



# Cisco TelePresence Video Communication Server

## Getting started

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# General information

## About the Cisco TelePresence Video Communication Server (Cisco VCS)

The Cisco VCS enhances the video experience and provides seamless communication between SIP and H.323 devices utilizing IETF and ITU standards. The Cisco VCS is the center of the video communication network and connects all H.323 and SIP endpoints, infrastructure, and management devices. The Cisco VCS provides unrivaled scalability and redundancy to video communications, and is integral to interoperability with unified communications and Voice over IP systems.

The Cisco VCS can be deployed with either the Control application, the Expressway™ application or the Cisco VCS Starter Pack Express application, with various optional packages including FindMe™ and Dual Network Interfaces.

# Installing the Cisco VCS

## Package contents

To avoid damage to the unit during transportation the Cisco VCS is delivered in a special shipping box, which should contain the following components:

- Cisco VCS unit
- rack ears, screws and Torx driver
- rubber feet
- cables:
  - power cables
  - Ethernet cable
  - shielded serial cable

Report any discrepancies to your Cisco representative immediately.

We recommend that the shipping box is kept in case the Cisco VCS needs to be returned.

## Before you start

**IMPORTANT:** Before installing the Cisco VCS, you must read the safety information at [www.cisco.com/go/telepresence/safety](http://www.cisco.com/go/telepresence/safety).

## Preparing the installation site

Before installing the Cisco VCS:

- Ensure that the Cisco VCS is accessible and that all cables can be easily connected.
- Ensure that the power outlet is near to the Cisco VCS and is easily accessible.
- To ensure adequate ventilation, leave a space of at least 10cm (4 inches) behind the VCS's rear panel and 10cm (4 inches) in front of the front panel.
- The room in which you install the Cisco VCS should have an ambient temperature between 0°C and 35°C (32°F and 95°F) and between 10% and 90% non-condensing relative humidity.
- Use a grounded AC power outlet for the Cisco VCS.

## Preparing the unit

1. Unpack the unit.
2. Mount the rack ears (using a Torx T10 driver) or rubber feet.
3. Turn the unit back on its feet or mount it in the rack.



If this product is mounted in a rack you are recommended to use additional support accessories such as rack side support angles (rack angle brackets) or rack shelves, due to the unit's weight and depth. Contact your rack supplier to request the accessories best suited for your rack.

## Connecting the cables

1. Connect the power cable to the back of the Cisco VCS (see Figure 1).
2. Connect the Ethernet LAN cable from the LAN1 port on the front of the Cisco VCS to your network (see Figure 2).

## Powering on the VCS

1. Turn on the power switch on the back right of the unit (adjacent to the power cable). Press the soft power button on the back left of the unit. The system will power up. Wait until:
  - the green PWR LED on the front of the unit is a steady green color (it may flash briefly during power up)
  - the red ALM LED on the front of the unit has gone out
  - the IP address is showing in the display panel on the front of the unit



If the red ALM LED flashes rapidly it indicates a hardware fault. Contact your local Cisco representative. The yellow HDD LED indicates disk activity and may flicker during normal operation, more so on a busy system.

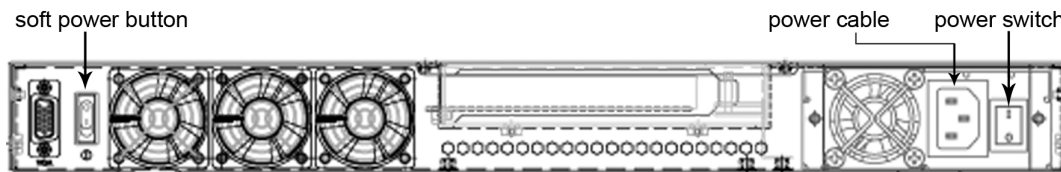


Figure 1: Cisco VCS back view

## Initial configuration

Before you can use the Cisco VCS, you must configure its IPv4 address, subnet mask and default gateway. Consult your network administrator for information on which addresses to use. Note that the Cisco VCS must use a static IP address.

This initial configuration can be done:

- by connecting from a PC to the Cisco VCS using a serial cable. This is the recommended process, and is described in the following section
- by using the buttons on the front panel (see "Configuration using the front panel" on page 8)
- if your network is set up to allow it, by connecting using a web browser to the default IP address of 192.168.0.100 (see "Using the web interface" on page 10)

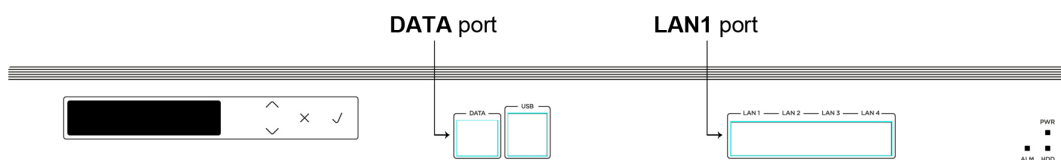


Figure 2: Cisco VCS front view

### Configuration using a serial cable

To set the initial configuration using a PC connected to the Cisco VCS **DATA** port via a serial cable:

1. Connect the Ethernet LAN cable from the **LAN1** port on the front of the unit to your network.
2. Connect the supplied serial cable from the **DATA** port on the front of the unit to the serial port on a PC.
3. Start a terminal emulator program on the PC and configure it to use the PC's serial port as follows:
  - baud rate: 115200 bits per second
  - data bits: 8
  - parity: none
  - stop bits: 1
  - flow control (hardware and software): none



Do not leave a terminal emulator session open after it is no longer in use. An open session may cause issues during a system restart.

4. Turn on the power switch on the back right of the unit (adjacent to the power cable).
5. Press the soft power button on the back left of the unit. The system will power up. Wait until:
  - the green PWR LED on the front of the unit is a steady green color (it may flash briefly during power up)
  - the red ALM LED on the front of the unit has gone out
  - the default IP address (192.168.0.100) is showing in the display panel on the front of the unit

The terminal emulator program on the PC will display the Cisco VCS's startup information. After approximately four minutes you will get the login prompt (if the Cisco VCS was already on when you connected the serial cable, press **Enter** to get the login prompt):

```
tandberg login:
```

6. Enter the username **admin** and press **Enter**.  
You will get the password prompt:

```
Password:
```

7. Enter the default password of **TANDBERG** and press **Enter**.

You will get the install wizard prompt:

```
Run install wizard [n]:
```

8. Type **y** and press **Enter**.
9. Follow the prompts given by the install wizard to specify the following:
  - the password you want to use for your admin account



For security reasons you are advised to change the password from the default of **TANDBERG**.

- whether you want to use IPv4, IPv6 or Both
- the LAN 1 IP address of the Cisco VCS
- the LAN 1 IPv4 subnet mask of the Cisco VCS (if you have selected IPv4)
- the IP default gateway of the Cisco VCS
- the Ethernet speed



Use the default value of **Auto** unless the switch to which you are connecting is unable to auto-negotiate.

- whether you want to use SSH to administer the Cisco VCS
- whether you want to use Telnet to administer the Cisco VCS

After the wizard is finished the following message will appear, and you will be prompted to log in again:

```
Setting other settings...
OK. The system must be restarted for new
settings to take effect..
```

10. Login with the username **admin** and your new password.
11. You will again get the install wizard prompt; this time select **n** and press **Enter** in order to skip the wizard.

A welcome message similar to the following will appear:

```
Welcome to
TANDBERG VCS Release X5.0
SW Release Date: 2009-09-09
OK
```

12. You must now restart the system in order for the new settings take effect. To do this, type the command:

**xCommand restart**

13. Disconnect the serial cable and store it in a safe place.

After it has rebooted, the Cisco VCS is ready to use. For security reasons you are advised to change the password for the default admin account (if you have not already done so) and the root account from the default of **TANDBERG**. See the sections "Changing the admin account password" on page 9 and "Changing the root account password" on page 9 for details.



The IP configuration made using the install wizard applies to the LAN 1 Ethernet port only. If you have enabled the LAN 2 port (by installing the Dual Network Interfaces option key) you must use the web interface or CLI to configure the LAN 2 settings.

## Configuration using the front panel

The LCD panel and buttons at the front of the Cisco VCS allow you to configure and check the IP settings as well as to reboot the system (see Figure 3). You are not recommended to perform the initial configuration using the front panel, but you may need to use this method if you do not have access to a PC and serial cable.

By default, during normal operation the front panel will show the system name (if configured) and one of the following IP address, in order of priority:

- LAN 1 IPv4 address
- LAN 1 IPv6 address
- LAN 2 IPv4 address
- LAN 2 IPv6 address

Note that if the Cisco VCS is configured with a system name or IPv6 address that is longer than 16 characters, only the last 16 characters will be shown in the panel.

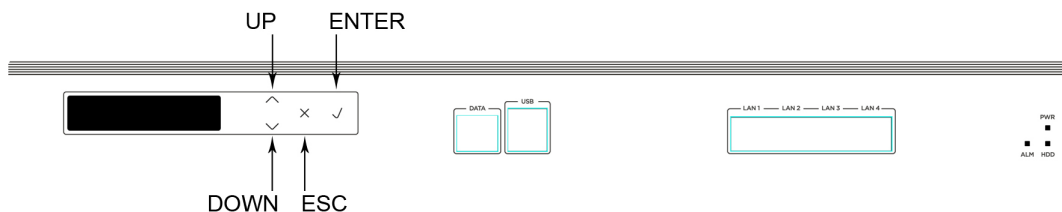
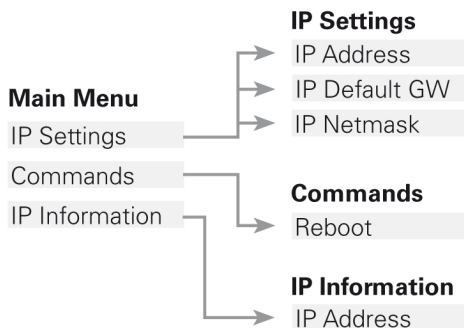


