



Digital Egypt Pioneers Initiative



Final Project

Implementing a Secure
Multi-Branch Office
Network

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Summary

Summary

This Presentation details the design and implementation of a robust and secure network infrastructure for a company, a fast-growing telecommunication one.

The network is designed to support the company's operations across its floors.

The network infrastructure will provide reliable connectivity, secure communication, and internet access.

The design prioritizes high performance, redundancy, scalability, and security, ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data and communications.

Key network components include Cisco routers, switches, firewalls, a wireless LAN controller, and Servers for directory services and DHCP.

The network will implement network segmentation, robust security measures, and secure inter-office communication and protection against cyber threats.



Company Profile

Key Infrastructure:

- •ISP
- •Cisco ASA 5525-X Firewall
- •Cisco Catalyst 3850 48-Port Switch
- •3x Cisco Catalyst 2960 48-Port Switches
- •2x Cisco Catalyst 2960 24-Port Switches
- •Cisco Voice Gateway (2811)
- Cisco Wireless LAN Controller (WLC)
- •6x Lightweight Access Points (LAPs)
- •Windows Server 2022 (Active Directory, RADIUS, DNS, DHCP)
- •Internally hosted ERP, Email, and File

•Google Cloud Platform

Servers

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Departments:

- •4th Floor:
- •HR and Finance (40 users)
- Product Brand and Marketing (45 users)
- Admin and Corporate (35 users)
- •5th Floor:
- •IT Network & Support (45 users)
- Software Engineering (36 users)
- Cloud Engineering (32 users)

Industry: Telecommunications and IT

Solutions

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Company Requirements

Company Requirements(1)

Provide reliable and high-performance network connectivity for all departments.

- 2 Ensure secure communication and access to internal resources.
- Enable access to Google cloud resources for developers and cloud engineers.
- Implement network segmentation to isolate LAN, WLAN, and VoIP traffic.

- 5 Protect the network from external threats using a firewall.
- 6 Support VoIP telephony services.

Company Requirements(2)

Provide centralized management for 8 wireless access points.

Facilitate seamless business continuity.

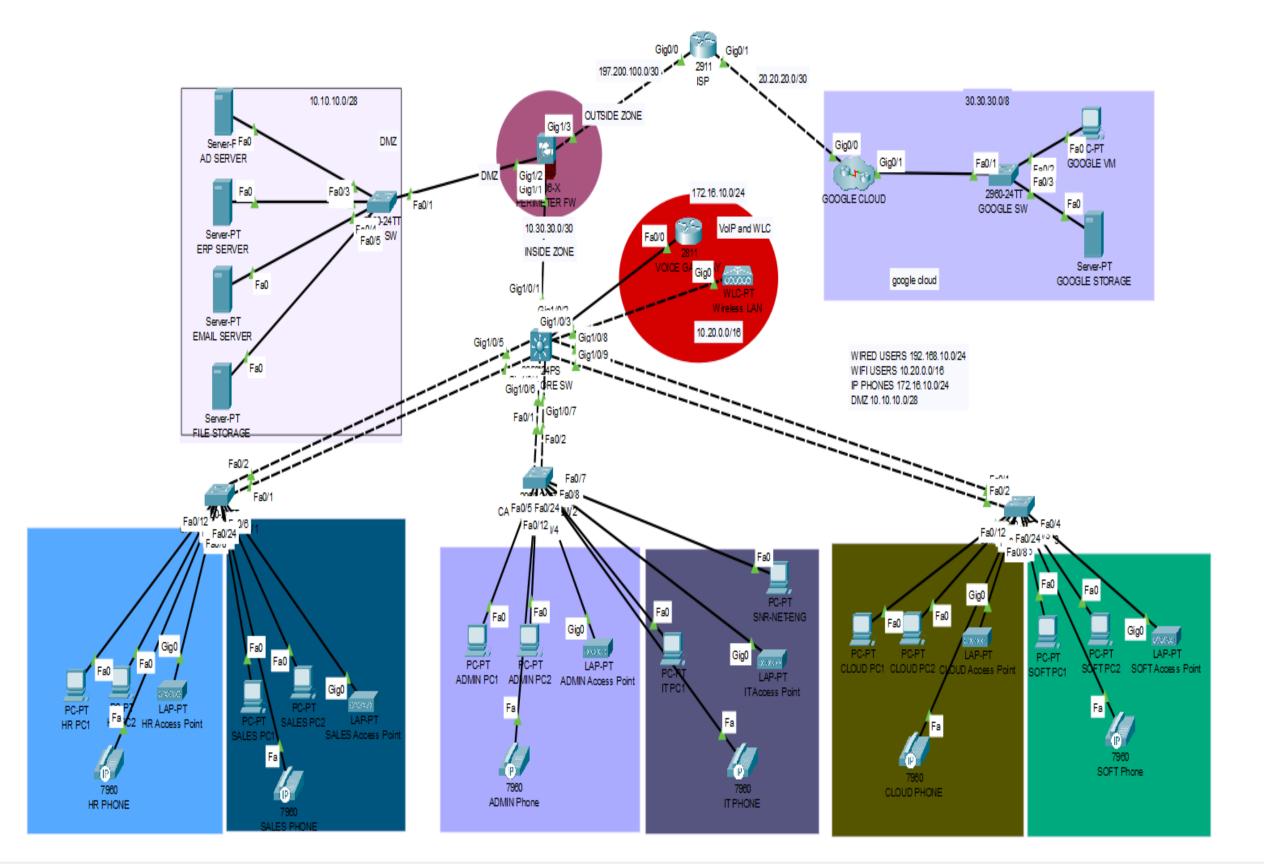
Adhere to the principles of Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability (CIA).



