Future-proofed workplaces at every scale

Matt Gillies

Cisco Fellow and Chief Architect

December 2025

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

AI-Ready Data Centers

Future-Proofed Workplaces

Secure Global Connectivity

Digital Resilience

Accelerated by Cisco AI

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Technology stack for the

Future-Proofed Workplaces

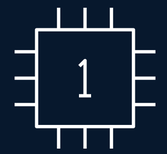
Collaboration

Employee & Customer experience
amplified by AI

Architecture for the AI-Ready Secure Network

Operational simplicity
powered by AI

Scalable devices
ready for AI



Security
fused into the network

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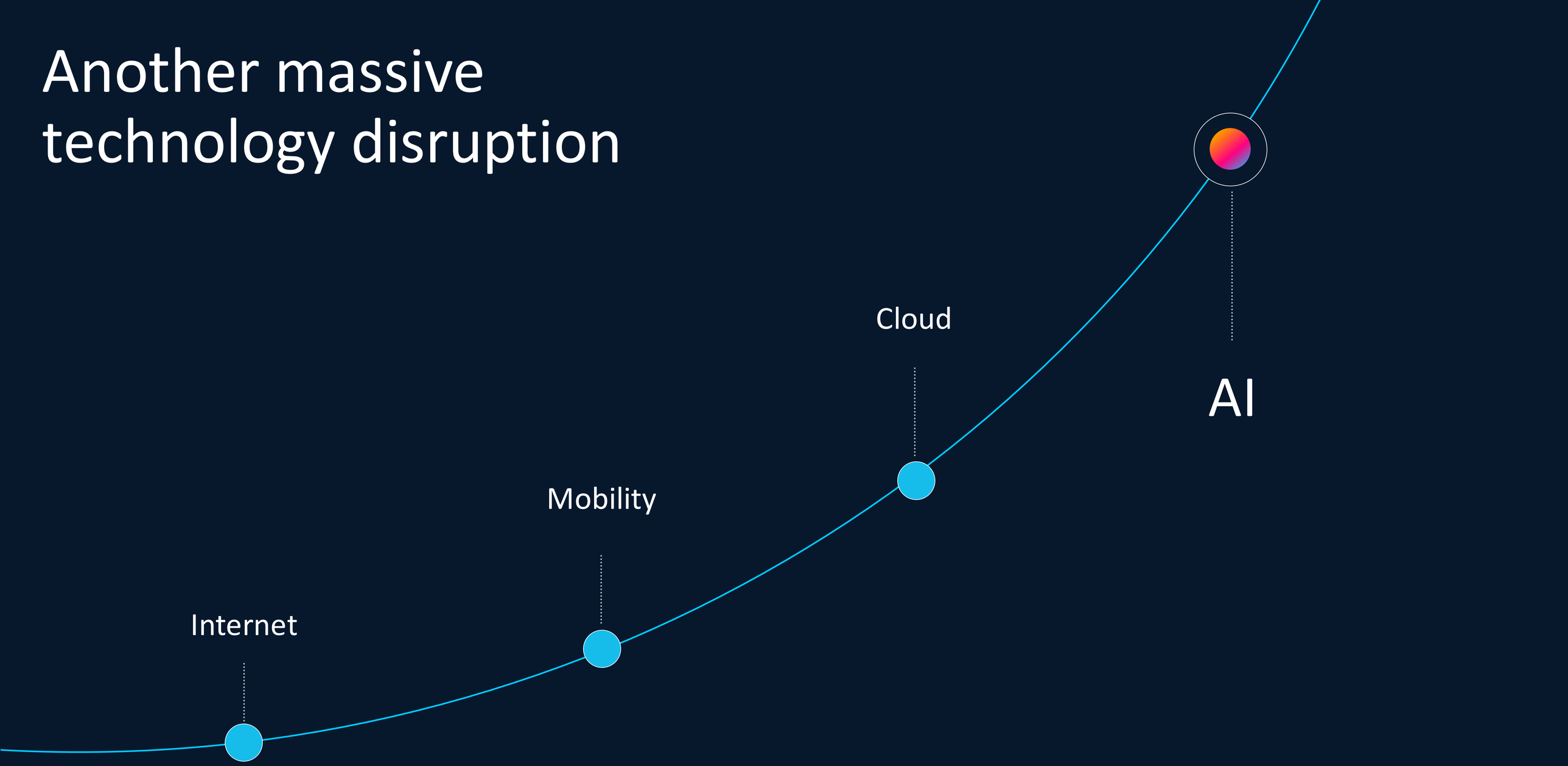
Another massive technology disruption



