Catalyst 2960-XR Switch Stack Manager Configuration Guide, Cisco IOS Release 15.0(2)EX1

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C O N T E N T S

Preface

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Document Conventions

This document uses the following conventions:

Convention	Description
^ or Ctrl	Both the ^ symbol and Ctrl represent the Control (Ctrl) key on a keyboard. For example, the key combination **^D** or **Ctrl-D** means that you hold down the Control key while you press the D key. (Keys are indicated in capital letters but are not case sensitive.)
bold font	Commands and keywords and user-entered text appear in **bold** font.
Italic font	Document titles, new or emphasized terms, and arguments for which you supply values are in *italic* font.
`Courier font`	Terminal sessions and information the system displays appear in `courier` font.
`Bold Courier font`	Bold Courier font indicates text that the user must enter.
[x]	Elements in square brackets are optional.
...	An ellipsis (three consecutive nonbolded periods without spaces) after a syntax element indicates that the element can be repeated.
		A vertical line, called a pipe, indicates a choice within a set of keywords or arguments.

Convention	Description
[x | y]	Optional alternative keywords are grouped in brackets and separated by vertical bars.
{x | y}	Required alternative keywords are grouped in braces and separated by vertical bars.
[x {y | z}]	Nested set of square brackets or braces indicate optional or required choices within optional or required elements. Braces and a vertical bar within square brackets indicate a required choice within an optional element.
string	A nonquoted set of characters. Do not use quotation marks around the string or the string will include the quotation marks.
< >	Nonprinting characters such as passwords are in angle brackets.
[ ]	Default responses to system prompts are in square brackets.
!, #	An exclamation point (!) or a pound sign (#) at the beginning of a line of code indicates a comment line.

Reader Alert Conventions

This document uses the following conventions for reader alerts:

Note   Means *reader take note*. Notes contain helpful suggestions or references to material not covered in the manual.

Tip   Means *the following information will help you solve a problem*.

Caution   Means *reader be careful*. In this situation, you might do something that could result in equipment damage or loss of data.

Timesaver   Means *the described action saves time*. You can save time by performing the action described in the paragraph.

Warning   **Means *reader be warned*. In this situation, you might perform an action that could result in bodily injury.**

Related Documentation

Note   Before installing or upgrading the switch, refer to the switch release notes.

- Catalyst 2960-XR Switch documentation, located at:

  http://www.cisco.com/go/cat2960xr_docs

- Cisco SFP and SFP+ modules documentation, including compatibility matrixes, located at:

  http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/modules/ps5455/tsd_products_support_series_home.html

- Cisco Validated Designs documents, located at:

  http://www.cisco.com/go/designzone

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For information on obtaining documentation, submitting a service request, and gathering additional information, see the monthly *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation*, which also lists all new and revised Cisco technical documentation, at:

http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/general/whatsnew/whatsnew.html

Subscribe to the *What's New in Cisco Product Documentation* as a Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feed and set content to be delivered directly to your desktop using a reader application. The RSS feeds are a free service and Cisco currently supports RSS version 2.0.

Using the Command-Line Interface

Information About Using the Command-Line Interface

Command Modes

The Cisco IOS user interface is divided into many different modes. The commands available to you depend on which mode you are currently in. Enter a question mark (?) at the system prompt to obtain a list of commands available for each command mode.

You can start a CLI session through a console connection, through Telnet, a SSH, or by using the browser.

When you start a session, you begin in user mode, often called user EXEC mode. Only a limited subset of the commands are available in user EXEC mode. For example, most of the user EXEC commands are one-time commands, such as **show** commands, which show the current configuration status, and **clear** commands, which clear counters or interfaces. The user EXEC commands are not saved when the switch reboots.

To have access to all commands, you must enter privileged EXEC mode. Normally, you must enter a password to enter privileged EXEC mode. From this mode, you can enter any privileged EXEC command or enter global configuration mode.

Using the configuration modes (global, interface, and line), you can make changes to the running configuration. If you save the configuration, these commands are stored and used when the switch reboots. To access the various configuration modes, you must start at global configuration mode. From global configuration mode, you can enter interface configuration mode and line configuration mode.

This table describes the main command modes, how to access each one, the prompt you see in that mode, and how to exit the mode.

Table 1: Command Mode Summary

Mode	Access Method	Prompt	Exit Method	About This Mode
User EXEC	Begin a session using Telnet, SSH, or console.	`Switch>`	Enter **logout** or **quit**.	Use this mode to • Change terminal settings. • Perform basic tests. • Display system information.
Privileged EXEC	While in user EXEC mode, enter the **enable** command.	`Switch#`	Enter **disable** to exit.	Use this mode to verify commands that you have entered. Use a password to protect access to this mode.
Global configuration	While in privileged EXEC mode, enter the **configure** command.	`Switch(config)#`	To exit to privileged EXEC mode, enter **exit** or **end**, or press **Ctrl-Z**.	Use this mode to configure parameters that apply to the entire switch.
VLAN configuration	While in global configuration mode, enter the **vlan** *vlan-id* command.	`Switch(config-vlan)#`	To exit to global configuration mode, enter the **exit** command. To return to privileged EXEC mode, press **Ctrl-Z** or enter **end**.	Use this mode to configure VLAN parameters. When VTP mode is transparent, you can create extended-range VLANs (VLAN IDs greater than 1005) and save configurations in the switch startup configuration file.
Interface configuration	While in global configuration mode, enter the **interface** command (with a specific interface).	`Switch(config-if)#`	To exit to global configuration mode, enter **exit**. To return to privileged EXEC mode, press **Ctrl-Z** or enter **end**.	Use this mode to configure parameters for the Ethernet ports.

Mode	Access Method	Prompt	Exit Method	About This Mode
Line configuration	While in global configuration mode, specify a line with the **line vty** or **line console** command.	`Switch(config-line)#`	To exit to global configuration mode, enter **exit**. To return to privileged EXEC mode, press **Ctrl-Z** or enter **end**.	Use this mode to configure parameters for the terminal line.

Using the Help System

You can enter a question mark (?) at the system prompt to display a list of commands available for each command mode. You can also obtain a list of associated keywords and arguments for any command.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **help**
2. *abbreviated-command-entry* **?**
3. *abbreviated-command-entry* <Tab>
4. **?**
5. *command* **?**
6. *command keyword* **?**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**help** **Example:** `Switch# `**`help`**	Obtains a brief description of the help system in any command mode.
Step 2	*abbreviated-command-entry* **?** **Example:** `Switch# `**`di?`** `dir disable disconnect`	Obtains a list of commands that begin with a particular character string.
Step 3	*abbreviated-command-entry* <Tab> **Example:** `Switch# `**`sh conf`**`<tab>` `Switch# `**`show configuration`**	Completes a partial command name.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 4	**?** **Example:** `Switch> ?`	Lists all commands available for a particular command mode.
Step 5	*command* **?** **Example:** `Switch> show ?`	Lists the associated keywords for a command.

Step 6	*command keyword* **?**
	
	Example:
	`Switch(config)# cdp holdtime ?`
	`<10-255> Length of time (in sec) that receiver`
	`must keep this packet`
		Lists the associated arguments for a keyword.

Understanding Abbreviated Commands

You need to enter only enough characters for the switch to recognize the command as unique.

This example shows how to enter the **show configuration** privileged EXEC command in an abbreviated form:

`Switch# show conf`

No and default Forms of Commands

Almost every configuration command also has a **no** form. In general, use the **no** form to disable a feature or function or reverse the action of a command. For example, the **no shutdown** interface configuration command reverses the shutdown of an interface. Use the command without the keyword **no** to reenable a disabled feature or to enable a feature that is disabled by default.

