



NGFW Security Management Center Appliance

7.1.2

Release Notes

Contents

- [About this release on page 2](#)
- [Build number and checksums on page 2](#)
- [System requirements on virtualization platforms on page 3](#)
- [Compatibility on page 4](#)
- [New features on page 4](#)
- [Enhancements on page 4](#)
- [Security updates on page 7](#)
- [Resolved and known issues on page 7](#)
- [Install the SMC Appliance on page 7](#)
- [Upgrade the SMC Appliance on page 8](#)
- [Find product documentation on page 9](#)

About this release

This document contains important information about this software release for the Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance (SMC Appliance). We strongly recommend that you read the entire document.

The SMC Appliance ships with pre-installed Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center (SMC) software. The pre-installed SMC includes a Management Server and a Log Server. You can alternatively install the SMC Appliance software on a virtualization platform.



Note

The SMC Appliance does not support high-availability for the Management Server or the Log Server.

Build number and checksums

The build number for SMC 7.1.2 is 11426. This release contains Dynamic Update package 1655.

Use checksums to make sure that files downloaded correctly.

- 7.1.2P001.sap

```
SHA1SUM:
fe66c64100b79b195a6d72a5bc3618d4ebf2b9fc

SHA256SUM:
cecac82a32db78d705ab783fb9b16dfb0a55425fbfe3b22013e3fba7c84de52f

SHA512SUM:
8d80210940650a7f1edbdefafc26a148
d21edb046da796dd67a9336cad2af348
c3060680871bd648be80816693fc0737
0ca82fbc3871e87d8619fd6c612413fa
```

- 7.1.2U001.sap

```
SHA1SUM:
be1cd7170190f7a9680994fad638eab9d9edafba

SHA256SUM:
b5bf568c93d8ba7b8c88736336a2b439f14b48244c76638ef83d1d7fd4ae9792

SHA512SUM:
c8770cd9a4a0ac71cce8b7812c42b1d3
3a2e32e03ecea523fa04d866a4b25c1
47c378edb6d0bc998b99b34f7bf33b5d
3187d8bdf9fc7a3d6947ab377fa0b1b1
```

System requirements on virtualization platforms

As an alternative to using the SMC Appliance software on the pre-installed Forcepoint appliance, you can install the SMC Appliance software on a virtualization platform.



CAUTION

To protect the privacy of your data, we recommend installing the NGFW Engines, SMC components, or SMC Appliance on a hypervisor that does not host any other virtual machines.

Component	Requirement
Hypervisor	VMware ESXi version 6.0 or higher
Memory	16 GB RAM
Virtual disk space	128 GB
Interfaces	At least one network interface

The .iso installation file that is used to install the SMC Appliance software on a virtualization platform is available only for major versions of the SMC Appliance. To install the maintenance version, first install the .iso for the major version, then upgrade to the maintenance version.

Compatibility

SMC 7.1 can manage all compatible Forcepoint NGFW Engine versions up to and including version 7.1.



Important

Some versions of Forcepoint NGFW have reached end-of-life status and no longer receive maintenance releases that contain security updates. Even though these Forcepoint NGFW versions might be compatible with the SMC, we recommend that you use a Long-Term Support version that is still supported. For more information about the Forcepoint NGFW lifecycle policy, see <https://support.forcepoint.com/ProductSupportLifeCycle>.

SMC 7.1 is compatible with the following component versions.

- Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall (Forcepoint NGFW) 6.3 or higher
- McAfee Enterprise Security Manager (McAfee ESM) 11.1.x or higher


New features


No new features are included in this release.

Enhancements

This release of the product includes these enhancements.


