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SBA
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LARGE

BORDERLESS
NETWORKS

Wireless CleanAir Deployment Guide

● ● ● SBA FOR GOVERNMENT

Revision: H2CY10

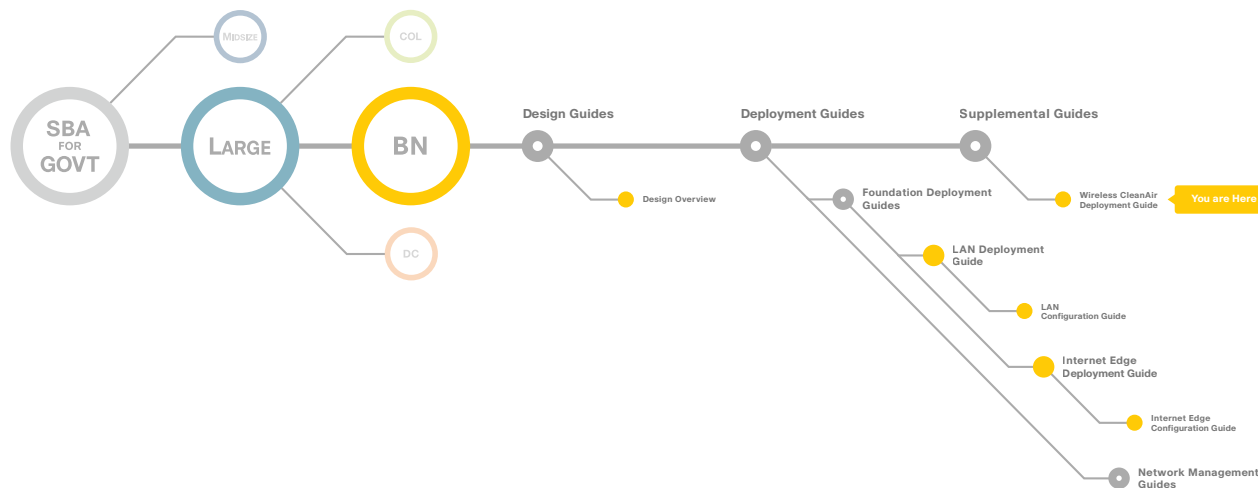
Using this Borderless Networks Guide

This document is for the reader who:

- Wants a general understanding of Radio Resource management.
- Understands the challenges of the unlicensed Radio Spectrum.
- Has already read the *Cisco Smart Business Architecture for Government Large Agencies—Borderless Networks LAN Deployment Guide* and is looking for a Wireless Network Management Solution.
- Has an existing network and needs guidance on how to add Wireless and Radio Spectrum Management.
- Wants to better understand how to react to unforeseen Wireless Network challenges.

Using this Collaboration Guide

This guide is a concise reference on Wireless Network Management and is organized into the following sections:



The **Introduction** outlines the issues the Cisco Wireless Control System and Navigator can solve within your agency and the capabilities it provides to solve them.

The **Technology Overview** section introduces Cisco Wireless Control System and describes how it is delivered as Software as a Service (SaaS).

The **Cisco Wireless Control System (WCS) and Navigator Solutions Overview** section discusses the various Wireless Network Management solution offerings, the differences between them, and how to decide which one is right for you.

How to Get Cisco Wireless Control System points you to the correct resource to order Cisco WCS or Navigator for your agency.

Who Should Read This Guide

This guide should be of interest to anyone in a large government agency who wants to understand the benefits of using the Wireless Network Management, Cisco's Wireless Control System (WCS), and the Wireless Control System Navigator offerings, to learn how to choose among them, and to find out how to purchase one of these products.

The audience also includes technology resellers who want to understand more about the Cisco Wireless offerings and to learn how to become a Cisco Wireless authorized partner.

This guide does not require any specific technical background other than general computer experience.

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Introduction

This guide is a companion document to the Cisco SBA for Large Agencies—Borderless Network Design Overview and deployment guides.

The Cisco SBA for Large Agencies is a prescriptive architecture that delivers an easy-to-use, flexible, and scalable network with wired, wireless, security, WAN optimization, and unified communication components. The architecture eliminates the challenges of integrating the various network components by using a standardized design that is reliable and has comprehensive support offerings.

The Cisco SBA for Large Agencies is designed to address the common requirements of agencies with 2000 to 10000 employees. Each agency is unique, however, and so are its requirements. Because of that, the Cisco Borderless Network Architecture was built so that additional capabilities could be added without redesigning the network.

One way that the Cisco Borderless Network Architecture accomplishes this extensibility is by breaking down the architecture into three primary layers: Network Foundation, Network Services, and User Services. See Figure 1.

The Cisco Wireless Control System is a User Service. User Services are the services or applications we use everyday and interact with directly. They range from picking up the phone to use the phone service, to reading our email using the email service. How well a User Service interacts with the Network Service impacts how it performs when a user actually uses it, which makes Wireless Network management an imperative for a healthy network.

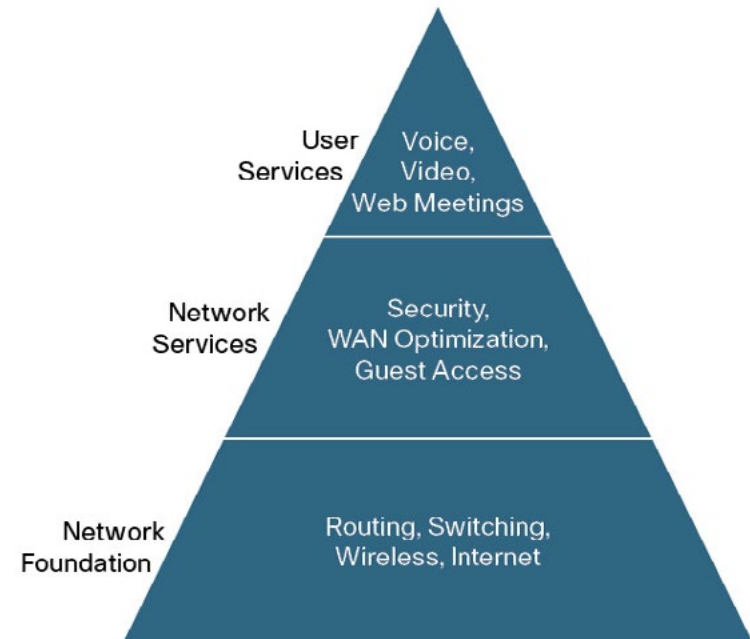
Reliable Network Services provided by the Cisco SBA such as the Internet connection, WAN infrastructure, and security help ensure an agency can rely on applications such as web conferencing for critical collaboration.

To learn more about Cisco SBA for Large Agencies—Borderless Network, visit:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/smartarchitecture> or

<http://www.cisco.com/go/partner/smartarchitecture>

Figure 1. Network Services, Services and Foundation

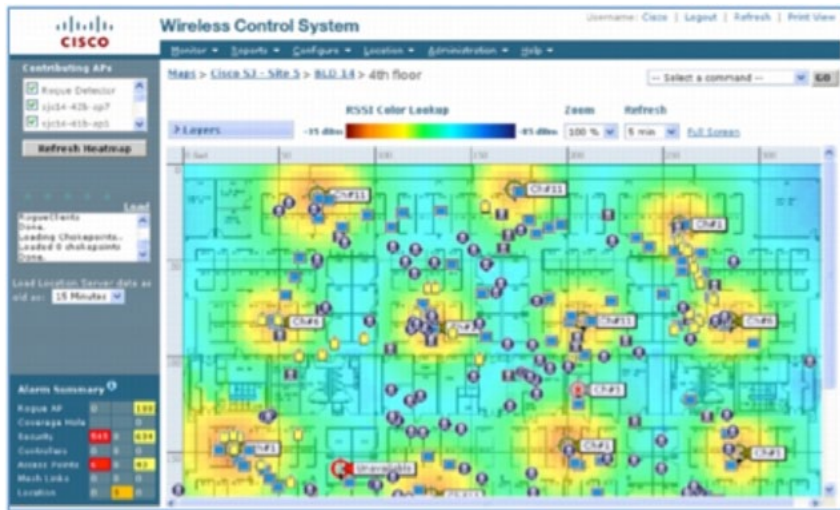


Agency Overview

The challenges of running a wired data network are beyond the expectations of most other jobs. The challenges go beyond simply adding a machine and handing it over to the desktop IT department or to the end user to leverage as they desire. With the numerous challenges that arise with any application, the network is always the easiest entity to blame for failure. Now add a wireless data network to the picture and the challenges and skill set required to maintain and troubleshoot the network triple. Wireless networking brings a new set of unknowns that a wired network never had to address.

The Cisco Wireless Control System (WCS) with CleanAir Technology allow the Network Administration IT staff to visually see how well their network is performing, troubleshoot client connectivity remotely, manage wireless network resources, and analyze interference devices from anywhere in the world and more. The real power of Cisco WCS with CleanAir combined with CleanAir access points is the ability to visually represent the radio environment to the network administrator to better manage and troubleshoot issues before they become issues.

Figure 2. WCS Heat Map



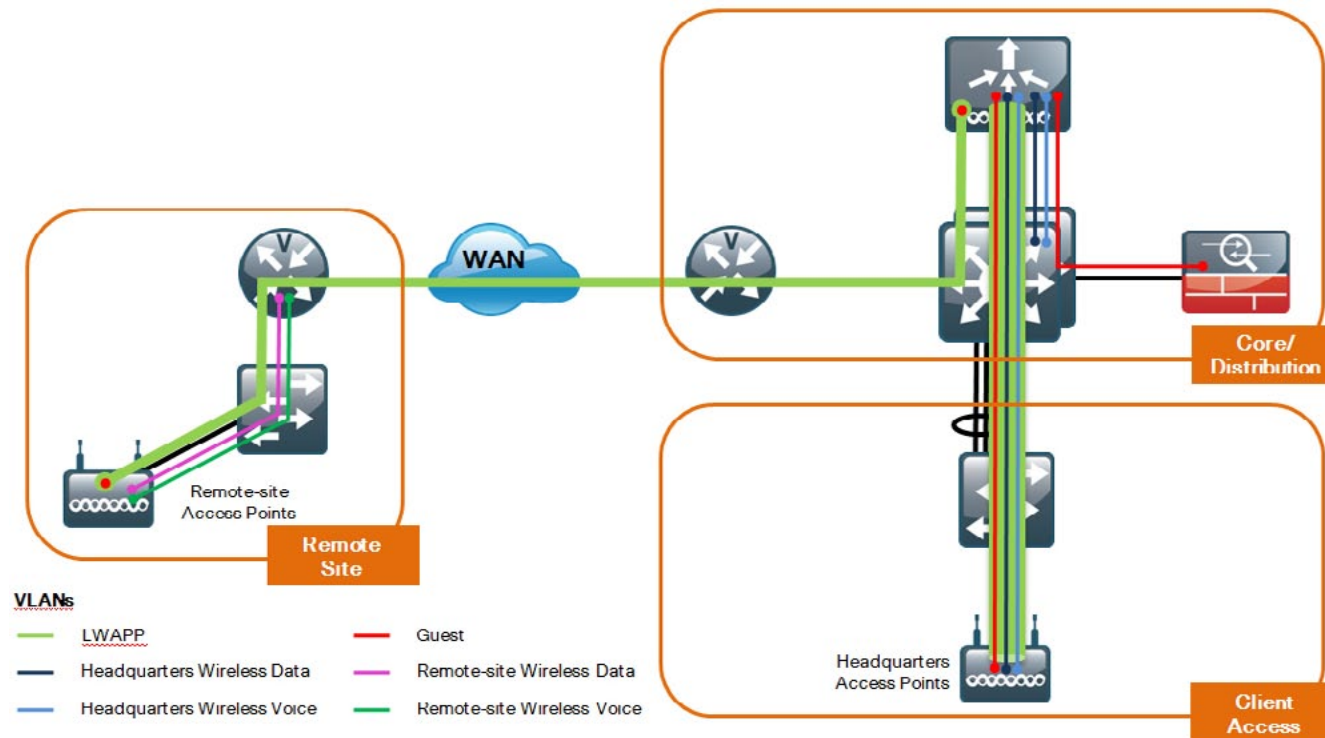
Radio is the manipulation of the magnetic field that is invisible to the naked eye. Without running expensive site surveys with a spectrum expert every hour and minute of every day, the network administrator cannot tell what is happening in the user space. The Wireless Control system collects the data from all the Wireless LAN Controllers (WLC) in the network, while each CleanAir access point does a spectrum sweep of the environment and alerts the administrator of any potentially negative issue before a user creates a call ticket in the network call center.

