



Cisco Secure Email Threat Defense Release Notes



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Introduction

This document includes information on product updates, usage caveats, and known problems for Cisco Secure Email Threat Defense.

Archived release notes for Cisco Secure Email Cloud Mailbox from July 12, 2021 through September 29, 2022 are located here: <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/security/cloud-mailbox/release-notes/cloud-mailbox-release-notes-archive.html>

Product Updates

November 04 2025

Enhancements

- Cisco Secure Email Threat Defense Inline mode is introduced with this release. Secure Email Threat Defense Inline offers real-time inline scanning and remediation. Inline mode improves detection speed and remediation capabilities by processing messages as they flow through the mail system, detecting threats and stopping them before reaching the end-user.

New customers onboarding with an Advantage license can set up their businesses with SMTP/Inline message sources. Options include receiving traffic via SMTP or SMTP Relay.
- URL bypass rules are new in this release. These rules can be configured to prevent specific URLs from being scanned. You can create these rules at **Configuration > Global settings > URL rules**.
- Bypass Analysis Rules for Phish Test & Security Mailbox are relocated from **Administration > Message Rules** to **Configuration > Global settings > Message bypass rules**. Any existing rules are migrated to the new location and will behave in the same manner as before.
- Spam and Graymail analysis defaults to On/Checked for newly created businesses.
- Message view improvements:
 - Improved column resizing for Verdict, Action, and Date columns.
 - User column resizing is maintained in-browser, preventing resets after browser refreshes.
 - Introduced a more compact date/time format to optimize screen space usage.
 - Improved adjustments for table density and column show/hide options from the gear icon on the messages table
- Documentation improvements:
 - User documentation is updated with new formatting and is now integrated with the UI.
 - Access the new documentation from the (?) menu in the top right corner of the UI.

October 17 2025

Enhancements

- User Management Notifications. Notifications of user creation, changes, or user deletion by administrators are sent to a specified email address. To turn on these notifications, go to

Administration > Business > Preferences.

- Messages page improvements
 - You can now show/hide the top graph charts.
 - You can now select **Copy message ID** from the ... menu at the end of a message row.

Fixed Issues

- Minor bug fixes.

October 07 2025

Fixed Issues

- Minor bug fixes.

September 23 2025

Enhancements

- The High Impact Personnel List can now contain up to 500 contacts. Additionally, the UI screens for the list are redesigned as part of Cisco's ongoing efforts to provide a more consistent experience across Cisco Security products.

Fixed Issues

- Minor bug fixes.

September 09 2025

Enhancements

- Ability to detect URLs in QR codes within the Log Export API for message event logs.
- Admins can reclassify messages as Spam or Graymail, even if scanning for Spam and Graymail is disabled in the global policy.
- Enhanced Remediation and Reclassification for API performance: batch processing support and improved stability to prevent timeouts

Fixed Issues

- Minor bug fixes.

August 26 2025

Enhancements

- Ability to resize columns on the Messages page.
- For users with multiple tenants, they are now listed in alphabetical order in the account selector.

Fixed Issues

- Minor bug fixes.

Usage Caveats

Advisory Summary on Message Bypass Rules

Note the following important caveats when creating and using Message bypass rules:

- A Message bypass rule **BYPASSES ALL SCANNING AND PROTECTIONS** for messages that match the rule conditions. Do not use Bypass Rules for any use-cases other than customer employee security awareness training (Phish Test) or for end-mailbox-user reporting to an organization's Security Mailbox. These are the only supported scenarios for Message bypass rules. For all other scenarios, use other types of message rules, or adjust your configuration policy settings.
- **IT IS STRONGLY ADVISED** to use only the dedicated Sender IP Addresses/CIDR blocks provided by your Phish Test vendor as the basis of Message bypass rules.
- **BE AWARE** if your Phish Test vendor is unable to provide dedicated Sender IP Addresses/CIDR blocks; the usage of Sender Domain or Email Address in a Message bypass rule opens you up to bypassing potentially spoofed messages
- **DO NOT** use Sender Domain or Email Address in a Message bypass rule unless you have separately validated sender email authentication is tightly scoped by the vendor's SPF record, strongly enforced by your organization's upstream edge email controls, and the specified Sender Domain or Sender Email Address exactly matches the final Return-Path header on all messages intended to match the Bypass Rule
- Open a Support case to request assistance validating any existing Message bypass rules conform to the guidance above.

Microsoft Excel cell size limit

Microsoft Excel has a limit of 32,767 characters per cell. If you export your data to CSV and then open it in Excel, any excess data beyond the character limit is moved to the next row.

Cannot sign in to Security Cloud Sign On with Microsoft when Microsoft account does not have last name

Microsoft 365 does not require accounts to have a defined first name and last name. When trying to authenticate with a Microsoft account that does not have a last name, Security Cloud Sign On returns the following error:

400 Bad Request. Unable to create the user. Required properties are missing.

To workaround this issue, make sure both first name and last name are defined in the Microsoft 365 account.

Trends delay when messages are manually reclassified

When messages are manually reclassified, there could be a delay of up to one hour before the changes are reflected on the Trends page.

Known Issues

Microsoft Allow lists and Safe Senders

Because of some recent changes to Microsoft's MSAllowList flag, Microsoft allow lists are not always honored by Secure Email Threat Defense if your organization allows individual users to configure allow lists in their mailbox and a message happens to fall in a user's allow list.

If you want Secure Email Threat Defense to honor these settings, deselect the **Apply policy to Microsoft Safe Sender messages** check box on the **Configuration > Global settings > Unwanted message analysis** panel. Safe Sender flags are respected for Spam and Graymail verdicts, but are not respected for Malicious and Phishing verdicts. That is, Safe Sender messages with Spam or Graymail verdicts will not be remediated.

Conversation view

You may encounter the following issues when using Conversation view:

- The + symbols don't disappear until you click them, even if there are no additional messages
- There is a limit of 9 horizontal nodes

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