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Cisco WAE 7.1.2 Network Visualization Guide

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Overview

This section contains the following topics:

- Plan Files and Templates, on page 1
- Layouts and Visualization, on page 1

Plan Files and Templates

The unit of data storage that is displayed in WAE Design network plots is the *plan file*. Each plan file consists of tables that describe network characteristics, including network topology, traffic, service classes, and routing protocols. Plan files might reside on a single local device, such as a laptop, and are typically used for simulation purposes. Plan files are useful when designing greenfield networks.

A *template* is a "pattern" plan file by which all the plan files are modeled for visualization. Templates usually contain visual elements that dictate how the objects appear in the network and the canvas (background) behind it. Templates might also contains objects that are not discoverable but are of use in network simulations, such as physical circuit routes.

Layouts and Visualization

The manner in which plan files are laid out to visualize the network is called a *layout*. Each plan has a default layout. The WAE Design GUI provides tools for rearranging the topology and affecting the appearance of objects, both for newly discovered networks and for greenfield designs. With these tools you can create multiple layouts per plan file, each with its own visualization. For example, layouts can have schematic or geographic site canvases, or show specific sections of the network.

The following figure shows an example of a newly discovered network, a Design layout with a schematic canvas, and a Weathermap layout with a geographic canvas.

Figure 1: Example Network Before and After Modifying the Layout



Schematic Canvas in a Design Layout









Visualizing a WAE Network

WAE Design creates a simple default layout for newly discovered networks using one site per node, and each site name is based on the node name. Once the plan is opened in the WAE Design GUI, you typically rename and rearrange objects in the newly discovered network using a sequence of steps outlined in the following sections:

- Remove Suffixes from Node Names, on page 3
- Assign Sites to Nodes, on page 3
- Site Assignment Rules, on page 4
- Arrange Sites and Nodes, on page 8
- Set Circuit and Interface Appearance, on page 15
- Set Plot Backgrounds, on page 20
- Traffic Utilization Colors, on page 23
- Set Plot Option Defaults, on page 29

Remove Suffixes from Node Names

Node names collected from the network often have long suffixes that are the same for all nodes. The Rename Nodes tool removes suffixes from node names, making them easier to read in the plot and tables.

Step 1	Choose Initializers > Rename Nodes.
Step 2	Enter the suffix that you want to remove from the node names.
	For example, if all nodes in the network have a .mycompany.net suffix, you can remove this suffix by entering .mycompany.net .
Step 3	To also remove this suffix from sites, check the Also remove from containing sites check box.
Step 4	Click OK .

Assign Sites to Nodes

Although nodes do not have to be contained in sites, adding them to sites can simplify and improve the visualization of the network. To reorganize your network by changing the node-to-site mappings, choose

Initializers > **Assign Sites to Nodes**. For example, you would typically place all nodes in the same geographic location or point-of-presence (PoP) into a single site. You have two options:

- You can create a node-to-site association based on a simple mapping rule that applies to all nodes. This creates a temporary mapping that is not stored in the plan file.
- You can create or customize a Node-to-Site Mapping table, which uses rules to map nodes to sites based on regular expression substitutions. Because the table is stored in the plan file (as a <NodeSiteMappingRules> table), you can maintain and reuse it.

The following figure shows a network plot before and after assigning sites to nodes. Before, there were 19 sites; after, there were 13. Notice the new site names that were generated.







• To assign sites to L1 nodes, choose **Initializers** > Assign Sites to L1 Nodes when in L1 view.

Site Assignment Rules

The Assign Sites to Nodes tool assigns sites as follows:

- If a node is not in an external AS and is not a pseudo-node (PSN), WAE Design assigns nodes to sites based on the Simple Mapping Rules or on the Node-to-Site Mapping Rules, depending on what you choose in the Assign Sites to Nodes dialog box.
- If the node is in an external AS, WAE Design assigns it to a site named after the AS name. If the AS name does not exist, WAE Design assigns the node to a site named after its ASN.
- If the node is not in an external AS and it is a PSN, WAE Design assigns it to the site that contains the most nodes connected to the PSN. In case of a tie, WAE Design assigns the node to the site with the lowest lexicographic name.

Simple Mapping Rules

To create temporary node-to-site mappings that are not stored in the plan file, click the **Use simple mapping rule** radio button in the **Assign Sites to Nodes** dialog box. The mapping is created using two fields: **Node name delimiter(s)** and **Site name**.



Note

In Assign Sites to Layer 1 Nodes dialog box, the corresponding fields to map sites to L1 nodes are Layer 1 Node name delimiter(s) and Site name respectively.

• Node name delimiter(s)—WAE Design uses this field to identify which sections of the node names to use in the assignments. By default, these are a period, a hyphen, and a colon (.-:). New site names are based on the sections between these characters. For example, by default WAE Design parses the node name of acme.router into two sections: *acme* and *router*.

Node name delimiter(s):	,-:	~
Site name:	\$2	38070

- Site name—WAE Design uses this field to determine how to create the site names based on the node names. In the following list, # equals any integer.
 - \$#—Specifies the section reading left to right. For example, \$1 matches *chicago* in *chicago.isp*. Note that \$0 specifies the entire node name.
 - [#:#]—Specifies the character range reading left to right. For example, \$1[1:3] matches *chi* in *chicago.isp*.
 - \$-#—Specifies the section name reading right to left. For example, \$-1 matches jose in san.jose.
 - [-#:-#]—Specifies the character range reading right to left. For example, both \$2[-4:-1] and \$-2[-4,-1] match *jose* in *san.jose.cr1*.

Node-to-Site Mapping Rules

To create a Node-to-Site Mapping <NodeSiteMappingRules> table in the plan file, particularly for use by the template, click the Use # rules in Node-to-Site Mapping Table radio button in the Assign Sites to Nodes dialog box. An attempt is made to match the node name to expressions in the Node Matches column. If a match is found, the node is assigned to the site as defined by the corresponding Site Expression.



Note

In Assign Sites to Layer 1 Nodes dialog box, click Use # rules in L1Node-to-Site Mapping Table radio button.

The following graphical example matches cr1.lax into lax-core and er1.lax into lax-edge:

Order	Node Matches	Site Expression	
1	cr.\.(.*)*	\$1-core	28
2	er.\.(.*)*	\$1-edge	3813

The order in which these matches are attempted is defined by the Order column.

