

Connection to Aggregation Switch



Overview

This video was associated with the source search result. Verify technical details against current product documentation and project requirements.

Key Takeaways

To connect to an aggregation switch, ensure proper physical links, configure management VLANs, and optionally use stacking or link aggregation for redundancy and high bandwidth.

An aggregation switch consolidates traffic from multiple access switches, wireless access points, or edge devices and forwards it to core switches or routers, operating at Layer 2 or Layer 3 depending on your network design . It can also provide power to connected devices and aggregate downstream switches . Aggregation switches are commonly used in enterprise, campus, or data center networks to improve bandwidth, redundancy, and traffic flow .

Physical Connection

- **Connect Access Devices:** Use Ethernet or fiber links from access switches or devices to the aggregation switch. For high traffic, consider using multiple links and enable link aggregation (LACP or static) to combine them into a single logical connection .
- **Redundant Links:** If connecting multiple links for redundancy, configure the access switch and aggregation switch to handle load balancing or failover. In Layer 3 deployments, point-to-point interfaces with routing protocols like OSPF or EIGRP can manage traffic distribution .

- **Stacking (Optional):** If your aggregation switch supports stacking, stack the switches before connecting uplinks to the core. Ensure all switches are factory default, use reserved auto-stacking ports, and connect in a ring topology. Press the mode button to designate the conductor switch and wait for each member to boot .

Logical Configuration

- **Management VLAN:** Configure a management VLAN on the aggregation switch and set the core switch as the gateway. Enable management VLAN auto-negotiation to allow plug-and-play connectivity for downstream switches .

- **Zero Touch Provisioning (ZTP):** For large deployments, you can use ZTP to automatically bring aggregation and access switches online. Import device and link relationships using a network plan template, and the switches will automatically configure Eth-Trunks and VLANs after physical connections .

- **Link Aggregation:** Enable LACP or static link aggregation to combine multiple physical links for higher bandwidth and redundancy. This is especially useful when connecting multiple access switches or high-traffic devices .

Best Practices

- Connect switches in a structured topology (ring or star) to simplify management and redundancy .

- Avoid connecting the aggregation switch to the gateway before stacking, as it may prevent offline stacking without a factory reset .

- Use consistent VLAN and IP addressing schemes across access and aggregation layers to minimize configuration errors .

- Monitor LED indicators for stack status and link activity to ensure proper connectivity . By following these steps, your aggregation switch will efficiently consolidate traffic, provide high-speed connectivity, and support redundancy for downstream devices.

Article Content

Redundant Link Connection From Access Switch To HA Aggregation

Solved: Dear Support, I am configuring an access switch with main fiber link connection to Aggregation/core switch and

Link aggregation

Nortel's split multi-link trunking (SMLT) protocol allows multiple Ethernet links to be split across multiple switches in a stack,

Related Video Reference

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