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Learn the ABCs of Cisco's AI/Networking/Security and Cloud

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Meet the Presenter







Syed F. Ahmed

Solutions Engineer (APO)

14 Years at Cisco Systems

CCIE #49025 Enterprise Infrastructure

Hobby: Playing the Guitar

Vacation: Turks & Caicos, Hawaii, Clearwater Beach

Athletic Booster Volunteer at Chantilly High School

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Session Focus: High Level Overview

- **Important Note regarding Session Content:**
  - **Scope Limitation:**
    - ❑ This session does not include a technical deep dive into specific Cisco products, software configurations, or individual solution implementations.
    - ❑This session will prepare you for the Keynote Session (announcements and demos)
  - **Further Learning:**
    - ❑ For detailed product specifications, technical configurations, or deep-dive architectural guidance, we encourage you to attend our specialized technical breakout sessions or visit the Cisco experts at the World of Solutions.
  - **Dates and Announcements**:
    - ❑ Subject to change.

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Cisco Mobile/Webex App

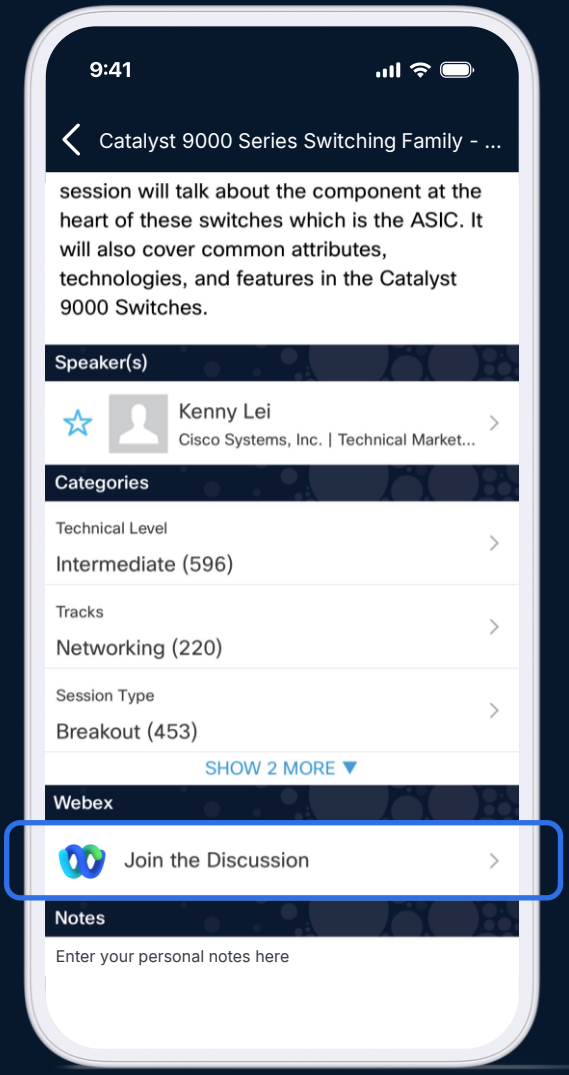
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BRKCLD-1005

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Agenda

01 The Reality

02 AI For Networking & Troubleshooting

03 AI Canvas To The Rescue

04 Cisco’s Cloud & AI Vision

05 Call To Action

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Today’s Reality is we have Isolated Domains in the Network

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Various Departments and Siloed Team Members



Observability

Splunk/TE

Collaboration

WebEx

Data Center

Nexus/Compute

Security

Security Cloud Control

Networkin g

Meraki/Catalyst Center

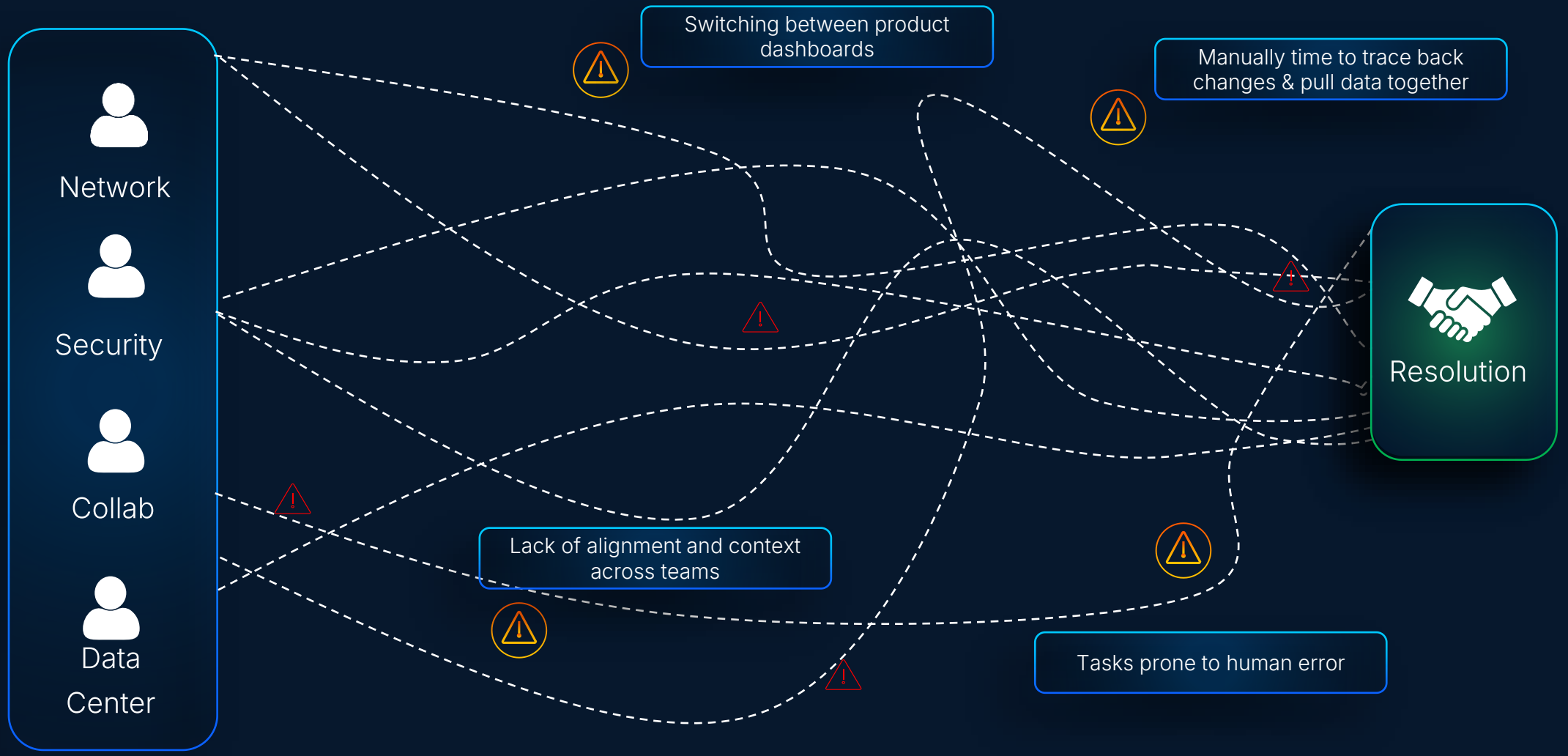
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Work slows down when it’s split across tools



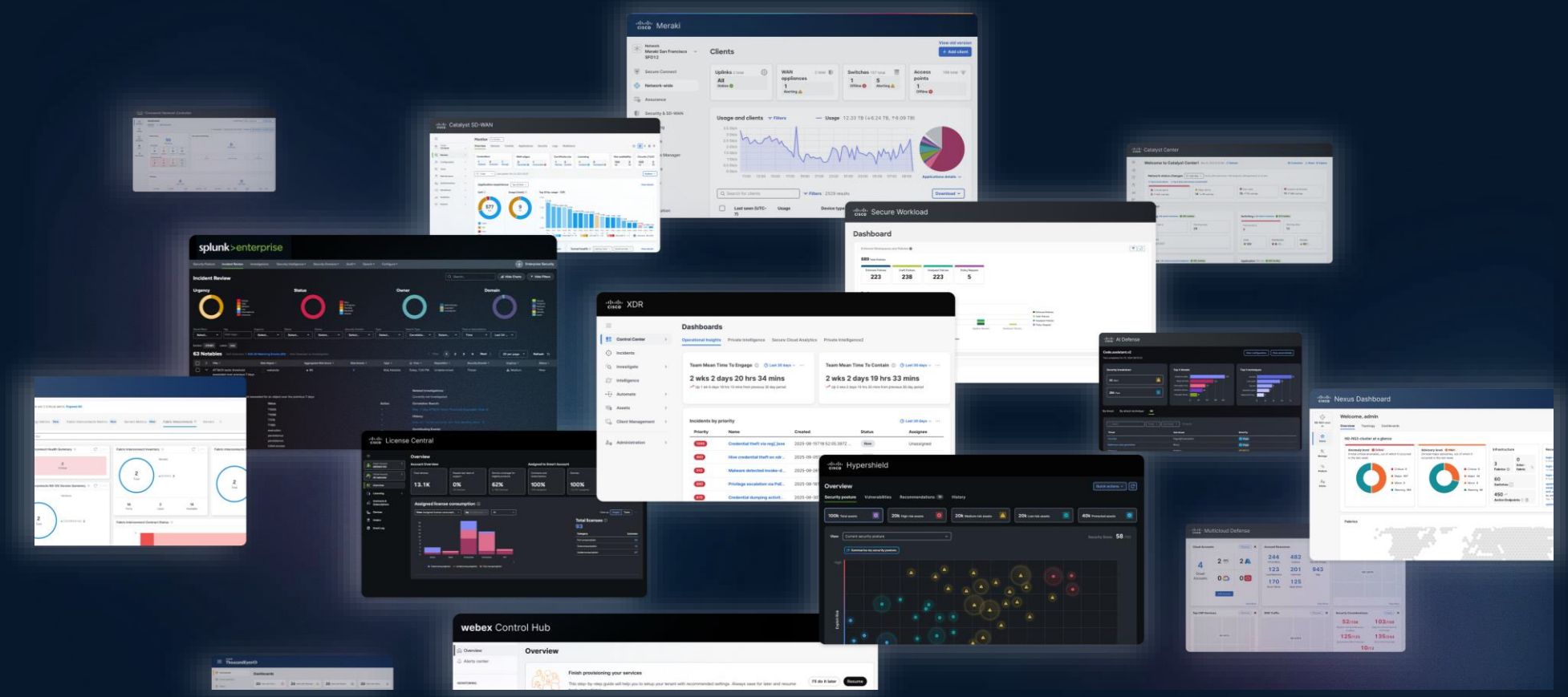
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Cross-domain silo response creates split decisions



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Cisco has **unique dashboards**



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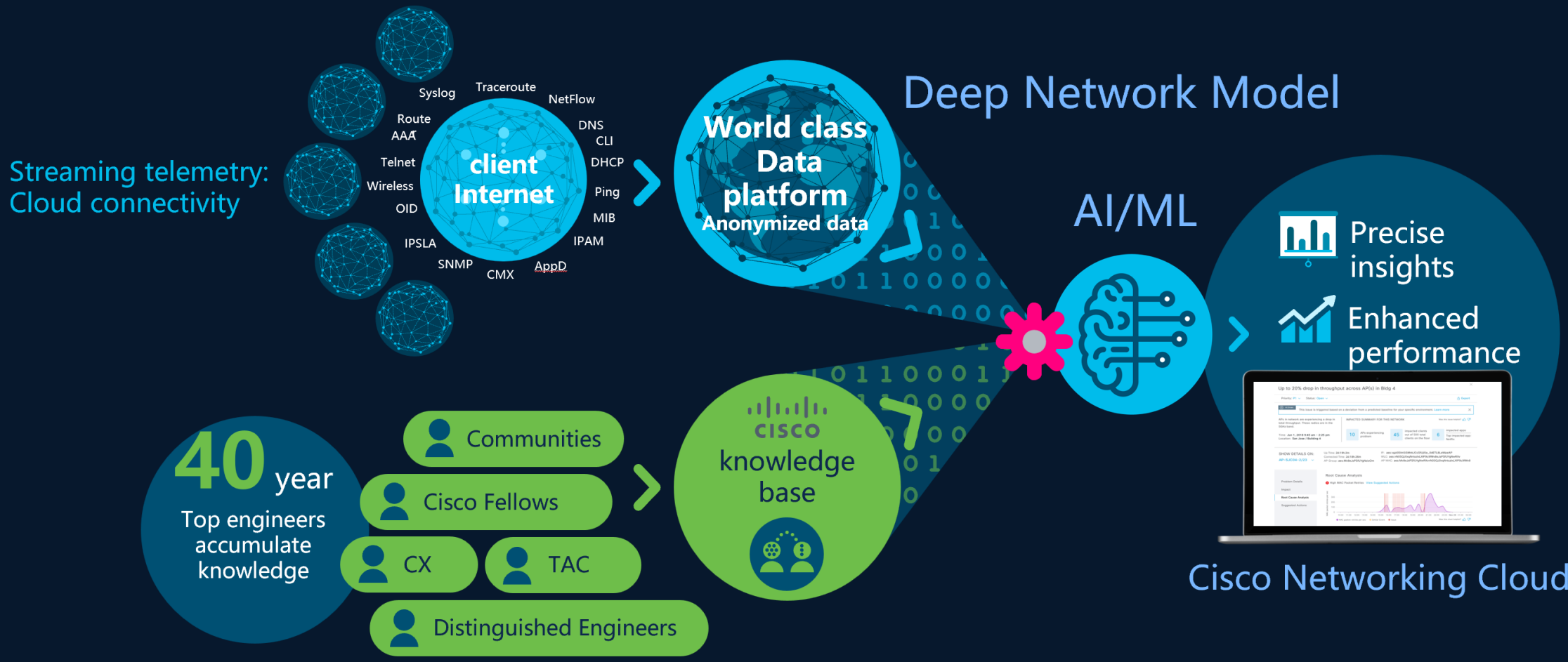
Agentic Ops Architecture

- LLM as the Multiplier (SME)
- MCP (Model Context Protocol) servers
- The Cisco Dashboards + 3rd Party Tools

- **Scalability:** As the network grows, the agent scales to be able to monitor and troubleshoot. No manual administrative overhead for network admin.

