



Collaboration Test Bed for Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1)

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Overview

The Cisco Collaboration Systems test bed validates functionality applicable to a large cross section of collaboration customers. The test bed architecture is based on principles and design guidance documented in the [Cisco Collaboration Systems Solution Reference Network Designs \(SRND\)](#). The set of functionality deployed in the test bed is a superset of functionality documented in [Cisco Preferred Architecture Guides](#).

The test bed architecture allows continuous system test and integration and critical system level feature testing.

For Cisco Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1), architecture enhancements were made in the areas of conferencing and edge.

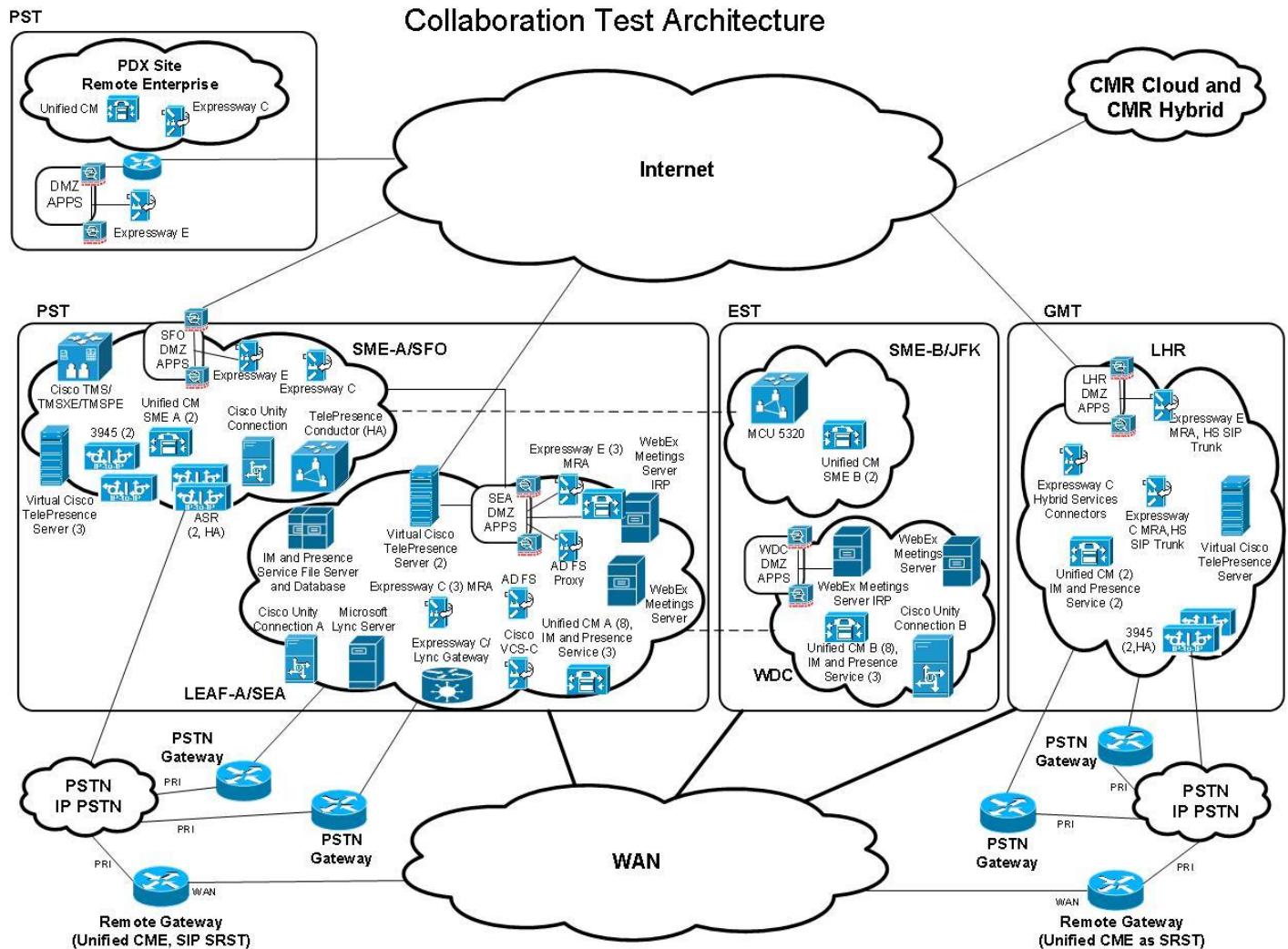
For details about system-wide features tested for Cisco Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1), see [System Release Notes for Cisco Collaboration Systems Release 11.0\(1\)](#). For details about the new and changed product features, see individual product releases notes: [Product Documentation](#).

