Cisco OfficeExtend Solution

What Solutions Does Cisco Offer for the Teleworker?

Cisco offers a host of teleworker solutions that enable employees to enjoy work schedule flexibility and an environmentally friendly alternative to commuting, while being productive from any location. The Cisco® teleworker solutions include the Cisco Virtual Office, Cisco OfficeExtend Solution, and Cisco AnyConnect™ Secure Mobility Solution. This at-a-glance focuses on Cisco OfficeExtend.

What Is the Value of Cisco OfficeExtend?

The Cisco OfficeExtend Solution is specifically designed to deliver always-on secure access to networked business services from the remote home office. Designed for the teleworker, Cisco OfficeExtend delivers full 802.11n wireless performance and avoids congestion caused by residential devices because it operates simultaneously in the 2.4-GHz and the 5-GHz radio frequency bands. Wireless configuration, management, and troubleshooting are centrally managed for unprecedented visibility and control of the teleworking environment with zero configuration needed by the home user. The OfficeExtend solution is uses the same QoS and security policy as the network core, so there is no overlay network to manage.

What Problems Does It Help Solve?

Providing employees access to networked business services from a residential environment poses challenges for both the end user and IT operations.

For the home-based teleworker, it is critical that access to business services be reliable and consistent, providing an experience that is as similar as sitting in a cubicle or office in the organization's facility. However, residential and urban environments tend to have many potential sources of congestion found on the commonly used 2.4-GHz wireless band. Potential sources of interference include cordless handsets, personal home laptops, iPhones or iPods, baby monitors, and many more. Additionally, solutions must support a wide range of teleworking employees with varying skill sets, making it critical to have a streamlined and simplified way to implement devices that allow for access to the corporate environment.

IT operations have a different set of challenges when it comes to implementing a teleworking solution, including properly securing, maintaining, and managing the teleworker environment from a centralized location. The introduction of cloud-based services requires IT to help ensure that employees have access to these services while at the same time minimizing the risk of viruses or attacks by providing secure Internet access. Because operational expenses are a constant consideration, IT must implement a cost-effective solution that provides investment protection without sacrificing quality or functionality.

Cisco OfficeExtend

The same end-to-end borderless network services available on the corporate wireless network may be securely accessed remotely using the Cisco OfficeExtend Solution. Data, voice, and video as well as applications such as Cisco Unified MeetingPlace® conferencing, Cisco WebEx® technology, and dual-mode phones are all supported by the Cisco OfficeExtend Solution.

For the initial setup at a home office, the remote worker plugs the access point into their home router connected to or integrated with their broadband modem. The Cisco Aironet® 600 Series OfficeExtend Access Point is provisioned in advance and will automatically set up a secure tunnel to the Cisco wireless controller at the corporate headquarters. The OfficeExtend access point uses a centralized architecture built on control and provisioning of wireless access points (CAPWAP), an industry standard, to provide a secure, high-performance Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS) connection between the access point and the controller in the corporate network. This connection allows all traffic to be validated against centralized security policies and minimizes the management overhead associated with home-based firewalls.

Optionally, the Cisco Wireless Control System (WCS) can be added for centralized management of all controllers and access points and comprehensive wireless lifecycle management. If required, a preregistered corporate IP phone can also automatically connect with the Cisco Unified Communications Manager to access the corporate phone number, voicemail, and user settings.

The Cisco OfficeExtend solution consists of the following components:

- Cisco Aironet 600 Series OfficeExtend Access Point
- Cisco Wireless LAN Controller: The Cisco 5500 Series Wireless Controller or Cisco Wireless Services Module 2 (WiSM2) (recommended)
- Cisco Wireless Control System (WCS) (optional)

What Are the Benefits of Cisco OfficeExtend?

The Cisco OfficeExtend solution and Cisco AnyConnect solution deliver unprecedented functionality purposely designed to meet the needs of today's home-based and mobile teleworker. Benefits include:

- Provides simultaneous, dual-band 2.4-GHz and 5-GHz radio frequency support so that you can avoid potential congestion from home devices when accessing networked business services.
- Delivers industry-leading performance, including full 802.11n speed and enhanced reliability that support mission-critical services now and in the future.

- Extends core Cisco Borderless Networks policy and security services into the teleworking environment for end-to-end visibility and control throughout the network.
- Provides simplified IT provisioning and zero-touch deployment at the home office, reducing setup time and supports varying levels of end-user skills.
- Segments personal or home Internet traffic from business-oriented traffic, minimizing the risk of virus infiltration into the corporate environment while supporting home devices.
- Comes with a cost-effective, all-inclusive licensing model that minimizes solution cost and capital expenditures.
- With the optional Cisco Wireless Control System, makes it possible to centrally manage and secure all access points (WCS) and provide comprehensive wireless lifecycle management.
- Through 802.1X media-level access control, combines authentication, access control, and user profiles so that IT can permit or deny access to the network based on user identity, rather than device.

How Can Cisco Help Get You Started?

Cisco and Cisco Services help you cost-effectively deploy secure mobile access to business-critical applications and interactive multimedia collaboration while improving operational efficiency. Based on leading practices, these services help accelerate your transition to an advanced mobility architecture that optimizes performance, reliability, and security.

Cisco Capital® is uniquely positioned to provide you with highly competitive and flexible financing options for Cisco teleworker solutions. In addition to offering competitive rates, flexible payment terms, and technology migration options, our financing options can be customized to satisfy your specific needs. The strategic financing framework from Cisco Capital provides a range of benefits, including:

- Customized financing terms of up to five years.
- Flexible technology migration options to manage the lifecycle of your Cisco teleworker solution, avoid technology obsolescence, and responsibly dispose of equipment.
- Payment deferrals of up to six months to help align payments to budget cycles and accelerate achievement of ROI / payback goals.
- Aggressive residuals on Cisco hardware that can lower the cost of your overall solution.
- Competitive rates for Cisco subscription-based services.

Availability and terms of Cisco Capital offers may vary by country and are subject to credit approval. Please contact your Cisco Capital representative for additional information.

Why Cisco?

Cisco delivers the only wireless teleworker solution with full 802.11n speed and simultaneous dual-band radio frequency band support, enabling effective access to business services from a residential environment. The Cisco OfficeExtend solution is purposely designed to not only deliver a corporate-like experience to the teleworker environment, but also to simultaneously support home network activity.

For More Information

For more information about Cisco Teleworker Solutions, visit:
http://www.cisco.com/go/officeextend

For more information about Cisco Services, visit:
http://www.cisco.com/go/services/security

or contact your local account representative. For more information about Cisco Capital, visit:
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