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Cisco’s Large Language Model (LLM)



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What is an MCP Server?

- **MCP (Model Context Protocol)** is essentially the "USB-C" of the AI world connecting the LLM.
- It is a universal standard that allows an AI model to connect to any data source:
  - Database
  - Notes in a file
  - Internal Software

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How does it work?

- An **MCP Server** acts as the middleman. It sits between the AI and your data.
  - ✓ **Translates:** It takes the AI's request and translates it into a language the database or file system understands.
  - ✓ **Secures:** It ensures the AI only sees the data it is *allowed* to see. It acts as a gatekeeper, keeping your private information safe while still letting the AI perform its job.
  - ✓ **Retrieves:** It fetches the exact information and sends it back to the AI (LLM) in a format the AI can process.

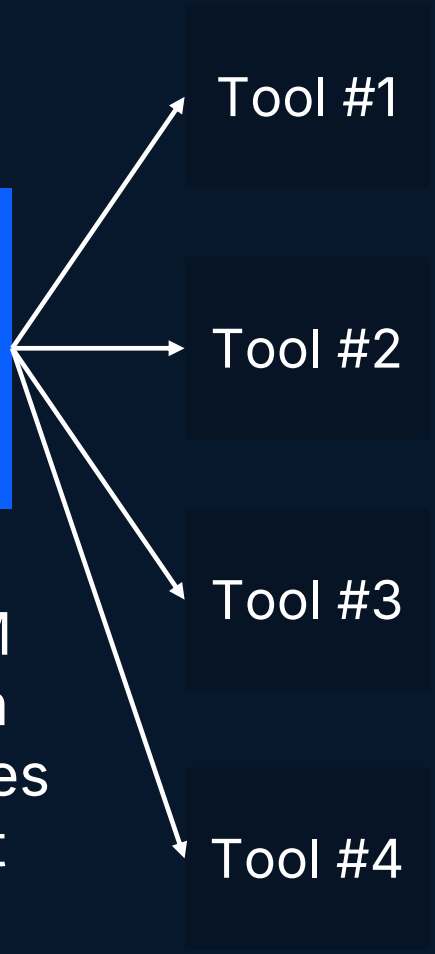
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The Rise of Agentic Systems

LLM + agent

An LLM by itself doesn't really do anything except generate text

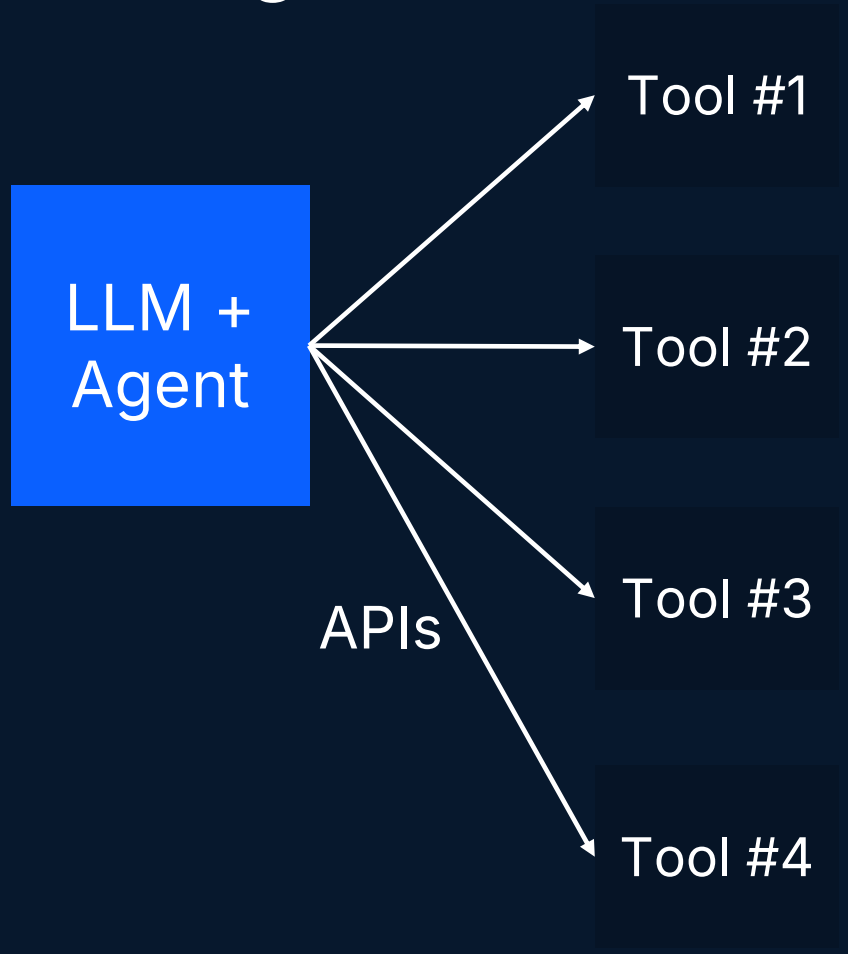
LLM Agent

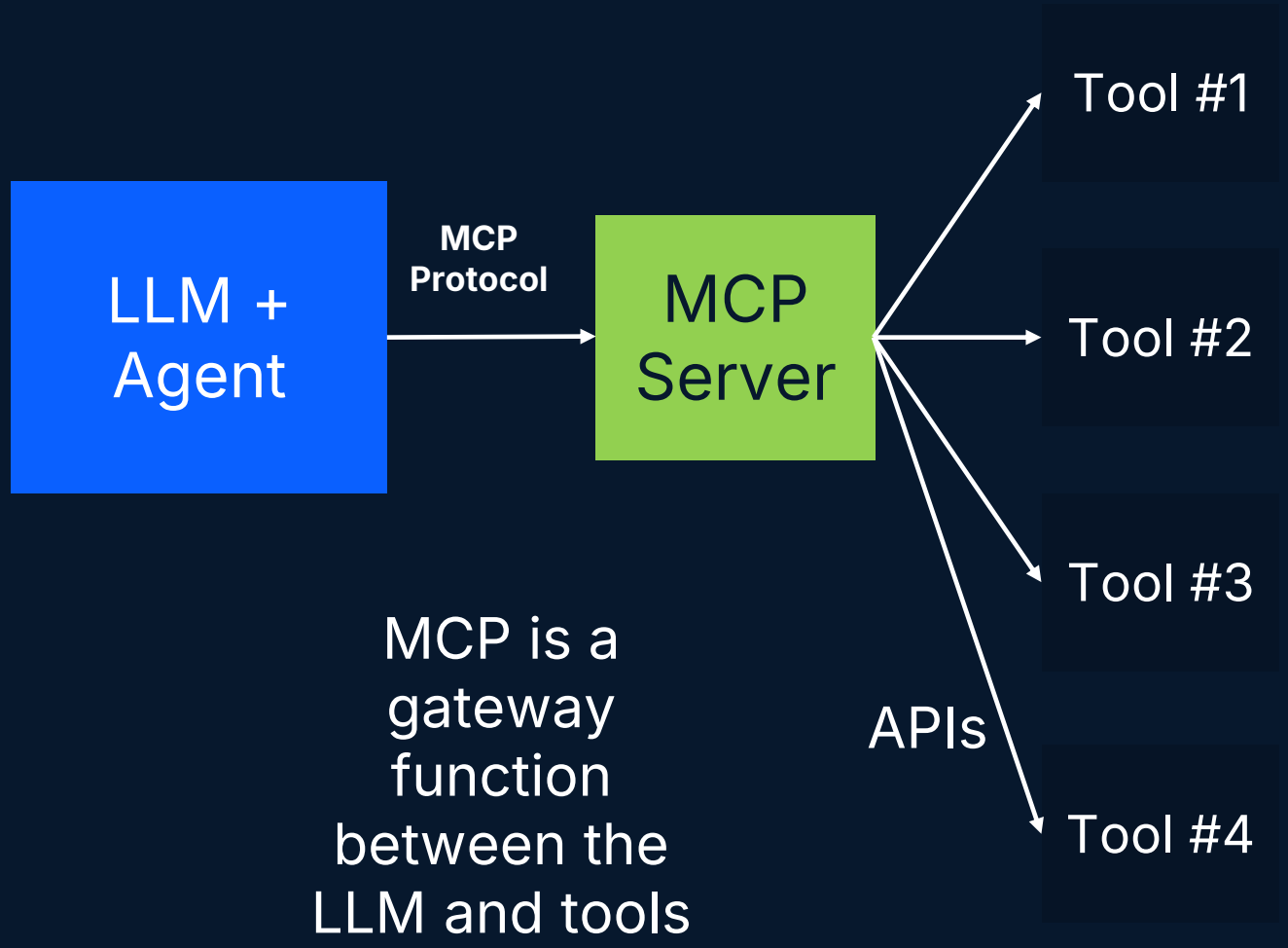


When an LLM interacts with tools it becomes powerful, but relies on API consistency

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The Agentic Evolution to MCP

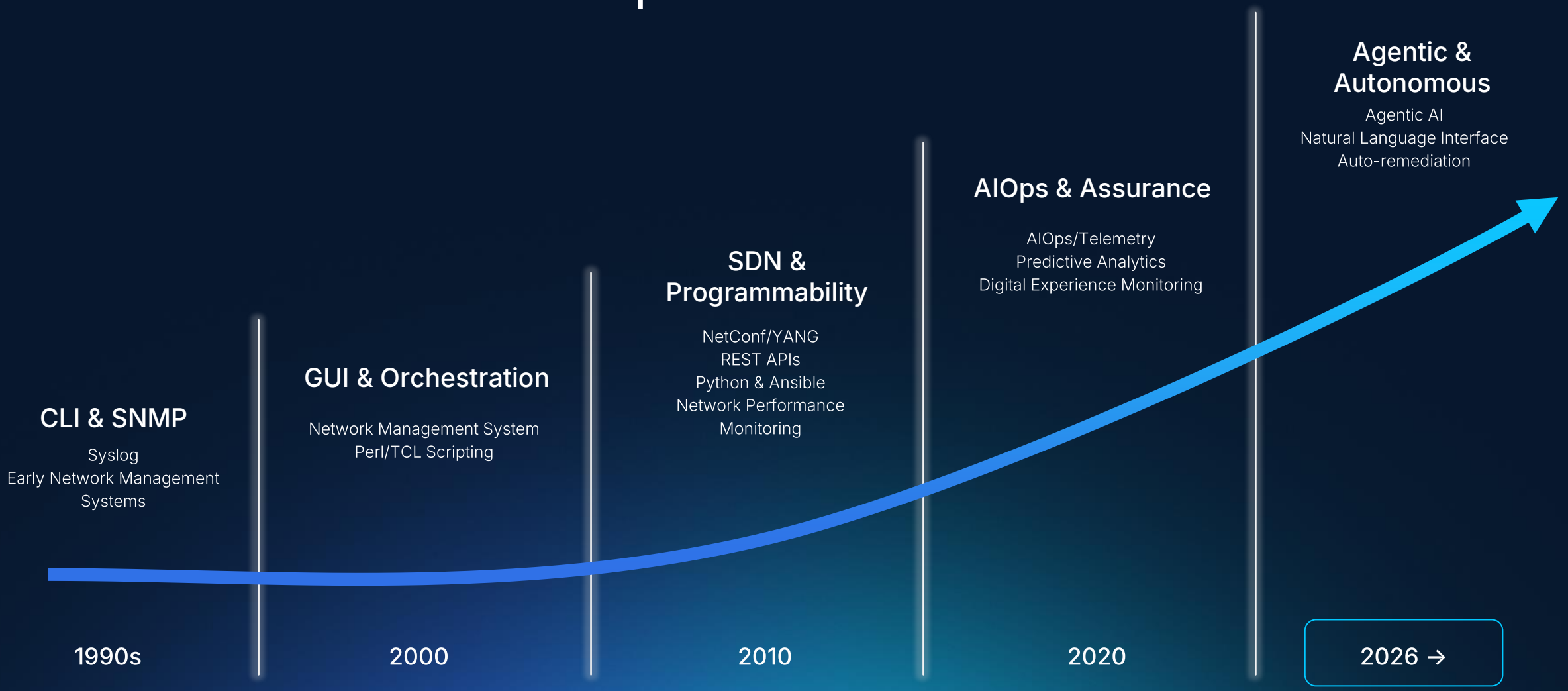




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AI For Networking & Troubleshooting

Evolution of Network Operations



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Introduced AI Assistant Mid-2025

Monitoring

Troubleshooting

Automated Configuration



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Building on AI Assistant AgenticOps



Default Mode

Monitoring, Simple Troubleshooting, Config Updates

Deep Reasoning Mode

Deep Research (Security Audit , Network Planning, Config drift, Unified Branch)

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Default Mode Use Cases

Natural Language Querying

Client and Device Insights

- “Provide a full list of all connected clients"
- "List clients currently connected to 2.4Ghz"
- “Show me switches that rebooted today”

Policies and Configuration

- “List the access policies for the network”
- "How do I configure root bridge?"
- “I want to create a network using workflow”

Troubleshooting

- “Why is my wifi slow?”
- "Troubleshoot AP "X"
- “Troubleshoot client Local Server”

Network Overview

- “Show me networks with issues”
- "Show my WAN port usage for network"
- “Whats the VPN status for my network?”

