SOLUTION BRIEF

Power Your Microsoft SQL Server Into the Future

FlashStack with the Cisco UCS X-Series Modular System

Power your Microsoft SQL Server databases and associated applications well into the future using FlashStack® infrastructure with Cisco UCS® X-Series Modular Systems. Gain industry-leading performance, simple management, agile support for on-premises and cloud, with options that fits your needs and budget.

You need fast and reliable access to your data. Slow databases lead to slow customer interactions and possibly lost revenues. It can lead to delayed insights and business decisions making your organization less competitive. But there is more to updating your Microsoft SQL Server infrastructure than raw speed. You also need to reduce complexity. It's the never-ending story in IT—reduce complexity to reduce OpEx and free DBAs and system administrators to work on strategic business initiatives.

To accomplish this, you need a platform that is simple to manage and agile enough to support multicloud environments and the ability to quickly scale with business needs. And it must be cost effective to fit into budget constraints—the other never-ending story in IT.

Do you think this is too much to ask of one solution? Think again. FlashStack with X-Series from Cisco and Pure Storage is an AI-based, software-defined modern data infrastructure that integrates on-premises and multi-cloud landscapes. Discretely scalable, holistically managed, and available as a service, FlashStack delivers a resilient, future-proof infrastructure for your critical applications and databases.

FlashStack:
One Infrastructure.
One Architecture.
One Subscription.
Unlimited Choices.

High Performance

Built to power your Microsoft SQL databases now and into the future

Simple

The easiest way to consume hybrid-cloud infrastructure

Agile

Intelligent consumption model delivers always-on right-scaling for on-premise and hybrid-cloud landscapes

Economical

Eliminate CapEx and balance-sheet impact with a true utility consumption model with analytics to optimize resource usage

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FlashStack as-a-Service

Modern Economics for Modern Infrastructure

Flexible purchasing
Never miss opportunities or SLAs. You always have the capacity you need, instantly.

True "pay as you go" model
Not a recycled lease plan, but a real utility-based solution that aligns costs with usage.

Unified monitoring, management and provisioning
You gain real-time visibility into usage levels and costs maximizes IT efficiency and eliminates surprises.

Deployment reliability that you can trust
Pre-tested, validated designs means faster time to value with significantly reduced risks.

FlashStack With Cisco UCS X-Series for SQL Server

FlashStack with Cisco UCS X-Series Modular System is the first that is exclusively managed through the Cisco Intersight™ platform. It helps you simplify your data center with cloud-operated infrastructure. It is an adaptable system that can support Microsoft SQL Server and provide a consolidation platform that provides better performance, automation, and efficiency.

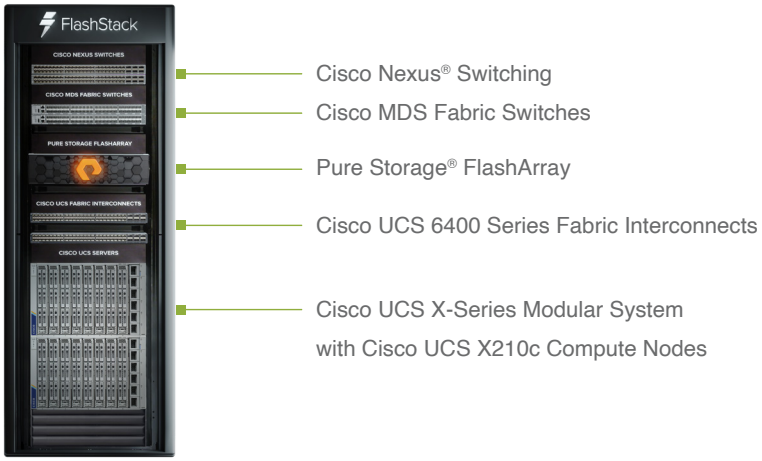
Excellent Performance

FlashStack with X-Series was designed from ground up for hybrid cloud and therefore has been able to leapfrog competitors in terms of its functionality and readiness. It uses the latest Intel® Xeon® Scalable processors, supports a large memory capacity, features NVMe over fabric for the fastest I/O access, and all-flash storage from Pure Storage. Each component has been designed to maximize performance and eliminate bottlenecks. FlashStack with X-Series has the power and flexibility to run multiple SQL databases side by side, either running on bare metal or virtualized.

