

Cisco UCS Management Ecosystem

Build on traditional systems through integration with a wide range of partner tools. Simplify your transition to DevOps

Cisco and our partners have removed many of the barriers to continuous delivery, helping you significantly enhance your business agility. The Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) management ecosystem integrates many existing management tools, so you can reliably transition IT operations to a lower-cost, more flexible environment. With these integrated management solutions, you can dramatically reduce the time needed to deliver new services, and you can deliver the services simply, consistently, and securely.

The broad Cisco UCS management ecosystem includes integration with both Independent Software Vendor (ISV) tools and Cisco® tools and allows you to integrate customer tools and portals. This ecosystem helps you more easily use the automation capabilities and other benefits of Cisco UCS: a policy-based and programmable infrastructure that can dramatically simplify your day-to-day operations. Cisco UCS management and the related ecosystem support Cisco UCS servers and Cisco HyperFlex™ Systems, as well as the associated storage (Figure 1).

The Cisco UCS management ecosystem offers tools that cover the entire service management lifecycle, including service orchestration, deployment, configuration, and ongoing monitoring and analysis. This ecosystem lets you preserve your existing investments in infrastructure and IT operations management tools. It also supports DevOps tools from Ansible, Puppet, and Chef. You can evolve your procedures and implement greater automation and efficiency as you transition to multicloud environments and DevOps methodologies.

Benefits

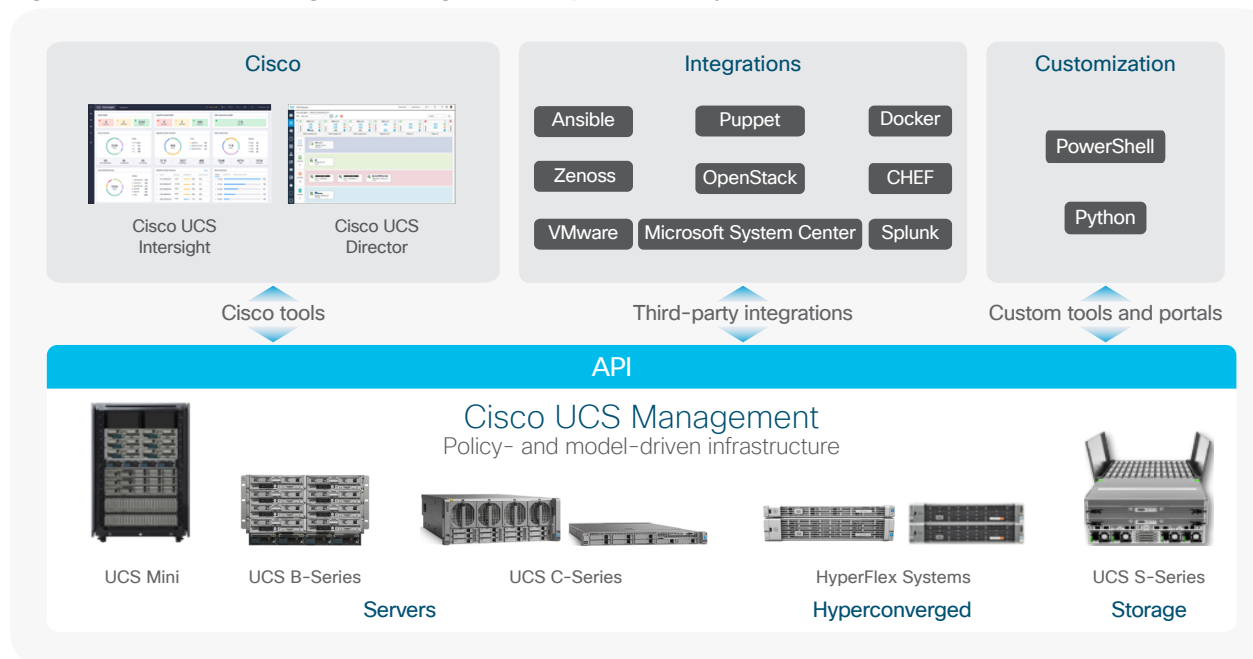
- **Simplify and unify management** with a common approach to infrastructure management across bare metal, virtual, and containers.
- **Provide an open and scalable** environment with no vendor lock-in and the capability to support edge, remote and branch office, and data center environments.
- **Automate routine tasks**, simplifying operations, reducing support costs, and enabling you to respond faster to business requirements.

