



# IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

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This module introduces support for multiple VPN routing and forwarding (VRF)-aware Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (IS-IS) instances. The VRF functionality allows Internet service providers (ISPs) to separate routing protocol information and propagate it to the appropriate routing table and network neighbors. Using one router with VRF functionality is more cost-effective than using separate routers to separate and forward the routing information.

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## Finding Feature Information

Your software release may not support all the features documented in this module. For the latest feature information and caveats, see the release notes for your platform and software release. To find information about the features documented in this module, and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, see the Feature Information Table at the end of this document.

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to [www.cisco.com/go/cfn](http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn). An account on Cisco.com is not required.

## Prerequisites for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- You must be running IS-IS on your network.



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- The VRF configuration is a prerequisite to associating an IS-IS instance with that specific VRF. However, the VRF configuration is independent of associating it with IS-IS or any other routing protocol. An IS-IS instance cannot be referred to as being VRF-aware until it has been associated with a particular VRF.

## Restrictions for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

IS-IS VRF support is supported only for IPv4.

When you configure the IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP feature, you must comply with the following nine best practices guidelines:

- IS-IS instances running Connectionless Network Services (CLNS) must have the same system ID.
- An IS-IS instance that is running CLNS or IPv6 cannot be associated with a VRF.
- You can configure only one IS-IS instance to run both CLNS and IP.
- IS-IS instances within the same VRF must have unique system IDs, although IS-IS instances located in separate VRFs can have the same system ID.
- You can associate an IS-IS instance with only one VRF.
- You can configure the **passive-interface default** command only on one IS-IS instance per VRF.
- Redistribution is allowed only within the same VRF.
- You can enable only one IS-IS instance per interface.
- An interface can belong to an IS-IS instance only if they are associated with the same VRF.



### Note

If you are using LDP, you cannot use the **route-target** command when configuring a VRF. The router will use BGP for Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) labels.

## Information About IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- [VRF-Aware IS-IS, page 2](#)
- [IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP Feature Operation, page 2](#)

## VRF-Aware IS-IS

You can configure IS-IS to be VRF-aware. A VRF consists of an IP routing table, a derived Cisco Express Forwarding (CEF) table, a set of interfaces that use the forwarding table, and a set of rules and routing protocol parameters that control the information that is included in the routing table.

## IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP Feature Operation

ISPs have the capability to create multiple VRF-aware IS-IS instances that run on one router, rather than requiring duplicate hardware. IS-IS can be enabled to be VRF-aware, and ISPs can use multiple VRF-

aware IS-IS instances to separate customer data while propagating the information to appropriate service providers.

For example, an ISP can create three VRFs--VRF First, VRF Second, and VRF Third--to represent three separate customers. A VRF-aware IS-IS instance is created and associated with each VRF: tagFIRST, tagSECOND, and tagTHIRD. Each instance will have its own routing process, IS-IS database, and routing table, and will calculate its own shortest path first (SPF) tree.

## How to Configure IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- [Creating a VRF, page 3](#)
- [Attaching an Interface to the VRF, page 4](#)
- [Creating VRF Aware IS-IS Instances, page 5](#)

### Creating a VRF

#### SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **ip cef [distributed]**
4. **ip vrf *vrf-name***
5. **rd *route-distinguisher***
6. **end**

#### DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<b>enable</b>  <b>Example:</b>  Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enter your password if prompted.</li></ul>
Step 2	<b>configure terminal</b>  <b>Example:</b>  Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 3</b> <code>ip cef [distributed]</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config)# ip cef distributed</code>	(Optional) Enables CEF on the Route Processor card. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If CEF is not enabled by default on your particular platform, you must configure it with the <b>ip cef</b> command.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 4</b> <code>ip vrf vrf-name</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config)# ip vrf vrfFirst</code>	Configures a VRF routing table, and enters VRF configuration mode.
<b>Step 5</b> <code>rd route-distinguisher</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config-vrf)# rd 1:1</code>	Creates routing and forwarding tables for a VRF.
<b>Step 6</b> <code>end</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config-vrf)# end</code>	Exits VRF configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.

## Attaching an Interface to the VRF

### SUMMARY STEPS

1. `enable`
2. `configure terminal`
3. `interface type number`
4. `ip vrf forwarding vrf-name`

### DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1</b> <code>enable</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router&gt; enable</code>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>

	Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 2</b>	<b>configure terminal</b>  <b>Example:</b> Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
<b>Step 3</b>	<b>interface <i>type number</i></b>  <b>Example:</b> Router(config)# interface FastEthernet 0/2	Configures an interface type and enters interface configuration mode.
<b>Step 4</b>	<b>ip vrf forwarding <i>vrf-name</i></b>  <b>Example:</b> Router(config-if)# ip vrf forwarding vrfFirst	Associates a VPN routing and forwarding instance (VRF) with an interface or subinterface.

