

# Сетевой марафон Cisco: Catalyst 9800 - новая классика WLAN

Сессия 2 – Миграция Flexconnect сети на беспроводной контроллер Catalyst 9800

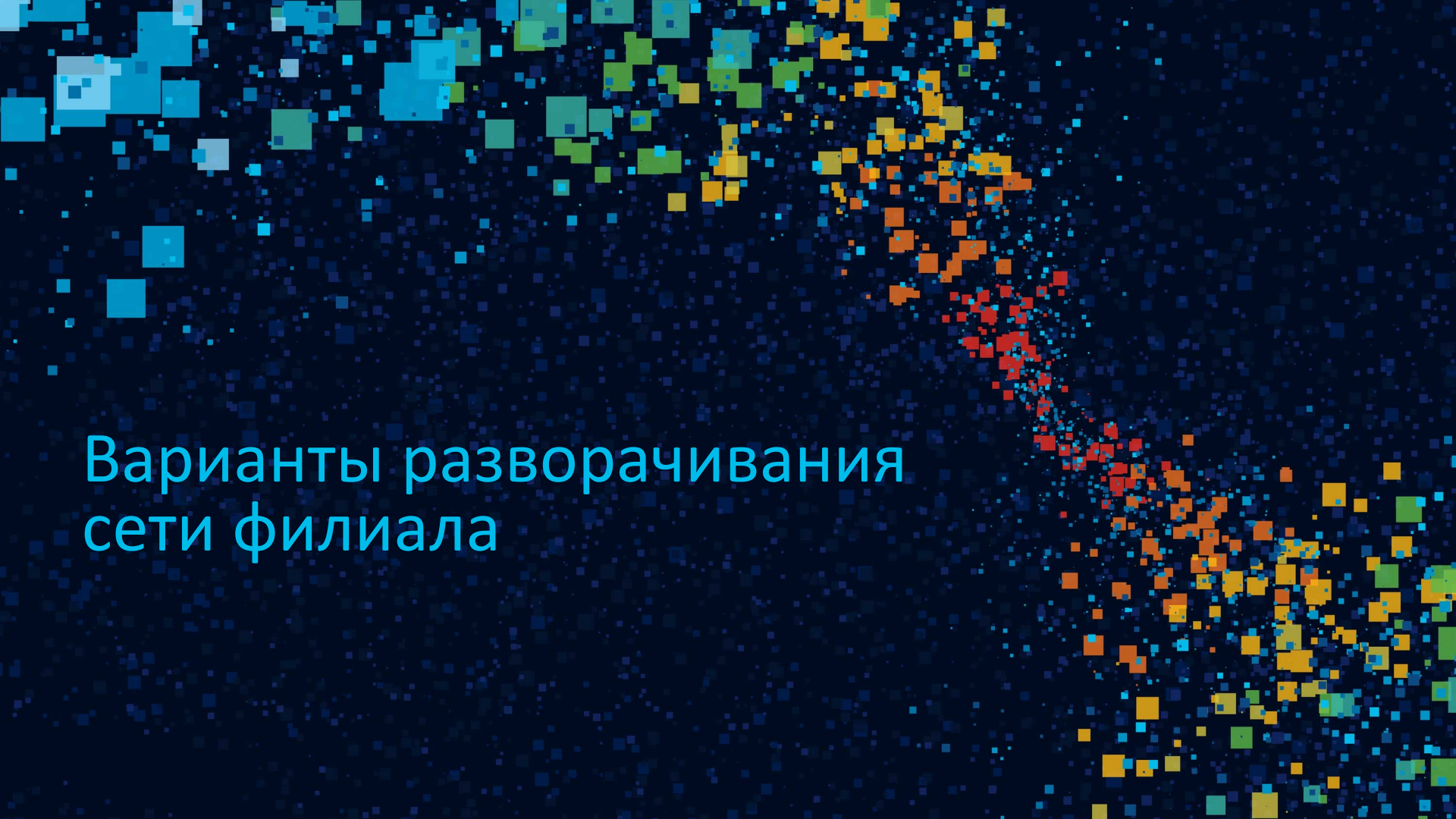
Виктор Платов, CCIE #24288, CWNE #283





# Содержание

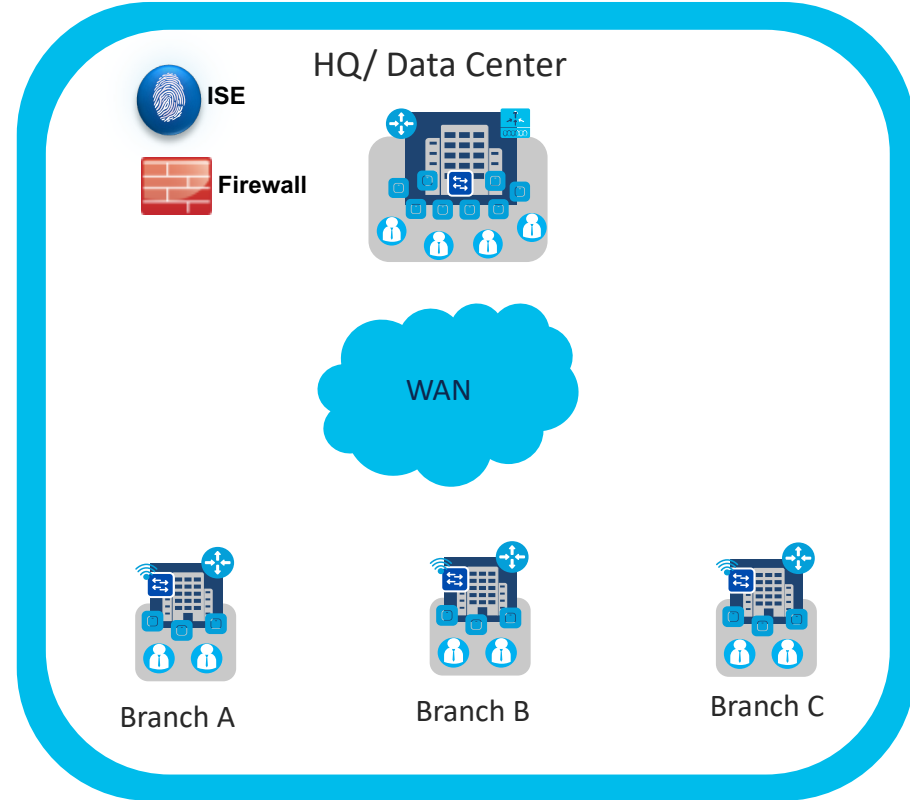
- Варианты разворачивания сети филиала
- Настройка FlexConnect local switching
- Что такое Site Tags и Flex Profiles
- Дизайн надежного беспроводного филиала
- Сегментация и безопасность
- Влияние WAN каналов на работу БЛВС
- Рекомендации



# Варианты разворачивания сети филиала

# Branch Design Considerations

- Central IT / Local IT
- Single-site / Multi-site
- Number of Branches
- Employees/Devices per branch
- Local/central Internet breakout?
- WAN Bandwidth / resiliency
- Local AAA and backup AAA





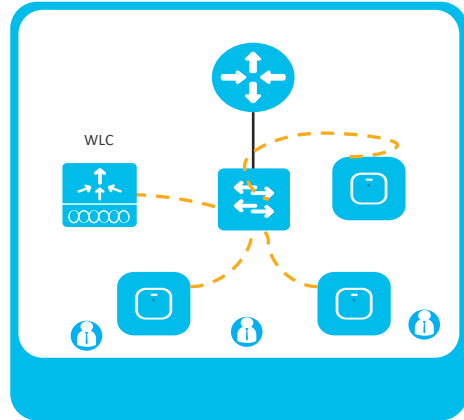
# Branch Wireless Design Options

## Dedicated Local Controller

## Embedded Local Controller

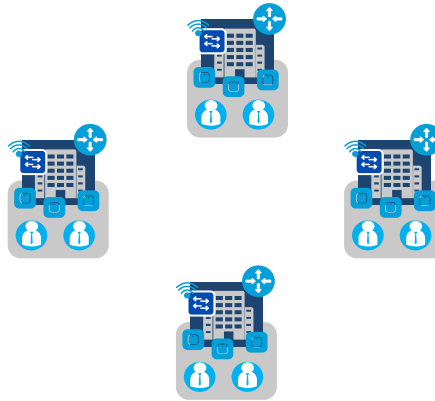
## Remote Controller

### Local Controller



Local WLAN Controller

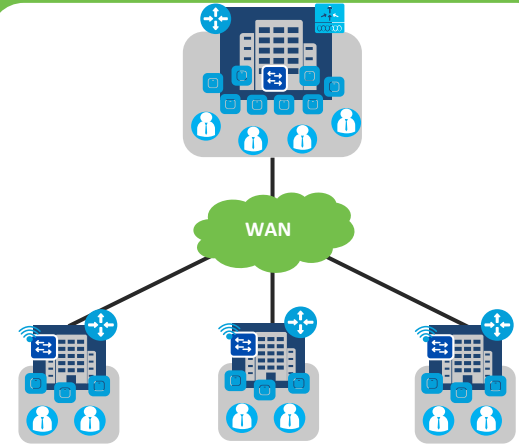
### Embedded Controller Options



### Single or Multi-Site

Single/Multi-site networks  
Low IT footprints  
Controller running on AP or Switch

### Flex Connect



### FlexConnect

Controller running in Data Center  
Distributed Network  
Highly Scalable



Policy



Automation



Assurance

Cisco DNA  
Center



Security



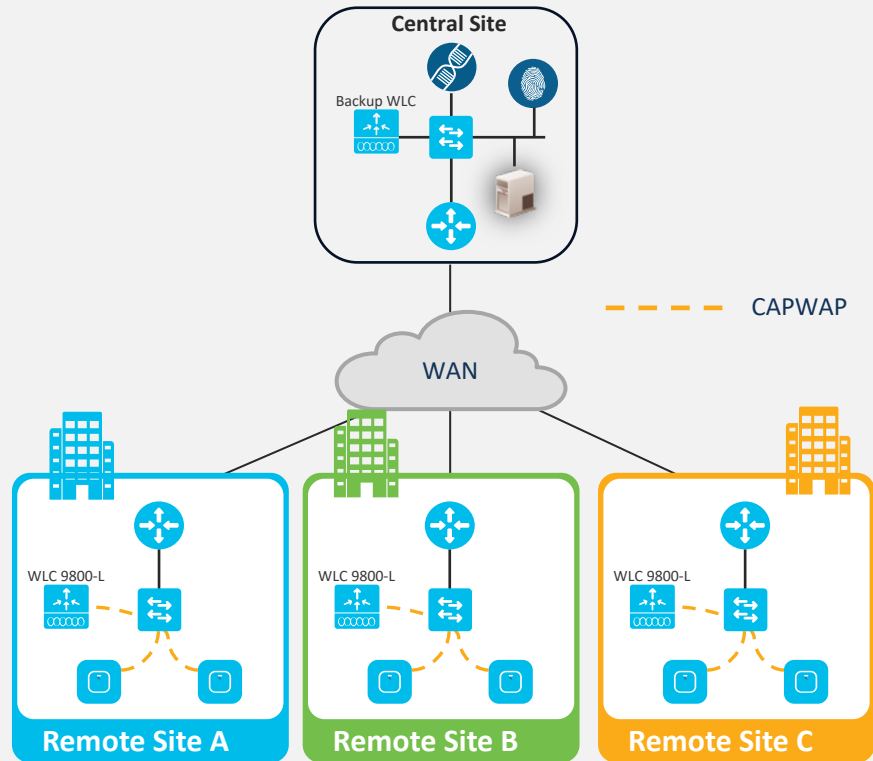
ISE



CMX



# Branch Office with dedicated WLAN Controller



- Small or mid branch WLC 9800-L , 9800-CL (NFVIS or Virtual)



- Layer-3 roaming with controller in each branch
- No limit of 100 APs per seamless roaming domain
- Full local control, no dependency on WAN



- WLC at each site, higher capital cost
- Higher OpEX costs (cabling, racking, managing it)

# Branch Office with Embedded WLAN Controllers



## SDA: 9800 on Catalyst Switches

Scale to 200 APs and 4,000 Clients

SDA Fabric

Supported on Catalyst 9300, 9400 and 9500 Series switches



## EWC: 9800 on Catalyst APs

Scale to 100 APs and 2,000 Clients

FlexConnect Local Switching

Support on Catalyst 9100 Series access points

### SDA



Controller on C9k Switch

### EWC



Controller on AP



- Branches can have local embedded controllers
- No separate appliance

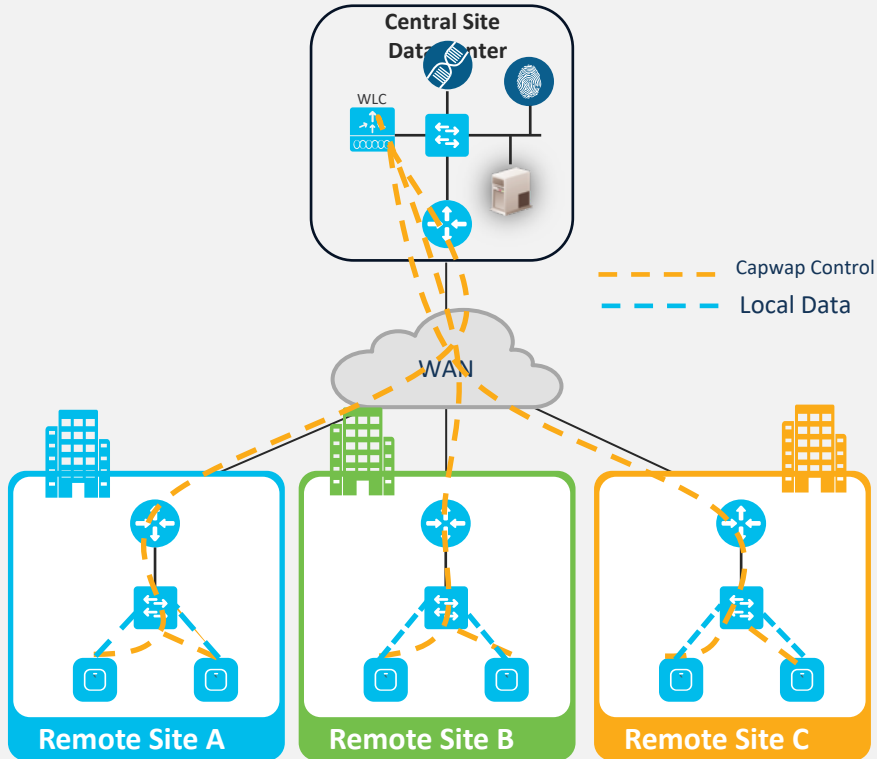


- Full local control, no dependency on WAN



- 9800 on Cat9k switch is for SDA Fabric
- 9800/EWC on AP has a limit of 100 APs max

# Branch Office with Flex Connect (Remote Controller)



- Wireless Controller is at a central site managing AP's across sites/branches
- Clients in branch roam independently



- Each site can have up to 100 AP's in a Site Tag with a Flex Profile for seamless roaming
- L2 roaming only
- Supports standalone mode operations

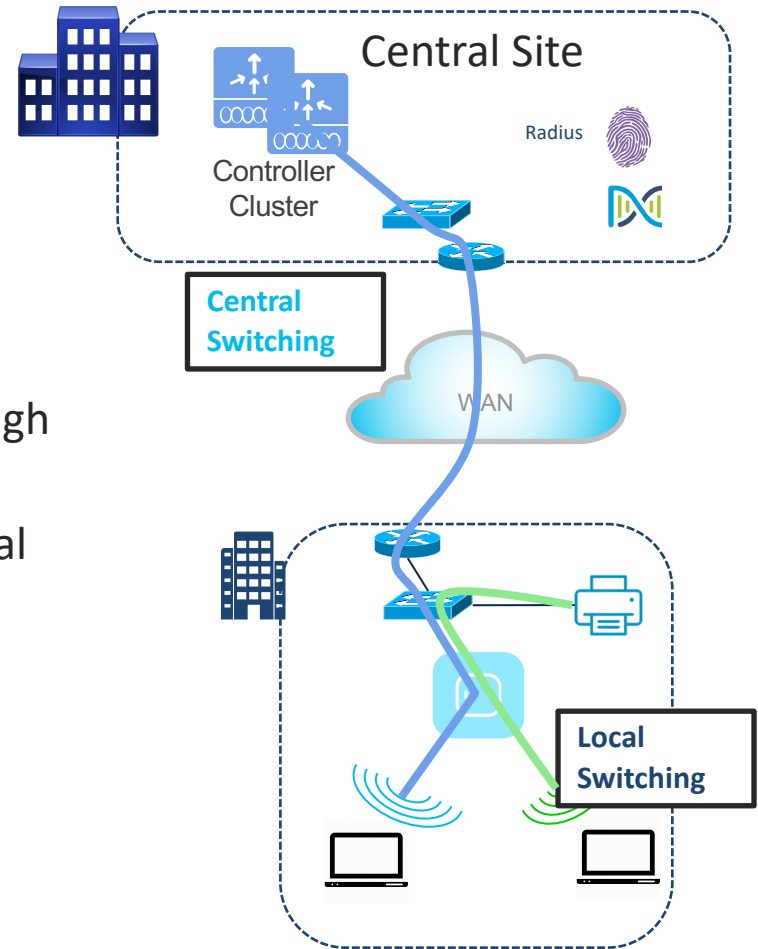


- Highly Scalable
- Central management
- Ideal for cookiecutter branch configuration
- Supports optional central switching

