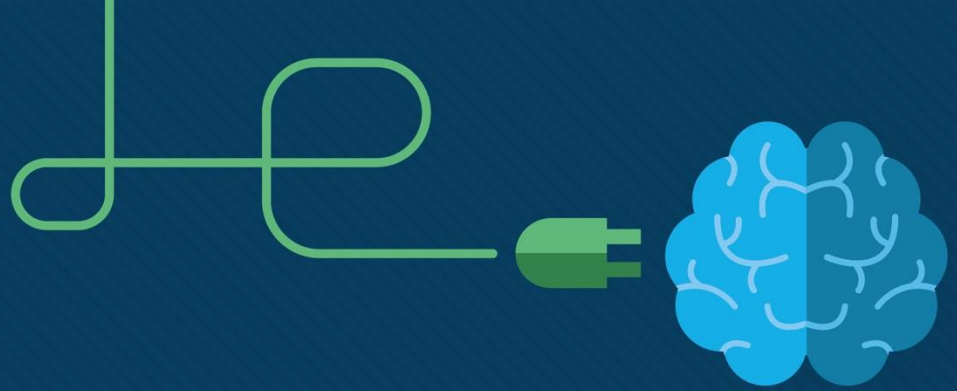


Chapter 5: Switch Configuration

CCNA Routing and Switching

Routing and Switching Essentials v6.0

Chapter 5 - Sections & Objectives

- 5.1 Basic Switch Configuration
  - Configure basic switch settings to meet network requirements.
    - Configure initial settings on a Cisco switch.
    - Configure switch ports to meet network requirements.
- 5.2 Basic Device Configuration
  - Configure a switch using security best practices in a small to medium-sized business network.
    - Configure the management virtual interface on a switch.
    - Configure the port security feature to restrict network access.

5.1 Configure a Switch with Initial Settings

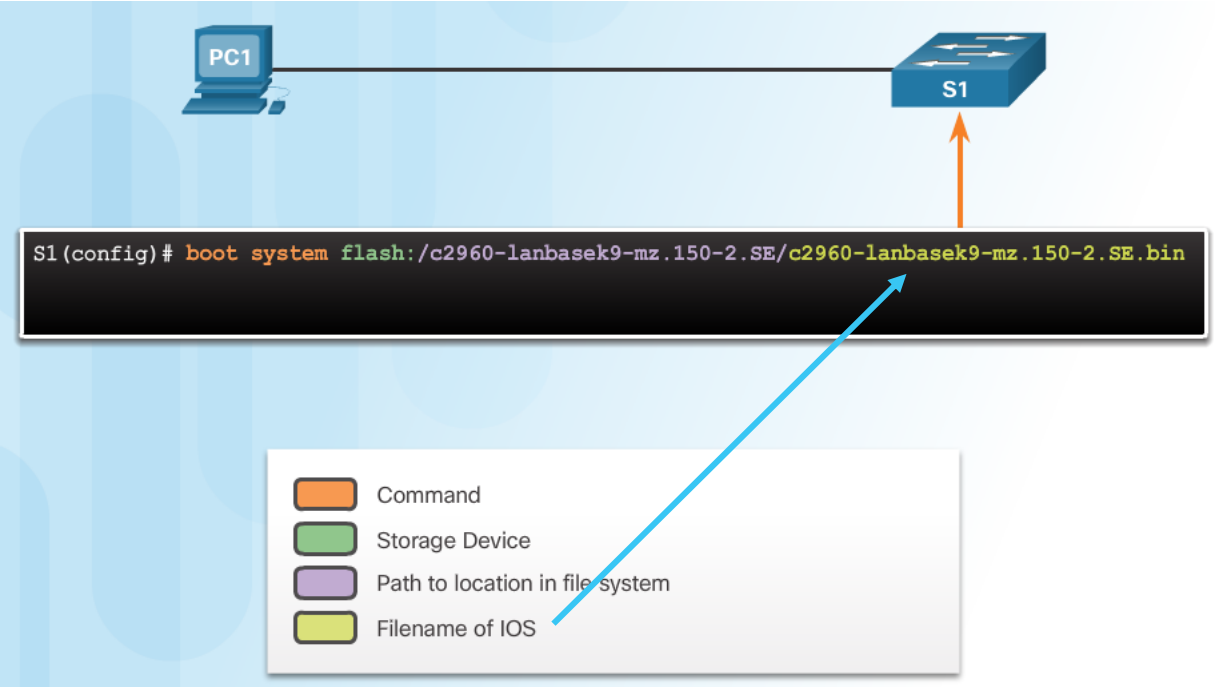
Switch Boot Sequence

- When a switch is powered on, the boot sequence occurs.
  - Power-on self-test (POST), a program stored in ROM, executes and checks hardware like CPU and RAM.
  - The boot loader, also stored in ROM, runs and initializes parts within the CPU, initializes the flash file system, and then locates and loads an IOS image.
    - The IOS image can be defined within the BOOT environment variable.
    - If the variable is not set, the switch scours through the flash file system searching for an executable image file, loading it into RAM, and launching it if found.
    - If an executable image file is not found, the switch shows the prompt `switch:` where a few commands are allowed in order to provide access to operating system files found in flash memory and files used to load or reload an operating system.
  - If an IOS operating system loads, the switch interfaces are initialized and any commands stored in the startup-config file load.

The startup-config file is stored in NVRAM.

Switch Boot Sequence (Cont.)

- The **boot system** command is use to set the BOOT environment variable.



Recovering From a System Crash

- The boot loader prompt can be accessed through a console connection to the switch:

  1. Cable the PC to the switch console port.
  2. Configure the terminal emulation software on the PC.
  3. Unplug the switch power cord.
  4. Reconnect the power cord and at the same time or within 15 seconds, press and hold the Mode button on the front of the switch until the System LED turns an amber color briefly and then turns a solid green.

- The boot loader command prompt is **switch:** (instead of **Switch>**).
  - The commands available through the boot loader command prompt are limited.
  - Use the **help** command to display the available commands.

