Course: Cloud and Network Security
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Week 5 Assignment 2: Configuring Site-to-Site VPNs

Introduction

IPsec is an IETF standard that defines how a VPN can be secured across IP networks; It provides secure transmission of sensitive information over unprotected networks e.g. the Internet. Many corporations use it since it allows them to select security services according to internal security policies. IPsec operates at the network layer and protects and authenticates IP packets between participating IPsec devices (peers), such as Cisco routers. Some of the security functions provided are:

1. **Confidentiality -** Encryption algorithms to prevent cybercriminals from reading packet contents
2. **Integrity:** Hashing algorithms to ensure packets have not been altered between the source and destination.
3. **Internet Key Exchange (IKE) Protocol / Internet Security Association and Key Management Protocol (ISAKMP):** Handles negotiation and setup of the security parameters for the tunnel (Origin Authentication i.e source and destination).
4. **Key Exchange:** Diffie-Hellman used to secure.
5. **IPsec Protocol:** IPsec protocol encapsulates packets using Authentication Header (AH) and Encapsulation Security Protocol (ESP).

IPsec thus allows for easy integration of new security tech without updating existing IPsec standards.

Objectives

- Verify connectivity throughout the network.

- Configure R1 to support a site-to-site IPsec VPN with R3.

Scenario

In this activity, you will configure two routers to support a site-to-site IPsec VPN for traffic flowing from their respective LANs. The IPsec VPN traffic will pass through another router that has no knowledge of the VPN. task is to configure R1 and R3 to support a site-to-site IPsec VPN when traffic flows between their respective LANs. The IPsec VPN tunnel is from R1 to R3 via R2. R2 acts as a pass-through and has no knowledge of the VPN.

Addressing Table

Device	Interface	IP Address	Subnet Mask	Default Gateway
R1	G0/0	192.168.1.1	255.255.255.0	N/A
	S0/0/0 (DCE)	10.1.1.2	255.255.255.252	N/A
R2	G0/0	192.168.2.1	255.255.255.0	N/A
	S0/0/0	10.1.1.1	255.255.255.252	N/A
	S0/0/1 (DCE)	10.2.2.1	255.255.255.252	N/A
R3	G0/0	192.168.3.1	255.255.255.0	N/A
	S0/0/1	10.2.2.2	255.255.255.252	N/A
PC-A	NIC	192.168.1.3	255.255.255.0	192.168.1.1

PC-B	NIC	192.168.2.3	255.255.255.0	192.168.2.1
PC-C	NIC	192.168.3.3	255.255.255.0	192.168.3.1

ISAKMP Phase 1 Policy Parameters

Parameters		R1	R2
Key distribution method	Manual or **ISAKMP**	**ISAKMP**	**ISAKMP**
Encryption algorithm	**DES**, 3DES, or AES	AES 256	AES 256
Hash algorithm	**MD5 or SHA-1**	**SHA-1**	SHA-1
Authentication method	Pre-shared keys or **RSA**	pre-share	pre-share
Key exchange	DH Group **1,** 2, or 5	DH 2	DH 2
IKE SA Lifetime	86400 seconds or less	**86400**	**86400**
ISAKMP Key	Provided by user.	vpnpa55	vpnpa55

- **Bolded** parameters are defaults. Other defaults need to be explicitly configured.

ISAKMP Phase 2 Policy Parameters

Parameters	R1	R3
Transform Set	VPN-SET	VPN-SET
Peer Hostname	R3	R1
Peer IP Address	10.2.2.2	10.1.1.2
Network to be encrypted	192.168.1.0/24	192.168.3.0/24

Crypto Map name	VPN-MAP	VPN-MAP
SA Establishment	ipsec-isakmp	ipsec-isakmp

The routers have been pre-configured with the following:

- Password for console line: **ciscoconpa55**
- Password for vty lines: **ciscovtypa55**
- Enable password: **ciscoenpa55**
- SSH username and password: **SSHadmin / ciscosshpa55**
- OSPF 101

Part 1: Enable Security Features

Step 1: Activate securityk9 module.

The Security Technology Package license must be enabled to complete this activity.

a. Issue the show version command in the user EXEC or privileged EXEC mode to verify that the Security Technology Package license is activated.

Technology	***Technology-package***		***Technology-package***
	Current	***Type***	***Next reboot***