The CleanAir Access Point

Unlicensed bands need to be proactively managed. Wi-Fi is no longer a convenience technology used for casual web surfing or simple connectivity from conference rooms. With 802.11n, wireless performance is now on par with wired networks where organizations such as hospitals rely on the wireless network for mission-critical and patient-critical applications. With limited IT resources, lack of tools, and lack of RF expertise, the CleanAir access point with Integrated Spectrum hardware can fill the RF expertise gap and limit or eliminate network downtime.

With Event Driven Radio Resource Management, an issue within the wireless radio network can be identified and mitigated without any user interaction. Alerts can be sent out via email as well as through syslog to make the network IT staff aware of the mitigated issue and alert them to watch for other issues, enforce the agency radio policy, or do both.

Figure 3. Simplified Network Diagram



Technology Overview

Cisco CleanAir Technology

Cisco CleanAir is the integration of Cisco Spectrum Expert technology with a Cisco access point. Before Cisco CleanAir was available, operators had to walk around with an instrument to detect chosen signals and physically locate the device. Cisco CleanAir helps to automate these tasks within the system management function by adding additional intelligence over Spectrum Expert, and thereby augmenting the overall experience by proactively reclaiming control over the spectrum.

The components of a basic Cisco CleanAir technology are the Wireless LAN Controller and the Cisco 3500 Series access points. To take advantage of the entire Cisco CleanAir feature, the Cisco WCS can display in real time the data retrieved from Cisco CleanAir. Adding the Mobility Services Engine (which is addressed in a separate guide) further enhances the available features and provides the history and location of specific interference devices.

Wireless Control System

Cisco WCS enables you to configure and monitor one or more controllers and associated access points, to monitor and troubleshoot radio technology, and to visually display Cisco CleanAir data to the network administrator. Cisco WCS includes the same configuration, performance monitoring, security, fault management, and accounting options used at the controller level and adds a graphical view of multiple controllers and managed access points.

Cisco WCS runs on Windows 2003/SP2, Windows 2003 R2/SP2 32-bit installations, and Red Hat Linux Enterprise Server 5.0 32-bit installations. On both Windows and Linux, Cisco WCS runs as a service, which runs continuously and resumes running after a reboot. The configuration in this guide runs the Windows 2003 Operating System within a virtual machine and leverages VMware ESXi 4.0 within the data center.

Mobility Services Engine

The Mobility Service Engine (MSE) can run multiple related or independent services such as location and wireless IDS/IPS services, the CleanAir database functionality, as well as future services. The MSE is an independent appliance and is leveraged by the Cisco WCS. The MSE and the services it supports are discussed in another supplemental guide.

Location or Context-Aware

The Cisco location service solution (also referred to as the context-aware service) provides the capability to determine the physical location of a tracked entity in the network and additional contextual information such as the serial number of the tracked entity. The tracked entity can be a wireless endpoint, a wired end-point (a phone or PC), a wired switch, or a wireless controller. Location information is critical for wired endpoints. For example, a phone in the lobby of an office building can have different policies from a phone in a conference room or in an employee office. Today, the policies are statically administered based on the MAC address and not based on the location of the endpoint itself. Knowing the location of a wired entity provides additional intelligence to push the right set of policies to tracked devices based not only on the user's credentials and MAC address, but also on the location of the device. This document does not cover the location service solution; this information is presented in a different supplemental guide.

Configuration Details

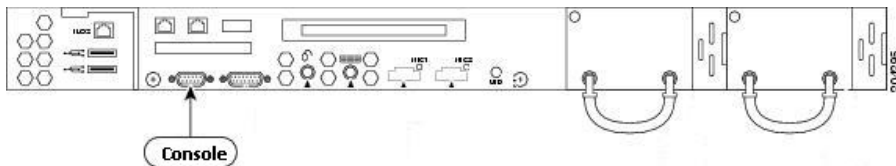
This Cisco Wireless Control System requires having Windows 2003 Server loaded, and within the SBA architecture, we have loaded Windows 2003 Server on a VMware ESXi 4.0 platform. This document leverages the standard server configuration that supports up to 2000 Cisco Aironet lightweight access points, 1000 standalone access points, and 450 Cisco wireless LAN controllers. A low-end server can support up to 500 Cisco Aironet lightweight access points, 200 standalone access points, and 125 Cisco wireless LAN controllers. This information can help you determine your network needs and future growth. No matter what your agency requires, it is the same Cisco Wireless Control System software that runs on different hardware, as described in the product Release Notes.

Install the Mobility Service Engine

The Mobility Solutions Engine (MSE) can be leveraged within the CleanAir solution to create an Interference History. Many issues that occur in the day-to-day operations of a Wireless Network are intermittent and often hard to track down. Leveraging the power of the MSE, you can track an issue by the time of day and build upon the historical data that can help mitigate these difficult, if not impossible, network interference devices.

Initial Configuration of the MSE

Step 1: Connect your console cable to the console port of the MSE.



Step 2: Power on the Mobility Services Engine.

Step 3: Follow the on-screen prompts and provide the following required information in this order:

1. Hostname
2. IP address
3. Network mask
4. Default gateway
5. DNS server IP address
6. Login banner
7. SSH password (WCS Username and Password is used by the WCS for secure communication)
8. WCS communication username
9. WCS communication password (which must have two uppercase and two lowercase characters, two digits, and two special characters to be accepted)

Provide the following optional information:

1. NTP server IP address
2. Second Ethernet IP address

Process

1. Installation
2. Licensing
3. Wireless LAN controller
4. Add Mobility Service Engine to Wireless Control System
5. Building and Floorplan
6. Configuring the Cisco Wireless Solution for CleanAir

Procedure 1 Installation

The installation steps outlined in this section are typical for most applications and perhaps intuitive to most users. With every installation, knowing up front what you need to have ready is essential for a quick and easy installation experience. With the Cisco Wireless Control System, planning the hostname ahead of time when building the machine makes for a logical and easy-to-troubleshoot network. For the actual installation of the Cisco Wireless Control System service, keep the following information handy for a smooth installation process.

1. HTTP, HTTPS, and health monitor port information
 - a. We will use the default ports, however, consult your security policy to be sure your agency policy is to use default ports
2. Root password
3. FTP file folder on local machine
4. TFTP file folder on local machine
5. Installation folder (a default folder will be chosen under Program Files)

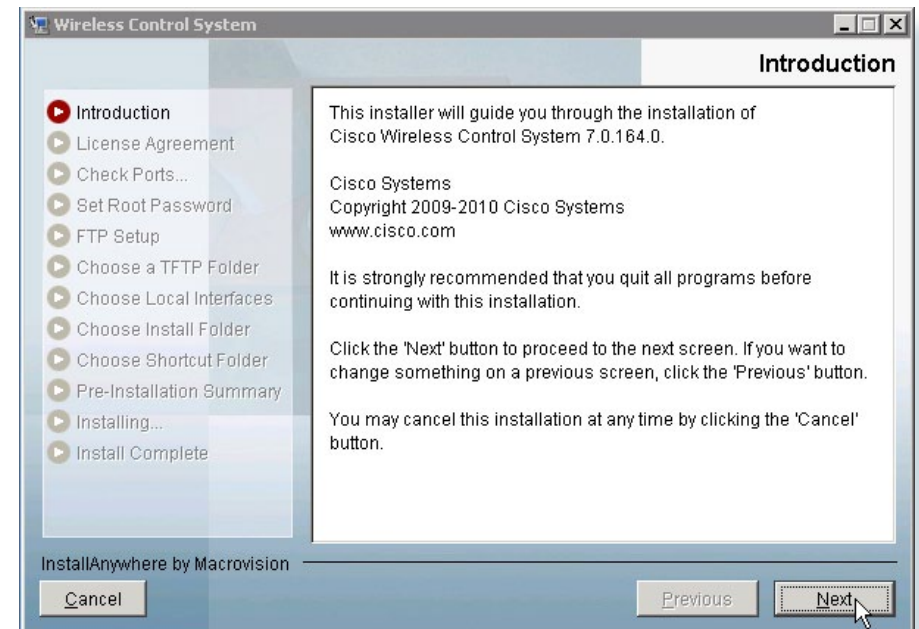
Run Application

Double-click the Cisco WCS application that you downloaded from Cisco.com. It should have a name similar to the following:

WCS-STANDARD-K9-7.0.164.0.exe

You see the introductory screen as shown here.

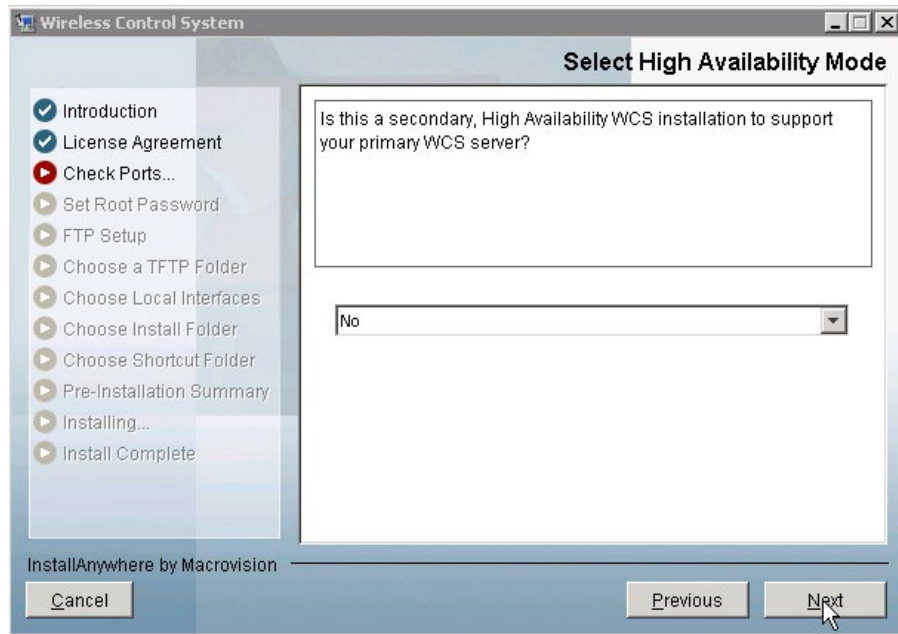
Figure 4. WCS Initial Configuration



The introduction summarizes the application you downloaded and prompts you to move to the next screen. You must accept the license agreement and click **Next**.