Enhancements in SMC version 7.1.1

Enhancement	Description
Local Sandbox - Advanced Malware Detection & Protection option	<p>You can now configure an Advanced Malware Detection & Protection local sandbox to detect advanced threats by analyzing the behavior of files in a restricted operating system environment.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p> Note</p> <p>You need a local Advanced Malware Detection & Protection server to use this local sandbox service.</p> </div> <p>For more information, see the <i>Connect Secure SD-WAN to a sandbox service</i> and the <i>Define Sandbox Service elements</i> sections in the <i>Forcepoint FlexEdge Secure SD-WAN Product Guide</i>.</p>
Easy identification of VPN site status	<p>Support for enabled and disabled VPN site icons are added. The appropriate VPN site icon is displayed in the preview or editor view in SMC User Interface to help easily differentiate, if the VPN site is in enabled or disabled state.</p>

Enhancement	Description
Temporarily Ban for Multiple Failed Logon Attempts (Password Policy) option	<p>You can now configure the password policy in the global system settings to temporarily ban an IP address, when logon attempts by a SMC administrator from a single IP address reaches the maximum failed logon attempts.</p> <p>For more information, see the <i>Centralized management of global system settings</i> section in the <i>Forcepoint FlexEdge Secure SD-WAN Product Guide</i>.</p>
Updated the ElasticSearch client libraries to version 8.8.2	<p>The ElasticSearch client libraries are updated to the version 8.8.2 to improve the indexing performance.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; background-color: #f9f9f9; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p> Note</p> <p>In the ElasticSearch version 8.8.2, OpenSearch is no longer supported.</p> </div> <p>For more information, see the Requirements for using Elasticsearch with Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center (SMC) Knowledge Base Article.</p>

Enhancements in SMC version 7.1.0

Enhancement	Description
BGP Monitoring Protocol (BMP) Configuration	<p>Support for BMP configuration options from the Dynamic Routing Editor. It is used to monitor BGP sessions and send the monitored data from BGP routers to the network management entities. Also, when configured the log events includes the information for the configured options, and which in turn helps to make correlation of BMP and engine logs easy for analytics.</p> <p>For more information, see <i>Create core elements for dynamic routing</i>, and <i>Enable BGP on the Engine, Engine Cluster, or Virtual Engine</i> sections in <i>Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide</i>.</p>
Improved Application Health Monitoring	<p>The Application Health Monitoring feature now comes with the following support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhanced engine monitoring and better support for non-TCP traffic, that is there is now support for applications that use UDP for data transport. ■ Visibility into application health history and health status history of network applications. ■ Better ISP link status monitoring. ■ Application health status history. <p>For more information, see <i>Application Health Monitoring Dashboard</i> section in <i>Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide</i>.</p>

Enhancement	Description
Improved SD-WAN algorithms and link selection logic	<p>The following updates have been done to provide for better user experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Engine logic is updated to avoid too much packet loss before the traffic is sent to the better links. ■ The QoS link value is tuned to make QoS link value selection feature to work as intended. <p>Also, the Default SD-WAN Link Balancing Preference option is made available to allow you to set the preferences on how the traffic is balanced over the links for each engine.</p> <p>For more information, see <i>Create Link Usage Profile elements</i> section in <i>Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide</i>.</p>
Tunnel interface now supports multiple IP addresses	It is now possible to add multiple IP addresses (that can be of types IPv4 and IPv6) for tunnel interfaces.
IPFIX forwarding	<p>When you export IPFIX information, the following new IPFIX Element IDs are now supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ EID 5 ipClassOfService ■ EID 58 vlanId (source VLAN) ■ EID 59 postVlanId (destination VLAN) ■ EID 60 ipVersion ■ EID 89 forwardingStatus ■ EID 90 mplsVpnRouteDistinguisher ■ EID 131 exporterIPv6Address <div data-bbox="472 1115 1469 1520" style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p> Note</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) EID 90 mplsVpnRouteDistinguisher is exported, only when BMP monitoring is configured for the engine that originates the log entries. 2) The following IPFIX element IDs are only generated by engine version 7.1.0 or later: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ EID 5 ipClassOfService ■ EID 89 forwardingStatus ■ EID 90 mplsVpnRouteDistinguisher </div>

Security updates

For information about third-party packages and associated vulnerabilities included with SMC in this product release, see Knowledge Base article [41766](#) .

Resolved and known issues

For a list of resolved and known issues in this product release, see Knowledge Base article [41216](#) .

Install the SMC Appliance

Use these high-level steps to install the SMC Appliance.

For detailed information about installing the SMC Appliance and the NGFW Engines, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*. All guides are available for download at <https://support.forcepoint.com/s/article/Documentation-Featured-Article>.

