



CHAPTER 34

Configuring RADIUS and TACACS+

The authentication, authorization, and accounting (AAA) feature verifies the identity of, grants access to, and tracks the actions of users managing a switch. All Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches use RADIUS and TACACS+ protocols to provide solutions using remote AAA servers.

Based on the user ID and password combination provided, switches perform local authentication or authorization using the local database or remote authentication or authorization using a AAA server. A preshared secret key provides security for communication between the switch and AAA servers. This secret key can be configured for all AAA servers or for only a specific AAA server. This security feature provides a central management capability for AAA servers.

This chapter includes the following sections:

- [Switch Management Security, page 34-1](#)
- [Switch AAA Functionalities, page 34-2](#)
- [Configuring RADIUS, page 34-8](#)
- [Configuring TACACS+, page 34-17](#)
- [Configuring Server Groups, page 34-27](#)
- [AAA Server Distribution, page 34-29](#)
- [MSCHAP Authentication, page 34-33](#)
- [Local AAA Services, page 34-34](#)
- [Configuring Accounting Services, page 34-35](#)
- [Configuring Cisco Access Control Servers, page 34-37](#)
- [Default Settings, page 34-40](#)

Switch Management Security

Management security in any switch in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family provides security to all management access methods, including the command-line interface (CLI) or Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP).

- [CLI Security Options, page 34-2](#)

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CLI Security Options

You can access the CLI using the console (serial connection), Telnet, or Secure Shell (SSH). For each management path (console, Telnet, and SSH), you can configure one or more of the following security control options: local, remote (RADIUS or TACACS+), or none.

- Remote security control
 - Using RADIUS. See the “Configuring RADIUS” section on page 34-8.
 - Using TACACS+. See the “Configuring TACACS+” section on page 34-17.
- Local security control. See the “Local AAA Services” section on page 34-34.

These security features can also be configured for the following scenarios:

- iSCSI authentication (see the).
- Fibre Channel Security Protocol (FC-SP) authentication (see Chapter 38, “Configuring FC-SP and DHCHAP”)

SNMP Security Options

The SNMP agent supports security features for SNMPv1, SNMPv2c, and SNMPv3. Normal SNMP security features apply to all applications that use SNMP (for example, Cisco MDS 9000 Fabric Manager).

SNMP security options also apply to Fabric Manager and Device Manager.

See Chapter 33, “Configuring SNMP”.

Refer to the *Cisco MDS 9000 Family Fabric Manager Configuration Guide* for information on Fabric Manager and Device Manager.

Switch AAA Functionalities

Using the CLI or an SNMP application, you can configure AAA switch functionalities on any switch in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family.

This section includes the following topics:

- [Authentication, page 34-3](#)
- [Authorization, page 34-3](#)
- [Accounting, page 34-3](#)
- [Remote AAA Services, page 34-4](#)
- [Remote Authentication Guidelines, page 34-4](#)
- [Server Groups, page 34-4](#)
- [AAA Service Configuration Options, page 34-4](#)
- [Authentication and Authorization Process, page 34-6](#)

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Authentication

Authentication is the process of verifying the identity of the person or device accessing the switch. This identity verification is based on the user ID and password combination provided by the entity trying to access the switch. Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches allow you to perform local authentication (using the local lookup database) or remote authentication (using one or more RADIUS or TACACS+ servers).



Note

When you log in to a Cisco MDS switch successfully using the Fabric Manager or Device Manager through Telnet or SSH and if that switch is configured for AAA server-based authentication, a temporary SNMP user entry is automatically created with an expiry time of one day. The switch authenticates the SNMPv3 protocol data units (PDUs) with your Telnet or SSH login name as the SNMPv3 user. The management station can temporarily use the Telnet or SSH login name as the SNMPv3 **auth** and **priv** passphrase. This temporary SNMP login is only allowed if you have one or more active MDS shell sessions. If you do not have an active session at any given time, your login is deleted and you will not be allowed to perform SNMPv3 operations.

Authorization

The following authorization roles exist in all Cisco MDS switches:

- Network operator (network-operator)—Has permission to view the configuration only. The operator cannot make any configuration changes.
- Network administrator (network-admin)— Has permission to execute all commands and make configuration changes. The administrator can also create and customize up to 64 additional roles.
- Default-role—Has permission to use the GUI (Fabric Manager and Device Manager). This access is automatically granted to all users for accessing the GUI.

These roles cannot be changed or deleted. You can create additional roles and configure the following options:

- Configure role-based authorization by assigning user roles locally or using remote AAA servers.
- Configure user profiles on a remote AAA server to contain role information. This role information is automatically downloaded and used when the user is authenticated through the remote AAA server.



Note

If a user belongs only to one of the newly created roles and that role is subsequently deleted, then the user immediately defaults to the network-operator role.

Accounting

The accounting feature tracks and maintains a log of every management configuration used to access the switch. This information can be used to generate reports for troubleshooting and auditing purposes. Accounting logs can be stored locally or sent to remote AAA servers.

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Remote AAA Services

Remote AAA services provided through RADIUS and TACACS+ protocols have the following advantages over local AAA services:

- User password lists for each switch in the fabric can be managed more easily.
- AAA servers are already deployed widely across enterprises and can be easily adopted.
- The accounting log for all switches in the fabric can be centrally managed.
- User role mapping for each switch in the fabric can be managed more easily.

Remote Authentication Guidelines

If you prefer using remote AAA servers, follow these guidelines:

- A minimum of one AAA server should be IP reachable.
- Be sure to configure a desired local AAA policy as this policy is used if all AAA servers are not reachable.
- AAA servers are easily reachable if an overlay Ethernet LAN is attached to the switch (see [Chapter 45, “Configuring IP Storage”](#)). We recommend this method.
- SAN networks connected to the switch should have at least one gateway switch connected to the Ethernet LAN reaching the AAA servers.

Server Groups

You can specify remote AAA servers for authentication, authorization, and accounting using server groups. A server group is a set of remote AAA servers implementing the same AAA protocol. The purpose of a server group is to provide for failover servers in case a remote AAA server fails to respond. If the first remote server in the group fails to respond, the next remote server in the group is tried until one of the servers sends a response. If all the AAA servers in the server group fail to respond, then that server group option is considered a failure. If required, you can specify multiple server groups. If the Cisco MDS switch encounters errors from the servers in the first group, it tries the servers in the next server group.

AAA Service Configuration Options

AAA configuration in Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches is service based. You can have separate AAA configurations for the following services:

- Telnet or SSH login (Fabric Manager and Device Manager login)
- Console login
- iSCSI authentication (see)
- FC-SP authentication (see [Chapter 38, “Configuring FC-SP and DHCHAP”](#))
- Accounting

In general, server group, local, and none are the three options that can be specified for any service in an AAA configuration. Each option is tried in the order specified. If all the options fail, local is tried.

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Caution

Cisco MDS SAN-OS does not support all numeric usernames, whether created with TACACS+ or RADIUS, or created locally. Local username with all numerics cannot be created. If an all numeric username exists on an AAA server and is entered during login, the user is not logged in.



Note

Even if local is not specified as one of the options, it is tried when all other configured options fail.

Table 34-1 provides the related CLI command for each AAA service configuration option.

Table 34-1 AAA Service Configuration Commands

AAA Service Configuration Option	Related Command
Telnet or SSH login (Cisco Fabric Manager and Device Manager login)	aaa authentication login default
Console login	aaa authentication login console
iSCSI authentication	aaa authentication iscsi default
FC-SP authentication	aaa authentication dhchap default
Accounting	aaa accounting default

Error-Enabled Status

When you log in, the login is processed by rolling over to local user database if the remote AAA servers do not respond. In this situation, the following message is displayed on the your screen—if you have enabled the error-enabled feature:

```
Remote AAA servers unreachable; local authentication done.
```

To enable this message display, use the **aaa authentication login error-enable** command.

To disable this message display, use the **no aaa authentication login error-enable** command.

To view the current display status, use the **show aaa authentication login error-enable** command (see [Example 34-1](#)).