Network Design

The network is designed using a hierarchical model to provide scalability, redundancy, and ease of management.





Network Topology

Wireless Network: A Cisco
Wireless LAN Controller
(WLC) manages Lightweight
Access Points (LAPs)
distributed across both
floors to provide wireless
connectivity for employees
and guests.

DMZ: A Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) is implemented to host the internal servers (ERP, Email, and File) and provide controlled access from the internal network and the internet.

Internet Connectivity: A
connection to ISP is
established through the
Cisco ASA 5525-X Firewall.



A hierarchical topology is implemented, comprising the following layers:

- Core Layer: The Cisco Catalyst 3850
 Multilayer switch acts as the core layer,
 providing high-speed switching and
 routing between different network
 segments.
- Distribution Layer: The Cisco Catalyst 2960 switches aggregate connections from access layer switches and provide redundancy.
- •Access Layer: Cisco Catalyst 2960 switches provide connectivity for enduser devices (PCs, laptops, IP phones, and wireless access points).

IP Addressing Scheme

The following IP address ranges are used:

•WLAN: 10.20.0.0/16

•LAN: 192.168.10.0/24

•Voice: 172.16.10.0/24

•DMZ: 10.10.10.0/28

• Public Addresses: 197.200.100.0/24

Access Layer

The access layer grants end devices access to the network. In the WAN environment, it may provide teleworkers, or remote sites access to the corporate network across WAN connections.

Generally, incorporates Layer 2 switches and access points providing connectivity and serves several functions including:

- Layer 2 switching
- > High availability
- Port security
- Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) inspection
- Basic setting (SSH ACL for ssh)

configuration All access switch

enable
configure terminal
hostname CAIRO-ACCESS-SWI
enable password cisco
banner motd *NO UNAUTHORISED ACCESS- THIS PUNISHABLE BY LAW*
username cisco password cisco
ip domain-name cisco_net
line console 0
password cisco
login
exit
no ip domain-lookup
service password-encryption
do wr

vlan 20 name LAN vlan 30 exit vlan 30 name WLAN exit vlan 50 name VolP exit enable configure terminal interface rangeFastEthemet0/3-0-4 exit interface rangeFastEthemet0/3-0-5 switchport mode access switchport access vlan 20 switchport voice vlan 50 exit

