



# Brocade® 8G and 16G SAN Has Reached End-of-Life

Refresh with IBM SAN to avoid the risks of an aging infrastructure

These Brocade Fibre Channel 8G and 16G SAN products below have reached **FOS End-of-Availability (EOA)** and approaching **End-of-Support (EOS)**:

- 8510 Directors (IBM 2499-816, 2499-416)
- 6520 Switch (IBM 2498-F96/N96)
- 6510 Switch (IBM 2498-F48)
- 6505 Switch (IBM 2498-F24/X24)
- 300 Switch (IBM 2498-B24)

Maintaining aging networking infrastructure in your data center may be riskier than you expect.

Older generation switches are at risk of environmental issues, maintaining performance, interoperability integrity and security vulnerabilities.

## What happens at Fabric OS® End-of-Availability (EOA)?

Brocade engineering identifies hundreds of security threats every year and provides patches to address these vulnerabilities. Once Fabric OS (FOS) EOA arrives, there will be no further scheduled releases of FOS with bug fixes, security vulnerabilities, or improvements made available for the switch.

**What Does EOS Mean?** IBM and Brocade will no longer support or troubleshoot any IBM product that is EOS. For customers running a multiple-device fabric, if the Brocade Technical Assistance Center (TAC) confirms that there is an EOS b-type product in the fabric, TAC will not troubleshoot the fabric until the EOS b-type product has been removed from the fabric. Additionally, EOS products are no longer entitled to access software updates, bug fixes, or patches on the IBM and Brocade software portal.

## Modernize your storage infrastructure with these recommended models

IBM EOL Models	Brocade Models	Description	Key Dates	IBM Model Recommendations
<b>2499-816</b> <b>2499-416</b>	8510-8 8510-4	Gen 5 Directors	FOS EOA: 4/30/2023 HW EOS: 4/30/2025	8961-F78 8961-F74
<b>2498-F96/N96</b>	6520	Gen 5 Enterprise Switch (96 ports)	FOS EOA: 9/21/2024 HW EOS: 4/30/2027	8969-P96/R96
<b>2498-F48</b>	6510	Gen 5 Midrange Switch (48 ports)	FOS EOA: 6/17/2023 HW EOS: 6/17/2025	8960-P64/R64
<b>2498-F24/X24</b>	6505	Gen 5 Entry Switch (24 ports)	FOS EOA: 4/30/2023 HW EOS: 4/30/2025	8969-F24
<b>2498-B24</b>	300	Gen 4 Entry Switch (24 ports)	FOS EOA: 4/30/2023 HW EOS: 4/30/2025	8969-F24

## Step up to IBM b-type Gen 7 SAN for much greater return

Modernizing your storage network with IBM Gen 7 Fibre Channel delivers far more than just high speeds and low latency. With automated administrative routines and processes—you'll see dramatic savings in time typically spent troubleshooting issues, optimizing application performance, and maintaining high levels of security. Plus, it works seamlessly with older generations of Fibre Channel and allows you to run SCSI and NVMe in parallel, so you can migrate to the SAN of the future at your own pace.

Features	Gen 5 (16G)	Gen 6 (32G)	Gen 7 (64G)
Maximum supported speed	16G	32G	64G
Latency (local switching)	700ns (w/o FEC)	780ns	460ns
Security: Trusted FOS, hardware-based root of trust, secure optics, secure licensing	X	X	✓
Traffic Optimizer	X	X	✓
Hardware congestion signalling	X	X	✓
NVMe telemetry	X	X	✓
Upgradable to next-generation technology	Gen 5 Directors are not upgradable	Gen 6 Directors are upgradable to Gen 7	Gen 7 Directors support Gen 6 and Gen 7 blades
Product Availability	End-of-life	✓	✓

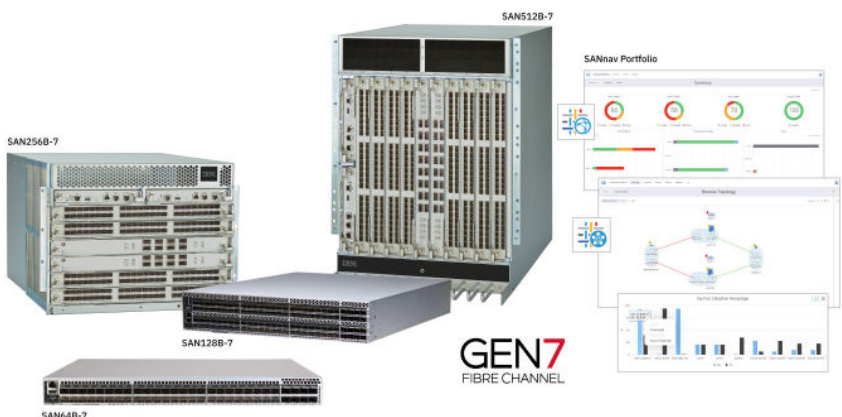
## Want to learn more?

Explore the benefits of IBM b-type Gen 7 Fibre Channel

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*IBM b-type Storage Networking: Enabling a cyber resilient, autonomous SAN*

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## Questions?

Contact your IBM Storage or Brocade representative or email [IBM-Sales.pdl@broadcom.com](mailto:IBM-Sales.pdl@broadcom.com)