CISCO Connect

Modernize the Data Center for AI Without Starting Over

Choose your path

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Director Sales, Internet & Mass Infrastructure



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Cisco forward-looking statements

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Cisco powers how people and technology work together across the physical and digital worlds



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The world is experiencing the **largest expansion of data centers** in history

Existing data centers must modernize for a post-Mythos era

Security must operate continuously



of security environments can’t keep pace with AI driven vulnerability discovery and exploitation

Infrastructure must adapt

More dynamic workloads

Connectivity and security must scale and move with applications

Modernization must support both VMs and containers

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The modern data center with one secure operating model

Across core, edge and cloud



Modernize flexibility

VMs + containers together

Protect existing investments



Secure everywhere

Identity, policy, and response

Wherever workloads run



Scale the fabric

Identity, policy, and response

Wherever workloads run



Unify operations

Visibility and automation

Consistent governance

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Modernize infrastructure. Modernize operations.

Build on what you have

Evolve compute, network, and security to support existing and new workloads.

+

Change with confidence

Bring visibility, automation, and policy together across domains.

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Modernize in place. Move faster. Stay in control.

Protect what runs today while creating room for new services and AI.

Move the business forward

1. Keep critical apps running
2. Launch services faster
3. Support new AI workloads

Modernize in place

Keep IT spend in control

1. Leverage existing investments
2. Unify VM and container operations
3. Roll out changes with less risk

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Three paths to modernize without starting over

Meet workloads where they are: stabilize today's VM estate, create platform choice, and build a runway to cloud-native and AI

Retain

Modernize in place

- Cisco UCS + Intersight

Rehost

Move without rewriting

- Nutanix and other converged infrastructure solutions

Re-platform

Build cloud-native

- Red Hat OpenShift on Cisco
- Nutanix NKP / NAI

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Simpler, smarter and agile with Cisco Compute

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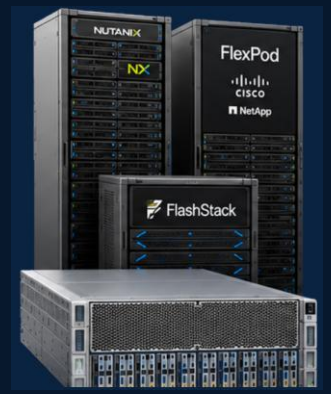
Compute for every workload, from core to edge

Retain

Enterprise applications, AI training and inference

CORE ENTERPRISE WORKLOADS

HCI/ CI Solutions



HCI with Nutanix | FlexPod | FlashStack

MODEL TRAINING, LARGE SCALE INFERENCE, AGENTIC AI

Rack-Scale Systems



Supermicro NVIDIA Vera Rubin NVL72



Supermicro NVIDIA Grace Blackwell 300 NVL72

MODEL TRAINING

Dense GPU Servers



Supermicro w/ NVIDIA HGX Rubin NVL8 liquid-cooled



Supermicro w/ NVIDIA HGX B300 NVL8 liquid-cooled



Supermicro w/ NVIDIA HGX B300 NVL8 air-cooled

OPTIMIZATION, INFERENCING, AGENTIC AI

PCIe GPU Servers



Supermicro MGX NVIDIA RTX PRO



Cisco UCS® C845A M8 NVIDIA RTX PRO & AMD Instinct MI



Cisco UCS® X-Series Modular Servers NVIDIA RTX PRO



Cisco UCS® C245 M8 NVIDIA RTX PRO



Cisco UCS® C240 M8 NVIDIA RTX PRO

INFERENCING, AGENTIC AI

Edge PCIe GPU Platform



Cisco Unified Edge NVIDIA RTX PRO

Cisco Cloud Control | Cisco Intersight – Simplified operations and fleet management

CORE

EDGE

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Cisco Unified Computing System

Retain

Simpler, smarter, more agile



Cisco UCS servers managed by Cisco Intersight

Modular, sustainable, easily upgradeable solution

Fabric-based architecture with unified fabric connectivity

Cloud-based management to automate operations

Designed with sustainability and energy efficiency in mind

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Fewer servers. More capacity. Lower costs.

Retain

Refresh Cisco UCS compute while retaining your platform and workloads.

1

Reduce footprint

Consolidate servers and connectivity. Reduce power, cooling, and rack space.

2

Simplify operations

Automate deployment, upgrades, and recovery with consistent policies.

3

Create room to grow

Add capacity for existing workloads and new applications.

Lower hardware and operating costs

Servers · Network & SAN ports · Optics / NICs / HBAs · Power & cooling · Rack space · Ops labor

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Rehost with Cisco + Nutanix

Rehost

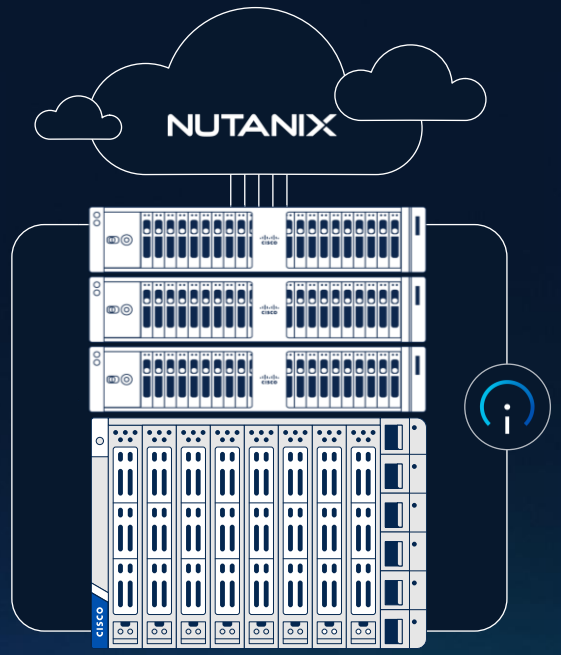
A validated platform for VMs and containers.

Keep your VMs

Move workloads without converting them to containers.

Validated platform

Cisco compute and networking, validated with Nutanix.



Simpler adoption

Simplify buying, deployment, and scaling.

Coordinated support

Cisco and Nutanix support, working together.

Cisco Compute and Networking

Keep your applications. Modernize the platform.

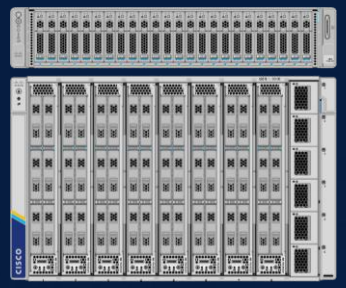
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Rehost on Nutanix.
Build on your UCS investment.

Rehost

1



Reuse existing UCS*

Convert qualified UCS servers into Nutanix-ready nodes

Provision & manage
with Cisco Intersight

2

Cisco Compute Hyperconverged with Nutanix Cluster



Keep deployment options open

Deploy as HCI or repurpose
for general-purpose compute as needs change.

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*Supported hardware: Cisco UCS rackmount M6/M7/M8, X-Series M6/M7/M8modular servers, and B-Series M5/M6

Cisco UCS Converged Infrastructure Portfolio

Rehost

Offering choice and flexibility

20,000+
Customers

200+
Validated Architectures

12+
Years of Innovation



FlexPod

NetApp



FlashStack

PURESTORAGE®



Cisco and Hitachi adaptive solutions

HITACHI

Virtual infrastructures | Hybrid cloud | Enterprise applications | AI/ML | Containers | SAP HANA | Desktop virtualization | Data protection

USE CASES

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Nutanix AI and Kubernetes on Cisco AI PODs

Re-platform

Enterprise AI, ready to scale

Security
Protect data.
Maintain control

Network
High-performance networking
for AI inference

Assurance
Validated infrastructure.
Repeatable deployment.



Comprehensive Turn-Key AI Platform

- NVIDIA — Applications & Agents
- NUTANIX — Enterprise AI
- NUTANIX — Kubernetes Platform
- Compute — CISCO — Network
- NUTANIX — Unified Storage

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Modernize applications with Cisco + Red Hat

Re-platform

Run VMs alongside containers as you modernize existing apps and build new ones.

Modernize at your pace

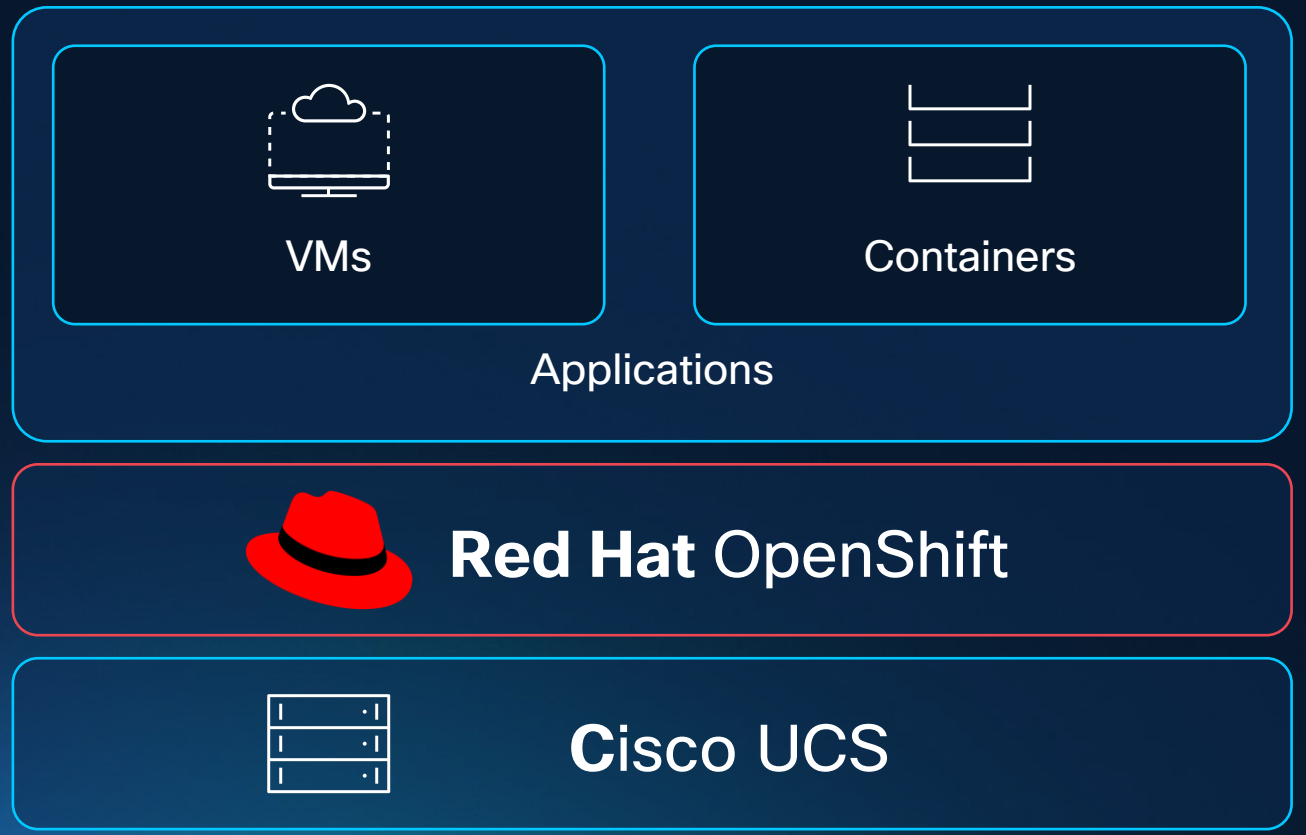
Bring applications to containers when they're ready.

