Simplifying Management of Cisco Intelligent WAN

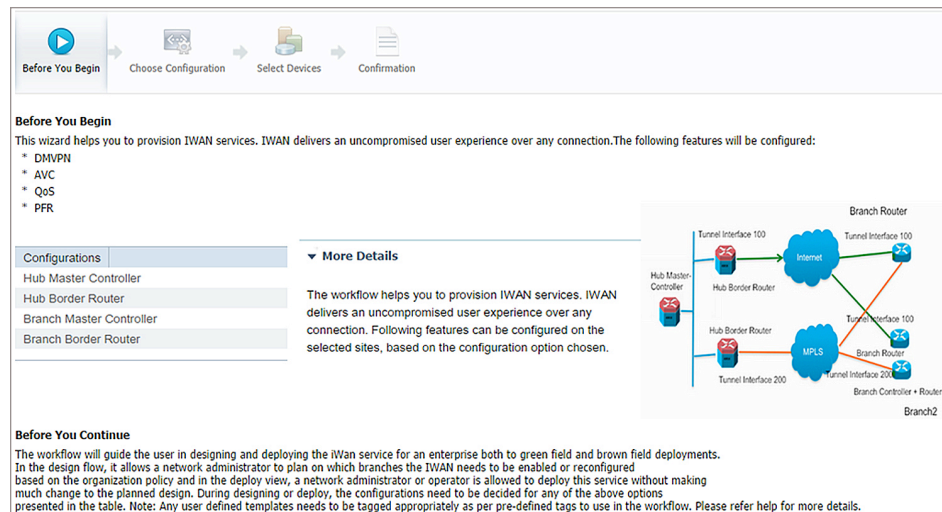**CISCO PRIME INFRASTRUCTURE 2.2**

Overview

For WAN managers continually balancing the need for business agility, the growing demand for more bandwidth, and the costs of the WAN itself, there's Cisco® Intelligent WAN (IWAN). Cisco IWAN helps you get the most from your existing WAN and Internet connections. It dynamically routes traffic based on application, endpoint, and network conditions, offloading best-effort traffic from your premium WAN connections to the lower-cost Internet. With Cisco IWAN, you can reduce cost without compromising service quality.

Realizing maximum value from Cisco IWAN begins with Cisco Prime® Infrastructure 2.2. Cisco Prime Infrastructure drives automation and best practices that make IWAN deployments fast and easy, from setting up branch devices and IWAN services to automatically managing and monitoring them.

With Cisco Prime Infrastructure, you can eliminate tedious manual WAN configuration and monitoring. Deployments that would typically take you weeks or even months can now be completed in hours. There's no need to learn how to manually configure a complex set of protocols and then push configurations one-by-one to dozens, perhaps thousands, of devices and branches. You no longer have to use the command-line interface (CLI) to tell network devices which traffic can go through the Internet and which to the WAN. And then you can monitor what's going on with 360-degree visibility.

**Figure 1.** Provisioning Wizard for IWAN Services

Spotlight on Cisco IWAN Management Capabilities

Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2 provides new and enhanced capabilities that accelerate IWAN deployment, optimize WAN performance, and simplify day-to-day management. These include:

- **Configuration workflow:** Cisco has distilled its vast expertise in WAN design and configuration into a guided workflow with embedded best practices based on Cisco-validated designs. In this workflow you'll be able to enable Dynamic Multipoint VPN (DMVPN), Performance Routing (PfRv3), quality of service (QoS), and Application Visibility and Control (AVC), both for the branch and hub. After the administrator sets the particulars for each device, the workflow pushes configuration images to all devices at the same time. Get fast time to value when rolling out your Cisco branch devices and IWAN services.

Figure 2. Configuring DMVPN
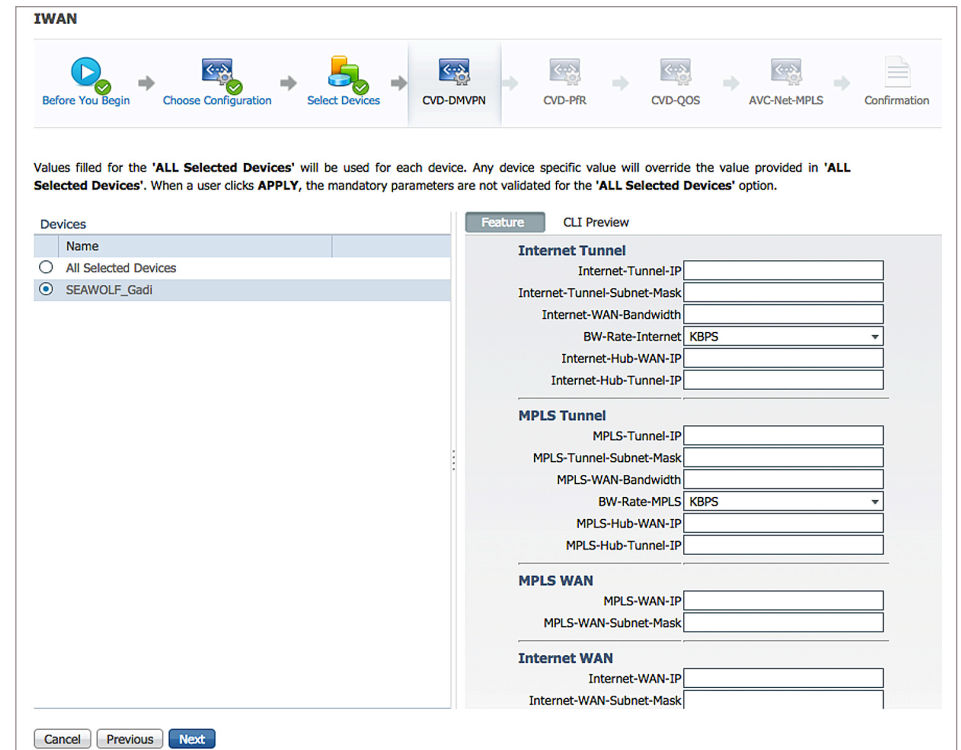
- **QoS configuration and monitoring:** QoS prioritizes, marks, and shapes application flows to keep everything running smoothly. Yet many organizations haven't tapped the full advantages of QoS because of its inherent complexity. The new QoS management capabilities in Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2 hide that complexity. It automatically translates policies into configurations without requiring advanced skill sets or CLI intervention from your team. Its real-time monitoring capabilities help you ensure that applications are performing as expected.

