



# IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

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This feature provides multiple VRF-aware IS-IS instances. The VRF functionality allows Internet service providers (ISPs) to separate routing protocol information and propagate it to the appropriate routing table and network neighbors. Using one router with VRF functionality is more cost-effective than using separate routers to separate and forward the routing information.

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## Finding Feature Information

Your software release may not support all the features documented in this module. For the latest feature information and caveats, see the release notes for your platform and software release. To find information about the features documented in this module, and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, see the Feature Information Table at the end of this document.

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to [www.cisco.com/go/cfn](http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn). An account on Cisco.com is not required.

## Prerequisites for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- It is presumed that you are running IS-IS on your network.
- The VRF configuration is a prerequisite to associating an IS-IS instance with that specific VRF. However, the VRF configuration is independent of associating it with IS-IS or any other routing



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protocol. An IS-IS instance cannot be referred to as being VRF-aware until it has been associated with a particular VRF.

## Restrictions for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

Support for IS-IS VRF is provided only for IPv4.

When you configure the IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP feature, you must comply with the following nine best-practice guidelines:

- IS-IS instances running Connectionless Network Services (CLNS) must have the same system ID.
- An IS-IS instance that is running CLNS or IPv6 cannot be associated with a VRF.
- You can configure only one IS-IS instance to run both CLNS and IP.
- IS-IS instances within the same VRF must have unique system IDs, although IS-IS instances located in separate VRFs can have the same system ID.
- You can associate an IS-IS instance with only one VRF.
- You can configure the **passive-interface default** command only on one IS-IS instance per VRF.
- Redistribution is allowed only within the same VRF.
- You can enable only one IS-IS instance per interface.
- An interface can belong to an IS-IS instance only if it is associated with the same VRF.



### Note

If you are using LDP, you cannot use the **route-target** command when configuring a VRF. The router will use BGP for Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) labels.

## Information About IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- [VRF-Aware IS-IS, page 2](#)
- [IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP Feature Operation, page 2](#)

### VRF-Aware IS-IS

You can configure IS-IS to be VPN routing and forwarding (VRF)-aware. A VRF consists of an IP routing table, a derived Cisco Express Forwarding (CEF) table, a set of interfaces that use the forwarding table, and a set of rules and routing protocol parameters that control the information that is included in the routing table.

### IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP Feature Operation

ISPs have the capability to create multiple VRF-aware IS-IS instances that run on one router, rather than requiring duplicate hardware. IS-IS can be enabled to be VRF-aware, and ISPs can use multiple VRF-

aware IS-IS instances to separate customer data while propagating the information to appropriate service providers.

For example, an ISP can create three VRFs--VRF First, VRF Second, and VRF Third--to represent three separate customers. A VRF-aware IS-IS instance is created and associated with each VRF: tagFIRST, tagSECOND, and tagTHIRD. Each instance will have its own routing process, IS-IS database, and routing table, and will calculate its own shortest path first (SPF) tree.

# How to Configure IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- [Creating a VRF, page 3](#)
- [Attaching an Interface to the VRF, page 4](#)
- [Creating VRF-Aware IS-IS Instances, page 5](#)

## Creating a VRF

- It is presumed that you have IS-IS running on your network.
- If CEF is not enabled by default on your platform, you will need to enable CEF in order to associate interfaces with VRF-aware IS-IS instances.

### SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **ip cef [distributed]**
4. **ip vrf vrf-name**
5. **rd route-distinguisher**

### DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1 enable</b>  <b>Example:</b> Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 2 configure terminal</b>  <b>Example:</b> Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 3</b> <code>ip cef [distributed]</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config)# ip cef distributed</pre>	Enables CEF on the Route Processor card. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If CEF is not enabled by default on your particular platform, you must configure it with the <code>ip cef</code> command.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 4</b> <code>ip vrf vrf-name</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config)# ip vrf first</pre>	Configures a VRF routing table, and enters VRF configuration mode.
<b>Step 5</b> <code>rd route-distinguisher</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config-vrf)# rd 1:1</pre>	Creates routing and forwarding tables for a VRF.

## Attaching an Interface to the VRF

### SUMMARY STEPS

1. `enable`
2. `configure terminal`
3. `interface type number`
4. `ip vrf forwarding vrf-name`

### DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1</b> <code>enable</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router&gt; enable</pre>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 2</b> <code>configure terminal</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router# configure terminal</pre>	Enters global configuration mode.

