

LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

PLANNING CERTAINTY THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PRODUCT LIFECYCLE

Secure network infrastructures require long-term reliability—from strategic planning and commissioning to migration. With transparent lifecycle policies and regular security and software updates, Rohde & Schwarz Networks and Cybersecurity* helps organizations operate their devices securely, compliantly, and cost-effectively. Complementary support services provide the operational reliability required for business-critical networks. These lifecycle policies apply to all R&S®LANCOM and LANCOM products, whose current status can be viewed at any time in the [Lifecycle Management product tables](#).

LIFECYCLE POLICIES FOR SD-WAN GATEWAYS, WI-FI DEVICES, AND SWITCHES

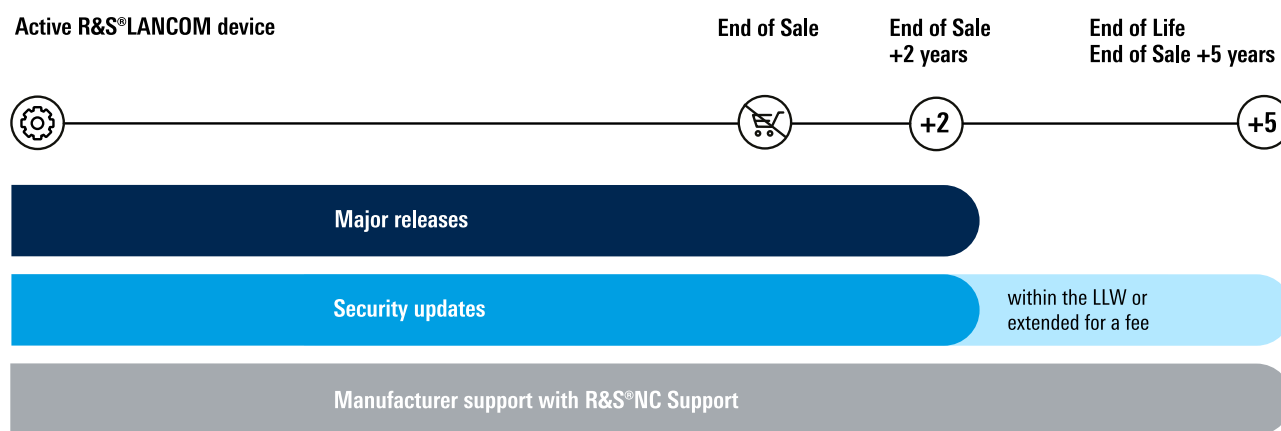


Figure 1: Lifecycle overview of SD-WAN gateways, Wi-Fi devices and switches

All LANCOM and R&S®LANCOM devices, with the exception of unmanaged switches, come with a **complimentary warranty extension of at least three years** as standard. For all managed switches, this coverage is extended to five years, while Enterprise Switches with a [Limited Lifetime Warranty \(LLW\)](#) are covered for up to ten years (or until End of Life, whichever occurs first). During the warranty period, a Return & Replace service for the device itself and the accessories included in the package, as well as security updates, are provided **regardless of the product’s lifecycle status**. This means that even if your device reaches End of Sale during this period, your warranty coverage remains unaffected. After the warranty period has expired, paid repair services are available. For more information, please visit the [Repair Processing \(RMA\) webpage](#).

Active

As a general rule, LANCOM and R&S®LANCOM devices receive regular software maintenance throughout their lifecycle in the form of firmware updates, including major and minor releases as well as security updates.

You can also take advantage of technical manufacturer support. For devices purchased before July 1, 2026, manufacturer support is included for R&S®NC Community Partners (formerly LANcommunity Partners) until the device reaches End of Life (EOL) status or June 30, 2028, whichever comes first. After this transition period, and for all devices purchased on or after July 1, 2026, technical manufacturer support is available upon purchase and registration of [R&S®NC Support products \(formerly LANcare\)](#).

* Note on the company name: As of July 1, 2026, LANCOM Systems has been renamed Rohde & Schwarz Networks and Cybersecurity. Product information and communication materials are now published under the new company name. The previous product designation continues to be included to ensure clear product identification and searchability. Product identity, functionality, and compatibility remain unchanged.

For more information about the support changes effective July 1, 2026, and the available support product options, please refer to the [corresponding FAQ webpage](#).

End customers can contact a [local partner](#) to purchase support products. Additional information on end-customer support is available on the [Support Contact](#) webpage.

End of Sale (EOS)

A product receives End of Sale (EOS) status once it is no longer sold or has been officially discontinued in the price list. Initially, nothing changes for you: for at least two years, all services available during the Active phase remain in place, including full software maintenance (major and minor releases as well as security updates). Partners with devices purchased before July 1, 2026, as well as all customers with active R&S[®]NC Support products, continue to receive manufacturer support.

EOS therefore does not mark the end of a product’s lifecycle. Rather, it signals the beginning of the final phase with regular updates and planning certainty for operations, budgeting, and modernization. To ensure a smooth transition, we recommend planning for a suitable successor model at an early stage.

