

Why Migrate?

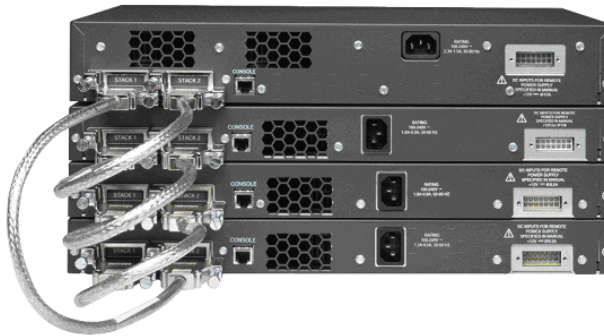
Business competition requires networks to support more converged and real-time communications applications. Converged voice, video, and collaboration applications demand a secure, resilient, high-performance network. Cisco® Catalyst® fixed switches deliver a reliable, performance-based solution to secure traffic from theft and mitigate the impact of worms and viruses without affecting application response time or complicating network management. The currently available Catalyst fixed switches are ideally suited to meet today's LAN access needs.

Catalyst 2960, Catalyst 3560, and Catalyst 3750 Series Switches provide the performance, reliability, and security to operate a converged network. They deliver the following advantages:

- **Catalyst 2960 vs. Catalyst 1900 Series:**
 - Wire-speed Gigabit Ethernet (GE) connectivity
 - Advanced QoS (4Qs, DSCP)
 - Layer 2–3 security features for the edge
- **Catalyst 2960 vs. Catalyst 2900XL Series:**
 - Sophisticated traffic management
 - Advanced QoS (4Qs, DSCP, rate limiting)
 - Layer 2–3 security features for the edge
- **Catalyst 3560 vs. Catalyst 3500XL, Catalyst 3550, and Catalyst 2900XL Series:**
 - GE nonblocking copper and fiber uplinks
 - Advanced QoS and diagnostics
 - PoE with intelligent power management
 - IPv6
 - Advanced routing protocols
 - Enhanced security features

- **Catalyst 3750 vs. Catalyst 3500XL, Catalyst 3550, and Catalyst 2900XL Series**
 - Cisco StackWise™ technology: Enables multiple switches to behave like one
 - GE nonblocking copper or fiber uplinks
 - Advanced QoS and diagnostics
 - Enhanced security features
 - PoE with intelligent power management
 - IPv6 routing
 - Advanced routing protocols
 - Integrated Cisco Wireless LAN Controller available with Catalyst 3750 Series

Figure 1. Cisco Catalyst 3750 Switches with Stackwise



Integrated Security Features

Cisco Catalyst switches offer security features that mitigate many of the security threats in the wiring closet before they propagate to the rest of the network.

- **Trust and identity:** Prevent unauthorized users and devices from accessing the network
- **Threat prevention:** Prevent viruses and worms from disrupting or disabling the network
- **Data theft prevention:** Prevent data theft such as man-in-the-middle attacks

QoS for Converged Networks

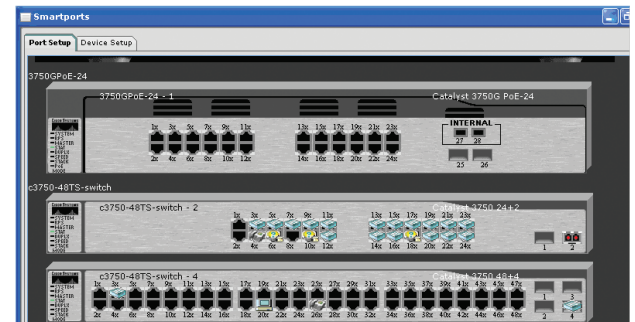
The hardware used in the current generation of Cisco Catalyst switches provides all the QoS features needed to operate a converged network (data, voice, and video).

Manageability with Cisco Network Assistant

Initial network configuration and ongoing management, troubleshooting, and performance optimization are all simplified by Cisco Network Assistant. Cisco Network Assistant and onboard device managers provide an intuitive, easy-to-use GUI to configure and operate a Cisco network. The applications also support Cisco Smartports—a macro that enables Cisco best-practice configuration rules with the click of a mouse. And best of all, Cisco Network Assistant is free:

<http://www.cisco.com/go/cna>

Figure 2. Cisco Network Assistant: Front Panel View



Summary

The portfolio of Cisco Catalyst fixed switches provides the security, performance, and reliability necessary to operate converged applications—applications that enable businesses to collaborate more efficiently and productively—making them more competitive and profitable.