



The bridge to possible

Deploying Nexus Dashboard in your Organization

BRKDCN-2914

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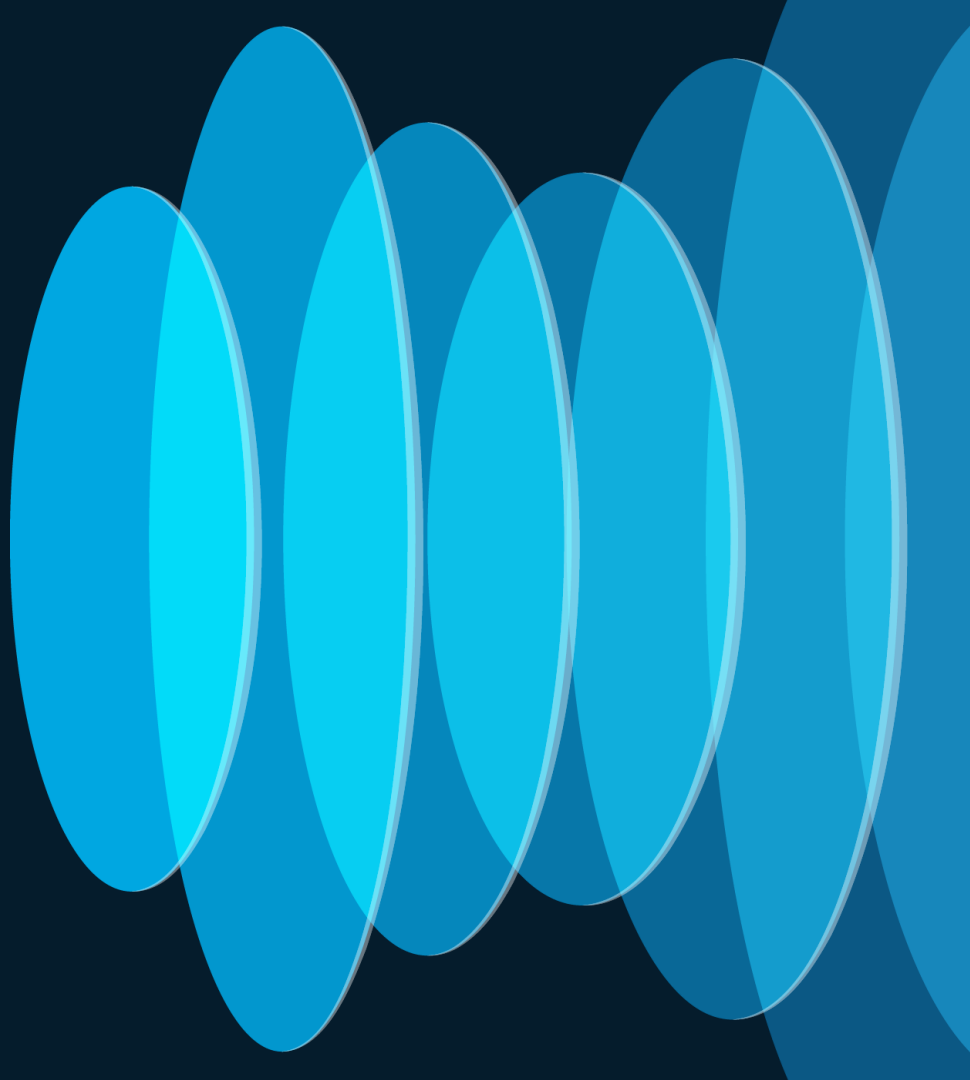
Agenda

- Introduction
- What is Nexus Dashboard?
A view under the hood
- Deploying Nexus Dashboard
- Operating Nexus Dashboard
- Summary

At the end of the session you will ...

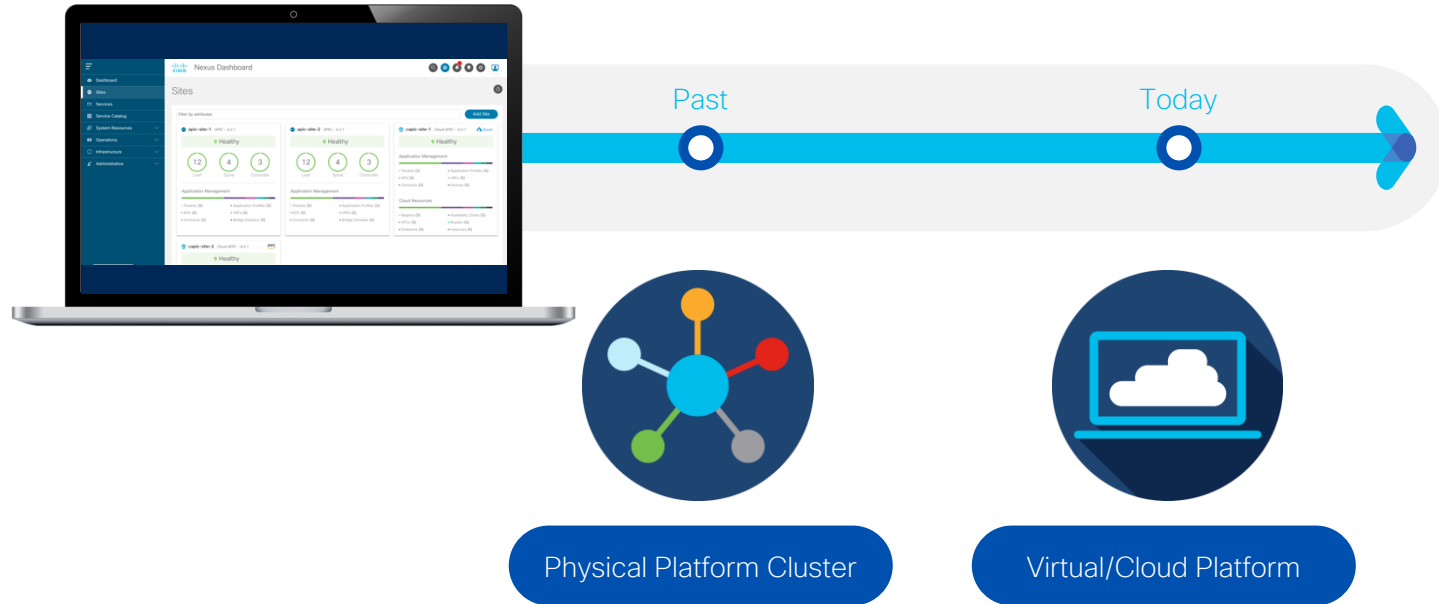
- Be able to define the requirements for deploying a Nexus Dashboard in your Organisation. By describing the
 - Deployment model, centralized vs. stretched
 - Network requirements and attachment to the network
 - Sizing a Nexus Dashboard for the different services.

Introduction



Nexus Dashboard

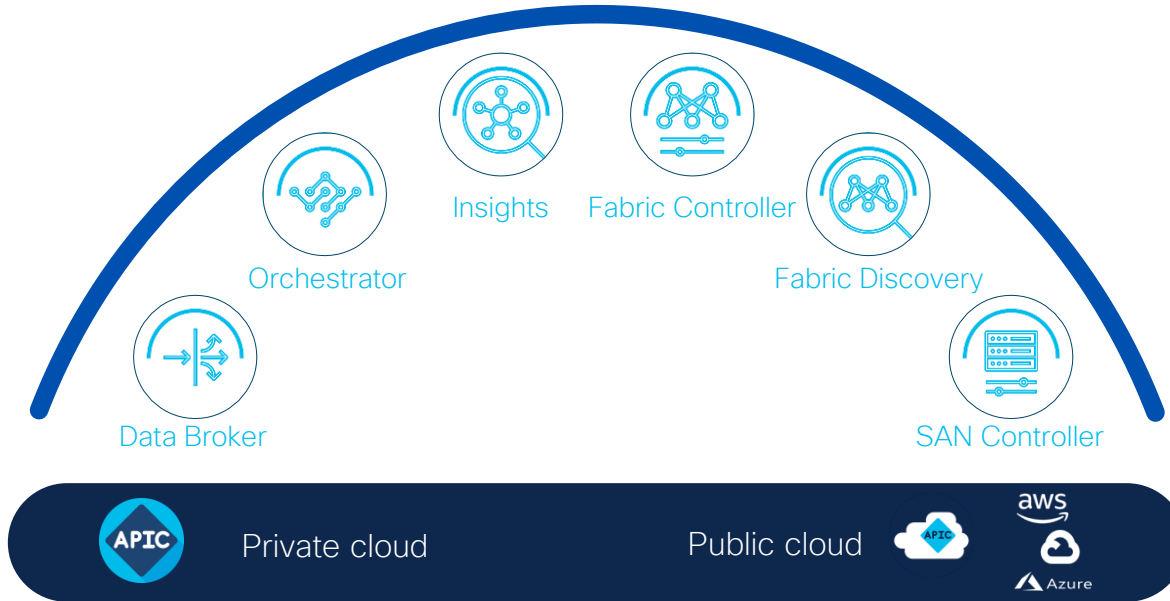
Deployment evolution



Nexus Dashboard

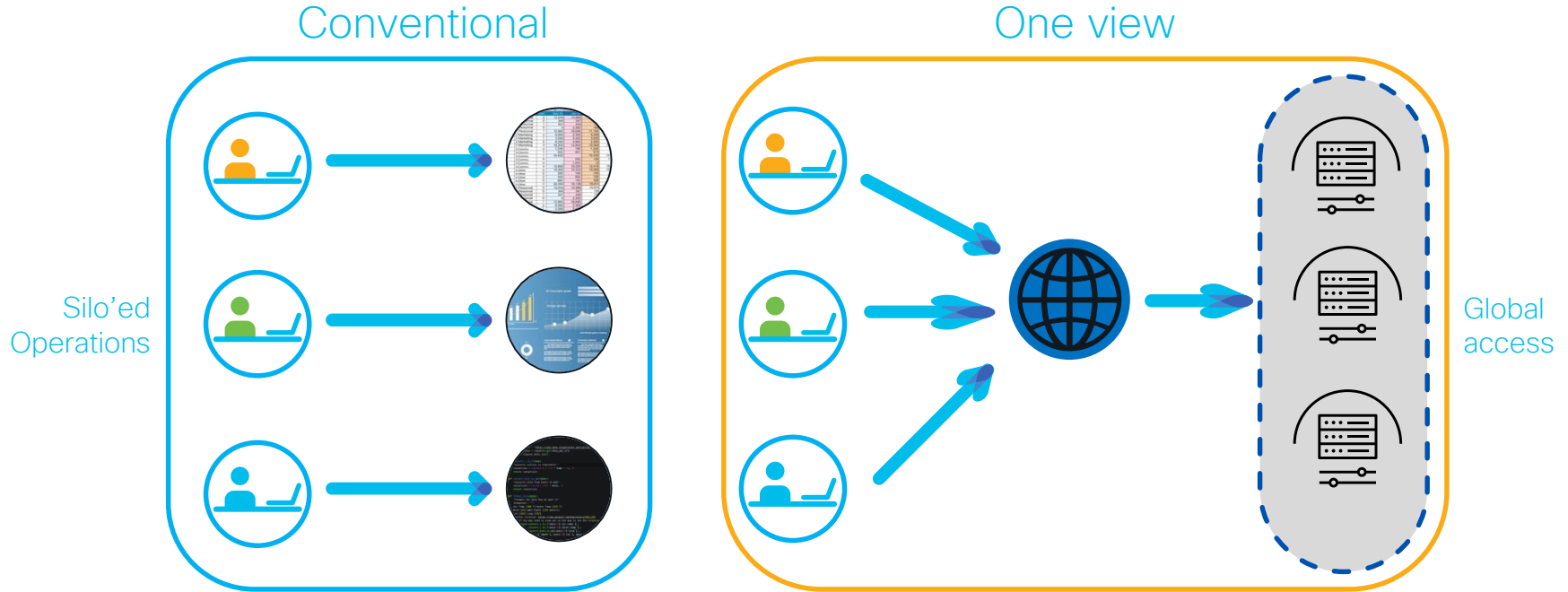
Powering automation
Unified agile platform

Simple to automate, simple to consume



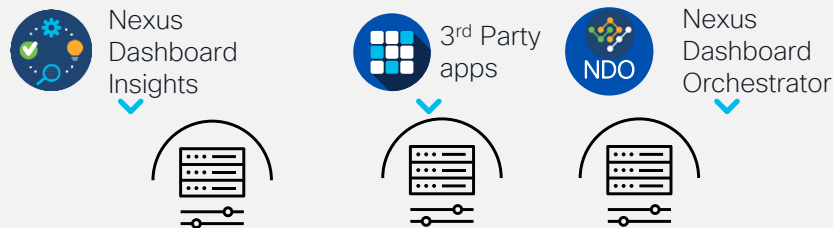
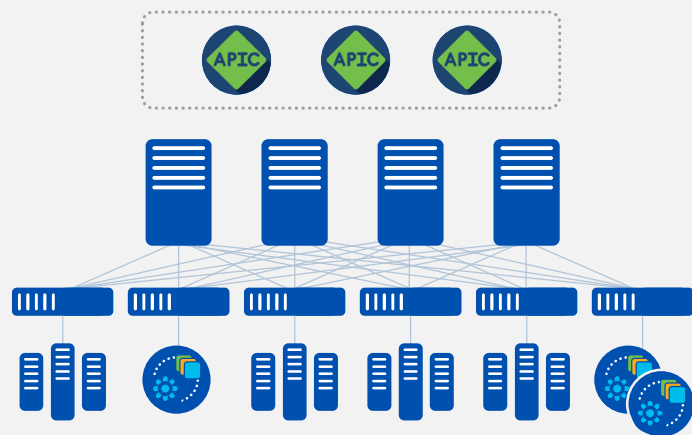
Consume all services in one place

Nexus Dashboard: One view



Cisco Nexus Dashboard Platform

Modern Scale-out application services stack to host data center operations applications



2.2 GHz(Node-G2) or 2.8Ghz(Node-G4) CPU x 2

256 GB memory

2.4 TB x 4 HDD

10G/25G/40G connect

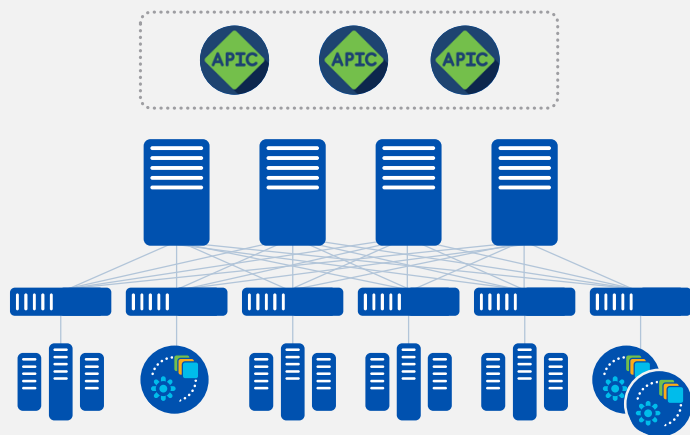
Network automation

Scale-out cluster

High Availability

Virtual Nexus Dashboard Platform

Virtual Platform to Support NDI ,NDO and NDFC in Production



Nexus
Dashboard
Insights



APP-Node

64 GB memory

550G/1536GB* SDD

16 vCPUs



3rd Party
apps



Nexus
Dashboard
Orchestrator



DATA-Node

128 GB memory

3TB SSD/NVMe

32 vCPUs

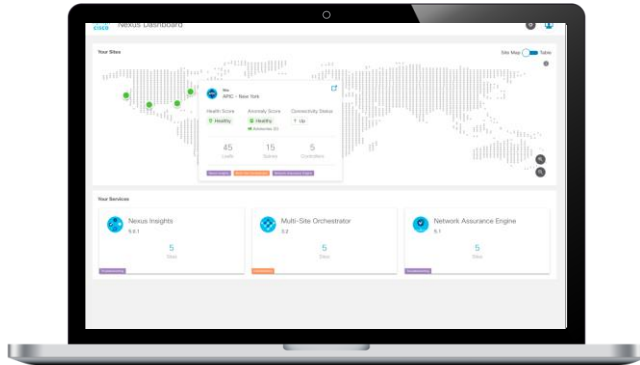
Available for

ESXi

KVM

Nexus Dashboard: A Unified Agile Platform

The operator view



Consume service(s) from single place

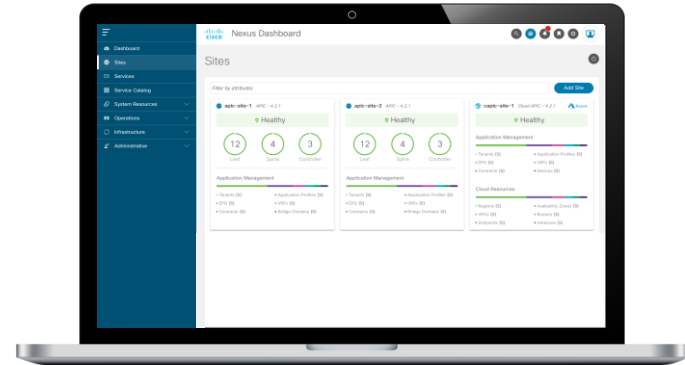


Frictionless navigation across multiple services and sites



Customize views and workflows

The admin view



Single dashboard for lifecycle management of services and Ops infra

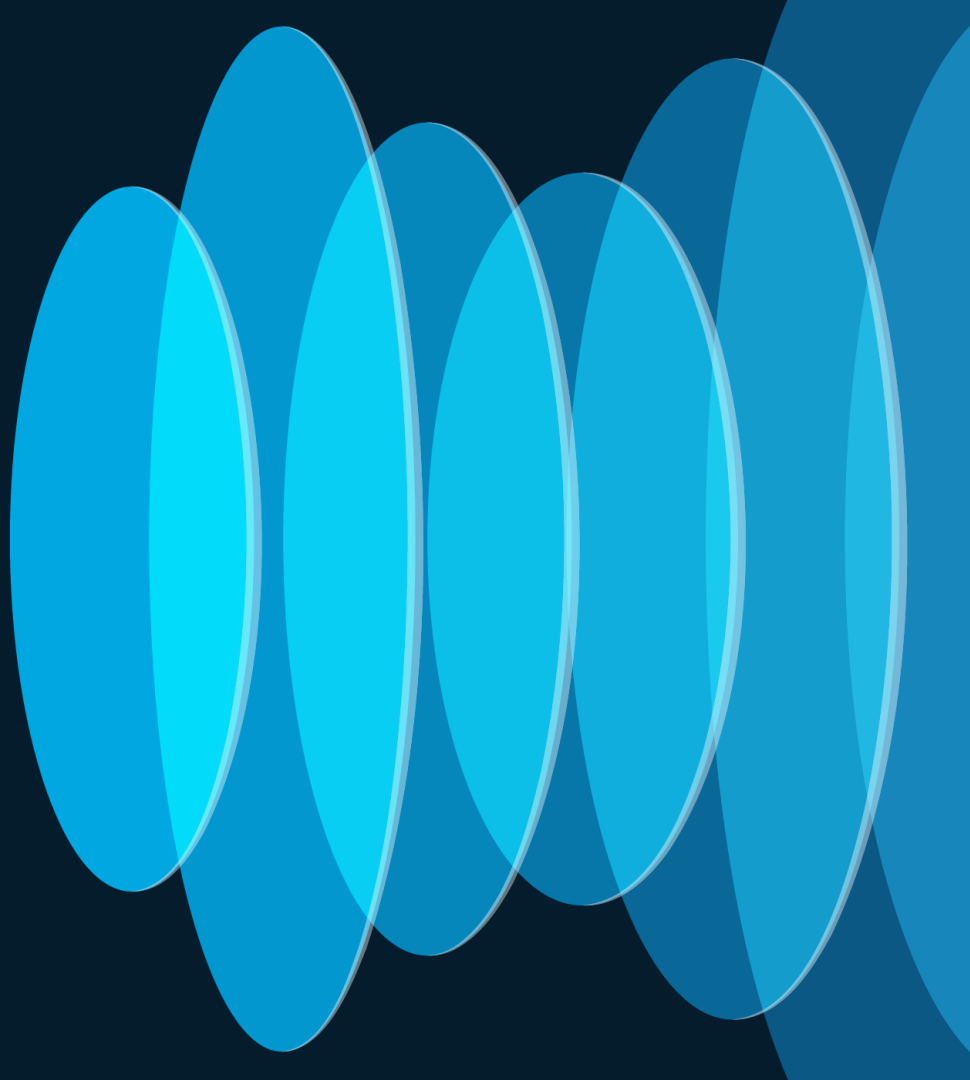


Consistent one-time onboarding of domains and services

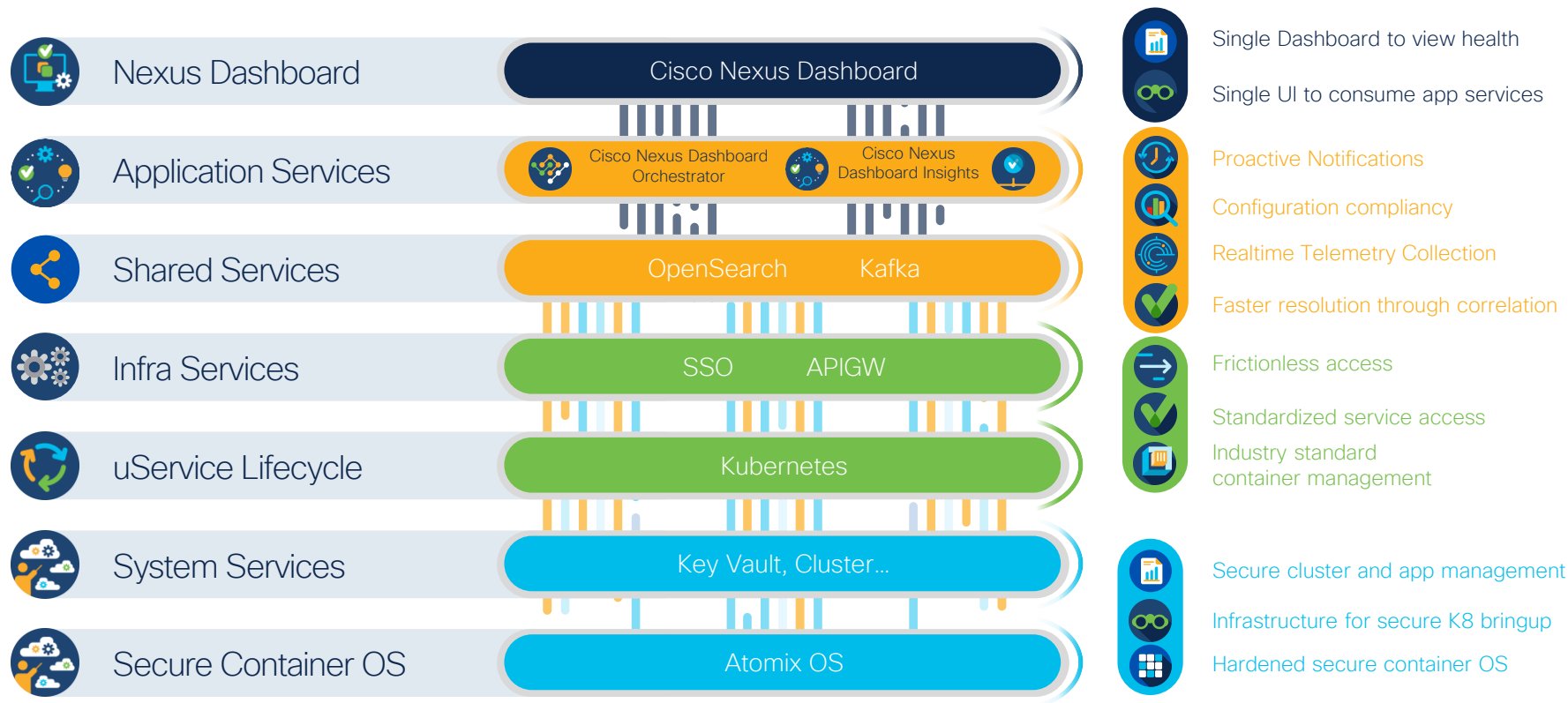


Consistent user management and access control

What is Nexus
Dashboard?
– a view under
the hood –



Nexus Dashboard Platform—Under the Hood



ND Node Role

Primary

- Hosting the infra-services of ND
- Hosting workload-services
- Can be deployed as 1 or 3 in a cluster
- No dynamic adding afterwards