Automate operations

Combine Cisco infrastructure management with Red Hat automation.

Deploy with confidence

Use validated designs and coordinated solution support.



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Scale with Cisco Data Center Networking

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New workloads demand more from the network

More traffic. More distributed applications. More frequent change.

Performance pressure

More east-west flows

Higher throughput needs

Tighter latency requirements

Security complexity

More distributed workloads

Limited traffic visibility

Inconsistent policy enforcement

Operational friction

Disconnected tools

Manual changes

Slower problem resolution

Evolve your network for today’s workloads and tomorrow’s demands.

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CISCO NAMED A LEADER IN 2026

Data Center Networking

Forrester Wave™

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Networking for every modernization path

Strengthen what stays. Connect what moves. Enable what's next.

Retain

Scale existing fabrics

More capacity, resilience, and performance for growing demands

Rehost

Connect across platforms

Connectivity, policy enforcement, and continuity as workloads move

Re-platform

Enable dynamic application

Connect, secure, and scale containerized apps

Automation · Segmentation · Identity-based policy · Visibility

Cisco Nexus One + Isovalent | Cisco Cloud Control for Data Center

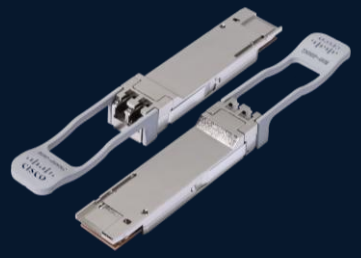
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Retain

Optics for the AI-ready data center

Modernize enterprise data centers



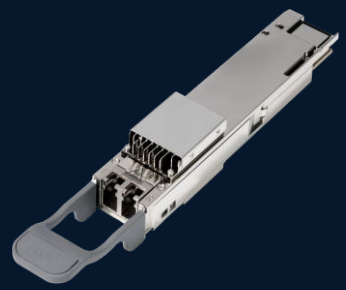
400G Bi-Di Optics

Scale-out network



400G–1.6T Cisco Optics

Scale-across network



400G–800G Coherent Optics

DC 1

DC 2

CORE ⟷ EDGE

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Network dependencies make workloads hard to move

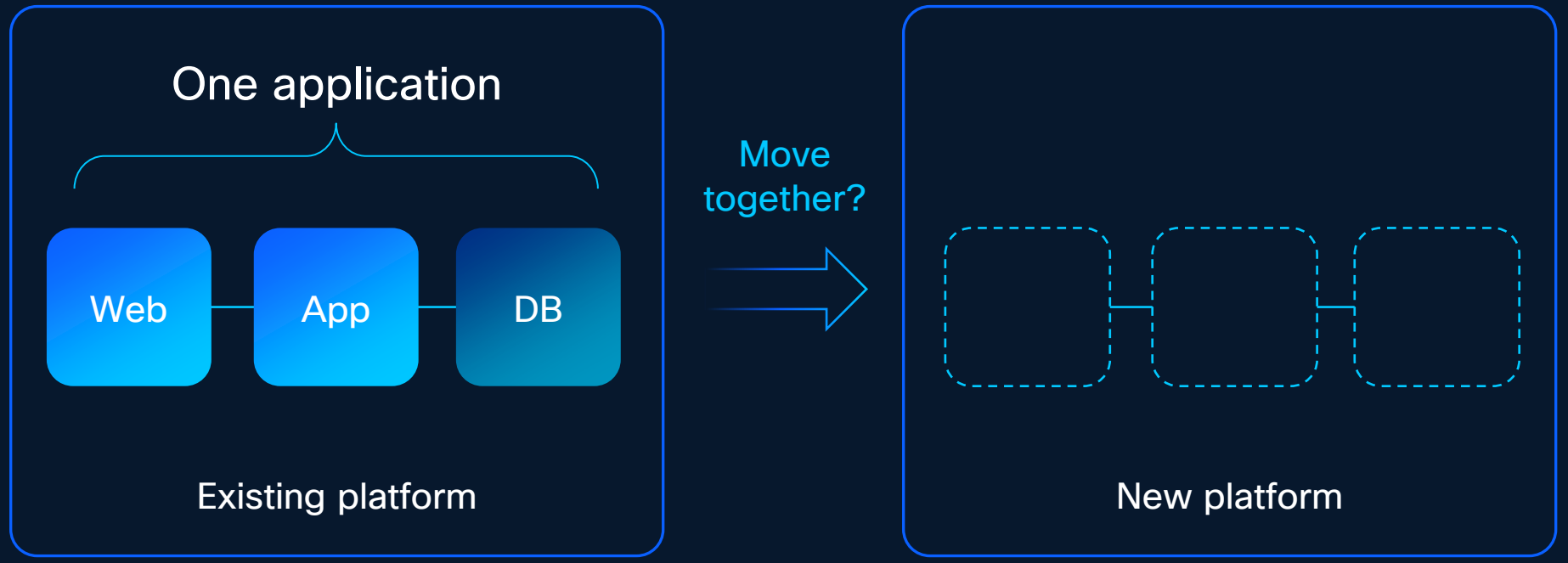
Rehost

IP dependencies can force coordinated moves and disruptive cutovers.

Fixed IP dependencies

App components tied together

App changes or downtime



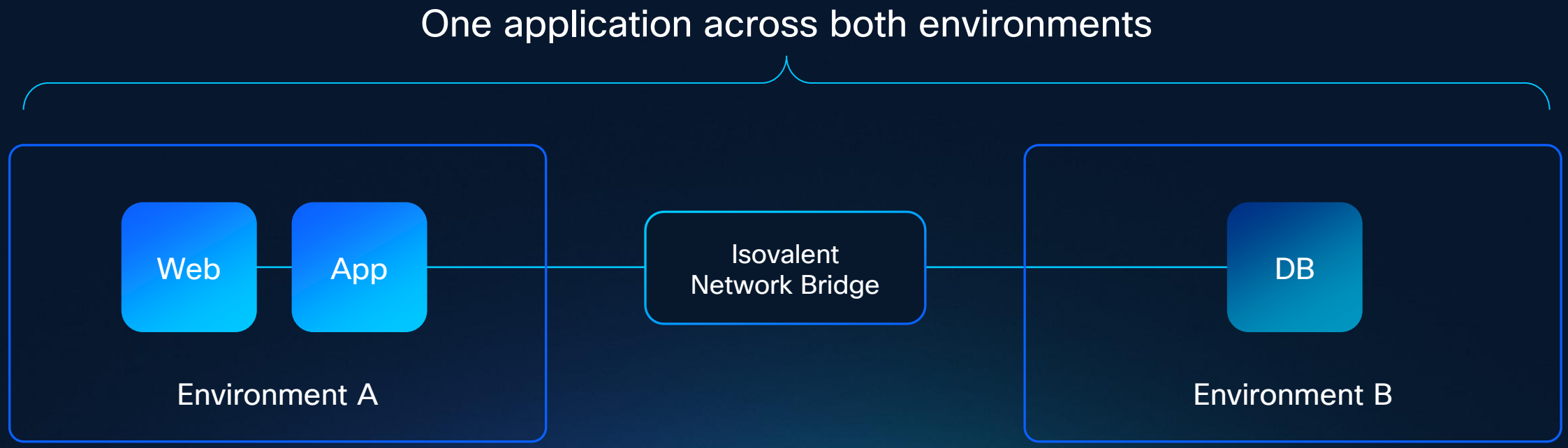
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Move workloads. Keep applications connected.

Rehost

Isovalent Network Bridge connects virtualization environments.