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This requires a network purpose built for AI

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Architecture for the AI-Ready Secure Network

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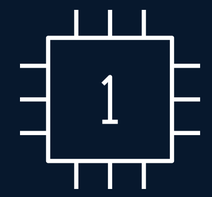

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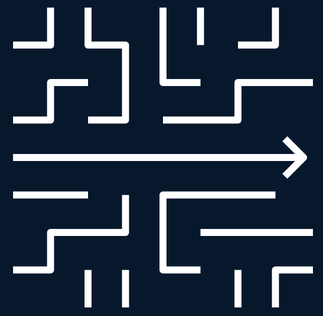
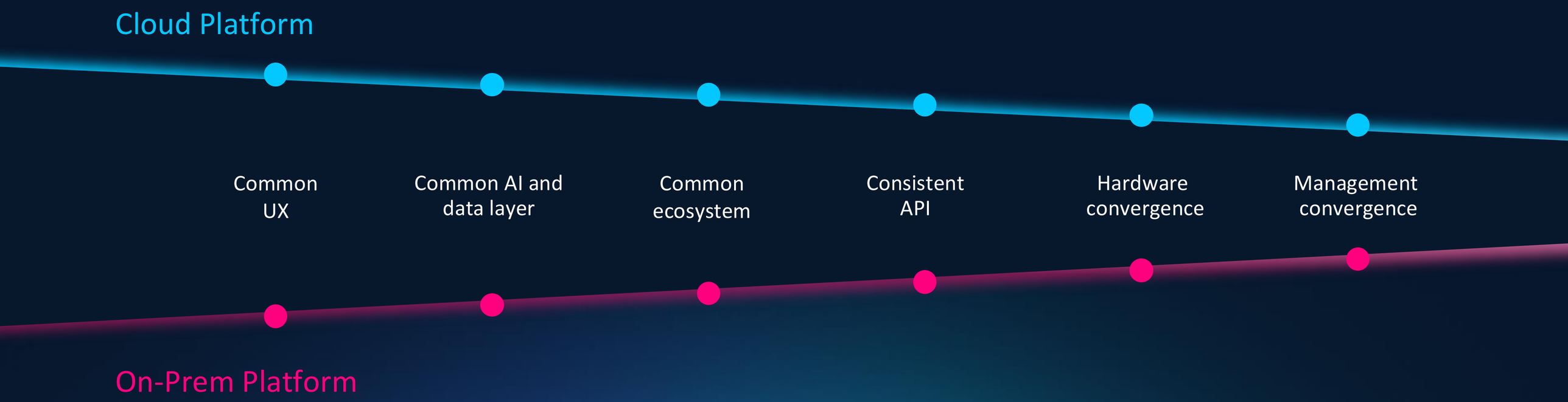
Operational simplicity powered by AI



Journey to Network Platform Convergence



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Cisco’s Unified Platform

PLATFORM

Management

API / Integrations

Assurance

Intelligence

HARDWARE

Smart Switches

Secure Routers

Wireless

Industrial IoT

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Unifying Catalyst & Meraki

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Catalyst Center

Premier On-Prem experience

Deeper Assurance, Network Automation, SDA innovation and platform convergence

Quality

Improve CSAT
Complete compliance

Market Access

Virtual Appliance, Security Centric Capabilities, new device support and alignment

