



CHAPTER 29

Configuring Unidirectional Ethernet



Note

Unidirectional Ethernet is not supported on Catalyst 4900M, Catalyst 4948E, Supervisor Engine 6-E, or Supervisor Engine 6L-E.

This chapter describes how to configure Unidirectional Ethernet on the Catalyst 4000 family switch and contains these sections:

- [About Unidirectional Ethernet, page 29-1](#)
- [Configuring Unidirectional Ethernet, page 29-2](#)



Note

For complete syntax and usage information for the switch commands used in this chapter, look at the *Cisco Catalyst 4500 Series Switch Command Reference* and related publications at this location:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/hw/switches/ps4324/index.html>

If the command is not found in the Catalyst 4500 Command Reference, it is located in the larger Cisco IOS library. Refer to the *Cisco IOS Command Reference* and related publications at this location:

<http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6350/index.html>

About Unidirectional Ethernet

You can set stubless Gigabit Ethernet ports to unidirectionally transmit or receive traffic. Unidirectional Ethernet uses only one strand of fiber for either transmitting or receiving one-way traffic for the Gigabit Ethernet Port, instead of two strands of fiber for a full-duplex Gigabit Ethernet Port. Configuring your Gigabit Ethernet Port either to transmit or receive traffic effectively doubles the amount of traffic capabilities for applications, such as video streaming, where most traffic is sent as unacknowledged unidirectional video broadcast streams.

Configuring Unidirectional Ethernet



Note

You must configure Unidirectional Ethernet on the non-blocking Gigabit Ethernet Port, which automatically disables UDLD on the port.

To enable Unidirectional Ethernet, perform this task:

	Command	Purpose
Step 1	Switch(config)# interface { vlan <i>vlan_ID</i> { fastethernet gigabitethernet tengigabitethernet } <i>slot/interface</i> Port-channel <i>number</i> }	Selects the interface to configure.
Step 2	Switch(config-if)# [no] unidirectional { send-only receive-only }	Enables Unidirectional Ethernet. Use the no keyword to disable Unidirectional Ethernet.
Step 3	Switch(config-if)# end	Exits configuration mode.
Step 4	Switch# show interface { vlan <i>vlan_ID</i> { fastethernet gigabitethernet tengigabitethernet } <i>slot/interface</i> } unidirectional	Verifies the configuration.

This example shows how to set Gigabit Ethernet interface 1/1 to unidirectionally send traffic:

```
Switch# configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Switch(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/1
Switch(config-if)# unidirectional send-only
Switch(config-if)# end
```

Warning!

Enable 12 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable port udld. You must manually ensure that the unidirectional link does not create a spanning tree loop in the network.

Enable 13 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable ip routing on the port. You must manually configure static ip route and arp entry in order to route ip traffic.

This example shows how to set Gigabit Ethernet interface 1/1 to receive traffic unidirectionally:

```
Switch# configure terminal
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.
Switch(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/1
Switch(config-if)# unidirectional receive-only
Switch(config-if)# end
```

Warning!

Enable 12 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable port udld. You must manually ensure that the unidirectional link does not create a spanning tree loop in the network.

Enable 13 port unidirectional mode will automatically disable ip routing on the port. You must manually configure static ip route and arp entry in order to route ip traffic.

This example shows how to verify the configuration:

```
Switch> show interface gigabitethernet 1/1 unidirectional  
show interface gigabitethernet 1/1 unidirectional  
Unidirectional configuration mode: send only  
CDP neighbor unidirectional configuration mode: receive only
```

This example shows how to disable Unidirectional Ethernet on Gigabit Ethernet interface 1/1:

```
Switch# configure terminal  
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.  
Switch(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/1  
Switch(config-if)# no unidirectional  
Switch(config-if)# end
```

This example shows the result of entering the **show interface** command for a port that does not support Unidirectional Ethernet:

```
Switch# show interface f6/1 unidirectional  
Unidirectional Ethernet is not supported on FastEthernet6/1
```

