

Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller: Q&A on Ordering for Service Providers

Q. Are there special SKUs for the Cisco® 8500 Series Wireless Controllers for service provider Wi-Fi deployments?

A. Yes. There are special Cisco 8500 Series SKUs for service-provider-specific requirements:

- Cisco 8500 Series with zero access points: the “SP” SKUs in Table 1.
- Adder licenses to add access points (100, 500, and 1000 access point counts).
- A new Right-To-Use (RTU) licensing scheme allows purchasing adder licenses in bulk and adding, deleting, or transferring across different Cisco 8500 Series Controllers, as network needs change. More details on RTU licensing are available in the [RTU Q&A](#).

Q. What are the SP SKUs I can order?

A. Table 1 shows the service provider (SP) SKU.

Table 1. Service Provider SKUs

Part Number	Description
AIR-CT8510-SP-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller with zero access points included
AIR-CT85DC-SP-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller with zero access points (DC power supply)
AIR-CT8510-HA-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller for high availability
LIC-CT8500-100A	100 Access Point Adder License for the 8510 Controller
LIC-CT8500-500A	500 Access Point Adder License for the 8510 Controller
LIC-CT8500-1000A	1000 Access Point Adder License for the 8510 Controller

Q. What are the Cisco 8500 Series Enterprise SKUs?

A. For enterprise deployments, Cisco 8500 Series Enterprise SKUs similar to current SKUs, with preinstalled access point licenses available. The Enterprise SKUs are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Cisco 8500 Series Enterprise SKUs

Part Number	Description
AIR-CT8510-300-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller supporting 300 access points, AC power supply
AIR-CT8510-500-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller supporting 500 access points, AC power supply
AIR-CT8510-1K-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller supporting 1000 access points, AC power supply
AIR-CT8510-3K-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller supporting 3000 access points, AC power supply
AIR-CT8510-6K-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller supporting 6000 access points, AC power supply
AIR-CT8510-HA-K9	Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller for high availability
LIC-CT8500-UPG	Cisco 8500 Controller - Primary PID for Upgrade Options (Paper)
LIC-CT8500-100A	100 Access Point Adder License for the 8510 Controller
LIC-CT8500-500A	500 Access Point Adder License for the 8510 Controller
LIC-CT8500-1000A	1000 Access Point Adder License for the 8510 Controller

Q. Can I order Cisco 8500 Series Enterprise SKUs for service provider deployments?

A. Yes, you can order these SKUs for service provider deployments. However, the base license installed on these controllers from the factory cannot be modified.

The controllers with “SP” in the SKU provide the maximum flexibility. The controller hardware can be ordered with zero access points installed and the adder licenses can be added via RTU based on network usage requirements that can change over time.



Americas Headquarters
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San Jose, CA

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