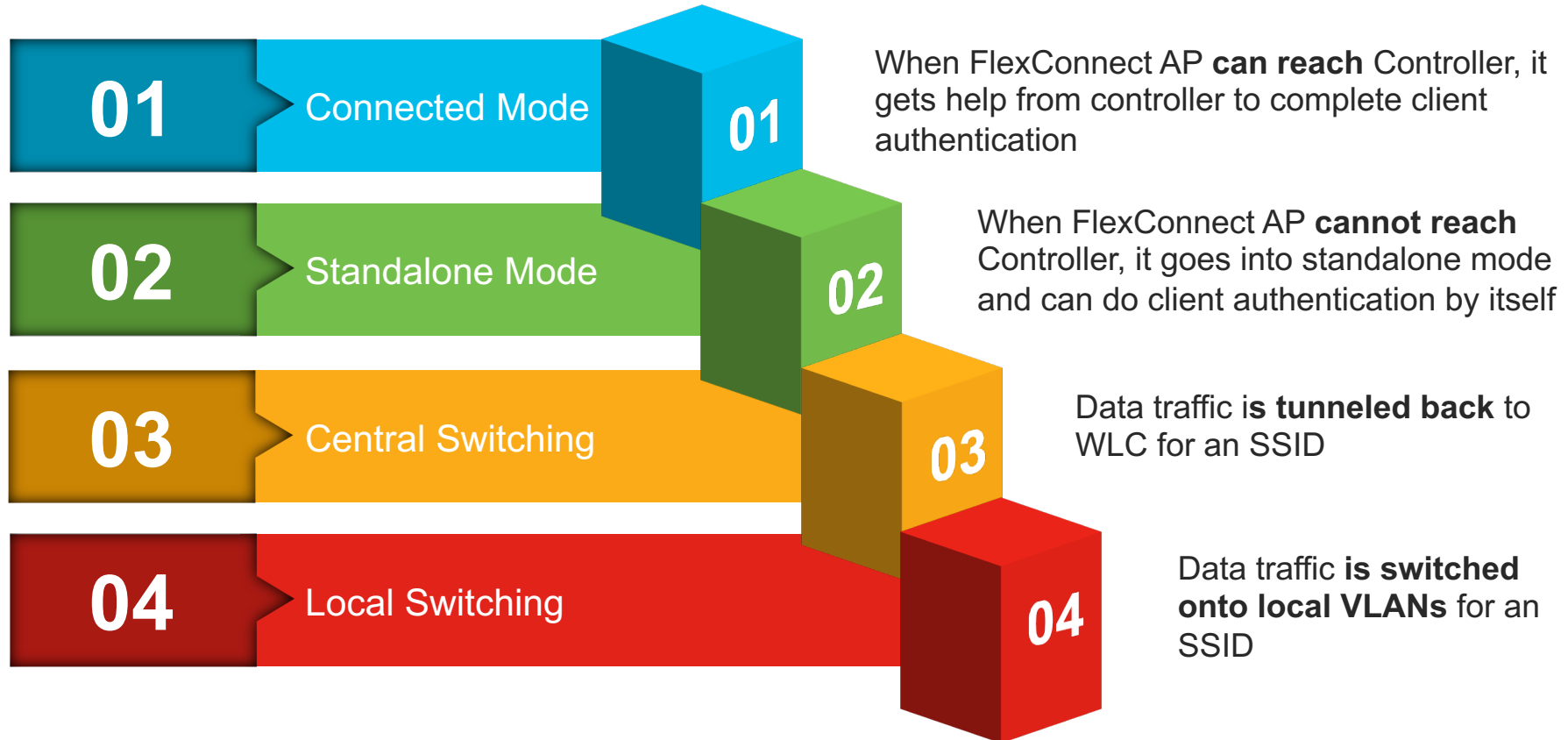


# Introducing FlexConnect

- Ease of Management via Controller
- Two traffic switching modes:
  - **Central Switching** (SSID data traffic tunneled through the WLC)
  - **Local Switching** (SSID data traffic switched to a local VLAN behind the AP's switchport)
- Two states of operation from the AP's perspective:
  - **Connected** (when WLC is reachable)
  - **Standalone** (when WLC is not reachable)



# FlexConnect Glossary

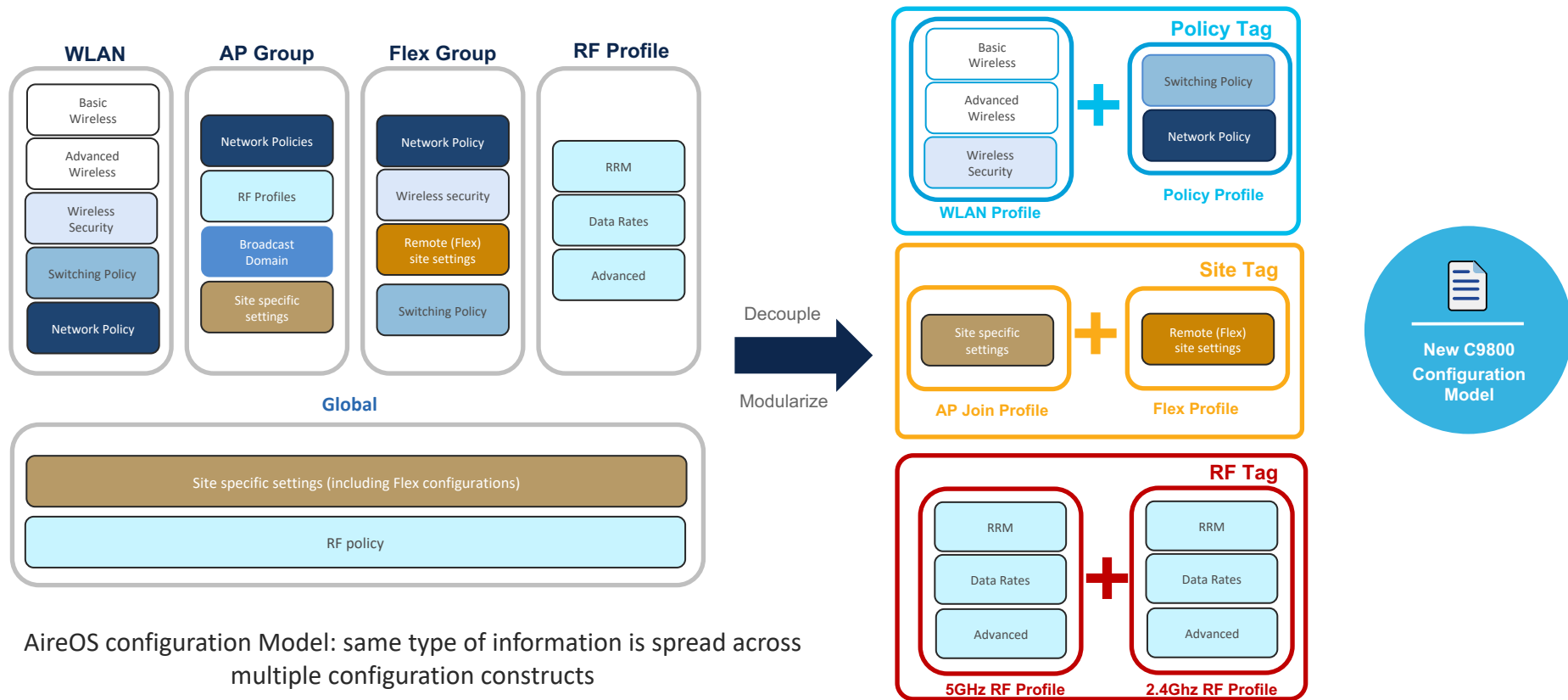


The background is a dark blue field filled with a dense distribution of small squares and dots. The colors of these elements are primarily light blue and yellow, with some darker blue squares interspersed. The pattern is more concentrated on the right side of the image, where it forms a sort of 'comet tail' or 'starburst' shape, and more sparse on the left.

# Настройка FlexConnect local switching

# Catalyst 9800 vs. AireOS Configuration Model

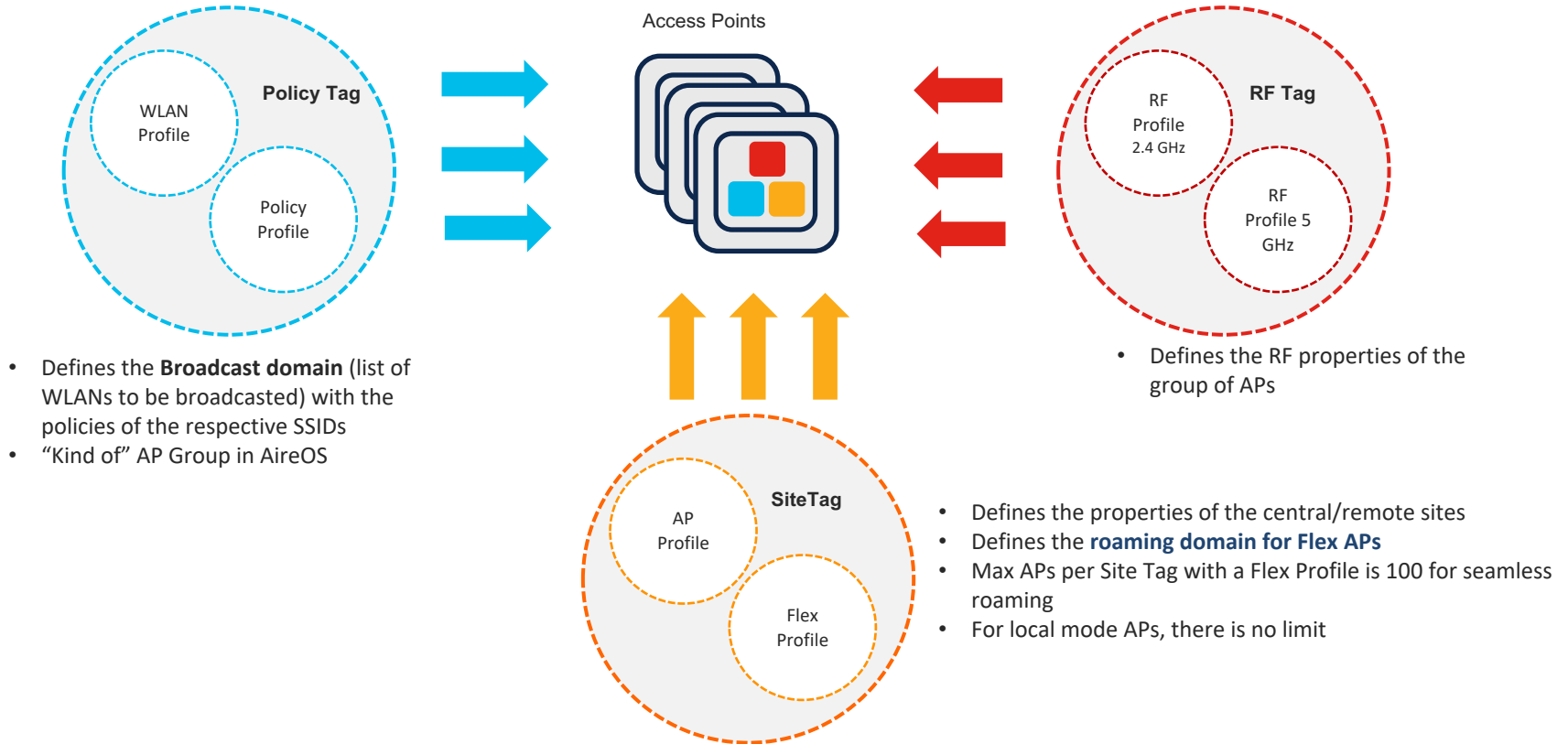
## Modularized model



AireOS configuration Model: same type of information is spread across multiple configuration constructs



# Cisco Catalyst 9800 Config Model



# Steps to configure FlexConnect Local Switching

## STEP 01

### Access Point Mode



- Configure the AP Join Profile, Flex Profile, the Site Tag and assign the Site Tag to the AP(s)

## STEP 02

### Configure the WLAN and the Policy Profile



- Configure the WLAN and the Policy Profile, with local switching traffic options

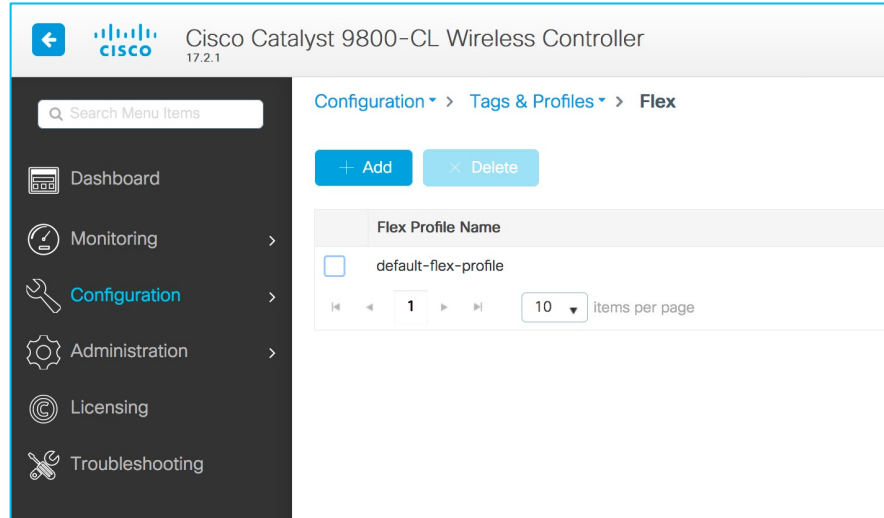
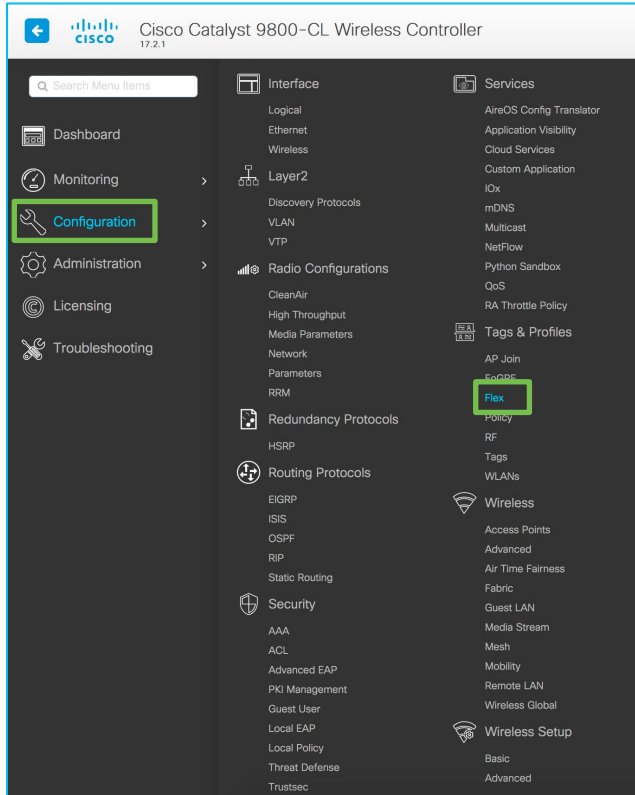
## STEP 03

### Assign the Policy Tag with WLAN+Profile



- Link the WLAN with the Policy Profile under the Policy Tag and assign it to the AP(s)

# FlexConnect workflow example



Configuration > Tags & Profiles > Flex  
> Add Flex Profile

# FlexConnect workflow example

Add Flex Profile

General

Local Authentication

Policy ACL

VLAN

Umbrella

Name\*

FLEX\_PRFL\_BRANCH

Fallback Radio Shut

☐

Description

Enter Description

Flex Resilient

☐

Native VLAN ID

100

ARP Caching

☒

HTTP Proxy Port

0

Efficient Image Upgrade

☒

HTTP-Proxy IP Address

0.0.0.0

Office Extend AP

☐

CTS Policy

Join Minimum Latency

☐

Inline Tagging

☐

SGACL Enforcement

☐

CTS Profile Name

default-sxp-profile x

Not technically 100% mandatory, but better to be sure that the AP's native VLAN on the switchport trunk matches this configuration

