



Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series

Release Notes — Software Release 4.0

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Introduction

These are the Release Notes for the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Software Release 4.0.

The Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series family of devices is comprised of several purpose-built high-quality switching platforms that deliver an enterprise grade feature set with a special focus on delivering convergence features for either Voice over IP or Wireless deployments. Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series devices can provide support for Power over Ethernet (PoE) as well as reliability and security features that ensure the maximum network uptime.

Each Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series device has the following basic features:

- 1 RU High
- 24 or 48 10/100BaseT ports for network edge
- 2 front-panel 10/100/1000/SFP combo ports and 2 rear-panel Gigabit Ethernet ports for either uplink or server connectivity

The Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series, supported by software release 4.0, includes the following models:

- Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2526T
- Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2550T
- Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2526T-PWR
- Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2550T-PWR

These Release Notes provide the latest information about Software Release 4.0, as well as operational issues not included in the documentation suite.

For a complete list of documentation in the 2500 Series suite, see "[Related publications](#)" (page 17).

The following topics are discussed in this document:

- "[Software file names for this release](#)" (page 8)
- "[Secure software image](#)" (page 9)

- "Software upgrade instructions" (page 9)
- "Hardware features in Release 4.0" (page 9)
- "Software features in Release 4.0" (page 10)
- "Supported software and hardware capabilities" (page 12)
- "Known limitations and considerations in Release 4.0" (page 13)
- "Related publications" (page 17)
- "How to get help" (page 18)

The information in these Release Notes supersedes related information in other documentation.

Software file names for this release

The following table describes the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Software Release 4.0 software files.

Table 1
Software Release 4.0 Components

File description	File name
Standard (non-SSH) runtime image software version 4.0.0.000	2500_400000.img
Secure (SSH) runtime image software version 4.0.0.001	2500_400001s.img
Boot/diagnostic software for version 1.0.0.9	2500_1009_diag.bin
Java Device Manager software image (6.0.5.0) for Windows NT, Windows XP, Windows 2000, and Windows 2003	jdm_6050.exe
Java Device Manager software image (6.0.5.0) for Solaris	jdm_6050_solaris_sparc.sh
Java Device Manager software image (6.0.5.0) for Linux	jdm_6050_linux.sh
Java Device Manager software image (6.0.5.0) for HP Unix	jdm_6050_hpux_pa-risc.sh
Software Release 4.0 Management Information Base (MIB) definition files	Ethernet_Routing_Switch_25xx_MIBs_4.0.0.zip

Secure software image

The Ethernet Routing Switch Software can be installed using a secure image that provides the following features:

- Secure Shell (SSH) connections
- SHA-based user authentication and DES-based privacy encryption

These features are not available with the standard software image.

Software upgrade instructions

If you must upgrade the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series software, follow this procedure:

Step	Action
1	Backup the binary configuration file to a TFTP server.
2	Upgrade the boot/diagnostic code, if a new version is available. The system reboots after this step.
3	Upgrade the software image.

—End—

Hardware features in Release 4.0

The following table describes the general hardware features supported by each Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series device:

Table 2
Hardware description by model

Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch model:	Features
2526T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 10/100Base-T RJ-45 front-panel ports • 2 10/100/1000/SFP combo ports • 2 1000BaseT RJ-45 Cat-5 rear-panel ports
2550T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48 10/100BaseT RJ-45 front-panel ports • 2 10/100/1000/SFP combo ports • 2 1000BaseT RJ-45 Cat-5 rear-panel ports

Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch model:	Features
2526T-PWR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 10/100BaseT RJ-45 front-panel ports with PoE • 12 10/100BaseT RJ-45 front-panel non-PoE ports • 2 10/100/1000/SFP combo ports • 2 1000BaseT RJ-45 Cat-5 rear-panel ports
2550T-PWR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 10/100BaseT RJ-45 front-panel ports with PoE • 24 10/100BaseT RJ-45 front-panel non-PoE ports • 2 10/100/1000/SFP combo ports • 2 1000BaseT RJ-45 Cat-5 rear-panel ports

Software features in Release 4.0

This section lists the main software features supported on the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series devices. For more information about these features, see the documents listed in "[Related publications](#)" (page 17).

General software features

The following list summarizes the main software features supported in this release.