## Creating VRF Aware IS-IS Instances

- [Before You Begin, page 5](#)
- [Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Interface Configuration Mode, page 5](#)
- [Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Router Configuration Mode, page 7](#)

### Before You Begin

- You must have IS-IS running on your network.
- If CEF is not enabled by default on your platform, enable CEF to associate interfaces with VRF-aware IS-IS instances.

### Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Interface Configuration Mode

#### SUMMARY STEPS

1. enable
2. configure terminal
3. interface *type number*
4. ip address *ip-address mask* [*secondary*]
5. ip router isis *process-tag*
6. no shutdown
7. end

## DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1</b> <code>enable</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router&gt; enable</pre>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 2</b> <code>configure terminal</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router# configure terminal</pre>	Enters global configuration mode.
<b>Step 3</b> <code>interface type number</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config)# interface FastEthernet 0/2</pre>	Configures an interface type and enters interface configuration mode.
<b>Step 4</b> <code>ip address ip-address mask [secondary]</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config-if)# ip address 172.16.11.1 255.255.255.255</pre>	Sets a primary or secondary IP address for an interface.
<b>Step 5</b> <code>ip router isis process-tag</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config-if)# ip router isis vrfFirst</pre>	Configures an IS-IS routing process for IP on an interface and attaches a tag to the routing process.  <b>Note</b> The configuration of the interface-mode <b>ip router isis</b> command will overwrite the prior configuration on that interface, but only if the new configuration is attempting to change the interface ownership to a different instance that is in the same VRF as the currently configured owner instance. The configuration will be rejected if the attempted change is between two instances that are associated with different VRFs.
<b>Step 6</b> <code>no shutdown</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config-if)# no shutdown</pre>	Restarts a disabled interface.

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 7</b> <code>end</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <code>Router(config-if)# end</code>	Exits interface configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.

## Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Router Configuration Mode

### SUMMARY STEPS

1. `enable`
2. `configure terminal`
3. `router isis process-tag`
4. `vrf vrf-name`
5. `net network-entity-title`
6. `end`

### DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1</b> <code>enable</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <code>Router&gt; enable</code>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 2</b> <code>configure terminal</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <code>Router# configure terminal</code>	Enters global configuration mode.
<b>Step 3</b> <code>router isis process-tag</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <code>Router(config)# router isis tagFirst</code>	Enables the IS-IS routing protocol, specifies an IS-IS process, and enters router configuration mode.
<b>Step 4</b> <code>vrf vrf-name</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <code>Router(config-router)# vrf vrfFirst</code>	Associates an IS-IS instance with a VRF. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is presumed that the VRF named <code>vrfFirst</code> was previously created.</li> </ul>

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 5</b> <code>net network-entity-title</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <pre>Router(config-router)# net 49.000b. 0000.0001.0002.00</pre>	Configures an IS-IS NET for a CLNS routing process.
<b>Step 6</b> <code>end</code>  <b>Example:</b>  <pre>Router(config-router)# end</pre>	Exits router configuration mode.

## Configuration Examples for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- [Example: Configuring Multiple VRF-Aware IS-IS Instances, page 8](#)
- [Example: Creating an IS-IS Instance Without a Process Tag, page 10](#)
- [Example: Redistributing Routes from an IS-IS Instance, page 11](#)
- [Example: Changing the Interface Ownership, page 11](#)

### Example: Configuring Multiple VRF-Aware IS-IS Instances

In the following example, the VRF Second is created and an IS-IS instance is created explicitly by entering the **router isis** command on the router:

```
Router(config)# ip cef distributed
Router(config)# ip routing
Router(config)# ip vrf Second
Router(config-vrf)# rd 1:1
Router(config-if)# router isis tagSecond
Router(config-router)# vrf Second
Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.0002.00
```

The VRF Third is created and a VRF-aware IS-IS instance is automatically created when the **ip router isis** command is entered:

```
Router(config)# ip vrf Third
Router(config-vrf)# rd 1:1
Router(config-if)# interface FastEthernet0/2
Router(config-if)# ip vrf forwarding Third
Router(config-if)# ip address 172.16.10.1 255.255.255.0
Router(config-if)# ip router isis tagThird
Router(config-if)# no shutdown
```



