



Storage Networking

How Cisco Migrated to a SAN in a Small Data Center



A Cisco on Cisco Case Study: Inside Cisco IT

Overview

- Challenge

 - Dramatic growth in data demand and limitations of direct-attached storage

- Solution

 - Migration from individual SAN islands to a single, shared SAN service based on Cisco MDS 9000 Family storage networking switches

 - Planning and design assistance from the Cisco Advanced Services team

- Results

 - Reduced cost and risk, increased productivity, and easier data access

- Next Steps

 - Enhance SAN integration and management; create a virtual data center

Challenge

Handle Growth in Data Storage

- Amsterdam data center hosts production applications and development environments for Cisco EMEA region
- Growing demand for storage exceeded the limitations of the direct-attached storage (DAS) architecture
- Storage resources were costly and inflexible



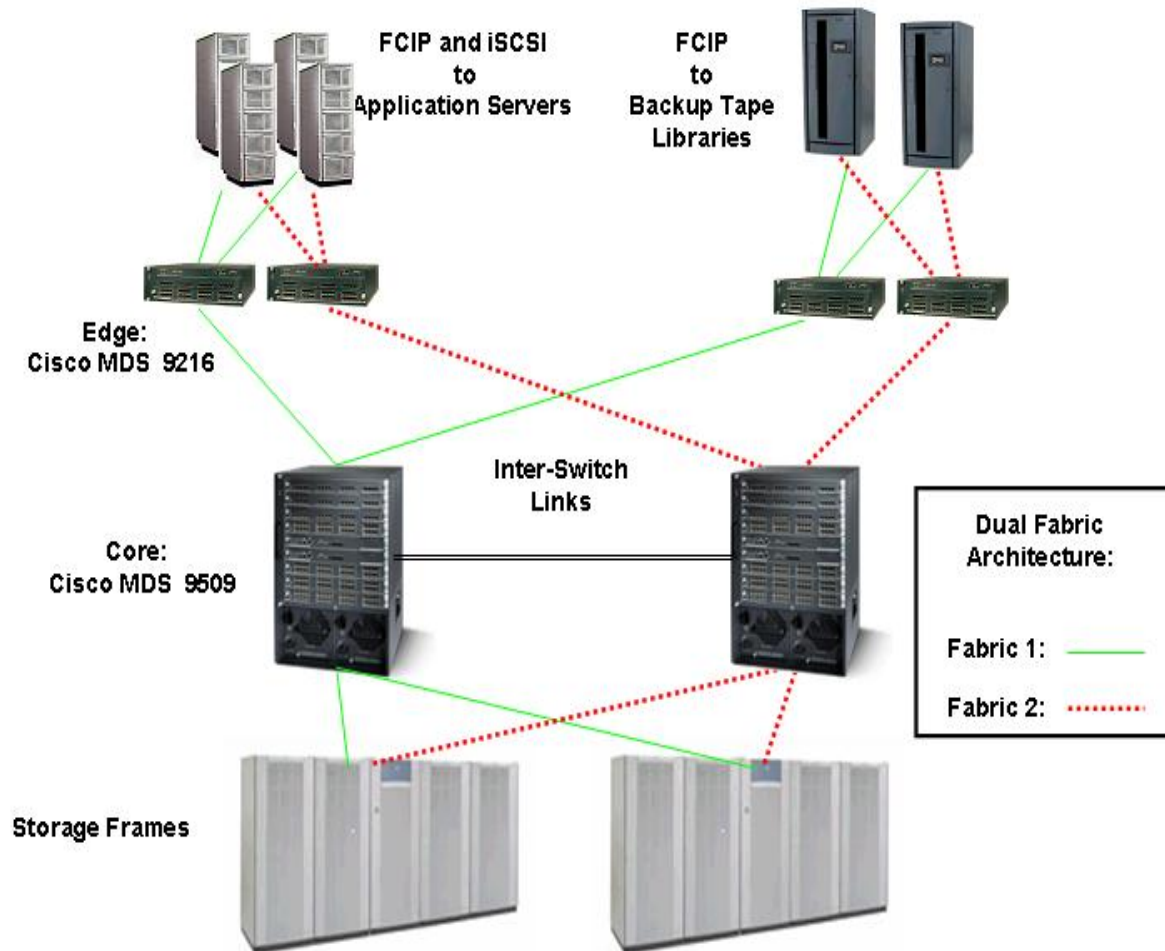
Solution

Implement a SAN Architecture

- Migrate from DAS to storage-area network (SAN)
- Deliver storage as network service using pooled resources
- Deploy Cisco MDS 9509 Multilayer Director Switches and Cisco MDS 9216 Multilayer Fabric Switch
- Planning and design assistance from Cisco Advanced Services



