

PROPOSED STRAWMAN

EdgeX Foundry Support Policies

LTS is an abbreviation for “Long Term Support”.

STS is an abbreviation for “Short Term Support”.

EdgeX Foundry plans to produce and release a new named version (like Delhi, Edinburgh, Fuji, etc.) of EdgeX every six (6) months. Named versions will also have a version number in the form of X.Y (example 1.0 or 2.1). The community may produce and release a minor release version of EdgeX between named versions in order to provide smaller features or fixes to an existing named version. Minor releases have a version number that is a dot extension to the named version in the form of X.Y.Z (example 1.0.1 or 2.1.1).

A release (whether a named or minor version) of EdgeX includes new and updated micro service artifacts, platform SDKs, documentation, user interfaces, and testing code and frameworks.

EdgeX Foundry defines **LTS** as support (defined below) **for a period of two years**. EdgeX Foundry provides **STS for a period of nine months or until the time of the next LTS release (whichever is shorter)**.

The user community is always encouraged to use the latest LTS version of the platform. The EdgeX Foundry community makes announcements on its website about upcoming release end of life LTS events. Users are encouraged to watch the EdgeX Foundry web site for support notifications. EdgeX does not make announcements about STS end of life.

EdgeX makes every release, named or minor release, available under STS. The EdgeX Community, with the approval of the EdgeX technical steering community (TSC), will make a release available under LTS and announce the availability of a new LTS on the EdgeX web site.

Typically, after a period of stability around a release, the EdgeX TSC will approve LTS for the release. For example, the “Austin 0.1 named release would initially be made available under STS. Some bug are found and bug fixes along with some additional improvements are addressed with the Austin release and made available with a 0.1.1 minor release a month after the 0.1 release. The 0.1.1 minor release would also be made available under STS. After several months, without significant issues or bugs, the TSC decides to put the 0.1.1 release into LTS. Therefore, it is typical that there is a new LTS version associated with each named release cycle (every 6 months), but it may not be (and typically will not be) the named release itself.

Support is defined as:

- Community members best effort and development priority to fix a security or system bug or major flaw (as determined by the project’s technical steering committee) as soon as possible.
- Availability of the source code, test code and artifacts, and program artifacts such as micro service executables, shared libraries, container images (Docker or Snaps), etc. through the support period that were created and made available at the time of the release.

- Availability of the platform documentation through the support period that were created to explain and operate the release and all associated artifacts that were made available at the time of the release.
- Subject to legal restrictions, make available any supporting 3rd party component used by EdgeX as part of the release. Examples include MongoDB, Consul, Kong, Vault, any 3rd party library, etc. Where possible, EdgeX will provide archived binaries of the 3rd party components (MongoDB, Redis, Consul, Kong, Vault, etc.) used with LTS versions of EdgeX. Where possible, EdgeX will also keep an archive snapshot of 3rd party source code used in the creation of LTS versions of EdgeX (ex: code in the vendor directory of Go Lang repositories).
What is the cost of this? Can we set up an area of Nexus for archives?
- EdgeX will not offer support around 3rd party products. For example, EdgeX will not fix bugs or address issues directly associated to the 3rd party code.

Additional professional support (LTS or STS) may be provided by other members of the EdgeX Foundry community. The EdgeX Foundry project and Linux Foundation can provide connections to providers as necessary.