A new IS-IS instance with the process tag `tagThird` will automatically be created and associated with the VRF `Third`. When the **show running-config** command is entered, the following information for the new IS-IS instance will be displayed:

```
Router# show running-config
Building configuration
.
.
.
router isis tagThird
 vrf Third
Router(config)# router isis tagThird
Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.0001.00
```

The following sample output verifies information for the VRF-aware IS-IS instances that were created in the previous examples:

```
Router# show isis tagThird topology
Tag tagThird:
IS-IS paths to level-2 routers
System Id      Metric  Next-Hop      Interface  SNPA
router-02      10      router-02      Fa4/3      0010.0ddc.e00b
router-03      10      router-03      Et0/2      0006.0e03.0c45
router-04      10      router-04      Fa4/0      000a.f3c3.1c70
.              .       router-04      Fa4/1      000a.f3c3.1c71
.
.
```

```
Router# show cns tagSecond neighbors
Tag tagSecond:
System Id      Interface      SNPA              State  Holdtime  Type  Protocol
router-03      Fa0/2          00d0.2b7f.9502    Up     9          L2    IS-IS
router-03      PO2/2.1        DLCI 211           Up     27         L2    IS-IS
router-02      PO2/0.1        DLCI 131           Up     29         L2    IS-IS
router-11      Fa0/4          000e.d79d.7920    Up     7          L2    IS-IS
router-11      Fa0/5          000e.d79d.7921    Up     8          L2    IS-IS
router-11      PO3/2.1        DLCI 451           Up     24         L2    IS-IS
.
.
.
```

```

Router# show isis tagThird database level-2
Tag tagThird:
IS-IS Level-2 Link State Database:
LSPID                LSP Seq Num    LSP Checksum    LSP Holdtime    ATT/P/OL
router-01.00-00      0x00000000A    0x5E73          914              0/0/0
router-01.03-00      0x000000001    0x8E41          894              0/0/0
router-01.04-00      0x000000001    0x8747          894              0/0/0
router-03.00-00      * 0x000000005    0x55AD          727              0/0/0
router-03.02-00      * 0x000000001    0x3B97          727              0/0/0
router-02.00-00      0x000000004    0xC1FB          993              0/0/0
router-02.01-00      0x000000001    0x448D          814              0/0/0
router-04.00-00      0x000000004    0x76D0          892              0/0/0
Router# show isis tagThird database level-1
Tag tagThird:
IS-IS Level-1 Link State Database:
LSPID                LSP Seq Num    LSP Checksum    LSP Holdtime    ATT/P/OL
router-03.00-00      * 0x00000000B    0xBDF6          1005             1/0/0
router-03.02-00      * 0x000000001    0xC473          940              0/0/0
router-07.00-00      0x000000006    0x403A          940              0/0/0

```

```
Router# show clns tagSecond protocol
IS-IS Router: tagSecond
  System Id: 0000.0001.0002.00  IS-Type: level-2-only
  Manual area address(es):
    49.000b
  Routing for area address(es):
    49.000b
  Interfaces supported by IS-IS:
    FastEthernet4/1 - IP
    FastEthernet4/0 - IP
    Ethernet0/2 - IP
```

```

FastEthernet4/3 - IP
Redistributing:
  static
Distance: 110
RRR level: none
Generate narrow metrics: level-1-2
Accept narrow metrics:   level-1-2
Generate wide metrics:   none
Accept wide metrics:     none
Router# show clns tagThird protocol
IS-IS Router: tagThird
System Id: 0000.0001.0001.00 IS-Type: level-1-2
Manual area address(es):
  49.000b
Routing for area address(es):
  49.000b
Interfaces supported by IS-IS:
  POS2/2.1 - IP
  FastEthernet0/2 - IP
  FastEthernet0/4 - IP
  POS2/0.1 - IP
  FastEthernet0/5 - IP
  POS3/2.1 - IP
Redistributing:
  static
Distance: 110
RRR level: none
Generate narrow metrics: none
Accept narrow metrics:   none
Generate wide metrics:   level-1-2
Accept wide metrics:     level-1-2

```

## Example: Creating an IS-IS Instance Without a Process Tag

In the following example, an IS-IS instance was created without the optional process tag. When an IS-IS instance is created without the optional process tag, you can display its information by entering the commands such as **show clns protocol** with "null" specified for the *process-tag* argument.

```

Router(config)# router isis
Router(config-router)# vrf first
Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.ffff.00
Router(config-router)# is-type level-1
Router(config)# interface POS 6/1
Router(config-if)# ip vrf forwarding first
Router(config-if)# ip address 172.16.2.1 255.255.255.0
Router(config-if)# ip router isis
Router(config-if)# no shutdown

