

Cisco and VMware Delivering Next-Generation IT Services

VMware and Cisco have partnered to advance data center infrastructure services by developing the vSphere 4 cloud operating system and the Cisco Nexus 1000V Series of distributed virtual switches.

VMware's vSphere 4 significantly simplifies the cloud-based data center infrastructure, enabling the delivery of next-generation IT services with the reliability and flexibility needed to meet the demanding requirements of the Federal government. vSphere virtualizes traditionally separate data center compute, storage, and network resources into modules. This modularity creates the flexibility and scalability necessary to provide a robust and highly available computing infrastructure. Furthermore, the VMware vNetwork module provides network infrastructure services to the vSphere 4 cloud operating system such as network isolation of control and data planes, which improves network management and insight as well as improving the response to threats. With the introduction of this technology, the switching fabric now can span multiple VMware vSphere servers.

Building upon this core technology, Cisco has developed the first third-party Virtual Distributed Switch, the Cisco Nexus 1000V Series. The Nexus 1000V is a full-fledged Cisco NX-OS software switch, providing network administrators the same features, capabilities, and management functions available on hardware-based switches. Management of the switch is no different from any other Cisco Nexus switch. This feature allows the Federal government to make full use of its current knowledge base of Cisco network administrators to maintain operational consistency, reduce cost, and improve productivity. All are important capabilities to maintain or enhance in an era of tight budgets and declining revenues.

In the dynamic regulatory environment of the Federal government, the VMware and Cisco technology provide for operational agility in a highly secure environment, whether operating in an internal or external cloud. Moreover, this joint solution reduces capital and operations cost, while increasing IT control over service delivery, without restricting an agency's choice of operating system, applications, or hosting options. vSphere united with the Nexus 1000v helps organizations scale their virtualization strategy by addressing network, security, and operating challenges. As organizations migrate toward cloud computing, vSphere decouples their applications and network information from the complexities of the underlying infrastructure. This solution creates the internal cloud infrastructure, allowing IT to focus on realizing and supporting business value of a cloud that is more robust and easier to manage. The Nexus 1000v addresses many of the networking and security challenges of cloud computing while reducing the complexity that can slow virtualization adoption. As organizations increasingly rely on IT services, the efficient delivery of applications can be the difference between growth and decline, profit and loss.

To learn more about VMware's and Cisco's joint offering please contact: [Wendy Acosta](#).




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