



Overview of Cisco VT Advantage

This section provides an overview of Cisco VT Advantage and includes the following topics:

- [Overview of Cisco VT Advantage](#)
- [How Calls Work with Cisco VT Advantage](#)
- [Cisco VT Advantage Application Components](#)
- [Cisco VT Advantage Hardware and Software Requirements](#)

Overview of Cisco VT Advantage

Cisco VT Advantage brings video telephony functionality to Cisco IP Phones 7940G, 7960G, and 7970G. The Cisco VT Advantage application software coupled with the Cisco VT Camera, a Universal Serial Bus (USB) camera, allows a personal computer (PC) connected to a Cisco IP Phone to add video to phone calls without requiring any extra button-pushing or mouse-clicking. When registered to Cisco CallManager, the Cisco VT Advantage-enabled Cisco IP Phone has the features and functionality of a full-featured IP videophone. Call features like call forward, transfer, conference, hold, and mute are available with video — and are all initiated through the Cisco IP Phone. Cisco VT Advantage is intended for desktop-to-desktop IP video telephony environments, not as a general purpose video conferencing solution for use in conference rooms.

How Calls Work with Cisco VT Advantage

You can use your Cisco IP Phone as you normally do. The Cisco VT Advantage application is controlled from the personal computer (PC) connected directly to the Access port labelled “10/100 PC” on the back of a Cisco IP Phone.

Here is a brief overview of how placing and answering calls works with Cisco VT Advantage.



Note

For more information about the *Cisco VT Advantage* application, refer to the *Cisco VT Advantage User Guide*, which is available from the Cisco VT Advantage link online:

http://www.cisco.com/univercd/cc/td/doc/product/voice/c_ipphon/index.htm

Placing Calls

If...	Then...
Cisco VT Advantage is running on your PC and on the PC of the person you are calling	When you place or answer a call, two video windows open on your PC. You will see yourself in the Local Video window and you will see the person you are calling in the Remote Video window.
Cisco VT Advantage is set to Receive-Only mode on your PC	When you place a call, you will see the person you are calling in the Remote Video window. The Local Video window does not display.
The person you are calling has set Cisco VT Advantage to Receive-Only mode	When you place a call, you will see yourself in the Local Video window and you will see a blank image in the Remote Video window.

Answering Calls

If...	Then...
Cisco VT Advantage is running on your PC and on the PC of the person whose call you are answering	When you answer a call, two video windows open on your PC. You will see yourself in the Local video window and you will see the caller in the Remote Video window.
Cisco VT Advantage is set to Receive-Only mode on your PC	When you answer a call, you will see the caller in the Remote Video window. The Local Video window does not display.
The person whose call you are answering has set Cisco VT Advantage to Receive-Only mode	When you answer a call, you will see yourself in the Local Video window and you will see a blank image in the Remote Video window.


Note

When Cisco VT Advantage is not running on your PC or on the PC of the remote caller, then the call functions like a regular phone call without video.

Cisco VT Advantage Application Components

The Cisco VT Advantage application includes the following major components.

Component	Description
Cisco Discovery Protocol (CDP) Driver	The CDP driver transmits and receives device information so that the Cisco VT Advantage application can determine the IP address of the Cisco IP Phone to which it is connected and associate to that phone.
Cisco IP Phone firmware	Firmware release that supports video on the Cisco IP Phone 7940G, 7960G, and 7970G models.

Component	Description
Cisco Media Termination Driver	<p>The Cisco Media Termination Driver is a Windows kernel mode driver that is responsible for timely processing of media packets – both video and audio. It does this in real time so that voice and video are properly rendered.</p> <p>The Cisco Media Termination driver is used by the Cisco VT Advantage application to perform several tasks, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interfacing to the USB capture devices (when available) • Transmitting and receiving video RTP packets • Routing video stream data to the appropriate software video frame decoders
Cisco VT Advantage Win32 Application	<p>This application performs the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enables and manages the video window display • Communicates with the Cisco Media Termination and Cisco Discovery Protocol (CDP) drivers • Communicates with the Cisco CallManager using a Cisco IP Phone as an Skinny Client Control Protocol (SCCP) proxy • Discovers the associated Cisco IP Phone using CDP • Connects to the Cisco IP Phone using the Cisco Audio Session Tunnel (CAST) protocol • Indirectly communicates with Cisco CallManager and remote endpoints via CAST messages sent to the Cisco IP Phone • Responds to events from a Cisco IP Phone • Creates and manages system tray icons • Creates and displays the system tray popup messages for status feedback to the user
Software Video Decoders and Encoders	Includes: H.263 and Cisco VT Camera wideband

Cisco VT Advantage Hardware and Software Requirements

This section details the hardware and software requirements for Cisco VT Advantage.

Hardware Requirements

Cisco VT Advantage requires the following hardware:

- Cisco VT Camera
- Personal Computer (PC)
- Cisco IP Phones 7940G, 7960G, 7970G

Cisco VT Camera

Must be installed and connected to the PC on which the Cisco VT Advantage application is installed. For more information about setting up the Cisco VT Camera, see the [“Setting Up the Cisco VT Camera”](#) section on [page 3-8](#).

Personal Computer (PC) on which the Cisco VT Advantage Application is Installed.

Must meet these specifications:

PC Feature	Requirement
Operating system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Windows 2000 Professional with service pack 3.0 or later Windows XP Professional with service pack 1.0 or later
CPU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.0 GHz or higher Pentium III or compatible processor (Streaming SIMD Extensions support required) 1.4 GHz or higher compatible processor recommended
System memory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 256 MB minimum
Free disk space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 MB
USB port	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 1 free USB (1.1 or 2.0) port
Video display	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video capable graphics card at 800 x 600 x 16 bit or better
Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10/100 Mbit Ethernet NIC

Cisco IP Phones 7940G, 7960G, and 7970G

Cisco VT Advantage is supported on the Cisco IP Phone 7940G, 7960G, and 7970G models. For more information about configuring the phones for Cisco VT Advantage, see the [“Configuring Cisco IP Phones for Cisco VT Advantage” section on page 2-8.](#)

Software Requirements

Cisco VT Advantage requires the following software:

- Cisco VT Advantage application
- Cisco CallManager Release 4.0(1), Service Release 2 or higher

Cisco VT Advantage Application

Must be installed on the PC connected directly to the Cisco IP Phone. For more information about installing Cisco VT Advantage, see the [“Installing the Cisco VT Advantage Application”](#) section on page 3-11.

Cisco CallManager Release 4.0(1), Service Release 2 or higher

Cisco VT Advantage requires Cisco CallManager to handle video call processing on the Cisco IP Phones. For more information about configuring Cisco CallManager for Cisco VT Advantage, see the [“Configuring Cisco CallManager for Cisco VT Advantage”](#) section on page 2-5.

