C H A P T E R 1

Before You Begin

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Caution   You must review the "Prerequisites to Upgrading" section on page 4-1 and the "Upgrade Procedure" section on page 4-4 in this guide before downloading PIX Security appliance Version 7.0 to your security appliance. Failure to do so may result in installation failures.

- The PIX Security appliance Version 7.0 runs on PIX 515/515E, PIX 525, and PIX 535, but is not supported on the PIX 501 or PIX 506/506E platforms at this time.

- PIX 515/515E systems shipped before the general availability of PIX Security appliance Version 7.0 require a mandatory memory upgrade. See the "Minimum Memory Requirements" section on page 4-2 section for more information.

- Sharing a Stateful Failover interface with a regular firewall interface is not a supported configuration in PIX Security appliance Version 7.0. This restriction was true for PIX Version 6.3 and earlier versions, however, it was not enforced by the software. It is enforced in PIX Security appliance Version 7.0. If you do not have a dedicated interface for the Stateful Failover link, you must change your PIX Version 6.3 configuration manually before upgrading to PIX Security appliance Version 7.0. Failure to do so will result in errors during the configuration upgrade performed by PIX Security appliance Version 7.0. See the "Failover" section on page 3-39.

- Use of the PIX Version 6.3 npdisk utility, such as password recovery, will corrupt the PIX Security appliance Version 7.0 image and will require that you restart your system from monitor mode, and could cause you to lose your previous configuration, security kernel, and key information. See the "Upgrading in Monitor Mode" section on page 4-9.

- Unless otherwise specified, all references in this guide that apply to PIX Version 6.3 also apply to PIX Version 6.2.

- PDM does not run on PIX Version 7.0. You must upgrade the device manager to ASDM 5.0. See the ASDM release notes for information about installing ASDM on the security appliance.