Add Flex Profile

General

Local Authentication

Policy ACL

VLAN

Umbrella

+ Add

× Delete

VLAN Name	ID	ACL Name
<input type="checkbox"/> FLEX_VLAN_EMPLOYEE	111	

1

10

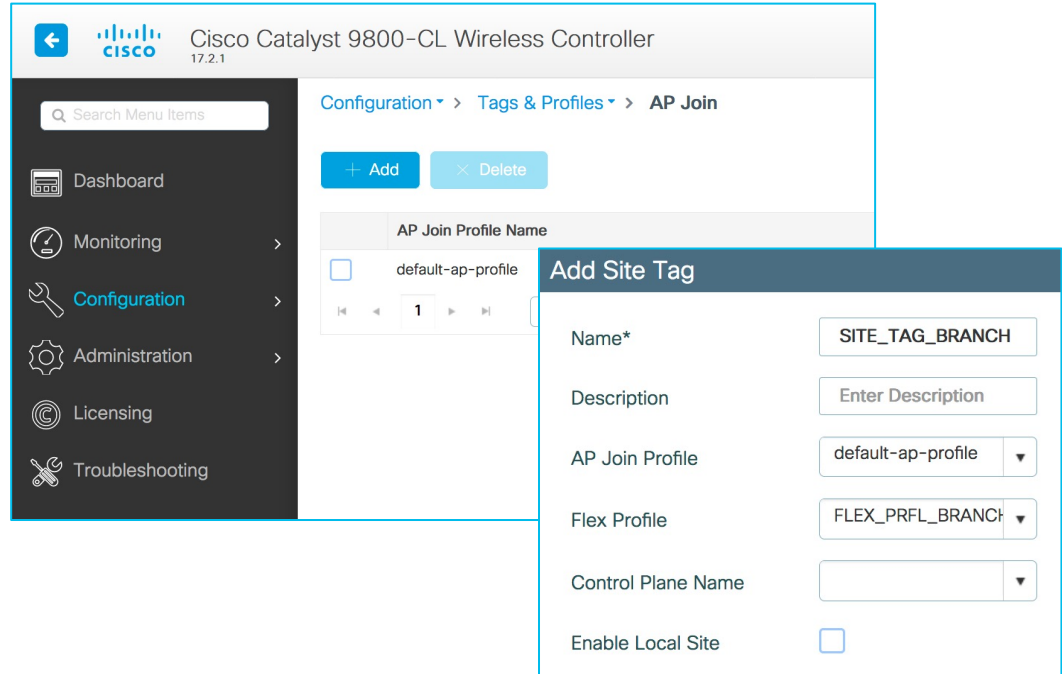
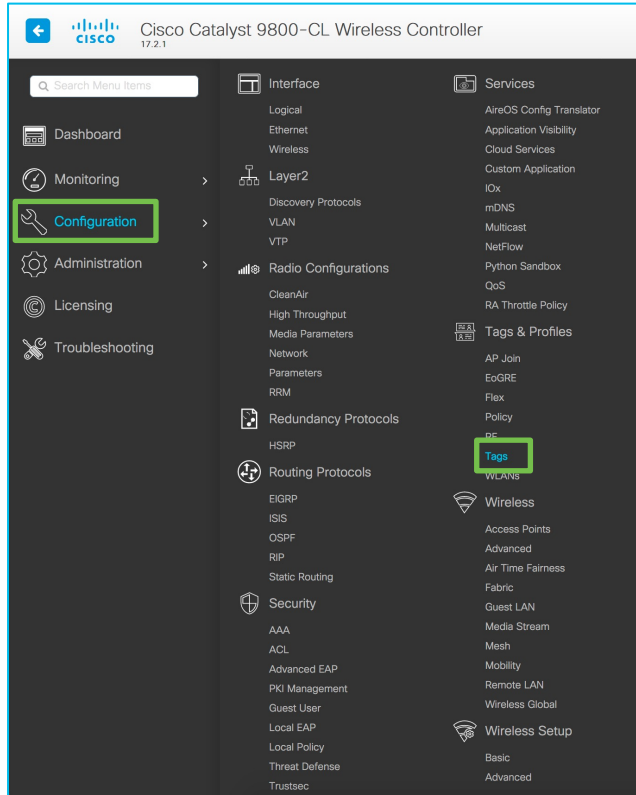
items per page

1 - 1 of 1 items

Adding VLANs in the Flex Profile is needed only if you wish to dynamically assign them via RADIUS attributes, or after also declaring them in the 9800's VLAN database

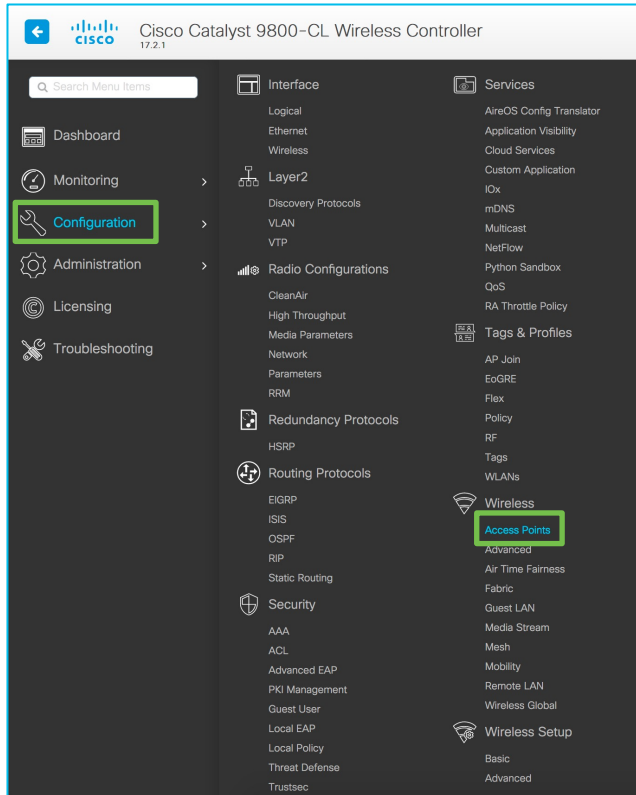


# FlexConnect workflow example



Configuration > Tags & Profiles > Tags  
> Add a Site Tag with “Enable Local Site” unchecked  
and the previously configured Flex Profile

# FlexConnect workflow example

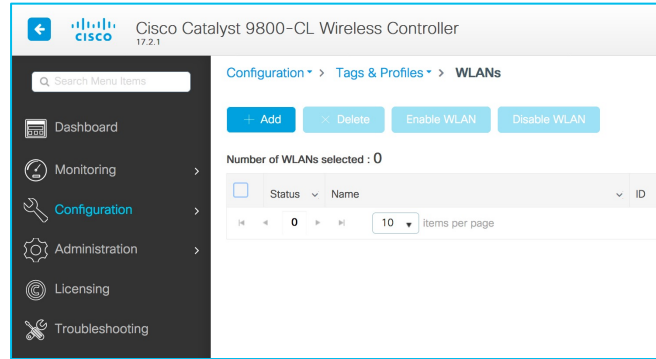
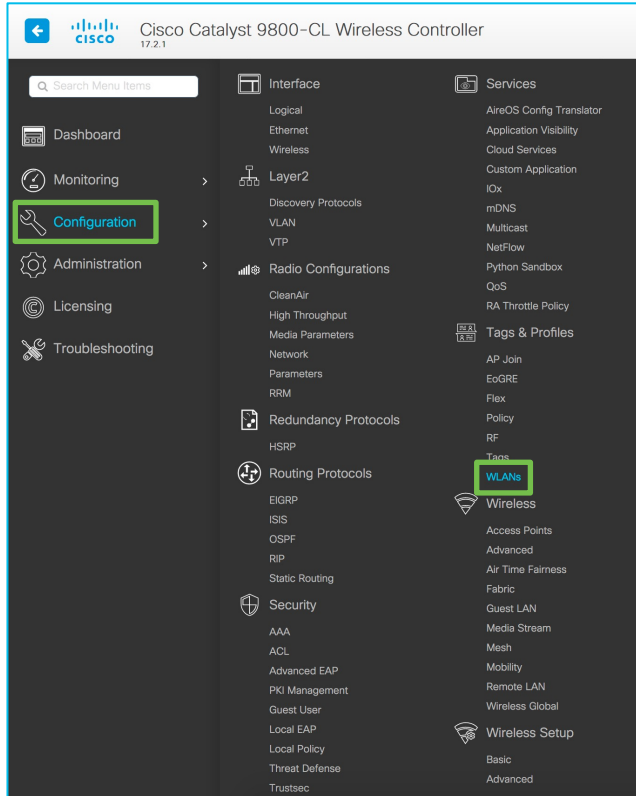


### Edit AP

AP Name*	C9120AXI-E.98B8
Location*	default location
Base Radio MAC	084f.f982.9760
Ethernet MAC	2cf8.9b5f.98b8
Admin Status	ENABLED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AP Mode	Local ▼
Operation Status	Registered
Fabric Status	Disabled
LED State	ENABLED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
LED Brightness Level	8 ▼
CleanAir <a href="#">NSI Key</a>	
Tags	
<p>⚠ Changing Tags will cause the AP to momentarily lose association with the Controller.</p>	
Policy	POLICY_TAG_CORP ▼
Site	SITE_TAG_BRANCH ▼
RF	default-rf-tag ▼

Configuration > Wireless > Access Points  
> Edit AP > Site

# FlexConnect workflow example



Configuration > Tags & Profiles > WLANs  
> Add WLAN

# FlexConnect workflow example

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the 'Add WLAN' configuration interface, illustrating the steps to configure a WLAN with 802.1X authentication.

**Top Screenshot (General Tab):**

- Profile Name\*:** WLAN\_802.1X
- SSID\*:** WLAN\_802.1X
- WLAN ID\*:** 1
- Status:** ENABLED (indicated by a green square)
- Radio Policy:** All (dropdown menu)
- Broadcast SSID:** ENABLED (indicated by a green square)

**Middle Screenshot (Security Tab):**

- Layer 2 Security Mode:** WPA2 + WPA3 (dropdown menu)
- MAC Filtering:** ☐
- Protected Management Frame:** (Section header)
- PMF:** Optional (dropdown menu)
- Association Comeback Timer\*:** 1
- SA Query Time\*:** 200

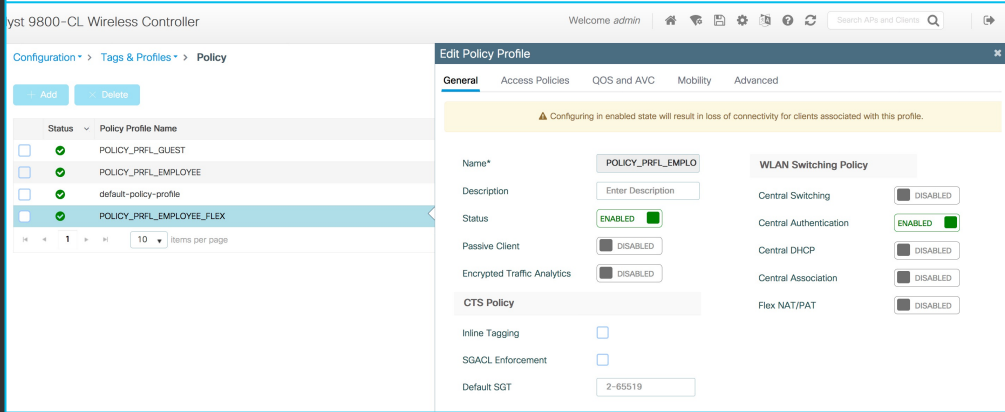
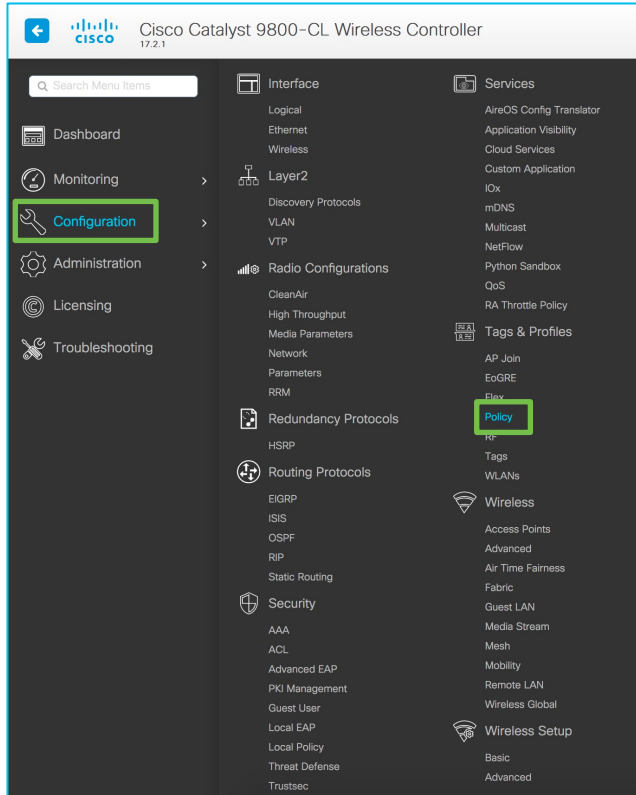
**Bottom Screenshot (AAA Tab):**

- Authentication List:** MLIST\_AUTHC\_1X\_I (dropdown menu)
- Local EAP Authentication:** ☐

Configuration > Tags & Profiles > WLANs  
> Add WLAN (with 802.1X in this example)



# FlexConnect workflow example



Configuration > Tags & Profiles > Policy  
> Create the Policy Profile for FlexConnect

# FlexConnect workflow example

**Edit Policy Profile**

General | Access Policies | QOS and AVC | Mobility | Advanced

⚠ Configuring in enabled state will result in loss of connectivity for clients associated with this profile.

Name\* **POLICY\_PRFL\_EMPLO**

Description

Status **ENABLED** ☒

Passive Client ☐

Encrypted Traffic Analytics ☐

**CTS Policy**

Inline Tagging ☐

SGACL Enforcement ☐

Default SGT

**WLAN Switching Policy**

Central Switching ☐

Central Authentication **ENABLED** ☒

Central DHCP ☐

Central Association ☐

Flex NAT/PAT ☐

## Disable:

- Central Switching
- Central DHCP
- Central Association

**Edit Policy Profile**

General | **Access Policies** | QOS and AVC | Mobility | Advanced

RADIUS Profiling ☒

HTTP TLV Caching ☒

DHCP TLV Caching ☒

**WLAN Local Profiling**

Global State of Device Classification **Enabled** ⓘ

Local Subscriber Policy Name

**VLAN**

VLAN/VLAN Group

Multicast VLAN

VLANs dynamically assigned via RADIUS take precedence over the VLAN statically defined under the Policy Profile.

If you are not dynamically assigning VLANs via RADIUS, you can define the locally switched VLAN under the Access Policies tab of the Policy Profile. Be aware that:

- when typing a VLAN number, this VLAN must not exist in the 9800's VLAN database;
- when using a VLAN name from the drop-down option, this VLAN must exist both in the 9800's local database and under the Flex Profile, with the exact same name and ID.

# FlexConnect workflow example

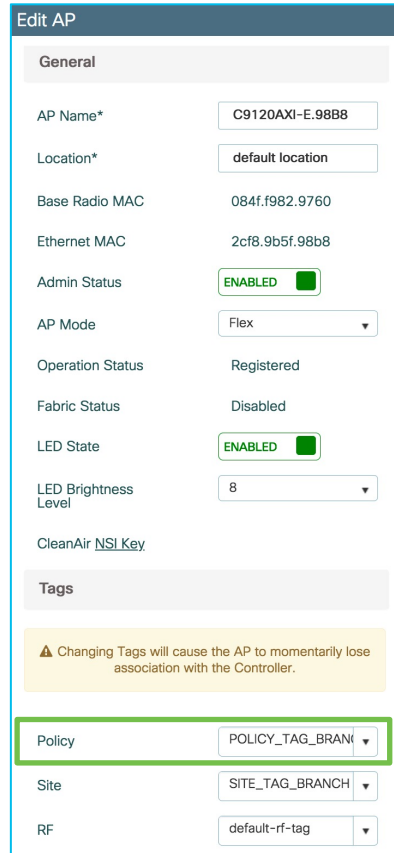
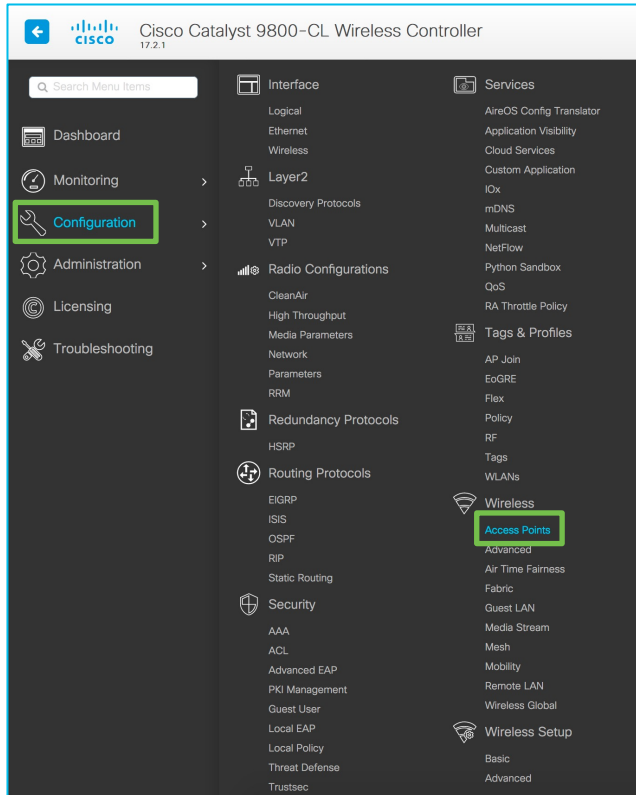
The screenshot displays the Cisco Catalyst 9800-CL Wireless Controller interface. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Dashboard, Monitoring, Configuration (highlighted), Administration, Licensing, and Troubleshooting. The main content area shows the breadcrumb path: Configuration > Tags & Profiles > Tags. Below this, there are tabs for Policy, Site, RF, and AP. The Policy tab is active, showing a list of Policy Tag Names: POLICY\_TAG\_CORP, POLICY\_TAG\_BRANCH (selected), and default-policy-tag. There are '+ Add' and '- Delete' buttons at the top of the list. The right pane is titled 'Edit Policy Tag' and contains a warning message: 'Changes may result in loss of connectivity for some clients that are associated to APs with this Policy Tag.' Below the warning, there are input fields for 'Name\*' (POLICY\_TAG\_BRANCH) and 'Description' (Enter Description). A section titled 'WLAN-POLICY Maps: 2' shows a table with two entries:

WLAN Profile	Policy Profile
<input type="checkbox"/> WLAN_Guest	POLICY_PRFL_GUEST
<input type="checkbox"/> WLAN_802.1X	POLICY_PRFL_EMPLOYEE_FLEX

At the bottom of the table, there are '+ Add' and '- Delete' buttons, and a pagination indicator showing '1 - 2 of 2 items'.

