CommBox Edge Core
Quick Start Guide

The following instructions explain how to install the CommBox™ Edge Core and access its OpenEdge web interface. The device is fully configurable at its web interface.

IMPORTANT!
For comprehensive configuration information, refer to the documentation at https://kvh.scrollhelp.site/kb/.

Kitpack Contents List

The following items are included with the Edge Core:

- AC-DC power supply with international adapters
- VELCRO® hook-and-loop tape
- One standard Ethernet cable

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Product Registration

When you register your Edge Core with KVH, you get access to the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal at https://commboxedge.kvh.com, which allows you to configure the device remotely and check status. **Registration is free of charge.** Just contact KVH at airtimeservices@kvh.com and provide the following:

- Organization name (e.g., your vessel, site, or company name)
- Device ID number (DID), which is printed on the front of the unit
- Email address of the person responsible for making configuration changes – this will be your user name for portal access

Figure 1: CommBox Edge Core



Figure 2: DID Location



Front of Edge Core

Technical Support

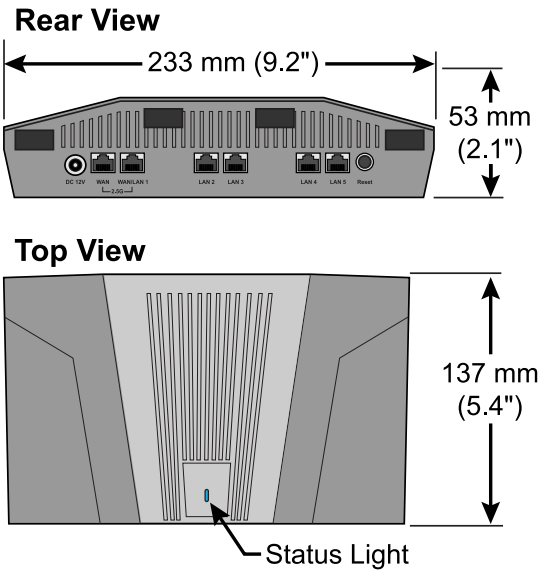
Within Continental U.S.A.: 1 866 701-7103, Worldwide: +1 401 851-3806
Email: mvbsupport@kvh.com

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Mounting

Secure the Edge Core device to a flat surface in an adequate manner. Keyholes on the bottom of the unit allow you to mount it to a wall, and heavy-duty VELCRO hook-and-loop tape is provided in the kit. The Edge Core should be located in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area.

Figure 3: Edge Core Dimensions (Without Wi-Fi Antennas)

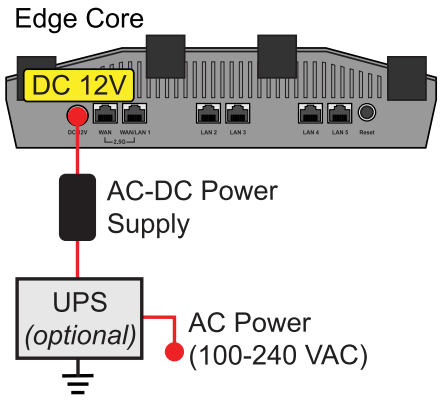


Connecting Power

The Edge Core runs on 12 VDC (50W max) power from an AC-DC power supply. Connect the power supply to the "DC 12V" connector on the Edge Core's rear panel. Then plug it into an AC outlet (100-240 VAC 50/60 Hz). *If AC power is unstable, use a suitable uninterruptible power supply (UPS).*

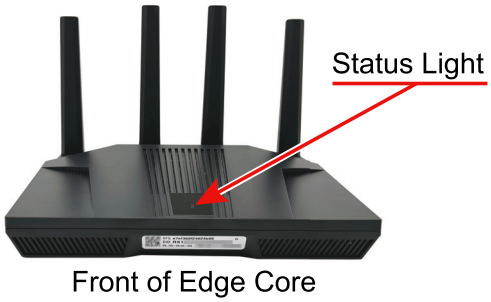
IMPORTANT!
A UPS is required for installation on a vessel.

Figure 4: Power Connection



Once the Edge Core is powered up, its status light blinks blue while it initializes. When it turns solid white, it is ready for use.

