot_directory>IPS-4260-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```


Step 10 Download and install the system image:

```
rommon> tftp
```



Note IPS-4260 reboots once during the reimaging process. Do not remove power from IPS-4260 during the update process or the upgrade can become corrupted.

For More Information

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Installing the IPS 4270-20 System Image

You can install the IPS 4270-20 system image by using the ROMMON on the appliance to TFTP the system image onto the compact flash device.

To install the IPS 4270-20 system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the IPS 4270-20 system image file (IPS4270-20-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img) to the tftp root directory of a TFTP server that is accessible from your IPS 4270-20.



Note Make sure you can access the TFTP server location from the network connected to the Ethernet port of your IPS 4270-20.

Step 2 Boot IPS 4270-20.

The console display resembles the following:

```
Booting system, please wait...
Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(12)10) #7: Thu Jun 21 13:50:04 CDT 2007

ft_id_update: Invalid ID-PROM Controller Type (0x5df)

ft_id_update: Defaulting to Controller Type (0x5c2)
```



Note The controller type errors are a known issue and can be disregarded.

Step 3 Press **Break** or **Esc** at the following prompt while the system is booting to interrupt boot. Press the spacebar to begin boot immediately.



Note You have ten seconds to press **Break** or **Esc**.

```
Use BREAK or ESC to interrupt boot.
Use SPACE to begin boot immediately.
```

The system enters ROMMON mode. The `rommon>` prompt appears.

Step 4 Check the current network settings:

```
rommon> set
```

The output on the configured system resembles the following:

```
ROMMON Variable Settings:
ADDRESS=0.0.0.0
SERVER=0.0.0.0
GATEWAY=0.0.0.0
PORT=Management0/0
VLAN=untagged
IMAGE=
CONFIG=
LINKTIMEOUT=20
PKTTIMEOUT=2
RETRY=20
```

The variables have the following definitions:

- Address—Local IP address of IPS 4270-20
- Server—TFTP server IP address where the application image is stored
- Gateway—Gateway IP address used by IPS 4270-20
- Port—Ethernet interface used for IPS 4270-20 management
- VLAN—VLAN ID number (leave as untagged)
- Image—System image file/path name
- Config—Unused by these platforms



Note Not all values are required to establish network connectivity. The address, server, gateway, and image values are required. If you are not sure of the settings needed for your local environment, contact your system administrator.

Step 5 If necessary, assign an IP address for the local port on IPS 4270-20:

```
rommon> ADDRESS=ip_address
```



Note Use the same IP address that is assigned to IPS 4270-20.

Step 6 If necessary, assign the TFTP server IP address:

```
rommon> SERVER=ip_address
```

Step 7 If necessary, assign the gateway IP address:

```
rommon> GATEWAY=ip_address
```

Step 8 Verify that you have access to the TFTP server by pinging it from your local Ethernet port with one of the following commands:

```
rommon> ping server_ip_address
rommon> ping server
```

Step 9 If necessary define the path and filename on the TFTP file server from which you are downloading the image:

```
rommon> IMAGE=path/file_name
```

UNIX example:

```
rommon> IMAGE=/system_images/IPS4270-20-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```



Note The path is relative to the UNIX TFTP server default tftpboot directory. Images located in the default tftpboot directory do not have any directory names or slashes in the IMAGE specification.

Windows example:

```
rommon> IMAGE=\system_images\IPS4270-20-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```

Step 10 Enter **set** and press **Enter** to verify the network settings.



Note You can use the **sync** command to store these settings in NVRAM so they are maintained across boots. Otherwise, you must enter this information each time you want to boot an image from ROMMON.

Step 11 Download and install the system image:

```
rommon> tftp
```



Caution

To avoid corrupting the system image, do not remove power from IPS 4270-20 while the system image is being installed.



Note If the network settings are correct, the system downloads and boots the specified image on IPS 4270-20. Be sure to use the IPS 4270-20 image.

For More Information

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Installing the AIM-IPS System Image

To install the AIM-IPS system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the AIM-IPS system image file (IPS-AIM-K9-sys-1.1-6.1-1-E1.img), and place it on a TFTP server relative to the tftp root directory.



Note Make sure the network is configured so that AIM-IPS can access the TFTP server.

If no TFTP server is available, you can configure the router to operate as a TFTP server:

```
router# copy tftp: flash:
router# configure terminal
```

```
router(config)# tftp-server flash:IPS-AIM-K9-sys-1.1-6.0-3-E1.img
router(config)# exit
router#
```

Step 2 Disable the heartbeat reset:

```
router# service-module IDS-Sensor 0/slot_number heartbeat-reset disable
```



Note Disabling the heartbeat reset prevents the router from resetting the module during system image installation if the process takes too long.

Step 3 Session to AIM-IPS:

```
router# service-module IDS-Sensor 0/slot_number session
```



Note Use the **show configuration | include interface IDS-Sensor** command to determine the AIM-IPS slot number.

Step 4 Suspend the session by pressing **Shift-Ctrl-6 X**.

You should see the `router#` prompt. If you do not see this prompt, try **Ctrl-6 X**.

Step 5 Reset AIM-IPS:

```
router# service-module IDS-Sensor 0/slot_number reset
```

You are prompted to confirm the **reset** command.

Step 6 Press **Enter** to confirm.

Step 7 Press **Enter** to resume the suspended session.

After displaying its version, the bootloader displays this prompt for 15 seconds:

```
Please enter '***' to change boot configuration:
```

Step 8 Enter ******* during the 15-second delay.

The bootloader prompt appears.

Step 9 Press **Enter** to session back to AIM-IPS.

Step 10 Configure the bootloader:

```
ServicesEngine bootloader> config
```

```
IP Address [10.89.148.188]>
Subnet mask [255.255.255.0]>
TFTP server [10.89.150.74]>
Gateway [10.89.148.254]>
Default boot [disk]>
Number cores [2]>
ServicesEngine boot-loader >
```

For each prompt, enter a value or accept the previously stored input that appears inside square brackets by pressing **Enter**.



Note The gateway IP address must match the IP address of the IDS-Sensor *slot/port* interface.

**Note**

If you set up the module interfaces using the **unnumbered** command, the gateway IP address should be the IP address of the other router interface being used as part of the unnumbered command.

**Caution**

The pathname for the AIM-IPS image is full but relative to the tftp server root directory (typically /tftpboot).

Step 11 Start the bootloader:

```
ServicesEngine bootloader> upgrade
```

Step 12 Follow the bootloader instructions to install the software (choose option 1 and follow the wizard instructions).**Note**

In the following example, the AIM-IPS IP address is 10.1.9.201. The imaging process accesses the AIM-IPS image from the router TFTP server at IP address 10.1.9.1.

Example:

```
Booting from flash...please wait.
Please enter '***' to change boot configuration:
11 ***
ServicesEngine boot-loader Version : 1.1.0
ServicesEngine boot-loader > config

IP Address [10.1.9.201]>
Subnet mask [255.255.255.0]>
TFTP server [10.1.9.1]>
Gateway [10.1.9.1]>
Default boot [disk]>
Number cores [2]>
ServicesEngine boot-loader > upgrade

Cisco Systems, Inc.
Services engine upgrade utility for AIM-IPS
-----
Main menu
1 - Download application image and write to USB Drive
2 - Download bootloader and write to flash
3 - Download minikernel and write to flash
r - Exit and reset card
x - Exit
Selection [123rx]
Download recovery image via tftp and install on USB Drive
TFTP server [10.1.9.1]>
full pathname of recovery image []:IPS-AIM-K9-sys-1.1-6.0-3-E1.img
Ready to begin
Are you sure [Y/N]
Returning TRUE
Press <CTRL-C> to abort.
octeth1:      Up      1Gbs Full duplex, (port 1)
octeth0:      Down   10Mbs Half duplex, (port 0)
Using octeth1 device
TFTP from server 10.1.9.1; our IP address is 10.1.9.201
Filename 'IPS-AIM-K9-sys-1.1-6.0-3-E1.img'.
Load address: 0x21000000
```

Step 13 Suspend the session by pressing **Shift-Ctrl-6 X**.

You should see the `router#` prompt. If you do not see this prompt, try **Ctrl-6 X**.

Step 14 From the router CLI, clear the session:

```
router# service-module interface ids-sensor 0/slot_number session clear
```

Step 15 Enable the heartbeat reset:

```
router# service-module IDS-sensor 0/slot_number heartbeat-reset enable
```

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

- Reimaging AIP-SSM, page 24-24
- Reimaging AIP-SSM Using the recover configure/boot Command, page 24-25

- From ASA using the **hw-module module 1 recover configure/boot** command.
- Recovering the application image from the sensor CLI using the **recover application-partition** command.
- Upgrading the recovery image from the sensor CLI using the **upgrade** command.

For More Information

- For the procedure for using the **hw-module module 1 recover configure/boot** command, see [Reimaging AIP-SSM Using the recover configure/boot Command, page 24-25](#).
- For the procedure for recovering the application partition, see [Recovering the Application Partition, page 24-10](#).
- For the procedure for upgrading the recovery image, see [Upgrading the Recovery Partition, page 24-5](#).

Reimaging AIP-SSM Using the recover configure/boot Command

To install the AIP-SSM system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the ASA.

Step 2 Enter enable mode:

```
asa# enable
```

Step 3 Configure the recovery settings for AIP-SSM:

```
asa (enable)# hw-module module 1 recover configure
```



Note If you make an error in the recovery configuration, use the **hw-module module 1 recover stop** command to stop the system reimaging and then you can correct the configuration.

Step 4 Specify the TFTP URL for the system image:

```
Image URL [tftp://0.0.0.0/]:
```

Example:

```
Image URL [tftp://0.0.0.0/]: tftp://10.89.146.1/IPS-SSM-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
```

Step 5 Specify the command and control interface of AIP-SSM:



Note The port IP address is the management IP address of AIP-SSM.

```
Port IP Address [0.0.0.0]:
```

Example:

```
Port IP Address [0.0.0.0]: 10.89.149.231
```

Step 6 Leave the VLAN ID at 0:

```
VLAN ID [0]:
```

Step 7 Specify the default gateway of AIP-SSM:

```
Gateway IP Address [0.0.0.0]:
```

Example:

```
Gateway IP Address [0.0.0.0]: 10.89.149.254
```

Step 8 Execute the recovery:

```
asa# hw-module module 1 recover boot
```

Step 9 Periodically check the recovery until it is complete:



Note The status reads *Recovery* during recovery and reads *Up* when reimaging is complete.

```
asa# show module 1
```

Mod	Card Type	Model	Serial No.
0	ASA 5540 Adaptive Security Appliance	ASA5540	P2B00000019
1	ASA 5500 Series Security Services Module-20	ASA-SSM-20	P1D000004F4

Mod	MAC Address Range	Hw Version	Fw Version	Sw Version
0	000b.fcf8.7b1c to 000b.fcf8.7b20	0.2	1.0(7)2	7.0(0)82
1	000b.fcf8.011e to 000b.fcf8.011e	0.1	1.0(7)2	5.0(0.22)S129.0

```
Mod Status
```

```
-----
0 Up Sys
1 Up
asa#
```



Note To debug any errors that may happen in the recovery process, use the **debug module-boot** command to enable debugging of the system reimaging process.

Step 10 Session to AIP-SSM and initialize AIP-SSM with the **setup** command.

For More Information

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for initializing AIP-SSM, see [Advanced Setup for AIP-SSM, page 21-15](#).

Installing the IDSM-2 System Image

This section describes how to install the IDSM-2 system images, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the IDSM-2 System Image, page 24-27](#)
- [Installing the IDSM-2 System Image for Catalyst Software, page 24-27](#)
- [Installing the IDSM-2 System Image for Cisco IOS Software, page 24-28](#)
- [Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Catalyst Software, page 24-29](#)
- [Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Cisco IOS Software, page 24-33](#)
- [Upgrading the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Catalyst Software, page 24-37](#)
- [Upgrading the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Cisco IOS Software, page 24-37](#)

Understanding the IDSM-2 System Image

If the IDSM-2 application partition becomes unusable, you can reimage it from the maintenance partition. After you reimage the application partition of IDSM-2, you must initialize IDSM-2 using the **setup** command.

When there is a new maintenance partition image file, you can reimage the maintenance partition from the application partition.

For More Information

For the procedure to use the **setup** command, see [Advanced Setup for IDSM-2, page 21-20](#).

Installing the IDSM-2 System Image for Catalyst Software

To install the system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the IDSM-2 system image file (WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz) to the FTP root directory of an FTP server that is accessible from your IDSM-2.

Step 2 Log in to the switch CLI.

Step 3 Boot IDSM-2 to the maintenance partition:

```
console> (enable) reset module_number cf:1
```

Step 4 Log in to the maintenance partition CLI:

```
login: guest
Password: cisco
```



Note You must configure the maintenance partition on IDSM-2.

Step 5 Install the system image:

```
guest@hostname.localdomain# upgrade ftp://user@ftp server IP/directory  
path/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz
```

Step 6 Specify the FTP server password.

After the application partition file has been downloaded, you are asked if you want to proceed:

```
Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the hard disk. Do you want to proceed installing  
it [y|n]:
```

Step 7 Enter **y** to continue.

When the application partition file has been installed, you are returned to the maintenance partition CLI.

Step 8 Exit the maintenance partition CLI and return to the switch CLI.

Step 9 Reboot IDSM-2 to the application partition:

```
console> (enable) reset module_number hdd:1
```

Step 10 When IDSM-2 has rebooted, check the software version.

Step 11 Log in to the application partition CLI and initialize IDSM-2.

For More Information

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers](#), page 24-2.
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software](#), page 23-1.
- For the procedure for configuration the maintenance partition on IDMS-2, see [Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Catalyst Software](#), page 24-29 and [Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Cisco IOS Software](#), page 24-33.
- For the procedure for initializing IDSM-2, see [Advanced Setup for IDSM-2](#), page 21-20.

Installing the IDSM-2 System Image for Cisco IOS Software

To install the system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the IDSM-2 system image file (WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz) to the FTP root directory of an FTP server that is accessible from your IDSM-2.

Step 2 Log in to the switch CLI.

Step 3 Boot IDSM-2 to the maintenance partition.

```
router# hw-module module module_number reset cf:1
```

Step 4 Session to the maintenance partition CLI.

```
router# session slot slot_number processor 1
```

Step 5 Log in to the maintenance partition CLI.

```
login: guest
Password: cisco
```

Step 6 Configure the maintenance partition interface IP address.

```
guest@localhost.localdomain# ip address ip_address netmask
```



Note Choose an address that is appropriate for the VLAN on which the IDSM-2 management interface is located based on the switch configuration.

Step 7 Configure the maintenance partition default gateway address.

```
guest@localhost.localdomain# ip gateway gateway_address
```

Step 8 Install the system image.

```
guest@hostname.localdomain# upgrade
ftp://user@ftp_server_ip_address/directory_path/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz-install
```

Step 9 Specify the FTP server password.

After the application partition file has been downloaded, you are asked if you want to proceed:

```
Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the hard disk.
Do you want to proceed installing it [y|n]:
```

Step 10 Enter **y** to continue. When the application partition file has been installed, you are returned to the maintenance partition CLI.

- Step 11** Exit the maintenance partition CLI and return to the switch CLI.
- Step 12** Reboot IDSM-2 to the application partition.
- ```
router# hw-module module module_number reset hdd:1
```
- Step 13** Verify that IDSM-2 is online and that the software version is correct and that the status is ok.
- ```
router# show module module_number
```
- Step 14** Session to the IDSM-2 application partition CLI.
- ```
router# session slot slot_number processor 1
```
- Step 15** Initialize IDSM-2 using the **setup** command.
- 

#### For More Information

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).
- For the procedure for configuration the maintenance partition on IDMS-2, see [Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Catalyst Software, page 24-29](#) and [Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Cisco IOS Software, page 24-33](#).
- For the procedure for initializing IDSM-2, see [Advanced Setup for IDSM-2, page 21-20](#).

## Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Catalyst Software

To configure the IDSM-2 maintenance partition, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Log in to the switch CLI.
- Step 2** Enter privileged mode:
- ```
console# enable
console(enable)#
```
- Step 3** Reload IDSM-2:
- ```
console> (enable) reset module_number cf:1
```
- Step 4** Session to IDSM-2:
- ```
console# session 9
Trying IDS-9...
Connected to IDS-9.
Escape character is '^]'.

Cisco Maintenance image
```



Note You cannot Telnet or SSH to the IDSM-2 maintenance partition. You must session to it from the switch CLI.

- Step 5** Log in as user **guest** and password **cisco**.



Note You can change the guest password, but we do not recommend it. If you forget the maintenance partition guest password, and you cannot log in to the IDSM-2 application partition for some reason, IDSM-2 requires an RMA.

```
login: guest
Password: cisco

Maintenance image version: 2.1(2)

guest@idsm2.localdomain#
```

Step 6 View the IDSM-2 maintenance partition host configuration:

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# show ip

IP address       : 10.89.149.74
Subnet Mask      : 255.255.255.128
IP Broadcast     : 10.255.255.255
DNS Name         : idsm2.localdomain
Default Gateway  : 10.89.149.126
Nameserver(s)    :

guest@idsm2.localdomain#
```

Step 7 Clear the IDSM-2 maintenance partition host configuration (ip address, gateway, hostname):

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# clear ip
guest@localhost.localdomain# show ip

IP address       : 0.0.0.0
Subnet Mask      : 0.0.0.0
IP Broadcast     : 0.0.0.0
DNS Name         : localhost.localdomain
Default Gateway  : 0.0.0.0
Nameserver(s)    :

guest@localhost.localdomain#
```

Step 8 Configure the maintenance partition host configuration:

a. Specify the IP address:

```
guest@localhost.localdomain# ip address ip_address netmask
```

b. Specify the default gateway:

```
guest@localhost.localdomain# ip gateway gateway_ip_address
```

c. Specify the hostname:

```
guest@localhost.localdomain# ip host hostname
```

Step 9 View the maintenance partition host configuration:

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# show ip

IP address       : 10.89.149.74
Subnet Mask      : 255.255.255.128
IP Broadcast     : 10.255.255.255
DNS Name         : idsm2.localdomain
Default Gateway  : 10.89.149.126
Nameserver(s)    :
```

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain#
```

Step 10 Verify the image installed on the application partition:

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# show images
Device name          Partition#          Image name
-----
Hard disk(hdd)       1                  6.1(1)
guest@idsm2.localdomain#
```

Step 11 Verify the maintenance partition version (including the BIOS version):

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# show version

Maintenance image version: 2.1(2)
mp.2-1-2.bin : Thu Nov 18 11:41:36 PST 2004 :
integ@kplus-build-lx.cisco.com

Line Card Number :WS-SVC-IDS2-XL
Number of Pentium-class Processors : 2
BIOS Vendor: Phoenix Technologies Ltd.
BIOS Version: 4.0-Rel 6.0.9

Total available memory: 2012 MB
Size of compact flash: 61 MB
Size of hard disk: 19077 MB
Daughter Card Info: Falcon rev 3, FW ver 2.0.3.0 (IDS), SRAM 8 MB, SDRAM 256 MB

guest@idsm2.localdomain#
```

Step 12 Upgrade the application partition:

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# upgrade
ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.11//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDS2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz
Downloading the image. This may take several minutes...
Password for jsmith@10.89.146.114:
500 'WS-SVC-IDS2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.0-0.190-E0.1.bin.gz': command not understood.

ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.11//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDS2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz (unknown size)
/tmp/upgrade.gz      [ ]    28616K
29303086 bytes transferred in 5.34 sec (5359.02k/sec)

Upgrade file
ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.114//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDS2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1.bin.gz is downloaded.
Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the storage media.
Do you want to proceed installing it [y|N]:
```

Step 13 Enter **y** to proceed with the upgrade.

```
Proceeding with upgrade. Please do not interrupt.
If the upgrade is interrupted or fails, boot into maintenance image again and restart upgrade.

Creating IDS application image file...

Initializing the hard disk...
Applying the image, this process may take several minutes...
Performing post install, please wait...
Application image upgrade complete. You can boot the image now.
guest@idsm3.localdomain#
```

Step 14 Display the upgrade log:

```

guest@idsm3.localdomain# show log upgrade

Upgrading the line card on Fri Mar 11 21:21:53 UTC 2005
Downloaded upgrade image
ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.114//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.190-E0.1
.bin.gz
Extracted the downloaded file
Proceeding with image upgrade.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : argv1 = 0, argv2 = 0, argv3 = 3, argv4 = 1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : Creating IDS application image file...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : footer: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : exeoff: 0000000000031729
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : image: 0000000029323770
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : T: 29323818, E: 31729, I: 29323770
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : partition: /dev/hdc1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : startIDSAppUpgrade:Image: /tmp/cdisk.gz
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : startIDSAppUpgrade:Device: /dev/hdc1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : startIDSAppUpgrade:Install type: 1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : Initializing the hard disk...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : Required disk size: 524288 Kb (blocks)
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : Available disk size: 19535040 Kb (blocks)
Fri Mar 11 21:22:13 2005 : Partitions created on '/dev/hdc'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:13 2005 : Device '/dev/hdc' verified for OK.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Created ext2 fileSystem on '/dev/hdc1'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Directory '/mnt/hd/' created.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Partition '/dev/hdc1' mounted.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Finished initializing the hard disk.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Applying the image, this process may take several minutes...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Directory changed to '/mnt/hd'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:20 2005 : Performing post install, please wait...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:20 2005 : File /mnt/hd/post-install copied to /tmp/post-install.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:20 2005 : Directory changed to '/tmp'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:28 2005 : Partition '/dev/hdc1' unmounted.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:28 2005 : Directory changed to '/tmp'.
Application image upgrade complete. You can boot the image now.
Partition upgraded successfully
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 15 Clear the upgrade log:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# clear log upgrade
Cleared log file successfully

```

Step 16 Display the upgrade log:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# show log upgrade
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 17 Ping another computer:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# ping 10.89.146.114
PING 10.89.146.114 (10.89.146.114) from 10.89.149.74 : 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=0 ttl=254 time=381 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=1 ttl=254 time=133 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=2 ttl=254 time=129 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=3 ttl=254 time=141 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=4 ttl=254 time=127 usec

--- 10.89.146.114 ping statistics ---
5 packets transmitted, 5 packets received, 0% packet loss
round-trip min/avg/max/mdev = 0.127/0.182/0.381/0.099 ms
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 18 Reset IDSM-2:

Note You cannot specify a partition when issuing the **reset** command from the maintenance partition. IDSM-2 boots to whichever partition is specified in the boot device variable. If the boot device variable is blank, IDSM-2 boots to the application partition.

```
guest@idsm2.localdomain# reset
guest@idsm2.localdomain#
2005 Mar 11 21:55:46 CST -06:00 %SYS-4-MOD_SHUTDOWNSTART:Module 9 shutdown in progress. Do
not remove module until shutdown completes

Broadcast message from root Fri Mar 11 21:55:47 2005...

The system is going down for system halt NOW !!
console> (enable)#
```

For More Information

For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).

Configuring the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Cisco IOS Software

To configure the IDSM-2 maintenance partition, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the switch CLI.

Step 2 Session to IDSM-2:

```
router# session slot 11 processor 1
The default escape character is Ctrl-^, then x.
You can also type 'exit' at the remote prompt to end the session
Trying 127.0.0.111 ... Open

Cisco Maintenance image
```



Note You cannot Telnet or SSH to the IDSM-2 maintenance partition. You must session to it from the switch CLI.

Step 3 Log in as user **guest** and password **cisco**.



Note You can change the guest password, but we do not recommend it. If you forget the maintenance partition guest password, and you cannot log in to the IDSM-2 application partition for some reason, you will have to RMA IDSM-2.

```
login: guest
password: cisco

Maintenance image version: 2.1(2)

guest@idsm2.localdomain#
```

Step 4 View the maintenance partition host configuration:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# show ip

IP address      : 10.89.149.74
Subnet Mask     : 255.255.255.128
IP Broadcast    : 10.255.255.255
DNS Name        : idsm2.localdomain
Default Gateway : 10.89.149.126
Nameserver(s)   :

guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 5 Clear the maintenance partition host configuration (ip address, gateway, hostname):

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# clear ip
guest@localhost.localdomain# show ip

IP address      : 0.0.0.0
Subnet Mask     : 0.0.0.0
IP Broadcast    : 0.0.0.0
DNS Name        : localhost.localdomain
Default Gateway : 0.0.0.0
Nameserver(s)   :

guest@localhost.localdomain#

```

Step 6 Configure the maintenance partition host configuration:**a.** Specify the IP address:

```

guest@localhost.localdomain# ip address ip_address netmask

```

b. Specify the default gateway:

```

guest@localhost.localdomain# ip gateway gateway_ip_address

```

c. Specify the hostname:

```

guest@localhost.localdomain# ip host hostname

```

Step 7 View the maintenance partition host configuration:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# show ip

IP address      : 10.89.149.74
Subnet Mask     : 255.255.255.128
IP Broadcast    : 10.255.255.255
DNS Name        : idsm2.localdomain
Default Gateway : 10.89.149.126
Nameserver(s)   :

guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 8 Verify the image installed on the application partition:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# show images
Device name      Partition#      Image name
-----
Hard disk(hdd)   1              6.1 (1)
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 9 Verify the maintenance partition version (including the BIOS version):

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# show version

```



```

Maintenance image version: 2.1(2)
mp.2-1-2.bin : Thu Nov 18 11:41:36 PST 2004 :
integ@kplus-build-lx.cisco.com

Line Card Number :WS-SVC-IDSM2-XL
Number of Pentium-class Processors : 2
BIOS Vendor: Phoenix Technologies Ltd.
BIOS Version: 4.0-Rel 6.0.9

Total available memory: 2012 MB
Size of compact flash: 61 MB
Size of hard disk: 19077 MB
Daughter Card Info: Falcon rev 3, FW ver 2.0.3.0 (IDS), SRAM 8 MB, SDRAM 256 MB

guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 10 Upgrade the application partition:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# upgrade
ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.11//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
Downloading the image. This may take several minutes...
Password for jsmith@10.89.146.114:
500 'SIZE WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1.bin.gz': command not understood.

ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.11//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
(unknown size)
/tmp/upgrade.gz      []      28616K
29303086 bytes transferred in 5.34 sec (5359.02k/sec)

Upgrade file
ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.114//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
is downloaded.
Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the storage media.
Do you want to proceed installing it [y|N]:

```

Step 11 Enter **y** to proceed with the upgrade.

```

Proceeding with upgrade. Please do not interrupt.
If the upgrade is interrupted or fails, boot into maintenance image again and restart
upgrade.

Creating IDS application image file...

Initializing the hard disk...
Applying the image, this process may take several minutes...
Performing post install, please wait...
Application image upgrade complete. You can boot the image now.
guest@idsm3.localdomain#

```

Step 12 Display the upgrade log:

```

guest@idsm3.localdomain# show log upgrade

Upgrading the line card on Fri Mar 11 21:21:53 UTC 2005
Downloaded upgrade image
ftp://jsmith@10.89.146.114//RELEASES/Latest/6.1-1/WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-sys-1.1-a-6.1-1-E1.img
Extracted the downloaded file
Proceeding with image upgrade.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : argv1 = 0, argv2 = 0, argv3 = 3, argv4 = 1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : Creating IDS application image file...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : footer: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : exeoff: 0000000000031729
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : image: 0000000029323770
Fri Mar 11 21:22:06 2005 : T: 29323818, E: 31729, I: 29323770
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : partition: /dev/hdc1

```

```

Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : startIDSAppUpgrade:Image: /tmp/cdisk.gz
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : startIDSAppUpgrade:Device: /dev/hdc1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : startIDSAppUpgrade:Install type: 1
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : Initializing the hard disk...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : Required disk size: 524288 Kb (blocks)
Fri Mar 11 21:22:07 2005 : Available disk size: 19535040 Kb (blocks)
Fri Mar 11 21:22:13 2005 : Partitions created on '/dev/hdc'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:13 2005 : Device '/dev/hdc' verified for OK.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Created ext2 fileSystem on '/dev/hdc1'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Directory '/mnt/hd/' created.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Partition '/dev/hdc1' mounted.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Finished initializing the hard disk.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Applying the image, this process may take several minutes...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:19 2005 : Directory changed to '/mnt/hd'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:20 2005 : Performing post install, please wait...
Fri Mar 11 21:22:20 2005 : File /mnt/hd/post-install copied to /tmp/post-install.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:20 2005 : Directory changed to '/tmp'.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:28 2005 : Partition '/dev/hdc1' unmounted.
Fri Mar 11 21:22:28 2005 : Directory changed to '/tmp'.
Application image upgrade complete. You can boot the image now.
Partition upgraded successfully
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 13 Clear the upgrade log:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# clear log upgrade
Cleared log file successfully

```

Step 14 Display the upgrade log:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# show log upgrade
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 15 Ping another computer:

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# ping 10.89.146.114
PING 10.89.146.114 (10.89.146.114) from 10.89.149.74 : 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=0 ttl=254 time=381 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=1 ttl=254 time=133 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=2 ttl=254 time=129 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=3 ttl=254 time=141 usec
64 bytes from 10.89.146.114: icmp_seq=4 ttl=254 time=127 usec

--- 10.89.146.114 ping statistics ---
5 packets transmitted, 5 packets received, 0% packet loss
round-trip min/avg/max/mdev = 0.127/0.182/0.381/0.099 ms
guest@idsm2.localdomain#

```

Step 16 Reset IDSM-2:**Note**

You cannot specify a partition when issuing the **reset** command from the maintenance partition. IDSM-2 boots to whichever partition is specified in the boot device variable. If the boot device variable is blank, IDSM-2 boots to the application partition.

```

guest@idsm2.localdomain# reset
guest@idsm2.localdomain#
Broadcast message from root Fri Mar 11 22:04:53 2005...

```

```
The system is going down for system halt NOW !!

[Connection to 127.0.0.111 closed by foreign host]
router#
```

For More Information

For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers](#), page 24-2.

Upgrading the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Catalyst Software

To upgrade the maintenance partition, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Step 1 | Download the IDSM-2 maintenance partition file (c6svc-mp.2-1-2.bin.gz) to the FTP root directory of an FTP server that is accessible from your IDSM-2. |
| Step 2 | Session to IDSM-2 from the switch:

<code>console>(enable) session slot_number</code> |
| Step 3 | Log in to the IDSM-2 CLI. |
| Step 4 | Enter configuration mode:

<code>idsm2# configure terminal</code> |
| Step 5 | Upgrade the maintenance partition:

<code>idsm2(config)# upgrade</code>
<code>ftp://user@ftp_server_IP_address/directory_path/c6svc-mp.2-1-2.bin.gz</code>

You are asked whether you want continue. |
| Step 6 | Enter the FTP server password. |
| Step 7 | Enter y to continue.

The maintenance partition file is upgraded. |
-

For More Information

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers](#), page 24-2.
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software](#), page 23-1.

Upgrading the IDSM-2 Maintenance Partition for Cisco IOS Software

To upgrade the maintenance partition, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Step 1 | Download the IDSM-2 maintenance partition file (c6svc-mp.2-1-2.bin.gz) to the FTP root directory of an FTP server that is accessible from your IDSM-2. |
| Step 2 | Log in to the switch CLI. |

Step 3 Session in to the application partition CLI:

```
router# session slot slot_number processor 1
```

Step 4 Log in to IDSM-2.

Step 5 Enter configuration mode:

```
idsm2# configure terminal
```

Step 6 Upgrade the maintenance partition:

```
idsm2(config)# upgrade
ftp://user@ftp_server_IP_address/directory_path/c6svc-mp.2-1-2.bin.gz
```

Step 7 Specify the FTP server password:

```
Password: *****
```

You are prompted to continue:

```
Continue with upgrade?:
```

Step 8 Enter **yes** to continue.

For More Information

- For a list of supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Installing the NME-IPS System Image



Note

Use the **show configuration | include interface ids-sensor** command to determine the NME-IPS slot number.

To install the NME-IPS system image, follow these steps:

Step 1 Download the NME-IPS system image file (IPS-NME-K9-sys-1.1-6.1-1-E2.img), and place it on a TFTP server relative to the tftp root directory.



Note

Make sure the network is configured so that NME-IPS can access the TFTP server.

If no TFTP server is available, you can configure the router to operate as a TFTP server:

```
router# copy tftp: flash:
router# configure terminal
router(config)# tftp-server flash:IPS-NME-K9-sys-1.1-6.1-1-E2.img
router(config)# exit
router#
```

Step 2 Disable the heartbeat reset:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 heartbeat-reset disable
```

**Note**

Disabling the heartbeat reset prevents the router from resetting the module during system image installation if the process takes too long.

Step 3 Session to NME-IPS:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 session
```

Step 4 Suspend the session by pressing **Shift-Ctrl-6 X**.

You should see the `router#` prompt. If you do not see this prompt, try **Ctrl-6 X**.

Step 5 Reset NME-IPS:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 reset
```

You are prompted to confirm the **reset** command.

Step 6 Press **Enter** to confirm.

Step 7 Press **Enter** to resume the suspended session.

After displaying its version, the bootloader displays this prompt for 15 seconds:

```
Please enter '***' to change boot configuration:
```

Step 8 Enter ******* during the 15-second delay.

The bootloader prompt appears.

Step 9 Press **Enter** to session back to NME-IPS.

Step 10 Configure the bootloader:

```
ServicesEngine bootloader> config
```

```
IP Address [10.89.148.195]>
Subnet mask [255.255.255.0]>
TFTP server [10.89.150.74]>
Gateway [10.89.148.254]>
Default boot [disk]>
Number cores [2]>
ServicesEngine boot-loader >
```

For each prompt, enter a value or accept the previously stored input that appears inside square brackets by pressing **Enter**.

**Caution**

The pathname for the NME-IPS image is full but relative to the tftp server root directory (typically /tftpboot).

Step 11 Start the bootloader:

```
ServicesEngine bootloader> upgrade
```

Step 12 Follow the bootloader instructions to install the software (choose option 1 and follow the wizard instructions).

Example:

```
Booting from flash...please wait.
Please enter '***' to change boot configuration:
12 ***
ServicesEngine boot-loader Version : 1.2.0
ServicesEngine boot-loader > config
```

Step 13 Suspend the session by pressing **Shift-Ctrl-6 X**. You should see the `router#` prompt. If you do not see this prompt, try **Ctrl-6 X**.

Step 14 From the router CLI, clear the session:

```
router# service-module interface ids-sensor 1/0 session clear
```

Step 15 Enable the heartbeat reset:

