

SonicWall® Secure Mobile Access 12.3

Upgrade Guide



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Introduction

This document describes the process of updating your SonicWall® Secure Mobile Access (SMA) firmware. Specific upgrade scenarios include:

- Upgrading a standalone SMA 1000 appliance
- Upgrading the Central Management Server (CMS) along with its managed SMA 1000 appliances

Topics:

- [Upgrade Description](#)
- [Special Considerations](#)
- [Preparation](#)
- [SMA Infrastructure Upgrade](#)
- [Post-Upgrade Tasks](#)

Upgrade Description

Upgrading your SMA infrastructure is a multi-task process that includes obtaining the updates or hotfixes, updating the SMA appliances, and updating the client endpoints. Instructions for creating a MySonicWall account and how to register your appliances are also included, if you haven't already done that.

Topics:

- [Upgrade Summary](#)
- [Platform Compatibility](#)
- [Deprecated Features](#)
- [Unsupported Features](#)

Upgrade Summary

To upgrade process for SMA includes updating both the SMA appliances and the client end points, such as a user's laptop. Instructions for both are provided. The following lists summarizes the general process for an upgrade.

- 1 Create a MySonicWall account, if you don't already have one. MySonicWall is a resource center, giving you access to many tools and support.
i | **NOTE:** MySonicWall registration information is not sold or shared with any other company.
- 2 Register your devices on MySonicWall. Registration provides access to essential resources, such as your license file, firmware updates, documentation, and technical support information.
- 3 Retrieve the upgrade file for your SMA appliance and for the client end points from MySonicWall.
- 4 Upload and install the upgrade file:
 - For standalone appliances: upload and install the upgrade file using the Appliance Management Console (AMC).
 - For CMS managed appliances: upload and install the upgrade file using the Central Management Console (CMC).
i | **NOTE:** Do not upgrade the CMS to 12.3 until all of its managed appliances have been upgraded to 12.3.
- 5 Upload and install the upgrade file to your appliance using the Appliance Management Console (AMC).
i | **NOTE:** The appliance is rebooted as a part of the upgrade process.
- 6 Hotfixes are released to patch bugs. There are platform and client hotfixes. They should be applied to the platform first and then the client. Both hotfixes, and also related client upgrades, are necessary to resolve all known issues fixed by that hotfix set.
- 7 Install the client upgrade on all the client endpoint upgrade and verify them.

Platform Compatibility

The SMA 12.3 Central Management Service with Global Traffic Optimizer supports the following SMA 1000 series appliances running SMA 12.3 firmware:

- SMA 6200
- SMA 7200
- SMA 8200v (ESX/Hyper-V)

NOTE: EX6000, EX7000, and EX9000 appliances cannot be upgraded to SMA 12.3.

You can upgrade a supported SMA appliance directly to version 12.3 from these versions:

- 12.2.0 + latest hotfixes
- 12.1.0 + latest hotfixes
- 11.4.0 + latest hotfixes

IMPORTANT: To upgrade from SMA 11.4, you must upgrade to version 12.1 first, then upgrade to 12.3.

NOTE: Upgrading a virtual appliance hosted on ESXI requires network adapter changes. Refer to the SonicWall Support Knowledge Base article at: <https://www.sonicwall.com/support/knowledge-base/170502800288963>.

Deprecated Features

The following features have been deprecated on all SMA 1000 series appliances in SMA 12.3:

- Support for RSA ClearTrust authentication servers is hidden by default in SMA 12.3. It can, if necessary, be enabled by setting `CEM MGMT_ALLOW_CLEARTRUST=true`.
- Support for Fallback Servers for Network Tunnel clients is hidden by default in SMA 12.3. It can, if necessary, be enabled by setting `CEM MGMT_FALLBACK_SERVERS=true`.

