

Benefits of Migrating to Cisco[®] Catalyst[®] 2960 and 2960XR Switches

Why migrate to the Cisco Catalyst 2960-X/XR? Compare and see what you've been missing.

Aging switches were not designed to handle today's digital challenges. Get an up-to-date switching solution with the Cisco Catalyst 2960-X/XR. These stackable Gigabit Ethernet Layer 2 and Layer 3 access switches give you enterprise-class features at a great price. Designed for simplicity, they are easy to deploy, manage, and troubleshoot and offer automated software installation and port configuration. Improvements over previous generations include:

- Better customer and employee experiences through higher performance and improved support for mobility
- Advanced security to handle increasing threats
- Reduced cost and complexity through support for software defined networking (SDN) and innovations in energy efficiency

Without the right switching solutions—the applications, services, and devices you deploy cannot live up to their potential. Digital transformation makes having the right foundation to stay competitive more important than ever before. See the benefits you could be receiving now by comparing the Cisco Catalyst 2960-X and 2960 XR Series to older switches (see table below).

Trends	Features	Previous Access Switches				Latest Access Switches		Benefits
		2950 (EOL)	2960G (EOL)	2960 (EOL)	2960-S	2960-X	2960-XR	
Scale/ Performance	Switching capacity	13.6 Gbps	32 Gbps	17.6 Gbps	176 Gbps	216 Gbps	216 Gbps	Support gigabit access growth for wired and wireless/802.11ac
	Full line rate for all 48 ports	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Gigabit downlinks	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	
	1G/10G uplinks	2x1G	4x1G	2x1G or 4x1G	2x10G or 4x1G	2x10G or 4x1G	2x10G or 4x1G	
	Stacking bandwidth	N/A	N/A	N/A	40 Gbps 4 members	80 Gbps 8 members	80 Gbps 8 members	
	PoE/PoE+	N/A	N/A	PoE up to 370W	PoE/PoE+, up to 740W	PoE/PoE+, up to 740W	PoE/PoE+, up to 740W	Easy and rapid deployment of more IP endpoints, supported on all ports
	Layer 3 dynamic routing (RIP ¹ , OSPF ²)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		✓	Convenience with Layer 2 and Layer 3 in a single switch
	IPv6 ready	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	Support more traffic through IP address scalability
BYOD/Mobility	NetFlow Lite	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	Superior user experience through application visibility and control
Advanced Security	Cisco TrustSec with SXP ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	Orchestrate role based access to corporate resources

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	Flexible 802.1x authentication	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	Enable port-based network access control
	MACsec ⁴ (hardware ready)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	For encryption compliance
	IPv6 First Hop Security	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	Protect against IPv6 address theft and malicious attacks
Simplicity and SDN	Smart Install	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	Zero-touch configuration and Cisco IOS Software updates when deploying new switches
	Auto SmartPorts and Auto QoS	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Automatically configures interfaces based on the type of device connected
	Cross-stack QoS	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	Simplify operations by propagating QoS settings consistently across the stack
	SDN/programmability • Cisco onePK ready	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	Simplicity and business agility
Energy Efficiency	Green features • Switch hibernation • Energy Efficient Ethernet (EEE)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	Rapid ROI – saved over 50% in annual energy operating costs compared to the industry Average (Source: Miercom report) ⁵

¹ RIP – Routing Information Protocol ² OSPF – Open Shortest Path First Protocol ³ SXP – Security Group Tag Exchange Protocol ⁴ MACsec – IEEE Media Access Control Security Standard ⁵ <http://miercom.com/pdf/reports/20131112.pdf>

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