Example 34-1 Displays AAA Authentication Login Information

```
switch# show aaa authentication login error-enable
enabled
```

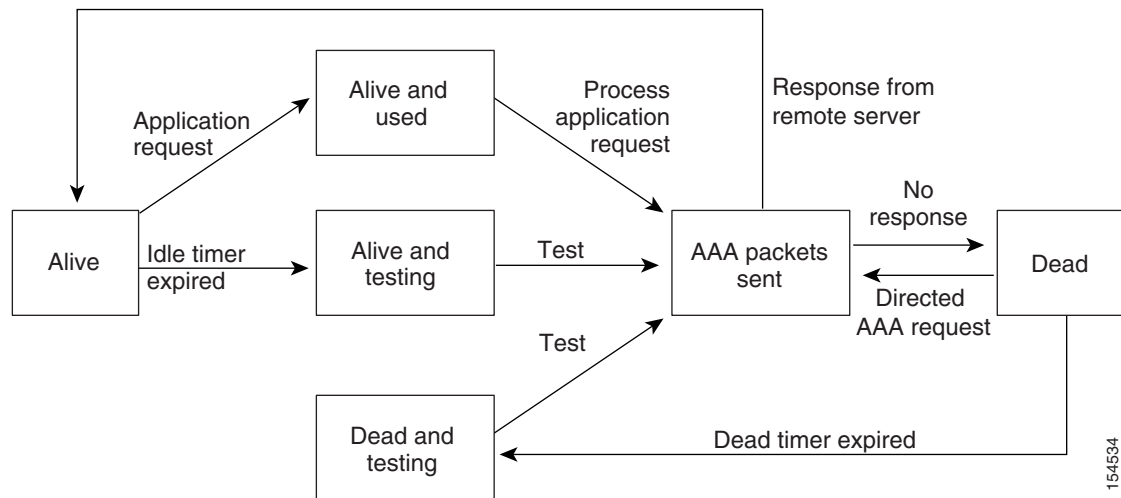
AAA Server Monitoring

An unresponsive AAA server introduces a delay in the processing of AAA requests. An MDS switch can periodically monitor an AAA server to check whether it is responding (or alive) to save time in processing AAA requests. The MDS switch marks unresponsive AAA servers as dead and does not send AAA requests to any dead AAA servers. An MDS switch periodically monitors dead AAA servers and brings them to the alive state once they are responding. This monitoring process verifies that an AAA

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server is in a working state before real AAA requests are sent its way. Whenever an AAA server changes to the dead or alive state, an SNMP trap is generated and the MDS switch warns the administrator that a failure is taking place before it can impact performance. See [Figure 34-1](#) for AAA server states.

Figure 34-1 AAA Server States



Note

The monitoring interval for alive servers and dead servers is different and can be configured by the user. The AAA server monitoring is performed by sending a test authentication request to the AAA server.

The user name and password to be used in the test packet can be configured.

See the “[Configuring RADIUS Server Monitoring Parameters](#)” section on page 34-12 and “[Displaying RADIUS Server Details](#)” section on page 34-16.

Authentication and Authorization Process

Authentication is the process of verifying the identity of the person managing the switch. This identity verification is based on the user ID and password combination provided by the person managing the switch. The Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches allow you to perform local authentication (using the lookup database) or remote authentication (using one or more RADIUS servers or TACACS+ servers).

The following steps explain the authorization and authentication process:

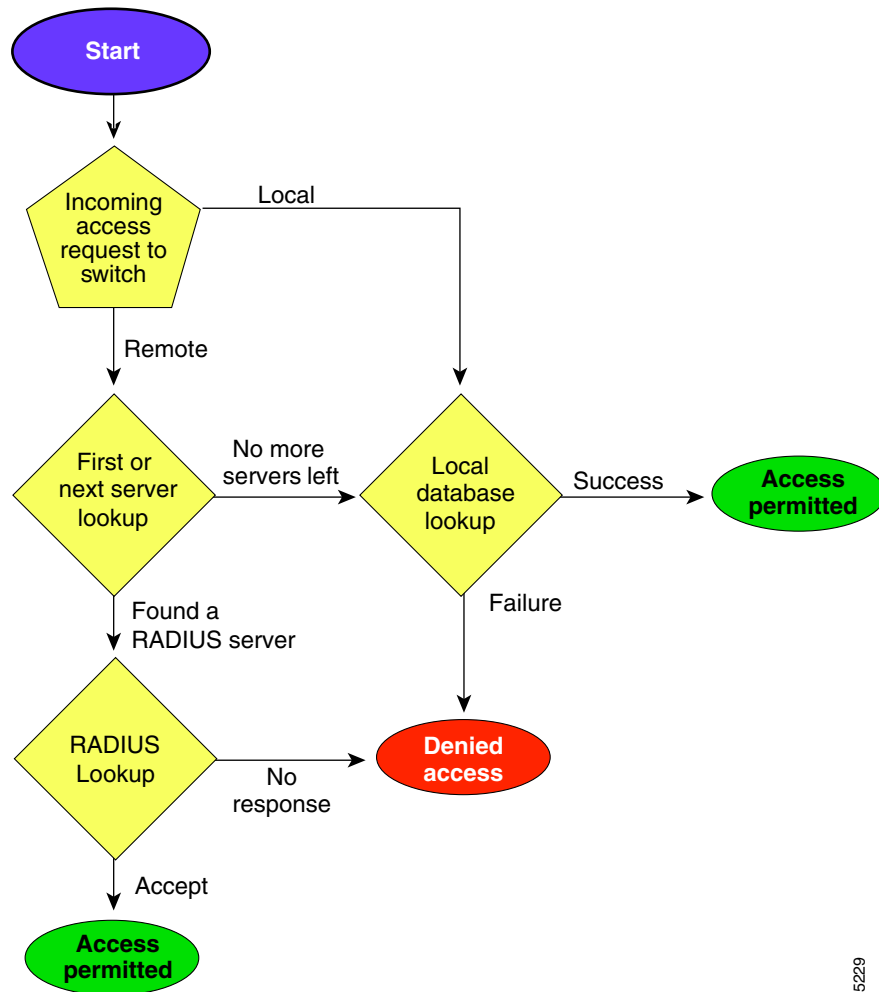
- Step 1** You can log in to the required switch in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family, using the Telnet, SSH, Fabric Manager/Device Manager, or console login options.
- Step 2** When you have configured server groups using the server group authentication method, an authentication request is sent to the first AAA server in the group.
 - If the AAA server fails to respond, then the next AAA server is contacted and so on until the remote server responds to the authentication request.
 - If all AAA servers in the server group fail to respond, then the servers in the next server group are contacted.
 - If all configured methods fail, then the local database is used for authentication.

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- Step 3** When you are successfully authenticated through a remote AAA server, then the following possible actions are taken:
- If the AAA server protocol is RADIUS, then user roles specified in the **cisco-av-pair** attribute are downloaded with an authentication response.
 - If the AAA server protocol is TACACS+, then another request is sent to the same server to get the user roles specified as custom attributes for the shell.
 - If user roles are not successfully retrieved from the remote AAA server, then the user is assigned the network-operator role.
- Step 4** When your user name and password are successfully authenticated locally, you are allowed to log in, and you are assigned the roles configured in the local database.

Figure 34-2 shows a flow chart of the authorization and authentication process.

Figure 34-2 Switch Authorization and Authentication Flow



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**Note**

No more server groups left = no response from any server in all server groups.
No more servers left = no response from any server within this server group.

Configuring RADIUS

Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches can use the RADIUS protocol to communicate with remote AAA servers. You can configure multiple RADIUS servers and server groups and set timeout and retry counts.

RADIUS is a distributed client/server protocol that secures networks against unauthorized access. In the Cisco implementation, RADIUS clients run on Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches and send authentication requests to a central RADIUS server that contains all user authentication and network service access information.

This section defines the RADIUS operation, identifies its network environments, and describes its configuration possibilities.

Setting the RADIUS Server Address

You can add up to 64 RADIUS servers. RADIUS keys are always stored in encrypted form in persistent storage. The running configuration also displays encrypted keys.

To specify the host RADIUS server IPv4 address and other options, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	<code>switch# config t</code>	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host 10.10.0.0 key HostKey</code>	Specifies the preshared key for the selected RADIUS server. This key overrides the key assigned using the radius-server key command. In this example, the host is 10.10.0.0 and the key is HostKey.
Step 3	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host 10.10.0.0 auth-port 2003</code>	Specifies the destination UDP port number to which the RADIUS authentication messages should be sent. In this example, the host is 10.10.0.0 and the authentication port is 2003. The default authentication port is 1812, and the valid range is 0 to 65366.
Step 4	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host 10.10.0.0 acct-port 2004</code>	Specifies the destination UDP port number to which RADIUS accounting messages should be sent. The default accounting port is 1813, and the valid range is 0 to 65366.
Step 5	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host 10.10.0.0 accounting</code>	Specifies this server to be used only for accounting purposes. Note If neither the authentication nor the accounting options are specified, the server is used for both accounting and authentication purposes.

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	Command	Purpose
Step 6	switch(config)# radius-server host 10.10.0.0 key 0 abcd	Specifies a clear text key for the specified server. The key is restricted to 64 characters.
	switch(config)# radius-server host 10.10.0.0 key 4 da3Asda2ioyuoIUH	Specifies an encrypted key for the specified server. The key is restricted to 64 characters.

To specify the host RADIUS server IPv6 address and other options, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A Key HostKey	Specifies the preshared key for the selected RADIUS server. This key overrides the key assigned using the radius-server key command. In this example, the host is 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A and the key is HostKey.
Step 3	switch(config)# radius-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A auth-port 2003	Specifies the destination UDP port number to which the RADIUS authentication messages should be sent. In this example, the host is 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A and the authentication port is 2003. The default authentication port is 1812, and the valid range is 0 to 65366.
Step 4	switch(config)# radius-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A acct-port 2004	Specifies the destination UDP port number to which RADIUS accounting messages should be sent. The default accounting port is 1813, and the valid range is 0 to 65366.
Step 5	switch(config)# radius-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A accounting	Specifies this server to be used only for accounting purposes. Note If neither the authentication nor the accounting options are specified, the server is used for both accounting and authentication purposes.
Step 6	switch(config)# radius-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A key 0 abcd	Specifies a clear text key for the specified server. The key is restricted to 64 characters.
	switch(config)# radius-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A key 4 da3Asda2ioyuoIUH	Specifies an encrypted key for the specified server. The key is restricted to 64 characters.

