



Configure onboard key management

ONTAP 9

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Table of Contents

- Configure onboard key management 1
 - Enable onboard key management in ONTAP 9.6 and later 1
 - Enable onboard key management in ONTAP 9.5 and earlier 3
 - Assign a data authentication key to a FIPS drive or SED with ONTAP onboard key management. 5

Configure onboard key management

Enable onboard key management in ONTAP 9.6 and later

You can use the Onboard Key Manager to authenticate cluster nodes to a FIPS drive or SED. The Onboard Key Manager is a built-in tool that serves authentication keys to nodes from the same storage system as your data. The Onboard Key Manager is FIPS-140-2 level 1 compliant.

You can use the Onboard Key Manager to secure the keys that the cluster uses to access encrypted data. You must enable Onboard Key Manager on each cluster that accesses an encrypted volume or a self-encrypting disk.

About this task

You must run the `security key-manager onboard enable` command each time you add a node to the cluster. In MetroCluster configurations, you must run `security key-manager onboard enable` on the local cluster first, then run `security key-manager onboard sync` on the remote cluster, using the same passphrase on each.

Learn more about `security key-manager onboard enable` and `security key-manager onboard sync` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

By default, you are not required to enter the key manager passphrase when a node is rebooted. Except in MetroCluster, you can use the `cc-mode-enabled=yes` option to require that users enter the passphrase after a reboot.

When the Onboard Key Manager is enabled in Common Criteria mode (`cc-mode-enabled=yes`), system behavior is changed in the following ways:

- The system monitors for consecutive failed cluster passphrase attempts when operating in Common Criteria mode.

If NetApp Storage Encryption (NSE) is enabled and you fail to enter the correct cluster passphrase at boot, the system cannot authenticate to its drives and automatically reboots. To correct this, you must enter the correct cluster passphrase at the boot prompt. Once booted, the system allows up to 5 consecutive attempts to correctly enter the cluster passphrase in a 24-hour period for any command that requires the cluster passphrase as a parameter. If the limit is reached (for example, you have failed to correctly enter the cluster passphrase 5 times in a row) then you must either wait for the 24-hour timeout period to elapse, or you must reboot the node, in order to reset the limit.

- System image updates use the NetApp RSA-3072 code signing certificate together with SHA-384 code signed digests to check the image integrity instead of the usual NetApp RSA-2048 code signing certificate and SHA-256 code signed digests.

The upgrade command verifies that the image contents have not been altered or corrupted by checking various digital signatures. If validation works, the image update goes to the next step. If validation does not work, the image update fails. Learn more about `cluster image` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).





The Onboard Key Manager stores keys in volatile memory. Volatile memory contents are cleared when the system is rebooted or halted. Under normal operating conditions, volatile memory contents will be cleared within 30s when a system is halted.

Before you begin

- If you are using NSE with an external key management (KMIP) server, you must have deleted the external key manager database.

Transitioning to onboard key management from external key management

- You must be a cluster administrator to perform this task.
- You must configure the MetroCluster environment before you configure the Onboard Key Manager.

Steps

1. Start the key manager setup command:

```
security key-manager onboard enable -cc-mode-enabled yes|no
```



Set `cc-mode-enabled=yes` to require that users enter the key manager passphrase after a reboot. The `- cc-mode-enabled` option is not supported in MetroCluster configurations. The `security key-manager onboard enable` command replaces the `security key-manager setup` command.

The following example starts the key manager setup command on cluster1 without requiring that the passphrase be entered after every reboot:

2. Enter a passphrase between 32 and 256 characters, or for “cc-mode”, a passphrase between 64 and 256 characters.



If the specified “cc-mode” passphrase is less than 64 characters, there is a five-second delay before the key manager setup operation displays the passphrase prompt again.

3. At the passphrase confirmation prompt, reenter the passphrase.
4. Verify that the system creates the authentication keys:

```
security key-manager key query -node node
```



The `security key-manager key query` command replaces the `security key-manager query key` command.

Learn more about `security key-manager key query` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

After you finish

Copy the passphrase to a secure location outside the storage system for future use.

The system automatically backs up key management information to the replicated database (RDB) for the cluster. You should also back up this information manually for disaster recovery.

Related information

- [cluster image commands](#)
- [security key-manager external enable](#)
- [security key-manager key query](#)
- [security key-manager onboard enable](#)
- [Transitioning to onboard key management from external key management](#)

Enable onboard key management in ONTAP 9.5 and earlier

You can use the Onboard Key Manager to authenticate cluster nodes to a FIPS drive or SED. The Onboard Key Manager is a built-in tool that serves authentication keys to nodes from the same storage system as your data. The Onboard Key Manager is FIPS-140-2 level 1 compliant.

You can use the Onboard Key Manager to secure the keys that the cluster uses to access encrypted data. Enable Onboard Key Manager on each cluster that accesses encrypted volumes or self-encrypting disks.

About this task

You must run the `security key-manager setup` command each time you add a node to the cluster.

