



End-of-Sale and End-of-Life Announcement for the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES (K8) Bundles

Cisco Systems® announces the end of life of the Cisco® PIX® 501 Security Appliance DES (K8) Bundles. The last day to order the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES Bundles is March 11, 2004. Table 1 describes the end-of-life milestones, definitions, and dates for the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES Bundles. This announcement does not affect Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance 3DES/AES (K9) Bundles or the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance chassis, as they will continue to be orderable.

The easing of import and export restrictions in most countries for cryptographic devices with keys greater than 64 bits has enabled customers to select solutions that support the stronger Triple Data Encryption Standard (3DES) and Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) encryption algorithms over solutions that only support the DES encryption algorithm. The 3DES and AES encryption algorithms (and their larger key sizes) offer several benefits over DES, with the primary benefit being enhanced data security against a variety of cryptographic attacks, including brute-force attacks.

The Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance 3DES/AES Bundles support 168-bit 3DES and up to 256-bit AES encryption—in addition to 56-bit DES—for virtual private networking (VPN), secure remote management and more. The Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES Bundles, on the other hand, only provide 56-bit DES encryption for these same features. Given the security benefits of 3DES/AES encryption and no difference in price between Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES and 3DES/AES Bundles, customers are encouraged to migrate to the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance 3DES/AES Bundles for small office and home office network security applications. Table 2 provides relevant information for migrating from the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES Bundles to the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance 3DES/AES Bundles.



Table 1 End-of-Life Milestones and Dates for the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES (K8) Bundle

Milestone	Definition	Date
End-of-life announcement date	The date the end-of-sale and end-of-life announcement is distributed to the general public.	September 11, 2003
End of sale date	The last date to order the product through Cisco point-of-sale mechanisms. The product is no longer for sale.	March 11, 2004
Last shipment date	The last-possible date that Cisco and/or its contract manufacturers will ship the affected product.	June 11, 2004
End of software maintenance releases date	The last date that Cisco Engineering may release any final software maintenance releases or bug fixes. After this date, Cisco Engineering will no longer develop, repair, maintain, or test the product software.	Support provided as part of standard services-and-support contract for Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance.
Last date of support	The last date to receive service and support for the product. After this date, all support services for the product are unavailable, and the product becomes obsolete.	

This action does not affect the services-and-support contract because it applies to the Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance and not the end-of-sale bundle part number. Table 2 lists Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES Bundle part numbers and recommended Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance 3DES/AES Bundle migration options.

Table 2 Product Part Numbers Affected by This Announcement

End-of-sales Product		Product Migration Option	
Part Number	Description	Part Number	Description
PIX-501-BUN-K8	PIX 501-10 DES Bundle (Chassis, SW, 10 Users, DES)	PIX-501-BUN-K9	PIX 501-10 3DES/AES Bundle (Chassis, SW, 10 Users, 3DES/AES)
PIX-501-50-BUN-K8	PIX 501-50 DES Bundle (Chassis, SW, 50 Users, DES)	PIX-501-50-BUN-K9	PIX 501-50 3DES/AES Bundle (Chassis, SW, 50 Users, 3DES/AES)

Customers with an existing Cisco PIX 501 Security Appliance DES Bundle can request a 3DES/AES encryption license upgrade at no additional cost via the following URL (CCO login required):

<http://www.cisco.com/cgi-bin/Software/FormManager/formgenerator.pl>

Additional Information

For more information about the Cisco PIX Security Appliance Series, go to:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/pix>

For more information about Cisco PIX 501 3DES/AES bundles, go to:

http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/cc/pd/fw/sqfw500/prodlit/px501_ds.pdf.

For more information about Cisco products, contact your Cisco account manager and/or Cisco Channel Partner.

For more information about the Cisco End-of-Life Policy, go to:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/prod_end_of_life.html.

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