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 3</b> <code>interface type number</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config)# interface GigabitEthernet 0/2/0</pre>	Configures an interface type and enters interface configuration mode.
<b>Step 4</b> <code>ip vrf forwarding vrf-name</code>  <b>Example:</b> <pre>Router(config-if)# ip vrf forwarding vrffirst</pre>	Associates a VPN routing and forwarding instance (VRF) with an interface or subinterface.

## Creating VRF-Aware IS-IS Instances

- [Prerequisites, page 5](#)
- [Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Interface Configuration Mode, page 5](#)
- [Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Router Configuration Mode, page 7](#)

### Prerequisites

Before you create VRF-aware IS-IS instances, you need to enable IP routing on the router.



#### Note

Only one instance within the VRF can be configured as the passive interface default.

### Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Interface Configuration Mode

#### SUMMARY STEPS

1. `enable`
2. `configure terminal`
3. `interface type number`
4. `ip address ip-address mask [secondary]`
5. `ip router isis process-tag`
6. `no shutdown`
7. `end`

## DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<p><b>Step 1</b> <code>enable</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router&gt; enable</pre>	<p>Enables privileged EXEC mode.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Step 2</b> <code>configure terminal</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router# configure terminal</pre>	<p>Enters global configuration mode.</p>
<p><b>Step 3</b> <code>interface type number</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config)# interface GigabitEthernet 0/2/0</pre>	<p>Configures an interface type and enters interface configuration mode.</p>
<p><b>Step 4</b> <code>ip address ip-address mask [secondary]</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-if)# ip address 172.16.11.1 255.255.255.255</pre>	<p>Sets a primary or secondary IP address for an interface.</p>
<p><b>Step 5</b> <code>ip router isis process-tag</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-if)# ip router isis tagfirst</pre>	<p>Configures an IS-IS routing process for IP on an interface and attaches a tag to the routing process.</p> <p><b>Note</b> The configuration of the interface-mode <code>ip router isis</code> command will overwrite the prior configuration on that interface, but only if the new configuration is attempting to change the interface ownership to a different instance that is in the same VRF as the currently configured owner instance. The configuration will be rejected if the attempted change is between two instances that are associated with different VRFs.</p>
<p><b>Step 6</b> <code>no shutdown</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-if)# no shutdown</pre>	<p>Restarts a disabled interface.</p>

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 7</b> <code>end</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config-if)# end</code>	Exits interface configuration mode.

## Creating a VRF-Aware IS-IS Instance in Router Configuration Mode

### SUMMARY STEPS

1. `enable`
2. `configure terminal`
3. `router isis process-tag`
4. `vrf vrf-name`
5. `net network-entity-title`
6. `end`

### DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1</b> <code>enable</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router&gt; enable</code>	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter your password if prompted.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 2</b> <code>configure terminal</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router# configure terminal</code>	Enters global configuration mode.
<b>Step 3</b> <code>router isis process-tag</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config-if)# router isis tagFirst</code>	Enables the IS-IS routing protocol, specifies an IS-IS process, and enters router configuration mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is presumed that the VRF named First was previously created.</li> </ul>
<b>Step 4</b> <code>vrf vrf-name</code>  <b>Example:</b> <code>Router(config-router)# vrf first</code>	Associates an IS-IS instance with a VRF.

Command or Action	Purpose
<p><b>Step 5</b> <code>net network-entity-title</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.0002.00</pre>	Configures an IS-IS NET for a CLNS routing process.
<p><b>Step 6</b> <code>end</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-router)# end</pre>	Exits router configuration mode.

## Configuration Examples for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

- [Example Configuring Multiple VRF-Aware IS-IS Instances, page 8](#)
- [Example Creating an IS-IS Instance Without a Process Tag, page 10](#)
- [Example Redistributing Routes from an IS-IS Instance, page 11](#)
- [Example Changing the Interface Ownership, page 11](#)

### Example Configuring Multiple VRF-Aware IS-IS Instances

In the following example, the VRF Second is created and an IS-IS instance is created explicitly by entering the **router isis** command on the router:

```
Router(config)# ip cef distributed
Router(config)# ip routing
Router(config)# ip vrf Second
Router(config-vrf)# rd 1:1
Router(config-if)# router isis tagSecond
Router(config-router)# vrf Second
Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.0002.00
```

The VRF Third is created and a VRF-aware IS-IS instance is automatically created when the **ip router isis** command is entered:

```
Router(config)# ip vrf Third
Router(config-vrf)# rd 1:1
Router(config-if)# interface GigabitEthernet0/2/0
Router(config-if)# ip vrf forwarding Third
Router(config-if)# ip address 172.16.10.1 255.255.255.0
Router(config-if)# ip router isis tagThird
Router(config-if)# no shutdown
```



