Understanding Inbound and Outbound Dial Peers
Matching on IOS Platforms

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to explain how inbound and outbound dial peers are matched to plain old telephone service (POTS) and Voice−Network call legs.

Prerequisites

Requirements

Cisco recommends that you have knowledge of these topics:

- Voice – Understanding Dial Peers and Call Legs on Cisco IOS Platforms
- Voice – Understanding Inbound and Outbound Dial Peers on Cisco IOS Platforms

Components Used

This document is not restricted to specific software and hardware versions.
Matching Inbound Dial Peers

Inbound Dial Peers Elements and Attributes

Three information elements sent in the call setup message and four configurable dial peer command attributes are used to match dial peers as follows:

- **Inbound** POTS dial peers are associated to incoming POTS call legs on the originating router or gateway.
- **Inbound** Voice–Network dial peers are associated to incoming Voice–Network call legs of the terminating router or gateway. Examples of Voice–Network call legs are Voice over IP (VoIP), Voice over Frame Relay (VoFR), Voice over ATM (VoATM), and Multimedia Mail over IP (MMoIP).

The four configurable Cisco IOS® dial peer attributes and corresponding call setup elements are shown here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dial Peer Attribute</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Call Setup Element (See Table 2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>incoming called−number DNIS_string</td>
<td>This dial peer command defines the called number destination or dialed number identification service (DNIS) string. When properly configured, this dial peer command uses the called number to match the incoming call leg to an inbound dial peer.</td>
<td>Called number (DNIS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>answer−address ANI_string</td>
<td>This dial peer command defines the originating calling number or automatic number identification (ANI) string. When properly configured, this dial peer command uses the calling number to match the incoming call leg to an inbound dial peer.</td>
<td>Calling Number (ANI)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When inbound call legs are matched, this command uses the calling number (originating or ANI string) to match the incoming call leg to an inbound dial peer.

**Note:** For outbound dial peers, this command is matched against the called number or DNIS strings.

This dial peer command defines the POTS voice port through which calls to this dial peer are placed.

### Call Setup Element

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Setup Element</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Called number (DNIS)</td>
<td>This is the call destination dial string and is derived from the ISDN setup message or channel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calling Number (ANI)</td>
<td>This is a number string that represents the origin and is derived from the ISDN setup message or CAS ANI. The ANI is also referred to as Calling Line Identification (CLID).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voice Port</td>
<td>This represents the POTS physical voice port.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Inbound Dial Peers Matching Process

When the Cisco IOS router or gateway receives a call setup request, a dial peer match is made for the incoming call in order to facilitate routing the call to different session applications. This is not a digit–by–digit match, rather the full digit string received in the setup request is used to match against configured dial peers.

**Note:** The maximum number of dial peers that can be configured on a Cisco IOS gateway depends on the available memory (DRAM). Each dial peer consumes approximately 6KB of memory. Make sure that you have at least 20% of the total memory reserved for other CPU processes. If the dial peers are used for call routing, a larger number of dial peers will add to the delay to route a call. This will be significant as the Cisco IOS voice stack looks through dial peers from the top down, similar to an Acess Control List.

The router or gateway matches the information elements in the setup message with the dial peer attributes to select an *inbound* dial peer. The router or gateway matches these items in this order:
1. Called number (DNIS) with the incoming called-number command

First, the router or gateway attempts to match the called number of the call setup request with the configured incoming called-number of each dial peer. Because call setups always include DNIS information, it is recommended to use the incoming called-number command for inbound dial peer matching. This attribute has matching priority over the answer-address and destination-pattern commands.

2. Calling Number (ANI) with the answer-address command

If no match is found in step 1, the router or gateway attempts to match the calling number of the call setup request with the answer-address of each dial peer. This attribute can be useful in situations where you want to match calls based on the calling number (originating).

3. Calling Number (ANI) with the destination-pattern command

If no match is found in step 2, the router or gateway attempts to match the calling number of the call setup request to the destination-pattern of each dial peer. For more information about this, see the first bullet in the Dial Peer Additional Information section of this document.