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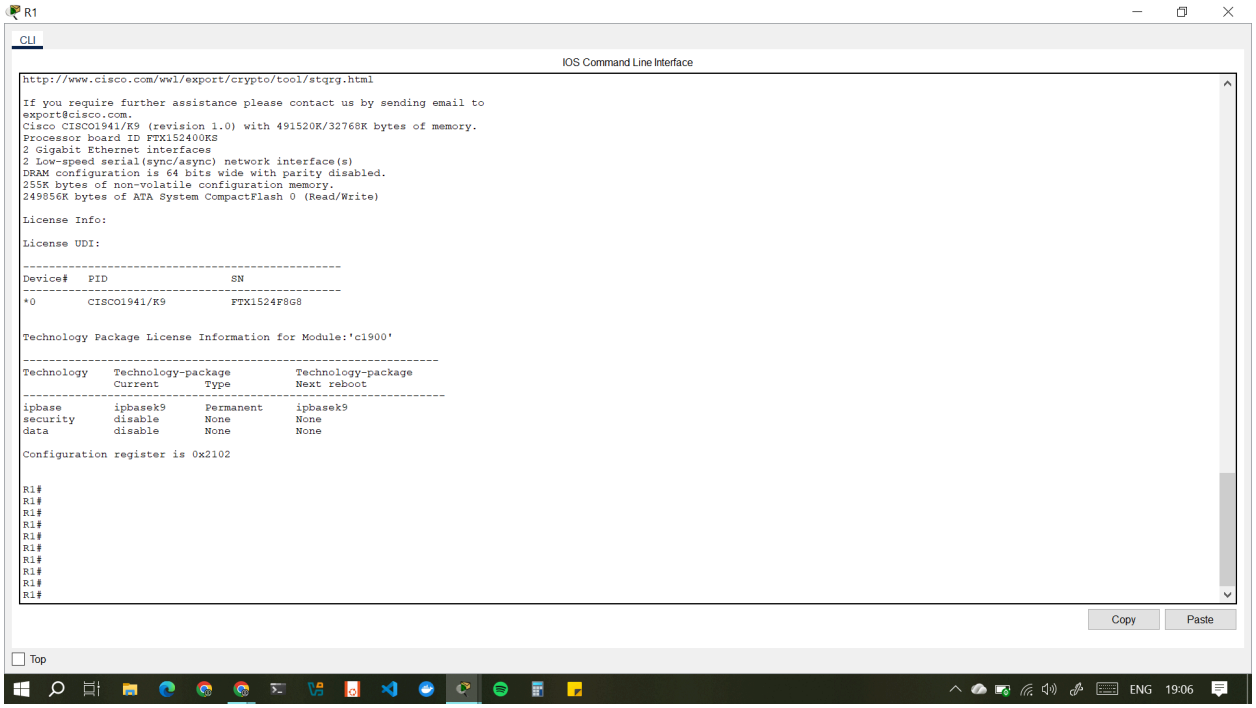
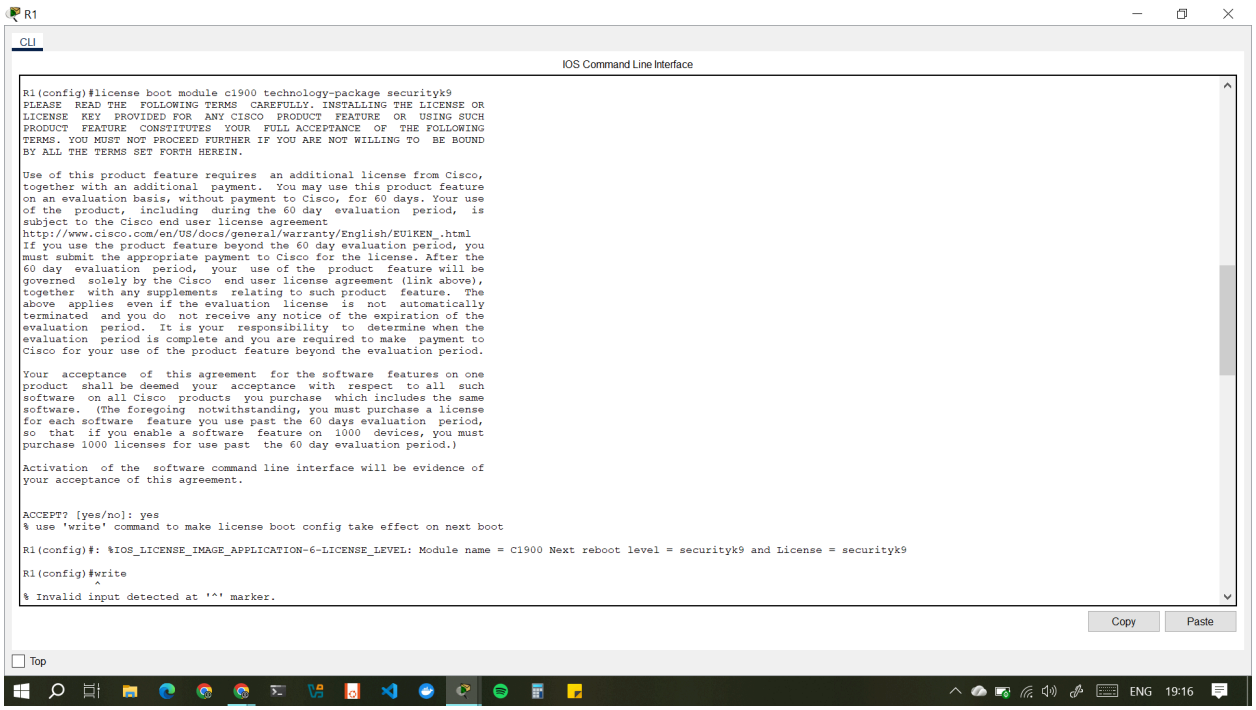
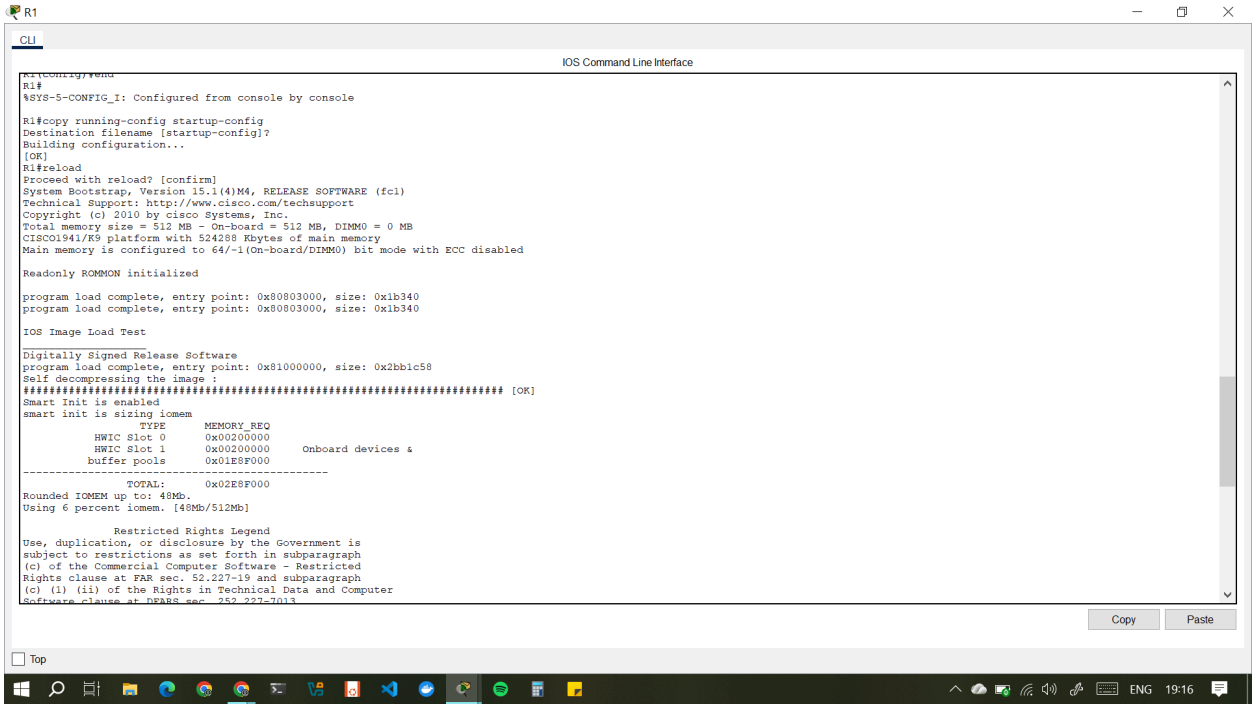
ipbase	***ipbasek9***	***Permanent***	***ipbasek9***
security	***None***	***None***	***None***
uc	***None***	***None***	***None***
data	***None***	***None***	***None***

