



*TOMORROW
starts here.*

Cisco *live!*

Advanced Designing ISE for Scale and High Availability



BRKSEC-3699

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#clmel

Cisco *live!*

Session Abstract

Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) delivers context-based access control for every endpoint that connects to your network. **This session will show you how to design ISE to deliver scalable and highly available access control services for wired, wireless, and VPN from a single campus to a global deployment.**

Focus is on design guidance for distributed ISE architectures including high availability for all ISE nodes and their services as well as strategies for survivability and fallback during service outages. Methodologies for increasing scalability and redundancy will be covered such as load distribution with and without load balancers, optimal profiling design, and the use of Anycast.

Attendees of this session will gain knowledge on how to best deploy ISE to ensure peak operational performance, stability, and to support large volumes of authentication activity. Various deployment architectures will be discussed including ISE platform selection, sizing, and network placement.

Housekeeping



Reference slides included in published pdf



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Feedback welcome. Please complete online evaluation

Agenda

- Sizing Deployments and Nodes
- Scaling ISE Services
 - RADIUS, Auth Policy, AD, Guest, Web Services
 - Profiling and Database Replication
 - MnT (Optimised Logging and Noise Suppression)
- High Availability
 - Admin, MnT, pxGrid, IPN node Failover
 - Certificate Services Redundancy
 - PSN Redundancy and Load Balancing
 - NAD Fallback and Recovery



You take the blue pill – the story ends, you walk out of this room and believe whatever you want to believe.

Remember, all I'm offering is the truth – nothing more.

- The Matrix, 1999

You take the red pill – you stay in this room, and I show you how deep the rabbit hole goes.



Deployment Sizing

Node Types



- Policy Service Node (PSN)
 - Makes policy decisions
 - RADIUS server & provides endpoint/user services
- Policy Administration Node (PAN)
 - Interface to configure policies and manage ISE deployment
 - Replication hub for all database config changes
- Monitoring & Troubleshooting Node (MnT)
 - Interface to reporting and logging
 - Destination for syslog from other ISE nodes and NADs
- pxGrid Controller
 - Facilitates sharing of information between network elements
- Inline Posture Node (IPN)
 - Enforces posture policy for legacy or 3rd-party NADs

Can run in a single host

Standalone Deployment

All Personas on a Single Node: PAN, PSN, MnT

- Maximum endpoints – Platform dependent
 - 2,000 for 33x5
 - 5,000 for 3415
 - 10,000 for 3495



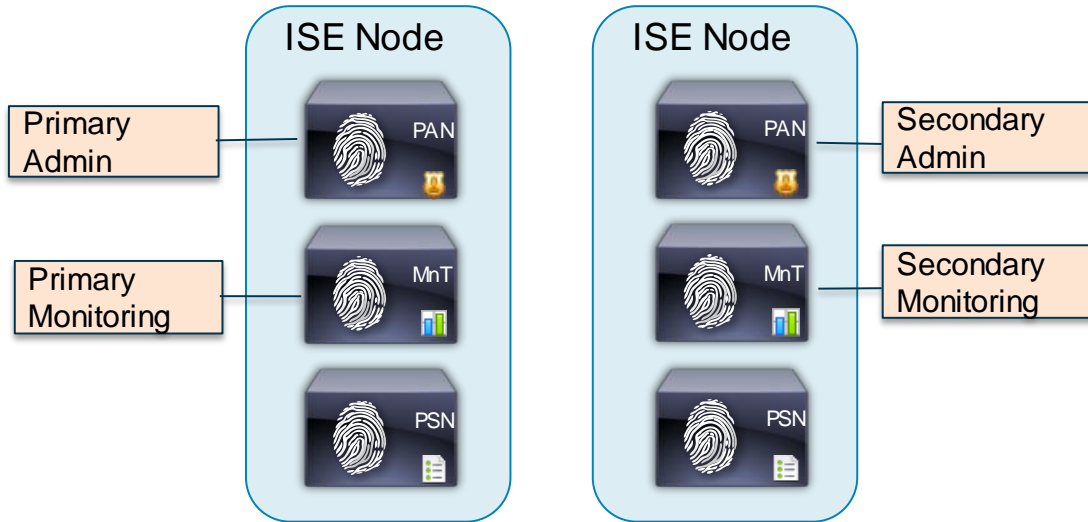
Policy Administration Node

Monitoring and Troubleshooting Node

Policy Service Node

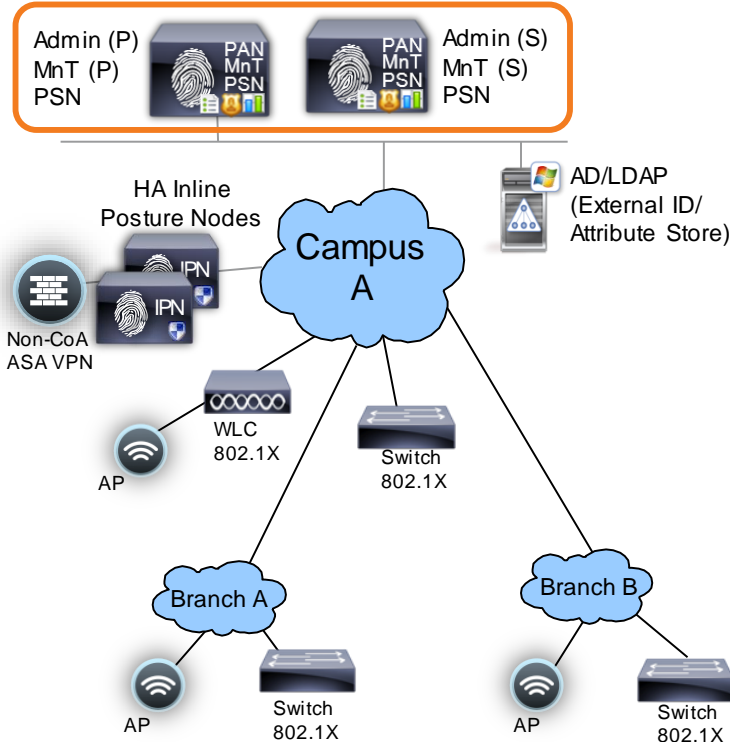
Basic 2-Node ISE Deployment (Redundant)

- Maximum endpoints – 10,000 (platform dependent—same as standalone)
- Redundant sizing – 10,000 (platform dependent—same as standalone)



Basic 2-Node ISE Deployment (Redundant)

Maximum Endpoints = 10,000 (Platform dependent)



- All Services run on both ISE Nodes
- Set one for Primary Admin / Primary MnT
- Set other for Secondary Monitoring / Secondary Admin
- Max Endpoints is platform dependent:
 - 33x5 = Max 2k endpoints
 - 3415 = Max 5k endpoints
 - 3495 = Max 10k endpoints

Distributed Persona Deployment

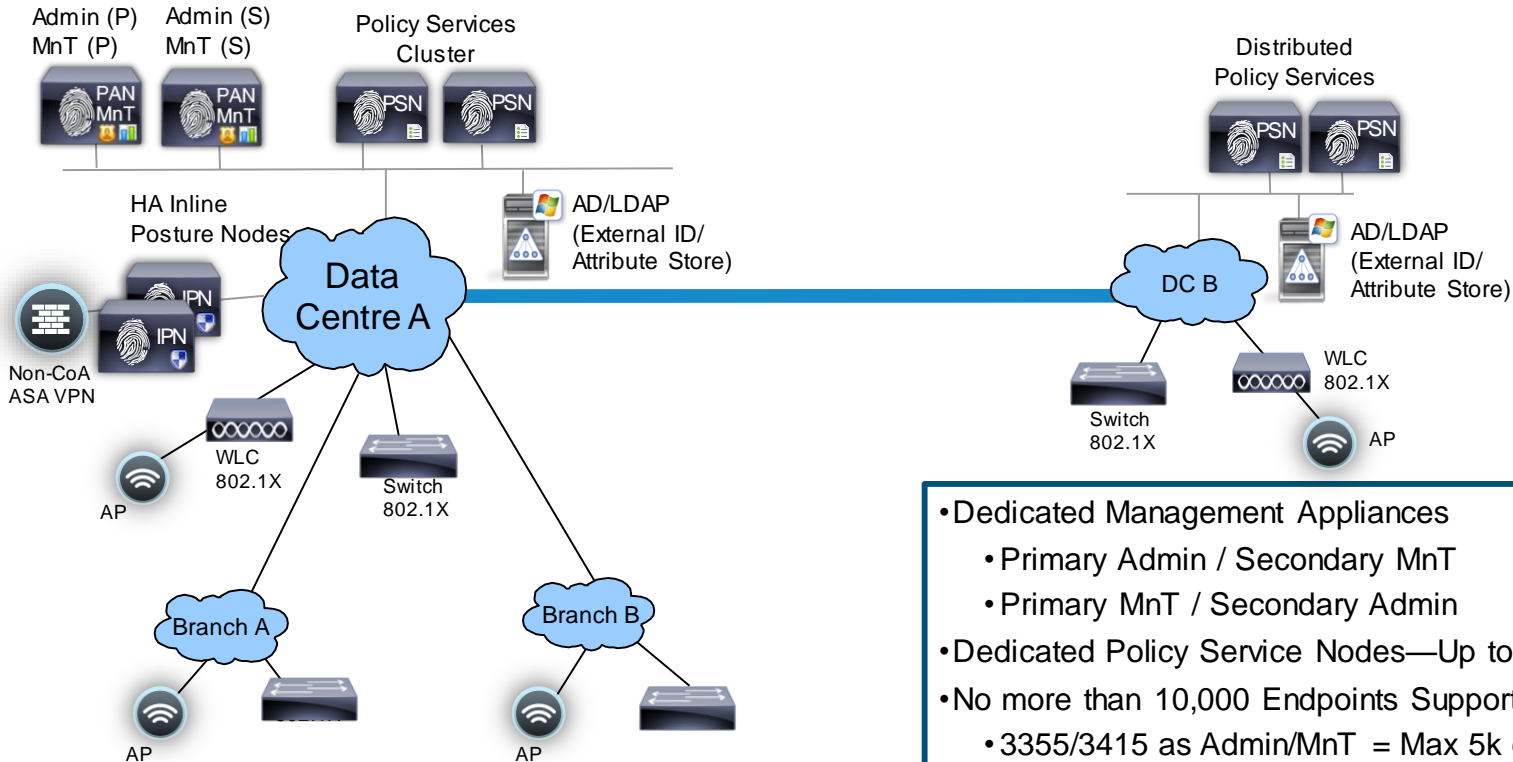
Admin + MnT on Same Appliance; Policy Service on Dedicated Appliance

- 2 x Admin+Monitor
- Max 5 PSNs
- Max endpoints – Platform dependent
 - 5,000 for 3355 or 3415 as PAN+MnT
 - 10,000 for 3395 or 3495 as PAN+MnT



Basic Distributed Deployment

Maximum Endpoints = 10,000 / Maximum 5 PSNs



- Dedicated Management Appliances
 - Primary Admin / Secondary MnT
 - Primary MnT / Secondary Admin
- Dedicated Policy Service Nodes—Up to 5 PSNs
- No more than 10,000 Endpoints Supported
 - 3355/3415 as Admin/MnT = Max 5k endpoints
 - 3395/3495 as Admin/MnT = Max 10k endpoints

Distributed Persona Deployment

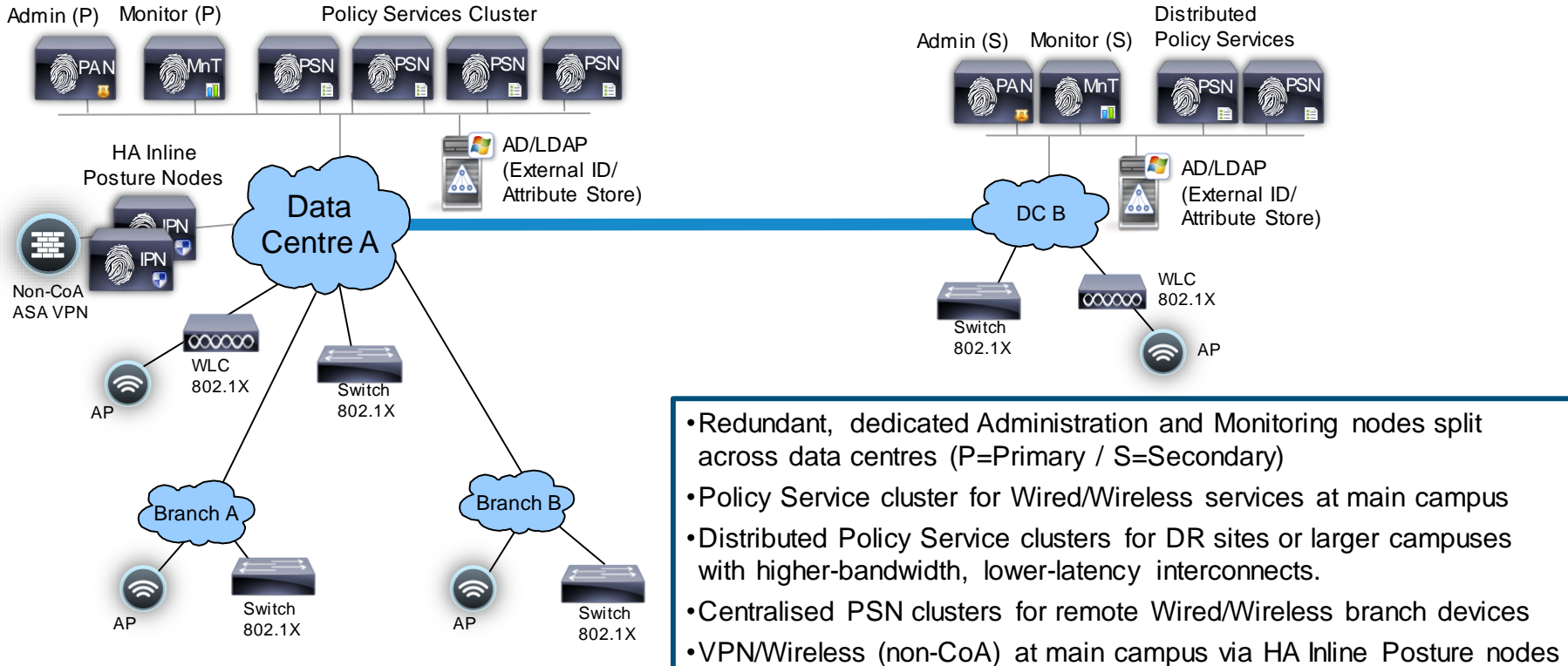
Dedicated Appliance for Each Persona: Administration, Monitoring, Policy Service

- 2 x Admin
- 2 x Monitoring
- Max 40 PSNs
- Max endpoints (Platform dependent)
 - 100k using 3395 as PAN and MnT
 - 250k using 3495 as PAN and MnT



Fully Distributed Deployment

Maximum Endpoints = 250,000 / Maximum 40 PSNs



A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The image shows a wide road with multiple lanes, illuminated by streetlights and traffic lights. In the background, there are several modern buildings with lit windows and balconies. A pedestrian bridge or overpass structure spans across the road. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. The overall scene is a bustling urban environment at night.

Sizing Guidance for ISE Nodes

Determining Minimum Appliance Quantity and Platform Type

			
Persona Deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Personas running on single or redundant nodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration and Monitoring co-located on single or redundant nodes Dedicated Policy Service nodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated Administration node(s) Dedicated Monitoring node(s) Dedicated Policy Service nodes
Max Nodes by Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Admin+MnT+PSN nodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Admin+MnT nodes 5 Policy Service nodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Admin nodes 2 MnT nodes 40 Policy Service nodes
Max Endpoints for Entire Deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2k with ISE-33x5 5k with SNS-3415 10k with SNS-3495 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5k with ISE-3355 or SNS-3415 for PAN+MnT 10k with ISE-3395 or SNS-3495 for PAN+MnT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100k with ISE-3395 for PAN and MnT 250k with SNS-3495 for PAN and MnT

Policy Service Node Sizing

Physical and Virtual Appliance Guidance

- Max Endpoints Per Appliance for Dedicated PSN

Form Factor	Platform Size	Appliance	Maximum Endpoints
Physical	Small	ISE-3315 / ACS-1121	3000
	Medium	ISE-3355	6000
	Large	ISE-3395	10,000
	Small (New)	SNS-3415	5,000
	Large (New)	SNS-3495	20,000
Virtual	S/M/L	VM	3,000-20,000*

* General VM appliance sizing guidance:

- 1) Select physical appliance that meets required persona and scaling requirements
- 2) Configure VM to match or exceed the ISE physical appliance specifications

- Inline Posture Specifications

Max Endpoints per any appliance	3000-10,000 (gated by policy service)
Max throughput per any appliance	936 Mbps

Sizing Production VMs to Physical Appliances

Summary

Appliance used for sizing comparison	CPU		Memory (GB)	Physical Disk (GB)*
	# Cores	Clock Rate		
SNS Large (ISE-3495)	8	2.4	32	600
SNS Small (ISE-3415)	4	2.4	16	600

* Actual disk requirement is dependent on persona(s) deployed and other factors. See slide on Disk Sizing.

VMware OVA Templates (ISE 1.3)

- OVA Templates map to Small and Large hardware appliances
 - EVAL (Evaluation / Lab testing)
 - SNS-3415 (Small)
 - SNS-3495 (Large)
- Simplifies VM deployment
- Ensures proper VMware settings

Presets:

- vCPU cores
 - Memory
 - Disk Storage
 - Network Interfaces
- } **With Reservations**

ISE-1.3.x.x-Eval-100-endpoint.ova:

- 2 CPU cores
- 4 GB RAM
- 200 GB disk
- 4 NICs

ISE-1.3.x.x-Virtual-SNS-3415.ova:

- 4 CPU cores
- 16 GB RAM
- 600 GB disk
- 4 NICs

ISE-1.3.x.x-Virtual-SNS-3495.ova:

- 8 CPU cores
- 32 GB RAM
- 600 GB disk
- 4 NICs

ISE VM Production Disk Requirements by Persona

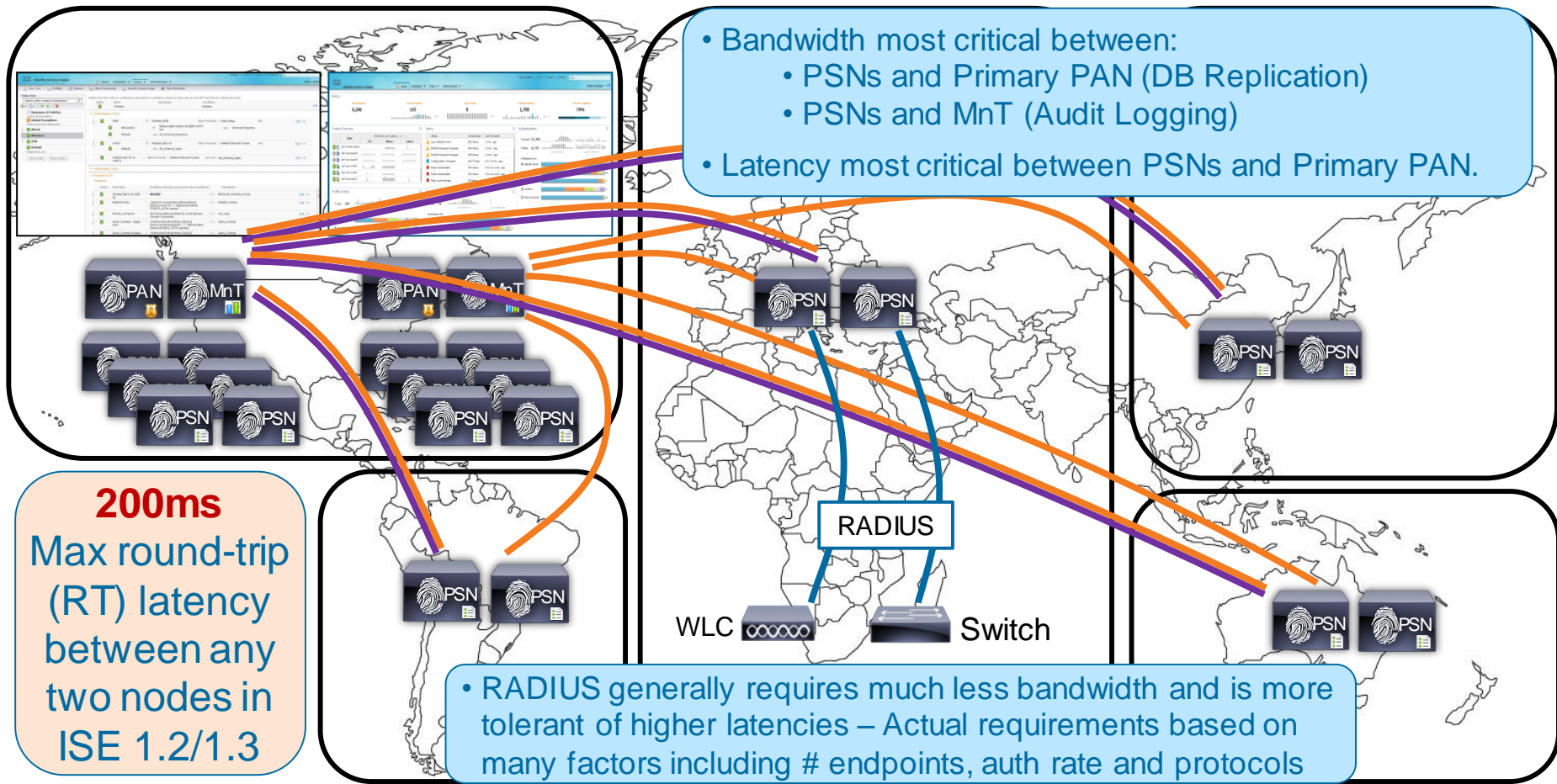
- Thin Provisioning officially supported in ISE 1.3
- VMFS formatted file system support only
- IO Performance:
 - Read 300+ MB/sec and Write 50+ MB/sec
- Recommended storage:
 - 10k RPM+ disk drives
 - Caching RAID Controller
 - RAID mirroring (RAID 5 slower writes)

RAID perf levels: <http://www.datarecovery.net/articles/raid-level-comparison.html>

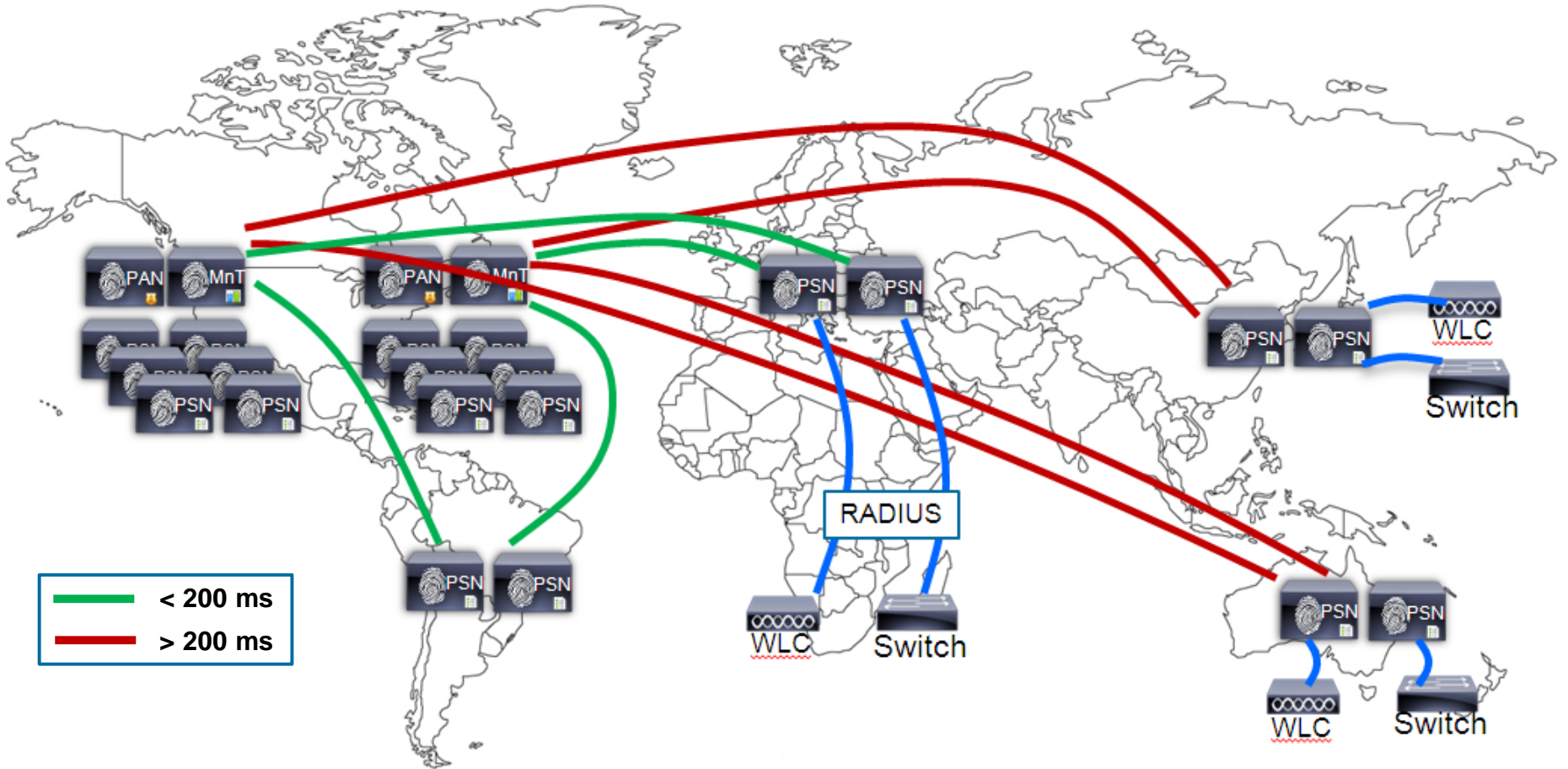
Persona	Disk (GB)
Standalone	200+*
Administration Only	200-300**
Monitoring Only	200+*
Policy Service Only	200
Admin + MnT	200+*
Admin + MnT + PSN	200+*

- * Upper range sets #days MnT log retention; **500GB min recommended for production. Max hardware appliance disk size = 600GB—Max VM disk size = 2TB**
- ** Variations depend on where backups saved or upgrade files staged (local or repository), debug, local logging, and data retention requirements.

Large Deployments – Bandwidth and Latency

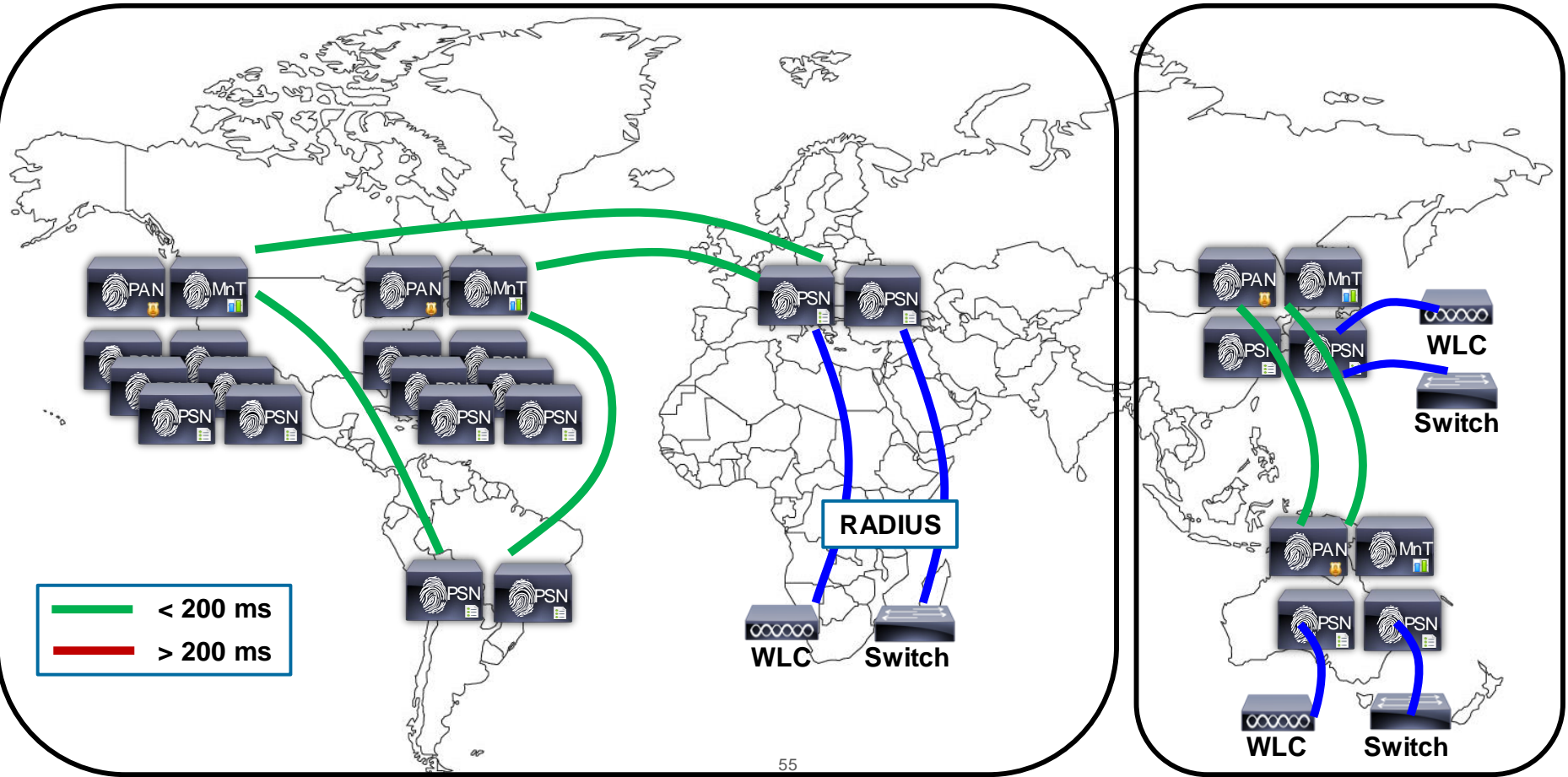


What if Distributed PSNs > 200ms RTT Latency?

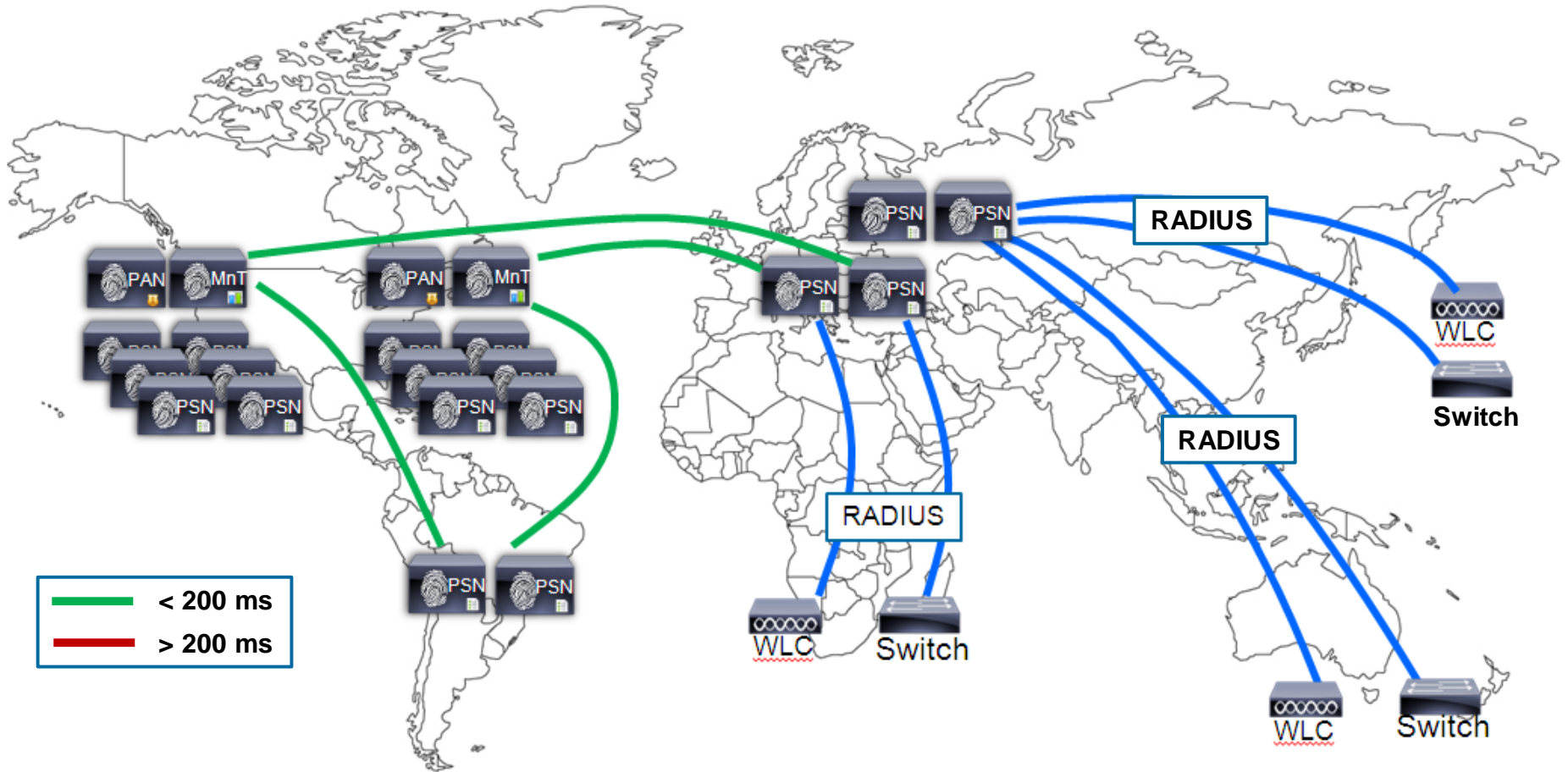


Option #1: Deploy Separate ISE Instances

(Per-Instance Latency < 200ms)