Examples: VMware – VMware | VMware – Red Hat OpenShift Virtualization

Move components independently

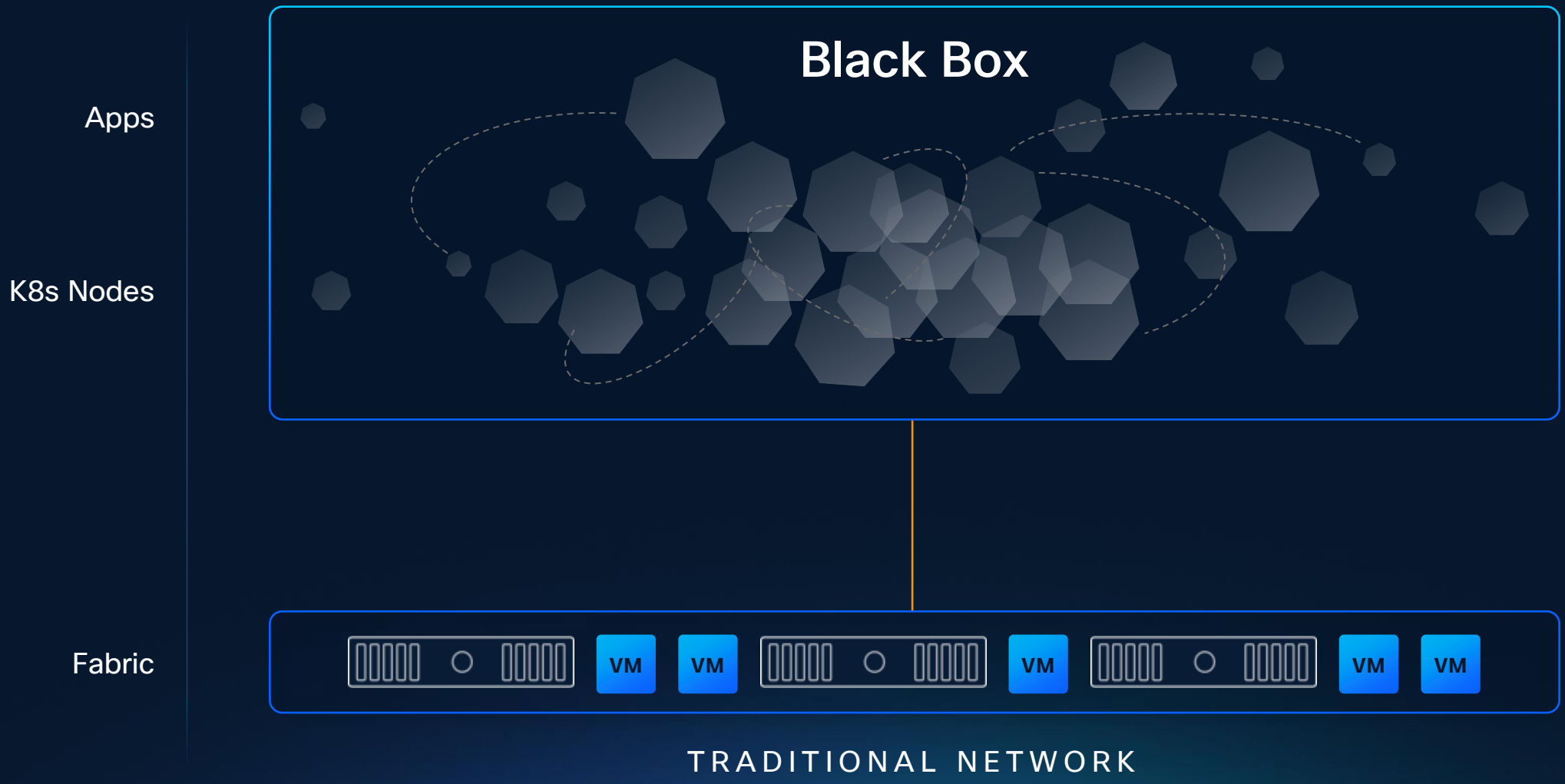
Keep environments connected

Migrate gradually – or run across both

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Re-platform

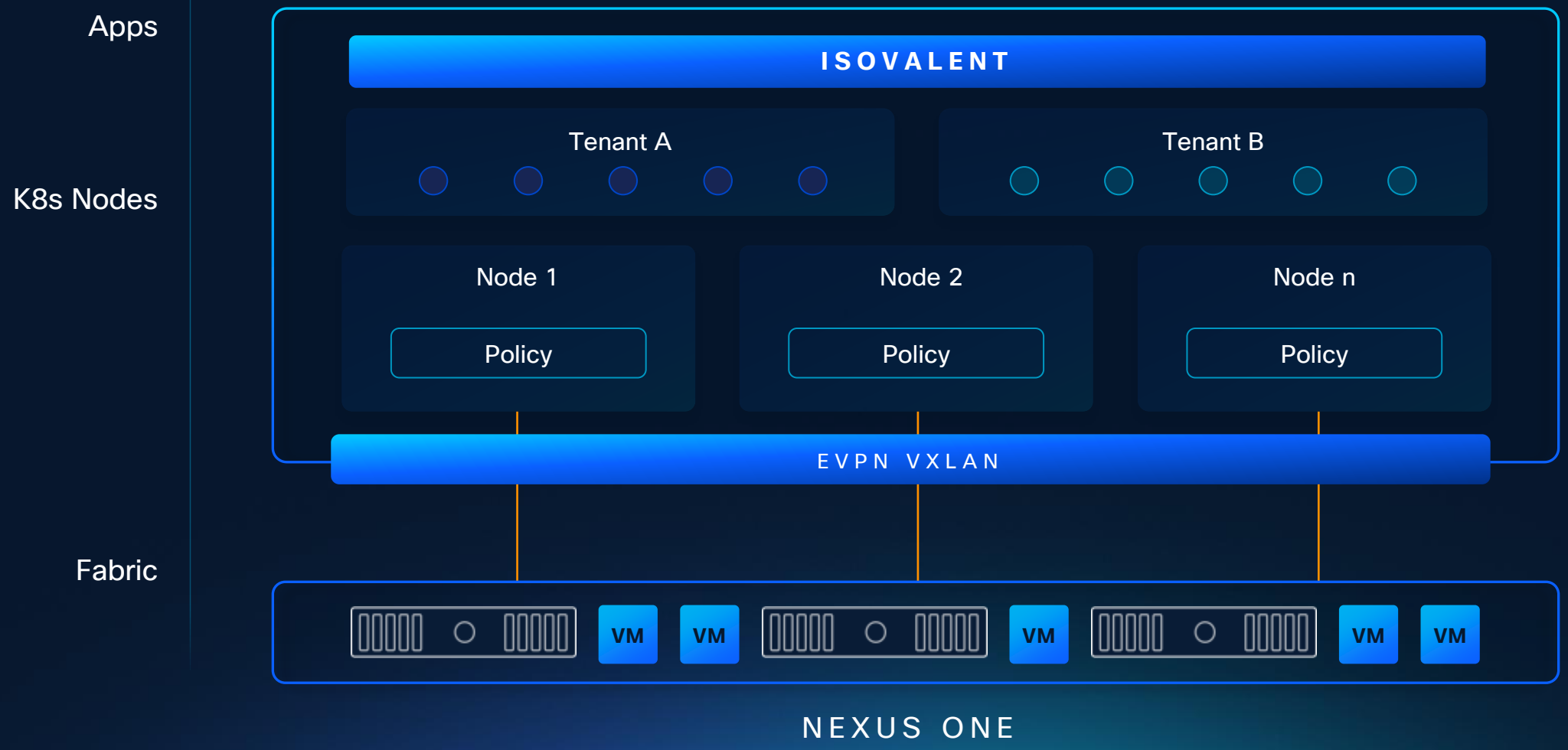


TRADITIONAL NETWORK

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Re-platform

Consistent visibility, policy, and connectivity from Kubernetes to fabric



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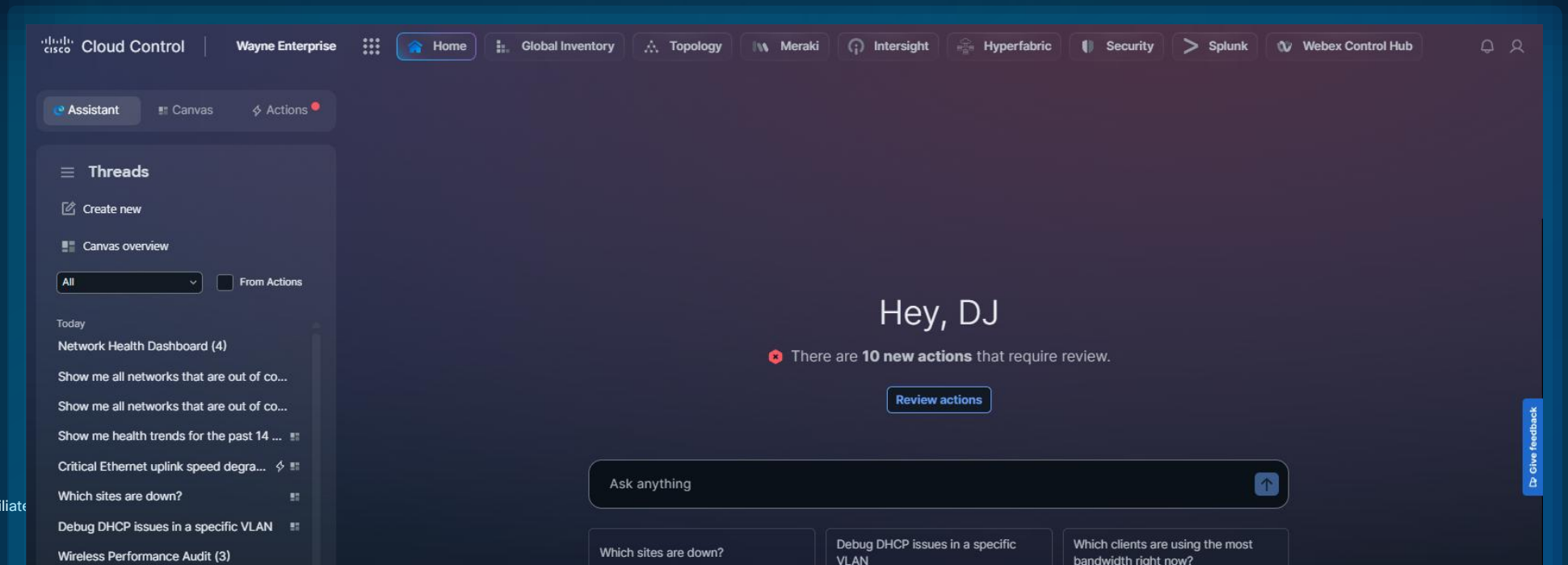
Start your journey with Cisco Cloud Control

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Cisco Cloud Control

One platform. Every domain. The foundation everything else is built on.