A new IS-IS instance with the process tag tagThird will automatically be created and associated with the VRF Third. When the **show running-config** command is entered, the following information for the new IS-IS instance will be displayed:

```
Router# show running-config
Building configuration...
.
.
.
router isis tagThird
  vrf Third
Router(config)# router isis tagThird
Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.0001.00
```

The following sample output verifies information for the VRF-aware IS-IS instances that were created in the previous examples:

```
Router# show isis tagThird topology
Tag tagThird:
IS-IS paths to level-2 routers
System Id      Metric  Next-Hop      Interface  SNPA
router-02      10     router-02     GE4/3/0    0010.0ddc.e00b
router-03      10     router-03     GE0/2/0    0006.0e03.0c45
router-04      10     router-04     GE4/0/0    000a.f3c3.1c70
.
.
.
.
.
.
Router# show clns tagSecond neighbors
Tag tagSecond:
System Id      Interface  SNPA          State  Holdtime  Type Protocol
router-03      GE0/2/0   00d0.2b7f.9502 Up     9          L2   IS-IS
router-03      PO2/2/0   DLCI 211      Up     27         L2   IS-IS
router-02      PO2/0/0   DLCI 131      Up     29         L2   IS-IS
router-11      GE0/4/0   000e.d79d.7920 Up     7          L2   IS-IS
router-11      GE0/5/0   000e.d79d.7921 Up     8          L2   IS-IS
router-11      PO3/2/0   DLCI 451      Up     24         L2   IS-IS
.
.
.
Router# show isis tagThird database level-2
Tag tagThird:
IS-IS Level-2 Link State Database:
LSPID          LSP Seq Num  LSP Checksum  LSP Holdtime  ATT/P/OL
router-01.00-00 0x0000000A   0x5E73        914           0/0/0
router-01.03-00 0x00000001   0x8E41        894           0/0/0
router-01.04-00 0x00000001   0x8747        894           0/0/0
router-03.00-00 * 0x00000005   0x55AD        727           0/0/0
router-03.02-00 * 0x00000001   0x3B97        727           0/0/0
router-02.00-00 0x00000004   0xC1FB        993           0/0/0
router-02.01-00 0x00000001   0x448D        814           0/0/0
router-04.00-00 0x00000004   0x76D0        892           0/0/0
Router# show isis tagThird database level-1
Tag tagThird:
IS-IS Level-1 Link State Database:
LSPID          LSP Seq Num  LSP Checksum  LSP Holdtime  ATT/P/OL
router-03.00-00 * 0x0000000B   0xBDF6        1005          1/0/0
router-03.02-00 * 0x00000001   0xC473        940           0/0/0
router-07.00-00 0x00000006   0x403A        940           0/0/0
Router# show clns tagSecond protocol
IS-IS Router: tagSecond
  System Id: 0000.0001.0002.00  IS-Type: level-2-only
  Manual area address(es):
    49.000b
  Routing for area address(es):
    49.000b
  Interfaces supported by IS-IS:
    GigabitEthernet4/1/0 - IP
    GigabitEthernet4/0/0 - IP
    GigabitEthernet4/3/0 - IP
  Redistributing:
```

```

    static
    Distance: 110
    RRR level: none
    Generate narrow metrics: level-1-2
    Accept narrow metrics: level-1-2
    Generate wide metrics: none
    Accept wide metrics: none
Router# show clns tagThird protocol
IS-IS Router: tagThird
System Id: 0000.0001.0001.00 IS-Type: level-1-2
Manual area address(es):
    49.000b
Routing for area address(es):
    49.000b
Interfaces supported by IS-IS:
    POS2/2/0 - IP
    GigabitEthernet0/2/0 - IP
    GigabitEthernet0/4/0 - IP
    POS2/0/0 - IP
    GigabitEthernet0/5/0 - IP
    POS3/2/0 - IP
Redistributing:
    static
    Distance: 110
    RRR level: none
    Generate narrow metrics: none
    Accept narrow metrics: none
    Generate wide metrics: level-1-2
    Accept wide metrics: level-1-2

