

Cisco Intersight

Managing the demands of digital transformation

Competition is driving IT organizations to deliver applications and services faster and more efficiently. Operations teams need to support existing applications while managing next-generation applications and workloads that require computing at the edge, branch offices, and public and private cloud environments as well in the data center.

This requirement to implement distributed applications supported by distributed computing is creating a growing gap between what these environments require and the expertise, processes, and tools to support them. IT organizations are adopting DevOps practices to be more responsive to the business. They are also implementing management and automation platforms enhanced by artificial intelligence and machine learning or AIOps to increase efficiency and to evolve continuously to manage this growing complexity.

A higher level of management

Cisco Intersight is a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) infrastructure management platform that is augmented by other intelligent systems. It provides global management of the Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®) and Cisco HyperFlex® hyperconverged infrastructure anywhere. Intersight provides a holistic approach to managing distributed computing environments from the core to the edge. The Cisco Intersight virtual appliance (available in the Essentials edition) provides customers with deployment options while still offering all the benefits of SaaS. This deployment flexibility enables organizations to achieve a higher level of automation, simplicity, and operational efficiency.

Benefits

- Reduces the complexity and manual effort required to deploy, upgrade, and maintain your servers and hyperconverged infrastructure
- Delivers proactive support through tight integration with the Cisco® Technical Assistance Center (TAC)
- Learns and evolves to deliver greater capabilities and improved insights to help you proactively manage your distributed environment

Pervasive simplicity

Cisco Intersight is designed to be easy to scale and easy to implement. We offer flexible deployment either as SaaS on Intersight.com or running on your premises with the Cisco Intersight virtual appliance. The virtual appliance provides you with the benefits of Cisco Intersight while allowing more flexibility for those with additional data locality and security requirements. You can easily deploy the platform in the way that works best for your organization. Future enhancements and upgrades of Cisco Intersight will be maintained automatically, just like other SaaS products, and updates to the virtual appliance can be automatically implemented at convenient times. This approach reduces complexity and helps ensure compliance.

There are two editions of Cisco Intersight. The Base edition is available for free to all Cisco UCS and Cisco HyperFlex customers. The Essentials edition is a licensed version that features additional functionality, such as policy-based configuration with service profiles, firmware management, and the virtual appliance option.

For more information

<https://www.cisco.com/go/intersight>

Cisco UCS and Cisco HyperFlex Systems are fully programmable infrastructures. Cisco Intersight includes a RESTful API to provide full programmability and deep integrations with third-party tools and systems. The platform and the connected systems are DevOps-enabled to facilitate continuous delivery. Customers have come to appreciate the many benefits of SaaS infrastructure management solutions. Cisco Intersight monitors the health and relationships of all the physical and virtual infrastructure components. Telemetry and configuration information is collected and stored in accordance with Cisco's information security requirements. The data is isolated and displayed through an intuitive user interface. The virtual appliance feature enables users to specify what data is sent back to Cisco with a single point of egress from the customer network.

This cloud-powered intelligence can assist organizations of all sizes. Because the Cisco Intersight software gathers data from the connected systems, it learns from hundreds of thousands of devices in diverse customer environments. This data is combined with Cisco best-practices to enable Cisco Intersight to evolve and become smarter. As the Cisco Intersight knowledge base increases, trends are revealed, and information and insights are provided through the recommendation engine.

A higher level of support

The data points from Cisco Intersight machine learning are correlated to create models that recognize indications of problems. The knowledge base is tightly integrated with Cisco TAC support and supplemented by the expertise of the Cisco UCS community. When used in combination with Cisco TAC's vast knowledge base, Cisco Intersight helps prevent problems by delivering new levels of proactive systems support. The information is synthesized and provided to you in an easily consumable, actionable format through the Cisco Insight recommendation engine. By combining these insights and recommendations, you can significantly increase efficiency, reduce costs, and accelerate time to resolution (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Conceptual overview of the Cisco Intersight platform