Secondary

- Hosting workload-services
- Used for scale-out-computing
- Can be deployed as 1 or 3 in a cluster
- Can be dynamically added

Standby

- Not hosting any services
- Used for redundancy
- Can be used to replace a failed primary node
- Max 2 per cluster

Deployment Model

- Depending on the services (NDI/NDO) being deployed on top of vND the number of required nodes and which node type must be deployed as Primary is changing
- Scale numbers are documented in the ND cluster sizing [tool](#)

Deployed Services	NDI	NDO**	NDI	NDFC***
Total number of nodes needed	3	3	6	3
Type of Primary nodes	App	APP	DATA	APP
Total number of DATA nodes needed	0	0	3	0
Total number of APP nodes needed	3	3	3	3

** 1 APP node PoC setup for NDO with reduced scale is available

*** 1 APP node PoC setup for NDFC with reduced scale is available

Nexus Dashboard Connectivity

ND DATA Interface

- Used to communicate to Fabrics
 - Telemetry
 - SSH to Fabric
 - HTTPS to Fabric
 - KAFKA to Fabric

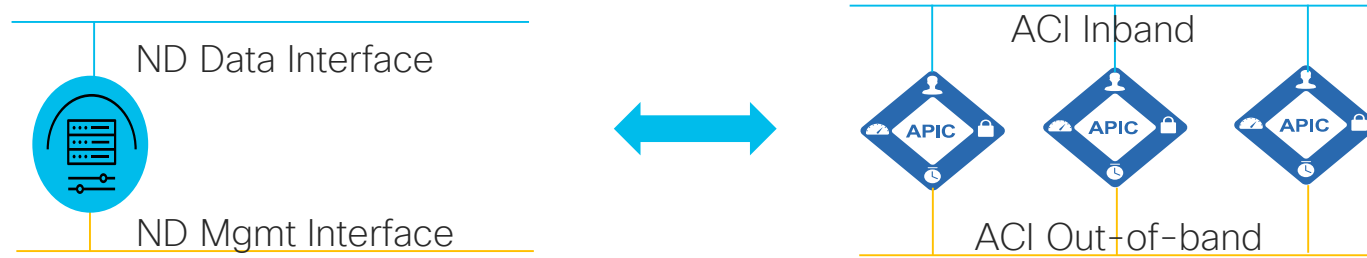


ND MGMT Interface

- Used to communicate for mgmt. purposes
 - AAA
 - Syslog
 - HTTPS
 - KAFKA
 - ND Federation

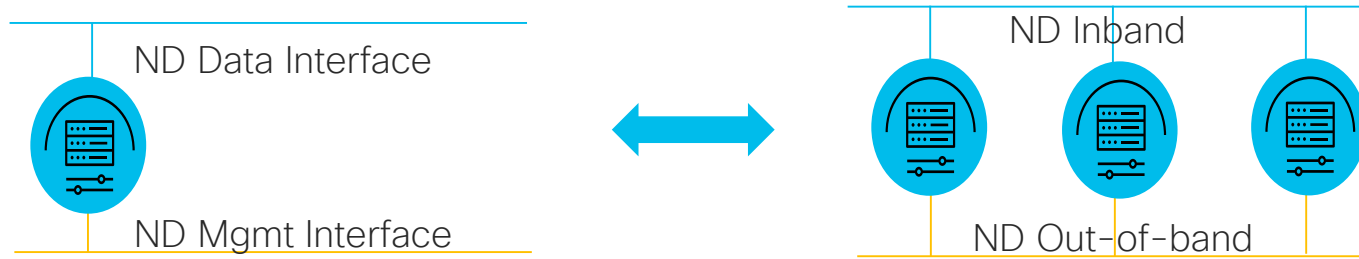
Pods on top of ND get interfaces assigned into MGMT and/or DATA Interface. This is defining the communication path.

ND to APIC Connectivity Considerations



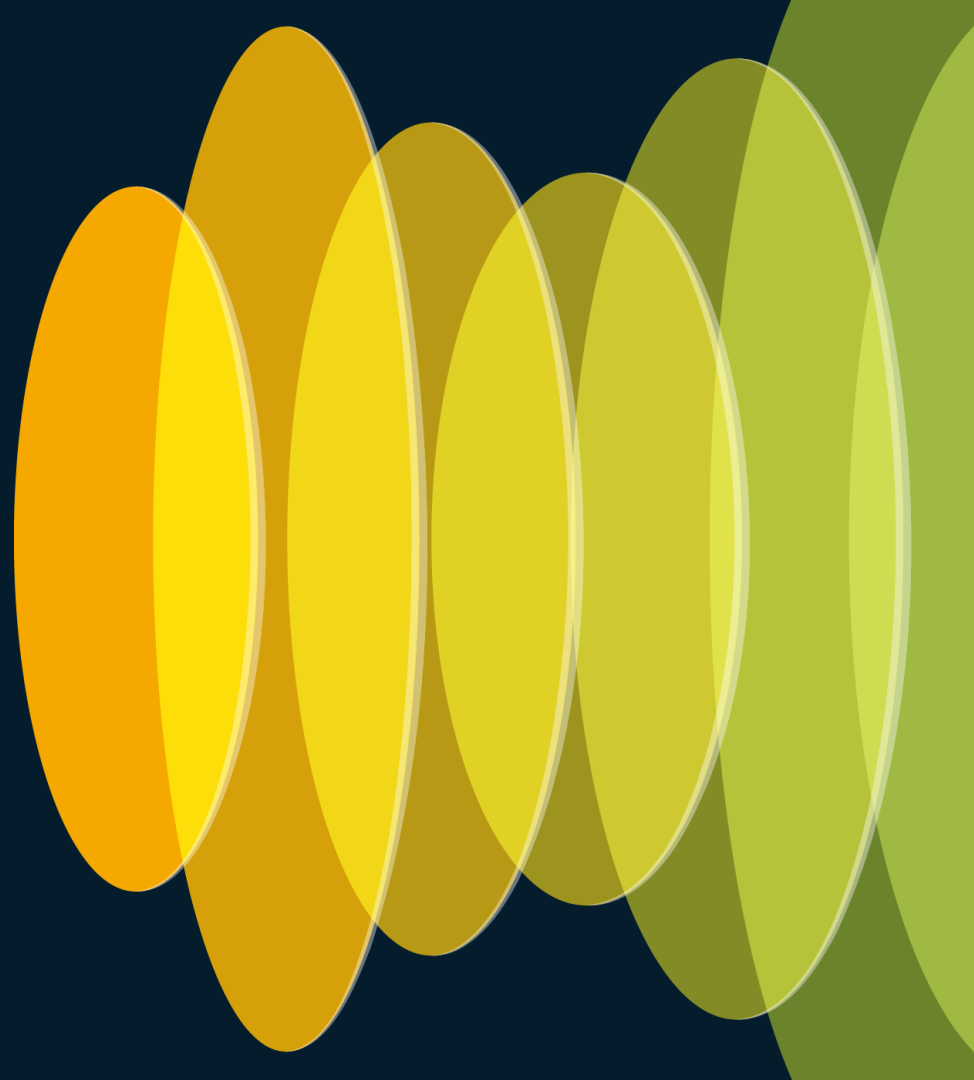
- An ACI fabric is onboarded on ND by specifying the IP address of one of the nodes of the APIC cluster
 - This can be either the APIC's IB or OOB address. In case of the usage of NDI it must be the APIC's IB address
- ND uses the Data Interface to establish the initial connection to that APIC's IP address
 - If the connection is successful, ND discovers all the OOB and IB IP addresses for the other nodes in the APIC cluster

ND to NDFC Connectivity Considerations



- An NDFC site is onboarded on ND by specifying the Inband IP address of the ND hosting the NDFC, no other IP is supported
- ND uses the Data Interface to establish the initial and ongoing connection to that ND Data IP address hosting NDFC

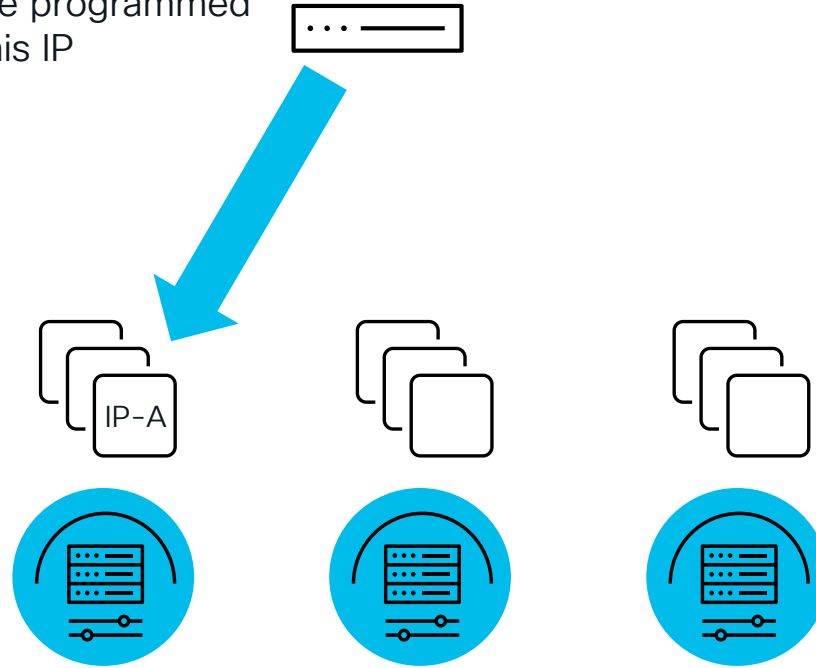
Persistent IPs and their usage



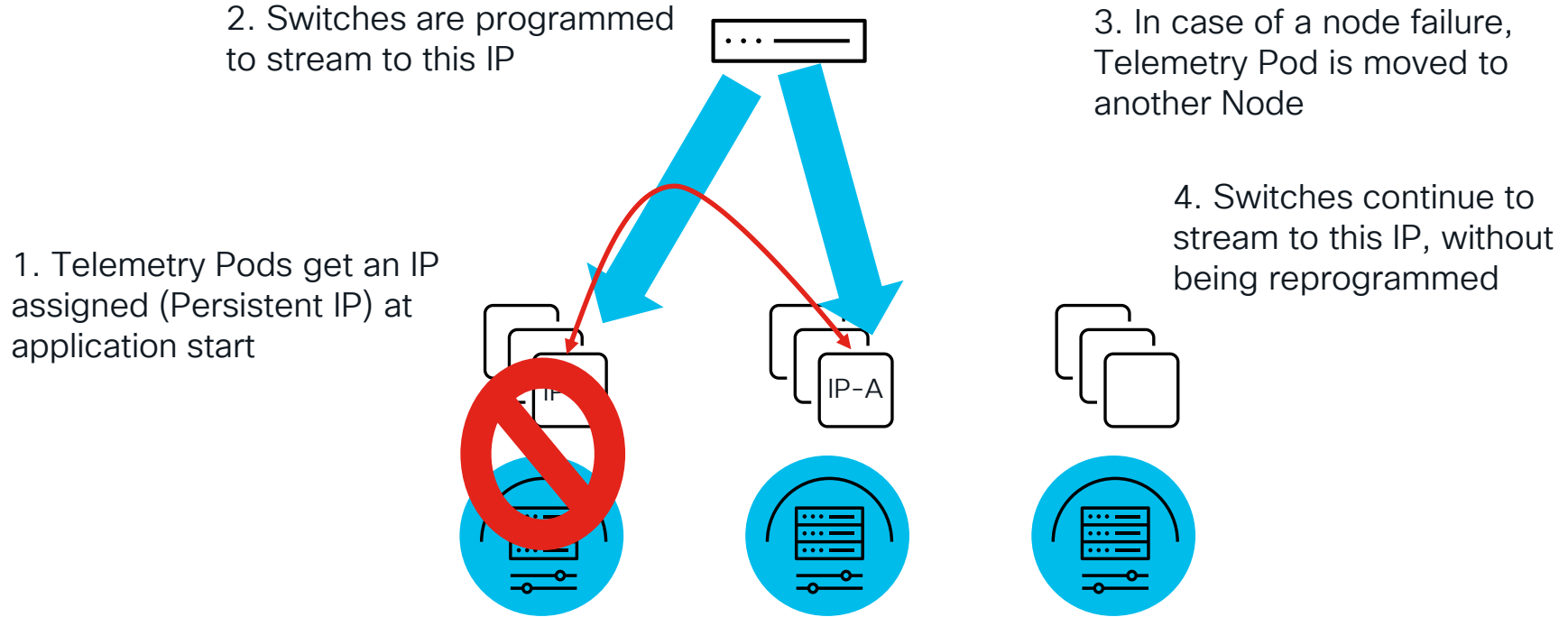
Usage of Persistent IPs

2. Switches are programmed to stream to this IP

1. Telemetry Pods get an IP assigned (Persistent IP) at application start



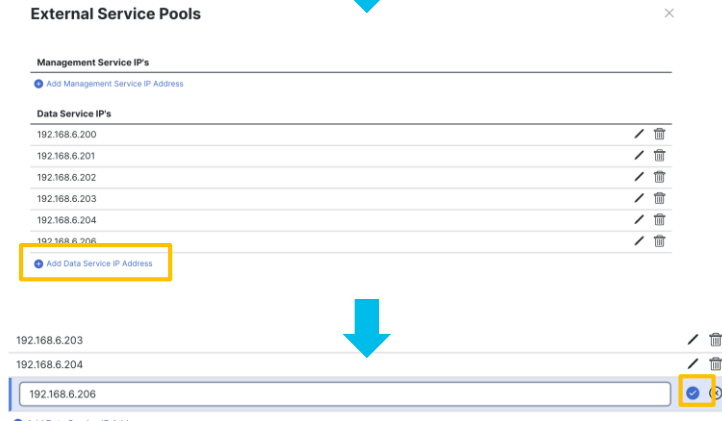
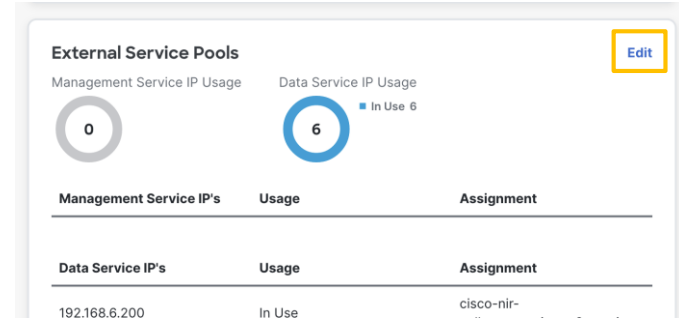
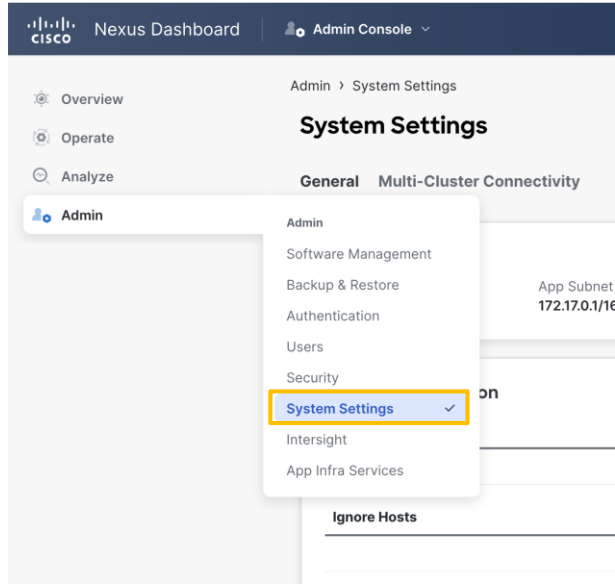
Usage of Persistent IPs



Persistent IP Pool 1/2

- Is needed to assign persistent IPs to Services/Apps
- These IPs are staying the same even the Service/App is moved to another ND Node
- Are entered as host IP addresses under Cluster Configuration->External Service Pools
- Used by NDI and NDFC

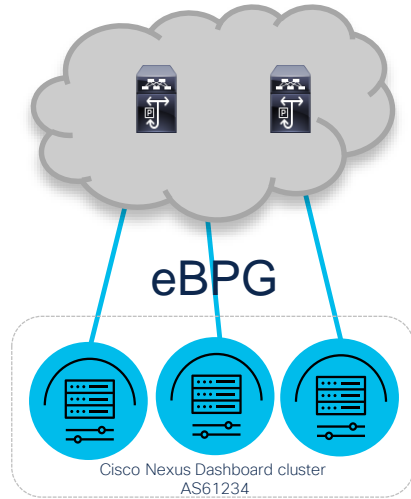
Persistent IP Pool 2/2



ND Persistent IP Connectivity Options

- For use of persistent IPs, there are now 2 choices:
 - 1. L2
 - All ND data interfaces are in the same subnet/L2 Domain and Persistent IPs are out of the same Network
 - 2. L3
 - All ND data interfaces can be in different subnets and have a BGP peering towards the network. Persistent IPs must not be out of any of these subnets.
 - ND nodes will only update the external peer with persistent IPs and not learn any prefixes. The local routing table will still be honored
 - Only supported on ND Data Interface

eBGP Peering with Network



↑
Reachability of
Persistent IPs per
ND Node

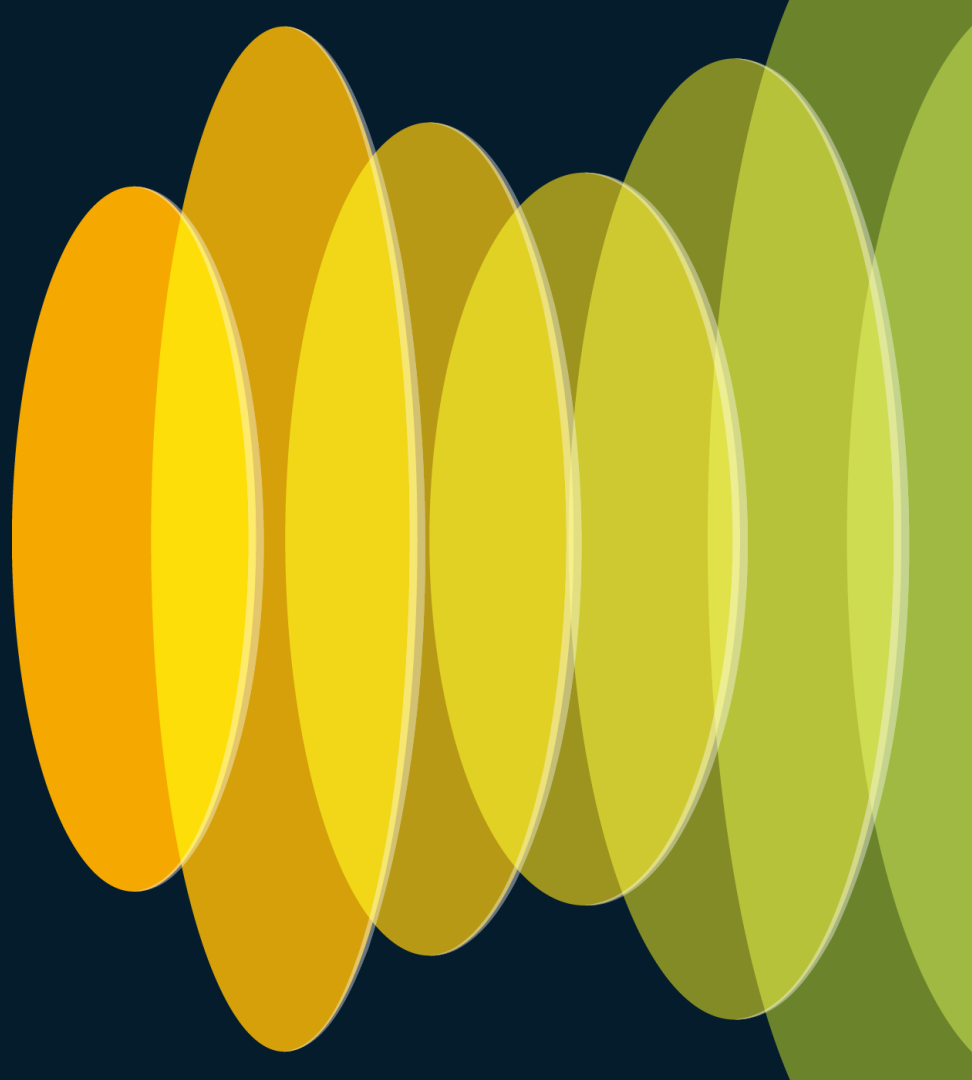
- Each ND node can be a separate AS or all in a single AS
- Multi-hop BGP peering is not supported
- Each ND node can peer to multiple Nodes (max 2) via IPv4 or IPv6
- Can be configured during bootstrap or added later
- Persistent IPs have to be out of an IP subnet not overlapping with any ND local IP.