To specify the host RADIUS server DNS name and other options, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius-server host radius2 key HostKey	Specifies the preshared key for the selected RADIUS server. This key overrides the key assigned using the radius-server key command. In this example, the host is radius2 and the key is HostKey.

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	Command	Purpose
Step 3	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host radius2 auth-port 2003</code>	Specifies the destination UDP port number to which the RADIUS authentication messages should be sent. In this example, the host is radius2 and the authentication port is 2003. The default authentication port is 1812, and the valid range is 0 to 65366.
Step 4	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host radius2 acct-port 2004</code>	Specifies the destination UDP port number to which RADIUS accounting messages should be sent. The default accounting port is 1813, and the valid range is 0 to 65366.
Step 5	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host radius2 accounting</code>	Specifies this server to be used only for accounting purposes. Note If neither the authentication nor the accounting options are specified, the server is used for both accounting and authentication purposes.
Step 6	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host radius2 key 0 abcd</code>	Specifies a clear text key for the specified server. The key is restricted to 64 characters.
	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host radius2 key 4 da3Asda2ioyuoIUH</code>	Specifies an encrypted key for the specified server. The key is restricted to 64 characters.

About the Default RADIUS Server Encryption Type and Preshared Key

You need to configure the RADIUS preshared key to authenticate the switch to the RADIUS server. The length of the key is restricted to 64 characters and can include any printable ASCII characters (white spaces are not allowed). You can configure a global key to be used for all RADIUS server configurations on the switch.

You can override this global key assignment by explicitly using the **key** option in the **radius-server host** command.

Configuring the Default RADIUS Server Encryption Type and Preshared Key

To configure the RADIUS preshared key, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	<code>switch# config t</code>	Enters configuration mode.

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	Command	Purpose
Step 2	switch(config)# radius-server key AnyWord	Configures a preshared key (AnyWord) to authenticate communication between the RADIUS client and server. The default is clear text.
	switch(config)# radius-server key 0 AnyWord	Configures a preshared key (AnyWord) specified in clear text (indicated by 0) to authenticate communication between the RADIUS client and server.
	switch(config)# radius-server key 7 abe4DFeewec00c	Configures a preshared key (specified in encrypted text) specified in encrypted text (indicated by 7) to authenticate communication between the RADIUS client and server.

Setting the RADIUS Server Timeout Interval

You can configure a global timeout value between transmissions for all RADIUS servers.



Note

If timeout values are configured for individual servers, those values override the globally configured values.

To specify the timeout values between retransmissions to the RADIUS servers, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius-server timeout 30	Configures the global timeout period in seconds for the switch to wait for a response from all TACACS+ servers before the switch declares a timeout failure. The time ranges from 1 to 1440 seconds.
	switch(config)# no radius-server timeout 30	Reverts the transmission time to the default value (1 second).

Setting Transmission Retry Count for the RADIUS Server

By default, a switch retries transmission to a RADIUS server only once before reverting to local authentication. You can increase this number up to a maximum of five retries per server. To specify the number of times that RADIUS servers should try to authenticate a user, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius-server retransmit 3	Configures the number of times (3) the switch tries to connect to a RADIUS server(s) before reverting to local authentication.
	switch(config)# no radius-server retransmit	Reverts to the default retry count (1).

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Configuring RADIUS Server Monitoring Parameters

You can configure parameters for monitoring RADIUS servers. You can configure this option to test the server periodically, or you can run a one-time only test.

This section includes the following topics:

- [Configuring the Test Idle Timer, page 34-12](#)
- [Configuring Test User Name, page 34-12](#)
- [Configuring the Dead Timer, page 34-13](#)

Configuring the Test Idle Timer

The test idle timer specifies the interval during which a RADIUS server receives no requests before the MDS switch sends out a test packet.



Note

The default idle timer value is 0 minutes. When the idle time interval is 0 minutes, periodic RADIUS server monitoring is not performed.

To configure the idle timer, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius-server host 10.1.1.1 test idle-time 20	Configures the test idle time interval value in minutes. The valid range is 1 to 1440 minutes.
Step 3	switch(config)# no radius-server host 10.1.1.1 test idle-time 20	Reverts to the default value (0 minutes).

Configuring Test User Name

You can configure a username and password for periodic RADIUS server status testing. You do not need to configure the test username and password to issue test messages to monitor RADIUS servers. You can use the default test username (test) and default password (test).



Note

We recommend that the test username not be the same as an existing username in the RADIUS database for security reasons.

To configure the optional username and password for periodic RADIUS server status testing, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.

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	Command	Purpose
Step 2	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host 10.1.1.1 test username testuser</code>	Configures the test user (testuser) with the default password (test). The default user name is test.
	<code>switch(config)# no radius-server host 10.1.1.1 test username testuser</code>	Removes the test user name (testuser).
	<code>switch(config)# radius-server host 10.1.1.1 test username testuser password Ur2Gd2BH</code>	Configures the test user (testuser) and assigns a strong password. For guidelines for creating strong passwords, see the “ Characteristics of Strong Passwords ” section on page 32-11.

Configuring the Dead Timer

The dead timer specifies the interval that the MDS switch waits, after declaring that a RADIUS server is dead, before sending out a test packet to determine if the server is now alive.



Note

The default dead timer value is 0 minutes. When the dead timer interval is 0 minutes, RADIUS server monitoring is not performed unless the RADIUS server is part of a server group and the dead-time interval for the group is greater than 0 minutes. (See the “[Server Groups](#)” section on page 34-4.)



Note

If the dead timer of a dead RADIUS server expires before it is sent a RADIUS test message, that server is marked as alive again even if it is still not responding. To avoid this scenario, configure a test user with a shorter idle time than the dead timer time.

To configure the dead timer, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	<code>switch# config t</code>	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	<code>switch(config)# radius-server deadtime 30</code>	Configures the dead timer interval value in minutes. The valid range is 1 to 1440 minutes.
Step 3	<code>switch(config)# no radius-server deadtime 30</code>	Reverts to the default value (0 minutes).

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Sending RADIUS Test Messages for Monitoring

You can manually send test messages to monitor a RADIUS server.

To send the test message to the RADIUS server, follow this step:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	<code>switch# test aaa server radius 10.10.1.1 test test</code>	Sends a test message to a RADIUS server using the default username (test) and password (test).
	<code>switch# test aaa server radius 10.10.1.1 testuser Ur2Gd2BH</code>	Sends a test message to a RADIUS server using a configured test username (testuser) and password (Ur2Gd2BH).
		Note A configured username and password is optional (see the “Configuring Test User Name” section on page 34-12).

About Users Specifying a RADIUS Server at Login

By default, an MDS switch forwards an authentication request to the first server in the RADIUS server group. You can configure the switch to allow the user to specify which RADIUS server to send the authenticate request by enabling the directed request option. If you enable this option, the user can log in as `username@hostname`, where the `hostname` is the name of a configured RADIUS server.

Allowing Users to Specify a RADIUS Server at Login

To allow users logging into an MDS switch to select a RADIUS server for authentication, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	<code>switch# config t</code>	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	<code>switch(config)# radius-server directed-request</code>	Allows users to specify a RADIUS server to send the authentication request when logging in.
	<code>switch(config)# no radius-server directed-request</code>	Reverts to sending the authentication request to the first server in the server group (default).

You can use the `show tacacs-server directed-request` command to display the RADIUS directed request configuration.

```
switch# show radius-server directed-request
disabled
```

About Vendor-Specific Attributes

The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) draft standard specifies a method for communicating vendor-specific attributes (VSAs) between the network access server and the RADIUS server. The IETF uses attribute 26. VSAs allow vendors to support their own extended attributes that are not suitable for

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general use. The Cisco RADIUS implementation supports one vendor-specific option using the format recommended in the specification. The Cisco vendor ID is 9, and the supported option is vendor type 1, which is named **cisco-avpair**. The value is a string with the following format:

```
protocol : attribute separator value *
```

Where **protocol** is a Cisco attribute for a particular type of authorization, **separator** is = (equal sign) for mandatory attributes, and * (asterisk) is for optional attributes.

When you use RADIUS servers to authenticate yourself to a Cisco MDS 9000 Family switch, the RADIUS protocol directs the RADIUS server to return user attributes, such as authorization information, along with authentication results. This authorization information is specified through VSAs.

VSA Format

The following VSA protocol options are supported by the Cisco SAN-OS software:

- **Shell** protocol—used in Access-Accept packets to provide user profile information.
- **Accounting** protocol—used in Accounting-Request packets. If a value contains any white spaces, it should be put within double quotation marks.