Figure 5: Edge Core Status Light

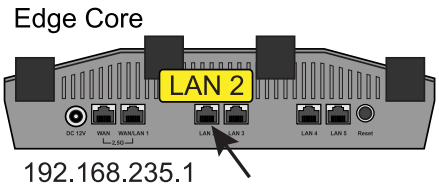


Changing the Default Admin Password

Follow these steps to change the default admin password on your Edge Core to protect it from unauthorized access.

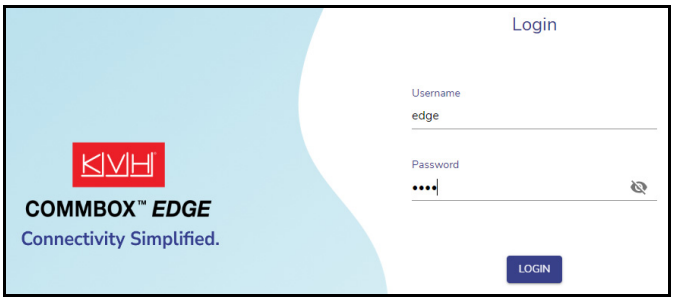
1. Make sure the Edge Core is powered on (its status light is lit solid white).
2. Using a standard Ethernet cable, connect your laptop to the Edge Core's "LAN 2" port.

Figure 6: Edge Core Laptop Connection



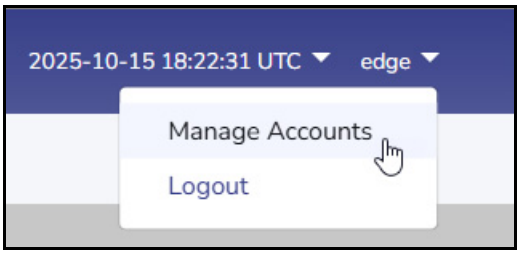
3. Access the OpenEdge web interface by entering **http://192.168.235.1** (or the gateway IP address) in your web browser.
4. At the login page, enter the admin credentials. The default settings are:
   - Username: **edge**
   - Password: **edge**

Figure 7: OpenEdge Login Page



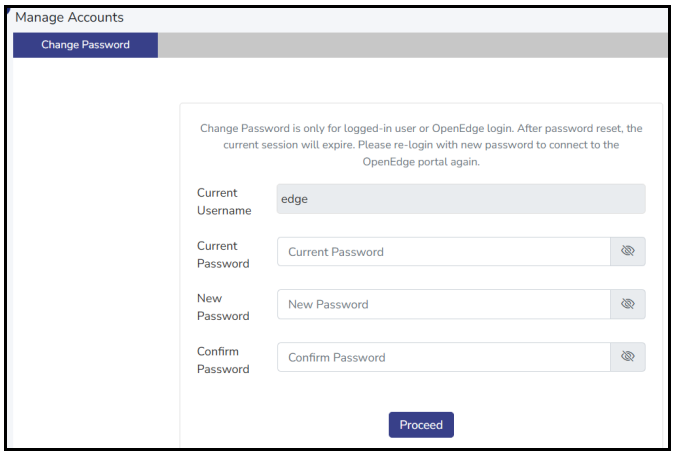
5. Select **Manage Accounts** from the menu in the upper-right corner.

Figure 8: OpenEdge Manage Accounts Option



6. Enter your new password and select **Proceed**.

Figure 9: Changing the Admin Password



Extended Functionality

KVH offers a full suite of advanced features that extend the capabilities of the Edge Core. These features include:

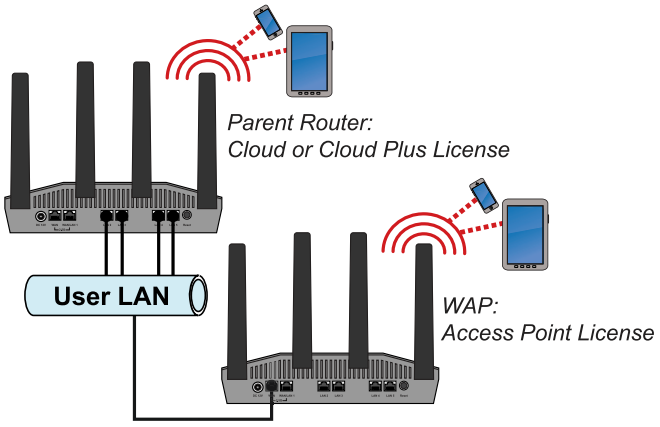
- Comprehensive performance monitoring
- Secure remote access to the Edge Core interface and its connected LAN/WAN devices
- Configurable WAN quotas
- Crew captive portal and user data allocations
- Hub dropoff (US or UK POP)

For details about available service tiers, visit kvh.com/edge. To activate one of these licenses, fill out the activation order form *(available at kvh.com/activate)* and email it to airtimeservices@kvh.com.