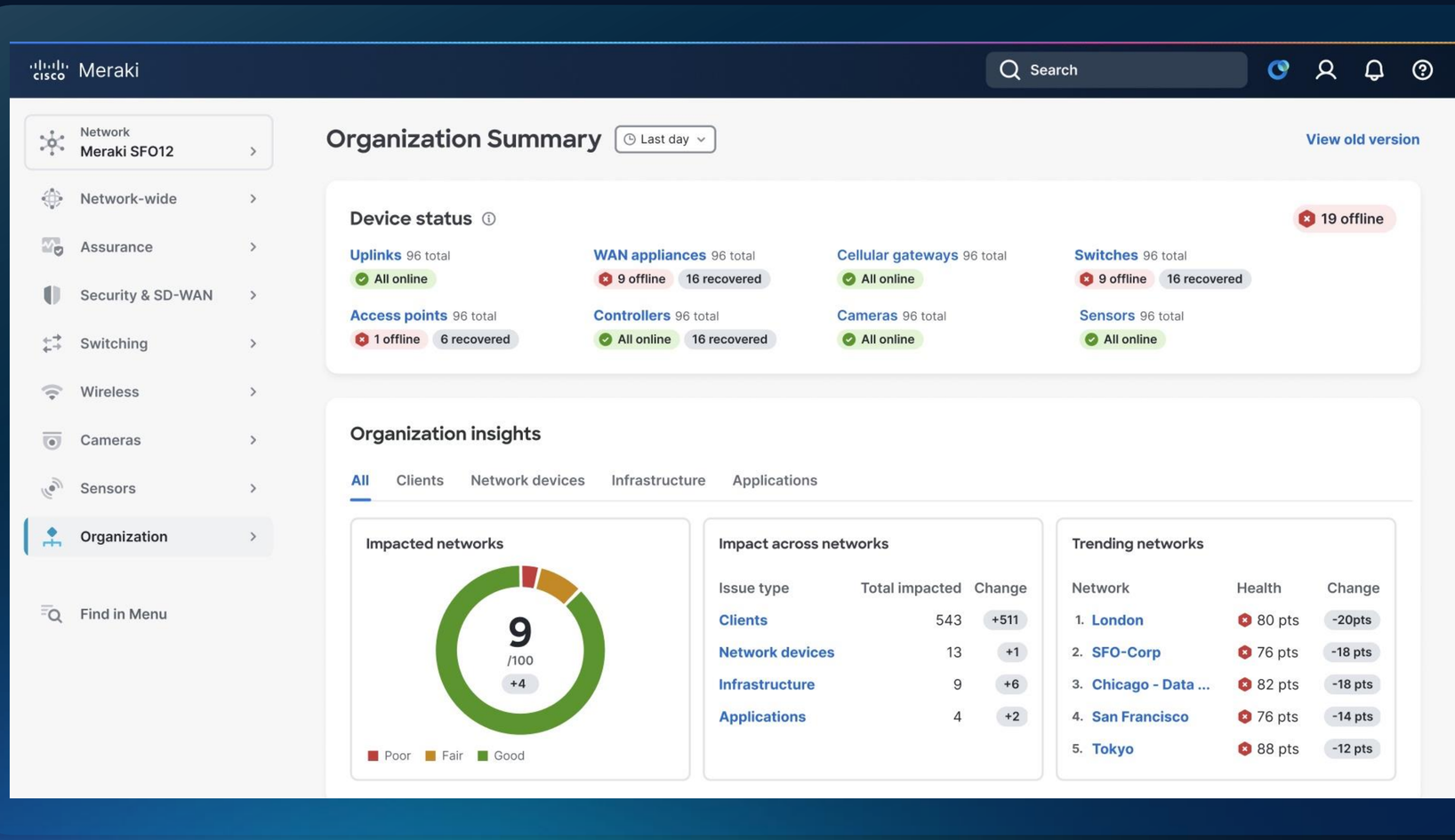
Platform Unification

Integration of Meraki Dashboard, Catalyst Center and ThousandEyes with Assurance

Announcing
Unified cloud management

Single dashboard for Meraki, Catalyst, all next-gen devices

AVAILABLE NOW



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Expanded Cloud Management for Catalyst portfolio

Wireless

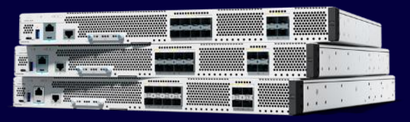
- Full wireless support
- Scale large campus wireless with Campus Gateway

GA | June

Switching

Expanded management for access, industrial, and core switching, including C9200 and C9500

GA | July



Routing

Next-gen routing support coming

Alpha | June

Cloud management powered by cloud-native IOS XE

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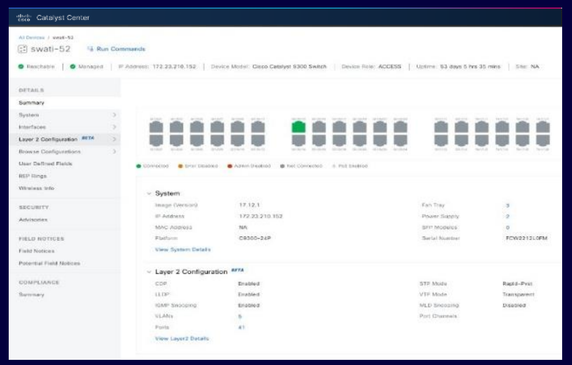
Catalyst Center – Simplifying Day 0/Day 1

