VCE VBLOCK™ SYSTEMS WITH CISCO NEXUS 9000 SERIES SWITCHES AND APPLICATION CENTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE
DELIVERING KEY BUSINESS ADVANTAGES IN RAPIDLY CHANGING IT ENVIRONMENTS

In a competitive business environment, constantly changing user demands and shifting application requirements pose complex challenges for data center and cloud infrastructure managers. What's needed is a transformative approach to IT that's simpler, more agile, and most importantly, application-centric.

Vblock™ System 300 and Vblock™ System 700 families with integrated Cisco Nexus® 9000 Series Switches and Application Centric Infrastructure (ACI)—together with VCE Vision™ Intelligent Operations software—can provide the improved business agility, extensive scalability, and operational simplicity needed for today's IT environments. You get dynamic assurance that you can keep pace with changing business requirements through fast, low-risk deployment of the latest technologies for next-generation data centers. The solution also delivers optimized performance and consistent operation in both virtualized and non-virtualized environments.

Simplifying Data Center Operations

Data center managers and other IT leaders must be able to rapidly deploy applications and automate the provisioning of required network resources—such as servers, switches, load balancers, and firewalls—in a dynamic IT environment. Many IT organizations are struggling with the size and complexity of their networks, spending the majority of their time performing manual device-by-device operational tasks.

This has seriously impacted the productivity and efficiency of your IT teams and worked against effective resource utilization. Traditional fabric approaches enable scale, but lack simplicity. In addition, true integration of physical, virtual, and cloud environments is not achieved.

To be successful, business enterprises must shift from a static to a dynamic IT infrastructure consumption model—one that adapts quickly and efficiently to meet changing application needs.

Vblock™ Systems with Nexus 9000 Series Switches and ACI are designed to leverage VCE advanced converged infrastructure and VCE Vision™ software to enable rapid infrastructure and application deployment for a faster time to value with reduced risk. The ACI architecture will support a programmatic, application-centric policy framework that greatly streamlines deployment, while ensuring that your applications will always be able to tap into the network infrastructure resources and services they require.

Vblock Systems with Nexus 9000 Series Switches provide significantly greater scale and performance as well as energy cost savings—while effectively supporting ACI for enhanced simplicity, agility, and flexibility. This makes them ideal in any enterprise, service provider, or cloud network.

In the ACI architecture, pre-defined application network profiles can serve as desired-state policy templates that allow network administrators to specify how they want the network to operate and how physical and virtual resources should be allocated. As resources are distributed, their performance, connectivity, and security attributes will remain constant—so you can program once, and use them again and again.

All network elements will operate seamlessly together—guided by the centralized Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC). The result? Exceptionally rapid application deployment and limitless workload mobility for improved business support and the lowest TCO.

Automated Deployment of SAP—
With Vblock Systems enabled with Nexus 9000 Series Switches and ACI, SAP solutions can be automatically deployed based on desired end-states. For example, VCE and SAP are collaborating on enabling the automated deployment of SAP NetWeaver Business Warehouse on Vblock™ Specialized Systems for SAP HANA®:

• Policies are automatically enforced and remain constant throughout.

• Pre-defined policy models enhance the productivity of system administrators.

• The solution improves time to value and offers a better TCO, while meeting the most demanding performance and security requirements.

Providing Important Benefits to IT Managers

Vblock Systems with integrated Nexus 9000 Series Switches and ACI—together with VCE Vision software—will enable enterprises to leverage their IT infrastructure to meet changing business demands. The critical benefits include:

• **Broad Visibility**—The architecture will offer your IT teams deep, real-time, application-centric transparency and visibility into Vblock System operations. Applications and new technologies can be efficiently and effectively deployed or scaled to meet changing demands from application users—while ensuring that all applications will have access to the resources needed without impacting other applications utilizing similar resources.

• **Better Agility**—Vblock Systems enabled with Nexus 9000 Series Switches and ACI make it significantly more efficient to manage the resources across physical and virtual environments, including those designed for IT as a service (ITaaS) or cloud computing. This true integration of the physical and virtual worlds allows IT team members to respond quickly to infrastructure requests, spending more time and energy on innovation rather than on routine maintenance.

• **Essential Automation**—Through Vblock Systems' tight integration with leading applications, deployment and operations are standardized and automated. The ACI architecture can help enterprises further optimize application performance and operations—reducing human error and costs through process automation, while accelerating application deployment.

• **Valuable Insight**—VCE Vision software assists in the rapid deployment of infrastructure and dynamic responsiveness to real-time events by collecting telemetry from the APIC to provide Vblock Systems with critical metrics relating to the allocation of compute, network, and storage resources. This insight is a key to automating the provisioning of resources, application services, security, segmentation, and workload placement.

• **ACI Ready Today**—VCE industry-leading Vblock Systems are optimized, flexible, efficient, and protected converged infrastructures. Every Vblock System is engineered to deliver optimal system and application performance levels. Vblock Systems with integrated Nexus 9000 Series Switches will provide the fastest path to a true application-centric operational model—enabling enterprises to deploy, scale, protect, and maintain applications in a highly effective and timely manner.

ABOUT VCE

VCE, formed by Cisco and EMC with investments from VMware and Intel, accelerates the adoption of converged infrastructure and cloud-based computing models that dramatically reduce the cost of IT while improving time to market for our customers. VCE, through the Vblock Systems delivers the industry's only fully integrated and fully virtualized cloud infrastructure system.

VCE solutions are available through an extensive partner network, and cover horizontal applications, vertical industry offerings, and application development environments, allowing customers to focus on business innovation instead of integrating, validating and managing IT infrastructure.

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