



5 ways to simplify everything with SDN – because your time is a terrible thing to waste.



“90% of respondents agree that agile ‘Fast IT’ infrastructure models like automation and programmability are the key to the future.”

– Cisco, *Future of IT*

1

Complexity or innovation. There can only be one.

Network complexity makes it harder for your network to grow, wastes time and expends resources. That being said, your network must evolve with your business needs if you want to stay competitive. Instead of compounding complexity and multiplying manual updates, your network needs to foster innovation.

- **The solution:** Fast IT
- **The result:** dramatic reduction in network management overhead



What is Fast IT?

Fast IT is the IT operating model for the digital era. It embraces today’s technology transitions of cloud, mobility and security along with data analytics and the Internet of Everything.

2

Manage policies automatically – and lose nothing in translation.

The key to optimising your network management is implementing the right software-defined networking (SDN) architecture. Cisco® Application-Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI™) – the Cisco SDN solution – makes it easier to manage application policies throughout your whole network by using a policy language that is relevant to your specific business needs. Aside from being easier to manage and program, Cisco ACI is also designed to offer greater scalability and dramatically improve network visibility.



3

Deploy like the wind.

Your business applications enable new ways of doing business. The faster you can deliver those applications, the more innovative and agile your organisation will become.

By allowing your IT administrators to collaborate at the application level, open, SDN-driven Cisco solutions dramatically reduce how long it takes to deliver applications. What used to take weeks can now be done in hours – or minutes.



4

Your business should define your network – not the other way round.

Your unique combination of network services, intelligence, analytics and resources is the technological foundation that allows your business to expand and innovate. Your infrastructure should be customised to make those solutions easier to manage, see and share – so you can get the maximum value from your most valuable tools.

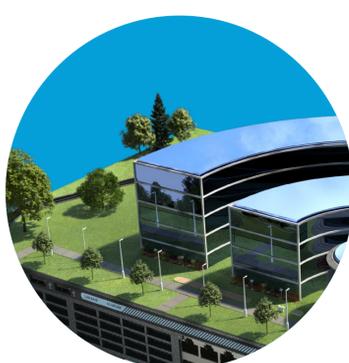
The Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller Enterprise Module (APIC EM) combines with SDN-programmable switches to provide “single-pane” visibility, making it easy to see everything, share everything and make the informed decisions that will help your business grow.



5

Help me, SD-WAN. You’re my only hope.

The advantage of SDN is the ability to separate network control from the data plane. This means you can automate network policies for multiple resources from a central point instead of manually, from node to node. A software-defined WAN (SD-WAN) brings this ease of management to your remote branch locations.



“Cisco Intelligent WAN (IWAN) can reduce provisioning time by up to 80%, accelerate configuration updates and software upgrades, and deploy new services in weeks instead of months.”

– *Technology Overview for SD-WAN*, Gartner, 2 July 2015

What’s next for Cisco SDN?

Learn more about how Cisco SDN can help you disrupt with agility.

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