



MPLS Traffic Engineering Forwarding Adjacency

First Published: January 29, 2001

Last Updated: March 16, 2006

This document describes the Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) Traffic Engineering (TE) Forwarding Adjacency feature in Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)S. It identifies the supported platforms, provides configuration examples, and lists related IOS command line interface (CLI) commands.

History for the MPLS Traffic Engineering Forwarding Adjacency

Release	Modification
12.0(15)S	This feature was introduced.
12.0(16)ST	This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.0(16)ST.
12.2(18)S	This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)S.
12.2(18)SXD	This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)SX.
12.2(27)SBC	This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(27)SBC.
12.2(28)SB	This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(28)SB

Finding Support Information for Platforms and Cisco IOS Software Images

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco IOS software image support. Access Cisco Feature Navigator at <http://www.cisco.com/go/fn>. You must have an account on Cisco.com. If you do not have an account or have forgotten your username or password, click **Cancel** at the login dialog box and follow the instructions that appear.

Contents

- [Feature Overview, page 2](#)
- [Prerequisites, page 3](#)
- [Configuration Tasks, page 3](#)
- [Monitoring and Maintaining MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency, page 5](#)
- [Configuration Examples, page 5](#)



Corporate Headquarters:

Cisco Systems, Inc., 170 West Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134-1706 USA

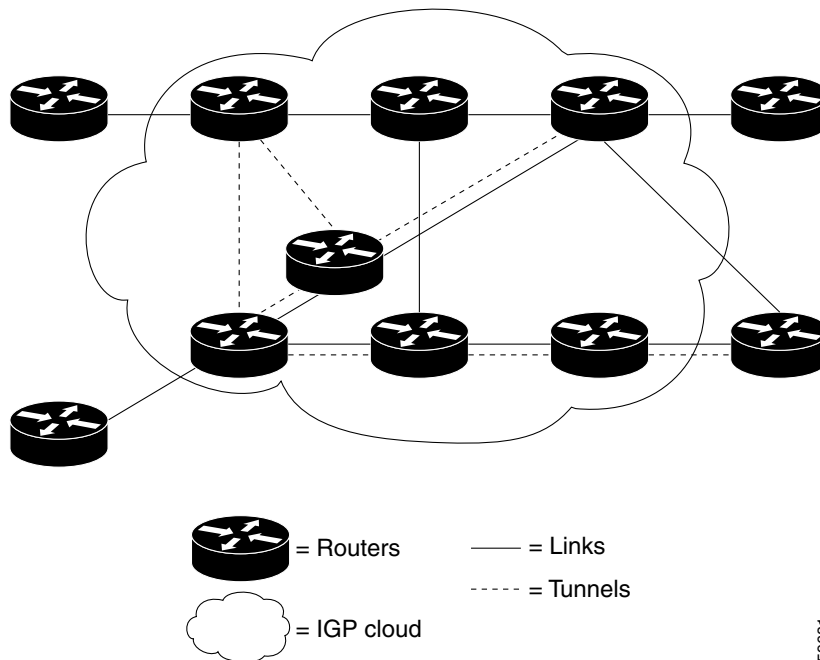
© 2003, 2005–2006 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

- [Command Reference, page 8](#)
- [Glossary, page 15](#)

Feature Overview

The MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature allows a network administrator to handle a traffic engineering, label-switched path (LSP) tunnel as a link in an Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP) network based on the Shortest Path First (SPF) algorithm. A forwarding adjacency can be created between routers regardless of their location in the network. The routers can be located multiple hops from each other, as shown in [Figure 1](#).

Figure 1 Forwarding Adjacency Topology



As a result, a TE tunnel is advertised as a link in an IGP network with the link's cost associated with it. Routers outside of the TE domain see the TE tunnel and use it to compute the shortest path for routing traffic throughout the network.

Benefits

TE Tunnel Interfaces Advertised for SPF

TE tunnel interfaces are advertised in the IGP network just like any other links. Routers can then use these advertisements in their IGP to compute the SPF even if they are not the head end of any TE tunnels.

