

Cisco® Virtualization Experience Infrastructure (VXI) with VMware® View™

AT A GLANCE

Increasingly, organizations are seeking to move towards a virtual desktop infrastructure that addresses their concerns and needs around data security, scalability, flexibility, business continuity, and performance, while addressing the need to deliver a consistent media-rich communications and collaborative experience on any device.

Cisco Virtualization Experience Infrastructure (VXI) with VMware® View™ 5 delivers a next generation adaptive virtual workspace with simplified management and network efficiency to provide a secure media-rich user experience with best in class TCO/ROI, along with a 75% reduction in bandwidth requirements. With VXI, all categories of worker can enjoy access to an uncompromised, high-fidelity workspace that delivers any application on any device in any workplace environment.

INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

End-user computing presents unique challenges that are different from typical enterprise workloads placed on server infrastructure. Many organizations wrestle with the challenge of implementing a scalable infrastructure that maintains performance as desktops scale, while ensuring pervasive security across the data center, maintaining native-like user experience, and ensuring end-to-end unified management and control.

Desktop virtualization solutions have arrived to address these problems. But it is clear that simply stacking components in an un-unified manner with disparate computing, networking, security and management layers is not an ideal strategy—a new approach is required.

SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Cisco Virtualization Experience Infrastructure with VMware View addresses today's IT and end-user challenges: achieving scalable, high-performance desktop virtualization, with media-rich communications, unified management, pervasive security, and an uncompromised user experience. Cisco and VMware are uniquely capable of delivering this solution through the functional integration of essential technologies spanning the endpoint to the server.

With this solution, data center IT managers benefit from the scalability, performance, and manageability of an integrated solution that also simplifies administration within a common, streamlined management framework. Meanwhile, desktop IT managers and end-users benefit from virtual desktops that deliver the highest fidelity, performance and application responsiveness, integrated with the media-rich collaborative applications they depend on.

Key Features/Benefits

A Foundation of Next-Generation Adaptive Workspaces

The Virtualization Experience Infrastructure is built on the integrated capabilities of the industry's fastest growing data center fabric and desktop virtualization software, with the most widely adopted networking, security and hypervisor architecture.

An End-To-End Validated and Tested System

Cisco VXI combines the power of the virtualized collaborative workspace with a virtualization-aware network and virtualized data center to provide a rich services platform that sets a new standard for desktop virtualization solutions. By spanning Cisco's Data Center, Borderless Networks and Collaboration architectures, Cisco VXI eliminates the feature gaps of existing virtualization solutions.

Cisco+Vmware: Functionally Integrated to Deliver Better Virtual Workspaces

Cisco VXI with VMware View further simplifies the operational environment for desktop IT and data center managers through tight functional integration between the computing infrastructure, server virtualization and desktop management. Cisco UCS Manager works in tandem with VMware® vSphere™ and VMware® vSphere™ Orchestrator to simplify and accelerate the process by which virtual desktops are provisioned and maintained.

Scalability with Performance

Based on the Unified Computing System, Cisco VXI delivers scalability with predictable, high-performance and application responsiveness that doesn't degrade as users are added. Cisco Borderless Networking includes solutions like Cisco WAAS, which optimize WAN traffic and help accelerate rich media to ensure high-fidelity experience for multiple concurrent users across the network. Cisco Collaboration delivers new transformative endpoints that integrate media-rich communications with virtual desktops, within a common adaptive workspace. These three architectures combine to deliver a native-like end-to-end user experience.

Simplify Management and Increase Control

VMware View makes it easy to manage tens of thousands of end-users from a centralized administrative interface. Streamline key IT processes such as provisioning, connection brokering, policy enforcement, performance monitoring and application assignment. Increase security and compliance by moving data into the data center, centrally enforcing endpoint security and policy configuration and streamlining antivirus processes.

Reduce Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Up to 50%¹

Centralizing desktop infrastructure with VMware View makes it faster, easier and less costly for IT staff to provision, maintain and monitor desktop images and applications across their entire life cycle. Decrease support calls and reduce end-user downtime for improved overall workplace productivity.

Media-Rich Experience

Cisco VXI integrates high-quality voice and video into the virtual desktop environment to provide the highest fidelity collaborative workspace experience.

Security

Cisco's end-to-end virtualization-aware infrastructure permits IT managers to extend physical world network and security policy to virtual desktops. As virtual desktops are consolidated within the data center amidst existing mission-critical enterprise web and application infrastructure, the need to secure virtual desktops is amplified. Cisco and VMware uniquely meet these new security requirements by helping ensure user segmentation and policy enforcement for each user workplace at the virtual machine level, eliminating the trade-offs of current VDI implementations, which have limited capability to apply security policies system-wide from the user to the service or application and limited visibility into virtual resources. For the first time, manageability and security, including firewalls, are delivered at the virtual machine and desktop levels, using the Cisco Virtual Security Gateway (VSG).

Total Service and Support

Cisco Advanced Services provides the leading practices, expertise, and skill sets needed to accelerate deployment and help mitigate risks. Cisco consultants include enterprise and solution architects, professionals with broad expertise in VXI technologies, and project managers. Starting with assessment workshops designed to examine your current business environment, user profile types, existing infrastructure, and desired end-state, Cisco Advanced Services can architect an end-to-end VXI solution that meets your business, IT and end-user needs, while designing and implementing a high-performance solution that scales to meet your demands in the future. Once your solution is deployed, Cisco Advanced Services provides technical support and optimization services to help you maintain an optimal VXI solution as your data center and business needs evolve.

Solution Components

Cisco VXI with VMware View combines the industry's fastest growing virtualized data center fabric and desktop virtualization software with the leading hypervisor, desktop-aware networking services, and security architecture:

- VMware® View™ 5
- VMware® View™ Composer
- Cisco® Virtualization Experience Clients (VXC)
- Cisco® Cius™
- Cisco® Unified Computing System (UCS)
- Cisco® Nexus® 1000V Series Switch
- Cisco® Virtual Security Gateway (VSG)
- Cisco® ASA 5500 Series Adaptive Security Appliances
- Cisco® AnyConnect™ Secure Mobility Client
- Cisco® Wide Area Application Services (WAAS)
- Cisco® Application Control Engine (ACE)

Find Out More

Learn more about how Cisco and VMware are delivering the best integrated solution for virtual workspaces.

To learn more about Cisco VXI, visit www.cisco.com/go/vxi

To learn more about VMware View 5, visit www.vmware.com/view



VMware, Inc. 3401 Hillview Avenue Palo Alto CA 94304 USA Tel 877-486-9273 Fax 650-427-5001 www.vmware.com

¹IDC Research, "Quantifying the Business Value of VMware."

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