The following attributes are supported by the Cisco SAN-OS software:

- **roles**—This attribute lists all the roles to which the user belongs. The value field is a string storing the list of group names delimited by white space. For example, if you belong to roles **vsan-admin** and **storage-admin**, the value field would be “**vsan-admin storage-admin**”. This subattribute is sent in the VSA portion of the Access-Accept frames from the RADIUS server, and it can only be used with the shell protocol value. These are two examples using the roles attribute:

```
shell:roles="network-admin vsan-admin"
```

```
shell:roles*"network-admin vsan-admin"
```

When an VSA is specified as **shell:roles*"network-admin vsan-admin"**, this VSA is flagged as an optional attribute, and other Cisco devices ignore this attribute.

- **accountinginfo**—This attribute stores additional accounting information besides the attributes covered by a standard RADIUS accounting protocol. This attribute is only sent in the VSA portion of the Account-Request frames from the RADIUS client on the switch, and it can only be used with the accounting protocol-related PDUs.

Specifying SNMPv3 on AAA Servers

The vendor/custom attribute **cisco-av-pair** can be used to specify user's role mapping using the format:

```
shell:roles="roleA roleB ..."
```

If the roll option in the **cisco-av-pair** attribute is not set, the default user role is network-operator.

The VSA format optionally specifies your SNMPv3 authentication and privacy protocol attributes also as follows:

```
shell:roles="roleA roleB..." snmpv3:auth=SHA priv=AES-128
```

The SNMPv3 authentication protocol options are SHA and MD5. The privacy protocol options are AES-128 and DES. If these options are not specified in the **cisco-av-pair** attribute on the ACS server, MD5 and DES are used by default.

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Displaying RADIUS Server Details

Use the **show radius-server** command to display configured RADIUS parameters as shown in [Example 34-2](#).

Example 34-2 Displays Configured RADIUS Information

```
switch# show radius-server
Global RADIUS shared secret:*****
retransmission count:5
timeout value:10
following RADIUS servers are configured:
  myradius.cisco.users.com:
    available for authentication on port:1812
    available for accounting on port:1813
  172.22.91.37:
    available for authentication on port:1812
    available for accounting on port:1813
    RADIUS shared secret:*****
  10.10.0.0:
    available for authentication on port:1812
    available for accounting on port:1813
    RADIUS shared secret:*****
```

Example 34-3 Displays Configured RADIUS Server-Group Order

```
switch# show radius-server groups
total number of groups:4
following RADIUS server groups are configured:
  group radius:
    server: all configured radius servers
  group Group1:
    server: Server3 on auth-port 1812, acct-port 1813
    server: Server5 on auth-port 1812, acct-port 1813
  group Group5:
```

Displaying RADIUS Server Statistics

You can display RADIUS server statistics using the **show radius-server statistics** command.

Example 34-4 Displays RADIUS Server Statistics

```
switch# show radius-server statistics 10.1.3.2
Server is not monitored

Authentication Statistics
  failed transactions: 0
  successfull transactions: 0
  requests sent: 0
  requests timed out: 0
  responses with no matching requests: 0
  responses not processed: 0
  responses containing errors: 0

Accounting Statistics
  failed transactions: 0
```


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```
sucessfull transactions: 0
requests sent: 0
requests timed out: 0
responses with no matching requests: 0
responses not processed: 0
responses containing errors: 0
```

Configuring TACACS+

A Cisco MDS switch uses the Terminal Access Controller Access Control System Plus (TACACS+) protocol to communicate with remote AAA servers. You can configure multiple TACACS+ servers and set timeout values.

This section includes the following topics:

- [About TACACS+, page 34-17](#)
- [About TACACS+ Server Default Configuration, page 34-18](#)
- [About the Default TACACS+ Server Encryption Type and Preshared Key, page 34-18](#)
- [Enabling TACACS+, page 34-18](#)
- [Setting the TACACS+ Server Address, page 34-18](#)
- [Setting the Global Secret Key, page 34-20](#)
- [Setting the Timeout Value, page 34-20](#)
- [About TACACS+ Servers, page 34-21](#)
- [Sending TACACS+ Test Messages for Monitoring, page 34-23](#)
- [Password Aging Notification through TACACS+ Server, page 34-23](#)
- [About Users Specifying a TACACS+ Server at Login, page 34-24](#)
- [Allowing Users to Specify a TACACS+ Server at Login, page 34-24](#)
- [Defining Custom Attributes for Roles, page 34-24](#)
- [Displaying TACACS+ Server Details, page 34-25](#)

About TACACS+

TACACS+ is a client/server protocol that uses TCP (TCP port 49) for transport requirements. All switches in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family provide centralized authentication using the TACACS+ protocol. The TACACS+ has the following advantages over RADIUS authentication:

- Provides independent, modular AAA facilities. Authorization can be done without authentication.
- Uses the TCP transport protocol to send data between the AAA client and server, making reliable transfers with a connection-oriented protocol.
- Encrypts the entire protocol payload between the switch and the AAA server to ensure higher data confidentiality. The RADIUS protocol only encrypts passwords.

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About TACACS+ Server Default Configuration

Fabric Manager allows you to set up a default configuration that can be used for any TACACS+ server that you configure the switch to communicate with. The default configuration includes:

- Encryption type
- Preshared key
- Timeout value
- Number of retransmission attempts
- Allowing the user to specify a TACACS+ server at login

About the Default TACACS+ Server Encryption Type and Preshared Key

You need to configure the TACACS+ preshared key to authenticate the switch to the TACACS+ server. The length of the key is restricted to 64 characters and can include any printable ASCII characters (white spaces are not allowed). You can configure a global key to be used for all TACACS+ server configurations on the switch.

You can override this global key assignment by explicitly using the **key** option when configuring and individual TACACS+ server.

Enabling TACACS+

By default, the TACACS+ feature is disabled in all switches in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family. You must explicitly enable the TACACS+ feature to access the configuration and verification commands for fabric authentication. When you disable this feature, all related configurations are automatically discarded.

To enable TACACS+ for a Cisco MDS switch, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs+ enable	Enables the TACACS+ in this switch.
	switch(config)# no tacacs+ enable	Disables (default) the TACACS+ in this switch.

Setting the TACACS+ Server Address

If a secret key is not configured for a configured server, a warning message is issued if a global key is not configured. If a server key is not configured, the global key (if configured) is used for that server (see the “[Setting the Timeout Value](#)” section on page 34-20).



Note

You can use the dollar sign (\$) and the percent sign (%) in global secret keys.

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To configure the TACACS+ server IPv4 address and other options, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 171.71.58.91	Configures the TACACS+ server identified by the specified IPv4 address.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host 171.71.58.91	Deletes the specified TACACS+ server identified by the IPv4 address. By default, no server is configured.
Step 3	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 171.71.58.91 port 2	Configures the TCP port for all TACACS+ requests.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host 171.71.58.91 port 2	Reverts to the factory default of using port 49 for server access.
Step 4	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 171.71.58.91 key MyKey	Configures the TACACS+ server identified by the specified domain name and assigns the secret key.
Step 5	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 171.71.58.91 timeout 25	Configures the timeout period for the switch to wait for a response from the specified server before it declares a timeout failure.

To configure the TACACS+ server IPv6 address and other options, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A warning: no key is configured for the host	Configures the TACACS+ server identified by the specified IPv6 address.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A	Deletes the specified TACACS+ server identified by the IPv6 address. By default, no server is configured.
Step 3	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A port 2	Configures the TCP port for all TACACS+ requests.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A port 2	Reverts to the factory default of using port 49 for server access.
Step 4	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A key MyKey	Configures the TACACS+ server identified by the specified domain name and assigns the secret key.
Step 5	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A timeout 25	Configures the timeout period for the switch to wait for a response from the specified server before it declares a timeout failure.

To configure the TACACS+ server DNS name and other options, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server host host1.cisco.com warning: no key is configured for the host	Configures the TACACS+ server identified by the specified DNS name.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host host1.cisco.com	Deletes the specified TACACS+ server identified by the DNS name. By default, no server is configured.

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	Command	Purpose
Step 3	<code>switch(config)# tacacs-server host host1.cisco.com port 2</code>	Configures the TCP port for all TACACS+ requests.
	<code>switch(config)# no tacacs-server host host1.cisco.com port 2</code>	Reverts to the factory default of using port 49 for server access.
Step 4	<code>switch(config)# tacacs-server host host1.cisco.com key MyKey</code>	Configures the TACACS+ server identified by the specified domain name and assigns the secret key.
Step 5	<code>switch(config)# tacacs-server host host1.cisco.com timeout 25</code>	Configures the timeout period for the switch to wait for a response from the specified server before it declares a timeout failure.

Setting the Global Secret Key

You can configure global values for the secret key for all TACACS+ servers.



Note

If secret keys are configured for individual servers, those keys override the globally configured key.



Note

You can use the dollar sign (\$) and the percent sign (%) in global secret keys.

To set the secret key for TACACS+ servers, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	<code>switch# config t</code>	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	<code>switch(config)# tacacs-server key 7 3sdaA3daKUngd</code>	Assigns the global secret key (in encrypted format) to access the TACACS+ server. This example specifies 7 to indicate the encrypted format being used. If this global key and the individual server keys are not configured, clear text messages are sent to the TACACS+ server(s).
	<code>switch(config)# no tacacs-server key oldPword</code>	Deletes the configured global secret key to access the TACACS+ server and reverts to the factory default of allowing access to all configured servers.

Setting the Timeout Value

You can configure a global timeout value between transmissions for all TACACS+ servers.



Note

If timeout values are configured for individual servers, those values override the globally configured values.

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To set the global timeout value for TACACS+ servers, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# confi g t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server timeout 30	Configures the global timeout period in seconds for the switch to wait for a response from all TACACS+ servers before the switch declares a timeout failure. The time ranges from 1 to 1440 seconds.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server timeout 30	Deletes the configured timeout period and reverts to the factory default of 5 seconds.

About TACACS+ Servers

By default, the TACACS+ feature is disabled in all switches in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family. Fabric Manager or Device Manager enables the TACACS+ feature automatically when you configure a TACACS+ server.

If a secret key is not configured for a configured server, a warning message is issued if a global key is not configured. If a server key is not configured, the global key (if configured) is used for that server.



Note

Prior to Cisco MDS SAN-OS Release 2.1(2), you can use the dollar sign (\$) in the key but the key must be enclosed in double quotes, for example “k\$”. The percent sign (%) is not allowed. In Cisco MDS SAN-OS Release 2.1(2) and later, you can use the dollar sign (\$) without double quotes and the percent sign (%) in global secret keys.

You can configure global values for the secret key for all TACACS+ servers.



Note

If secret keys are configured for individual servers, those keys override the globally configured key.

Configuring TACACS+ Server Monitoring Parameters

You can configure parameters for monitoring TACACS+ servers.

This section includes the following topics:

- [Configuring the TACACS+ Test Idle Timer, page 34-21](#)
- [Configuring Test Username, page 34-22](#)
- [Configuring the Dead Timer, page 34-22](#)

Configuring the TACACS+ Test Idle Timer

The test idle timer specifies the interval during which a TACACS+ server receives no requests before the MDS switch sends out a test packet.



Note

The default idle timer value is 0 minutes. When the idle time interval is 0 minutes, periodic TACACS+ server monitoring is not performed.

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To configure the idle timer, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 10.1.1.1 test idle-time 20	Configures the test idle time interval value in minutes. The valid range is 1 to 1440 minutes.
Step 3	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host 10.1.1.1 test idle-time 20	Reverts to the default value (0 minutes).

Configuring Test Username

You can configure a username and password for periodic TACACS+ server status testing. You do not servers. You can use the default test username (test) and default password (test).

To configure the optional username and password for periodic TACACS+ server status testing, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 10.1.1.1 test username testuser	Configures the test user (testuser) with the default password (test). The default username is test.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server host 10.1.1.1 test username testuser	Removes the test user (testuser).
	switch(config)# tacacs-server host 10.1.1.1 test username testuser password Ur2Gd2BH	Configures the test user (testuser) and assigns a strong password. For guidelines for creating strong passwords, see the “Characteristics of Strong Passwords” section on page 32-11 .

Configuring the Dead Timer

The dead timer specifies the interval that the MDS switch waits, after declaring a TACACS+ server is dead, before sending out a test packet to determine if the server is now alive.



Note

The default dead timer value is 0 minutes. TACACS+ server monitoring is not performed if the dead timer interval is 0 minutes, unless the TACACS+ server is a part of a bigger group with the dead-time interval greater than 0 minutes. (See [“Configuring RADIUS” section on page 34-8](#).)



Note

If the dead timer of a dead TACACS+ server expires before it is sent a TACACS+ test message, that server is marked as alive again even if it is still not responding. To avoid this scenario, configure a test user with a shorter idle time than the dead timer time.

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To configure the dead timer, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server deadtime 30	Configures the dead-time interval value in minutes. The valid range is 1 to 1440 minutes.
Step 3	switch(config)# no tacacs-server deadtime 30	Reverts to the default value (0 minutes). Note When the dead-time interval is 0 minutes, TACACS+ server monitoring is not performed unless the TACACS+ server is part of a server group and the dead-time interval for the group is greater than 0 minutes. (See the “Configuring RADIUS” section on page 34-8.)

Sending TACACS+ Test Messages for Monitoring

You can manually send test messages to monitor a TACACS+ server.

To send the test message to the TACACS+ server, follow these steps:

Command	Purpose
switch# test aaa server tacacs+ 10.10.1.1 test test	Sends a test message to a TACACS+ server using the default username (test) and password (test).
switch# test aaa server tacacs+ 10.10.1.1 testuser Ur2Gd2BH	Sends a test message to a TACACS+ server using a configured test username and password. A configured username and password is optional (see the “Configuring Test Username” section on page 34-22).

Password Aging Notification through TACACS+ Server

Password aging notification is initiated when the user authenticates to a Cisco MDS 9000 switch via a TACACS+ account. The user is notified when a password is about to expire or has expired. If the password has expired, user is prompted to change the password.



Note

As of Cisco MDS SAN-OS Release 3.2(1), only TACACS+ supports password aging notification. If you try to use RADIUS servers by enabling this feature, RADIUSs will generate a SYSLOG message and authentication will fall back to the local database.

Password aging notification facilitates the following:

- Password change — You can change your password by entering a blank password.
- Password aging notification — Notifies password aging. Notification happens only if the AAA server is configured.
- Password change after expiration — Initiates password change after the old password expires. Initiation happens from the AAA server.

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To enable the password aging option in the AAA server, enter the following command:

```
aaa authentication login password-aging enable
```

To determine whether or not password aging notification is enabled or disabled in the AAA server, enter the following command:

```
show aaa authentication login password-aging
```

About Users Specifying a TACACS+ Server at Login

By default, an MDS switch forwards an authentication request to the first server in the TACACS+ server group. You can configure the switch to allow the user to specify which TACACS+ server to send the authenticate request. If you enable this feature, the user can log in as *username@hostname*, where the *hostname* is the name of a configured TACACS+ server.

Allowing Users to Specify a TACACS+ Server at Login

To allow users logging into an MDS switch to select a TACACS+ server for authentication, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs-server directed-request	Allows users to specify a TACACS+ server to send the authentication request when logging in.
	switch(config)# no tacacs-server directed-request	Reverts to sending the authentication request to the first server in the server group (default).

You can use the **show tacacs-server directed-request** command to display the TACACS+ directed request configuration.

```
switch# show tacacs-server directed-request
disabled
```

Defining Custom Attributes for Roles

Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches use the TACACS+ custom attribute for service shells to configure roles to which a user belongs. TACACS+ attributes are specified in **name=value** format. The attribute name for this custom attribute is **cisco-av-pair**. The following example illustrates how to specify roles using this attribute:

```
cisco-av-pair=shell:roles="network-admin vsan-admin"
```

You can also configure optional custom attributes to avoid conflicts with non-MDS Cisco switches using the same AAA servers.

```
cisco-av-pair*shell:roles="network-admin vsan-admin"
```

Additional custom attribute shell:roles are also supported:

```
shell:roles="network-admin vsan-admin"
```


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or

```
shell:roles*"network-admin vsan-admin"
```



Note

TACACS+ custom attributes can be defined on an Access Control Server (ACS) for various services (for example, shell). Cisco MDS 9000 Family switches require the TACACS+ custom attribute for the service shell to be used for defining roles.

Supported TACACS+ Server Parameters

The Cisco SAN-OS software currently supports the following parameters for the listed TACACS+ servers:

- TACACS+

```
cisco-av-pair=shell:roles="network-admin"
```

- Cisco ACS TACACS+

```
shell:roles="network-admin"
shell:roles*"network-admin"
cisco-av-pair*shell:roles="network-admin"
cisco-av-pair*shell:roles*"network-admin"
cisco-av-pair=shell:roles*"network-admin"
```

- Open TACACS+

```
cisco-av-pair*shell:roles="network-admin"
cisco-av-pair=shell:roles*"network-admin"
```

Displaying TACACS+ Server Details

Use the **show aaa** and **show tacacs-server** commands to display information about TACACS+ server configuration in all switches in the Cisco MDS 9000 Family as shown in Examples 34-5 to 34-10.

Example 34-5 Displays Configured TACACS+ Server Information

```
switch# show tacacs-server
Global TACACS+ shared secret:*****
timeout value:30
total number of servers:3

following TACACS+ servers are configured:
 171.71.58.91:
   available on port:2
 cisco.com:
   available on port:49
 171.71.22.95:
   available on port:49
   TACACS+ shared secret:*****
```

Example 34-6 Displays AAA Authentication Information

```
switch# show aaa authentication
default: group TacServer local none
console: local
iscsi: local
```

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```
dhchap: local
```

Example 34-7 Displays AAA Authentication Login Information

```
switch# show aaa authentication login error-enable
enabled
```

Example 34-8 Displays Configured TACACS+ Server Groups

```
switch# show tacacs-server groups
total number of groups:2

following TACACS+ server groups are configured:
  group TacServer:
    server 171.71.58.91 on port 2
  group TacacsServer1:
    server ServerA on port 49
    server ServerB on port 49:
```

Example 34-9 Displays All AAA Server Groups

```
switch# show aaa groups
radius
TacServer
```

Example 34-10 Displays TACACS+ Server Statistics

```
switch# show tacacs-server statistics 10.1.2.3
Server is not monitored

Authentication Statistics
  failed transactions: 0
  successful transactions: 0
  requests sent: 0
  requests timed out: 0
  responses with no matching requests: 0
  responses not processed: 0
  responses containing errors: 0

Authorization Statistics
  failed transactions: 0
  successful transactions: 0
  requests sent: 0
  requests timed out: 0
  responses with no matching requests: 0
  responses not processed: 0
  responses containing errors: 0

Accounting Statistics
  failed transactions: 0
  successful transactions: 0
  requests sent: 0
  requests timed out: 0
  responses with no matching requests: 0
  responses not processed: 0
  responses containing errors: 0
```

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Configuring Server Groups

You can specify one or more remote AAA servers to authenticate users using server groups. All members of a group must belong to the same protocol, either RADIUS or TACACS+. The servers are tried in the same order in which you configure them.

