

Experience From the Field – How we use Cisco DNA Center to Level up at Region Värmland in Sweden

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Agenda

- IT-operations and challenges
- Our network infrastructure
- DNA Center Use Cases
- Insights and final thoughts

Click here for more details



Who are we?

Fredrik Carlén

Multi-studies at university: Informatics, management, history, sociology and project management



IT Operations manager, Infrastructure (ex Network Engineer)

Spend a lot of time in the forest with my dachshund.



David Järpestam

Philosophy Bachelor's Degree Computer Science, Network Engineering



Senior Network Engineer Scrum master for the network team IoT-geek and father of two small ones

Riding my homebuilt 1000W e-MTB





Region Värmland - whereabouts in Sweden?





Region Värmland - Into the wild, still high tech ©









What about the organization Region Värmland?

Is responsible for all the county of Värmland's publicly funded:

Health care Public transport Culture Education











Karlstad - our main site





IT-operations & Challenges



Our unit - IT Platform and Client solutions

40 colleugues in different roles

- Infrastructure
- Client
- Telephone



Operations, 2/3-line support, development and strategy

Agile teams inspired by scrum with a 2-week sprint beat.



The network team

Seven happy network engineers!



"Our mission is to maintain, operate, and develop the network platform to meet the needs of the the users, staff and vistors in our organization."



The Network Infrastructure



The Network Infrastructure

- Hierarchical network model
- 2500 network devices
- 16000 endpoints
- · Core: Catalyst 9600R
- Distribution: Catalyst 9500-48Y4C
- · Access: Catalyst 9200/9300
- AAA: Identity Service Engine 3655



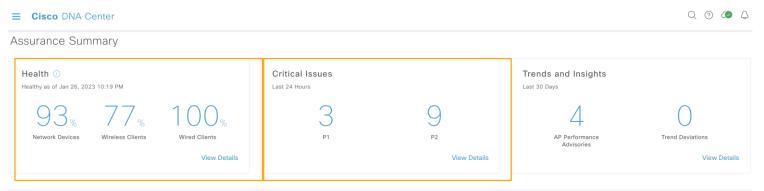






Cisco DNA Center

Cisco DNA Center Appliance 44 Core (Gen 2), 3 node cluster (DN2-HW-APL-U)



