

Best Practice - Core System Configuration Files

<https://campus.barracuda.com/doc/46209035/>

The underlying Linux system is designed to serve as a basis for the Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series. Direct interfering on the command line is not necessary for normal operation. Such operations should be carried out only by authorized personnel with excellent knowledge of Linux systems and its special Barracuda Networks implementation.

The Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series system basically consists of three parts. The following table provides a general overview of the Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series OS Linux system and its licensing concepts:

Layer	Description	Licensing
Basic Linux	Standard Linux system with the modified NGFW OS kernel. Kernel sources are a part of the distribution.	Except for the Firewall engine, mostly under GPL or other Open Source Licenses.
Barracuda NextGen networking	Handles all steps dealing with networking.	Barracuda Networks Public License. Can be used freely for all purposes except commercial redistribution.
Barracuda NextGen operative	Operative Barracuda Networks Software; consists of box services (logging, statistics, control) and server (for example VPN, mail gateway, DNS, ...)	Proprietary Barracuda Networks License.

In this article:

Networking Layer

The Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series OS networking layer is installed by the *phionetc_box* package. It is called *phionetc_box* because almost all relevant files live in the directory */etc/phion*. The main purpose of the package is to control every part of the system that communicates over the network. In addition to the Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series software modules, there are other packages like *openssh* or *ntp* that get their configuration and are started by specific scripts.

Configuration Files

There are three configuration files steering and controlling the networking behavior of the system:

- /etc/phion/options
- /etc/phion/boxadm.conf
- /etc/phion/boxnet.conf

The options file is the only one that is not edited through the Barracuda NextGen Admin GUI. Template of the options file:

```
##### ## Systemwide options ## File is sourced by several start scripts ##
# start networking at all? BOX_NETWORK="Y" # Number of retries to bring up
all devices, sometimes useful for token ring devices NET_RETRY=0 # should the
NGFW Subsystem be started ? PHION_START="Y" #for some historical reason:
should the NetDB subsystem be started? #CAUTION: Activate only if you know
very well what you are doing. NETDB_START="N" # for advanced Servers
START_ORA="N" #Y/N start ORACLE on BOOT START_ADABAS="N" #Y/N start ADABAS on
BOOT
```

- **BOX_NETWORK** - Do not change. If you do set it to **N**, the Barracuda NextGen networking and the services depending on it will not start. The Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series will not be functional if this option is set.
- **NET_RETRY** - Number of retries to establish a network link.
- **PHION_START** - If set to **N**, the Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series OS operative layer will not be started at all. The Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series will not be functional if this option is set to **N**.
- **NETDB_START** - Only of use if you have a legacy unit with a NetDB database system on it.
- **START_ORA** and **START_ADABAS** - Only of use for a Master configuration server with an Oracle or ADABAS D database.

The boxadm.conf file holds all information that does not need a network restart to be activated. In addition, it also holds information for Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series box services. An example of an operative configuration file:

```
ACLLIST[] = 10.0.0.8/29 10.0.0.231 ACTBOXSERVICES = y DNSSERVER[] =
10.1.103.179 10.1.100.204 DOMAIN = m086 ENABLESHOSTS = y MAINADMIN = n
MASTER[] = 10.1.17.42 RID = 86 RMASTER[] = 10.1.17.42 RPASSWD =
$1$someMD5encryption SPASSWD = $1$someMD5encryption STARTNTP = y STATISTICS =
y SYNC = y TMASTER[] = 10.1.16.21 TZONE = Europe/Vienna UTC = y [boxtuning]
FILEMAX = 32768 IDETUNING = y INODEMAX = 65536 SYSTUNING = n
```

For an explanation of the parameters, see [How to Configure Advanced Barracuda OS System Settings](#).

Be extremely cautious when changing these files on the command line.