Apps	Mgmt Interface	Data Interface	Persistent IPs	Support for Data and Mgmt in the same Subnet**
NDFC	L2 adjacent	L2 adjacent / L3 adjacent with L3 HA	2 IPs in mgmt network (for default settings) or 2 IPs data network (for POAP etc. via data network) + 1 IP per fabric for EPL in data network	no
NDI for DCNM based Sites	L3 adjacent	L2 adjacent	6 IPs in data network (+1 for IPv6)	no
NDI for ACI based Sites	L3 adjacent	L3 adjacent / L2 Adjacent	-/-	yes
NDI with SFLOW/Netflow function	L3 adjacent	L2 adjacent	6 IPs in data interface network*	no
NDO	L3 adjacent	L3 adjacent	-/-	yes

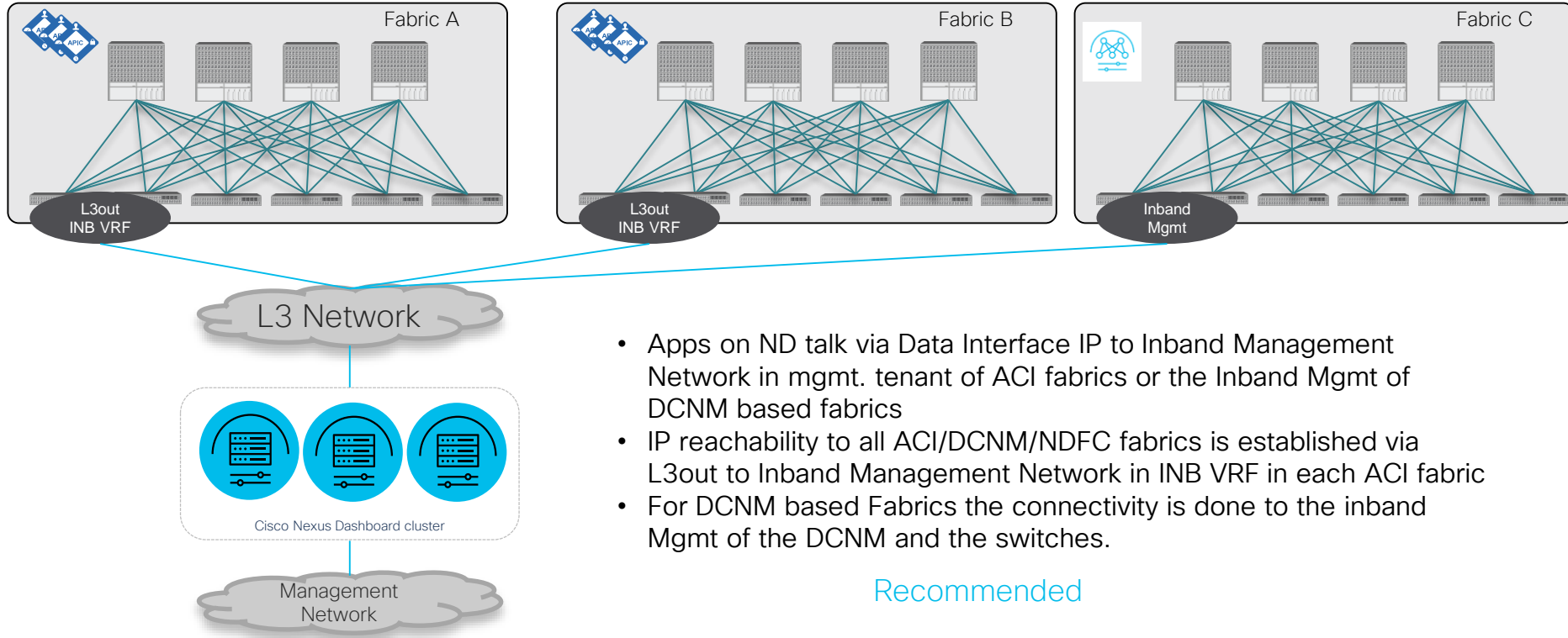
* if NDI is for DCNM no additional IPs are needed.

** supported but not recommended

Attaching ND to your Network



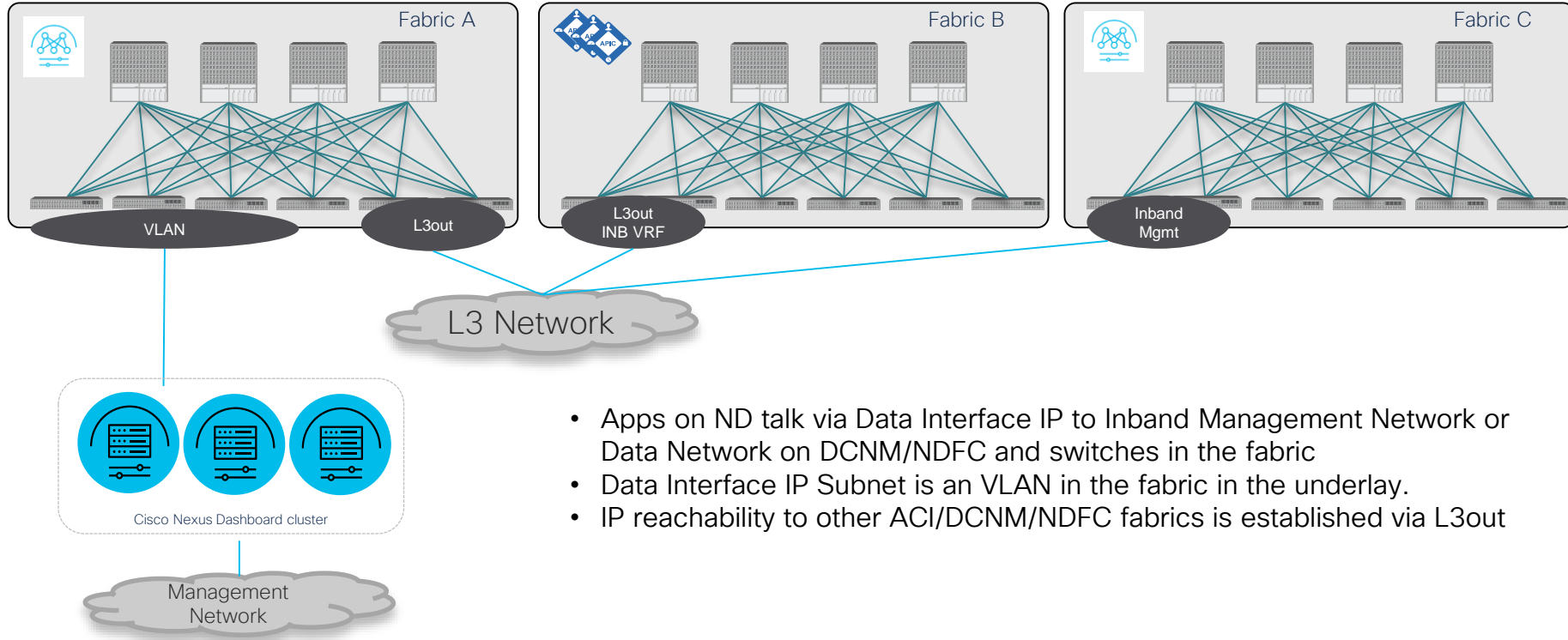
ND Cluster attached to any Networking Infra



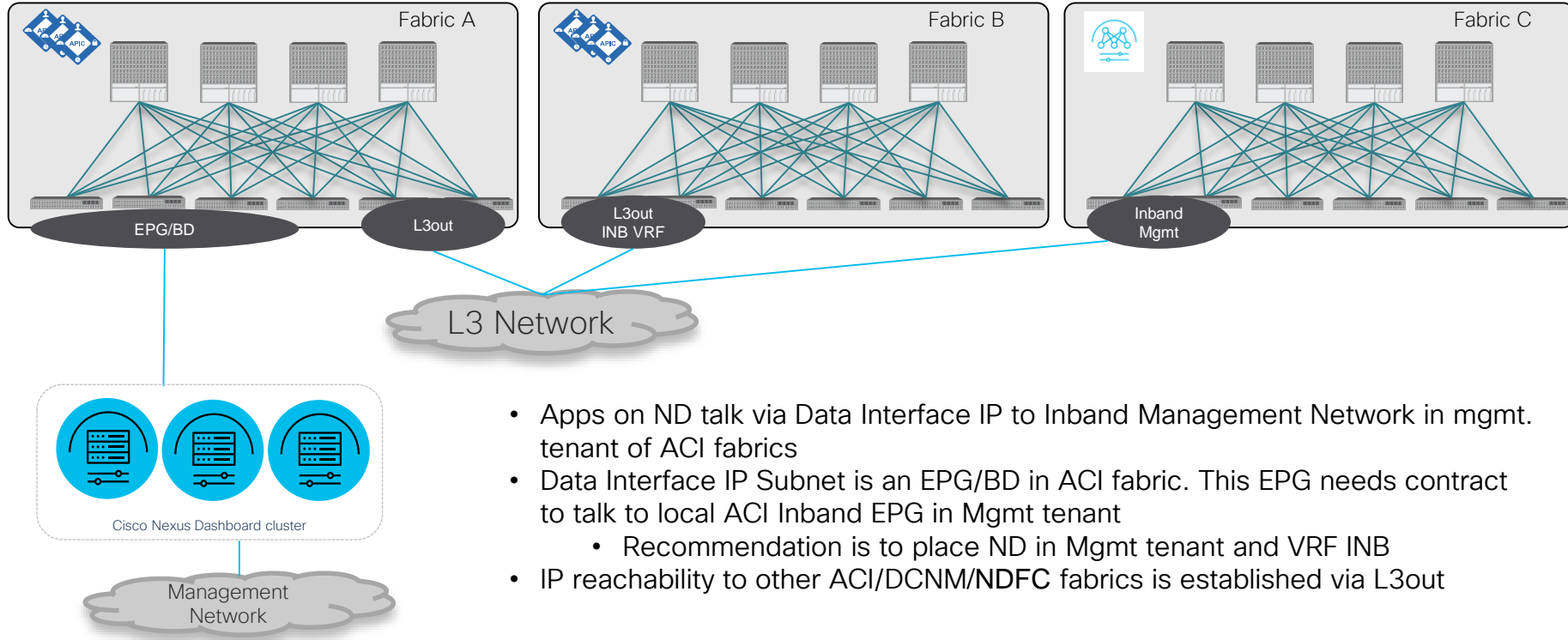
- Apps on ND talk via Data Interface IP to Inband Management Network in mgmt. tenant of ACI fabrics or the Inband Mgmt of DCNM based fabrics
- IP reachability to all ACI/DCNM/NDFC fabrics is established via L3out to Inband Management Network in INB VRF in each ACI fabric
- For DCNM based Fabrics the connectivity is done to the inband Mgmt of the DCNM and the switches.

Recommended

ND Cluster attached to DCNM/NDFC based Fabric



ND Cluster attached to ACI Fabric



- Apps on ND talk via Data Interface IP to Inband Management Network in mgmt. tenant of ACI fabrics
- Data Interface IP Subnet is an EPG/BD in ACI fabric. This EPG needs contract to talk to local ACI Inband EPG in Mgmt tenant
 - Recommendation is to place ND in Mgmt tenant and VRF INB
- IP reachability to other ACI/DCNM/NDFC fabrics is established via L3out

Pro/Contra of connecting to an ACI/NDFC/DCNM fabric

Pro	Contra
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Easy connection between ND and Inband Management of ACI fabric	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ND cluster is tied to a single fabric- Reachability to other sites/fabrics has to go via L3out- ND cluster relies on single ACI fabric

Pro/Contra of connecting to any Networking Infra

Pro	Contra
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ND Cluster is not tied to any ACI Fabric- Same communication paths between all sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- All communications between ACI Apps on ND need to go via L3out

Recommendations/Best Practice

- Do not connect whenever possible to an ACI Fabric/DCNM based Fabric directly:
 - ND and Apps are relying on a functioning of the fabric, could be impacting during outages or maintenance
 - If you monitor multiple sites the ND cluster is not depend on a single site
- If a ND cluster is connected to a single fabric:
 - Fully supported/working BUT keep in mind
 - Issues in the fabric may impact the function of the ND cluster and the apps as they share fate.

Placement of Primary/Standby Nodes for Distribute/Stretched ND Clusters

(recommended for NDO)

Number of Sites	1	2	3	4	5
1	P1, P2, P3				
2	P1,P2	P3,S1			
3	P1	P2	P3		
4	P1	P2	P3	S1	
5	P1	P2	P3	S1	

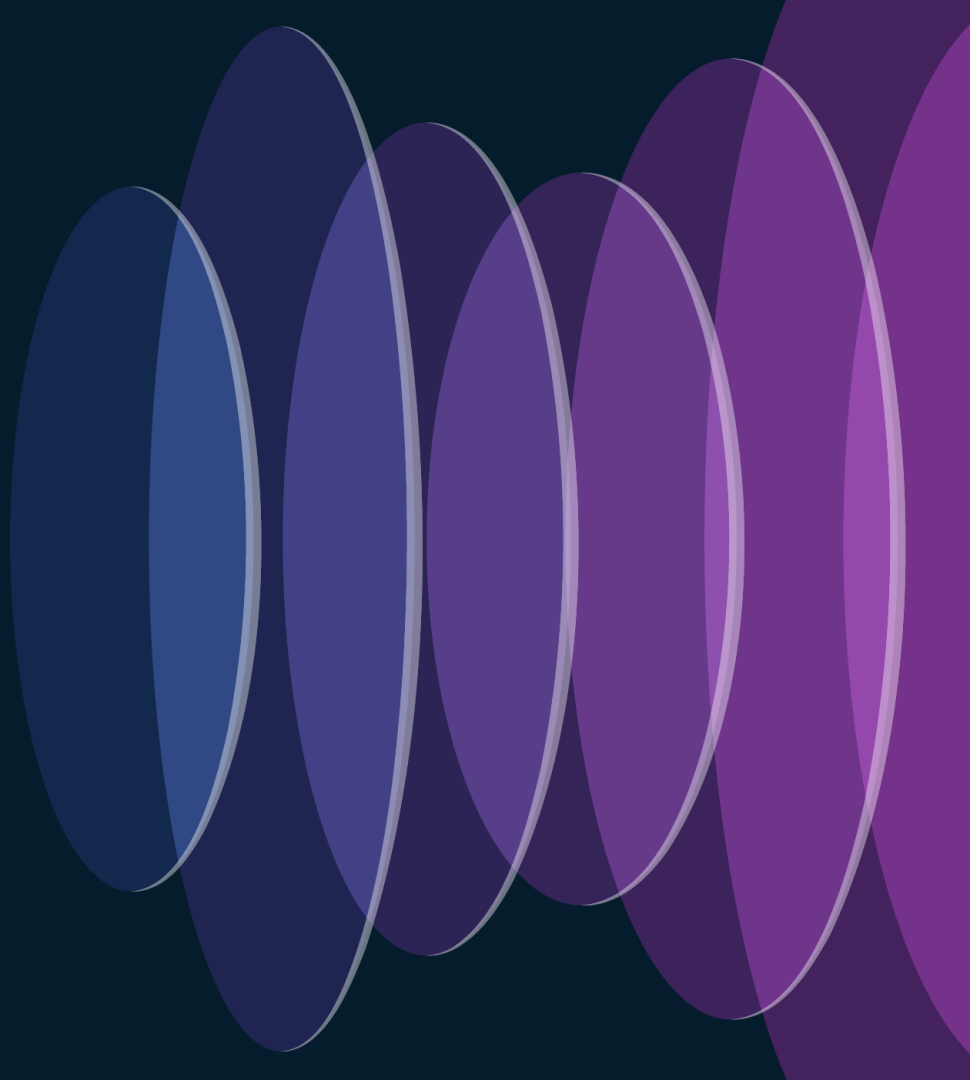
P1, P2, P3 : ND Primary Nodes

S1 : ND Standby Node

When Centralized or Distributed/Stretched Cluster

Centralized	Distributed/Stretched
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- With NDI/NDFC deployed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- For redundancy/DR for NDO
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- NDI do not gain any better redundancy with distribute/stretched clusters. You more likely expose the cluster to interconnection failures with a distributed/stretched cluster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Synchronization traffic is kept between the ND nodes and only telemetry traffic is streamed via WAN	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Same traffic path for reaching each site	
Recommended for NDI/NDFC	Recommended for NDO

Deployment Options for ND



Definition Terms and Assumptions/Requirements

- [Site](#): geographical datacenter location with 1 or more fabrics
- RTT requirements for:
 - ND: between ND nodes <50ms
 - NDO : to APIC <500ms, to DCNM <50ms, between ND/NDO nodes <50ms
 - NDI: between ND/NDI nodes <50ms, to APIC/Fabric <50ms
 - NDFC: between ND/NDFC nodes <50ms, to Fabric <50ms (<200ms if no PoAP is used)
- Always select the lowest common denominator.
 - E.g. NDI and NDO co-hosted : between ND nodes <50ms, to APIC/Fabric <50ms

Deployment Requirements

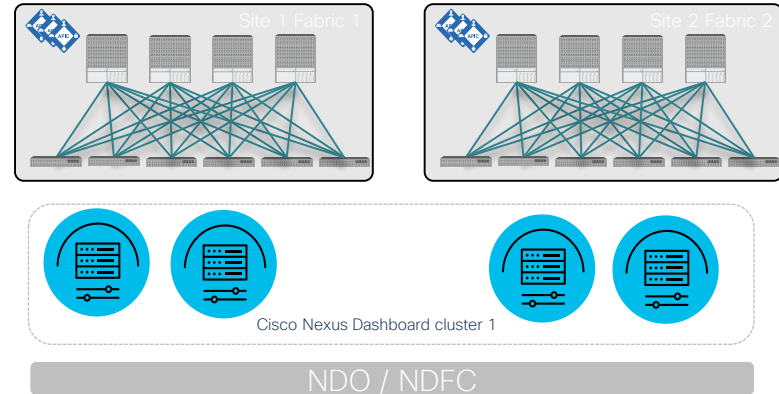
- Customer has more than 1 Site
 - Number of ND clusters is driven by number of switches and combination of apps
 - Location of the ND clusters is driven by type of the apps:
 - NDO: cluster should be distributed for HA/DR reasons
 - NDI, NAE: cluster can be distributed, but should be placed close to source of telemetry data
 - Always keep virtual ND for NDO in consideration, to satisfy the HA/DR requirement
 - Please check the sizing calculator for ND for the supported apps and scale on CCO

Some Deployment Considerations

- In MPOD, ACI is taking care of the reachability, Keep in mind loosing IPN connectivity will e.g. break ND cluster
- In MSITE communication can not happen via ISN. It has to go via L3OUT in each site. Telemetry is sent via INB EPG in Mgmt Tenant, this is not managed by NDO!
- Data Interface IPs, have to be different from INB EPG/BD subnet of ACI, when ND cluster is connected to ACI fabric
- All communication of Apps hosted on ND is initiated via Data Interface IPs

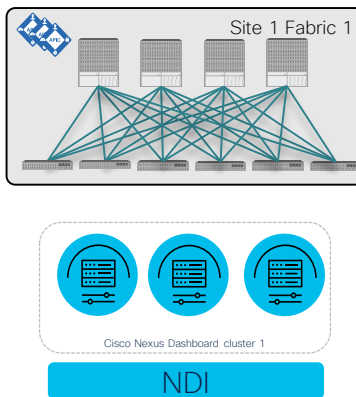
HA/Redundancy with Stretched ND clusters

- 2 ND primary nodes are always needed to keep the ND cluster operational. If you deploy a stretched cluster across 2 sites, you **SHOULD** deploy in the site with a single ND primary node, a ND standby node.
- In case of a failure of 2 ND primary nodes, you have to manual promote the standby to Primary to replace a failed primary.
 - NDO/NDFC are the only apps surviving this.
 - App needs to be reinstalled
 - Backup of NDO/NDFC needs to be applied.
 - After the failed Primary comes back online, it needs to be wiped and re-added as standby node.



