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Licensing on Smart Switches

NX-OS licensing model

This article describes licensing for Smart Switches, the N9300 Smart Switches that include the N9324C-SE1U and N9348Y2C6D-SE1U models. The N9000 and N3000 Series switches use Smart Licensing Using Policy (SLP) licensing model beginning with NX-OS Release 10.2(1)F. From 10.2(1)F SLP is the default and mandatory licensing model. SLP provides a consistent licensing experience across NX-OS devices.

Tier-based licenses

The N9300 Series Smart Switches use a tier-based licensing model with three characteristics:

- The model groups features into tiers, with each tier offering a specific set of capabilities.
- The model provides more advanced features at higher tiers.
- The model includes Data Center Networking (DCN) licenses available as subscriptions for 3, 5, or 7 years.

The tier-based DCN licenses supported on N9300 Series Smart Switches include three tiers:

- **Essentials**–Provides basic network capabilities.
- **Advantage**–Includes enhanced features beyond Essentials.
- **Premier**–Offers the full set of features.

Note

The default system software includes a comprehensive set of Layer 3 security and management features.

For details about tiered licensing and available options, refer to the Cisco NX-OS Licensing Options Guide.

For details about Smart Licensing Using Policy (SLP) and setup, refer to the specific articles that help you learn, deploy, and troubleshoot SLP Cisco NX-OS Licensing collection page.

Smart Licensing Using Policy

Smart Licensing Using Policy (SLP) is a policy-based, flexible software licensing model that

- provides a seamless licensing experience without disrupting network operations,
- allows you to use features immediately without needing prior registration or key generation, and
- tracks license usage and reports it to the Cisco Smart Software Manager (CSSM) for compliance and management.

Note

All licenses on these switches are unenforced.

For information about deploying and troubleshooting NX-OS SLP, refer to the Cisco NX-OS Licensing page.