Unsupported Features

The following features are no longer supported on all SMA 1000 series appliances in SMA 12.3:

- **Virtual Assist**

When you attempt to upgrade to SMA 12.3 from an earlier release or import an SMA 12.3 configuration, the system prevents the upgrade or import and notifies you with the following message:

```
Virtual Assist is not available in SMA 12.3. You must disable  
Virtual Assist before you can upgrade to SMA 12.3.
```

You can disable Virtual Assist on the **System Configuration > Virtual Assist > General** page, and then start the upgrade process again. Once Virtual Assist is disabled, the upgrade process completes successfully.

- **Replication**

CMS provides central policy management through the Policy Synchronization feature. Therefore, the Replication feature has been removed from SMA, and all references to the replication feature have been removed from the Appliance Management Console. The **Replicate** section no longer appears on the **Maintenance** page, and the entire **Configure Replication** page, accessed via the **Configure** button, has been removed. In SMA 12.3, CMS Policy Synchronization is the equivalent of the old Replication feature.

- **High Availability Pair**

High Availability (HA) Pair has been deprecated. The Central Management Service with Global Traffic Optimizer replaces HA Pair. The CMS and Central User licenses replace HA Pair licenses.

All HA Pair connections must be disabled before you can upgrade to SMA 12.3. Attempting to upgrade a node in an HA Pair to SMA 12.3 does not succeed and generates this error message:

```
Except: Special CEM to allow upgrade that breaks node out of pair.
```

- **Virtual Host with IP Address**

Upgrading to SMA 12.3 may not succeed if any virtual hosts with IP addresses are defined in the current configuration. Importing the full SMA 12.3 configuration does not succeed, but importing a partial SMA 12.3 configuration succeeds if the extra IP addresses are removed from the current configuration first.

Special Considerations

Some customer configurations may need some additional consideration when planning your SMA upgrade. Since HA Pairs have been deprecated, you need to reconfigure your appliances to break up the pair. Solutions with Connect Tunnel implemented also has special considerations for updating endpoints.

Topics:

- [Upgrading HA Pairs](#)
- [Connect Tunnel Upgrade Requirements](#)
- [Upgrading OSPWAT OESIS libraries from V3 to V4](#)

Upgrading HA Pairs

The Central Management Service with Global Traffic Optimizer makes the High Availability (HA) Pairs obsolete. Once upgraded, traffic can be distributed across the appliances seamlessly, and an appliance failure has limited effect on the user. To take advantage of this new features, be aware of these items as you upgrade:

- Central Management Service with Global Traffic Optimizer requires a Central User License to ensure Global High Availability among your appliances. Contact SonicWall Sales to exchange your legacy HA Pair licenses for CMS-based Central User Licenses.
- If you have appliances that are nodes in an HA Pair, you cannot upgrade them directly to SMA 12.3. The upgrade process recognizes that it is being run on a node in an HA Pair and blocks the upgrade process.

You can set `CEM_UPGRADE_HA_OVERRIDE=true`. This will allow you to directly upgrade from an HA pair node to a standalone appliance. The upgrade process will result in two different configurations: one on the former *node1*, and one on the former *node2*. Their configurations will be the same, except for the internal and external physical interface configurations. After the HA pair has been upgraded, and are configured as separate appliances, they can be individually added to a CMS cluster.

- If you configure an extension mechanism (or CEM) to acknowledge that the upgrade results in a standalone appliance, the upgrade is allowed to continue. The upgrade assumes the identity (name/addresses) of the node being upgraded. After upgrading, the two new stand alone appliances may share overlapping resources between them. For example, the address pools for each appliance are identical. Running the upgrade process with the CEM results in two standalone appliances running SMA 12.3.
- Currently, a full import of the configuration is not allowed from an HA appliance onto a standalone appliance. You can import a partial configuration from an HA appliance onto a standalone appliance, as well as onto a CMS.

Connect Tunnel Upgrade Requirements

Client component upgrades follow the same requirements as appliance upgrades. The latest hotfixes for the client components should be applied before performing the upgrade.

