Cisco Application Dependency Mapping Service

Reduce risks and successfully implement your data center initiatives based on a solid understanding of the assets in the data center and their interdependencies.

Service Overview

Most business applications are distributed in nature, spread across a business's corporate network. With the advent of Web 2.0 technologies, applications were loosely coupled with partner and supplier applications, and the IP network became the primary platform connecting various dependent components.

Successful and timely implementation of data center initiatives such as data center consolidation, migration, and virtualization requires an in-depth understanding of the assets in the data center and their interdependencies. The Cisco® Application Dependency Mapping Service offers an efficient approach for customers to obtain the data they need to minimize the risks associated with data center initiatives and provides the opportunity to optimize resources to reduce overall total cost of ownership (TCO).

Services to Understand and Improve Your Application Environment

Cisco approaches dependency mapping from multiple perspectives—server, network (IP and SAN), and business/applications. Each perspective provides additional unique insight into the interdependencies. Correlation of the gathered data provides a holistic view into the complex data center environment.
Modular Approach
Cisco’s Application Dependency Mapping Service is modular in nature. The depth and breadth of our discovery process can be fine tuned to meet customer needs and objectives. The service can be customized, for example, to gather only relevant, required data. The service’s core capabilities include:

- Customer’s Business Process Mapping (business processes to applications)
- Application(s) to Server(s) Dependency Mapping
- Infrastructure Physical Dependency Mapping (for example, server to network and server to SAN)
- Application Transport Mapping (flow characteristics over the network)

Nonintrusive Methods
The tools employed by Cisco to collect relevant data are nonintrusive in nature. The server and software discovery is done using agentless tools. The server and software discovery relies on well-known protocols, as well as tools and utilities that are readily available on the target systems. Our approach to collecting application flow characteristics does not interfere with the actual traffic flow between the source and destination and does not introduce any added latency to the traffic flow.
Foundation Service
Cisco Application Dependency Mapping is a foundation service for most data center initiatives. Data center initiatives such as data center migration and server virtualization need meticulous planning to minimize the risks of causing inadvertent application outage and/or performance issues. Data center initiative planning should be based on accurate infrastructure interdependencies. The type of analysis that is required will vary from initiative to initiative. Cisco’s Application Dependency Mapping Service can be customized to gather relevant information, while further necessary analysis, planning, and risk mitigation activities can be added to meet your specific needs.

Figure 3. A Foundation Service of Discovery, Dependency Mapping, and Analysis

Figure 4. Dependency Mapping Output
Benefits

The Cisco Application Dependency Mapping Service offers the following benefits:

- Reduces risk associated with executing most data center initiatives (for example, data center/application consolidation, migration, virtualization, and disaster recovery planning)
- Helps in identifying opportunities to reduce total cost of ownership
- Provides a forensic understanding of the assets in the data center and their complex interdependencies

Why Cisco Data Center Services

Today, the data center is a strategic asset in a world that demands better integration among people, information, and ideas. Your business and your data center work better when technology products and services are aligned with your business needs and opportunities. Cisco and our industry-leading partners deliver intelligent, personalized services that accelerate the transformation of your data center. Using a unique combination of network and application based perspective and a unified view of data center assets, Cisco takes an architectural approach to help you efficiently consolidate, virtualize, and manage data center resources. Cisco Data Center Services help transform, optimize, and protect your data center to reduce costs, deliver high availability, and improve application performance.

Cisco and Partner Expertise

Cisco and our industry leading partners use best practices and proven methodologies to help you quickly and efficiently plan and deploy a high-performance, resilient, and scalable virtualized architecture for your business.
The Cisco Application Dependency Mapping Service is delivered by Cisco experts who hold a wide array of industry certifications and are subject matter experts in business and technology architecture and data center technologies. They have direct experience in planning, designing, and supporting virtualization solutions. Cisco product and technology expertise is continually enhanced by hands-on experience with real-life networks and broad exposure to the latest technology and implementations.

**Availability**

Cisco Application Dependency Mapping Service is widely available. Check with your local Cisco representative for availability in your area.

**To Find Out More**

For more information about Cisco Application Dependency Mapping Service, as well as the broad array of Cisco Services for the data center, contact your local Cisco account manager or visit www.cisco.com/go/dcservices.