Restrictions

- Using the MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature increases the size of the IGP database by advertising a TE tunnel as a link.
- The MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature is supported by Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (IS-IS). Open Shortest Path First (OSPF) support will be available in a future release.
- When the MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature is enabled on a TE tunnel, the link is advertised in the IGP network as a Type-Length-Value (TLV) 22 without any TE sub-TLV.
- MPLS TE forwarding adjacency tunnels must be configured bidirectionally.

Related Features and Technologies

The MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature is related to the Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP) and MPLS traffic engineering features. (See the [“Related Documents”](#) section on page 7.)

Prerequisites

Your network must support the following Cisco IOS features before enabling the MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature:

- Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS)
- IP Cisco Express Forwarding
- Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (IS-IS)

Configuration Tasks

See the following sections for configuration tasks for the MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature. Each task in the list is identified as either required or optional.

- [Configuring a Tunnel Interface for MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency, page 3](#) (required)
- [Configuring MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency, page 4](#) (required)
- [Configuring IS-IS for MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency, page 4](#) (required)

Configuring a Tunnel Interface for MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency

To configure a tunnel interface for an MPLS TE forwarding adjacency, use the following commands beginning in global configuration mode

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **interface tunnel** *number*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>enable</code> Example: Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	<code>configure terminal</code> Example: Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 3	<code>interface tunnel number</code> Example: Router(config)interface tunnel 0	Designates a tunnel interface for the forwarding adjacency.

Configuring MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency

To configure an MPLS TE forwarding adjacency, use the following command in interface configuration mode:

Command	Purpose
Router(config-if)# <code>tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency {holdtime value}</code>	Advertises a TE tunnel as a link in an IGP network.

**Note**

You must configure a forwarding adjacency on two LSP tunnels bidirectionally, from A to B and B to A. Otherwise, the forwarding adjacency is advertised, but not used in the IGP network.

Configuring IS-IS for MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency

To configure an IS-IS metric for an MPLS TE forwarding adjacency, use the following command in interface configuration mode:

Command	Purpose
Router(config-if)# <code>isis metric default-metric {level-1 level-2}</code>	Configures the cost metric for a tunnel interface to be used as a forwarding adjacency. Note You should configure the <code>isis metric</code> command with level 1 or 2 to be consistent with the IGP level at which you are performing traffic engineering. Otherwise, the metric has the default value of 10.

Verifying MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency

To verify MPLS TE forwarding adjacency configuration, use this procedure:

- Step 1** Use the **show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command to see the current tunnels:

```
Router# show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

destination 0168.0001.0007.00 has 1 tunnels
  Tunnel7      (traffic share 100000, nexthop 192.168.1.7)
               (flags:Announce Forward-Adjacency, holdtime 0)

Router# show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency 192.168.1.7

destination 0168.0001.0007.00 has 1 tunnels
  Tunnel7      (traffic share 100000, nexthop 192.168.1.7)
               (flags:Announce Forward-Adjacency, holdtime 0)
```

Monitoring and Maintaining MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency

To monitor and maintain an MPLS TE forwarding adjacency, use the following commands in EXEC mode:

Command	Purpose
Router# show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Displays information about traffic engineering tunnels.
Router# show isis area-tag database [level-1] [level-2] [l1] [l2] [detail] [lspid]	Displays information about the IS-IS link-state database.

Configuration Examples

This section provides a configuration example for the MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency feature using an IS-IS metric.

MPLS TE Forwarding Adjacency Example

The following output shows a tunnel interface, a forwarding adjacency, and an IS-IS metric being configured:

```
Router# configure terminal

Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.

Router(config)# interface tunnel 7

Router(config-if)# tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

Router(config-if)# isis metric 2 level 1
```

Here is sample output in which a forwarding adjacency has been configured:

```
Router# show run

Building configuration...
Current configuration :364 bytes
!
interface Tunnel7
 ip unnumbered Loopback0
 no ip directed-broadcast
 tunnel destination 192.168.1.7
 tunnel mode mpls traffic-eng
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng priority 7 7
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng path-option 10 explicit name short
 isis metric 2 level 1
```