Access Point License

If you wish to install a second Edge Core device as a wireless access point (WAP) to extend the Wi-Fi range of your user network, it needs to be activated with an Access Point license. In addition, the parent Edge Core device must be activated with a Cloud or Cloud Plus license.

Figure 10: Edge Core Configured as a WAP



Default Configuration

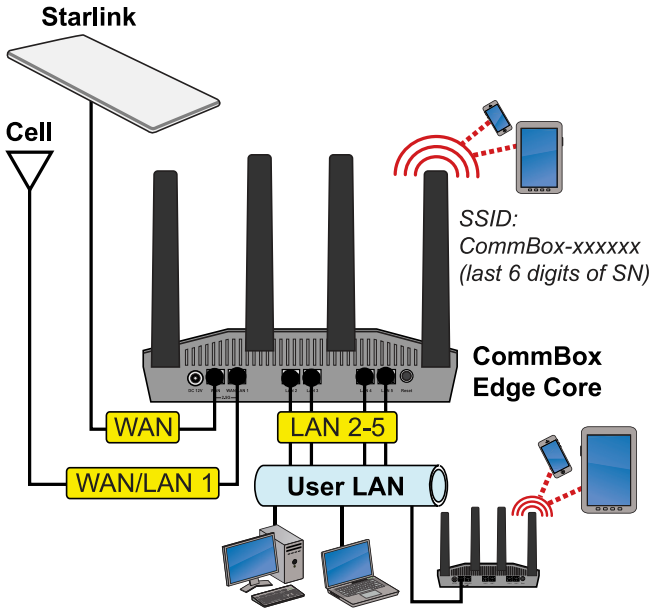
Out of the box, the Edge Core is configured for the following WAN (wide area network) and LAN (local area network) connections:

Port	Max Speed	Config
WAN	2.5G	Starlink WAN
WAN/LAN 1	2.5G	Cellular WAN
LAN 2 LAN 3 LAN 4 LAN 5	1G	User network (LAN)

The Edge Core's built-in Wi-Fi (2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands) also provide wireless access to the user network.

Note: *The Wi-Fi SSID and password are printed on a label on the bottom of the unit.*

Figure 11: Edge Core Default Configuration



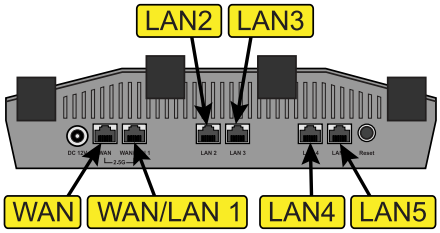
In this default configuration, assuming you have connected both a Starlink and a cellular antenna, the Starlink will be the primary Internet connection and cellular will be the backup. The Edge Core will automatically switch between them.

If you are installing an Edge Core as an access point (it is activated with an Access Point license), connect its WAN port to the user LAN. Then configure its Wi-Fi settings at the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal (see the next section).

Custom Configuration

You can configure the Edge Core however you like to meet your needs. All six Ethernet ports are fully configurable as either a WAN or LAN connection.

Figure 12: Edge Core Ports



For example, you might configure five ports as WAN connections (e.g., Starlink, OneWeb, VSAT, cellular, and wired Ethernet) and one port as the user LAN. You can set the priority of each WAN connection, and you can even bond two WAN connections together (e.g., two Starlinks) to optimize speeds. The Edge Core also offers a full suite of routing features.

You can configure the Edge Core either remotely via the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal or locally via its OpenEdge web interface.

Note: *To configure an Edge Core device with an Access Point license, you must use the remote option.*

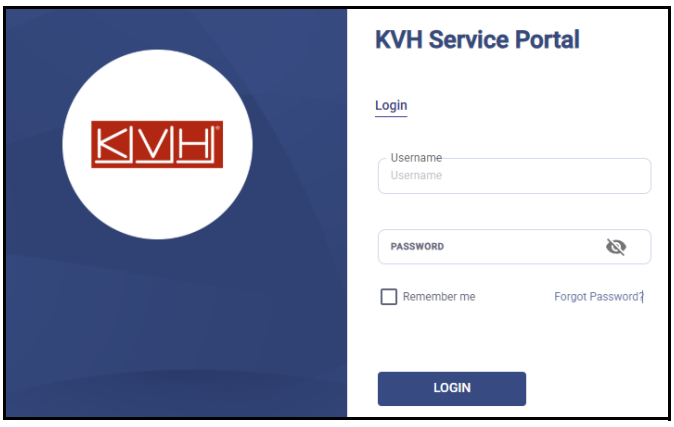
Option 1: Remote Configuration (Preferred)

You can fully configure the Edge Core from the cloud. If the device is offline, your configuration changes will be pushed to the device whenever it next comes online.

