5 ways all-in-one minis deliver mighty IT solutions

We know many midsize businesses have small IT staffs. But that doesn't mean IT is any less important to their success. Organizations don't have the time to cobble together a solution from disparate technologies, so they should use the Cisco UCS Mini, an easy-to-manage solution that will grow with their needs.

Cisco UCS® with Intel® Xeon® processors

In a 2012 survey, 72 percent of respondents said that "IT vendors should simplify technology." To that, we say "Here you go."*

** "SMB Case for Simplifying IT," Techaisle, July 2012.*

1. Simplicity

A small IT staff means things need to operate as simply as possible—and there's nothing simpler than an all-in-one solution. The Cisco UCS Mini also makes life easier by integrating and managing your servers without requiring any assembly.

Twenty minutes—the time it took to test install the Cisco UCS Mini.

– "Review: Cisco UCS Mini Moves Out of the Data Center," BizTech, Nov. 25, 2014.

2. Scale

Being simple doesn't mean weak or incapable. Need proof? Let's say a server fails. Rather than waiting hours or days to be back online, the UCS Mini will move your configuration and information to a new server in a matter of minutes to get you back online. Now that's power.

3. Economics

We're of the opinion that you can never be too smart with your money. Compared to traditional rack-mounted servers, the Cisco UCS Mini will decrease your CapEx by 29 percent and your power consumption by 34 percent.** And that's just the tip of the savings iceberg.

*** "Powering Applications at Every Scale: The Next Wave of Unified Computing Innovation," Cisco, Sept. 4, 2014.*

In 2014, 51 percent of small businesses spent money either replacing old equipment or maintaining current IT infrastructure. 38 percent anticipate an increase in IT spending in 2015.

– "Where Do Small Businesses Spend Their Money?" Business 2 Community, Jan. 27, 2015.

4. Applications

The UCS Mini can run almost any application. Having that kind of flexibility as a small business competing against large enterprises will prove invaluable to leveling the playing field and being more competitive in your market.

5. Storage

As you gather more data, you'll need to expand your storage capabilities. Cisco has many partners who have tested designs and solutions with UCS Mini that can vastly increase the raw storage of the servers in your data center. You can even add up to seven rack-mountable UCS servers to the UCS Mini—each with up to 48 TB.

UCS Mini interoperability solutions

- UCS Invicta
- NetApp
- EMC
- Nimble
- StorMagic
- Maxta
- Simplivity
- Nexenta

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