



Cisco Nexus 1000V and VMware Compatibility Information, Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)

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This document provides the following compatibility information for the Cisco Nexus 1000V:

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Information About Software Compatibility

This section includes the following topics:

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- [Information About Server Compatibility, page 3](#)

Information About Upgrading and Software Compatibility

Important Customer Update

In order to improve customer support for the Cisco Nexus 1000V, Cisco now only updates the support matrix for major and minor releases from VMware. All VMware patch and update releases are automatically supported at the time of their release. VMware guarantees compatibility with all patches and updates, and customers are not required to check the matrix for VMware patch or update support.



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Interactive Upgrade Utility Tool

An easy-to-use *Cisco Nexus 1000V and VMware ESX/ESXi Upgrade Utility* provides you with steps to follow for your specific upgrade. It is available at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/web/techdoc/n1kv/upgrade/utility/n1kvmatrix.html>



Note

For additional information about *Cisco Nexus 1000V Compatibility Information, Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)*, view [Understanding Cisco Nexus 1000V and VMware Software Version Compatibility](#).

If you are not using VUM, to ensure compatibility with the existing VEM software version, you can update both the VEM and VMware software at the same time as follows:

- From the ESX CLI:
esxupdate --bundle [name of updated VEM offline bundle] --bundle [name of VMware offline update bundle] update

Example:

```
esxupdate --bundle VEM410-201204401.zip --bundle
upgrade-from-ESX4.0-to-4.1.0-0.0.260247-release.zip update
```

For ESXi release 5.0 and later use the following command:

```
esxcli software vib install -d [path to VEM offline bundle]
```

Example:

```
esxcli software vib install -d "../VEM500-201204142102-BG-release.zip"
```

- From the VI Host Update Utility:
vihostupdate --install --bundle "[path to VMware Update offline bundle]","[path to updated VEM offline bundle]" --server[vsphere host IP address]

Example:

```
vihostupdate --install --bundle
"/../upgrade-from-ESXi4.0-to-4.1.0-0.0.260247-release.zip", "/../ VEM410-201204401.zip"
--server192.168.1.101
```



Note

The **esxupdate** command is only available on ESX, not ESXi. The **vihostupdate** command is available on both ESX and ESXi.

Starting with ESX/ESXi 4.1 GA, and ESXi 5.0, binary compatibility was introduced. With the introduction of binary compatibility, it is no longer necessary to add the Cisco VIB when upgrading from one patch level to another.

With binary compatibility, if you are patching from ESX/ESXi410-201010001 to ESX/ESXi410-201011001, you run the following command:

```
esxupdate --bundle ESX410-201011001.zip update
```

For ESXi 5.0.0, you run the following command:

```
esxcli software vib update -d ESXi500-201207001.zip
```



Note

For more information about installing or upgrading VEM software, see the *Cisco Nexus 1000V Installation and Upgrade Guide, Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)*.

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Information About Server Compatibility

The servers running the Cisco Nexus 1000V VSM and VEM must be in the [VMware Hardware Compatibility List \(HCL\)](#).

The Cisco Nexus 1000V is compatible with any upstream physical access layer switch that is Ethernet standard compliant, including Catalyst 6500 series switches, Cisco Nexus switches, and switches from other network vendors.

Cisco Nexus 1000V Software Release Compatibility



Note

Cisco Nexus 1000V Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b) does not support VMware ESX/ESXi 4.0 release series and any earlier ESX/ESXi releases.

[Table 1](#) shows the software compatibility for Cisco Nexus 1000V, Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b) that are supported by VMware release.

Table 1 *VMware and Cisco Nexus 1000V Software Compatibility for Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)*

VMware Software Release Supported	Cisco Nexus 1000V Release
	Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)
ESXi 5.1 and later	Compatible ¹
ESXi 5.0 and later	Compatible ¹
ESX/ESXi 4.1 and later	Compatible ¹
ESX/ESXi 4.0 and later	Unsupported
ESX/ESXi 3.5 and later	Unsupported

1. Cisco Nexus 1000V VIB is available in the VSM home page http://<vsm_ip>

Important Customer Update

In order to improve customer support for the Cisco Nexus 1000V, Cisco now only updates the support matrix for major and minor releases from VMware. All VMware patch and update releases are automatically supported at the time of their release. VMware guarantees compatibility with all patches and updates, and customers are not required to check the matrix for VMware patch or update support.

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Host Software Version Compatibility

Table 2 lists the compatible host software versions for VMware ESXi 5.1, ESX 5.0, and ESX/ESXi 4.1 and the Cisco Nexus 1000V VEM for Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b).

Table 3 lists the VMware components version for Cisco Nexus 1000V.



Note

If you are upgrading VEMs using a Cisco Nexus 1000V software bundle, see the “[Information About Upgrading and Software Compatibility](#)” section on page 1.

