



NEWS RELEASE

Cisco Introduces Transformational Systems Management Platform and Strategy for UCS and HyperFlex

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A New Era of Systems Management for the New Era of Computing

SAN JOSE, CA -- (Marketwired) -- 09/21/17 -- Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO) today unveiled Cisco Intersight™, a management and automation platform for [Cisco Unified Computing System™ \(Cisco UCS®\)](#) and [Cisco HyperFlex™ Systems](#), marking the start of a multi-year strategic program to provide customers with clear IT advantages that support their competitive business goals. Cisco Intersight simplifies data center operations by delivering systems management as-a-service, alleviating the need to maintain islands of on-premise management infrastructure. Complete system lifecycle management is delivered by Cisco Intersight through machine learning, analytics and automation.

Today, most IT organizations are adopting a multicloud strategy, and as a result customers need a scalable and consistent management environment across their data centers, private clouds and public clouds deployments. Customers also seek consistent management and policy enforcement across bare metal server environments, converged infrastructure and hyperconverged infrastructure. Cisco Intersight will deliver the unique ability to connect and manage all of these comprehensively.

Application architectures are also transforming with scale-out and multi-site deployment models, delivered by containers and micro-services. In addition, DevOps accelerates the rate of application development and continuous feature delivery. Cisco Intersight addresses these challenges, helping IT staff optimize operations while enjoying a more intuitive user experience.

According to Gartner, "The growing large quantity of configuration data points and connections aggregated from data center deployments, edge, cloud and IoT will increase IT ops complexity, countering trends in software-defined simplicity."¹

Cisco has invested years of research and development into software innovations to bridge these gaps. With the cost of an unplanned data center outage estimated at thousands of dollars per minute, and

the extraordinary costs of corporate security breaches, often due to human error, IT leaders welcome new advances in intelligent automation. Customers are already participating in an engineering preview of the Intersight platform, connecting thousands of UCS and HyperFlex systems for testing and feedback.

It's about the Management, not the Machines

"Organizations that move to cloud-based systems management platforms will find that service delivery quality is significantly improved, the overall risk to the business goes down, and IT staff productivity is increased," said Matt Eastwood, Senior Vice President, IDC. "Artificial Intelligence (AI)-infused cloud-based management tools can offer deep insights into the state of the infrastructure, identify troubles before they become major issues, and enable quicker 'root cause' identification and analysis of issues."

Intersight is designed to deliver a new, higher level of simplicity and intelligence that is intuitive from the start and continues to learn and evolve over time:

- ***Pervasive Simplicity:*** Cisco Intersight features a dynamic user interface that can be customized by user role. As a cloud-based service, new functionality is delivered via portal updates without burdening customers with upgrades, and the experience scales seamlessly as customers directly connect new systems for management. The platform is designed to constantly learn to help make daily IT operations easier. Analytics combined with tight integration with the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) constantly improve the assistance provided through the recommendation engine.
- ***Expertise:*** tight Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) integration and insights from Cisco and the UCS Community provide recommendations and best practices.
- ***Continuous Optimization:*** The ability for the Intersight platform to provide actionable intelligence will grow stronger over time from the power of cloud-based machine learning. It can learn from the collective experience of the UCS user community, as well as the best practices of Cisco experts and peers. This will enable better predictive analytics and resource utilization to be provided through the recommendation engine.
- ***Agile Delivery:*** IT can rapidly respond to business demands and frequent changes while maintaining the policy enforcement designed to implement safe and reliable business services. Cisco Intersight is API-driven and Cisco UCS and HyperFlex are fully programmable systems, supporting development and operations tool chains for continuous integration and delivery.
- ***Constant Protection:*** The Cisco Intersight service adheres to the stringent security standards of [Cisco InfoSec](#), and helps enable secure communication between the Cisco Intersight SaaS platform and managed endpoints, allowing applications to be deployed and updated securely.