```
router# service-module IDS-sensor 1/0 heartbeat-reset enable
```

For More Information

- For more information about TFTP servers, see [TFTP Servers, page 24-13](#).
- For the procedure for locating software on Cisco.com, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).



APPENDIX **A**

System Architecture

This chapter describes the Cisco IPS 6.1 system architecture, and contains the following topics:

- [Purpose of the Cisco IPS, page A-1](#)
- [System Design, page A-1](#)
- [System Applications, page A-2](#)
- [Cisco IPS 6.1 New Features, page A-3](#)
- [User Interaction, page A-4](#)
- [Security Features, page A-5](#)
- [MainApp, page A-5](#)
- [SensorApp, page A-22](#)
- [CLI, page A-27](#)
- [Communications, page A-29](#)
- [Cisco IPS 6.1 File Structure, page A-34](#)
- [Summary of Cisco IPS 6.1 Applications, page A-35](#)

Purpose of the Cisco IPS

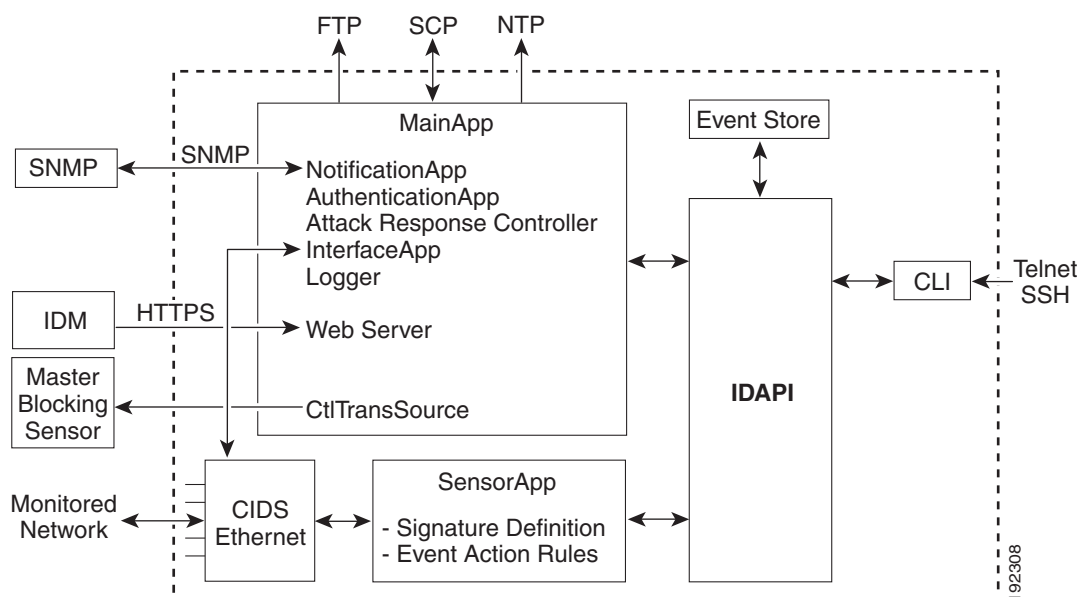
The purpose of Cisco IPS is to detect and prevent malicious network activity. You can install Cisco IPS software on two platforms: appliances and the modules. Cisco IPS contains a management application and a monitoring application. IDM is a network management JAVA application that you can use to manage and monitor the IPS. IME is an IPS network monitoring JAVA application that you can use to view IPS events. IME also contains the IDM configuration component. IDM and IME communicate with the IPS using HTTP or HTTPS and are hosted on your computer.

System Design

Cisco IPS software runs on the Linux operating system. We have hardened the Linux OS by removing unnecessary packages from the OS, disabling unused services, restricting network access, and removing access to the shell.

Figure A-1 illustrates the system design.

Figure A-1 System Design



System Applications



Note

Each application has its own configuration file in XML format.

Cisco IPS software includes the following applications:

- **MainApp**—Initializes the system, starts and stops the other applications, configures the OS, and performs upgrades. It contains the following components:
 - **ctlTransSource** (Control Transaction server)—Allows sensors to send control transactions. This is used to enable the master blocking sensor capability of Attack Response Controller (formerly known as Network Access Controller).
 - **Event Store**—An indexed store used to store IPS events (error, status, and alert system messages) that is accessible through the CLI, IDM, IME, ASDM, or SDEE.



Note

The Event Store has a fixed size of 30 MB for all platforms.

- **InterfaceApp**—Handles bypass and physical settings and defines paired interfaces. Physical settings are speed, duplex, and administrative state.
- **Logger**—Writes all the log messages of the application to the log file and the error messages of the application to the Event Store.

- Attack Response Controller (formerly known as Network Access Controller) —Manages remote network devices (firewalls, routers, and switches) to provide blocking capabilities when an alert event has occurred. ARC creates and applies ACLs on the controlled network device or uses the **shun** command (firewalls).
- NotificationApp—Sends SNMP traps when triggered by alert, status, and error events. NotificationApp uses the public domain SNMP agent. SNMP GETs provide information about the general health of the sensor.
- Web Server (HTTP RDEP2 SDEE server)—Provides a web interface and communication with other IPS devices through RDEP2 and SDEE protocols using several servlets to provide IPS services.
- AuthenticationApp—Verifies that users are authorized to perform CLI, IDM, IME, ASDM, or SDEE actions.
- SensorApp (Analysis Engine)—Performs packet capture and analysis.
- CLI—The interface that is run when you successfully log in to the sensor through Telnet or SSH. All accounts created through the CLI will use the CLI as their shell (except the service account—only one service account is allowed). Allowed CLI commands depend on the privilege of the user.

All Cisco IPS applications communicate with each other through a common API called IDAPI. Remote applications (other sensors, management applications, and third-party software) communicate with sensors through RDEP2 and SDEE protocols.

The sensor has the following partitions:

- Application partition—A full IPS system image.
- Maintenance partition—A special purpose IPS image used to reimage the application partition of the IDS-2. When you reimage the maintenance partition, all configuration settings are lost.
- Recovery partition—A special purpose image used for recovery of the sensor. Booting into the recovery partition enables you to completely reimage the application partition. Network settings are preserved, but all other configuration is lost.

Cisco IPS 6.1 New Features

Cisco IPS 6.1 contains the following new features:

- Simplified **setup** command—Refinement of the existing **setup** command, presenting the most basic aspects of CLI setup first. You can save and exit or continue with more advanced device setup using the CLI or the Setup Wizard in IDM or IME.
- Setup Wizard—Streamlines the process of setting up Cisco IPS sensors. After you run the basic setup command, you can use the Setup Wizard for more advanced device setup.
- IME—Cisco IPS network monitoring application that performs IPS event viewing and archiving. It also contains the IDM configuration component.
- Performance improvements—Significant optimizations have been made to the startup process.
- Risk category—You can configure risk levels to add to event action overrides. The new category is automatically assigned event actions that span its range.
- Sensor health and network security status—Displays the overall health of the sensor and network security.

- **Gadgets**—IDM and IME contains gadgets that report various types of information such as sensor and network health, license status, interface status, signature and signature update status.
- **Automatic update**—Cisco IPS can now automatically download signature and signature engine updates from Cisco.com. When automatic update is enabled, Cisco IPS logs in to Cisco.com and checks for signature and signature engine updates. When an update is available, Cisco IPS downloads the update from Cisco.com and installs it.
- **Persistent views**—You can set column length, move and hide columns, and sort data in the Signature Definition component of IDM, and those views remain when you exit IDM, and then log in again. The information is stored on your computer.
- **Event action grouping**—Event actions are now grouped into three categories: Alert and Log, Deny, and Other.
- **Real-time alert viewing**—You can view alerts in real time in IME, and you can pause, resume, and clear events in the viewer.
- **RSS feeds**—You can subscribe to RSS channels through IME.

User Interaction



Note

The Event Server is now disabled by default. You need to enable Event Server subscriptions only if you are using a third-party event client that is only able to parse IDS 4.x alerts.

You interact with Cisco IPS 6.1 in the following ways:

- **Configure device parameters**
You generate the initial configuration for the system and its features. This is an infrequent task, usually done only once. The system has reasonable default values to minimize the number of modifications you must make. You can configure Cisco IPS 6.1 through the CLI, IDM, IME, CSM, ASDM, or through another application using SDEE.
- **Tune**
You make minor modifications to the configuration, primarily to Analysis Engine, which is the portion of the application that monitors network traffic. You can tune the system frequently after initially installing it on the network until it is operating efficiently and only producing information you find useful. You can create custom signatures, enable features, or apply a service pack or signature update. You can tune Cisco IPS 6.1 through the CLI, IDM, IME, CSM, ASDM, or through another application using SDEE.
- **Update**
You can schedule automatic updates or apply updates immediately to the applications and signature data files. You can update Cisco IPS 6.1 through the CLI, IDM, IME, CSM, ASDM, or through another application using SDEE.
- **Retrieve information**
You can retrieve data (status messages, errors, and alerts) from the system through the CLI, IDM, IME, CSM, ASDM, CS MARS or another application using SDEE.

Security Features

Cisco IPS 6.1 has the following security features:

- Network access is restricted to hosts who are specifically allowed access.
- All remote hosts who attempt to connect through Web Server, SSH and SCP or Telnet will be authenticated.
- By default Telnet access is disabled. You can choose to enable Telnet.
- By default SSH access is enabled.
- An FTP server does not run on the sensor. You can use SCP to remotely copy files.
- By default Web Server uses TLS or SSL. You can choose to disable TLS and SSL.
- Unnecessary services are disabled.
- Only the SNMP set required by the Cisco MIB Police is allowed within the CISCO-CIDS-MIB. OIDs implemented by the public domain SNMP agent will be writeable when specified by the MIB.

MainApp

This section describes MainApp, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding MainApp, page A-5](#)
- [MainApp Responsibilities, page A-6](#)
- [Event Store, page A-6](#)
- [NotificationApp, page A-9](#)
- [CtlTransSource, page A-11](#)
- [Attack Response Controller, page A-12](#)
- [Logger, page A-19](#)
- [InterfaceApp, page A-19](#)
- [AuthenticationApp, page A-19](#)
- [Web Server, page A-22](#)

Understanding MainApp

MainApp includes all IPS components except SensorApp and the CLI. It is loaded by the operating system at startup and loads SensorApp. MainApp then brings the following subsystem components up:

- Authentication
- Logger
- ARC
- Web Server
- Notification (SNMP)
- External Product Interface
- Interface manager

- Event Store
- Health and security monitoring

MainApp Responsibilities

MainApp has the following responsibilities:

- Validate the Cisco-supported hardware platform
- Report software version and PEP information
- Start, stop, and report the version of the IPS components
- Configure the host system settings
- Manage the system clock
- Manage the Event Store
- Install and uninstall software upgrades



Note In Cisco IPS 6.1 MainApp can automatically download signature and signature engine updates from Cisco.com.

- Shut down or reboot the operating system

MainApp responds to the **show version** command by displaying the following information:

- Sensor build version
- MainApp version
- Version of each running application
- Version and timestamp of each installed upgrade
- Next downgrade version of each installed upgrade
- Platform version (for example, IDS-4240-K9, WS-SVC-IDSM-2)
- Version of sensor build on the other partition

MainApp also gathers the host statistics and reports the health and security monitoring status.

Event Store

This section describes Event Store, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Event Store, page A-6](#)
- [Event Data Structures, page A-7](#)
- [IPS Events, page A-8](#)

Understanding Event Store



Note The Event Store has a fixed size of 30 MB for all platforms.

Each IPS event is stored in Event Store with a time stamp and a unique, monotonic, ascending ID. This time stamp is the primary key used to index the event into the fixed-size, indexed Event Store. When the circular Event Store has reached its configured size, the oldest event or events are overwritten by the new event being stored. SensorApp is the only application that writes alert events into the Event Store. All applications write log, status, and error events into the Event Store.

The fixed-sized, indexed Event Store allows simple event queries based on the time, type, priority, and a limited number of user-defined attributes. If each event is assigned a priority of low, medium, or high, a single event query can specify a list of desired event types, intrusion event priorities, and a time range.

Table A-1 shows some examples:

Table A-1 **IPS Event Examples**

IPS Event Type	Intrusion Event Priority	Start Time Stamp Value	Stop Time Stamp Value	Meaning
status	—	0	Maximum value	Get all status events that are stored.
error status	—	0	65743	Get all error and status events that were stored before time 65743.
status	—	65743	Maximum value	Get status events that were stored at or after time 65743.
intrusion attack response	low	0	Maximum value	Get all intrusion and attack response events with low priority that are stored.
attack response error status intrusion	medium high	4123000000	4123987256	Get attack response, error, status, and intrusion events with medium or high priority that were stored between time 4123000000 and 4123987256.

The size of the Event Store allows sufficient buffering of the IPS events when the sensor is not connected to an IPS event consumer. Sufficient buffering depends on your requirements and the capabilities of the nodes in use. The oldest events in the circular buffer are replaced by the newest events.

Event Data Structures

The various functional units communicate the following seven types of data:

- Intrusion events—Produced by SensorApp. The sensor detects intrusion events.
- Error events—Caused by hardware or software malfunctions.
- Status events—Reports of a change in the status of the application, for example, that its configuration has been updated.
- Control transaction log events—The sensor logs the result of a control transaction.
- Attack response events—Actions for the ARC, for example, a block request.
- Debug events—Highly detailed reports of a change in the status of the application used for debugging.
- Control transaction data—Data associated with control transactions, for example, diagnostic data from an application, session logs, and configuration data to or from an application.

All seven types of data are referred to collectively as *IPS data*. The six event types—intrusion, error, status, control transaction log, network access, and debug—have similar characteristics and are referred to collectively as *IPS events*. IPS events are produced by the several different applications that make up the IPS and are subscribed to by other IPS applications. IPS events have the following characteristics:

- They are spontaneously generated by the application instances configured to do so. There is no request from another application instance to generate a particular event.
- They have no specific destination. They are stored and then retrieved by one or more application instances.

Control transactions involve the following types of requests:

- Request to update the configuration data of an application instance
- Request for the diagnostic data of an application instance
- Request to reset the diagnostic data of an application instance
- Request to restart an application instance
- Request for ARC, such as a block request

Control transactions have the following characteristics:

- They always consist of a request followed by a response.

The request and response may have an arbitrary amount of data associated with them. The response always includes at least a positive or negative acknowledgment.

- They are point-to-point transactions.

Control transactions are sent by one application instance (the initiator) to another application instance (the responder).

IPS data is represented in XML format as an XML document. The system stores user-configurable parameters in several XML files.

IPS Events

IPS applications generate IPS events to report the occurrence of some stimulus. The events are the data, such as the alerts generated by SensorApp or errors generated by any application. Events are stored in a local database known as the Event Store.

There are five types of events:

- **evAlert**—Alert event messages that report when a signature is triggered by network activity.
- **evStatus**—Status event messages that report the status and actions of the IPS applications.
- **evError**—Error event messages that report errors that occurred while attempting response actions.
- **evLogTransaction**—Log transaction messages that report the control transactions processed by each sensor application.
- **evShunRqst**—Block request messages that report when ARC issues a block request.

You can view the status and error messages using the CLI, IME, and ASDM.

SensorApp and ARC log response actions (TCP resets, IP logging start and stop, blocking start and stop, trigger packet) as status messages.

NotificationApp

NotificationApp allows the sensor to send alerts and system error messages as SNMP traps. It subscribes to events in the Event Store and translates them into SNMP MIBs and sends them to destinations through a public-domain SNMP agent. NotificationApp supports sending sets and gets. The SNMP GETs provide information about basic sensor health.

NotificationApp sends the following information from the evAlert event in sparse mode:

- Originator information
- Event ID
- Event severity
- Time (UTC and local time)
- Signature name
- Signature ID
- Subsignature ID
- Participant information
- Alarm traits

NotificationApp sends the following information from the evAlert event in detail mode:

- Originator information
- Event ID
- Event severity
- Time (UTC and local time)
- Signature name
- Signature ID
- Subsignature ID
- Version
- Summary
- Interface group
- VLAN
- Participant information
- Actions
- Alarm traits
- Signature
- IP log IDs

NotificationApp determines which evError events to send as a trap according to the filter that you define. You can filter based on error severity (error, fatal, and warning). NotificationApp sends the following information from the evError event:

- Originator information
- Event ID
- Event severity

- Time (UTC and local time)
- Error message

NotificationApp supports GETs for the following general health and system information from the sensor:

- Packet loss
- Packet denies
- Alarms generated
- Fragments in FRP
- Datagrams in FRP
- TCP streams in embryonic state
- TCP streams in established state
- TCP streams in closing state
- TCP streams in system
- TCP packets queued for reassembly
- Total nodes active
- TCP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports
- UDP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports
- IP nodes keyed on both IP addresses
- Sensor memory critical stage
- Interface status
- Command and control packet statistics
- Fail-over state
- System uptime
- CPU usage
- Memory usage for the system
- PEP



Note Not all IPS platforms support PEP.

NotificationApp provides the following statistics:

- Number of error traps
- Number of event action traps
- Number of SNMP GET requests
- Number of SNMP SET requests

CtlTransSource

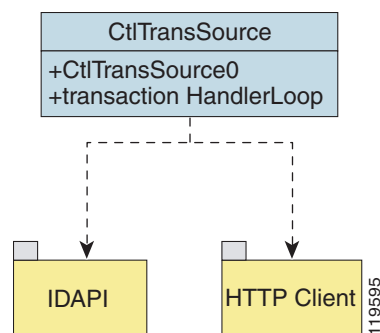
CtlTransSource is an application that forwards locally initiated remote control transactions to their remote destinations using the RDEP and HTTP protocols. CtlTransSource initiates either TLS or non-TLS connections and communicates remote control transactions to HTTP servers over these connections.

CtlTransSource must establish sufficient credentials on the remote HTTP server to execute a remote control transaction. It establishes its credentials by presenting an identity to the HTTP server on the remote node in the form of a username and password (basic authentication). When the authentication is successful, the requestor is assigned a cookie containing a user authentication that must be presented with each request on that connection.

The transactionHandlerLoop method in the CtlTransSource serves as a proxy for remote control transaction. When a local application initiates a remote control transaction, IDAPI initially directs the transaction to CtlTransSource. The transactionHandlerLoop method is a loop that waits on remote control transactions that are directed to CtlTransSource.

Figure A-2 shows the transactionHandlerLoop method in the CtlTransSource.

Figure A-2 CtlTransSource



When the transactionHandlerLoop receives a remotely addressed transaction, it tries to forward the remote control transaction to its remote destination. The transactionHandlerLoop formats the transaction into an RDEP control transaction message. The transactionHandlerLoop uses the HttpClient classes to issue the RDEP control transaction request to the HTTP server on the remote node. The remote HTTP server handles the remote control transaction and returns the appropriate RDEP response message in an HTTP response. If the remote HTTP server is an IPS web server, the web server uses the CtlTransSource servlet to process the remote control transactions.

The transactionHandlerLoop returns either the RDEP response or a failure response as the response of the control transaction to the initiator of the remote control transaction. If the HTTP server returns an unauthorized status response (indicating the HTTP client has insufficient credentials on the HTTP server), the transactionHandlerLoop reissues the transaction request using the designated username and password of the CtlTransSource to authenticate the identity of the requestor. The transactionHandlerLoop continues to loop until it receives a control transaction that directs it to exit or until its exit event is signaled.

Attack Response Controller

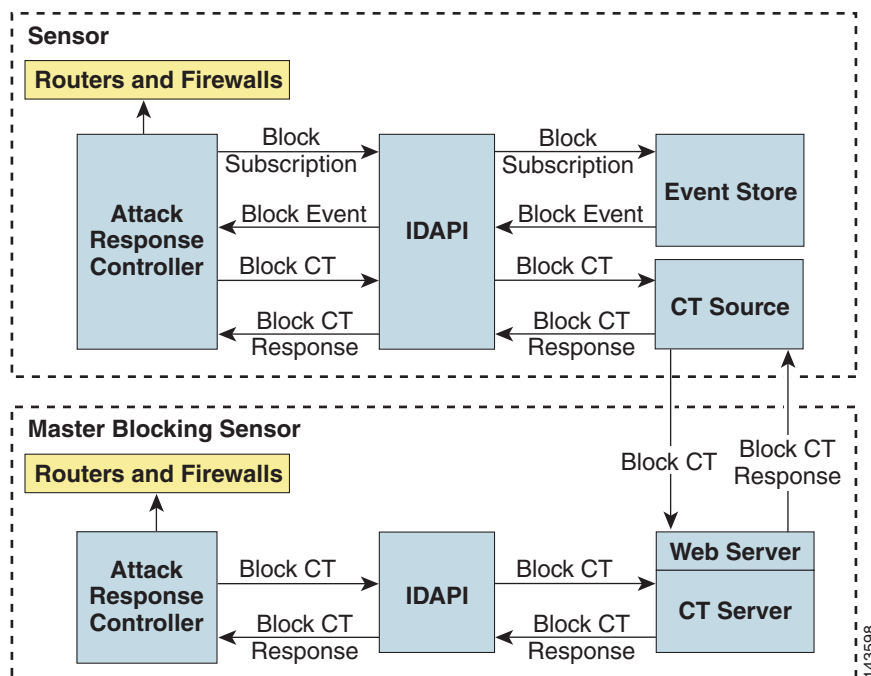
This section describes Attack Response Controller (ARC), and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding ARC, page A-12](#)
- [ARC Features, page A-13](#)
- [Supported Blocking Devices, page A-15](#)
- [ACLs and VACLs, page A-15](#)
- [Maintaining State Across Restarts, page A-16](#)
- [Connection-Based and Unconditional Blocking, page A-16](#)
- [Blocking with Cisco Firewalls, page A-17](#)
- [Blocking with Catalyst Switches, page A-18](#)

Understanding ARC

The main responsibility of ARC is to block events. When it responds to a block, it either interacts with the devices it is managing directly to enable the block or it sends a block request through the Control Transaction Server to a master blocking sensor. The Web Server on the master blocking sensor receives the control transaction and passes it to the Control Transaction Server, which passes it to ARC. ARC on the master blocking sensor then interacts with the devices it is managing to enable the block. [Figure A-3](#) illustrates ARC.

Figure A-3 **ARC**



**Note**

An ARC instance can control 0, 1, or many network devices. ARC does not share control of any network device with other ARC applications, IPS management software, other network management software, or system administrators. Only one ARC instance is allowed to run on a given sensor.

ARC initiates a block in response to one of the following:

- An alert event generated from a signature that is configured with a block action
- A block configured manually through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM
- A block configured permanently against a host or network address

When you configure ARC to block a device, it initiates either a Telnet or SSH connection with the device. ARC maintains the connection with each device. After the block is initiated, ARC pushes a new set of configurations or ACLs (one for each interface direction) to each controlled device. When a block is completed, all configurations or ACLs are updated to remove the block.

ARC Features

ARC has the following features:

- Communication through Telnet and SSH 1.5 with 3DES (the default) or DES encryption

Only the protocol specified in the ARC configuration for that device is attempted. If the connection fails for any reason, ARC attempts to reestablish it.

- Preexisting ACLs on routers and VACLs on switches

If a preexisting ACL exists on a router interface or direction that is controlled by ARC, you can specify that this ACL be merged into the ARC-generated configuration, either before any blocks by specifying a preblock ACL or after any blocks by specifying a postblock ACL. The Catalyst 6000 VACL device types can have a preblock and postblock VACL specified for each interface that ARC controls. The firewall device types use a different API to perform blocks and ARC does not have any effect on preexisting ACLs on the firewalls.

**Note**

Catalyst 5000 RSM and Catalyst 6000 MSFC2 network devices are supported in the same way as Cisco routers.

- Forwarding blocks to a list of remote sensors

ARC can forward blocks to a list of remote sensors, so that multiple sensors can in effect collectively control a single network device. Such remote sensors are referred to as master blocking sensors.

- Specifying blocking interfaces on a network device

You can specify the interface and direction where blocking is performed in the ARC configuration for routers. You can specify the interface where blocking is performed in the VACL configuration. ARC can simultaneously control up to 250 interfaces.

**Note**

Cisco firewalls do not block based on interface or direction, so this configuration is never specified for them.

- Blocking hosts or networks for a specified time

ARC can block a host or network for a specified number of minutes or indefinitely. ARC determines when a block has expired and unblocks the host or network at that time.

- Logging important events

ARC writes a confirmation event when block or unblock actions are completed successfully or if any errors occur. ARC also logs important events such as loss and recovery of a network device communication session, configuration errors, and errors reported by the network device.

- Maintaining the blocking state across ARC restarts

ARC reapplies blocks that have not expired when a shutdown or restart occurs. ARC removes blocks that have expired while it was shut down.



Note ARC can only maintain the blocking state successfully if no one changes the system time while the application is shut down.

- Maintaining blocking state across network device restarts

ARC reapplies blocks and removes expired blocks as needed whenever a network device is shut down and restarted. ARC is not affected by simultaneous or overlapping shutdowns and restarts of ARC.

- Authentication and authorization

ARC can establish a communications session with a network device that uses AAA authentication and authorization including the use of remote TACACS+ servers.

- Two types of blocking

ARC supports host blocks and network blocks. Host blocks are connection based or unconditional. Network blocks are always unconditional.

- NAT addressing

ARC can control network devices that use a NAT address for the sensor. If you specify a NAT address when you configure a network device, that address is used instead of the local IP address when the sensor address is filtered from blocks on that device.

- Single point of control

ARC does not share control of network devices with administrators or other software. If you must update a configuration, shut down ARC until the change is complete. You can enable or disable ARC through the CLI or any Cisco IPS manager. When ARC is reenabled, it completely reinitializes itself, including rereading the current configuration for each controlled network device.



Note We recommend that you disable ARC from blocking when you are configuring any network device, including firewalls.

- Maintains up to 250 active blocks at any given time

ARC can maintain up to 250 active blocks at a time. Although ARC can support up to 65535 blocks, we recommend that you allow no more than 250 at a time.



Note The number of blocks is not the same as the number of interface and directions.

Supported Blocking Devices

ARC can control the following devices:

- Cisco routers running Cisco IOS 11.2 or later



Note To perform rate limiting, the routers must be running Cisco IOS 12.3 or later.

- Catalyst 5000 series switches with Supervisor Engine software 5.3(1) or later running on the supervisor engine, and IOS 11.2(9)P or later running on the RSM.



Note You must have the RSM because blocking is performed on the RSM.

- Catalyst 6000 series switches with PFC installed running Catalyst software 5.3 or later
- Catalyst 6000 MSFC2 with Catalyst software 5.4(3) or later and Cisco IOS 12.1(2)E or later on the MSFC2
- Cisco ASA 500 series models: ASA 5510, ASA 5520, and ASA 5540
- FWSM



Note The FWSM cannot block in multi-mode admin context.

ACLs and VACLs

If you want to filter packets on an interface or direction that ARC controls, you can configure ARC to apply an ACL before any blocks (preblock ACL) and to apply an ACL after any blocks (postblock ACL). These ACLs are configured on the network device as inactive ACLs. You can define preblock and postblock ACLs for each interface and direction. ARC retrieves and caches the lists and merges them with the blocking ACEs whenever it updates the active ACL on the network device. In most cases, you will want to specify a preexisting ACL as the postblock ACL so that it does not prevent any blocks from taking effect. ACLs work by matching a packet to the first ACE found. If this first ACE permits the packet, a subsequent deny statement will not be found.

You can specify different preblock and postblock ACLs for each interface and direction, or you can reuse the same ACLs for multiple interfaces and directions. If you do not want to maintain a preblock list, you can use the never block option and always block hosts and networks by using existing configuration statements. A forever block is a normal block with a timeout value of -1.

ARC only modifies ACLs that it owns. It does not modify ACLs that you have defined. The ACLs maintained by ARC have a specific format that should not be used for user-defined ACLs. The naming convention is **IPS_<interface_name>_[in | out]_[0 | 1]**. <interface_name> corresponds to the name of the blocking interface as given in the ARC configuration.

For Catalyst switches, it is a blocking interface VLAN number. Do not use these names for preblock and postblock ACLs.

For Catalyst 6000 VACLs, you can specify a preblock and postblock VACL and only the interface is specified (direction is not used in VLANs).

For firewalls, you cannot use preblock or postblock ACLs because the firewall uses a different API for blocking. Instead you must create ACLs directly on the firewalls.

Maintaining State Across Restarts

When the sensor shuts down, ARC writes all blocks and rate limits (with starting timestamps) to a local file (nac.shun.txt) that is maintained by ARC. When ARC starts, this file is used to determine if any block updates should occur at the controlled network devices. Any unexpired blocks found in the file are applied to the network devices at startup. When ARC shuts down, no special actions on the ACLs are taken even if outstanding blocks are in effect. The nac.shun.txt file is accurate only if the system time is not changed while ARC is not running.

**Caution**

Do not make manual changes to the nac.shun.txt file.

The following scenarios demonstrate how ARC maintains state across restarts.

Scenario 1

There are two blocks in effect when ARC stops and one of them expires before ARC restarts. When ARC restarts, it first reads the nac.shun.txt file. It then reads the preblock and postblock ACLs or VACLs. The active ACL or VACL is built in the following order:

1. The **allow** *sensor_ip_address* command (unless the **allow sensor shun** command has been configured)
2. Preblock ACL
3. The **always block** command entries from the configuration
4. Unexpired blocks from nac.shun.txt
5. Postblock ACL

When a host is specified as never block in the ARC configuration, it does not get translated into permit statements in the ACL. Instead, it is cached by ARC and used to filter incoming addShunEvent events and addShunEntry control transactions.

Scenario 2

There are no preblock or postblock ACLs specified, but there is an existing active ACL. The new ACL is built in the following order:

1. The **allow** *sensor_ip_address* command (unless the **allow sensor shun** command has been configured)
2. The **always block** command entries from the configuration
3. Unexpired blocks from nac.shun.txt
4. The **permit IP any any** command

Connection-Based and Unconditional Blocking

ARC supports two types of blocking for hosts and one type of blocking for networks. Host blocks are connection-based or unconditional. Network blocks are always unconditional.

When a host block is received, ARC checks for the connectionShun attribute on the host block. If connectionShun is set to true, ARC performs connection blocking. Any host block can contain optional parameters, such as destination IP address, source port, destination port, and protocol. For a connection block to take place, at least the source and destination IP address must be present. If the source port is present on a connection block, it is ignored and not included in the block.

Under the following conditions, ARC forces the block to be unconditional, converting the block from connection type if necessary:

- A block of any type is active for a specified source IP address
- A new block of any type is received for that source IP address
- The new block differs in any of its optional parameters (except the source port) from the old block

When a block is updated (for example, when a new block arrives while an existing block for that source IP address or network is already in effect), the remaining minutes of the existing block are determined. If the time for the new block is less than or equal to the remaining minutes, no action is taken. Otherwise, the new block timeout replaces the existing block timeout.



Caution

Cisco firewalls do not support connection blocking of hosts. When a connection block is applied, the firewall treats it like an unconditional block. Cisco firewalls also do not support network blocking. ARC never tries to apply a network block to a Cisco firewall.

Blocking with Cisco Firewalls

ARC performs blocks on firewalls using the **shun** command. The **shun** command has the following formats:

- To block an IP address:
`shun srcip [destination_ip_address source_port destination_port [port]]`
- To unblock an IP address:
`no shun ip`
- To clear all blocks:
`clear shun`
- To show active blocks or to show the global address that was actually blocked:
`show shun [ip_address]`

ARC uses the response to the **show shun** command to determine whether the block was performed.

The **shun** command does not replace existing ACLs, conduits, or outbound commands, so there is no need to cache the existing firewall configuration, nor to merge blocks into the firewall configuration.



Caution

Do not perform manual blocks or modify the existing firewall configuration while ARC is running.

If the **block** command specifies only the source IP address, existing active TCP connections are not broken, but all incoming packets from the blocked host are dropped.

When ARC first starts up, the active blocks in the firewall are compared to an internal blocking list. Any blocks that do not have a corresponding internal list entry are removed.

ARC supports authentication on a firewall using local usernames or a TACACS+ server. If you configure the firewall to authenticate using AAA but without the TACACS+ server, ARC uses the reserved username *pix* for communications with the firewall.

If the firewall uses a TACACS+ server for authentication, you use a TACACS+ username. In some firewall configurations that use AAA logins, you are presented with three password prompts: the initial firewall password, the AAA password, and the enable password. ARC requires that the initial firewall password and the AAA password be the same.

When you configure a firewall to use NAT or PAT and the sensor is checking packets on the firewall outside network, if you detect a host attack that originates on the firewall inside network, the sensor tries to block the translated address provided by the firewall. If you are using dynamic NAT addressing, the block can be ineffective or cause innocent hosts to be blocked. If you are using PAT addressing, the firewall could block the entire inside network. To avoid these situations, position your sensor on the inside interface or do not configure the sensor to block.

Blocking with Catalyst Switches

Catalyst switches with a PFC filter packets using VACLs. VACLs filter all packets between VLANs and within a VLAN.

MSFC router ACLs are supported when WAN cards are installed and you want the sensor to control the interfaces through the MSFC2.



Note

An MSFC2 card is not a required part of a Catalyst switch configuration for blocking with VACLs.



Caution

When you configure ARC for the Catalyst switch, do not specify a direction with the controlled interface. The interface name is a VLAN number. Preblock and postblock lists should be VACLs.

The following commands apply to the Catalyst VACLs:

- To view an existing VACL:
`show security acl info acl_name`
- To block an address (*address_spec* is the same as used by router ACLs):
`set security acl ip acl_name deny address_spec`
- To activate VACLs after building the lists:
`commit security acl all`
- To clear a single VACL:
`clear security acl map acl_name`
- To clear all VACLs:
`clear security acl map all`
- To map a VACL to a VLAN:
`set sec acl acl_name vlans`

Logger

The sensor logs all events (alert, error, status, and debug messages) in a persistent, circular buffer. The sensor also generates IP logs. The messages and IP logs are accessible through the CLI, IDM, ASDM, and RDEP clients.

The IPS applications use Logger to log messages. Logger sends log messages at any of five levels of severity: debug, timing, warning, error, and fatal. Logger writes the log messages to `/usr/cids/idsRoot/log/main.log`, which is a circular text file. New messages overwrite older messages when the file reaches its maximum size; therefore the last message written may not appear at the end of the `main.log`. Search for the string “= END OF FILE =” to locate the last line written to the `main.log`.

The `main.log` is included in the **show tech-support** command output. If the message is logged at warning level or above (error or fatal), Logger converts the message to an `evError` event (with the corresponding error severity) and inserts it in Event Store.

Logger receives all syslog messages, except cron messages, that are at the level of informational and above (`*.info;cron.none`), and inserts them into Event Store as `evErrors` with the error severity set to Warning. Logger and application logging are controlled through the service logger commands.

Logger can control what log messages are generated by each application by controlling the logging severity for different logging zones. You would only access the individual-zone-control of the logger service at the request and supervision of a TAC engineer or developer. For troubleshooting purposes, TAC might request that you turn on debug logging.

InterfaceApp

The InterfaceApp is a subsystem of the MainApp, which is used for configuring and managing the Ethernet interfaces on the IPS device. There are two types of interfaces—management interfaces and sensing interfaces. The management interface is used for managing the IPS device using management applications, such as the IDM, IME, CSM, or CLI. The sensing interfaces represent the packet interfaces, which are used for directing the traffic meant for inspection. In addition to configuration, the InterfaceApp also provides packet statistics for the interfaces.

The InterfaceApp interacts with other applications on the IPS device such as the SensorApp, through control transactions. It also communicates with NIC drivers on each platform to set the interface properties such as speed, duplex, and so forth. The current interface configuration is stored by the InterfaceApp and used when the IPS device is started.

NIC drivers on each platform send asynchronous events called notifications that are related to the state of the Ethernet interfaces, for example, link up and link down notification, to the InterfaceApp. The InterfaceApp collects these notifications and sends the appropriate events.

The InterfaceApp provides a unified view of Ethernet interfaces on different platforms with varied hardware configuration, so that the same set of commands can be used for configuring and managing them.

AuthenticationApp

This section describes AuthenticationApp, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding AuthenticationApp, page A-20](#)
- [Authenticating Users, page A-20](#)

- [Configuring Authentication on the Sensor, page A-20](#)
- [Managing TLS and SSH Trust Relationships, page A-21](#)

Understanding AuthenticationApp

AuthenticationApp has the following responsibilities:

- To authenticate the identity of a user
- To administer the accounts, privileges, keys, and certificates of the user
- To configure which authentication methods are used by AuthenticationApp and other access services on the sensor

Authenticating Users

You must configure authentication on the sensor to establish appropriate security for user access. When you install a sensor, an initial cisco account with an expired password is created. A user with administrative access to the sensor accesses the sensor through the CLI or an IPS manager, such as IDM or ASDM, by logging in to the sensor using the default administrative account (cisco). In the CLI, the administrator is prompted to change the password. IPS managers initiate a `setEnableAuthenticationTokenStatus` control transaction to change the password of an account.

Through the CLI or an IPS manager, the administrator configures which authentication method is used, such as username and password or an SSH authorized key. The application servicing the administrator initiates a `setAuthenticationConfig` control transaction to establish the authentication configuration.

The authentication configuration includes a login attempt limit value that is used to specify how account locking is handled. Account locking is invoked when the number of consecutive failed login attempts for a given account exceeds the login attempt limit value. After an account is locked, all further attempts to log in to that account are rejected. The account is unlocked by resetting the authentication token of the account using the `setEnableAuthenticationTokenStatus` control transaction. The account locking feature is disabled when the login attempt limit value is set to zero.

The administrator can add additional user accounts either through the CLI or an IPS manager.

Configuring Authentication on the Sensor

When a user tries to access the sensor through a service such as Web Server or the CLI, the identity of the user must be authenticated and the privileges of the user must be established. The service that is providing access to the user initiates an `execAuthenticateUser` control transaction request to AuthenticationApp to authenticate the identity of the user. The control transaction request typically includes the username and a password, or the identity of the user can be authenticated using an SSH authorized key.

AuthenticationApp responds to the `execAuthenticateUser` control transaction request by attempting to authenticate the identity of the user. AuthenticationApp returns a control transaction response that contains the authentication status and privileges of the user. If the identity of the user cannot be authenticated, AuthenticationApp returns an unauthenticated status and anonymous user privileges in the control transaction response. The control transaction response also indicates if the account password has expired. User interface applications that authenticate users by initiating an `execAuthenticateUser` control transaction prompt the user to change the password.

AuthenticationApp uses the underlying operating system to confirm the identity of a user. All the IPS applications send control transactions to AuthenticationApp, which then uses the operating system to form its responses.

Remote shell services, Telnet and SSH, are not IPS applications. They call the operating system directly. If the user is authenticated, it launches the IPS CLI. In this case, the CLI sends a special form of the `execAuthenticateUser` control transaction to determine the privilege level of the logged-in user. The CLI then tailors the commands it makes available based on this privilege level.

Managing TLS and SSH Trust Relationships

Encrypted communications over IP networks provide data privacy by making it impossible for a passive attacker to discover from the packets exchanged alone the secret key needed to decrypt the data in the packets.

However, an equally dangerous attack vector is for an imposter to pretend to be the server end of the connection. All encryption protocols provide a means for clients to defend themselves from these attacks. IPS supports two encryption protocols, SSH and TLS, and `AuthenticationApp` helps manage trust when the sensor plays either the client or server role in encrypted communications.

The IPS Web Server and SSH server are server endpoints of encrypted communications. They protect their identities with a private key and offer a public key to clients that connect to them. For TLS this public key is included inside an X.509 certificate, which includes other information. Remote systems that connect to the sensor should verify that the public key received during connection establishment is the key they expect.

Clients must maintain a list of trusted public keys to protect themselves from man-in-the-middle attacks. The exact procedure by which this trust is established varies depending on the protocol and client software. In general, the client displays a fingerprint of 16 or 20 bytes. The human operator who is configuring the client to establish trust should use an out-of-band method to learn the key fingerprints of the server before attempting to establish trust. If the fingerprints match, the trust relationship is established and henceforth the client can automatically connect with that server and be confident that the remote server is not an imposter.

You can use the **`show ssh server-key`** and **`show tls fingerprint`** to display the key fingerprints of the sensor. By recording the output of these commands when directly connected to the sensor console, you can reliably use this information to confirm the identity of the sensor over the network later when establishing trust relationships.

For example, when you initially connect to a sensor through the Microsoft Internet Explorer web browser, a security warning dialog box indicates that the certificate is not trusted. Using the user interface of Internet Explorer, you can inspect the certificate thumbprint, a value that should exactly match the SHA1 fingerprint displayed by the **`show tls fingerprint`** command. After verifying this, add this certificate to the list of trusted CAs of the browser to establish permanent trust.

Each TLS client has different procedures for establishing this trust. The sensor itself includes a TLS client that is used to send control transactions to other sensors and download upgrades and configuration files from other TLS web servers. Use the **`tls trusted-host`** command to establish trust of the TLS servers with which the sensor communicates.

Similarly, the sensor includes an SSH client that is used to communicate with managed network devices, download upgrades, and copy configurations and support files to remote hosts. Use the **`ssh host-key`** command to establish trust relationships with the SSH servers the sensor will contact.

You can manage the list of TLS trusted certificates and SSH known hosts through the commands **`service trusted-certificates`** and **`service ssh-known-hosts`**.

X.509 certificates include additional information that can increase the security of the trust relationship; however, these can lead to confusion. For example, an X.509 certificate includes a validity period during which the certificate can be trusted. Typically this period is a number of years starting at the moment the certificate is created. To ensure that an X.509 certificate is valid at the moment it is being used requires that the client system maintain an accurate clock.

X.509 certificates are also tied to a particular network address. Sensors fill this field with the IP address of the command and control interface of the sensor. Consequently, if you change the command and control IP address of the sensor, the X.509 certificate of the server is regenerated. You must reconfigure all clients on the network that trusted the old certificate to locate the sensor at its new IP address and trust the new certificate.

By using the SSH known hosts and TLS trusted certificates services in AuthenticationApp, you can operate sensors at a high level of security.

Web Server

Web Server provides RDEP2 SDEE support, which enables the sensor to report security events, receive IDIOM transactions, and serve IP logs.

Web Server supports HTTP 1.0 and 1.1. Communications with Web Server often include sensitive information, such as passwords, that would severely compromise the security of the system if an attacker were able to eavesdrop. For this reason, sensors ship with TLS enabled. The TLS protocol is an encryption protocol that is compatible with SSL.



Note

In Cisco IPS 6.1, the RDEP event server service is disabled by default in the Web Server. You receive a warning message that the RDEP event server service is deprecated and will be deleted in a future release. You need to migrate to the SDEE event server. You need to enable RDEP event server subscriptions only if you are using a third-party event client that is only able to parse IDS 4.x alerts.

SensorApp

This section describes SensorApp, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding SensorApp, page A-22](#)
- [Inline, Normalization, and Event Risk Rating Features, page A-24](#)
- [SensorApp New Features, page A-25](#)
- [Packet Flow, page A-25](#)
- [Signature Event Action Processor, page A-26](#)

Understanding SensorApp

SensorApp performs packet capture and analysis. Policy violations are detected through signatures in SensorApp and the information about the violations is forwarded to the Event Store in the form of an alert.

Packets flow through a pipeline of processors fed by a producer designed to collect packets from the network interfaces on the sensor.

SensorApp supports the following processors:

- Time Processor

This processor processes events stored in a time-slice calendar. Its primary task is to make stale database entries expire and to calculate time-dependent statistics.

- Deny Filters Processor

This processor handles the deny attacker functions. It maintains a list of denied source IP addresses. Each entry in the list expires based on the global deny timer, which you can configure in the virtual sensor configuration.

- Signature Event Action Processor

This processor processes event actions. It supports the following event actions:

- Reset TCP flow
- IP log
- Deny packets
- Deny flow
- Deny attacker
- Alert
- Block host
- Block connection
- Generate SNMP trap
- Capture trigger packet

Event actions can be associated with a event risk rating threshold that must be surpassed for the actions to take place.

- Statistics Processor

This processor keeps track of system statistics such as packet counts and packet arrival rates.

- Layer 2 Processor

This processor processes layer 2-related events. It also identifies malformed packets and removes them from the processing path. You can configure actionable events for detecting malformed packets such as alert, capture packet, and deny packet. The layer 2 processor updates statistics about packets that have been denied because of the policy you have configured.

- Database Processor

This processor maintains the signature state and flow databases.

- Fragment Reassembly Processor

This processor reassembles fragmented IP datagrams. It is also responsible for normalization of IP fragments when the sensor is in inline mode.

- Stream Reassembly Processor

This processor reorders TCP streams to ensure the arrival order of the packets at the various stream-based inspectors. It is also responsible for normalization of the TCP stream. The normalizer engine lets you enable or disable alert and deny actions.

The TCP SRP normalizer has a hold-down timer, which lets the stream state rebuild after a reconfiguration event. You cannot configure the timer. During the hold-down interval, the system synchronizes stream state on the first packet in a stream that passes through the system. When the hold down has expired, sensorApp enforces your configured policy. If this policy calls for a denial of streams that have not been opened with a 3-way handshake, established streams that were quiescent during the hold-down period will not be forwarded and will be allowed to timeout. Those streams that were synchronized during the hold-down period are allowed to continue.

- Signature Analysis Processor

This processor dispatches packets to the inspectors that are not stream-based and that are configured for interest in the packet in process.

- Slave Dispatch Processor

A process found only on dual CPU systems.

Some of the processors call inspectors to perform signature analysis. All inspectors can call the alarm channel to produce alerts as needed.

SensorApp also supports the following units:

- Analysis Engine

The analysis engine handles sensor configuration. It maps the interfaces and also the signature and alarm channel policy to the configured interfaces.

- Alarm Channel

The alarm channel processes all signature events generated by the inspectors. Its primary function is to generate alerts for each event it is passed.

Inline, Normalization, and Event Risk Rating Features

SensorApp contains the following inline, normalization, and event risk rating features:

- Processing packets inline

When the sensor is processing packets in the data path, all packets are forwarded without any modifications unless explicitly denied by policy configuration. Because of TCP normalization it is possible that some packets will be delayed to ensure proper coverage. When policy violations are encountered, SensorApp allows for the configuration of actions. Additional actions are available in inline mode, such as deny packet, deny flow, and deny attacker.

All packets that are unknown or of no interest to the IPS are forwarded to the paired interface with no analysis. All bridging and routing protocols are forwarded with no participation other than a possible deny due to policy violations. There is no IP stack associated with any interface used for inline (or promiscuous) data processing. The current support for 802.1q packets in promiscuous mode is extended to inline mode.

- IP normalization

Intentional or unintentional fragmentation of IP datagrams can serve to hide exploits making them difficult or impossible to detect. Fragmentation can also be used to circumvent access control policies like those found on firewalls and routers. And different operating systems use different methods to queue and dispatch fragmented datagrams. If the sensor has to check for all possible ways that the end host will reassemble the datagrams, it makes the sensor vulnerable to denial of service attacks. Reassembling all fragmented datagrams inline and only forwarding completed datagrams, refragmenting the datagram if necessary, is the solution to this problem. The IP Fragmentation Normalization unit performs this function.

- TCP normalization

Through intentional or natural TCP session segmentation, some classes of attacks can be hidden. To make sure policy enforcement can occur with no false positives and false negatives, the state of the two TCP endpoints must be tracked and only the data that is actually processed by the real host endpoints should be passed on. Overlaps in a TCP stream can occur, but are extremely rare except for TCP segment retransmits. Overwrites in the TCP session should not occur. If overwrites do occur, someone is intentionally trying to elude the security policy or the TCP stack implementation

is broken. Maintaining full information about the state of both endpoints is not possible unless the sensor acts as a TCP proxy. Instead of the sensor acting as a TCP proxy, the segments will be ordered properly and the normalizer will look for any abnormal packets associated with evasion and attacks.

- Event risk rating

The event risk rating incorporates the following additional information beyond the detection of a potentially malicious action:

- Severity of the attack if it were to succeed
- Fidelity of the signature
- Relevance of the potential attack with respect to the target host
- Overall value of the target host

Event risk rating helps reduce false positives from the system and gives you more control over what causes an alarm.

SensorApp New Features

SensorApp contains the following new features:

- Policy table—Provides a list of risk category settings (high, medium, and low).
- Evasion protection—Lets an inline interface mode sensor switch from strict mode to asymmetric mode for the Normalizer.
- Sensor health meter—Provides sensor-wide health statistics.
- Top services—Provides the top ten instances of the TCP, UDP, ICMP, and IP protocols.
- Security meter—Profiles alerts into threat categories and reports this information in red, yellow, and green buckets. You can configure the transition points for these buckets.
- Clear Flow state—Lets you clear the database, which causes the sensor to start fresh just as in a restart.
- Restart status—Reports periodically the current start and restart stages of the sensor.

Packet Flow

Packets are received by the NIC and placed in the kernel user-mapped memory space by the IPS-shared driver. The packet is prepended by the IPS header. Each packet also has a field that indicates whether to pass or deny the packet when it reaches the Signature Event Action Processor.

The producer pulls packets from the shared-kernel user-mapped packet buffer and calls the process function that implements the processor appropriate to the sensor model. The following orders occur:

- Single processor execution

Time Processor --> Layer 2 Processor --> Deny Filters Processor --> Fragment Reassembly Processor --> Statistics Processor --> Database Processor --> Signature Analysis Processor --> Stream Reassembly Processor --> Signature Event Action Processor

- Dual processor execution

Execution Thread 1 Time Processor --> Layer 2 Processor --> Deny Filters Processor --> Fragment Reassembly Processor --> Statistics Processor --> Database Processor --> Signature Analysis Processor --> Slave Dispatch Processor --> Execution Thread 2 Database Processor --> Stream Reassembly Processor --> Signature Event Action Processor

Signature Event Action Processor

The Signature Event Action Processor coordinates the data flow from the signature event in the alarm channel to processing through the Signature Event Action Override, the Signature Event Action Filter, and the Signature Event Action Handler. It consists of the following components:

- **Alarm channel**
The unit that represents the area to communicate signature events from the SensorApp inspection path to signature event handling.
- **Signature Event Action Override**
Adds actions based on the risk rating value. The Signature Event Action Override applies to all signatures that fall in the range of the configured risk rating threshold. Each Signature Event Action Override is independent and has a separate configuration value for each action type.
- **Signature Event Action Filter**
Subtracts actions based on the signature ID, addresses, and risk rating of the signature event. The input to the Signature Event Action Filter is the signature event with actions possibly added by the Signature Event Action Override.

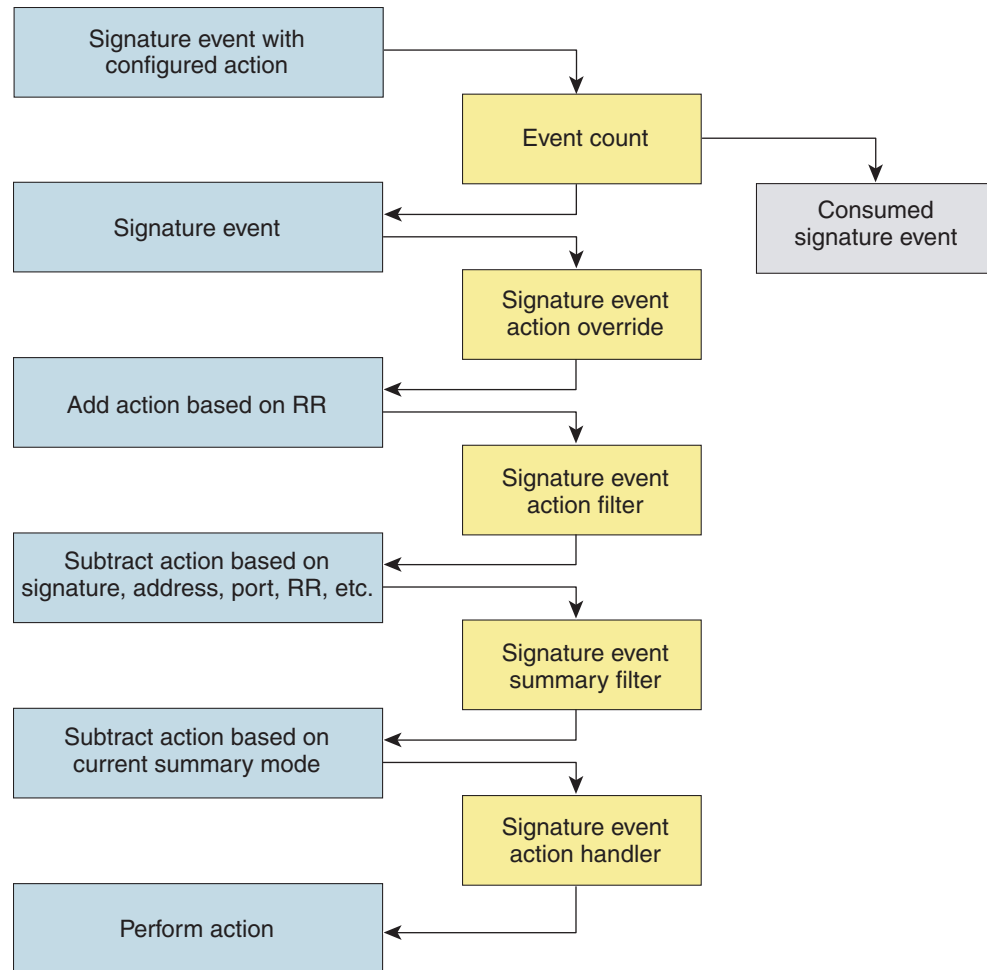


Note The Signature Event Action Filter can only subtract actions, it cannot add new actions.

The following parameters apply to the Signature Event Action Filter:

- Signature ID
- Subsignature ID
- Attacker address
- Attacker port
- Victim address
- Victim port
- Risk rating threshold range
- Actions to subtract
- Sequence identifier (optional)
- Stop-or-continue bit
- Enable action filter line bit
- Victim OS relevance or OS relevance
- **Signature Event Action Handler**
Performs the requested actions. The output from the Signature Event Action Handler is the actions being performed and possibly an evIdsAlert written to the Event Store.

[Figure A-4 on page A-27](#) illustrates the logical flow of the signature event through the Signature Event Action Processor and the operations performed on the action for this event. It starts with the signature event with configured action received in the alarm channel and flows top to bottom as the signature event passes through the functional components of the Signature Event Action Processor.

Figure A-4 Signature Event Through the Signature Event Action Processor

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CLI

The CLI provides the sensor user interface for all direct node access such as Telnet, SSH, and serial interface. You configure the sensor applications with the CLI. Direct access to the underlying OS is allowed through the service role. This section describes the Cisco IPS CLI, and contains the following topics:

- [User Roles, page A-28](#)
- [Service Account, page A-29](#)

User Roles

There are four user roles:

- Viewers—Can view configuration and events, but cannot modify any configuration data except their user passwords.
- Operators—Can view everything and can modify the following options:
 - Signature tuning (priority, disable or enable)
 - Virtual sensor definition
 - Managed routers
 - Their user passwords
- Administrators—Can view everything and can modify all options that operators can modify in addition to the following:
 - Sensor addressing configuration
 - List of hosts allowed to connect as configuration or viewing agents
 - Assignment of physical sensing interfaces
 - Enable or disable control of physical interfaces
 - Add and delete users and passwords
 - Generate new SSH host keys and server certificates
- Service—Only one user with service privileges can exist on a sensor. The service user cannot log in to IME. The service user logs in to a bash shell rather than the CLI.



Note

The service role is a special role that allows you to bypass the CLI if needed. Only one service account is allowed. You should only create an account with the service role for troubleshooting purposes. Only a user with administrator privileges can edit the service account.



Caution

You should carefully consider whether you want to create a service account. The service account provides shell access to the system, which makes the system vulnerable. However, you can use the service account to create a password if the administrator password is lost. Analyze your situation to decide if you want a service account existing on the system.

When you log in to the service account, you receive the following warning:

```
***** WARNING *****
UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THIS NETWORK DEVICE IS PROHIBITED.
This account is intended to be used for support and
troubleshooting purposes only. Unauthorized modifications
are not supported and will require this device to be
re-imaged to guarantee proper operation.
*****
```



Note

For IPS 5.0 and later, you can no longer remove the **cisco** account. You can disable it using the **no password cisco** command, but you cannot remove it. To use the **no password cisco** command, there must be another administrator account on the sensor. Removing the **cisco** account through the service account is not supported. If you remove the **cisco** account through the service account, the sensor most likely will not boot up, so to recover the sensor you must reinstall the sensor system image.

Service Account

The service account is a support and troubleshooting tool that enables TAC to log in to a native operating system shell rather than the CLI shell. It does not exist on the sensor by default. You must create it so that it is available for TAC to use for troubleshooting your sensor.

Only one service account is allowed per sensor and only one account is allowed a service role. When the password of the service account is set or reset, the password of the root account is set to the same password. This allows the service account user to su to root using the same password. When the service account is removed, the password of the root account is locked.

The service account is not intended to be used for configuration purposes. Only modifications made to the sensor through the service account under the direction of TAC are supported. Cisco Systems does not support the addition and/or running of an additional service to the operating system through the service account, because it affects proper performance and proper functioning of the other IPS services. TAC does not support a sensor on which additional services have been added.

You can track logins to the service account by checking the log file `/var/log/.tac`, which is updated with a record of service account logins.

**Note**

Cisco IPS 6.1 incorporates several troubleshooting features that are available through the CLI, IDM, or IME. The service account is not necessary for most troubleshooting situations. You may need to create the service account at the direction of TAC to troubleshoot a very unique problem. The service account lets you bypass the protections built into the CLI and allows root privilege access to the sensor, which is otherwise disabled. We recommend that you do not create a service account unless it is needed for a specific reason. You should remove the service account when it is no longer needed.

**Note**

For IPS 5.0 and later, you can no longer remove the **cisco** account. You can disable it using the **no password cisco** command, but you cannot remove it. To use the **no password cisco** command, there must be another administrator account on the sensor. Removing the **cisco** account through the service account is not supported. If you remove the **cisco** account through the service account, the sensor most likely will not boot up, so to recover the sensor you must reinstall the sensor system image.

Communications

This section describes the communications protocols used by Cisco IPS 6.1, and contains the following topics:

- [IDAPI, page A-30](#)
- [RDEP2, page A-30](#)
- [IDIOM, page A-32](#)
- [IDCONF, page A-32](#)
- [SDEE, page A-33](#)
- [CIDEE, page A-33](#)

IDAPI

IPS applications use an interprocess communication API called IDAPI to handle internal communications. IDAPI reads and writes event data and provides a mechanism for control transactions. IDAPI is the interface through which all the applications communicate.

SensorApp captures and analyzes the network traffic on its interfaces. When a signature is matched, SensorApp generates an alert, which is stored in the Event Store. If the signature is configured to perform the blocking response action, SensorApp generates a block event, which is also stored in the Event Store.

Figure A-5 illustrates the IDAPI interface.

Figure A-5 IDAPI



Each application registers to the IDAPI to send and receive events and control transactions. IDAPI provides the following services:

- Control transactions
 - Initiates the control transaction.
 - Waits for the inbound control transaction.
 - Responds to the control transaction.
- IPS events
 - Subscribes to remote IPS events, which are stored in the Event Store when received.
 - Reads IPS events from the Event Store.
 - Writes IPS events to the Event Store.

IDAPI provides the necessary synchronization mechanisms to guarantee atomic data accesses.

RDEP2

External communications use RDEP2. RDEP2 is an application-level communications protocol used to exchange IPS event, IP log, configuration, and control messages between IPS clients and IPS servers. RDEP2 communications consist of request and response messages. RDEP2 clients initiate request messages to RDEP2 servers. RDEP2 servers respond to request messages with response messages.

RDEP2 defines three classes of request/response messages: event, IP log, and transaction messages. Event messages include IPS alert, status, and error messages. Clients use IP log requests to retrieve IP log data from servers. Transaction messages are used to configure and control IPS servers.

RDEP2 uses the industry standards HTTP, TLS and SSL and XML to provide a standardized interface between RDEP2 agents. The RDEP2 protocol is a subset of the HTTP 1.1 protocol. All RDEP2 messages are legal HTTP 1.1 messages. RDEP2 uses HTTP message formats and message exchange protocol to exchange messages between RDEP2 agents.

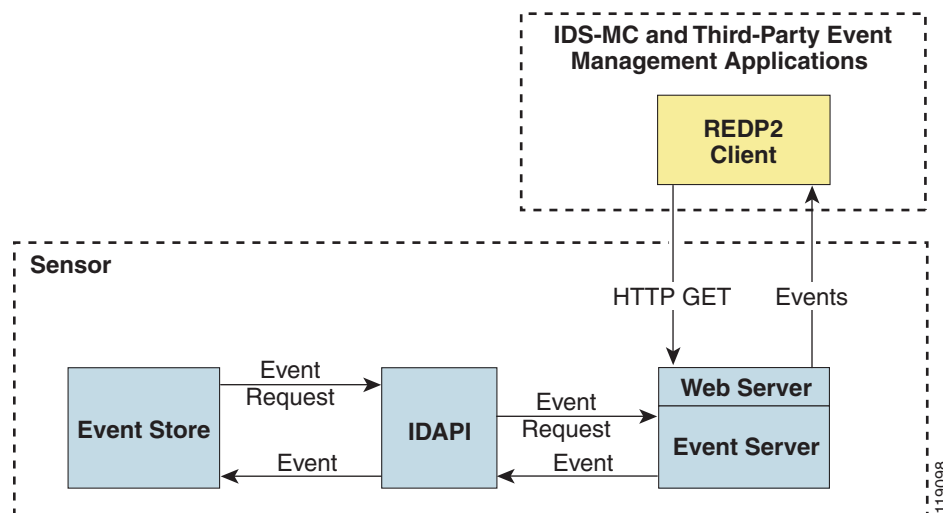
You use the IPS manager to specify which hosts are allowed to access the sensor through the network. Sensors accept connections from 1 to 10 RDEP2 clients simultaneously. Clients selectively retrieve data by time range, type of event (alert, error, or status message) and level (alert = high, medium, low, or informational; error = high, medium, low). Events are retrieved by a query (a single bulk get) or subscription (a real-time persistent connection) or both. Communications are secured by TLS or SSL.

**Note**

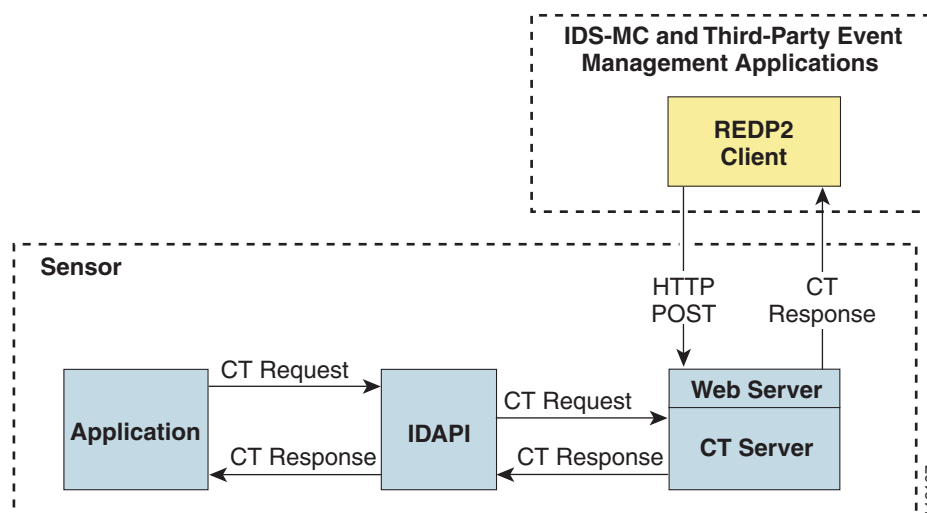
For retrieving events, the sensor is backwards-compatible to RDEP even though the new standard for retrieval is RDEP2. We recommend you use RDEP2 to retrieve events and send configuration changes for Cisco IPS 6.1.

Remote applications retrieve events from the sensor through RDEP2. The remote client sends an RDEP2 event request to the Web Server of the sensor, which passes it to the Event Server. The Event Server queries the Event Store through IDAPI and then returns the result. [Figure A-6](#) shows remote applications retrieving events from the sensor through RDEP2.

Figure A-6 Retrieving Events Through RDEP2



Remote applications send commands to the sensor through RDEP2. The remote client sends an RDEP2 control transaction to the Web Server of the sensor, which passes it to the Control Transaction Server. The Control Transaction Server passes the control transaction through IDAPI to the appropriate application, waits for the response of the application, and then returns the result. [Figure A-7 on page A-32](#) shows remote applications sending commands to the sensor through RDEP2.

Figure A-7 Sending Commands Through RDEP2

IDIOM

IDIOM is a data format standard that defines the event messages that are reported by the IPS as well as the operational messages that are used to configure and control intrusion detection systems. These messages consist of XML documents that conform to the IDIOM XML schema.

IDIOM supports two types of interactions: event and control transaction. Event interactions are used to exchange IPS events such as alerts. IDIOM uses two types of messages for event interactions: event and error messages. Control transactions provide a means for one host to initiate an action in, change the state of, or read the state of another host. Control transactions utilize four types of IDIOM messages: request, response, configuration, and error messages. Events and control transactions that are communicated between application instances within a host are known as local events or local control transactions, or collectively, local IDIOM messages. Events and control transactions that are communicated between different hosts using the RDEP2 protocol are known as remote events and remote control transactions, or collectively, remote IDIOM messages.



Note

IDIOM for the most part has been superseded by IDCONF, SDEE, and CIDEE.

IDCONF

Cisco IPS 6.1 manages its configuration using XML documents. IDCONF specifies the XML schema including Cisco IPS 6.0 control transactions. The IDCONF schema does not specify the contents of the configuration documents, but rather the framework and building blocks from which the configuration documents are developed. It provides mechanisms that let the IPS managers and CLI ignore features that are not configurable by certain platforms or functions through the use of the feature-supported attribute.

IDCONF messages are exchanged over RDEP2 and are wrapped inside IDIOM request and response messages.

The following is an IDCONF example:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
```



```

<request xmlns="http://www.cisco.com/cids/idiom" schemaVersion="2.00">
  <editConfigDelta xmlns="http://www.cisco.com/cids/idconf">
    <component name="userAccount">
      <config typedefsVersion="2004-03-01" xmlns="http://www.cisco.com/cids/idconf">
        <struct>
          <map name="user-accounts" editOp="merge">
            <mapEntry>
              <key>
                <var name="name">cisco</var>
              </key>
              <struct>
                <struct name="credentials">
                  <var name="role">administrator</var>
                </struct>
              </struct>
            </mapEntry>
          </map>
        </struct>
      </config>
    </component>
  </editDefaultConfig>
</request>

```

SDEE

IPS produces various types of events including intrusion alerts and status events. IPS communicates events to clients such as management applications using the proprietary RDEP2. We have also developed an IPS-industry leading protocol, SDEE, which is a product-independent standard for communicating security device events. SDEE is an enhancement to the current version of RDEP2 that adds extensibility features that are needed for communicating events generated by various types of security devices.

