Release Notes for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller, Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3

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Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller, Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3

Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers comprise next-generation wireless controllers (referred to as controller in this document) built for intent-based networking.

The controllers are available in multiple forms to cater to your deployment options:

- Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller Appliance
    - Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers (C9800-L, C9800-40, C9800-80)
    - Cisco CW9800 Series Wireless Controllers (CW9800L, CW9800M, CW9800H1, CW9800H2)
- Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller for Cloud
- Embedded Wireless Controller (EWC) on Catalyst 9000 Series Switches

This document describes the new software features that were introduced or enhanced, change in behavior, issues, supported hardware, and so on, for Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3.

New software features

This section provides a brief description of the new software features introduced in this release.

Table 1. New software features for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, Release 17.18.3

Product impact	Feature	Description
Software Reliability	Enhancement for GCMP-256 support with WPA3-Enterprise (AKM 3/5)	WPA3 Specification version 3.4 introduces a mandatory requirement for WPA3-Enterprise (non-192-bit mode) to support the GCMP-256 cipher when utilizing AKMs 00:0F:AC:05 (dot1X-SHA256) and 00:0F:AC:03 (FT-dot1X). This change is essential for enabling Wi-Fi 7 (802.11be) capabilities. To facilitate this, the controller now supports GCMP-256 for these AKMs. Furthermore, starting with this release, the controller includes an automatic upgrade mechanism to ensure existing WLANs remain compliant and performant. The system will automatically add cipher GCMP-256 to WLAN configurations that meet all the following criteria: • WLAN configured with WPA3-Enterprise (non suiteb) using AKM 3 (FT dot1X) and/or AKM 5 (dot1X-SHA256). • Operating in non-SuiteB mode. • Beacon Protection is enabled. • An 802.11be (Wi-Fi 7) profile is applied with at least one active link. This enhancement prevents WLANs from automatically downgrading to 802.11ax (Wi-Fi 6) due to missing cipher support, ensuring that clients can associate successfully and maintain high-performance Wi-Fi 7 connectivity.
Compliance	Optimized channel and power tables for CW9171I and CW9174I/E APs for Phase 2 countries	In this release, the channels and power tables for CW9171I and CW9174I/E APs have been updated to optimize performance based on local regulations in Phase 2 countries.

Product analytics

Cisco IOS XE Product Analytics collects device Systems Information for the purposes of understanding product usage, enabling product improvements and product development, and assisting in product

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adoption and sales support. Only summarized data of feature usage and statistical counters of configuration are collected. No personal identifiable information, such as MAC/IP addresses, usernames, custom configuration names, or user provided strings, are collected as part of Cisco IOS XE Product Analytics. Cisco processes this data following the General Terms, the Cisco Privacy Statement, and any other applicable agreement with Cisco.

See Cisco Enterprise Networking Product Analytics Frequently Asked Questions.

Change in behavior

Table 2. Change in behavior for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, Release 17.18.3

Feature	Description
Updated Mesh PSK downgrade procedure (Release 26.1.1)	MAP is unable to connect if authentication method is PSK, during the downgrade process from Cisco IOS XE 26.1.1 to an older release such as 17.18.x or 17.15.x. If you are using PSK for Mesh authentication and need to downgrade to a version that does not include this fix, follow these steps: 1. Before downgrade: Enable the default PSK. 2. After downgrade: MAPs should typically join the controller successfully if the provisioned PSK remains unchanged. If MAPs fail to join using PSK, perform these recovery steps: • Change the Mesh authentication method to EAP. • Once the MAPs have joined the controller through EAP, run this command on the controller for each of the affected APs: **ap name** *ap-name* **mesh security psk provisioning delete** • Change the Mesh authentication method back to PSK. The MAPs will join using the default PSK and then automatically update to the provisioned PSK. 3. Once all APs have successfully joined the controller, disable the default PSK.
Enhancements to the Monitoring Wireless Clients grid in the controller WebUI	Added Policy Type, Encryption Cipher, and Authentication Key Management (AKM) to the **Monitoring** > **Wireless** > **Clients** grid.
NETCONF/YANG support for Regulatory Activation File (RAF)	In the earlier releases, you could activate regulatory domain on APs through CLI commands and through the GUI process ensuring compliance with regional regulations. With the change in behavior, NETCONF/YANG now supports Regulatory Activation File (RAF). RPC-YANG support is added for the following RAF EXEC CLIs and **show** commands: • **ap regulatory activation file** *file-name* • **ap regulatory activation apply** • **ap regulatory activation clear all** • **ap regulatory activation clear** *mac-address* • **clear ap name** *ap-name* **country** • **show ap regulatory activation all** • **show ap regulatory activation mac** *mac-address*

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Feature	Description
Channel width support for 160 MHz on Slot 0	In the earlier releases, if slot 0 was configured as an FRA slot supporting 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz, the channel width on slot 0 could be configured only up to 80 MHz; 160 MHz was not supported. With the change in behavior, 160 MHz is now supported on slot 0.
5 GHz radio remains powered down after XOR band reverts in non-6 GHz countries	Cisco wireless controller WebUI running versions 17.15, 17.18, and 26.1.1 may cause the 5 GHz radio to remain in a Powered Down state when an XOR radio is reverted from 6 GHz back to 5 GHz in a country that does not support 6 GHz. With the change in behavior, WebUI handles the radio state and provides appropriate warnings when moving radios to unsupported bands. This prevents the radio from remaining powered down after the band change.

Notice of upcoming changes in the Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3 release and beyond

Cisco is committed to safeguarding our products and customer networks against increasingly sophisticated threat actors. As computing power and the threat landscape have evolved, some features and protocols currently in use have become vulnerable to attack. While more secure alternatives are now available, legacy protocols may still be in use in some environments.

To improve network security, reduce the attack surface, and protect sensitive data, Cisco is phasing out legacy and insecure features and protocols, encouraging customers to transition to more secure alternatives. This process is gradual and designed to minimize operational impact. This is part of a broader initiative to make Cisco products more secure by default and secure by design.

Starting with the Cisco IOS XE 17.18.2 release and in future releases, Cisco software will display warning messages when configuring features or protocols that do not provide sufficient security such as those transmitting sensitive data without encryption or using outdated encryption mechanisms. Warnings will also appear when security best practices are not followed, along with suggestions for secure alternatives.

This list is subject to change, but the following is a list of features and protocols that are planned to generate warnings from version Cisco IOS XE 17.18.2.

Release notes for each release will describe exact changes for that release.

- **Plain-text and weak credential storage**: Type 0 (plain text), 5 (MD5), or 7 (Vigenère cipher) in configuration files.

  Recommendation: Use Type 6 (AES) for reversible credentials, and Type 8 (PBKDF2-SHA-256) or Type 9 (Scrypt) for non-reversible credentials.

- **SSHv1**:

  Recommendation: Use SSHv2.

- **SNMPv1 and SNMPv2, or SNMPv3 without authentication and encryption**:

  Recommendation: Use SNMPv3 with authentication and encryption (authPriv).

- **MD5 (authentication) and 3DES (encryption) in SNMPv3**:

  Recommendation: Use SHA1 or, preferably, SHA2 for authentication, and AES for encryption.

- **IP source routing based on IP header options**:

  Recommendation: Do not use this legacy feature.

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- **TLS 1.0 and TLS 1.1**:

  Recommendation: Use TLS 1.2 or later.
- **TLS ciphers using SHA1 for digital signatures**:

  Recommendation: Use ciphers with SHA256 or stronger digital signatures.
- **HTTP**:

  Recommendation: Use HTTPS.
- **Telnet**:

  Recommendation: Use SSH for remote access.
- **FTP and TFTP**:

  Recommendation: Use SFTP or HTTPS for file transfers.
- **On-Demand Routing (ODR)**:

  Recommendation: Use a standard routing protocol in place of CDP-based routing information exchange.
- **BootP server**:

  Recommendation: Use DHCP or secure boot features such as Secure ZTP.
- **TCP and UDP small servers (echo, chargen, discard, daytime)**:

  Recommendation: Do not use these services on network devices.
- **IP finger**:

  Recommendation: Do not use this protocol on network devices.
- **NTP control messages**:

  Recommendation: Do not use this feature.
- **TACACS+ using pre-shared keys and MD5**:

  Recommendation: Use TACACS+ over TLS 1.3, introduced in release Cisco IOS XE 17.18.1.
- **Wireless LAN Controller, CAPWAP DTLS**:

  Recommendation: Do not use DTLSv1.0 and weaker ciphersuites.
- **Wireless LAN Controller, WLAN**:

  Recommendation: Do not use 802.1x key management security.
- **Wireless LAN Controller, Mobility**:

  Recommendation: Do not use weaker ciphers and use stronger ciphers.
- **Wireless LAN Controller, NMSP**:

  Recommendation: Do not use weaker ciphers and use strong ciphers.