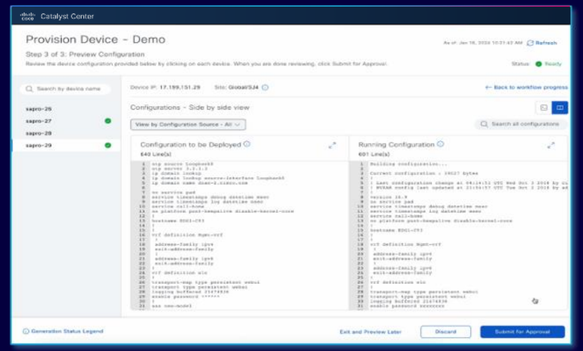
Brownfield Automation



Enable device-by-device feature learning and configuration

GA | Now

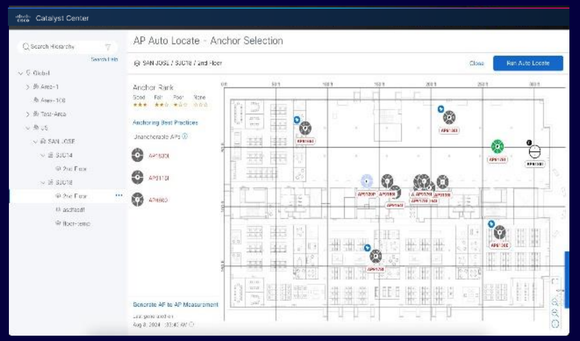
Visibility and Control



Provide a review and approval process for any system or user-triggered configuration to network devices

GA | Now

AP Auto-locate



Improve accuracy of AP placements on maps to detect misplacements automatically

GA | Now

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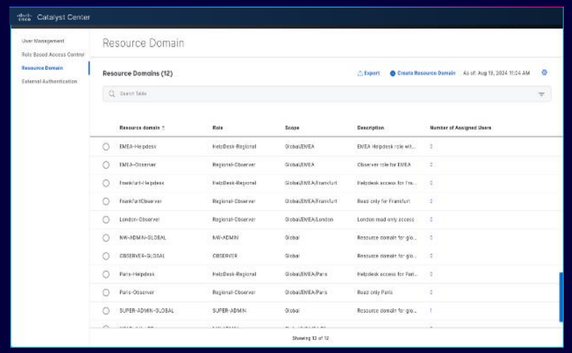
Catalyst Center – Simplifying Day N

AI Event Analytics

Get a single-pane-of-glass view across all network events to facilitate observability and analytics

GA | Now

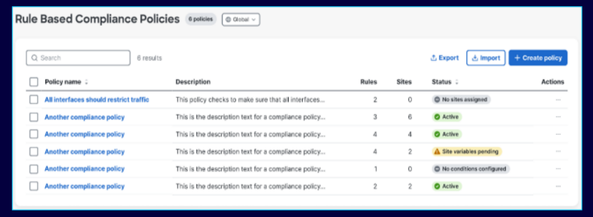
RBAC by Site



Set granular Role-Based Access Control based on Site Scope

Controlled Availability | June

Rule Based Compliance



Run custom compliance rules and detect issues network-wide

Controlled Availability | June

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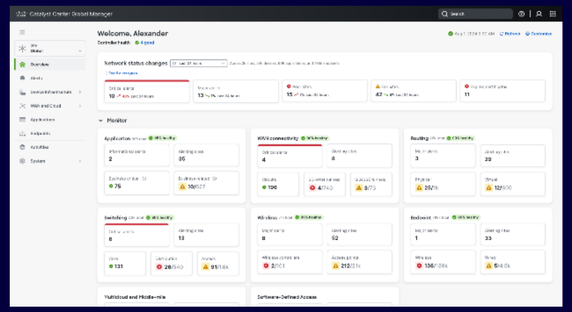
Launched at Cisco Live

