Vernon Thaver
Chief Technology Officer
Cisco South Africa

Vernon Thaver plays an integral role in Cisco's strategic direction and development. He is responsible for aligning the company's global technology, business and channel partner resources and capabilities in ways that deliver exponential business growth.

Vernon manages the communication of Cisco's technology vision and strategy in products, solutions, services and architectures and provides contextual assessment on technology's strategic future impact in various market segments.

He joined Cisco in 2005 with several years' experience as a senior network engineer in diverse technical roles with leading ICT companies in South Africa.

During his tenure in systems engineering, Vernon lead the company's engagements in smart and connected communities (S+CC) in key public sector organisations and has been responsible for the design of several strategic government IP NGNs in South Africa, while holding a specialisation in convergent core optical transport and high-end core routing.

As an architect in the company's elite large opportunity pursuit team, he provided consultancy on business and technical architectures and network design and orchestrated several large, complex and transformational projects.

His architectural expertise and interests include high capacity core IP networks, SDN and nFV, next generation data centres, including application centric infrastructure (ACI), cloud computing, the Internet of Everything (IoE) and enterprise architecture (EA).

Vernon earned his degree in electronic engineering from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, and is CCIE#15661 certified in routing and switching.
Vernon is an enthusiastic father of two and a student of leadership and eschatology. He enjoys playing cricket in his spare time.