Configuration commands can also have a **default** form. The **default** form of a command returns the command setting to its default. Most commands are disabled by default, so the **default** form is the same as the **no** form. However, some commands are enabled by default and have variables set to certain default values. In these cases, the **default** command enables the command and sets variables to their default values.

CLI Error Messages

This table lists some error messages that you might encounter while using the CLI to configure your switch.

Table 2: Common CLI Error Messages

Error Message	Meaning	How to Get Help
`% Ambiguous command: "show con"`	You did not enter enough characters for your switch to recognize the command.	Reenter the command followed by a question mark (?) with a space between the command and the question mark. The possible keywords that you can enter with the command appear.
`% Incomplete command.`	You did not enter all the keywords or values required by this command.	Reenter the command followed by a question mark (?) with a space between the command and the question mark. The possible keywords that you can enter with the command appear.
`% Invalid input detected at '^' marker.`	You entered the command incorrectly. The caret (^) marks the point of the error.	Enter a question mark (?) to display all the commands that are available in this command mode. The possible keywords that you can enter with the command appear.

Configuration Logging

You can log and view changes to the switch configuration. You can use the Configuration Change Logging and Notification feature to track changes on a per-session and per-user basis. The logger tracks each configuration command that is applied, the user who entered the command, the time that the command was entered, and the parser return code for the command. This feature includes a mechanism for asynchronous notification to registered applications whenever the configuration changes. You can choose to have the notifications sent to the syslog.

Note   Only CLI or HTTP changes are logged.

How to Use the CLI to Configure Features

Configuring the Command History

The software provides a history or record of commands that you have entered. The command history feature is particularly useful for recalling long or complex commands or entries, including access lists. You can customize this feature to suit your needs.

Changing the Command History Buffer Size

By default, the switch records ten command lines in its history buffer. You can alter this number for a current terminal session or for all sessions on a particular line. This procedure is optional.

SUMMARY STEPS

    1. **terminal history** [**size** *number-of-lines*]

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**terminal history** [**size** *number-of-lines*] **Example:** `Switch# terminal history size 200`	Changes the number of command lines that the switch records during the current terminal session in the privileged EXEC mode. You can configure the size from 0 through 256.

Recalling Commands

To recall commands from the history buffer, perform one of the actions listed in this table. These actions are optional.

Note The arrow keys function only on ANSI-compatible terminals such as VT100s.

SUMMARY STEPS

    1. **Ctrl-P** or use the **up arrow** key

    2. **Ctrl-N** or use the **down arrow** key

    3. **show history**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**Ctrl-P** or use the **up arrow** key	Recalls commands in the history buffer, beginning with the most recent command. Repeat the key sequence to recall successively older commands.
Step 2	**Ctrl-N** or use the **down arrow** key	Returns to more recent commands in the history buffer after recalling commands with **Ctrl-P** or the up arrow key. Repeat the key sequence to recall successively more recent commands.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	**show history** **Example:** Switch# **show history**	Lists the last several commands that you just entered in privileged EXEC mode. The number of commands that appear is controlled by the setting of the **terminal history** global configuration command and the **history** line configuration command.

Disabling the Command History Feature

The command history feature is automatically enabled. You can disable it for the current terminal session or for the command line. This procedure is optional.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **terminal no history**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**terminal no history** **Example:** Switch# **terminal no history**	Disables the feature during the current terminal session in the privileged EXEC mode.

Enabling and Disabling Editing Features

Although enhanced editing mode is automatically enabled, you can disable it, and reenable it.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **terminal editing**
2. **terminal no editing**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**terminal editing** **Example:** Switch# **terminal editing**	Reenables the enhanced editing mode for the current terminal session in the privileged EXEC mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 2	**terminal no editing** **Example:** `Switch# terminal no editing`	Disables the enhanced editing mode for the current terminal session in the privileged EXEC mode.

Editing Commands through Keystrokes

The keystrokes help you to edit the command lines. These keystrokes are optional.

Note The arrow keys function only on ANSI-compatible terminals such as VT100s.

Table 3: Editing Commands

Editing Commands	Description
Ctrl-B or use the **left arrow** key	Moves the cursor back one character.
Ctrl-F or use the **right arrow** key	Moves the cursor forward one character.
Ctrl-A	Moves the cursor to the beginning of the command line.
Ctrl-E	Moves the cursor to the end of the command line.
Esc B	Moves the cursor back one word.
Esc F	Moves the cursor forward one word.
Ctrl-T	Transposes the character to the left of the cursor with the character located at the cursor.
Delete or **Backspace** key	Erases the character to the left of the cursor.
Ctrl-D	Deletes the character at the cursor.
Ctrl-K	Deletes all characters from the cursor to the end of the command line.
Ctrl-U or **Ctrl-X**	Deletes all characters from the cursor to the beginning of the command line.
Ctrl-W	Deletes the word to the left of the cursor.

Esc D	Deletes from the cursor to the end of the word.
Esc C	Capitalizes at the cursor.
Esc L	Changes the word at the cursor to lowercase.
Esc U	Capitalizes letters from the cursor to the end of the word.
Ctrl-V or Esc Q	Designates a particular keystroke as an executable command, perhaps as a shortcut.
Return key	Scrolls down a line or screen on displays that are longer than the terminal screen can display. Note The More prompt is used for any output that has more lines than can be displayed on the terminal screen, including **show** command output. You can use the **Return** and **Space** bar keystrokes whenever you see the More prompt.
Space bar	Scrolls down one screen.
Ctrl-L or Ctrl-R	Redisplays the current command line if the switch suddenly sends a message to your screen.

Editing Command Lines That Wrap

You can use a wraparound feature for commands that extend beyond a single line on the screen. When the cursor reaches the right margin, the command line shifts ten spaces to the left. You cannot see the first ten characters of the line, but you can scroll back and check the syntax at the beginning of the command. The keystroke actions are optional.

To scroll back to the beginning of the command entry, press **Ctrl-B** or the left arrow key repeatedly. You can also press **Ctrl-A** to immediately move to the beginning of the line.

Note   The arrow keys function only on ANSI-compatible terminals such as VT100s.

The following example shows how to wrap a command line that extend beyond a single line on the screen.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **access-list**
2. **Ctrl-A**
3. **Return** key

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose

Step 1	**access-list**
	
	Example:
	
	`Switch(config)# access-list 101 permit tcp`
	`10.15.22.25 255.255.255.0 10.15.22.35`
	`Switch(config)# $ 101 permit tcp`
	`10.15.22.25 255.255.255.0 10.15.22.35`
	`255.25`
	`Switch(config)# $t tcp 10.15.22.25`
	`255.255.255.0 131.108.1.20 255.255.255.0`
	`eq`
	`Switch(config)# $15.22.25 255.255.255.0`
	`10.15.22.35 255.255.255.0 eq 45`
		Displays the global configuration command entry that extends beyond one line.
		
		When the cursor first reaches the end of the line, the line is shifted ten spaces to the left and redisplayed. The dollar sign ($) shows that the line has been scrolled to the left. Each time the cursor reaches the end of the line, the line is again shifted ten spaces to the left.

Step 2	**Ctrl-A**
	
	Example:
	`Switch(config)# access-list 101 permit tcp`
	`10.15.22.25 255.255.255.0 10.15.2$`
		Checks the complete syntax.
		
		The dollar sign ($) appears at the end of the line to show that the line has been scrolled to the right.

Step 3	**Return** key	Execute the commands. The software assumes that you have a terminal screen that is 80 columns wide. If you have a different width, use the **terminal width** privileged EXEC command to set the width of your terminal. Use line wrapping with the command history feature to recall and modify previous complex command entries.