- Configuration > Tags & Profiles > Tags
- > Create a dedicated Policy Tag for the branch
- > Under the new Policy Tag, associate the WLAN to the Policy Profile

# FlexConnect workflow example



Configuration > Wireless > Access Points  
> Edit AP > Policy  
Assign the new Policy Tag to the AP



# Что такое Site Tags и Flex Profiles

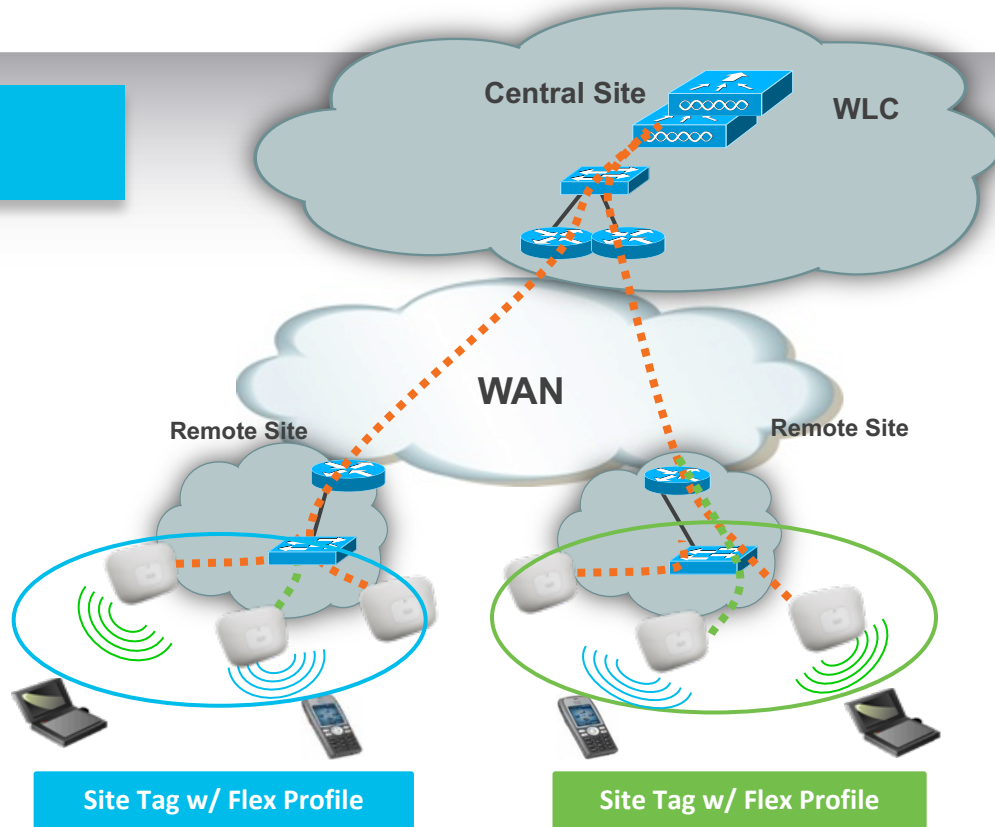
# Site Tag with a Flex Profile (aka Flex Group)

## Overview

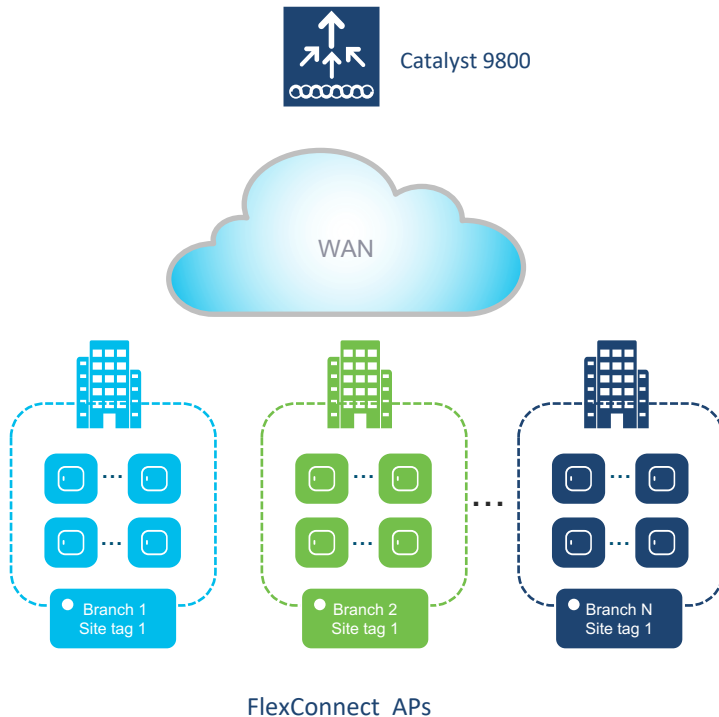
Each Site Tag with a Flex Profile is a (Flex) group of APs sharing the following:

- 802.11r fast roaming keys
- Local/backup RADIUS servers IP/keys
- Local EAP authentication settings
- AAA Override for Local Switching
- Smart Image Upgrade
- FlexConnect AVC/QoS Policies

Scaling	9800-80 9800-CL	9800-40	9800-L
FlexConnect Profiles	6000	2000	250/500
AP per Site Tag (with a Flex Profile assigned)	100	100	100



# Site Tag with a Flex Profile



## Important facts:

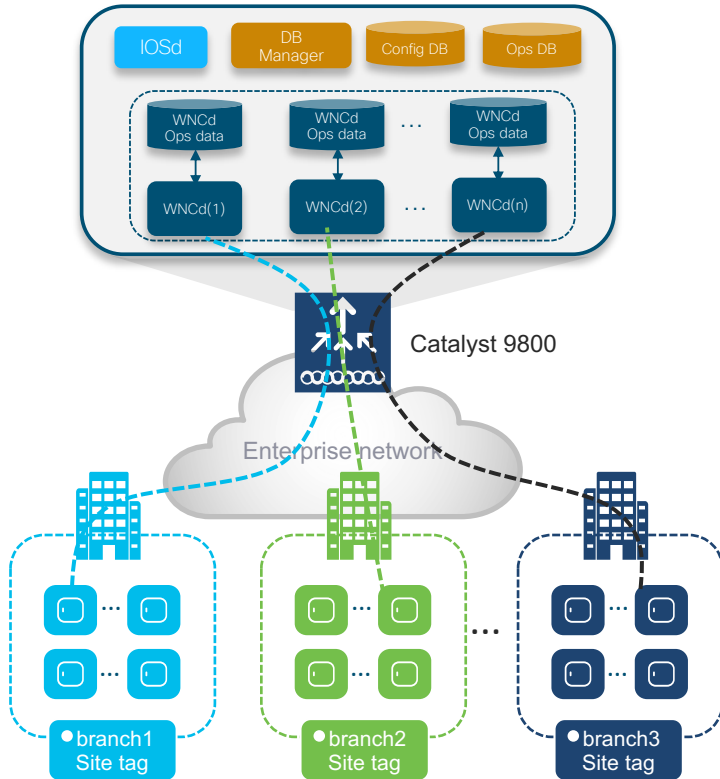
- For a Site Tag to have a Flex Profile, disable the option for “Local Site” (i.e. APs in Local mode)

The screenshot shows the 'Edit Site Tag' configuration window. It includes the following fields and settings:

- Name\*: simo-site
- Description: simo-lab
- AP Join Profile: default-ap-profile
- Flex Profile: simo-flex
- Control Plane Name: (empty)
- Enable Local Site: ☐ (unchecked)

- In this case the Site Tag is equivalent to a FlexConnect Group in AireOS
- As with AireOS, there is a limit of **100 APs** per **Site Tag** with a **Flex Profile** for supporting seamless roaming
- Roaming across Site Tags with Flex Profiles will result in a client full re-authentication

# Site Tags: some design tips for branches



## Recommendations:

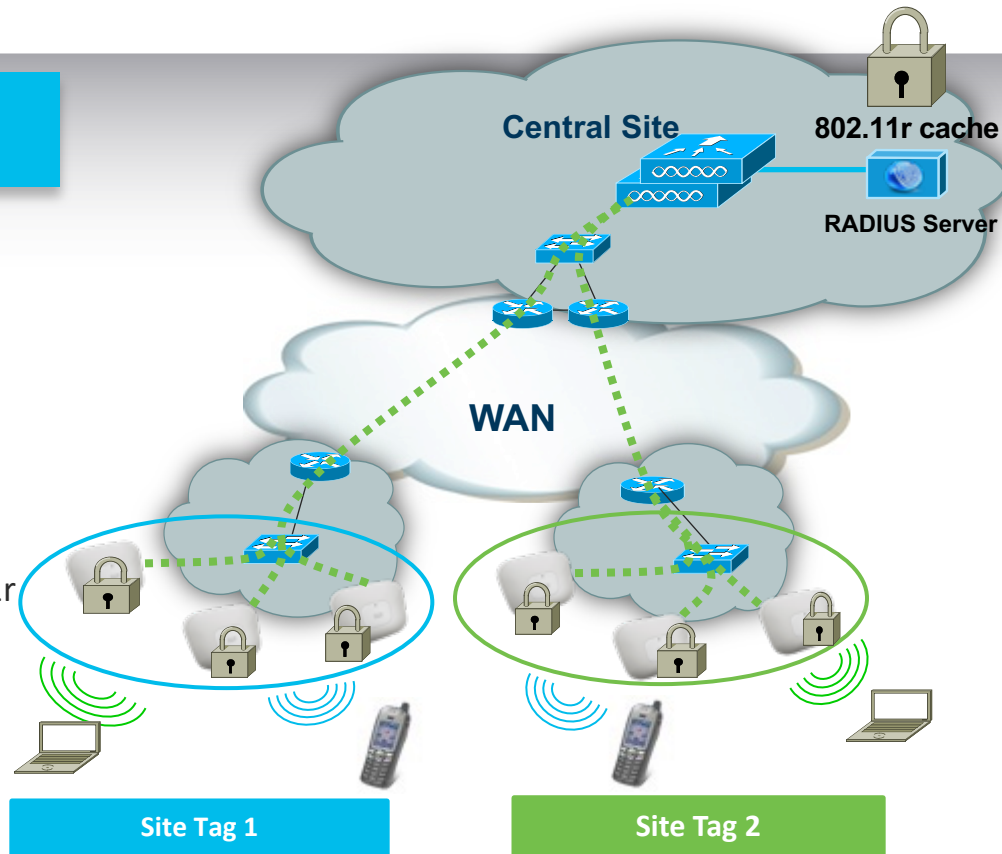
- For FlexConnect, Site Tag is the roaming domain. Fast roaming happens only within a single Flex enabled Site Tag
- A good “principle” is a Site Tag per... site/branch
- **Don't use the same Site Tag across multiple branches** (this includes the default-site-tag 😊)
- If support for fast seamless roaming (802.11r, CCKM, OKC) is needed, then the **max number of APs per Site Tag with a Flex Profile is 100**
- If the branch has more than 100 APs, define at least two Site Tags and design APs-to-Site Tag assignment so that each Site Tag has less than 100 APs. Roaming across the two site tags will not be a fast roam (client will need to go through a full re-authentication) – same as AireOS with Flex Groups

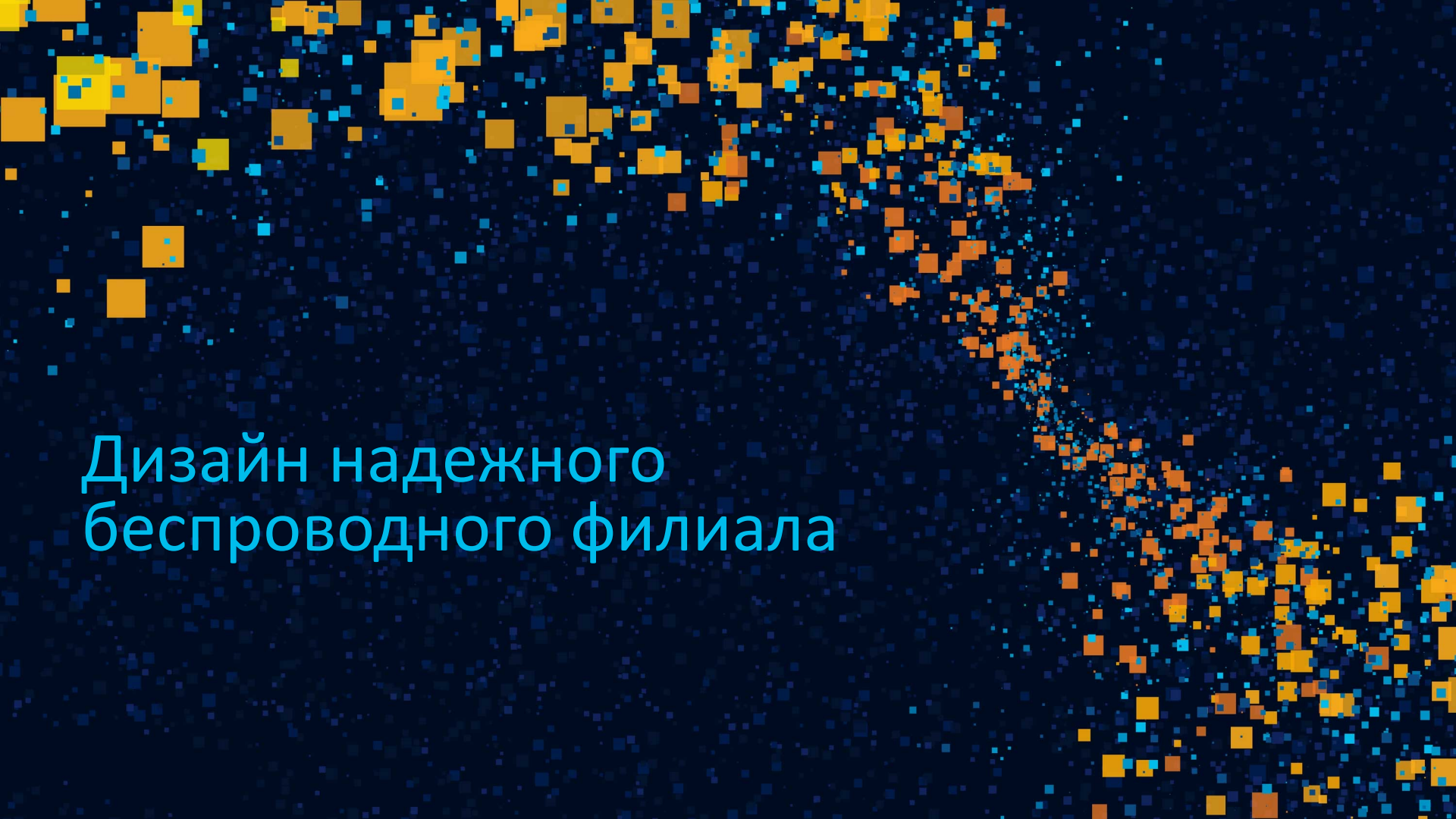


# Site Tags and 802.11r

## Overview

- 802.11r cache stored on FlexConnect APs for Layer 2 fast roaming
- The FlexConnect APs receives the 802.11r cache from WLC
- If a FlexConnect AP boots up in standalone mode, it will not get the 802.11r keys from the WLC
- FlexConnect supports 802.11r Fast Transition with local key caching