Systems that use SDEE to communicate events to clients are referred to as SDEE providers. SDEE specifies that events can be transported using the HTTP or HTTP over SSL and TLS protocols. When HTTP or HTTPS is used, SDEE providers act as HTTP servers, while SDEE clients are the initiators of HTTP requests.

IPS includes Web Server, which processes HTTP or HTTPS requests. Web Server uses run-time loadable servlets to process the different types of HTTP requests. Each servlet handles HTTP requests that are directed to the URL associated with the servlet. The SDEE server is implemented as a web server servlet.

The SDEE server only processes authorized requests. A request is authorized if it originates from a web server to authenticate the identity of the client and determine the privilege level of the client.

CIDEE

CIDEE specifies the extensions to SDEE that are used by the Cisco IPS. The CIDEE standard specifies all possible extensions that are supported by Cisco IPS. Specific systems may implement a subset of CIDEE extensions. However, any extension that is designated as being required **MUST** be supported by all systems.

CIDEE specifies the Cisco IPS-specific security device events and the IPS extensions to the SDEE evIdsAlert element.

CIDEE supports the following events:

- **evError**—Error event

Generated by the CIDEE provider when the provider detects an error or warning condition. The evError event contains error code and textual description of the error.

- **evStatus**—Status message event

Generated by CIDEE providers to indicate that something of potential interest occurred on the host. Different types of status messages can be reported in the status event—one message per event. Each type of status message contains a set of data elements that are specific to the type of occurrence that the status message is describing. The information in many of the status messages are useful for audit purposes. Errors and warnings are not considered status information and are reported using evError rather than evStatus.

- **evShunRqst**—Block request event

Generated to indicate that a block action is to be initiated by the service that handles network blocking.

The following is a CIDEE extended event example:

```
<sd:events xmlns:cid="http://www.cisco.com/cids/2004/04/cidee"
xmlns:sd="http://example.org/2003/08/sdee">
  <sd:evIdsAlert eventId="1042648730045587005" vendor="Cisco" severity="medium">
    <sd:originator>
      <sd:hostId>Beta4Sensor1</sd:hostId>
      <cid:appName>sensorApp</cid:appName>
      <cid:appInstanceId>8971</cid:appInstanceId>
    </sd:originator>
    <sd:time offset="0" timeZone="UTC">1043238671706378000</sd:time>
    <sd:signature description="IOS Udp Bomb" id="4600" cid:version="S37">
      <cid:subsigId>0</cid:subsigId>
    </sd:signature> ...
  </sd:evIdsAlert>
</sd:events>
```

Cisco IPS 6.1 File Structure

Cisco IPS 6.1 has the following directory structure:

- **/usr/cids/idsRoot**—Main installation directory.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/shared**—Stores files used during system recovery.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/var**—Stores files created dynamically while the sensor is running.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/var/updates**—Stores files and logs for update installations.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/var/virtualSensor**—Stores files used by SensorApp to analyze regular expressions.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/var/eventStore**—Contains the Event Store application.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/var/core**—Stores core files that are created during system crashes.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/var/iplogs**—Stores iplog file data.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin**—Contains the binary executables.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/authentication**—Contains the authentication application.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/cidDump**—Contains the script that gathers data for tech support.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/cidwebserver**—Contains the web server application.
- **/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/cidcli**—Contains the CLI application.

- /usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/nac—Contains the ARC application.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/logApp—Contains the logger application.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/mainApp—Contains the main application.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/sensorApp—Contains the sensor application.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/falcondump—Contains the application for getting packet dumps on the sensing ports of IDSM-2.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/etc—Stores sensor configuration files.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/htdocs—Contains the IDM files for the web server.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/lib—Contains the library files for the sensor applications.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/log—Contains the log files for debugging.
- /usr/cids/idsRoot/tmp—Stores the temporary files created during run time of the sensor.

Summary of Cisco IPS 6.1 Applications

Table A-2 gives a summary of the applications that make up the IPS.

Table A-2 **Summary of Applications**

Application	Description
AuthenticationApp	Authorizes and authenticates users based on IP address, password, and digital certificates.
CLI	Accepts command line input and modifies the local configuration using IDAPI.
SDEE Server ¹	Accepts RDEP2 request for events from remote clients.
MainApp	Reads the configuration and starts applications, handles starting and stopping of applications and node reboots, handles software upgrades.
InterfaceApp	Handles bypass and physical settings and defines paired interfaces. Physical settings are speed, duplex, and administrative state.
Logger	Writes all the log messages of the application to the log file and the error messages of the application to the Event Store.
Attack Response Controller	An ARC is run on every sensor. Each ARC subscribes to network access events from its local Event Store. The ARC configuration contains a list of sensors and the network access devices that its local ARC controls. If a ARC is configured to send network access events to a master blocking sensor, it initiates a network access control transaction to the remote ARC that controls the device. These network access action control transactions are also used by IPS managers to issue occasional network access actions.
NotificationApp	Sends SNMP traps when triggered by alert, status, and error events. NotificationApp uses the public domain SNMP agent. SNMP GETs provide information about the general health of the sensor.

Table A-2 **Summary of Applications (continued)**

Application	Description
SensorApp	Captures and analyzes traffic on the monitored network and generates intrusion and network access events. Responds to IP logging control transactions that turn logging on and off and that send and delete IP log files.
Control Transaction Server ²	Accepts control transactions from a remote RDEP2 client, initiates a local control transaction, and returns the response to the remote client.
Control Transaction Source ³	Waits for control transactions directed to remote applications, forwards the control transactions to the remote node using RDEP2, and returns the response to the initiator.
IDM	The Java applet that provides an HTML IPS management interface.
IME	The Java applet that provides an interface for viewing and archiving events.
Web Server	Waits for remote HTTP client requests and calls the appropriate servlet application.

1. This is a web server servlet.
2. This is a web server servlet.
3. This is a remote control transaction proxy.



APPENDIX **B**

Signature Engines

This appendix describes the IPS signature engines. It contains the following sections:

- [Understanding Signature Engines, page B-1](#)
- [Master Engine, page B-3](#)
- [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#)
- [AIC Engine, page B-10](#)
- [Atomic Engine, page B-12](#)
- [Fixed Engine, page B-15](#)
- [Flood Engine, page B-18](#)
- [Meta Engine, page B-19](#)
- [Multi String Engine, page B-20](#)
- [Normalizer Engine, page B-22](#)
- [Service Engines, page B-24](#)
- [State Engine, page B-42](#)
- [String Engines, page B-44](#)
- [Sweep Engines, page B-47](#)
- [Traffic Anomaly Engine, page B-50](#)
- [Traffic ICMP Engine, page B-52](#)
- [Trojan Engines, page B-52](#)

Understanding Signature Engines

A signature engine is a component of the Cisco IPS that is designed to support many signatures in a certain category. An engine is composed of a parser and an inspector. Each engine has a set of parameters that have allowable ranges or sets of values.



Note

The Cisco IPS 6.1 engines support a standardized Regex.

Cisco IPS 6.1 contains the following signature engines:

- **AIC**—Provides thorough analysis of web traffic. The AIC engine provides granular control over HTTP sessions to prevent abuse of the HTTP protocol. It allows administrative control over applications, such as instant messaging and gotomypc, that try to tunnel over specified ports. You can also use AIC to inspect FTP traffic and control the commands being issued. There are two AIC engines: AIC FTP and AIC HTTP.
- **Atomic**—The Atomic engines are now combined into two engines with multi-level selections. You can combine Layer 3 and Layer 4 attributes within one signature, for example IP + TCP. The Atomic engine uses the standardized Regex support.
 - **Atomic ARP**—Inspects Layer 2 ARP protocol. The Atomic ARP engine is different because most engines are based on Layer 3 IP protocol.
 - **Atomic IP**—Inspects IP protocol packets and associated Layer 4 transport protocols. This engine lets you specify values to match for fields in the IP and Layer 4 headers, and lets you use Regex to inspect Layer 4 payloads.



Note All IP packets are inspected by the Atomic IP engine. This engine replaces the 4.x Atomic ICMP, Atomic IP Options, Atomic L3 IP, Atomic TCP, and Atomic UDP engines.

- **Atomic IPv6**—Detects two IOS vulnerabilities that are stimulated by malformed IPv6 traffic.
- **Flood**—Detects ICMP and UDP floods directed at hosts and networks. There are two Flood engines: Flood Host and Flood Net.
- **Meta**—Defines events that occur in a related manner within a sliding time interval. This engine processes events rather than packets.
- **Multi String**—Inspects Layer 4 transport protocols and payloads by matching several strings for one signature. This engine inspects stream-based TCP and single UDP and ICMP packets.
- **Normalizer**—Configures how the IP and TCP normalizer functions and provides configuration for signature events related to the IP and TCP normalizer. Allows you to enforce RFC compliance.
- **Service**—Deals with specific protocols. Service engine has the following protocol types:
 - **DNS**—Inspects DNS (TCP and UDP) traffic.
 - **FTP**—Inspects FTP traffic.
 - **Generic**—Decodes custom service and payload.
 - **Generic Advanced**—Analyzes traffic based on the mini-programs that are written to parse the packets.
 - **H225**—Inspects VoIP traffic. Helps the network administrator make sure the SETUP message coming in to the VoIP network is valid and within the bounds that the policies describe. Is also helps make sure the addresses and Q.931 string fields such as url-ids, email-ids, and display information adhere to specific lengths and do not contain possible attack patterns.
 - **HTTP**—Inspects HTTP traffic. The WEBPORTS variable defines inspection port for HTTP traffic.
 - **IDENT**—Inspects IDENT (client and server) traffic.
 - **MSRPC**—Inspects MSRPC traffic.
 - **MSSQL**—Inspects Microsoft SQL traffic.
 - **NTP**—Inspects NTP traffic.

- RPC—Inspects RPC traffic.
- SMB—Inspects SMB traffic.
- SMB Advanced—Processes Microsoft SMB and Microsoft RPC over SMB packets.
- SNMP—Inspects SNMP traffic.
- SSH—Inspects SSH traffic.
- TNS—Inspects TNS traffic.
- State—Stateful searches of strings in protocols such as SMTP. The state engine now has a hidden configuration file that is used to define the state transitions so new state definitions can be delivered in a signature update.
- String—Searches on Regex strings based on ICMP, TCP, or UDP protocol. There are three String engines: String ICMP, String TCP, and String UDP.
- Sweep—Analyzes sweeps from a single host (ICMP and TCP), from destination ports (TCP and UDP), and multiple ports with RPC requests between two nodes. There are two Sweep engines: Sweep and Sweep Other TCP.
- Traffic Anomaly—Inspects TCP, UDP, and other traffic for worms.

Traffic ICMP—Analyzes nonstandard protocols, such as TFN2K, LOKI, and DDOS. There are only two signatures with configurable parameters.

- Trojan—Analyzes traffic from nonstandard protocols, such as BO2K and TFN2K. There are three Trojan engines: Bo2k, Tfn2k, and UDP. There are no user-configurable parameters in these engines.

Master Engine

The Master engine provides structures and methods to the other engines and handles input from configuration and alert output. This section describes the Master engine, and contains the following topics:

- [General Parameters, page B-3](#)
- [Alert Frequency, page B-6](#)
- [Event Actions, page B-7](#)

General Parameters

The following parameters are part of the Master engine and apply to all signatures (if it makes sense for that signature engine).

[Table B-1](#) lists the general master engine parameters.

Table B-1 Master Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Signature ID	Specifies the ID of this signature.	<i>number</i>
Sub Signature ID	Specifies the sub ID of this signature	<i>number</i>

Table B-1 Master Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Alert Severity	Specifies the severity of the alert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dangerous alert • Medium-level alert • Low-level alert • Informational alert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High • Medium • Low • Informational (default)
Sig Fidelity Rating	Specifies the rating of the fidelity of this signature.	0 to 100 (default = 100)
Promiscuous Delta	Specifies the delta value used to determine the seriousness of the alert.	0 to 30 (default = 5)
Signature Name	Specifies the name of the signature.	<i>sig-name</i>
Alert Notes	Provides additional information about this signature that will be included in the alert message.	<i>alert-notes</i>
User Comments	Provides comments about this signature.	<i>comments</i>
Alert Traits	Specifies traits you want to document about this signature.	0 to 65535
Release	Provides the release in which the signature was most recently updated.	<i>release</i>
Signature Creation Date	Specifies the date the signature was created.	—
Signature Type	Specifies the signature category.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anomaly • Component • Exploit • Other
Engine	Specifies the engine to which the signature belongs. Note The engine-specific parameters appear under the Engine category.	—
Event Count	Specifies the number of times an event must occur before an alert is generated.	1 to 65535 (default = 1)
Event Count Key	Specifies the storage type on which to count events for this signature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attacker address • Attacker and victim addresses • Attacker address and victim port • Victim address • Attacker and victim addresses and ports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Axxx • AxBx • Axxb • xxBx • AaBb
Specify Alert Interval {Yes No}	Enables the alert interval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert Interval—Specifies the time in seconds before the event count is reset. 	2 to 1000

Table B-1 Master Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Status	Specifies whether the signature is enabled or disabled, active or retired.	Enabled Retired { Yes No }
Obsoletes	Indicates that a newer signature has disabled an older signature.	—
Vulnerable OS List	When combined with passive OS fingerprinting, it allows the IPS to determine if it is likely a given attack is relevant to the target system.	AIX BSD General OS HP-UX IOS IRIX Linux Mac OS Netware Other Solaris UNIX Windows Windows NT Windows NT/2K/XP
Mars Category { Yes No }	Maps signatures to a MARS attack category. ¹	—

1. This is a static information category that you can set in the configuration and view in the alerts. Refer to the MARS documentation for more information.

Promiscuous Delta

The promiscuous delta lowers the risk rating of certain alerts in promiscuous mode. Because the sensor does not know the attributes of the target system and in promiscuous mode cannot deny packets, it is useful to lower the prioritization of promiscuous alerts (based on the lower risk rating) so the administrator can focus on investigating higher risk rating alerts. In inline mode, the sensor can deny the offending packets so that they never reach the target host, so it does not matter if the target was vulnerable. Because the attack was not allowed on the network, the IPS does not subtract from the risk rating value. Signatures that are not service, OS, or application-specific have 0 for the promiscuous delta. If the signature is specific to an OS, service, or application, it has a promiscuous delta of 5, 10, or 15 calculated from 5 points for each category.



Caution

We recommend that you do NOT change the promiscuous delta setting for a signature.

Obsoletes

The Cisco signature team uses the obsoletes field to indicate obsoleted, older signatures that have been replaced by newer, better signatures, and to indicate disabled signatures in an engine when a better instance of that engine is available.

Vulnerable OS List

When you combine the vulnerable OS setting of a signature with passive OS fingerprinting, the IPS can determine if it is likely that a given attack is relevant to the target system. If the attack is found to be relevant, the risk rating value of the resulting alert receives a boost. If the relevancy is unknown, usually because there is no entry in the passive OS fingerprinting list, then no change is made to the risk rating. If there is a passive OS fingerprinting entry and it does not match the vulnerable OS setting of a signature, the risk rating value is decreased. The default value by which to increase or decrease the risk rating is +/- 10 points.

For More Information

- For more information about promiscuous mode, see [Promiscuous Mode, page 7-11](#).
- For more information about passive OS fingerprinting, see [Configuring OS Identifications, page 11-20](#).

Alert Frequency

The purpose of the alert frequency parameter is to reduce the volume of the alerts written to the Event Store to counter IDS DoS tools, such as stick. There are four modes: Fire All, Fire Once, Summarize, and Global Summarize. The summary mode is changed dynamically to adapt to the current alert volume. For example, you can configure the signature to Fire All, but after a certain threshold is reached, it starts summarizing.

[Table B-2](#) lists the alert frequency parameters.

Table B-2 Master Engine Alert Frequency Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Alert Frequency	Summary options for grouping alerts.	—
Summary Mode	Mode used for summarization.	—
Fire All	Fires an alert on all events.	—
Fire Once	Fires an alert only once.	—
Global Summarize	Summarizes an alert so that it only fires once regardless of how many attackers or victims.	—
Summarize	Summarizes alerts.	—
Specify Summary Threshold	(Optional) Enables summary threshold.	Yes No
Summary Threshold	Threshold number of alerts to send signature into summary mode.	0 to 65535
Specify Global Summary Threshold	Enable global summary threshold.	Yes No
Global Summary Threshold	Threshold number of events to take alerts into global summary.	1 to 65535

Table B-2 Master Engine Alert Frequency Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Summary Interval	Time in seconds used in each summary alert.	1 to 1000
Summary Key	The storage type on which to summarize this signature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attacker address Attacker and victim addresses Attacker address and victim port Victim address Attacker and victim addresses and ports 	Axxx AxBx Axxb xxBx AaBb

Event Actions


Note

Most of the following event actions belong to each signature engine unless they are not appropriate for that particular engine.

The following event action parameters belong to each signature engine (if it makes sense for that signature engine):

- Alert and Log Actions
 - Product Alert—Writes an alert to Event Store.
 - Produce Verbose Alert—Includes an encoded dump (possibly truncated) of the offending packet in the alert.
 - Log Attacker Packets—Starts IP logging of packets containing the attacker address and sends an alert.
 - Log Victim Packets—Starts IP logging of packets containing the victim address and sends an alert.
 - Log Attacker/Victim Pair Packets—(inline mode only) Starts IP logging of packets containing the attacker/victim address pair.
 - Request SNMP Trap—Sends request to NotificationApp to perform SNMP notification.
- Deny Actions
 - Deny Packet Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet.


Note

You cannot delete the event action override for Deny Packet Inline because it is protected. If you do not want to use that override, disable it.

- Deny Connection Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the TCP Flow.
- Deny Attacker Victim Pair Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker/victim address pair for a specified period of time.
- Deny Attacker Service Pair Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets on the attacker address victim port pair for a specified period of time.

- Deny Attacker Inline—(inline mode only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets from the attacker address for a specified period of time.



Note This is the most severe of the deny actions. It denies the current and future packets from a single attacker address. Each deny address times out for *X* seconds from the first event that caused the deny to start, where *X* is the amount of seconds that you configured. You can clear all denied attacker entries by choosing **Monitoring > Properties > Denied Attackers > Clear List**, which permits the addresses back on the network.

- Modify Packet Inline—(inline mode only) Modifies packet data to remove ambiguity about what the end point might do with the packet.



Note Modify Packet Inline is part of the Normalizer Engine. It scrubs the packet and corrects irregular issues such as bad checksum, out of range values, and other RFC violations.

- Other Actions
 - Request Block Connection—Requests ARC to block this connection.
 - Request Block Host—Requests ARC to block this attacker host.
 - Request Rate Limit—Requests ARC to perform rate limiting.
 - Reset TCP Connection—Sends TCP resets to hijack and terminate the TCP flow.

Understanding Deny Packet Inline

For signatures that have Deny Packet Inline configured as an action or for an event action override that adds Deny Packet Inline as an action, the following actions may be taken:

- droppedPacket
- deniedFlow
- tcpOneWayResetSent

The deny packet inline action is represented as a dropped packet action in the alert. When a deny packet inline occurs for a TCP connection, it is automatically upgraded to a deny connection inline action and seen as a denied flow in the alert. If the IPS denies just one packet, the TCP continues to try to send that same packet again and again, so the IPS denies the entire connection to ensure it never succeeds with the resends.

When a deny connection inline occurs, the IPS also automatically sends a TCP one-way reset, which shows up as a TCP one-way reset sent in the alert. When the IPS denies the connection, it leaves an open connection on both the client (generally the attacker) and the server (generally the victim). Too many open connections can result in resource problems on the victim. So the IPS sends a TCP reset to the victim to close the connection on the victim side (usually the server), which conserves the resources of the victim. It also prevents a failover that would otherwise allow the connection to fail over to a different network path and reach the victim. The IPS leaves the attacker side open and denies all traffic from it.

Regular Expression Syntax

Regular expressions (Regex) are a powerful and flexible notational language that allow you to describe text. In the context of pattern matching, regular expressions allow a succinct description of any arbitrary pattern.

Table B-3 lists the IPS signature Regex syntax.

Table B-3 Signature Regular Expression Syntax

Metacharacter	Name	Description
?	Question mark	Repeat 0 or 1 times.
*	Star, asterisk	Repeat 0 or more times.
+	Plus	Repeat 1 or more times.
{ x }	Quantifier	Repeat exactly <i>X</i> times.
{ x, }	Minimum quantifier	Repeat at least <i>X</i> times.
.	Dot	Any one character except new line (0x0A).
[abc]	Character class	Any character listed.
[^abc]	Negated character class	Any character not listed.
[a-z]	Character range class	Any character listed inclusively in the range.
()	Parenthesis	Used to limit the scope of other metacharacters.
	Alternation, or	Matches either expression it separates.
^	caret	The beginning of the line.
\char	Escaped character	When <i>char</i> is a metacharacter or not, matches the literal <i>char</i> .
char	Character	When char is not a metacharacter, matches the literal char.
\r	Carriage return	Matches the carriage return character (0x0D).
\n	New line	Matches the new line character (0x0A).
\t	Tab	Matches the tab character (0x09).
\f	Form feed	Matches the form feed character (0x0C).
\xNN	Escaped hexadecimal character	Matches character with the hexadecimal code 0xNN (0<=N<=F).
\NNN	Escaped octal character	Matches the character with the octal code NNN (0<=N<=8).

All repetition operators will match the shortest possible string as opposed to other operators that consume as much of the string as possible thus giving the longest string match.

Table B-4 lists examples of Regex patterns.

Table B-4 **Regex Patterns**

To Match	Regular Expression
Hacker	Hacker
Hacker or hacker	[Hh]acker
Variations of bananas, banananas, banananananas	ba(na)+s
foo and bar on the same line with anything except a new line between them	foo.*bar
Either foo or bar	foolbar
Either moon or soon	(mls)oon

AIC Engine

The Application Inspection and Control (AIC) engine inspects HTTP web traffic and enforces FTP commands. This section describes the AIC engine and its parameters, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the AIC Engine, page B-10](#)
- [AIC Engine and Sensor Performance, page B-10](#)
- [AIC Engine Parameters, page B-11](#)

Understanding the AIC Engine

AIC provides thorough analysis of web traffic. It provides granular control over HTTP sessions to prevent abuse of the HTTP protocol. It allows administrative control over applications, such as instant messaging and gotomypc, that try to tunnel over specified ports. Inspection and policy checks for P2P and instant messaging are possible if these applications are running over HTTP.

AIC also provides a way to inspect FTP traffic and control the commands being issued.

You can enable or disable the predefined signatures or you can create policies through custom signatures.



Note

The AIC engine runs when HTTP traffic is received on AIC web ports. If traffic is web traffic, but not received on the AIC web ports, the Service HTTP engine is executed. AIC inspection can be on any port if it is configured as an AIC web port and the traffic to be inspected is HTTP traffic.

AIC Engine and Sensor Performance

Application policy enforcement is a unique sensor feature. Rather than being based on traditional IPS technologies that inspect for exploits, vulnerabilities, and anomalies, AIC policy enforcement is designed to enforce HTTP and FTP service policies. The inspection work required for this policy enforcement is extreme compared with traditional IPS inspection work. A large performance penalty is associated with using this feature. When AIC is enabled, the overall bandwidth capacity of the sensor is reduced.

AIC policy enforcement is disabled in the IPS default configuration. If you want to activate AIC policy enforcement, we highly recommend that you carefully choose the exact policies of interest and disable those you do not need. Also, if your sensor is near its maximum inspection load capacity, we recommend that you not use this feature since it can oversubscribe the sensor. We recommend that you use the adaptive security appliance firewall to handle this type of policy enforcement.

AIC Engine Parameters

The AIC engine defines signatures for deep inspection of web traffic. It also defines signatures that authorize and enforce FTP commands.

There are two AIC engines: AIC HTTP and AIC FTP.

The AIC engine has the following features:

- Web traffic:
 - RFC compliance enforcement
 - HTTP request method authorization and enforcement
 - Response message validation
 - MIME type enforcement
 - Transfer encoding type validation
 - Content control based on message content and type of data being transferred
 - URI length enforcement
 - Message size enforcement according to policy configured and the header
 - Tunneling, P2P and instant messaging enforcement.

This enforcement is done using regular expressions. There are predefined signature but you can expand the list.

- FTP traffic:
 - FTP command authorization and enforcement

Table B-5 lists the parameters that are specific to the AIC HTTP engine.

Table B-5 **AIC HTTP Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description
Signature Type	Specifies the type of AIC signature.
Content Types	<p>AIC signature that deals with MIME types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define Content Type—Associates actions such as denying a specific MIME type (image/gif), defining a message-size violation, and determining that the MIME-type mentioned in the header and body do not match. • Define Recognized Content Types—Lists content types recognized by the sensor.
Define Web Traffic Policy	Specifies the action to take when noncompliant HTTP traffic is seen. Alarm on Non-HTTP Traffic Yes No enables the signature. This signature is disabled by default.

Table B-5 *AIC HTTP Engine Parameters (continued)*

Parameter	Description
Max Outstanding Requests Overrun	Maximum allowed HTTP requests per connection (1 to 16).
Msg Body Pattern	Uses Regex to define signatures that look for specific patterns in the message body.
Request Methods	AIC signature that allows actions to be associated with HTTP request methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define Request Method—get, put, and so forth.• Recognized Request Methods—Lists methods recognized by the sensor.
Transfer Encoding	AIC signature that deals with transfer encodings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define Transfer Encoding—Associates an action with each method, such as compress, chunked, and so forth.• Recognized Transfer Encodings—Lists methods recognized by the sensor.• Chunked Transfer Encoding—Error specifies actions to be taken when a chunked encoding error is seen.

Table B-6 lists the parameters that are specific to the AIC FTP engine.

Table B-6 *AIC FTP Engine Parameters*

Parameter	Description
Signature Type	Specifies the type of AIC signature.
FTP Commands	Associates an action with an FTP command: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FTP Command—Lets you choose the FTP command you want to inspect.
Unrecognized FTP Command	Inspects unrecognized FTP commands.

For More Information

- For the procedures for configuring AIC engine signatures, see [Configuring Application Policy Signatures, page 9-28](#).
- For an example of a custom AIC signature, see [Tuning an AIC Signature, page 9-36](#).
- For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Atomic Engine

The Atomic engine contains signatures for simple, single packet conditions that cause alerts to be fired. This section describes the Atomic engine, and contains the following topics:

- [Atomic ARP Engine, page B-13](#)
- [Atomic IP Engine, page B-13](#)

- [Atomic IPv6 Engine, page B-14](#)

Atomic ARP Engine

The Atomic ARP engine defines basic Layer 2 ARP signatures and provides more advanced detection of the ARP spoof tools dsniff and ettercap.

[Table B-7](#) lists the parameters that are specific to the Atomic ARP engine.

Table B-7 Atomic ARP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description
Specify Mac Flip Times	Fires an alert when the MAC address changes more than this many times for this IP address.
Specify Type of Arp Sig	Specifies the type of ARP signatures you want to fire on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source Broadcast (default)—Fires an alarm for this signature when it sees an ARP source address of 255.255.255.255. • Destination Broadcast—Fires an alarm for this signature when it sees an ARP destination address of 255.255.255.255. • Same Source and Destination—Fires an alarm for this signature when it sees an ARP destination address with the same source and destination MAC address • Source Multicast—Fires an alarm for this signature when it sees an ARP source MAC address of 01:00:5e:(00-7f).
Specify Request Inbalance	Fires an alert when there are this many more requests than replies on the IP address.
Specify ARP Operation	The ARP operation code for this signature.

Atomic IP Engine

The Atomic IP engine defines signatures that inspect IP protocol headers and associated Layer 4 transport protocols (TCP, UDP, and ICMP) and payloads.



Note

The Atomic engines do not store persistent data across packets. Instead they can fire an alert from the analysis of a single packet.

[Table B-8](#) lists the parameters that are specific to the Atomic IP engine.

Table B-8 Atomic IP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description
Fragment Status	Specifies whether or not fragments are wanted.
Specify Layer 4 Protocol	Specifies Layer 4 protocol.
Specify IP Payload Length	Specifies IP datagram payload length.
Specify IP Header Length	Specifies IP datagram header length.

Table B-8 Atomic IP Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description
Specify IP Type of Service	Specifies type of service.
Specify IP Time-to-Live	Specifies time to live.
Specify IP Version	Specifies IP protocol version.
Specify IP Identifier	Specifies IP identifier.
Specify IP Total Length	Specifies IP datagram total length.
Specify IP Option Inspection	Specifies IP options inspection.
Specify IP Addr Options	Specifies IP addresses.
Swap Attacker Victim	True if address (and ports) source and destination are swapped in the alert message. False for no swap (default).

Atomic IPv6 Engine

The Atomic IPv6 engine detects two IOS vulnerabilities that are stimulated by malformed IPv6 traffic. These vulnerabilities can lead to router crashes and other security issues. One IOS vulnerability deals with multiple first fragments, which cause a buffer overflow. The other one deals with malformed ICMPv6 Neighborhood Discovery options, which also cause a buffer overflow.


Note

IPv6 increases the IP address size from 32 bits to 128 bits, which supports more levels of addressing hierarchy, a much greater number of addressable nodes, and autoconfiguration of addresses.

There are eight Atomic IPv6 signatures. The Atomic IPv6 inspects Neighborhood Discovery protocol of the following types:

- Type 133—Router Solicitation
- Type 134—Router Advertisement
- Type 135—Neighbor Solicitation
- Type 136—Neighbor Advertisement
- Type 137—Redirect


Note

Hosts and routers use Neighborhood Discovery to determine the link-layer addresses for neighbors known to reside on attached links and to quickly purge cached values that become invalid. Hosts also use Neighborhood Discovery to find neighboring routers that will forward packets on their behalf.

Each Neighborhood Discovery type can have one or more Neighborhood Discovery options. The Atomic IPv6 engine inspects the length of each option for compliance with the legal values stated in RFC 2461. Violations of the length of an option results in an alert corresponding to the option type where the malformed length was encountered (signatures 1601 to 1605).


Note

The Atomic IPv6 signatures do not have any specific parameters to configure.

Table B-9 lists the Atomic IPv6 signatures.

Table B-9 Atomic IPv6 Signatures

Signature ID	Subsignature ID	Name	Description
1600	0	ICMPv6 zero length option	For any option type that has ZERO stated as its length
1601	0	ICMPv6 option type 1 violation	Violation of the valid length of 8 or 16 bytes.
1602	0	ICMPv6 option type 2 violation	Violation of the valid length of 8 or 16 bytes.
1603	0	ICMPv6 option type 3 violation	Violation of the valid length of 32 bytes.
1604	0	ICMPv6 option type 4 violation	Violation of the valid length of 80 bytes.
1605	0	ICMPv6 option type 5 violation	Violation of the valid length of 8 bytes.
1606	0	ICMPv6 short option data	Not enough data signature (when the packet states there is more data for an option than is available in the real packet)
1607	0	IPv6 multiple-crafted fragment packets	Produces an alert when more than one first fragment is seen in a 30-second period.

Fixed Engine

This section describes the Fixed engine, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the Fixed Engine, page B-15](#)
- [Fixed ICMP Engine Parameters, page B-16](#)
- [Fixed TCP Engine Parameters, page B-17](#)
- [Fixed UDP Engine Parameters, page B-18](#)

Understanding the Fixed Engine

The Fixed engine combines multiple regular expression patterns in to a single pattern matching table that allows a single search through the data. It supports ICMP, TCP, and UDP protocols. After a minimum inspection depth is reached (1 to 100 bytes), inspection stops. There are three Fixed engines: Fixed ICMP, Fixed TCP, and Fixed UDP.



Note

Fixed TCP and Fixed UDP use the Service Ports parameter as exclusion ports. Fixed ICMP uses the Service Ports parameter as excluded ICMP types.

Fixed ICMP Engine Parameters

[Table B-10](#) lists the parameters specific to the Fixed ICMP engine.

Table B-10 Fixed ICMP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port Traffic from client port destined to service port 	From Service To Service
Max Payload Inspect Length	Specifies the maximum inspection depth for the signature.	1 to 250
Regex String	Specifies the regular expression to search for in a single packet.	string
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the Regex String must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Minimum Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum Match Length—Specifies the minimum number of bytes the Regex String must match. 	0 to 65535
Specify ICMP Type	(Optional) Enables inspection of the ICMP header type: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICMP Type—Specifies the ICMP header TYPE value. 	0 to 65535
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Fixed TCP Engine Parameters

Table B-11 lists the parameters specific to the Fixed TCP engine.

Table B-11 Fixed TCP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port Traffic from client port destined to service port 	From Service To Service
Max Payload Inspect Length	Specifies the maximum inspection depth for the signature.	1 to 250
Regex String	Specifies the regular expression to search for in a single packet.	string
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the Regex String must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Minimum Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum Match Length—Specifies the minimum number of bytes the Regex String must match. 	0 to 65535
Specify Service Ports	Enables service ports for use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Ports—A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides. 	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Fixed UDP Engine Parameters

Table B-12 lists the parameters specific to the Fixed UDP engine.

Table B-12 Fixed UDP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port Traffic from client port destined to service port 	From Service To Service
Max Payload Inspect Length	Specifies the maximum inspection depth for the signature.	1 to 250
Regex String	Specifies the regular expression to search for in a single packet.	string
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the Regex String must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Minimum Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum Match Length—Specifies the minimum number of bytes the Regex String must match. 	0 to 65535
Specify Service Ports	Enables service ports for use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Ports—A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides. 	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Flood Engine

The Flood engine defines signatures that watch for any host or network sending multiple packets to a single host or network. For example, you can create a signature that fires when 150 or more packets per second (of the specific type) are found going to the victim host. There are two types of Flood engines: Flood Host and Flood Net.

Table B-13 lists the parameters specific to the Flood Host engine.

Table B-13 Flood Host Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Protocol	Which kind of traffic to inspect.	ICMP UDP
Rate	Threshold number of packets per second.	0 to 65535 ¹
ICMP Type	Specifies the value for the ICMP header type.	0 to 65535
Dst Ports	Specifies the destination ports when you choose UDP protocol.	0 to 65535 ² a-b[,c-d]
Src Ports	Specifies the source ports when you choose UDP protocol.	0 to 65535 ³ a-b[,c-d]

1. An alert fires when the rate is greater than the packets per second.
2. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.
3. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

Table B-14 lists the parameters specific to the Flood Net engine.

Table B-14 Flood Net Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Gap	Gap of time allowed (in seconds) for a flood signature.	0 to 65535
Peaks	Number of allowed peaks of flood traffic.	0 to 65535
Protocol	Which kind of traffic to inspect.	ICMP TCP UDP
Rate	Threshold number of packets per second.	0 to 65535 ¹
Sampling Interval	Interval used for sampling traffic.	1 to 3600
ICMP Type	Specifies the value for the ICMP header type.	0 to 65535

1. An alert fires when the rate is greater than the packets per second.

Meta Engine

The Meta engine defines events that occur in a related manner within a sliding time interval. This engine processes events rather than packets. As signature events are generated, the Meta engine inspects them to determine if they match any or several Meta definitions. The Meta engine generates a signature event after all requirements for the event are met.

All signature events are handed off to the Meta engine by the Signature Event Action Processor. The Signature Event Action Processor hands off the event after processing the minimum hits option. Summarization and event action are processed after the Meta engine has processed the component events.



Caution

A large number of Meta signatures could adversely affect overall sensor performance.

Table B-15 lists the parameters specific to the Meta engine.

Table B-15 Meta Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No
Meta Reset Interval	Time in seconds to reset the Meta signature.	0 to 3600
Component List	List of Meta components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • edit—Edits an existing entry • insert—Inserts a new entry into the list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – begin—Places the entry at the beginning of the active list – end—Places the entry at the end of the active list – inactive—Places the entry into the inactive list – before—Places the entry before the specified entry – after—Places the entry after the specified entry • move—Moves an entry in the list 	<i>name l</i>
Meta Key	Storage type for the Meta signature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attacker address • Attacker and victim addresses • Attacker and victim addresses and ports • Victim address 	AaBb AxBx Axxx xxBx
Unique Victims	Number of unique victims ports required per Meta signature.	1 to 256
Component List In Order	Whether to fire the component list in order.	Yes No

For More Information

For an example of a custom Meta engine signature, see [Example Meta Engine Signature, page 9-21](#).

Multi String Engine

The Multi String engine lets you define signatures that inspect Layer 4 transport protocol (ICMP, TCP, and UDP) payloads using multiple string matches for one signature. You can specify a series of regular expression patterns that must be matched to fire the signature. For example, you can define a signature that looks for regex 1 followed by regex 2 on a UDP service. For UDP and TCP you can specify port numbers and direction. You can specify a single source port, a single destination port, or both ports. The string matching takes place in both directions.

Use the Multi String engine when you need to specify more than one Regex pattern. Otherwise, you can use the String ICMP, String TCP, or String UDP engine to specify a single Regex pattern for one of those protocols.

Table B-16 lists the parameters specific to the Multi String Engine.

Table B-16 Multi String Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Inspect Length	Length of stream or packet that must contain all offending strings for the signature to fire.	0 to 4294967295
Protocol	Layer 4 protocol selection.	ICMP TCP UDP
Regex Component	List of regex components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regex String—The string to search for. Spacing Type—Type of spacing required from the match before or from the beginning of the stream/packet if it is the first entry in the list. 	list (1 to 16 items) exact minimum
Port Selection	Type of TCP or UDP port to inspect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both Ports—Specifies both source and destination port. Destination—Specifies a range of destination ports. Source—Specifies a range of source ports.¹ 	0 to 65535 ²
Extra Spacing	Exact number of bytes that must be between this regex string and the one before, or from the beginning of the stream/packet if it is the first entry in the list.	0 to 4294967296
Minimum Spacing	Minimum number of bytes that must be between this regex string and the one before, or from the beginning of the stream/packet if it is the first entry in the list.	0 to 4294967296
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. Port matching is performed bidirectionally for both the client-to-server and server-to-client traffic flow directions. For example, if the source-ports value is 80, in a client-to-server traffic flow direction, inspection occurs if the client port is 80. In a server-to-client traffic flow direction, inspection occurs if the server port is port 80.

2. A valid value is a comma-separated list of integer ranges a-b[,c-d] within 0 to 65535. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.



Caution

The Multi String engine can have a significant impact on memory usage.

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Normalizer Engine

The Normalizer engine deals with IP fragmentation and TCP normalization. This section describes the Normalizer engine, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the Normalizer Engine, page B-22](#)
- [Normalizer Engine Parameters, page B-24](#)

Understanding the Normalizer Engine



Note

You cannot add custom signatures to the Normalizer engine. You can tune the existing ones.

The Normalizer engine deals with IP fragment reassembly and TCP stream reassembly. With the Normalizer engine you can set limits on system resource usage, for example, the maximum number of fragments the sensor tries to track at the same time. Sensors in promiscuous mode report alerts on violations. Sensors in inline mode perform the action specified in the event action parameter, such as produce alert, deny packet inline, and modify packet inline.



Caution

For signature 3050 Half Open SYN Attack, if you choose modify packet inline as the action, you can see as much as 20 to 30% performance degradation while the protection is active. The protection is only active during an actual SYN flood.

IP Fragmentation Normalization

Intentional or unintentional fragmentation of IP datagrams can hide exploits making them difficult or impossible to detect. Fragmentation can also be used to circumvent access control policies like those found on firewalls and routers. And different operating systems use different methods to queue and dispatch fragmented datagrams. If the sensor has to check for all possible ways that the end host can reassemble the datagrams, the sensor becomes vulnerable to DoS attacks. Reassembling all fragmented datagrams inline and only forwarding completed datagrams, refragmenting the datagram if necessary, prevents this. The IP Fragmentation Normalization unit performs this function.

TCP Normalization

Through intentional or natural TCP session segmentation, some classes of attacks can be hidden. To make sure policy enforcement can occur with no false positives and false negatives, the state of the two TCP endpoints must be tracked and only the data that is actually processed by the real host endpoints should be passed on. Overlaps in a TCP stream can occur, but are extremely rare except for TCP segment retransmits. Overwrites in the TCP session should not occur. If overwrites do occur, someone is intentionally trying to elude the security policy or the TCP stack implementation is broken. Maintaining full information about the state of both endpoints is not possible unless the sensor acts as a TCP proxy. Instead of the sensor acting as a TCP proxy, the segments are ordered properly and the normalizer looks for any abnormal packets associated with evasion and attacks.

AIP-SSM and the Normalizer Engine

The majority of the features in the Normalizer engine are not used on the AIP-SSM, because the ASA itself handles the normalization. Packets on the ASA IPS modules go through a special path in the Normalizer that only reassembles fragments and puts packets in the right order for the TCP stream. The Normalizer does not do any of the normalization that is done on an inline IPS appliance, because that causes problems in the way the ASA handles the packets.

The following Normalizer engine signatures are not supported:

- 1300.0
- 1304.0
- 1305.0
- 1307.0
- 1308.0
- 1309.0
- 1311.0
- 1315.0
- 1316.0
- 1317.0
- 1330.0
- 1330.1
- 1330.2
- 1330.9
- 1330.10
- 1330.12
- 1330.14
- 1330.15
- 1330.16
- 1330.17
- 1330.18

For More Information

For the procedures for configuring signatures in the Normalizer engine, see [Configuring IP Fragment Reassembly Signatures, page 9-36](#), and [Configuring TCP Stream Reassembly Signatures, page 9-40](#).

Normalizer Engine Parameters

Table B-17 lists the parameters that are specific to the Normalizer engine.

Table B-17 *Normalizer Engine Parameters*

Parameter	Description
Edit Defaults	Editable signatures.
Specify Fragment Reassembly Timeout	(Optional) Enables fragment reassembly timeout.
Specify Hijack Max Old Ack	(Optional) Enables hijack-max-old-ack.
Specify Max Datagram Size	(Optional) Enables maximum datagram size.
Specify Max Fragments	(Optional) Enables maximum fragments.
Specify Max Fragments per Datagram	(Optional) Enables maximum fragments per datagram.
Specify Max Last Fragments	(Optional) Enables maximum last fragments.
Specify Max Partial Datagrams	(Optional) Enables maximum partial datagrams.
Specify Max Small Frags	(Optional) Enables maximum small fragments.
Specify Min Fragment Size	(Optional) Enables minimum fragment size.
Specify Service Ports	(Optional) Enables service ports.
Specify SYN Flood Max Embryonic	(Optional) Enables SYN flood maximum embryonic.
Specify TCP Closed Timeout	(Optional) Enables TCP closed timeout.
Specify TCP Embryonic Timeout	(Optional) Enables TCP embryonic timeout.
Specify TCP Idle Timeout	(Optional) Enables TCP idle timeout.
Specify TCP Max MSS	(Optional) Enables TCP maximum mss.
Specify TCP Max Queue	(Optional) Enables TCP maximum queue.
Specify TCP Min MSS	(Optional) Enables TCP minimum mss.
Specify TCP Option Number	(Optional) Enables TCP option number.

Service Engines

The Service engines analyze Layer 5+ traffic between two hosts. These are one-to-one signatures that track persistent data. The engines analyze the Layer 5+ payload in a manner similar to the live service.

The Service engines have common characteristics but each engine has specific knowledge of the service that it is inspecting. The Service engines supplement the capabilities of the generic string engine specializing in algorithms where using the string engine is inadequate or undesirable.

This section contains the following topics:

- [Service DNS Engine, page B-25](#)
- [Service FTP Engine, page B-26](#)
- [Service Generic Engine, page B-27](#)
- [Service H225 Engine, page B-28](#)
- [Service HTTP Engine, page B-31](#)

- [Service IDENT Engine, page B-33](#)
- [Service MSRPC Engine, page B-33](#)
- [Service MSSQL Engine, page B-35](#)
- [Service NTP Engine, page B-35](#)
- [Service P2P Engine, page B-35](#)
- [Service RPC Engine, page B-36](#)
- [Service SMB Advanced Engine, page B-37](#)
- [Service SNMP Engine, page B-39](#)
- [Service SSH Engine, page B-40](#)
- [Service TNS Engine, page B-41](#)

Service DNS Engine

The Service DNS engine specializes in advanced DNS decode, which includes anti-evasive techniques, such as following multiple jumps. It has many parameters such as lengths, opcodes, strings, and so forth. The Service DNS engine is a biprotocol inspector operating on both TCP and UDP port 53. It uses the stream for TCP and the quad for UDP.

[Table B-18](#) lists the parameters specific to the Service DNS engine.

Table B-18 **Service DNS Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Value
Protocol	Protocol of interest for this inspector.	TCP UDP
Specify query Chaos String	(Optional) Enables the DNS Query Class Chaos String.	<i>query-chaos-string</i>
Specify Query Class	(Optional) Enables the query class: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Class—DNS Query Class 2 Byte Value 	0 to 65535
Specify query Invalid Domain Name	(Optional) Enables query invalid domain name: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Invalid Domain Name—DNS Query Length greater than 255 	Yes No
Specify Query Jump Count Exceeded	(Optional) Enables query jump count exceeded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Jump Count Exceeded—DNS compression counter 	Yes No
Specify Query Opcode	(Optional) Enables query opcode: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Opcode—DNS Query Opcode 1 byte Value 	0 to 65535

Table B-18 **Service DNS Engine Parameters (continued)**

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Query Record Data Invalid	(Optional) Enables query record data invalid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Record Data Invalid—DNS Record Data incomplete 	Yes No
Specify Query Record Data Length	(Optional) Enables the query record data length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Record Data Length—DNS Response Record Data Length 	0 to 65535
Specify Query Src Port 53	(Optional) Enables the query source port 53: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Src Port 53—DNS packet source port 53 	Yes No
Specify Query Stream Length	(Optional) Enables the query stream length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Record Data Length—DNS Packet Length 	0 to 65535
Specify Query Type	(Optional) Enables the query type: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Type—DNS Query Type 2 Byte Value 	0 to 65535
Specify Query Value	(Optional) Enables the query value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query Value—Query 0 Response 1 	Yes No

Service FTP Engine

The Service FTP engine specializes in FTP port command decode, trapping invalid **port** commands and the PASV port spoof. It fills in the gaps when the String engine is not appropriate for detection. The parameters are Boolean and map to the various error trap conditions in the **port** command decode. The Service FTP engine runs on TCP ports 20 and 21. Port 20 is for data and the Service FTP engine does not do any inspection on this. It inspects the control transactions on port 21.

Table B-19 lists the parameters that are specific to the Service FTP engine.

Table B-19 Service FTP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port Traffic from client port destined to service port 	From Service To Service
FTP Inspection Type	Type of inspection to perform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looks for an invalid address in the FTP port command Looks for an invalid port in the FTP port command Looks for the PASV port spoof 	Invalid Address in PORT Command Invalid Port in PORT Command PASV Port Spoof
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

Service Generic Engine

The Service Generic engine allows programmatic signatures to be issued in a config-file-only signature update. It has a simple machine and assembly language that is defined in the configuration file. It runs the machine code (distilled from the assembly language) through its virtual machine, which processes the instructions and pulls the important pieces of information out of the packet and runs them through the comparisons and operations specified in the machine code.

It is intended as a rapid signature response engine to supplement the String and State engines.

New functionality adds the Regex parameter to the Service Generic engine and enhanced instructions. The Service Generic engine can analyze traffic based on the mini-programs that are written to parse the packets. These mini-programs are composed of commands, which dissect the packet and look for certain conditions.



Note

You cannot use the Service Generic engine to create custom signatures.



Caution

Due to the proprietary nature of this complex language, we do not recommend that you edit the Service Generic engine signature parameters other than severity and event action.

Table B-20 lists the parameters specific to the Service Generic engine.

Table B-20 Service Generic Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Dst Port	(Optional) Enables the destination port: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dst Port—Destination port of interest for this signature 	0 to 65535
Specify IP Protocol	(Optional) Enables IP protocol: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IP Protocol—The IP protocol this inspector should examine 	0 to 255
Specify Payload Source	(Optional) Enables payload source inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payload Source—Payload source inspection for the following types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspects ICMP data Inspects Layer 2 headers Inspects Layer 3 headers Inspects Layer 4 headers Inspects TCP data Inspects UDP data 	ICMP Data 12 Header 13 Header 14 Header TCP Data UDP Data
Specify Src Port	(Optional) Enables the source port: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Src Port—Source port of interest for this signature 	0 to 65535
Specify Regex String	The regular expression to look for when the policy type is regex: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A regular expression to search for in a single TCP packet (Optional) Enables min match length for use. The minimum length of the Regex match required to constitute a match. 	Regex String Specify Min Match Length
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

Service H225 Engine

The Service H225 engine analyzes H225.0 protocol, which consists of many subprotocols and is part of the H.323 suite. H.323 is a collection of protocols and other standards that together enable conferencing over packet-based networks.

H.225.0 call signaling and status messages are part of the H.323 call setup. Various H.323 entities in a network, such as the gatekeeper and endpoint terminals, run implementations of the H.225.0 protocol stack. The Service H225 engine analyzes H225.0 protocol for attacks on multiple H.323 gatekeepers, VoIP gateways, and endpoint terminals. It provides deep packet inspection for call signaling messages that are exchanged over TCP PDUs. The Service H225 engine analyzes the H.225.0 protocol for invalid H.255.0 messages, and misuse and overflow attacks on various protocol fields in these messages.

