NetApp and Cisco
NetApp Ethernet Unification Center of Excellence
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Walt Blomquist
Vice President, Cisco Campus Switching Systems Business Unit

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

The Ethernet Unification Center of Excellence offers NetApp and Cisco customers the opportunity to:

- Experience demonstrations of a unified data center network running multiple storage protocols, including NFS, CIFS, iSCSI, and FCoE over an enhanced 10 Gigabit Ethernet infrastructure
- Understand the TCO benefits of unified storage and network consolidation
- Learn best practices to migrate Ethernet and Fibre Channel networks onto 10 Gigabit Ethernet
- Evaluate proofs of concept to help accelerate planning for new data center projects

**COMMITMENT TO DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION**

NetApp and Cisco together have developed the Ethernet Unification Center of Excellence at NetApp’s campus in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The center, which opened in November 2008, features Ethernet-based protocols running on a Cisco® 10 Gigabit Ethernet backbone. Customers can visit the center to witness real-time demonstrations of Cisco and NetApp® unified network and storage architectures and learn Ethernet storage best practices. NetApp and Cisco have also worked together to provide similar demonstrations at Cisco’s Data Center Network Application Lab (DNA Lab) in San Jose, California.

The centers offer a physical location to learn how NetApp Ethernet storage and Cisco Ethernet networking technology work together to deliver a unified storage and fabric architecture.

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**STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY**

The Ethernet Unification Center of Excellence and the DNA Lab are designed to introduce customers to the combined and unique value of NetApp and Cisco data center solutions. In each environment, customers can learn about subjects of vital interest, such as data center consolidation, automation, disaster recovery, business continuance, and virtualization technology.

The NetApp Ethernet Unification Center of Excellence consists of a new Executive Briefing Center and a state-of-the-art lab environment, the NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab. This lab, a massive testing environment for NetApp engineering, is capable of exceeding the most scalable and extreme performance conditions that enterprises deploy with NetApp solutions in their data centers.
The NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab offers an environment in which utility computing approaches can be tested in real-world environments. The lab is a showcase of modern data center efficiency and is ideal for customer proofs of concept and demonstrating data center management best practices. Its design incorporates the latest in data center efficiency technologies, including server, network, and storage virtualization, as well as green technologies. In fact, the power and thermal architecture deployed in the NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab has resulted in a 50% reduction in cooling costs.

**STATE-OF-THE-ART SOLUTIONS**

The NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab includes most major enterprise and engineering applications, such as Oracle®, Microsoft® Exchange, SQL Server®, Rational ClearCase, and many others, running natively or virtually on a grid of blade and rack servers. The NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab deploys over 1,500 servers with near 100% reservation for test and development or customer evaluation. Each server boots remotely from iSCSI LUNs over a Cisco Nexus™ 10 Gigabit Ethernet backbone. NFS, CIFS, and Fibre Channel protocols are also available for test and evaluation. Cisco Nexus 5000 and 7000 switch fabrics enable rapid configuration and high throughput. The lab has over 600TB of storage, served by every model of NetApp controller, to facilitate customer evaluation and effective engineering development and testing.

One of the primary advantages of the NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab is its virtualized and highly customizable nature, which allows a great deal of flexibility. The compute grid can be rapidly provisioned in minutes with individual server personalities using major operating systems, including Windows®, UNIX®, Linux®, and VMware®. As a result, NetApp Dynamic Data Center Lab customers can have access to, configure, and modify their own environment without affecting other environments in the lab.

**TAILORED EXPERIENCE**

All centers and labs are well staffed to provide answers to business and technical questions. Prepared presentations as well as ad hoc discussions are offered to educate and evaluate according to customer objectives. In-depth discussions between staff and customers can include features and functionality of each of the products and solutions available, including proofs of concept.

**NETAPP AND CISCO EXECUTIVE BRIEFING CENTERS (EBCs)**

NetApp and Cisco Executive Briefing Centers are the focal point to coordinate and tailor programs to highlight the NetApp and Cisco partnership and to describe the benefits of our joint solutions.

Cisco’s Executive Briefing Centers located in San Jose, California, and Bedford Lakes, UK, as well as Customer Briefing Centers located across the United States and in 12 different countries worldwide offer customers unparalleled access to Cisco executives and subject matter experts. Through executive and technical presentations as well as extensive dialogue and workshops, customers can learn more about the joint solutions with partners as well as how the network is the platform for business transformation.
To schedule a visit to the Ethernet Unification Center of Excellence or a NetApp Executive Briefing Center or to see similar demonstrations at Cisco's Data Center Networking Application Lab or to visit Cisco's Executive Briefing Center or Customer Briefing Center, contact your NetApp or Cisco account representative.

LEARN MORE
For more information, consult the following links.

NetApp
NetApp Executive Briefing Center: www.netapp.com/us/company/our-story/ebc

Cisco
Cisco Executive Briefing Center: www.cisco.com/web/about/ac156/about_cisco_visiting_cisco_home.html

Cisco Executive Briefing Center in San Jose, California.