



Guidelines and Limitations

This chapter describes the guidelines and limitations for configuring Cisco CleanAir.

- [Prerequisites for CleanAir, on page 1](#)
- [Restrictions for CleanAir, on page 2](#)

Prerequisites for CleanAir

You can configure Cisco CleanAir only on CleanAir-enabled access points.

Only Cisco CleanAir-enabled access points using the following access point modes can perform Cisco CleanAir spectrum monitoring:

- **Local**—In this mode, each Cisco CleanAir-enabled access point radio provides air quality and interference detection reports for the current operating channel only. An AP can only measure air quality and interference when the AP is not busy transmitting Wi-Fi frames. This implies that CleanAir detections will be drastically lower if the AP is having a high channel utilization.
- **FlexConnect**—When a FlexConnect access point is connected to the controller, its Cisco CleanAir functionality is identical to local mode.
- **Monitor**—When Cisco CleanAir is enabled in monitor mode, the access point provides air quality and interference detection reports for all monitored channels.

The following options are available:

- **All**—All channels
- **DCA**—Channel selection governed by the DCA list
- **Country**—All channels are legal within a regulatory domain
- **SE-Connect**—This mode enables a user to connect a Spectrum Expert application running on an external Microsoft Windows XP or Vista PC to a Cisco CleanAir-enabled access point in order to display and analyze detailed spectrum data. The Spectrum Expert application connects directly to the access point, bypassing the controller. An access point in SE-Connect mode does not provide any Wi-Fi, RF, or spectrum data to the controller. All CleanAir system functionality is suspended while the AP is in this mode, and no clients are served. This mode is intended for remote troubleshooting only. Up to three active Spectrum Expert connections are possible.

Restrictions for CleanAir

- Access points in monitor mode do not transmit Wi-Fi traffic or 802.11 packets. They are excluded from radio resource management (RRM) planning and are not included in the neighbor access point list. IDR clustering depends on the controller's ability to detect neighboring in-network access points. Correlating interference device detections from multiple access points is limited between monitor-mode access points.
- Spectrum Expert (SE) Connect functionality is supported for local, FlexConnect, bridge, and monitor modes. The access point provides spectrum information to Spectrum Expert only for the current channel(s). For local, FlexConnect, and bridge modes, the spectrum data is available for the current active channel(s) and for the monitor mode, the common monitored channel list is available. The access point continues to send AQ (Air Quality) and IDR (Interference Device Reports) reports to the controller and perform normal activities according to the current mode. Sniffer and rogue detections access point modes are incompatible with all types of CleanAir spectrum monitoring.
- For 4800 AP slot 1 5 GHz is dedicated and cannot be individually moved to monitor mode. However, slot 0 is XOR and can be moved to monitor as well as 2.4/5 GHz. Slot 2 is dedicated monitor and will operate in 5GHz and in AP monitor mode, slot 2 will be disabled because a monitor radio is already available in both 2.4/5GHz. 3700 AP has dedicated 2.4GHz (slot0) and 5GHz (slot1).
- Do not connect access points in SE connect mode directly to any physical port on the controller.
- CleanAir is not supported wherein the channel width is 160 MHz.