Cisco Intersight will be available in Q4 2017 and is integrated and designed to coexist with existing UCS and HyperFlex management tools, so customers can adopt Cisco Intersight as they desire without added complexity. Cisco Intersight will be available in an on-premise deployment model in the future. Cisco Intersight is built on an extensible architecture with OData standards-based RESTful APIs and connector framework simplifying third party software and hardware integrations.

- ***The Cisco Intersight Base Edition*** will be available at no charge. It includes global health monitoring and inventory, a customizable dashboard, the HyperFlex Installer to quickly deploy clusters, and the ability to context-launch the UCS Manager, IMC and HyperFlex Connect element managers.
- ***The Cisco Intersight Essentials Edition*** includes all the functionality of the Base edition as well as policy-based configuration with service profiles, firmware management with scheduled updates, Hardware Compatibility Listing (HCL) compliance checks and upgrade recommendations, and other features.

Bringing Next Generation Systems Management to Over 60,000 UCS, HyperFlex and Converged

Infrastructure Customers

Cisco recently announced [fifth generation UCS Servers](#) with the high-performance UCS M5 series and an accompanying release of UCS Manager that provides connector support to Cisco Intersight. UCS M5 systems are also now available in Cisco's [hyperconverged infrastructure](#) solution with the new Cisco [HyperFlex M5 nodes](#), including [HyperFlex Edge](#), with Cisco Intersight providing cloud-based cluster deployment capability in the Base Edition. Cisco [leads the industry](#) with the most comprehensive portfolio of converged infrastructure solutions; Cisco Intersight creates opportunities for deeper partner integrations and even greater operational simplicity.

As customers include Cisco UCS, HyperFlex and Intersight in their IT modernization initiatives, Cisco offers a comprehensive lifecycle of data center services from advisory through optimization, managed technical and learning services to improve cost-efficiency and reduce risk. Cisco's portfolio of services leverages global expertise, proven processes, and innovative methodologies to help customers accelerate and simplify operations.

Additional Resources

- Learn more about: [Cisco Intersight](#)
- Read IDC Report: [Considerations for Adoption of AI-Driven, Cloud-Based Systems Management Platforms](#)
- Read Cisco Blog: [Introducing Cisco Intersight](#)
- Attend Cisco Intersight live webcast Sept 26th 10:00 A.M. PT: [Register here](#)
- Learn: [How to Get Started with Intersight](#)
- View: [Infographic on Cloud-based System Management](#)
- Learn more about: [Cisco Unified Computing System](#) and [Cisco HyperFlex](#)

¹ Gartner, New Generations of Integrated Systems Will Apply AI and Emerge as Self-Organizing Systems of Intelligence, Aug 2017

About Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®)

Generic servers run generic businesses but digital transformation demands more: it requires critical applications to be delivered with industry-leading performance, availability, and security. Cisco created a revolutionary computing architecture designed for IT innovation and business acceleration. Cisco UCS isn't just a server, it's a radically simplified solution for advanced application performance, increased operational velocity, and superior economics

About Cisco HyperFlex Systems™

Cisco HyperFlex Systems deliver complete hyperconvergence, combining compute, storage, and networking resources into a simplified, easy-to-use platform. The HX Data Platform engineered with Cisco Unified Computing System (Cisco UCS) delivers a Dynamic Data Fabric™ with the industry-leading performance customers need to simplify more applications in their data centers. Cisco HyperFlex Systems deliver the agility, scalability, and pay-as-you-grow economics of the cloud, but with the benefits of on-premises infrastructure. Cisco HyperFlex. Simplify More.

About Cisco

Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO) is the worldwide technology leader that has been making the Internet work since 1984. Our people, products, and partners help society securely connect and seize tomorrow's digital opportunity today. Discover more at thenetwork.cisco.com and follow us on Twitter at @Cisco.

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imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company.

Availability Disclaimer: Many of the products and features described herein remain in varying stages of development and will be offered on a when-and-if-available basis. This products and features are subject to change at the sole discretion of Cisco, and Cisco will have no liability for delay in the delivery or failure to deliver any of the products or features set forth in this document.

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