At-a-Glance

Accelerate Your IT Transformation with Cisco Metapod

As software continues to ‘eat the world’ in today’s app economy, companies need to adapt to changing business models, globalization, and increasing regulatory compliance. Under pressure to support strategic business objectives, IT is rapidly embracing cloud technologies. Cloud adoption has steadily gained acceptance because it promises to help you achieve your business goals faster, more efficiently, and more cost effectively.

Figure 1. Cisco Metapod Gives You Complete Control over Users, Projects, Storage, Networking, and More.

Benefits of Cisco Metapod

Reduce costs, increase efficiency, and introduce innovative new business models to make your enterprise more agile and efficient while simplifying operations and infrastructure. Cisco Metapod helps you:

- **Increase cloud reliability** with a solution designed to get up and running quickly and stay up continuously. Our redundant controller design helps ensure that your cloud services stay up even in the event of controller hardware failure.

- **Empower your developers and software engineers** by giving them instant access to a programmable cloud with the resources they need to innovate, including computing, storage, network, and load-balancing resources, and more.

Cisco Metapod™ is an excellent solution to some of your organization’s biggest business and technology challenges. This infrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS) offer delivers a reliable and programmable infrastructure for your application development and operation teams while providing a public cloud experience behind your firewall, on your premises, and with full remote management.

With Cisco as your IT partner, Cisco Metapod gives your administrators complete visibility and control through an enhanced OpenStack dashboard and tool set. It’s a production-ready solution that we build, deploy, and operate for you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Whether you prefer third-party hardware or the industry-leading Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®), we will have your cloud up and running within days, and we will monitor it continuously to help ensure that it stays up.

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• **Cut costs** by bringing predictable, high-volume workloads in house, while limiting costly public cloud use to spikes and variable workloads.

• **Free your IT staff** to focus on helping end users build the innovative applications your business needs to succeed. Cisco professionals perform all the engineering, setup, and ongoing operations for your Cisco Metapod.

• **Get easy updates** with our leading OpenStack-as-a-service delivery model. We believe that cloud upgrades should be easy and worry free, so we deliver the most up-to-date software patches and without the need for you to do anything.

Cisco Metapod gives you comprehensive cloud capabilities, including:

• **Freedom of Location:** Your private cloud can be built in your own data center or in a co-location facility of your choice. You can create multiple availability zones and deliver a consistent experience for users and administrators. We will work with your teams to design and implement the right environment for your applications and business.

• **Security:** Cisco Metapod takes data security very seriously, and we are committed to protecting our clients’ environments. Our controls include OS hardening such as secure audit trail logging, SSL/TLS encryption on API endpoints, restricted end-user access via the dashboard and APIs, and restricted Cisco support access via our secure administrative gateway.

• **Excellent Price-Performance Ratio:** By combining open source software, high-performance system design, and hardware flexibility, Cisco delivers a superior price:performance ratio compared to alternative cloud options.

• **Enhanced OpenStack:** Cisco Metapod is not a traditional OpenStack distribution. Our world-class OpenStack engineering and operations teams have built it for stability and for superior performance and scale. Its unique capabilities include:
  - Computing: Resize instance and auto instance failover
  - Networking: Auto network range expansion, Cisco Metapod gateway, and rapid failover with dynamic VLAN allocations and Layer 3 expansion

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When video streaming innovator Ooyala needed a cloud solution that would help control costs while accommodating their extraordinary growth, they chose Cisco Metapod. Our fully managed on-premises solution delivered all the cost savings and performance benefits they sought, while allowing their ops team to focus on the innovations that are core to their business.

“With Metapod, we implemented OpenStack six months faster than we could have ourselves, and they’ve taken responsibility for keeping our cloud running 24×7. OpenStack is clearly pulling away from the competition in the open source cloud space.”

Peter Bakas
Director of Platform Engineering and Operations, Ooyala

- Control plane: Highly scalable and full high availability
- Dashboard enhancements: Live statistics and historical graphs for hypervisors, controllers, and vCPU use

- **Reliability:** Our redundant controller design ensures that your cloud service stays up despite failures or during maintenance upgrades. This allows us to upgrade your environment over time without interruption to cloud services. Cisco Metapod is built to simply stay up and running.

- **Operational Support:** Every Cisco deployment includes operational support to keep your cloud running all day, every day. Our cloud operations team integrates transparently with your change control structure to perform maintenance and deliver updates, while actively monitoring and managing your environment around the clock.

- **Self-service Capabilities:** Administrators can quickly create new projects, assign users, and set quotas on cloud usage, with full visibility into stack health, performance, and capacity. You can create and rapidly deploy custom ‘gold’ images, custom flavors and sizes, and give your developers self-service, on-demand access.

### A Private Cloud That Works Like a Public Cloud
Cisco Metapod eases your migration to the cloud while providing the choice, flexibility, and data governance that you and your partners require, including support for hybrid architectures.

Cisco’s team of cloud experts handles all the engineering, setup, and operations for your on-premises private cloud, so you can focus on building and running your applications. It’s delivered by Cisco in an as-a-service model, on your hardware, in your data center, anywhere in the world.

The Cisco Metapod platform gives you more agility and greater control over your cloud infrastructure. In operation, it’s like using a public cloud, but with complete control over users, projects, quotas, flavor sizes, virtual machine images, storage, networking, and more.

With Cisco Metapod, there’s no need to hire your own in-house OpenStack experts or retrain existing staff. You simply begin consuming resources. Your application teams will benefit from the stability, security, and scale of our world-class Cisco and Metapod engineering teams.

Like the public cloud, your private cloud will improve over time with regular updates that deliver OpenStack innovation directly to your users. The result is a public cloud experience with a deeper level of control.
Why Cisco?

Cisco is the private cloud infrastructure leader, providing choice and flexibility that spans Cisco verified designs for cloud converged infrastructure to remotely managed OpenStack solutions with Cisco Metapod.

With thousands of expertly trained Cisco CCIE® professionals and 25 years of exclusive intellectual capital and industry-leading tools and automation, Cisco Managed Services delivers enhanced SLA-backed business outcomes. With the industry-leading capabilities for OpenStack and the OpenStack expertise of Metapod, you can be assured that partnering with Cisco for your private cloud needs is the right approach.

With Cisco as an extension of your organization, you can focus on your business outcomes and empower your application development teams. Together, we can define your optimal level of control as you lower costs, increase agility, and reduce risk on your journey to the cloud.