Automate and Streamline Daily Operations

Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) management software delivers efficient automation capabilities and role-based access to help you effectively administer and manage data center infrastructure. This tightly integrated management solution provides a model-driven foundation for streamlining the day-to-day process of provisioning, monitoring, and managing computing, local storage, storage connections, and network connections. Cisco UCS management software uses simple, software-defined policies that enable connectivity, computing, and firmware settings to be defined once and rolled out the same way every time. This increases speed and flexibility, helps ensure consistency, and reduces the risk of manual errors.

Cisco UCS Manager provides unified, embedded management of all software and hardware components of Cisco UCS infrastructure. This includes Cisco UCS B-Series Blade Servers, C-Series Rack Servers, M-Series Modular Servers, and the Cisco UCS Mini as well as associated storage and networks. It speeds IT service rollouts and actively helps prevent error-induced downtime through a model-based, software-defined approach to management. This policy-driven approach to automation delivers greater agility, integration, and scale for infrastructure operations, while reducing complexity and risk. It provides flexible role- and policy-based management with service profiles and templates.

Benefits

- **Streamline operations** by automating routine tasks and significantly lower support costs
- **Gain flexibility and efficiency** to help make IT teams more agile and responsive to the business
- **Unify management** across data center, cloud-scale, and edge-scale workloads
- **Scale** to manage and support thousands of servers with local storage and network connections
- **Support traditional systems** through integration with a wide range of existing management tools
- **Mitigate risk** by implementing best practices through policy-driven automation

Figure 1. Cisco UCS Central Software Globally Manages Policy and Configuration Definitions for an Entire Infrastructure

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Facilitate Change While Preserving Your Investments

Cisco UCS Central Software extends the capabilities of Cisco UCS Manager to support up to 6000 servers. It manages multiple, distributed domains with configuration capabilities for service profiles, pools, policies, and firmware. It allows you to work easily on a global scale, putting computing capacity close to users while centrally managing infrastructure.

The multidomain dashboard of Cisco USC Central provides inventory, health and faults, statistics, and KVM access. Initial domain setup establishes operational policies, ID pools, and more. Policy management provides global policies and service profiles that help you standardize across domains. This allows you to operate and consistently manage a multidomain, multiple-data center environment across thousands of systems.

Global resource information and policies are accessible through an XML API. It collects and monitors inventory, fault, and audit information across multiple domains to facilitate service assurance for the Cisco UCS infrastructure. By storing operation statistics in an Oracle, Microsoft SQL, or PostgreSQL database, it allows customers to create their own reports and charts.

Cisco UCS management software is open and heterogeneous, supporting conventional infrastructure and newer “disaggregated” or “composable” infrastructure, such as the Cisco UCS M-Series Modular Servers. The unified XML API in Cisco UCS management software facilitates the dynamic provisioning of computing, storage, and network elements within Cisco UCS. It enables deep integration with a broad range of systems, operations, and orchestration and change management tools. It also supports cloud-native applications that are written to the XML API for integration into higher-level data center management frameworks. Cisco has a mature ecosystem of proven integrations, and we provide resources for interoperability validation through the Cisco® Solution Partner Program and the Cisco Interoperability Verification Testing (IVT) Program.

Next Steps

Using a unified view of data center resources, Cisco and our industry-leading partners deliver services that help you migrate to Cisco’s unified computing architecture. They can help you optimize ongoing operations to better meet your business needs.

For more information, please visit:

- Cisco UCS Management
- Cisco UCS Manager
- Cisco UCS Central Software
- Unified Computing