



NBAR Dynamic Protocol Pack Upgrade

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NBAR Dynamic Protocol Pack Upgrade

Protocol packs are software packages that update the Network-Based Application Recognition (NBAR) engine protocol support on a device without replacing the Cisco software on the device. A protocol pack contains information on applications that are officially supported by NBAR, and are compiled and packed together. In each application, the protocol pack includes information on application signatures and application attributes. Each software release has a built-in protocol pack bundled with it.

The Application Visibility and Control (AVC) feature (used for deep-packet inspection [DPI]) supports wireless products using a distributed approach that benefits from NBAR running on the access points (AP) or controller whose goal is to run DPI and report the result using NetFlow messages.

The AVC DPI technology supports the ability to update recognized traffic and to define the custom type of traffic (known as custom applications). The NBAR runs on the controller in local mode, and on the APs in Flex and Fabric modes. In local mode, all the traffic coming from the APs are tunneled towards the wireless controller.



Note

- Although NBAR is supported in all the modes, upgrade of NBAR protocol packs is supported only in local mode (central switching) and in FlexConnect mode (central switching).
 - Custom applications are available only in local mode (central switching) and in FlexConnect mode (central switching).
 - When you upgrade the AVC protocol pack, copy the protocol pack to both RPs (active and standby). Otherwise, the protocol pack on the standby upgrade will fail and cause the synchronization failure crash.
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Protocol packs provide the following features:

- They can be loaded easily and quickly.
- They can be upgraded to a later version protocol pack or revert to an earlier version protocol pack.
- Device reload is not required.

- They do not disrupt any service.

Protocol Pack Upgrade

Using protocol pack upgrades, you can update the NBAR engine to recognize new types of protocols or traffic without updating the entire switch or appliance image. It also eliminates the need to restart the entire system.

NBAR protocol packs are available for download from Cisco Software Center: <https://software.cisco.com/download/navigator.html>

Custom Applications

Using custom applications, you can force the NBAR engine to recognize traffic based on a set of custom rules, for example, destination IP, hostname, URL, and so on.

The custom application names then appear in the web UI or in the NetFlow collector.

Upgrading the NBAR2 Protocol Pack

Follow the procedure given below to upgrade the NBAR2 protocol pack:

Before you begin

Download the protocol pack from [Software Download](#) page and copy it into the bootflash.

Procedure

| | Command or Action | Purpose |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Step 1 | <p>configure terminal</p> <p>Example:</p> <pre>Device# configure terminal</pre> | Enters global configuration mode. |
| Step 2 | <p>ip nbar protocol-pack bootflash:pack-name</p> <p>Example:</p> <pre>Device(config)# ip nbar protocol-pack bootflash:mypp.pack</pre> | Loads the protocol pack. |