Written by Marco Attard 03 February 2017

Cisco sets to manage the needs of digital buildings with the Catalyst Digital Building Switch-- an ethernet switch designed to run things such as lights and cameras while collecting data on said devices.



Described as "[the] milestone at the heart of the smart building vision Cisco is defining," the Digital Building Switch handles disparate systems like lighting, HVAC and badging through a key IoT protocol dubbed the Constrained Application Protocol (CoAP). It supports 60W per-port Universal POE technology to deliver twice the power of current PoE+, allowing for bigger and brighter lighting fixtures as well as a variety of devices.

Installation and deployment promises to be fairly simple via Bluetooth and smartphone app, while the fanless design ensures it runs noise-free.

"As far as convergence of IoT networks in a building, this product leap-frogs a generation of innovation," Cisco says. "It brings new IoT protocol integration, automation and enterprise security by extending the Digital Network Architecture to digital buildings."

Go Cisco Catalyst Digital Building Switches