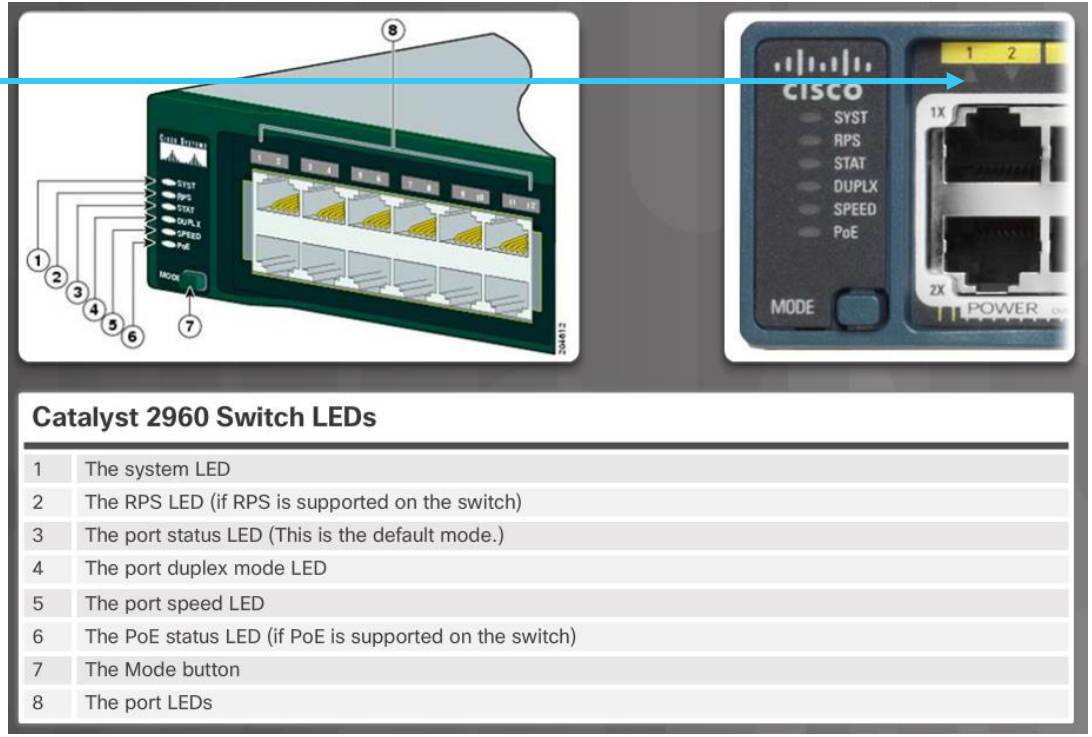
```
switch: dir flash:
Directory of flash:/

    2  -rwx    11607161   Mar 1 2013 03:10:47 +00:00  c2960-lanbasek9-mz.150-2.SE.bin
    3  -rwx        1809   Mar 1 2013 00:02:48 +00:00  config.text
    5  -rwx        1919   Mar 1 2013 00:02:48 +00:00  private-config.text
    6  -rwx       59416   Mar 1 2013 00:02:49 +00:00  multiple-fs

32514048 bytes total (20841472 bytes free)
```

Switch LED Indicators

- System LED shows if the switch has power applied.
- Port LED states:
  - Off – no link or shut down
  - Green – link is present ▲
  - Blinking green – data activity
  - Alternating green and amber – link fault ▲→▲→▲→▲
  - Amber – port is not sending data; common for first 30 seconds of connectivity or activation ▲
  - Blinking amber – port is blocking to prevent a switch loop

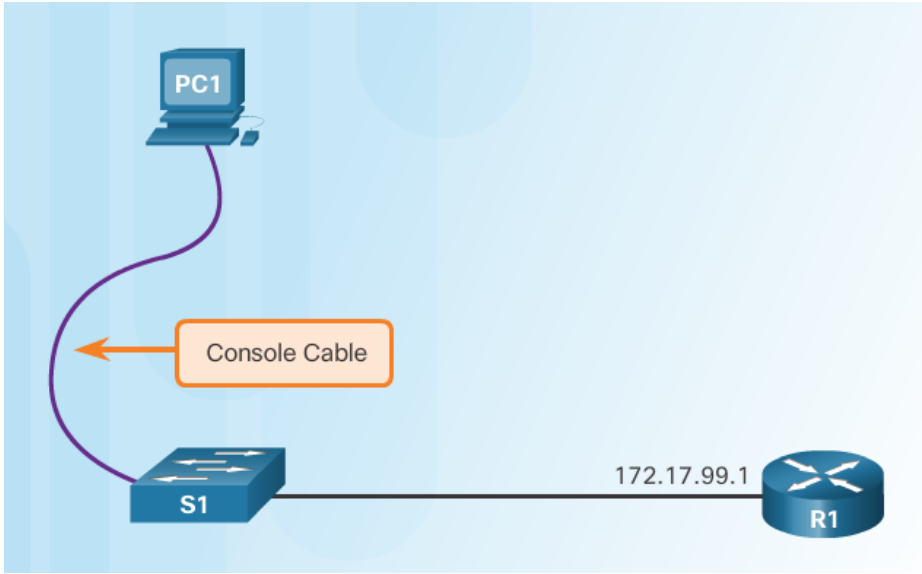


Catalyst 2960 Switch LEDs

1	The system LED
2	The RPS LED (if RPS is supported on the switch)
3	The port status LED (This is the default mode.)
4	The port duplex mode LED
5	The port speed LED
6	The PoE status LED (if PoE is supported on the switch)
7	The Mode button
8	The port LEDs

Preparing for Basic Switch Management

- To configure a switch for remote access, the switch must be configured with an IP address, subnet mask, and default gateway.
- One particular switch virtual interface (SVI) is used to manage the switch:
  - A switch IP address is assigned to an SVI.
  - By default the management SVI is controlled and configured through VLAN 1.
  - The management SVI is commonly called the management VLAN.
- For security reasons, it is best practice to use a VLAN other than VLAN 1 for the management VLAN.



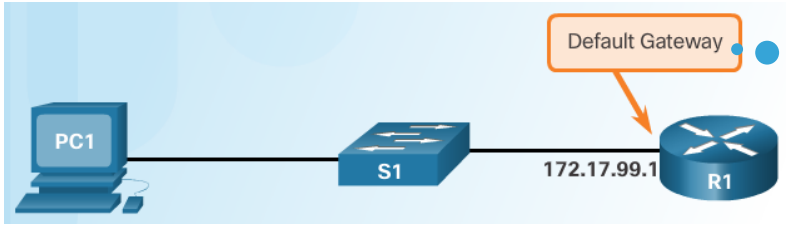
Remember that the switch console port is on the back of the switch.

