Cisco HyperFlex Edge with Cisco Intersight QuickStart Implementation

*Cisco HyperFlex Data Center QuickStart is also available

Why Skyline Advanced Technology Services?

Skyline Advanced Technology Services (ATS) offers Professional Services for a variety of Cisco® centric solutions. From inception to realization, our senior staff of engineers are available for any size project or duration for the following services:

- Consulting Services
- Installation Services
- Network Design
- Staff Augmentation

For an in-depth discussion regarding your technical and staffing needs, our team is with you every step of the way.

Cisco HyperFlex Overview

The Cisco HyperFlex™ Edge QuickStart Implementation is a unique 4-day Skyline ATS onsite offering designed to assist partners/customers who are new to Cisco’s Hyperconverged Infrastructure (HCI) technology. A dedicated Skyline ATS Data Center Engineer is assigned to the partner’s/customer’s site location for the QuickStart implementation. The engagement is focused on the initial design, preparation of partner’s/customer’s existing infrastructure, implementation, and deployment of an operational HyperFlex system.

The intended audience is partner/customer support personnel who not only need deployment services, but also need a well-defined knowledge transfer on UCS, HyperFlex Storage, deploying servers, and attaching them to the Network.

Overall Objectives

- Collaborate with key personnel to review design and determine functionality goals.
- UCS/HX Physical Installation, including connection to an existing or new network infrastructure.
- Initial configuration of UCS servers, including install of ESXi operating systems. Deployment of vCenter and HyperFlex.
- Interactive training and design sessions geared to educate the partner/customer and finalize the design.
- Ensure that the implementation is successful by testing and verifying the connectivity, redundancy, functionality, and storage. Then, backing the system up.

Are you deploying Cisco HyperFlex?

Contact your Skyline ATS Account Manager today for more information on how we can help.

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Training Objectives

- Describe the Cisco UCS/HX system architecture, hardware components, and options.
- Cisco Intersight HyperFlex Setup and Management overview.
- Maintenance processes and High Availability (HA) configuration.
- Define connectivity requirements for the Cisco UCS platform.
- Explain the HyperFlex Data Platform’s features and function.

Cisco HyperFlex Deployment

1. A bill of material design overview pre-installation.
2. Install one HyperFlex Cluster consisting of two to four HyperFlex Nodes.
3. Connection of the physical servers to the upstream network.
4. Install and configure HX server ESXi Operating systems, and vCenter.
6. Test Failover and functionality of the system.

Prerequisites

The knowledge and skills that a learner must have prior to the engagement is as follows:

- Some familiarity with VMware ESXi and vCenter.

Who Should Purchase this QuickStart?

The primary audience for this QuickStart is:

- Server Administrators
- Storage/SAN Administrators
- Systems/Storage Engineers
- Network Engineers

The secondary audience for this workshop is:

- Network Administrators

Customer Responsibilities

- A bill of material design overview before installation.
- Partner/Customer must be prepared to assist with network, UCS, and VMware connectivity and configuration.
- Personnel to help with physical lifting, rack and stack.
- Proper power circuits and cables for the HyperFlex equipment.
- Proper rack and other supporting infrastructure (e.g., HVAC).
- Subscription to Cisco Intersight which allows HX.
- Provide all Hardware, Software, and Licensing.

Statement of Work

After the Skyline ATS Data Center Engineer thoroughly qualifies the partner’s/customer’s Cisco HyperFlex requirements, a detailed statement of work will be submitted for partner/customer approval prior to the QuickStart implementation engagement.

Disclaimer

This service is intended to assist partners/customers with a basic implementation and understanding of Cisco HyperFlex. The following services are out of scope and are NOT INCLUDED in this service:

- Migration of customer network/infrastructure.
- Cisco HyperFlex Data Center Deployments
  - Cisco HyperFlex Data Center QuickStarts are also available.
- Cisco HyperFlex Stretch Deployments

NOTE: Skyline can provide these services after scoping the specific requirements. Additional costs may apply.
Cisco HyperFlex QuickStart Schedule

Day 1

1. Whiteboard Session 1 – Provide an overview of UCS C series servers, review of network design, and physical connections. Plan about 2 hours for the whiteboard session. Topics to be discussed:
   • UCS C Series Overview
     • How the system is interconnected.
     • CIMC Management
     • Network Configuration
     • Boot Policy
     • Server OS Installation

2. Inventory Hardware.
3. Rack, stack, and cable hardware.
4. Gather/Verify Configuration information (e.g., VLANs, MACs, IPs, Passwords, NTP server etc.)
5. Configure Server CIMC and Uplink Ports
6. Perform Software Upgrades as needed.

Day 2

1. Install and configure ESXi on all servers.
2. Set up vCenter.
3. Complete configuration for UCS and VMware (e.g., NTP, DNS, SNMP, Licensing etc.)

Day 3

1. Whiteboard Session 2 – Provide an overview of HyperFlex Data Platform and its integration with VMware. Plan for between 2 to 4 hours for the whiteboard session. Topics to be discussed
   • HyperFlex Architecture Overview
     • HyperFlex deployment types
     • HyperFlex Converged Node servers
     • HyperFlex Data Platform components
     • HyperFlex deployment process
     • HyperFlex management
     • ESXi HyperFlex Integrations

2. Onboard HX nodes into Cisco Intersight
3. Go through the install process for HyperFlex with Intersight
4. Verify HyperFlex Health
5. Install HyperFlex plugin for vCenter
6. Create Volumes
7. Complete configuration for UCS and VMware (e.g., NTP, DNS, SNMP, Licensing etc.).

Day 4

1. Provide on-site support for any outstanding issues
2. Backup configuration
3. Finalize documentation
4. Provide installation and configuration review with customer