Ixia Hawkeye + Cisco: Active Monitoring for Cisco Catalyst 9k

As the number of business-critical applications and connected devices continues to grow exponentially, networks are transforming to adapt to new challenges. Digital transformation and mass adoption of IoT are necessitating significant network modifications, with significant growth at the edge.

So, what does this mean for your network’s architecture?

You should consider doing the following:

- Adopting edge networking technology that can support large amounts of user traffic
- Creating a more dynamic network by embracing software-defined technology (SD-WAN)
- Finding ways to maintain and secure user experience with the proliferation of new applications

With its new Catalyst 9k portfolio, Cisco solutions are not only enabling new routing and switching capabilities, but also empowering customers to host third party applications.

By integrating its Hawkeye network monitoring technology with the Catalyst 9k, Ixia is enabling Cisco customers to proactively ensure quality of service (QoS) and quality of experience (QoE) at the network’s edge. With this streamlined solution, handling complex traffic engineering and ensuring excellence in customer experience has never been easier.
What Is Hawkeye?

Hawkeye — Ixia’s active network monitoring platform — puts you in control of your end users’ experience. Instead of passively waiting for an issue to occur, Hawkeye issues a persistent pulse of simulated application traffic to hardware- and software-based endpoints across your network. Not only does this let you know not only if the link is up, it also can tell you if your network is capable of supporting the applications you depend on by conducting a wide range of QoS tests, including:

- IP network SLA verification
- Site-to-site speed testing
- Mean Opinion Scores (MOS) for VOIP
- Web services
- Path discovery

Built for quick service turn-up verification and “set it and forget it” monitoring, Hawkeye endpoints can be deployed in seconds on Cisco DNA Center switches and configured to validate and troubleshoot service or continuously probe the network and alert on service degradation.

Deploying Hawkeye Endpoints on Catalyst 9k

Hawkeye certification for application hosting on Cisco Catalyst 9k enables seamless deployments of powerful network performance monitoring capability at your network’s edge. By running Hawkeye endpoints as containers, you can conduct active/synthetic network monitoring via your Cisco switches while using Hawkeye’s central console to configure devices and view test results.

Plus, with Cisco DNA Center, deployment is simple. Installing a Hawkeye endpoint on your Cisco switch can be done in just a few clicks.
Installing Hawkeye With Cisco DNA Center

The Hawkeye endpoint is available via CISCO DNA Center for easy, scalable deployment onto your switches.

Once you have selected the Hawkeye endpoint in the app, all you have to do is load the container image (found on Ixia support web site) into DNA Center. From there, you can configure and edit the application for provisioning with your selected interfaces.

Connectivity to the Hawkeye server is configured by adding `-e SERVER=<server ip address>` as a docker runtime option.

Once deployed, all functionality for monitoring and testing will be available from the Hawkeye console. However, if you prefer, you can also run the container directly via command line interface (CLI). Further instructions are available here.

With the growth of SaaS and cloud initiatives, the WAN has become a critical element of application end-user experience — especially when SD-WAN is used to supplement expensive MPLS links. Oftentimes, users fail to alert IT to application performance issues, which creates a huge drag on productivity. In response, enterprises need to be able to detect and troubleshoot these issues before they affect their end users.

Using app hosting on Cisco's Catalyst 9K switches, it's easy to use Ixia's Hawkeye endpoints to proactively test and troubleshoot potential performance problems. By deploying agents in lightweight containers, Hawkeye enables continuous and proactive end-to-end testing of remote sites. Plus, with DNA Center integration, it's never been easier to get up and running — so customers benefit more quickly than ever.

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Discover Ixia’s Network Performance Solutions

From your centralized data centers to the furthest reaches of your network’s edge, Ixia’s range of network performance products enables you to gather dynamic network intelligence.

Discover how Hawkeye and our full suite of network monitoring endpoints can make you more proactive, while our robust solutions can ensure end-to-end QoS and user experience.

Learn more at: www.ixiacom.com

For more information on Ixia products, applications, or services, please contact your local Ixia or Keysight Technologies office. The complete list is available at: www.ixiacom.com/contact/info