Configuring Basic Switch Management Access with IPv4

Cisco Switch IOS Commands

Enter global configuration mode.	`S1# configure terminal`
Enter interface configuration mode for the SVI.	`S1(config)# interface vlan 99`
Configure the management interface IP address.	`S1(config-if)# ip address 172.17.99.11 255.255.255.0`
Enable the management interface.	`S1(config-if)# no shutdown`
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	`S1(config-if)# exit`
Configure the default gateway for the switch.	`S1(config)# ip default-gateway 172.17.99.1`
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	`S1(config)# end`
Save the running config to the startup config.	`S1# copy running-config startup-config`

Important Concept

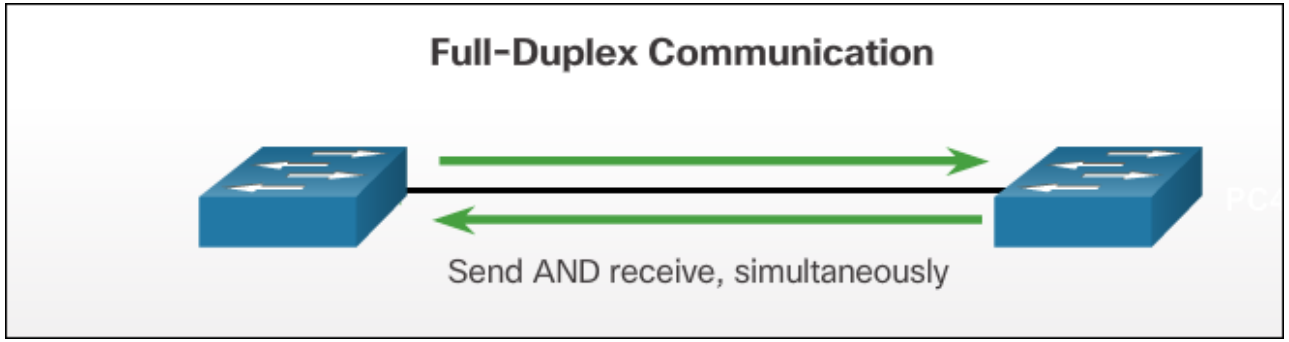


The default gateway is the router address and is used by the switch to communicate with other networks.

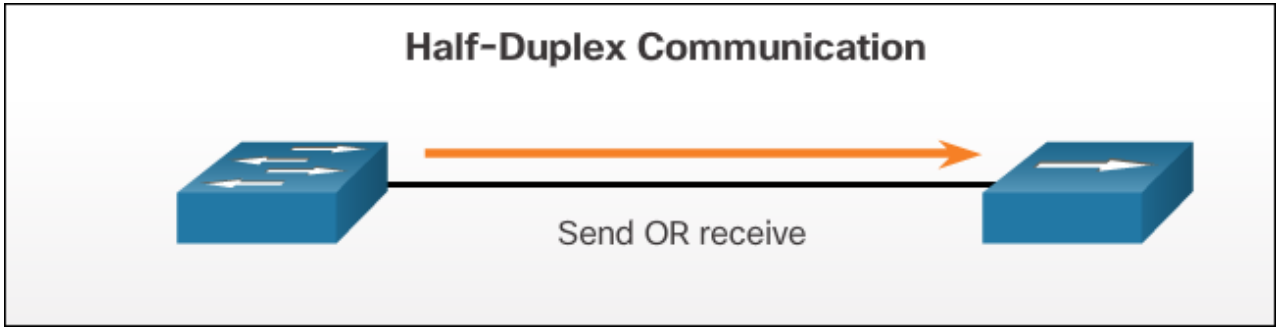
Duplex Communication

- Gigabit Ethernet and 10Gb Ethernet NICs require full-duplex connections to operate.

Bidirectional communication

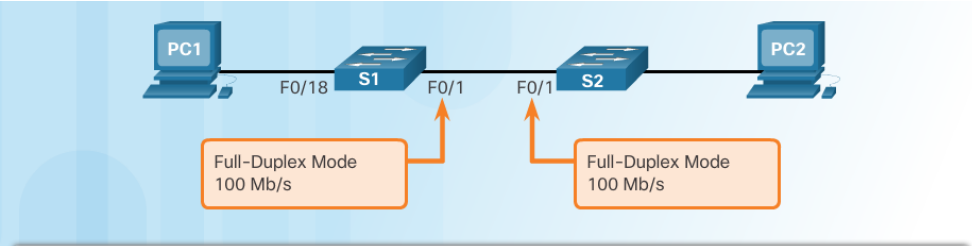


Unidirectional communication



Configure Switch Ports at the Physical Layer

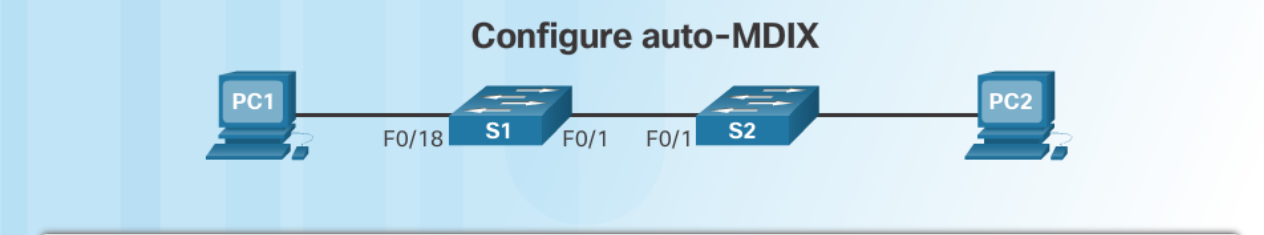
- Some switches have the default setting of auto for both duplex and speed.
- Mismatched duplex and/or speed settings can cause connectivity issues.
- Always check duplex and speed settings using the **show interface** *interface_id* command.
- All fiber ports operate at one speed and are always full-duplex.



Cisco Switch IOS Commands	
Enter global configuration mode.	`S1# configure terminal`
Enter interface configuration mode.	`S1(config)# interface FastEthernet 0/1`
Configure the interface duplex.	`S1(config-if)# duplex full`
Configure the interface speed.	`S1(config-if)# speed 100`
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	`S1(config-if)# end`
Save the running config to the startup config.	`S1# copy running-config startup-config`

Auto-MDIX

- Some switches have the automatic medium-dependent interface crossover (auto-MDIX) feature that allows an interface to detect the required cable connection type (straight-through or crossover) and configure the connection appropriately.

