

## Cisco Catalyst 2960, 3560, and 3750 Series Switches Software Update

This edition of the Cisco switching podcast series talks about primary Cisco IOS Software features for the Cisco Catalyst 3000 and 2000 switches and the latest Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2(44)SE.

[http://cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/switches/networking\\_solutions\\_products\\_generic\\_content0900aecd805f25cc.html](http://cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/switches/networking_solutions_products_generic_content0900aecd805f25cc.html)

**Vivian:** Hello, everyone. I'm Vivian Clark, from Network Systems Marketing at Cisco. Thanks for tuning in to this edition of our online LAN switching update.

Today's session will cover the new 12.2(44)SE IOS Software release and the key value-added features available for the Catalyst 2960, 3560, 3560-E, 3750, 3750-E fixed-configuration switching families.

With me today is Tom Zingale, Product Manager from the Desktop Switching Business Unit.

Welcome, Tom!

**Tom:** Thanks, Vivian, glad to be here.

**Vivian:** The new Cisco IOS 12.2(44)SE software release just arrived in January. Please tell us about this new release.

**Tom:** Sure. The release includes new manageability and multicast features, IPv6 enhancements, and something called enhanced PoE for wireless deployments.

**Vivian:** That's great, Tom. Can you tell us more about the manageability enhancements available today?

**Tom:** Yes. One of the key features that are now available is called autoinstall configuration and image update. Autoinstall traditionally is used to download config files, but now it's been enhanced to add images as well. So now you can effectively plug and play a switch and download a configuration file and an image file. This obviously reduces switch deployment times.

**Vivian:** Does autoinstall require other servers in the network?

**Tom:** Good question, Vivian. Yes, TFTP and DHCP servers are needed for the configuration download and IP address allocation. The TFTP and DHCP servers can be embedded within the switch, or they can be actually standalone.

**Vivian:** Wow, this feature should really save time and expense of deploying new switches in the network. How about customers needing help with network performance monitoring?

**Tom:** There is a capability that has been available on the routers for some time named IP SLAs. IP SLAs allow end-to-end performance measurements and helps users deploy QoS, VoIP, and network-based applications. IP SLAs are now available on the Catalyst 2K, 3K, 3K-E switches.

**Vivian:** Talking about ease of management, would you please quickly cover the enhancements in IPv6?

**Tom:** Well, there are some new network management features now available for IPv6, including syslog, SNMP, and HTTP Web transport over v6. This adds to the current IPv6 host capability to give the user all the management support needed to deploy an IPv6 network. These features are available at no cost in the IP Base feature set.

**Vivian:** Tom, more and more media-rich applications and services are being implemented in networks. How can customers extend these services such as video to the network edge?

**Tom:** Well, many customers wanting corporate communications and video replication across the campus network will use multicast. Multicast replicates the data, allowing efficient use of the network bandwidth.

Multicast protocols are optimized for many-to-many conversations such as a videoconference or one-to-many communications such as a CEO corporate message to the employees.

Cisco has just released source-specific multicast, SSM, for the Catalyst fixed-configuration access switches.

**Vivian:** Tom, what are the key advantages of SSM?

**Tom:** SSM is easier to deploy than the traditional multicast PIM that requires rendezvous point, or RP. SSM is optimized for one-to-many applications such as corporate video communications, making video much easier to deploy in the Cisco network.

**Vivian:** Great! Just to summarize what we've talked about here:

First, a new release of IOS Software, 12.2(44)SE, is now available.

Second, customers can save time and expense when deploying new switches using the autoinstall feature. Also, new management features such as IP SLAs and IPv6 comprehensive management are available on the Catalyst fixed switches through the new IOS release.

Third, customers interested in deploying video should look at source-specific multicast (SSM) for one-to-many applications such as corporate video.

**Tom:** That's right, Vivian.

**Vivian:** Thanks for sharing all this information with us, Tom. Is there a Website that we can visit to learn further?

**Tom:** Yes, you can find out more about the business benefits and technology behind our offering at <http://www.cisco.com/go/switching>.

**Vivian:** Well, that wraps it up for today. Thanks for listening.



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