

Cisco Application Control Engine Planning and Design Service

Accelerate Deployment of a Cisco ACE Solution for Fast, Secure Application Access in a Scalable Environment



Service Overview

Many enterprises and service providers need a faster way to enable applications while achieving performance and security metrics. The Cisco® Application Control Engine (ACE) module for Cisco Catalyst® 6500 Series Switches and Cisco 7600 Series Routers helps you better control the processes of deploying, securing, and accelerating applications across your extended organization. By defining fast and secure application services in unique virtual devices, the ACE module can help you increase the availability, performance, and security of your data center applications.

Data centers are complex environments. The Cisco ACE Planning and Design Service helps mitigate the risk of making changes to your data center and accelerates deployment. We can help you successfully implement ACE in your existing application environment, design a new deployment, and migrate

from a Cisco Content Service Switch (CSS) or Content Switching Module (CSM) to the ACE module.

Cisco uses leading practices to help you define your IT and business requirements and implement a customized ACE solution. Our engineers hold industry certifications, as well as Cisco CCIE® certifications, and specialize in data center and application optimization technologies. They have direct experience in planning, designing, and supporting Cisco CSS, CSM, and ACE for a myriad of applications, each with unique requirements. Our product and technology expertise is constantly enhanced by hands-on experience with real-life networks and broad exposure to the latest technology and implementations.

Cisco and our partners deploy and operate networks using a lifecycle of prepare, plan, design, implement, operate, and optimize phases that align business and technical requirements. The lifecycle approach helps companies to accelerate their success with advanced technologies while increasing the return on network investment.

Plan and Deploy a Cisco ACE Solution

The Cisco ACE Planning and Design Service is a project-based service that helps you speed the identification and resolution of planning, design, and implementation issues and helps you ensure that your data center infrastructure is scalable and able to meet your future applications requirements. You can count on Cisco for assistance in deploying the new features offered by ACE while developing internal skills to manage this environment after it is operational.

The activities available with the Cisco ACE Planning and Design Service are the following:

- ACE detailed design development
- Layer 4 through 7 detailed design review
- ACE implementation plan review
- ACE remote implementation support
- ACE migration plan development
- ACE migration plan review
- ACE pilot deployment support
- Knowledge transfer and mentoring

You can tailor this planning and design service to fit your requirements by selecting the service options you need. Tables 1 through 8 describe the activities and deliverables available:

Table 1. Cisco ACE Detailed Design Development

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>The Cisco ACE detailed design development activity typically includes the following:</p> <p>Discovery and Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct onsite discovery sessions to gather data and start the detailed design development process • Review and analyze existing infrastructure documentation and requirements, if available • Collect and review technical requirements and design goals pertaining to Layers 4 through 7 for integration into the low-level design (LLD) • Verification that the chosen designs and topologies address customer goals and objectives <p>Low-Level Design Development</p> <p>Develop an implementation-ready LLD document, which typically includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements analysis and findings captured during the discovery and analysis activity • ACE logical and physical topology • Scalability and redundancy • Security considerations • Features and functions recommended • Software version referral • Configuration templates covering all of the Cisco devices required for a working ACE solution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate technical requirements and design goals with the leadership of Cisco experts using proven design principles • Accelerate the adoption of the Cisco ACE solution through knowledge exchange and use of leading practices on Layer 4 through 7 design principles • Minimize expensive, time-consuming, and intrusive redesign by helping ensure proper design early in the lifecycle • Plan migration from Cisco CSS or CSM to the ACE module

Table 2. Cisco Layer 4 Through 7 Detailed Design Review

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>The Cisco Layer 4 through 7 detailed design review is intended for existing CSS or CSM deployments or a customer-provided Layer 4 through 7 design using the ACE module. The review typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validation that the chosen platform, features, and functions will meet the design objectives • Review the customer-provided LLD to verify that technical requirements and design goals are integrated into the LLD • Review configuration to verify conformance with Cisco best practices • Validate and/or assess the scalability and design limitations of the LLD • Identify opportunities to improve design performance, security, and availability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verifies that your technical requirements and design goals are integrated into your ACE design through the use of proven design principles • Minimizes expensive, time-consuming, and intrusive redesign by helping ensure proper design early in the lifecycle • Improves performance, resiliency, and availability of your application infrastructure

Table 3. Cisco ACE Implementation Plan Review

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>During the Cisco ACE implementation plan review, Cisco engineers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the ACE deployment plan to help ensure that deployment time and service disruptions are minimized • Analyze and integrate Cisco ACE deployment plan into the existing infrastructure • Review installation and commissioning of test plans • Analyze any changes to which operations staff should be alerted • Provide implementation plan review report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerates successful Cisco ACE implementation by taking advantage of Cisco leading practices that help you avoid potential problems • Improves your ability to meet an aggressive deployment schedule • Proactively identifies potential risks to help minimize disruption to the existing infrastructure during deployment • Potentially reduces the duration of maintenance windows • Helps ensure that your Cisco ACE implementation plan is complete and that it contains the critical elements required for a predictable, successful deployment

