Configuring Asynchronous SLIP and PPP

This chapter describes how to configure asynchronous Serial Line Internet Protocol (SLIP) and PPP. It includes the following main sections:

- Asynchronous SLIP and PPP Overview
- How to Configure Asynchronous SLIP and PPP
- Configuration Examples for Asynchronous SLIP and PPP

To identify the hardware platform or software image information associated with a feature, use the Feature Navigator on Cisco.com to search for information about the feature or refer to the software release notes for a specific release. For more information, see the “Identifying Supported Platforms” section in the “Using Cisco IOS Software” chapter.

For a complete description of the commands in this chapter, refer to the Cisco IOS Dial Technologies Command Reference. To locate documentation of other commands that appear in this chapter, use the command reference master index or search online.

Asynchronous SLIP and PPP Overview

PPP and SLIP define methods of sending IP packets over standard asynchronous serial lines with minimum line speeds of 1200 baud.

Using SLIP or PPP encapsulation over asynchronous lines is an inexpensive way to connect personal computers (PCs) to a network. PPP and SLIP over asynchronous dialup modems allow a home computer to be connected to a network without the cost of a leased line. Dialup PPP and SLIP links can also be used for remote sites that need only occasional remote node or backup connectivity. Both public-domain and vendor-supported PPP and SLIP implementations are available for a variety of computer applications.

The Cisco IOS software concentrates a large number of SLIP or PPP PC or workstation client hosts onto a network interface that allows the PCs to communicate with any host on the network. The Cisco IOS software can support any combination of SLIP or PPP lines and lines dedicated to normal asynchronous devices such as terminals and modems. Refer to RFC 1055 for more information about SLIP, and RFCs 1331 and 1332 for more information about PPP.

SLIP is an older protocol. PPP is a newer, more robust protocol than SLIP, and it contains functions that can detect or prevent misconfiguration. PPP also provides greater built-in security mechanisms.
Note

Most asynchronous serial links have very low bandwidth. Take care to configure your system so the links will not be overloaded. Consider using default routes and filtering routing updates to prevent them from being sent on these asynchronous lines.

Figure 81 illustrates a typical asynchronous SLIP or PPP remote-node configuration.

Figure 81 Sample SLIP or PPP Remote-Node Configuration

Responding to BOOTP Requests

The BOOTP protocol allows a client machine to discover its own IP address, the address of the router, and the name of a file to be loaded into memory and executed. There are typically two phases to using BOOTP: first, the client’s address is determined and the boot file is selected; then the file is transferred, typically using the TFTP.

PPP and SLIP clients can send BOOTP requests to the Cisco IOS software, and the Cisco IOS software responds with information about the network. For example, the client can send a BOOTP request to learn its IP address and where the boot file is located, and the Cisco IOS software responds with the information.

BOOTP supports the extended BOOTP requests specified in RFC 1084 and works for both PPP and SLIP encapsulation.

BOOTP compares to Reverse Address Resolution Protocol (RARP) as follows: RARP is an older protocol that allows a client to determine its IP address if it knows its hardware address. (Refer to the Cisco IOS IP Configuration Guide for more information about RARP.) However, RARP is a hardware link protocol, so it can be implemented only on hosts that have special kernel or driver modifications that allow access to these raw packets. BOOTP does not require kernel modifications.

Asynchronous Network Connections and Routing

Line configuration commands configure a connection to a terminal or a modem. Interface configuration (async) commands, described in this chapter, configure a line as an asynchronous network interface over which networking functions are performed.

The Cisco IOS software also supports IP routing connections for communication that requires connecting one network to another.
The Cisco IOS software supports protocol translation for PPP and SLIP between other network devices running Telnet, local-area transport (LAT), or X.25. For example, you can send IP packets across a public X.25 packet assembler/disassembler (PAD) network using SLIP or PPP encapsulation when SLIP or PPP protocol translation is enabled. For more information, see the chapter “Configuring Protocol Translation and Virtual Asynchronous Devices” in this publication.