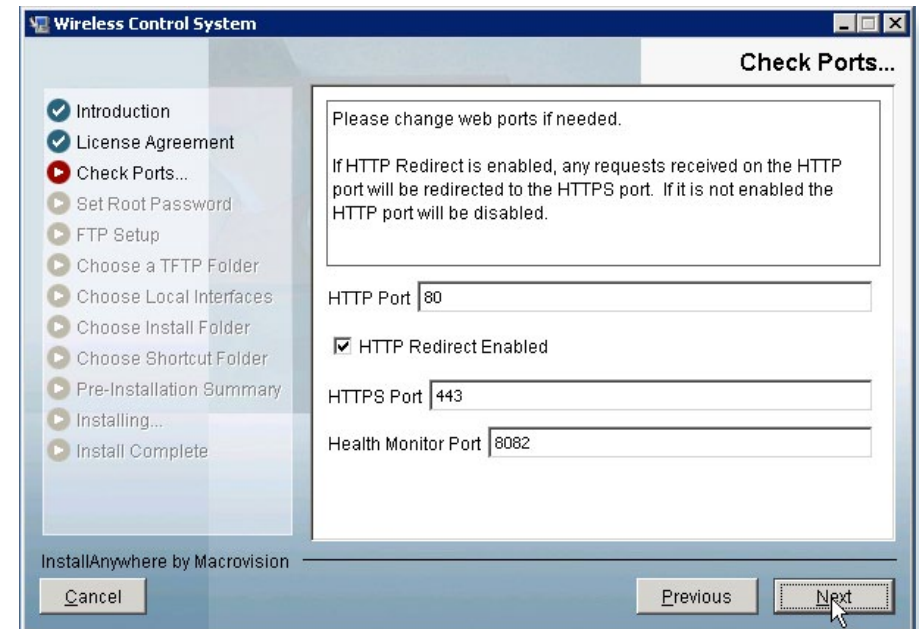
The installer checks for any previous installations. It asks if this installation is for High Availability or is being built as a secondary WCS. We do not set up a secondary or High Availability installation in this guide; however, you can do this simply by repeating this installation and selecting **Yes**.

Figure 5. High Availability Mode Selection



The next two screens prompt you to either accept the default ports or assign alternative ports for access services on your Cisco WCS. Unless your security policy specifies something different, click **Next**.

Figure 6. Port Configuration



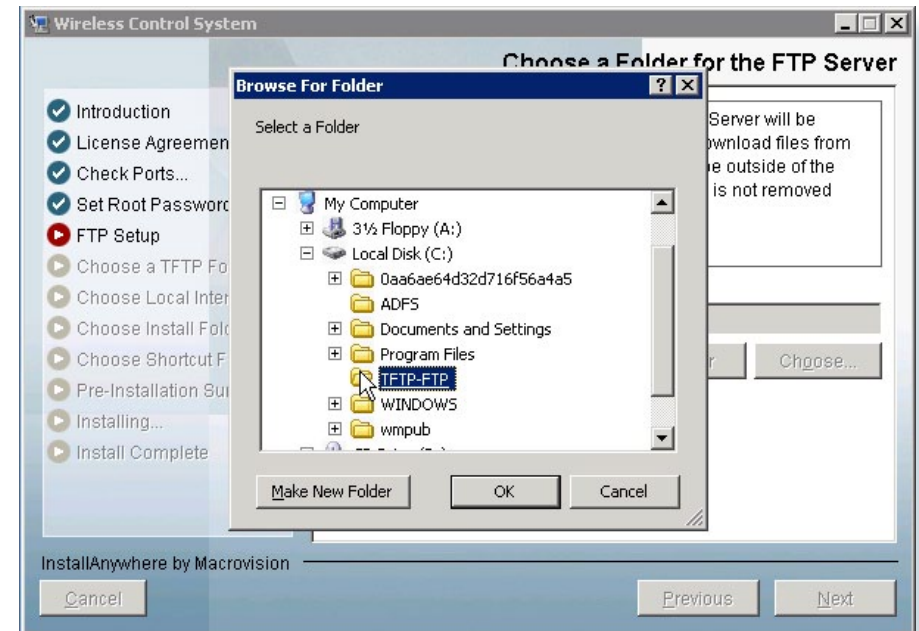
You must define the root password next. This password is the locally defined administration password. The password will be checked for strength; however, password strength should follow your security policy. The root password is only used for the local administrator.

Figure 7. Root Password



Choose your FTP folder, TFTP folder, and the installation folder on the local machine for WCS. As a pre-check, we created an FTP folder and a separate TFTP folder for this function and allowed the default folder for the Cisco WCS installation.

Figure 8. File Folder Selection



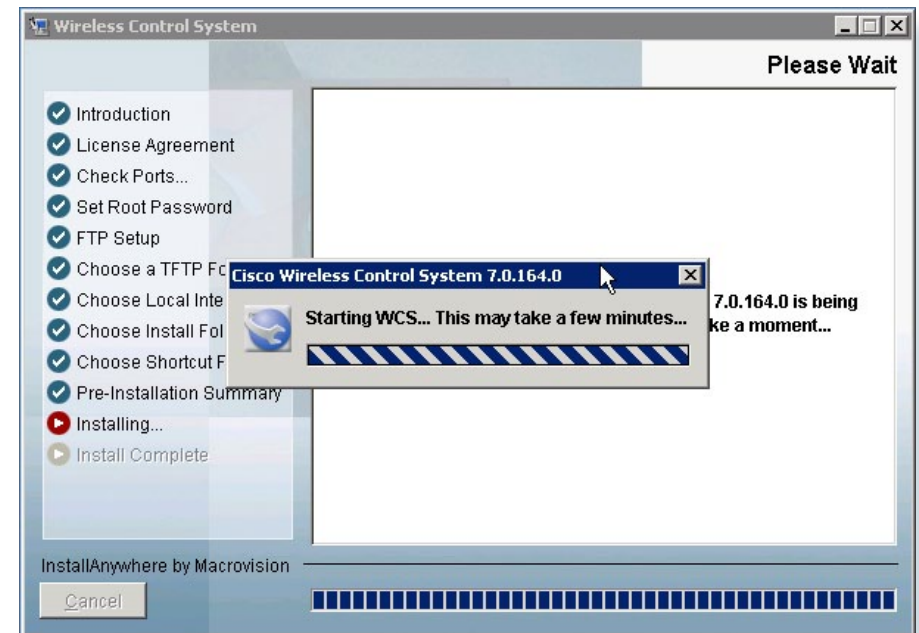
Click **Next** on the installation icon folder options to get to the installation summary. Review your choices before the installation begins.

Figure 9. Installation Summary



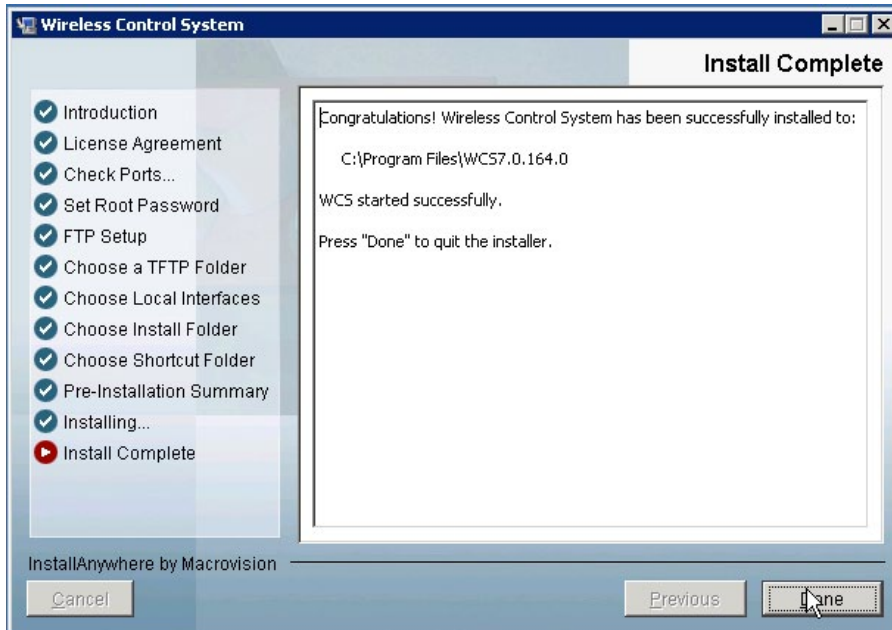
Once the installation completes, you can start Cisco WCS services.

Figure 10. Starting WCS for the First Time



Click **Done** to close the installation application. You are now running Cisco WCS.

Figure 11. Installation Complete



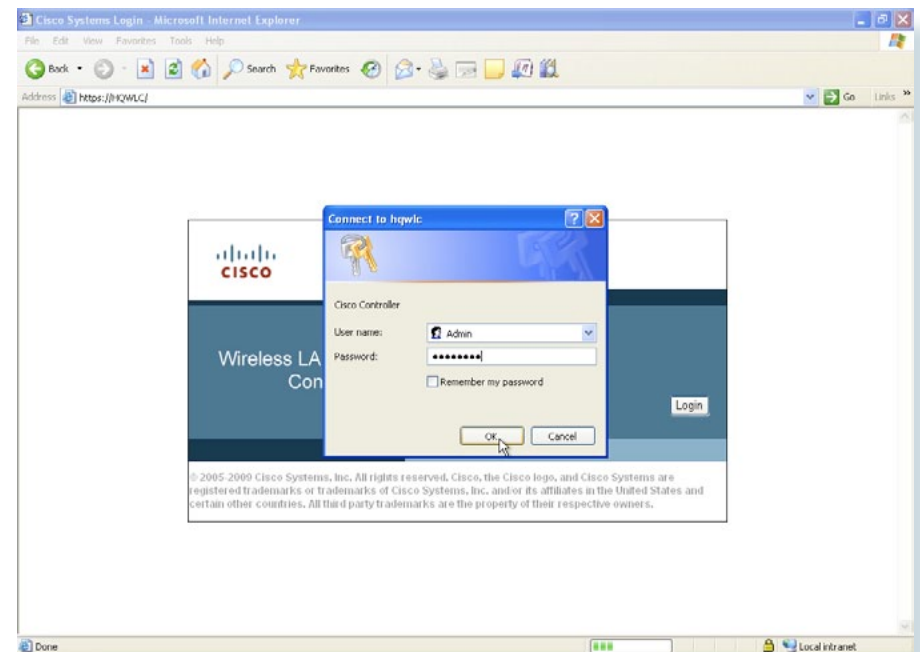
Procedure 2 Licensing

Cisco Wireless Control System (WCS) is licensed by the number of access points and services you desire. For this guide, we upload a license that includes Spectrum Intelligence as a service and 250 access points

Summary of Steps to Install the License

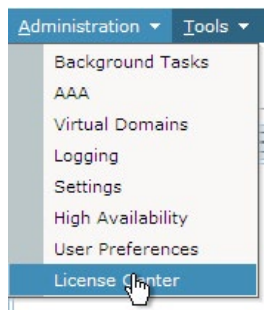
1. Save the license file (.lic) to a temporary directory on your hard drive. (You will receive an email from Cisco with an attached license file.)
2. Open a browser and in the location or address field, enter the following URL and replace the IP address with the IP address or host name of the Cisco WCS server: `https://<IP address>`. In our example, we have Cisco WCS installed at 10.4.200.19
`https:// 10.4.200.19`
3. Log into the Cisco WCS server as system administrator. (Be aware that usernames and passwords are case-sensitive.)