H.225.0 call signaling messages are based on Q.931 protocol. The calling endpoint sends a Q.931 setup message to the endpoint that it wants to call, the address of which it procures from the admissions procedure or some lookup means. The called endpoint either accepts the connection by transmitting a Q.931 connect message or rejects the connection. When the H.225.0 connection is established, either the caller or the called endpoint provides an H.245 address, which is used to establish the control protocol (H.245) channel.

Especially important is the SETUP call signaling message because this is the first message exchanged between H.323 entities as part of the call setup. The SETUP message uses many of the commonly found fields in the call signaling messages, and implementations that are exposed to probable attacks will mostly also fail the security checks for the SETUP messages. Therefore, it is highly important to check the H.225.0 SETUP message for validity and enforce checks on the perimeter of the network.

The Service H225 engine has built-in signatures for TPKT validation, Q.931 protocol validation, and ASN.1PER validations for the H225 SETUP message. ASN.1 is a notation for describing data structures. PER uses a different style of encoding. It specializes the encoding based on the data type to generate much more compact representations.

You can tune the Q.931 and TPKT length signatures and you can add and apply granular signatures on specific H.225 protocol fields and apply multiple pattern search signatures of a single field in Q.931 or H.225 protocol.

The Service H225 engine supports the following features:

- TPKT validation and length check
- Q.931 information element validation
- Regular expression signatures on text fields in Q.931 information elements
- Length checking on Q.931 information elements
- SETUP message validation
- ASN.1 PER encode error checks
- Configuration signatures for fields like ULR-ID, E-mail-ID, h323-id, and so forth for both regular expression and length.

There is a fixed number of TPKT and ASN.1 signatures. You cannot create custom signatures for these types. For TPKT signatures, you should only change the value-range for length signatures. You should not change any parameters for ASN.1. For Q.931 signatures, you can add new regular expression signatures for text fields. For SETUP signatures, you can add signatures for length and regular expression checks on various SETUP message fields.

Table B-21 lists parameters specific to the Service H225 engine.

Table B-21 Service H.225 Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Message Type	Type of H225 message to which the signature applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SETUP • ASN.1-PER • Q.931 • TPKT 	asn.1-per q.931 setup tpkt
Policy Type	Type of H225 policy to which the signature applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspects field length. • Inspects presence. If certain fields are present in the message, an alert is sent. • Inspects regular expressions. • Inspects field validations. • Inspects values. Regex and presence are not valid for TPKT signatures.	length presence regex validate value
Specify Field Name	(Optional) Enables field name for use. Only valid for SETUP and Q.931 message types. Gives a dotted representation of the field name that this signature applies to. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Name—Field name to inspect. 	1 to 512
Specify Invalid Packet Index	(Optional) Enables invalid packet index for use for specific errors in ASN, TPKT, and other errors that have fixed mapping. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invalid Packet Index—Inspection for invalid packet index. 	0 to 255
Value Range Regex String	The regular expression to look for when the policy type is regex. This is never set for TPKT signatures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A regular expression to search for in a single TCP packet • (Optional) Enables min match length for use. The minimum length of the Regex match required to constitute a match. This is never set for TPKT signatures. 	Regex String Specify Min Match Length

Table B-21 Service H.225 Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Value Range	Valid for the length or value policy types (0x00 to 6535). Not valid for other policy types. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value Range—Range of values. 	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Service HTTP Engine

The Service HTTP engine is a service-specific string-based pattern-matching inspection engine. The HTTP protocol is one of the most commonly used in networks of today. In addition, it requires the most amount of preprocessing time and has the most number of signatures requiring inspection making it critical to the overall performance of the system.

The Service HTTP engine uses a Regex library that can combine multiple patterns into a single pattern-matching table allowing a single search through the data. This engine searches traffic directed to web services only to web services, or HTTP requests. You cannot inspect return traffic with this engine. You can specify separate web ports of interest in each signature in this engine.

HTTP deobfuscation is the process of decoding an HTTP message by normalizing encoded characters to ASCII equivalent characters. It is also known as ASCII normalization.

Before an HTTP packet can be inspected, the data must be deobfuscated or normalized to the same representation that the target system sees when it processes the data. It is ideal to have a customized decoding technique for each host target type, which involves knowing what operating system and web server version is running on the target. The Service HTTP engine has default deobfuscation behavior for the Microsoft IIS web server.

[Table B-22](#) lists the parameters specific the Service HTTP engine.

Table B-22 Service HTTP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
De Obfuscate	Applies anti-evasive deobfuscation before searching.	Yes No
Max Field Sizes	Maximum field sizes grouping.	—
Specify Max Arg Field Length	(Optional) Enables maximum argument field length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max Arg Field Length—Maximum length of the arguments field. 	0 to 65535

Table B-22 **Service HTTP Engine Parameters (continued)**

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Max Header Field Length	(Optional) Enables maximum header field length: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Max Header Field Length—Maximum length of the header field.	0 to 65535
Specify Max Request Field Length	(Optional) Enables maximum request field length: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Max Request Field Length—Maximum length of the request field.	0 to 65535
Specify Max URI Field Length	(Optional) Enables the maximum URI field length: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Max URI Field Length—Maximum length of the URI field.	0 to 65535
Regex	Regular expression grouping.	—
Specify Arg Name Regex	(Optional) Enables searching the Arguments field for a specific regular expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Arg Name Regex—Regular expression to search for in the HTTP Arguments field (after the ? and in the Entity body as defined by Content-Length).	—
Specify Header Regex	(Optional) Enables searching the Header field for a specific regular expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Header Regex—Regular Expression to search in the HTTP Header field. The Header is defined after the first CRLF and continues until CRLFCRLF.	—
Specify Request Regex	(Optional) Enables searching the Request field for a specific regular expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Request Regex—Regular expression to search in both HTTP URI and HTTP Argument fields.Specify Min Request Match Length—Enables setting a minimum request match length.	0 to 65535
Specify URI Regex	(Optional) Regular expression to search in HTTP URI field. The URI field is defined to be after the HTTP method (GET, for example) and before the first CRLF. The regular expression is protected, which means you cannot change the value.	[^\\][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z].jpeg
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

- For an example Service HTTP custom signature, see [Example Service HTTP Signature, page 10-16](#).
- For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Service IDENT Engine

The Service IDENT engine inspects TCP port 113 traffic. It has basic decode and provides parameters to specify length overflows.

For example, when a user or program at computer A makes an ident request of computer B, it may only ask for the identity of users of connections between A and B. The ident server on B listens for connections on TCP port 113. The client at A establishes a connection, then specifies which connection it wants identification for by sending the numbers of the ports on A and B that the connection is using. The server at B determines what user is using that connection, and replies to A with a string that names that user. The Service IDENT engine inspects the TCP port 113 for ident abuse.

[Table B-23](#) lists the parameters specific to the Service IDENT engine.

Table B-23 **Service IDENT Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Value
Inspection Type	Type of inspection to perform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has Newline—Inspects payload for a nonterminating new line character. • Has Bad Port—Inspects payload for a bad port. • Payload Size—Inspects for payload length longer than this. 	—
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Direction	Direction of the traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic from service port destined to client port. • Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	From Service To Service

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

Service MSRPC Engine

The Service MSRPC engine processes MSRPC packets. MSRPC allows for cooperative processing between multiple computers and their application software in a networked environment. It is a transaction-based protocol, implying that there is a sequence of communications that establish the channel and pass processing requests and replies.

MSRPC is an ISO Layer 5-6 protocol and is layered on top of other transport protocols such as UDP, TCP, and SMB. The MSRPC engine contains facilities to allow for fragmentation and reassembly of the MSRPC PDUs.

This communication channel is the source of recent Windows NT, Windows 2000, and Window XP security vulnerabilities. The Service MSRPC engine only decodes the DCE and RPC protocol for the most common transaction types.

Table B-24 lists the parameters specific to the Service MSRPC engine.

Table B-24 Service MSRPC Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Protocol	Protocol of interest for this inspector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type—UDP or TCP 	TCP UDP
Specify Flags	Flags to set: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSRPC TCP Flags MSRPC TCP Flags Mask 	Concurrent Execution Did Not Execute First Fragment Last Fragment Maybe Semantics Object UUID Pending Cancel Reserved
Specify Operation	(Optional) Enables using MSRPC operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operation—MSRPC operation requested. Required for SMB_COM_TRANSACTION commands. Exact match. 	0 to 65535
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No
Specify Regex String	(Optional) Enables using a regular expression string: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify Exact Match Offset—Enables the exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. Specify Min Match Length—Enables the minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535
Specify UUID	(Optional) Enables UUID: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UUID—MSRPC UUID field 	000001a000000000c0000 00000000046

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Service MSSQL Engine

The Service MSSQL engine inspects the protocol used by the Microsoft SQL server. There is one MSSQL signature. It fires an alert when it detects an attempt to log in to an MSSQL server with the default sa account. You can add custom signatures based on MSSQL protocol values, such as login username and whether a password was used.

Table B-25 lists the parameters specific to the Service MSSQL engine.

Table B-25 **Service MSSQL Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Value
Password Present	Whether or not a password was used in an MS SQL login.	Yes No
Specify SQL Username	(Optional) Enables using an SQL username: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQL Username—Username (exact match) of user logging in to MS SQL service. 	sa

Service NTP Engine

The Service NTP engine inspects NTP protocol. There is one NTP signature, the NTP readvar overflow signature, which fires an alert if a readvar command is seen with NTP data that is too large for the NTP service to capture. You can tune this signature and create custom signatures based on NTP protocol values, such as mode and size of control packets.

Table B-26 lists the parameters specific to the Service NTP engine.

Table B-26 **Service NTP Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Value
Inspection Type	Type of inspection to perform.	
Inspect NTP Packets	Inspects NTP packets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control Opcode—Opcode number of an NTP control packet according to RFC1305, Appendix B. Max Control Data Size—Maximum allowed amount of data sent in a control packet. Operation Mode—Mode of operation of the NTP packet per RFC 1305. 	0 to 65535
IS Invalid Data Packet	Looks for invalid NTP data packets. Checks the structure of the NTP data packet to make sure it is the correct size.	Yes No
Is Non NTP Traffic	Checks for nonNTP packets on an NTP port.	Yes No

Service P2P Engine

P2P networks use nodes that can simultaneously function as both client and server for the purpose of file sharing. P2P networks often contain copyrighted material and their use on a corporate network can violate company policy. The Service P2P engine monitors such networks and provides optimized TCP and UDP P2P protocol identification.

The Service P2P engine has the following characteristics:

- Listens on all TCP and UDP ports
- Increased performance through the use of hard-coded signatures rather than regular expressions
- Ignores traffic once P2P protocol is identified or after seeing 10 packets without a P2P protocol being identified

Because the P2P signatures are hard coded, the only parameters that you can edit are the Master engine parameters.

For More Information

For a list of the Master engine parameters, see [Master Engine, page B-3](#).

Service RPC Engine

The Service RPC engine specializes in RPC protocol and has full decode as an anti-evasive strategy. It can handle fragmented messages (one message in several packets) and batch messages (several messages in a single packet).

The RPC portmapper operates on port 111. Regular RPC messages can be on any port greater than 550. RPC sweeps are like TCP port sweeps, except that they only count unique ports when a valid RPC message is sent. RPC also runs on UDP.

[Table B-27](#) lists the parameters specific to the Service RPC engine.

Table B-27 **Service RPC Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic from service port destined to client port. • Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	From Service To Service
Protocol	Protocol of interest.	TCP UDP
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Specify Regex String	(Optional) Enables using a regular expression string: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify Exact Match Offset—Enables the exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. • Specify Min Match Length—Enables the minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535

Table B-27 Service RPC Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Spoof Src	(Optional) Enables the spoof source address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is Spoof Src—Fires an alert when the source address is 127.0.0.1. 	Yes No
Specify Port Map Program	(Optional) Enables the portmapper program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port Map Program—The program number sent to the portmapper for this signature. 	0 to 9999999999
Specify RPC Max Length	(Optional) Enables RPC maximum length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RPC Max Length—Maximum allowed length of the entire RPC message. Lengths longer than what you specify fire an alert. 	0 to 65535
Specify RPC Procedure	(Optional) Enables RPC procedure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RPC Procedure—RPC procedure number for this signature. 	0 to 1000000
Specify RPC Program	(Optional) Enables RPC program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RPC Program—RPC program number for this signature. 	0 to 1000000
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Service SMB Advanced Engine



Caution

The SMB engine has been replaced by the SMB Advanced engine. Even though the SMB engine is still visible in IDM, IME, and the CLI, its signatures have been obsoleted; that is, the new signatures have the obsoletes parameter set with the IDs of their corresponding old signatures. Use the new SMB Advanced engine to rewrite any custom signature that were in the SMB engine.

The Service SMB Advanced engine processes Microsoft SMB and Microsoft RPC over SMB packets. The Service SMB Advanced engine uses the same decoding method for connection-oriented MSRPC as the MSRPC engine with the requirement that the MSRPC packet must be over the SMB protocol. The Service SMB Advanced engine supports MSRPC over SMB on TCP ports 139 and 445. It uses a copy of the connection-oriented DCS/RPC code from the MSRPC engine.

Table B-28 lists the parameters specific to the Service SMB Advanced engine.

Table B-28 Service SMB Advanced Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 a-b[,c-d] ¹
Specify Command	(Optional) Enables SMB commands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Command—SMB command value; exact match required; defines the SMB packet type.² 	0 to 255
Specify Direction	(Optional) Enables traffic direction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direction—Lets you specify the direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> from-service—Traffic from service port destined to client port. to-service—Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	from service to service
Specify Operation	(Optional) Enables MSRPC over SMB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSRPC Over SMB Operation—Required for SMB_COM_TRANSACTION commands, exact match required. 	0 to 65535
Specify Regex String	(Optional) Enables searching for regex strings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regex String—A regular expression to search for in a single TCP packet. 	
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the Regex string must report a match to be valid. 	
Specify Min Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the Regex string must match. 	
Specify Payload Source	(Optional) Enables payload source: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payload Source—Payload source inspection.³ 	
Specify Scan Interval	(Optional) Enables scan interval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scan Interval—The interval in seconds used to calculate alert rates. 	1 to 131071

Table B-28 Service SMB Advanced Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify TCP Flags	(Optional) Enables TCP flags: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSRPC TCP Flags MSRPC TCP Flags Mask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> concurrent execution did not execute first fragment last fragment maybe object UUID pending cancel reserved
Specify Type	(Optional) Enables type of MSRPC over SMB packet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type—Type field of MSRPC over SMB packet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 = Request 2 = Response 11 = Bind 12 = Bind Ack
Specify UUID	(Optional) Enables MSRPC over UUID: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UUID—MSRPC UUID field 	32-character string composed of hexadecimal characters 0-9, a-f, A-F.
Specify Hit Count	(Optional) Enables hit counting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hit Count—The threshold number of occurrences in scan-interval to fire alerts. 	1 to 65535
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.
2. Currently supporting 37 (0x25) SMB_COM_TRANSACTION command & 162 (0xA2) SMB_COM_NT_CREATE_ANDX command.
3. TCP_Data performs regex over entire packet, SMB_Data performs regex on SMB payload only, Resource_DATA performs regex on SMB_Resource.

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

Service SNMP Engine

The Service SNMP engine inspects all SNMP packets destined for port 161. You can tune SNMP signatures and create custom SNMP signatures based on specific community names and object identifiers.

Instead of using string comparison or regular expression operations to match the community name and object identifier, all comparisons are made using the integers to speed up the protocol decode and reduce storage requirements.

Table B-29 lists the parameters specific to the Service SNMP engine.

Table B-29 Service SNMP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Inspection Type	Type of inspection to perform.	—
Brute Force Inspection	Inspects for brute force attempts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Force Count—The number of unique SNMP community names that constitute a brute force attempt. 	0 to 65535
Invalid Packet Inspection	Inspects for SNMP protocol violations.	—
Non SNMP Traffic Inspection	Inspects for non-SNMP traffic destined for UDP port 161.	—
SNMP Inspection	Inspects SNMP traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify Community Name [yes no]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Community Name—Searches for the SNMP community name, that is, the SNMP password. • Specify Object ID [yes no]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Object ID—Searches for the SNMP object identifier. 	<i>community-name</i> <i>object-id</i>

Service SSH Engine

The Service SSH engine specializes in port 22 SSH traffic. Because all but the setup of an SSH session is encrypted, the engine only looks at the fields in the setup. There are two default signatures for SSH. You can tune these signatures, but you cannot create custom signatures.

Table B-30 lists the parameters specific to the Service SSH engine.

Table B-30 Service SSH Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
SSH Version		
Length Type	Inspects for one of the following SSH length types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Length—Length of the SSH key to inspect for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Length—Keys larger than this fire the RSAREF overflow. • User Length—User length SSH inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Length—Keys larger than this fire the RSAREF overflow. 	0 to 65535

Table B-30 **Service SSH Engine Parameters (continued)**

Parameter	Description	Value
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Specify Packet Depth	(Optional) Enables packet depth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Packet Depth—Number of packets to watch before determining the session key was missed. 	0 to 65535

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

Service TNS Engine

The Service TNS engine inspects TNS protocol. TNS provides database applications with a single common interface to all industry-standard network protocols. With TNS, applications can connect to other database applications across networks with different protocols. The default TNS listener port is TCP 1521. TNS also supports REDIRECT frames that redirect the client to another host and/or another TCP port. To support REDIRECT packets, the TNS engine listens on all TCP ports and has a quick TNS frame header validation routine to ignore non-TNS streams.

[Table B-31](#) lists the parameters specific to the Service TNS engine.

Table B-31 **Service TNS Engine Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port Traffic from client port destined to service port 	From Service To Service
Type Frame Type	Specifies the TNS frame value type: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1—Connect 2—Accept 4—Refuse 5—Redirect 6—Data 11—Resend 12—Marker 	1 2 4 5 6 11 12

Table B-31 Service TNS Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Regex String	(Optional) Enables using a regular expression string: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify Exact Match Offset—Enables the exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. Specify Min Match Length—Enables the minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535
Specify Regex Payload Source	Specifies which protocol to inspect: Payload Source: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TCP Data—Performs Regex over the data portion of the TCP packet. TNS Data—Performs Regex only over the TNS data (with all white space removed). 	TCP TNS

For More Information

For a list of the signature regular expression syntax, see [Regular Expression Syntax, page B-8](#).

State Engine

The State engine provides state-based regular expression-based pattern inspection of TCP streams. A state engine is a device that stores the state of something and at a given time can operate on input to transition from one state to another and/or cause an action or output to take place. State machines are used to describe a specific event that causes an output or alarm. There are three state machines in the State engine: SMTP, Cisco Login, and LPR Format String.

Table B-32 lists the parameters specific to the State engine.

Table B-32 State Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
State Machine	State machine grouping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMTP • LPR Format String • Cisco Login
Cisco Login	Specifies the state machine for Cisco login: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Name—Name of the state required before the signature fires an alert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cisco device state – Control-C state – Password prompt state – Start state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Device • Control C • Pass Prompt • Start Cisco
LPR Format String	Specifies the state machine to inspect for the LPR format string vulnerability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Name—Name of the state required before the signature fires an alert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Abort state to end LPR Format String inspection – Format character state – State state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abort • Format Char • Start
State Name	Specifies the state machine for the SMTP protocol: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Name—Name of the state required before the signature fires an alert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Abort state to end LPR Format String inspection – Mail body state – Mail header state – SMTP commands state – Start state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abort • Mail Body • Mail Header • SMTP Commands • Start Abort
Direction	Direction of the traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic from service port destined to client port. • Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	From Service To Service
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535

Table B-32 State Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Max Match Offset	(Optional) Enables maximum match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max Match Offset—The maximum stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Min Match Offset	(Optional) Enables minimum match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Offset—The minimum stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Min Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

String Engines

This section describes the String engine, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding String Engines, page B-44](#)
- [String ICMP Engine Parameters, page B-45](#)
- [String TCP Engine Parameters, page B-45](#)
- [String UDP Engine Parameters, page B-46](#)

Understanding String Engines

The String engine is a generic-based pattern-matching inspection engine for ICMP, TCP, and UDP protocols. The String engine uses a regular expression engine that can combine multiple patterns into a single pattern-matching table allowing for a single search through the data. There are three String engines: String ICMP, String TCP, and String UDP.

String ICMP Engine Parameters

Table B-33 lists the parameters specific to the String ICMP engine.

Table B-33 String ICMP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of the traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port. Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	From Service To Service
ICMP Type	ICMP header TYPE value.	0 to 18 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Min Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

For an example custom String engine signature, see [Example String TCP Signature, page 10-21](#).

String TCP Engine Parameters

Table B-34 lists the parameters specific to the String TCP engine.

Table B-34 String TCP Engine

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of the traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port. Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	From Service To Service
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535

Table B-34 String TCP Engine (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Min Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535
Strip Telnet Options	Strips the Telnet option characters from the data before the pattern is searched. ²	Yes No
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

2. This parameter is primarily used as an IPS anti-evasion tool.

For More Information

For an example custom String engine signature, see [Example String TCP Signature, page 10-21](#).

String UDP Engine Parameters

[Table B-35](#) lists the parameters specific to the String UDP engine.

Table B-35 String UDP Engine

Parameter	Description	Value
Direction	Direction of the traffic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic from service port destined to client port. Traffic from client port destined to service port. 	From Service To Service
Service Ports	A comma-separated list of ports or port ranges where the target service resides.	0 to 65535 ¹ a-b[,c-d]
Specify Exact Match Offset	(Optional) Enables exact match offset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exact Match Offset—The exact stream offset the regular expression string must report for a match to be valid. 	0 to 65535
Specify Min Match Length	(Optional) Enables minimum match length: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Match Length—Minimum number of bytes the regular expression string must match. 	0 to 65535
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No

1. The second number in the range must be greater than or equal to the first number.

For More Information

For an example custom String engine signature, see [Example String TCP Signature, page 10-21](#).

Sweep Engines

This section describes the Sweep engines, and contains the following topics:

- [Sweep Engine, page B-47](#)
- [Sweep Other TCP Engine, page B-49](#)

Sweep Engine

The Sweep engine analyzes traffic between two hosts or from one host to many hosts. You can tune the existing signatures or create custom signatures. The Sweep engine has protocol-specific parameters for ICMP, UDP, and TCP.

The alert conditions of the Sweep engine ultimately depend on the count of the unique parameter. The unique parameter is the threshold number of distinct hosts or ports depending on the type of sweep. The unique parameter triggers the alert when more than the unique number of ports or hosts is seen on the address set within the time period. The processing of unique port and host tracking is called counting.



Caution

Event action filters based on source and destination IP addresses do not function for the Sweep engine, because they do not filter as regular signatures. To filter source and destination IP addresses in sweep alerts, use the source and destination IP address filter parameters in the Sweep engine signatures.

A unique parameter must be specified for all signatures in the Sweep engine. A limit of 2 through 40 (inclusive) is enforced on the sweeps. 2 is the absolute minimum for a sweep, otherwise, it is not a sweep (of one host or port). 40 is a practical maximum that must be enforced so that the sweep does not consume excess memory. More realistic values for unique range between 5 and 15.

TCP sweeps must have a TCP flag and mask specified to determine which sweep inspector slot in which to count the distinct connections. The ICMP sweeps must have an ICMP header type specified to discriminate among the various types of ICMP packets.

Data Node

When an activity related to Sweep engine signatures is seen, the IPS uses a Data Node to determine when it should stop monitoring for a particular host. The Data Node contains various persistent counters and variables needed for cross-packet reassembly of streams and for tracking the inspection state on a per-stream/per-source/per-destination basis. The Data Node containing the sweep determines when the sweep should expire. The Data Node stops a sweep when the Data Node has not seen any traffic for x number of seconds (depending on the protocol).

There are several adaptive timeouts for the Data Nodes. The Data Node expires after 30 seconds of idle time on the address set after all of the contained objects have been removed. Each contained object has various timeouts, for example, TCP Stream has a one-hour timeout for established connections. Most other objects have a much shorter expiration time, such as 5 or 60 seconds.

Table B-36 lists the parameters specific to the Sweep engine.

Table B-36 Sweep Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Destination Address Filter	Destination IP address to exclude from the sweep counting algorithm.	<A.B.C.D>- <A.B.C.D> [,<A.B.C.D>- <A.B.C.D>]
Source Address Filter	Source IP address to exclude from the sweep counting algorithm.	<A.B.C.D>- <A.B.C.D> [,<A.B.C.D>- <A.B.C.D>]
Protocol	Protocol of interest for this inspector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICMP • UDP • TCP
Specify ICMP Type	(Optional) Enables inspection of the ICMP header type: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICMP Type—Specifies the ICMP header TYPE value. 	0 to 255
Specify Port Range	(Optional) Enables using a port range for inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Range—UDP port range used in inspection. 	0 to 65535 a-b[,c-d]
Fragment Status	Specifies whether fragments are wanted or not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any fragment status. • Do not inspect fragments. • Inspect fragments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any • No Fragment • Want Fragment
Inverted Sweep	Uses source port instead of destination port for unique counting.	Yes No
Mask	Mask used in TCP flags comparison: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • URG bit • ACK bit • PSH bit • RST bit • SYN bit • FIN bit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • URG • ACK • PSH • RST • SYN • FIN
Storage Key	Type of address key used to store persistent data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attacker address • Attacker and victim addresses • Attacker address and victim port 	Axxx AxBx Axxb
Suppress Reverse	Does not fire when a sweep has fired in the reverse direction on this address set.	Yes No

Table B-36 Sweep Engine Parameters (continued)

Parameter	Description	Value
Swap Attacker Victim	Yes if attacker and victim addresses and ports (source and destination) are swapped in the alert message and actions. No for no swapping (default).	Yes No
TCP Flags	TCP flags to match when masked by mask: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • URG bit • ACK bit • PSH bit • RST bit • SYN bit • FIN bit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • URG • ACK • PSH • RST • SYN • FIN
Unique	Threshold number of unique port connections between the two hosts.	0 to 65535

Sweep Other TCP Engine

The Sweep Other TCP engine analyzes traffic between two hosts looking for abnormal packets typically used to fingerprint a victim. You can tune the existing signatures or create custom signatures.

TCP sweeps must have a TCP flag and mask specified. You can specify multiple entries in the set of TCP flags. And you can specify an optional port range to filter out certain packets.

[Table B-37](#) lists the parameters specific to the Sweep Other TCP engine.

Table B-37 Sweep Other TCP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Specify Port Range	(Optional) Enables using a port range for inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Range—UDP port range used in inspection. 	0 to 65535 a-b[,c-d]
Set TCP Flags	Lets you set TCP flags to match. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TCP Flags—TCP flags used in this inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – URG bit – ACK bit – PSH bit – RST bit – SYN bit – FIN bit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • URG • ACK • PSH • RST • SYN • FIN

Traffic Anomaly Engine

The Traffic Anomaly engine contains nine anomaly detection signatures covering the three protocols (TCP, UDP, and other). Each signature has two subsignatures, one for the scanner and the other for the worm-infected host (or a scanner under worm attack). When anomaly detection discovers an anomaly, it triggers an alert for these signatures. All anomaly detection signatures are enabled by default and the alert severity for each one is set to high.

When a scanner is detected but no histogram anomaly occurred, the scanner signature fires for that attacker (scanner) IP address. If the histogram signature is triggered, the attacker addresses that are doing the scanning each trigger the worm signature (instead of the scanner signature). The alert details state which threshold is being used for the worm detection now that the histogram has been triggered.

From that point on, all scanners are detected as worm-infected hosts.

The following anomaly detection event actions are possible:

- Produce alert—Writes the event to the Event Store.
- Deny attacker inline—(Inline only) Does not transmit this packet and future packets originating from the attacker address for a specified period of time.
- Log attacker pairs—Starts IP logging for packets that contain the attacker address.
- Log pair packets—Starts IP logging for packets that contain the attacker and victim address pair.
- Deny attacker service pair inline—Blocks the source IP address and the destination port.
- Request SNMP trap—Sends a request to NotificationApp to perform SNMP notification.
- Request block host—Sends a request to ARC to block this host (the attacker).



Note

You can edit or tune anomaly detection signatures but you cannot create custom anomaly detection signatures.

Table 38 lists the anomaly detection worm signatures.

Table 38 *Anomaly Detection Worm Signatures*

Signature ID	Subsignature ID	Name	Description
13000	0	Internal TCP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a TCP protocol in the internal zone.
13000	1	Internal TCP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a TCP protocol in the internal zone; the TCP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a TCP protocol was identified.
13001	0	Internal UDP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a UDP protocol in the internal zone.
13001	1	Internal UDP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a UDP protocol in the internal zone; the UDP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a UDP protocol was identified.
13002	0	Internal Other Scanner	Identified a single scanner over an Other protocol in the internal zone.

Table 38 *Anomaly Detection Worm Signatures (continued)*

Signature ID	Subsignature ID	Name	Description
13002	1	Internal Other Scanner	Identified a worm attack over an Other protocol in the internal zone; the Other histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over an Other protocol was identified.
13003	0	External TCP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a TCP protocol in the external zone.
13003	1	External TCP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a TCP protocol in the external zone; the TCP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a TCP protocol was identified.
13004	0	External UDP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a UDP protocol in the external zone.
13004	1	External UDP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a UDP protocol in the external zone; the UDP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a UDP protocol was identified.
13005	0	External Other Scanner	Identified a single scanner over an Other protocol in the external zone.
13005	1	External Other Scanner	Identified a worm attack over an Other protocol in the external zone; the Other histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over an Other protocol was identified.
13006	0	Illegal TCP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a TCP protocol in the illegal zone.
13006	1	Illegal TCP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a TCP protocol in the illegal zone; the TCP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a TCP protocol was identified.
13007	0	Illegal UDP Scanner	Identified a single scanner over a UDP protocol in the illegal zone.
13007	1	Illegal UDP Scanner	Identified a worm attack over a UDP protocol in the illegal zone; the UDP histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over a UDP protocol was identified.
13008	0	Illegal Other Scanner	Identified a single scanner over an Other protocol in the illegal zone.
13008	1	Illegal Other Scanner	Identified a worm attack over an Other protocol in the illegal zone; the Other histogram threshold was crossed and a scanner over an Other protocol was identified.

Traffic ICMP Engine

The Traffic ICMP engine analyzes nonstandard protocols, such as TFN2K, LOKI, and DDoS. There are only two signatures (based on the LOKI protocol) with user-configurable parameters.

TFN2K is the newer version of the TFN. It is a DDoS agent that is used to control coordinated attacks by infected computers (zombies) to target a single computer (or domain) with bogus traffic floods from hundreds or thousands of unknown attacking hosts. TFN2K sends randomized packet header information, but it has two discriminators that can be used to define signatures. One is whether the L3 checksum is incorrect and the other is whether the character 64 'A' is found at the end of the payload. TFN2K can run on any port and can communicate with ICMP, TCP, UDP, or a combination of these protocols.

LOKI is a type of back door Trojan. When the computer is infected, the malicious code creates an ICMP Tunnel that can be used to send small payload in ICMP replies (which may go straight through a firewall if it is not configured to block ICMP.) The LOKI signatures look for an imbalance of ICMP echo requests to replies and simple ICMP code and payload discriminators.

The DDoS category (excluding TFN2K) targets ICMP-based DDoS agents. The main tools used here are TFN and Stacheldraht. They are similar in operation to TFN2K, but rely on ICMP only and have fixed commands: integers and strings.

[Table B-39](#) lists the parameters specific to the Traffic ICMP engine.

Table B-39 Traffic ICMP Engine Parameters

Parameter	Description	Value
Parameter Tunable Sig	Whether this signature has configurable parameters.	Yes No
Inspection Type	Type of inspection to perform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspects for original LOKI traffic. Inspects for modified LOKI traffic. 	Is Loki Is Mod Loki
Reply Ratio	Inbalance of replies to requests. The alert fires when there are this many more replies than requests.	0 to 65535
Want Request	Requires an ECHO REQUEST be seen before firing the alert.	Yes No

Trojan Engines

The Trojan engines analyze nonstandard protocols, such as BO2K and TFN2K. There are three Trojan engines: Trojan BO2K, TrojanTFN2K, and Trojan UDP.

BO was the original Windows back door Trojan that ran over UDP only. It was soon superseded by BO2K. BO2K supported UDP and TCP both with basic XOR encryption. They have plain BO headers that have certain cross-packet characteristics.

BO2K also has a stealthy TCP module that was designed to encrypt the BO header and make the cross-packet patterns nearly unrecognizable. The UDP modes of BO and BO2K are handled by the Trojan UDP engine. The TCP modes are handled by the Trojan BO2K engine.



Note

There are no specific parameters to the Trojan engines, except for Swap Attacker Victim in the Trojan UDP engine.



APPENDIX C

Troubleshooting

This appendix contains troubleshooting tips and procedures for sensors and software. It contains the following sections:

- [Bug Toolkit, page C-1](#)
- [Preventive Maintenance, page C-2](#)
- [Disaster Recovery, page C-6](#)
- [Password Recovery, page C-7](#)
- [Time and the Sensor, page C-16](#)
- [Advantages and Restrictions of Virtualization, page C-19](#)
- [Supported MIBs, page C-19](#)
- [When to Disable Anomaly Detection, page C-20](#)
- [Troubleshooting External Product Interfaces, page C-21](#)
- [Troubleshooting the 4200 Series Appliance, page C-22](#)
- [Troubleshooting IDM, page C-54](#)
- [Troubleshooting IME, page C-57](#)
- [Troubleshooting IDSM-2, page C-58](#)
- [Troubleshooting AIP-SSM, page C-65](#)
- [Troubleshooting AIM-IPS and NME-IPS, page C-70](#)
- [Gathering Information, page C-71](#)

Bug Toolkit

For the most complete and up-to-date list of caveats, use the Bug Toolkit to refer to the caveat release note. You can use the Bug Toolkit to search for known bugs based on software version, feature set, and keywords. The resulting matrix shows when each bug was integrated, or fixed if applicable. It also lets you save the results of a search in Bug Groups, and also create persistent Alert Agents that can feed those groups with new defect alerts.



Note

You must be logged in to Cisco.com to access the Bug Toolkit.

If you are a registered Cisco.com user, you can view the Bug Toolkit at this URL:

<http://tools.cisco.com/Support/BugToolKit/action.do?hdnAction=searchBugs>

To become a registered cisco.com user, go to this URL:

<http://tools.cisco.com/RPF/register/register.do>

Preventive Maintenance

This section describes how to perform preventive maintenance for your sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Preventive Maintenance, page C-2](#)
- [Creating and Using a Backup Configuration File, page C-3](#)
- [Backing Up and Restoring the Configuration File Using a Remote Server, page C-3](#)
- [Creating the Service Account, page C-5](#)

Understanding Preventive Maintenance

The following actions will help you maintain your sensor:

- Back up a good configuration. If your current configuration becomes unusable, you can replace it with the backup version.
- Save your backup configuration to a remote system.
- Always back up your configuration before you do a manual upgrade. If you have auto upgrades configured, make sure you do periodic backups.
- Create a service account.

A service account is needed for special debug situations directed by TAC.



Caution

You should carefully consider whether you want to create a service account. The service account provides shell access to the system, which makes the system vulnerable. Analyze your situation to decide if you want a service account existing on the system.

For More Information

- For the procedure for backing up a configuration file, see [Creating and Using a Backup Configuration File, page C-3](#).
- For the procedure for using a remote server to copy and restore the a configuration file, see [Backing Up and Restoring the Configuration File Using a Remote Server, page C-3](#).
- For more information about the service account, see [Creating the Service Account, page C-5](#).

Creating and Using a Backup Configuration File

To protect your configuration, you can back up the current configuration and then display it to confirm that is the configuration you want to save. If you need to restore this configuration, you can merge the backup configuration file with the current configuration or overwrite the current configuration file with the backup configuration file.

To back up your current configuration, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Save the current configuration:

```
sensor# copy current-config backup-config
```

The current configuration is saved in a backup file.

Step 3 Display the backup configuration file:

```
sensor# more backup-config
```

The backup configuration file is displayed.

Step 4 You can either merge the backup configuration with the current configuration, or you can overwrite the current configuration.

- To merge the backup configuration into the current configuration:

```
sensor# copy backup-config current-config
```

- To overwrite the current configuration with the backup configuration:

```
sensor# copy /erase backup-config current-config
```

Backing Up and Restoring the Configuration File Using a Remote Server

**Note**

We recommend copying the current configuration file to a remote server before upgrading.

Use the **copy [/erase] source_url destination_url keyword** command to copy the configuration file to a remote server. You can then restore the current configuration from the remote server. You are prompted to back up the current configuration first.

Options

The following options apply:

- **/erase**—Erases the destination file before copying.

This keyword only applies to the current-config; the backup-config is always overwritten. If this keyword is specified for destination current-config, the source configuration is applied to the system default configuration. If it is not specified for the destination current-config, the source configuration is merged with the current-config.

- *source_url*—The location of the source file to be copied. It can be a URL or keyword.
- *destination_url*—The location of the destination file to be copied. It can be a URL or a keyword.

- **current-config**—The current running configuration. The configuration becomes persistent as the commands are entered.
- **backup-config**—The storage location for the configuration backup.

The exact format of the source and destination URLs varies according to the file. Here are the valid types:

- **ftp**—Source or destination URL for an FTP network server. The syntax for this prefix is:
ftp:[/[username@] location]/relativeDirectory]/filename
ftp:[/[username@]location]//absoluteDirectory]/filename
- **scp**—Source or destination URL for the SCP network server. The syntax for this prefix is:
scp:[/[username@] location]/relativeDirectory]/filename
scp:[/[username@] location]//absoluteDirectory]/filename



Note If you use FTP or SCP protocol, you are prompted for a password. If you use SCP protocol, you must also add the remote host to the SSH known hosts list.

- **http**—Source URL for the web server. The syntax for this prefix is:
http:[/[username@]location]/directory]/filename
- **https**—Source URL for the web server. The syntax for this prefix is:
https:[/[username@]location]/directory]/filename



Note HTTP and HTTPS prompt for a password if a username is required to access the website. If you use HTTPS protocol, the remote host must be a TLS trusted host.



Caution

Copying a configuration file from another sensor may result in errors if the sensing interfaces and virtual sensors are not configured the same.

Backing Up the Current Configuration to a Remote Server

To back up your current configuration to a remote server, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Back up the current configuration to the remote server.

```
sensor# copy current-config scp://user@192.0.2.0//configuration/cfg current-config
Password: *****
Warning: Copying over the current configuration may leave the box in an unstable state.
Would you like to copy current-config to backup-config before proceeding? [yes]:
```

Step 3 Enter **yes** to copy the current configuration to a backup configuration.

```
cfg          100% | ***** | 36124          00:00
```

Restoring the Current Configuration From a Backup File

To restore your current configuration from a backup file, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Back up the current configuration to the remote server.
- ```
sensor# copy scp://user@192.0.2.0//configuration/cfg current-config
Password: *****
Warning: Copying over the current configuration may leave the box in an unstable state.
Would you like to copy current-config to backup-config before proceeding? [yes]:
```
- Step 3** Enter **yes** to copy the current configuration to a backup configuration.
- ```
cfg          100% |*****| 36124          00:00

Warning: Replacing existing network-settings may leave the box in an unstable state.
Would you like to replace existing network settings
(host-ipaddress/netmask/gateway/access-list) on sensor before proceeding? [no]:
sensor#
```
- Step 4** Enter **no** to retain the currently configured hostname, IP address, subnet mask, management interface, and access list. We recommend you retain this information to preserve access to your sensor after the rest of the configuration has been restored.
-

For More Information

For a list of supported HTTP/HTTPS servers, see [Supported FTP and HTTP/HTTPS Servers, page 24-2](#).

Creating the Service Account

You can create a service account for TAC to use during troubleshooting. Although more than one user can have access to the sensor, only one user can have service privileges on a sensor. The service account is for support purposes only.



Caution

Do not make modifications to the sensor through the service account except under the direction of TAC. If you use the service account to configure the sensor, your configuration is not supported by TAC. Adding services to the operating system through the service account affects proper performance and functioning of the other IPS services. TAC does not support a sensor on which additional services have been added.



Note

The root user password is synchronized to the service account password when the service account is created. To gain root access you must log in with the service account and switch to user root with the **su - root** command.



Caution

You should carefully consider whether you want to create a service account. The service account provides shell access to the system, which makes the system vulnerable. However, you can use the service account to create a password if the administrator password is lost. Analyze your situation to decide if you want a service account existing on the system.

To create the service account, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 2 Enter configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

Step 3 Specify the parameters for the service account:

```
sensor(config)# user username privilege service
```

The username follows the pattern `^[A-Za-z0-9()+,._/-]+$`, which means the username must start with a letter or number, and can include any letter A to Z (capital or small), any number 0 to 9, - and _, and can contain 1 to 64 characters.

Step 4 Specify a password when prompted.

The password must conform to the requirements set by the sensor administrator. If a service account already exists for this sensor, the following error is displayed and no service account is created:

```
Error: Only one service account may exist
```

Step 5 Exit configuration mode:

```
sensor(config)# exit  
sensor#
```

When you use the service account to log in to the CLI, you receive the following warning:

```
***** WARNING *****  
UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THIS NETWORK DEVICE IS PROHIBITED. This account is intended to be  
used for support and troubleshooting purposes only. Unauthorized modifications are not  
supported and will require this device to be reimaged to guarantee proper operation.  
*****
```

Disaster Recovery

This section provides recommendations and steps to take if you need to recover your sensor after a disaster.

Follow these recommendations so that you are ready in case of a disaster:

- If you are using the CLI, IDM, or IME for configuration, copy the current configuration from the sensor to an FTP or SCP server any time a change has been made.
- You should note the specific software version for that configuration. You can apply the copied configuration only to a sensor of the same version.
- You also need the list of user IDs that have been used on that sensor. The list of user IDs and passwords are not saved in the configuration.

When a disaster happens and you need to recover the sensor, try the following:

1. Reimage the sensor.
2. Log in to the sensor with the default user ID and password—**cisco**.



Note

You are prompted to change the **cisco** password.

3. Initialize the sensor.
4. Upgrade the sensor to the IPS software version it had when the configuration was last saved and copied.

**Warning**

Trying to copy the saved configuration without getting the sensor back to the same IPS software version it had before the disaster can cause configuration errors.

5. Copy the last saved configuration to the sensor.
6. Update clients to use the new key and certificate of the sensor.
Reimaging changes the sensor SSH keys and HTTPS certificate, so you must add the hosts back to the SSN known hosts list.
7. Create previous users.

For More Information

- For the procedure for backing up a configuration file, see [Creating and Using a Backup Configuration File, page C-3](#).
- For the procedure for obtaining a list of the current users on the sensor, see [Configuring Users, page 6-16](#).
- For the procedures for reimaging a sensor, see [Chapter 24, “Upgrading, Downgrading, and Installing System Images.”](#)
- For the procedure for using the **setup** command to initialize the sensor, see [Chapter 21, “Initializing the Sensor.”](#)
- For more information on obtaining IPS software and how to install it, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).
- For the procedure for using a remote server to copy and restore the a configuration file, see [Backing Up and Restoring the Configuration File Using a Remote Server, page C-3](#).
- For the procedure for adding hosts to the SSH known hosts list, see [Defining Known Host Keys, page 13-6](#).
- For the procedure for adding users, see [Adding, Editing, Deleting Users and Creating Accounts, page 6-18](#).

Password Recovery

For most IPS platforms, you can now recover the password on the sensor rather than using the service account or reimaging the sensor. This section describes how to recover the password for the various IPS platforms. It contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Password Recovery, page C-8](#)
- [Password Recovery for Appliances, page C-8](#)
- [Password Recovery for AIM-IPS, page C-10](#)
- [Password Recovery for AIP-SSM, page C-10](#)
- [Password Recovery for IDSM-2, page C-13](#)
- [Password Recovery for NME-IPS, page C-13](#)
- [Disabling Password Recovery, page C-14](#)

- [Verifying the State of Password Recovery, page C-15](#)
- [Troubleshooting Password Recovery, page C-15](#)

Understanding Password Recovery

Password recovery implementations vary according to IPS platform requirements. Password recovery is implemented only for the cisco administrative account and is enabled by default. The IPS administrator can then recover user passwords for other accounts using the CLI. The cisco user password reverts to **cisco** and must be changed after the next login.

**Note**

Administrators may need to disable the password recovery feature for security reasons.

[Table C-1](#) lists the password recovery methods according to platform.

Table C-1 Password Recovery Methods According to Platform

Platform	Description	Recovery Method
4200 series sensors	Standalone IPS appliances	GRUB prompt or ROMMON
AIM-IPS NME-IPS	Router IPS modules	Bootloader command
AIP-SSM	ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance modules	ASA CLI command
IDS-2	Switch IPS module	Password recovery image file

Password Recovery for Appliances

This section describes the two ways to recover the password for appliances. It contains the following topics:

- [Using the GRUB Menu, page C-8](#)
- [Using ROMMON, page C-9](#)

Using the GRUB Menu

For 4200 series appliances, the password recovery is found in the GRUB menu, which appears during bootup. When the GRUB menu appears, press any key to pause the boot process.

**Note**

You must have a terminal server or direct serial connection to the appliance to use the GRUB menu to recover the password.

To recover the password on appliances, follow these steps:

Step 1 Reboot the appliance. The following menu appears:

```
GNU GRUB version 0.94 (632K lower / 523264K upper memory)
```

```

-----
0: Cisco IPS
1: Cisco IPS Recovery
2: Cisco IPS Clear Password (cisco)
-----

```

Use the ^ and v keys to select which entry is highlighted.
Press enter to boot the selected OS, 'e' to edit the
Commands before booting, or 'c' for a command-line.

Highlighted entry is 0:

Step 2 Press any key to pause the boot process.

Step 3 Choose **2: Cisco IPS Clear Password (cisco)**.

The password is reset to **cisco**. You can change the password the next time you log in to the CLI.

Using ROMMON

For IPS-4240 and IPS-4255 you can use the ROMMON to recover the password. To access the ROMMON CLI, reboot the sensor from a terminal server or direct connection and interrupt the boot process.

To recover the password using the ROMMON CLI, follow these steps:

Step 1 Reboot the appliance.

Step 2 To interrupt the boot process, press **ESC** or **Control-R** (terminal server) or send a **BREAK** command (direct connection).

The boot code either pauses for 10 seconds or displays something similar to one of the following:

- Evaluating boot options
- Use BREAK or ESC to interrupt boot

Step 3 Enter the following commands to reset the password:

```

confreg 0x7
boot

```

Sample ROMMON session:

```

Booting system, please wait...
CISCO SYSTEMS
Embedded BIOS Version 1.0(11)2 01/25/06 13:21:26.17
...
Evaluating BIOS Options...
Launch BIOS Extension to setup ROMMON
Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(11)2) #0: Thu Jan 26 10:43:08 PST 2006
Platform IPS-4240-K9
Use BREAK or ESC to interrupt boot.
Use SPACE to begin boot immediately.
Boot interrupted.
Management0/0
Link is UP

```

```

MAC Address:000b.fcfa.d155
Use ? for help.
rommon #0> confreg 0x7
Update Config Register (0x7) in NVRAM...
rommon #1> boot

```

Password Recovery for AIM-IPS

To recover the password for AIM-IPS, use the **clear password** command. You must have console access to AIM-IPS and administrative access to the router.

To recover the password for AIM-IPS, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the router.

Step 2 Enter privileged EXEC mode on the router:

```
router> enable
```

Step 3 Confirm the module slot number in your router:

```

router# show run | include ids-sensor
interface IDS-Sensor0/0
router#

```

Step 4 Session in to AIM-IPS:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor slot/port session
```

Example:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/0 session
```

Step 5 Press **Control-shift-6** followed by **x** to navigate to the router CLI.

Step 6 Reset AIM-IPS from the router console:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 0/0 reset
```

Step 7 Press **Enter** to return to the router console.

Step 8 When prompted for boot options, enter ******* quickly. You are now in the bootloader.

Step 9 Clear the password:

```
ServicesEngine boot-loader# clear password
```

AIM-IPS reboots. The password is reset to **cisco**. Log in to the CLI with username **cisco** and password **cisco**. You can then change the password.

Password Recovery for AIP-SSM

You can reset the password to the default (**cisco**) for the AIP-SSM using the CLI or the ASDM. Resetting the password causes it to reboot. IPS services are not available during a reboot.

**Note**

To reset the password, you must have ASA 7.2.2 or later.

Use the **hw-module module *slot_number* password-reset** command to reset the password to the default **cisco**. If the module in the specified slot has an IPS version that does not support password recovery, the following error message is displayed:

```
ERROR: the module in slot <n> does not support password recovery.
```

Resetting the Password Using the CLI

To reset the password on the AIP-SSM, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log into the adaptive security appliance and enter the following command to verify the module slot number:

```
asa# show module
```

Mod	Card	Type	Model	Serial No.
0	ASA	5510 Adaptive Security Appliance	ASA5510	JMX1135L097
1	ASA	5500 Series Security Services Module-40	ASA-SSM-40	JAF1214AMRL

Mod	MAC	Address Range	Hw Version	Fw Version	Sw Version
0	001b.d5e8.e0c8	to 001b.d5e8.e0cc	2.0	1.0(11)2	8.4(3)
1	001e.f737.205f	to 001e.f737.205f	1.0	1.0(14)5	7.0(7)E4

Mod	SSM Application Name	Status	SSM Application Version
1	IPS	Up	7.0(7)E4

Mod	Status	Data Plane Status	Compatibility
0	Up Sys	Not Applicable	
1	Up	Up	

- Step 2** Reset the password for module 1.

```
asa# hw-module module 1 password-reset
Reset the password on module in slot 1? [confirm]
```

- Step 3** Press **Enter** to confirm.

```
Password-Reset issued for slot 1.
```

- Step 4** Verify the status of the module. Once the status reads Up, you can session to the AIP-SSM.