Option 1: 1 Site/Fabric (below 500 nodes) NDI

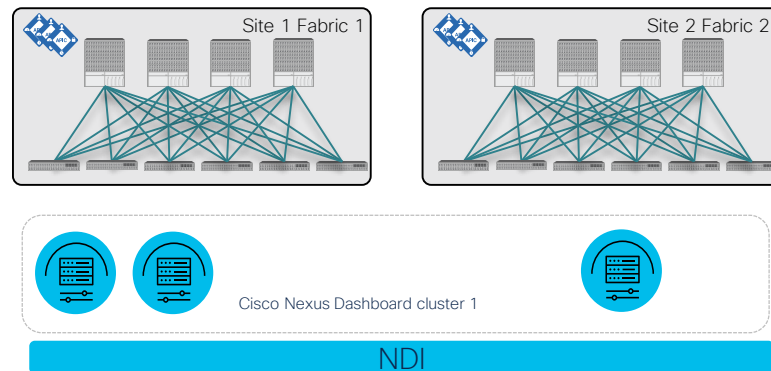
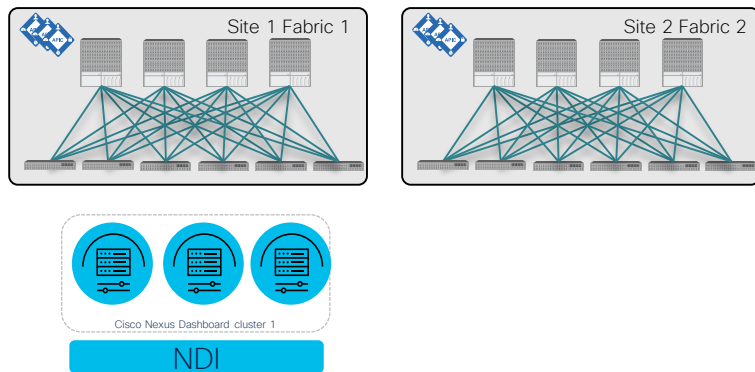
- Single cluster (x number of nodes, cluster connected to either ACI fabric or legacy infra with IP reachability)



Option 2: 1+ Site (below 500 nodes) NDI

- Single cluster (x number of nodes, cluster connected to either ACI fabric or legacy infra with IP reachability, Cluster can be stretched or local to a site)

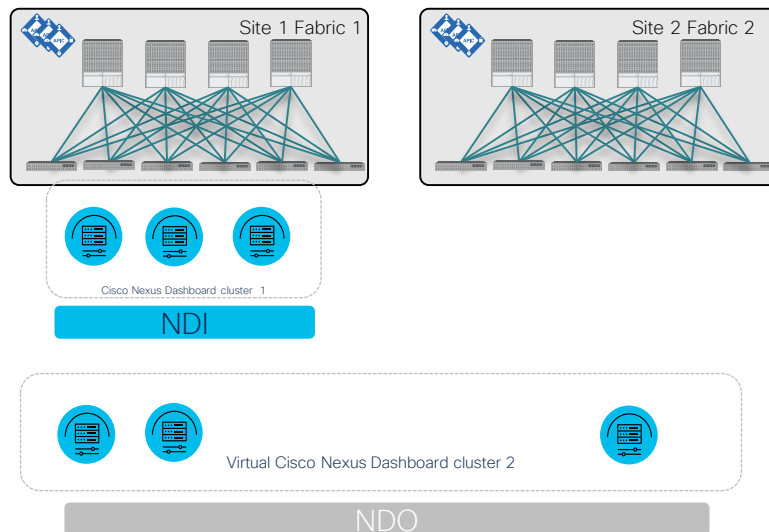
Recommended



Option 3a: 1+ Site (below 500 nodes) NDI and NDO

- Single ND cluster for NDI (x number of nodes, cluster connected to either ACI fabric or legacy infra with IP reachability)
- Single additional virtual ND cluster for NDO to meet HA/DR requirements

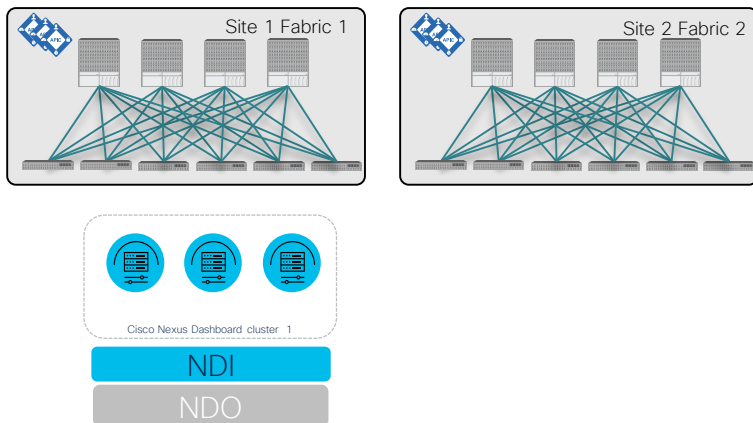
Recommended



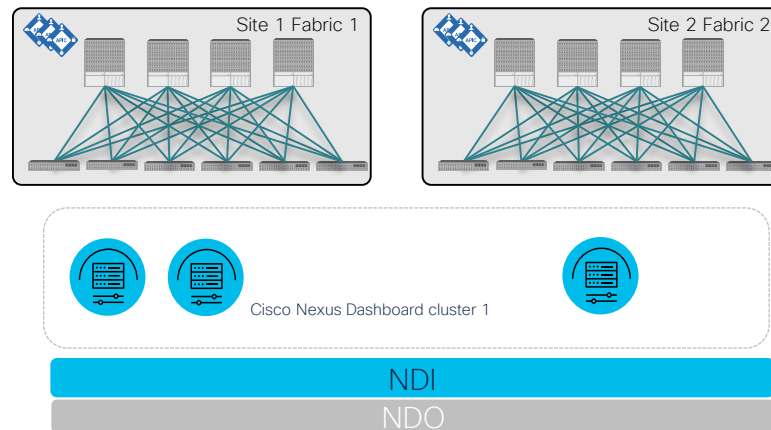
Option 3b: 1+ Site (below 500 nodes) NDI and NDO

- Single ND cluster (x number of nodes, cluster connected to either ACI fabric or legacy infra with IP reachability)

Not recommended as NDO is not distributed

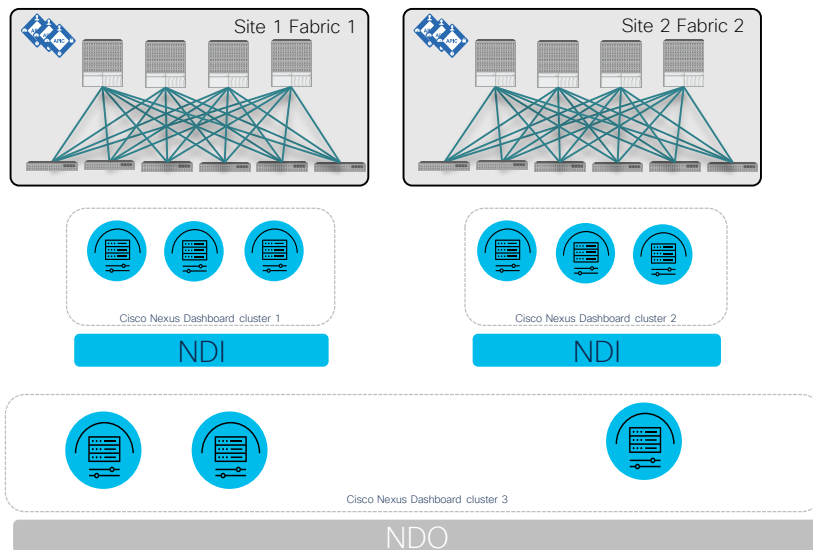


Not recommended as NDI is distributed, consider vND for NDO (Option 3a)



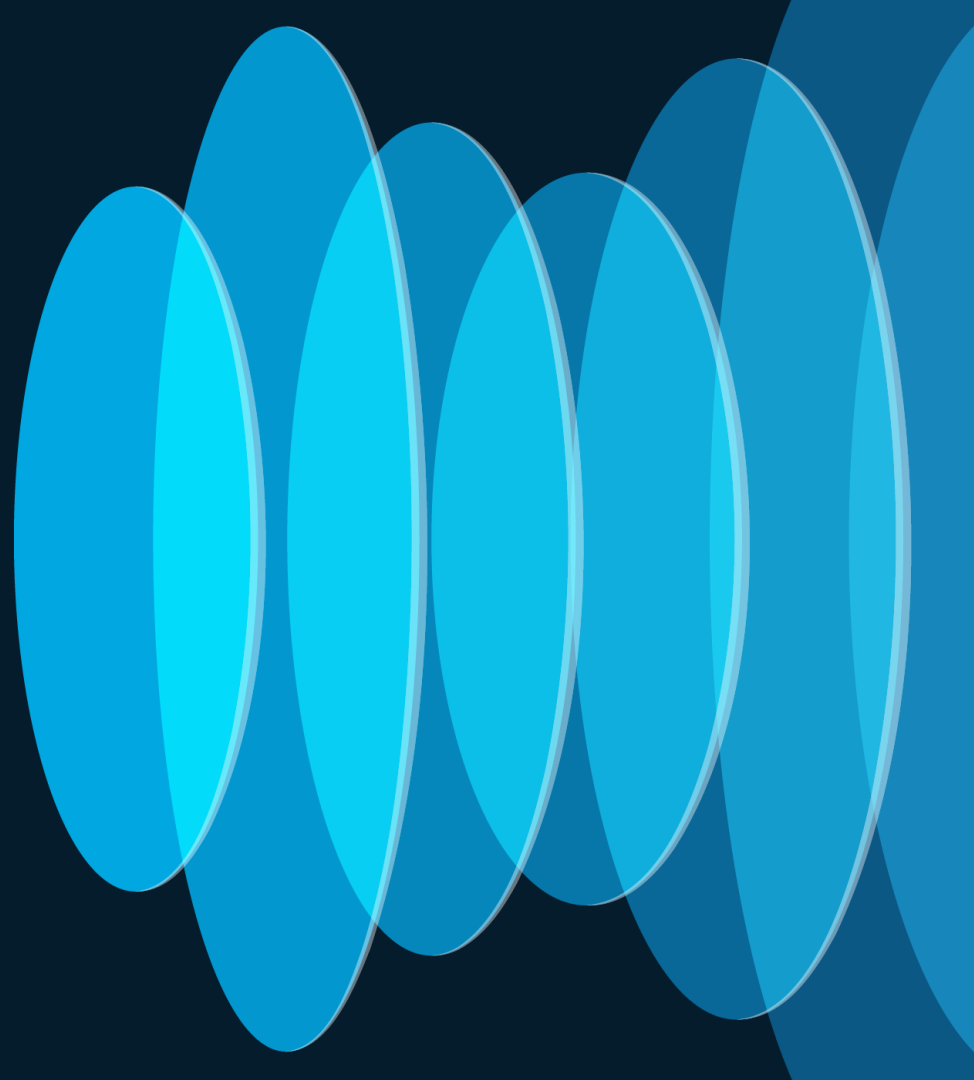
Option 4: 1+ Site (above 500 nodes) NDI and NDO

- Multiple ND cluster (x number of nodes, cluster connected to either ACI fabric or legacy infra with IP reachability) and ND federation



Recommended

Installing Nexus Dashboard with Unified Image



Choosing deployment mode during install

Cluster Bringup

Answer some questions, select the services you want to enable and have Nexus Dashboard ready to use in a few minutes.

✓ Configuration


✓ Node Details

3 Deployment Mode


4 Summary

Deployment Mode


Select which of these available services you would like to enable. [Learn More](#)

**Fabric Controller**☒

Automate and manage network connectivity for LAN and SAN fabrics


**Orchestrator**☐

Automate Data Center and Cloud Interconnect while centralizing network and policy configurations

**Insights**☒

Accelerate time to remediation through telemetry and smart analytics

External Service IPs

 What are Persistent Service IPs?

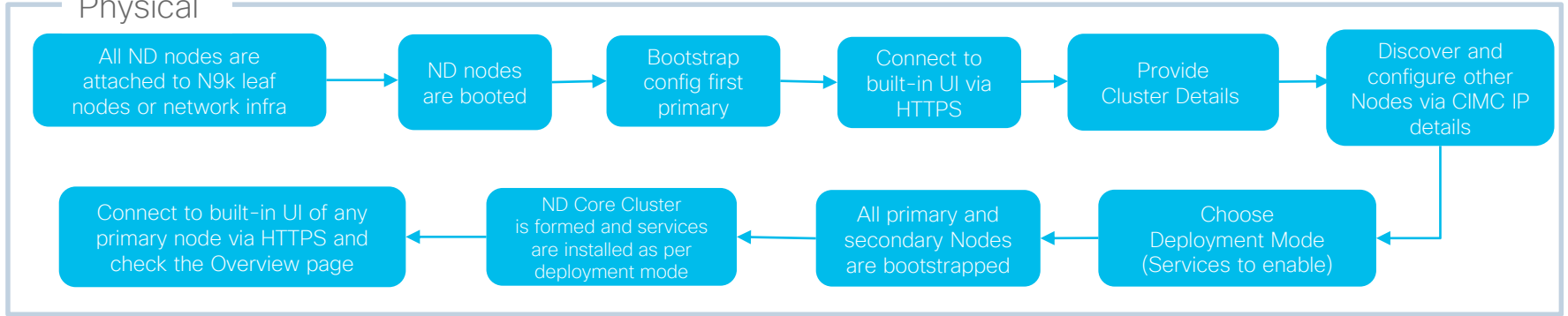
Add Persistent Service IPs/Pools

Back

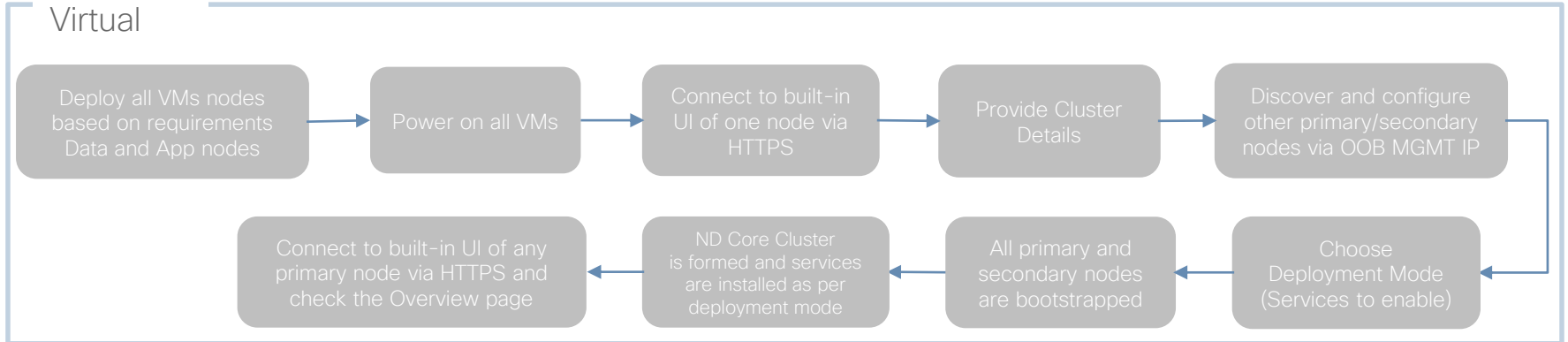
Next

ND Install Workflow

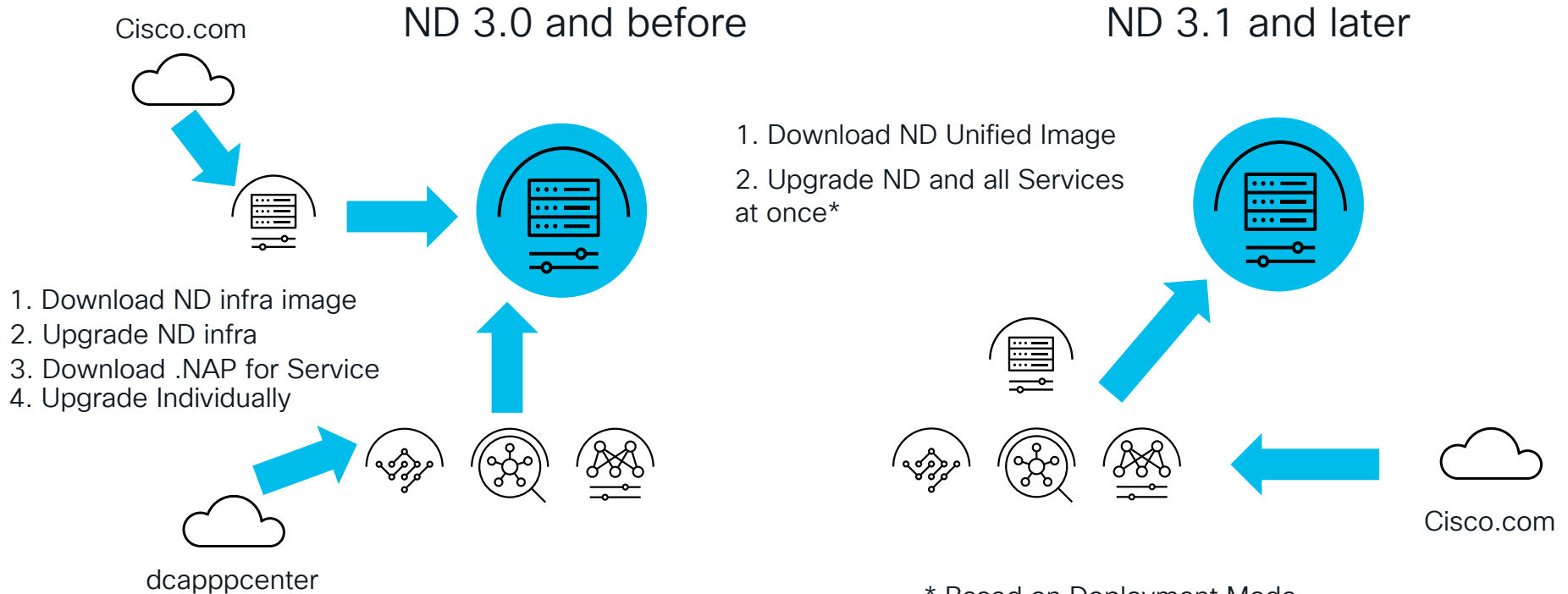
Physical



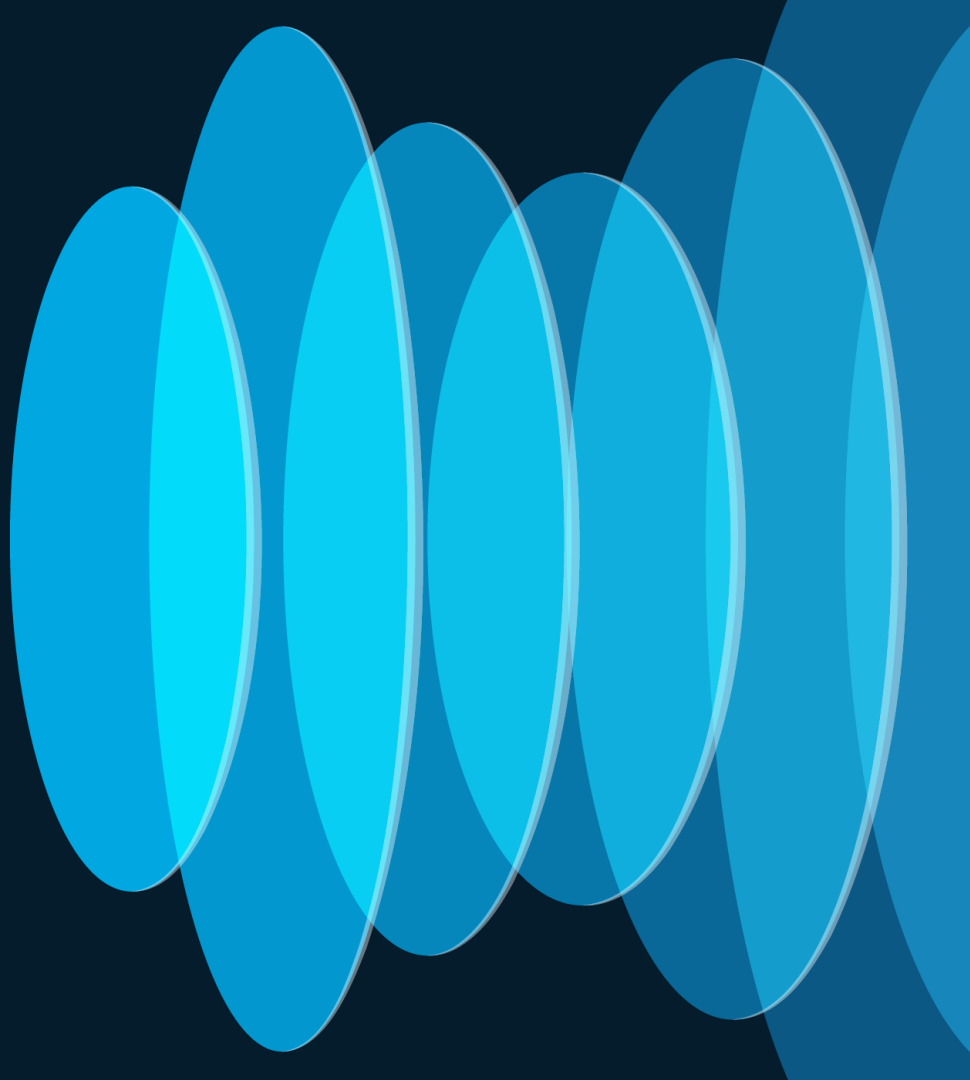
Virtual



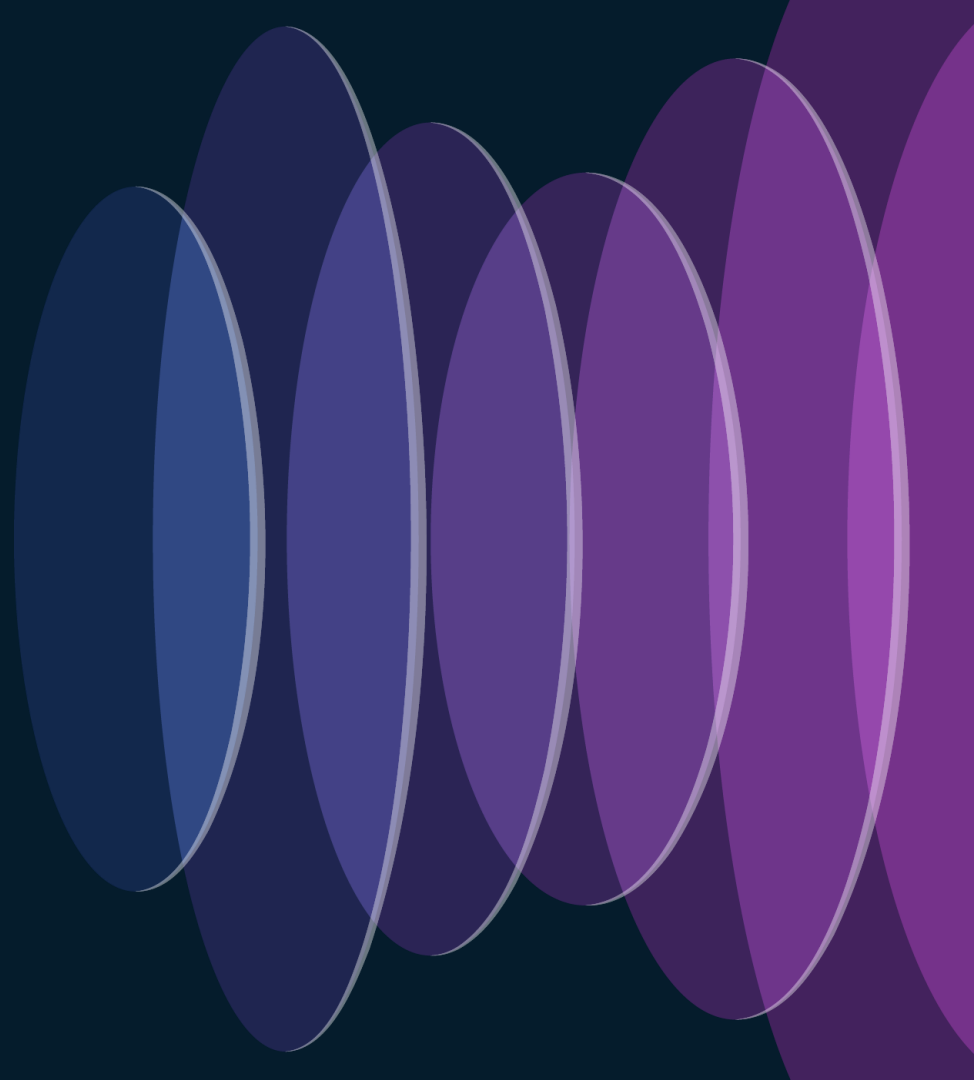
ND Unified Image/Installation Process



Operating Nexus Dashboard



OneView aka as ND Federation

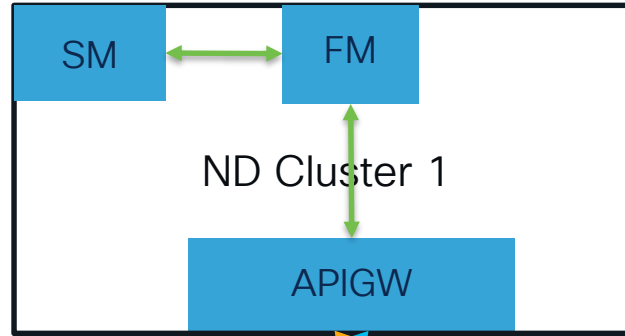


Overview

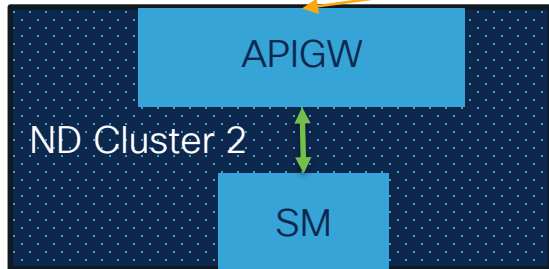
- ND Federation is an association of several ND clusters that allows working across with them as if they were a single entity and simplify the consumption of their resources
- ND clusters onboard other ND clusters creating a trusted environment which allows to learn about those clusters and to communicate and share information with each other
- Information shared between clusters is visible on each cluster being part of that federation. Also this data is accessible from each cluster.
- Apps can query for information related to other clusters in the federation for purposes such as onboarding (for eg NDI/Sites) or grouping
- [Remote User is required to setup and use ND Federation](#)

Federation Architecture

- User configures an ND cluster as Federation manager (FM) and connects it to other ND clusters
- FM manages the federation keeping track of member cluster reachability, node status, sites. etc.

