CISCO

Cisco Nexus Dashboard Sites Management, Release 3.1.x

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With Cisco Nexus Dashboard, you can on-board multiple Cisco ACI, Cisco Cloud Network Controller, Cisco NDFC fabrics, as well as NX-OS switches without a controller as "sites" to the same cluster. Once the fabrics are on-boarded, they can be used by the applications running on the same Cisco Nexus Dashboard cluster.

To add a site, you need its controller's in-band or out-of-band IP address and credentials. The type of the IP address you will use for site onboarding depends on the Nexus Dashboard services that will use the site and is described in detail in the following sections. Sites added to the Cisco Nexus Dashboard cluster are not enabled in the services by default, so you will need to explicitly enable them directly from each service's own GUI.

After you on-board one or more sites to your Nexus Dashboard, you can view them in the Nexus Dashboard GUI by selecting **Sites** from the left navigation sidebar. You can also use the **Sites** page to launch directly into any of the site's GUIs by clicking the **Open** link next to the site's name.

If you are using remote authentication to login to your Nexus Dashboard and you have the same login domain and user configured in the site you are launching, you will be able to login to the site's GUI automatically without having to re-authenticate yourself.

Sites Health

After you add the sites as described in the following sections, you can view their status in the **Manage > Sites** page of your Nexus Dashboard **Admin Console**.

In addition to the site's **Name**, you can see the following information for each site:

- **Health Score**

    - Healthy—if the site's health score is 90 or higher.

    - Warning—if the site's health score is 76-89.

    - Minor—if the site's health score is 50-75.

    - Major—if the site's health score is 25-49.

    - Critical—if the site's health score is below 25.

- **Type**

    - ACI for sites managed by Cisco APIC

    - NDFC for sites managed by Cisco NDFC

    - NX-OS for standalone NX-OS switches without a controller

- **Connectivity Status**—shows whether the site is reachable from the Nexus Dashboard cluster.

- **Firmware version**—the version of the software running on the site's controller or switch.

Adding ACI Sites

Before you begin

- Fabric connectivity must be already configured.

- For specific fabric versions compatible with your services, see the *Services Compatibility Matrix*.

- When adding a Cisco APIC site, EPG/L3Out for Cisco Nexus Dashboard data network IP connectivity must be pre-configured.

  Refer to Fabric Connectivity for more information.

- When adding a Cisco APIC site and planning to install the Insights service:

  - IP connectivity from Cisco Nexus Dashboard to Cisco APIC Inband IP over data network must be configured.

  - IP connectivity from Cisco Nexus Dashboard to the leaf nodes and spine nodes in-band IPs must be configured.

To add an ACI site:

1. Navigate to your Nexus Dashboard's **Admin Console**.

2. From the main navigation menu, select **Manage > Sites**.

3. In the main pane, click **Add Site**.

   The **Add Site** screen opens.

4. In the **Add Site** page, provide the site's information.

   - **Host Name/IP Address**—provide the IP address used to communicate with the site's controller.

   - **User Name** and **Password**—login credentials for a user with admin privileges on the site you are adding.

   - (Optional) **Login Domain**—if you leave this field empty, the site's local login is used.

   - (Optional) **Validate Peer Certificate**—allows Nexus Dashboard to verify that the certificates of hosts to which it connects (such as site controllers) are valid and are signed by a trusted Certificate Authority (CA).

     > ℹ️ You must have the certificate for this site already imported into your Nexus Dashboard before you can add a site using this option. If you have not yet added the certificates, cancel the **Add Site** wizard and follow the instructions described in Validating Peer Certificates first; then after you have imported the certificates, add the site as described here.
     > If you enable the **Verify Peer Certificate** option but don't import the valid certificate, site onboarding will fail.

   After you've provided the required information, click **Next** to continue.

5. In the **Detail** page, provide the additional site details.

- **Name** — a descriptive name for the site.

- **Location** — site's geographical location. This option is available only for on-premises sites.

  After you've provided the required information, click **Next** to continue.

6. In the **Summary** page, verify the information and click **Save** to finish adding the site.

Adding NDFC Sites

Before you begin

- Fabric connectivity must be already configured.

- For specific fabric versions compatible with your services, see the *Services Compatibility Matrix*.

- When adding a Cisco NDFC site:

  - You must configure Layer 3 connectivity to the fabric and switches.

  - If you cluster is deployed in AWS or Azure, you must configure inbound rules on the data interface.

    This is typically done during initial cluster deployment and described in detail in the *Cisco Nexus Dashboard Deployment Guide*.

To add an NDFC site:

1. Navigate to your Nexus Dashboard's **Admin Console**.

2. From the main navigation menu, select **Manage > Sites**.

3. In the main pane, click **Add Site**.

   The **Add Site** screen opens.