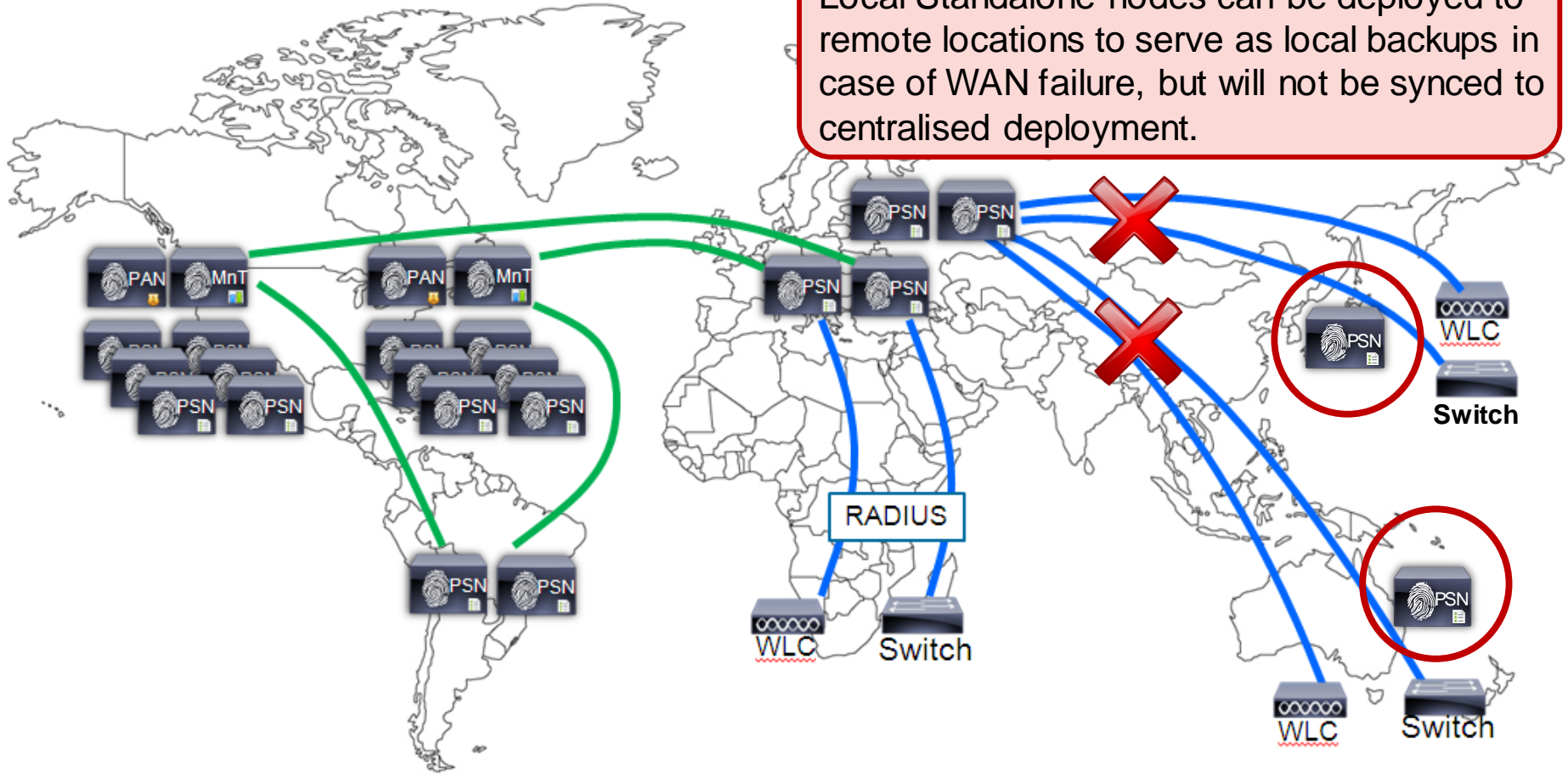


Option #2: Centralise PSNs where Latency < 200ms

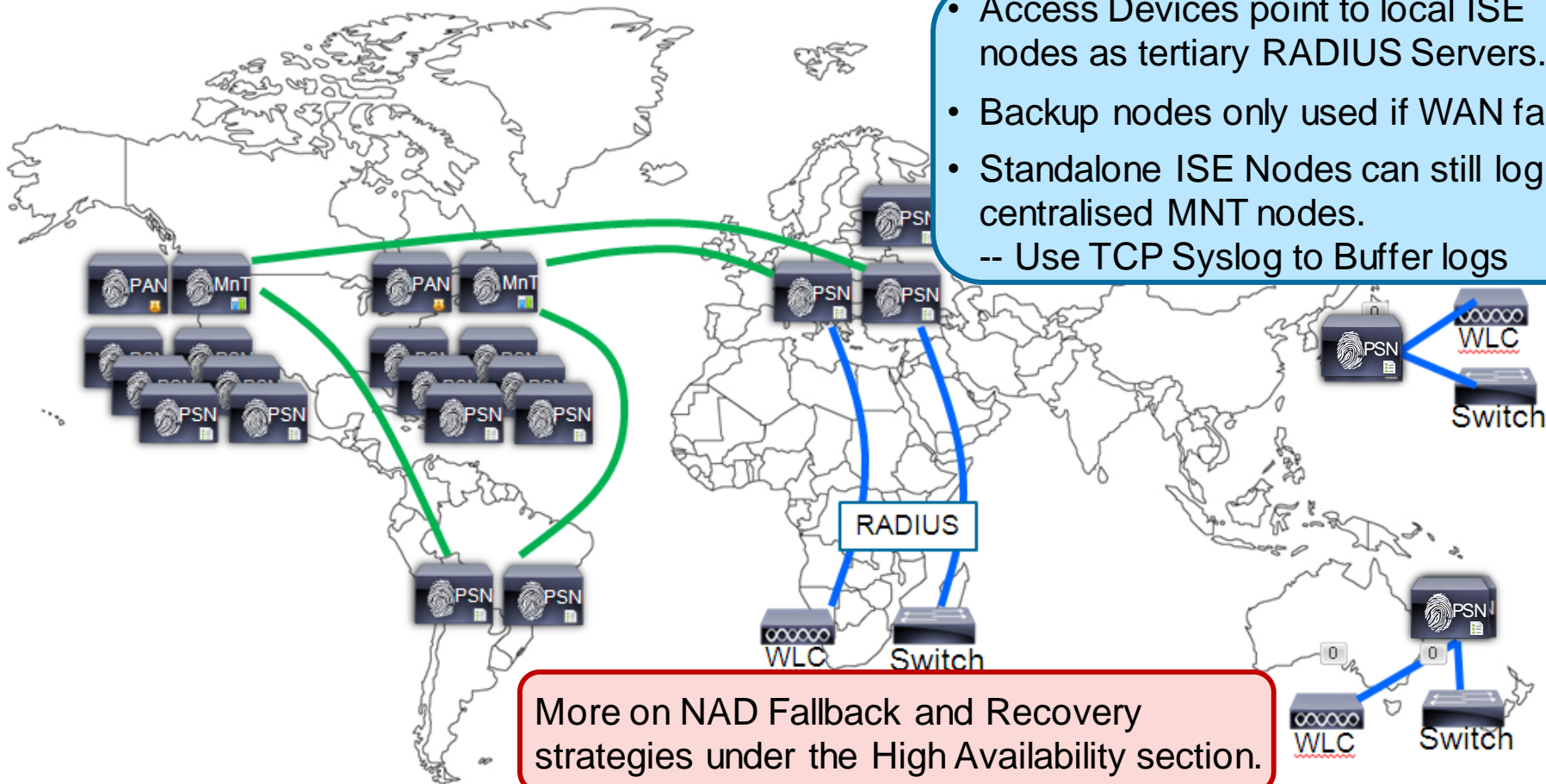


Deploy Local Standalone ISE Nodes as “Standby”

Local Standalone nodes can be deployed to remote locations to serve as local backups in case of WAN failure, but will not be synced to centralised deployment.



Access Devices Fallback to Local PSNs on WAN Failure



ISE 1.2 Bandwidth Calculator (Multi-Site)

Total Active Endpoints	25,000								
% Mobile Endpoints	20								
# Remote Locations with PSNs (Not including data centers)	2	Reset Remote Location Data							
Sending profile data for same endpoints to multiple locations?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES								
Reauth Interval (Default 2 hrs)	2								
DHCP Lease Period (Default 4 hrs)	4								
				(P)=Primary	(S)=Secondary				
Location	Bandwidth Req'd to DC1 (Mbps)	Bandwidth Req'd to DC2 (Mbps)	Total DC Bandwidth (Mbps)	PAN(P)	PAN(S)	MNT(P)	MNT(S)	# PSNs	# Active Endpoints
DC1/Main Campus	N/A	0.432	0.432	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	2	10,000
DC2/Secondary Campus	1.512	N/A	1.512	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	2	10,000
Remote Site 1	0.691	0.151	0.842					2	3,500
Remote Site 2	0.605	0.065	0.670					2	1,500
Total PSNs and Endpoints								8	25,000

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Update values in GREEN cells.
2. Bandwidth results appear in BLUE cells.
3. Charts summarize results

Please contact your Certified ATP Partner/SE to request a WAN bandwidth analysis for your ISE design and deployment. For additional information, ATP Partners and customers can contact sac-support@cisco.com



Scaling ISE Services

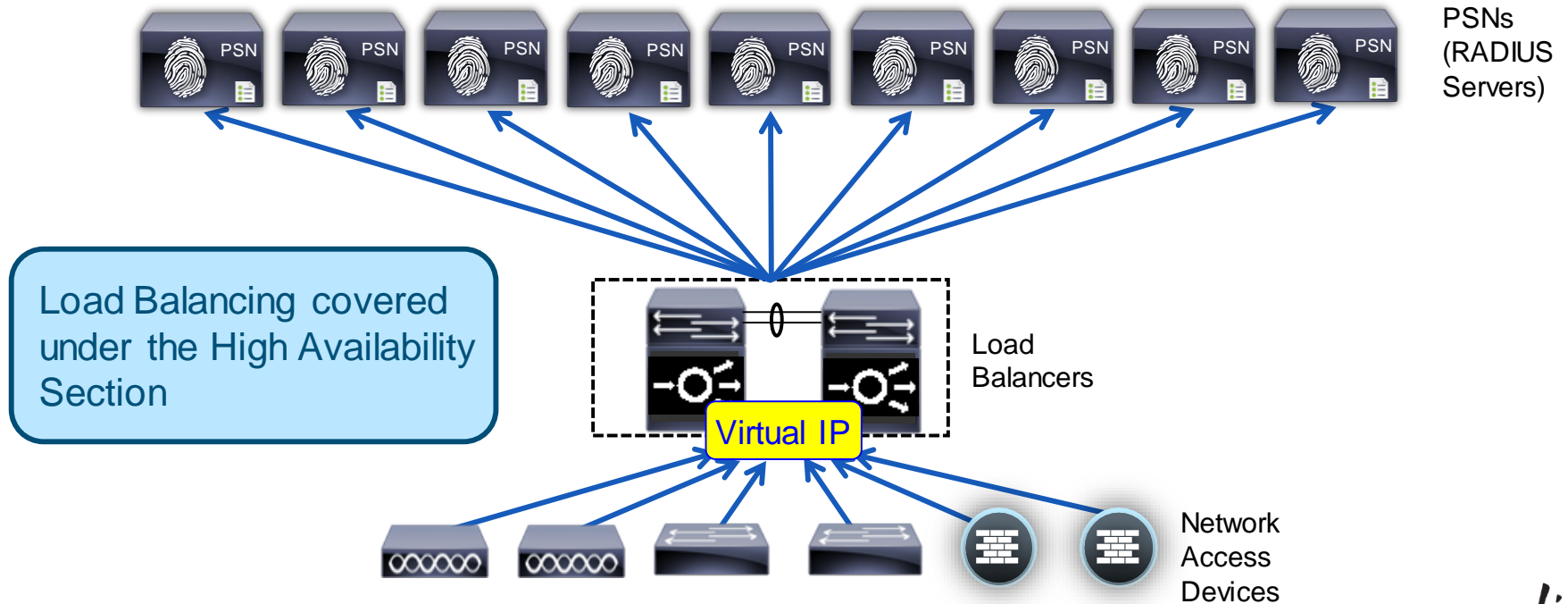
Scaling ISE Services Agenda

- AAA and Auth Policy Tuning
- Active Directory Integration
- Guest and Web Authentication
- Profiling and Database Replication
- MnT (Optimised Logging and Noise Suppression)



Scaling RADIUS, Web, and Profiling Services w/ LB

- Policy Service nodes can be configured in a cluster behind a load balancer (LB).
- Access Devices send RADIUS AAA requests to LB virtual IP.



Auth Policy Optimisation

Leverage Policy Sets to Organise and Scale Policy Processing

The screenshot displays the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Operations', 'Policy', and 'Administration'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

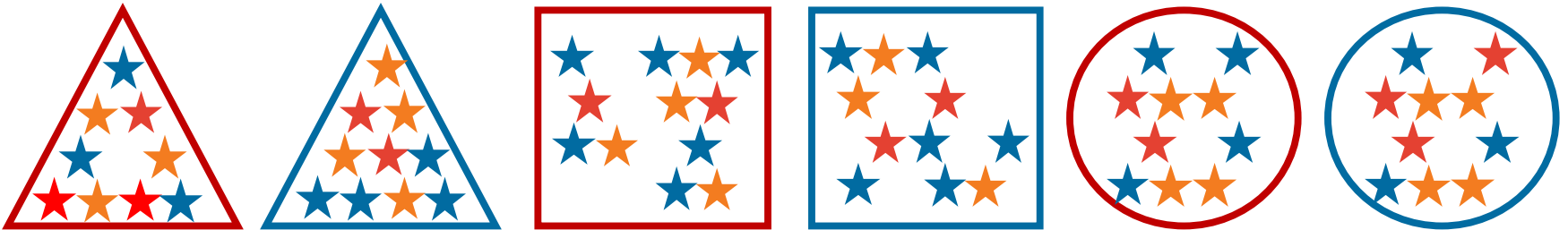
- Policy Sets:** A sidebar on the left contains a search bar and a list of policy sets: Summary of Policies, Global Exceptions, Wired, **Wireless** (highlighted with a red box), VPN, and Default. Below the list are 'Save Order' and 'Reset Order' buttons.
- Policy Set Condition:** A blue box highlights the 'Policy Set Condition' section, which defines rules for the 'Wireless' policy set.
- Authentication:** An orange box highlights the 'Authentication' section, showing a list of rules for the 'Wireless' policy set. The rules are:
 - MAB: If Wireless_MAB, Allow Protocols: HostLookup and Internal Endpoints.
 - MACwLWA: If Radius:Called-Station-ID ENDS WITH lwa, use Internal Endpoints.
 - Default: use AD_Internal_Endpoints.
 - Dot1X: If Wireless_802.1X, Allow Protocols: Default Network Access and Internal Endpoints.
 - Default: use AD_Internal_Users.
 - Default Rule (If no match): Allow Protocols: Default Network Access and use AD_Internal_Users.
- Authorisation:** A green box highlights the 'Authorisation' section, showing a table of exceptions. The table has columns for Status, Rule Name, Conditions, and Permissions.

Status	Rule Name	Conditions (identity groups and other conditions)	Permissions
✓	Wireless Black List Default	if Blacklist	then Blackhole_Wireless_Access
✓	Domain_Computer	if AD1:ExternalGroups EQUALS cts.local/Users /Domain Computers	then AD_Login
✓	Game Consoles - Registered	if (EndPoint:EndPointPolicy EQUALS Game-Console-Registered AND Radius:Called-Station-ID ENDS WITH :naming)	then Game_Console

A blue box at the bottom of the page contains the navigation path: **Administration > System > Settings > Policy Sets**. A blue arrow points from this box to the 'Wireless' policy set in the sidebar.

Search Speed Test

- Find the object where...
 - Total stars = 10
 - Total Orange stars = 4
 - Total Red stars = 2
 - Outer shape is a red circle



Auth Policy Optimisation

Avoid Unnecessary External Store Lookups

Authorization Policy

Exceptions (0)

Standard

```
Employee_MDM    if (MDM:DeviceCompliantStatus EQUALS Compliant AND MDM:DeviceRegisterStatus EQUALS Registered AND AD1:ExternalGroups EQUALS cts.local/Users/employees-contractors AND EndPoints:LogicalProfile EQUALS Androd Devices) then Employee
```

- Policy Logic:
 - First Match, Top Down
 - Skip Rule on first negative condition match
- More specific rules generally at top
- Try to place more “popular” rules before less used rules.

Example of a Poor Rule: Employee_MDM

- All lookups to External Policy and ID Stores performed first, then local profile match!

Auth Policy Optimisation

Rule Sequence and Condition Order is Important!

Authorization Policy

Exceptions (0)

Standard

Example #1: Employee

1. Endpoint ID Group
2. Authenticated using AD?
3. Auth method/protocol
4. AD Group Lookup

Example #2: Employee_CWA

1. Location (Network Device Group)
2. Web Authenticated?
3. Authenticated via LDAP Store?
4. LDAP Attribute Comparison

Status	Rule Name	Conditions (identity groups and other conditions)	Permissions
	Employee	<code>RegisteredDevices AND (Network Access:AuthenticationIdentityStore EQUALS AD1 AND Network Access:AuthenticationMethod EQUALS MSCHAPV2 AND AD1:ExternalGroups EQUALS cts.local/Users/employees)</code>	Employee
	Employee_CWA	<code>if (DEVICE:Location EQUALS All Locations#North_America#San_Jose AND Network Access:UseCase EQUALS Guest Flow AND Network Access:AuthenticationIdentityStore EQUALS AD_LDAP AND Radius:Calling-Station-ID EQUALS AD_LDAP:msNPSavedCallingStationID)</code>	Employee

Enable EAP Session Resume / Fast Reconnect

Major performance boost, but not a complete auth so avoid excessive timeout value

The screenshot displays the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) Administration console. The left sidebar shows the navigation tree with 'EAP-TLS' selected under 'Protocols'. The main content area shows the 'EAP TLS Settings' configuration page. Two callout boxes highlight specific settings: one for 'Enable EAP TLS Session Resume' and another for 'Cache TLS (TLS Handshake Only/Skip Cert)'. Below, the 'Peap Settings' page is shown with callouts for 'Cache TLS session' and 'Skip inner method'.

EAP TLS Settings

- Enable EAP TLS Session Resume
- * EAP TLS Session Timeout (in seconds)

Cache TLS (TLS Handshake Only/Skip Cert)

Peap Settings

- Enable PEAP Session Resume
- * PEAP Session Timeout (in seconds)
- Enable Fast Reconnect

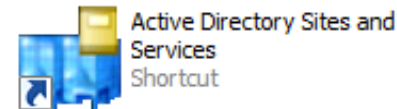
Cache TLS session

Skip inner method

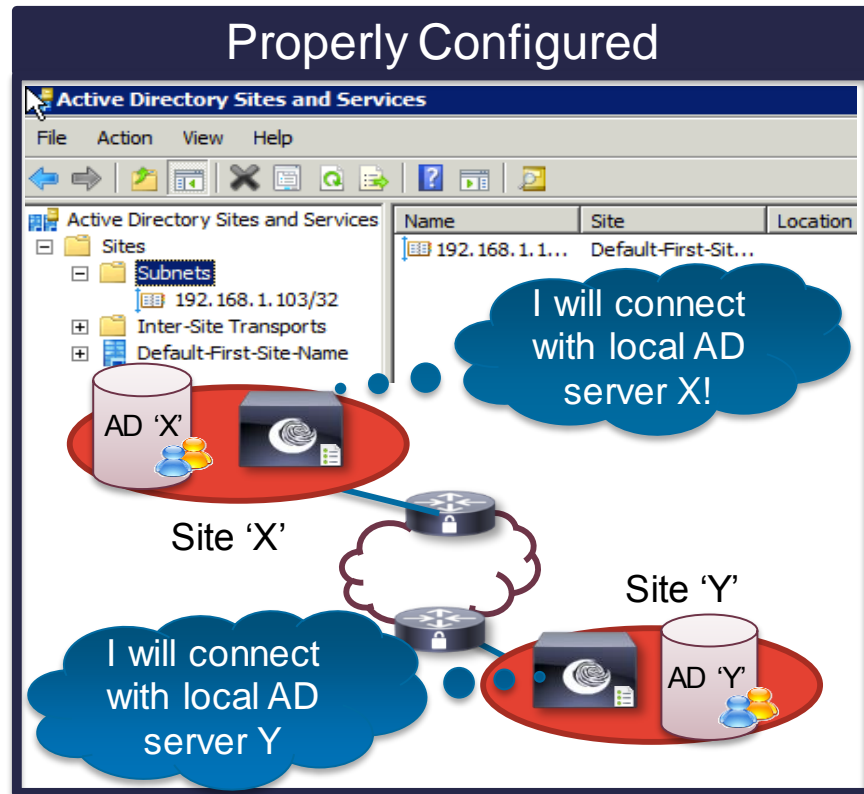
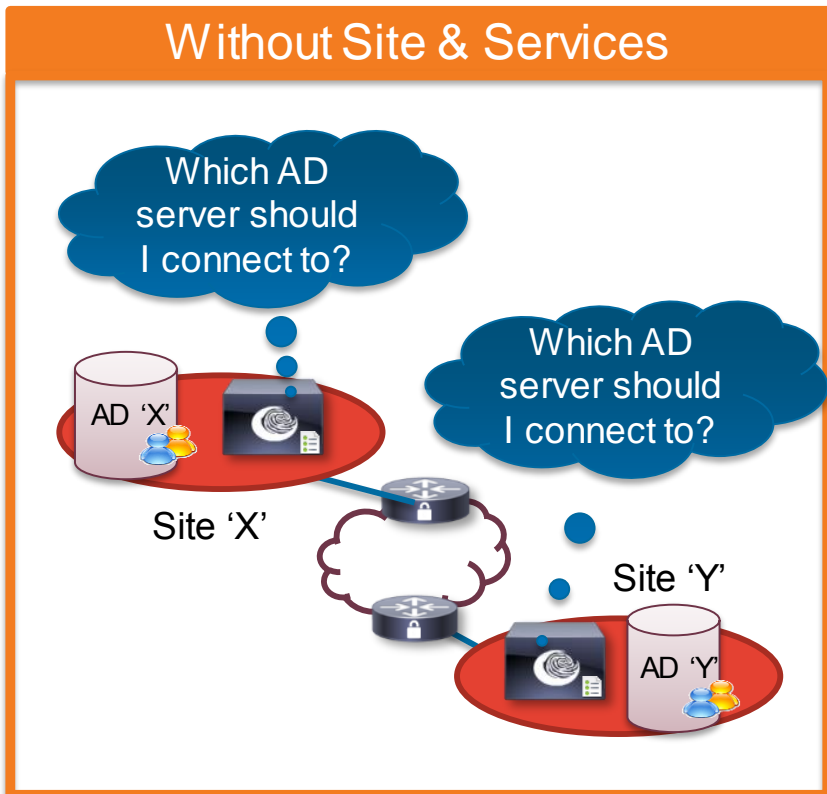


Scaling AD Integration

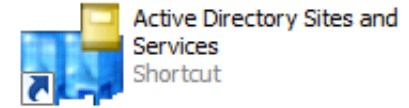
Scaling AD Integration w/ Sites & Services



How do I ensure Local PSN is connecting to Local AD controller?



AD Sites and Services



Links AD Domain Controllers to Client IP Networks

Server Manager (AD)

Roles

- Active Directory Certificate Services
- Active Directory Domain Services
- Active Directory Users and Comput
- Active Directory Sites and Services
 - Sites
 - Subnets
 - 10.1.10.0/24
 - 10.1.100.0/24
 - 10.1.101.0/24
 - 10.2.0.0/16
 - 10.3.0.0/16
 - 10.4.0.0/16
 - 10.5.0.0/16
 - Default-First-Site-Name
 - Servers
 - AD

Subnets 7 objects [Filter Activated]

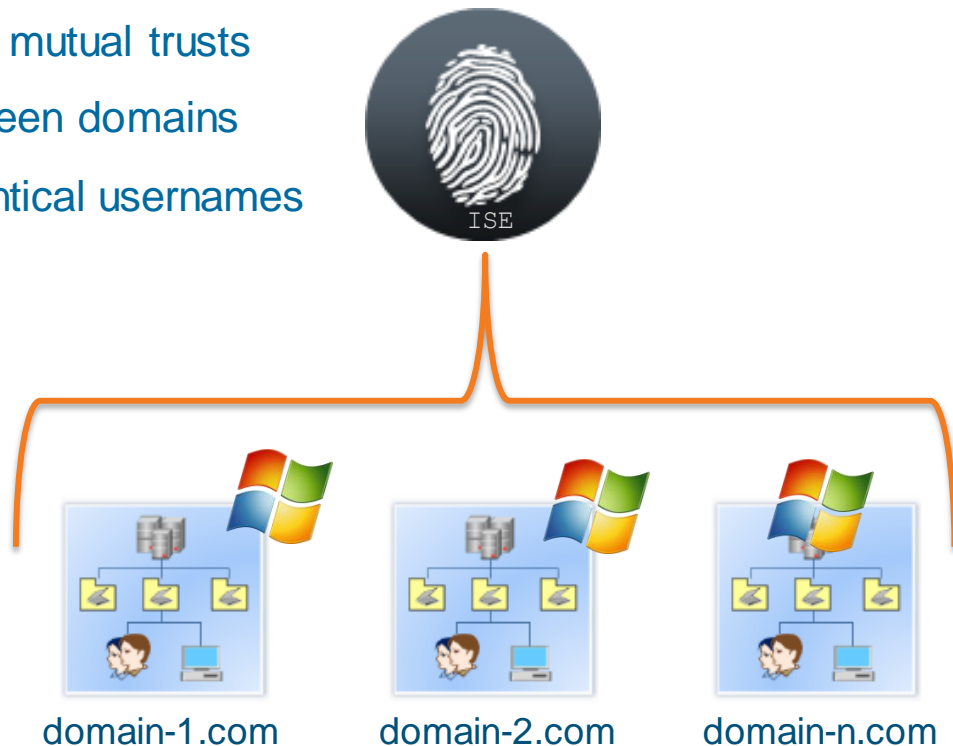
Name	Site	Location	Type	Description
10.1.10.0/24	Ohio		Subnet	Head Quarters
10.1.100.0/24	Default-First-Site-Name		Subnet	DC1 Server Farm
10.1.101.0/24	Default-First-Site-Name		Subnet	DC2 Server Farm
10.2.0.0/16	London		Subnet	EMEA Cluster
10.3.0.0/16	Singapore		Subnet	AsiaPac Cluster
10.4.0.0/16	NewYork		Subnet	US-East
10.5.0.0/16	SanJose		Subnet	US-West

DNS and DC Locator Service work together to return list of "closest" Domain Controllers based on client Site (IP address)

Multi-Forest Active Directory Support

Scales AD Integration through Multiple Join Points and Optimised Lookups

- ✓ Join up to 50 Forests or Domains without mutual trusts
- ✓ No need for 2-way trust relationship between domains
- ✓ Advanced algorithms for dealing with identical usernames
- ✓ SID-Based Group Mapping
- ✓ PAP via MS-RPC
- ✓ Support for disjointed DNS namespace



AD Authentication Flow

Identity Rewrite allows usernames to be modified before they are applied to the Active Directory service. The rewrite results. ISE processes the policy in order, and the first condition which matches the request username in square brackets) may be used to transfer elements of the original username to the result. The Test facility p

Active Directory Scopes > Default_Scope

Connection Authentication

Use Domain Name Service

Allow Authentication

Enable Selected

Name

AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA.AUSTRALIA.OCEANIA.ACS.COM

OCEANIA.ACS.COM

amer.acs.com

brazil.south.amer.acs.com

Identity Rewrite

Identity Rewrite allows usernames to be modified before they are applied to the Active Directory service. The rewrite results. ISE processes the policy in order, and the first condition which matches the request username in square brackets) may be used to transfer elements of the original username to the result. The Test facility p

Do not apply Rewrite Rules to modify username
 Apply the Rewrite Rules Below to modify username

Test rewrite Rules: Launch Test

* If Identity Matches	host/[HOSTNAME].[DOMAIN]	rewrite as	host/[HOSTNAME].[DOMAIN]
* If Identity Matches	host/[HOSTNAME]	rewrite as	host/[HOSTNAME]
* If Identity Matches	[DOMAIN]\[IDENTITY]	rewrite as	[DOMAIN]\[IDENTITY]
* If Identity Matches	[IDENTITY]@[DOMAIN]	rewrite as	[IDENTITY]@[DOMAIN]

<input type="checkbox"/>	CANBERRA.AUSTRALIA.OCEANIA.ACS.COM	OCEANIA.ACS.COM	domain	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	OCEANIA.ACS.COM	OCEANIA.ACS.COM	domain	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	amer.acs.com	amer.acs.com	domain	YES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	brazil.south.amer.acs.com	amer.acs.com	domain	YES

AD Integration Best Practices

- **DNS** servers in ISE nodes must have all relevant AD records (A, PTR, SRV)
- Ensure **NTP** configured for all ISE nodes and AD servers
- Configure **AD Sites and Services**
(with ISE machine accounts configured for relevant Sites)
- Configure Authentication Domains (**Whitelist domains** needed) (ISE 1.3)
- Use **UPN/fully qualified usernames** when possible to expedite user lookups
- Use **AD indexed attributes*** when possible to expedite attribute lookups
- **Run Diagnostics** from ISE Admin interface to check for issues.

* Microsoft AD Indexed Attributes:

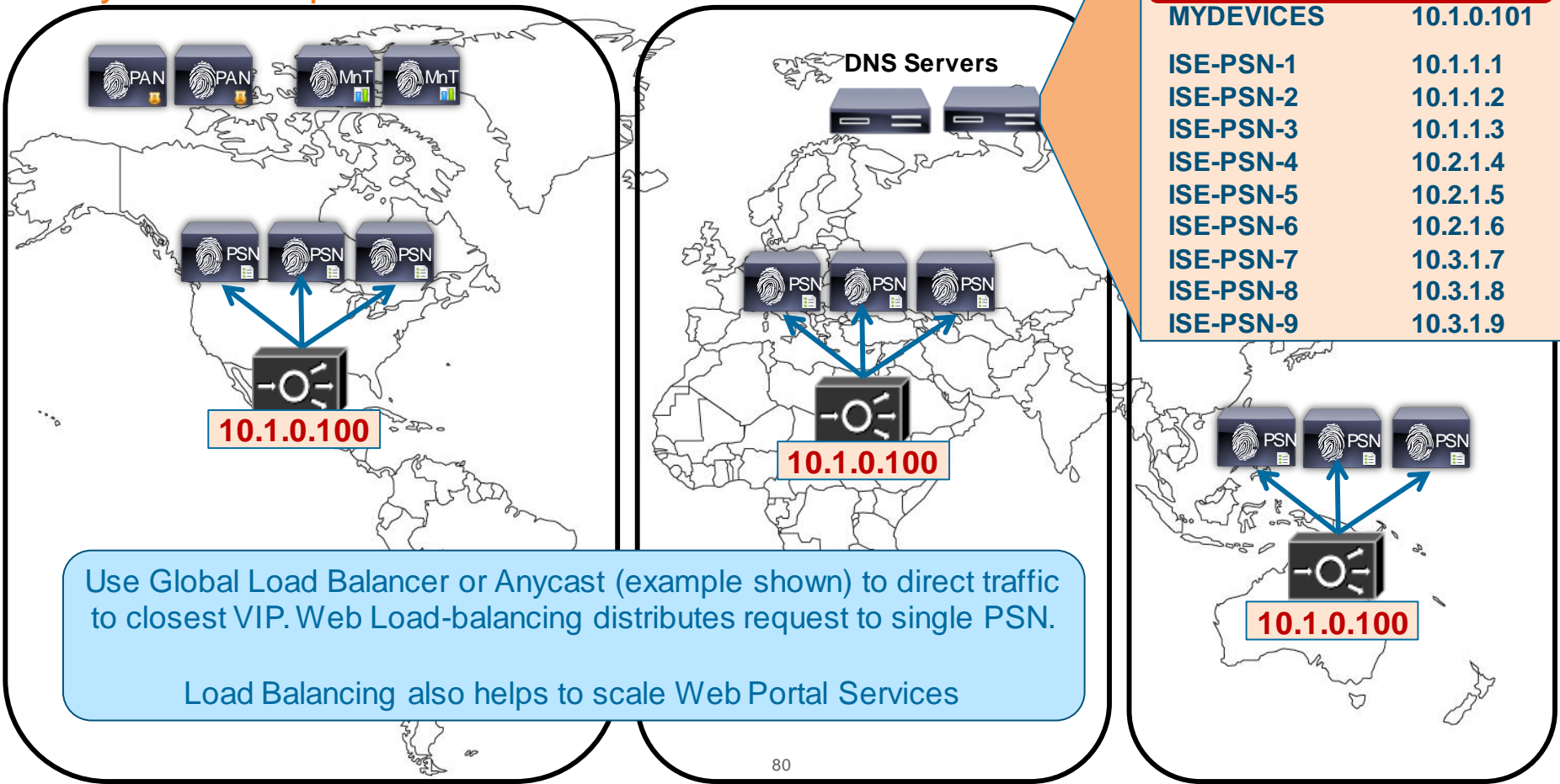
<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms675095%28v=vs.85%29.aspx>

A nighttime photograph of a city street. In the foreground, there are long, curved light trails from cars, primarily in shades of yellow and orange. In the middle ground, a modern pedestrian bridge with blue lighting spans across the street. In the background, there are several tall buildings with lit windows and some flags on poles. The overall scene is illuminated by city lights, creating a vibrant urban atmosphere.

Scaling Guest and Web Authentication Services

Scaling Global Sponsor / MyDevices

Anycast Example



Scaling Guest Authentications Using 802.1X

“Activated Guest” allows guest accounts to be used without ISE web auth portal

- Guests auth with 802.1X using EAP methods like PEAP-MSCHAPv2 / EAP-GTC
- 802.1X auth performance generally much higher than web auth

Guest Roles Configuration
Available **Guest** Identity Groups

- Contractor
- Employee
- Guest
- SponsorAllAccount
- SponsorGroupAccounts
- SponsorOwnAccounts

Available **ActivatedGuest** Identity Groups

- ActivatedGuest
- ActivatedContractor

Note: AUP and Password Change cannot be enforced since guest bypasses portal flow.

Maximum devices guests can register: (1-999)

Store device information in endpoint identity group:

Purge endpoints in this identity group when they reach days old ⓘ

Allow guest to bypass the Guest portal ⓘ

- ISE 1.2 Guest Role
- ISE 1.3 Guest Type

Scaling Web Authentication (ISE 1.3)

“Remember Me” Guest Flows

- Device/user logs in to hotspot or credentialed portal
- MAC address automatically registered into GuestEndpoint group
- Authz policy for GuestEndpoint ID Group grants access until device purged



For ISE 1.2, can “chain” CWA+DRW or NSP to auto-register web auth users, but no auto-purge

Endpoint identity group: *

Purge endpoints in this identity group when they reach days

Configure endpoint purge at
[Administration > Identity Management > Settings > Endpoint purge](#)

Status	Rule Name	Conditions (identity groups and other conditions)	Permissions
✓	internet	if GuestEndpoints	then internet
✓	internet_mab_redirect	if Wireless_MAB	then internet_mab_redirect_cwa

Automated Device Registration and Purge

New in
ISE 1.3

Identity Services Engine

Home | Operations | Policy | Guest Access | Administration

Configure | Manage Accounts | Settings

Guest Type

Guest type name:

Description:

Collect Additional Data:

Maximum Access Time

Maximum account duration: days Default:

Allow access only on these days and times:

From: To: Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Login Options

Maximum simultaneous logins:

When guest exceeds limit:

Don't connect

Remove the oldest connection

Maximum devices guests can register: (1-999)

Store device information in endpoint identity group:

Purge endpoints in this identity group when they reach days old ⓘ

Allow guest to bypass the Guest portal ⓘ

- Web Authenticated users can be auto-registered and endpoints auto-purged.
- Allows re-auth to be reduced to one day, multiple days, weeks, etc.
- Improves Web Scaling and User Experience

Endpoint Purging

Settings

- User Custom Attributes
- User Password Policy
- Endpoint Purge

Matching Conditions

Purge by:

- # Days After Creation
- # Days Inactive
- Specified Date

Endpoint Purge

Define the EndPoint Purge Policy by configuration rules based on identity groups and/or other conditions. Drag and drop rules to change the order.

First Matched Rule Applies

Never Purge

Status	Rule Name	Conditions (identity groups and/or other conditions)	
<input type="radio"/>	MDMEnrolledRule	if DeviceRegistrationStatus Equals Registered	Edit ▼

Purge

Status	Rule Name	Conditions (identity groups and/or other conditions)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GuestEndpointsPurgeRule	if GuestEndpoints AND ElapsedDays Greater than 30	Edit ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RegisteredEndpointsPurgeRule	if RegisteredDevices AND ElapsedDays Greater than 30	Edit ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DailyPurgeEndpointPurgeRule	if DailyPurgeGroup AND ENDPOINTPURGE ElapsedDays EQUALS 1	Edit ▼

Schedule

Purge endpoints from the identity table at a specific time

Schedule : Every at

Endpoint Purging Examples

Settings

- User Custom Attributes
- User Password Policy
- Endpoint Purge

Endpoint Purge

Define the EndPoint Purge Policy by configuration rules based on identity groups and/or other conditions. Drag and drop rules to change the order.

