

Course Code: ICT 4256

Course title: Data communication and Networks Lab

Final Project Report

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Project Name: University Network System

Abstract:

This report details the design and implementation of a University Network System using Cisco Packet Tracer. The project involved configuring a network that efficiently connects various departments and ensures robust security and seamless communication. Key tasks included selecting appropriate cables, connecting devices, creating and configuring VLANs, adding security measures, and setting up gateways. This document outlines the contributions made to the project, highlighting the specific tasks undertaken.

Introduction:

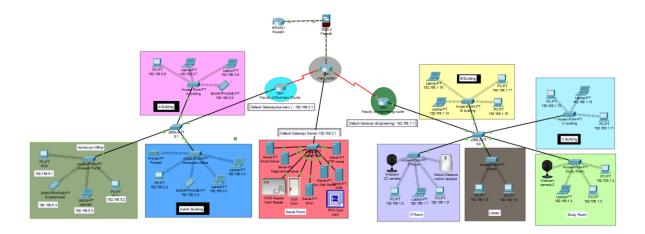
In a modern educational institution, an efficient and secure network system is crucial for seamless communication, resource sharing, and administrative operations. This project aims to design a comprehensive network for a university using Cisco Packet Tracer. The network architecture incorporates best practices in terms of cable selection, device connectivity, VLAN creation and configuration, security via firewalls, and gateway setup.

Network Design and Configuration

1. Cable Selection

Selecting the correct type of cable is fundamental to ensuring optimal network performance and reliability. The project involved choosing appropriate cables for different segments of the network:

- Copper Cross Over: Adding firewall with the router
- Copper Stright-through: Router to switch and switch to AP
- Serial DTE: Connection between Routers



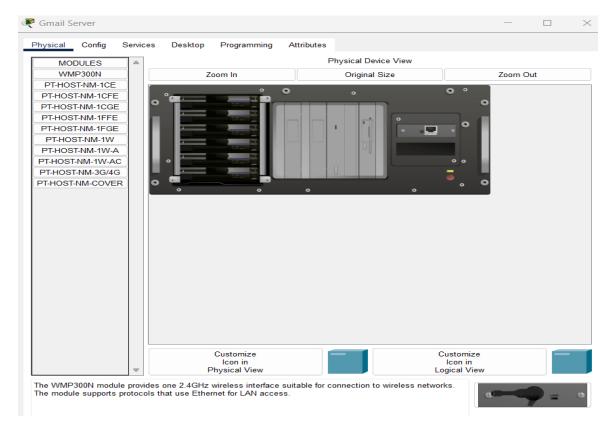
2. Connecting Devices

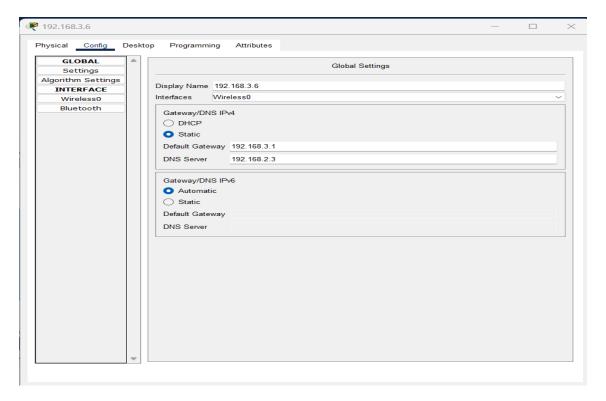
Connecting the network devices accurately is essential for a functional network setup. The devices connected include:

End Devices: Computers, printers, and IP phones in various departments.

Network Devices: Switches and routers that form the backbone of the network.

Servers: Centralized resources like web servers, FTP servers, DNS servers and email servers.



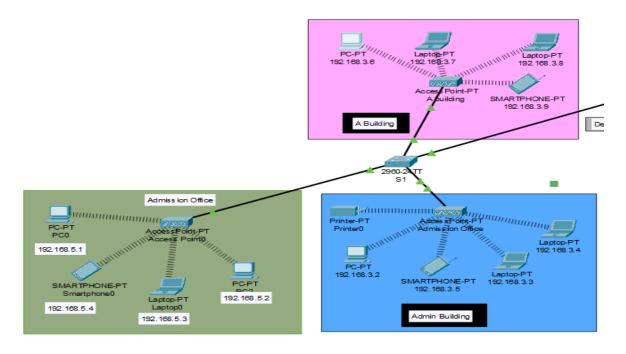


3. Creating VLANs

Virtual Local Area Networks (VLANs) are critical for segmenting the network to improve performance and security. The following VLANs were created:

VLAN 02: Admission.