Configuration register is 0x2102

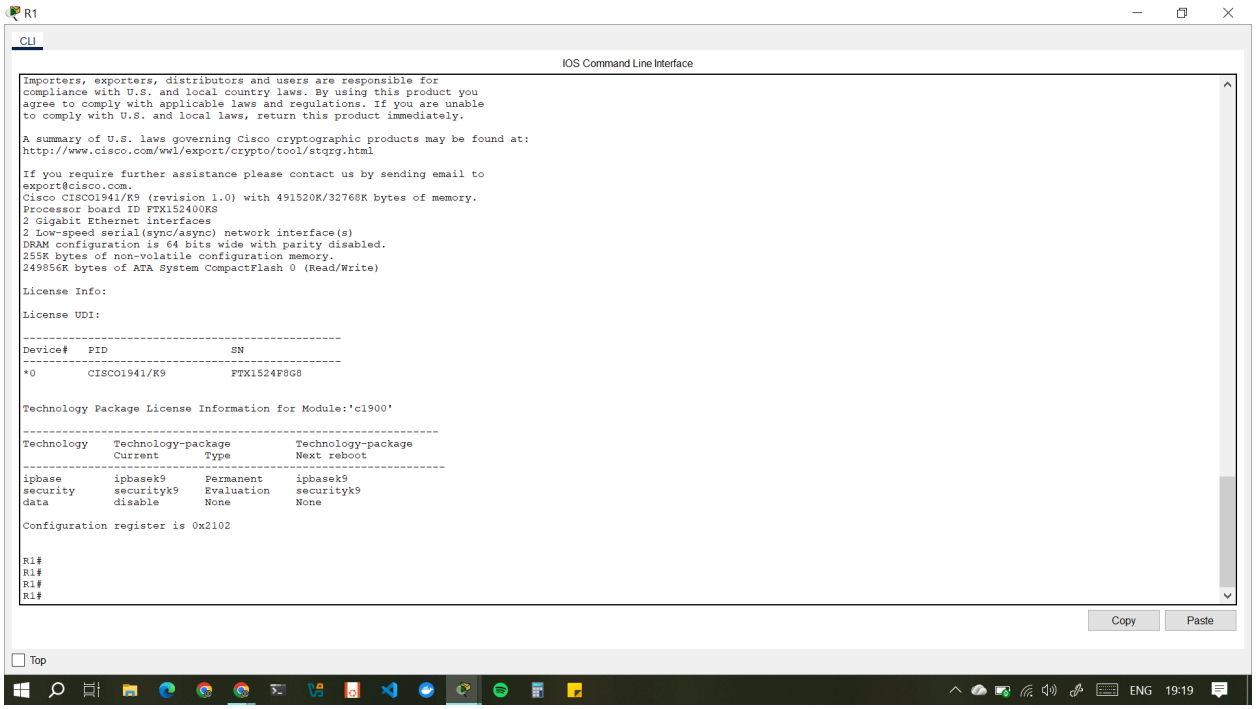


b. If not, activate the **securityk9** module for the next boot of the router, accept the license, save the configuration, and reboot using **license boot module c2900 technology-package securityk9**

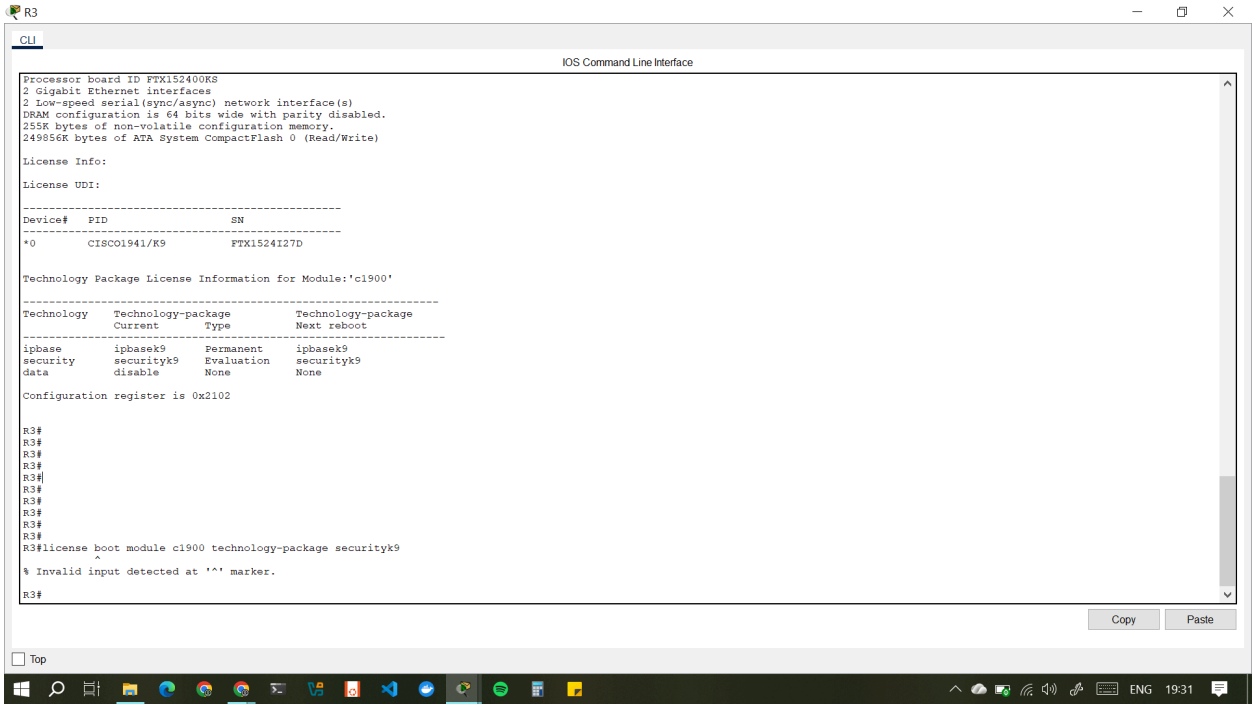




c. After the reloading is completed, issue the **show version** again to verify the Security Technology Package license activation.



d. Repeat Steps 1a to 1c with R3.



