



BROCADE

8/22/2003

Fabric OS v3.0.0x and v4.0.0x End Of Life (EOL) Notice

In order to serve our customers and partners better, we are initiating the End Of Life (EOL) management process for Fabric OS firmware releases v3.0.0x and v4.0.0x. For end of life details on Fabric OS firmware release v2.x, please see the End Of Life Products Page on the Brocade corporate website at: http://www.brocade.com/support/end_of_life.jsp.

EOL Schedule

The firmware EOL transition period is from 08/29/2003 until 02/28/2004. During the EOL transition period, these firmware releases will be supported as per existing customer support agreements.

Important dates relating to this process are:

- 08/29/2003 - Partner and Customer EOL Notification
- 02/29/2004 - After this date, Brocade will no longer support Fabric OS v3.0.0x or v4.0.0x.

Hardware Platforms Affected

- SilkWorm 3000s family except 3900. The SilkWorm 3900 is not affected by this announcement, since it requires Fabric OS 4.0.2 or later.
- SilkWorm 12000

Compatibility

- Brocade discontinues compatibility testing on Fabric OS versions that have been end of life. As such, we do not guarantee any of our future products released after the date of this notice to be compatible with Fabric OS v3.0.0 or v4.0.0. Please see Appendix A for existing compatibility matrix.
- There will be no fixes made on any software applications or Fabric Access API for issues found in the Fabric OS versions that have reached end of life.

Migration Path

We encourage customers to migrate to Fabric OS v3.1.1x for SilkWorm 3000 series family of products (except 3900) and Fabric OS v4.1.1x for SilkWorm 12000.

This migration is free, and no firmware licenses are required.

If you have questions or comments regarding this notice, please contact your Brocade sales representative.

APPENDIX A

Table 1 highlights the features in Fabric Manager v4.0.x and Fabric OS versions compatibility matrix. Some Fabric Manager features run only on a particular Fabric OS versions.

Table 1 – Fabric Manager and Fabric OS compatibility matrix

Fabric OS version	3.0.0x	3.0.2x	3.1.x	4.0.0x	4.0.2x	4.1.x
Topology/ISL Monitoring	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Security			Yes			Yes
Port swapping						Yes
FDMI/HBA firmware download			Yes			Yes
Port name change on a switch			Yes			Yes

Table 2 highlights Fabric Access API and Fabric OS compatibility. All features are fully functional. Switches can be discovered, can be used as the proxy switch, and can be managed by the indicated API version.

Table 2 – Fabric Access API and Fabric OS compatibility matrix

Fabric OS version	3.0.0x	3.0.2x	3.1.x	4.0.0x	4.0.2x	4.1.x
API 2.0.2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
API 2.1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
API 3.0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
API 3.0.0a	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

No fixes will be made to the Fabric OS versions, Fabric Manager, or Fabric Access API for the gray area starting 2/28/04.