Before You Begin

The Palo Alto Networks M-500 appliance is a multi-function appliance that you can configure for one of the following three modes:

- **Panorama mode** — Performs both central management and log collection for Palo Alto Networks firewalls. This is the default mode.
- **Log Collector mode** — Functions as a Dedicated Log Collector, which an M-Series appliance in Panorama mode or a Panorama virtual appliance can manage.
- **PAN-DB Private Cloud mode** — Functions as a private URL filtering solution that Palo Alto Networks firewalls can use to perform URL filtering lookups. This solution is ideal for organizations that restrict their firewalls from having direct access to the Internet. For more information, refer to the PAN-OS Administrator’s Guide 7.0 or later.

Register the M-500 appliance at http://support.paloaltonetworks.com for access to the latest software updates and to activate support. Obtain an IP address from your network administrator for the management interface (MGT) and, optionally, obtain IP addresses for port 1 (eth1) and port 2 (eth2) data ports.

Perform the Initial Configuration

Use the following procedures to connect a management computer to the appliance and to configure basic management access.

**Step 1** | Change the IP address on your management computer. This will enable your computer to access the default network assigned to the MGT port.

1. Navigate to the Ethernet interface settings page on your computer.
2. Set the IP address to 192.168.1.2 and the subnet mask to 255.255.255.0.
3. Save the settings.

**Step 2** | Connect your management computer to the appliance.

1. Connect the Ethernet port on your computer to the management port (MGT) on the appliance using an RJ-45 Ethernet cable (provided).
2. Launch a web browser on your computer and enter https://192.168.1.1. The login page for Panorama will appear.
3. Type admin in both the Name and Password fields and then click Login.

**Step 3** | Change the admin password on the appliance.

1. Click the admin link in the lower portion of the management console to display the password change prompt.
2. Type the Old Password, type the New Password, and then re-type the new password in the Confirm New Password field. Click OK to save the new password.

**Step 4** | Assign a new IP address to the MGT port and enable management services.

1. Select Panorama > Setup, then click the gear icon (Edit…) in the Management Interface Settings section.
2. Enter the new MGT port information (IP Address, Netmask, Default Gateway) for your management network.
3. In the Services section, select the desired services. For the basic configuration, ensure that HTTPS and SSH are enabled and then click OK to save.
4. Click Commit, select Panorama as the Commit Type, and click Commit again.

Change the Mode of Operation

Use the following procedure to change the M-500 appliance mode. Note that if you change the mode from Panorama mode (the default) to Log Collector mode or PAN-DB Private Cloud mode, you must use the command line interface (CLI) to manage the appliance because the web interface is not available in these modes. Before changing the mode of operation from Panorama mode to Log Collector mode, configure the Log Collector options using the Panorama web interface.

**Step 5** | Verify management access to the appliance.

1. Change the IP address on your computer back to the previous setting and then plug your computer back into the enterprise management network.
2. Open a browser and connect to the appliance using the IP address that you assigned to the MGT port. For example, if the MGT port IP address is 10.43.4.4, enter https://10.43.4.4.
3. Log in to the Panorama web interface using the new admin password.

To change modes:

1. Access the CLI on the M-500 appliance using terminal emulation software.
2. Log in using the username and password you assigned during the initial configuration.
3. Use one of the following commands to change modes:
   - To change from Panorama mode to Log Collector mode: admin/m-500 request system system-mode logger
   - To change from Panorama mode to PAN-DB Private Cloud mode: admin/m-500 request system system-mode panurldb
   - To change from Log Collector Mode or PAN-DB Private Cloud mode to Panorama mode: admin/m-500 request system system-mode panorama
4. After the appliance reboots, verify the mode of operation by running the following command:
   
   `admin/m-500 show system info | match system-mode`

   For example, the following output shows that the appliance is in Panorama mode:

   `admin/m-500 show system info | match system-mode system-mode: panorama`

Where To Go Next

To learn more about the appliances, refer to the M-500 Appliance Hardware Reference Guide: https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com/hardware

To learn how to configure Panorama, go to the Technical Documentation portal: https://docs.paloaltonetworks.com

Start here to Register and Set Up your firewall and access all resources and support tools: https://go.paloaltonetworks.com/CustomerLaunchPad