

# Cisco ASAP Data Center Architecture



## Benefits

- **Employ hybrid-IT transformation** openly embracing the benefits of the cloud with an application-centric model, enabling IT organizations to take advantage of an amalgamation of on-premises data centers and any number of clouds to deploy the apps in the “best execution venue”.
- **Achieve agility and security simultaneously**, enabling IT departments to maintain governance and compliance while fulfilling the ongoing infrastructure demands of the lines of business and application developers.
- **Maximize application performance** by helping companies deliver a consistent and reliable user experience with respect to their apps without any delay or service interruption.

## Digital Transformation Starts with Cisco ASAP Data Center

Businesses are battling immense competitive pressures. In order to succeed—or even survive—they must rapidly adapt to constantly changing environments, in every industry and sector. What does this mean for IT leaders? Transformation, on all fronts.

The very factors promoting digital transformation in businesses are also pressuring IT organizations to transform.

Companies live and die by the applications they provide to their customers and employees. Access without delay or interruption, 24 hours a day, is the new normal. If they can’t get what they want, when they want it, customers go elsewhere.

Figure 1. Flywheel of Innovation



Internal line-of-business users behave increasingly like consumers. If they can’t get the resources they need—quickly—from internal IT, they look outside.

Often, that means seeking out public cloud solutions. IT departments are stuck maintaining security on both private and public clouds while keeping up with the demands of the lines of business.

In this ever-changing world, IT leaders need to rethink in terms of **IT as a Service (ITaaS)**. They must define, offer, and orchestrate services for business users, not technology silos. IT transformation is the cornerstone of successful digital transformation for any business.

Cisco is focused on helping customers modernize their data center and older IT infrastructures with a hybrid-IT solution that maximizes application performance, mitigates risk, and increases operational agility in order to guide their digital transformation journeys. Cisco empowers customers with the choice and flexibility to run any of their traditional and cloud-native applications using converged and hyper-converged infrastructure solutions that can be deployed across on-premises, managed, and public clouds. This architectural approach ties **analytics, simplicity, automation, and protection (ASAP)** tightly with a consistent policy across a hybrid cloud built with industry-leading data center networking, security, converged Infrastructures, and software-defined solutions.

### Navigate Business and Infrastructure Modernization by Deploying Cisco ASAP Data Center Architecture

- **Analytics are everything:** Know and understand the entire application and operational performance with granular visibility in real time regardless of which data center or cloud the workload resides on. Increase responsiveness to changes in application behaviors and remediate anomalies and threats in real time.
- **Simplicity equals speed:** Streamline the infrastructure with the broadest portfolio of compact, highly efficient compute, storage, network, and security solutions to enable agile programming, continuous application development, and deployment on hybrid-cloud architecture. With new levels of speed and efficiency combined with integrated analytics and business intelligence capabilities across this infrastructure, IT managers can enable infrastructure-as-a-service deployment to align with modern IT and cloud consumption models.

- **Automation accelerates business:** Integrated analytics and open programmable interfaces create opportunities for widespread automation, allowing IT and business to respond faster to the application changes required in real time. By creating and preserving a unified policy across all network, compute, storage, and security, IT can enable an on-demand, self-service provisioning environment for their lines of business.
- **Protect the now:** Mitigate security threats and maintain a compliance model that supports and doesn't impede IT's ability to stay agile. Architect security policies and connectivity requirements that are automatically translated into corresponding IT policies and then pushed to only necessary devices. Monitor and analyze everything to reduce risk and threats to allow IT to focus on what is next instead of protecting what is done.

Cisco's key differentiator is in our ability to integrate each ASAP element and turn your hybrid IT infrastructure into engines of transformation. ASAP enables real-time analytics shared across a simple, converged platform that allows you to automate operations and inform security, so you can continue innovating and seizing new opportunities and feeding in new data to be analyzed. This paradigm creates a flywheel effect that promotes change and success (Figure 1).

### Build Your Hybrid IT Infrastructure with the Cisco ASAP Data Center Solution

Are you struggling with identifying the best cloud to deploy your apps or determining how you can move your workloads smoothly between clouds? Get the assurance you need in terms of building your hybrid IT infrastructure with the Cisco ASAP Data Center architecture. For additional information, visit [www.cisco.com/go/datacenter](http://www.cisco.com/go/datacenter).