First Matched Rule Applies

Status	Rule Name	Conditions (identity groups and/or other conditions)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GuestEndpointsPurgeRule	if GuestEndpoints AND ElapsedDays Greater than 30
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RegisteredEndPointsPurgeRule	if RegisteredDevices AND ElapsedDays Greater than 30
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DailyPurgeEndpointPurgeRule	if DailyPurgeGroup AND ENDPOINTPURGE ElapsedDays EQUALS 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WeeklyPurgeEndpointPurgeRule	if WeeklyPurgeGroup AND ENDPOINTPURGE ElapsedDays EQUALS 7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	InactiveEndpointPurgeRule	if Profiled AND ENDPOINTPURGE InactiveDays GREATER THAN 90
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SpecialEventPurgeRule	if SpecialEventDevices AND ENDPOINTPURGE PurgeDate EQUALS 2014-09-15

Schedule

Purge endpoints from the identity table at a specific time

Schedule : Every at

Matching Conditions Purge by:

- # Days After Creation
- # Days Inactive
- Specified Date

On Demand Purge



Scaling Posture and MDM

Posture Lease

Once compliant, user may leave/reconnect multiple times before re-posture

The screenshot shows the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) Administration console. The main navigation bar includes Home, Operations, Policy, Guest Access, and Administration. Below this, there are tabs for System, Identity Management, Identity Mapping, Network Resources, Web Portal Management, and Feed Service. A secondary navigation bar contains Deployment, Licensing, Certificates, Logging, Maintenance, Backup & Restore, Admin Access, and Settings. The left sidebar lists various settings categories, with 'Posture' expanded to show 'General Settings', 'Reassessments', 'Updates', 'Acceptable Use Policy', 'Profiling', and 'Protocols'. The main content area displays 'Posture General Settings' with fields for Remediation Timer (4 Minutes), Network Transition Delay (3 Seconds), Default Posture Status (Compliant), and a checkbox for 'Automatically Close Login Success Screen After' (0 Seconds). Below this, the 'Posture Lease' section is highlighted with a blue box. It contains two radio button options: 'Perform posture assessment every time a user connects to the network' (selected) and 'Perform posture assessment every 1 Days'. A note below states: 'Note : The above configuration applies only to AnyConnect Agent and not to NAC Agent and Web Agent.' There are 'Save' and 'Reset' buttons at the bottom of the section.

Posture Lease

Perform posture assessment every time a user connects to the network

Perform posture assessment every 7 Days

Note : The above configuration applies only to AnyConnect Agent and not to NAC Agent and Web Agent.

MDM Scalability and Survivability

What Happens When the MDM Server is Unreachable?

- Scalability \approx 30 Calls per second per PSN.
 - Cloud-Based deployment typically built for scale and redundancy
 - For cloud-based solutions, Internet bandwidth and latency must be considered.
 - Premise-Based deployment may leverage load balancing

- Authorisation permissions can be set based on MDM connectivity status:

- **MDM:MDMServerReachable Equals UnReachable**
MDM:MDMServerReachable Equals Reachable

```
✓ MobileDevice_Unreachable if (EndPoints:BYODRegistration EQUALS Yes AND MDM:MDMServerReachable EQUALS UnReachable ) then MDM_Fail_Open
```

- All attributes retrieved & reachability determined by single API call on each new session.
- Separate Heartbeat timer added to current 1.2.x and 1.3.0
 - CSCul39011 MDM client is not rejecting queries when MDM server is not responding

A nighttime photograph of a city street. In the foreground, there are long, curved light trails from cars, primarily in shades of yellow and orange. In the middle ground, a pedestrian bridge with blue lighting spans across the street. In the background, there are several tall buildings with lit windows and some flags on poles. The overall scene is illuminated by city lights.

Scaling Profiling and Database Replication

Profiling Whitelist Filter

Reduces Data Collection and Replication to Critical (aka Significant) Attributes


- Endpoint Attribute Filter – aka “Whitelist filter” (ISE 1.1.2 and above)
 - Disabled by default. If enabled, only these attributes are collected or replicated.

The screenshot shows the 'Profiler Configuration' page in Cisco ISE. The breadcrumb navigation at the top right reads 'Administration > System Settings > Profiling'. The main configuration area includes a dropdown for '* CoA Type:' set to 'Reauth'. Below this are three text input fields for 'Current custom SNMP community strings', 'Change custom SNMP community strings', and 'Confirm changed custom SNMP community strings', each with a 'Show' button to its right. A red box highlights the 'EndPoint Attribute Filter:' checkbox, which is checked and labeled 'Enabled'. At the bottom left are 'Save' and 'Reset' buttons.

- Whitelist Filter limits profile attribute collection to those required to support default (Cisco-provided) profiles and critical RADIUS operations.
 - Filter must be disabled to collect and/or replicate other attributes.
 - Attributes used in custom conditions are automatically added to whitelist.

Distributed Deployments – ISE 1

Database Architectural and Replication Model Changes

- Database replication changes from queue-based to message-based transport.
 - No longer uses ping-pong ACK mechanism to replicate data; sends stream of updates until get NAK.
- Conversion to Entity Definition Framework (EDF)
 - Changes from hierarchical Entity-Attribute-Value model to relational database model for significant read-write improvements.
- Move to 64-bit OS
 - Helps to improve performance by making use of larger memory.
- Local Persistence for Profiler DB.
 - Only update PAN for **Significant Attributes** 
 - “EndPoint Profiler Server” owns endpoint. If another PSN receives attributes, then requests sync of attributes from prior owner.
 - PAN receives all updates on significant attribute change as fallback.

MAC ADDRESS
ENDPOINT POLICY
STATIC ASSIGNMENT
STATIC GROUP ASSIGNMENT
ENDPOINT IP
POLICY VERSION
MATCHED VALUE (CF)
NMAP SUBNET SCAN ID
PORTAL USER
DEVICE REGISTRATION STATUS

CSCur44879 - Remove IP address as Significant Attribute

Significant Attributes vs. Whitelist Attributes

Updates
Node Group

Significant Attributes

- Change triggers global replication

MACADDRESS
ENDPOINTIP
 MATCHEDVALUE
 ENDPOINTPOLICY
 ENDPOINTPOLICYVERSION
 STATICASSIGNMENT
 STATICGROUPASSIGNMENT
 NMAPSUBNETSCANID
 PORTALUSER
 DEVICEREGISTRATIONSTATUS

Updates
Deployment

Whitelist Attributes

- Change triggers PSN-PSN replication and global *ownership* change

Other Attributes

- Dropped if whitelist filter enabled; Otherwise, only locally saved by PSN

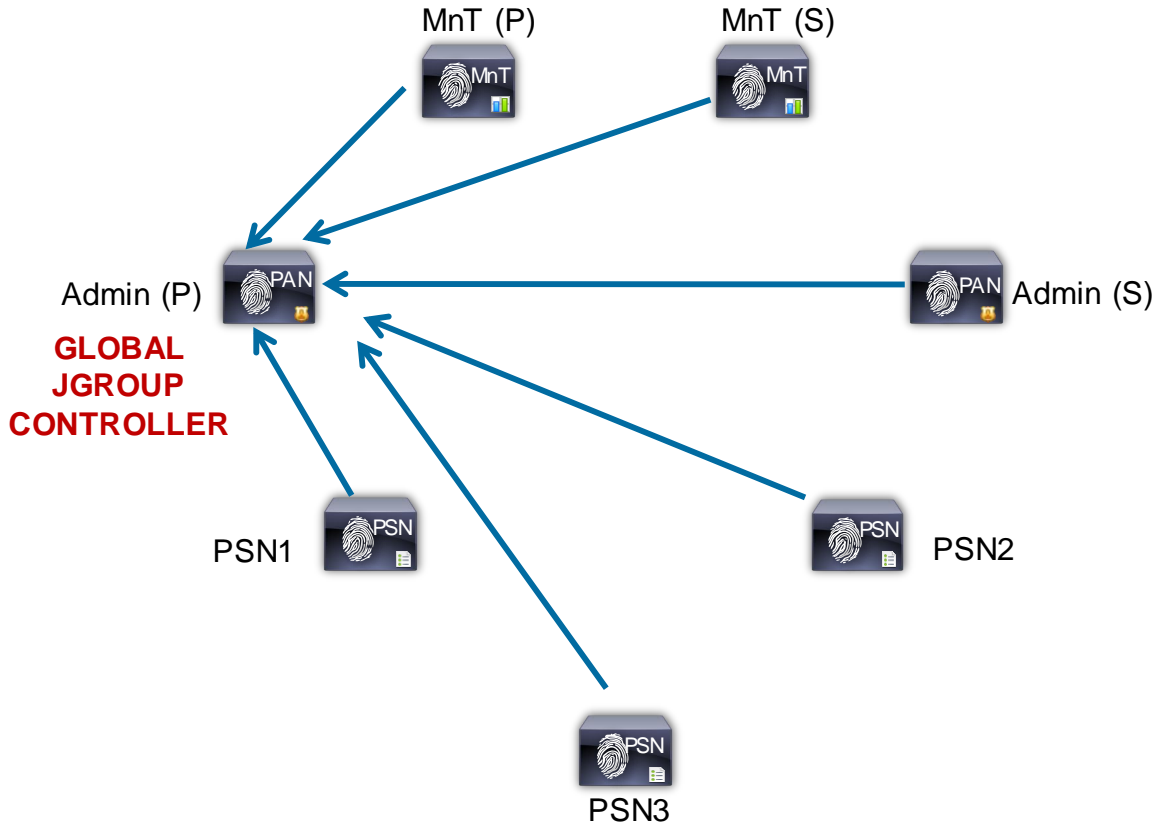
Attributes that impact profile

161-udp	FirstCollection	MDMPinLockSet
AAA-Server	FQDN	MDMProvider
AC_User_Agent	Framed-IP-Address	MDMSerialNumber
AUPAccepted	host-name	MDMServerReachable
BYODRegistration	hrDeviceDescr	MDMUpdateTime
CacheUpdateTime	IdentityGroup	NADAddress
Calling-Station-ID	IdentityGroupID	NAS-IP-Address
cdpCacheAddress	IdentityStoreGUID	NAS-Port-Id
cdpCacheCapabilities	IdentityStoreName	NAS-Port-Type
cdpCacheDeviceId	ifIndex	NmapScanCount
cdpCachePlatform	ip	NmapSubnetScanID
cdpCacheVersion	L4_DST_PORT	operating-system
Certificate Expiration Date	LastNmapScanTime	OS Version
Certificate Issue Date	IldpCacheCapabilities	OUI
Certificate Issuer Name	IldpCapabilitiesMapSupported	PhoneID
Certificate Serial Number	IldpSystemDescription	PhoneIDType
ciaddr	MACAddress	PolicyVersion
CreateTime	MatchedPolicy	PortalUser
Description	MatchedPolicyID	PostureApplicable
DestinationIPAddress	MDMCompliant	PreviousDeviceRegistrationStatus
Device Identifier	MDMCompliantFailureReason	Product
Device Name	MDMDiskEncrypted	RegistrationTimeStamp
DeviceRegistrationStatus	MDMEnrolled	StaticAssignment
dhcp-class-identifier	MDMImei	StaticGroupAssignment
dhcp-requested-address	MDMJailBroken	sysDescr
EndPointPolicy	MDMManufacturer	TimeToProfile
EndPointPolicyID	MDMModel	Total Certainty Factor
EndPointProfilerServer	MDMOSVersion	UpdateTime
EndPointSource	MDMPhoneNumber	User-Agent

Inter-Node Communications

JGroup Connections – Global Cluster

TCP/12001 JGroups Tunneled

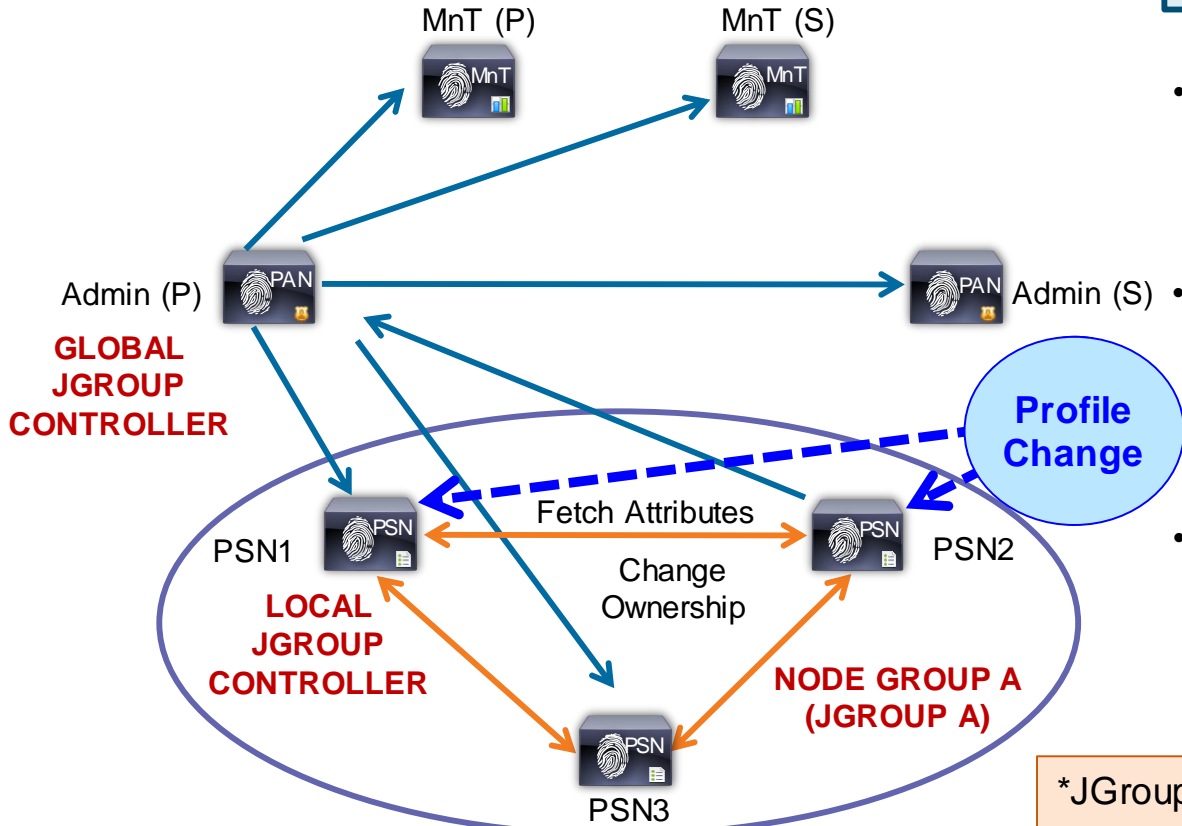





- All Secondary nodes* establish connection to Primary PAN (JGroup Controller) over tunneled connection (TCP/12001) for config/database sync.
- Secondary Admin also listens on TCP/12001 but no connection established unless primary fails/secondary promoted
- All Secondary nodes participate in the Global JGroup cluster.

***Secondary node** = All nodes except Primary Admin node; includes PSNs, MnT and Secondary Admin nodes

Inter-Node Communications

Local JGroups and Node Groups



	TCP/7800 JGroup Peer Communication
	TCP/7802 JGroup Failure Detection
	TCP/12001 JGroups Tunneled

- Node Groups can be used to define local JGroup* clusters where members exchange heartbeat and sync profile data over IP multicast.
- PSN claims endpoint ownership only if change in whitelist attribute; triggers inter-PSN sync of attributes. Whitelist check always occurs regardless of global attribute filter setting.
- Replication to PAN occurs if significant attribute changes, then sync all attributes via PAN; if whitelist filter enabled, only whitelist attributes synced to all nodes.

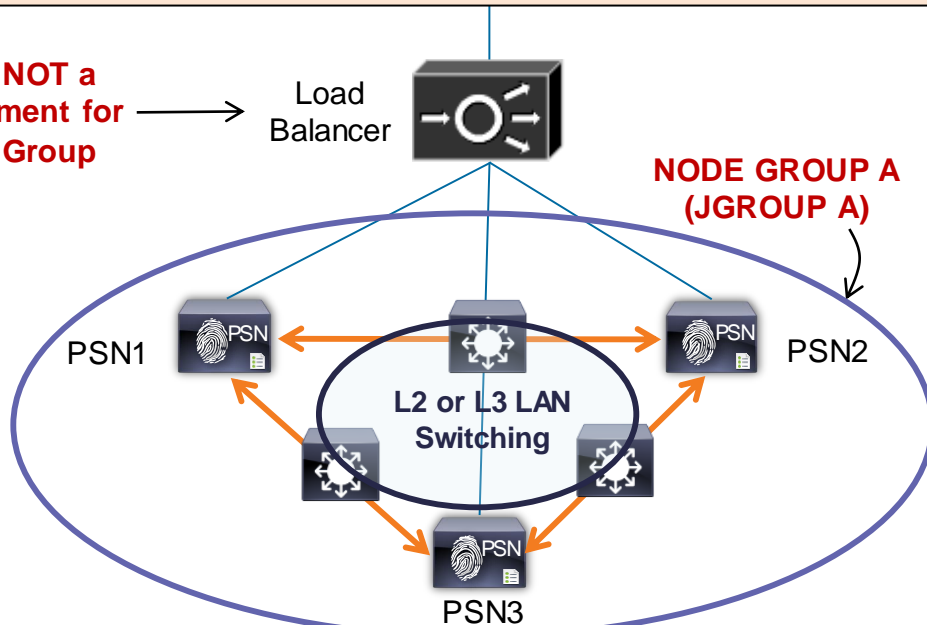
*JGroups: Java toolkit for reliable multicast communications between group/cluster members.

Inter-Node Communications

Local JGroups and Node Groups

- General classification data for given endpoint should stay local to node group = **whitelist attributes**
- Only certain critical data needs to be shared across entire deployment = **significant attributes**

LB is NOT a requirement for Node Group



- TCP/7800 JGroup Peer Communication
- TCP/7802 JGroup Failure Detection
- TCP/12001 JGroups Tunneled

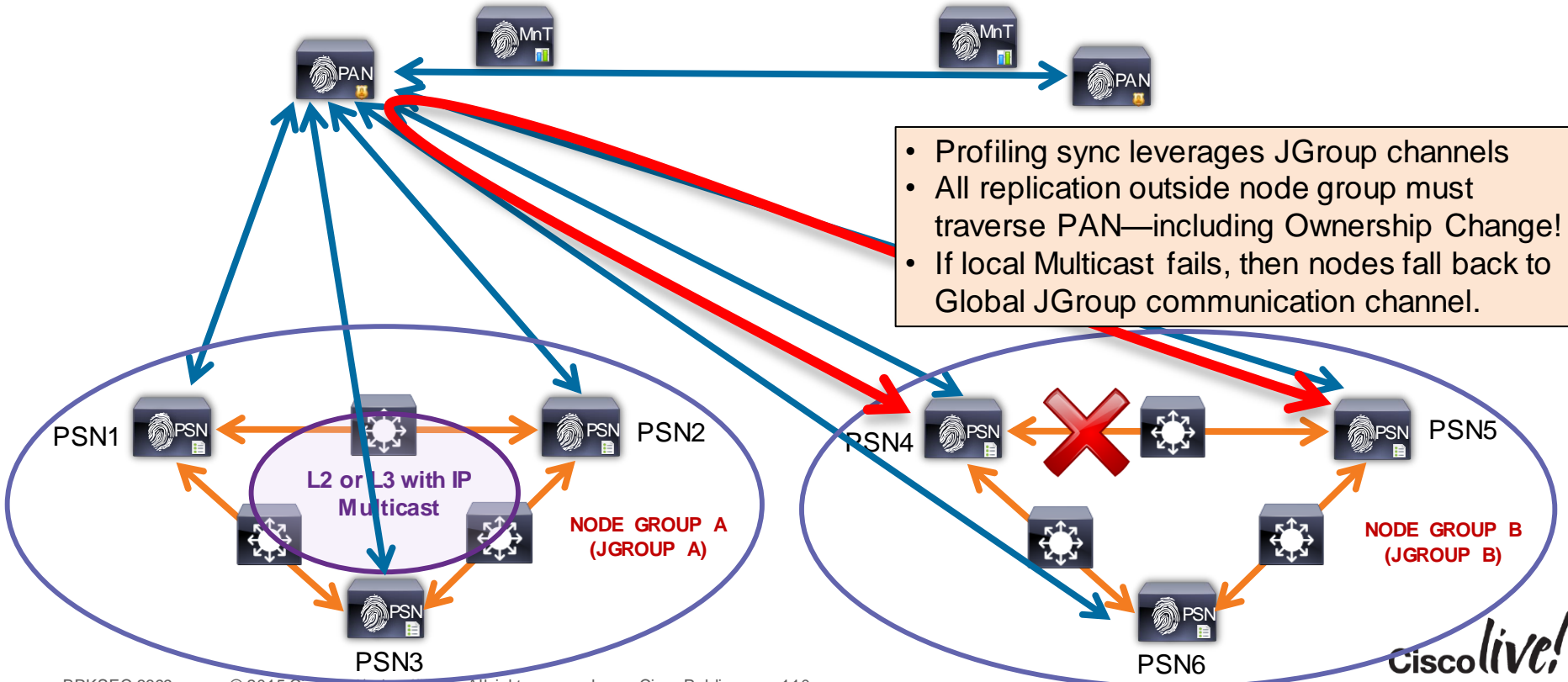
- Node groups continue to provide original function of session recovery for failed PSN.
- Profiling sync leverages JGroup channel
- Each LB cluster should be a node group, but LB is NOT required for node groups.
- Node group members should have GE LAN connectivity (L2 or L3)
 - ISE 1.3 no longer uses UDP multicast for Jgroup—uses SSL only.
 - ISE 1.2 uses multicast with TTL=2; max 1 hop)
- Reduces sync updates even if different PSNs receive data – expect few whitelist changes and even fewer critical attribute changes.

Inter-Node Communications

Local JGroups and Node Groups

— TCP/7800 JGroup Peer Communication
— TCP/7802 JGroup Failure Detection
— TCP/12001 JGroups Tunneled

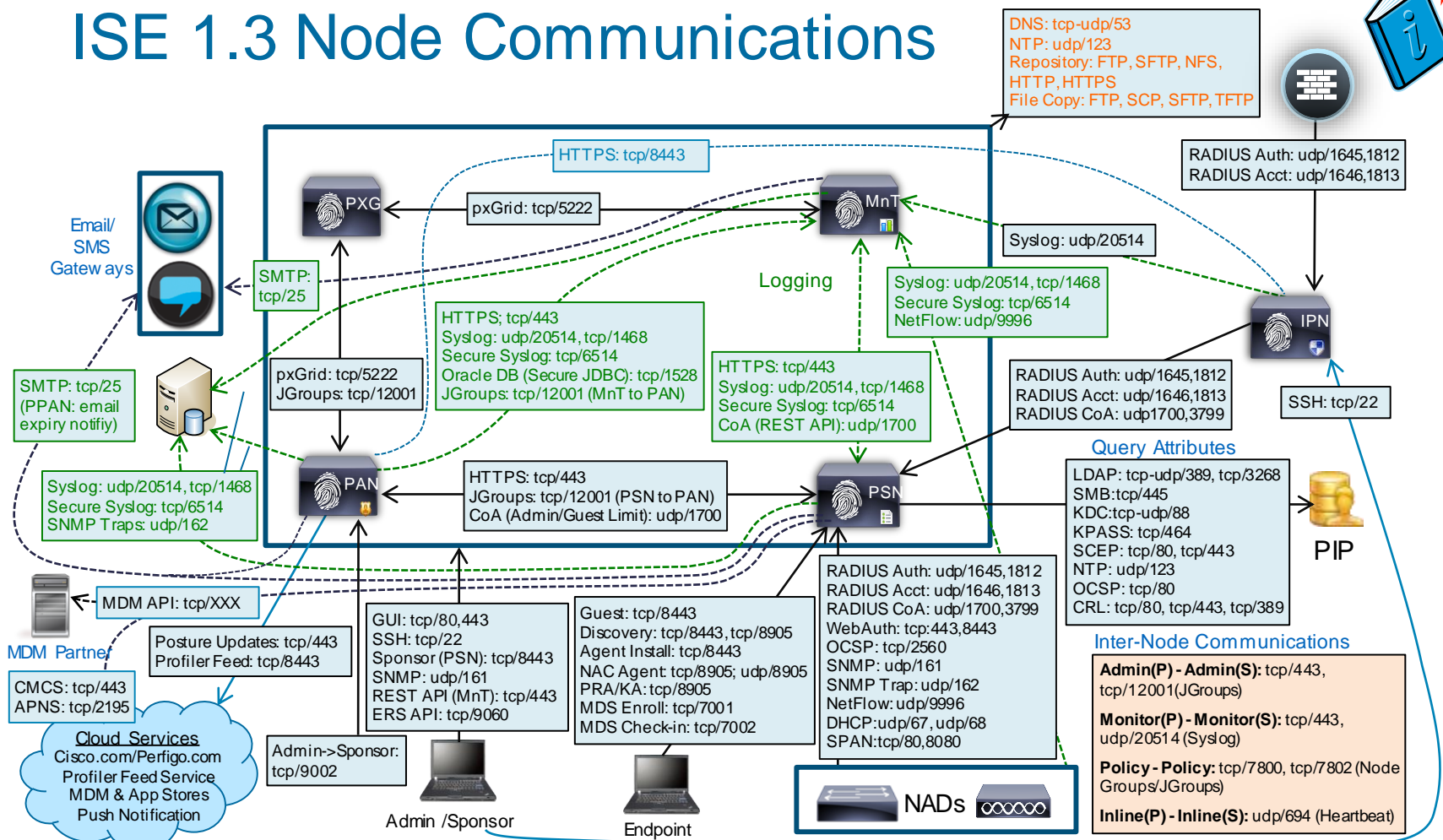
- Profiling sync leverages JGroup channels
- All replication outside node group must traverse PAN—including Ownership Change!
- If local Multicast fails, then nodes fall back to Global JGroup communication channel.



ISE 1.3 Node Communications



For Your Reference



ISE Profiling Best Practices

Whenever Possible...

- Use Device Sensor on Cisco switches & Wireless Controllers to optimise data collection.
- **Do NOT send profile data to multiple PSNs !**
 - Ensure profile data for a given endpoint is sent to a single PSN (or maximum of 2)
 - Sending same profile data to multiple PSNs increases inter-PSN traffic and contention for endpoint ownership.
 - For redundancy, consider Load Balancing and Anycast to support a single IP target for RADIUS or profiling using...
 - DHCP IP Helpers
 - SNMP Traps
 - DHCP/HTTP with ERSPAN (Requires validation)
- **DO send profile data to single and same PSN or Node Group !**
 - Ensure profile data for a given endpoint is sent to the *same* PSN
 - Same issue as above, but not always possible across different probes
- Use node groups and ensure profile data for a given endpoint is sent to *same* node group.
 - **DO use Device Sensor !**
 - Node Groups reduce inter-PSN communications and need to replicate endpoint changes outside of node group.
- **DO enable the Profiler Attribute Filter !**
 - Avoid probes that collect the same endpoint attributes
- Example: Device Sensor + SNMP Query/IP Helper
- Enable Profiler Attribute Filter

ISE Profiling Best Practices

General Guidelines for Probes

- **HTTP Probe:**

- Use URL Redirects instead of SPAN to centralise collection and reduce traffic load related to SPAN/RSPAN.
- **Avoid SPAN.** If used, look for key traffic chokepoints such as Internet edge or WLC connection; use intelligent SPAN/tap options or VACL Capture to limit amount of data sent to ISE. Also difficult to provide HA for SPAN.

- **DHCP Probe:**

- Use IP Helpers when possible—be aware that L3 device serving DHCP will not relay DHCP for same!
- **Avoid DHCP SPAN.** If used, make sure probe captures traffic to central DHCP Server. HA challenges.

- **SNMP Probe:**

- Be careful of high SNMP traffic due to triggered RADIUS Accounting updates as a result of high re-auth (low session/re-auth timers) or frequent interim accounting updates.
- For polled SNMP queries, avoid short polling intervals. Be sure to set optimal PSN for polling in ISE NAD config.
- SNMP Traps primarily useful for non-RADIUS deployments like NAC Appliance—**Avoid SNMP Traps w/RADIUS auth.**

- **NetFlow Probe:**

Use only for specific use cases in centralized deployments—Potential for high load on network devices and ISE.

Do NOT enable all probes by default!

Avoid SPAN, SNMP Traps, and NetFlow probes!

Profiling Case Study

ISE 1.1.1 Patch 2 initially helped, but...
Never applied other best practice recommendations.
DB eventually filled and purge issues resulted in DBs falling out of sync / disconnects.

Problem:

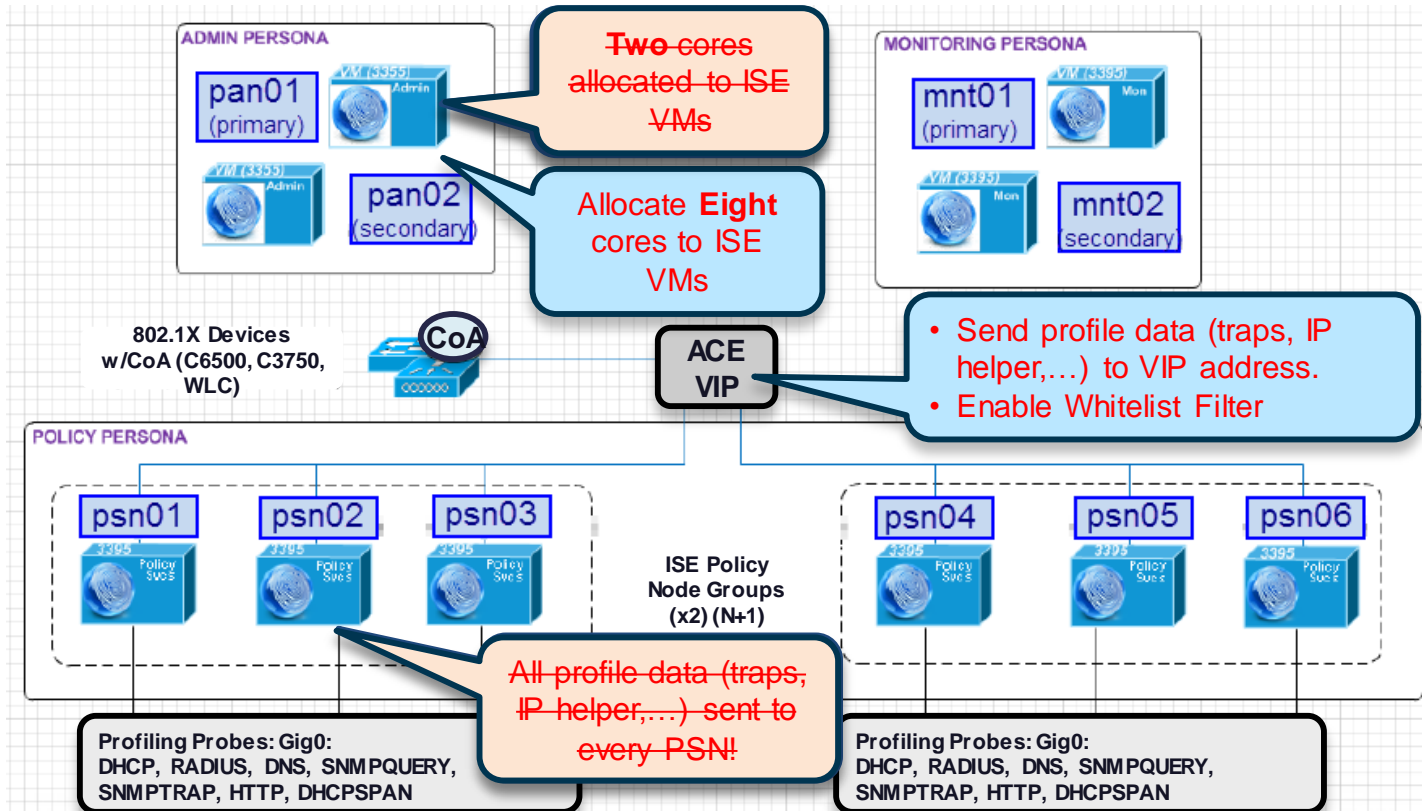
- Running ISE 1.1.1
- High node CPU and BW to Primary PAN
- Short-term Fix = Disable Profiling

Interim Solution:

- Added 2nd core and CPU dropped 33%
- Applied 1.1.1 Patch 2 and CPU dropped 85+% and BW 98+%

Solution:

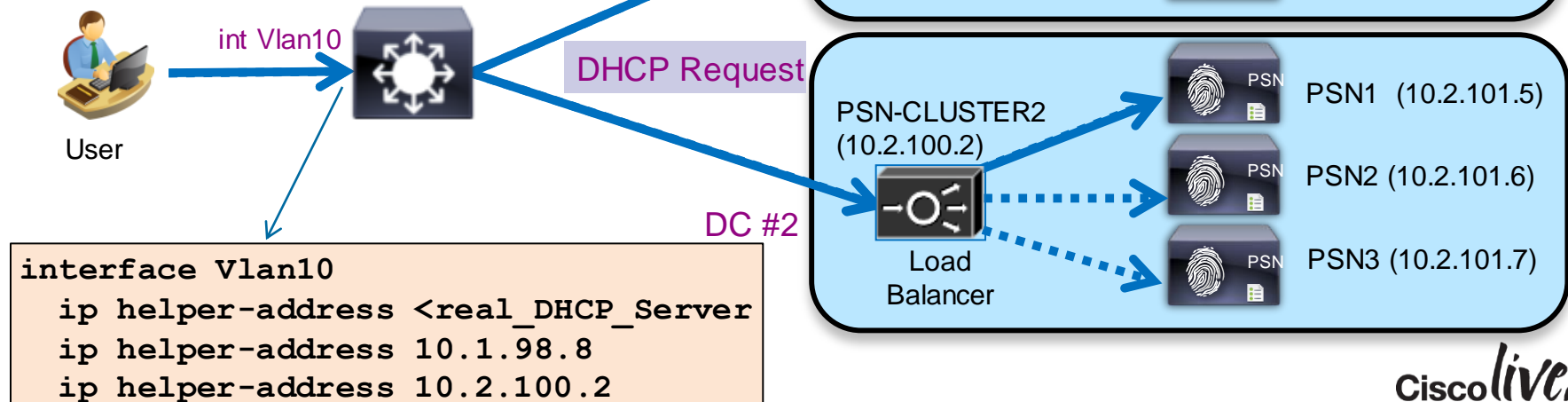
- Increase VM to specs
- LB profile data to single IP
- Enable whitelist filter
- Upgrade to 1.2.1/1.3



Profiling Redundancy – Duplicating Profile Data

Sending Profile Data for the Same Endpoint to the Same Node Group / PSN

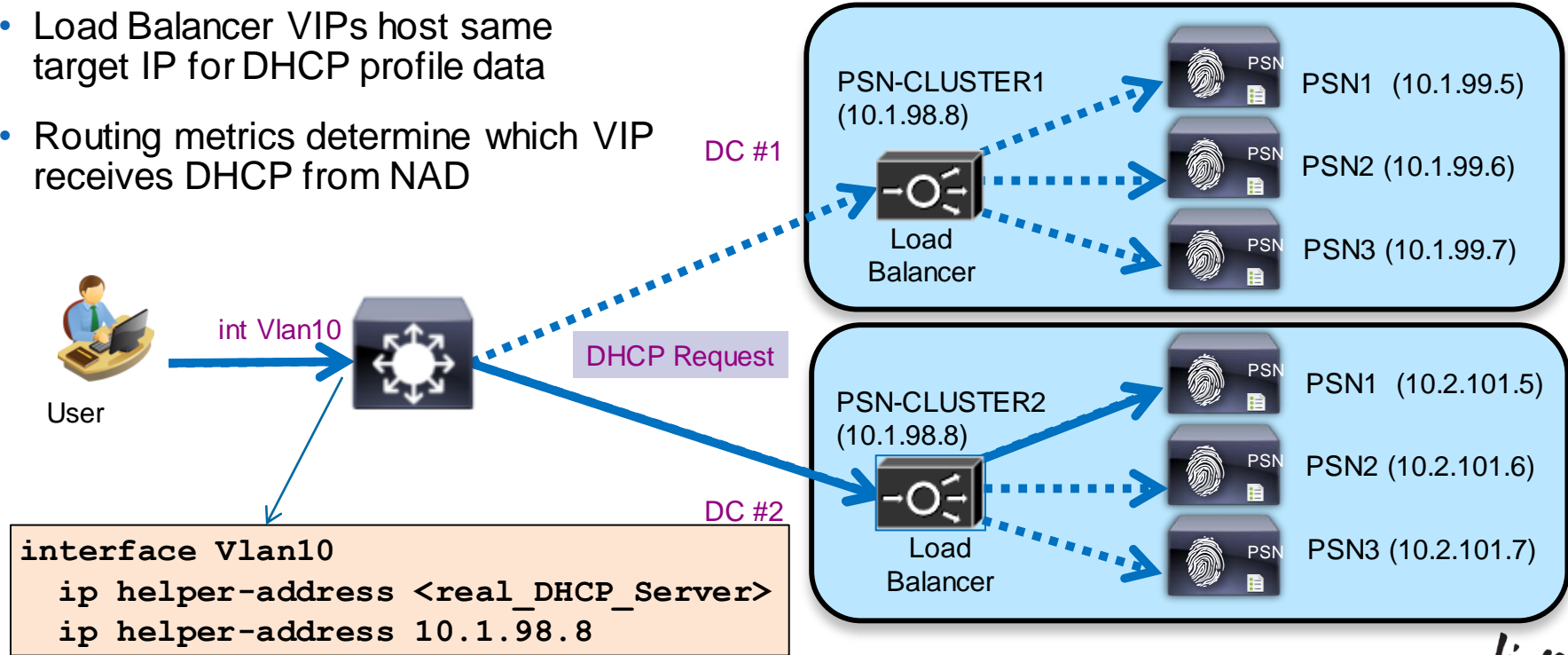
- Common config is to duplicate IP helper data at each NAD to two different PSNs or PSN LB Clusters
- Different PSNs receive data and may contend for ownership—increases replication



Scaling Profiling and Replication

Using Anycast to Limit Profile Data to a Single PSN and Node Group

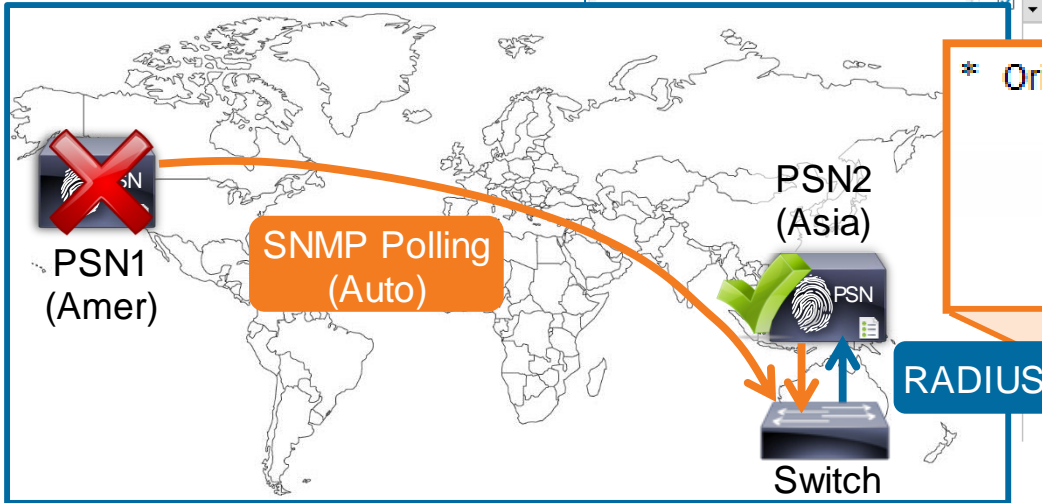
- Load Balancer VIPs host same target IP for DHCP profile data
- Routing metrics determine which VIP receives DHCP from NAD



Profiler Tuning for Polled SNMP Query Probe

- Set specific PSNs to periodically poll access devices for SNMP data
- Choose PSN closest to access device.