Searching and Filtering Output of show and more Commands

You can search and filter the output for **show** and **more** commands. This is useful when you need to sort through large amounts of output or if you want to exclude output that you do not need to see. Using these commands is optional.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. {**show** | **more**} *command* | {**begin** | **include** | **exclude**} *regular-expression*

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	{**show**	**more**} *command*	{**begin**	**include**	**exclude**} *regular-expression*	Searches and filters the output.

Command or Action	Purpose
Example: `Switch# `**`show interfaces	include protocol`** `Vlan1 is up, line protocol is up` `Vlan10 is up, line protocol is down` `GigabitEthernet1/0/1 is up, line protocol is down` `GigabitEthernet1/0/2 is up, line protocol is up`	Expressions are case sensitive. For example, if you enter **| exclude output**, the lines that contain **output** are not displayed, but the lines that contain **output** appear.

Accessing the CLI through a Console Connection or through Telnet

Before you can access the CLI, you must connect a terminal or a PC to the switch console or connect a PC to the Ethernet management port and then power on the switch, as described in the hardware installation guide that shipped with your switch.

If your switch is already configured, you can access the CLI through a local console connection or through a remote Telnet session, but your switch must first be configured for this type of access.

You can use one of these methods to establish a connection with the switch:

- Connect the switch console port to a management station or dial-up modem, or connect the Ethernet management port to a PC. For information about connecting to the console or Ethernet management port, see the switch hardware installation guide.

- Use any Telnet TCP/IP or encrypted Secure Shell (SSH) package from a remote management station. The switch must have network connectivity with the Telnet or SSH client, and the switch must have an enable secret password configured.

  - The switch supports up to 16 simultaneous Telnet sessions. Changes made by one Telnet user are reflected in all other Telnet sessions.

  - The switch supports up to five simultaneous secure SSH sessions.

After you connect through the console port, through the Ethernet management port, through a Telnet session or through an SSH session, the user EXEC prompt appears on the management station.

Managing Switch Stacks

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.

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

Prerequisites for Switch Stacks

All stack members must run the same Cisco IOS software image to ensure compatibility among stack members.

For switch stack hardware considerations, see the *Catalyst 2960-XR Switch Hardware Installation Guide*.

Restrictions for Switch Stacks

The switch does not support mixed stacking. Stacking is supported only with other Catalyst 2960-XR switches.

Related Topics

Information About Switch Stacks

Switch Stack Overview

A switch stack is a set of up to eight stacking-capable switches connected through their stack ports. The Catalyst 2960-XR switch does not support mixed stacking. Stacking is supported only with other Catalyst 2960-XR switches.

One of the switches controls the operation of the stack and is called the stack master. The stack master and the other switches in the stack are all stack members.

The stack master is the single point of stack-wide management. From the stack master, you configure:

- System-level (global) features that apply to all stack members
- Interface-level features for each stack member

The stack master contains the saved and running configuration files for the switch stack. The configuration files include the system-level settings for the switch stack and the interface-level settings for each stack member. Each stack member has a current copy of these files for back-up purposes.

Supported Features in a Switch Stack

The system-level features supported on the stack master are supported on the entire switch stack.

Related Topics

Encryption Features

If the stack master is running the cryptographic universal software image (supports encryption), the encryption features are available on the switch stack.

FlexStack-Plus

The stack members use the Cisco FlexStack-Plus technology to work together as a unified system. Layer 2 and Layer 3 protocols support the entire switch stack as a single entity in the network.

Note Switch stacks running the LAN Base image do not support Layer 3 features.

The FlexStack-Plus bandwidth for a single stack port is 20 Gbps. With FlexStack-Plus technology, up to eight members can be joined into a single stack. In a mixed stack of Catalyst 2960-X and Catalyst 2960-S switches, FlexStack-Plus reverts to FlexStack capabilities of 10 Gbps stack port bandwidth and a maximum of four members per stack.

Switch Stack Membership

A switch stack has up to eight stack members connected through their stack ports. A switch stack always has one stack master.

A standalone switch is a switch stack with one stack member that also operates as the stack master. You can connect one standalone switch to another to create a switch stack containing two stack members, with one of

them as the stack master. You can connect standalone switches to an existing switch stack to increase the stack membership.

Figure 1: Creating a Switch Stack from Two Standalone Switches
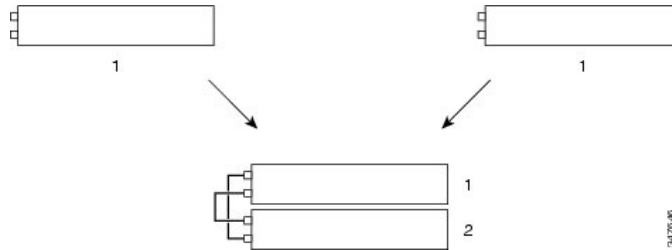
Figure 2: Adding a Standalone Switch to a Switch Stack
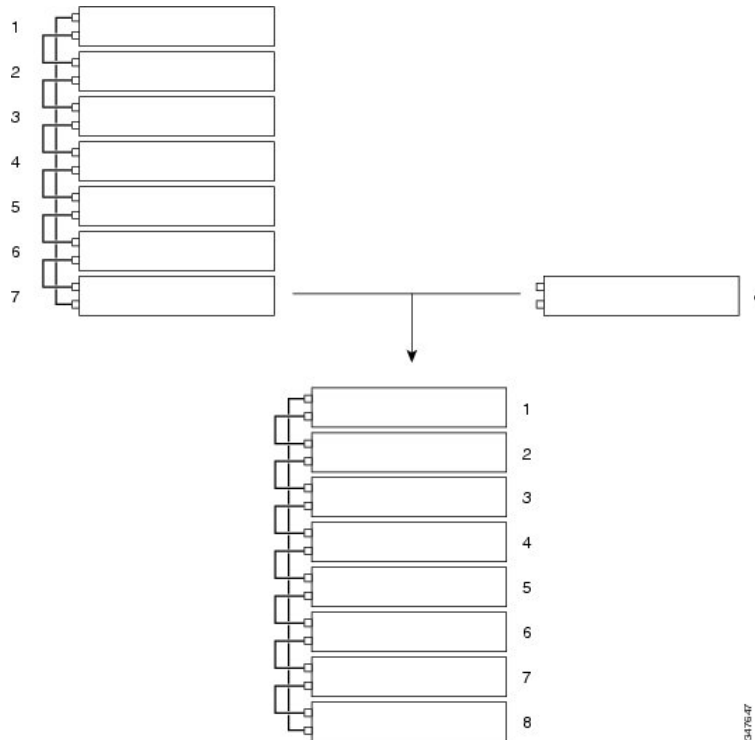
Changes to Switch Stack Membership

If you replace a stack member with an identical model, the new switch functions with exactly the same configuration as the replaced switch, assuming that the new switch (referred to as the provisioned switch) is using the same member number as the replaced switch.

The operation of the switch stack continues uninterrupted during membership changes unless you remove the stack master or you add powered-on standalone switches or switch stacks.

- Adding powered-on switches (merging) causes the stack masters of the merging switch stacks to elect a stack master from among themselves. The reelected stack master retains its role and configuration as

do its stack members. All remaining switches, including the former stack masters, reload and join the switch stack as stack members. They change their stack member numbers to the lowest available numbers and use the stack configuration of the reelected stack master.

- Removing powered-on stack members causes the switch stack to divide (partition) into two or more switch stacks, each with the same configuration. This can cause an IP address configuration conflict in your network. If you want the switch stacks to remain separate, change the IP address or addresses of the newly created switch stacks.

Note Make sure that you power off the switches that you add to or remove from the switch stack.