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Deep Reasoning Use Cases (sample list)

Deep Reasoning is positioned to deliver a broad set of use cases



Network Audit
Proactive

- *Security Audit*



Wireless Optimization
Proactive

- *Wireless / Channel Planning*



Capacity Planning
Proactive

- *Capacity planning (WAN, PoE, DHCP)*



Security & Changes
Investigative

- *Compliance to standards (NIST, PCI)*



Alerts & Events
Reactive

- *Critical Alerts*



Troubleshooting & RCA
Reactive

- *App down (Wireless, Switching, WAN)*

- Multi-domain triage in a single session
- Networking runbooks (Cisco specific knowledge)
- API driven – suggestions and conclusions backed by network data
- Transparent reasoning steps for explainability
- Remediation path (via Agentic workflows)

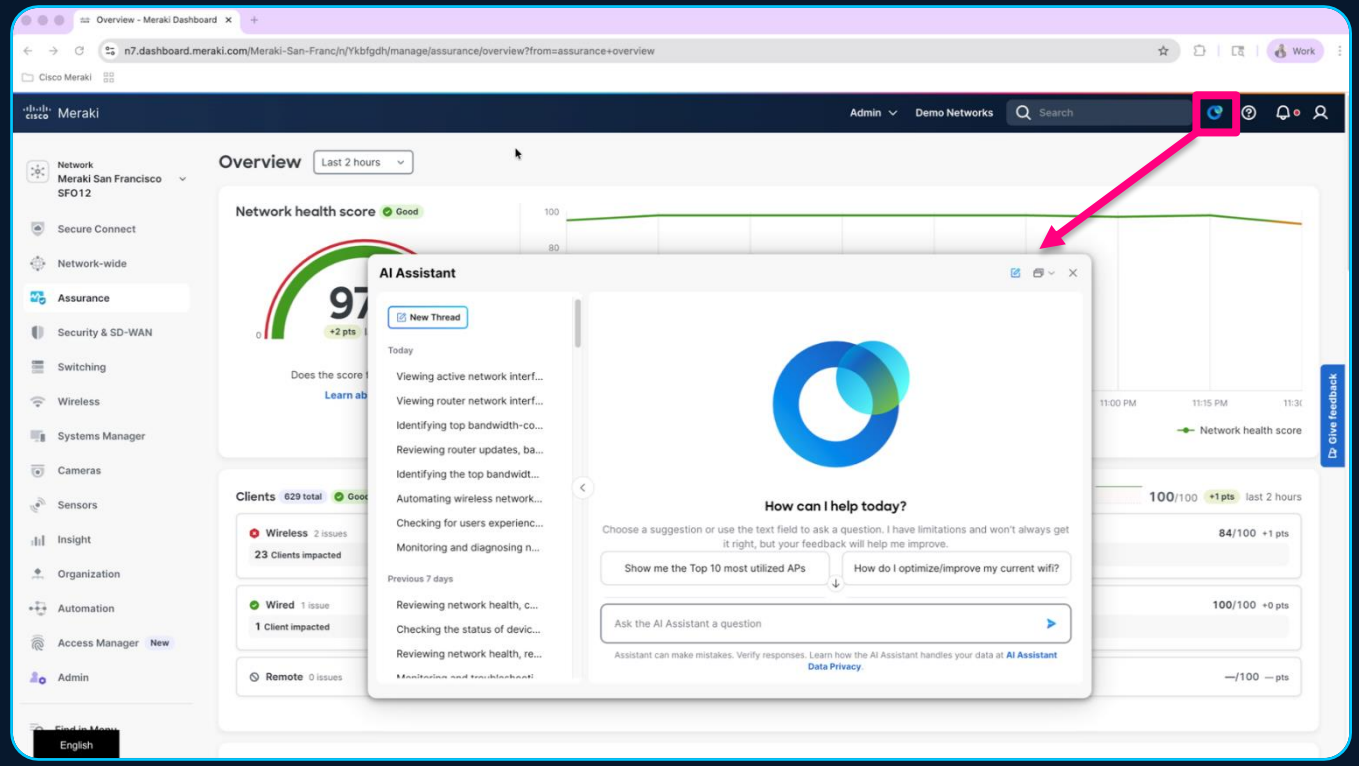
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Traditional AI Assistant?

The Cisco® AI Assistant is a Generative AI solution designed for simplified, expedited network operations:

- Users make requests with natural language
- AI Assistant interprets request, determines relevant data, and gathers it
- Data is fed to the large language model (LLM) engine for response generation

The AI Assistant is available in both Cisco Catalyst Center and the Cisco Meraki dashboard (below):



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Cisco's AI Assistant is a cloud-native tool embedded directly into Cisco’s management platforms and now Cloud Control

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AI Assistants inside Cloud Control

AI Assistants have skills, not features

Documentation Search

Monitoring Assistant

Troubleshooting

Insights

Configuration Assistance

AI Skills

- Definition: Any action that a Cisco AI Assistant can perform.
- Skills: Troubleshooting, configuration, recommendations, etc.



Best Practices/CVP/CVD

Case Management

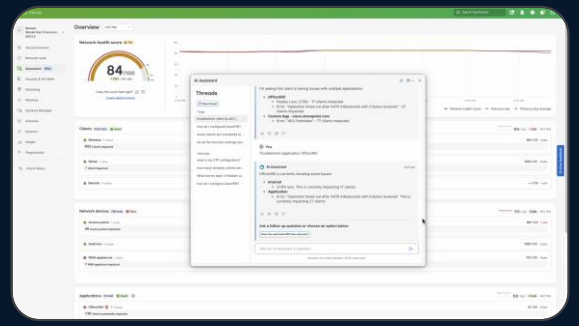
Network Migration

Impact Analysis

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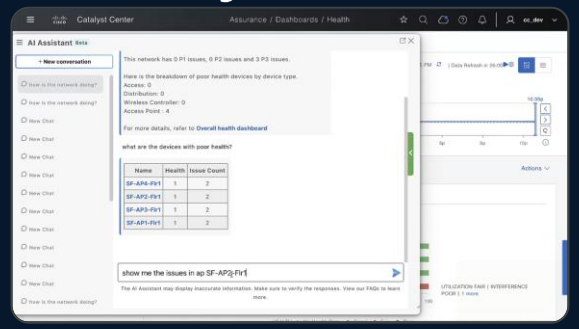
AI Assistants for Networking, Observability, and Data Center before Cloud Control

Meraki



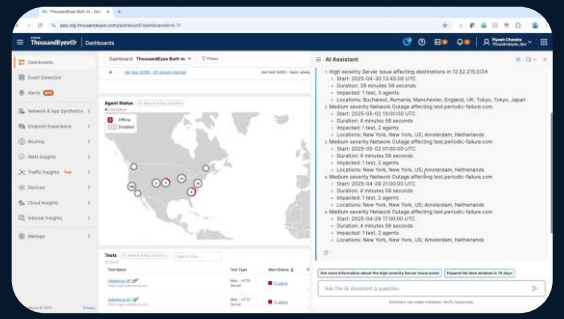
Cloud-managed networking with security, visibility, and device control.

Catalyst Center



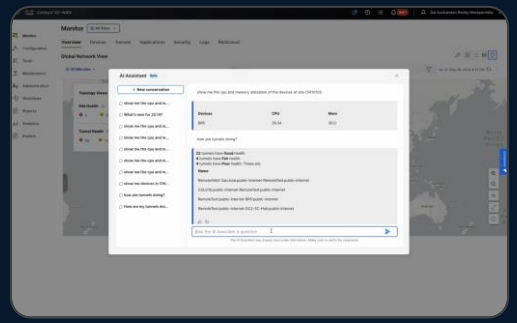
On-prem network management for automation, policy, security & assurance.

ThousandEyes



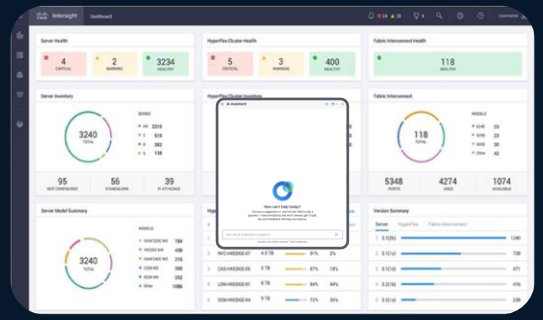
Monitors network and application performance across the internet.

SD-WAN



Optimizes WAN traffic and security across remote sites.

Intersight



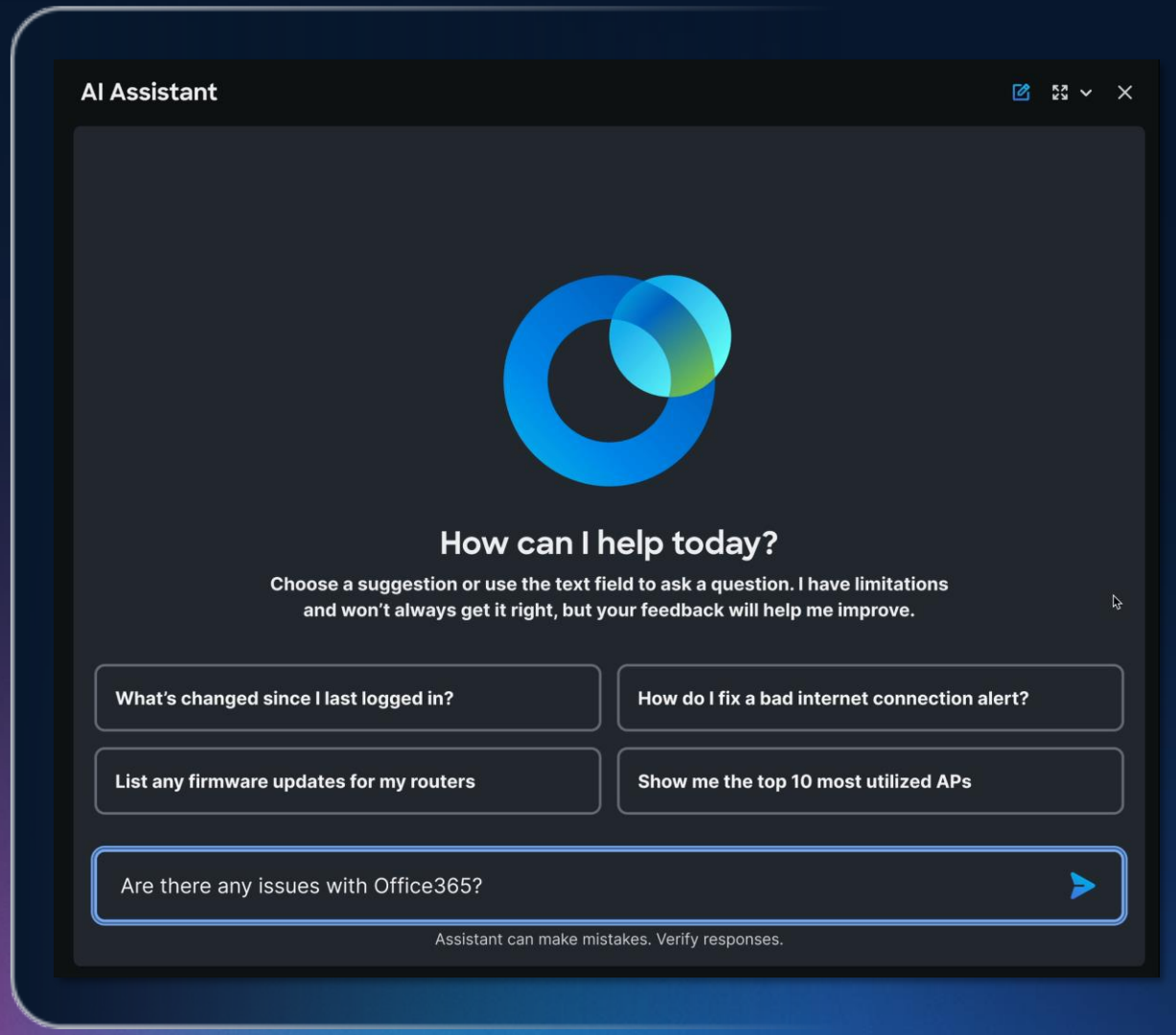
Unified management and automation data center, edge, & cloud

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USECASE

Network assurance and insights with AI Assistant

- End-to-end visibility across owned and unowned networks
- Full-stack insight into users and applications
- Predicts and pinpoints issues before they impact performance

