



Full-stack SDN with F5 and Cisco

KEY BENEFITS

- Automate and accelerate infrastructure provisioning
- Simplify application deployment
- Orchestrate L2–7 services from a single console
- Tailor service levels for each application
- Easily update application policies throughout their lifecycle

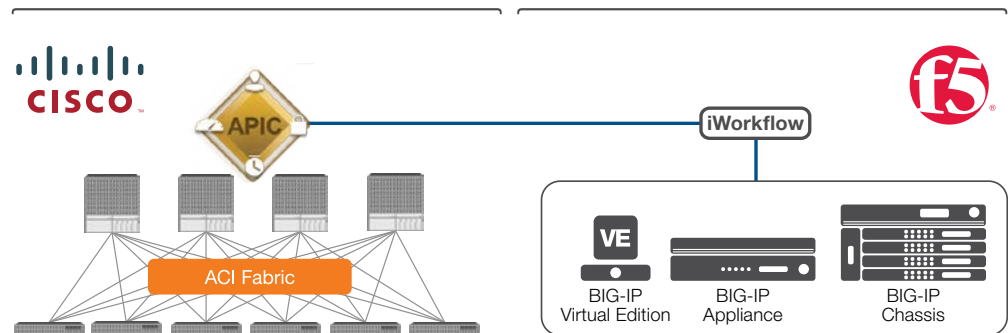
F5 and Cisco have partnered to fulfill the promise of full-stack, end-to-end software-defined networking (SDN) by delivering policy-driven automation that accelerates infrastructure and application deployment. By integrating the F5® BIG-IP® platform, Cisco® Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI™), and the F5® iWorkflow™ virtual appliance, the two companies offer a market-leading SDN solution that provides automation and orchestration up and down the stack—from layer 2 through layer 7.

Easily deploy fast, secure, and available applications

The integrated F5 and Cisco ACI solution makes it simple to create L2–7 application policies, and then provision and manage the entire stack in support of those policies from a single controller.

Within Cisco ACI's comprehensive SDN architecture, the BIG-IP platform is the application delivery controller (ADC) that automates L4-7 in support of application policies. iWorkflow is a virtual appliance that serves as a platform for deploying application delivery policies via easy-to-understand templates and orchestrates BIG-IP products. It also creates Dynamic Device Packages that can be loaded into the Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC), where L2-3 services—including servers, firewalls, and load balancers—are already defined, enabling network orchestration from a centralized console.

In this way, the integrated solution allows organizations to create a single policy—covering L2-3 switching and routing and L4-7 services—for each application. iWorkflow and the APIC then use these policies to automatically configure the network, ADCs, and service levels to support application needs, decrease costs, and boost efficiency.



Deliver automation and orchestration with the integrated F5 and Cisco full-stack SDN solution

LEARN MORE

For more information about the F5 and Cisco partnership, visit f5.com/cisco and cisco.com/f5.

Discover how the BIG-IP platform can help you optimize SDN at f5.com/products/how-to-buy.

Boost business agility

Full-stack SDN from F5 and Cisco delivers speed, simplicity, and flexibility to IT and service provisioning processes that have become too slow and cumbersome to keep pace with the explosion of distributed applications and the dynamic nature of modern business.

Based on application policies instead of network plumbing, the integrated solution accelerates the configuration, deployment, and management of IT infrastructure and application services. Not only are these policies easy to define and manage, but they can be delivered in a self-service, multitenant framework to further speed up application development and deployment.

The result is a more efficient and responsive IT organization that helps drive a faster, more agile business.

Improve efficiency

Effortlessly define and modify application policies with the flexible, simple-to-create F5 Dynamic Device Package for APIC.

Simplify management

Take full control of L2–7 services through a single management console by integrating iWorkflow with APIC in Service Manager Mode.

Increase control

Institute role-based access control by securely exposing all service levels to the appropriate applications through a secure multi-tenant framework.

Gain agility

Allow application owners to quickly define and provision services using easy-to-understand templates with self-service provisioning.