configuration All access switch

```
enable
int
configure terminal
interface rangeFastEthernet0/1.0 - 2
enable
configure terminal
interface rangeFastEthernet0/1-0-2
channel-group 1 mode active
exit
interface Port-channel1
switchport mode trunk
exit
interface range
interface rangeFastEthernet0/3.0 - 24
spanning-tree portfast
spanning-tree bpduguard enable
exit
```

```
int range fa0/3-8
switchport mode access
switchport port-security
switchport port-security mac-address sticky
switchport port-security maximum 1
switchport port-security violation protect
do wr
Exit
int range fa0/3-24
switchport nonegotiate
exit
int fa0/1
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk native vlan 999
exit
int fa0/2
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk native vlan 999
exit
```

Distribution Layer

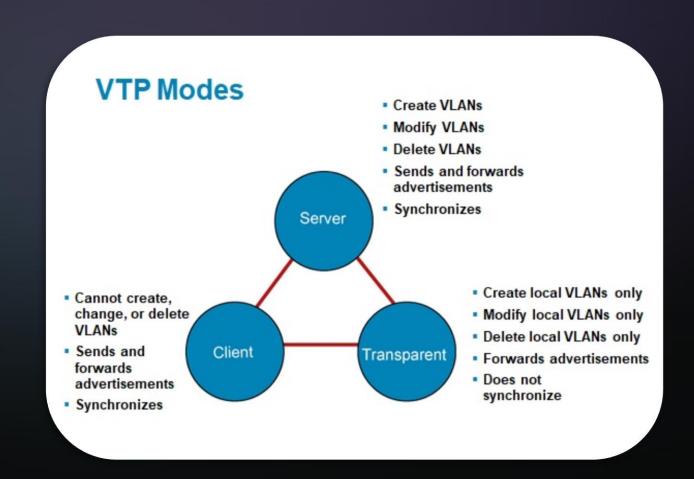


- > The distribution layer is the boundary between the Layer 2 and the Layer 3 routed network.
- > Layer 2 ether-channel.
- > Routing services between LANs and VLANs and between routing domains.
- > Redundancy.

Distribution Layer VTP (VLAN Trunnking Protocol):

What's VTP?

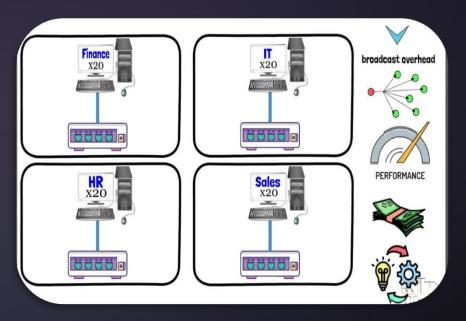
What's VTP V3?

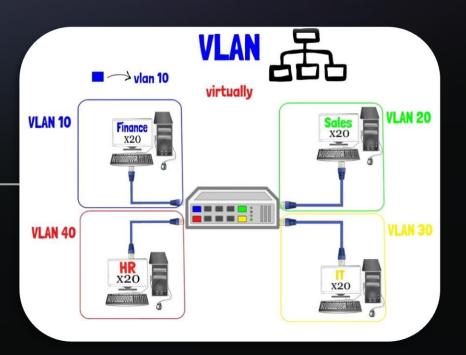


VLANs (Virtual Local Area Network):

What's VLAN?

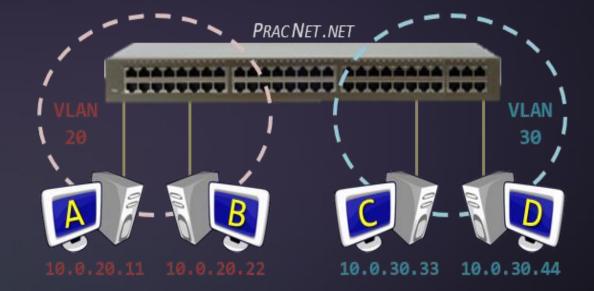
- ☐ Advantages of a VLAN:
 - ☐ Separate broadcast domain.
 - **□** Decrease broadcast domain.
 - ☐ Enhance network performance.
 - ☐ Scalable.
 - ☐ More security.