The screenshot shows the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) configuration interface. The top navigation bar includes Home, Operations, Policy, and Administration. The main menu has tabs for System, Identity Management, Network Resources, Web Portal Management, and Feed Service. Under Network Resources, there are sub-tabs for Network Devices, Network Device Groups, External RADIUS Servers, RADIUS Server Sequences, SGA AAA Servers, NAC Managers, and MDM. The 'Network Devices' tab is active, showing a list of devices with columns for Name, Model Name, Software Version, Device Type, and Location. The configuration details for a selected device are shown on the right, including Model Name (3750), Software Version (15.02), Network Device Group, Device Type (Wired), and Location (RTP). There are also buttons for 'Set To Default' for Device Type and Location. The 'SNMP Settings' section is partially visible at the bottom.



The close-up shows the 'Originating Policy Services Node' dropdown menu. The selected option is 'Auto'. The list of options includes 'Auto', 'ise12-psn1', 'ise12-psn2', and 'ise12-psn3'.

The close-up shows the 'Originating Policy Services Node' dropdown menu. The selected option is 'Auto'. The list of options includes 'Auto', 'ise12-psn1', 'ise12-psn2', and 'ise12-psn3'.

Profiler Tuning for Polled SNMP Query Probe

- Polling Interval
 - 1.2 Default: 3600 sec (1 hour)
 - 1.3 Default: 28,800 sec (8 hours) *Recommend minimum
- Setting of “0”: Disables periodic poll but allows triggered & NMAP queries [CSCur95329]
- Triggered query auto-suppressed for 24 hrs per endpoint

The screenshot shows the 'SNMP Settings' configuration page. An orange callout box at the top right contains the text: 'Disable/uncheck SNMP Settings: Disables all SNMP polling options [CSCur95329]'. An arrow points from this box to a checked checkbox at the top left of the settings area. A blue callout box on the right contains the text: 'Polled Mode = "Catch All"', with an arrow pointing to the 'Polling Interval' field. The 'Polling Interval' field is highlighted with an orange border and contains the value '28,800' with the unit 'seconds (Valid Range 600 to 86400)'. Other fields include 'SNMP Version' (2c), 'SNMP RO Community' (masked), 'SNMP Username', 'Security Level', 'Auth Protocol', 'Auth Password', 'Privacy Protocol', 'Privacy Password', 'Link Trap Query' (checked), 'MAC Trap Query' (checked), and 'Originating Policy Services Node' (Auto).

Disable/uncheck SNMP Settings: Disables all SNMP polling options [CSCur95329]

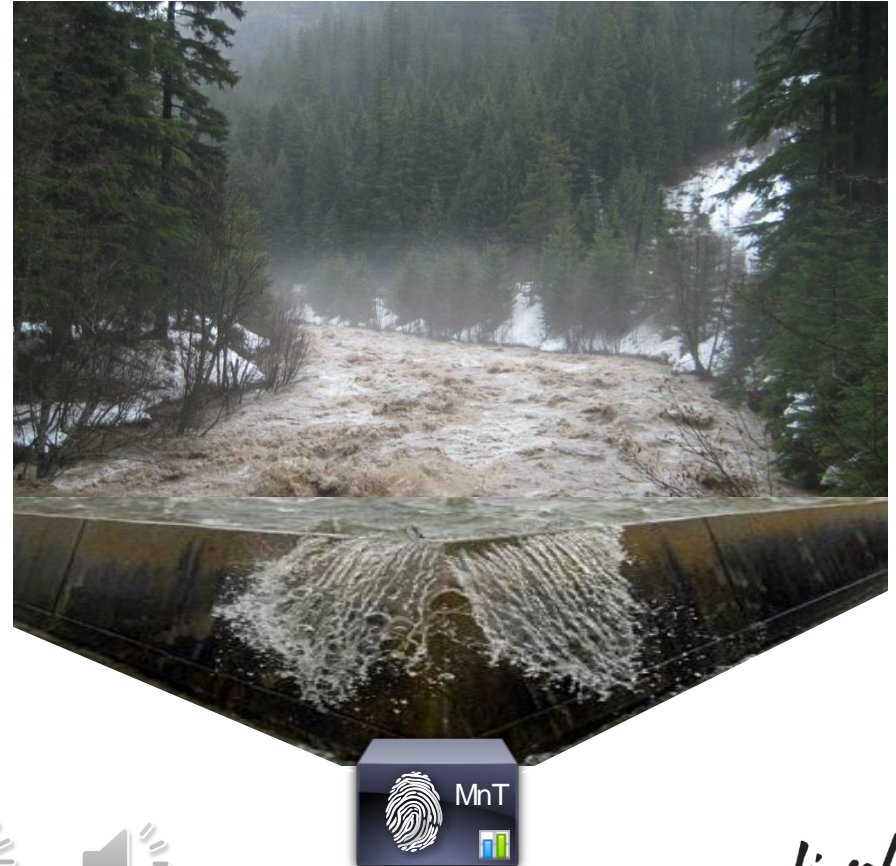
Polled Mode = "Catch All"

* Polling Interval 28,800 seconds (Valid Range 600 to 86400)

A nighttime photograph of a city street. In the foreground, there are long, curved light trails from cars, primarily in shades of yellow and orange. In the middle ground, a pedestrian bridge with a glass railing spans across the street. The background features several modern buildings with lit windows and some flags on poles. The overall scene is illuminated by city lights, creating a vibrant urban atmosphere.

Scaling MnT (Optimised Logging and Noise Suppression)

When the Levee Breaks...



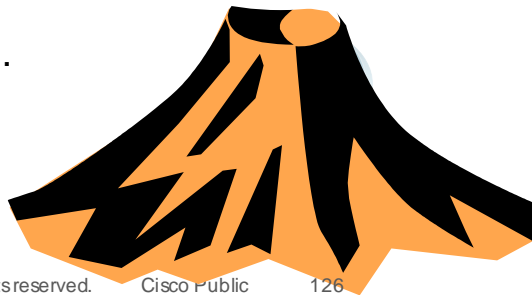
“If it keeps on rainin', levee's goin' to break,
When The Levee Breaks *logs* have no place to stay.”

*Remix of Led Zeppelin IV, 'When The Levee Breaks'



The Fall Out From the Mobile Explosion and IoT

- Explosion in number and type of endpoints on the network.
- High auth rates from mobile devices—many personal (unmanaged).
 - Short-lived connections: Continuous sleep/hibernation to conserve battery power, roaming, ...
- Misbehaving supplicants: Unmanaged endpoints from numerous mobile vendors may be misconfigured, missing root CA certificates, or running less-than-optimal OS versions
- Misconfigured NADs. Common issue is setting timeouts too low.
- Excessive RADIUS health probes from NADs and Load Balancers.
- Increased logging from Authentication, Profiling, NADs, Guest Activity, ...
- System not originally built to scale to new loads.
- End user behaviour when above issues occur.
- Bugs in client, NAD, or ISE.



Clients Misbehave!

- Example education customer:
 - **ONLY 6,000 Endpoints** (all BYOD style)
 - **10M Auths / 9M Failures in a 24 hours!**
 - 42 Different Failure Scenarios – all related to clients dropping TLS (both PEAP & EAP-TLS).
- Supplicant List:
 - Kyocera, Asustek, Murata, Huawei, Motorola, HTC, Samsung, ZTE, RIM, SonyEric, ChiMeiCo, Apple, Intel, Cybertan, Liteon, Nokia, HonHaiPr, Palm, Pantech, LgElectr, TaiyoYud, Barnes&N
- **5411 No response received during 120 seconds on last EAP message sent to the client**
 - This error has been seen at a number of Escalation customers
 - Typically the result of a misconfigured or misbehaving supplicant not completing the EAP process.



Challenge: How to reduce the flood of log messages while increasing PSN and MNT capacity and tolerance

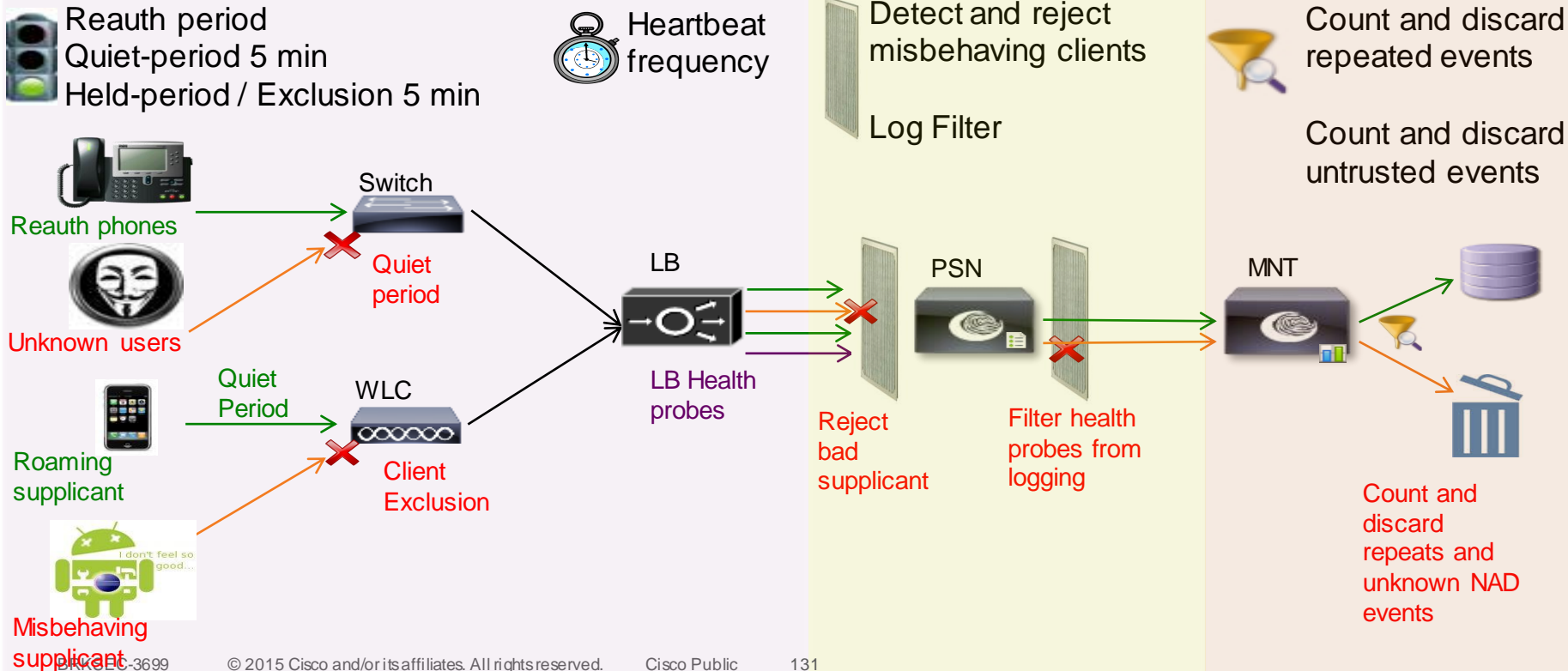


Getting More Information With Less Data

Scaling to Meet Current and Next Generation Logging Demands

Rate Limiting at Source

Filtering at Receiving Chain



Tune NAD Configuration

Rate Limiting at **Wireless Source**



Reauth period
Quiet-period 5 min
Held-period / Exclusion 5 min



Reauth phones



Unknown users



Roaming supplicant



Misbehaving supplicant

Quiet
Period



Client
Exclusion

Wireless (WLC)

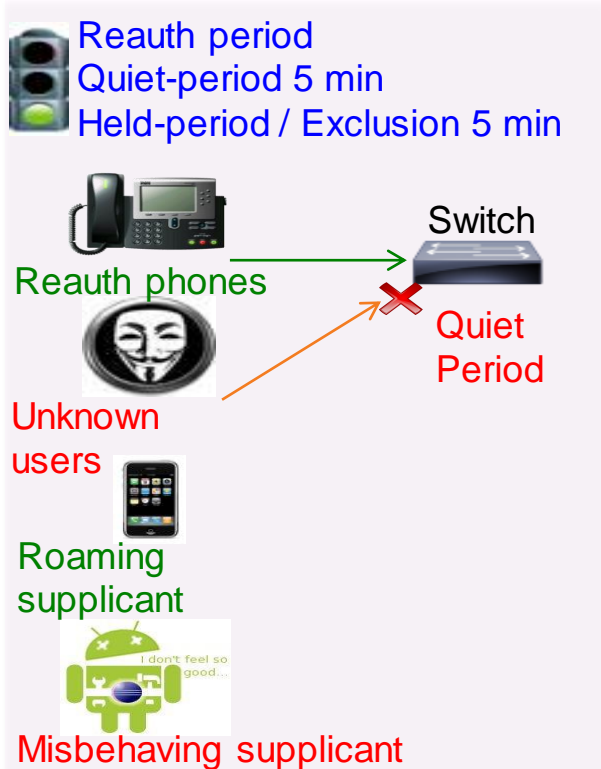
- **RADIUS Server Timeout:** Increase from default of 2 to 5 sec
- **RADIUS Aggressive-Failover:** Disable aggressive failover
- **RADIUS Interim Accounting:** v7.6: Disable; v8.0: Enable with interval of 0. (Update auto-sent on DHCP lease or Device Sensor)
- **Idle Timer:** Increase to 1 hour (3600 sec)
- **Session Timeout:** Increase to 2+ hours (7200+ sec)
- **Client Exclusion:** Enable and set exclusion timeout to 180+ sec
- **Roaming:** Enable CCKM / SKC / 802.11r (when feasible)
- **Bugfixes:** Upgrade WLC software to address critical defects

Prevent Large-Scale Wireless RADIUS Network Melt Downs

<http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/wireless-mobility/wireless-lan-wlan/118703-technote-wlc-00.html>

Tune NAD Configuration (Updated Guidance)

Rate Limiting at **Wired** Source



Wired (IOS / IOS-XE)

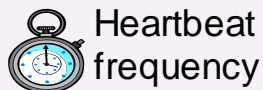
- **RADIUS Interim Accounting:** Use *newinfo* parameter with long interval (for example, 24 hrs), if available. Otherwise, set 15 mins
- **802.1X Timeouts**
 - held-period: Increase to 300+ sec
 - quiet-period: Increase to 300+ sec
 - ratelimit-period: Increase to 300+ sec
- **Inactivity Timer:** Disable or increase to 1+ hours (3600+ sec)
- **Session Timeout:** Disable or increase to 2+ hours (7200+ sec)
- **Reauth Timer:** Disable or increase to 2+ hours (7200+ sec)
- **Bugfixes:** Upgrade software to address critical defects.

RADIUS Test Probes

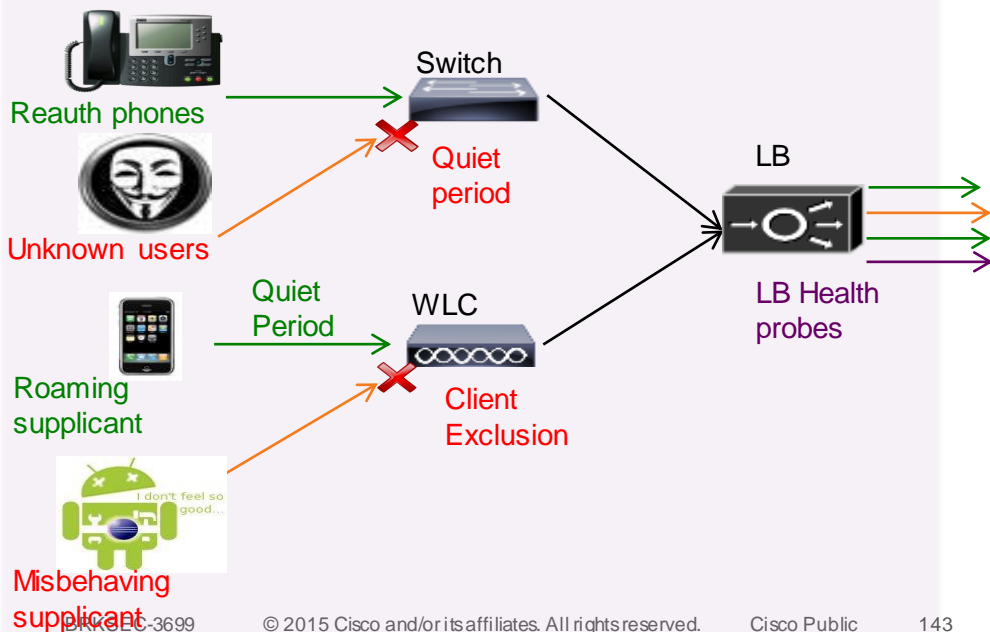
Reduce Frequency of RADIUS Server Health Checks



For Your Reference



Heartbeat frequency



- **Wired NAD:** RADIUS test probe interval set with **idle-time** parameter in radius-server config; Default is 60 minutes
 - No action required
- **Wireless NAD:** If configured, WLC only sends “active” probe when server marked as dead.
 - No action required
- **Load Balancers:** Set health probe intervals and retry values short enough to ensure prompt failover to another server in cluster occurs prior to NAD RADIUS timeout (typically 20-60 sec.) but long enough to avoid excessive test probes.

Load Balancer RADIUS Test Probes



ACE Example

- Probe frequency and retry settings:
 - Time interval between probes:
 - interval** *seconds* # Default: 15
 - Retry count for failed probes:
 - faildetect** *retry_count* # Default: 3
- Sample ACE RADIUS probe configuration:

```
probe radius PSN-PROBE
  port 1812
  interval 20
  faildetect 2
  passdetect interval 90
  credentials radprobe cisco123 secret cisco123
```

- Recommended setting:** Start with defaults and validate behaviour in specific environment.

F5 Example

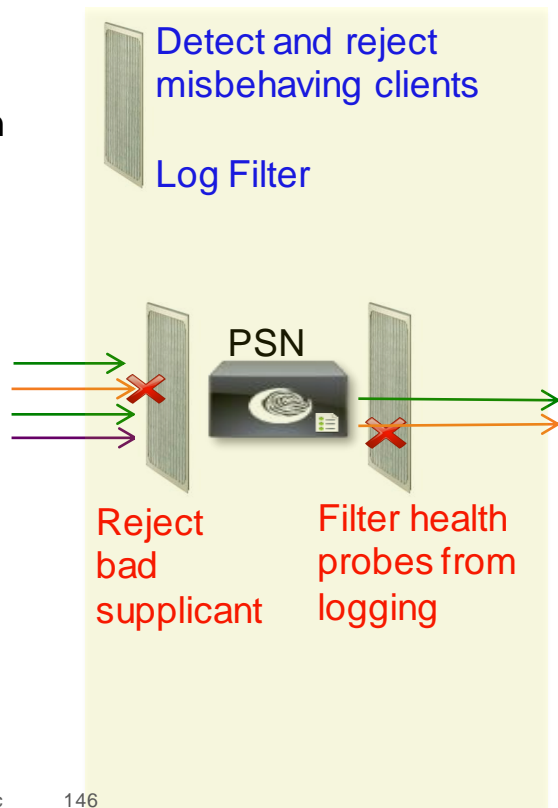
- Probe frequency and retry settings:
 - Time interval between probes:
 - Interval** *seconds* # Default: 10
 - Timeout before failure = $3 * (\text{interval}) + 1$:
 - Timeout** *seconds* # Default: 31
- Sample F5 RADIUS probe configuration:

```
Name PSN-Probe
Type RADIUS
Interval 10
Timeout 31
Manual Resume No
Check Util Up Yes
User Name f5-probe
Password cisco123
Secret cisco123
Alias Address * All Addresses
Alias Service Port 1812
Debug No
```

PSN Noise Suppression and Smarter Logging

- Filter Noise and Provide Better Feedback on Authentication Issues

- PSN Collection Filters
- PSN Misconfigured Client Dynamic Detection and Suppression
- PSN Accounting Flood Suppression
- Detect Slow Authentications
- Enhanced Handling for EAP sessions dropped by supplicant or Network Access Server (NAS)
- Failure Reason Message and Classification
- Identify RADIUS Request From Session Started on Another PSN
- Improved Treatment for Empty NAK List



PSN - Collection Filters

Static Client Suppression

- PSN static filter based on single attribute:
 - User Name
 - Policy Set Name
 - NAS-IP-Address
 - Device-IP-Address
 - MAC (Calling-Station-ID)
- Filter Messages Based on Auth Result:
 - All (Passed/Fail)
 - All Failed
 - All Passed
- Select Messages to **Disable Suppression** for failed auth @PSN and successful auth @MnT

Administration > System > Logging > Collection Filters

Logging

- Local Log Settings
- Remote Logging Targets
- Logging Categories
- Message Catalog
- Debug Log Configuration
- Collection Filters

Collection Filter List > [New Collection Filter](#)

Collection Filters

* Attribute

* Value

* Filter Type

Submit

Filter All
Filter Passed
Filter Failed
Disable Suppression

User Name
Policy Set Name
NAS IP Address
Device IP Address
MAC Address

Collection Filters

Edit Add Duplicate Delete

<input type="checkbox"/>	Attribute	Value	Filter Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	MAC Address	11:22:44:AA:BB:CC	Disable Suppression
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAS IP Address	10.6.6.6	Filter Failed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy Set Name	RADIUS_Probes	Filter Passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	User Name	chyps	Filter All

PSN Filtering and Noise Suppression

Misconfigured Client Dynamic Detection and Suppression

- Flag misbehaving supplicants when fail auth more than once per interval
 - Send Alarm with failure stats every interval.
 - Stop sending logs for repeat auth failures for same endpoint during rejection interval.
 - Successful auth clears flag
- Reject matching requests during interval
 - Match these attributes:
 - Supplicant (Calling-Station-ID)
 - NAS (NAS-IP-Address)
 - Failure reason
 - Excludes CoA messages / bad credentials
 - Next request after interval is fully processed.

Administration > System > Settings > Protocols > RADIUS

RADIUS Settings

Suppress Anomalous Clients ⓘ

Anomalous Client Detection

Detection Interval (in minutes)

Reporting Interval (in minutes)

Reject Requests After Detection ⓘ

Request Rejection Interval (in minutes)

Suppress Repeated Successful Authentications ⓘ

Accounting Suppression Interval (in seconds)

Long Processing Step Threshold Interval ⓘ (in milliseconds)

Save Reset **Reset To Defaults**

MnT Log Suppression and Smarter Logging

Drop and Count Duplicates / Provide Better Monitoring Tools

- Drop duplicates and increment counter in Live Log for “matching” passed authentications
- Display repeat counter to Live Sessions entries.
- Update session, but do not log RADIUS Accounting Interim Updates
- Log RADIUS Drops and EAP timeouts to separate table for reporting purposes and display as counters on Live Log Dashboard along with Misconfigured Supplicants and NADs
- Alarm enhancements
- Revised guidance to limit syslog at the source.
- MnT storage allocation and data retention limits
- More aggressive purging
- Support larger VM disks to increase logging capacity and retention.



MnT Noise Suppression

Suppress Successful Auths and Accounting

- Do not save repeated successful auth events to DB (Events will not display in Live Auth log).
- Stop sending Accounting logs for same session during interval.
- Detect and log NAS retransmission timeouts for auth steps that exceed threshold. (Step latency is visible in Detailed Live Logs)

Administration > System > Settings > Protocols > RADIUS

RADIUS Settings

Suppress Anomalous Clients ⓘ

Anomalous Client Detection

Detection Interval (in minutes)

Reporting Interval (in minutes)

Reject Requests After Detection ⓘ

Request Rejection Interval (in minutes)

Suppress Repeated Successful Authentications ⓘ

Accounting Suppression Interval (in seconds)

Long Processing Step Threshold Interval ⓘ (in milliseconds)

Save

Reset

Reset To Defaults

Live Authentications and Sessions

Identity Services Engine

21 Misconfigured Suppliers 10 Misconfigured Network Devices 521 AAAAS Drops 6716 Client Stopped Responding 19052 Repeat Counts

Time	Status	Details	Repeat Count	Identity	Endpoint ID	Endpoint Profile	Network Device
2013-09-27 14:46:33.005			0	vipinj	CC:3A:61:12:ED:D5	Android-Samsung	
2013-09-27 14:46:30.890			11	aarondek	64:A3:CB:52:74:B1	Apple-iDevice	
2013-09-27 14:46:29.658			99	wekang	B8:78:2E:60:7F:14	Apple-iDevice	
2013-09-27 14:46:29.252			1	mutama	CC:78:5F:43:97:71	Apple-iDevice	
2013-09-27 14:46:25.595			0	jeffreed	F0:CB:A1:75:31:4D	Apple-iPhone	
2013-09-27 14:46:25.595				jeffreed	F0:CB:A1:75:31:4D	Apple-iPhone	WNBU_NGWC...
2013-09-27 14:46:22.636				jeffreed	F0:CB:A1:75:31:4D	Apple-iPhone	WNBU-WLC1
2013-09-27 14:46:21.486				anonymous	00:1E:65:D6:93:E2		WNBU-WLC1
2013-09-27 14:46:18.884			7	dsladden	0C:77:1A:9A:F6:73	Apple-iPhone	

Blue entry = Most current Live Sessions entry with repeated successful auth counter

Authentication Suppression

Enable/Disable

- **Global Suppression Settings:** Administration > System > Settings > Protocols > RADIUS

Failed Auth Suppression

Suppress Anomalous Clients ⓘ

Successful Auth Suppression

Suppress Repeated Successful Authentications ⓘ

Caution: Do not disable suppression in deployments with very high auth rates.

It is highly recommended to keep Auth Suppression enabled to reduce MnT logging

- **Selective Suppression using Collection Filters:** Administration > System > Logging > Collection Filters

Configure specific traffic to bypass Successful Auth Suppression

Useful for troubleshooting authentication for a specific endpoint or group of endpoints, especially in high auth environments where global suppression is always required.

Collection Filter List > Calling-Station-ID

Collection Filters

* Attribute

* Value

* Filter Type

Save

Filter All
Filter Passed
Filter Failed
Disable Suppression

Per-Endpoint Time-Constrained Suppression

New in ISE 1.3

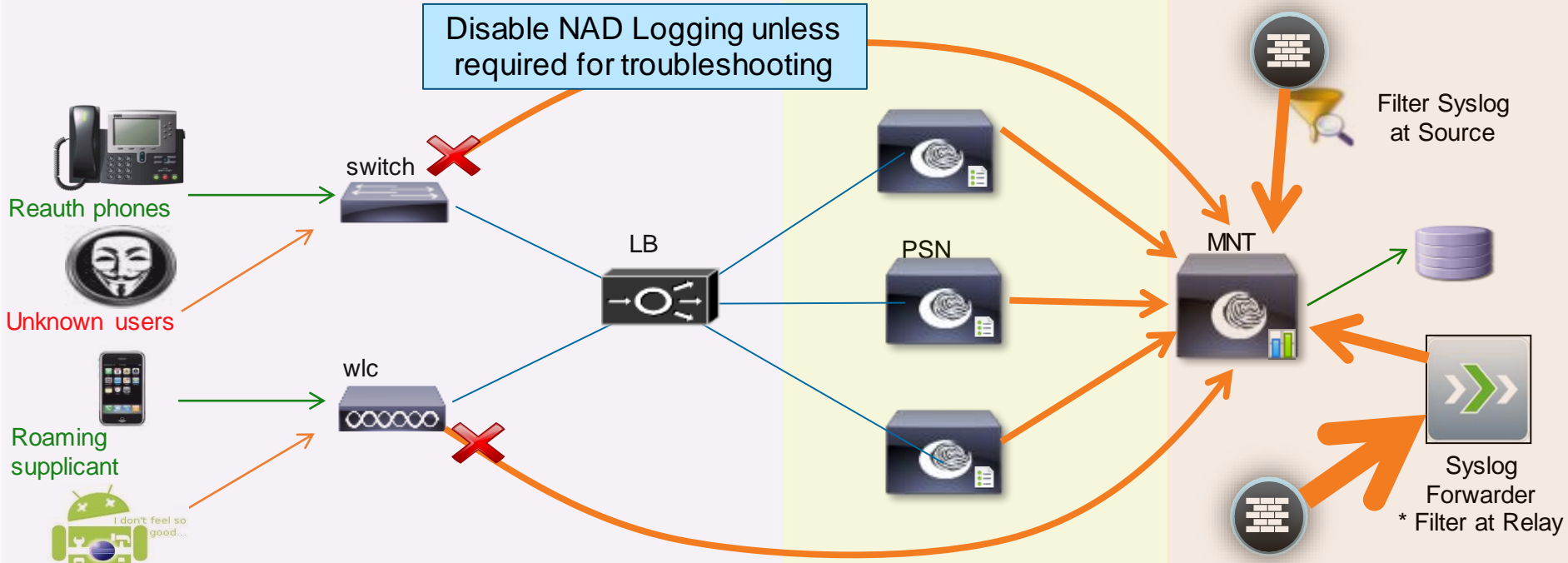
The screenshot shows the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Authentication', 'Reports', 'Endpoint Protection Service', and 'Troubleshoot'. Below these, there are statistics for 'Misconfigured Suppliers' (21), 'Misconfigured Network Devices' (10), 'AAAAS Drop' (521), 'Client Stopped Responding' (6716), and 'Repeat Counts' (19052). The main area displays a table of endpoint events. A context menu is open over a row, with the following options: 'Endpoint Debug...', 'Modify Collection Filters...', 'Bypass Suppression Filtering for 1 hour' (highlighted with an orange box), 'Settings...', 'Global Settings...', and 'About Adobe Flash Player 11.7.700.224...'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the 'Endpoint ID' field of the selected row, and a blue callout box with the text 'Right Click' is positioned next to it.

Time	Status	Details	Repeat Count	Identity	Endpoint ID	Endpoint Profile	Network Device
2013-09-27 14:46:33.005			0	vipinj	CC:3A:61:12:ED:D5	Android-Samsung	
2013-09-27 14:46:30.890			11	aarondek	64:A3:CB:52:74:B1	Apple-iDevice	
2013-09-27 14:46:27					B8:78:2E:60:7F:14	Apple-iDevice	
2013-09-27 14:46:27					CC:78:5F:43:97:71	Apple-iDevice	
2013-09-27 14:46:27					F0:CB:A1:75:31:4D	Apple-iPhone	WNBU_NGWC...
2013-09-27 14:46:27					F0:CB:A1:75:31:4D	Apple-iPhone	WNBU-WLC1
2013-09-27 14:46:27					00:1E:65:D6:93:E2		WNBU-WLC1
2013-09-27 14:46:27					0C:77:1A:9A:F6:73	Apple-iPhone	

Minimise Syslog Load on MNT

Disable NAD Logging and Filter Guest Activity Logging

Rate Limiting at Source



Disable NAD Logging unless required for troubleshooting

Guest Activity: Log only if required. Filter and send only relevant logs

Guest Activity: If cannot filter at source, use smart syslog relay

Misbehaving supplicant

- No Log Suppression



- With Log Suppression



- Distributed Logging





High Availability

Cisco *live!*

High Availability Agenda

- Administration Nodes
- Monitoring Nodes
- pxGrid Nodes
- Inline Posture Nodes
- Policy Service Nodes
 - Load Balancing
 - Non-LB Options
- Network Access Device
Fallback and Recovery

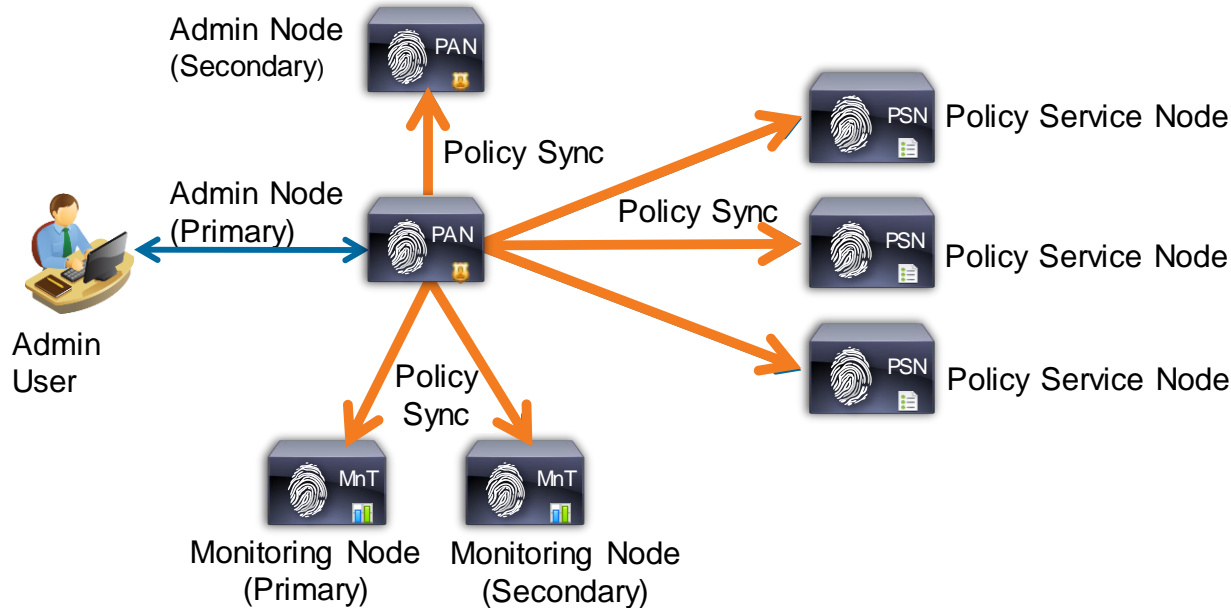


Administration HA and Synchronisation

- Maximum two PAN nodes per deployment
- Active / Standby

PAN Steady State Operation

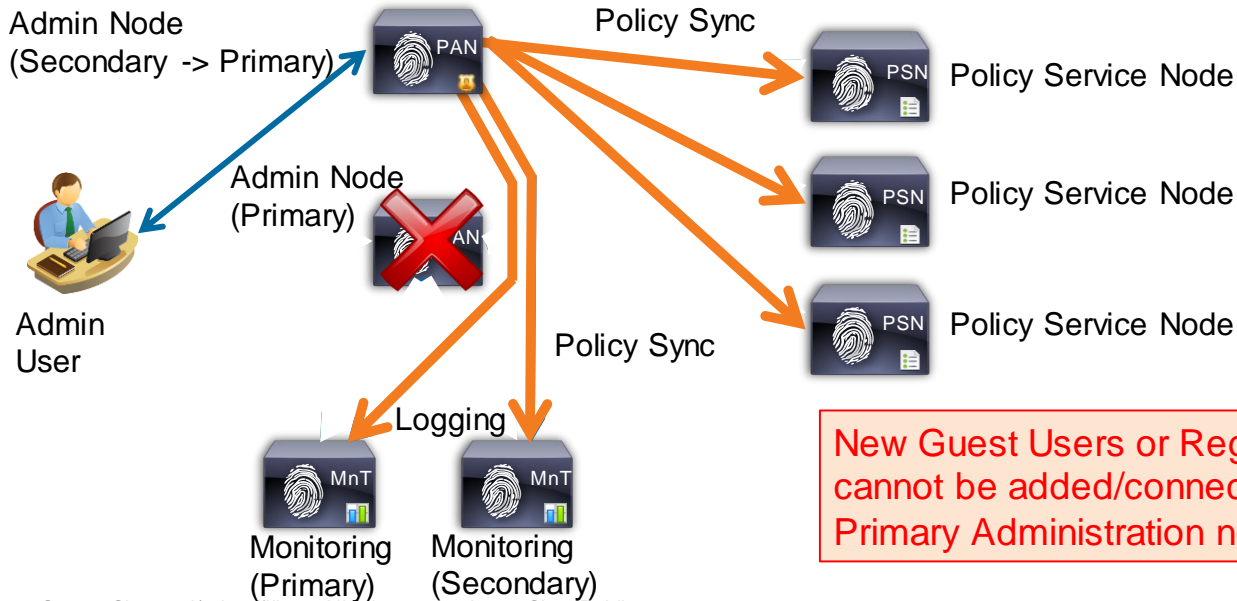
- Changes made to Primary Administration DB are automatically synced to all nodes.