Catalyst Center Global Manager



Streamline global network management from a single dashboard

Controlled Availability | June

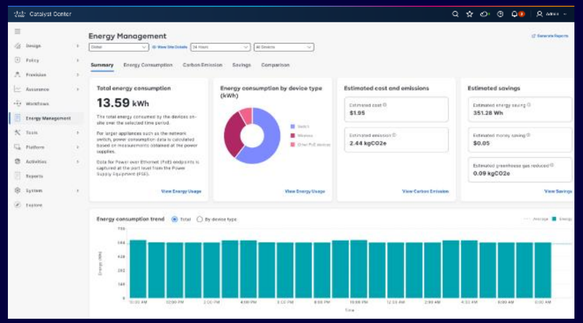
Virtual Appliance Support for Azure

Microsoft Azure

Deploy a virtual appliance on Azure for operational flexibility

Controlled Availability | June

Energy Management



Optimize energy usage and save costs with standardized energy metrics and insights

Controlled Availability | June

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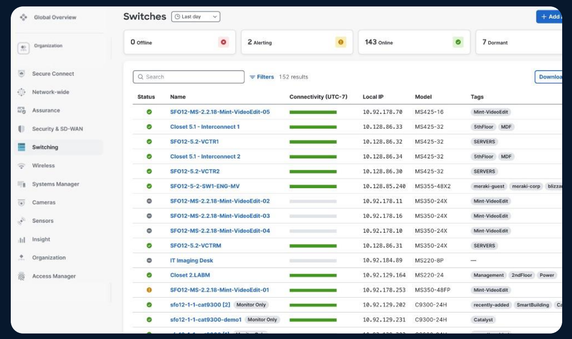
New in the Unified Platform

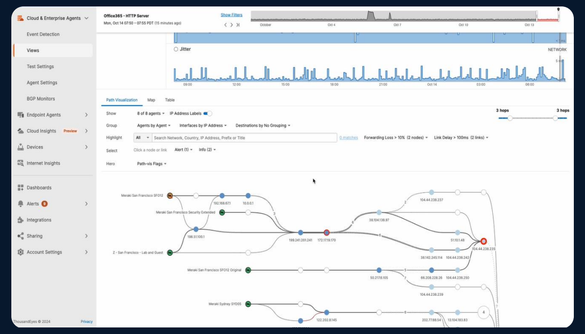
Unified management



Unified management for Catalyst and Meraki: cloud, on-prem, or hybrid

GA | JUNE

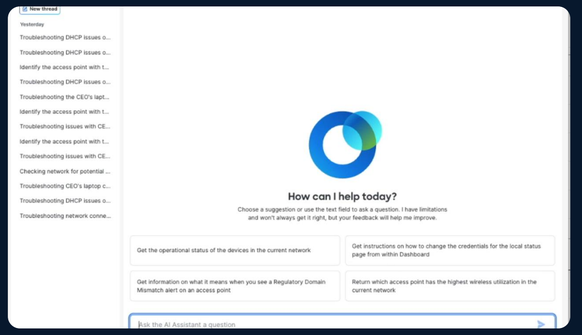
Multilayered assurance



Deeper visibility into enterprise networks, cloud, and endpoints—
plus Splunk integration

GA | JUNE+

AI Assistant



Ask, explore and act in natural language; automated workflows for configs changes and switch migrations