```

Because the IS-IS instance is created without the optional process tag, its information is displayed when the **show clns protocol** command is entered with "null" specified for the *process-tag* argument:

```

Router# show clns null protocol
IS-IS Router: <Null Tag>
System Id: 0000.0001.FFFF.00 IS-Type: level-1
Manual area address(es):
  49.000b
Routing for area address(es):
  49.000b
Interfaces supported by IS-IS:
  POS6/1 - IP
Redistributing:
  static
Distance: 110
RRR level: none
Generate narrow metrics: level-1-2
Accept narrow metrics:   level-1-2
Generate wide metrics:   none
Accept wide metrics:     none

```

## Example: Redistributing Routes from an IS-IS Instance

In the following sample configuration, routes have been redistributed from the IS-IS instance "null" into the IS-IS instance named tagBLUE. Routes from an OSPF process in VRF Blue have been redistributed into the IS-IS instance named tagBLUE.

```
Router(config)# router isis tagBLUE
Router(config-router)# redistribute isis null ip metric 10 route-map isisMAP1
Router(config-router)# redistribute ospf 1 vrf BLUE metric 1 metric-type external
level-1-2
.
.
.
Router(config)# route-map isisMAP1 permit 10
Router(config-route-map)# match route-type level-2 level-1
Router(config-route-map)# set level level-2
```

## Example: Changing the Interface Ownership

In the following sample configuration, POS interface 6/1 was originally enabled for IS-IS IP routing for a "null" instance that does not have a process tag, which is in vrfSecond. The new configuration changes the ownership of POS interface 6/1 to another instance tagSecond, which is also in vrfSecond.



### Note

Use of the **ip router isis** command in interface configuration mode will overwrite the prior configuration on that interface, but only if the new configuration is attempting to change the interface ownership to a different instance that is in the same VRF as the currently configured owner instance. The configuration will be rejected if the attempted change is between two instances that are associated with different VRFs.

```
Router(config)# interface POS 6/1
Router(config-if)# ip router isis tagSecond
%ISIS: Interface detached from null and to be attached to instance tagSecond.
```

## Additional References

### Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
IS-IS commands: complete command syntax, command mode, defaults, command history, usage guidelines, and examples	<i>Cisco IOS IP Routing: ISIS Command Reference</i>
Overview of Cisco IS-IS conceptual information with links to all the individual IS-IS modules	"Integrated IS-IS Routing Protocol Overview" module
ISO CLNS commands	<i>Cisco IOS ISO CLNS Command Reference</i>
Command Lookup Tool	<a href="http://tools.cisco.com/Support/CLILookup">http://tools.cisco.com/Support/CLILookup</a>

**Standards**

Standards	Title
No new or modified standards are supported by this feature, and support for existing standards has not been modified by this feature.	--

**MIBs**

MIBs	MIBs Link
No new or modified MIBs are supported by this feature, and support for existing MIBs has not been modified by this feature.	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: <a href="http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs">http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs</a>

**RFCs**

RFCs	Title
No new or modified RFCs are supported by this feature, and support for existing RFCs has not been modified by this feature.	--

**Technical Assistance**

Description	Link
The Cisco Support and Documentation website provides online resources to download documentation, software, and tools. Use these resources to install and configure the software and to troubleshoot and resolve technical issues with Cisco products and technologies. Access to most tools on the Cisco Support and Documentation website requires a Cisco.com user ID and password.	<a href="http://www.cisco.com/cisco/web/support/index.html">http://www.cisco.com/cisco/web/support/index.html</a>

## Feature Information for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

The following table provides release information about the feature or features described in this module. This table lists only the software release that introduced support for a given feature in a given software release train. Unless noted otherwise, subsequent releases of that software release train also support that feature.

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**Table 1**      *Feature Information for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP*

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP	12.0(29)S	<p>This feature provides multiple VPN routing and forwarding (VRF)-aware Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (IS-IS) instances. The VRF functionality allows Internet service providers (ISPs) to separate routing protocol information and propagate it to the appropriate routing table and network neighbors. Using one router with VRF functionality is more cost-effective than using separate routers to separate and forward the routing information.</p> <p>The following commands were introduced or modified: <b>show cns neighbors</b>, <b>show cns protocol</b>, <b>show isis database</b>, <b>show isis topology</b>, and <b>vrf (router configuration)</b>.</p>
	12.2(33)SRB	
	15.0(1)M	
	15.0(1)SY	

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