Open and scalable ecosystem

Cisco UCS management provides a programmatic interface to dynamically provision computing, storage, and network resources in Cisco UCS and Cisco HyperFlex environments. The API provides a unified control plane that facilitates deep integration with broader systems management tools. The [service profiles](#) allow users to define hardware policies and configurations—including computing, storage, and network connections—in software and to allocate resources.

Building on this API, Cisco collaborates with a broad set of higher-level systems management applications to integrate unique Cisco UCS capabilities within their native functions and user interfaces. These integrations enhance performance monitoring of the OS and higher layers of the application stack and enable consistent cross-system management, which is especially important in heterogeneous infrastructure environments.

Figure 1. Cisco UCS management integration and partner ecosystem



The API also facilitates integration and custom development through the [Cisco UCS PowerTool Suite](#) and a [Python Software Development Kit \(SDK\)](#). The Cisco [UCS Platform Emulator](#) and supporting tools, available through the Cisco Communities and DevNet websites, continue to fuel rapid growth of the Cisco UCS developer community.

Management from the data center to the edge

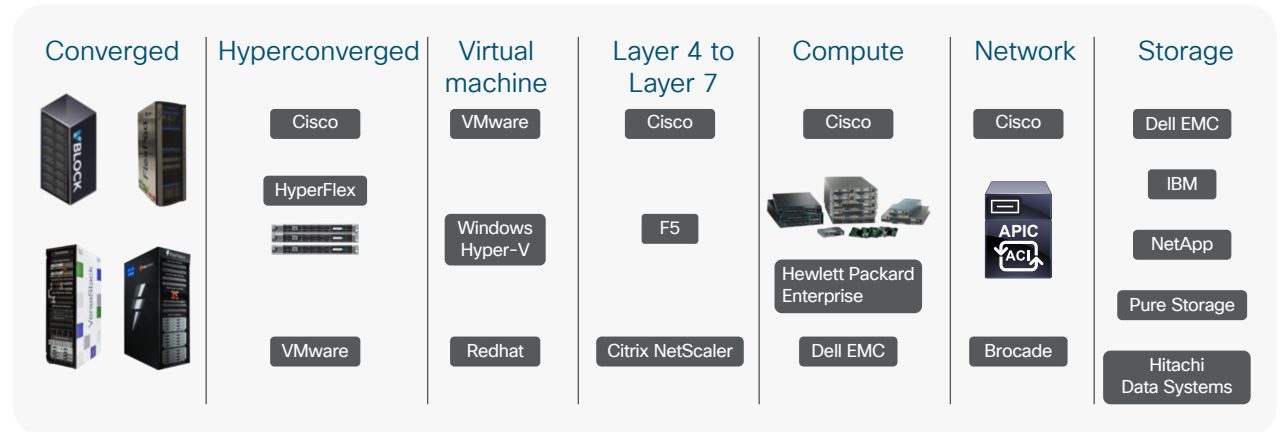
Cisco UCS Director works in conjunction with Cisco UCS management tools to provide comprehensive orchestration and management of Cisco UCS servers, Cisco UCS [Converged Infrastructure](#), Cisco [HyperFlex hyperconverged infrastructure](#), and third-party hardware across virtual and physical layers. It delivers open infrastructure as a service that supports a wide range of Cisco and third-party server, storage, and network devices. Cisco UCS Director also includes a Representational State Transfer (REST) API, so you can execute workflows and change the configuration of switches, adapters, policies, and other hardware and software components.

Next steps

For more information please visit:

- [Cisco UCS Management Partner Ecosystem](#)
- [DevNet for Data Center](#)

Figure 2. Cisco UCS Director supports orchestration across Cisco and third-party infrastructure



[Cisco Intersight™](#) software provides cloud-based management for Cisco UCS and Cisco HyperFlex solutions. This new platform simplifies systems management at the edge, remote locations, and the data center. Cisco Intersight will also deliver many new customer benefits through predictive analytics and machine learning. It features an Open Data Protocol ([OData](#)) RESTful API and a SDK. Cisco will work with our ecosystem partners to provide support for Cisco Intersight, so the advantages of this unique management as-a-service platform can be extended.

Whether you acquire a single Cisco UCS management component or a [Cisco ONE™ Enterprise Cloud Suite](#) offering, your IT organization can implement new operation and consumption models with less risk and lower costs.