If asynchronous dynamic routing is enabled, you can enable routing at the user level by using the routing keyword with the slip or ppp EXEC command.

Asynchronous interfaces offer both dedicated and dynamic address assignment, configurable hold queues and IP packet sizes, extended BOOTP requests, and permit and deny conditions for controlling access to lines. Figure 82 shows a sample asynchronous routing configuration.

**Figure 82 Sample Asynchronous Routing Configuration**

**Asynchronous Interfaces and Broadcasts**

The Cisco IOS software recognizes a variety of IP broadcast addresses. When a router receives an IP packet from an asynchronous client, it rebroadcasts the packet onto the network without changing the IP header.

The Cisco IOS software receives the SLIP or PPP client broadcasts and responds to BOOTP requests with the current IP address assigned to the asynchronous interface from which the request was received. This facility allows the asynchronous client software to automatically learn its own IP address.

**How to Configure Asynchronous SLIP and PPP**

To configure SLIP and PPP, perform the tasks in the following sections; all tasks are optional:

- Configuring Network-Layer Protocols over PPP and SLIP (Optional)
- Configuring Asynchronous Host Mobility (Optional)
- Making Additional Remote Node Connections (Optional)
Configuring Remote Access to NetBEUI Services (Optional)

Configuring Performance Parameters (Optional)

Configuring Network-Layer Protocols over PPP and SLIP

You can configure network-layer protocols, such as AppleTalk, IP, and Internet Protocol Exchange (IPX), over PPP and SLIP. SLIP supports only IP, but PPP supports each of these protocols. See the sections that follow to configure these protocols over PPP and SLIP.

Configuring IP and PPP

To enable IP-PPP (IPCP) on a synchronous or asynchronous interface, use the following commands in interface configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# <code>ip address ip-address mask [secondary]</code>&lt;br&gt;or&lt;br&gt;Router(config-if)# <code>ip unnumbered type number</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# <code>encapsulation ppp</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# <code>async mode interactive</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Configuring IPX and PPP

You can configure IPX over PPP (IPXCP) on synchronous serial and asynchronous serial interfaces using one of two methods.

The first method associates an asynchronous interface with a loopback interface configured to run IPX. It permits you to configure IPX-PPP on asynchronous interfaces only.

The second method permits you to configure IPX-PPP on asynchronous and synchronous serial interfaces. However, it requires that you specify a dedicated IPX network number for each interface, which can require a substantial number of network numbers for a large number of interfaces.

You can also configure IPX to run on virtual terminal lines configured for PPP. See the section “Enabling IPX and PPP over X.25 to an IPX Network on Virtual Terminal Lines” later in this chapter.

Note

If you are configuring IPX-PPP on asynchronous interfaces, you should filter routing updates on the interface. Most asynchronous serial links have very low bandwidth, and routing updates take up a great deal of bandwidth. The previous task table uses the `ipx update interval` command to filter SAP updates. For more information about filtering routing updates, see the section about creating filters for updating the routing table in the chapter “Configuring Novell IPX” in the *Cisco IOS AppleTalk and Novell IPX Configuration Guide*. 

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IPX and PPP and Associating Asynchronous Interfaces with Loopback Interfaces

To permit IPX client connections to an asynchronous interface, the interface must be associated with a loopback interface configured to run IPX. To permit such connections, use the following commands beginning in global configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config)# ipx routing [node] Enables IPX routing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config)# interface loopback number Creates a loopback interface, which is a virtual interface existing only inside the router, and begins interface configuration mode.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ipx network network Enabled IPX routing on the loopback interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 4</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# exit Exits to global configuration mode.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 5</td>
<td>Router(config)# interface async number Enters interface configuration mode for the asynchronous interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 6</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ip unnumbered type number Configures IP unnumbered routing on the interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 7</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# encapsulation ppp Enables PPP encapsulation on the interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 8</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# async mode interactive Enables interactive mode on an asynchronous interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 9</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ipx network network Assigns the asynchronous interface to the loopback interface configured for IPX.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 10</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ipx update interval Turns off Service Advertising Protocol (SAP) updates to optimize bandwidth on asynchronous interfaces.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Every interface must have a unique IPX network number.

