

Port Channel and Virtual Port Channel Configuration

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Port Channel or Virtual Port Channel Configuration

You can configure a port channel or virtual port channel or a port channel policy using the Cisco APIC GUI, NX-OS style CLI, or REST API.

Configure a Port Channel or Virtual Port Channel Using the GUI

Use the Cisco APIC GUI to configure a port channel or virtual port channel.

Procedure

Step 1	Log in to the Cisco APIC.
Step 2	Choose Fabric > Access Policies.
Step 3	Expand the Interface and Leaf Interfaces folders.
Step 4	Right-click the Profiles folder and choose Create Leaf Interface Profile.
Step 5	In the Create Leaf Interface Policy dialog box, enter a name for the policy in the Name field.
Step 6	In the Interface Selectors area, click + to add an access port selector.
Step 7	In the Create Access Port Selector dialog box, complete the following steps:
	a) In the Name field, enter a name for the access port.
	b) In the Interface IDs field, enter the interface IDs where the host is located.

- c) From the Interface Policy Group drop-down list, choose Create PC Interface Policy Group or Create VPC Interface Policy Group.
- **Step 8** In the **Create PC Interface Policy Group** dialog box or the **Create VPC Interface Policy Group** dialog box, complete the following steps:
 - a) In the Name field, enter a name for the port channel.
 - b) From the Port Channel Policy drop-down list, choose Create Port Channel Policy.
- **Step 9** In the **Create Port Channel Policy** dialog box, complete the following actions:
 - a) In the Name field, enter a name for the policy.
 - b) In the Mode field, choose one of the following options appropriate to your setup:
 - Static Channel Mode On
 - LACP Active
 - LACP Passive
 - MAC Pinning
 - MAC Pinning-Physical-NIC-load
 - **Note** LACP Passive mode is not supported for directly connected hosts. Ports using LACP Passive mode do not initiate an LACP handshake. We recommend that you always use LACP Active instead of LACP Passive. LACP Passive can be used only with Cisco ACI Virtual Edge/TOR policy groups when there is an intermediate Layer 2 device and the Layer 2 device ports are using LACP Active mode.
 - **Note** MAC Pinning-Physical-NIC-load mode is not supported for Cisco ACI Virtual Edge.
 - c) Click Submit.
- Step 10In the Create PC Interface Policy Group or Create VPC Interface Policy Group dialog box, from the
Attached Entity Profile drop-down list, choose or create an attached entity profile, and then click Submit.
- Step 11In the Create Access Port Selector dialog box, click OK.
- Step 12 In the Create Leaf Interface Policy dialog box, click Submit.

Configure Port Channel Mode Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Procedure

Configure port channel mode.

```
apic1# conf t
apic1(config)# vmware-domain mininet
apic1(config-vmware)# configure-ave
apic1(config-vmware-ave)# channel-mode ?
active Set channeling mode to ACTIVE
mac-pinning Set channeling mode to MAC-PINNING
on Set channeling mode to ON (static)
```

passive Set channeling mode to PASSIVE
apic1(config-vmware-ave)# channel-mode <mode>

Configure a Port Channel Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Procedure

Create a port channel.

Example:

```
apic1# config
apic1(config)# template port-channel cli-pc1
apic1(config-if)# channel-mode active
apic1(config-if)# vlan-domain member cli-vdom1
apic1(config-if)# show running-config
# Command: show running-config interface port-channel cli-pc1
# Time: Thu Oct 1 10:38:30 2015
interface port-channel cli-pc1
vlan-domain member cli-vdom1
channel-mode active
exit
```

VPC Configuration Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Configuring a Virtual Port Channel (VPC) using the NX-OS style CLI consists of two tasks. Your first configure a VPC domain and then configure the VPC on the switch interfaces.