Part 2: Configure IPsec Parameters on R1

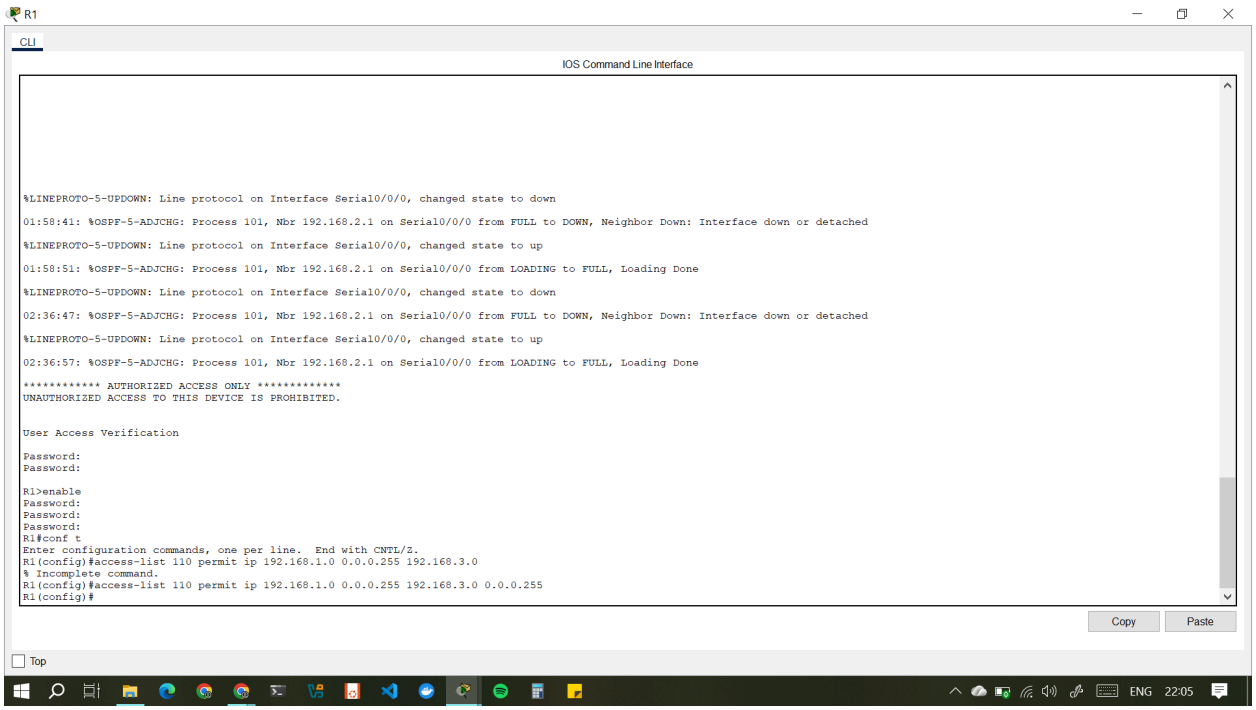
Step 1: Test connectivity.

Ping from PC-A to PC-C.

Step 2: Identify interesting traffic on R1.

Configure ACL 110 to identify the traffic from the LAN on R1 to the LAN on R3 as interesting. This interesting traffic will trigger the IPsec VPN to be implemented whenever there is traffic between R1 to R3 LANs. All other traffic sourced from the LANs will not be encrypted. Remember that due to the implicit deny any, there is no need to add the statement to the list.

R1(config)# **access-list 110 permit ip 192.168.1.0 0.0.0.255 192.168.3.0 0.0.0.255**



Step 3: Configure the ISAKMP Phase 1 properties on R1.

- The goal of phase 1 is to create a secure, authenticated channel between the two VPN peers - like shaking hands before sending any sensitive data.

Configure the crypto ISAKMP policy **10** properties on R1 along with the shared crypto key **cisco**. Refer to the ISAKMP Phase 1 table for the specific parameters to configure. Default values do not have to be configured therefore only the encryption, key exchange method, and DH method must be configured.

*R1(config)# **crypto isakmp policy 10***

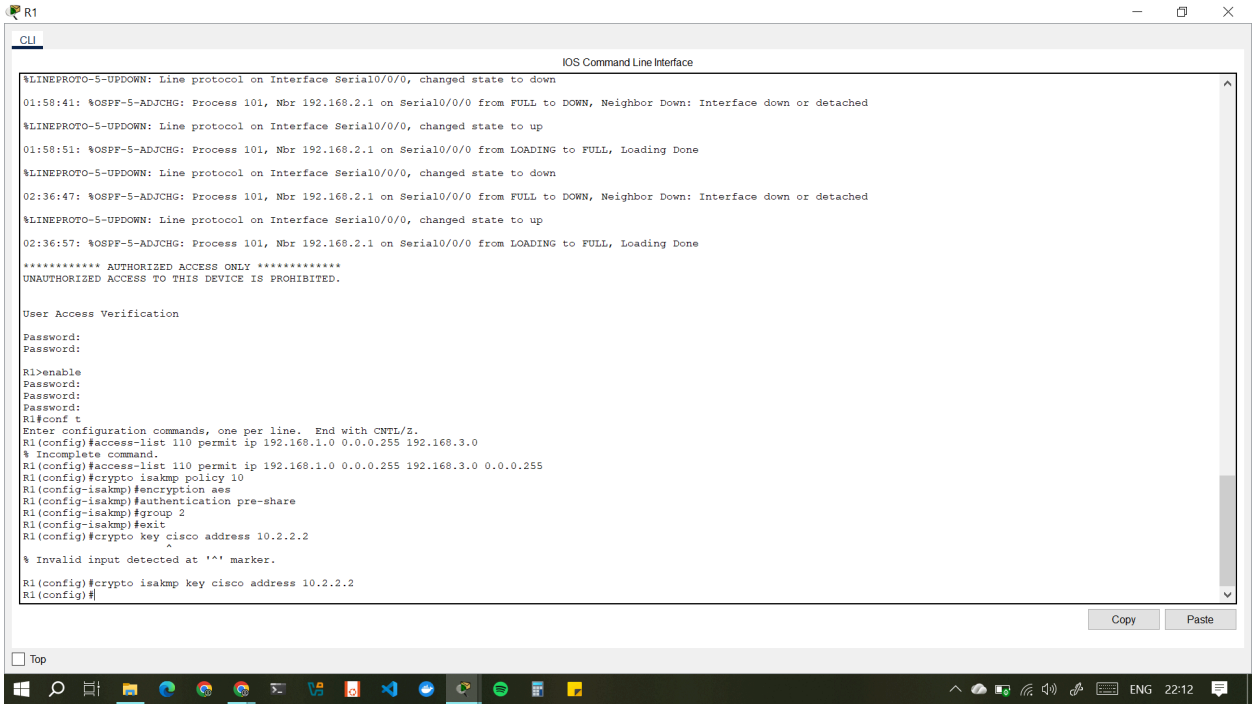
*R1(config-isakmp)# **encryption aes***

*R1(config-isakmp)# **authentication pre-share***

*R1(config-isakmp)# **group 2***

*R1(config-isakmp)# **exit***

*R1(config)# **crypto isakmp key cisco address 10.2.2.2***



Step 4: Configure the ISAKMP Phase 2 properties on R1.

Phase 2 uses the secure channel from Phase 1 to negotiate **how actual data traffic will be protected**.

Create the transform-set VPN-SET to use esp-3des and esp-sha-hmac. Then create the crypto map VPN-MAP that binds all of the Phase 2 parameters together. Use sequence number 10 and identify it as an ipsec-isakmp map.