IPX and PPP Using Dedicated IPX Network Numbers for Each Interface

To enable IPX and PPP, use the following commands beginning in global configuration mode. The first five steps are required. The last step is optional.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config)# ipx routing [node] Enables IPX routing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config)# interface loopback number Creates a loopback interface, which is a virtual interface existing only inside the router, and begins interface configuration mode.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# encapsulation ppp Enables PPP encapsulation on the interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 4</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# async mode interactive Enables interactive mode on an asynchronous interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 5</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ipx network network Enables IPX routing on the interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 6</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ipx update interval (Optional) Turns off SAP updates to optimize bandwidth on asynchronous interfaces.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Every interface must have a unique IPX network number.

Enabling IPX and PPP over X.25 to an IPX Network on Virtual Terminal Lines

You can enable IPX-PPP on virtual terminal lines, which permits clients to log in to a virtual terminal on a router, invoke a PPP session at the EXEC prompt to a host, and run IPX to the host.
For example, in Figure 83, the client terminal on the X.25 network logs in to the access server via a virtual terminal line, which is configured for IPX-PPP. When the user connects to the access server and the EXEC prompt appears, enter the PPP command to connect to the IPX host. The virtual terminal is configured to run IPX, so when the PPP session is established from the access server, the terminal can access the IPX host using an IPX application.

![Figure 83 IPX-PPP on a Virtual Asynchronous Interface](image)

To enable IPX to run over your PPP sessions on virtual terminal lines, use the following commands beginning in global configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 1</th>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Router(config)# ipx routing [node]</td>
<td>Enables IPX routing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config)# interface loopback number</td>
<td>Creates a loopback interface and begins interface configuration mode.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ipx network network1</td>
<td>Enables a virtual IPX network on the loopback interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 4</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# vty-async ipx ppp-client loopback number</td>
<td>Enables IPX-PPP on virtual terminal lines by assigning it to the loopback interface configured for IPX.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Every loopback interface must have a unique IPX network number.

### Configuring AppleTalk and PPP

You can configure an asynchronous interface so that users can access AppleTalk zones by dialing in to the router via PPP through this interface. Users accessing the network can run AppleTalk and IP natively on a remote Macintosh, access any available AppleTalk zones from Chooser, use networked peripherals, and share files with other Macintosh users. This feature is referred to as AppleTalk Control Protocol (ATCP).

You create a virtual network that exists only for accessing an AppleTalk internet through the server. To create a new AppleTalk zone, enter the `appletalk virtual-net` command and use a new zone name; this network number is then the only one associated with this zone. To add network numbers to an existing AppleTalk zone, use this existing zone name in the command; this network number is then added to the existing zone. Routing is not supported on these interfaces.

To enable ATCP for PPP, use the following commands in interface configuration (asynchronous) mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 1</th>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Router(config-if)# encapsulation ppp</td>
<td>Defines encapsulation as PPP on this interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# appletalk virtual-net network-number zone-name</td>
<td>Creates an internal network on the server.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# appletalk client-mode</td>
<td>Enables client-mode on this interface.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Configuring IP and SLIP

To enable IP-SLIP on a synchronous or asynchronous interface, use the following commands in interface configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# <code>ip address ip-address mask</code> or <code>ip unnumbered type number</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# <code>encapsulation slip</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# <code>async mode interactive</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Configuring Asynchronous Host Mobility

The access server supports a packet tunneling strategy that extends the internetwork—in effect creating a virtual private link for the mobile user. When a user activates asynchronous host mobility, the access server on which the remote user dials in becomes a remote point of presence (POP) for the home network of the user. Once logged in, users experience a server environment identical to the one that they experience when they connect directly to the “home” access server.

Once the network-layer connection is made, data packets are tunneled at the physical or data link layer instead of at the protocol layer. In this way, raw data bytes from dial-in users are transported directly to the “home” access server, which processes the protocols.

