

# FlexPod®

## Powering Applications from the Data Center to the Edge

### FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini

#### Reduce costs and radically simplify computing with FlexPod and Cisco UCS® Mini.

Imagine deploying powerful integration infrastructure solutions simply and easily at remote locations where computing is needed but, historically, has been difficult to support. Imagine not needing to have local technical support contracts added to your expenses. Imagine powerful, flexible servers that don't need raised floors but that are managed remotely and consistently with the rest of your data center infrastructure.

FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini integrates Cisco UCS Mini, consisting of Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS) blade servers, with NetApp FAS storage. This validated, compact solution is specifically designed to be easily deployed and managed remotely.

#### FlexPod Express with Cisco UCS Mini

This ultra-simplified solution is excellent for environments in which few or no IT staff members are available to run and manage your infrastructure.

#### Medium-Sized Businesses

Medium-sized businesses often have few or no full-time IT staff members. With Cisco UCS Mini, you can have an easy-to-manage solution that can grow as your business grows.

#### Remote-Office and Branch-Office and Retail Environments

Many remote and branch offices, and retail environments lack local IT staff. For these locations, the remote management features of Cisco UCS Mini are especially valuable. If a user reports a problem, there's no need to send a technician onsite to perform the initial troubleshooting. Cisco UCS Manager can help you resolve problems more quickly.

#### Edge Computing

The Cisco UCS Mini solution provides a powerful computing and I/O platform capable of ingesting and preprocessing large amounts of data very quickly. It's an excellent choice for situations in which large amounts of data must be collected and processed at remote sites. If you have more than one site, you can use Cisco UCS Central Software. This software solution provides multisite remote management, helping ensure server consistency across every site: you can update 100 sites as easily as you can update one site.

#### FlexPod Datacenter with Cisco UCS Mini

FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini fits transparently into your data center, integrating with the FlexPod infrastructure, policies, and procedures you already have.