Administration HA and Synchronisation

Primary PAN Outage and Recovery

- Upon Primary PAN failure, admin user must connect to Secondary PAN and manually promote Secondary to Primary; new Primary syncs all new changes.
- PSNs buffer endpoint updates if Primary PAN unavailable; buffered updates sent once PAN available.



Promoting Secondary Admin may take 10-15 minutes before process is complete.

New Guest Users or Registered Endpoints cannot be added/connect to network when Primary Administration node is unavailable!

Policy Service Survivability When Admin Down/Unreachable

Which User Services Are Available if Primary Admin Node Is Unavailable?

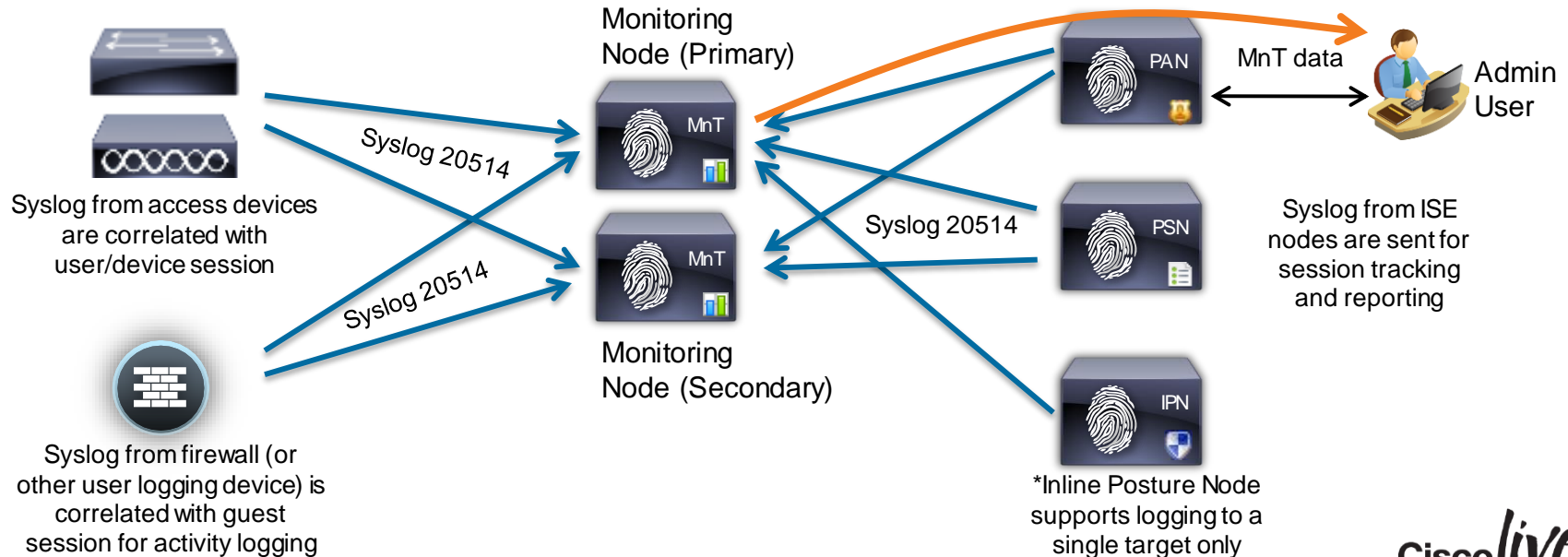
Service	Use case	Works (Y) / Does not work (N)
RADIUS Auth	Existing internal user	Y
	New internal user or endpoint created from Admin (WAN down)	N
	Existing/New AD/LDAP user (Assumes AD/LDAP reachable)	Y
Profiling	Existing endpoint with no profile change	Y
	Existing endpoint with profile change	Y (logs in with local profile)
	New endpoints learned via local profiling or local profile changes	Y
	New endpoints / endpoints changes made via Admin (WAN down)	N
Guest	Existing guests (LWA/CWA)	Y
	New guests (Sponsored, Self-Service, Guest API)	N
	Guest – Change Password	N (user must log in using old password)
	Guest – AUP	Y (displayed for every login)
	Guest – Max Failed Login Enforcement	N
Device Registration	Existing registered device	Y
	New endpoints learned via device registration / registration status	N
Posture	Posture Provisioning and Assessment	Y

HA for Monitoring and Troubleshooting

Steady State Operation

- Maximum two MnT nodes per deployment
- Active / Active

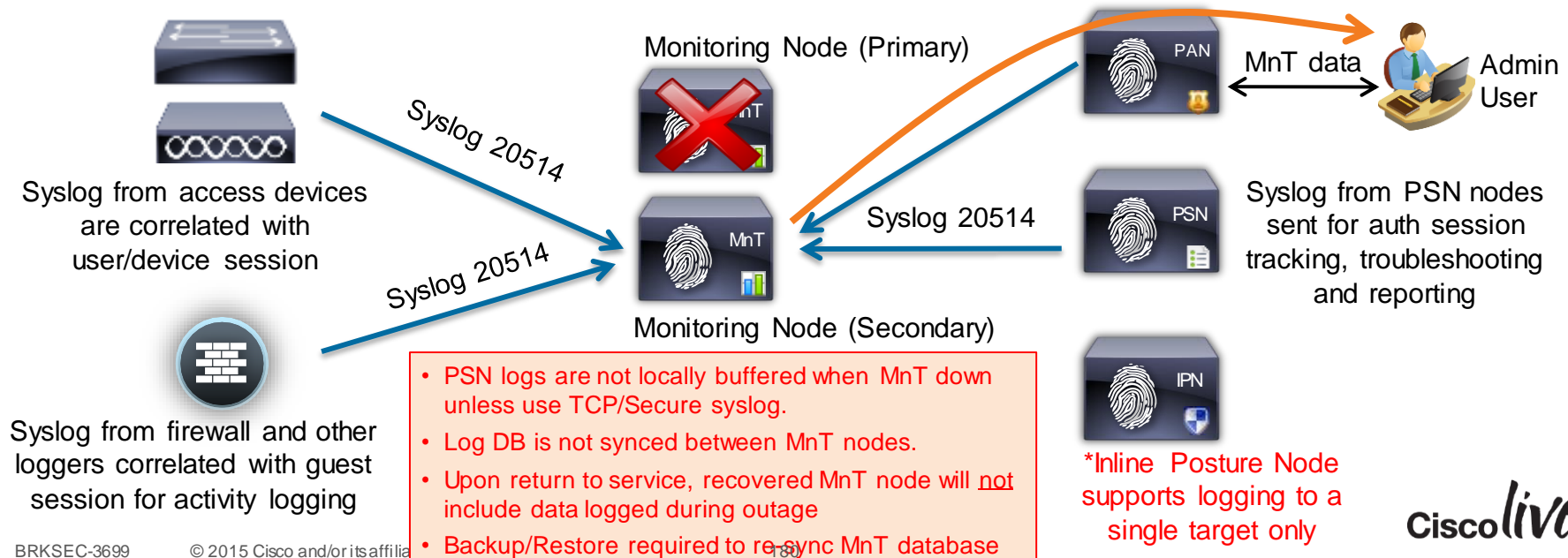
- MnT nodes concurrently receive logging from PAN, PSN, IPN*, NAD, and ASA
- PAN retrieves log/report data from Primary MnT node when available



HA for Monitoring and Troubleshooting

Primary MnT Outage and Recovery

- Upon MnT node failure, PAN, PSN, NAD, and ASA continue to send logs to remaining MnT node;
- IPN must be reconfigured to send logs to active MnT (only supports one log target).
- PAN auto-detects failure (down for > 5 min) and retrieves log/report data from Secondary MnT node.



Log Buffering

TCP and Secure Syslog Targets

- Default UDP-based audit logging does not buffer data when MnT is unavailable.
- TCP and Secure Syslog options can be used to buffer logs locally
- Note: Overall log performance will decrease if use these acknowledged options.

The screenshot displays the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) Administration interface. The breadcrumb trail is "Remote Logging Targets List > TCPLogCollector". The "Logging Target" configuration page is shown with the following details:

- Name:** TCPLogCollector
- Target Type:** TCP SysLog
- Description:** TCP SysLog collector
- Status:** Enabled (checked)
- IP Address:** 10.1.100.13
- Port:** 1468
- Facility Code:** LOCAL6
- Maximum Length:** 1024 (Valid Range 200 to 1024)
- Buffer Messages When Server Down:** Checked
- Buffer Size (MB):** 100 (Valid Range 10 to 100)
- Reconnect Timeout (Sec):** 30 (Valid Range 30 to 120)

Buttons for "Save" and "Reset" are visible at the bottom of the configuration area.

HA for pxGrid

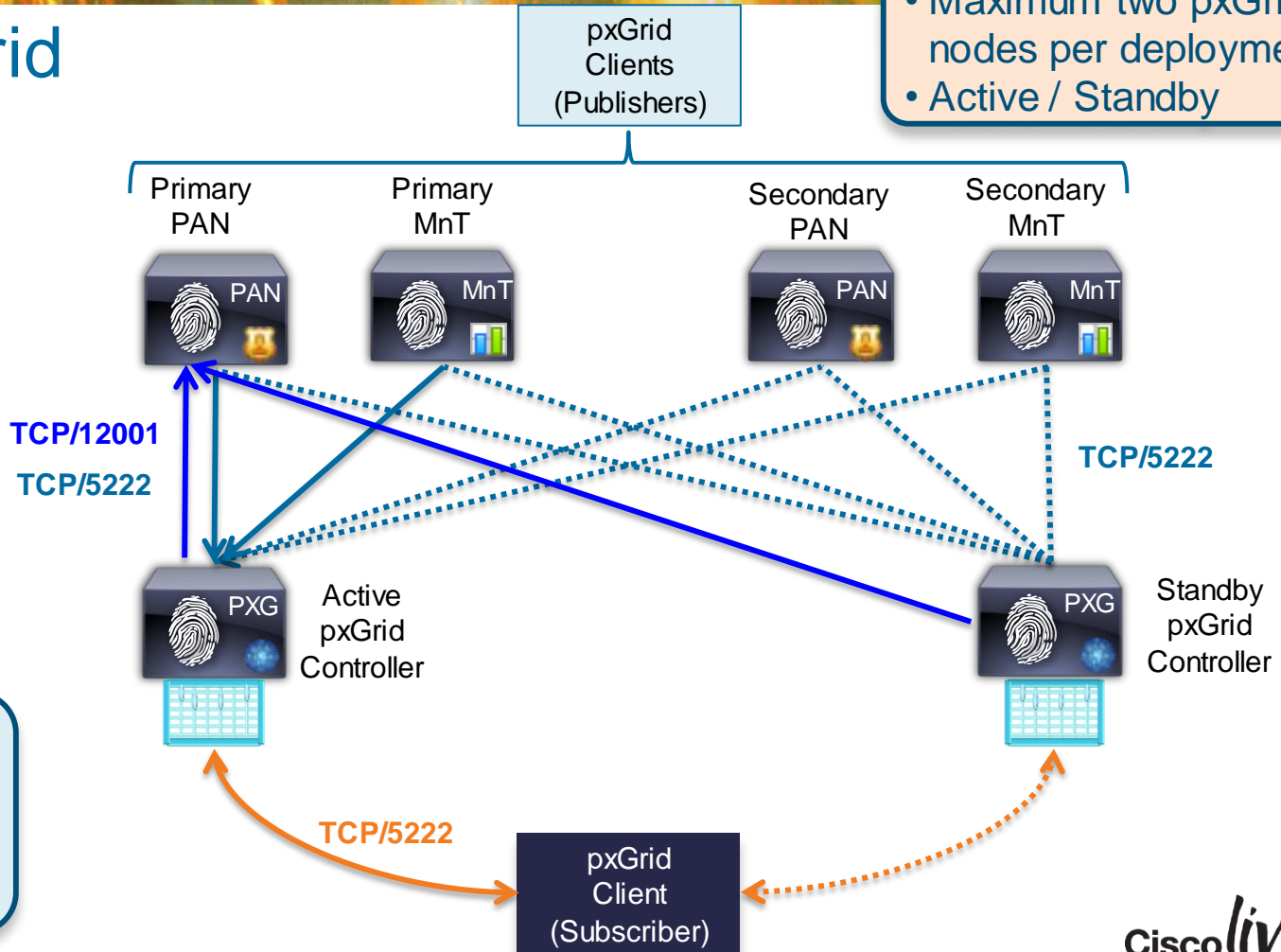
Steady State

- Maximum two pxGrid nodes per deployment
- Active / Standby

- PAN Publisher Topics:
- Controller Admin
 - TrustSec/SGA
 - Endpoint Profile

- MnT Publisher Topics:
- Session Directory
 - Identity Group
 - ANC (EPS)

- pxGrid clients can be configured with up to 2 servers.
- Clients connect to single active controller



HA for pxGrid

Failover and Recovery

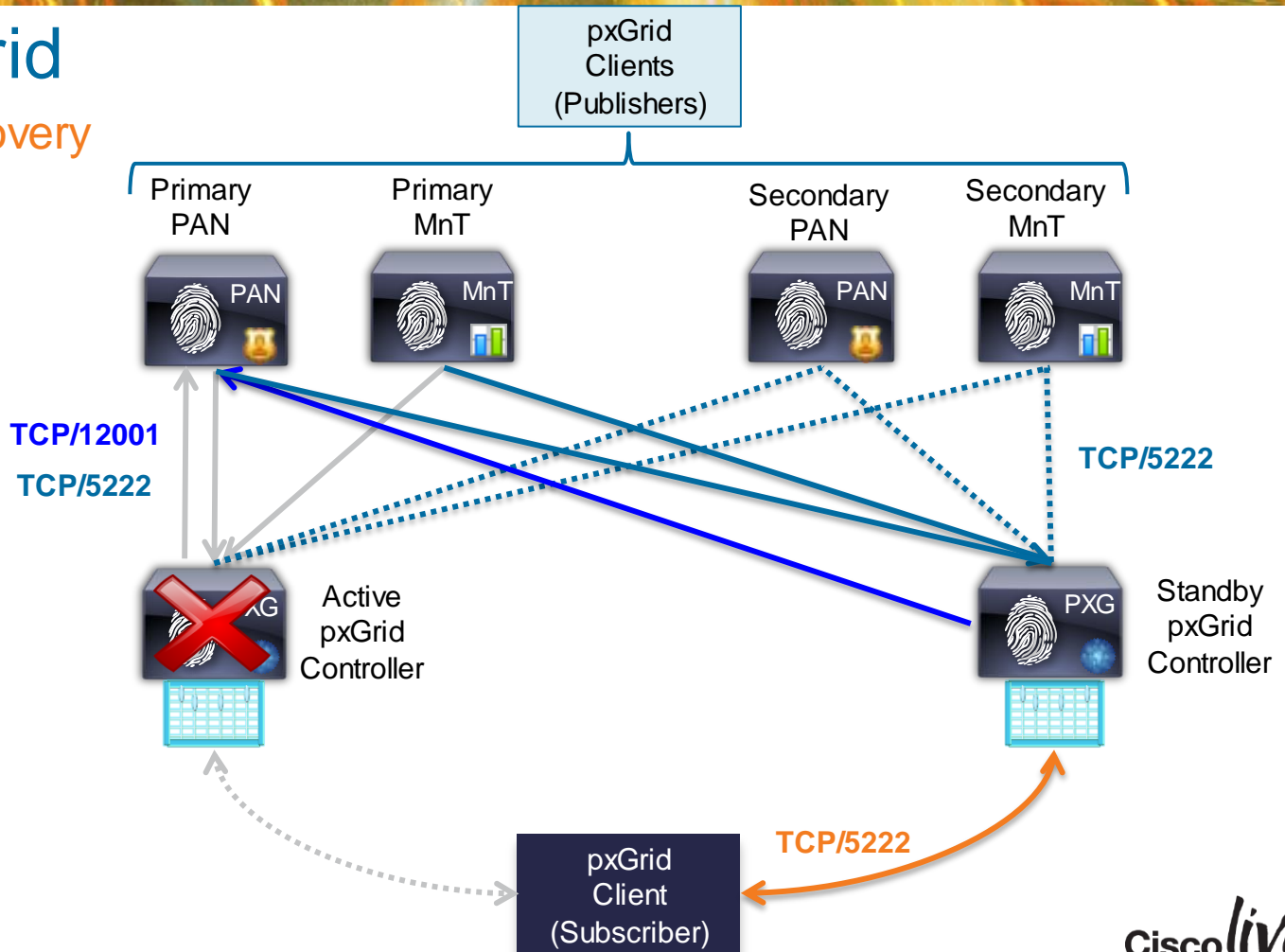
PAN Publisher Topics:

- Controller Admin
- TrustSec/SGA
- Endpoint Profile

MnT Publisher Topics:

- Session Directory
- Identity Group
- ANC (EPS)

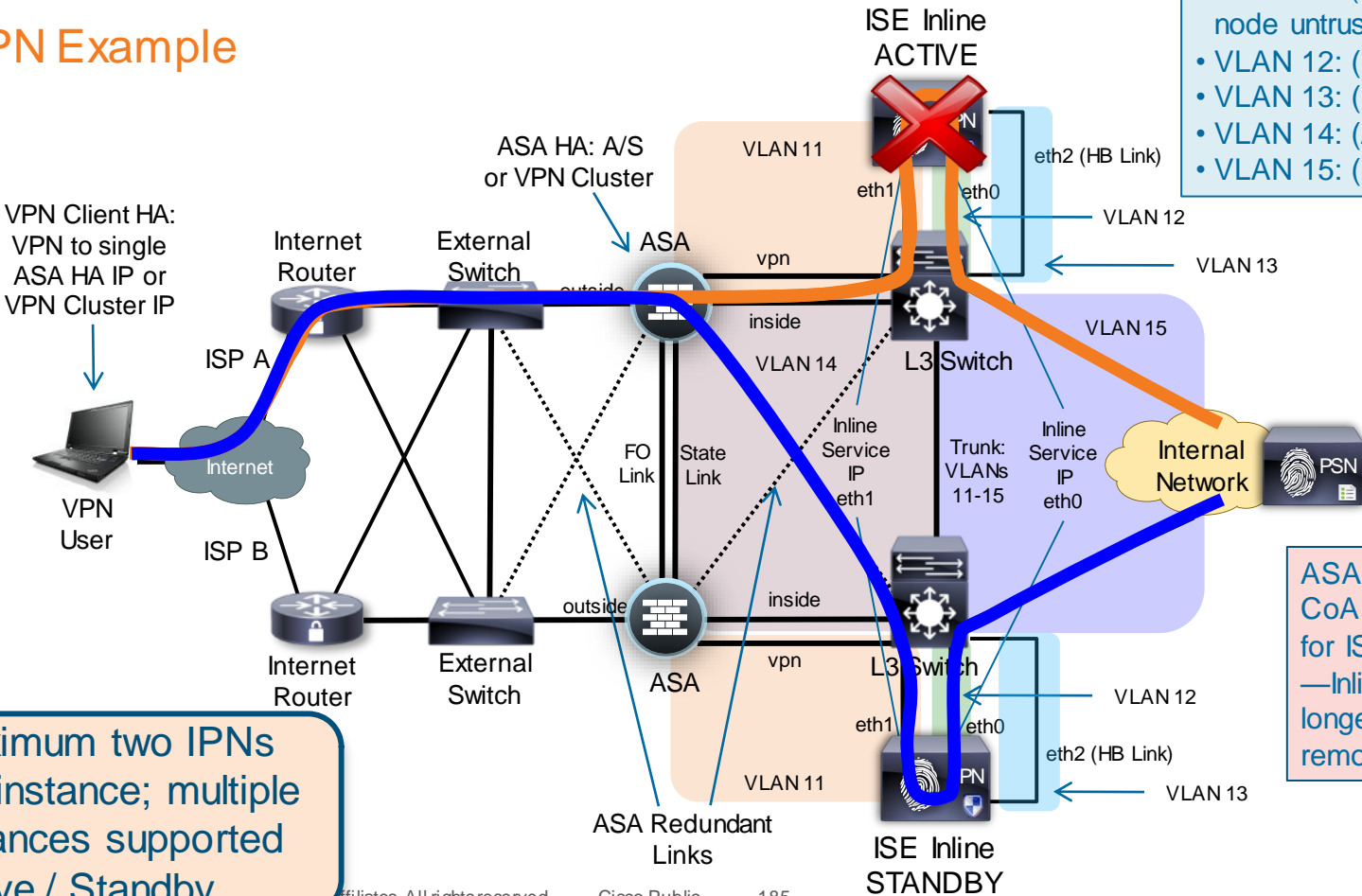
If active pxGrid Controller fails, clients automatically attempt connection to standby controller.



HA for Inline Posture Node

VPN Example

VPN Client HA:
VPN to single
ASA HA IP or
VPN Cluster IP



VLANS

- VLAN 11: (ASA VPN; Inline node untrusted)
- VLAN 12: (Inline node trusted)
- VLAN 13: (Inline Heartbeat Link)
- VLAN 14: (ASA Inside)
- VLAN 15: (Internal Network)

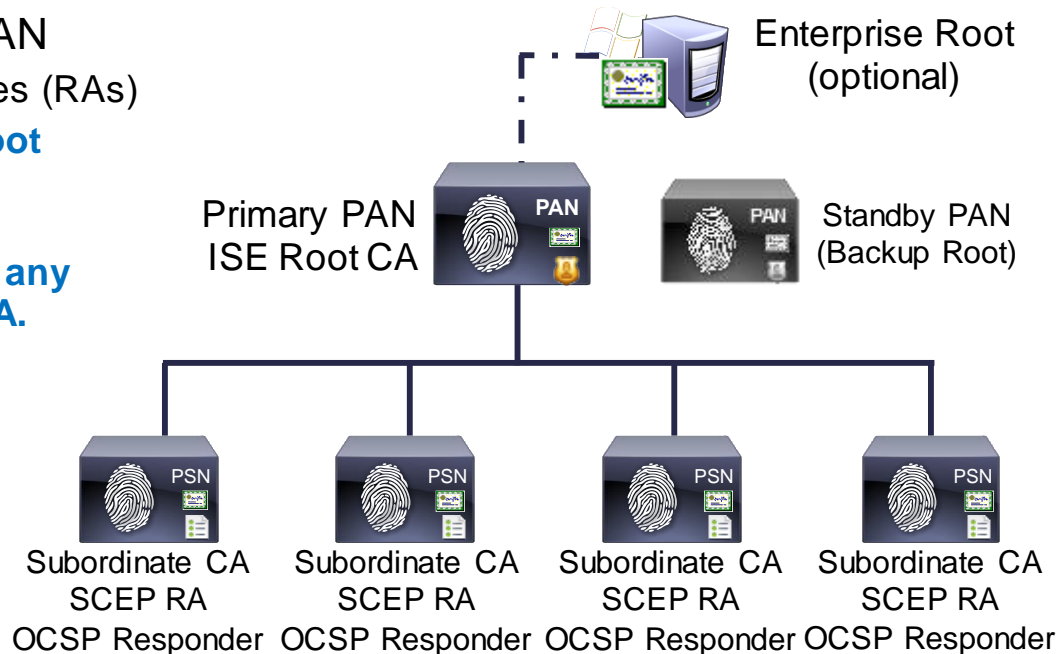
New

ASA 9.2.1 supports native CoA and URL Redirection for ISE Posture Services —Inline Posture Node no longer a required for remote access ASA VPN.

- Maximum two IPNs per instance; multiple instances supported
- Active / Standby

HA for Internal Certificate Authority

- Primary PAN is Root CA for ISE deployment
 - May be Subordinate to external Root CA or Standalone Root.
- All PSNs are Subordinate CAs to PAN
 - PSNs are SCEP Registration Authorities (RAs)
 - **Each PSN can issue certs even if Root (Primary PAN) fails**
 - Each PSN runs OCSP responder.
OCSP DB replicated so can point to any PSN, or LB PSN cluster for OCSP HA.
- Promotion of Standby PAN:
 - No effect on sub-CA operation.
 - **To make Standby the Root CA must manually install the Public/Private keys from Primary PAN.**



⚠ For disaster recovery it is recommended to Export Internal CA Store using Command Line Interface (CLI).

Overview

System Certificates

Endpoint Certificates

Trusted Certificates

OCSP Client Profile

Certificate Signing Requests

Certificate Authority

Internal CA Settings

Certificate Templates

External CA Settings

Disable Certificate Authority

Host Name	Personas	Role(s)	CA & OCSP Responder Sta...	OCSP Responder URL
sbg-bgla-pdp01	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✓	http://sbg-bgla-pdp01.
npf-sjca-pdp03	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✓	http://npf-sjca-pdp03.
npf-sjca-pdp02	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✓	http://npf-sjca-pdp02.
npf-sjca-pdp01	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✓	http://npf-sjca-pdp01.
npf-sjca-pap02	Administration	SECONDARY	⊘	http://npf-sjca-pap02.
npf-sjca-pap01	Administration	PRIMARY	⊘	http://npf-sjca-pap01.
npf-sjca-mnt02	Monitoring	SECONDARY	⊘	http://npf-sjca-mnt02.
npf-sjca-mnt01	Monitoring	SECONDARY	⊘	http://npf-sjca-mnt01.
npf-sjca-ipep02		SECONDARY	⊘	http://npf-sjca-ipep02.
npf-sjca-ipep01		SECONDARY	⊘	http://npf-sjca-ipep01.
bxb22-11a-pdp1	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✓	http://bxb22-11a-pdp.

Certificate Recovery for ISE Nodes

Backup all System Certificates and Key Pairs

- System Certificates for all nodes can be centrally exported with private key pairs from Primary PAN in case needed for Disaster Recovery.

The screenshot shows the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) Administration console. The navigation menu includes System, Identity Management, Network Resources, Device Portal Management, pxGrid Services, and Feed Service. The Certificates page is active, displaying a warning message and a table of system certificates.

Warning: For disaster recovery it is recommended to export certificate and private key pairs of all system certificates.

	Friendly Name	Group Tag	Used By	Issued To	Issued By
▼	ise13-fcs				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Default self-signed server certificate	Default Portal Certificate Group	Portal, pxGrid	ise13-fcs.cts.local	ise13-fcs.cts.local
<input type="checkbox"/>	ise.cts.local CA-Signed Wildcard Certificate	Wildcard Cert	Admin, EAP Authentication, Portal	ise.cts.local	cts-ad-ca

OCSP Responder HA

- Each PSN runs OCSP responder.
- OCSP DB replicated so can point to any PSN, or LB PSN cluster for OCSP HA.

Internal CA Settings ⚠ For disaster recovery it is recommended to Export Internal CA Store using Command Line Interface (CLI).

🛑 Disable Certificate Authority

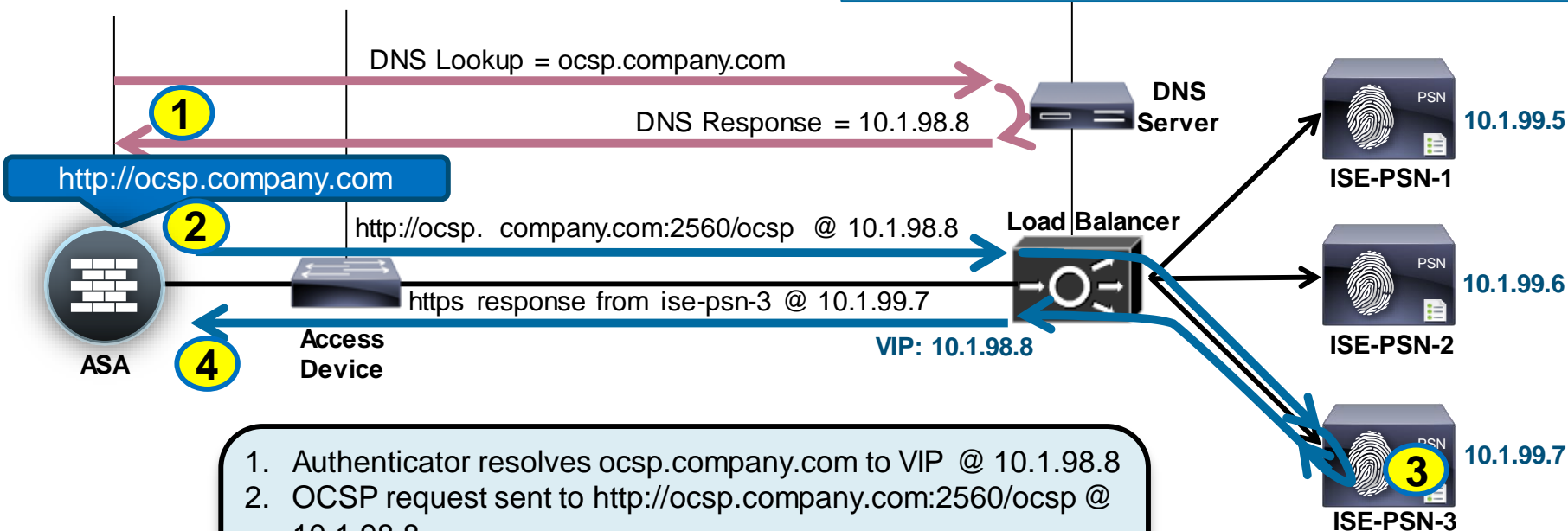
Host Name	Personas	Role(s)	CA & OCSP Responder	OCSP Responder URL
sbg-bgla-pdp01	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✔	http://sbg-bgla-pdp01.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-pdp03	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✔	http://npf-sjca-pdp03.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-pdp02	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✔	http://npf-sjca-pdp02.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-pdp01	Policy Service	SECONDARY	✔	http://npf-sjca-pdp01.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-pap02	Administration	SECONDARY	⊖	http://npf-sjca-pap02.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-pap01	Administration	PRIMARY	⊖	http://npf-sjca-pap01.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-mnt02	Monitoring	SECONDARY	⊖	http://npf-sjca-mnt02.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/
npf-sjca-mnt01	Monitoring	PRIMARY	⊖	http://npf-sjca-mnt01.cisco.com:2560/ocsp/

ASA Remote Access VPN Example:
match certificate OCSP_MAP override ocsp trustpoint ISE_Root 1 url http://ise-ocsp.company.com:2560/ocsp/

Load Balancing OCSF

Sample Flow

Each PSN is an OCSF Responder
Database replication ensures each PSN
contains same info for ISE-issued certificates.



1. Authenticator resolves `ocsp.company.com` to VIP @ `10.1.98.8`
2. OCSF request sent to `http://ocsp.company.com:2560/ocsp @ 10.1.98.8`
3. Load balancer forwards request to PSN-3 (OCSP Responder) @ `10.1.99.7`
4. Authentication receives OCSF response from PSN-3

SCEP Load Balancing for BYOD/NSP (ISE 1.2)

If multiple SCEP CA Servers defined...

- Multiple SCEP Profiles supported—Requests load balanced based on load factor.
 - Load Factor = Average Response Time x Total Requests x Outstanding Requests
 - Average Response Time = Average of last two 20 requests
- SCEP CA declared down if no response after three consecutive requests.
- CA with the next lowest load used; Periodic polling to failed server until online.

The screenshot displays the Cisco Identity Services Engine (ISE) Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Operations', 'Policy', and 'Administration'. Below this, a secondary navigation bar shows 'System', 'Identity Management', 'Network Resources', 'Web Portal Management', and 'Feed Service'. A third navigation bar contains 'Deployment', 'Licensing', 'Certificates', 'Logging', 'Maintenance', 'Backup & Restore', 'Admin Access', and 'Settings'. The 'Certificates' section is active, showing a sidebar with 'Certificate Operations' including 'Local Certificates', 'Certificate Signing Requests', 'Certificate Store', 'SCEP RA Profiles', and 'OCSP Services'. The main content area is titled 'SCEP RA Profiles' and shows a table with two entries: 'SCEP' and 'SCEP2'. The table has columns for 'Name', 'Description', 'URL', and 'CA Cert Name'. The 'SCEP' entry has a URL of 'http://ad.cts.local/certsrv/mscep' and 'AD-MSCEP-RA' as the CA Cert Name. The 'SCEP2' entry has a URL of 'http://10.1.100.100/certsrv/mscep' and 'AD-MSCEP-RA' as the CA Cert Name. The table is highlighted with an orange border.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Description	URL	CA Cert Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCEP		http://ad.cts.local/certsrv/mscep	AD-MSCEP-RA
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCEP2		http://10.1.100.100/certsrv/mscep	AD-MSCEP-RA

SCEP Load Balancing (ISE 1.3)

If multiple SCEP CA Servers defined...

