



Accelerate Deployment of Your Cisco Data Center Networking Solution



What Are the Cisco Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services?

The Cisco® Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services help you accelerate deployment of your data center and realize the full potential of your Cisco networking solution. These project-based services help you speed up the identification and resolution of planning, design, and implementation issues by addressing your requirements for migrating branch office servers and data protection functions to your data center. The service activities include defining the architecture to meet your business and technical goals, evaluating the gaps between your current infrastructure and your desired architecture, and providing recommendations to help you achieve your goals. The services help you design a solution that unifies server, network, and storage resources; reduces overall power and cooling demands; and helps promote organizational growth, increase server performance, and achieve your storage and virtualization goals.

Why Should I Care About Accelerating My Data Center and Optimizing My Networking Solution?

Evolving business and technology requirements often demand fast, frequent changes to data center networks. In this dynamic environment, data center managers often are forced to sacrifice architectural efficiency for speed to maintain high service levels across multiple applications. These sacrifices often result in duplicate hardware, inefficient power use, and complex management and migration requirements that increase data center costs. Many enterprises and service providers need a faster way to enable applications while achieving performance and security goals. Additionally, businesses continually face the challenge of consolidating remote offices while maintaining and refining the current infrastructure, optimizing network performance, and improving application responsiveness.

How Does Cisco Support My Data Center Deployment Efforts?

The Cisco Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services provide a simplified way to engage subject matter experts, who work collaboratively to help you plan and design an overarching strategy and roadmap for your data center and remote offices.

Cisco experts can help you plan effectively, helping to mitigate the risk involved with designing an efficient data center infrastructure. Our data center professionals can evaluate your network's strengths and limitations, services, and solution requirements and then validate that your planned changes are aligned with your business goals. They examine critical readiness factors such as infrastructure design, environmental issues, and security and make recommendations to help you proactively resolve gaps.

For example, Cisco experts can help you plan and design for consolidating current server Fibre Channel and Ethernet interfaces into a new 10 Gigabit Ethernet/Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE) environment;

plan a management strategy to incorporate advanced features; and transfer knowledge to your server, network, and storage teams to help them efficiently take advantage of your data center's new capabilities. They also can help you plan effectively, helping to mitigate the risk involved in designing a SAN infrastructure. Throughout the engagement, you will have a single channel that is accountable for the entire data center networking solution.

What Challenges Do These Services Address?

Reducing data center costs

Refining hardware choices and accelerating deployment of server, network, and storage resources

- Meeting complex management and migration requirements
- Minimizing use of power and cooling resources in your data center
- Accessing, managing, and protecting growing information resources
- Building a scalable, efficient, and resilient architecture with consolidation and virtualization

What Activities Does the Cisco Networking Planning and Design Services Include?

Cisco Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services help you create a detailed data center network assessment; develop a detailed, implementation-ready data center design; and provide on-site and remote support for implementation of the recommended solutions.

Cisco Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services include:

- Wide Area Application Services (WAAS) Planning and Design Service
- Application Control Engine (ACE) Planning and Design Service
- Cisco Nexus® Planning and Design Service
- Director-Class SAN Planning and Design Service



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WAAS Planning and Design Service

- Identifies gaps in your current WAAS infrastructure and accelerates your deployment of the Cisco WAAS solution to help you reduce risk and move into production quickly with better application performance and reliability
- Helps analyze the current state of the WAAS infrastructure, consolidate remote office infrastructure, optimize WAN use, and improve application responsiveness
- Enables careful integration and migration planning around migrating branch office servers and data protection functions to the data center, which delivers the features and functions you expect on time and on budget
- Helps reduce costs and improve manageability

Application Control Engine (ACE) Planning and Design Service

- Helps successfully implement ACE in your existing application environment, design a new deployment, and migrate from a Cisco Content Service Switch (CSS) or the Cisco Content Switching Module (CSM) to the ACE modules
- Helps you better control the processes of deploying, securing, and accelerating applications using Cisco ACE
- Reduces data center complexity
- Mitigates the risk of making changes to your data center and accelerates deployment

Cisco Nexus Planning and Design Service

- Creates a more scalable, efficient, and resilient data center architecture based on the Cisco Nexus family of data center-class switches
- Designed for a highly scalable, end-to-end 10 Gigabit Ethernet network, Cisco Nexus switches:
 - Offer continuous system operations and transport flexibility
 - Support power and cooling efficiency
 - Deliver innovative networking capabilities: unified fabric; I/O consolidation; and high-performance, low-latency 10 Gigabit Ethernet switching to help enable scalable server virtualization

Director-Class SAN Planning and Design Service

- Accelerates your migration from discrete storage area networking (SAN) islands to a more efficient, interconnected, intelligent SAN, based on the director-class Cisco MDS 9000 Multilayer Directors and Fabric Switches
- Effectively integrates multiple-vendor solutions by working closely with Cisco original storage manufacturer (OSM) partners

- Designed for large-scale initiatives, the Cisco MDS platform helps:
 - Consolidate SAN islands into a secure, manageable solution with multiple layers of intelligence
 - Support business continuance and disaster recovery for intelligent storage fabric applications

What Benefits Can I Expect to Achieve from These Services?

The Cisco Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services help you identify the barriers and risks limiting your ability to efficiently operate a virtualized data center and transform operating models and management silos. They allow for fast, secure application access in a scalable environment and accelerate the process of designing and deploying a SAN based on the Cisco MDS platform. Their benefits include:

- Deploying Cisco data center networking solutions that deliver the features and functions you expect on time and on budget
- Quickly identifying and resolving planning and design issues to reduce the inherent risks in changing your IT infrastructure
- Improving application responsiveness
- Integrating your technical and design goals to create a customized design to better control the processes of deploying, securing, and accelerating applications using Cisco data center networking solutions
- More efficiently utilizing existing resources by enhancing in-house skills through training and knowledge exchange with Cisco experts
- Expanding your IT staff's knowledge of our data center networking solutions through access to Cisco experts and resources

Why Cisco Data Center Services?

Today, the data center is a strategic asset in a world that demands better integration among people, information, and ideas. Your business and your data center work better when technology products and services are aligned with your business needs and opportunities. Cisco and our industry-leading partners deliver intelligent, personalized services that accelerate the transformation of your data center. Using a unique, network-based perspective and a unified view of data center assets, Cisco takes an architectural approach to help you efficiently consolidate, virtualize, and manage data center resources. Cisco Data Center Services help transform, optimize, and protect your data center to reduce costs, deliver high availability, and improve application performance.

For More Information

For more information about the Cisco Data Center Networking Planning and Design Services, visit www.cisco.com/go/dcservices or contact your Cisco service account manager.