Collaboration Test Bed and Deployment Architecture

This figure provides an overview of the Cisco Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1) test bed. This high-level topology centers on the Cisco Unified Communications Manager (Unified Communications Manager). To address global customer needs, the test bed contains collaboration elements spread across different Unified Communications Manager clusters in multiple time zones and geographical boundaries.

For a Visio version of the test bed topology diagram, click [here](#).

Figure 1: Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1) Test Bed Architecture



The test bed addresses collaboration functionality wanted by large customers.

- Call Processing
- Endpoints, Collaboration Edge, Cloud
- IM and Presence
- Messaging
- Conferencing

Call Processing

Call control is the core element for any communications deployment. It provides endpoint registration, call processing, and call admission control. It is important to design collaboration deployments to ensure that call processing systems are distributed and scalable enough to handle the required number of users and devices. For more details, see the [Cisco Collaboration Systems Solution Reference Network Designs \(SRND\)](#). The deployments are resilient enough to handle

various network and application outages or failures. The following are some of the key call processing components deployed in the Cisco Collaboration Systems test bed.

Unified CM and Unified CM SME

Typical to very large customers, the test bed has Unified Communications Manager as distributed session manager clusters. SEA/WDC represents a megacluster in the American region that has Unified Communication Manager deployment leveraging the Clustering Over WAN (CoW) model. Eight of the 16 subscriber nodes in the megacluster are in SEA (West Coast Data Center). The remaining eight subscriber nodes are in WDC (East Coast Data Center). LHR represents a medium size Unified Communications Manager cluster with four nodes in the EMEA region.

The Unified CM SME is an eight subscriber node cluster. Half of the nodes are in JFK (East Coast Data Center) and other half are in SFO (West Coast Data Center) leveraging a CoW mechanism. Unified CM SME provides interconnectivity services among various Unified Communications Manager clusters, Cisco Unified Communications Manager Express (Unified CME) nodes, and other components. Several trunk connectivity arrangements are commonly in place at various collaboration customer deployments in this test bed.

The Unified CM SME serves as egress point from a Business to Business (B2B) perspective. The Unified Communications Manager site at PDX in the West Coast represents a partner location that has B2B communications with the main enterprise customer.

Cisco Video Communication Server (Cisco VCS)

A leaf cluster based on Cisco Video Communication Server (Cisco VCS) is associated with SEA/WDC. It provides support to a branch cluster that hosts legacy 323 endpoints. Cisco VCS is connected to parent SEA/WDC through SIP trunk.

Cisco UC Integration™ for Microsoft Lync/Microsoft Lync Server

The Cisco VCS Expressway, serving as a gateway, provides voice and video connectivity to the Cisco UC Integration™ for Microsoft Lync server to facilitate interoperability. The gateway provides necessary transcoding functionality. The test bed topology includes connectivity to Cisco UC Integration™ for Microsoft Lync endpoints through Cisco VCS Expressway gateway to SEA/WDC cluster.

Cisco Unified Communication Manager Express

Cisco Unified Communication Manager Express (Unified CME) represents a branch cluster that is connected to other components in the test bed through Unified CM SME. Some endpoints are located in small branch offices based on Unified CME.

Cisco Unified Survivable Remote Site Telephony (Unified SRST)

Certain endpoints are located in remote branch office locations that use Cisco Unified Survivable Remote Site Telephony (Unified SRST). Two types of Unified SRST branches are deployed in the topology: SIP-Unified SRST and Unified CME-as-Unified SRST. Since the Unified SRST node provides the call control, if the endpoint encounters a loss in WAN connectivity to the Unified Communications Manager cluster, it remains functional.

