CHAPTER 56

Configuring Web Cache Services Using WCCP

This chapter describes how to configure web caching services using WCCP, and includes the following sections:

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- Enabling WCCP Redirection, page 56-2
- Feature History for WCCP, page 56-3

Information About WCCP

The purpose of web caching is to reduce latency and network traffic. Previously-accessed web pages are stored in a cache buffer, so if a user needs the page again, they can retrieve it from the cache instead of the web server.

WCCP specifies interactions between the ASA and external web caches. The feature transparently redirects selected types of traffic to a group of web cache engines to optimize resource usage and lower response times. The ASA only supports WCCP version 2.

Using an ASA as an intermediary eliminates the need for a separate router to do the WCCP redirect because the ASA takes care of redirecting requests to cache engines. When the ASA knows when a packet needs redirection, it skips TCP state tracking, TCP sequence number randomization, and NAT on these traffic flows.

Guidelines and Limitations

Supported WCCP Features

The following WCCPv2 features are supported with the ASA:

- Redirection of multiple TCP/UDP port-destined traffic.
- Authentication for cache engines in a service group.

Unsupported WCCP Features

The following WCCPv2 features are not supported with the ASA:

- Multiple routers in a service group is not supported. Multiple Cache Engines in a service group is still supported.
Enabling WCCP Redirection

There are two steps to configuring WCCP redirection on the ASA. The first involves identifying the service to be redirected with the `wccp` command, and the second is defining on which interface the redirection occurs with the `wccp redirect` command. The `wccp` command can optionally also define which cache engines can participate in the service group, and what traffic should be redirected to the cache engine.

WCCP redirect is supported only on the ingress of an interface. The only topology that the ASA supports is when client and cache engine are behind the same interface of the ASA and the cache engine can directly communicate with the client without going through the ASA.

The following configuration tasks assume you have already installed and configured the cache engines you wish to include in your network.
To configure WCCP redirection, perform the following steps:

### Command

**Step 1**

```
wccp {web-cache | service_number} [redirect-list access_list] [group-list access_list] [password password]
```

**Example:**

```
hostname(config)# wccp web-cache
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enables a WCCP service group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The standard service is <strong>web-cache</strong>, which intercepts TCP port 80 (HTTP) traffic and redirects that traffic to the cache engines, but you can identify a service number if desired between 0 and 254. For example, to transparently redirect native FTP traffic to a cache engine, use WCCP service 60. You can enter this command multiple times for each service group you want to enable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>redirect-list access_list</strong> argument controls traffic redirected to this service group.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>group-list access_list</strong> argument determines which web cache IP addresses are allowed to participate in the service group.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>password password</strong> argument specifies MD5 authentication for messages received from the service group. Messages that are not accepted by the authentication are discarded.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Step 2**

```
wccp interface interface_name (web-cache | service_number) redirect in
```

**Example:**

```
hostname(config)# wccp interface inside web-cache redirect in
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enables WCCP redirection on an interface.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The standard service is <strong>web-cache</strong>, which intercepts TCP port 80 (HTTP) traffic and redirects that traffic to the cache engines, but you can identify a service number if desired between 0 and 254. For example, to transparently redirect native FTP traffic to a cache engine, use WCCP service 60. You can enter this command multiple times for each service group you want to enable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Examples

For example, to enable the standard **web-cache** service and redirect HTTP traffic that enters the inside interface to a web cache, enter the following commands:

```
hostname(config)# wccp web-cache
hostname(config)# wccp interface inside web-cache redirect in
```

### Feature History for WCCP

**Table 56-1** lists the release history for this feature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Releases</th>
<th>Feature Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WCCP</td>
<td>7.2(1)</td>
<td>This feature was introduced.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Feature History for WCCP