Configure a VPC Domain Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Procedure

Configure a VPC domain.

```
apic1# config
apic1(config)# vpc domain explicit 10 leaf 101 102
apic1(config-vpc)# show running-config
# Command: show running-config vpc domain explicit 10 leaf 101 102
# Time: Thu Oct 1 10:39:26 2015
vpc domain explicit 10 leaf 101 102
exit
```

Configure a VPC on Switch Interfaces Using NX-OS Style CLI

Procedure

Configure a VPC on switch interfaces

Example:

```
apic1# config
apic1(config) # leaf 101 - 102
apic1(config-leaf) # interface ethernet 1/3
apic1(config-leaf-if) # channel-group cli-pc1 vpc
apic1(config-leaf-if)# show running-config
# Command: show running-config leaf 101 - 102 interface ethernet 1/3
# Time: Thu Oct 1 10:41:15 2015
  leaf 101
    interface ethernet 1/3
      channel-group cli-pc1 vpc
      exit
    exit.
  leaf 102
    interface ethernet 1/3
      channel-group cli-pc1 vpc
      exit
    exit
```

Configure a Port Channel Policy

You can configure one of several types of port channel policies on the Cisco ACI Virtual Edge:

- Link Aggregation Control Policy (LACP) in active mode
- · Link Aggregation Control Policy (LACP) in passive mode
- Static mode
- MAC Pinning

You can configure port channel policies through the Cisco APIC GUI or the REST API. However, you can configure port channel mode using the NX-OS Style CLI.



Note When an LACP policy is applied as a vSwitch policy for the VMM domain, the LACP policy is applied only to the VMware vSphere Distributed Switch (VDS) uplinks. However, it is not applied to the Cisco ACI Virtual Edge port channel. This is expected behavior. Cisco ACI Virtual Edge does not support LACP on its uplinks because VDS does not support it for its virtual Ethernet (vEth) interfaces. So the VMM port channel policy is applied only for the VDS uplinks.

Configure an LACP Port Channel Policy Using the REST API

Procedure

```
Step 1 Create a node profile that specifies the leaf IDs that the access port profiles are associated with.
```

Example:

Step 2 Create an access port profile that specifies the port included in the access bundle group.

Example:

Step 3 Create an access port profile that specifies a second port included in the access bundle group.

Example:

Step 4 Create an access bundle group that points to the port channel interface policy.

Example:

Step 5 Create a port channel interface policy.

```
</infraFuncP>
<lacpLagPol name='accountingLacp1' ctrl='15' descr='accounting' maxLinks='14' minLinks='1'
mode='active' />
```

<lacpLagPol name='accountingLacp2' ctrl='15' descr='accounting' maxLinks='14' minLinks='1'
mode='active' />

You can set the mode to 'passive' instead of 'active'.

Step 6 Associate the VMM domain to the attachable entity profile.

Example:

```
<infraAttEntityP name="default"> <infraRsDomP tDn="uni/vmmp-VMware/dom-mininet"/> </infraAttEntityP>
```

```
</infraInfra>
```

Configure a MAC Pinning Port Channel Policy Using the REST API

Procedure

Step 1 Create a node profile that specifies the leaf IDs that the access port profiles are associated with.

Example:

```
<infraInfra dn="uni/infra">
    <infraInfra dn="uni/infra">
        <infraNodeP name="bLeaf">
            <infraLeafS name="leafs" type="range">
                 <infraLeafS name="nblk" from_="17" to_="17">
                 </infraNodeBlk name="nblk" from_="17" to_="17">
                 </infraNodeBlk name="nblk" from_="17" to_="17">
                 </infraNodeBlk>
                </infraLeafS>
                <infraRsAccPortP tDn="uni/infra/accportprof-shipping1"/>
                <infraRsAccPortP tDn="uni/infra/accportprof-shipping2"/>
                </infraNodeP>
```

Step 2 Create an access port profile that specifies the port included in the access bundle group.

Example:

Step 3 Create an access port profile that specifies a second port included in the access bundle group.

Example:

Step 4 Create an access bundle group that points to the port channel interface policy.

Step 5 Create a port channel interface policy.

Example:

```
<lacpLagPol name='accountingLacp1' ctr1='15' descr='accounting' maxLinks='14' minLinks='1'
mode='mac-pin' />
<lacpLagPol name='accountingLacp2' ctr1='15' descr='accounting' maxLinks='14' minLinks='1'
mode='mac-pin' />
```

Step 6 Associate the VMM domain to the attachable entity profile.

Example:

```
<infraAttEntityP name="default"> <infraRsDomP tDn="uni/vmmp-VMware/dom-mininet"/>
</infraAttEntityP>
```

```
</infraInfra>
```

Configure a Static Port Channel Policy Using the REST API

Procedure

Step 1 Create a node profile that specifies the leaf IDs that the access port profiles are associated with.

