



Cisco Unified Computing Architecture Assessment Service

Lay the Groundwork for a Successful Data Center Transformation

The success of your business increasingly depends on the availability and performance of your business applications and on the data center that delivers them. As organizations seek to reduce costs and meet the growing demands of their users, they are turning to virtualization projects aimed at consolidating and automating data center resources and processes.

Cisco's innovative new data center technology, the Cisco® Unified Computing System, provides the foundation for a broad spectrum of virtualization and data center optimization efforts. Whether you are seeking to create a stateless computing environment, enable just-in-time provisioning of resources, simplify the management of virtual machines, or just drive down equipment and operating costs, the Cisco Unified Computing System provides a powerful solution. But to fully realize the benefits of your virtualization project, you need a clear understanding of how the Cisco Unified Computing System will support it in your unique environment.

Cisco Unified Computing Architecture Assessment Service

Cisco Unified Computing Architecture Assessment Service helps you to definitively map out the business and technical objectives of your unified computing project. This service gathers input from stakeholders across your organization to understand your strengths and challenges and the issues that must be addressed to make your project goals a reality. The assessment service documents architecture and design considerations across your existing and planned asset investments to meet your business needs for resiliency, scale, and capacity.

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Unified Computing Architecture Assessment Service

This four-day, on-site assessment utilizes focused interviews, isolating your objectives and mapping them to a set of best practices. It then continues with in-depth documented considerations of your existing and planned data center assets, including blade servers, compute systems, applications, operating systems, virtualization, input/output (I/O), and system management. The service documents the challenges, critical success factors, and risks involved in your project and the requirements you will need to meet based on your projected environment and user demands. At the end of the engagement, you will receive a requirements document with clear recommendations for next steps as well as a roadmap to achieve success.

Table 1 lists service activities and deliverables.

Table 1. Service Activities and Deliverables

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>Architecture Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-day assessment consisting of interactive and group sessions at your location, with clearly defined project goals and aligned with a set of industry best practices for the Cisco Unified Computing System • Current architecture review, technical and business-focused interviews, and discussion of Cisco's Unified Computing architecture approach, design principles, and values and benefits • Assess, review and align unified computing use cases to customer's objectives and requirements in a collaborative environment • Analyze current state of server and computing architecture and assess compute/server platform requirements as they relate to projected environment, resource capacity, and user community demands • Document challenges, critical success factors, and risks and review options for reducing complexity and TCO in the data center • Review customer requirements document (CRD) and next steps • Recommend next steps to increase architectural flexibility and efficiency • Design a specific plan of action with prioritized next steps; provide recommendations on high-level infrastructure design; and deliver a CRD detailing critical success factors, risks, challenges, and recommended next steps • Document expected business and technical effects of your planned project, including ROI analysis when appropriate and collaborative target solution based on your business requirements and use cases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed understanding of your future state objectives and architecture requirements • Opportunity to collaborate towards a customized unified compute architecture and solutions with Cisco and partners • Increases your confidence and readiness in transitioning existing technologies to a unified compute architecture • You gain an in-depth understanding of unified compute platform and architectures • You receive a specific solution aligned with your requirements and use cases in your infrastructure so that you have clear recommendations for next steps as well as a roadmap to achieve success

Benefits

Cisco Unified Computing Architecture Assessment Service draws on Cisco's unique architectural approach and unified view of data center resources and interdependencies to accelerate your transition to a unified computing architecture. This service helps you:

- Achieve your business goals by clearly defining your operational and technical objectives and aligning them with industry best practices
- Reduce the risk of your data center initiative with a detailed analysis of how the Cisco Unified Computing System will support your project in your environment
- Lay the conceptual foundation for a smooth implementation that rapidly delivers the expected results
- Proceed with your unified computing initiative with confidence, backed by expert recommendations and next steps from Cisco

Cisco Expertise

Cisco uses leading practices and proven methodologies to help you lay the groundwork for a unified computing solution that addresses your long-term business and data center needs. The Cisco Unified Computing Architecture Assessment Service is delivered by Cisco data center professionals who hold a wide array of industry certifications and are subject matter experts in business and technology architecture and data center technologies. They have direct experience in planning, designing, and supporting virtualization solutions as well as Cisco data center networking and storage technologies. Our product and technology expertise is continually enhanced by hands-on experience with real-life networks and broad exposure to the latest technology and implementations.

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. Using a unique network-based perspective and a unified view of data center assets, Cisco and our industry-leading partners deliver services that accelerate and optimize your data center transformation. Cisco takes an architectural approach to help you efficiently integrate and manage data center resources and improve the performance and availability of your vital business applications. Cisco Data Center Services help you reduce costs, operate more efficiently, and better meet your service level agreements.

Availability

Cisco Unified Computing Assessment Service is widely available. Check with your local Cisco representative for availability in your area.

For More Information

To find out more about this assessment service and other Cisco Unified Computing Services, visit www.cisco.com/go/unifiedcomputingservices.

To learn more about our comprehensive portfolio of Cisco Data Center Services, visit www.cisco.com/go/dcservices or contact your Cisco service account manager.



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