

When a client roams from an AP to another one. How are the FDB of the switches behind the AP updated ?

- 2018-02-21 - BAT, WLC (HiLCOS)

On a L2 network, when a client roams from an AP1 to AP2 the mac address tables of the switches on the L2 LAN are automatically updated.

When the client roams and establish a new connected with AP2 then AP2 sends LLC frames on the LAN as broadcast with the MAC address of the client as source address. All the switches on the L2 LAN receive this packet and update their MAC address table consequently.

If AP and client are configured with the option ""Client Bridge Support"", the client may have several MAC address on its LAN side, these MAC addresses aren't masqueraded. When it roams the AP wsend 3 LLC frames on the LAN for each MAC address behind the client.

See attached a screenshot of the LLC frames sent by the AP on the LAN.

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+ Frame 41: 118 bytes on wire (944 bits), 118 bytes captured (944 bits)
- IEEE 802.3 Ethernet
  + Destination: Broadcast (ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff)
  + Source: SpeedDra_0c:00:0c (00:13:3b:0c:00:0c)
    Length: 104
- Logical-Link Control
  DSAP: NULL LSAP (0x00)
  IG Bit: Individual
  SSAP: NULL LSAP (0x00)
  CR Bit: Command
  + Control field: U, func=UI (0x03)
+ Data (101 bytes)
0000  ff ff ff ff ff ff 00 13 3b 0c 00 0c 00 68 00 00  ..... ;....h..
0010  03 44 65 61 72 20 73 77 69 74 63 68 65 73 2c 20  .Dear sw itches,
0020  77 65 27 64 20 6c 69 6b 65 20 74 6f 20 64 72 61  we'd lik e to dra
0030  77 20 79 6f 75 72 20 61 74 74 65 6e 74 69 6f 6e  w your a ttention
0040  20 74 6f 20 74 68 65 20 66 61 63 74 20 74 68 61  to the fact tha
0050  74 20 61 64 64 72 65 73 73 20 30 30 3a 31 33 3a  t address s 00:13:
0060  33 62 3a 30 63 3a 30 30 3a 30 63 20 68 61 73 20  3b:0c:00 :0c has
0070  6d 6f 76 65 64 2e  moved.

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