R1(config)# ***crypto ipsec transform-set VPN-SET esp-3des esp-sha-hmac***

R1(config)# ***crypto map VPN-MAP 10 ipsec-isakmp***

R1(config-crypto-map)# ***description VPN connection to R3***

R1(config-crypto-map)# ***set peer 10.2.2.2***

R1(config-crypto-map)# ***set transform-set VPN-SET***

R1(config-crypto-map)# ***match address 110***

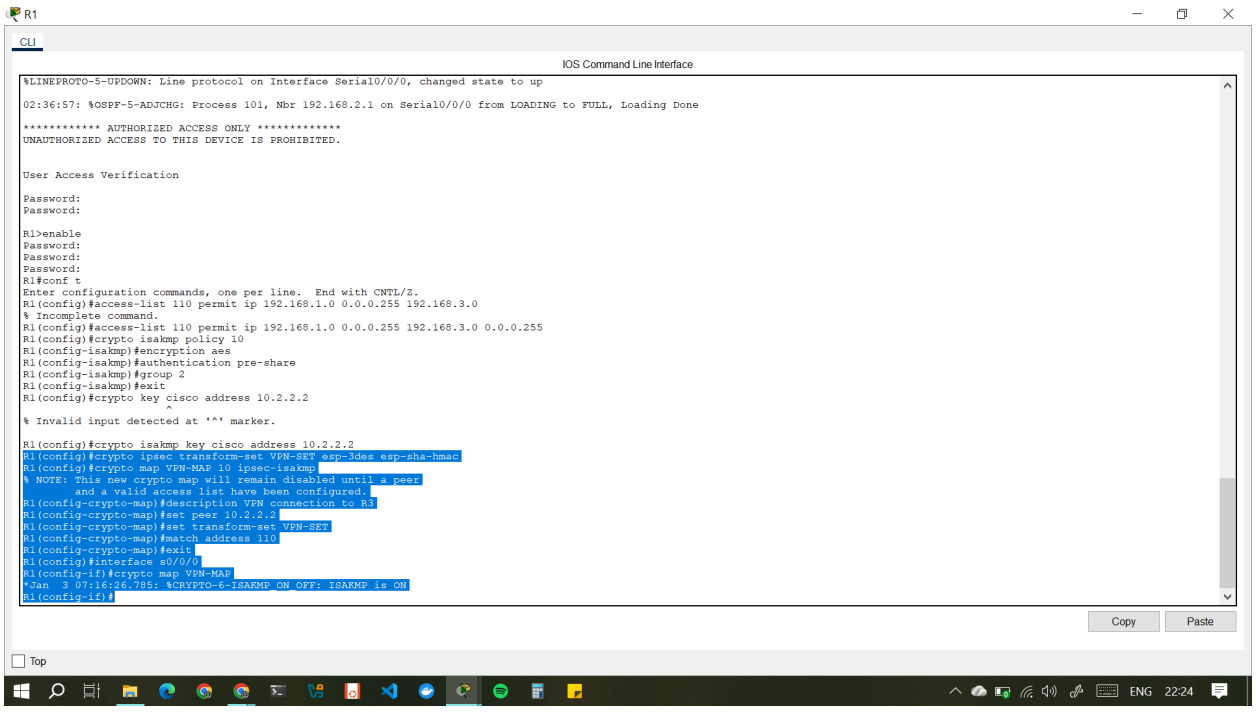
R1(config-crypto-map)# ***exit***

Step 5: Configure the crypto map on the outgoing interface.

Finally, bind the VPN-MAP crypto map to the outgoing Serial 0/0/0 interface. Note: This is not graded.

R1(config)# ***interface S0/0/0***

R1(config-if)# ***crypto map VPN-MAP***



Part 3: Configure IPsec Parameters on R3

Step 1: Configure router R3 to support a site-to-site VPN with R1.

Now configure reciprocating parameters on R3. Configure ACL 110 identifying the traffic from the LAN on R3 to the LAN on R1 as interesting.

R3(config)# ***access-list 110 permit ip 192.168.3.0 0.0.0.255 192.168.1.0 0.0.0.255***

Step 2: Configure the ISAKMP Phase 1 properties on R3.

Configure the crypto ISAKMP policy 10 properties on R3 along with the shared crypto key **cisco.**

R3(config)# ***crypto isakmp policy 10***

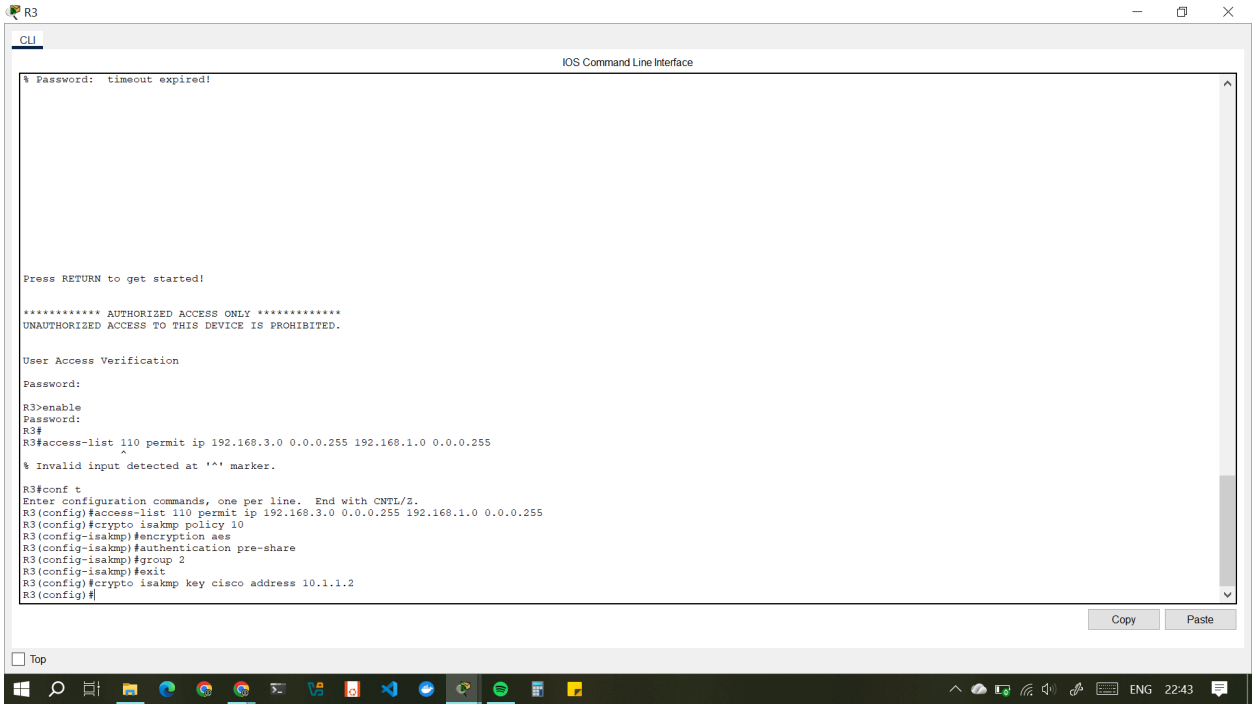
R3(config-isakmp)# ***encryption aes***

R3(config-isakmp)# ***authentication pre-share***

R3(config-isakmp)# ***group 2***

R3(config-isakmp)# ***exit***

R3(config)# ***crypto isakmp key cisco address 10.1.1.2***



Step 3: Configure the ISAKMP Phase 2 properties on R1.