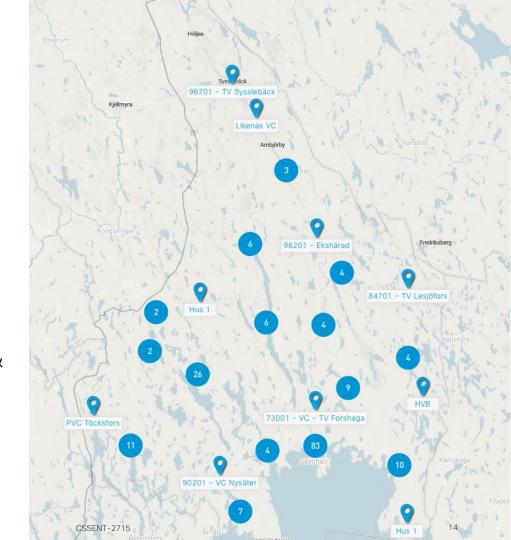
Network Snapshot



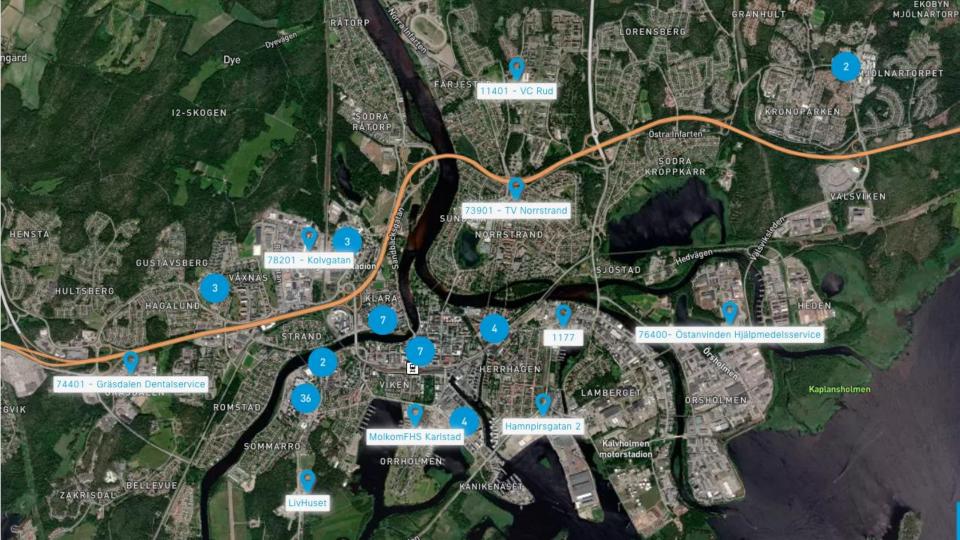
DNA Center Site Hierarchy

- Geographical area/site
- Buildings/Floors with x/y coordinates
- Get maps for your buildings!

Why? Unique Network profiles & Network settings per site







DNA Center Use Cases



Network Assurance

Network Automation



Cisco DNA Center Network Assurance

- Network view
- Client view
- Issues (P1, P2, P3, AI)