After adding or removing stack members, make sure that the switch stack is operating at full bandwidth (40 Gbps). Press the Mode button on a stack member until the Stack mode LED is on. The last two right port LEDs on all switches in the stack should be green. Depending on the switch model, the last two right ports are 10-Gigabit Ethernet ports or small form-factor pluggable (SFP) module ports (10/100/1000 ports). If one or both of these LEDs are not green on any of the switches, the stack is not operating at full bandwidth.

If you remove powered-on members but do not want to partition the stack:

- Power off the switches in the newly created switch stacks.

- Reconnect them to the original switch stack through their stack ports.

- Power on the switches.

For cabling and power considerations that affect switch stacks, see the *Catalyst 2960-XR Switch Hardware Installation Guide*.

Related Topics

Assigning a Stack Member Number, on page 31
Switch Stack Configuration Scenarios, on page 38

Stack Member Numbers

The stack member number (1 to 8) identifies each member in the switch stack. The member number also determines the interface-level configuration that a stack member uses. You can display the stack member number by using the **show switch** EXEC command.

A new, out-of-the-box switch (one that has not joined a switch stack or has not been manually assigned a stack member number) ships with a default stack member number of 1. When it joins a switch stack, its default stack member number changes to the lowest available member number in the stack.

Stack members in the same switch stack cannot have the same stack member number. Every stack member, including a standalone switch, retains its member number until you manually change the number or unless the number is already being used by another member in the stack.

- If you manually change the stack member number by using the **switch** *current-stack-member-number* **renumber** *new-stack-member-number* command, the new number goes into effect after that stack member resets (or after you use the **reload slot** *stack-member-number* privileged EXEC command) and only if that number is not already assigned to any other members in the stack. Another way to change the stack member number is by changing the SWITCH_NUMBER environment variable.

If the number is being used by another member in the stack, the switch selects the lowest available number in the stack.

If you manually change the number of a stack member and no interface-level configuration is associated with that new member number, that stack member resets to its default configuration.

You cannot use the **switch** *current-stack-member-number* **renumber** *new-stack-member-number* command on a provisioned switch. If you do, the command is rejected.

- If you move a stack member to a different switch stack, the stack member retains its number only if the number is not being used by another member in the stack. If it is being used, the switch selects the lowest available number in the stack.

- If you merge switch stacks, the switches that join the switch stack of a new stack master select the lowest available numbers in the stack.

As described in the hardware installation guide, you can use the switch port LEDs in Stack mode to visually determine the stack member number of each stack member.

Related Topics

Stack Member Priority Values

A higher priority value for a stack member increases the probability of it being elected stack master and retaining its stack member number. The priority value can be 1 to 15. The default priority value is 1. You can display the stack member priority value by using the **show switch** EXEC command.

Note   We recommend assigning the highest priority value to the switch that you prefer to be the stack master. This ensures that the switch is reelected as stack master if a reelection occurs.

To change the priority value for a stack member, use the **switch** *stack-member-number* **priority** *new priority-value* command.

The new priority value takes effect immediately but does not affect the current stack master. The new priority value helps determine which stack member is elected as the new stack master when the current stack master or the switch stack resets.

Related Topics

Switch Stack Bridge ID and MAC Address

A switch stack is identified in the network by its *bridge ID* and, if it is operating as a Layer 3 device, its router MAC address. The bridge ID and router MAC address are determined by the MAC address of the stack master.

If the stack master changes, the MAC address of the new stack master determines the new bridge ID and router MAC address.

If the entire switch stack reloads, the switch stack uses the MAC address of the stack master.

Persistent MAC Address on the Switch Stack

You can use the persistent MAC address feature to set a time delay before the stack MAC address changes to the MAC address of the new stack master. When this feature is enabled, the stack MAC address changes in approximately 4 minutes. During this time, if the previous stack master rejoins the stack, the stack continues to use its MAC address as the stack MAC address, even if the switch is now a stack member and not a stack master. If the previous stack master does not rejoin the stack during this period, the switch stack takes the MAC address of the new stack master as the stack MAC address.

You can also configure stack MAC persistency so that the stack MAC address never changes to the new master MAC address.

Related Topics

Stack Master Election and Reelection

All stack members are eligible stack masters. If the stack master becomes unavailable, the remaining members elect a new stack master from among themselves.

The stack master is elected or reelected based on one of these factors and in the order listed:

1 The switch that is currently the stack master.

2 The switch with the highest stack member priority value.

> **Note** We recommend assigning the highest priority value to the switch that you prefer to be the stack master. This ensures that the switch is reelected as stack master if a reelection occurs.

3 The switch that has the configuration file.

4 The switch with the lowest MAC address.

A stack master retains its role unless one of these events occurs:

- The switch stack is reset.*

- The stack master is removed from the switch stack.

- The stack master is reset or powered off.

- The stack master fails.

- The switch stack membership is increased by adding powered-on standalone switches or switch stacks.*

In the events marked by an asterisk (*), the current stack master *might* be reelected based on the listed factors.

When you power on or reset an entire switch stack, some stack members *might not* participate in the stack master election. Stack members that are powered on within the same 20-second time frame participate in the stack master election and have a chance to become the stack master. Stack members that are powered on after the 20-second time frame do not participate in this initial election and become stack members. All stack

members participate in reelections. For all powering considerations that affect stack-master elections, see the "Switch Installation" chapter in the hardware installation guide.

The new stack master becomes available after a few seconds. In the meantime, the switch stack uses the forwarding tables in memory to minimize network disruption. The physical interfaces on the other available stack members are not affected during a new stack master election and reset.

After a new stack master is elected and the previous stack master becomes available, the previous stack master *does not* resume its role as stack master.

For all powering considerations that affect stack-master elections, see the *Catalyst 2960-XR Switch Hardware Installation Guide*.

Switch Stack Configuration Files

The stack master has the saved and running configuration files for the switch stack. All stack members periodically receive synchronized copies of the configuration files from the stack master. If the stack master becomes unavailable, any stack member assuming the role of stack master has the latest configuration files.

The configuration files record these settings:

- System-level (global) configuration settings such as IP, STP, VLAN, and SNMP settings that apply to all stack members

- Stack member interface-specific configuration settings that are specific for each stack member

Note The interface-specific settings of the stack master are saved if the stack master is replaced without saving the running configuration to the startup configuration.

A new, out-of-box switch joining a switch stack uses the system-level settings of that switch stack. If a switch is moved to a different switch stack, that switch loses its saved configuration file and uses the system-level configuration of the new switch stack.

The interface-specific configuration of each stack member is associated with the stack member number. Stack members retain their numbers unless they are manually changed or they are already used by another member in the same switch stack.

- If an interface-specific configuration does not exist for that member number, the stack member uses its default interface-specific configuration.

- If an interface-specific configuration exists for that member number, the stack member uses the interface-specific configuration associated with that member number.

If you replace a failed member with an identical model, the replacement member automatically uses the same interface-specific configuration as the failed switch. You do not need to reconfigure the interface settings. The replacement switch (referred to as the provisioned switch) must have the same stack member number as the failed switch.

You back up and restore the stack configuration in the same way as you would for a standalone switch configuration.

Related Topics

Offline Configuration to Provision a Stack Member

You can use the offline configuration feature to *provision* (to supply a configuration to) a new switch before it joins the switch stack. You can configure the stack member number, the switch type, and the interfaces associated with a switch that is not currently part of the stack. The configuration that you create on the switch stack is called the *provisioned configuration*. The switch that is added to the switch stack and that receives this configuration is called the *provisioned switch*.

You manually create the provisioned configuration through the **switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** *type* global configuration command. The provisioned configuration is automatically created when a switch is added to a switch stack and when no provisioned configuration exists.