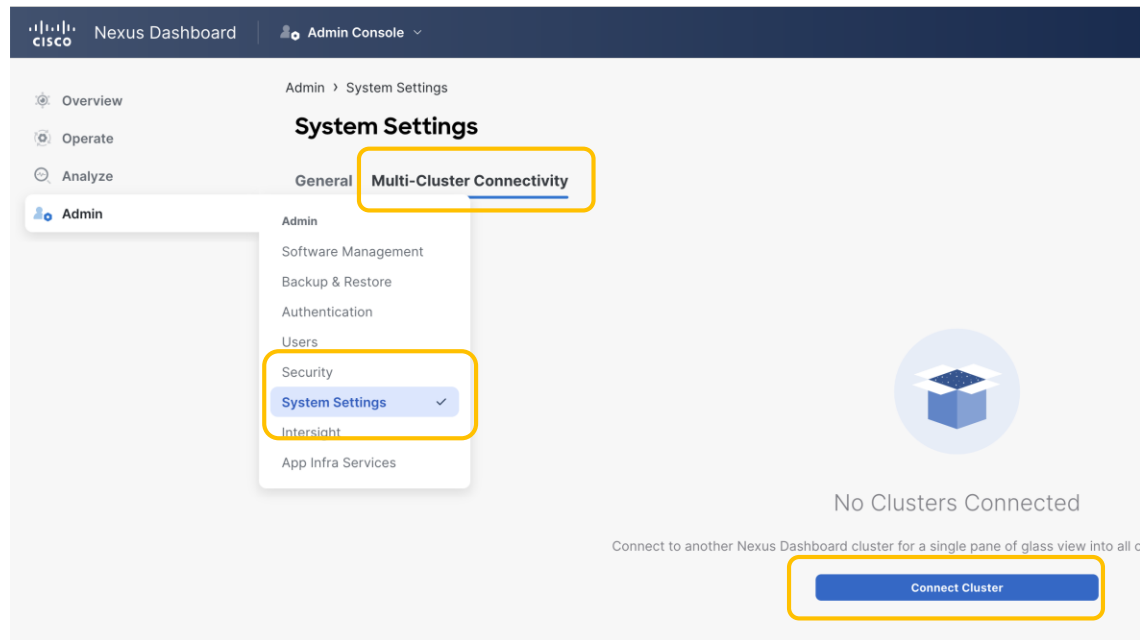


- FM uses Site Managers (SM) on all ND clusters to replicate this information for local queries/display
- APIGW is used to sync keys (for accessing data) between federation members



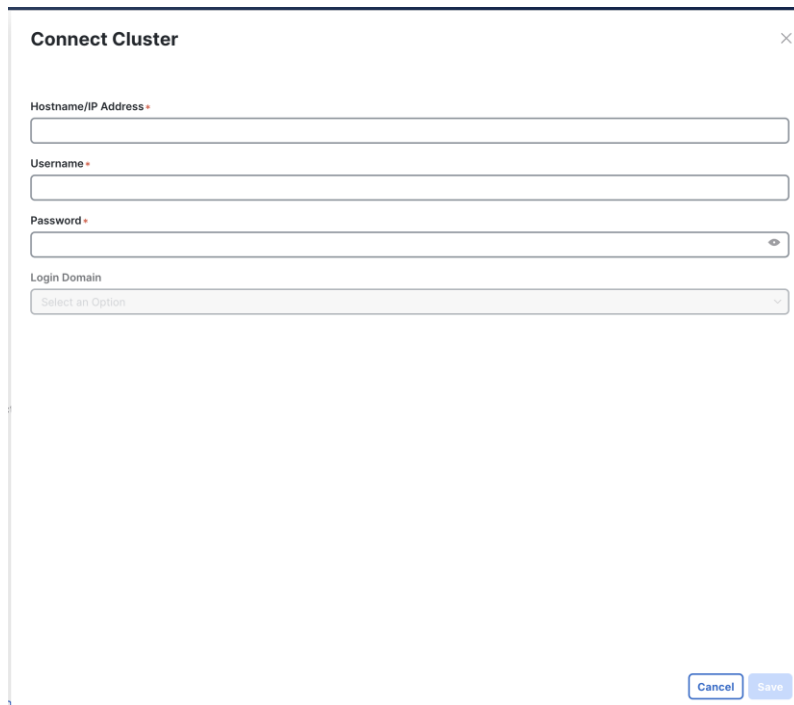
Onboard Clusters (Federation Configuration)

- Expand the Infrastructure menu
- Select Cluster Configuration
- Go to the Multi Cluster Connectivity tab
- Click “Connect Cluster”



Onboard Clusters (Federation Configuration)

- Complete the target cluster information (IP of Mgmt Interface of remote cluster)
- Click save

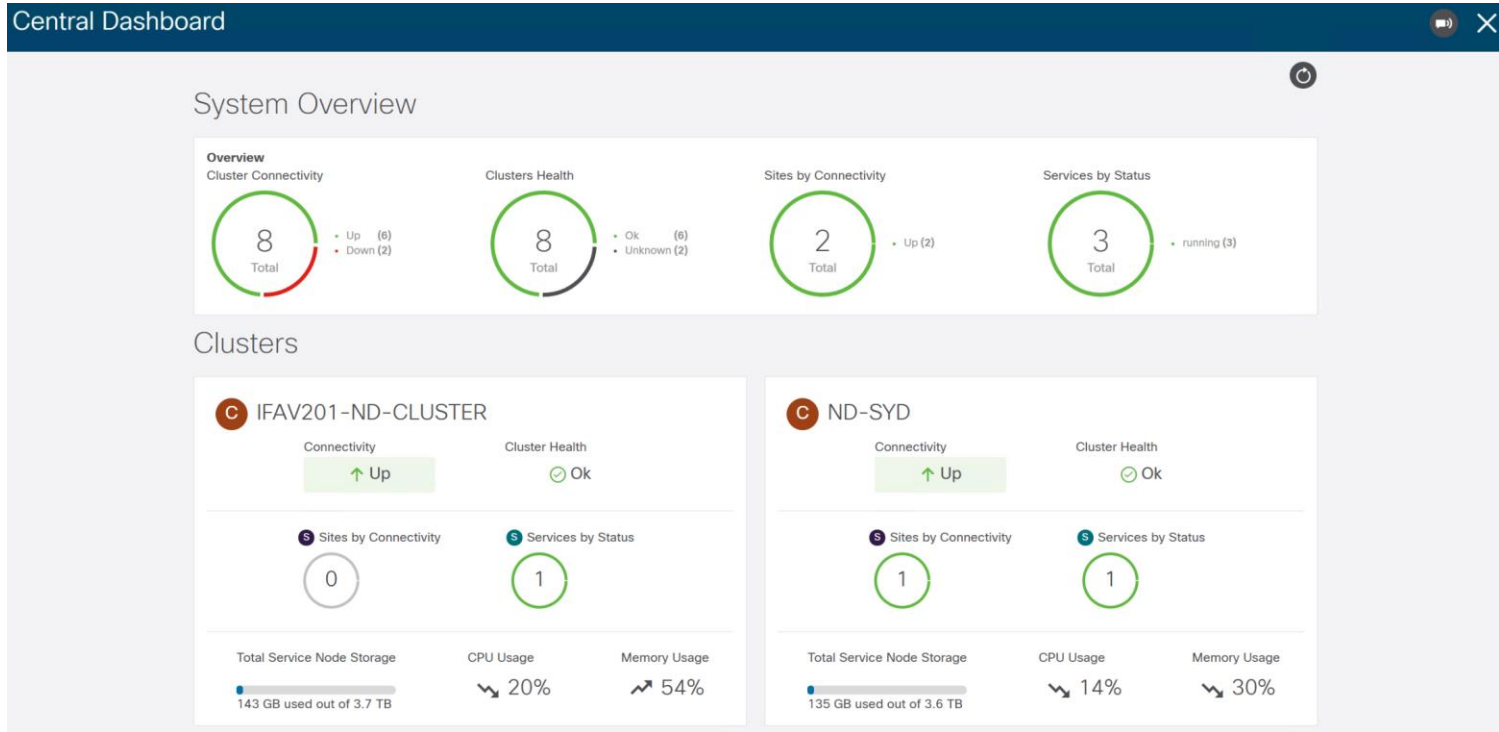


The screenshot shows a web form titled "Connect Cluster" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The form contains four input fields: "Hostname/IP Address", "Username", "Password" (with a toggle icon), and "Login Domain" (a dropdown menu with "Select an Option" as the current selection). At the bottom right of the form, there are two buttons: "Cancel" and "Save".

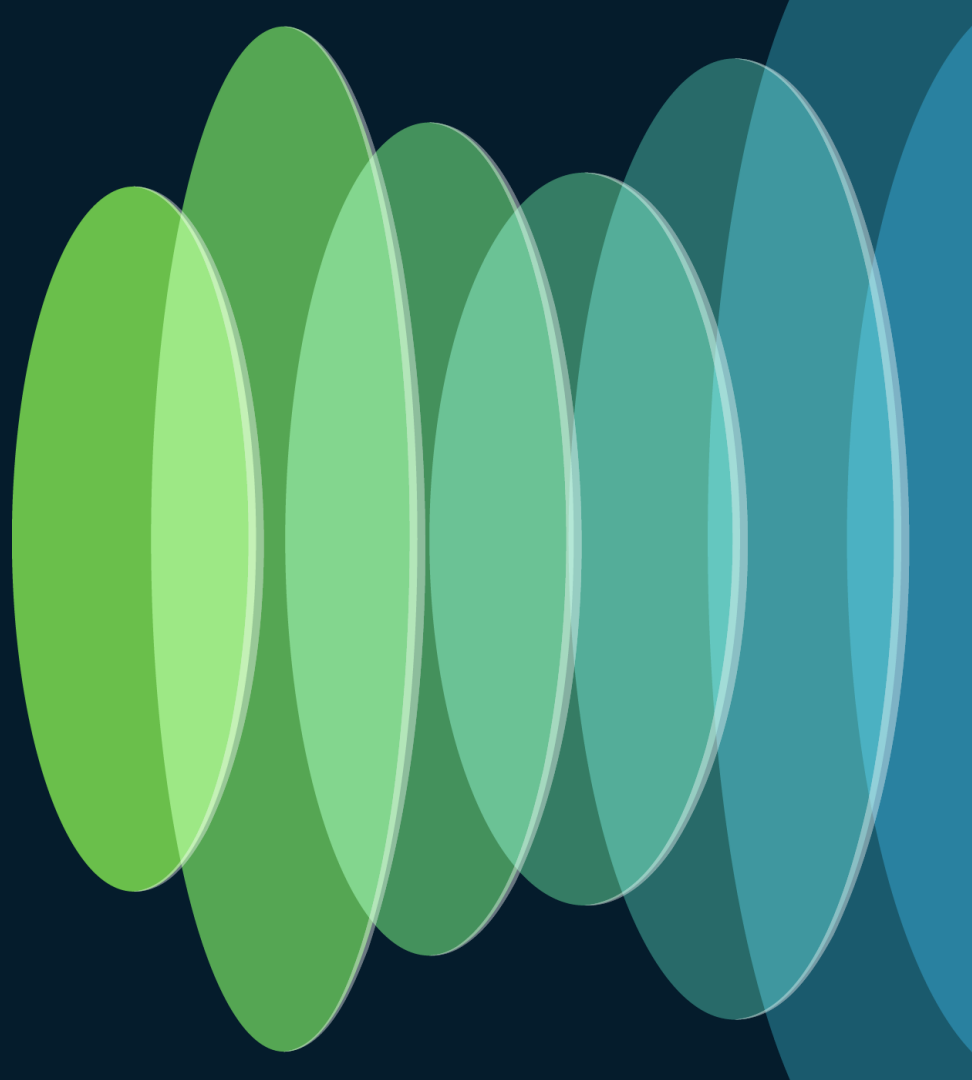
Viewing Connected Clusters' Information

- After connecting a cluster, it will show up on the Multi Cluster Connectivity table
- User would be able to connect more clusters or disconnect clusters from the table
- The cluster name on the header bar becomes a link to select a specific cluster
- Central Dashboard is added to the header bar
- Local cluster and FM are marked in the list

Central Dashboard



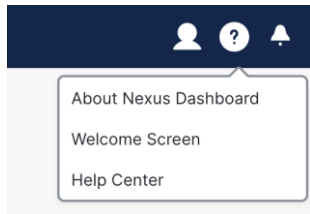
Public API



Overview

- API publicly available
- Swagger built-in
- Apps onboarded to ND populate their APIs there as well (e.g. NDI)

API UI



Learn, explore, and find the links to resources for Nexus Dashboard

What's New in 3.0(1)?

[View Release Notes](#)

Deployment

Now that your cluster is up and running, check out some of the resources to prepare for when it's time for the next upgrade.

[Rare Setup Guide for UCS C220 M5](#)

[Rare Setup Guide for UCS C225 M6](#)

[Deployment Guide](#)

[Capacity Planning Tool](#)

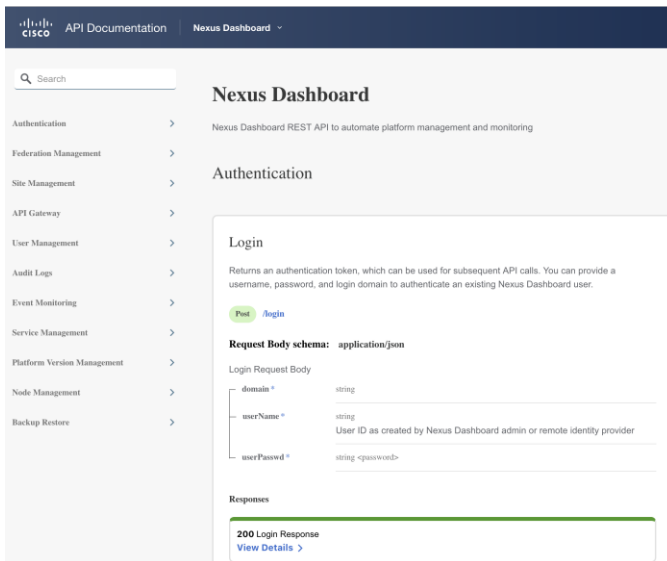
[Hardware Compatibility Matrix](#)

Programming

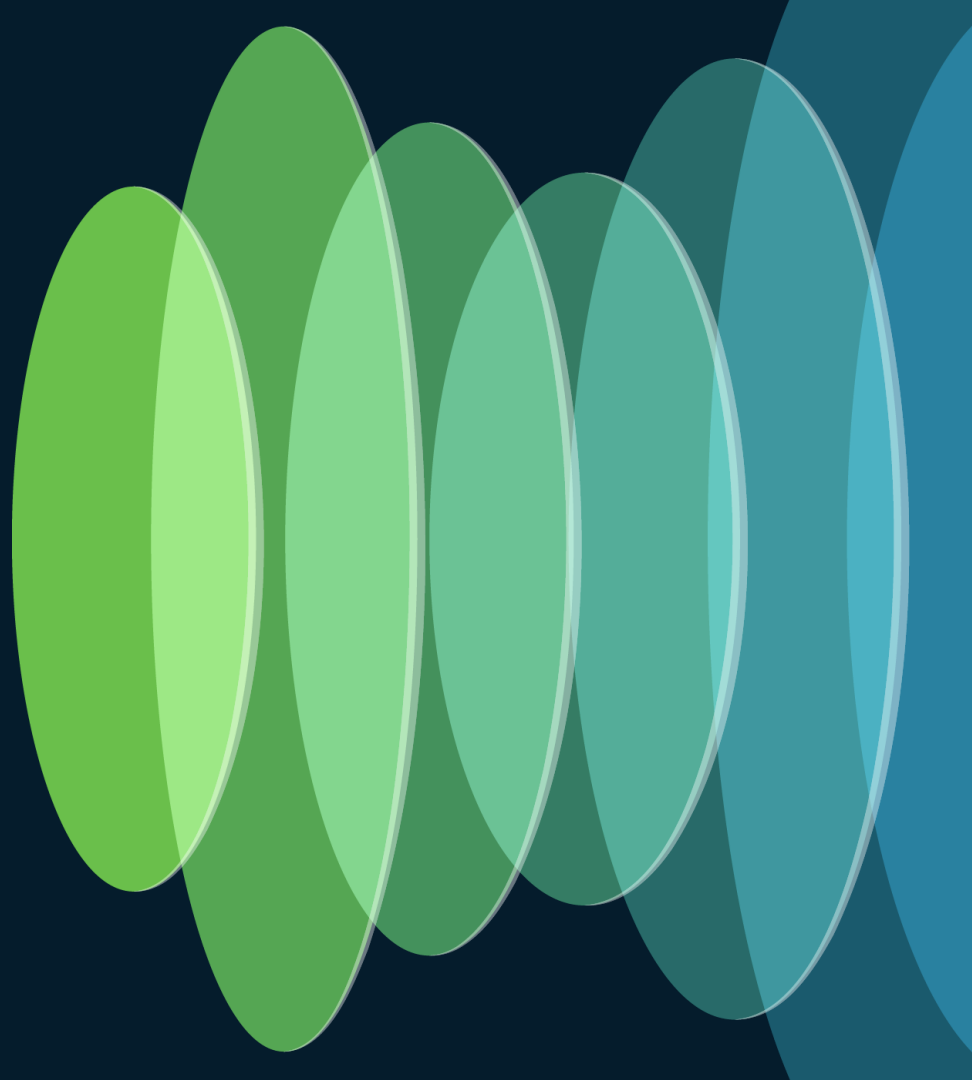
Want to standardize, streamline, and automate deployments at a large scale? The development resources will introduce you to our APIs, object model, and provide simple examples so you can write your own integrations.

[REST API](#)

[Developer Guide](#)



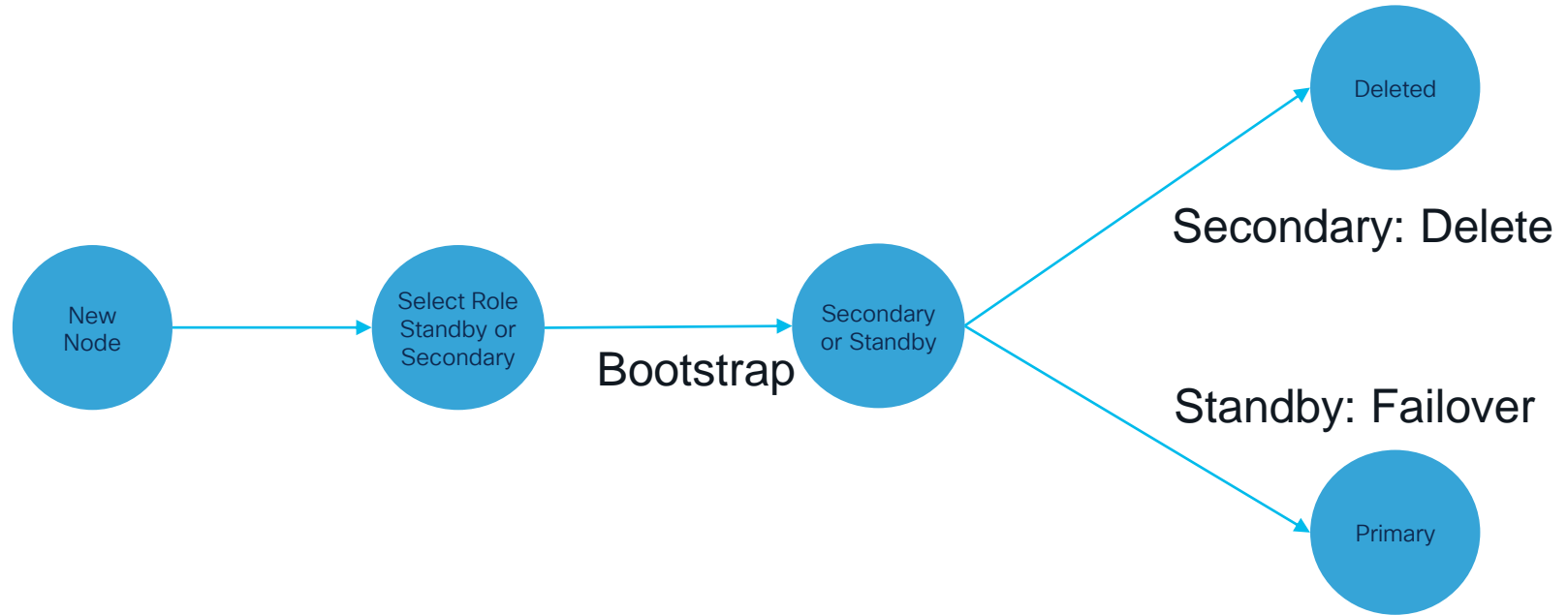
Registering Nodes to existing Cluster and Standby Node



Register new Nodes and Standby Primary

- New nodes are discovered via CIMC and bootstrapped
- During registration Role is selected (Worker or Standby)
- Worker Node is for horizontal Scaling
- Standby Node is increasing HA as it can replace a failed Primary
- Difference between Replace and Standby is, that Replace is a RMA workflow where the new node is installed and brought up. Standby is replacing a failed Primary with an already bootstrapped node
- Workers can only be replaced by delete and re-add

Lifecycle of non-Primary Nodes



Adding a new Node

Add Node

Deployment Details

CIMC IP Address • ⓘ

Username •

Password •
 [Validate](#)

General

Name •

Serial Number •

Type

1. Provide CIMC details to discover node
2. Fill in node details
3. Node is bootstrapped and registered
4. Node status will change from “unregistered” to “discovering” to “active”

