

Introduction

This document will be an overview of Catalyst on Meraki. This will primarily cover monitor mode.

Prerequisites

To following are required to follow this document.

- Organization Administrator access to the desired Meraki tenant
- Organization API key
- Catalyst switch(es)
- User account with privilege-15
- A PC capable of running the Catalyst Onboarding application

Resources and Documentation

There is a plethora of documentation provided by Meraki; these can sometimes be hard to fine. Here is a list of some of the more vital documentation

[Cloud Monitoring for Catalyst](#)

[Cloud Monitoring for Catalyst Onboarding](#)

[Cloud Monitoring Detailed Device Configurations](#)

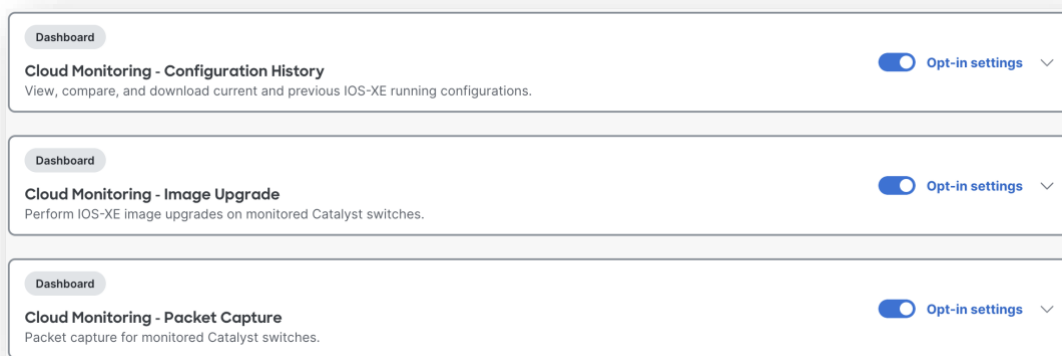
[Cloud Monitoring Required Configuration](#)

[IOS XE image upgrades \(Cloud Monitoring for Catalyst switches\)](#)

[Configuration History](#)

Before You Begin

There are a couple things that need to be verified before beginning. First the Cloud Monitoring features need to be enabled in the *Organization > Early Access* section.



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An API key generated by the default Organization Administrator (will not work if using an API key generated by someone with the Organization Admin *Role*) for the Onboarding application to function properly.

There are also various caveats to be aware of, these are all listed in the [Cloud Monitoring for Catalyst Onboarding](#). A few of those are highlighted here.

- IOS-XE firmware 17.3 – 17.10.1 and 17.12.3 – 17.12.4
- The management IP of the switch(es) onboarded requires access to the internet the Meraki Dashboard
- The out-of-band management port is not supported
- Only the default VRF is supported
- DNS needs to be properly configured
- NTP needs to be properly configured
- AAA has to be configured and using **aaa new-model**

NETCONF utilizes port 830 and must not be pre-configured on the switch to be bound to another port such as if you were using Cisco Catalyst Center (formerly DNA Center) to manage devices. You are moving devices from Catalyst Center to Meraki in Monitor Mode please be sure to fully deprovision the device from Catalyst Center as there is a lot of configuration overlap between the two can cause a conflict.

Monitor mode also requires several VTY lines. I recommend that you do not configure any VTY lines other than 0 15. Otherwise, when onboarding a switch, you will encounter trouble getting the Onboarding application to apply its configuration to the switch.

If you on boarding a SVL stack of switches (such as a pair of 9500s) the Dashboard treats these as a standard Stackwise stack in the dashboard. You can also hot add switches to a stack and they will show up in the dashboard automatically. The dashboard will add a -X with X being the stack number to the end of the hostname of the switch and will have every individual switch in the Meraki dashboard with the same name as the stack but will the addition of that -X number to denote its place in the stack. It is critical that you get the stack configuration correct and in line with how the equipment is laid out physically to avoid any future confusion.