



# IPSec Pairwise Keys Overview

*Table 1: Feature History*

Feature Name	Release Information	Description
Secure Communication Using Pairwise IPsec Keys	Cisco IOS XE SD-WAN Release 16.12.1b	This feature allows private pairwise IPsec session keys to be created and installed for secure communication between IPsec devices and its peers.

IPSec Pairwise Keys feature implements controller-based key exchange protocol between device and controller.

Controller-based key exchange protocol is used to create a Gateway-to-Gateway VPN (RFC7018) in either a Full-Mesh Topology or Dynamic Full-Mesh Topology.

The network devices set up a protected control-plane connection to the controller. The controller distributes policies to network devices, which enables the network devices to communicate with each other through a secure data plane.

A pair of IPsec session keys (one encryption key and one decryption key) are configured per pair of local and remote Transport Locations (TLOC).

- [Supported Platforms, on page 1](#)
- [Pairwise Keys , on page 2](#)
- [IPsec Security Association Rekey, on page 2](#)
- [Configure IPsec Pairwise Keys, on page 2](#)

## Supported Platforms

The following platforms are supported for IPsec Pairwise Keys feature:

- Cisco IOS XE SD-WAN devices
- Cisco vEdge devices

## Pairwise Keys

Key exchange method combined with authentication policies facilitate pairwise key creation between two network devices. A controller is used to distribute keying material and policies between network devices, resulting in the devices generating private pairwise keys with each other.

IPSec devices share public values from Diffie-Hellman (DH) algorithm with the controllers. The controllers relay the DH public values to authorized peers of the IPsec, device as defined by a centralized policy.

Network devices create and install private pairwise IPsec session keys to be used to secure communications with their peers.

## IPsec Security Association Rekey

Every rekeying IPsec device generates a new DH pair and generates new IPsec security association pairs for each peer with which it is communicating. The new security association pairs are generated as a combination of the new DH private value and the DH public value of each peer. The IPsec device distributes the new DH public value to the Controller, which forwards it to its authorized peers. Each peer continues to transmit on the existing security association until that peer starts transmitting on the new security associations.

During a simultaneous rekey up to four pairs of IPsec SAs may be temporarily created, and they converge on a single new set of IPsec SAs.

Any IPsec device may initiate a rekey due to reasons such as a local time or volume-based policy, or the counter result of a cipher counter mode Initialization Vector (IV) nearing completion.

When you configure a rekey on a local inbound security association, it triggers peer outbound and inbound security association rekey. The local outbound security association rekey is initiated after the IPsec device receives the first packet with new Security Parameter Index (SPI) from peer.