VLAN 03:Admin Building.



4. Configuring VLANs

Each VLAN was configured with specific parameters to ensure proper segregation and efficient communication:

VLAN Assignment: Devices were assigned to the respective VLANs based on their role.

Inter-VLAN Routing: Configured on the router to enable communication between different VLANs while maintaining isolation.

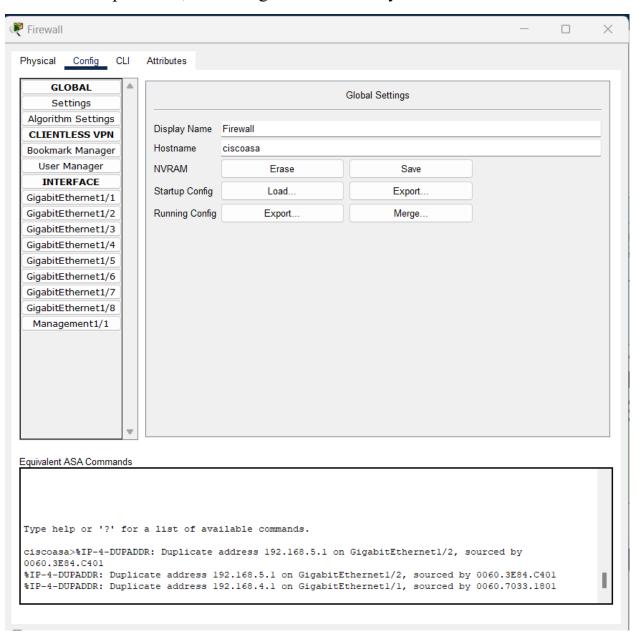


5. Security (Adding Firewall)

Security is paramount in a university network to protect sensitive data and ensure safe internet usage:

Firewall Implementation: A firewall was configured to monitor and control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on predetermined security rules.

Access Control Lists (ACLs): Used to permit or deny traffic based on IP addresses and protocols, enhancing network security.

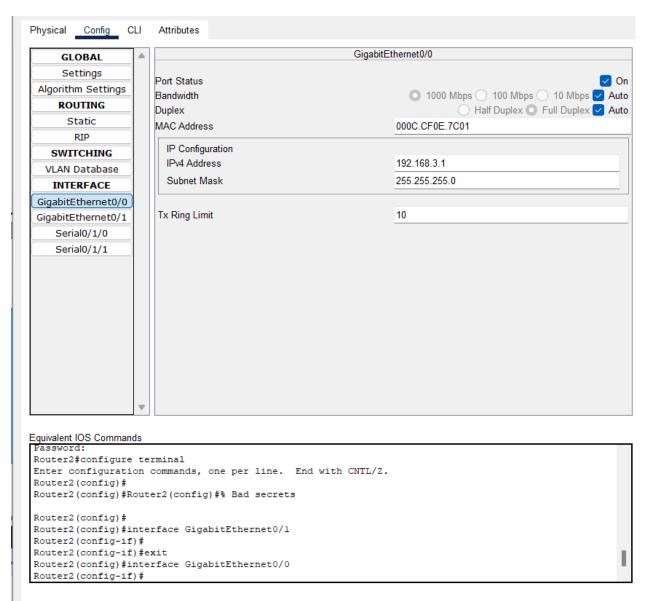


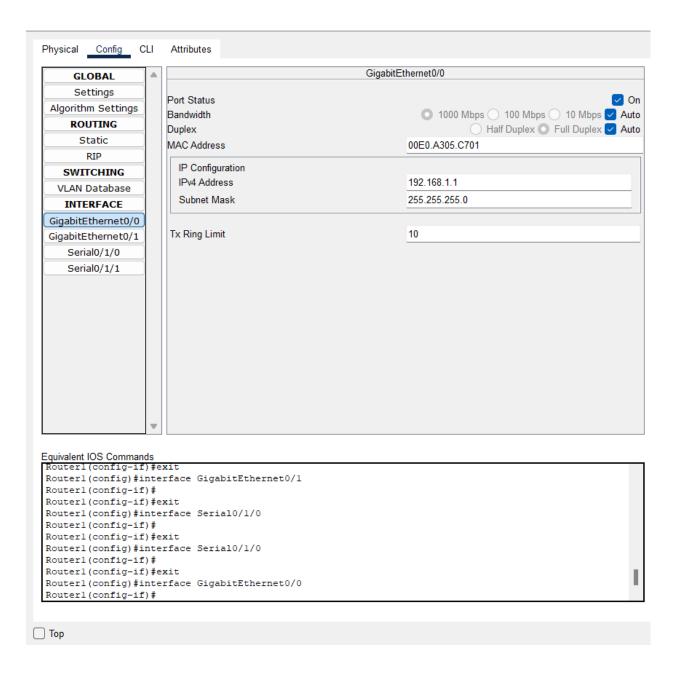
6. Gateway Setup

The gateway setup involved configuring routers to ensure proper routing of data packets between the internal network and the external internet:

Default Gateway Configuration: Set up on each VLAN to direct traffic to the appropriate router interface.

