



# TNE10006/TNE60006: Networks and Switching



## Switch Configuration – Best Practices

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# Outline

- Disabling Ports
- Blackhole VLANs
- Forcing Switchport Mode
- Switchport Security



## Securing Ports

# Disabling Ports

- Switch ports are enabled by default
- Usually patched to outlets in semi-public spaces
- Any user can plug in a computer and get access to that VLAN

## Best Practice

- Switch ports that are connected to semi-public spaces that are not in use should be disabled

```
int f0/6
```

```
shutdown
```



## Securing Ports

# Blackhole VLANs

- Even if a port is disabled, it may be enabled accidentally by a network operator
- Then provides access to nominated VLAN
- Default setting, access is granted to the switch management VLAN

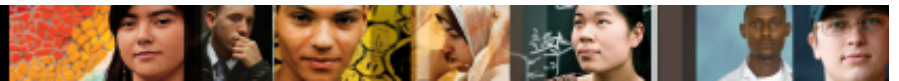
## Best Practice

- Create a VLAN that is not used for real network traffic
- Assign unused switch ports to be access ports in that VLAN (and shutdown)

```

int f0/6
shutdown

switchport mode access
switchport access vlan 200
    
```



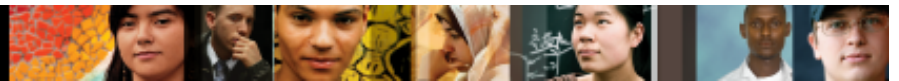
## Securing Ports

# Forcing Switchport Mode

- Default port mode is DTP dynamic auto
- An attacker can configure a PC to talk DTP to the switch
  - Get access to a trunk link – Switch spoofing
  - Access all traffic on all VLANS

## Best Practice

- Trunk ports should be forced to be trunk  
`switchport mode trunk`
- Access ports should be forced access  
`switchport mode access`
- Unused ports should be forced access  
`switchport mode access`



## Switch Port Security Concepts

- Limits the number of valid MAC addresses allowed on a port
- Only traffic from MAC addresses of legitimate devices is allowed
- Configuring secure MAC addresses:
  - **Static** – Programmed MAC addresses
  - **Dynamic** – Current MAC addresses programmed
  - **Sticky** – Switch auto-adds MAC addresses up to limit
- Illegal traffic causes a security violation occurs
- Possible actions when a violation is detected:
  - **Protect** – Invalid frames are dropped, valid frames are sent
  - **Restrict** – As per protect but violation counter is incremented
  - **Shutdown** – Port goes to **error-disabled** state



## Switch Port Security

# Default Port Security Settings

Feature	Default Setting
Port security	Disabled on a port.
Maximum number of secure MAC addresses	1
Violation mode	Shutdown. The port shuts down when the maximum number of secure MAC addresses is exceeded, and an SNMP trap notification is sent.
Sticky address learning	Disabled.



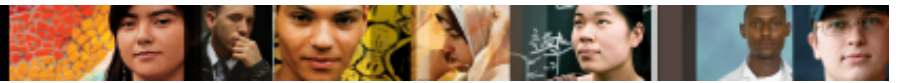
## Switch Port Security

# Ports In Error Disabled State

- A port in error-disabled state is effectively shutdown
  - Status communicated through console messages
- To re-enable an **error-disabled** port:

```
S1(config)#interface FastEthernet 0/18
S1(config-if)# shutdown
Sep 20 06:57:28.532: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface
FastEthernet0/18, changed state to administratively down
S1(config-if)# no shutdown
Sep 20 06:57:48.186: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface
FastEthernet0/18, changed state to up
Sep 20 06:57:49.193: %LINEPROTO-5-UPDOWN: Line protocol on
Interface
FastEthernet0/18, changed state to up
```





## VLANs

# Summary

In this lecture, we covered:

- Disabling Ports
- Blackhole VLANs
- Forcing Switchport Mode
- Switchport Security