Endpoints, Edge, and Cloud

Various endpoints are used in the Cisco Collaboration deployment. These endpoints are spread throughout the deployment models. The endpoints in SEA/WDC and LHR clusters can be located on premise, in remote branch offices,

or on the Internet. Remote endpoints located on Internet can ingress through two mechanisms: VPN access through Cisco AnyConnect VPN or VPN less access through Cisco Expressway Collaboration Edge.

For a detailed list of all the endpoints that are part of the Cisco Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1), see the [Cisco Collaboration Systems Release Compatibility Matrix](#).

Cisco Expressway Collaboration Edge

Cisco Expressway Collaboration Edge Architecture combines the capabilities of Cisco gateway offerings with the core capabilities of Cisco Collaboration solutions and the network.

Cisco Spark Hybrid Services

Cisco Spark is a new collaboration service that delivers message, meeting, and call capabilities that are hosted in the Cisco Collaboration Cloud. Cisco Spark Hybrid Services link diverse on-premises assets, such as Unified Communications Manager and Cisco Jabber, to Cisco Spark in the cloud to deliver a single, integrated user experience. Cisco Spark Hybrid Services currently include Call Service Aware, Call Service Connect, Calendar Service, and Directory Service. To integrate premises components with Cisco Spark, hybrid services use a series of software applications connectors that run on premises or in the Cisco Hosted Collaboration Solution partner cloud. The Hybrid Call Service and the Hybrid Calendar Service connectors require Cisco Expressway. The Hybrid Directory Service connector runs on a Windows server for Active Directory sync.

Instant Messaging (IM) and Presence

The main presence component of the solution is the Unified Communications Manager IM and Presence Service.

Cisco Unified Communications Manager IM and Presence Service

IM and Presence Service enables Cisco Jabber, Unified Communications Manager applications, and third-party applications to increase user productivity. IM and Presence Service determines the most effective form of communication to help connect collaborating partners more efficiently. It incorporates the Extensible Communications Platform (XCP) and supports SIP/SIMPLE and Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP) to collect information about a user's availability status and communications capabilities.

IM and Presence Service is deployed with the equivalent version of Unified Communications Manager in SEA/WDC and LHR sites. In SEA/WDC cluster, IM and Presence Service functionality is provided by six IM and Presence Service nodes that are split across WAN (3:3) leveraging CoW. In the LHR cluster, IM and Presence Service functionality is provided by two IM and Presence Service nodes. Second enterprise has a PDX cluster. In the PDX cluster, IM and Presence Service functionality is provided by a single IM and Presence Service node. Cisco Expressway C/E nodes located in SFO and PDX facilitate XMPP federation between SEA/WDC cluster and PDX cluster.

Voicemail and Messaging

Cisco products provide several voice messaging options for large and small collaboration systems, and the ability to integrate with third-party voicemail systems using standard protocols. The voice messaging portfolio for Cisco Collaboration Systems test bed consists of two main messaging products: Cisco Unity Connection and Cisco Unity Express.

Cisco Unity Connection

Cisco Unity Express is added to the Cisco Unified Communications Manager Express (Unified CME) router and integrated with Unified CME to provide voicemail services to users and phones registered to Unified CME.

SEA/WDC megacluster leverages Cisco Unity Connection cluster for messaging capabilities. This two node Cisco Unity Connection cluster is split (1:1) across the WAN and provides messaging capabilities using SCCP and SIP connectivity. A single node Cisco Unity Connection provides messaging capabilities for the LHR cluster. This Cisco Unity Connection is centrally located in SFO and is connected to Unified CM SME through SIP trunking.

Conferencing

Ability for three or more people to participate and communicate in real time by using voice and video technologies is an essential component of collaboration. The conferencing architecture takes advantage of call processing capabilities of Unified Communication Manager. Cisco rich media conferencing uses the existing infrastructure for point-to-point calls and provides three types of conferences:

- Ad-hoc or instant conference - A conference that is not scheduled or organized in advance. For example, a call between two parties who add other parties to the call is an ad-hoc conference.
- Rendezvous or permanent conference - A conference that requires callers to dial a predetermined number or URI to reach a shared conferencing resource. Meet-me, static, and permanent are other names for this type of conference.
- Scheduled conference - A conference scheduled in advance with a predetermined start time. Typically, conference resources are guaranteed to be available upon the start of the scheduled conference.