Figure 84 illustrates the implementation of asynchronous host mobility on an extended internetwork. A mobile user connects to an access server on the internetwork and, by activating asynchronous host mobility, is connected to a “home” access server configured with the appropriate username. The user sees an authentication dialog or prompt from the “home” system and can proceed as if he or she were connected directly to that device.

Figure 84  Asynchronous Host Mobility

Asynchronous host mobility is enabled with the tunnel EXEC command and the `ip tcp async-mobility server` global configuration command. The `ip tcp async-mobility server` command establishes asynchronous listening on TCP tunnel port 57. The `tunnel` command sets up a network-layer connection to the specified destination. Both commands must be used. The access server accepts the connection, attaches it to a virtual terminal line, and runs a command parser capable of running the normal dial-in services. After the connection is established, data is transferred between the modem and network connection with a minimum of interpretations. When communications are complete, the network connection can be closed and terminated from either end.
To enable asynchronous host mobility, use the following commands beginning in global configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config)# ip tcp async-mobility server</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config)# exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3</td>
<td>Router# tunnel host</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To connect from a router other than a Cisco router, you must use Telnet. After a connection is established, you receive an authentication dialog or prompt from your home router, and can proceed as if you are connected directly to that router. When communications are complete, the network connection can be closed and terminated from either end of the connection.

Making Additional Remote Node Connections

This section describes how to connect devices across telephone lines by using PPP and SLIP. It includes the following sections:

- Creating PPP Connections
- Making SLIP Connections

Creating PPP Connections

When you connect from a remote node computer through an asynchronous port on an access server to the EXEC facility to connect from the access server to a device on the network, use the following command in EXEC mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Router&gt; ppp {/default</td>
<td>(remote-ip-address</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you specify an address for the TACACS server using /default or tacacs-server, the address must be the first parameter in the command after you type ppp. If you do not specify an address or enter /default, you are prompted for an IP address or host name. You can enter /default at this point.

For example, if you are working at home on the device named ntpc in Figure 85 and want to connect to Server 1 using PPP, you could dial in to the access server. When you connect to the EXEC prompt on the access server, enter the ppp command to connect with the device.
Making SLIP Connections

To make a serial connection to a remote host by using SLIP, use the following command in EXEC mode:

```
Router> slip [/default] {remote-ip-address | remote-name}
[@tacacs-server] [/routing] [/compressed]
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Router&gt; slip [/default] {remote-ip-address</td>
<td>remote-name)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[@tacacs-server] [/routing] [/compressed]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your system administrator can configure SLIP to expect a specific address or to provide one for you. It is also possible to set up SLIP in a mode that compresses packets for more efficient use of bandwidth on the line.

If you specify an address for the TACACS server using /default or tacacs-server, the address must be the first parameter in the command after you type slip. If you do not specify an address or enter /default, you are prompted for an IP address or host name. You can enter /default at this point.

If you do not use the tacacs-server argument to specify a TACACS server for SLIP address authentication, the TACACS server specified at login (if any) is used for the SLIP address query.

To optimize bandwidth on a line, SLIP enables compression of the SLIP packets using Van Jacobson TCP header compression as defined in RFC 1144.

To terminate a session, disconnect from the device on the network using the command specific to that device. Then, exit from EXEC mode by using the exit command.

Configuring Remote Access to NetBEUI Services

NetBIOS Extended User Interface (NetBEUI) is a simple networking protocol developed by IBM for use by PCs in a LAN environment. It is an extension of the original Network Basic Input/Output System (NetBIOS) from IBM. NetBEUI uses a broadcast-based name to 802.x address translation mechanism. Because NetBEUI has no network layer, it is a nonroutable protocol.

The NetBIOS Frames Control Protocol (NBFCP) enables packets from a NetBEUI application to be transferred via a PPP connection. NetBEUI/PPP is supported in the access server and Cisco enterprise images only.

Using the Cisco IOS implementation, remote NetBEUI users can have access to LAN-based NetBEUI services. The PPP link becomes the ramp for the remote node to access NetBIOS services on the LAN. (See Figure 86.) An Logical Link Control, type 2 (LLC2) connection is set up between the remote access client and router, and a second LLC2 connection is set up between the router and the remote access (NetBEUI) server.
By supporting NetBEUI remote clients over PPP, Cisco routers function as a native NetBEUI dial-in router for remote NetBEUI clients. Thus, you can offer remote access to a NetBEUI network through asynchronous or ISDN connections.

To enable a remote access client using a NetBEUI application to connect with the remote router providing NetBEUI services, configure interfaces on the remote access client side and the remote router side by using the following command in interface configuration mode:

```
Router(config-if)# netbios nbf
```

Enables NBFCP on each side of a NetBEUI connection.

To view NetBEUI connection information, use the following command in EXEC mode:

```
Router> show nbf sessions
```

Views NetBEUI connection information.

### Configuring Performance Parameters

To tune IP performance, complete the tasks in the following sections:

- Compressing TCP Packet Headers (As required)
- Setting the TCP Connection Attempt Time (As required)
- Compressing IPX Packet Headers over PPP (As required)
- Enabling Fast Switching (As required)
- Controlling Route Cache Invalidation (As required)
- Customizing SLIP and PPP Banner Messages (As required)

### Compressing TCP Packet Headers

You can compress the headers of your TCP/IP packets to reduce their size and thereby increase performance. Header compression is particularly useful on networks with a large percentage of small packets, such as those supporting many Telnet connections. This feature compresses only the TCP
header, so it has no effect on UDP packets or other protocol headers. The TCP header compression technique, described fully in RFC 1144, is supported on serial lines using High-Level Data Link Control (HDLC) or PPP encapsulation. You must enable compression on both ends of a serial connection.

You can optionally specify outgoing packets to be compressed only when TCP incoming packets on the same interface are compressed. If you do not specify this option, the Cisco IOS software will compress all traffic. The default is no compression.

You can also specify the total number of header compression connections that can exist on an interface. You should configure one connection for each TCP connection through the specified interface.

To enable compression, use the following commands in interface configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ip tcp header-compression [passive] Enables TCP header compression.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config-if)# ip tcp compression-connections number Specifies the total number of header compression connections that can exist on an interface.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note**

When compression is enabled, fast switching is disabled. Fast processors can handle several fast interfaces, such as T1 lines, that are running header compression. However, you should think carefully about traffic characteristics in your network before compressing TCP headers. You might want to use the monitoring commands to help compare network utilization before and after enabling header compression.

**Setting the TCP Connection Attempt Time**

You can set the amount of time that the Cisco IOS software will wait to attempt to establish a TCP connection. In previous versions of the Cisco IOS software, the system would wait a fixed 30 seconds when attempting to make the connection. This amount of time is not enough in networks that have dialup asynchronous connections, such as a network consisting of dial-on-demand links that are implemented over modems, because it will affect your ability to use Telnet over the link (from the router) if the link must be brought up.

Because the connection attempt time is a host parameter, it does not pertain to traffic going through the router, just to traffic originated at it.

To set the TCP connection attempt time, use the following command in global configuration mode:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Router(config)# ip tcp synwait-time seconds Sets the amount of time for which the Cisco IOS software will wait to attempt to establish a TCP connection.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Compressing IPX Packet Headers over PPP**

The Cisco IOS software permits compression of IPX packet headers over various WAN media. There are two protocols for IPX compression on point-to-point links:

- CIPX, also known as Telebit style compression
- Shiva compression, which is proprietary
Cisco routers support IPX Header Compression (CIPX) on all point-to-point Novell interfaces over various WAN media.

CIPX is described in RFC 1553, *Compressing IPX Headers Over WAN Media*. The CIPX algorithm is based on the same concepts as Van Jacobson TCP/IP header compression algorithm. CIPX operates over PPP WAN links using either the IPXCP or IPXWAN communications protocols.

CIPX compresses all IPX headers and IPX/NCP headers for Novell packets with the following Network Control Program (NCP) packet types:

- 0x2222—NCP request from workstation
- 0x3333—NCP replies from file server

In this version of software, CIPX is configurable only for PPP links.

CIPX header compression can reduce header information from 30 bytes down to as little as 1 byte. This reduction can save bandwidth and reduce costs associated with IPX routing over WAN links that are configured to use IPXCP or IPXWAN.

Consider the following issues before implementing CIPX:

- CIPX is supported on all point-to-point IPX interfaces using PPP or IPXWAN processing (or both).
- CIPX needs to be negotiated for both directions of the link, because it uses the reverse direction of the link for communicating decompression problems back to the originating peer. In other words, all peer routers must have CIPX enabled.

To configure CIPX, use the following command in global configuration mode:

```
Router(config)# ipx compression cipx number-of-slots
```

### Note

We recommend that you keep a slot value of 16. Because slots are maintained in the router buffer, a larger number can impact buffer space for other operations.

### Enabling Fast Switching

Fast switching involves the use of a high-speed switching cache for IP routing. With fast switching, destination IP addresses are stored in the high-speed cache so that some time-consuming table lookups can be avoided. The Cisco IOS software generally offers better packet transfer performance when fast switching is enabled.

To enable or disable fast switching, use the following commands in interface configuration mode:

```
Step 1: Router(config-if)# ip route-cache
Purpose: Enables fast-switching (use of a high-speed route cache for IP routing).

Step 2: Router(config-if)# no ip route-cache
Purpose: Disables fast switching and enables load balancing on a per-packet basis.
```
Controlling Route Cache Invalidation

The high-speed route cache used by IP fast switching is invalidated when the IP routing table changes. By default, the invalidation of the cache is delayed slightly to avoid excessive CPU load while the routing table is changing.

To control route cache invalidation, use the following commands in global configuration mode as needed for your network:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>Router(config)# no ip cache-invalidate-delay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2</td>
<td>Router(config)# ip cache-invalidate-delay [minimum maximum quiet-threshold]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Customizing SLIP and PPP Banner Messages

This feature enables you to customize the banner that is displayed when making a SLIP or PPP connection to avoid connectivity problems the default banner message causes in some non-Cisco SLIP and PPP dialup software. This feature is particularly useful when legacy client applications require a specialized connection string.

To configure the SLIP-PPP banner message, use the following command in global configuration mode:

```
Router(config)# banner slip-ppp d message d
```

You can also use tokens in the banner message to display current IOS configuration variables. Tokens are keywords of the form $(token). When you include tokens in a banner command, Cisco IOS will replace $(token) with the corresponding configuration variable.

Table 35 lists the tokens that you can use in the banner slip-ppp command.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tokens</th>
<th>Information Displayed in Banner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(hostname)</td>
<td>Hostname of the router</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(domain)</td>
<td>Domain name of the router</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slip/PPP Banner-Specific</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(peer-ip)</td>
<td>IP address of the peer machine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(gate-ip)</td>
<td>IP address of the gateway machine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(encap)</td>
<td>Encapsulation type (SLIP, PPP, and so on)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Configuration Examples for Asynchronous SLIP and PPP

This section provides the following examples:

- Basic PPP Configurations Examples
- Remote Node NetBEUI Examples
- Remote Network Access Using PPP Basic Configuration Example
- Remote Network Access Using PPP and Routing IP Example
- Remote Network Access Using a Leased Line with Dial-Backup and PPP Example
- Multilink PPP Using Multiple Asynchronous Interfaces Example

Basic PPP Configurations Examples

The following example illustrates how to make a connection when the system administrator defines a default IP address by including the `peer default ip address` command in interface configuration mode.

