



# Cisco Application Services for the Data Center

## IMPROVE PERFORMANCE, INCREASE VALUE, AND REDUCE RISK

### How Applications Affect Data Center Transformation

Applications are core to successful business operations, and many organizations are looking for ways to reduce costs by migrating and modernizing applications on a more efficient, unified architecture.

Also, users' application experience is the ultimate measurement of an IT department's success. As people increasingly multitask and have higher job demands, it is critical for IT to address speed, availability, and application enhancements. But IT is often constrained by inflexible applications and the challenges and costs of maintaining older systems.

Customers typically must address the following challenges when trying to assess their application environment:

- Which applications to virtualize and modernize
- Which operating systems to standardize
- What the infrastructure and application interdependencies are
- How to automate and manage applications
- What will be the real return on investment (ROI) after migration and modernization

### Cisco Unified Computing Architecture

The Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) delivers a scalable and flexible architecture to help meet your application infrastructure needs and reduce the total cost of ownership.

Cisco UCS aligns computing, storage, and networking silos, which helps simplify service orchestration across compute, virtualization, operating system, storage, and network.

The Cisco UCS architecture supports a wide range of hypervisors. It is an ideal platform for customers seeking high performance and increased reliability for their custom and off-the-shelf (packaged) applications, including Oracle, SAP, and Microsoft applications.

### How You Can Benefit

Cisco Services help you migrate to the Cisco UCS architecture and mitigate risks so you can realize the value of your new data center environment more quickly.

Cisco Application Services help you:

- Increase overall business agility and effectiveness
- Establish a migration strategy with an ROI
- Provide a path to cloud-based services using innovative virtualization technologies
- Support low-latency user experiences and disaster recovery plans
- Simplify application management
- Increase the return on your business application investment
- Improve application performance
- Minimize migration risk with proven methodology and leading practices

### Accelerate Your Application Initiatives

Cisco Services can lead the process by working with trusted partners to assist you with a variety of application needs, including:

- Portfolio rationalization
- Cloud enablement
- Migration
- Modernization
- Management and automation

### Portfolio Rationalization

Before undertaking application migration, modernization, virtualization, or cloud enablement, you should understand your current application environment. Cisco's migration acceleration services will assess your environment to evaluate the applications and versions deployed, cost to maintain, opportunities to simplify, and end-of-life strategies. Based on the findings, we help you evaluate various consolidation and migration strategy options. This includes comparing the ROI and total cost of ownership (TCO) of each option to align your business, IT, and investment objectives and providing a migration roadmap.

### Cisco UCS Transition and Migration Service

Cisco has successfully delivered end-to-end migration services (physical and virtual) for a wide range of global customers.

As part of your Cisco UCS migration services engagement, we can migrate the full application stack, from the hypervisor to the application, including code

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porting if required. At the platform/hypervisor level, Cisco Services support all variants of physical to virtual migrations and OS migrations. We evaluate your applications for virtualization readiness and recommend an architecture with integrated physical and virtual server, network, and storage optimized for your specific applications requirements. Your requirements might include security, client service-level agreements, capacity on demand, increased application availability and performance, and disaster recovery.

### Application Migration Services

We help you move your applications to Cisco UCS with cross-platform migration of packaged and custom applications and legacy application porting and development. In addition to custom migration, we also have the ability to handle large, complex migrations of packaged and customer application code using a migration factory approach.

Cisco Services support migrations from legacy platforms such as mainframes and UNIX servers. With our proven practices, we help you securely and cost-effectively transition your current legacy infrastructure with proprietary processing platforms to today's open architectures. Cisco UCS services provide the following main migration and modernization offers.

- The **Migration Acceleration Service** is a presales service that provides four steps to inspire your confidence in Cisco's migration capabilities and help us better understand your environment to develop a roadmap for migration:
  - Discovery
  - TCO analysis
  - Proof of concept/preproduction pilot
  - Migration roadmap
- **RISC/UNIX migration services** will help if you are running a UNIX-based compute platform. Cisco will migrate your custom or commercial applications to an industry-leading bare metal, virtualized, or private cloud compute environment and help you achieve significant cost savings without compromising reliability or availability.
- If you use SAP applications, our **SAP migration services** can help you migrate from an x86 or UNIX environment to a bare metal, virtualized, or private cloud compute environment and maintain critical availability requirements while increasing your application performance by up to 200 percent.
- **Oracle migration services** help migrate Oracle databases and applications from an x86 or UNIX environment to an industry-leading bare metal, virtualized, or private cloud compute environment. We can help boost performance by up to 400 percent and reduce footprint without compromising reliability or availability.
- **Microsoft migration services** help migrate Microsoft Exchange, SharePoint, and SQL applications to realize the potential and reliability of these applications. By migrating to the Cisco UCS platform, IT organizations can achieve a significant performance increase, up to a 50 percent reduction in servers, and a 35 percent reduction in power.

### Application Modernization

As you migrate to an optimized infrastructure, you might want to simplify application management and reduce costs by upgrading to new versions of existing applications. Cisco Services can help you address modernization requirements for applications running on Cisco UCS, including:

- Infrastructure architecture and enhancements
- Application upgrades, updates, and features

Application modernization involves migrating custom applications to a more efficient infrastructure and transforming them into stateless applications that dynamically respond to changing business requirements.

### Application Management and Automation

Despite its benefits, virtualization can create management challenges. We help you assess the effect of virtualization on management and automate application provisioning on Cisco UCS for the following areas:

- Systems orchestration
- Monitoring
- Deployment and configuration
- API integration

Workload automation includes automation of common tasks, such as running scheduled batch workloads and event-based business processes. It also determines where and when to run them, without the need to manage scripts or customize existing tools. Automation can be used for a variety of business processes and helps simplify operations, reduce costs, and promote business flexibility.

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We provide integration of Cisco UCS with the back office system. By using Cisco's flexible management and automation products and services such as Cisco UCS Manager, Cisco UCS XML API, Cisco Tidal Orchestration and Scheduler, and CIAC for integrated physical to virtual control, you can realize substantial management efficiencies when you use automated infrastructure and application provisioning. These services help reduce costly manual labor, which is typically more error-prone than automated processes.

### Why Cisco Services?

Realize the full business value of your technology investments with smart, personalized services from Cisco and our partners. [Cisco Services](#) enable you to successfully plan, build, and manage your network as a powerful business platform.

Cisco delivers the intelligent network that listens, learns, and responds, helping your people work better together and creating better experiences.

### Next Steps

- Cisco application services are available worldwide. Learn about the broad array of Cisco Services for your data center: Visit [www.cisco.com/go/dcservices](http://www.cisco.com/go/dcservices) or contact your local Cisco account manager or Cisco Certified Partner.
- Every successful data center transformation relies on 10 domains. Get the free Cisco Domain Ten eBook at <http://cisco.com/go/domainten>.