Replace a failed Primary with Standby Node

Primary is failed

Nodes

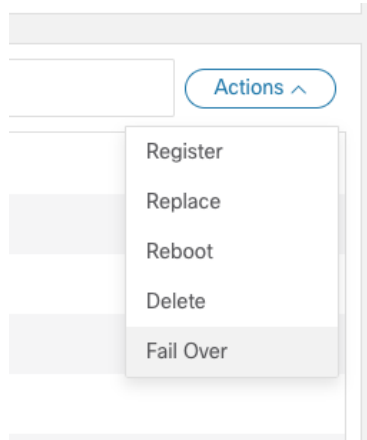
CPU 3.27 of 80 Cores 4% Memory 13.34 of 464.23 GB 2%

Filter by attributes

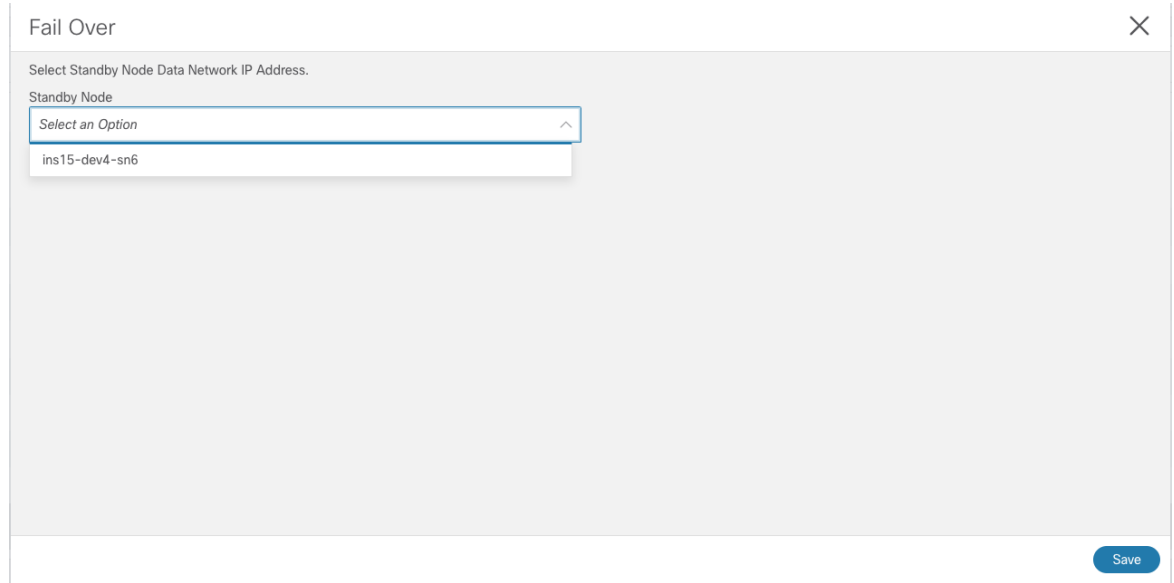
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Serial	Data Network IP Address	Management Network IP Address	Status	Role
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ins15-dev4-sn1	WZP215118AY	192.192.4.101/24	10.195.219.197/24	Active	Master
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ins15-dev4-sn2	WZP215118CZ	192.192.4.102/24	10.195.219.199/24	Inactive	Master
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ins15-dev4-sn3	WZP215118EK	192.192.6.101/24	10.195.219.209/24	Active	Worker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ins15-dev4-sn4	WZP215118EK	192.192.6.101/24	10.195.219.209/24	Active	Worker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ins15-dev4-sn5	WZP22481HAL	192.192.6.102/24	10.195.219.203/24	Register	Worker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ins15-dev4-sn6	WZP215110JC	192.192.6.103/24	10.195.219.213/24	Active	Standby

Standby Node is part of Cluster

Failover to Standby



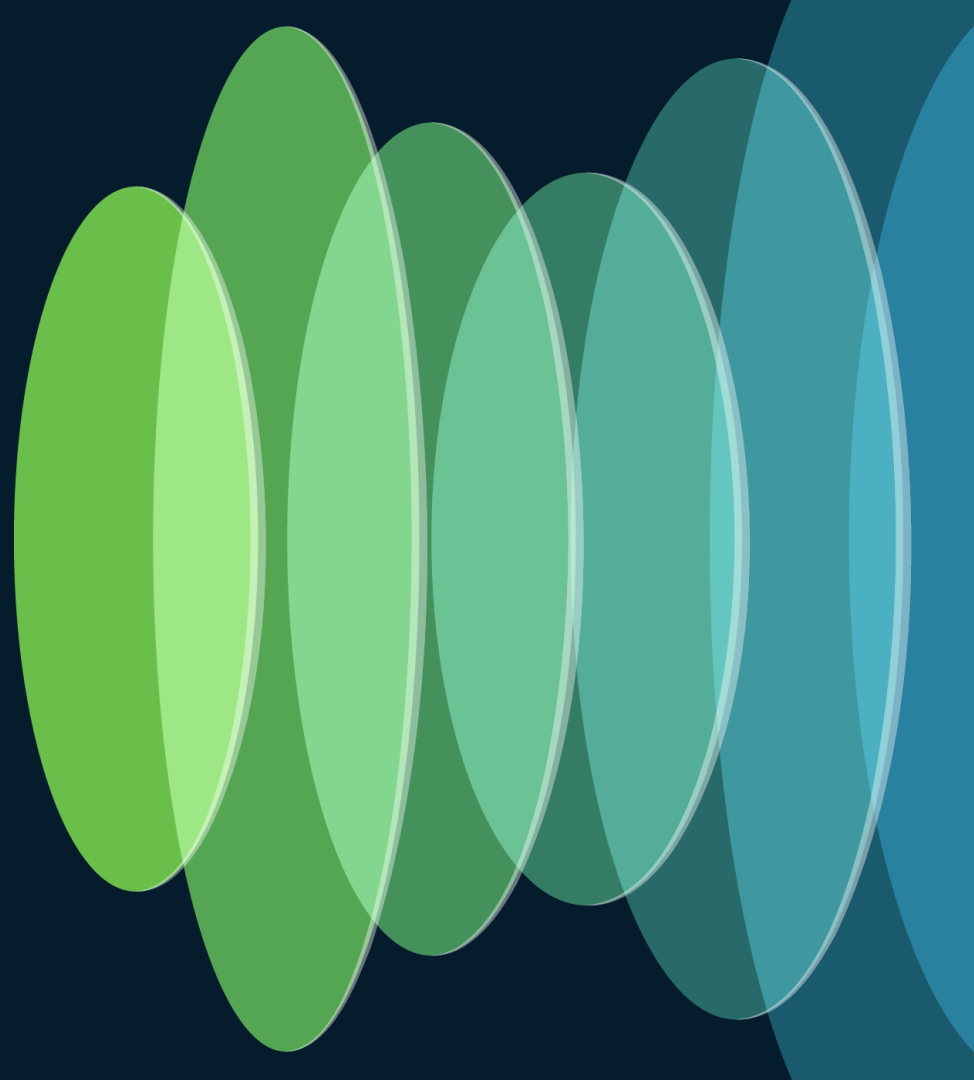
Select failed Primary
and click Fail Over



Select Standby to replace failed Primary

If you receive a replacement for the failed node, you can register it as a Standby node

Manual Recovery of 2 failed Primaries



Recovery Process if 2 Primaries are down 1/3

- 2 Primary Nodes are failed
- 1 Standby Nodes are required to get the system back online
- Log in to the remaining primary
 - Run “acs failover” command to failover one of failed primary to standby

```
acs failover --failedIP <Primary-to-failover> \  
             --failedIP <other-failed-Primary> \  
             --standbyIP <standby-ip>
```

Note: Use inband ipaddress for above parameters

Recovery Process if 2 Primaries are down 2/3

- *acs cluster masters* will show 1 Active Primary and 2 Inactive Primaries

```
[rescue-user@ndsim ~]$ acs cluster get masters
```

ATTRIBUTES	INS15-PROD2-SN1	INS15-PROD2-SN2	INS15-PROD2-SN6
CleanReboot	true	true	true
FirmwareVersion	2.0.0.63	2.0.0.63	2.0.0.63
FirstMaster	true	false	false
ID	6954c2f3-e827-46e7-a03d-4a1ea8720a0f	2681befb-e7fc-45d5-8889-91193caca48b	b3d9e566-4d8a-44d2-82f2-13c74ca762b9
InbandNetwork GatewayIP	192.192.1.1	192.192.1.1	192.192.1.1
InbandNetwork Iface	bond0br4001	bond0br4001	bond0br4001
InbandNetwork IfaceIP	192.192.1.101	192.192.1.102	192.192.1.106
InbandNetwork Subnet	192.192.1.101/24	192.192.1.102/24	192.192.1.106/24
Labels			
Model	SE-NODE-G2	SE-NODE-G2	SE-NODE-G2
Name	ins15-prod2-sn1	ins15-prod2-sn2	ins15-prod2-sn6
OobNetwork GatewayIP	10.195.219.1	10.195.219.1	10.195.219.1
OobNetwork Iface	bond1br	bond1br	bond1br
OobNetwork IfaceIP	10.195.219.69	10.195.219.71	10.195.219.79
OobNetwork Subnet	10.195.219.69/24	10.195.219.71/24	10.195.219.79/24
Role	Master	Master	Master
SecondaryStatus	Alive	Failed	Failed
Self	true	false	false
SerialNumber	WZP23430G8E	WZP2341088N	WMP240800V6
Status	Active	Inactive	Inactive

Recovery Process if 2 Primaries are down 3/3

- Command (both failed Primaries needs to be entered):

acs failover --failedIP 192.192.1.102

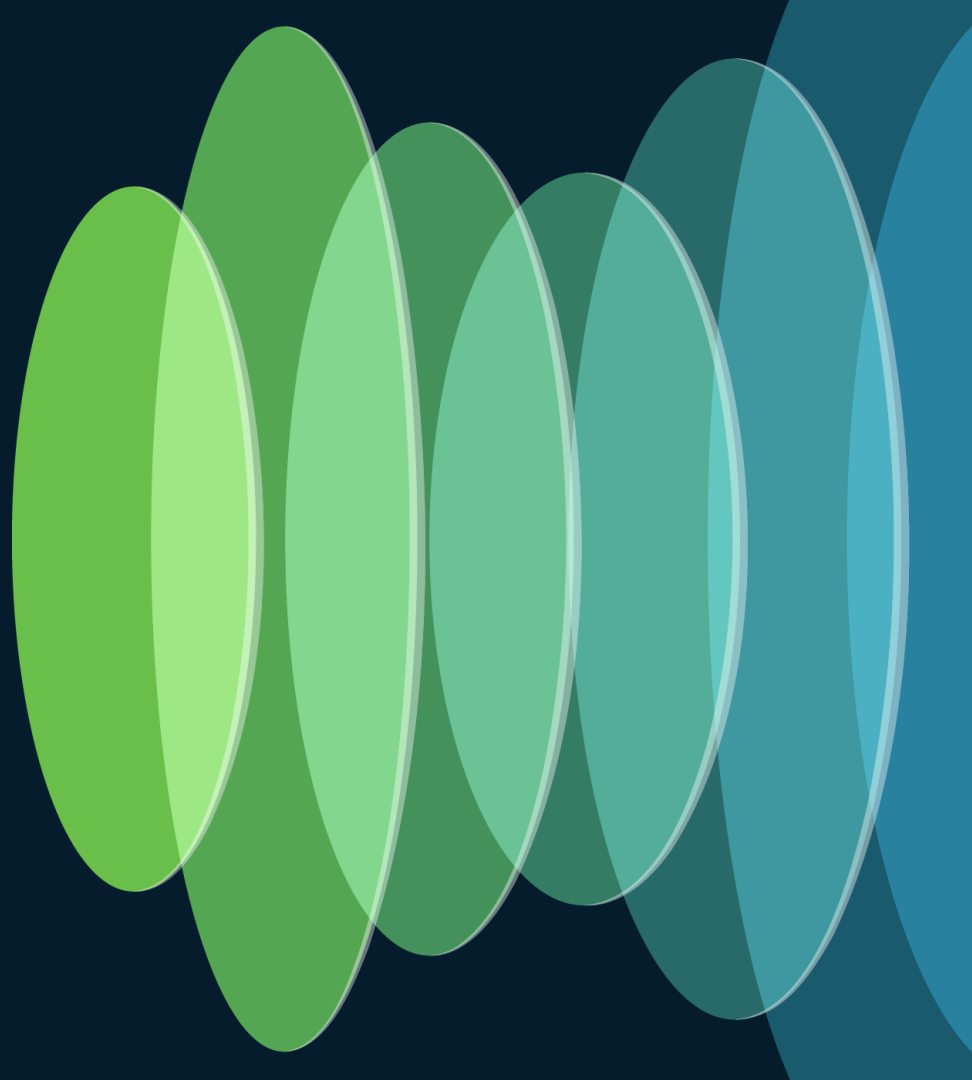
--failedIP 192.192.1.106

--standbyIP 192.192.1.105

```
[rescue-user@ndsim ~]# acs failover --failedIP 192.192.1.102 --failedIP 192.192.1.106 --standbyIP 192.192.1.105
Warning: Failover can be a disruptive operation and should only
be performed as last resort option to recover cluster from disasters using standby
where two master nodes have lost their state due to hardware faults. Proceed? (y/n): y
Connection to ins15-prod2 closed by remote host.
Connection to ins15-prod2 closed.
```

- State will be copied from remaining Primary to Standby node
- Both nodes will reboot
- Standby node will reboot and come up as Primary

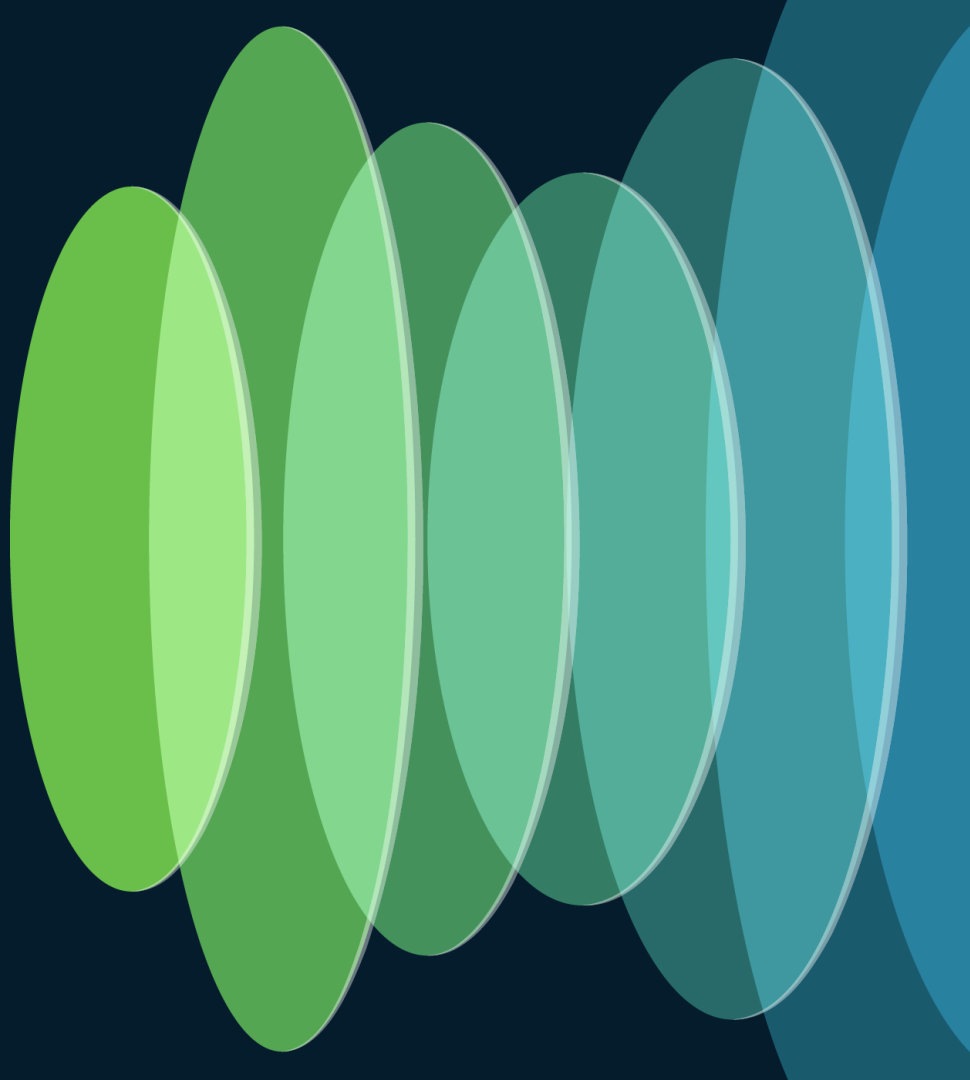
Recovery Process of a virtual ND



Recovery Process of a virtual ND

- Ensure that the failed node's VM is powered down.
- Ensure new VM is deployed and powered on.
- Use the Replace workflow for the inactive node.

Firmware Upgrade



Firmware Upload

The screenshot shows the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Admin Console. The top navigation bar includes the Cisco logo, 'Nexus Dashboard', and 'Admin Console'. The left sidebar has a menu with 'Overview', 'Operate', 'Analyze', and 'Admin'. The main content area is titled 'Software Management' and has a sub-header 'Admin > Software Management'. Below this, there are two tabs: 'Updates' and 'Images'. The 'Images' tab is highlighted with a red box, and a red arrow points from a text box to it. The text box contains the instruction: 'Click in Images first to upload a firmware image'. The main content area also displays 'Number of Nodes: 5' and 'Last Update: 2023-09-26, 05:35:33'. A 'Refresh' button is visible in the top right corner of the main content area.

Click in Images first to upload a firmware image

Firmware Upload

The screenshot displays the Cisco Software Management interface. At the top, the breadcrumb 'Admin > Software Management' is visible. The main heading is 'Software Management', with a 'Refresh' link on the right. Below this, there are two tabs: 'Updates' and 'Images', with 'Images' being the active tab. On the left side of the main content area, there is a large blue information icon. To the right of the icon, the text 'No Firmware Images found' is displayed. Below this text is a blue button labeled 'Add Image'. A red rectangular box highlights the 'Add Image' button, and a red arrow points from a label 'Click Add Image' (also enclosed in a red box) to the button. The entire interface is set against a light gray background.

Firmware Upload

- 2 Options supported either via remote (WEB server) or local
- Remote upload is recommended

The image displays two overlapping 'ADD SOFTWARE IMAGE' dialog boxes. The background dialog has the 'Remote' tab selected, showing a 'URL' input field with a hint: 'e.g.: http[s]://IP[:port]/path/filename'. The foreground dialog has the 'Local' tab selected, showing a 'Browse...' button and the text 'No file selected.'.

ADD SOFTWARE IMAGE [X]

Location

Remote Local

URL *

i e.g.: http[s]://IP[:port]/path/filename

ADD SOFTWARE IMAGE [X]

Location

Remote Local

Browse... No file selected.

Firmware Upload

The screenshot displays the Cisco Nexus Dashboard interface. The top navigation bar includes the Cisco logo, 'Nexus Dashboard', and 'Admin Console'. The left sidebar lists navigation options: Overview, Operate, Analyze, and Admin. The main content area is titled 'Software Management' and shows the 'Images' tab selected. A table lists firmware files, with one entry 'nd-dk9.3.0.1i.iso' in 'Downloaded' status. The interface also includes a filter bar, an 'Add Image' button, and pagination controls.

Admin > Software Management

Software Management

[Modify Details](#) [Refresh](#)

[Updates](#) [Images](#)

Filter by attributes [Add Image](#)

File Name	Status	Version
nd-dk9.3.0.1i.iso	Downloaded	3.0(1i) ...

Rows per page: 10 [1](#)

Setup Firmware Upgrade

The screenshot shows the Cisco Admin Console interface. At the top, there's a dark blue header with 'Admin Console' and user icons. Below it, the breadcrumb 'Admin > Software Management' is visible. The main heading is 'Software Management' with a 'Refresh' button on the right. Underneath, there are tabs for 'Updates' (selected) and 'Images'. The 'Node Details' section displays three metrics: 'Current Firmware Version' as 3.0(11), 'Number of Nodes' as 5, and 'Last Update' as 2023-09-26, 05:35:33. A large light blue circle with a mountain and trees icon is in the center. Below it, the text reads 'There are no Firmware Updates' and 'Use the wizard to setup a firmware update.' At the bottom, a blue 'Setup Update' button is highlighted with a red box. A red callout box with the text 'Click to Setup an Upgrade' has an arrow pointing to the 'Setup Update' button.

Admin Console

Admin > Software Management

Software Management

Refresh

Updates Images

Node Details

Current Firmware Version	Number of Nodes	Last Update
3.0(11)	5	2023-09-26, 05:35:33

Click to Setup an Upgrade

There are no Firmware Updates

Use the wizard to setup a firmware update.

Setup Update

Select Firmware

Firmware Update

Setup

Install

Activate

Complete

1

2

Version Selection

Confirmation

Pick a firmware version for this update.

Available Target Firmware Versions *

Service Node

1.1.2.152

Previous

Next

Current Cluster Setup is validated

Firmware Update

Setup

Validate

Install

Activate

Complete

This is to validate the firmware and examine the current cluster state before installing the firmware. Once the validation passes the update will be 'Ready to Install'.

Update Details

Overall Status
Running

Current Firmware Version
2.2.2d

Target Firmware Version
2.3.0.85

Last Update
2022-09-07, 14:41:59

Image Preparation



Loading target image information



Cluster Networking



Verifying reachability to other cluster nodes



Platform Services' Health



Verifying critical services' status



Kubernetes Health



Checking K8s cluster reachability



Nodes' Health



Verifying nodes' states



Disk Utilization



Verifying nodes' disk utilization



Install Firmware to Nodes

Firmware Update

Setup

Install

Activate

Complete

Version Selection

Confirmation

Please confirm the configuration information below. Once install begins, all nodes will begin to download firmware image immediately. After the installation process is complete, you can start activation of downloaded image!

Update Detail

Current Firmware Version	Target Firmware Version	Number Of Nodes	Last Update
2.0.0.71a	2.0.0.71b	3	2020-10-02, 14:40:19

Nodes

Serial Number	Node	Type	Status	Last Update
WZP23340A7P	ND2	Master	Active	2020-10-02, 14:40:19
WZP23340A7Q	ND3	Master	Active	2020-10-02, 14:39:37
WZP23340A7X	ND1	Master	Active	2020-10-02, 14:40:20

10 Rows

Page 1 of 1 1-3 of 3

Previous

Begin Install

Installing Firmware to Nodes

Firmware Update

Setup

Install

Activate

Complete

This update is in the 'Pre-Installing' stage of the update process. Once the firmware has pre-installed to each node, the update will be 'Ready to Install'.

