

# Channel Partner Program Announcement



**Announcement Date:**  
**April 1, 2014**

## Retirement of Cisco Borderless Networks Architecture Specialization

The market is changing and your customers' needs are changing which is why Cisco's architectural strategy is changing too. [The Cisco® Borderless Networks Architecture Specialization](#) will be retired and will evolve into two new architecture specializations, the Advanced Enterprise Networks Architecture Specialization and the Advanced Security Architecture Specialization. These new specializations were announced at Partner Summit in March 2014. They focus on our Enterprise Networking and Security products, and now reflect that security is now a stand-alone architecture, addressing the need to integrate this critical element across the entire Cisco solutions portfolio.

The Borderless Networks Architecture Specializations retiring include:

- Advanced Wireless LAN Specialization
- Advanced Routing & Switching Specialization
- Advanced Borderless Networks Architecture Specialization
- Advanced Security Specialization
- Advanced Content Security Specialization

If you hold any of these five specializations, we will help you transition based on what makes sense for your business.

Your next step:

- Check your specialization anniversary dates
- If your specialization anniversary date was between today and March 31, 2015, your specialization anniversary status has been extended to **April 1, 2015**.
- If you achieve one of the retiring specializations between February 2, 2014 and June 30, 2014, you will have until your next specialization anniversary date to transition to one of the new specialization programs.
- You will have until your next anniversary date to transition to the Enterprise Networks Architecture Specialization and/or the Security Architecture Specialization based on what makes sense for your business.
- Beginning on July 1, 2014, applications for the Advanced Borderless Networks Architecture Specialization, Advanced Content Security Specialization, Advanced Routing and Switching Specialization, Advanced Security Specialization and Advanced Wireless LAN Specialization will no



longer be accepted.

Take the next step and take your business to the next level —get ready for these changes. [Learn full details and how they impact you.](#)

If you require further details, please visit the specializations website, or contact your partner account manager (PAM).