Streamlined Management With Intersight

The Cisco Intersight platform is a software-as-a-service (SaaS) infrastructure lifecycle management solution that delivers simplified configuration, deployment, maintenance, and support. With a SaaS model, you always use the most up-to-date management software, you don't have to manage managers, and you don't have to worry about incompatible versions. With Cisco Intersight, you get all the benefits of SaaS delivery combined with full lifecycle management. Automated failover between compute nodes to ensures access to data are supported by Intersight. It can manage distributed servers and Pure FlashArray storage systems across data centers, remote sites, branch offices, and edge environments.

FlashStack with Cisco UCS X-Series Modular Systems



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IDC Review of Cisco UCS X-Series

Application Aware

Intersight Workload Optimizer with Cisco AppDynamics® software delivers best-in-class application performance monitoring and management. Optimize FlashStack resources and performance by managing systems and apps together!

Container Ready

FlashStack is your intelligent infrastructure for everything, including modern container deployments including Kubernetes and Portworx® platforms. Simplify IT by managing containers with the same Intersight console.

AI-Enabled

FlashStack management is now AI-enabled. Intersight and Pure recognize and respond to the status of each layer, taking proactive action to respond to business needs instantly.

The Cisco Intersight platform is modular, so you can adopt services based on your individual requirements. The platform dramatically simplifies IT operations by bridging applications with infrastructure, providing visibility and management from bare-metal servers and hypervisors to serverless applications, thereby reducing costs and mitigating risk. This unified SaaS platform uses an open REST API to provide a common interface that integrates with third party platforms and tools, easing management through DevOps practices.

Cisco Intersight offers an always-on connection to the Cisco® Technical Assistance Center (Cisco TAC), constantly monitoring your environment to help identify configuration issues before they become problems. It watches for anomalous infrastructure events, capturing log information and providing centralized alerts about failures or policy violations. It can automatically generate and forward Cisco TAC support cases when required and even obtain return material authorizations (RMAs) automatically.

Everything You Need in a Modern Management Platform

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FlashStack®

SOLUTION BRIEF

IDC Review of Cisco UCS X-Series

> "Complete with Intersight, a cloud-based predictive analytics, insight, and management service, Cisco is making a compelling case for organizations to start their hybrid cloud infrastructure journey with UCS X-Series."

ASHISH NADKARNI, GROUP VICE PRESIDENT, IDC INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS, PLATFORMS, AND TECHNOLOGIES GROUP.

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Flexible Infrastructure to Align Costs With Usage and Scale With Growth

In a rapidly changing world, your staff can't continue to build, deploy, and manage infrastructure differently for each new purpose. It lacks scale. The Cisco UCS X-Series managed with Cisco Intersight eliminates silos and deploys applications with standardized, common infrastructure that acts more like fluid pools of resources rather than fixed, inflexible silos that inhibit resource sharing and change. You should be able to change resource allocation with the speed and ease of software. Automation is the key to success in a hybrid-cloud world, and Cisco Intersight provides a consistent, automated way to manage both on-premises cloud-based infrastructure. With FlashStack with X-Series deploy SQL Server for what you need today and easily scale computing and storage capacity independently as your business needs dictate.

Economical—You Chose a Consumption Model to Meet Your Needs.

It's your choice. We provide intelligent consumption models that deliver always-on right-scaling for on-premise and hybrid-cloud landscapes with flexible storage and compute that aligns costs with usage. Or you can eliminate capital expenditures and balance-sheet impact with a true utility consumption model. FlashStack as a service offers low-risk terms and greater flexibility than leasing. Intersight data-driven AI management uses analytics to optimize resource usage wherever FlashStack is running your SQL database.

FlashStack—The Future of Computing

FlashStack from Cisco and Pure Storage is an AI-based, software-defined modern data infrastructure that integrates on-premises and multi-cloud landscapes. Discretely scalable, holistically managed, and available as-a-service, FlashStack delivers always-on, future-proof infrastructure for your Microsoft SQL Server and other critical applications. It enables you to slash deployment and administration time and risk with pre-tested, validated reference architectures for popular workloads. FlashStack helps you modernize your operational model, stay ahead of business demands, and protect and secure your applications and data, on premises, at the edge, or in the cloud.

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