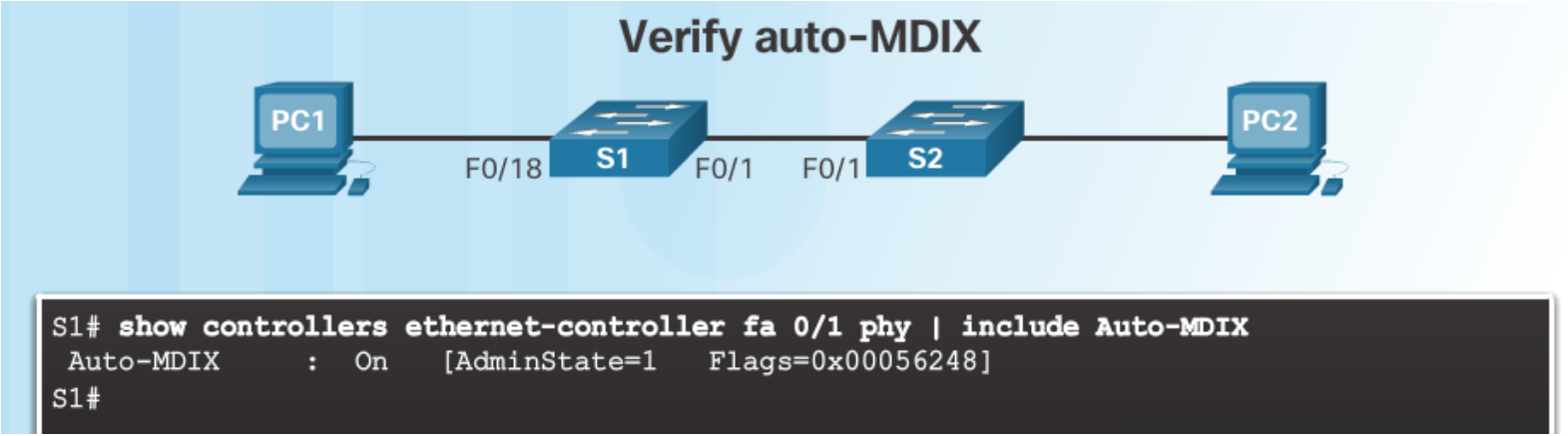


Cisco Switch IOS Commands

Enter global configuration mode.	`S1# configure terminal`
Enter interface configuration mode.	`S1(config)# interface fastethernet 0/1`
Configure the interface to autonegotiate duplex with the connected device.	`S1(config-if)# duplex auto`
Configure the interface to autonegotiate speed with the connected device.	`S1(config-if)# speed auto`
Enable auto-MDIX on the interface.	`S1(config-if)# mdix auto`
Return to the privileged EXEC mode.	`S1(config-if)# end`
Save the running config to the startup config.	`S1# copy running-config startup-config`

Auto-MDIX (Cont.)

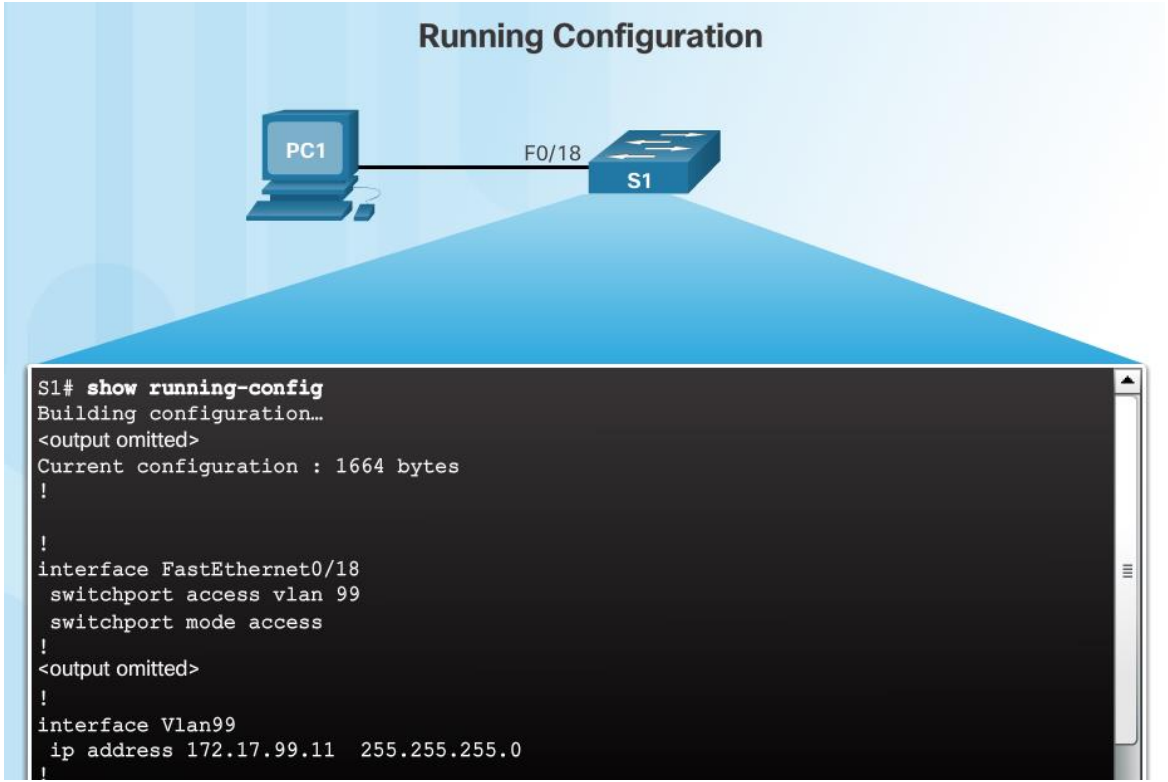
- Use the **show controllers Ethernet-controller** command to verify auto-MDIX settings.