```
asa# show module 1
```

Mod	Card	Type	Model	Serial No.
1	ASA	5500 Series Security Services Module-40	ASA-SSM-40	JAF1214AMRL

Mod	MAC	Address Range	Hw Version	Fw Version	Sw Version
1	001e.f737.205f	to 001e.f737.205f	1.0	1.0(14)5	7.0(7)E4

Mod	SSM Application Name	Status	SSM Application Version
1	IPS	Up	7.0(7)E4

Mod	Status	Data Plane Status	Compatibility
1	Up	Up	

1 Up

Up

Step 5 Session to the AIP-SSM.

```
asa# session 1
Opening command session with slot 1.
Connected to slot 1. Escape character sequence is 'CTRL-^X'.
```

Step 6 Enter the default username (**cisco**) and password (**cisco**) at the login prompt.

```
login: cisco
Password: cisco
```

```
You are required to change your password immediately (password aged)
Changing password for cisco.
(current) password: cisco
```

Step 7 Enter your new password twice.

```
New password: new password
Retype new password: new password
```

```
***NOTICE***
```

This product contains cryptographic features and is subject to United States and local country laws governing import, export, transfer and use. Delivery of Cisco cryptographic products does not imply third-party authority to import, export, distribute or use encryption. Importers, exporters, distributors and users are responsible for compliance with U.S. and local country laws. By using this product you agree to comply with applicable laws and regulations. If you are unable to comply with U.S. and local laws, return this product immediately.

A summary of U.S. laws governing Cisco cryptographic products may be found at:
<http://www.cisco.com/wwl/export/crypto/tool/stqrg.html>

If you require further assistance please contact us by sending email to export@cisco.com.

```
***LICENSE NOTICE***
```

There is no license key installed on this IPS platform. The system will continue to operate with the currently installed signature set. A valid license must be obtained in order to apply signature updates. Please go to <http://www.cisco.com/go/license> to obtain a new license or install a license.

```
aip_ssm#
```

Using the ASDM

To reset the password in the ASDM, follow these steps:

Step 1 From the ASDM menu bar, choose **Tools > IPS Password Reset**.

Note This option does not appear in the menu if there is no IPS present.

Step 2 In the IPS Password Reset confirmation dialog box, click **OK** to reset the password to the default (**cisco**). A dialog box displays the success or failure of the password reset. If the reset fails, make sure you have the correct ASA and IPS software versions.**Step 3** Click **Close** to close the dialog box. The sensor reboots.

Password Recovery for IDSM-2

To recover the password for the IDSM-2, you must install a special password recovery image file. This installation only resets the password, all other configuration remains intact. The password recovery image is version-dependent and can be found on the Cisco Download Software site. For IPS 6.x, download WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-a-6.0-password-recovery.bin.gz. For IPS 7.x, download WS-SVC-IDSM2-K9-a-7.0-password-recovery.bin.gz.

FTP is the only supported protocol for image installations, so make sure you put the password recovery image file on an FTP server that is accessible to the switch. You must have administrative access to the Cisco 6500 series switch to recover the password on the IDSM-2.

During the password recovery image installation, the following message appears:

```
Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the hard disk.
Do you want to proceed installing it [y|n]:
```

This message is in error. Installing the password recovery image does not remove any configuration, it only resets the login account.

Once you have downloaded the password recovery image file, follow the instructions to install the system image file but substitute the password recovery image file for the system image file. The IDSM-2 should reboot in to the primary partition after installing the recovery image file. If it does not, enter the following command from the switch:

```
hw-module module module_number reset hdd:1
```



Note

The password is reset to **cisco**. Log in to the CLI with username **cisco** and password **cisco**. You can then change the password.

For More Information

- For the procedure for installing system images on the IDSM-2, see [Installing the IDSM-2 System Image, page 24-26](#).
- For more information on downloading Cisco IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Password Recovery for NME-IPS

To recover the password for NME-IPS, use the **clear password** command. You must have console access to NME-IPS and administrative access to the router.

To recover the password for NME-IPS, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the router.
- Step 2** Enter privileged EXEC mode on the router:
- ```
router> enable
```
- Step 3** Confirm the module slot number in your router:
- ```
router# show run | include ids-sensor
interface IDS-Sensor1/0
router#
```

Step 4 Session in to NME-IPS:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor slot/port session
```

Example:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 session
```

Step 5 Press **Control-shift-6** followed by **x** to navigate to the router CLI.**Step 6** Reset NME-IPS from the router console:

```
router# service-module ids-sensor 1/0 reset
```

Step 7 Press **Enter** to return to the router console.**Step 8** When prompted for boot options, enter ******* quickly.

You are now in the bootloader.

Step 9 Clear the password:

```
ServicesEngine boot-loader# clear password
```

NME-IPS reboots. The password is reset to **cisco**. Log in to the CLI with username **cisco** and password **cisco**. You can then change the password.

Disabling Password Recovery

**Caution**

If you try to recover the password on a sensor on which password recovery is disabled, the process proceeds with no errors or warnings; however, the password is not reset. If you cannot log in to the sensor because you have forgotten the password, and password recovery is set to disabled, you must reimage your sensor.

Password recovery is enabled by default. You can disable password recovery through the CLI or IME.

Disabling Password Recovery Using the CLI

To disable password recovery in the CLI, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.**Step 2** Enter global configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

Step 3 Enter host mode:

```
sensor(config)# service host
```

Step 4 Disable password recovery:

```
sensor(config-hos)# password-recovery disallowed
```


Disabling Password Recovery Using IME

To disable password recovery in IME, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Step 1 | Log in to IME using an account with administrator privileges. |
| Step 2 | Choose Configuration > sensor_name > Sensor Setup > Network . |
| Step 3 | To disable password recovery, uncheck the Allow Password Recovery check box. |
-

Verifying the State of Password Recovery

Use the **show settings | include password** command to verify whether password recovery is enabled.

To verify whether password recovery is enabled, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Step 1 | Log in to the CLI. |
| Step 2 | Enter service host submode:

<pre>sensor# configure terminal
sensor (config)# service host
sensor (config-hos)#</pre> |
| Step 3 | Verify the state of password recovery by using the include keyword to show settings in a filtered output:

<pre>sensor(config-hos)# show settings include password
password-recovery: allowed <defaulted>
sensor(config-hos)#</pre> |
-

Troubleshooting Password Recovery

When you troubleshoot password recovery, pay attention to the following:

- You cannot determine whether password recovery has been disabled in the sensor configuration from the ROMMON prompt, GRUB menu, switch CLI, or router CLI. If you attempt password recovery, it always appears to succeed. If it has been disabled, the password is not reset to **cisco**. The only option is to reimagine the sensor.
- You can disable password recovery in the host configuration. For the platforms that use external mechanisms, such as the AIM-IPS and NME-IPS bootloader, ROMMON, and the maintenance partition for IDS-M-2, although you can run commands to clear the password, if password recovery is disabled in the IPS, the IPS detects that password recovery is not allowed and rejects the external request.
- To check the state of password recovery, use the **show settings | include password** command.
- When performing password recovery on IDS-M-2, you see the following message: *Upgrading will wipe out the contents on the storage media*. You can ignore this message. Only the password is reset when you use the specified password recovery image.

Time and the Sensor

This section describes how to maintain accurate time on the sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Time Sources and the Sensor, page C-16](#)
- [Synchronizing IPS Module Clocks with Parent Device Clocks, page C-17](#)
- [Verifying the Sensor is Synchronized with the NTP Server, page C-17](#)
- [Correcting Time on the Sensor, page C-18](#)

Time Sources and the Sensor

The sensor requires a reliable time source. All events (alerts) must have the correct UTC and local time stamp, otherwise, you cannot correctly analyze the logs after an attack. When you initialize the sensor, you set up the time zones and summertime settings.

**Note**

We recommend that you use an NTP server. You can use authenticated or unauthenticated NTP. For authenticated NTP, you must obtain the NTP server IP address, NTP server key ID, and the key value from the NTP server. You can set up NTP during initialization or you can configure NTP through the CLI, IDM, IME, or ASDM.

Here is a summary of ways to set the time on sensors:

- For appliances
 - Use the **clock set** command to set the time. This is the default.
 - Use NTP—You can configure the appliance to get its time from an NTP time synchronization source.
- For IDSM-2
 - The IDSM-2 can automatically synchronize its clock with the switch time. This is the default. The UTC time is synchronized between the switch and the IDSM-2. The time zone and summertime settings are not synchronized between the switch and the IDSM-2.

**Note**

Be sure to set the time zone and summertime settings on both the switch and IDSM-2 to ensure that the UTC time settings are correct. The local time of IDSM-2 could be incorrect if the time zone and/or summertime settings do not match between IDSM-2 and the switch.

- Use NTP—You can configure IDSM-2 to get its time from an NTP time synchronization source.
- For AIM-IPS and NME-IPS
 - AIM-IPS and NME-IPS can automatically synchronize their clock with the clock in the router chassis in which they are installed (parent router). This is the default. The UTC time is synchronized between the parent router and AIM-IPS and NME-IPS. The time zone and summertime settings are not synchronized between the parent router and AIM-IPS and NME-IPS.

**Note**

Be sure to set the time zone and summertime settings on both the parent router and AIM-IPS and NME-IPS to ensure that the UTC time settings are correct. The local time of AIM-IPS and NME-IPS could be incorrect if the time zone and/or summertime settings do not match between AIM-IPS and NME-IPS and the router.

- Use NTP—You can configure AIM-IPS and NME-IPS to get their time from an NTP time synchronization source, such as a Cisco router, other than the parent router.
- For AIP-SSM
 - AIP-SSM can automatically synchronize its clock with the clock in the adaptive security appliance in which it is installed. This is the default. The UTC time is synchronized between the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM. The time zone and summertime settings are not synchronized between the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM.

**Note**

Be sure to set the time zone and summertime settings on both the adaptive security appliance and AIP-SSM to ensure that the UTC time settings are correct. The local time of AIP-SSM could be incorrect if the time zone and/or summertime settings do not match between AIP-SSM and the adaptive security appliance.

- Use NTP—You can configure AIP-SSM to get its time from an NTP time synchronization source, such as a Cisco router other than the parent router.

For More Information

For the procedure for configuring NTP, see [Configuring NTP, page 6-12](#).

Synchronizing IPS Module Clocks with Parent Device Clocks

All IPS modules (AIM-IPS, AIP-SSM, IDSM-2, and NME-IPS) synchronize their system clocks to the parent chassis clock (switch, router, or security appliance) each time the module boots up and any time the parent chassis clock is set. The module clock and parent chassis clock tend to drift apart over time. The difference can be as much as several seconds per day. To avoid this problem, make sure that both the module clock and the parent clock are synchronized to an external NTP server. If only the module clock or only the parent chassis clock is synchronized to an NTP server, the time drift occurs.

Verifying the Sensor is Synchronized with the NTP Server

In IPS 6.1, you cannot apply an incorrect NTP configuration, such as an invalid NTP key value or ID, to the sensor. If you try to apply an incorrect configuration, you receive an error message. To verify the NTP configuration, use the **show statistics host** command to gather sensor statistics. The NTP statistics section provides NTP statistics including feedback on sensor synchronization with the NTP server.

To verify the NTP configuration, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the sensor.
- Step 2** Generate the host statistics:
- ```
sensor# show statistics host
...
```

```

NTP Statistics
 remote refid st t when poll reach delay offset jitter
 11.22.33.44 CHU_AUDIO(1) 8 u 36 64 1 0.536 0.069 0.001
 LOCAL(0) 73.78.73.84 5 l 35 64 1 0.000 0.000 0.001
ind assID status conf reach auth condition last_event cnt
 1 10372 f014 yes yes ok reject reachable 1
 2 10373 9014 yes yes none reject reachable 1
status = Not Synchronized

```

**Step 3** Generate the hosts statistics again after a few minutes:

```

sensor# show statistics host
...
NTP Statistics
 remote refid st t when poll reach delay offset jitter
*11.22.33.44 CHU_AUDIO(1) 8 u 22 64 377 0.518 37.975 33.465
 LOCAL(0) 73.78.73.84 5 l 22 64 377 0.000 0.000 0.001
ind assID status conf reach auth condition last_event cnt
 1 10372 f624 yes yes ok sys.peer reachable 2
 2 10373 9024 yes yes none reject reachable 2
status = Synchronized

```

**Step 4** If the status continues to read `Not Synchronized`, check with the NTP server administrator to make sure the NTP server is configured correctly.

## Correcting Time on the Sensor

If you set the time incorrectly, your stored events will have the incorrect time because they are stamped with the time the event was created.

The Event Store time stamp is always based on UTC time. If during the original sensor setup, you set the time incorrectly by specifying 8:00 p.m. rather than 8:00 a.m., when you do correct the error, the corrected time will be set backwards. New events might have times older than old events.

For example, if during the initial setup, you configure the sensor as central time with daylight saving time enabled and the local time is 8:04 p.m., the time is displayed as 20:04:37 CDT and has an offset from UTC of -5 hours (01:04:37 UTC, the next day). A week later at 9:00 a.m., you discover the error: the clock shows 21:00:23 CDT. You then change the time to 9:00 a.m. and now the clock shows 09:01:33 CDT. Because the offset from UTC has not changed, it requires that the UTC time now be 14:01:33 UTC, which creates the time stamp problem.

To ensure the integrity of the time stamp on the event records, you must clear the event archive of the older events by using the **clear events** command.



### Note

You cannot remove individual events.

### For More Information

For the procedure for clearing events, see [Clearing Events, page C-93](#).

# Advantages and Restrictions of Virtualization

To avoid configuration problems on your sensor, make sure you understand the advantages and restrictions of virtualization on your sensor.

Virtualization has the following advantages:

- You can apply different configurations to different sets of traffic.
- You can monitor two networks with overlapping IP spaces with one sensor.
- You can monitor both inside and outside of a firewall or NAT device.

Virtualization has the following restrictions:

- You must assign both sides of asymmetric traffic to the same virtual sensor.
- Using VACL capture or SPAN (promiscuous monitoring) is inconsistent with regard to VLAN tagging, which causes problems with VLAN groups.
  - When using Cisco IOS software, a VACL capture port or a SPAN target does not always receive tagged packets even if it is configured for trunking.
  - When using the MSFC, fast path switching of learned routes changes the behavior of VACL captures and SPAN.
- Persistent store is limited.

Virtualization has the following traffic capture requirements:

- The virtual sensor must receive traffic that has 802.1q headers (other than traffic on the native VLAN of the capture port).
- The sensor must see both directions of traffic in the same VLAN group in the same virtual sensor for any given sensor.

The following sensors support virtualization:

- IPS-4240
- IPS-4255
- IPS-4260
- IPS 4270-20
- AIP-SSM

IDSM-2 supports virtualization with the exception of VLAN groups on inline interface pairs. AIM-IPS and NME-IPS do not support virtualization.

## Supported MIBs

The following private MIBs are supported on the sensor:

- CISCO-CIDS-MIB
- CISCO-ENHANCED-MEMPOOL-MIB
- CISCO-ENTITY-ALARM-MIB

You can obtain these private Cisco MIBs under the heading SNMP v2 MIBs at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/public/sw-center/netmgmt/cmtk/mibs.shtml>

**Note**

MIB II is available on the sensor, but we do not support it. We know that some elements are not correct (for example, the packet counts from the IF MIB on the sensing interfaces). While you can use elements from MIB II, we do not guarantee that they all provide correct information. We fully support the other listed MIBs and their output is correct.

**Note**

CISCO-PROCESS-MIB is available on the sensor, but we do not support it. We know that some elements are not available. While you can use elements from CISCO-PROCESS-MIB, we do not guarantee that they all provide correct information. We fully support the other listed MIBs and their output is correct.

## When to Disable Anomaly Detection

If you have your sensor configured to see only one direction of traffic, you should disable anomaly detection. Otherwise, you will receive many alerts, because anomaly detection sees asymmetric traffic as having incomplete connections, that is, like worm scanners, and fires alerts.

To disable anomaly detection, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Enter analysis engine submode:
- ```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service analysis-engine
sensor(config-ana)#
```
- Step 3** Enter the virtual sensor name that contains the anomaly detection policy you want to disable:
- ```
sensor(config-ana)# virtual-sensor vs0
sensor(config-ana-vir)#
```
- Step 4** Disable anomaly detection operational mode:
- ```
sensor(config-ana-vir)# anomaly-detection
sensor(config-ana-vir-ano)# operational-mode inactive
sensor(config-ana-vir-ano)#
```
- Step 5** Exit analysis engine submode:
- ```
sensor(config-ana-vir-ano)# exit
sensor(config-ana-vir)# exit
sensor(config-ana)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]:
```
- Step 6** Press **Enter** to apply your changes or enter **no** to discard them.
- 

### For More Information

For more information about Worms, see [Worms, page 12-2](#).

# Troubleshooting External Product Interfaces

This section lists issues that can occur with external product interfaces and provides troubleshooting tips. It contains the following topics:

- [External Product Interfaces Issues, page C-21](#)
- [External Product Interfaces Troubleshooting Tips, page C-22](#)

## External Product Interfaces Issues

When the external product interface receives host posture and quarantine events, the following issues can arise:

- The sensor can store only a certain number of host records.
  - If the number of records exceeds 10,000, subsequent records are dropped.
  - If the 10,000 limit is reached and then it drops to below 9900, new records are no longer dropped.
- Hosts can change an IP address or appear to use another host IP address, for example, because of DHCP lease expiration or movement in a wireless network. In the case of an IP address conflict, the sensor presumes the most recent host posture event to be the most accurate.
- A network can include overlapping IP address ranges in different VLANs, but host postures do not include VLAN ID information. You can configure the sensor to ignore specified address ranges.
- A host can be unreachable from the CSA MC because it is behind a firewall. You can exclude unreachable hosts.
- The CSA MC event server allows up to ten open subscriptions by default. You can change this value. You must have an Administrative account and password to open subscriptions.
- CSA data is not virtualized; it is treated globally by the sensor.
- Host posture OS and IP addresses are integrated into passive OS fingerprinting storage. You can view them as imported OS profiles.
- You cannot see the quarantined hosts.
- The sensor must recognize each CSA MC host X.509 certificate. You must add them as a trusted host.
- You can configure a maximum of two external product devices.

### For More Information

- For more information on working with OS maps and identifications, see [Adding, Editing, Deleting, and Moving Configured OS Maps, page 11-24](#) and [Working With OS Identifications, page 18-24](#).
- For the procedure for adding trusted hosts, see [Adding Trusted Hosts, page 13-10](#).
- For more information on external product interfaces, see [Chapter 16, “Configuring External Product Interfaces.”](#)

## External Product Interfaces Troubleshooting Tips

To troubleshoot external product interfaces, check the following:

- Make sure the interface is active by checking the output from the **show statistics external-product-interface** command in the CLI, or choose **Configuration > sensor\_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Statistics** in IME and check the Interface state line in the response.
- Make sure you have added the CSA MC IP address to the trusted hosts. If you forgot to add it, add it, wait a few minutes and then check again.
- Confirm subscription login information by opening and closing a subscription on CSA MC using the browser.
- Check Event Store for CSA MC subscription errors.

### For More Information

- For the procedure for adding trusted hosts, see [Adding Trusted Hosts, page 13-10](#).
- For the procedure for displaying events, see [Displaying Events, page C-90](#).

## Troubleshooting the 4200 Series Appliance



Tip

Before troubleshooting the appliance, check the Caveats section of the Readme for the software version you have installed on your sensor to see if you are dealing with a known issue.

This section contains information to troubleshoot the 4200 series appliance. It contains the following topics:

- [Troubleshooting Loose Connections, page C-22](#)
- [Analysis Engine is Busy, page C-23](#)
- [Connecting IPS-4240 to a Cisco 7200 Series Router, page C-24](#)
- [Communication Problems, page C-24](#)
- [SensorApp and Alerting, page C-28](#)
- [Blocking, page C-36](#)
- [Logging, page C-44](#)
- [TCP Reset Not Occurring for a Signature, page C-50](#)
- [Software Upgrades, page C-51](#)

## Troubleshooting Loose Connections

Perform the following actions to troubleshoot loose connections on a sensor:

- Make sure all power cords are securely connected.
- Make sure all cables are properly aligned and securely connected for all external and internal components.



- Remove and check all data and power cables for damage. Make sure no cables have bent pins or damaged connectors.
- Make sure each device is properly seated.
- If a device has latches, make sure they are completely closed and locked.
- Check any interlock or interconnect indicators that indicate a component is not connected properly.
- If problems continue, remove and reinstall each device, checking the connectors and sockets for bent pins or other damage.

## Analysis Engine is Busy

After you reimage a sensor, Analysis Engine is busy rebuilding Regex tables and does not respond to new configurations. You can check whether Analysis Engine is busy by using the **show statistics virtual-sensor** command. You receive the following error message if Analysis Engine is busy:

```
sensor# show statistics virtual-sensor
Error: getVirtualSensorStatistics : Analysis Engine is busy rebuilding regex tables. This
may take a while.
sensor#
```

When Analysis Engine is busy rebuilding Regex tables, you receive an error message if you try to update a configuration, for example, enabling or retiring a signature:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service sig sig0
sensor(config-sig)# sig 2000 0
sensor(config-sig-sig)# status enabled
sensor(config-sig-sig)# status
sensor(config-sig-sig-sta)# enabled true
sensor(config-sig-sig-sta)# retired false
sensor(config-sig-sig-sta)# exit
sensor(config-sig-sig)# exit
sensor(config-sig)# exit
Apply Changes?[yes]:
Error: editConfigDeltaSignatureDefinition : Analysis Engine is busy rebuilding regex
tables. This may take a while.
The configuration changes failed validation, no changes were applied.
Would you like to return to edit mode to correct the errors? [yes]: no
No changes were made to the configuration.
sensor(config)#
```

If you try to get the virtual sensor statistics immediately after you boot a sensor, you receive an error message. Although the sensor has rebuilt the cache files, the virtual sensor is not finished initializing.

```
sensor# show statistics virtual-sensor
Error: getVirtualSensorStatistics : Analysis Engine is busy.
sensor#
```

When you receive the errors that Analysis Engine is busy, wait a while before trying to make configuration changes. Use the **show statistics virtual-sensor** command to find out when Analysis Engine is available again.

## Connecting IPS-4240 to a Cisco 7200 Series Router

When an IPS-4240 is connected directly to a 7200 series router and both the IPS-4240 and the router interfaces are hard-coded to speed 100 with duplex Full, the connection does not work. If you set IPS-4240 to speed Auto and duplex Auto, it connects to the router but only at speed 100 and duplex Half.

To connect correctly at speed 100 and duplex Full, set the interfaces of both IPS-4240 and the router to speed Auto and duplex Auto. Also, if either interface is hard-coded, you must make the connection using a crossover cable.

## Communication Problems

This section helps you troubleshoot communication problems with the 4200 series sensor. It contains the following topics:

- [Cannot Access the Sensor CLI Through Telnet or SSH, page C-24](#)
- [Correcting a Misconfigured Access List, page C-26](#)
- [Duplicate IP Address Shuts Interface Down, page C-27](#)

### Cannot Access the Sensor CLI Through Telnet or SSH

If you cannot access the sensor CLI through Telnet (if you already have it enabled) or SSH, follow these steps:

---

**Step 1** Log in to the sensor CLI through a console, terminal, or module session.

**Step 2** Make sure that the sensor management interface is enabled:

```
sensor# show interfaces
Interface Statistics
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Current Bypass Mode = Auto_off
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1
 Media Type = backplane
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Inline Mode = Unpaired
 Pair Status = N/A
 Link Status = Up
 Link Speed = Auto_1000
 Link Duplex = Auto_Full
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
 Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
 Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
 Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
 Total Receive Errors = 0
 Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
 Total Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Bytes Transmitted = 0
 Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
```

```

Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/0
Media Type = TX
Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 944333
Total Bytes Received = 83118358
Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 397633
Total Bytes Transmitted = 435730956
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
sensor#

```

The management interface is the interface in the list with the status line `Media Type = TX`. If the Link Status is `Down`, go to Step 3. If the Link Status is `Up`, go to Step 5.

**Step 3** Make sure the sensor IP address is unique.

```

sensor# setup
--- System Configuration Dialog ---

```

At any point you may enter a question mark '?' for help.  
User ctrl-c to abort configuration dialog at any prompt.  
Default settings are in square brackets '[]'.

Current Configuration:

```

service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.89.130.108/23,10.89.130.1
host-name sensor
telnet-option enabled
access-list 0.0.0.0/0
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
--MORE--

```

If the management interface detects that another device on the network has the same IP address, it does not come up.

**Step 4** Make sure the management port is connected to an active network connection. If the management port is not connected to an active network connection, the management interface does not come up.

**Step 5** Make sure the IP address of the workstation that is trying to connect to the sensor is permitted in the sensor access list:

```

sensor# setup
--- System Configuration Dialog ---

```

At any point you may enter a question mark '?' for help.  
User ctrl-c to abort configuration dialog at any prompt.  
Default settings are in square brackets '[]'.

Current Configuration:

```

service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.89.130.108/23,10.89.130.1
host-name sensor
telnet-option enabled
access-list 0.0.0.0/0
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
--MORE--

```

If the workstation network address is permitted in the sensor access list, go to Step 6.

**Step 6** Add a permit entry for the workstation network address, save the configuration, and try to connect again.

**Step 7** Make sure the network configuration allows the workstation to connect to the sensor.

If the sensor is protected behind a firewall and the workstation is in front of the firewall, make sure the firewall is configured to allow the workstation to access the sensor. Or if the workstation is behind a firewall that is performing network address translation on the workstation IP address, and the sensor is in front of the firewall, make sure that the sensor access list contains a permit entry for the workstation translated address.

#### For More Information

- For the procedure for changing the IP address, changing the access list, and enabling and disabling Telnet on the sensor, see [Configuring Network Settings, page 6-1](#).
- For the various ways to open a CLI session directly on the sensor, see [Chapter 22, “Logging In to the Sensor.”](#)

## Correcting a Misconfigured Access List

To correct a misconfigured access list, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** View your configuration to see the access list:

```

sensor# show configuration | include access-list
access-list 10.0.0.0/8
access-list 64.0.0.0/8
sensor#

```

**Step 3** Verify that the client IP address is listed in the allowed networks. If it is not, add it:

```

sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service host
sensor(config-hos)# network-settings
sensor(config-hos-net)# access-list 171.69.70.0/24

```

**Step 4** Verify the settings:

```

sensor(config-hos-net)# show settings
network-settings

host-ip: 10.89.149.238/25,10.89.149.254 default: 10.1.9.201/24,10.1.9.1
host-name: sensor-238 default: sensor
telnet-option: enabled default: disabled

```

```

access-list (min: 0, max: 512, current: 3)

network-address: 10.0.0.0/8

network-address: 64.0.0.0/8

network-address: 171.69.70.0/24

ftp-timeout: 300 seconds <defaulted>
login-banner-text: <defaulted>

sensor(config-hos-net)#

```

## Duplicate IP Address Shuts Interface Down

If you have two newly imaged sensors with the same IP address that come up on the same network at the same time, the interface shuts down. Linux prevents the command and control interface from activating if it detects an address conflict with another host.

To verify that the sensor in question does not have an IP address conflict with another host on the network, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Determine whether the interface is up:

```

sensor# show interfaces
Interface Statistics
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Current Bypass Mode = Auto_off
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1
 Media Type = backplane
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Inline Mode = Unpaired
 Pair Status = N/A
 Link Status = Up
 Link Speed = Auto_1000
 Link Duplex = Auto_Full
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
 Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
 Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
 Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
 Total Receive Errors = 0
 Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
 Total Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Bytes Transmitted = 0
 Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
 Total Transmit Errors = 0
 Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/0
 Media Type = TX

```

```

Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 1822323
Total Bytes Received = 131098876
Total Multicast Packets Received = 20
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 219260
Total Bytes Transmitted = 103668610
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
sensor#

```

If the output says the command and control interface link status is down, there is a hardware issue or an IP address conflict.

**Step 3** Make sure the sensor cabling is correct.

**Step 4** Make sure the IP address is correct.

#### For More Information

- To make sure the sensor cabling is correct, refer to the chapter for your sensor in [Installing Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Appliances and Module 6.1](#).
- For the procedure for making sure the IP address is correct, see [Configuring Network Settings, page 6-1](#).

## SensorApp and Alerting

This section helps you troubleshoot issues with SensorApp and alerting. It contains the following topics:

- [SensorApp Not Running, page C-28](#)
- [Physical Connectivity, SPAN, or VACL Port Issue, page C-30](#)
- [Unable to See Alerts, page C-32](#)
- [Sensor Not Seeing Packets, page C-33](#)
- [Cleaning Up a Corrupted SensorApp Configuration, page C-35](#)

## SensorApp Not Running

The sensing process, SensorApp, should always be running. If it is not, you do not receive any alerts. SensorApp is part of Analysis Engine, so you must make sure the Analysis Engine is running.

To make sure Analysis Engine is running, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Determine the status of the Analysis Engine service:

```

sensor# show version
Application Partition:

Cisco Intrusion Prevention System, Version 6.1(1)E1

```

```

Host:
 Realm Keys key1.0
Signature Definition:
 Signature Update S329.0 2008-04-16
 Virus Update V1.2 2005-11-24
OS Version: 2.4.30-IDS-smp-bigphys
Platform: ASA-SSM-20
Serial Number: JAB0948035P
License expired: 11-Apr-2008 UTC
Sensor up-time is 7 days.
Using 1018015744 out of 2093600768 bytes of available memory (48% usage)
system is using 17.7M out of 29.0M bytes of available disk space (61% usage)
application-data is using 39.7M out of 166.6M bytes of available disk space (25% usage)
boot is using 40.5M out of 68.5M bytes of available disk space (62% usage)

MainApp M-2008_APR_24_19_16 (Release) 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500 Running
AnalysisEngine M-2008_APR_24_19_16 (Release) 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500 NotRunning
CLI M-2008_APR_24_19_16 (Release) 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500

Upgrade History:

 IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1 01:16:00 UTC Fri Apr 25 2008

Recovery Partition Version 1.1 - 6.1(1)E1

Host Certificate Valid from: 29-Jun-2008 to 30-Jun-2010

sensor#

```

### Step 3 If Analysis Engine is not running, look for any errors connected to it:

```

sensor# show events error fatal past 13:00:00 | include AnalysisEngine
evError: eventId=1077219258696330005 severity=warning

originator:
hostId: sensor
appName: sensorApp
appInstanceId: 1045
time: 2004/02/19 19:34:20 2004/02/19 19:34:20 UTC
errorMessage: name=errUnclassified Generating new Analysis Engine configuration file.

```



**Note** The date and time of the last restart is listed. In this example, the last restart was on 2-19-2004 at 7:34.

### Step 4 Make sure you have the latest software updates:

```

sensor# show version
Application Partition:

Cisco Intrusion Prevention System, Version 6.1(1)E1

Host:
 Realm Keys key1.0
Signature Definition:
 Signature Update S329.0 2008-04-16
 Virus Update V1.2 2005-11-24
OS Version: 2.4.30-IDS-smp-bigphys
Platform: ASA-SSM-20
Serial Number: JAB0948035P
License expired: 11-Apr-2008 UTC
Sensor up-time is 7 days.

```

```
Using 1018015744 out of 2093600768 bytes of available memory (48% usage)
system is using 17.7M out of 29.0M bytes of available disk space (61% usage)
application-data is using 39.7M out of 166.6M bytes of available disk space (25% usage)
boot is using 40.5M out of 68.5M bytes of available disk space (62% usage)
```

```
MainApp M-2008_APR_24_19_16 (Release) 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500 Running
AnalysisEngine M-2008_APR_24_19_16 (Release) 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500 NotRunning
CLI M-2008_APR_24_19_16 (Release) 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500
```

Upgrade History:

```
IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1 01:16:00 UTC Fri Apr 25 2008
```

Recovery Partition Version 1.1 - 6.1(1)E1

Host Certificate Valid from: 29-Jun-2008 to 30-Jun-2010

sensor#

If you do not have the latest software updates, download them from [Cisco.com](http://Cisco.com).

- Step 5** Read the Readme that accompanies the software upgrade for any known DDTs for SensorApp or Analysis Engine.

#### For More Information

- For more information on IPS system architecture, see [Appendix A, “System Architecture.”](#)
- For the procedure for obtaining the latest Cisco IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

## Physical Connectivity, SPAN, or VACL Port Issue

If the sensor is not connected properly, you do not receive any alerts.

To make sure the sensor is connected properly, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to the CLI.
- Step 2** Make sure the interfaces are up and that the packet count is increasing:

```
sensor# show interfaces
Interface Statistics
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Current Bypass Mode = Auto_off
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1
 Media Type = backplane
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Inline Mode = Unpaired
 Pair Status = N/A
 Link Status = Up
 Link Speed = Auto_1000
 Link Duplex = Auto_Full
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
 Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
```



```

Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Bytes Transmitted = 0
Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/0
Media Type = TX
Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 1830137
Total Bytes Received = 131624465
Total Multicast Packets Received = 20
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 220052
Total Bytes Transmitted = 103796666
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
sensor#

```

**Step 3** If the Link Status is down, make sure the sensing port is connected properly:

- a. Make sure the sensing port is connected properly on the appliance.
- b. Make sure the sensing port is connected to the correct SPAN or VACL capture port on IDSM-2.

**Step 4** Verify the interface configuration:

- a. Make sure you have the interfaces configured properly.
- b. Verify the SPAN and VACL capture port configuration on the Cisco switch.

Refer to your switch documentation for the procedure.

**Step 5** Verify again that the interfaces are up and that the packet count is increasing.

```
sensor# show interfaces
```

#### For More Information

- For the procedure for properly installing the sensing interface on your sensor, refer to the chapter on your appliance in [Installing Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Appliances and Modules 6.1](#).
- For the procedure for connecting SPAN and VACL capture ports on IDSM-2, refer to [Configuring IDSM-2](#).
- For the procedures for configuring interfaces on your sensor, see [Chapter 7, “Configuring Interfaces.”](#)

## Unable to See Alerts

If you are not seeing alerts, try the following:

- Make sure the signature is enabled
- Make sure the signature is not retired
- Make sure that you have Produce Alert configured as an action



### Note

If you choose Produce Alert, but come back later and add another event action and do not add Produce Alert to the new configuration, alerts are not be sent to the Event Store. Every time you configure a signature, the new configuration overwrites the old one, so make sure you have configured all the event actions you want for each signature.

- Make sure the sensor is seeing packets
- Make sure that alerts are being generated
- Make sure the sensing interface is in a virtual sensor

To make sure you can see alerts, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Make sure the signature is enabled:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service signature-definition sig0
sensor(config-sig)# signatures 1300 0
sensor(config-sig-sig)# status
sensor(config-sig-sig-sta)# show settings
status

enabled: true <defaulted>
retired: false <defaulted>

sensor(config-sig-sig-sta)#
```

**Step 3** Make sure you have Produce Alert configured:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service signature-definition sig0
sensor(config-sig)# signatures 1300 0
sensor(config-sig-sig)# engine ?
normalizer Signature engine
sensor(config-sig-sig)# engine normalizer
sensor(config-sig-sig-nor)# event-action produce-alert
sensor(config-sig-sig-nor)# show settings
normalizer

event-action: produce-alert default: produce-alert|deny-connection-inline
edit-default-sigs-only

sensor#
```

**Step 4** Make sure the sensor is seeing packets:

```
sensor# show interfaces FastEthernet0/1
MAC statistics from interface FastEthernet0/1
Media Type = backplane
Missed Packet Percentage = 0
```

```

Inline Mode = Unpaired
Pair Status = N/A
Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 267581
Total Bytes Received = 24886471
Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 57301
Total Bytes Transmitted = 3441000
Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Transmit Errors = 1
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
sensor#

```

#### Step 5 Check for alerts:

```

sensor# show statistics virtual-sensor
SigEvent Preliminary Stage Statistics
 Number of Alerts received = 0
 Number of Alerts Consumed by AlertInterval = 0
 Number of Alerts Consumed by Event Count = 0
 Number of FireOnce First Alerts = 0
 Number of FireOnce Intermediate Alerts = 0
 Number of Summary First Alerts = 0
 Number of Summary Intermediate Alerts = 0
 Number of Regular Summary Final Alerts = 0
 Number of Global Summary Final Alerts = 0
 Number of Alerts Output for further processing = 0alertDetails: Traffic Source: int0 ;

```

## Sensor Not Seeing Packets

If the sensor is not seeing any packets on the network, you could have the interfaces set up incorrectly.

If the sensor is not seeing packets, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Make sure the interfaces are up and receiving packets:

```

sensor# show interfaces GigabitEthernet0/1
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1
 Media Type = backplane
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Inline Mode = Unpaired
 Pair Status = N/A
 Link Status = Down
 Link Speed = Auto_1000
 Link Duplex = Auto_Full
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Total Multicast Packets Received = 0

```

```
Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Bytes Transmitted = 0
Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
sensor#
```

**Step 3** If the interfaces are not up, do the following:

- a. Check the cabling.
- b. Enable the interface.

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service interface
sensor(config-int)# physical-interfaces GigabitEthernet0/1
sensor(config-int-phy)# admin-state enabled
sensor(config-int-phy)# show settings
<protected entry>
name: GigabitEthernet0/1

media-type: tx <protected>
description: <defaulted>
admin-state: enabled default: disabled
duplex: auto <defaulted>
speed: auto <defaulted>
alt-tcp-reset-interface

none

sensor(config-int-phy)#
```

**Step 4** Check to see that the interface is up and receiving packets:

```
sensor# show interfaces
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1
Media Type = TX
Missed Packet Percentage = 0
Inline Mode = Unpaired
Pair Status = N/A
Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 3
Total Bytes Received = 900
Total Multicast Packets Received = 3
Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Bytes Transmitted = 0
Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
```

```
Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0 ...
```

---

### For More Information

For information on installing the sensor properly, refer to your sensor chapter in [Installing Cisco Intrusion Prevention System Appliances and Modules 6.1](#).

## Cleaning Up a Corrupted SensorApp Configuration

If the SensorApp configuration has become corrupted and SensorApp cannot run, you must delete it entirely and restart SensorApp. To delete the SensorApp configuration, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Log in to the service account.
  - Step 2** Su to root.
  - Step 3** Stop the IPS applications:  

```
/etc/init.d/cids stop
```
  - Step 4** Replace the virtual sensor file:  

```
cp /usr/cids/idsRoot/etc/defVirtualSensorConfig.xml
/usr/cids/idsRoot/etc/VS-Config/virtualSensor.xml
```
  - Step 5** Remove the cache files:  

```
rm /usr/cids/idsRoot/var/virtualSensor/*.pmz
```
  - Step 6** Exit the service account.
  - Step 7** Log in to the sensor CLI.
  - Step 8** Start the IPS services:  

```
sensor# cids start
```
  - Step 9** Log in to an account with administrator privileges.
  - Step 10** Reboot the sensor:  

```
sensor# reset
Warning: Executing this command will stop all applications and reboot the node.
Continue with reset? [yes]:yes
Request Succeeded.
sensor#
```
- 

### For More Information

For more information on IPS system architecture, see [Appendix A, “System Architecture.”](#)

# Blocking

This section provides troubleshooting help for blocking and the ARC service. It contains the following topics.

- [Troubleshooting Blocking, page C-36](#)
- [Verifying ARC is Running, page C-37](#)
- [Verifying ARC Connections are Active, page C-37](#)
- [Device Access Issues, page C-39](#)
- [Verifying the Interfaces and Directions on the Network Device, page C-41](#)
- [Enabling SSH Connections to the Network Device, page C-41](#)
- [Blocking Not Occurring for a Signature, page C-42](#)
- [Verifying the Master Blocking Sensor Configuration, page C-43](#)

## Troubleshooting Blocking

After you have configured ARC, you can verify if it is running properly by using the **show version** command. To verify that ARC is connecting to the network devices, use the **show statistics network-access** command.



**Note**

---

ARC was formerly known as Network Access Controller. Although the name has been changed since IPS 5.1, it still appears in IDM, IME, and the CLI as Network Access Controller, **nac**, and **network-access**.

---

To troubleshoot ARC, follow these steps:

1. Verify that ARC is running.
2. Verify that ARC is connecting to the network devices.
3. Verify that the Event Action is set to Block Host for specific signatures.
4. Verify that the master blocking sensor is properly configured.

### For More Information

- For the procedure to verify that ARC is running, see [Verifying ARC is Running, page C-37](#).
- For the procedure to verify that ARC is connecting, see [Verifying ARC Connections are Active, page C-37](#).
- For the procedure to verify that the Event Action is set to Block Host, see [Blocking Not Occurring for a Signature, page C-42](#).
- For the procedure to verify that the master blocking sensor is properly configured, see [Verifying the Master Blocking Sensor Configuration, page C-43](#).
- For a discussion of ARC architecture, see [Attack Response Controller, page A-12](#).

## Verifying ARC is Running

To verify that ARC is running, use the **show version** command. If MainApp is not running, ARC cannot run. ARC is part of MainApp. To verify that ARC is running, following these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Verify that MainApp is running:

```
sensor# show version
Application Partition:

Cisco Intrusion Prevention System, Version 6.0(1)E1.1

Host:
 Realm Keys key1.0
Signature Definition:
 Signature Update S294.0 2007-08-02
 Virus Update V1.2 2005-11-24
OS Version: 2.4.30-IDS-smp-bigphys
Platform: ASA-SSM-20
Serial Number: P300000220
No license present
Sensor up-time is 6 days.
Using 1026641920 out of 2093682688 bytes of available memory (49% usage)
system is using 17.8M out of 29.0M bytes of available disk space (61% usage)
application-data is using 38.4M out of 166.6M bytes of available disk space (24% usage)
boot is using 38.0M out of 68.5M bytes of available disk space (58% usage)

MainApp N-2007_SEP_20_16_44 (Release) 2007-09-20T17:10:01-0500 Running
AnalysisEngine N-2007_SEP_20_16_44 (Release) 2007-09-20T17:10:01-0500 Running
CLI N-2007_SEP_20_16_44 (Release) 2007-09-20T17:10:01-0500

Upgrade History:

 IPS-K9-6.0-1-E1.1 16:44:00 UTC Thu Sep 20 2007

Recovery Partition Version 1.1 - 6.0(1)E1.1

sensor#
```

**Step 3** If MainApp displays `Not Running`, ARC has failed. Contact the TAC.

### For More Information

For more information on IPS system architecture, see [Appendix A, “System Architecture.”](#)

## Verifying ARC Connections are Active

If the State is not `Active` in the ARC statistics, there is a problem. To verify that the State is `Active` in the statistics, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Verify that ARC is connecting by checking the State section of the output to verify that all devices are connecting:

```
sensor# show statistics network-access
```

```

Current Configuration
 LogAllBlockEventsAndSensors = true
 EnableNvramWrite = false
 EnableAclLogging = false
 AllowSensorBlock = false
 BlockMaxEntries = 250
 MaxDeviceInterfaces = 250
 NetDevice
 Type = Cisco
 IP = 10.89.147.54
 NATAddr = 0.0.0.0
 Communications = telnet
 BlockInterface
 InterfaceName = fa0/0
 InterfaceDirection = in
State
 BlockEnable = true
 NetDevice
 IP = 10.89.147.54
 AclSupport = uses Named ACLs
 Version = 12.2
 State = Active
sensor#

```

**Step 3** If ARC is not connecting, look for recurring errors:

```
sensor# show events error hh:mm:ss month day year | include : nac
```

Example:

```
sensor# show events error 00:00:00 Apr 01 2007 | include : nac
```

**Step 4** Make sure you have the latest software updates:

```

sensor# show version
Application Partition:

Cisco Intrusion Prevention System, Version 6.0(1)E1.1

Host:
 Realm Keys key1.0
Signature Definition:
 Signature Update S294.0 2007-08-02
 Virus Update V1.2 2005-11-24
OS Version: 2.4.30-IDS-smp-bigphys
Platform: ASA-SSM-20
Serial Number: P300000220
No license present
Sensor up-time is 6 days.
Using 1026641920 out of 2093682688 bytes of available memory (49% usage)
system is using 17.8M out of 29.0M bytes of available disk space (61% usage)
application-data is using 38.4M out of 166.6M bytes of available disk space (24% usage)
boot is using 38.0M out of 68.5M bytes of available disk space (58% usage)

MainApp N-2007_SEP_20_16_44 (Release) 2007-09-20T17:10:01-0500 Running
AnalysisEngine N-2007_SEP_20_16_44 (Release) 2007-09-20T17:10:01-0500 Running
CLI N-2007_SEP_20_16_44 (Release) 2007-09-20T17:10:01-0500

Upgrade History:

 IPS-K9-6.0-1-E1.1 16:44:00 UTC Thu Sep 20 2007

Recovery Partition Version 1.1 - 6.0(1)E1.1

```



```
sensor#
```




---

**Note** If you do not have the latest software updates, download them from Cisco.com.

---

- Step 5** Read the Readme that accompanies the software upgrade for any known DDTs for ARC.
  - Step 6** Make sure the configuration settings for each device are correct (the username, password, and IP address).
  - Step 7** Make sure the interface and directions for each network device are correct.
  - Step 8** If the network device is using SSH-DES or SSH-3DES, make sure that you have enabled SSH connections to the device.
  - Step 9** Verify that each interface and direction on each controlled device is correct.
- 

#### For More Information

- For the procedure for obtaining the latest Cisco IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).
- For more information about configuring devices, see [Device Access Issues, page C-39](#).
- For the procedure for verifying the interfaces and directions for each network device, see [Verifying the Interfaces and Directions on the Network Device, page C-41](#).
- For the procedure for enabling SSH, see [Enabling SSH Connections to the Network Device, page C-41](#).

## Device Access Issues

ARC may not be able to access the devices it is managing. Make sure the you have the correct IP address and username and password for the managed devices and the correct interface and direction configured.




---

**Note** SSH devices must support SSH 1.5. The sensor does not support SSH 2.0.

---

To troubleshoot device access issues, follow these steps:

---

- Step 1** Log in to the CLI.
- Step 2** Verify the IP address for the managed devices:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor (config)# service network-access
sensor(config-net)# show settings
general

log-all-block-events-and-errors: true <defaulted>
enable-nvram-write: false <defaulted>
enable-acl-logging: false <defaulted>
allow-sensor-block: false <defaulted>
block-enable: true <defaulted>
block-max-entries: 250 <defaulted>
max-interfaces: 250 <defaulted>
master-blocking-sensors (min: 0, max: 100, current: 0)
```

```

never-block-hosts (min: 0, max: 250, current: 0)

never-block-networks (min: 0, max: 250, current: 0)

block-hosts (min: 0, max: 250, current: 0)

block-networks (min: 0, max: 250, current: 0)

user-profiles (min: 0, max: 250, current: 1)

profile-name: r7200

enable-password: <hidden>
password: <hidden>
username: netrangr default:

cat6k-devices (min: 0, max: 250, current: 0)

router-devices (min: 0, max: 250, current: 1)

ip-address: 10.89.147.54

communication: telnet default: ssh-3des
nat-address: 0.0.0.0 <defaulted>
profile-name: r7200
block-interfaces (min: 0, max: 100, current: 1)

interface-name: fa0/0
direction: in

pre-acl-name: <defaulted>
post-acl-name: <defaulted>

firewall-devices (min: 0, max: 250, current: 0)

sensor(config-net)#

```

- Step 3** Manually connect to the device to make sure you have used the correct username, password, and enable password, and to ensure that the device is reachable from the sensor.
- Log in to the service account.
  - Telnet or SSH to the network device to verify the configuration.
  - Make sure you can reach the device.
  - Verify the username and password.
- Step 4** Verify that each interface and direction on each network device is correct.

**For More Information**

For the procedure for verifying the interfaces and directions for each network device, see [Verifying the Interfaces and Directions on the Network Device](#), page C-41.

## Verifying the Interfaces and Directions on the Network Device

To verify that each interface and direction on each controlled device is correct, you can send a manual block to a bogus host and then check to see if deny entries exist for the blocked addresses in the ACL of the router.

**Note**

To perform a manual block, choose **Configuration > sensor\_name > Sensor Monitoring > Time-Based Actions > Host Blocks**.

To initiate a manual block to a bogus host, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Enter ARC general submode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service network-access
sensor(config-net)# general
```

**Step 2** Start the manual block of the bogus host IP address:

```
sensor(config-net-gen)# block-hosts 10.16.0.0
```

**Step 3** Exit general submode:

```
sensor(config-net-gen)# exit
sensor(config-net)# exit
Apply Changes:? [yes]:
```

**Step 4** Press **Enter** to apply the changes or type **no** to discard them.

**Step 5** Telnet to the router and verify that a deny entry for the blocked address exists in the router ACL. Refer to the router documentation for the procedure.

**Step 6** Remove the manual block by repeating Steps 1 through 4 except in Step 2 place **no** in front of the command:

```
sensor(config-net-gen)# no block-hosts 10.16.0.0
```

## Enabling SSH Connections to the Network Device

If you are using SSH-DES or SSH-3DES as the communication protocol for the network device, you must make sure you have enabled it on the device. To enable SSH connections to the network device, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Enter configuration mode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
```

**Step 3** Enable SSH:

```
sensor(config)# ssh host blocking_device_ip_address
```

**Step 4** Type **yes** when prompted to accept the device.

## Blocking Not Occurring for a Signature

If blocking is not occurring for a specific signature, check that the event action is set to block the host. To make sure blocking is occurring for a specific signature, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Enter signature definition submode:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service signature-definition sig0
sensor(config-sig)#
```

**Step 3** Make sure the event action is set to block the host:



**Note** If you want to receive alerts, you must always add **produce-alert** any time you configure the event actions.