Note: *The device will come online when one of its WAN ports is connected to a WAN source that has Internet access. The WAN source should have DHCP enabled.*

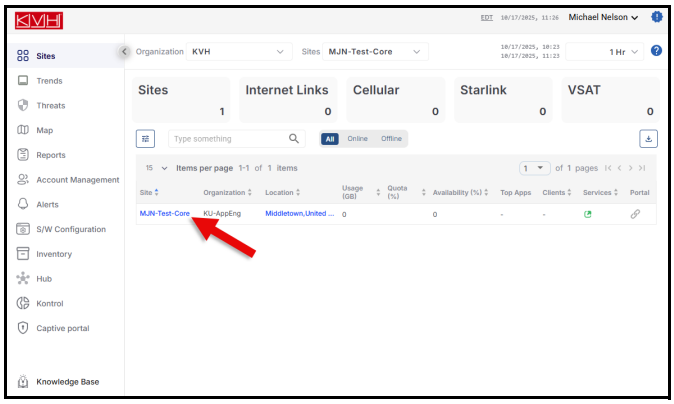
1. Using your web browser, go to the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal at https://commboxedge.kvh.com. Log into the portal with your user name and password (initially set by KVH during product registration).

Figure 13: Portal Login Page



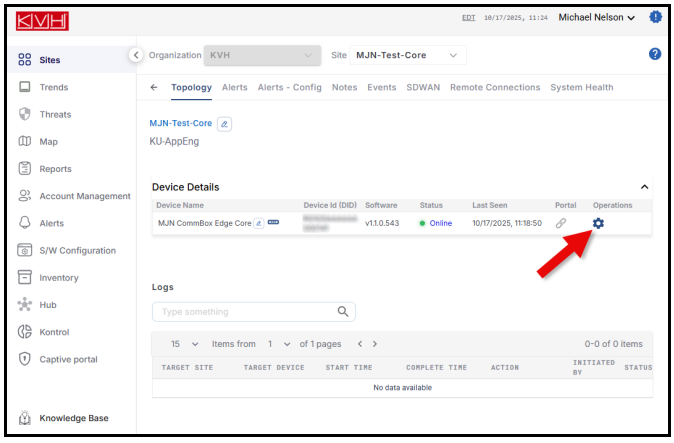
2. If you manage multiple Edge installation sites, select the site where the new Edge Core device is located.
3. On the Sites page, click on the name of the site you want to configure.

Figure 14: Sites Page



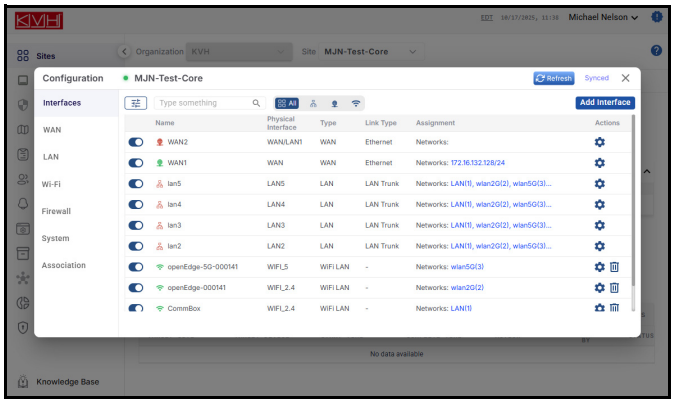
4. Under Device Details, click on the gear icon in the Operations column.

Figure 15: Device Details



5. Configure the device as required to meet your needs, referring to the comprehensive documentation provided at https://kvh.scrollhelp.site/kb/.