Update Status

Overall Status

Running

Status Breakdown

3

Running

Update Details

Current Firmware Version

1.1.2.144

Target Firmware Version

1.1.2.152

Number Of Nodes

3

Minor

Last Update

2020-04-30, 12:30:56

Nodes

Node	Status	Last Install
192.168.6.172	Running	2020-04-30, 19:31:33
192.168.6.173	Running	2020-04-30, 19:31:33
192.168.6.174	Install: Running	2020-04-30, 19:31:30

Start Over

Cancel

Once Install is done Click Activate

Firmware Update

Setup

Install

Activate

Complete

This update is in the 'Pre-Installing' stage of the update process. Once the firmware has pre-installed to each node, the update will be 'Ready to Activate'.

Update Status

Overall Status

Ready to Activate

Status Breakdown

3

Done (3)

Update Details

Current Firmware Version

1.1.2.160

Target Firmware Version

1.1.3c

Number Of Nodes

3

Monitor (3)

Last Update

2020-05-04, 14:15:18

Edit Details

Nodes

Node	In-Band Management IP Address	Status	Last Install
ServiceNode1	192.168.6.172	Done (100%)	2020-05-18, 18:17:59
ServiceNode2	192.168.6.173	Done (100%)	2020-05-18, 18:18:00
ServiceNode3	192.168.6.174	Done (100%)	2020-05-18, 18:18:02

Retry All

Activate

CISCO Live!

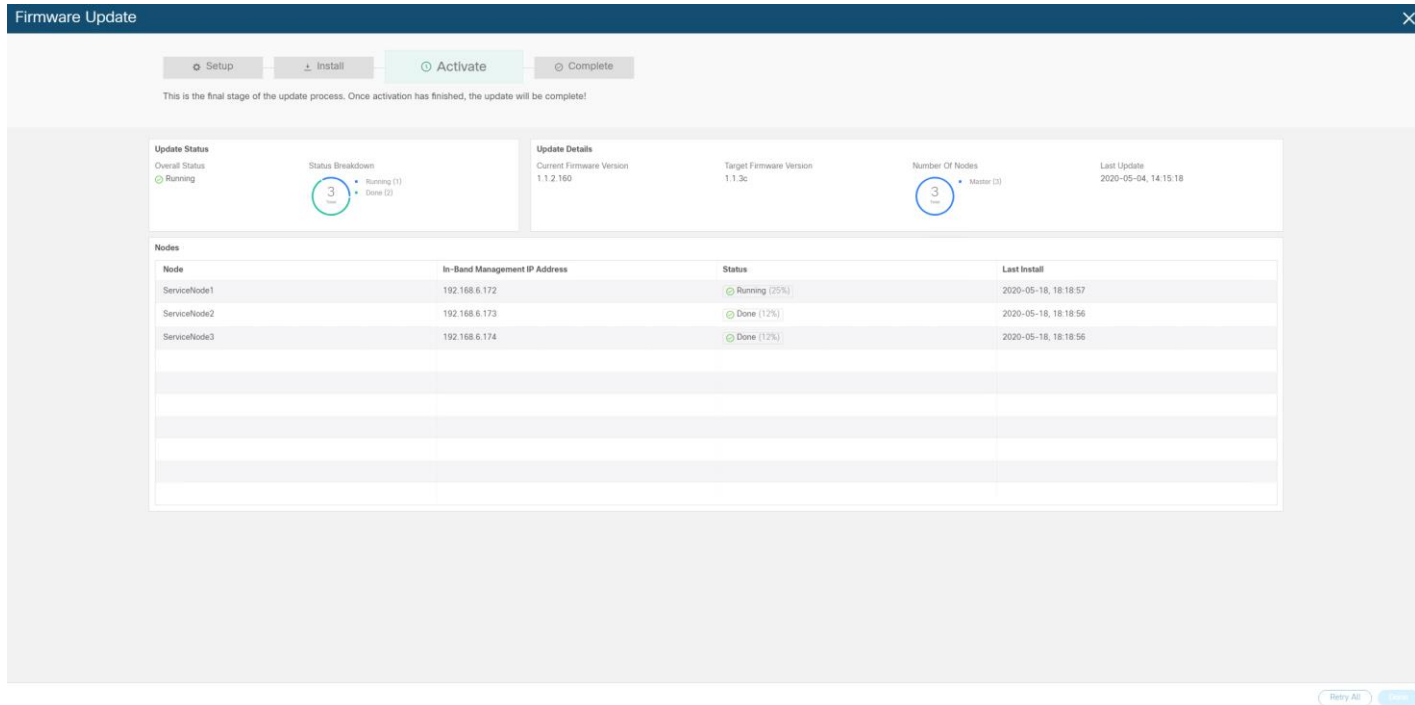
#CiscoLive

BRKDCN-2914

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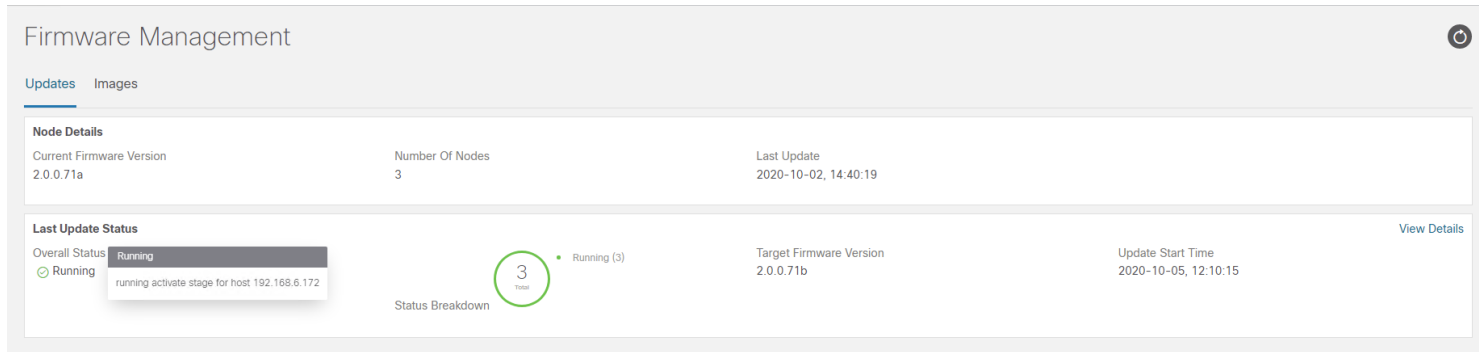
85

Activation Progress



Monitoring Firmware Upgrade

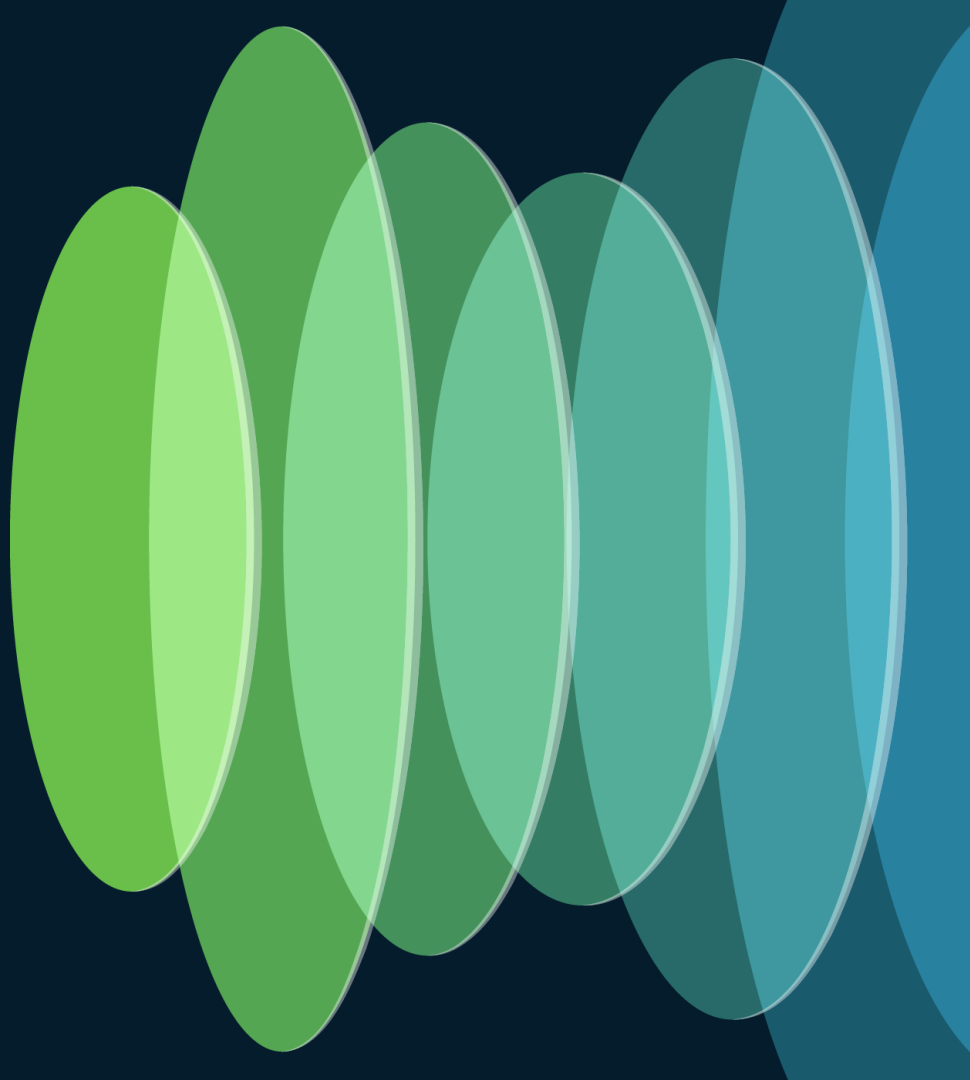
- When the node you are connected to is activating, it will disconnect you. Please connect to another SE node. Check status via:



- Node going through an update will display:

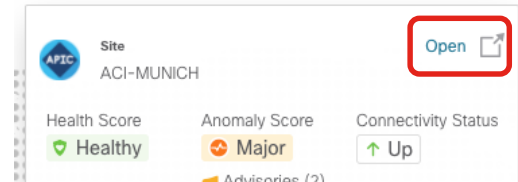
ⓘ Current node is going through upgrade, any configuration change during upgrade will not work. [More Info](#)

Remote Authentication



Remote Authentication

- ND adds support for following authentication providers
 - LDAP
 - TACACS
 - RADIUS
- RBAC is supported via cisco-avpair
- Is used for SSO, if the remote user has access rights to APIC, the user is automatically signed into APIC UI (4.2.6, 5.1 and later) and DCNM 11.5, when cross launching the UI. This is assuming the same auth. domain is used.



Login without and with enabled Login Domain



Welcome to Nexus Dashboard

Version 3.0(1)

Username

Password

Login

[Help Center](#) [Terms](#) [Privacy](#) [Cookies](#)

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Welcome to Nexus Dashboard

Version 3.0(1)

Username

Password

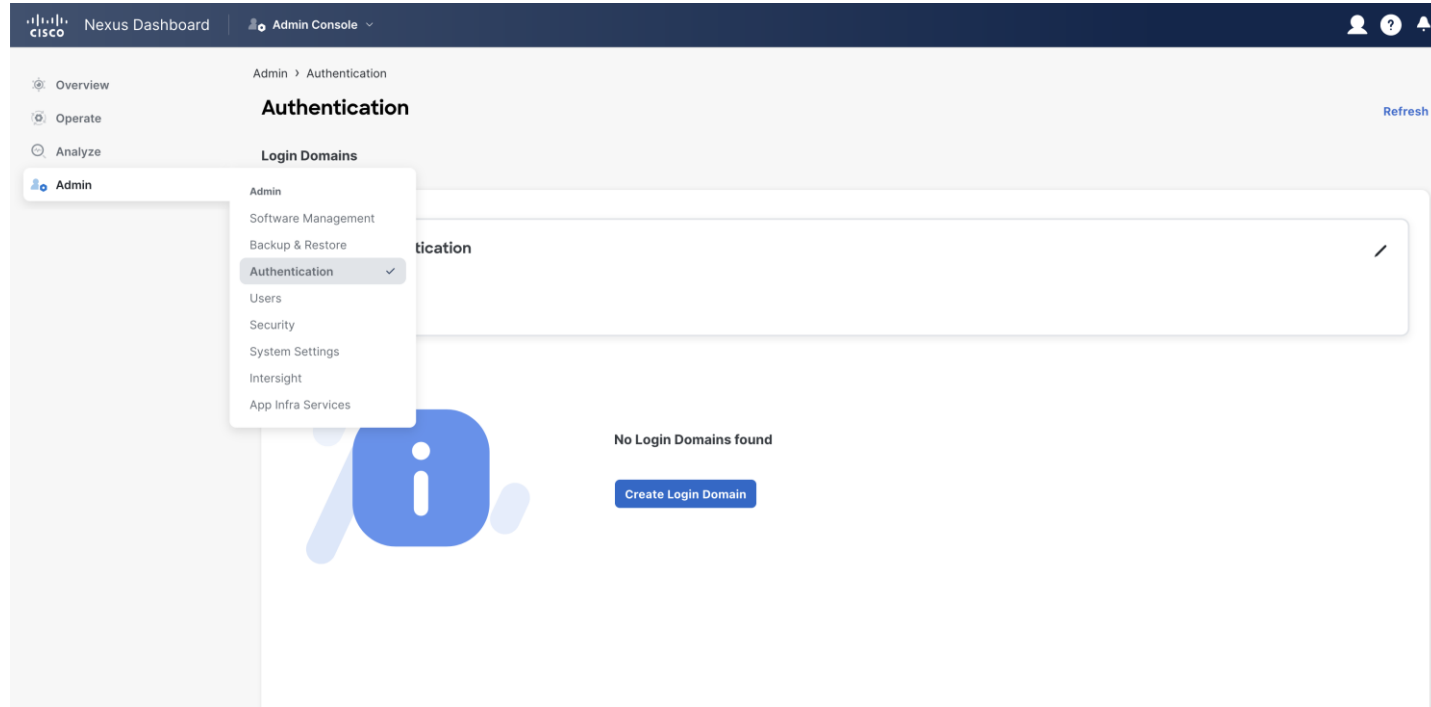
Login Domain

Login

[Help Center](#) [Terms](#) [Privacy](#) [Cookies](#)

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Create a Login Domain



Create a Login Domain

Create Login Domain

Name *

RADIUS

Description

Realm

RADIUS

Providers

Name	Description	Authentication Port
+ Add Provider		

ADD PROVIDER

General

Hostname/IP Address *

Description

Settings

Authorization Protocol

PAP CHAP MS-CHAP

Port

1812

Priority

0

Key *

Confirm Key *

Timeout (sec)

5

Retries

Cancel

Save

Need to have a valid remote user to add provider – backend will query the remote auth server with provider info and user/pass before it can be added.

Change Default Authentication for Login

Admin > Authentication

Authentication

[Refresh](#)

Login Domains

Default Authentication
Login Domain
local

Filter by attributes

Create Login Domain

Default Authentication ×

Login Domain

local

RADIUS

local

Login Screen with Login Domain



Welcome to Nexus Dashboard

Version 3.0(1i)

Username

Password

Login Domain

Login

[Help Center](#) [Terms](#) [Privacy](#) [Cookies](#)

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RBAC and User Roles 1/2

- **Administrator** – allows access to all objects and configurations. (Dashboard role)
 - AV Pair Value: admin
- **User Manager** – allows access to users and authentication configurations. (Dashboard role)
 - AV Pair Value: aaa
- **Dashboard User** – allows access only to the Dashboard view and launching applications; does not allow any changes to the Nexus Dashboard configurations. (Dashboard role)
 - AV Pair Value: app-user
- **Site Administrator** – allows access to configurations related to the sites on-boarding and configuration. (Dashboard role)
 - AV Pair Value: site-admin
- **Site Manager** – allows application user to manage the sites used by that application. (NDO App role)
 - AV Pair Value: config-manager
- **Policy Manager** – allows application user to view policy objects. (NDO App role)
 - AV Pair Value: site-policy
- **Tenant Manager** – allows application user to view tenants (NDO App role)
 - AV Pair Value: tenant-policy

RBAC and User Roles 2/2

- Cisco-avpair is used for RBAC via remote Auth
- AVPAIR format
 - `shell:domains=<domain>/<writerole>|<writerole2>/<readrole>|<readrole2>`
 - Example
 - All admin access: `shell:domains=all/admin/`
 - Tenant Mgr, Site Mgr and readonly AAA: `shell:domains=all/tenant-policy|site-admin/aaa`
- Local Users can be assigned to User roles as well while creating the User

User Roles for Local Users

Add Security Domain and Roles

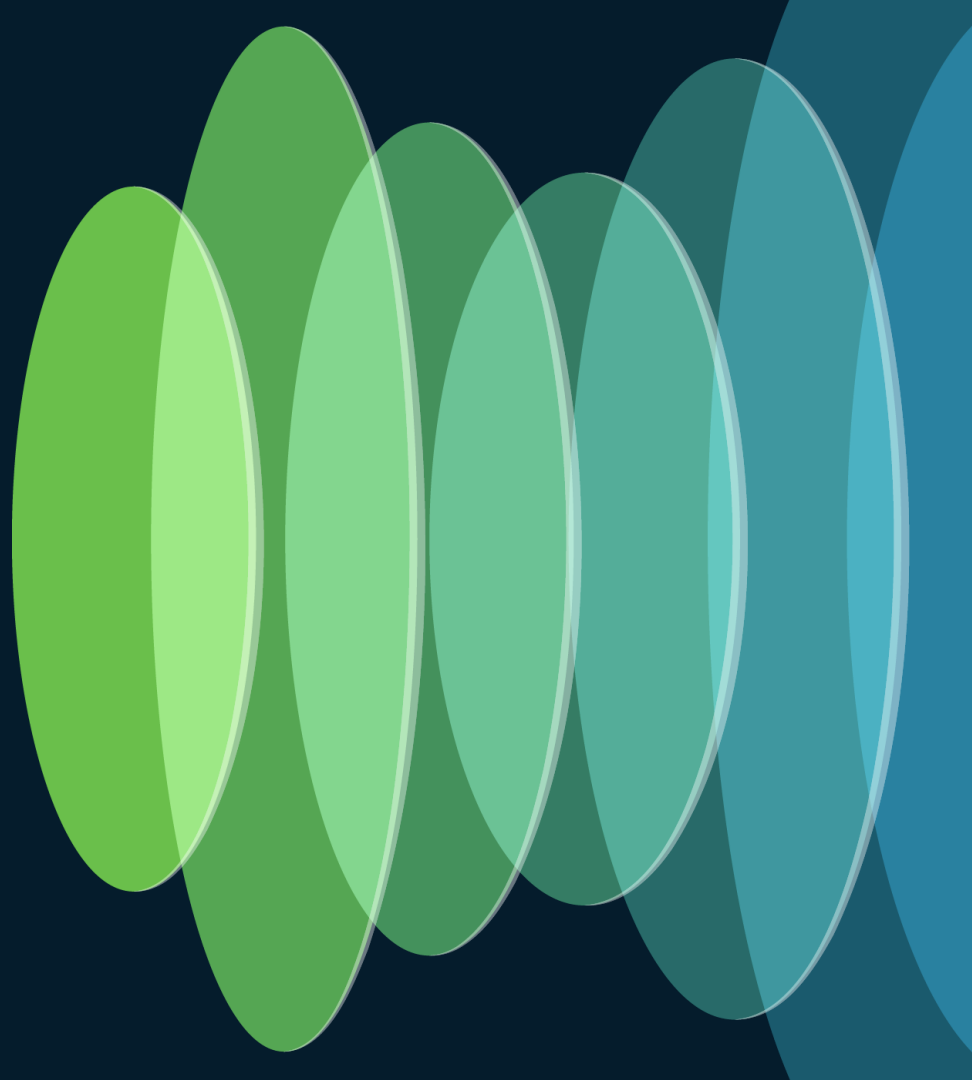
Domain

Select an Option

Roles

Name	Read Privilege	Write Privilege	Service	Details
Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Approver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Dashboard User	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Deployer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Policy Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Site Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Site Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
Tenant Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i
User Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nexus Dashboard	i

Configurable Security Settings



Configurable Security Settings

- Idle and Session Timeout is configurable
- Custom Certificates can be used
 - User needs to provide valid cert chain – backend does the validation before applying custom certs.
- Also with ND 2.3 and later you can have ND verify the Certificates of the onboarded Site-Controller before onboarding

Configure Security Settings

The screenshot shows the Cisco Nexus Dashboard Admin Console. The left sidebar contains a menu with the following items: Overview, Operate, Analyze, and Admin. The Admin menu is expanded, showing sub-items: Software Management, Backup & Restore, Authentication, Users, Security (highlighted with a red circle), System Settings, Intersight, and App Infra Services. The main content area is titled 'Security' and shows the 'Security Configuration' tab. The 'Duration' configuration is displayed, showing a value of 3600 seconds. The 'Domain Name' and 'Intermediate Certificate' fields are also visible. The 'Root Certificate' section shows a long string of characters representing the certificate. The 'SSL Ciphers' section lists various cipher suites. A red circle highlights the 'Security' menu item in the sidebar.

Security Configuration

Duration

Idle Timeout (seconds)
3600

Domain Name
*

Intermediate Certificate
-

Root Certificate

SSL Ciphers

-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
-----END CERTIFICATE-----

Configure Security Settings

Session and Idle Timeout in Seconds

Customer Certificate and Root Certificate, enabled SSL Ciphers etc.

