Ruckus ICX Target Path Selection Guide

Ruckus FastIron OS Target Path releases are recommended code levels for Ruckus Campus switch platforms.

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Contents

Document History

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December 10, 2019	53-1003917-11	Updated Table 1 with the latest software Target Path releases.

Overview

This document provides guidance for selecting an ideal Ruckus® FastIron®Software Release version to use on Ruckus Campus switch platforms and for selecting optimum versions of code to use when migrating from one version of Ruckus FastIron to another. These recommended Ruckus FastIron versions are referred to as "Target Path" releases.

The Ruckus FastIron Target Path release recommendations in this document should be used in conjunction with any special requirements and needs of your particular environment. Always refer to the Ruckus FastIron release notes and carefully review the "Important Notes and Known Defects" information before selecting and installing any version of Ruckus FastIron OS on a switch.

This document is updated on a periodic, as-needed basis to reflect the latest Ruckus FastIron OS Target Path release recommendations. Always check the latest version of this document when planning to install a new Ruckus FastIron release on Ruckus Campus switches.

Definition of a Target Path Release

A Ruckus FastIron release is identified as a Target Path release only if it meets the following criteria:

- The Ruckus FastIron version of firmware was created primarily for stability and reliability and typically does not contain new major software features. This version is not used to support new hardware. This version of firmware may contain Reliability, Availability, and Serviceability (RAS) improvements and enhancements.
- The specified code level (or an earlier patch at the same release level) must be deployed in a sufficient number of end-user production environments for a period of at least two months and must have no known critical or pervasive issues or defects.

Once a specific Ruckus FastIron code version is identified as a Target Path release, newer patches (that is, releases that vary only with a different letter appended to the release number) that are released on the same code stream can also be considered as safe as the designated Target Path release. In some situations, it may be ideal to select one of the later patch releases to pick up a fix for an issue that is applicable to a particular site or environment. These newer patch releases may also be formally announced as the Target Path release for that code level, and in some cases, they may be designated as a Target Path release

after less than the two months of customer exposure time. Because patch releases typically contain minimal changes from their predecessors, it is not necessary to wait for this additional field exposure.

Always review the latest version of the Ruckus FastIron release notes for the code level that you are loading—as well as for the code level that you are migrating from—before updating firmware. The Target Path designation does not guarantee that you will not encounter defects or that there are no limitations in upgrading or downgrading firmware levels. However, following the Target Path release recommendations produces the most trouble-free environment for Campus customers who use Ruckus ICX switching platforms.

Target Path Release Designations

The following table specifies the Target Path release for each product family of Ruckus Campus switches. In general, Ruckus recommends running the most recent major code level that is supported by a particular hardware platform, although it is not necessary to upgrade if you do not need the new features or capabilities introduced in the later major release levels.

For some release levels, the Target Path release may contain some exceptions for specific platforms and functionality. These exceptions may be called out in the following table when applicable.

TABLE 1 Target Path Releases by Major Ruckus FastIron (FI) Level

Campus Product	Current Target Path	Recommended if no Target Path
ICX 7150	08.0.90d	
ICX 7150-C12P	08.0.90d	
ICX 7250	08.0.90d	
ICX 7450	08.0.90d	
ICX 7450-32ZP	08.0.40a	
ICX 7650	08.0.90d	
ICX 7750	08.0.90d	
ICX 7850	08.0.90d	
ICX 6610	08.0.30h	
ICX 6430/ICX 6450	08.0.30h	
ICX 6650	08.0.10m	
FCX	08.0.10m	
FGS/FLS	07.2.02k	
FWS	07.3.00h	
FSX Gen 1 & Gen 2 Management Modules	07.3.00h	
FSX Gen 3 Management Module	08.0.30h	
TurboIron	07.3.00h	

Recommended releases in the preceding table are usually relevant for newer platforms where a valid Target Path release may not yet exist. The recommended release may be different from the latest Ruckus FastIron release for that platform. It could be the case that critical fixes that Ruckus wants all customers to use were done as part of the recommended release, and because this release has not experienced the customer exposure of two months, it would not yet be deemed a Target Path release. After the customer exposure time is met, it is possible that this recommended release could be promoted to a Target Path release.

NOTE
There will be more recent versions of Ruckus FastIron code available that provide additional functionality. Customers who wish to deploy these latest features and who cannot wait for a Target Path designation on that release level are generally recommended to use the latest release available.

Customers who do not have an immediate need for the latest features should follow the provided Target Path recommendations, selecting the latest Target Path release that provides the level of functionality required.

Ruckus FastIron Release Numbering Nomenclature

Ruckus FastIron OS follows a release numbering scheme in which each character in the release string is significant. The release numbering nomenclature uses the following scheme:

08.0.xya

Convention	Description
08.0	Identifies a static major release number.
x	Identifies a feature release number.
y	Identifies a maintenance release or minor feature release number. (If there is no maintenance or minor feature release, the feature release number uses zero (0) for this number.)
a	Identifies a patch release letter.

Release Numbering Examples:

- 08.0.60 - Feature release
- 08.0.61 - Maintenance release based on the feature release 08.0.60
- 08.0.60a - Patch release based on the feature release 08.0.60

Currently 08.0 is a static major number and will change when there is major architecture level change in the OS code base.

A maintenance or minor release is used only occasionally to release minor features.

Patch releases carry all bug fixes associated with the major release and also carry fixes for internal and customer-found defects.

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