The conferencing topology in Collaboration Systems Release 11.0(1) addresses:

- Unified Communications Manager based ad-hoc Conference
- Unified CM SME rendezvous conference (both noncascaded and cascaded conferences)
- Unified CM SME scheduled conference, assured Scheduling, and best effort scheduling
- Unified CM SME scheduled conference and Cisco WebEx enabled TelePresence
- Cisco WebEx enabled rendezvous conference

Cisco TelePresence Conductor

Cisco TelePresence Conductor enables simple, reliable, and efficient multiparty conferencing. It orchestrates the allocation of conferencing resources such as Cisco TelePresence Server and Cisco Multipoint Control Unit (MCU) to every user in a meeting. The Cisco TelePresence Conductor helps ensure intelligent conference placement and optimum resource utilization, and delivers powerful, comprehensive administrative control, making simple natural conferencing a reality.

The test topology supports Cisco TelePresence Conductor ad-hoc, rendezvous, and scheduled conferencing functionality. The conference bridge resources are arranged in different pools that are spread across multiple Unified Communications Manager clusters and Unified CM SME locations.

Cisco TelePresence Server on Virtual Machine

Cisco TelePresence Server on Virtual Machine components serve as conference bridges in various pools and are deployed along with Cisco TelePresence Conductor.

Cisco TelePresence MCU (MCU)

Cisco TelePresence MCU is deployed along with Cisco TelePresence Conductor and serves as conference bridges in a pool providing ad-hoc, rendezvous functionality.

Cisco TMS/Cisco TMSPE/Cisco TMSXE

Cisco TelePresence Management Suite (TMS) is a software product used by customers to manage, maintain, log, and schedule Cisco TelePresence conferences. The Cisco TMS application also provides users with enhanced features such as directories and one button to push (OBTP) on controlled endpoints.

Cisco TelePresence Management Suite Provisioning Extension (TMSPE) creates collaboration meeting rooms (CMRs) for users according to the permissions and feature limits defined by the administrator. Cisco TelePresence Management Suite Extension for Microsoft Exchange (TMSXE) allows users to schedule meetings using their Microsoft Outlook clients. It also allows users to include the room system video resources by selecting the room as a resource.

Cisco WebEx Meetings Server

Cisco WebEx Meetings Server is a highly secure, fully virtualized, private cloud meetings solution designed for medium to large companies. It delivers a consistent and engaging user experience to diverse platforms, clients, and mobile devices.

Cisco WebEx Meetings Server is deployed in the Unified CM SME cluster in SFP site. Cisco WebEx Meetings Server includes two servers for redundancy. IRP is also set up in the DMZ in a redundant manner.

PSTN/IP PSTN

PSTN/IP PSTN routing can be provided through local or centralized gateways. In the current deployment, PSTN connectivity for Unified Communications Manager clusters is provided through local PSTN gateways using different protocols. Centralized IP PSTN connectivity is provided through Cisco Unified Border Element (CUBE) and Unified CM SME.

Business to Business (B2B) and Cloud Collaboration Meeting Room (CMR) Interoperability

The Unified CM SME serves as egress point for Business to Business (B2B) communications. Cisco VCS Expressway-E (in DMZ) and Cisco VCS Expressway-C nodes connected to Unified CM SME provides B2B capabilities (voice, video, and IM and Presence). Endpoints off a main enterprise can reach a midmarket enterprise through B2B. The midmarket enterprise site also has its own Cisco VCS Expressway-E and C pair for B2B purposes. The Cisco VCS Expressway-E (in DMZ) and Cisco VCS Expressway C pair provides connectivity to Cisco WebEx Cloud.

Obtaining Documentation and Submitting a Service Request

For information on obtaining documentation, using the Cisco Bug Search Tool (BST), submitting a service request, and gathering additional information, see [What's New in Cisco Product Documentation](#).

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