Figure 12. WCS Login Screen



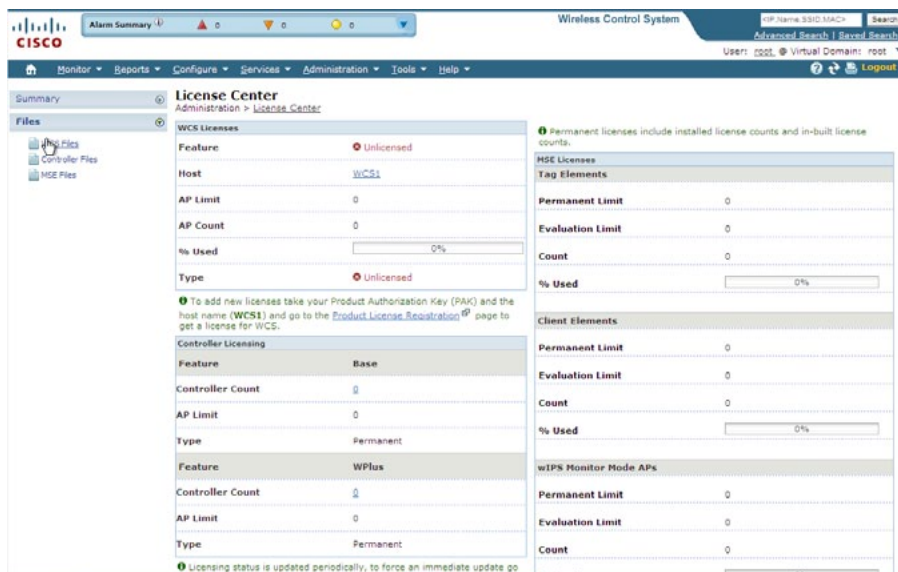
- From the **Administration** menu, select **License Center**.

Figure 13. Navigate to License Center



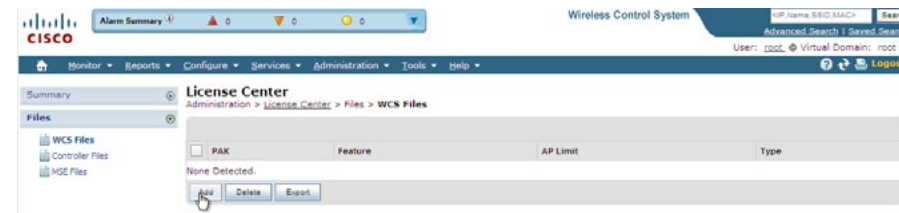
- On the right, select **Files** and then select **WCS Files**.

Figure 14. License Center, Add PAK



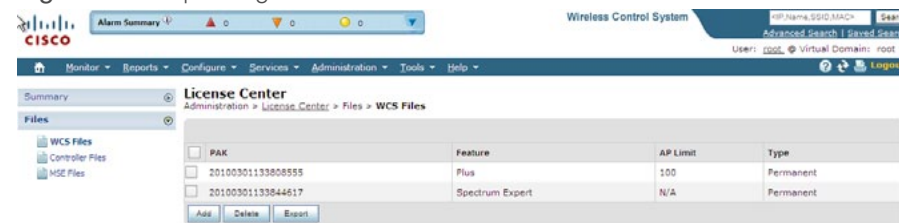
- Under **PAK**, select **Add**, and click **Choose File** to navigate to the location where you saved the .lic file.

Figure 15. Add New PAK



- Click **Upload**. The Cisco WCS server then imports the license.
- Repeat this step for each additional license you have received.

Figure 16. Importing License Files



Once completed, all your license files should appear as shown in Figure 15. To verify that your license files do indeed provide the access point count and the services you ordered, return to the **Administration** menu and select **License Center**. We uploaded both Spectrum Intelligence as a service and as a single 100AP license as shown in Figure 16.

Procedure 3

Add Wireless LAN Controller(s) to Cisco WCS

Each controller must be added to Cisco WCS so the network can be monitored and centrally managed. This process is very simple, but necessary.

Navigate to **Configure** and then to **Controllers**, which should bring you to an empty list of controllers as shown in Figure 17. From the drop-down list on the right, select **Add Controllers...** and click **Go**. You are prompted to enter the Controller(s) IP address(es). (Enter all your controller IP addresses separated by a comma as shown in this example: 10.4.56.64, 10.4.56.65, 10.4.56.66, 10.4.246.54.) Use the default settings for all other parameters including the Telnet/SSH password.

Figure 17. Add Controllers

Add Controllers
Configure > Controllers > Add Controllers

General Parameters

Add Format Type: Device Info (v)

IP Addresses: 10.4.56.67, 10.4.246.54 (comma-separated IP Addresses)

Network Mask: 255.255.255.0

☐ Verify Telnet/SSH Capabilities ⓘ

SNMP Parameters ⓘ

Version: v2c (v)

Retries: 2

Timeout: 10 (secs)

Community: private

Telnet/SSH Parameters ⓘ

User Name: admin

Password: •••••

Confirm Password: •••••

Retries: 3

Timeout: 60 (secs)

OK Cancel



Tech Tip

You may enter every controller IP address separated by a comma, or you can select a comma-delimited (CSV) spreadsheet with the IP addresses of your controllers. In our example, we selected a single controller by IP address to allow for clarification.

Click **OK**, which tests for connectivity to each controller you have specified and provides you with a list of your controllers, their hostname, and an indication if they are reachable as shown in Figure 18.

Figure 18. List of Controllers

Controllers
Configure > Controllers

-- Select a command -- Go

IP Address	Controller Name	Type	Location	Software Version	Mobility Group Name	Reachability Status	Audit Status
10.4.56.64	BN-WLC1	5500		6.0.196.0	BN	Reachable	Not Available
10.4.56.65	BN-WLC2	5500		6.0.196.0	BN	Reachable	Not Available
10.4.56.66	BN-WLC3	5500		6.0.196.0	BN	Reachable	Not Available
10.4.56.67	BN-WLC4	5500		6.0.196.0	BN	Reachable	Not Available
10.4.246.54	BN-GUEST	5500		6.0.196.0	BN	Reachable	Not Available

Controller(s) added successfully.

Footnotes:

1. 'Reachability Status' is updated based on the last execution information of 'Device Status' background task. For updating the current status, use 'Execute Now' command of Administration > Background Tasks.
2. 'Audit Status' is updated based on the last execution information of either 'Configuration Sync' background task or 'Audit Now' command option in Controllers page. To get the current status, either use 'Execute Now' command of Administration > Background Tasks or 'Audit Now' command option in Controllers page.

To Audit the Controller immediately, select the hyperlink next to your controller initially labeled **Not Available** and then click **Audit Now**.

Upgrade Controllers for CleanAir Support

CleanAir software support for the 3502 access points and the integrated Spectrum Expert hardware begins with 7.0.98.0 or later. Managing multiple controllers with Cisco WCS is important and the ability to upgrade all five controllers simultaneously shows the true power of the Cisco Wireless Control System, this upgrade process can be then scheduled and streamlined to maximize network uptime.

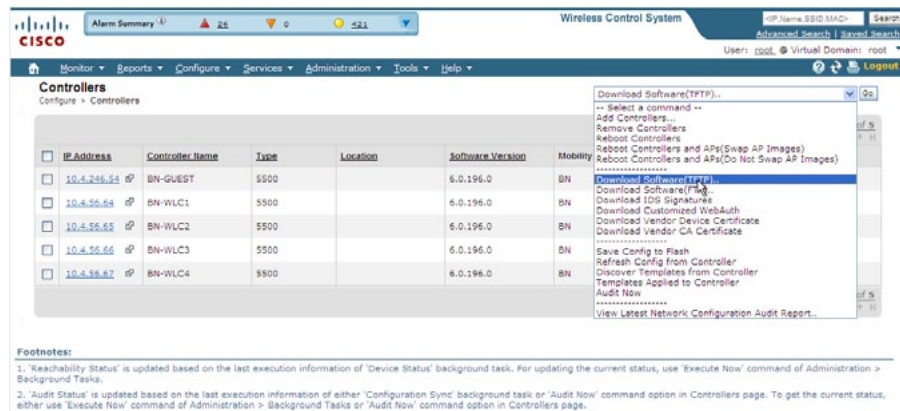
Step 1: Log into Cisco WCS

Step 2: Navigate to **Configure > Controllers**.

Step 3: Select **All Controllers**.

Step 4: From the drop-down list at the right, select **Download Software (TFTP)** and Go.

