

# Brocade<sup>®</sup> Network Advisor Frequently Asked Questions

## Introduction

Brocade Network Advisor simplifies storage network management and helps administrators proactively diagnose and resolve issues to maximize uptime, increase operational efficiency, and reduce costs. This wizard-driven interface from Brocade, A Broadcom Inc. Company, dramatically reduces deployment and configuration times, and out-of-the-box, customizable dashboards graphically display performance and health indicators.

For product information, visit:

[www.broadcom.com/products/fibre-channel-networking/software/brocade-network-advisor](http://www.broadcom.com/products/fibre-channel-networking/software/brocade-network-advisor).

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## General Questions and Answers

### Q. What types of environments can benefit from Brocade Network Advisor?

A. Brocade Network Advisor is ideal for managing Brocade-based storage (Fibre Channel or IP) and/or Ethernet networking infrastructure deployed in data center, IP routing, wired/wireless campus, and service provider environments.

### Q. Does Brocade Network Advisor support automation and integration with third-party management solutions?

A. Brocade Network Advisor supports organizations' automation projects via standard APIs. Both SMI-S and REST APIs can be used to automate SAN Fibre Channel zoning and port provisioning operations. In addition, Brocade Network Advisor provides out-of-the-box support for leading data center storage management and orchestration frameworks from IBM, HP, and EMC. The following products leverage the Brocade Network Advisor standard SMI-S API to support SAN Fibre Channel zoning:

- IBM Spectrum Control
- Dell EMC ViPR Controller
- HPE OneView

### Q. What cloud and virtualization technologies are supported by Brocade Network Advisor?

A. Through partner integrations and an open architecture, Brocade Network Advisor integrates with a number of northbound management systems, driving next-generation storage management and automation. Integration options include:

- **VMware vCenter integration:** Provides visibility into a VM's location on a Fibre Channel fabric.
- **Brocade integrations with VMware vRealize Operations:** Delivers Fibre Channel network health, risk, and efficiency insights to VMware vRealize Operations, enabling faster root-cause analysis and better VM and application performance. vRealize Log Insight integration helps virtualization and cloud teams further troubleshoot from within vRealize by presenting Brocade device log data.
- **OpenStack support via the community Cinder project:** Allows automation of Fibre Channel in an OpenStack cloud orchestration environment. This capability is leveraged by IBM PowerVC for Brocade Fibre Channel fabrics.
- **Brocade Network Advisor:** Provides automated zoning integration support via IBM Spectrum Control, HPE OneView, and Dell EMC ViPR Controller.

### Q. How can I access data in the Brocade Network Advisor database?

A. Data can be exported in bulk from the database using ODBC. Aggregate Brocade Fabric Vision® statistics can also be accessed via REST APIs to provide Fibre Channel status visibility.

### Q. How can I share Brocade Network Advisor data with my help desk system?

A. Event data (SNMP trap or syslog) can be automatically forwarded to your ticketing system based on a schedule, using event-filtering rules.

### Q. I have my own management application. Can I still use Brocade Network Advisor?

A. Yes. Third-party applications can access Brocade Fabric Vision performance data, events, dashboard summaries, SAN zoning, and inventory exclusively through the Brocade Network Advisor REST API Web services interface. Find your services at: <http://<Network Advisor Server IP>/rest>. Alternative methods include using the integrated SMI Agent. For more information, view the *REST API Guide* in the documentation section of the [Brocade Network Advisor product page](#).

## Q. How do I access Brocade Network Advisor software and user manuals?

A. From within Brocade Network Advisor, the user manual can be accessed through the help menu. Brocade Network Advisor documentation, including user manuals, can also be downloaded or viewed online at [www.broadcom.com/products/fibre-channel-networking/software/brocade-network-advisor](http://www.broadcom.com/products/fibre-channel-networking/software/brocade-network-advisor).

For additional documentation and to download software, visit MyBrocade® (registration required) and follow these steps:

1. Log into your MyBrocade account at <http://my.brocade.com>.
2. Select “downloads” from the top menu.
3. Enter “Brocade Network Advisor” in the search field and click the Search button.
4. Select “Brocade Network Advisor 14.2” (the Brocade Network Advisor manuals can optionally be selected). Next, select “download image” and/or “release notes.”