Cisco is committed to supporting customers through this transition. Subsequent releases on the Cisco IOS XE 17.18 train will continue to support these features but will display warnings if they are used. Future

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release trains may impose additional restrictions on these features which will be communicated through release notes.

For more information, see Resilient Infrastructure IOS XE Security Warnings Reference.

Resolved issues

To see additional information about the issues, click the bug ID to access the Bug Search Tool (BST).

Table 3. Resolved issues in Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, Release 17.18.3

Bug ID	Description
CSCwo98441	Small variations in GPS module raw outputs cause large changes in GNSS data to controller
CSCwp10723	CW9171I - 5Ghz oper state goes down when 6Ghz admin state was disabled
CSCwp34745	9130AX kernel panic pc : __qdf_bug+0x0/0x8 [qdf]
CSCwp59643	COS AP crash due to Soft lockup and null pointer dereference in 17.12.4
CSCwr07706	C9120 txerr noticed followed by Dot11BaseDriver Recover for cause : 48 - Toggling radio
CSCwr20303	Controller unexpected reload after modifying ap location name config
CSCwr56409	Wireless client is not receiving IPv6 RA from wired on Flexconnect AP
CSCwr65627	Large number of APs (2K+) take several minutes to join N+1 controller when Primary goes down
CSCwr67024	Edge receives a Discover from AP in L2LI0 interface, instead of in the Access Tunnel, due to the wrong IP source of the AP.
CSCwr75465	High CPU in wncd 99%-100% after change AP name to AP name that already exist in controller
CSCwr77247	AP crash on 9174I running 17.18.2: Kernel Panic
CSCwr77993	Kernel panic crashes on 9176 APs running on 17.18.1
CSCwr81031	Memory leak on 9176 APs on kmalloc slabs
CSCwr90981	AP count varying in 5GHz radio
CSCwr98669	C9176 FW Crash - cnss_pci 0004:01:00.0: CRASHED
CSCws01793	nss driver initialization failure during bootup on the 9178 Access point
CSCws06706	C9178: Clients unable to join 2.4 radio due to MAC HW Hang/PHY Error
CSCws08240	Wi-Fi 7 APs: Crash files generated in controller with reason reload due to power on reset - 33
CSCws08681	CW9178I AP - No Clients are able to connect due to nss count not incrementing
CSCws19380	Controller crash during ISSU upgrade
CSCws22667	Throughput Issue on Uploads via RLAN Ports 2 and 3 on Cisco 9105AWX/9172H AP; Port 1 Unaffected

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Bug ID	Description
CSCws26825	9105 stops accepting clients due to RX too late errors
CSCws27309	CW9162I-ROW APs are disjoining from 9800-CL running 17.12.04 - SMU-PATCHED
CSCws32133	9800 controller reloads due to crash on wncd process
CSCws39889	RF Based AP Load Balancing: Controller Crash due to observed during load balancing algo run
CSCws47700	WGB roaming may trigger a wncd process unexpected reload and wireless controller reload.
CSCws53690	SST:17.12.6a- >17.18.2 ISSU, AP disjoin after active - > standby
CSCws58494	WebAuth Clients moved to RUN State on the controller but it is stuck in WebAuth on the AP
CSCws58703	SST: ndbmand cores are seen after ISSU upgrade from 17.15.x to 17.18.2 with CatC, NETCONF not working
CSCws65956	Controller crash with wncmgrd has been helddown (rc 139)
CSCws66689	When RLAN port 1 is connected 9172H sends DHCP discover out of wired1 instead of wired0
CSCws68160	Controller Unexpected reload with Critical process wncd fault on rp_0_0 (rc=139) after client deletion
CSCws68505	AP crash due to kernel panic
CSCws76688	Client stuck in AUTHENTICATING state on Catalyst 9800 when OKC is enabled in Flex mode AP \u2013 EAP Identity Request sent after 4\u2011Way Handshake
CSCws77227	AP CW9176I kernel panic crash
CSCws77337	9166 SDA APs having image download issues due to /tmp not having enough space caused by sdavc App pack
CSCws80385	AP CW9176I kernel panic random crash
CSCws91899	C9800 Crash while processing Flex Connect Client
CSCws93542	Post failover DHCP Offer is not forwarded by the controller to the client
CSCwt00254	Anonymous memory leak due to missing SSL async FD deselect in WebAuth
CSCwt01278	9115/9120 APs facing kernel panic crashes in 17.18.2
CSCwt05272	AP 9120 crashed due to Kernal Panic
CSCwt08175	AP Kernel Panic due to PC is at _ZN17SPSCPriorityQueue4pushEiP6Packet+0x7c/0x4c8 LR is at _ZN17SPSCPriorityQueue4pushEiP6Packet+0x40/0x4c8
CSCwt08728	CW9179F :5GHz channel mapping for CA Country is missing in the power table
CSCwt09003	Clients not connecting to \" FT+SAE\" when AP is in flex connect mode with central authentication
CSCwt20299	Application traffic is using wired0 as egress interface instead of auxiliary client interface
CSCwt31565	Wireless Clients Stuck in RUN State on Cisco 9800-40-K9 Running 17.12.6a

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Bug ID	Description
CSCwt31826	Constant switchover and/or reload due to SIGSEGV on rogued process
CSCwt37351	The wncd process unexpected finish due to an invalid handler-id for a radio wlan id and controller may reload
CSCwt52617	Post SSO - Few wireless clients experiences loss of connectivity to devices outside the Fabric
CSCwt53021	2.4G Radio not coming up for CW9163-E AP when country code is configured as SR
CSCwo98826	[9179 Outdoor Mode] 6Ghz Power mode reason shows as \" AFC license is not available for AP\" in case of DB10 outdoor Mode auto mode.
CSCwq11290	17.15.4[SST] - Observing a Memory leaks on Ble Trasnsport
CSCwq73441	CW9172I AP: Kernel panic running 17.15.4
CSCwr30777	9800 standby chassis shows Cisco Unknown Power Supply and same SN on output from \" show inventory\" 17.12.4
CSCwr74373	C9800 controller Accounting-Request packets are not sent when an ungraceful disassociation takes place
CSCwr77108	When using FT11r or OKC in flexconnect local auth, AP discard VLAN pushed by RADIUS server
CSCwr77143	CW9166/IW9167: Kernel panic crash running 17.15
CSCwr79853	In file manager, when selecting one file in the location box, download fails
CSCwr87352	Remove Mesh country restriction warning from UI
CSCwr87656	9800 controller RADSEC - Acct-Session-Time value is blank intermittently
CSCwr96614	C9120 COS AP crash on capwapd.service: main process exited, code=killed, status=4/ILL
CSCwr96860	Antenna Gain configuration via RESTCONF RPC fails for AP models 3800E and 9120AXE \u2014 \u201cslot: 0 does not have a dedicated radio\u201d error
CSCwr97281	9105 AP is over reporting interference under \" auto-rf\" result
CSCws10863	9800 - APs with an unresolved regulatory domain stop RRM from running for other APs
CSCws17702	PAED process crashes every 24 after record pruning and DB query errors.
CSCws25172	9166 APs keep crashing when 6GHz radio is on, using RO country code on controller version 17.15.3
CSCws35315	Auxiliary-client interface taking over the CAPWAP connection from the AP
CSCws46519	When running \" show ap lldp neighbor\" on the controller, outdated information continues to persist.
CSCws60984	9166 crash systemd[1]: capwapd.service failed.
CSCws62182	The GUI displays the channel Bandwidth (Negotiated/capable) wrong
CSCws66137	Client association time shown as \" 01/01/1970 00:00:00\" while local authentication (no central authentication) is in place

