

SOLUTION BRIEF

BackBox and F5 Networks

Automate F5 Device Operations with BackBox

Key Benefits



Automated upgrade and verification



Intelligent checks for device compliance



Dynamic asset management and licensing



Intelligent checks and trends for device performance



Intelligent checks for proper device operations



Automated configuration backup for devices



Configuration changes to multiple devices



Single-click disaster recovery and step-by-step disaster recovery procedures

The Challenge

Security devices are complex, requiring constant changes all while maintaining uptime in order to support an organization and its customers. Administrators are under constant time constraints and are prone to making errors when managing a wide array of devices. Due to these limitations, necessary tasks are neglected and overlooked causing a higher downtime rate and a much slower recovery.

As new forms of sophisticated cybersecurity threats continually emerge to target enterprises in creative ways utilizing multiple attack vectors, BackBox and F5 Networks customers can now capitalize on unprecedented protection against today's sophisticated attacks.

BackBox for Device Operations

BackBox provides a single, central repository for all security and network device configuration backups. Backups are protected by a state-of-the-art infrastructure to ensure that no critical configurations are compromised.

As the leading provider of Intelligent Automation, BackBox enables the scheduling of device configuration backups, allow for a single-click recovery process and complies with regulations by providing detailed, step-by-step disaster recovery procedures.

BackBox eliminates the time-consuming and ineffective need to manually create and manage scripts, manually backup devices or use multiple management systems in order to enable an efficient disaster recovery process for all security and network devices.

With its unique dynamic inventory capability, BackBox collects asset information enabling reporting on all aspects of device information such as version, hardware platform, resource information, license expiration, and more. In addition, BackBox provides the operator with the ability to connect directly to multiple devices and make configuration changes to hundreds of devices with a single click.

The automation of these configuration changes can apply to User Management, Password Policy, Routing Changes, Operating system global parameters and many more, saving an organization countless configuration hours and the possibility of misconfiguration due to human error.

Running a variety of intelligent checks (IntelliChecks) on the security and network infrastructure can identify and remediate many issues, avoiding costly downtime. These IntelliChecks include: Operational Checks for regularly checking the overall health of your devices, Security Compliance Checks for auditing a variety of security aspects and Performance Checks to alert on device performance issues. Furthermore, BackBox leverages machine learning for your devices to provide visibility into specific trends and deviations.

F5 Networks & BackBox

BackBox allows for automated backup and recovery of all F5 Networks solutions—eliminating the need to either manually backup devices or customize in-house scripting—minimizing downtime when recovery is needed.

BackBox collects asset information from all F5 Networks products reporting on inventory information including license information, certificate and maintenance expirations, device model, serial numbers and more.

BackBox also enables the ability to not only change Operating System level parameters on multiple devices with a single click, but it will also allow the modification of policies and access lists, without having the need to grant an operator access to the management interface. This provides the ability to delegate administration tasks to individuals that do not require full policy access and minimizes potential human errors that might lead to misconfigurations.

With its unique IntelliChecks, BackBox will help ensure that F5 Networks devices are not only up and running but also make sure that they are performing as expected. Enabling platform and organizational Compliance signatures, BackBox will verify that all F5 Networks devices are configured in alignment with either an industry compliance standard or an organization's internal compliance requirements.

Use Case Example 1

The Challenge:

Centralize and Automate Device Configuration Backup.

The Solution:

Seamless integration between BackBox and F5 devices enables automatic, central and secure backups for all configuration information from the F5 devices. With this integration, rapid recovery is ensured and downtime is minimized.

Use Case Example 2

The Challenge:

Enforce Corporate Standards on all Security devices.

The Solution:

Eliminating the need to manually check and configure corporate standards, BackBox allows to not only check for validity of platform parameters but also automatically remediate to align with internal corporate guidelines.