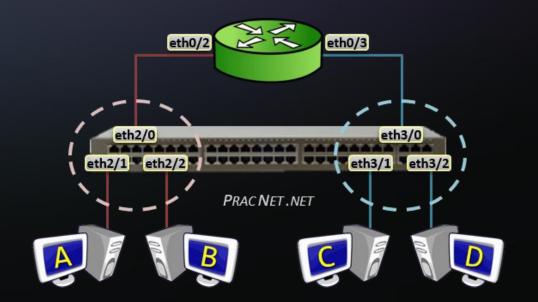




Routing Between VLANs

- Why do we need Routing Between VLANs?
- ➤ There are three options available to enable routing between the VLANs:
 - **✓** Router with a Separate Physical Interface in each VLAN
 - **✓** Router with a Sub-Interface in each VLAN
 - ✓ Using a Layer 3 Switch (Best method)
- ➤ Router with a Separate Physical Interface in each VLAN (Traditional Method)

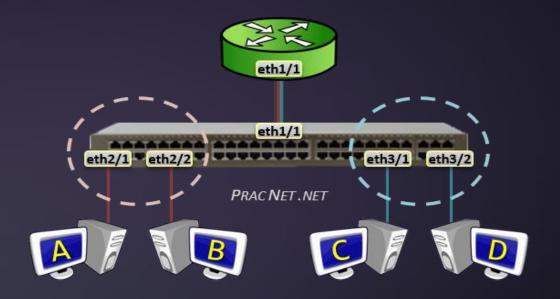


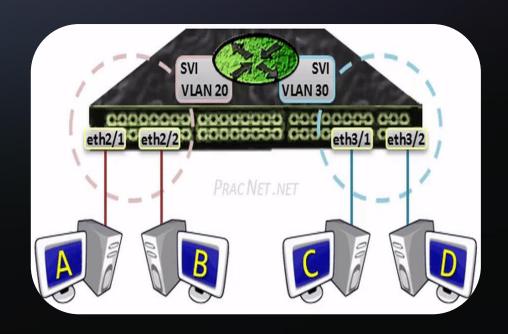


Router with a Sub-Interface in each

VLAN (Router on a Stick)

- A Sub-Interface allows a single Physical interface to be split up into multiple virtual sub-interfaces, each of which terminate their own VLAN.
- > Layer 3 Switch (Best method)
- You have the option of configuring an IP address within what is known as an SVI (Switched Virtual Interface)
- The configuration for an SVI involves two parts. First, enabling IP Routing; and Second, applying an IP address to the VLAN.
- This IP will be the default gateway for the VLAN.







VLAN Design

VLANs are used to segment the network traffic for improved security, performance, and manageability.

- •VLAN 20: LAN (for wired devices in each department)
- •VLAN 30: WLAN (for wireless devices used by employees and guests)
- •VLAN 50: VoIP (for IP phones)

configuration Distribution switch

```
enable
configure terminal
interface rangeGigabitEthernet1/0/4 - 5
channel-group 1 mode active
exit
interface Port-channell
switchport mode trunk
exit
interface rangeGigabitEthernet1/0/6 - 7
channel-group 2 mode active
interface Port-channe12
switchport mode trunk
exit
interface rangeGigabitEthernet1/0/8 - 9
channel-group 3 mode active
interface Port-channe 13
switchport mode trunk
exit
do wr
interface GigabitEthernet1/0/2
switchport mode trunk
exit
```

enable
configure terminal
interface GigabitEthernet1/0/1
no switchport
ip address 10.30.30.2 255.255.255.252
exit
do wr

do wr enable configure terminal interface Vlan20 no shutdown ip address 192.168.10.1 255.255.255.0 exit interface Vlan30 no shutdown ip address 10.20.0.1 255.255.0.0 exit interface Vlan30 ip helper-address 10.10.10.5 exit interface Vlan20 ip helper-address 10.10.10.5 exit