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Bug ID	Description
CSCws70285	Clean up for /storage/cnssdaemon.log
CSCws72425	9136I IOX application activation failure
CSCws76582	17.15.3 -Stale client entries prohibiting fresh assoc on AP
CSCws79118	Unexpectedly reduced transmit power for 9124-AXE on 2.4 GHz in -Z regulatory domain
CSCws80754	Local DHCP on Anchor controller intermittently stops forwarding DHCP OFFER or ACK
CSCws83128	AP rename fails with false \u201cAP name already exists\u201d conflict for a specific hostname string (not present in AP database), controller reverts AP to default name
CSCws93326	26.1.1 ERR Logs: (ERR): MAC: 0000.0000.0000 \u00a0Set RA trace entry for multi link client. Unable to fetch dot11 operational data
CSCwt13894	CW9172H WAT Agent fails to connect to SSIDs with leading or trailing spaces
CSCwt20158	bsnMobileStation showing only a few clients - root cause is Wifi7
CSCwt21195	Default 6 GHz RF profile cannot be selected when creating a new location.
CSCwt40423	Cloudm Tracebacks running out of ID
CSCwt41808	wncmgrd Process Crash Due to Invalid String Pointer during AP Join AVL Tree
CSCwt41939	TMPFS Memory leak in IOS_PRIV_OPER_DB tbl_ewlc_critical_events table after selinux denials

Open issues

To see additional information about the issues, click the bug ID to access the Bug Search Tool (BST). This section lists the open issues that apply to the current release and might apply to releases earlier than Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, Release 17.18.3. An issue that is open for an earlier release and is still unresolved applies to all future releases until it is resolved.

Table 4. Open issues in Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, Release 17.18.3

Bug ID	Description
CSCwt91818	C9800 controller crash during APSP installation
CSCwk79990	9800-L encounters kernel unresponsiveness due to IntelResetRequest
CSCws23072	RRM Crashes and tracebacks observed on CW9800 Platform
CSCws42581	Memory corruption in L2 multicast while handling dynamic multicast router ports and group
CSCwt03837	Standby Platform with HA facing unexpected reloads due LocalSoft
CSCwt13732	WNCD process is getting terminated unexpectedly, causing controller to crash (Critical process wncd has failed (rc 0))

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Bug ID	Description
CSCwt19011	9166 17.15.4b AP in SDA mode not forwarding IPv4 ARP upstream or other IPv4 packets after DHCP
CSCwt19092	9179 running 17.18.2 reporting more than 4 DFS in less than 1 hour
CSCwt19490	9800 controller: Stale client IP used in RADIUS accounting causes ISE IP\u2013SGT/SXP overwrite
CSCwt22893	Controller unexpected SISF reboot with WNCD core on 17.18.2
CSCwt26718	eCA upgrade operation failed due to non response from wncmgrd.
CSCwt38788	The mobility process ends unexpectedly due to an uninitialized variable; controller may be reloaded.
CSCwt50389	Ascom Myco2 phones are not able to connect to 9176 APs due to EAP_ID_REQ or M2 not acked by AP
CSCwt52815	Controller fails to update associated Channel width for client after it is changed on AP radio.
CSCwt53635	Memory Leak on C9800-40-K9 in the wncmgrd process
CSCwt71615	Process \" CPPHA-3-FAULT: F0/0: cpp_ha_top_level_server\" crashed causing the controller to reboot
CSCwt74576	Cisco Catalyst 9136 AP wcpd process memory increasing gradually
CSCwt79299	Controller dropping mobility tunnel even when keepalive timers arent hit.
CSCwt80081	Users stuck in IP learn Phase and deleted with the reason NACK_IFID
CSCwt83133	Unexpected reload on controller due to null pointer on SSL code causing wncd core
CSCws03721	9120/9115/9105 AP does not ACK frames sent from iOS devices follow up of CSCwj91255
CSCws94151	SFP \" SFP-H25G-CU1M\" is not working in C9800M - 17.15.03 and Nexus C93180YC-EX
CSCws95359	10G Ports not coming UP on CW9800M, CW9800H1 with various SPFs models.
CSCwt39820	APs Does Not Receive Accelerometer Settings from AP Join Profile
CSCwt43333	C9120E dual-band-role XPath does not apply 5 GHz sniffer configuration despite HTTP 204 success
CSCwt44743	CW9166I randomly drops ARP query from Zebra MC9300 RF gun
CSCwt53740	AP not broadcast SSID due to some policy config pushing failed from the controller
CSCwt65349	CW9172I AP crashes with ar_wal_mlo_ipc.c assert and watchdog panic
CSCwt72800	CW9176I AP crash due to kernel panic with pc do_undefinstr+0x30/0x50
CSCwt75036	802.1X Authentication Failure on C9800-L ? EAP Request Identity Not Forwarded by AP (CW9176I, 17.15.4.160)

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Bug ID	Description
CSCwt77092	AP – KFENCE memory corruption events lead to RCU stalls and HW watchdog reset
CSCwt77136	Continuous KFENCE IPv6 MLD memory corruption leads to RCU stalls and HW watchdog reset
CSCwt79155	9105AXW AP Kernel Panic Crash on 17.15.4d
CSCwt81695	WGB mode does not include hostname (DHCP Option 12) in DHCP Discover on 91xx APs, preventing DDNS record creation
CSCwt84944	17.15.3 – 9120 reporting incorrect noise levels for 5/24Ghz

Known issues

The known issues for Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3 include:

Cisco Catalyst 9130 Series and 9124 Series APs cannot boot software that are earlier than 17.9, after an upgrade

After upgrading a Cisco Catalyst 9130 or 9124 AP to Cisco IOS XE 17.18.2, 26.1.1, or a later release, the AP cannot boot an image earlier than Cisco IOS XE 17.9. Attempts to boot images such as Cisco AireOS 8.10 or Cisco IOS XE 17.3 will fail. For more information, refer to CSCwv10846.

ISSU failure on Cisco CW9800L when initiated from 17.18.2, 17.18.3, or 26.1.1

Problem: ISSU operations fail on Cisco CW9800L Wireless Controllers running IOS XE releases from 17.18.2, 17.18.3, or 26.1.1 (Refer to CSCwt98619).

Workaround: Use the **install activate issu force** command to complete the upgrade in the CLI or use the **Override** option in the GUI.

Resolution: Native ISSU support (via Catalyst Center and without the force flag) will be restored in releases 17.18.4 and 26.1.2.

For New Deployments: Cisco will publish cold SMU on 17.18.2, 17.18.3 & 26.1.1 to support ISSU.

Compatibility

Compatibility matrix

The following table provides software compatibility information. For more information, see Cisco Wireless Solutions Software Compatibility Matrix.

Table 5. Compatibility Matrix for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, Release 17.18.3

Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller Software	Cisco Identity Services Engine	Cisco AireOS-IRCM Interoperability	Cisco Catalyst Center	Cisco CMX
IOS XE 17.18.3	3.4 3.3 3.2	8.10 latest MR 8.5 latest MR	See Cisco Catalyst Center Compatibility Information.	11.1.1

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Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller Software	Cisco Identity Services Engine	Cisco AireOS-IRCM Interoperability	Cisco Catalyst Center	Cisco CMX
	3.1 3.0 * all with latest patches			

Software requirements

Operating Systems:

- Windows 10 or later
- macOS X 10.11 or later

Browsers:

- Google Chrome: Version 59 or later (on Windows and Mac)
- Microsoft Edge: Version 40 or later (on Windows)
- Safari: Version 10 or later (on Mac)
- Mozilla Firefox: Version 60 or later (on Windows and Mac)

  Note that Firefox version 63.x is not supported.