4. Voice-port (associated with the incoming call setup request) with configured dial peer port (applicable for inbound POTS call legs)

If no match is found in the step 3, the router or gateway attempts to match the configured dial peer port to the voice-port associated with the incoming call. If multiple dial peers have the same port configured, the dial peer first added in the configuration is matched.

5. If no match is found in the first four steps, then the default dial peer 0 (pid:0) command is used.

Note: Step 4 is not applicable to voice or dial platforms such as AS5300, AS5350, AS5400, AS5800 and AS5850. If any one of the first three steps is not used, then match dial peer 0, and the call is treated as a dial modem call. This means that customers can get modem tones as opposed to dial tones for inbound calls.

The previous selection process is displayed with this diagram:

```
if the type is matched, router associates the called number with the incoming called-number
else, if the type is matched, router associates calling-number with answer-address
else, if the type is matched, router associates calling-number with destination-pattern
else, if the type is matched, router associates voice port to port
```

The Cisco IOS router or gateway matches only one of these conditions. It is not necessary for all the attributes to be configured in the dial peer or that every attribute match the call setup information. Only one condition must be met for the router or gateway to select a dial peer. The router or gateway stop to search as soon as one dial peer is matched.

The longest prefix matching criteria applies while each step is performed. At each step, if multiple matches are found, the one with the longest explicit match is chosen. This example helps clarify this concept:

Assume the incoming called number (DNIS) is "81690". Dial peer 2 is matched.

dial-peer voice 1 pots
incoming called-number 8....
direct-inward-dial
!
dial-peer voice 2 pots
incoming called-number 816..
direct-inward-dial

Note: For inbound dial peers, the session target command is ignored.

The Default Dial–Peer 0 peer_tag=0, pid:0

If no incoming dial peer is matched by the router or gateway, the inbound call leg is automatically routed to a default dial peer (POTS or Voice–Network). This default dial peer is referred to as dial–peer 0 or pid:0.

Note: There is an exception to this statement. Cisco voice and dial platforms, such as the AS53xx and AS5800, require that a configured inbound dial peer is matched for incoming POTS calls to be accepted as voice calls. If there is no inbound dial peer match, the call is treated and processed as a dial–up (modem) call.

Dial–peer 0 (pid:0) has a default configuration that cannot be changed. The default dial–peer 0 fails to negotiate non–default capabilities, services, and applications such as:

- Direct Inward Dial (DID)
- TCL Applications

Dial–peer 0 for inbound VoIP peers has this configuration:

- any codec
- vad enabled
- no rsvp support
- fax–rate voice

Note: The default DSCP for voice is EF codepoint 101110 (RFC 2598), and the default DSCP for signaling is AF31 codepoint 011010 (RFC 2597). The default dial peer does not mark packets to DSCP 0. All voice packets on the routers are marked by default (this can be overridden by the dial peer), signaling with AF31 and media with EF. Calls that match the default dial peer 0 should also have this behavior.

Dial–peer 0 (pid:0) for inbound POTS peers has this configuration:

- no ivr application

For further explanation of this concept, see the Case Study: Understanding Inbound Matching and Default Dial–Peer 0 section of this document.

Special Note on isdn overlap–receiving

There are implications for inbound dial peer matching when the isdn overlap–receiving command is configured on ISDN interfaces. After every digit is received at the ISDN layer, dial peers are checked for matches. If a full match is made, the call is routed immediately (to the session app in this case) without waiting for additional digits. The 'T' terminator can be used to suspend this digit–by–digit matching and force the router or gateway to wait until all digits are received. The 'T' refers to the T302 interdigit timer at the ISDN level, configurable under the serial interface associated with the ISDN interface. ISDN also provides other mechanisms to indicate the end of digits, such as setting the Sending Complete Information Element (IE) in Q.931 information messages.
Special Note on POTS Calls with Empty Calling Number Field

Assume this configuration:

```
  dial-peer voice 1 pots
      destination-pattern 9T
      port 1/0:1
```

