Configuring Port Blocking

Information About Port Blocking

By default, the switch floods packets with unknown destination MAC addresses out of all ports. If unknown unicast and multicast traffic is forwarded to a protected port, there could be security issues. To prevent unknown unicast or multicast traffic from being forwarded from one port to another, you can block a port (protected or nonprotected) from flooding unknown unicast or multicast packets to other ports.

Blocking Flooded Traffic on an Interface

To block flooded traffic on n interface, perform this procedure:

Before you begin

The interface can be a physical interface or an EtherChannel group. When you block multicast or unicast traffic for a port channel, it is blocked on all ports in the port-channel group.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**enable** **Example:** `Device> enable`	Enables privileged EXEC mode. Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	**configure terminal** **Example:** `Device configure terminal`	Enters global configuration mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	**interface** *interface-id* **Example:** `Device(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/0/2`	Specifies the interface to be configured, and enter interface configuration mode.
Step 4	**switchport block multicast** **Example:** `Device(config-if)# switchport block multicast`	Blocks unknown multicast forwarding out of the port. **Note** Pure Layer 2 multicast traffic as well as multicast packets that contain IPv6 information in the header are blocked.
Step 5	**switchport block unicast** **Example:** `Device(config-if)# switchport block unicast`	Blocks unknown unicast forwarding out of the port.
Step 6	**end** **Example:** `Device(config-line)# end`	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 7	**show interfaces** *interface-id* **switchport** **Example:** `Device# show interfaces gigabitethernet 1/0/2 switchport`	Verifies your entries.
Step 8	**show running-config** **Example:** `Device# show running-config`	Verifies your entries.
Step 9	**copy running-config startup-config** **Example:** `Device# copy running-config startup-config`	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Monitoring Port Blocking

Table 1: Commands for Displaying Port Blocking Settings

Command	Purpose
show interfaces [*interface-id*] **switchport**	Displays the administrative and operational status of all sw (nonrouting) ports or the specified port, including port bloc protection settings.

Feature History for Port Blocking

This table provides release and related information for features explained in this module.

These features are available on all releases subsequent to the one they were introduced in, unless noted otherwise.

Release	Feature	Feature Information
Cisco IOS Release 15.2(7)E3k	Port Blocking	To prevent unknown unicast or multicast traffic from being forwarded from one port to another, you can block a port (protected or nonprotected) from flooding unknown unicast or multicast packets to other ports.

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