

Class Activity - Branching Out

Objective

Describe WAN access technologies available to small-to-medium-sized business networks.

Scenario

Your medium-sized company is opening a new branch office to serve a wider, client-based network. This branch will focus on regular, day-to-day network operations, but will also provide TelePresence, web conferencing, IP telephony, video on demand, and wireless services.

Although you know that an ISP can provide WAN routers and switches to accommodate the branch office connectivity for the network, you prefer to use your own customer premises equipment (CPE). To ensure interoperability, Cisco devices have been used in all other branch-office WANs.

As the branch-office network administrator, it is your responsibility to research possible network devices for purchase and use over the WAN.

Resources

- Internet

Step 1: New Branch Routers

- Visit the [Cisco Enterprise Router Selector](#) site.
- Select **I need guidance** tab.
- Select **Branch routers** for question 1.
- Select **New Router** for question 2.
- Answer the rest of the questions until you have answered the rest of the questions.
- Select the recommended routers and click **Compare** to learn more details about them. If there is only one, you can find out more information about the router series.
- Fill out the relevant information in the table below.

Router Model	Wireless	Form Factor	Branch Size (S/M/L)	Modular	Switchports	Additional Information

Step 2: Upgrade Branch Routers

- Navigate to the [Cisco Enterprise Router Selector](#) site.
- Select **I need guidance** tab.
- Select **Upgrade** for question 1.

Class Activity - Branching Out

- d. Select **Cisco 1900 Series** for question 2 as an example.
- e. Answer the rest of the questions until you have answered the rest of the questions. If there is only one, you can find out more information about the router series.
- f. Select the recommended routers and click **Compare** to learn more details about them.

Router Model	Wireless	Form Factor	Branch Size (S/M/L)	Modular	Switchports	Additional Information

Reflection

Now that you have compared a few branch routers, which routers would you recommend to the company? Please also explain your choices.