



Flexible, Scalable Infrastructure for Desktop Virtualization

Accelerate VDI Deployments with Cisco, Citrix, and Nimble Storage

Enterprises large and small are looking to deploy virtual desktop infrastructure in the most cost-effective and flexible manner possible. While the economics of desktop virtualization can be compelling, IT organizations often face challenges around performance, deployment times, and other issues that impact their return on investment.

Nimble Storage SmartStack for virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) with Cisco UCS System and Citrix XenDesktop helps IT affordably tackle desktop virtualization. The joint desktop virtualization solution can be deployed quickly, is easy to manage, and delivers the high performance and capacity that virtualized applications need. This pre-validated SmartStack solution consists of

- Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS)
- Citrix XenDesktop
- Nimble Storage CS-Series storage arrays

Accelerate Your Journey to Desktop Virtualization

A Proven Recipe for VDI Success

Cisco, Citrix, and Nimble Storage have a pre-validated reference architecture to help customers quickly deploy VDI with little to no risk. All compute, network, storage and desktop and server virtualization components work together out of the box. Cisco's stateless server provisioning with UCS Manager, Citrix's comprehensive XenDesktop suite and Nimble's wizard-driven provisioning, make deployments simple and fast. This helps lower risk and accelerates VDI deployments—further improving ROI.

Optimal, High-Performance Operations

By using predefined templates for provisioning and leveraging modular building blocks for scaling, the joint platform simplifies the initial provisioning and the ongoing maintenance overhead of VDI. Cisco UCS Manager and Citrix XenDesktop provide powerful, yet intuitive ways to keep the end-to-end virtualized infrastructure running optimally.

Do More with Less

By leveraging this pre-validated VDI solution, IT organizations can also take advantage of:

High Performance

Nimble Storage arrays with Cisco UCS and Cisco Nexus Series Switches deliver the adaptive performance to handle rich desktop virtualization functionality delivered by Citrix XenDesktop, in a compact footprint. This along with the Citrix Provisioning Services allows IT to maintain a positive user experience through periods such as boot/login storms, patch operations and upgrades.

Greater Consolidation

Using either Citrix Machine Creation Services (MCS) or Provisioning Services (PVS) as well as Citrix User Profile Manager frees up IT organizations from the rigors of desktop creation and inefficient deployments by centralizing the creation and efficient provisioning of different styles of desktops. This functionality complements Nimble Storage's use of high-capacity disks and inline compression to accommodate thousands of users in a 3U

Solution Benefits

Together Cisco, Citrix, and Nimble Storage make cost-effective desktop virtualization a reality for IT organizations. With this solution you can:

- Lower the risk of VDI and simplify deployment with pre-tested reference architectures
- Improve the ROI and lower costs with simple, efficient infrastructure
- Flexibly scale to handle the growing number of users and increasing end-user needs

appliance, as well as the dense compute and I/O capabilities of the Cisco UCS blade servers, allowing for hundreds of users per server. IT organizations can see 30 to 75 percent reduction in their data footprint and as much as 50 percent reduction in the physical foot print compared to traditional solutions, with no end user impact.

High Availability

Cisco UCS and Nimble Storage CS-Series both incorporate redundant components, with no single point of failure, along with proactive monitoring and reporting. These features complement Nimble Storage snapshots for instant backups and fast restores. The result is less end-user disruption and fewer calls to the helpdesk. In addition, Nimble's replication capabilities can efficiently send data to a remote location for true disaster recovery.

Scalable Infrastructure that Grows with Your Business

Scale on Demand

By adopting a modular building block approach of integrating compute, fabric, storage, and virtualization in a single architecture, IT can start small and independently scale horizontally or vertically to large deployments, supporting thousands of virtual desktops and hundreds of virtual servers as needs grow.

Nimble's scale-to-fit functionality lets IT independently and non-disruptively grow storage performance and capacity by upgrading controllers, increasing cache, and by adding additional storage. Cisco UCS scales by adding blade servers, taking advantage of its stateless computing model based on UCS Service Profiles for rapid server provisioning, and a scalable IO architecture. Citrix XenDesktop leverages this architecture to streamline the provisioning and deployment of new virtual desktops.

Get Started Today

As partners, Cisco, Citrix, and Nimble Storage have created a validated solution for VDI deployments that is cost effective and easy to manage and scale. This prescriptive solution takes the guesswork out of VDI planning and validation, helping large and small IT organizations accelerate the move to a virtual desktop environment.

For more information, visit www.nimblestorage.com/solutions/vdi or contact an authorized reseller.



Scalable Infrastructure for VDI
Deployments



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