NAT (Network Address Translation): Configured to enable multiple devices on the internal network to access external networks using a single public IP address.





Mobile Phones and Laptops:

Connected to the network via wireless access points.

Configured IP addresses and subnet masks to ensure proper connectivity.

Computers:

Connected to the network via wired connections to switches and hubs.

Assigned IP addresses within the appropriate subnets.

Access Points:

Configured to provide wireless access to mobile devices and laptops.

Ensured proper integration with the wired network.

7. IP Addressing and Subnetting

IP addressing and subnetting are foundational tasks in network design. IP addresses ensure that each device on the network can be uniquely identified and communicated with, while subnetting divides the network into smaller, more manageable segments to enhance performance and security.

IP Addressing

For this project, the following IP addresses were used:

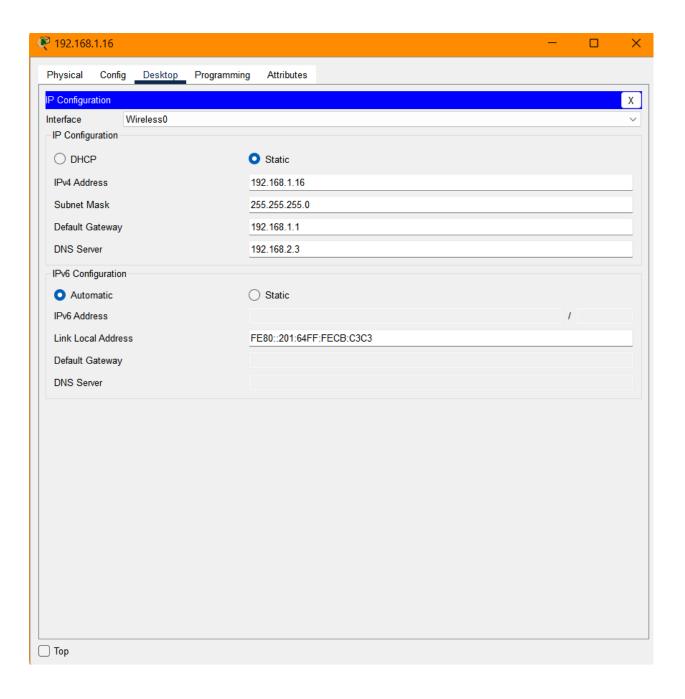
192.168.1.1

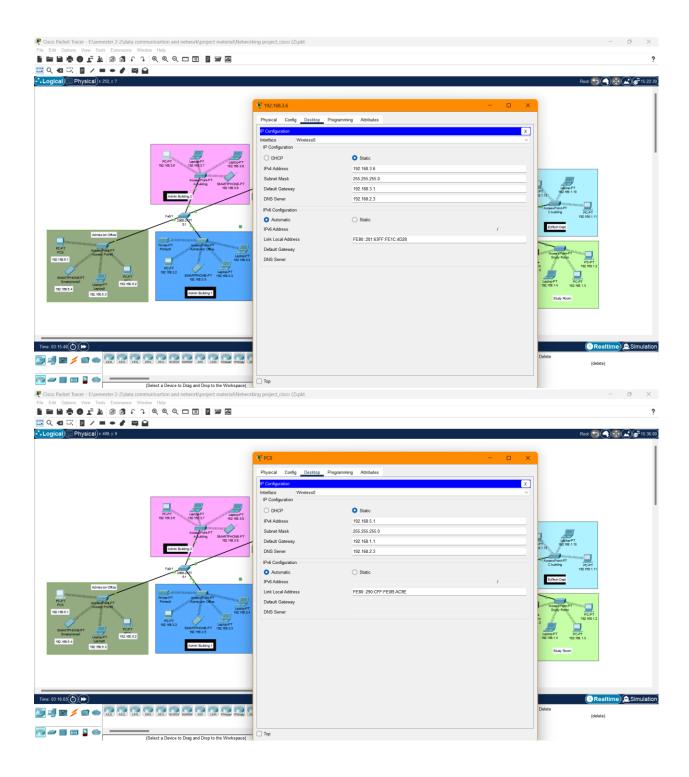
192.168.5.1

192.168.3.1

192.168.2.1

These addresses are part of the Class C IP range, which typically uses a subnet mask of 255.255.255.0. Each department within the university was assigned specific IP addresses within designated subnets to optimize traffic flow and improve network management.