The `boxnet.conf` file holds all information that deals with network connections. These are the hostname and the network interfaces, IP addresses and routing information. Again, let us have a look on a sample file:

```
HOSTNAME = sega [addnet_dmz] BIND = n CRIT = y DEV = eth1 IP = 192.168.32.1
IPCHAINS = y MASK = 8 PING = y [addroute_default ] DEST = 195.23.11.6 DEV =
FOREIGN = y MASK = 32 PREF = REACHIP[] = SRC = TARGET = 0.0.0.0 TYPE = gw
[addroute_QA] DEST = 10.0.0.244 DEV = eth0 FOREIGN = y MASK = 8 SRC =
10.0.0.8 TARGET = 192.168.10.0 TYPE = gw [boxnet] DEV = eth0 IP = 10.0.0.8
MASK = 8 [cards_eepro] MOD = eepro100.o MODOPTIONS[] = NUM = 1 TYPE = eth
[cards_realtek] MOD = rtl18139.o MODOPTIONS[] =
```

For an explanation of the parameters, see [How to Configure Advanced Barracuda OS System Settings](#).

Activation Scripts

There are two scripts that are intended to be started from the command line:

- `/etc/rc.d/init.d/phion` (which is actually a link to `/etc/phion/rc.d/phionrc`).
- `/etc/phion/bin/activate`

All other scripts should not be started on the command line but are invoked by the 2 scripts above. For more information, see: .

Operative Layer

Static Data

The whole operative data resides in `/opt/phion`.

It is not recommended to change anything below this directory.

The full configuration of a Barracuda NextGen Firewall F-Series box is held under `/opt/phion/config/active`. The configuration files may be modified manually by a Barracuda Networks support engineer or by a specially trained system engineer. If you are not absolutely sure about what you are doing, do not change anything here.

Dynamic Data

Log files and statistics data reside in `/var/phion`. This directory has the following substructure:

- `/var/phion/logs` – All log files are stored here. You can read it with any editor.

DO NOT write to it, DO NOT rename it, DO NOT put any files in here. Any manual action can result in strange behavior of the log interface.

- /var/phion/stat – Root directory for the statistics data structure. The data files are Berkeley DB files in binary form. They can be viewed with the showstat utility (/opt/phion/bin/).
 Again: Do NOT change anything in this directory manually.
- /var/phion/logcache – Home of the Log Access Files (*.laf). These are Berkeley DB files for fast access to large log files.
- /var/phion/run/<module> - Services may store operational data in these directories.

Intervention on command line is generally not intended on the NGFW OS operative layer. Nevertheless, there is one powerful tool to steer the processes. It can be used to gather comprehensive information about system state, routing, servers, processes. Furthermore, it can start / stop / block / disable servers and box processes. It is called phionctrl and resides in /opt/phion/bin. For more information, see the user documentation .

Ports Overview

The following table enlists the ports of a Barracuda NextGen F-Series Firewall / Control Center that are required for communication:

Port	Protocol	Type	Daemon
22	TCP	service	sshd (SSH)
691 and 443	TCP/UDP	service	vpn
680	TCP	service	FW-audit (Firewall Audit Viewer)
688	TCP	service	firewall (Firewall Service)
689	UDP	box	controld/HA-Sync
692	TCP/UDP	VPN	management tunnel
801	TCP	box	controld/status (Control Status)
801	UDP	box	controld/ HA-heartbeat
802	TCP	box	phibsd
803	TCP	box	logd (Log-Viewer)
805	TCP	box	distd
806	TCP	service	qstatd (Statistics Viewer)
807	TCP	box	qstatd
807	UDP	box	cstatd
808	TCP/UDP	box	event (Event Viewer)
808	TCP/UDP	service	event
809	TCP	box	boxconfig (Configuration Service)

810	TCP	service	masterconfig (Master Configuration Service)
811	TCP	service	map/status (Status Map)
814	TCP	service	vpnserver (VPN Service, Master VPN Service)
815	TCP	service	mailgw (Mail Gateway Service)
816	TCP	service	DHCP
817	UDP	service	trans7
818	TCP	service	PKI
843	TCP	service	HTTPs Proxy GUI
844	TCP	service	policyserver (Policy Service, Master Policy Service)
845	TCP	box	distd
880	TCP	service	HTTP Proxy Fail-Cache
44000 and 44001	TCP	service	policyserver

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