Security Configuration

Timers

Session Timeout (seconds)
1200

Idle Timeout (seconds)
3600

Certificate

Domain Name
*

SSL Ciphers

TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256 X

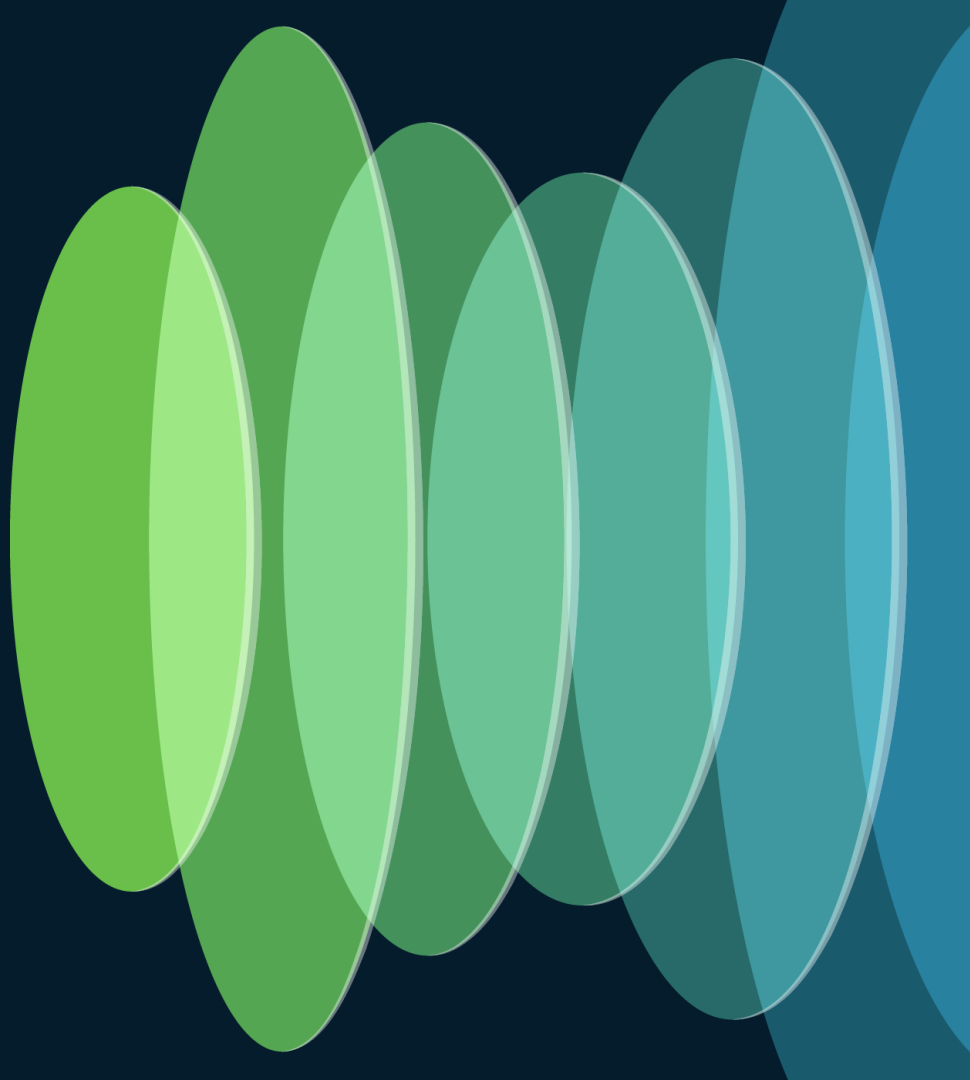
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384 X

TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384 X

Cancel Save

```
[rescue-user@ND2 ~]$ openssl req -new -x509 -keyout cert.pem -out cert.pem -days 28 -nodes
Generating a RSA private key
.....
.....
writing new private key to 'cert.pem'
-----
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
-----
Country Name (2 letter code) [XX]:DE
State or Province Name (full name) []:Germany
Locality Name (eg, city) [Default City]:Munich
Organization Name (eg, company) [Default Company Ltd]:Cisco
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:INSBU
Common Name (eg, your name or your server's hostname) []:*.tme-lab.local
Email Address []:insbu-muc@cisco.com
[rescue-user@ND2 ~]$
```

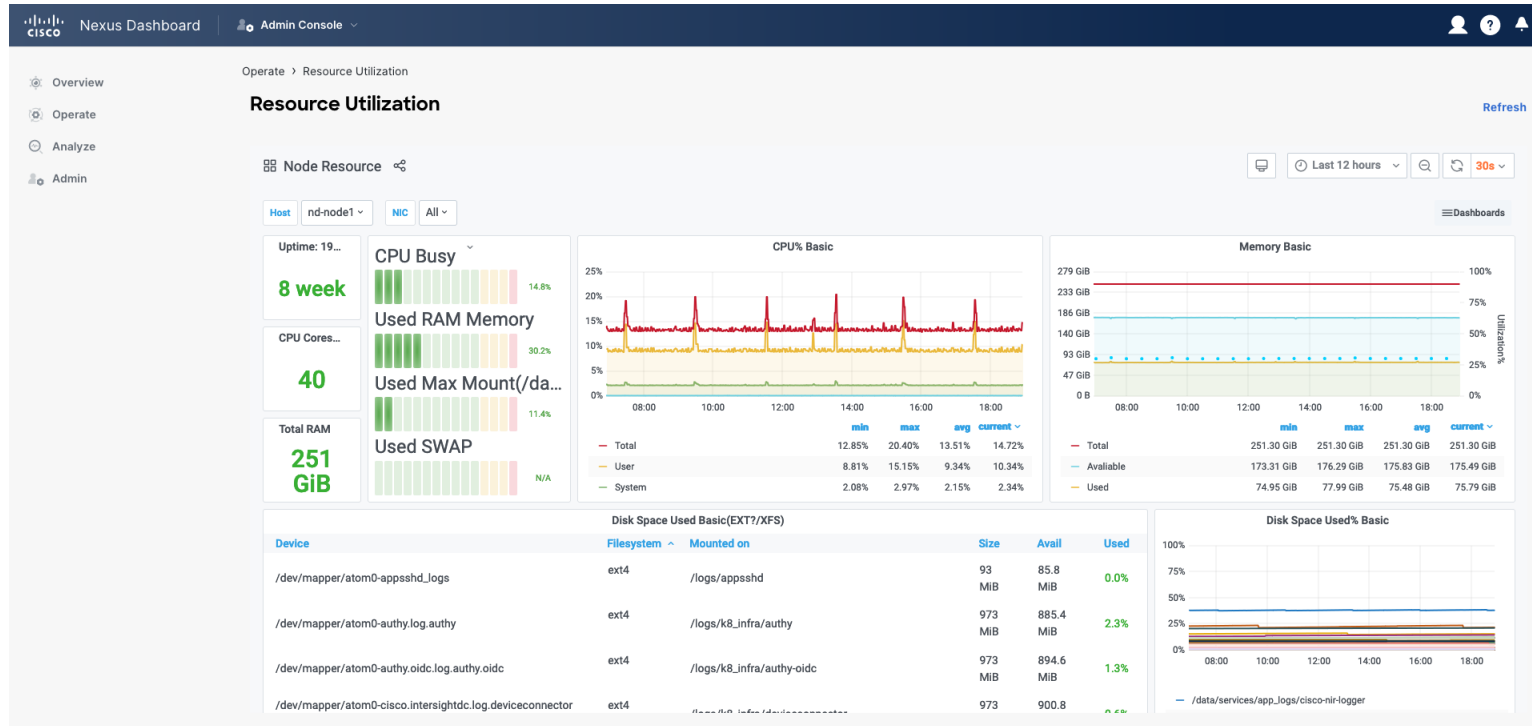
Resource Monitoring



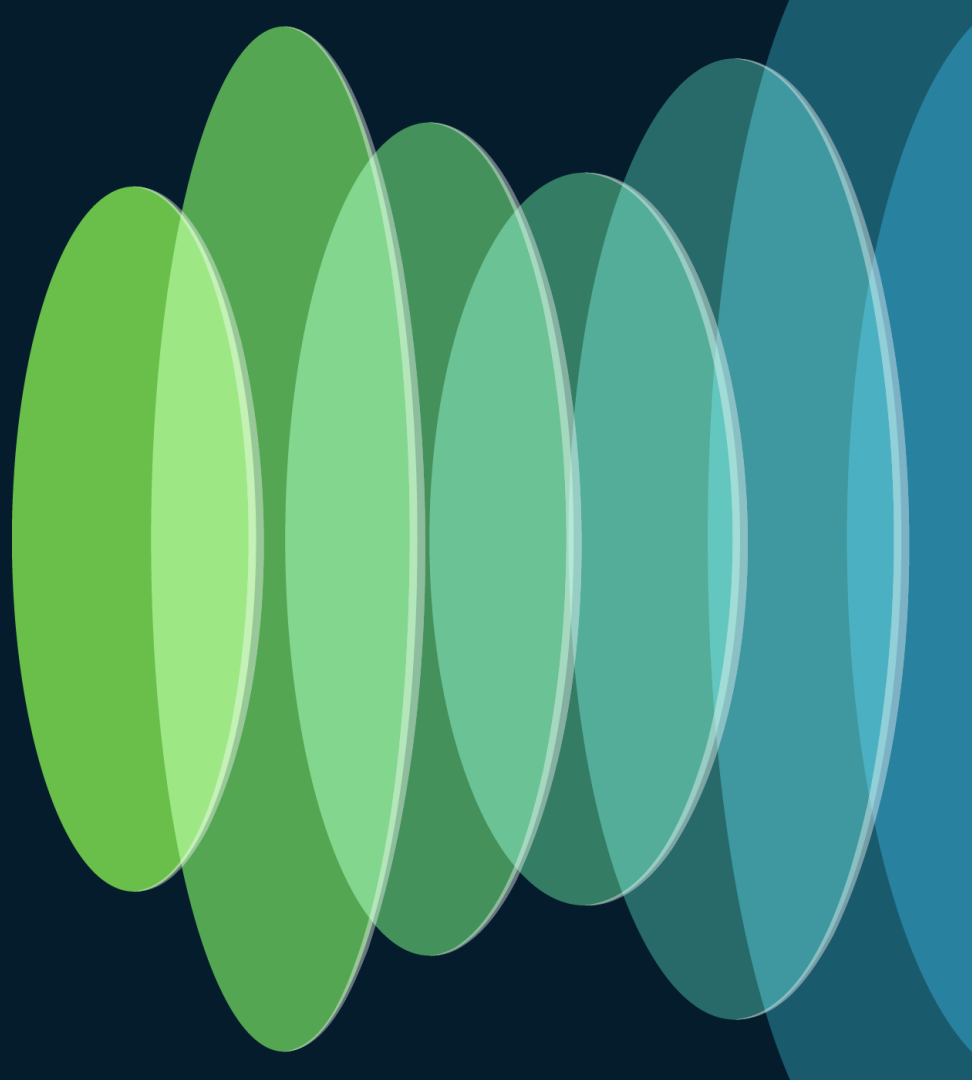
Resource Monitoring

- Provides Monitoring on
 - CPU
 - RAM
 - I/O Disk
 - I/O Network
- Node or Cluster level View
- Namespaces View


Resource Monitoring on Node and Cluster Level



Event Analytic



Event Analytic

Events Audit Logs							
Filter by attributes							
Severity	Life Cycle	Name	Domain	Age	Description	Acknowledged	
 Critical	Cleared	Cluster CPU Usage	server	21h35m	Cluster CPU usage greater than 80%	Yes	

Event Analytics enables easy access your Nexus Dashboard's events and audit logs. In addition to viewing the events and logs directly in the Nexus Dashboard GUI, you can also configure the cluster to stream the events to an external syslog server (TCP/UDP)

Events

- Node CPU exceeding threshold (80%)
- Node storage exceeding threshold (80%)
- Node memory exceeding threshold (80%)
- Cluster node is unreachable
- Cluster node is rebooted
- All audit events
- NTP is not synchronized
- BGP peers are not reachable

Configuring Syslog Servers 1/2

Nexus Dashboard

Admin Console

Overview

Operate

Analyze

Admin

Admin > System Settings

System Settings

Refresh

GeneralMulti-Cluster Connectivity

Cluster Details

Name

TME-MUC

App Subnet

172.17.0.1/16

Service Subnet

100.80.0.0/16

Proxy Configuration

Type

Server

Ignore Hosts

Routes

Management Network Routes

Data Network Routes

Network Scale

Number of Sites

Number of Switches

Flows per second

NTP

Key

NTP Host Name/IP Address

192.168.10.120

DNS

Domain Name

tme-muc.case.local

Providers IP Addresses

10.49.153.3

Search Domains

Syslog

Remote Destinations

192.168.10.122

Configuring Syslog Servers 2/2

Admin > System Settings

System Settings

General

Multi-Cluster Connectivity

Cluster Details

Name

TME-MUC

App Subnet



172.17.0.1/16

Proxy Configuration

Type

Server

Syslog

Address	Enabled	Transport	Port	
192.168.10.122	true	UDP	6514	 
+ Add Remote Destination IP Address				

Admin > System Settings

System Settings

General

Multi-Cluster Connectivity

Cluster Details




Name

TME-MUC

App Subnet

172.17.0.1/16

Syslog

Address	Enabled	Transport	Port	
192.168.10.122	true	UDP	6514	 
<input type="text" value="192.168.10.12"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text" value="UDP"/>	<input type="text" value="614"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 

Hardware Monitoring of ND via CIMC



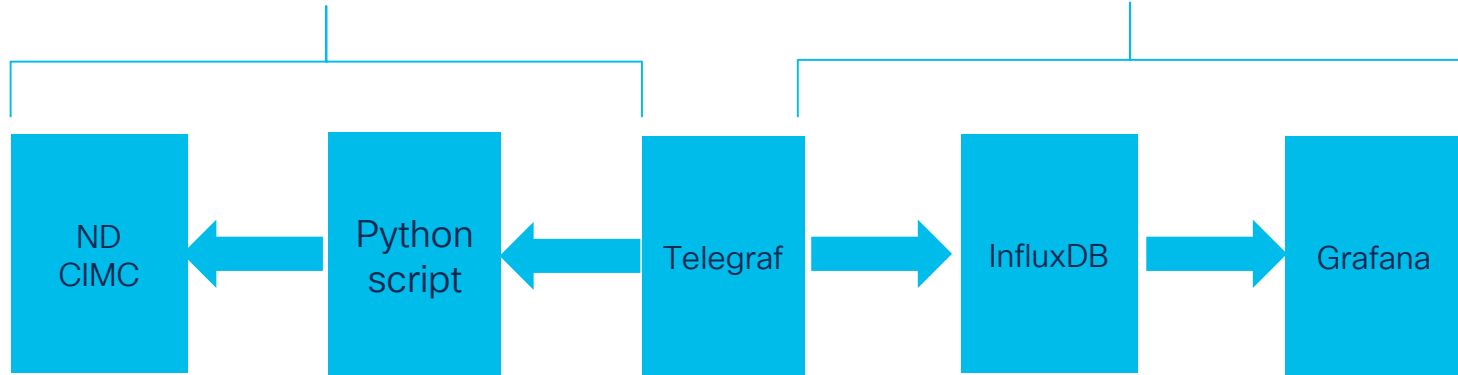
Hardware Monitoring of ND via CIMC

- Leveraging REST-API of CIMC to get:
 - Power draw
 - Temperature
 - CPU, I/O and RAM Utilization
- Querying the following dns:
 - CPU, I/O and RAM : dn="sys/rack-unit-1/utilization"
 - Temperature: dn=="sys/rack-unit-1/temperature"
 - Power: dn="sys/rack-unit-1/pwrmonitor-Platform"

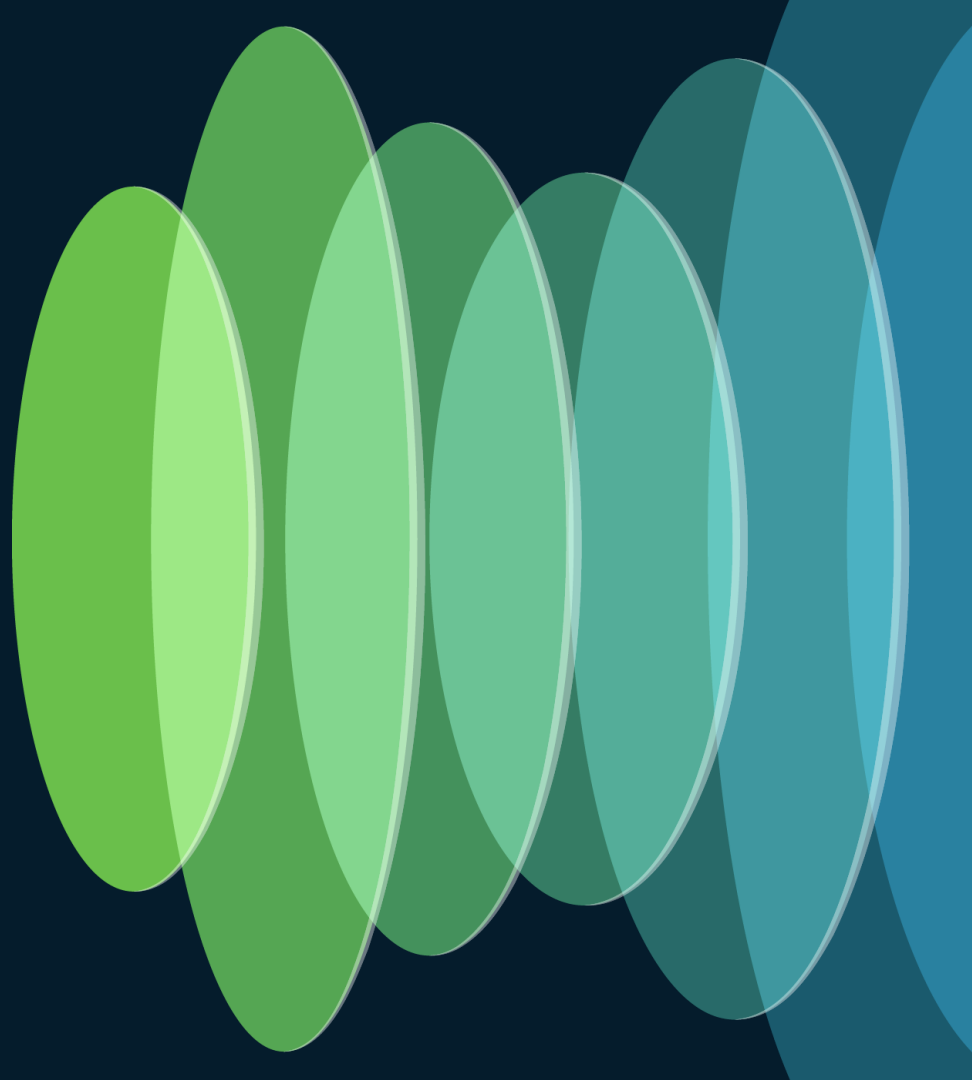
SW Stack Example

Telegraf calling a Python script to collect periodically data from CIMC

Telegraf storing data as timeseries in InfluxDB.
Grafana visualizes the data



Basic Troubleshooting



Basic Troubleshooting

- Accessing ND Console, only via “rescue-user” with “admin” password
- Usage of ACS

```
rescue-user@ND-Node1:~$ acs
usage: [-h] [-v] {debug-token,passphrase,version,system-config,verify,
: error: the following arguments are required: which
rescue-user@ND-Node1:~$ acs health
All components are healthy
rescue-user@ND-Node1:~$
```

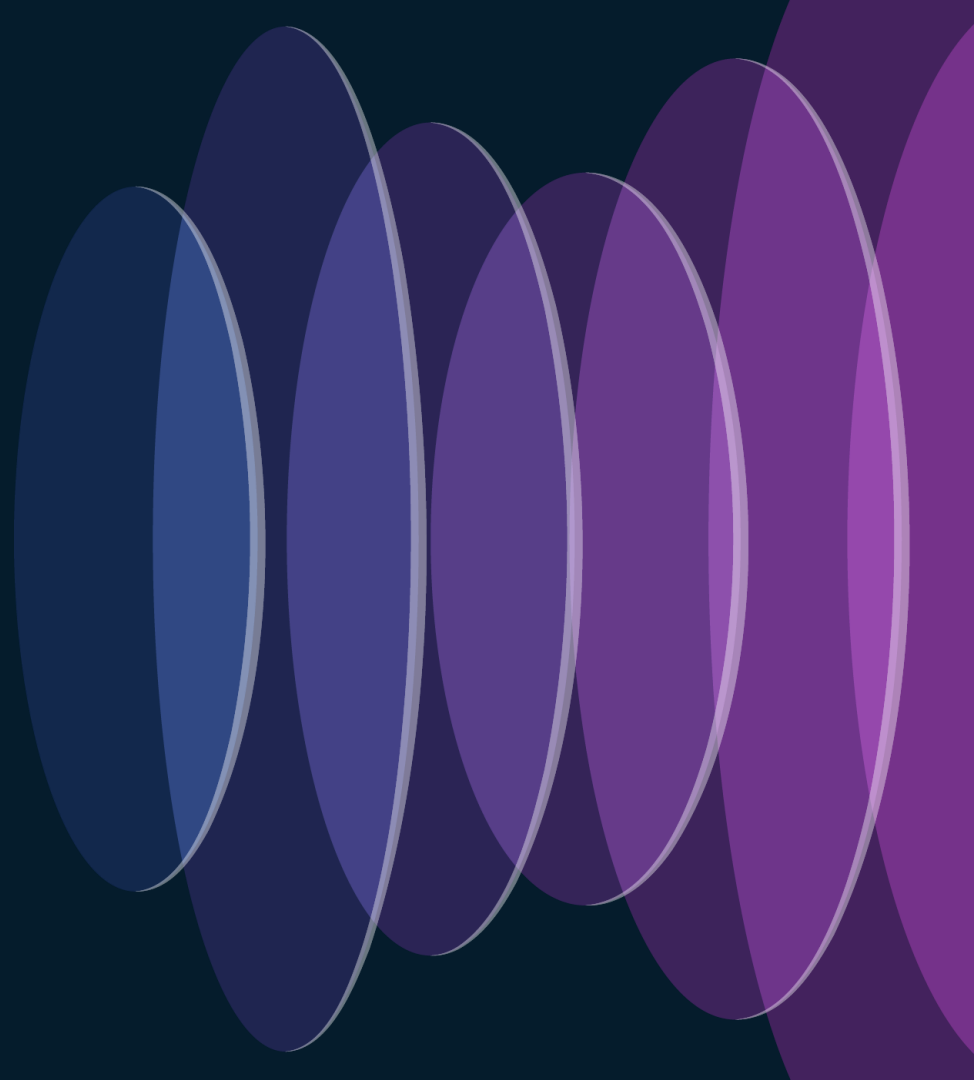
Basic Troubleshooting

Usage of Kubectl to get information of the K8S

```
rescue-user@ND-Node1:~$ kubectl get pods --all-namespaces
```

NAMESPACE	NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
aaamgr	aaamgr-5979845989-jmjbd	1/1	Running	0	57d
authy-oidc	authy-oidc-58bb444797-54qnn	1/1	Running	4 (57d ago)	57d
authy	authy-585955bc5f-jz9lz	3/3	Running	0	57d
authy	authy-585955bc5f-nwfgt	3/3	Running	0	57d
authy	authy-585955bc5f-zh5md	3/3	Running	0	57d
cisco-appcenter	apiserver-77b8dc6c65-t8xm6	1/1	Running	0	57d
cisco-appcenter	appcenterconnector-89d74b88b-ww6fv	1/1	Running	0	57d
cisco-appcenter	appsync-856f8f57b8-7bg77	1/1	Running	0	57d
cisco-appcenter	store-58f8fff84-nhkjz	1/1	Running	0	57d
cisco-intersightdc	deviceconnector-cjhnp	1/1	Running	0	57d
cisco-intersightdc	deviceconnector-kbjqv	1/1	Running	0	57d
cisco-intersightdc	deviceconnector-nj8c9	1/1	Running	0	57d

Conclusion



Take Away

- Attachment of ND Cluster depends on use case
 - E.g. NDI, NDO, NDFC
- Unified Image made upgrading ND cluster more easy
- ND provides all tools to operate ND cluster

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