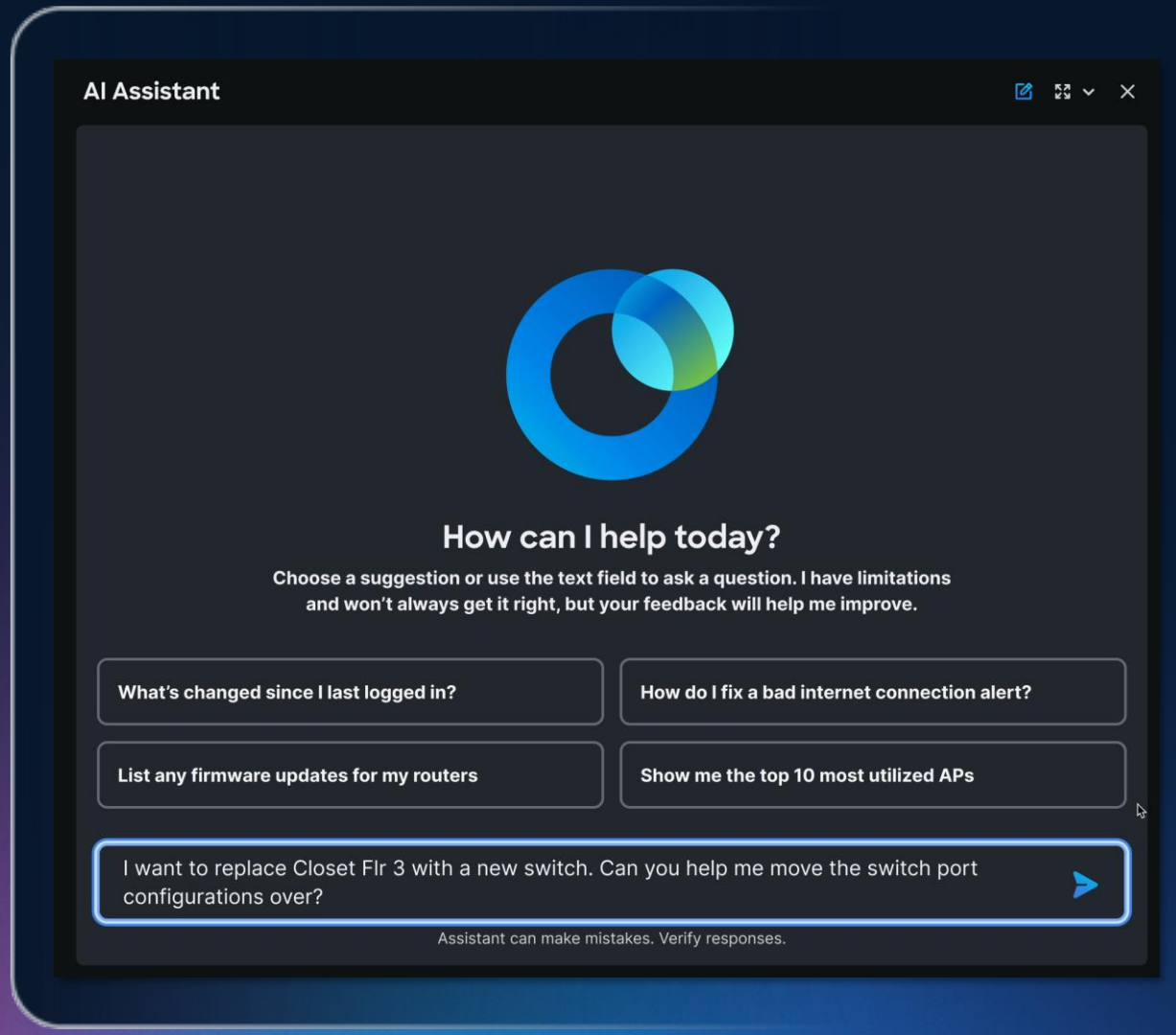


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USECASE

Automated workflow for switch migration with AI Assistant

- Transfers configuration from old to new switches
- Validates setup
- Cuts downtime and eliminates manual errors

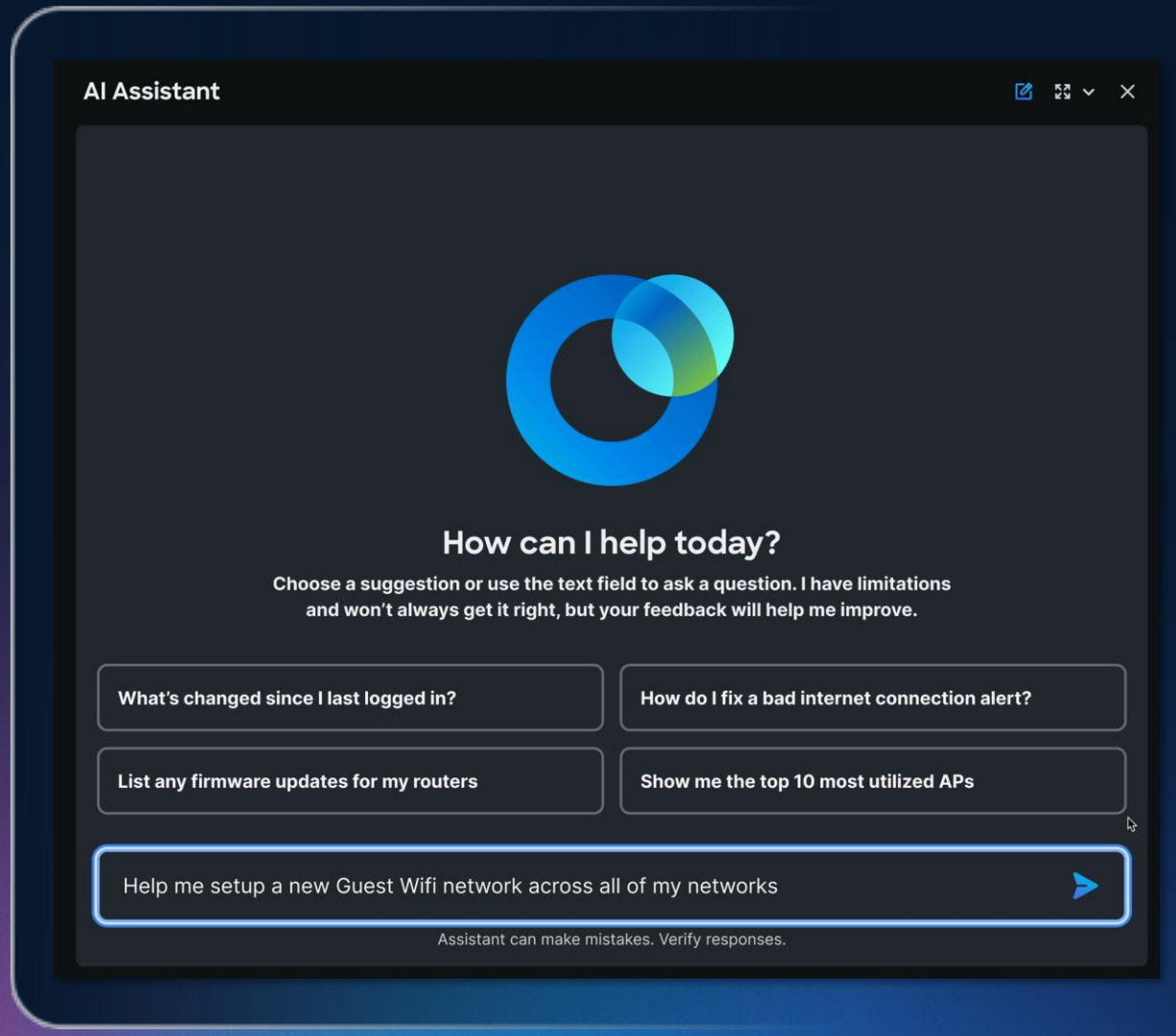


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USECASE

Automated workflow for switch migration with AI Assistant

- Creates secure SSIDs with 802.11X and RADIUS
- One prompt updates NAC across Meraki and ISE
- Automates end-to-end access control



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A look at what’s to come

The AI Assistant in the cloud is just the beginning.

AI Assistant for on-premises air-gapped network is coming soon.

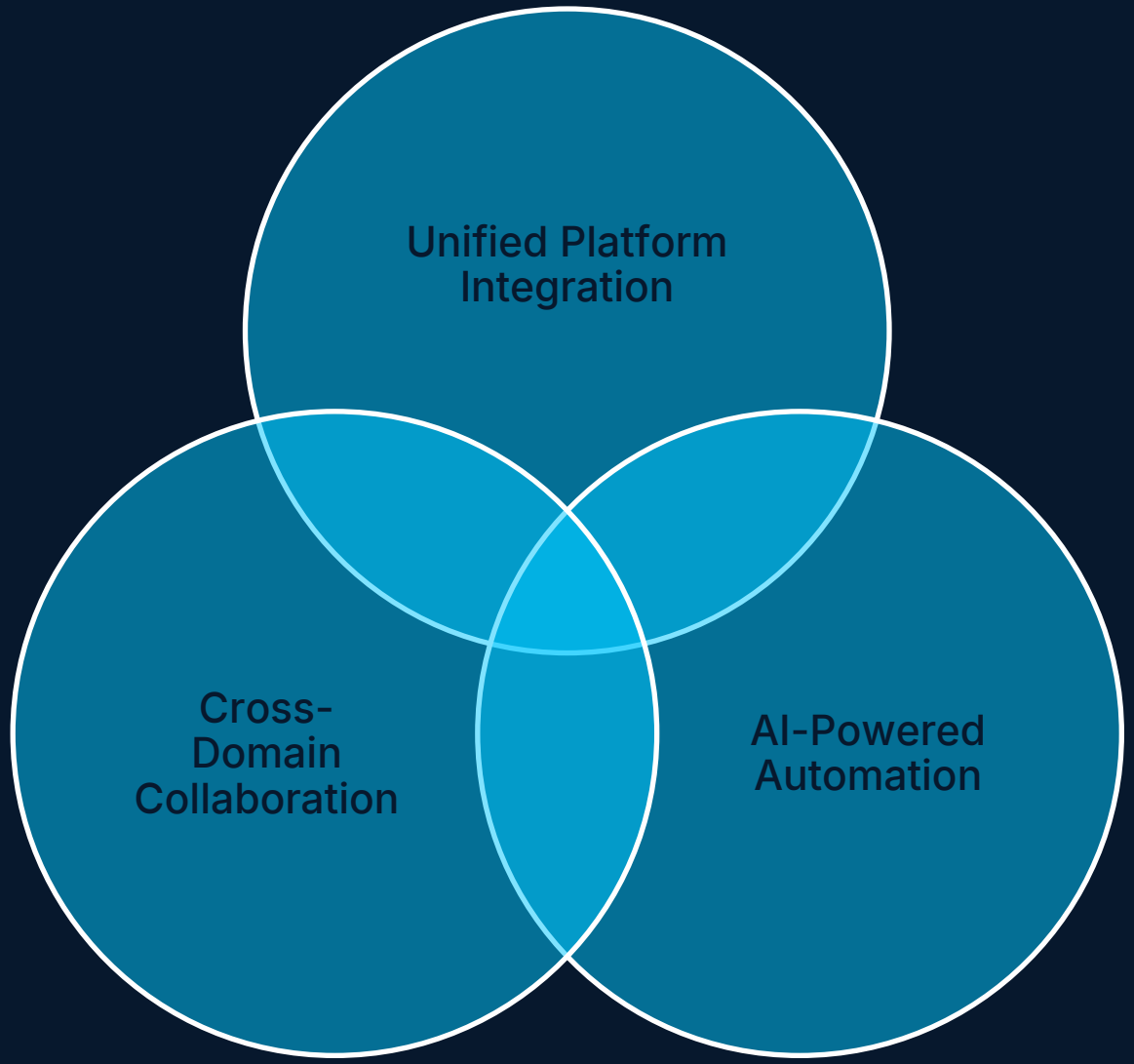
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AI Canvas to the rescue inside Cloud Control

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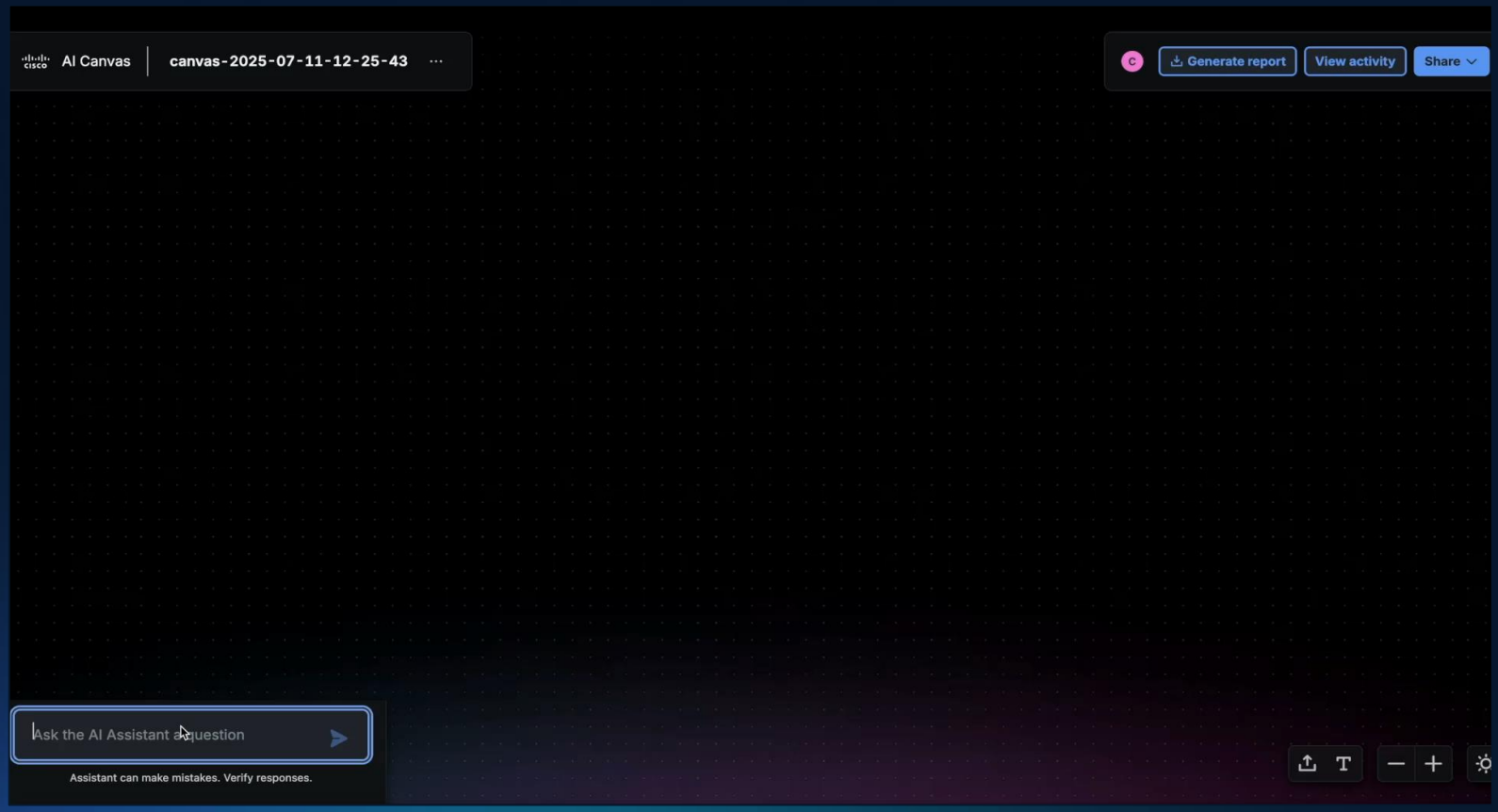