Subnetting

Each IP address was assigned to a separate subnet, and specific IP ranges were allocated to different departments and areas within the university:

Admin Building 1:

Subnet Address: 192.168.3.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.3.6, 192.168.3.7, 192.168.3.8, 192.168.3.9

Admin Building 2:

Subnet Address: 192.168.3.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.3.2, 192.168.3.3, 192.168.3.4, 192.168.3.5

IRE Department:

Subnet Address: 192.168.1.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.1.14, 192.168.1.15, 192.168.1.16, 192.168.1.17

Edutech Department:

Subnet Address: 192.168.1.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.1.10, 192.168.1.11, 192.168.1.13

Study Room:

Subnet Address: 192.168.1.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.1.2, 192.168.1.3, 192.168.1.4

Library:

Subnet Address: 192.168.1.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.1.5, 192.168.1.6

IT Room:

Subnet Address: 192.168.1.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.1.7, 192.168.1.8, 192.168.1.9

Admission Office:

Subnet Address: 192.168.5.0/24

Assigned IPs: 192.168.5.1, 192.168.5.2, 192.168.5.3, 192.168.5.4

This ensures that each department and area has its own network segment, reducing broadcast traffic and enhancing security.

8. Network Monitoring

Network monitoring involves observing network operations to ensure optimal performance and identify potential issues. Effective monitoring helps maintain network health and supports proactive troubleshooting.

DHCP Configuration:

To automatically assign IP addresses to devices within each subnet.

To streamline network management by centralizing IP address allocation.

DHCP Server Setup:

Designate a server in the Server Room (192.168.2.0/24) to act as the DHCP server.

Define IP address ranges for each subnet:

Admin Building 1 & 2: 192.168.3.10 - 192.168.3.50

Admission Office: 192.168.5.10 - 192.168.5.50

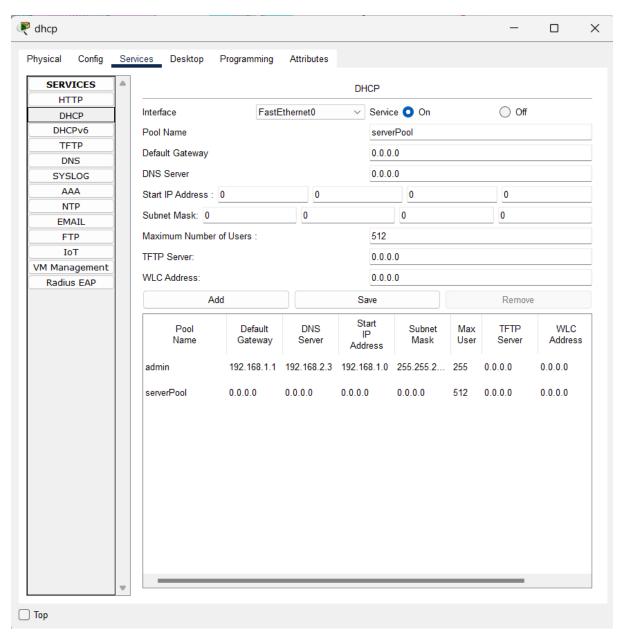
IRE Dept: 192.168.1.110 - 192.168.1.150

EdTech Dept: 192.168.1.10 - 192.168.1.50

Library: 192.168.2.10 - 192.168.2.50

Study Room: 192.168.1.210 - 192.168.1.250

IT Room: 192.168.1.60 - 192.168.1.100



DHCP Options:

Set the default gateway for each subnet:

Admin Building 1: 192.168.3.1

Admission Office: 192.168.5.1

IRE Dept: 192.168.1.1

EdTech Dept: 192.168.1.1

Library: 192.168.2.1

Study Room: 192.168.1.1

IT Room: 192.168.1.1

9. Host Device Configuration:

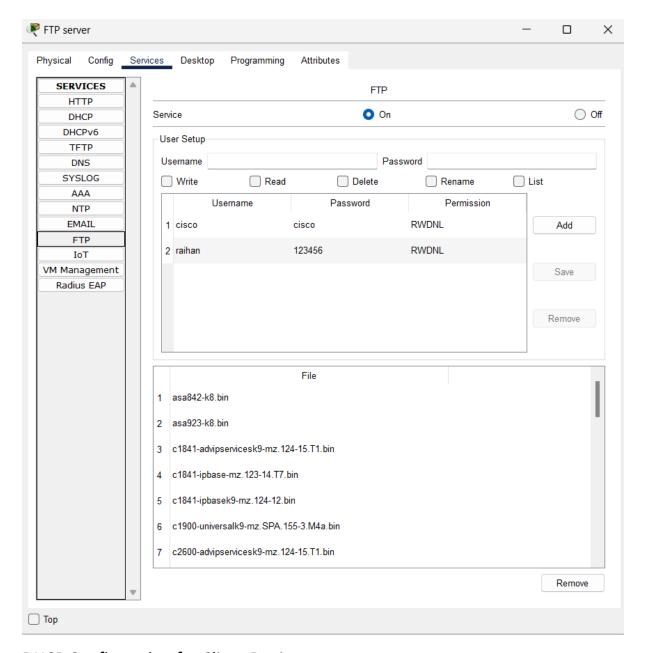
To configure IP addresses, subnet masks, and default gateways on host devices.

Example for FTP Server:

IP Address: 192.168.2.2

Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0

Default Gateway: 192.168.2.1



DHCP Configuration for Client Devices:

Ensure that all PCs, laptops, and smartphones are set to obtain IP addresses automatically from the DHCP server.

10. Network Protocols:

To ensure seamless communication between devices using standard network protocols.

TCP/IP: Foundation protocol suite for communication across the network.

DHCP: Dynamic IP address assignment.

DNS: Domain Name System for resolving domain names to IP addresses.

HTTP/HTTPS: Web traffic management for internal and external communication.

FTP: File Transfer Protocol for file sharing and storage.

11. Configuring ASA Firewall:

To enhance network security by controlling incoming and outgoing traffic.

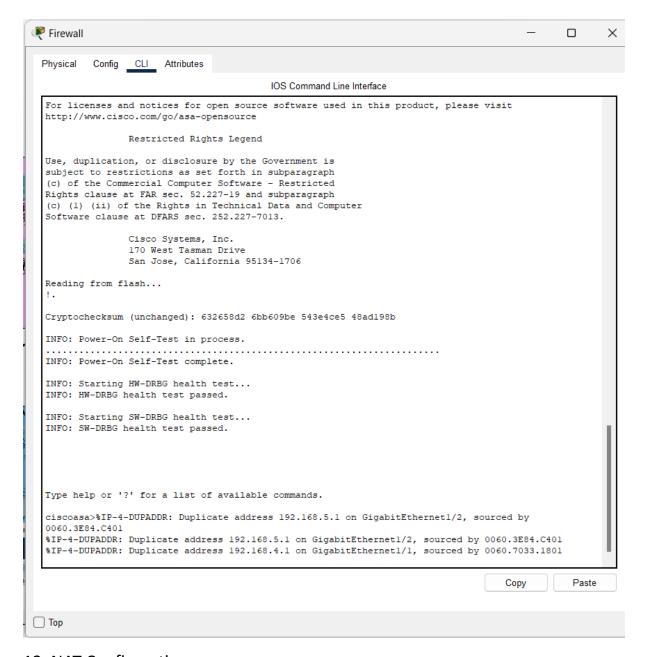
To prevent unauthorized access to sensitive resources.

Assign IP addresses to the ASA interfaces.

Define security levels (e.g., inside, outside, DMZ).

Access Control Lists (ACLs):

Create ACLs to permit or deny traffic based on source/destination IP addresses and ports.



12. NAT Configuration:

Configure Network Address Translation (NAT) to allow internal devices to access external networks securely.

Assign IP addresses to interfaces

interface GigabitEthernet0/0

nameif outside

security-level 0

ip address 198.51.100.1 255.255.255.0

interface GigabitEthernet0/1
nameif inside
security-level 100
ip address 192.168.1.1 255.255.255.0
subnet 0.0.0.0 0.0.0
nat (inside,outside) dynamic interface

access-list OUTSIDE_IN extended permit tcp any object obj_any eq 80 access-list OUTSIDE_IN extended permit tcp any object obj_any eq 443

Conclusion:

The University Network System project was successfully implemented using Cisco Packet Tracer. The network design ensures efficient connectivity, robust security, and seamless communication across the university. The tasks undertaken, from cable selection to gateway setup, were crucial in achieving the project's objectives. This report highlights the comprehensive approach and detailed work carried out to establish a reliable and secure network infrastructure for the university.