The AAA server monitoring feature can mark an AAA server as dead. You can configure a period of time in minutes to elapse before the switch sends requests to a dead AAA server. (See the “[AAA Server Monitoring](#)” section on page 34-5.)

You can configure these server groups at any time but they only take effect when you apply them to an AAA service. You configure AAA policies for CLI users or Fabric Manager or Device Manager users.

To configure a RADIUS server group, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# aaa group server radius RadServer switch(config-radius)#	Creates a server group named RadServer and enters the RADIUS server group configuration submode for that group.
	switch(config)# no aaa group server radius RadServer	Deletes the server group called RadServer from the authentication list.
Step 3	switch(config-radius)# server 10.71.58.91	Configures the RADIUS server at IPv4 address 10.71.58.91 to be tried first within the server group RadServer. Tip If the specified RADIUS server is not found, configure it using the radius-server host command and retry this command.
	switch(config-radius)# server 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A	Configures the RADIUS server at IPv6 address 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A to be tried first within the server group RadServer.
Step 4	switch(config-radius)# no server 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A	Removes the RADIUS server at IPv6 address 2001:0DB8:800:200C::417A from the server group RadServer.
	switch(config-radius)# exit	Returns to configuration mode.
Step 5	switch(config)# aaa group server radius RadiusServer switch(config-radius)#	Creates a server group named RadiusServer and enters the RADIUS server group configuration submode for that group.
Step 6	switch(config-radius)# server ServerA	Configures ServerA to be tried first within the server group called the RadiusServer1. Tip If the specified RADIUS server is not found, configure it using the radius-server host command and retry this command.
	switch(config-radius)# server ServerA	

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	Command	Purpose
Step 8	switch(config-radius)# server ServerB	Configures ServerB to be tried second within the server group RadiusServer1.
Step 9	switch(config-radius)# deadtime 30	Configures the monitoring dead time to 30 minutes. The range is 0 through 1440. Note If the dead-time interval for an individual RADIUS server is greater than 0, that value takes precedence over the value set for the server group.
	switch(config-radius)# no deadtime 30	Reverts to the default value (0 minutes). Note If the dead-time interval for both the RADIUS server group and an individual TACACS+ server in the RADIUS server group is set to 0, the switch does not mark the RADIUS server as dead when it is found to be unresponsive by periodic monitoring. Also, the switch does not perform dead server monitoring for that RADIUS server. (See the “ Configuring RADIUS Server Monitoring Parameters ” section on page 34-12.)

To verify the configured server group order, use the **show radius-server groups** command:

```
switch# show radius-server groups
total number of groups:2

following RADIUS server groups are configured:
  group RadServer:
    server 10.71.58.91 on port 2
  group RadiusServer1:
    server ServerA on port 49
    server ServerB on port 49:
```

To configure a TACACS+ server group, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# aaa group server tacacs+ TacacsServer1 switch(config-tacacs+)#	Creates a server group named TacacsServer1 and enters the submode for that group.
	switch(config)# no aaa group server tacacs+ TacacsServer1	Deletes the server group called TacacsServer1 from the authentication list.
Step 3	switch(config-tacacs+)# server ServerA	Configures ServerA to be tried first within the server group called the TacacsServer1. Tip If the specified TACACS+ server is not found, configure it using the tacacs-server host command and retry this command.

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	Command	Purpose
Step 4	<code>switch(config-tacacs+)# server ServerB</code>	Configures ServerB to be tried second within the server group TacacsServer1.
	<code>switch(config-tacacs+)# no server ServerB</code>	Deletes ServerB within the TacacsServer1 list of servers.
Step 5	<code>switch(config-tacacs+)# deadtime 30</code>	Configures the monitoring dead time to 30 minutes. The range is 0 through 1440. Note If the dead-time interval for an individual TACACS+ server is greater than 0, that value takes precedence over the value set for the server group.
	<code>switch(config-tacacs+)# no deadtime 30</code>	Reverts to the default value (0 minutes). Note If the dead-time interval for both the TACACS+ server group and an individual TACACS+ server in the TACACS+ server group is set to 0, the switch does not mark the TACACS+ server as dead when it is found to be unresponsive by periodic monitoring. Also, the switch does not perform dead server monitoring for that TACACS+ server. (See the “ Configuring TACACS+ Server Monitoring Parameters ” section on page 34-21 .)

AAA Server Distribution

Configuration for RADIUS and TACACS+ AAA on an MDS switch can be distributed using the Cisco Fabric Services (CFS). The distribution is disabled by default (see [Chapter 7, “Using the CFS Infrastructure”](#)).

After enabling the distribution, the first server or global configuration starts an implicit session. All server configuration commands entered thereafter are stored in a temporary database and applied to all switches in the fabric (including the originating one) when you explicitly commit the database. The various server and global parameters are distributed, except the server and global keys. These keys are unique secrets to a switch and should not be shared with other switches.



Note Server group configurations are not distributed.



Note For an MDS switch to participate in AAA server configuration distribution, it must be running Cisco MDS SAN-OS Release 2.0(1b) or later.

Enabling AAA Server Distribution

Only switches where distribution is enabled can participate in the distribution activity.

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To enable RADIUS server distribution, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius distribute	Enables RADIUS configuration distribution in this switch.
	switch(config)# no radius distribute	Disables RADIUS configuration distribution in this switch (default).

To enable TACACS+ server distribution, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs+ distribute	Enables TACACS+ configuration distribution in this switch.
	switch(config)# no tacacs+ distribute	Disables TACACS+ configuration distribution in this switch (default).

Starting a Distribution Session on a Switch

A distribution session starts the moment you begin a RADIUS/TACACS+ server or global configuration. For example, the following tasks start an implicit session:

- Specifying the global timeout for RADIUS servers.
- Specifying the global timeout for TACACS+ servers.



Note

After you issue the first configuration command related to AAA servers, all server and global configurations that are created (including the configuration that caused the distribution session start) are stored in a temporary buffer, not in the running configuration.

Displaying the Session Status

Once the implicit distribution session has started, you can check the session status. You see the **distribution status** on the CFS tab use the **show radius** command.

```
switch# show radius distribution status
distribution : enabled
session ongoing: yes
session owner: admin
session db: exists
merge protocol status: merge activation done
```

```
last operation: enable
last operation status: success
```

Once the implicit distribution session has started, you can check the session status using the **show tacacs+ distribution status** command.

```
switch# show tacacs+ distribution status
distribution : enabled
session ongoing: yes
session owner: admin
```

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```
session db: exists
merge protocol status: merge activation done
```

```
last operation: enable
last operation status: success
```

Displaying the Pending Configuration

To display the RADIUS or TACACS+ global and/or server configuration stored in the temporary buffer use the **show radius pending** command, follow these steps:

```
switch(config)# show radius pending-diff
+radius-server host testhost1 authentication accounting
+radius-server host testhost2 authentication accounting
```

To display the TACACS+ global and/or server configuration stored in the temporary buffer, use the **show tacacs+ pending** command.

```
switch(config)# show tacacs+ pending-diff
+tacacs-server host testhost3
+tacacs-server host testhost4
```

Committing the Distribution

The RADIUS or TACACS+ global and/or server configuration stored in the temporary buffer can be applied to the running configuration across all switches in the fabric (including the originating switch).

To commit RADIUS configuration changes, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius commit	Commits the RADIUS configuration changes to the running configuration.

To commit TACACS+ configuration changes, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs+ commit	Commits the TACACS+ configuration changes to the running configuration.

Discarding the Distribution Session

Discarding the distribution of a session in progress causes the configuration in the temporary buffer to be dropped. The distribution is not applied.

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To discard the RADIUS session-in-progress distribution, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# radius abort	Discards the RADIUS configuration changes to the running configuration.

To discard the TACACS+ session-in-progress distribution, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# tacacs+ abort	Discards the TACACS+ configuration changes to the running configuration.

To clear the ongoing CFS distribution session (if any) and to unlock the fabric for the RADIUS feature, enter the **clear radius session** command from any switch in the fabric.

