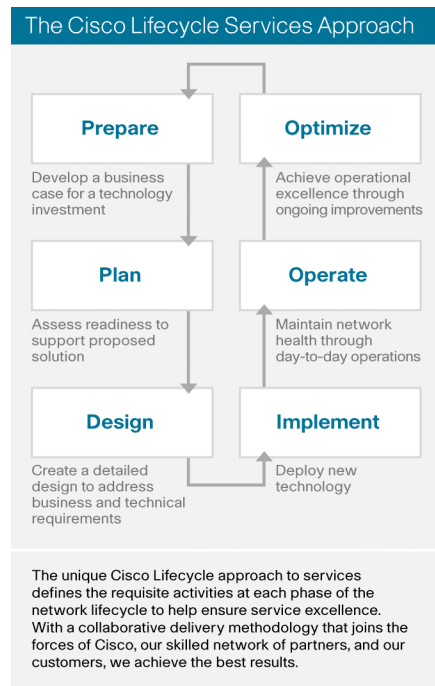


Cisco Wireless LAN 802.11n Migration Service

Simplify the migration to high-performance, next-generation 802.11n wireless.



Challenge

Business users and the communications industry as a whole have long anticipated the introduction of next-generation wireless networks enabled by 802.11n. This new technology adds to the existing arsenal of 802.11 standards for wireless networking, supporting more users and applications on a scalable and high-performing wireless network.

802.11n offers numerous benefits for the next generation of wireless networks, particularly for environments using bandwidth-intensive applications; those that are running latency-sensitive and jitter-sensitive multimedia applications, such as voice and video; and environments that offer guest access or must otherwise accommodate a variety of heterogeneous client devices.

Migrating to 802.11n and integrating this new high-performing solution transparently with your wired network calls for detailed planning and a solid understanding of the business and technical requirements. Expert guidance can help you realize success in securing the network and preparing your operational environment to optimize the performance of future mobility services.

Solution

Cisco and our Wireless LAN Specialized Partners offer a broad portfolio of end-to-end services that help you take full advantage of the throughput, reliability, and coverage predictability of higher-speed WLAN technologies, including 802.11n. These services are based on deep knowledge and proven methodologies for planning and deploying a variety of secure voice and data wireless network solutions, technologies, and strategies. This knowledge is gained through years of experience designing and deploying some of the world's most complex enterprise-level wireless networks. Cisco Wireless LAN Specialized Partners bring application expertise to help deliver a secure enterprise mobility solution with a lower total cost of ownership.

Most changes to the network are a response to a change in business. When you already have a Cisco® Unified Wireless Network in place, you are starting with a sound, scalable network design. This service will give you a clear view of your business and technical requirements and then confirm that your architecture, physical sites, and operations are ready to support migration to 802.11n.

The 802.11n Migration Service helps you successfully migrate to a high-performing wireless solution by helping you align business objectives and technical capabilities, identify gaps, and address critical concerns. This service includes six activities to help you successfully deploy 802.11n:

- Business and technical requirements development
- Network architecture review
- Site readiness assessment
- Operational readiness assessment
- Onsite pilot validation
- Migration plan review

Business and Technical Requirements Development

An excellent first step when migrating to 802.11n is documenting the business requirements that are introducing the need for change and aligning technical requirements to them. Cisco engineers can help you quickly and accurately identify the business objectives that have bearing on the requirements for your new wireless network and then translate them into technical requirements.

Network Architecture Review

Identifying gaps in your existing network architecture early in the migration planning process can prevent common challenges such as wireless security gaps, incomplete coverage, and other performance issues. Cisco engineers work with your networking staff to assess your existing architecture and business applications in detail to gauge network's ability to support 802.11n.

Site Readiness Assessment

Assessing the readiness of your physical location is the most critical step toward reducing deployment costs, missteps, and delays. We use assessments, customized site survey templates, and best-practice checklists to help you define site environmental, RF spectrum planning and usage, power, and physical requirements and provide a remediation plan to help you prepare your site for solution implementation.

Operational Readiness Assessment

To best realize the performance benefits of an 802.11n solution and reduce network operations costs, your operations staff must be ready and able to effectively support and maintain the solution. The operational readiness assessment helps you gauge the current state of the people, processes, and tools in your support infrastructure relative to proven best-practice benchmarks. A remediation plan provides recommendations for improving your operations staff's productivity and ability to support your solution.

Onsite Pilot Validation

Because migration usually happens in production environments, testing your migration procedure in 802.11n prior to implementation can be the difference between an efficient, successful migration and costly project delays. With an onsite or lab-based pilot of your migration you can identify gaps or challenges early and avoid problems when migrating to your live environment. Cisco can lead you through the process, helping you to:

- Configure a wireless LAN controller for the pilot or lab environment
- Migrate up to 10 access points to 802.11n
- Validate the wireless LAN controller configuration, Mobility Services Engine (MSE), and the new access point operating system image
- Test and validate client security configurations
- Validate the performance of two or three critical applications

Migration Plan Review

Having a sound migration plan is critical to a smooth, fast, and efficient implementation of a next-generation wireless solution. We compare your migration project plan against proven Cisco and industry methodologies for deploying wireless LAN solutions and make recommendations for improving the plan's alignment with leading practices.

When all access points in your production environment have been smoothly migrated to a controller based infrastructure and wireless network service continuity is preserved to the fullest extent possible, the migration can be viewed as a success. Whether a migration of your architecture from a Cisco IOS Software-based solution to a Cisco controller-based solution, or your migration to a next-generation controller, Cisco engineers or a Cisco Wireless LAN Specialized Partner can work with your networking team to provide support during critical implementation activities including:

- Migration of your production access points to a controller-based infrastructure
- Migration of your legacy access points to 802.11n
- Implementation of the Cisco WLAN Controller or migration to a next-generation controller
- Implementation of a Cisco Wireless Control System

We help you to quickly and effectively deal with any challenges that may arise, shortening migration time and providing a smooth introduction of your Cisco Unified Wireless solution.

Benefits

The 802.11n Migration Service helps reduce the complexity of migrating to an 802.11n solution by providing Cisco experience, knowledge, tools, and leading practices during the most critical stages of the migration.

In addition, this service helps you to:

- Effectively evolve your network to respond to the changing business environment by developing business and technical requirements
- Prevent common challenges and reduce deployment costs by assessing the readiness of your physical location and identifying gaps in your existing network architecture early in the migration planning process
- Gain software and network stability recommendations

- Optimize RF environment to support optimal performance for client devices and mission-critical business applications
- Improve operational efficiency by working with your network operations staff to address gaps in your wireless LAN operational support models through ongoing knowledge transfer throughout service delivery

Why Cisco Services

Cisco Services make networks, applications, and the people who use them work better together.

Today, the network is a strategic platform in a world that demands better integration between people, information, and ideas. The network works better when services, together with products, create solutions aligned with business needs and opportunities.

The unique Cisco Lifecycle approach to services defines the requisite activities at each phase of the network lifecycle to help ensure service excellence. With a collaborative delivery methodology that joins the forces of Cisco, our skilled network of partners, and our customers, we achieve the best results.

For More Information

For more information about Cisco Wireless LAN Services and migration to 802.11n, visit www.cisco.com/go/wirelesslanservices or contact your local account representative.

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