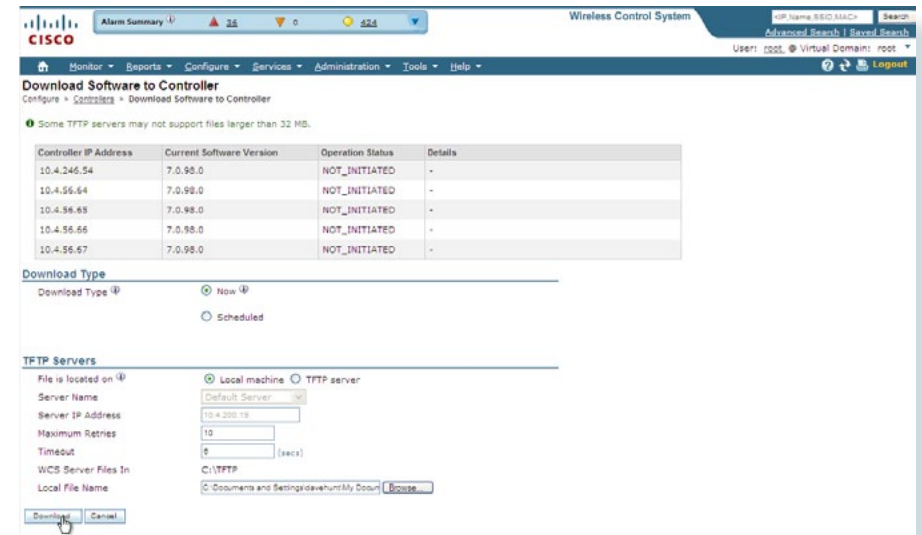
Figure 19. Download Software via TFTP



Step 5: Answer the software controller prompts:

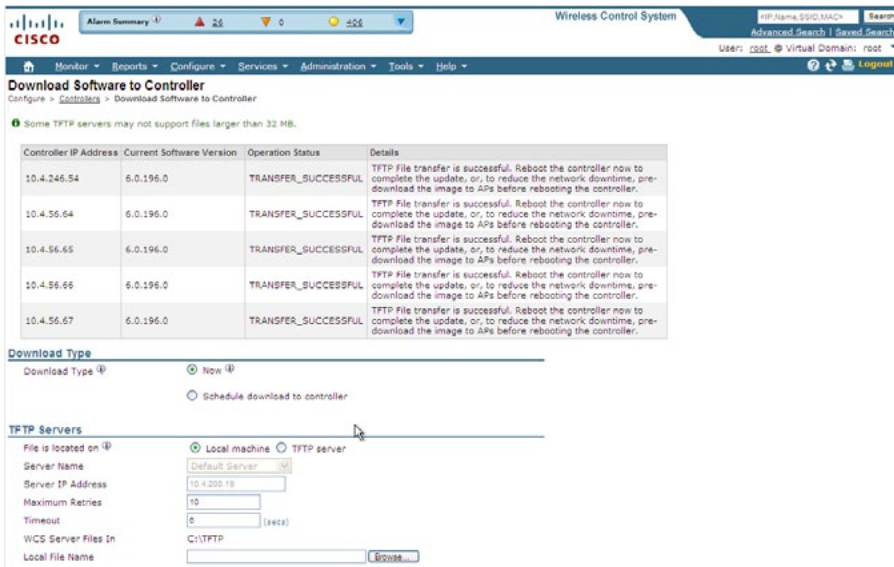
1. Keep **Download Type Now** Selected.
2. Keep **File is located on ... Local Machine** Selected.
3. Leave **Maximum Retries** and **Timeout** at their default values.
4. From **Browse**, select the file **AIR-CT5500-K9-7-0-98-0.aes** and click **OK**.
5. Click **Download**.

Figure 20. Download Software to All Machines



Once the file is uploaded to every controller, you must reboot these controllers. You can do the reboot process all at once, which does not allow traffic during the upgrade, or you can schedule your controllers to reboot in a logical fashion to keep wireless connectivity available during this change opportunity.

Figure 21. Transfer Complete, Reboot Controller to Continue



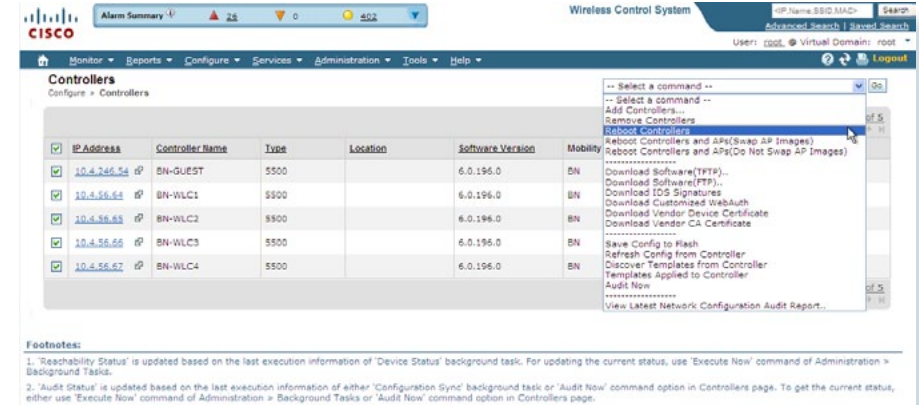
Step 1: Log into Cisco WCS.

Step 2: Navigate to Configure > Controllers.

Step 3: Select All Controllers.

Step 4: From the right drop-down list, select Reboot Controllers.

Figure 22. Reboot Controller



Step 5: Click OK to the Warning “Warning: Please save configuration first. Selected Controllers are going to be rebooted. Do you want to continue?”

Figure 23. Warning: You Are About to Reload Your Controller!



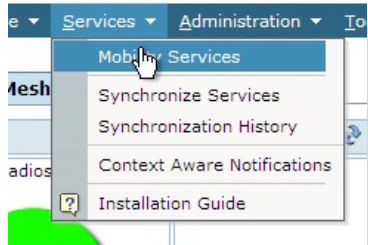
Procedure 4 Add the Mobility Service Engine

You must add the Mobility Service Engine to the Wireless Control System. Using the WCS Communication username and password that you used earlier will allow Cisco WCS to poll the MSE database for historical context information. At a later time, Wireless Intrusion Prevention System services can be added if needed.

Step 1: Log into WCS.

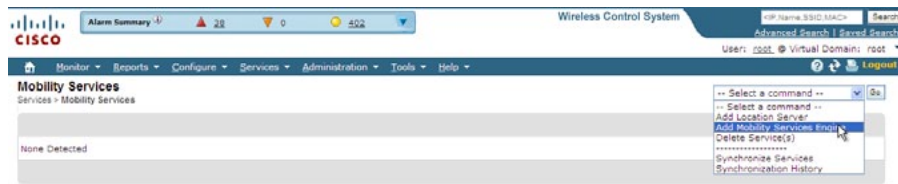
Step 2: Navigate to **Services > Mobility Services**.

Figure 24. New Mobility Service



Step 3: From the drop-down list, select **Add Mobility Services Engine** and click **Go**.

Figure 25. Add Mobility Service Engine



Step 4: Enter the following information and click **Save**:

1. Device name
2. IP address
3. Contact name
4. Username (WCS communication username)
5. Password (WCS communication password)
6. Port (accept the default)

Figure 26. Define New MSE and Communication Credentials

 A screenshot of the 'Add Location Server' configuration page in the Cisco WCS interface. The page shows fields for Device Name (HQMSE), IP Address (10.4.56.68), Contact Name (David Archey), Username (WCSadmin), Password (masked), Port (8001), and an HTTPS checkbox (unchecked). There is a 'Delete synchronized service assignments' checkbox which is checked. A 'Save' button is visible at the bottom.

Step 5: Check the **Context Aware Service** check box and click **Save**.

Figure 27. Select Mobility Engine Services

 A screenshot of the 'Select Mobility Service' configuration page in the Cisco WCS interface. The page shows two checkboxes: 'Context Aware Service' (checked) and 'Wireless Intrusion Protection Service' (unchecked). A 'Save' button is visible at the bottom.

Procedure 5 Building and Floor Plan

The real advantage to any management system is the presentation of the information, which you can then use to make informed decisions. The Cisco Wireless Control System brings visibility to the radio spectrum, which allows the administrator to see the coverage that is provided to the users. Including the building and floorplans in Cisco WCS creates the visibility to this otherwise unknown or convoluted data that the network provides.

Adding the First Campus and Building

Every organizational method starts by categorizing the approach; with the Cisco Wireless Control System, the approach is familiar. Even though you may only have one building today, you may end up with another building, or perhaps each Campus is a single building today, but could have more buildings tomorrow. The campus, building, floor approach makes it easy to understand as you dig for more information and peel away the layers to find what you are looking for.

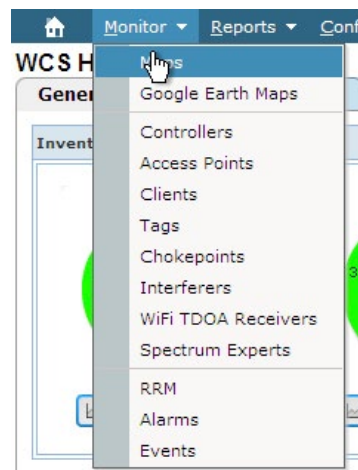
Tech Tip

You need to know the dimension of the campus picture you are bringing into the system so that you can scale the drawing appropriately as each building and floor are added.

Step 1: Log into the Wireless Control System.

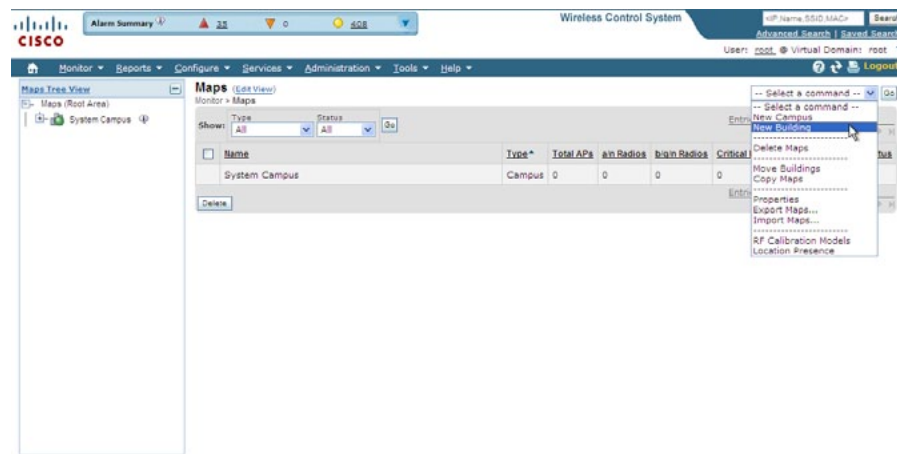
Step 2: Navigate to **Monitor > Maps**.

Figure 28. Finding Building Maps



Step 3: From the drop-down list, select **New Building** and click **Go**.

Figure 29. New Building



Step 4: Create name, contact name, and characteristics of the building:

- **Building Name:** BN-Headquarters
- **Contact:** Ben O'Brien
- **Number of floors:** 1
- **Number of Basements:** 0
- **Horizontal Span (feet):** 500
- **Vertical Span (feet):** 300

Figure 30. Building Details

The screenshot shows the 'New Building' configuration page in the Cisco Wireless Control System. The form includes the following fields:

- Building Name:** BN-Headquarters
- Contact:** Ben O'Brien
- Number of Floors:** 1
- Number of Basements:** 0
- Dimensions (feet):**
 - Horizontal Span:** 500
 - Vertical Span:** 300

At the bottom of the form, there is a 'Cancel' button.

Step 5: Select your newly created building.

Figure 31. Select New Campus

The screenshot shows the 'Maps' view in the Cisco Wireless Control System. The 'Maps Tree View' on the left shows the hierarchy: Maps (Root Area) > System Campus. The main area displays a table of buildings:

Name	Type	Total APs	ain Radios	bin Radios	Critical Radio Alarms	Clients	Status
System Campus	Campus	0	0	0	0	0	1
System Campus > BN-Headquarters	Building	0	0	0	0	0	1

A dropdown menu is open, showing the option 'New Floor Area' selected.

Step 6: Select New Floor Area from the drop-down menu and click Go.

Figure 32. New Floor Area

The screenshot shows the 'Building View' in the Cisco Wireless Control System. The breadcrumb trail at the top indicates the path: Monitor > Maps > System Campus > BN-Headquarters. The main area displays a dropdown menu with the following options:

- Select a command
- New Floor Area
- Edit Building
- Delete Building
- Copy Building ...
- Edit Location Presence Info...