When you configure the interfaces associated with a provisioned switch (for example, as part of a VLAN), the switch stack accepts the configuration, and the information appears in the running configuration. The interface associated with the provisioned switch is not active, operates as if it is administratively shut down, and the **no shutdown** interface configuration command does not return it to active service. The interface associated with the provisioned switch does not appear in the display of the specific feature; for example, it does not appear in the **show vlan** user EXEC command output.

The switch stack retains the provisioned configuration in the running configuration whether or not the provisioned switch is part of the stack. You can save the provisioned configuration to the startup configuration file by entering the **copy running-config startup-config** privileged EXEC command. The startup configuration file ensures that the switch stack can reload and can use the saved information whether or not the provisioned switch is part of the switch stack.

Related Topics

Effects of Adding a Provisioned Switch to a Switch Stack

When you add a provisioned switch to the switch stack, the stack applies either the provisioned configuration or the default configuration. This table lists the events that occur when the switch stack compares the provisioned configuration with the provisioned switch.

Table 4: Results of Comparing the Provisioned Configuration with the Provisioned Switch

Scenario		Result
The stack member numbers and the switch types match.	**1** If the stack member number of the provisioned switch matches the stack member number in the provisioned configuration on the stack, and **2** If the switch type of the provisioned switch matches the switch type in the provisioned configuration on the stack.	The switch stack applies the provisioned configuration to the provisioned switch and adds it to the stack.
The stack member numbers match but the switch types do not match.	**1** If the stack member number of the provisioned switch matches the stack member number in the provisioned configuration on the stack, but **2** The switch type of the provisioned switch does not match the switch type in the provisioned configuration on the stack.	The switch stack applies the default configuration to the provisioned switch and adds it to the stack. The provisioned configuration is changed to reflect the new information.
The stack member number is not found in the provisioned configuration.		The switch stack applies the default configuration to the provisioned switch and adds it to the stack. The provisioned configuration is changed to reflect the new information.

Scenario		Result
The stack member number of the provisioned switch is in conflict with an existing stack member.	The stack master assigns a new stack member number to the provisioned switch. The stack member numbers and the switch types match: 1 If the new stack member number of the provisioned switch matches the stack member number in the provisioned configuration on the stack, and 2 If the switch type of the provisioned switch matches the switch type in the provisioned configuration on the stack.	The switch stack applies the provisioned configuration to the provisioned switch and adds it to the stack. The provisioned configuration is changed to reflect the new information.
	The stack member numbers match, but the switch types do not match: 1 If the stack member number of the provisioned switch matches the stack member number in the provisioned configuration on the stack, but 2 The switch type of the provisioned switch does not match the switch type in the provisioned configuration on the stack.	The switch stack applies the default configuration to the provisioned switch and adds it to the stack. The provisioned configuration is changed to reflect the new information.
The stack member number of the provisioned switch is not found in the provisioned configuration.		The switch stack applies the default configuration to the provisioned switch and adds it to the stack.

If you add a provisioned switch that is a different type than specified in the provisioned configuration to a powered-down switch stack and then apply power, the switch stack rejects the (now incorrect) **switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** *type* global configuration command in the startup configuration file. However, during stack initialization, the nondefault interface configuration information in the startup configuration file for the provisioned interfaces (potentially of the wrong type) is executed. Depending on the differences between the actual switch type and the previously provisioned switch type, some commands are rejected, and some commands are accepted.

Note If the switch stack does not contain a provisioned configuration for a new switch, the switch joins the stack with the default interface configuration. The switch stack then adds to its running configuration with a **switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** *type* global configuration command that matches the new switch.

Effects of Replacing a Provisioned Switch in a Switch Stack

When a provisioned switch in a switch stack fails, it is removed from the stack, and is replaced with another switch, the stack applies either the provisioned configuration or the default configuration to it. The events that occur when the switch stack compares the provisioned configuration with the provisioned switch are the same as those when you add a provisioned switch to a stack.

Effects of Removing a Provisioned Switch from a Switch Stack

If you remove a provisioned switch from the switch stack, the configuration associated with the removed stack member remains in the running configuration as provisioned information. To completely remove the configuration, use the **no switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** global configuration command.

Stack Protocol Version

Each software image includes a *stack protocol version*. The stack protocol version has a *major* version number and a *minor* version number (for example 1.4, where 1 is the major version number and 4 is the minor version number). Both version numbers determine the level of compatibility among the stack members. You can display the stack protocol version by using the **show platform stack manager all** privileged EXEC command.

Switches with the same Cisco IOS software version have the same stack protocol version. Such switches are fully compatible, and all features function properly across the switch stack. A switch with the same Cisco IOS software version as the stack master can immediately join the switch stack.

If an incompatibility exists, the fully functional stack members generate a system message that describes the cause of the incompatibility on the specific stack members. The stack master sends the message to all stack members.

Major Stack Protocol Version Number Incompatibility Among Stack-Capable Switches

Switches with different major Cisco IOS software versions usually have different stack protocol versions. Switches with different major version numbers are incompatible and cannot exist in the same switch stack.

Minor Stack Protocol Version Number Incompatibility Among Stack-Capable Switches

Switches with the same major version number but with a different minor version number are considered partially compatible. When connected to a switch stack, a partially compatible switch enters version-mismatch (VM) mode and cannot join the stack as a fully functioning member. The software detects the mismatched software and tries to upgrade (or downgrade) the switch in VM mode with the switch stack image or with a tar file image from the switch stack flash memory. The software uses the automatic upgrade (auto-upgrade) and the automatic advise (auto-advise) features.

The port LEDs on switches in version-mismatch mode will also remain off. Pressing the Mode button does not change the LED mode.

Auto-Upgrade

The purpose of the auto-upgrade feature is to allow a switch to be upgraded to a compatible software image, so that the switch can join the switch stack.

When a new switch attempts to join a switch stack, each stack member performs compatibility checks with itself and the new switch. Each stack member sends the results of the compatibility checks to the stack master, which uses the results to determine whether the switch can join the switch stack. If the software on the new switch is incompatible with the switch stack, the new switch enters version-mismatch (VM) mode.

If the auto-upgrade feature is enabled on the new switch, the stack master automatically upgrades the new switch with the same software image running on a compatible stack member. Auto-upgrade starts a few minutes after the mismatched software is detected before starting.

By default, auto-upgrade is enabled (the **boot auto-copy-sw** global configuration command is enabled). You can disable auto-upgrade by using the **no boot auto-copy-sw** global configuration command on the stack master. You can check the status of auto-upgrade by using the **show boot** privileged EXEC command and by checking the *Auto upgrade* line in the display.

Auto-upgrade includes an auto-copy process and an auto-extract process.

- Auto-copy automatically copies the software image running on any stack member to the new switch to automatically upgrade it. Auto-copy occurs if auto-upgrade is enabled, if there is enough flash memory in the new switch, and if the software image running on the switch stack is suitable for the new switch.

Note   A switch in VM mode might not run all released software. For example, new switch hardware is not recognized in earlier versions of software.

- Automatic extraction (auto-extract) occurs when the auto-upgrade process cannot find the appropriate software in the stack to copy to the new switch. In that case, the auto-extract process searches all switches in the stack for the tar file needed to upgrade the switch stack or the new switch. The tar file can be in any flash file system in the switch stack or in the new switch. If a tar file suitable for the new switch is found on a stack member, the process extracts the file and automatically upgrades the new switch.

The auto-upgrade (auto-copy and auto-extract) processes start a few minutes after the mismatched software is detected.

When the auto-upgrade process is complete, the new switch reloads and joins the stack as a fully functioning member. If you have both stack cables connected during the reload, network downtime does not occur because the switch stack operates on two rings.