---

**Note** A pairwise key edge device can form IPsec sessions with both pairwise and non-pairwise edge devices

---



---

**Note** The rekeying process requires higher control plane CPU usage, resulting in lower session scaling

---

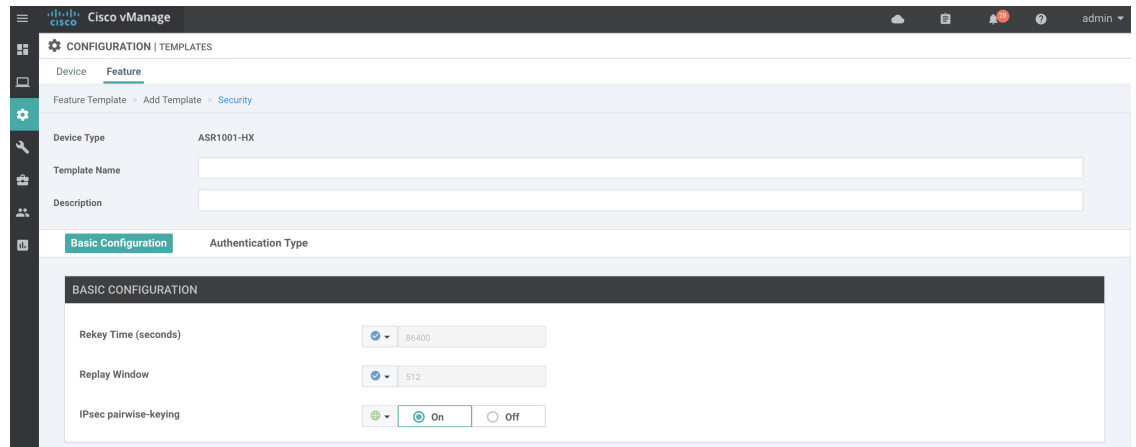
## Configure IPsec Pairwise Keys

### Configure IPsec Pairwise Keys Using vManage

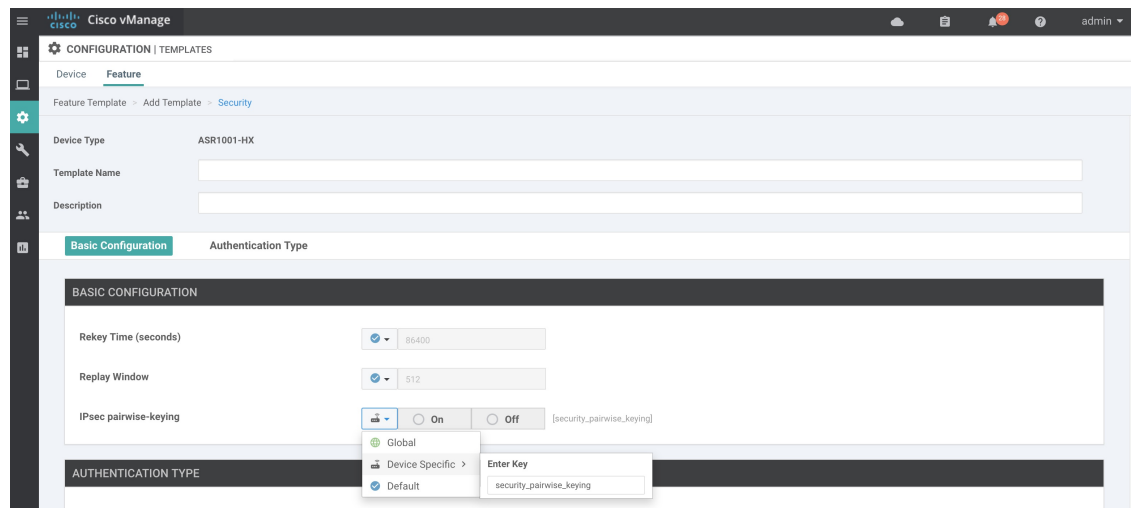
1. In vManage NMS, select the **Configuration** ► **Templates** screen.
2. In the **Feature** tab, click **Create Template**.
3. From the **Device Model** check box, select the type of device for which you are creating the template.
4. From the **Basic Information** tab, choose **Security** template.

- From the Basic Configuration tab, select On or Off from the IPsec Pairwise-Keying field..

**Figure 1: IPsec Pairwise Keying**



- Alternatively, enter the pairwise key specific to the device in the **EnterKey** field.



- Click **Save**.

## Configure Pairways Keys and Rekeying

A pair of IPsec session keys (one encryption key and one decryption key) are configured per pair of local and remote Transport Locations (TLOC).

The keys use AES-GCM-256 (AES\_256\_CBC for multicast) cipher to perform encryption. By default, a key is valid for 3600 seconds.

### Configure Pairwise Keys

Use the following command to configure pairwise keys:

```
Device(config)# security ipsec pairwise-keying
```



**Note** On Cisco IOS XE SD-WAN Devices, You must reboot the device for the pairwise keys configuration to take effect.

### Configure Rekeying for IPSec Pairwise Keys

Use the following command to configure rekeying for pairwise keys.

```
Device(config)# security ipsec pwk-sym-rekey
```

## Verify IPSec Pairwise Keys on Cisco XE SD-WAN Routers

Use the following command to verify outbound connections for Pairwise Keys:

```
Device# show sdwan ipsec pwk outbound-connections
```