Column	Description	
Order	Identifies the order in which rules are applied.	
Node Matches	Regular expression matching the node names.	
Site Expression	Site name expression, which can use references in the Node Matches rule.	

Examples

Node Matches	Site Expression	Result
cr1.chi.isp.net	chi	Map node cr1.chi.isp.net to site chi.
.*\.(.*)*	\$1	Map node cr1.chi.isp.net to site chi as above, but also maps node cr1.okc.isp.net to site okc.
(.)\.(.*)*	\$2-\$1	Map node cr1.par.isp.net to site par-1.

Assign Sites to Nodes Dialog Box

- **Step 1** Choose one or more nodes if you want to assign sites to specific nodes. If you do not choose nodes, WAE Design assigns sites for all nodes in the plan file for that view.
- **Step 2** Do one of the following:
 - Right-click one of the selected nodes and choose Assign Sites to Nodes.
 - Choose Initializers > Assign Sites to Nodes.
- **Step 3** Choose which method of node-to-site mappings to use:
 - To use a temporary node-to-site mapping that is not stored in the plan file, click Use simple mapping rule.
 - To use a Node-to-Site Mapping table that is saved in the file, click Use # rules in Node-to-Site Mapping Table. To edit those rules, click Edit Table.
 - To add a new rule, choose an existing rule (if applicable) from the list, and then click **Insert Before** or **Insert After** to determine where the new rule goes sequentially. This opens a dialog box for adding a new rule.

Node Matches:	.*\.(.*)*	
Site Expression:	nyc	000000

- To edit an existing rule, choose it from the list and click Edit.
- To delete an existing rule, choose it from the list and click Delete.
- **Step 4** For those nodes that the node-to-site definition does not find or cannot create a matching site, you have the option to keep the nodes in their current sites (if applicable) or to remove them from sites. To keep them in their current sites, check the **Keep unmatched nodes in current sites** check box.
- **Step 5** Choose options based on whether you are in the Layer 3 or Layer 1 view, as follows.

Description	GUI Selection
 Layer 3 For nodes that are in external ASes, assign them to sites according to one of the following options: AS name, then ASN if the name is empty ASN Using the same rules as other sites 	Assign nodes in external AS's to sites with name equal to
• Choose whether to assign PSN nodes and all remaining nodes to sites with most connections.	 Assign PSN nodes to sites with most connections Assign all remaining nodes to sites with most connections
Layer 1: Choose whether to assign remaining nodes to sites with most connections.	Assign all remaining nodes to sites with most connections

- **Step 6** To verify assignments, click **Update Preview**.
- **Step 7** When you are satisfied with the mappings, click **OK**.

Assign Sites to Layer 1 Nodes Dialog Box

Step 1Choose one or more L1 nodes if you want to assign sites to specific L1 nodes. If you do not choose L1 nodes, WAE
Design assigns sites for all L1 nodes in the plan file for that view.

Step 2 Do one of the following:

- Right-click one of the selected nodes and choose Assign Sites to L1 Nodes.
- Choose Initializers > Assign Sites to L1 Nodes.

- **Step 3** Choose which method of L1 node-to-site mappings to use:
 - To use a temporary L1 node-to-site mapping that is not stored in the plan file, click Use simple mapping rule.
 - To use a L1 Node-to-Site Mapping table that is saved in the file, click Use # rules in L1Node-to-Site Mapping Table. To edit those rules, click Edit Table.
 - To add a new rule, choose an existing rule (if applicable) from the list, and then click **Insert Before** or **Insert After** to determine where the new rule goes sequentially. This opens a dialog box for adding a new rule.

Node Matches:	.*\.(.*)*	
Site Expression:	nyc	000000

- To edit an existing rule, choose it from the list and click Edit.
- To delete an existing rule, choose it from the list and click Delete.
- **Step 4** For those L1 nodes that the node-to-site definition does not find or cannot create a matching site, you have the option to keep the L1 nodes in their current sites (if applicable) or to remove them from sites. To keep them in their current sites, check the **Keep unmatched Layer 1 nodes in current sites** check box.
- **Step 5** Choose whether to assign remaining layer 1 nodes to sites with most connections.
- **Step 6** Choose whether to keep unmatched layer 1 nodes in current sites.
- **Step 7** To verify assignments, click **Update Preview**.
- **Step 8** When you are satisfied with the mappings, click **OK**.

Arrange Sites and Nodes

You can arrange sites and nodes using the following methods:

- Schematically:
 - Align sites and nodes automatically through using the Arrange palette.
 - Click and drag them to the desired location.
 - Sites: Enter values in the Screen X and Screen Y fields of a site Properties dialog box.
 - Nodes: Enter values in the X and Y fields of a node Properties dialog box.

All schematic (X and Y) properties are relevant to the network plot, not to a parent site.

- Geographically—WAE Design uses geographic longitude and latitude for calculating distances and latencies between nodes that are used in various analyses.
 - Automatically assign sites to locations by choosing **Initializers** > **Assign Locations to Sites**.
 - Click and drag them to the desired location.
 - Enter values in the Longitude and Latitude fields of a site or nodes Properties dialog box.

Helpful tips:

- Moving nodes and sites can often change the visibility of objects within a site plot. Use the Fit-to-Plot (four arrows) icon in the site plot to bring all objects into view.
- Ensure you are in the correct plot background (Schematic or Geographic) for making the type of change you want to make. If you are using a geographic background and you move an object, this changes the geographic coordinates, but not the schematic ones. Conversely, if you are using a schematic background and you move an object, this changes the schematic coordinates, but not the geographic ones. To change the schematic or geographic background, click the **Plot Options** icon on the Visualization toolbar.
- If you are using multiple layouts, arranging sites and nodes maintains the position of these sites in all layouts within the plan file. However, all changes made using the **Plot Options** dialog box are set on a per-layout basis so before making such changes, ensure you are in the correct layout.
- Topology changes, such as adding, duplicating, and deleting objects, affect simulation results. After making these types of changes, you should rerun the initializers and optimization tools if you have been using them. For example, you might want to rerun Metric Optimization to optimize the undifferentiated traffic, or if modeling an MPLS network, you might want to rerun the FRR LSPs initializer.

Assign Geographic Locations to Sites

WAE Design includes a database of worldwide city names and airport codes that identify the longitude and latitude of major cities. Using the **Initializers** > **Assign Locations to Sites** tool that accesses this database lets you quickly lay out sites within a network with geographic precision.