Example:

Step 2 Create an access port profile that specifies the port included in the access bundle group.

Example:

Step 3 Create an access port profile that specifies a second port included in the access bundle group.

```
Step 4
```

Create an access bundle group that points to the port channel interface policy.

Example:

Step 5 Create a port channel interface policy.

Example:

```
<lacpLagPol name='accountingLacp1' ctrl='15' descr='accounting' maxLinks='14' minLinks='1'
mode='off' />
<lacpLagPol name='accountingLacp2' ctrl='15' descr='accounting' maxLinks='14' minLinks='1'
mode='off' />
```

Step 6 Associate the VMM domain to the attachable entity profile.

Example:

```
<infraAttEntityP name="default"> <infraRsDomP tDn="uni/vmmp-VMware/dom-mininet"/>
</infraAttEntityP>
```

</infraInfra>

Enhanced LACP Policy Support

In Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC) Release 3.2(7), you can improve uplink load balancing by applying different Link Aggregation Control Protocol (LACP) policies to different distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port groups.

Cisco APIC now supports VMware's Enhanced LACP feature, which is available for DVS 5.5 and later. Previously, the same LACP policy applied to all DVS uplink port groups. Before Cisco APIC Release 3.2(7), it was not possible to manage VMware link aggregation groups (LAGs) with Cisco APIC.

You can choose from up to 20 different load-balancing algorithms when you create a VMware vCenter virtual machine manager (VMM) domain for Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge or VMware VDS. You apply different policies to different uplink portgroups.

You have eight DVS uplink portgroups, and you must configure at least two uplinks in the same policy. So you can have up to four different LACP policies for each DVS. Enhanced LACP supports only active and passive LACP modes.



Note

For Cisco ACI Virtual Edge VXLAN mode, it is mandatory to use a load-balancing algorithm having a UDP port. We recommend the algorithm **Source and Destination TCP/UDP Port**. In VLXAN mode, traffic is always sent between VTEP to the FTEP IP. So communication is always between one pair of IP address. So for VXLAN traffic, the only way to distinguish traffic is using the UDP port number.

The following sections provide instructions for configuring multiple LACP policies for DVS uplinks using the Cisco APIC GUI, NX-OS style CLI, or REST API.

Enhanced LACP Limitations

Be aware of the following limitations when using enhanced Link Aggregation Control Protocol (LACP) policies.

- You cannot fall back to the previous version of LACP after upgrading to enhanced LACP.
- You cannot downgrade to a version of Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC) earlier than 3.2(7) without removing the enhanced LACP configuration. See the procedure Remove the Enhanced LACP Configuration Before a Downgrade, on page 15 in this guide.
- Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge, VXLAN mode traffic always uses the source IP address as the TEP IP address. To ensure proper load balancing, we recommend the algorithm **Source and Destination TCP/UDP Port**.

Create LAGs for DVS Uplink Port Groups Using the Cisco APIC GUI

Improve distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port group load balancing by putting the port groups into link aggregation groups (LAGs) and associating them with specific load-balancing algorithms. You can perform this task using the Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC) GUI.

Before you begin

- You must have created a VMware vCenter virtual machine manager (VMM) domain for VMware VDS or Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge.
- If a vSwitch policy container does not exist, create one.

Procedure

- **Step 1** Log into the Cisco APIC.
- **Step 2** Go to Virtual Networking > Inventory > VMM Domains > VMware > domain .
- **Step 3** In the work pane, choose **Policy** > **VSwitch Policy**.
- **Step 4** If you have not already done so, in the **Properties** area, choose a policy.
- **Step 5** In the **Enhanced LAG Policy** area, click the + (plus) icon and then complete the following steps:
 - a) In the **Name** field, enter the name of the LAG.
 - b) From the Mode drop-down list, choose LACP Active or LACP Passive.
 - c) From the Load Balancing Mode drop-down list, choose a load-balancing method.

- d) In the Number of Links selector, choose how many DVS uplink port groups to include in the LAG.
 You can put two to eight uplink port groups into a LAG.
- e) Click **Update** and then click **Submit**.

Step 6 Repeat Step 5 to create other LAGs for the DVS.

