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Smarter technology for all

Lenovo

Future-Proof Your SAN with the DB820S and DB720S Switches

Protect your investment with quantum-safe and next-gen performance.

The Brocade® Gen 5 (16G) 6510 Switch reached its End-of-Support (EOS) in June 2025. Now is the critical time to start the upgrade process to a modern platform, such as the powerful new Lenovo DB820S (Gen 8) Fibre Channel Switch or the more affordable DB720S (Gen 7) Switch.

Besides the increased risk of downtime, halt on enhancements, and a lack of security updates, maintaining aging networking infrastructure in your data center may be riskier than you expect. Older Gen 5 and Gen 6 technology was simply not designed to handle the demands of next-gen servers and storage arrays, which can result in capacity overloads, traffic bottlenecks, and security exposures. The risk of hardware failing increases over time due to the effects of heat, vibration, and dust. More importantly, End-of-Availability (EOA) products are unable to run the latest versions of Fabric OS (FOS), leaving your data center exposed to security vulnerabilities.

If you are running Gen 5 (6510) or Gen 6 (DB620S) Switches in your data center, you need to take action to safeguard the ongoing security and availability of your critical applications. By modernizing the storage network with Lenovo Gen 7 or Gen 8 SAN, organizations will benefit from a faster, more intelligent, and more resilient network. Upgrading to the Lenovo DB820S (Gen 8) is the ultimate solution, providing 64G and 128G bandwidth and quantum-safe security to fortify the SAN against the most sophisticated cyber threats. It also delivers AI-powered autonomy to simplify management and maintain optimal performance. Even the Gen 7 DB720S provides significant gains in security and performance over legacy platforms.

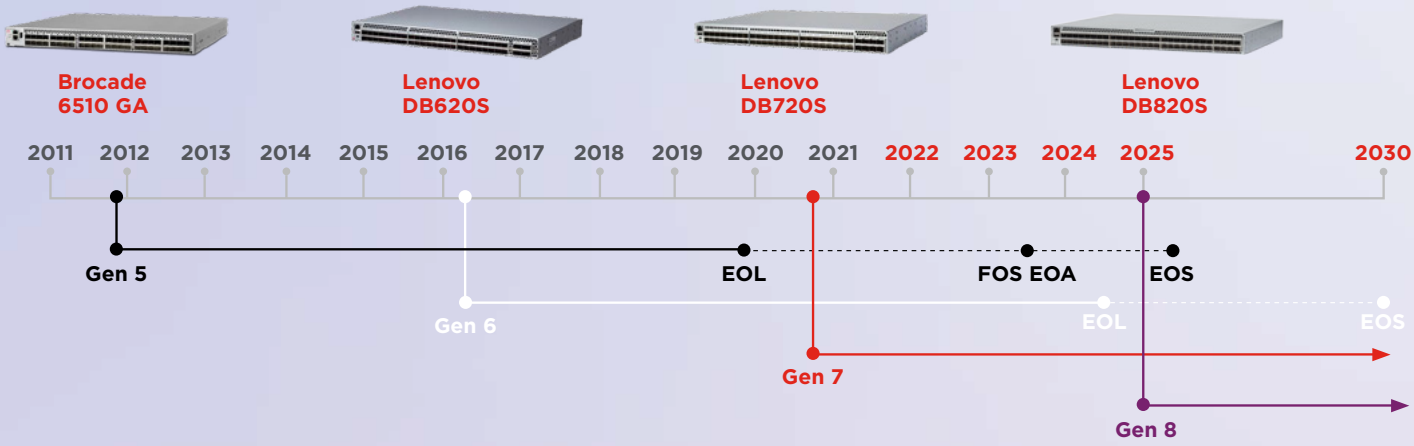
What happens at Fabric OS® EOA?

Brocade engineering identifies hundreds of security threats every year and provides patches to address these vulnerabilities The 6510 Switch is well past its FOS EOA date, at which point no further scheduled releases of FOS with bug fixes or improvements are made available for the 6510 Switch. More importantly, scheduled FOS patches for any recent security vulnerabilities will also not be available, compromising the security profile of the entire SAN environment and leaving your data exposed.

What does EOS mean?

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

Running Gen 5 or Gen 6 technology? Your switches might be older than you think.



