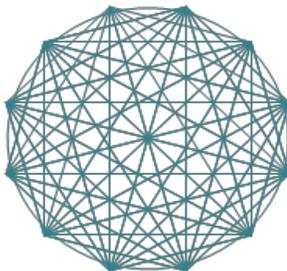# Modernize Your Microsoft Data Center with Cisco Solutions

The Internet of Everything (IoE) is bringing together people, processes, data, and things to make networked connections more relevant and valuable than ever before. Take advantage of this exceptional economic opportunity with Cisco® infrastructure solutions for your Microsoft data center.

The Connected World Is Expanding Dramatically

The Internet of Everything connects exactly that—everything. It's the next wave of the Internet—a dramatic expansion of our collective connectedness that's reshaping everything we do. It's turning connections between people, things, processes, and data into amazing new entities. More people and things—unexpected things— are connecting all the time, creating and sharing data. This data can help you make better and faster decisions. It can help you simplify and secure your operations and create better experiences for your customers. These connections are creating incredible opportunities for companies that can innovate quickly—but they're also adding challenges for IT departments.

Applications have become mission critical for businesses. Helping ensure application health is an essential role for IT, and one of the greatest challenges is provisioning enterprise applications at scale. Data is the lifeblood of

applications, and big data is playing an ever more critical role in IT considerations. Innovation and agility are stifled if IT can't deploy and manage applications and their data efficiently.

Traditional Infrastructure Models Can't Support This New World

Traditional infrastructure isn't designed to handle the unique needs of each given application, at any time, in any location, and at any scale. Businesses want their IT departments to be brokers of services, applications, experiences, and new capabilities, but today's infrastructure—costly, unwieldy, and inadequately secured—is holding them back. Without addressing fundamental complexity challenges, any effort to transform IT will fall short. What's required is a new model for IT.

Fast IT Is the Operating Model for the IoE Era

Fast IT is an approach that simplifies IT operations, making them more intelligent and secure. It's infrastructure that understands application requirements and delivers better application performance. It's infrastructure that enables shifting workloads throughout a hybrid cloud-based fabric of connections, creating a new platform for service delivery enhancements and increasing productivity and business agility.

"**Nearly half of large enterprises** will have hybrid cloud deployments by the end of 2017."

- IDC Worldwide Integrated Infrastructure and Platforms Tracker, Q2 2013

Fast IT starts with integrated infrastructure, and Cisco UCS® Integrated Infrastructure is the leader. The foundation for all Cisco UCS Integrated Infrastructure designs is the Cisco Unified Data Center, which combines Cisco's computing, storage, networking, management, storage access, and security solutions into a unified, cohesive platform designed to automate IT as a service (ITaaS) across both physical and virtual environments.

Cisco and Microsoft Partnership Delivers the Modern Data Center

Cisco and Microsoft are natural partners in the data center. Supported at the executive level, this complementary relationship has led to integrated solutions that improve computing and networking performance and deliver valuable cost savings and productivity enhancements for IT. Complementary technologies and R&D collaboration are empowering IT to be more flexible, efficient, and agile. The benefits include:

- Management and automation of Cisco hardware and Microsoft Windows Server and application software using Microsoft System Center 2012 R2 and PowerShell

Cisco CEO John Chambers and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella at the Cisco and Insieme software-defined networking (SDN) and application-centric infrastructure launch in New York, November 2013.

- Increased performance for key Microsoft workloads such as Microsoft SQL, Exchange, and SharePoint

- Simple, fully integrated and validated integrated infrastructure solutions for private and hybrid clouds with FlexPod and Cisco solutions for EMC VSPEX

New Cisco Innovations Extend the Value of the Cisco and Microsoft Alliance

Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure

Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (ACI) provides the next level of application and business process agility. Cisco ACI transforms the data center with automated provisioning of an application-centric network infrastructure and delivery of consistent network services independent of location or whether workloads are physical or virtual. With complete support for integrated infrastructure such as FlexPod and VSPEX, Cisco ACI offers end-to-end automation of application and lifecycle management.

Cisco UCS Director

Cisco UCS Director delivers industry-leading integrated infrastructure management, making it easier to manage FlexPod and VSPEX environments. Ready to use in hours, Cisco UCS Director delivers application-aware infrastructure containers tuned to the specific needs of each application. It accelerates application deployment, supports ACI-based automated network solutions, and supports a diverse range of workloads across development, test, and production environments.

"Using FlexPod as the basis of our standard virtualized environment, we're consolidating and simplifying rather than continually creating a more complex architecture, which always requires more staff and more costs."

Bob Micielli
Enterprise Technical Services Manager, King County, Washington

www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/solutions/collateral/data-center-virtualization/king_county_success_story_final_6_28_13.pdf

Cisco Intercloud Fabric

Cisco Intercloud Fabric enables secure, open, flexible, and easy-to-manage solutions that foster freedom in workload placement based on business needs. It helps ensure easy, complete coherence and consistency of network security, quality of service, and access control policies in private, public, and hybrid cloud deployments. With Cisco Intercloud Fabric, customers can have confidence in the integrity and security of their workloads as they move between private clouds and public clouds.

Cisco UCS Mini

With Cisco UCS Mini, the Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS), originally designed for the data center, is now optimized for branch and remote offices, point-of-sale locations, and smaller IT environments. Cisco UCS Mini delivers servers, storage, and 10 Gigabit networking in an easy-to-deploy, compact form factor. Excellent for

customers who need fewer servers but still want the robust management capabilities, this solution for deployments of 2 to 15 servers allows companies of any size to obtain the benefits of Cisco UCS.

Getting Started Is Easy with Cisco Capital and Cisco Services

Cisco delivers financing solutions designed to support your business goals and technology needs both now and in the future. Our end-to-end, affordable, and competitive financing solutions can help you make the most of Cisco innovation and optimize your technology lifecycles. In addition, Cisco and our partners deliver services that can help you every step of the way. We can help you develop an architectural strategy and a transformational road map and design. We also can validate, implement, and migrate new solutions and applications and optimize your infrastructure, applications, and service management.

Why Cisco for Microsoft?

We recognize that the intersection of computing, networking, virtualization, and software is central to a new era of innovation. The Microsoft and Cisco alliance extends the value of the Cisco Unified Data Center, including low-latency unified fabric to support networing, storage I/O, and Cisco UCS and model-based management to simplify and accelerate deployment of enterprise applications, whether bare metal or virtual. Together, Microsoft and Cisco offer service and support to accelerate time-to-value and ROI. Our partner ecosystem, including value-added resellers and global systems integrators, benefits Microsoft partners and Cisco partners and customers alike.

Learn More

For more information, contact your Cisco or Microsoft representative, or visit:

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