



# **Network Security Platform**

**7.3.3**

**Security Management Center  
Appliance (SMC Appliance)**

**Release Notes**

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# About this release

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

The SMC Appliance ships with pre-installed Forcepoint Security Management Center 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.

## Experimental Features

Some features are marked as *Experimental*. These are newly introduced features or enhancements that are still in the testing phase and may not yet be fully polished or stable. They are released to gather user feedback and identify potential issues before a broader rollout.

# Build number and checksums

The build number for SMC 7.3.3 is 11727. This release contains Dynamic Update package 1981.

Use checksums to make sure that files downloaded correctly.

### 7.3.3P001.sap

```
SHA256SUM:
e95ec7bee226e6d313fc8ce9cf137940fac6f6e599f7a4cf838e01c79692a6d5

SHA512SUM:
5b18e33b7af819781ab5511d62e4a0c2
bb702fb7b4739a6904a61862fe9d6bfc
5280a0da704f7a22eb3cbfcd084eafc5
aff67ade5923a47c9db681eadf827061
```

### 7.3.3U001.sap

```
SHA256SUM:
ec258ae0c5211046b7bad40b47330c0a0afa269ac15d77982100ce3615c9c185

SHA512SUM:
745ef7da67441217044afef9e384db4a
0a98e76bc574b13877507fb8ed3d1872
89c27f0319ba503f7b36bb55c3230e62
6d894363c58a1551c93eb9d537c22ccd
```

### smca-7.3.3-11727.x86\_64.iso

```
SHA256SUM:
cb9d09b0bbdb3a8df2c3b533716153d36d4375f5b16a23ad4523d09054147cb5

SHA512SUM:
ed9da05aa8532bd934695677e4504463
79dc248a2ea0da2c8ee2e50dc79dcd7b
41eb2afb1ca5cf2c15ebaa4cfa423bbf
846b1895d221a2f79984f21816a01a52
```

## System requirements

To use this product, your system must meet these basic hardware and software requirements.

### Forcepoint appliance requirements

This release supports the following SKUs for the Forcepoint SMC Appliance:

- SMCAP
- SMCAPG2
- SMCAPG5

### Virtualization platform requirements

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.

| Component  | Requirement                       |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hypervisor | VMware ESXi version 7.0 or higher |
| Memory     | 16 GB RAM                         |

| Component          | Requirement                    |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 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

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SMC 7.3 can manage all compatible Security Engine versions from 6.10 up to and including version 7.3.

## New features

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This release of the product includes these new features. For more information and configuration instructions, see the *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Product Guide* and the *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Installation Guide*.

### Post-quantum Security for IPsec VPNs

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Post-quantum security is now supported for site-to-site IPsec VPN tunnels by mixing preshared keys in the Internet Key Exchange Protocol Version 2 (IKEv2) as specified in RFC 8784.

### SMC Web Access certificate authentication

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The SMC Web Access UI can authenticate administrators utilizing client certificates.

### Read-only Web Portal UI for admins (Experimental)

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The previously deprecated Web Portal UI functionality re-implemented utilizing the SMC API can now be enabled via SMC API settings of the Management Server. The old Web Portal UI will no longer be available in SMC 7.3.0.

# Enhancements

This release of the product includes these enhancements.

## Enhancements in SMC Appliance version 7.3.0

| Enhancement              | Description                                                                                          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SMC Appliance OS updates | The operating system for Security Management Center Appliance has been refreshed to a newer version. |

# Resolved and known issues

For a list of resolved and known issues in this product release, see Knowledge Base article [11661](#) .

# Security updates

For information about third-party packages and associated vulnerabilities included with SMC Appliance in this product release, see Knowledge Base article [11727](#) .

# Install the SMC Appliance

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

For detailed information about installing the SMC Appliance and the Security Engines, see the *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Installation Guide*. All guides are available for download at [help.forcepoint.com](https://help.forcepoint.com).

## 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 Network Security Platform 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, you can use the SMC Web Access with a web browser to access the management UI of the SMC Appliance.  
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 Security Engine elements, then install and configure the Security Engines.

## Upgrade the SMC Appliance

Use an upgrade patch to upgrade the SMC Appliance from a previous version to version 7.3.3.

There are two kinds of SMC Appliance patches:

- 1) **Hotfix patches** include bug fixes and other improvements for the current SMC Appliance version. In addition, P patches also include binaries for the standalone client. Once the patch is activated, these binaries become available through the SMC Downloads.  
Hotfix patch files use the letter **P** as a separator between the version number and the patch number.  
**Example:** 7.3.1P001
- 2) **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:** 7.3.1U001

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 Network Security Platform Installation Guide*.

- SMC 7.3 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 SMC Client before upgrading the software.
- The SMC Appliance must be upgraded before the Security 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 Engine versions being managed. For detailed information on how to upgrade SMC Appliance to a new version, see *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Installation Guide*.
  - 6.10.13 - 6.10.18

- 7.1.1 - 7.1.9
- 7.2.1 - 7.2.6
- 7.3.0 - 7.3.1

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](#).

You can upgrade the SMC Appliance using the SMC 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 Network Security Platform Product Guide*.

## Deprecated features

Before upgrading, please consider these feature deprecations.

| Feature                              | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Legacy IPsec VPN algorithms removed  | Support for legacy and insecure IPsec VPN algorithms has been removed. This includes the removal of support for DES and Blowfish ciphers, the MD5 message digest algorithm, and Diffie-Hellman groups 1 (768 bit) and 2 (1024 bit). |
| Legacy Web Portal UI service removed | Support for the legacy and insecure Web Portal UI service has been removed. It has been replaced with a re-implemented service using the SMC API, offering similar basic read-only admin access.                                    |

## 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 [To create a customer account](#), navigate to the Customer Hub Home page, and then click the **Create Account** link..

## Product documentation

Every Forcepoint product has a comprehensive set of documentation.

- *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Product Guide*
- *Forcepoint Network Security Platform 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 Network Security Platform Installation Guide*

Other available documents include:

- *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Hardware Guide* for your model
- *Forcepoint Security Management Center Console Appliance Hardware Guide*
- *Forcepoint Network Security Platform Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint Security Management Center Console Appliance Quick Start Guide*
- *Forcepoint Security Management Center 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*

