



Cisco SAN Health Check Service

Determine How to Improve Utilization, Availability, and Security While Reducing Cost and Complexity

Assess the security, resiliency, operation, and readiness of your SAN infrastructure with Cisco SAN Health Check Service.

Organizations are increasingly looking for ways to reduce the cost of storing and managing data, while the volume of data that needs to be stored is growing exponentially. Inflexible and inefficient storage designs have resulted in very low utilization of resources. Through migration of older environments and consolidation of dispersed storage area network (SAN) islands, a significant improvement in utilization and availability and reduction in complexity can be achieved. The use of SAN security and SAN management best practices can enhance the security and manageability of the SAN infrastructure.

A thorough review of your existing SAN infrastructure can provide information on whether or not you are adhering to best practices, experiencing configuration issues, and predisposed to architectural bottlenecks.

Ongoing Healthcare for Your Cisco SAN

The Cisco® SAN Health Check analyzes your existing SAN environment as well as your business and operational requirements for your SAN. Unlike a pre-implementation assessment, this service provides assessments after implementation and migration have occurred to help ensure your entire SAN system is functioning as expected. Providing a long-term storage architecture plan, this service presents the potential next steps in the evolution of your Cisco MDS SAN infrastructure.

Cisco uses best known methods adopted both internally and by our largest successful customers as blueprints for success. Using those methodologies, Cisco can adhere to tight deployment timelines while at the same time mitigating risk through proactive recommendations.

The Cisco SAN Health Check service is separated into four work areas: Basic Features, Advanced Features, SAN Applications, and SAN Health Check Review. The activities, deliverables, and details of this service are summarized in Table 1.

- Basic Features:
 - Base MDS Feature Set Assessment
 - Fabric Manager Server Assessment
- Advanced Features:
 - Enterprise Assessment
 - Mainframe Assessment
 - AN Extension Assessment
- SAN Applications
 - Storage Media Encryption Assessment
 - Data Migration Manager Assessment
- SAN Health Check Review

Table 1. SAN Health Check Service Activities, Deliverables, and Service Details

Activities and Deliverables	Service Details
Basic Features: · Base MDS Feature Set Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Covers all the features and abilities of the MDS platform for optimal deployment and configuration for those that do not require additional licensing. Major areas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Switch Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Security (AAA) – Event Notification (Call Home, Syslog, SNMP) – Scheduler and Configuration Maintenance · Device Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – VSANs – Zoning – Domain ID allocation – Device Aliases · Topology Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Port Channels – Trunking
· Fabric Manager Server Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provides for the investigation and validation of the customer's Fabric Manager Server · Priced at a per server basis · Activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fabric Manager Server sizing – Application optimization – Access control and security – Reporting – Backing up the Fabric Manager Server

Activities and Deliverables	Service Details
Advanced Features: • Enterprise Assessment	Recommended for those customers taking advantage of the licensable advanced traffic engineering and security features of the MDS platform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Engineering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – InterVSAN Routing – Quality of Service – IP Security (IPsec) – LUN or Read-Only Zoning – Fibre Channel Write Acceleration • Security: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – FC-SP Authentication – DH-CHAP Authentication – Port-Security – VSAN Based Access Control – Fabric Binding for Open Systems
• Mainframe Assessment	• For those customers taking advantage of the advanced FICON features to support their mainframe environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FICON-based VSANs • Port-Channel and ISL load balancing for FICON flows • FICON Control Unit Port (CUP) • Fabric Binding • Switch Cascading • IPL File Usage • FICON Port Number Assignment
• SAN Extension Assessment	• Aimed at those customers using the FCIP functionality to extend their SAN to multiple data centers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideal for customers implementing Disaster Recovery or Replication environments • FCIP Design Optimization • FCIP Tunnel Performance Optimization • Write and Tape Acceleration • InterVSAN Routing (IVR) over FCIP
SAN Applications: • SME Assessment	• Storage Media Encryption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate Key Management Strategy • Determine Ideal locations for encryption engines • Compare SME configuration against Cisco and industry best practices
• DMM Assessment	• Data Migration Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine ideal locations to insert DMM • Identify migration bottlenecks • Optimize DMM configuration and strategy • Identify appropriate DMM method for the customer's requirements
SAN Health Check Review: • SAN Health Check Assessment and Review	• Conduct a SAN Health Check to identify current practices and recommend changes within the SAN environment, which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Review of existing SAN infrastructure for adherence to best practices, configuration issues, and architectural bottlenecks – Recommend new features and configuration updates to ease day-to-day SAN operational requirements – Modular in Ordering, Scoping, Pricing and Delivering

Expert Delivery

The Cisco SAN Health Check Service is delivered in a structured process by Cisco data center experts. The methodology components of the Cisco SAN Health Check Service are:

- Data collection
- Analysis
- Reports and final review

Table 2 describes the activities, deliverables, and benefits for each of these components.

Data Collection

Cisco sends you a questionnaire to collect baseline data about your MDS SAN infrastructure. The collected data helps us assess what you require and provide an assessment that is very specific and focused on your needs. The high-level data collected provides information about the range of applications and storage devices. Baseline data related to business continuance and security, is collected as well.

Analysis

The Cisco data center architect analyzes the collected information and develops an initial draft of the Cisco SAN Health Check Service Report. The initial draft is created by the Cisco data center team in conjunction with several members of your IT team. The intent of this report is to solicit feedback from you as to whether the draft recommendation meets your general requirements.

Reports and Final Review

The Cisco data center architect evaluates and incorporates the feedback from you and the Cisco data center architect team and continues to finalize the report. The final Cisco SAN Health Check Service Report provides you with an executive summary, information on the current status of your infrastructure, a requirements analysis, the findings of the assessment, a proposal for your new MDS SAN architecture, and conclusions. Electronic copies of this report are sent to you for review prior to presentation of the report, in person, to your management at your location.

