

A person with dark hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt, is holding a large white rectangular sign in front of their face. The sign contains the text "Get back to being connected anytime, anywhere." in a blue, sans-serif font. The background is a light-colored, textured wall.

Get back to
being connected
anytime, anywhere.

How-To Guide: Building an Agile Team with Cloud Collaboration

Where and how people work is changing.

According to ZK Research 2014 studies, people are connecting more with others outside the office, working remotely, and using different devices for work:

- 71 percent of organizations regularly collaborate with individuals outside the company.
- 48 percent of employees now spend at least 30 percent of their time away from their primary workspace.
- 84 percent of knowledge workers now carry a tablet or smartphone.

What: We share thoughts, ideas, instructions, and content through meetings and conversations.

When: We have scheduled and instantaneous interactions. As in everyday life, we like to connect with people on the fly or through always-on capabilities (a little like how we moved from dial-up Internet access to always-on broadband).

Where: We work everywhere and anywhere—from a meeting room, from our desks, from our mobile devices, and from the applications we use every day.

How: We deploy and consume the services according to business needs—it varies.

Whether colleagues are traveling or at home, Cisco® DX80 endpoints make it easy to collaborate.



Considerations.

We live in an increasingly demanding world. We are more critical, so we expect more—a better experience, more scale, and capacity on demand. We also have to consider balancing cost, quality, and whether we have the required resources to accommodate agile teams.

The primary challenge is to enable a way of working that ensures people can connect and collaborate, wherever they are, without the technology getting in the way. How can you meet this challenge to support agility?

- **Embed** collaboration functionality into operations, applications, and business processes. Make sure people can consume and embrace collaboration as part of the way they work rather than a series of isolated tools.
- **Extend** services broadly across the organization, creating a full and integrated solution for all employees—anywhere, on any device, and for every task—and providing the ability to dynamically scale on demand.
- **Integrate** what you have today with what teams will want tomorrow while maximizing existing on-premises and cloud services.

Embrace cloud to increase agility.

- 25 percent of surveyed companies utilize hosted services; of nonusers, 47 percent are likely to use hosted services within the next 12 months. — *Frost & Sullivan*
- 56 percent of survey respondents currently use or plan to use collaboration through software-as-a-service (SaaS) deployment models. — *Forrester*
- By 2016, more than 50 percent of all net-new video infrastructure deployments will be delivered from the cloud or as SaaS. — *Gartner*



Cisco MX700/800 endpoints bring teams together for a meeting experience that feels like in person, even when they're oceans apart.

COLLABORATION

Reduce complexity – When you can more quickly enable mobility and deploy and scale solutions, you can free IT to focus on strategic priorities. Speeding up deployment also supports faster time to value. Cloud improves team agility by allowing you to:

- Support continuity of user experience across an organization.
- Create scalability of services across geographies.
- Consolidate and standardize system management.

Reduce costs – Cloud’s on-demand consumption model can remove costs from areas of the business. It can provide greater efficiency through a simple, operating expenses (OpEx)-based subscription model that includes predictable cost and service levels. Use cloud to:

- Reduce management complexity.
- Increase resource utilization.
- Decrease the sometimes hidden cost of overall resource requirements.

Speed deployment – IT is turning to cloud to remove the barriers that slow the deployment of new technology. In terms of deployment, cloud helps you:

- Deploy solutions quickly based on business demand.
- Provide visibility across all services being deployed.
- Speed up and simplify deployment of applications and services.
- Enable mobility with on-demand services such as secure bring-your-own-device (BYOD) programs and flexible workspaces, in any environment.

Cloud can help you increase the agility of teams by supporting effective collaboration in a variety of ways. And it allows you to rapidly adjust to market trends, opportunities, and changing user demands without minimizing employee productivity.

Cisco DX80, DX70, and DX650 endpoints bridge the distance right from your desktop.



How flexible options ensure smooth transformation.

IT departments are under pressure to manage growing demand for new services; provide better user experiences; and integrate applications that are not optimized for enterprise scale, security, or manageability. Cisco offers both premises- and cloud-based collaboration solutions.

Security – Security is an integral component of Cisco cloud architectures. All components are built by Cisco, or they are built by our certified partners, ensuring security in depth and breadth.

Management – Integrated management across data center, network, and applications provides full visibility for a unified perspective of service performance, availability, and security.

Scalability and survivability – It's important to make sure that your platform is designed and built to accommodate the potential for a large number of users across multiple geographies. To grow and iterate quickly, you need flexibility to continuously deliver new and innovative user experiences.

Iteration is a key part of the Cisco Collaboration cloud; it's based on a service-oriented architecture so the experiences of all services tied to the cloud are constantly improving.

Application performance.

Cloud doesn't mean compromise. You can have the same level of application functionality and performance across a cloud deployment as with on-premises deployment. The key factor is that your platform needs to work well for the system that your customers, partners, administrators, consultants, and customer support all use. As you can imagine, not having that synergy can lead to a lot of frustration, missed opportunities, and wasted time.

The Cisco innovative cloud strategy can help organizations manage flexible hybrid environments and connect multiple clouds. The Cisco Collaboration platform is an engine for innovation for both Cisco and our ecosystem of partners. It is defined by four key tenets:

- Iteration to continuously deliver new and innovative user experiences
- Security and encryption
- Fusion of premises, partner, and Cisco collaboration services
- Ecosystem centricity to empower partners and administrators to manage and improve the user experience

So let's bring it back to collaboration. At the end of the day, you want seamless collaboration from anywhere, with anyone, at any time. You want collaboration experiences that are:

- Scheduled from your calendar, via instant meeting (with one click), or in your own "always on" personal meeting space
- Simple, no matter what time it is or where you are
- Built on the same experience regardless of the deployment method

Go from expected to exceptional with Cisco Collaboration.

Cisco Collaboration cloud solutions help you extend the workplace beyond traditional office walls and make it easy for people to collaborate.

Create exceptional collaboration experiences in every room and on every desk.

- [Learn more](#) about exceptional Cisco DX, SX, MX, and IX lines of video endpoints.

Integrate voice, video, mobile, and presence effortlessly across any device.

- [Discover](#) Cisco market-leading unified communications platforms for midmarket and enterprise.

Connect anyone, anywhere, anytime with high-quality, secure WebEx® conferencing.

- [See how](#) you can create your perfect conferencing solution, in the cloud or on premises.

Increase customer satisfaction and loyalty with breakthrough customer collaboration.

- [Find out](#) how Cisco multichannel customer solutions are making service more personal.

For more guidance, check these helpful resources:

[Cisco Cloud and Hybrid Collaboration Solutions](#)

[Migrating Collaboration to the Cloud](#)

[Evaluation Guide: How to Select a Hosted Communications Solution and Partner](#)

[Today's Workers Require a New Way to Work with Their Teams](#)

[Cloud 101: Developing a Cloud-Computing Strategy for Higher Education](#)

More on Cisco solutions:

[Cisco WebEx](#)

[Cisco Collaboration Meeting Rooms \(CMR\)](#)



Cisco MX200/300 endpoints bring high-quality video to any meeting.