



Release Notes for Cisco Aironet Workgroup Bridges Running Firmware Release 8.84

May 9, 2003

These release notes describe features and caveats contained in the firmware maintenance release 8.84 for Cisco Aironet Workgroup Bridges. These release notes also contain important information about the device.

Contents

These release notes describe the following topics:

- [Introduction, page 2](#)
- [System Requirements, page 2](#)
- [Upgrading to a New Firmware Release, page 2](#)
- [New Features, page 3](#)
- [Installation Notes, page 4](#)
- [Important Notes, page 4](#)
- [Caveats, page 5](#)
- [Troubleshooting, page 6](#)
- [Documentation Updates, page 6](#)
- [Related Documentation, page 7](#)
- [Obtaining Documentation, page 7](#)
- [Obtaining Technical Assistance, page 8](#)



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

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Introduction

Workgroup bridges are small, standalone units that provide wireless infrastructure connections for Ethernet-enabled devices. A device connected to a bridge communicates with a network infrastructure through Cisco Aironet Access Points.

The workgroup bridge connects to a hub through a standard Ethernet port using a 10BASE-T/RJ-45 (twisted pair) connector, and up to eight client devices can be connected to the hub. You can use an Internet browser or Telnet to configure the workgroup bridge.

System Requirements

You must have a Cisco Aironet 350 Series Workgroup Bridge to install firmware version 8.84.

Minimum Firmware Version Required on Access Points

Access points with which the workgroup bridge associates must contain firmware version 11.06 or later.

Upgrading to a New Firmware Release

Finding the Firmware Version

The firmware version number is in the upper-left corner of most management screens in the web-browser interface and at the top of the home (Summary Status) page in the command-line interface.

Upgrade Procedure

For instructions on installing access point and bridge firmware:

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- Step 1** Follow this link to the Software Center on Cisco.com and download firmware version 8.84:
<http://www.cisco.com/public/sw-center/sw-wireless.shtml>
 - Step 2** Select **Option #1: Aironet Wireless Software Selector**. The Aironet Wireless Software Selector window appears.
 - Step 3** Click the drop-down arrow to view the valid values for the Product Type field.
 - Step 4** Click **Workgroup Bridge**.
 - Step 5** Click **Submit**. The Step 2 of 3 page appears.
 - Step 6** Click the drop-down arrow to view the valid values in the Model Number field.
 - Step 7** Select the model number of your workgroup bridge.
 - Step 8** Click **Submit**. The Step 3 of 3 page appears.
 - Step 9** To download the current release, click the **Current Release (Recommended)** radio button.
 - Step 10** Click **Submit**. The software selector displays the categories you selected and lists the available download methods.

- Step 11** Review your selections. If you want to change anything, use your browser's back button to return to the previous software selector page.
 - Step 12** When you are ready to download the firmware, go to the Standard Installation section and click **Workgroup Bridge Bundle**. The Aironet Software Selector encryption authorization form appears.
 - Step 13** Complete the required fields on the authorization form and check the boxes indicating agreement with the download agreement.
 - Step 14** Type your name exactly as you entered it in the First Name and Last Name fields.
 - Step 15** Click **Submit**. The Software Download Software License Agreement page appears.
 - Step 16** Review the license agreement and click **Accept**. The File Download window appears.
 - Step 17** Click **Save** and select a location on your system to download the file to.
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New Features

This section describes new features in firmware version 8.84.

EAP Authentication Requires Matching 802.1X Protocol Drafts



Note

This section applies to wireless networks set up to use LEAP. If you do not use LEAP on your wireless network, you can skip this section.

Wireless client devices use Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP) to log onto a network and generate a dynamic, client-specific WEP key for the current logon session. If you use Network-EAP authentication on your wireless network, your client devices and access points must use the same 802.1X protocol draft. Version 8.84 requires the 802.1X-2001 draft.

Use the Authenticator Configuration page in the access point firmware to select the draft of the 802.1X protocol the access point radio should use.

Follow these steps to set the draft for your access point.

- Step 1** Browse to the Authenticator Configuration page in the access point management system.
 - a. On the Summary Status page, click **Setup**.
 - b. On the Setup page, click **Security**.
 - c. On the Security Setup page, click **Authentication Server**.
 - Step 2** Use the 802.1X Protocol Version (for EAP authentication) drop-down menu to select the 802.1X-2001 draft
 - Step 3** Click **Apply** or **OK** to apply the setting. The access point reboots.
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Installation Notes

Verify Mounting Hole Measurement

If you make a photocopy of the mounting template (included in *Mounting Instructions for the Cisco Aironet Access Points, Base Stations, and Workgroup Bridges with Plastic Cases*), make sure that the distance between the holes is 4 3/4 in. (12.06 cm) before you drill the holes. Some photocopy machines do not make exact duplicates of the original.

