About Cisco Mobility Express

Note   The documentation set for this product strives to use bias-free language. For purposes of this documentation set, bias-free is defined as language that does not imply discrimination based on age, disability, gender, racial identity, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and intersectionality. Exceptions may be present in the documentation due to language that is hardcoded in the user interfaces of the product software, language used based on RFP documentation, or language that is used by a referenced third-party product.

Overview of Cisco Mobility Express

The Cisco Mobility Express wireless network solution comprises of at least one 802.11ac Wave 2 Cisco Aironet Series access point (AP) with an in-built software-based wireless controller (WLC) managing other APs in the network.

The AP acting as the WLC is referred to as the primary AP while the other APs in the Cisco Mobility Express network, which are managed by this primary AP, are referred to as subordinate APs.

In addition to acting as a WLC, the primary AP also operates as an AP to serve clients along with the subordinate APs.

Cisco Mobility Express provides most features of a Cisco WLC and has the capability to interface with the following:

- Cisco Prime Infrastructure—For simplified network management, including managing AP groups

- Cisco Identity Services Engine—For advanced policy enforcement

- Connected Mobile Experiences (CMX)—For providing presence analytics and guest access using Connect & Engage

Supported Cisco Access Points

The following Cisco Aironet Series APs are supported in the Cisco Mobility Express network:

Note
- APs listed under primary APs can also function as subordinate APs.
- The software on the APs listed under primary APs can be converted from Cisco Mobility Express to CAPWAP Lightweight AP software and vice versa. For ordering information, visit the Cisco Aironet Access Points Ordering Guide

Table 1: Cisco APs Supported in Cisco Mobility Express

Primary APs	Subordinate APs
Cisco Aironet 1560 Series	Cisco Aironet 700i Series
Cisco Aironet 1815i	Cisco Aironet 700w Series
Cisco Aironet 1815w	Cisco Aironet 1600 Series
Cisco Aironet 1830 Series	Cisco Aironet 1700 Series
Cisco Aironet 1850 Series	Cisco Aironet 1810W Series
Cisco Aironet 2800 Series	Cisco Aironet 2600 Series
Cisco Aironet 3800 Series	Cisco Aironet 2700 Series
	Cisco Aironet 3500 Series
	Cisco Aironet 3600 Series
	Cisco Aironet 3700 Series

Supported Software Images

AP models that are supported as primary can be ordered with either of the following as the default factory-shipped software:

- A Cisco Mobility Express software image. These models have model numbers (or Product IDs) ending in *C*.
- A lightweight AP software image, based on the Control and Provisioning of Wireless Access Points (CAPWAP) protocol, for joining a wireless controller. You can manually convert these models on site to have a Cisco Mobility Express software image. For information about this conversion, see Converting from CAPWAP Lightweight AP to Cisco Mobility Express Software.

AP models that are supported only as subordinates require a CAPWAP-based lightweight AP software image.

The Cisco Mobility Express software for your AP model can be downloaded from: https://software.cisco.com/download/navigator.html.

From the **Download Software** window, browse to your AP model and then select **Mobility Express Software** to view a list of currently available software, with the latest the top. The software releases are labeled as follows to help you determine which release to download:

- Early Deployment (ED)—These software releases provide new features, new hardware platform support, and bug fixes.

- Maintenance Deployment (MD)—These software releases provide bug fixes and ongoing software maintenance.

- Deferred (DF)—These software releases have been deferred. We recommend that you migrate to an upgraded release.

Table 2: Cisco Mobility Express Software for Cisco Aironet APs

Primary AP	AP Software for Conversion from CAPWAP to Cisco Mobility Express	AP Software Image Bundle for Upgrade	AP Software in the Bundle
Cisco Aironet 1560 series	AIR-AP1560-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP1560-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap3g3
Cisco Aironet 1815i series	AIR-AP1815i-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP1815-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap1g5
Cisco Aironet 1815w series	AIR-AP1815w-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP1815w-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap1g5
Cisco Aironet 1830 series	AIR-AP1830-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP1830-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap1g4
Cisco Aironet 1850 series	AIR-AP1850-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP1850-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap1g4
Cisco Aironet 2800 series	AIR-AP2800-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP2800-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap3g3
Cisco Aironet 3800 series	AIR-AP3800-K9-8-4-100-0.tar	AIR-AP3800-K9-ME-8-4-100-0.zip	ap3g3