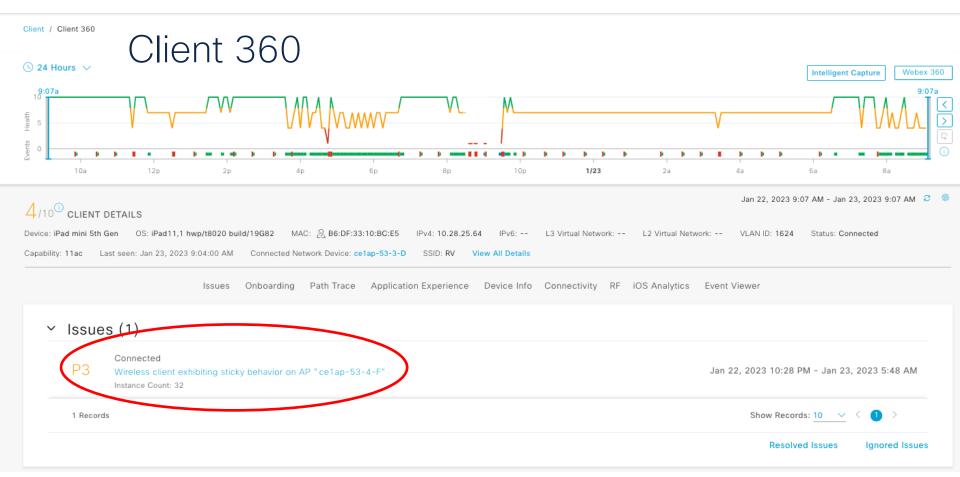


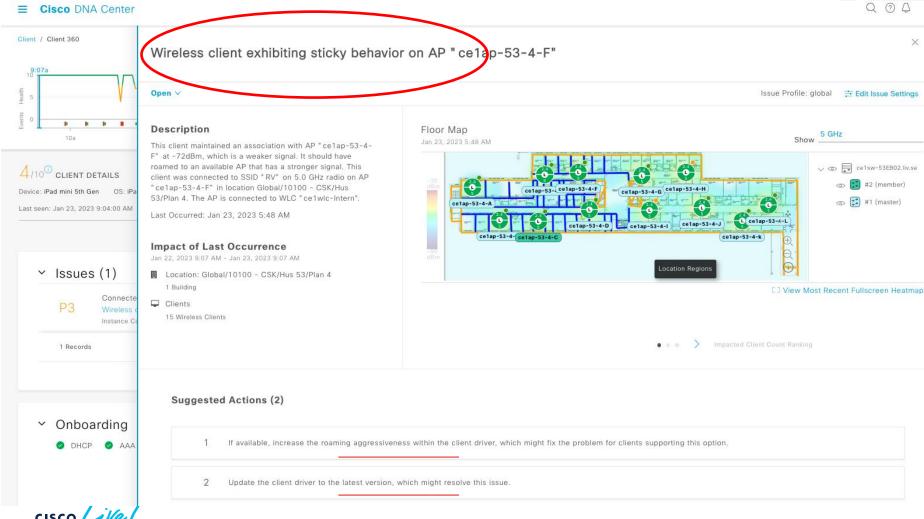


Assurance - Client dashboard

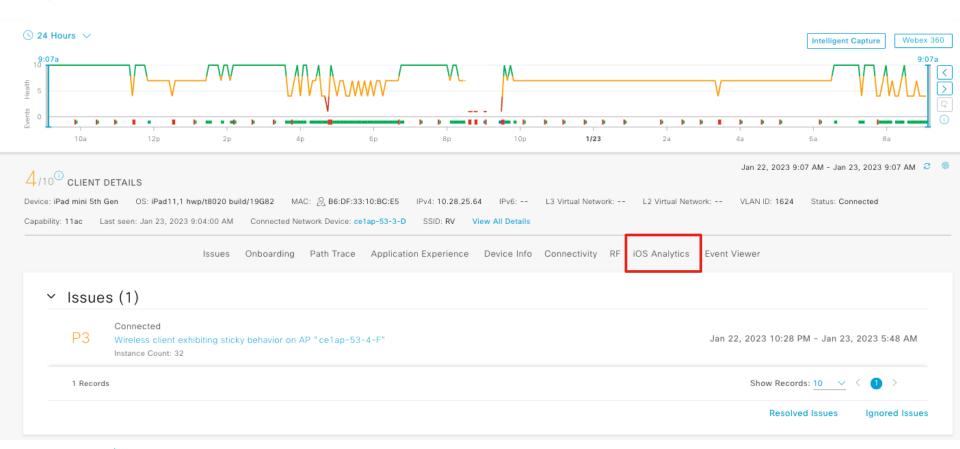


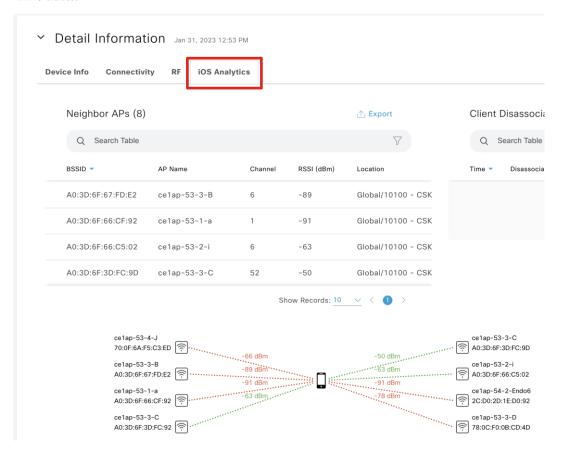








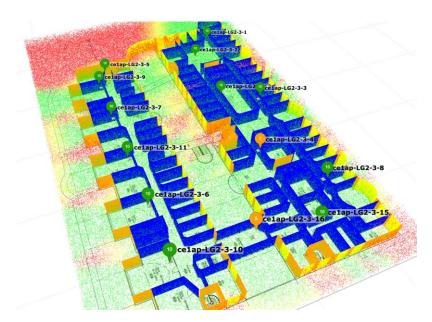




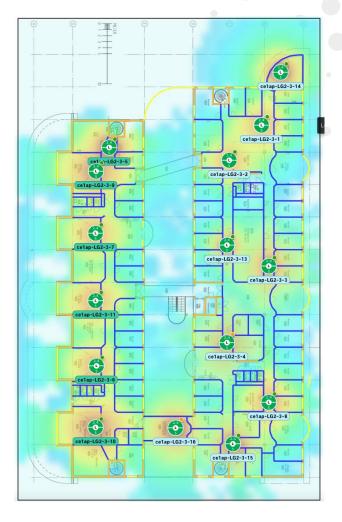


Network Heatmap

·2D & 3D



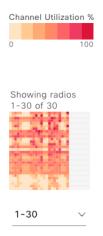


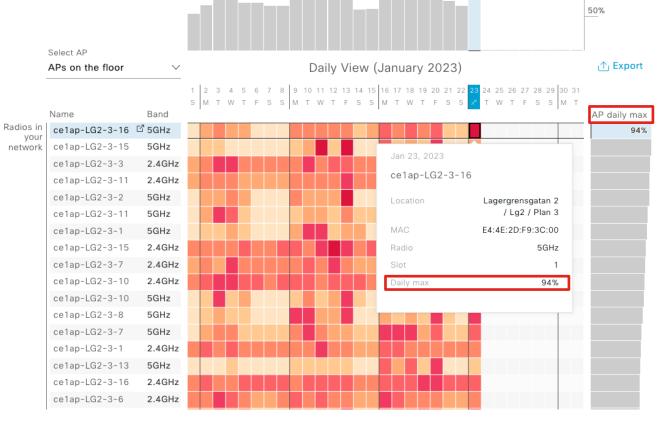




Daily Max

Channel Utilization example







Jan 23, 2023

Cisco DNA Center Network Automation

- Configuration Archive & Config drift
- Plug and Play (Day 0)
- Provision (Day 2)
