

MX7000 Firmware Update

Revisions

Date	Description
Jan 2019	Initial release

Acknowledgements

This paper was produced by the following members of the Dell EMC storage engineering team:

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Introduction

The Purpose of this white paper is to describe the new and improved features for the firmware update workflow. This technical white paper describes the following features:

- Catalog Management
- Baseline Report and Compliance Summary
- Firmware update using the Compliance report
- DUP based update. (Single DUP upload and update)
- Rollback updated firmware
- Firmware update for IOMs and Storage components

Firmware update is one of the most the critical features for any deployed hardware. This allows users to keep the devices compliant with the hardware manufacturer recommendations. New Firmware often fixes defects, contains new features or protects from security vulnerabilities. MX7000 Chassis allows users to regularly check for compliance of the chassis Sleds, IOMs, and other components then provides the recommendations for a firmware update.

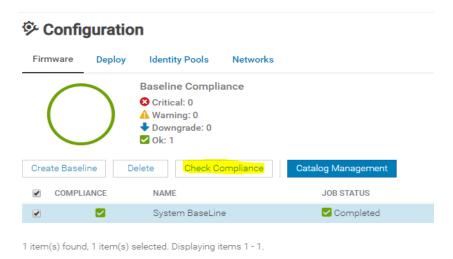


Figure 1 MX7000 Check Compliance

Catalog Management

MX7000 Chassis allows a user to add a Catalog from Dell online (http://downloads.dell.com/Catalog), which is the Catalog from Dell software repository site (PDK Catalog). The chassis already has been configured with the Dell repository as the default site, and user will not need to enter the URI for any of the Dell repositories. Moreover there is an option to use a validated stack Catalog which contains only MX7000 specific bundles. Another option is entering a Network Path for a custom Catalog to be utilized if there is a need to use a Catalog generated by Dell repository manager. The Catalog will contain firmware component details like firmware version, criticality of the update and the location of the DUP.

Here are the steps needed to create a Catalog:

- From Configuration -> Firmware Menu, select Catalog management and Click on Add
- A popup is displayed to add a firmware Catalog. By default Dell Online Catalog is selected.
 - The user has to option to select Dell online Catalog (aka PDK Catalog).

- Also an option to select a validated stack Catalog which is the NGM Catalog that contains only the MX7000 bundles.
- Finally there is an option for a Network path for location of a custom Catalog.

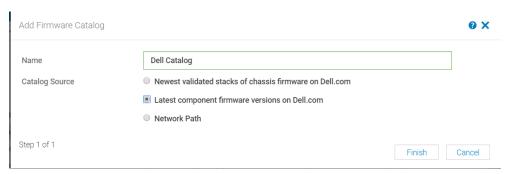


Figure 2 MX7000 Catalog creation wizard

Select one of the following Catalog sources:

- Newest validated stacks of chassis firmware on Dell.com —this is the Catalog that contains latest validated bundle of the Dell EMC 14G MX7000 chassis.
- Latest component firmware versions on Dell.com this Catalog includes all Dell software components for supported hardware. (aka PDK Catalog)
- Network Path a folder where a Catalog and optionally associated updates have been placed by generating the Catalog using Dell EMC Repository Manager or a Dell online Catalog placed the share.

Supported Share Type:

- NFS
- CIFS
- HTTP
- HTTPS

Options	Description
Share Address	Enter the address of the Catalog file location. The share address can have a maximum length of 255 characters. The address must have a valid host name, IPv4 address, or IPv6 address. (IP-Address or FQDN)
Catalog File Path	Enter the path of the Catalog file location. A Catalog file path can have a maximum length of 255 characters.(For example: file-path/Catalog.xml)
Domain	This option is available only if the Share Type is CIFS. The domain can have a maximum length of 255 characters.
User Name	This option is available only if the Share Type is CIFS or HTTPS. The user name can have a maximum length of 255 characters.