The 'New Floor Area' option is selected.

Step 7: Create a floor name, contact name, floor number, and a description of the area. Select the floor plan image. Click **Next**:

- **Floor Area Name:** BN-Headquarters
- **Contact:** Ben O'Brien
- **Floor:** 1 (selected from drop-down list)
- **Floor Type (RF Model):** Cubes And Walled Offices (select from the drop-down list)
- **Floor Height (feet):** 10.0
- **Image or CAD File:** C:\Documents and Settings\BN-Headquarters.png
- **Convert CAD File to:** PNG (Accept the default drop-down selection)

Figure 33. New Floor Details and Image Upload

The screenshot shows the 'New Floor Area' configuration page in the Cisco Wireless Control System. The page is divided into a left sidebar with a 'Maps Tree View' and a main configuration area. The main area contains the following fields and options:

- Floor Area Name:** BN-Headquarters
- Contact:** Ben O'Brien
- Floor:** 1 (selected from a dropdown list)
- Floor Type (RF Model):** Cubes And Walled Offices (selected from a dropdown list)
- Floor Height (feet):** 10.0
- Image or CAD File:** C:\Documents and Settings\BN-Headquarters.png
- Convert CAD File to:** PNG (selected from a dropdown list)
- Buttons:** 'Next' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom left of the main configuration area.

Step 8: Verify your new floor area details and image and click **OK**.

Figure 34. Verify New Floor Details

The screenshot shows the 'New Floor Area' configuration page in the Cisco Wireless Control System, displaying calculated dimensions and coordinates. The page includes the following information:

- Image File:** BN-Headquarters.PNG
- Dimensions (feet):**
 - Horizontal Span: 429.2
 - Vertical Span: 281.6
 - Total Floor Area Size (sq. feet): 120647.2
- Coordinates of top left corner (feet):**
 - Horizontal Position: 0
 - Vertical Position: 0
- Options:** A checkbox for 'Launch Map Editor after floor creation (To rescale floor and draw walls)' is present.
- Buttons:** A 'Cancel' button is located below the dimensions section.

Place Access Points

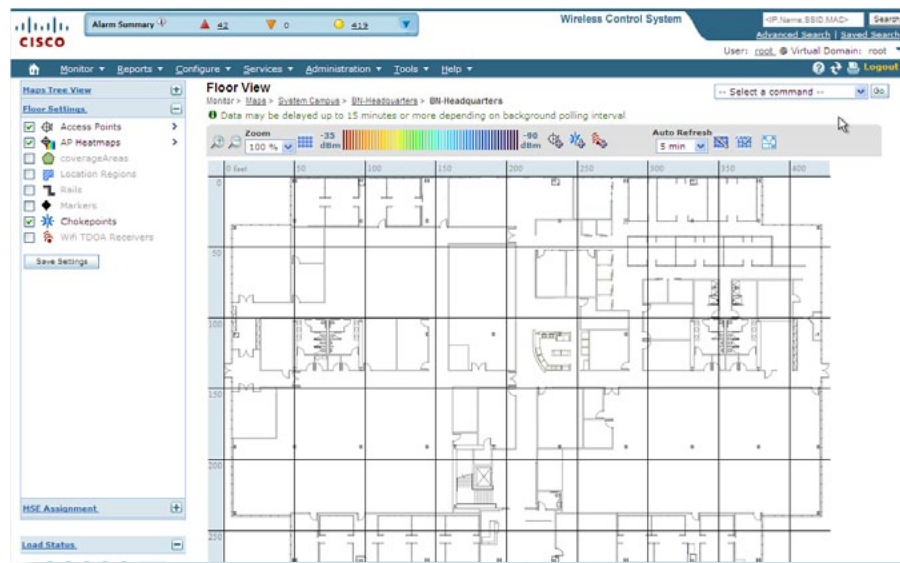
The final piece of the puzzle is to place the access points at the proper location on your individual floorplans. The Wireless LAN Controllers that work in conjunction with the Cisco Wireless Control System give an accurate view and device location, if you take the time to place your access points where they actually are located.

Step 1: Log into Cisco WCS.

Step 2: Navigate to Monitor > Maps.

Step 3: Select your new Floor plan, BN-Headquarters.

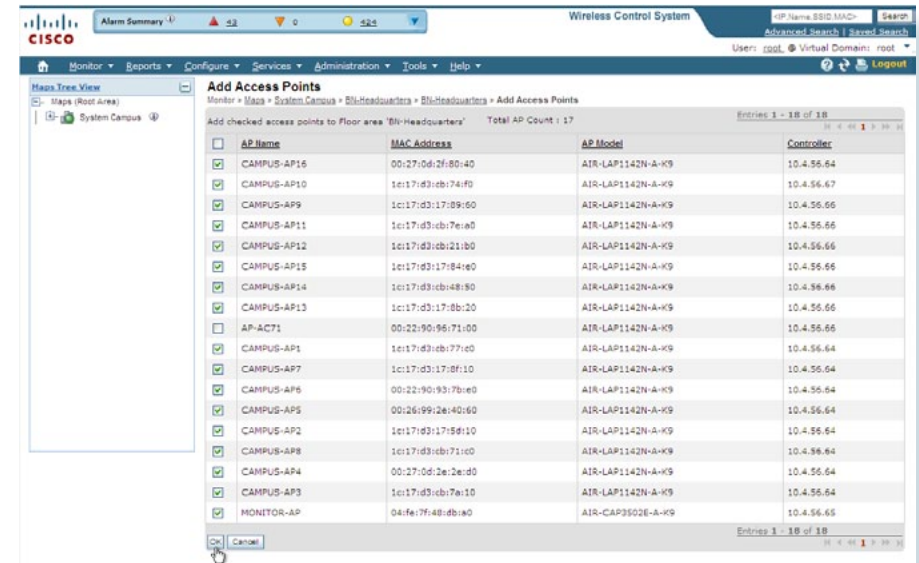
Figure 35. Floor View



Step 4: From the right drop-down list, select **Add Access Points** and click Go.

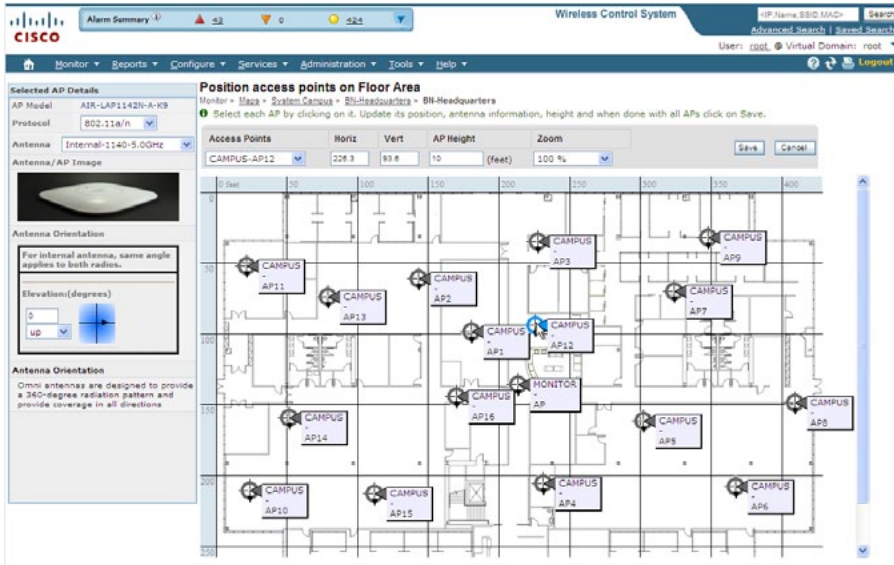
Step 5: Select access points that are registered with the system but not yet placed for the headquarters building.

Figure 36. Select APs to Place on New Floor



Step 6: Carefully place each access point as close to its real position in the building as possible and click **Save**.

Figure 37. AP Placement



Tech Tip

You must now wait while the system calculates the heatmaps from the placement and floorplan area.

Notes

Configuring the Cisco Wireless Solution for CleanAir

The Wireless LAN controller with the connected Cisco AIR-CAP3500 access points is immediately CleanAir capable. The Wireless LAN controllers can give you immediate information about your environment. Where the WCS can take a network view, the WLC only displays data retrieved from the locally connected CleanAir access points.

With the Cisco Wireless Control System in the network, all management will be handled at the WCS. Management can be done at each controller, but we do not recommend this. With the CleanAir access point operating from the wireless LAN Controller, we can log into the Cisco Wireless Control System and configure our controller to support CleanAir.

Event-Driven Radio Resource Management (EDRRM)

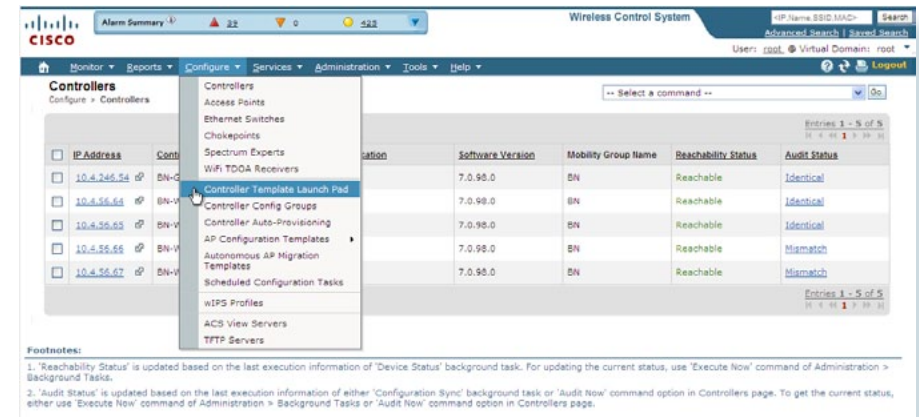
Event-Driven RRM is a feature that allows an access point that is in distress to bypass normal RRM intervals and immediately change channels. A CleanAir access point always monitors AirQuality (AQ), and reports on AQ in 15 second intervals. AirQuality is a better metric than relying on normal Wi-Fi chip noise measurements because AQ only reports on classified interference devices. That makes AQ a reliable metric in that we know what is reported is not because of Wi-Fi energy (and hence is not a transient normal spike).

The key benefit of the EDRRM is very fast action time (30 seconds). If an interferer is operating on an active channel and is causing enough AQ degradation that it triggers EDRRM, then no clients will be able to use that access point or channel. The only thing to do is get the access point off that channel. The EDRRM feature is not enabled by default and must be enabled. This process has two steps: enable CleanAir and then enable Event-Driven RRM.

Step 1: Log into Cisco WCS.

Step 2: Navigate to **Configure > Controller Template Launch Pad**.