You can quickly assign multiple sites to these locations following these steps. Changing the geographic location of a site does not change the location of its children sites.

Note

To see the effects of geographic moves, you must be using a geographic background. To enable a geographic background, click the **Plot Options** icon on the Visualization toolbar.







Step 1	(Optional) Choose one or more sites. If you do not make a selection, a table containing airport codes for all sites is populated.
Step 2	Open the tool in one of these ways:
	• Right-click a selected site and choose Assign Location to Sites.
	Choose Initializers > Assign Locations to Sites.
Step 3	Set the longitude and latitude values using one of the following methods:
	• Enter longitude and latitude values directly into the table cells.
	• In each of these two methods, WAE Design fills in the fields with the most closely associated airport or city code in its database, thereby assigning longitude and latitude. If desired, click one or more rows from the table. If you do not choose rows, WAE Design fills in the longitude and latitude values for all sites.
	Click Best Match.
	• Press Enter. (Do not click OK.)
	• Click a cell in the table, and click All Matches . WAE Design finds all airport or city codes that might be applicable to that site or location. Choose the one you want, and click OK .
Step 4	If using an automated way of assigning locations, choose whether to match the longitude and latitude values based on the sites or on the locations.
	Match by Site name Location
	You can directly enter location information in the Location column. If you then match by site, locations might change based on the match. If you match by location, the site names do not change.
Step 5	Click OK to accept the newly assigned locations.

Initialize Site Location

As an alternative to using the **Assign Locations to Sites** initializer, you can set a location from the Properties dialog box. (For best results, use airport codes.)

		-Geographic location -		Before
		Location:	ord	
Geographic	location			After
Location:	ORD - Chicago Oha	re Intl (United	d States)	099Cat

Step 1 Right-click a site and choose **Properties**.

- **Step 2** In the Location field, enter a geographic name, such as a city, or enter an airport code.
 - To replace the location with the best match in the WAE Design database, press Enter.
 - To look up the best location, press Alt-Enter. (On a Mac, press Option-Return.) A Lookup Location dialog box opens.

WAE Design fills in the **Location** fields with the most closely associated airport or city code in its database. Choose a location and click **OK**.

Step 3 Click **OK** to accept the newly assigned location.

Align Sites and Nodes Schematically

The Arrange palette offers a number of options for aligning sites or nodes within the network plot and on a per-site basis. Although the schematic X and Y properties are in relationship to the network plot, the tools within the Arrange palette operate within the container, where the container can be the network plot or one or more sites, depending on which nodes or sites you select.



To see the effects of schematic moves, you must be using a schematic background. To enable a schematic background, click the **Plot Options** icon on the Visualization toolbar.

- **Step 1** Choose multiple nodes or sites. If the selected nodes or sites are within different parent sites, they are arranged on a site-by-site basis, if applicable.
- **Step 2** To open the Arrange palette, either right-click in an empty area of the network plot and choose **Arrange**, or click the **Arrange** icon in the Visualization toolbar.
- **Step 3** Choose objects to reposition in one of the following ways:
 - Choose sites or nodes either by selecting them individually (Shift-click) or by dragging the cursor around them. This is a good way to choose a group of objects based on location or connectivity.
 - Choose sites or nodes by selecting rows in the Sites or Nodes table. Both tables can be filtered and sorted, so this is a good way to choose a group of objects based on their name or other site properties.
- **Step 4** Arrange the selected sites or nodes.

- To arrange sites or nodes within a plot, click the desired alignment icon.
- To arrange sites or nodes within a specific boundary, set the boundary box and then click the desired icon.

A user-defined *boundary box* sets the borders within which the sites or nodes are arranged. To create a boundary box, press and hold the Ctrl key (Cmd on a Mac), click the alignment icon, and drag the cursor to form a box. When you release the Ctrl (Cmd) key, the sites or nodes are arranged to positions within that boundary box.

lcon	Description
+	Align selected objects vertically without changing their horizontal location.
	Align selected objects horizontally without changing their vertical location.
	Align selected objects vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. The objects are evenly positioned between the outermost selections. You can use boundary boxes.
ß	Scale and move objects to a new location within an area that is created by clicking-dragging the cursor to form a rectangle. Horizontal and vertical scaling is independent, so the objects can be stretched or compressed in either direction.
	Distribute to a grid determined by upper left and lower right of the selected items. You can use boundary boxes.
XX	Arrange objects in an orderly way based on connections between them. You can use boundary boxes.
3	Arrange selected objects proportional to their longitudes and latitudes, either within their original boundary box or within a new one. Any selected objects that do not contain longitudes and latitudes are arranged in an orderly way based on connections between them.

Edge Groups

Large, complex networks often contain a limited number of core sites that form the network backbone, with many edge sites that connect locally to one or more of the core sites.

- A core site contains at least one core node, and an edge site contains only edge nodes.
- An edge group is the collection of edge sites that attach to core sites in the same way. A common example of an edge group is a topology where several edge sites have redundant connections to the core sites. If each edge site has the same redundant connections to the same core sites, they are in the same edge group.

Arrange Edge Sites

The Arrange palette has special features for arranging edge sites. To access this palette, right-click in an empty area and choose **Arrange**.

Initializers > Edge Group	Description
Select	Choose all sites in all edge groups.
	• Choose all sites within an edge group, choose one site within it, and then choose this menu.
Separate	To separate one or more sites from the network, choose those sites and then choose this menu. Note this does not separate the entire edge group. It only separates the selected sites.

The following figure shows an example network with edge sites that have been arranged to separate them from the core. Both sites on the left are in the same edge group because they each have two connections to the same two core sites. The site at the top of the diagram is in a separate edge group because it has different connections to the core sites. Edge sites can have a more complex topology, because they can also connect to a core site through another edge site.

Figure 3: Example Network with Edge Groups



Define Nodes as Edge or Core

Follow these steps to define nodes as core or edge. By default, all nodes are core nodes.

Step 1 Choose one or more nodes. Typically, in a large network with hundreds of nodes, filtering to the edge nodes is the fastest way to find and choose them. For information on how to filter table entries, see the Cisco WAE Design User Guide.
 Step 2 Right-click one of the nodes and choose Properties.
 Step 3 From the Function drop-down list, choose core or edge, and click OK.