Solution



Results

Lower Costs, Easier Data Access

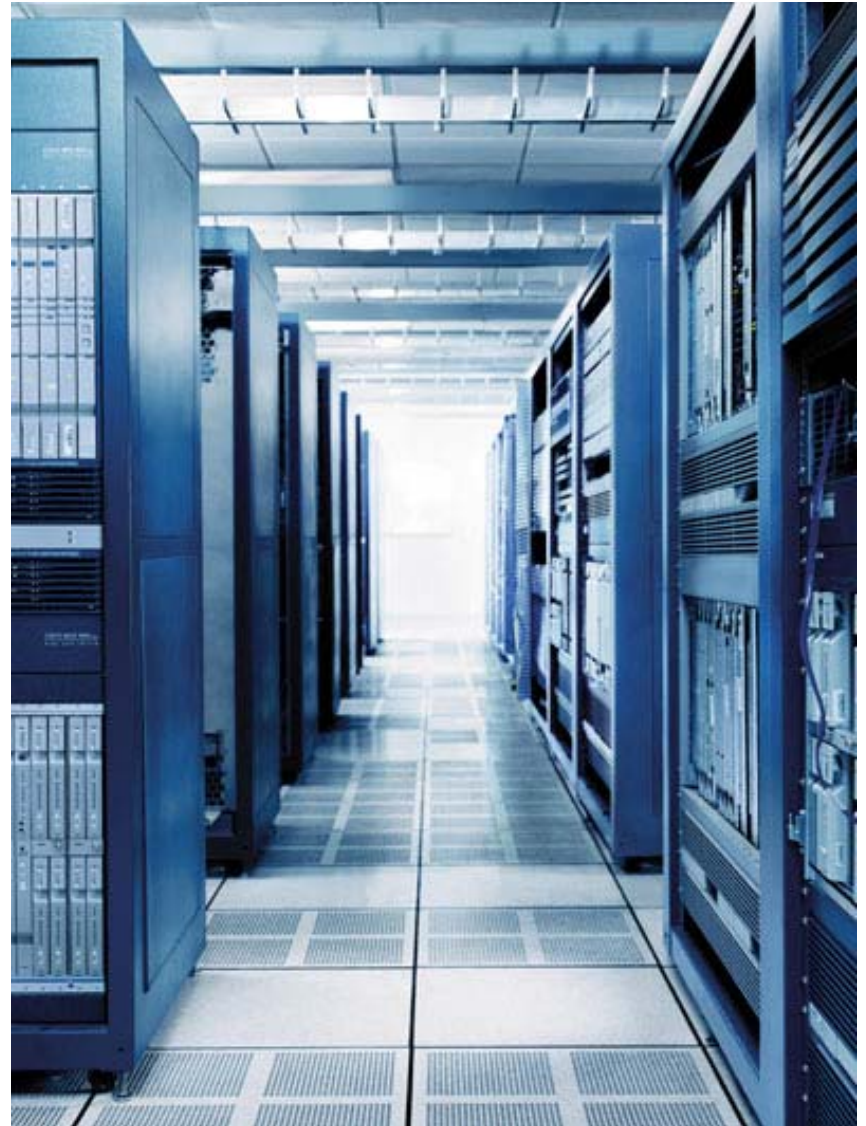
- Reduced risk for networked storage
- Increased productivity for storage management tasks
- Easier access to stored data
- Ability to add storage easily and quickly
- Lower total cost of ownership (TCO)
- Faster reaction to business changes
- Advanced switch troubleshooting
- Visibility of all storage devices



Next Steps

Increased SAN Integration

- Integrate IP SAN with iSCSI
- Implement new storage management tools
- Interconnect data centers to create a virtual data center



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