Meraki · ThousandEyes · Security Cloud Control · Splunk · Nexus Dashboard · Catalyst SD-WAN · Intersight · Webex · IQ · & more

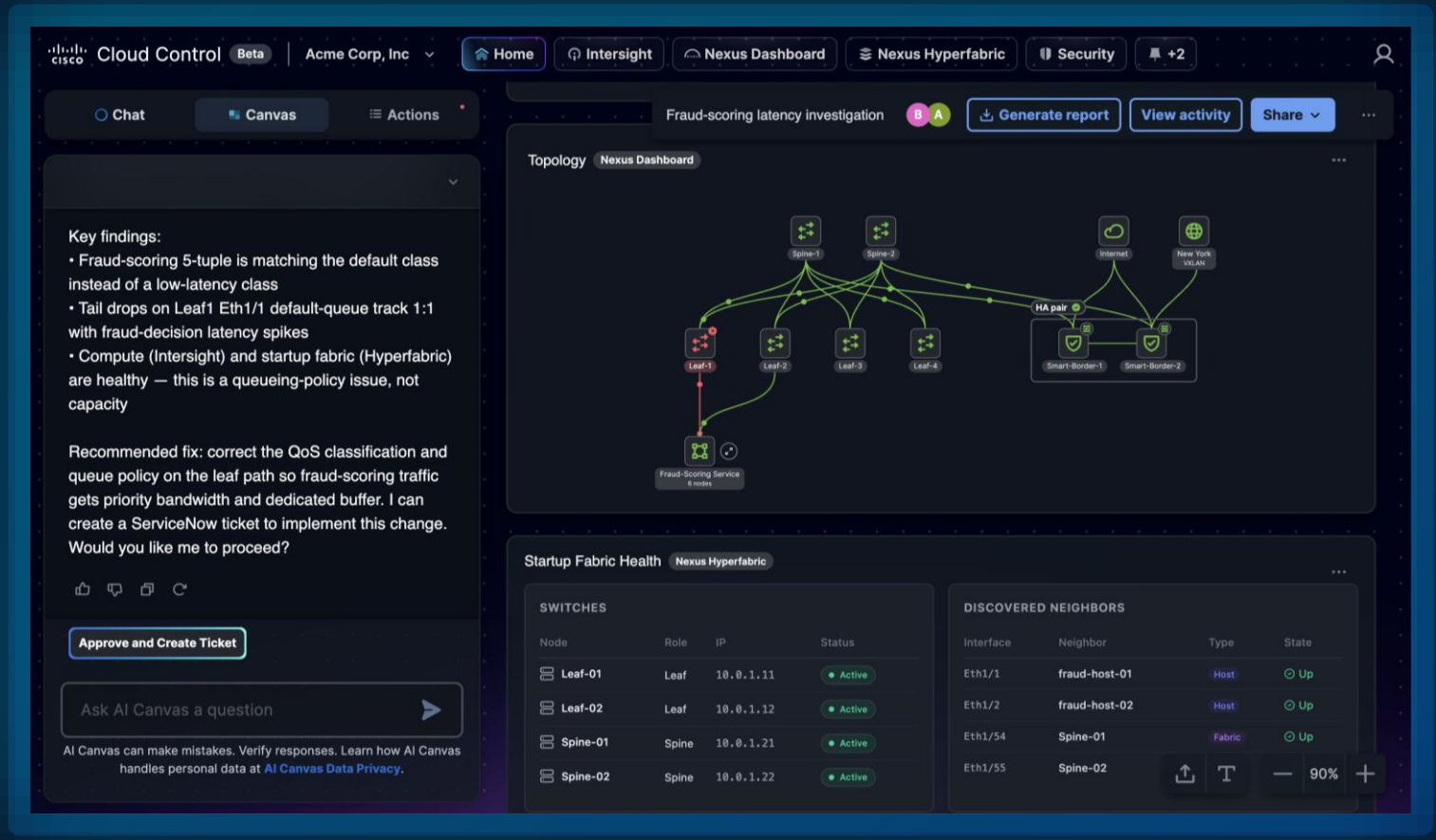


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Cisco Cloud Control

Extend insights to the data center

Connect insights across networking, compute, and security for faster troubleshooting and continuous management



Nexus One

- Fabric Discovery & Topology
- Health & Connectivity
- Anomalies & advisories
- AI Workload Observability
- Network Analytics

Intersight

- Compute, networking & storage Inventory
- Health and connectivity context
- Change Correlation (audit-record)

Security Cloud Control

- VPN tunnel health
- Traffic flow & routing context
- Guided remediation

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AI-driven operations for proactive data center networks

Find root cause faster

"Why is my app slow?"

Correlate app, fabric, and server signals.

- Nexus One
- Intersight

Keep the fabric healthy

“Is my fabric at risk?”

Detect drift, capacity, and connectivity issues before impact.

- Nexus One

Protect AI job performance

"Is the network holding back my AI workloads?"

Connect network behavior to AI job completion time.

- Nexus One

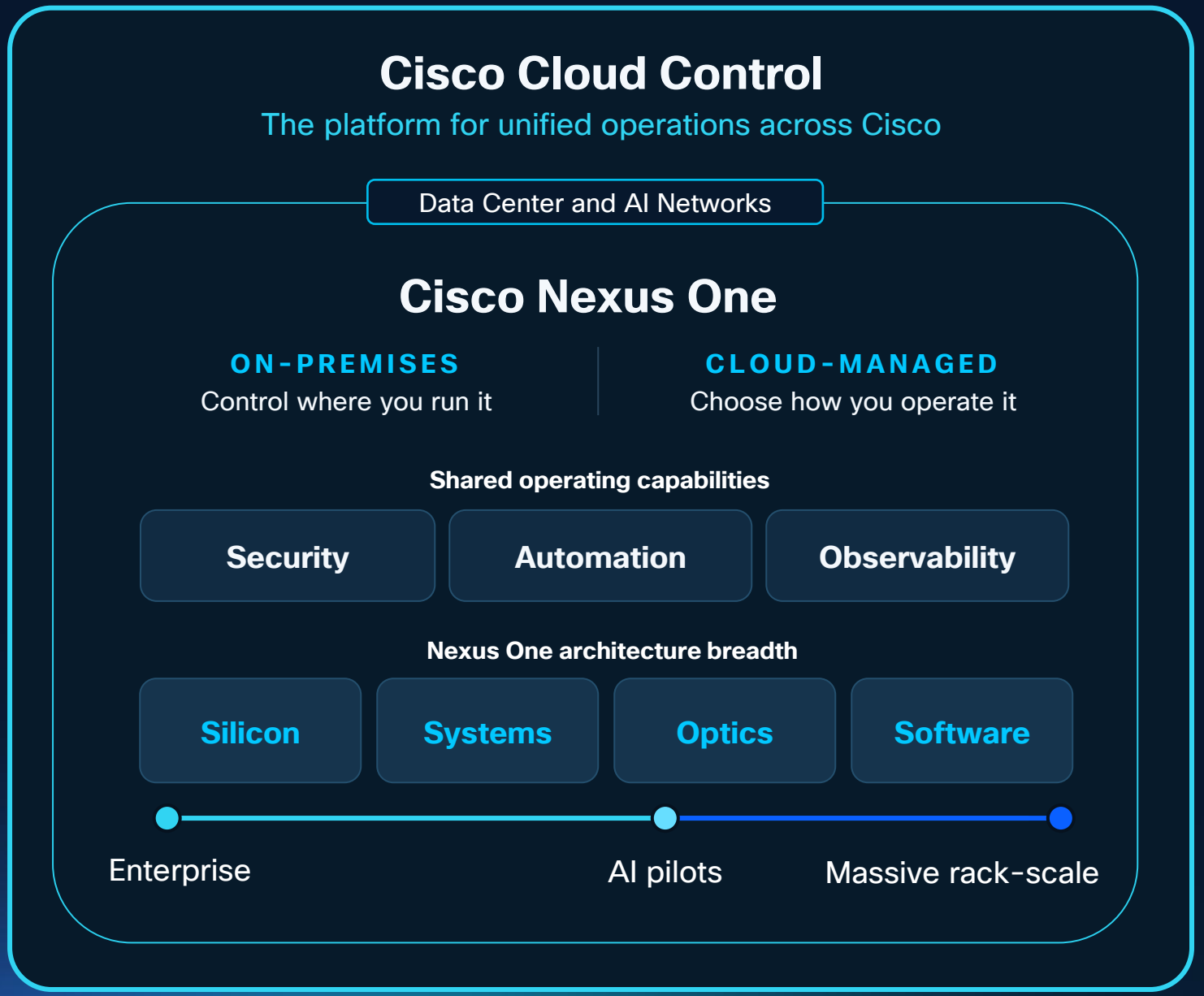
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CISCO NEXUS ONE