- Software Image Management (SWIM)





Network Device Configuration Backup and Archive

Latest config in the inventory

Incremental changes?

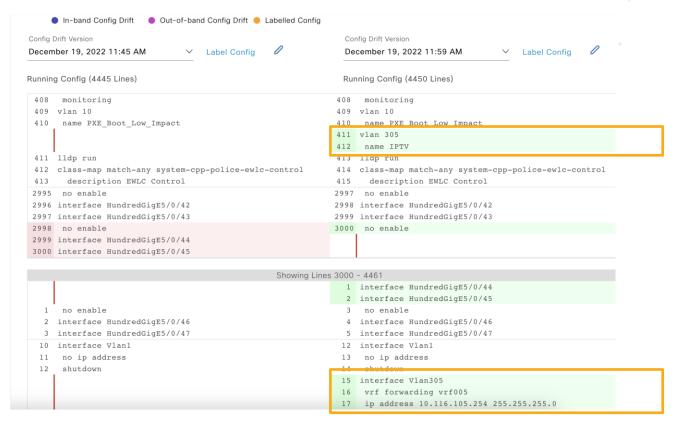
DNA-C is unavaliable?





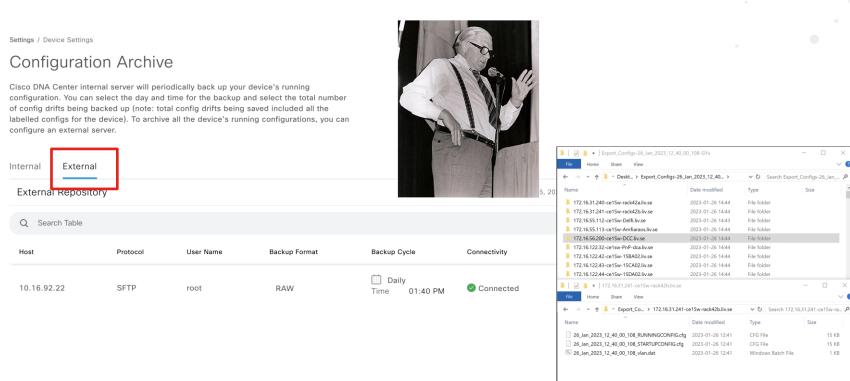
Network Device Configuration Backup and Archive

Config





Network Device Configuration Backup and Archive





Network Automation - Plug and Pl

- How do we use it here at Region Värmland?
 - Option 43 "5A1N;B2;I10.1.1.1;J80;K4";
- One workflow to rule them all
- PNP Startup VLAN



The Karlstad University incident...



