

Understanding Unknown Unicast Forwarding on EX-series Switches

Unknown unicast traffic consists of unicast packets with unknown destination MAC addresses. By default, the switch floods these unicast packets that are traveling in a VLAN to all interfaces that are members of the VLAN. Forwarding this type of traffic to interfaces on the switch can trigger a security issue. The LAN is suddenly flooded with packets, creating unnecessary traffic that leads to poor network performance or even a complete loss of network service. This is known as a traffic storm.

To prevent a storm, you can disable the flooding of unknown unicast packets to all interfaces by configuring one VLAN or all VLANs to forward and unknown unicast traffic to a specific trunk interface. This channels the unknown unicast traffic to a single interface.

- Related Topics**
- Understanding Storm Control on EX-series Switches
 - Example: Configuring Storm Control to Prevent Network Outages on EX-series Switches
 - Configuring Unknown Unicast Forwarding (CLI Procedure)

