The Security Hardening Guide for the NPort 6000 Series

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About Moxa

Moxa is a leading provider of edge connectivity, industrial computing, and network infrastructure solutions for enabling connectivity for the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT). With over 30 years of industry experience, Moxa has connected more than 57 million devices worldwide and has a distribution and service network that reaches customers in more than 70 countries. Moxa delivers lasting business value by empowering industries with reliable networks and sincere service. Information about Moxa's solutions is available at www.moxa.com.

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1. Introduction

This document provides guidelines on how to configure and secure the NPort 6000 Series. The recommended steps in this document should be considered as best practices for security in most applications. It is highly recommended that you review and test the configurations thoroughly before implementing them in your production system in order to ensure that your application is not negatively impacted.

2. General System InformationBasic Information About the Device

Model	Function	Operating System	Firmware Version
NPort 6000 Series	Device server	Moxa Operating System	Version 2.0

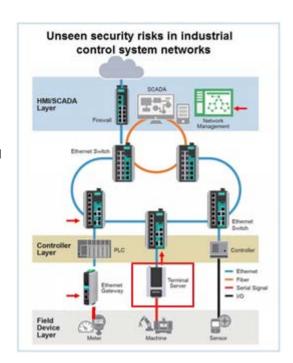
The NPort 6000 Series is a device server specifically designed to allow industrial devices to be directly accessible from a network. Thus, legacy devices can be transformed into Ethernet devices, which then can be monitored and controlled from any network location or even the Internet. Different configurations and features are available for specific applications, such as protocol conversion, Real COM drivers, and TCP operation modes, to name a few. The series uses TLS protocols to transmit encrypted serial data over Ethernet.

Moxa Operating System (MOS) is an embedded proprietary operating system that is only used in Moxa edge devices. Because the MOS operating system is not freely available, the chances of malware attacks are significantly reduced.

2.2. Deployment of the Device

You should deploy the NPort 6000 Series behind a secure firewall network that has sufficient security features in place to ensures that networks are safe from internal and external threats.

Make sure that the physical protection of the NPort devices and/or the system fulfill meet the security needs of your application. Depending on the environment and the threat situation, the form of protection can vary significantly.



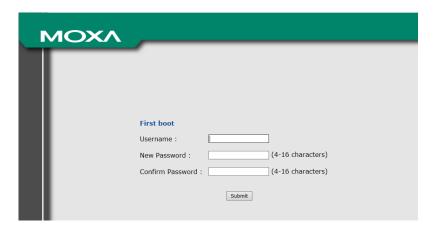
3. Configuration and Hardening Information

For security reasons, account and password protection is enabled by default, so you must provide the correct account and password to unlock the device before entering the web console of the gateway.

The default account and password are **admin** and **moxa** (both in lowercase letters), respectively. Once you are successfully logged in, a pop-up notification will appear to remind you to change the password in order to ensure a higher level of security.



From firmware version 2.0, there is no default username or password. You should immediately create a username and password before logging in for the first time to enhance the security of your device.



3.1. TCP/UDP Ports and Recommended Services

Refer to the table below for all the ports, protocols, and services that are used to communicate between the NPort 6000 Series and other devices.

Service Name	Option	Default Settings	Туре	Port Number	Description
Moxa Command	Enable/Disable	Enable	TCP	14900, 4900	For Moxa utility
(DSCI)	Lilable/Disable	Lilable	UDP	4800	communication
DNS wins	Enable	Enable	UDP	53, 137, 949	Processing DNS and WINS
	Litable	Liidbic	00.	33, 13, 7, 3, 13	(Client) data
SNMP agent	Enable/Disable	Enable	UDP	161	SNMP handling routine
RIPD_PORT	Enable/Disable	Disable	UDP	520, 521	Processing RIP routing data
UTTD com/or	Redirect to	Disable	ТСР	80	Web console
HTTP server	HTTPS/Disable	Disable	TCP	00	Web console
HTTPS server	Enable/Disable	Enable	ТСР	443	Secured web console
SSH	Enable/Disable	Enable	ТСР	22	SSH console
Telnet server	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	23	Telnet console
RADIUS	Enable/Disable	Disable	UDP	User-defined	Authentication server
				(1645 as	
				default or 1812)	
TACACS+	Enable/Disable	Disable	TCP	49	Authentication server
					The DHCP client needs to
DHCP client	Enable/Disable	Disable	UDP	68	acquire the system IP
					address from the server
SNTP	Enable/Disable	Disable	UDP	Random port	Synchronize time settings
5.411	Liable, Disable	Disable	301	random port	with a time server
Remote System	Enable/Disable	Disable	UDP	Random port	Send the event log to a
Log	235.6, 2.035.6	2.505.0	35.	tandom por c	remote log server