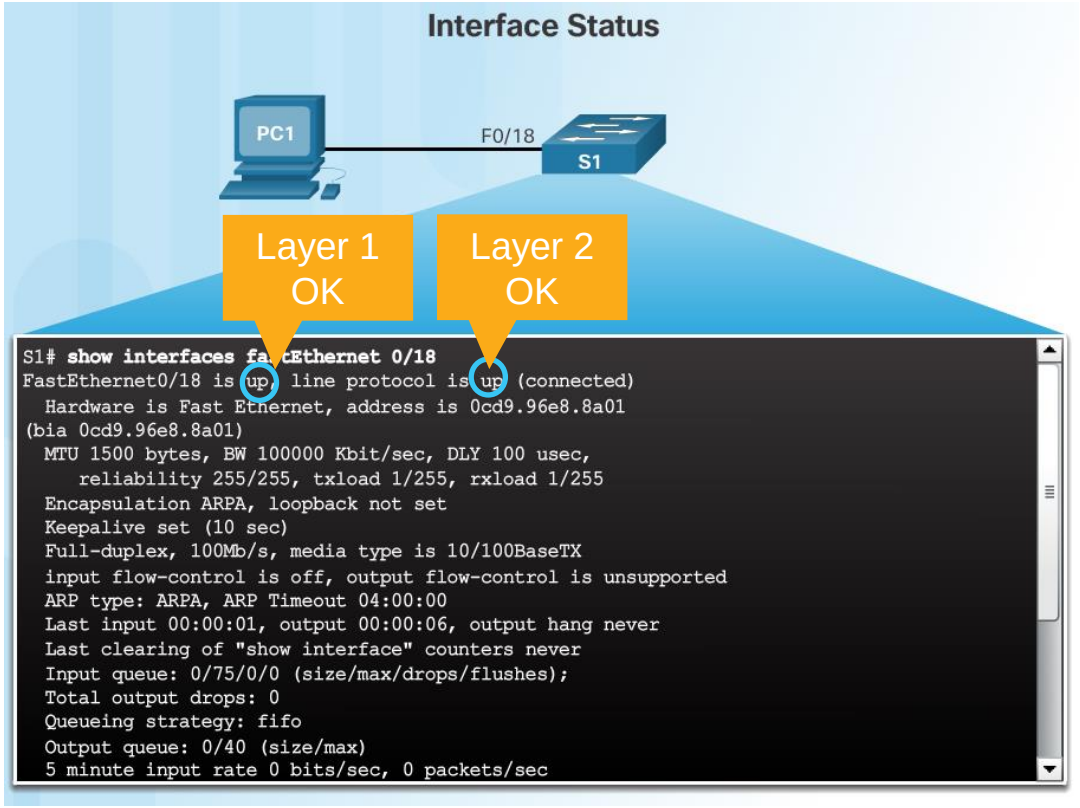
Verifying Switch Port Configuration

Cisco Switch IOS Commands	
Display interface status and configuration.	S1# **show interfaces** [*interface-id*]
Display current startup configuration.	S1# **show startup-config**
Display current operating config.	S1# **show running-config**
Display information about flash file system.	S1# **show flash**
Display system hardware and software status.	S1# **show version**
Display history of commands entered.	S1# **show history**
Display IP information about an interface.	S1# **show ip** [*interface-id*]
Display the MAC address table.	S1# **show mac-address-table** OR S1# **show mac address-table**

Verifying Switch Port Configuration (Cont.)



Verifying Switch Port Configuration (Cont.)



Network Access Layer Issues

- Use the **show interfaces** command to detect common media issues.
- The first parameter refers to Layer 1, the physical layer, and indicates if the interface is receiving a carrier detect signal.
- The second parameter (protocol status) refers to the data link layer and indicates whether the data link layer protocol has been configured correctly and keepalives are being received.

```
S1# show interfaces FastEthernet0/1
FastEthernet0/1 is up, line protocol is up
Hardware is Fast Ethernet, address is 0022.91c4.0e01 (bia 0022.91c4.0e01)
MTU 1500 bytes, BW 100000 Kbit, DLY 100 usec,
<output omitted>
```

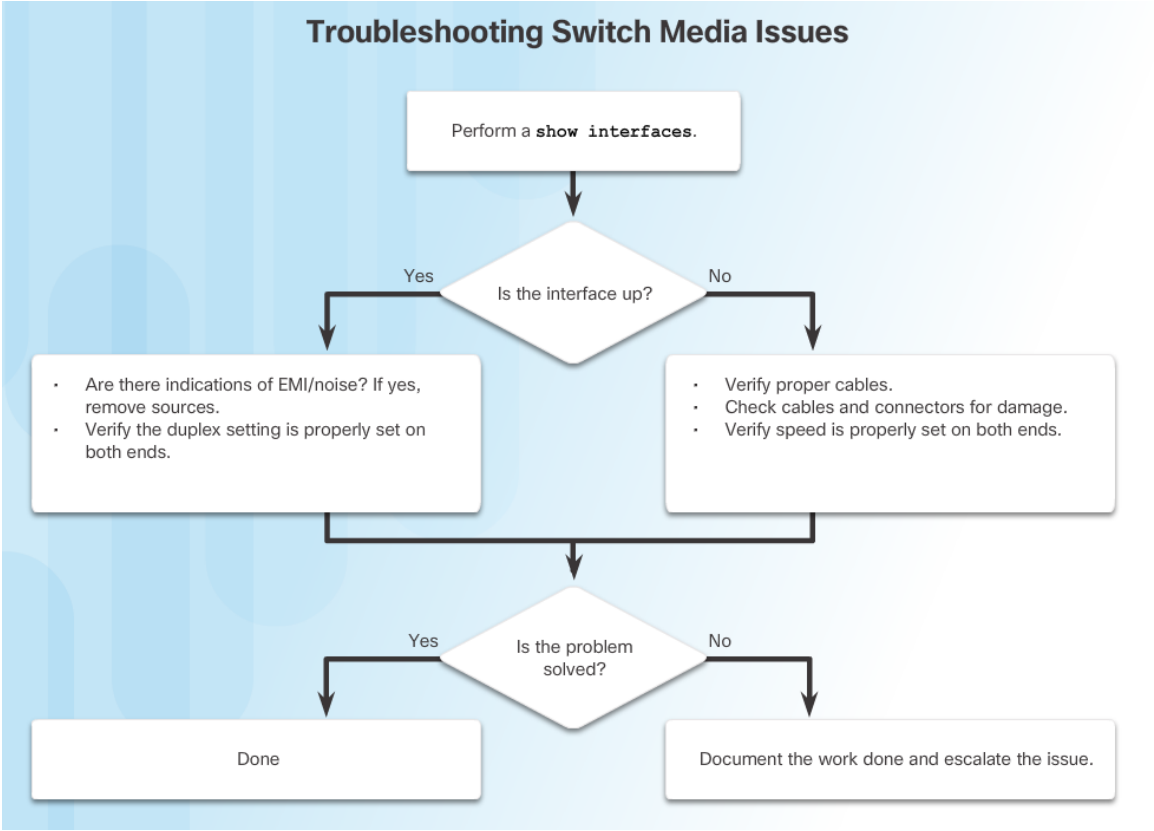
Interface Status	Line Protocol Status	Link State
Up	Up	Operational
Down	Down	Interface Problem

Network Access Layer Issues (Cont.)

```
S1# show interfaces FastEthernet0/1
FastEthernet0/1 is up, line protocol is upHardware is Fast Ethernet, address is
0022.91c4.0e01 (bia 0022.91c4.0e01)MTU 1500 bytes, BW 100000 Kbit, DLY 100 usec,
<output omitted>
  2295197 packets input, 305539992 bytes, 0 no buffer
  Received 1925500 broadcasts, 0 runts, 0 giants, 0
  throttles
  3 input errors, 3 CRC, 0 frame, 0 overrun, 0 ignored
  0 watchdog, 68 multicast, 0 pause input
  0 input packets with dribble condition detected
  3594664 packets output, 436549843 bytes, 0 underruns
  8 output errors, 1790 collisions, 10 interface resets
  0 unknown protocol drops
  0 babbles, 235 late collision, 0 deferred
<output omitted>
```

Error Type	Description
Input Errors	Total number of errors. It includes runts, giants, no buffer, CRC, frame, overrun, and ignored counts.
Runts	Packets that are discarded because they are smaller than the minimum packet size for the medium. For instance, any Ethernet packet that is less than 64 bytes is considered a runt.
Giants	Packets that are discarded because they exceed the maximum packet size for the medium. For example, any Ethernet packet that is greater than 1,518 bytes is considered a giant.
CRC	CRC errors are generated when the calculated checksum is not the same as the checksum received.
Output Errors	Sum of all errors that prevented the final transmission of datagrams out of the interface that is being examined.
Collisions	Number of messages retransmitted because of an Ethernet collision.
Late Collisions	A collison that occurs after 512 bits of the frame have been transmitted.