- Unified platform integrates networking, security & cloud into one framework.
- Breaks silos between NetOps, SecOps, AIOps, DevOps & execs.
- Real-time insights speed decision-making & business outcomes.
- AI Canvas enables multi-user troubleshooting

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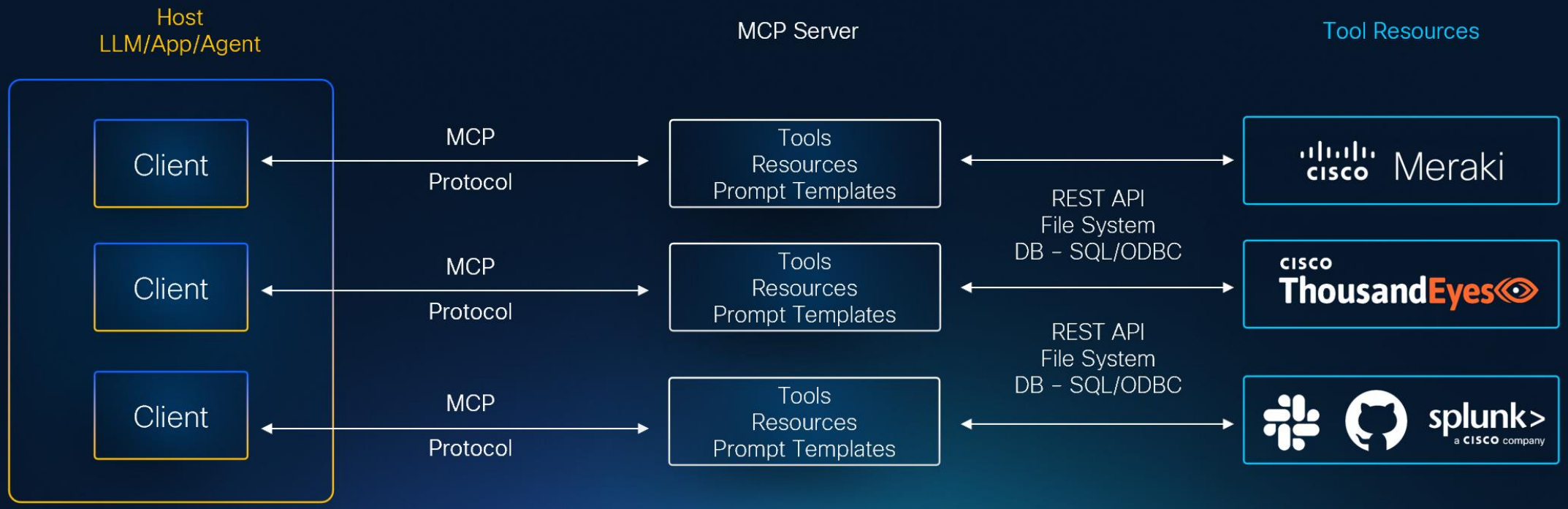
Demo

AI Canvas with **Meraki, Thousand Eyes & Splunk**

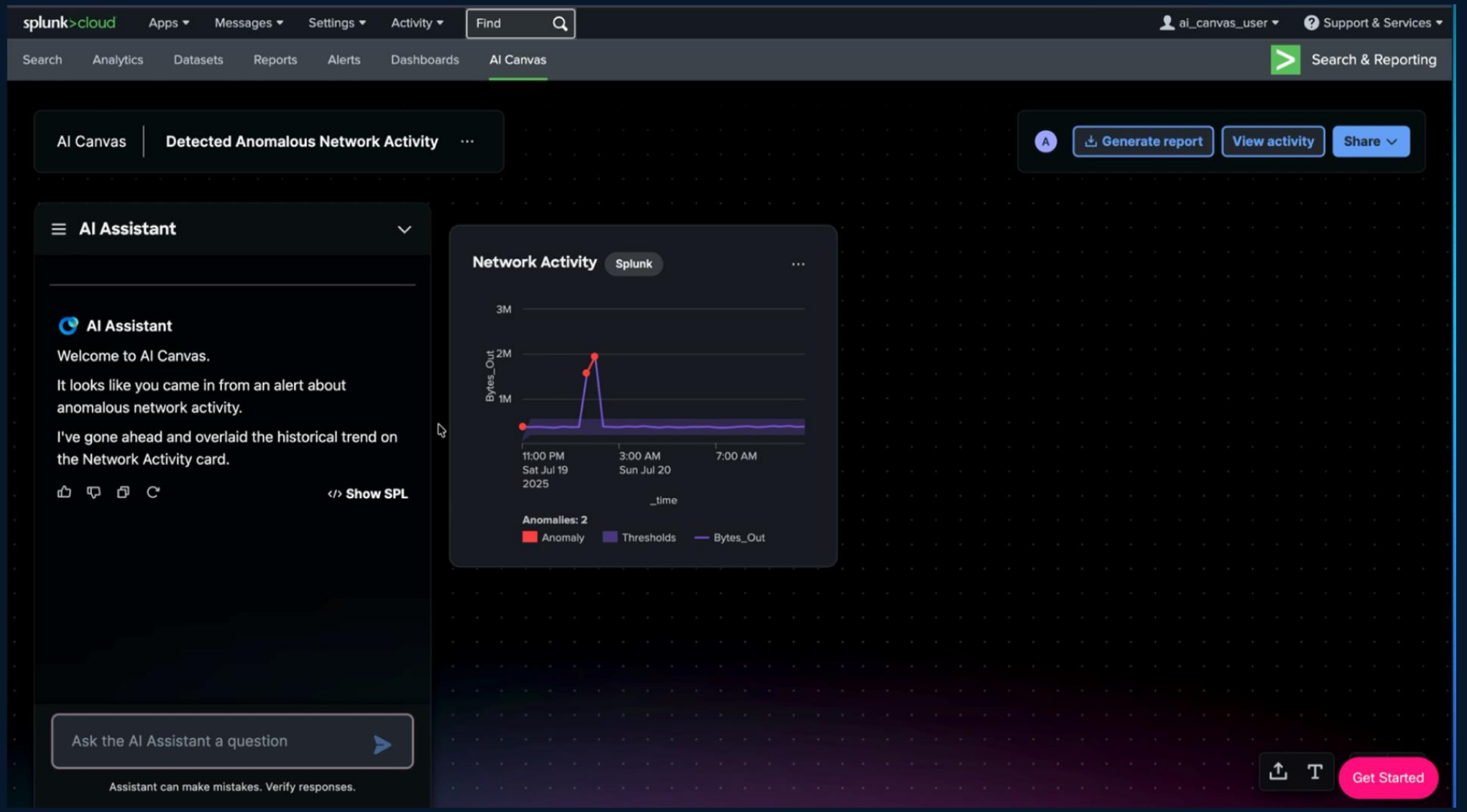


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Model Context Protocol (MCP)



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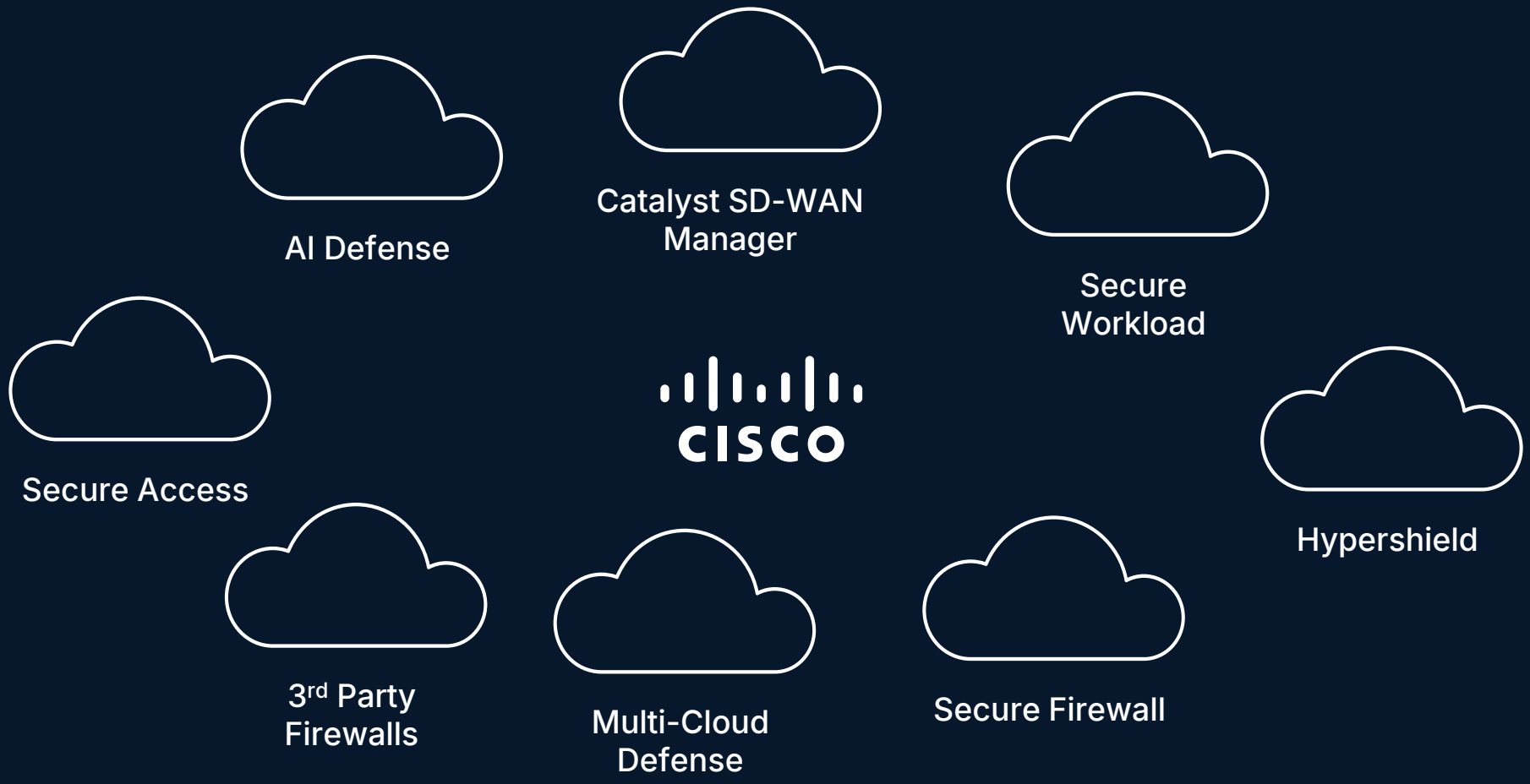


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Cisco’s Cloud & AI Vision



Cisco’s Cloud Security Solutions

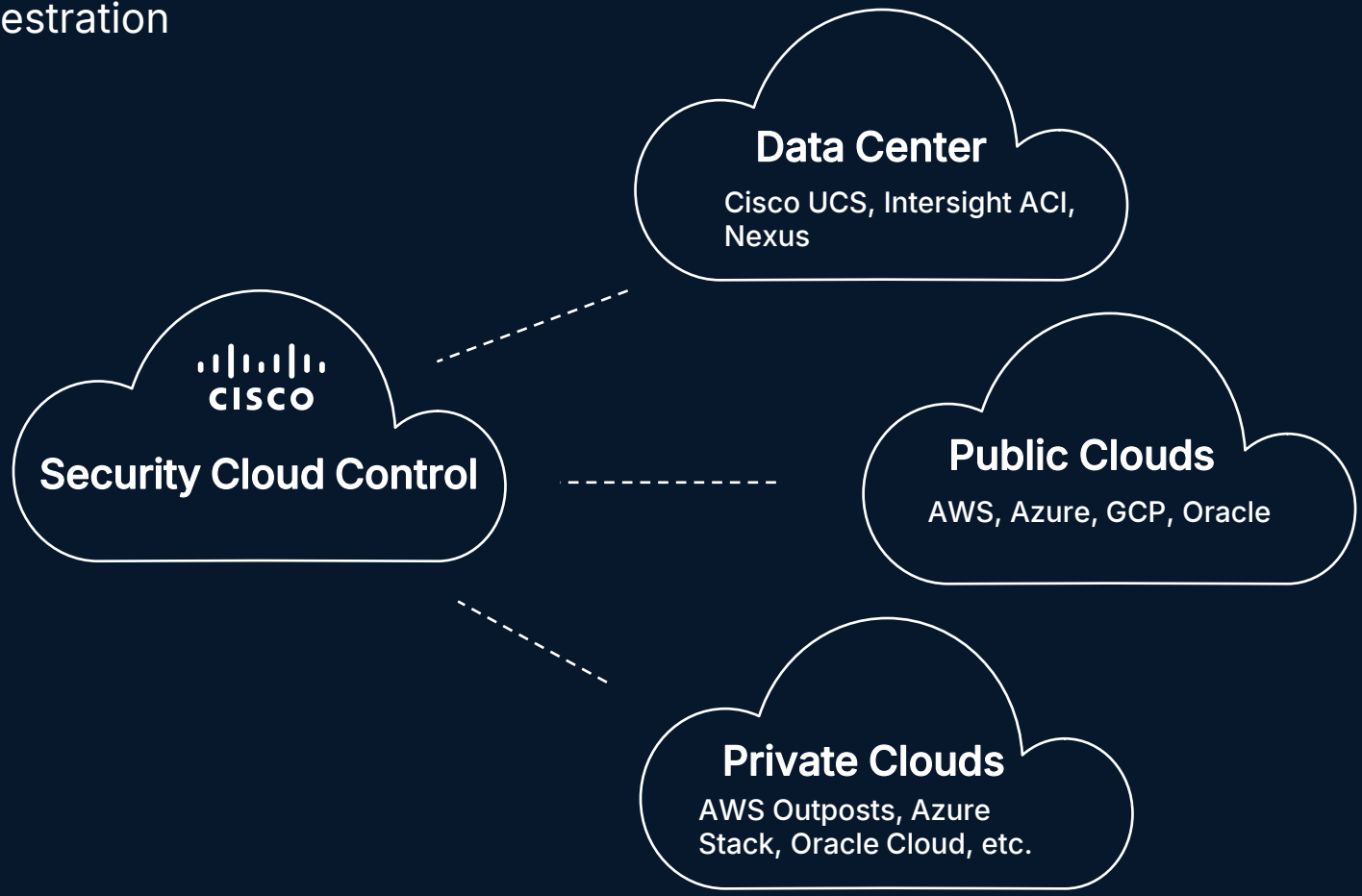


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Cisco’s Unified Security Platform