Like you did on R1, create the transform-set **VPN-SET** to use **esp-3des** and **esp-sha-hmac**. Then create the crypto map **VPN-MAP** that binds all of the Phase 2 parameters together. Use sequence number 10 and identify it as an **ipsec-isakmp** map.

R3(config)# ***crypto ipsec transform-set VPN-SET esp-3des esp-sha-hmac***

R3(config)# ***crypto map VPN-MAP 10 ipsec-isakmp***

R3(config-crypto-map)# ***description VPN connection to R1***

R3(config-crypto-map)# ***set peer 10.1.1.2***

R3(config-crypto-map)# ***set transform-set VPN-SET***

R3(config-crypto-map)# ***match address 110***

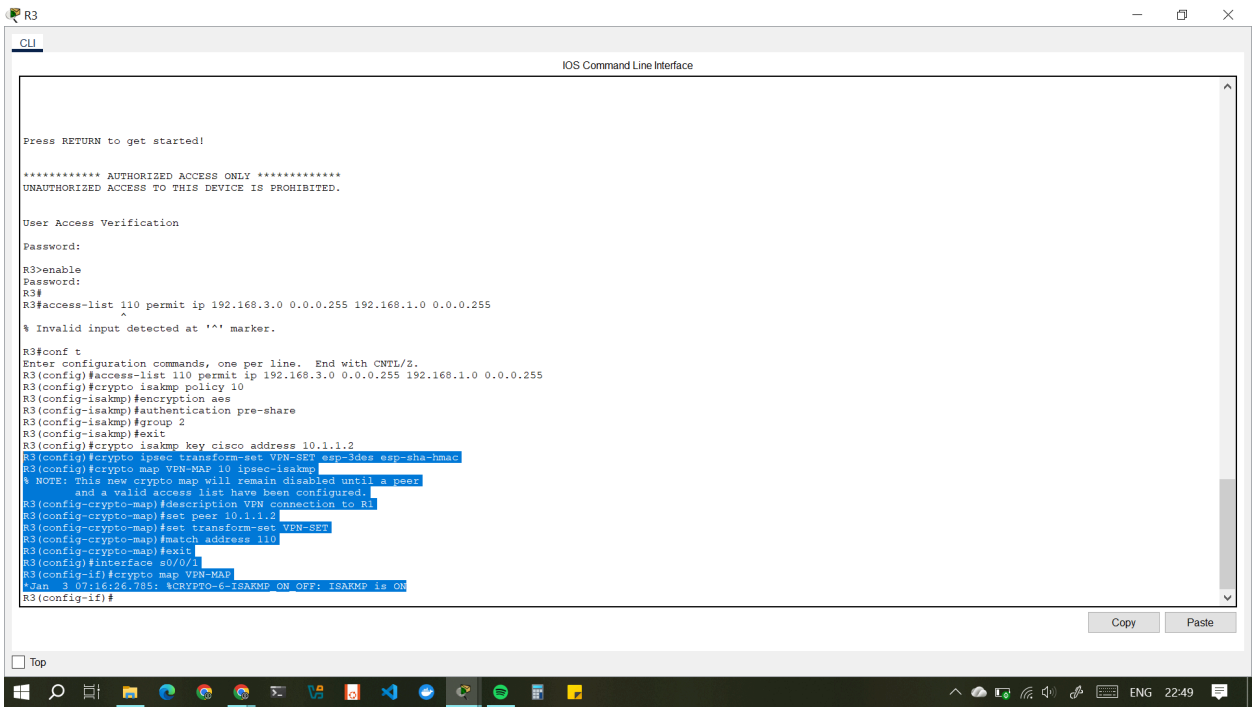
R3(config-crypto-map)# ***exit***

Step 4: Configure the crypto map on the outgoing interface.

Finally, bind the **VPN-MAP** crypto map to the outgoing Serial 0/0/1 interface. Note: This is not graded.

