

Enterprise Networking Project

Design and Implementation of a Secure Enterprise Network

The goal of this project is to design and implement a network for a dynamic and forward-thinking organization specializing in providing innovative cloud solutions to clients around the world. This organization focuses on developing and implementing cloud-based solutions tailored to meet the evolving needs of businesses across various industries. Their aim is to empower other organizations to enhance their competitiveness, scalability, and operational efficiency in the modern digital landscape.

With a workforce of 600 staff, the organization recently expanded and is preparing to move to a new building. The new building is comprised of three floors that will house various departments, including Sales and Marketing, Human Resources and Logistics, Finance and Accounting, Administrator and Public Relations, ICT, and a Server Room. The ICT department includes Software Developers, Cloud Engineers, Cybersecurity Engineers, Network Engineers, System Administrators, IT Support Specialists, Business Analysts and Project Managers.

Prior to the move, a fresh network service will need to be designed and implemented in the new building. To ensure robust security, the organization requires implementation of several security measures to protect the network from internal and external threats. The firewall will have outside, inside, and DMZ security zones, with essential servers strategically housed within the fortified zone. Additionally, Active Directory servers, responsible for managing and authenticating users, computers, and resources within the internal network, will be placed on the inside zone of the firewall. Servers such as DHCP, DNS, and RADIUS will all be on the inside zone, while other servers such as FTP, WEB, Email, APP, and NAS storage will be located in the DMZ – the DMZ can be attached to any single firewall as of now. This diligent planning and deployment of security measures will safeguard the network and ensure smooth operations for the organization in its new building.

As an integral part of the ICT infrastructure, the following components have been incorporated:

- a) **Internet Service Provider (ISP):** The organization has established a subscription with two ISPs to ensure redundant internet connectivity.
- b) **Network Security:** Two Cisco ASA Firewalls from the 5500-X series have been acquired to enhance network security and redundancy.
- c) **Network Routing:** Both the firewalls and two core multilayer switches will replace a router.
- d) **Switching Infrastructure:** The network includes two Catalyst 3850 48-Port Switches, and Catalyst 2960 48-Port Switches to ensure robust local network connectivity.
- e) **Server Hardware and Virtualization:** Two physical servers will be utilized for virtualization through the hypervisor to achieve multiple virtual machines for various services.
- f) **Wireless Infrastructure:** A Cisco Wireless LAN Controller (WLC) and various Lightweight Access Points (LAPs) will centralize the management of the wireless network.
- g) **VoIP or IP Phones:** A Cisco Voice Gateway will be used to enable telephony service in the network.

Cloud computing is an important technology that is used to connect clients across the world to the company services and resources thus the proposed network should allow the team access to these resources.

Requirements

The organization places a strong emphasis on achieving top-tier performance, redundancy, scalability, and availability within its network infrastructure. As such, the requirements involve creating a comprehensive network design and executing its implementations. To facilitate this endeavor, the organization has designated specific IP address ranges:

- **Management Network:** For the management, the IP address range of 192.168.10.0/24 has been allocated.
- **WLAN:** The WLAN network will operate within the IP address range of 10.20.0.0/16.
- **LAN:** For the local area network (LAN), the IP address range of 172.16.0.0/16 has been allocated.
- **VoIP:** For Voice over IP (VoIP), the IP address range of 172.30.0.0/16 has been allocated.
- **DMZ:** The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) will be assigned IP addresses from the range 10.11.11.0/27.
- **Public Addresses:** Public IP addresses from the range 105.100.50.0/30 from ISP1 and 197.200.100.0/30 from ISP2 have been allocated.

Technical Requirements

1. **Design Tool:** Utilize Cisco Packet Tracer for designing and implementing the network solution.
2. **Hierarchical Design:** Implement a hierarchical model that incorporates redundancy for enhanced network resilience.
3. **ISPs:** Establish connectivity to the two ISPs within the network infrastructure.
4. **WLC:** Ensure that each department is equipped with a Wireless Access Point (WAP) to provide WiFi access to employees, corporate users, external auditors, and guests, all centrally managed by the Wireless Lan Controller (WLC).
5. **VLAN:** Maintain VLANs with the following IDs: 10 for Management, 20 for LAN, 50 for WLAN, 70 for VoIP, and finally, 199 for Blackhole in which all unused ports are placed.
6. **EtherChannel:** Implement the Link Aggregation Control Protocol (LACP) for EtherChannel configuration, enhancing link aggregation efficiency.
7. **Telephony Service:** Configure VoIP on the voice gateway router and allocate dial numbers in format (4..).
8. **STP PortFast and BPDUguard:** Configure Spanning Tree Protocol (STP) Portfast and BPDUguard to expedite port transitions from blocking to forwarding states.
9. **Subnetting:** Utilize subnetting techniques to allocate the appropriate number of IP addresses to each network group.
10. **Basic Settings:** Configure fundamental device settings, including hostnames and console passwords, enable passwords, banner messages, password encryption, and disable IP domain lookup.
11. **Inter-VLAN Routing:** Enable devices in all departments to communicate with one another by configuring the respective multilayer switch for inter-VLAN routing.
12. **Core Switches:** Assign IP addresses to multilayer switches to enable both routing and switching functionalities.
13. **DHCP Server:** Ensure that all devices in the network obtain IP addresses dynamically from the DHCP server located at the inside server site.
14. **HSRP:** Implement high-availability router protocols such as HSRP to achieve redundancy, load balancing, and failover capabilities.
15. **Static Addressing:** Allocate static IP addresses to devices located in the server room.
16. **Routing Protocol:** Utilize Open Shortest Path First (OSPF) as the routing protocol to advertise routes on the firewall, routers, and multilayer switches.
17. **Standard ACL for SSH:** Establish a simple standard Access Control List (ACL) on the VTY line to permit remote administrative tasks via SSH only for the Senior Network Security Engineer PC.
18. **Cisco ASA Firewalls:** Configure default static routes, basic settings, security levels, zones, and policies on the Cisco ASA Firewalls to define access control and resource utilization within the network.
19. **Final Testing:** Conduct thorough testing to verify proper communication and ensure that all configured elements function as intended.