Enjoy the agility of cloud–like services within a secure private data centre environment

More and more organisations want to move their applications to the public cloud, but security and regulatory concerns can make it difficult. Many applications, such as those in the banking industry, need a bespoke approach usually only viable in a private data centre. SD Fabric delivers the best of both worlds building on Cisco’s ACI (Application Centric Infrastructure) technology. Our fully managed SD Fabric solution can help bring cloud–like new agility to your legacy data centres – increasing agility, automation and productivity in your own environment.

Many organisations are seeing their private cloud infrastructure coming to the end of its life and are looking for a new DC-LAN solution to improve agility and meet the ever-increasing demands on-premises infrastructure faces. They also need to know they’ll be able to easily extend into the public cloud in the near future.

The DC-LAN is a mission critical strategic asset and is a key integration point between all business applications and connectivity to customers and their users.

**What does SD-Fabric include?**

Stitch your private cloud together with our SD Fabric if you:

- want to modernise your data centre
- have an end of life event in your data centre
- have an application needing a standard, scalable, repeatable infrastructure platform
- want to reduce your data centre footprint.

We can procure, deliver, install, configure and manage your new private cloud DC-LAN infrastructure, including Cisco Nexus 9000 hardware with Cisco ACI (Application Centric Infrastructure) software. We offer a fully managed service, including change management, proactive alerting, incident management and service management. And we’ll work closely with your IT team and partners managing or migrating your applications.

**A powerful workload environment for your business**

**Simple**
Greater visibility plus faster to implement changes consistently across your network increases productivity. For example, a new multi-tier network or a change in a security policy.

**Agile**
Faster application deployment using infrastructure as code and support business units achieve their aims more easily.

**Compliant**
Greater capacity to audit your network because you have access to your data via the API.

**Cost-effective**
Less implementation and change costs – with a single point of management for increased consistency and greater visibility to audit / verify change.
Visibility, control and increased automation

Our managed Cisco ACI-based solution brings it all together, giving you increased visibility and control, as well as more automation to drive up your productivity. Our ACI infrastructure and service supports your future migration to cloud by creating a cloud environment within private data centres.

Your whole software defined data centre network acts as one big switch so you can see all assets and services on the network and how they're functioning. It can achieve this because our software defined service disaggregates the hardware and software. Decoupling the overlay from the underlying network in this way gives you simplified network and security designs for your applications.

Our simpler and repeatable software designs gives you improved availability and operations from a single pane of glass. Security is vital and our service embeds the necessary security features, such as micro-segmentation support to restrict East-West traffic flows across the data centre at scale.

Key features

- increased visibility, analytics and control across your own data centre environment (API)
- specialised delivery team to own and manage delivery and your ongoing service
- optimised networking (100Gb/s) reduced complexity
- scalable and easy to grow without change of design
- cloud-like agility, with increased automation for speed
- reduced data centre network provisioning timescales – reduced cost easier troubleshooting and compliance
- common platform for physical and virtual environments
- agile hardware to leverage your private cloud environment
- easy rollout for quick productivity gains.

Why choose BT?

Take advantage of our experience and our position as a Cisco Gold partner for ACI globally

- we can design your service and manage it in-life with a dedicated delivery team and specially trained solution hub
- build your plan for a cloud migration, but benefit early from cloud-like services in your on-premises environment
- with the right plan and co-operation, including vendor support, we can deploy in as little as 60 days
- learn from our deployment experience and network capability managed together with your existing BT services avoid deployment mistakes and pitfalls, right first time

We recently deployed our SD Fabric service with a European supplier of specialist building materials with 9,000+ employees. They wanted to modernise their end-of-life infrastructure to handle new services, transform operations into a dev ops culture, and to standardise their operating model and improve efficiencies. They also needed to have a smooth migration from a current provider.

Our solution was to transform their legacy infrastructure with software defined networking (SDN) technology based on Cisco ACI on premises, enabling the organisations future roadmap. We managed the risk of new technology integration, provided connectivity of 40–100 GB and this opened up accessibility to SDN and SD-WAN services quickly.

We’d be happy to talk you through our approach and discuss how you may benefit too.

What could SD-Fabric do for you?
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