*R3(config)# **interface S0/0/1***

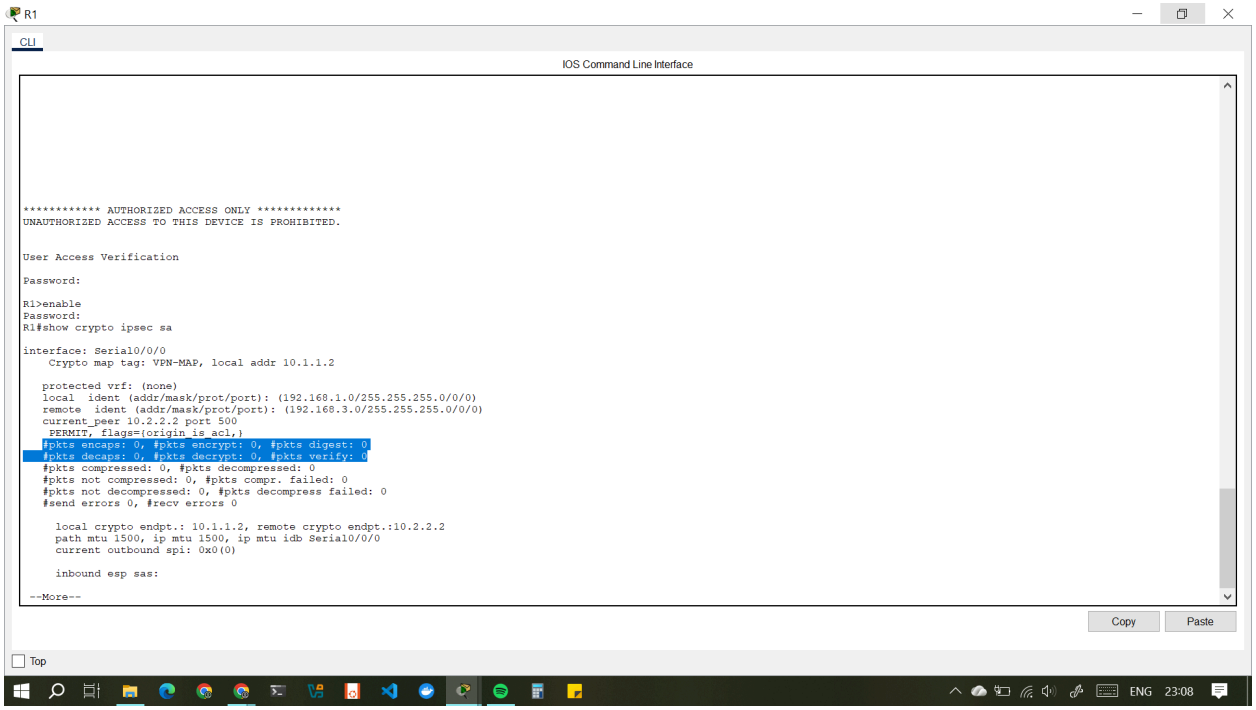
*R3(config-if)# **crypto map VPN-MAP***



Part 4: Verify the IPsec VPN

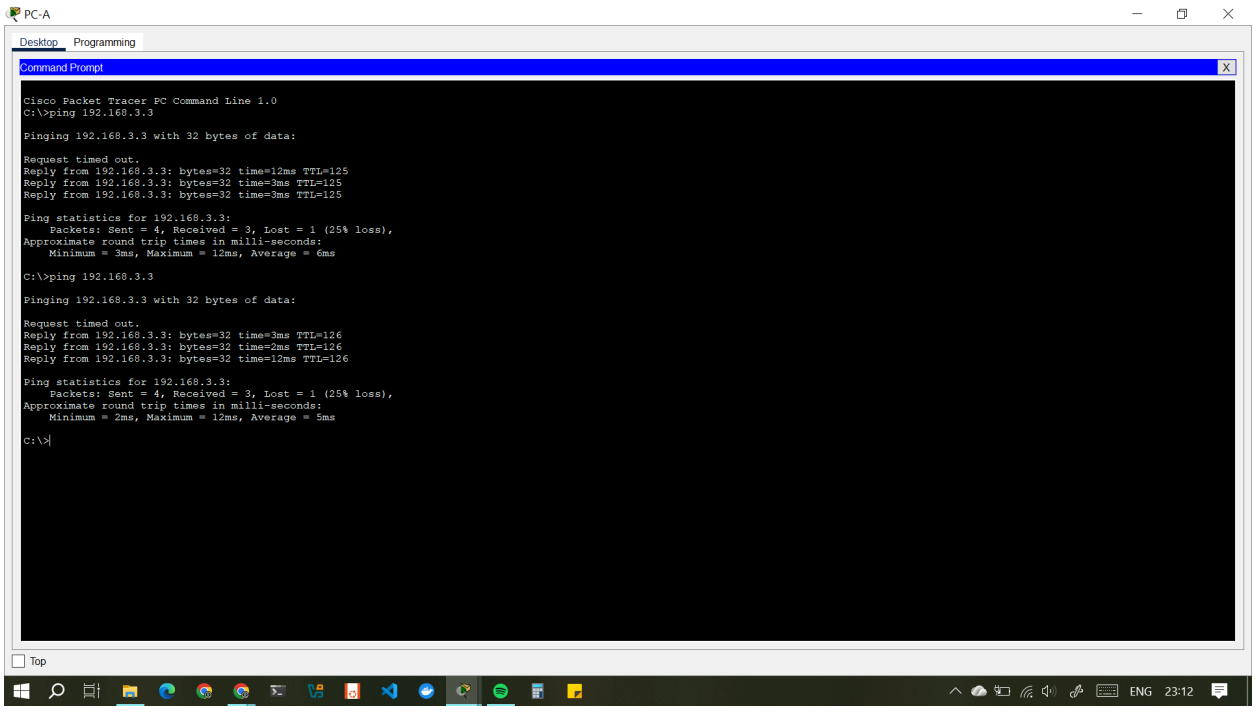
Step 1: Verify the tunnel prior to interesting traffic.

Issue the **show crypto ipsec sa** command on R1. Notice that the number of packets encapsulated, encrypted, decapsulated and decrypted are all set to 0.



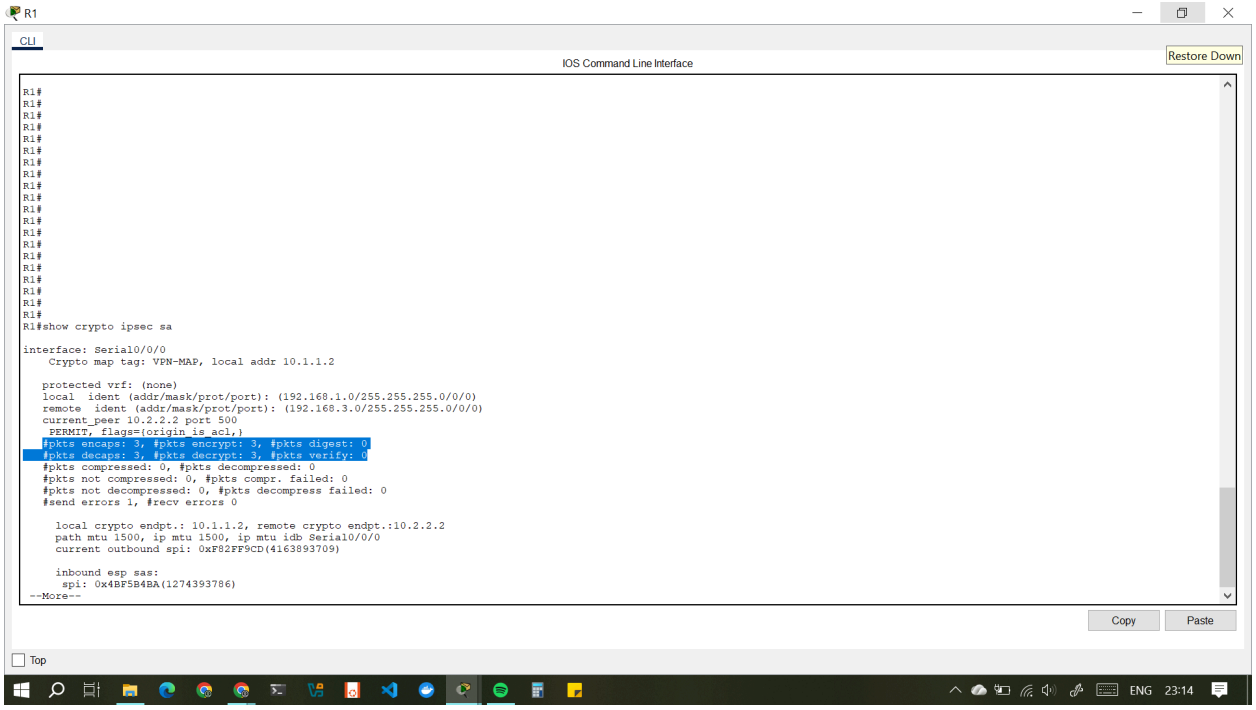
Step 2: Create interesting traffic.

Ping PC-C from PC-A.