Show, Hide and Collapse Nodes or Sites

By default, nodes and sites are visible in the network plot. You can hide nodes and sites and their connecting circuits on a per-layout basis, though they still exist in the plan file and tables.

Hiding a site also hides all of its contained objects.

Nodes and sites can be grouped to build a hierarchy of sites which can be used to scale a plot that contains many objects. When a site is expanded, its contents are shown (instead of the site itself). When a site is collapsed, the site itself is shown.

То	Do This	
Hide nodes or sites	1. Choose one or more L3 or L1 nodes or sites from the plot, or choose them from their respective Nodes, L1 Nodes, or Sites table.	
	2. Right-click one of the selected objects and choose the desired option:	
	• Layout > Hide Node	
	• Layout > Hide L1 Node	
	Layout > Hide Site	
Find hidden nodes or sites	1. Use the Shown column of the Nodes table or Sites table.	
Show nodes or sites	1. Choose one or more L3 or L1 nodes or sites from their respective Nodes, L1 Nodes, or Sites table.	
	2. Right-click one of the objects and choose the desired option:	
	• Layout > Show Node	
	 Layout > Show L1 Node 	
	• Layout > Show Site	
Expand sites	1. Choose one or more sites from the Sites table.	
	2. Right-click one of the sites and choose:	
	• Layout > Expand Site	
Collapse sites	1. Choose one or more sites from the Sites table.	
	2. Right-click one of the sites and choose:	
	Layout > Collapse Site	
	Note Whether a site is expanded or collapsed can be set on a per-layout basis.	

Site Relationships to L3 and L1 Nodes

The WAE Design network plot supports the visualization of both L1 and L3 topologies. By default, sites containing L3 nodes appear in the L3 view and sites containing L1 nodes appear in the L1 view. Empty sites and sites containing both L3 and L1 nodes appear in both views. To toggle whether to show or hide sites per view based on whether they contain L3 or L1 nodes, use the **Layer 1** tab in the **Plot Options** dialog box.

L

Set and Position Display Name

By default, site and node names appear above the object; you can change this positioning. Also, rather than showing the site names, you can set a different display name that can be internationalized. The following figure shows an example of changing both for a site.

Figure 4: Example of Changing the Site Display Name and Position



То	Do This			
Set the site display name	1. Either double-click a site in the Sites table, or right-click a site and choose Properties .			
	2. Enter a name in the Display Name field, and click OK .			
Change where site names are positioned	 Right-click one or more selected sites and choose Layout > Set Site Name Position. 			
	2. Choose the direction in which you want the site name to appear in relation to the site, and click OK .			
Change where L3 and L1 node names are positioned	1. Right-click one or more selected L3 or L1 nodes and choose Layout > Set Node Name Position or Layout > Set L1 Node Name Position.			
	2. Choose the direction in which you want the node name to appear in relation to the site, and click OK .			

Set Circuit and Interface Appearance

You can change how circuits are displayed by clicking the **Plot Options** icon in the Visualization toolbar. Alternatively, choose **Edit** > **Plot** > **Plot Options** > **Edit Options**.

The Design Circuits tab has the following options:

- Circuit Width—The circuit width is based on its capacity (the higher the capacity, the wider the circuit). Using these options, you can set the minimum width and the capacity it represents, as well as how fast the width grows as the capacity grows.
- Interface Text—Lets you display the percentage of interface filled with traffic, or the interface name, IP address, IGP metric, or SID.
- Parallel Grouping—Simplifies the representation of parallel circuits into a single circuit. By default, there is no grouping.
- Show QoS Bounds—Lets you toggle on or off the display of QoS bounds, which is the maximum interface capacity available without violating the QoS requirements. The default is On. For QoS bound information, see the Cisco WAE Design User Guide.

The Other tab lets you toggle on or off the following settings:

- Show pointers to remote nodes in site plots-Whether remote node names appear in the site plot.
- Anti-aliased lines—Whether to use anti-aliased lines. Turning off this option reduces the smoothness of lines in the plot, but speeds up the plot updates on some platforms.
- Transparency effects—Whether transparency effects are used when plotting some circuits on top of others. Turning off this option speeds up the plot updates on some platforms.

Set How Parallel Circuits Appear

By default, WAE Design displays all circuits individually. For example, if you have parallel site circuits, they are displayed in a stacked manner.

To simplify the visual display of a plan, you can group parallel circuits. The grouped circuits show capacity and outbound utilization in the network plot and if applicable, in the site plots as follows. If the circuits are between sites, the utilization includes the utilization of nested interfaces, if applicable.

Weathermap Layout

Grouped Parallel Circuits Show Average Interface Utilization

Ungroupe	ed
	ans
Grouped	
lon	Ems

• The capacity of the grouped circuit is the sum of the individual circuits.

- The utilization of the grouped circuit is the average of the utilizations (weighted by capacity) of the individual circuits. The color fill of the grouped circuit shows this average.
- In the Design layout, each side of the grouped circuit is divided lengthwise into its constituent interfaces that are individually selectable. Each interface within a grouped circuit has a thin colored border showing the utilization of that interface. Each interface continues to show textual information, such as IGP metric, if enabled.



Note Parallel groupings change the visual representation of the layout, but do not affect the plan itself. If you want to actually merge parallel circuits (rather than just change the appearance), see the Cisco WAE Design User Guide.

- **Step 1** Click the **Plot Options** icon in the Visualization toolbar.
- **Step 2** Click the **Design Circuits** tab.
- **Step 3** From the **Parallel Grouping** drop-down list, choose one of the following methods:
 - None-Each parallel circuit is displayed as a separate circuit (default).
 - Node—Groups parallel circuits between two nodes.
 - Metric-Groups parallel circuits between two nodes whose interfaces have the same IGP metric.
 - Site—Groups parallel circuits between two sites.
 - SRLG—Groups parallel circuits that belong to the same SRLG.
 - Group Name—Groups circuits belonging to a user-specified group set in the **Parallel Group Name** field of the circuit **Properties** dialog box.
- **Step 4** Set the maximum display width for parallel circuits.
- Step 5 Click OK.



Figure 5: Ungrouped and Grouped Parallel Circuits by Site in a Design Layout

Set Interface Style

By default, two interfaces are represented in the plot as two sides of a full-length circuit drawn from one site to another. However, circuits connected to internal or external ASes are shortened.

