

How Cisco IT Architected Headquarters MAN

Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series Switch and Gigabit Ethernet provide platform for campus standard and support for future applications.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

- Scalable for next-generation applications
- Easier management and troubleshooting
- Reduced downtime
- Faster speeds for greater productivity
- Capable of handling IP telephony and IP video

“The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series is a ‘Swiss Army knife’ platform.”

– **Craig Huegen, Chief architect for the global Cisco IT network**

By the late 1990s, phenomenal growth at the Cisco Systems® San Jose, Calif. headquarters had taken its toll. The Cisco LAN had two sites that were two-thirds of a mile apart—the original Tasman campus and the new Zanker campus. 50 locations within and between these two sites needed to be efficiently and cost-effectively connected. In addition, Cisco was preparing for an internal deployment of IP telephony, which promised to dramatically lower telecommunications costs but would add new bandwidth pressures to an already strained network.

The varied network infrastructure at Cisco presented challenges. There was no standard across the enterprise; without that, network management had become increasingly demanding. It wasn’t possible to determine the effects that adding new applications would have on network traffic and on the network itself. And with IP telephony looming,

Cisco IT needed to rethink network design across the San Jose sites.

A threefold solution was needed. First, Cisco IT needed to plan and deploy better connectivity between the two campuses. Second, the team had to develop a single-platform standard that would support the growing demands for data, voice, and new applications. Finally, Cisco IT needed to build a network that would be well-positioned for future applications.

Two technologies provided the answers—Gigabit Ethernet and Cisco Catalyst® 6500 Series switches. Cisco opted to run Gigabit Ethernet on the LAN between all switches. This had several advantages—it would guarantee plentiful bandwidth and would free Cisco IT from provisioning or running new fiber for a long time. And Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series switches offered both routing and switching capabilities—a plus for standardization and lower costs. More, the Catalyst 6500 switches were well prepared to support future service capabilities.

“Gigabit Ethernet is an attractive technology on which to deploy intranets, extranets, and enterprise client-server applications on a very large scale.” – Core Competence Consulting

Cisco users have seen huge benefits. With gigabit connectivity, they can move files faster. They have faster access to the data center. And IP phones—with more and better features than their analog cousins—sit on every desk.

A platform that provides both standardization and freedom to add strategic solutions.

Case Study: http://www.cisco.com/en/US/about/ciscoitnetwork/case_studies/routing_dl3.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To read the entire case study or for additional Cisco IT case studies on a variety of business solutions, visit Cisco on Cisco: Inside Cisco IT www.cisco.com/go/ciscoit

NOTE

This publication describes how Cisco has benefited from the deployment of its own products. Many factors may have contributed to the results and benefits described; Cisco does not guarantee comparable results elsewhere.

CISCO PROVIDES THIS PUBLICATION AS IS WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Some jurisdictions do not allow disclaimer of express or implied warranties, therefore this disclaimer may not apply to you.



Americas Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-1706
USA
www.cisco.com
Tel: 408 526-4000
800 553-NETS (6387)
Fax: 408 527-0883

Asia Pacific Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.
168 Robinson Road
#28-01 Capital Tower
Singapore 068912
www.cisco.com
Tel: +65 6317 7777
Fax: +65 6317 7799

Europe Headquarters
Cisco Systems International BV
Haarlerbergpark
Haarlerbergweg 13-19
1101 CH Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www-europe.cisco.com
Tel: +31 0 800 020 0791
Fax: +31 0 20 357 1100

Cisco has more than 200 offices worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Website at www.cisco.com/go/offices.

©2007 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved. CCVP, the Cisco logo, and the Cisco Square Bridge logo are trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc.; Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn is a service mark of Cisco Systems, Inc.; and Access Registrar, Aironet, BPX, Catalyst, CCDA, CCDP, CCIE, CCIP, CCNA, CCNP, CCSP, Cisco, the Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert logo, Cisco IOS, Cisco Press, Cisco Systems, Cisco Systems Capital, the Cisco Systems logo, Cisco Unity, Enterprise/Solver, EtherChannel, EtherFast, EtherSwitch, Fast Step, Follow Me Browsing, FormShare, GigaDrive, HomeLink, Internet Quotient, IOS, iPhone, IP/TV, iQ Expertise, the iQ logo, iQ Net Readiness Scorecard, iQuick Study, LightStream, Linksys, MeetingPlace, MGX, Networking Academy, Network Registrar, Packet, PIX, ProConnect, ScriptShare, SMARTnet, StackWise, The Fastest Way to Increase Your Internet Quotient, and TransPath are registered trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the United States and certain other countries.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document or Website are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (0705R)