Deploy new network services quicker and easier to become a more agile business

Adding a service or setting up a new site can be a bit of a nightmare. The equipment can be expensive, while delivery and customs add time and cost. And then you need local expertise to set up and manage everything. Virtual deployment avoids all this, enabling you to move quickly and easily – and become a more agile, flexible business. Sound too good to be true? Not with us. We'll help you unlock the potential of virtualisation with a robust solution built on Cisco technology and BT's expertise and innovation.

Global businesses today need intuitive networks that deliver the scale, intelligence and security necessary to power the world's most dynamic business applications with ease. We're at the forefront of this development and have the expertise, service, security and experience to ensure a successful solution.

A vision of the future, happening now
Using integrated BT and Cisco technology, our new Connect Services Platform will help you deploy network functions at branches and remote locations in a fraction of the usual time. These functions will run on our Connect Edge multifunctional hardware, combining the strengths of Cisco's ENCS platform with our global service management, design capability, security wrap and support.

With an ecosystem of accredited partners and virtualised network function (VNF) providers, such as Cisco, InfoVista, Riverbed, Checkpoint and Fortinet, we've created an infrastructure where you can deploy industry standard VNFs. But you can also "bring your own VNF". So if you have your own function, such as a point of sale app or server which is crucial to your business, we can also provide that as a VNF – giving you the ultimate flexibility to create your own solution.

Of course, the transformation from a hardware-based branch network to a virtual branch network is not only a question of technology, but also one of network evolution and transformation. Migration and transition are key elements in the successful adoption of this new technology and, as leading network service provider, we have decades of experience of managing transformation at a local and global level.

An open, global platform, built and delivered by experts
We know this is complex stuff, requiring new skills and expertise. But we can provide that expertise if you don't currently have it in-house. Either way, we'll help you to create the right solution.

We have the global capability you need to deploy and support your solution, and the experts in our Centre of Excellence are on hand to step in when needed. Combined with our wider portfolio, we have everything you need for a complete solution, from the core network to a managed security wrap.

Secure your digital future

Be more agile: with simplified global deployment and instant delivery

Take control: move quickly and make updates easily with global visibility and central deployment and management

Lower capital and licence costs: avoid the time and cost of buying, shipping, deploying and maintaining hardware

Get future proofed: take advantage of the cloud to stay up to date always

Use our dedicated virtual lab: test deployment options, assess operational and technical impact, identify risks and build the business case

"During the next five years, we expect that carriers will move their SD-WAN services to virtual SD-WAN and deploy these via NFV platforms; also enterprises are expected to move their SD-WAN services to NFV platforms"
Gartner July 2017

BT

New technology delivering new benefits

Our Connect Services Platform lets you virtualise your own functions and add to leading solutions, such as Checkpoint, InfoVista and Riverbed. These are deployed on your edge device (our Connect Edge portfolio), and you can choose from a range of Cisco ENCS for your different site types.

You can have a solution which is a simple evolution of your existing Cisco estate, where you can create your own sandbox of VNFs and take advantage of our expertise and trials to make sure your solution is a success.

Key components

Virtualised services

The delivery of virtual network functions offers a hugely exciting opportunity to add new levels of flexibility and agility into your Dynamic Network Service. We offer a range of industry standard VNFs as part of the solution, from partners we work with on our global network solutions, such as Cisco, Riverbed, InfoVista, Fortinet and Checkpoint. And we don't just offer the VNF, we offer the virtualised version of the managed solution from BT. That means that you get 24/7 support, consultancy and the benefit of our years of deployment experience.

Our experts will ensure the right design, build and delivery:

- flexible approach, based on your needs
- 3rd party and customer-own VNFs
- service chain design and test
- delivery and monitoring of VNF.

Connect Edge

Connect Edge is a new virtualised customer premises equipment (vCPE) service based on Cisco's Enterprise Network Compute System (ENCS) enabling network function virtualization (NFV) for the branch. Initial launch of Cisco 5000 Series (ENCS) – 6,8 and 12 Core hardware:

- open technology, x.86 device
- future proofed solution
- established provider, with global logistics capability
- migration path for existing Cisco infrastructure.

Expert support

Virtualised services offer the promise of simplicity in the deployment of network function. But that simplicity is the end result of a huge amount of planning, experience and expertise. And we'll support every stage of the development of your solution.

Why choose BT?

Right choice of partner

We provide a simple evolution path with a partner who offers a long-term market presence, support model and logistics. Successful virtual network deployment and ongoing management depends on ensuring a range of partners and technologies that work together and can be supported together in life. Our established relationships and deep service experience with our partners ensure we can fully test and accredit their capabilities, while delivering a great ongoing service.

A choice of virtualised services

We offer the perfect mix of virtualised solutions, industry leading services and the applications which are key to your business. We've built our own network infrastructure which enables a choice of VNFs and we've already deployed over 1,000 VNFs in our infrastructure. We have the capability to deploy global solutions and we're backed by an unrivalled portfolio to help create a complete solution.

Integrated digital solution

We have the expertise and experience to create and deliver a successful solution that will integrate with your underlay network and meet your business needs. Our operational model to support our Connect Services Platform (CSP) is based on breaking the traditional silo approach to network service management to combine functional expertise with an enhanced toolset in a dedicated CSP Centre of Excellence.

We can help you on your journey, whatever stage you're at:

1. Plan your journey with our experts
Work with our experts on the creation of your solution and the associated cost benefit models.

2. See the technology in action
Let our specialists demonstrate how our Connect Services Platform supports your organisation and run a trial.

3. Deliver the benefits
Build the business case, virtualise the solutions you need and deploy the solution, securely and globally.

What could Connect Services Platform including Connect Edge do for you?
Visit bt.com/globalservices

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