Table 2. Cisco SAN Health Check Service Methodology

Methodology	Benefits
<p>Data collection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco data center experts administer SAN infrastructure questionnaire • Cisco data center experts provide baseline data regarding your SAN needs/requirements <p>Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco data center architects analyze the information collected in the SAN infrastructure questionnaire and the workshop • Cisco data center experts and your IT team work in conjunction to draft report findings • Cisco data center experts provide an initial draft of the Cisco SAN Health Check Service Report <p>Reports and final review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco data center architect delivers a Cisco SAN Health Check Service Report, which directly incorporates feedback from your IT team • The report includes executive summary, current state of your infrastructure, requirements analysis, assessment findings, proposal for your new SAN architecture, and conclusions • Cisco provides electronic copies of the final report for you and your IT team to review prior to the final presentation of the report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed, specific assessment focused on your business and IT needs • Discovery and comprehensive inventory of SAN assets • Use Cisco data center expertise to develop your SAN architecture strategy and roadmap • Collaboration between Cisco data center experts and your IT team will create a best in breed SAN architecture specific for your business • A blueprint for your SAN strategy and roadmap

Benefits

This Cisco SAN Health Check Service helps you assess how their storage environment can benefit from migration to a more consolidated storage area network environment. This aids in the following ways:

- Improves the use of storage resources
- Avoids unauthorized access
- Increases the manageability of the SAN infrastructure
- Provides a comprehensive assessment
- Improves the performance of the current SAN infrastructure

Follow-On Services

As a next step to transforming your data center architecture, Cisco recommends you take advantage of our expertise in SAN Planning and Design and SAN Optimization. Cisco SAN Planning and Design helps businesses rapidly plan and deploy a Cisco Director Class MDS Solution for more efficient storage networking. Cisco SAN Optimization Service helps businesses deliver a consistently high level of storage area networking (SAN) performance and support growing information management needs.

Cisco and Partner Expertise

Cisco and our industry leading partners use best practices and proven methodologies to help you quickly and efficiently plan and deploy a high-performance, resilient, and scalable virtualized architecture for your business.

The Cisco SAN Health Check Service is delivered by Cisco experts who hold a wide array of industry certifications and are subject matter experts in business and technology architecture and data center technologies. They have direct experience in planning, designing, and supporting virtualization solutions.

Cisco product and technology expertise is continually enhanced by hands-on experience with real-life networks and broad exposure to the latest technology and implementations.

Why Cisco Data Center Services?

Today, the data center is a strategic asset in a world that demands better integration among people, information, and ideas. Your business and your data center work better when technology products and services are aligned with your business needs and opportunities. Cisco and our industry-leading partners deliver intelligent, personalized services that accelerate the transformation of your data center. Using a unique, network-based perspective and a unified view of data center assets, Cisco takes an architectural approach to help you efficiently consolidate, virtualize, and manage data center resources. Cisco Data Center Services help transform, optimize, and protect your data center to reduce costs, deliver high availability, and improve application performance.

Availability

Cisco SAN Health Check Service is widely available. Contact your local Cisco account manager about availability in your area.

For More Information

For more information about Cisco SAN Health Check Service, as well as the broad array of Cisco Services for the data center, contact your local Cisco account manager or visit www.cisco.com/go/dcservices.

Cisco Services.
Making Networks Work.
Better Together.



Americas Headquarters
 Cisco Systems, Inc.
 San Jose, CA

Asia Pacific Headquarters
 Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.
 Singapore

Europe Headquarters
 Cisco Systems International BV
 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Cisco has more than 200 offices worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Website at www.cisco.com/go/offices.

CCDE, CCENT, CCSI, Cisco Eos, Cisco Explorer, Cisco HealthPresence, Cisco IronPort, the Cisco logo, Cisco Nurse Connect, Cisco Pulse, Cisco SensorBase, Cisco StackPower, Cisco StadiumVision, Cisco TelePresence, Cisco TrustSec, Cisco Unified Computing System, Cisco WebEx, DCE, Flip Channels, Flip for Good, Flip Mino, Flipshare (Design), Flip Ultra, Flip Video, Flip Video (Design), Instant Broadband, and Welcome to the Human Network are trademarks; Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn, Cisco Capital, Cisco Capital (Design), Cisco.Financed (Stylized), Cisco Store, Flip Gift Card, and One Million Acts of Green are service marks; and Access Registrar, Aironet, AllTouch, AsyncOS, Bringing the Meeting To You, Catalyst, CCDA, CCDP, CCIE, CCIP, CCNA, CCNP, CCSP, CCVP, Cisco, the Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert logo, Cisco IOS, Cisco Lumin, Cisco Nexus, Cisco Press, Cisco Systems, Cisco Systems Capital, the Cisco Systems logo, Cisco Unity, Collaboration Without Limitation, Continuum, EtherFast, EtherSwitch, Event Center, Explorer, Follow Me Browsing, GainMaker, iLYNX, IOS, iPhone, IronPort, the IronPort logo, Laser Link, LightStream, Linksys, MeetingPlace, MeetingPlace Chime Sound, MGX, Networkers, Networking Academy, PCNow, PIX, PowerKEY, PowerPanels, PowerTV, PowerTV (Design), PowerVu, Prisma, ProConnect, ROSA, SenderBase, SMARTnet, Spectrum Expert, StackWise, WebEx, and the WebEx logo are registered trademarks of Cisco and/or its affiliates in the United States and certain other countries.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document or website are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (1002R)