



Excellent service in the cloud

San Joaquin County improves provisioning and performance through a private cloud managed by Cisco UCS Director.

“With our Cisco infrastructure, we can deliver IT services faster than ever, so users can get their jobs done.”

- David Newaj, assistant director, San Joaquin County

To help taxpayers save money, local governments work hard to balance cost with service. That's why so many governments are stretching IT budgets with efficient private clouds

Challenges

- Virtualize all applications in a private cloud
- Create a compact and green data center
- Improve provisioning and management

Nestled in California's Central Valley just east of San Francisco, San Joaquin County boasts sprawling farmland and beautiful parks that make it an ideal location for fun and recreation. Like many governments, San Joaquin County works hard to provide its 700,000 residents with the best possible services at minimal costs to taxpayers.

The key word for IT teams in particular is "efficiency." Rather than continuing to build out to meet the county's increasing technology needs, the county's information services director Jerry Becker decided to invest in IT infrastructure with a completely virtualized data center and private cloud services.

"We're always looking for ways to stretch our budget further and maintain service levels without having to add personnel," says David Newaj, the assistant director for San Joaquin County. "We had several dozen rack servers that were reaching end of life. Rather than simply replacing them, we decided to invest taxpayer money in solutions that could meet our growth for years to come."

Case Study | San Joaquin County

Size: 710,731 Residents

Location: California

Industry: Government



Cisco® Unified Data Center solutions deliver top cloud performance while making management easier than ever.

Solutions

- Built a private cloud using Cisco Unified Data Center solutions
- Enabled unified management and self-provisioning with Cisco UCS® Director

Fully virtualized private cloud

With 17 new Cisco UCS B-Series Blade Servers, we gain more than enough performance capacity to fully virtualize its applications. Data center components, from EMC storage to high-speed Cisco networks, work together with the servers to create an integrated environment and high-performance cloud.

Cost-effective centralized management

Using Cisco UCS Director, our IT department can control and manage all resources in the data center. “Working with a single management interface saves us time and operational costs,” says Newaj. “With easier management, we can expand services without reducing quality or increasing headcount.”

Self-provisioning saves times for users and staff

“One of our biggest pain points is the time it takes to provision servers, so our users can do their work,” says Newaj. Using Cisco UCS Director, we created a cloud-based service that lets our users provision their own virtual servers. “It used to take us about an hour to provision virtual servers. Now, users go to the portal, set up their own server resources, and complete provisioning in only 20 minutes without any involvement from IT staff.”



Simple configuration profiles and streamlined cabling also make provisioning new Cisco UCS blade servers easier, reducing provisioning time from several days to less than two hours.

Better productivity through automation

By automating tasks, such as adding new virtual machines to a domain, Cisco UCS Director reduces the day-to-day work in our IT department. The efficiencies enable us to focus on building new services for users.



Results

- Enabled self-provisioning for virtual servers in one-third the time
- Reduced provisioning time for physical servers from several days to less than two hours
- Automated manual tasks for improved management

Improving services for users across the county

San Joaquin County's IT department will formally launch its cloud service soon, with plans to expand service into cloud storage next year.

"With a fully virtualized environment, we'll see benefits beyond just performance and manageability," says Newaj. "Replicating virtual machines on the Cisco environment is incredibly simple, which gives us better disaster recovery and helps us keep services running throughout the county."



Products & Services

<p>Data Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS) B-Series Blade Servers 	<p>Network Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Unified Computing System Director
<p>Routing and Switching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Nexus® 5000 Series Switches 	<p>Virtualization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VMware
	<p>Storage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMC VNX Storage Array



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