```

## Example Creating an IS-IS Instance Without a Process Tag

In the following example, an IS-IS instance was created without the optional process tag. When an IS-IS instance is created without the optional process tag, you can display its information by entering the commands such as **show clns protocol** with "null" specified for the *process-tag* argument.

```

Router(config)# router isis
Router(config-router)# vrf first
Router(config-router)# net 49.000b.0000.0001.ffff.00
Router(config-router)# is-type level-1
Router(config)# interface POS 6/1/0
Router(config-if)# ip vrf forwarding first
Router(config-if)# ip address 172.16.2.1 255.255.255.0
Router(config-if)# ip router isis
Router(config-if)# no shutdown

```

Because the IS-IS instance is created without the optional process tag, its information is displayed when the **show clns protocol** command is entered with "null" specified for the *process-tag* argument:

```

Router# show clns null protocol
IS-IS Router: <Null Tag>
System Id: 0000.0001.FFFF.00 IS-Type: level-1
Manual area address(es):
    49.000b
Routing for area address(es):
    49.000b
Interfaces supported by IS-IS:
    POS6/1/0 - IP
Redistributing:
    static
    Distance: 110
    RRR level: none
    Generate narrow metrics: level-1-2
    Accept narrow metrics: level-1-2
    Generate wide metrics: none
    Accept wide metrics: none

```

## Example Redistributing Routes from an IS-IS Instance

In the following sample configuration, routes have been redistributed from the IS-IS instance "null" into the IS-IS instance named tagBLUE. Routes from an OSPF process in VRF Blue have been redistributed into the IS-IS instance named tagBLUE.

```
Router(config)# router isis tagBLUE
Router(config-router)# redistribute isis null ip metric 10 route-map isisMAP1
Router(config-router)# redistribute ospf 1 vrf BLUE metric 1 metric-type external
  level-1-2
.
.
.
Router(config)# route-map isisMAP1 permit 10
Router(config-route-map)# match route-type level-2 level-1
Router(config-route-map)# set level level-2
```

## Example Changing the Interface Ownership

In the following sample configuration, POS interface 6/1/0 was originally enabled for IS-IS IP routing for a "null" instance that does not have a process tag, which is in vrfSecond. The new configuration changes the ownership of POS interface 6/1/0 to another instance tagSecond, which is also in vrfSecond.



### Note

Note that use of the **ip router isis** command in interface configuration mode will overwrite the prior configuration on that interface, but only if the new configuration is attempting to change the interface ownership to a different instance that is in the same VRF as the currently configured owner instance. The configuration will be rejected if the attempted change is between two instances that are associated with different VRFs.

```
Router(config)# interface POS 6/1/0
Router(config-if)# ip router isis tagSecond
%ISIS: Interface detached from null and to be attached to instance tagBLUE.
```

## Additional References

### Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
IS-IS commands: complete command syntax, command mode, defaults, command history, usage guidelines, and examples	<i>Cisco IOS IP Routing: ISIS Command Reference</i>
Overview of Cisco IS-IS conceptual information with links to all the individual IS-IS modules	"Integrated IS-IS Routing Protocol Overview" module
ISO CLNS commands	<i>Cisco IOS ISO CLNS Command Reference</i>
Cisco IOS master command list, all releases	<a href="#">Cisco IOS Master Command List, All Releases</a>

**Standards**

Standards	Title
No new or modified standards are supported by this feature, and support for existing standards has not been modified by this feature.	--

**MIBs**

MIBs	MIBs Link
No new or modified MIBs are supported by this feature, and support for existing MIBs has not been modified by this feature.	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS XE software releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL:  <a href="http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs">http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs</a>

**RFCs**

RFCs	Title
No new or modified RFCs are supported by this feature, and support for existing RFCs has not been modified by this feature.	--

**Technical Assistance**

Description	Link
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## Feature Information for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP

The following table provides release information about the feature or features described in this module. This table lists only the software release that introduced support for a given feature in a given software release train. Unless noted otherwise, subsequent releases of that software release train also support that feature.

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**Table 1**      **Feature Information for IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP**

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
IS-IS Support for an IS-IS Instance per VRF for IP	Cisco IOS XE Release 2.1	<p>This feature provides multiple VRF-aware IS-IS instances. The VRF functionality allows ISPs to separate routing protocol information and propagate it to the appropriate routing table and network neighbors. Using one router with VRF functionality is more cost-effective than using separate routers to separate and forward the routing information.</p> <p>This feature was introduced on the Cisco ASR 1000 Series Aggregation Services Routers.</p> <p>The following commands were modified by this release: <b>show cns neighbors, show cns protocol, show isis database, show isis topology, vrf (router configuration)</b></p>

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