```
Router> slip
Password:
Entering SLIP mode.
Your IP address is 192.168.7.28, MTU is 1524 bytes
```

Once a correct password is entered, you are placed in SLIP mode, and the IP address appears:

```
Router> slip
Password:
Entering SLIP mode.
Your IP address is 192.168.7.28, MTU is 1524 bytes
```

The following example shows the prompts displayed and the response required when dynamic addressing is used to assign the SLIP address:

```
Router> slip
IP address or hostname? 192.168.6.15
Password:
Entering SLIP mode
Your IP address is 192.168.6.15, MTU is 1524 bytes
```

In the previous example, the address 192.168.6.15 had been assigned as the default. Password verification is still required before SLIP mode can be enabled, as follows:

```
Router> slip default
Password:
Entering SLIP mode
Your IP address is 192.168.6.15, MTU is 1524 bytes
```

The following example illustrates the implementation of header compression on the interface with the IP address 172.16.2.1:

```
Router> slip 172.16.2.1 /compressed
Password:
```

---

### Table 35  SLIP Banner Tokens (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$(encap-alt)</td>
<td>Encapsulation type displayed as SL/IP instead of SLIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(mtu)</td>
<td>MTU size</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Entering SLIP mode.
Interface IP address is 172.16.2.1, MTU is 1500 bytes.
Header compression will match your system.

In the preceding example, the interface is configured for `ip tcp header-compression passive`, which permitted the user to enter the `/compressed` keyword at the EXEC mode prompt. The message “Header compression will match your system” indicates that the user has specified compression. If the line was configured for `ip tcp header-compression on`, this line would read “Header compression is On.”

The following example specifies a TACACS server named parlance for address authentication:

```
Router> slip 10.0.0.1@parlance
Password:
Entering SLIP mode.
Interface IP address is 10.0.0.1, MTU is 1500 bytes
Header compression will match your system.
```

The following example sets the SLIP-PPP banner using several tokens and the percent sign (%) as the delimiting character:

```
Router(config)# banner slip-ppp 
Enter TEXT message. End with the character '%'.
Starting $(encap) connection from $(gate-ip) to $(peer-ip) using a maximum packet size of $(mtu) bytes... %
```

When you enter the `slip` command, you will see the following banner. Notice that the `$(token)` syntax is replaced by the corresponding configuration variables.

```
Starting SLIP connection from 192.168.69.96 to 172.16.80.8 using a maximum packet size of 1500 bytes...
```

### Remote Node NetBEUI Examples

In the following example, asynchronous interface 7 and Ethernet interface 0 are configured to enable NetBEUI connectivity between the corporate telecommuter client and the remote access (NetBEUI) server. The PC client is running the Chat legacy application in Windows NT to connect with the remote server. (See Figure 87.)

**Figure 87** Connecting a Remote NetBEUI Client to a Server Through a Router

The configuration for the router is as follows:

```
interface async 7
    netbios nbf
    encapsulation ppp
```
You would also need to configure security, such as TACACS+, RADIUS, or another form of login authentication on the router.

Remote Network Access Using PPP Basic Configuration Example

Figure 88 illustrates a simple network configuration that includes remote PCs with modems connected via modem to a router. The cloud is a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). The modems are connected via asynchronous lines, and the access server is connected to a local network.

In this example, the following is configured:

- An asynchronous line on the access server configured to use PPP encapsulation.
- An interface on the access server for the modem connection; this interface also needs to be configured to accept incoming modem calls.
- A default IP address for each incoming line.

Figure 88  Remote Network Access Using PPP

This default address indicates the address of the remote PC to the server, unless the user explicitly specifies another when starting the PPP session.

The server is configured for interactive mode with autoselect enabled, which allows the user to automatically begin a PPP session upon detection of a PPP packet from the remote PC; or, the remote PC can explicitly begin a PPP session by entering the `ppp` EXEC command at the prompt.

The configuration is as follows:

```cpp
ip routing
!
interface ethernet 0
 ip address 192.168.32.12 255.255.255.0
!
interface async 1
 encapsulation ppp
 async mode interactive
 async default ip address 192.168.32.51
 async dynamic address
 ip unnumbered ethernet 0
!
line 1
 autoselect ppp
 modem callin
 speed 19200
```
Remote Network Access Using PPP and Routing IP Example

Figure 89 illustrates a network configuration that provides routing functionality, allowing routing updates to be passed across the asynchronous lines.

This network is composed of remote and local PCs connected via modem and network connections to an access server. This access server is connected to a second access server via an asynchronous line running TCP/IP. The second access server is connected to a local network via modem.

For this scenario, you will need to configure the following:
- An asynchronous line on both access servers configured to use PPP encapsulation
- An interface on both access servers for the modem connection and for this interface to be configured to accept incoming modem calls
- A default IP address for each incoming line
- IP routing on all configured interfaces

The configuration is as follows:

```conf
interface async 1
  encapsulation ppp
  async mode interactive
  async default ip address 192.168.32.10
  async dynamic address
  ip unnumbered ethernet 0
  async dynamic routing
```

If you want to pass IP routing updates across the asynchronous link, enter the following commands:

```conf
line 1
  autoselect ppp
  modem callin
  speed 19200
```

Next, enter the following commands to configure the asynchronous lines between the access servers beginning in global configuration mode:

```conf
interface async 2
  async default ip address 192.168.32.55
  ip tcp header compression passive
```
Finally, configure routing as described in the *Cisco IOS IP Configuration Guide* using one of the following methods. The server can route packets three different ways.

- Use ARP, which is the default behavior.
- Use a default-gateway by entering the command `ip default-gateway x.x.x.x`, where `x.x.x.x` is the IP address of a locally attached router.
- Run an IP routing protocol such as Routing Information Protocol (RIP), Interior Gateway Routing Protocol (IGRP), Enhanced IGRP (EIGRP), or Open Shortest Path First (OSPF).

**Remote Network Access Using a Leased Line with Dial-Backup and PPP Example**

*Figure 90* illustrates a scenario where two networks are connected via access servers on a leased line. Redundancy is provided by a dial-backup line over the PSTN so that if the primary leased line goes down, the dial-backup line will be automatically brought up to restore the connection. This configuration would be useful for using an auxiliary port as the backup port for a synchronous port.

For this scenario, you would need to configure the following:

- Two asynchronous interfaces on each access server
- Two modem interfaces
- A default IP address for each interface
- Dial-backup on one modem interface per access server
- An interface connecting to the related network of an access server

*Figure 90   Asynchronous Leased Line with Backup*

```
The configuration for this scenario follows:

hostname routerA
!
username routerB password cisco
chat-script backup " AT" TIMEOUT 30 atdt\T TIMEOUT 30 CONNECT \c
!
interface Serial0
backup interface Async1
ip address 192.168.222.12 255.255.255.0
!
interface Async1
ip address 172.16.199.1 255.255.255.0
encapsulation ppp
```
async default ip address 172.16.199.2
async dynamic address
async dynamic routing
async mode dedicated
dialer in-band
dialer map IP 172.16.199.2 name routerB modem-script backup broadcast 3241129
dialer-group 1
ppp authentication chap
!
dialer-list 1 protocol ip permit
!
line aux 0
   modem InOut
   rxspeed 38400
txspeed 38400

**Multilink PPP Using Multiple Asynchronous Interfaces Example**

The following example shows how to configure MLP using multiple asynchronous interfaces:

chat-script backup "" ""AT" TIMEOUT 30 OK atdt\T TIMEOUT 30 CONNECT \c
!
ip address-pool local
ip pool foo 10.0.1.5 10.0.1.15
!
int as 1 (2, 3)
no ip address
dialer in-band
encapsulation ppp
ppp multilink
dialer-rotary 1
!
interface dialer 1
   encaps ppp
   ip unnumbered ethernet 0
   peer default ip addr pool foo
   ppp authentication chap
   ppp multilink
dialer in-band
dialer map ip 10.200.100.9 name WAN-R3 modem-script backup broadcast 2322036
dialer load-threshold 5 either
dialer-group 1
!
dialer-list 1 protocol ip permit
!
line line 1 3
   modem InOut
   speed 115000