Figure 3. Speeding QoS Troubleshooting: Details of Queue Drops per Class

- **Cisco AVC work center:** Cisco AVC brings application awareness to Cisco IWAN, providing application recognition and performance metrics built in to the branch device. Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2 delivers powerful tools for global AVC configuration and data visualization, simplifying and enhancing AVC management. The new Cisco AVC work center discovers and classifies the hardware and software readiness of your devices. Then with one click, you can send updated software images to multiple devices in all branch offices.
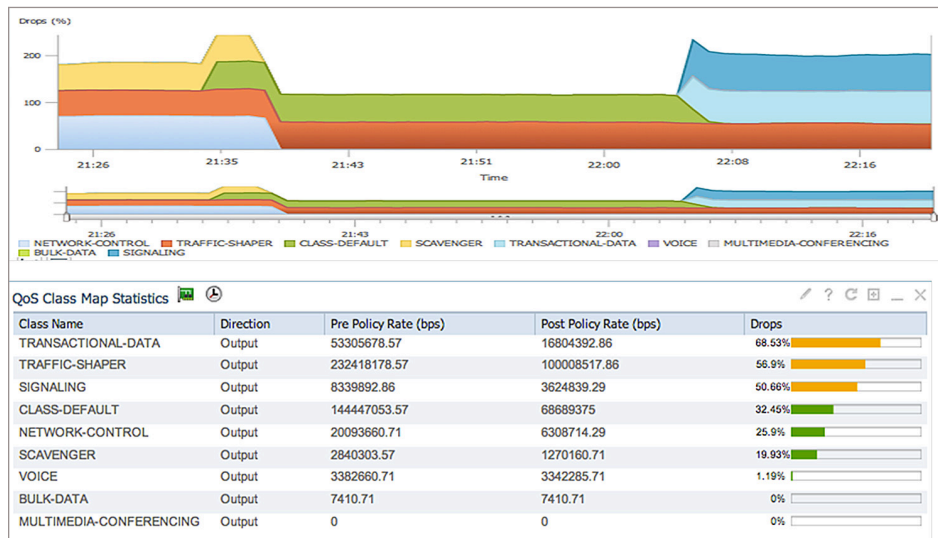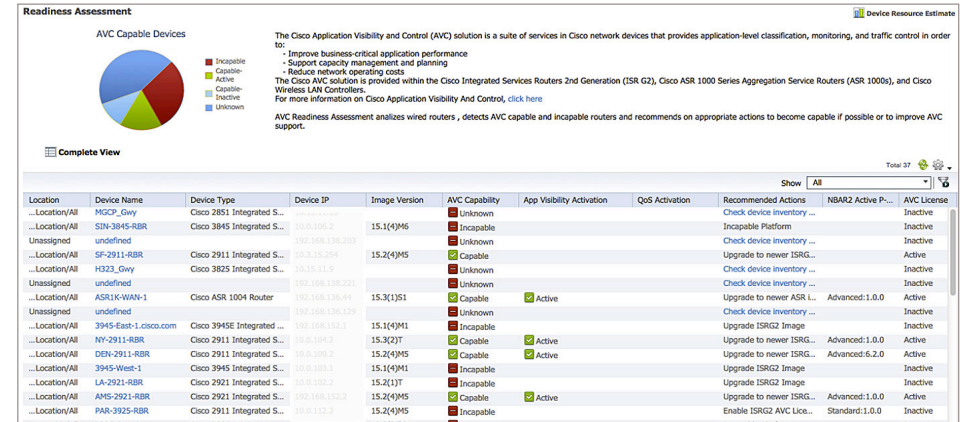
Figure 4. Cisco AVC Readiness Assessment

- **NBAR2 Protocol Pack management:** An integral component of the Cisco AVC solution, Network Based Application Recognition 2 (NBAR2) performs deep packet inspection to recognize and classify applications. The NBAR2 Protocol Packs let you update your routers with the latest set of application definitions without waiting for the next platform release, and Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2 lets you automate Protocol Pack deployment.

Why Cisco?

What if you could manage your entire network, including both your wired and wireless infrastructure, data center, WAN, and campus with one management console? In fact, that's the idea driving Cisco Prime Infrastructure. It delivers comprehensive lifecycle management – One Management – and network assurance visibility – One Assurance – from the end-user to the application. With one view and control point, you can manage your entire network. And now, the introduction of Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2 makes network management simpler and faster than ever.

Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2 delivers what you need to manage Cisco IWAN, the industry's most advanced and efficient WAN solution. Cisco is the only vendor that allows you to manage both Cisco IWAN devices and services, as well as monitor the end-user experience, using a single pane of glass. It simplifies your ongoing balancing act of delivering consistent application performance while saving time and money.

For More Information

Cisco Prime Infrastructure

Cisco Intelligent WAN