```
switch# clear radius session
```

To clear the ongoing CFS distribution session (if any) and to unlock the fabric for the TACACS+ feature, enter the **clear tacacs+ session** command from any switch in the fabric.

```
switch# clear tacacs+ session
```

Merge Guidelines for RADIUS and TACACS+ Configurations

The RADIUS and TACACS+ server and global configuration are merged when two fabrics merge. The merged configuration is applied to CFS distribution-enabled switches.

When merging the fabric, be aware of the following conditions:

- The server groups are not merged.
- The server and global keys are not changed during the merge.
- The merged configuration contains all servers found on all CFS enabled switches.
- The timeout and retransmit parameters of the merged configuration are the largest values found per server and global configuration.



Caution

If there is a conflict between two switches in the server ports configured, the merge fails.

Use the **show radius distribution status** command to view the status of the RADIUS fabric merge as shown in [Example 34-11](#).

Example 34-11 Displays the RADIUS Fabric Merge Status

```
switch# show radius distribution status
distribution : enabled
session ongoing: no
session db: does not exist
merge protocol status: merge response received
merge error: conflict: server dmtest2 has auth-port 1812 on this switch and 1999
on remote
```


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```
last operation: enable
last operation status: success
```

Use the **show tacacs+ distribution status** command to view the status of the TACACS+ fabric merge as shown in [Example 34-12](#).

Example 34-12 Displays the TACACS+ Fabric Merge Status

```
switch# show tacacs+ distribution status
distribution : enabled
session ongoing: no
session db: does not exist
merge protocol status: merge activation done

last operation: enable
last operation status: success
```

MSCHAP Authentication

Microsoft Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol (MSCHAP) is the Microsoft version of CHAP. You can use MSCHAP for user logins to an MDS switch through a remote authentication server (RADIUS or TACACS+).

About Enabling MSCHAP

By default, the switch uses Password Authentication Protocol (PAP) authentication between the switch and the remote server. If you enable MSCHAP, you need to configure your RADIUS server to recognize the MSCHAP vendor-specific attributes. See the [“About Vendor-Specific Attributes”](#) section on [page 34-14](#). [Table 34-2](#) shows the RADIUS vendor-specific attributes required for MSCHAP.

Table 34-2 MSCHAP RADIUS Vendor-Specific Attributes

Vendor-ID Number	Vendor-Type Number	Vendor-Specific Attribute	Description
311	11	MSCHAP-Challenge	Contains the challenge sent by an AAA server to an MSCHAP user. It can be used in both Access-Request and Access-Challenge packets.
211	11	MSCHAP-Response	Contains the response value provided by an user in response to the challenge. It is only used in Access-Request packets.

To enable MSCHAP authentication, follow these steps:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	switch# config t	Enters configuration mode.
Step 2	switch(config)# aaa authentication login mschap enable	Enables MSCHAP login authentication.

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You can use the **show aaa authentication login mschap** command to display the MSCHAP authentication configuration.

```
switch# show aaa authentication login mschap
disabled
```

Local AAA Services

The system maintains the username and password locally and stores the password information in encrypted form. You are authenticated based on the locally stored user information. Use the **username** command to configure local users and their roles (see the “Configuring User Accounts” section on page 32-10).

Use the **show accounting log** command to view the local accounting log as shown in [Example 34-13](#).

Example 34-13 Displays the Accounting Log Information

```
switch# show accounting log

Sat Jan 24 03:22:06 1981:stop:snmp_349154526_171.71.58.69:admin:
Sat Jan 24 03:22:06 1981:start:snmp_349154526_171.71.58.69:admin:
Sat Jan 24 03:22:06 1981:update:snmp_349154526_171.71.58.69:admin:Added member [
  WWN: 21:00:00:20:37:a6:be:00 ID: 2] to zone test-27 on VSAN 1
...
Sat Jan 24 23:59:56 1981:stop:/dev/pts/0_349228792:root:shell terminated
Sun Jan 25 00:00:06 1981:start:/dev/pts/1_349228806:admin:
```

Disabling AAA Authentication

You can turn off password verification using the **none** option. If you configure this option, users can log in without giving a valid password. But the user should at least exist locally on the Cisco MDS 9000 Family switch.



Caution

Use this option cautiously. If configured, any user can access the switch at any time.

Use the **none** option in the **aaa authentication login** command to disable password verification.

A user created by entering the **username** command will exist locally on the Cisco MDS 9000 Family switch.

Displaying AAA Authentication

The **show aaa authentication** command displays the configured authentication methods as shown in [Example 34-14](#).

Example 34-14 Displays Authentication Information

```
switch# show aaa authentication

No AAA Authentication
```

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```
default: group TacServer local none
console: local none
iscsi: local
dhchap: local
```

Configuring Accounting Services

Accounting refers to the log information that is kept for each management session in a switch. This information may be used to generate reports for troubleshooting and auditing purposes. Accounting can be implemented locally or remotely (using RADIUS). The default maximum size of the accounting log is 250,000 bytes and cannot be changed.



Tip

The Cisco MDS 9000 Family switch uses interim-update RADIUS accounting-request packets to communicate accounting log information to the RADIUS server. The RADIUS server must be appropriately configured to log the information communicated in these packets. Several servers typically have log update/watchdog packets flags in the AAA client configuration. Turn on this flag to ensure proper RADIUS accounting.



Note

Configuration operations are automatically recorded in the accounting log if they are performed in configuration mode. Additionally, important system events (for example, configuration save and system switchover) are also recorded in the accounting log.

Displaying Accounting Configuration

To display configured accounting information use **show accounting** command. See Examples 34-15 to 34-17. To specify the size of the local accounting log to be displayed, use the **show accounting log** command. By default about 250 KB of accounting log is displayed.

Example 34-15 Displays Two Samples of Configured Accounting Parameters

```
switch# show accounting config
show aaa accounting
      default: local

switch# show aaa accounting
      default: group rad1
```

Example 34-16 Displays 60,000 Bytes of the Accounting Log

```
switch# show accounting log 60000
Fri Jan 16 15:28:21 1981:stop:snmp_348506901_64.104.131.208:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:17:04 1981:start:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:35:45 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group1
Fri Jan 16 21:35:51 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group1
Fri Jan 16 21:35:51 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group5
Fri Jan 16 21:35:55 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group5
```

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```
Fri Jan 16 21:35:55 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group3
Fri Jan 16 21:58:17 1981:start:snmp_348530297_171.71.150.105:admin:
...
```

Example 34-17 Displays the Entire Log File

```
switch# show accounting log
Fri Jan 16 15:28:21 1981:stop:snmp_348506901_64.104.131.208:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:17:04 1981:start:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:35:45 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group1
Fri Jan 16 21:35:51 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group1
Fri Jan 16 21:35:51 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group5
Fri Jan 16 21:35:55 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group5
Fri Jan 16 21:35:55 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group3
Fri Jan 16 21:58:17 1981:start:snmp_348530297_171.71.150.105:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:58:17 1981:stop:snmp_348530297_171.71.150.105:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:58:18 1981:start:snmp_348530298_171.71.150.105:admin:
Fri Jan 16 21:58:18 1981:stop:snmp_348530298_171.71.150.105:admin:
...
Fri Jan 16 23:37:02 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group3
Fri Jan 16 23:37:26 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated TACACS+ parameters for
group:TacacsServer1
Fri Jan 16 23:45:19 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated TACACS+ parameters for
group:TacacsServer1
Fri Jan 16 23:45:19 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group1
...
Fri Jan 16 23:53:51 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
server:Server3
Fri Jan 16 23:54:00 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
server:Server5
Fri Jan 16 23:54:22 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated TACACS+ parameters for
server:ServerA
Fri Jan 16 23:54:25 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated TACACS+ parameters for
server:ServerB
Fri Jan 16 23:55:03 1981:update:/dev/pts/0_348527824:admin:updated RADIUS parameters for
group:Group1
...
Sat Jan 17 00:01:41 1981:start:snmp_348537701_171.71.58.100:admin:
Sat Jan 17 00:01:41 1981:stop:snmp_348537701_171.71.58.100:admin:
Sat Jan 17 00:01:42 1981:start:snmp_348537702_171.71.58.100:admin:
Sat Jan 17 00:01:42 1981:stop:snmp_348537702_171.71.58.100:admin:
...
```

Clearing Accounting Logs

To clear out the contents of the current log, use the **clear accounting log** command.

```
switch# clear accounting log
```

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Configuring Cisco Access Control Servers