```
sensor(config-sig)# signatures 1300 0
sensor(config-sig-sig)# engine normalizer
sensor(config-sig-sig-nor)# event-action produce-alert|request-block-host
sensor(config-sig-sig-nor)# show settings
normalizer

event-action: produce-alert|request-block-host default: produce-alert|deny
-connection-inline
edit-default-sigs-only

default-signatures-only

specify-service-ports

no

specify-tcp-max-mss

no

specify-tcp-min-mss

no

--MORE--
```

**Step 4** Exit signature definition submode:

```
sensor(config-sig-sig-nor)# exit
```

```

sensor(config-sig-sig)# exit
sensor(config-sig)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]:

```

**Step 5** Press **Enter** to apply the changes or type **no** to discard them.

## Verifying the Master Blocking Sensor Configuration

To verify that a master blocking sensor is set up properly or to troubleshoot a master blocking sensor that is not set up properly, you can use the **show statistics network-access** command. Make sure that the forwarding sensor is set up as TLS trusted host if the remote master blocking sensor is using TLS for web access.

To verify a master blocking sensor configuration, follow these steps:

**Step 1** View the ARC statistics and verify that the master blocking sensor entries are in the statistics:

```

sensor# show statistics network-access
Current Configuration
 AllowSensorShun = false
 ShunMaxEntries = 250
 MasterBlockingSensor
 SensorIp = 10.89.149.46
 SensorPort = 443
 UseTls = 1
State
 ShunEnable = true
 ShunnedAddr
 Host
 IP = 122.122.122.44
 ShunMinutes = 60
 MinutesRemaining = 59

```

**Step 2** If the master blocking sensor does not show up in the statistics, you need to add it.

**Step 3** Initiate a manual block to a bogus host IP address to make sure the master blocking sensor is initiating blocks:

```

sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service network-access
sensor(config-net)# general
sensor(config-net-gen)# block-hosts 10.16.0.0

```

**Step 4** Exit network access general submode:

```

sensor(config-net-gen)# exit
sensor(config-net)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]:

```

**Step 5** Press **Enter** to apply the changes or type **no** to discard them.

**Step 6** Verify that the block shows up in the ARC statistics:

```

sensor# show statistics network-access
Current Configuration
 AllowSensorShun = false
 ShunMaxEntries = 100
State
 ShunEnable = true
 ShunnedAddr

```

```
Host
 IP = 10.16.0.0
 ShunMinutes =
```

- Step 7** Log in to the CLI of the master blocking sensor host, and using the **show statistics network-access** command, verify that the block also shows up in the master blocking sensor ARC statistics.

```
sensor# show statistics network-access
Current Configuration
 AllowSensorShun = false
 ShunMaxEntries = 250
 MasterBlockingSensor
 SensorIp = 10.89.149.46
 SensorPort = 443
 UseTls = 1
State
 ShunEnable = true
 ShunnedAddr
 Host
 IP = 10.16.0.0
 ShunMinutes = 60
 MinutesRemaining = 59
```

- Step 8** If the remote master blocking sensor is using TLS for web access, make sure the forwarding sensor is configured as a TLS host:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# tls trust ip master_blocking_sensor_ip_address
```

#### For More Information

For the procedure to configure the sensor to be a master blocking sensor, see [Configuring the Master Blocking Sensor, page 14-26](#).

## Logging

This section describes how to enable debug logging, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding Debug Logging, page C-44](#)
- [Enabling Debug Logging, page C-45](#)
- [Zone Names, page C-48](#)
- [Directing cidLog Messages to SysLog, page C-49](#)

## Understanding Debug Logging

TAC may suggest that you turn on debug logging for troubleshooting purposes. Logger controls what log messages are generated by each application by controlling the logging severity for different logging zones. By default, debug logging is not turned on.

If you enable individual zone control, each zone uses the level of logging that it is configured for. Otherwise, the same logging level is used for all zones.

## Enabling Debug Logging



### Caution

Enabling debug logging seriously affects performance and should only be done when instructed by TAC.

To enable debug logging, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Log in to the service account.
- Step 2** Edit the log.conf file to increase the size of the log to accommodate the additional log statements:
- ```
vi /usr/cids/idsRoot/etc/log.conf
```
- Step 3** Change fileMaxSizeInK=500 to fileMaxSizeInK=5000.
- Step 4** Locate the zone and CID section of the file and set the severity to debug:
- ```
severity=debug
```
- Step 5** Save the file, exit the vi editor, and exit the service account.
- Step 6** Log in to the CLI as administrator.
- Step 7** Enter master control submode:
- ```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service logger
sensor(config-log)# master-control
```
- Step 8** To enable debug logging for all zones:
- ```
sensor(config-log-mas)# enable-debug true
sensor(config-log-mas)# show settings
master-control

enable-debug: true default: false
individual-zone-control: false <defaulted>

sensor(config-log-mas)#
```
- Step 9** To turn on individual zone control:
- ```
sensor(config-log-mas)# individual-zone-control true
sensor(config-log-mas)# show settings
master-control
-----
enable-debug: true default: false
individual-zone-control: true default: false
-----
sensor(config-log-mas)#
```
- Step 10** Exit master zone control:
- ```
sensor(config-log-mas)# exit
```
- Step 11** View the zone names:
- ```
sensor(config-log)# show settings
master-control
-----
enable-debug: false <defaulted>
individual-zone-control: true default: false
-----
zone-control (min: 0, max: 999999999, current: 14)
```

```

-----
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: AuthenticationApp
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: Cid
    severity: debug <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: Cli
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: IdapiCtlTrans
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: IdsEventStore
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: MpInstaller
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: cmgr
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: cplane
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: csi
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: ctlTransSource
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: intf
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: nac
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: sensorApp
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: tls
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    -----
sensor(config-log)#

```

Step 12 Change the severity level (debug, timing, warning, or error) for a particular zone:

```

sensor(config-log)# zone-control IdsEventStore severity error
sensor(config-log)# show settings
master-control
-----
    enable-debug: true default: false
    individual-zone-control: true default: false
    -----
zone-control (min: 0, max: 999999999, current: 14)
-----
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: AuthenticationApp
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: Cid
    severity: debug <defaulted>
    <protected entry>

```



```

zone-name: Cli
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: IdapiCtlTrans
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: IdsEventStore
severity: error default: warning
<protected entry>
zone-name: MpInstaller
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: cmgr
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: cplane
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: csi
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: ctlTransSource
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: intfci
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: nac
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: sensorApp
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: tls
severity: warning <defaulted>

```

```
-----
sensor(config-log)#
```

Step 13 Turn on debugging for a particular zone:

```

sensor(config-log)# zone-control nac severity debug
sensor(config-log)# show settings
master-control
-----
enable-debug: true default: false
individual-zone-control: true default: false
-----
zone-control (min: 0, max: 999999999, current: 14)
-----
<protected entry>
zone-name: AuthenticationApp
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: Cid
severity: debug <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: Cli
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: IdapiCtlTrans
severity: warning <defaulted>
<protected entry>
zone-name: IdsEventStore
severity: error default: warning

```

```

    <protected entry>
    zone-name: MpInstaller
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: cmgr
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: cplane
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: csi
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: ctlTransSource
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: intfc
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: nac
    severity: debug default: warning
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: sensorApp
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    <protected entry>
    zone-name: tls
    severity: warning <defaulted>
    -----
sensor(config-log)#

```

Step 14 Exit the logger submode:

```

sensor(config-log)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]:

```

Step 15 Press **Enter** to apply changes or type **no** to discard them:

For More Information

For a list of what each zone name refers to, see [Zone Names, page C-48](#).

Zone Names

[Table C-2](#) lists the debug logger zone names:

Table C-2 *Debug Logger Zone Names*

Zone Name	Description
AuthenticationApp	Authentication zone
Cid	General logging zone
Cli	CLI zone
IdapiCtlTrans	All control transactions zone
IdsEventStore	Event Store zone
MpInstaller	IDS-2 master partition installer zone
cmgr	Card Manager service zone ¹

Table C-2 **Debug Logger Zone Names (continued)**

Zone Name	Description
cplane	Control Plane zone ²
csi	CIDS Servlet Interface ³
ctlTransSource	Outbound control transactions zone
intfc	Interface zone
nac	ARC zone
sensorApp	AnalysisEngine zone
tls	SSL and TLS zone

1. The Card Manager service is used on AIP-SSM to exchange control and state information between modules in the chassis.
2. The Control Plane is the transport communications layer used by Card Manager on AIP-SSM.
3. The CIDS servlet interface is the interface layer between the CIDS web server and the servlets.

For More Information

For more information on the IPS Logger service, see [Logger](#), page A-19.

Directing cidLog Messages to SysLog

It might be useful to direct cidLog messages to syslog.

To direct cidLog messages to syslog, follow these steps:

Step 1 Go to the `idsRoot/etc/log.conf` file.

Step 2 Make the following changes:

- a. Set `[logApp] enabled=false`

Comment out the `enabled=true` because `enabled=false` is the default.

- b. Set `[drain/main] type=syslog`

The following example shows the logging configuration file:

```
timemode=local
;timemode=utc

[logApp]
;enabled=true
;----- FIFO parameters -----
fifoName=logAppFifo
fifoSizeInK=240
;----- logApp zone and drain parameters -----
zoneAndDrainName=logApp
fileName=main.log
fileMaxSizeInK=500

[zone/Cid]
severity=warning
drain=main

[zone/IdsEventStore]
```

```
severity=debug
drain=main
```

```
[drain/main]
type=syslog
```

The syslog output is sent to the syslog facility local6 with the following correspondence to syslog message priorities:

```
LOG_DEBUG,          //   debug
LOG_INFO,           //   timing
LOG_WARNING,        //   warning
LOG_ERR,            //   error
LOG_CRIT            //   fatal
```



Note Make sure that your /etc/syslog.conf has that facility enabled at the proper priority.



Caution

The syslog is much slower than logApp (about 50 messages per second as opposed to 1000 or so). We recommend that you enable debug severity on one zone at a time.

TCP Reset Not Occurring for a Signature



Note

TCP Resets are not supported over MPLS links or the following tunnels: GRE, IPv4 in IPv4, IPv6 in IPv4, or IPv4 in IPv6.

If you do not have the event action set to reset, the TCP reset does not occur for a specific signature. To troubleshoot a reset not occurring for a specific signature, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the CLI.

Step 2 Make sure the event action is set to TCP reset:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service signature-definition sig0
sensor(config-sig)# signatures 1000 0
sensor(config-sig-sig)# engine atomic-ip
sensor(config-sig-sig-ato)# event-action reset-tcp-connection|produc-alert
sensor(config-sig-sig-ato)# show settings
atomic-ip
-----
event-action: produce-alert|reset-tcp-connection default: produce-alert
fragment-status: any <defaulted>
specify-l4-protocol
-----
no
-----
specify-ip-payload-length
-----
no
```

```

-----
-----
specify-ip-header-length
-----
no
-----
-----
specify-ip-tos
-----
--MORE--

```

Step 3 Exit signature definition submode:

```

sensor(config-sig-sig-ato)# exit
sensor(config-sig-sig)# exit
sensor(config-sig)# exit
Apply Changes:[yes]:

```

Step 4 Press **Enter** to apply the changes or type **no** to discard them.

Step 5 Make sure the correct alarms are being generated:

```

sensor# show events alert
evAlert: eventId=1047575239898467370 severity=medium
originator:
hostId: sj_4250_40
appName: sensorApp
appInstanceId: 1004
signature: sigId=20000 sigName=STRING.TCP subSigId=0 version=Unknown
addr: locality=OUT 172.16.171.19
port: 32771
victim:
addr: locality=OUT 172.16.171.13 port: 23
actions:
tcpResetSent: true

```

Step 6 Make sure the switch is allowing incoming TCP reset packet from the sensor. Refer to your switch documentation for more information.

Step 7 Make sure the resets are being sent:

```

root# ./tcpdump -i eth0 src host 172.16.171.19
tcpdump: WARNING: eth0: no IPv4 address assigned
tcpdump: listening on eth0
13:58:03.823929 172.16.171.19.32770 > 172.16.171.13.telnet: R 79:79(0) ack 62 win 0
13:58:03.823930 172.16.171.19.32770 > 172.16.171.13.telnet: R 80:80(0) ack 62 win 0
13:58:03.823930 172.16.171.19.32770 > 172.16.171.13.telnet: R 80:80(0) ack 62 win 0
13:58:03.823930 172.16.171.19.32770 > 172.16.171.13.telnet: R 80:80(0) ack 62 win 0

```

Software Upgrades

This section helps in troubleshooting software upgrades. It contains the following topics:

- [Upgrading from 5.x to 6.x, page C-52](#)
- [Which Updates to Apply and Their Prerequisites, page C-52](#)

- [Issues With Automatic Update, page C-53](#)
- [Updating a Sensor with the Update Stored on the Sensor, page C-54](#)

Upgrading from 5.x to 6.x

If you try to upgrade an IPS 5.x sensor to 6.x, you may receive an error that Analysis Engine is not running:

```
sensor# upgrade scp://user@10.1.1.1/updates/IPS-K9-6.0-1-E1.pkg
Password: *****
Warning: Executing this command will apply a major version upgrade to the application
partition. The system may be rebooted to complete the upgrade.
Continue with upgrade?: yes
Error: Analysis Engine is not running. Please reset box and attempt upgrade again.
```

If you receive this error, you must get Analysis Engine running before trying to upgrade again. This error is often caused by a defect in the currently running version. Try rebooting the sensor, and after reboot, run the **setup** command and remove the interfaces from the virtual sensor vs0. When it is not monitoring traffic, Analysis Engine usually stays up and running. You can upgrade to 6.x at this time. After the upgrade to IPS 6.x, add the interfaces back to the virtual sensor vs0 using the **setup** command.

Or you can use the system image file to reimage directly to IPS 6.x. You can reimage a 5.x sensor to 6.x because the reimage process does not check to see if Analysis Engine is running.



Caution

Reimaging using the system image file restores all configuration defaults.

For More Information

- For more information on running the **setup** command, see [Chapter 21, “Initializing the Sensor.”](#)
- For more information on reimaging your sensor, see [Chapter 24, “Upgrading, Downgrading, and Installing System Images.”](#)

Which Updates to Apply and Their Prerequisites

You must have the correct service pack and minor and major version of the software. If you are having trouble with applying new software, make sure that you are applying the proper updates with the proper prerequisites:

- Signature updates require the minimum version and engine version listed in the filename.
- Engine updates require the major or minor version in the engine update filename.
- Service packs require the correct minor version.
- Minor versions require the correct major version.
- Major versions require the previous major version.

For More Information

For more information on how to interpret the IPS software filenames, see [IPS Software Versioning, page 23-3](#).

Issues With Automatic Update

The following list provides suggestions for troubleshooting automatic updates:

- Run TCPDUMP
 - Create a service account. **Su** to root and run TCPDUMP on the command and control interface to capture packets between the sensor and the FTP server.
 - Use the **upgrade** command to manually upgrade the sensor.
 - Look at the TCPDUMP output for errors coming back from the FTP server.

- Make sure the sensor is in the correct directory.

The directory must be specified correctly. This has caused issues with Windows FTP servers. Sometimes an extra “/” or even two “/” are needed in front of the directory name.

To verify this, use the same FTP commands you see in the TCPDUMP output through your own FTP connection.

- You must use the Windows FTP server setup option to emulate UNIX file structure and not MS-DOS file structure.
- If you are using SCP, make sure you have added the SSH host key to the known hosts list.

Try the manual **upgrade** command before attempting the automatic update. If it works with the **upgrade** command and does not work with the automatic update, try the following:

- Determine which IPS software version your sensor has.
- Make sure the passwords are configured for automatic update. Make sure they match the same passwords used for manual update.
- Make sure that the filenames in the FTP server are exactly what you see on Downloads on Cisco.com. This includes capitalization.

Some Windows FTP servers allow access to the file with the incorrect capitalization but the sensor ultimately rejects the file because the name has changed.

- If necessary, run TCPDUMP on automatic update. You can compare the successful manual update with the unsuccessful automatic update and troubleshoot from there.

For More Information

- For the procedure for creating the service account, see [Creating the Service Account, page C-5](#).
- For the procedure for reimaging your sensor, see [Chapter 24, “Upgrading, Downgrading, and Installing System Images.”](#)
- For the procedure for adding hosts to the SSH known hosts list, see [Defining Known Host Keys, page 13-6](#).
- For the procedure for determining the software version, see [Displaying Version Information, page C-76](#).

Updating a Sensor with the Update Stored on the Sensor

You can store the update package in the /var directory on the sensor and update the sensor from there if you need to. To update the sensor with an update stored on the sensor, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the service account.

Step 2 Obtain the update package file from Cisco.com.

Step 3 FTP or SCP the update file to the sensor /usr/cids/idsRoot/var directory.

Step 4 Set the file permissions:

```
chmod 644 ips_package_file_name
```

Step 5 Exit the service account.

Step 6 Log in to the sensor using an account with administrator privileges.

Step 7 Store the sensor host key:

```
sensor# configure terminal
sensor(config)# service ssh
sensor(config-ssh)# rsa1-keys sensor_ip_address
```

Step 8 Upgrade the sensor:

```
sensor(config)# upgrade scp://service@sensor_ip_address/upgrade/ips_package_file_name
Enter password: *****
Re-enter password: *****
```

For More Information

For the procedure for obtaining Cisco IPS software, see [Obtaining Cisco IPS Software, page 23-1](#).

Troubleshooting IDM



Note

These procedures also apply to the IPS section of ASDM.



Note

After you upgrade any IPS software on your sensor, you must restart the IDM to see the latest software features.

This section contains troubleshooting procedures for IDM. It contains the following topics:

- [Cannot Launch IDM - Loading Java Applet Failed, page C-55](#)
- [Cannot Launch IDM-Analysis Engine Busy, page C-55](#)
- [IDM, Remote Manager, or Sensing Interfaces Cannot Access Sensor, page C-56](#)
- [Signatures Not Producing Alerts, page C-57](#)

Cannot Launch IDM - Loading Java Applet Failed

Symptom The browser displays Loading Cisco IDM. Please wait ... At the bottom left corner of the window, Loading Java Applet Failed is displayed.

Possible Cause This condition can occur if multiple Java Plug-ins (1.4.x and/or 1.3.x) are installed on the machine on which you are launching the IDM.

Recommended Action Clear the Java cache and remove temp files and clear history in the browser you are using. The result is that neither of these plug-ins will be used by default and each applet should use the correct plug-in.

To clear the cache, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Close all browser windows.
- Step 2** If you have Java Plug-in 1.3.x installed:
- Click **Start > Settings > Control Panel > Java Plug-in 1.3.x**.
 - Click the **Advanced** tab.
 - Under Java Runtime Environment, select **JRE 1.3.x** from the drop-down menu.
 - Click the **Cache** tab.
 - Click **Clear**.
- Step 3** If you have Java Plug-in 1.4.x installed:
- Click **Start > Settings > Control Panel > Java Plug-in 1.4.x**.
 - Click the **Advanced** tab.
 - Under Java Runtime Environment, select **JRE 1.3.x** from the drop-down menu.
 - Click the **Cache** tab.
 - Click the **Browser** tab.
 - Deselect all browser check boxes.
 - Click **Clear Cache**.
- Step 4** Delete the temp files and clear the history in the browser.
-

Cannot Launch IDM-Analysis Engine Busy

Error Message Error connecting to sensor. Failed to load sensor-errNotAvailable-Analysis Engine is busy. Exiting IDM.

Possible Cause This condition can occur if the Analysis Engine in the sensor is busy getting ready to perform a task and so does not respond to IDM.

Recommended Action Wait for a while and try again to connect.

IDM, Remote Manager, or Sensing Interfaces Cannot Access Sensor

If IDM, a remote manager, or sensing interfaces cannot access the sensor, but you can access the sensor CLI using SSH or Telnet (if enabled), follow these steps:

- Step 1** Make sure the network configuration allows access to the web server port that is configured on the sensor:

```
sensor# setup
```

```
--- System Configuration Dialog ---
```

```
At any point you may enter a question mark '?' for help.
User ctrl-c to abort configuration dialog at any prompt.
Default settings are in square brackets '[]'.
```

```
Current Configuration:
```

```
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.89.130.108/23,10.89.130.1
host-name sensor
telnet-option enabled
access-list 0.0.0.0/0
ftp-timeout 300
no login-banner-text
exit
time-zone-settings
offset 0
standard-time-zone-name UTC
exit
summertime-option disabled
ntp-option disabled
exit
service web-server
port 443
exit
```

- Step 2** If network devices, such as routers, switches, or firewalls, are between the sensor and the workstation, make sure these devices are configured to allow the workstation to access the sensor web server port. All remote management communication is performed by the sensor web server.

For More Information

For the procedure for enabling and disabling Telnet on the sensor, and configuring the web server, see [Configuring Network Settings, page 6-1](#).

Signatures Not Producing Alerts

If you are not seeing any alerts when signatures are firing, make sure that you have configured Produce Alert as an event action.

**Caution**

You cannot add other actions each time you configure the event actions. You are actually replacing the list of event actions every time you configure it, so make sure you choose Produce Alert every time you configure event actions.

For example, if you choose Produce Alert, but later add another event action and do not add Produce Alert to the new configuration, alerts are not sent to the Event Store. To make sure you are getting alerts, check the statistics for the virtual sensor and Event Store.

For More Information

- For more information about event actions, see [Event Actions, page 11-8](#).
- For the procedure for configuring event actions, see [Assigning Actions to Signatures, page 9-17](#).
- For the procedure for obtaining statistics about virtual sensor and Event Store, see [Viewing Statistics, page 18-29](#).

Troubleshooting IME

This section describes troubleshooting tools for IME, and contains the following sections:

- [Time Synchronization on IME and the Sensor, page C-57](#)
- [Not Supported Error Message, page C-58](#)

Time Synchronization on IME and the Sensor

Symptom IME displays `No Data Available` on the Events dashboard. A historical query does not return any events; however, events are coming in to IME and they appear in the real-time event viewer.

Possible Cause The time is not synchronized between the sensor and the IME local server. The IME dashboards use a time relative to the IME local time. If these times are not synchronized, the query does not return any results. When you add a sensor to IME, it checks for the time synchronization and warns you to correct it if it is in wrong. IME also displays a clock warning in Home > Devices > Device List to warn you about problems with synchronization.

Recommended Action Change the time settings on the sensor or IME local server. In most cases, the time change is required for the sensor because it is configured with the incorrect or default time.

For More Information

- For more information on time and the sensor, see [Time Sources and the Sensor, page C-16](#).
- For the procedure for changing the time on the sensor, see [Correcting Time on the Sensor, page C-18](#).

Not Supported Error Message

Symptom IME displays `Not Supported` in the device list table and in some gadgets, and no data is included.

Possible Cause Click **Details** to see an explanation for this message. IME needs IPS 6.1 or later to obtain certain information. IME still operates with event monitoring and reporting for IPS 5.0 and later and specific IOS IPS versions, but some functions, such as health information and integrated configuration, are not available.

Recommended Action Upgrade to IPS 6.1.

Troubleshooting IDSM-2



Note

IDSM-2 has the same software architecture as the 4200 series sensors. You can use the same troubleshooting tools as outlined in [Troubleshooting the 4200 Series Appliance, page C-22](#).

This section pertains specifically to troubleshooting IDSM-2. It contains the following topics:

- [Diagnosing IDSM-2 Problems, page C-58](#)
- [Minimum Supported IDSM-2 Configurations, page C-59](#)
- [Switch Commands for Troubleshooting, page C-60](#)
- [Status LED Off, page C-60](#)
- [Status LED On But IDSM-2 Does Not Come Online, page C-62](#)
- [Cannot Communicate With IDSM-2 Command and Control Port, page C-63](#)
- [Using the TCP Reset Interface, page C-64](#)
- [Connecting a Serial Cable to IDSM-2, page C-65](#)

Diagnosing IDSM-2 Problems

Use the following list to diagnose IDSM-2 problems:

- The ribbon cable between IDSM-2 and the motherboard is loose.
During physical handling of the module, the connector can come loose from the base card, and cause the daughter card and the base card to lose contact with each other. A loose ribbon cable connector causes an on-line diagnostic error on ports 7 and 8. The module cannot operate when this condition exists. For more information, refer to Partner Field Notice 29877.
- Some IDSM-2s were shipped with faulty DIMMs. For the procedure for checking IDSM-2 for faulty memory, refer to Partner Field Notice 29837.
- The hard-disk drive fails to read or write. When the hard-disk drive has been in constant use for extended periods of time (for more than 2 weeks), multiple symptoms, such as the following, can occur:
 - An inability to log in

- I/O errors to the console when doing read/write operations (the **ls** command)
- Commands do not execute properly (cannot find the path to the executable)

The switch reports that the module is ok, but if you log in to the Service account and try to execute commands, you see that the problem exists. The 4.1(4) service pack alleviates this problem, but if you reimage IDSM-2 with the 4.1(4) application partition image, you must apply the 4.1(4b) patch. For more information, refer to CSCef12198.

- SensorApp either crashes or takes 99% of the CPU when IP logging is enabled for stream-based signatures (1300 series). For the workaround, refer to CSCed32093.
- IDSM-2 appears to lock up and remote access is prohibited (SSH, Telnet, IDM, Event Server, Control Transaction Server, and IP log Server). This defect is related to using SWAP. IDSM-2 responds to pings. Apply the 4.1(4) service pack to resolve this issue. For more information, refer to CSCed54146.
- Shortly after you upgrade IDSM-2 or you tune a signature with VMS, IDSM-2 becomes unresponsive and often produces a SensorApp core file. Apply the 4.1(4b) patch to fix this issue.
- Confirm that IDSM-2 has the supported configurations.

If you have confirmed that IDSM-2 does not suffer from any of the problems listed above and yet it appears unresponsive, for example, you cannot log in through SSH or Telnet, nor can you session to the switch, determine if IDSM-2 responds to pings and if you can log in through the service account. If you can log in, obtain a cidDump and any core files and contact TAC.

For More Information

- For information about the Bug Toolkit and how to access it, see [Bug Toolkit, page C-1](#).
- For a table listing the supported IDSM-2 configurations, see [Minimum Supported IDSM-2 Configurations, page C-59](#).

Minimum Supported IDSM-2 Configurations



Note

The following matrix is not intended to recommend any particular version, but rather lists the earliest supported versions.

[Table C-3](#) lists the minimum supported configurations for IDSM-2.

Table C-3 Minimum Catalyst 6500 Software Version for IDSM-2 Feature Support

Catalyst/IDSM-2 Feature	Catalyst Software				Cisco IOS Software			
	Sup1	Sup2	Sup32	Sup720	Sup1	Sup2	Sup32	Sup720
SPAN	7.5(1)	7.5(1)	8.4(1)	8.1(1)	12.1(19)E1	12.1(19)E1 12.2(18)SXF1	12.2(18)SXF1	12.2(14)SX1
VACL capture ¹	7.5(1)	7.5(1)	8.4(1)	8.1(1)	12.1(19)E1	12.1(19)E1 12.2(18)SXF1	12.2(18)SXF1	12.2(14)SX1
ECLB with VACL capture ²	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	N/A	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF1	12.2(18)SXE1
Inline interface pairs	8.4(1)	8.4(1)	8.4(1)	8.4(1)	N/A	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXE1

Table C-3 Minimum Catalyst 6500 Software Version for IDSM-2 Feature Support (continued)

Catalyst/IDSM-2 Feature	Catalyst Software				Cisco IOS Software			
ECLB with inline interface pairs	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	N/A	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4
Inline VLAN pairs	8.4(1)	8.4(1)	8.4(1)	8.4(1)	N/A	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4
ECLB with inline VLAN pairs	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	8.5(1)	N/A	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4	12.2(18)SXF4

1. Requires PFC2/3 or MSFC2/3.
2. Requires PFC2/3 or MSFC2/3.

Switch Commands for Troubleshooting

The following switch commands help you troubleshoot IDSM-2:

- **show module** (Catalyst software and Cisco IOS software)
- **show version** (Catalyst software and Cisco IOS software)
- **show port** (Catalyst software)
- **show trunk** (Catalyst software)
- **show span** (Catalyst software)
- **show security acl** (Catalyst software)
- **show intrusion-detection module** (Cisco IOS software)
- **show monitor** (Cisco IOS software)
- **show vlan access-map** (Cisco IOS software)
- **show vlan filter** (Cisco IOS software)

Status LED Off

If the status indicator is off on IDSM-2, you need to turn power on to IDSM-2.

To determine the status of IDSM-2, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the console.

Step 2 Verify that IDSM-2 is online:

For Catalyst Software:

```
console> enable
```

```
Enter password:
```

```
console> (enable) show module
```

Mod	Slot	Ports	Module-Type	Model	Sub Status
1	1	2	1000BaseX Supervisor	WS-X6K-SUP1A-2GE	yes ok
15	1	1	Multilayer Switch Feature	WS-F6K-MSFC	no ok
2	2	48	10/100BaseTX Ethernet	WS-X6248-RJ-45	no ok
3	3	48	10/100/1000BaseT Ethernet	WS-X6548-GE-TX	no ok
4	4	16	1000BaseX Ethernet	WS-X6516A-GBIC	no ok
6	6	8	Intrusion Detection Mod	WS-SVC-IDSM2	yes ok

```

Mod Module-Name          Serial-Num
-----
1          SAD041308AN
15         SAD04120BRB
2          SAD03475400
3          SAD073906RC
4          SAL0751QYN0
6          SAD062004LV

Mod MAC-Address(es)      Hw      Fw      Sw
-----
1  00-d0-c0-cc-0e-d2 to 00-d0-c0-cc-0e-d3 3.1      5.3.1    8.4(1)
   00-d0-c0-cc-0e-d0 to 00-d0-c0-cc-0e-d1
   00-30-71-34-10-00 to 00-30-71-34-13-ff
15 00-30-7b-91-77-b0 to 00-30-7b-91-77-ef 1.4      12.1(23)E2 12.1(23)E2
2  00-30-96-2b-c7-2c to 00-30-96-2b-c7-5b 1.1      4.2(0.24)V 8.4(1)
3  00-0d-29-f6-01-98 to 00-0d-29-f6-01-c7 5.0      7.2(1)     8.4(1)
4  00-0e-83-af-15-48 to 00-0e-83-af-15-57 1.0      7.2(1)     8.4(1)
6  00-e0-b0-ff-3b-80 to 00-e0-b0-ff-3b-87 0.102    7.2(0.67) 5.0(0.30)

Mod Sub-Type              Sub-Model          Sub-Serial  Sub-Hw  Sub-Sw
-----
1  L3 Switching Engine    WS-F6K-PFC        SAD041303G6 1.1
6  IDS 2 accelerator board WS-SVC-IDSUPG     .          2.0
console> (enable)

```

For Cisco IOS software:

```

router# show module
Mod Ports Card Type              Model              Serial No.
-----
1   48  48 port 10/100 mb RJ-45 ethernet  WS-X6248-RJ-45    SAD0401012S
2   48  48 port 10/100 mb RJ45          WS-X6348-RJ-45    SAL04483QBL
3   48  SFM-capable 48 port 10/100/1000mb RJ45 WS-X6548-GE-TX    SAD073906GH
5    8  Intrusion Detection System        WS-SVC-IDS-M-2    SAD0751059U
6   16  SFM-capable 16 port 1000mb GBIC    WS-X6516A-GBIC    SAL0740MMYJ
7    2  Supervisor Engine 720 (Active)      WS-SUP720-3BXL    SAD08320L2T
9    1  1 port 10-Gigabit Ethernet Module  WS-X6502-10GE     SAD071903BT
11   8  Intrusion Detection System          WS-SVC-IDS-M-2    SAD05380608
13   8  Intrusion Detection System          WS-SVC-IDS-M-2    SAD072405D8

Mod MAC addresses      Hw      Fw      Sw      Status
-----
1  00d0.d328.e2ac to 00d0.d328.e2db 1.1      4.2(0.24)VAI 8.5(0.46)ROC Ok
2  0003.6c14.e1d0 to 0003.6c14.e1ff 1.4      5.4(2)       8.5(0.46)ROC Ok
3  000d.29f6.7a80 to 000d.29f6.7aaf 5.0      7.2(1)       8.5(0.46)ROC Ok
5  0003.fead.651a to 0003.fead.6521 4.0      7.2(1)       5.0(1.1)     Ok
6  000d.ed23.1658 to 000d.ed23.1667 1.0      7.2(1)       8.5(0.46)ROC Ok
7  0011.21a1.1398 to 0011.21a1.139b 4.0      8.1(3)       12.2(PIKESPE Ok
9  000d.29c1.41bc to 000d.29c1.41bc 1.3      Unknown      Unknown      PwrDown
11 00e0.b0ff.3340 to 00e0.b0ff.3347 0.102    7.2(0.67)    5.0(1.1)     Ok
13 0003.feab.c850 to 0003.feab.c857 4.0      7.2(1)       5.0(1)       Ok

Mod Sub-Module          Model              Serial          Hw      Status
-----
5  IDS 2 accelerator board WS-SVC-IDSUPG     07E91E508A     2.0     Ok
7  Policy Feature Card 3   WS-F6K-PFC3BXL   SAD083305A1     1.3     Ok
7  MSFC3 Daughterboard    WS-SUP720        SAD083206JX     2.1     Ok
11 IDS 2 accelerator board WS-SVC-IDSUPG     .              2.0     Ok
13 IDS 2 accelerator board WS-SVC-IDSUPG     0347331976     2.0     Ok

Mod Online Diag Status
-----

```

```

1 Pass
2 Pass
3 Pass
5 Pass
6 Pass
7 Pass
9 Unknown
11 Pass
13 Pass
router#

```



Note

It is normal for the status to read `other` when IDSM-2 is first installed. After IDSM-2 completes the diagnostics routines and comes online, the status reads `ok`. Allow up to 5 minutes for IDSM-2 to come online.

Step 3 If the status does not read `ok`, turn the module on:

```
router# set module power up module_number
```

Status LED On But IDSM-2 Does Not Come Online

If the status indicator is on, but IDSM-2 does not come online, try the following troubleshooting tips:

- Reset IDSM-2.
- Make sure IDSM-2 is installed properly in the switch.
- If the hard-disk drive status has failed, reimage the application partition.

To enable IDSM-2, follow these steps:

Step 1 Log in to the console.

Step 2 Make sure IDSM-2 is enabled:

```
router# show module
```

Step 3 If the status does not read `ok`, enable IDSM-2:

```
router# set module enable module_number
```

Step 4 If IDSM-2 still does not come online, reset it:

```
router# reset module_number
```

Wait for about 5 minutes for IDSM-2 to come online.

Step 5 If IDSM-2 still does not come online, make sure the hardware and operating system are ok:

```
router# show test module_number
```


- Step 6** If the `port` status reads `fail`, make sure IDSM-2 is firmly connected in the switch.
- Step 7** If the `hdd` status reads `fail`, you must reimage the application partition.

For More Information

For the procedure for reimaging the application partition, see [Chapter 24, “Upgrading, Downgrading, and Installing System Images.”](#)

Cannot Communicate With IDSM-2 Command and Control Port

If you cannot communicate with the IDSM-2 command and control port, the command and control port may not be in the correct VLAN. To communicate with the command and control port of IDSM-2, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to the console.
- Step 2** Make sure you can ping the command port from any other system.
- Step 3** Make sure the IP address, mask, and gateway settings are correct:
- ```
router# show configuration
```
- Step 4** Make sure the command and control port is in the correct VLAN:

For Catalyst software:

```
console> (enable) show port 6/8
* = Configured MAC Address
```

```
= 802.1X Authenticated Port Name.
```

| Port | Name | Status    | Vlan  | Duplex | Speed | Type |
|------|------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|------|
| 6/8  |      | connected | trunk | full   | 1000  | IDS  |

| Port | Status    | ErrDisable Reason | Port ErrDisableTimeout | Action on Timeout |
|------|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 6/8  | connected | -                 | Enable                 | No Change         |

| Port | Align-Err | FCS-Err | Xmit-Err | Rcv-Err | UnderSize |
|------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|
| 6/8  | 0         | 0       | 0        | 0       | 0         |

| Port | Single-Col | Multi-Coll | Late-Coll | Excess-Col | Carri-Sen | Runts | Giants |
|------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------|--------|
| 6/8  | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0     | -      |

| Port | Last-Time-Cleared        |
|------|--------------------------|
| 6/8  | Wed Mar 2 2005, 15:29:49 |

```
Idle Detection

```

```
--
console> (enable)
```

For Cisco IOS software:

```
router#show intrusion-detection module 5 management-port state
Intrusion-detection module 5 management-port:

Switchport: Enabled
Administrative Mode: dynamic desirable
Operational Mode: static access
Administrative Trunking Encapsulation: negotiate
Operational Trunking Encapsulation: native
Negotiation of Trunking: On
Access Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Trunking Native Mode VLAN: 1 (default)
Trunking VLANs Enabled: ALL
Pruning VLANs Enabled: 2-1001
Vlans allowed on trunk:1
Vlans allowed and active in management domain: 1
Vlans in spanning tree forwarding state and not pruned:
 1
Access Vlan = 1

router#
```

**Step 5** If the command and control port is not in the correct VLAN, put it in the correct VLAN.

---

#### For More Information

For the procedure for configuring the switch for command and control access to IDSM-2, refer to [Configuring the Catalyst 6500 Series Switch for Command and Control Access to IDSM-2](#).

## Using the TCP Reset Interface

The IDSM2 has a TCP reset interface—port 1. The IDSM2 has a specific TCP reset interface because it cannot send TCP resets on its sensing ports.

If you have reset problems with the IDSM2, and the switch is running Catalyst software, try the following:

- If the sensing ports are access ports (a single VLAN), you need to configure the reset port to be in the same VLAN.
- If the sensing ports are dot1q trunk ports (multi-VLAN), the sensing ports and reset port all must have the same native VLAN, and the reset port must trunk all the VLANs being trunked by both the sensing ports.



#### Note

In Cisco IOS when the IDSM2 is in promiscuous mode, the IDSM2 ports are always dot1q trunk ports (even when monitoring only 1 VLAN), and the TCP reset port is automatically set to a trunk port and is not configurable.

---

#### For More Information

For more information about IDSM-2 and TCP reset, refer to [Configuring IDSM-2](#).

## Connecting a Serial Cable to IDSM-2

You can connect a serial cable directly to the serial console port on IDSM-2. This lets you bypass the switch and module network interfaces. To connect a serial cable to IDSM-2, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Locate the two RJ-45 ports on IDSM-2.
- You can find them approximately in the center of the mother board. If you are facing the module faceplate, the RJ-45 port on the right is the serial console port.
- Step 2** Connect a straight-through cable to the right port on IDSM-2, and then connect the other end of the cable to a terminal server port.
- Step 3** Configure the terminal server port to be 19200 baud, 8 bits, no parity.
- You can now log directly in to IDSM-2.



### Note

Connecting a serial cable to IDSM-2 works only if there is no module located above IDSM-2 in the switch chassis, because the cable has to come out through the front of the chassis.

---

## Troubleshooting AIP-SSM



### Note

AIP-SSM has the same software architecture as the 4200 series sensors. You can use the same troubleshooting tools as outlined in [Troubleshooting the 4200 Series Appliance, page C-22](#).

---

The following section contains information for troubleshooting AIP-SSM, and contains the following topics:

- [Health and Status Information, page C-65](#)
- [Failover Scenarios, page C-67](#)
- [AIP-SSM and the Data Plane, page C-69](#)
- [AIM-IPS and the Normalizer Engine, page C-69](#)
- [TCP Reset Differences Between IPS Appliances and AIP-SSM, page C-70](#)

## Health and Status Information

To see the general health of AIP-SSM, use the **show module 1 details** command:

```
asa# show module 1 details
Getting details from the Service Module, please wait...
ASA 5500 Series Security Services Module-20
Model: ASA-SSM-20
Hardware version: 0.2
Serial Number: P2B000005D0
Firmware version: 1.0(10)0
Software version: 5.1(0.1)S153.0
Status: Up
Mgmt IP addr: 10.89.149.219
```

```
Mgmt web ports: 443
Mgmt TLS enabled: true
asa#
```

The output shows that AIP-SSM is up. If the status reads `Down`, you can reset AIP-SSM using the **hw-module module 1 reset** command:

```
asa# hw-module module 1 reset
The module in slot 1 should be shut down before
resetting it or loss of configuration may occur.
Reset module in slot 1? [confirm]
Reset issued for module in slot 1
asa(config)# show module
```

| Mod | Card Type                                   | Model      | Serial No.  |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 0   | ASA 5520 Adaptive Security Appliance        | ASA5520    | P2A00000014 |
| 1   | ASA 5500 Series Security Services Module-10 | ASA-SSM-10 | P2A0000067U |

| Mod | MAC Address Range                | Hw Version | Fw Version | Sw Version     |
|-----|----------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| 0   | 000b.fcf8.7bdc to 000b.fcf8.7be0 | 0.2        | 1.0(10)0   | 7.0(1)         |
| 1   | 000b.fcf8.0176 to 000b.fcf8.0176 | 0.2        | 1.0(10)0   | 5.1(0.1)S153.0 |

```
Mod Status

0 Up Sys
1 Shutting Down

asa(config)# show module
```

| Mod | Card Type                                   | Model      | Serial No.  |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 0   | ASA 5520 Adaptive Security Appliance        | ASA5520    | P2A00000014 |
| 1   | ASA 5500 Series Security Services Module-10 | ASA-SSM-10 | P2A0000067U |

| Mod | MAC Address Range                | Hw Version | Fw Version | Sw Version     |
|-----|----------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| 0   | 000b.fcf8.7bdc to 000b.fcf8.7be0 | 0.2        | 1.0(10)0   | 7.0(1)         |
| 1   | 000b.fcf8.0176 to 000b.fcf8.0176 | 0.2        | 1.0(10)0   | 5.1(0.1)S153.0 |

```
Mod Status

0 Up Sys
1 Up
asa(config)#
```

If you have problems with recovering AIP-SSM, use the **debug module-boot** command to see the output as AIP-SSM boots. Make sure you have the correct IP address for the TFTP server and you have the correct file on the TFTP server. Then use the **hw-module module 1 recover** command again to recover AIP-SSM:

```
asa(config)# hw-module module 1 recover configure
Image URL [tftp://0.0.0.0/]: tftp://10.89.146.1/IPS-SSM-K9-sys-1.1-a-5.1-0.1.i$
Port IP Address [0.0.0.0]: 10.89.150.227
VLAN ID [0]:
Gateway IP Address [0.0.0.0]: 10.89.149.254
asa(config)# debug module-boot
debug module-boot enabled at level 1
asa(config)# hw-module module 1 recover boot
The module in slot 1 will be recovered. This may erase all configuration and all data on
that device and attempt to download a new image for it.
Recover module in slot 1? [confirm]
```

```

Recover issued for module in slot 1
asa(config)# Slot-1 140> Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(10)0) #0: Fri Mar 25 23:02:10
PST 2005
Slot-1 141> Platform ASA-SSM-10
Slot-1 142> GigabitEthernet0/0
Slot-1 143> Link is UP
Slot-1 144> MAC Address: 000b.fcf8.0176
Slot-1 145> ROMMON Variable Settings:
Slot-1 146> ADDRESS=10.89.150.227
Slot-1 147> SERVER=10.89.146.1
Slot-1 148> GATEWAY=10.89.149.254
Slot-1 149> PORT=GigabitEthernet0/0
Slot-1 150> VLAN=untagged
Slot-1 151> IMAGE=IPS-SSM-K9-sys-1.1-a-5.1-0.1.img
Slot-1 152> CONFIG=
Slot-1 153> LINKTIMEOUT=20
Slot-1 154> PKTTIMEOUT=4
Slot-1 155> RETRY=20
Slot-1 156> tftp IPS-SSM-K9-sys-1.1-a-5.1-0.1.img@10.89.146.1 via 10.89.149.254
Slot-1 157> TFTP failure: Packet verify failed after 20 retries
Slot-1 158> Rebooting due to Autoboot error ...
Slot-1 159> Rebooting....
Slot-1 160> Cisco Systems ROMMON Version (1.0(10)0) #0: Fri Mar 25 23:02:10 PST 2005
Slot-1 161> Platform ASA-SSM-10
Slot-1 162> GigabitEthernet0/0
Slot-1 163> Link is UP
Slot-1 164> MAC Address: 000b.fcf8.0176
Slot-1 165> ROMMON Variable Settings:
Slot-1 166> ADDRESS=10.89.150.227
Slot-1 167> SERVER=10.89.146.1
Slot-1 168> GATEWAY=10.89.149.254
Slot-1 169> PORT=GigabitEthernet0/0
Slot-1 170> VLAN=untagged
Slot-1 171> IMAGE=IPS-SSM-K9-sys-1.1-a-5.1-0.1.img
Slot-1 172> CONFIG=
Slot-1 173> LINKTIMEOUT=20
Slot-1 174> PKTTIMEOUT=4
Slot-1 175> RETRY=20
Slot-1 176> tftp IPS-SSM-K9-sys-1.1-a-5.1-0.1.img@10.89.146.1 via 10.89.149.254

```

## Failover Scenarios

The following failover scenarios apply to the ASA in the event of configuration changes, signature/signature engine updates, service packs, and SensorApp crashes on the AIP-SSM.

### Single ASA in Fail-Open Mode

- If the ASA is configured in fail-open mode for the AIP-SSM, and the AIP-SSM experiences a configuration change or signature/signature engine update, traffic is passed through the ASA without being inspected.
- If the ASA is configured in fail-open mode for the AIP-SSM, and the AIP-SSM experiences a SensorApp crash or a service pack upgrade, traffic is passed through the ASA without being inspected.

### Single ASA in Fail-Close Mode

- If the ASA is configured in fail-close mode for the AIP-SSM, and the AIP-SSM experiences a configuration change or a signature/signature engine update, traffic is stopped from passing through the ASA.
- If the ASA is configured in fail-close mode for the AIP-SSM, and the AIP-SSM experiences a SensorApp crash or a service pack upgrade, traffic is stopped from passing through the ASA.

### Two ASAs in Fail-Open Mode

- If the ASAs are configured in fail-open mode and if the AIP-SSM on the active ASA experiences a configuration change or a signature/signature engine update, traffic is still passed through the active ASA without being inspected. Failover is not triggered.
- If the ASAs are configured in fail-open mode, and if the AIP-SSM on the active ASA experiences a SensorApp crash or a service pack upgrade, failover is triggered and traffic passes through the AIP-SSM that was previously the standby module.

### Two ASAs in Fail-Close Mode

- If the ASAs are configured in fail-close mode, and if the AIP-SSM on the active ASA experiences a configuration change or a signature/signature engine update, traffic is stopped from passing through the active ASA. No failover is triggered.
- If the ASAs are configured in fail-close mode, and if the AIP-SSM on the active ASA experiences a SensorApp crash or a service pack upgrade, failover is triggered and traffic passes through the module that was previously the standby for the AIP-SSM.

### Configuration Examples

Use the following configuration for the primary ASA:

```
interface GigabitEthernet0/7
 description LAN Failover Interface

failover
failover lan unit primary
failover lan interface folink GigabitEthernet0/7
failover interface ip folink 172.27.48.1 255.255.255.0 standby 172.27.48.2
```

Use the following configuration for the secondary ASA:

```
interface GigabitEthernet0/7
 description LAN Failover Interface

failover
failover lan unit secondary
failover lan interface folink GigabitEthernet0/7
failover interface ip folink 172.27.48.1 255.255.255.0 standby 172.27.48.2
```

## AIP-SSM and the Data Plane

**Symptom** The AIP-SSM data plane is kept in the Up state while applying signature updates. You can check the AIP-SSM data plane status by using the **show module** command during signature updates.

**Possible Cause** Bypass mode is set to off. The issue is seen when updating signatures, and when you use either CSM or IDM to apply signature updates. This issue is not seen when upgrading IPS system software.

## AIM-IPS and the Normalizer Engine

The majority of the features in the Normalizer engine are not used on the AIP-SSM, because the ASA itself handles the normalization. Packets on the ASA IPS modules go through a special path in the Normalizer that only reassembles fragments and puts packets in the right order for the TCP stream. The Normalizer does not do any of the normalization that is done on an inline IPS appliance, because that causes problems in the way the ASA handles the packets.

The following Normalizer engine signatures are not supported:

- 1300.0
- 1304.0
- 1305.0
- 1307.0
- 1308.0
- 1309.0
- 1311.0
- 1315.0
- 1316.0
- 1317.0
- 1330.0
- 1330.1
- 1330.2
- 1330.9
- 1330.10
- 1330.12
- 1330.14
- 1330.15
- 1330.16
- 1330.17
- 1330.18

#### For More Information

For detailed information on the Normalizer engine, see [Normalizer Engine, page B-22](#).

## TCP Reset Differences Between IPS Appliances and AIP-SSM

The IPS appliance sends TCP reset packets to both the attacker and victim when reset-tcp-connection is selected. The IPS appliance sends a TCP reset packet only to the victim under the following circumstances:

- When a deny-packet-inline or deny-connection-inline is selected
- When TCP-based signatures and reset-tcp-connection have NOT been selected

In the case of the AIP-SSM, the TCP reset request is sent to the ASA, and then the ASA sends the TCP reset packets. The ASA sends TCP reset packets to both the attacker and victim when the reset-tcp-connection is selected. When deny-packet-inline or deny-connection-inline is selected, the ASA sends the TCP reset packet to either the attacker or victim depending on the configuration of the signature. Signatures configured to swap the attacker and victim when reporting the alert can cause the ASA to send the TCP reset packet to the attacker.

#### For More Information

For detailed information about event actions, see [Event Actions, page 11-8](#).

## Troubleshooting AIM-IPS and NME-IPS



#### Note

AIM-IPS and NME-IPS have the same software architecture as the 4200 series sensors. You can use the same troubleshooting tools as outlined in [Troubleshooting the 4200 Series Appliance, page C-22](#).

This section contains information for troubleshooting the IPS network modules, AIM-IPS and NME-IPS. It contains the following sections:

- [Interoperability With Other IPS Network Modules, page C-70](#)

## Interoperability With Other IPS Network Modules

The Cisco access routers only support one IDS/IPS module per router. If you have more than one IDS/IPS module installed, the most capable card is enabled. The most capable hierarchy is:

1. NME-IPS
2. AIM-IPS
3. NM-CIDS

This means, for example, that if all modules are installed, NME-IPS disables all other modules. AIM-IPS disables all NM-CIDS. If there are multiple modules with the same level of capability, the first one discovered is enabled and all others are disabled.

You cannot bring up, enable, or configure a disabled module. To bring up a less capable module, you must remove the more capable module from the router and reboot. Disabled modules are reported in the **show diag** command output. The state of the module is reported as present but disabled.



If the most capable module slot and port do not match the **interface ids slot/port** configuration command, the most capable module is disabled with the following warning:

The module in slot x will be disabled and configuration ignored.

The correct slot/port number are displayed so that you can change the configuration.



**Caution**

You cannot upgrade an NM-CIDS to NME-IPS. For more information on NM-CIDS, refer to [Introducing NM-CIDS](#) and [Installing NM-CIDS](#).

## Gathering Information

You can use the following CLI commands and scripts to gather information and diagnose the state of the sensor when problems occur. You can use the **show tech-support** command to gather all the information of the sensor, or you can use the other individual commands listed in this section for specific information.

This section describes the tools you can use to gather information about the condition of your sensor, and contains the following topics:

- [Health and Network Security Information, page C-71](#)
- [Tech Support Information, page C-72](#)
- [Version Information, page C-75](#)
- [Statistics Information, page C-78](#)
- [Interfaces Information, page C-88](#)
- [Events Information, page C-89](#)
- [cidDump Script, page C-93](#)
- [Uploading and Accessing Files on the Cisco FTP Site, page C-94](#)

## Health and Network Security Information

Use the **show health** command in privileged EXEC mode to display the overall health status information of the sensor. The health status categories are rated by red and green with red being critical.



**Caution**

When the sensor is first starting, it is normal for certain health metric statuses to be red until the sensor is fully up and running.

To display the overall health status of the sensor, follow these steps:

- Step 1** Log in to the CLI.
- Step 2** Show the health and security status of the sensor:

```

sensor# show health
Overall Health Status Red
Health Status for Failed Applications Green
Health Status for Signature Updates Green
Health Status for License Key Expiration Red
Health Status for Running in Bypass Mode Green

```

|                                                       |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Health Status for Interfaces Being Down               | Red         |
| Health Status for the Inspection Load                 | Green       |
| Health Status for the Time Since Last Event Retrieval | Green       |
| Health Status for the Number of Missed Packets        | Green       |
| Health Status for the Memory Usage                    | Not Enabled |
|                                                       |             |
| Security Status for Virtual Sensor vs0                | Green       |
| sensor#                                               |             |

---

## Tech Support Information

The **show tech-support** command is useful for capturing all sensor status and configuration information. This section describes the **show tech-support** command, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the show tech-support Command, page C-72](#)
- [Displaying Tech Support Information, page C-72](#)
- [Tech Support Command Output, page C-73](#)

### Understanding the show tech-support Command

The **show tech-support** command captures all status and configuration information on the sensor and includes the current configuration, version information, and cidDump information. The output can be large, over 1 MB. You can transfer the output to a remote system. For the procedure for copying the output to a remote system, see [Displaying Tech Support Information, page C-72](#).



#### Note

Always run the **show tech-support** command before contacting TAC.

---

### Displaying Tech Support Information

Use the **show tech-support [page] [destination-url destination\_url]** command to display system information on the screen or have it sent to a specific URL. You can use the information as a troubleshooting tool with TAC.

The following parameters are optional:

- **page**—Displays the output, one page of information at a time.  
Press **Enter** to display the next line of output or use the spacebar to display the next page of information.
- **destination-url**—Indicates the information should be formatted as HTML and sent to the destination that follows this command. If you use this keyword, the output is not displayed on the screen.
- **destination\_url**—Indicates the information should be formatted as HTML. The URL specifies where the information should be sent. If you do not use this keyword, the information is displayed on the screen.

To display tech support information, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.

**Step 2** View the output on the screen:

```
sensor# show tech-support page
```

The system information appears on the screen, one page at a time. Press the spacebar to view the next page or press **Ctrl-C** to return to the prompt.

**Step 3** To send the output (in HTML format) to a file, follow these steps:

a. Enter the following command, followed by a valid destination:

```
sensor# show tech-support destination-url destination_url
```

You can specify the following destination types:

- **ftp:**—Destination URL for FTP network server. The syntax for this prefix is  
ftp:[[/username@location]/relativeDirectory]/filename OR  
ftp:[[/username@location]//absoluteDirectory]/filename.
- **scp:**—Destination URL for the SCP network server. The syntax for this prefix is  
scp:[[/username@]location]/relativeDirectory]/filename OR  
scp:[[/username@]location]//absoluteDirectory]/filename.

For example, to send the tech support output to the file `/absolute/reports/sensor1Report.html`:

```
sensor# show tech support dest
ftp://csidsuser@10.2.1.2//absolute/reports/sensor1Report.html
```

The password: prompt appears.

b. Enter the password for this user account.

The Generating report: message is displayed.

## Tech Support Command Output

The following is an example of the **show tech-support** command output:



### Note

This output example shows the first part of the command and lists the information for the Interfaces, ARC, and cidDump services.