Diagram

1. BackBox / F5 Operations and Transfer Protocols

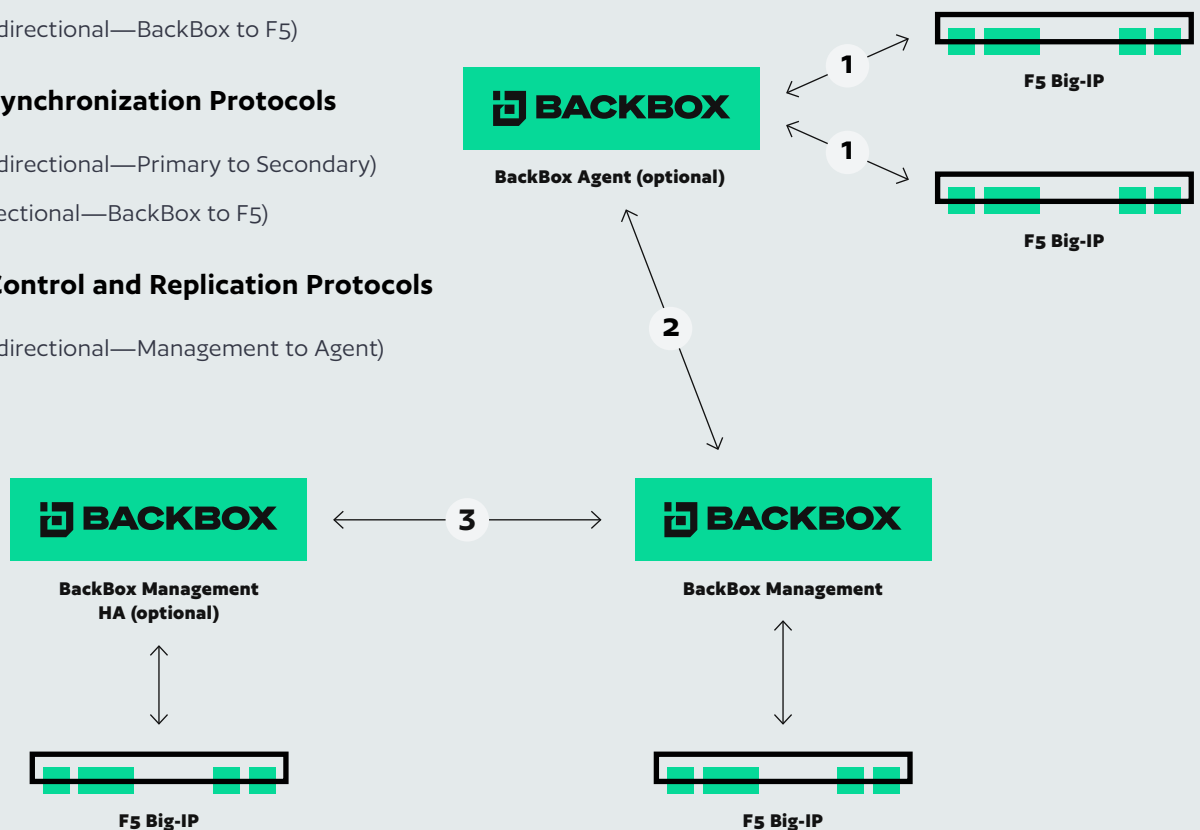
- SSH (unidirectional—BackBox to F5)
- HTTPS (unidirectional—BackBox to F5)

2. BackBox Synchronization Protocols

- HTTPS (unidirectional—Primary to Secondary)
- SSH (unidirectional—BackBox to F5)

3. BackBox Control and Replication Protocols

- HTTPS (unidirectional—Management to Agent)



About BackBox

Backbox is dedicated to empowering our customers to continuously enhance the health, performance, and security of their network infrastructure through intelligent, security-minded automation. We believe that network automation should be easy, attainable, and provide our customers with unprecedented time savings and reduced risk.

[Learn more at BackBox.com.](https://www.backbox.com)

About F5 Networks

F5 Networks, Inc. provides products and services to help companies manage their Internet Protocol traffic and file storage infrastructure. The company's application delivery networking products improve the performance, availability and security of servers and other network resources. Its principal products are application delivery controllers that include the BIG-IP family of appliances and a line of scalable VIPRION systems. The company's diameter signaling and routing products enable full connectivity, enhanced scalability, and comprehensive control of signaling traffic in service providers' evolving packet core networks. Its architecture provides application optimization, protection for applications and the network, and enhanced application reliability.

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Privileged Access Control



Orchestration



Network Visibility



Asset Management



Disaster Recovery



Capacity Optimization



Security Audit



Health Checks

Contact Us

+1-833-BACKBOX
(+1-833-222-5269)



North America
14135 Midway Road
Greenhill Towers, Suite G250
Addison, TX 75001 USA
info@backbox.com

EMEA
13 Ha'amal St., Park Afeq,
Rosh-Haain, 4809249 Israel
info@backbox.com

APAC
apacinfo@backbox.com