Video - Navigating Between IOS Modes (4 min)

Navigating between the different IOS command modes. In this video, I'll look at the commands that are used to move between the different IOS command modes. We'll look at the enable command, the disable command, configure terminal, exit, end, Ctrl+Z on your keyboard, plus some sub mode or sub configuration mode commands to enter the different sub modes. Let's take a look at how this works. I already have a console connection to a 2960 series switch. I'll press Enter on the keyboard, and now I move to user exec mode. Notice the Command Prompt. To get to privileged exec mode, I type "enable." To return to user exec mode, I type "disable." I'll return back to privileged exec mode.

Now, to get to global configuration mode, I type "configure terminal," and now I'm in global configuration mode. I can type "exit" to return to privileged exec mode. If I type "exit" again, I leave the console altogether. So I'm in privileged exec mode. I type "exit," and you can see I've left my console connection. To reenter the switch and get a command line interface, I have to press Enter on the keyboard, and I'm brought back to the console connection with the switch. I'll type "enable," "configure terminal," and now I'm in global configuration mode.

Let's enter one of the sub configuration modes. I'll type "line console 0" to get to the management interface for the console port. Now that I'm in a sub configuration mode, if I type "exit," I return to global config mode, like this. I'm back in global config mode. This time I'll type "line vty 0 15" for my virtual terminal management interfaces. I can move directly from one sub configuration mode to another. Notice if I type "interface vlan 1" from within my line vty line configuration mode, it'll take me directly to interface configuration mode.

From here, I can enter different interfaces like "interface fastethernet 0/1" or I can move directly to "line console 0" again. Commands that are normally run in global configuration mode can also be run from any of the sub configuration modes as well. The end command and the Ctrl+Z keyboard combination essentially do the same thing; they return us all the way to privileged exec mode. Let's give it a try. I'll type "end," and you can see that I'm moved all the way to privileged exec mode. I'll move all the way back to global configuration mode, into "line console 0" again, and this time I'll use my keyboard, hold down the Ctrl key and press Z for Ctrl+Z, and you can see that I'm brought all the way back to privileged exec mode. If I'm in global configuration mode, and I type "end," I'm also brought back to privileged exec mode.

So that covers the enable command, the disable command, configure terminal, exit, end, and Ctrl+Z. Navigating efficiently between the different command modes will save you a lot of time.