The controller GUI uses Virtual Terminal (VTY) lines for processing HTTP requests. At times, when multiple connections are open, the default number of VTY lines of 15 set by the device might get exhausted. Therefore, we recommend that you increase the number of VTY lines to 50.

To increase the VTY lines in a device, run the following commands in the following order:

```
Device# configure terminal
Device(config)# line vty 50
```

The best practice is to configure the service tcp-keepalives to monitor the TCP connection to the device.

```
Device(config)# service tcp-keepalives-in
Device(config)# service tcp-keepalives-out
```

Before you upgrade

Ensure that you familiarize yourself with the following points before proceeding with the upgrade:

- **Upgrading from Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3 to 26.1.1**:
  WLANs configured with WPA3 Enterprise (non-SuiteB) using the GCMP-256 cipher, which are currently supported on Wi-Fi 7 in release 17.18.3, will be administratively shut down upon upgrading to release 26.1.1. This occurs because the GCMP-256 cipher is not supported for these specific WLAN types in version 26.1.1. Consequently, affected WLANs will cease to broadcast and will not be operational immediately following the upgrade.

  The affected WLAN types are:

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- WPA3 Enterprise (802.1X SHA256) with GCMP-256 cipher
- WPA3 FT (802.1X) with GCMP-256 cipher

Workaround: To restore service for these WLANs post-upgrade, you must manually remove the GCMP-256 cipher configuration from the affected WLANs. Once the configuration is removed, the WLANs can be brought back to an operational state.

Ensure validation of cipher compatibility before upgrading to avoid service disruption.

- If you have APs in remote sites, behind a WAN link, read the following document to accelerate the image download and make it more reliable: https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/wireless/catalyst-9800-series-wireless-controllers/223125-understand-access-point-image-upgrades.html.
- When you upgrade from Cisco IOS XE 17.9.5 or lower, or 17.12.2 or lower, to Cisco IOS XE 17.18.2 or higher, the controller WebUI does not support images greater than 1.5 GB.

  Workaround:

  - Upgrade using the CLI commands, or,
  - Upgrade to 17.9.6, 17.12.3, or higher, then upgrade to 17.18.2 or later.
- For images: If upgrading from 17.9.6 or lower, 17.12.4 or lower, or 17.15.1 or lower, to 17.18.2, Cisco Catalyst Wi-Fi 6 APs may fail to upgrade their image due to lack of space on the temporary partition.

  Workaround:

  - Reboot the impacted APs using a power cycle, then procced to upgrade normally.

  For more information, see CSCwm08044 and CSCwm07499.
- APs running older release code (before 8.10.190.0, 17.3.8, 17.6.5, 17.9.3 or older), may get into a boot loop when upgrading software over a WAN link. For more information, see: https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/docs/wireless/catalyst-9800-series-wireless-controllers/220443-how-to-avoid-boot-loop-due-to-corrupted.html.
- The following Wave 1 APs are not supported in 17.18.2 and higher, and they will not join the controller. We recommend that you validate the current models before upgrading:
  - Cisco Aironet 1570 Series Access Point
  - Cisco Aironet 1700 Series Access Point
  - Cisco Aironet 2700 Series Access Point
  - Cisco Aironet 3700 Series Access Point
- From Cisco IOS XE Dublin 17.10.x, Key Exchange and MAC algorithms like diffie-hellman-group14-sha1, hmac-sha1, hmac-sha2-256, and hmac-sha2-512 are not supported by default and it may impact some SSH clients that only support these algorithms. If required, you can add them manually. For information on manually adding these algorithms, see the SSH Algorithms for Common Criteria Certification document available at: https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/routers/ios/config/17-x/sec-vpn/b-security-vpn/m_sec-secure-shell-algorithm-ccc.html.

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- If APs fail to detect the backup image after running the archive download-sw command, perform the following steps:
    - Upload the image using the no-reload option of the archive download-sw command:

```
Device# archive download-sw /no-reload tftp://<tftp_server_ip>/<image_name>
```

    - Restart the CAPWAP process using **capwap ap restart** command. This allows the AP to use the correct backup image after the restart (reload is not required.)

```
Device# capwap ap restart
```

    The AP will lose connection to the controller during the join process. When the AP joins the new controller, it will see a new image in the backup partition. So, the AP will not download a new image from the controller.
- The use of MTU lower than 1500 on G0 (OOB) interface that may cause fragmentation for RADIUS packets for client authentication, is not supported.
- While upgrading to Cisco IOS XE 17.3.x and later releases, if the **ip http active-session-modules none** command is enabled, you will not be able to access the controller GUI using HTTPS. To access the GUI using HTTPS, run the following commands in the order specified below:

```
ip http session-module-list pkilist OPENRESTY_PKI
ip http active-session-modules pkilist
```

- Cisco Aironet 1815T OfficeExtend Access Point will be in local mode when connected to the controller. However, when it functions as a standalone AP, it gets converted to FlexConnect mode.
- The Cisco Catalyst 9800-L Wireless Controller may fail to respond to the BREAK signals received on its console port during boot time, preventing users from getting to the ROMMON. This problem is observed on the controllers manufactured until November 2019, with the default config-register setting of 0x2102. This problem can be avoided if you set config-register to 0x2002.

  This problem is fixed in the 16.12(3r) ROMMON for Cisco Catalyst 9800-L Wireless Controller. For information about how to upgrade the ROMMON, see the Upgrading ROMMON for Cisco Catalyst 9800-L Wireless Controllers section of the Upgrading Field Programmable Hardware Devices for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers document.
- By default, the controller uses a TFTP block size value of 512, which is the lowest possible value. This default setting is used to ensure interoperability with legacy TFTP servers. If required, you can change the block size value to 8192 to speed up the transfer process, using the **ip tftp blocksize** command in global configuration mode.
- If the following error message is displayed after a reboot or system crash, we recommend that you regenerate the trustpoint certificate: ERR_SSL_VERSION_OR_CIPHER_MISMATCH.

  Use the following commands in the order specified below to generate a new self-signed trustpoint certificate:

```
device# configure terminal
device(config)# no crypto pki trustpoint trustpoint_name
device(config)# no ip http server
device(config)# no ip http secure-server
device(config)# ip http server
device(config)# ip http secure-server
```

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```
device(config)# ip http authentication local/aaa
```

- Do not deploy OVA files directly to VMware ESXi 6.5. We recommend that you use an OVF tool to deploy the OVA files.
- Ensure that you remove the controller from Cisco Prime Infrastructure before disabling or enabling Netconf-YANG. Otherwise, the system may reload unexpectedly.
- From Cisco IOS XE Bengaluru 17.4.1 onwards, the telemetry solution provides a name for the receiver address instead of the IP address for telemetry data. This is an additional option. During the controller downgrade and subsequent upgrade, there is likely to be an issue—the upgrade version uses the newly named receivers, and these are not recognized in the downgrade. The new configuration gets rejected and fails in the subsequent upgrade. Configuration loss can be avoided when the upgrade or downgrade is performed from Cisco Catalyst Center.
- The Cisco Centralized Key Management (CCKM) feature was deprecated in Cisco IOS XE 17.10.x but currently remains supported. However, support for CCKM will be removed in a future release. Therefore, we recommend that you migrate to Fast Transition (FT) with 802.1X authentication and validate the configuration with supported key caching mechanisms.
- To migrate public IP address from 16.12.x to 17.x. ensure that you configure the service internal command. If you do not configure the service internal command, the IP address does not get carried forward.
- RLAN support with Virtual Routing and Forwarding (VRF) is not available.
- When you encounter the SNMP error SNMP_ERRORSTATUS_NOACCESS 6, it means that the specified SNMP variable is not accessible.
- We recommend that you perform a controller reload whenever there is a change in the controller's clock to reflect an earlier time.
- The DTLS version (DTLSv1.0) is deprecated for Cisco Aironet 1800 based on latest security policies. Therefore, any new out-of-box deployments of Cisco Aironet 1800 APs will fail to join the controller, and you will get the following error message:

  ```
  %APMGR_TRACE_MESSAGE-3-WLC_GEN_ERR: Chassis 1 R0/2: wncd: Error in AP Join,
  AP <AP-name>,
  mac:<MAC-address>Model AIR-AP1815W-D-K9, AP negotiated unexpected DTLS version v1.0
  ```

  To onboard new Cisco Aironet 1800 APs and to establish a CAPWAP connection, explicitly set the DTLS version to 1.0 in the controller using the following configuration:

  ```
  config terminal
  ap dtls-version dtls_1_0
  end
  ```

  Note: Setting the DTLS version to 1.0 affects all the existing AP CAPWAP connections. We recommend that you apply the configuration only during a maintenance window. After the APs download the new image and join the controller, ensure that you remove the configuration.
- Before you begin a downgrade process, you must manually remove the configurations which are applicable in the current version but not in the older version. Otherwise, you might encounter unexpected behavior.

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- To upgrade the field programmable hardware devices for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers, see Upgrading Field Programmable Hardware Devices for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers.

Upgrade path to Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3

Note: For Cisco Catalyst 9136, 9164, and 9166 APs, a direct upgrade from 17.9.1 to 17.15.x or 17.18.x will fail due to insufficient space. To perform the upgrade, you must first update to 17.9.6 or 17.9.7 before proceeding to 17.15.x or 17.18.x.

Table 6. Upgrade Path to Cisco IOS XE Dublin 17.18.3

Current software	Upgrade path for deployments with 9130, 9124, or 916x	Upgrade path for deployments without 9130 and 9124
16.10.x	– **Note**: The Cisco Catalyst 9130 and 9124 APs are not supported in 16.10.x and 16.11.x releases.	Upgrade first to 16.12.5 or 17.3.x and then to 17.18.3.
16.11.x	–	Upgrade first to 16.12.5 or 17.3.x and then to 17.18.3.
16.12.x	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later or 17.6.x or later, then to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later or 17.6.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.
17.1.x	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later or 17.6.x or later, then to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later and then to 17.18.3.
17.2.x	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later or 17.6.x or later, then to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later and then to 17.18.3.
17.3.1 to 17.3.4	Upgrade first to 17.3.5 or later or 17.6.x or later, then to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.3.4c or later	Upgrade to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.4.x	Upgrade first to 17.6.x and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.5.x	Upgrade first to 17.6.x and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.6.x	Upgrade to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.7.x	Upgrade to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.8.x	Upgrade to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.9.1 to 17.9.5	Upgrade to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.

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Current software	Upgrade path for deployments with 9130, 9124, or 916x	Upgrade path for deployments without 9130 and 9124
	Note: For Cisco Catalyst 9136, 9164, and 9166 APs, a direct upgrade from 17.9.1 to 17.15.x or 17.18.x will fail due to insufficient space. To perform the upgrade, you must first update to 17.9.6 or 17.9.7 before proceeding to 17.15.x or 17.18.x.	
17.9.6 or later	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.10.x	Upgrade to 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.11.x	Upgrade to 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.12.x	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.13.x	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.14.x	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.15.x	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.16.x	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
17.17.x	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.
8.9.x or any 8.10.x version prior to 8.10.171.0	Upgrade first to 8.10.171.0 or later, 17.3.5 or later, or 17.6.x or later, then to 17.9.6 or later or 17.12.x or later, and then to 17.18.3.	Upgrade directly to 17.18.3.

Upgrading the controller software

This section describes the various aspects of upgrading the controller software.

Finding the software version

The package files for the Cisco IOS XE software are stored in the system board flash device (flash:).

Use the **show version** privileged EXEC command to see the software version that is running on your controller.

Note: Although the **show version** output always shows the software image running on the controller, the model name shown at the end of the output is the factory configuration, and does not change if you upgrade the software license.

Use the **show install summary** privileged EXEC command to see the information about the active package.

Use the **dir** filesystem: privileged EXEC command to see the directory names of other software images that you have stored in flash memory.

Software images

- **Release**: Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3

Image names (9800-80, 9800-40, and 9800-L):

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- C9800-80-universalk9_wlc.17.18.03.SPA.bin
- C9800-40-universalk9_wlc.17.18.03.SPA.bin
- C9800-L-universalk9_wlc.17.18.03.SPA.bin

Image names (CW9800M, CW9800H1/CW9800H2, CW9800L)

- CW9800H-wlc-universalk9.17.18.03.SPA.bin
- CW9800M-wlc-universalk9.17.18.03.SPA.bin
- CW9800L-wlc-universalk9.17.18.03.SPA.bin

Image names (9800-CL):

- **Cloud**: C9800-CL-universalk9.17.18.03.SPA.bin
- **Hyper-V/ESXi/KVM**: C9800-CL-universalk9.17.18.03.iso, C9800-CL-universalk9.17.18.03.ova
- **KVM**: C9800-CL-universalk9.17.18.03.qcow2
- **NFVIS**: C9800-CL-universalk9.17.18.03.tar.gz

Software installation commands

To install and activate a specified file, and to commit changes to be persistent across reloads, run the following command:

```
device# install add file filename [activate |commit]
```

To separately install, activate, commit, end, or remove the installation file, run the following command:

```
device# install ?
```

Note: We recommend that you use the GUI for installation.

Commands	Description
add file tftp: *filename*	Copies the install file package from a remote location to a device and performs a compatibility check for the platform and image versions
activateauto-abort-timer	Activates the file and reloads the device; the auto-abort-timer keyword automatically rolls back image activation
Commit	Makes changes that are persistent over reloads
rollback to committed	Rolls back the update to the last committed version
Abort	Cancels file activation and rolls back to the version that was running before the current installation procedure started
Remove	Deletes all unused and inactive software installation files

Licensing

Cisco Wireless Licenses

Cisco Wireless Licenses, a part of the Cisco Networking Subscription licensing model, is a software license that helps you to deploy your Wi-Fi 7 Access Points in an on-premise, hybrid, or a cloud managed network. From Cisco IOS XE 17.15.2, Cisco Wireless licenses are supported on Wi-Fi 7 Access Points (APs) and later models.

The Cisco Wireless Licenses consist of the following tiers:

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- Cisco Wireless Essentials: The tier that provides fundamental features and functionalities that are essential to manage a network.
- Cisco Wireless Advantage: The tier that supports additional features and capabilities and includes all the essential capabilities in addition to the advanced capabilities to manage a network.

For more information, see Cisco Wireless Licensing.

Interoperability with clients

This section describes the interoperability of the controller software with client devices.

The following table lists the configurations used for testing client devices.

Table 7. Test configuration for interoperability

Hardware or software parameter	Hardware or software type
Release	Cisco IOS XE 17.18.3
Cisco Wireless Controller	See Supported hardware
Access Points	See Supported APs
Radio	• 802.11ac • 802.11ax • 802.11a • 802.11g • 802.11n • 802.11be (Wi-Fi 7)
Security	Open, PSK (WPA2-AES), 802.1X (WPA2-AES) (EAP-FAST, EAP-TLS), WPA3 AKM
RADIUS	See Compatibility Matrix
Types of tests	Connectivity, traffic (ICMP), and roaming between two APs

The following table lists the client types on which the tests were conducted. Client types included laptops, hand-held devices, phones, and printers.

Table 8. Client types

Client type and name	Driver or software version
Laptops	
Acer Aspire E 15 E5-573-3870 (Qualcomm Atheros QCA9377)	Latest
Apple MacBook Air 11 inch	Latest
Apple MacBook Air 13 inch	Latest

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
MacBook Pro Retina	Latest
MacBook Pro Retina 13 inch early 2015	Latest
MacBook Pro OS X	Latest
MacBook Air	Latest
MacBook Air 11 inch	Latest
MacBook M1 Chip	Latest
MacBook M1 Chip	Latest
MacBook Pro M2 Chip	Latest
MacBook Pro M2 Chip	Latest
MacBook Pro M3 chip	macOS Tahoe 26.4.1
MacBook/Mac-Mini Pro M4 chip	macOS Tahoe 26.4.1
MacBook/Mac-Mini Pro M4 Pro chip	macOS Tahoe 26.4.1
MacBook Air M5 chip	macOS Tahoe 26.4.1
MacBook Pro M5 chip	macOS Tahoe 26.4.1
MacBook Neo	macOS Tahoe 26.4.1
Dell Inspiron 2020 Chromebook	Chrome OS 75.0.3770.129
Google Pixelbook Go	Chrome OS 97.0.4692.27
HP Chromebook 11a	Chrome OS 76.0.3809.136
Samsung Chromebook 4+	Chrome OS 77.0.3865.105
Dell Latitude (Intel AX210)	Latest
Dell Latitude 3480 (Qualcomm DELL wireless 1820)	Latest
Dell Inspiron 15-7569 (Intel Dual Band Wireless-AC 3165)	Latest
Dell Latitude E5540 (Intel Dual Band Wireless AC7260)	Latest
Dell Latitude E5430 (Intel Centrino Advanced-N 6205)	Latest
Dell Latitude E6840 (Broadcom Dell Wireless 1540 802.11 a/g/n)	Latest
Dell XPS 12 v9250 (Intel Dual Band Wireless AC 8260)	Latest
Dell Latitude 5491 (Intel AX200)	Latest

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
Dell XPS Latitude12 9250 (Intel Dual Band Wireless AC 8260)	Latest
Dell Inspiron 13-5368 Signature Edition	Latest
FUJITSU Lifebook E556 Intel 8260 (Intel Dual Band Wireless-AC 8260 (802.11n))	Latest
Lenovo Yoga C630 Snapdragon 850 (Qualcomm AC 2x2 Svc)	Latest
Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga 460 (Intel Dual Band Wireless-AC 9260)	Latest
Note: For clients using Intel wireless cards, we recommend that you update to the latest Intel wireless drivers if the advertised SSIDs are not visible.	
Tablets	
Apple iPad Pro (12.9 inch) 6th Gen	iOS 16.4
Apple iPad Pro (11 inch) 4th Gen	iOS 16.4
Apple iPad 2021	iOS 15.0
Apple iPad 7the Gen 2019	iOS 14.0
Apple iPad MD328LL/A	iOS 9.3.5
Apple iPad 2 MC979LL/A	iOS 11.4.1
Apple iPad Air MD785LL/A	iOS 11.4.1
Apple iPad Air2 MGLW2LL/A	iOS 10.2.1
Apple iPad Mini 4 9.0.1 MK872LL/A	iOS 11.4.1
Apple iPad Mini 2 ME279LL/A	iOS 11.4.1
Apple iPad Mini 4 9.0.1 MK872LL/A	iOS 11.4.1
Microsoft Surface Pro 3 13 inch (Intel AX201)	Windows 10 (21.40.1.3)
Microsoft Surface Pro 3 15 inch (Qualcomm Atheros QCA61x4A)	Windows 10
Microsoft Surface Pro 7 (Intel AX201)	Windows 10
Microsoft Surface Pro 6 (Marvell Wi-Fi chipset 11ac)	Windows 10
Microsoft Surface Pro X (WCN3998 Wi-Fi Chip)	Windows
Mobile phones	
Apple iPhone 5	iOS 12.4.1

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
Apple iPhone 6s	iOS 13.5
Apple iPhone 7 MN8J2LL/A	iOS 11.2.5
Apple iPhone 8	iOS 13.5
Apple iPhone 8 Plus	iOS 14.1
Apple iPhone 8 Plus MQ8D2LL/A	iOS 12.4.1
Apple iPhone X MQA52LL/A	iOS 13.1
Apple iPhone 11	iOS 15.1
Apple iPhone 12	iOS 16.0
Apple iPhone 12 Pro	iOS 15.1
Apple iPhone 13	iOS 15.1
Apple iPhone 13 Mini	iOS 15.1
Apple iPhone 13 Mini Pro	iOS 15.1
Apple iPhone SE MLY12LL/A	iOS 11.3
Apple iPhone SE	iOS 15.1
Apple iPhone 14	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 14 Pro	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 15	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 15 Pro	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 16	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 16e	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 16 Pro	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 17	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 17 Pro	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone 17e	iOS 26.4.1
Apple iPhone Air	iOS 26.4.1
ASCOM i63	Build v 3.0.0
ASCOM Myco 3	Android 9

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
Cisco IP Phone 8821	11.0.6 SR4
Cisco 840/s	Latest
Cisco 860	Latest
Cisco 9821	Latest
Cisco 7800 series desk phones	Latest
Cisco 8800 series desk phones	Latest
Cisco 9800 series desk phones	Latest
Drager Delta	VG9.0.2
Drager M300.3	VG3.0
Drager M300.4	VG3.0
Drager M540	VG4.2
Google Pixel 3a	Android 11
Google Pixel 4	Android 11
Google Pixel 5	Android 11
Google Pixel 6	Android 12
Google Pixel 7	Android 13
Google Pixel 8	Android 15
Google Pixel 9	Android 15
Google Pixel 10	Android 15
Huawei Mate 20 pro	Android 9.0
Huawei P20 Pro	Android 10
Huawei P40	Android 10
LG v40 ThinQ	Android 9.0
One Plus 8	Android 11
Oppo Find X2	Android 10
Redmi K20 Pro	Android 10
Samsung Galaxy S9+ – G965U1	Android 10.0

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
Samsung Galaxy S10 Plus	Android 11.0
Samsung S10 (SM-G973U1)	Android 11.0
Samsung S10e (SM-G970U1)	Android 11.0
Samsung Galaxy S20 Ultra	Android 10.0
Samsung Galaxy S21 Ultra 5G	Android 13.0
Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra	Android 13.0
Samsung Galaxy S23	Android 15.0
Samsung Galaxy S23 Ultra	Android 15.0
Samsung Galaxy S24	Android 15.0
Samsung Galaxy S24 Ultra	Android 15.0
Samsung Galaxy S25	Android 15.0
Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra	Android 15.0
Samsung Fold 2	Android 10.0
Samsung Galaxy Z Fold 3	Android 13.0
Samsung Note20	Android 12.0
Samsung G Note 10 Plus	Android 11.0
Samsung Galaxy A01	Android 11.0
Samsung Galaxy A21	Android 10.0
Sony Experia 1 ii	Android 11
Sony Experia	Android 11
Xiaomi Mi 9T	Android 9
Xiaomi Mi 10	Android 11
Spectralink 84 Series	7.5.0.x257
Spectralink 87 Series	Android 5.1.1
Spectralink Versity Phones 92/95/96 Series	Android 10.0
Spectralink Versity Phones 9540 Series	Android 8.1.0
Vocera Badges B3000n	4.3.3.18

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
Vocera Smart Badges V5000	5.0.6.35
Zebra MC40	Android 4.4.4
Zebra MC40N0	Android 4.1.1
Zebra MC92N0	Android 4.4.4
Zebra MC9090	Windows Mobile 6.1
Zebra MC55A	Windows 6.5
Zebra MC75A	OEM ver 02.37.0001
Zebra TC51	Android 6.0.1
Zebra TC52	Android 10.0
Zebra TC55	Android 8.1.0
Zebra TC57	Android 10.0
Zebra TC58	Android 11.0
Zebra TC70	Android 6.1
Zebra TC75	Android 10.0
Zebra TC520K	Android 10.0
Zebra TC8000	Android 4.4.3
Printers	
Zebra QLn320 Mobile Printer	LINK OS 5.2
Zebra ZT230 IndustrialPrinter	LINK OS 6.4
Zebra ZQ310 Mobile Printer	LINK OS 6.4
Zebra ZD410 Industrial Printer	LINK OS 6.4
Zebra ZT410 Desktop Printer	LINK OS 6.2
Zebra ZQ610 Industrial Printer	LINK OS 6.4
Zebra ZQ620 Mobile Printer	LINK OS 6.4
Wireless module	
Intel AX 411	Latest
Intel AX 211	Latest

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Client type and name	Driver or software version
Intel AX 210	Latest
Intel AX 200	Latest
Intel 11AC	Latest
Intel AC 9260	Latest
Intel Dual Band Wireless AC 8260	Latest
Samsung S21 Ultra	Latest
QCA WCN6855	Latest
PhoenixContact FL WLAN 2010	Latest

Supported hardware

Supported virtual and hardware platforms

The following table lists the supported virtual and hardware platforms. (See Supported PIDs and ports for the list of supported modules.)

Table 9. Supported virtual and hardware platforms

Platform	Description
Cisco Catalyst 9800-80 Wireless Controller	A modular wireless controller with up to 100-GE modular uplinks and seamless software updates. The controller occupies a 2-rack unit space and supports multiple module uplinks.
