Cisco WAAS Express

Overview

Cisco® Wide Area Application Services (WAAS) Express (Figure 1) extends the Cisco WAAS product portfolio with a small-footprint, cost-effective solution based on Cisco IOS® Software and integrated into the Cisco Integrated Services Router Generation 2 (ISR G2) routers to offer bandwidth optimization and application acceleration capabilities. Cisco WAAS Express increases remote user productivity, reduces WAN bandwidth costs, and offers investment protection by interoperating with existing Cisco WAAS infrastructure. Cisco WAAS Express is unique in providing network transparency, improving deployment flexibility with on-demand service enablement, and integrating with native Cisco IOS Software services such as security, NetFlow, and quality of service (QoS).

Cisco WAAS Express is fully interoperable with Cisco WAAS Modules for Services-Ready Engine (SRE) and Cisco WAAS appliances and can be managed by a common Cisco WAAS core appliance and management console (Cisco WAAS Central Manager), providing investment protection for your existing Cisco WAAS devices and offering a simple solution.

Cisco WAAS Express is fully integrated into Cisco IOS Software, with no additional hardware required (the maximum DRAM is needed in the router). This integration allows significant savings in capital expenditures (CapEx) by enabling a small-footprint branch–office deployment.

The Cisco WAAS Express Advantage

• **Investment protection and simplicity:** Cisco WAAS Express supports mixed-mode branch–office deployments with Cisco WAAS appliances, Cisco WAAS Modules for SRE, and Cisco ISR G2 routers integrated with Cisco WAAS Express, all with a common Cisco WAAS core appliance and management console (Cisco WAAS Central Manager), providing investment protection for your existing Cisco WAAS devices and offering a simple solution.

• **Small branch–office footprint:** Deployed as part of your network, a single router can handle your WAN optimization, security, voice, and routing requirements.

• **Branch–office cost control:** As part of your network, a single router can handle your WAN optimization, security, voice, and routing requirements.

• **Bandwidth optimization:** Cisco WAAS Express is well suited for organizations that require bandwidth optimization and fast delivery of data over low-speed, high-latency WAN links from data centers. Cisco WAAS Express provides the best value on smaller links such as T1, E1, 3G, and serial links. Typical WAN links supported range from 2 to 10 Mbps.

Main Features of Cisco WAAS Express

• **Bandwidth optimization:** Cisco WAAS Express helps ensure branch–office productivity by employing bandwidth optimization and by mitigating the effects of WAN latency and transferring data more quickly.

• **Fast button on the router:** A single command-line interface (CLI) command on the router enables Cisco WAAS Express, thereby greatly simplifying deployment. Also, traffic redirection is not necessary because Cisco WAAS Express is in line with other Cisco IOS Software services.

• **Deployment flexibility and on-demand services:** Cisco WAAS Express offers deployment flexibility by enabling simple upgrades to Cisco WAAS Modules for SRE as business needs change. Though a feature license in Cisco IOS Software, customers have the flexibility to turn on Cisco WAAS Express remotely when required, thus allowing on-demand service enablement.

For More Information