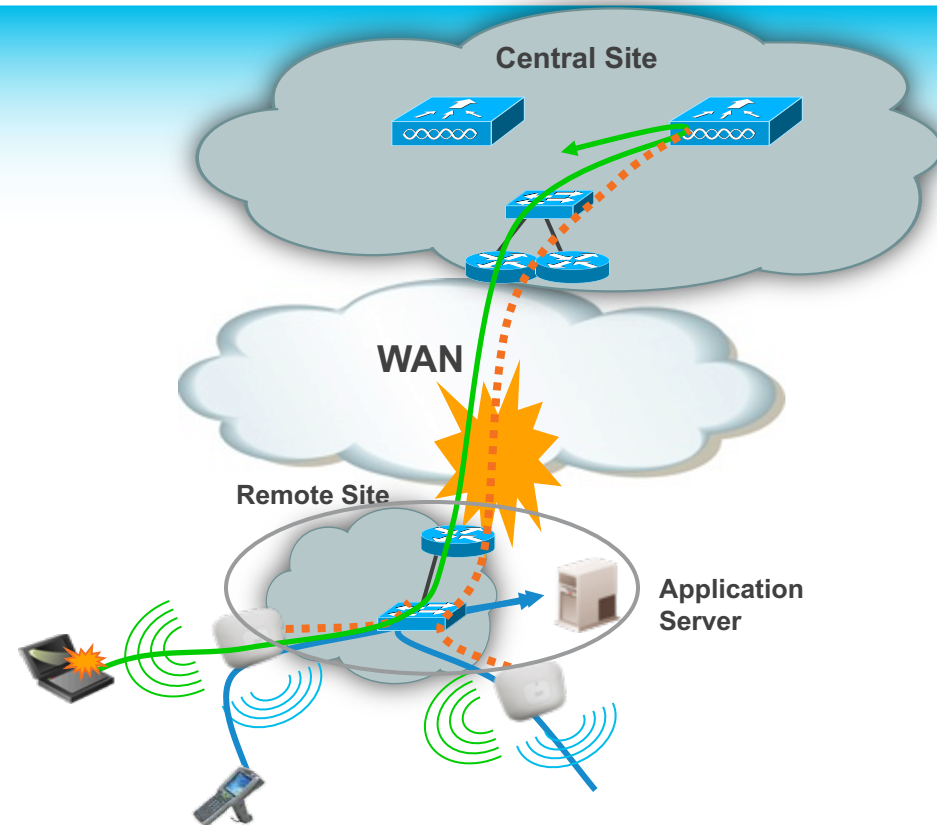


# Дизайн надежного беспроводного филиала

# FlexConnect Resiliency - WAN Failure

## WAN Failure

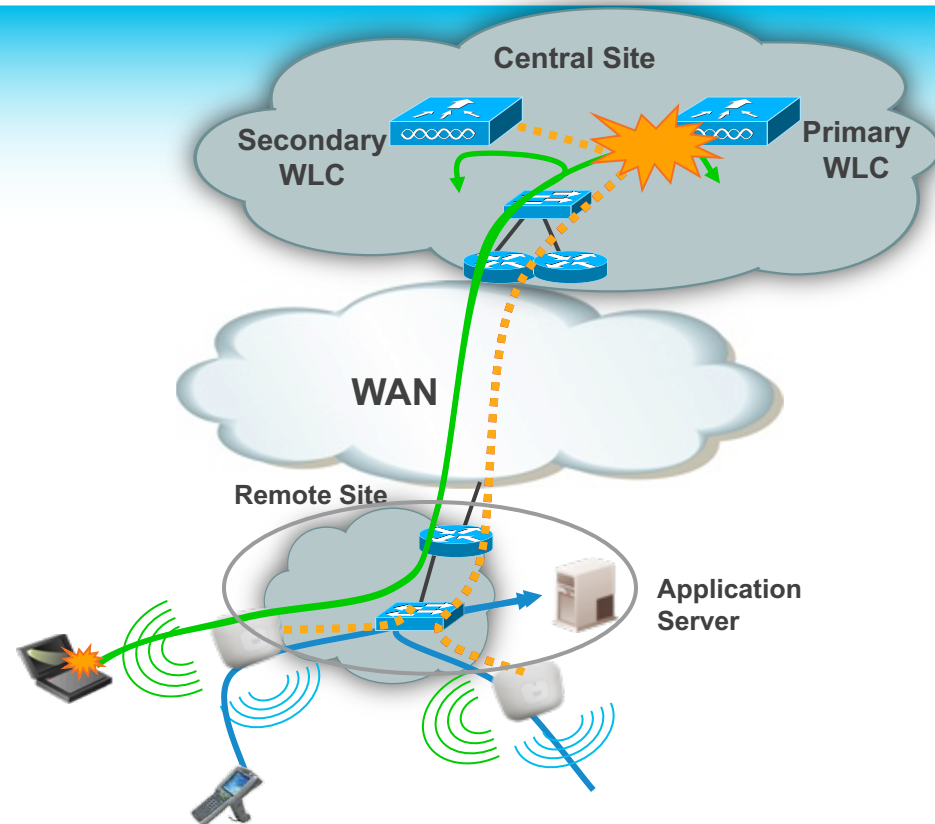
- FlexConnect APs will go to Standalone mode
  - No impact for locally switched SSIDs
  - Disconnection of centrally switched SSIDs clients
- Static authentication keys are locally stored in FlexConnect AP
- Lost Features
  - RRM, WIPS, location, etc.
  - URL Redirection (guest, BYOD, posture, MDM)



# FlexConnect Resiliency – N+1 HA Scenario

## WLC Failure scenario with N+1 HA

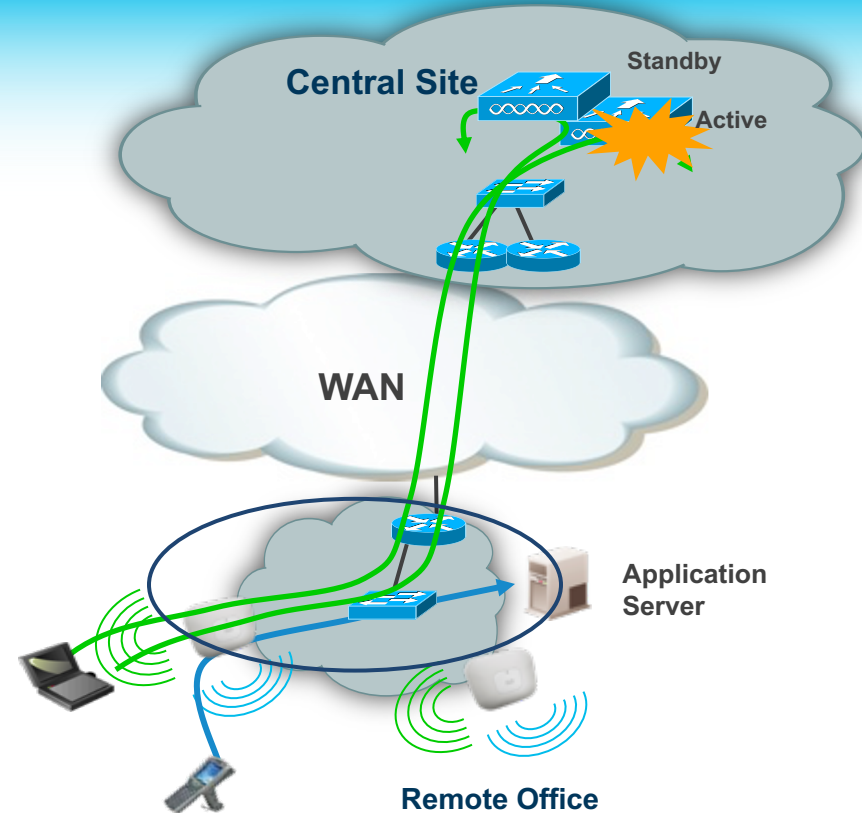
- FlexConnect APs will go to Standalone mode
  - No impact for locally switched SSIDs
  - Disconnection of centrally switched SSIDs clients
- Roaming allowed within the Site Tag
- FlexConnect AP will then search for a secondary WLC; when the secondary WLC is found, FlexConnect AP will resync with it and resume client sessions for central switching
- Locally switched client sessions are not impacted during resync with the secondary WLC (which needs to have the same config as the primary WLC)



# FlexConnect Resiliency – SSO HA Scenario

## WLC failure scenario with SSO

- True high availability with sub-second failover to a standby WLC
- AP/client sessions are synched between active and standby WLCs
- FlexConnect APs will not need to transition to standalone thanks to SSO
- **APs will continue to be in connected mode with the standby (new active) WLC**
- **Centrally switched SSIDs will always stay up**

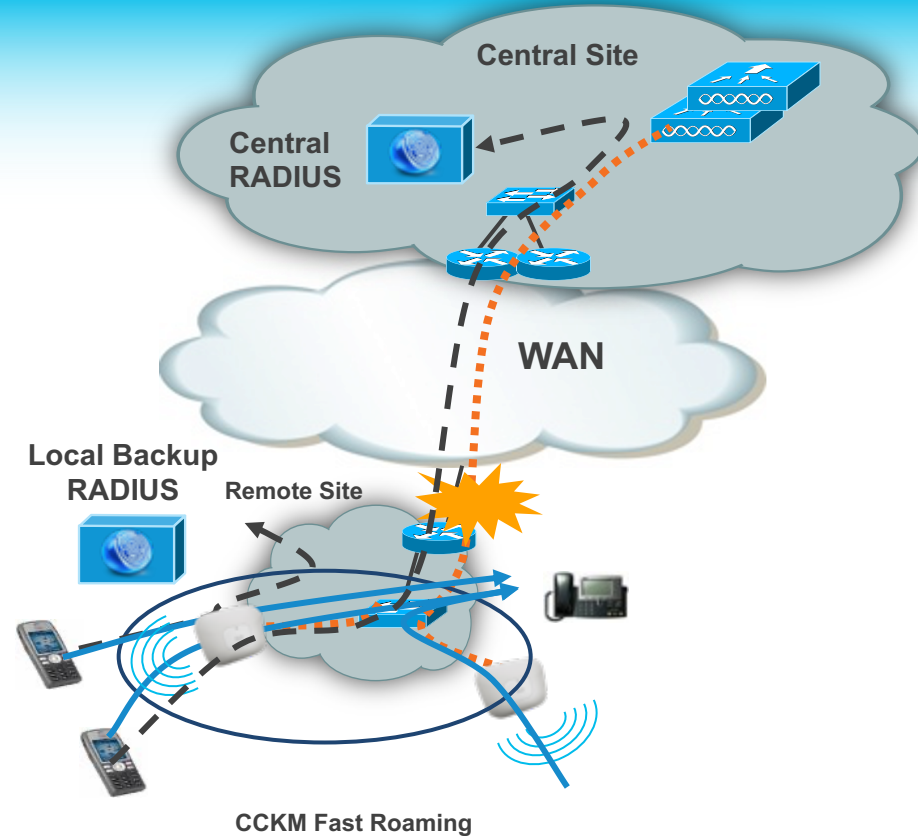


# FlexConnect – AAA Survivability

## Local Backup RADIUS

### Local Backup RADIUS

- Authentications done centrally through the WLC by default
- On WAN failure, the AP goes to standalone mode and can authenticate new clients with a locally defined RADIUS server
- Existing connected clients stay connected
- Clients can roam with
  - 802.11r fast roaming
  - Re-authentication



# Radius Server Group option under the Flex Profile

## Configuration

Define local backup RADIUS servers under the Flex Profile's Local Authentication tab

**Flex Profile**

+ Add    ✕ Delete

Flex Profile Name

- ☒ Remote-SITE-A
- ☐ default-flex-profile

1    10

**Edit Flex Profile**

General    **Local Authentication**    Policy ACL    VLAN

Radius Server Group: radgrp\_Remote-SITE-A

EAP Fast Profile

- LEAP ☐
- PEAP ☐
- TLS ☐

AAA Method List    **Servers / Groups**    AAA Advanced

+ Add    ✕ Delete

**RADIUS**

TACACS+

LDAP

**Servers**    **Server Groups**

Name	Server 1	Server 2	Server 3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> radgrp_Remote-SITE-A	rad_172.24.228.14	rad_172.24.228.15	N/A

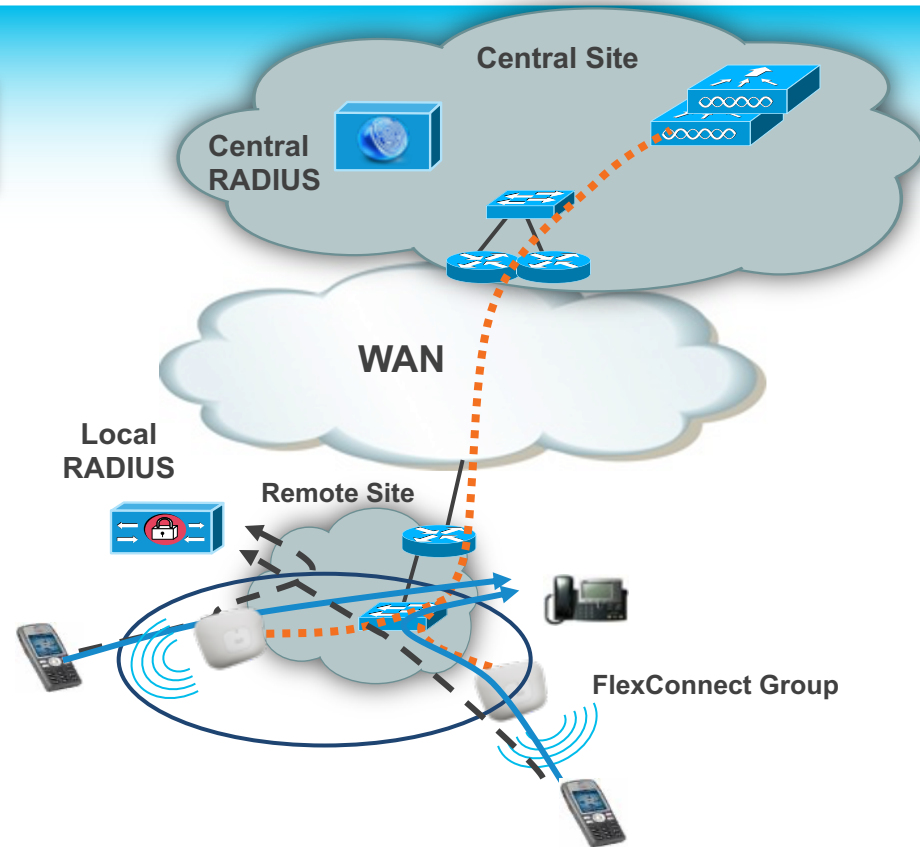
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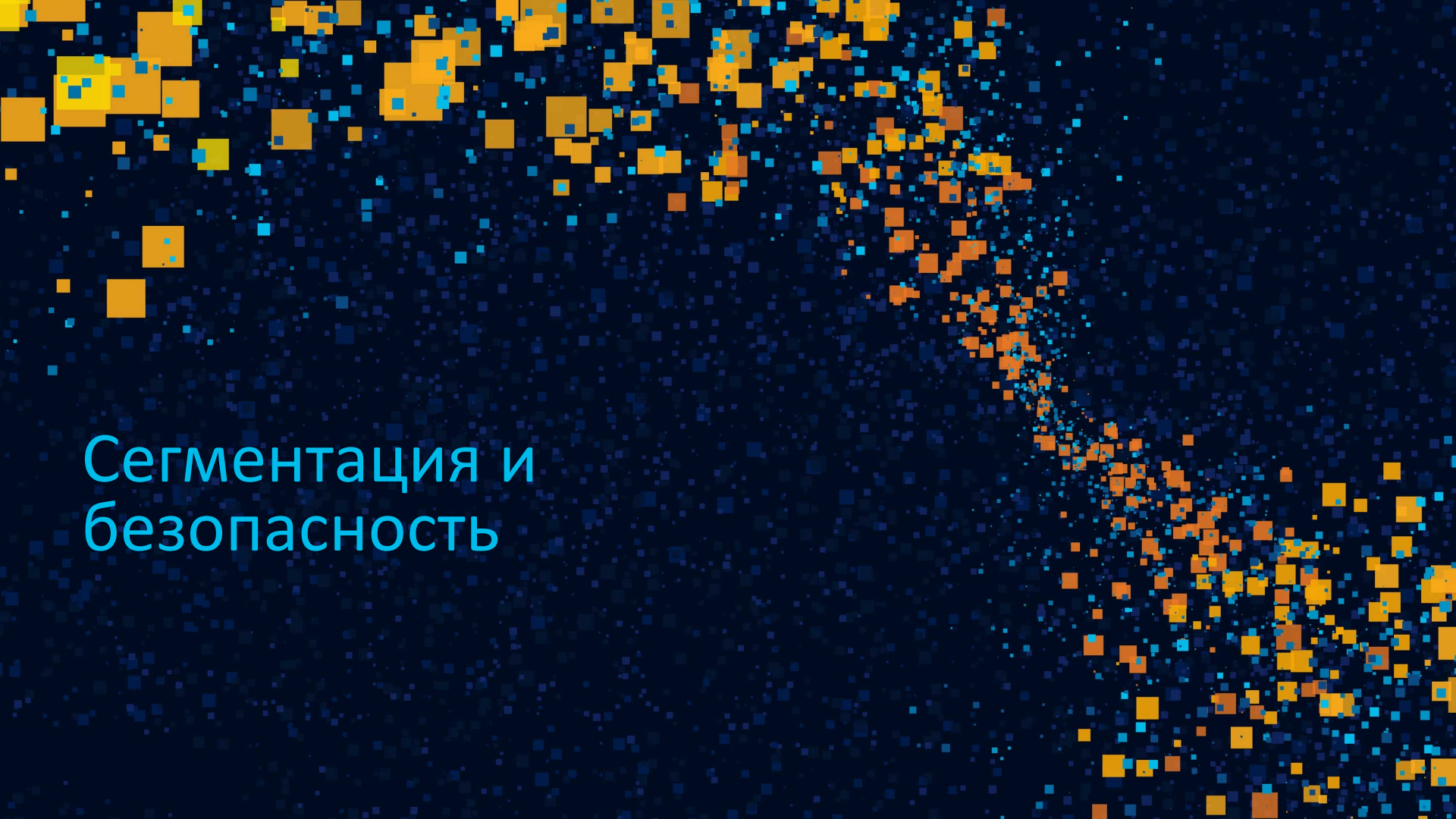
# FlexConnect - Local Authentication

