Cisco Borderless Networks Assessment Service for Unified Wireless, formerly known as Cisco Unified Wireless Network Readiness Assessment Service

Reduce the Complexity of Migrating to a Secure, Mobile, and Collaborative Business Environment

Smoothly transition to the next generation of business mobility:

- Align your wireless goals with business and technical objectives
- Identify opportunities to deploy mobility services to increase productivity, responsiveness, and collaboration
- Assess network readiness with proven plan and design methodologies
- Identify and address potential migration issues before they arise
- Improve the efficiency of network design, staging, and migration while avoiding costly delays

The Need for Mobile Business Operations

As users become increasingly mobile and business applications become more interactive, advanced wireless services are critical in helping companies maintain innovation, agility, and differentiation. By combining the scalability of the Cisco® Unified Wireless Network with the performance of the 802.11n standard and CleanAir technology, Cisco helps businesses create a worldwide collaborative working environment. The next-generation Cisco Unified Wireless Network offers the performance and reliability needed to support multimedia and business-critical applications wherever mobile connectivity is required to transform business operations.

Preparing for Next-Generation Mobility

Whether extending the mobility of your employees through a wireless network, migrating your existing wireless network to a controller-based network, integrating next-generation management platforms, or upgrading to a mission-critical wireless infrastructure based on 802.11n and CleanAir technology, detailed planning and solid understanding of your infrastructure and technology requirements can reduce deployment risks.

Offering expert guidance integrating the advanced wireless solution transparently with your wired network, Cisco can help you realize success with an optimized solution that delivers the security, scalability, ease of deployment, and management you expect from your wired LANs.

Cisco and our Wireless LAN Specialized Partners offer a broad portfolio of professional services that help you take full advantage of the scalability, flexibility, and reliability provided by the Cisco Unified Wireless Network. These services are based on proven methodologies for planning and deploying integrated mobility solutions with secure voice, video, and data. This knowledge has been gained through years of experience designing and deploying some of the world's most complex enterprise-class wireless networks and can help you simplify deployment and reduce the burden on IT resources while improving overall operating efficiency.

Cisco Borderless Networks Assessment Service for Unified Wireless

Careful planning and a well-thought-out design are essential to a successful migration. The Cisco Borderless Networks Assessment Service for Unified Wireless is the first step in planning your wireless network transformation, helping you accelerate smooth deployment of advanced wireless technology.

This service reviews your current wireless network architecture and identifies areas that need updating to successfully migrate to the Cisco Unified Wireless Network and next-generation wireless LAN technology. Cisco engineers work with you to develop a strategy and plan for migration to the following Cisco advanced solutions:

- Migration of production access points to a controller-based infrastructure
- Migration of legacy access points to the 802.11n standard

- Integration of Cisco CleanAir technology for optimum performance and interference mitigation
- Deployment of Cisco wireless LAN controllers or migration to a next-generation controller
- Deployment of a Cisco Wireless Control System or next-generation wireless management platform
- Integration of Wi-Fi client devices, including phones and tablets

Early in the migration planning process, Cisco engineers work with your staff to assess the readiness of your current wireless deployment and its ability to support the proposed Cisco Mobility solution. Helping you to control deployment costs and avoid delays during implementation, this service is a critical first step in implementing an integrated Cisco Mobility solution by identifying gaps in your wireless LAN network and providing a prioritized set of actionable steps for migration.

The Cisco Borderless Networks Assessment Service for Unified Wireless includes several activities to help you successfully plan for deployment of your Cisco Unified Wireless Network solution, including:

- Business and technical requirements analysis
- Review of your existing wireless LAN architecture
- Review of your existing RF design
- Wireless LAN configuration review
- Gap analysis and recommendations

Wireless LAN Requirements Analysis

Wireless LAN experts begin by conducting a detailed review of your wireless LAN business goals and technology requirements. Working with your network staff, Cisco engineers review your requirements, constraints, processes, and deployment strategies to help ensure the solution, once deployed, aligns with your business objectives.

