Release notes

ASA r2

NetApp
February 04, 2026

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Release notes

What's new in ONTAP 9.18.1 for ASA r2 systems

Learn about the new capabilities available in ONTAP 9.18.1 for ASA r2 systems.

Data protection

Update	Description
Increased support for SnapMirror active sync configurations	Suppport for SnapMirror active sync is increased from two-node clusters to four-node clusters.

Networking

Update	Description
IPsec hardware offload IPv6 support	IPsec hardware offload support is extended to IPv6.
OpenSSL PQC algorithms	ONTAP supports postquantum computing cryptographic algorithms for SSL. These algorithms provide additional protection against potential future quantum computing attacks, and are available when SSL FIPS mode is disabled.

SAN data migration

Update	Description
Support for storage VM migration	You can non-disruptively migrate a storage virtual machine (VM) from an ASA cluster to an ASA r2 cluster. This enables block workloads to move to ASA r2 systems while preserving data integrity and ensuring no application impact. The migration process is designed to maintain existing host mappings and LUN configurations, reducing operational effort and risk during migration.

Security

Update	Description
Support for automatic ARP/AI enablement	When you initialize a new 9.18.1 ASA r2 cluster or upgrade your cluster to 9.18.1, ARP/AI is automatically enabled by default on all newly created storage units after a 12-hour grace period. If you do not disable ARP/AI during the grace period, it is enabled cluster wide for newly created storage units when the grace period ends.

Storage efficiency

Update	Description
Support for NVMe copy offload	NVMe copy offload enables an NVMe host to offload copy operations from its CPU to the CPU of the ONTAP storage controller. The host can copy data from one NVMe namespace to another while reserving its CPU resources for application workloads.
Support for modification of snapshot reserve and automatic snapshot deletion	You can modify snapshot reserve and enable automatic snapshot deletion to limit the amount of space used for snapshots in your ASA r2 storage units. When snapshot reserve is set with automatic snapshot deletion, older snapshots are automatically deleted when space used by snapshots exceeds the snapshot reserve. This prevents application disruptions by not allowing snapshots to consume space in your storage unit intended for user data.

What's new in ONTAP 9.17.1 for ASA r2 systems

Learn about the new capabilities available in ONTAP 9.17.1 for ASA r2 systems.

SAN data migration

Update	Description
Support for data migration from a third-party storage system	SAN data migration using Foreign LUN Import (FLI) is supported for ASA r2 systems. FLI allows you to migrate data from a LUN on a third-party storage system to an ASA r2 system.

Data protection

Update	Description
Support for Autonomous Ransomware Protection with Artificial Intelligence (ARP/AI)	ARP/AI can be enabled on ASA r2 storage units. ARP/AI offers additional data protection by detecting and reporting potential ransomware attacks with no learning period.
SnapMirror Active Sync support for NVMe protocols	SnapMirror Active Sync adds support for VMware workloads with NVMe/TCP and NVMe/FC host access for two-node ONTAP clusters. VMware workload support for NVMe/TCP is contingent on the resolution of VMware Bug ID: TR1049746
Support for geometry changes to consistency groups in replication relationships	ASA r2 systems support geometry changes to consistency groups in a SnapMirror active sync or a asynchronous replication relationship without deleting the SnapMirror active sync relationship or breaking the asynchronous relationship. When geometry a change occurs on the primary consistency group, the change is replicated to the secondary consistency group.
Support for asynchronous replication of child consistency groups	Asynchronous replication policies can be applied to consistency groups in hierarchical relationships.

Storage management

Update	Description
Support for automatic workload balancing	Workloads are automatically balanced between the nodes of an HA pair to optimize performance and resource utilization.

What's new in ONTAP 9.16.1 for ASA r2 systems

Learn about the new capabilities available in ONTAP 9.16.1 for ASA r2 systems.

Systems

Update	Description
Systems	The following NetApp ASA r2 systems are supported beginning with ONTAP 9.16.1. These systems deliver a unified hardware and software solution that creates a simplified experience specific to the needs of SAN-only customers. • ASA A50 • ASA A30 • ASA A20 • ASA C30

Data protection

Update	Description
Support for encryption key migration between key managers	When you switch from the ONTAP onboard key manager to an external key manager at the cluster level, you can use the ONTAP command line interface (CLI) to easily migrate the encryption keys from one key manager to the other.
Support for hierarchical consistency groups	Hierarchical consistency groups allow you to create a parent consistency group that contains multiple child consistency groups. This simplifies data protection and management for complex data structures.

Protocol support

Update	Description
NVMe support for symmetric Active/Active multipathing	NVMe/FC and NVMe/TCP now support symmetric active-active architecture for multipathing so that all paths between the hosts and storage are active/optimized.

Storage efficiency

Update	Description
Support for automatic rebalancing of storage units	ONTAP will automatically rebalance storage units across your storage availability zones for optimal performance and capacity utilization.
NVMe space deallocation enabled by default	Space deallocation (also called “hole punching” and “unmap”) is enabled for NVMe namespaces by default. Space deallocation allows a host to deallocate unused blocks from namespaces to reclaim space. This greatly improves overall storage efficiency, especially with file systems that have data high turnover.

What’s new in ONTAP 9.16.0 for ASA r2 systems

Learn about the new capabilities available in ONTAP 9.16.0 for ASA r2 systems.

Systems

Update	Description
Systems	The following NetApp ASA r2 systems are available. These systems deliver a unified hardware and software solution that creates a simplified experience specific to the needs of SAN-only customers. • ASA A1K • ASA A70 • ASA A90

System Manager

Update	Description
Streamlined support for SAN-only customers	System Manager is streamlined to provide support for essential SAN functionality while removing visibility of features and functions not supported in SAN environments.

Storage management

Update	Description
Simplified storage management	ASA r2 systems introduce the use of storage units with consistency groups for simplified storage management. • A *storage unit* makes storage space available to your SAN hosts for data operations. A storage unit refers to a LUN for SCSI hosts or an NVMe namespace for NVMe hosts. • *A consistency group* is a collection of storage units that are managed as a single unit.

Data security

Update	Description
Onboard key manager and dual-layer encryption	ASA r2 systems support an onboard key manager and dual-layer (hardware and software) encryption.

Changes to ONTAP limits and defaults affecting ASA r2 systems

Learn about the changes to limits and defaults affecting ASA r2 systems. NetApp strives to help its customers understand the most important default and limit changes in each ONTAP release.

Changes to ONTAP limits

Feature	Limit change	Changed in release…
Storage VMs per cluster	The maximum number of supported storage virtual machines (VMs) per HA pair is increased from 32 to 256.	ONTAP 9.18.1
SnapMirror activ sync	Support for SnapMirror active sync is increased from two-node clusters to four-node clusters.	ONTAP 9.18.1
Nodes per cluster	The maximum number of nodes per cluster is increased from 2 to 12. If you are running ONTAP 9.16.1 with more than 2 nodes in a cluster, you cannot revert to ONTAP 9.16.0.	ONTAP 9.16.1
Storage units	The maximum number of storage units is increased from 2500 per HA pair to 10,000 per HA pair.	ONTAP 9.16.1

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