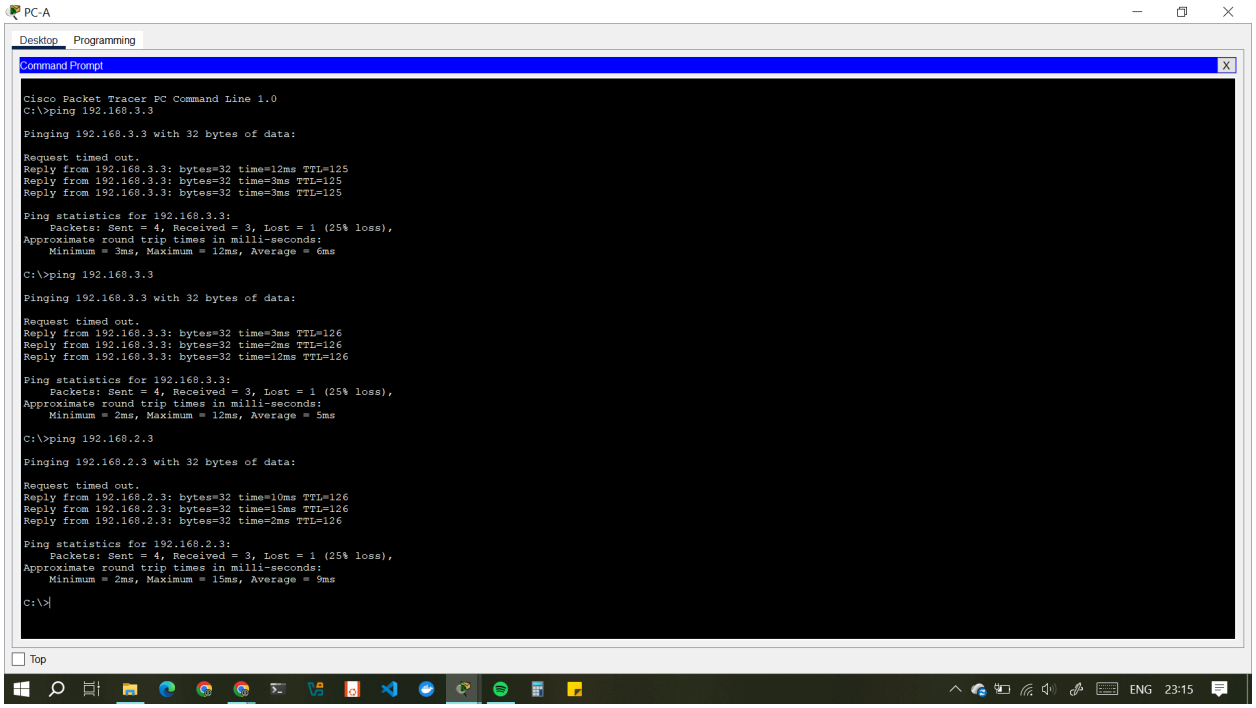
Step 3: Verify the tunnel after interesting traffic.

On R1, re-issue the **show crypto ipsec sa** command. Now notice that the number of packets is more than 0 (3) indicating that the IPsec VPN tunnel is working.



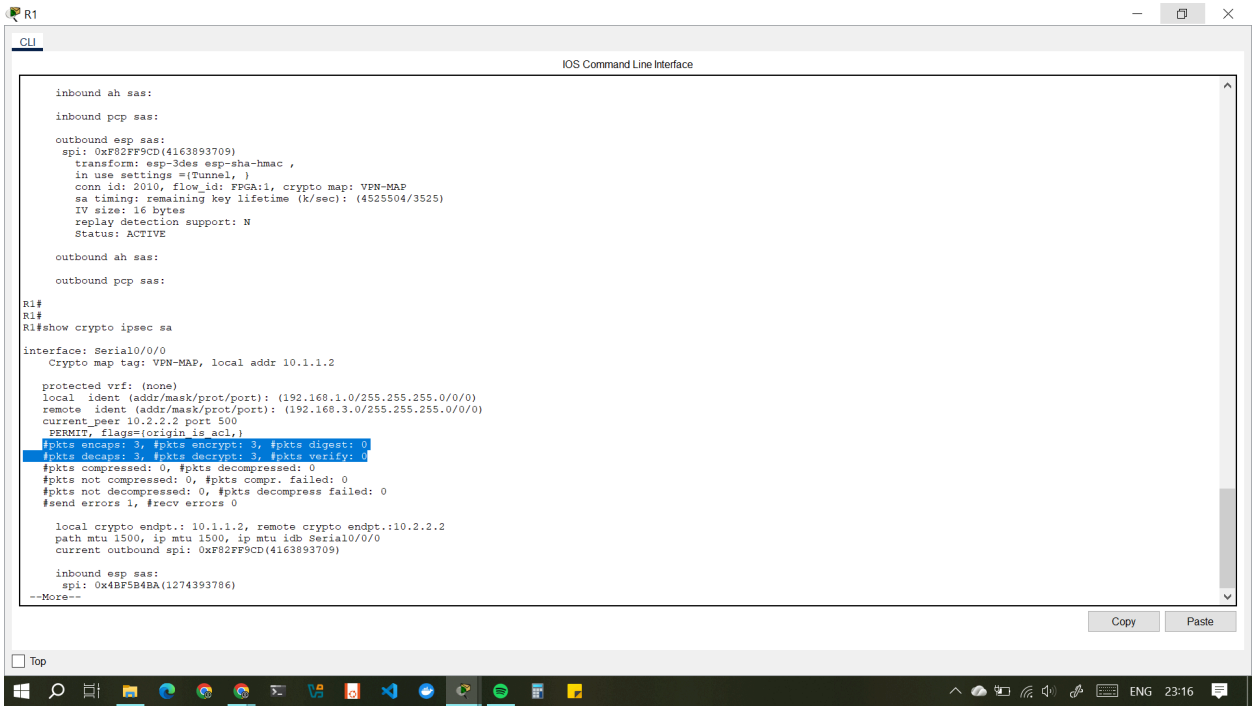
Step 4: Create uninteresting traffic.

Ping PC-B from PC-A.



Step 5: Verify the tunnel.

On R1, re-issue the **show crypto ipsec sa** command. Finally, notice that the number of packets has not changed verifying that uninteresting traffic is not encrypted.



Conclusion

This lab demonstrates the setting up of a secure site-to-site IPsec VPN tunnel between R1 and R3 to ensure encrypted communications between their respective LANs across an untrusted network. ISAKMP Phase 1 and Phase 2 configurations are used to ensure both routers established secure peer authentication, negotiated encryption and hashing algorithms, and exchanged keys for data protection. The use of ACLs effectively defined *interesting traffic*, ensuring that only designated packets were encrypted. Verification tests confirmed that packets sent between R1 and R3 LANs were successfully encapsulated and encrypted, while non-VPN traffic remained unencrypted. This exercise demonstrated the practical process of configuring, securing, and verifying a VPN tunnel, reinforcing the importance of IPsec in maintaining confidentiality, integrity, and authenticity in network communications.