- 802.1p traffic class support/remarking
- ASCII configuration file generator (ACG)
- Autotopology (SONMP)
- Auto-negotiation
- Autosave configuration
- Autosave disable
- BootP or Default IP
- BootP/TFTP for downloading software and configuration files
- BootP/DHCP address assignment (RFC 1542)
- CLI Quick Start
- Class of Service (COS)/ DiffServ codepoint (DSCP) mapping
- Configurable SNMP trap port (SNMPv1 and SNMPv2 only)
- Custom Auto-Negotiation Advertisement (CANA)
- Destination Address (DA) filtering
- Domain Name Service (DNS)

- EAPoL (802.1x) and Guest VLAN
- Factory-default command
- Flow Control on gigabit Ethernet ports (802.3x)
- HTTP port change
- Internet Group Management Protocol version 2 (IGMPv2, RFC 2236) proxy and snooping support
- Independent VLAN Learning (IVL) support
- Java Device Manager (JDM) support
- Link Aggregation Control Protocol (802.3ad)
- Link Layer Discovery Protocol (802.1AB)
- Local password security
- Local console connection through serial interface
- MAC address-based security
- MultiLink Trunking (MLT)
- Multiple Spanning Tree Protocol (802.1s)
- Nortel CLI (NNCLI)
- Per VLAN Tagging support (802.1Q)
- Ping
- Power over Ethernet (PoE, 802.3af)
- Port-based VLAN support
- Port mirroring (ingress and egress)
- Port naming
- QoS - Diffserv Code Points (RFCs 2474 and 2475) marking and classification
- RADIUS-based security
- RADIUS Authentication and RADIUS password fallback
- Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (802.1w)
- Rate limiting (broadcast and multicast)
- Remote Logging
- Remote Monitoring (RMON) (RFC1757 Groups 1, 2, 3, 9)
- Remote Authentication Dial-In User Server (RADIUS)
- Remote logging

- Secure Shell (SSHv2)
- Show MAC Address
- Show port command
- Shutdown and reload commands
- Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) (RFC 1157) and SNMPv3
- Simple Network Time Protocol (SNTP)
- SNTP Timezone configuration
- Spanning Tree Protocol Group (802.1D, 802.1t)
- System log
- Telnet client (Telnet out)
- Telnet server (four sessions)
- Trivial File Transfer Protocol (TFTP) file download
- Username and password configuration
- Web-based management interface (HTTP) (RFC 2068)
- Web-based Quick Start
- Web-based download of ACG
- Writemem and save config commands

Supported software and hardware capabilities

The following table summarizes the known capabilities for the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Software Release 4.0.

Table 3
Supported capabilities for the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series

Feature	Maximum number supported
QoS egress queues	4
VLANs	256
Spanning Tree Groups in STPG and RSTP modes	1
Multiple Spanning Tree Instances (MSTI) in MSTP mode	8
MAC addresses	16000

Feature	Maximum number supported
MultiLink Trunking (MLT), Link Aggregation (LAG) groups	6
Links per MLT or LAG	4

Important note on use of the two rear 1000BaseT (RJ-45) ports (all models)

The two rear-facing 1000BaseT ports on all Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series devices are capable of supporting two different functional modes of operation: standalone mode and stacking mode.

However, in the initial software release 4.0 for the Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series, standalone mode is the only supported mode. In standalone mode, you can configure the rear ports as additional 1000BaseT ports for users, servers, printers or Gigabit uplinks. These rear ports become ports 27 and 28 on the Ethernet Routing Switch 2526T/2526T-PWR and ports 51 and 52 on the Ethernet Routing Switch 2550T/2550T-PWR.

Standalone mode is the default mode and cannot be changed in release 4.0. Stacking mode operation will be supported in a future major software release.


Known limitations and considerations in Release 4.0

The following table describes known limitations and considerations in the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Software Release 4.0.

Table 4
Release 4.0 known limitations and considerations

Affected feature	Description	Change Request Number
SNMPv3, 3DES and JDM	Device Manager does not provide an option to log in using 3DES privacy protocol. If you configure an SNMPv3 user with SHA authentication and 3DES privacy protocol, the user cannot log in to the device using Device Manager.	Q01525768
QoS Policy configuration and CLI	Currently, QoS Policy configuration (Strict, Weighted Round-Robin, Bounded Round-Robin) with corresponding Q weights and Traffic Class Priority can only be configured using the Web-based management interface. These fields should be configurable from the CLI also.	Q01507984