Operation Mode	Option	Default Settings	Туре	Port Number
Real COM Mode	Enable/Disable	Enable	ТСР	950+ (Serial port No1)
Real Cort Flode	Litable/ Disable	Lilable	101	966+ (Serial port No1)
RFC2217 Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	TCP	User-defined (default:
RFC2217 Mode				4000+Serial port No.)
	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	User-defined (default:
TCP Server Mode				4000+Serial Port No.)
TCP Server Mode				User-defined (default:
				966+Serial Port No.)
LIDD Mode	5 II (5: II	Disable	UDP	User-defined (default:
UDP Mode	Enable/Disable		אטטף	4000+Serial Port No.)

Operation Mode	Option	Default Settings	Туре	Port Number
Pair Connection Slave	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	User-defined (default:
Mode	Lilable/Disable	Disable	TCF	4000+Serial Port No.)
Ethernet Modem Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	TCP	User-defined (default:
Ethernet Modern Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable		4000+Serial Port No.)
Reverse Telnet Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	User-defined (default:
Reverse Telliet Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	TCP	4000+Serial Port No.)
Reverse SSH Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	User-defined (default:
				4000+Serial Port No.)
Printer RAW Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	2048+(Group No1)
Printer LPD Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	ТСР	515
Disabled Mode	Enable/Disable	Disable	N/A	N/A

For security reasons, you should consider disabling unused services. After initial setup, use services with stronger security for data communication. Refer to the table below for the suggested settings.

Service Name	Suggested	Туре	Port Number	Security Remark
	Settings	7.		,
Moxa Command	Disable	TCP	14900, 4900	Disable this service as it is not commonly
(DSCI)	Disable	UDP	4800	used
DNC wing	Enable	UDP	E2 127 040	A necessary service to get IP; cannot be
DNS_wins	Enable	UDP	53, 137, 949	disabled
SNMP	Disable	UDP	161	Suggest to manage the NPort via HTTPS
SIMIP	Disable	UDP	101	console
RIPD_PORT	Disable	UDP	520, 521	Since the NPort is not a router or layer 3
				switch, you may not need this service
HTTP Server	Disable	TCP	80	Disable HTTP to prevent plain text
TITTP Server	Disable	TCP	80	transmission
HTTPS Server	Enable	TCP	443	Encrypted data channel with trusted
TITTPS Server	Ellable	TCF	443	certificate for NPort configurations
SSH	Enable	TCP	22	If you prefer the console mode to
				configure the device, you can enable the
				SSH service. If you prefer the GUI, then
				disable it.
T. I. C		TCD	22	Disable service that is not commonly
Telnet Server	Disable	TCP	23	used

Service Name	Suggested Settings	Туре	Port Number	Security Remark
RADIUS	Enable	UDP	User Define	If you are using central account
			(1645 as	management feature (has a RADIUS
			default or	server), you may enable this service.
			1812	
TACACS+	Enable	TCP	49	If you are using the central account
				management feature (has a TACACS+
				server), you may enable this service.
				Select either RADIUS or TACACS+ to be
				the central account management service,
				and disable the other one.
DHCD Client	Disable	UDP	67.69	Assign an IP address manually for the
DHCP Client	Disable	UDP	67, 68	device
CNTD Client	Disable	UDP	Random Port	Suggest to use the SNTP server for
SNTP Client	Disable	UDP	Random Port	secure time synchronization
Damata Cuatana				Suggest using a system log server to
Remote System	Enable	UDP	Random port	store all the logs from all the devices in
Log				the network

For console services, we recommend the following:

НТТР	Disable
HTTPS	Enable
Telnet	Disable
Moxa Command	Disable

To enable or disable these services, log in to the HTTP/HTTPS console and select **Basic Settings** \rightarrow **Console Settings**.

