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10/27/2011

FC/FCoE Connectivity options as of 11/3/2011

Well...we've been talking about it since EMC World in May and on November 3rd EMC will officially release support for a Director Class Multi-Hop FCoE solution! More specifically, we will be adding the Cisco Nexus 7000 and FCoE support for the Cisco MDS 95xx to the November EMC Support Matrix (ESM). We are also adding a case study to the EMC FCoE TechBook that will provide step-by-step installation instructions for a couple of different deployment options. I'll provide a link to the updated techbook once it's posted.

Configuration rules

The following configuration rules were used to create the topology diagrams. If there is a discrepancy between the diagrams and the configuration rules, the configuration rules take precedence:

1. The Nexus 2232 requires a connection to a Nexus 5000 in order to function.
2. The Nexus 2232 does not support native Fibre Channel ports.
3. The Nexus 4001i requires a connection to a Nexus 5000 in order to support FCoE.
4. The Nexus 4001i does not support native Fibre Channel ports.
5. The Nexus 7000 does not support native Fibre Channel ports.
6. The Fibre Channel ports on the Nexus 5000 cannot be used for end device connectivity while the switch is in NPV mode.
7. FC-SW interoperability between Brocade and Cisco is not supported. When attaching a Brocade switch to a Cisco FCF and vice versa, either NPV mode must be used on the Cisco switch or AG mode must be used on the Brocade switch.
8. The Fibre Channel ports on the Brocade 8000 cannot be used for end device connectivity while the switch is in NPV mode.
9. All host connectivity to the UCS 6100 is via FCoE.



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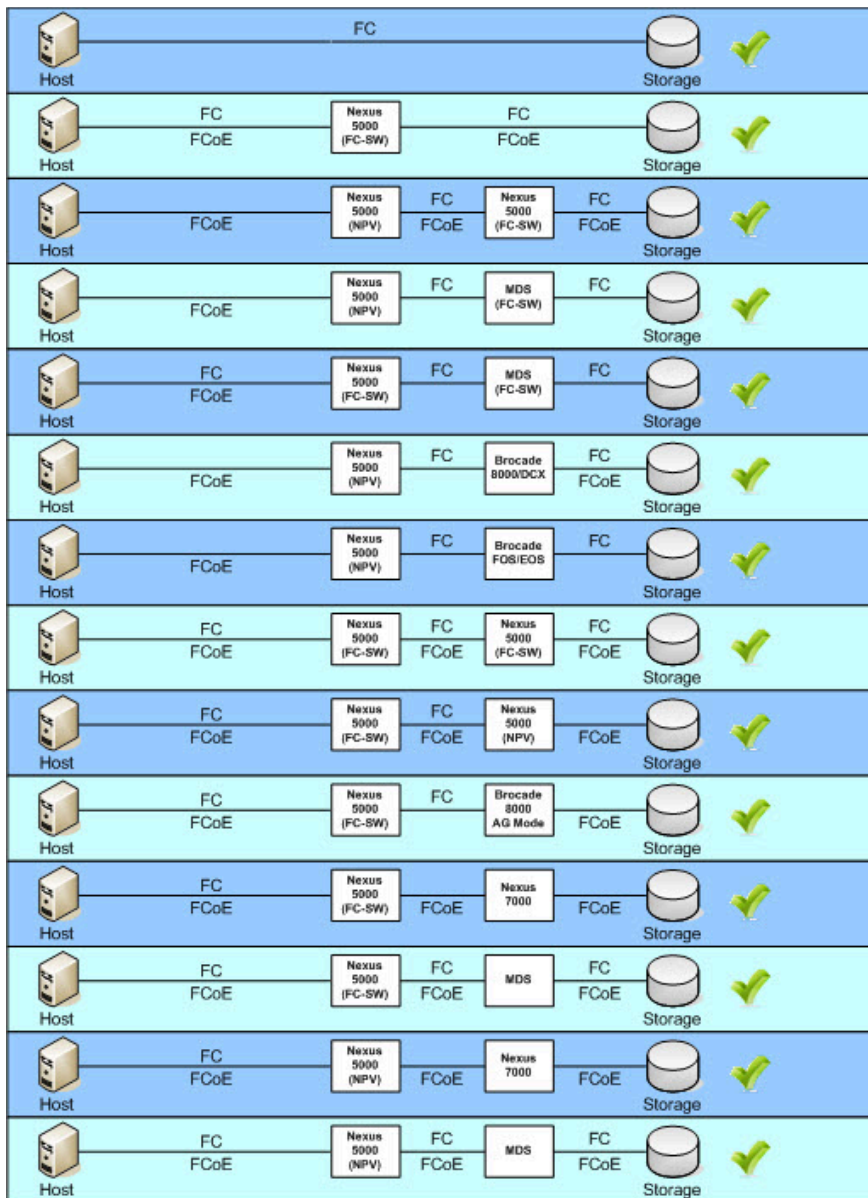
10. The Fibre Channel ports on the UCS 6100 cannot be used for end device connectivity while the switch is in NPV mode.
11. The UCS 6100 does not currently provide an FC zoning interface. As a result, when the 6100 is running in FC-SW mode, it must be connected to another Cisco switch that is also running in switch mode.
12. Cascading switches that are running in NPV / AG mode is not supported.
13. The Nexus 4001i does not support external VN_Port connections
14. As of November 3rd 2011, EMC supports FCoE on the Nexus 7000 and MDS.
15. Storage ports cannot be connected to the Nexus 5000 while it is running in NPV mode.
16. The Brocade 8000 and DCX do not support VE_Ports
17. Cisco UCS does not currently support VE_Ports.
18. FCoE NPV uplinks between Cisco and Brocade switches are not supported.