Figure 16: Configuration Window

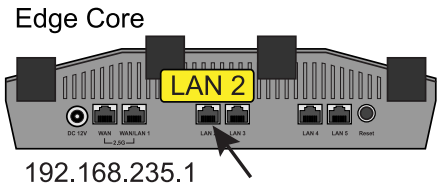


Option 2: Local Configuration

Note: *If you have not registered the device with KVH, this is your only available configuration option.*

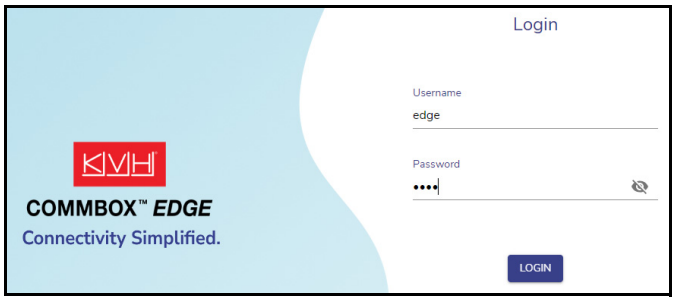
1. Make sure the Edge Core is powered on (its status light is lit solid white).
2. Using a standard Ethernet cable, connect your laptop to the Edge Core's "LAN 2" port.

Figure 17: Edge Core Laptop Connection



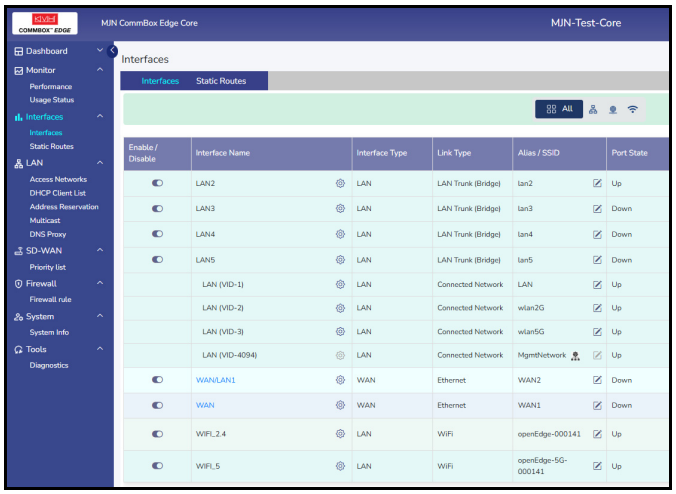
3. Access the OpenEdge web interface by entering **http://192.168.235.1** (or the gateway IP address) in your web browser.
4. At the login page, enter the admin credentials that you set up earlier (see page 3).

Figure 18: OpenEdge Login Page



5. Configure the device as required to meet your needs, referring to the comprehensive documentation provided at https://kvh.scrollhelp.site/kb/.

Figure 19: OpenEdge Interfaces Page



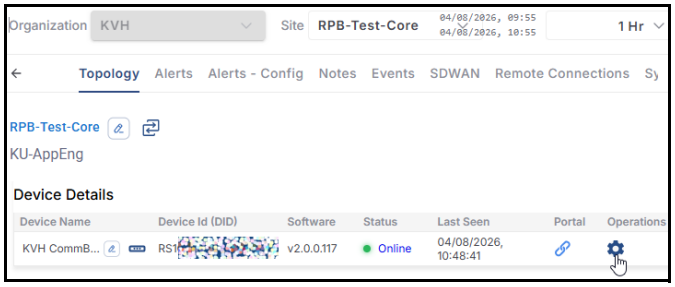
Adding a Wi-Fi WAN Connection

You can configure the built-in Wi-Fi of the Edge Core as both a wireless LAN connection and a WAN interface (such as a marina's Wi-Fi network).

Note: *While these steps show the remote configuration option, they are very similar for the local configuration option. (The previous section explains these options.)*

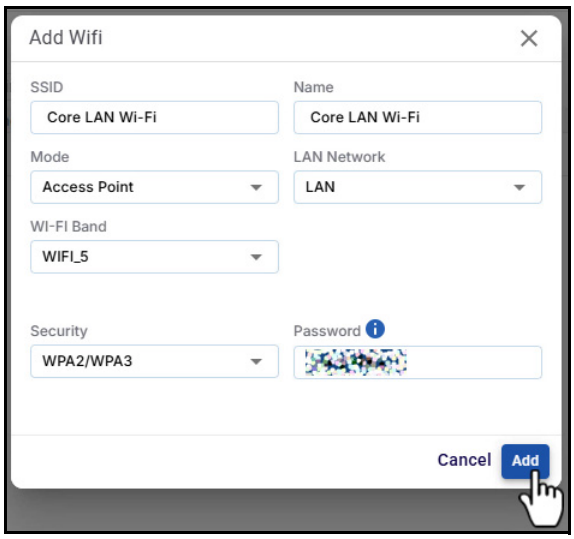
1. At the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal, access your Edge Core's configuration.