Console Settings	
HTTP console	○ Redirect to HTTPS
HTTPS console (support TLS v1.2)	● Enable ○ Disable
TLS v1.0/v1.1 for HTTPS console	○ Enable ● Disable
Telnet console	○ Enable ● Disable
SSH console	● Enable ○ Disable
Moxa Service	● Enable ○ Disable

To disable the SNMP agent service, log in to the HTTPS console and select **System**Management -> SNMP Agent, then select **Disable** for SNMP.

Configuration		
SNMP	● Enable ○ Disable	
Read community string	•••••	(max: 31 characters)
Write community string	•••••	(max: 31 characters)
Contact name		
Location		
SNMP agent version	✓ v1 ✓ v2 ✓ v3	
Read only user name		
Read only authentication mode	Disable ~	
Read only password		(8-31 characters)
Read only privacy mode	Disable ~	
Read only privacy		(8-31 characters)
Read/write user name		
Read/write authentication mode	Disable V	
Read/write password		(8-31 characters)
Read/write privacy mode	Disable ~	
Read/write privacy		(8-31 characters)

For the RADIUS server, log in to the HTTPS/SSH/Telnet console and select **System**Management → Mics. Network Settings → Authentication Server. Then, keep the IP setting empty as **Disable** for the RADIUS server.

Authentication Server



To disable the SNTP server, log in to the HTTP/HTTPS/SSH/Telnet console and select **Basic Settings**. Then, keep the **Time server** setting empty. This will disable the SNTP service.



For the remote system log server, it depends on your network architecture. We recommend your network administrator to have a Log Server to receive the log messages from the device. In this case, log in to the HTTP/HTTPS/SSH/Telnet console, select **Remote Log Server**, and input the IP address of the Log Server in the **SYSLOG server** field. If your network doesnt have one, keep it empty (disable **Remote System Log Server**).

Remote Log Server	
Configuration	
SYSLOG server	
SYSLOG facility	local use 0 🕶
SYSLOG severity	Emergency •

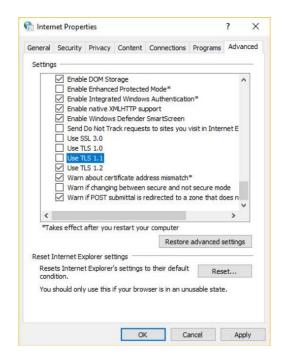
For the operation mode services, it depends on how you bring your serial device to the Ethernet network. For example, if your host PC uses a legacy software to open a COM port to communicate with the serial device, then the NPort will enable the Real COM mode for this application. If you dont want the NPort to provide such a service, log in to the HTTP/HTTPS/SSH/Telnet console, select **Serial Port Settings** > **Port** # > **Operation Modes**, and then select **Disable**.

Operation Modes Port 1 Application Disable P1 P2 Apply the above settings to Submit

Note: For each instruction above, click the Submit button to save your changes, then restart the NPort device so the new settings will take effect.

3.2. HTTPS and SSL Certificates

HTTPS is an encrypted communication channel. As TLS v1.1 or lower has severe vulnerabilities that can easily be hacked, the NPort 6000 Series uses TLS v1.2 for HTTPS to ensure data transmissions are secured. Make sure your browser has TLS v1.2 enabled.



In order to use the HTTPS console without a certificate warning appearing, you need to import a trusted certificate issued by a third-party certificate authority.

Log in to the HTTP/HTTPS console and select **System Management → Certificate**. You can generate an up-to-date valid certificate by importing a third-party trusted SSL certificate or generating the "NPort self-signed" certificate.

- Behavior of SSL certificate on an NPort 6000 device
 - NPort devices can auto-generate a self-signed SSL certificate. It is recommended that you import SSL certificates that are either certified by a trusted third-party Certificate Authority (CA) or by an organization's CA.
 - The length of the NPort device's self-signed private keys is 1,024 bits, which should be compatible with most applications. Some applications may need a longer key, such as 2,048 bits, which would require importing a third-party certificate. Please note that longer keys will mean browsing the web console will be slower due to the increased complexity of encrypting and decrypting communicated data.