Provision switches using templates

- How about adding the more advanced configurat
 - Using TAG's
 - Variables
 - Jinja scripts

Template vlan 317 name vrf017-fallback 98 99 vlan 305 100 name vrf005-IPTV 101 vlan \$Management-vlan-AP 102 name RV-accesspoint 103 104 105 vlan \$vlan-eklient name RV-eklient 106 107 108 vlan \$vlan-IPT 109 name RV-IPT 110 111 vlan \$vlan-Printer name RV-Printer



CSSENT-2715

```
Template

1 {% if 10 < 6 %}
2 That's not correct
3 {% elif 6 > 10 %}
4 That's also wrong
5 {% else %}
6 {% if 'o' in "Router" %}
7 Seems to be true
8 {% endif %}
9 {% endif %}
```

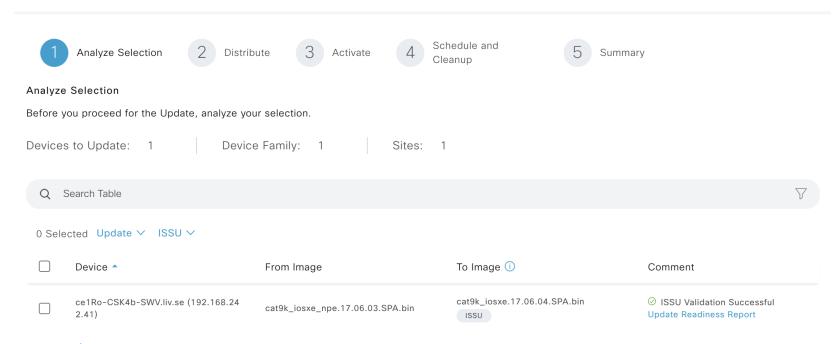
```
Template
      #if ( $skipconfig.contains('uplinks') )
 992
 993
      #else
      #if(${VLAN Link 1} != '' && ${VLAN Link 1} != 0 )
 994
        vlan ${VLAN Link 1}
 996
        #if( ${VLAN Link 1} < '200')
 997
         name REF-D1
 998
        #elseif( ${VLAN_Link_1} < '300' )
 999
         name REF-D2
        #elseif( ${VLAN Link 1} < '400' )</pre>
1000
1001
         name REF-RADIO LINK
1002
1003
1004
      interface vlan${VLAN Link 1}
1005
       dampening
1006
       #set( $fourthrest link1 = $fourthnumber link1%2 )
1007
        #if($fourthrest link1 == 0)
1008
          #set( $fourthnumber link1 = $fourthnumber link1+1 )
1009
1010
       ip address ${IP Link 1} ${netmask Link 1}
1011
       no ip redirects
1012
       no ip proxy-arp
1013
       ip pim sparse-mode
1014
       ip router isis Core
1015
       no shutdown
1016
       mpls ip
       bfd interval 750 min rx 750 multiplier 3
1017
1018
       isis network point-to-point
1019
       #if(( ${VLAN_Link_1} > 299) && (${VLAN_Link_1} < 400))
1020
       isis metric 5000 level-2
1021
1022 #end
```



Software Image Management (SWIM+ISSU)

Stay up to the with the current image

Image Update





The IOS Upgrade incident

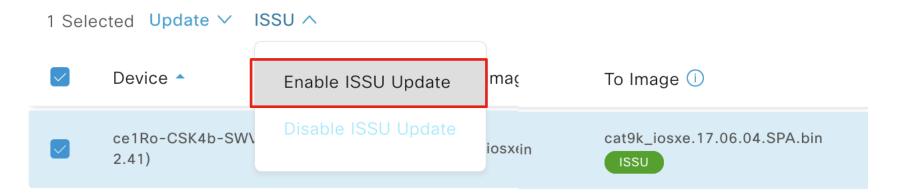
- Our colleague
- 30+ years network engineer
- "Old school" ☺





Software Image Management (SWIM+ISSU)

What did he forget?



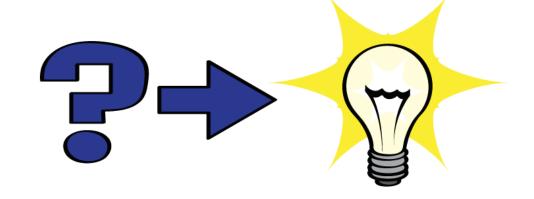


Insights & final thoughts



Final thoughts

- Use Cisco CX for guidance/best practice
- Cisco TAC a good way to get fast help
- Think about your logical site structure
- Push Docker apps via DNAC
- EoX report is very valuable!







Thank you



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