## New Features in Version 14.2

### Q. What new features are available in Brocade Network Advisor 14.2?

A. In addition to support for all the platforms supported in Brocade Network Advisor 14.0.x, Brocade Network Advisor 14.2 supports the new entry-level Gen 6 Fibre Channel Brocade G610 Switch, as well as Brocade Fabric OS® (FOS) 8.1. Brocade Network Advisor 14.2 also introduces the following new features:

- **VM Insight:** MAPS violation monitoring and historical visibility into Virtual Machine (VM) performance flows throughout a storage fabric using standards-based, end-to-end VM tagging.
- **COMPASS enhancements:** The ability to standardize switch user accounts and passwords, and monitor for compliance.
- **Extension Dashboard:** A new dashboard for Fibre Channel and IP extension deployments that can track visibility into traffic and latency down to individual circuit levels.
- **REST API:** New support for port provisioning.
- **Fabric Insight Portal:** A new Web client user interface designed with enhanced search capabilities to provide visibility into network inventory and basic performance data.

## Packaging and Licensing

### Q. Where can I purchase Brocade Network Advisor?

A. Brocade Network Advisor is sold globally by most major storage vendors, value-added IP resellers, and distributors, as well as directly by Brocade. Brocade Network Advisor Professional is included with every Brocade hardware purchase at no charge.

### Q. Are evaluation versions of Brocade Network Advisor available?

A. Yes. Evaluation versions are available via download from [www.broadcom.com/brocade](http://www.broadcom.com/brocade). Registration is required. Brocade provides full-featured evaluations that operate for 120 days after installation.

### Q. How is Brocade Network Advisor packaged?

A. Brocade Network Advisor is available in SAN-only or SAN+IP bundle packages.

**Q. What are the different Brocade Network Advisor licenses for SAN?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor for SAN is available in three types of licenses:

- **SAN Professional:** No charge. Up to 300 switch ports, two fabrics, Brocade FOS only.
- **SAN Professional Plus:** For charge. Supports up to 2,560 switch ports and 36 fabrics.
- **SAN Enterprise:** For charge. Supports up to 15,000 switch ports and 100 fabrics. Required for 8-slot models of Brocade X6 Directors and Brocade DCX® Backbones, as well as FICON management.

**Q. What Brocade Network Advisor license requirements apply to third-party integrations?**

**A.** Professional Plus or Enterprise bundles are required to use the Brocade Network Advisor Plugin for VMware vCenter, the Brocade SAN Analytics Pack for VMware vRealize Operations, and the Brocade SAN Management Pack for Microsoft SCOM. The Brocade Network Advisor license is not required for integration with VMware vRealize Log Insight.

**Q. What Brocade DCX 8510 Backbone models do Brocade Network Advisor SAN Enterprise and Brocade Network Advisor SAN Professional Plus support?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor SAN Enterprise supports Brocade X6 Directors (Brocade Gen 6), as well as Brocade DCX 8510-8 and 8510-4 Backbones. Brocade Network Advisor SAN Professional and SAN Professional Plus support the Brocade X6-4 and the Brocade DCX 8510-4, and can discover but not manage the Brocade X6-8 and the Brocade DCX 8510-8. Administrators can use the device's Element Manager, which can be launched from the Connectivity Map, to manage the device.

**Q. Where can I download the VMware software plugins?**

**A.** The [Brocade SAN Analytics Management Pack](#) and the [Brocade SAN Content Pack for vRealize Log Insight](#) (which also supports Brocade VDX switches) are available from the [VMware Solutions Exchange](#), free of charge.

For more information on pricing and licensing, see the Software Licensing Guide in the documentation section of the [Brocade Network Advisor product page](#).

## Upgrade and Migration Paths

**Q. Can I upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 14.2?**

**A.** Existing Brocade Network Advisor and Brocade Data Center Fabric Manager (DCFM) customers can upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 14.x without acquiring new license keys, provided that they have a current Brocade Technical Support agreement in place. Customers can upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 14.2 from Brocade Network Advisor 14.0 or 14.0.x releases. The supported Brocade Network Advisor 14.0 upgrade paths are from Brocade Network Advisor 12.3 and later. Customers still using Brocade Network Advisor 11.x must first upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 12.3. Customers using Brocade Network Advisor 12.4.3 or 12.4.4 should upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 14.0.1 and then to Brocade Network Advisor 14.2.

For more information, view the [Brocade Network Advisor Target Path Selection Guide](#).

