FlexPod®

Integrated Infrastructure to Enable Innovation While Reducing the Cost of IT

Integrated Infrastructure Lets IT Keep Pace with the Speed of Business

To increase responsiveness and reduce cost, organizations are rapidly evolving from do-it-yourself IT to more efficient integrated infrastructure. According to an IDC study, "50% of compute, storage, and network resources and workloads will run on integrated systems by the end of 2015."[1]

Now the latest requirement for integrated systems is to be a platform for innovation. Beyond cost savings and speed to deployment, buyers are expecting these solutions to support completely new IT capabilities that can't be delivered any other way.

FlexPod: From Cost Savings to Cutting Edge

The FlexPod® platform is the integrated infrastructure solution from NetApp and Cisco. The latest validated designs are featuring new technologies and enabling new use cases that dramatically change the way IT delivers value:

- New designs with NetApp® FAS8000 storage bring the unique benefits of unified scale-out storage—flash accelerated and cluster enabled for new levels of performance and scale.
- Software-defined innovations such as Cisco® Application Centric Infrastructure allow intelligent software to automate hardware resources across next-generation data centers.
- Cisco Secure Enclaves bring security innovation in an era of cyberfraud and terrorism, with multi-tenant infrastructure security that uses data partitioning, logical VM isolation, network monitoring, and Adaptive Security applications.

Key Benefits

Integrated infrastructure that leads in efficiency and flexibility

Speed Deployment
Improve IT agility and reduce deployment time from months to weeks

Enhance Efficiency
Slash administration time and TCO up to 50% with an integrated virtualized infrastructure

Reduce Risk
Minimize business disruptions with a prevalidated, tested platform

The Cisco-NetApp FlexPod and FlexPod Express products clearly ranked first in a field of 17 suppliers.[1]

1. IDC's Converged and Integrated Systems: End-User Survey Report, February 2014.

FlexPod Accelerates Infrastructure and Application Deployment

Enterprises and service providers alike need tested, documented, and supported infrastructure solutions for virtualized and nonvirtualized environments. Ideally, such architectures leverage existing IT investments, can be managed with existing frameworks and tools, and scale without disruption to meet future growth and organizational objectives.

The FlexPod solution family, jointly developed by NetApp and Cisco, is a flexible prevalidated infrastructure platform composed of storage, networking, and server components. FlexPod is designed to increase IT responsiveness while reducing the overall cost of computing, with maximum uptime and minimal risk.

FlexPod components are integrated and standardized to help you achieve timely, repeatable, consistent deployments, eliminating guesswork and minimizing risk. You can better plan the exact power, floor space, usable capacity, performance, and cost of each FlexPod deployment.

Expanded Platform for Any Cloud Solution

FlexPod is offered in three solution categories that are designed to meet your specific capacity and performance requirements:

- FlexPod Datacenter is suited for enterprise data centers and cloud service providers that have mature IT processes and rapid growth expectations and that want to deploy a highly scalable shared infrastructure for multiple business-critical applications.

"Another advantage with FlexPod Datacenter is its building-block approach. You don't have to make a big investment all at once. You can deploy different pieces of the solution as capital and staff resources are available."

Raj Dasgupta
Director of IT, Exostar

- FlexPod Express is ideal for branch offices and midsize businesses and as a cost-effective starting point for infrastructure consolidation and virtualization projects.
- FlexPod Select supports dedicated compute environments such as high-performance computing, big data analytics, scientific computing, and video processing.

Any of the FlexPod solutions can be scaled up or out and duplicated in modular fashion to fit your future growth needs. They can also scale to a larger FlexPod configuration with a clearly defined upgrade path that leverages all existing components and management processes.

FlexPod Stands Out Among Integrated Infrastructures

- Validated designs with leading business applications: Pretested and validated with hypervisors, operating systems, applications, and infrastructure technologies from leading vendors, including Cisco, Citrix, Cloudera, Hortonworks, Microsoft, NetApp, Oracle,Red Hat, SAP, and VMware.
- Best-in-class components for enhanced data center efficiency: Standardized configurations for midsize businesses, enterprises, service providers, and high-performance computing, with leading components that include the Cisco Unified

Computing System™, Cisco Nexus® data center switches, and NetApp FAS and E-Series storage systems.
- Cooperative support to speed problem resolution: A simplified cooperative support model that is coordinated among NetApp, Cisco, VMware, Microsoft, and Citrix. The joint support model offers global 24/7 support with streamlined response from technical experts, and it spans new and legacy products from each company for maximum flexibility.
- Choice of management solutions: Open APIs enable choice for data center management and automation tools, including cloud management platforms, or Cisco UCS® Director provides out-of-the-box unified management. Supported management solutions include BMC, CA, CloudStack, Microsoft®, OpenStack, VMware®, and more.
- Global service delivery ecosystem: Ability to choose from a global network of FlexPod Premium partners and highly qualified NetApp and Cisco delivery partners, totaling over 1,000 in 84 countries.

Getting Started

Learn how FlexPod can become your flexible and efficient converged infrastructure today by contacting a local NetApp or Cisco representative or partner. Find more information at www.netapp.com/flexpod.