Multi-Cloud Management and Orchestration

- AI Defense
- Firewall
- Hypershield
- Multicloud Defense
- Secure Access
- Secure Workload
- SD-WAN Manager
- 3rd Party Firewalls
- Embedded Routing FWs



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Cisco’s Cloud Solutions



Nexus/Intersight



Thousand Eyes



Security Cloud Control





Splunk



Catalyst Center



Meraki



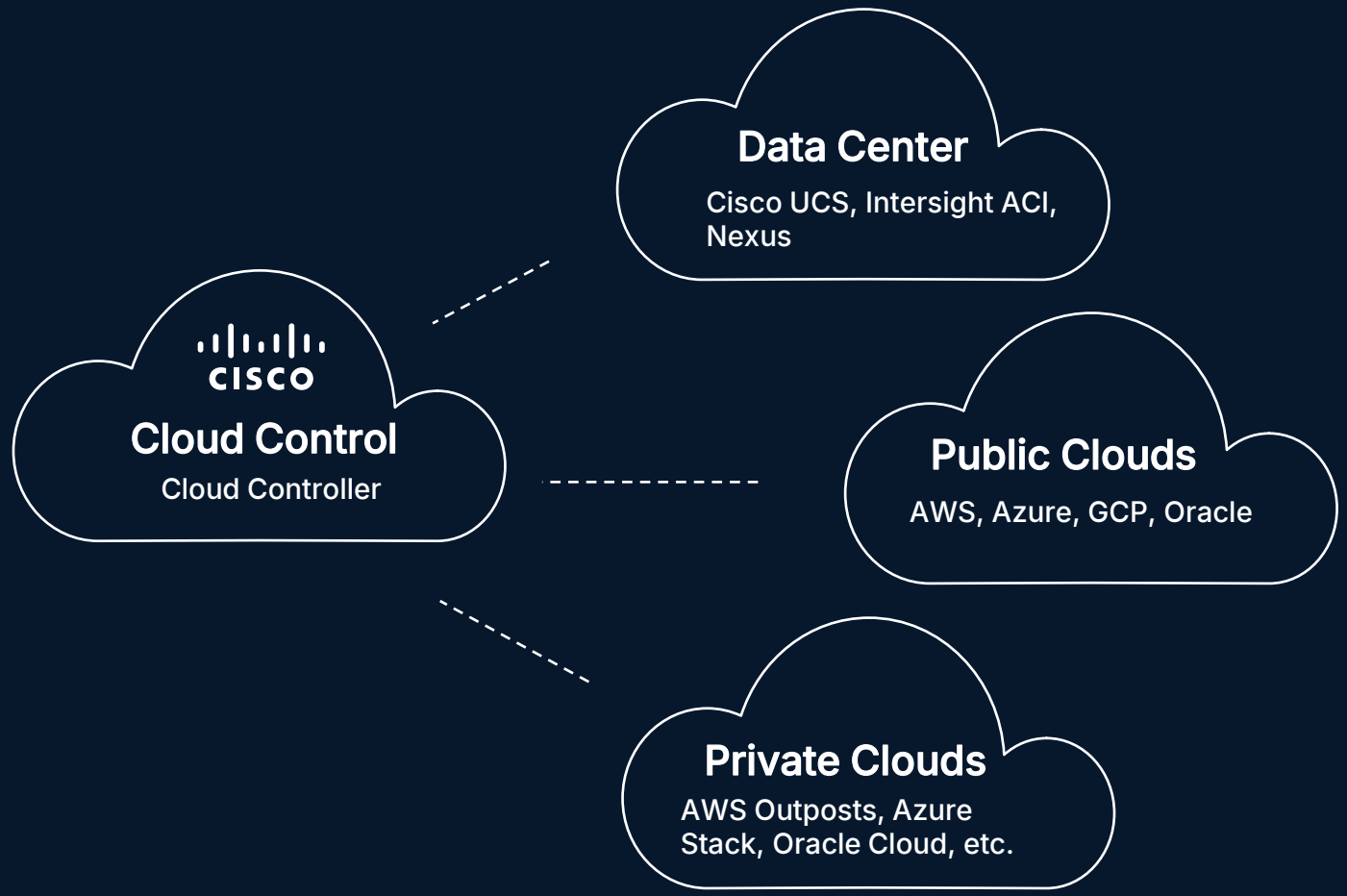
Webex

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Cisco’s Single Pane of Glass

Controlled Availability Later in 2026

- SD-WAN Manager
- Firewalls
- Secure Access
- Nexus Dashboard/Hyperfabric
- Intersight
- Webex Control Hub
- Meraki
- Thousand Eyes
- Unified AI Assistant
- AI Canvas



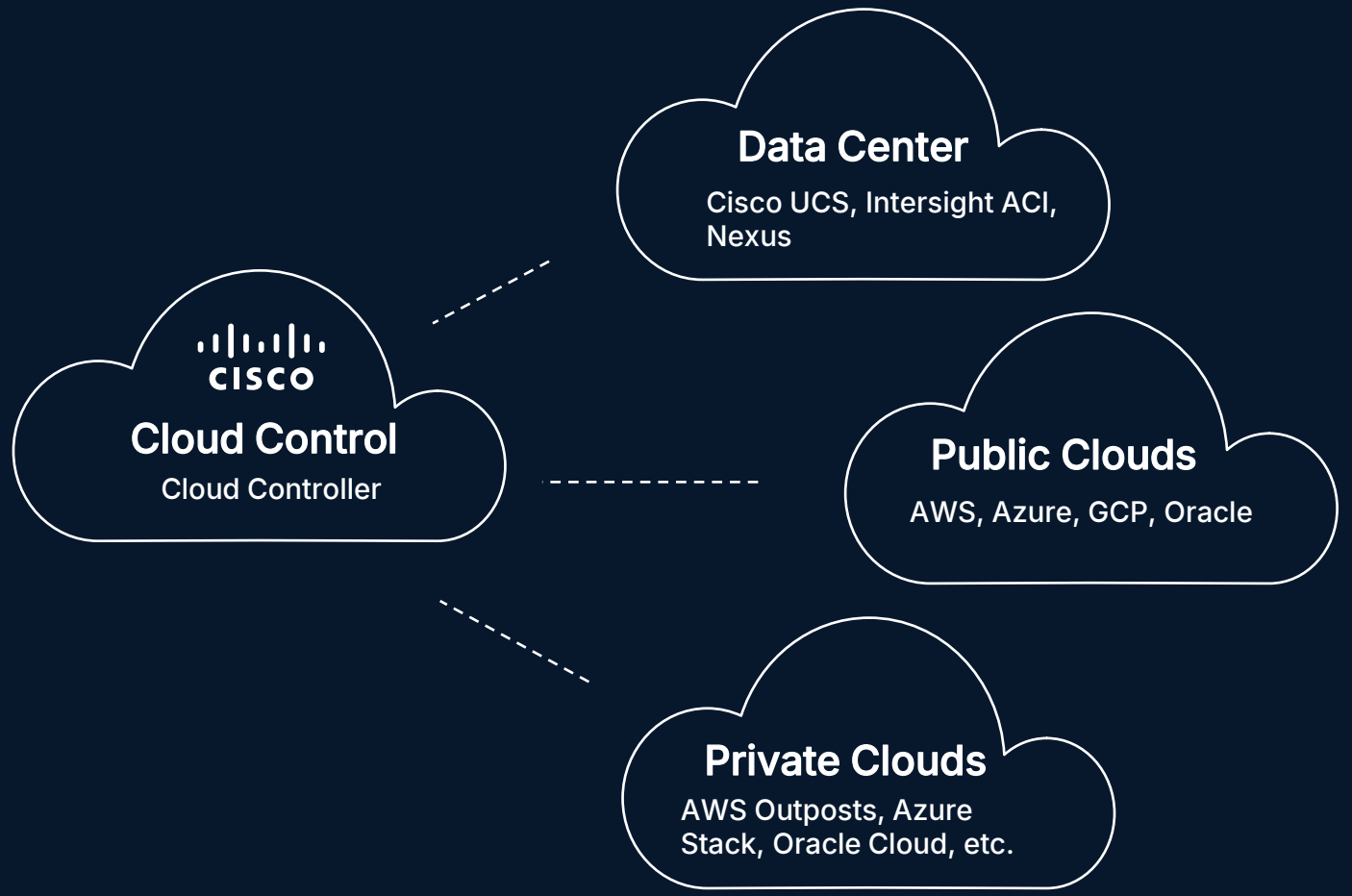
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Cisco’s Single Pane of Glass

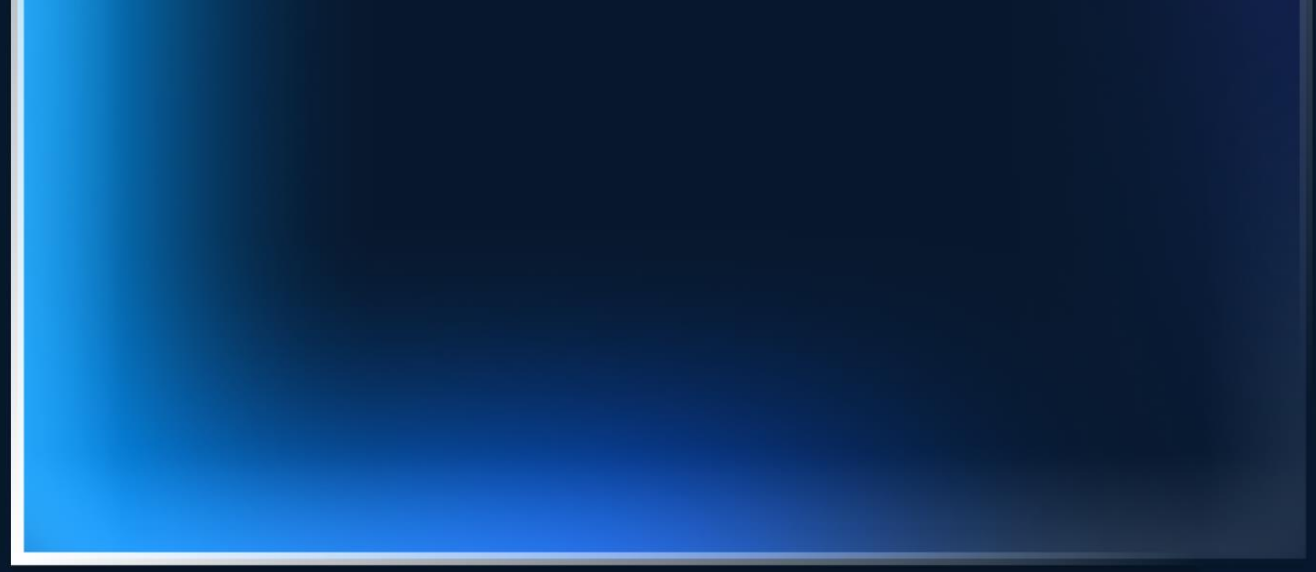
Multi-Cloud Management and Orchestration