```
sensor# show tech-support page
```

```
System Status Report
This Report was generated on Mon Jun 23 19:49:30 2008.
Output from show version
Application Partition:
```

```
Cisco Intrusion Prevention System, Version 6.1(1)E2
```

```
Host:
```

```
 Realm Keys key1.0
```

```
Signature Definition:
```

```
 Signature Update S340.0 2008-06-19
```

```
 Virus Update V1.4 2007-03-02
```

```

OS Version: 2.4.30-IDS-smp-bigphys
Platform: ASA-SSM-20
Serial Number: P300000220
Licensed, expires: 31-Dec-2009 UTC
Sensor up-time is 25 days.
Using 1052807168 out of 2093600768 bytes of available memory (50% usage)
system is using 17.7M out of 29.0M bytes of available disk space (61% usage)
application-data is using 41.1M out of 166.6M bytes of available disk space (26%
usage)
boot is using 40.5M out of 68.5M bytes of available disk space (62% usage)

```

|                |                      |           |                          |         |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|
| MainApp        | M-2008_APR_24_19_16  | (Release) | 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500 | Running |
| AnalysisEngine | ME-2008_JUN_05_18_26 | (Release) | 2008-06-05T18:55:02-0500 | Running |
| CLI            | M-2008_APR_24_19_16  | (Release) | 2008-04-24T19:49:05-0500 |         |

#### Upgrade History:

```

* IPS-engine-E2-req-6.1-1 20:39:12 UTC Fri Jun 20 2008
 IPS-sig-S340-req-E2.pkg 20:42:45 UTC Fri Jun 20 2008

```

Recovery Partition Version 1.1 - 6.1(1)E1

Host Certificate Valid from: 28-May-2008 to 29-May-2010

#### Output from show interfaces

##### Interface Statistics

```

Total Packets Received = 7561053
Total Bytes Received = 620005608
Missed Packet Percentage = 0
Current Bypass Mode = Auto_off

```

##### MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/0

```

Interface function = Command-control interface
Description =
Media Type = TX
Default Vlan = 0
Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 7115688
Total Bytes Received = 807518285
Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 4988611
Total Bytes Transmitted = 1004944745
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0

```

##### MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1

```

Interface function = Sensing interface
Description =
Media Type = backplane
Default Vlan = 0
Inline Mode = Unpaired
Pair Status = N/A
Hardware Bypass Capable = No
Hardware Bypass Paired = N/A
Link Status = Up
Admin Enabled Status = Enabled
Link Speed = Auto_1000
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Missed Packet Percentage = 0

```

```
Total Packets Received = 7561056
Total Bytes Received = 620005854
Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 7561056
Total Bytes Transmitted = 620006592
Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
```

```
Output from show statistics authentication
General
```

```
totalAuthenticationAttempts = 1105
failedAuthenticationAttempts = 5
```

```
Output from show statistics analysis-engine
Analysis Engine Statistics
```

```
Number of seconds since service started = 256036
--MORE--
```

## Version Information

The **show version** command is useful for obtaining sensor information. This section describes the **show version** command, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the show version Command, page C-75](#)
- [Displaying Version Information, page C-76](#)

## Understanding the show version Command

The **show version** command shows the basic sensor information and can indicate where a failure is occurring. It gives the following information:

- Which applications are running
- Versions of the applications
- Disk and memory usage
- Upgrade history of the applications



### Note

To get the same information from IME, choose **Configuration > sensor\_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Diagnostics Report**.

## Displaying Version Information

Use the **show version** command to display version information for all installed operating system packages, signature packages, and IPS processes running on the system. To view the configuration for the entire system, use the **more current-config** command.

To display the version and configuration, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** View version information:

```

sensor# show version
Application Partition:

Cisco Intrusion Prevention System, Version 6.1(1)E1

Host:
 Realm Keys key1.0
Signature Definition:
 Signature Update S323.0 2008-03-24
 Virus Update V1.2 2005-11-24
OS Version: 2.4.30-IDS-smp-bigphys
Platform: IPS-4240-K9
Serial Number: P30000000652
No license present
Sensor up-time is 4 days.
Using 1421475840 out of 1984548864 bytes of available memory (71% usage)
system is using 17.7M out of 29.0M bytes of available disk space (61% usage)
application-data is using 41.0M out of 166.8M bytes of available disk space (26%
usage)
boot is using 40.4M out of 68.6M bytes of available disk space (62% usage)

MainApp M-2008_APR_16_21_44 (Release) 2008-04-16T22:25:36-0500 Running
AnalysisEngine M-2008_APR_16_21_44 (Release) 2008-04-16T22:25:36-0500 Running
CLI M-2008_APR_16_21_44 (Release) 2008-04-16T22:25:36-0500

Upgrade History:

 IPS-K9-6.1-1-E1 21:44:00 UTC Wed Apr 16 2008

Recovery Partition Version 1.1 - 6.1(1)E1

Host Certificate Valid from: 23-Apr-2008 to 24-Apr-2010

sensor#

```



**Note** If the **--MORE--** prompt is displayed, press the spacebar to see more information or **Ctrl-C** to cancel the output and get back to the CLI prompt.

**Step 3** View configuration information:



**Note** You can use the **more current-config** or **show configuration** commands.

```

sensor# more current-config
! -----
! Current configuration last modified Thu Apr 24 16:21:25 2008

```

```

! -----
! Version 6.1(1)
! Host:
! Realm Keys key1.0
! Signature Definition:
! Signature Update S323.0 2008-03-24
! Virus Update V1.2 2005-11-24
! -----
service interface
exit
! -----
service authentication
exit
! -----
service event-action-rules rules0
exit
! -----
service host
network-settings
host-ip 10.89.147.45/25,10.89.147.126
telnet-option enabled
access-list 0.0.0.0/0
exit
exit
! -----
service logger
exit
! -----
service network-access
exit
! -----
service notification
exit
! -----
service signature-definition sig0
exit
! -----
service ssh-known-hosts
exit
! -----
service trusted-certificates
exit
! -----
service web-server
exit
! -----
service anomaly-detection ad0
exit
! -----
service external-product-interface
exit
! -----
service health-monitor
exit
! -----
service analysis-engine
exit
sensor#

```

## Statistics Information

The **show statistics** command is useful for examining the state of the sensor services. This section describes the **show statistics** command, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the show statistics Command, page C-78](#)
- [Displaying Statistics, page C-78](#)

### Understanding the show statistics Command

The **show statistics** command provides a snapshot of the state of the sensor services. The following services provide statistics:

- AnalysisEngine
- Authentication
- Denied Attackers
- Event Server
- Event Store
- Host
- Logger
- Attack Response (formerly known as Network Access)
- Notification
- SDEE Server
- Transaction Server
- Transaction Source
- Virtual Sensor
- Web Server

**Note**

To get the same information from IME, choose **Configuration > sensor\_name > Sensor Monitoring > Support Information > Statistics**.

### Displaying Statistics

Use the **show statistics [analysis-engine | authentication | event-server | event-store | external-product-interface | host | logger | network-access | notification | sdee-server | transaction-server | web-server] [clear]** command to display statistics for each sensor application.

Use the **show statistics [anomaly-detection | denied-attackers | os-identification | virtual-sensor] [name | clear]** to display statistics for these components for all virtual sensors. If you provide the virtual sensor name, the statistics for that virtual sensor only are displayed.

**Note**

The **clear** option is not available for the analysis engine, anomaly detection, host, network access, or OS identification applications.



To display statistics for the sensor, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Display the statistics for Analysis Engine:

```
sensor# show statistics analysis-engine
Analysis Engine Statistics
 Number of seconds since service started = 1421127
 Measure of the level of current resource utilization = 0
 Measure of the level of maximum resource utilization = 0
 The rate of TCP connections tracked per second = 0
 The rate of packets per second = 0
 The rate of bytes per second = 0
 Receiver Statistics
 Total number of packets processed since reset = 0
 Total number of IP packets processed since reset = 0
 Transmitter Statistics
 Total number of packets transmitted = 0
 Total number of packets denied = 0
 Total number of packets reset = 0
 Fragment Reassembly Unit Statistics
 Number of fragments currently in FRU = 0
 Number of datagrams currently in FRU = 0
 TCP Stream Reassembly Unit Statistics
 TCP streams currently in the embryonic state = 0
 TCP streams currently in the established state = 0
 TCP streams currently in the closing state = 0
 TCP streams currently in the system = 0
 TCP Packets currently queued for reassembly = 0
 The Signature Database Statistics.
 Total nodes active = 0
 TCP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 UDP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 IP nodes keyed on both IP addresses = 0
 Statistics for Signature Events
 Number of SigEvents since reset = 0
 Statistics for Actions executed on a SigEvent
 Number of Alerts written to the IdsEventStore = 0
sensor#
```

**Step 3** Display the statistics for anomaly detection:

```
sensor# show statistics anomaly-detection
Statistics for Virtual Sensor vs0
 No attack
 Detection - ON
 Learning - ON
 Next KB rotation at 10:00:01 UTC Sat Jan 18 2008
 Internal Zone
 TCP Protocol
 UDP Protocol
 Other Protocol
 External Zone
 TCP Protocol
 UDP Protocol
 Other Protocol
 Illegal Zone
 TCP Protocol
 UDP Protocol
 Other Protocol
Statistics for Virtual Sensor vs1
 No attack
 Detection - ON
```

```

Learning - ON
Next KB rotation at 10:00:00 UTC Sat Jan 18 2008
Internal Zone
 TCP Protocol
 UDP Protocol
 Other Protocol
External Zone
 TCP Protocol
 UDP Protocol
 Other Protocol
Illegal Zone
 TCP Protocol
 UDP Protocol
 Other Protocol
sensor-4240#

```

**Step 4** Display the statistics for authentication:

```

sensor# show statistics authentication
General
 totalAuthenticationAttempts = 128
 failedAuthenticationAttempts = 0
sensor#

```

**Step 5** Display the statistics for the denied attackers in the system:

```

sensor# show statistics denied-attackers
Denied Attackers and hit count for each.
Denied Attackers and hit count for each.
Statistics for Virtual Sensor vs0
 Denied Attackers with percent denied and hit count for each.

 Denied Attackers with percent denied and hit count for each.

Statistics for Virtual Sensor vs1
 Denied Attackers with percent denied and hit count for each.

 Denied Attackers with percent denied and hit count for each.

sensor#

```

**Step 6** Display the statistics for Event Server:

```

sensor# show statistics event-server
General
 openSubscriptions = 0
 blockedSubscriptions = 0
Subscriptions
sensor#

```

**Step 7** Display the statistics for Event Store:

```

sensor# show statistics event-store
Event store statistics
 General information about the event store
 The current number of open subscriptions = 2
 The number of events lost by subscriptions and queries = 0
 The number of queries issued = 0
 The number of times the event store circular buffer has wrapped = 0
 Number of events of each type currently stored
 Debug events = 0

```

```

Status events = 9904
Log transaction events = 0
Shun request events = 61
Error events, warning = 67
Error events, error = 83
Error events, fatal = 0
Alert events, informational = 60
Alert events, low = 1
Alert events, medium = 60
Alert events, high = 0
sensor#

```

### Step 8 Display the statistics for the host:

```

sensor# show statistics host
General Statistics
 Last Change To Host Config (UTC) = 16:11:05 Thu Feb 10 2008
 Command Control Port Device = FastEthernet0/0
Network Statistics
 fe0_0 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:0B:46:53:06:AA
 inet addr:10.89.149.185 Bcast:10.89.149.255 Mask:255.255.255.128
 UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
 RX packets:1001522 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
 TX packets:469569 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
 collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
 RX bytes:57547021 (54.8 Mib) TX bytes:63832557 (60.8 MiB)
 Interrupt:9 Base address:0xf400 Memory:c0000000-c0000038
NTP Statistics
 status = Not applicable
Memory Usage
 usedBytes = 500592640
 freeBytes = 8855552
 totalBytes = 509448192
Swap Usage
 Used Bytes = 77824
 Free Bytes = 600649728

 Total Bytes = 600727552
CPU Statistics
 Usage over last 5 seconds = 0
 Usage over last minute = 1
 Usage over last 5 minutes = 1
Memory Statistics
 Memory usage (bytes) = 500498432
 Memory free (bytes) = 894976032
Auto Update Statistics
 lastDirectoryReadAttempt = N/A
 lastDownloadAttempt = N/A
 lastInstallAttempt = N/A
 nextAttempt = N/A
sensor#

```

### Step 9 Display the statistics for the logging application:

```

sensor# show statistics logger
The number of Log interprocessor FIFO overruns = 0
The number of syslog messages received = 11
The number of <evError> events written to the event store by severity
 Fatal Severity = 0
 Error Severity = 64
 Warning Severity = 35
 TOTAL = 99
The number of log messages written to the message log by severity
 Fatal Severity = 0

```

```
Error Severity = 64
Warning Severity = 24
Timing Severity = 311
Debug Severity = 31522
Unknown Severity = 7
TOTAL = 31928
sensor#
```

#### Step 10 Display the statistics for ARC:

```
sensor# show statistics network-access
Current Configuration
 LogAllBlockEventsAndSensors = true
 EnableNvramWrite = false
 EnableAclLogging = false
 AllowSensorBlock = false
 BlockMaxEntries = 11
 MaxDeviceInterfaces = 250
 NetDevice
 Type = PIX
 IP = 10.89.150.171
 NATAddr = 0.0.0.0
 Communications = ssh-3des
 NetDevice
 Type = PIX
 IP = 10.89.150.219
 NATAddr = 0.0.0.0
 Communications = ssh-des
 NetDevice
 Type = PIX
 IP = 10.89.150.250
 NATAddr = 0.0.0.0
 Communications = telnet
 NetDevice
 Type = Cisco
 IP = 10.89.150.158
 NATAddr = 0.0.0.0
 Communications = telnet
 BlockInterface
 InterfaceName = ethernet0/1
 InterfaceDirection = out
 InterfacePostBlock = Post_Acl_Test
 BlockInterface
 InterfaceName = ethernet0/1
 InterfaceDirection = in
 InterfacePreBlock = Pre_Acl_Test
 InterfacePostBlock = Post_Acl_Test
 NetDevice
 Type = CAT6000_VACL
 IP = 10.89.150.138
 NATAddr = 0.0.0.0
 Communications = telnet
 BlockInterface
 InterfaceName = 502
 InterfacePreBlock = Pre_Acl_Test
 BlockInterface
 InterfaceName = 507
 InterfacePostBlock = Post_Acl_Test
State
 BlockEnable = true
 NetDevice
 IP = 10.89.150.171
 AclSupport = Does not use ACLs
 Version = 6.3
```

```

 State = Active
 Firewall-type = PIX
NetDevice
 IP = 10.89.150.219
 AclSupport = Does not use ACLs
 Version = 7.0
 State = Active
 Firewall-type = ASA
NetDevice
 IP = 10.89.150.250
 AclSupport = Does not use ACLs
 Version = 2.2
 State = Active
 Firewall-type = FWSM
NetDevice
 IP = 10.89.150.158
 AclSupport = uses Named ACLs
 Version = 12.2
 State = Active
NetDevice
 IP = 10.89.150.138
 AclSupport = Uses VACLs
 Version = 8.4
 State = Active
BlockedAddr
 Host
 IP = 22.33.4.5
 Vlan =
 ActualIp =
 BlockMinutes =
 Host
 IP = 21.21.12.12
 Vlan =
 ActualIp =
 BlockMinutes =
 Host
 IP = 122.122.33.4
 Vlan =
 ActualIp =
 BlockMinutes = 60
 MinutesRemaining = 24
 Network
 IP = 111.22.0.0
 Mask = 255.255.0.0
 BlockMinutes =
sensor#

```

**Step 11** Display the statistics for the notification application:

```

sensor# show statistics notification
General
 Number of SNMP set requests = 0
 Number of SNMP get requests = 0
 Number of error traps sent = 0
 Number of alert traps sent = 0
sensor#

```

**Step 12** Display the statistics for the SDEE server:

```

sensor# show statistics sdee-server
General
 Open Subscriptions = 0
 Blocked Subscriptions = 0
 Maximum Available Subscriptions = 5

```

```

Maximum Events Per Retrieval = 500
Subscriptions
sensor#

```

**Step 13** Display the statistics for the transaction server:

```

sensor# show statistics transaction-server
General
 totalControlTransactions = 35
 failedControlTransactions = 0
sensor#

```

**Step 14** Display the statistics for a virtual sensor:

```

sensor# show statistics virtual-sensor vs0
Statistics for Virtual Sensor vs0
Name of current Signature-Definition instance = sig0
Name of current Event-Action-Rules instance = rules0
List of interfaces monitored by this virtual sensor =
General Statistics for this Virtual Sensor
 Number of seconds since a reset of the statistics = 1421711
 Measure of the level of resource utilization = 0
 Total packets processed since reset = 0
 Total IP packets processed since reset = 0
 Total packets that were not IP processed since reset = 0
 Total TCP packets processed since reset = 0
 Total UDP packets processed since reset = 0
 Total ICMP packets processed since reset = 0
 Total packets that were not TCP, UDP, or ICMP processed since reset =
 Total ARP packets processed since reset = 0
 Total ISL encapsulated packets processed since reset = 0
 Total 802.1q encapsulated packets processed since reset = 0
 Total packets with bad IP checksums processed since reset = 0
 Total packets with bad layer 4 checksums processed since reset = 0
 Total number of bytes processed since reset = 0
 The rate of packets per second since reset = 0
 The rate of bytes per second since reset = 0
 The average bytes per packet since reset = 0
Denied Address Information
 Number of Active Denied Attackers = 0
 Number of Denied Attackers Inserted = 0
 Number of Denied Attacker Victim Pairs Inserted = 0
 Number of Denied Attacker Service Pairs Inserted = 0
 Number of Denied Attackers Total Hits = 0
 Number of times max-denied-attackers limited creation of new entry = 0
 Number of exec Clear commands during uptime = 0
Denied Attackers and hit count for each.
Denied Attackers with percent denied and hit count for each.

The Signature Database Statistics.
 The Number of each type of node active in the system (can not be reset
 Total nodes active = 0
 TCP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 UDP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 IP nodes keyed on both IP addresses = 0
 The number of each type of node inserted since reset
 Total nodes inserted = 0
 TCP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 UDP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 IP nodes keyed on both IP addresses = 0
 The rate of nodes per second for each time since reset
 Nodes per second = 0
 TCP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports per second = 0

```

```

 UDP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports per second = 0
 IP nodes keyed on both IP addresses per second = 0
 The number of root nodes forced to expire because of memory constraint
 TCP nodes keyed on both IP addresses and both ports = 0
 Packets dropped because they would exceed Database insertion rate limits = 0
Fragment Reassembly Unit Statistics for this Virtual Sensor
 Number of fragments currently in FRU = 0
 Number of datagrams currently in FRU = 0
 Number of fragments received since reset = 0
 Number of fragments forwarded since reset = 0
 Number of fragments dropped since last reset = 0
 Number of fragments modified since last reset = 0
 Number of complete datagrams reassembled since last reset = 0
 Fragments hitting too many fragments condition since last reset = 0
 Number of overlapping fragments since last reset = 0
 Number of Datagrams too big since last reset = 0
 Number of overwriting fragments since last reset = 0
 Number of Initial fragment missing since last reset = 0
 Fragments hitting the max partial dgrams limit since last reset = 0
 Fragments too small since last reset = 0
 Too many fragments per dgram limit since last reset = 0
 Number of datagram reassembly timeout since last reset = 0
 Too many fragments claiming to be the last since last reset = 0
 Fragments with bad fragment flags since last reset = 0
TCP Normalizer stage statistics
 Packets Input = 0
 Packets Modified = 0
 Dropped packets from queue = 0
 Dropped packets due to deny-connection = 0
 Current Streams = 0
 Current Streams Closed = 0
 Current Streams Closing = 0
 Current Streams Embryonic = 0
 Current Streams Established = 0
 Current Streams Denied = 0
Statistics for the TCP Stream Reassembly Unit
 Current Statistics for the TCP Stream Reassembly Unit
 TCP streams currently in the embryonic state = 0
 TCP streams currently in the established state = 0
 TCP streams currently in the closing state = 0
 TCP streams currently in the system = 0
 TCP Packets currently queued for reassembly = 0
 Cumulative Statistics for the TCP Stream Reassembly Unit since reset
 TCP streams that have been tracked since last reset = 0
 TCP streams that had a gap in the sequence jumped = 0
 TCP streams that was abandoned due to a gap in the sequence = 0
 TCP packets that arrived out of sequence order for their stream = 0
 TCP packets that arrived out of state order for their stream = 0
 The rate of TCP connections tracked per second since reset = 0
SigEvent Preliminary Stage Statistics
 Number of Alerts received = 0
 Number of Alerts Consumed by AlertInterval = 0
 Number of Alerts Consumed by Event Count = 0
 Number of FireOnce First Alerts = 0
 Number of FireOnce Intermediate Alerts = 0
 Number of Summary First Alerts = 0
 Number of Summary Intermediate Alerts = 0
 Number of Regular Summary Final Alerts = 0
 Number of Global Summary Final Alerts = 0
 Number of Active SigEventDataNodes = 0
 Number of Alerts Output for further processing = 0
SigEvent Action Override Stage Statistics
 Number of Alerts received to Action Override Processor = 0
 Number of Alerts where an override was applied = 0

```

```

Actions Added
 deny-attacker-inline = 0
 deny-attacker-victim-pair-inline = 0
 deny-attacker-service-pair-inline = 0
 deny-connection-inline = 0
 deny-packet-inline = 0
 modify-packet-inline = 0
 log-attacker-packets = 0
 log-pair-packets = 0
 log-victim-packets = 0
 produce-alert = 0
 produce-verbose-alert = 0
 request-block-connection = 0
 request-block-host = 0
 request-snmp-trap = 0
 reset-tcp-connection = 0
 request-rate-limit = 0
SigEvent Action Filter Stage Statistics
 Number of Alerts received to Action Filter Processor = 0
 Number of Alerts where an action was filtered = 0
 Number of Filter Line matches = 0
 Number of Filter Line matches causing decreased DenyPercentage = 0
Actions Filtered
 deny-attacker-inline = 0
 deny-attacker-victim-pair-inline = 0
 deny-attacker-service-pair-inline = 0
 deny-connection-inline = 0
 deny-packet-inline = 0
 modify-packet-inline = 0
 log-attacker-packets = 0
 log-pair-packets = 0
 log-victim-packets = 0
 produce-alert = 0
 produce-verbose-alert = 0
 request-block-connection = 0
 request-block-host = 0
 request-snmp-trap = 0
 reset-tcp-connection = 0
 request-rate-limit = 0
SigEvent Action Handling Stage Statistics.
 Number of Alerts received to Action Handling Processor = 0
 Number of Alerts where produceAlert was forced = 0
 Number of Alerts where produceAlert was off = 0
Actions Performed
 deny-attacker-inline = 0
 deny-attacker-victim-pair-inline = 0
 deny-attacker-service-pair-inline = 0
 deny-connection-inline = 0
 deny-packet-inline = 0
 modify-packet-inline = 0
 log-attacker-packets = 0
 log-pair-packets = 0
 log-victim-packets = 0
 produce-alert = 0
 produce-verbose-alert = 0
--MORE--

```

#### Step 15 Display the statistics for Web Server:

```

sensor# show statistics web-server
listener-443
 number of server session requests handled = 61
 number of server session requests rejected = 0
 total HTTP requests handled = 35

```



```
maximum number of session objects allowed = 40
number of idle allocated session objects = 10
number of busy allocated session objects = 0
crypto library version = 6.0.3
sensor#
```

**Step 16** To clear the statistics for an application, for example, the logging application:

```
sensor# show statistics logger clear
The number of Log interprocessor FIFO overruns = 0
The number of syslog messages received = 141
The number of <evError> events written to the event store by severity
 Fatal Severity = 0
 Error Severity = 14
 Warning Severity = 142
 TOTAL = 156
The number of log messages written to the message log by severity
 Fatal Severity = 0
 Error Severity = 14
 Warning Severity = 1
 Timing Severity = 0
 Debug Severity = 0
 Unknown Severity = 28
 TOTAL = 43
```

The statistics were retrieved and cleared.

**Step 17** Verify that the statistics have been cleared:

```
sensor# show statistics logger
The number of Log interprocessor FIFO overruns = 0
The number of syslog messages received = 0
The number of <evError> events written to the event store by severity
 Fatal Severity = 0
 Error Severity = 0
 Warning Severity = 0
 TOTAL = 0
```

```

The number of log messages written to the message log by severity
 Fatal Severity = 0
 Error Severity = 0
 Warning Severity = 0
 Timing Severity = 0
 Debug Severity = 0
 Unknown Severity = 0
 TOTAL = 0
sensor#

```

The statistics all begin from 0.

---

## Interfaces Information

The **show interfaces** command is useful for gathering information on the sensing and command and control interfaces. This section describes the **show interfaces** command, and contains the following topics:

- [Understanding the show interfaces Command, page C-88](#)
- [Interfaces Command Output, page C-88](#)

### Understanding the show interfaces Command

You can learn the following information from the **show interfaces** command:

- Whether the interface is up or down
- Whether or not packets are being seen, and on which interfaces
- Whether or not packets are being dropped by SensorApp
- Whether or not there are errors being reported by the interfaces that can result in packet drops

The **show interfaces** command displays statistics for all system interfaces. Or you can use the individual commands to display statistics for the command and control interface (**show interfaces command\_control\_interface\_name**), the sensing interface (**show interfaces interface\_name**).

### Interfaces Command Output

The following example shows the output from the **show interfaces** command:

```

sensor# show interfaces
Interface Statistics
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Current Bypass Mode = Auto_off
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/1
 Media Type = backplane
 Missed Packet Percentage = 0
 Inline Mode = Unpaired
 Pair Status = N/A
 Link Status = Up
 Link Speed = Auto_1000
 Link Duplex = Auto_Full
 Total Packets Received = 0
 Total Bytes Received = 0

```

```

Total Multicast Packets Received = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Received = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Received = 0
Total Undersize Packets Received = 0
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Bytes Transmitted = 0
Total Multicast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Broadcast Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Jumbo Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Undersize Packets Transmitted = 0
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
MAC statistics from interface GigabitEthernet0/0
Media Type = TX
Link Status = Up
Link Speed = Auto_100
Link Duplex = Auto_Full
Total Packets Received = 2211296
Total Bytes Received = 157577635
Total Multicast Packets Received = 20
Total Receive Errors = 0
Total Receive FIFO Overruns = 0
Total Packets Transmitted = 239723
Total Bytes Transmitted = 107213390
Total Transmit Errors = 0
Total Transmit FIFO Overruns = 0
sensor#

```

## Events Information

You can use the **show events** command to view the alerts generated by SensorApp and errors generated by an application. This section describes the **show events** command, and contains the following topics:

- [Sensor Events, page C-89](#)
- [Understanding the show events Command, page C-90](#)
- [Displaying Events, page C-90](#)
- [Clearing Events, page C-93](#)

## Sensor Events

There are five types of events:

- evAlert—Intrusion detection alerts
- evError—Application errors
- evStatus—Status changes, such as an IP log being created
- evLogTransaction—Record of control transactions processed by each sensor application
- evShunRqst—Block requests

Events remain in the Event Store until they are overwritten by newer events.

## Understanding the show events Command

The **show events** command is useful for troubleshooting event capture issues in which you are not seeing events in Event Viewer or Security Monitor. You can use the **show events** command to determine which events are being generated on the sensor to make sure events are being generated and that the fault lies with the monitoring side.

You can clear all events from Event Store by using the **clear events** command.

Here are the parameters for the **show events** command:

```
sensor# show events
<cr>
alert Display local system alerts.
error Display error events.
hh:mm[:ss] Display start time.
log Display log events.
nac Display NAC shun events.
past Display events starting in the past specified time.
status Display status events.
| Output modifiers.
```

## Displaying Events



### Note

The Event Store has a fixed size of 30 MB for all platforms.

Use the **show events** [{**alert** [informational] [low] [medium] [high] [**include-traits** *traits*] [**exclude-traits** *traits*] [**min-threat-rating** *min-rr*] [**max-threat-rating** *max-rr*] | **error** [warning] [error] [fatal] | **log** | **NAC** | **status**}] [*hh:mm:ss* [*month day* [*year*]]] | **past** *hh:mm:ss*] command to display events from Event Store.

Events are displayed beginning at the start time. If you do not specify a start time, events are displayed beginning at the current time. If you do not specify an event type, all events are displayed.



### Note

Events are displayed as a live feed. To cancel the request, press **Ctrl-C**.

The following options apply:

- **alert**—Displays alerts. Provides notification of some suspicious activity that may indicate an attack is in process or has been attempted. Alert events are generated by Analysis Engine whenever a signature is triggered by network activity.  
If no level is selected (informational, low, medium, or high), all alert events are displayed.
- **include-traits**—Displays alerts that have the specified traits.
- **exclude-traits**—Does not display alerts that have the specified traits.
- **traits**—Trait bit position in decimal (0 to 15).
- **min-threat-rating**—Displays events with a threat rating above or equal to this value. The default is 0. The valid range is 0 to 100.
- **max-threat-rating**—Displays events with a threat rating below or equal to this value. The default is 100. The valid range is 0 to 100.

- **error**—Displays error events. Error events are generated by services when error conditions are encountered.  
If no level is selected (warning, error, or fatal), all error events are displayed.
- **log**—Displays log events. Log events are generated when a transaction is received and responded to by an application. Contains information about the request, response, success or failure of the transaction.
- **NAC**—Displays ARC (block) requests.



**Note** ARC is formerly known as NAC. This name change has not been completely implemented throughout IDM, IME, and the CLI for Cisco IPS 6.1.

- **status**—Displays status events.
- **past**—Displays events starting in the past for the specified hours, minutes, and seconds.
- *hh:mm:ss*—Hours, minutes, and seconds in the past to begin the display.



**Note**

The **show events** command continues to display events until a specified event is available. To exit, press **Ctrl-C**.

To display events from Event Store, follow these steps:

**Step 1** Log in to the CLI.

**Step 2** Display all events starting now:

```
sensor# show events
evError: eventId=1041472274774840147 severity=warning vendor=Cisco
originator:
 hostId: sensor2
 appName: cidwebserver
 appInstanceId: 12075
time: 2008/01/07 04:41:45 2008/01/07 04:41:45 UTC
errorMessage: name=errWarning received fatal alert: certificate_unknown

evError: eventId=1041472274774840148 severity=error vendor=Cisco
originator:
 hostId: sensor2
 appName: cidwebserver
 appInstanceId: 351
time: 2008/01/07 04:41:45 2008/01/07 04:41:45 UTC
errorMessage: name=errTransport WebSession::sessionTask(6) TLS connection exception: handshake incomplete.
```

The feed continues showing all events until you press **Ctrl-C**.

**Step 3** Display the block requests beginning at 10:00 a.m. on February 9, 2008:

```
sensor# show events NAC 10:00:00 Feb 9 2008
evShunRqst: eventId=1106837332219222281 vendor=Cisco
originator:
 deviceName: Sensor1
 appName: NetworkAccessControllerApp
 appInstance: 654
time: 2008/02/09 10:33:31 2008/08/09 13:13:31
shunInfo:
 host: connectionShun=false
```

```

srcAddr: 11.0.0.1
destAddr:
srcPort:
destPort:
protocol: numericType=0 other
timeoutMinutes: 40
evAlertRef: hostId=esendHost 123456789012345678
sensor#

```

**Step 4** Display errors with the warning level starting at 10:00 a.m. on February 9, 2008:

```

sensor# show events error warning 10:00:00 Feb 9 2008
evError: eventId=1041472274774840197 severity=warning vendor=Cisco
originator:
 hostId: sensor
 appName: cidwebserver
 appInstanceId: 12160
time: 2008/01/07 04:49:25 2008/01/07 04:49:25 UTC
errorMessage: name=errWarning received fatal alert: certificate_unknown

```

**Step 5** Display alerts from the past 45 seconds:

```

sensor# show events alert past 00:00:45

evIdsAlert: eventId=1109695939102805307 severity=medium vendor=Cisco
originator:
 hostId: sensor
 appName: sensorApp
 appInstanceId: 367
time: 2008/03/02 14:15:59 2008/03/02 14:15:59 UTC
signature: description=Nachi Worm ICMP Echo Request id=2156 version=S54
 subsigId: 0
 sigDetails: Nachi ICMP
interfaceGroup:
vlan: 0
participants:
 attacker:
 addr: locality=OUT 10.89.228.202
 target:
 addr: locality=OUT 10.89.150.185
riskRatingValue: 70
interface: fe0_1
protocol: icmp

evIdsAlert: eventId=1109695939102805308 severity=medium vendor=Cisco
originator:
--MORE--

```

**Step 6** Display events that began 30 seconds in the past:

```

sensor# show events past 00:00:30
evStatus: eventId=1041526834774829055 vendor=Cisco
originator:
 hostId: sensor
 appName: mainApp
 appInstanceId: 2215
time: 2008/01/08 02:41:00 2008/01/08 02:41:00 UTC
controlTransaction: command=getVersion successful=true
description: Control transaction response.
requestor:
 user: cids
 application:
 hostId: 64.101.182.101
 appName: -cidcli

```

```

appInstanceId: 2316

evStatus: eventId=1041526834774829056 vendor=Cisco
originator:
 hostId: sensor
 appName: login(pam_unix)
 appInstanceId: 2315
time: 2008/01/08 02:41:00 2008/01/08 02:41:00 UTC
syslogMessage:
 description: session opened for user cisco by cisco(uid=0)

```

---

## Clearing Events

Use the **clear events** command to clear Event Store.

To clear events from Event Store, follow these steps:

- 
- Step 1** Log in to the CLI using an account with administrator privileges.
- Step 2** Clear Event Store:
- ```

sensor# clear events
Warning: Executing this command will remove all events currently stored in the event
store.
Continue with clear? []:

```
- Step 3** Enter **yes** to clear the events.
-

cidDump Script

If you do not have access to IDM, IME, or the CLI, you can run the underlying script `cidDump` from the Service account by logging in as root and running `/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/cidDump`. The path of the `cidDump` file is `/usr/cids/idsRoot/htdocs/private/cidDump.html`.

`cidDump` is a script that captures a large amount of information including the IPS processes list, log files, OS information, directory listings, package information, and configuration files.

To run the `cidDump` script, follow these steps:

-
- Step 1** Log in to the sensor Service account.
- Step 2** **su** to root using the Service account password.
- Step 3** Enter the following command:
- ```

/usr/cids/idsRoot/bin/cidDump

```
- Step 4** Compress the resulting `/usr/cids/idsRoot/log/cidDump.html` file:
- ```