Cisco Catalyst 9800-40 Wireless Controller	A fixed wireless controller with seamless software updates for mid-size to large enterprises. The controller occupies a 1-rack unit space and provides four 1-GE or 10-GE uplink ports.
Cisco Catalyst 9800-L Wireless Controller	The Cisco Catalyst 9800-L Wireless Controller is the first low-end controller that provides a significant boost in performance and features.
Cisco 9800 Series Wireless Controller for Cloud	A virtual form factor of the Catalyst 9800 Wireless Controller that can be deployed in a private cloud (supports VMware ESXi, Kernel-based Virtual Machine [KVM], Microsoft Hyper-V, and Cisco Enterprise NFV Infrastructure Software [NFVIS] on Enterprise Network Compute System [ENCS] hypervisors), or in the public cloud as Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) in Amazon Web Services (AWS), Google Cloud Platform (GCP) marketplace, and Microsoft Azure.
Embedded Wireless Controller on Catalyst 9000 Series Switches	The Catalyst 9800 Wireless Controller software for the Cisco Catalyst 9000 switches brings the wired and wireless infrastructure together with consistent policy and management. This deployment model supports only Software Defined-Access (SDA), which is a highly secure solution for small campuses and distributed branches.

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Platform	Description
Cisco CW9800 Series Wireless Controller (CW9800M, CW9800H1, CW9800H2, and CW9800L)	The CW9800M controller is the next generation Cisco CW9800 series wireless LAN controller built to deliver a 53% performance improvement while consuming 18% less power when compared to the previous generation models. Additionally, the CW9800M controller supports 3000 APs and 32000 clients to ensure better performance and scale for business-critical networks and provides up to 40 Gbps of forwarding throughput for both normal packet and encrypted packets while remaining a single RU designed to save you space and provide greater flexibility in your datacenters.
	The CW9800H1 and CW9800H2 controllers are the next-generation Cisco CW9800 wireless LAN controllers that boast up to a 36% increase in performance and consume up to 40% less power compared to their predecessors. Additionally, the CW9800H1 and CW9800H2 models are built with a space-saving single RU design and support up to 6000 APs and 64,000 clients with 100 Gbps of maximum throughput. They also offer a choice of uplinks with either 4 x 25 Gbps (CW9800H1) or 2 x 40 Gbps (CW9800H2) configurations to meet high throughput demands of next-generation wireless requirements.
	The CW9800L controller is the next-generation, low-end controller that provides a significant boost in performance and features. Supporting up to 10 Gbps throughput, 500 APs, and 10,000 clients, the CW9800L delivers double the capacity and increased performance compared to the base C9800-L.

Supported host environments - public and private cloud

The following table lists the host environments supported for private and public cloud.

Table 10. Supported host environments for public and private cloud

Host environment	Software version
VMware ESXi	• VMware ESXi vSphere 6.5, 6.7, 7.0, and 8.0 • VMware ESXi vCenter 6.5, 6.7, 7.0, and 8.0
KVM	• Linux KVM-based on Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9.2, or latest version • Ubuntu 16.04.5 LTS, Ubuntu 18.04.5 LTS, Ubuntu 20.04.5 LTS
AWS	AWS EC2 platform
NFVIS	ENCS 3.8.1 and 3.9.1
GCP	GCP marketplace
Microsoft Hyper-V	Windows Server 2019, Windows Server 2025, with Hyper-V Manager (Version 10.0.x)
Microsoft Azure	Microsoft Azure

Supported PIDs and ports

The following table lists the supported Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller hardware models.

The base PIDs are the model numbers of the controller.

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The bundled PIDs indicate the orderable part numbers for the base PIDs that are bundled with a particular network module. Running the **show version**, **show module**, or **show inventory** command on such a controller (bundled PID) displays its base PID.

Note: Unsupported SFPs will bring down a port. Only Cisco-supported SFPs (GLC-LH-SMD and GLC-SX-MMD) should be used on the route processor (RP) ports of C9800-80-K9 and C9800-40-K9.

Table 11. Supported PIDS and ports

Controller model	Description
C9800-CL-K9	Cisco Catalyst Wireless Controller as an infrastructure for cloud.
C9800-80-K9	Eight 1/10-Gigabit Ethernet SFP or SFP+ ports and two power supply slots.
C9800-40-K9	Four 1/10-Gigabit Ethernet SFP or SFP+ ports and two power supply slots.
C9800-L-C-K9	• 4x2.5/1-Gigabit ports • 2x10/5/2.5/1-Gigabit ports
C9800-L-F-K9	• 4x2.5/1-Gigabit ports • 2x10/1-Gigabit ports
CW9800H1	• 8x1 GE/10 GE SFP ports • 4x25 GE SFP interfaces
CW9800H2	• 8x1 GE/10 GE SFP Ports • 2X 40 GE QSFP interfaces
CW9800M	• Four built-in 1 GE /10 GE SFP ports • Two built-in 25 GE SFP ports
CW9800L	• 2x 10G/1G SFP Ports (Data Ports) • 2x1G Copper (RP and SP ports)

Supported SFPs

The following table lists the supported SFP models.

Table 12. Supported SFP models

SFP name	C9800-80-K9	C9800-40-K9	C9800-L-F-K9	CW9800H1	CW9800H2	CW9800M	CW9800L
COLORCHIP-C040-Q020-CWDM4-03B	Supported	–	–	–	–	–	–
DWDM-SFP10G-30.33	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–	–
DWDM-SFP10G-61.41	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–	–

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SFP name	C9800-80-K9	C9800-40-K9	C9800-L-F-K9	CW9800H1	CW9800H2	CW9800M	CW9800L
FINISAR-LR – FTLX1471D3BCL (The FINISAR SFPs are not Cisco specific and some of the features, such as DOM, may not work properly.)	Supported	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–
FINISAR-SR – FTLX8574D3BCL	Supported	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–
GLC-BX-D	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
GLC-BX-U	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
GLC-EX-SMD	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
GLC-LH-SMD	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
GLC-SX-MMD	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
GLC-T	Supported	–	–	–	–	–	–
GLC-TE	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
GLC-ZX-SMD	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
QSFP-100G-LR4-S	Supported	–	–	–	–	–	–
QSFP-100G-SR4-S	Supported	–	–	–	–	–	–
QSFP-40G-BD-RX	Supported	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
QSFP-40G-ER4	Supported	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-40G-LR4	Supported	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-40G-LR4-S	Supported	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-40G-LR4-S-RF	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
QSFP-40G-CSR4	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-40G-SR4	Supported	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-40G-SR4-S	Supported	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-40G-SR-BD				Supported	Supported	Supported	
QSFP-40GE-LR4	Supported	–	–	–	–	–	–

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SFP name	C9800-80-K9	C9800-40-K9	C9800-L-F-K9	CW9800H1	CW9800H2	CW9800M	CW9800L
QSFP-H40G-ACU7M				Supported	Supported	Supported	
QSFP-H40G-ACU10M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-CU1M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-CU2M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-CU3M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-CU4M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-CU5M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-CU0-5M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC1M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC2M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC3M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC5M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC7M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC10M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC15M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC20M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC25M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
QSFP-H40G-AOC30M	–	–	–	–	Supported	–	–
SFP-10G-AOC10M	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–	Supported
SFP-10G-AOC1M	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-AOC2M	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported

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SFP name	C9800-80-K9	C9800-40-K9	C9800-L-F-K9	CW9800H1	CW9800H2	CW9800M	CW9800L
SFP-10G-AOC3M	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-AOC5M	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-AOC7M	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-BXD-I	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-BXU-I	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-CSR-S	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-10G-ER	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-10G-LR	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-LR-I				Supported	Supported	Supported	
SFP-10G-LR-S	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-LR-X	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-10G-LRM	Supported	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–
SFP-10G-SR	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-SR-S	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-SR-I	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-SR-X	Supported	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–
SFP-10G-ZR			–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-10G-ZR-I	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-10G-T-X	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-25G-CSR-S				Supported	Supported	Supported	