• For the NPort self-signed certificate:

If a certificate has expired, you can regenerate the NPort self-signed certificate with the following steps.

- Step 1. **Delete** the current SSL certificate issued by the NPort device.
- Step 2. **Enable** the NTP server and set up the time zone and local time.
- Step 3. After restarting the device, the NPort self-signed certificate will be regenerated with a new expiration date.
- Importing the third party trusted SSL certificate:

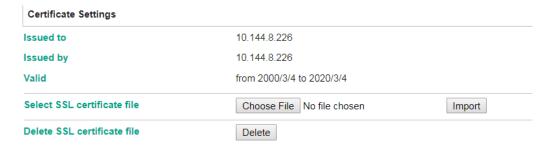
By importing the third-party trusted SSL certificate, the security level can be enhanced. A snapshot of the GUI for the web console is shown below. To generate the SSL certificate through the third party, here are the steps:

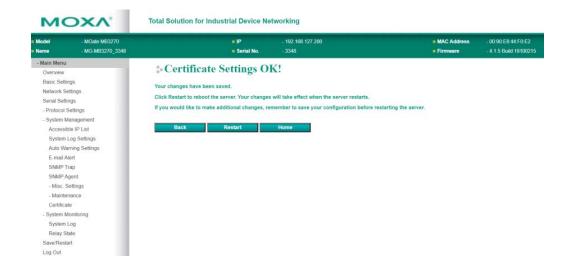
- Step 1. Create a certification authority (Root CA), such as Microsoft AD
 Certificate Service (https://mizitechinfo.wordpress.com/2014/07/19/step-by-step-installing-certificate-authority-on-windows-server-2012-r2/)
- Step 2. Find a tool to issue a certificate signing request (CSR) file. You can get one from a third-party CA company such as DigiCert (https://www.digicert.com/easy-csr/openssl.htm).
- Step 3. Submit the CSR file to a public certification authority to get a signed certificate.
- Step 4. Import the certificate to the NPort device. Please note that NPort devices only accept certificates using a ".pem" format.

Note: The maximum supported key length of the NPort devices is 2,048 bits.

- Some well-known third-party CA (Certificate Authority) companies for your reference (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Certificate authority):
 - IdenTrust (https://www.identrust.com/)
 - DigiCert (<u>https://www.digicert.com/</u>)
 - Comodo Cybersecurity (https://www.comodo.com/)
 - GoDaddy (https://www.godaddy.com/)
 - Verisign (<u>https://www.verisign.com/</u>)

Certificate





3.3. Account Management

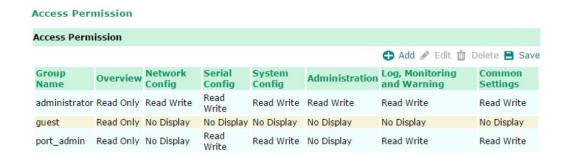
- The NPort 6000 Series provides two different user levels, administrator and user.
 With a Read Write account, you can access and modify all settings through the web console. With a user account, you can only view settings.
- The default administrator account is admin, and the default password is moxa. Starting from firmware version 2.0, you need to set the administrator's account and password before you log in the first time. To manage accounts, log in to the web console and select Administration → Account Management → User Account. To change the password of an existing account, click on the account name and select Edit in the top toolbar. Input the old password in the Password field and the new password in Confirm Password field to change the password.
- Through the administration account, admin, log in to NPort 6000 Series and perform
 the configuration settings. To change the default password (moxa), log in to the
 HTTPS/SSH/Telnet console and select System Management → Account
 Management → User Account. When it comes to the Password part, input the
 old password and the new password twice (at least 4 characters) to change the
 password.

Change Password Old password New password Confirm password User Management User Name User Old password User New password User New password User Confirm password Ochange Add Delete

To add new general users, log in to the HTTPS/SSH/Telnet console and select
 System Management → Maintenance → Change Password. At the User
 Management part, input the username, old password, and the new password twice to Add a new user, Change the password, or Delete an old user.