Figure 20: Accessing the Device Configuration



2. At the Wi-Fi or Interfaces page, add (or edit) the Wi-Fi interface for the **LAN** Wi-Fi connection.
   - Mode: Access Point
   - LAN Network: LAN
   - Wi-Fi Band: WIFI_5 *(recommended for best speed)*
   - SSID: Assign a name to your Edge Core's local Wi-Fi network *(this is how users will find it on their device)*
   - Security: WPA2/WPA3
   - Password: Set a user password to access the Edge Core's local Wi-Fi network

Figure 21: LAN Wi-Fi Configuration



3. Add a second Wi-Fi interface for the **WAN** Wi-Fi connection.
   - Mode: WAN Wi-Fi
   - Wi-Fi Band: WIFI_2.4 *(recommended for best range)*
   - SSID: Name of the shore Wi-Fi network
   - Security: WPA2/WPA3 *(if required)*
   - Password: User password to access the shore Wi-Fi network *(if required)*

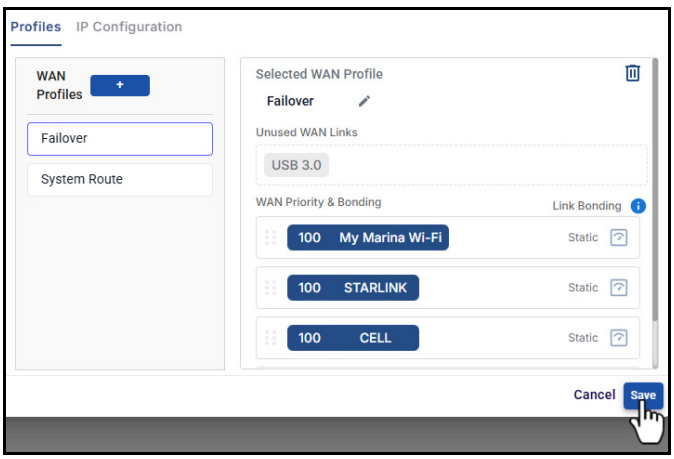
Figure 22: WAN Wi-Fi Configuration



4. At the WAN page, add the new Wi-Fi WAN connection to your desired WAN profile: click and drag it from the "Unused" box to an open "Priority" box below. Then you may click and drag that "Priority" box to the top of the list to make it the preferred connection. (You could also create a new WAN profile with just the shore Wi-Fi connection to use while in port.) Save your changes.

Note: *If the marina's Wi-Fi requires a login (Internet access is gated by a captive portal), you'll need to enter its user credentials at the Edge Core Dashboard to connect to it.*

Figure 23: Adding Wi-Fi to a WAN Profile



Wi-Fi Access in Different Locations

You can configure the CommBox Edge Core to connect to a shore-based Wi-Fi network in multiple locations. Simply add each marina's Wi-Fi network following steps 3 and 4 on this page. With all of these Wi-Fi networks added to your WAN profile, the Edge Core will connect to whichever Wi-Fi is currently available. And if you are not located within range of a configured Wi-Fi network, it will switch to the next WAN connection in priority for Internet access (Starlink in the example shown here).

Figure 24: Multiple Wi-Fi Network Connections in Same WAN Profile



Hub Dropoff

The CommBox Edge Core allows you to route Internet traffic through a hub in a certain country. Regardless of your geographic location, all your traffic will first get routed to the hub, where it will then egress to the Internet (similar to a VPN).