Important Notes

Cisco Aironet Software Requires Completion of Encryption Authorization Form

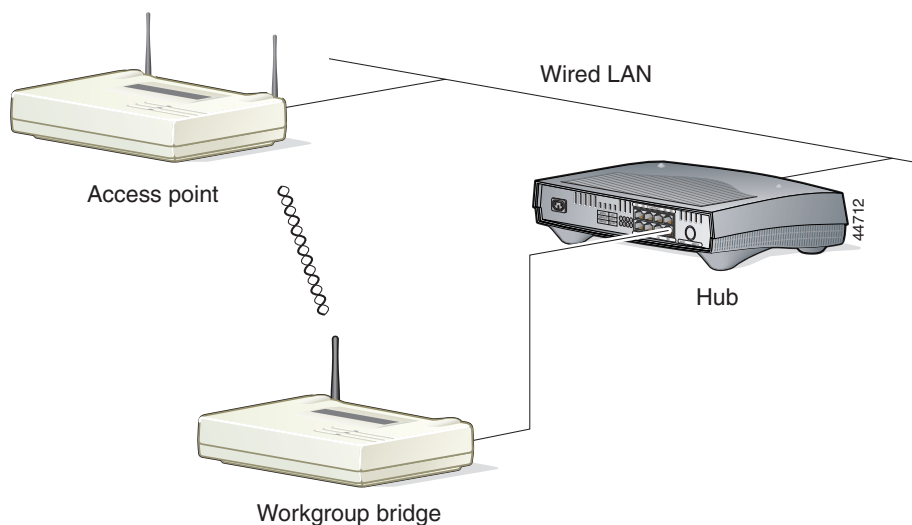
In order to access Cisco Aironet software from the Software Center on Cisco.com, you must now fill out a form to receive authorization to download encrypted software. Registered Cisco.com users are required to fill out the form only once, while public users must do so once each session, each time software is downloaded. A form is automatically created for public users. The form for registered Cisco.com users is located at the following URL:

http://www.cisco.com/cgi-bin/Software/Crypto/crypto_main.pl

Bridge Loop May Occur with Incorrect Network Topology

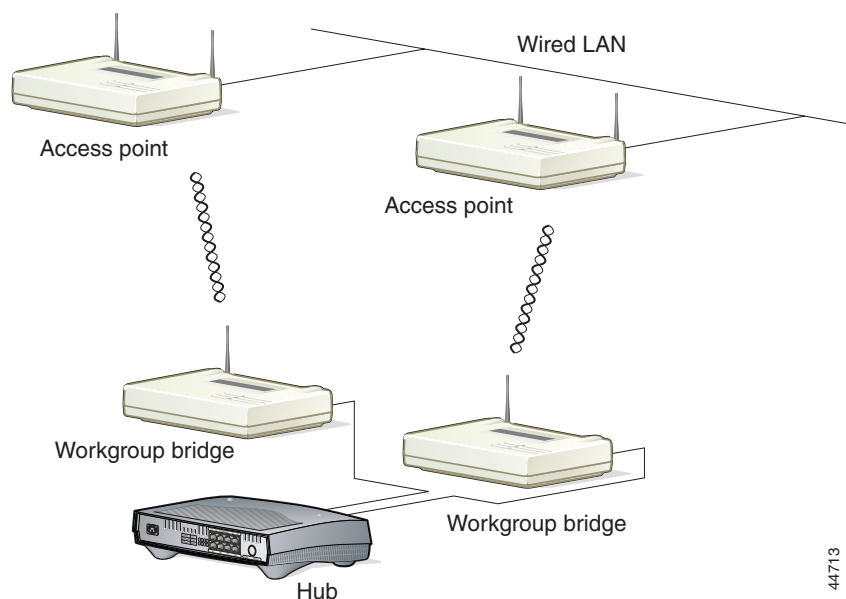
If the workgroup bridge is connected to the wired LAN and is communicating with an access point on the same LAN, a network problem known as a *bridge loop* can occur. Avoid a bridge loop by disconnecting the workgroup bridge from the wired LAN immediately after you configure it. Figure 1 shows the network configuration in which the loop occurs.

Figure 1 Bridge Loop Caused by a Workgroup Bridge Connected to the Wired LAN



A bridge loop can also occur if two or more workgroup bridges are connected to the same remote hub. To prevent this bridge loop, always connect only one workgroup bridge to a remote hub. Figure 2 shows the network configuration in which the loop occurs.

Figure 2 Bridge Loop Caused by Two Workgroup Bridges on the Same Remote Hub



44713

Caveats

This section describes open and resolved caveats for firmware version 8.84.

