



T-Systems Network Automation Brings New Benefits to Small and Mid-Sized Organizations

T-Systems

Size: 46,000 employees worldwide
 Industry: Service provider
 Location: Germany with global operations

Solutions

- Transforming performance and innovation with a software-defined IT model built on Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure

Results

- Faster onboarding of customers and new offerings
- Flexibility to couple with other cloud platforms and meet special customer requirements
- Strict separation of customers meeting highest security standards
- Non-disruptive maintenance supporting the T-Systems “Zero-Outage” program
- Far better scalability compared to alternative designs
- Open APIs for integration with other system landscapes
- Increased productivity through software-defined automation
- Created new possibilities for orchestration, automation, and new service offerings

Helping Customers Achieve Greater Success

With operations in more than 20 countries and multi-billion Euro revenues, T-Systems is one of the world’s leading providers of information and communications technology (ICT). It offers integrated solutions for businesses, including the secure operation of legacy systems and classic ICT services.

In Germany T-Systems’ Production Midmarket serves about 200 mid-size companies with lines of business across healthcare, manufacturing, media and others.

Increasingly customers are also looking to transform through cloud-based services and innovative business models of the future, such as data analytics, the Internet of Things, machine-to-machine communications, and Industrial Internet.

For the company’s Production Midmarket organization these trends are fuelling demand for tailored infrastructure, platforms, and software.

“Our customers want high quality services, uncompromised security, and flexibility, all at a reasonable price,” says Andreas Schwall, Delivery Executive Production Midmarket at T-Systems. “Our challenge was to reduce IT effort and maintenance-based outages, while improving capacity at the network and security layer.”

Delivering Software-Defined Benefits

T-Systems put its trust in Cisco® Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI™).

“Cisco ACI gives us the opportunity to run more agile, flexible operations and opens up new security offerings for our mid-market customers,” says André Tronicke, Manager Data Center Services at T-Systems.

“Based on open APIs and an application centric view of our landscape, we can reduce lead times during the onboarding process and rapidly add more services to our portfolio,” adds Andreas Schwall.

With Cisco ACI, T-Systems has:



Audit-proof security standards in place



Accelerated deployment, from weeks to hours



Non-disruptive maintenance support

Built on Cisco Nexus® 9000 Series Switches, the solution features Application Policy Infrastructure Controllers arranged in a spine and leaf setup. With this software-defined network, T-Systems can rapidly scale up its data center infrastructure on demand, using automated deployment and secure rollback methods.

T-Systems also benefits from an application-centric view across the IT landscape, especially important when running multi-tenanted data centers. With Cisco ACI, for example, it's easy to create new policies to satisfy requirements for compliance and data separation.

Building Networks around the Needs of Applications

IT is simpler to manage and faster to provision. Unlike before, when they took days or weeks, deployments are completed in hours. Yet the transformation goes beyond time-to-market.

Now application traffic steers the network, rather than the other way around—enabling T-Systems to build the network environment around different customer applications, significantly improving performance and fulfillment of requirements.

Optimizing software-defined automation has reduced manual tasks by 90%, providing a productivity gain equivalent to three full-time employees.

Designed using open interfaces, ACI also enables T-systems to create new security solutions and connect different cloud offerings in order to seamlessly serve its customers.

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Andreas Schwall
Delivery Executive Production Midmarket
T-Systems

Products and Service

Data Center

- Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (ACI)
- Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller
- Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switches enabled for ACI

For More Information

To learn more about the Cisco solutions featured in this case study, visit

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