Password	This option is available only if the Share Type is CIFS or HTTPS. The password can have a maximum length of 255 characters.
Certificate Check	Select the check box to check the security certificate authentication. This option is enabled only if the Share Type is HTTPS

Once the Catalog creation is complete, MX7000 chassis displays the information of the Catalog such as the remote repository location, Release date, and number of bundles present in the Catalog. If the user configures a baseline using the Catalog a list all the baselines associated with the Catalog will be shown on the page (See Figure 3). Association of Catalog and baseline is discussed in following section.

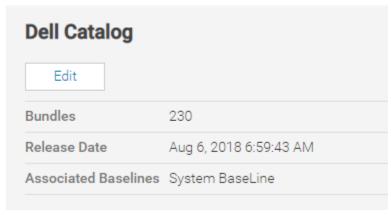


Figure 3 MX7000 Catalog Details

Catalog Management also allows to edit the Catalog, update the Catalog and delete the Catalog. Internally when a Catalog is updated and a baseline is associated, the report is regenerated.

Baseline Report and Compliance Summary

Baseline report displays the compliance of the devices/groups selected. Compliance is an indication of the drift between Catalog component version and the device inventory, if a device inventory is older than the Catalog content then this device is none-complaint. The compliance specifies if an action is required, such as device that require an upgrade and the criticality of the upgrade. A Baseline report displays the following details at the high level:

- Compliance state
- Associated Catalog
- Compliance pie chart with number of devices in critical, warning, downgrade and compliant state with the Catalog.

How a baseline report is generated:

The user selects a Catalog and selects the devices/groups then generate a report. Internally OME-M uses the "Dell Update Engine for Consoles" library (DUEC) to generate the compliance report. OME-M provides device software inventory details and a Catalog source to the DUEC library. The DUEC library takes the input and returns a compliance report.

Here are the steps to create a baseline report and view the compliance details:

• Under Configuration->Firmware, click Create baseline. In the popup, select a Catalog, Baseline report name, description and Devices/Groups that needs to be part of this baseline report.

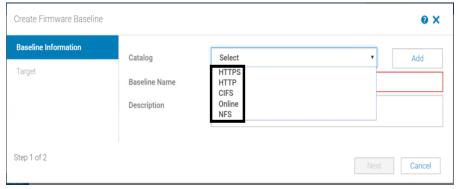


Figure 4 MX7000 Baseline creation

Choose devices or groups for the baseline:

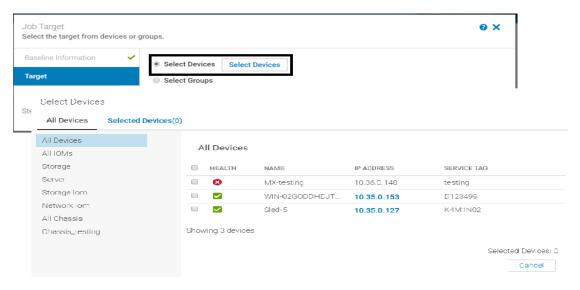


Figure 5 MX7000 Baseline target selection

Click finish to create a baseline

 Once the baseline is created, a new record is displayed on the baseline reports page with the Compliance summary details:

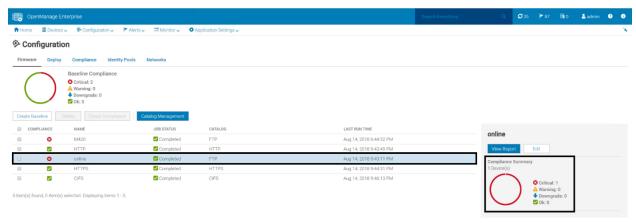


Figure 6 MX7000 Baselines

• Click on View report to view the Device level compliance report and also the software component compliance report for the device. This report provide the list of all the updatable components.