Troubleshooting Network Access Layer Issues

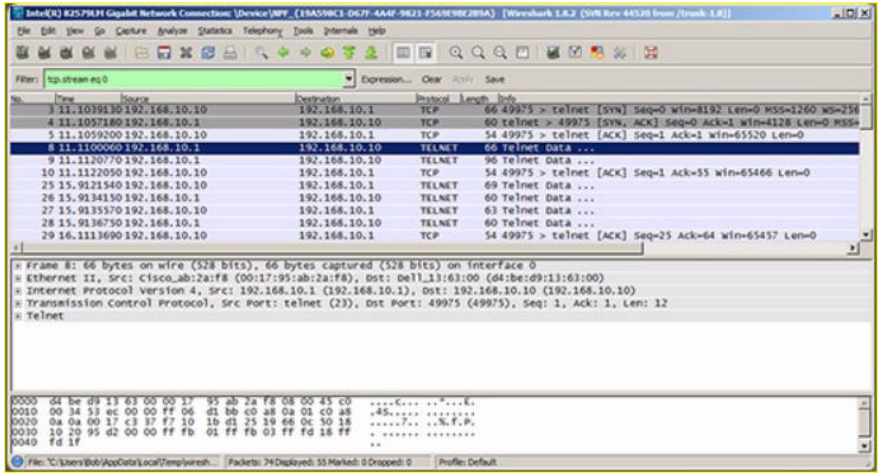


5.2 Switch Security

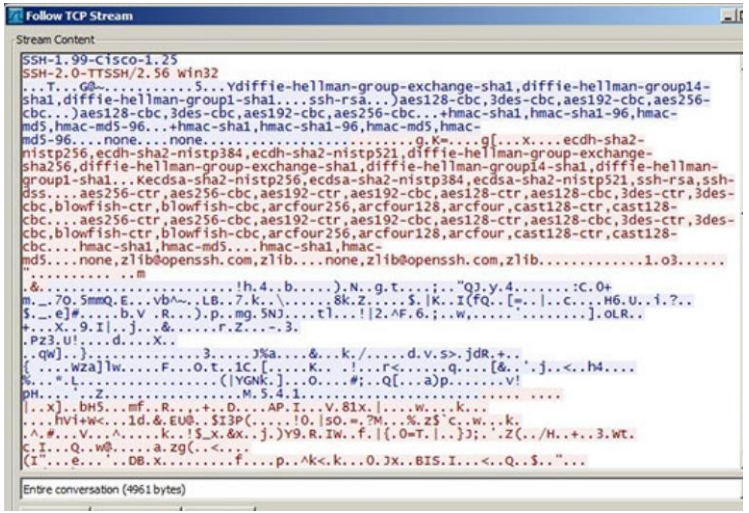
SSH Operation

- Secure Shell (SSH)
  - An alternative protocol to Telnet. Telnet uses unsecure plaintext of the username and password as well as the data transmitted.
  - SSH is more secure because it provides an encrypted management connection.

Wireshark Capture of Telnet



Wireshark Capture of SSH



SSH Operation (Cont.)

- A switch must have an IOS version (k9 at the end of the IOS file name) that includes cryptographic capabilities in order to configure and use SSH.
  - Use the **show version** command to see the IOS version.

Configuring SSH

1. Verify SSH support.
2. Configure the IP domain name.
3. Generate RSA key pairs.
4. Configure user authentication.
5. Configure the vty lines.
6. Enable SSH version 2.

Commonly forgotten command that is used in key generation

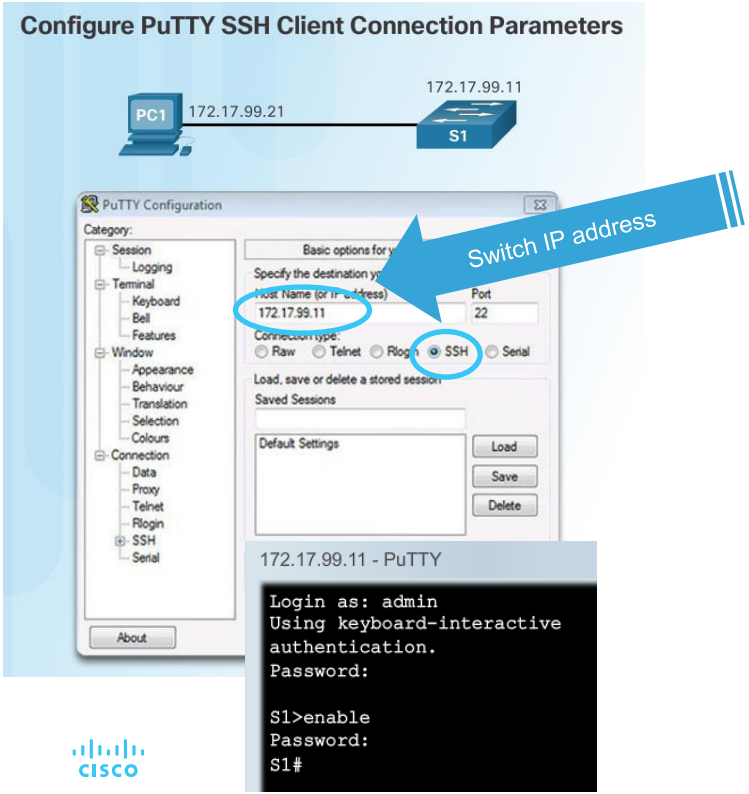
```
S1# configure terminal
S1(config)# ip domain-name cisco.com
S1(config)# crypto key generate rsa
The name for the keys will be: S1.cisco.com
...
How many bits in the modulus [512]: 1024
...
S1(config)# username admin secret ccna
S1(config-line)# line vty 0 15
S1(config-line)# transport input ssh
S1(config-line)# login local
S1(config-line)# exit
S1(config)# ip ssh version 2
S1(config)# exit
S1#
```

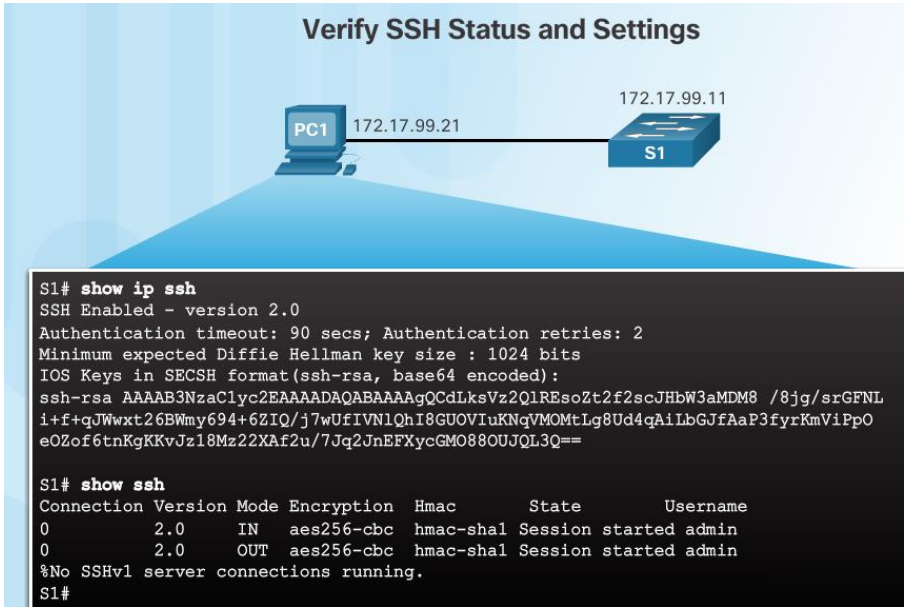
Default is to accept both Telnet and SSH (transport input all)

The `login local` command forces the use of the local database for username/password.

