



Network Security Platform

7.3.4

**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 7.3.4 is 11739. This release contains Dynamic Update package 1998.

Use checksums to make sure that files downloaded correctly.

■ 7.3.4P001.sap

SHA256SUM:
e5b213cd4057fa94e9eccd3c2b4664f38030c5953f2c1a515c6c5508e575bc39

SHA512SUM:
55a00829623fdb4536c2c9877dd4c1cf
7157d3ce78776c48f465d5e3ff2eb238
fa2e7f0df10b2cd05454e8e8808f9c3d
ef19f54989ac43e22152dd930655a598

■ 7.3.4U001.sap

SHA256SUM:
d177fda3388cadeacc03a49cde50ca8a1662b957ee0d886b2cab2a006f3ac39d

SHA512SUM:
8ddcb1dd93f36675edf920984ee57a62
6d2a12bb67a61cb7404b7b0a8324c5d9
51294813dbaca9d9b0fd78e05cf0415f
732c77dbb72b28fe3ee266f510a7327e

■ smca-7.3.4-11739.x86_64.iso

SHA256SUM:
c075452440d854cc6087d1ae7dce3ebdb5d1fc630f6cfc954a2d8d1edbd8a4eb

SHA512SUM:
305a2a68062d037af8d7f7da1cbd041e
a635334ab05e1d7c814d5934b278931a
1ea049156a9939410c72eb28a723eabf
44e1f5e645199e33d3d08a51af643bd5

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

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

New features

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

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

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

Read-only Web Portal UI for admins (Experimental)

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.

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 7.3.4.

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 - 6.10.19

- 7.1.1 - 7.1.9
- 7.2.1 - 7.2.6
- 7.3.0 - 7.3.3

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*

