Accelerate Your Journey to AI with NetApp and ePlus

Learn about the latest AI technologies, identify the most promising opportunities, and create a roadmap for success

Key Benefits

Complete AI Enablement Services
Start your journey to AI with the help of experts who understand your industry.

Custom Workshops
Workshops tailored to your industry's use cases and unique business needs help your organization create a foundation for AI success.

Use Case Identification and Feasibility
We work with your domain experts, data scientists, and IT architects to optimize use case selection and ensure your success.

NetApp Data Fabric Enabled
NetApp® Data Fabric spans from edge to core to cloud, making your data available wherever your AI journey takes you.

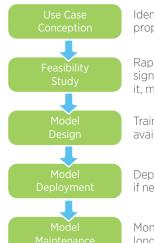## AI Is a Business Necessity

Enterprises today are generating and storing more data than ever. Cloud, mobile, IoT, and other operations require artificial intelligence (AI) to harness all available data to achieve insight, make predictions, and eliminate friction. From real-time sensor data to high-definition video and everything in between, modern data is complex. It requires the right deep learning algorithms combined with the right infrastructure to transform your data into a sustainable competitive advantage.

However, the AI journey—from identifying opportunities, to choosing algorithms, to making smart infrastructure choices—can be a real challenge for already overburdened IT, software, data science, and business teams. Smart companies seek outside help to jump start their efforts on the path to AI success.

NetApp and ePlus give you the AI help you need as you progress from idea to pilot to production. We make AI practical by combining phased services delivered by experts with infrastructure and tools that minimize your up-front investments and enable you to scale AI operations efficiently as your needs grow.

Getting Started with AI

AI success is about more than just algorithms and infrastructure. NetApp and ePlus work cross-functionally to help your company identify the best opportunities and tackle them effectively. We work with your data scientists to identify gaps, guide developers in incorporating AI as part of new and existing applications, and help your infrastructure teams make the best infrastructure choices as AI projects advance and new projects are added. The following figure shows the multiple phases of an AI project, from pilot to production.

Use Case Conception	Identify a data intensive business problem and propose a potential AI solution
Feasibility Study	Rapidly explore and de-risk a use case before significant engineering resources are dedicated to it, make "go/no go" recommendation
Model Design	Train best performing model possible given available data, computational resources, and time
Model Deployment	Deploy trained model as a service (and transform, if needed), integrate with other software/processes
Model Maintenance	Monitor and log deployed model accuracy over longer periods of time

■ NetApp®

e^+ **Where Technology Means More®**

ePlus is a leading consultative technology solutions provider.

Workshops Tailored to Your Industry

Use cases for AI vary significantly from one industry to the next. For many of our clients, the AI journey starts with a workshop customized to their industry and the company's needs and AI experience. The following table describes some of the topics that can be covered.

Deep Learning Fundamentals	Ensure that all stakeholders are grounded in the same fundamentals
Common Industry Use Cases	Identify and discuss the most popular AI use cases in your industry
Application Examples	Survey specific AI examples from your industry
Tools and Platforms	Learn about major AI libraries, tools, cloud, and on-premises infrastructure options
Intro to Kubeflow	Understand containerization in AI and learn how Kubeflow enables deep learning workflows in Kubernetes
Live Demo	See what you've learned in action with a demo that's relevant to your business

Use Case Identification and Feasibility

For organizations that are just getting started with AI, the biggest challenge is often identifying which use cases to tackle first. Getting this decision right creates a foundation that future AI projects can build on, and success creates momentum. The wrong decisions can have the opposite effects. That's why we focus on ideation and feasibility as key elements of our AI Enablement Services.

Service: Use Case Conception and Formulation	Service: Feasibility and Exploratory Analysis
We work with your domain experts, data scientists, engineers, and systems architects to identify a data-intensive business problem and propose an AI solution	We rapidly explore and eliminate risk from your chosen use case before you commit significant resources to it
Includes: • Defining business value in terms of expected benefits, including cost savings • Mapping the business problem to a machine learning task: classification, anomaly detection, etc • Identifying necessary and relevant data • Defining system architecture • Assessing risks and identifying success metrics	**Includes:** • Exploratory data analysis using descriptive statistics and visualization • Assessing the suitability of data for machine learning: number of records and features, availability and quality of labels • Rapid data ETL (extract, transform, and load) and vectorization to create experimental datasets • Initial model training and evaluation • Go/no-go recommendation

NetApp Data FabricTechnologies and Services

Organizations that are new to AI often underestimate the crucial role that data plays. Delivering the right data to the right location with the right performance is essential to success. The NetApp Data Fabric enables you to create a data pipeline to satisfy these needs with great efficiency across edge, core, and cloud.

In the initial phases of your AI journey, NetApp encourages you to work in the cloud, drawing on resources from public cloud providers and the NVIDIA GPU Cloud (NGC). This allows you to get started without a big up-front capital investment. The NetApp Data Fabric facilitates data movement from your data centers and edge devices such as Internet of Things (IoT) equipment to the cloud of your choice. NetApp Cloud Volumes technology makes reliable, high-performance data services with superior efficiency and management features available in the public cloud.

With a data pipeline built on the NetApp Data Fabric, you'll be able to efficiently manage data as your needs evolve. Once a project moves into production, it can require regular retraining with the latest data, and the volume and variety of data can increase rapidly. Many customers find that it becomes more cost effective to move training on premises. The NetApp ONTAP® AI proven architecture, powered by NVIDIA DGX supercomputers and NetApp cloud-connected all-flash storage, brings the power of the latest AI hardware and the NetApp Data Fabric to your data center.

Industries and Use Cases

Choosing partners with the right industry expertise can simplify your AI journey and reduce time to results. We have extensive in-house expertise and are currently focusing on the following industries. The table shows some example high-value use cases for each industry.

Financial Services	Chatbots, Identify fraudulent claims, Stock selection
Healthcare	Medical imagery diagnostics, Computer-aided diagnosis, Clinical decision analysis
Media and Entertainment	Personalized advertisements, Synthetic content creation, Interactive content denoising
Security and Defense	Detect bots, Abnormal network/system usage, Voice and facial recognition
Retail	Customer churn analysis, Recommendation engines, Product placement
Manufacturing	Proactive equipment monitoring, Defect detection, Process optimization

Getting Started

We offer companies the guidance and assistance they need—when and where they need it—to achieve better AI outcomes in less time. To find out how you can get started on your journey to AI with NetApp and ePlus, contact ai@eplus.com.

About NetApp

NetApp is the data authority for hybrid cloud. We provide a full range of hybrid cloud data services that simplify management of applications and data across cloud and on-premises environments to accelerate digital transformation. Together with our partners, we empower global organizations to unleash the full potential of their data to expand customer touchpoints, foster greater innovation and optimize their operations. For more information, visit www.netapp.com. #DataDriven

About ePlus Inc.

ePlus is a leading consultative technology solutions provider that helps customers imagine, implement, and achieve more from their technology. With the highest certifications from top technology partners and expertise in key technologies from cloud to security and digital infrastructure, ePlus transforms IT from a cost center to a business enabler. For more information, visit www.eplus.com. ePlus. Where Technology Means More®.