gzip /usr/cids/idsRoot/log/cidDump.html

```
- Step 5** Send the resulting HTML file to TAC or the IPS developers in case of a problem.
-

For More Information

For the procedure for putting a file on the Cisco FTP site, see [Uploading and Accessing Files on the Cisco FTP Site, page C-94](#).

Uploading and Accessing Files on the Cisco FTP Site

You can upload large files, for example, cidDump.html, the **show tech-support** command output, and cores, to the ftp-sj server. To upload and access files on the Cisco FTP site, follow these steps:

-
- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Step 1 | Log in to ftp-sj.cisco.com as anonymous. |
| Step 2 | Change to the /incoming directory. |
| Step 3 | Use the put command to upload the files. Make sure to use the binary transfer type. |
| Step 4 | To access uploaded files, log in to an ECS-supported host. |
| Step 5 | Change to the /auto/ftp/incoming directory. |
-



APPENDIX **D**

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- GMP is no longer used, and instead we call BN code from OpenSSL
- Zlib is now external, in a library
- The make-ssh-known-hosts script is no longer included
- TSS has been removed
- MD5 is now external, in the OpenSSL library
- RC4 support has been replaced with ARC4 support from OpenSSL
- Blowfish is now external, in the OpenSSL library

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Optimized ANSI C code for the Rijndael cipher (now AES)

@author Vincent Rijmen <vincent.rijmen@esat.kuleuven.ac.be>

@author Antoon Bosselaers <antoon.bosselaers@esat.kuleuven.ac.be>

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The following individuals contributed in part to the Network Time Protocol Distribution Version 4 and are acknowledged as authors of this work.

1. [1] Mark Andrews <mark_andrews@isc.org> Leitch atomic clock controller
2. [2] Bernd Altmeier <altmeier@atlsoft.de> hopf Elektronik serial line and PCI-bus devices
3. [3] Viraj Bais <vbais@mailman1.intel.com> and [4] Clayton Kirkwood <kirkwood@striderfm.intel.com> port to WindowsNT 3.5
4. [5] Michael Barone <michael,barone@lmco.com> GPSVME fixes
5. [6] Jean-Francois Boudreault <Jean-Francois.Boudreault@viagenie.qc.ca> IPv6 support
6. [7] Karl Berry <karl@owl.HQ.ileaf.com> syslog to file option
7. [8] Greg Brackley <greg.brackley@bigfoot.com> Major rework of WINNT port. Clean up recvbuf and iosignal code into separate modules.
8. [9] Marc Brett <Marc.Brett@westgeo.com> Magnavox GPS clock driver
9. [10] Piete Brooks <Piete.Brooks@cl.cam.ac.uk> MSF clock driver, Trimble PARSE support
10. [11] Reg Clemens <reg@dwf.com> Oncore driver (Current maintainer)
11. [12] Steve Clift <clift@ml.csiro.au> OMEGA clock driver
12. [13] Casey Crellin <casey@csc.co.za> vxWorks (Tornado) port and help with target configuration
13. [14] Sven Dietrich <sven_dietrich@trimble.com> Palisade reference clock driver, NT adj. residuals, integrated Greg's Winnt port.
14. [15] John A. Dundas III <dundas@salt.jpl.nasa.gov> Apple A/UX port
15. [16] Torsten Duwe <duwe@immd4.informatik.uni-erlangen.de> Linux port
16. [17] Dennis Ferguson <dennis@mrbill.canet.ca> foundation code for NTP Version 2 as specified in RFC-1119
17. [18] John Hay <jhay@icomtek.csir.co.za> IPv6 support and testing
18. [19] Glenn Hollinger <glenn@herald.usask.ca> GOES clock driver
19. [20] Mike Iglesias <iglesias@uci.edu> DEC Alpha port
20. [21] Jim Jagielski <jim@jagubox.gsfc.nasa.gov> A/UX port
21. [22] Jeff Johnson <jbj@chatham.usdesign.com> massive prototyping overhaul
22. [23] Hans Lambermont <Hans.Lambermont@nl.origin-it.com> or [24] <H.Lambermont@chello.nl> ntpswEEP
23. [25] Poul-Henning Kamp <phk@FreeBSD.ORG> Oncore driver (Original author)
24. [26] Frank Kardel [27] <Frank.Kardel@informatik.uni-erlangen.de> PARSE <GENERIC> driver (14 reference clocks), STREAMS modules for PARSE, support scripts, syslog cleanup
25. [28] William L. Jones <jones@hermes.chpc.utexas.edu> RS/6000 AIX modifications, HP/UX modifications

26. [29]Dave Katz <dkatz@cisco.com> RS/6000 AIX port
27. [30]Craig Leres <leres@ee.lbl.gov> 4.4BSD port, ppsclock, Magnavox GPS clock driver
28. [31] George Lindholm <lindholm@ucs.ubc.ca> SunOS 5.1 port
29. [32] Louis A. Mamakos <louie@ni.umd.edu> MD5-based authentication
30. [33] Lars H. Mathiesen <thorinn@diku.dk> adaptation of foundation code for Version 3 as specified in RFC-1305
31. [34] Danny Mayer <mayer@ntp.org> Network I/O, Windows Port, Code Maintenance
32. [35] David L. Mills <mills@udel.edu> Version 4 foundation: clock discipline, authentication, precision kernel; clock drivers: Spectracom, Austron, Arbiter, Heath, ATOM, ACTS, KSI/Odetics; audio clock drivers: CHU, WWV/H, IRIG
33. [36] Wolfgang Moeller <moeller@gwdgv1.dnet.gwdg.de> VMS port
34. [37] Jeffrey Mogul <mogul@pa.dec.com> ntptrace utility
35. [38] Tom Moore <tmoore@fievel.daytonoh.ncr.com> i386 svr4 port
36. [39] Kamal A Mostafa <kamal@whence.com> SCO OpenServer port
37. [40] Derek Mulcahy <derek@toybox.demon.co.uk> and [41]Damon Hart-Davis <d@hd.org> ARCRON MSF clock driver
38. [42] Rainer Pruy <Rainer.Pruy@informatik.uni-erlangen.de> monitoring/trap scripts, statistics file handling
39. [43] Dirce Richards <dirce@zk3.dec.com> Digital UNIX V4.0 port
40. [44] Wilfredo Sánchez <wsanchez@apple.com> added support for NetInfo
41. [45]Nick Sayer <mrapple@quack.kfu.com> SunOS streams modules
42. [46]Jack Sasportas <jack@innovativeinternet.com> Saved a Lot of space on the stuff in the html/pic/ subdirectory
43. [47]Ray Schnitzler <schnitz@unipress.com> Unixware1 port
44. [48]Michael Shields <shields@tembel.org> USNO clock driver
45. [49]Jeff Steinman <jss@pebbles.jpl.nasa.gov> Datum PTS clock driver
46. [50]Harlan Stenn <harlan@pfcs.com> GNU automake/autoconfigure makeover, various other bits (see the ChangeLog)
47. [51]Kenneth Stone <ken@sdd.hp.com> HP-UX port
48. [52]Ajit Thyagarajan <ajit@ee.udel.edu> IP multicast/anycast support
49. [53]Tomoaki TSURUOKA <tsuruoka@nc.fukuoka-u.ac.jp> TRAK clock driver
50. [54]Paul A Vixie <vixie@vix.com> TrueTime GPS driver, generic TrueTime clock driver
51. [55]Ulrich Windl <Ulrich.Windl@rz.uni-regensburg.de> corrected and validated HTML documents according to the HTML DTD

References

1. mailto:%20mark_andrews@isc.org
2. mailto:%20altmeier@atsoft.de
3. mailto:%20vbais@mailman1.intel.co
4. mailto:%20kirkwood@striderfm.intel.com

5. <mailto:%20michael.barone@lmco.com>
6. <mailto:%20Jean-Francois.Boudreault@viagenie.qc.ca>
7. <mailto:%20karl@owl.HQ.ileaf.com>
8. <mailto:%20greg.brackley@bigfoot.com>
9. <mailto:%20Marc.Brett@westgeo.com>
10. <mailto:%20Piete.Brooks@cl.cam.ac.uk>
11. <mailto:%20reg@dwf.com>
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31. <mailto:%20lindholm@ucs.ubc.ca>
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33. <mailto:%20thorinn@diku.dk>
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40. <mailto:%20derek@toybox.demon.co.uk>
41. <mailto:%20d@hd.org>
42. <mailto:%20Rainer.Pruy@informatik.uni-erlangen.de>

43. `mailto:%20dirce@zk3.dec.com`
44. `mailto:%20wsanchez@apple.com`
45. `mailto:%20mrapple@quack.kfu.com`
46. `mailto:%20jack@innovativeinternet.com`
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zlib License

zlib 1.1.4 is a general purpose data compression library. All the code is thread safe. The data format used by the zlib library is described by RFCs (Request for Comments) 1950 to 1952 in the files <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1950.txt> (zlib format), [rfc1951.txt](http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1951.txt) (deflate format) and [rfc1952.txt](http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1952.txt) (gzip format). These documents are also available in other formats from <ftp://ftp.uu.net/graphics/png/documents/zlib/zdoc-index.html>

All functions of the compression library are documented in the file `zlib.h` (volunteer to write man pages welcome, contact jloup@gzip.org). A usage example of the library is given in the file `example.c` which also tests that the library is working correctly. Another example is given in the file `minigzip.c`. The compression library itself is composed of all source files except `example.c` and `minigzip.c`.

To compile all files and run the test program, follow the instructions given at the top of `Makefile`. In short “make test; make install” should work for most machines. For Unix: “./configure; make test; make install” For MSDOS, use one of the special makefiles such as `Makefile.msc`. For VMS, use `Make_vms.com` or `descrip.mms`.

Questions about zlib should be sent to [<zlib@gzip.org>](mailto:zlib@gzip.org), or to Gilles Vollant [<info@winimage.com>](mailto:info@winimage.com) for the Windows DLL version. The zlib home page is <http://www.zlib.org> or <http://www.gzip.org/zlib/>. Before reporting a problem, please check this site to verify that you have the latest version of zlib; otherwise get the latest version and check whether the problem still exists or not.

PLEASE read the zlib FAQ http://www.gzip.org/zlib/zlib_faq.html before asking for help.

Mark Nelson [<markn@ieee.org>](mailto:markn@ieee.org) wrote an article about zlib for the Jan. 1997 issue of Dr. Dob’s Journal; a copy of the article is available in <http://dogma.net/markn/articles/zlibtool/zlibtool.htm>

The changes made in version 1.1.4 are documented in the file `ChangeLog`. The only changes made since 1.1.3 are bug corrections:

- ZFREE was repeated on same allocation on some error conditions.
This creates a security problem described in <http://www.zlib.org/advisory-2002-03-11.txt>
- Returned incorrect error (`Z_MEM_ERROR`) on some invalid data -
- Avoid accesses before window for invalid distances with inflate window less than 32K.
- force `windowBits > 8` to avoid a bug in the encoder for a window size of 256 bytes. (A complete fix will be available in 1.1.5).

The beta version 1.1.5beta includes many more changes. A new official version 1.1.5 will be released as soon as extensive testing has been completed on it.

Unsupported third party contributions are provided in directory “contrib”.

A Java implementation of zlib is available in the Java Development Kit <http://www.javasoft.com/products/JDK/1.1/docs/api/Package-java.util.zip.html>. See the zlib home page <http://www.zlib.org> for details.

A Perl interface to zlib written by Paul Marquess [<pmarquess@bfsec.bt.co.uk>](mailto:pmarquess@bfsec.bt.co.uk) is in the CPAN (Comprehensive Perl Archive Network) sites <http://www.cpan.org/modules/by-module/Compress/>

A Python interface to zlib written by A.M. Kuchling [<amk@magnet.com>](mailto:amk@magnet.com) is available in Python 1.5 and later versions, see <http://www.python.org/doc/lib/module-zlib.html>

A zlib binding for TCL written by Andreas Kupries [<a.kupries@westend.com>](mailto:a.kupries@westend.com) is available at <http://www.westend.com/~kupries/doc/trf/man/man.html>

An experimental package to read and write files in .zip format, written on top of zlib by Gilles Vollant [<info@winimage.com>](mailto:info@winimage.com), is available at <http://www.winimage.com/zLibDll/unzip.html> and also in the contrib/minizip directory of zlib.

Notes for some targets:

- To build a Windows DLL version, include in a DLL project `zlib.def`, `zlib.rc` and all `.c` files except `example.c` and `minigzip.c`; compile with `-DZLIB_DLL`. The zlib DLL support was initially done by Alessandro Iacopetti and is now maintained by Gilles Vollant <info@winimage.com>. Check the zlib DLL home page at <http://www.winimage.com/zLibDll>

From Visual Basic, you can call the DLL functions which do not take a structure as argument: `compress`, `uncompress` and all `gz*` functions. See `contrib/visual-basic.txt` for more information, or get <http://www.tcfb.com/dowseware/cmp-z-it.zip>

- For 64-bit Irix, `deflate.c` must be compiled without any optimization.
With `-O`, one `libpng` test fails. The test works in 32 bit mode (with the `-n32` compiler flag). The compiler bug has been reported to SGI.
- zlib doesn't work with gcc 2.6.3 on a DEC 3000/300LX under OSF/1 2.1 it works when compiled with `cc`.
- on Digital Unix 4.0D (formerly OSF/1) on AlphaServer, the `cc` option `-std1` is necessary to get `gzprintf` working correctly. This is done by `configure`.
- zlib doesn't work on HP-UX 9.05 with some versions of `/bin/cc`. It works with other compilers. Use "make test" to check your compiler.
- `gzdopen` is not supported on RISCOS, BEOS and by some Mac compilers.
- For Turbo C the small model is supported only with reduced performance to avoid any far allocation; it was tested with `-DMAX_WBITS=11 -DMAX_MEM_LEVEL=3`
- For PalmOs, see <http://www.cs.uit.no/~perm/PASTA/pilot/software.html> Per Harald Myrvang <perm@stud.cs.uit.no>

Acknowledgments:

The deflate format used by zlib was defined by Phil Katz. The deflate and zlib specifications were written by L. Peter Deutsch. Thanks to all the people who reported problems and suggested various improvements in zlib; they are too numerous to cite here.

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Jean-loup Gailly	Mark Adler
jloup@gzip.org	madler@alumni.caltech.edu

If you use the zlib library in a product, we would appreciate **not** receiving lengthy legal documents to sign. The sources are provided for free but without warranty of any kind. The library has been entirely written by Jean-loup Gailly and Mark Adler; it does not include third-party code.

If you redistribute modified sources, we would appreciate that you include in the file ChangeLog history information documenting your changes.



GLOSSARY

Numerals

3DES	Triple Data Encryption Standard. A stronger version of DES, which is the default encryption method for SSH version 1.5. Used when establishing an SSH session with the sensor. It can be used when the sensor is managing a device.
802.x	A set of IEEE standards for the definition of LAN protocols.

A

aaa	authentication, authorization, and accounting. The primary and recommended method for access control in Cisco devices.
AAA	authentication, authorization, and accounting. Pronounced “triple a.”
ACE	Access Control Entry. An entry in the ACL that describes what action should be taken for a specified address or protocol. The sensor adds/removes ACE to block hosts.
ACK	acknowledgement. Notification sent from one network device to another to acknowledge that some event occurred (for example, the receipt of a message).
ACL	Access Control List. A list of ACEs that control the flow of data through a router. There are two ACLs per router interface for inbound data and outbound data. Only one ACL per direction can be active at a time. ACLs are identified by number or by name. ACLs can be standard, enhanced, or extended. You can configure the sensor to manage ACLs.
action	The response of the sensor to an event. An action only happens if the event is not filtered. Examples include TCP reset, block host, block connection, IP logging, and capturing the alert trigger packet.
active ACL	The ACL created and maintained by ARC and applied to the router block interfaces.
adaptive security appliance	Combines firewall, VPN concentrator, and intrusion prevention software functionality into one software image. You can configure the adaptive security appliance in single mode or multi-mode.
AIC engine	Application Inspection and Control engine. Provides deep analysis of web traffic. It provides granular control over HTTP sessions to prevent abuse of the HTTP protocol. It allows administrative control over applications that try to tunnel over specified ports, such as instant messaging, and tunneling applications, such as gotomypc. It can also inspect FTP traffic and control the commands being issued.
AIM-IPS	Advanced Integration Module. A type of IPS network module installed in Cisco routers.

AIP-SSM	Advanced Inspection and Prevention Security Services Module. The IPS plug-in module in the Cisco ASA 5500 series adaptive security appliance. See ASA.
Alarm Channel	The IPS software module that processes all signature events generated by the inspectors. Its primary function is to generate alerts for each event it receives.
alert	Specifically, an IPS event type; it is written to the Event Store as an evidsAlert. In general, an alert is an IPS message that indicates a network exploit in progress or a potential security problem occurrence. Also known as an alarm.
Analysis Engine	The IPS software module that handles sensor configuration. It maps the interfaces and also the signature and alarm channel policy to the configured interfaces. It performs packet analysis and alert detection. The Analysis Engine functionality is provided by the SensorApp process.
anomaly detection	AD. The sensor component that creates a baseline of normal network traffic and then uses this baseline to detect worm-infected hosts.
API	Application Programming Interface. The means by which an application program talks to communications software. Standardized APIs allow application programs to be developed independently of the underlying method of communication. Computer application programs run a set of standard software interrupts, calls, and data formats to initiate contact with other devices (for example, network services, mainframe communications programs, or other program-to-program communications). Typically, APIs make it easier for software developers to create links that an application needs to communicate with the operating system or with the network.
application	Any program (process) designed to run in the Cisco IPS environment.
application image	Full IPS image stored on a permanent storage device used for operating the sensor.
application instance	A specific application running on a specific piece of hardware in the IPS environment. An application instance is addressable by its name and the IP address of its host computer.
application partition	The bootable disk or compact-flash partition that contains the IPS software image.
ARC	Attack Response Controller. Formerly known as Network Access Controller (NAC). A component of the IPS. A software module that provides block and unblock functionality where applicable.
architecture	The overall structure of a computer or communication system. The architecture influences the capabilities and limitations of the system.
ARP	Address Resolution Protocol. Internet protocol used to map an IP address to a MAC address. Defined in RFC 826.
ASDM	Adaptive Security Device Manager. A web-based application that lets you configure and manage your ASA.
ASN.1	Abstract Syntax Notation 1. Standard for data presentation.
aspect version	Version information associated with a group of IDIOM default configuration settings. For example, Cisco Systems publishes the standard set of attack signatures as a collection of default settings with the S aspect. The S-aspect version number is displayed after the S in the signature update package file name. Other aspects include the Virus signature definitions in the V-aspect and IDIOM signing keys in the key-aspect.

attack relevance rating	ARR. weight associated with the relevancy of the targeted OS. The Attack Relevance Rating is a derived value (relevant, unknown, or not relevant), which is determined at alert time. The relevant OSes are configured per signature.
attack severity rating	ASR. A weight associated with the severity of a successful exploit of the vulnerability. The attack severity rating is derived from the alert severity parameter (informational, low, medium, or high) of the signature. The attack severity rating is configured per signature and indicates how dangerous the event detected is.
atomic attack	Represents exploits contained within a single packet. For example, the “ping of death” attack is a single, abnormally large ICMP packet.
Atomic engine	There are two ATOMIC engines: ATOMIC.IP inspects IP protocol packets and associated Layer-4 transport protocols, and ATOMIC.ARP inspects Layer-2 ARP protocol.
attack	An assault on system security that derives from an intelligent threat, that is, an intelligent act that is a deliberate attempt (especially in the sense of method or technique) to evade security services and violate the security policy of a system.
authentication	Process of verifying that a user has permission to use the system, usually by means of a password key or certificate.
AuthenticationApp	A component of the IPS. It verifies that users have the correct permissions to perform CLI, IDM, IME, or RDEP actions.
autostate	In normal autostate mode, the Layer 3 interfaces remain up if at least one port in the VLAN remains up. If you have appliances, such as load balancers or firewall servers that are connected to the ports in the VLAN, you can configure these ports to be excluded from the autostate feature to make sure that the forwarding SVI does not go down if these ports become inactive.
AV	Anti-Virus.

B

backplane	The physical connection between an interface processor or card and the data buses and the power distribution buses inside a chassis.
base version	A software release that must be installed before a follow-up release, such as a service pack or signature update, can be installed. Major and minor updates are base version releases.
benign trigger	A situation in which a signature is fired correctly, but the source of the traffic is nonmalicious.
BIOS	Basic Input/Output System. The program that starts the sensor and communicates between the devices in the sensor and the system.
block	The ability of the sensor to direct a network device to deny entry to all packets from a specified network host or network.
block interface	The interface on the network device that the sensor manages.
BO	BackOrifice. The original Windows back door Trojan that ran over UDP only.
BO2K	BackOrifice 2000. A Windows back door Trojan that runs over TCP and UDP.

bootloader	A small set of system software that runs when the system first powers up. It loads the operating system (from the disk, network, external compact flash, or external USB flash), which loads and runs the IPS application. For AIM-IPS, it boots the module from the network and assists in software installation and upgrades, disaster recovery, and other operations when the module cannot access its software.
Bpdu	Bridge Protocol Data Unit. Spanning-Tree Protocol hello packet that is sent out at configurable intervals to exchange information among bridges in the network.
bypass mode	Mode that lets packets continue to flow through the sensor even if the sensor fails. Bypass mode is only applicable to inline-paired interfaces.

C

CA	certification authority. Entity that issues digital certificates (especially X.509 certificates) and vouches for the binding between the data items in a certificate. Sensors use self-signed certificates.
CA certificate	Certificate for one CA issued by another CA.
CEF	Cisco Express Forwarding. CEF is advanced, Layer 3 IP switching technology. CEF optimizes network performance and scalability for networks with large and dynamic traffic patterns, such as the Internet, on networks characterized by intensive Web-based applications, or interactive sessions.
certificate	Digital representation of user or device attributes, including a public key, that is signed with an authoritative private key.
cidDump	A script that captures a large amount of information including the IPS processes list, log files, OS information, directory listings, package information, and configuration files.
CIDEE	Cisco Intrusion Detection Event Exchange. Specifies the extensions to SDEE that are used by Cisco IPS systems. The CIDEE standard specifies all possible extensions that may be supported by Cisco IPS systems.
CIDS header	The header that is attached to each packet in the IPS system. It contains packet classification, packet length, checksum results, timestamp, and the receive interface.
cipher key	The secret binary data used to convert between clear text and cipher text. When the same cipher key is used for both encryption and decryption, it is called symmetric. When it is used for either encryption or decryption (but not both), it is called asymmetric.
Cisco IOS	Cisco system software that provides common functionality, scalability, and security for all products under the CiscoFusion architecture. Cisco IOS allows centralized, integrated, and automated installation and management of internetworks while supporting a wide variety of protocols, media, services, and platforms.
CLI	command-line interface. A shell provided with the sensor used for configuring and controlling the sensor applications.
command and control interface	The interface on the sensor that communicates with the IPS manager and other network devices. This interface has an assigned IP address.
community	In SNMP, a logical group of managed devices and NMSs in the same administrative domain.

composite attack	Spans multiple packets in a single session. Examples include most conversation attacks such as FTP, Telnet, and most Regex-based attacks.
connection block	ARC blocks traffic from a given source IP address to a given destination IP address and destination port.
console	A terminal or laptop computer used to monitor and control the sensor.
console port	An RJ45 or DB9 serial port on the sensor that is used to connect to a console device.
control interface	When ARC opens a Telnet or SSH session with a network device, it uses one of the routing interfaces of the device as the remote IP address. This is the control interface.
control transaction	An IPS message containing a command addressed to a specific application instance. Example control transactions include <i>start</i> , <i>stop</i> , <i>getConfig</i> .
cookie	A piece of information sent by a web server to a web browser that the browser is expected to save and send back to the web server whenever the browser makes additional requests of the web server.
CSA MC	Cisco Security Agent Management Center. CSA MC receives host posture information from the CSA agents it manages. It also maintains a watch list of IP addresses that it has determined should be quarantined from the network.
CSM	Cisco Security Manager, the provisioning component of the Cisco Self-Defending Networks solution. CS-Manager is fully integrated with CS-MARS.
CS-Manager	See CSM.
CS-MARS	Cisco Security Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting System. The monitoring component of the Cisco Self-Defending Networks solution. CS-MARS is fully integrated with CS-Manager
CVE	Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures. A list of standardized names for vulnerabilities and other information security exposures maintained at http://cve.mitre.org/ .

D

Database Processor	Maintains the signature state and flow databases.
datagram	Logical grouping of information sent as a network layer unit over a transmission medium without prior establishment of a virtual circuit. IP datagrams are the primary information units in the Internet. The terms cell, frame, message, packet, and segment also are used to describe logical information groupings at various layers of the OSI reference model and in various technology circles.
DCE	data circuit-terminating equipment (ITU-T expansion). Devices and connections of a communications network that comprise the network end of the user-to-network interface. The DCE provides a physical connection to the network, forwards traffic, and provides a clocking signal used to synchronize data transmission between DCE and DTE devices. Modems and interface cards are examples of DCE.
DCOM	Distributed Component Object Model. Protocol that enables software components to communicate directly over a network. Developed by Microsoft and previously called Network OLE, DCOM is designed for use across multiple network transports, including such Internet protocols as HTTP.

DDoS	Distributed Denial of Service. An attack in which a multitude of compromised systems attack a single target, thereby causing denial of service for users of the targeted system. The flood of incoming messages to the target system essentially forces it to shut down, thereby denying service to the system to legitimate users.
Deny Filters Processor	Handles the deny attacker functions. It maintains a list of denied source IP addresses.
DES	Data Encryption Standard. A strong encryption method where the strength lies in a 56-bit key rather than an algorithm.
destination address	Address of a network device that is receiving data.
DIMM	Dual In-line Memory Modules.
DMZ	demilitarized zone. A separate network located in the neutral zone between a private (inside) network and a public (outside) network.
DNS	Domain Name System. An Internet-wide hostname to IP address mapping. DNS enables you to convert human-readable names into the IP addresses needed for network packets.
DoS	Denial of Service. An attack whose goal is just to disrupt the operation of a specific system or network.
DRAM	dynamic random-access memory. RAM that stores information in capacitors that must be refreshed periodically. Delays can occur because DRAMs are inaccessible to the processor when refreshing their contents. However, DRAMs are less complex and have greater capacity than SRAMs.
DTE	Data Terminal Equipment. Refers to the role of a device on an RS-232C connection. A DTE writes data to the transmit line and reads data from the receive line.
DTP	Dynamic Trunking Protocol. A Cisco proprietary protocol in the VLAN group used for negotiating trunking on a link between two devices and for negotiating the type of trunking encapsulation (ISL or 802.1q) to be used.

E

ECLB	Ether Channel Load Balancing. Lets a Catalyst switch split traffic flows over different physical paths.
egress	Traffic leaving the network.
encryption	Application of a specific algorithm to data to alter the appearance of the data making it incomprehensible to those who are not authorized to see the information.
engine	A component of the sensor designed to support many signatures in a certain category. Each engine has parameters that can be used to create signatures or tune existing signatures.
enterprise network	Large and diverse network connecting most major points in a company or other organization. Differs from a WAN in that it is privately owned and maintained.
escaped expression	Used in regular expression. A character can be represented as its hexadecimal value, for example, \x61 equals 'a,' so \x61 is an escaped expression representing the character 'a.'

ESD	electrostatic discharge. Electrostatic discharge is the rapid movement of a charge from one object to another object, which produces several thousand volts of electrical charge that can cause severe damage to electronic components or entire circuit card assemblies.
event	An IPS message that contains an alert, a block request, a status message, or an error message.
Event Server	One of the components of the IPS.
Event Store	One of the components of the IPS. A fixed-size, indexed store (30 MB) used to store IPS events.
evlDsAlert	The XML entity written to the Event Store that represents an alert.

F

fail closed	Blocks traffic on the device after a hardware failure.
fail open	Lets traffic pass through the device after a hardware failure.
false negative	A signature is not fired when offending traffic is detected.
false positive	Normal traffic or a benign action causes a signature to fire.
Fast Ethernet	Any of a number of 100-Mbps Ethernet specifications. Fast Ethernet offers a speed increase 10 times that of the 10BaseT Ethernet specification while preserving such qualities as frame format, MAC mechanisms, and MTU. Such similarities allow the use of existing 10BaseT applications and network management tools on Fast Ethernet networks. Based on an extension to the IEEE 802.3 specification.
firewall	Router or access server, or several routers or access servers, designated as a buffer between any connected public networks and a private network. A firewall router uses access lists and other methods to ensure the security of the private network.
Flood engine	Detects ICMP and UDP floods directed at hosts and networks.
flooding	Traffic passing technique used by switches and bridges in which traffic received on an interface is sent out all the interfaces of that device except the interface on which the information was received originally.
fragment	Piece of a larger packet that has been broken down to smaller units.
fragmentation	Process of breaking a packet into smaller units when transmitting over a network medium that cannot support the original size of the packet.
Fragment Reassembly Processor	Reassembles fragmented IP datagrams. It is also responsible for normalization of IP fragments when the sensor is in inline mode.
FTP	File Transfer Protocol. Application protocol, part of the TCP/IP protocol stack, used for transferring files between network nodes. FTP is defined in RFC 959.
FTP server	File Transfer Protocol server. A server that uses the FTP protocol for transferring files between network nodes.

full duplex	Capability for simultaneous data transmission between a sending station and a receiving station.
FWSM	Firewall Security Module. A module that can be installed in a Catalyst 6500 series switch. It uses the shun command to block. You can configure the FWSM in either single mode or multi-mode.

G

GBIC	GigaBit Interface Converter. Often refers to a fiber optic transceiver that adapts optical cabling to fiber interfaces. Fiber-ready switches and NICs generally provide GBIC and/or SFP slots. For more information, refer to the Catalyst Switch Cable, Connector, and AC Power Cord Guide .
Gigabit Ethernet	Standard for a high-speed Ethernet, approved by the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) 802.3z standards committee in 1996.
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time. Time zone at zero degrees longitude. Now called Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).
GRUB	Grand Unified Bootloader.

H

H.225.0	An ITU standard that governs H.225.0 session establishment and packetization. H.225.0 actually describes several different protocols: RAS, use of Q.931, and use of RTP.
H.245	An ITU standard that governs H.245 endpoint control.
H.323	Allows dissimilar communication devices to communicate with each other by using a standardized communication protocol. H.323 defines a common set of CODECs, call setup and negotiating procedures, and basic data transport methods.
half duplex	Capability for data transmission in only one direction at a time between a sending station and a receiving station. BSC is an example of a half-duplex protocol.
handshake	Sequence of messages exchanged between two or more network devices to ensure transmission synchronization.
hardware bypass	A specialized NIC that pairs physical interfaces so that when a software error is detected, a bypass mechanism is engaged that directly connects the physical interfaces and allows traffic to flow through the pair. Hardware bypass passes traffic at the network interface, does not pass it to the IPS system.
host block	ARC blocks all traffic from a given IP address.
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol. The stateless request/response media transfer protocol used in the IPS architecture for remote data exchange.
HTTPS	An extension to the standard HTTP protocol that provides confidentiality by encrypting the traffic from the website. By default this protocol uses TCP port 443.

ICMP	Internet Control Message Protocol. Network layer Internet protocol that reports errors and provides other information relevant to IP packet processing. Documented in RFC 792.
ICMP flood	Denial of Service attack that sends a host more ICMP echo request (“ping”) packets than the protocol implementation can handle.
IDAPI	Intrusion Detection Application Programming Interface. Provides a simple interface between IPS architecture applications. IDAPI reads and writes event data and provides a mechanism for control transactions.
IDCONF	Intrusion Detection Configuration. A data format standard that defines operational messages that are used to configure intrusion detection and prevention systems.
IDENT	Ident protocol, specified in RFC 1413, is an Internet protocol that helps identify the user of a particular TCP connection.
IDIOM	Intrusion Detection Interchange and Operations Messages. A data format standard that defines the event messages that are reported by intrusion detection systems and the operational messages that are used to configure and control intrusion detection systems.
IDM	IPS Device Manager. A web-based application that lets you configure and manage your sensor. The web server for IDM resides on the sensor. You can access it through Internet Explorer or Firefox web browsers.
IDMEF	Intrusion Detection Message Exchange Format. The IETF Intrusion Detection Working Group draft standard.
IDS-M-2	Intrusion Detection System Module. A switching module that performs intrusion detection in the Catalyst 6500 series switch.
IDS MC	Management Center for IDS Sensors. A web-based IDS manager that can manage configurations for up to 300 sensors.
IME	IPS Manager Express. A network management application that provides system health monitoring, events monitoring, reporting, and configuration for up to five sensors.
inline mode	All packets entering or leaving the network must pass through the sensor.
inline interface	A pair of physical interfaces configured so that the sensor forwards all traffic received on one interface out to the other interface in the pair.
intrusion detection system	A security service that monitors and analyzes system events to find and provide real-time or near real-time warning of attempts to access system resources in an unauthorized manner.
IP address	32-bit address assigned to hosts using TCP/IP. An IP address belongs to one of five classes (A, B, C, D, or E) and is written as 4 octets separated by periods (dotted decimal format). Each address consists of a network number, an optional subnetwork number, and a host number. The network and subnetwork numbers together are used for routing, and the host number is used to address an individual host within the network or subnetwork. A subnet mask is used to extract network and subnetwork information from the IP address.

IPS	Intrusion Prevention System. A system that alerts the user to the presence of an intrusion on the network through network traffic analysis techniques.
IPS data or message	Describes the messages transferred over the command and control interface between IPS applications.
iplog	A log of the binary packets to and from a designated address. Iplogs are created when the log Event Action is selected for a signature. Iplogs are stored in a libpcap format, which can be read by WireShark and TCPDUMP.
IP spoofing	IP spoofing attack occurs when an attacker outside your network pretends to be a trusted user either by using an IP address that is within the range of IP addresses for your network or by using an authorized external IP address that you trust and to which you want to provide access to specified resources on your network. Should an attacker get access to your IPSec security parameters, that attacker can masquerade as the remote user authorized to connect to the corporate network.
IPv6	IP version 6. Replacement for the current version of IP (version 4). IPv6 includes support for flow ID in the packet header, which can be used to identify flows. Formerly called IPng (next generation).
ISL	Inter-Switch Link. Cisco-proprietary protocol that maintains VLAN information as traffic flows between switches and routers.

J

Java Web Start	Java Web Start provides a platform-independent, secure, and robust deployment technology. It enables developers to deploy full-featured applications to you by making the applications available on a standard web server. With any web browser, you can launch the applications and be confident you always have the most-recent version.
JNLP	Java Network Launching Protocol. Defined in an XML file format specifying how Java Web Start applications are launched. JNLP consists of a set of rules defining how exactly the launching mechanism should be implemented.

K

KB	Knowledge Base. The sets of thresholds learned by anomaly detection and used for worm virus detection.
knowledge base	See KB.

L

LACP	Link Aggregation Control Protocol. LACP aids in the automatic creation of EtherChannel links by exchanging LACP packets between LAN ports. This protocol is defined in IEEE 802.3ad.
LAN	Local Area Network. Refers to the Layer 2 network domain local to a given host. Packets exchanged between two hosts on the same LAN do not require Layer 3 routing.

Layer 2 Processor	Processes layer 2-related events. It also identifies malformed packets and removes them from the processing path.
Logger	A component of the IPS.
logging	Gathers actions that have occurred in a log file. Logging of security information is performed on two levels: logging of events (such as IPS commands, errors, and alerts), and logging of individual IP session information.
LOKI	Remote access, back door Trojan, ICMP tunneling software. When the computer is infected, the malicious code creates an ICMP tunnel that can be used to send small payload ICMP replies

M

MainApp	The main application in the IPS. The first application to start on the sensor after the operating system has booted.
maintenance partition	The bootable disk partition on IDSM-2, from which an IPS image can be installed on the application partition. No IPS capability is available while the IDSM-2 is booted into the maintenance partition.
maintenance partition image	The bootable software image installed on the maintenance partition on an IDSM-2. You can install the maintenance partition image only while booted into the application partition.
major update	A base version that contains major new functionality or a major architectural change in the product.
manufacturing image	Full IPS system image used by manufacturing to image sensors.
master blocking sensor	A remote sensor that controls one or more devices. Blocking forwarding sensors send blocking requests to the master blocking sensor and the master blocking sensor executes the blocking requests.
MD5	Message Digest 5. A one-way hashing algorithm that produces a 128-bit hash. Both MD5 and Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA) are variations on MD4 and strengthen the security of the MD4 hashing algorithm. Cisco uses hashes for authentication within the IPSec framework. Also used for message authentication in SNMP v.2. MD5 verifies the integrity of the communication, authenticates the origin, and checks for timeliness.
MEG	Mega Event Generator. Signature based on the Meta engine. The Meta engine takes alerts as input rather than packets.
Meta engine	Defines events that occur in a related manner within a sliding time interval. This engine processes events rather than packets.
MIB	Management Information Base. Database of network management information that is used and maintained by a network management protocol, such as SNMP or CMIP. The value of a MIB object can be changed or retrieved using SNMP or CMIP commands, usually through a GUI network management system. MIB objects are organized in a tree structure that includes public (standard) and private (proprietary) branches.
MIME	Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension. Standard for transmitting nontext data (or data that cannot be represented in plain ASCII code) in Internet mail, such as binary, foreign language text (such as Russian or Chinese), audio, or video data. MIME is defined in RFC 2045.

minor update	A minor version that contains minor enhancements to the product line. Minor updates are incremental to the major version, and are also base versions for service packs.
module	A removable card in a switch, router, or security appliance chassis. AIM-IPS, AIP SSM, IDSM-2, and NME-IPS are IPS modules.
monitoring interface	See sensing interface.
MPF	Modular Policy Framework. A means of configuring security appliance features in a manner similar to Cisco IOS software Modular QoS CLI.
MSFC, MSFC2	Multilayer Switch Feature Card. An optional card on a Catalyst 6000 supervisor engine that performs L3 routing for the switch.
MSRPC	Microsoft Remote Procedure Call. MSRPC is the Microsoft implementation of the DCE RPC mechanism. Microsoft added support for Unicode strings, implicit handles, inheritance of interfaces (which are extensively used in DCOM), and complex calculations in the variable-length string and structure paradigms already present in DCE/RPC.
MySDN	My Self-Defending Network. A part of the signature definition section of IDM and IME. It provides detailed information about signatures

N

NAC	Network Access Controller. See ARC.
NAT	Native Address Translation. A network device can present an IP address to the outside networks that is different from the actual IP address of a host.
NBD	Next Business Day. The arrival of replacement hardware according to Cisco service contracts.
Neighborhood Discovery	Protocol for IPv6. IPv6 nodes on the same link use Neighbor Discovery to discover each other's presence, to determine each other's link-layer addresses, to find routers, and to maintain reachability information about the paths to active neighbors.
network device	A device that controls IP traffic on a network and can block an attacking host. An example of a network device is a Cisco router or PIX Firewall.
never block address	Hosts and networks you have identified that should never be blocked.
never shun address	See never block address.
NIC	Network Interface Card. Board that provides network communication capabilities to and from a computer system.
NME-IPS	Network Module Enhanced. An IPS module that you can install in any network module slot in the Cisco 2800 and 3800 series integrated services routers.
NMS	network management system. System responsible for managing at least part of a network. An NMS is generally a reasonably powerful and well-equipped computer, such as an engineering workstation. NMSs communicate with agents to help keep track of network statistics and resources.

node	A physical communicating element on the command and control network. For example, an appliance, an IDSM-2, or a router.
Normalizer engine	Configures how the IP and TCP normalizer functions and provides configuration for signature events related to the IP and TCP normalizer.
NOS	network operating system. Generic term used to refer to distributed file systems. Examples include LAN Manager, NetWare, NFS, and VINES.
NTP	Network Timing Protocol. Protocol built on top of TCP that ensures accurate local time-keeping with reference to radio and atomic clocks located on the Internet. This protocol is capable of synchronizing distributed clocks within milliseconds over long time periods.
NTP server	Network Timing Protocol server. A server that uses NTP. NTP is a protocol built on top of TCP that ensures accurate local time-keeping with reference to radio and atomic clocks located on the Internet. This protocol is capable of synchronizing distributed clocks within milliseconds over long time periods.
NVRAM	Non-Volatile Read/Write Memory. RAM that retains its contents when a unit is powered off.

O

OIR	online insertion and removal. Feature that permits you to add, replace, or remove cards without interrupting the system power, entering console commands, or causing other software or interfaces to shutdown.
OPS	Outbreak Prevention Service.

P

packet	Logical grouping of information that includes a header containing control information and (usually) user data. Packets most often are used to refer to network layer units of data. The terms datagram, frame, message, and segment also are used to describe logical information groupings at various layers of the OSI reference model and in various technology circles.
PAGP	Port Aggregation Control Protocol. PAGP aids in the automatic creation of EtherChannel links by exchanging PAGP packets between LAN ports. It is a Cisco-proprietary protocol.
passive fingerprinting	Act of determining the OS or services available on a system from passive observation of network interactions.
passive OS fingerprinting	The sensor determines host operating systems by inspecting characteristics of the packets exchanged on the network.
PASV Port Spoof	An attempt to open connections through a firewall to a protected FTP server to a non-FTP port. This happens when the firewall incorrectly interprets an FTP 227 passive command by opening an unauthorized connection.
PAT	Port Address Translation. A more restricted translation scheme than NAT in which a single IP address and different ports are used to represent the hosts of a network.

patch release	Release that addresses defects identified in the update (minor, major, or service pack) binaries after a software release (service pack, minor, or major update) has been released.
PAWS	Protection Against Wrapped Sequence. Protection against wrapped sequence numbers in high performance TCP networks. See RFC 1323 .
PDU	protocol data unit. OSI term for packet. See also BPDU and packet.
PEP	Cisco Product Evolution Program. PEP is the UDI information that consists of the PID, the VID, and the SN of your sensor. PEP provides hardware version and serial number visibility through electronic query, product labels, and shipping items.
PER	packed encoding rules. Instead of using a generic style of encoding that encodes all types in a uniform way, PER specializes the encoding based on the data type to generate much more compact representations.
PFC	Policy Feature Card. An optional card on a Catalyst 6000 supervisor engine that supports VACL packet filtering.
PID	Product Identifier. The orderable product identifier that is one of the three parts of the UDI. The UDI is part of the PEP policy.
ping	packet internet groper. Often used in IP networks to test the reachability of a network device. It works by sending ICMP echo request packets to the target host and listening for echo response replies.
PIX Firewall	Private Internet Exchange Firewall. A Cisco network security device that can be programmed to block/enable addresses and ports between networks.
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure. Authentication of HTTP clients using the clients X.509 certificates.
POST	Power-On Self Test. Set of hardware diagnostics that runs on a hardware device when that device is powered up.
Post-ACL	Designates an ACL from which ARC should read the ACL entries, and where it places entries after all deny entries for the addresses being blocked.
Pre-ACL	Designates an ACL from which ARC should read the ACL entries, and where it places entries before any deny entries for the addresses being blocked.
promiscuous delta	PD. A weight in the range of 0 to 30 configured per signature. This weight can be subtracted from the overall risk rating in promiscuous mode.
promiscuous mode	A passive interface for monitoring packets of the network segment. The sensing interface does not have an IP address assigned to it and is therefore invisible to attackers.

Q

Q.931	ITU-T specification for signaling to establish, maintain, and clear ISDN network connections.
QoS	quality of service. Measure of performance for a transmission system that reflects its transmission quality and service availability.

R

rack mounting	Refers to mounting a sensor in an equipment rack.
RAM	random-access memory. Volatile memory that can be read and written by a microprocessor.
RAS	Registration, Admission, and Status Protocol. Protocol that is used between endpoints and the gatekeeper to perform management functions. RAS signalling function performs registration, admissions, bandwidth changes, status, and disengage procedures between the VoIP gateway and the gatekeeper.
RBCP	Router Blade Control Protocol. RBCP is based on SCP, but modified specifically for the router application. It is designed to run over Ethernet interfaces and uses 802.2 SNAP encapsulation for messages.
RDEP2	Remote Data Exchange Protocol version 2. The published specification for remote data exchange over the command and control network using HTTP and TLS.
reassembly	The putting back together of an IP datagram at the destination after it has been fragmented either at the source or at an intermediate node.
recovery package	An IPS package file that includes the full application image and installer used for recovery on sensors.
repackage release	Used to address defects in the packaging or the installer.
regex	See regular expression.
regular expression	A mechanism by which you can define how to search for a specified sequence of characters in a data stream or file. Regular expressions are a powerful and flexible notation almost like a mini-programming language that allow you to describe text. In the context of pattern matching, regular expressions allow a succinct description of any arbitrary pattern.
repackage release	A release that addresses defects in the packaging or the installer.
risk rating	An risk rating is a value between 0 and 100 that represents a numerical quantification of the risk associated with a particular event on the network. The risk of the attack accounts for the severity, fidelity, relevance, and asset value of the attack, but not any response or mitigation actions. This risk is higher when more damage could be inflicted on your network.
RMA	Return Materials Authorization. The Cisco program for returning faulty hardware and obtaining a replacement.
ROMMON	Read-Only-Memory Monitor. ROMMON lets you TFTP system images onto the sensor for recovery purposes.
round-trip time	See RTT.
RPC	remote-procedure call. Technological foundation of client/server computing. RPCs are procedure calls that are built or specified by clients and are executed on servers, with the results returned over the network to the clients.
RSM	Router Switch Module. A router module that is installed in a Catalyst 5000 switch. It functions exactly like a standalone router.

RTP	Real-Time Transport Protocol. Commonly used with IP networks. RTP is designed to provide end-to-end network transport functions for applications transmitting real-time data, such as audio, video, or simulation data, over multicast or unicast network services. RTP provides such services as payload type identification, sequence numbering, timestamping, and delivery monitoring to real-time applications.
RTT	round-trip time. A measure of the time delay imposed by a network on a host from the sending of a packet until acknowledgement of the receipt.
RU	rack unit. A rack is measured in rack units. An RU is equal to 44 mm or 1.75 inches.

S

SCP	Switch Configuration Protocol. Cisco control protocol that runs directly over the Ethernet.
SCEP	Simple Certificate Enrollment Protocol. The Cisco Systems PKI communication protocol that leverages existing technology by using PKCS#7 and PKCS#10. SCEP is the evolution of the enrollment protocol.
SDEE	Security Device Event Exchange. A product-independent standard for communicating security device events. It is an enhancement to RDEP. It adds extensibility features that are needed for communicating events generated by various types of security devices.
Secure Shell Protocol	Protocol that provides a secure remote connection to a router through a Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) application.
security context	You can partition a single adaptive security appliance into multiple virtual devices, known as security contexts. Each context is an independent device, with its own security policy, interfaces, and administrators. Multiple contexts are similar to having multiple standalone devices. Many features are supported in multiple context mode, including routing tables, firewall features, IPS, and management.
Security Monitor	Monitoring Center for Security. Provides event collection, viewing, and reporting capability for network devices. Used with the IDS MC.
sensing interface	The interface on the sensor that monitors the desired network segment. The sensing interface is in promiscuous mode; it has no IP address and is not visible on the monitored segment.
sensor	The sensor is the intrusion detection engine. It analyzes network traffic searching for signs of unauthorized activity.
SensorApp	A component of the IPS. Performs packet capture and analysis. SensorApp analyzes network traffic for malicious content. Packets flow through a pipeline of processors fed by a producer designed to collect packets from the network interfaces on the sensor. Sensorapp is the standalone executable that runs Analysis Engine.
Service engine	Deals with specific protocols, such as DNS, FTP, H255, HTTP, IDENT, MS RPC, MS SL, NTP, RPC, SMB, SNMP, and SSH.
service pack	Used for the release of defect fixes and for the support of new signature engines. Service packs contain all of the defect fixes since the last base version (minor or major) and any new defects fixes.

session command	Command used on routers and switches to provide either Telnet or console access to a module in the router or switch.
SFP	Small Form-factor Pluggable. Often refers to a fiber optic transceiver that adapts optical cabling to fiber interfaces. See GBIC for more information.
shun command	Enables a dynamic response to an attacking host by preventing new connections and disallowing packets from any existing connection. It is used by ARC when blocking with a PIX Firewall.
Signature Analysis Processor	Dispatches packets to the inspectors that are not stream-based and that are configured for interest in the packet in process.
signature	A signature distills network information and compares it against a rule set that indicates typical intrusion activity.
signature engine	A component of the sensor that supports many signatures in a certain category. An engine is composed of a parser and an inspector. Each engine has a set of legal parameters that have allowable ranges or sets of values.
signature engine update	Executable file with its own versioning scheme that contains binary code to support new signature updates.
Signature Event Action Filter	Subtracts actions based on the signature event signature ID, addresses, and risk rating. The input to the Signature Event Action Filter is the signature event with actions possibly added by the Signature Event Action Override.
Signature Event Action Handler	Performs the requested actions. The output from Signature Event Action Handler is the actions being performed and possibly an evIdsAlert written to the Event Store.
Signature Event Action Override	Adds actions based on the risk rating value. The Signature Event Action Override applies to all signatures that fall into the range of the configured risk rating threshold. Each Signature Event Action Override is independent and has a separate configuration value for each action type.
Signature Event Action Processor	Processes event actions. Event actions can be associated with an event risk rating threshold that must be surpassed for the actions to take place.
signature fidelity rating	SFR. A weight associated with how well a signature might perform in the absence of specific knowledge of the target. The signature fidelity rating is configured per signature and indicates how accurately the signature detects the event or condition it describes.
signature update	Executable file that contains a set of rules designed to recognize malicious network activities, such as worms, DDOS, viruses, and so forth. Signature updates are released independently, are dependent on a required signature engine version, and have their own versioning scheme.
Slave Dispatch Processor	Process found on dual CPU systems.
SMB	Server Message Block. File-system protocol used in LAN manager and similar NOSs to package data and exchange information with other systems.
SMTP	Simple Mail Transfer Protocol. Internet protocol providing e-mail services.
SN	Serial Number. Part of the UDI. The SN is the serial number of your Cisco product.

SNAP	Subnetwork Access Protocol. Internet protocol that operates between a network entity in the subnetwork and a network entity in the end system. SNAP specifies a standard method of encapsulating IP datagrams and ARP messages on IEEE networks. The SNAP entity in the end system makes use of the services of the subnetwork and performs three key functions: data transfer, connection management, and QoS selection.
sniffing interface	See sensing interface.
SNMP	Simple Network Management Protocol. Network management protocol used almost exclusively in TCP/IP networks. SNMP provides a means to monitor and control network devices, and to manage configurations, statistics collection, performance, and security.
SNMP2	SNMP Version 2. Version 2 of the network management protocol. SNMP2 supports centralized and distributed network management strategies, and includes improvements in the SMI, protocol operations, management architecture, and security.
software bypass	Passes traffic through the IPS system without inspection.
source address	Address of a network device that is sending data.
SPAN	Switched Port Analyzer. Feature of the Catalyst 5000 switch that extends the monitoring abilities of existing network analyzers into a switched Ethernet environment. SPAN mirrors the traffic at one switched segment onto a predefined SPAN port. A network analyzer attached to the SPAN port can monitor traffic from any other Catalyst switched port.
spanning tree	Loop-free subset of a network topology.
SQL	Structured Query Language. International standard language for defining and accessing relational databases.
SRAM	Type of RAM that retains its contents for as long as power is supplied. SRAM does not require constant refreshing, like DRAM
SSH	Secure Shell. A utility that uses strong authentication and secure communications to log in to another computer over a network.
SSL	Secure Socket Layer. Encryption technology for the Internet used to provide secure transactions, such as the transmission of credit card numbers for e-commerce.
Stacheldraht	A DDoS tool that relies on the ICMP protocol.
State engine	Stateful searches of HTTP strings.
Statistics Processor	Keeps track of system statistics such as packet counts and packet arrival rates.
Stream Reassembly Processor	Reorders TCP streams to ensure the arrival order of the packets at the various stream-based inspectors. It is also responsible for normalization of the TCP stream. The normalizer engine lets you enable or disable alert and deny actions.
String engine	A signature engine that provides regular expression-based pattern inspection and alert functionality for multiple transport protocols, including TCP, UDP, and ICMP.
subsignature	A more granular representation of a general signature. It typically further defines a broad scope signature.

surface mounting	Refers to attaching rubber feet to the bottom of a sensor when it is installed on a flat surface. The rubber feet allow proper airflow around the sensor and they also absorb vibration so that the hard-disk drive is less impacted.
switch	Network device that filters, forwards, and floods frames based on the destination address of each frame. The switch operates at the data link layer of the OSI model.
SYN flood	Denial of Service attack that sends a host more TCP SYN packets (request to synchronize sequence numbers, used when opening a connection) than the protocol implementation can handle.
system image	The full IPS application and recovery image used for reimaging an entire sensor.

T

TAC	A Cisco Technical Assistance Center. There are four TACs worldwide.
TACACS+	Terminal Access Controller Access Control System Plus. Proprietary Cisco enhancement to Terminal Access Controller Access Control System (TACACS). Provides additional support for authentication, authorization, and accounting.
target value rating	TVR. A weight associated with the perceived value of the target. Target value rating is a user-configurable value (zero, low, medium, high, or mission critical) that identifies the importance of a network asset (through its IP address).
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol. Connection-oriented transport layer protocol that provides reliable full-duplex data transmission. TCP is part of the TCP/IP protocol stack.
TCPDUMP	The TCPDUMP utility is a free network protocol analyzer for UNIX and Windows. It lets you examine data from a live network or from a capture file on disk. You can use different options for viewing summary and detail information for each packet. For more information see http://www.tcpdump.org/ .
TCP reset interface	The interface on IDSM-2 that can send TCP resets. On most sensors the TCP resets are sent out on the same sensing interface on which the packets are monitored, but on IDSM-2 the sensing interfaces cannot be used for sending TCP resets. On the IDSM-2 the TCP reset interface is designated as port 1 with Catalyst software, and is not visible to the user in Cisco IOS software. The TCP reset action is only appropriate as an action selection on those signatures that are associated with a TCP-based service.
Telnet	Standard terminal emulation protocol in the TCP/IP protocol stack. Telnet is used for remote terminal connection, enabling users to log in to remote systems and use resources as if they were connected to a local system. Telnet is defined in RFC 854.
terminal server	A router with multiple, low speed, asynchronous ports that are connected to other serial devices. Terminal servers can be used to remotely manage network equipment, including sensors.
TFN	Tribe Flood Network. A common type of DoS attack that can take advantage of forged or rapidly changing source IP addresses to allow attackers to thwart efforts to locate or filter the attacks.
TFN2K	Tribe Flood Network 2000. A common type of DoS attack that can take advantage of forged or rapidly changing source IP addresses to allow attackers to thwart efforts to locate or filter the attacks.

TFTP	Trivial File Transfer Protocol. Simplified version of FTP that lets files be transferred from one computer to another over a network, usually without the use of client authentication (for example, username and password).
threat rating	A value between 0 and 100 that represents a numerical decrease of the risk rating of an attack based on the response action that depicts the threat of an alert on the monitored network.
three-way handshake	Process whereby two protocol entities synchronize during connection establishment.
threshold	A value, either upper- or lower-bound that defines the maximum/minimum allowable condition before an alarm is sent.
Time Processor	Processes events stored in a time-slice calendar. Its primary task is to make stale database entries expire and to calculate time-dependent statistics.
TLS	Transport Layer Security. The protocol used over stream transports to negotiate the identity of peers and establish encrypted communications.
TNS	Transparent Network Substrate. Provides database applications with a single common interface to all industry-standard network protocols. With TNS, database applications can connect to other database applications across networks with different protocols.
topology	Physical arrangement of network nodes and media within an enterprise networking structure.
TPKT	Transport Packet. RFC 1006-defined method of demarking messages in a packet. The protocol uses ISO transport services on top of TCP.
traceroute	Program available on many systems that traces the path a packet takes to a destination. It is used mostly to debug routing problems between hosts. A traceroute protocol is also defined in RFC 1393.
traffic analysis	Inference of information from observable characteristics of data flow(s), even when the data is encrypted or otherwise not directly available. Such characteristics include the identities and locations of the source(s) and destination(s), and the presence, amount, frequency, and duration of occurrence.
Traffic ICMP engine	Analyzes traffic from nonstandard protocols, such as TFN2K, LOKI, and DDOS.
Transaction Server	A component of the IPS.
Transaction Source	A component of the IPS.
trap	Message sent by an SNMP agent to an NMS, a console, or a terminal to indicate the occurrence of a significant event, such as a specifically defined condition or a threshold that was reached.
Trojan engine	Analyzes traffic from nonstandard protocols, such as BO2K and TFN2K.
trunk	Physical and logical connection between two switches across which network traffic travels. A backbone is composed of a number of trunks.
trusted certificate	Certificate upon which a certificate user relies as being valid without the need for validation testing; especially a public-key certificate that is used to provide the first public key in a certification path.

trusted key Public key upon which a user relies; especially a public key that can be used as the first public key in a certification path.

tune Adjusting signature parameters to modify an existing signature.

U

UDI Unique Device Identifier. Provides a unique identity for every Cisco product. The UDI is composed of the PID, VID, and SN. The UDI is stored in the Cisco IPS ID PROM.

UDP User Datagram Protocol. Connectionless transport layer protocol in the TCP/IP protocol stack. UDP is a simple protocol that exchanges datagrams without acknowledgments or guaranteed delivery, requiring that error processing and retransmission be handled by other protocols. UDP is defined in RFC 768.

unblock To direct a router to remove a previously applied block.

unvirtualized sensing interface An unvirtualized sensing interface has not been divided into subinterfaces and the entire interfaces can be associated with at most one virtual sensor.

UPS Uninterruptable Power Source.

UTC Coordinated Universal Time. Time zone at zero degrees longitude. Formerly called Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and Zulu time.

V

VACL VLAN ACL. An ACL that filters all packets (both within a VLAN and between VLANs) that pass through a switch. Also known as security ACLs.

VID Version identifier. Part of the UDI.

VIP Versatile Interface Processor. Interface card used in Cisco 7000 and Cisco 7500 series routers. The VIP provides multilayer switching and runs Cisco IOS. The most recent version of the VIP is VIP2.

virtual sensor A logical grouping of sensing interfaces and the configuration policy for the signature engines and alarm filters to apply to them. In other words, multiple virtual sensors running on the same appliance, each configured with different signature behavior and traffic feeds.

virtualized sensing interface A virtualized interface has been divided into subinterfaces each of which consists of a group of VLANs. You can associate a virtual sensor with one or more subinterfaces so that different intrusion prevention policies can be assigned to those subinterfaces. You can virtualize both physical and inline interfaces.

virus Hidden, self-replicating section of computer software, usually malicious logic, that propagates by infecting—that is, inserting a copy of itself into and becoming part of—another program. A virus cannot run by itself; it requires that its host program be run to make the virus active.

virus update A signature update specifically addressing viruses.

VLAN	Virtual Local Area Network. Group of devices on one or more LANs that are configured (using management software) so that they can communicate as if they were attached to the same wire, when in fact they are located on a number of different LAN segments. Because VLANs are based on logical instead of physical connections, they are extremely flexible.
VTP	VLAN Trunking Protocol. Cisco Layer 2 messaging protocol that manages the addition, deletion, and renaming of VLANs on a network-wide basis.
VMS	CiscoWorks VPN/Security Management Solution. A suite of network security applications that combines web-based tools for configuring, monitoring, and troubleshooting enterprise VPN, firewalls, network intrusion detection systems and host-based intrusion prevention systems.
VoIP	Voice over IP. The capability to carry normal telephony-style voice over an IP-based internet with POTS-like functionality, reliability, and voice quality. VoIP enables a router to carry voice traffic (for example, telephone calls and faxes) over an IP network. In VoIP, the DSP segments the voice signal into frames, which then are coupled in groups of two and stored in voice packets. These voice packets are transported using IP in compliance with ITU-T specification H.323.
VPN	Virtual Private Network(ing). Enables IP traffic to travel securely over a public TCP/IP network by encrypting all traffic from one network to another. A VPN uses “tunneling” to encrypt all information at the IP level.
VTP	VLAN Trunking Protocol. A Cisco Layer 2 messaging protocol that manages the addition, deletion, and renaming of VLANs on a network-wide basis.
vulnerability	One or more attributes of a computer or a network that permit a subject to initiate patterns of misuse on that computer or network.

W

WAN	wide-area network. Data communications network that serves users across a broad geographic area and often uses transmission devices provided by common carriers. Frame Relay, SMDS, and X.25 are examples of WANs.
watch list rating	WLR. A weight associated with the CSA MC watch list in the range of 0 to 100 (CSA MC only uses the range 0 to 35).
Web Server	A component of the IPS.
WHOIS	A TCP-based query/response protocol used for querying an official database to determine the owner of a domain name or an IP address.
Wireshark	Wireshark is a free network protocol analyzer for UNIX and Windows. It lets you examine data from a live network or from a capture file on disk. You can interactively browse the capture data, viewing summary and detail information for each packet. Wireshark has several powerful features, including a rich display filter language and the ability to view the reconstructed stream of a TCP session. For more information, see http://www.wireshark.org .
worm	A computer program that can run independently, can propagate a complete working version of itself onto other hosts on a network, and can consume computer resources destructively.

X

X.509 Standard that defines information contained in a certificate.

XML eXtensible Markup Language. Textual file format used for data interchange between heterogeneous hosts.

Z

zone A set of destination IP addresses sorted into an internal, illegal, or external zone used by anomaly detection.



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