- SCEP Profile defined in Certificate Template —only one can be selected.
- ISE 1.3 supports multiple CA URLs in each profile
- Requests load balanced across CAs

Subject Alternative Name (SAN) : MAC Address

Key Size : 2048

* SCEP RA Profile : ISE Internal CA

Valid Period : AD_SCEP
AD_SCEP2

External CA Settings

SCEP RA Profiles (SCEP-Simple Certificate Enrollment Protocol)

Edit Add Delete

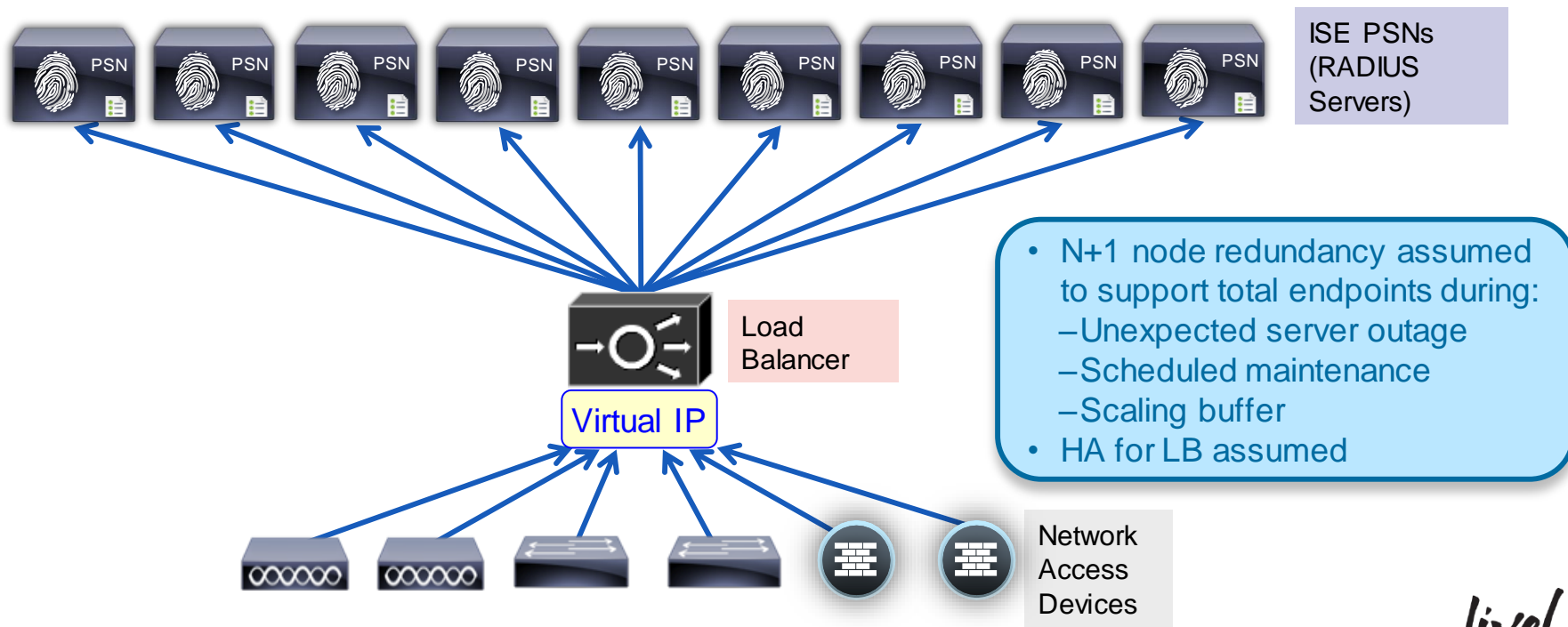
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Description	URL	CA Cert Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	AD_SCEP		http://ad.cts.local/certsrv/mscep	cts-ad-ca,AD-MSCEP-RA
<input type="checkbox"/>	AD_SCEP2		http://ad.cts.local/certsrv/mscep http://10.1.100.100/certsrv/mscep	cts-ad-ca,AD-MSCEP-RA cts-ad-ca,AD-MSCEP-RA



PSN Load Balancing

Load Balancing RADIUS, Web, and Profiling Services

- Policy Service nodes can be configured in a cluster behind a load balancer (LB).
- Access Devices send RADIUS AAA requests to LB virtual IP.

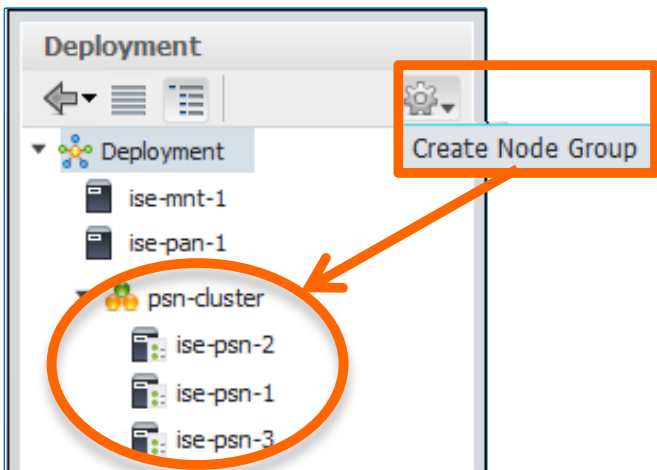


Configure Node Groups for LB Cluster

All PSNs in LB Cluster in Same Node Group

- Administration > System > Deployment

1) Create node group



- Node group members can be L2 or L3
- Multicast no longer a requirements in ISE 1.3

2) Assign name (and multicast address if ISE 1.2)

The 'Create Node Group' configuration page shows the following fields:

- * Node Group Name: psn_cluster
- Description: Data Center - F5 LB Cluster

Buttons for 'Submit' and 'Reset' are visible at the bottom.

3) Add individual PSNs to node group

The 'Edit Node' configuration page shows the 'General Settings' tab. The 'Include Node in Node Group' dropdown menu is highlighted with an orange box and set to 'psn-cluster'.

Other visible settings include:

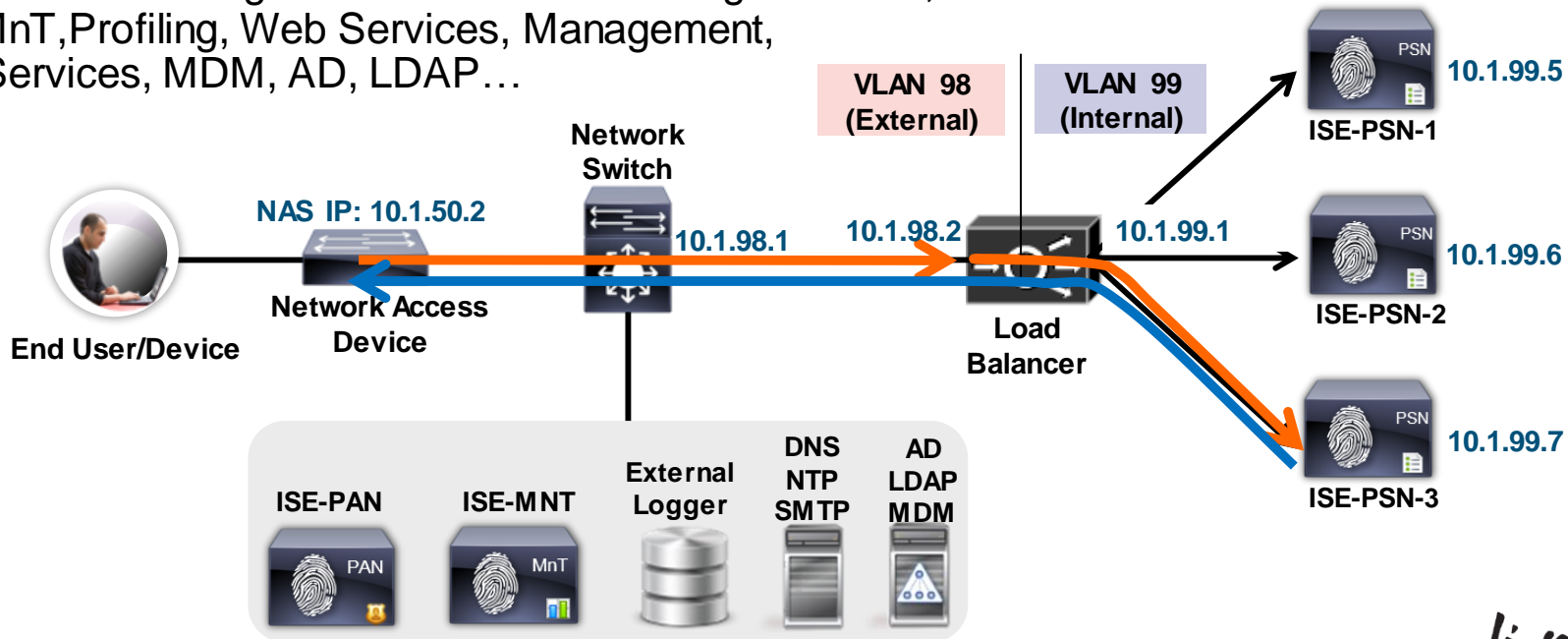
- Policy Service
- Enable Session Services
- Enable Profiling Service

Traffic Flow—Fully Inline: Physically Separation

Physical Network Separation Using Separate LB Interfaces

- Load Balancer is directly inline between PSNs and rest of network.
- All traffic flows through Load Balancer including RADIUS, PAN/MnT, Profiling, Web Services, Management, Feed Services, MDM, AD, LDAP...

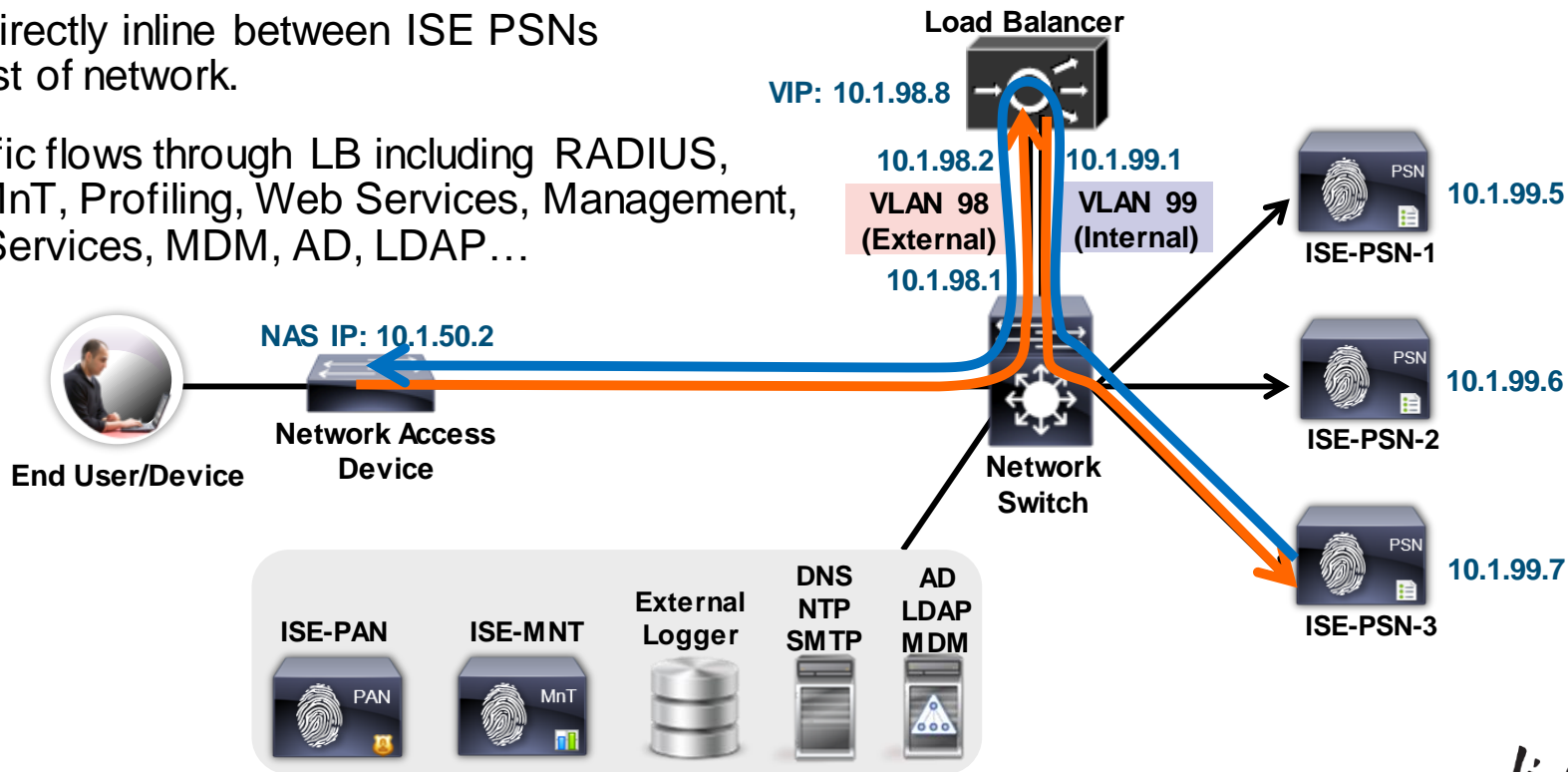
Fully Inline Traffic Flow recommended—physical or logical



Traffic Flow—Fully Inline: VLAN Separation

Logical Network Separation Using Single LB Interface and VLAN Trunking

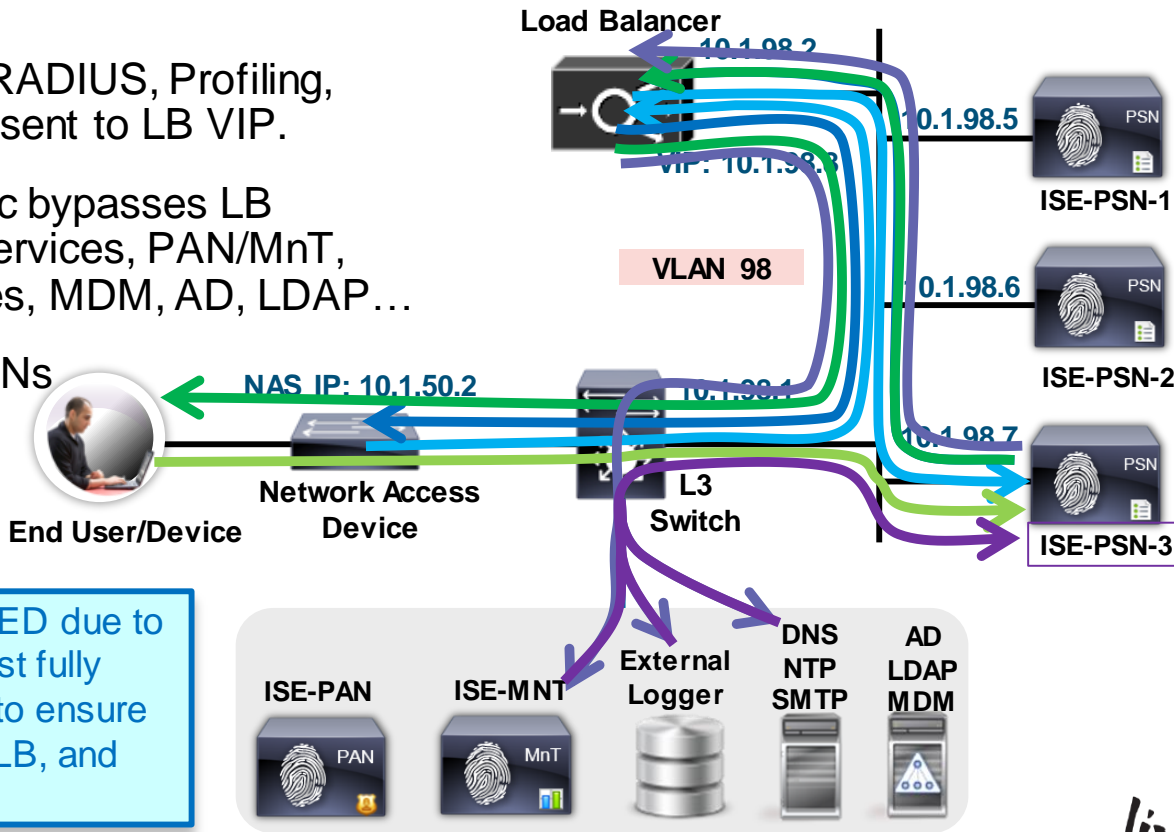
- LB is directly inline between ISE PSNs and rest of network.
- All traffic flows through LB including RADIUS, PAN/MnT, Profiling, Web Services, Management, Feed Services, MDM, AD, LDAP...



Partially Inline: Layer 2/Same VLAN (One PSN Interface)

Direct PSN Connections to LB and Rest of Network

- All inbound LB traffic such as RADIUS, Profiling, and directed Web Services sent to LB VIP.
- Other inbound non-LB traffic bypasses LB including redirected Web Services, PAN/MnT, Management, Feed Services, MDM, AD, LDAP...
- All outbound traffic from PSNs sent to LB as DFGW.
- LB must be configured to allow Asymmetric traffic



Generally NOT RECOMMENDED due to traffic flow complexity—must fully understand path of each flow to ensure proper handling by routing, LB, and end stations.

Load Balancing Policy Services

- **RADIUS AAA Services**

Packets sent to LB virtual IP are load-balanced to real PSN based on configured algorithm. Sticky algorithm determines method to ensure same Policy Service node services same endpoint.

- **Web URL-Redirected Services:** Posture (CPP) / Central WebAuth (CWA) / Native Supplicant Provisioning (NSP) / Device Registration WebAuth (DRW)

No LB Required! PSN that terminates RADIUS returns URL Redirect with its own certificate CN name substituted for 'ip' variable in URL.

- **Web Direct HTTP/S Services:** Local WebAuth (LWA) / Sponsor / MyDevices Portal, OCSP

Single web portal domain name should resolve to LB virtual IP for http/s load balancing.

- **Profiling Services:** DHCP Helper / SNMP Traps / Netflow / RADIUS

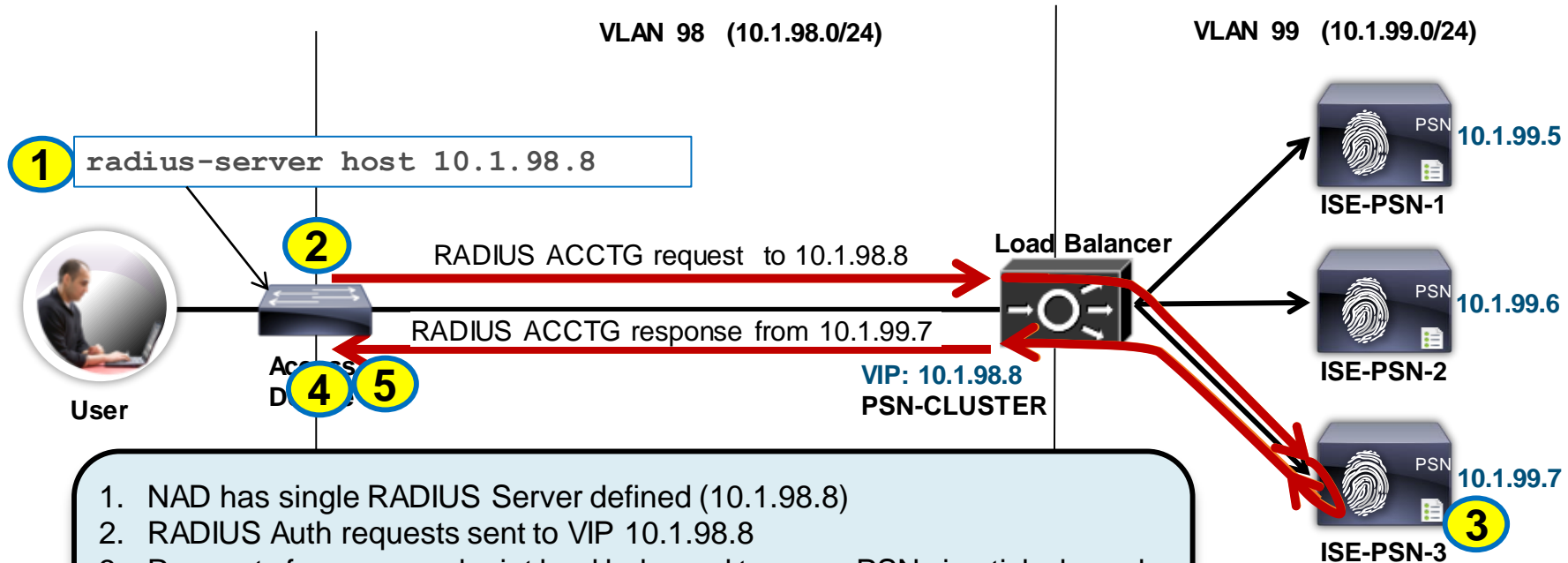
LB VIP is the target for one-way Profile Data (no response required). VIP can be same or different than one used by RADIUS LB; Real server interface can be same or different than one used by RADIUS



Load Balancing RADIUS

Load Balancing RADIUS

Sample Flow



1. NAD has single RADIUS Server defined (10.1.98.8)
2. RADIUS Auth requests sent to VIP 10.1.98.8
3. Requests for same endpoint load balanced to same PSN via sticky based on RADIUS Calling-Station-ID and Framed-IP-Address
4. RADIUS Response received from real server ise-psn-3 @ 10.1.99.7
5. RADIUS Accounting sent to/from same PSN based on sticky

Load Balancer General RADIUS Guidelines

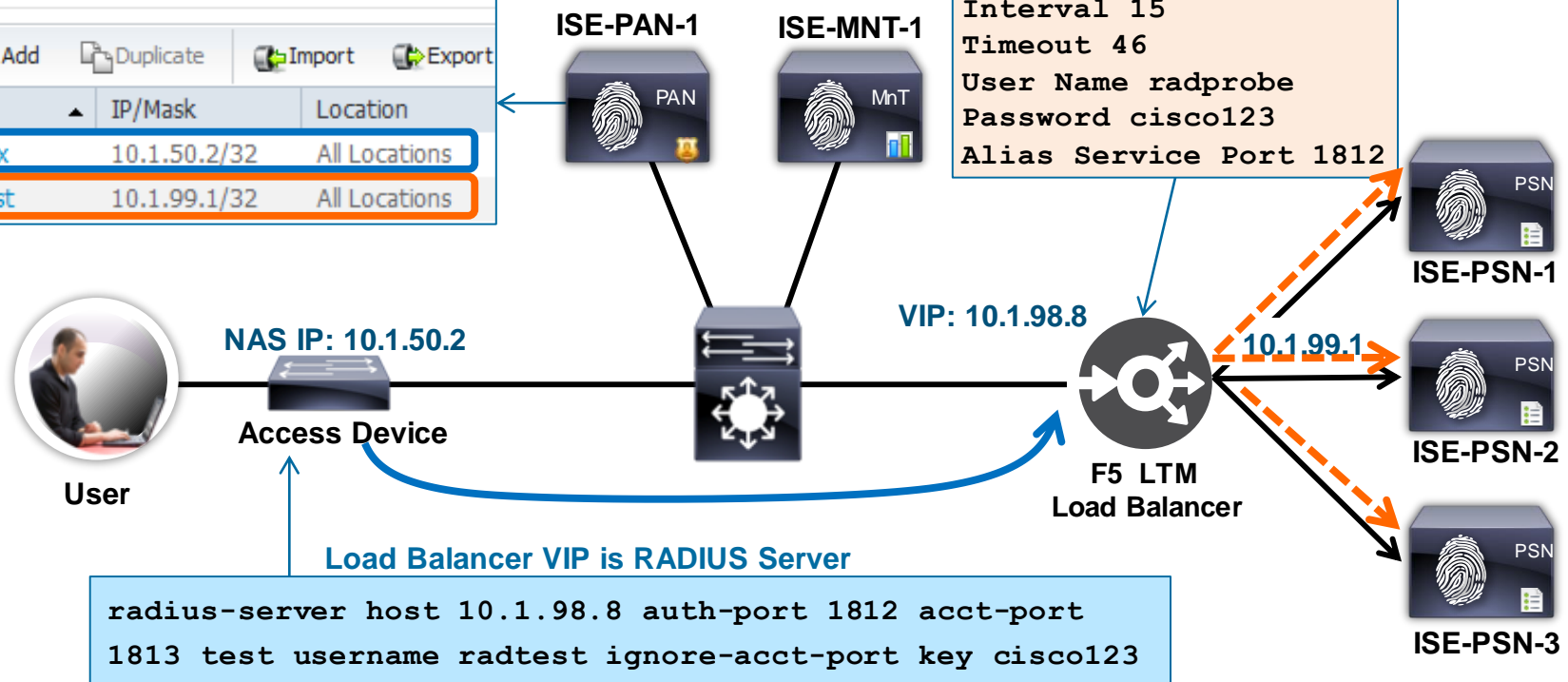
RADIUS Servers and Clients – Where Defined

ISE Admin Node > Network Devices

Network Devices		(RADIUS Clients)		
Name	IP/Mask	Location		
<input type="checkbox"/> cat3750x	10.1.50.2/32	All Locations		
<input type="checkbox"/> f5-radtest	10.1.99.1/32	All Locations		

PSNs are RADIUS Servers for Health Probes

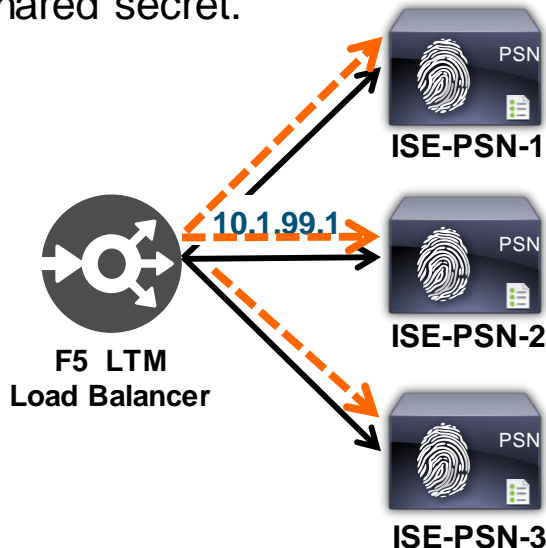
```
Name PSN-Probe
Type RADIUS
Interval 15
Timeout 46
User Name radprobe
Password cisco123
Alias Service Port 1812
```



Add LB as NAD for RADIUS Health Monitoring

Administration > Network Resources > Network Devices

- Configure Self IP address of LB Internal interface connected to PSN RADIUS interfaces.
- Enable Authentication and set RADIUS shared secret.



Network Devices List > f5-bigip

Network Devices

* Name

Description

* IP Address: /

Model Name

Software Version

* Network Device Group

Device Type

Location

Authentication Settings

Enable Authentication Settings

Protocol **RADIUS**

* Shared Secret

Enable KeyWrap ⓘ

* Key Encryption Key

* Message Authenticator Code Key

Key Input Format ASCII HEXADECIMAL

Load Balancer Persistence (Stickiness) Guidelines

Persistence Attributes

- Common RADIUS Sticky Attributes

- Client Address

- Calling-Station-ID

- Framed-IP-Address

- NAD Address

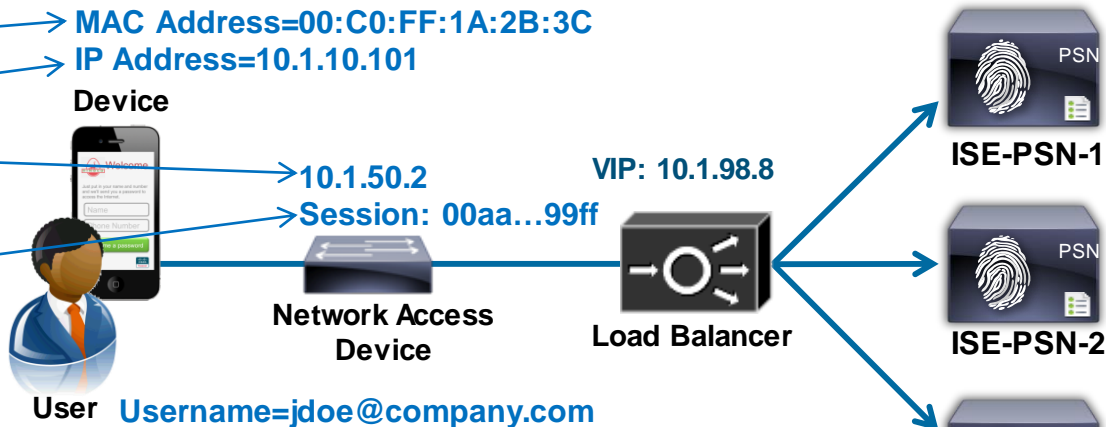
- NAS-IP-Address

- Source IP Address

- Session ID

- RADIUS Session ID

- Cisco Audit Session ID



- Best Practice Recommendations (depends on LB support and design)

1. Calling-Station-ID for persistence across NADs and sessions

2. Source IP or NAS-IP-Address for persistence for all endpoints connected to same NAD

3. Audit Session ID for persistence across re-authentications

Load Balancer Stickiness Guidelines

Persistence Attributes

- ACE Example: RADIUS Sticky on IP and Calling-Station-ID (client MAC address)

```
sticky radius framed-ip calling-station-id RADIUS-STICKY
serverfarm ise-psn
```

- F5 iRule Example: RADIUS Sticky on Calling-Station-ID (client MAC address)

```
ltm rule RADIUS_iRule {
  when CLIENT_ACCEPTED {

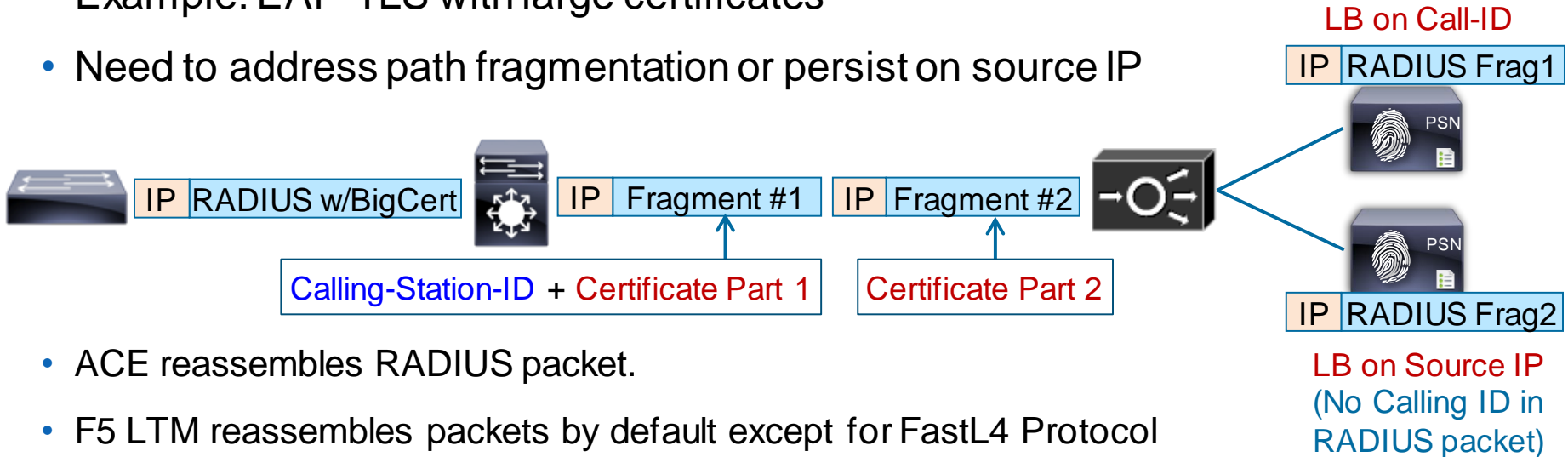
  persist uie [RADIUS::avp 31]
  }
}
```

Be sure to monitor load balancer resources when performing advanced parsing.

LB Fragmentation and Reassembly

Be aware of load balancers that do not reassemble RADIUS fragments!

- Example: EAP-TLS with large certificates
- Need to address path fragmentation or persist on source IP



- ACE reassembles RADIUS packet.
- F5 LTM reassembles packets by default except for FastL4 Protocol
 - Must be manually enabled under the FastL4 Protocol Profile
- Citrix NetScaler fragmentation defect—Resolved in NetScaler 10.5 Build 50.10
 - Issue ID 429415 addresses fragmentation and the reassembly of large/jumbo frames

NAT Restrictions for RADIUS Load Balancing

Why Source NAT (SNAT) Fails for NADs

- With SNAT, LB appears as the Network Access Device (NAD) to PSN.
- CoA sent to wrong IP address

SNAT results in less visibility as all requests appear sourced from LB – makes troubleshooting more difficult.

Authentication Details	
Logged At:	October 10,2012 10:15:59.418 AM
Occurred At:	October 10,2012 10:15:59.416 AM
Server:	ise-psn-2
Authentication Method:	dot1x
EAP Authentication Method :	EAP-MSCHAPv2
EAP Tunnel Method :	PEAP
Username:	CTS\employee1
RADIUS Username :	CTS\employee1
Calling Station ID:	00:50:56:A0:0B:3A
Framed IP Address:	10.1.10.101
Use Case:	
Network Device:	ace4710
Network Device Groups:	Device Type#All Device Types#Wire
NAS IP Address:	10.1.50.2
NAS Identifier:	

Network Device	Server	Authorization Pr...	Identity Group
ace4710	ise-psn-2		
ace4710	ise-psn-3	Central_Web_Auth	Profiled:Workst
ace4710	ise-psn-1	Central_Web_Auth	Profiled
ace4710	ise-psn-3	Central_Web_Auth	Profiled:Workst
ace4710	ise-psn-1	Cisco_IP_Phones	Profiled:Cisco-IP
ace4710	ise-psn-2	Cisco_IP_Phones	Profiled:Cisco-IP
ace4710	ise-psn-2	Employee,SGT_Emp..	RegisteredDevi
ace4710	ise-psn-3	Posture_Remediation	Profiled:Workst
ace4710	ise-psn-3	RADIUS_Probes	

NAS IP Address is correct, but not currently used for CoA

SNAT of NAD Traffic: Live Log Example

Auth Succeeds/CoA Fails: CoA Sent to Load Balancer and Dropped

Status	Identity	Endpoint ID	IP Address	Network Device	Session ID	Event
❌		7C:6D:62:E3:D5:05		f5-bigip	0a012c5a000000f154199b09	RADIUS Request dropped
❌		7C:6D:62:E3:D5:05		f5-bigip	0a012c5a000000f154199b09	Dynamic Authorization failed
ℹ️	employee1	7C:6D:62:E3:D5:05	10.1.40.101		0a012c5a000000f154199b09	Session State is Started
✅	employee1	7C:6D:62:E3:D5:05		f5-bigip	0a012c5a000000f154199b09	Authentication succeeded

Event	Failure Reason
RADIUS Request dropped	11213 No response received from Network Access Device after sending a Dynamic Authorization request
Dynamic Authorization failed	11215 No response has been received from Dynamic Authorization Client in ISE
Session State is Started	
Authentication succeeded	

Allow NAT for PSN CoA Requests

Simplifying Switch CoA Configuration

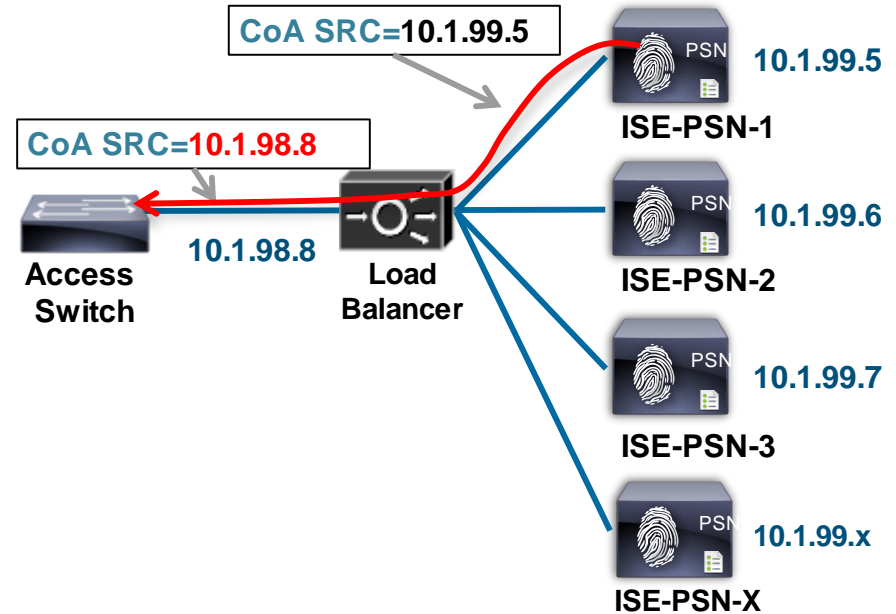
- Match traffic from PSNs to UDP/1700 (RADIUS CoA) and translate to PSN cluster VIP.
- Access switch config:

– Before:

```
aaa server radius dynamic-author
client 10.1.99.5 server-key cisco123
client 10.1.99.6 server-key cisco123
client 10.1.99.7 server-key cisco123
client 10.1.99.8 server-key cisco123
client 10.1.99.9 server-key cisco123
client 10.1.99.10 server-key cisco123
<...one entry per PSN...>
```

– After:

```
aaa server radius dynamic-author
client 10.1.98.8 server-key cisco123
```



Allow NAT for PSN CoA Requests

Simplifying WLC CoA Configuration

- Before:

The screenshot shows the 'RADIUS Authentication Servers' configuration page. A modal dialog box is displayed in the center with the text 'Can't create more than 17 entries' and an 'OK' button. Below the dialog, a table lists 17 RADIUS server entries. A callout box highlights the first entry.