What to do next

If you are using VMware VDS, associate endpoint groups (EPGs) to the domain with the enhanced LACP policy. If you are using Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge, associate internally created inside and outside port groups with the enhanced LACP policy, then associate EPGs to the domain with the policy.

Create LAGs for DVS Uplink Port Groups Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Improve distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port group load balancing by putting the port groups into link aggregation groups (LAGs) and associating them with specific load-balancing algorithms. You can perform this task using the NX-OS style CLI.

Before you begin

You must have created a VMware vCenter virtual machine manager (VMM) domain for VMware VDS or Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge.

Procedure

Create or delete an enhanced LACP policy.

Example:

```
apic1(config-vmware)# enhancedlacp LAG name
apic1(config-vmware-enhancedlacp)# lbmode loadbalancing mode
apic1(config-vmware-enhancedlacp)# mode mode
apic1(config-vmware-enhancedlacp)# numlinks max number of uplinks
apic1(config-vmware)# no enhancedlacp LAG name to delete
```

What to do next

If you are using VMware VDS, associate endpoint groups (EPGs) to the domain with the enhanced LACP policy. If you are using Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge, associate internally created inside and outside port groups with the enhanced LACP policy, then associate EPGs to the domain with the policy.

Create LAGs for DVS Uplink Port Groups Using REST API

Improve distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port group load balancing by putting the port groups into link aggregation groups (LAGs) and associating them with specific load-balancing algorithms. You can perform this task using REST API.

Before you begin

You must have created a VMware vCenter virtual machine manager (VMM) domain for VMware VDS or Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge.

Procedure

Step 1 Create the LAG and associate it with a load-balancing algorithm.

Example:

Step 2 Repeat the step to create other LAGs for the DVS.

What to do next

If you are using VMware VDS, associate endpoint groups (EPGs) to the domain with the enhanced LACP policy. If you are using Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge, associate internally created inside and outside port groups with the enhanced LACP policy, then associate EPGs to the domain with the policy.

Associate Internal Port Groups to VMware vCenter Domains with Enhanced LACP Policies Using the Cisco APIC GUI

Associate Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge internally created inside and outside port groups with a VMware vCenter domain with an enhanced LACP policy. You can perform this task using the Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC) GUI.

Before you begin

You must have created link aggregation groups (LAGs) for distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port groups and associated a load-balancing algorithm to the LAGs.

Procedure

- **Step 1** Log into the Cisco APIC.
- Step 2 Go to Virtual Networking > Inventory > VMM Domains > VMware > domain.
- **Step 3** In the work pane, choose **Policy** > **General**.
- Step 4 From the Enhanced LAG Policy drop-down list, choose a policy.

Step 5 Click Submit.

What to do next

Associate endpoint groups (EPGs) with the VMware vCenter domain containing the enhanced LACP policy.

Associate Internal Port Groups to VMware vCenter Domains with Enhanced LACP Policies Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Associate Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge internally created inside and outside port groups with a VMware vCenter domain with an enhanced LACP policy. You can perform this task using the NX-OS style CLI.

Before you begin

You must have created link aggregation groups (LAGs) for the distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port groups and associated a load-balancing algorithm to the LAGs.

Procedure

Associate (or deassociate) internal endpoint groups (EPGs) to the VMM domain with the enhanced LACP policy.

Example:

apic1(config-vmware)# lag-policy name of the policy to associate
apic1(config-vmware)# no lag-policy name of the policy to deassociate

What to do next

Associate EPGs with the VMware vCenter domain containing the enhanced LACP policy.

Associate Internal Port Groups to VMware vCenter Domains with Enhanced LACP Policies Using REST API

Associate Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure Virtual Edge internally created inside and outside port groups with a VMware vCenter domain with an enhanced LACP policy. You can perform this task using REST API.

Before you begin

You must have created link aggregation groups (LAGs) for distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink portgroups and associated a load-balancing algorithm to the LAGs.

Procedure

Example:

What to do next

Associate endpoint groups (EPGs) with the VMware vCenter domain containing the enhanced LACP policy.

Associate Application EPGs to VM ware vCenter Domains with Enhanced LACP Policies Using the Cisco APIC GUI

Associate application endpoint groups (EPGs) with the VMware vCenter domain with LAGs and a load-balancing algorithm. You can perform this task using the Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC) GUI.