You can upgrade appliance and client components to 12.3 as shown below:

- 12.2.0 + latest hotfixes -> 12.3
- 12.1.0 + latest hotfixes -> 12.3
- 11.4.0 + latest hotfixes -> 12.3

❗ **IMPORTANT:** To upgrade from earlier versions of Connect Tunnel, you must upgrade to version 12.1 first, then upgrade to 12.3.

After you download the client hotfix to your appliance, the client-side fixes are then automatically pushed to each client system as it connects to the appliance. Depending on your environment, this can take a few days, weeks, or even months before all clients have connected and received the client-side fixes.

❗ **NOTE:** To use Central Management Service with Global Traffic Optimizer, Connect Tunnel clients must upgrade to SMA 12.1 or higher.

Upgrading OPSWAT OESIS libraries from V3 to V4

The OESIS V3 libraries have been declared out of support by OPSWAT. Refer to this Knowledge Base article for more information: <https://www.sonicwall.com/support/knowledge-base/171004181702551>.

Preparation

You need to complete several tasks before updating your SMA infrastructure:

- [Finding the Authentication Code](#)
- [Registering your SMA Appliance](#)
- [Obtaining the Upgrade File or Hotfix](#)
- [Verifying the Downloaded Upgrade File](#)
- [Backing up your Current Configuration](#)

Finding the Authentication Code

When you register your SMA appliance, you need to provide an authentication code. Your authentication code is the hardware identifier for your appliance. It is displayed in the following places:

- On the appliance label
- On the **System Management > General Settings** page in the Appliance Management Console (AMC)

Registering your SMA Appliance

Registering your appliances ensures that you have access to the latest updates and hotfixes.

NOTE: You must have a MySonicWall account in order to register the appliance. If you do not already have a MySonicWall account, navigate to <https://mysonicwall.com> and follow the prompts to create one.


To register your appliance:

- 1 Locate your software serial number, which is printed on the back of your SonicWall appliance.
- 2 Navigate to [MySonicWall](#) and log in with your username and password.
- 3 Click on the **Add Product** icon on the far right of your MySonicWall **Dashboard**. The **Quick Register** dialog box displays.
- 4 Enter your serial number, and then click **Confirm**.
- 5 Confirm your serial number.
- 6 Enter a name for this appliance.
- 7 Enter the authentication code.
- 8 Select the Product group to which you want assign the appliance.
- 9 Click **Register**.
- 10 Follow the online prompts to complete the registration process.

Obtaining the Upgrade File or Hotfix

To obtain the upgrade file:

- 1 Navigate to <https://www.mysonicwall.com>.
- 2 Log in with your MySonicWall username and password.
- 3 On the **Resources & Support > My Downloads** page, select your appliance model from the **My Downloads** list.
- 4 Click the Download icon for the upgrade file or hotfix that you want to download for your appliance.

 **NOTE:** Click the down arrow to view the size of the file.

For a new firmware version, you will be prompted to download a file named *<part number>_upgrade-<n>_<n>_<n>_<three-digit build number>.bin* file to your local computer. Hotfix filenames use the following naming convention: *<component>-hotfix-<version>-<hotfix number>.bin*.

Verifying the Downloaded Upgrade File

To verify that the update was successfully transferred to your local computer, compare its checksum against the MD5 checksum information displayed on MySonicWall.

To verify the MD5 checksum of the upgrade file on a PC, use a Windows- or Java-based utility. Microsoft, for example, offers an unsupported command-line utility on their site named *File Checksum Integrity Verifier (FCIV)*.


To compare checksums using the File Checksum Integrity Verifier:

- 1 At the DOS command prompt, type the following, which returns a checksum for the downloaded file:
`fciv <upgrade_filename>.bin`
- 2 Compare the result against the MD5 checksum displayed on MySonicWall. If they match, you can safely continue with your update. If they differ, try the download again and compare the resulting checksums. If they still do not match, contact Technical Support.
- 3 To verify the MD5 checksum directly on your appliance, type the following command to see the checksum for the downloaded file:
`md5sum <upgrade_filename>.bin`

Backing up your Current Configuration

Before updating, back up the current configuration of your appliance. You can use the export feature in the Appliance Management Console (AMC). These steps are optional, but recommended.