**Q. How do I upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor from Brocade DCFM?**

**A.** Brocade offers upgrade options for existing customers with no additional license requirements. Please contact your Brocade Sales Representative for details.

## Device Support

### Q. Which Brocade SAN devices are supported by Brocade Network Advisor?

A. Brocade Network Advisor supports all Brocade Gen 5 and Gen 6 SAN backbones, switches, and directors, as well as Brocade Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) switches, Fibre Channel over IP (FCIP) switches, encryption switches, and IP storage switches. For a complete list of supported hardware, refer to the Installation and Migration Guide in the documentation section of the [Brocade Network Advisor product page](#).

### Q. What adapters are supported by Brocade Network Advisor?

A. The following Emulex® and QLogic adapters are supported in Brocade Network Advisor 14.2:

- Emulex LPe12002-M8 (8 Gbps 2-port Host Bus Adapter [HBA])
- Emulex LPe16002B (16 Gbps 2-port HBA)
- Emulex LPe32002-M2 (32 Gbps 2-port PCI Express [PCIe] HBA)
- QLogic QLE2562-CK (8 Gbps 2-port Fibre Channel HBA×4 PCIe)
- QLogic QLE2672-CK (PCIe 3.0×4 / PCIe 2.0×8 low-profile 16 Gbps Fibre Channel×2)
- QLogic ISP2532-based 8 Gbps Fibre Channel to PCIe HBA
- QLogic QLE2742 (PCIe 3.0×8 dual-port 32 Gbps Fibre Channel HBA)
- QLE2740 Single-port PCIe 3.0×8 to 32 Gbps Fibre Channel Adapter—SFP+
- QLE2764 Quad-port PCIe 3.0×8 to 32 Gbps Fibre Channel Adapter

### Q. What Brocade X6 models do Brocade Network Advisor SAN Enterprise and Brocade Network Advisor SAN Professional Plus support?

A. Brocade Network Advisor SAN Enterprise supports the Brocade X6-8 and the Brocade X6-4. Brocade Network Advisor SAN Professional/Professional Plus supports the Brocade X6-4, and can discover but not manage the Brocade X6-8. Administrators can use the device's Element Manager, which can be launched from the Connectivity Map, to manage the device.

## System Requirements

### Q. What operating systems does Brocade Network Advisor support?

A. Brocade Network Advisor 14.2 supports:

- Windows Server 2008 R2 Standard, Data Center, and Enterprise Editions
- Windows Server 2012 and 2012 R2 Standard and Data Center Editions
- Windows 7 Enterprise (client only) and Windows 8.1 Enterprise (client only)
- Windows 10 Enterprise
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.8, 7.0, 7.1, and 7.2
- Oracle Enterprise Linux 6.8, 7.0, 7.1, and 7.2
- SUSE Linux Enterprise 11.3 and 12.0
- VMware ESXi (5.5, 6.0), VMware vCenter (5.5, 6.0), KVM RedHat Linux Enterprise 6.5, and Microsoft Hyper-V (Hyper-V Server 2008 R2, Windows Server 2012, and Windows Server 2012 R2 Data Center), including guest VMs of all of the above operating systems

**Q. Does Brocade Network Advisor support 32-bit Windows and Linux systems?**

**A.** No, Brocade Network Advisor does not support 32-bit Windows or Linux systems.

**Q. What Web clients does Brocade Network Advisor support?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor supports Windows versions of Firefox, Internet Explorer, and Chrome.

**Q. What Java update versions does Brocade Network Advisor 14.2 support?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor 14.2 supports JRE 1.8u112.

**Q. What are the scalability recommendations for Brocade Network Advisor?**

**A.** See table below for a breakdown by edition.

**Table 1:** Scalability recommendations for Brocade Network Advisor by edition.

	Enterprise Edition	Professional Plus Edition	Professional Edition
SAN Switch Ports	15,000	2,560	300
SAN Switches and Access Gateways	400	100	40
SAN Devices	40,000	5,000	1,000
SAN Fabrics	100	36	2

## Learn More

**Q. How do I find out more about Brocade Network Advisor?**

**A.** Contact your [Brocade Sales Representative or Partner](#) for more details, or visit [www.broadcom.com/products/fibre-channel-networking/software/brocade-network-advisor](http://www.broadcom.com/products/fibre-channel-networking/software/brocade-network-advisor).