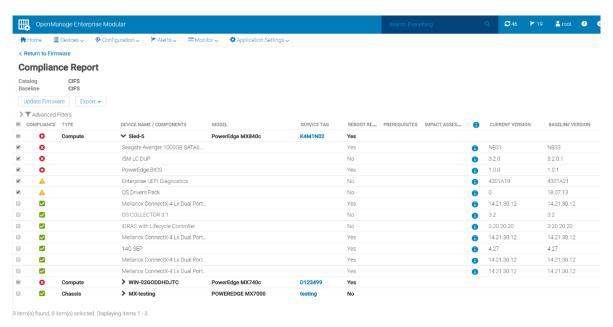


Figure 7 MX7000 Baseline report

Firmware update using the Compliance report

Once the compliance report is generated, User can view the Device level compliance details and also Component level details. User can see the criticality of the component and also the Component name and has the option to update the component. When the Firmware Update button is clicked a popup will display to schedule the Job to Run now or Schedule it at later time. Also there is an option to stage the jobs. If option "Stage for next reboot" is selected, the firmware jobs are staged on the remote device (only applicable to server devices). Below is the firmware update schedule window:

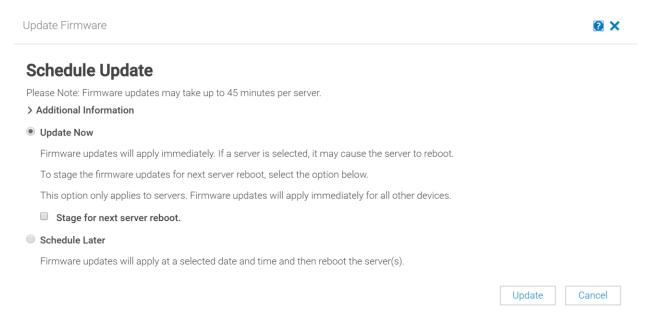


Figure 8 MX7000 Update scheduler

DUP Based update

This feature allows user to manually choose a DUP (Dell Update Package) from local directory to be applied to the chassis components or device in the chassis. Before applying the DUP is validated for compliance and signature. A DUP level report is displayed, information on the version being applied and details on criticality of the DUP plus the devices that require an update. Below are the steps for DUP based updates.

• Go to All devices, or Respective device page then select device(s) to update. Click the firmware update button.

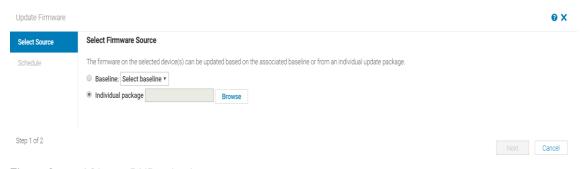


Figure 9 MX7000 DUP selection

 Select individual package then Browse to the DUP location and upload a DUP. Once the DUP is uploaded, the DUP is validated and compliance check will done with the software inventory of the device. Compliance report for the DUP is displayed as below:

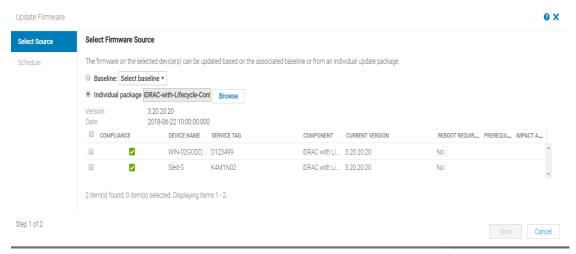


Figure 10 MX7000 Target selection

Select the devices and click next to schedule the firmware update job.

Rollback Firmware

The Rollback Firmware window enables you to roll back a firmware update to the previous version. If the user is unhappy with a recent firmware update, they can request a rollback of the firmware to the previous version prior to the update. The rollback is enabled if MSM has access to the firmware package corresponding to the previous version. The access could be enabled either by

- The device has a rollback or N-1 version.
- The imported Catalog contains a reference to the previous version.
- You browse for a firmware package, which has the previous version

Firmware update for NWIOM

MSM supports DUP update for Dell managed advanced IOMs: Dell EMC MX9116n Fabric Engine / Dell EMC MX5108n Ethernet Switch. At high level the DUP upgrade process for NWIOM is identical to other devices. However, there is added flavor of Fabric / Full Switch mode. Note, NWIOMs are utilized to formulate a Fabric and are managed as part of a single entity. Therefore, when a NWIOM is in Fabric mode, meaning part of Fabric, it will lead to FW upgrade of all the IOMs in the Fabric. However, this behavior is not applied for the Full Switch mode IOMs.