- Networking
- Security Cloud Control
- Collaboration
- Observability



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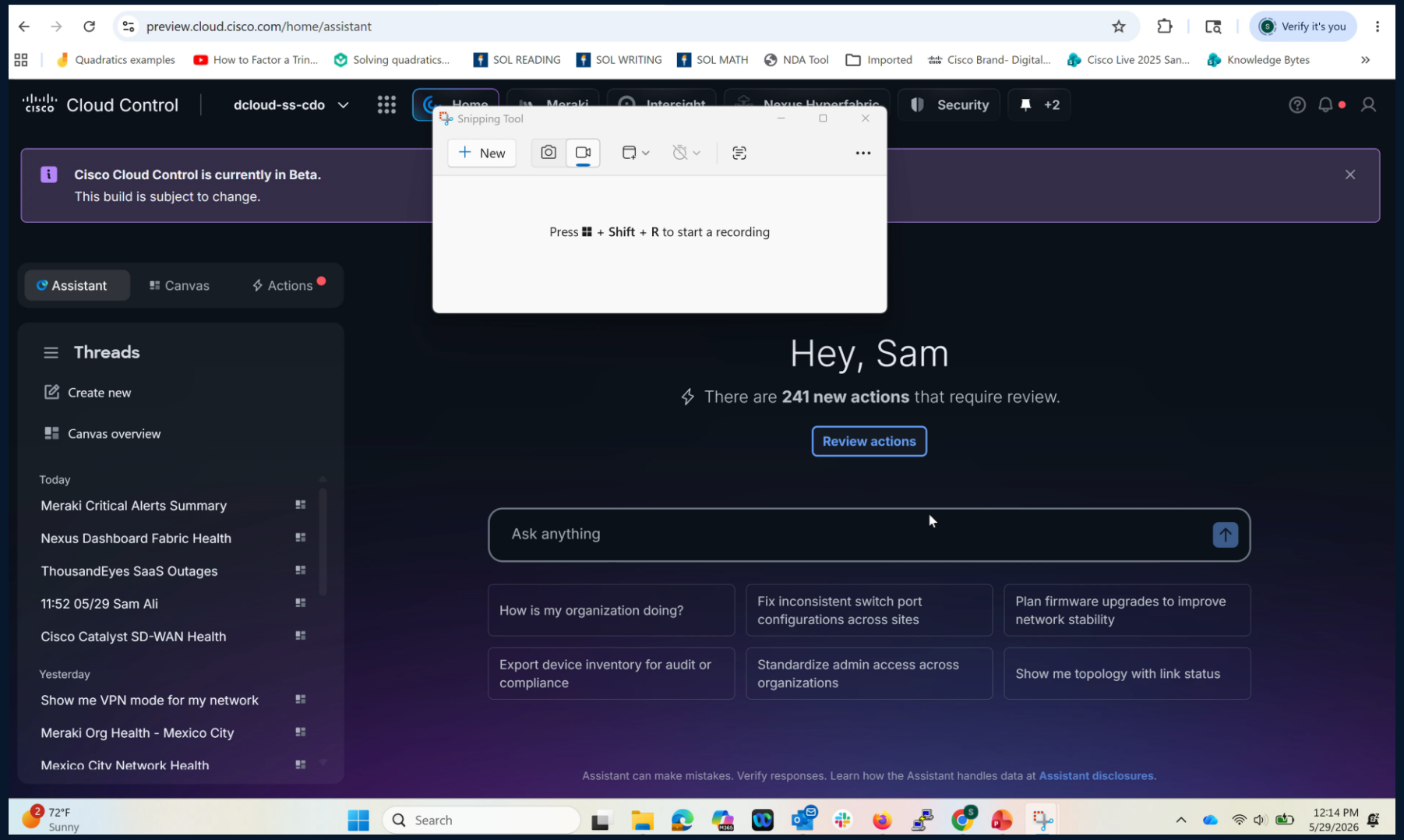
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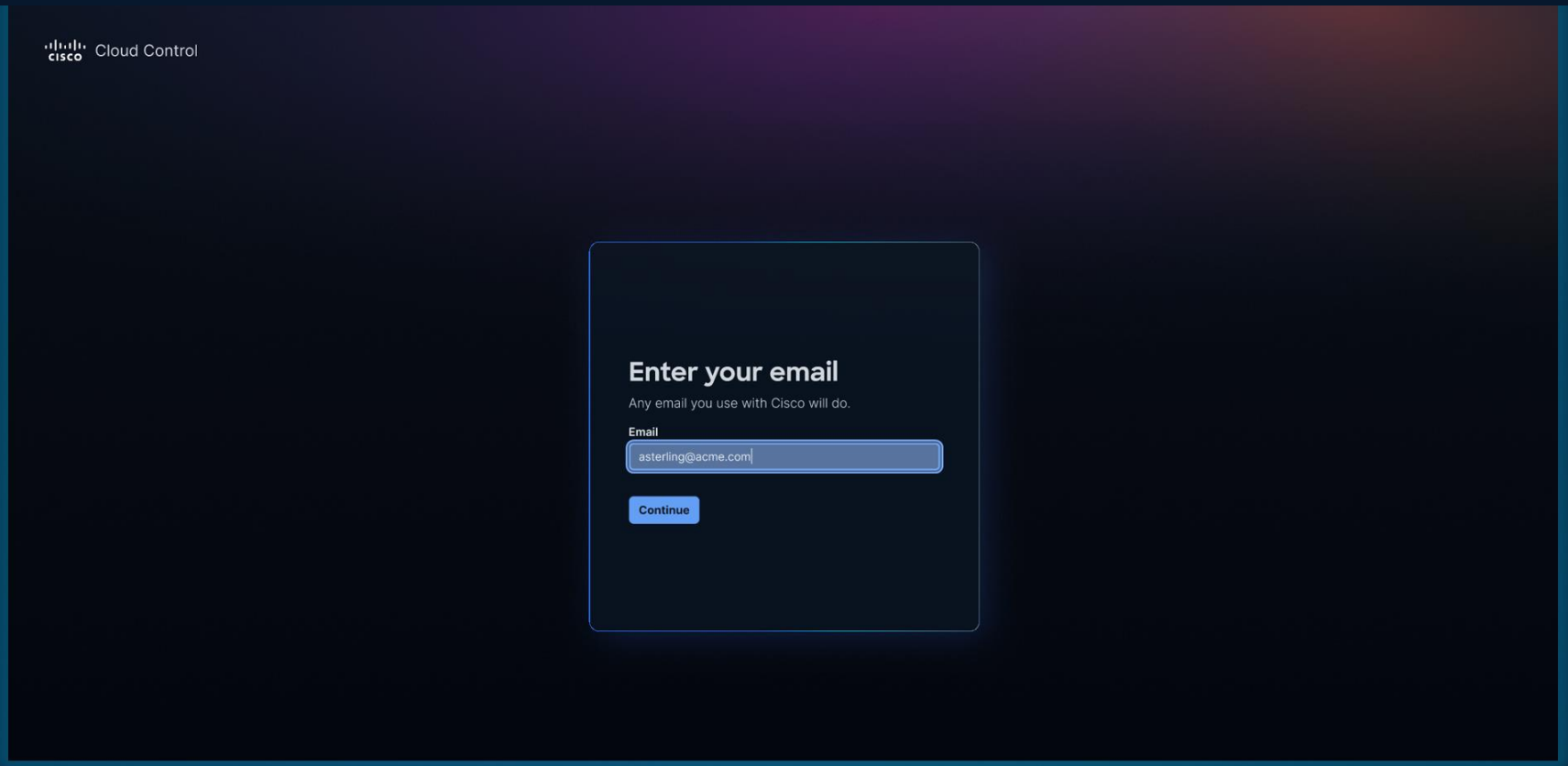
DEMO Time



Cisco Cloud Control (Demo)

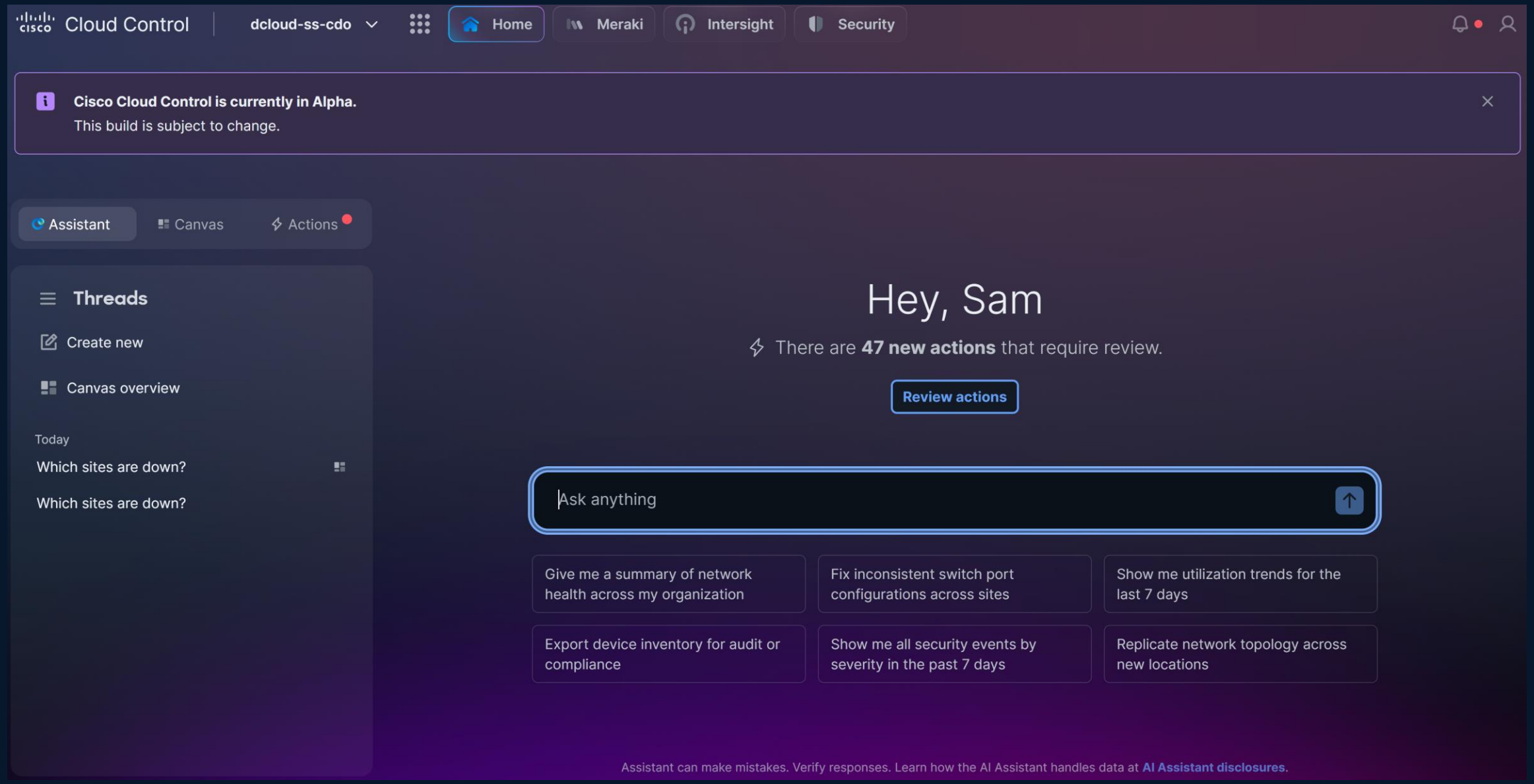


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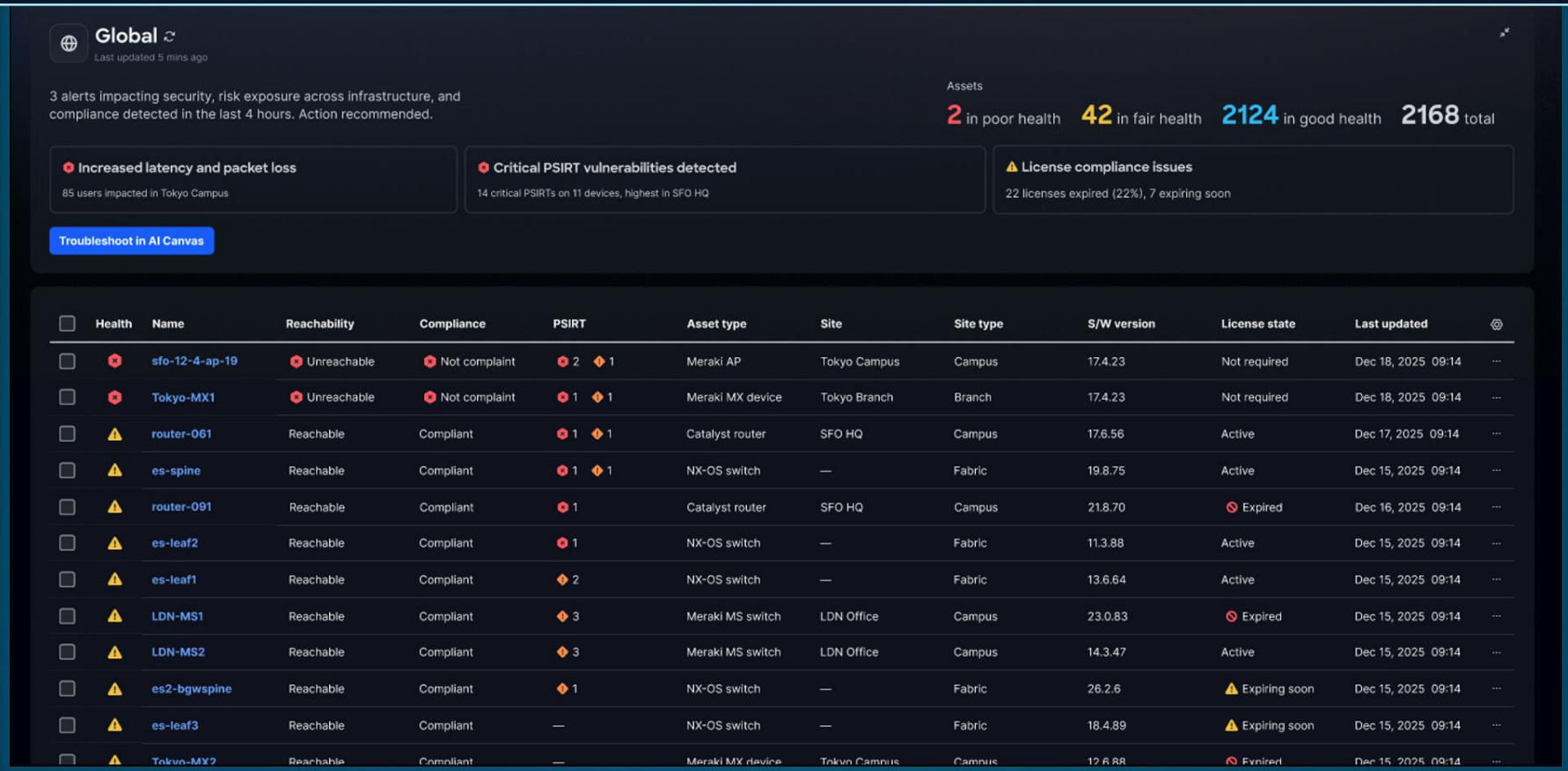


