

Highlights

- Automates the connection of Extreme switches and APs to Fabric Connect virtualized services
- Seamlessly extends the Fabric Connect “simplified provisioning” to non-Fabric ExtremeSwitching and ExtremeWireless edge devices
- Enables the mapping of edge devices and associated end-users to the appropriate virtualized fabric service
- Leverages Extreme’s dynamic role-based policy to identify and securely auto-attach users/devices to Fabric Connect services
- Provides new options for connecting and evolving your wired and wireless edge infrastructure

Extreme Fabric Attach

Zero-Touch User and Device Attachment to Extreme’s Fabric Connect

Extending Fabric Connect

Extreme’s Fabric Connect delivers an end-to-end virtualized network which reduces complexity and increases agility for network operators. By creating a “zero-touch” core that requires access-only layer provisioning, it minimizes the chance of core network misconfiguration, while enabling simple and secure deployment of any type of network service. All of this can be done without the need for configuration changes on intermediate / core nodes, even in environments where clients roam. But extending these same capabilities to non-fabric based devices and their connected end-points presents its own challenge.

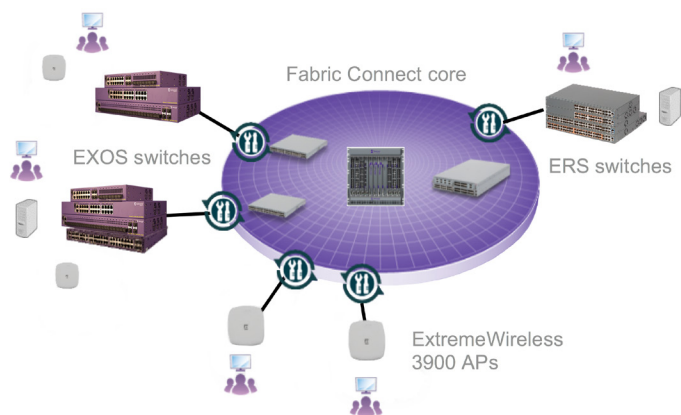
Enter Fabric Attach

Fabric Attach is a software-based feature that leverages the flexibility and extensibility of Fabric Connect to deliver automation and time-to-service enhancements to non-Fabric devices. It extends the ease of provisioning of Fabric Connect to non-fabric platforms, including ExtremeSwitching and ExtremeWireless devices. It effectively automates the connection to the Fabric Connect environment, enabling these devices and their associated end-points to be quickly mapped to the appropriate virtualized Fabric Connect service. Once connected, these edge devices can then leverage Extreme’s policy services to control user and device access to the end-to-end virtualized Fabric Connect services.

How it Works:

Integrating Non-Fabric Switches, APs and Users

With Fabric Attach, provisioning a non-fabric Ethernet switch or wireless access point (AP) to the Fabric Connect network is as easy as taking the Fabric Attach-enabled switch or AP “out of the box” and physically connecting it to a Fabric Connect-enabled switch. The Fabric Attach device then automatically configures itself with the appropriate management VLAN, preparing itself for the dynamic extension of virtualized fabric services on behalf of its connected end-point devices or users. This can speed the deployment of wired and wireless edge devices to the Fabric Connect environment since no manual configuration is required and can be especially valuable at locations where networking skills are at a premium, such as remote offices.



Fabric Attach is supported on ExtremeSwitching EXOS and ERS switches, as well as ExtremeWireless 3900 APs. It enables zero-touch connection of these devices and their associated users/devices to the Fabric Connect core

One of the key benefits of Fabric Attach is not only the automatic and dynamic provisioning of VLAN and virtualized services within a Fabric Connect network infrastructure, but also the removal of those services when they are no longer required. This enables the creation of a secure, elastic and programmable network with services that expand and contract in step with an enterprise's needs.

Quickly Turn up Services and Policies on the Edge

Once connected, Fabric Attach devices can then use centralized ExtremeManagement policy and orchestration services to connect edge devices and users, authenticate them, apply policy and onboard to Fabric Connect virtualized services. For example, ExtremeControl can be used to centrally define and set-up policies for devices and/or users on the Fabric Attach device. When the end-user or end-point device connects to the Fabric Attach switch or AP, it can be authenticated, mapped to the appropriate virtualized fabric service and the specified policy applied seamlessly end-to-end across the Fabric Connect core. No manual configuration on the edge device is required!

Secure, Elastic Network Services

Fabric Attach devices and users can further take advantages of the inherent security features of the Fabric Connect infrastructure. Each Fabric Connect virtualized service is unique and operates independently end-to-end. Traffic from Fabric Attach devices, users or applications is uniquely tagged to a virtualized service and isolated from other virtualized Fabric services. Furthermore, these virtualized services are used only when needed, and removed when not in service. This ensures a high degree of security for application / user traffic originating from Fabric Attach devices and traversing the Fabric Connect core.

Extreme Fabric Attach Supported Platforms

Fabric Attach is supported on the following ExtremeSwitching and ExtremeWireless systems and devices. No additional software license is required.

Extreme Networks Fabric Attach Supported Systems	
ExtremeSwitching Platforms	Required O/S
X440-G2 Series	EXOS 22.4* or later
X450-G2 Series	
X460-G2 Series	
X620 Series	
X670-G2 Series	
X690 Series	
X770 Series	
X870 Series	
ERS 3500 Series	BOSS 5.31 or later
ERS 3600 Series	BOSS 6.0 or later
ERS 4800 Series	BOSS 5.8 or later
ERS 4900/5900 Series	BOSS 7.0 or later
ExtremeWireless Devices	Required O/S
3912 AP	ExtremeWireless 10.41** or later
3916 AP	
3935 AP	
3965 AP	

* Currently planned for December 2017

** Currently planned for October 2017



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