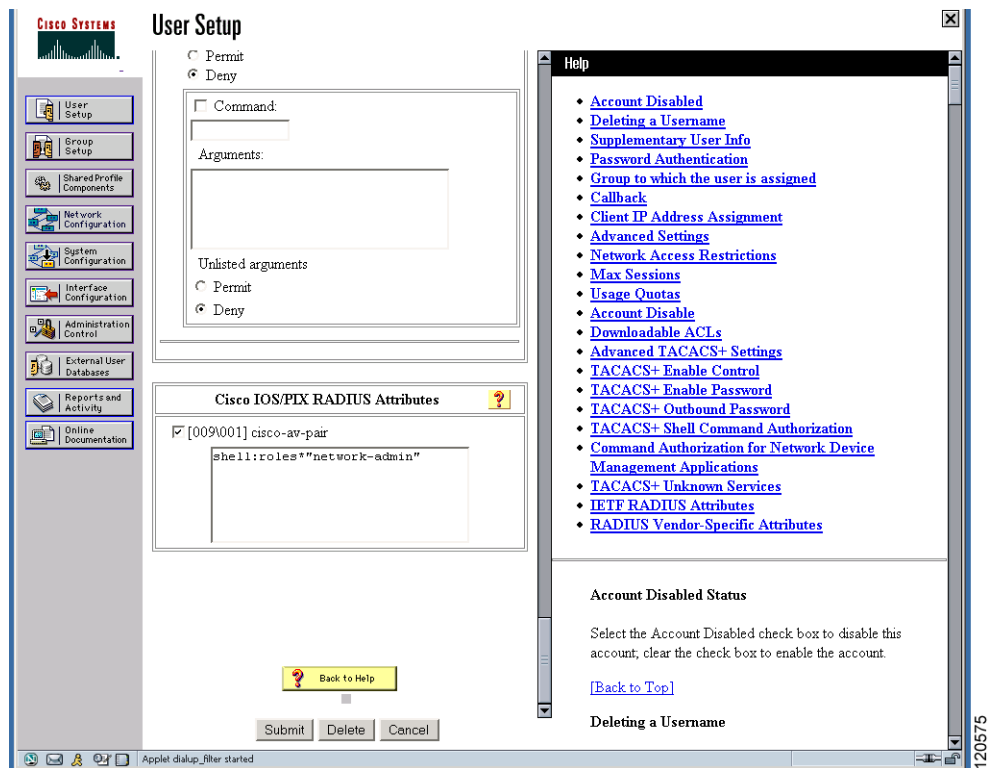
The Cisco Access Control Server (ACS) uses TACACS+ and RADIUS protocols to provide AAA services that ensure a secure environment. When using the AAA server, user management is normally done using Cisco ACS. [Figure 34-3](#), [Figure 34-4](#), [Figure 34-5](#), and [Figure 34-6](#) display ACS server user setup configurations for network-admin roles and multiple roles using either RADIUS or TACACS+.



Caution

Cisco MDS SAN-OS does not support all numeric usernames, whether created with RADIUS or TACACS+, or created locally. Local users with all numeric names cannot be created. If an all numeric user name exists on an AAA server and is entered during login, the user is not logged in.

Figure 34-3 Configuring the network-admin Role When Using RADIUS



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Figure 34-4 Configuring Multiple Roles with SNMPv3 Attributes When Using RADIUS

The screenshot shows the CiscoSecure ACS web interface for User Setup. The main content area is titled "User Setup" and includes the following sections:

- Per User Command Authorization:**
 - Unmatched Cisco IOS commands:
 - Permit
 - Deny
 - Command:
 - Arguments:
 - Unlisted arguments:
 - Permit
 - Deny
- Cisco IOS/PIX RADIUS Attributes:**
 - [009/001] cisco-av-pair
 - Attributes:


```
shell:roles="Role1 Role3 Role5
Role7"snmpv3:auth=MDS priv=DES
```

At the bottom of the main content area are buttons for "Submit", "Delete", and "Cancel".

On the right side, there is a "Help" panel with a list of links:

- [Account Disabled](#)
- [Deleting a Username](#)
- [Supplementary User Info](#)
- [Password Authentication](#)
- [Group to which the user is assigned](#)
- [Callback](#)
- [Client IP Address Assignment](#)
- [Advanced Settings](#)
- [Network Access Restrictions](#)
- [Max Sessions](#)
- [Usage Quotas](#)
- [Account Disable](#)
- [Downloadable ACLs](#)
- [Advanced TACACS+ Settings](#)
- [TACACS+ Enable Control](#)
- [TACACS+ Enable Password](#)
- [TACACS+ Outbound Password](#)
- [TACACS+ Shell Command Authorization](#)
- [Command Authorization for Network Device Management Applications](#)
- [TACACS+ Unknown Services](#)
- [IETF RADIUS Attributes](#)
- [RADIUS Vendor-Specific Attributes](#)

Below the links, there is a section titled "Account Disabled Status" with the text: "Select the Account Disabled check box to disable this account; clear the check box to enable the account." and a link "[Back to Top]".

At the bottom of the help panel, there is a section titled "Deleting a Username".

The status bar at the bottom of the browser window shows "Appllet dialup_filter started" and the number "120576" on the right side.

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Figure 34-5 Configuring the network-admin Role with SNMPv3 Attributes When Using TACACS+

The screenshot displays the Cisco User Setup web interface. The main content area is titled "TACACS+ Settings" and contains the following configuration options:

- PPP IP
- In access control list
- Out access control list
- Route
- Routing Enabled
- Custom attributes

Below these options is a note: "Note: PPP LCP will be automatically enabled if this service is enabled".

The "Shell (exec)" section includes the following options:

- Shell (exec)
- Access control list
- Auto command
- Callback line
- Callback rotary
- Idle time
- No callback verify Enabled
- No escape Enabled
- No hangup Enabled
- Privilege level
- Timeout
- Custom attributes

At the bottom of the settings area, the following configuration commands are displayed:

```
cisco-av-pair=shell:roles="Role1
Role3"snmpv3:auth=MDS |priv=DES
```

Buttons for "Submit", "Delete", and "Cancel" are located at the bottom of the settings area.

On the right side of the interface, a "Help" panel is visible, listing various links such as "Account Disabled", "Deleting a Username", "Supplementary User Info", "Password Authentication", "Group to which the user is assigned", "Callback", "Client IP Address Assignment", "Advanced Settings", "Network Access Restrictions", "Max Sessions", "Usage Quotas", "Account Disable", "Downloadable ACLs", "Advanced TACACS+ Settings", "TACACS+ Enable Control", "TACACS+ Enable Password", "TACACS+ Outbound Password", "TACACS+ Shell Command Authorization", "Command Authorization for Network Device Management Applications", "TACACS+ Unknown Services", "IETF RADIUS Attributes", and "RADIUS Vendor-Specific Attributes".

Below the help panel, the "Account Disabled Status" section contains the text: "Select the Account Disabled check box to disable this account; clear the check box to enable the account." and a "[Back to Top]" link.

The "Deleting a Username" section contains the text: "The Delete button appears only when you are editing an..."

The interface also features a left-hand navigation menu with options like "User Setup", "Group Setup", "Shared Profile Components", "Network Configuration", "System Configuration", "Interface Configuration", "Administration Control", "External User Databases", "Reports and Activity", and "Online Documentation".

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Figure 34-6 Configuring Multiple Roles with SNMPv3 Attributes When Using TACACS+

User Setup

TACACS+ Settings

PPP IP

In access control list

Out access control list

Route

Routing Enabled

Custom attributes

Note: PPP LCP will be automatically enabled if this service is enabled

Shell (exec)

Access control list

Auto command

Callback line

Callback rotary

Idle time

No callback verify Enabled

No escape Enabled

No hangup Enabled

Privilege level

Timeout

Custom attributes

```
cisco-av-pair*shell:roles=
network-admin'snmpv3:auth=md5
priv=aes-128
```

Submit Delete Cancel

Help

- [Account Disabled](#)
- [Deleting a Username](#)
- [Supplementary User Info](#)
- [Password Authentication](#)
- [Group to which the user is assigned](#)
- [Callback](#)
- [Client IP Address Assignment](#)
- [Advanced Settings](#)
- [Network Access Restrictions](#)
- [Max Sessions](#)
- [Usage Quotas](#)
- [Account Disable](#)
- [Downloadable ACLs](#)
- [Advanced TACACS+ Settings](#)
- [TACACS+ Enable Control](#)
- [TACACS+ Enable Password](#)
- [TACACS+ Outbound Password](#)
- [TACACS+ Shell Command Authorization](#)
- [Command Authorization for Network Device Management Applications](#)
- [TACACS+ Unknown Services](#)
- [IETF RADIUS Attributes](#)
- [RADIUS Vendor-Specific Attributes](#)

Account Disabled Status

Select the Account Disabled check box to disable this account; clear the check box to enable the account.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Deleting a Username

The Delete button appears only when you are editing

Default Settings

Table 34-3 lists the default settings for all switch security features in any switch.

Table 34-3 Default Switch Security Settings

Parameters	Default
Roles in Cisco MDS switches	Network operator (network-operator)
AAA configuration services	Local
Authentication port	1821
Accounting port	1813
Preshared key communication	Clear text

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Table 34-3 *Default Switch Security Settings (continued)*

Parameters	Default
RADIUS server timeout	1 (one) second
RADIUS server retries	Once
RADIUS server directed requests	Disabled
TACACS+	Disabled
TACACS+ servers	None configured
TACACS+ server timeout	5 seconds
TACACS+ server directed requests	Disabled
AAA server distribution	Disabled
Accounting log size	250 KB

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