Auto-Advise

Automatic advise (auto-advise) occurs when the auto-upgrade process cannot find appropriate stack member software to copy to the new switch. This process tells you the command (**archive copy-sw** or **archive download-sw** privileged EXEC command) and the image name (tar filename) needed to manually upgrade the switch stack or the new switch. The recommended image can be the running switch stack image or a tar file in any flash file system in the switch stack (including the new switch). If an appropriate image is not found

in the stack flash file systems, the auto-advise process tells you to install new software on the switch stack. Auto-advise cannot be disabled, and there is no command to check its status.

Examples of Auto-Advise Messages

When you add a switch that has a different minor version number to the switch stack, the software displays messages in sequence (assuming that there are no other system messages generated by the switch).

This example shows that the switch stack detected a new switch that is running a different minor version number than the switch stack. Auto-copy starts, finds suitable software to copy from a stack member to the switch in VM mode, upgrades the switch in VM mode, and then reloads it:

```
*Mar 11 20:31:19.247:%STACKMGR-6-STACK_LINK_CHANGE:Stack Port 2 Switch 2 has changed to
state UP
*Mar 11 20:31:23.232:%STACKMGR-6-SWITCH_ADDED_VM:Switch 1 has been ADDED to the
stack(VERSION_MISMATCH)
*Mar 11 20:31:23.291:%STACKMGR-6-SWITCH_ADDED_VM:Switch 1 has been ADDED to the
stack(VERSION_MISMATCH) (Stack_1-3)
*Mar 11 20:33:23.248:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW_INITIATED:Auto-copy-software process initiated
 for switch number(s) 1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Searching for stack member to act
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:as software donor...
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Found donor (system #2) for
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:member(s) 1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:System software to be uploaded:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:System Type: 0x00000000
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:archiving c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
(directory)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:archiving c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1.bin
 (4945851 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:archiving
c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1/info(450 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:archiving info (104 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:examining image...
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:extracting info (104 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:extracting
c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1/info(450 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:extracting info (104 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Stacking Version Number:1.4
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:System Type: 0x00000000
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Ios Image File Size: 0x004BA200
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Total Image File Size:0x00818A00
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Minimum Dram required:0x08000000
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Image Suffix:universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Image Directory:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Image Name:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Image 1:flash1:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: Old image will be deleted after download.
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Extracting images from archive into flash on
 switch 1...
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1 (directory)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:extracting
c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1/c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1 (4945851 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:extracting c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1/info
 (450 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:extracting info (104 bytes)
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Installing
(renaming):`flash1:update/c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1' ->
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW: `flash1:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1'
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:New software image installed in
flash1:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Removing old
```

```
image:flash1:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:All software images installed.
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Requested system reload in progress...
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Software successfully copied to
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:system(s) 1
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Done copying software
*Mar 11 20:36:15.038:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Reloading system(s) 1
```

This example shows that the switch stack detected a new switch that is running a different minor version number than the switch stack. Auto-copy starts but cannot find software in the switch stack to copy to the VM-mode switch to make it compatible with the switch stack. The auto-advise process starts and recommends that you download a tar file from the network to the switch in VM mode:

```
*Mar 1 00:01:11.319:%STACKMGR-6-STACK_LINK_CHANGE:Stack Port 2 Switch 2 has changed to state
 UP
*Mar 1 00:01:15.547:%STACKMGR-6-SWITCH_ADDED_VM:Switch 1 has been ADDED to the stack
(VERSION_MISMATCH)
stack_2#
*Mar 1 00:03:15.554:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW_INITIATED:Auto-copy-software process initiated
 for switch number(s) 1
*Mar 1 00:03:15.554:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:
*Mar 1 00:03:15.554:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Searching for stack member to act
*Mar 1 00:03:15.554:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:as software donor...
*Mar 1 00:03:15.554:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_COPY_SW:Software was not copied
*Mar 1 00:03:15.562:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW_INITIATED:Auto-advise-software process
initiated for switch number(s) 1
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:Systems with incompatible software
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:have been added to the stack. The
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:storage devices on all of the stack
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:members have been scanned, and it has
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:been determined that the stack can be
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:repaired by issuing the following
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:command(s):
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW: archive download-sw /force-reload /overwrite
 /dest 1 flash1:c2960x-universalk9-mz.150-2.EX1.tar
*Mar 1 00:04:22.537:%IMAGEMGR-6-AUTO_ADVISE_SW:
```

Note Auto-advise and auto-copy identify which images are running by examining the info file and by searching the directory structure on the switch stack. If you download your image by using the **copy tftp:** boot loader command instead of the **archive download-sw** privileged EXEC command, the proper directory structure is not created. For more information about the info file, see the *Catalyst 2960-XR Switch Managing Cisco IOS Image Files Configuration Guide*.

SDM Template Mismatch in Switch Stacks

All stack members use the Switch Database Management (SDM) template configured on the stack master. When a new switch is added to a stack, the SDM configuration that is stored on the stack master overrides the template configured on an individual switch.

You can use the **show switch** privileged EXEC command to see if any stack members are in SDM-mismatch mode.

Version-mismatch (VM) mode has priority over SDM-mismatch mode. If a VM-mode condition and an SDM-mismatch mode exist, the switch stack first attempts to resolve the VM-mode condition.

For more information about SDM templates, see the *Catalyst 2960-XR Switch System Management Configuration Guide*.

Switch Stack Management Connectivity

You manage the switch stack and the stack member interfaces through the stack master. You can use the CLI, SNMP, and supported network management applications such as CiscoWorks. You cannot manage stack members on an individual switch basis.

> **Note** Use SNMP to manage network features across the stack that are defined by supported MIBs. The switch does not support MIBs to manage stacking-specific features such as stack membership and election.

Connectivity to Specific Stack Members

If you want to configure a specific stack member port, you must include the stack member number in the CLI command interface notation.

To debug a specific stack member, you can access it from the stack master by using the **session** *stack-member-number* privileged EXEC command. The stack member number is appended to the system prompt. For example, Switch-2# is the prompt in privileged EXEC mode for stack member 2, and the system prompt for the stack master is Switch. Only the **show** and **debug** commands are available in a CLI session to a specific stack member.

Related Topics

Connectivity to the Switch Stack Through an IP Address

The switch stack is managed through a single IP address. The IP address is a system-level setting and is not specific to the stack master or to any other stack member. You can still manage the stack through the same IP address even if you remove the stack master or any other stack member from the stack, provided there is IP connectivity.

> **Note** Stack members retain their IP addresses when you remove them from a switch stack. To avoid a conflict by having two devices with the same IP address in your network, change the IP addresses of any switches that you remove from the switch stack.

Connectivity to the Switch Stack Through Console Ports or Ethernet Management Ports

You can connect to the stack master by using one of these methods:

- You can connect a terminal or a PC to the stack master through the console port of one or more stack members.

- You can connect a PC to the stack master through the Ethernet management ports of one or more stack members.

Be careful when using multiple CLI sessions to the stack master. Commands that you enter in one session are not displayed in the other sessions. Therefore, it is possible that you might not be able to identify the session from which you entered a command.

We recommend using only one CLI session when managing the switch stack.

How to Configure a Switch Stack

Default Switch Stack Configuration

The following table shows the default switch stack configuration settings:

Table 5: Default Switch Stack Configuration

Feature	Default Setting
Stack MAC address timer	Disabled.
Stack member number	1
Stack member priority value	1
Offline configuration	The switch stack is not provisioned.
Persistent MAC address	Disabled.

Enabling Persistent MAC Address

This procedure is optional.