- 1 From the main AMC navigation menu, navigate to **System Configuration > Maintenance**.
- 2 In the **System Configuration** section, in the **Import or export** area, click **Import/Export....**
- 3 In the **Export Configuration** section, click the **Export...** button.
- 4 Click **OK**.
- 5 If it prompts you to open the `.aea` file or save it, save it to your hard drive.

 **NOTE:** On Windows operating systems, Internet Explorer may block the download of the `.aea` file. To work around this, click the information bar that appears beneath the Internet Explorer **Address** box, and then click **Download File**.

SMA Infrastructure Upgrade

Before upgrading, you need to validate that your appliances are running the latest hotfix. The most recent Hotfix list for each firmware version as of the release of this document is shown below. Additional hotfixes may be released in the future; access the corresponding Knowledge Base link to see the most up-to-date hotfix recommendations.

Current Hotfixes (as of Publication Date)

Firmware Version	Latest Platform (Appliance) Hotfix	Latest Client Hotfix	Knowledgebase Article
12.2.0	pform-hotfix-12.1.0-04473	clt-hotfix-12.1.0-04432	
12.1.0	pform-hotfix-12.1.0-05681	clt-hotfix-12.1.0-05629	
11.4.0	pform-hotfix-11.4.0-01444	clt-hotfix-11.4.0-1474	https://www.sonicwall.com/support/knowledge-base/?sol_id=170502420247167

NOTE: Upgrading a virtual appliance hosted on ESXi is known to have problems. Refer to the SonicWall Knowledge Base article at <https://www.sonicwall.com/support/knowledge-base/170502800288963> for more information.

Topics:

- [Installing an Update or Hotfix Using the Appliance Management Console](#)
- [Upgrading Managed Appliances Using CMS](#)
- [Verifying the Update](#)

Installing an Update or Hotfix Using the Appliance Management Console

If you have not already downloaded the update or hotfix file, see [Obtaining the Upgrade File or Hotfix](#) for instructions. Save the file to your local system.

NOTE: The upgrade fails if Virtual Assist/Replication/GMS is enabled.

To install the update or hotfix:

- 1 From the main navigation menu in AMC, navigate to the **System Configuration > Maintenance**.
- 2 In the **System Software Updates** section, in the **Update** area, click **Update...**
- 3 Click **Browse** to locate the update or hotfix file, or type the file path.
- 4 Expand the **Advanced** section if you want to schedule installation of the update or hotfix for a later time.
- 5 Click **Install update**. This step may take several minutes, depending on the network connection speed.

After the file upload process is completed, the update or hotfix is automatically installed on the appliance. You cannot cancel this part of the installation process. The appliance will automatically restart when the installation of the update or hotfix is completed.

Upgrading Managed Appliances Using CMS

You can use the Central Management console to upgrade and apply hotfixes to your entire VPN infrastructure, including the CMS and all its managed appliances. You can download the CMS upgrade file or hotfix file from MySonicWall.

i | NOTE: The CMS and all its managed SMA appliances use the same upgrade and hotfix file.

To upgrade the CMS and its managed appliances:

- 1 On the CMS, navigate to **Managed Appliances > Maintain**.
- 2 Select the SMA appliance you want to upgrade.

i | NOTE: You can select multiple appliances to update at the same time.
- 3 Click **Upgrade/Hotfix**.
- 4 Choose a time to upgrade each appliance.
- 5 Click **Choose File** to select the downloaded upgrade file.
- 6 Select **Create Task**.
- 7 Once all the managed appliances have been upgraded, navigate to the **Management Server > Maintain** page.
- 8 Under **System Software Updates**, click **Update....**

i | NOTE: All managed appliances must be upgraded before the CMS can be upgraded.
- 9 Click **Choose File** to select the downloaded upgrade file.
- 10 Expand the **Advanced** section if you want to schedule installation of the update or hotfix for a later time.
- 11 Click **Install update**. This step may take several minutes, depending on the network connection speed.