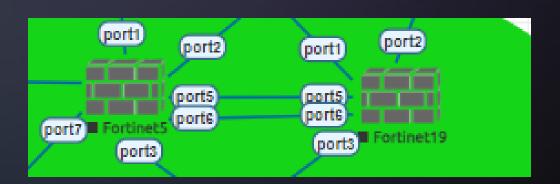
configuration Distribution switch

```
router ospf 1
network 10.30.30.0 0.0.0.3 area 0
exit
do wr
int g1/0/4
switchport nonegotiate
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk native vlan 999
exit
int g1/0/5
switchport nonegotiate
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk native vlan 999
exit
int g1/0/6
switchport nonegotiate
switchport mode trunk
switchport trunk native vlan 999
exit
```

int g1/0/7 switchport nonegotiate switchport mode trunk switchport trunk native vlan 999 exit int g1/0/8 switchport nonegotiate switchport mode trunk switchport trunk native vlan 999 exit int g1/0/9 switchport nonegotiate switchport mode trunk switchport trunk native vlan 999 exit

Firewall

- A firewall is a network security device or software that monitors and controls incoming and outgoing network traffic based on predetermined security rules
- Its primary function is to establish a barrier between trusted internal networks and untrusted external networks, such as the internet, to prevent unauthorized access and potential threats.





Subnetting

Subnetting is employed to efficiently allocate IP addresses to each department and network segment. The specific subnetting scheme is as follows:

- •LAN Subnetting (192.168.10.0/24):
- •HR & Finance: [To be determined based on user count, e.g., 192.168.10.0/27]
- •Product Brand & Marketing: [To be determined based on user count, e.g., 192.168.10.32/27]
- •Admin & Corporate: [To be determined based on user count, e.g., 192.168.10.64/27]
- •IT Network & Support: [To be determined based on user count, e.g., 192.168.10.96/27]
- •Software Engineering: [To be determined based on user count, e.g., 192.168.10.128/27]
- •Cloud Engineering: [To be determined based on user count, e.g., 192.168.10.160/27]
- •WLAN Subnetting (10.20.0.0/16):
- •Subnets will be created for each floor and/or department if needed for further segmentation.
- •Voice Subnetting (172.16.10.0/24):
- •The entire 172.16.10.0/24 subnet can be used for VoIP devices, or it can be further subnetted if required.
- •DMZ Subnetting (10.10.10.0/28):
- •The 10.10.10.0/28 subnet provides addresses for the servers in the DMZ.

Routing

OSPF (Open Shortest Path First) is used as the routing protocol for dynamic routing within the internal network. This includes routing between VLANs and to the core router.

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Static routes and default routes are configured on the Cisco ASA Firewall to direct traffic to and from the internet and the internal network.

Inter-VLAN routing is configured on the Layer 3 switch (Catalyst 3850) to enable communication between devices in different VLANs.

High Availability and Redundancy

The hierarchical design provides redundancy.

Link aggregation (EtherChannel/LACP) is implemented to increase bandwidth and provide link redundancy between switches.

STP PortFast and BPDU Guard are configured to minimize downtime during topology changes and prevent spanning-tree loops.



Security Design

Security is a critical aspect of network design. The following measures are implemented:

- •Firewall: A Cisco ASA 5525-X Firewall is deployed as the perimeter firewall to protect the network from external threats.
- •Security zones are defined (e.g., Inside, Outside, DMZ).
- Security policies are configured to control traffic flow between zones.
- •Network Address Translation (NAT) is used to translate private IP addresses to public IP addresses.
- Firewall inspection policies are implemented.
- Access Control:
- •Standard ACLs are configured on the Cisco devices to restrict access to sensitive network resources. Specifically, an ACL is used to limit SSH access to authorized administrators.
- Device Hardening:
- •Strong passwords are used for all network devices.
- •Unused ports and services are disabled.
- •IP domain lookup is disabled.
- •All passwords are encrypted.