This full-length model works well when the sites are close together, but if they are far apart full-length circuits can clutter the plot. You might want to display the sites as regions by shortening circuits between them.

Interfaces between the same two sites or between the same two nodes have the same interface style. If you change the style for any one of these interfaces, the style of all associated interfaces changes also.



Step 1 Choose one or more interfaces or circuits.

Step 2 Right-click one of the selections and choose **Layout** > **Set Interface Style**, and then one of the following choices:

- Full Length—The entire interface is displayed.
- Shortened—A short portion of each interface is shown attached to the node containing the outward-bound interface.
- Collapsed—The interfaces are not shown on either side of the node or site. The remote interface on the circuit does not appear.
- Default—If the circuit connects two nodes in the same internal AS, the interfaces appear as full length; if it connects two nodes in different ASes, the interfaces appear as shortened.

Curved Weathermap Circuits

Follow these steps to move and curve the circuits in a Weathermap layout.

1. Click circuit

2. Drag icon



- **Step 1** Click the circuit to see a circular pink icon.
- **Step 2** Drag the pink circle in any direction, which creates curved circuit lines.

To move circuits such that the sites or peers stay in horizontal or vertical alignment, press and hold the Shift key while dragging the circular icon.

Reset Curves

One way to simplify a Weathermap layout is to reset the circuits' curves. Doing so changes the curves so they are more similar to ones that exist, and removes circuit overlap.



- **Step 1** Choose all circuits that you want to reset.
- Step 2 Right-click one of the selected circuits and choose Layout > Reset Curves.

Set Plot Backgrounds

Choose Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Edit Options and click the General Options tab.

• Schematic views show the network based on the X,Y properties of the nodes and sites.

Additionally, you can choose or add a static background image in .png format. If the image is a background map, the topology likely will not map to an imported image, so you must rearrange the sites accordingly. Images can be saved in .pln or .db formats, but not in .txt format.

- Geographic views show the network based on the longitude and latitude of the nodes and sites.
 - Outline Background Map—Geographic map with outline of countries and if applicable, U.S. states.
 - Detailed Background Map—Geographic map with streets. Click the zoom icon (magnifying glass icon in the Visualization toolbar) to see the level of desired detail. This option requires Internet connectivity to access the online map server. If connectivity is unavailable, use the outline

background, or download a map image and import it as a background image. To access a different online map server, see the Cisco WAE Design Integration and Development Guide.

- Longitude Boundary—Measurement in degrees that specifies the east-west position of a point on the Earth's surface. The default is -180 degrees, but could be changed, for example, to provide a continuous view of the Pacific.
- Site Canvas—If you are using the schematic view for the network plot, all sites show only the schematic view and you cannot further configure the site view. If you are using either of the geographic views, you can specify how to view the sites using the Site Canvas options. These options apply to all sites, regardless of whether they contain L3 nodes, L1 nodes, or both. This option does not affect the placement of nodes that are not in sites.

Schematic view—Shows nodes and sites network based on the X,Y properties of the nodes and sites.

Geographic view—Shows the same background as the geographic view for the network plot (outline or detailed).

Schematic view when site contains only nodes—Use this option to visualize nodes that have the same geographic coordinates within the same site. Using the geographic view results in these nodes being placed on top of each other.

Figure 6: Backgrounds for WAE Design Network Plot



Create Static Background Map

You can use a static .png image as a background.

Ad	Add Static Background Map Through Plot Options		Add Static Background Map Through Edit Menu	
1.	Ch Op	oose Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Edit otions.	1. 2.	Choose Edit > Plot > Background Images . Click the New button.
2. 3.	In Cli	the General Options tab, click Schematic .		a. Enter the name of the map as it will appear for selection in the GUI.
	a.	Enter the name of the map as it will appear for selection from the GUI.		 b. Enter or browse to the name of the .png file that is the static image you are uploading. c. Click OK.
	b.	Enter or browse to the name of the .png file that is the static image you are uploading.	3.	Click OK in the Edit Background Images dialog
	c.	Click OK.		box.
4.	Cli	ick OK in the Plot Options dialog box.		

Traffic Utilization Colors

Interfaces have both measured and simulated traffic (in Mbps). This traffic appears on the interfaces as color fills that represent the percentage of outbound traffic in comparison to its capacity. The default colors for these representations appear in the Utilization Color menu, which is a set of color-coded drop-down lists in the Visualization toolbar. There are six default colors representing thresholds from 0% to 100%.

Default Utilization Colors



Weathermap Layout



Example Interface Traffic Utilization



Note that in the L1 view, only the Failure Impact view shows colors, and those colors are related to L3 interface utilization.

Each default utilization color has a menu whose numbers correspond with their values in the **Design Colors** tab of the **Plot Options** dialog box. It is from this **Edit Colors** dialog box that you edit the colors used for traffic utilization.

You can edit the utilization values, add and remove colors, and locate interfaces that meet utilizations levels of special concern. Edits to these colors are saved to the plan file when the file is saved. You can also create and save a set of user defaults that can be applied to other plan files. Different utilization colors can be set for different layouts in a plan.



Figure 7: Relationship of Edit Colors Dialog Box to Traffic Utilization Color Menu

Find and Set Maximum Traffic Utilization Values

- From the purple drop-down list, choose **Max**. WAE Design finds the most utilized interface and sets the minimum utilization for purple to that value. As a result, that interface (and only that interface) is highlighted in the plot with purple. This method offers a quick way to determine the most highly utilized interface.
- From the Utilization Color menu, click the far right, gray drop-down arrow and choose **Edit Colors**. The **Plot Options** box opens; click the **Design Colors** tab. Enter a new value or choose a value from the drop-down list in the top, purple row. Click **OK** to save the changes.

Change Minimum Traffic Utilization Values

If you set a minimum value that imposes on an existing utilization value, WAE Design calculates a new percentage for that existing utilization or calculates that it cannot be used.

Example: The default for red is 90-100%, and the default for orange is 80-90%. If you set red to mean 80-100% utilization, orange is not used in the plot to show utilization. If you set red, however, to mean 85-100%, WAE Design adjusts the orange value to the remaining amount available, which in this example is 80-85%.

To change minimum utilization values, use either the color drop-down list or the **Plot Options** > **Design Colors** dialog box. Both options behave the same way. Modifications in the drop-down list appear in the **Design Color** dialog box and vice versa.