Network User	Management	Server Index	Server Address	Port	IPSec	Admin Status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	10.1.101.3			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	10.1.99.15			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	10.1.99.16			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	10.1.99.17			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5	10.1.99.5			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	10.1.99.6			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7	10.1.99.7	1812	Disabled	Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8	10.1.98.10	1812	Disabled	Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9				Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10				Disabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11				Disabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	12				Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	13				Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14	10.1.120.56	1812	Disabled	Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	15	10.1.120.57	1812	Disabled	Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	16	10.1.120.58	1812	Disabled	Enabled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	17	10.1.120.59	1812	Disabled	Enabled

One RADIUS Server entry required per PSN that may send CoA from behind load balancer

- After

The screenshot shows the 'RADIUS Authentication Servers' configuration page. A single RADIUS server entry is visible in the table. A callout box highlights this entry.

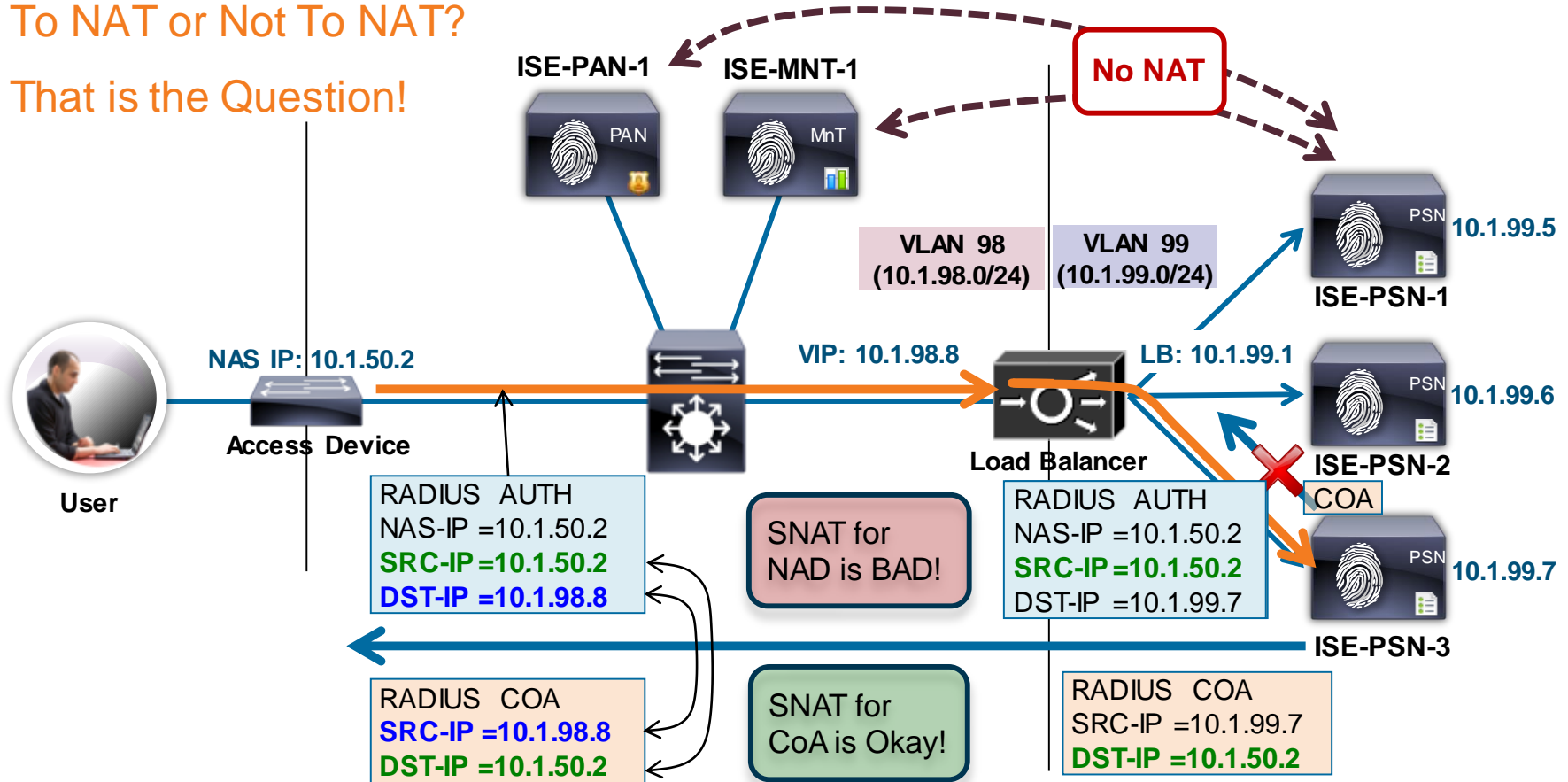
Network User	Management	Server Index	Server Address	Port	IPSec	Admin Status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	10.1.101.3	1812	Disabled	Enabled

One RADIUS Server entry required per load balancer VIP.

NAT Guidelines for ISE RADIUS Load Balancing

To NAT or Not To NAT?

That is the Question!

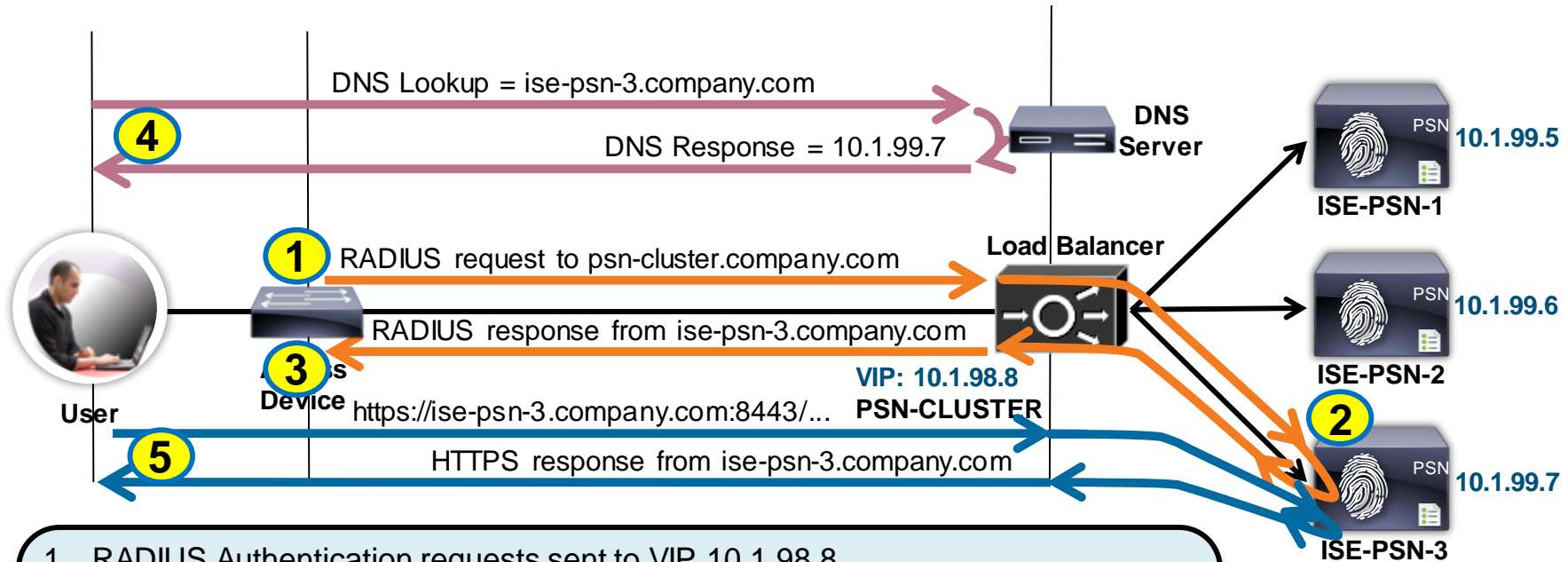


A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The foreground is dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. In the background, modern city buildings are illuminated with various lights, and a pedestrian bridge spans across the street. The overall scene is a dynamic urban environment.


Load Balancing ISE Web Services

Load Balancing with URL-Redirection

Sample Flow

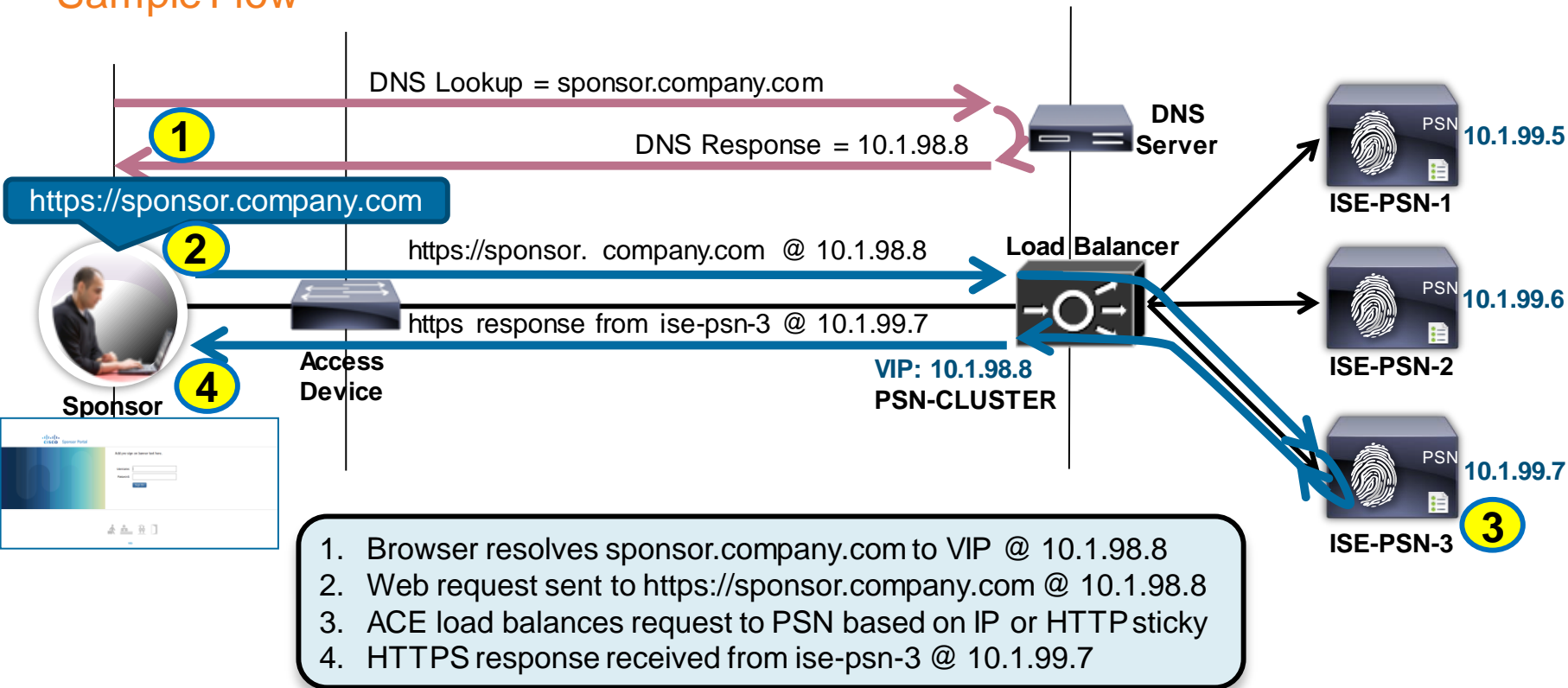


1. RADIUS Authentication requests sent to VIP 10.1.98.8
2. Requests for same endpoint load balanced to same PSN via RADIUS sticky.
3. RADIUS Authorisation received from ise-psn-3 @ 10.1.99.7 with URL Redirect to `https://ise-psn-3.company.com:8443/...`
4. Client browser redirected and resolves FQDN in URL to real server address.
5. User sends web request directly to same PSN that serviced RADIUS request.

 ISE Certificate
Subject CN =
ise-psn-3.company.com

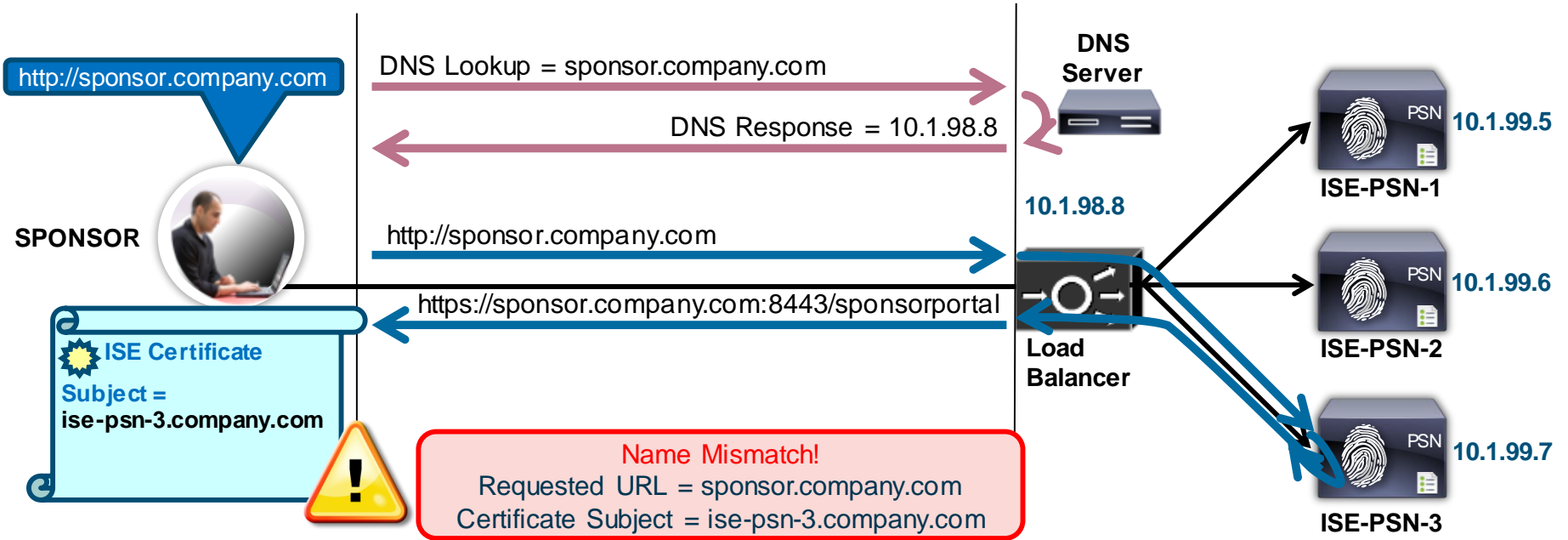
Load Balancing Non-Redirected Web Services

Sample Flow



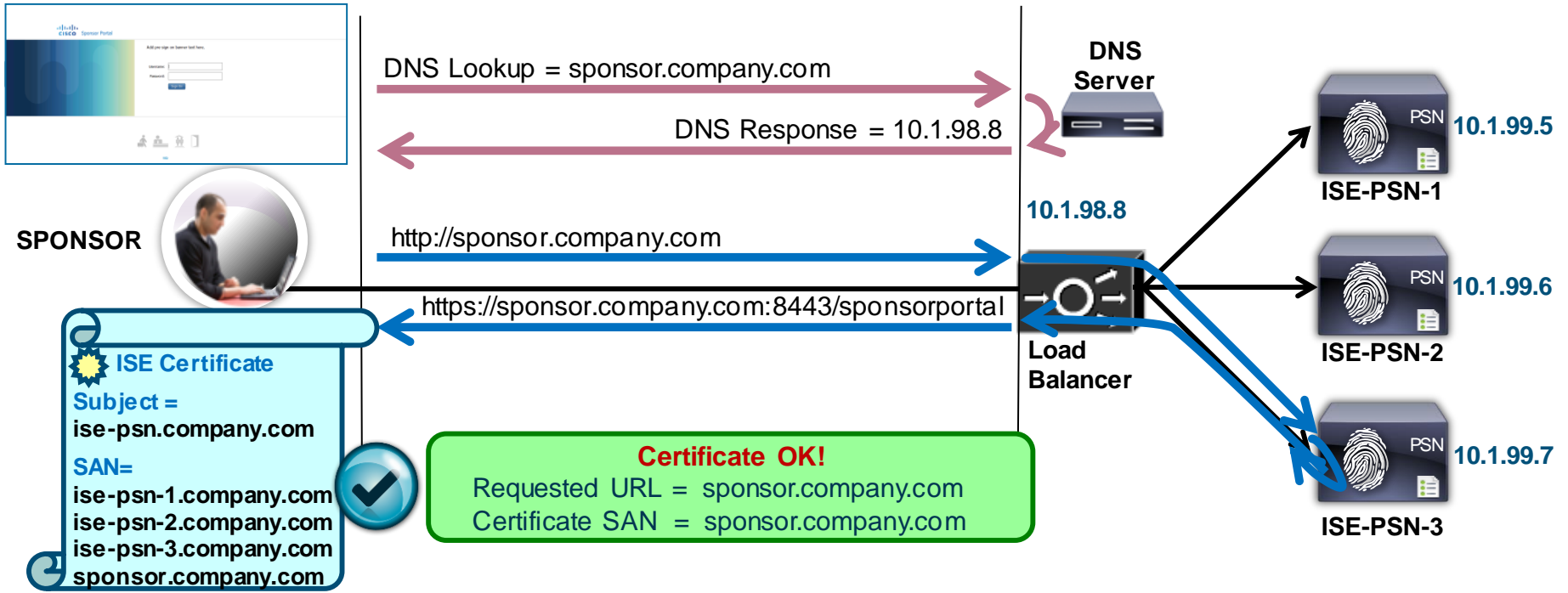
ISE Certificate without SAN

Certificate Warning - Name Mismatch



ISE Certificate with SAN

No Certificate Warning



Load Balancing Preparation

Configure DNS and Certificates

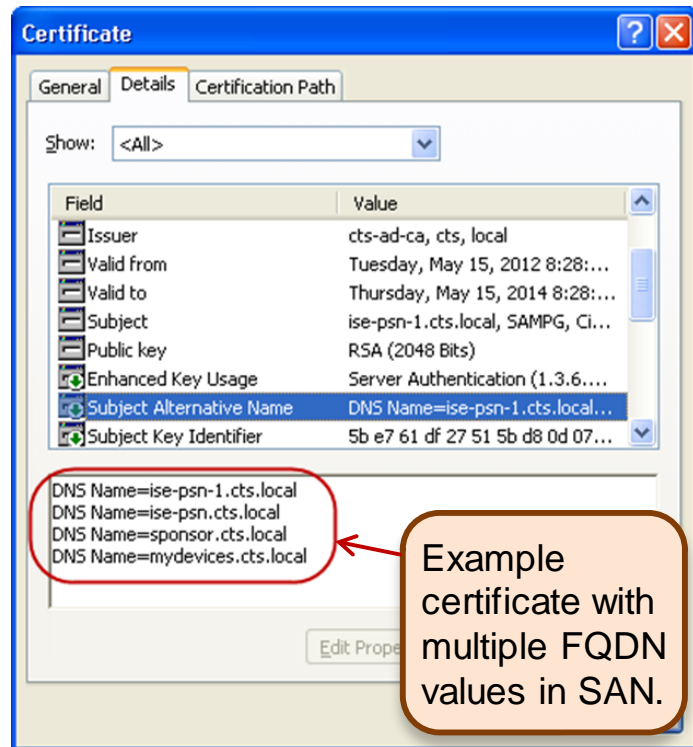
- Configure DNS entry for PSN cluster(s) and assign VIP IP address.

Example: psn-cluster.company.com

DNS SERVER: DOMAIN = COMPANY.COM			
PSN-CLUSTER	IN	A	10.1.98.8
SPONSOR	IN	A	10.1.98.8
MYDEVICES	IN	A	10.1.98.8
ISE-PSN-1	IN	A	10.1.99.5
ISE-PSN-2	IN	A	10.1.99.6
ISE-PSN-3	IN	A	10.1.99.7

- Configure ISE PSN server certs with Subject Alternative Name configured for other FQDNs to be used by LB VIP or optionally use wildcards (available in ISE 1.2).

Example certificate SAN: [ise-psn-1.company.com](#)
[psn-cluster.company.com](#)
[sponsor.company.com](#)
[guest.company.com](#)



General Best Practices for Universal Certificates

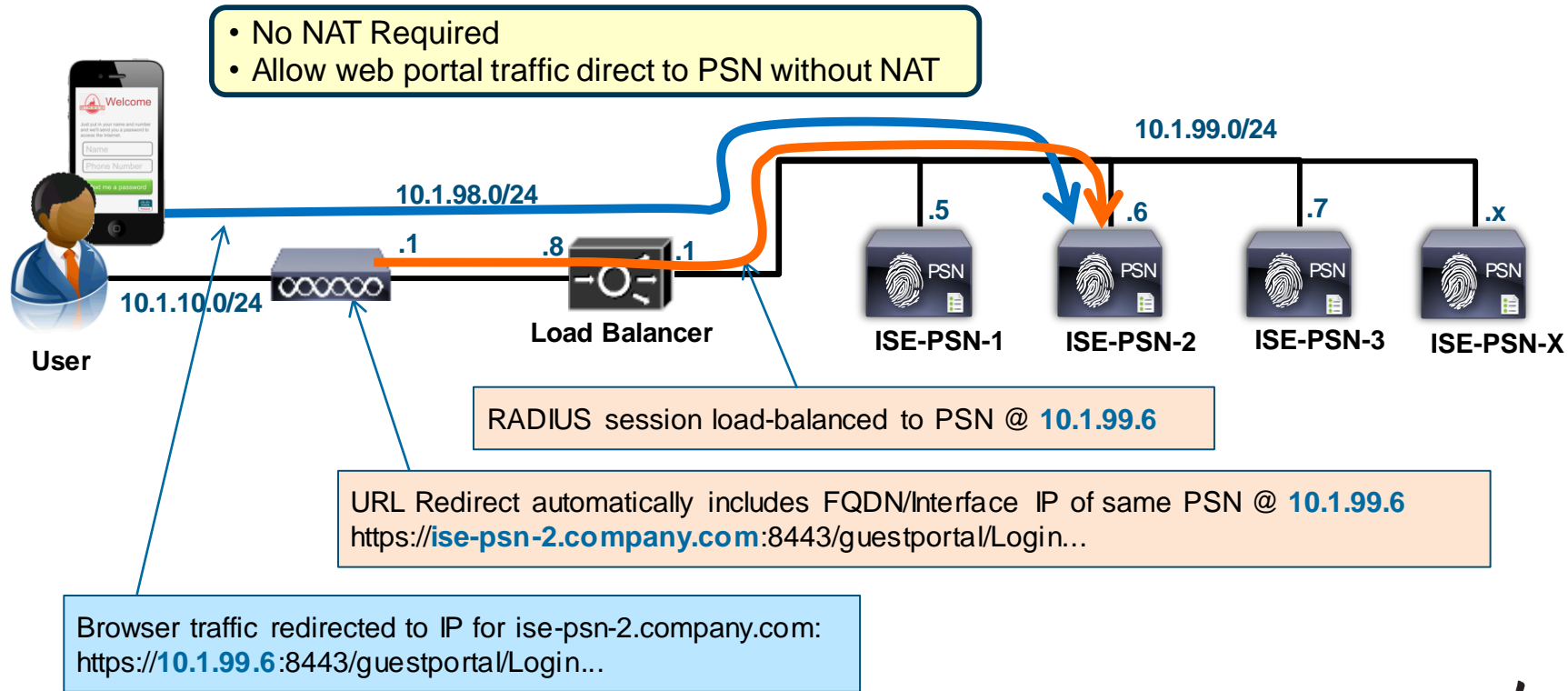
- Use a common FQDN for Subject CN:
Examples: ise.company.com
aaa.company.com
- If Subject CN contains FQDN, add same FQDN to SAN
- **Multi-Domain/UCC* Certificate:** Update SAN with all FQDNs serviced by PSN
OR
Wildcard Certificate: Update SAN with wildcard domain using syntax *.company.local
- If required for static IP hosting, add IP addresses as both DNS and IP entries (increases device compatibility)

The screenshot shows the 'Generate Certificate Signing Request' configuration page. It includes the following fields and annotations:

- Certificate Subject:** CN=ise.company.com (highlighted with an orange box and an orange arrow pointing from the first bullet point).
- Subject Alternative Name (SAN):**
 - DNS Name: ise.company.com (highlighted with an orange box and an orange arrow pointing from the second bullet point).
 - DNS Name: *.company.com (highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow pointing from the third bullet point).
 - DNS Name: 192.168.1.9 (highlighted with a red box and a red arrow pointing from the fourth bullet point).
 - IP Address: 192.168.1.9 (highlighted with a red box and a red arrow pointing from the fourth bullet point).
- Key Length:** 2048
- Digest to Sign With:** SHA-256
- Allow Wildcard Certificates:** (highlighted with a blue box and a blue arrow pointing from the third bullet point).

Load Balancer NAT Guidelines for Web Traffic

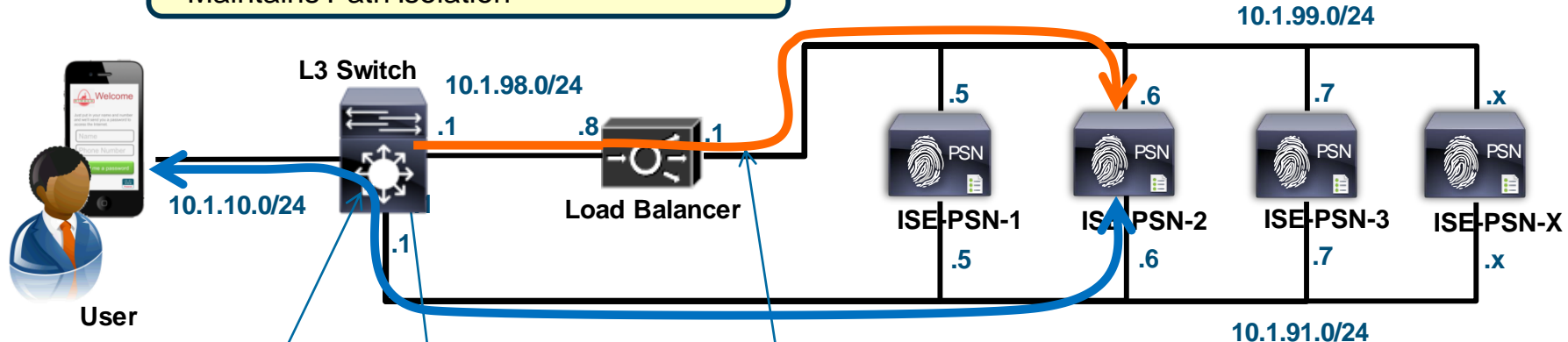
URL-Redirected Traffic with Single PSN Interface



SNAT on L3 Switch for Dedicated Web Interfaces (ISE 1.2)

URL-Redirected Traffic with Dedicated PSN Interface for Web Portals (Single LB interface)

- Source NAT portal traffic to simplify routing
- Maintains Path Isolation



RADIUS session load-balanced to PSN @ 10.1.99.6.

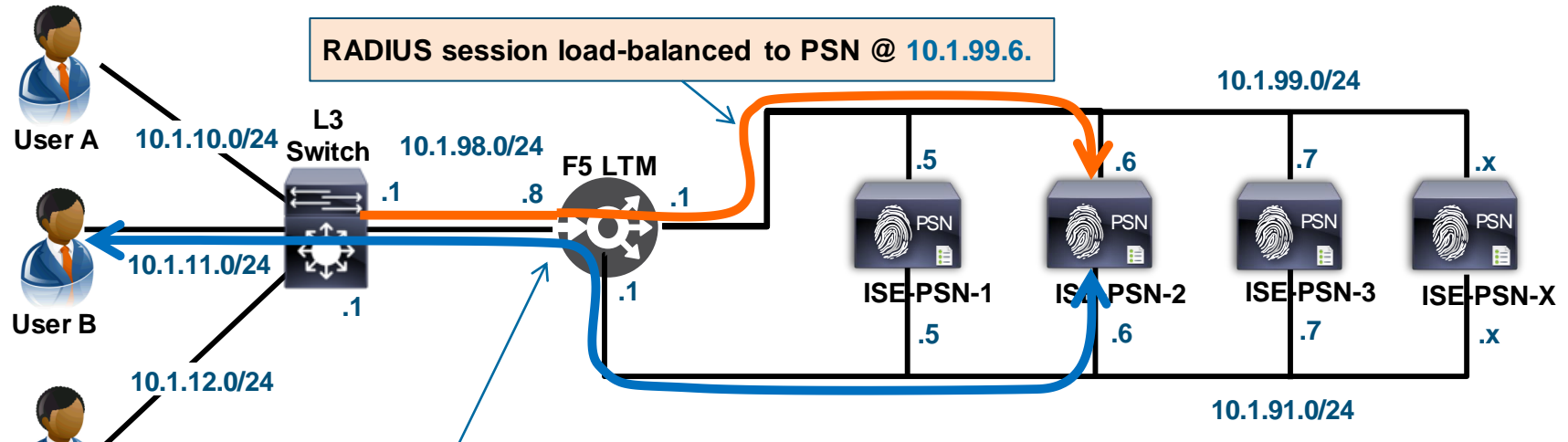
URL Redirect automatically includes FQDN/Interface IP of Web Portal interface for same PSN @ 10.1.91.6: <https://ise-psn-2-guest.company.com:8443/guestportal/Login...>

Source NAT web traffic from user networks destined to PSN web interfaces @ 10.1.91.x; translate to 10.1.91.x (or any address block that can be statically added to PSN route table)
Ensures all Web requests received by PSN web interface are returned out same interface.



SNAT on LB for Dedicated Web Interfaces (ISE 1.2)

Direct Access and URL-Redirected Traffic with Dedicated PSN Web Interfaces



Direct-Access Portals:

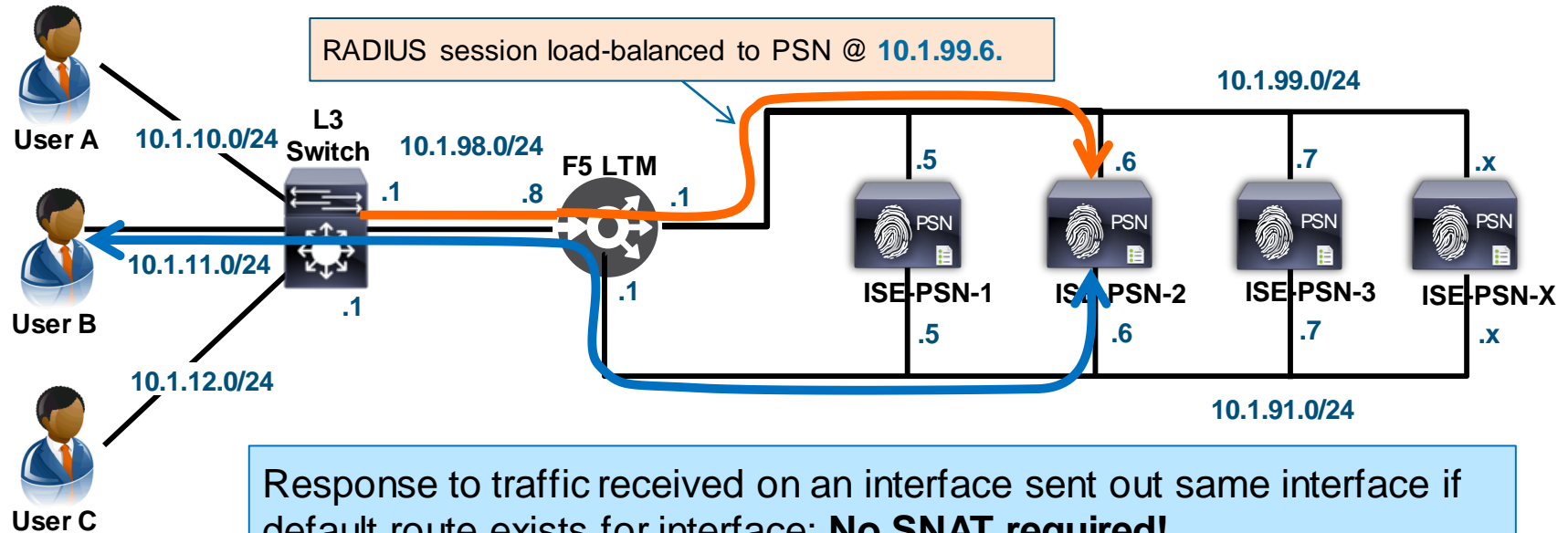
Enable SNAT on Virtual Servers for ISE Sponsor, My Devices, and LWA portals.

URL-Redirected Web Portals/Services:

Enable SNAT on F5 LTM IP Forwarding Virtual Servers.

Dedicated Web Interfaces Under ISE 1.3

Direct Access and URL-Redirected Traffic with Dedicated PSN Web Interfaces



Response to traffic received on an interface sent out same interface if default route exists for interface: **No SNAT required!**

Default route 0.0.0.0/0	10.1.99.1 eth0
Default route 0.0.0.0/0	10.1.91.1 eth1

Dedicated Web Interfaces Under ISE 1.3

Symmetric Traffic Flows

- Configure default routes for each interface to support symmetric return traffic

```
ise13-psn-x/admin# config t  
Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.  
ise13-psn-x/admin(config)# ip route 0.0.0.0 0.0.0.0 gateway 10.1.91.1
```

- Validate new default route

```
ise13-psn-x/admin# sh ip route
```

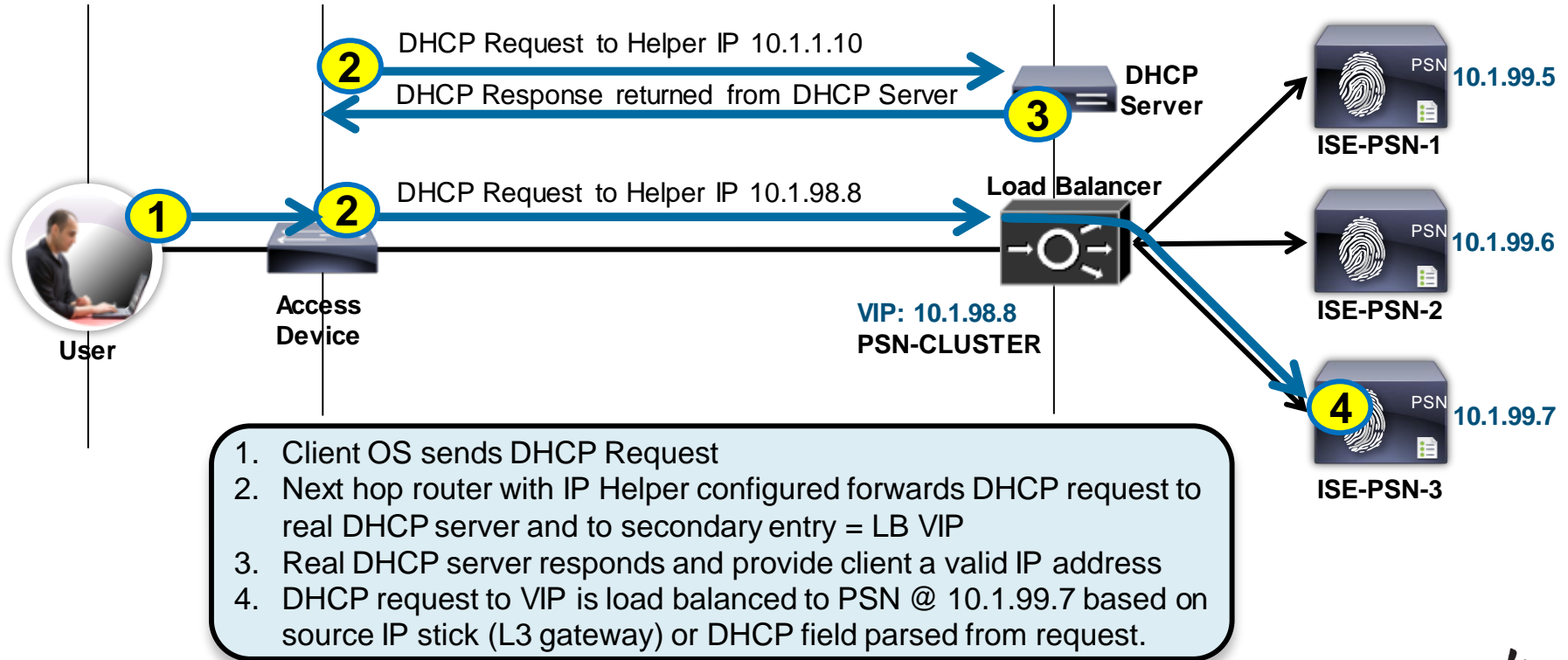
Destination	Gateway	Iface
-----	-----	-----
10.1.91.0/24	0.0.0.0	eth1
10.1.99.0/24	0.0.0.0	eth0
default	10.1.91.1	eth1
default	10.1.99.1	eth0

A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The foreground is dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. In the background, modern city buildings are illuminated with various lights, and a pedestrian bridge spans across the street. The overall scene is a dynamic urban environment.

