How POD is enabled on Brocade switches?

Applies to
Brocade Switches

Answer
Brocade switches offer a Ports on Demand (POD) model for licensing and port enabling. However, when adding POD license, POD-disabled ports are not automatically enabled.

Brocade POD details
This allows for licensing flexibility by only buying licenses for ports used. Additional licensed ports can be added as business requirements increase.

’NetApp provides no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or reliability or serviceability of any information or recommendations provided in this publication or with respect to any results that may be obtained by the use of the information or observance of any recommendations provided herein. The information in this document is distributed AS IS and the use of this information or the implementation of any recommendations or techniques herein is a customers responsibility and depends on the customers ability to evaluate and integrate them into the customers operational environment. This document and the information contained herein may be used solely in connection with the NetApp products discussed in this document.’
Rules for Configuring, Enabling and Disabling POD ports:

1. Ports can be configured, but not enabled, before being licensed.
2. The license installation procedure checks the license database.
3. License installation is done by the `licenseadd` command or the Web Tools Switch Admin License Admin Tab.
4. Ports must be explicitly enabled after a POD license is installed and disabled after a POD license is removed.

Methods to explicitly enable/disable ports after adding/removing POD license:

1. `portenable/portdisable` command or Web Tools Switch Admin Port Setting tab
2. `switchenable/switchdisable` command or Web Tools Switch Admin Switch tab
3. Reboot switch.

When the active ports have exhausted the current POD license pool, additional ports will not be assigned a license. In such cases, manually move licenses from unused ports by releasing the POD assignment to a newly used port and reserve it.

**Step 1 : Releasing a port from a POD set**

1. Identify the unused/offline port currently holding the license.

```
switch:admin> licenseport --show
24 ports are available in this switch
Ports on Demand license is installed
   Dynamic POD method is in use

24 port assignments are provisioned for use in this switch:
   8 port assignments are provisioned by the base switch allowance
   16 port assignments are provisioned by the Ports on Demand license

13 ports are assigned to the base switch allowance or installed licenses:
   8 ports are assigned to the Ports on Demand base switch allowance
   5 ports are assigned to the Ports on Demand license
   ports assigned to the base switch allowance: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9
```
ports assigned to the Ports on Demand license:
    7*, 8, 10, 11, 13

with * is an offline port holding license
ports that are not assigned:
    12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23

0 license reservations are still available for use by unassigned ports
1 license assignment is held by an offline port (indicated by *)

2. Release the license from port 7.

   NOTE: Before you can re-assign a license, you must disable and ensure the port is offline and release the license.

   switch:admin> portdisable <port_number>
switch:admin> licenseport --release <port_number>
switch:admin> licenseport --release <range_of_port_numbers>

Step 2: Reserving a port license

- Reserving a license for a port assigns a POD license to that port whether the port is online or offline.

   switch:admin> licenseport --reserve <port_number>
switch:admin> licenseport --reserve <range_of_port_numbers>

- Run the portShow command to ensure the port is licensed.
- Enable the port by running the portEnable <portnumber> command

Additional Information

To view a list of Brocade user and administrator guides, see Brocade Documentation for Firmware and Switches Supported by NetApp.