

Video Services for the Cisco Integrated Services Router Platforms

This document is designed to answer the most commonly asked questions about video services for access routers running Cisco IOS® Software.

Overview

Q. Why are video services important to my business?

A. According to research, what people say and how they say it comprise 45 percent of the total impression of an average conversation—the remaining 55 percent comes from body language. Therefore, voice-only meetings are significantly less effective than live video communications. Video services enable an organization to reduce the costs and inconvenience of travel, speed the decision-making process, focus attention on the matter being discussed, help to bridge cultural and language barriers, and ultimately make an organization more effective.

Q. What video services are available with the Cisco Integrated Services Router platforms?

A. The video services included within the Cisco Integrated Services Router platforms follow:

- Video-enabled Cisco Unified CallManager Express
- Cisco Unified Survivable Remote Site Telephony with Integrated ISDN Video Gateway
- Cisco Video Session Border Controller

Q. Will video services make it more difficult for me to place a phone call?

A. Thanks to IP technology, companies can now use video communications as easily as making a phone call. With the Cisco Unified CallManager Express and Cisco Unified Video Telephony Advantage, users can place and receive video calls from the IP phone. Users can make calls using the familiar phone interface, and calls are enhanced with video without requiring any extra button-pushing.

Q. Are the products within this portfolio specific to video applications or do they contain other features as well?

A. The last section of this document contains details about where to find additional information about all the features of the products mentioned in this portfolio. The video features are a small subset of the features available for each of the products; refer to the product-specific documentation for more information.

Q. Which trunk-side voice-over-IP (VoIP) protocols currently support video services with the Cisco Integrated Services Router platforms?

A. Integrated video capabilities are currently supported using H.323 trunks for communications with other video communications devices.

Video on Cisco Unified CallManager Express

Q. Which version of Cisco IOS Software is required to add video support to Cisco Unified CallManager Express?

A. Cisco Unified CallManager Express was enabled with video capabilities beginning with Cisco IOS Software Release 12.4(9)T.

Q. Which Cisco video endpoints are supported with Cisco Unified CallManager Express?

A. The Cisco Unified CallManager Express product supports line-side video capabilities using Cisco IP phones and the Cisco IP Communicator Softphone when used in combination with the Cisco Unified Video Telephony Advantage.

Q. Which video codecs are supported on Cisco Unified CallManager Express?

A. The Cisco Unified CallManager Express product supports H.261 and H.263 video codecs.

Q. Will Cisco Unified CallManager Express interoperate with my existing H323 video conferencing network?

A. The Cisco Unified CallManager Express product transparently integrates with your existing H.323 video conferencing network, including use of existing multipoint-control-unit (MCU) resources and dial-plan integration with H.323 video endpoints.

Q. Are any additional feature licenses required to enable video on Cisco Unified CallManager Express?

A. No additional feature licenses are required to add video capabilities to a CIOs Cisco Unified CallManager Express deployment. This function is included in the existing license for Cisco Unified CallManager Express.

Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway

Q. Which video codecs are supported by the Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway?

A. The Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway supports H.261, H.263 (+), and H.264 video codecs.

Q. Will the Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway interoperate with older H.320 endpoints?

A. Yes. The current support is limited to Px64 protocol support and therefore, many older endpoints will be capable of interoperating at rates only up to 128 kbps. Please check your specific endpoint product documentation for details about Px64 supported rates.

Q. Will the Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway integrate with Cisco Unified CallManager deployments?

A. The Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway is designed to easily integrate into Cisco Unified CallManager deployments. When the video gateway is properly configured, the Cisco Unified CallManager can send or receive H.323 video calls from the video gateway, also allowing existing Cisco Integrated Services Router Voice Gateways to be upgraded with video capabilities to take advantage of existing ISDN links for both voice calls and ISDN video calls.

Q. Is there an additional feature license required to enable Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway capabilities?

A. The Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway requires no additional feature license and can be deployed on existing systems using the Cisco Packet Voice/Fax DSP Module 2 (PVDM2) digital-signal-processor (DSP) modules and supported ISDN interface cards.

Q. Which version of Cisco IOS Software is required to enable the Cisco Integrated ISDN Video Gateway?

A. The Cisco Integrated ISDN Video Gateway for Survivability is available with Cisco IOS Software Release 12.4(11)T.

Q. Which ISDN interface cards are supported with the Cisco Unified ISDN Video Gateway?

A. Table 1 lists supported ISDN interfaces.

Table 1. Supported ISDN Interfaces

VIC/WVIC Module	Description
VIC2-2BRI-NT/TE	2-port voice interface card (VIC) – BRI
VVIC-xMFT-xx	1- or 2-port RJ-48 multiflex trunk (T1 or E1 – any version)
VVIC2-1MFT-T1/E1	1-port RJ-48 multiflex voice/WAN trunk – T1/E1
VVIC2-2MFT-T1/E1	2-port RJ-48 multiflex voice/WAN trunk – T1/E1

Video Services for the Cisco Session Border Controllers (IP-to-IP Gateway)

Q. Which version of Cisco IOS Software is required to add video services to the Cisco Session Border Controller (IP-to-IP Gateway)?

A. Video capabilities were added to the Cisco Session Border Controller (IP-to-IP Gateway) starting with Cisco IOS Software Release 12.3(2)T.

Q. Do the video services for the Cisco Integrated Services Router platform currently include video conferencing or transcoding resources?

A. The PVDM2 DSP modules support voice conferencing and transcoding but do not include support for video transcoding or transrating. An external resource must be used to enable these additional services.

For More Information

For additional information about Cisco Unified CallManager Express, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/ccme>.

For more information about the Cisco Unified Survivable Remote Site Telephony product and technical information, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/srst>.

For more information about the video services with the Cisco Session Border Controller, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/sbc>.

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