Wireless LAN Architecture and Design Review

Cisco wireless engineers then collect baseline data about your wireless infrastructure to help ensure the assessment is customized to your network and requirements. Working from carefully gathered data, Cisco experts complete an in-depth analysis of your wireless LAN architecture, including the network topology, security controls, and Radio Frequency (RF) performance based on industry and Cisco best practices. They evaluate your overall wireless LAN architecture for scalability, reliability, and performance and perform an RF design review to help you make informed decisions about how to plan for wireless LAN upgrades that deliver reliable and predictable coverage.

Wireless LAN Configuration Review

To help ensure optimal performance for mobility applications, experts in wireless LAN technology perform a review of hardware and software versions and configurations of primary wireless LAN network devices, including:

- Cisco wireless LAN controllers
- Cisco Wireless Control System
- Cisco Mobility Service Engine
- Cisco access points
- Cisco NAC Guest Service
- Wireless client devices, including phones and tablets

Configuration reviews for critical network services are also provided, including:

- **Wireless LAN security:** client authentication and encryption, rogue access point detection, and intrusion detection
- **Quality of service:** QoS settings, including prioritization for control, voice, video, and data traffic

- **Wireless multicast:** configuration of client traffic
- **RF planning:** power and channel assignment, operational data rates, RF group design and scaling, interference settings
- **Client mobility:** mobility group design for transparent roaming
- **High availability:** WLC design redundancy, including access point load balancing and failure recovery

Configuration reviews of mobility application services include:

- **Voice and Video:** Strengthen performance and security needed for sensitive Wi-Fi voice and video applications.
- **Guest Access:** Allow guests, vendors, and partners to access the Internet while keeping your internal network secure and easy to manage.
- **Outdoor Wireless:** Deploy a secure and cost-effective outdoor wireless solution with a design that transparently integrates voice, data, and video applications.
- **Context-Aware:** Increase the accuracy, speed, and efficiency of your context-aware solution to locate users and track critical business assets on the network.
- **Adaptive Wireless Intrusion Prevention Systems:** Protect your network from wireless threats with a solution designed to optimize RF coverage and performance.

Cisco wireless experts compare your specific device configurations, templates, and rules to identify gaps between solution design requirements and industry and Cisco leading practices.

Gap Analysis and Recommendations

From this analysis, engineers identify gaps that could limit performance and recommend network modifications to support the new solution. Recommendations on how to enhance parameters for performance, security, reliability, and manageability are provided so you can deploy mobility services more quickly and enhance the return on your network investment through improvements to operational efficiency. Based on the RF design analysis, the service also provides recommendations for locating access points, establishing their frequencies, and managing interference. When combined with the detailed device configuration reviews, these recommendations help you mitigate deployment risk by enabling smooth solution integration and migration with optimal performance.

Benefits

The Cisco Borderless Networks Assessment Service for Unified Wireless helps reduce the complexity of migrating from an autonomous Cisco wireless LAN to a mission-critical 802.11n standard-based Cisco Unified Wireless Network or migrating to a next-generation controller or management system by providing Cisco experience, knowledge, tools, and leading practices during the early stages of migration planning.

This service helps you to:

- Simplify migration to advanced Cisco Unified Wireless Network capabilities with recommendations on how to evolve your wireless LAN infrastructure to a next-generation design
- Improve the return on your investment by identifying architecture gaps that can be remediated to facilitate deployment success
- Manage risk for common challenges such as security, management, and reliability by working with wireless LAN experts early in the planning process
- Reduce deployment costs and delays by assessing the readiness of your current access point, controller, Cisco Wireless Control System, and Cisco Mobility Engine deployment
- Improve wireless LAN performance, security, and availability by aligning your wireless LAN configurations with proven leading practices

Why Cisco Services

Realize the full business value of your technology investments more quickly with intelligent, personalized services from Cisco and our partners. Backed by deep networking expertise and a broad ecosystem of partners, Cisco Services enable you to successfully plan, build, and run your network as a powerful business platform. Whether you are looking to quickly seize new opportunities to meet rising customer expectations, improve operational efficiency to lower costs, mitigate risk, or accelerate growth, we have a service that can help you.

For More Information

For more information about Cisco Wireless LAN Services, including the Cisco Borderless Networks Assessment Service for Unified Wireless, visit www.cisco.com/go/wirelesslanservices or contact your local account representative.

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