If you have a MetroCluster configuration, review these guidelines:

- In ONTAP 9.5, you must run `security key-manager setup` on the local cluster and `security key-manager setup -sync-metrocluster-config yes` on the remote cluster, using the same passphrase on each.
- Prior to ONTAP 9.5, you must run `security key-manager setup` on the local cluster, wait approximately 20 seconds, and then run `security key-manager setup` on the remote cluster, using the same passphrase on each.

By default, you are not required to enter the key manager passphrase when a node is rebooted. Beginning with ONTAP 9.4, you can use the `-enable-cc-mode yes` option to require that users enter the passphrase after a reboot.

For NVE, if you set `-enable-cc-mode yes`, volumes you create with the `volume create` and `volume move start` commands are automatically encrypted. For `volume create`, you need not specify `-encrypt true`. For `volume move start`, you need not specify `-encrypt-destination true`.



After a failed passphrase attempt, you must reboot the node again.

Before you begin

- If you are using NSE with an external key management (KMIP) server, delete the external key manager database.

[Transitioning to onboard key management from external key management](#)

- You must be a cluster administrator to perform this task.
- Configure the MetroCluster environment before you configure the Onboard Key Manager.

Steps

1. Start the key manager setup:

```
security key-manager setup -enable-cc-mode yes|no
```



Beginning with ONTAP 9.4, you can use the `-enable-cc-mode yes` option to require that users enter the key manager passphrase after a reboot. For NVE, if you set `-enable-cc-mode yes`, volumes you create with the `volume create` and `volume move start` commands are automatically encrypted.

The following example starts setting up the key manager on `cluster1` without requiring that the passphrase be entered after every reboot:

```
cluster1::> security key-manager setup
Welcome to the key manager setup wizard, which will lead you through
the steps to add boot information.

...

Would you like to use onboard key-management? {yes, no} [yes]:
Enter the cluster-wide passphrase:    <32..256 ASCII characters long
text>
Reenter the cluster-wide passphrase:  <32..256 ASCII characters long
text>
```

2. Enter `yes` at the prompt to configure onboard key management.
3. At the passphrase prompt, enter a passphrase between 32 and 256 characters, or for “cc-mode”, a passphrase between 64 and 256 characters.



If the specified “cc-mode” passphrase is less than 64 characters, there is a five-second delay before the key manager setup operation displays the passphrase prompt again.

4. At the passphrase confirmation prompt, reenter the passphrase.
5. Verify that keys are configured for all nodes:

```
security key-manager show-key-store
```

Learn more about `security key-manager show-key-store` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

```

cluster1::> security key-manager show-key-store

Node: node1
Key Store: onboard
Key ID                                     Used By
-----
-----
<id_value> NSE-AK
<id_value> NSE-AK

Node: node2
Key Store: onboard
Key ID                                     Used By
-----
-----
<id_value> NSE-AK
<id_value> NSE-AK

```

After you finish

ONTAP automatically backs up key management information to the replicated database (RDB) for the cluster.

After you configure the Onboard Key Manager passphrase, manually back up the information to a secure location outside the storage system. See [Back up onboard key management information manually](#).

Related information

- [Back up onboard key management information manually](#)
- [security key-manager setup](#)
- [security key-manager show-key-store](#)
- [Transitioning to onboard key management from external key management](#)

Assign a data authentication key to a FIPS drive or SED with ONTAP onboard key management

You can use the `storage encryption disk modify` command to assign a data authentication key to a FIPS drive or SED. Cluster nodes use this key to access data on the drive.

About this task

A self-encrypting drive is protected from unauthorized access only if its authentication key ID is set to a non-default value. The manufacturer secure ID (MSID), which has key ID 0x0, is the standard default value for SAS drives. For NVMe drives, the standard default value is a null key, represented as a blank key ID. When you assign the key ID to a self-encrypting drive, the system changes its authentication key ID to a non-default value.

Before you begin

You must be a cluster administrator to perform this task.

Steps

1. Assign a data authentication key to a FIPS drive or SED:

```
storage encryption disk modify -disk disk_ID -data-key-id key_ID
```

Learn more about `storage encryption disk modify` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).



You can use the `security key-manager key query -key-type NSE-AK` command to view key IDs.

```
cluster1::> storage encryption disk modify -disk 0.10.* -data-key-id  
<id_value>
```

```
Info: Starting modify on 14 disks.  
View the status of the operation by using the  
storage encryption disk show-status command.
```

Learn more about `security key-manager key query` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

2. Verify that the authentication keys have been assigned:

```
storage encryption disk show
```

Learn more about `storage encryption disk show` in the [ONTAP command reference](#).

```
cluster1::> storage encryption disk show  
Disk      Mode Data Key ID  
-----  
-----  
0.0.0     data <id_value>  
0.0.1     data <id_value>  
[...]
```

Related information

- [storage encryption disk show](#)
- [storage encryption disk show-status](#)

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