- **Step 1** If using the dialog box, open it using one of these methods:
 - Click the Plot Options icon and click the Design Colors tab.
 - Click the far right, gray drop-down list from the Utilization Color menu.

• Choose Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Edit Options and click the Design Colors tab.

- **Step 2** Change the minimum value using one of these methods:
 - If you choose an exact value, that value becomes the new minimum.
 - If you choose a number with a greater-than sign (>) next to it, WAE Design finds the interface that is closest to and greater than that value.

Example: By default, yellow is 50-80%. If you choose >50%, WAE Design finds the interface with a utilization that is closest to and greater than 50%.

• If you choose a number with a less-than sign (<) next to it, WAE Design finds the interface that is closest to and less than that value.

Example: By default, light green is 30-50%. If you choose <50%, WAE Design finds the interface with a utilization that is closest to and less than 50%.

- If in the dialog box, you can enter a value directly into the field.
- **Step 3** If in the dialog box, click **OK** to save the changes.

Figure 8: Example of Changing a Minimum Utilization Value Using the Color Drop-Down List





Figure 9: Example of Changing a Minimum Utilization Value in the Plot Options, Design Colors Dialog Box

Add a Utilization Color

After adding a color, the maximum utilization value for it is based on the minimum value above it. When you assign the new color a minimum utilization value, it always imposes on the utilization range below it (unless the utilization value you are adding is the lowest). Because this minimum value imposes on an existing one, WAE Design recalculates a new percentage for that existing utilization or calculates that it cannot be used.

After a utilization color is added, it appears in the Utilization Color menu.

Step 1 Open the **Design Colors** dialog box using one of these methods:

- Click the **Plot Options** icon and click the **Design Colors** tab.
- Click the far right, gray drop-down list from the Utilization Color menu.
- Choose Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Edit Options and click the Design Colors tab.

Step 2 Click the plus (+) button to the right of the color below which you are adding a new color. The row is replicated below it and is marked as *Not used*. For example, to add a utilization color below red, click the + button on the same row as red.

Step 3 In the new row, either enter a new minimum value or choose it from the list, and then click **OK**.

Example: The following figure demonstrates adding a magenta utilization color with a range of 95-100%.

Plot Options X (1) General Options Design Colors Design Circuits Layer 1 Other Effective Thresholds 100% -5 Purple Red -< 100% 90% ≤ - + rurpi - + < 90% (Not used) 90% • • 80% < 90% < Oranoe • • 50% \$ < 80% Green LightGreen < 50% - + 30% < 30% Light Custom Co OK Cancel Result Not Options (2) General Options Design Colors Design Circuits Layer 1 Other Effective Thresholds + 100% -≤ Purple • + 95% -Adjustment 95% - + 80% Orange - + 50% 80% - + 50% LightGre LightBlue -< 30% 380731 OK Cancel

Figure 10: Example of Adding a Magenta Utilization Color with a Range of 95-100%

Delete a Utilization Color

Although you can delete a default color so that it is not represented on the plot, doing so does not remove that color from the Utilization Color menu. Deleting a color that you previously added, however, removes it from the toolbar.



Step 1 Click the far right, gray drop-down list from the Utilization Colors toolbar and choose **Edit Colors**.

Step 2 Click the minus (-) button associated with the row you want delete. Then click OK.

Set Plot Option Defaults

Each time you modify one or more plot options, they are saved in the plan file for the current layout. When you save the file, these plot options are saved per layout.

There are two types of plot option defaults:

• User Defaults—A set of customized plot options that you can create, set, and apply to other plan files. Each time you set a user default, it overrides the previous version. If you open a previously unopened plan file, its default plot options are the user defaults if they exist.

Example: If you set the user defaults for plan A, you can then open plan B and apply these user defaults to it.

• System Defaults—The set of plot option defaults that comes with WAE Design. These are not configurable, and can always be applied.

System defaults are applied to a previously unopened plan file if no user defaults have yet been defined.

То	Choose
Apply system defaults.	Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Apply System Defaults
Save current plot options to user defaults. You cannot cancel the result of having saved the user defaults.	Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Save User Defaults
Apply user defaults.	Edit > Plot > Plot Options > Apply User Defaults



Using Layouts

A single plan can contain numerous layouts, each containing its own set of visual properties. Given the complexity of networks, you might need to create different layouts for different reasons. For example, you might want to simplify sections of the network for better analysis or planning purposes. Or you might want to display a geographic layout or a schematic layout.

The attributes that are set and saved on a per-layout basis are hide/show objects, interface styles, site name placement, and all plot options. You can save the plot options as user defaults, thus making it easier to apply the same plot options to different layouts.

This section contains the following topics:

- Design Versus Weathermap Layouts, on page 31
- Create or Edit Layouts, on page 34

Design Versus Weathermap Layouts

There are two layout types: Design and Weathermap.

- The Design layout is useful for interactive work where the emphasis is on detailed interactions, planning, and network editing. Plan files open using the layout named *Default*, which is a Design layout.
- The Weathermap layout is designed for use in a static, non-interactive view of a fixed network layout, with an emphasis on seeing operational issues such as high utilization.

The conventions described in this guide apply to both Weathermap and Design layout types, but there are key differences between the two. The following table describes these differences, and the following figure shows an example of each layout using the same topology and canvas.

Table 1: Differences Between	Design and	Weathermap	Layouts
------------------------------	------------	------------	---------

Weathermap Layout	Design Layout
The shape and size of the circuits differ.	
• Weathermap circuits have a fixed width. They ca	n also be curved to enhance a static network view.
• Design circuits show different widths depending	on capacity. These circuits cannot be curved.
Example: In the following graphs, the top circuit has a	capacity of 1000 Mbps, and the circuit on the bottom
has a capacity of 10,000 Mbps.	







Figure 11: Example Weathermap and Design Layouts Using the Same Topology and Canvas



Create or Edit Layouts

You can create or edit layouts to change the appearance or to narrow or broaden what you see in the plan file. This might be useful, for example, to focus on a specific section of a network. For example, the following figure shows a transatlantic layout that was modified to show only the European sites.

You can use these methods to create or edit layouts:

- Modify interface style. For example, you might want to shorten the interfaces to external sites.
- Show or hide sites.
- · Arrange objects.
- Change the background map.
- Make other visual changes to the plot, such as identifying how circuits and interfaces appear.

Figure 12: Example Modified Weathermap Layout



Create Layouts

Step 1 From the Layouts drop-down list, choose Edit Layouts.