Add Account	
Active	€
Account Name	
Password	
Confirm Password	
Group	administrator ▼

Note: We suggest you manage your device with another "administrator level" account instead of using the default "admin" account, as it is commonly used by embedded systems. Once the new administrator level account has been created, it is suggested that the original "admin" account should be monitored for security reasons to prevent brute-force attacks.



 To improve security, the login password policy and account login failure lockout can be configured. To configure them, log in to the HTTP/HTTPS console and select
 System Management → Misc. Settings → Login Password Policy.

Account Password and Login Management	
Account Password Policy	
Password minimum length	16 (4-16)
Password complexity strength check	● Enable ○ Disable
At least one digit (0~9)	● Enable ○ Disable
Mixed upper and lower case letters (A~Z, a~z)	● Enable ○ Disable
At least one special character (~!@#\$%^&* ;:,.<>[]{}())	● Enable ○ Disable
Password lifetime	1 (0 - 180 day; 0 for Disable)
Account Login Failure Lockout	
Account login failure lockout	● Enable ○ Disable
Retry failure threshold	5 (1 - 10 retry)
Lockout Time	5 (1 - 60 min)

You should adjust the password policy to require more complex passwords. For example, set the **Minimum length** to 16, enable all password complexity strength checks, and enable the **Password lifetime** options. Also, to avoid brute-force attack, it's suggested that you enable the **Account login failure lockout** feature.

For some system security requirements, a warning message may need to be displayed to all users attempting to log in to the device. To add a login message, log in to the HTTPS console and select System Management → Misc. Settings → Notification Message, and enter a Login Message to use.



3.4. Accessible IP List

The NPort 6000 Series has a feature that can limit access to specific remote host IP addresses to prevent unauthorized access. If a host's IP address is in the accessible IP table, then the host will be allowed to access the NPort 6000 Series. To configure it, log in to the HTTPS console and select System Management → Accessible IP List.

Accessible IP List

 □ Activate the accessible IP list (Operation modes are NOT allowed for the IPs NOT on the list) □ Apply additional restrictions (All device services are NOT allowed for the IPs NOT on the list) 				
No.	Active	IP Address	Netmask/Prefix	
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

- You may add a specific address or range of addresses by using a combination of an IP address and a netmask as follows:
 - To allow access to a specific IP address: Enter the IP address in the corresponding field; enter 255.255.255 for the netmask.
 - To allow access to hosts on a specific subnet: For both the IP address and netmask, use 0 for the last digit (e.g., "192.168.1.0" and "255.255.255.0").
 - To allow access to all IP addresses: Make sure that the Enable checkbox for the Accessible IP List is not checked.

Additional configuration examples are shown in the following table:

Desired IP Range	IP Address Field	Netmask Field
Any host	Disable	Enable
192.168.1.120	192.168.1.120	255.255.255
192.168.1.1 to 192.168.1.254	192.168.1.0	255.255.255.0
192.168.1.1 to 192.168.255.254	192.168.0.0	255.255.0.0
192.168.1.1 to 192.168.1.126	192.168.1.0	255.255.255.128
192.168.1.129 to 192.168.1.254	192.168.1.128	255.255.255.128



Ensure that the IP address of the PC you are using to access the web console is in the **Accessible IP List**.

3.5. Logging and Auditing

These are the events that will be recorded by the NPort 6000 Series:

Event Group	Summary	
System	System cold start, System warm start	
Network	DHCP/BOOTP gets IP/renew, NTP connect failed, IP conflict, Network link	
	down	
	Login failed, IP changed, Password changed, Firmware upgraded, Certificate	
Configuration	imported, Configuration imported or exported, Configuration changed, Clear	
	event logged	
OpMode	Connect, Disconnect, Authentication Fail, Restart	

To configure this setting, log in to the HTTPS console and select System
 Management → System Log Settings. Then, enable the Local Log for recording
 on the NPort 6000 device and/or Syslog for keeping records on a server. You
 should enable system log settings to record all important system events to monitor
 device status and check for security issues.



To view events in the system log, log in to the HTTP/HTTPS console and select
 System Monitoring → System Log.