Now, assume that an incoming call arrives with no calling number information and is matched with the POTS dial peer based on the `destination-pattern 9T` command. In this case, the Cisco IOS router or gateway uses the "9" digit as the calling number and forwards the call to the corresponding device, such as CallManager or the IOS Gateway. In order to not replace the empty calling number field, create a dummy POTS dial peer with just the `incoming called-number` command configured. Because the `incoming called-number` statement has higher priority than `destination pattern` for inbound POTS matching, dial-peer voice 2 becomes the POTS dial peer used.

```
  dial-peer voice 1 pots
      destination-pattern 9T
      port 1/0:1

  dial-peer voice 2 pots
      incoming called-number 
```

Special Note on Empty Called Number

The Warning message shown here, which displays when dial-peer is configured with incoming called-number T, might raise questions in regards to the dial-peer selection with an empty called number from an actual router.

```
  RTR(config)#dial-peer voice 1 pots
  RTR(config-dial-peer)#incoming called-number T

  Warning: Pattern T defines a match with zero or more digits and hence could match with an empty number. If this is not the desired behaviour please configure pattern .T instead to match on one or more digits
  RTR(config-dial-peer)#
```

Incoming dial–peer match with an empty called number:

- A "null" called–number is considered "less" qualified compared to a port number and/or in some cases answer–address. Therefore, a match based on a "null" called number will occur ONLY if there is no match based on either answer–address or port–number.
- In case of overlap dialing, a "null" called number will not match "incoming called–number T" because timeout has not occurred.
- A "null" called–number will match "incoming called–number T" only in case of ENBLOCK and there is no match either because of answer–address and port–number. The warning you see when you configure "incoming called–number T" refers to this specific case.

Matching Outbound Dial Peers

In order to match outbound dial peers, the router or gateway uses the dial peer `destination–pattern called_number` command.

- On POTS dial peers, the `port` command is then used to forward the call.
- On Voice–Network dial peers, the `session target` command is then used to forward the call.
Also, when outbound peers are matched, there are two cases to consider: DID case and non−DID.

**DID (Direct Inward Dial) Case**

An incoming dial peer configured with DID direct−inward−dial looks like this:

```
dial-peer voice 1 pots
  incoming called-number 81690
  voice-port 0:D
  direct-inward-dial
```

On DID calls, also referred to as one−stage dialing, the setup message contains all the digits necessary to route the call, and the router or gateway should not do subsequent digit collection. When the router or gateway searches for an outbound dial peer, the device uses the entire incoming dial string. This matching is variable−length by default. This match is not done digit−by−digit because by DID definition, all digits have been received. This example helps clarify this concept:

Assume the DID dial−string is "81690". In this case, the router matches dial peer 4 and forwards the complete dial−string "81690".

```
dial-peer voice 3 voip
  destination-pattern 816
  session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
!
dial-peer voice 4 voip
  destination-pattern 81690
  session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
```

For more information on DID, refer to Voice – Understanding Direct−Inward−Dial (DID) on Cisco IOS Digital (T1/E1) Interfaces.

**Non−DID Case**

This case is also referred to as two−stage dialing. If DID is not configured on the matched incoming dial peer, the router or gateway enters the digit collection mode (digits are collected inband). Outbound dial peer matching is done on a digit−by−digit basis. The router or gateway checks for dial peer matches after the device has received each digit and then routes the call when a full match is made. These examples help clarify this concept:

Assume the dial−string is "81690". Immediately after the router receives the digit "6", the router matches dial peer 3 and routes the call (forwarding only the digits "816").

```
dial-peer voice 3 voip
  destination-pattern 816
  session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
!
dial-peer voice 4 voip
  destination-pattern 81690
  session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
```