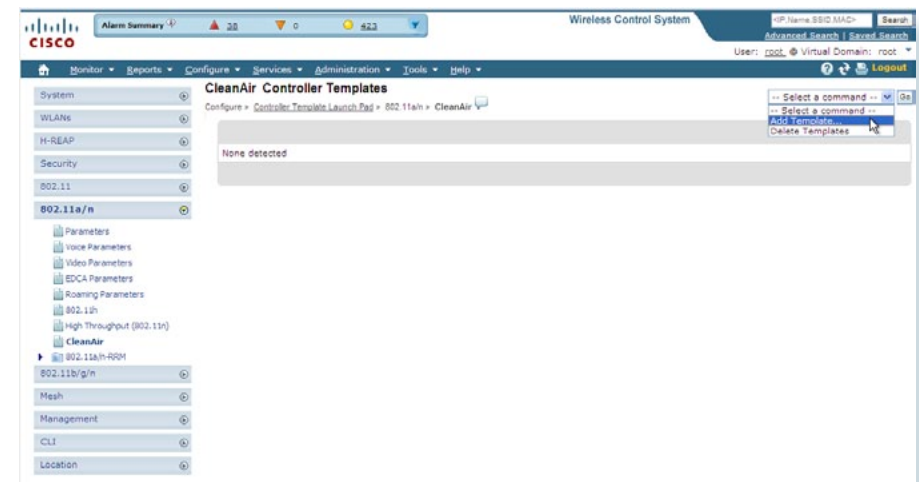
Figure 38. Controller Templates



Step 3: Navigate to **802.11a/n > CleanAir**.

Step 4: From the drop-down list, select **Add Template**.

Figure 39. Add 802.11a/n CleanAir Template



Step 5: Create a template name (for example, CleanAir-802.11a/n) and provide the following information:

1. Check the **CleanAir Enable** check box.
2. Check the **Report Interferers Enable** check box.
3. Add Continuous Transmitter, DECT-Like Phone, Jammer and Video Camera to **Interferers Selected for Reporting**.
4. Check the **Interferers For Security Alarm Enable** check box.
5. Add Continuous Transmitter, DECT-Like Phone, Jammer and Video Camera to **Interferers Selected for Security Alarms**
6. Select **Save**.

Figure 40. 802.11a/n CleanAir Parameters

Step 6: Select Apply to Controllers....

Step 7: Select ALL Controllers and click OK.

Step 8: Navigate to Configure > Controller Template Launch Pad.

Step 9: Navigate to 802.11b/g/n > CleanAir.

Step 10: From the drop-down list, select Add Template.

Step 11: Create a template name (for example, CleanAir-802.11b/g/n) and provide the following information:

1. Check the **CleanAir Enable** check box.
2. Check the **Report Interferers Enable** check box.
3. Add Continuous Transmitter, DECT-Like Phone, Jammer, Microwave Oven and Video Camera to **Interferers Selected for Reporting**.
4. Check the **Interferers For Security Alarm Enable** check box.
5. Add Continuous Transmitter, DECT-Like Phone, Jammer, Microwave Oven and Video Camera to **Interferers Selected for Security Alarms**.
6. Click **Save**.

Figure 41. 802.11b/g/n CleanAir Parameters

Step 12: Select Applying to Controllers....

Step 13: Select ALL Controllers and click OK.

Enable Event Driven Radio Resource Management

Step 1: Navigate to **Configure > Controller Template Launch Pad**.

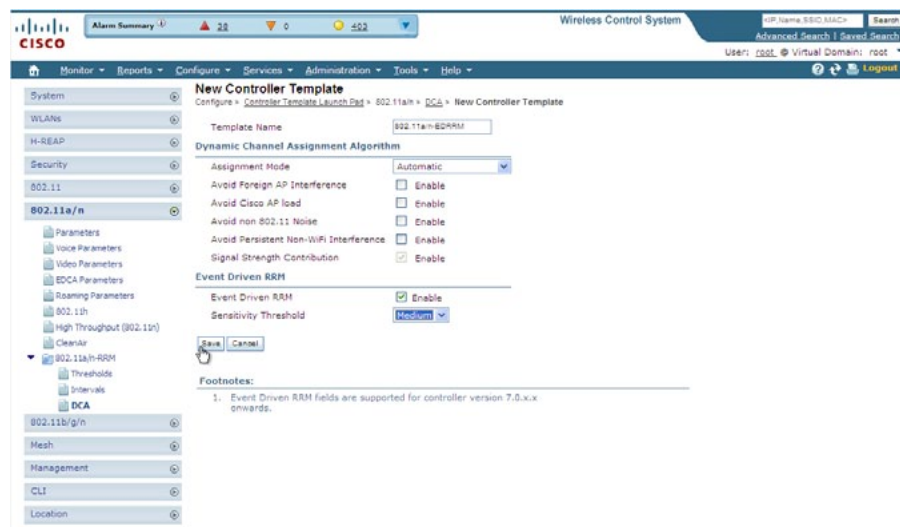
Step 2: From the left menu, navigate to **802.11a/n > 802.11a/n-RRM > DCA**.

Step 3: Select **Add Template**.

Step 4: Create a template name as follows:

1. Check the **Event Driven RRM Enable** check box.
2. Change the **Sensitivity Threshold** to **Medium**.
3. Click **Save**.

Figure 42. 802.11a/n Event Driven Enable



Step 5: Select **Apply to Controllers....**

Step 6: Leave **Apply to controllers selected directly** and check **All Controllers** and click **OK**.

Step 7: Navigate to **Configure > Controller Template Launch Pad**.

Step 8: From the left menu, navigate to **802.11b/g/n > 802.11b/g/n-RRM > DCA**.

Step 9: Select **Add Template**.

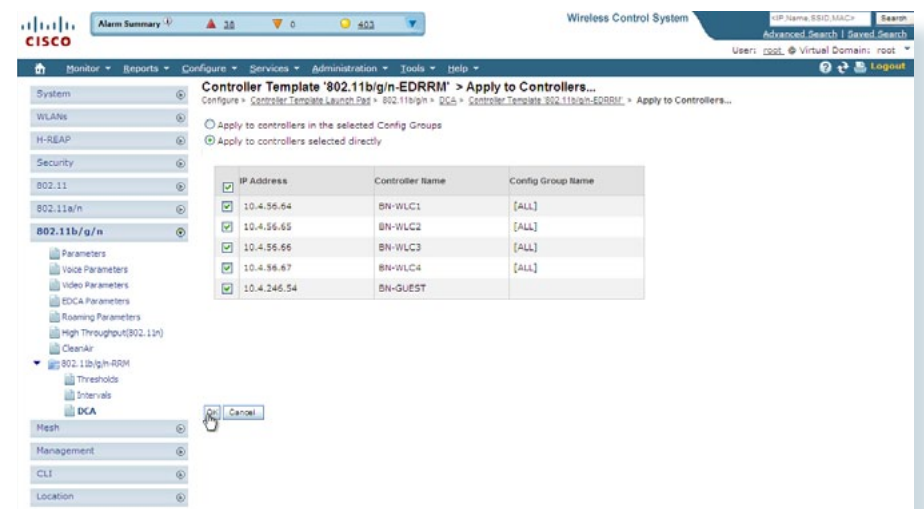
Step 10: Create a template name as follows:

1. Check the **Event Driven RRM Enable** check box.
2. Change the **Sensitivity Threshold** to **Medium**.
3. Click **Save**.

Step 11: Select **Apply to Controllers....**

Step 12: Leave **Apply to controllers selected directly** and check **All Controllers** and click **OK**.

Figure 43. Apply to All Controllers



Troubleshooting with CleanAir

The real power of CleanAir is that a network administrator can be on one continent while the Wi-Fi spectrum in another office on the other side of the planet can be analyzed directly. The 3500 access points can be put in SE-Connect mode and used as a virtual remote interface for the knowledgeable engineer no matter where this valuable human resource is located. By changing the role of your CleanAir access point and connecting the Spectrum Expert 4.0 software, the Wi-Fi network administrator can now view the environment directly. There is no longer a need to fly expensive personnel onsite to troubleshoot physical layer issues that are unknown and challenging and, too often, intermittent issues.

Accessing Remote CleanAir for Spectrum Connect

When the call for assistance arrives, it is almost certainly to be in a location that does not have the knowledgeable human resources to troubleshoot, identify, and fix the issue. Wi-Fi radios are designed to send and receive Wi-Fi signals, but they do not have the capability to identify non-Wi-Fi radio interferers such as microwave ovens, DECT phones, analog wireless cameras, or even radio jammers. The specialized radios in the CleanAir radio can identify and, with triangulation, can locate where these devices are located.

When the call comes in, it is always important to identify as many facts about the issue to make informed decisions. The information can be the location of the problem (for example, “the street side of the building does not have connectivity”) and time of day (for example, “the issue is pronounced at lunch time”). With as much information from the end user as possible, it is now time to look at the radio environment because the system shows that clients are connecting and WCS indicates AirQuality has dropped.

Configure Spectrum Connect

The CleanAir-capable access point must be changed from either Monitor Mode or Local Mode of operation to Spectrum Connect Mode.

Step 1: Log into the Wireless LAN Controller

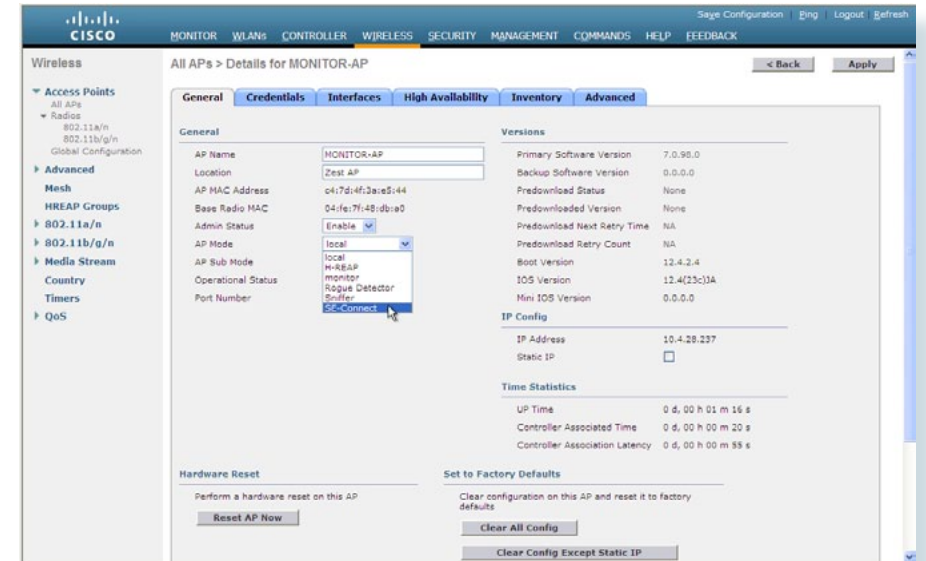
Step 2: Navigate to **WIRELESS**.

Step 3: Select the closest CleanAir AP to the suspected issue.

Step 4: From the drop-down list next to **AP Mode**, change to **SE-Connect**.