Your data center network evolves

Your investments carry forward

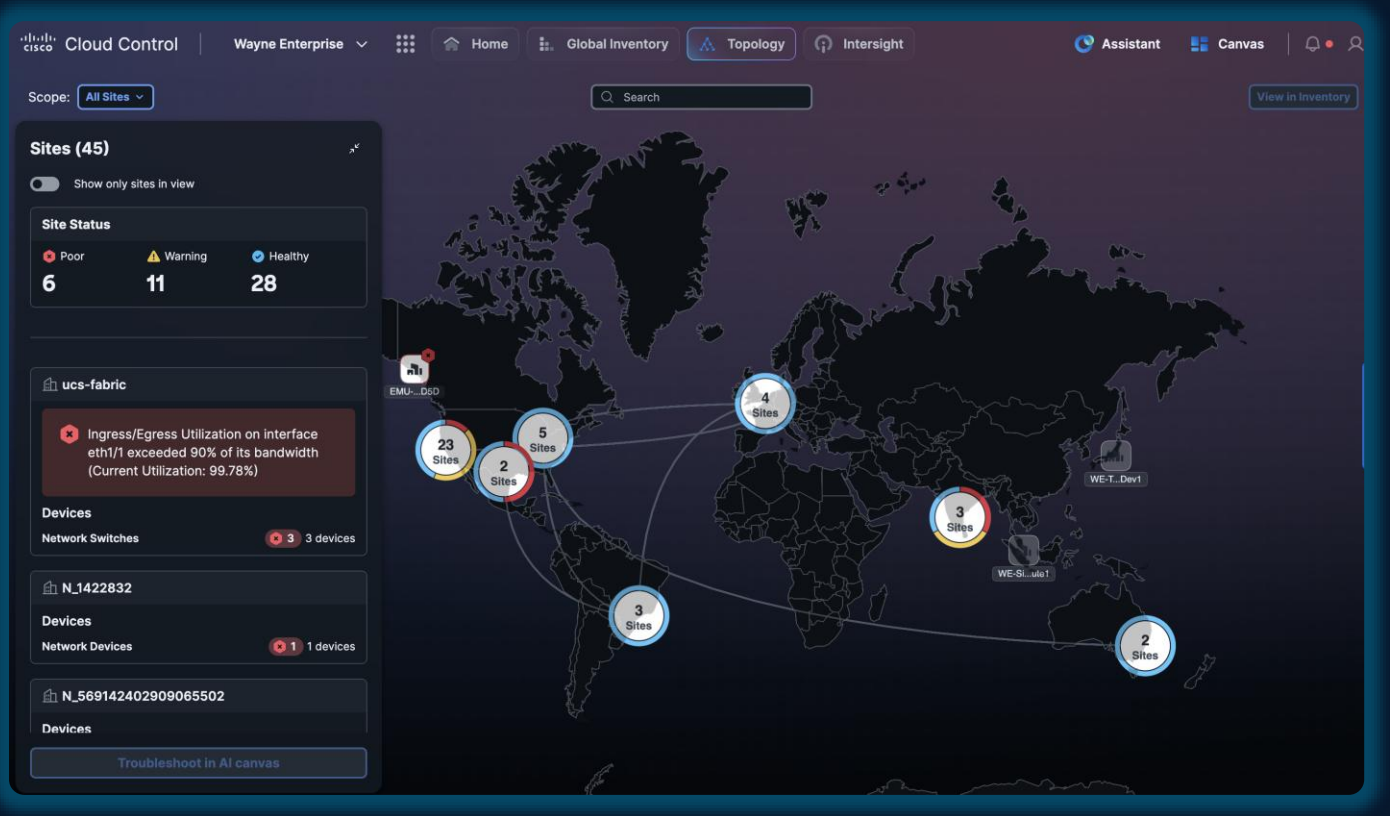
Your choices stay open



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Simplify compute operations with Cisco Intersight

Integrated with Cisco Cloud control



Management at Scale

Automate compute deployment, configuration, and lifecycle management

Operate proactively

Anticipate issues and simplify troubleshooting with AI-assisted insights

Connect your ecosystem

Integrate with platforms like Nutanix and Red Hat, automate with Ansible and Terraform, and connect service workflows through ServiceNow.

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Deploy production-ready stacks in-minutes

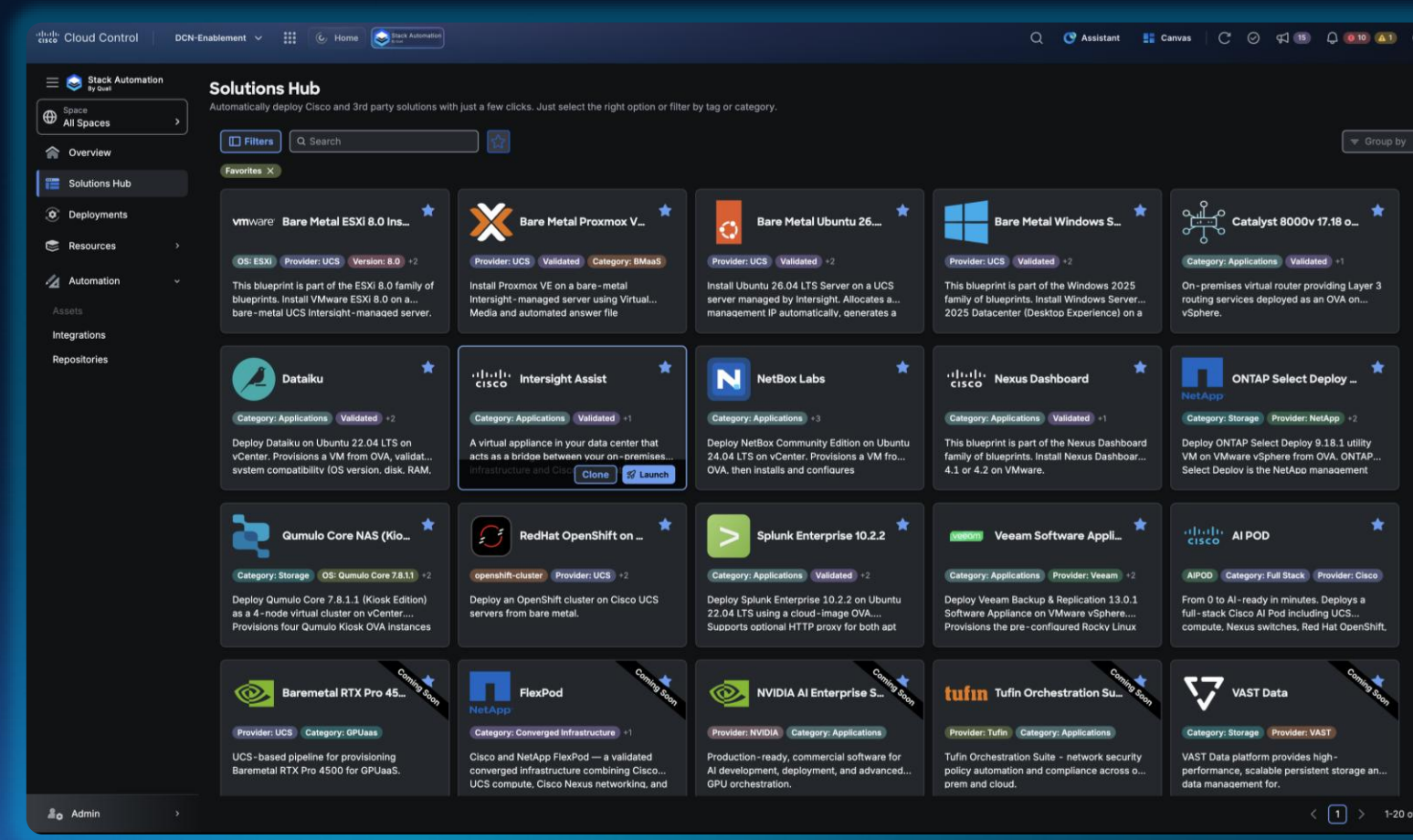
Introducing Stack Automation by Quali. Co-developed with Cisco

Available in Cisco Cloud Control

Deploy Cisco and third-party solutions.
On-premises or in the cloud.

Enterprise hardware, security, and validated designs

Automation to orchestrate and manage the full stack



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Interconnecting Data Centers

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The Fundamentals of Connectivity

The *objectives* have not changed...



Simplified and Autonomous Operations



Increased Service Resiliency



Lowest TCO and Carbon Footprint



New Monetization Opportunities



Unparallelled Customer Experience

... but the architectural imperatives and eco-system have

The Rise of AI

New Players in the Market

Highly Sophisticated Bad Actors

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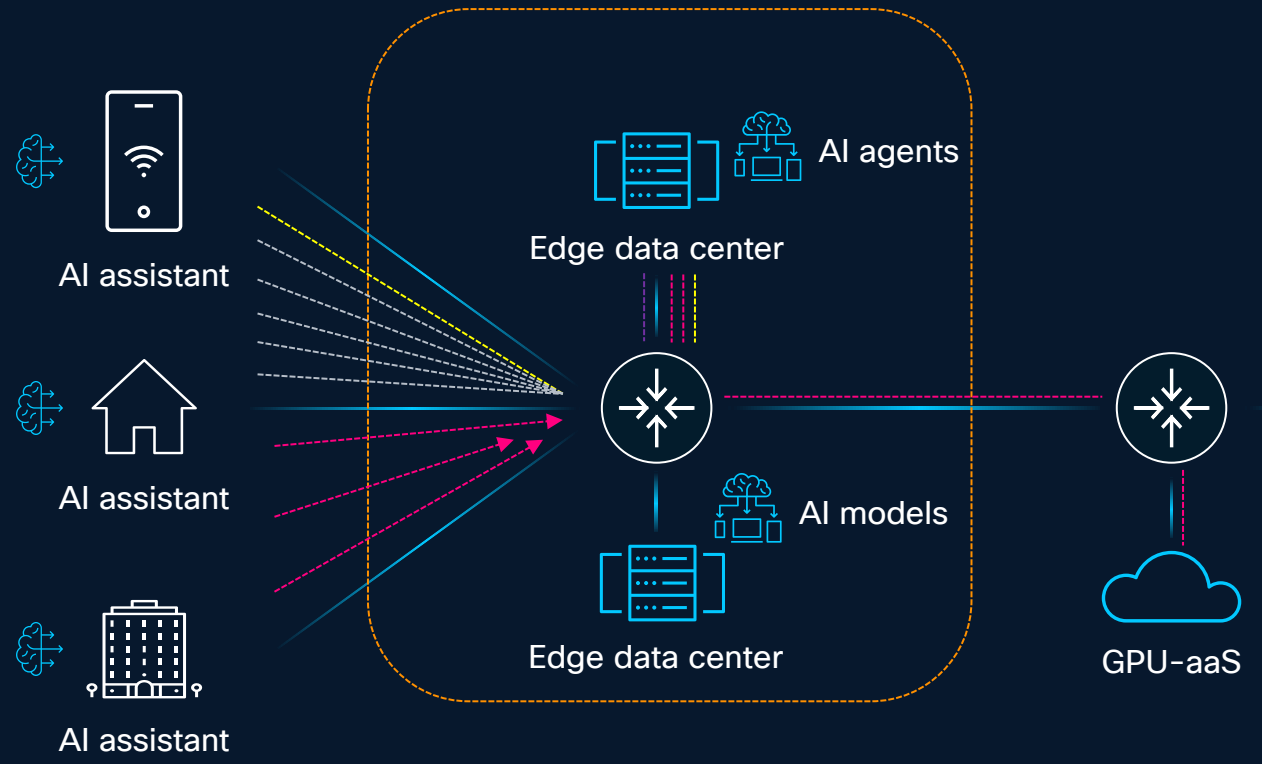
What Makes AI Traffic Different