Now, assume dial peer 3 is configured for wild−card matching:

```
dial-peer voice 3 voip
  destination-pattern 816..
  session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
!
dial-peer voice 4 voip
  destination-pattern 81690
```

```
In this case, the longest-prefix rule applies, and dial peer 4 is matched for the outbound call leg.

**Special Note on Variable-Length Dial Plans**

There are situations where expected dial-strings do not have a set number of digits. In such cases, Cisco recommends you configure the "T" terminator on the dial peer destination-pattern command in order to use variable-length dial-peers.

The 'T' terminator forces the router or gateway to wait until the full dial-string is received. In order to achieve this, the 'T' terminator forces the router or gateway to wait until the full dial-string is received. The router or gateway:

- Waits for a set interdigit timeout before the device routes the call.
- Routes the call once the device receives the "#" termination character in the dial-string. For example, if you dialed "5551212#", the "#" indicates to the router that you dialed all the digits and that all digits prior to the "#" should be used to match a dial peer.

This example helps clarify this concept:

Assume the router in this example receives a call setup with dial-string "95551212" from the network. Dial peer 2 then forwards to the PSTN the digits "5551212".

```plaintext
dial-peer voice 2 pots
destination-pattern 9T
port 2/0:23
```

Now, assume the dial-string from an inbound POTS interface is "81690".

