



Q&A

How do I hide my passwords in AOS?

Q:

How do I hide my passwords?

A: Passwords cannot be hidden in the configuration file. They can be encrypted so they are not readily obtained from the configuration file. To encrypt your passwords use the following command:

```
Router (config)# service password-encryption
```

When enabled, all currently configured passwords are encrypted. Also, any new passwords are encrypted after they are entered. Password encryption is applied to all passwords, including passwords for user name, Enable mode, Telnet/console, PPP, BGP, and authentication keys. When passwords are encrypted, unauthorized persons cannot view them in configuration files since the encrypted form of the password is displayed in the running-config.

***NOTE: This command is available in AOS version 11.1 and higher.

Any AOS version before 11.1, only the “enable password md5 encrypted <password>” command is supported. This command will ONLY encrypt the enable password. The password is encrypted with the md5-hashing scheme and does not appear in clear text in the configuration file. To encrypt your password use the following command:

```
Router(config)#enable password md5 encrypted <password>
```

Remember to save with the "copy run start" command.
