

DATA CENTER

EXAM DATA SHEET

FORMAT / STRUCTURE



Operations Specialist
2 Hours



Engineering Specialist
4 Hours



Professional
4 Hours

Hands-on Proctored lab-based exam utilizing the same environment as in the Arista Academy labs.

Conducted virtually from your environment, no requirement to travel to an exam center

Open-book, timed sessions

Each exam session is based on one of several possible scenarios. Topics covered and/or testing methods may vary.

SUMMARY OF EXAM

Data Center Operations Specialist focuses on the assessment and validation of existing fabric states, including day-2 activities such as monitoring, management, troubleshooting, and moves/adds/changes within an established CloudVision environment. **Data Center Engineering Specialist** focuses on the end-to-end design, architecture, and implementation of Layer 2 and 3 leaf-spine data center networks, utilizing both BGP and IGP underlays and EVPN-VXLAN overlays.

Data Center Professional certification recognizes mastery of both disciplines. The Professional designation is awarded to candidates who either;

- 1) Complete both ACE: Specialist exams or -
- 2) Successfully pass the 4-hour Professional exam which combines elements from both Operations and Engineering exams. ACE Professional evaluates the ability to build, scale, and operate a full-service data center fabric.

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL / PREPARATION TIPS

- Be “workflow fast” and not just “command-fast”. Efficiency in CloudVision is as critical as CLI speed
- Be proficient with verification commands
- Know where to find key data in CloudVision
- Bookmark the Arista EOS configuration guide
- Practice the course labs
- Although this is an open-book exam, you will not have time to research fundamental concepts

PREREQUISITES

Although there are no prerequisites, knowledge of the related course materials is critical.

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST Exam Objective



The **Arista Data Center Operations** exam evaluates your ability to use CloudVision and EOS streaming telemetry to identify and remediate fabric-level issues. Candidates are expected to demonstrate a "workflow-fast" approach—interpreting real-time state streaming, event correlation, and historical metrics to isolate root causes in complex L3LS environments. Beyond basic monitoring, the exam assesses the execution of safe operational workflows, including staged EOS upgrades, maintenance window management, and the use of automated snapshots for pre/post operation validation. Candidate success is measured by their ability to apply a systematic, repeatable diagnostic methodology to verify underlay reachability, EVPN overlay health, and multi-switch configuration compliance.

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

To successfully complete the exam tasks, the candidate must possess the following technical skills:

EOS Management

- **EOS operations & upgrades:** Understanding of safe operational execution and EOS upgrade theory

CloudVision Operations

- **CloudVision overview & setup:** Understanding of CloudVision purpose and core platform concepts including CVP onboarding approach, upgrades/backup basics.
- **CloudVision provisioning:** Ability to navigate structured change workflows, devices registration, containers, config sources, configlets, tasks/changes control, reconcile snapshots/rollback
- **CloudVision Studios:** Ability to work within a model-driven operational workflow, workspaces, tags, studio deployment/execution, end-to-end provisioning concepts

Monitoring and Troubleshooting

- **Event Monitoring & CLI Scheduling:** Event-driven operational automation fundamentals, scheduler/monitor/manager concepts and operational use cases
- **Monitoring with CloudVision:** Operational visibility and event-driven troubleshooting, compliances views, dashboard, events, endpoints search

ENGINEERING SPECIALIST Exam Objective



The Arista Networks **Data Center Engineering** certification exam evaluates your ability to implement and validate leaf-spine building blocks using EOS and CloudVision—demonstrating correct provisioning, state validation, and consistency across fabric devices.

You will be evaluated on configuring and verifying BGP and other Routing Protocols for both underlay and overlay scenarios, showing correct session establishment, route propagation, and policy behavior as required by the scenario. The exam also tests implementing and validating VXLAN overlays with EVPN control-plane, including route-target/route-distinguisher correctness, MAC/IP learning, and traffic validation. Throughout, you'll need to apply and verify best-practice design habits—MTU sizing, redundancy and multihoming, staged validation, and clear verification steps.

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

To successfully complete the exam tasks, the candidate must possess the following technical skills:

Layer 2 & 3 Designs

- **Layer 2 Leaf-Spine (L2LS):** Implementing L2 fabric building blocks, VLANs, trunks/access, SVIs/sub-interfaces concepts, STP and enhancements, LACP, MLAG, VRRP/VARP
- **Layer 3 Leaf-Spine (L3LS):** Underlay architecture and routing intent, L3LS concepts, why underlay routing matters, underlay options overview (OSPF/IS-IS), eBGP underlay
- **Design/Best Practices:** Preventing common design/ops failures, MTU/jumbo frames awareness, iBGP/eBGP design, validation habits

Underlay protocols

- **Underlay Protocols (BGP and other Routing Protocols):** BGP and IGP configuration/validation in leaf-spine, BGP and IGP load balancing concepts, common enhancements, addressing/peer patterns

Overlay protocols

- **VXLAN Operations:** Configuring VTEPs, VNIs (L2 & L3), mapping VLANs to VRFs for overlay services.
- **EVPN Overlay:** EVPN fundamentals, MP-BGP EVPN, route types (2/3/5) concepts, VRFs, IRB (symmetric/asymmetric) concepts
- **EVPN Multihoming:** Active-active intent and verification, ESI concepts, route type 1/4 concepts, active-active multihoming outcomes

Automation and management

- **CloudVision (Engineering Workflow):** Using CloudVision to deploy architecture, Using CVP configlets/Studios concepts to deploy L2LS/L3LS/EVPN services

For more information, refer to exam policies and procedures
www.training.arista.com – under CERTIFICATION menu

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