IOM Upgrade for the Full Switch Mode IOM:

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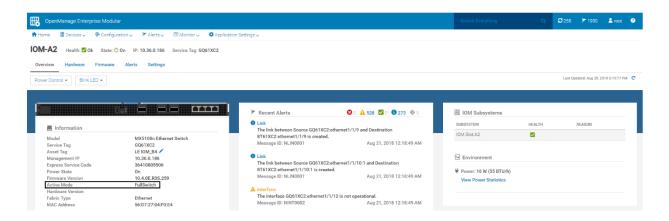


Figure 11 MX7000 IOM in Full Switch Mode

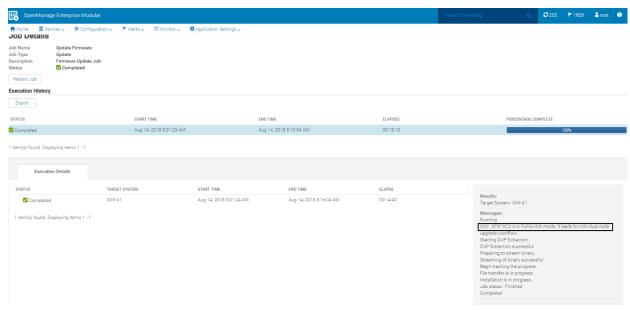


Figure 12 MX7000 IOM in IOM in Full Switch Mode update

IOM Upgrade for the Fabric Mode IOM:

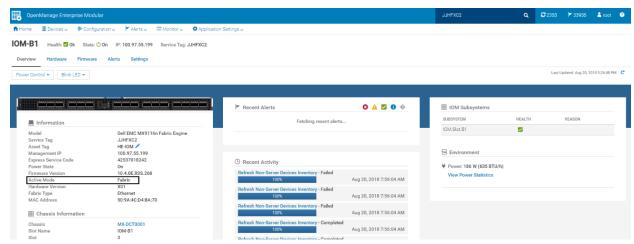


Figure 13 MX7000 IOM in Fabric Mode

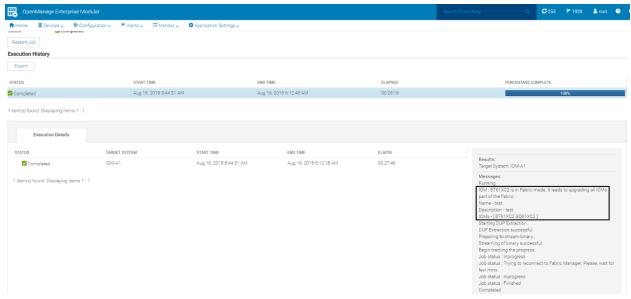


Figure 14 MX7000 Fabric Mode IOM upgrade status update

Firmware update for SAS IOM and Storage

MSM supports the Firmware update of SAS IOM (Dell EMC PowerEdge MX5000s) and Storage (Dell EMC PowerEdge MX5016s) devices by using either Compliance report or DUP based update.

Based on the pre-requisite information of the firmware update it is required to power off the compute sleds which has storage assignments before triggering the firmware update.

Pre-requisites in Compliance Report

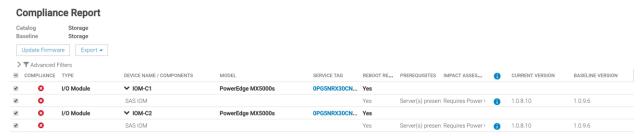


Figure 15 MX7000 SAS IOM Storage baseline report

Pre-requisites in DUP Update



Figure 16 MX7000 SAS IOM and storage single update