SS	E-KEY	AH	REMOTE				SA	PKEY	NONCE	PKEY
SOURCE IP	Source Port	SOURCE IP	DEST	Port	LOCAL TLOC	ADDRESS	REMOTE TLOC	COLOR		
REMOTE TLOC	ADDRESS	REMOTE TLOC	COLOR	PWK-SPI	INDEX	ID	HASH	HASH	HASH	
HASH	AUTH									
10.168.11.3	12346	192.168.90.3	12346	10.1.0.2			lte			
10.1.0.1	privatel	000000	202	0	6668	17B0	F5A5			
true										
10.168.11.3	12346	192.168.92.6	12346	10.1.0.2			lte			
10.1.0.6	default	00A001	52	10	0ED6	AF12	0A09	8030		
true										
10.168.12.3	12346	192.168.90.3	12346	10.1.0.2			blue			
10.1.0.1	privatel	000000	205	0	6668	17B0	F5A5			
true										
10.168.12.3	12346	192.168.92.6	12346	10.1.0.2			blue			
10.1.0.6	default	00A001	55	10	0ED6	AF12	B9B7	BE29		
true										

Use the following command to verify inbound connection on IPSec Pairways Keys

```
Device# show sdwan ipsec pwk inbound-connections
```

DEST		LOCAL		LOCAL		SOURCE		REMOTE		REMOTE	
SA	PKEY	NONCE	PKEY	SS	D-KEY	AH	REMOTE	DEST IP			
PORT	TLOC	ADDRESS	TLOC	COLOR	PORT	TLOC	ADDRESS	TLOC	COLOR	PWK-SPI	
INDEX	ID	HASH	HASH	HASH	HASH	AUTH					
192.168.90.3	12346	5.1.0.2		lte		12346	10.168.11.3				
1	5605	70C7	17B0	F5A5	true	5.1.0.1	privatel			000000	2
192.168.92.6	12346	5.1.0.2		lte		12346	10.168.11.3				
1	5605	70C7	CCC2	C9E1	true	5.1.0.6	default			00100B	52
192.168.90.3	12346	5.1.0.2		blue		12346	10.168.12.3				
1	B9F9	5C75	17B0	F5A5	true	5.1.0.1	privatel			000000	5
192.168.92.6	12346	5.1.0.2		blue		12346	10.168.12.3				
1	B9F9	5C75	A0F8	7B6B	true	5.1.0.6	default			00100B	55

```
Device# show sdwan ipsec pwk local-sa
```

PKEY	NONCE	PKEY						SA
TLOC-ADDRESS	TLOC-COLOR	SOURCE-IP	SOURCE PORT	SPI	INDEX	ID		
5.1.0.2 70C7	lte	10.168.11.3	12346	257	6	1		5605
5.1.0.2 5C75	blue	10.168.12.3	12346	257	3	1		B9F9

```
Device# show platform hardware qfp active feature ipsec da spi
```

g_hash_idx	Flow id	QFP SA hdl	source IP dport SA ptr	sport dest IP crypto_hdl/old
1541	3	11	192.168.90.3 12346 0x312b84f0	12346 192.168.92.6
			0x0000000031fbfa80/0x0000000031fbd520	
6661	131	36	10.168.12.3 12346 0x312b9990	12346 192.168.92.6
			0x0000000031fbe380/0x0000000031fbc9a0	
7429	117	6	10.168.11.3 12346 0x312b9300	12346 192.168.92.6
			0x0000000031fbd970/0x0000000031fbb580	

	System id	Wan int	Wan ip
Yubei-cedge	5102	Gi2.xxx	Sub 10.168.xxx
Yubei-tsn	5108	Gi0/0/1	192.168.92.8
Yubei-ovld	5106	Gi0/0/0	192.168.92.6
Yubei-lng	5107	Gi0/0/0	192.168.92.7
Yubei-utah	5104	Gi0/0/0	192.168.92.4
Yubei-vedge	5101	ge0/0	192.168.90.3

Use the following command to display IPSec pairwise keys information on Cisco IOS XE SD-WAN devices:

```
Device# show sdwan security-info
```

```
security-info authentication-type "AH_SHA1_HMAC SHA1_HMAC"
security-info rekey 86400
security-info replay-window 512
security-info encryption-supported "AES_GCM_256 (and AES_256_CBC for multicast)"
security-info fips-mode Enabled
security-info pairwise-keying Enabled
```

### Debug Commands on Cisco XE SD-WAN Devices

Use the following debug commands for debugging issues related to IPSec Pairwise Keys feature:

```
debug plat soft sdwan ftm pwk [dump | log]
debug plat soft sdwan ttm pwk [dump | log]
debug plat soft sdwan vdaemon pwk [dump | log]
```