Getting Bug Information on Cisco.com

If you are a Cisco.com registered user, you can use the Cisco TAC Software Bug Toolkit to identify existing bugs (or caveats) in Cisco software products. Access the TAC Software Bug Toolkit at:

<http://www.cisco.com/support/bugtools/>.

Open Caveats

The following caveats have not been resolved in version 8.84:

- CSCea59101—After a period of time, signal strength test does not display.

After having been in operation for approximately one day, the signal strength test does not display a signal level bar.

Workaround: If possible, perform a warm boot.

- CSCea64630—Workgroup bridge resets to factory defaults.

Condition may occur if workgroup bridge is removed from the network or after losing association with the access point.

There is no workaround for this caveat.

Resolved Caveats

The following caveats were resolved in firmware version 8.84:

- CSCea24527—INET filter setting remains in workgroup bridge configuration when the unit is power cycled.
- CSCdy34205—Client no longer loses its connection every 5 minutes.
- CSCdz43801—Workgroup bridge association table now refreshes the MAC address correctly.
- CSCdz67727—Workgroup bridge no longer loses association to access point, eliminating the need for a reset.

Troubleshooting

For the most up-to-date, detailed troubleshooting information, refer to the Cisco TAC website at <http://www.cisco.com/tac>. Select **Wireless LAN** under Top Issues.

Documentation Updates

This section describes errors, omissions, and changes in user documentation for workgroup bridges.

Stale Out Time Setting

The workgroup bridge's management system includes a Wired LAN stale out time setting on the Configuration > Ethernet page. Use this setting to control the number of seconds the workgroup bridge continues to track a device in its association table when the device is inactive. Enter a value between 5 and 1000 seconds. (Five minutes equals 300 seconds; ten minutes equals 600 seconds.)

If the same devices are always connected to the workgroup bridge, enter **5** for the staleout time setting. If the devices connected to the workgroup bridge change frequently, enter **300** (equal to five minutes) for the staleout time setting. If you unplug the Ethernet cable from the workgroup bridge and plug it back in, the workgroup bridge removes all devices from its association table and re-learns them regardless of the stale out time setting.

Related Documentation

Use the following documents with this document:

- *Quick Start Guide: Cisco Aironet Workgroup Bridges*
- *Cisco Aironet Workgroup Bridge Hardware Installation Guide*
- *Cisco Aironet Workgroup Bridge Software Configuration Guide*

Obtaining Documentation

Cisco provides several ways to obtain documentation, technical assistance, and other technical resources. These sections explain how to obtain technical information from Cisco Systems.

Cisco.com

You can access the most current Cisco documentation on the World Wide Web at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/univercd/home/home.htm>

You can access the Cisco website at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com>

International Cisco websites can be accessed from this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/public/countries_languages.shtml

Documentation CD-ROM

Cisco documentation and additional literature are available in a Cisco Documentation CD-ROM package, which may have shipped with your product. The Documentation CD-ROM is updated regularly and may be more current than printed documentation. The CD-ROM package is available as a single unit or through an annual or quarterly subscription.

Registered Cisco.com users can order a single Documentation CD-ROM (product number DOC-CONDOCCD=) through the Cisco Ordering tool:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/partner/ordering/ordering_place_order_ordering_tool_launch.html

All users can order monthly or quarterly subscriptions through the online Subscription Store:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/subscription>

Ordering Documentation

You can find instructions for ordering documentation at this URL:

http://www.cisco.com/univercd/cc/td/doc/es_inpk/pdi.htm

You can order Cisco documentation in these ways:

- Registered Cisco.com users (Cisco direct customers) can order Cisco product documentation from the Networking Products MarketPlace:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/partner/ordering/index.shtml>

- Nonregistered Cisco.com users can order documentation through a local account representative by calling Cisco Systems Corporate Headquarters (California, U.S.A.) at 408 526-7208 or, elsewhere in North America, by calling 800 553-NETS (6387).

Documentation Feedback

You can submit comments electronically on Cisco.com. On the Cisco Documentation home page, click **Feedback** at the top of the page.

You can e-mail your comments to bug-doc@cisco.com.

You can submit comments by using the response card (if present) behind the front cover of your document or by writing to the following address:

Cisco Systems
Attn: Customer Document Ordering
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-9883

We appreciate your comments.

Obtaining Technical Assistance

Cisco provides Cisco.com, which includes the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) website, as a starting point for all technical assistance. Customers and partners can obtain online documentation, troubleshooting tips, and sample configurations from the Cisco TAC website. Cisco.com registered users have complete access to the technical support resources on the Cisco TAC website, including TAC tools and utilities.

