SPEC-2 Homelab (ISR4331 Isolated Router + Catalyst 3560/2960)

Background

This document defines a homelab using a Cisco ISR4331 router connected to Spectrum ISP equipment. The homelab is isolated from the household LAN. Inter-VLAN routing is performed by the Catalyst 3560 Layer 3 switch. VLAN 10 is used for management, VLAN 20 for workstations. Static IP addressing is used for simplicity, with DHCP as an optional add-on.

Configuration Input (Step-by-Step)

Core Switch (3560) — Basic Device Configuration

```
CORE-SW(config) # hostname CORE-SW
  ! Set device hostname for identification
CORE-SW(config)# enable secret class
  ! Set encrypted enable password for privileged EXEC mode
CORE-SW(config) # ip domain-name homelab.local
  ! Required for generating SSH keys
CORE-SW(config)# username admin privilege 15 secret cisco123
  ! Creates local admin account with highest privileges
CORE-SW(config)# crypto key generate rsa
  ! Generates RSA keypair for SSH
How many bits in the modulus [512]: 1024
  ! 1024-bit key (sufficient for lab use)
CORE-SW(config)# ip ssh version 2
  ! Enables SSH protocol version 2 (more secure)
CORE-SW(config)# line vty 0 4
  ! Select VTY lines for SSH
CORE-SW(config-line)# login local
  ! Use local username for SSH login
CORE-SW(config-line)# transport input ssh
  ! Restrict remote access to SSH only
CORE-SW(config)# line console 0
  ! Enter console line configuration
CORE-SW(config-line)# logging synchronous
  ! Prevent log messages from interrupting CLI
CORE-SW(config-line)# exec-timeout 10 0
  ! Auto-logout after 10 minutes of inactivity
CORE-SW(config-line) # password consolepass
  ! Set console password
CORE-SW(config-line)# login
  ! Enable password prompt for console
```

Core Switch (3560) — VLAN Creation

```
CORE-SW(config)# vlan 10
! Create VLAN 10 for management

CORE-SW(config-vlan)# name Management
! Assigns a name for VLAN 10

CORE-SW(config)# vlan 20
```

```
! Create VLAN 20 for workstations
 CORE-SW(config-vlan) # name Workstations
    ! Assigns a name for VLAN 20
Core Switch (3560) — Trunk to 2960
 CORE-SW(config)# interface GigabitEthernet0/2
   ! Interface to Access Switch
 CORE-SW(config-if)# description Trunk to ACCESS-SW
   ! Documentation for interface
 CORE-SW(config-if)# switchport mode trunk
   ! Enable trunk mode
 CORE-SW(config-if)# switchport trunk allowed vlan 10,20
   ! Allow VLANs 10 and 20
 CORE-SW(config-if)# spanning-tree portfast trunk
    ! Faster convergence for trunk
Access Switch (2960) — Trunk to 3560
 ACCESS-SW(config)# interface GigabitEthernet0/1
   ! Interface to Core Switch
 ACCESS-SW(config-if)# description Trunk to CORE-SW
   ! Documentation for interface
 ACCESS-SW(config-if)# switchport mode trunk
   ! Enable trunk mode
 ACCESS-SW(config-if)# switchport trunk allowed vlan 10,20
   ! Allow VLANs 10 and 20
 ACCESS-SW(config-if)# spanning-tree portfast trunk
    ! Faster convergence for trunk
Access Switch (2960) — Access Ports
 ACCESS-SW(config)# interface range Gi0/2 - 3
   ! Select workstation ports
 ACCESS-SW(config-if-range)# switchport mode access
   ! Set access mode
 ACCESS-SW(config-if-range)# switchport access vlan 20
   ! Assign ports to VLAN 20
 ACCESS-SW(config-if-range)# spanning-tree portfast
   ! Enable PortFast for PCs
Core Switch (3560) — Inter-VLAN Routing (SVIs)
 CORE-SW(config)# interface Vlan10
   ! Create SVI for VLAN 10
 CORE-SW(config-if)# ip address 192.168.10.1 255.255.255.0
    ! Assign IP for management VLAN
 CORE-SW(config-if)# no shutdown
   ! Enable interface
 CORE-SW(config)# interface Vlan20
   ! Create SVI for VLAN 20
 CORE-SW(config-if)# ip address 192.168.20.1 255.255.255.0
   ! Assign IP for workstations VLAN
 CORE-SW(config-if)# no shutdown
```

```
CORE-SW(config)# ip routing
   ! Enable Layer 3 routing on 3560
Core Switch (3560) — Optional DHCP (for VLAN 20)
 CORE-SW(config)# ip dhcp excluded-address 192.168.20.1 192.168.20.10
   ! Exclude addresses reserved for static use
 CORE-SW(config)# ip dhcp pool WORKSTATIONS
   ! Create DHCP pool for VLAN 20
 CORE-SW(dhcp-config)# network 192.168.20.0 255.255.255.0
   ! Define subnet for VLAN 20
 CORE-SW(dhcp-config)# default-router 192.168.20.1
   ! Set default gateway for DHCP clients
 CORE-SW(dhcp-config)# dns-server 1.1.1.1
   ! Specify DNS server
Verification Commands
 ping 192.168.20.10
   ! Ping workstation 1
 ping 192.168.20.11
   ! Ping workstation 2
 show vlan brief
   ! Verify VLAN creation and assignment
 show interfaces trunk
   ! Verify trunk operational status
 show ip interface brief
   ! Check SVI IP assignments
 show ip route
   ! Check routing table
 show running-config
   ! Review current configuration
```

! Enable interface