What are the risks if you wait to upgrade?

Reliability issues
Over time, heat, vibration, and dust impact hardware reliability, which could cause disruptions or failures.

Interoperability issues
With older SAN products, new servers and storage may not be compatible or may be limited to a subset of features.

Security vulnerabilities
Patches for any recent security vulnerabilities will become limited over time, leaving your data exposed. Older architectures lack the quantum-resistant defenses needed to protect against modern and future cyber threats.

Performance impact
EOL infrastructure can impede the performance capabilities of evolving workloads and NVMe-based storage. Neither Gen 5 nor Gen 6 was designed for the extreme demands of next-gen storage, resulting in bottlenecks that limit the full potential of your investment.

Modernize Your Storage Network: Make the Move to Lenovo Gen 8 or Gen 7 SAN

Next-generation servers and storage move more data through your infrastructure than ever before to support new applications and capabilities, driving new levels of performance and capacity requirements. Coupled with higher expectations for availability and the need to protect your enterprise against disruptions, outages, and cybersecurity vulnerabilities, you need a network capable of maximizing performance while simplifying management and protecting against modern and quantum-era threats.

The Lenovo DB820S (Gen 8) Switch is purpose built to meet ever-increasing demands for performance, reliability, and data integrity. This switch delivers 128G bandwidth and unmatched low latency, accelerating performance for enterprise AI and modern workloads. The DB720S (Gen 7) remains a strong alternative with 64G performance.

By modernizing with the DB720S or DB820S, you get more than just high speed and low latency. The DB820S adds AI-powered autonomy to simplify management, learn, and adapt to changing application demands. Both Gen 7 and Gen 8 switches reduce troubleshooting time, optimize performance, and work seamlessly with older Fibre Channel generations. They allow you to run SCSI and NVMe in parallel, supporting migration at your own pace.

Now is the time to make investments in your data center by migrating to a modern Lenovo SAN. The DB820S provides the longest investment protection, lower vulnerability risk, and includes quantum-safe security features to ensure the level of security in your network will pay dividends for years to come.

Why should you upgrade?

Security
Increase security for critical data and lower vulnerability risks. Gen 8 adds quantum-safe cyber resilience.

Longer life
Protect your investment with Gen 8 providing the longest investment protection and best long-term TCO.

Simplicity
Automate actions to simplify management and resolve issues without intervention. Gen 8 adds AI-powered autonomy for self-healing fabrics.

Efficiency
Consolidate to simplify your SAN fabric, achieving greater workload density in less space.

Performance
Support more applications and VMs per switch, while optimizing performance for NVMe.

Data Traffic Optimization
Gen 8 includes Adaptive Traffic Optimizer to dynamically adapt, ensuring optimal performance for devices or all speeds.

Upgrade to a Modern Lenovo SAN Switch Today

Modernizing your storage network with a Lenovo DB820 or DB720S Switch ensures high levels of security, reliability, and connectivity to high-performance storage. Data centers can quickly, easily, and cost-effectively scale ports to support higher growth as devices are added. Choose the platform that provides the longest investment protection and will be available for years to come.

Features	6510 (Gen 5)	DB610S (Gen 6)	DB720S (Gen 7)	DB820 (Gen 8)
Port Count and Speed	48 x 16G ports	64 x 32G ports	64 x 32/64G ports	56 x 64/128G ports
Latency	700 ns (no FEC)	<780 ns (FEC)	460 ns (FEC)	580 ns (dual FEC)
Total Bandwidth	768 Gb/s	2 Tb/s	4.096 Tb/s	7.168 Tb/s
Quantum Safe Security	X	X	Software Only	Hardware and Software
Traffic Optimization	X	X	Optimize traffic performance by grouping like traffic.	Dynamically adapts groupings to ensure optimal performance
Fabric Intelligence	X	X	X	Automates application management and simplifies telemetry into actionable insights.
Hardware Congestion Signaling	X	X	Yes	Yes
Link Encryption	X	Yes	Yes	Yes
Product Availability	EOS: June 2025	EOL: July 2024 FOS EOA: Jan 2027 EOS: Jan 2030	Announced Sept 2020	Announced Dec 2025

Lenovo ThinkSystem DB720S Product Guide

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Free consultation