- Step 2 Click either New or Duplicate to create a new layout, or click Edit to edit existing layouts.
 - a) To create a new layout based on the layout that is currently open, click New.
 - b) In the **New Plot Layout** dialog box, enter the layout name.
 - c) Choose whether this is a Design or Weathermap layout.
 - d) Click OK.

If the sites have longitude and latitude coordinates defined, those are preserved. Otherwise, the sites are arranged in a square formation. Other plot settings are set to their defaults.

1 D	ame efault	PlotLayoutTy	pe
1 D	efault		
		Design	
2 A	cme_West_Edge	Weathermap)
		Name	: Acme_West_Core
		Туре:	

- e) To duplicate the layout exactly, choose an existing layout and click **Duplicate**. Enter the name and click **OK**. This copies the layout type (Design or Weathermap). If you need to change the layout type, you must then edit it.
- Step 3 Click OK in the Edit Plot Layouts dialog box.

Edit Layouts

Step 1 From the Layouts drop-down list, choose Edit Layouts.

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Step 2	Click the name of an existing layout and click Edit.
Step 3	Modify the name, the type, or both, and then click OK .
Step 4	Click OK in the Edit Plot Layouts dialog box.

View Layouts

To view a layout, click the desired layout from the Layouts drop-down list.



Plan Files and Templates

This chapter describes plans files and templates so that you understand their structure, and how templates are applied to plan files for visualization.

This section contains the following topics:

- Plan Files, on page 37
- Templates, on page 37

Plan Files

A *plan file* is comprised of tables that store information about a network, including topology, configuration information, traffic, failure state, and visual layout. WAE Design uses plan file information to perform simulations.

The WAE Design GUI can access remote servers to send and receive plan files.

Templates

A WAE Design *template* identifies how the plan file looks and can contain information that is not discovered. As such, templates are a convenient way to replicate manual changes across multiple plan files. For example, you can augment newly discovered plans with non-discoverable information.

No matter the discovery method, the way to make further visual enhancements to the plan file is using the WAE Design GUI, which can access remote servers to send and receive templates.

If using the augmented or manual method of discovery, the copy_from_template tool is used to either include more objects in the template, change the visual representation of them, or both. The resulting plan file is saved to an external archive.

When saving a template from WAE Design to an archive, template changes apply only to plan files collected after that template is saved. That is, those templates changes do not apply to historical plan files.

Example

The following figure shows the plan file and template workflow for applications. We recommend that you open the remote plan file, modify it in the WAE Design GUI to create the visual template, and save it to the remote archive as a template (where it overwrites the archived template).

The following figure also shows the workflow of using the WAE Design GUI to open plan files from and save plan files to the remote WAE Automation server, where they can then be deployed to the network.

Figure 13: Plan File and Template Flow Using the WAE Design GUI



Copy from Template

The **File** > **Copy from Template** tool lets you copy objects and their properties from a template to another file. By copying a template, you can augment newly discovered plans with non-discoverable information, such as sites, layouts, shared-risk link groups (SRLGs), external endpoints, and L1 objects.

• One common use is to use the CLI copy_from_template tool to automate the process of applying a template to newly discovered network plan files before saving them in an archive. When you open the new plan file, you need not complete its layout or insert non-discovered objects. Note that this CLI copy_from_template tool has more functionality than in the GUI. For information, see the copy_from_template -help output.

The copy_from_template tool is in \$CARIDEN_HOME/bin, where \$CARIDEN_HOME is the directory in which the Cisco WAE executables and binaries are installed. On Linux, the default \$CARIDEN_HOME is /opt/cariden/software/mate/current.

• Another use is to create one or more visual layouts in one plan file and copy the layouts into other plan files, thus avoiding repetitive efforts of recreating layouts. This practice is useful even for plans created outside of network discovery.

The selected properties or objects are copied from the template to the open plan file, and a report is displayed. If there are nodes or interfaces in the plan file that are not in the template, this might indicate that the discovered network has been changed, and the template is out of date. In this case, the report states that the template should be updated.

Note that you can individually import SRLGs, a Layer 1 model, a QoS model, demand groupings, external endpoints, and tags from one plan file to another, all from the **File** > **Import** menu. For information, see the Cisco WAE Design Integration and Development Guide.

Assign Nodes to Sites

In the WAE Design GUI, the visual layout is based on the schematic or geographic arrangement of sites and nodes. If nodes are within sites, this node-to-site assignment is not discoverable.

When layouts are copied from the template, nodes that are discovered are placed in the plan file as follows:

- Each existing node without a parent site continues to exist without a parent.
- If a discovered node is matched to a node within a site in an existing template, it is assigned to the same site.
- If the node is new, it is assigned to a site based on the Node-to-Site Mapping (<NodeSiteMappingRules>) table in the template.
- If WAE Design cannot assign the discovered node to an existing site, an ExtraNodes site is created and the unassigned node is placed there. This site appears at the top right of the plot.

Copy Missing Information

If any nodes, circuits, L1 nodes, or L1 links are down, the network discovery process omits them from the discovered plan file. Because a template used for network discovery typically contains these objects, it can fill in the missing objects to provide a complete visualization of the network. Whether these objects are set to inactive or active depends on the selected copy method.

Errors in network discovery can sometimes prevent node names, interface names, or IP addresses from being discovered correctly. The **Copy from Template** tool attempts to fill in the missing object information by matching nodes and interfaces in the two plans by name and IP address; for nodes that are in external ASes, it also checks the BGP-ID. For example, if the discovery process finds an IP address of an interface, but not its name, the tool looks for an interface in the template with a matching IP address, and then copies over the name from the template interface.

Copy Methods

The objects and properties that are copied depend on the selected method, as described in the following table.