## Local Authentication

- By default FlexConnect AP authenticates clients through the central controller
- Local Authentication allows the use of local RADIUS server directly from the FlexConnect AP even when **WAN is UP**, or else even a local database at the AP's level (generally recommended as a last resort option)







# Сегментация и безопасность

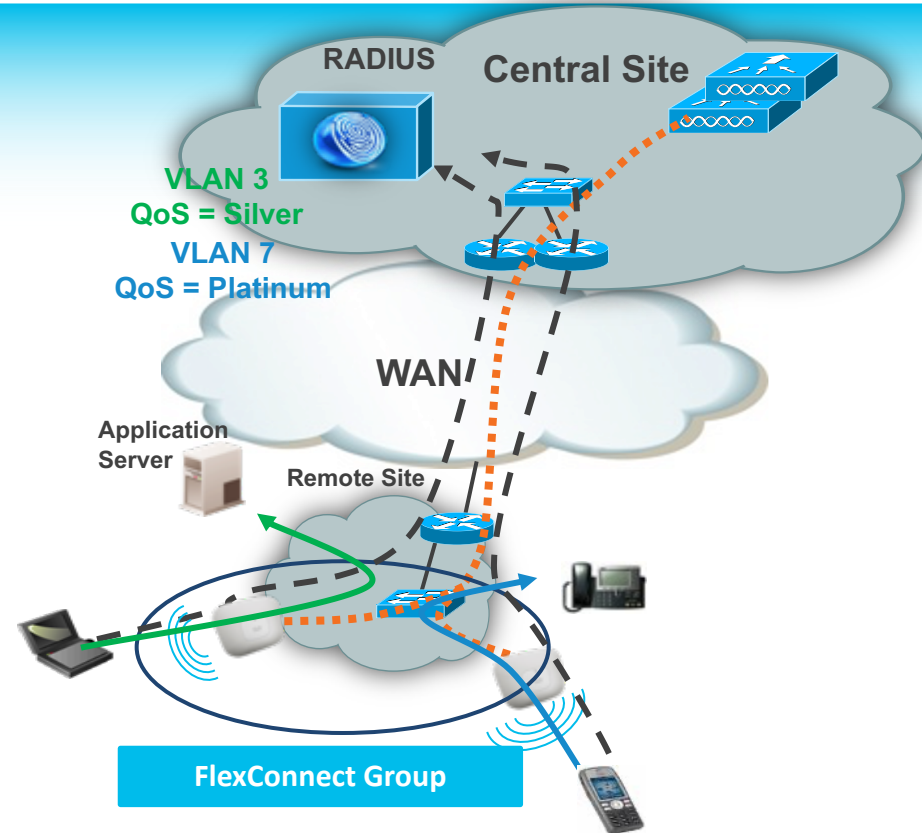


# FlexConnect AAA VLAN assignment

# FlexConnect AAA VLAN Override

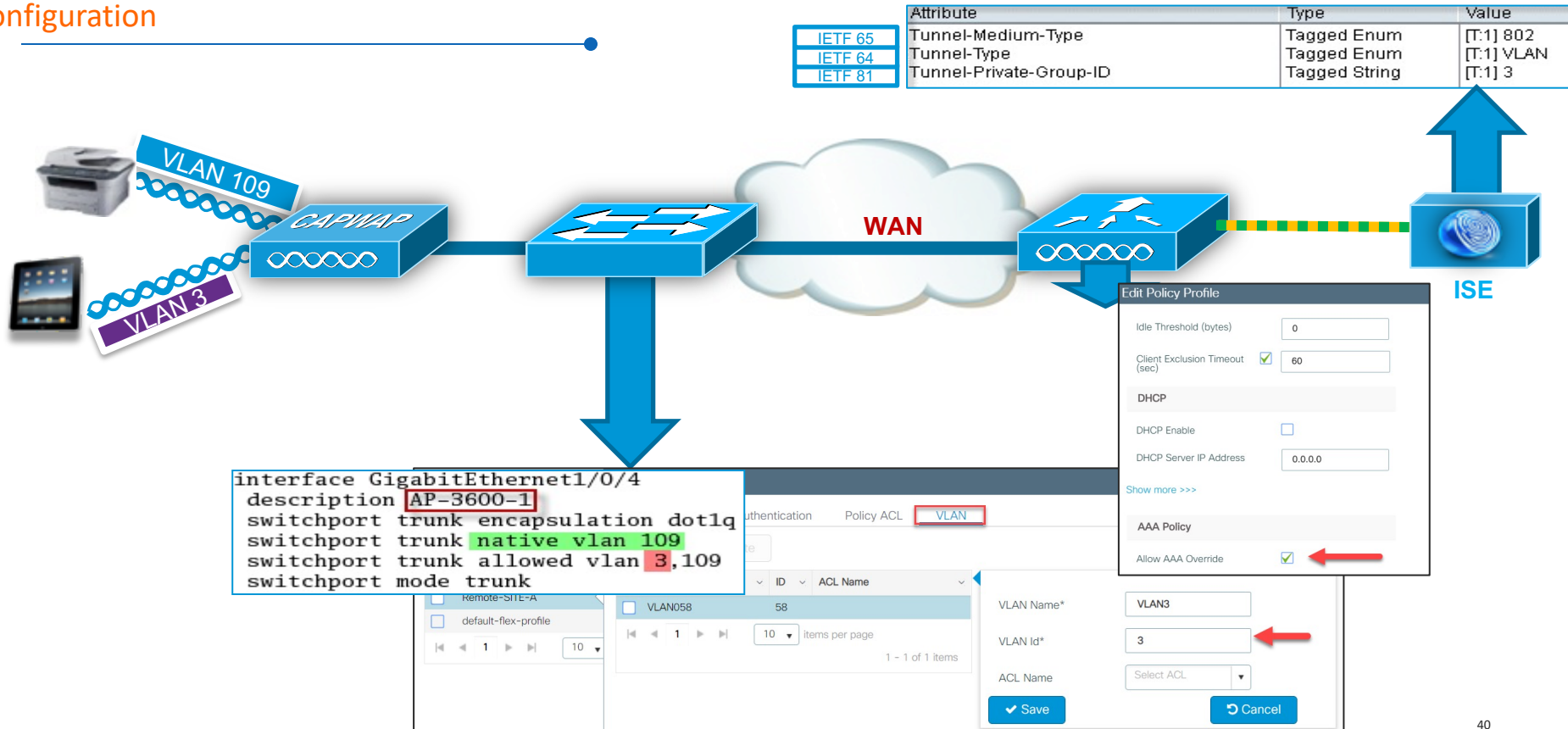
## Description

- AAA VLAN Override with local or central authentication
- Up to 16 VLANs per FlexConnect AP
- VLAN ID must be enabled per AP or FlexConnect Group



# FlexConnect AAA VLAN Override

## Configuration

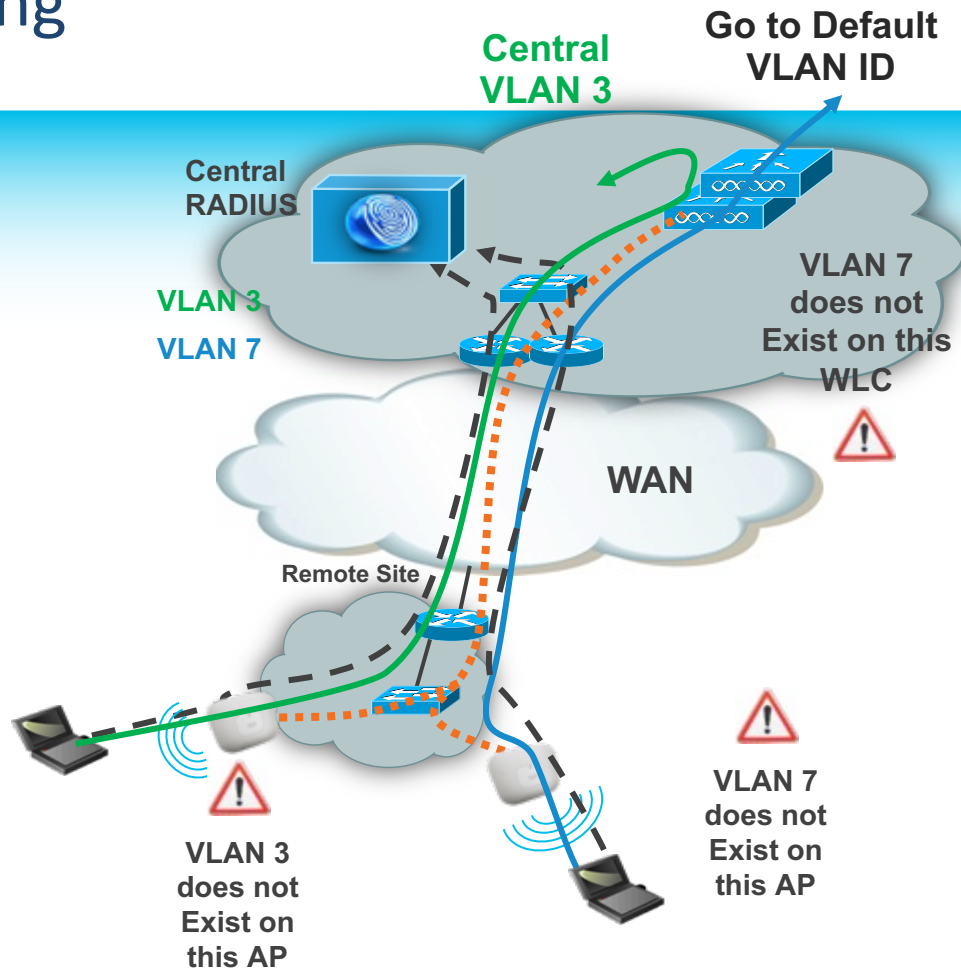




# VLAN Based Central Switching

## Overview

- While doing AAA VLAN Override with local switching:
- If VLAN ID does not exist at the AP, the traffic is central switched to the central VLAN ID
- If the central VLAN ID does not exist, the traffic is centrally switched to the default VLAN ID of the WLAN / Policy Profile



# VLAN Based Central Switching

- This can be enabled on the Policy Profile
- Enable AAA Override
- Enable VLAN Central switching

**Edit Policy Profile**

IPv4 DHCP Required ☐

DHCP Server IP Address

[Show more >>>](#)

**AAA Policy**

Allow AAA Override ☒

NAC State ☐

Policy Name

Accounting List

**WLAN Flex Policy**

VLAN Central Switching ☒

Split MAC ACL

**Air Time Fairness Policies**

2.4 GHz Policy

5 GHz Policy

**EoGRE Tunnel Profiles**

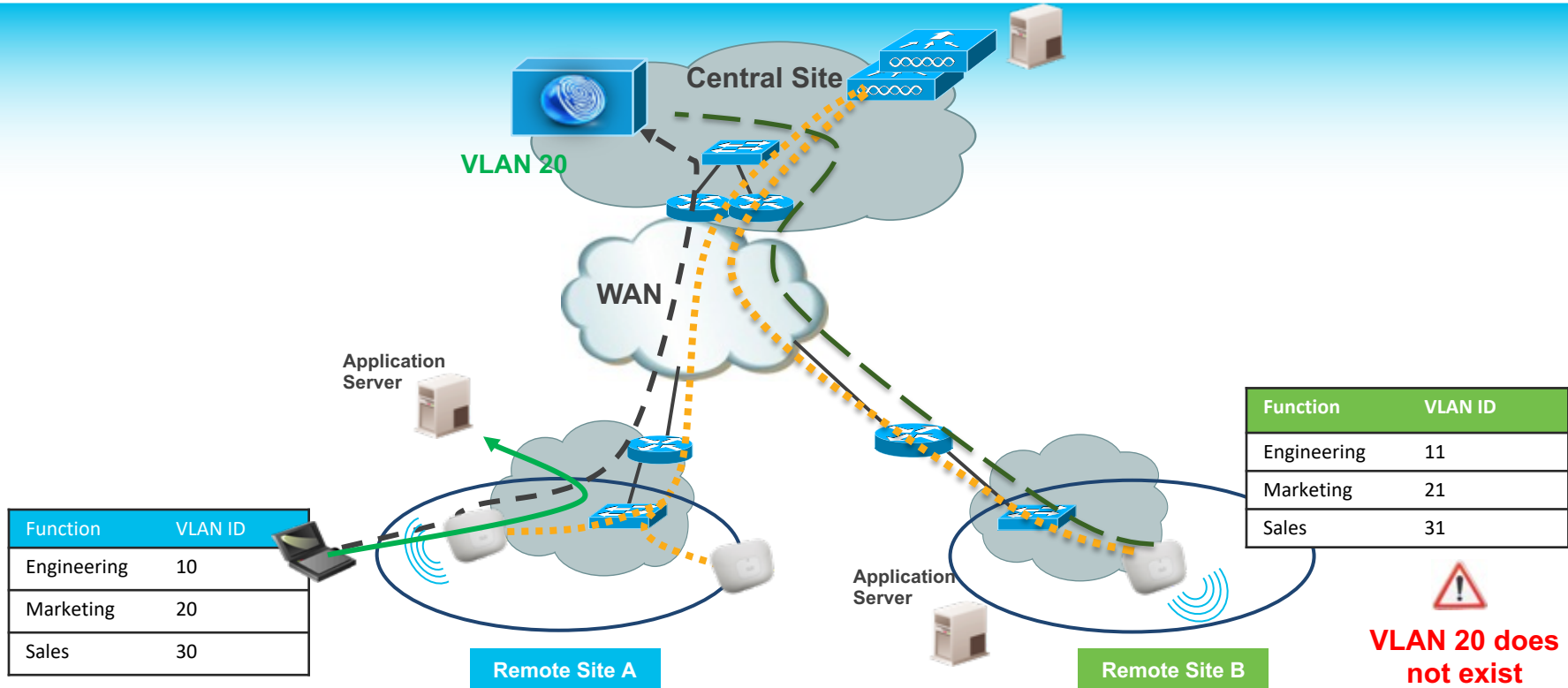
Tunnel Profile

[Clear](#)

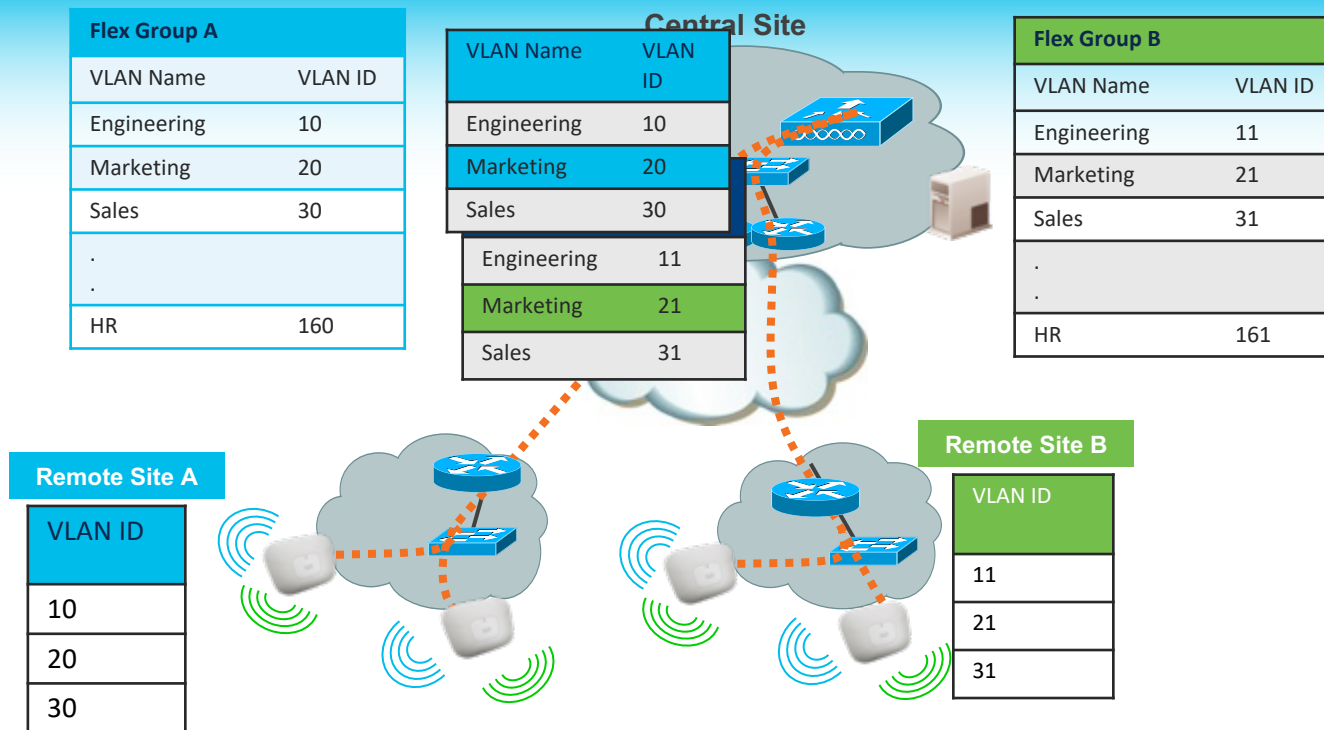
[Cancel](#) [Update & Apply to Device](#)

