

Scalable and Cost-Effective Virtual Desktop Infrastructure for Midsized IT Environments

Simplify the Journey to VDI with Nimble Storage SmartStack Solutions for VDI with Cisco and VMware

Proactive midsized IT organizations, like their large enterprise counterparts, are looking to make the leap to integrated virtual infrastructure to tackle the silos caused by the proliferation of underutilized hardware and applications. This move also enables midsized organizations with limited staff and tight IT budgets to deploy virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) in the most cost-effective and simplest manner possible.

When executed correctly, desktop virtualization can provide compelling benefits — both economic and operational. But it is important to understand and address the issues that can reduce the return on investment (ROI) of VDI and ultimately impact success due to issues with performance, interoperability, security, and unplanned operational complexity.

Nimble Storage SmartStack for VDI with Cisco and VMware® delivers a cost-effective, validated datacenter platform for VDI to help midsized IT organization tackle these issues. This joint solution can be quickly deployed, is easy to manage, and delivers the performance and capacity that customers require. The Nimble SmartStack solution for VDI with Cisco and VMware consists of:

- Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS)
- Nimble Storage CS-Series storage arrays
- VMware View™, vSphere™, and vCenter™

Accelerate Your Journey to Desktop Virtualization

A Proven Recipe for VDI Success

Cisco, Nimble and VMware have jointly published a validated reference architecture to provide customers with a recipe to quickly deploy VDI. All compute, network, storage and desktop and server virtualization components work together out of the box. Nimble's wizard-driven management, Cisco's stateless provisioning with UCS Manager along with integrated VMware vCenter and View Manager make deployments push-button simple and fast. This helps lower risk and accelerates VDI deployments—further improving ROI.

Low-Touch, High-Performance Operations

By using predefined templates for provisioning and by automating commonly performed tasks, the joint platform simplifies the ongoing management overhead of VDI. UCS Manager and VMware vCenter provide a simple way to manage the end-to-end virtualized infrastructure, eliminating the need for disparate tools.

Do More with Less

By leveraging the validated Nimble Storage SmartStack solution for VDI with Cisco and VMware, midsized 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 VMware View, in a compact footprint. This allows IT to maintain a positive user experience through boot/login storms, patch operations, and upgrades. Not only is this joint platform powerful enough to handle the infrastructure needs for VDI, it is also capable of handling virtualization of common Microsoft applications such as Microsoft Exchange, SQL Server, and

SmartStack Solution Overview

Together Cisco, Nimble Storage, and VMware make cost-effective VDI and server virtualization a reality for midsized IT organizations.

Key Benefits

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

“Together Cisco, Nimble and VMware have made VDI easy to manage and very cost-effective. We can now scale our VMware View environment at a moment’s notice — adding a block of new users in a lot less time that it took us with the previous solution. This has given us the ability to better serve our ‘customers’ inside the organization and embark on new projects.”

Suzette Allaire, CIO
Lindquist & Vennum

SharePoint, which are found in midsized IT organizations.

Greater Consolidation

VMware View frees up midsized IT organizations from the rigors of desktop upgrades by centralizing the creation and deployment of “like” clones. This functionality complements Nimble Storage’s in-line compression and the dense compute and I/O capabilities of Cisco UCS. IT organizations that have deployed the joint platform have seen 30 to 75 percent reduction in their storage footprint compared to traditional solutions, with no end user impact.

High Availability

Nimble Storage and Cisco UCS both incorporate redundant components, with no single point of failure along with proactive monitoring and reporting. These features complement VMware vCenter’s ability to trigger efficient Nimble Storage snapshots for instant backups and fast restores. The result is less end-user disruption and fewer calls to the helpdesk.

Scalable Infrastructure that Grows with your Business

Scale on Demand

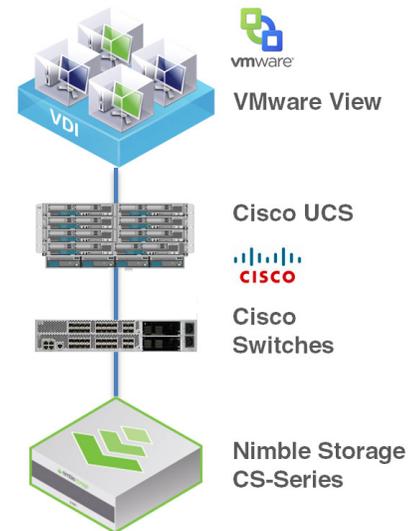
By integrating compute, fabric, storage and virtualization in a single architecture, IT can start small and independently scale horizontally or vertically to large deployments supporting thousands of virtual desktops and hundred of virtual servers as needs grow.

Nimble’s scale-to-fit capability lets IT independently and non-disruptively grow storage performance and capacity. Cisco UCS scales by adding blade servers, taking advantage of its stateless computing model based on UCS Service Profile Templates for rapid server provisioning, and a scalable IO architecture. VMware View Manager leverages these architecture to streamline the provisioning and deployment of new virtual desktops.

Get Started Today

As partners, Cisco, Nimble Storage, and VMware have created a complete validated solution for midsized VDI deployments that is cost effective and easy to manage. This joint solution takes the guesswork out of VDI planning and validation, helping midsized organizations accelerate the move to a virtual desktop environment.

For more information on this and other solutions, visit www.nimblestorage.com/solutions or contact an authorized reseller.



Integrated Scalable Infrastructure for VDI Deployments



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