Note   When you enter the command to configure this feature, a warning message appears with the consequences of your configuration. You should use this feature cautiously. Using the old stack master MAC address elsewhere in the same domain could result in lost traffic.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **configure terminal**
2. **stack-mac persistent timer** [**0** | *time-value*]
3. **end**
4. **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	**Purpose**
Step 1	**configure terminal** **Example:** Switch# **configure terminal**	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	**stack-mac persistent timer** [**0** | *time-value*] **Example:** Switch(config)# **stack-mac persistent timer 7**	Enables a time delay after a stack-master change before the stack MAC address changes to that of the new stack master. If the previous stack master rejoins the stack during this period, the stack uses that MAC address as the stack MAC address. You can configure the time period as 0 to 60 minutes. • Enter the command with no value to set the default delay of approximately 4 minutes. We recommend that you always enter a value. If the command is entered without a value, the time delay appears in the running-config file with an explicit timer value of 4 minutes. • Enter **0** to continue using the MAC address of the current stack master indefinitely. The stack MAC address of the previous stack master is used until you enter the **no stack-mac persistent timer** command, which immediately changes the stack MAC address to that of the current stack master. • Enter a *time-value* from 1 to 60 minutes to configure the time period before the stack MAC address changes to the new stack master. The stack MAC address of the previous stack master is used until the configured time period expires or until you enter the **no stack-mac persistent timer** command. **Note** If you enter the **no stack-mac persistent timer** command after a new stack master takes over, before the time expires, the switch stack moves to the current stack master MAC address.
Step 3	**end** **Example:** Switch(config)# **end**	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 4	**copy running-config startup-config** **Example:** Switch# **copy running-config startup-config**	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Related Topics

Assigning a Stack Member Number

This optional task is available only from the stack master.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **configure terminal**
2. **switch** *current-stack-member-number* **renumber** *new-stack-member-number*
3. **end**
4. **reload slot** *stack-member-number*
5. **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**configure terminal** **Example:** `Switch# configure terminal`	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	**switch** *current-stack-member-number* **renumber** *new-stack-member-number* **Example:** `Switch(config)# switch 3 renumber 4`	Specifies the current stack member number and the new stack member number for the stack member. The range is 1 to 8. You can display the current stack member number by using the **show switch** user EXEC command.
Step 3	**end** **Example:** `Switch(config)# end`	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 4	**reload slot** *stack-member-number* **Example:** `Switch# reload slot 5`	Resets the stack member.
Step 5	**copy running-config startup-config** **Example:** `Switch# copy running-config startup-config`	Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Related Topics

Setting the Stack Member Priority Value

This optional task is available only from the stack master.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **configure terminal**
2. **switch** *stack-member-number* **priority** *new-priority-number*
3. **end**
4. **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	**Purpose**
Step 1	**configure terminal** **Example:** `Switch# configure terminal`	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	**switch** *stack-member-number* **priority** *new-priority-number* **Example:** `Switch(config)# switch 3 priority 2`	Specifies the stack member number and the new priority for the stack member. The stack member number range is 1 to 8. The priority value range is 1 to 15. You can display the current priority value by using the **show switch** user EXEC command. The new priority value takes effect immediately but does not affect the current stack master. The new priority value helps determine which stack member is elected as the new stack master when the current stack master or switch stack resets.
Step 3	**end** **Example:** `Switch(config))# end`	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose

Step 4	**copy running-config startup-config**
	
	Example:
	`Switch# copy running-config`
	`startup-config`
		(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Related Topics

Provisioning a New Member for a Switch Stack

This optional task is available only from the stack master.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **show switch**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** *type*
4. **end**
5. **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**show switch** **Example:** `Switch# show switch`	Displays summary information about the switch stack.
Step 2	**configure terminal** **Example:** `Switch#  configure terminal`	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 3	**switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** *type* **Example:** `Switch(config)# switch 3 provision WS-xxxx`	Specifies the stack member number for the preconfigured switch. By default, no switches are provisioned. For *stack-member-number*, the range is 1 to 8. Specify a stack member number that is not already used in the switch stack. See Step 1.

	Command or Action	Purpose
		For *type*, enter the model number of a supported switch that is listed in the command-line help strings.
Step 4	**end** **Example:** `Switch(config)# end`	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 5	**copy running-config startup-config** **Example:** `Switch# copy running-config startup-config`	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Related Topics

Removing Provisioned Switch Information

Before you begin, you must remove the provisioned switch from the stack. This optional task is available only from the stack master.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **configure terminal**
2. **no switch** *stack-member-number* **provision**
3. **end**
4. **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**configure terminal** **Example:** `Switch# configure terminal`	Enters global configuration mode.

	Command or Action	**Purpose**
Step 2	**no switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** **Example:** Switch(config)# **no switch 3 provision**	Removes the provisioning information for the specified member.
Step 3	**end** **Example:** Switch(config)# **end**	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 4	**copy running-config startup-config** **Example:** Switch# **copy running-config startup-config**	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

If you are removing a provisioned switch in a stack with this configuration:

- The stack has four members

- Stack member 1 is the stack master

- Stack member 3 is a provisioned switch

and want to remove the provisioned information and to avoid receiving an error message, you can remove power from stack member 3, disconnect the stack cables between the stack member 3 and switches to which it is connected, reconnect the cables between the remaining stack members, and enter the **no switch** *stack-member-number* **provision** global configuration command.

Related Topics

Troubleshooting the Switch Stack

Accessing the CLI of a Specific Member

This optional task is for debugging purposes, and is available only from the stack master.

You can access all or specific members by using the **remote command** {**all** | *stack-member-number*} privileged EXEC command. The stack member number range is 1 to 8.

You can access specific members by using the **session** *stack-member-number* privileged EXEC command. The member number is appended to the system prompt. For example, the prompt for member 2 is Switch-2#, and system prompt for the stack master is Switch#. Enter **exit** to return to the CLI session on the stack master. Only the **show** and **debug** commands are available on a specific member.

Related Topics

Temporarily Disabling a Stack Port

If a stack port is flapping and causing instability in the stack ring, to disable the port, enter the **switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **disable** privileged EXEC command. To reenable the port, enter the **switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **enable** command.

✎

Note   Be careful when using the **switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **disable** command. When you disable the stack port, the stack operates at half bandwidth.

A stack is in the full-ring state when all members are connected through the stack ports and are in the ready state.

The stack is in the partial-ring state when the following occurs:

   • All members are connected through their stack ports but some are not in the ready state.

   • Some members are not connected through the stack ports.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **disable**
2. **switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **enable**
3. **copy running-config startup-config**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	**switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **disable** **Example:** Switch# **switch 2 stack port 1 disable**	Disables the specified stack port.
Step 2	**switch** *stack-member-number* **stack port** *port-number* **enable** **Example:** Switch# **switch 2 stack port 1 enable**	Reenables the stack port after the problem is resolved.
Step 3	**copy running-config startup-config** **Example:** Switch# **copy running-config startup-config**	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

When you disable a stack port and the stack is in the full-ring state, you can disable only one stack port. This message appears:

```
Enabling/disabling a stack port may cause undesired stack changes. Continue?[confirm]
```

When you disable a stack port and the stack is in the partial-ring state, you cannot disable the port. This message appears:

```
Disabling stack port not allowed with current stack configuration.
```

Reenabling a Stack Port While Another Member Starts

Stack Port 1 on Switch 1 is connected to Port 2 on Switch 4. If Port 1 is flapping, you can disable Port 1 with the **switch 1 stack port 1 disable** privileged EXEC command. While Port 1 on Switch 1 is disabled and Switch 1 is still powered on, follow these steps to reenable a stack port:

Step 1 Disconnect the stack cable between Port 1 on Switch 1 and Port 2 on Switch 4.