# AAA Override Deployment Scenario

Problem Statement – Map clients to specific vlans based on their function

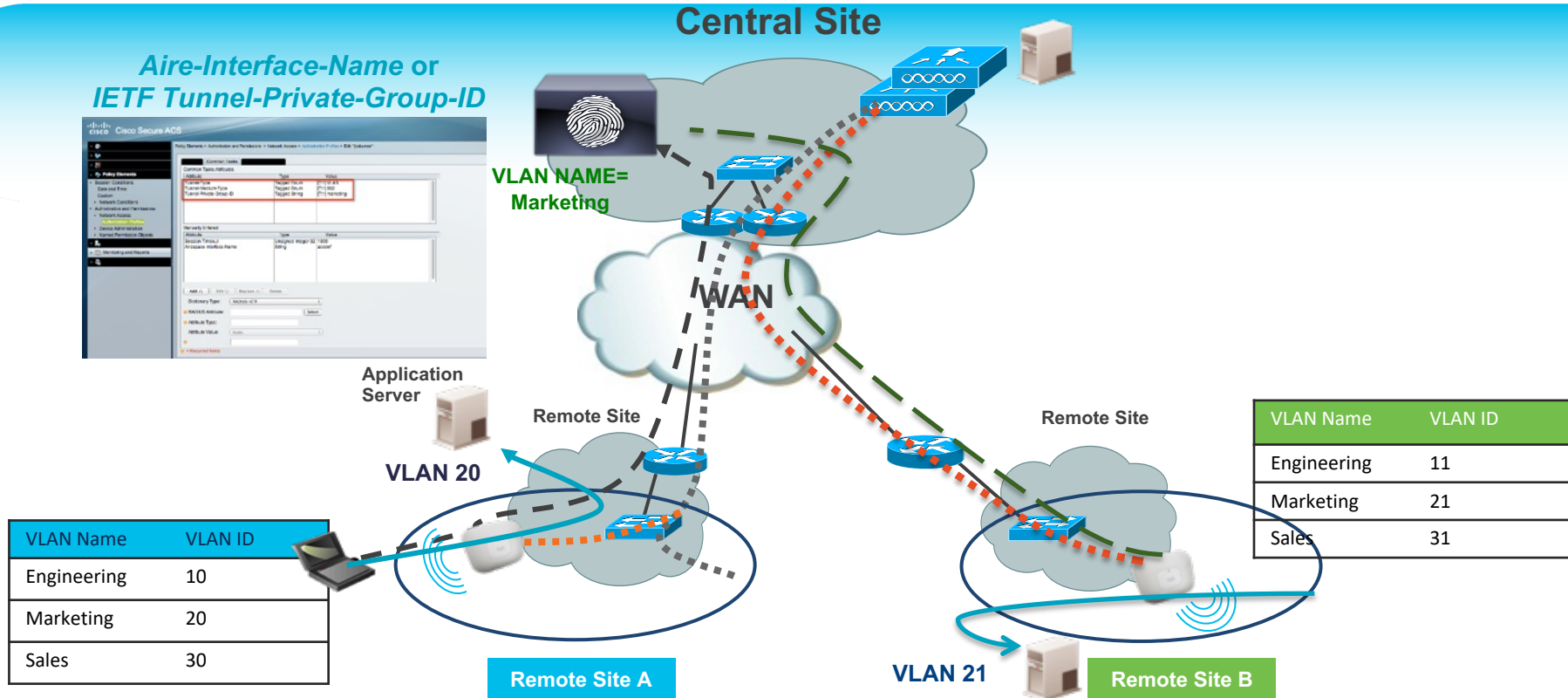


# VLAN Name Mapping at FlexConnect Group /Profile





# VLAN Name AAA Override - Solution





# FlexConnect Access-Control (ACL)

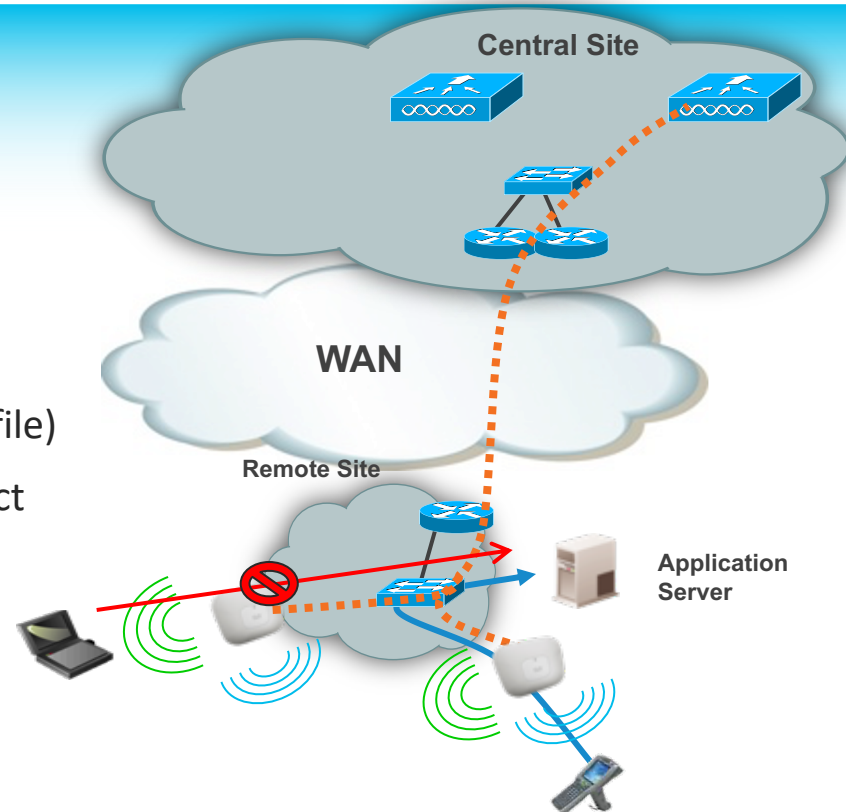
# FlexConnect ACL

## Overview

1. Download ACL on to AP

2. Apply ACL on AP

- ACL can be applied on WLAN (configured on Policy Profile)
- ACL can be applied on a VLAN (configured in flex connect profile)
- FlexConnect ACL support AAA-returned Client ACL



# Create Access Lists

## Configuration – Create IPv4 or Ipv6 ACL on WLC

The screenshot displays the Cisco Embedded Wireless Controller (WLC) configuration interface. The left sidebar shows the navigation menu with the following items: Dashboard, Monitoring, Configuration (highlighted with a red box and a red circle 1), Administration, Licensing, and Troubleshooting. The main content area shows the configuration path: Configuration > Security > ACL. The 'Add' button is highlighted with a red box and a red circle 3. The 'Edit ACL' dialog box is open, showing the following fields: ACL Name\* (WA-v4-int-54.235.122, highlighted with a red box and a red circle 4), ACL Type (IPv4 Extended, highlighted with a red box and a red circle 5), Rules (Sequence\*, Source Type, Destination Type, Protocol, Log), and a table of rules.

Configuration > Security > ACL

+ Add - Delete Associate Interfaces

Edit ACL

ACL Name\* 4 WA-v4-int-54.235.122 ACL Type IPv4 Extended 5

Rules

Sequence\* Source Type Destination Type Protocol Log

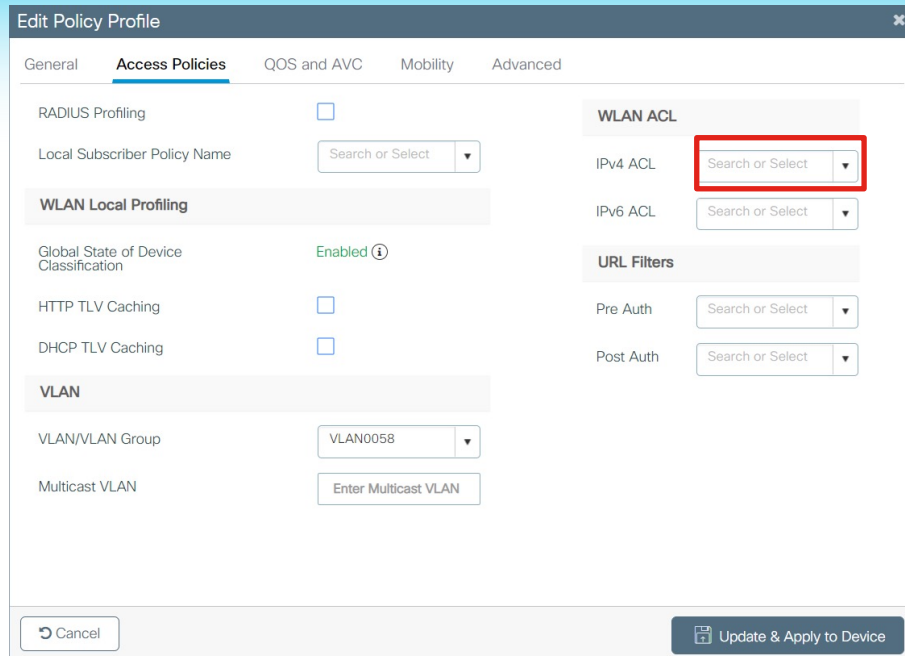
Action permit

DSCP None

Sequence	Action	Source IP	Source Wildcard	Destination IP	Destination Wildcard	Protocol	Source Port	Destination Port	DSCP	Log
10	deny	any		54.235.122.137		tcp		eq www	None	Disabled
20	deny	any		54.235.122.137		tcp		eq 443	None	Disabled
30	permit	any		any		tcp		eq www	None	Disabled
40	permit	any		any		tcp		eq 443	None	Disabled

# ACL – Policy Profile Mapping

- Configuration – Map it to the Policy Profile
- For the ACL to be applied the ACL needs to be downloaded to AP
- Any ACL mapped to Policy Profile mapped to wlan in the policy tag will be downloaded to AP Automatically



The screenshot displays the 'Edit Policy Profile' interface with the 'Access Policies' tab selected. The configuration is organized into several sections:

- General:** Includes 'RADIUS Profiling' (disabled), 'Local Subscriber Policy Name' (Search or Select), 'WLAN Local Profiling' (disabled), 'Global State of Device Classification' (Enabled), 'HTTP TLV Caching' (disabled), 'DHCP TLV Caching' (disabled), and 'VLAN' (VLAN/VLAN Group: VLAN0058, Multicast VLAN: Enter Multicast VLAN).
- WLAN ACL:** This section is highlighted with a red box. It contains 'IPv4 ACL' (Search or Select) and 'IPv6 ACL' (Search or Select).
- URL Filters:** Contains 'Pre Auth' (Search or Select) and 'Post Auth' (Search or Select).

At the bottom, there are 'Cancel' and 'Update & Apply to Device' buttons.

# ACL – VLAN Mapping

- Configuration – Map it to the Flex Connect Profile on
- For the ACL to be applied the ACL needs to be downloaded to AP
- Any ACL mapped to VLANs on Flex connect profile will be downloaded to AP's in the flex connect profile Automatically

The screenshot shows the 'Edit Flex Profile' window with the 'VLAN' tab selected. The 'VLAN Name' is 'VLAN058' and the 'VLAN Id' is '58'. The 'ACL Name' dropdown is open, showing a list of ACLs. The 'Add' button is highlighted with a red box.

VLAN Name	ID	ACL Name
VLAN058	58	

10 items per page  
1 - 1 of 1 items

VLAN Name\* VLAN058  
VLAN Id\* 58  
ACL Name Select ACL

Output-Acl-  
CAPWAP-C  
DNAC\_ACL\_WEBAUTI  
IP-Adm-V4-Int-  
ACL-global  
IP-Adm-V4-  
LOGOUT-ACL  
implicit\_deny

Save Cancel

Cancel Update & Apply to Device

# Policy ACL

- For a AAA Override ACL to work on an AP in Flex Connect , the ACL should present on AP
- The ACL is Provisioned on AP using the Flex Connect Profile
- This is done as part of Policy ACL configuration on Flex Profile
- MAP the ACL and optionally any PreAuth FQDN Filters as well to be downloaded to the AP
- If the ACL Used is a WebAuth ACL that is returned by AAA Check the “Central Web Auth”
- Central Web Auth indicates that deny to be used for redirect and Permit to Allow

Edit Flex Profile

General Local Authentication **Policy ACL** VLAN Umbrella

+ Add - Delete

ACL Name	Central Web Auth	Pre Auth URL Filter
No items to display		

10 items per page

ACL Name\* WA-sec-54.235.122

Central Web Auth ☐

Pre Auth URL Filter fqdn-uri

Save Cancel

Cancel Update & Apply to Device





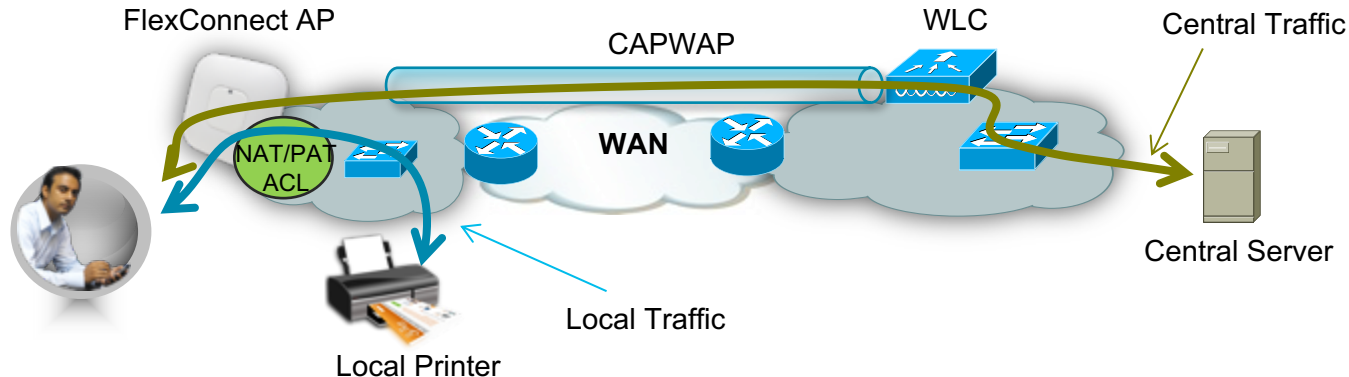
# FlexConnect Split Tunneling (Using FlexConnect Split ACL)



# FlexConnect ACL – Split Tunneling

## Overview

- Split tunneling allow some traffic to be locally switched although the WLAN is defined as centrally switched
- Split tunneling is using a NAT/PAT feature with ACL to perform the local switching
- Split tunneling is using the AP IP @ for the NAT/PAT feature



# FlexConnect ACL – Split Tunneling

## Configuration

- Create a centrally switched WLAN in policy Profile along with Central DHCP
- DHCP Required should be enabled
- Attach ACL in Policy Profile to match traffic to be locally switched
- Traffic Permitted will be switched locally
- Traffic Denied in ACL will be Switched Centrally

The screenshot shows the 'Edit Policy Profile' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Name' field is 'NewJersey\_WLANID\_9' and the 'Description' is 'NewJersey\_NJ-Corp'. The 'Status' is 'ENABLED'. Under 'CTS Policy', 'Inline Tagging' and 'SGACL Enforcement' are unchecked, and 'Default SGT' is '2-65519'. Under 'WLAN Switching Policy', 'Central Switching', 'Central Authentication', 'Central DHCP', and 'Central Association' are all 'ENABLED', while 'Flex NAT/PAT' is 'DISABLED'. A warning message at the top states: 'Configuring in enabled state will result in loss of connectivity for clients associated with this profile.'