Verifying SSH

- On the PC, connect to the switch using SSH.

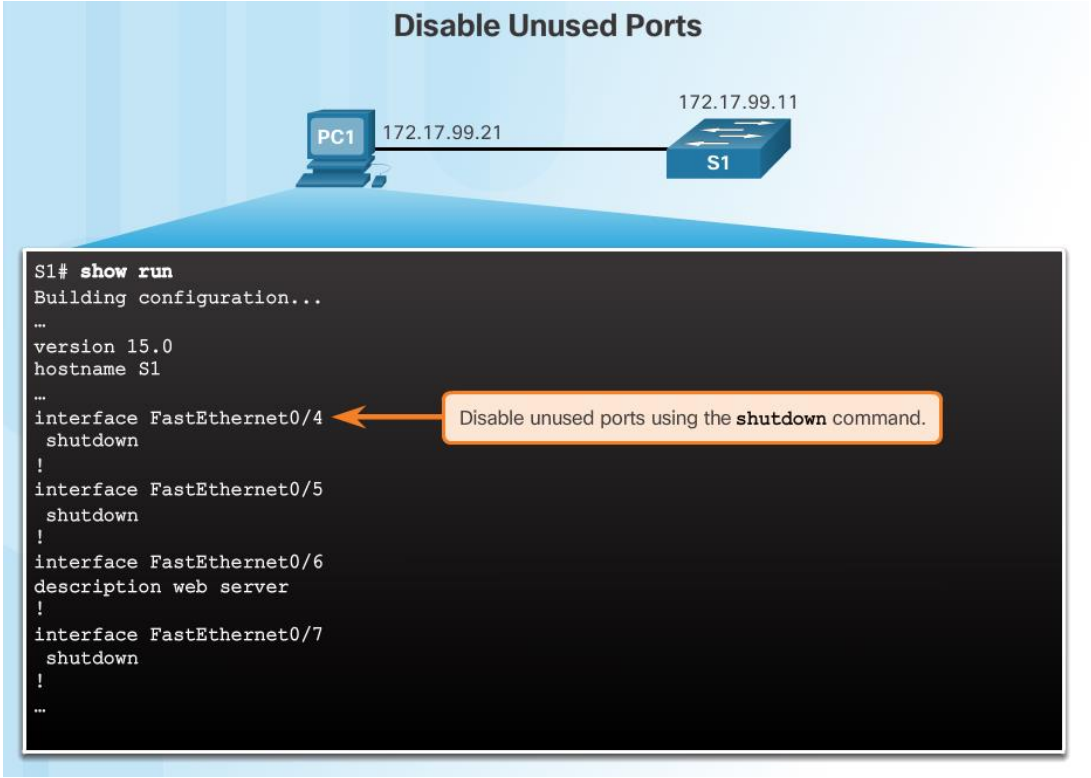




The PC is using SSH to communicate and issue commands on the switch.

Secure Unused Ports

The **interface range** command can be used to apply a configuration to several switch ports at one time.



Port Security: Operation

- Port security limits the number of valid MAC addresses allowed to transmit data through a switch port.
  - If a port has port security enabled and an unknown MAC address sends data, the switch presents a security violation.
  - Default number of secure MAC addresses allowed is 1.
- Methods use to configure MAC addresses within port security:
  - Static secure MAC addresses – manually configure

    switchport port-security mac-address *mac-address*
  - Dynamic secure MAC addresses – dynamically learned and removed if the switch restarts
  - Sticky secure MAC addresses – dynamically learned and added to the running configuration (which can later be saved to the startup-config to permanently retain the MAC addresses)

    switchport port-security mac-address sticky *mac-address*

Note: Disabling sticky learning converts sticky MAC addresses to dynamic secure addresses and removes them from the running-config.

Port Security: Violation Modes

- Protect – data from unknown source MAC addresses are dropped; a security notification **IS NOT** presented by the switch
- Restrict - data from unknown source MAC addresses are dropped; a security notification **IS** presented by the switch and the violation counter increments.
- Shutdown – (default mode) interface becomes error-disabled and port LED turns off. The violation counter increments. Issues the shutdown and then the no shutdown command on the interface to bring it out of the error-disabled state.

Violation Mode	Forwards Traffic	Sends Syslog Message	Displays Error Message	Increases Violation Counter	Shuts Down Port
Protect	No	No	No	No	No
Restrict	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Shutdown	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

Security Violations Occur In These Situations

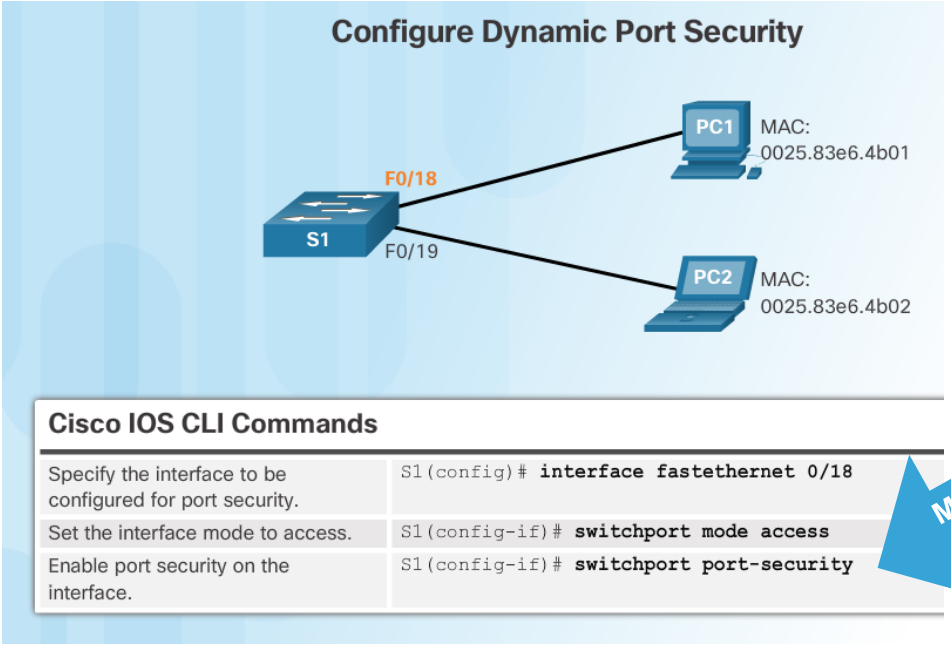
- A station with MAC address that is not in the address table attempts to access the interface when the table is full.
- An address is being used on two secure interfaces in the same VLAN.