Г

Copy from Template Method	Description		
Fill in missing details	Copies L3 template layout, including site assignments for nodes.		
	• Copies L3 nodes and circuits, and sets them to inactive.		
	• For newly discovered L3 nodes, assigns nodes to sites based on the <nodesitemappingrules> table created using the Assign Sites to Nodes feature.</nodesitemappingrules>		
	• Copies non-discoverable L3 objects, such as SRLGs and AS relationships.		
Fill in visual elements only	Copies L3 template layout.		
	• For newly discovered L3 nodes, assigns nodes to sites based on the <nodesitemappingrules> table created using the Assign Sites to Nodes feature.</nodesitemappingrules>		
Copy L1 visual layout	Copies template layout for L1 objects.		
Information	• Site assignments are based on the site assignments in the template. Any L1 nodes that exist in the plan file but not in the template are placed in an ExtraL1Nodes site that is created for this purpose.		
Copy the L1 model from the template	You cannot copy L1 objects without copying L3 objects (without "Fill in missing details" also being selected).		
	• Copies template layout, including site assignments for L1 nodes.		
	• Copies all L1 objects.		
	• Site assignments are based on the site assignments in the template. Any L1 nodes that exist in the plan file but not in the template are placed in an ExtraL1Nodes site that is created for this purpose.		
L	1		

Table 2: Copy from Template Methods

Copy from Template Steps

- **Step 1** Choose **File** > **Copy from Template**.
- **Step 2** In the **Template File** field, enter or browse to the fully-qualified path and filename of the plan you are copying.
- **Step 3** Specify how to copy L3 values from the template into the plan.

Copy Method	
I Fill in missing details	
Properties that cannot be read from the network (eg Sites, SRI (Copied nodes and circuits will be set to inactive) Fill in visual elements only	
	4
Sites, Interface styles	1000
	10

- **Step 4** Specify how to match nodes in the plan with those in the template:
 - Name, then IP address, then BGP ID—Choose this option to match all nodes by name if possible, then by IP address, and then by BGP ID.
 - IP Address, then BGP ID, then Name—Choose this option to match all nodes by matching by IP address if possible, then by BGP ID, and then by name.
- **Step 5** Specify how to match interfaces in the plan with those in the template:
 - Name, then IP Address (if available)—Choose this option to match all interfaces and circuits by name if possible, and then by IP address.
 - IP Address (if available), then Name—Choose this option to match all interfaces and circuits by matching by IP address if possible, and then by name.
- **Step 6** (Optional) Specify how to copy L1 values from the template into the plan.



Step 7 (Optional) Choose which nodes to include by clicking Preview/Customize. From here you can click Edit to choose nodes, as well as set copied nodes to inactive. If the plan file contains nodes that the template does not contain, they are put into a site named ExtraNodes (for L3 nodes) or ExtraL1Nodes (for L1 nodes).

To view which circuits to include, click **Next**. You can click **Edit** to choose specific circuits or you can set the circuits to inactive. We recommend that you not use this option unless you also choose to include nodes associated with these circuits.

Step 8 Click OK.

Step 9 Look at the network plot to verify the success of the copied template.



Accessing an Archive

This section contains the following topics:

- Access an Archive, on page 43
- Save and Clear Settings, on page 44

Access an Archive

Plan files and templates are stored in archive repositories, which can be installed on the same or on a different device or VM than WAE Design. From the WAE Design GUI, you can extract .pln files from these archive directories, make necessary modifications, and reinsert them as .pln files into an archive used by other applications. You can also open, modify, and save a remote archive template.

When you upload a template to a remote archive, you overwrite the existing template in that archive.

- **Step 1** In the WAE Design GUI, use the **File** menu to start the process:
 - To open a plan file or template from a remote archive directory, choose File > Open from > WAE Archive.
 - To open a plan file or template used in an earlier WAE Design release, choose File > Open from > Design Archive.
 - To save a plan file or template to a WAE Design archive directory, choose **File** > **Save to** > **Design Archive**. You must have an administrative username and password to upload plan files or templates.
- **Step 2** After opening the dialog box, enter or choose the hostname or IP address of the server.
- **Step 3** Specify how to connect to the server by choosing the protocol (if applicable) and by entering or choosing the port number (for example, HTTP 8080).
- **Step 4** (Open from WAE Archive) Enter or choose the network. To automatically populate the Network field with the list of available networks, click **Refresh List of Networks**.
- **Step 5** (Open from Design Archive) Enter or choose the name of the archive you are accessing.
- **Step 6** Enter the username and password that give you access to the server. Both are case sensitive. If you do not know the password, contact your web system administrator.
- **Step 7** (Open from Design Archive) Enter the UTC offset to apply to the date specified in the **Plan at time** field. If you do not enter a date, the file is opened or saved according the server's UTC time.
- **Step 8** Choose options for opening or saving a plan file or template:
 - Template—(Open from Design Archive) Open the template file.

- (Open from) Latest plan—Open the most recent plan file available.
- (Save to) Plan at current time—Save the plan file using the current date and time stamp.
- Plan at time—Specify an exact date and time. If these plan files are not local, you either need to log in to the server or ask the administrator of that server for the correct date and time.

On the server, these plan files are stored in an archive directory. To find it, go to the directory in which the plan file is stored and then drill down to the specific directory to list its contents. The directory structure format is <archive path>/data/<year>/<month>/<YYMMDD> UTC.

Plan files have the format YYYYMMDD HHMM UTC.pln.

Example: The following example shows an archive directory named cgo-archive for November 8, 2017. It has three plan files that were collected 30 minutes apart as shown by their times.

/opt/cariden/archives/cgo-archive/data/2017/11/171108_UTC
-rw-r--r- 1 cariden cariden 115651 Feb 23 02:04 20171108_0201_UTC.pln
-rw-r--r- 1 cariden cariden 115651 Feb 23 02:04 20171108_0201_UTC.pln
-rw-r--r- 1 cariden cariden 115651 Feb 23 02:04 20171108_0301_UTC.pln

• Select button—(Open from WAE Archive) Click Select to choose a specific plan file. The Select Archived Plan dialog box opens, showing the archived plan files. The default time range is set to the last hour. The time stamps are sorted in descending order, with the most recent time stamp selected. Choose the desired plan file and click OK.

Step 9 Click OK.

Save and Clear Settings

- **Step 1** To save all settings for use the next time you open the dialog box, check **Save Settings**. This saves all settings whether the fields and all entries in the drop-down lists are empty or not.
- **Step 2** To save the authentication password, check **Save Password**.
- **Step 3** To clear all current user-specified settings from the fields, click **Clear Settings**. Note that this does not clear the default values, although manual entries in these fields are cleared.
- **Step 4** To delete all user-specific settings so the next time you open the dialog box all fields are empty (except for the default values), do the following:
 - a) Click Clear Settings.
 - b) Ensure that Save Settings is checked.
 - c) Click OK to exit.
 - d) At the prompt to continue, click **Yes**.

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