Cisco.com

Cisco.com offers a suite of interactive, networked services that let you access Cisco information, networking solutions, services, programs, and resources at any time, from anywhere in the world.

Cisco.com provides a broad range of features and services to help you with these tasks:

- Streamline business processes and improve productivity
- Resolve technical issues with online support
- Download and test software packages
- Order Cisco learning materials and merchandise

- Register for online skill assessment, training, and certification programs

To obtain customized information and service, you can self-register on Cisco.com at this URL:

<http://tools.cisco.com/RPF/register/register.do>

Technical Assistance Center

The Cisco TAC is available to all customers who need technical assistance with a Cisco product, technology, or solution. Two types of support are available: the Cisco TAC website and the Cisco TAC Escalation Center. The type of support that you choose depends on the priority of the problem and the conditions stated in service contracts, when applicable.

We categorize Cisco TAC inquiries according to urgency:

- Priority level 4 (P4)—You need information or assistance concerning Cisco product capabilities, product installation, or basic product configuration. There is little or no impact to your business operations.
- Priority level 3 (P3)—Operational performance of the network is impaired, but most business operations remain functional. You and Cisco are willing to commit resources during normal business hours to restore service to satisfactory levels.
- Priority level 2 (P2)—Operation of an existing network is severely degraded, or significant aspects of your business operations are negatively impacted by inadequate performance of Cisco products. You and Cisco will commit full-time resources during normal business hours to resolve the situation.
- Priority level 1 (P1)—An existing network is “down,” or there is a critical impact to your business operations. You and Cisco will commit all necessary resources around the clock to resolve the situation.

Cisco TAC Website

The Cisco TAC website provides online documents and tools to help troubleshoot and resolve technical issues with Cisco products and technologies. To access the Cisco TAC website, go to this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/tac>

All customers, partners, and resellers who have a valid Cisco service contract have complete access to the technical support resources on the Cisco TAC website. Some services on the Cisco TAC website require a Cisco.com login ID and password. If you have a valid service contract but do not have a login ID or password, go to this URL to register:

<http://tools.cisco.com/RPF/register/register.do>

If you are a Cisco.com registered user, and you cannot resolve your technical issues by using the Cisco TAC website, you can open a case online at this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/tac/caseopen>

If you have Internet access, we recommend that you open P3 and P4 cases online so that you can fully describe the situation and attach any necessary files.

Cisco TAC Escalation Center

The Cisco TAC Escalation Center addresses priority level 1 or priority level 2 issues. These classifications are assigned when severe network degradation significantly impacts business operations. When you contact the TAC Escalation Center with a P1 or P2 problem, a Cisco TAC engineer automatically opens a case.

To obtain a directory of toll-free Cisco TAC telephone numbers for your country, go to this URL:

<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/687/Directory/DirTAC.shtml>

Before calling, please check with your network operations center to determine the Cisco support services to which your company is entitled: for example, SMARTnet, SMARTnet Onsite, or Network Supported Accounts (NSA). When you call the center, please have available your service agreement number and your product serial number.

Obtaining Additional Publications and Information

Information about Cisco products, technologies, and network solutions is available from various online and printed sources.

- The *Cisco Product Catalog* describes the networking products offered by Cisco Systems, as well as ordering and customer support services. Access the *Cisco Product Catalog* at this URL:
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_catalog_links_launch.html
- Cisco Press publishes a wide range of networking publications. Cisco suggests these titles for new and experienced users: *Internetworking Terms and Acronyms Dictionary*, *Internetworking Technology Handbook*, *Internetworking Troubleshooting Guide*, and the *Internetworking Design Guide*. For current Cisco Press titles and other information, go to Cisco Press online at this URL:
<http://www.ciscopress.com>
- *Packet* magazine is the Cisco quarterly publication that provides the latest networking trends, technology breakthroughs, and Cisco products and solutions to help industry professionals get the most from their networking investment. Included are networking deployment and troubleshooting tips, configuration examples, customer case studies, tutorials and training, certification information, and links to numerous in-depth online resources. You can access *Packet* magazine at this URL:
<http://www.cisco.com/go/packet>
- iQ Magazine is the Cisco bimonthly publication that delivers the latest information about Internet business strategies for executives. You can access iQ Magazine at this URL:
<http://www.cisco.com/go/iqmagazine>
- Internet Protocol Journal is a quarterly journal published by Cisco Systems for engineering professionals involved in designing, developing, and operating public and private internets and intranets. You can access the Internet Protocol Journal at this URL:
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/about/ac123/ac147/about_cisco_the_internet_protocol_journal.html
- Training—Cisco offers world-class networking training. Current offerings in network training are listed at this URL:
http://www.cisco.com/en/US/learning/le31/learning_recommended_training_list.html



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