Beta | JUNE

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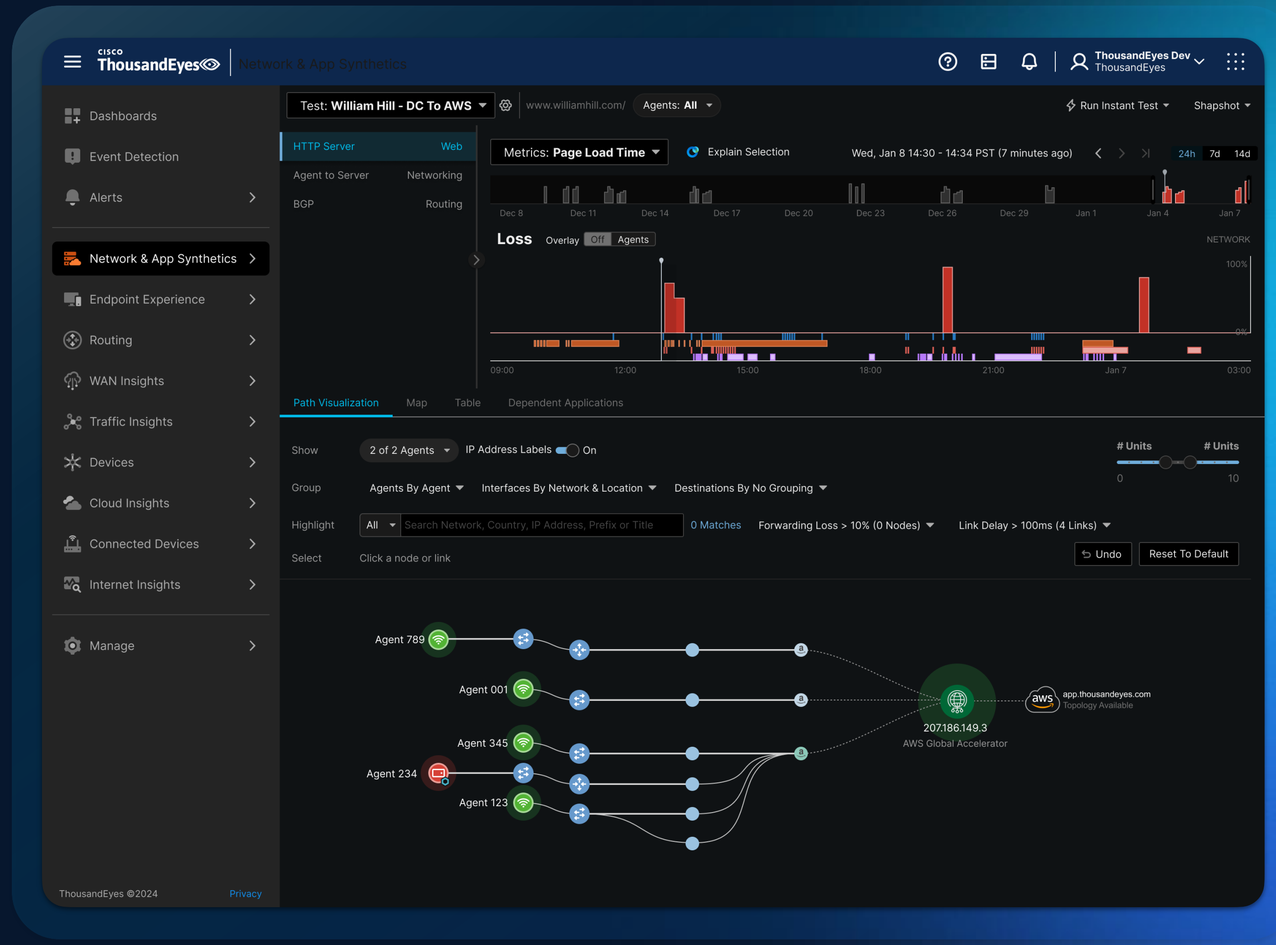
Announced

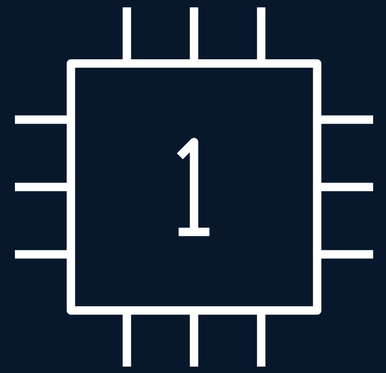
Enhanced multi-layer assurance

Expanded visibility across owned and unowned networks, cloud, wired and wireless devices

NOW AVAILABLE



Scalable devices ready for AI



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What does it mean to build hardware for the AI era?

Silicon

High bandwidth and high performance. Post-quantum ready

OS

Pervasive programmability, deep observability, near-zero downtime architecture

System

AI driven visibility, programmable open ecosystem, power efficient

A new lineup for Secure Networking

Smart Switches

Secure Routers

Campus Gateway & Wi-Fi 7

Scale OT for AI

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Security fused into the network

