

# Brocade Network Advisor: SAN Version Frequently Asked Questions

## Introduction

Brocade® Network Advisor simplifies Gen 5 Fibre Channel management and helps users proactively diagnose and resolve issues to maximize uptime, increase operational efficiency, and reduce costs. The wizard-driven interface dramatically reduces deployment and configuration times, and out-of-the-box, customizable dashboards graphically display performance and health indicators.

For product information, visit: [www.brocade.com/networkadvisor](http://www.brocade.com/networkadvisor).

[General Questions and Answers](#)

[What's New](#)

[Packaging and Licensing](#)

[Upgrade and Migration Paths](#)

[Device Support](#)

[Brocade Network Advisor System Requirements](#)

[Learn More](#)

## 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 networking (Fibre Channel or IP) and/or Ethernet network infrastructure deployed in data center, cloud, wired/wireless campus, or service provider environments.

### **Q. Does Brocade Network Advisor provide integration with third-party management solutions?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor provides out-of-the-box support for leading data center storage management and orchestration frameworks from IBM, HP, and EMC.

**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. Integration options include:

- VMware vCenter and vRealize Operations Insight
- Microsoft System Center Operations Manager and Virtual Machine Manager
- OpenStack
- EMC ViPR
- HP OneView
- IBM PowerVC

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

**A.** Data can be exported in bulk from the database using ODBC.

**Q. How can I share Brocade Network Advisor data with my helpdesk system?**

**A.** Event data (SNMP trap or syslog) can be automatically forwarded to your ticketing system based on a schedule using 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, check out the *RestAPI 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 from [www.brocade.com/networkadvisor](http://www.brocade.com/networkadvisor).

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 12.4” (the Brocade Network Advisor manuals can optionally be selected). Next, select the download image and/or release notes.

## What's New

### **Q. What key features are available in Brocade Network Advisor 12.4?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor simplifies SAN management and helps users proactively diagnose and troubleshoot issues to maximize uptime—increasing operational efficiency and reducing costs. Key SAN features introduced in the 12.4 release include:

- Pre-defined storage dashboard for consolidated views across Fibre Channel and IP storage
- Point-in-time dashboard playback (30 days to 30 minutes), available in the Web client
- Network time and scope filters now available in the Web client
- Global search across instances of Brocade Network Advisor
- Call Home Events dashboard widget
- Support for **Brocade Fabric Vision technology** enhancements, including COMPASS
- Create network scopes using zones configured in the fabric
- Enhanced SAN FCIP reporting
- Additional REST API services: viewing MAPS policies, search, and event filtering

### **Q. What version of firmware and new hardware are supported with Brocade Network Advisor 12.4?**

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor 12.4 supports Fibre Channel switch firmware and Brocade Fabric OS® (FOS) features from 6.x through the new 7.4 release.

### **Q. Are there any SAN license changes associated with Brocade Network Advisor 12.4?**

**A.** Although there are no Brocade Network Advisor license changes, MAPS will now be enabled by default, and some monitoring features will be available in Brocade Network Advisor without a Fabric Vision license. The following monitoring features will be supported:

- View policy
- View violations
- Policy Export
- Policy Compare

## 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.brocade.com](http://www.brocade.com). 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 as 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. This license is required for Brocade DCX® Backbone and FICON® management.

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

A. Professional Plus and 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. Brocade Network Advisor license is not used 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 the Brocade DCX 8510-8 and the Brocade DCX 8510-4. Brocade Network Advisor SAN Professional/Professional Plus supports the Brocade DCX 8510-4, and can discover but not manage 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 Pack for VMware vRealize Operations](#) and the [Brocade Content Pack for VMware vRealize Log Insight](#) (which also supports Brocade VDX® switches) are available from the [VMware Solutions Exchange](#).

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 12.4?

- A.** Existing Brocade Network Advisor and Brocade Data Center Fabric Manager (DCFM®) customers can upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 12.4 without acquiring new license keys, provided that they have a current Brocade Technical Support agreement in place. The supported Brocade Network Advisor 12.4 upgrade paths are from Brocade Network Advisor 12.0 and later. Customers still using Brocade Network Advisor 11.x must first upgrade to Brocade Network Advisor 12.0.

### 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 SAN backbones, switches, and directors (including Brocade Gen 5 Fibre Channel SAN platforms), 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 12.4:
- Emulex LPe12002-M8 (8 Gbps 2-port HBA)
  - Emulex LPe16002B (16 Gbps 2-port HBA)
  - QLogic QLE2562-CK (8 Gbps 2-port FC HBA x4 PCIe)
  - QLogic QLE2672-CK (PCI Express 3.0 x4 / PCI Express 2.0 x8 low profile 16 Gbps Fibre Channel x2)

## Brocade Network Advisor System Requirements

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

- A.** Brocade Network Advisor 12.4 supports:
- Windows Server 2008 R2 Standard, Data Center, and Enterprise Editions
  - Windows Server 2012 and 2012 R2 Standard, Data Center Editions
  - Windows 8 and 8.1 Enterprise
  - Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, and 7.0 Adv
  - Oracle Enterprise Linux 6.4, 6.5, and 7.0
  - VMware ESXi (5.1/5.5), 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) with Guest VMs of: All of the above OS

• **What are the server requirements for Brocade Network Advisor?**

**A.** For 64-bit Windows and Linux systems, Intel Core 2 Duo Dual-CPU, 2.4 GHz or equivalent, 8 to 16 GB RAM, 80 GB disk is required. 16 GB RAM is required for the SAN+IP bundle, and medium or large networks.

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

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

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

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

Scalability Recommendations by Brocade Network Advisor 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                    |

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

**A.** Brocade Network Advisor does not support 32-bit Windows or Linux systems.

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.brocade.com/networkadvisor](http://www.brocade.com/networkadvisor).

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