Table 2 Host Software Version Compatibility for ESXi 5.1, 5.0, and 4.1

VMware Software Version	VIB Version ¹	VEM Bundle ²	Minimum Supported Version			
			Windows VC Installer	Linux vCenter Server Appliance	vSphere CLI	PowerShell CLI
ESXi 5.1	cross_cisco-vem-v147-4.2.1.1.5.2b.0-3.1.1.vib	VEM510-201212147105-BG-release.zip(Offline) VEM510-201212147105-BG(Online)	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1
ESXi 5.0	cross_cisco-vem-v147-4.2.1.1.5.2b.0-3.0.1.vib	VEM500-201212147102-BG-release.zip(Offline) VEM500-201212147102-BG(Online)	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
ESX/ESXi 4.1	cross_cisco-vem-v147-esx_4.2.1.1.5.2b.0-2.0.1	VEM410-201212147401.zip(Offline) VEM410-201212101-BG(Online)	4.1	4.1	4.1	ESX/ESXi 4.1

1. VIB files are available at <http://www.vmware.com/patch/download>.
2. VMware bundled software updates require placing the host in maintenance mode.

VMware Version Compatibility

Important Customer Update

In order to improve customer support for the Cisco Nexus 1000V, Cisco now only updates the support matrix for major and minor releases from VMware. All VMware patch and update releases are automatically supported at the time of their release. VMware guarantees compatibility with all patches and updates, and customers are not required to check the matrix for VMware patch or update support.

Table 3 lists the VMware components version for Cisco Nexus 1000V.

Table 3 VMware Version Compatibility for Cisco Nexus 1000V

Cisco Nexus 1000V Version	VMware vCenter Server Version (includes patches and updates)	VMware vCloud Director Version (includes patches and updates)	VMware vShield Manager Version (includes patches and updates)
Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)	4.1, 5.0, 5.1	1.5.1, 5.1	5.0.1, 5.0.2, 5.1

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**Note**

Cisco Nexus 1000V Release 4.2(1)SV1(5.2b) does not support any earlier versions of the VMware components listed in the above table.

Table 4 lists the VMware vCloud Director and vShield Manager compatibility version for Cisco Nexus 1000V

Table 4 vCloud Director and vShield Manager Version Compatibility for Cisco Nexus 1000V

VMware Software Version	Cisco Nexus 1000V Version			
	4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)	4.2(1)SV1(5.2)	4.2(1)SV1(5.1a)	4.2(1)SV1(5.1)
vCD 1.5.1	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible ¹
vShield Manager 5.0.1	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible ¹
vShield Manager 5.0.2	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible	Not Compatible

1. Only port group backed network pool is supported.

Table 5 lists the supported network pool in vCD with Cisco Nexus 1000V.

Table 5 Supported Network Pool in vCloud Director with Cisco Nexus 1000V

VMware Software Version	Network Pool in vCD	Description	Cisco Nexus 1000V Version			
			4.2(1)SV1(5.2b)	4.2(1)SV1(5.2)	4.2(1)SV1(5.1a)	4.2(1)SV1(5.1)
vCD 1.5.1 And vShield Manager 5.0.1	Port Group Backed	Export group is a network	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
	VLAN Backed	Can specify a range of VLANs in a vCD	Supported	Supported	Supported	Not Supported
	Network Isolation Backed	Cisco Nexus 1000V uses VXLAN for isolation-backed networks	Supported	Supported	Supported	Not Supported

Related Documentation

This section lists the documents used with the Cisco Nexus 1000 and available on [Cisco.com](http://www.cisco.com) at the following URL:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps9902/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

General Information

[Cisco Nexus 1000V Documentation Roadmap](#)

[Cisco Nexus 1000V Release Notes](#)

[Cisco Nexus 1000V Compatibility Information](#)

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Install and Upgrade

Cisco Nexus 1000V Installation and Upgrade Guide

Configuration Guides

Cisco Nexus 1000V High Availability and Redundancy Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Interface Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Layer 2 Switching Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V License Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Network Segmentation Manager Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Port Profile Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Quality of Service Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Security Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V System Management Configuration Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V VXLAN Configuration Guide

Programming Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V XML API User Guide

Reference Guides

Cisco Nexus 1000V Command Reference

Cisco Nexus 1000V MIB Quick Reference

Troubleshooting and Alerts

Cisco Nexus 1000V Troubleshooting Guide

Cisco Nexus 1000V Password Recovery Guide

Cisco NX-OS System Messages Reference

Virtual Services Appliance Documentation

The Cisco Nexus Virtual Services Appliance (VSA) documentation is available at

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps9902/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

Virtual Security Gateway Documentation

The Cisco Virtual Security Gateway documentation is available at

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11208/tsd_products_support_model_home.html

Virtual Network Management Center

The Cisco Virtual Network Management Center documentation is available at

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps11213/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

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Virtual Wide Area Application Services (vWAAS)

The Virtual Wide Area Application Services documentation is available at
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6870/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

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>

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