Prerequisites

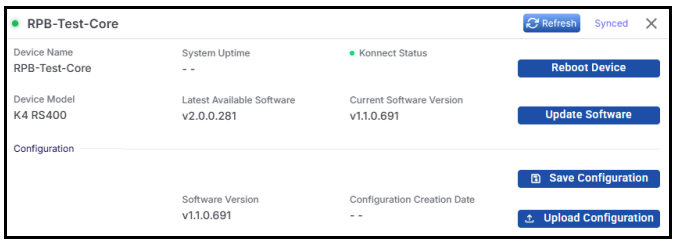
To support hub dropoff, the Edge Core device must be running the following:

- Software version: **2.0.0.0** or later
- License: **Cloud with POP** or **Cloud Plus with POP**

You can find the currently installed software version at the System page of the Edge Core's configuration window. *To access the configuration window, log into the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal (https://commboxedge.kvh.com), go to the Sites page, click on the desired site, then click on the gear icon under "Operations."*

If the current software version is earlier than 2.0.0.0, select **Update Software** and follow the steps to install the latest available version.

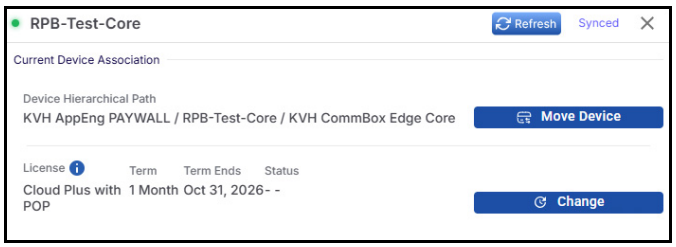
Figure 25: System Page: Current Software Version



You can find the currently active license at the Association page of the configuration window.

If your current license does not include "with POP," you can upgrade it *(this may increase your monthly subscription fee).* Contact KVH Airtime Services at airtimeservices@kvh.com. *Do not click the Change button; you cannot change your license from this portal.*

Figure 26: Association Page: Current License



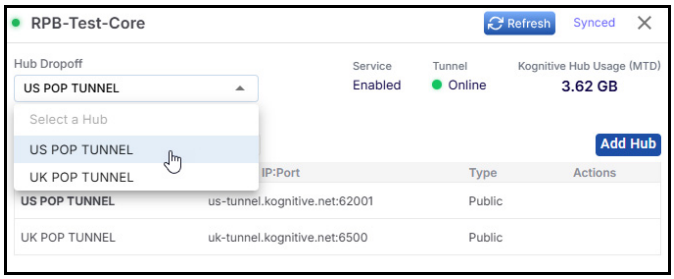
Configuring Hub Dropoff

To start using hub dropoff, simply choose which hub to use then enable it on one or more of your WAN interfaces.

1. At the Hub page of the configuration window, select the desired hub location from the "Hub Dropoff" menu. Then select **Confirm** to accept.

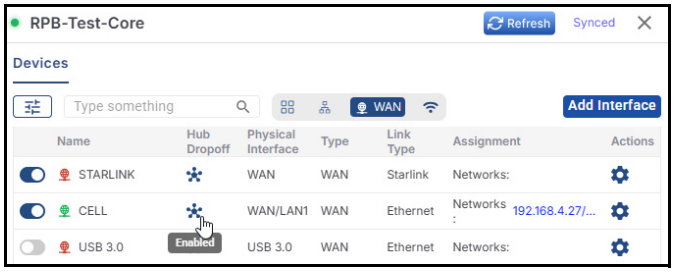
Note: *As an alternative to using the US or UK POP tunnel, you may add your own hub location (hub subscription and configuration required). Select* ***Add Hub*** *then enter the hub's name, IP(s)/domain(s), and password.*

Figure 27: Hub Page: Selecting a Hub Location



2. At the Interfaces page of the configuration window, filter the list to show just the WAN interfaces. Then click the asterisk in the "Hub Dropoff" column for every WAN interface that will route traffic through the hub.

Figure 28: Interfaces Page: Enabling Hub Dropoff



Note: *This method is a shortcut. If you prefer, you can instead click the gear icon in the "Actions" column, enable the* ***Hub Dropoff*** *slider, then click* ***Update****.*

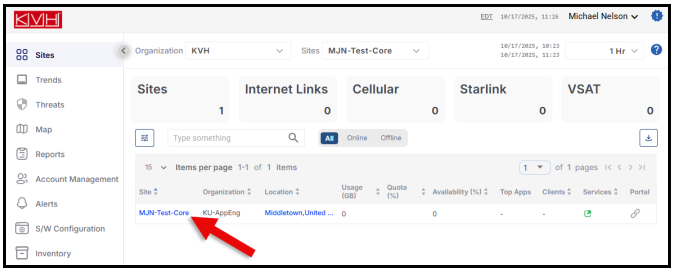
Updating the Software

KVH recommends that you periodically update the Edge Core's software to the latest version for optimum performance. You can update the software remotely via the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal or via its OpenEdge web interface.