System Log

2014/02/07 12:36:25 [System] System Warm Start
2014/02/07 12:36:28 [Network] DHCP/BOOTP/PPPDE Get IP/Renew
2014/02/07 12:36:36 [Network] Get IP Fail (IPv6)
2014/02/10 04:40:32 [System] System Cold Start
2014/02/10 04:40:43 [Network] Get IP Fail (IPv6)
2014/02/10 05:18:18 [Network] DHCP/BOOTP/PPPDE Get IP/Renew
2014/02/20 09:10:33 [System] System Cold Start
2014/02/20 09:10:34 [Network] Get IP Fail (IPv6)
2014/02/24 04:50:09 [System] System Cold Start
2014/02/24 04:50:20 [Network] Get IP Fail (IPv6)
2014/02/24 13:54:11 [Network] DHCP/BOOTP/PPPDE Get IP/Renew
2014/03/10 07:18:354:11 [Network] DHCP/BOOTP/PPPDE Get IP/Renew
2014/03/10 07:18:49 [Network] Get IP Fail (IPv6)
2014/03/10 09:54:23 [System] System Cold Start
2014/03/10 09:54:23 [System] System Warm Start
2014/03/10 09:54:35 [System] System Warm Start
2014/03/10 09:55:18 [Config] Config Changed
2014/03/10 09:56:18 [Config] IP Changed
2014/03/10 09:56:18 [Config] Refresh

4. Patching/Upgrades

4.1. Patch Management

With regards to patch management, Moxa releases version enhancements annually with detailed release notes.

4.2. Firmware Upgrades

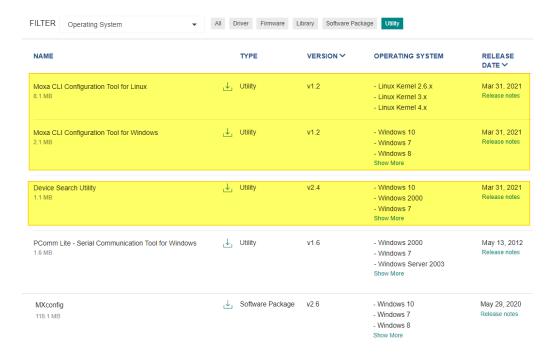
The process for upgrading firmware is as follows:

- Download the latest firmware for your MGate device from the Moxa website:
 - Firmware of NPort 6100/6200 Series:
 https://www.moxa.com/en/products/industrial-edge-connectivity/serial-device-servers/terminal-servers/nport-6100-6200-series#resources
 - Firmware of NPort 6400/6600 Series:
 https://www.moxa.com/en/products/industrial-edge-connectivity/serial-device-servers/terminal-servers/nport-6400-6600-series#resources
- Log in to the HTTPS console and select System Management → Maintenance →
 Firmware Upgrade. Click the Choose File button to select the proper firmware
 and click Submit to upgrade the firmware.



Note: Due to memory limitations, the firmware structure of the NPort 6000 Series is being finetuned. As a result, the firmware of NPort 6450 cannot be upgraded to v2.0 from v1.21 via the web console. To upgrade the firmware, use DSU or MCC Tool (Moxa CLI Configuration Tool).

If you want to upgrade the firmware for multiple units, download the Device Search
Utility (DSU) or MXconfig for a GUI interface, or the Moxa CLI Configuration Tool for
a CLI interface.



- If you need instructions on using the Moxa CLI Configuration Tool, download the manual.
 - Manual for the NPort 6100/6200 Series:
 https://www.moxa.com/en/products/industrial-edge-connectivity/serial-device-servers/terminal-servers/nport-6100-6200-series#resources
 - Manual for the NPort 6400/6600 Series:
 https://www.moxa.com/en/products/industrial-edge-connectivity/serial-device-servers/terminal-servers/nport-6400-6600-series#resources

5. Security Information and Vulnerability Feedback

As the adoption of the Industrial IoT (IIoT) continues to grow rapidly, security has become one of the top priorities. The Moxa Cyber Security Response Team (CSRT) is taking a proactive approach to protect our products from security vulnerabilities and help our customers better manage security risks.

Please follow the updated Moxa security information from the link below: https://www.moxa.com/en/support/product-support/security-advisory