Table 4. Cisco ACE Remote Implementation Support

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>The Cisco ACE remote implementation support typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide scheduled remote deployment support for critical deployment activities • Periodically review outstanding technical deployment concerns • Participate in periodic customer project status and update conference calls • Promptly address and escalate deployment-related technical problems • Proactively notify you about any identified technical problems that could affect the deployment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerates the identification, escalation, and resolution of deployment-related concerns • Significantly reduces the potential effect of problems on your deployment schedule and Cisco ACE stability • Reduces the possibility of deployment errors and costly delays • Allows you to take advantage of the wealth of Cisco expertise gained as a result of similar deployments • Gives you the security of knowing that the entire Cisco team is focused on helping you achieve your business goals

Table 5. Cisco ACE Migration Plan Development

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>Cisco provides a detailed migration plan that typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step-by-step procedures required for successful migration from the CSM or CSS to the ACE • Hardware resource assessments and recommendations • Migration planning and lab validation • Recommended migration sequence and scheduling • Assessment of the effect on the existing Cisco CSM or CSS environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthens the ability of your team to meet aggressive deployment schedules • Reduces the risks associated with a production migration • Helps you take advantage of Cisco planning experience and best-in-class methods and procedures in migrating to Cisco Wide Area Application Services (WAAS) • Reduces the possibility of downtime or other costly disruptions during migration • Reduces the possibility of expensive, time-consuming rework at a later date

Table 6. Cisco ACE Migration Plan Review

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>The Cisco ACE migration plan review typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Cisco ACE migration plans to help minimize deployment time and service disruption • Review hardware resources and identify upgrades and configuration changes required for successful migration • Review the migration sequence and scheduling • Assess the effect on the existing Cisco CCS or CSM environment • Provide a migration plan review report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthens the ability of your team to meet aggressive deployment schedules • Reduces the risks associated with a production migration • Helps you take advantage of Cisco planning experience and best-in-class methods and procedures in migrating to Cisco ACE • Reduces the possibility of downtime or other costly disruptions during migration • Reduces the possibility of expensive, time-consuming rework at a later date

Table 7. Cisco ACE Pilot Deployment Support

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>The Cisco ACE pilot deployment support typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide remote deployment and configuration support for customers performing a pilot deployment of Cisco ACE in their environment • Provide reactive configuration, deployment, and troubleshooting support • Assist with the development of pilot testing and implementation plans • Communicate Cisco best practices for Cisco ACE design and deployment • Recommend performance and configuration optimizations • Test and provide lab validation of customer-specific scenarios • Provide knowledge transfer and mentoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitates a successful pilot deployment through the use of Cisco best-practices configuration and deployment guidelines • Helps reduce the risk associated with a pilot deployment • Identifies additional opportunities to use Cisco ACE in your environment • Provides critical knowledge exchange from Cisco experts to reduce the initial learning curve

Table 8. Cisco ACE Knowledge Transfer and Mentoring

Activities and Deliverables	Benefits
<p>The Cisco ACE knowledge transfer and mentoring activity typically includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide informal educational sessions • Conduct chalk talks • Help ensure regular communication by conference calls and e-mail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides anytime access to our industry-leading expertise and intellectual property • Helps train your operations staff on leading practices for deploying and integrating Cisco ACE solutions • Improves staff proficiency through knowledge exchange with Cisco experts

Benefits

The Cisco ACE Planning and Design Service helps you accelerate deployment of Cisco ACE solutions for fast, secure application access in a scalable environment. The Cisco ACE Planning and Design Service helps you to:

- Integrate your technical and design goals to create a customized design that helps you better control the processes of deploying, securing, and accelerating applications using Cisco ACE
- Quickly identify and resolve planning and design issues so you can reduce the inherent risks in changing your IT infrastructure
- Deploy a Cisco ACE solution that delivers the features and functions you expect on time and on budget
- Expand your IT staff's knowledge of Cisco ACE solutions through access to Cisco experts and resources

Why Cisco Services

Cisco Services make networks, applications, and the people who use them work better together.

Today, the network is a strategic platform in a world that demands better integration between people, information, and ideas. The network works better when services, together with products, create solutions aligned with business needs and opportunities.

The unique Cisco Lifecycle approach to services defines the requisite activities at each phase of the network lifecycle to help ensure service excellence. With a collaborative delivery methodology that joins the forces of Cisco, our skilled network of partners, and our customers, we achieve outstanding results.

Availability and Ordering Information

The Cisco ACE Planning and Design Service is available for purchase as a transactional statement of work (SOW)-based service. Contact your local service account manager about availability in your area. The part number for this service is CON-DCN-CNSLT.

This service supports the following products:

- Cisco ACE
- Cisco Layer 4 through 7 products, including Content Services Switch (CSS), Content Switching Module (CSM), Global Site Selector (GSS), Application Velocity System (AVS), and Application Networking Manager (ANM)

For More Information

For more information about services for Cisco ACE solutions, contact your Cisco service account manager or visit the Cisco Services by Application Networking Services Webpage at www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6894/serv_group_home.html.

For more information about other Cisco Data Center Services, contact your Cisco services account manager or visit www.cisco.com/go/dcservices.

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