Every AI request is unique – no content is cached

AI requests generate a high volume of tokens

AI inferencing is needed at the edge, leading to new network requirements

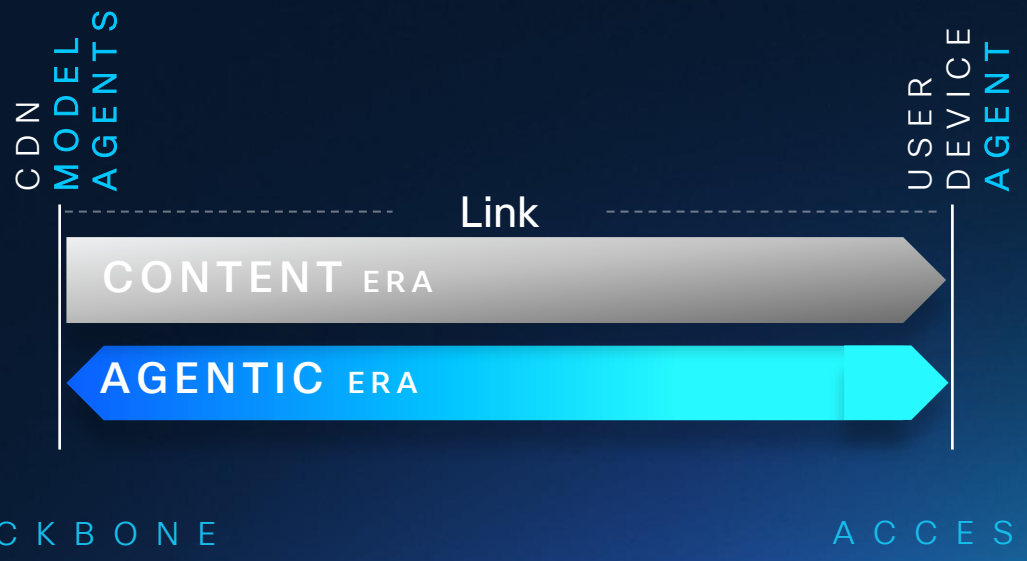
AI drives a disproportional increase in upstream traffic



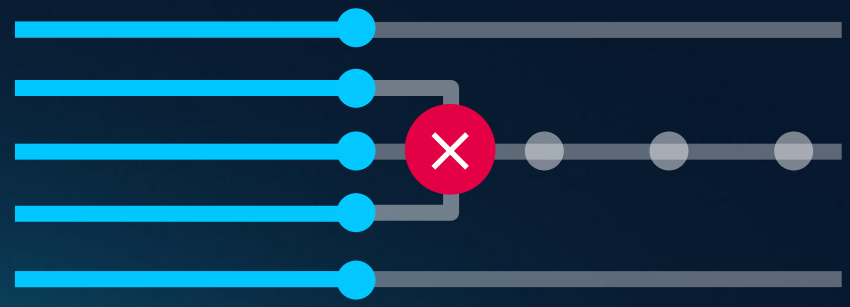
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More traffic, Upstream tilt. Resiliency is everything.

AI agents operating at machine speed increase total traffic and tilt direction upstream.



Downtime no longer leaves users waiting – it brings mission-critical digital workers to a halt.



One inference failure halts every downstream step.
1% packet loss means 40-60% performance degradation.

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The network becomes an LLM Fabric

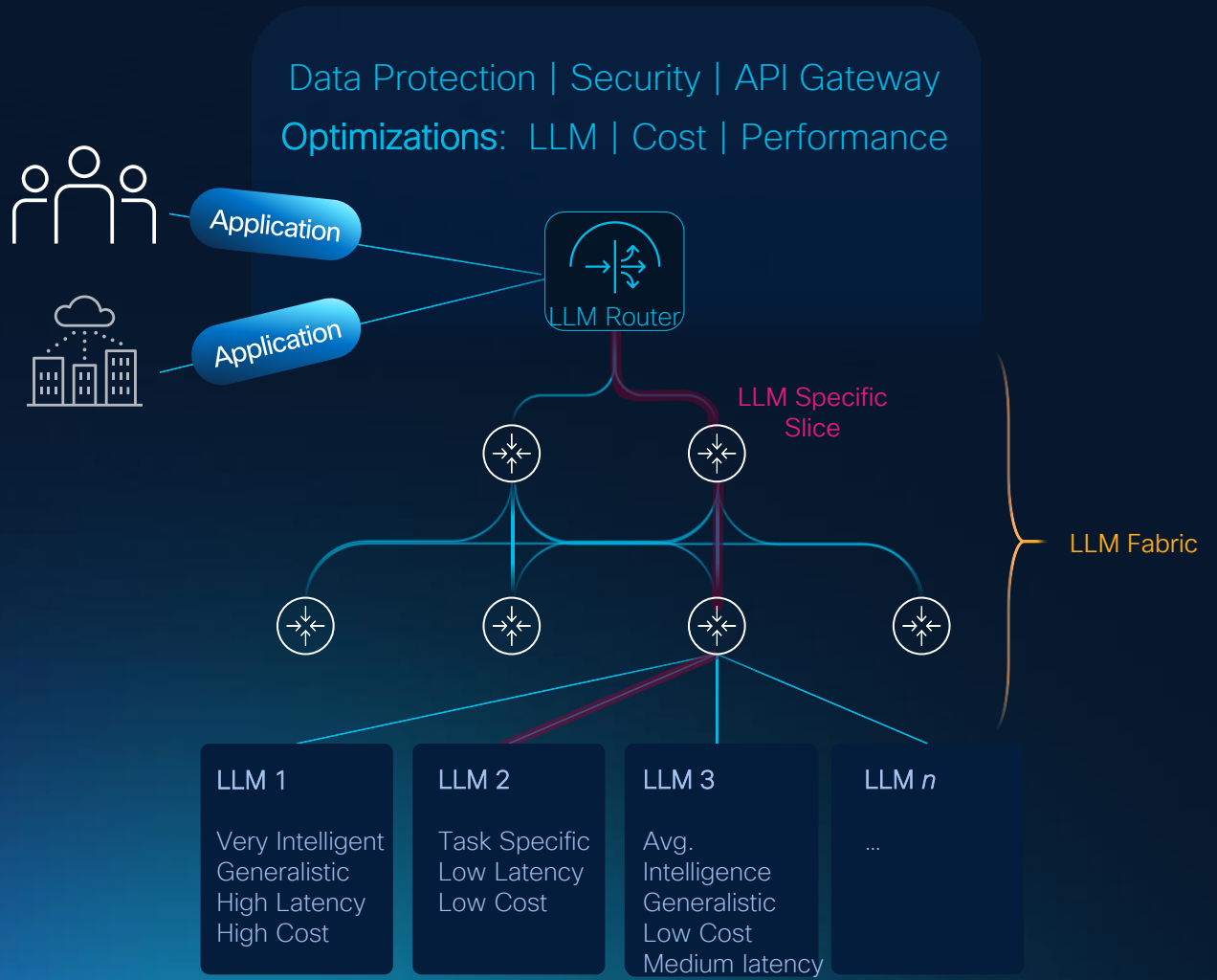
Cloud and Hybrid

Regulation and Data Sovereignty

Multi-LLM Challenges

Stringent SLA Requirements and Visibility

Distribution of Agents and LLMs

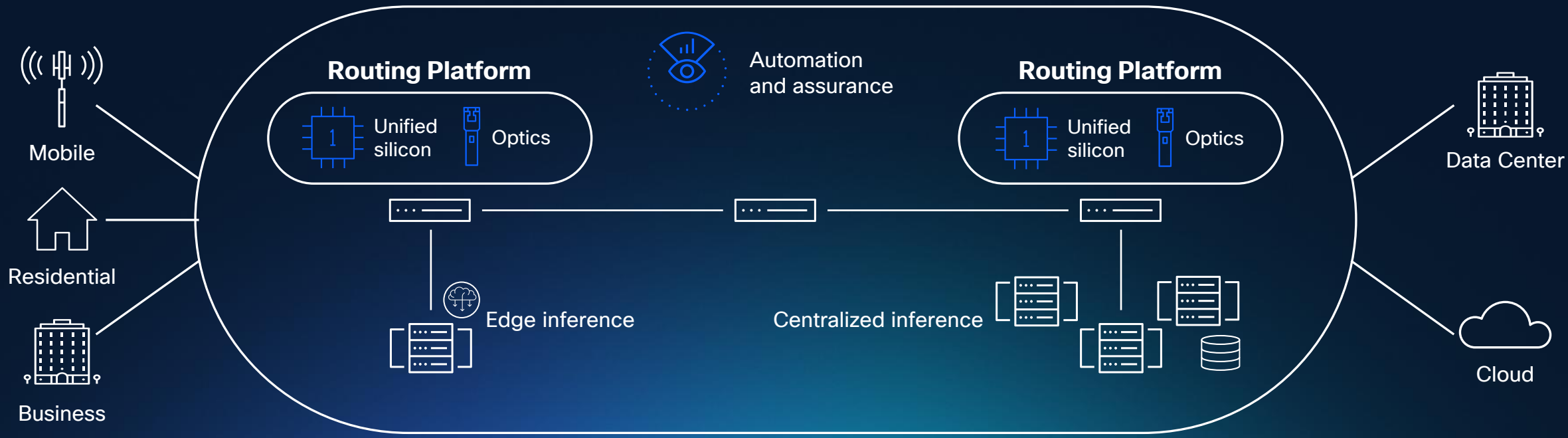


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Cisco Agile Services Networking