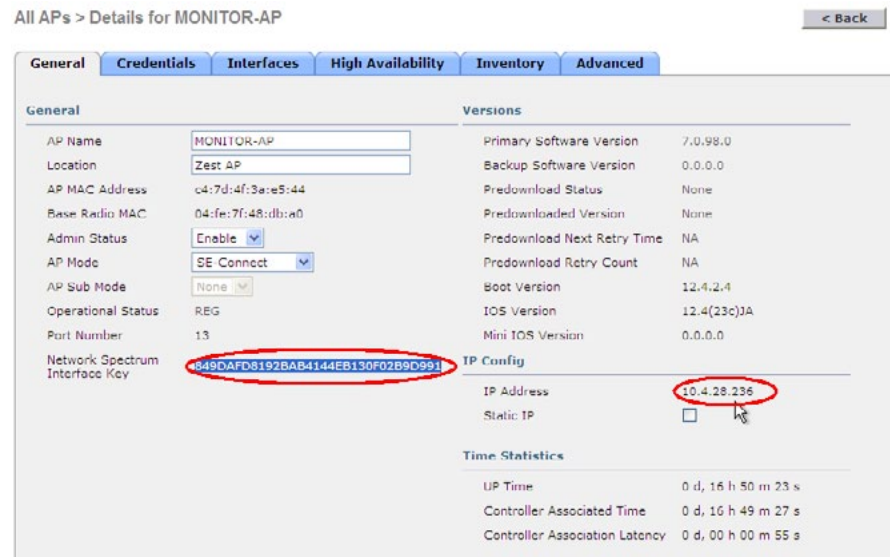
Step 5: Click **Apply** and wait for the access point to reboot and reconnect to the Wireless LAN Controller.

Figure 44. Change Mode



Step 6: Copy the **Network Spectrum Interface Key** and the CleanAir access point IP address.

Figure 45. Capture Network Key and IP Address



Step 7: On a Supported Windows platform with Cisco Spectrum Expert Connect (4.0 or greater) installed, launch Spectrum Expert.

Figure 46. Launch Spectrum Expert



Step 8: Select the **Remote Sensor** radio button:

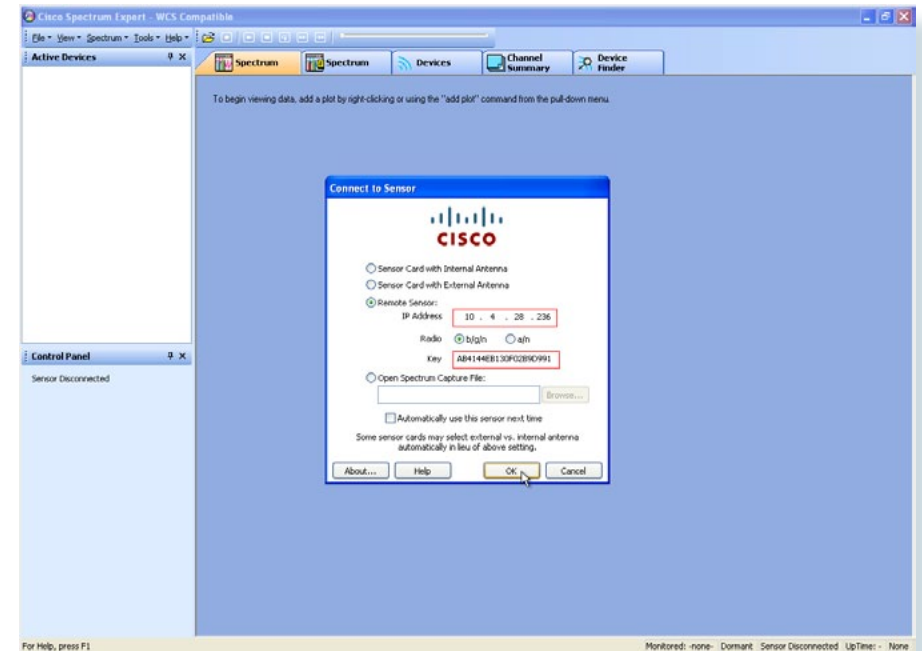
Step 8A: Enter the IP address of the CleanAir access point

Step 8B: Enter the Network Spectrum Interface Key of the CleanAir access point.

Step 8C: Select either 2.4 GHz by selecting the **b/g/n** radio button or the 5 GHz by selecting the **a/n** radio button.

Step 8D: Click OK.

Figure 47. Enter Remote CleanAir Details

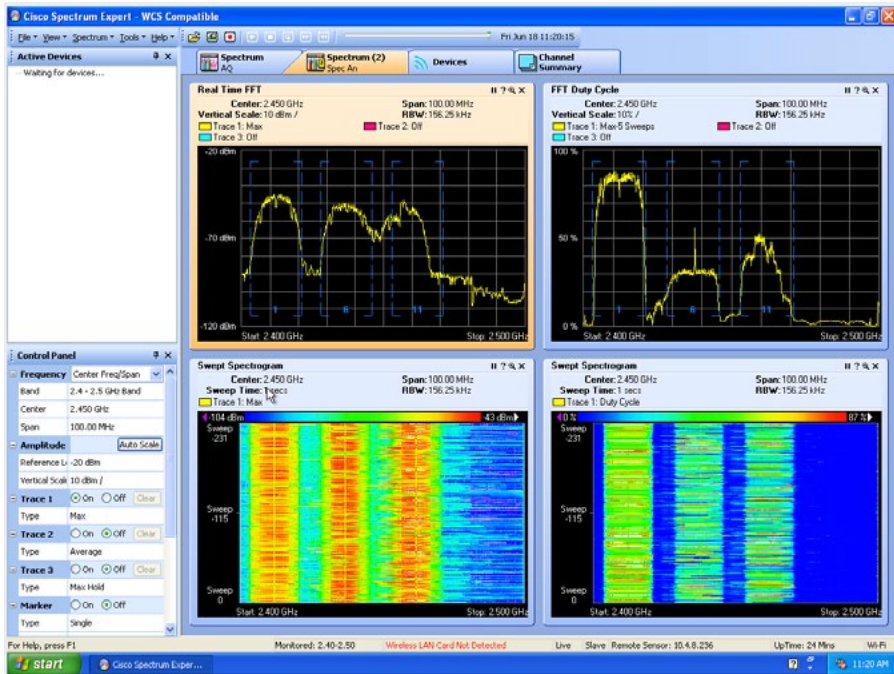


The connected Windows machine now connects to the remote CleanAir access point on UDP port 37540 if you selected b/g or on UDP port 37550 if you selected a/n during preceding setup steps. If connection problems occur, verify that you can ping the CleanAir access point and that there are no port-blocking network devices that may be blocking the necessary UDP port information.

Remote Spectrum

The remote sensor capability is the ability to get real-time, physical layer spectrum data without having to drive or fly onsite. Figure 48 illustrates this capability in a Wi-Fi-only environment, and gives you an understanding of what is really happening in your remote environment.

Figure 48. 2.4 GHz Spectrum Using the CleanAir Access Point as the Remote Sensor



Notes



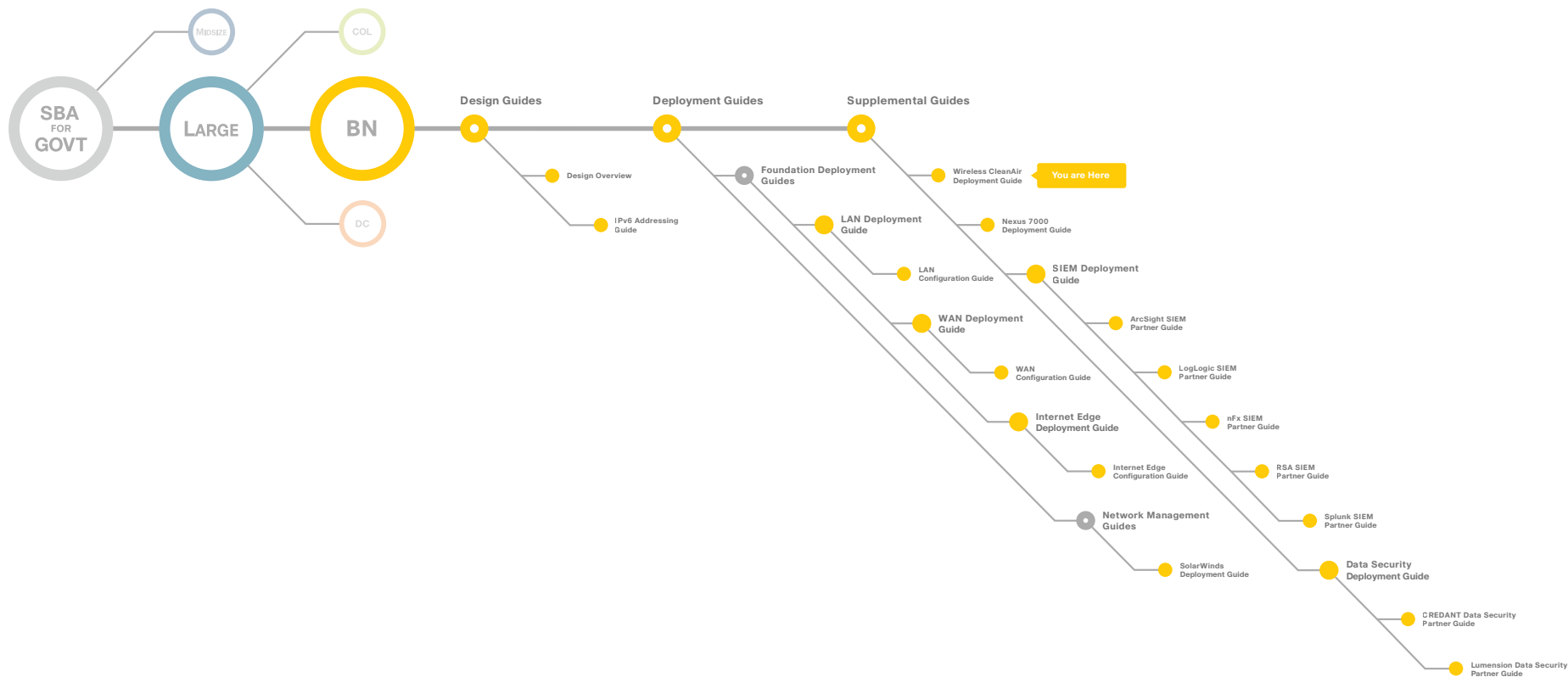
Tech Tip

Observe in Figure 48 that the Windows XP Spectrum Expert device does not detect a Wireless LAN card and that the remote sensor is at 10.4.28.236.

Appendix A: Parts List

Functional Area	Product	Part Numbers	Software Version
Headquarters	Cisco WCS	WCS-STANDARD-K9 WCS-APBASE-100 WCS-ADV-SI-SE-10= (optional)	7.0.164.0
	Cisco Wireless LAN Controller	AIR-CT5508-100-K9	7.0.98.0
	Cisco Access Point	AIR-CAP3502E-A-K9	7.0.98.0
	Cisco Access Point	AIR-CAP3502I-A-K9	7.0.98.0
	Cisco Access Point	AIR-LAP1142-A-K9	7.0.98.0
	Cisco Spectrum Expert	AIR-CSCO-SE-WIFI-C	4.0.60
	Cisco Mobility Service Engine	AIR-MSE-3350-K9	7.0.105.0

Appendix B: SBA for Large Agencies Document System





SMART BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE



Americas Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.
San Jose, CA

Asia Pacific Headquarters
Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.
Singapore

Europe Headquarters
Cisco Systems International BV
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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