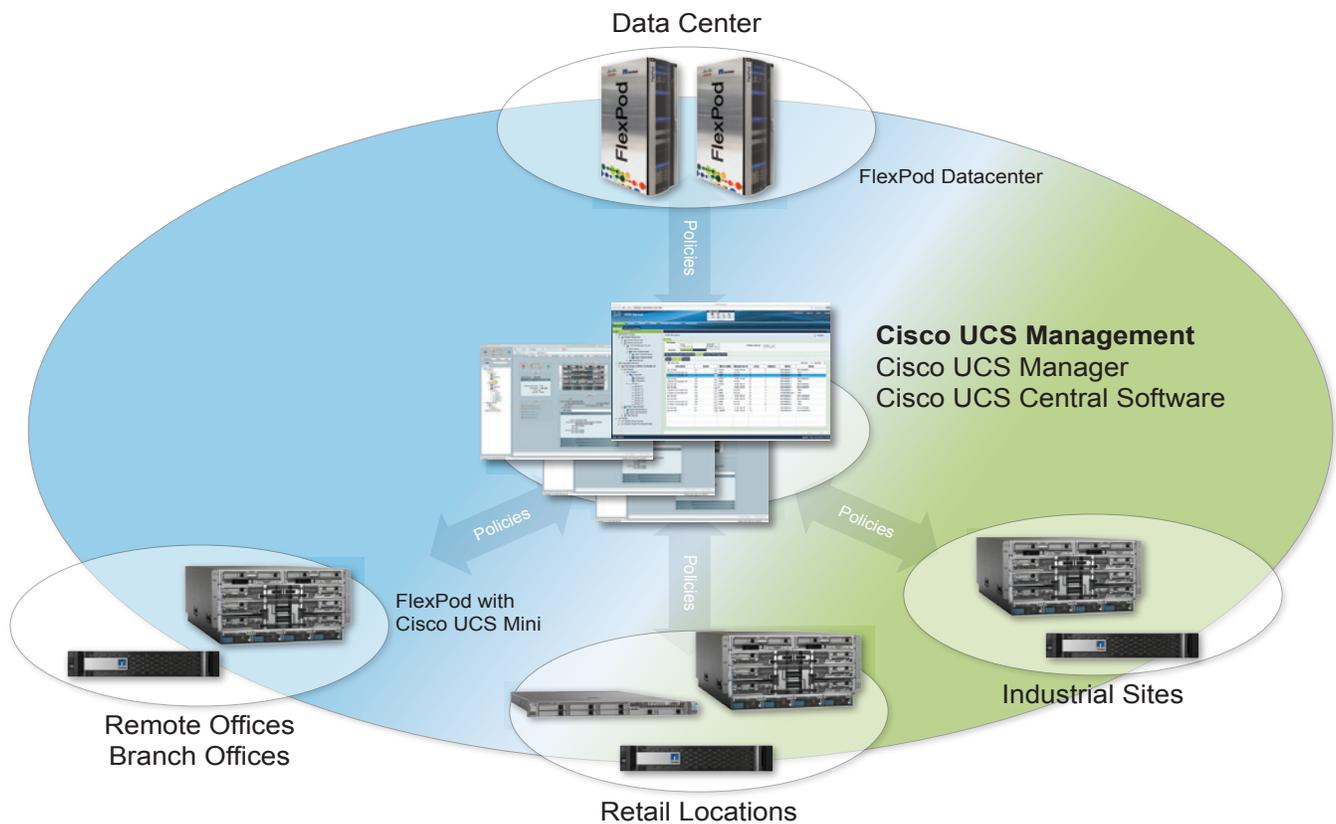


Figure 1. FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini Is an Extension of Your Business Creating Consistent Infrastructure from the Data Center to the Edge

### Medium-Sized and Large Businesses

FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini is an excellent solution to use as part of your demilitarized zone (DMZ) or in small-scale IT environments. Sometimes compliance requires physical hardware separation. For example, companies that want to outsource their server needs may not want their server equipment located in the same domain as another company's servers. Companies may be very risk adverse and require very small failure domains. With Cisco UCS Manager and Cisco UCS Central Software, maintaining smaller domains of 2 to 15 servers is no longer a management challenge.

### Cisco UCS Mini

Cisco UCS Mini delivers servers, storage, and 10 Gigabit networking in an easy-to-deploy, compact form factor. Cisco UCS Mini provides a total computing solution with the proven management simplicity of the award-winning Cisco UCS Manager.

### Remote Management

Cisco UCS Manager uses a model-based approach to describe and implement a configuration by associating a logical model with a physical set of resources. A model, embodied as a Cisco UCS service profile, is a self-contained description of server identity, configuration, and connectivity. Cisco UCS Central Software (Figure 1) extends the role- and policy-based management model of Cisco UCS Manager to deliver single, consistent, role- and

policy-based management that spans multiple systems within a data center, across multiple facilities, and across locations worldwide. The combination of Cisco UCS Manager and Cisco UCS Central Software gives you consistency with your data center at the edge to simplify operations and support and reduce staffing needs.

### Less Complexity

Less complexity means lower costs. Cisco UCS Mini brings the full power of Cisco UCS in an all-in-one, small footprint. It is a unified system that eliminates the multiple layers of complex and separate Ethernet and Fibre Channel switching and associated management with Cisco® SingleConnect technology. We deliver outstanding performance and reduced complexity through a

tight integration between Cisco UCS Mini and NetApp storage.

Your operating costs are reduced because management is integrated, simplifying deployment and reducing the risk of configuration errors that can cause downtime. Integrated management means that you can deploy servers in minutes, rather than the days or weeks required in traditional environments.

### Lower Total Cost of Ownership

For a small configuration of two servers, the total cost of ownership (TCO) of the Cisco UCS Mini over three years offers you savings compared to a similar HP solution (HP DL360p Gen8):

- 38 percent savings on server and switch hardware costs and warranty costs
- 48 percent savings on power and cooling
- 43 percent savings for initial provisioning and ongoing server and network administration
- 100 percent savings on system management software licenses and warranty

Additionally, because Cisco UCS Mini can be managed remotely by your data center staff with efficiency and consistency, you won't have to pay for expensive support contracts with remote service organizations. This capability greatly reduces your TCO for remote- and branch-office servers.

### Reduced Risk

FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini went through extensive testing to become a certified Cisco Validated Design. Our goal was to make deployment of the solution fast and easy. This solution also is designed to be highly available and reliable, allowing you to deploy and operate it with confidence.

### Flexible Solution

FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini is an excellent solution for serving the computing needs of your remote and branch offices, edge computing for retail environments, onsite data collection, and smaller data center environments. The solution reduces your risk and accelerates deployments with validated designs. The solution also lowers your costs with a radically simplified architecture, fewer components, reduced power and cooling needs, and remote system management that lets you extend your data center expertise to these deployments.

### For More Information

For more information, read the Cisco Validated Design guides:

- [FlexPod with Cisco UCS Mini Design Guide](#)
- [FlexPod with UCS Mini Deployment Guide](#)

For more information about FlexPod, visit <http://www.cisco.com/go/flexpod>.