After the file upload process is completed, the update or hotfix is automatically installed on the CMS. You cannot cancel this part of the installation process. The CMS will automatically restart when the installation of the update or hotfix is completed.

Verifying the Update

To verify the update:

- 1 Log in to AMC.
- 2 From the main navigation menu, navigate to **Monitoring > System Status**.
- 3 Verify that the update succeeded by verifying the **Version** number in the **System information** section:
12.3-<multi-digit build number>

Post-Upgrade Tasks

These sections describe tasks you may need to perform if the upgrade does not complete successfully.


Topics:

- [Restoring a Configuration](#)
- [Rolling Back to a Previous Version](#)
- [Creating/Importing a New Certificate](#)

Restoring a Configuration


If the installation of the update or hotfix file is interrupted or fails, you can restore the configuration you saved earlier in the process.

To restore a configuration:

- 1 From the main navigation menu in AMC, navigate to **System Configuration > Maintenance**.
- 2 In the **System Configuration** section, in the **Import or Export** area, click **Import/Export....**
- 3 In the **File name** field, click **Browse** to locate the configuration file.
 | **NOTE:** The filename format is: `<appliance_name>-<date>-<nnn>.aea`.
- 4 Click **Import**.
- 5 Click the **Pending changes** link to restore the saved configuration.
- 6 Expand the **Advanced** section if you want to schedule installation of the saved configuration for a later time.
- 7 To activate the imported configuration, select **Apply Changes**.

Rolling Back to a Previous Version

From AMC, you can undo the most recent update installed on the system. If you experience problems after completing an update, you may want to use this feature to roll back to a known state. Each time you roll back the software image, it removes the most recent system update and restores the version that existed just prior to the update.

 | **CAUTION:** If you have made any configuration changes since updating the system, rolling back the software image erases these changes.

To roll back to a previous version:

- 1 From the main navigation menu in AMC, navigate to **System Configuration > Maintenance**.
- 2 In the **System Software Updates** section, in the **Rollback** area, select **Rollback....**
- 3 To roll back to the version displayed on the Rollback page, click **OK**.
After the rollback process completes, the appliance will automatically restart and apply the changes.
- 4 After the appliance restarts, verify the new version number in the bottom-left corner of the AMC home page.

Creating/Importing a New Certificate

Users may not be able to connect to the appliance after upgrading to SMA12.3 because the upgraded appliance has a self-signed/CA-issued certificate with an SHA-512 hash. To resolve this issue, create or import a new certificate with either an SHA-256 or SHA-384 hash after upgrading to SMA 12.3.

SonicWall Support

Technical support is available to customers who have purchased SonicWall products with a valid maintenance contract and to customers who have trial versions.

The Support Portal provides self-help tools you can use to solve problems quickly and independently, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. To access the Support Portal, go to <https://www.sonicwall.com/support>.

The Support Portal enables you to:

- View knowledge base articles and technical documentation
- View video tutorials
- Access MySonicWall
- Learn about SonicWall professional services
- Review SonicWall Support services and warranty information
- Register for training and certification
- Request technical support or customer service

To contact SonicWall Support, visit <https://www.sonicwall.com/support/contact-support>.

About This Document

Legend



WARNING: A WARNING icon indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.



CAUTION: A CAUTION icon indicates potential damage to hardware or loss of data if instructions are not followed.



IMPORTANT, NOTE, TIP, MOBILE, or VIDEO: An information icon indicates supporting information.

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For more information, visit <https://www.sonicwall.com/legal>.

End User Product Agreement

To view the SonicWall End User Product Agreement, go to: <https://www.sonicwall.com/en-us/legal/license-agreements>. Select the language based on your geographic location to see the EUPA that applies to your region.

Open Source Code

SonicWall is able to provide a machine-readable copy of open source code with restrictive licenses such as GPL, LGPL, AGPL when applicable per license requirements. To obtain a complete machine-readable copy, send your written requests, along with certified check or money order in the amount of USD 25.00 payable to "SonicWall Inc.", to:

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