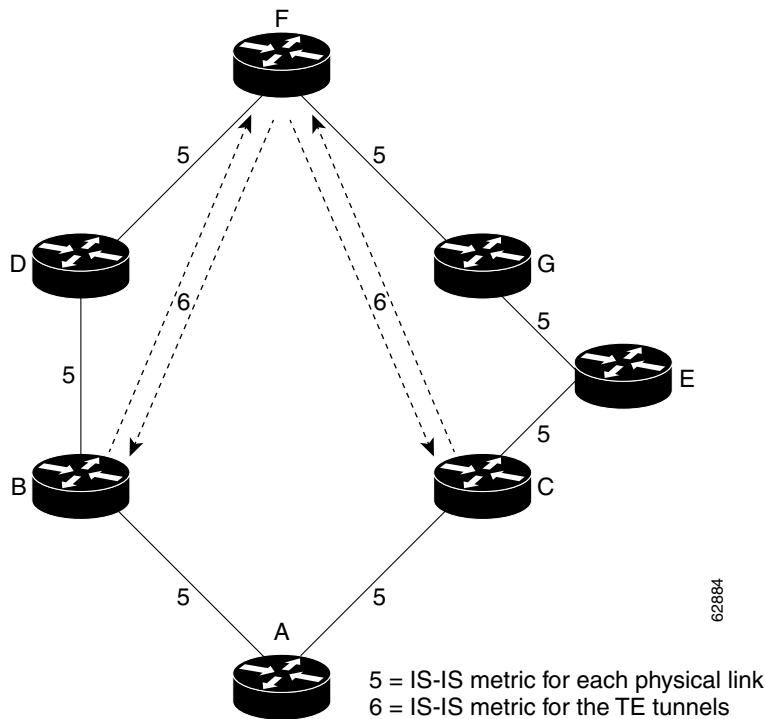
Note

Do not use the tunnel mpls traffic-eng autoroute announce statement in your configuration when you are using forwarding adjacency.

Usage Tips

In [Figure 2](#), if you have no forwarding adjacencies configured for the TE tunnels between Band F and C and F, all the traffic that A has to forward to F goes through B because B is the shortest path from A to F. (The cost from A to F is 15 through B and 20 through C.)

Figure 2 Using Forwarding Adjacencies



If you have forwarding adjacencies configured on the TE tunnels between B and F and C and F and also on the TE tunnels between F and B and F and C, then when A computes the SPF algorithm, A sees two equal cost paths of 11 to F. As a result, traffic across the AB and AC links is shared.

Additional References

The following sections provide references related to MPLS Traffic Engineering Forwarding Adjacency.

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Switching services configuration	<i>Cisco IOS Switching Services Configuration Guide</i> , Release 12.2
Switching services commands	<i>Cisco IOS Switching Services Command Reference</i> , Release 12.2
Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (IS-IS) TLVs	<i>Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (IS-IS) TLVs</i> (white paper)

Standards

Standard	Title
None	—

MIBs

MIB	MIBs Link
None	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs

RFCs

RFC	Title
None	—

Technical Assistance

Description	Link
The Cisco Technical Support & Documentation website contains thousands of pages of searchable technical content, including links to products, technologies, solutions, technical tips, and tools. Registered Cisco.com users can log in from this page to access even more content.	http://www.cisco.com/techsupport

Command Reference

This section documents modified commands only.

- [debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency](#)
- [show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency](#)
- [tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency](#)

debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

To display debug messages for traffic engineering (TE) forwarding-adjacency events, use the **debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command in privileged EXEC mode. To disable debugging output, use the **no** form of this command.

debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

no debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

Syntax Description

This command has no arguments or keywords.

Defaults

This command is disabled by default.

Command Modes

Privileged EXEC

Command History

Release	Modification
12.0(15)S	This command was introduced.
12.0(16)ST	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.0(16)ST.
12.2(18)S	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)S.
12.2(18)SXD	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)SX.
12.2(27)SBC.	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(27)SBC.
12.2(28)SB	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(28)SB.

Usage Guidelines

Use the **debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command to troubleshoot any problems that occur after you configure the **tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command.