```plaintext
dial-peer voice 3 voip
destination-pattern 8T
session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
!
dial-peer voice 4 voip
destination-pattern 81690T
session target ipv4:172.22.10.1
```

In this case, the longest-prefix rule applies, and dial peer 4 is matched for the outbound call leg.

**Note:**

- The default interdigit timeout is set for 10 seconds. In order to modify this value, issue the timeouts interdigit seconds voice-port command.
- Anytime the "T" is used, "T" must be preceded by a "." or digits (".T" or "555T" for example). If you use "T" alone, the dial peers act improperly and effect how calls are handled by the router.

**Dial Peer Operational Status**

A dial peer operational status must be administratively up and valid for the dial peer to be matched. In order to be considered operational, dial peers must meet one of these conditions: (There are others, but these are the main ones.)

- **Destination-pattern** is configured and a **voice-port** or **session target** is also configured.
- **Incoming called-number** is configured.
• **Answer-address** is configured.

For more information, refer to Voice – Understanding the Operational Status of Dial–Peers on Cisco IOS Platforms.

**Dial Peer Additional Information**

The dial peer attribute **destination-pattern** has different behavior when applied to **inbound** or **outbound** call legs:

- For **inbound** dial peers, the **destination-pattern** is matched against the calling number (ANI string).
- For **outbound** dial peers, the **destination-pattern** is matched against called number (DNIS string).

Therefore, a dial peer with the **destination-pattern** attribute can work for both **outbound** and **inbound** matching.

**Case Study: Understanding Inbound Matching and Default Dial–Peer 0**

Every dial plan needs an outgoing and an inbound dial peer. In this document’s example, there is a PSTN T1 connection coming as inbound to the maui–gwy–04 router. Here, when an incoming call is received from the PSTN the router tries to find the called number. When the call is received the caller gives the caller ID using the Automatic Number Identification (ANI). In this example, there is a Direct inward dial (DID) range starting from 8. DNIS is the number that the person on the PSTN dials. The number could be an 11 digit or 10 digit number. If it matches the incoming dial peer configured using the direct–inward–dial, only 4 numbers after 8 are forwarded and the rest are stripped of in order for the call to be reached directly without the help of a receptionist.

If you do not have an inbound dial peer configured, **Dial–peer 0** is matched and takes care of the call. The Dial–peer 0 has these attributes:

- Works for any Codec
- Has Voice Activity Detection (VAD) enabled
- Marks traffic as IP Precedence 0
- Has no RSVP support
- Supports FAX–RATE service

**Note:** The **IP Precedence** command is set to a default value of **0**, which causes the IP precedence to be passed as–is.

**Configurations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>maui–gwy–04</th>
<th>maui–gwy–06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>!--- &lt;some output omitted&gt;</td>
<td>! version 12.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this case study, these `show` and `debug` commands are used:

- **show call active voice {brief}**
  This command displays the contents of the active call table, which shows all of the calls currently connected through the router. In this case, the command is useful in order to display dial peers and capabilities associated to an active call.

- **debug voip ccapi inout**
  This command is useful in order to troubleshoot end-to-end VoIP calls.
maui-gwy-04#show call active voice brief

This information was captured on the call originating gateway once the call was placed and active.

<some output omitted>

[ID]: <start>hs.<index> +<connect> pid:<peer_id> <dir> <addr> <state>
dur hh:mm:ss tx:<packets>/<bytes> rx:<packets>/<bytes> <state>
IP <ip>:<udp> rtt:<time>ms pl:<play>/<gap>ms lost:<lost>/<early>/<late>
delay:<last>/<min>/<max>ms <codec>
Tele <int>: tx:<tot>/<v>/<fax>ms <codec> noise:<1> acom:<1> i/o:<1>/<1> dBm

POTS (keyword Tele) dial-peer 1 is matched inbound (keyword Answer).
This dial-peer was matched based on condition 1 of the Matching Inbound Dial Peers section of this document.

87   : 415666267hs.1 +107 pid:1 Answer active
dur 00:00:20 tx:101/791 rx:100/3200
Tele 0:D:93: tx:20600/2000/0ms g729r8 noise:−56 acom:0 i/o:−55/−70 dBm

VoIP (keyword IP) dial-peer 3 is matched outbound (keyword Originate).
This dial-peer was matched based on the destination-pattern command.

87   : 415666268hs.1 +106 pid:3 Originate 81560 active
dur 00:00:20 tx:100/2000 rx:101/1991
IP 172.22.10.1:18160 rtt:2ms pl:1990/40ms lost:0/1/0 delay:69/69/70ms g729r8

maui-gwy-04#show call active voice

With the show call active voice command, you see that DTMF-relay Cisco RTP was partially negotiated.

VOIP:
RemoteIPAddress=172.22.10.1
RemoteUDPPort=18160
RoundTripDelay=4 ms
SelectedQoS=best-effort
tx_DtmfRelay=cisco-rtp
SessionProtocol=cisco
SessionTarget=ipv4:172.22.10.1
VAD = enabled
CoderTypeRate=g729r8
CodecBytes=20
SignalingType=cas

maui-gwy-06#show call active voice brief

This information was captured once the call was placed and active.
<some output omitted>

Notice that in this case, default VoIP (keyword IP) dial-peer 0 was
--- matched inbound.

Total call-legs: 2
87 : 257583579hs.1 +105  pid:0  Answer  active
dur 00:10:03  tx:1938/37069  rx:26591/531820
IP 172.22.10.2:18988  rtt:1ms  pl:528740/160ms  lost:0/1/0  delay:50/50/70ms
g729r8

87 : 257583580hs.1 +104 pid:1  Originate 81560  active
dur 00:10:05  tx:26648/532960  rx:1938/37069
Tele 1/0/0 (96): tx:605710/37690/0ms  g729r8  noise:-46  acm:
0  i0:-46/-61 dBm

maui-gwy-06#show call active voice

--- Notice that DTMF-relay cisco rtp was NOT negotiated on this end.

Total call-legs: 2
VOIP:
RemoteIPAddress=172.22.10.2
RoundTripDelay=2 ms
SelectedQoS=best-effort
tx_DtmfRelay=inband-voice
FastConnect=FALSE
Separate H245 Connection=FALSE
H245 Tunneling=FALSE
SessionProtocol=cisco
VAD = enabled
CoderTypeRate=g729r8
CodecBytes=20
SignalingType=ext-signal

--- Output from debug voip ccapi inout.
--- Only relevant output has been captured

--- Inbound VoIP call leg is matched to default dial-peer 0.
--- In this case, notice that maui-gwy-06 did not receive the calling
--- number (ANI). Therefore, voip dial-peer 2 was not matched based on
--- condition 3 of the Matching Inbound Dial Peers section of this document.

*Mar 30 19:30:35:  cc_api_call_setup_ind (vdbPtr=0x620AA230,
callInfo={called=81560,
called_oct3=0  calling=,calling_oct3=0x0,calling_oct3a=0x0,
calling_xlated=false,
subscr
--- Outbound POTS dial-peer 1 is matched.

*Mar 30 19:30:35:  ssaSetupPeer cid(95) peer list:  tag(1)
called number (81560)
*Mar 30 19:30:35:  ccCallSetupRequest (Inbound call = 0x5F,
outbound peer =1, dest=,     
params=0x621D4570 mode=0, *callID=0x621D48D8, prog_ind = 0)
*Mar 30 19:30:35:  peer_tag=1
Now, to match the inbound VoIP dial-peer 2 on **maui-gwy-06** add this command:

```bash
cmaui-gwy-06#config t
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
cmaui-gwy-06(config)#dial-peer voice 2 voip

!--- This command uses the DNIS(called number)to match the inbound call leg
!--- to the dial-peer.
cmaui-gwy-06(config-dial-peer)#incoming called-number 8....
```

This is a snapshot of the **maui-gwy-06** configuration after additional configuration:

```bash
!--- <Some output omitted>

dial-peer voice 1 pots
destination-pattern 81560
port 1/0/0
!
dial-peer voice 2 voip
incoming called-number 8....
destination-pattern 9.....
session target ipv4:172.22.10.2
dtmf-relay cisco-rtp
!

!--- Action: Call is placed from the PSTN through maui-gwy-04
!--- and terminated in an FXS port of maui-gwy-06 (called number: "81560").

!--- Notes:
!--- 1)On maui-gwy-04, the incoming call is received on the POTS dial-peer 1,
!--- which is configured for DID.
!--- 2)On maui-gwy-06, dial-peer 2 voip is matched inbound, and dtmf-relay
!--- Cisco RTP is negotiated.

!--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
!--- Output on maui-gwy-06 (Terminating Gateway)
!--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

maui-gwy-06#show call active voice brief

!--- <some output omitted>

Total call-legs: 2

!--- Notice that in this case, the inbound VoIP call leg is matched to
!--- dial-peer 2 VOIP.

8B   : 258441268hs.1 +176 pid:2 Answer active
dur 00:01:01 tx:485/8768 rx:2809/56180
IP 172.22.10.2:16762 rtt:2ms pl:52970/120ms lost:0/1/0 delay:
60/60/70ms g729r8

8B   : 258441269hs.1 +175 pid:1 Originate 81560 active
dur 00:01:02 tx:2866/57320 rx:512/9289
Tele 1/0/0 (98): tx:64180/9640/0ms g729r8 noise:-46 acom:
0 i/o:-46/-61 dBm

maui-gwy-06#show call active voice

!--- <some output omitted>
Notice that dtmf-relay cisco rtp was successfully negotiated.

**VOIP:**
- RemoteIPAddress=172.22.10.2
- RoundTripDelay=1 ms
- SelectedQoS=best-effort
- tx_DtmfRelay=cisco-rtp
- FastConnect=FALSE
- Separate H245 Connection=FALSE
- H245 Tunneling=FALSE
- SessionProtocol=cisco
- SessionTarget=
- VAD = enabled
- CoderTypeRate=g729r8
- CodecBytes=20
- SignalingType=cas

**Related Information**

- Voice – Understanding Dial Peers and Call Legs on Cisco IOS Platforms
- Voice – Understanding Inbound and Outbound Dial Peers on Cisco IOS Platforms
- Voice – Understanding the Operational Status of Dial–Peers on Cisco IOS Platforms
- Voice – Understanding Direct–Inward–Dial (DID) on Cisco IOS Digital (T1/E1) Interfaces
- Configuring Dial Plans, Dial Peers, and Digit Manipulation
- VoIP – Understanding Codecs: Complexity, Support, MOS, and Negotiation
- Voice Technology Support
- Voice and IP Communications Product Support
- Troubleshooting Cisco IP Telephony
- Technical Support & Documentation – Cisco Systems