Steps

- 1) Turn on the SMC Appliance.
- 2) Select the keyboard layout for accessing the SMC Appliance on the command line.
- 3) Accept the EULA.
- 4) Enter the account name and password.
For credential requirements, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*.
- 5) Make your security selections.
- 6) Complete the network interface and network setup fields.
- 7) Enter a host name for the Management Server and set DNS servers.
- 8) Select the time zone.
- 9) (Optional) Configure NTP settings.
- 10) After the SMC Appliance has restarted, install the Management Client.
As an alternative to installing the Management Client locally, you can use SMC Web Access to start and run the Management Client in a web browser. SMC Web Access is enabled by default for new installations of the SMC Appliance.
- 11) Import the licenses for all components.
You can generate licenses at <https://stonesoftlicenses.forcepoint.com>.

- 12) Create the NGFW Engine elements, then install and configure the NGFW Engines.

Upgrade the SMC Appliance

Use an upgrade patch to upgrade the SMC Appliance from a previous version to version 7.1.2.

There are two kinds of SMC Appliance patches:

- Hotfix patches include improvements and enhancements for the current SMC Appliance version. Hotfix patch files use the letter P as a separator between the version number and the patch number. Example: 7.1.1P001
- Upgrade patches upgrade the SMC Appliance to a new version. Upgrade patch files use the letter U as a separator between the version number and the patch number. Example: 7.1.1U001

We recommend checking the availability of SMC Appliance patches regularly, and installing the patches when they become available. For detailed information about installing SMC Appliance patches, see the *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*.

- SMC 7.1 requires an updated license.
 - If the automatic license update function is in use, the license is updated automatically.
 - If the automatic license update function is not in use, request a license upgrade on our website at <https://stonesoftlicenses.forcepoint.com>. Activate the new license using the Management Client before upgrading the software.
- The SMC Appliance must be upgraded before the NGFW Engines are upgraded to the same major version.
- You can upgrade from the following SMC versions; however, only the latest maintenance release and LTS versions are tested. Hence, It is recommended to upgrade to the latest LTS release of SMC, regardless of NGFW Engine versions being managed. For detailed information on how to upgrade SMC Appliance to a new version, see *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*.
 - 6.10.13
 - 7.1.1



Note

Attempting an upgrade to 7.1.2 from any other version will result in an error when loading the patch: ERROR: Unable to load 7.1.2U001.sap to /var/ambr/downloaded. ERROR: wrong tag ERROR: Failed to load: 7.1.2U001.sap You must upgrade to 6.10.13 or 7.1.1 before attempting an upgrade to 7.1.2.

For detailed information on how to upgrade the SMC Appliance from a version that is not listed above to a newer version, see Knowledge Base article [41318](#).

- If you configured SNMP for the SMC Appliance before upgrading to version 6.4.0 or higher, you must configure SNMP again.

You can upgrade the SMC Appliance using the Management Client or using the appliance maintenance and bug remediation (AMBR) patching utility on the command line of the SMC Appliance. For detailed information, see *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide*.

Find product documentation

In the Forcepoint Customer Hub, you can find information about a released product, including product documentation, technical articles, and more.

You can get additional information and support for your product in the Forcepoint Customer Hub at <https://support.forcepoint.com>. There, you can access product documentation, release notes, Knowledge Base articles, downloads, cases, and contact information.

You might need to log on to access the Forcepoint Customer Hub. If you do not yet have credentials, create a customer account. See <https://support.forcepoint.com/CreateAccount>.

Product documentation

Every Forcepoint product has a comprehensive set of documentation.

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Product Guide*
- Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall online Help



Note

By default, the online Help is used from the Forcepoint help server. If you want to use the online Help from a local machine (for example, an intranet server or your own computer), see Knowledge Base article [10097](#).

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Installation Guide*

Other available documents include:

- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Hardware Guide* for your model
- *Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance Hardware Guide*
- *Forcepoint Next Generation Firewall Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint NGFW Security Management Center Appliance Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint NGFW SMC API User Guide*
- *Forcepoint VPN Client User Guide* for Windows or Mac
- *Forcepoint VPN Client Product Guide*
- *Forcepoint NGFW Manager and VPN Broker Product Guide*

