Bringing Next-Gen Technology Adoption to a Law Firm's Data Center Network

CHALLENGE

An international law firm representing clients in a variety of industries including healthcare, education, entertainment and more, needed to upgrade their data center network. Their current data center network infrastructure was running on Nexus 7K series switches which were approaching end of life. Instead of simply replacing these switches, the organization wanted to take a more holistic approach and upgrade their network to match their business needs.

They wanted a solution that would allow them to get a better overall understanding of the company's network health and to improve future application deployment. But they lacked the resources and expertise to handle this upgrade internally. They needed a partner who understood the challenges of adopting data center technology while minimizing the impact on business.

SOLUTION

To meet the client's needs, Red River recommended the adoption of Cisco's Application Centric Infrastructure (ACI) which is a Cisco software-defined networking solution. The ACI solution is comprised of the APIC - Application Policy Infrastructure Controller and Cisco Nexus Switches. The design called for a Spine-Leaf deployment, rather than traditional 3-tier architecture. The APIC would be the brains of the network controlling the configuration of the fabric, and configuration, deployment, and enforcement of the security policy.

After discussing the various deployment models that ACI was best suited for, Red River and the customer concluded that single pod-single tenancy was the best fit. This would leave flexibility in the future to allow them to extend ACI to other data centers and public cloud tenants. Red River worked quickly to replace the Nexus 7K Switches with the new API Controller and Switches. While integrating this ACI solution, the team was able to minimize interruptions to daily operations.

RESULTS

At the end of the project, the Red River and client teams had successfully integrated and deployed the ACI solution into their Data Center. This network upgrade gave them access to new technical capabilities including automated IT tasks and improved application deployment. By leveraging Red River's expertise in Technology Adoption, the client easily incorporated Cisco's ACI solution into their data center and enabled greater control over their network.

STRATEGIC DATA CENTER SOLUTIONS

- Backup, Recovery and Archiving
- Capacity Assessment and Planning
- Cloud Computing
- Consolidation
- Exchange Server and File System Assessment
- Hardware and Software
- Implementation Services
- Public, Private and Hybrid Cloud Services
- Security
- Storage and System Optimization
- Virtualization and More