



# Consolidate Your Data Center to Drive Business Transformation

## Increase the Speed of Innovation and Optimize Business Value

Businesses today are challenged to introduce new system and application features at a pace that can rapidly drive innovation and accelerate the transformation of their business. To meet this need, IT is being asked to increase the availability, efficiency, and reliability of data center resources while reducing operational and capital costs, effectively managing risks, and improving services and service delivery.

Data center consolidation is often the first step taken for reducing data center size and controlling energy and maintenance costs. The consolidation of multiple data center facilities and infrastructure into fewer but more efficient data centers can minimize server, storage, and application sprawl, eliminate redundancies, silos, and under-utilization, and improve security. By consolidating, standardizing, and modernizing your data center, you simplify day-to-day management, increase your operational flexibility, and optimize your data center investments for the rapid introduction of new services and business transformation.

## How Do Cisco Services Support Data Center Consolidation?

To enable you with optimal data center consolidation and transformation outcomes, Cisco offers two services designed to help you develop a consolidation strategy and transform your data center architecture to meet

current and future needs and then safely and securely move your critical assets to your consolidated, streamlined infrastructure while assuring business continuity and growing your investment by evolving your data center strategy.

### Data Center Architecture Assessment Service

As businesses migrate from fragmented, older data centers to more cost-effective and agile ones, they must first develop a sound consolidated architecture that can serve as the foundation for their evolution to a next-generation data center. The Cisco Data Center Architecture Assessment Service examines and evaluates the current state of your architecture in all your data centers and recommends how consolidation can best help you achieve your business and IT goals.

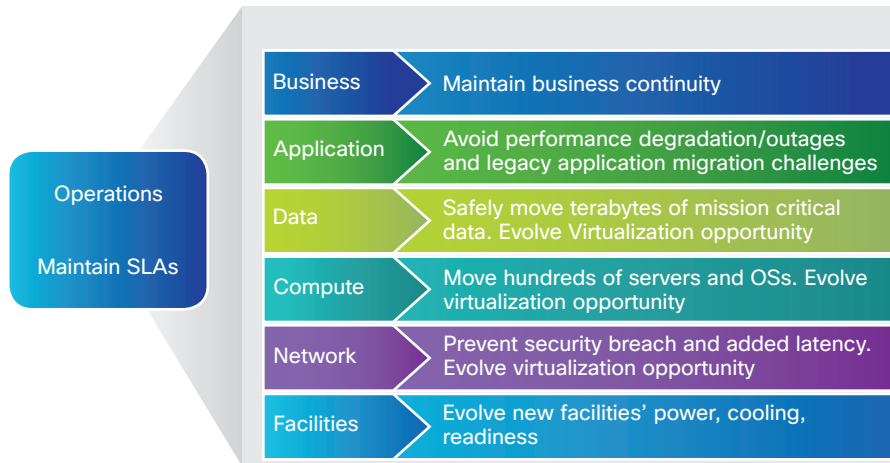
Evolving your data center begins with aligning your network infrastructure to your business objectives and assessing your consolidation options, including reducing the number of data centers, as well as consolidating networks, servers, applications, and storage for reduced operational costs and greater resource efficiencies. As part of your Cisco-developed data center consolidation strategy and roadmap blueprints, we may recommend building green data centers, modernizing your current data center, retiring data centers with little or no capacity left, or extending the life of the current data centers with advanced virtualization and Cisco Unified Computing Architecture. Cisco Data Center Architecture Assessment

Service utilizes Cisco industry-proven data center consolidation methodologies, best practices and experts to help you to:

- Identify data center architecture consolidation approaches that can help you cost-effectively increase your data center's efficiency, scalability, and agility
- Increase resource availability, so you can consolidate and deploy applications faster and enhance the return on your network investment
- Create a next-generation data center architecture plan that can help you evolve your data center to meet your long-term goals

### Data Center Migration Service

Migrating a data center and all its IT assets is a complex, large-scale change management effort with significant investment and risk. Cisco Data Center Migration Service is designed to mitigate business risks and complexities, enabling a successful data center migration. The service can help you maintain your business continuity, while migrating legacy and packaged applications, preserving mission-critical data during migration, realizing virtualization opportunities, preventing security breaches, and seizing green opportunities around power and cooling. Our service addresses all your business, architecture, and operational migration challenges within each layer and across your entire infrastructure. See Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** Optimize Business Value and Mitigate Risk Across the Entire IT Stack with a Cisco Data Center Migration Strategy

A Cisco data center migration strategy is built on three goals:

- Orchestrating the complex move of mission-critical data center assets from one site to another site
- Helping to ensure business continuity, maintaining application performance and availability, and delivering operational service levels throughout the physical move with little or no margin of error for costly, unplanned service outages or performance degradation that can affect user experience
- Growing the investment value of the data center by evolving data center strategy to meet your business objectives

Our approach is designed to uncover migration-related risks and then to mitigate those risks early in the project lifecycle. It thus provides a repeatable level of

success on large and complex data center migration initiatives. This holistic approach significantly reduces the project implementation time and provides a confident path to on-time and within-budget completion. For example, we provide application dependency mapping that establishes a holistic and forensic view of known and hidden interdependencies among applications, servers, networks and storage resources— from the unique vantage point of the

network. Cisco application dependency mapping is distinguished by its capability to establish the forensic maps of invisible interdependencies so you can address potential application and SLA outages, as well as performance problems before they impact the user experience.

Cisco Data Center Migration Service is based on state-of-the-art data center architecture and strategy, data center thought leadership, industry-proven consolidation and migration methodology, distinguished Cisco tools capability, and best-in-class partnerships. Through the program management office, Cisco experts utilizing Cisco methodologies and tools take you through a comprehensive process of discovery, moving groups, developing a migration strategy, risk analysis and mitigation planning, migration planning, and migration implementation planning. These methodologies, tools and capabilities are applied to each area across the entire IT stack, including business, application, server, storage, networks, facilities, and operational resources for an end-to-end approach that can significantly reduce your margin of error.

With our service, small or large migration efforts can be implemented with lower risk, within budget, in as short a time as possible and with optimum return on investment. With successful data center migration, organizations improve business agility, end-user experience, and total cost of operation while growing migration investment value with a state-of-the-art data center that scales to business growth and meets future business needs.

### Why Cisco Data Center Services?

Today, the data center is a strategic asset in a world that demands better integration among people, information, and ideas. Your business and your data center work better when technology products and services are aligned with your business needs and opportunities. Cisco and our industry-leading partners deliver intelligent, personalized services that accelerate the transformation of your data center. Using a unique, network-based perspective and a unified view of data center assets, Cisco takes an architectural approach to help you efficiently consolidate, virtualize, and manage data center resources. Cisco Data Center Services help transform, optimize, and protect your data center to reduce costs, deliver high availability, and improve application performance.

### For More Information

To learn more visit [http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps10373/services\\_segment\\_service\\_home.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps10373/services_segment_service_home.html) or contact your Cisco service account manager.

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