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Implementation



Implementation

The network implementation involves the following steps:

- Device Configuration:
- •Configure basic settings on all network devices (hostnames, console passwords, enable passwords, banner messages).
- •Configure VLANs on the switches and assign ports to the appropriate VLANs.
- •Configure IP addressing on all interfaces.
- •Configure OSPF routing on the routers and Layer 3 switch.
- •Configure EtherChannel (LACP) where required.
- •Configure STP PortFast and BPDU Guard on access ports.
- •Configure the Cisco ASA Firewall with security zones, policies, and NAT.
- •Configure the Cisco WLC and Lightweight Access Points (LAPs) for wireless connectivity.
- •Configure the Cisco Voice Gateway for VoIP services.
- •Configure a Standard ACL for SSH access.

Implementation

- DHCP Configuration:
- •Configure the Windows Server 2022 to provide DHCP services for LAN and WLAN clients.
- •Configure the Cisco Voice Gateway (or a separate router) to provide DHCP services for IP phones.
- •Server Configuration:
- •Configure static IP addresses on the internal servers (ERP, Email, and File) within the DMZ.
- •Cabling:
- •Connect network devices using the appropriate cables (Ethernet).
- Testing and Verification:
- Test connectivity between all network devices and departments.
- Verify VLAN configuration and inter-VLAN routing.
- •Test DHCP functionality.
- •Verify OSPF routing.
- •Test VoIP functionality.
- •Test WLAN connectivity and security.
- •Test firewall rules and security policies.
- •Test SSH access with the configured ACL.
- •Test access to internal servers from the LAN and the internet (if required).
- Verify access to Google cloud resources.



IP Address Allocation(1)

Device/Location	Subnet	IP Address Range	Assigned IP Address(es)
ISP Router	197.200.100.0/24	197.200.100.1 - 197.200.100.254	197.200.100.1 (Example)
ASA Firewall (Outside)	197.200.100.0/30	197.200.100.1 - 197.200.100.254	197.200.100.2
ASA Firewall (Inside)	10.30.30.0/30	10.10.10.1 - 10.10.10.14	10.30.30.1
DMZ Server 1	10.10.10.0/28	10.10.10.1 - 10.10.10.14	10.10.10.5
DMZ Server 2	10.10.10.0/28	10.10.10.1 - 10.10.10.14	10.10.10.6

IP Address Allocation(2)

DMZ Server 3	10.10.10.0/28	10.10.10.1 - 10.10.10.14	10.10.10.7
DMZ Server 4	10.10.10.0/28	10.10.10.1 - 10.10.10.14	10.10.10.8
Core Switch (VLAN 20)	192.168.10.0/24	192.168.10.1 - 192.168.10.254	192.168.10.1
Core Switch (VLAN 30)	10.20.0.0/16	10.20.0.1 - 10.20.255.254	10.20.0.1
Core Switch (VLAN 50)	172.16.10.0/24	172.16.10.1 - 172.16.10.254	172.16.10.1
Windows Server 2022	192.168.10.0/24	192.168.10.1 - 192.168.10.254	192.168.10.2

IP Address Allocation(3)

Voice Gateway	172.16.10.0/24	172.16.10.1 - 172.16.10.254	172.16.10.254
Department 1 Switch	192.168.10.0/27	192.168.10.1 - 192.168.10.30	192.168.10.2
Department 1 PC 1	192.168.10.0/27	192.168.10.1 - 192.168.10.30	192.168.10.10
WLC	10.20.0.0/16	10.20.0.1 - 10.20.255.254	10.20.0.2
LAP 1	10.20.0.0/16	10.20.0.1 - 10.20.255.254	10.20.0.10

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Device Configuration Standards

Device Configuration Standards

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- 1 The following configuration standards are to be followed:
- Hostnames: Use a consistent naming convention for all devices (e.g., Core-SW-01, Dist-SW-01, Access-SW-01, FW-01, Rtr-01, WLC-01).