Affected feature	Description	Change Request Number
Port mirroring: XTX mode	Port-mirroring mode XTX mirrors egressed traffic on the mirrored port but does not mirror control packets generated by the switch. The monitor port does not receive copies of the generated control packets that egress from the mirrored port.	Q01480212
Enterprise Switch Manager	Enterprise Switch Manager (ESM) 6.0 does not support Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series.	Q01479382
CLI Quick Start: community fields	In the CLI Quick Start menu, if you enter a very long read-only or read-write community string (more than 32 characters), you cannot delete all of the entered characters. There are two workarounds available for this issue: You can abort the Quick Start menu by pressing CTRL+C , then issuing the <code>install</code> command to relaunch the Quick Start menu. OR You can enter all values in the remaining Quick Start fields, then, in the CLI, set the correct community string using the <code>snmp-server community</code> command.	Q01482942
RSTP and MSTP	In MSTP or RSTP, if the TxHoldCount is modified, the TxCount value is not zeroed. According to IEEE 802.1D-2004 page 152: "If the Transmit Hold Count is modified the value of txCount (17.19.44) for all Ports shall be set to zero."	Q01491509
Broadcast storm error message	The following error message appears when a broadcast storm occurs: <code>(tIdt): panic: netJobAdd: ring buffer overflow!</code>	Q01483088
Packet forwarding	The Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series does not forward packets to multicast address 01-00-00-00-xy-00.	Q01483689
Avago LX SFP	When the Avago LX SFP is installed in the SFP GBIC slot, the switch recognizes the SFP, but no link is possible.	Q01512937
Rate limiting	Rate limiting counts packets from the beginning of each second. When the number of packets reaches the value of the rate limit, all remaining packets are dropped until the end of the second, meaning that no packets are transmitted during the remaining interval. As a result, the packets are not evenly distributed over the course of a second. They are only sent at the beginning of the second. This means that if packet counters are not perfectly synchronized with the beginning of each second, the counters can register a number of packets that does not represent the actual number of packets transmitted during that second. For example, a packet counter can register a rate limit of 5000 pps as a variable rate alternating between 2100 and 8900 pps.	Q01493771

Affected feature	Description	Change Request Number
Non-PoE device status on PWR ports	If the PD Detect Type on an Ethernet Routing Switch 2500-PWR is set to 802.3af and Legacy, and a PoE port on the switch is connected to a non-PoE device, the status for the PoE port can appear incorrectly as InvalidPD rather than Detecting.	Q01498529
PWR Switch detects second PWR switch as valid PD	<p>If you connect two Ethernet Routing Switch 2500-PWR Series units using PoE ports (anywhere from eight to 12 connections) and the PD Detect Type is set to 802.3 af and Legacy, after a period of minutes (maximum 3), one of the units interprets the other as a valid PD and begins delivering power through one of the PoE ports. If you then unplug the unit receiving PoE power, it remains powered and continues to forward traffic.</p> <div data-bbox="475 726 1386 909" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">  <p>DANGER If you power off an Ethernet Routing Switch 2500-PWR switch, be sure to disconnect all connections to other PoE switches to ensure the 2500-PWR device is not receiving any PoE power through these connections.</p> </div>	Q01510139
STP: aging of MAC address entries when forward delay is set to 4	After a Spanning Tree topology change, the entries in the MAC address table only age out after the expiration of the default aging time, rather than the forward delay time. This issue only occurs if the forward delay time is set to 4 seconds.	Q01501869
Speed/duplex settings for rear ports	In the Web-based interface Configuration > Port Management page, if you apply a speed/duplex value to all switch ports, the configuration is applied to the rear 1000BaseT ports as well. However, this can cause errors as the rear ports cannot operate other than at 1000Mbs/full.	Q01565331
STP configuration errors with ACG file	<p>When the switch configuration is saved to ACG, the command lines relating to STP hello time, max age out, fwd delay and priority properties include an STP number:</p> <pre>spanning-tree cost-calc-mode dot1d spanning-tree stp 1 priority 8000 spanning-tree stp 1 hello-time 2 spanning-tree stp 1 max-age 20 spanning-tree stp 1 forward-time 15</pre> <p>The lines containing <code>stp 1</code> cause errors when applying the file to the switch.</p> <p>From the Web-based interface, ACG file execution stops at the first error encountered. However, with the CLI, the entire file runs to its completion, only displaying errors as they occur.</p> <p>As a result, Nortel recommends that you use the CLI to work around this issue.</p>	Q01565324

