The Cisco® Catalyst® 6500 Series Switches offer an extremely high level of manageability, security, scalability, and investment protection, resulting in lower total cost of ownership (TCO) for wiring closet deployments. Leading industry transitions in the wiring closet, the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series switching platform will be the basis for the Cisco Campus Communications Fabric (CCF) going forward.

**Operational Manageability**
The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series offers tools to help you easily monitor and manage your network:

- Easy configuration: Cisco Smartports, Cisco IOS® Software AutoQoS, and Cisco AutoSecure for simplified autoprovisioning
- Embedded Event Manager (EEM) and Smart Call Home for automatic management and service notifications

**Right Size Solution at the Right Price**
The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series leads innovation:

- Pioneering multigigabit Deep Packet Inspection in hardware for security and compliance
- Performance optimized for next-generation applications such as video and Telepresence
- Deployment flexibility and backward compatibility
- Rich baseline offering with manageability, security, and scalability

The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series protects your investment:

- Price optimized for typical deployments of 96 or more ports
- Minimal incremental costs to enable features over base offering

**Timeline of Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series Industry Leading Innovation**

- IPv6 in Hardware
- Power over Ethernet (IEEE 802.3at)
- Software Modularity
- Application Intelligence
- Power over Ethernet Plus* (IEEE 802.3at)

**Operational Manageability**

- Link Layer Discovery Protocol (LLDP) - LLDP Media Endpoint Discovery (LLDP-MED) and Cisco Discovery Protocol for intelligent management of media devices
- Integrated NetFlow for localized traffic monitoring and security
- Encapsulated Remote Switched Port Analyzer (ERSPAN) for remote network analysis (such as voice traffic recording and monitoring) and troubleshooting

Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series: Optimized for Wiring Closet Deployments

Application Intelligence and Integrated Security
The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series offers pervasive application intelligence and integrated security on the new Cisco Catalyst 6500 Supervisor Engine 32 PISA, facilitating the following unique capabilities to manage network traffic:

- Web application quality of service (QoS)
- Peer-to-peer application control
- Simple classification of Layer 4 through 7 packets, including rich media applications
- Programmability for customized user-defined application filters
- Full packet length inspection to filter day-zero attacks
- Repository of well-known application and security filters provided by Cisco

Supervisor Engine 32 PISA with 8x1GE OR 2x10GE Uplinks

High availability with modular operating system; system redundancy

Easy configuration; easy automanagement with EEM and Smart Call Home

High security with Deep Packet Inspection

Modularity for scalability and flexibility

Unified Network Access
The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series platform provides enhanced services to deploy converged networks:

- Consistent services and policies for data, voice, video, and wireless applications
- IPv4, IPv6, and IP Multicast in hardware for performance

Nonstop Communications
The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series offers high-availability and network-resiliency features to maximize uptime, especially because the wiring closet is the first single point of potential failure for business-critical and media applications:

- Maximum redundant components for reduced downtime: Cisco IOS Software Modularity for fault containment
- Nonstop Forwarding/Stateful Switchover (NSF/SSO) for stateful subsecond recovery in Layer 2 and 3 environments
- Integrated Generic Online Diagnostics (GOLD) for automated system monitoring

Virtualization
The Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series provides virtualization to partition the network into independent, secure environments:

- Access control in the wiring closet to provide a complete virtualization solution in the enterprise
- Application- or user-based classification for flexibility in partitioning
- Generic routing encapsulation (GRE) tunnels, Multi-Virtual Route Forwarding (Multi-VRF), and Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) VPNs to provide path isolation

In summary, the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Series switching platform continues to provide technical innovation with operational manageability, application intelligence, integrated security, nonstop communications, unified network access, and virtualization to support evolving enterprise traffic. Novel features of the platform such as innovation protection and upgradability, long lifecycle, and price optimization for high-port-density configurations make it a compelling value proposition for the wiring closet.

“We've always been able to be on the cutting edge of productivity because we have invested wisely in our networking infrastructure ... The Cisco Catalyst 6500-E Switches represent the flagship switching platform for Cisco, where a lot of the innovations begin. And when advancements such as the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Supervisor Engine 32 PISA are introduced, we can upgrade easily and cost-effectively.”

– Network architect, Biopharma company testing the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Supervisor Engine 32 PISA

"We wanted to have a single network for easier management, control, and economies of scale. At the same time, we needed the ability to set up logical walls so we don't have security concerns. The Cisco solution (Cisco Catalyst 6500 Supervisor Engine 32) lets us do both."

– Rick Haverty, director of information technology at the University of Rochester Medical Center

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