One sign on, **one time.**

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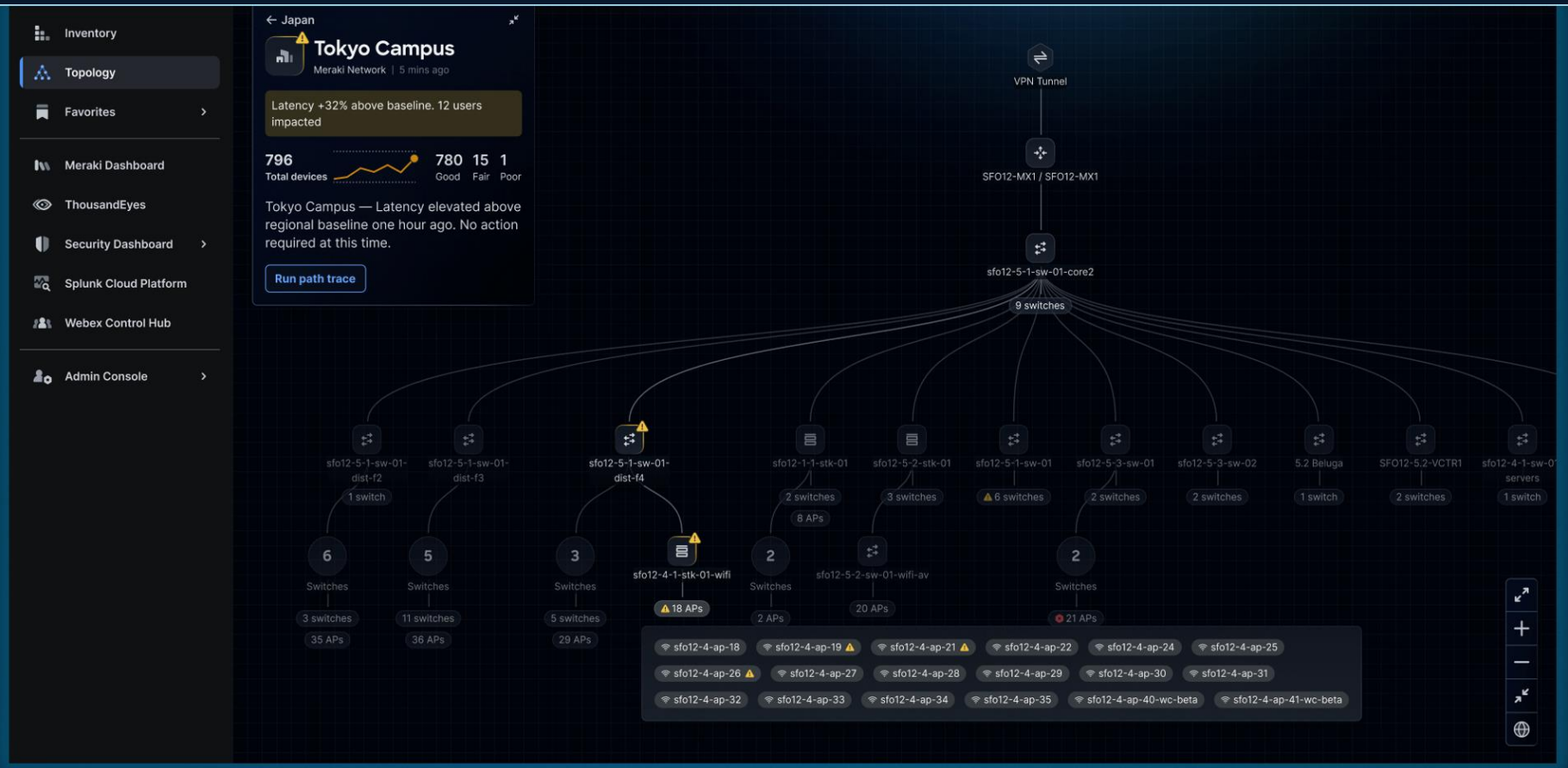


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All your **assets in one place.**

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Topology unified **in one view.**

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Global Licensing View

- **Networking:** Catalyst, Meraki, and Nexus software subscriptions (DNA/Cisco One).
- **Security:** Secure Firewall, Duo, Umbrella, AI Defense, Multi-Cloud Defense, Secure Access and Secure Workload.
- **Collaboration:** Webex Suite and Cisco Calling plans.
- **Observability:** Splunk, Thousand Eyes, and Intersight.

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Global Events and Notifications

- **Device Events:**
  - Device went offline or came back online
  - Conflict detected on devices
  - HA (High Availability) state changes for devices in HA or failover pairs
  - Site-to-site VPN session disconnections
- **High-Priority Events:**
  - Deployment failures
  - Backup failures
  - Upgrade failures
  - Migration failures
  - Device offline status
  - HA state changes
  - Expiring device certificates

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Leverage data across your entire environment

Cisco domains

Meraki
Crossworks
Catalyst Center
Cisco Security Secure Firewall
ThousandEyes
Hypershield
Nexus Dashboard
Splunk
Cisco Security ISE
Intersight
Collaboration Control Hub
IQ
Nexus Hyperfabric
Splunk Enterprise Security
Duo
Cisco Security AI Defense
Nexus Hyperfabric

Third-party coming soon...

Google
ATLASSIAN
Microsoft Teams
PagerDuty
Microsoft Entra ID
slack
flexera
infoblox
okta
VERTIV
NVIDIA
BLUECAT
bmc
PingIdentity
jamf
ANTHROP\C
PANDUIT
servicenow
OpenAI

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No New License. No New Cost.

Monetization & pricing

Included in your product

AI Canvas won't be sold as a separate product or add-on. It will be embedded into the Cisco products customers already use.

Available in both tiers

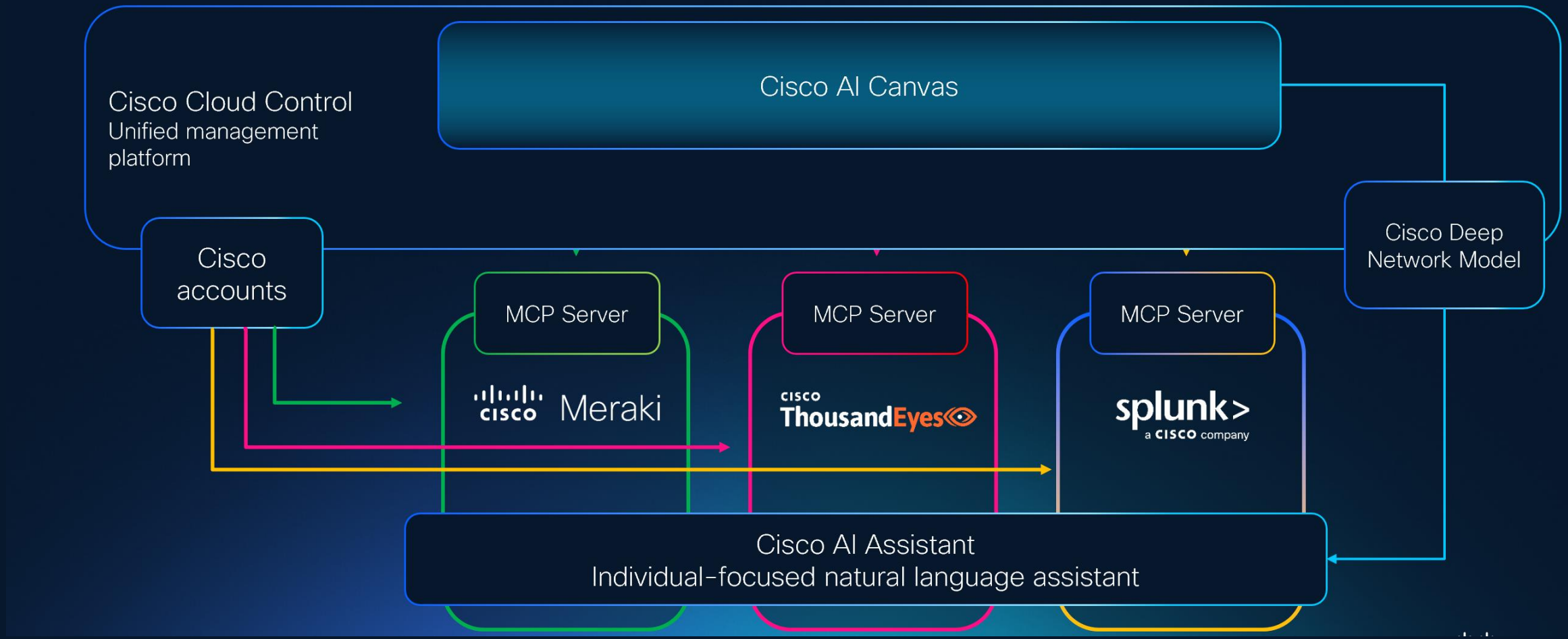
AI Canvas will be available for both Essential and Advantage tiers, with the same core skills available in each tier

Advanced Skills in the future may be in the Advantage tier.

Future advanced capabilities will be bundled exclusively into the Advantage tier.

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Putting it Together



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AI Canvas vs AI Assistant

Two surfaces. One intelligence.

Feature	Cisco AI Assistant	Cisco AI Canvas
What's it for	Quick answers and tasks	Investigate and explore
How you use it	Conversational chat	Visual workspace
Collaboration	Single player, private	Multiplayer, shareable
Typical session	Seconds to minutes	Minutes to hours
Output	Text answers: summaries, recommendations, answers	Interactive widgets: Visualized data, topologies, timelines, reports
Where it shines	Speed. Move through your day faster.	Context. Explore the "why" behind the data

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AI Assistant vs Cloud Control

Insights with Platform. One intelligence.

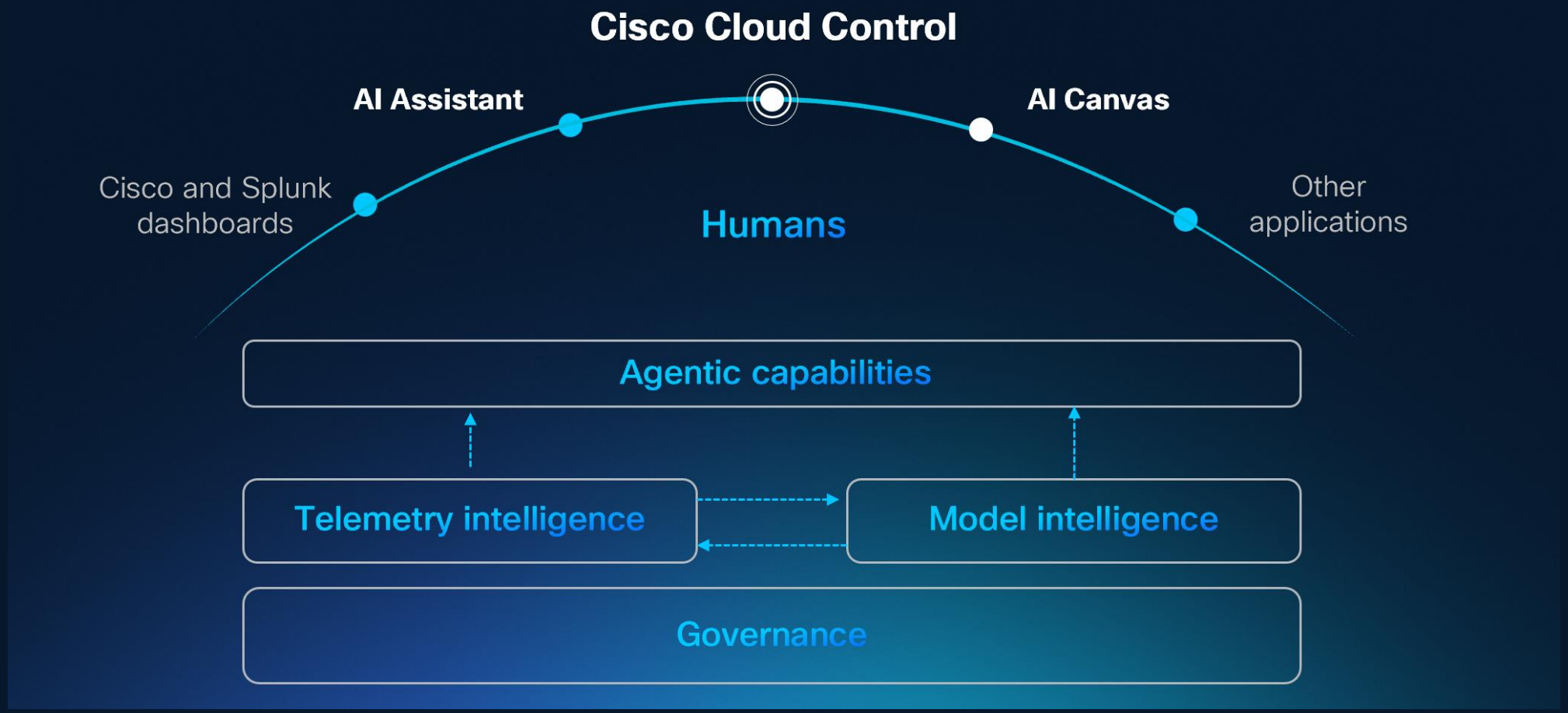
Feature	Cisco AI Assistant	Cisco Cloud Control
What's it for	Quick answers and tasks	Unified multi-domain management platform
How you use it	Conversational chat	Platform foundation and unified management
Collaboration	Single player, private	Multiplayer, shareable, multi-domain
Typical session	Seconds to minutes	Minutes to hours
Output	Text answers: summaries, recommendations, answers	Identity, global inventory, global topology, global licensing and alerts
Where it shines	Speed. Move through your day faster.	Unified management, identity management

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Cisco is building **AgenticOps** for the enterprise

Where humans, agents, intelligence, and governance come together to run operations



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What you reduce

DECREASED
Mean time to resolution

Faster isolation leads directly to faster fixes.

DECREASED
Manual toil

Less dashboard hopping, log digging, and ad-hoc querying.

DECREASED
Cognitive load

Operators consume a single investigative narrative instead of fragmented views.

DECREASED
Reliance on tribal knowledge

Fewer escalations to “the one expert who knows this system.”

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What you gain

INCREASED
System Control

A team can supervise more systems and incidents because AI performs correlation and reasoning.

INCREASED
Decision consistency

Investigations follow the same logic every time, independent of who is on call or on shift.

INCREASED
Confidence in actions

Causal reasoning and explainability reduce guesswork and second-guessing.

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Call to Action

- Walk over to World of Solutions
  - ❑See demos of Cisco Cloud Control (Meraki/TE/Intersight/etc) with AI Assistant and AI Canvas
- Attend the Keynote Session and see the latest features of Cloud Control with AI Canvas and AI Assistant. Listen for new announcements, features and solutions
- Play Capture the Flag (CTF) or do the Walk-In Labs
- Sign up for Meet-The-Engineer

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Thank you




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