Affected feature	Description	Change Request Number
	To do so, you can manually correct the ASCII configuration file and download the file. Or you can download the file as is with the errors and after the file execution stops manually execute the four CLI commands to correct the values.	
DSCP and remarking	When DSCP mapping is enabled on the switch and VLAN port remarking is enabled on a port, some packets egressing the port can be assigned the priority specified by the DSCP mapping rather than the VLAN port remarking. The workaround for this issue is to reset the switch after you configure DSCP mapping.	Q01559679
Configuration display incorrect for EAP when terminal width set to 132	Upon setting the terminal width to 132, EAP information is displayed incorrectly when running the show running-config command. For example: <pre>eapol disable interface FastEthernet ALL eapol port 1-28 status authorized traffic -control in-out re-authentication disable re-authentication-period 3600 re-authenticate qui et-interval 60 transmit-interval 30 supplicant-timeout 30 server-timeout 30 max-request 2 <--- et-interval 60 transmit-interval 30 supplicant-timeout 30 server-timeout 30 max-request 2 <--</pre> The same line of output appears twice.	Q01567597
Autotopology messages from BayStack 450	A change in the operation of Nortel's SONMP based Autotopology causes directly-connected BayStack 450s to report a physical Autotopology change every 70 seconds to the local switch. This Autotopology change message should be ignored for links where there is a direct connection to a BayStack 450 switch.	Q01565432
MLT on rear ports	If you set up an MLT containing rear ports and combo ports, multicast and broadcast traffic travels down the first rear port instead of the lowest active MLT port.	Q01567158
Telnet inactivity settings	If you set the telnet inactivity timeout to 0, this causes errors in your system. The sysUpTime displays improperly, and you are unable to launch another Telnet session to the switch. As a workaround to this issue, set the telnet inactivity timeout to a value other than 0.	Q01567101
Rate limiting maximum is 65535 pps	The rate limiting feature can only limit broadcast and multicast traffic up to a limit of 65535 pps. Do not set the rate limit to a higher value.	Q01569236

Affected feature	Description	Change Request Number
Web-based management: 501 or Server Busy error	<p>To log out of Web-based management on the Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series, be sure to choose Administration > Logout from the main menu.</p> <p>If you end a Web-based management session by clicking close (X) in the Web browser, and then attempt to reconnect to the switch using the Web browser, the following error can appear: "501 error – Server Not Implemented " (or "Server Busy"). This issue only applies when password authentication (local or RADIUS) is enabled on the switch. In this case, you must wait for a timeout period of approximately 10 minutes before attempting to reconnect to the switch.</p> <p>Additionally, in sites where DNS host resolution is used, the HTTP error can appear for extended periods much longer than 10 minutes. This problem occurs when the switch DNS name rather than the switch IP address is used in the URL field of the Web browser. In this case, you can work around the issue by entering the switch IP address directly in the URL field of the Web browser.</p> <p>In either case, when this issue occurs, you can still open administrative connections to the switch using the Console port, Telnet, and Device Manager.</p> <p>This issue does not impact performance or forwarding operation of the switch.</p>	Q01567347
Ping from Linux can freeze Telnet or SSH	<p>When you run Telnet or SSH sessions from Linux, if you enter <code>ping</code> with no additional parameters and press Enter, the Telnet or SSH session freezes.</p> <p>To work around this issue, specify the desired parameters in the <code>ping</code> command line before pressing Enter. For example: <code>ping 192.168.0.1</code>.</p> <p>This issue does not occur with Telnet and SSH sessions opened from Windows or Solaris.</p>	Q01587161

Related publications

Refer to the following publications for more information about the Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series, Software Release 4.0:

- *Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Overview — System Configuration* (NN47215-500)
- *Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Configuration — VLANs, Spanning Tree, and MultiLink Trunking* (NN47215-501)
- *Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Performance Management — System Monitoring* (NN47215-502)
- *Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Configuration — IP Multicast* (NN47215-503)

- *Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Configuration — Quality of Service* (NN47215-504)
- *Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 2500 Series Security — Configuration* (NN47215-505)
- *Installing SFP and XFP Transceivers and GBICs* (318034-C)

How to get help

This section explains how to get help for Nortel products and services.

Getting help from the Nortel web site

The best way to get technical support for Nortel products is from the Nortel Technical Support web site:

www.nortel.com/support

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- download software, documentation, and product bulletins
- search the Technical Support web site and the Nortel Knowledge Base for answers to technical issues
- sign up for automatic notification of new software and documentation for Nortel equipment
- open and manage technical support cases

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If you purchased a service contract for your Nortel product from a distributor or authorized reseller, contact the technical support staff for that distributor or reseller.

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In North America, call 1-800-4NORTEL (1-800-466-7835).

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An Express Routing Code (ERC) is available for many Nortel products and services. When you use an ERC, your call is routed to a technical support person who specializes in supporting that product or service. To locate the ERC for your product or service, go to:

www.nortel.com/erc

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