

# ForePaaS offers a multicloud Platform-as-a-Service- Developed, Tested, and Hosted on Cisco HyperFlex

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**Paul Sinaï**  
Co-Founder, CEO, CTO

## ForePaaS

**Industry:** Cloud Service Provider

**Location:** Paris, France

**Size:** 15,000 users

**Website:** <https://www.forepaas.com>



## Solution

- Develop and test customizable data analysis applications on Cisco HyperFlex hyperconverged infrastructure
- Ship a preconfigured Cisco HyperFlex System to customers who prefer to analyze and process data in their own data centers



## With Cisco HyperFlex, ForePaas:

- Adds storage or processing capacity in minutes
- Tests on a platform similar to public cloud deployments
- Offers an easy-to-manage, on-premises appliance for hybrid cloud customers

A French cloud service provider, ForePaaS simplifies data management and analysis by providing platform-as-a-service (PaaS) offering. Customers visit a web portal to select their data sources, customize a prebuilt template for their industry, and choose the cloud where they'll store and process their data.

"Fifteen minutes later they're gaining insights about their business and customers," says, ForePaaS Marketing Director Vincent Michel.

A major retailer uses ForePaaS to identify different types of customers by analyzing hundreds of millions of sales receipts. A consumer-goods company monitors reactions to its 10,000 digital marketing assets on social media. A European cinema group built a dashboard that shows real-time ticket sales by movie, theater, time of day, and more.

Revealing the insights hidden in big data can take a massive effort. Companies first need to buy and deploy servers and storage, develop sophisticated software, and connect to sources as diverse as Oracle, SAP, Salesforce, Facebook, and Twitter. "The challenge of big-data analytics is not just the volume, but also the variety of sources and the speed at which they flow into the data center," says Paul Sinai, CEO and CTO of ForePaaS.

### Challenge: Easier Development, Faster Performance

ForePaaS launched its cloud service in April 2015. Right away, demand kept more than

a dozen developers busy. To introduce new analytics applications for more industries, the company needed a more versatile development platform. "One customer displays millions of social media likes and tweets as they happen, while another has to analyze one terabyte in few seconds," says Michel.

The platform had to be fast because ForePaaS uses microservices, highly specialized modules that communicate with each other to carry out a larger task. "Good performance with microservices requires a very fast platform," says Sinai.

Besides a new development platform, ForePaaS also needed an appliance for customers who preferred to store and process data in their own data centers instead of a public cloud. The hybrid cloud option would appeal to banks, insurers, and other businesses subject to data privacy regulations.

### Solution: One Platform for Development and Production

Then ForePaaS discovered Cisco® HyperFlex™ hyperconverged infrastructure, which combines compute, storage, and networking in the same appliance. "In Cisco HyperFlex we saw an extraordinary opportunity to standardize on one platform for development, test, and production," says Sinai. "It simplifies development because it's so easy to scale and deploy. We can test in the same conditions the software will run when deployed in public clouds."

Cisco HyperFlex System appeals to companies that want to store and process data on-premises. It's compact, and they can manage compute, storage, and networking in one place.

ForePaaS began with three Cisco HyperFlex nodes providing more than 1.3 TB of memory and nearly 8 TB of storage—all in two rack units. Deployment took just one hour.

### **More Data? More Sources? No Problem**

Easy scaling gives developers more freedom to innovate and an experience similar to a public cloud. Say a developer team is building a new analytics app that requires 10 large virtual machines. Adding storage, compute, or both is as simple as connecting a new node. It's ready to use in minutes. "We're innovating faster since we switched to Cisco HyperFlex," says Sinai. "Developers can try something new, test it, and quickly roll back to try something else. They no longer have to worry whether they have enough infrastructure."

### **Faster Performance and Real-world Testing**

When the company developed and tested its

analytics software on traditional servers with network-attached storage, test results didn't necessarily reflect real-world performance in the cloud. "Now our test environment is similar or identical to the production environment, so we can make sure we meet our customers' performance requirements," Sinai says. "Plus, big-data analytics are faster on HyperFlex because data is stored very close to where it's processed."

### **Simple Appliance for Hybrid Cloud**

When customers prefer to keep their data behind their own firewalls, ForePaaS ships them a preconfigured Cisco HyperFlex System. They just plug it in and connect to the ForePaaS cloud, and they're ready to go. Growth is painless because only the first node needs a network connection.

"With HyperFlex, our developers are freer to innovate because we can add more storage or compute in minutes," says Michel. "And using the same infrastructure for development, test, and our hybrid cloud appliance keeps the business simple."

## **Products & Services**

[Cisco HyperFlex HX220c M4 Nodes](#)

[Cisco UCS® Manager](#)

### ***For More Information***

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