Figure 3: Cisco VCS LCD panel

To access the front panel menu options, press **ENTER**. The front panel LCD menu items are as follows:



- To navigate to a menu or submenu item, press **UP/DOWN**.
- To select a menu or submenu item, press **ENTER**.
- To produce the cursor in order to change a number, press **ENTER**.
- To move the cursor left and right between the digits of a number, press **UP/DOWN**.
- To select the digit you want to change, press **ENTER**.
- To increase or decrease the value of the digit you are changing, press **UP/DOWN**; to select the new value, press **ENTER**.
- To navigate back to the submenu or menu, press **ESC**.

Note that the IPv4 address and IPv4 subnet mask configuration made using the front panel applies to the LAN 1 port only. To configure the system's IPv6 settings and (if you have the Dual Network Interfaces option key installed) the LAN 2 settings, you must use the web interface or CLI.



## Using the Cisco VCS

After you have set the initial configuration of the Cisco VCS, the system is ready to use. You can continue to use the serial connection to access and manage the Cisco VCS, or you can connect to the system remotely over IP using either or both:

- HTTPS (see "Using the web interface" on next page)
- a command line interface via SSH or Telnet (see "Using the Command Line Interface (CLI)" on next page)



For security reasons, you should change the passwords for the admin account and the root account from the default of TANDBERG as soon as initial configuration of the Cisco VCS has been completed.

### Changing the admin account password

To change the password for the admin account using the web interface:

1. Navigate to **Maintenance > Login accounts > Administrator accounts**.  
You will be taken to the **Administrator accounts** page.
2. Click on **View/Edit** for the admin name.  
You will be taken to the **Edit administrator account** page.
3. In the **Password** and **Confirm password** fields, enter the new password, and click **Save**.

To change the password for the admin account using the CLI:

1. Type **xConfiguration SystemUnit Password**



You cannot set a blank password for the admin user or any other administrator account, or the root account.

### Changing the root account password

To change the password for the root account:

1. Using the CLI, log in as **root**.
2. Type **passwd**.  
You will be asked for the new password.
3. Enter the new password and when prompted, retype the password.
4. Type **exit** to log out of the root account.

### Other recommended configuration

You are now recommended to configure the following:

- The system name of the Cisco VCS. This is used by the Cisco TelePresence Management Suite (Cisco TMS) to identify the system. This can be set from the System administration page on the web interface (navigate to **System configuration > System**).
- Automatic discovery. If you have multiple Cisco VCSs in the same network you may want to disable automatic discovery on some of them. This can be set from the **H.323** page on the web interface (navigate to **VCS configuration > Protocols > H.323**).
- The DNS server address(es), if URI dialing or Fully Qualified Domain Names (FQDNs) are to be used. This can be set from the **DNS** page on the web interface (navigate to **System configuration > DNS**).

Refer to the Cisco VCS Administrator Guide, deployment guides and release notes (available for download from [www.tandberg.com](http://www.tandberg.com)) or the online help for complete information on configuring these and all other options available on your Cisco VCS.

## Using the web interface

To use the web interface:

1. Open a browser window and in the address line type either:
  - the IP address of the Cisco VCS
  - the FQDN of the Cisco VCSThe **Login** page will appear.
2. Select **Administrator Login**.
3. Enter a valid administrator username and password and select **Login**.  
You will be presented with the **Overview** page.

Refer to the online help or the Cisco VCS Administrator Guide for further information on the configuration options available for each page of the Cisco VCS web interface.

## Using the Command Line Interface (CLI)

The command line interface is available over SSH and through the serial port by default. Access using Telnet can also be enabled.

To use the command line interface:

1. Start a SSH or Telnet session.
2. Enter the IP address or FQDN of the Cisco VCS.
3. Login with a username of **admin** and your system password.  
You will see a welcome message.

For a full list of CLI commands available on the Cisco VCS, see the Command Reference appendix of the Cisco VCS Administrator Guide.

## Documentation and training

All Cisco VCS documentation including the Cisco VCS Administrator Guide, FindMe™ User Guide, Cisco VCS deployment guides and release notes, plus supporting documentation for other products, is available in PDF format from the Support area of our web site at [www.tandberg.com](http://www.tandberg.com). You can download and print these documents locally, if required. Our systems also have intuitive on-page help, which provides a range of useful features and tips.

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