Option 1: Remote Software Update

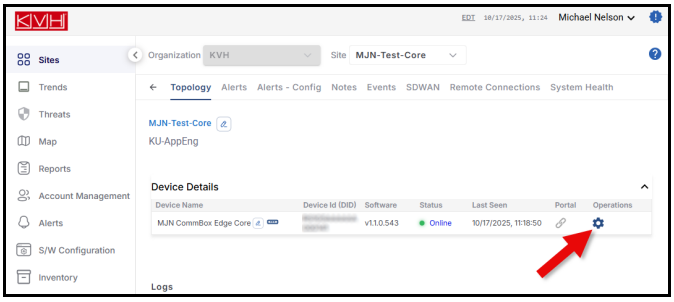
1. Log into the CommBox Edge Cloud Portal at https://commboxedge.kvh.com.
2. If you manage multiple Edge installation sites, select the site where the Edge Core device is located. Then click on the name of the site.

Figure 29: Sites Page



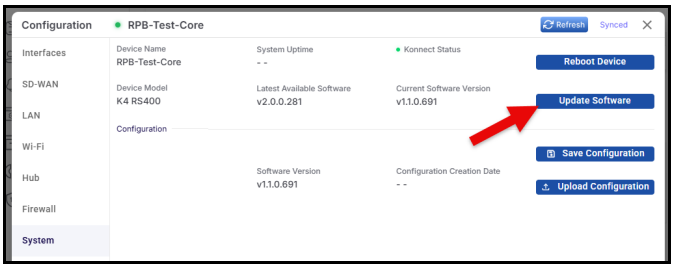
3. Click on the gear icon in the Operations column.

Figure 30: Device Details



4. At the System page of the Configuration Window, if an update is available, select **Update Software** and follow the steps to install the latest available version.

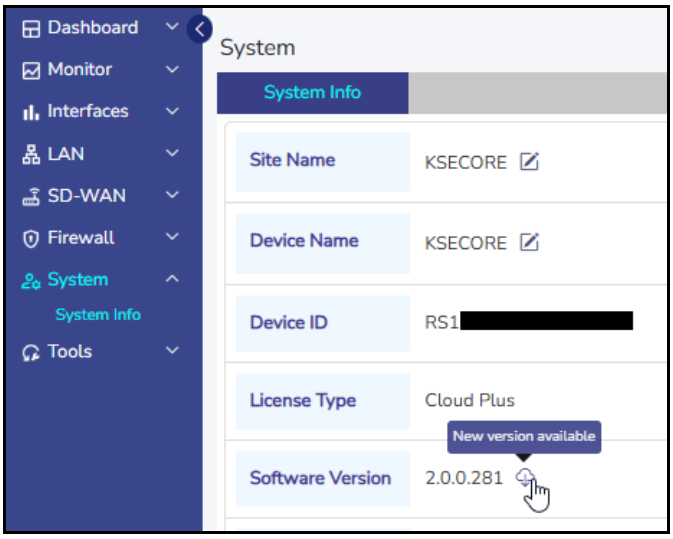
Figure 31: System Page: Update Software



Option 2: Local Software Update

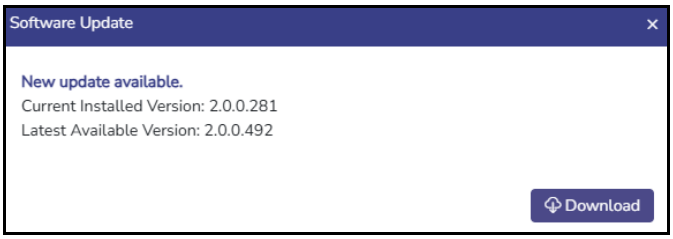
1. Using any computer connected to the Edge Core's network, enter **http://192.168.235.1** (or the gateway IP address) in your web browser.
2. At the login page, enter your admin credentials.
3. Select **System** from the main menu in the left sidebar.

Figure 32: System Info Page



4. Next to the currently installed software version, select the download icon. *If this icon is a green checkmark instead, the Edge Core is already running the latest version; no update is required.*
5. At the Software Update window, select **Download**.

Figure 33: Software Update Window



6. Once the file is downloaded, select **Install** to apply the update to the Edge Core. The device will reboot.

Figure 34: Firmware Update Window