Predictable, assured, and secure network performance for AI connectivity

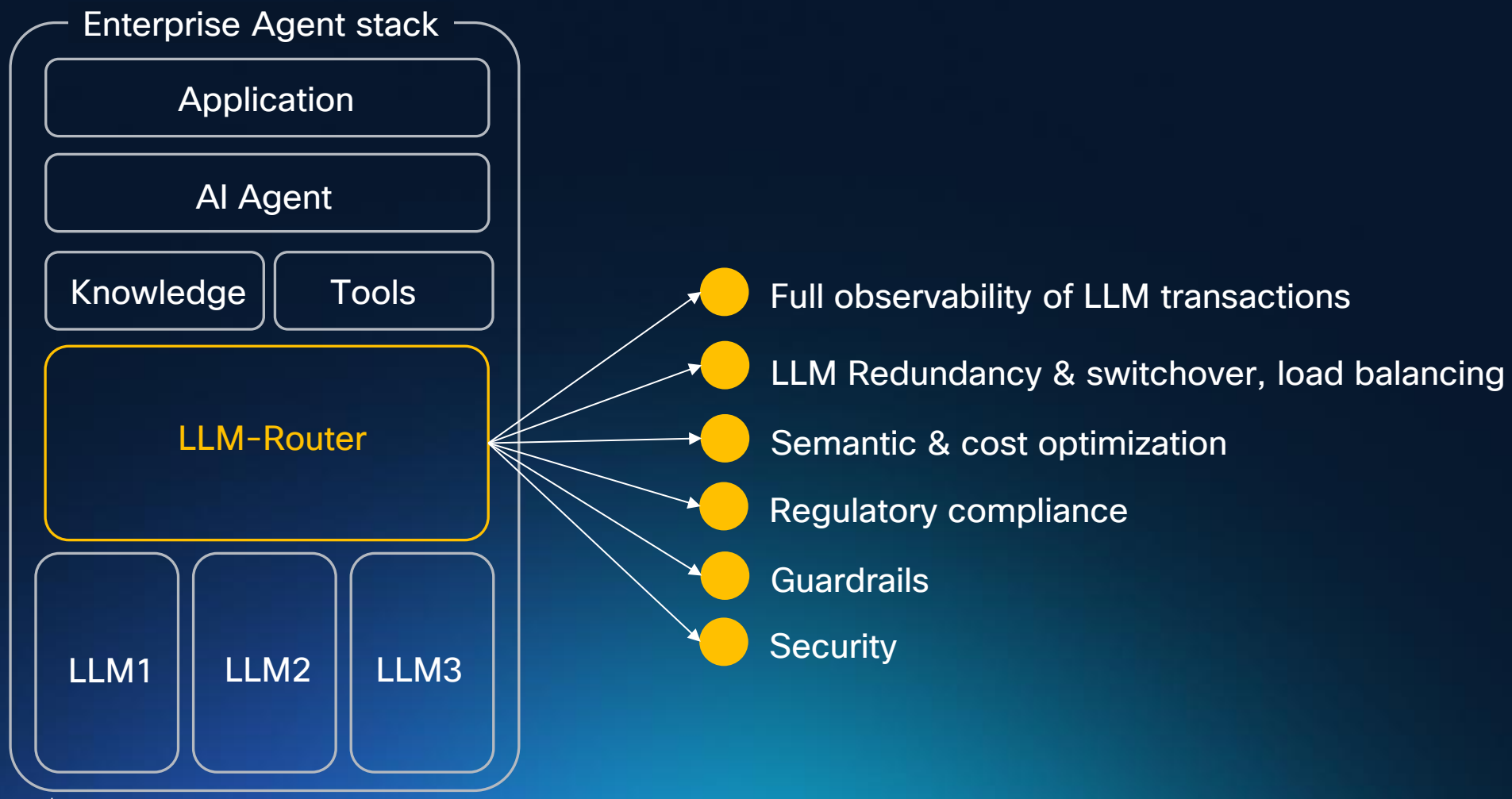
End-to-end architecture | Any services, anywhere



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LLM Routers

Inference Resiliency and Control



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Cisco Silicon One

Scalable and programmable solutions for metro and access networks.
Consistent control, sustainability, security, and manageability from the silicon level.

- One architecture
- High capacity and scale
- Service convergence
- Optimal network design
- Fully shared packet buffer
- Flexible interfaces
- Traffic management and load balancing
- Comprehensive security
- Programmable services
- Deep visibility and analytics

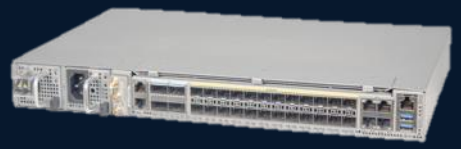


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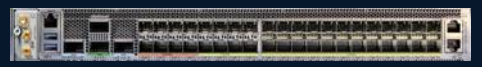
Cisco Routing Platforms for Enterprise and Public Sector

Access routers

Silicon One A100



8011-4G24Y4H-I
1T 1RU



8011-32Y8L2H2FH
1.6T 1RU



8011-12G12X4Y-A/D
240G 1RU

Services scale and feature set for access and aggregation: Class C Timing, MACsec and IPsec encryption, and QoS features

Edge Routing

Silicon One K100



8712-MOD-M
6.4T 2RU



8404-SYS
4.8T 4RU



8711-48Z-M
5.6T 1RU

Combines the efficiency and simplicity of a single processor with fixed and centralized form factors

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Cisco Optical Systems for Enterprise and Public Sector

Cisco Optical Network Controller
Cisco Optical Site Manager
Cisco Optical Network Planner

3rd party Waves / Spectrum

Coherent plugs



400G DCOs

1.2T C&L-Band

Transponders/Xponders



2.4T C&L-Band



1.2T C&L-Band



CFP2/QDD 400G LCs

L0 cards



Compact Modular Shelf L0 and L1 cards



A/D, ROADM, AMP LCs

(RON) Metro P2P Open Line System Pluggable



QSFP-DD OLS

Metro DCI Open Line System



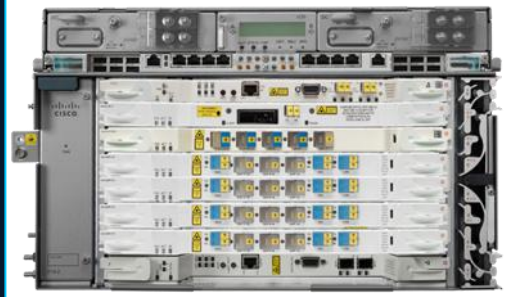
NCS 1001

C & L-Band Integrated Open Line System



NCS 1010

Modular Open Line System



NCS 2000

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Cisco Routed Optical Networking

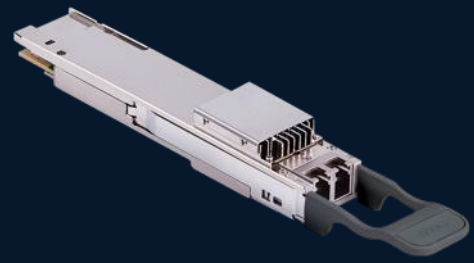
Address 100% of network applications with Cisco coherent pluggable optics



100G QSFP28



800G ZR/ZR+
400G ZR/ZR+



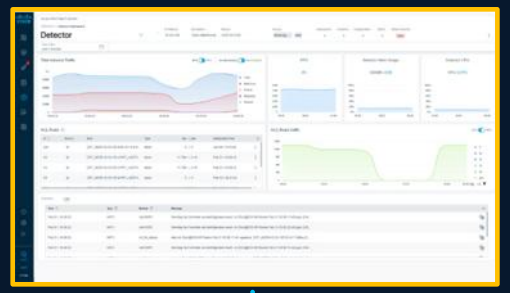
400G ULH

Campus | DCI | Metro | Regional | Ultra Long Haul

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Secure Networking Innovations