SFP-25G-SR-S	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-ER-I	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-10/25G-LR-I	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-10/25G-LR-S	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-10/25G-CSR-S	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-10/25G-BXD-I	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	Supported
SFP-10/25G-BXU-I	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	Supported

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SFP name	C9800-80-K9	C9800-40-K9	C9800-L-F-K9	CW9800H1	CW9800H2	CW9800M	CW9800L
SFP-H25G-CU1M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-H25G-CU5M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-AOC1M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-AOC2M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-AOC3M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-AOC5M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-AOC7M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-25G-AOC10M	–	–	–	Supported	–	Supported	–
SFP-H10GB-ACU10M	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-H10GB-ACU7M	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-H10GB-CU1.5M	Supported	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	–
SFP-H10GB-CU1M	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-H10GB-CU2.5M	Supported	Supported	Supported	–	–	–	Supported
SFP-H10GB-CU2M	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-H10GB-CU3M	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-H10GB-CU5M	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
SFP-H10GB-CU1-5M	Supported	Supported	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	–
SFP-H10GB-CU2-5M				Supported	Supported	Supported	
Finisar-LR (FTLX1471D3BCL)	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
Finisar-SR (FTLX8574D3BC)	–	–	–	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported

Optic modules

The Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller supports a wide range of optics. The list of supported optics is updated on a regular basis. See the tables at the following location for the latest transceiver module compatibility information:

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https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/interfaces-modules/transceiver-modules/products-device-support-tables-list.html.

Network protocols and port matrix

Table 13. Cisco Catalyst 9800 series wireless controller - network protocols and port matrix

Source	Destination	Protocol	Destination port	Source port	Description
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	22	Any	SSH
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	23	Any	Telnet
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	80	Any	HTTP
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	443	Any	HTTPS
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	161	Any	SNMP agent
Any	Any	UDP	5353	5353	mDNS
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	69	69	TFTP
Any	DNS Server	UDP	53	Any	DNS
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	830	Any	NetConf
Any	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	443	Any	REST API
Any	WLC Protocol	UDP	1700	Any	Receive CoA packets
AP	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	5246	Any	CAPWAP Control
AP	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	5247	Any	CAPWAP Data
AP	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	5248	Any	CAPWAP MCAST
AP	Cisco Catalyst Center	TCP	32626	Any	Intelligent capture and RF telemetry
AP	AP	UDP	16670	Any	Client Policies (AP-AP)

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Source	Destination	Protocol	Destination port	Source port	Description
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	16666	16666	Mobility Control
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	SNMP	UDP	162	Any	SNAMP Trap
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	RADIUS	UDP	1812/1645	Any	RADIUS Auth
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	RADIUS	UDP	1813/1646	Any	RADIUS ACCT
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TACACS+	TCP	49	Any	TACACS+
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	UDP	16667	16667	Mobility
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	NTP Server	UDP	123	Any	NTP
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	Syslog Server	UDP	514	Any	SYSLOG
AP	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	HTTPS	8443	Any	Out of Band AP Image Download Cisco CleanAir Spectral Capture
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	NetFlow Server	UDP	9996	Any	NetFlow
Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	Cisco Connected Mobile Experiences (CMX)	UDP	16113	Any	NMSP

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Source	Destination	Protocol	Destination port	Source port	Description
Cisco Catalyst Center	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	32222	Any	Device Discovery
Cisco Catalyst Center	Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller	TCP	25103	Any	Telemetry Subscriptions

Supported APs

The following Cisco APs are supported in this release:

Table 14. Supported APs

AP type	AP names
Indoor Access Points	• Cisco Catalyst 9105AX (I/W) Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9115AX (I/E) Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9120AX (I/E/P) Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9130AX (I/E) Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9136AX Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9162 (I) Series Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9164 (I) Series Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9166 (I/D1) Series Access Points • Cisco Wireless 9171 (I) Series Wi-Fi 7 Access Points • Cisco Wireless 9172 (I/H) Series Wi-Fi 7 Access Points • Cisco Wireless 9174 (I/E) Series Wi-Fi 7 Access Points • Cisco Wireless 9176 (I/D1) Series Wi-Fi 7 Access Points • Cisco Wireless 9178 (I) Series Wi-Fi 7 Access Points • Cisco Wireless 9179 (F) Series Wi-Fi 7 Access Points • Cisco Aironet 1815 (I/W/M/T), 1830 (I), 1840 (I), and 1852 (I/E) Access Points • Cisco Aironet 1800i Access Point • Cisco Aironet 2800 (I/E) Series Access Points • Cisco Aironet 3800 (I/E/P) Series Access Points • Cisco Aironet 4800 (I) Series Access Points
Outdoor Access Points	• Cisco Aironet 1540 (I/D) Series Access Points • Cisco Aironet 1560 (I/D/E) Series Access Points • Cisco Catalyst Industrial Wireless 6300 Heavy Duty Series Access Point • Cisco 6300 Series Embedded Services Access Point • Cisco Catalyst 9124AX (I/D/E) Access Points • Cisco Catalyst 9163 (E) Series Access Points • Cisco Catalyst Industrial Wireless 9167 (I/E) Heavy Duty Access Points • Cisco Catalyst Industrial Wireless 9165E Rugged Access Point • Cisco Catalyst Industrial Wireless 9165D Heavy Duty Access Point
Integrated Access Points	Integrated Access Point on Cisco 1100 ISR (ISR-AP1100AC-x, ISR-AP1101AC-x, and ISR-AP1101AX-x)

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AP type	AP names
Network Sensor	Cisco Aironet 1800s Active Sensor
Pluggable Modules	Cisco Wi-Fi Interface Module (WIM) - WP-WIFI6-x

Supported AP channels and maximum power settings

Supported access point channels and maximum power settings on Cisco APs are compliant with the regulatory specifications of channels, maximum power levels, and antenna gains of every country in which the access points are sold. For more information about the supported access point transmission values in Cisco IOS XE software releases, see the Detailed Channels and Maximum Power Settings document at https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/support/wireless/catalyst-9100ax-access-points/products-technical-reference-list.html.

For information about Cisco Wireless software releases that support specific Cisco AP modules, see Cisco Access Points Supported in Cisco Wireless Controller Platform Software Releases.

Related content

Cisco Wireless Controller:

For more information about the Cisco wireless controller, lightweight APs, and mesh APs, see these documents:

Cisco Wireless Solutions Software Compatibility Matrix

Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller Software Configuration Guide

Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller Command Reference

Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Configuration Best Practices

In-Service Software Upgrade Matrix

Upgrading Field Programmable Hardware Devices for Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controllers

The installation guide for your controller is available at:

Hardware Installation Guides

All Cisco Wireless Controller software-related documentation

Cisco Catalyst 9800 Series Wireless Controller Data Sheets:

Data Sheet Listing

Wireless Product Comparison:

Compare specifications of Cisco wireless APs and controllers

Wireless LAN Compliance Lookup

Cisco AireOS to Cisco Catalyst 9800 Wireless Controller Feature Comparison Matrix

Cisco Access Points-Statement of Volatility:

The STATEMENT OF VOLATILITY is an engineering document that provides information about the device, the location of its memory components, and the methods for clearing device memory. Refer to the data

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security policies and practices of your organization and take the necessary steps required to protect your devices or network environment.

The Cisco Aironet and Catalyst AP Statement of Volatility (SoV) documents are available on the Cisco Trust Portal.

You can search by the AP model to view the SoV document.

Cisco Prime Infrastructure:

Cisco Prime Infrastructure Documentation

Cisco Spaces:

Cisco Spaces Documentation

Cisco Catalyst Center:

Cisco Catalyst Center Documentation

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