Load Balancing ISE Profiling Services

Load Balancing Profiling Services

Sample Flow



Load Balancing Simplifies Device Configuration

L3 Switch Example for DHCP Relay

- Before

```
!  
interface Vlan10  
  description EMPLOYEE  
  ip address 10.1.10.1 255.255.255.0  
  ip helper-address 10.1.100.100 <--- Real DHCP Server  
  ip helper-address 10.1.99.5 <--- ISE-PSN-1  
  ip helper-address 10.1.99.6 <--- ISE-PSN-2  
!
```

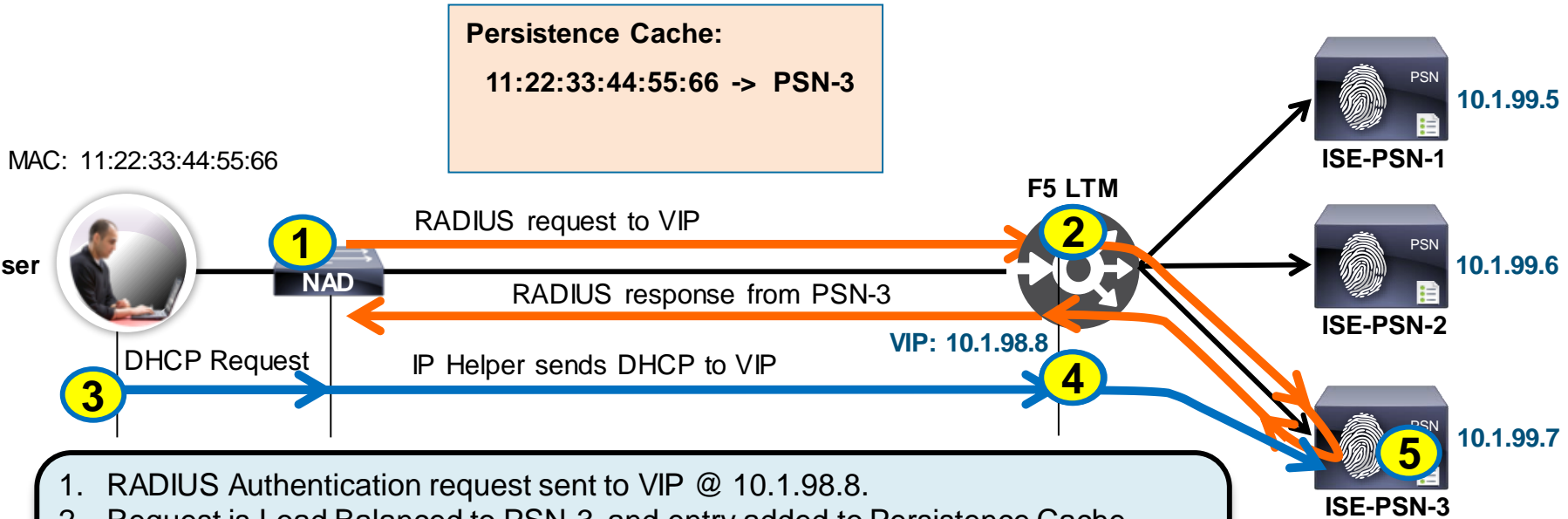
- After

```
!  
interface Vlan10  
  description EMPLOYEE  
  ip address 10.1.10.1 255.255.255.0  
  ip helper-address 10.1.100.100 <--- Real DHCP Server  
  ip helper-address 10.1.98.8 <--- LB VIP  
!
```

Settings
apply to each
L3 interface
servicing
DHCP
endpoints

Load Balancing Sticky Guidelines

Ensure DHCP and RADIUS for a Given Endpoint Use Same PSN



1. RADIUS Authentication request sent to VIP @ 10.1.98.8.
2. Request is Load Balanced to PSN-3, and entry added to Persistence Cache
3. DHCP Request is sent to VIP @ 10.1.98.8
4. Load Balancer uses the same "Sticky" as RADIUS based on client MAC address
5. DHCP is received by *same* PSN, thus optimising endpoint replication

Cisco *live!*

A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The foreground is dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. In the background, modern city buildings are illuminated with various lights, and a pedestrian bridge spans across the street. The overall scene is a dynamic urban environment.

PSN HA Without Load Balancers

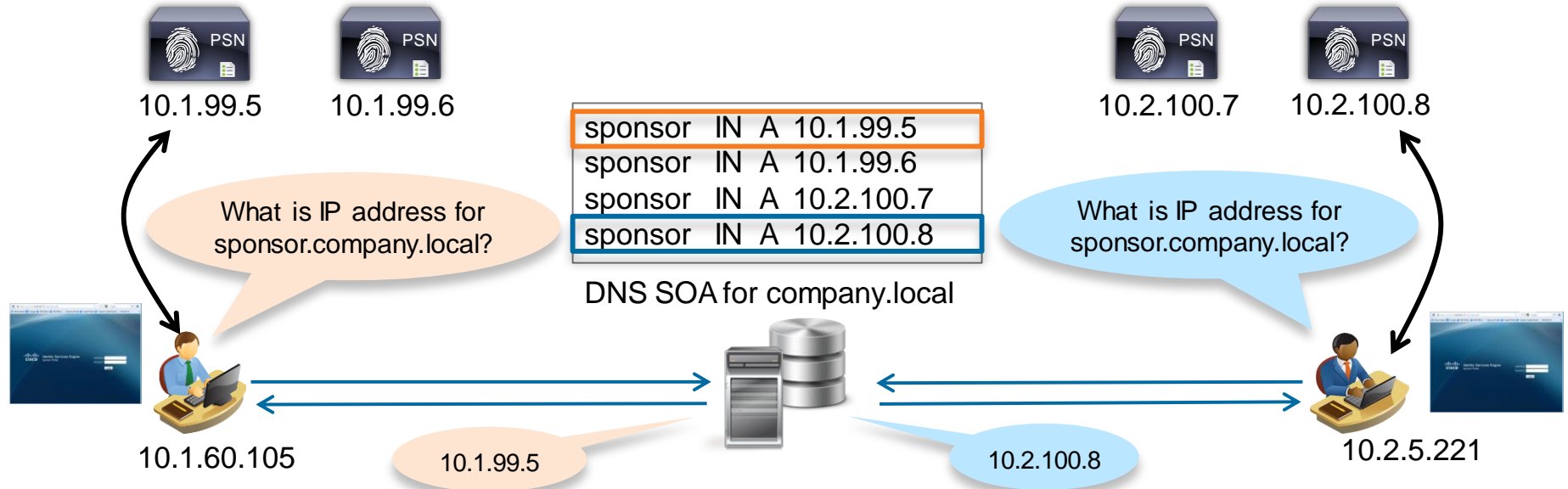


How can my
company get HA and
scalability without
load balancers?

Load Balancing Web Requests Using DNS

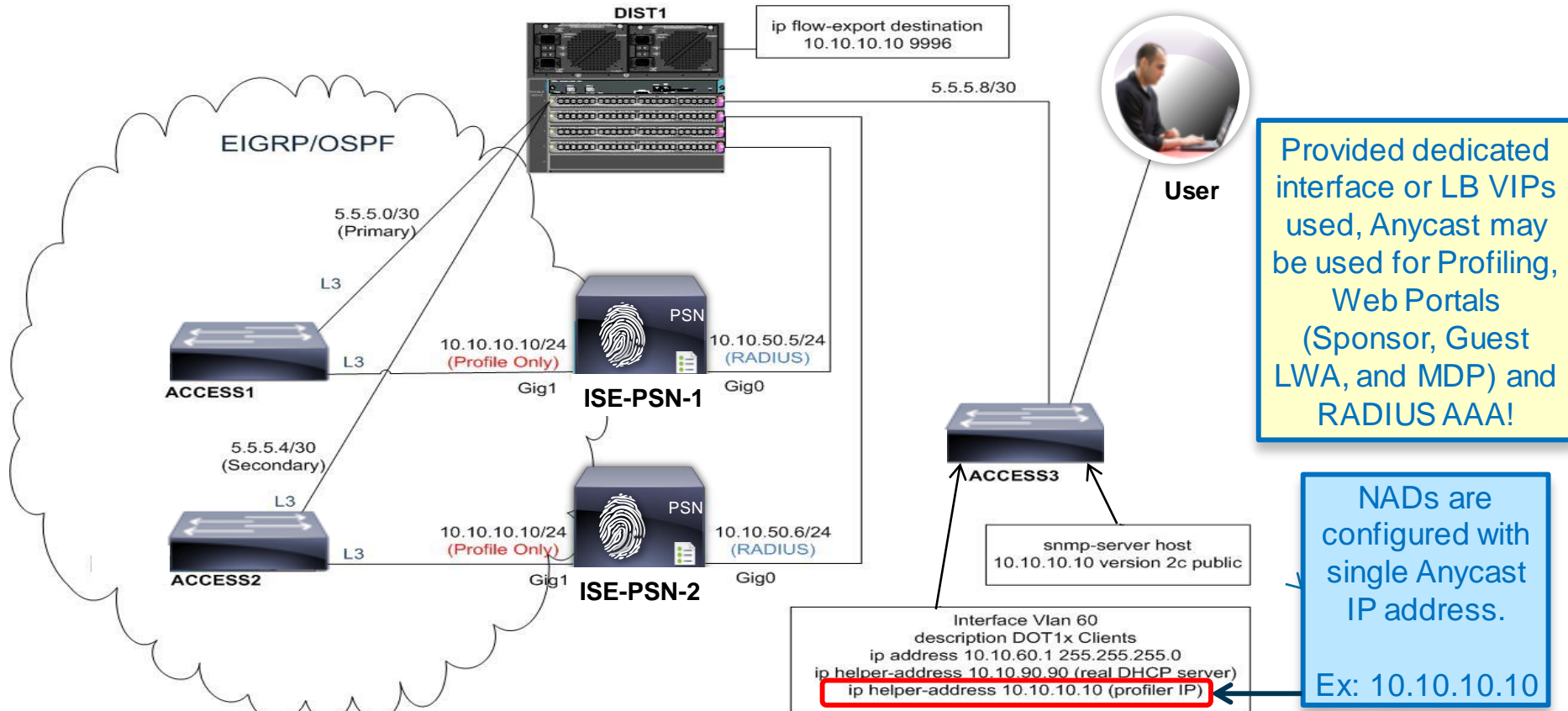
Client-Based Load Balancing/Distribution Based on DNS Response

- Examples:
Cisco Global Site Selector (GSS) / F5 BIG-IP GTM / Microsoft's DNS Round-Robin feature
- Useful for web services that use static URLs including LWA, Sponsor, My Devices, OCSP.



Using Anycast for ISE Redundancy

Profiling Example



ISE Configuration for Anycast

On each PSN that will participate in Anycast...

1. Configure PSN probes to profile DHCP (IP Helper), SNMP Traps, or NetFlow on dedicated interface
2. From CLI, configure dedicated interface with same IP address on each PSN node.

ISE-PSN-1 Example:

```
#ise-psn-1/admin# config t  
#ise-psn-1/admin (config)# int GigabitEthernet1  
#ise-psn-1/admin (config-GigabitEthernet) # ip address 10.10.10.10 255.255.255.0
```

ISE-PSN-2 Example:

```
#ise-psn-1/admin# config t  
#ise-psn-1/admin (config)# int GigabitEthernet1  
#ise-psn-1/admin (config-GigabitEthernet) # ip address 10.10.10.10 255.255.255.0
```

Deployment Nodes List > ise-psn-2

Edit Node

General Settings | Profiling Configuration

NETFLOW

DHCP

Interface: GigabitEthernet 1

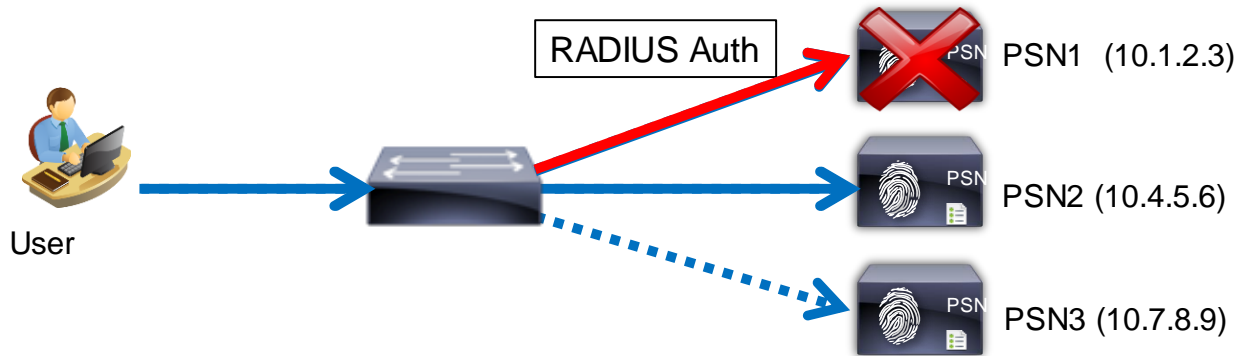
Port: 67

Description: DHCP

NAD-Based RADIUS Server Redundancy (IOS)

Multiple RADIUS Servers Defined in Access Device

- Configure Access Devices with multiple RADIUS Servers.
- Fallback to secondary servers if primary fails

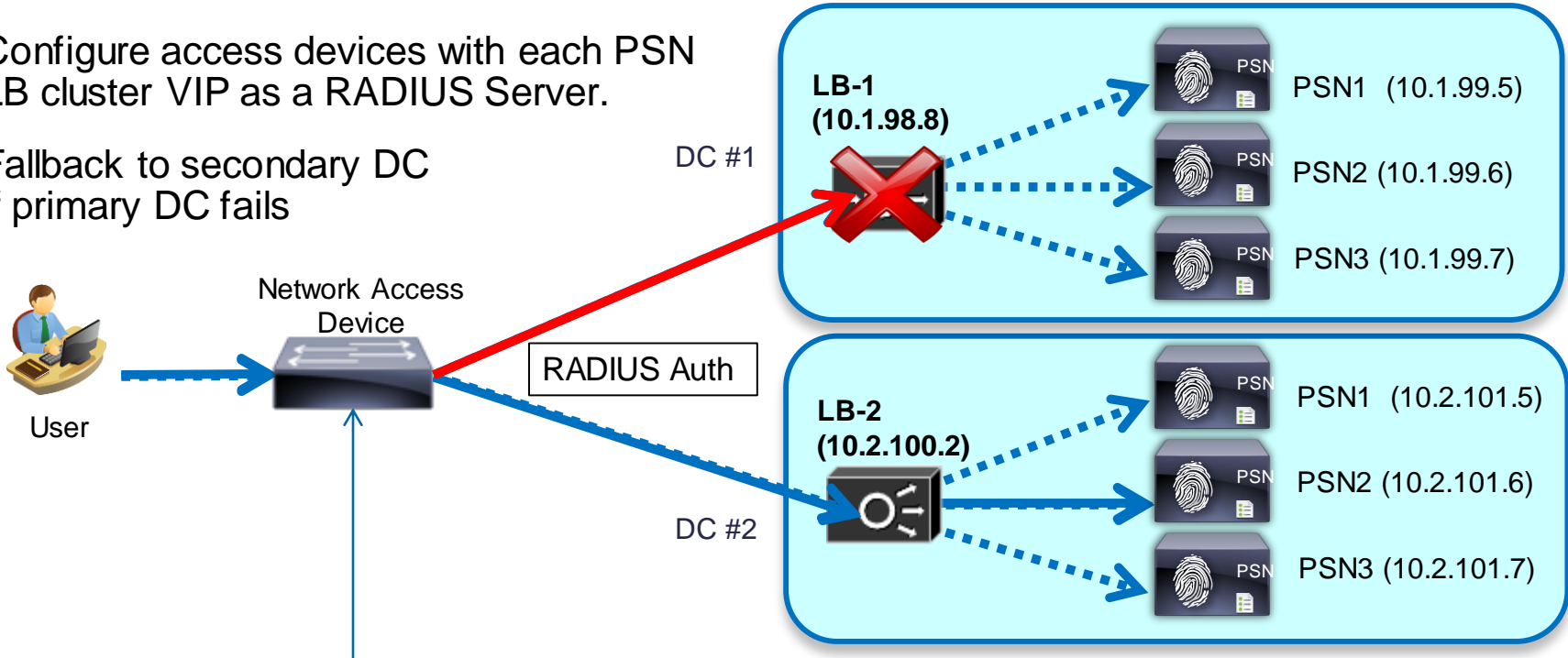


```
radius-server host 10.1.2.3 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
radius-server host 10.4.5.6 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
radius-server host 10.7.8.9 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
```


NAD-Based Redundancy to Different LB Clusters

RADIUS Example – Different RADIUS VIP Addresses

- Configure access devices with each PSN LB cluster VIP as a RADIUS Server.
- Fallback to secondary DC if primary DC fails

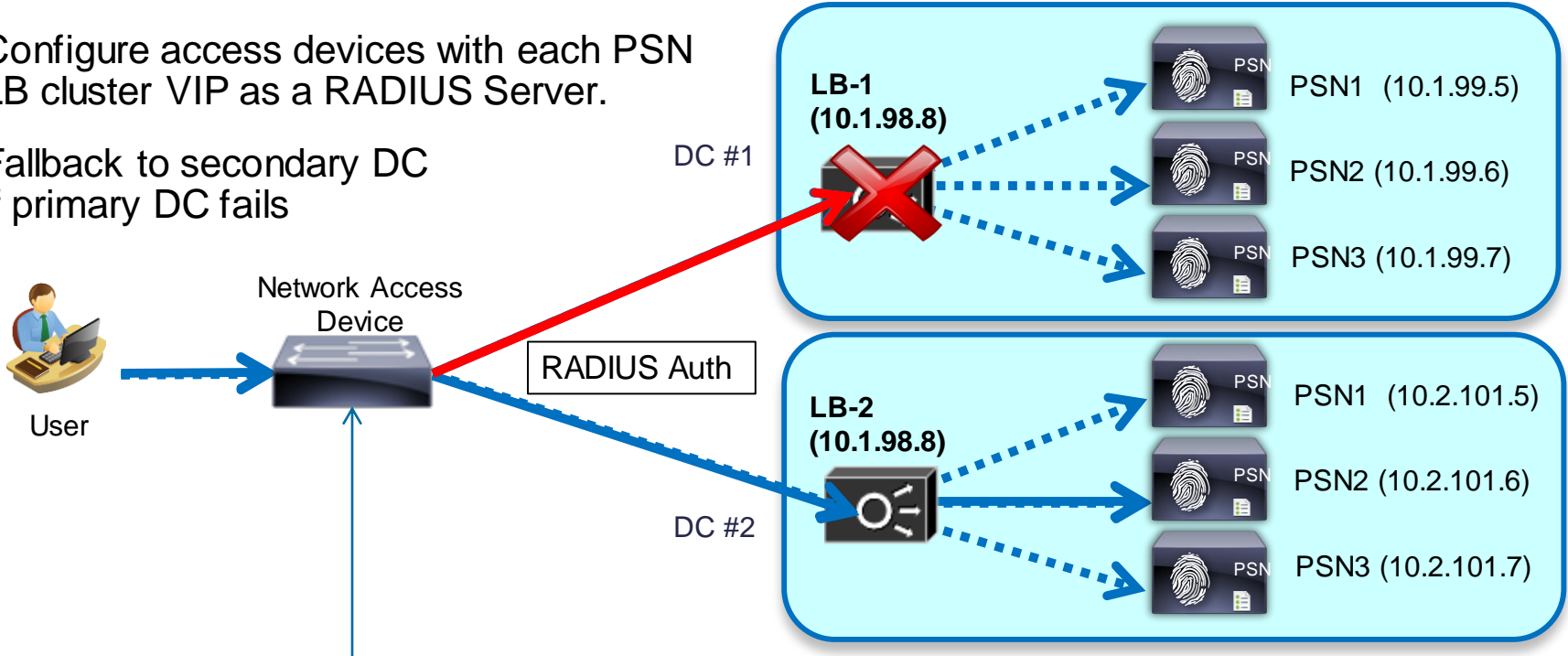


```
radius-server host 10.1.98.8 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
radius-server host 10.2.100.2 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
```

NAD-Based Redundancy to Different LB Clusters

RADIUS Example – Single RADIUS VIP Address using Anycast

- Configure access devices with each PSN LB cluster VIP as a RADIUS Server.
- Fallback to secondary DC if primary DC fails



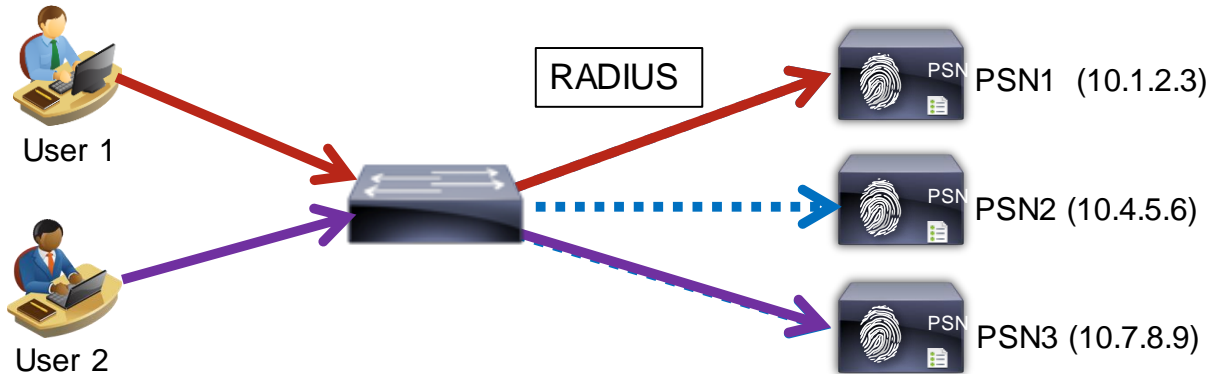
```
radius-server host 10.1.98.8 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
```

CiscoLive!

IOS-Based RADIUS Server Load Balancing

Switch Dynamically Distributes Requests to Multiple RADIUS Servers

- RADIUS LB feature distributes batches of AAA transactions to servers within a group.
- Each batch assigned to server with least number of outstanding transactions.



NAD controls the load distribution of AAA requests to all PSNs in RADIUS group without dedicated LB.

```
radius-server host 10.1.2.3 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
radius-server host 10.4.5.6 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
radius-server host 10.7.8.9 auth-port 1812 acct-port 1813
radius-server load-balance method least-outstanding batch-size 5
```

IOS-Based RADIUS Server Load Balancing

Sample Live Log

- Use **test aaa group** command from IOS CLI to test RADIUS auth requests

Reasonable load distribution across all PSNs
Example shows 3 PSNs in RADIUS group

Time	Status	Details	Identity	Server	Network Device	Authorization Profiles
Oct 11,12 12:50:08.040 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-1	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:08.038 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-3	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:08.036 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-2	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:08.026 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-3	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:08.009 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-3	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
00:08.009 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-1	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
00:07.091 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-2	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
00:07.089 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-3	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
00:07.089 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-1	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
00:07.088 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-2	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
00:07.084 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-1	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:07.050 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-2	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:07.035 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-2	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes
Oct 11,12 12:50:07.033 AM	✓	radtest	radtest	ise-psn-1	cat3750x	RADIUS_Probes

```
cat3750x# test aaa group radius radtest cisco123 new users 4 count 50  
AAA/SG/TEST: Sending 50 Access-Requests @ 10/sec, 0 Accounting-Requests @ 10/sec
```

NAD-Based RADIUS Redundancy (WLC)

Wireless LAN Controller

- Multiple RADIUS Auth & Accounting Server Definitions
- RADIUS Fallback options: **none**, **passive**, or **active**

Security

AAA

General

RADIUS

Authentication
Accounting
Fallback

MONITOR WLANS CONTROLLER WIRELESS SECURITY

RADIUS Authentication Servers

Call Station ID Type ¹ System MAC Address

Use AES Key Wrap (Designed for FIPS customers and requires

MAC Delimiter Hyphen

Network User	Management	Server Index	Server Address	Port
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	10.1.99.5	1812
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	10.1.99.6	1812
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7	10.1.99.7	1812
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8	10.1.98.10	1812

RADIUS > Fallback Parameters

Fallback Mode

Username
 Password=
 Username

Interval in sec.

Off = Continue exhaustively through list; never preempt to preferred server (entry with lowest index)

Passive = Quarantine failed RADIUS server for interval then return to active list w/o validation; always preempt.

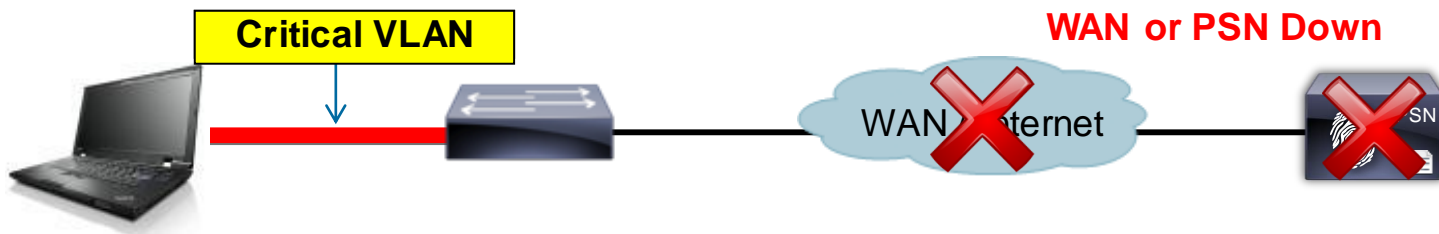
Active = Mark failed server dead then actively probe status per interval w/username until succeed before return to list; always preempt.

A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The foreground is dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. In the background, a modern pedestrian bridge with blue lighting spans across the street. Tall buildings with illuminated windows and signs are visible, along with several flags on poles to the left. The overall scene is a dynamic urban environment.

NAD Fallback and Recovery

Inaccessible Authentication Bypass (IAB)

Also Known As “Critical Auth VLAN” for Data



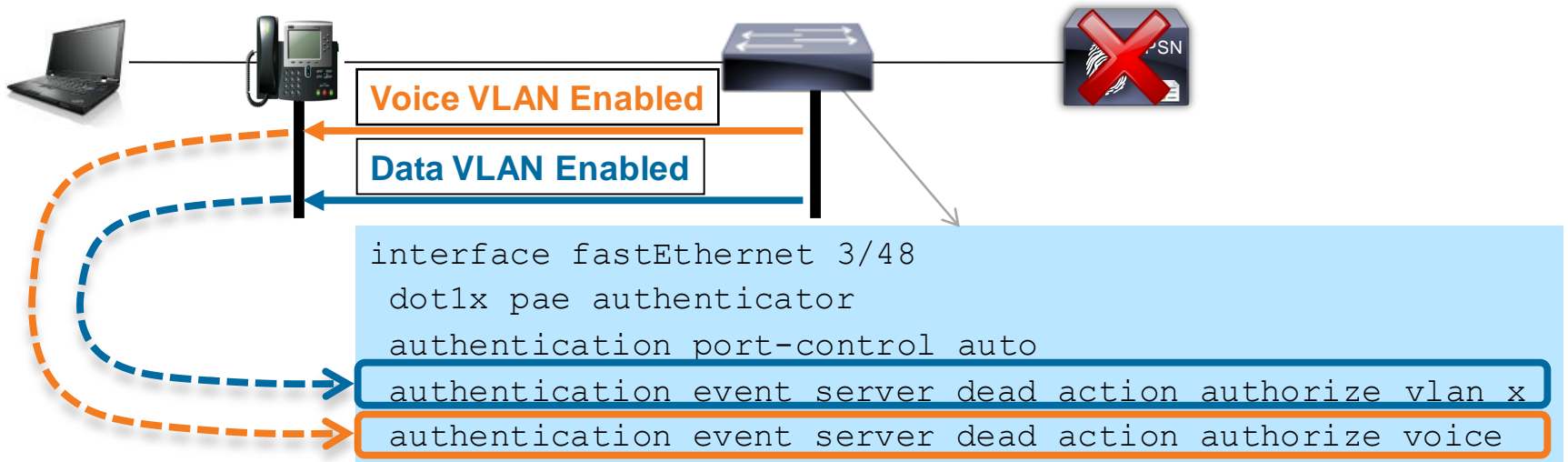
- Switch detects PSN unavailable by one of two methods
 - Periodic probe
 - Failure to respond to AAA request
- Enables port in critical VLAN
- Existing sessions retain authorisation status
- Recovery action can re-initialise port when AAA returns

Critical VLAN can be anything:

- Same as default access VLAN
- Same as guest/auth-fail VLAN
- New VLAN

```
authentication event server dead action authorize vlan 100
authentication event server alive action reinitialize
```

Critical Auth for Data and Voice



```
# show authentication sessions interface fa3/48
...
Critical Authorisation is in effect for domain(s) DATA and VOICE
```

Default Port ACL Issues with Critical VLAN

Limited Access Even After Authorisation to New VLAN!

- Data VLAN reassigned to critical auth VLAN, but new (or reinitialised) connections are still restricted by existing port ACL!



```
interface GigabitEthernet1/0/2
switchport access vlan 10
switchport voice vlan 13
ip access-group ACL-DEFAULT in
authentication event server dead action reinitialize vlan 11
authentication event server dead action authorize voice
authentication event server alive action reinitialize
```

```
ip access-list extended ACL-DEFAULT
permit udp any eq bootpc any eq bootps
permit udp any any eq domain
permit icmp any any
permit udp any any eq tftp
```


Using Embedded Event Manager with Critical VLAN

Modify or Remove/Add Static Port ACLs Based on PSN Availability

- Allows scripted actions to occur based on various conditions and triggers

```
track 1 ip route 10.1.98.0 255.255.255.0 reachability
event manager applet default-acl-fallback
  event track 1 state down maxrun 5
  action 1.0 cli command "enable"
  action 1.1 cli command "conf t" pattern "CNTL/Z."
  action 2.0 cli command "ip access-list extended ACL-DEFAULT"
  action 3.0 cli command "1 permit ip any any"
  action 4.0 cli command "end"
event manager applet default-acl-recovery
  event track 1 state up maxrun 5
  action 1.0 cli command "enable"
  action 1.1 cli command "conf t" pattern "CNTL/Z."
  action 2.0 cli command "ip access-list extended ACL-DEFAULT"
  action 3.0 cli command "no 1 permit ip any any"
  action 4.0 cli command "end"
```

PROGRIZON

EEM Policy Builder:

www.progrizon.com/support/pb/pb.php



EEM available
on Catalyst
3k/4k/6k
switches

Critical ACL Using Service Policy Templates

Apply ACL, VLAN, or SGT on RADIUS Server Failure!

- Critical Auth ACL applied on Server Down



```
interface GigabitEthernet1/0/2
switchport access vlan 10
switchport voice vlan 13
ip access-group ACL-DEFAULT in
access-session port-control auto
mab
dot1x pae authenticator
service-policy type control subscriber ACCESS-POLICY
```

```
ip access-list extended ACL-DEFAULT
permit udp any eq bootpc any eq bootps
permit udp any any eq domain
permit icmp any any
permit udp any any eq tftp
```

Critical ACL Using Service Policy Templates

Apply ACL, VLAN, or SGT on RADIUS Server Failure!

2k/3k/4k: 15.2(1)E
3k IOS-XE: 3.3.0SE
4k: IOS-XE 3.5.0E
6k: 15.2(1)SY

- Critical Auth ACL applied on Server Down



policy-map type control subscriber ACCESS-POLICY

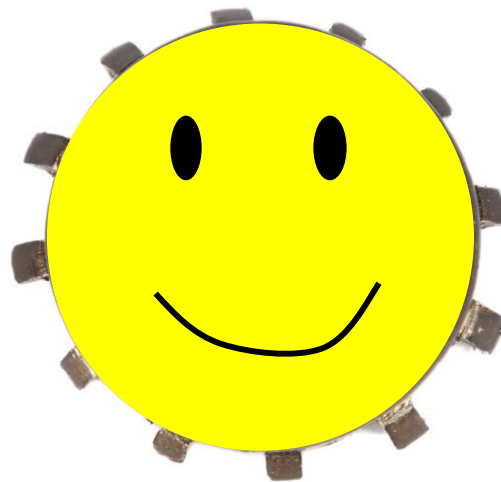
```
event authentication-failure match-first
10 class AAA_SVR_DOWN_UNAUTHD_HOST do-until-failure
10 activate service-template CRITICAL_AUTH_VLAN
20 activate service-template DEFAULT_CRITICAL_VOICE_TEMPLATE
30 activate service-template CRITICAL-ACCESS
```

service-template CRITICAL-ACCESS

```
access-group ACL-CRITICAL
service-template CRITICAL_AUTH_VLAN
vlan 10
service-template DEFAULT_CRITICAL_VOICE_TEMPLATE
voice vlan
```

```
ip access-list extended ACL-CRITICAL
remark Deny access to PCI zone scopes
deny tcp any 172.16.8.0 255.255.240.0
deny udp any 172.16.8.0 255.255.240.0
deny ip any 192.168.0.0 255.255.0.0
permit ip any any
```

Exiting Large Scale / HA Design Matrix... Okay to Unplug



ISE Scalability and High Availability

Summary Review

- Appliance selection and persona allocation impacts deployment size.
- VM appliances need to be configured per physical appliance sizing specs.
- Profiling scalability tied to DB replication—deploy node groups and optimise PSN collection.
- Leverage ISE 1.2 noise suppression to increase auth capacity and reduce storage reqs.
- ISE 1.3 further enhances scalability with multi-AD and auto-device registration & purge.
- Admin, MnT, pxGrid, and IPN HA based on a Primary to Secondary node failover.
- Load balancers can offer higher scaling and redundancy for PSN clusters.
- Non-LB options include “smart” DNS, AnyCast, multiple RADIUS server definitions in the access devices, and IOS RADIUS LB.
- Special consideration must be given to NAD fallback and recovery options when no RADIUS servers are available including Critical Auth VLANs for data and voice.
- IBNS 2.0 and EEM offer advanced local intelligence in failover scenarios.



Cisco and F5 Deployment Guide: ISE Load Balancing using BIG-IP

Secure Access How -To Guides Series

Author: Craig Hyps, Cisco Systems

Date: December 2014

Cisco and F5 Deployment Guide: ISE Load Balancing using BIG-IP:

[http://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/ise/how_to/HowTo-95-Cisco and F5 Deployment Guide-ISE Load Balancing Using BIG-IP_DF.pdf](http://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/td/docs/security/ise/how_to/HowTo-95-Cisco_and_F5_Deployment_Guide-ISE_Load_Balancing_Using_BIG-IP_DF.pdf)

ISE How-To and Design Guides:

<http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/security/identity-services-engine/products-implementation-design-guides-list.html>

Recommended Reading

- <http://amzn.com/1587143259>



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