

Support for Multiprotocol Label Switching and Internet Protocol Version 6 with Cisco Catalyst 6500 Virtual Switching System 1440

Cisco announces the support for Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) and Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6) with the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Virtual Switching System 1440. With Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2(33)SX12, Cisco now offers complete MPLS and IPv6 feature parity with standalone Cisco Catalyst 6500 systems.

IPv6

IPv6 was designed to increase Internet global address space to accommodate the rapidly increasing numbers of users and applications that require unique global IP addresses and help enable a global environment where the addressing rules of the network are again transparent to applications. As an early pioneer in IPv6 technology since its inception, Cisco has been a driving force in developing IPv6 standards through various standards bodies, including the Internet Engineering Task Force, and has been shipping a wide variety of end-to-end IPv6 product and solutions.

With Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2(33)SX12, virtual switching provides the ability to enable IPv6 deployments with higher performance, scalability, and resiliency while simplifying operational manageability.

MPLS

Cisco enterprise customers typically use MPLS for creating Layer 2 and Layer 3 VPNs. Ethernet over MPLS (EoMPLS) and Virtual Private LAN Service (VPLS) are two technical alternatives to providing Layer 2 VPN services, whereas MPLS VPN, by combining the use of Virtual Routing and Forwarding (VRF) and MPLS, allows for the creation of Layer 3 VPNs.

With Cisco IOS Software Release 12.2(33)SX12, virtual switching provides the ability to

- Layer 2 VPNs (EoMPLS): Eliminate the need for pseudowire redundancy because the virtual switch pair looks like a single device, removing all of the issues related to the possible creation of Spanning Tree Protocol loops when extending Layer 2 between remote locations.
- Layer 3 VPNs (MPLS VPN): Reduce in half the number of provider edge (PE) devices to be configured on the network, thereby increasing the overall scalability and manageability of the solution.

Product Management Contact

For more information on Cisco Catalyst 6500 Virtual Switching System 1440 support for these features, send an email message to Sudeep Goswami at sugoswam@cisco.com.

For More Information

For more information about the Cisco Catalyst 6500 Virtual Switching System 1440, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/vss>.



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