Supported connectivity options:

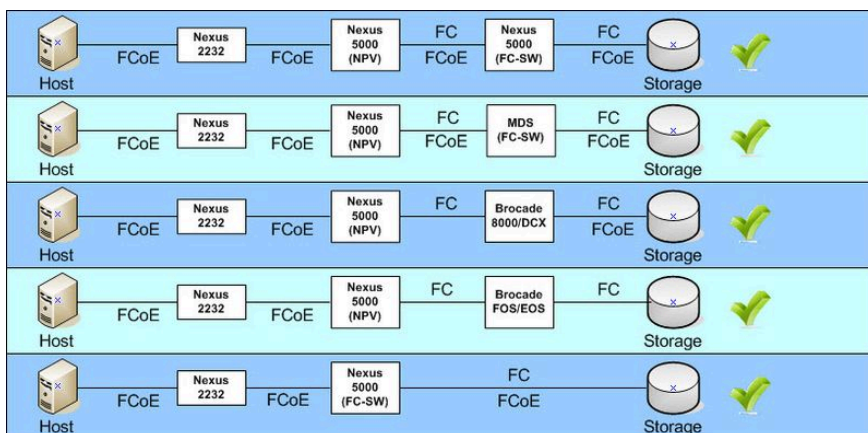
The supported connectivity options have been broken down into several categories with each category focusing on the connectivity options for a particular connectivity component. The categories are:

1. Configurations specific to Nexus 5000
2. Configurations specific to Nexus 2000
3. Configurations specific to Nexus 4001i
4. Configurations specific to Nexus 6100
5. Configurations specific to Nexus 7000
6. Configurations specific to MDS 95xx
7. Configurations specific to Brocade 8000 / DCX

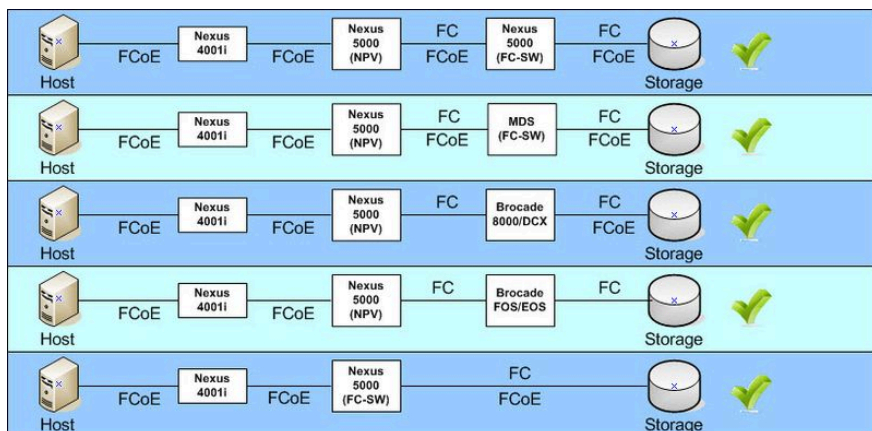
Configurations specific to Nexus 5000:



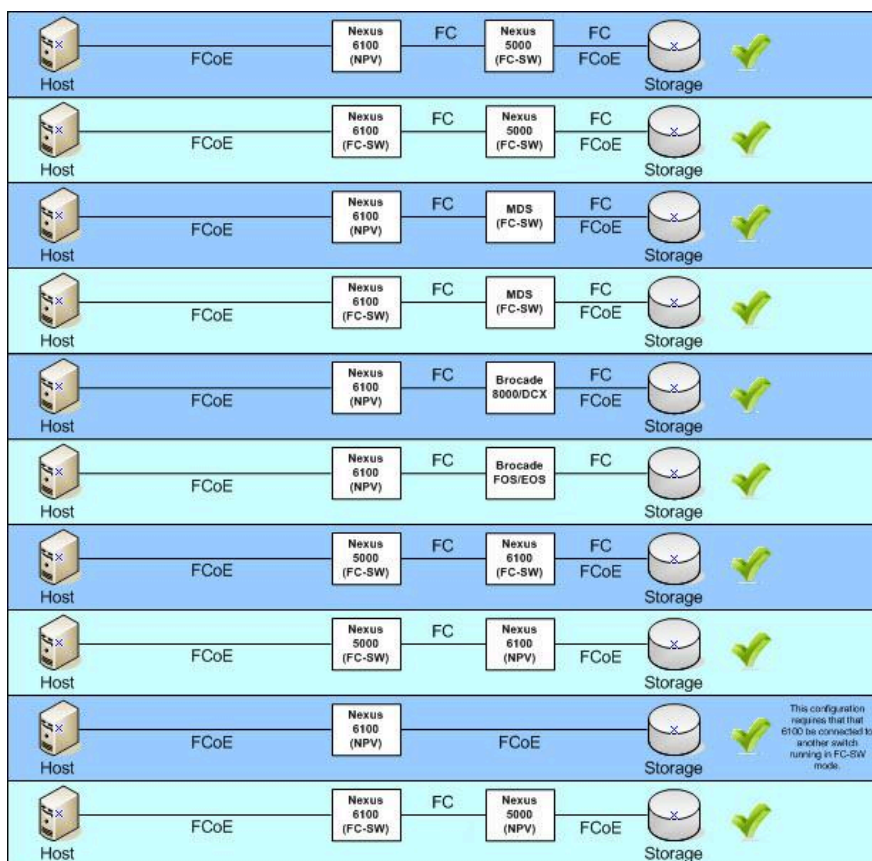
Configurations specific to Nexus 2000:



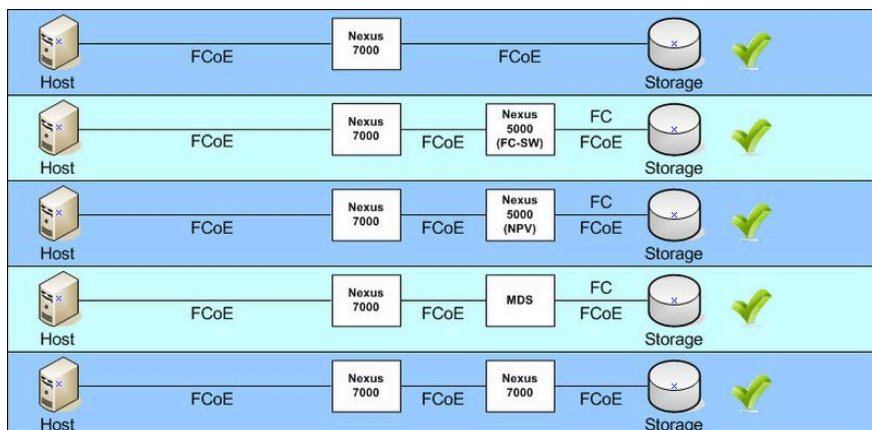
Configurations specific to Nexus 4001i:

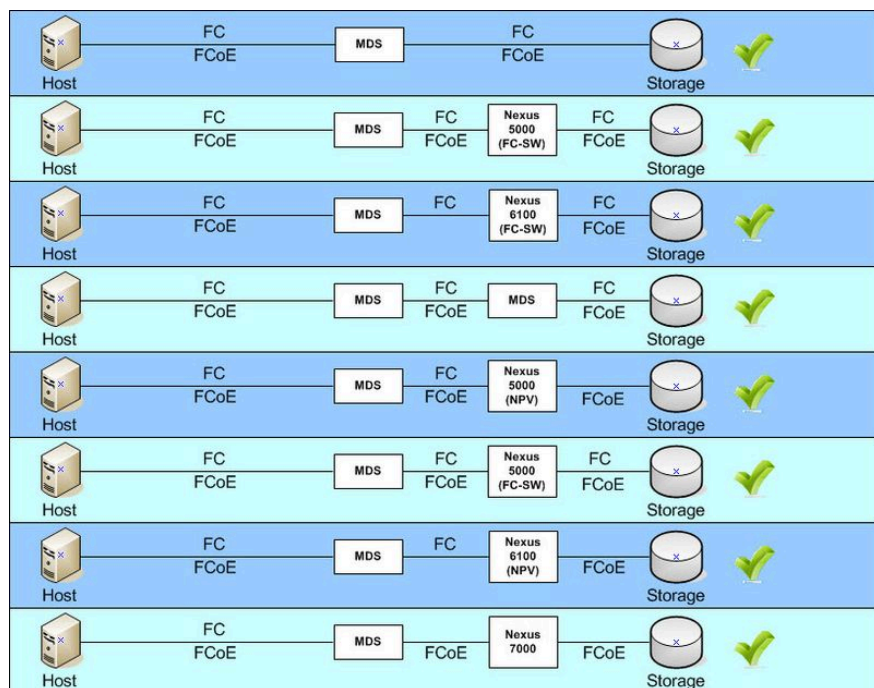
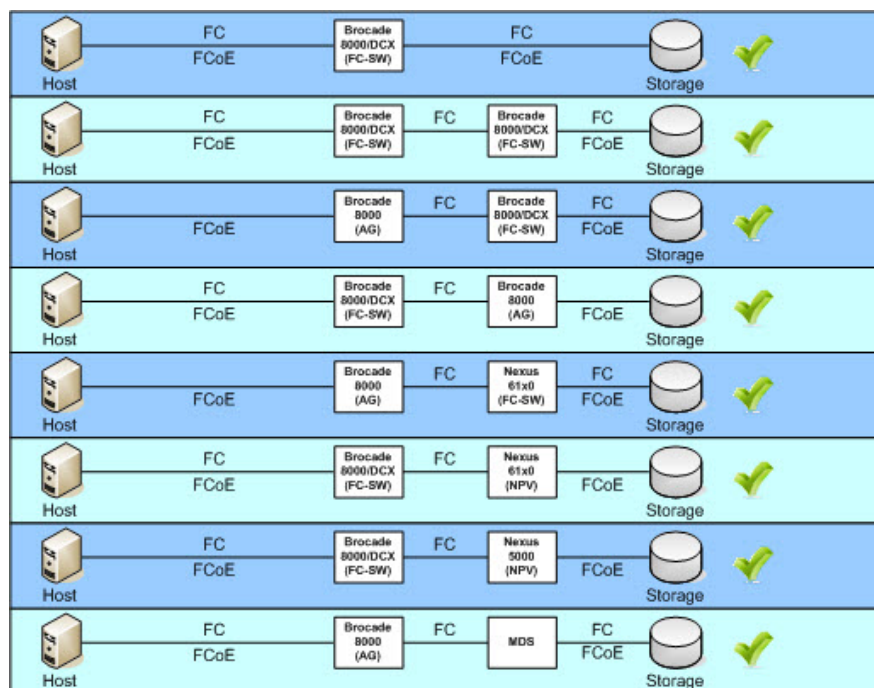


Configurations specific to 6100:



Configurations specific to 7000:



Configurations specific to MDS 95xx:*Configurations specific to Brocade 8000 / DCX:*

Thanks for reading!

Note: This post was updated on 11/7/2011 to correct one of the 6100 topologies.

Posted at 01:04 PM | [Permalink](#)

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Comments

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Great resource, thanks!

Posted by: [Victorforde](#) | [10/28/2011 at 04:39 AM](#)



Just a comment: The Brocade DCX cannot be configured in AG mode. I see it in a couple of the configurations you're listing so I thought I'd point it out. Otherwise, this is a great resource, thanks for putting it together! :)

Posted by: [Juan Tarrío \(BRCD\)](#) | [01/11/2012 at 05:09 AM](#)



Hi Juan, thanks for pointing that out! I've updated the graphics.

Erik

Posted by: [Erik Smith](#) | [01/11/2012 at 09:52 AM](#)

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