



Top 5 ways Cisco increases agility with the Intercloud

Digital transformation is shaking up traditional business models. Agile organizations will not only adapt—they will turn disruption into opportunities for growth. IT can increase agility by tapping into the speed and flexibility of the Intercloud.

What is the Intercloud?

Built by Cisco and our partners, the Intercloud is the only globally connected network of clouds capable of delivering highly secure cloud applications and infrastructure anywhere in the world.

1. Insight

Understanding how the cloud will increase revenue and foster innovation is critical to choosing the right cloud consumption model. In collaboration with IDC, Cisco has looked at the cloud environments of more than 3400 organizations in 17 countries. Cisco has developed a framework that helps you shape the best cloud strategy for your organization.

54% of organizations expect the cloud to help them strategically allocate their IT budgets.¹

2. Choice

If your options are limited, your potential for agility is limited. That's why rigid cloud structures can actually hold you back. Cisco enables choice with:

- Flexible cloud consumption
- Multiple Cisco UCS Integrated Infrastructure delivery options
- Paced cloud automation
- Cisco Powered cloud services
- OpenStack cloud solutions
- Thousands of integrated applications

3. Control

Shadow IT is a problem in many organizations. Line-of-business teams need cloud access but are unwilling or unable to wait for IT to allocate cloud resources. Not only does this create unnecessary costs—it is a threat to security.

Cisco gives you control by:

- Helping you turn IT into a service broker
- Unifying service management
- Controlling workload placement
- Using application and data across clouds

40

Cloud services that IT thinks are running²

645

Cloud services that are actually running

4. Consistency

Cisco enables consistency by implementing policy-based automation, extending your private cloud environment into the public cloud, and giving you a homogeneous set of tools that works across clouds.

64%

of organizations expect to have two or more major cloud providers (infrastructure, platform and applications) to meet their needs.¹

5. Compliance

Security is still the number-one concern for customers moving into cloud services. Agility becomes irrelevant without the industry regulations, data sovereignty laws, and security policies that protect your business.

Cisco helps ensure compliance by:

- Providing security solutions for the cloud
- Curating an ecosystem of trusted Intercloud providers
- Enabling workload portability and placement

1. Don't Get Left Behind: The Business Benefits of Achieving Greater Cloud Adoption, IDC sponsored by Cisco, March 2015.

2. Business Value Brief: Cisco ACI, IDC, May 2014.

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