Configuring Global Credentials for Access Points

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Global Credentials for Access Points

Cisco IOS access points are shipped from the factory with *Cisco* as the default enable password. This password allows users to log on to the nonprivileged mode and enter **show** and **debug** commands, which poses a security threat. The default enable password must be changed to prevent unauthorized users from accessing to the access point's console port and entering configurable commands.

The following are some guidelines to configure global credentials for access points:

- You can set a global username, password, and enable password that all access points that are currently joined to the controller and any that join in the future inherit as they join the controller. If desired, you can override the global credentials and assign a unique username, password, and enable password for a specific access point.
- After an access point joins the controller, the access point enables console port security, and you are prompted for your username and password whenever you log in to the access point’s console port. When you log on, you are in nonprivileged mode, and you must enter the enable password in order to use the privileged mode.
- The global credentials that you configure on the controller are retained across controller and access point reboots. They are overwritten only if the access point joins a new controller that is configured with a global username and password. If the new controller is not configured with global credentials, the access point retains the global username and password configured for the first controller.
- You must keep track of the credentials used by the access points. Otherwise, you might not be able to log onto the console port of the access point. If you need to return the access points to the default *Cisco*/*Cisco* username and password, you must clear the controller’s configuration and the access point’s configuration to return them to factory-default settings. To clear the controller’s configuration, choose **Commands** > **Reset to Factory Default** > **Reset** on the controller GUI, or enter the **clear config** command on the controller CLI. To clear the access point’s configuration, choose **Wireless** > **Access Points** > **All APs**, click the AP name and click **Clear All Config** on the controller GUI, or enter the **clear ap config** *Cisco_AP* command on the controller CLI. To clear the access point's configuration except its static IP address, choose **Wireless** > **Access Points** > **All APs**, click the AP name and click **Clear Config Except**

Static IP, or enter the **clear ap config** *ap-name* **keep-ip-config** command on the controller CLI. After the access point rejoins a controller, it adopts the default *Cisco*/*Cisco* username and password.

Note If the AP is in Bridge mode, then the same Bridge mode is retained after the factory reset of the AP; if the AP is in FlexConnect, Local, Sniffer, or any other mode, then the AP mode is set to Local mode after the factory reset of the AP. If you press the Reset button on the AP and perform a true factory reset, then the AP moves to a cookie configured mode.

Note Suppose you configure an indoor Cisco AP to go into the mesh mode. If you want to reset the Cisco AP to the local mode, use the **test mesh mode local** command.

- To reset the AP hardware, choose **Wireless** > **Access Points** > **All APs**, click the AP name and click **Reset AP Now**.

This section contains the following subsections:

Restrictions for Global Credentials for Access Points

- The controller software features are supported on all access points that have been converted to lightweight mode except the 1100 series. VxWorks access points are not supported.
- Telnet is not supported on Cisco Aironet 1810 OEAP, 1810W, 1830, 1850, 2800, and 3800 Series APs.
- A global Access Point login credentials once configured in WLC cannot be removed.

Configuring Global Credenitals for Access Points

Configuring Global Credentials for Access Points (GUI)

Step 1 Choose **Wireless** > **Access Points** > **Global Configuration** to open the Global Configuration page.

Step 2 In the **Username** field, enter the username that is to be inherited by all access points that join the controller.

Step 3 In the **Password** field, enter the password that is to be inherited by all access points that join the controller.

You can set a global username, password, and enable password that all access points inherit as they join the controller including access points that are currently joined to the controller and any that join in the future. You can override the global credentials and assign a unique username, password, and enable password for a specific access point. The following are requirements enforced on the password:

- The password should contain characters from at least three of the following classes: lowercase letters, uppercase letters, digits, and special characters.
- No character in the password can be repeated more than three times consecutively.

- The password should not contain the management username or the reverse of the username.
- The password should not contain words like Cisco, oscic, admin, nimda or any variant obtained by changing the capitalization of letters by substituting 1, |, or ! or substituting 0 for o or substituting $ for s.
- The AP passwords or secret passwords should not contain the following characters:

  &, <, >, ", and '

Step 4 In the Enable Password text box, enter the enable password that is to be inherited by all access points that join the controller.

Step 5 Click **Apply** to send the global username, password, and enable password to all access points that are currently joined to the controller or that join the controller in the future.

Step 6 Click **Save Configuration** to save your changes.

Step 7 (Optional) Override the global credentials for a specific access point and assign a unique username, password, and enable password to this access point as follows:

a) Choose **Access Points** > **All APs** to open the All APs page.
b) Click the name of the access point for which you want to override the global credentials.
c) Choose the **Credentials** tab. The All APs > Details for (Credentials) page appears.
d) Select the **Over-ride Global Credentials** check box to prevent this access point from inheriting the global username, password, and enable password from the controller. The default value is unselected.
e) In the Username, Password, and Enable Password text boxes, enter the unique username, password, and enable password that you want to assign to this access point.

   Note The information that you enter is retained across controller and access point reboots and if the access point joins a new controller.

f) Click **Apply** to commit your changes.
g) Click **Save Configuration** to save your changes.

   Note If you want to force this access point to use the controller's global credentials, unselect the **Over-ride Global Credentials** check box.

Configuring Global Credentials for Access Points (CLI)

Step 1 Configure the global username, password, and enable password for all access points currently joined to the controller as well as any access points that join the controller in the future by entering this command:

config ap mgmtuser add username *user* **password** *password* **enablesecret** *enable_password* **all**

Step 2 (Optional) Override the global credentials for a specific access point and assign a unique username, password, and enable password to this access point by entering this command:

config ap mgmtuser add username *user* **password** *password* **enablesecret** *enable_password Cisco_AP*

The credentials that you enter in this command are retained across controller and access point reboots and if the access point joins a new controller.

Note If you want to force this access point to use the controller's global credentials, enter the **config ap mgmtuser delete** *Cisco_AP* command. The following message appears after you execute this command: "AP reverted to global username configuration."

Step 3 Enter the **save config** command to save your changes.

Step 4 Verify that global credentials are configured for all access points that join the controller by entering this command:

show ap summary

Note If global credentials are not configured, the Global AP User Name text box shows "Not Configured."

To view summary of specific access point you can specify the access point name. You can also use wildcard searches when filtering for access points.

Step 5 See the global credentials configuration for a specific access point by entering this command:

show ap config general *Cisco_AP*

Note The name of the access point is case sensitive.

Note If this access point is configured for global credentials, the AP User Mode text boxes shows "Automatic." If the global credentials have been overwritten for this access point, the AP User Mode text box shows "Customized."