EOS +2 years

Two years after the End of Sale (EOS) date, no further major releases will be provided for the device. In addition, the provision of security updates ends unless the switch is covered by a [Limited Lifetime Warranty](#), individual support agreements are in place, or paid extensions apply (e.g., through registered R&S[®]NC licenses, formerly LANcare). Partners with devices purchased before July 1, 2026, as well as customers with active R&S[®]NC Support products, continue to receive manufacturer support.

To ensure a smooth transition, we recommend actively preparing the migration to the successor model.

End of Life (EOL) = EOS +5 years

Five years after the product has been discontinued in the official price list, it reaches End of Life (EOL) status. As of this date, the replacement service for repairs and spare parts ends. In addition, no further major releases, minor releases, security updates, or technical manufacturer support will be provided for the product unless different terms and conditions have been agreed upon in an individual support contract.

We recommend replacing the device with its successor by this point at the latest. If you have any questions, please contact your sales representative or email services.rs-nc@rohde-schwarz.com.

LIFECYCLE POLICIES FOR UNIFIED FIREWALLS AND vFIREWALL

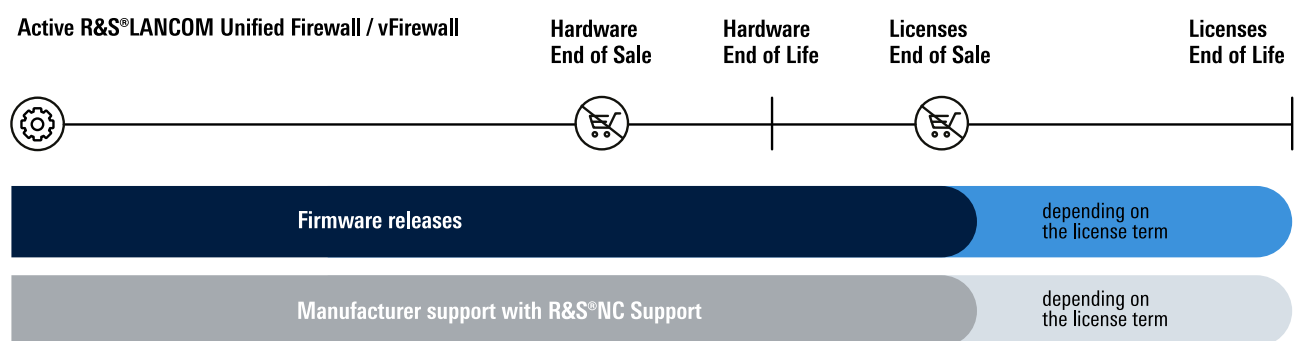


Figure 2: Lifecycle overview for firewall hardware and licenses

All R&S®LANCOM Unified Firewalls come with a **complimentary three-year warranty extension** as standard. During this period, a Return & Replace service as well as security updates are **included regardless of the product's lifecycle status**. This means that even if your device reaches End of Sale (EOS) status during this time, the three-year warranty period remains unaffected. After the warranty period has expired, paid repair services are available.

Active

As a general rule, all R&S®LANCOM Unified Firewalls and vFirewalls receive regular firmware releases throughout their lifecycle.

The lifecycle management of Unified Firewalls distinguishes between hardware and licenses. Specifically, this means that an **active feature license is always required** to operate an R&S®LANCOM Unified Firewall or vFirewall. With the flexible licensing model, you can choose both the feature set (Basic, Full, SAG Basic, or SAG Full) and the desired license term (1, 3, or 5 years, or monthly billing under an existing SPLA agreement). To help you select the option that best fits your requirements, a concise overview is provided [here](#), with detailed information available in the firewall datasheets.

Technical manufacturer support is also available as an optional service. For hardware firewalls purchased before July 1, 2026, technical manufacturer support is included for R&S®NC Community Partners (formerly LANcommunity Partners) for the duration of the active license term or until June 30, 2028, whichever comes first. After this transition period, and for all new firewalls purchased on or after July 1, 2026, technical manufacturer support is available upon purchase and registration of [R&S®NC Support products \(formerly LANcare\)](#).

For more information about the support changes effective July 1, 2026, and the available support product options, please refer to the [corresponding FAQ webpage](#).

End customers can contact a [local partner](#) to purchase support products. Additional information on end-customer support is available on the [Support Contact](#) webpage.

Hardware EOS and EOL

Your firewall hardware reaches End of Life (EOL) five years after its End of Sale (EOS) date. As of the EOL date, hardware services, including repairs and the provision of spare parts, are discontinued. This does not affect the availability of firmware releases: as long as the associated license has not reached End of Life, firmware updates will continue to be provided.

License EOS and EOL

With an active license, you can continue to operate your firewall and benefit from firmware releases even after the hardware has reached End of Life (EOL). However, once the feature license for a firewall model has reached End of Sale (EOS), the license can no longer be renewed. Information on how long a discontinued firewall will continue to be supported is available in the [Lifecycle Management product tables](#).

LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT IN PRACTICE

The effective date for all lifecycle status changes is determined by the month and year in which the discontinuation of the respective product was announced. For example, if an access point is discontinued in August 2026, major releases and security updates will remain available until August 2028. If, after that date, the device is still covered by a warranty replacement service or a support product such as [R&S®NC Support Direct Advanced 24/7](#) has been registered, it will continue to receive security updates, technical manufacturer support, and Next Business Day advance replacement until the warranty expires or, at the latest, until the End of Life (EOL) date in August 2031.



R&S®NC Support & Replacement: Comprehensive protection for your devices

For comprehensive protection of your network infrastructure, [R&S®NC Support](#) and [R&S®NC Replacement](#) (formerly LANcare) are the ideal complement. They help establish a resilient, end-to-end security strategy while providing security updates either for the duration of the support term or, depending on the selected service, until the device reaches End of Life (EOL). You also benefit from fast support response times—either during business hours (10/5) or around the clock (24/7)—as well as guaranteed security updates and advance replacement services. This enables you to continue operating your infrastructure securely and predictably instead of being forced to migrate prematurely for security reasons.

For a complete overview of the service and support options included with or available for R&S®LANCOM products, please refer to the practical [comparison chart](#).



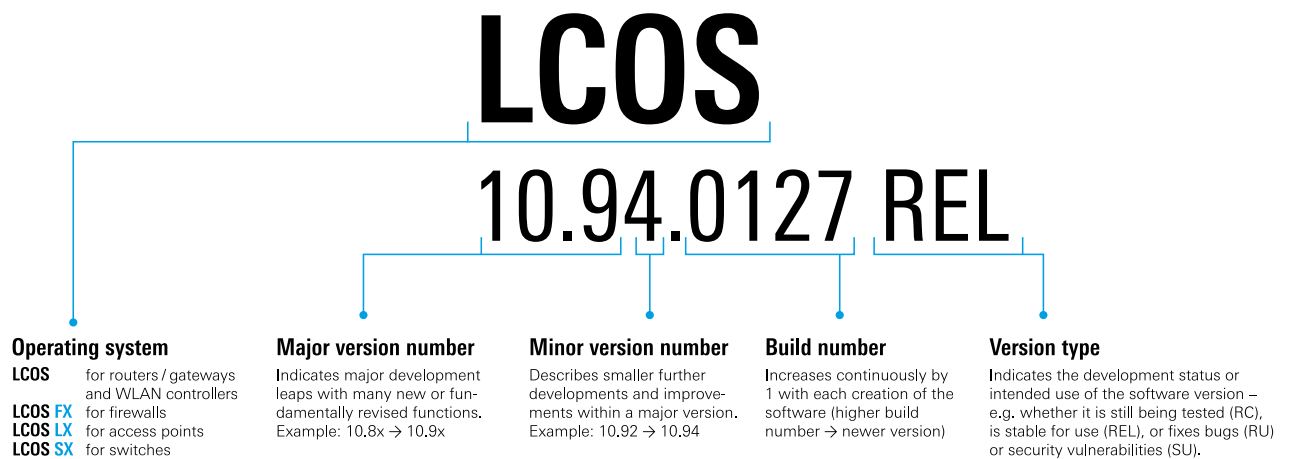
Proactive lifecycle monitoring in the cloud

Keep track of your device lifecycle centrally with the [R&S®LANCOM Management Cloud \(R&S®LMC\)](#): An integrated early warning system notifies you by email 12 months before upcoming End of Life (EOL) dates, while devices approaching EOL within the next three months are clearly highlighted, enabling timely and well-planned modernization.

All lifecycle information is also available in a dashboard widget that can be integrated flexibly into your workspace—a clear advantage for efficient, scalable cloud management. These and many other new features are also highlighted regularly in the [R&S®LMC News](#).

GLOSSARY: VERSIONING SCHEME AND DEVELOPMENT STAGES

The operating systems [LCOS](#), [LCOS FX](#), [LCOS LX](#), and [LCOS SX](#) are continuously enhanced and maintained. The following overview explains the structure of the software version designations, outlines the differences between major and minor versions, and illustrates the respective release and maintenance status of each firmware version.



Release Candidate (RC)

A Release Candidate has undergone extensive testing and includes new operating system features. It is intended for evaluation under real-world conditions and is therefore not recommended for use in production environments.

Release Version (REL)

The Release version (Major Release) has been fully tested and proven in real-world deployments. It includes new features and functional enhancements and is explicitly recommended for production environments.

Release Update (RU)

A Release Update (Minor Release) further enhances an existing Release version. It includes security updates, bug fixes, and smaller functional enhancements and improvements to ensure stable operation in production environments.

Security Update (SU)

A Security Update provides security-related fixes for an existing operating system version, ensuring that your production environment remains protected with an up-to-date security level.

For more information about current software versions, please refer to the online [Firmware Version Overview](#).

You can also find complete information about Lifecycle Management online [here](#).

