

Configuring QoS



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Quality of Services (QoS) techniques aim to ensure a reliable transmission for all type of services, especially for the most demanding ones, in terms of delay, jitter, packet loss and availability. The QoS techniques are applied from inbound to outbound and include: traffic selection and prioritization, queuing, packet scheduling and traffic shaping.

QoS strategies were introduced for the units in order to be able to customize the balance between the maximum achievable capacity and the allowed packet loss for the priority packets. The QoS capabilities of the unit fall in two categories:

- [QoS wired interface capabilities](#)
- [QoS radio interface capabilities](#)

QoS wired interface capabilities

The wired interface capabilities of the unit are the following:

- **Traffic selection and prioritization based on 802.1p**

The IEEE 802.1p standard provides the means to implement QoS techniques at Layer 2 (MAC layer). QoS is implemented using a 3 bit field called Priority Code Point (PCP) part of the Ethernet header when 802.1Q VLAN tagging is in use.

There are eight 802.1p priorities, "0" being the lowest and "7" - the highest. The unit is capable to recognize and prioritize packets received on the wired interfaces. Each packet will be further sent to a specific priority queue.

- **Four hardware priority queues**

Each received packet is sent to one of the 4 priority queues based on the PCP field that contains the 802.1p priority.

When the actual traffic load reaches the egress rate, the switch will favor the transmission of the highest priority packets in the detriment of the lower priority ones.

The mapping between the 802.1p priorities and the 4 queues can be found below:

802.1p priority	Traffic type	Unit priority queue
0	Background	1
1	Best Effort	
2	Excellent Effort	2
3	Critical Applications	
4	Video	3
5	Voice	
6	Internetwork control	4
7	Network control	

Table - Priority queues mapping

- **Strict or Weighted Round Robin packet scheduling algorithms**

The packet scheduling algorithms available for determining how the packets shall exit the priority queues are the following:

- "Strict" - packets from lower priority queues are delayed in case higher priority queues has traffic

- "Weighted Round Robin" - weights are used for every queue of an interface, which allows different queues to have different service shares depending on the weight value
- **Per-port egress rate limiting**

Traffic shaping can be configured by limiting the egress rate on a selected wired port.

In order to configure per-port egress rate limiting go to the "Switch" menu page in the Web interface and set the "Egress Rate Limit" parameter for a specific wired interface. In the example below, the traffic outgoing at the "ge0" interface is limited to 100 Mbps. It can be also noticed that the "radio" interface does not have an available option of configuring a rate limit. Radio throughput depends only on a current modulation:

Switch Port Settings

Port	Up	Egress Rate Limit	QoS mode	Port Mode
ge0	☐	100 Mbps ▾	Weighted Round Robin ▾	auto ▾
ge1	☐	Unlimited ▾	Weighted Round Robin ▾	auto ▾
sfp	☐	Unlimited ▾	Weighted Round Robin ▾	
radio	☐		Weighted Round Robin ▾	
mgmt		Unlimited ▾	Weighted Round Robin ▾	

Figure - Configuring per-port egress rate limiting

QoS radio interface capabilities

QoS radio interface capabilities of the unit are the following:

- **Traffic selection and prioritization based on 802.1p**

The packets received at the radio interface that are marked with an 802.1p priority will be recognized and sent to a specific priority queue.

- **Four priority queues**

The same considerations mentioned for the wired interface capabilities are valid: each received packet is sent to one of the 4 priority queues based on the PCP field that contains the 802.1p priority.

When the actual traffic load reached the egress rate, the switch will favor the transmission of the highest priority packets in the detriment of the lower priority ones.

- **Strict or Weighted Round Robin packet scheduling algorithms**

The strict priority queuing or weighted round robin scheduling algorithms can be configured for the packets received at the radio interfaces and exiting the priority queues:

- "Strict" - packets from lower priority queues are delayed in case higher priority queues has traffic
- "Weighted Round Robin" - weights are used for every queue of an interface, which allows different queues to have different service shares depending on the weight value.

No matter the interface on which the packets were received, one of the two packet scheduling algorithms can be configured in order to determine the strategy for emptying the priority queues.

Go to the "Switch" menu page in the Web interface and configure the "QoS mode" parameter in the "Switch Port Settings" section. In the example below the "Weighted Round Robin" is configured for the "ge0" interface and the "Strict" scheduling algorithm is configured for the "radio" interface

Switch Port Settings

Port	Up	Egress Rate Limit	QoS mode	Port Mode
ge0	☐	Unlimited ▼	Weighted Round Robin ▼	auto ▼
ge1	☐	Unlimited ▼	Weighted Round Robin ▼	auto ▼
sfp	☐	Unlimited ▼	Weighted Round Robin ▼	
radio	☐		Strict ▼	
mgmt		Unlimited ▼	Weighted Round Robin ▼	

Figure - Configuring the packet scheduling algorithm

- Traffic Prioritization

Traffic Prioritization is available for the radio interface transmission in order to accommodate different packet loss requirements for the high priority packets:

To enable/disable the traffic prioritization, go to the “Radio” menu page in the Web interface and check/uncheck “Traffic Prioritization”:

General

Node Type:	master ▼
Link ID:	10 ▼
Traffic Prioritization	☐
Security Key:	123456

Figure - Traffic Prioritization checkbox