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Abstract

This document outlines the WAN design for our companies’ network. It includes evidence of choices made, and configuration files for each device.

Phase 2 WAN Design and implementation

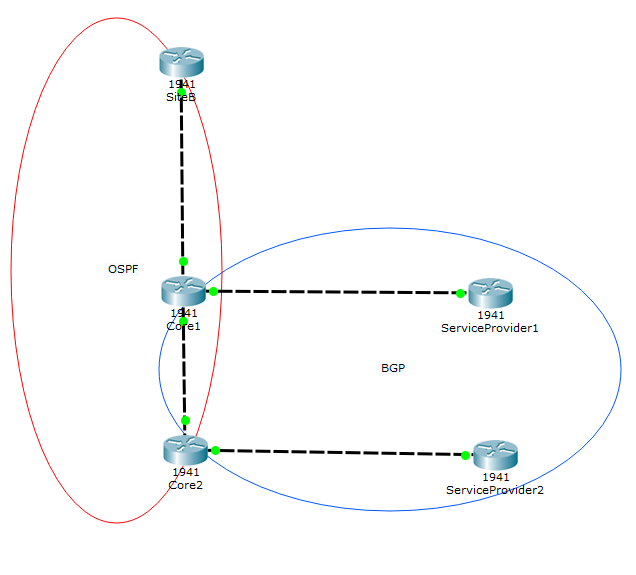
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# Overview

This document outlines the WAN design for our companies’ network. It includes evidence of choices made, and configuration files for each device.

Please refer to Phase One document for the LAN design of the head office.

# Head Office & Site B Physical Topology



# OSPF

Open Shortest Path First (OSPF) will be configured between the gateway routers, distribution switches, and the dark fibre link to Site B. OSPF offers faster convergence and scales to larger network implementations than the older protocol RIP. It is a link state routing protocol that was developed as a replacement for the distance vector routing protocol offered by RIP. RIP uses hop-count as the only metric, which can quickly become problematic, whereas OSPF looks at a number of factor when deciding the best route to take. These factors can be customised by the network administration for greater control over network paths.

We will implement multi-area OSPF between the head office and Site B. This will reduce the number of link state advertisements (LSA) flooding the network. Core 1 router will act as the Area Border Router (ABR). Core 1 will also be the DR by setting the ip ospf priority on all internal interfaces to 5. Core 1 has been chosen as the DR because it is the ABR and the priority connection to the service provider.

Splitting the Head Office and Site B into two different areas has the following benefits:

* Smaller routing table, as networks can be advertised as a summary.
* Smaller Link State Database (LSDB), as routers only need to know their area.
* Reduced SPF algorithm calculations, as an ABR only needs to run the SPF algorithm when there is a change an associated area.

Our Head Office site is going to act as our backbone area, or Area 0. Site B will be Area 1.

Using another router as the ABR was considered, however it was determined that due to a relatively low number of employees, a single router acting as the ABR, and part of the Head Office network, would easily meet our requirements.

OSPFv4 is being used in our network as we are using IPv4 as our IP protocol. A further advantage of OSPF is that MD5 can be implemented, to improve network security. This means that routers will only accept OSPF updates from peers with the same pre-shared password.

# BGP

## What is BGP?

Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) is an exterior routing protocol. It allows routers to send packets to router in different networks / Autonomous Systems (AS). BGP uses TCP as the transport protocol, on port 179 (BGP Case Studies, 2008). This allows BGP routers to peer with other BGP routers that are more than one hop away.

Before BGP routers can exchange routing information, the routers must become BGP neighbors/peers. Once a BGP peer is established, the peer initially exchange full BGP routing tables. After this, the peers send incremental updates as the routing table changes (BGP Case Studies, 2008). All BGP neighbours keep the same version number of the BGP table, which increments whenever the routing information changes (BGP Case Studies, 2008).

Internal BGP is when routers are peers within the same autonomous system. External BGP is where routers are peered from different AS’s. In our network, we will use internal BGP to peer the two core routers to each other, and external BGP to peer the core routers to the ISP routers.

## Head Office Setup

Our Head Office Site is connected to every other site in our company (excluding Site B), using BGP into an MPLS service provider network. The aim is to be able to see each remote site in our route table, and advertise Site B and Head Office network to the other sites.

As we have two connections to our service provider, but want only 1 of those connections to be used for both incoming and outgoing traffic, we need to apply some BGP policy. The secondary link must be able to take over in the case of an outage.

Core 1’s link to the service provider is the primary link that will be used for incoming and outgoing traffic. In order to make Core 1 the preferred link for outgoing traffic, we have decided to set the default local-preference of Core 1 to be 200. This is greater than that of Core 2 (100), so Core 1 will be used for all outgoing traffic.

To make Core 1 the primary path for incoming traffic, we need to use AS-PATH prepending on Core 2. This will make Core 2 be the least preferred option when deciding whether to send traffic to Core 1 or 2. To do this we created a route map, and matched any as-path that originated in the Head Office network. We then prepended two more instances of the AS 65007 to all outgoing traffic.

We do not want the Head Office site to be a transit site for any of other sites. In order to stop this happening, we have chosen to only advertise networks that originate in the Head Office AS. We do this by creating a route map on both Core 1 & 2 that matches an as-path access list. This access list uses a regular expression to check that the as-path contains nothing (therefore originating locally). The route map denies by default any other paths that may want to be advertised.

# References

BGP Case Studies. (2008). *Cisco*. Retrieved from: https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/ip/border-gateway-protocol-bgp/26634-bgp-toc.html#howbgpwork.