Examples

The following is sample output from the **debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command:

```
Router# debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency
```

```
MPLS traffic-eng debugging is on
```

With a tunnel configured, the following output appears:

```
interface Tunnel0
 ip unnumbered Loopback0
 no ip directed-broadcast
 tunnel destination 192.168.1.7
 tunnel mode mpls traffic-eng
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng priority 7 7
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng path-option 10 dynamic
end
```

When the tunnel comes up, it generates the following debug output:

```
*Oct 2 12:27:07.846:TE-Auto:announcement that destination 0168.0001.0007.00 has 1 tunnels
*Oct 2 12:27:07.846:   Tunnel0      (traffic share 142857, nexthop 192.168.1.7)
*Oct 2 12:27:07.846:                               (flags: Forward-Adjacency, holdtime 0)
```

Related Commands

Command	Description
show debug	Displays active debug output.
show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Displays TE tunnels being advertised as links in an IGP network.
tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Advertises a TE tunnel as a link in an IGP network.

show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

To display traffic engineering (TE) tunnels that are advertised as links in an Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP) network, use the **show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command in EXEC mode.

show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency *ip address*

Syntax Description	<i>ip address</i> (Optional) Destination address for forwarding-adjacency tunnels.
---------------------------	--

Defaults No default behavior or values.

Command Modes EXEC

Command History	Release	Modification
	12.0(15)S	This command was introduced.
	12.0(16)ST	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.0(16)ST.
	12.2(18)S	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)S.
	12.2(18)SXD	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)SX.
	12.2(27)SBC	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(27)SBC.
	12.2(28)SB	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(28)SB.

Usage Guidelines Use the **show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command to display information about tunnels configured with the **tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command.

Examples The following is sample output from the **show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command:

```
Router# show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency ?
  A.B.C.D destination address for forwarding-adjacency tunnels
  |      Output modifiers
  <cr>
```

Here is sample output in which a forwarding adjacency is enabled:

```
Router# show run

Building configuration...
Current configuration :364 bytes
!
interface Tunnel7
 ip unnumbered Loopback0
 no ip directed-broadcast
 tunnel destination 192.168.1.7
 tunnel mode mpls traffic-eng
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency
 tunnel mpls traffic-eng priority 7 7
```

■ show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

```
tunnel mpls traffic-eng path-option 10 explicit name short
isis metric 2 level 1
end
```

Use the **show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command again to see the current tunnels:

```
Router# show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency
```

```
destination 0168.0001.0007.00 has 1 tunnels
  Tunnel7      (traffic share 100000, nexthop 192.168.1.7)
               (flags:Announce Forward-Adjacency, holdtime 0)
```

```
Router# show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency 192.168.1.7
```

```
destination 0168.0001.0007.00 has 1 tunnels
  Tunnel7      (traffic share 100000, nexthop 192.168.1.7)
               (flags:Announce Forward-Adjacency, holdtime 0)
```

Related Commands

Command	Description
debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Displays debug messages for traffic-engineering, forwarding-adjacency events.
tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Advertises a TE tunnel as a link in an IGP network.

tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

To advertise a traffic engineering (TE) tunnel as a link in an Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP) network, use the **tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command in interface configuration mode. To disable the functionality, use the **no** form of this command.

tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency {holdtime *value*}

no tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency

Syntax Description

holdtime <i>value</i>	Time in milliseconds (ms) that a TE tunnel waits after going down before informing the network. The range is 0 to 4,294,967,295 ms. The default value is 0.
------------------------------	---

Defaults

The default value is 0.

Command Modes

Interface configuration

Command History

Release	Modification
12.0(15)S	This command was introduced.
12.0(16)ST	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.0(16)ST.
12.2(18)S	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)S.
12.2(18)SXD	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(18)SX.
12.2(27)SBC	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(27)SBC.
12.2(28)SB	This command was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(28)SB.

Usage Guidelines

Use the **tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command with the **isis metric** command to avoid inefficient forwarding behavior. Ensure that any nodes traversed by the TE tunnel being advertised do not consider the TE tunnel as part of the shortest path to the destination.