Securing the device

Securing network connectivity

Securing users, clients, and apps

Security fused into the network

Securing users, clients & apps

Protecting user access and application interactions

- Scalable segmentation
- Software-Defined Access
- Next-gen firewall

Securing network connectivity

Safeguarding and optimizing network connections

- Quantum-resistant:
  - MACsec
  - IPsec
  - WAN MACsec

Securing the device

Protecting and ensuring compliance of devices

- Quantum-resistant secure boot
- Compensating controls

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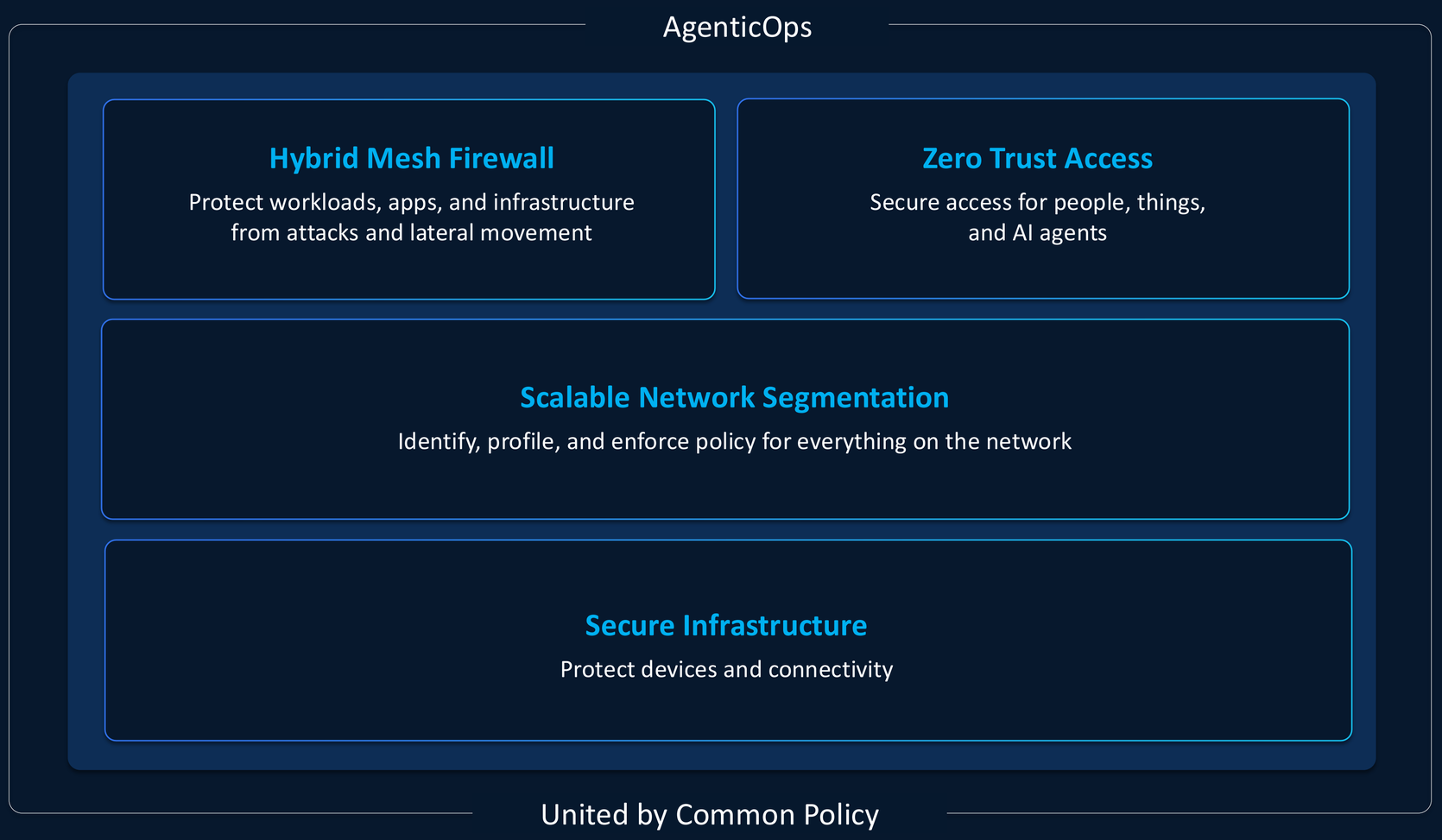
Reference design for fusing security into the network



- Identity-first
- Continuously verified
- Enterprise-wide policies
- Comprehensive Threat Intel
- Distributed Enforcement

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Cisco is driving future-proofed workplace outcomes that unite our portfolio.

Security & Networking are not longer independent domains; **Secure Networking** is required to ensure digital resilience.

Together, they underpin the critical infrastructure for AI.

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Thank you