

# Introduction

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This chapter describes the Catalyst 1600 Token Ring switch and the software program that you can use to manage the Catalyst 1600.

## About the Catalyst 1600 Token Ring Switch

The Catalyst 1600 Token Ring switch is a stackable, source-routing Token Ring switch that supports the connection of wiring concentrators or lobe stations over either unshielded twisted pair (UTP) or shielded twisted pair (STP) media at ring speeds of 4 or 16 Mbps. For information about token-ring switching, refer to Appendix B “About Token Ring Switching.”

The Catalyst 1600 Token Ring switch offers the following features:

- Provides a high-capacity interconnection between multiple token rings at ring speeds of 4 or 16 Mbps
- Forwards frames with negligible interstation latency by using a shared memory architecture that allows the Catalyst 1600 to switch packets between ports without using the store-and-forward method
- Supports the configuration of virtual LANs, which makes moves and changes to the network easier to administer and support
- Supports broadcast-control strategies, which enable you to reduce the proportion of bandwidth occupied by broadcast traffic and reduce the possibility of broadcast storms
- Provides for the direct connection of network servers

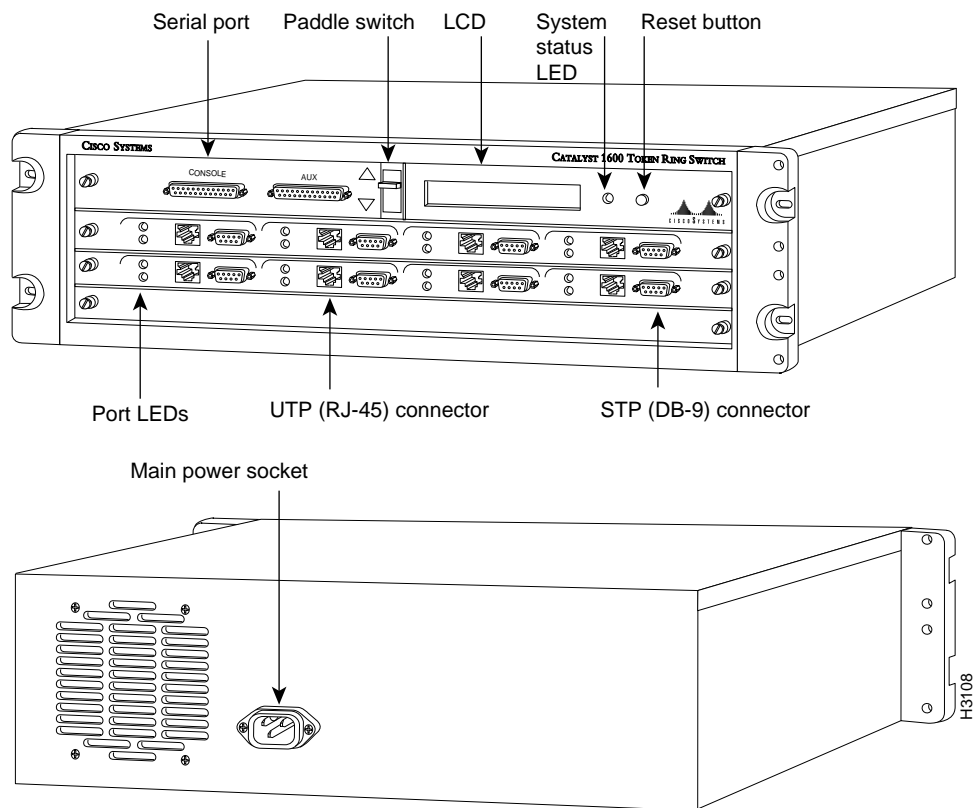
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### View of the Catalyst 1600 Token Ring Switch

The basic configuration of the Catalyst 1600 Token Ring switch is shown in Figure 1-1.

**Figure 1-1 Front and Rear View of the Catalyst 1600 Token Ring Switch**



## Catalyst 1600 Token Ring Switch Management Software

The Catalyst 1600 Token Ring switch is supplied with TrueView Catalyst 1600 Manager, a management application that enables you to manage the Catalyst 1600.

TrueView Catalyst 1600 Manager enables you to do the following:

- View the status of the Catalyst 1600, and check the LEDs and LCD as they appear on the front panel of the device
- Manage Token Ring switch ports and source-routing information
- Monitor traffic on the Catalyst 1600
- Download boot code and run-time microcode to the Catalyst 1600
- Create virtual LANs to define a logical network structure that is independent of the physical layout, and control the forwarding of broadcast packets

For information about installing and using TrueView Catalyst 1600 Manager, refer to the *TrueView Catalyst 1600 Manager User Guide*.

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