Note The **tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency** command requires IS-IS support.

Examples

In the following example, the holdtime is set to 10,000 milliseconds:

```
Router(config-if)# tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency holdtime 10000
```

In the following example, the holdtime defaults to 0:

```
Router(config-if)# tunnel mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency
```

Related Commands

Command	Description
debug mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Displays debug messages for traffic engineering, forwarding-adjacency events.
isis metric	Configures the cost metric for an interface.
show mpls traffic-eng forwarding-adjacency	Displays TE tunnels being advertised as links in an IGP network.

Glossary

Cisco express forwarding—A scalable, distributed, Layer 3 switching solution designed to meet the future performance requirements of the Internet and Enterprise networks.

forwarding adjacency—A traffic engineering link (or LSP) into an IS-IS/OSPF network.

IGP—Interior Gateway Protocol. Internet protocol used to exchange routing information within an autonomous system. Examples of common IGPs include Interior Gateway Routing Protocol (IGRP), Open Shortest Path First (OSPF), and Routing Information Protocol (RIP).

IS-IS—Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System. Open System Interconnection (OSI) link-state hierarchical routing protocol whereby Intermediate System (IS) routers exchange routing information based on a single metric to determine network topology.

label-switched path (LSP)—A sequence of hops (R0...Rn) in which a packet travels from R0 to Rn through label switching mechanisms. A switched path can be chosen dynamically, based on normal routing mechanisms, or through configuration.

label-switched path (LSP) tunnel—A configured connection between two routers, using label switching to carry the packets.

MPLS—Multiprotocol Label Switching. A switching method that forwards IP traffic using a label. This label instructs the routers and the switches in the network where to forward the packets based on preestablished IP routing information.

OSPF—Open Shortest Path First. A link-state, hierarchical IGP routing algorithm proposed as a successor to RIP in the Internet community. OSPF features include least-cost routing, multipath routing, and load balancing. OSPF was derived from an early version of the IS-IS protocol. *See also IS-IS.*

SPF—Shortest Path First. A routing algorithm used as the basis for OSPF operations. When an SPF router is powered up, it initializes its routing-protocol data structures and then waits for indications from lower-layer protocols that its interfaces are functional.

TLV—Type-Length-Value. A block of information embedded in Cisco Discovery Protocol (CDP) advertisements.

traffic engineering—The techniques and processes used to cause routed traffic to travel through the network on a path other than the one that would have been chosen if standard routing methods had been applied.

traffic engineering tunnel—A label-switched tunnel that is used for traffic engineering. Such a tunnel is set up through means other than normal Layer 3 routing; it is used to direct traffic over a path different from the one that Layer 3 routing would cause the tunnel to take.

**Note**

See [Internetworking Terms and Acronyms](#) for terms not included in this glossary.

CCVP, the Cisco logo, and Welcome to the Human Network are trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc.; Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn a service mark of Cisco Systems, Inc.; and Access Registrar, Aironet, Catalyst, CCDA, CCDP, CCIE, CCIP, CCNA, CCNP, CCSP, Cisco, the Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert logo, Cisco IOS, Cisco Press, Cisco Systems, Cisco Systems Capital, the Cisco Systems logo, Cisco Uni Enterprise/Solver, EtherChannel, EtherFast, EtherSwitch, Fast Step, Follow Me Browsing, FormShare, GigaDrive, HomeLink, Internet Quotient, IC iPhone, IP/TV, iQ Expertise, the iQ logo, iQ Net Readiness Scorecard, iQuick Study, LightStream, Linksys, MeetingPlace, MGX, Networker Networking Academy, Network Registrar, PIX, ProConnect, ScriptShare, SMARTnet, StackWise, The Fastest Way to Increase Your Internet Quotient and TransPath are registered trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the United States and certain other countries.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document or Website are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply

Any Internet Protocol (IP) addresses used in this document are not intended to be actual addresses. Any examples, command display output, and figures included in the document are shown for illustrative purposes only. Any use of actual IP addresses in illustrative content is unintentional and coincidental.

© 2003, 2005–2006 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.