Port Security: Configuring

Feature	Default Setting
Port security	Disabled on a port
Maximum number of secure MAC addresses	1
Violation mode	Shutdown. The port shuts down when the maximum number of secure MAC addresses is exceeded.
Sticky address learning	Disabled

Port Security: Configuring (Cont.)

- Before configuring port-security features, place the port in access mode and use the **switchport port-security** interface configuration command to enable port security on an interface.



Port Security: Configuring (Cont.)

Configure Sticky Port Security

Cisco IOS CLI Commands

Specify the interface to be configured for port security.	`S1(config)# interface fastethernet 0/19`
Set the interface mode to access.	`S1(config-if)# switchport mode access`
Enable port security on the interface.	`S1(config-if)# switchport port-security`
Set the maximum number of secure addresses allowed on the port.	`S1(config-if)# switchport port-security maximum 10`
Enable sticky learning.	`S1(config-if)# switchport port-security mac-address sticky`

Most common configuration error is to forget this command!

Port Security: Verifying

- Use the **show port-security interface** command to verify the maximum number of MAC addresses allowed on a particular port and how many of those addresses were learned dynamically using sticky.

Dynamic

```
S1# show port-security interface fastethernet 0/18
Port Security              : Enabled
Port Status                : Secure-up
Violation Mode             : Shutdown
Aging Time                 : 0 mins
Aging Type                 : Absolute
SecureStatic Address Aging : Disabled
Maximum MAC Addresses      : 1
Total MAC Addresses        : 1
Configured MAC Addresses   : 0
Sticky MAC Addresses       : 0
Last Source Address:Vlan   : 0025.83e6.4b01:1
Security Violation Count   : 0
```

Sticky

```
S1# show port-security interface fastethernet 0/19
Port Security              : Enabled
Port Status                : Secure-up
Violation Mode             : Shutdown
Aging Time                 : 0 mins
Aging Type                 : Absolute
SecureStatic Address Aging : Disabled
Maximum MAC Addresses      : 10
Total MAC Addresses        : 1
Configured MAC Addresses   : 0
Sticky MAC Addresses       : 1
Last Source Address:Vlan   : 0025.83e6.4b02:1
Security Violation Count   : 0
```

Port Security: Verifying (Cont.)

- Use the **show running-config** command to see learned MAC addresses added to the configuration.

```
S1# show run | begin FastEthernet 0/19
interface FastEthernet0/19
 switchport mode access
 switchport port-security maximum 10
 switchport port-security
 switchport port-security mac-address sticky
 switchport port-security mac-address sticky 0025.83e6.4b02
```

- The **show port-security address** command shows how MAC addresses were learned on a particular port.

```
S1# show port-security address
Secure Mac Address Table
------------------------------------------------------------------
Vlan    Mac Address       Type             Ports    Remaining Age
                                                      (mins)
----    -----------       ----             -----    -------------
1       0025.83e6.4b01    SecureDynamic    Fa0/18       -
1       0025.83e6.4b02    SecureSticky     Fa0/19       -
------------------------------------------------------------------
```

Ports in Error Disabled State

- Switch console messages display when a port security violation occurs. Notice the port link status changes to down.

```
Sep 20 06:44:54.966: %PM-4-ERR_DISABLE: psecure-violation error detected on Fa0/18,
putting Fa0/18 in err-disable state
Sep 20 06:44:54.966: %PORT_SECURITY-2-PSECURE_VIOLATION: Security violation occurred,
caused by MAC address 000c.292b.4c75 on port FastEthernet0/18.
Sep 20 06:44:55.973: %LINEPROTO-5-PPDOWN: Line protocol on Interface
FastEthernet0/18, changed state to down
Sep 20 06:44:56.971: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface FastEthernet0/18, changed state to down
```

Ports in Error Disabled State (Cont.)

- Check the port status and the port security settings.

```
S1# show interface fa0/18 status
Port Name  Status        Vlan  Duplex  Speed   Type
Fa0/18     err-disabled  1     auto    auto    10/100BaseTX

S1# show port-security interface fastethernet 0/18
Port Security              : Enabled
Port Status                : Secure-shutdown
Violation Mode             : Shutdown
Aging Time                 : 0 mins
Aging Type                 : Absolute
SecureStatic Address Aging : Disabled
Maximum MAC Addresses      : 1
Total MAC Addresses        : 0
Configured MAC Addresses   : 0
Sticky MAC Addresses       : 0
Last Source Address:Vlan   : 000c.292b.4c75:1
Security Violation Count   : 1
```

- Do not re-enable a port until the security threat is investigated and eliminated.
- Notice that you must first shut the port down and then issue the **no shutdown** command in order to use the particular port again after a security violation has occurred.

```
S1(config)# interface FastEthernet 0/18
S1(config-if)# shutdown
Sep 20 06:57:28.532: %LINK-5-CHANGED: Interface FastEthernet0/18, changed state to
 administratively down
S1(config-if)# no shutdown
Sep 20 06:57:48.186: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface FastEthernet0/18, changed state to up
Sep 20 06:57:49.193: %LINEPROTO-5-UPDOWN: Line protocol on Interface
 FastEthernet0/18, changed state to up
```

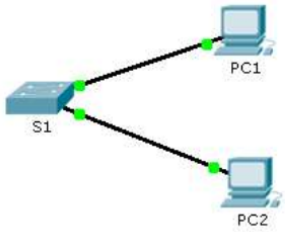
5.3 Chapter Summary

Packet Tracer - Skills Integration Challenge

Cisco Networking Academy® Mind Wide Open™

Packet Tracer - Skills Integration Challenge

Topology



Addressing Table

Device	Interface	IP Address	Subnet Mask
S1	VLAN 1	10.10.10.2	255.255.255.0
PC1	NIC	10.10.10.10	255.255.255.0
PC2	NIC	10.10.10.11	255.255.255.0

Scenario

The network administrator asked you to configure a new switch. In this activity, you will use a list of requirements to configure the new switch with initial settings, SSH, and port security.

Chapter 5: Switch Configuration

- Configure basic switch settings to meet network requirements.
- Configure a switch using security best practices in a small to medium-sized business network.


CISCO