1

2

3

Establish trust at the physical layer

Verify that HW and SW are unaltered, even in untrusted domains

Protect from threats in transport

Use routers as your first line of defense against DDoS attacks

Protect from emerging threats

Implementing secure key distribution for post-quantum threats

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Agile Services Networking



Simplified routing infrastructure



IP / Optical convergence



AI for Automation and Assurance



Security fused into the network



Secure AI factory

AI READY CONNECTIVITY

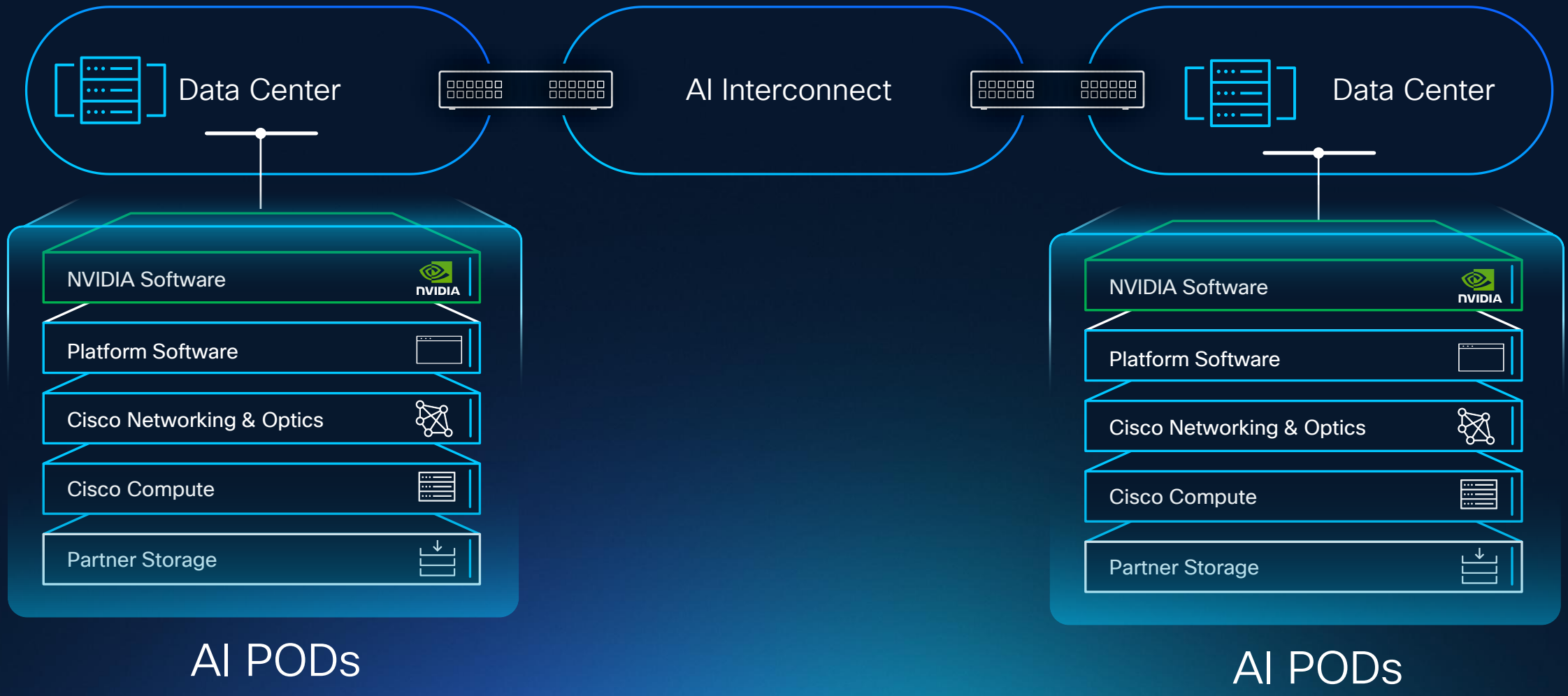
AI READY SERVICES

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AI-ready DCI

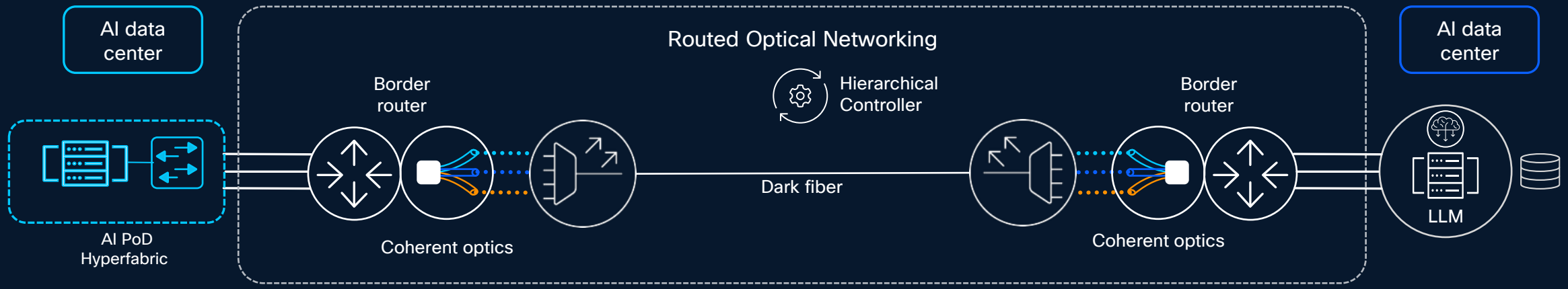
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AI-Ready Data Center Interconnect



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AI-Ready Data Center Interconnect



Key benefits

- Cisco Routed Optical Networking replaces power-hungry transponders with small pluggable optics (converge IP and optical layers)
- Suitable for any scale: from 100s of Gbps to 10s of Tbps to meet growing demands of AI
- Broad platform compatibility (e.g., Cisco 8000 and Nexus)
- Delivers up to 66% TCO savings, 95% power savings and requires no extra space

Why Cisco

- Industry leader in optics: largest number of ports shipped to the market and the most complete portfolio, with 100G, 400G, 800G, for different reaches and use cases
- Highest level of quality assurance on optics in the industry
- End-to-end solution: Routers, optics, optical, management/automation
- 350+ customers for Routed Optical Networking and optical customers—including the most demanding hyperscalers in the world

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Resources

Get Started

- Cisco Data Center Networking
- Cisco Compute
- Cisco Security
- Cisco Compute with Nutanix

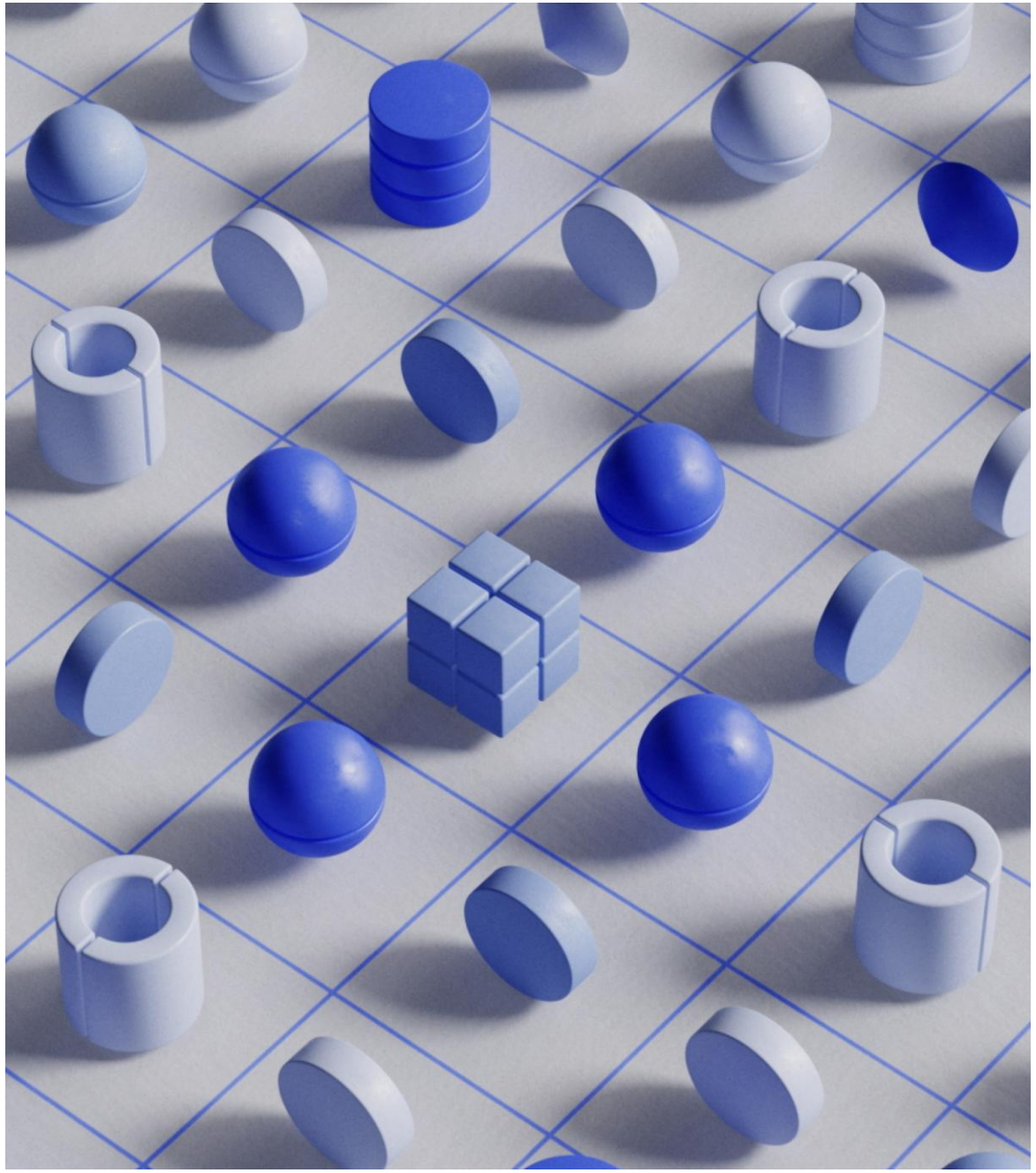
Deeper Dive Resources

- Compute design guides
- DC Networking design guides
- Isovalent design guides

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cisco

IBM Technology Lifecycle Services

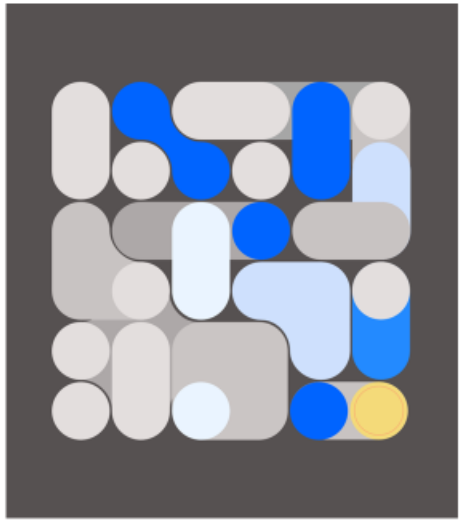


John Christensen
Global Offering Leader
IBM Infrastructure

October 21, 2026

Elements of IBM Network Intelligence

IBM Agentic AI to co-exist with Cisco AI Canvas to assist operations teams with continuous monitoring, event triage, and predictive alerts.



SaaS [+ On-Premises]

Deploy today with a SaaS platform, with on-prem options coming soon

Network-centric AI models

Ingest and analyze time-series data to produce relevant insights

Assistant-to-agentic operations

Move toward autonomy at your own pace

Semantic context

Improve relevance of insights by grounding them in a network context

Flexible data ingestion

Connect MELT data sources quickly with pre-built or custom mechanisms

Enrich existing data flows with AI

Add an AI layer to the rich data sources on your network with an easy-to-use, API-first approach

CISCO Connect

Thank you