- 3 Passwords:
 - •Strong, complex passwords must be used for all user and privilege levels.
 - •Console, VTY, and enable passwords must be configured.
 - •All passwords must be encrypted using service passwordencryption.

Banner Message: A Message of the Day (MOTD) banner should be configured on all devices to provide a warning to unauthorized users.

- IP Domain Lookup: Disable IP domain lookup using the no ip domain-lookup command to prevent unnecessary DNS queries.
- SSH: SSH should be the only protocol allowed for remote management. Telnet should be disabled.

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Technologies Implemented

Technologies Implemented

The following technologies are implemented in this network:

Subnetting and IP Addressing (IPv4)

Hierarchical Network Design

OSPF Routing Protocol

VLANs (802.1Q)

EtherChannel (LACP)

Technologies Implemented 2

Spanning Tree Protocol (STP) with PortFast and BPDU Guard

DHCP Server

SSH (Secure Shell)

Access Control Lists (ACLs)

VoIP (Voice over IP)

WLAN (Wireless LAN)

Technologies Implemented 3

Cisco ASA Firewall

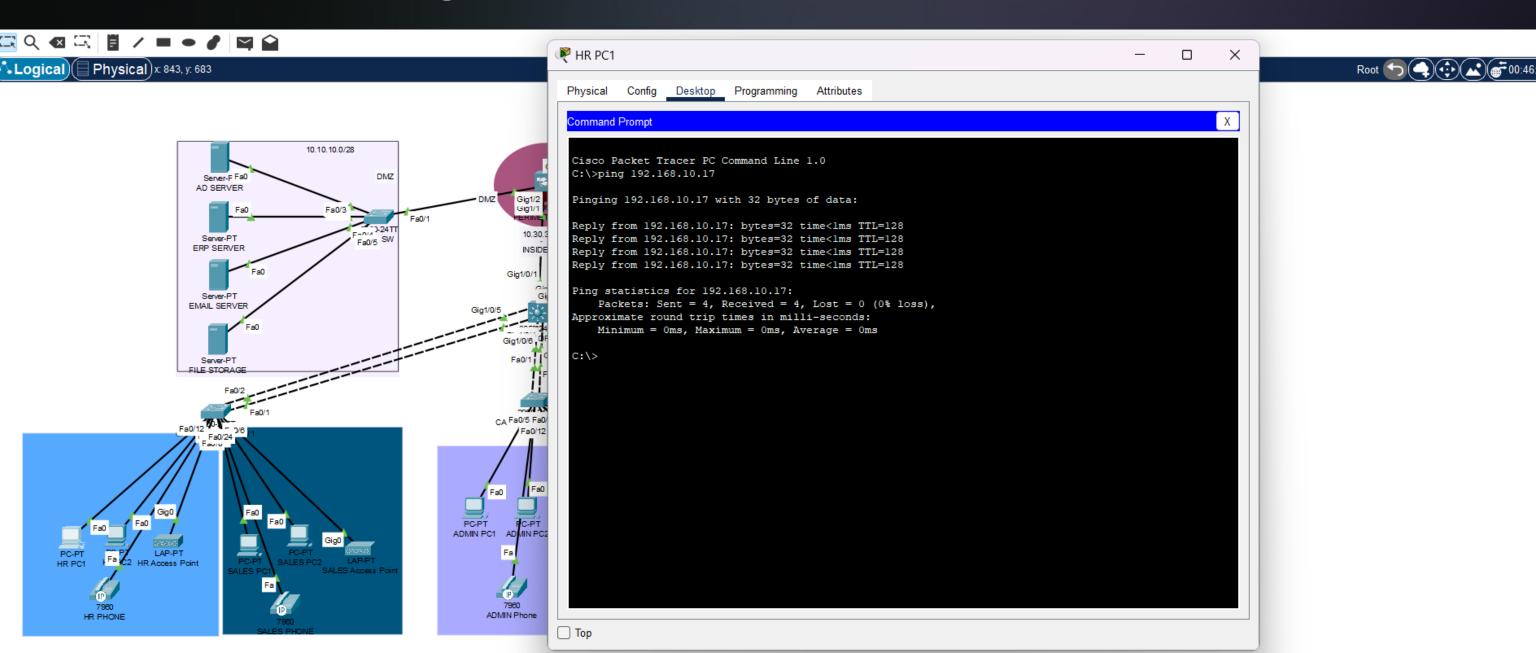
Network Address Translation (NAT)

