



# Configuring Unidirectional Ethernet

This chapter describes how to configure Unidirectional Ethernet on the Catalyst 4500 series switch.



**Note**

For complete syntax and usage information for the commands used in this chapter, refer to the *Catalyst 4500 Series Switch Cisco IOS Command Reference* and the publications at this URL: <http://www.cisco.com/univercd/cc/td/doc/product/software/ios121/121cgcr/index.htm>

You can set non-blocking GigaPorts to unidirectionally transmit or receive traffic. Unidirectional Ethernet uses only one strand of fiber for either transmitting or receiving one-way traffic for the GigaPort, instead of two strands of fiber for a full-duplex GigaPort Ethernet. Configuring your GigaPorts either to transmit or receive traffic effectively doubles the amount of traffic capabilities for applications, such as video streaming, where most traffic is sent as unacknowledged unidirectional video broadcast streams.



**Note**

Enabling Unidirectional Ethernet on the non blocking GigaPort will automatically disable UDLD on the port.

To enable Unidirectional Ethernet, perform this task:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	Switch(config)# <b>interface</b> {vlan vlan_ID   {fastethernet   gigabitethernet} slot/interface   Port-channel number}	Selects the interface to configure.
Step 2	Switch(config-if)# [no] <b>unidirectional</b> {send-only   receive-only}	Enables Unidirectional Ethernet. Use the <b>no</b> keyword to disable Unidirectional Ethernet.
Step 3	Switch(config-if)# <b>end</b>	Exits configuration mode.
Step 4	Switch# <b>show interface</b> {vlan vlan_ID   {fastethernet   gigabitethernet} slot/interface} <b>unidirectional</b>	Verifies the configuration.

This example shows how to set Gigabit Ethernet interface 1/1 to unidirectionally send traffic:

```
Switch# configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Switch(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/1
Switch(config-if)# end
```

Warning!

Enable 12 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable port udd.  
You must manually ensure that the unidirectional link does not create  
a spanning tree loop in the network.

Enable 13 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable ip routing  
on the port. You must manually configure static ip route and arp entry  
in order to route ip traffic.

This example shows how to set Gigabit Ethernet interface 1/1 to receive traffic unidirectionally:

```
Switch# configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Switch(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/1
Switch(config-if)# end
```

Warning!

Enable 12 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable port udd.  
You must manually ensure that the unidirectional link does not create  
a spanning tree loop in the network.

Enable 13 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable ip routing  
on the port. You must manually configure static ip route and arp entry  
in order to route ip traffic.

This example shows how to verify the configuration

```
Switch>show interface gigabitethernet 1/1 unidirectional
  show interface gigabitethernet 1/1 unidirectional
  Unidirectional configuration mode: send only
  CDP neighbour unidirectional configuration mode: receive only
```

This example shows how to disable Unidirectional Ethernet on Gigabit Ethernet interface 1/1:

```
Switch# configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Switch(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/1
Switch(config-if)# no unidirectional
Switch(config-if)# end
```

This example shows the result of issuing the **show interface** command for a port that does not support unidirectional ethernet:

```
Switch#show interface f6/1 unidirectional
Unidirectional Ethernet is not supported on FastEthernet6/1
```