

VersaStack Solution

Converged infrastructure solution delivering IT simplicity and quick time to value

Highlights

- Simplicity of converged server, storage and networking
 - Streamline operations and increase productivity
 - Help recoup upfront investments with lower TCO
 - Ideal for hybrid cloud, cognitive and virtualized workloads
 - All-flash or hybrid storage solutions with Cisco UCS
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VersaStack is a converged infrastructure solution of network, compute and storage designed for quick deployment and rapid time to value. The solution includes Cisco UCS integrated infrastructure together with IBM software-defined storage solutions to deliver extraordinary levels of agility and efficiency. VersaStack is backed by Cisco Validated Designs and IBM Redbooks application guides for faster infrastructure delivery as well as workload/application deployment.

Designed for dynamic organizations that want to accelerate business growth while reducing costs, VersaStack incorporates IBM all-flash as well as hybrid storage technologies into the “single pane of glass” management environment provided by Cisco UCS Director. The solution offers quick deployment and execution of business applications—with the versatility to adapt as business priorities change. Providing an IT infrastructure that is easy, efficient and versatile, VersaStack helps accelerate data center infrastructure deployment and helps efficiently manage information and resources amid business change.

VersaStack integrates network, compute and storage. On the network and compute side, VersaStack solutions leverage the power of Cisco UCS integrated infrastructure, including the cutting-edge Cisco UCS and the consolidated Cisco UCS Director management interface delivering simple, integrated management. On the storage side, IBM offers storage solutions for VersaStack based on either IBM Spectrum Virtualize or IBM Spectrum Accelerate technologies.

IBM Spectrum Virtualize-based storage solutions deliver virtualization capabilities such as storage pooling and support for almost 400 different storage systems from wide variety of vendors. They also feature IBM Easy Tier automated tiering, IBM Real-time Compression—enabling data storing up to five times as much data for even the most demanding applications—and data security with encryption for all pooled storage. IBM Spectrum Virtualize storage solutions include IBM Storwize V5030F, IBM Storwize V7000F, IBM FlashSystem V9000 and IBM SAN Volume Controller with IBM FlashSystem 900, providing a broad spectrum of options that can be sized appropriately to customers' requirements.

IBM Spectrum Accelerate-based storage solutions for VersaStack integrate the extreme performance of IBM FlashCore technology, a highly parallel grid architecture that can eliminate many traditional storage management tasks and costs. It also integrates comprehensive data reduction that includes pattern removal, data deduplication, data compression and various data efficiency functions. These systems enable easier scalability and hybrid cloud architectures with native quality of service (QoS), multi-tenancy, and IBM HyperScale functionality. IBM FlashSystem A9000 currently provides the IBM Spectrum Accelerate option for VersaStack.

All of the IBM storage options for VersaStack are built with IBM Spectrum Storage software, which means that deploying IBM FlashSystem or Storwize arrays in VersaStack opens the door to the entire IBM Spectrum Storage Suite.

These solutions are already proven to work together in the most demanding mission-critical environments. IBM Spectrum Storage with Cisco UCS helps improve efficiency and leverage existing server resources while delivering a rich set of storage capabilities.



VersaStack Converged Solution

VersaStack can be implemented with Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI) to enhance business agility by allowing IT to build, deploy, secure and maintain applications through a more agile framework. This capability, combined with Cisco Intercloud Fabric, can enable the creation of open and secure hybrid cloud-ready solutions that accelerate IT agility while delivering dramatic improvements in deployment, operation efficiency and simplicity.

Why IBM and Cisco?

IBM and Cisco are global IT industry leaders. Together, the companies have a 15-year history of demonstrated joint success with more than 25,000 shared customers. IBM and Cisco have experience in driving emerging technology transitions and have the breadth and ability to deliver innovative, validated solutions while helping customers reduce risk.

The companies provide global delivery capabilities and deep industry expertise along with current technology offerings in data center computing, networking, mobility, collaboration, analytics and the Internet of Things.

¹ Adam DeMattia, "Economic Value Validation: Quantifying the Value of VersaStack, a Converged Infrastructure Solution by IBM and Cisco," *The Enterprise Strategy Group*, April 2016.

<https://www.ibm.com/account/reg/us-en/signup?formid=urx-17902>

² IBM lab measurements –April 2012.

VersaStack for Hybrid Cloud

Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Nexus • Cisco MDS
Compute	Cisco ONE Enterprise Cloud Suite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco CloudCenter • Cisco UCS Director • Cisco ACI
Storage	IBM FlashSystem V9000, IBM FlashSystem A9000, IBM FlashSystem 900, IBM Storwize V7000, IBM Storwize V7000F, IBM Storwize V5000 family

VersaStack with IBM FlashSystem V9000

Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Nexus • Cisco MDS
Compute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco UCS • VMware ESXi • VMware vCenter
Storage	IBM FlashSystem V9000, IBM FlashSystem 900

VersaStack with IBM SAN Volume Controller

Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Nexus • Cisco MDS
Compute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco UCS • VMware ESXi • VMware vCenter
Storage	IBM SAN Volume Controller with any supported storage (IBM or non-IBM)

VersaStack with IBM Storwize V7000

Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Nexus • Cisco MDS
Compute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco UCS • VMware ESXi • VMware vCenter
Storage	IBM V7000F and IBM Storwize V7000

VersaStack with IBM Storwize V5000

Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Nexus • Cisco MDS
Compute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco UCS • VMware ESXi • VMware vCenter
Storage	IBM V5030F, IBM Storwize V5030, IBM Storwize V5020, and IBM Storwize V5010



Why IBM?

IBM offers a vast portfolio of hardware, software and services that can help organizations of all sizes address their IT infrastructure requirements in a comprehensive and integrated way. With IBM, organizations can create a more flexible, robust and resilient infrastructure to support critical business operations.

Innovative technology, open standards, excellent performance, and a broad portfolio of proven storage software, hardware and solutions offerings—all backed by IBM with its recognized industry leadership—are just a few of the reasons to consider storage solutions from IBM. In addition, IBM delivers some of the best storage products, technologies, services and solutions in the industry without the complexity of dealing with different hardware and software vendors.

For more information

To learn more about VersaStack Solution, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/versastack

For more info on Cisco offerings:

- [Cisco Nexus Series Switches](#)
- [Cisco B-Series Blade Servers](#)
- [Cisco C-Series Servers](#)
- [Cisco UCS and Cisco UCS Mini Chassis](#)
- [Cisco 6300 Series Fabric Interconnects](#)
- [Cisco 6200 Series Fabric Interconnects](#)
- [Cisco UCS Director](#)

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