09

Tests

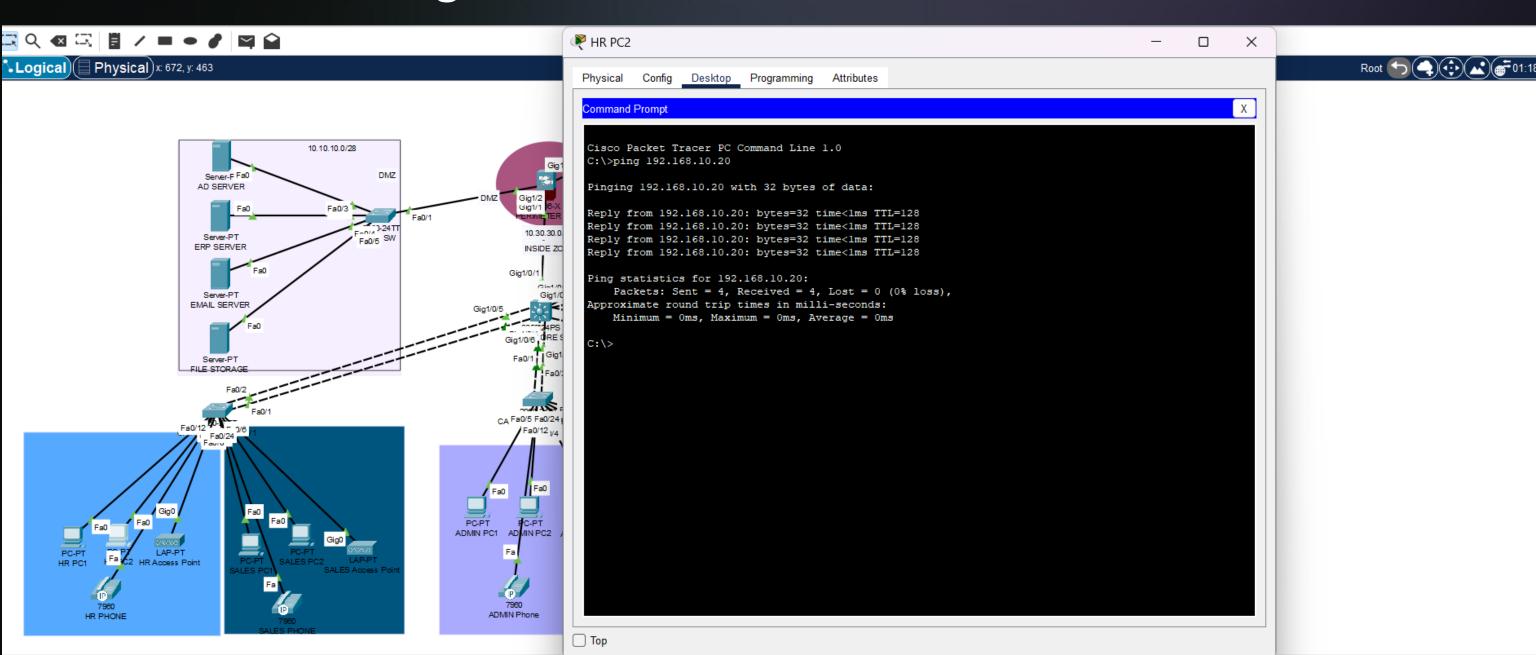
Tests

Test routing between vlan



Tests

Test routing between vlan



Thank You