Before you begin

You must have created link aggregation groups (LAGs) for distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port groups and associated a load-balancing algorithm to the LAGs.

Note

This procedure assumes that you have not yet associated an application EPG with a VMware vCenter domain. If you have already done so, you edit the domain association.

Procedure

Step 1 Log into Cisco APIC.

- Step 2Go to Tenants > tenant > Application Profiles > application_profile > Application EPGs > EPG >
Domains (VMs and Bare-Metals).
- Step 3 Right-click Domains (VMs and Bare-Metals) and choose Add VMM Domain Association.

Step 4 In the Add VMM Domain Association dialog box, complete the following steps:

- a) From the **VMM Domain Profile** drop-down list, choose the domain that you want to associate the EPG to.
- b) From the **Enhanced Lag Policy**, choose the policy configured for the domain that you want to apply to the EPG.
- c) Add remaining values as desired for the domain association, and then click **Submit**.

Step 5 Repeat Step 2 through Step 4 for other application EPGs in the tenant as desired.

Associate Application EPGs to VMware vCenter Domains with Enhanced LACP Policies Using the NX-OS Style CLI

Associate application endpoint groups (EPGs) with the VMware vCenter domain with LAGs and a load-balancing algorithm. You can perform this task using NX-OS style CLI. You can also deassociate application EPGs from the domain.

Before you begin

You must have created link aggregation groups (LAGs) for distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port groups and associated a load-balancing algorithm to the LAGs.

Procedure

Step 1 Associate an application EPG with the domain or deassociate it from the domain.

Example:

apic1(config-tenant-app-epg-domain)# lag-policy name of the LAG policy to associate apic1(config-tenant-app-epg-domain)# no lag-policy name of the LAG policy to deassociate

Step 2 Repeat Step 1 for other application EPGs in the tenant as desired.

Associate Application EPGs to VMware vCenter Domains with Enhanced LACP Policies Using REST API

Associate application endpoint groups (EPGs) with the VMware vCenter domain with LAGs and a load-balancing algorithm. You can perform this task using REST API. You can also deassociate application EPGs from the domain.

Before you begin

You must have created link aggregation groups (LAGs) for distributed virtual switch (DVS) uplink port groups and associated a load-balancing algorithm to the LAGs.

Procedure

Step 1 Associate an EPG to a VMware vCenter domain with LAGs associated to a load-balancing algorithm.

```
<polUni>
  <fvTenant
   dn="uni/tn-coke"
   name="coke">
    <fvCtx name="cokectx"/>
```

L

```
<fvAp
     dn="uni/tn-coke/ap-sap"
     name="sap">
     <fvAEPg
       dn="uni/tn-coke/ap-sap/epg-web3"
       name="web3" >
          <fvRsBd tnFvBDName="cokeBD2" />
          <fvRsDomAtt resImedcy="immediate" switchingMode="native"
           tDn="uni/vmmp-VMware/dom-mininetlacpavs">
           <fvAEPgLagPolAtt >
              <fvRsVmmVSwitchEnhancedLagPol
tDn="uni/vmmp-VMware/dom-mininetlacpavs/vswitchpolcont/enlacplagp-lag2"/>
           </fvAEPgLagPolAtt>
          </fvRsDomAtt>
     </fvAEPg>
   </fvAp>
 </fvTenant>
</polUni>
```

```
Step 2
```

Repeat Step 1 for other application EPGs in the tenant, as desired.

Remove the Enhanced LACP Configuration Before a Downgrade

Before you downgrade Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC) to a release earlier than 3.2(7), you must remove the enhanced LACP configuration. Complete the steps in this procedure to remove the configuration.

Procedure

Step 1	Reassign uplinks on all ESXi hosts from link aggregation groups (LAGs) to normal uplinks.
Step 2	Remove LAG associations from all EPGs associated with the distributed virtual switch (DVS).
	You can expect traffic loss while performing this step.
Step 3	Change port channel settings to static channel or MAC pinning, which will cause traffic to recover once the port channel is up.
Step 4	Remove all LAG-related configuration from the virtual machine manager (VMM).
Step 5	Verify that all LAG-related policies are deleted from VMware vCenter.

What to do next

Downgrade to a Cisco APIC release earlier than 3.2(7).