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced' tab of the configuration interface. Under 'Flex DHCP Option for DNS', 'Flex DHCP Option for DNS' is 'ENABLED' and 'DNS Traffic Redirect' is 'IGNORE'. Under 'WLAN Flex Policy', 'VLAN Central Switching' is unchecked. Under 'Split MAC ACL', the dropdown menu is set to 'SplitMacAcl'. Under 'Air Time Fairness Policies', '2.4 GHz Policy' and '5 GHz Policy' are both set to 'Search or Select'. Under 'EoGRE Tunnel Profiles', the 'Tunnel Profile' is set to 'Search or Select'.



# Влияние WAN каналов на работу БЛВС

# Flex Connect Design Considerations

## WAN Limitation Apply



Deployment Type	WAN Bandwidth (Min)	WAN RTT Latency (Max)	Max APs per Branch	Max Clients per Branch
<b>Data</b>	64 kbps	300 ms	5	25
<b>Data</b>	640 kbps	300 ms	50	1000
<b>Data</b>	1.44 Mbps	1 sec	50	1000
<b>Data+Voice</b>	128 kbps	100 ms	5	25
<b>Data+Voice</b>	1.44 Mbps	100 ms	50	1000
<b>Monitor</b>	64 kbps	2 sec	5	N/A
<b>Monitor</b>	640 kbps	2 sec	50	N/A

**It is highly recommended that the minimum bandwidth restriction remains 24 Kbps per AP with the round trip latency no greater than 300 ms for data deployments and 100 ms for Data + Voice deployments.**

# Upgrading a FlexConnect Deployment

## Concerns

- Sites using FlexConnect AP are usually sites with low WAN bandwidth
- Each site may have small number of AP, but an enterprise may have a lot of branches
- Upgrading ~6000 AP through a low bandwidth WAN is a challenge :
  - Time needed to download all the AP firmware
  - Exhaust of the WAN link
  - Risk of failures during the download

**Goal is to minimize downloads over WAN**

# Efficient AP join (enabled by default) in flex connect profile

## Feature

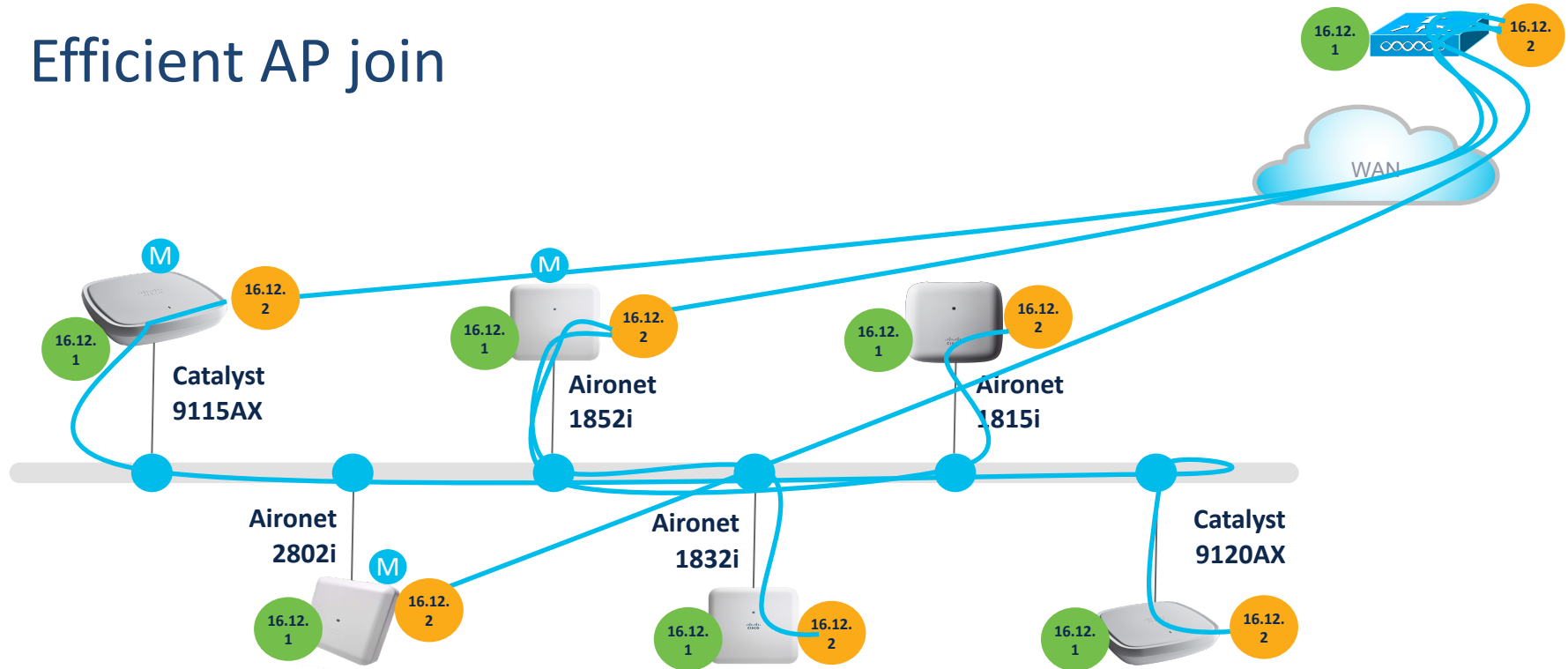
- Enables an CAPWAP to download the code from another AP in the network as long as **it is of the same AP family.**
- For example, If you add a 9120AX and a 9115AX is present, code will be downloaded from the 9115AX
- This feature minimizes the data sent on WAN at the time of AP join or AP Image Pre-download
- WLC elects a master AP in each FlexConnect Group for each Model /Type

## Supported AP models

- Supported on **all** 802.11ax and 802.11ac Wave 2 APs (indoor and outdoor)
- AP families sharing the same image:
  - ap3g3: Aironet® 4800, 3800, 2800, 1560 Series
  - ap1g5: Aironet 1815i, 1815w, 1815m, 1540, 1840 Series
  - ap1g4: Aironet 1852, 1832
  - ap1g7: Catalyst 9115AX, 9120AX Series
  - ap1g6: Catalyst 9117AX Series
  - ap1g6a: Catalyst 9130AX Series

Not supported on Wave 1 APs

# Efficient AP join



Works for all 802.11ax and 802.11ac Wave 2 APs



# FlexConnect Efficient AP Image Upgrade

Edit Flex Profile

General

Local Authentication

Policy ACL

VLAN

Umbrella

Name\*

default-flex-profile

Description

default flex profile

Native VLAN ID

1

HTTP Proxy Port

0

HTTP-Proxy IP Address

0.0.0.0

CTS Policy

Inline Tagging

SGACL Enforcement

CTS Profile Name

default-sxp-profile

Fallback Radio Shut

Flex Resilient

ARP Caching

Efficient Image Upgrade

Office Extend AP

Join Minimum Latency

Cancel

Update & Apply to Device

# Рекомендации

# FlexConnect Best Practices

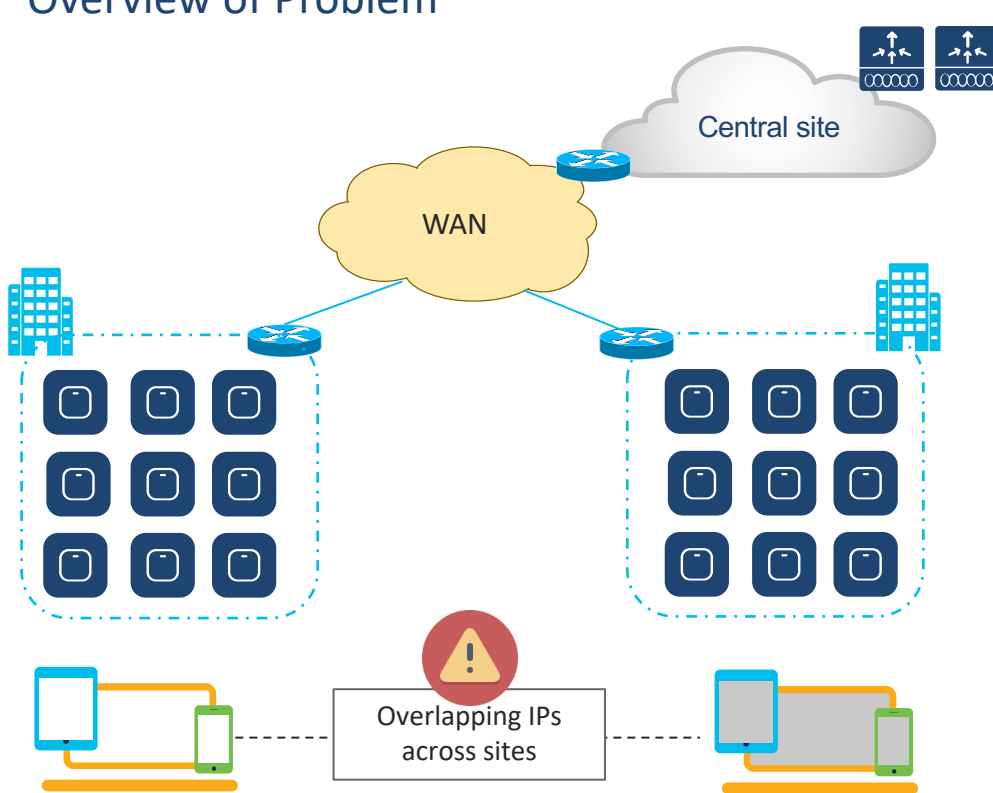
- Enable FlexConnect Profile
- 802.11r/CCKM/OKC Key sharing for Voice deployments
- VLAN Support and configure Native VLAN at Group
- VLAN-WLAN Mappings at FlexConnect Profile
- VLAN Name override
- Consistent configuration across Primary and Backup WLCs
- Design for Resiliency
- Enable Efficient AP Image Upgrade



# FlexConnect IOS-XE Enhancements

# Overlapping IP across Flex sites

## Overview of Problem

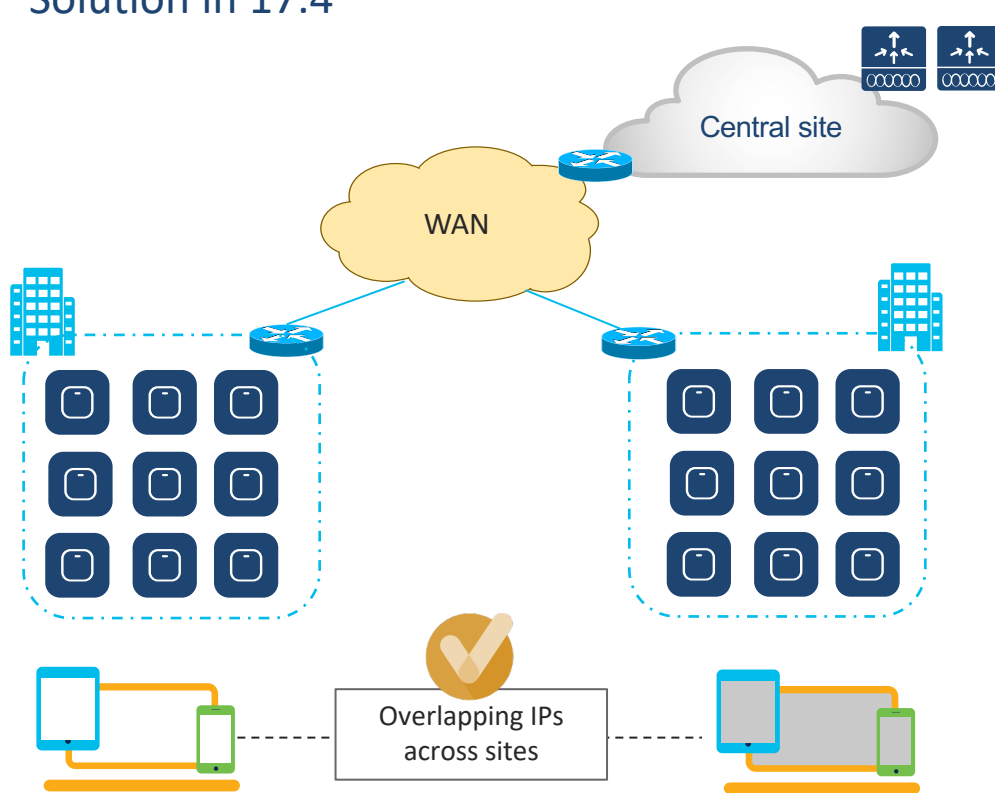


IP THEFT ALERT

- Multiple customers tend to use cookie cutter configuration across the sites and branches
- This includes local or DHCP servers configured with the same subnet
- Prior to 17.4, controller detected this is IP THEFT and clients would be blacklisted.

# Overlapping IP across Flex sites

## Solution in 17.4



- Release 17.4 adds support for **overlapping IP addresses** across different flex sites
- For this to work, every site needs to be assigned to a unique site-tag > C9800 uses the combination of site-tag + IP address as a unique ID for the client (called zone-id)
- **Important:** this is only available for Flex local DHCP/ local switching; for all other deployments (local mode, central switching, central DHCP, etc.), overlapping IPs are still not supported
- **Supported on all C9800 appliances** (physical and virtual). Not supported on EWC on Catalyst AP and Catalyst 9k switch because these are meant for single site deployments.

# Configuration – IP Overlap

```
(config)#wireless profile flex flex1  
(config-wireless-flex-profile)#ip overlap
```

- Following configuration should be done to enable/disable feature.
- Flex local switching mode should also be enabled.





# FlexConnect and Umbrella

# Flexconnect - Umbrella

- Policy Profile
- Flex Profile – Enable Umbrella for Flex

### Edit Flex Profile

General Local Authentication Policy ACL VLAN **Umbrella**

[+ Add](#) [× Delete](#)

Parameter Map Name

☒ global

10 items per page

1 - 1 of 1 items

### Edit Policy Profile

General Access Policies QOS and AVC Mobility **Advanced**

**WLAN Timeout**

Session Timeout (sec) 1800

Idle Timeout (sec) 300

Idle Threshold (bytes) 0

Client Exclusion Timeout (sec) ☒ 60

Guest LAN Session Timeout ☐

**DHCP**

IPv4 DHCP Required ☐

DHCP Server IP Address

[Show more >>>](#)

**AAA Policy**

Allow AAA Override ☐

NAC State ☐

Policy Name default-aaa-policy x

Accounting List Search or Select

**WGB Parameters**

Broadcast Tagging ☐

WGB VLAN ☐

**Fabric Profile** ☐ Search or Select

mDNS Service Policy default-mdns-service Clear

Hotspot Server OpenRoamingAWS Clear

**User Defined (Private) Network**

Status ☐

Drop Unicast ☐

**Umbrella**

Umbrella Parameter Map Not Configured Clear

Flex DHCP Option for DNS ☒ DISABLED

Flex DNS Traffic Redirect **FORCE** ☒

**WLAN Flex Policy**

VLAN Central Switching ☐

Split MAC ACL Search or Select

**Air Time Fairness Policies**

2.4 GHz Policy Search or Select

5 GHz Policy Search or Select

**EoGRE Tunnel Profiles**

Tunnel Profile Search or Select

[Cancel](#) [Update & Apply to Device](#)

# Заключение

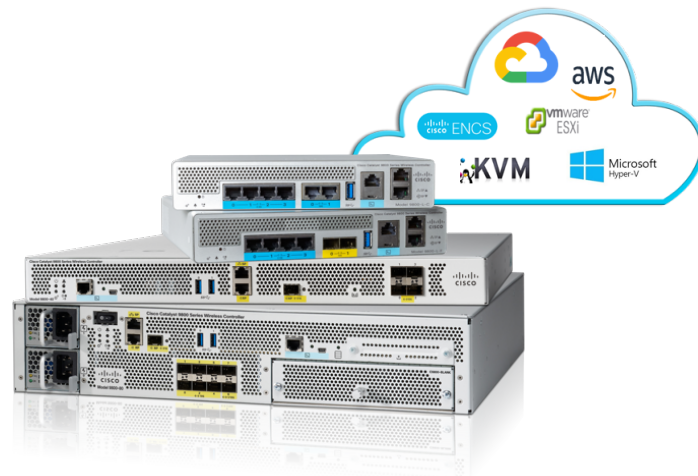
# Что нужно запомнить

Определите лучший для себя вариант внедрения филиальной сети

Максимум 100 ТД на Site Tag

Не забывайте о High Availability

Используйте сегментацию где требуется



# Полезные ссылки



[Design and Deployment of Wireless for Branch and Remote Offices – BRKEWN-2016](#)



[Campus LAN and WLAN Solution Design CVD](#)

[C9800 Release Notes](#)

[C9800 Configuration Guides](#)

[C9800 Technical References](#)

[C9800 Configuration Examples and Tech Notes](#)

[C9800 Command References](#)

[C9800 Deployment Best Practices](#)

[C9800 WLC Configuration Model](#)

[WLC Configuration Converter](#)

[WLC Compatibility Matrix](#)

[AireOS to IOS-XE Command Mapping](#)

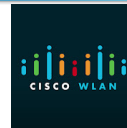
[AireOS to C9800 Wireless Controller Feature Comparison Matrix](#)

[Understand FlexConnect on a 9800 WLC](#)

[Cisco Learning Partners](#)



[Cisco WLAN YouTube Channel](#)





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