Step 2 Remove Switch 4 from the stack.

Step 3 Add a switch to replace Switch 4 and assign it switch-number 4.

Step 4 Reconnect the cable between Port 1 on Switch 1 and Port 2 on Switch 4 (the replacement switch).

Step 5 Reenable the link between the switches. Enter the **switch 1 stack port 1 enable** privileged EXEC command to enable Port 1 on Switch 1.

Step 6 Power on Switch 4.

⚠
Caution Powering on Switch 4 before enabling the Port 1 on Switch 1 might cause one of the switches to reload.

If Switch 4 is powered on first, you might need to enter the **switch 1 stack port 1 enable** and the **switch 4 stack port 2 enable** privileged EXEC commands to bring up the link.

Monitoring the Switch Stack

Table 6: Commands for Displaying Stack Information

Command	Description
show controller ethernet-controller stack port {1 | 2}	Displays stack port counters (or per-interface and per-stack port send and receive statistics read from the hardware).
show controller ethernet-controller fastethernet0	Displays information about the Ethernet management port, including the port status and the per-interface send and receive statistics read from the hardware.

Command	Description
show platform stack compatibility	Displays information about HULC feature compatibility.
show platform stack manager all	Displays all stack manager information, such as the stack protocol version.
show platform stack passive-links	Displays information about stack passive links.
show switch	Displays summary information about the stack, including the status of provisioned switches and switches in version-mismatch mode.
show switch *stack-member-number*	Displays information about a specific member.
show switch detail	Displays detailed information about the stack.
show switch neighbors	Displays the stack neighbors.
show switch stack-ports	Displays port information for the stack.

Configuration Examples for Switch Stacks

Switch Stack Configuration Scenarios

Most of these switch stack configuration scenarios assume that at least two switches are connected through their stack ports.

Table 7: Configuration Scenarios

Scenario		Result
Stack master election specifically determined by existing stack masters	Connect two powered-on switch stacks through the stack ports.	Only one of the two stack masters becomes the new stack master.

Scenario		Result
Stack master election specifically determined by the stack member priority value	**1** Connect two switches through their stack ports. **2** Use the **switch** *stack-member-number* **priority** *new-priority-number* global configuration command to set one stack member with a higher member priority value. **3** Restart both stack members at the same time.	The stack member with the higher priority value is elected stack master.
Stack master election specifically determined by the configuration file	Assuming that both stack members have the same priority value: **1** Make sure that one stack member has a default configuration and that the other stack member has a saved (nondefault) configuration file. **2** Restart both stack members at the same time.	The stack member with the saved configuration file is elected stack master.
Stack master election specifically determined by the MAC address	Assuming that both stack members have the same priority value, configuration file, and feature set, restart both stack members at the same time.	The stack member with the lower MAC address is elected stack master.
Stack member number conflict	Assuming that one stack member has a higher priority value than the other stack member: **1** Ensure that both stack members have the same stack member number. If necessary, use the **switch** *current-stack-member-number* **renumber** *new-stack-member-number* global configuration command. **2** Restart both stack members at the same time.	The stack member with the higher priority value retains its stack member number. The other stack member has a new stack member number.

Scenario		Result
Add a stack member	1 Power off the new switch. 2 Through their stack ports, connect the new switch to a powered-on switch stack. 3 Power on the new switch.	The stack master is retained. The new switch is added to the switch stack.
Stack master failure	Remove (or power off) the stack master.	One of the remaining stack members becomes the new stack master. All other stack members in the stack remain as stack members and do not reboot.
Add more than eight stack members	1 Through their stack ports, connect nine switches. 2 Power on all switches.	Two switches become stack masters. One stack master has eight stack members. The other stack master remains as a standalone switch. Use the Mode button and port LEDs on the switches to identify which switches are stack masters and which switches belong to each stack master.

Related Topics

Enabling Persistent MAC Address: Example

This example shows how to configure the persistent MAC address feature for a 7-minute time delay and to verify the configuration:

```
Switch(config)# stack-mac persistent timer 7
  WARNING: The stack continues to use the base MAC of the old Master
  WARNING: as the stack MAC after a master switchover until the MAC
  WARNING: persistency timer expires. During this time the Network
  WARNING: Administrators must make sure that the old stack-mac does
  WARNING: not appear elsewhere in this network domain. If it does,
  WARNING: user traffic may be blackholed.
  Switch(config)# end
  Switch# show switch
  Switch/Stack Mac Address : 0016.4727.a900
  Mac persistency wait time: 7 mins
                                         H/W    Current
```

```
Switch#  Role   Mac Address    Priority Version  State
--------------------------------------------------------
*1       Master 0016.4727.a900    1      P2B     Ready
```

Related Topics

Provisioning a New Member for a Switch Stack: Example

This example shows how to provision a switch with a stack member number of 2 for the switch stack. The **show running-config** command output shows the interfaces associated with the provisioned switch:

```
Switch(config)# switch 2 provision switch_PID
  Switch(config)# end
  Switch# show running-config | include switch 2
  switch 2 provision switch_PID
```

Related Topics

Additional References for Switch Stacks

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Cabling and powering on a switch stack.	*Catalyst 2960-XR Switch Hardware Installation Guide*

Standards and RFCs

Standard/RFC	Title
None	—

MIBs

MIB	MIBs Link
All supported MIBs for this release.	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and software images, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs

Technical Assistance

Description	Link
The Cisco Support website provides extensive online resources, including documentation and tools for troubleshooting and resolving technical issues with Cisco products and technologies. To receive security and technical information about your products, you can subscribe to various services, such as the Product Alert Tool (accessed from Field Notices), the Cisco Technical Services Newsletter, and Really Simple Syndication (RSS) Feeds. Access to most tools on the Cisco Support website requires a Cisco.com user ID and password.	http://www.cisco.com/support

Feature Information for Switch Stack Features

This table lists the features in this module and provides links to specific configuration information:

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
FlexStack-Plus	Cisco IOS 15.0(2)EX1	FlexStack-Plus is the name of the stacking technology used by the Catalyst 2960-XR Series of fixed Ethernet switches.
20 Gbps Stack Port Speed	Cisco IOS 15.0(2)EX1	In a homogenous stack, the bandwidth for a single stack port is 20 Gbps unlike Flexstack where the port bandwidth is 10 Gbps.

I N D E X

A

assigning information **31, 32, 33**
    member number **31**
    priority value **32**
    provisioning a new member **33**
auto-advise **25**
auto-copy **25**
auto-extract **25**
auto-upgrade **25**
automatic advise (auto-advise) in switch stacks **25**
automatic copy (auto-copy) in switch stacks **25**
automatic extraction (auto-extract) in switch stacks **25**
automatic upgrades (auto-upgrade) in switch stacks **25**
automatic upgrades with auto-upgrade **25**

C

configuring **31, 32**
    member number **31**
    priority value **32**

D

described **24**
desktop template **27**
displaying **24**

M

MAC address of **29**
managing switch stacks **28**
manual upgrades with auto-advise **25**
member number **31**
merged **15**

N

Network Assistant **28**
    managing switch stacks **28**

O

offline configuration **21, 33**
    provisioned configuration, defined **21**
    provisioned switch, defined **21**
    provisioning a new member **33**

P

partitioned **15**
priority value **32**
provisioned configuration, defined **21**
provisioned switch, defined **21**
provisioning a new member **33**
provisioning new members for a switch stack **21**

R

removing a provisioned member **34**
replacing **20**
replacing a failed member **20**

S

SDM **27**
    switch stack consideration **27**
stack member **20, 31, 32, 33, 34**
    configuring **31, 32**
        member number **31**
        priority value **32**
    provisioning a new member **33**
    removing a provisioned member **34**