4. In the **Add Site** page, provide the site's information.

   - **Host Name/IP Address**—provide the IP address used to communicate with the site's controller.

     > ℹ️ For NDFC sites, this must be the in-band IP address of NDFC.
     > When providing the address, do not include the protocol (http:// or https://) as part of the URL string or site addition will fail.

   - **User Name** and **Password**—login credentials for a user with admin privileges on the site you are adding.

   - (Optional) **Login Domain**—if you leave this field empty, the site's local login is used.

   - (Optional) **Validate Peer Certificate**—allows Nexus Dashboard to verify that the certificates of hosts to which it connects (such as site controllers) are valid and are signed by a trusted Certificate Authority (CA).

     > ℹ️ You must have the certificate for this site already imported into your Nexus Dashboard before you can add a site using this option. If you have not yet added the certificates, cancel the **Add Site** wizard and follow the instructions described in Validating Peer Certificates first; then after you have imported the certificates, add the site as described here.
     > If you enable the **Verify Peer Certificate** option but don't import the valid certificate, site onboarding will fail.

   After you've provided the required information, click **Next** to continue.

5. In the **Detail** page, provide the additional site details.

    ○ **Name**—a descriptive name for the site.

    ○ **Location**—site's geographical location. This option is available only for on-premises sites.

    After you've provided the required information, click **Next** to continue.

6. In the **Summary** page, verify the information and click **Save** to finish adding the site.

Adding NX-OS Switches Without Controller

Before you begin

- Connectivity to a seed switch must be already configured.

  Seed switch is used to discover other switches in your fabric.

- NX-OS switches without a controller (such as APIC or NDFC) are supported by Nexus Dashboard Insights service only.

To add NX-OS switches as a site:

1. Navigate to your Nexus Dashboard's **Admin Console**.

2. From the main navigation menu, select **Manage > Sites**.

3. In the main pane, click **Add Site**.

   The **Add Site** screen opens.

4. In the **Add Site** screen, choose **NX-OS Standalone Site**.

   > ℹ️ If this is the first time you are onboarding NX-OS switches without a controller, click Enable Fabric Discovery.

5. In the **Add Site** page, provide the site's information.

   - **Seed Switch IP Address** – provide the IP address of the seed switch used to discover other switches in the site.

   - **Username** and **Password** – login credentials on the seed switch.

   After you've provided the required information, click **Next** to continue.

6. In the **Detail** page, provide the additional site details.

   - **Name** – a descriptive name for the site.

   - **Location** – site's geographical location. This option is available only for on-premises sites.

   After you've provided the required information, click **Next** to continue.

7. In the **Switch Selection** page, select one or more switches to add as a "Site".

   By default, the switch discovery process will show switches that are 2 hops away from the seed switch. You can change the default setting using the **Number of Hops** dropdown and clicking **Rediscover Switches**.

   After the switches are discovered, simply select all the switches you want to add as a site to your Nexus Dashboard and click Next.

8. In the **Summary** page, verify the information and click **Save** to finish adding the site.

Editing Sites

To edit a site:

1. Navigate to your Nexus Dashboard's **Admin Console**.

2. From the main navigation menu, select **Manage > Sites**.

3. From the **Actions (...)** menu for the site you want to edit, select **Edit Site**.

   The **Edit Site** screen opens.

4. In the **Edit Site** screen, make the required changes.

   - To remove a security domain, click the **Delete** icon next to an existing domain.

   - To add one or more security domains, click **+Add Security Domain**.

   - To re-provision the site, check the **Re-register Site** checkbox and provide the required information.

     Re-registering a site may be required for Cloud Network Controller sites used with Nexus Dashboard Orchestrator in case the Cloud Network Controller's public IP address changes.

     You can also use this option if you changed the IP address information for a NDFC fabric managed by the Orchestrator service.

     > **i** Re-registering a site is not supported for the Nexus Dashboard Insights service.

5. Click **Save** to save the changes

Deleting Sites

Before you begin

- Ensure that the site is not used by any applications installed in your Nexus Dashboard.

  Deleting a site will cause an interruption to all applications using this site.

- When a Cisco ACI fabric is added as a site to Nexus Dashboard, some policies may be created in the Cisco APIC. If the Nexus Dashboard is clean rebooted without deleting the on-boarded site, the policies created on Cisco APIC will not be deleted. To clean up these policies on Cisco APIC, the site should be re-added and deleted.

To remove one or more sites:

1. Navigate to your Nexus Dashboard's **Admin Console**.
2. From the main navigation menu, select **Manage > Sites**.
3. From the **Actions** (**...**) menu for the site you want to remove, select **Remove Site**.
4. In the **Confirm Delete** window, provide the login information for the site
5. Click **OK** to remove the site.

Trademarks

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