Switch Password Recovery

The username and password can be recovered. **NOTE:** In some examples a version of IOS software is specified; be advised that the current version of IOS may have changed.

To recover the switch username or password:

1. These steps assume that PuTTY and the console port is setup and connected. If not follow the steps found in the Connecting to the Device CON Port chapter.
2. Follow these steps. Based on the following color legend.

COLOR	DESCRIPTION
BLACK	Typical output
BLUE	User input
<BLUE> with < >	Text is entered but not seen on the screen.
[BLUE]	Fill in the blank with what you want. Used for your created username and password.
GREEN	Additional notes. Not seen on the screen output.
RED	Typical output but highlighted to verify

3. Power off/on the switch. The following information displays.

```
Using driver version 3 for media type 1
Base ethernet MAC Address: 44:03:a7:23:86:00
Xmodem file system is available.
The password-recovery mechanism is enabled.
Initializing Flash...
mifs[2]: 8 files, 1 directories
mifs[2]: Total bytes     :    1806336
mifs[2]: Bytes used       :     550912
mifs[2]: Bytes available :    1255424
mifs[2]: mifs fsck took 0 seconds.
mifs[3]: 0 files, 1 directories
mifs[3]: Total bytes     :    3870720
mifs[3]: Bytes used       :       1024
mifs[3]: Bytes available :    3869696
mifs[3]: mifs fsck took 0 seconds.
mifs[4]: 5 files, 1 directories
mifs[4]: Total bytes     :     258048
mifs[4]: Bytes used       :       9216
mifs[4]: Bytes available :     248832
mifs[4]: mifs fsck took 0 seconds.
mifs[5]: 5 files, 1 directories
mifs[5]: Total bytes     :     258048
mifs[5]: Bytes used       :       9216
mifs[5]: Bytes available :     248832
mifs[5]: mifs fsck took 0 seconds.
mifs[6]: 4 files, 1 directories
mifs[6]: Total bytes     :   57931776
mifs[6]: Bytes used       :   15259648
```

```
mifs[6]: Bytes available :   42672128
mifs[6]: mifs fsck took 0 seconds.
...done Initializing Flash.
done.
Loading "flash:/c2020-universalk9-mz.150-2.6.EC.bin"...####################
```

Press the **Break** key on the computer keyboard AFTER the image starts to load
(ie ######### is scrolling)
<BREAK key>

```
bad mzip file, unknown zip method

Error loading "flash:/c2020-universalk9-mz.150-2.6.EC.bin"

Interrupt within 5 seconds to abort boot process.
Boot process failed...

The system is unable to boot automatically.  The BOOT
environment variable needs to be set to a bootable
```

switch: flash_init<ENTER key>
```
Initializing Flash...
...The flash is already initialized.
```

switch: dir flash:<ENTER key>
```
Directory of flash:/
    2  -rwx  2120       <date>                config.text
    3  -rwx  5          <date>                private-config.text
    4  -rwx  2072       <date>                multiple-fs
    5  -rwx  15128834   <date>                c2020-universalk9-mz.150-2.6.EC.bin
42672128 bytes available (15259648 bytes used)
```

switch: rename flash:config.text flash:config.text.old<ENTER key>
switch: dir flash:<ENTER key>
```
Directory of flash:/
    2  -rwx  2120       <date>                config.text.old
    3  -rwx  5          <date>                private-config.text
    4  -rwx  2072       <date>                multiple-fs
    5  -rwx  15128834   <date>                c2020-universalk9-mz.150-2.6.EC.bin

42672128 bytes available (15259648 bytes used)
```

switch: boot<ENTER key>
Loading "flash:/c2020-universalk9-mz.150-2.6.EC.bin"...###############################